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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, March 25

Anniversary: Samantha & Andy Jondahl

Birthdays: Brent Wienk, Keri Pappas, Keri Pietz, Laurel McNickle, Murdock McNickle, Patrick Gengerke, Sherri Profeta, Larae Taylor

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

School Lunch: Mini corn dog, baked beans, veg cup, fruit.

Senior Menu: BBQ Chicken, rosemary red potatoes, old fashioned slaw, strawberry Jell-O dessert, whole wheat bread.

6:00 pm: Emmanuel Lutheran lenten meal (HS youth serve)

7 p.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship

Thursday, March 26

Birthdays: Bob Wegner, Clare Davidson, Jonathan Cutler, Justin Morehouse, Mark Thompson, Noah Thurston, Scott Kettering, Clayton Kurtz, Samantha Menzia

Senior Menu: Lasagna rotini, tossed salad with dressing, Ambrosia fruit salad, oatmeal spice cookie, whole wheat bread.

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

School Lunch: Italian dunker, tater tot, carrots and dip, fruit.

Friday, March 27

Brithdays: Dwight Strom, Gail Schinkel, Michelle Walter

Senior Menu: Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas and carrots, peach cobbler, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, yogurt,





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Friends



Editor's Note: This is the second in a series featuring your friends, near and far.

Frances (Prunty) Brooks

Where do you live now?

Hutchinson, MN - 1 hour West of the Twin Cities

JobWise what are you doing today? Also list title if you have one.

3M Engineer - Quality Specialist

How long have you been working at the current job? With 3M for 26 years

What year did you graduate from high school? 1981

Where did you attend college and what was your degree?

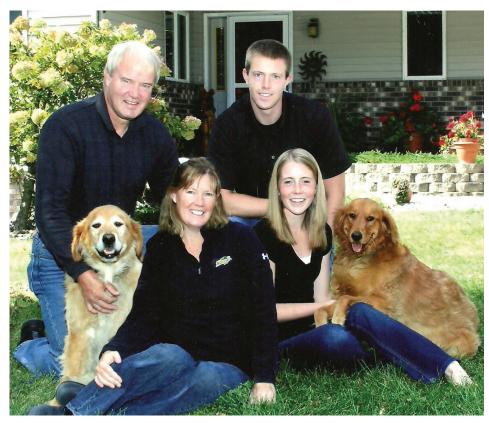
SDSU in Brookings, SD. Mechanical Engineering/1985. At the time there were only a handful of female mechanical engineering students - around 3%.

What advice would you give the high school students today?

Get your education! Education is something no one can take away from you and you will benefit from for years!

A college education today is comparable to a high school education was 30 years ago - necessary! Even if you don't

work in the field of your study your education will still open doors. Finish!



Doug and Frances Brooks on the left Jesse and Rochelle on the right Their Golden Retrievers and Molly and Peety.

List your major accomplishments that you have had so far in life.

Have balanced life/career and had fun at both. Busy = Good!

Are you married? If so what is your spouses name and where was he from?

Married - 26 years to Doug Brooks, also an engineer at 3M. He is from Iowa How did the two of you meet? at Work - lived in Iowa then.

Do you have any children? If so what's their names and ages and if they are no longer staying at home where are they at and what are they doing today.

Jesse - 22 / graduating from NDSU in Fargo in May 2015 (Mechanical Engineering Degree).

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Will work for 3M in Ames Iowa as an engineer.

Rochelle - 19 / Engineering Student at U of M Twin Cities. Will work for NASA this summer.

Last question: do you feel that your high school and college education prepared you adequately for post education life?

Yes! GHS prepared me well for college and I am thankful for that! I feel college is more about proving you have the skills to learn and succeed. I don't use the calculus or other technical subjects in my daily job as an engineer.

Spring American Legion District Meeting

STRATFORD— The annual District 4 Spring Meeting of the South Dakota American Legion will be held Saturday, April 11, 2015 in Stratford for Legionnaires from Brown, Campbell, Edmunds, Faulk, McPherson, Walworth and Spink counties.

The Legion business session will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Lone Wolf Saloon. The social will be held at 5:00 p.m. with a meal being served at 6:00 p.m. in the Stratford Community Center.

Participants will elect a District Commander for the remaining term of Paul Douglas and County Commanders and Vice Commanders in the District for one-year terms during the business meeting.

The session will also feature Post reports regarding the past year's unusual activities, Post Americanism reports, a membership turn-in, recognition of the District 4 Legionnaire of the Year and an address by State American Legion Commander Tim Jurgens of Milbank.

District 4 Commander Paul Douglas will conduct the Legion business session. Stratford Post Commander Harley Hansen will be in charge of local arrangements.

The District 4 Auxiliary will hold its convention meeting at 7:00 p.m. the same evening in the Community Center (East Room).

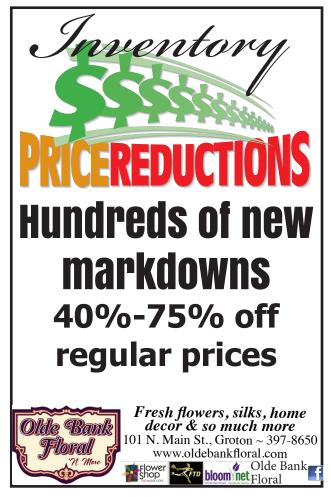


Apartments For Rent

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.

Lineman wanted

Electric lineman who will assist with miscellaneous City maintenance duties. Certified Journeyman mandatory. EOE. Send resume to City Finance Office, PO Box 587, 209 N Main, Groton, SD 57445 by April 17.





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Holmquist - Larsen **Engaged** Tyler Ehren Holmquist and Hanna Rose

Larsen announce their engagement. Larsen is the daughter of Scott and Kristi Larsen of Brookings and is a 2009 Groton High School graduate. Holmquist is the son of Randy and Julie Holmquist of Rapid City and Victoria Connelly of Rapid City and is a 2004 graduate of Chamberlain High School. Both are currently pursuing master's degrees at South Dakota State University. The wedding is planned for

Groton Coffee Cup Team Standings: Golden Girls 38.5, James

Valley 35, Farm Girls 29, Jungle Lanes 19, Ten Pins 18, Ken's 16.5

High Games: Mary Jane Jark 186, Jackie Thorson 173, Vickie Walter 172.

High Series: Jackie Thorson 480, Mary Jane Jark 471, Vickie Walter 459.

Conde National League Team Standings: Giants 29, Braves 26,

Mets 21, Colts 20, Pirates 19, Cubs 17.

Men's High Games: Brad Larson 235 and 223, Connor Hanson 200, Al Walter 190.

Women's High Games: Joyce Walter 188 and 168, Hope Knoepfle 184, Darla Larson 159. Men's High Series: Brad Larson 630, Al Walter 549, Larry Frohling 483.

Women's High Series: Joyce Walter 510,

Ruth Ingham Notice

Services for Ruth Rix Volk Ingham, 99, of Sioux Falls and formerly of Groton will be 10:30 a.m., Friday, March 27th at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church. Father Mike Kelly will officiate. Burial will follow in Union Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held at the chapel from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

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South Dakota Food Entrepreneur Videoconference

SDSU Extension is hosting a Food Entrepreneur Videoconference across South Dakota at nine different locations on April 14th, 1:00 – 4:30 PM (Central Time). Learn about rules and regulations for marketing food products in South Dakota to other states. Sites include the SDSU Regional Extension Centers is Sioux Falls, Pierre, Mitchell, Winner, Lemmon, Aberdeen and Watertown. Additional sites include the West River Ag Center in Rapid City and SDSU (Brookings Campus).

Rules and regulations will be reviewed as they relate to processing and marketing options for small food processors (i.e. direct, wholesale and retail); licensed kitchen options (i.e. shared, temporary and mobile); Internet and interstate trade (business taxes and food trade regulations); package labeling; and

use of scales. Videoconference presenters include SDSU Extension Specialists, SD Departments of Health and Revenue.

Who should attend? People interested in starting or expanding a small to medium sized food business, representatives from agencies and organizations that work with food entrepreneurs.

For more information and to obtain a registration form, go to the SDSU Extension Website http:// igrow.org/ and search for Food Entrepreneur Video Conference. Or, contact: Joan Hegerfeld-Baker, joan.hegerfeldbaker@sdstate. edu and Chris Zdorovtsov, christina.zdorovtsov@sdstate.edu.



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Today in Weather History March 25, 1997: Rapid snowmelt and ice jamming caused the Elm River near Westport to rise -above flood

March 25, 1997: Rapid snowmelt and ice jamming caused the Elm River near Westport to rise -above flood stage on March 20th. The Elm River reached an all-time record level of 22.69 feet on March 25th almost 9 feet above flood stage. The previous record was 22.11 feet set on April 10th, 1969. The flood stage for the Elm River at Westport is 14 feet. The city of Westport was evacuated with the flood waters causing damage to many homes and roads in and around Westport. Also, many other roads and agricultural and pastureland along the river were flooded. The Elm River slowly receded and fell below flood stage on March 30th. The flood waters from the Elm River flowed south and into the northern portion of Moccasin Creek. Subsequently, the Moccasin Creek rose as the water flowed south into the city of Aberdeen. Flooding became a concern for Aberdeen and for areas along the creek north of Aberdeen. The Governor signed an emergency declaration which allowed the state to help with flood response efforts, including sending 50,000 sandbags to the area. Also, the National Guard was activated to move a variety of heavy equipment. Some sandbagging and a falling Elm River kept the Moccasin Creek from causing any significant flooding in and north of Aberdeen. Some township and county roads were flooded by the creek.

1843 - A second great snowstorm hit the northeastern U.S. The storm produced snow from Maine all the way to the Gulf of Mexico. Natchez MS received three inches of snow, and up to 15 inches buried eastern Tennessee. Coastal Maine received 204 inches of snow that winter. (David Ludlum)

1914 - Society Hill, SC, was buried under 18 inches of snow, establishing a state record. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987)

1934 - A spring storm produced 21 inches of snow at Amarillo TX in 24 hours. However, much of the snow melted as it fell, and as a result, the snow cover was never any deeper than 4.5 inches. (David Ludlum)

1935 – Suffocating dust storms occurred frequently in southeast Colorado between the 12th and the 25th of the month. Six people died, and many livestock starved or suffocated. Up to six feet of dust covered the ground. Schools were closed, and many rural homes were deserted by tenants.

1948 - For the second time in less than a week airplanes were destroyed by a tornado at Tinker AFB in Oklahoma City OK. A March 20th tornado destroyed fifty planes at Tinker AFB causing more than ten million dollars damage, and the March 25th tornado destroyed another thirty-five planes causing six million dollars damage. The first tornado struck without warning, and caused more damage than any previous tornado in the state of Oklahoma. The second tornado was predicted by Fawbush and Miller of the United States Air Force, and their accurate tornado forecast ushered in the modern era of severe weather forecasting. (The Weather Channel) (Storm Data) (The National Severe Storms Forecast Center)

1975 - Thé town of Sandberg reported a wind gust to 101 mph, a record for the state of California. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Heavy rain left rivers and streams swollen in Kansas and Nebraska, causing considerable crop damage due to flooding of agricultural areas. The Saline River near Wilson Reservoir in central Kansas reached its highest level since 1951. March rainfall at Grand Island NE exceeded their previous record of 5.57 inches. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - An early season heat wave prevailed in the southwestern U.S. The high of 93 degrees at Tucson, AZ, was a new record for March. Windy conditions prevailed across the central and eastern U.S. Winds gusted to 60 mph at Minneapolis MN, and reached 120 mph atop Rendezvous Peak WY. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - A Pacific storm brought wet weather to much of the western third of the country, with heavy snow in some of the higher elevations. La Porte CA was drenched with 3.56 inches of rain in 24 hours. Up to 24 inches of snow blanketed the Sierra Nevada Range. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Temperatures dipped below zero in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region. Hardin MT was the cold spot in the nation with a morning low of 10 degrees below zero. Freezing drizzle was reported in the Southern Plains Region, with afternoon highs only in the 30s from the Southern High Plains to Missouri and Arkansas. (The National Weather Summary)

1992 – Hailstones up to four inches in diameter resulted in more than \$60 million in damage in Orlando, Florida. This is still the costliest Florida hailstorm on record.

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Today
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Tonight

Thursday

Thursday Night

Friday

Saturday



Breezv



Blustery

ery



Partly Sunny



Partly

Cloudy



20% Slight Chc

Rain/Snow



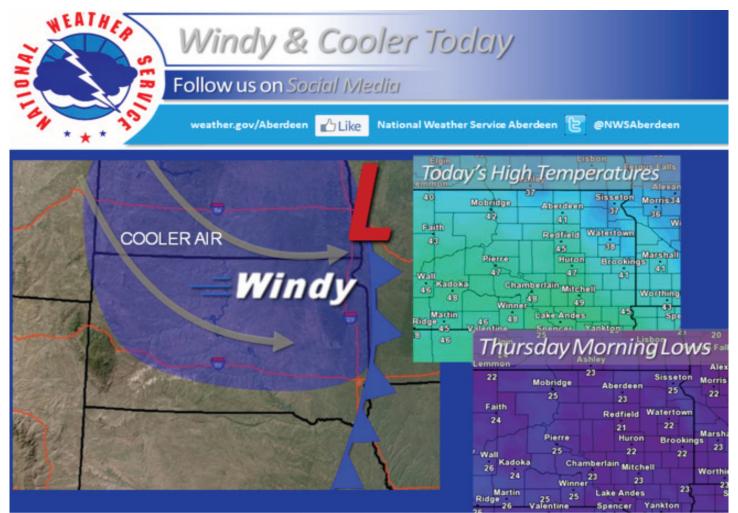
Slight Chc

Rain

Friday



Mostly Sunny



Published on: 03/25/2015 at 4:20AM

Strong and gusty northwest winds are expected behind a cold front today. This is especially true across far northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota where winds may gust as high as 45 mph. Further west, high fire danger is posted for areas that have been persistently dry. Temperatures will remain cool for the rest of the workweek, however a warming trend is expected as we move into the weekend.

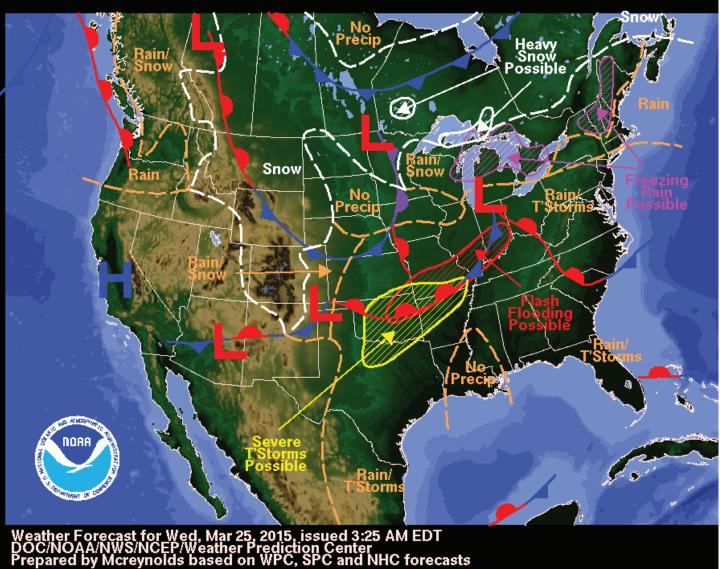
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Yesterday's Weather High: 46.5 at 5:34 PM

Low: 33.3 at 5:23 AM High Gust: 39 at 3:30 PM Snow: 0.00 Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 81° in 1925

Record Low: -8° in 1964 Average High: 45°F Average Low: 24°F Average Precip in March.: 0.84 Precip to date in March.: 0.00 Average Precip to date: 1.86 Precip Year to Date: 0.40 Sunset Tonight: 7:53 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:26 a.m.



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VICTORY IS THE LORD'S

Our individual and national security has become a very significant topic of discussion in recent years. When we look beyond our own borders, we are reminded of the reality of instant upheaval through acts of terror that bring destruction without warning. We wonder where the next attack will be and who will be responsible. Will it ever end?

On one occasion David wrote, "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God." And a little later on he wrote, "A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all of its great strength it cannot save." No doubt his son Solomon had listened to his father as he discussed his thoughts on war and battle strategies, winning and losing or victory and defeat. Out of those conversations Solomon formed his own ideas of war among and between nations. "The horse is made ready for the day of battle," he said, "but victory rests with the Lord!"

When David and Solomon penned these observations, the horse was the greatest weapon in the military arsenal. When coupled to a chariot it added an even more lethal dimension. It brought speed to the battlefield that warriors could not overcome with its ability to "hit and run." Foot soldiers did not have the capability to defeat an army that used horses in combat.

David and Solomon, however, remind us what makes the difference in combat: Victory belongs to the Lord. Nations may prepare and equip warriors, have superior weaponry and technology and plans without flaws (in their minds) but it makes little difference. God is the determining force.

Throughout Scripture God reminds us that "it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's."

Prayer: Thank you, Father, for the promises in Your Word that assure us of Your strength and sovereignty and our safety. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 21:31 The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests with the Lord.

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News from the Associated Press

HJ Heinz buying Kraft in deal to create food giant MICHELLE CHAPMAN, AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — H.J. Heinz Co. is buying Kraft Foods, creating one of the largest food and beverage companies in the world with annual revenue in excess of \$28 billion.

The deal was engineered by Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway and the company that owns Heinz, Brazilian investment firm 3G Capital. Berkshire and 3G will invest \$10 billion in what will come to be known as The Kraft Heinz Co.

The company, the third largest of its kind in North America, will own Kraft, Heinz, Oscar Mayer, Ore-Ida and other brands. It will maintain headquarters in Pittsburgh, where Heinz is based, and also in the Chicago area, where Kraft resides.

Shares of Kraft jumped more than 14 percent Wednesday before the opening bell.

Kraft shareholders will receive stock in the combined company and a special cash dividend of approximately \$10 billion, or \$16.50 per share. Each share of Kraft will be converted into one share of Kraft Heinz.

Current Heinz shareholders will own 51 percent of the combined company, with Kraft shareholders owning a 49 percent stake.

Annual cost savings estimated to be \$1.5 billion are expected to be booked by the end of 2017.

"This is my kind of transaction," said Buffett in a printed statement. "Uniting two world-class organizations and delivering shareholder value. I'm excited by the opportunities for what this new combined organization will achieve."

Heinz CEO Bernardo Hees will become CEO, Alex Behring, Heinz chairman and managing partner at 3G Capital, will be chairman. Kraft CEO and Chairman John Cahill will become vice chairman.

The deal still needs a nod from federal regulators as well as shareholders of Kraft Foods Group Inc., but the boards of both companies unanimously approved it. It is expected to close in the second half of this year.

Kraft Heinz plans to keep Kraft's current dividend per share once the transaction closes. Kraft has no plans to change its dividend before the deal closes.

Bank robbery suspect to be prosecuted in federal court

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls man accused of robbing a bank at gunpoint is to be prosecuted in federal court.

Acting U.S. Attorney Randy Seiler says 45-year-old Rickey Starks was indicted last week by a federal grand jury for bank robbery. He pleaded not guilty.

Police allege that Starks entered Dacotah Bank earlier this month with a gun and demanded cash. He was arrested the next day following a brief standoff at his apartment.

If convicted, Starks could get up to 20 years in prison and have to pay a \$250,000 fine.

Minnehaha County State's Attorney tells the Argus Leader the state charges against Starks were dismissed last week. He says the case is being prosecuted federally because the bank is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

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Germany's top security says no evidence of foul play in France plane crash at this stage

BERLIN (AP) — Germany's top security says no evidence of foul play in France plane crash at this stage.

Elk, mountain goat seasons up for debate at GFP meeting

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — This year's South Dakota elk and mountain goat hunting seasons and a proposal to clarify the size of hunting groups are among the issues on the agenda at the state Game, Fish and Parks Commission meeting.

Commissioners will take action on those issues April 1-2 at their monthly gathering in Brookings at the Days Inn.

Written comments on the above proposals can be sent to GFP in Pierre or emailed to wildinfo@state. sd.us. To be included in the public record, comments must be received by 12 p.m. CDT on April 1 and include your full name and city of residence.

The public hearing will begin at 2 p.m. CDT on April 1.

More information is available at http://gfp.sd.gov/agency/commission.default.aspx .

High court hears reporter plea for Benda's death records JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota journalist argued before the state Supreme Court on Tuesday that the death records of former state economic development director Richard Benda should be released with some sensitive information redacted.

Justices heard oral arguments from the attorney general's office and reporter Bob Mercer in his appeal at the state Capitol. A circuit judge ruled against Mercer in September, saying that Attorney General Marty Jackley was justified in not releasing details of Benda's death out of privacy concerns for the deceased man's immediate family members.

Assistant Attorney General Jeffrey Hallem argued Tuesday that state law doesn't require law enforcement investigation records to be disclosed. Mercer argued that there isn't a blanket ban in statute and that redaction should be used to fill the request for more information about Benda's death while maintaining privacy for his family.

"He is a public figure of high interest in a situation involving government secrecy that is of high public interest," Mercer, who writes for several daily newspapers, told The Associated Press after the arguments. "I wasn't asking for something that I didn't feel I have a right to."

Benda's October 2013 death was ruled a suicide. At the time, Jackley was preparing to file felony theft charges against Benda amid allegations of financial misconduct at the Governor's Office of Economic Development surrounding the EB-5 visa program. The program recruits wealthy immigrant investors for projects in exchange for green cards.

Jackley had agreed to release more information about Benda's death but only under certain conditions, chiefly that Benda's family had to consent. After Benda's family declined to authorize the release and Jackley wouldn't provide access to the records, Mercer sought the intervention of an administrative law judge and later the circuit judge.

The attorney general's office has so-far successfully argued that Mercer's case should be made before the Legislature to change South Dakota law, not before the courts.

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Mercer, who made his case without an attorney, said the court should establish a review standard for future requests of death-investigation records that are of significant public interest.

Feds begin 2nd round of land buyback program on Rosebud BY KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The federal Department of the Interior announced Tuesday that it's sending out another round of offers to more than 11,000 people who own land on the Rosebud Indian Reservation as part of the effort by tribal governments to consolidate reservation parcels owned by multiple people.

The department is extending more than \$34 million in purchase offers to landowners with fractional interests on the reservation after more than \$14 million in land deals were accepted in the initial wave of offers last summer, said Morgan Rodman, a senior adviser on tribal relations for the buyback program.

Land buyback programs aim to help Native American tribes buy parcels of reservation land that have accumulated multiple owners under fractional allotments. The parcels that get sold are then consolidated and held in trust for tribes, which often use the land for things like housing, economic development or cultural preservation, Rodman said.

"The success of this program is a vital component of this administration's commitment to restoring tribal homelands and remedying the harms caused by the repudiated allotment policy," Interior Department Deputy Secretary Mike Conner said in a statement.

The initial wave of the program that began last summer netted the Rosebud Sioux Tribe approximately 31,000 acres in all, Rodman said. Now, he said, the department is sending out buyback offers again in hopes that more people who own land on Rosebud decide to sell.

"I think the program is gaining momentum and information is getting out there," he said. "That's why the demand is there to provide another offer at Rosebud."

The buyback program stems from the settlement — known as the Cobell Settlement — of a nearly 17-year lawsuit over more than a century's worth of mismanaged trust royalties. The 1887 Dawes Act split tribal lands into individual allotments — 80- to 160-acre parcels, in most cases — that have been passed down to multiple heirs. The Rosebud Indian Reservation is among the most splintered in the U.S., with land interests owned by various individuals, including members of other tribes, the Department of the Interior said.

Nationwide, there are about 245,000 owners of nearly 3 million fractional interests, spanning 150 American Indian reservations, who are eligible to participate in the buyback program, the Interior Department said.

Interested sellers who own land on Rosebud have 45 days, until May 16, to return accepted offers in the pre-paid postage envelopes provided.

Appeals court sets April hearing on Obama immigration action JUAN A. LOZANO, Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — A court hearing has been set for April 17 on whether a temporary hold on President Barack Obama's immigration executive action should be lifted, a federal appeals court announced Tuesday.

Obama's executive actions, which could spare from deportation as many as 5 million people who are in the U.S. illegally, were put on hold by a preliminary injunction issued last month by U.S. District Judge

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Andrew Hanen in Brownsville, Texas.

The injunction was issued at the request of a coalition of 26 states that filed a lawsuit to overturn Obama's immigration plan. The states, led by Texas, argue Obama's action was unconstitutional.

The Justice Department earlier this month filed an emergency motion with the 5th Circuit, asking it to lift Hanen's preliminary injunction, arguing the order interferes with the Homeland Security Department's ability to protect the country and "secure our borders."

The 26 states, led by Texas, say they will suffer irreversible economic harm if the injunction is lifted. The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans said each side will have an hour to make their arguments about the injunction during the April hearing.

The scheduling of the hearing was part of a court order that granted a request by the Justice Department to expedite its appeal of Hanen's Feb. 16 ruling.

The Justice Department had asked Hanen to lift the injunction while the case was appealed to the 5th Circuit. But Hanen put that request on hold until he heard from federal prosecutors about allegations that the U.S. government had misled him about the implementation of part of the immigration plan.

During a court hearing last week, a Justice Department attorney apologized to Hanen for any confusion about how more than 108,000 people received three-year reprieves from deportation before the judge made a decision on the injunction.

Hanen has yet to decide if he will issue sanctions against the Justice Department if he decides that the U.S. government had begun implementing an expansion of a program that protects young immigrants from deportation if they were brought to the U.S. illegally as children.

The other states seeking to block Obama's orders are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Airspace expansion over northern Plains gets final approval JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A proposal to establish an enormous bomber training area over the northern Plains that advocates say will improve military training and save money got final approval Tuesday despite concerns about loud, low-flying aircraft disrupting civilian flights and damaging rural economies.

The Federal Aviation Administration approved a plan to expand the Powder River Training Complex over the Dakotas, Montana and Wyoming. The move roughly quadruples the training airspace to span across nearly 35,000 square miles, making it the largest over the continental U.S.

The airspace would be used by B-1 bombers from Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota and B-52 bombers from Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota. The U.S. Air Force estimates that the expanded training airspace could save Ellsworth up to \$23 million a year in fuel costs by reducing the number of training flights to states such as Utah and Nevada.

"This is great news, and it does mark the final step in a very long process," South Dakota U.S. Sen. John Thune, who has been pushing for the expansion since 2006, told The Associated Press. "I think this creates the kind of opportunity for Ellsworth to really be a jewel when it comes to all the different installations that we have around the country."

The Air Force approved the expansion in January, which kicked the proposal over to the FAA for review.

Col. Kevin Kennedy, 28th Bomb Wing commander, said in a statement that the expansion will "greatly improve the training opportunities and readiness of Ellsworth and Minot aircrews."

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Training exercises in the expanded airspace will likely be underway by the end of the year.

Thune said the expansion could shield Ellsworth from being shut down under Base Realignment and Closure, a federal cost-cutting program. Ellsworth is a significant economic driver for the Rapid City area and was under consideration for closure in 2005.

But elected leaders in Montana and state aviation officials have said the bombers would disrupt rural communities and scare livestock as they roar overhead on maneuvers, dropping flares and chaff, or fiber clusters intended to disturb radar waves.

"I'm extremely disappointed the FAA is greenlighting this expansion in the face of real concerns and opposition on the ground," Montana U.S. Sen. Jon Tester said in a statement. "I will hold the Air Force and the FAA accountable as this expansion moves forward to ensure the training complex doesn't negatively impact general aviation, agriculture production or energy development."

The Air Force acknowledged in a study released in November that the low-altitude flights and loud sonic booms could startle residents and livestock, including those living on four Native American reservations in the region.

Under the Air Force plan, any given location across the training area could experience up to nine lowaltitude overflights annually. Supersonic flights would be limited to 10 days a year during large-scale exercises involving roughly 20 aircraft.

As many as 88 civilian flights a day could be delayed when the large-scale exercises are conducted, the Air Force wrote in January. Capt. Christopher Diaz, 28th Bomb Wing Chief of Public Affairs, said in an email that it's possibly but "not likely" that training would affect that many flights.

Roger Meggers, who manages eastern Montana's Baker Municipal Airport, was in Washington on Tuesday meeting with lawmakers about the expansion. Meggers said the expanded airspace would cause significant delays at his small airport, and he said military aircraft traveling at high speeds are a serious safety concern for other aviators.

"We're disappointed and feel that the aircraft and public safety is at risk with the way it's going forward," he said. "It's definitely a plus for South Dakota at the expense of Montana."

Thune said he intended to work with the Air Force and others "to make sure the local concerns continue to be taken into account."

Police find 14 pounds of pot, almost \$30,000 in Brookings

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Authorities in Brookings say a month-long investigation led them to seize 14 pounds of marijuana and almost \$30,000 in cash.

Police arrested 30-year-old Joseph Jones and 40-year-old Walter Gaters, both of Brookings, on Thursday after they say they found three pounds of marijuana and \$27,000 in cash while searching their home.

Further investigation led them to question 41-year-old John Seward, who led police on a short pursuit on Friday before being arrested. After his arrest, police searched Seward's vehicle and say they found 11 pounds of marijuana, some meth and \$2,000 in cash.

Jones and Gaters are facing multiple charges, including possession with intent to distribute over one pound of marijuana. Seward is also facing several charges, including possession with intent to distribute over one pound of marijuana and eluding.

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RC Journal editor: Apology for headline ran on front page

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The editor of the Rapid City Journal says it apologized on the front page for a headline that prompted the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council to ban sales of the newspaper on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

The headline questioned whether some Native American students stood for the Pledge of Allegiance at a hockey game before they were reportedly called racist names and had beer sprayed on them.

Editor Bart Pfankuch (FAN'-kook) says the story under the headline clearly indicated the students did stand for the anthem. And he says sources in the story pointed out explicitly there could never be any justification for such treatment of children.

Pfankuch says the paper also ran a strongly worded editorial condemning racism and the lack of action of those who didn't intervene.

Report says beetles don't make forests more likely to burn DAN ELLIOTT, Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Mountain pine beetles have left vast tracts of dead, dry trees in the West, raising fears that they're more vulnerable to wildfire outbreaks, but a new study found no evidence that bug-infested forests are more likely to burn than healthy ones.

In a paper released Monday, University of Colorado researchers said weather and terrain are bigger factors in determining whether a forest will burn than beetle invasions.

The findings could provide some comfort to people who live near beetle-infested forests, if those trees are statistically no more likely to burn than healthy forests.

But the study acknowledged that other researchers have found that beetles pose different fire risks. Previous studies by the U.S. Forest Service found that once sparked, beetle-killed trees ignite faster and burn more quickly than healthy trees, posing a danger to firefighters.

The new findings were published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Researchers studied the three worst fire seasons in the past 12 years, when the weather was unusually hot and dry.

The study didn't look at years with more moderate weather, but Sarah Hart, the lead author of the report, said she believes the results would be the same if it had.

The study said beetle outbreaks and wildfires increased at the same time but that drought was behind the worsening fires.

"The annual area burned in the western United States has not increased in direct response to bark beetle outbreaks," the study says.

Matt Jolly, a Forest Service research ecologist at the Missoula Fire Sciences Laboratory in Montana, said the findings are valid but stressed that previous research has shown beetles affect fires in other, more threatening ways.

Trees infested with beetles have only about 10 percent of the moisture of healthy trees, Jolly said. Because they are drier, beetle-infested trees are more vulnerable to igniting from embers or burning branches carried by wind and heat waves, he said. "How that fire is burning is the most important thing," he said.

The new study looked at fires in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. The Forest Service says the mountain pine beetle is also present in Nebraska and South Dakota, but those states weren't part of the study.

Nearly 36,000 square miles of trees have been attacked by mountain pine beetles in the West since

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1996.

Civil trial begins in Rapid City in surgery scar lawsuit

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A civil trial is underway in a case in which a man alleges Rapid City Regional Hospital workers intentionally carved the letters "KKK" into his abdomen during heart surgery.

Seventy-one-year-old Vernon Traversie, of Eagle Butte, is suing in federal court for alleged violations of civil rights, battery and intentional infliction of emotional distress. He's seeking unspecified money damages.

Traversie is a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. He says the abuse occurred in 2011.

State and federal authorities earlier concluded there was no criminal wrongdoing. A federal judge last September rejected Traversie's medical negligence allegation but allowed Traversie to pursue his other claims.

Hospital attorney Jeffrey Hurd says the marks on Traversie's abdomen were the result of a skin reaction to medical tape.

Sioux Falls hosting NCAA Division II women's Elite Eight

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The champion of NCAA Division II women's basketball is being crowned in Sioux Falls this week.

The Division II women's Elite Eight was getting underway Tuesday at the Sanford Pentagon, with semifinals scheduled for Wednesday night and the national championship game slated for Friday night.

Teams competing for the title are Nova Southeastern, California of Pennsylvania, Emporia State, West Texas A&M, California Baptist, New Haven, Limestone and Lewis.

Sanford Health Plan expanding office space in North Dakota

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Dakotas-based Sanford Health is securing more office space and posting dozens of jobs in North Dakota as its insurance subsidiary prepares to take over as the primary provider for state workers.

Meanwhile, Sanford is asking South Dakota's Division of Insurance to determine if its insurance plans comply with a law voters enacted in November.

Sanford Health Plan will begin providing coverage for the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System on July 1, after out-bidding longtime provider Blue Cross Blue Shield earlier this year. Sanford said in a statement that it has secured office space in Fargo and is selecting office space in Bismarck. It also has posted openings for more than 80 new jobs in the two cities.

"Within just a few days after posting the jobs we received hundreds of applications," Sanford Health Plan President Ruth Krystopolski said.

Sanford Health, based in Fargo and Sioux Falls, South Dakota, is the largest not-for-profit rural health care system in the nation with locations in 126 communities in nine states. It also is developing international clinics in Ghana, Mexico and China. It has more than 26,000 employees.

In South Dakota, Sanford is asking state insurance officials to determine if its insurance plans comply with the patient choice law that took effect late last year, the Argus Leader newspaper reported. The voter-approved measure allows doctors to join an insurer's preferred providers list if they agree to conditions set by the insurance company, including payments for patient services. Supporters said it will give people more freedom when choosing doctors.

Sanford Health Plan offers an insurance option that is open to all providers, but it also offers custom

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plans with a defined list of providers. Those plans are less expensive for consumers and employers, according to the company.

Because Sanford has a plan open to all providers, the health system is asking for a state ruling that would enable it to keep offering the custom plans.

"If (the new law) is applied to Sanford Health Plan to allow any provider to participate in every plan or network, it will prevent consumers from having the choice to obtain insurance from a closed network of providers in exchange for a lower premium," Sanford's filing says.

Sioux Falls Surgical Hospital CEO Blake Curd said he expects all health insurers to "honor the will of South Dakota's voters and fully comply with their statutory obligation not to obstruct patient choice."

State Insurance Director Larry Deiter declined to discuss Sanford's request, saying it is still being studied.

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. SLAVE LABOR IN FISHING INDUSTRY EXPOSED

Modern-day Burmese slaves in an Indonesian village reveal to the AP the harsh conditions they live in. A brutal truth emerges: your seafood may come from slaves.

2. CREWS RETRIEVE ALPINE JET'S BLACK BOX

The damaged voice and cockpit recorder - still believed to be useable - and a two-minute span when the pilot of the German aircraft lost contact are vital clues into what caused the tragedy.

3. YEMEN PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY FLEES ADEN HOME

Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi leaves just hours after Shiite rebels seized an air base where U.S. troops and Europeans advised the country in its fight against al-Qaida militants.

4. WHY AFGHAN LEADER MIGHT GET WARM WELCOME ON CAPITOL HILL

Ashraf Ghani's speech to Congress is an opportunity to mark a new chapter in U.S.-Afghanistan relations, which were strained by acrimony between Obama and Hamid Karzai.

5. WHERE EASING OF TRANSGENDER BAN SPURS CONCERNS

Defense Secretary Ash Carter gets pushback from senior military leaders on whether the Pentagon should allow transgender people to serve in the armed forces.

6. RUSSIA'S HEAVY DRINKERS SEEK DANGEROUS HIGHS AMID CRISIS

A dangerous new trend is emerging in this heavy-drinking country: the consumption of potentially lethal moonshine, medical alcohol or even cleaning products.

7. PHONES POSE BIG PROBLEM FOR TEEN DRIVERS

Distractions — especially talking with passengers and using cellphones — play a far greater role in car crashes involving teenagers than has been previously understood.

8. WHO CAN SAVE CHEROKEE LANGUAGE

Hope for preserving it lies with six fifth-graders who have attended a small immersion school since they were babies.

9. 'MAD MEN' STAR UNDERGOES ALCOHOL TREATMENT

The disclosure concerning Jon Hamm comes as the final season of the 1960s-set drama is about to begin.

10. WHAT BASEBALL CAREERS OFTEN START WITH

Long before any of that major league money lands in their bank accounts, most minor league players apply for jobs at Costco, the grocery store or the coffee shop.

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AP News in Brief

AP investigation: Men forced to work as slaves to catch seafood for global supply

BENJINA, Indonesia (AP) — The Burmese slaves sat on the floor and stared through the rusty bars of their locked cage, hidden on a tiny tropical island thousands of miles from home.

Just a few yards away, other workers loaded cargo ships with slave-caught seafood that clouds the supply networks of major supermarkets, restaurants and even pet stores in the United States.

Here, in the Indonesian island village of Benjina and the surrounding waters, hundreds of trapped men represent one of the most desperate links criss-crossing between companies and countries in the seafood industry. This intricate web of connections separates the fish we eat from the men who catch it, and obscures a brutal truth: Your seafood may come from slaves.

AP tracked the supply chain of slave caught fish to top US retailers

A year-long investigation into forced labor and trafficking in Southeast Asia's fishing industry led an Associated Press team to Benjina, a small town that straddles two islands in the far reaches of eastern Indonesia. There journalists interviewed more than 40 current and former slaves, many of whom said they had been forced to work on boats overseen by Thai captains under extremely brutal conditions. They were paid little or nothing at all, and some were out to sea for months or years at a time.

The AP also found a locked cell with eight slaves inside, and handed a video camera to a dockworker, himself a former slave, to take close-up footage. Under the cover of darkness, the AP team used a small wooden boat to approach a trawler with slaves who yelled to them, pleading for help to go home.

Reporters were led to a jungle-covered graveyard that held the bodies of slaves, according to villagers and nonprofit officials. They interviewed three men who said they had escaped into the island's jungle interior, and also spent a night sleeping in the forest on an adjacent island with other runaway slaves from Benjina.

The AP watched slave-caught fish being loaded onto a refrigerated cargo ship bound for Thailand. They tracked the reefer's 15-day journey using satellite signals and met the vessel in Samut Sakhon, Thailand, where they saw the seafood unloaded into dozens of trucks over four nights. The journalists followed the rigs to processing factories, cold storage facilities and Thailand's largest wholesale fish market.

The AP then worked to establish a chain, using U.S. Customs documents showing Thai companies that export to the U.S. The food goes to Europe and Asia as well as the U.S., but the AP was able to gather most information on specific companies in America, where custom records are public.

The Latest: German students grieve classmates killed in plane crash

10:10 a.m. (0910 GMT, 5:10 a.m. EDT)

Students at the main high school in the western German town of Haltern are gathering by an evergrowing memorial of candles and flowers, weeping and hugging as they mourn the loss of 16 classmates and two teachers who died in a crash in the French Alps.

Fourteen-year-old Lara Beer says her best friend, Paula, was aboard the aircraft.

Wiping tears from her eyes, she says she was waiting for the train her friend was supposed to be on,

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but went home when she saw Paula wasn't on it. She says: "That's when my parents told me Paula was dead."

Damaged black box, crucial 2 minutes are key clues to jet crash in French Alps that killed 150

SEYNE-LES-ALPES, France (AP) — A cockpit voice recorder badly damaged when a German jetliner slammed into an Alpine mountainside and a crucial two-minute span when the pilot lost contact offer vital clues into the crash's cause, officials said Wednesday.

All 150 people on board were killed in Tuesday's crash of the Germanwings Airbus 320 in the southern French Alps.

Helicopters surveying the scattered debris lifted off at daybreak, hours ahead of the expected arrival of bereaved families and the French, German and Spanish leaders. The flight from Spain to Germany went into an unexplained eight-minute dive before crashing.

Crews were making their way slowly to the remote crash site through fresh snow and rain, threading their way to the craggy ravine. On Tuesday, the cockpit voice recorder was retrieved from the site, French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said.

"The black box is damaged and must be reconstituted in the coming hours in order to be useable," Cazeneuve told RTL radio.

Officials tell AP that Yemen's embattled president has fled Aden home as Shiite rebels near

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Yemen's embattled president fled his palace in Aden for an undisclosed location Wednesday as Shiite rebels neared his last refugee, five officials told The Associated Press.

President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi left just hours after the rebels' own television station said they seized an air base where U.S. troops and Europeans advised the country in its fight against al-Qaida militants. That air base is only 60 kilometers (35 miles) away from Aden, the port city where Hadi had established a temporary capital.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they weren't authorized to brief journalists. Witnesses said they saw a convoy of presidential vehicles Wednesday leaving Hadi's palace, located at the top of a hill in Aden overlooking the Arabian Sea.

Forces loyal to Hadi had no immediate comment. U.S. and European advisers fled the captured air base days ago after al-Qaida fighters briefly seized a nearby city.

The advance of the Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, threatens to plunge the Arab world's poorest country into a civil war that could draw in its Gulf neighbors. Already, Hadi has asked the United Nations to authorize a foreign military intervention in the country.

Afghan president expected to get warm welcome when he speaks to joint meeting of Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Afghan President Ashraf Ghani is untested as a leader, yet he is expected to get a warm reception from both Republicans and Democrats on Capitol Hill. The reason: He's not former Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

The White House said Ghani's speech Wednesday to a joint meeting of Congress is an opportunity to mark a new chapter in U.S.-Afghanistan relations, which were strained by acrimony between President

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Barack Obama and Karzai.

Lawmakers have been critical about U.S. troop involvement in America's longest war, wasteful spending in Afghanistan and Karzai's anti-American rhetoric.

Toward the end of his tenure, Karzai did not think the U.S. was holding Afghanistan's interests front and center. He repeatedly railed against the thousands of civilians being killed and said the war against terrorists should not be fought in the villages of his country. U.S. officials and lawmakers did not think Karzai's comments were appropriate given that 2,200 U.S. servicemen and women had been killed and billions of U.S. tax dollars had been spent during the conflict.

Still, despite being weary of war, lawmakers from both parties praised the White House announcement Tuesday to slow the pace of the U.S. troop withdrawal.

AP sources: Military raises concern over easing ban on transgender people serving in military

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Ash Carter has gotten pushback from senior military leaders on whether the Pentagon should lift its ban on transgender people serving in the armed forces, according to U.S. officials familiar with the discussions.

Carter initially told troops in Afghanistan that he was open-minded when asked if the Defense Department was planning to remove one of the last gender- or sexuality-based barriers to military service. But defense officials said members of his top brass told Carter that they had serious reservations.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

Military officials are reluctant to publicly discuss their opposition, but much of it centers on questions about where transgender troops would be housed, what berthing they would have on ships, which bathrooms they would use, and whether their presence would affect the ability of small units to work well together.

There also are questions about whether the military would conduct or pay for the medical treatment and costs associated with any gender transition, as well as which physical training standards they would be required to meet.

Offering glimpses of the Prophet Muhammad, Iranian film latest to test taboo on depicting him

ALLAHYAR, Iran (AP) — Here in this Persian replica of Mecca, built at the cost of millions of dollars, an Iranian film company is attempting to offer the world a literal glimpse of the Prophet Muhammad despite traditional taboos against it.

The movie "Muhammad, Messenger of God" already recalls the grandeur — and expense — of a Cecil B. DeMille film, with the narrow alleyways and a replica Kaaba shrine built here in the remote village of Allahyar. But by even showing the back of the Prophet Muhammad as a child before he was called upon by Allah, the most expensive film in Iranian history already has been criticized before its even widely released, calling into question who ultimately will see the Quranic story come to life on the big screen.

"How should we introduce our prophet?" asked Majid Majidi, the film's director. "Many relay their messages to the world through cinema and pictures."

In American cinematic history, films involving the Bible often find the biggest audience and box office returns. Biblical stories have inspired dozens of films from the 1920s all the way to recent blockbusters

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like "Noah" starring Russell Crowe and Ridley Scott's biblical epic "Exodus: Gods and Kings." But in Islam, portraying the Prophet Muhammad has long been taboo for many. Islamic tradition is full of written descriptions of Muhammad and his qualities — describing him as the ideal human being. But clerics generally have agreed that trying to depict that ideal is forbidden. The Paris terror attack on the satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo, which killed 12 people in January, saw gunmen target it over its caricature of the prophet.

Seasonal employees: Baseball careers often start with winter grunt work to pay the bills

FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) — Long before any of that major league money starts landing in their bank accounts, most players are in a similar predicament as everyone else in the regular workforce.

Between baseball seasons there are no paychecks and bills don't stop for the winter. So they need to find some other income.

"Especially the guys who got picked in the 10th round and above," Minnesota Twins reliever Casey Fien said. "I signed for \$500 and a plane ticket. So I had to go out and earn my money."

He went to Costco.

The right arm that would eventually fetch Fien a \$1.38 million salary from the Twins for 2015 was once used for stacking crates, pallets and boxes at the bulk retail giant's location in San Luis Obispo, California. Drafted in the 20th round in 2006 by Detroit, Fien showed up for five-hour night shifts at the store during his offseasons until making his major league debut in 2009 with the Tigers.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, March 25, the 84th day of 2015. There are 281 days left in the year. **Today's Highlight in History:**

On March 25, 1965, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. led 25,000 people to the Alabama state capitol in Montgomery after a five-day march from Selma to protest the denial of voting rights to blacks. Later that day, civil rights activist Viola Liuzzo, a white Detroit homemaker, was shot and killed by Ku Klux Klansmen as she drove a black volunteer to the airport.

On this date:

In 1306, Robert the Bruce was crowned King of Scots.

In 1634, English colonists sent by Lord Baltimore arrived in present-day Maryland.

In 1776, Gen. George Washington, commander of the Continental Army, was awarded the first Congressional Gold Medal by the Continental Congress.

In 1865, during the Civil War, Confederate forces attacked Fort Stedman in Virginia but were forced to withdraw because of counterattacking Union troops.

In 1911, 146 people, mostly young female immigrants, were killed when fire broke out at the Triangle Shirtwaist Co. in New York.

In 1915, the U.S. Navy lost its first commissioned submarine as the USS F-4 sank off Hawaii, claiming the lives of all 21 crew members.

In 1924, the Second Hellenic Republic was proclaimed in Greece.

In 1947, a coal mine explosion in Centralia, Illinois, claimed 111 lives.

In 1954, RCA announced it had begun producing color television sets at its plant in Bloomington, Indiana.

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In 1975, King Faisal (FY'-suhl) of Saudi Arabia was shot to death by a nephew with a history of mental illness. (The nephew was beheaded in June 1975.)

In 1985, "Amadeus" won eight Academy Awards, including best picture, best director for Milos (MEE'lohsh) Forman and best actor for F. Murray Abraham.

In 1990, 87 people, most of them Honduran and Dominican immigrants, were killed when fire raced through an illegal social club in New York City.

Ten years ago: Losing still more legal appeals, Terri Schiavo's father, Bob Schindler, said his severely brain-damaged daughter was "down to her last hours" as she entered her second week without the feeding tube that had sustained her life for 15 years. An ailing, silent Pope John Paul II appeared to the faithful via video for Good Friday services at the Vatican.

Five years ago: Osama bin Laden threatened in a new message to kill any Americans al-Qaida captured if the U.S. executed Khalid Sheik Mohammed (HAH'-leed shayk moh-HAH'-med), the self-professed mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks, or other al-Qaida suspects. Defense Secretary Robert Gates approved new rules easing enforcement of the "don't ask, don't tell" ban on gays serving openly in the military. Daisuke Takahashi gave Japan its first men's title at the World Figure Skating Champion-ships in Turin, Italy.

One year ago: Following a two-day security summit in The Netherlands, President Barack Obama declared that the gathering had taken "concrete steps" to prevent nuclear material falling into the hands of terrorists even though Russia and China failed to sign an agreement to beef up inspections.

Today's Birthdays: Movie reviewer Gene Shalit is 89. Former astronaut James Lovell is 87. Feminist activist and author Gloria Steinem is 81. Singer Anita Bryant is 75. Singer Aretha Franklin is 73. Actor Paul Michael Glaser is 72. Singer Elton John is 68. Actress Bonnie Bedelia is 67. Actress-comedian Mary Gross is 62. Actor James McDaniel is 57. Former Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev., is 57. Movie producer Amy Pascal is 57. Rock musician Steve Norman (Spandau Ballet) is 55. Actress Brenda Strong is 55. Actor Fred Goss is 54. Actor-writer-director John Stockwell is 54. Actress Marcia Cross is 53. Author Kate DiCamillo is 51. Actress Lisa Gay Hamilton is 51. Actress Sarah Jessica Parker is 50. Former MLB All-Star pitcher Tom Glavine is 49. Olympic bronze medal figure skater Debi Thomas, M.D., is 48. Actor Laz Alonso (TV: "The Mysteries of Laura") is 44. Singer Melanie Blatt (All Saints) is 40. Actor Domenick Lombardozzi is 39. Actor Lee Pace is 36. Actor Sean Faris is 33. Auto racer Danica Patrick is 33. Actress-singer Katharine McPhee is 31. Singer Jason Castro ("American Idol") is 28. Rapper Big Sean is 27. Rap DJ/producer Ryan Lewis is 27. Actor Matthew Beard (Film: "The Imitation Game") is 26. Actress-singer Aly (AKA Alyson) Michalka (mish-AL'-kah) is 26. Actor Kiowa Gordon is 25. Actress Seychelle Gabriel is 24.

Thought for Today: "Scratch a pessimist, and you find often a defender of privilege." - Lord Beveridge, British economist (1879-1963).

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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 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:

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• 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 <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

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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 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.