

Groton Daily Independent

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Monday, May 18

Anniversary: Bill and Jana Duncan

Birthdays: Jean Walter • Bill Duncan • Rosalie Gerdes • Jeslyn Kosel

School Breakfast: Cook's choice.

School Lunch: Cook's choice.

Senior Menu: Spanish rice with hamburger, green beans, Mandarin oranges, chocoalte pudding, whole wheat bread.

State girls golf at Madison

6:30 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study

7:30 p.m.: St. John's Lutheran Christian Literature Circle.

Tuesday, May 19

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Birthdays: John Erickson • McKayla Harder

School Breakfast: Cook's choice.

School Lunch: Sack Lunch.

Senior Menu: Scalloped potatoes with ham, peas, sunset salad, oatmeal raisin cookie, whole wheat bread.

State girls golf at Madison

9:00 a.m.: St. John's Lutheran quilting.

Cats anyone?

Anyone want a cat or two? We have two to give away. Contact Paul 397-7460.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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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Class of 2015 says Good-Bye to GHS



The GHS Band, under the direction of Reid Johnson, played the pre-commencement and recessional music.

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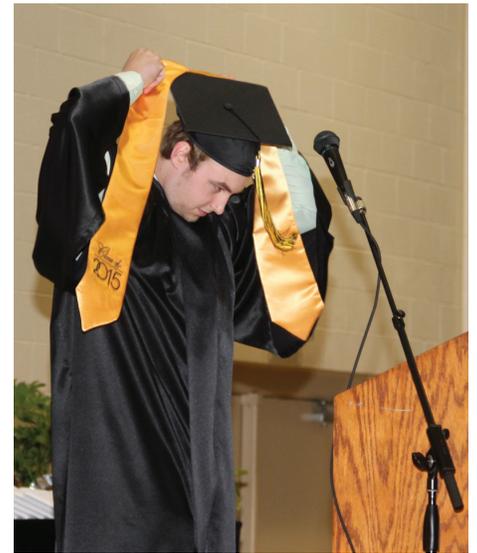
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Superintendent Joseph Schwan gave the welcome.



Katie LaMee and Luke Smith led a student-led prayer at the beginning of the event.



Alec Voss had slight wardrobe malfunction as he made some adjustments before speaking.

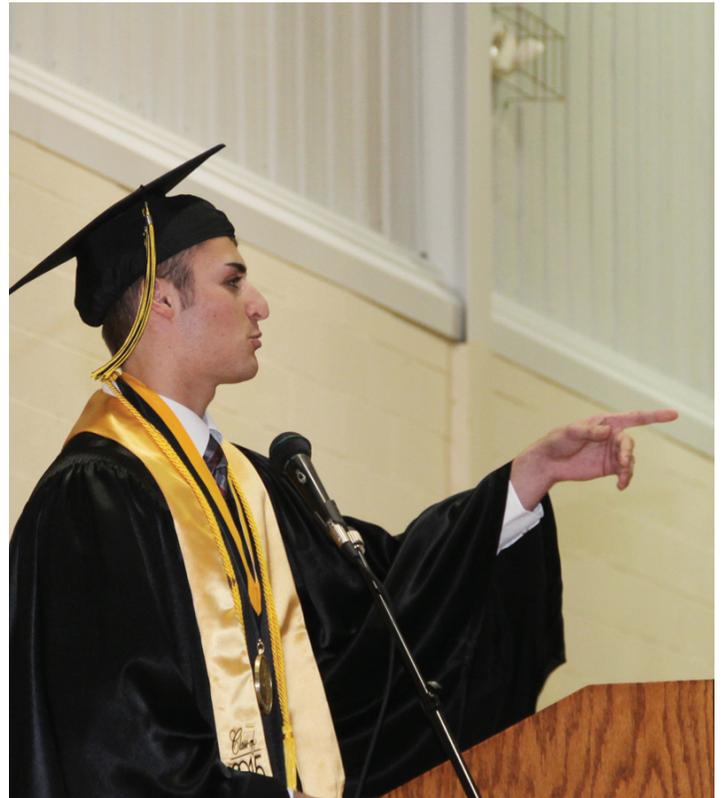


Alec Voss threw out boxes of goodies to the seniors. Below, some of the seniors are enjoying the snack.



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Alec Voss and Gabe Dohman were the senior speakers. They both did an impressive job.



Steve Smith, president of the Groton Area Board of Education, thanked the senior class for their donation, which was presented by Kasey Waage. The funds are earmarked for the restoration of the school bell and for landscaping at the front of the school.

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Michael J. Weber presented the Class of 2015.



The senior vocalist sang, "Dream Big," under the direction of Cody Swanson.



Steve Smith said, "Doug Bahr has been a member of our custodial staff for 11 years, bringing with him his valuable skill as a plumber. Doug appreciates the opportunity he had to work for the school and the many friendships developed throughout the years. For those of you who benefit from his huge tomato and pumpkin crops, don't worry. He plans to continue with these gardening projects during his retirement, too."



Middle/High School Principal Anna Schwan read the special senior awards.

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Steve Smith said, "I'd like to thank Deb Jensen who has taught here for 37 years, starting the elementary students in beginner band, encouraging and instructing them as they proceeded through the middle school years. She was also instrumental in the formation of the current show choir. During her tenure here, she has had many students qualify for Middle School All State Band, something that requires hard work and long hours, both on her part and that of her students."

Steve Smith said, "I'd like to recognize Connie Stauch for 29 years of dedication and hard work as the business office assistant. Mrs. Stauch has capably handled her official duties in the office, but her favorite part of the job was being able to interact with the students every day. She will miss this the most, but can now begin to work on the long list of projects she has planned for retirement."



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Steve Smith said, "Now I'm going to deviate from your program just a bit to recognize one more person here today and that person is our former school board president, Dorene Nelson. Dorene stepped down as president this past year but continues to be an active board member and thankfully, my mentor. I believe you would be hard pressed to find another person who is as strongly committed to the success of our students, our staff and our school district as Dorene is. She is such a positive person and it is a pleasure to work alongside her."



Doug Bahr, Deb Jensen and Connie Stauch with their plaques.

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Kathleen Jo Groeblinghoff
with highest honor

National Honor Society, Principals 4-year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's Student Services Award 2015, President's Award in Education 2015, Associated School Boards Governor's Academic Excellence Recognition, Groton Eastern Star, James Valley Bob Peterson Memorial Telecommunications Scholarship, Stratford Community Theatre Scholarship, SDSU Yellow and Blue Scholarship, Renee McKiver Memorial Scholarship, Groton Area Hopps Dow Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, SD Creativity Association and Watertown Optimists Club DI Scholarship, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Scholarship, Groton Lisa Sippel Memorial Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Valedictorian Scholarship, Gwendolyn O'Connor Broman Memorial Scholarship.



Jacob A. Milbrandt
with hightest honor

Touchstone Energy Scholar of the Week, Hobey Baker Character Award, Principal's 4-year Honor Roll 2015, SD Opportunity Curriculum CTE Scholar, President's Award in Education 2015, Sam Tronnes Memorial Scholarship, SDSM&T Tech Challenge Scholar, Dakota Corps Critical Need Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Salutatorian Scholarship.



Luke Brendan Smith
with highest honor

National Honor Society, National Merit Scholarship Competition Semifinalist and Finalist 2015, Principal's 4-year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's Award in Education 2015, USD Mickelson Scholarship, USD National merit Scholarship, Avera St. Luke's Auxiliary Scholarship, USD Sanford School of Medicine Alumni Student Scholar with Medical School Acceptance, Orval and Bernice Smith Memorial Scholarship, Stratford Community Theatre Scholarship, Groton Area Hopps Dow Scholarship, Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation Joe Foss "An American Hero" Scholarship, Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation Fred and Marie Christopherson Scholarship, Beck Memorial Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, WEB Water (Sieth, Westby, Zemlicka, Montgomery & Hohn) Scholarship, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Trade/Technical/Science or Math Scholarship.

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Gabriel Scott Dohman

with highest honor

National Honor Society, Young Leader's Award Luncheon 2011, DAR Representative Groton Area High School 2014, Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, American Legion Citizenship Award 2015, Type 7 Air Force ROTC College Scholarship, SDSU Jackrabbit Guarantee, SD Opportunity Scholarship.



Natalia Dohman

with highest honor

Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, USD Coyote Commitment, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Susan Deanne Weismantel Memorial Scholarship, Groton Class of 1969 Scholarship.



Maryn Howard

with highest honor

Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Opportunity Curriculum CTE Scholar, President's Award in Education 2015, SDSU Rod and Glenna Foubert Jackrabbit Guarantee, Healthcare Plus Federal Credit Union Scholarship, Brenda Harms Memorial Scholarship, Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Groton Simon Insurance and Auction Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Brown County 4-H Leaders Association Scholarship, Lazy Farmers 4-H Club Scholarship, Groton Class of 1969 Scholarship.

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Taylor Ann Gustafson
with highest honor

National Honor Society, Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar 2013, Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, President's Award in Education 2015, USD Coyote Commitment Scholarship, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, Sanford Heart of Tomorrow Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Rob Luecke Memorial Scholarship, Groton Sammuli-Rix Scholarship.



Lucas James Sternhagen
with highest honor

National Honor Society, Wendys High School Heisman School Winner 2014, Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Opportunity Curriculum CTE Scholar, President's Award in Education 2015, Northern Electric Cooperative Scholarship, James Valley Bob Peterson Memorial Telecommunications Scholarship, USD Presidential Alumni Scholarship, SD Society for Technology in Education Technology Scholarship, Dakota Corps Scholarship Critical Need, Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation Cogley Buffington Scholarship, Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Groton Simon Insurance and Auction Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, WEB Water (Sieh, Westby, Zemlicka, Montgomery & Hohn) Scholarship, Groton Irvin Flihs Memorial Scholarship.



Haley Ann Unzen
with highest honor

National Honor Society, Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, President's Award in Education 2015, USD Coyote Commitment Distinction Scholarship, Groton FCCLA Service Award, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Wilfred N. and Lucille A. Heinz Memorial Scholarship.

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Kaitlin Dianne O'Neill
with highest honor

National Honor Society, Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar 2012, Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, SD Girls State Representative 2014, Groton Sammuli-Rix Scholarship.



Kasey Rae Waage
with highest honor

National Honor Society, Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, American Legion Citizenship Award 2015, Groton PEO Scholarship given in memory of Marvel Johnson, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, HB Telco Federal Credit Union Scholarship, Groton Local Firemen's Scholarship, SDSU Jackrabbit Guarantee, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Dakotas Federal Credit Union Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Financial Need Scholarship.



Matthew M. Knecht
with honor

National Honor Society, Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, President's Award in Education 2015, SDSU Jackrabbit Guarantee, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Groton Phyllis J. Jark Memorial Education Major Scholarship.



Sydney Ann Thorson
with honor

Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Shawn Weismantel Kramer Memorial Scholarship, Groton Darlene Raap Memorial Scholarship.

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Maddison J. Colestock
with honor

Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, Groton Kiwanis Community Service Scholarship, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, President's Award in Education 2015, USD Coyote Commitment, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Groton Don Bartz Scholarship.



Rachel M. Blackmun
with honor

Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, USD Coyote Commitment, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Scholarship, Groton Darlene Raap Memorial Scholarship.



Courtney Kurtz
with honor

Wendys High School Heisman School Winner 2014, Wendys High School Heisman State Finalist 2014, Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, Groton Alumni Scholarship.



Kyler Ell
with honor

Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Opportunity Curriculum CTE Scholar, Groton Edna Bugner Memorial Scholarship.



Kennedy Clark
with honor

Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, Groton FCCLA Service Award, University of Sioux Falls Achievement Scholarship, Tom and Cindy Lillibridge Entrepreneurial Scholarship, Brown County 4-H Leaders Association Scholarship, Groton Alumni Scholarship.



Nicole Grand Lewandowski
with honor

SD Opportunity Curriculum CTE Scholar, Vicki Strom Memorial Scholarship, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Scholarship, Groton Don Bartz Scholarship.

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Jackson Doeden
with honor

Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD opportunity Curriculum CTE Scholar, President's Award in Education 2015, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, Valley City State University Football Alumni Scholarship, Valley City Charlotte Van Houten Academic Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Athletic Scholarship.



Alyssa M. Sippel
with honor

Principal's 4-Year Honor Roll 2015, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, USD Coyote Commitment Achievement Scholarship, Groton FCCLA Service Award, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, Groton Edna Bugner Memorial Scholarship.



Breanna S. Marzahn
with honor

National Honor Society, Groton Eastern Star, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, Catholic United Financial Scholarship, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Scholarship, Brown County 4-H Leaders Association Scholarship, Groton Area School Employee Teaching Scholarship.



Stormy Bahr



**Tori Rayann
Benson-Bjerke**



Ethan Philip Braun

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Karla Jimenez



Braden Clint Crosby



Zachary Steele Crosby



Michaela Marae Cutler



Nicholas J. Dalchow



Danielle Nicole Dobbins



Ashley Elizabeth Gibbs
Principal's Student Service Award 2015, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, SD Community and Family Extension Leader's Scholarship, Brown County 4-H Leaders Association Scholarship, Groton Area School Employee Teaching Scholarship.



Will T. Hanson



Rayce W. Harder

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Christine Elizabeth Herr
SD Regents Scholar Diploma, St. Cloud State University Presidential Scholarship, St. Cloud State University Residence Hall Scholarship.



Sheldon Herr
Jerald W. Peterson Memorial Scholarship, Day County Conservation Scholarship, Brenda Harms Memorial Scholarship, Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Groton Simon Insurance and Auction Scholarship.



Shannon Elizabeth Hjermsstad



Brittany Jeanne Kjelden



Spencer Knecht
Groton Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, Full Circle Ag Scholarship.



Amanda J. Koens



Kiana Marie Kokales
SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, SDSU Music Scholarship, Groton Area School Employee Teaching Scholarship.



Katherine Ann LaMee
SD Girls State Representative 2014, Principal's Student Service Award 2015, Groton PAC Community Service Scholarship, FCCLA Service Award, Andover Waldorf Scholarship.

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Logan Isaiah Lane
SDSU AI and Veronica Fer-
gen Scholarship, SDSU Jim
and Mildred Larson Schol-
arship, SDSU Jackrabbit
Guarantee.



Landon James Larson
Full Circle Ag Scholarship,
Barry Schuring Memorial
Scholarship.



Wyatt L. Larson
Groton Chamber of Com-
merce Scholarship, Groton
FFA Alumni Scholarship,
Groton Simon Insurance
and Auction Scholarship,
Ruden Family Ag Schol-
arship.



Austin J. Merkel



Jocelyn Taylor Peterson
SD Girls State Representa-
tive 2014, Northern State
University Wolf PACT.



Devon J. Poppen



Paige Cheri Pray



Danielle R. Schinkel
Groton FCCLA Service
Award, Mitchell Technical
Staff Scholarship, Groton
Masonic Lodge Scholarship,
Kay and David Donovan Me-
morial Scholarship.

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Tyler Scott



Chance Wyatt Strom
Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Groton Simon Insurance and Auction Scholarship.



Dylan J. Vogel
Southwest Minnesota State University Achievement Scholarship, Full Circle Ag Scholarship.



Alec John Voss
Jerlad W. Peterson Memorial Scholarship, Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Groton Simon Insurance and Auction Scholarship, Anthony O'Brokaw Memorial Scholarship, Ruden Family Ag Scholarship.



The hats went flying at the end.

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Putney Putovers May Report

The Putney Putovers 4-H Club met May 3rd, at the Groton Community Center. The meeting was called to order by President Carly Wheeting. Flag pledges were led by Cole Simon, Shyla Larson, and Jillian Hughes. Roll call was answered with a food you dislike. There was no secretary's report. The treasurer's report was approved by Emma Donley and seconded by Taryn Taylor. There were no bills. Reporting on community service, Caleb Hanten and Alexis Hanten cleaned ditches. Lucas and Cole Simon had a bake sale supporting 4-H. Lane Tietz, Taryn Taylor, and Tage Taylor each helped grandparents and Jillian Hughes worked at the DI rummage sale.

In new business, Tage Taylor made a motion to donate to the county fair auction. Alexis Hanten seconded. Dates for livestock, judging schools, horse, Public Presentation Day, and Special Foods were given. There was also a fruit sale recap and discussion about the Downtown Aberdeen Farmers Market.

Hostesses for the meeting were Shyla Larson and Lane Tietz. Dylan Krueger gave a demonstration on loading and unloading a horse safely. Hannah Monson gave a demonstration, "How to Make a Lava Lamp," and Hailey Monson gave a talk on the circulatory system. Emma Donley also gave a talk titled "Always Prewash: A Good Habit to Get Into" and demonstration on a basic sewing kit. The next meeting will be held June 8th, at the Groton Community Center. Hostesses will be Tage and Taryn Taylor. The adjournment was moved by Hailey Hanson and seconded by Caleb Hanten.

GROTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA May 18, 2015 – 7pm Groton Community Center

- 1) Minutes**
- 2) Bills**
- 3) 7pm Kim Weber – BB Playground Equipment Donation**
- 4) 7:15pm Jennifer Sietsema, NECOG – Hazard Mitigation Survey**
- 5) 8pm Swim Pool Managers – Pool rules**
- 6) Baseball Light Repairs**
- 7) Temporary Closing Alley for Auction**
- 8) Hanlon Railroad Addition Plat**
- 9) Clark Engineering Contract – Safe Route to School**
- 10) SDML Budget Training – Aberdeen – July 22**
- 11) Meeting Reports**
- 12) Grants**
- 13) Safety Procedures**
- 14) Exe Session – Personnel**
- 15) Hire Electric Supt**

AND any other business that may come before the Council

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A Proud Week For South Dakota

This past week has shown us, yet again, why we can be proud to be South Dakotans.

On Friday, May 8, our state welcomed President Barack Obama to Watertown. Linda and I were honored to greet the President at the airport and to join his motorcade as he rode to the Civic Arena. Thousands of people lined the entire four-mile route – waving, cheering and holding American flags. Members of the national media who travel with the President commented on the impressive display.

It was all the more impressive because, based on election returns, many of those who turned out probably don't support President Obama politically. But this was not a day for politics – it was a day for patriotism. We welcomed our nation's President to South Dakota, and I was proud of the reception and the respect Watertown showed.

President Obama delivered the commencement address at Lake Area Technical Institute and recognized LATI as one of the nation's best two-year institutions. His speech focused on several of the graduates who had faced adversity and had come to LATI to seek a better life. The President recognized the values of hard work and self-reliance that make South Dakota a great state. All across South Dakota on that same weekend, thousands of hard-working students celebrated a successful college graduation, in a similar way.

On Sunday morning, I was back in Pierre. Our family was enjoying a Mother's Day brunch after church. In Delmont, families were doing much the same – spending time with friends and family. Then, out of nowhere, a tornado came from the south and tore through the west side of town.

I arrived in Delmont mid-afternoon. The devastation and destruction were even worse than had been reported. Dozens of homes were damaged, along with the city's brand-new fire hall and the beautiful Zion Lutheran Church. I was saddened by the great loss of property, but grateful that no one was killed or critically injured.

And, once again, I was inspired by the people of South Dakota. Delmont's citizens joined together to help their neighbors. Local officials set aside their personal losses to coordinate the city's response. With the Delmont fire hall destroyed, firemen from Armour and Tripp came to Delmont's aid. Power linesmen were immediately on the scene, working to restore power. The people of Delmont began to clean up their city and comfort those who suffered losses.

Yet again, the worst of Mother Nature brought out the best in South Dakota. Just as we've seen again and again – during the Missouri and Big Sioux River floods, Winter Storm Atlas, and the Wessington Springs tornado – South Dakotans stepped up to help their neighbors.

In South Dakota, we love our country. We work hard to advance ourselves. And we step up to help our neighbors when disaster strikes. That's why this week made me proud, still again, to be a South Dakotan.



What I Admire in My Daughter

We've watched a lot of old family videos these last few weeks as we prepared for Kennedy to graduate. It's been a special opportunity to see who she is – who she has always been. She never seemed to mind her older sister telling her what to do. She'd let other kids at her birthday parties open her presents and play with the gifts – even if she hadn't had the chance to yet. We saw her helping her cousins up when they fell and faithfully answering the questions we asked with the sweetest lisp and a crooked smile.

I distinctly remember a day when Kennedy was five. I took her to a friend's house in rural Raymond to look at a couple horses for her and her older sister Kassidy. Kass returned home that day with Dunny – and Kenners was left with Loosey. When we pushed Kennedy up on the horse's back, her little legs barely hung over Loosey's sides and even if Kennedy hung off the saddle horn, her feet were still a good two feet from the ground. But she didn't seem to mind.

Kennedy gave Loosey a kick and a cluck, but Loosey just laid down. I ran over to pull Kennedy off Loosey's back as she went down and I remember getting this cold feeling in my stomach. "Oh great," I thought. "Now, I have a five-year-old problem horse for my five-year-old little girl."

Kennedy didn't hesitate though. She got right back on the horse, gave her another kick, and off they loped across the arena.

A few years later, Kennedy was riding the horse in a rodeo and a woman came up and asked, "Is that Loosey?" I said that it was and the woman proceeded to tell me that they had tried Loosey out too, but found her far too ornery. She spoke about several other families who also gave the horse a chance, but none of them worked out either. Then, she said, "Well, I guess Loosey found her girl." She was right.

The strength and determination Kennedy displayed that first day with Loosey is the way I hope each of my kids approach the challenges they face in life. Brush yourself off and climb back on.

It's an attitude we've seen reprise many times throughout Kennedy's life – and something I greatly admire in her.

Kennedy's athletic career has not been without its own challenges. Even after breaking her foot and knocking out her front teeth, she has been committed to pursuing her passion for basketball. Her biggest athletic challenge came last year when she fractured her back during a game. The break was bad enough that it required surgery, four days in the hospital, and several more weeks in a hospital bed in our living room. She was limited to months of no activity – a hard ask for a girl who rarely stops moving.

By the time her senior basketball season came around, the doctors had cleared her to play – so long as there was limited contact. I'd wondered if the doctors had ever watched a basketball game.

There were many times this season where Kennedy had to fight through the pain, but the doctors said she'd be alright so we let her push on. Then came one of the most exciting days of Kennedy's high school career – the day she learned the University of Sioux Falls coach was saving a spot on the basketball team for her. That same patient determination that she had with Loosey all those years ago carried her through the back injury and onto a college team – just like she dreamed of. It makes a mom proud.

As we prepare for Kennedy to leave for college – and for us to be left alone with Loosey – I can't help but find a deep love and appreciation for that horse. After all, it was Loosey who put Kennedy to the test and my little girl showed a level of determination that I'm confident can carry her through anything life throws at her.

Congratulations on your graduation, Kennedy. Dad and I are so proud of you.



Harry, Hoscheid engaged

Zachary Harry and Jessica Hoscheid, both originally of Groton, are engaged and planning a May 30th wedding at St. Elizabeth Ann Setan Catholic Church, Groton. Parents of the groom-to-be are Mike and Janene Harry of Groton. Parents of the bride-to-be are Pete and Janet Hoscheid of Groton. The couple resides in Aberdeen where Zach is employed at Insurance Plus and Jessica is employed at Great Western Bank.

Harry, Hoscheid Thank You

"We would like to thank everyone for thinking of us during this special time in starting our new life together. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the gifts from Lori's Pharmacy for the bridal shower. We got some very useful and beautiful things. We are looking forward to our wedding day on May 30th.

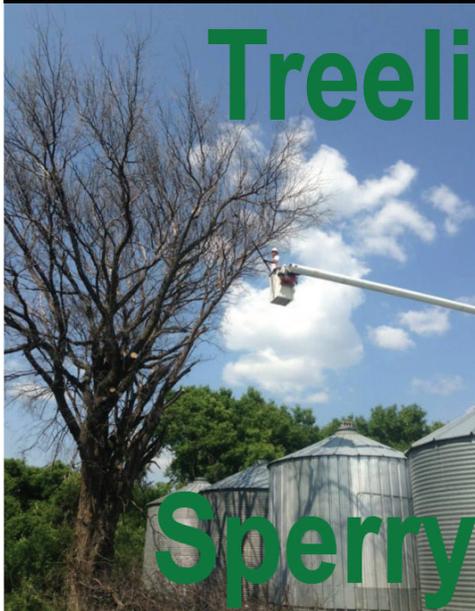
Zach Harry and Jessica Hoscheid"

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Tyler Sperry:
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Sperry Stump Removal



Reliable, Affordable Energy

By Senator Mike Rounds

Last summer, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a proposed rule to reduce carbon emissions from existing power plants. Self-titled the "Clean Power Plan," the rule would require power plants across the country to comply with costly new rules and regulations that would reduce energy production and raise electricity rates – with little environmental benefit. South Dakotans could see their electricity rates double due to the Clean Power Plan. For those of us who oppose higher taxes and believe in a comprehensive "North American" energy policy, stopping the Clean Power Plan is an important first step.

As a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, which has jurisdiction over EPA, I recently joined my colleagues in introducing bipartisan legislation to roll back the President's Clean Power Plan. The Affordable Reliable Energy Now Act (ARENA) would make certain consumers have reliable and affordable access to energy, put jobs and our economy first and curb federal overreach. It would protect ratepayers from rate increases and prevent EPA from enforcing overly burdensome regulations on American consumers. It would also force EPA to submit a report to Congress describing the quantity of greenhouse gas emissions the Clean Power Plan is expected to reduce, as well as show the science used to develop the rule.

Most importantly, ARENA would give states more flexibility if the Clean Power Plan is enacted by allowing them more time to comply with the regulations. It would also force EPA to issue state-specific model plans demonstrating how each state could meet the required emissions reductions under the rule. State highway funds would also be protected in our bill by preventing EPA from withholding the highway funds from any states who are in noncompliance.

In South Dakota, the Clean Power Plan threatens the existence of the only coal-fired power plant in South Dakota at Big Stone, which is already in the midst of a \$400 million compliance upgrade. If the proposal is enacted, Big Stone would only be allowed to operate at an annual capacity factor of just 23 percent, which is both uneconomical and practically impossible. This would essentially shut down the plant, all while it's in the middle of a major, expensive upgrade to comply with a different set of EPA regulations.

Not only does this threaten the nearly 100 jobs at Big Stone, but it would increase energy costs for South Dakotans and reduce energy reliability. The hundreds of millions of dollars currently being invested to comply with EPA rules would be a stranded investment.

Americans must continue to have access to reliable, affordable energy. People deserve to know that their homes will be heated in South Dakota's freezing cold winters, and that their lights will turn on when they flip the switch. The ARENA legislation would help provide peace of mind for ratepayers. It would provide reliable energy to power South Dakota's agricultural and manufacturing industries. It also goes one step further in limiting the number of burdensome, unnecessary regulations imposed not by lawmakers, but by unelected bureaucrats at the EPA. Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has indicated his interest in bringing ARENA to the Senate floor for consideration. I look forward to having that debate.

Today in Weather History

1819 - A small but intense hurricane passed over Bay Saint Louis, MS. The hurricane was considered the worst in fifty years. Few houses were left standing either at Bay Saint Louis or at Pass Christian, and much of the Mississippi coast was desolate following the storm. A U.S. cutter was lost along with its thirty-nine crew members. The storm struck the same area that was hit 150 years later by Hurricane Camille. (David Ludlum)

1930 - The temperature at Greensburg, KY, soared to 114 degrees to set a state record. (The Weather Channel)

1934 - The temperature at Grofino, ID, climbed to 118 degrees to establish a record for Idaho. (The Weather Channel)

1952 - A severe storm with hail up to an inch and a half in diameter broke windows, ruined roofs, and stripped trees of leaves near Benson, AZ. The temperature dropped to 37 degrees, as hail was three to four inches deep, with drifts 46 inches high. (The Weather Channel)

1986 - Severe thunderstorms moving out of South Dakota across Iowa produce high winds which derailed eighteen piggyback trailer cars of a westbound freight train near Boone, IA. Sixteen of the cars fell 187 feet into the Des Moines River. The thunderstorms also spawned a number of tornadoes, including one which caused twenty-five to fifty million dollars damage at Sloan, near Sioux City, IA. (Storm Data)

1987 - Thunderstorms in Nevada produced wind gusts to 70 mph at Searchlight, reducing visibilities to near zero in blowing dust and sand. Thunderstorms in Montana drenched Lonesome Lake with 3.78 inches of rain. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Thunderstorms drenched Wilmington, NC, with 3.33 inches of rain, bringing their monthly total 14.46 inches. Seven cities in Michigan and Minnesota reported record high temperatures for the date. Marquette, MI, hit 99 degrees, and the record high of 94 degrees at Flint MI was their tenth of the month. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Afternoon thunderstorms produced large hail and damaging winds in Massachusetts. Early evening thunderstorms over Florida produced wind gusts to 68 mph at Fort Myers, and evening thunderstorms in South Dakota produced nearly two inches of rain in twenty minutes at Pierpoint. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday
						
Breezy	Frost	Morning Frost	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 44 °F	Low: 26 °F	High: 55 °F	Low: 33 °F	High: 60 °F	Low: 38 °F	High: 68 °F



Sub-Freezing Temps Tonight!

Follow us on *Social Media*

Issued: May 18, 2015

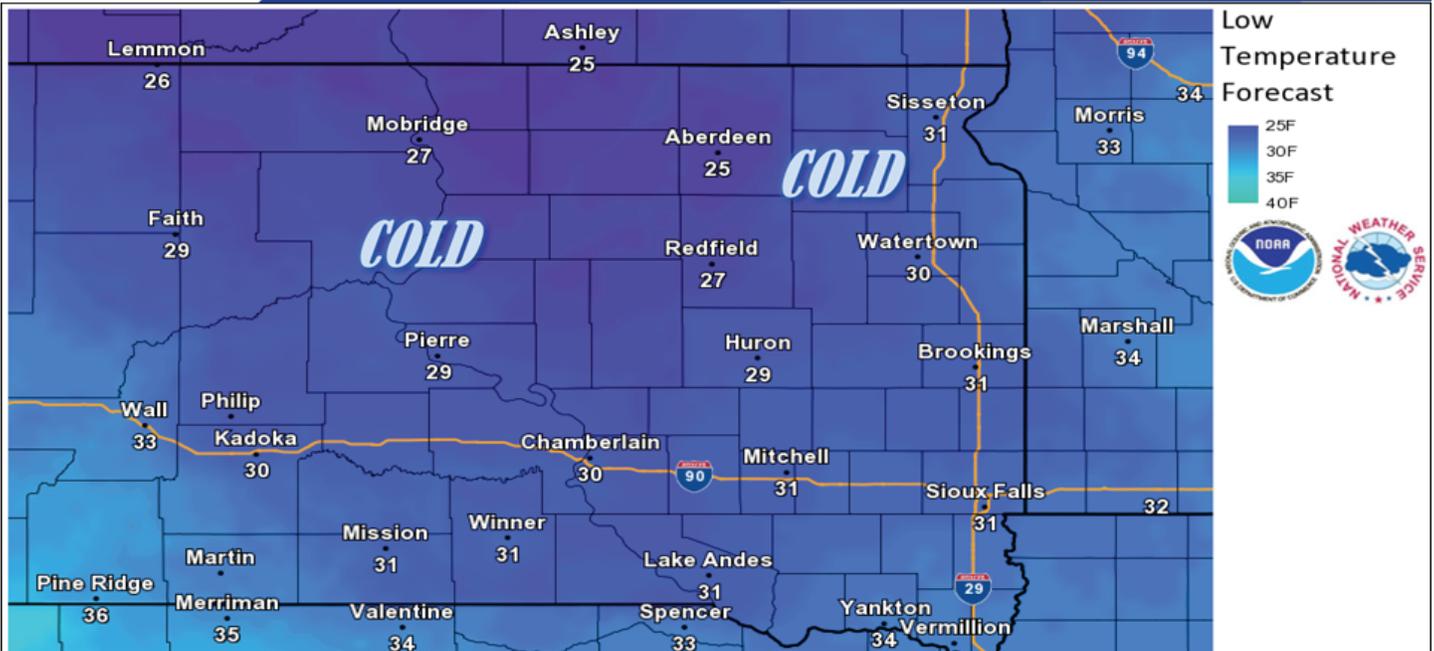
weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen



Valid Tuesday May 19th, 2015 at 7 AM CDT

Created Monday May 18th, 2015 at 5:37 AM CDT

Published on: 05/18/2015 at 5:48AM

A cold Canadian high pressure system will center itself over the Dakotas by early Tuesday morning. This high will bring with it unseasonably cold air to the region. Morning lows on Tuesday are expected to drop into the upper 20s to low 30s, which would bring freezing conditions to the area. A freeze warning has been issued! Any sensitive vegetation left unprotected could be damaged or killed! We could see a few record lows come Tuesday morning.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 66.3 at 11:31 AM

Low: 36.4 at 11:25 PM

High Gust: 39 at 2:54 PM

Snow: 0.00

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 100° in 1934

Record Low: 26° in 2015

Average High: 69°F

Average Low: 45°F

Average Precip in May: 1.85

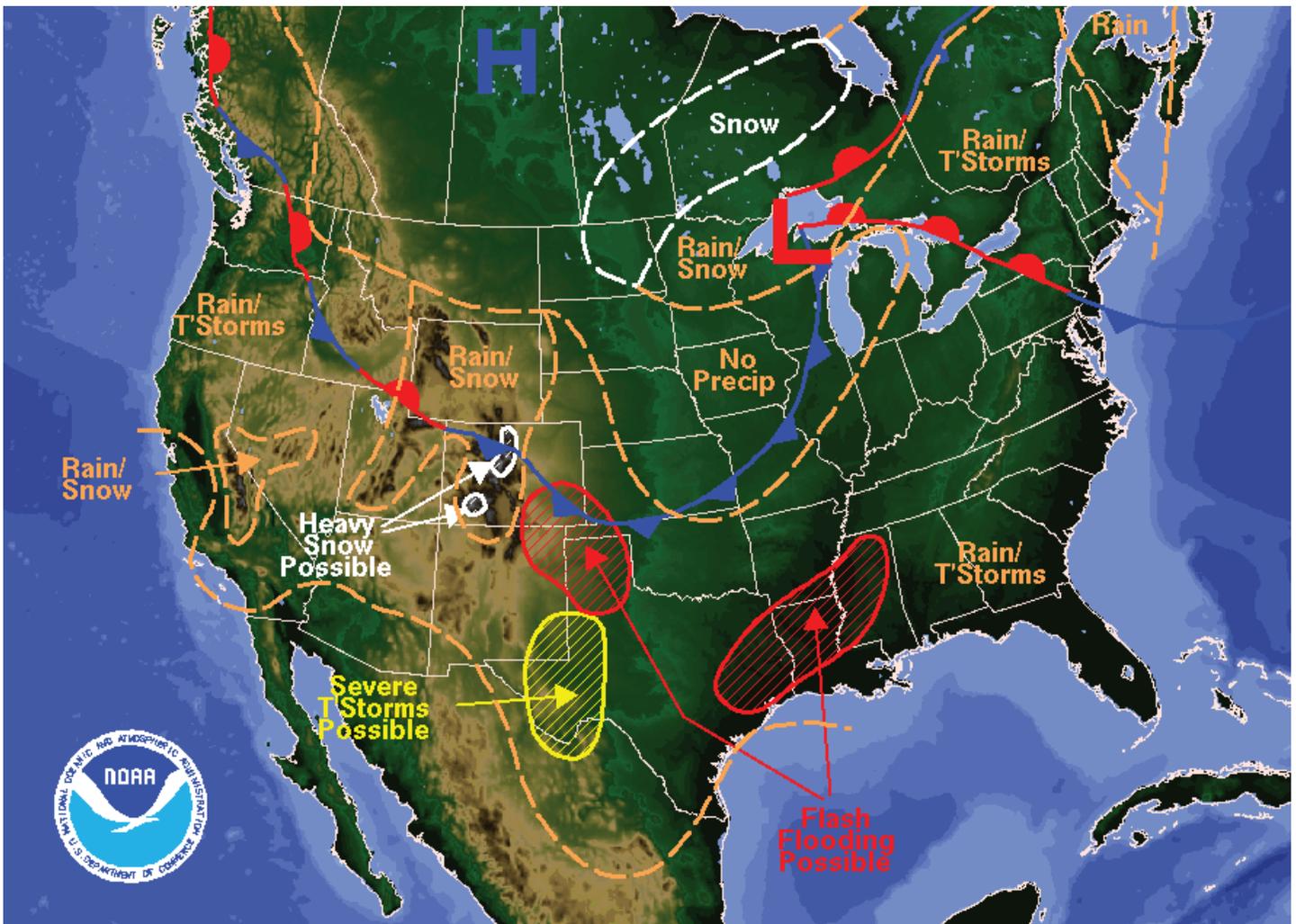
Precip to date in May: 2.61

Average Precip to date: 5.88

Precip Year to Date: 4.25

Sunset Tonight: 9:00 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:59 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, May 18, 2015, issued 3:50 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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MAKE A WISH

A college freshman, small in stature, wanted to be a member of the football team. He reported for the first practice, went to the coach and asked to try out for the team. Not wanting to discourage him, the coach agreed. He gave him the football and said, "I want you to run toward the goal while these two linemen chase you."

Tucking the ball under his arm, he ran as fast as he could. Soon, one of the linemen grabbed his right leg and he began to fall. Then the other one grabbed his left leg and he fell to the ground. As he lay there panting and praying, one of them said, "This may be your last wish. Make it carefully."

"I wish you'd let me go so I can tell the coach, 'I quit.'"

There were many times in the life of the Apostle Paul that he faced overwhelming odds; times when it appeared that he would be "torn apart." But he never gave up or quit.

When he was enduring his final imprisonment in Rome and awaiting his trial, he did not know if he would be released or executed. Rather than being filled with fear, he demonstrated his faith in God. So, he prayed that when he stood trial he would speak courageously for Christ and not be ashamed. "For I live in eager expectation and hope that I will never do anything that causes me shame, but that I will always be bold for Christ." What faith. What trust. What courage.

Prayer: Father, may we, like Paul, have the boldness and courage to face adversity with courage and trust. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Philippians 1:19-21 according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death.

News from the Associated Press

Trial for one-time US Senate candidate Bosworth to begin

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The trial for former political candidate Annette Bosworth is slated begin this week over alleged election law violations during the 2014 Republican U.S. Senate primary.

Bosworth, 43, has pleaded not guilty to six counts each of perjury and filing false documents. The Sioux Falls physician has said she's the target of "political persecution" and has denied any criminal intent to deceive.

"There's no deal that will take away any of the felonies, so of course it's going to trial," Bosworth told The Associated Press in a recent interview. She later referred requests for comment to her attorney, Bob Van Norman, who didn't return multiple messages.

Jury selection is expected to begin Monday and testimony could begin Wednesday.

Here are three things to consider about the case:

PRIMARY LOSS

Bosworth received 6 percent of the vote in the June 3, 2014, five-way primary for the Republican nomination, and learned of her loss on national television.

Attorney General Marty Jackley filed charges against Bosworth the next day. Former Secretary of State Jason Gant had asked Jackley to investigate Bosworth for allegedly being out of the country during a time when her petitions to get on the ballot say she was gathering signatures.

According to an arrest affidavit, Bosworth attested to personally gathering signatures when she was on a publicized medical mission trip in the Philippines. She also attested to gathering signatures on some Hutterite colonies, but residents interviewed said she was not there when they signed.

SYMPATHETIC REPORT

A report this month from the Virginia-based Citizens in Charge Foundation, a voter initiative and referendum advocacy group, argues that Bosworth's prosecution is too harsh and could dissuade potential candidates from participating in the political process.

Group president Paul Jacob questioned whether the South Dakota attorney general's office has a personal or political problem with Bosworth.

Jackley said that's "absolutely" not the case. He said he waited until after the election to file charges.

"This prosecution has simply been under the rule of the law and the letter of the law," Jackley said.

CHANGES TO ELECTION LAWS

The cases of Bosworth and former independent candidate Clayton Walker, who faces similar accusations, spurred election law changes during the 2015 legislative session. The changes were proposed by Secretary of State Shantel Krebs and eventually signed into law.

Krebs pushed a measure to allow the secretary of state's office to audit a random sample of voter signatures from statewide candidates' petitions.

Lawmakers also approved a provision designating a "drop-dead" date for citizens to begin a court challenge of a nominating petition, meant to ensure such challenges can be resolved with enough time for the state to print absentee ballots. A measure to allow citizens more time to challenge a petition by moving up the candidate filing deadline also passed, but could be referred to the 2016 ballot by activists.

Historical Society hosts webcast on crime, postal inspectors

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota State Historical Society is hosting a webcast that addresses how postal inspectors used an array of documents to track down organized crime bosses.

The program sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution will be broadcast Tuesday at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

“Organized Crime in the Mail” presents historic artifacts related to Mafia cases investigated by postal inspectors.

One of the cases highlighted in the presentation is the one known as “The Black Hand,” in which members of an organized crime group during the early 20th century used letters to extort money from well-off Italian immigrants by demanding money in exchange for their families’ safety.

There is no fee to view the program, but visitors wanting to go into the museum’s galleries must pay standard admission.

Harrisburg student wins Congressional Art Competition in SD

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The artwork of a Harrisburg high school student will be displayed at the U.S. Capitol after winning a national contest.

U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem says an oil and acrylic painting by student Gabe May was selected as South Dakota’s winner of the 2015 Congressional Art Competition.

May’s painting will be displayed in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol for an entire year. He will also receive a roundtrip ticket to and from Washington, D.C.

The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982. Each congressional district has one winner.

The second-place winning entry from South Dakota was that of Sioux Falls student William Drzycimski. His acrylic painting will be displayed in Noem’s office in the nation’s capital.

The South Dakota Arts Council collaborated with Noem in the state’s competition.

International scientists converge on School of Mines campus

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — More than 100 physicists, chemists and other scientists from around the world will converge on Rapid City Monday to discuss dark matter, neutrino physics and many other experiments being conducted at South Dakota’s underground laboratory in Lead.

The South Dakota School of Mines & Technology will host the Conference on Science at the Sanford Underground Research Facility at the school’s Rapid City campus.

School of Mines scientists are involved in five high-level research projects being conducted or planned at the lab, located in the former Homestake gold mine, that could lead to a better understanding of the origins and makeup of the universe.

Scientists will discuss subjects ranging from neutrino physics to dark matter to astrobiology and life in extreme environments.

“The experiments coming to the Sanford Underground Research Facility over the next five years are path breaking,” South Dakota Mines President Heather Wilson said in a statement. “We want to open the opportunity for faculty and students from South Dakota and the upper Midwest to participate in the scientific work that will be undertaken here.”

The Sanford Underground Research Facility is nearly a mile underground. Scientists there are conducting research on such subjects as nuclear reactions within stars and dark matter, an elusive substance that scientists believe makes up about a quarter of the universe. Conducting the sensitive experiments underground shields them from disruptive cosmic radiation.

Possible burial site in path of planned Meade County bypass

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — Crews in Meade County may have found human burial sites in the area of a proposed highway bypass that would reroute drivers around the motorcycle mecca of Sturgis.

The Meade County Commission received a preliminary report this week that suggests there are ceremonial grave sites within the planned area of the Fort Meade Way that would link Interstate 90 to Highway 34.

The find is the latest snag in the project that has been met with much opposition. Voters overwhelmingly rejected setting up a tax increment financing district to pay for the project in March.

The commission has ordered additional archaeological studies to insure any potential remains or sacred artifacts are protected. In the event anything is found in that study, plans for the road could be delayed.

Former US attorneys from Dakotas expand on tribal experience

DAVE KOLPACK, Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Two former U.S. attorneys from the Dakotas who built their brief federal careers around American Indian issues are putting their experience to work at a private legal firm.

Timothy Purdon of North Dakota and Brendan Johnson of South Dakota both stepped down in March after spending much of their five-plus years as top federal prosecutors tackling crime on tribal lands. Now part of the Minneapolis-based Robbins Kaplan law firm, they're looking to represent tribes around the country on a variety of issues — from gaming rights disputes to commercial ventures and tribal boundaries to natural resources.

"Often times the odds are stacked against them, frankly," Johnson said. "We felt like there was a real need for a firm that could go out and represent the tribes and really rewrite those odds."

Purdon, 46, a native of Oakes, North Dakota, and Johnson, a 39-year-old native of Vermillion, South Dakota, were leaders in the Obama administration's Native American safety initiative and decided they wanted to further that effort in the private sector. They used the same headhunter — Jane Roberts, wife of U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts — to find a job.

Purdon said many tribes are working to expand their sovereign rights, which comes with an assortment of legal problems.

"There's an opportunity for us because tribes are going to continue to get into more and more complex disputes as time goes by," Purdon said. "That's a result of self-determination. That all has to be sorted out."

Figuring out the authority among tribal and non-tribal governments is tricky work, according to Bill Zuger, who retired in 2012 after nearly seven years as the tribal judge on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation that straddles the North Dakota and South Dakota border.

"It is a mess. It is so complicated," Zuger said. "The problem is, the courts are handling it on a case-by-case basis. Nobody really understands what's going on jurisdictionally, and I think that's where Tim and Brendan ought to do real well."

Purdon is already representing Alexander White Plume, an Oglala Sioux tribal member who has been trying to grow industrial hemp on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Recent Department of Justice policy changes in response to states that have legalized marijuana is expected to open the door for industrial hemp, especially on tribal lands.

Although some tribes are doing well financially, including those buoyed by oil and, to a lesser extent,

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other energy production such as coal, wind and solar, the two men acknowledge others live in some of the poorest areas of the country.

"I told the tribes that they can always call me and I will give them my best advice," Johnson said. "Sometimes it's going to be, look, you can get this legal work done for a lower cost and you can get it done really well. But there are circumstances for tribes that they need a national law firm and they can benefit from the national presence that our firm has."

Purdon said that while he and Johnson have a lot of options in their new jobs, they want to stay connected to the tribes and build on their work in the federal sector to help make life safer on the reservation.

"You don't give up part of your life for a cause like that and not be affected by it," Purdon said. "That might sound corny, but that is what's driving us."

Dakotas weather includes flooding, fresh snow, funnel cloud

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Flooding, freezing, fresh snow and even a funnel cloud.

The Dakotas saw it all over the weekend, and the unseasonably cool weather is forecast to continue for a few days. Freeze warnings are in place for many areas.

National Weather Service reports show heavy rain across much of the two states over the weekend. The rain led to street and underpass flooding in some cities, and some rivers and creeks overtopped their banks. There were no immediate reports of major damage.

Weather service meteorologists in Aberdeen reported a funnel cloud in that area Sunday. And snow fell late Sunday and early Monday in parts of North Dakota — including up to 2 inches in the north central part of the state. State officials issued a travel alert in that region.

SD State Fair welcoming kids to state's largest classroom

HURON, S.D. (AP) — Kids and teachers looking for a fun way to kick off the 2015-2016 school year can stop by a giant classroom at the South Dakota State Fair.

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture says students and educators from all over South Dakota can gather in September at the state's largest classroom.

Registration is open. More than 900 students and teachers attended the event last year.

Activities and attractions include an exotic animal petting zoo, an animal nursery, a one-room schoolhouse and exhibits, among others.

The program is free for chaperones, students and teachers.

Woman who stabbed man at SD Indian Reservation sentenced

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A woman who has admitted to using a steak knife to stab a man in the back at the Rosebud Indian Reservation has been sentenced.

Acting U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says 24-year-old Misty Fawn Swalley has been sentenced to 36 months in prison and two years of supervised release.

The Mission woman pleaded guilty in September to one count of assault with a dangerous weapon.

Federal authorities say Swalley stabbed the man in June while at a gas station in Mission. Authorities say the stabbing happened after Swalley became upset about a conversation taking place.

Swalley is under the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service.

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. ISLAMIC MILITANTS KILL HUNDREDS AS THEY TAKE IRAQ'S RAMADI

Shiite militias vow to mount a counter-offensive and reclaim the Anbar provincial capital.

2. PUSH TO WRITE NEW WAR POWERS FOR OBAMA STALLS IN CONGRESS

Lawmakers say they don't want to give up their check on a commander-in-chief's authority to use military might, but have little interest in having the first war vote in Congress in 13 years.

3. TEXAS TOWN ON GUARD AFTER BIKER GANG SHOOTOUT LEAVES 9 DEAD

Waco police authorities increase security to quell other possible attempts at criminal activity following the melee.

4. AMTRAK TO RESTORE FULL NORTHEAST CORRIDOR SERVICE

Officials are vowing to have safer trains and tracks while investigators are trying to determine the cause of the derailment.

5. WHOSE INNER CIRCLE HAS OUTSIDE ADVISERS

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio "likes to tap into the world beyond City Hall — some of the people have titles, some are consultants, and some are everyday people."

6. KERRY SLAMS NORTH KOREA

The U.S. secretary of state accuses Pyongyang of atrocities while reassuring South Korea of America's "ironclad" security commitments.

7. WHY FRUSTRATION WITH LATIN AMERICA'S LEFT ON THE RISE

Triggering the growing disenchantment are some serious economic headwinds.

8. WHAT OFFERS RESPITE FROM GAZA'S HARDSHIPS

Residents of the isolated territory find relief in the steamy confines of Hamam al-Sumara, a centuries-old bathhouse.

9. STEM CELL 'WILD WEST' TAKES ROOT AMID LACK OF REGULATION

The number of U.S. clinics treating patients with experimental techniques surges from a handful in 2010 to more than 170 today.

10. 'MAD MEN' COMES TO AN END

The drama concludes with a resolution that rings true to its spirit and likely leaves its devotees satisfied.

AP News in Brief

Islamic State killed hundreds as it took Iraq's Ramadi; Shiite militias vow counter-offensive

BAGHDAD (AP) — The Islamic State group killed at least 500 people — both civilians and Iraqi soldiers — and forced 8,000 to flee their homes as it captured the city of Ramadi, a provincial official said Monday, while Shiite militias vowed to mount a counter-offensive and reclaim the Anbar provincial capital.

The statements followed a shocking defeat as IS seized control of Ramadi on Sunday, sending Iraqi forces fleeing in a major loss despite the support of U.S.-led airstrikes targeting the extremists.

Bodies, some burned, littered the streets as local officials reported the militants carried out mass killings of Iraqi security forces and civilians. Online video showed Humvees, trucks and other equipment speeding out of Ramadi, with soldiers gripping onto their sides.

"We do not have an accurate count yet," said an Anbar spokesman, Muhannad Haimour. "We estimate

that 500 people have been killed, both civilians and military, and approximately 8,000 have fled the city.”

The estimates are for the past three days, since Friday, when the battle for the city reached its final stages. The 8,000 figure is in addition to the enormous exodus in April, Haimour said, when the U.N. said as many as 114,000 residents fled from Ramadi and surrounding villages at the height of the violence.

Push for new war powers for Obama in the fight against Islamic State group stalls in Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — A move to write new war powers to authorize the Obama administration’s 9-month-old battle against Islamic State militants has stalled in Congress. It might even be dead.

President Barack Obama doesn’t seem to mind. And while lawmakers say they don’t want to give up their check on a commander-in-chief’s authority to use military might, they have little interest in having what would be the first war vote in Congress in 13 years.

Sen. Bob Corker, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was recently asked whether Congress was still going to craft a new AUMF.

“What does that stand for?” Corker joked, knowing that it stands for Authorization for the Use of Military Force. But his five words said a lot.

After Obama ordered airstrikes in August over Iraq and in September over Syria against IS militants, lawmakers complained that he was justifying the action with dusty war powers written to authorize conflicts after 9/11. Today, there is hardly a word about it on Capitol Hill.

Amtrak trains heading south out of NYC for first time since last week’s deadly derailment

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Amtrak trains began rolling between New York and Philadelphia early Monday, the first time in almost a week following a deadly crash in Philadelphia, and officials vowed to have safer trains and tracks while investigators worked to determine the cause of the derailment.

Amtrak officials said Sunday that trains along the busy Northeast Corridor from Washington to Boston would resume service Monday in “complete compliance” with federal safety orders following last week’s deadly derailment.

Company President Joseph Boardman said Amtrak staff and crew have been working around the clock to restore service following Tuesday night’s crash that killed eight people and injured more than 200 others.

At a service Sunday evening at the site to honor the crash victims, Boardman choked up as he called Tuesday “the worst day for me as a transportation professional.” He vowed that the wrecked train and its passengers “will never be forgotten.”

Boardman said Sunday that Amtrak would be offering a “safer service.”

Waco on guard after shootout at restaurant among rival biker gangs leaves 9 dead, 18 injured

WACO, Texas (AP) — Many streets were nearly deserted in Waco, apart from law enforcement officials keeping watch, as night fell following a shootout between rival motorcycle gangs at a restaurant that left nine bikers dead and raised the specter of further violence.

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Authorities increased security to quell other possible attempts at criminal activity in the Central Texas town following the melee Sunday that also left 18 bikers wounded, Waco police Sgt. W. Patrick Swanton said.

The violence erupted shortly after noon at a busy shopping center along Interstate 35 after members of at least five rival gangs gathered at Twin Peaks restaurant for a meeting, Swanton said. Preliminary findings indicate a dispute broke out in a bathroom, escalated to include knives and firearms and eventually spilled into the restaurant parking lot, according to police.

"I was amazed that we didn't have innocent civilians killed or injured," Swanton said.

The interior of the restaurant was littered with bullet casings, knives, a club, bodies and pools of blood, he said. Authorities were expected to work throughout the night to process the evidence at the scene about an hour and a half south of Dallas. About 150-200 bikers were inside during the shootout, and at least 100 were detained, authorities said. It wasn't immediately clear how many were arrested.

1 dead, 21 hurt as tilt-rotor Osprey carrying Marines crashes in Hawaii

HONOLULU (AP) — Smoke and fire rushed from a crash site in Hawaii after a U.S. Marine Osprey went down in a "hard landing," killing one Marine and injuring 21 other people, some critically.

Twenty-two people were aboard the MV-22 Osprey, including 21 Marines and one Navy corpsman assigned to the unit, spokesman Capt. Brian Block said in an email.

The tilt-rotor aircraft, which can take off and land like a helicopter but flies like an airplane, had a "hard-landing mishap" at about 11:40 a.m. Sunday at Bellows Air Force Station on Oahu, the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit said in a statement.

The injuries ranged from critical to minor, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific spokesman Capt. Alex Lim said.

The cause of the crash was under investigation, Lim said.

Frustration with Latin America's left on the rise as leaders hit by economic slowdown, scandal

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela's socialist government is struggling to put food on the shelves amid runaway inflation. Brazil's president is facing calls for impeachment. And even Cuba's communist government, an iconic touchstone for generations of leftists, is embracing closer ties with the U.S.

Whether it's because of corruption scandals or stagnant growth, the popularity of the crop of leftist Latin American governments that have been running the region since the start of the millennium appears to be waning. Voters that embraced what became known as the pink tide that swept away the pro-Washington, free-market policies dominant in the 1990s are increasingly tuning hostile against the populist firebrands they once rallied behind.

Across the region, polling numbers are tanking and street protests are on the rise.

Triggering the growing disenchantment are some serious economic headwinds. Most leaders came into power just as China's economy was soaring and with it demand for South America's abundant natural resources. Now that the world's second-largest economy is cooling, the commodities boom that allowed governments to spread the wealth and endear themselves to the poor is ending.

"It's not easy to govern in Latin America right now," said Raul L. Madrid, co-editor of a 2010 book on leftist governments in the region. "Many of these governments rode frustration with high levels of in-

equality and corruption to power. But you can't rail against the establishment as effectively as you once did when you are the establishment at this point."

Unproven stem cell procedures flourish across the US, outpacing regulation

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — More than 170 clinics across the country are selling experimental stem cell procedures for dozens of diseases and conditions — a mushrooming industry that has flourished despite little evidence of its safety or effectiveness.

The rise of the U.S. stem cell industry illustrates how quickly fringe medicine can outpace government oversight. Over the last five years, academic stem cell researchers have watched in dismay as doctors treat patients with experimental techniques that they say could take years, if not decades, to become sound medicine.

"It's sort of this 21st century cutting-edge technology. But the way it's being implemented at these clinics and how it's regulated is more like the 19th century. It's a Wild West," says Dr. Paul Knoepfler, a stem cell researcher at the University of California at Davis.

Stem cells have long been recognized for their ability to reproduce and regenerate tissue. And while there are high hopes that they will someday be used to treat a range of debilitating diseases, critics say stem cell entrepreneurs have little more than anecdotes to support their offerings.

In 2010 there were only a handful of doctors promoting stem cell procedures in the U.S., mainly plastic surgeons promoting "stem cell facelifts" and other cosmetic procedures. But today there are clinics throughout the country promoting stem cells for dozens of conditions and diseases, including Alzheimer's, arthritis, erectile dysfunction and hair loss. The cost of these procedures is high, ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

Weary Gazans find relief in ancient bathhouse that has survived centuries of conflict

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — After dawn prayers in Gaza, a few dozen men descend a metal staircase to gather in the steamy confines of Hamam al-Sumara, a centuries-old bathhouse where residents of the isolated territory find respite and relief.

Stained glass windows in the central dome allow rays of light to pierce the clouds of steam. On the heated marble platforms below, men recline between visits to the steam room or massages.

"I come to this bath for treatment of diseases such as muscle spasms or cramps, getting rid of inflammation," said Shafiq Al-Aqqad. He also comes here to celebrate happy occasions, like weddings.

Historic bathhouses like this one can be found across the Middle East, where they preserve a tradition of public bathing that goes back to ancient times. Hamam al-Sumara, Arabic for the Samaritans' Bath, dates back 1,000 years but has been renovated, most recently in the 1990s by the Palestinian Authority.

Gaza City used to boast a half dozen bathhouses, but most were dismantled to make room for the city's rapid expansion in the last century, including after the 1948 war, when some 200,000 Palestinians came to Gaza after fleeing or being expelled from their homes in what is now Israel. Gaza had previously been home to just 60,000 people.

Ad it up: A splendid drama, 'Mad Men,' comes to a moving end with Don Draper making a big move

NEW YORK (AP) — "Mad Men" creator Matthew Weiner promised a finale that was "dramatic and appropriate."

He delivered. This incomparable drama set in the 1960s New York advertising world concluded its seven-season run Sunday night on AMC with a resolution that rang true to its spirit and likely left its devotees satisfied, even as they bade it farewell with regret.

Spoiler alert: Read no further if you don't want to know what happened.

"A lot has happened," Don Draper (series star Jon Hamm) tells Stephanie, a damaged young woman from his past, after his wayward odyssey from New York finally brings him to her doorstep in Los Angeles.

Mainly, he is distraught after hearing from his daughter Sally, back in New York, that her mother, his ex, is dying of lung cancer.

Russian soldiers taken prisoner in eastern Ukraine transferred to Kiev

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Two Russian officers captured while fighting in war-torn eastern Ukraine are being transported to the capital, Kiev, a Ukrainian military spokesman said Monday.

The Russians were wounded and taken prisoner near the front line town of Shchastia in the Luhansk region on Sunday, Ukrainian officials reported.

Russia-backed separatists in eastern Ukraine have been fighting government troops for a year, and Russia has vehemently denied it is supplying them either with weaponry or troops. When several Russian soldiers were captured on Ukrainian territory last summer, Russian President Vladimir Putin said they had simply got lost.

Vladislav Seleznev, spokesman for the Ukrainian General Staff, told The Associated Press on Monday that the two men are now being questioned by the Ukrainian Security Service and are on their way to Kiev where they will face the media.

A video posted by a member of parliament on Sunday showed one man who said he was a Russian Army sergeant.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Monday, May 18, the 138th day of 2015. There are 227 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 18, 1980, the Mount St. Helens volcano in Washington state exploded, leaving 57 people dead or missing.

On this date:

In 1642, the Canadian city of Montreal was founded by French colonists.

In 1765, about one-fourth of Montreal was destroyed by a fire.

In 1896, the Supreme Court, in Plessy v. Ferguson, endorsed "separate but equal" racial segregation, a concept renounced 58 years later in Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka.

In 1910, Halley's Comet passed by earth, brushing it with its tail.

In 1926, evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson vanished while visiting a beach in Venice, California.

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(McPherson reappeared more than a month later, saying she'd escaped after being kidnapped and held for ransom.)

In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a measure creating the Tennessee Valley Authority.

In 1934, Congress approved, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed, the so-called "Lindbergh Act," providing for the death penalty in cases of interstate kidnapping.

In 1944, during World War II, Allied forces finally occupied Monte Cassino in Italy after a four-month struggle with Axis troops.

In 1953, Jacqueline Cochran became the first woman to break the sound barrier as she piloted a Canadair F-86 Sabre jet over Rogers Dry Lake, California.

In 1969, astronauts Eugene A. Cernan, Thomas P. Stafford and John W. Young blasted off aboard Apollo 10 on a mission to orbit the moon.

In 1973, Harvard law professor Archibald Cox was appointed Watergate special prosecutor by U.S. Attorney General Elliot Richardson.

In 1995, ballet dancer Alexander Godunov was found dead at his West Hollywood, California, home at age 45. Actress Elizabeth Montgomery, 62, died in Los Angeles.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush offered his unqualified support for Egypt's political reform process as he received Prime Minister Ahmed Nazief (AHKH'-med ah-ZEEF') at the White House.

Five years ago: Grilled by skeptical lawmakers, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar acknowledged his agency had been lax in overseeing offshore drilling activities, and that might have contributed to the disastrous oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. A suicide bomber detonated his vehicle near a U.S. convoy in Afghanistan, killing 18 people, including six troops - five from the U.S., one from Canada. Following a 2009 party switch, Sen. Arlen Specter was defeated in Pennsylvania's Democratic primary, ending his re-election bid.

One year ago: AT&T Inc. agreed to buy satellite TV provider DirecTV for \$48.5 billion, or \$95 per share (completion of the deal is pending government approval). Singer Jerry Vale, 83, died in Palm Desert, California. Cinematographer Gordon Willis ("The Godfather," "Annie Hall" and "All the President's Men") died on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, at age 82.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Bill Macy is 93. Actress Priscilla Pointer is 91. Hall-of-Fame sportscaster Jack Whitaker is 91. Actor Robert Morse is 84. Actor Dwayne Hickman is 81. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Brooks Robinson is 78. Actress Candice Azzara is 74. Bluegrass singer-musician Rodney Dillard (The Dillards) is 73. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Reggie Jackson is 69. Country singer Joe Bonsall (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 67. Rock musician Rick Wakeman (Yes) is 66. Rock singer Mark Mothersbaugh (Devo) is 65. Actor James Stephens is 64. Country singer George Strait is 63. Rhythm-and-blues singer Butch Tavares (Tavares) is 62. Actor Chow Yun-Fat is 60. Rock singer-musician Page Hamilton is 55. Contemporary Christian musician Barry Graul (MercyMe) is 54. Contemporary Christian singer Michael Tait is 49. Singer-actress Martika is 46. Comedian-writer Tina Fey is 45. Rapper Special Ed is 41. Rock singer Jack Johnson is 40. Country singer David Nail is 36. Rhythm-and-blues singer Darryl Allen (Mista) is 35. Actor Matt Long is 35. Actor Allen Leech is 34. Christian-rock musician Kevin Huguley (Rush of Fools) is 33. Christian singer Francesca Battistelli is 30. Actor Spencer Breslin is 23.

Thought for Today: "A conference is a gathering of people who singly can do nothing, but together can decide that nothing can be done." - Fred Allen, comedian (1894-1956).