

# Groton Daily Independent

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**A full rainbow filled the sky last night.** (Photo by Katie Miller)

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## Sunday, July 26

Legion state at Salem

**Birthdays:** Curtis Krueger • Lucius Geffre • Taylor Gese • Mark Kittelson • Sierra Tunby • Karsten Flihs • Sandy Bunn

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran worship

9:00am: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass

9:00am: St. John's Lutheran worship

9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Worship

10:00am: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Pierpont Church

11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

3:00pm: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Golden Living Center

5:00pm: HBM worship at historic Trinity Church

## Monday, July 27

Legion state at Salem

**Senior Menu:** Turkey chow mein, rice and chow mein noodles, broccoli, waldorf salad, whole wheat bread.

**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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## Midwest Masonry & concrete Pumping

**Greg Heilman, owner**

405 E 1st Ave., Groton

Greg: 253/929-9137

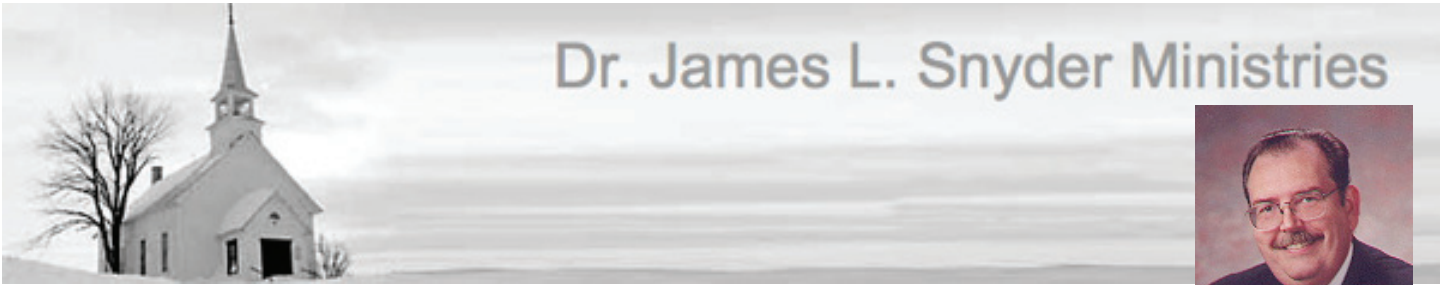
Mike: 605/492-7041

midwestmasonry1@yahoo.com



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## Advice to the travel-weary vacationer

Summer is usually a busy time, with everybody engaging in one of the great American activities. According to the overwhelming number of citizens, no summer is actually official until every American pursues this activity vigorously. Of course, I am referring to summer family vacation.

Our American government guarantees its citizens the right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." This is the great American dream, drawing people from all over the world to our shores. Once they become full-fledged American citizens, they then dream of taking a summer vacation to Italy or France.

I am not sure how it happened, but somewhere, someone defined "the pursuit of happiness" to mean summer family vacations. Actually, if left up to me, I could find happiness in some other pursuit. Like an afternoon pursuing Apple fritters. However, who am I to buck the great American tradition?

Since the "pursuit of happiness" is the annual summer vacation, I thought it might be beneficial if I offered, out of my vast years of experience, some advice to my fellow vacationers on this crucial subject. After all, somebody needs to learn from my mistakes; I am not sure I have.

Every family vacationer consists of two categories; those who plan the vacation and those who fund the vacation.

The difference is obvious. If you plan a vacation, you are not required to fund it. If you fund the vacation, you have no say in the planning.

Rules are rules and I would like to know who made up these rules. I am guessing it was no one in the funding category.

If your responsibility is to fund the family vacation, there are certain things you are not allowed to say to those who are planning said vacation. For one, the sponsor of the vacation is never allowed to mention the word "budget." Nothing kills the exuberant spirit of the vacation planner than mentioning that foul word "budget."

If you insist on interjecting the concept of budget to the summer vacation, you might as well stay at home. Now, if you exercise this option, be prepared to endure the worst summer of your life. The entire cast of your family will work together to make you regret this option. They will find ways to finagle money out of you throughout the summer, far exceeding what you would have spent on the vacation, which brings the curtain down on your precious budget.

One year I thought I had a brilliant idea. I sent my family on vacation while I stayed at home. It was the most relaxing two weeks I had ever enjoyed in my life, not to mention the quietness.

Unfortunately, a month after my family returned from their vacation, I began getting the credit card bills from their delightful jaunt. According to my credit card statement, my family had the time of their life and no expense was spared for their enjoyment.

The next year, and every year after, I accompanied my family on the annual summer vacation just to keep tabs on my credit card. And believe me; the tab grew each day of our vacation.

So, when anyone in your family mentions the word "vacation," bite your tongue if the word "budget" pops into your mind and take it like the man you are, which is the only sensible thing to do if you love a happy life.

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I know when the first mention of the concept comes up in the family discussion, immediately you might think to yourself, "is it really worth it?"

I have wrestled with this question for many years. Every annual two-week vacation takes six months to prepare, five months and two weeks to recover, along with the mysterious disappearance of a full year's salary. Following the vacation there is no logical explanation as to where that money went.

Someone said a picture is worth a thousand words. Let me modify this to apply it to the family summer vacation. A vacation picture is worth \$1,000.

Following every vacation, there is the necessary time to recover. Recuperating from the summertime vacation is like recovering the living room couch. The sofa looks refreshed and refurbished, but you know what is underneath and you know it really is not what it boasts to be.

No matter how much you recover that old living room sofa, it is still old and worn out. Appearances can be deceiving and appearances at the summer vacation can also be deceiving.

After years of financing the annual summer vacation, I have concluded that fun is expensive. I have found no way of getting around this truth.

On the other hand, grumpy is free. Lately, I have been leaning toward grumpy.

Summer vacations are necessary and a person just has to learn to deal with it and make the most of it, or the least of it, depending on your perspective.

Everybody needs to get away and rest. Even Jesus understood this concept.

He invites us to "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

The best thing about the "rest" Jesus offers is he has already paid for it. Now I can really enjoy that vacation.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road in Silver Springs Shores. He and his wife, Martha, live in the Shores. Call him at 687-4240, or e-mail [jamesnyder2@att.net](mailto:jamesnyder2@att.net). The church Web site is [www.whatafellowship.com](http://www.whatafellowship.com).

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## **Dodd-Frank: Five Years Later**

**By Senator Mike Rounds**

We recently marked the five-year anniversary of the enactment of the Dodd-Frank Act. At the time, supporters of Dodd-Frank said it would improve our economy and protect taxpayers from “too big to fail” financial institutions. Instead, our economy remains stuck in a rut and the law has plagued our country with burdensome new federal mandates. The 456 final rules enacted since the passage of Dodd-Frank have so far unleashed a bureaucratic nightmare, the cost of which is being handed down directly to the American people.

According to the American Action Forum, these rules have cost Americans \$24 billion in compliance costs and burdened job creators with 61 million new hours of paperwork. It would take close to 30,000 Americans working 40-hour weeks for an entire year to finish that much paperwork, and the salaries of more than half a million Americans to pay for those compliance costs.

South Dakota’s banking industry has been hit hard by this, spending too much time and money on regulatory compliance. Smaller banks may not be able to survive and may simply have to sell to bigger banks. At a Senate Banking Hearing, we heard from one bank that because of Dodd-Frank, now employs more compliance employees than actual loan officers. This is not only costly to the banks themselves, but also to the customers who do business with a bank. Compliance costs have to be made up somewhere, so banks have been reducing the interest rates on deposits and have increased fees for previously free services like checking accounts and online banking. Literally everyone who has a bank account is feeling the negative effects.

I have introduced amendments and legislation to take apart provisions of Dodd-Frank. One of my amendments, included in this year’s budget resolution, would provide help for people in rural areas seeking a mortgage to purchase a home. Additional legislation would repeal the so-called “pay ratio” rule in Dodd-Frank. This redundant provision requires companies to recreate already available public information on employee salaries. These are examples of why the entire law needs to be re-examined and changed so that we can truly recover from the financial crisis of 2007 and 2008 and not continue to bog down our job creators with overly burdensome federal mandates.

As a member of the Senate Banking Committee, I have been working with others to change our banking regulations. Earlier this year, we passed S. 1484, The Financial Regulatory Improvement Act of 2015, that would provide much-needed regulatory relief to the financial services industry and the consumers they serve. I also recently introduced S. 1816 with Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) to help strengthen community banks, particularly those in rural areas.

Dodd-Frank has many flaws which are limiting American growth and productivity. In the five years since Dodd-Frank was enacted, it has placed undue burden on our economy, failed to protect taxpayers from future bailouts of the financial industry and unfairly punished South Dakota consumers who bear the brunt of the increased compliance costs. I will continue to work with my colleagues in the Senate to promote legislation that helps reduce red tape and overregulation. These regulations are hurting our economy and adding costs for consumers.

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**Drew Planteen standing on 3rd after his triple**



**Drew Planteen slides in at home with the single from Dane Campbell**



**Brady Keith with a base hit**



**Dane Campbell fields the ball to throw the runner out at 2nd**



**Drew Planteen the starting pitcher the 2nd game of the Legion tourney**

## State Legion Tourney Photos



**Bennett Shabazz is safe at home with a slide. He is hit in by Drew Planteen**

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**Team warming up after rain delay to start our 2nd game against Webster**

## State Tournament Photos by Tricia Keith



**Victor Padilla gets on base with a hit, steals all the way home!**

### Saturday's Scores

Garretson 6, Tabor 3

Groton 8, Webster 0

West Central 8, Vermillion 6

McCook/Minor 5, Spearfish 4

### Today's Schedule

9. Groton Vs. Vermillion 1:00 pm

10. Garretson Vs. Spearfish 5:00 pm

11. West Central Vs. McCook/Minor Doubleheader

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## **A Disturbing Deal**

**By Rep. Kristi Noem**

Days after the Obama administration announced it had reached a nuclear deal with Iran, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei told supporters that "even after this deal, our policy toward the arrogant U.S. will not change." His uncompromising and menacing remarks were accented by chants of "Death to America" and "Death to Israel" in the background. Even Secretary of State John Kerry – one of America's staunchest supporters of the deal – called the scene "very disturbing." The Secretary's words are the same words I'd use to describe the deal the Obama administration has proposed with Iran – very disturbing.

First and foremost, the administration's proposed agreement with Iran fundamentally fails to eliminate Iran's pathway to a nuclear weapon. In fact, Iran will be allowed to keep its centrifuges and many of its nuclear production facilities intact.

What's more, access to inspect the facilities will be limited. It was President Reagan who advised us to "trust, but verify." We cannot trust Iran and under the President's proposal we still can't fully verify their nuclear activities either. Rather than anywhere-anytime access, Iran will get as much as 24 days notice before inspectors will be allowed in. A lot can be concealed in 24 days.

While America's primary objective was not reached, Iran's was. In addition to maintaining their nuclear infrastructure, the economic sanctions on Iran will begin to be lifted by the end of 2015. That could produce a windfall of up to \$150 billion almost immediately. The administration argues the sanctions could "snap back" if Iran violates the agreement, but it will take time for those sanctions to be reinstated. By the time they are, Iran will be infused with cash, meaning we will have lost our diplomatic leverage.

Moreover, there are no restrictions on how Iran – the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism – can spend this influx of cash, an idea that is extremely concerning to our ally Israel and others in the region. With the arms embargo eventually lifting as a result of this deal too, there is little doubt that Iran will be directing some of that cash toward a stronger, better equipped military. In fact, Iran is already in negotiations with Russia for the purchase of military aircraft.

We need to walk away from this agreement. While it's a good deal for Iran, it's a bad deal for America, Israel, and our allies.

Congress now has 60 days to review the agreement. After that, we can vote on whether it moves forward or not. While the President has already promised to veto congressional action against the agreement, we do have options to override him with enough congressional support.

A bad deal with Iran will jeopardize the security of America, the safety of our ally Israel, and peace around the world. I'm gravely concerned the President's proposal puts us in this jeopardizing position.

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Groton plays Vermillion at 1 p.m.

## Groton 8 - 0 Webster

📍 Home 🏠 Postseason 📅 Saturday, July 25th, 2015

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
GRO	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	3	0	8	9	2
WEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4

### BATTING

Groton	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	LOB
V Padilla	6	2	4	1	0	0	2
A Herman	3	1	0	0	2	2	3
B Shabazz	3	2	1	1	1	0	5
D Planteen	5	2	2	2	0	0	2
D Campbell	4	0	1	2	1	0	2
T Pray	5	0	0	0	0	1	2
S Schuring	3	1	0	0	2	1	0
B Keith	5	0	1	0	0	1	3
A Severson	3	0	0	0	1	1	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>

1B: Padilla 4, Shabazz, Campbell, Keith 2B: Planteen 3B: Planteen TB: Padilla 4, Shabazz, Planteen 5, Campbell, Keith SB: Padilla 3, Herman, Shabazz CS: Pray Team LOB: 11

### PITCHING

Groton	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
D Planteen	7.0	1	0	0	0	7	0
V Padilla	2.0	0	0	0	1	1	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>

WP: Planteen HBP: Planteen P-S: Planteen 71-50, Padilla 27-14

Webster	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	LOB
R Reetz	4	0	0	0	0	1	1
C Amdahl	3	0	0	0	0	1	2
L Ritchie	4	0	0	0	0	1	2
C Day	4	0	0	0	0	1	2
B Rithmiller	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
D Koslowski	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
C Zirbel	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
N Ketchum	2	0	0	0	1	1	0
M Roerig	3	0	1	0	0	2	1
T Case	3	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>

1B: Roerig TB: Roerig Team LOB: 4

Webster	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
D Koslowski	7.0	6	5	4	6	4	0
B Rithmiller	2.0	3	3	3	1	2	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>

LP: Koslowski HBP: Koslowski 2 P-S: Koslowski 120-64, Rithmiller 39-27



## Today in Weather History

July 26, 1963: An estimated F2 tornado moved northeast from 4 miles northeast of Raymond. Barns and outbuildings were destroyed on one farm, and the home was unroofed. Asphalt was ripped off a state highway.

1819 - Twin cloudbursts of fifteen inches struck almost simultaneously at Catskill, NY, and Westfield, MA. Flash flooding resulted in enormous erosion. (David Ludlum)

1921: On the summit of Mt. Wellenkuppe, in Switzerland, the temperature reached 100 degrees by 10 am. The summit has an elevation of 12,830 feet and was covered in snow.

1931: A swarm of grasshoppers descends on crops throughout the American heartland, devastating millions of acres. Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota, already in the midst of a bad drought, suffered tremendously from this disaster. Click [HERE](#) for more information from the History Channel.

1943 - Tishomingo, OK, baked in the heat as the mercury soared to 121 degrees, a state record. (The Weather Channel)

1960 - The temperature at Salt Lake City, UT, hit 107 degrees, an all-time record high for that location. (The Weather Channel)

1979: Tropical Storm Claudette stalled over Alvin, Texas, inundating the town with 45 inches of rain in 42 hours. The total included 43 inches in 24 hours, which is the maximum 24-hour rainfall in American history.








1987 - Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced hail two inches in diameter in McHenry County, IL, and wind gusts to 70 mph at Auburn, ME. A wind gust of 90 mph was recorded at Blairstown, NJ, before the anemometer broke. The high winds were associated with a small tornado. The record high of 88 degrees at Beckley, WV, was their sixth in a row. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

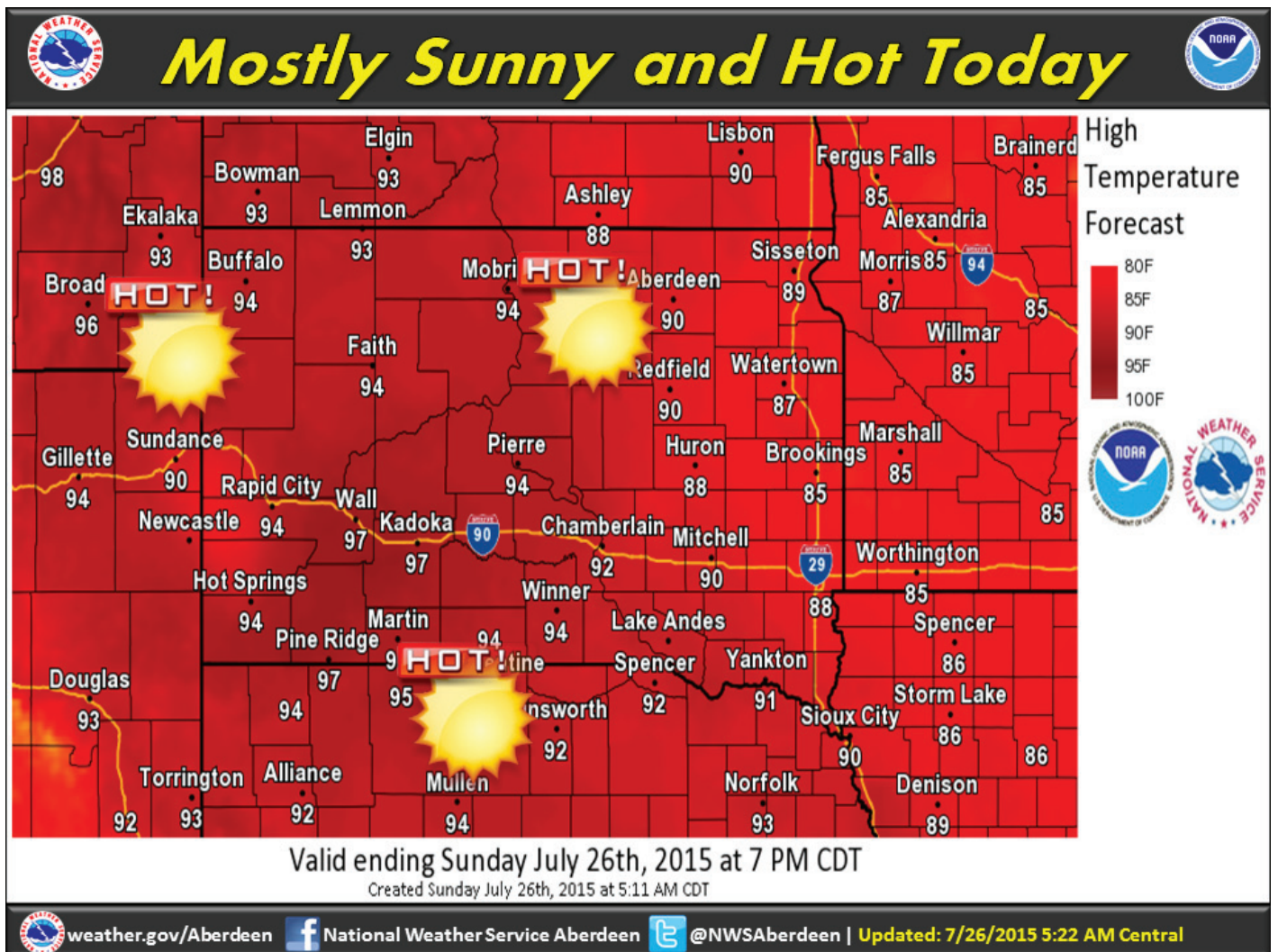
1988 - Thunderstorms produced large hail and damaging winds in the Middle Atlantic Coast Region, and in the south central U.S. Eight cities in the northwestern and north central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Salem, OR, hit 103 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Morning thunderstorms produced heavy rain in southeastern Texas, with more than three inches reported at the Wildlife Refuge in southwestern Chambers County. Evening thunderstorms produced severe weather in Montana, with wind gusts to 62 mph reported at Helena. Eight cities from Maine to Minnesota reported record high temperatures for the date, including Newark, NJ, with a reading of 99 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
						
Hot	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny then Mostly Sunny and Breezy	Chance T-storms and Breezy 40%	Mostly Sunny then Sunny and Breezy	Mostly Clear and Breezy then Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 90 °F	Low: 69 °F	High: 93 °F	Low: 70 °F	High: 84 °F	Low: 60 °F	High: 82 °F



Much of the area will experience high temperatures around 90 to 95 degrees by late afternoon under mostly sunny skies. There may be a few thunderstorms develop far out west late this afternoon.

Published on: 07/26/2015 at 5:31AM

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## Yesterday's Weather

**High:** 89.0 at 4:54 PM

**Heat Index:** 94.0 at 3:49 p.m.

**Low:** 63.3 at 3:32 AM

**High Gust:** 35 at 9:14 PM

Precip: 0.25

## Today's Info

**Record High:** 112° in 1931

**Record Low:** 42° in 1962

**Average High:** 84°F

**Average Low:** 59°F

**Average Precip in July:** 2.60

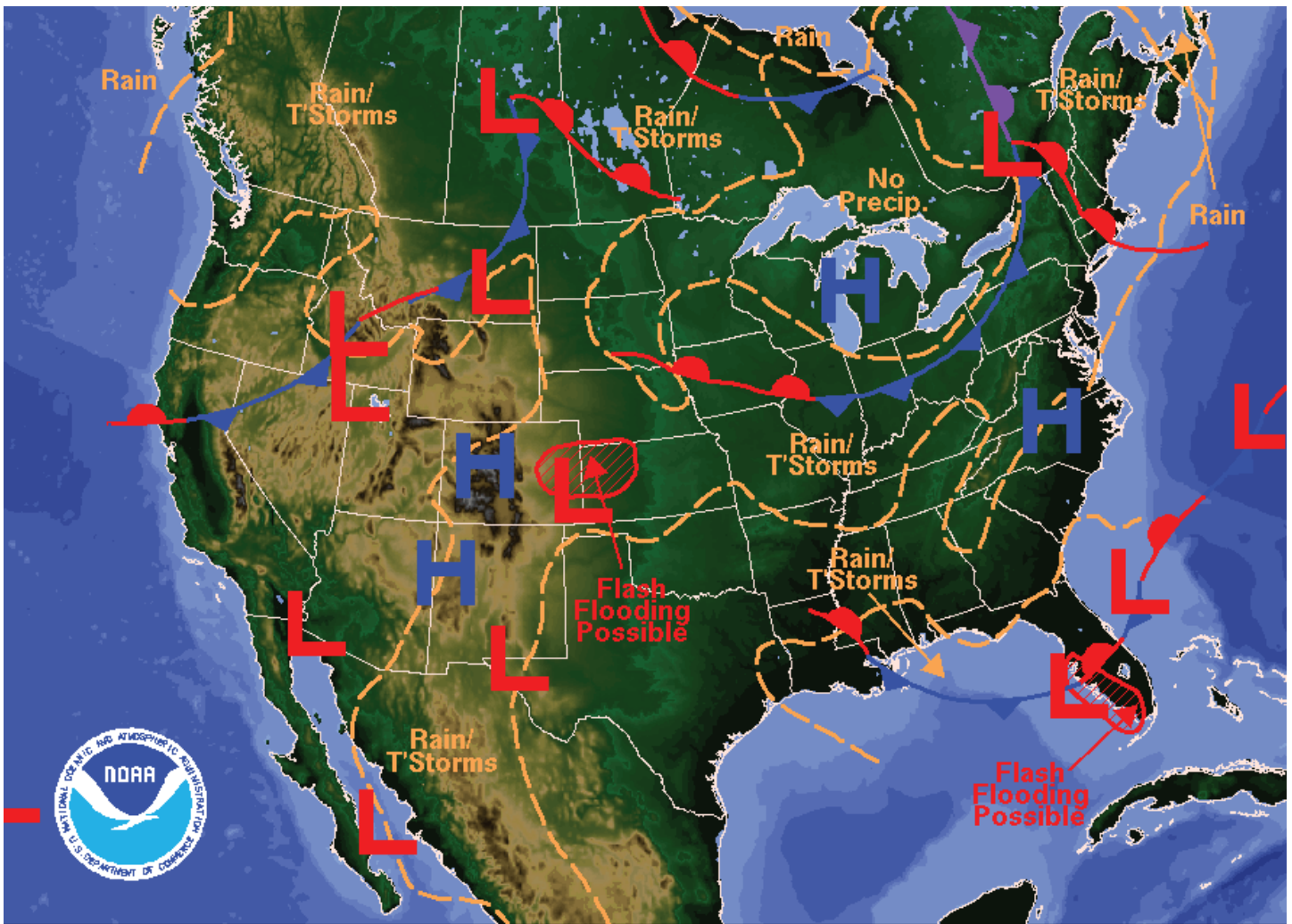
**Precip to date in July:** 2.70

**Average Precip to date:** 13.44

**Precip Year to Date:** 10.12

**Sunset Tonight:** 9:08 p.m.

**Sunrise Tomorrow:** 6:11 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sun, Jul 26, 2015, issued 4:23 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Ryan based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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## THE POTENTIAL OF PRAISE

He had a burning desire to be a writer even though everything seemed to be against him. As a young man in London, he was only able to attend school for four years. His father was jailed for bad debts and he had no one to help him.

Finally he got a job pasting labels on bottles. The owner of the business was kind enough to allow him to sleep in the warehouse where he worked. Every spare moment he had was invested in writing stories. For several years every editor rejected every story he ever submitted. But he refused to give up.

Finally, one day, one editor wrote him and said that one of his stories had been accepted for publication. He went on in his letter and complimented him for his work. A word of praise and the publication of one story were all that he needed. He continued to write and eventually perfected his passion. Today, libraries and book stores around the world contain many books written by Charles Dickens.

A word of encouragement goes a long way. And a word of encouragement is all that most of us need to "keep on keeping on." Be an "encourager" to someone today!

**Prayer:** Lord, keep our eyes open and our minds alert to find and help all who need encouraging. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**Scripture for Today:** Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,

### AP News in Brief

#### **Visiting his father's homeland, Obama says Kenya chose not to be defined by its past**

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — President Barack Obama told Kenyans on Sunday that their country is at a crossroads and urged them to “choose the path to progress” by continuing to root out corruption, eliminate income inequality and be more inclusive of women and girls.

Closing out a historic visit to the land of his father's birth, Obama said Kenya has come so far in just his lifetime, but can go even further.

“You can choose the path to progress, but it requires making some important choices,” Obama said in a speech to several thousand Kenyans packed into an indoor arena in Nairobi. Thousands more Kenyans lined Obama's motorcade route to the arena and the speech was broadcast live on local TV.

Obama traced the history of Kenya's evolution, from colonialism and isolation to independence and global engagement.

But Obama said challenges remained and he urged Kenyans, particularly its future leaders, to deal with corruption and tribal conflict, create opportunity for all, improve education and health care, treat women better and confront the threat of terrorism.

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#### **In his first speech in a year, Syria's embattled president vows to win his nation's civil war**

BEIRUT (AP) — In his first public address in a year, embattled Syrian President Bashar Assad vowed Sunday to win his country's long-running civil war while acknowledging his troops had given up control of some territory.

Assad's speech, while confident, comes as his battered country is host to the extremist Islamic State group, which is targeted in daily U.S.-led airstrikes. Turkey also has begun striking Islamic State fighters in Syria, as well as some Kurdish forces now leading a ground offensive against the extremists within the splintered country's borders.

Assad's televised speech Sunday morning, given to local dignitaries in the Syrian capital, Damascus, was his first public speech since he was sworn in for a third, seven-year in July last year. Assad has given interviews to several Arab and international media outlets in the meantime.

“We are not collapsing. We are steadfast and will achieve victory,” said Assad, who was interrupted several times by applause. “Defeat does not exist in the dictionary of the Syrian Arab army.”

In his speech, Assad tried to justify why the Syrian army has given up some areas of the country, including the northwestern city of Idlib. Assad-allied forces, including fighters from the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah and Iranian advisers, control a little less than half of Syria's 185,000 square kilometers (71,400 square miles).

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#### **Car bombing in southeast Turkey kills 2 soldiers, wounds 4; officials blame Kurdish rebels**

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — A car bomb struck a military vehicle in southeast Turkey, killing two soldiers and wounding four others in an attack blamed on Kurdish rebels, authorities said Sunday, a day after Turkey launched airstrikes against Kurdish insurgents in northern Iraq.

The Kurdish rebel group, the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, has said the airstrikes likely spelled the end of a cease-fire announced in 2013. Turkey has simultaneously bombed Islamic State positions near

the Turkish border in Syria and carried out widespread police operations against suspected Kurdish and IS militants and other outlawed groups inside Turkey. Hundreds of people have been detained.

The car bomb exploded late Saturday on a road in the town of Lice as a vehicle carrying military police officers was traveling to intervene against Kurds who had blocked a main intersection, said the governor's office in Diyarbakir, a mainly Kurdish province. It said the military had launched an operation to capture the attackers.

Assailants also attacked a police station in Diyarbakir, sparking a gunbattle, the state-run Anadolu agency reported. No one was injured in that attack.

On Saturday, Turkish fighter jets struck Kurdish rebel shelters and storage facilities across the border in northern Iraq, its first such strikes since the peace process with the Kurds was launched in 2012.

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## **Activist known for calling corrupt Chinese officials 'pigs' among dozens held in crackdown**

BEIJING (AP) — Bearded, bald and burly ex-soldier Wu Gan calls himself The Ultra Vulgar Butcher. He poses for online portraits brandishing knives in both hands that he says he'll use to "slaughter the pigs" among local officials who've done wrong.

Since 2009, he championed a confrontational approach to compel police, local officials or the courts to address alleged unfairness in China. He traveled to remote communities to shame local authorities into doing the right thing.

His stunts included putting the likeness of a local official's face on a naked mannequin and threatening to hold a funeral service for a top judge. When authorities held a fellow activist at a hotel, Wu had an open invitation for like-minded people to visit the detainee, prompting his release by jittery officials wary of a crowd.

"I don't want to see policies being dictated by hooligans who will do harm to the nation. And so we go out there to help people, with the simple hope that our action will make this country a better place to live," he said in a 2012 video he made for supporters in the event that he should ever disappear or be arrested.

That day has come. Wu was formally arrested this month, as part of a recent crackdown on a loosely allied group of more than 200 "rights-defender lawyers" and the activists associated with them. He is among dozens who remain detained and may eventually stand trial.

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## **Paris police open fire on car trying to crash through Tour de France barricades**

PARIS (AP) — Paris police officers opened fire on a car that tried to crash through barricades about eight hours before the final arrival of the Tour de France cycling race on Sunday, a police official said.

The car escaped with its two occupants apparently unharmed after coming under fire around 11 a.m. (0900 GMT; 5 a.m. EDT) in the Place de la Concorde, where the cyclists make their final triumphant rounds to conclude the race, said Luc Poignant, a spokesman with the SGP police union. Police are hunting for the people in the car.

Tour de France race director Thierry Gouvenou said that he didn't have much information about the incident, but he didn't foresee any impact on the race.

The final stage of the Tour de France is due to begin at 4:35 p.m. (1435 GMT; 10:35 a.m. EDT), leaving from Sevres, a town southwest of Paris. The riders are then due to arrive in the French capital at around 5:30 p.m. (1530 GMT; 11:30 a.m. EDT) and do 10 laps around the Champs-Elysees before finishing at Place de la Concorde at about 7 p.m. (1700 GMT; 1 p.m. EDT).

Hundreds of thousands of people gather in the Place de la Concorde and the Champs Elysees for the race's final leg.

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## **Clinton maintains she never knowingly dealt with classified information on private server**

WINTERSET, Iowa (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton said she never knowingly sent or received classified information using her private email server and did not know what messages were being cited by intelligence investigators as examples of emails containing classified information.

Clinton spoke briefly Saturday about the email matter after a Democratic gathering at the Madison County Historical Complex in which she stressed her commitment to a variety of issues, including her support for pre-kindergarten education and abortion access. Reporters raised the topic of the email during a brief news conference.

"I am confident that I never sent or received any information that was classified at the time it was sent and received. What I think you're seeing here is a very typical kind of discussion, to some extent disagreement among various parts of the government, over what should or should not be publicly released," she said.

The front-runner for her party's nomination said she wanted the information in question to be made public as soon as possible and suggested there was confusion over the issue.

"I think there's so much confusion around this that I understand why reporters and the public are asking questions, but the facts are pretty clear. I did not send nor receive anything that was classified at the time," she said.

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## **Michelle Obama opens Special Olympics at star-studded ceremony in Los Angeles**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Michelle Obama welcomed thousands of athletes with intellectual disabilities to the Special Olympic World Games on Saturday during a festive opening ceremony filled with cheers, songs and praise for their courage and determination.

"My husband and I, we are so proud of you, so incredibly proud of you, and we love you all from the bottom of our hearts," the first lady said. She said the athletes were an example to the millions of people watching the event on television.

She was introduced by Special Olympian Tim Harris, who owns a restaurant in New Mexico that he said serves "breakfast, lunch and hugs!"

Mrs. Obama "knows the power of a hug," he said, and shared one with the first lady.

Earlier, President Barack Obama welcomed the athletes by video.

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## **Background check didn't stop gun purchase by movie theater shooter, despite mental problems**

LAFAYETTE, La. (AP) — John Russell Houser was deeply troubled long before he shot 11 people in a movie theater in Louisiana, but decades of mental problems didn't keep him from buying the handgun he used.

Despite obvious and public signs of mental illness — most importantly, a Georgia judge's order committing him to mental health treatment against his will as a danger to himself and others in 2008 — Houser was able to walk into an Alabama pawn shop six years later and buy a .40-caliber handgun.

It was the same weapon Houser used to kill two people and wound nine others before killing himself at a Thursday showing of "Trainwreck." Three people remained hospitalized Saturday.

Court records reviewed by The Associated Press strongly suggest Houser should have been reported to the state and federal databases used to keep people with serious mental illnesses from buying firearms, legal experts said.

"It sure does seem like something failed," said Judge Susan Tate, who presides over a probate court in Athens, Georgia, and has studied issues relating to weapons and the mentally ill. "I have no idea how he was able to get a firearm."

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## **Phillies ace Hamels throws 1st no-hitter vs Cubs in 50 years, wins 5-0 as trade deadline nears**

CHICAGO (AP) — The scouts packed the seats behind home plate, and Cole Hamels put on quite a show. The lanky left-hander was dominant on a picturesque afternoon at Wrigley Field.

Quite the timing, too.

Hamels struck out 13 in baseball's third no-hitter of the season, leading Philadelphia to a 5-0 victory over the Chicago Cubs on Saturday in what might be his final start for the Phillies. The 2008 World Series MVP has been mentioned prominently in trade talks as the July 31 deadline approaches.

"It's something where you just go out there and enjoy the moment," Hamels said. "What I want is to be successful at it. I enjoyed the moment and this happened."

Hamels (6-7) was in control right from the start against the contending Cubs, and then got some help from rookie center fielder Odubel Herrera in the final two innings. It was the fourth no-hitter for catcher Carlos Ruiz, including the playoffs, according to STATS — tops in NL history and tied with Jason Varitek for the major league record.

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## **25 years after passage, Americans with Disabilities Act has improved the lives of millions**

NEW YORK (AP) — Five days before he was to start college, Fred Maahs' world turned upside down. Off the Delaware coast in 1980, on the last day of summer vacation, the 18-year-old took a dive from his family's boat into an unseen sandbar barely a foot below the surface, sustaining injuries that paralyzed him from the chest down.

After months of medical care, he had to find a new college to attend — the one at which he enrolled said its campus was not accessible to wheelchairs. One of his first jobs was on the second floor of a building with no elevator; two friends carried him up and down the stairs.

"For those first couple of years, I was really dependent on family or friends," said Maahs. "Back then, people with disabilities were primarily kept at home."

Were that diving accident to happen now, the campus and workplace would be accessible — with ramps, curb cuts, elevators, designated parking spots. A blind or deaf person, or anyone with a host of other disabilities, also would find accommodations enhancing their independence and engagement — all of this the legacy of the sweeping Americans with Disabilities Act, which was signed into law 25 years ago, on July 26, 1990.

"Let the shameful wall of exclusion finally come tumbling down," declared President George H. W. Bush as he prepared to sign the legislation. Some 2,000 people with disabilities — elated after years of activism — gathered on the South Lawn of the White House for the ceremony.

## **Owl with an attitude wins face-off with deputy**

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — A Boulder County sheriff's deputy got into a face-off with an owl with an attitude, and the owl won.

Deputy Sophie Berman came across the raptor on a dirt road on Tuesday as Berman patrolled an area near a campground west of Boulder.

Berman crouched down to take video of the owl and spoke to the owl, which answered Berman's words with clicks.

The owl stared wide-eyed at the deputy for a few minutes before turning around and flying away.



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## Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, July 26, the 207th day of 2015. There are 158 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlights in History:

On July 26, 1945, President Harry S. Truman, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Chinese leader Chiang Kai-shek issued the Potsdam Declaration, which called upon Imperial Japan to unconditionally surrender, or face "prompt and utter destruction." The same day, Churchill resigned as Britain's prime minister after his Conservatives were soundly defeated by the Labour Party; Clement Attlee succeeded him.

### On this date:

In 1775, Benjamin Franklin became America's first Postmaster-General.

In 1788, New York became the 11th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1882, the Richard Wagner opera "Parsifal" premiered in Bayreuth, Germany.

In 1908, U.S. Attorney General Charles J. Bonaparte ordered creation of a force of special agents that was a forerunner of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

In 1925, five days after the end of the Scopes Trial in Dayton, Tennessee, prosecutor William Jennings Bryan died at age 65. (Although Bryan had won a conviction against John T. Scopes for teaching Darwin's Theory of Evolution, the verdict was later overturned.)

In 1952, Argentina's first lady, Eva Peron, died in Buenos Aires at age 33. King Farouk I of Egypt abdicated in the wake of a coup led by Gamal Abdel Nasser.

In 1956, the Italian liner Andrea Doria sank off New England, some 11 hours after colliding with the Swedish liner Stockholm; at least 51 people died. Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal.

In 1965, the Maldives became independent of Britain.

In 1971, Apollo 15 was launched from Cape Kennedy on America's fourth successful manned mission to the moon.

In 1989, Mark Wellman, a 29-year-old paraplegic, reached the summit of El Capitan in Yosemite (yoh-SEHM'-uh-tee) National Park after hauling himself up the granite cliff six inches at a time over nine days.

In 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In 1995, businessman, former Michigan governor and U.S. housing secretary George W. Romney died at age 88.

**Ten years ago:** America's manned space program roared back to life with the launch of Discovery, 2 1/2 years after the Columbia disaster. Six nations resumed nuclear disarmament talks that North Korea had boycotted for 13 months, but little progress was made. Cubs pitcher Greg Maddux recorded his 3,000th career strikeout against San Francisco in the third inning of a 3-2, 11-inning victory for the Giants.

**Five years ago:** A U.N.-backed tribunal sentenced the Khmer Rouge's chief jailer, Kaing Guek Eav, to 35 years for overseeing the deaths of up to 16,000 people in Cambodia, with 16 years shaved off for time already served, reducing his sentence to 19 years. A Spanish man who'd undergone the world's first full face transplant appeared before TV cameras; the 31-year-old, identified only as "Oscar," thanked his doctors and the family of the donor. Matt Garza pitched the first no-hitter in Tampa Bay Rays history, beating the Detroit Tigers 5-0.

**One year ago:** Hamas resumed rocket fire on Israel after rejecting its offer to extend a humanitarian cease-fire, the latest setback in international efforts to negotiate an end to the Gaza war. The United States shuttered its embassy in Libya and evacuated its diplomats to neighboring Tunisia under U.S. military escort as fighting intensified between rival militias. Dr. Samuel Brisbane, one of Liberia's most high-profile doctors, died of Ebola; an American physician in Liberia, Dr. Kent Brantly, was reported to have caught the disease, but recovered.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actress Marjorie Lord is 97. Actor Robert Colbert is 84. Actress-singer Darlene Love is 74. Singer Brenton Wood is 74. Rock star Mick Jagger is 72. Movie director Peter Hyams is 72. Actress Helen Mirren is 70. Rock musician Roger Taylor (Queen) is 66. Actress Susan George is 65. Olympic gold medal figure skater Dorothy Hamill is 59. Actor Kevin Spacey is 56. Rock singer Gary Cherone (sher-OWN')

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is 54. Actress Sandra Bullock is 51. Actor-comedian Danny Woodburn is 51. Rock singer Jim Lindberg (Pennywise) is 50. Actor Jeremy Piven is 50. Rapper-reggae singer Wayne Wonder is 49. Actor Jason Statham (STAY'-thum) is 48. Actor Cress Williams is 45. TV host Chris Harrison ("The Bachelor"; "The Bachelorette") is 44. Actress Kate Beckinsale is 42. Actor Gary Owen is 42. Rock musician Dan Konopka (OK Go) is 41. Gospel/Contemporary Christian singer Rebecca St. James is 38. Actress Monica Raymund is 29. Actress Caitlin Gerard is 27. Actress Francia Raisa is 27. Christian rock musician Jamie Sharpe (Rush of Fools) is 26. Actress Bianca Santos is 25. Actress-singer Taylor Momsen is 22.

**Thought for Today:** "Most human beings have an almost infinite capacity for taking things for granted."  
- Aldous Huxley, English author (born this date in 1894, died in 1963).