

Groton Daily Independent

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The Northwestern Energy crew were busy bringing the supply substation back on-line this morning. There was a town-wide outage that started at 4:59 a.m. and ended at 6:48 a.m.

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Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper
recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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Friday, July 17

Jr. Teener Region in Sisseton
Championship Game: Winner of Game 3 vs.
Winner of Game 5 at 5 p.m.
If needed, second game at 7 p.m.

Legion Regions in Groton

Game 3: Warner vs. Redfield at 10 a.m.

Game 4: Groton vs. Northville at 1 p.m.

Game 5: Gettysburg vs. loser of Game 3 at 4 p.m.

Game 6: Mobridge vs. loser of Game 4 at 7 p.m.

Senior Menu: Tuna noodle casserole, broccoli,
swedish apple pie square, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Rosemary Belden • Kevin Krueger

5:30pm:U8 Softball practice at Elementary

6:30pm:Amateurs at Claremont

6:30pm:U10 Softball Practice at Elementary

7:30pm:U12 Softball practice at Elementary

Saturday, July 18

Jr. Teener Region

Legion Regions in Groton

Game 7: Winners of games 3 and 4 at 1 p.m.

Game 8: Winners of games 5 and 6 at 4 p.m.

Game 9: Winner of Game 8 vs. loser of game 7

Groton Chiropractic Clinic

Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C.
1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204

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PeeWee/Midget Tourneys Pairings Games in Groton highlighted in Red

U8 Tourney

Tuesday, July 21

6 p.m.: Milbank Red at Milbank Blue

6 p.m.: Milbank Green at Webster on east field

Wednesday, July 22

6 p.m.: Winner of Milbank Blue/Red at Groton Blue on Nelson Field

6 p.m.: Winner of Milbank Green/Webster at Groton Red on Falk Field

Thursday, July 23

6 p.m.: Championship game on east field in Webster

U10 Tourney

Tuesday, July 21

6 p.m.: Sisseton at Milbank Red on west field

7 p.m.: Webster at Milbank Blue on east field

Wednesday, July 22

7 p.m.: Winner of Milbank Red/Sisseton at Groton Red on Nelson Field

7 p.m.: Winner of Milbank Blue/Webster at Groton Blue on Falk Field

Thursday, July 23

6 p.m.: Championship game at Webster on west field

U12 Tourney

Tuesday, July 21

7 p.m.: Groton at Milbank Blue on east field

7 p.m.: Sisseton at Milbank Red on west field

Wednesday, July 22

6 p.m.: Winner of Milbank Blue/Groton vs. Aberdeen at Webster's west field

6 p.m.: Winner of Milbank Red/Sisseton at Webster on east field

Thursday, July 23

7:30 p.m.: Championship game in Webster on west field



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High Temps & Humidity in Mid-Summer Climate Outlook

BROOKINGS, S.D. - Higher temperatures and humidities across eastern South Dakota produced heat indexes reaching the 100 to 110-degree range throughout the first few weeks of July.

"Fortunately, the occurrences did not extend for several days, which would have had larger potential impacts on people as well as livestock in the state," said Dennis Todey, South Dakota State Climatologist & SDSU Extension Climate Specialist.

Todey says some summer-like conditions may remain in the state according to the July 16, 2015 long range climate outlooks released by the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

"Although temperatures are predicted to be cooler than average in states south of South Dakota, our state has about equal chances of being cooler or warmer than average," Todey said. "This is a slight shift away from previous outlooks which had South Dakota in the cooler than average outlook."

However, he added that the current climate outlook remains consistent with nearer term computer models which have been staying a bit warmer during July. "Through the middle of the month, most of the state is still below average for July temperatures," Todey said.

What the outlook means for crops?

He added that unless conditions turn very warm soon, the overall impact on crops may be minimal to slightly positive.

"Most of the corn in South Dakota is reaching its reproductive phase, which is the part of the growing season where the most yield can be lost more quickly if conditions are too hot and/or dry," explained Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension Climate Field Specialist. "Overall temperatures have been warm, but not too high to accumulate much stress."

According the latest USDA-NASS reports, corn is slightly behind in development. Edwards said the additional heat will help move crop development along a little more quickly.

"The precipitation outlook has also shifted from wetter to equal chances of below and above average for most of the state. The better chance for wetter conditions is along the Nebraska border and to the south of us," she said.

She adds that current precipitation totals are generally OK to wet across the state; with the exception of a few locations in eastern South Dakota which continue to be slightly dry. "The heat and limited soil moisture could start causing some issues in these mostly isolated areas," Edwards said.

The most recent U.S. Drought Monitor map reflects this issue with continued pockets of Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions in a couple areas of eastern South Dakota.

El Nino is still a player

Looking ahead to the fall and winter, El Nino is still a player in the outlooks. "The current outlooks very much reflect El Nino conditions," Todey said. "Winter continues to have a good likelihood of being above average in temperature for South Dakota and surrounding areas."

Edwards added that El Nino could create a small potential for harvest issues because a wet fall is more likely. "With crops developing at a reasonable rate, this is not a major concern right now," she said. "Development and harvest should not be impacted greatly. But this should be monitored for changes for potential crop drying and harvesting issues."

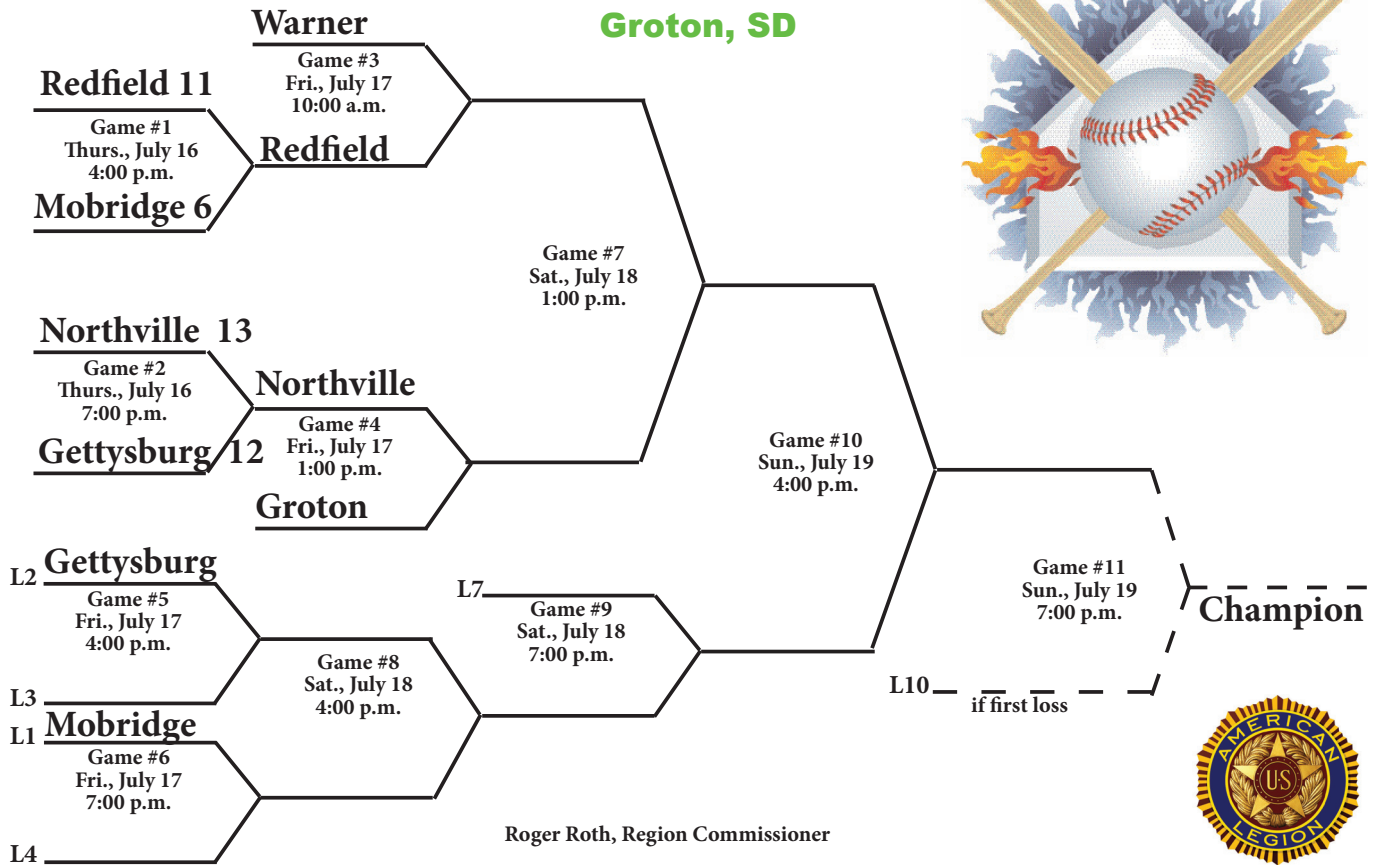
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American Legion Region 6B Tournament

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday - July 16-19, 2015

**Locke-Karst Field
Groton, SD**

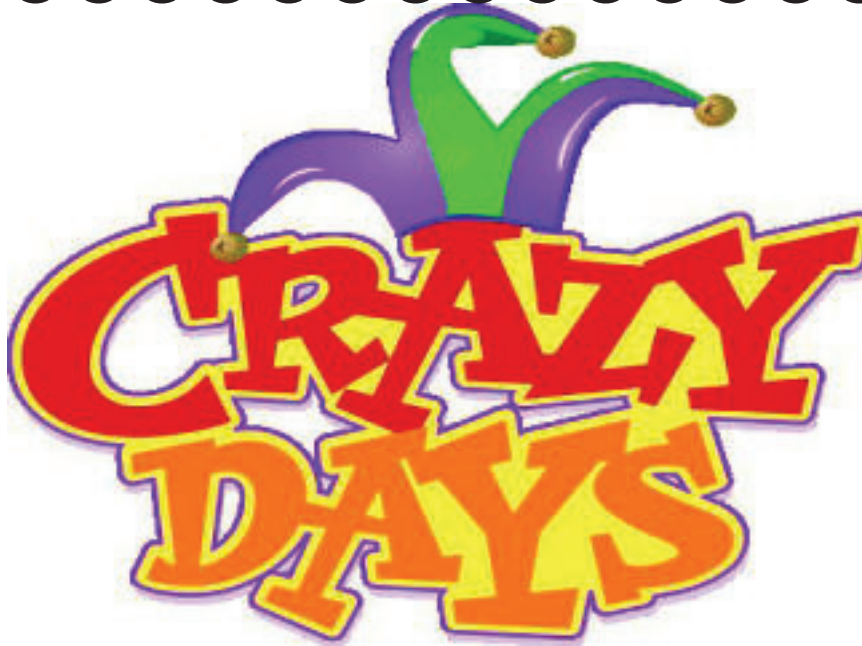


Geist Bridal Shower

Open House Come & Go Bridal Shower for Shanna Geist bride-to-be of Jamie Scherbenske will be held on Saturday July 18th 9:30-11:30 at the Roscoe Fire Hall Registered at Target, Sears & Lori's

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July 16-17-18

Thursday - 9-7, Friday 9-5, Saturday 10-3

20-50% off All Outdoor Pottery
& select Wrought Iron
50% off All Kids Merchandise

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Wines on Sale

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Today in Weather History

July 17, 1985: An F1 tornado touched down, ten miles east of Raymond, in Clark County, destroying two cattle sheds and damaged several buildings. A garage was moved off its foundation. Heavy rains, strong winds and hail up to 2.75 inches in diameter produced considerable damage to farm buildings between Raymond and Garden City. Rainfall amounts of three to six inches caused additional crop losses from erosion. In the city of Clark, some basement flooding occurred and water ran across Highway 212 west of Clark. Some storm total rain fall amounts include; 3.77 inches in Clark; 3.15 in Clear Lake; 2.85 in Redfield; and 2.31 inches in 3 miles NE of Raymond. This thunderstorm began near Kennebec, in Lyman County, where winds gusted to 80 mph and small hail was observed. A few trees were uprooted and numerous branched were downed. Several car windows were broke from wind and small hail. A half inch of rain fell in ten minutes, filling ditches. Strong winds continued into Spink County where extensive damage was done to a farm estate east of Redfield. Heavy rains of three to five inches caused road and basement flooding. A damage path from wind and hail continued to Clear Lake, to south of Gary and into Minnesota to the east of Canby. Winds gusted to 70 mph and hail ranged from one to almost two inches in diameter. In Clear Lake, four businesses were damaged and power poles were downed. One building had the fiberglass siding and roofing torn off. A second building had a metal roof blown off. Highway 77, south of Clear Lake was impassable due to hail on the ground.

July 17, 1993: Heavy rains of three to seven inches fell in Grant County resulting in the overflow of Lake Farley into the city of Milbank. The dam held, but an emergency dike broke on the evening of the 17th releasing water into residential streets and a trailer court in Milbank. This forced evacuation of at least 200 people. Damage included 120 mobile homes and 26 houses being affected by floodwaters. In addition, a man died when his pickup truck hit a wash out on a gravel road south of Milbank and was swept into the floodwaters of a nearby creek.

July 17, 2010: Several supercell thunderstorms moving southeast across the region brought very large hail up to softball size along with damaging winds to parts of northeast South Dakota. Numerous homes, vehicles, along with thousands of acres of crops were damaged. Hail up to the size of softballs occurred near Westport, in Brown County. Golf ball to baseball size hail fell at the National Weather Service office causing damage to several vehicles. The rear window was broken out of one of the vehicles. A supercell thunderstorm tracking southeast across Clark County produced anywhere from quarter to baseball size hail along with wind gusts over 70 mph from Crocker to Clark to Naples to Vienna. The large hail and winds caused extensive damage to homes, outbuildings, vehicles, and thousands of acres of crops. Many trees and gardens were also damaged or destroyed by the hail and high winds. The storm entered western Hamlin County. Winds measured over 90 mph in Hayti along with some large hail broke numerous windows out of several homes and vehicles, damaged several roofs, and downed many trees. A concrete silo was also destroyed. The highway shop lost half of its roof along with severe damage to the roof of a trucking business in Hayti.

1934 - One of the worst heat waves in the history of the nation commenced. During the last two weeks of the month extreme heat claimed 679 lives in Michigan, including 300 in Detroit alone. (The Weather Channel)








1941 - A prolonged heat wave over Washington State finally came to an end. Lightning from untimely thunderstorms was responsible for 598 forest fires. (David Ludlum)

1952 - Thunderstorms helped the temperatur at Key West, FL, to dip to 69 degrees, to equal their July record established on the first of July in 1923. (The Weather Channel)

1957 - On a warm and sunny day at Wilmington, DE, with a high of 86 degrees, a dust devil suddenly appeared. It tore most the roof off one house, and stripped shingles from a neighboring house. A TV aerial was toppled, and clothes were blown off clothes lines. (The Weather Channel)

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Today	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
						
Patched Fog then Severe Thunderstorms	Severe Thunderstorms	Mostly Sunny then Mostly Sunny and Breezy	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Hot
High: 90 °F	Low: 63 °F	High: 82 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 84 °F	Low: 61 °F	High: 90 °F

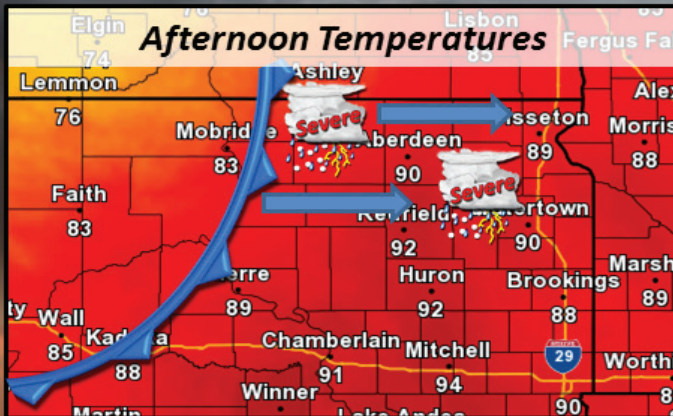
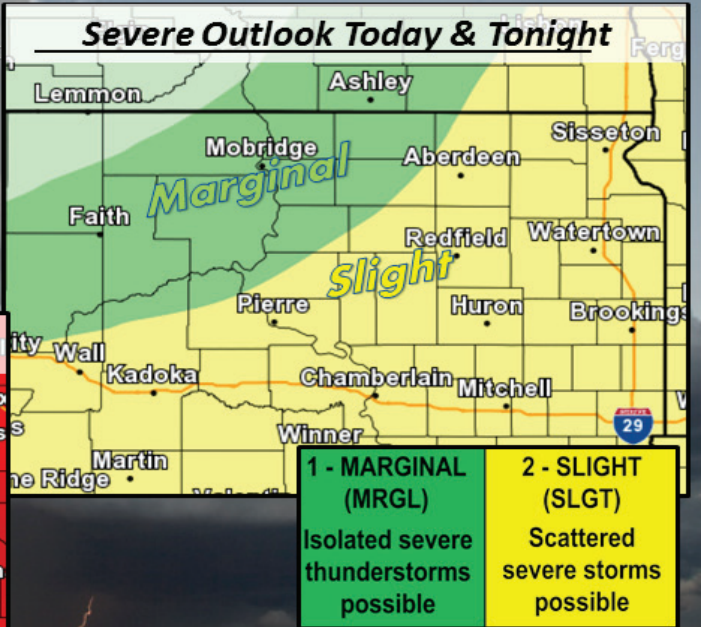


Storms Today & Tonight, Some Severe



Headlines

- Afternoon/Evening: Thunderstorms may develop over parts of north central or northeast SD, then move east along with a front
 - Main threats: Large hail & damaging winds
 - Lesser threat: Isolated tornados
- Overnight: It is possible that a second round of thunderstorms develops behind the front later in the night. The main threat with these storms would be strong winds.



National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

weather.gov/Aberdeen | National Weather Service Aberdeen | @NWSAberdeen | Updated: 7/17/2015 5:03 AM Central

Published on: 07/17/2015 at 5:04AM

Thunderstorms may develop along a front which will move from west to east across the region this afternoon. The best chances reside over northeast SD and west central MN. A few severe storms are possible with hail and gusty winds the main threat. Another system will move into the region Friday, bringing additional thunderstorms chances, and some storms may be severe. Meanwhile, hot and muggy conditions are expected through the remainder of the work week.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 83.5 at 3:57 PM

Low: 67.0 at 11:55 PM

High Gust: 22 at 4:16 PM

Precip: 0.02

Today's Info

Record High: 111° in 1936

Record Low: 44° in 1895

Average High: 84°F

Average Low: 59°F

Average Precip in July: 1.78

Precip to date in July: 1.90

Average Precip to date: 12.62

Precip Year to Date: 9.32

Sunset Tonight: 9:17 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:02 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Fri, Jul 17, 2015, issued 4:37 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Fanning based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



NO MISTAKE

He had been playing football in a muddy field. Tired and covered with fresh mud, little James returned home for dinner. His mother horrified with his appearance and wanting to shame him said, "Who's this? I don't know of anyone who lives here who could ever get so dirty and come to the table to eat!"

"It's me, Mom," he shouted. "It's your son James who's underneath all this dirt."

Jesus once told the story of a son who went to his father and said, "Dad, I want whatever you have that has been set aside for my inheritance. I'm leaving home today."

But things did not work out the way he thought they would. He wasted his inheritance on things with no eternal value. So, one day he "came to himself," Jesus reported and decided to return home and face the consequences. But they were not what he expected.

He was met by his Dad who was filled with joy and compassion, longing for the day he would return. He wrapped his son in his arms and held him as tightly as he could and told him that he was loved and welcomed and "all is forgiven."

What a picture of Jesus! Eyes searching, ears listening, arms open and heart pounding as He waits to receive us!

Prayer: Thank You, Jesus, for a love that exceeds our sinfulness and grace and mercy that accepts us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Luke 15:11-32 "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him."

News from the Associated Press

Dell Rapids mourns after 3 die, 2 injured in car crash

DELL RAPIDS, S.D. (AP) — The community of Dell Rapids is coming together with a prayer vigil and fundraisers after three people including two children were killed in a car crash near Flandreau.

Joshua Kremppges, 38, was driving a car that failed to yield at a rural intersection southeast of Flandreau on Monday morning and collided with a pickup truck, according to the Highway Patrol. Kremppges and 11-year-old passenger Madyson Barbee died at the scene. Kremppges' 7-year-old daughter, Mariana Kremppges, who was friends with Madyson, died at a Sioux Falls hospital on Tuesday.

Two of Joshua Kremppges' other daughters — 7-year-old Madelyn and 11-year-old Mallory — are hospitalized with life-threatening injuries.

A candlelight prayer vigil is scheduled in Dell Rapids on Monday night. Funds also have been established to help the Kremppges and Barbee families. The funds already have raised about \$27,000. Additional fundraisers are being planned.

"Our community is hurting, and we've got a couple of our own families in the community that are just going through incomprehensible pain," said Tami Drew, who helped organize the prayer vigil. "They need to know that their community stands behind them and will be there for them every step of the way."

About 3,700 people live in Dell Rapids.

Mariana's funeral is Saturday and Madyson's is Monday. Services were not immediately scheduled for Joshua Kremppges, according to Minnehaha Funeral Home.

Man in hospital after shooting at Sioux Falls residence

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A 39-year-old man is being treated at a Sioux Falls hospital after being shot at a residence.

Police say the shooting happened about 9:30 p.m. Thursday. They did not immediately identify the man who was shot, and his condition was not released.

Police say they do not believe there is any danger to the public.

Law enforcement officers participating in 2 tourneys

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Teams of law enforcement officers in South Dakota will be competing this week in two tournaments for the title of 2015 Battle of the Badges Champion.

Police officers, deputy sheriffs, correctional officers, troopers and federal agents will take part in a golf tournament Friday and softball tournament Saturday.

The Minnehaha County Deputies Association says the event allows law enforcement and correctional officers from the region to come together to remember fallen officers.

The association says donations from sponsors make the tournaments possible. Any extra funds are then given to the families of fallen officers, as well as the South Dakota Special Olympics and other groups.

The Grand Falls Casino and Resort in Iowa will host the golf tournament. The softball tournament will be held at Harmodon Park in Sioux Falls.

DENR reminds irrigators to only use water on permitted land

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources says irrigators must remember to only spray water on land authorized for irrigation under their water permit.

The department reminded irrigators Thursday that they can't waste water or spray it on land not covered by their permit.

Department Secretary Steve Pirner says that irrigation overspray can harm roads and create unsafe driving conditions, among other effects.

The department says irrigation systems should be constantly monitored.

Hitchhiking robot embarking on coast-to-coast tour across US

COLLIN BINKLEY, Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — With its thumb raised skyward and a grin on its digital face, the robotic creation of two researchers in Canada is about to start a hitchhiking journey across the U.S.

The humanoid robot named hitchBOT has already caught rides across Canada and in Europe, relying on the kindness and curiosity of strangers. But on Friday it starts its first U.S. tour, setting out from Salem, Massachusetts, with dreams of San Francisco ahead.

Along the way, it hopes to see some quintessential American sites, including Times Square, Mount Rushmore and the Grand Canyon.

The kid-size robot is immobile on its own, so it gets from place to place by being schlepped around by strangers. Travelers can pass it off to others they meet, or leave it at a gas station or shop. They can just leave it seated on its kickstand with its thumb raised.

Ideally, the creators hope, drivers won't leave the bot along busy roads and will charge the battery when it runs low. Otherwise, there are no rules.

"We want to see what people do with this kind of technology when we leave it up to them," said Frauke Zeller, one of the creators and an assistant professor in professional communication at Toronto's Ryerson University. "It's an art project in the wild — it invites people to participate."

On the outside, hitchBOT looks like it's built for play rather than performance. It has a bucket for a body and bendy foam limbs capped by yellow gardening gloves and matching rubber boots. The whimsical attire is intentional, its makers said, to make it approachable and to deter potential thieves.

"It has a really low-tech look to it, something we dubbed the 'yard-sale aesthetic,'" said David Harris Smith, the other creator and an assistant professor in communication studies at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. "The head is actually an acrylic cake-saver."

Designed to be a talking travel companion, the robot can toss out factoids and carry limited conversation. It can be charming and cheeky, its makers said.

So far, there are no signs of anything nefarious done to the robot, but there's also no proof. Its creators intentionally cast their gaze aside.

"We want to be very careful to avoid surveillance technologies with this; that's not what we're trying to do here," Smith said.

A GPS in the robot can track its location, and a camera randomly snaps photos about every 20 minutes to document its travels. But the team behind the robot seeks permission from people in the photos before posting them to social media, where hitchBOT has built a devoted fan base.

More than 30,000 people follow the robot on Twitter, and dozens have posted their own selfies with it. Researchers are culling data from social media to study how people interact with a robot that needs their help, unlike traditional robots designed to help them.

Among the chief questions researchers are asking, Zeller said, is whether robots can trust humans. During past travels, the robot has attended a comic convention and a wedding, and it had its portrait painted in the Netherlands. It once spent a week with a heavy metal band.

The cross-country tour of Canada took 26 days, spanning more than 6,000 miles. As for the U.S. trip, researchers don't know how long it will take, or what will happen along the way.

"We want to create something that has a bit of narrative to it, a sense of adventure," Smith said. "We don't really know what's going to happen."

Garretson man found guilty of multiple felony sex offenses

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A jury in Sioux Falls has convicted a rural Garretson man of sexually abusing a woman for nearly 14 years.

Jurors issued their verdict against 52-year-old Ronald Neels on Thursday.

He was charged with multiple felony sex offenses, including eight counts of rape. He was found guilty on all counts.

Neels, a truck driver, pleaded not guilty to all counts last year. His attorney could not immediately be reached to comment on the verdict.

The now 23-year-old victim has told detectives that she was abused by Neels for 13 years, starting when she was 9. She says the abuse ended just months before Neels was arrested in October.

A sentencing hearing for Neels hasn't been scheduled. He faces up to life in prison.

Daugaard urges watchfulness, care on roads for Sturgis rally

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Officials in South Dakota who have spent years planning for what could be a record-setting 75th Sturgis Motorcycle Rally said Thursday they are as prepared as possible for the expected influx of bikers to the Black Hills area next month.

An estimated 442,000 people attended last year's rally, and officials are expecting more bikers than ever for this year's landmark rally, from Aug. 3-9. Public safety officials said they've planned effectively and that they don't expect violence like the deadly May shootout at a Texas restaurant where nine people were killed, which initially gave pause to law enforcement officials involved with the rally.

"We are as ready as we can be," South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard said at a Thursday press conference where he urged the public to be careful on roads and to be alert for suspicious activity. "In 74 years, we've never had what we would call a major emergency event in Sturgis where it required the governor to declare an emergency, and our hope is to get through the 75th rally in that same way with that record intact."

Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies partner to handle public safety at the rally, which has not been immune to biker gang activity. In 2006, six people were injured in an exchange of gunfire between two rival clubs. Sturgis Police Chief Jim Bush said the information he's gotten doesn't indicate gang activity will have a larger impact at this rally than any other year.

"Just because there's something happening in Waco don't mean something is going to happen here," he said.

FBI spokesman Kyle Loven declined to discuss details of his agency's preparations for the rally.

Bush, who has worked rallies for nearly 40 years, said extra officers will be coming from seven or eight states to supplement his small department, but he declined to share specific numbers.

"I don't give that to anybody," he said. "They think I have thousands, and I kind of like it that."

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State Transportation Secretary Darin Bergquist also said officials are working to prevent motorcycle accidents, which are a significant concern at the rally. Transportation preparation efforts include street sweeping, message boards and systems that detect congestion and inform travelers that traffic may be backing up ahead.

As far as how many people to expect at the rally, there are no firm numbers. But city spokeswoman Christina Steele said the rally has gotten a huge amount of publicity and the city had issued dramatically more vendor licenses last week than it had at that time last year.

The state Tourism Department's research vendor in May reported a surge in search volume for South Dakota hotels around the Sturgis rally dates, which is an indicator of demand.

Heidi Kruse, executive director of the Sturgis Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau, said inquiries and requests for visitor packets also have jumped dramatically.

"Our postage budget is out of control," she said.

Hot Lotto ticket sold in Rapid City worth \$9,000

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Hot Lotto ticket sold in Rapid City is worth \$9,000 in the Wednesday drawing.

South Dakota lottery officials say the ticket holder matched four of five white ball numbers and the Hot Ball to pick up the game's \$3,000 third prize.

The prize was tripled to \$9,000 because the ticket holder bought the Sizzler option.

The winning numbers are 13, 33, 36, 38, 41 and the Hot Ball is 7.

The winner has about six months to claim the prize.

Hot Lotto is played in 15 states. The jackpot currently is at \$1.2 million for the Saturday drawing.

Former Texas college official to lead Western Dakota Tech

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A woman with 25 years of higher education experience in Texas is the new president of Western Dakota Tech in South Dakota.

Ann Bolman succeeds Mark Wilson, who left the Rapid City school in June to become president of Mitchell Technical Institute in eastern South Dakota. She begins her duties July 24.

Bolman worked at Grayson College in Texas from 1990-2009, as a reading and writing instructor, director of developmental education, as an assistant dean and as a dean.

Bolman earned a doctoral degree in English from Texas A&M University-Commerce, a master's degree in English from Texas A&I University and a bachelor's degree in English from Texas A&I University.

Western Dakota Tech offers more than 20 programs in a variety of fields, from construction to health services.

Some economic growth likely in rural parts of 10 states

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A new survey suggests modest economic growth ahead in rural parts of 10 Plains and Western states, but the predicted decline in farm income this year remains a concern.

The overall Rural Mainstreet economic index inched into positive territory in July at 53.4. In June the index registered a neutral score of 50.

The index has risen for four months. Creighton University economist Ernie Goss says the trend is encouraging, but the bankers surveyed still aren't very optimistic. The confidence index remained in negative territory at 46.6 after improving from June's 45.9.

The survey indexes range from 0 to 100. Any score below 50 suggests decline in that factor in the

months ahead.

Bankers from Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming were surveyed.

Former US Senate candidate indicted for failure to show

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A grand jury in Hughes County has formally indicted former South Dakota U.S. Senate candidate Clayton Walker for failing to appear at a hearing.

The Black Hawk man faces trial beginning Monday for alleged election law violations. A judge earlier this month issued a warrant for his arrest when he failed to appear in court.

Attorney General Marty Jackley says Walker was arrested in Rapid City on July 9, and a grand jury indicted him Tuesday.

Walker faces felony charges for submitting nominating petitions that investigators allege included names of dead people, fictitious people and Hollywood celebrities. He ran as an independent last year but failed to make the November ballot.

It wasn't immediately clear if Walker has an attorney. A home phone number for him could not be found.

Red Cross concludes post-tornado family casework in Delmont

DELMONT, S.D. (AP) — The American Red Cross has wrapped up its family casework relief efforts in the tornado-ravaged town of Delmont.

The agency opened cases on 60 families after the May 10 tornado, and the last of the cases was closed this week.

The storm damaged or destroyed 84 structures in and around Delmont and injured nine people. The National Weather Service rated the twister an EF-2, with a peak wind speed of 130 mph.

The Red Cross says volunteers served more than 15,000 meals and snacks the week following the disaster. The agency also has provided some financial assistance to impacted families, and helped refer them to other agencies for additional aid.

The Red Cross says staff and volunteers will continue attending community meetings and working with leaders as the rebuilding continues.

Brother of slain Rapid City police officer joins the force

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — One of the newest members of the Rapid City police force is the brother of an officer who was killed in the line of duty four years ago.

Mackenzie Armstrong was among 11 new officers sworn in during a Wednesday ceremony. His brother, Nick Armstrong, and another officer, Ryan McCandless, were shot and killed by a man during a routine traffic stop in August 2011. Officers shot the suspect, Daniel Tiger, who died the next day.

Mackenzie Armstrong said becoming a police officer "is a dream come true," and that he believes his brother would be proud of him.

"What happened that day was unfortunate, but it came from my heart that I wanted to be in law enforcement," he told KEVN-TV. "And it's where I want to be. It's what my heart wants to do."

Among those who attended the ceremony was Tim Doyle, an officer who was shot and wounded in the shootout with Tiger.

Mayor Steve Allender, who used to be the police chief, told KELO-TV that when Mackenzie Armstrong expressed interest in joining the police force, he discussed it with Armstrong's parents.

"I can't control all the outcomes, you know, of life, but I wanted to make sure we didn't put him into the system until he was physically and mentally ready for the challenge," Allender said. "And, you know, his folks are 100 percent supportive and are not being overly worrisome about any potential danger. And I think that's the right attitude for the parents of a police officer."

Convention celebrating Laura Ingalls Wilder starts Thursday

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Fans of Laura Ingalls Wilder are flocking to Brookings for the annual convention that celebrates the life and work of the "Little House" author.

The third annual LauraPalooza starts Thursday at South Dakota State University and runs through Friday.

The gathering brings together fans and academics to discuss the literary, cultural and historical impact of Wilder and her books.

The Brookings Register reports that more than 150 people are expected to attend.

There will be a silent auction of Wilder-themed items as well as a reception for authors and artists.

Pamela Smith Hill, who edited Wilder's autobiography, is scheduled to be the keynote speaker.

The book was released by the South Dakota State Historical Society Press and has sold more than 100,000 copies.

Bald eagles might be off state list of threatened species

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's Game, Fish and Parks Department will decide next month whether to remove the bald eagle from the state's list of endangered and threatened species.

The bird was taken off the federal list in 2007, though bald eagles are still federally protected.

"Biological information supports that this species has recovered in South Dakota to the point that it no longer qualifies as a state threatened species," said Eileen Dowd Stukel, wildlife diversity coordinator for Game, Fish and Parks.

Widespread use of DDT and other pesticides in the mid-1900s decimated the bald eagle population. After that happened, the first successful breeding pair of bald eagles in South Dakota was not documented until 1993. There are now an estimated 300 breeding bald eagles across the state, the Rapid City Journal reported (<http://bit.ly/1RBaa7r>).

"We know that number sounds low, but it's a pretty significant increase over the years and the species is on the upswing," Dowd Stukel said.

Since about 2004, the five-year average of 25 active nests called for in the state's bald eagle recovery plan has been met.

A public hearing on a proposal to de-list the bald eagle is scheduled Aug. 6 in Aberdeen. State wildlife officials are to vote on the proposal either that day or the next.

John Halverson, co-founder and educational director of the Black Hills Raptor Center in Rapid City, was 9 years old in 1972 when he first learned that bald eagles were considered endangered. He remembers thinking, "I hope I get to see one someday."

"In my anecdotal experience, eagles are more common than ever," Halverson said. "I see an eagle, I chart it and go about my day. I'm not even excited anymore. I say the fact that I've seen so many recently that I'm bored with them is a very positive sign."

10 Things to Know for Today

The Associated Press

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

1. LITTLE IS KNOWN ABOUT CHATTANOOGA SHOOTER

Federal officials say they have no evidence yet that anyone but the 24-year-old Muhammad Youssef Abdulazeez was involved in the rampage that killed four Marines.

2. JURY TO DECIDE WHETHER HOLMES WILL GET DEATH PENALTY

Despite the quick conviction in the Colorado theater trial, the sentencing phase will see more testimony about the shooter's mental illness.

3. WHEN BANKS IN GREECE WILL REOPEN

With an emergency infusion of cash, the government is promising to reopen the nation's banks on Monday - but customers won't be able to withdraw money except at ATMs.

4. UKRAINE, AUSTRALIA MARK ANNIVERSARY OF MH17

Somber events commemorate the shooting down of the Malaysian airliner carrying dozens of Australians over a small Ukrainian village a year ago.

5. WHO IS INVESTIGATING THE DEATH OF A WOMAN IN A TEXAS JAIL

The FBI is looking into the circumstances surrounding the death of Sandra Bland who authorities say hanged herself in her cell.

6. IOWA HOSTS FIRST FACE-OFF OF DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

All five Democrats running for president are set to speak at a party fundraiser in Cedar Rapids in the crucial early-voting state.

7. SENATE VOTES TO OVERHAUL 'NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND'

The rewrite of the much-criticized federal law would return much of the control over public education to the states.

8. WHERE SOUTH KOREANS ARE LOOKING FOR WINTER OLYMPICS EXPERIENCE

The country, which will host the 2018 games, has sent a group of hockey players to Texas to train with Dallas team members who are still trying to reach the NHL.

9. OBAMA VISITS FEDERAL LOCKUP IN OKLAHOMA

The White House says he's the first sitting president to visit a federal prison, as he pushes reforms meant to reduce the nation's prison population.

10. JORDAN SPIETH OFF TO STELLAR START AT ST. ANDREWS

The 21-year-old American, seeking his third straight major, finishes with a 5-under 67 on Day 1 of the British Open.

AP News in Brief

Little is known about man authorities say fatally shot 4 Marines in Chattanooga rampage

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — The man who authorities say killed four Marines in an attack on a military recruiting center and another U.S. military site was a 24-year-old, Kuwait-born engineer who had not been on the radar of federal authorities until the bloodshed.

Beyond that, little is known about Muhammad Youssef Abdulazeez of Hixson, Tennessee, or what motivated his rampage. Federal authorities were looking into the possibility it was an act of terrorism, but say there is no evidence yet that anyone else was involved — or that the public is in any danger.

Officials have said they do not know why the shooter targeted the facilities and have not said what

weapons he used.

Even the exact spelling of his first name was not clear: Federal authorities and records gave at least four variations. Residents in the neighborhood where Abdulazeez is believed to have lived said they didn't know him or his family well.

Hussnain Javid, a 21-year-old senior at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, said Abdulazeez studied electrical engineering at the same college. They both graduated from Red Bank High School in Chattanooga several years apart. Javid said Abdulazeez was on the high school's wrestling team and was a popular student.

Despite quick conviction, trial of Colorado theater shooter James Holmes is far from over

CENTENNIAL, Colo. (AP) — Families of the 12 people James Holmes killed and the scores he injured in a packed movie theater were relieved that jurors only needed 12 hours to reject the idea that he was legally insane when he opened fire.

Now the trial enters a new phase as the jury decides whether Holmes should die for his crimes.

Starting next week, jurors will hear testimony about Holmes' mental illness and his childhood. Prosecutors may counter with even more heartbreaking accounts from victims, ranging from those Holmes maimed to the father of his youngest victim, a 6-year-old girl who died in the 2012 attack.

There was a muted, heartbroken sense of relief Thursday afternoon following Holmes' conviction on 165 counts of murder, attempted murder and other charges. Victims wept and comforted one another in the courtroom during the hour-long recitation of each verdict, holding hands and nodding their heads with satisfaction when their loved one's names were read.

"We're all really happy he's guilty, but we're all really sad to be here," said Katie Medley, whose husband, Caleb, uses a wheelchair after being shot in the head during the attack.

Merkel urges German lawmakers to back Greek deal to avoid chaos

BERLIN (AP) — Chancellor Angela Merkel urged German lawmakers Friday to vote in favor of a third bailout package for Greece, arguing that the cash-strapped country faces chaos without a deal.

The proposed bailout, which was agreed Monday, has already cleared a number of hurdles and most observers think the German Parliament will overwhelmingly back the plan.

"The principle ... of responsibility and solidarity that has guided us since the beginning of the European debt crisis marks the entire result from Monday," Merkel told a special session of Parliament.

The alternative to an agreement, she added, "would not be a time-out from the euro that would be orderly ... but predictable chaos."

On Monday Merkel signed off on three-year bailout for Greece that is expected to be worth 85 billion euros (\$93 billion). Germany has been the largest single contributor to Greece's previous two bailouts, and has taken a hard line against the country, insisting on stringent spending cuts and tax hikes in return.

Chicago area woman found dead in Texas jail had posted social media videos about depression

DALLAS (AP) — A black woman who authorities say hanged herself in a Texas jail had posted an on-line video earlier this year saying she was suffering from "a little bit of depression," though family and friends say the 28-year-old gave no indication she was distraught enough to contemplate suicide.

As Sandra Bland's family and friends press for details of what happened, a prosecutor said Thursday that he will present the findings of a Texas Rangers' investigation to a grand jury. The FBI is also investigating the circumstances surrounding Bland's death.

Bland, who was from the Chicago suburb of Naperville, was moving to Texas to work at Prairie View A&M University, the historically black college from which she graduated in 2009. She was arrested on July 10 in Prairie View following a traffic stop, and authorities say she hanged herself Monday morning in a Waller County Jail cell in nearby Hempstead, about 60 miles northwest of Houston.

Her death comes amid increased national scrutiny of police after a series of high-profile cases in which blacks have been killed by officers or died while in custody. Social media posts have questioned the official account of her death.

Bland had posted a video to her Facebook page on March 1 in which she said that she was suffering from "a little bit of depression as well as PTSD," or post-traumatic stress disorder. She did not explain the cause of the PTSD.

Village where Malaysian plane fell marks anniversary of crash's 298 dead

HRABOVE, Ukraine (AP) — Residents of the Ukrainian village where a Malaysian airliner was shot down with 298 people aboard a year ago joined a procession to the crash site on Friday, while Australia's prime minister remembered the "savagery" of the disaster as he unveiled a plaque in Canberra that's set in soil from where the wreckage fell.

The two ceremonies come amid a sharp dispute over who was responsible for downing Malaysia Airlines Flight 17, which was heading from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur on July 17, 2014.

Ukrainian and Western authorities say the plane was downed by a missile fired either by rebels or Russian troops who allegedly back them.

The rebels and Moscow say it was hit by a Ukrainian warplane or a Ukrainian-fired missile.

In Hrabove, about 200 residents carrying flowers gathered in a church for a memorial service and procession to nearby fields organized by local leaders and the Russia-backed separatist rebels who control the area.

DEA chief confident escaped drug lord 'El Chapo' Guzman will be captured for third time

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Drug Enforcement Administration's No. 3 agent hasn't really slept since he got word Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman had sneaked out of maximum-security prison in Mexico through a mile-long tunnel that opened beneath his cell's shower nearly a week ago.

DEA's operations chief Jack Riley said Thursday that the last week has been a flurry of work speaking with his Mexican counterparts and helping direct U.S. efforts to capture one of the world's most prolific and violent drug lords for the third time in 15 years.

"This guy caused me one of the best days and worst days of my life in a span of a year," Riley told The Associated Press. "We are doing everything we can to track him down, much like we did a year or so ago when we hooked him."

Guzman was arrested in February 2014, more than a decade after his last escape from a Mexican prison in 2001.

Before taking over as DEA's operations chief in Washington last year, Riley spent four years in Chicago tracking Guzman and continuing to build a growing criminal case against the drug lord. After Guzman's

arrest in February 2014, authorities in Chicago, including Riley, called for his extradition to the United States to face trial on a litany of drug trafficking and other charges.

Democrats say Jewish voters will remain loyal to party despite GOP efforts to peel them off

MIAMI (AP) — Republicans are trying to seize on President Barack Obama's nuclear deal with Iran and strained ties with Israel's leader to cultivate Jewish voters, reasoning that a small shift in the margins could help them in battleground states like Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Democrats dismiss the effort as demagoguery from the right, saying that most Jewish voters will remain loyal to the left. The front-runner for their party's presidential nomination, former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, is among those supporting the agreement.

Congress will have a 60-day window to review the Iran deal and could pass legislation stopping Obama from lifting its sanctions on Iran. Republican debates, which begin next month, give GOP hopefuls a stage to keep the topic on the 2016 radar.

Obama said he hopes the debate on the deal would be "based on the facts, not on politics, not on posturing."

The Republican Jewish Coalition's Mark McNulty said the agreement to restrict Iranian nuclear development in exchange for sanctions relief is "the brainchild of Obama and Clinton, so it could be very appealing for a Jewish voter to consider a Republican in the White House."

In Clinton's shadow, Democratic candidates meet in Iowa for first face-off of 2016 campaign

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic presidential candidates are descending on Iowa for the first face-off of their 2016 primary, a contest that remains dominated by the outsized political influence of Hillary Rodham Clinton.

All five Democratic primary candidates are on the program for a dinnertime fundraiser sponsored by the state party in Cedar Rapids, creating an opportunity for her challengers to confront Clinton before more than 1,200 influential party activists in the crucial caucus state.

Three months into what seems like an all-but-inexorable march to the nomination, Clinton has already built a vast campaign infrastructure, establishing a multistory headquarters in Brooklyn, New York, and placing hundreds of staffers across the country.

But her first joint event with her primary rivals comes amid signs that she has yet to win over her party's most passionate supporters, the activists and small-dollar donors that will form the base of her support in the general election.

At a town hall meeting in New Hampshire on Thursday, liberal environmental protestors broke out into chants after Clinton refused to promise an immediate halt to all fossil-fuel development.

Egyptian official: Clashes erupt at Islamist demonstration in Cairo, at least 5 killed

CAIRO (AP) — An Egyptian security official says clashes and an exchange of gunfire between security forces and Islamist protesters have killed at least five people in the capital, Cairo.

The official says over 500 supporters of the banned Muslim Brotherhood group had staged a march on Friday in the Talibiya neighborhood of Giza, which is part of greater Cairo, after morning prayers following the end of the holy month of Ramadan.

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He says four people were also wounded in the clashes, which are still ongoing.

He added that street violence between Brotherhood supporters and police also erupted in the nearby town of Nahia, a Brotherhood stronghold.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Friday, July 17, the 198th day of 2015. There are 167 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 17, 1945, following Nazi Germany's surrender, President Harry S. Truman, Soviet leader Josef Stalin and British Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill began meeting at Potsdam in the final Allied summit of World War II.

On this date:

In 1821, Spain ceded Florida to the United States.

In 1917, during World War I, the British royal family adopted the name "Windsor," replacing the German Saxe-Coburg and Gotha.

In 1918, Russia's Czar Nicholas II and his family were executed by the Bolsheviks.

In 1935, the entertainment trade publication Variety ran its legendary headline, "Sticks Nix Hick Pix" (which might be translated as, "Rural audiences reject rural-themed movies").

In 1936, the Spanish Civil War began as right-wing army generals launched a coup attempt against the Second Spanish Republic.

In 1944, during World War II, 320 men, two-thirds of them African-Americans, were killed when a pair of ammunition ships exploded at the Port Chicago Naval Magazine in California.

In 1955, Disneyland had its opening day in Anaheim, California.

In 1965, the Righteous Brothers single "Unchained Melody" by Alex North and Hy Zaret was released on the Phillies label.

In 1975, an Apollo spaceship docked with a Soyuz spacecraft in orbit in the first superpower link-up of its kind.

In 1981, 114 people were killed when a pair of suspended walkways above the lobby of the Kansas City Hyatt Regency Hotel collapsed during a tea dance.

In 1996, TWA Flight 800, a Europe-bound Boeing 747, exploded and crashed off Long Island, New York, shortly after leaving John F. Kennedy International Airport, killing all 230 people aboard.

In 1998, Nicholas II, last of the Romanov czars, was formally buried in Russia 80 years after he and his family were slain by the Bolsheviks.

Ten years ago: The Iraqi Special Tribunal filed its first criminal case against Saddam Hussein for a 1982 massacre of Shiites. Tiger Woods closed with a 2-under 70 to win the British Open for his tenth career major. Sir Edward Heath, former British prime minister, died in Salisbury, Wiltshire, England, at age 89. Actress Geraldine Fitzgerald died in New York City at age 91.

Five years ago: Federal authorities in Puerto Rico arrested alleged drug kingpin Jose Figueroa Agosto after a decade-long chase through the Caribbean. Thousands of gays and lesbians from around Europe marched through Poland's capital, Warsaw, to demand equal rights and more tolerance in the heavily Roman Catholic nation.

One year ago: Eric Garner, an unarmed black man accused of selling loose, untaxed cigarettes, died shortly after being wrestled to the ground by New York City police officers; a video of the takedown showed Garner repeatedly saying, "I can't breathe." All 298 passengers and crew aboard Malaysia Air-

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lines Flight 17 were killed when the Boeing 777 was shot down over rebel-held eastern Ukraine; both Ukraine's government and pro-Russian separatists have denied responsibility for downing the aircraft. Microsoft announced the biggest layoffs in its 39-year history, outlining plans to cut 18,000 jobs. Legendary Broadway performer Elaine Stritch, 89, died in Birmingham, Michigan.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Donald Sutherland is 83. Actress-singer Diahann Carroll is 80. Comedian Tim Brooke-Taylor is 75. Rock musician Spencer Davis is 76. Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, is 68. Rock musician Terry "Geezer" Butler is 66. Actress Lucie Arnaz is 64. Actor David Hasselhoff is 63. Rock musician Fran Smith Jr. (The Hooters) is 63. German Chancellor Angela Merkel (AHN'-geh-lah MEHR'-kuhl) is 61. Television producer Mark Burnett is 55. Actress Nancy Giles is 55. Singer Regina Belle is 52. Rock musician Kim Shattuck is 52. Country singer Craig Morgan is 51. Rock musician Lou Barlow is 49. Contemporary Christian singer Susan Ashton is 48. Actor Andre Royo is 47. Actress Bitty Schram is 47. Actor Jason Clarke is 46. Singer JC (PM Dawn) is 44. Rapper Sole' is 42. Country singer Luke Bryan is 39. Actor Eric Winter is 39. Hockey player Marc Savard is 38. Actor Mike Vogel is 36. Actor Tom Cullen is 30. Actor Brando Eaton is 29. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jeremih (jehr-uh-MY') is 28. Actress Summer Bishil (BIHSH'-ihl) is 27.

Thought for Today: "Modo et modo non habebant modum." (By and by never comes.) -- St. Augustine (A.D. 354-A.D. 430).