

Groton Daily Independent

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Thursday, June 11

Anniversary: Wayne & Patty Hein

Birthdays: Charles Westby, Lila Dirksen

Senior Menu: Turkey chow mein, rice chow mein noodles, broccoli, breadsticks, sour cream apple pie square.

Friday, June 12

Anniversaries: Brad & Kay Ruden, Dale & Marge Washnok.

Birthdays: Sandi Sippel.

Senior Menu: Baked fish, au gratin potatoes, 3-bean salad, peach cobbler, whole wheat bread.

Saturday, June 13

Birthdays: Roger Rix, Cheryl Krueger, Hunter Schaller, Andrew Wanner.

10:00 a.m. to Noon: Ogdahl bridal shower at Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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.

Hoops Reunion

The John and Mary Hoops family reunion will be held on June 28th at the Groton Community Center. The pot-luck dinner is at 12:30, with chicken and drinks being provided.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

CLOSED: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

Mark Malmberg, DDS
19 North 6th St.

Oakes, N.D.
701-742-3401



Most school districts want statewide transgender policy

By Dana Hess

For S.D. Newspaper Association

PIERRE, S.D. — A survey of member schools shows that the majority of them want the South Dakota Activities High School Association to develop a policy that they can all use when considering the eligibility of transgender students to play high school sports.

"They want a consistent policy," said SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director James Weaver.

Asked if their school saw a need for a statewide SDHSAA transgender policy, 78 percent of those who responded said yes or yes to some degree.

A resounding 94 percent said no or no to some degree when asked if it should be left to each individual school district to develop its own policy.

Fifty-nine percent of responding schools said no or no to some degree when asked if the Legislature should develop a policy for transgender eligibility.

During a discussion of a revised transgender policy at the SDHSAA June board meeting, executive director Wayne Carney noted the results of the survey.

"The survey said that very clearly: 'We don't want 150 different policies,'" Carney said. "They want one."

—30—

State athletic tournaments a no-fly zone for drones

By Dana Hess

For S.D. Newspaper Association

PIERRE, S.D. — If you're going to a South Dakota High School Activities Association-sanctioned state tournament, leave your drone at home.

At its June meeting, the SDHSAA board of directors passed the first reading of a policy prohibiting unmanned aerial vehicles, commonly known as drones, from flying at any association-sanctioned state tournament.

"At state events we are not going to allow them," said SDHSAA Executive Director Wayne Carney. "If you want to use it at your own event, that's fine."

Information provided to the board questioned the legality of the use of drones under Federal Aviation Administration rules as well as privacy issues and liability issues in case of an injury.

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The policy states that at state tournaments drones will be banned from flying over all fields of play, courts, arena, mats, gym floor or pool as well as spectator and parking areas.

An exception to the policy can be made for the association's broadcast partners.

—30—

Activities association board gets new leaders, members

By Dana Hess

For S.D. Newspaper Association

PIERRE, S.D. — Jason Uttermark of Aberdeen is the new leader of the board of directors of the South Dakota High School Activities Association. The new vice chairman is Steve Morford of Spearfish.

Uttermark, who was vice chairman, replaces Rick Weber of Flandreau whose term on the board is up.

Member schools are currently holding a run-off election for two seats on the board. The two top vote getters in a five-candidate field for school board member representative from a small school were David Planteen of Langford and Bryan Skinner of West Central. The winner will replace Todd Trask of Wall.

Also in a run-off election are Moe Ruesink of Sioux Valley and Mike Schmidt of Wilmot for East River at-large board member. The winner will replace Weber.

Already elected to the board was Bud Postma of Madison. He will fill the unexpired term of Dan Whalen of Pierre who resigned from the school district. The winners of the other two races will serve five-year terms.

Ballots for the run-off election are due from member schools by July 9. New members will join the board at its August meeting.

Member schools also passed a constitutional amendment on a 128 to 27 vote that ensures that either Sioux Falls or Rapid City will be represented on the board.

SDHSAA Executive Director Wayne Carney said the new position would start out going to a superintendent from one of the state's two largest school districts. That may be problematic as Rapid City Superintendent Tim Mitchell is retiring after the 2015-16 school year and Sioux Falls Superintendent Brian Maher is a recent hire and won't start his job until July 1.

Carney said at the board's August meeting someone from the Rapid City School District will nominate Maher for the position. He said Maher has served on Nebraska's activities association board.

If he can accept the position on the board, Maher would be seated at the November board meeting.

Activities group seeks to revamp transgender policy

By Dana Hess

For S.D. Newspaper Association

PIERRE, S.D. — The South Dakota High School Activities Association's transgender policy is going through more changes than Bruce Jenner.

At its June meeting, the association board of directors considered a revised policy designed to address concerns expressed during the last legislative session.

"We really kind of focused on what we heard from the Legislature," said SDHSAA Executive Director Wayne Carney.

During the legislative session the association's policy governing the eligibility of transgender students to take part in high school sports and activities was targeted by conservative lawmakers. Attempts to pass state laws superseding the association policy were unsuccessful.

The current policy allows students who self-identify as belonging to the opposite sex to compete with that sex if certain criteria are met.

SDHSAA legal counsel Lindsey Riter-Rapp said lawmakers questioned the credentials of the Gender Identification Eligibility Committee that would be used in the current policy. The committee is to include a physician familiar with gender identity health care, a mental health professional and an advocate familiar with gender identity issues and expression issues.

Some lawmakers believed "there may be some bias in their perspective," Riter-Rapp said.

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In the revised policy, the eligibility committee has been replaced by an independent hearing officer. Carney said a former judge has agreed to serve in that capacity.

The revised policy states that once a school has forwarded the proper documentation about a transgender student's request to compete, the hearing officer would review that information as well as communicate with experts, review laws, communicate with the Department of Education and the Office for Civil Rights and review other information.

The hearing officer's decision would be passed on to the SDHSAA board of directors, which would make the final decision. Board members asked that the policy be changed to follow current eligibility proceedings with a decision by the executive director and the board hearing any appeal.

This was not the first choice of Carney who clearly didn't want to have the final say on transgender matters.

"This is very unique," Carney said, "This is way out of my realm."

During the discussion, board members also asked Riter-Rapp to include a more thorough explanation of the hearing officer's qualifications.

Board member Sandy Klatt questioned the perception of bias on the part of the association if it was picking the hearing officer.

Carney said the SDHSAA staff hear comments about bias all the time, particularly in dealing with the selection of officials for state tournaments.

"We hear the bias card a lot," Carney said. "Somebody has to name that person. It has to start somewhere."

The activities association isn't the only education group struggling with transgender issues. Wade Pogany, executive director of the Associated School Boards of South Dakota, told the board that his group will likely issue a position paper about how to work with schools on this issue.

"The issue comes down to privacy issues" like setting policies for the use of restrooms and locker rooms, Pogany said.

The SDHSAA policy addresses student eligibility and Pogany agreed that it would be best to let each individual school work on its own privacy issues.

"Let the schools decide how they're going to make those accommodations," Pogany said.

Throughout the discussion, SDHSAA board members expressed their frustration with the transgender

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policy.

Board member Dan Whalen said he understood the need to have a policy since case law is trending toward giving transgender students a protected status.

"This legal ship has sailed," Whalen said. "I just hope the name of the ship is not Titanic."

Whalen said he was concerned about safety issues if a male student who identifies as a female were to compete against female students.

"It becomes a physical issue there," Whalen said, noting that in football practice coaches are already advised not to line a 140-pound freshman up against a 225-pound senior. He said it would be dangerous for a 150-pound female to play against a 150-pound male.

The revised policy does mention that transgender students would not be allowed to compete if their participation would provide them with a competitive advantage.

Riter-Rapp said safety issues were discussed in the writing of the revised policy.

"It was very hard to come up with language that addressed that," Riter-Rapp said. "It's just hard to define."

At one point, Klatt suggested scrapping the current policy and taking a look at the revised policy at the next meeting.

Noting the heat that the board has taken from the Legislature, Klatt said, "I think we need to get rid of what we have."

Board member Todd Trask agreed: "I think we need to start over and get it right."

Aberdeen Central Athletic Director Gene Brownell cautioned against getting rid of the current policy,

saying that he knows there are transgender students enrolled in his school district and he needs a policy in place if any of them want to participate in sports.

"We may have to apply this policy in August," Brownell said, "if they're coming out for a sport in the fall."

The current policy will remain in place and Riter-Rapp was directed to continue with her revisions of the new policy and present them at the board's August meeting.

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Today in Weather History

June 11, 1982: Golf ball size hail fell in Hayti, in Hamlin County, creating three foot drifts of hail.

June 11, 1990: Hail, up to golf ball size, cut a swath 1.5 miles wide and 50 miles in length from the Missouri River east to the Hyde County line. Thunderstorm winds destroyed a granary roof and downed numerous trees. Damage from large hail was considerable to crops with complete fields being wiped out. The County Agent placed crop damage estimates at 1.8 million dollars in Sully County. Hail also produced window damage to cars and homes.

June 11, 2008: A strong inflow of moist and unstable air into and over a surface warm front resulted in training thunderstorms and very heavy rain across parts of northeast South Dakota. Rainfall amounts of 2 to 6 inches occurred across much of the area resulting in widespread flash flooding. Many roads, bridges, and cropland were damaged by the flooding. In Milbank, many basements were flooded and/or received sewer backup.








June 11, 2010: Thunderstorms produced damaging winds over a large part of southeast South Dakota beginning just before midnight on June 10th, and continuing well into the predawn hours of June 11th. The storms also produced very heavy rain, which caused flash flooding at several locations. Heavy rainfall of at least 3 inches caused Enemy Creek to overflow and flood nearby roads. The rainfall also caused flooding of roads and basements in Mitchell. A motorcycle business was flooded, resulting in damage to merchandise, although little damage to the motorcycles was reported. Thunderstorm winds caused widespread damage in the Sioux Falls area. Wood and siding were blown off a new house and a nearby fence was blown over. The winds caused tree damage, including 2 to 3 foot diameter trees blown down. Debris from the tree damage blocked several roads. Garages were blown off three homes which were next to each other, and other nearby homes suffered significant damage in an area on West Eli Court which was subjected to the strongest winds, estimated at 100 mph. Windows were blown out in several of these homes, and a large camper was overturned in the same area. A wind gust of 74 mph was measured elsewhere in the city. The winds blew down out power lines in parts of the city. Heavy rain caused flash flooding of several streets in the southern part of Sioux Falls, with water up to two feet deep. Basement flooding was also reported.


1842: A late season snowstorm struck New England. Snow fell during the morning and early afternoon, accumulating to a depth of ten to twelve inches at Irasburg, Vermont. Berlin, New Hampshire was blanketed with eleven inches of snow during the day. Snow whitened the higher peaks of the Appalachians as far south as Maryland. The latest date for the occurrence of a general snowstorm in our period over northern New England and northern New York came in 1842 on the morning of 11 June. Zadock Thompson, professor of natural history and the Queen City's longtime weatherman, commented: "Snow during the forenoon's boards whitened and the mountains as white as in winter."

1990: One of the most costly hailstorms in U.S. history occurred as \$625 million dollars of damage was caused along the Colorado Front Range from Colorado Springs to Estes Park. Golf to baseball sized hail fell along with heavy rain. 60 people were injured in the storm.


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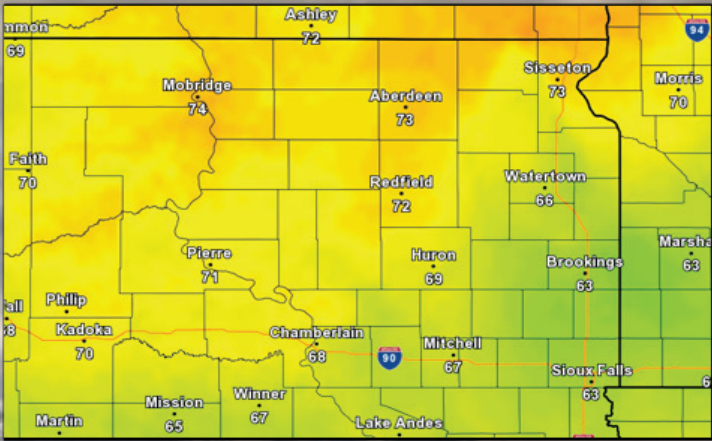
Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
						
40%						30%
Chance Showers	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Chance Thunderstorms
High: 74 °F	Low: 51 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 54 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 79 °F




Showers Mainly this Morning Dry Conditions Tonight / Friday



Highs Today




Friday




Highs:
Mid 70s
Low 80s

Saturday





Highs:
Upper 70s
Low 80s

Sunday



Highs:
Upper 70s
Low 80s

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

weather.gov/Aberdeen
 National Weather Service Aberdeen
  @NWSAberdeen
 Updated: 6/11/2015 5:30 AM Central

Published on: 06/11/2015 at 5:32AM

Scattered showers, along with a few thunderstorms are expected today. Most locations will see dry conditions by this afternoon.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 76.1 at 12:58 PM

Low: 58.8 at 6:19 AM

High Gust: 16 at 1:00 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 98° in 1956

Record Low: 31° in 1938

Average High: 76°F

Average Low: 53°F

Average Precip in June: 1.30

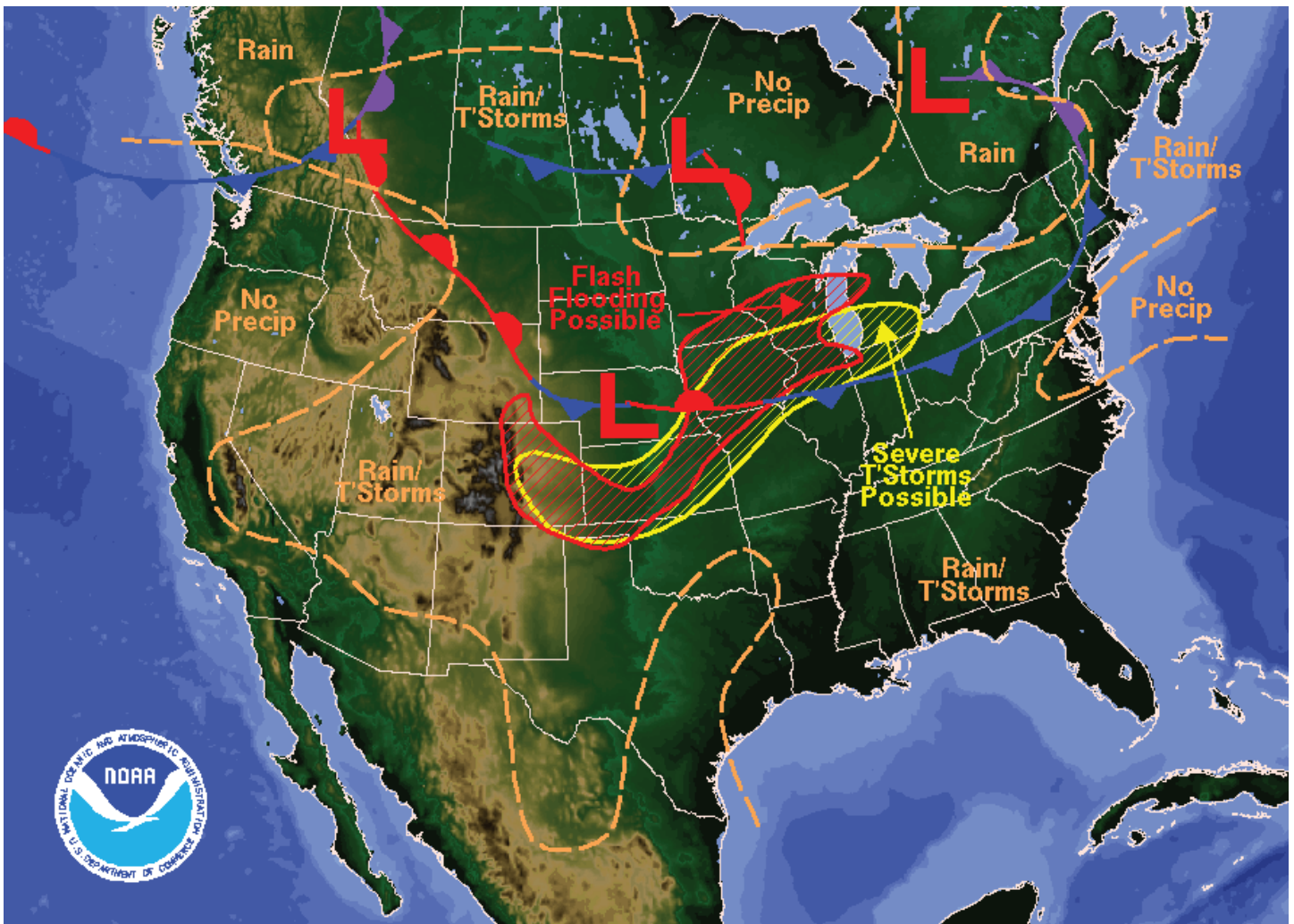
Precip to date in June: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 8.44

Precip Year to Date: 5.72

Sunset Tonight: 9:21 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:44 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Thu, Jun 11, 2015, issued 3:42 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



GOD'S OUT TO GET YOU!

In one of their cartoons Hobbes and Calvin were having a serious discussion. Said Hobbes, "Is there a God?"

"Well," answered Calvin, "I'm not sure. But someone's out there trying to get me!"

He was absolutely right. God is out there and He is trying to get everyone!

Jesus said, "I came to seek and to save the lost!" He initially made this statement in His meeting with Zacchaeus. And if you recall, as a tax collector, he was in one of the most unpopular professions of his day. But it didn't matter to Jesus: He was always seeking to save the lost. This was His message and His mission. Zacchaeus was just as valuable to God as anyone and everyone else. In fact, Jesus was out to "get him."

No matter who we are or what we have done or are doing, Jesus wants us for His own. It is not what we know or who we know that will save us. Remember – Zacchaeus was a son of Abraham, the religious elite. But that could not save him. It was his faith in the Savior. Only our personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ can save us from our sin.

We must never forget that God is "out to get" everyone to know, love and accept His Son as their Savior. And, how can He do this? By abiding in us, being with us and working through us.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank You for our salvation and the opportunity to work with You to reach others. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Luke 19:10 for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

News from the Associated Press

Delmont mayor says many will leave town due to tornado

DELMONT, S.D. (AP) — Some residents of tornado-ravaged Delmont don't plan to return.

About 200 people live in the town, and Mayor Mae Gunnare tells KELO-TV that as many as half will leave. She says that will reduce local tax revenue, and the community will be looking for ways to bring in new residents.

The May 10 tornado damaged or destroyed 84 structures in and around Delmont and injured nine people. The twister was rated an EF-2, with a peak wind speed of 130 mph.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency last week denied a state request for federal aid for people and businesses because the damage didn't meet the necessary threshold.

U.S. Sen. John Thune tells the Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan there might still be federal resources available, such as low-interest disaster loans.

Groups in SD receive \$144,000 to be more energy efficient

HURON, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is awarding \$144,000 to farmers, ranchers and small business owners in South Dakota to help them be more energy efficient.

The funding for the 14 projects in South Dakota was announced alongside a total of \$7.6 million for 544 projects nationwide.

Many groups in South Dakota will use the grants to replace their lighting systems with energy efficient LED lights, like KC Dairies in Elkton. The dairy is receiving more than \$10,500 to replace the lights in its dairy barn, which is expected to reduce energy consumption by 78 percent.

Funding is also going to companies like Kan-Meyer, Inc., a Sturgis-based business that will use more than \$19,500 to replace lighting and coolers in its Grocery Mart store and reduce consumption by over 78 percent.

Professional rodeo set at Crazy Horse Memorial in western SD

CRAZY HORSE MEMORIAL, S.D. (AP) — Crazy Horse Memorial will serve as the backdrop to a number of professional rodeo events this month.

The three-day Crazy Horse Memorial Stampede Rodeo and Gift from Mother Earth Art Show is scheduled to begin June 19 with an event sanctioned by the Great Plains Indian Rodeo Association.

The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association and the Women's Professional Rodeo Association will also sanction events that weekend.

The memorial is a mountain carving in progress that will honor Oglala Lakota warrior Crazy Horse. Work on the mammoth mountain carving in South Dakota's Black Hills has been going on since 1948.

When completed, the carving about 10 miles southwest of Mount Rushmore, will be 641 feet long and 563 feet high.

Regents approve natural resources law enforcement program

MADISON, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Board of Regents has approved a program at South Dakota State University to prepare future natural resources law enforcement officers.

The board approved the new bachelor of science degree Wednesday at a meeting at Dakota State University in Madison. The degree program will train students for work as federal wildlife officials, park

rangers, conservation officers and game wardens.

The program responds to concerns in part from the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department, which has difficulty finding suitable applicants to fill law enforcement slots. The program is expected to produce 20 graduates a year after it's fully implemented.

The Regents say only four institutions nationwide offer a comparable program.

Teachers from 4 states to tour North Dakota coal country

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Teachers from four states are headed to North Dakota coal country.

The Lignite Energy Council says more than 120 elementary and secondary teachers from the Dakotas, Minnesota and Montana are slated to attend a seminar next week on how the coal known as lignite is mined and used to produce energy in the four-state region.

The Lignite Energy Council says it has been offering the seminar for 30 years. It includes a tour of a mine, power plant and the Great Plains Synfuels Plant near Beulah.

Teachers can get graduate credits for attending the seminar.

SD man dies following rollover crash on Interstate 90

PLANKINTON, S.D. (AP) — A 67-year-old South Dakota man is dead following a rollover crash on Interstate 90 near Plankinton.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol on Wednesday said Delbert Ritter, of Chamberlain, was pronounced dead at the scene of the crash Tuesday.

Authorities say Ritter was traveling east on I-90 at a low speed because of vehicle trouble when his 2000 Chevy Venture van was struck by another van in the rear.

Ritter's van went into the ditch and rolled. Authorities say Ritter and his 13-year-old passenger were not wearing seat belts. Ritter's passenger, a 13-year-old boy, was hospitalized with serious non-life threatening injuries.

Authorities say the van that struck Ritter's was being driven by 51-year-old James Larson. The Mitchell man was hospitalized with serious non-life threatening injuries.

The Patrol says the crash remains under investigation.

Activities association directs changes to transgender policy

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A state activities association is proposing more revisions to its policy for transgender high school athletes as the organization works to create a policy that suits schools and lessens the concerns of lawmakers who have fought to throw out the rule.

The South Dakota High School Activities Association discussed the proposed changes at a board of directors meeting on Wednesday. The suggested revisions came after some Republican lawmakers repeatedly tried to pass legislation in 2015 to void the policy. It's unclear if the changes will be enough to satisfy opponents, or when they'll be finished.

The board voted Wednesday for staff to further revise the policy, likely pushing back finalization by months.

The policy broadly aims to provide a way for transgender students to participate on the sports teams that reflect their gender identities rather than the sex listed on their birth certificates.

More than 60 percent of schools want a uniform activities association policy on transgender students' participation, according to survey results reported by the association Wednesday, and more than half

of schools surveyed don't want a legislatively adopted policy.

Association Attorney Lindsey Riter-Rapp said she examined other states' policies that provide protections to transgender students while making the revisions.

Board member Sandy Klatt called it a "hard issue."

"Our policy is to help our member schools because that's what we're charged to do," she said.

Efforts to block the policy during the 2015 session stalled in the South Dakota Senate after easily passing through the House.

Republican Sen. Brock Greenfield, a key backer of legislation to end the policy, praised the association this week for continuing to work on the rules.

Republican Rep. Jim Bolin, who pushed a proposal to void the policy, has made it seem unlikely he would support any policy that would allow minors to play on a team different from the sex on their birth certificates, which he has stressed is an official state document. Greenfield, a senator from Clark, said he needed to review the changes before deciding how to proceed during the 2016 session.

South Dakota golf course to become part of state park

HARRISBURG, S.D. (AP) — A golf course in southeast South Dakota will eventually become part of Good Earth State Park at Blood Run following a wildlife foundation's purchase of a country club that borders the park.

The South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation on Wednesday announced its purchase of the Spring Creek Country Club. The foundation plans to lease the golf course back to the country club for the next decade and intends to donate the property to the park at the end of that period.

Good Earth became a state park in 2013 and is South Dakota's first new state park in four decades. It includes over 600 acres in South Dakota and 200 acres across border owned by the state of Iowa.

The golf course will add 200 acres to the park.

Identity of SD man whose body was found in field released

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Authorities in Sioux Falls have released the identity of a man whose body was found in a field last week.

Sgt. Mike Walsh with the Minnehaha County Sheriff's Office says 47-year-old Wayne Fox was dead for at least three to four weeks before a farmer discovered his body Thursday in southwest Sioux Falls.

Police say Fox's roommate had a filed a missing persons report May 12 after not hearing from Fox for a week.

Walsh says Fox's cause of death is still unknown, but foul play is not suspected. Walsh says the body has no evidence of trauma or wounds caused by weapons.

The Sioux Falls man's body was found over 200 yards from the nearest street. Walsh says neither a vehicle nor vehicle tracks were found near the body.

10 Things to Know-Today

The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about Wednesday:

1. MANHUNT FOR ESCAPED KILLERS EXPANDS TO VERMONT

Authorities believe the convicted murderers talked about slipping into the neighboring state thinking there would be less police presence there.

2. WHO IS DEFENDING TEXAS OFFICER RECORDED IN POOL PARTY VIDEO

The policeman had answered back-to-back suicide calls before "he allowed his emotions to get the better of him," his attorney says.

3. WHY SOUTH KOREA PUSHED ITS KEY INTEREST RATE TO A HISTORIC LOW

The country is responding to a slump in exports and the prospect that the outbreak of the deadly MERS virus could slow the economy.

4. CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS SHAMED ONLINE FOR WASTING WATER

During their worst drought in recent memory, some find themselves scolded on social media for watering their plants.

5. EX GIRLFRIEND SAYS SHE BROKE UP WITH COLORADO KILLER BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T WANT RELATIONSHIP

Gargi Datta also said James Holmes sent her messages saying he wanted to kill people, but that she didn't take him seriously.

6. U.S. CITIZEN DIES FIGHTING IN SYRIA

Keith Broomfield, who was killed earlier this month, is likely the first American to die fighting alongside Kurdish forces battling the Islamic State group.

7. WHICH IS THE LARGEST MULTIRACIAL GROUP IN THE UNITED STATES

A report by the Pew Research Center says that White Native Americans make up a full half of the current population of mixed race.

8. ACURA RECALLS TWO MODELS OF SUVs DUE TO FAULTY BRAKING SYSTEMS

The decision involves just under 48,000 MDX and RLX SUVs worldwide from the 2014 and 2015 model years.

9. ALL SQUARE IN THE STANLEY CUP FINAL

Brandon Saad scores the tiebreaking goal, leading the Chicago Blackhawks to a 2-1 victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning, and evens the series.

10. CARRIE UNDERWOOD CLEANS HOUSE AT CMT MUSIC AWARDS

The 32-year-old singer took home three prizes, including video of the year for "Something In the Water."

Whole Foods: New chain to be named for '365' store brand

CANDICE CHOI, AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Whole Foods says it will name its new chain of smaller stores with lower prices after its "365 Everyday Value" house brand.

Co-CEO Walter Robb tells The Associated Press that the chain will be named "365 by Whole Foods Market," a nod to the products already sold by the grocery chain. He said that while 365 products will anchor the stores, the chain will also stock other items, including national brands.

The new chain, which is scheduled to begin opening next year, is partly a way to differentiate itself amid intensifying competition. Stores are also trying to adapt to the changing ways people are shopping.

Wal-Mart, for instance, has been opening smaller "Neighborhood Market" stores that are targeted toward shoppers who want to get in and out quickly.

Acura recall shows glitch in automatic braking system

TOM KRISHER, AP Auto Writer

Acura has recalled two models because the automatic emergency braking systems can malfunction and put the vehicles at risk of a collision.

The recall involves just under 48,000 MDX SUVs and RLX sedans worldwide from the 2014 and 2015 model years and shows how even sophisticated safety technology can be prone to real-world glitches.

Acura's "Collision Mitigation Braking System" uses radar to scan conditions in front of the vehicles. If it determines the vehicle might hit an object, it automatically applies the brakes, slowing the vehicles to reduce damage and injuries.

In the recalled vehicles, the system can become confused and step on the brakes when it detects another vehicle accelerating in front while simultaneously driving along an iron fence or metal guard-rail, according to Honda, the maker of Acura. The problem first surfaced in Japan in November of 2013 when an SUV braked for no reason and caused a rear-end collision. While Honda investigated, a second incident happened in June of last year.

Honda later duplicated the problem, figured out the cause and told safety regulators of the recall in May. The company says it has no reports of warranty claims, incidents or injuries in the U.S. because of the problem. Dealers will update the system software at no cost to owners.

Later versions of the system actually stop the vehicles before a crash, but those versions aren't affected by the recall.

Like any new technology, autonomous braking will develop problems in real-world driving that can't be found in testing by automakers, said Michelle Krebs, senior analyst for Autotrader.

When air bags were first introduced, for example, automakers found out that they inflated with too much pressure and injured smaller people, so they had to make adjustments, Krebs said. "Unfortunately some of these will only be discovered in real-world settings with real people behind the wheel," she said.

Despite the problems, air bags have saved thousands of lives, and autonomous braking likely will do the same, she said.

The Honda recall isn't the only problem to surface with autonomous braking systems. Last week the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration began investigating complaints that the systems on 2014 Jeep Grand Cherokees can brake for no reason.

The feature is an option on many high-end and even mainstream cars, and is standard equipment on only a few vehicles. Yet it's an important step in the march toward self-driving vehicles, and is being championed by safety advocates as a breakthrough in reducing crashes and highway deaths because it can react faster than humans.

The systems have so much promise that the National Transportation Safety Board is urging that automatic warning and braking systems be made standard on all new cars and commercial trucks.

AP News in Brief

Official admits: 'No information' on escaped killers, even as search expands to Vermont

DANNEMORA, N.Y. (AP) — Authorities searching for two escaped killers who have been on the loose for the better part of a week acknowledged being in the dark about their whereabouts or doings, even as the hunt for the men expanded past state borders into Vermont.

At a news conference outside the maximum-security prison on Wednesday, New York State Police

Superintendent Joseph D'Amico said, "I have no information on where they are or what they're doing, to be honest with you."

But authorities were expanding the search after investigators learned that the inmates had talked before last weekend's breakout about going to neighboring Vermont.

"We have information that suggests they thought New York was going to be hot. Vermont would be cooler, in terms of law enforcement," said Vermont Gov. Peter Shumlin, at the news conference along with New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

He and other officials would not say how authorities learned that information.

California water wasters beware: Watchdogs out abusers with hashtags like #DroughtShaming

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Pssst. Ready to water that beautiful lush lawn of yours? The one that's the envy of the entire neighborhood.

If you live in Southern California you'd better wait until after midnight. Preferably on a cloudy, new-moon night during a power outage when it's so dark even night-vision goggles won't give away your position. Otherwise you could wind up the star of the latest drought-shaming video posted on YouTube or Twitter.

"Yeah, I put your address out there. The world is watching a lot more," says Tony Corcoran, one of several people who spend their spare time these days canvassing the tony communities of Beverly Hills, West Hollywood and elsewhere, looking for people wasting water during the worst California drought in recent memory. Corcoran alone estimates he's put more than 100 videos of water-wasters, complete with their addresses, up on YouTube.

Others tweet out addresses and photos of water scofflaws on Twitter, using hashtags such as (hash) DroughtShaming. Still others are snapping smartphone photos of them and sending them directly to authorities.

Not everyone is happy about it.

South Korea cuts key interest rate again to record low as MERS outbreak threatens recovery

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea's central bank lowered its key interest rate to a historic low on Thursday, responding to a slump in exports and the prospect that the economy could slow from the outbreak of the deadly MERS virus, which has killed 10 people, although officials maintain they believe the disease has peaked.

Bank of Korea policymakers cut the policy rate by a quarter of a percentage point to 1.5 percent, the second rate cut this year. In March, the bank lowered the key rate and downgraded its growth forecast for Asia's fourth-largest economy as exports continued to slump.

Consumption was on track to recover but began showing signs of contraction after the outbreak of Middle East respiratory syndrome last month, while the decline in exports widened, the central bank said in a statement.

Exports and imports continued to drop over a year earlier after the March rate cut due to sluggish global demand and a weak Japanese yen. The cheaper yen hurt Korean exporters, especially automakers that compete with Japanese rivals in the global market.

Analysts initially expected the central bank to leave the policy rate unchanged but that view changed this month as the MERS outbreak caused panic in South Korea. The outbreak has killed 10 and infected

more than 120 people since the first case, a 68-year-old man who had travelled to the Middle East, was diagnosed on May 20. The latest death was reported Thursday.

Lawyer: Officer at Texas pool didn't target black teens, was strained from earlier calls

DALLAS (AP) — A white Texas police officer was not targeting minorities when he wrestled a black teenage girl to the ground and brandished his gun outside a pool party, his lawyer said, but rather was fraught with emotion after responding earlier to two suicide calls.

As activists demanded Wednesday that prosecutors charge former officer David Eric Casebolt, his attorney Jane Bishkin said Casebolt apologizes for his treatment of the girl and to others offended by his actions Friday at a community pool in the Dallas suburb of McKinney.

"With all that happened that day, he allowed his emotions to get the better of him," Bishkin said of her client, who is known to friends and family as Eric.

However, the attorney for Dajerria Becton, the 15-year-old girl whom Casebolt subdued, said that while her client's family appreciated Casebolt's apology, his stress is not an adequate defense.

"There are appropriate ways to handle stress, and Officer Casebolt's actions were in no way appropriate," Hannah Stroud said Wednesday. Stroud also said the family will not decide on a next step until she and the city have completed their fact-finding, but they believe excessive force violated Dajerria's civil rights.

Colorado theater shooter's former girlfriend says she didn't see a future with him

CENTENNIAL, Colo. (AP) — Their first date was a horror film festival and they grew closer after that, sharing nights together at home watching movies or playing board games with friends.

But a former girlfriend of Colorado theater shooter James Holmes didn't want anything more than a casual relationship, she testified in his death penalty trial. She broke it off.

"I told him that I didn't see a future with him," Gargi Datta said Wednesday in her first public comments since the July 2012 shooting at a suburban Denver movie theater that left 12 dead and 70 injured.

Datta will continue testifying Thursday about the messages and emails Holmes sent her in the months that they dated. Prosecutors have said Holmes sent her messages saying he wanted to kill people, but she didn't take him seriously and suggested he see a therapist.

Their breakup in February 2012 was a catalyst to the shooting five months later, District Attorney George Brauchler said. He said she was Holmes' first romantic relationship.

Paul Ryan's plan stretches from trade to reform efforts to possible WH run — but 'not now'

WASHINGTON (AP) — First, give presidents the power to strike trade deals. Then overturn President Barack Obama's health care law, overhaul the tax code and rework the nation's welfare system. And someday? Perhaps a run for president.

Call it the New Ryan Plan, a map not just to changes in the nation's fiscal policy, but to Paul Ryan's future. It steers the nine-term Republican congressman and chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee into the thicket of policy fights. The path likely takes him to a familiar decision point —

whether to run for president. The 45-year-old Ryan says he might take that step, someday.

"I wouldn't rule out running for president ever," he said in an interview this week with The Associated Press, looking not much older than he did in 2012 as Mitt Romney's running mate. "Just not now."

That's because Ryan is on Step One of his plan: Shepherding the "fast track" trade bill that would give Obama the power to swiftly push the long-negotiated Trans-Pacific Partnership with Japan, Malaysia, Canada, Mexico and several others. The drive to pass the legislation puts Ryan in an oddball alliance: Working with the president who defeated Romney and Ryan three years ago — and against a bloc of conservatives for whom giving the Democratic president more power is anathema.

Ryan, the father of three young children, nixed the round-the-clock world of presidential campaigning this election cycle. As it is, he spends four days a week in Washington, sleeping in his office, and the other three at home in Janesville, Wisconsin, meeting with constituents and shuttling his kids to summer camp.

Educated, middle-class Ukrainians flee turmoil in eastern Ukraine, picking up lives in capital

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Alesya Bolot worked for a contemporary arts foundation that converted an abandoned factory into a mecca for young and bright people with daring ideas. Vibrant and cosmopolitan, the 27-year-old would not look out of place in a gallery in New York.

She was at the forefront of the avant-garde arts scene in the eastern Ukrainian city of Donetsk when a pro-Russian insurgency took over and upended her life. When a rebel-controlled local television station portrayed creative people like her as the enemy, she decided it was time to flee.

"Everything we did ran counter to their ideology," she says, "the fact that we worked with foreign artists, the fact that we advocated for a plurality of opinions."

Bolot arrived in the capital Kiev a year ago with only a backpack, not planning a long-term stay. But she decided to remain after she was told she was on the wanted list of the self-styled Donetsk People's Republic, for alleged subversive activity. A year on, the Izolyatsia contemporary arts center runs a much smaller gallery in Kiev.

More than 2.2 million people have fled their homes in eastern Ukraine since the war between government forces and Russia-backed separatists began in April last year, according to the United Nations, some to neighboring Russia, but about 1.3 million to Ukrainian regions under government control.

AP PHOTOS: Motocross racer jumps barriers in Iran, where women motorcycling is largely banned

BARAGHAN, Iran (AP) — Iranian motocross rider Behnaz Shafiei's passion for hurdling over dirt hills has led her to leap cultural and legal barriers in Iran, where women are banned from riding motorcycles in public.

"When two days pass and I do not ride my motorcycle, I get really ill. Even the thought of not having a motorcycle some day gives me an awful feeling," Shafiei said on the outskirts of Iran's capital, Tehran. "Sometimes, I think to myself, 'How did people in the past live without a motorbike?' Is life without a motorcycle possible?"

It almost became a reality for 26-year-old. In Iran it remains illegal for women to ride motorcycles in public. Conservative clerics also denounce the idea of women attending men's sporting events.

But Shafiei and five other women worked hard to get official identifications from Iran's Motorcycle and Automobile Federation to allow them to race on amateur tracks. They still don't have access to

Iran's only standard motocross track at the Azadi Sports Complex in Tehran, so they often race on the capital's outskirts.

On a recent weekend, Shafiei drew a crowd when she took off her helmet, part of gear received from international sponsors. Women crowded around to take snapshots with her.

Carrie Underwood cleans house at CMT Music Awards; Justin Bieber appears in skit

The CMT Music Awards should be renamed the Carrie Music Television Awards.

Carrie Underwood cleaned house at the country awards show Wednesday with three wins, including video of the year for "Something In the Water," and she even gave a shout-out to her 3-month-old son.

"This is my first awards show since little Isaiah has been in the world," said Underwood, who gave birth in late February and sported a skin-tight white dress. "I'm sure he's napping on the bus right now, but I should definitely say that he has already inspired me so much as well as has my husband, Mike."

The show in Nashville, Tennessee, marked Underwood's fourth consecutive victory for video of the year.

The 32-year-old songstress, who also performed, is the most decorated CMT Award winner with 13 awards, including six for video of the year. She walked into the Bridgestone Arena with five nominations — she was the leader — and also won female video of the year for "Something In the Water" and collaborative video of the year for "Somethin' Bad" with Miranda Lambert. She earned two nominations for both video of the year and female video of the year.

Saad scores winner as Blackhawks edge Tampa Bay 2-1 to even the Stanley Cup Final 2-2

CHICAGO (AP) — Brandon Saad drove the net and had the puck poked away by Andrei Vasilevskiy. When he somehow found it again, Saad gave it a desperate backhand whack that just happened to send it right between Vasilevskiy's moving pads.

Saad refused much credit for his tiebreaking goal in Game 4 of the Stanley Cup Final. He knows that a few fortunate bounces have been the only differences in four games between the Chicago Blackhawks and the Tampa Bay Lightning, who seem determined to take this championship series down to a fantastic finish.

Saad scored with 13:38 to play, and captain Jonathan Toews got his first goal of the series as the Blackhawks beat the Lightning and their rookie goalie 2-1 Wednesday night, knotting the Final at two games apiece.

The 22-year-old Saad's latest clutch goal was the offensive highlight of a gritty, defense-dominated night at the United Center. Corey Crawford and the 20-year-old Vasilevskiy, the Lightning's surprise starter, both had stellar moments before Saad beat his fellow youngster for the winner.

"I was really pretty lucky," Saad said. "I just saw space going to the net. Tried to drive and create some chaos. Just try to get some wood on it and get to the net, and it found a way in."

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Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, June 11, the 162nd day of 2015. There are 203 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On June 11, 1919, Sir Barton won the Belmont Stakes, becoming horse racing's first Triple Crown winner.

On this date:

In 1509, England's King Henry VIII married his first wife, Catherine of Aragon.

In 1770, Captain James Cook, commander of the British ship Endeavour, discovered the Great Barrier Reef off Australia by running onto it.

In 1938, Johnny Vander Meer pitched the first of two consecutive no-hitters as he led the Cincinnati Reds to a 3-0 victory over the Boston Bees. (Four days later, Vander Meer refused to give up a hit to the Brooklyn Dodgers, who lost, 6-0.)

In 1942, the United States and the Soviet Union signed a lend-lease agreement to aid the Soviet war effort in World War II.

In 1959, the Saunders-Roe Nautical 1, the first operational hovercraft, was publicly demonstrated off the southern coast of England.

In 1962, three prisoners at Alcatraz in San Francisco Bay staged an escape, leaving the island on a makeshift raft; they were never found or heard from again.

In 1963, a Buddhist monk, Thich Quang Duc (tihk kwang duk), set himself afire on a Saigon street to protest the government of South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem (noh deen dyem).

In 1975, Robert Altman's ensemble musical drama "Nashville," released by Paramount Pictures, opened in New York.

In 1977, Seattle Slew won the Belmont Stakes, capturing the Triple Crown.

In 1985, Karen Ann Quinlan, the comatose patient whose case prompted a historic right-to-die court decision, died in Morris Plains, New Jersey, at age 31.

In 1993, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that people who commit "hate crimes" motivated by bigotry may be sentenced to extra punishment; the court also ruled religious groups had a constitutional right to sacrifice animals in worship services.

In 2001, Timothy McVeigh, 33, was executed by injection at the federal prison in Terre Haute, Indiana, for the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing that killed 168 people.

Ten years ago: The first tropical storm of the 2005 season, Arlene, sloshed ashore in the Florida Panhandle. The world's richest countries agreed in London to write off more than \$40 billion of debt owed by the poorest nations. French journalist Florence Aubenas and her Iraqi assistant were freed after more than five months as hostages in Iraq. Afleet Alex won the Belmont Stakes by seven lengths.

Five years ago: Twenty campers in a southwestern Arkansas gorge died in a pre-dawn flash flood of the Little Missouri River. Joran van der Sloot (YOHR'-uhn VAN'-dur-sloht) was ordered jailed in Peru on first-degree murder and robbery charges in the beating and strangling death of Stephany Flores. The FIFA World Cup opened in South Africa to the joyous sound of vuvuzelas; it was the first World Cup to be played in Africa.

One year ago: During a Capitol Hill hearing, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel aggressively defended the secret prisoner exchange of five Taliban detainees for Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, telling Congress that the risks were too great and the situation too uncertain for the administration to tell lawmakers about the plan. Acclaimed actress and civil rights activist Ruby Dee, 91, died in New Rochelle, New York.

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Today's Birthdays: U.S. Rep. Charles B. Rangel, D-N.Y., is 85. Actor Gene Wilder is 82. Comedian Johnny Brown is 78. International Motorsports Hall of Famer Jackie Stewart is 76. Singer Joey Dee is 75. Actress Adrienne Barbeau is 70. Rock musician Frank Beard (ZZ Top) is 66. Animal rights activist Ingrid Newkirk is 66. Rock singer Donnie Van Zant is 63. Actor Peter Bergman is 62. Pro Football Hall of Famer Joe Montana is 59. Actor Hugh Laurie is 56. TV personality Mehmet Oz, M.D., is 55. Singer Gioia (JOY'-ah) Bruno (Expose) is 52. Rock musician Dan Lavery (Tonic) is 49. Country singer-songwriter Bruce Robison is 49. Actress Clare Carey is 48. Actor Peter Dinklage is 46. Country musician Smilin' Jay McDowell is 46. Actor Lenny Jacobson is 41. Rock musician Tai Anderson (Third Day) is 39. Actor Joshua Jackson is 37. Christian rock musician Ryan ShROUT is 35. Actor Shia LaBeouf (SHY'-uh luh-BUF') is 29.

Thought for Today: "People do not believe lies because they have to, but because they want to." - Malcolm Muggeridge, British author and commentator (1903-1990).