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Sunday, June 7

Birthdays: Chad Nierman, Lisa Wienk

9:00 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship with Communion

9:00 a.m.: St. John's Lutheran worship with Communion

10:00 a.m.: Heaven Bound Ministries worship in Pierpont

Monday, June 8

Birthdays: Lacy Voss, Kayla Johnson, Andrew Marzahn

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

1:30 p.m.: St. John's Lutheran Nursery Circle.

Senior Menu: Salisbury steak, mashed potato and gravy, parsley buttered carrots, banana cake

Bridal Shower

Bridal Shower for Taylor Ogdahl, bride-to-be of Travis Swisher, will be held Saturday, June 13, 10 a.m. to noon at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Groton.



www.harrmotors.com

605-225-3078 ~ 1-800-658-3463

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.

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Reining in the Obama EPA

By Senator John Thune

I strongly believe in the outdoor heritage that makes South Dakota such an amazing place to live, work, and raise a family. Whether it's earning a living off of the land, like so many of our hard-working farmers and ranchers, or enjoying a weekend pheasant hunt with friends and family, South Dakotans take seriously their responsibility to help protect the outdoors.

While certain protections are necessary to ensure these resources are available for future generations, there are limits to the federal government's role. In some cases, the rules and regulations that come out of Washington, D.C., specifically the Obama Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), can often cause more harm than good in places like South Dakota.

Many of the Washington bureaucrats who write and implement these rules have never stepped foot in the states in which the rules will apply. Therein lies the problem: Rule-makers in Washington's concrete jungle are forcing agriculture producers, homeowners, and small businesses across the country to comply with rules that will have devastating effects in rural America.

Take, for example, last week's EPA announcement on the "waters of the United States" (WOTUS), which is one of the largest federal government power grabs over private land we've ever seen. The EPA's broad new definition of U.S. waterways could classify a small ditch or creek on South Dakota farmland or housing subdivisions as a waterway, which under these new rules, could now be subject to federal permitting, compliance costs, and potentially significant penalties and fines. I am especially concerned about the EPA claiming jurisdiction in the Prairie Pothole Region throughout East River.

The EPA delivered a one-two punch to South Dakota farmers last week, when following its WOTUS announcement, it proposed new Renewable Fuels Standards (RFS) volume requirements for 2014-2016. Not only do the EPA's proposed requirements fall short of the RFS volumes first prescribed by Congress, but they fail to provide the certainty needed to spur investment in our domestic biofuels industry.

I strongly oppose EPA's overreach, and will continue to work with my colleagues in the Senate to do whatever is possible to block these heavy-handed regulations and help mitigate the damage they will inevitably cause to South Dakotans.

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Warm Weather Means Return Of Mosquitoes, West Nile Virus Risk

PIERRE, S.D. – July through September might be the peak transmission for West Nile virus (WNV) in South Dakota but cases have also occurred in June, said a state health official today.

“West Nile is a serious, sometimes fatal illness and South Dakota has a disproportionately high number of cases,” said Dr. Lon Kightlinger, state epidemiologist for the Department of Health. “That’s why it’s so important we get in the habit of protecting ourselves with mosquito repellent and doing what we can to get rid of the standing water that give mosquitoes a place to breed.”

Prevent mosquito bites and reduce the risk of WNV with the following precautions:

Apply mosquito repellents (DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR3535) to clothes and exposed skin. Limit exposure by wearing pants and long sleeves in the evening.

Limit time outdoors from dusk to midnight when Culex mosquitoes are most active. Culex are the primary carrier of WNV in South Dakota.

Get rid of standing water that gives mosquitoes a place to breed. Regularly change water in bird baths, outside pet dishes, and drain water from other flower pots and garden containers.

Support local mosquito control efforts.

Personal precautions are especially important for those at high risk for WNV – people over 50, pregnant women, transplant patients, individuals with diabetes or high blood pressure, and those with a history of alcohol abuse. People with severe or unusual headaches should see their physicians.

Since its first human WNV case in 2002, the state has reported 2,168 human cases, including 677 hospitalizations and 32 deaths. Every county has reported cases.

Visit the department’s website at westnile.sd.gov for more information about WNV.



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The Good Old Summertime – Outdoors In South Dakota

A column by Gov. Dennis Daugaard

When I was a young boy, I couldn't wait for summer. After nine months of school, June meant a break from studies and long, adventure-filled days outdoors in South Dakota.

Oh, sure, I still had work to do, just like most kids who grew up on the farms and in the small towns of South Dakota. I worked in the bean fields, did chores around the farm and helped in any other ways the family needed.

But when the work was done, I spent many warm, lazy days canoeing on the Big Sioux River, swimming and exploring the wooded areas along the river bottom. Summer also meant 4-H camp, a great opportunity to meet other young South Dakotans and share the activities and crafts of the 4-H program.

Once, on a family visit to the Black Hills, my sisters and I had the incredible experience of riding in a helicopter to view Mount Rushmore up close. I'll never forget that, just as I'll never forget the simpler times spent outdoors in our great state. I grew up with a respect and deep affection for South Dakota's outdoors.

Many things have changed in South Dakota since I was a youngster, but the outdoor opportunities remain. In fact, opportunities have greatly expanded. People of all ages have more choices for outdoor activities today than we ever did when I was young. Think of all the bike paths in the communities, the swimming pools, the hiking adventures, the day camps and the summer recreation programs that invite boys and girls to get outside and get active.

More than that, think of all the facilities and recreation opportunities provided through the work of our Game, Fish and Parks Department. The department has upgraded and expanded trails, campgrounds, boating facilities and outdoor programs tremendously in recent years. If there's something you want to do outdoors, Game, Fish and Parks probably has a program for you. Whether you want the experience of spending time in a modern campground or fishing pond, or you just want to take your son or daughter for a walk on a nature trail, you can do it here in South Dakota.

To recognize what an abundance of opportunities we all have in South Dakota, I recently declared June as "Great Outdoors Month." It's a way to encourage each of our citizens to connect or re-connect with nature in a safe and healthy way. It's a celebration of the fun that's to be had outdoors here in South Dakota.

And, if you wish, you can still take a helicopter ride to see Mount Rushmore up close the way I did as a youngster.

There's a lot to do outdoors in South Dakota in the summer. Take advantage of the opportunities! Maybe we'll meet along the trails.

Protecting the 2nd Amendment

by Senator Mike Rounds

As an avid hunter and lifelong gun owner, I have always been a strong defender of the Second Amendment. We cherish our right to bear arms in South Dakota, where we have a strong outdoor heritage and lively economy based on sportsmen activity. This fundamental right is embedded in the Constitution and must be fiercely protected. That's why I'm greatly concerned about the Obama administration's latest attempt to circumvent congress and impose sweeping new gun restrictions on the American people. It is an assault on the Second Amendment.

The Department of Justice recently announced plans to impose these new regulations on gun ownership through executive order in the coming months. These new regulations range from imposing new requirements for gun storage to allowing the Department of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) to impose new regulations on pistols. The heavy hand of government is once again attempting to penalize law abiding citizens. What this administration hasn't figured out is that these proposals penalize the wrong people and ignore the Constitutional rights of citizens—an all too common theme under this president. This assault on the Second Amendment will do nothing to reduce criminal activity. South Dakota has one of the highest rates of gun ownership in the country, and one of the lowest crime rates. In my opinion, that's not a coincidence.

We all want to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous criminals, but the administration's proposals are too broad and threaten the rights of law-abiding gun owners across the nation. These new rules make it harder for ordinary citizens who pose no threat to society from exercising their second amendment rights. Any changes that effect these constitutional rights should be enacted legislatively. Regulations that aim to prevent serious offenders from obtaining a gun must not unfairly root out other prospective gun owners who are not a danger to society.

I'm also concerned about how broad and how far the ATF will go when finalizing these new gun restrictions. Based on the president's previous track record of imposing intrusive regulations, I have little faith these new gun rules would be reasonable or well-received. The president knows he would not have the support of Congress if he tried to pass these new rules through legislation. He failed to convince Congress to enact new gun restrictions just two years ago and I am concerned that this is just a back-door attempt to allow unelected bureaucrats to change our gun laws. I've always believed that if a rule that will affect millions of Americans is a good one, it should be able to stand up to Congressional scrutiny.

I'm also concerned that President Obama's new gun regulations could make it so onerous to purchase and own a gun that it deters law-abiding citizens from even having one. Too many of us know too well what can happen when too much government red tape stands in the way. In preventing gun violence, we must focus on the offenders, not the weapon.

Our right to bear arms is one of our most important rights as citizens. In South Dakota and across the nation, hunters, gun collectors and sportsmen alike take seriously their responsibilities of owning a gun. We must push back against President Obama's anti-gun agenda to protect the Second Amendment. As a member of the United States Senate, I will continue to work to defend the right to bear arms and put a stop to the president's overreaching gun policies.

Davis, Hoops Graduate from School of Mines

RAPID CITY, S.D. (June 5, 2015) – Over 300 students received their Bachelor of Science, Master of Science or Doctor of Philosophy degrees at the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology's 171st commencement ceremony. Alumnus Greg Graves, president and chief executive officer of Burns & McDonnell, delivered the commencement address. Geological engineering major Michael Leopold of Breckenridge, Colo., delivered the senior class message.

M.R. Hansen, who earned bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from SD Mines in 1969 and 1973, respectively, received the Guy E. March Medal award for his positive interaction with students, the institution and alumni. Also recognized were graduates from the class of 1965 celebrating their 50-year anniversary.

Leah Davis, B.S. Chemical Engineering, Groton, and Jordan Hoops, B.S. Applied Biological Sciences, Langford, were among the students earning degrees at the School of Mines.

SDSU students named to dean's list

BROOKINGS, S.D. - The following students have been named to the dean's list for academic excellence during the spring 2015 semester at South Dakota State University. To earn dean's list distinctions in SDSU's colleges, students must have completed a minimum of 12 credits and must have earned at least a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Students with an asterisk received a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Students with F, I, U, RI, or RU grades are not eligible regardless of system term GPA attained. Note that this criteria includes courses that were taken at other South Dakota institutions this term. A minimum of 12 credits within the 100-699 course range must be taken. A student who passes pre-general education courses may still qualify, if the student has 12 other credits that do fall within the 100-699 range.

School Codes:

SAGBS – College of Agriculture & Biological Sciences

SA&S – College of Arts & Science

SEHS – College of Education & Human Science

SENGR – Jerome J. Lohr College of Engineering

SNURS – College of Nursing

SPHA – College of Pharmacy

Name	4.0	Hometown	School
Schmit, Laura Elizabeth		Bristol	SEHS
Geist, Andee Elizabeth		Conde	SA&S
Krueger, Jessie Marie	*	Conde	SNURS
Cutler, Sophie K C	*	Groton	SEHS
Ell, Reilly James		Groton	SEHS
Hanson, Kendyl Lynn		Groton	SA&S
Hughes, Alex Connor	*	Groton	SAGBS
Kavanaugh, Spenser Clarence		Groton	SA&S
Lewandowski, Regan Elizabeth	*	Groton	SEHS
Erickson, Michael Paul		Langford	SPHA
Planteen, Rachel Lynn		Langford	SNURS
Schwan, Austin Adam		Stratford	SENGR
Hinz, Cole Michael	*	Westport	SEHS

Where the Billions Go

By Rep. Kristi Noem

Month after month, nearly every American worker makes payments to the federal government. And year after year, our concerns increase about the lack of genuine accountability over how those hard-earned dollars are spent. I believe it's reached a tipping point.

As an example, in FY2014, the Unemployment Insurance program made \$5.6 billion worth of improper payments. That means about 12 percent of their overall payments went to the wrong recipient, were made out for the wrong dollar amount, were offered without proper documentation, or were given to a recipient who used those taxpayer funds improperly.

The same was true for the Supplemental Security Income program, which is intended to help give a hand up to disabled Americans who have limited income and resources. This program made \$5.1 billion in improper payments in FY2014, totaling about 9.2 percent of the program's overall expenditures. We can do better.

Earlier this month, I joined House Republicans in introducing a series of bills intended to strengthen the integrity of these programs.

I led on a bill, for instance, that aims to prevent wanted felons from receiving taxpayer-funded benefits. It's almost unbelievable that this is a problem – that a felon can evade prosecution for months or years, but somehow still receive checks from the government every 30 days or so. It has to stop and my bill, the CUFF Act, helps accomplish that.

More specifically, the CUFF Act ensures anyone who is violating a condition of their probation or parole or running from a felony charge – in other words, a crime carrying a minimum term of one or more years of prison – will not be able to receive Social Security benefits. It's that simple. If passed, the legislation would save hardworking taxpayers as much as \$4.8 billion over the next decade, according to preliminary Congressional Budget Office estimates. To me, it seems like an obvious correction to make.

Another bill introduced – the PERP Act – states that you can't receive unemployment benefits if you're in prison. Technically, those in jail or prison aren't supposed to be receiving benefits, but they do because of unclear legal language.

In Illinois, for instance, more than \$2 million in unemployment benefits went to inmates, according to a 2012 report. In New Jersey, a 2013 audit showed 20,000 inmates were paid nearly \$24 million in state and federal benefits. In Pennsylvania, more than 1,000 inmates were collecting about \$334 every week, according to another 2013 report. The PERP Act would close the loopholes and ensure your money stays out of the hands of prisoners.

Without question, more must be done to respect your hard-earned tax dollars. Our confidence in the federal government's ability to spend our money responsibly has been broken – and for good reason. The package of bills I helped introduce earlier this month would allow us to save billions of dollars, but we still have a lot more to do.

Celebrate **10** Years

With the Groton Transit!

June 11, 2015

Groton Transit Office on Main Street

Come help us celebrate!

Groton Chamber of Commerce BBQ

Fundraiser for the Transit

10 year Anniversary!

Serving starts at **4pm to 7pm!**

Hamburger and Hot Dog Meal with all

The fixin's and **"Joel's FryBread!"**

Free Will Meal!

Silent Auction June 8-11th

Great Auction items available to bid on!

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G's Inflatables, & more!



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Before you head down the road to parenthood, let Sanford Women's help you prepare with B4 Baby. You'll meet our team of experts – from doctors and nurses to dieticians and financial assistants – all ready to help you prepare for pregnancy with practical advice in a fun and relaxing environment.

You'll also have the opportunity to:

- Speak to a pharmacist
- Learn about nutrition and fitness during pregnancy
- Tour The Women's Center

Monday, June 15 • 6:30 p.m.

Visit sanfordaberdeen.org
or call (605) 626-4550 to register.

SANFORD
WOMEN'S

Today in Weather History

June 7, 1982: A house in Sunshine Acres, north of Pierre was struck by lightning and the interior was completely destroyed by the ensuing fire. One person received minor burns. Over two inches of rain fell in Pierre causing Capital Lake to rise four feet. Water and mud flooded the State Maintenance Building.

June 7, 1993: A large F3 tornado destroyed a farmstead 9 miles southwest of Tulare. The tornado twisted the house on its foundation, virtually destroying it. This storm also destroyed a barn, 3 steel bins, 3 granaries, and 2 hog houses. Ten hogs were killed.

At least three more tornadoes damaged several farms in the Tulare and Redfield areas. A tornado hit one farm northwest of Tulare causing about 65,000 dollars in damage. Another tornado damaged a farm 5 miles west of Redfield.

1692: A massive earthquake strikes Port Royal in Jamaica, killing some 3,000 people. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

1816 - A famous June snow occurred in the northeastern U.S. Danville VT reported drifts of snow and sleet twenty inches deep. The Highlands were white all day, and flurries were observed as far south as Boston MA. (David Ludlum)

1972 - Richmond VA experienced its worst flood of record as rains from Hurricane Agnes pushed the water level at the city locks to a height of 36.5 feet, easily topping the previous record of thirty feet set in 1771. (The Weather Channel)


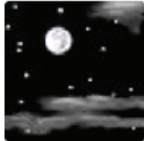





1987 - Thunderstorms in the Laramie Mountains of eastern Wyoming produced golf ball size hail, and up to five inches of rain in just one hour. Half a dozen cities in the Upper Mississippi Valley reported record high temperatures for the date, including La Crosse, WI, with a reading of 97 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)(Storm Data)

1988 - Snow whitened some of the mountains of northern California and northwestern Nevada. Twenty-six cities in the central and eastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including Rapid City SD with a reading of 104 degrees, and Miles City, MT, with a high of 106 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from southern Oklahoma and eastern Texas to northwestern Florida through the day and night. Thunderstorms spawned 22 tornadoes, including a dozen in Louisiana, and there were 119 reports of large hail and damaging winds. A strong (F-2) tornado at Gross Tete LA killed two persons, injured thirty others, and another strong (F-2) tornado injured 60 persons at Lobdell LA. Softball size hail was reported at Hillsboro TX. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data) 1995: Classic supercell thunderstorms spawned 21 tornadoes in the north Texas Panhandle. 5 of the tornadoes were rated F4 on the Fujita scale, one which tracked through the center of Pampa injuring 7 people and causing \$30 million in damages. The Project Vortex team (20 vehicles, including a state of the art truck-mounted Doppler Radar, and two P3 aircraft's) were all over the storms, collecting an incredible storm dynamics, structure, and environment data set, on the last day of the two year funded project no less. The team witnessed one of the F4 tornadoes near Allison, and said it was one of biggest and meanest appearing tornadoes they had ever seen. At Crane, TX, four inch diameter hail fell for 10 minutes.

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Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
						
Slight Chc Thunderstorms	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Slight Chc Thunderstorms	Mostly Clear	Slight Chc Thunderstorms
High: 84 °F	Low: 57 °F	High: 86 °F	Low: 60 °F	High: 90 °F	Low: 57 °F	High: 79 °F



Mild With Low Humidity Today

Isolated Afternoon Shower or Storm

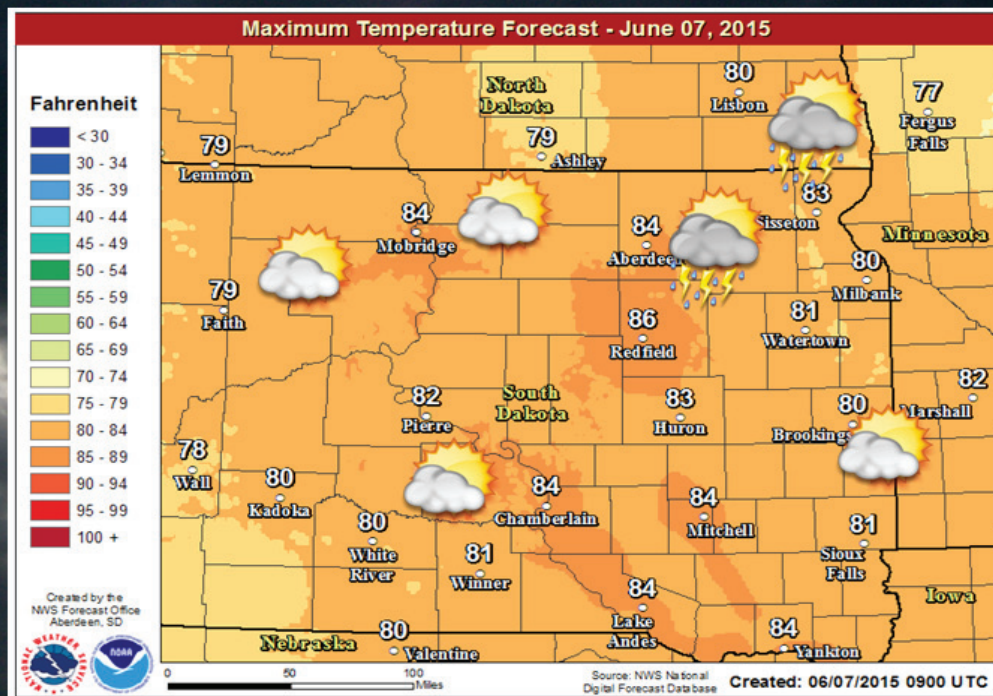
weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen



Published on: 06/07/2015 at 5:15AM

Mild and relatively dry air will be in place today, though a weak front will provide the focus for an isolated shower or storm. Hotter temperatures are in store for the start of the work week.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 85.0 at 5:34 PM

Low: 64.9 at 5:57 AM

High Gust: 25 atm 1:38 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 95° in 1952

Record Low: 28° in 1901

Average High: 75°F

Average Low: 51°F

Average Precip in June: 0.81

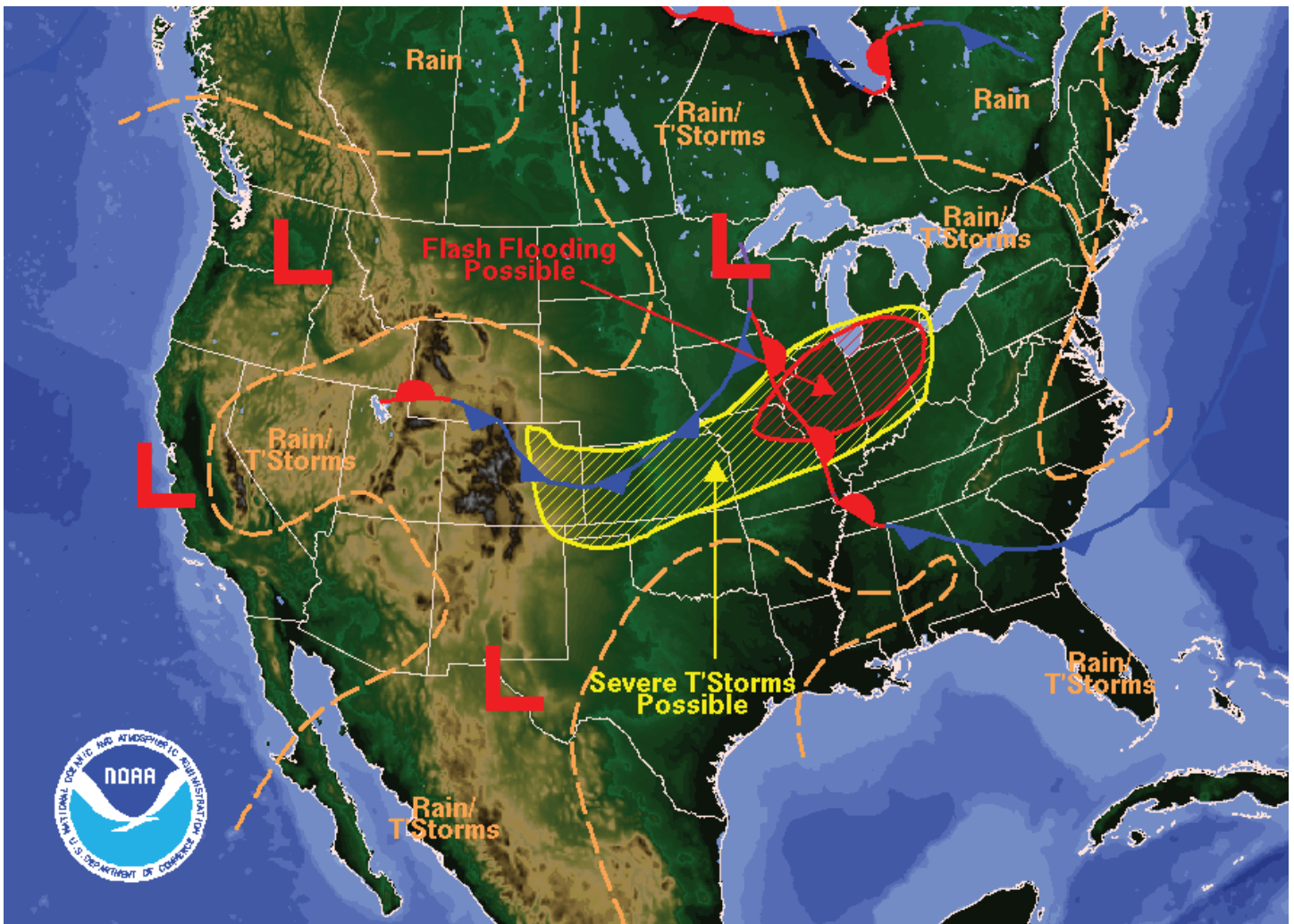
Precip to date in June: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 7.95

Precip Year to Date: 5.72

Sunset Tonight: 9:19 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:45 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sun, Jun 07, 2015, issued 4:31 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Fanning based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



DON'T BLAME US!

Over much opposition from members of the community a man opened a large night club. One of the local churches came to the logical conclusion that the most important responsibility they had in the matter was to ask God to intervene and close the club. They called an all-night prayer meeting and asked God to honor their request.

During the prayer meeting, lightning struck the club and it burned to the ground. The club owner, learning of the church's prayer meeting, became angry and sued the church. In the response to the law suit, the church denied all responsibility.

After hearing the case, the judge said, "Wherever the guilt may lie, the night club owner believes in prayer but the church, obviously, does not."

What at first may appear to be humorous may be an indictment on our faith and trust in the power of God. In His teaching on prayer, Jesus said, to ask Him for "anything" and "everything" – two all-inclusive words that when taken literally and seriously, give us the right and responsibility to ask for "whatever" is within the will of God.

Could it be that we do not believe that God can and will answer our prayers? Do we really believe that God is listening and is willing and is able to respond if we truly believe?

Prayer: Dear Jesus, You clearly and convincingly said that "everything is possible with God" if only we believe! In Your name, please remove any and all of our doubts. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Mark 10:27 But Jesus looked at them and said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible."

Family pitches in for South Dakota guardsman's small farm

JANELLE ATYEO, Tri-State Neighbor

This is an AP Member Exchange shared by the Tri-State Neighbor

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Ryan Sullivan is a member of the South Dakota Air National Guard in Sioux Falls. When he's not deployed with his unit, the Mitchell-native is working to build his small-scale farm in eastern Wisconsin.

The business has become a family endeavor and a way of life.

Having put in 19 years in the military, Sullivan's family knows what it is to pitch in when a soldier is away. His wife, Jackie, helps around the farm when he is with his Guard unit for a few weeks each summer and for about a month in the winter.

Sullivan, 38, spent four years in active duty and was stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base. He's done three tours in Iraq - the first started six days after he got married.

"It was right into the fire for Jackie being a military spouse," Sullivan said.

He joined the South Dakota Air National Guard in 2004 and has been in the active reserves ever since.

"We made a big change when we moved here and bought the farm," Sullivan said over the phone from Wisconsin. He plans to stay in the Guard for another few years.

The Sullivans have a daughter, Alaina, who will be 5 in August, and a son, Bennett, who is almost 3. His wife is a physical therapist, but the farm is a full-time job for him.

Sullivan talked about how important it is for his family to be behind the farming operation, the Tri-State Neighbor (<http://bit.ly/1KEJQSk>) reported.

"It really has to shift to being a way of life," he said. "It's too much time and effort not to be a part of family life."

That holistic approach to farm life was something Sullivan learned through a training program called Farm Beginnings. The 10-session program put on by Dakota Rural Action is meant to prepare those interested in farming for a new business venture.

Dakota Rural Action program administrator Eowyn Corral said the idea is that people leave the course with more than just the hope of taking up farming. They walk away with a business plan, having discussed how important it is to make business decisions with the entire family in mind because it all has to do with quality of life.

Most people who go through the Farm Beginnings course aim to make a living on 200 acres or less. Some plan to keep things smaller, raising food on 10 acres or less.

"The idea is that you don't need a ton of capital or land or equipment to get into true food production farming," Corral said.

Just starting his farm, Sullivan already is finding out how much work farming can be - even when it's on a small scale.

"It's always a challenge to build things but keep it simple," he said.

A year and a half ago, he and his wife bought five acres north of Manitowoc, Wisconsin. The place used to be a small dairy, but it had gone bankrupt. The size was right for the Sullivans, though, and it was near his wife's parents.

Neither she nor her husband grew up on a farm. Sullivan was raised outside of Mitchell. They got interested in farming, he said, after watching food documentaries and learning about "all the things you

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can't pronounce" that are in processed foods today.

They were living in Sioux Falls at the time and decided they wanted to garden and raise chickens. Then they heard about the Farm Beginnings program that was being offered on the eastern side of the state that year. "We knew that we wanted to get into this," Sullivan said.

Most of the sessions in the Farm Beginnings course are taught by farmers themselves. Sullivan said it was helpful to hear from people who are farming day to day.

Most helpful, he said, was how they prepare a person to think about things from a business aspect. "You have to turn some sort of a profit to be sustainable," he said. "Otherwise, it's just an expensive hobby."

Now the Sullivans are in their second year of raising meat rabbits, meat birds and egg layers in addition to growing vegetables.

Dakota Rural Action organizes the Farm Beginnings course each year. The latest course, which started last fall in Rapid City, is just wrapping up. Participants are getting hands-on experience with a three-month session on a farm that matches their interests.

The program is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program. Dakota Rural Action is in the process of renewing grant funding, but Corral said the plan is to offer Farm Beginnings this fall, returning to the eastern side of the state.

Sullivan was one of the first veterans to participate in Farm Beginnings. Since then, the Farmer Veteran Coalition has joined Dakota Rural Action to support veterans such as Sullivan who want to transition to a career in agriculture by providing scholarships. At least seven veterans have gone through the program so far.

Sullivan is finding support in other programs offered through the Farmer Veteran Coalition. The nationwide coalition aims to connect veterans and careers in agriculture. In its mission, the coalition supports the idea that producing food offers veterans opportunities and a sense of purpose, as well as physical and psychological benefits.

Through the coalition, Sullivan applied for a fellowship grant that will help him buy poultry processing equipment, "which will be a huge, huge improvement for us," he said.

There is a lot to do around the Sullivan farm. He has been upgrading the fence so they soon can start raising grass-fed lambs. They started small with animals that weren't a huge investment and gave a quick return, and now they're ready to deal with bigger animals.

The Sullivans also grow vegetables, and they've started an orchard of fruit and nut trees. They started putting up a 20-foot-by-24-foot hoop house last year, and they're adding a 30-foot-by-48-foot house this season. Those will extend the growing season for the 11 raised beds, which measure 16 feet by 4 feet.

All the work is worth it to Sullivan. "I love it," he said. "I knew what I was getting into. The reality hits you that it's not an eight-hour-a-day job."

The Sullivans are looking forward to growing their business with a farmers market that's just a half-mile from their farm, in Francis Creek, Wisconsin. The town of about 700 people started a farmers market just last month, while Manitowoc has a well-established market.

Sullivan said he is content to start small and watch his career and his family grow along with their farm.

Heavy rains in western SD create flash floods in Hill City

HILL CITY, S.D. (AP) — Heavy rains in western South Dakota have caused flash flooding around the Hill City area of the Black Hills.

Pennington County Emergency Management officials say Palmer Gulch Road in Hill City is no longer passable.

Officials are asking drivers to take alternate routes as the storm has backed up traffic in the area and say more roads could be affected as storm water travels downstream.

Safety authorities say drivers should never go through water if they don't know how deep it is. A car can be swept away by flowing water only a foot or two deep.

AP News in Brief

Repairing US-German relations on tap as Obama attends meeting of world's leading nations

KRUEN, Germany (AP) — Slugging back beer and sausages, President Barack Obama celebrated decades of U.S. friendship with Germany over recent challenges and said the country "is proof that conflicts can end and great progress is possible."

Obama kicked off an overnight visit for the Group of Seven summit of world leaders by focusing on mending relations with host Germany, with a visit to this picturesque Alpine village with Chancellor Angela Merkel.

"This morning as we celebrate one of the strongest alliances the world has ever known my message to the German people is simple: We are grateful for your friendship, for your leadership. We stand together as inseparable allies in Europe and around the world," Obama said.

Residents of the village of 2,000 filled the town square wearing traditional Bavarian dress: wool hats decorated with feathers and goat hair plumes, women in dirndls and men in lederhosen. Well before noon they gathered at long tables covered in blue gingham tablecloths, drinking beer in what looked more like a biergarten than the setting for a presidential address.

After his remarks, Obama and Merkel joined one of the tables, toasting tall beer steins, eating pretzels and sausage. The leaders planned to meet privately afterward at the nearby site of the two-day summit of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations to coordinate their agenda before joining their counterparts from Britain, France, Italy, Canada and Japan.

THE LATEST: Obama praises Merkel's leadership before G-7 summit; EU, Russia, climate on agenda

KRUEN, Germany (AP) — ____

11.45 a.m. (0940 GMT, 5:40 a.m. EDT)

President Barack Obama is calling the current partnership between the U.S. and Germany "one of the strongest alliances the world has ever known."

Obama opened his German visit Sunday by appearing in the picturesque Alpine village of Kruen with Chancellor Angela Merkel. Obama is closer to Merkel than most heads of state although their relationship was tested over the past two years following revelations that the National Security Agency had tapped her cellphone.

Obama says leaders will discuss the global economy, European Union, trade, Russian-Ukraine, violent extremism and climate change.

American Pharoah proves it's not impossible to win Triple Crown

NEW YORK (AP) — American Pharoah proved it's not impossible to win the Triple Crown.

Sure, 37 years had passed since Affirmed swept the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont Stakes. And lots of people didn't dare get their hopes up for another Triple Crown winner after 13 other horses since then had their tries go awry at Belmont Park.

Some observers even suggested the Triple Crown was too tough and changes were needed to make the series easier.

American Pharoah proved everyone wrong.

He cruised to a 5 ½-length victory Saturday, leading all the way in a grueling race in which his rivals never threatened. The bay colt with the unusually short tail and misspelled name — it should be pharaoh — made one of sports' rarest feats look easy in front of a delirious sellout crowd of 90,000.

Turks head to the polls for parliamentary election; shape of Turkish democracy at stake

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Turkey was holding a crucial parliamentary election Sunday that will determine whether ruling party lawmakers can rewrite the constitution to bolster the powers of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Erdogan himself was not on the ballot. Still, the election is effectively a referendum on whether to endow his office with extraordinary powers that would significantly change Turkish democracy and prolong his reign as the country's most powerful politician.

Erdogan's ruling Justice and Development Party, the AKP, is expected to win significantly more votes than any opposition party but it must win a supermajority of the 550 seats in parliament to change the constitution.

All eyes will be on the results for the main Kurdish party, HDP. If it crosses a 10 percent threshold for entering parliament as a party, that would extinguish AKP's constitutional plans.

The vote comes amid high tensions following bombings Friday during a HDP rally that killed 2 people and injured scores. On Sunday, Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said a suspect had been detained in the case, but provided no other details.

China's focus turns on sleepy town of Jianli amid fevered response to cruise ship disaster

JIANLI, China (AP) — An influx of rescue workers, journalists and victims' relatives is putting the sleepy town of Jianli on the map in a way that lifelong resident Tao Gengsheng never thought he'd see.

As the closest town to the site of last week's Yangtze River cruise ship disaster, Jianli is the staging area for what began as a rescue effort and has now shifted to identifying the remains of more than 450 people aboard the Eastern Star, which capsized in a freak tornado. Just 14 people survived China's worst maritime disaster in nearly seven decades.

"I've never seen so much activity. And I've never seen so many foreigners," Tao tells an American journalist standing beside his cart laden with bananas, apples and melons.

Signs of the influx of aid are evident in the dozens of army trucks lined up along the embankment and the convoys heading to the riverbank where the bodies of those caught inside the four-deck vessel were being offloaded on Saturday. Individuals and groups looking to help, part of a wave of disaster

volunteering that has arisen in recent years, have also flocked in to offer their services.

With a population of 1.5 million in the town and surrounding county, Jianli is fairly typical of China's fast-developing rural areas. Cars, buses, scooters and electric bicycles cruise slowly down the wide streets of the new town, honking at anything that moves. In the narrower lanes of the old town, recorded advertisements blare from shops selling off-brand clothing and electronics, while the musical styles of the many patrons of restaurant and guesthouse karaoke parlors assault the ears of passers-by.

Hundreds of law enforcement officers search for 2 convicted murderers who escaped NY prison

DANNEMORA, N.Y. (AP) — Hundreds of local, state and federal law enforcement officers spent the night searching for two convicted murderers who used power tools to cut through steam pipes and escaped from a maximum-security New York state prison through a manhole cover blocks away.

The U.S. Marshals Service and FBI had joined the hunt for Richard Matt and David Sweat who were discovered missing from their beds — which were filled with clothes to appear as though they were sleeping — in their cells at about 5:30 a.m. Saturday morning in the Clinton Correctional Facility.

Roadblocks were set up in the area, which is about 20 miles from the Canadian border, and bloodhounds and helicopters were being used to track down the men, officials said.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo called their escape as "an elaborate plot," and described the two as extremely dangerous. He asked the public to notify the police should they encounter the men.

"It's very important that we locate these individuals," he said. "They are dangerous and we want to make sure they don't inflict any more pain and any more harm on New Yorkers."

Beijing struggles to control smog even as it reins in trucks, coal-fired plants, barbecues

BEIJING (AP) — When Dong Yingli first opened her east Beijing meat skewers restaurant six years ago, her chefs cooked the lamb, chicken hearts and assorted treats over an uncovered grill, with giant fans blowing the clouds of pungent smoke from the sidewalk into the middle of the street.

Elsewhere in this sprawling capital city, four coal-fired power plants belched exhaust into the smoggy skies, while countless steel and cement factories in neighboring provinces emitted millions of tons of cancer-causing particles into the air.

Now, more than a year since Chinese Premier Li Keqiang declared war on pollution across the country, Beijing's massive anti-smog fight is transforming this 20-million-person metropolis in ways both big and small. Still, as was evident on several days over the past week, when a thick gray pall filled the streets, the Chinese smog battle is far from won.

Authorities in Beijing are shutting down coal-fired power plants within the city limits and have tried to reduce vehicle exhaust by forcing many residents to wait years to win a license plate. The capital last Monday launched the country's strictest ban on smoking indoors. Officials have even tried to convince people to cut back on the centuries-old tradition of setting off fireworks during Chinese New Year, though booms and crackles still rang out across the city in February.

In the predominantly Muslim neighborhood where Dong runs her restaurant, inspectors have become a regular sight as they make sure vendors have installed thousands of dollars' worth of ventilation and filters. Though Dong doesn't think her business had much to do with the state of Beijing's air, she says the extra enforcement in general has made breathing easier.

Thailand tries to boost image on human trafficking amid doubts it is serious about solutions

BANGKOK (AP) — Thailand is eager to show its newfound toughness on human trafficking, taking reporters on patrols and tours of former camps, cooperating with neighboring countries and the U.S., and arresting dozens of officials — including a high-ranking officer in the military that now controls the country. The junta even had a “National Anti-Human Trafficking Day.”

The Southeast Asian country is trying to dissuade Western governments from leveling economic sanctions, but it has a daunting enemy: history.

“Thailand remains major center for human trafficking.” Those words were emblazoned on a huge headline in a Thai daily newspaper printed nearly three years ago. The country’s answer was largely to ignore the problem, until recent events made that impossible.

The discovery of 36 bodies at abandoned traffickers’ camps near Thailand’s southern border with Malaysia has intensified international pressure on Thailand to crack down on smugglers. So has a subsequent crisis involving thousands of migrants who were stranded at sea by their traffickers — and whose boats were pushed back by Thai officials. Those migrants, mainly Bangladeshis and ethnic Rohingya migrants from Myanmar, are just part of a human-trafficking problem that also includes Thai fishing boats that have used slave labor.

Last June, Thailand and Malaysia were put on a blacklist in a U.S. State Department assessment on human trafficking, a downgrade that can jeopardize its lucrative seafood and shrimp industries. The European Union also threatened Thailand with a ban on seafood import by the end of the year unless it drastically changes its policies on illegal and unregulated fishing.

American sets out on 6,000-mile Pacific crossing; hopes to become 1st woman to row solo

CHOSHI, Japan (AP) — The best part of being on the ocean for weeks at a time, says Sonya Baumstein, is the stars. The worst? Being wet, all the time.

Baumstein, an athlete from Orlando, Florida, had been waiting for weeks to set out in her custom-designed rowboat from Choshi, a port east of Tokyo, headed for San Francisco. She finally departed on Sunday, and hopes to finish the 6,000-mile (9,600-kilometer) journey by late September and become the first woman to row solo across the Pacific.

Only three other rowboats have made the journey and no woman has ever done the journey alone.

Having already rowed the Atlantic to the Caribbean, the 29-year-old has a pretty clear idea of what all those weeks at sea will be like.

“The stars are incredible. They’re my favorite thing,” she said in an interview by Skype from her boat before her departure.

Goalie shuffle is aces: Tampa Bay uses 2 goalies in 3rd, still beats Chicago 4-3 in Game 2

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Andrei Vasilevskiy had no warning before Ben Bishop skated over to the Tampa Bay bench and went up the tunnel. Just like that, a 20-year-old Russian rookie was playing goalie for the Lightning in the third period of a tied Stanley Cup Final game.

Vasilevskiy barely had time to feel any nerves before the Lightning scored. Bishop returned — and then left again, apparently struggling with an undisclosed injury.

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But with his Tampa Bay teammates playing ferociously in front of him, Vasilevskiy had nothing to fear as the Lightning tied the series.

Jason Garrison scored the tiebreaking power-play goal with 11:11 to play, Vasilevskiy made five saves in a strange 9:13 of relief work, and the Lightning beat the Chicago Blackhawks 4-3 in Game 2 on Saturday night to even the series.

"Nervous? Just maybe a little bit," Vasilevskiy said. "But after the first couple shots, I feel myself better. Every game I'm ready, and I keep my head ready for the game, and that's it. ... First time, maybe more nervous. But second time, just play and that's it."

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, June 7, the 158th day of 2015. There are 207 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 7, 1965, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, recognized a constitutional right to privacy as it struck down, 7-2, a Connecticut law used to prosecute a Planned Parenthood clinic in New Haven for providing contraceptives to married couples.

On this date:

In 1769, frontiersman Daniel Boone first began to explore present-day Kentucky.

In 1892, Homer Plessy, a "Creole of color," was fined for refusing to leave a whites-only car of the East Louisiana Railroad. (Ruling on his case, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld "separate but equal" racial segregation, a concept it renounced in 1954.)

In 1929, the sovereign state of Vatican City came into existence as copies of the Lateran Treaty were exchanged in Rome.

In 1939, King George VI and his wife, Queen Elizabeth, arrived at Niagara Falls, New York, from Canada on the first visit to the United States by a reigning British monarch.

In 1942, the World War II Battle of Midway ended in a decisive victory for American forces over the Imperial Japanese.

In 1954, British mathematician, computer pioneer and code breaker Alan Turing died at age 41, an apparent suicide. (Turing, convicted in 1952 of "gross indecency" for a homosexual relationship, was posthumously pardoned in 2013.)

In 1955, the quiz show "The \$64,000 Question" premiered on CBS-TV.

In 1965, actress-comedian Judy Holliday, 43, died in New York.

In 1972, the musical "Grease" opened on Broadway, having already been performed in lower Manhattan.

In 1981, Israeli military planes destroyed a nuclear power plant in Iraq, a facility the Israelis charged could have been used to make nuclear weapons.

In 1985, the adventure comedy "The Goonies" was released by Warner Bros.

In 1998, in a crime that shocked the nation, James Byrd Jr., a 49-year-old black man, was hooked by a chain to a pickup truck and dragged to his death in Jasper, Texas. (Two white men were later sentenced to death; one of them, Lawrence Russell Brewer, was executed in 2011. A third defendant received life with the possibility of parole.)

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, meeting at the White House, embraced a tentative plan to forgive the debt of poor African nations. General Motors chairman

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Rick Wagoner announced plans to close plants and eliminate 25,000 manufacturing jobs in the United States by 2008.

Five years ago: U.S. defense officials announced that Army Spc. Bradley Manning had been detained in Baghdad in connection with a video posted on WikiLeaks showing Apache helicopters gunning down unarmed men in Iraq. Veteran White House correspondent Helen Thomas, 89, abruptly retired after calling for Israelis to get "out of Palestine" in an online video. An Indian court convicted seven former employees of Union Carbide's India subsidiary of "death by negligence" for their roles in the 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy.

One year ago: Actor-comedian Tracy Morgan was critically injured after a Wal-Mart tractor-trailer rammed into his chauffeured limousine bus on the New Jersey Turnpike, setting off a chain-reaction crash that killed fellow comedian James "Jimmy Mack" McNair. Ukraine's new president, Petro Poroshenko, took the oath of office, calling for pro-Russian rebels in the country's east to lay down their arms. Maria Sharapova won her second French Open title in three years, beating fourth-seeded Simona Halep 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-4 in the final. California Chrome failed in his bid to win the first Triple Crown in 36 years, losing the Belmont Stakes by coming in fourth to long shot Tonalist.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director James Ivory is 87. Former Canadian Prime Minister John Turner is 86. Actress Virginia McKenna is 84. Singer Tom Jones is 75. Poet Nikki Giovanni is 72. Actor Ken Osmond (TV: "Leave It to Beaver") is 72. Former talk show host Jenny Jones is 69. Actress Anne Twomey is 64. Actor Liam Neeson is 63. Actress Colleen Camp is 62. Singer-songwriter Johnny Clegg is 62. Author Louise Erdrich (UR'-drihk) is 61. Actor William Forsythe is 60. Record producer L.A. Reid is 59. Latin pop singer Juan Luis Guerra is 58. Singer-songwriter Prince is 57. Rock singer-musician Gordon Gano (The Violent Femmes) is 52. Rapper Ecstasy (Whodini) is 51. Rock musician Eric Kretz (Stone Temple Pilots) is 49. Rock musician Dave Navarro is 48. Actress Helen Baxendale is 45. Actor Karl Urban is 43. TV personality Bear Grylls is 41. Rock musician Eric Johnson (The Shins) is 39. Actress Adrienne Frantz is 37. Actor-comedian Bill Hader is 37. Actress Anna Torv is 36. Actress Larisa Oleynik (oh-LAY'-nihk) is 34. Tennis player Anna Kournikova is 34. Actor Michael Cera is 27. Actress Shelley Buckner is 26. Rapper Iggy Azalea is 25.

Thought for Today: "That would be a good thing for them to cut on my tombstone: 'Wherever she went, including here, it was against her better judgment.'" - Dorothy Parker, American writer (born 1893, died this date in 1967).