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Monday, May 25 Memorial Day

Anniversary: Troy and Rhonda Carda

Birthdays: Jon Voss • JR Johnson • Kayla Fordham • Joni Groeblinghoff • Peggy DeHoet • Chris Kassube, Jaela Fliehs • Sandy Knudson

11:00 a.m.: Memorial Day Program at Groton Cemetery

Tuesday, May 26

Birthdays: Heather McDonald • Stephanie Vedvei • Beth Gustafson • Drake Peterson

Senior Menu: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, coleslaw, frosted brownie, whole wheat bread.

9:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.: St. John's Lutheran Vacation Bible School

The Groton Area School District is seeking applicants for a full-time custodian. Daytime shift during summer months, afternoon/evening shift during school year. Starting wage \$11.00/hour. Benefits include paid sick leave, vacation, holidays, health insurance, matching retirement. Interested parties should contact Joe Schwan at 605-397-2351. More information available at www.grotonarea.com.

Lifetime Warranty on all Collision Work! 13556 400th Ave., Groton SD 57445 Allen McKiver, Owner ~ 605/397-4404

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

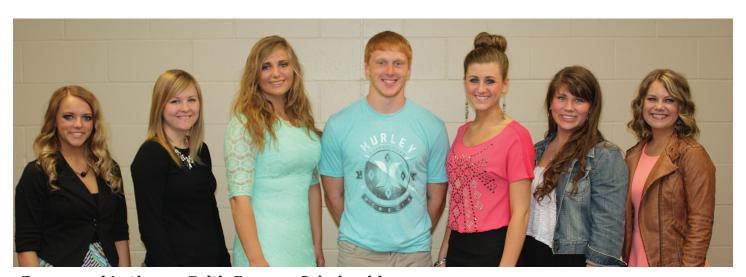
OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

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

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James Valley Telecommunications Bob Peterson Memorial Scholarship
Kathleen Groeblinghoff and Lucas Sternhagen



Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarships Kiana Kokales, Brittany Kjelden, Alyssa Sippel, Jackson Doeden, Ashley Gibbs, Taylor Gustafson, Kasey Waage

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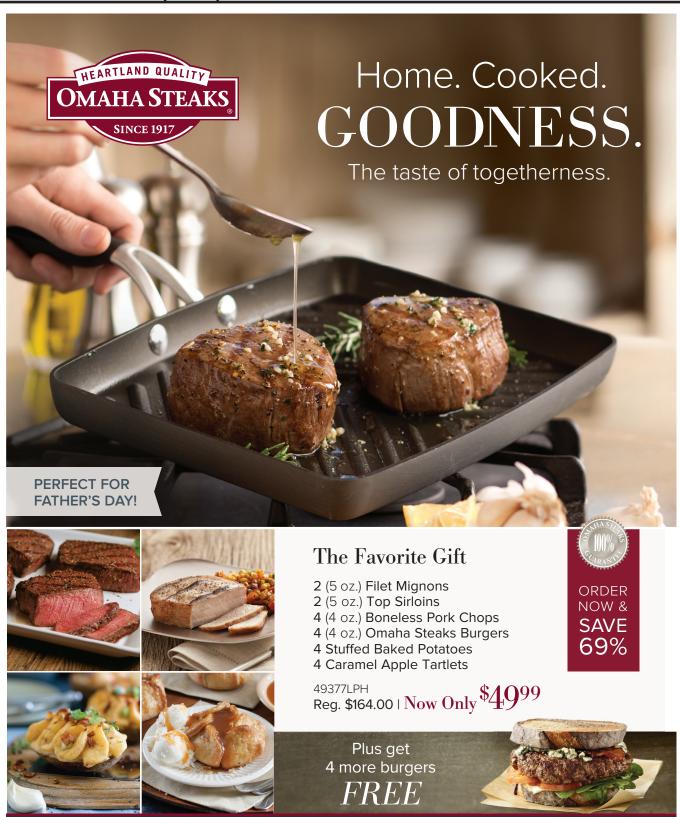
Local Scholarships - These students received scholarships from Groton Area businesses and groups

Kathleen Groeblinghoff (Eastern Star), Danielle Schinkel (Masonic Lodge), Luke Smith (Beck), Landon Larson (Barry Schuring), Breanna Marzahn (Eastern Star), Taylor Gustafson (Luecke Memorial)



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Scholarships Kathleen Groeblinghoff, Nicole Lewandowski, Luke Smith, Rachel Blackmun, Breanna Marzahn

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1-800-795-0946 ask for 49377LPH | www.OmahaSteaks.com/dad55

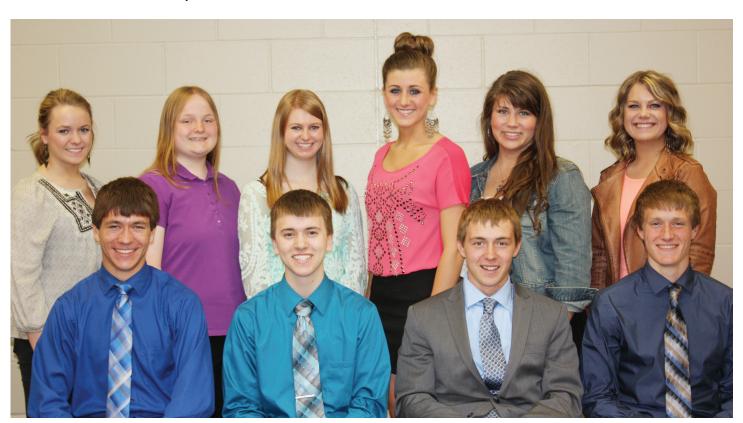
Limit 2 pkgs. Your 4 free burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes The Favorite Gift 49377. Limit of 1 free box of 4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers per shipment. Standard S&H will be added per address. Not valid with other offers. Expires 6/30/15. ©2015 OCG | 5058120 | Omaha Steaks, Inc.

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Lions Scholarship - These students received scholarships from the Groton Lions Club

Lions Club member Justin Olson, Maryn Howard, Kathleen Groeblinghoff, Maddison Colestock, Lions Club member Lee Schinkel



Other Scholarships - These students received scholarships from SD businesses and groups Back - Maryn Howard, Kathleen Groeblinghoff, Kennedy Clark, Ashley Gibbs, Taylor Gustafson, Kasey Waage

Front - Jacob Milbrandt, Luke Smith, Sheldon Herr, Lucas Sternhagen

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Ash tree dropping leaves this spring, but no need to be alarmed

Editor's Note: We have noticed that several Ash Trees are dropping leaves. In research, we came across this article from the same thing

happening in Wisconsin.

MADISON - People throughout central and southern part of Wisconsin have been reporting that ash trees have been dropping their leaves since shortly after the trees leafed out, but state forestry health officials say the leaf drop is not likely to cause any long term health problems for trees and affected trees should recover.

"Ash leaf drop was first noticed in many areas of Wisconsin following the Memorial Day weekend," says Kyoko Scanlon, a forest pathologist with the state Department of Natural Resources. "Due to loss of leaves, affected trees have a thinner crown compared to nearby broadleaf trees of different species, as if they never quite leafed out."

Scanlon says several events this spring have caused ash to drop some of their leaves and appear thin and sparse. The cool spring temperatures caused ash to leaf out a bit later than usual. Several mid-May freezes as well as patchy frost around the state damaged newly expanding leaves or caused tender leaves to die. In addition, anthracnose, a fungal leaf disease, was able to infect some leaves this spring and the trees are purging those damaged leaves.

"When you look at ash leaves that prematurely fell to the ground, they have

black blotches on green leaves and many of them are curled up or distorted," says Scanlon.

The leaf disease, anthracnose, is commonly seen when the spring weather is cool and wet. Leaf damage tends to be more severe on the lower crown of a tree if anthracnose is the culprit whereas frost damage will be more severe in the upper portions of the tree and the outer edges.

Early leaf drop of ash was also severe and widespread in 2004 when a cool wet spring allowed anthracnose to thrive, according to Linda Williams, a DNR Forest Health Specialist. During that year some ash trees were almost completely leafless in early June, and many homeowners were concerned that their trees would die.

"Those trees started to produce additional leaves, and the affected trees looked much better the rest of the season. The trees didn't see any long-term ill effect," she says. "We expect that the current ash leaf drop problem won't cause any long term health problems and affected trees should recover and have fuller crowns by producing a second set of leaves."

Once leaves mature, temperatures increase, and spring shower season ends, the problem usually subsides. No control is necessary for yard trees although it is a good idea to maintain the overall health of the trees by watering during dry periods, properly mulching, and minimizing injuries to the tree.



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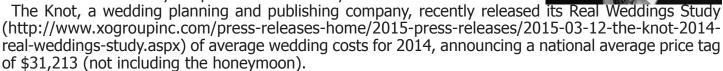
Practical Money Skills



By Jason Alderman



That's a tradeoff many couples make these days.



The average cost of a wedding is a good point of comparison against other major financial goals in a new marriage. Considering that the average price of a new home in America is now \$200,000, that wedding estimate would cover the majority of a 20 percent down payment (\$40,000). Despite getting married to my wife at family home 15 years ago, I still remember the sticker shock for all the wedding costs – a whopping \$10,000 for the entire event from tux, dress, flowers, food and honeymoon.

Here are a few suggestions to plan a wedding that won't break the bank:

Marry off-season. The most popular wedding months are now June and October, with longtime leader June losing a bit of ground. The most popular day to get married is Saturday and nighttime is the most competitive time slot for receptions. Consider a January wedding when the post-holiday rush is over – cold weather wedding venues are generally empty and priced to move. Weekday weddings have the potential added bonus of guests drinking less on a work night and weekend brunch weddings can be served buffet-style with more reasonably priced menu choices.

Find alternative venues. Farms, barns, warehouses, art galleries and of course, family property can be cheaper venues for a wedding, but make sure such spaces are properly insured for alcohol, food or other party-related risks. Also, in many communities, party venues must be properly licensed and/or zoned to avoid fines or legal action.

DIY if possible. Couples with a flair for party planning, decorating and cooking might be able to slash costs planning and executing their own event with minimal dependence on hired or volunteer help. From flowers to photography, wedding cake to wedding planners, check for affordable options. If a venue allows couples to supply their own flowers and decorations, it is wise to comparison shop. Consider professional photographers or skilled amateurs who meet your tastes and budget.

Use a gift registry to pay for the wedding. Couples can set up online gift registries that allow guests to directly fund honeymoon trips or specific expenses associated with the wedding.

Plan a destination wedding. Resorts around the world and well-known domestic wedding/travel destinations like Las Vegas or Hawaii offer wedding packages that blend a ceremony and vacation getaway. Planning a winter wedding? Research options for a warmer climate or snowy destination at a ski resort.

Finally, be flexible. Some venues have cancellations and if a couple is willing to put themselves on a waiting list and move quickly if they get the call, savings might be possible.

Before the planning a wedding, it's wise to start with planning finances. A meeting with a qualified financial advisor might help put wedding costs in perspective with other major financial priorities.

Bottom line: Dream weddings don't have to put a couple's financial life on hold. Consider real financial priorities first and build a smart wedding budget from there.

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



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Coming Together to Fight Trafficking
In February 2013, South Dakota law enforcement placed undercover ads on the webpage Backpage.

In February 2013, South Dakota law enforcement placed undercover ads on the webpage Backpage. com targeting folks in the Watertown area. They weren't pretending to sell illegal drugs; they were pretending to sell people – young girls to be specific. Over the course of two days, more than 100 individuals responded to the ad – many of whom were hoping to buy these young women for sex. Similar operations were conducted in Rapid City and during the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally and all had similar results.

Many times, when folks think of sex trafficking, they picture scenes from urban areas or in foreign countries. But the reality is it's happening here. Young girls – often being recruited between 12 and 14 years old – are bought and sold for sex in small towns and larger communities. They're being forced to have sex upwards of 50 times per day, according to the Polaris Project – a leader in the movement to end trafficking. And their pimps are working to get them hooked on drugs and alcohol, only deepening the young woman's dependence on the trafficker.

In some cases, trafficking victims are brought through South Dakota from bigger cities and sent to North Dakota's oil fields. In other cases, they're being recruited at local schools, online, or in Indian Country to be sold at large events, like the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. In many – if not most – cases, they are being recruited in South Dakota and sold in South Dakota. It has to stop.

For the last few years, I've been working with shelters and advocates in South Dakota who have helped victims escape and survivors heal. With their experiences and needs in mind, I was able to draft legislation – while also helping move forward additional bills others had written – that aim to better combat this criminal industry. On May 19, we earned a significant victory. The broadly bipartisan Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, S.178, passed the U.S. House of Representatives, meaning the bill is now headed straight to the President's desk.

I was privileged to have language I wrote included in this larger package. My portion of the legislation accomplishes three things. First, it improves some existing federal grants to ensure they support shelters wanting to provide a place for trafficking survivors. Today, there are just 200 beds available in the country for underage victims, so this is an important expansion. My language also launches a review that will look into federal and state trafficking prevention activities to help identify and develop the best prevention practices. Finally, it requires an inventory of existing federal anti-trafficking efforts to ensure that the money we're spending is working for victims.

In addition to the portion that I wrote, S.178 aims to stop websites, like Backpage.com, that are known to facilitate the buying and selling of our children for sex. It establishes grant programs to help teach medical professionals how to identify victims of trafficking, as they are often one of the first lines of defense when it comes to identifying a trafficking victim. And it helps improve law enforcement task forces to combat this terrible crime. All in all, it amounts to one of the largest anti-trafficking packages passed in nearly a decade.

There is still more to do. Building awareness remains a huge challenge, but it's a challenge each of you can help us overcome. I encourage you to learn more about the red flags so you can identify them if someone you know is at risk. The Polaris Project website, found at www.PolarisProject.org, is one resource.

Thank you to everyone who has engaged in ending trafficking in South Dakota. The work you do to eliminate its presence in our community and heal survivors is admirable and vital.

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State Historical Society honoring author, historian Schuler

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota State Historical Society will present the Robinson Memorial Award, one of the Governor's Awards for History, on Saturday, May 30, to Harold H. Schuler of Tucson, Ariz., and formerly of Pierre.

Five other individuals or groups will also receive Governor's Awards for History for their efforts in preserving state history.

The award winners include Jean Kessloff of Rapid City, Jennifer Phillips of Aberdeen, Fraser Harrison of England, the Grant County Historical Society in Milbank and The Mammoth Site of Hot Springs, SD, Inc. The awards will be presented at a luncheon on Saturday, May 30, during the annual history conference of the State Historical Society in Pierre.

"Our award winners are to be commended for their efforts at preserving our state's history," said Gov. Dennis Daugaard. "Their work helps to keep the past alive for future generations."

"We are pleased to give out these awards," added Jay D. Vogt, director of the State Historical Society. "These are just a few of the shining examples of how people across the state and beyond are helping us in our efforts to promote, nurture and sustain South Dakota history."

Named after former state historians Doane and Will G. Robinson, the Robinson Memorial Award is the highest award given in the field of history in South Dakota, recognizing a lifetime of outstanding and meritorious service.

Schuler has donated tireless service to the cause of preserving and promoting South Dakota history. Schuler has written several books about South Dakota history. "Fort Pierre Chouteau," his most widely held volume, is among the collections of 87 libraries, including the British Library.

Kessloff is the individual award winner. She is being recognized for her work in historic preservation in Rapid City.

Phillips was named the 2015 History Teacher of the Year. Phillips has been teaching for 13 years and was recognized for the way she utilizes technology, music, dance and chants to enrich her students' learning.

Harrison is the winner of the Herbert S. Schell Award for best article in the previous year's "South Dakota History," the State Historical Society's award-winning quarterly journal.

The Grant County Historical Society is one of two organizational winners. The GCHS is a very active county historical society that owns and maintains a large number of museum buildings in Grant County.

The Mammoth Site, the other organizational winner, is focused on preservation and public education as it relates to the last Ice Age. It has under its care the largest concentration of mammoth remains anywhere in the world.

The Saturday awards luncheon is part of this year's State Historical Society annual history



Stump Removal

380-7915

216-8431

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conference, taking place Friday and Saturday in Pierre. This year's theme is "Prairie to Pines: People and Their Environment in South Dakota." Registrations are still being accepted. Call (605) 773-6000 for more information.

The State Historical Society is headquartered at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. For more information, visit www.history.sd.gov or call (605) 773-3458.

The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Education. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit www.history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.

Legion Post #39 Memorial Day services

8:00 am James 9:00 am Verdon 9:30 am Bates-Scotland 10:00 am Ferney 11:00 am Groton Lunch to follow at Post #39



Groton City Sump Pump

ALERT

Sump Pumps MUST be Discharged Outdoors Immediately **Failure to Comply Can Result in Sewag Backing Up in Your**

1st Down the Slide Contest Extended to 5/29/15 at noon.

Nominate Anyone (over 4 ft) for \$10 Each dollar donated for any name=

a vote

5/18/15 Leaders

- 1) Marc Sippel
- 2) David McGanno
- 3) Tevin Abeln
- 4) Jerrie Vedvei & Anita Lowary (tied)
- 5) Logan Lane & Marshall Lane (tied) Other noinations: Joe Foertsch, Mandy Boe, Paul Kosel, and Sarah Sippel

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Appreciation For Law Enforcement

We are fortunate to live in a relatively safe state. We tend to leave our cars running in the winter; we let our kids play outside; and, in some places, people lock their car doors not worrying about theft, but because they don't want their neighbors leaving them any more zucchini.

It's true that less populated places tend to be safer, but our public safety is not owed solely to our rural nature. It is also thanks to our law enforcement.

Those who enforce our laws live selfless lives. They're courageous, hardworking and dedicated individuals. They work long hours and willingly put themselves in harm's way to protect South Dakotans. They don't simply serve to reprimand those who don't follow the law, but to help those in need. State troopers will often stop to help someone change a flat tire. They come to the rescue when someone is stranded on the road during a blizzard. Police officers and deputy sheriffs lead the processionals for local funerals and they support their communities when disaster strikes. Our state, local and tribal law enforcement officers are critically important to our communities, and they deserve our appreciation.

We also owe a debt of gratitude to the families of law enforcement officers. These families also make sacrifices. They must adjust to overtime, odd hours and emergencies. They patiently endure as their loved ones risk their lives to keep us safe. They assume brave faces even as they worry whether their spouse or parent will come home safe and sound.

It's easy to forget that our safe South Dakota is not the norm. There are many places in the world today where people live in chaos because laws are not enforced – where people face daily uncertainty over whether they'll be able to protect themselves and their families.

Because of the men and women who enforce our laws South Dakota is not one of those places and we are able to live in a safe and free society.

To all of our state, local, and tribal law enforcement officers and their families, thank you for keeping us safe. Though we probably don't show it nearly enough, South Dakotans are grateful for your service.

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Odd El Nino Partially Responsible for Extra Moisture

BROOKINGS, S.D. - Since the beginning of May, precipitation conditions across South Dakota have changed generally for the better, becoming quite wet in certain areas of state, said Dennis Todey, SDSU Extension Climate Specialist and South Dakota Climatologist.

"During the month of May, some places in the west have seen three to four times the precipitation they had seen since January," Todey said.

The latest climate outlooks, released May 21, 2015 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center keep with that same trend of nearer average, to wetter than average, conditions over much of the state.

Todey explained that due to a dry winter and early spring, South Dakota entered the month of May with growing drought concerns; and rapidly increasing U.S. Drought Monitor coverage and intensity. "The precipitation total across South Dakota were the lowest on record statewide for January through April," he said "leading to quickly building dryness concerns."

30-Day Outlook

The newly released NOAA 30- and 90-day climate outlooks continue to indicate wetter than average conditions are more likely for most of the state through the summer.

"The June to August outlook, in particular, has above average precipitation chances likely over most of South Dakota and the Great Plains," Todey said. "The June outlook has wetter chances just in southern South Dakota."

Temperature outlooks are listed as equal chances for below or above average for both the next 30-and 90-days. Assuming the wetter conditions do occur, Todey said near-normal to cooler temperatures are more likely to exist for the summer. "Rarely do warm and wet conditions occur together during the warm season in the Plains," Todey said.

El Nino

El Nino in the Pacific is impacting much of the outlook. "El Nino is developing, which seems very likely to strengthen and persist through the summer," Todey said.

El Nino's are more typically a winter phenomenon, Todey explained, strengthening in the fall and weakening in the spring. "This El Nino is acting quite the opposite of usual strengthening through the spring," he said. "The impact of the likely wetter conditions will be to continue to reduce the precipitation deficits still existing in some places of eastern South Dakota."

The newest U.S. Drought Outlook concurs with this idea, showing drought reduction as likely in areas still listed on the U.S. Drought Monitor map. "The increased precipitation totals should generally be good for agricultural production for the year after the dry fall to spring period," Todey said. "Soils still have some deficits in the east to overcome. Thus, the additional precipitation is still needed."

He added that excessive wetness has not been too much of a problem yet, but will have to be monitored in some areas of the state. "The change to wetter conditions will also likely increase disease potential for various crops as the growing season progresses," he said.

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Honoring Those We Lost By Senator Mike Rounds

Memorial Day is a special time for us to remember all the brave men and women who died defending our nation on the battlefield. They paid the ultimate price to protect our freedoms. While they can never be repaid for their sacrifices, this weekend allows us to honor them posthumously. On Memorial Day, we remember who we have lost while serving this country. Their memory lives on through their families and friends and the legacies they leave behind, but it also lives on through the daily lives of all Americans who are safe and free because of their service. Through our Constitution, our founding fathers recognized the God-given rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Through the service of our men and women in uniform, those rights have been maintained. My uncle Marion Rounds, whom I am named after, was killed in battle on the Pacific island of Okinawa in 1945. I honor his memory, but especially on Memorial Day.

In the Senate, I have the unique privilege to serve on two committees that focus specifically on our military personnel: The Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) and Veterans' Affairs Committee. In my time working in these committees, I continue to listen to the voices of veterans and current service men and women. I am humbled by their stories of bravery in the face of death and the horrors of war. Their heroism inspires me to do all I can to provide our military with the best tools to protect themselves while fighting the enemy, and provide our veterans with the care they've been promised so they can lead a happy, healthy life.

Just this month, provisions from two of my bills were included in the bipartisan National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that passed out of the Armed Services Committee. The first provision that passed would protect B-1 bombers from premature retirement. My legislation would add congressional oversight to any decision to retire the B-1, B-2 or B-52 bomber aircraft. Unless the Department of Defense can certify that retirement of these aircraft will not result in loss of operational capability, they will remain in use. In South Dakota, we have 27 B-1 bombers at Ellsworth Air Force Base that are critical to protecting our country. Long-range strike bombers play an important role in our national defense. A strong, properly supported bomber force will allow our Air Force men and women to continue to do their jobs safely and successfully.

Another of my provisions included in NDAA deals with current military members and military retirees' access to healthcare. It would streamline the process for families enrolled in Tricare health plans when they move from one Tricare region to another. The current system for transferring Tricare beneficiaries is often ineffective, resulting in unnecessary delays. Our service members give everything to our country. Making simple changes to streamline transfer of their health care is the very least we can do.

The world continues to be a dangerous place. Members of our military continue to bravely fight those who wish to do us harm. They keep America free and make the world a better place. This Memorial Day, please take a moment to say thank you to our veterans and remember the sacrifices made to protect our freedoms.

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DI Globals Update

by Joni Groeblinghoff

The two Groton Area DI teams wrapped up their Global Finals experience Saturday, May 23 with another day full of fun. The "Out of the Boxers" team participated in their instant challenge in the morning, followed by their TADA performance. Their fans were the "5 Confused People" team and managers, Jim and Lisa Cutler, and Shannon Wright. Both teams visited the University of Tennessee book store and did more pin trading on their final day.

The Closing Ceremony was held in Thompson Boling Arena. The "Out of the Boxers" had a three-way tie for 29th place and "5 Confused People" came in 44th place.

After the ceremony both teams attended the Teen Party.

The week long adventures started to come to an end as an early morning leave from Knoxville Sunday morning began the travels back to South Dakota. As the group passed through St. Louis, Missouri they drove past the St. Louis Gateway Arch and the St. Louis Cardinals Busch Stadium, much to the delight of a certain team manager!

After spending the night in Columbia, Missouri, the group will travel the remaining way home to Groton on Memorial Day. The two teams traveling to Global Finals, along with the entire Groton Area Destination Imagination group would like to thank the Groton and surrounding communities for their support of our program and fundraising activities. We are very appreciative to live in a community who supports the various activities of the Groton Area students.

If you would like to learn more about the Destination Imagination program, please visit Destination Imagination or to see more photos of our two teams at the Duct Tape Costume Ball and information about Global Finals 2015, visit Global Finals 2015 Blog - The world's Largest Celebration of Creativity.



Breanna Marzahn, Luke Smith, Katie Groeblinghoff.

Broton Pailr Independent

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Today in Weather History
May 25, 1880: An estimated F2 tornado moved northeast through the town of Mitchell. Two men were killed when they ran out the back door of saloon in order to reach the cellar entrance. The caulk stone saloon was destroyed along with two homes and several businesses. This tornado was one of the first significant tornadoes on record for the state of South Dakota.

May 25, 1985: During the afternoon hours, thunderstorms developed along the east side of the Black Hills. The storms produced guite a bit of lightning and over the course of 2 hours started 18 small fires in the Black Hills. Fortunately, most of the fires were small and easily contained. One unfortunate fire fighter was struck by lightning as he was helping to extinguish a blaze that burned some 50 acres of grassland and forest. Thankfully, the man lived, but he did suffer several broken bones, burns, and major damage to his ears. The strike was so powerful that a man standing over 150 feet away was dropped to his knees.

1917 - A tornado ripped through southeast Kansas, traveling 65 mph. The average speed was a record for any tornado. (The Weather Channel)

1955 - Two tornadoes struck the town of Blackwell, OK, within a few minutes time during the late evening. The tornadoes killed 18 persons and injured more than 500 others. Early the next morning a tornado virtually obliterated the small community of Udall KS killing 80 persons and injuring 270 persons. More than half the persons in the community were killed or injured by the tornado. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

May 25, 1985: During the afternoon hours, thunderstorms developed along the east side of the Black Hills. The storms produced guite a bit of lightning and over the course of 2 hours started 18 small fires in the Black Hills. Fortunately, most of the fires were small and easily contained. One unfortunate fire fighter was struck by lightning as he was helping to extinguish a blaze that burned some 50 acres of grassland and forest. Thankfully, the man lived, but he did suffer several broken bones, burns, and major damage to his ears. The strike was so powerful that a man standing over 150 feet away was dropped to his knees.

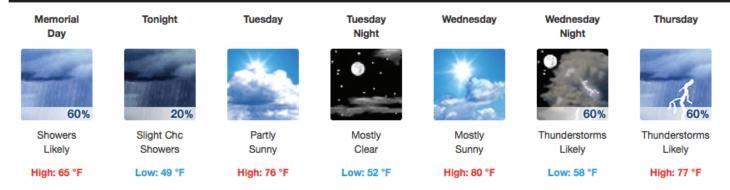
1987 - Thunderstorms spawned fifteen tornadoes in West Texas. One thunderstorm spawned a powerful tornado near Gruver, TX, along with golf ball size hail and 75 mph winds. A man on a boat on Lake Bistineau in northwest Louisiana was struck and killed by lightning, while the other three persons in the boat were unharmed. The man reportedly stood up in the boat and asked to be struck by lightning. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Unseasonably cool weather prevailed in the Upper Midwest. Marguette, MI, reported a record low of 26 degrees. Thunderstorms in the north central U.S. produced wind gusts to 62 mph at Idaho Falls, ID, and produced 4 inches of rain in less than four hours in northern Buffalo County. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms developing ahead of a strong cold front produced severe weather from Oklahoma to Ohio through the day and night. Thunderstorms spawned nine tornadoes, and there were 155 reports of large hail and damaging winds. Hail three and a half inches in diameter was reported at Dittmer, MO, and thunderstorm winds gusting to 90 MPH caused twenty million dollars damage at Rockville IN. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Evening thunderstorms spawned four tornadoes in Kansas and Missouri, and there were three dozen reports of large hail or damaging winds. Thunderstorms produced hail two inches in diameter at Cole Camp, and wind gusts to 72 mph at Rosebud. Heavy thunderstorm rains produced flash flooding in central Missouri. Flood waters swept through Washington State Park southwest of Saint Louis, and nearly one hundred persons had to be rescued from water as much as twenty feet deep. The flood waters swept away a number of vehicles, some were carried as much as four miles away. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Published on: 05/25/2015 at 5:02AM

Expect on and off rain showers and cooler temperatures for this Memorial Day Holiday. Dry conditions are expected Tuesday, but another low pressure system will mark the return of shower and thunderstorm chances Wednesday. Temperatures will warm back into the 70s and 80s for Tuesday & Wednesday.

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Yesterday's Weather High: 65.2 at 1:40 PM

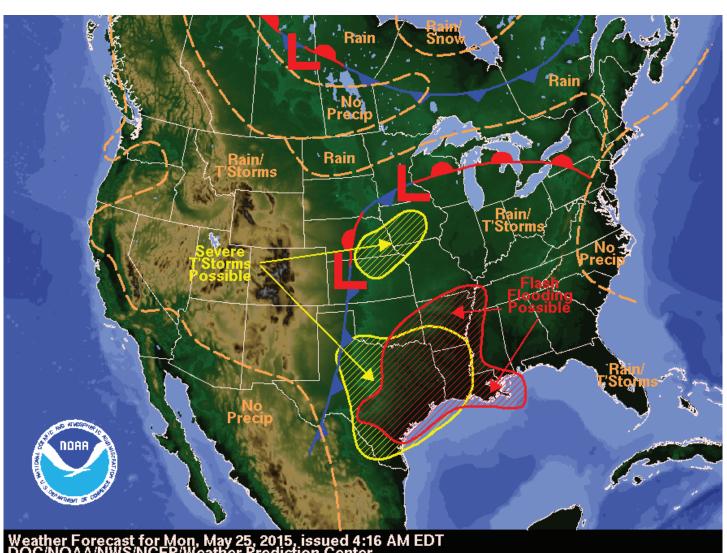
Low: 54.7 at 3:03 AM High Gust: 16 at 1:45 PM

Precip: 0.72

Today's Info Record High: 93° in 1941

Record Low: 29° in 1924 **Average High:** 71°F Average Low: 47°F

Average Precip in May: 2.53 Precip to date in May: 4.04 **Average Precip to date: 6.56 Precip Year to Date: 5.68** Sunset Tonight: 9:08 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:52 a.m.



ecast for Mon, May 25, 2015, issued 4:16 AM EDT NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center Mcreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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WHAT'S NEXT?

Reading through the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, reveals God's thoughtful planning.

Nothing happened by chance. He wisely created everything to fit together very carefully and logically, in perfect harmony. The fish came after water, grass before animals and trees before birds. Then when everything was prepared, God created man. God knew what He was doing and where He was going. What a great example for us.

James gave us some insight about planning, too. He reminds us that we sometimes begin to do something without even knowing what tomorrow may bring. He seems to be making fun of us when he says, "Now listen, you who go here or there...spend a year here to carry on business...thinking you will make money, but not knowing anything about tomorrow." Rather he says, "Focus on God's will!" Great advice! It is important for us to have visions of what we want to accomplish and plans to make the visions a reality. But we get into difficult situations if our focus is on our self-sufficiency or self-importance. We must humbly rely on God, looking to Him first and foremost in all that we plan to do. We must always be close enough to Him to hear His voice, and willing to change our plans when He asks. May our plans agree with His purpose.

Prayer: We ask, Father, that You guide us in all that we do and guard us from being self-centered. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: James 4:13-17 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will[a] go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; 14 whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow.

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News from the App Associated Press

Study of walleye in Lake Oahe beginning to yield results

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A four-year study of Lake Oahe walleyes is halfway done and already yielding results.

Officials are gaining new information about how fish move, how long they live and what proportion of them are ending up on anglers' hooks. The goal is to use that information to further improve the quality of the popular Missouri River fishery.

Dakotas biologists are tagging 40,000 walleye over four years and asking anglers to report any of the fish they catch.

The first two years have revealed some interesting fish movement patterns. Officials also are finding that walleye conditions have improved since the 2011 flood.

Once researchers have another year's worth of data in hand, they'll start running computer models of the potential effects of various regulations and natural events such as declining prey fish.

Students rally around Mitchell ag teacher battling cancer

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Students at an eastern South Dakota high school are rallying around an agriculture teacher during his bout with cancer.

The Tri-State Neighbor (http://bit.ly/1ISIkNs) reports Mitchell High School teacher Jeff Hoffman joined his students at the state Future Farmers of America convention weeks after having his leg amputated to stop the cancer from spreading.

A tumor was found in his leg last year, and he had gone through several rounds of chemotherapy before his doctors recommended the amputation.

"It was crushing," Hoffman's wife, Deanna, said.

But the Hoffmans have found support thorough social media. A page on Facebook keeps friends and family up to date on his progress. Hoffman says it's a source of well-wishes and prayers that keep his "spirits up."

Hoffman's students designed T-shirts to raise money for Hoffman and his family. Junior Johnna Jorgensen estimates about 400 shirts have been sold, and Hoffman says he's grateful for the support from the tight-knit ag community.

"He has supported us through everything we have done. We wanted to get behind him," said Johnna Jorgensen, a junior at Mitchell High School and president of the FFA chapter.

Jorgensen said she was surprised at how widespread the project had become. She said the money will be used for medical bills and for modifications around the house that make it easier for Hoffman to get around.

Hoffman returned to teaching full time on May 6.

When he's not teaching, the 49-year-old farms with his parents in Bridgewater, focusing on growing corn and soybeans.

"He's the hardest-working farmer and ag teacher that I've ever seen," said Deanna Hoffman. "It's hard to slow him down."

Hoffman already is finding ways to help around the farm. Earlier this month, he readied the turbo tiller for corn planting. And earlier in the spring he helped build a new fence for calving by driving the supply truck.

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"I want to be helpful," he said.

Now the Hoffmans are waiting on doctors to decide whether he will go through another round of chemotherapy. That will determine when he can get a prosthetic leg.

Fate unknown for diversity mosaic in downtown Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls officials are determining the fate of a downtown mosaic celebrating diversity that's falling apart.

The Argus Leader (http://argusne.ws/1R9sDEB) reports the colorful 496-foot CommUnity Youth Mosaic is missing tiles and others are stained. It was built in the late 2000s out of a vision form schoolchildren, and it became property of the city, which agreed to maintain it.

Upkeep has been sparse. Mosaic creators believe vibrations from a nearby demolition in 2012 caused many tiles to loosen. Chemicals applied to the adjacent roadway splash up the mosaic and stain it.

The city thinks the land that the mosaic could be a target for redevelopment. Community development director Darrin Smith says they'll know in a matter of months whether it'll see development, or it could become a recreational site.

"We understand the wall is important to people. It's part of downtown," Smith said. "But if they can just be patient over the next few months, we're going to find out ... if there is serious interest in redeveloping that site. Or if it becomes a recreational site. Or if Phase Three of the River Greenway project goes there. We'll know all those things in a matter of months."

City planner Mike Cooper said the mosaic has been cleaned a number of times — by artist Porter Williams, and by employees of Syverson Tile, which had provided the tiles for the mosaic. But Cooper said the city has not been involved in maintaining the wall.

"Back in 2005, when we did the first phase, I don't know that anybody anticipated there would be long-term maintenance required of the mosaic," he said.

Dave Syverson of Syverson Tile said he has sent the city proposals for doing yearly maintenance on the mosaic. Ideally, it should be cleaned twice a year, he said, though certainly at least annually. He estimates the wall would need less than \$2,500 per year for cleaning.

Smith said once they chart the future of the land the mosaic sits on, officials will be willing to sit down with community leaders to discuss the future of the wall.

"At the appropriate time, we can bring everyone to the table and and discuss what is going to happen," Smith said. "Does it stay? Does it not stay? If everyone can be at the table having that conversation, we can figure this out. It's just going to take a few months before we can have that conversation."

Music museum to offer free admission to military personnel

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — The National Music Museum in Vermillion is offering free admission this summer to active duty military personnel and their families.

The Blue Star Museum program is available from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Nationwide, more than 2,000 museums are participating in the program sponsored by the National Endowment of the Arts, Blue Star Families and the Department of Defense.

The National Music Museum's summer 2015 exhibition might be of particular interest to military families. The exhibit "Banding Together — The American Soldier's Music Arsenal" will showcase rare historic instruments issued to or used by U.S. soldiers throughout American military history.

The exhibition also feature rare wartime photos, posters, sheet music, uniforms and many other previously un-displayed artifacts from the museum's extensive holdings.

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Northern State men's basketball team to host youth camp

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — The Northern State University men's basketball team will be hosting a youth camps in June.

Campers will get lessons from head coach Paul Sather, assistant coach Matt Sevareid and members of the Northern State Wolves men's basketball team.

Boys and girls entering kindergarten through sixth grade can participate in the camp scheduled for June 1-4.

The sessions will focus on skill development and shooting and scoring. The campers will also receive motivational materials.

The NSU men will then host three separate camps for boys in early July.

ND, SD state universities to study changes in ag land use

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Researchers at state universities in the Dakotas and Iowa will spend this summer analyzing changes in agricultural land use over the past decade.

The Tri-State Neighbor reports this will be the universities' first comprehensive analysis about land use changes and the reasons behind them. The responses of more than 1,000 mail-in surveys sent to producers earlier this year will be used in the study.

Researchers hope to learn such things as whether producers are increasing the number of acres they plant with corn or soybeans and decreasing wheat acres, whether land has been taken out of conservation programs, or whether it's used for crops instead of pasture.

Professors from South Dakota State University, Iowa State University and North Dakota State University will work together to analyze the data.

Voters in Vermillion to decide day care ordinance in June

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Voters in Vermillion will head to the polls next month to decide the fate of the city's day care ordinance.

The Equalizer reports the Vermillion City Council has set the special election for June 30.

The ordinance calls for in-home day care providers to register with the city and provide a floor plan of the proposed location, as well as the expected number and age range of the children being cared for.

The proposed ordinance prohibits individuals who previously were or are currently listed on the state central registry for abuse, neglect or sex offenses to reside or be employed at the in-home day care.

In-home day cares have recently come under scrutiny in southeast South Dakota after various operators were accused of serious crimes. In one instance, an operator and her husband were indicted on child abuse and drug charges after police found methamphetamine at their home.

AP News in Brief

Defense Secretary Ash Carter's criticism of Iraqis raises policy questions

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Islamic State group's takeover of the Iraqi provincial capital Ramadi has prompted criticism from Defense Secretary Ash Carter and raised new questions about the Obama administration's strategy to defeat the extremist group.

The Islamic State group, which had already seized a strategically important swath of the Middle East,

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seized Ramadi in central Iraq a week ago, which has revived concerns about U.S. efforts to fight the group.

The Obama administration's approach in Iraq is a blend of retraining and rebuilding the Iraqi army, prodding the Shiite-dominated government in Baghdad to reconcile with the nation's Sunnis and bombing Islamic State group targets from the air without committing American ground combat troops.

President Barack Obama's strategy is predicated on Baghdad granting political concessions to the country's alienated Sunnis, who are a source of personnel and money for the Islamic State group. But there has been little visible progress on that front. Baghdad has continued to work closely with Shiite militias backed by Iran, which have been accused of atrocities against Sunnis, a religious minority in Iraq that ruled until Saddam Hussein fell from power.

The U.S. has sought to reach out on its own to Sunni tribes and is training some Sunni fighters, but those efforts have been limited by the small number of American troops on the ground.

Malaysia says jungle camps used by human traffickers contained 139 suspected graves

WANG KELIAN, Malaysia (AP) — Malaysian authorities said Monday that abandoned jungle camps used by human traffickers contained 139 suspected graves as well as pens likely used as cages for migrants, shedding more light on a regional trade that preyed on some of Southeast Asia's most desperate people.

National police chief Khalid Abu Bakar said forensics experts were exhuming the suspected graves found at 28 vacated camps in the hilly jungle area on the border with Thailand where trafficking syndicates were known to operate.

"It is a very sad scene," Khalid told reporters in the northern state of Perlis at a police outpost several kilometers (miles) from the camps. "I am shocked. We never expected this kind of cruelty."

At one camp, police found "a highly decomposed body" that will be examined by forensics experts as teams began the work of digging up the areas believed to be graves — mounds of earth, covered with leaves and marked by sticks, Khalid said.

"We have discovered 139 of what we believe to be graves," he said. "We believe they are victims of human trafficking."

Storms swamp Plains, Midwest, killing 3 and forcing thousands of Texans from their homes

SAN MARCOS, Texas (AP) — A line of storms stretching from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes dumped record rainfall on parts of the Plains and Midwest, spawning tornadoes and causing major flooding that forced at least 2,000 Texans from their homes.

Three deaths were blamed on the storms Saturday and Sunday, including two in Oklahoma and one in Texas, where a man's body was recovered from a flooded area along the Blanco River, which rose 26 feet in an hour and created huge piles of debris. The line of storms prompted tornado warnings and watches as far north as Illinois Sunday night, and the weather system was expected to linger over a large swath of the region Monday, putting a damper on some Memorial Day plans.

Among the worst-affected communities were Wimberley and San Marcos, which are in Central Texas along the Blanco River in the increasingly popular corridor between Austin and San Antonio.

"It looks pretty bad out there," Hays County emergency management coordinator Kharley Smith said of Wimberley, where an estimated 350 to 400 homes were destroyed and where three people remained

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missing late Sunday. "We do have whole streets with maybe one or two houses left on them and the rest are just slabs."

Kristi Wyatt, a spokeswoman for San Marcos, said about 1,000 homes were damaged throughout Hays County, which includes Wimberley and which will be toured Monday by Gov. Greg Abbott. Five San Marcos police cars were washed away and the fire house was flooded. The city imposed a 9 p.m. Sunday curfew that would remain in place overnight.

Ex-Texas Gov. Rick Perry seeks to win over Iowa voters with frequent visits, personal approach

LE MARS, Iowa (AP) — Rick Perry's early, hands-on approach in Iowa contrasts with the 2016 presidential prospect's failed bid four years ago, when he entered the race relatively late and stumbled in the debates.

The former Texas governor says he has more policy knowledge now and more time for the early states.

"Nobody came to Iowa more in 2014 than I did," Perry said after speaking to about 20 people at a Pizza Ranch in Sioux Center this past week. "And I will suggest to you that will probably be the case in 2015. If somebody is going to spend more time in Iowa than I am, they better bring their lunch."

Perry is working his way through small-town Iowa one handshake, bear hug and backslap at a time. Although politicking in diners and pizza places is hardly new in the leadoff caucus state, Perry has been notably active in some of Iowa's more out-of-the-way places, which get less frequent traffic from presidential hopefuls. Since 2014, he has made more than a dozen visits to Iowa.

Former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert sentenced to 8 months in prison in corruption trial

JERUSALEM (AP) — Former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Ölmert was sentenced Monday to eight months in prison for unlawfully accepting money from a U.S. supporter, capping the dramatic downfall of a man who only years earlier led the country and hoped to bring about a historic peace agreement with the Palestinians.

Olmert was convicted in March in a retrial in Jerusalem District Court. The sentencing comes in addition to a six-year prison sentence he received last year in a separate bribery conviction, ensuring the end of the former premier's political career.

Olmert's lawyer, Eyal Rozovsky, said Olmert's legal team was "very disappointed" by the ruling and would appeal to Israel's Supreme Court. They were granted a 45-day stay, meaning the former Israeli leader will avoid incarceration for now.

Olmert also was given a suspended sentence of an additional eight months and fined \$25,000.

A slew of character witnesses had vouched for Olmert, including former British Prime Minister Tony Blair and former Israeli Mossad chief Meir Dagan in written statements read aloud Monday. The verdict stated that it recognized Olmert's vast contributions to Israeli society and sentenced him to less than the prosecution had demanded. Still, it ruled that "a black flag hovers over his conduct."

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Businesses quietly turn to the dollar in fiercely anti-American Venezuela as currency crashes

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — It's still possible to buy a gleaming Ford truck in Venezuela, rent a chic apartment in Caracas, and snag an American Airlines flight to Miami. Just not in the country's official currency.

As the South American nation spirals into economic chaos, an increasing number of products are not only figuratively out of the reach of average consumers, but literally cannot be purchased in Venezuelan bolivars, which fell into a tailspin on the black market last week.

Businesses and individuals are turning to dollars even as the anti-American rhetoric of the socialist administration grows more strident. It's a shift that's allowing parts of the economy to limp along despite a cash crunch and the world's highest inflation. But it could put some goods further out of reach of the working class, whose well-being has been the focal point of the country's 16-year-old socialist revolution.

The latest sign of an emerging dual-currency system came earlier this month when Ford Motor Co. union officials said the company had reached a deal with officials to sell trucks and sports utility vehicles in dollars only.

A few weeks earlier, American Airlines announced that it had stopped accepting bolivars for any of its 19 weekly flights out of Venezuela. Customers must now use a foreign credit card to buy the tickets online. Virtually all other foreign carriers have made the same switch with the government's consent, according to the Venezuela Airlines Association.

Lone wolf or disturbed individual? Inquest examines man behind deadly siege at Sydney cafe

SYDNEY (AP) — The man who took 18 people hostage at a Sydney cafe last year was educated and erratic, secretive about his own life and public about his many grievances, and a self-obsessed fabulist whose life was spiraling downward in the lead-up to his deadly attack, lawyers told an inquest Monday. The details of Man Monis' life and death are being examined at a coroner's inquest into December's siege at the Lindt Cafe, in which a shotgun-wielding Monis took customers and workers captive and made a series of demands, including that he be delivered a flag of the Islamic State group. The standoff

ended when police stormed the cafe. Monis was killed, along with two hostages.

"This is not a normal investigation — it is grappling with questions of national significance," New South Wales state Coroner Michael Barnes told the court. "Was Monis a so-called lone wolf prosecuting an ISIS-inspired terrorist act, or was he a deranged individual pursuing some personal, private grievance in a public manner? They are real questions we must try and answer if an explanation for the siege is to be forthcoming and strategies to avoid a repeat are to be developed."

In their opening address, lawyers assisting the coroner painted the 50-year-old Iranian-born Monis as a man who was both compliant and contrarian when it came to authority. He dutifully registered his many name changes, filed his taxes and applied for police approval ahead of his frequent protests. But those protests were often dramatic, with Monis chaining himself to buildings and staging a hunger strike. He obsessively pursued perceived injustices against various authorities, in one instance flying to New Zealand and returning immediately for the sole purpose of proving he was being treated unreasonably by customs officials.

"He could be plausible, courteous and controlled," lawyer Sophie Callan said. "But he was also almost entirely consumed in his own self-importance and when challenged, his self-control would occasionally

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slip and his reaction was disproportionate."

John Nash, 'A Beautiful Mind' and an inspiration for those struggling and striving, dies at 86

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Born to an electrical engineer, and later a precocious and dashing young man who attained an Ivy League education, John Nash seemed destined for a life of stunning success. That he achieved, winning a Nobel Prize in 1994, but not without a struggle with mental illness that would make him a household name even more so than his achievements in mathematics.

Nash had read the classic "Men of Mathematics" by E.T. Bell by the time he was in high school. He planned to follow in his father's footsteps and studied for three years at the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh — now Carnegie Mellon University — but instead followed his passion for math.

He then went to Princeton, where he worked on his equilibrium theory and, in 1950, received his doctorate with a dissertation on non-cooperative games. The thesis contained the definition and properties of what would later be called the Nash equilibrium.

But it was while teaching at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1959, when his wife, Alicia, was pregnant with their son, that schizophrenia began to emerge, a yearslong fight that was chronicled in the Academy Award-winning blockbuster "A Beautiful Mind." The Nashes died in a car accident late Saturday on the New Jersey Turnpike. He was 86; she was 82.

"John's remarkable achievements inspired generations of mathematicians, economists and scientists who were influenced by his brilliant, groundbreaking work in game theory, and the story of his life with Alicia moved millions of readers and moviegoers who marveled at their courage in the face of daunting challenges," Princeton President Christopher Eisgruber said in a statement.

London's airport expansion plan threatens neighboring villages to meet demands of travelers

LONDON (AP) — With its classic red phone booth, pub, and medieval church, Harmondsworth's center looks quintessentially British. But the search for a twee English village isn't what brings millions of people within a stone's throw of its boundaries.

The attraction is neighboring Heathrow Airport, which served 73 million travelers last year. Now Europe's busiest airport is proposing to build a runway roughly through the center of town, leveling the ivy-covered brick walls of the Harmondsworth Hall guest house and two-thirds of its homes. A village that traces its history to the 6th century would be forever altered, and some argue even what's left would be uninhabitable.

"There's no compensation package that would interest me," said Neil Keveren, who chairs a local community group opposed to the expansion. "We have a historic village with buildings that go back 600 years. You cannot replace that. You cannot buy memories."

Harmondsworth is under threat because London and southeastern England need more airport capacity to meet the growing demands of business travelers and tourists. Heathrow and rival Gatwick, 30 miles (50 kilometers) south of central London, have offered competing projects that will cost as much as 18.6 billion pounds (\$29.1 billion). Whichever proposal is selected, homes will be destroyed and surviving neighborhoods will have to cope with increased noise, pollution and traffic.

The issue is so toxic that politicians created an independent commission to weigh the options. Government officials then postponed a decision until after the May 7 election, effectively taking the matter off

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the political agenda, if but briefly.

Blue Bottle brews queues in Japan in test of whether artsy US coffee chain can go big overseas

TOKYO (AP) — Japan, famous for green tea, is welcoming artisanal American coffee roaster Blue Bottle with long lines that have at times meant a four-hour wait for a cup.

The company, which began in Oakland, California in 2002, hopes its early popularity is more than a passing fad. Japan's consumer culture is littered with manias for Western food imports: pancakes, popcorn, doughnuts, even Taco Bell.

Success in Japan is important for Blue Bottle, which operates 17 cafes in the San Francisco Bay area, New York and Los Angeles. Japan is its first foray outside of the U.S. Blue Bottle raised nearly \$26 million last year to invest in expansion, including financing from Silicon Valley executives, setting the stage for a test of whether an artsy gourmet coffee chain can go big.

Founder James Freeman, a musician, was inspired by Japan's old-style "kissaten" coffee-shops: tiny dimly-lit establishments, with good music and a barista behind a wooden counter. Think places for quiet serious thinking and real drip coffee, not sweet, frivolous drinks.

"We care about every part of the coffee. We call it from seed to cup," said Saki Igawa, the business operations manager for Blue Bottle in Japan.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Monday, May 25, the 145th day of 2015. There are 220 days left in the year. This is the Memorial Day observance.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 25, 1965, Muhammad Ali knocked out Sonny Liston in the first round of their world heavy-weight title rematch in Lewiston, Maine. (Ali's victory generated controversy over whether he'd truly connected when he sent Liston crashing to the canvas with a right to the head, or whether it was a "phantom punch," implying that the fight had been fixed.)

On this date:

In 1787, the Constitutional Convention began at the Pennsylvania State House (Independence Hall) in Philadelphia after enough delegates had shown up for a quorum.

In 1810, Argentina began its revolt against Spanish rule with the forming of the Primera Junta in Buenos Aires.

In 1895, playwright Oscar Wilde was convicted of a morals charge in London; he was sentenced to two years in prison.

In 1935, Babe Ruth hit his last three career home runs - Nos. 712, 713 and 714 - for the Boston Braves in a game against the Pittsburgh Pirates. (The Pirates won, 11-7.)

In 1942, U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Joseph Stilwell, frustrated over being driven out of Burma by Japanese troops during World War II, told reporters in Delhi, India: "I claim we got a hell of a beating."

In 1946, Transjordan (now Jordan) became a kingdom as it proclaimed its new monarch, Abdullah I.

In 1959, the U.S. Supreme Court, in State Athletic Commission v. Dorsey, struck down a Louisiana law prohibiting interracial boxing matches. (The case had been brought by Joseph Dorsey Jr., a black professional boxer.)

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy told Congress: "I believe that this nation should commit itself to

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achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the earth."

In 1968, the Gateway Arch in St. Louis was dedicated by Vice President Hubert Humphrey and Interior Secretary Stewart Udall.

In 1979, 273 people died when an American Airlines DC-10 crashed just after takeoff from Chicago's O'Hare Airport. Six-year-old Etan Patz disappeared while on his way to a school bus stop in lower Manhattan.

In 1985, more than 11,000 people were killed as a cyclone and tidal surge devastated Bangladesh. In 1992, Jay Leno made his debut as host of NBC's "Tonight Show," succeeding Johnny Carson.

Ten years ago: Texas Supreme Court Justice Priscilla Owen won Senate confirmation as a federal appeals judge after a ferocious four-year battle. The defense rested in the Michael Jackson child molestation trial without calling the pop star, who ended up being acquitted. Carrie Underwood was crowned the winner of the fourth season of "American Idol" on Fox TV over Bo Bice. Ismail Merchant, half of the prestigious Merchant-Ivory filmmaking team, died in London at age 68.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama ordered 1,200 National Guard troops to boost security along the U.S.-Mexico border. NFL owners voted to hold the 2014 Super Bowl at Meadowlands Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey. Nicole Scherzinger of The Pussycat Dolls and her professional dance partner, Derek Hough, won the 10th season of ABC's "Dancing with the Stars."

One year ago: President Barack Obama slipped into Afghanistan for a surprise visit, making clear the U.S. would likely maintain a limited role there even after its combat mission ended later in the year. Pope Francis arrived in Bethlehem where, in a symbolic nod to Palestinians' aspirations for their own state, he called the stalemate in peace talks "unacceptable" and stopped briefly to pray at the Israeli separation barrier surrounding the biblical West Bank town. Josh Beckett pitched the first no-hitter of his career and the first of the season, leading the Los Angeles Dodgers over the Philadelphia Phillies 6-0. Ryan Hunter-Reay became the first American to win the Indianapolis 500 since 2006, making a dramatic pass of Helio Castroneves on the final lap.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Ann Robinson (TV/Film: "War of the Worlds"; "Dragnet") is 86. Former White House news secretary Ron Nessen is 81. Author W.P. Kinsella is 80. Country singer-songwriter Tom T. Hall is 79. Actor Sir Ian McKellen is 76. Country singer Jessi Colter is 72. Actress-singer Leslie Uggams is 72. Movie director and Muppeteer Frank Oz is 71. Actress Karen Valentine is 68. Actress Jacki Weaver is 68. Rock singer Klaus Meine (The Scorpions) is 67. Actress Patti D'Arbanville is 64. Playwright Eve Ensler ("The Vagina Monologues") is 62. Actress Connie Sellecca is 60. Rock singer-musician Paul Weller is 57. Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., is 55. Actor-comedian Mike Myers is 52. Actor Matt Borlenghi is 48. Actor Joseph Reitman is 47. Rock musician Glen Drover is 46. Actress Anne Heche (haych) is 46. Actresses Lindsay and Sidney Greenbush (TV: "Little House on the Prairie") are 45. Actor-comedian Jamie Kennedy is 45. Actress Octavia Spencer is 45. Actor Justin Henry is 44. Rapper Daz Dillinger is 42. Actress Molly Sims is 42. Singer Lauryn Hill is 40. Actress Erinn Hayes is 39. Actor Cillian Murphy is 39. Actor Ethan Suplee (soo-PLEE') is 39. Rock musician Todd Whitener is 37. Actor Corbin Allred is 36. Actress-singer Lauren Frost is 30. Musician Guy Lawrence (Disclosure) is 24. 1991 Olympic gold medal gymnast Aly Raisman is 21.

Thought for Today: "I hate quotations. Tell me what you know." - Ralph Waldo Emerson, American essayist and poet (1803-1882).