

Groton Daily Independent

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Larson Bridal Shower

Bridal shower for Samantha Larson will be held on Saturday, August 8 from 2-4 at Olive Grove Golf Course. The couple is registered at Target.

Friday, August 7

State Teener Tourney

Senior Menu: Salmon loaf, creamed peas, watermelon, peanut butter brownie, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Kelli Hanson • Sherwin Nyberg • Jessica Grams • Lynda Townsend • Tiffany Unzen • Ryan Kutter • Connor Blumhardt

6:30am: C&MA Men's Bible Study at Dairy Queen

6:00pm: Wine on 9 Golf

Saturday, August 8

State Teener Tourney

Anniv: Brad & Diann Morehouse • 2008: April and Branden Abeln

Birthdays: Yvonne Lange • Sashia Sombke • Karter Moody

4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass

Sunday, August 9

State Teener Tourney

Birthdays: Loel Schott • Bradley Clocksene • Kim Yarborough • Lee Thompson • Laurie LaMee

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship

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

9:15am: C&MA School

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

10:15am: C&MA Fellowship time

10:45am: C&MA Worship

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

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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Groton Chiropractic Clinic

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

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Are you living to die, or dying to live? There is a BIG difference!

Dear Friend,

In a recently released, short, five minute video explaining why the Iran Nuclear Deal is so bad for Israel, the surrounding Arab nations, and the world in general (click here to watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4FkNbtkgps>), Dennis Prager begins by stating, "We say that evil is dark, but this metaphor is imprecise. Evil is actually intensely bright, so painfully bright that people look away from it. Many even deny its existence. Why, because once people acknowledge evil's existence, they know they have to confront it, and most people prefer not to have to confront evil. That is what led to WWII and the death of 55 million people."

I would argue that Dennis Prager is correct when he says, "...once people acknowledge evil's existence, they know they have to confront it, and most people prefer not to confront evil." Why is this? I suppose that there are many reasons for this, but I would like to propose one to you today.

[Before you continue to read, I need to give a disclaimer. The remainder of this email is only my opinion, and will most likely offend some who read it, and I'm okay with that. Perhaps, just perhaps, God might use it to call some to begin a journey of dying to live! If that happens, then it is worth every stroke on the keypad of my laptop!]

I am of the conviction that we don't want to confront evil, because we are too busy living to die instead of dying to live, and there is a BIG difference! If we are simply living to die, and this embodies the majority of the American people today, what is most important is our own happiness, our own comfort, our own security, and our own pleasure-seeking, and these must not be disturbed! So, we briefly look at the evil in the world, get disturbed by it, but do nothing about it, because these must not be allowed to disrupt our lives!

But what if our failure to confront the evil in the world today actually begins to jeopardize our own happiness, comfort, security, and pleasures? That's exactly what happened to the German people who stayed silent in the face of horrific evils. In the end, they lost everything!

You and I (yes, I include myself!) might be initially shocked when we hear about something so evil as the selling of body parts by Planned Parenthood, or the horrific persecution, torture and murder of Christians by groups like ISIS, Boko Haram, and others, or the realities of Human Trafficking right in our own communities, or the injustice of predatory lending, etc...but once these stories leave "the front page" of the news after a week or two, we forget about them and go back to living our happy, comfortable, secure, and pleasure filled lives. In other words, we don't do anything about it, because we are too busy living to die! Pastor and author John Piper would call this "living a wasted life."

But what would happen if we began to die to live? What would happen if we decided to die to our own pursuit of happiness, comfort, security, and pleasures, and instead began to live for something that was worth dying for? What if more people, like you and me, decided to die to the pursuit of our own happiness, comfort, security and pleasure and began living lives that confronted the evils in our world head on?

Dying to live may come with a large price tag, because confronting the evils in the world is costly! It may cost us our happiness, our comfort, our security, our pleasures, our reputation, and yes, our lives. But it may also be the most gratifying thing we have ever done, and in the end, our willingness to live for something worth dying for, may result in the end of something very evil and give freedom, and life to those for whom we are dying for.

So, will you turn away from the evils that are being thrust right into our faces in the news, or will you decide to do something and live for something worth dying for? What are your thoughts? Email me and let's talk. I would really enjoy hearing from you!

God bless you,

Mark Chase

President

South Dakota Family Policy Council

info@sdfamily.org

Hold On to Your Tax Returns; Options for Students, Others to Get Help with Tax Information IRS Special Edition Tax Tip 2015-16

The IRS recommends that you always keep a copy of your tax return for your records. You may need copies of your filed tax returns for many reasons. For example, they can help you prepare future tax returns. You'll also need them if you have to amend a prior year tax return. You often need them when you apply for a loan to buy a home or to start a business. You may need them if you apply for student financial aid.

If you can't find your copies, the IRS can provide a transcript of the tax information you need, or a copy of your tax return. Here's more information, including how to get your federal tax return information from the IRS:

Transcripts are free and you can get them for the current year and the past three years. In most cases, a transcript includes the tax information you need.

A tax return transcript shows most line items from the tax return that you filed. It also includes items from any accompanying forms and schedules that you filed. It doesn't reflect any changes you or the IRS may have made after you filed your original return.

A tax account transcript includes your marital status, the type of return you filed, your adjusted gross income and taxable income. It does include any changes that you or the IRS made to your tax return after you filed it.

You can order your free transcripts online, by phone, by mail or fax at this time.

The IRS has temporarily stopped the online functionality of the Get Transcript application process on the IRS.gov website that delivered your transcript immediately. The IRS is making modifications and further strengthening security for the online service. While you can still use the Get Transcript tool to order your transcript, the IRS will send it to you via mail to the last address we have on file for you.

To order your transcript online and have it delivered by mail, go to IRS.gov and use the Get Transcript tool.

To order by phone, call 800-908-9946 and follow the prompts.

To request an individual tax return transcript by mail or fax, complete Form 4506T-EZ, Short Form Request for Individual Tax Return Transcript. Businesses and individuals who need a tax account transcript should use Form 4506-T, Request for Transcript of Tax Return.

You should receive your transcript within five to 10 days from the time the IRS receives your request. Please note that ordering your transcript online or over the phone are the quickest options.

Keep in mind that the method you used to file your return and whether you have a refund or balance due affects your current year transcript availability. Use this chart to determine when you can order your transcript.

If you need a copy of your filed and processed tax return, it will cost \$50 for each tax year. You should complete Form 4506, Request for Copy of Tax Return, to make the request. Mail it to the IRS address listed on the form for your area. Copies are generally available for the current year and past six years. You should allow 75 days for delivery.

Mortgage Applicants. If you are applying for a mortgage, most mortgage companies only require a tax return transcript for income verification purposes and participate in our IVES (Income Verification Express Service) program. If you need to order a transcript, please follow the process described above and have it mailed to the address we have on file for you. Please plan accordingly and allow for time for delivery.

Disaster Victims. If you live in a federally declared disaster area, you can get a free copy of your tax return. Visit IRS.gov for more disaster relief information.

Financial Aid Applicants. If you are applying for financial aid, you can use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool on the FAFSA website to import your tax return information to your financial aid application. The temporary shutdown of the Get Transcript tool does not affect the Data Retrieval Tool. You may also click on their help page for more information.

If you need a copy of your transcript you should follow the information above to request it as soon as

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possible. It takes 5 to 10 calendar days for transcripts to arrive at the address the IRS has on file for you.

Identity Theft Victims. Did you receive a notice from the IRS about a suspicious return? Has the IRS notified you that it did not accept your e-filed return because of a duplicate Social Security Number? If you answered yes to either question, then you may be a victim of tax-related identity theft. If you are a tax-related identity theft victim you first need to file the Identity Theft Affidavit. If you are waiting for the IRS to resolve your case but need a transcript, you will need to call our Identity Protection Specialized Unit line to process your request. You can call the Unit at 800-908-4490. For more information please review our Taxpayer Guide to Identity Theft.

Tax forms are available 24/7 on IRS.gov/forms. You can also call 800-829-3676 to get them by mail.

Additional IRS Resources:

Tax Topic 156 – Copy or Transcript of Your Tax Return – How to Get One



Treeline Tree Service

**Over 30 Years
of Combined
Experience!**

**TJ Sperry:
380-7915**

**Tyler Sperry:
216-8431**

Sperry Stump Removal

Service Notice: Raymond Alberts

Services for Raymond Alberts, 94, of Groton will be 11:00 a.m., Monday, August 10th at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Pastor Elizabeth Johnson will officiate. Burial will follow in Sunset Memorial Gardens, Aberdeen under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held at the church from 5-7 p.m., Sunday with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Raymond died Thursday, August 06, 2015 at Avera St. Lukes, Hospital, Aberdeen.



10th Annual Jan Hinrichs Memorial 5 X 5



Softball Tournament

★ ★ ★ August 8 & 9, 2015

Claremont Ballpark



Silent basket auction at the church on Saturday!

Many fun activities planned:

Poker run

Honker squares

Gun raffles

Full concession stand

Just to name a few!!



If you want to play but do not have a team,
please call Tom Feser at 294-7346

All proceeds will go to the improvement of
Claremont City Park.

Today in Weather History

August 6, 1962: Wind damaged farm buildings and hail damaged crops over a large area. The area affected was northern Faulk, portions of Spink, Northern Clark, Codington, and Grant, along with Day County.

August 6, 1969: During the day and evening hours, two relatively large storms brought destructive weather to much of Minnesota. The northerly storm area moved in from North Dakota between Fargo and Grand Forks. The southern storm rapidly developed north of Wedena. These two storms combined to cause twelve tornadoes, two large areas of wind and hail damage, and one waterspout. The storms killed 15 people, injured 106, and caused 4.8 million dollars in property and public utility damage.

August 6, 1969: The first report of high winds was southeast of Piedmont with gusts of 65 to 70 mph estimated by a National Weather Service employee. Damage in that area included several downed trees and leveled gardens. As the storm moved east, large hail was reported. The first wind gust at Ellsworth AFB was 89 mph at 1918 MST on the northwest end of the runway. By 1925 MST, sustained winds were over 50 mph for nearly 10 minutes and the peak gust was 114 mph. The sensor on the southeast end of the runway, 2.5 miles away, recorded a wind gust of 114 mph at 1929 MST. The damage on the base included several large trees blown over and snapped in half and roof damage to base housing units. A few tents set up on the taxiways for an air show were blown around, but not significantly damaged. A survey by base meteorologists indicated the main downburst winds hit over open prairie surrounding the runway, where there are no trees or structures. Also between 1920 and 1930 MST, a meteorology student estimated winds between 70 and 80 mph at Box Elder, where gardens were leveled and wooden fences and roofs were damaged.

1904 - A flash flood near Pueblo, CO, washed a train from the tracks killing 89 passengers. A bridge, weakened by the floodwaters sweeping through the valley below, gave way under the weight of the train dashing all but the sleeping cars into the torrent drowning the occupants. Rail service was frequently interrupted in the Rocky Mountain Region and southwestern U.S. that summer due to numerous heavy downpours which washed out the railroad beds delaying trains as much as five days. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1918 - Philadelphia, PA, established an all-time record with a high of 106 degrees. New York City experienced its warmest day and night with a low of 82 degrees and a high of 102 degrees. Afternoon highs of 108 degrees at Flemington NJ and Somerville NJ established state records for the month of August. (The Weather Channel) (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987)

1984 - El Paso, TX, normally receives 1.21 inches of rain in August. They got it in forty-five minutes, with four more inches to boot, during a storm which left Downtown El Paso under five feet of water. (The Weather Channel)

1986 - A rare outbreak of seven tornadoes occurred in New England. One tornado carved its way through Cranston RI and Providence RI causing twenty injuries. Rhode Island had not reported a tornado in twelve years, and three touched down in 24 hours. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1987 - Morning thunderstorms drenched Goldsboro, NC, with 3.37 inches of rain. Late morning thunderstorms in Arizona produced dime size hail, wind gusts to 50 mph, and two inches of rain, at Sierra Vista. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - A dozen cities in the central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including Waco, TX, with a reading of 107 degrees. The record high of 88 degrees at Marquette, MI, was their twenty-third of the year. Afternoon and evening thunderstorms produced severe weather in Nebraska, Minnesota and Wisconsin, with wind gusts to 81 mph reported at McCool, NE. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Forty cities in the central U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Valentine, NE, with a reading of 40 degrees, and Belcourt ND with a low of 37 degrees. Martin SD was the cold spot in the nation with a morning low of 30 degrees. Unseasonably hot weather prevailed over Florida and Washington State, with record highs of 100 degrees at Daytona Beach, FL, 101 degrees at Walla Walla, WA, and 103 degrees at Hanford, WA. (The National Weather Summary)

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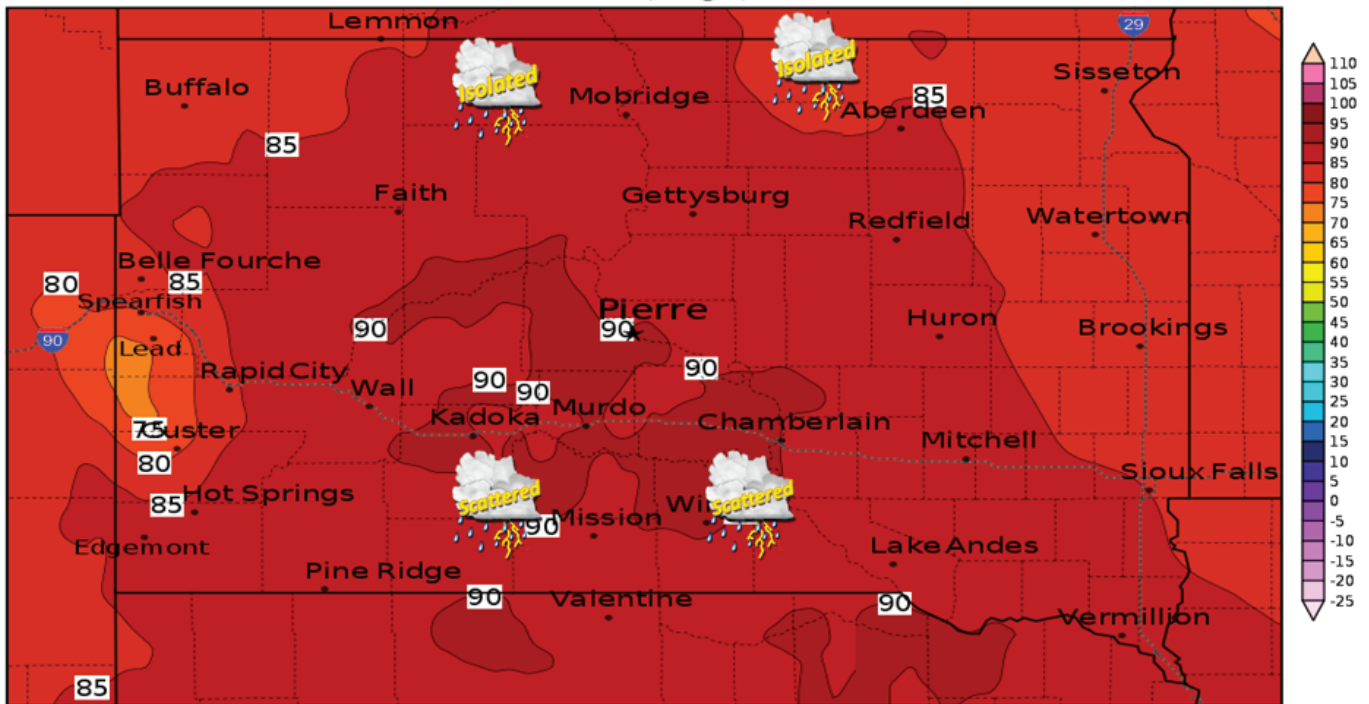
Today	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
Patchy Dense Fog then Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy then Slight Chance T-storms	Slight Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Partly Cloudy	Sunny
High: 86 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 82 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 81 °F	Low: 58 °F	High: 82 °F



Warmer Today



Maximum Temperature (°F)
Valid: Fri, Aug 7, 2015



National Weather Service
Aberdeen/Rapid City/Sioux Falls, SD
8/7/2015 4:35am CDT

Follow Us: [f](#) [t](#) [v](#)
weather.gov



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Published on: 08/07/2015 at 5:34AM

A weak system crossing the region today will bring a slight chance for showers and thunderstorms for locations along the North Dakota, South Dakota border. Most locations will see dry conditions however. Highs today will warm into the 80s and lower 90s.

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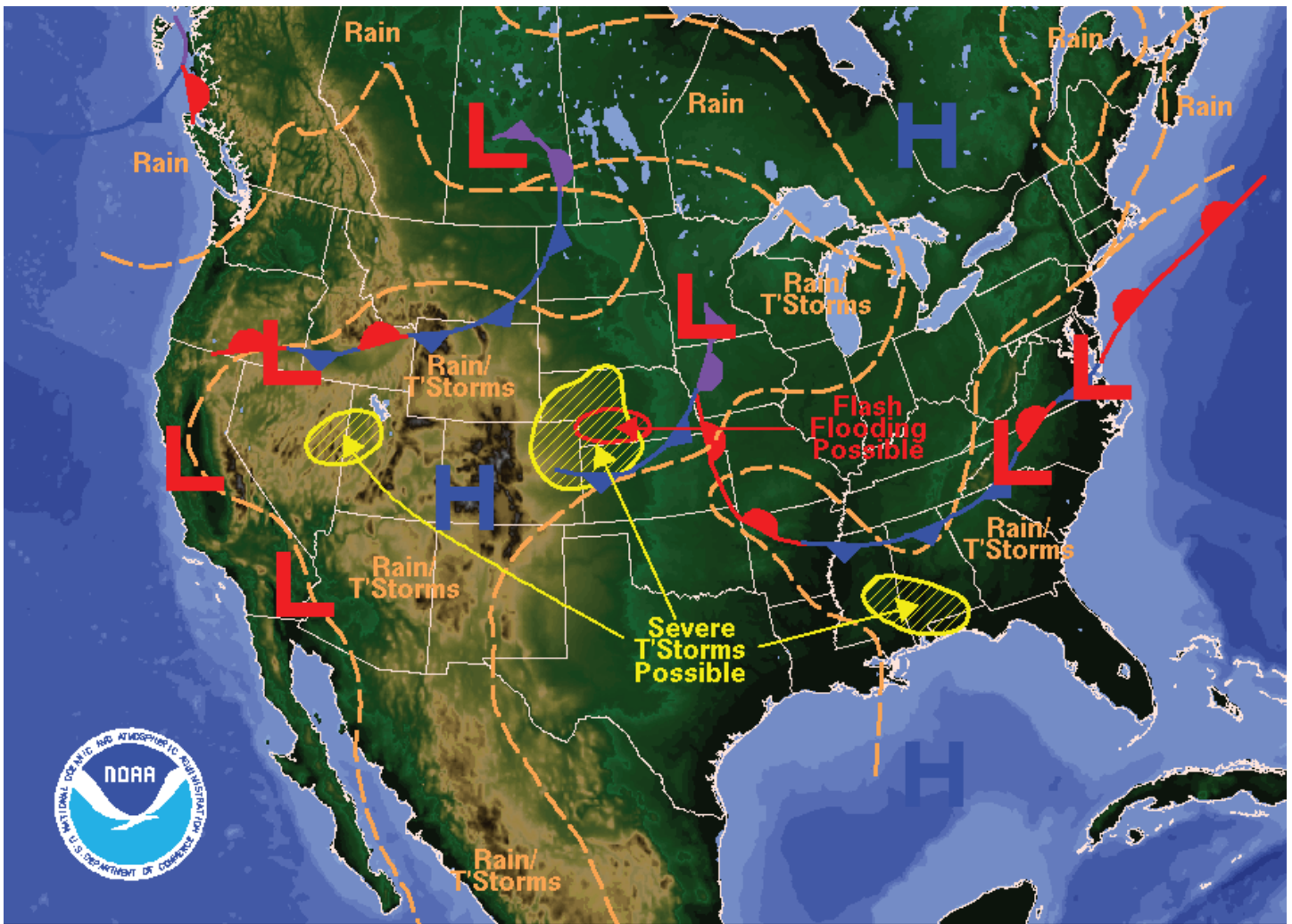
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Yesterday's Weather

High: 79.6 at 11:32 AM
Low: 64.3 at 4:01 AM
High Gust: 29 at 2:48 AM
Precip: 0.14

Today's Info

Record High: 102° in 1949
Record Low: 42° in 1921
Average High: 83°F
Average Low: 58°F
Average Precip in Aug: 0.55
Precip to date in Aug: 0.61
Average Precip to date: 14.41
Precip Year to Date: 12.18
Sunset Tonight: 8:53 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:25 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Fri, Aug 07, 2015, issued 4:18 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Kong based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



FINDING LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Darkness.

We've all experienced it. Sometimes feared it. Always recognized it. Occasionally wanted it. Most often found our way out of it. But have you ever tried to define it? Or explained it?

A quick and easy answer would be: "The absence of light." When darkness surrounds us we need light to discover where we are and, perhaps where we might want to go.

Another question might be: Do we need darkness? Perhaps, some might say, "We need it for rest and peacefulness." But, we also need it to see the stars.

There are times in all of our lives when we are going through what we might call the "deepest darkness imaginable." Suddenly, a glimmer of light appears. And then it grows, and then becomes larger and larger. Finally, we are surrounded by light.

Isaiah had a unique experience with darkness. It kept him from seeing God at work in His world. But, one day his life changed and he wrote, "In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord." After his vision he was able to recognize the presence and power of God and see His light. And after that experience he became a mighty prophet and counselor to kings and prophesied many signs that described the coming Messiah. From the darkness that surrounded him to God's redeeming light.

It worked for Isaiah. It will work for us if we see His light.

Prayer: Open our eyes, Lord, that we may see Your light and find the path You have set before us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Isaiah 6:1-4 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.

News from the Associated Press

South Dakota man accused in stabbing sentenced to 1 year

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man accused of stabbing a man in the back of the head has been sentenced to a year in prison.

Twenty-year-old River Grey Bull, of McLaughlin, pleaded guilty in May to a federal charge of assault with a dangerous weapon. The incident happened Jan. 24 on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation.

Authorities say officers could not initially find Grey Bull when they arrived at the scene, but later spotted him near a patrol vehicle. He allegedly had blood spots on his sweatpants.

Grey Bull was also ordered to serve three years of supervised release.

A federal public defender could not be immediately reached for comment.

North Dakota woman sentenced for assault on reservation

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A North Dakota woman accused of stabbing another woman on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation has been sentenced in South Dakota federal court.

Twenty-seven-year-old Marissa Sitting Dog, of Fort Yates, North Dakota, pleaded guilty in April to assault with a dangerous weapon. Authorities say the incident happened on Feb. 22.

Sitting Dog was sentenced to 18 months in custody, to be followed by three years of supervised release.

A federal public defender could not be immediately reached for comment.

The Standing Rock Reservation straddles the North and South Dakota border.

Deadline approaching to apply to be a Highway Patrol trooper

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol says there's still time to apply to be a state trooper. The Department of Public Safety announced Thursday the deadline to apply is Aug. 14.

The Highway Patrol says positions are expected to open in the next year. The application process begins early because training takes several months.

Requirements necessary to become a trooper include having U.S. citizenship, being 21-years-old and being eligible to have a state driver's license, in addition to physical requirements.

Applicants must also pass a written test, but certified South Dakota law enforcement officers don't need to take it.

Col. Craig Price is the superintendent of the Highway Patrol. Price says there's rigorous training involved in becoming a trooper.

Puddle of Mudd singer accused of DUI after stop near Sturgis

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — Puddle of Mudd singer Wes Scantlin faces his second DUI charge in less than two weeks, this time in South Dakota near the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.

A state Highway Patrol trooper pulled Scantlin over early Wednesday for a traffic violation east of Sturgis. The rock group has had concerts in the area.

The 43-year-old music star has been charged in Meade County for DUI and possession of up to two ounces of marijuana.

Scantlin's ticket says he declined a blood alcohol content test after being pulled over in a minivan. He posted bail.

Scantlin was charged in Minnesota in July with drunken driving and fleeing police after a chase that reached speeds of about 100 mph.

As of Thursday, the patrol has made 150 DUI arrests in the Sturgis rally area.

US Sen. Mike Rounds supports Huckabee's presidential bid

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds has endorsed former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee's bid for the White House in 2016.

Rob Skjonsberg, who managed Rounds' 2014 U.S. Senate campaign, said Thursday that Rounds knows Huckabee to be a good governor and a good man.

Huckabee endorsed Rounds last year during his bid for U.S. Senate and later campaigned for him.

Huckabee is considered a popular choice among evangelicals and social conservatives, and he will be one of 10 Republicans participating in the party's primetime presidential debate Thursday evening.

The latest federal campaign finance reports show that Rounds' Peter Norbeck Leadership PAC donated \$2,000 to Huckabee's presidential campaign in June.

Skjonsberg says the former South Dakota governor likes that Huckabee could bring experience as an executive to the presidency.

SD woman charged with felony child abuse in connection with boy's injuries arrested for DWI

KYLE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota woman who authorities accuse of injuring her five-week old baby has been arrested for an apparent violation of her pretrial release conditions.

Federal court records show Jeannie Janis was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated in July on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Authorities say her blood alcohol level when she was arrested was .106 even though her pretrial release conditions banned her from consuming alcohol.

The Kyle woman was indicted in February for felony child abuse and neglect. She pleaded not guilty to the charge and was allowed to remain free on a personal recognizance bond.

The indictment charges that Janis abused the boy in June 2014.

Janis's attorney didn't immediately return a call seeking comment on her arrest.

Woman pleads guilty to dealing methamphetamine in 2 states

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — A 32-year-old woman has pleaded guilty to dealing large quantities of methamphetamine in North Dakota and Minnesota.

Kelli Caron is charged in federal court with conspiracy to possess with intent to deliver a controlled substance. Authorities say the ring involved at least 500 grams of meth.

Caron faces life in prison because of previous drug convictions in Minnesota in 2010 and South Dakota in 2007. She is currently serving a separate state sentence at a prison in Shakopee, Minnesota.

Sentencing is scheduled for Oct. 29 in Fargo.

Woman accused of leaving kids to die put in halfway house

BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A South Dakota woman who authorities said left her two young daughters to die in North Dakota is residing at a halfway house in Mandan until she is sentenced, after making and later withdrawing a request to stay with a convict she'd met in jail.

It's the latest development in a case that's included jailhouse rants and a seemingly lenient judge.

Rosebud Sioux member Michelle Wounded Face is to be sentenced Sept. 2 on child abuse and neglect charges to which she pleaded guilty in June. Authorities said Wounded Face abandoned her 2- and 4-year-old daughters in a car in a rural area of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, where she was living at the time, without adequate clothing for the bitter-cold January weather. They survived and are living with their father.

Authorities said Wounded Face exhibited more strange behavior in jail, drinking toilet water and claim-

ing to be the daughter of gods. She also said at her arraignment that she had gone on a monthlong hallucinogenic-drug binge after the death of a close aunt and did not remember leaving her children. She also told U.S. District Judge Daniel Hovland that she had gotten sober in jail and was taking prescribed antidepressants and anti-anxiety drugs.

Hovland ordered Probation and Pretrial Services to put Wounded Face on a waiting list for a halfway house. Assistant Federal Public Defender Ryan Costello filed a request June 12 for a detention hearing, saying Wounded Face wanted to be released into the custody of a Jamestown woman whom she had met in the Stutsman County jail. The woman had a history of misdemeanor driving, substance abuse and bad check convictions but no felonies, Costello wrote, and she was working to turn her life around and felt she could help Wounded Face.

Costello did not detail the circumstances of the meeting in the document. Federal Public Defender Neil Fulton declined comment, citing attorney-client privilege. A telephone listing for the woman could not be found.

Costello later withdrew the motion, saying only that "Michelle no longer wishes to be released to (the woman's) residence and is content waiting on the wait list for release to a residential re-entry center."

Wounded Face was transferred to a halfway house July 1.

She could get up to 10 years in prison but also could be sentenced under federal guidelines to time served, about six months. Hovland has said he'd like to see Wounded Face get help rather than a lengthy prison term.

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. TRUMP-INSPIRED DEBATE DRAMA UNSETTLES GOP FIELD

When the billionaire businessman didn't rule out running as a third-party candidate, if he doesn't win the nomination, it sparked fresh waves of anxiety within the Republican Party.

2. WHICH KEY DEMOCRAT COOLS TO TEHRAN PACT

New York Sen. Chuck Schumer, the No. 3 Senate Democrat and next-in-line party leader, is breaking with Obama and will oppose the Iran nuclear deal.

3. LACK OF COHESIVE RESPONSE TO FLIGHT 370 APPARENT

Malaysia's assertion that more debris potentially linked to the missing jetliner washed up on an Indian Ocean island puzzles French officials.

4. HOW THINGS CHANGED IN FERGUSON

Since the fatal shooting of black teen Michael Brown by a white officer in this St. Louis suburb, the town changed its policing and interaction with its largely black community.

5. WHAT ONE MIGRANT CAMP LOOKS LIKE IN FRANCE

A Calais refugee camp mushrooms into a veritable village — with a mosque, church and myriad shops, all built by migrants from plastic tarp and plywood.

6. WHERE A-BOMB VICTIMS FEEL AT HOME

Since 1970, hundreds of elderly survivors live in four Hiroshima nursing homes after they lost their health, families, jobs and a chance at getting married.

7. WHY NORTH KOREA IS PUSHING ITS CLOCKS BACK

Pyongyang is pulling back its current standard time by 30 minutes on Aug. 15, it says, to erase the legacy of Japanese rule from 1910-1945 on the 70th anniversary of liberation.

8. FINDING THEIR VOICE: CLINIC HELPS TRANSGENDER CLIENTS

Speech pathologists at the University of Connecticut are helping them develop a voice that matches the sex they identify with to each ensure a successful transition.

9. NO ELECTRICITY, NO WATER, NO BATHROOM, NO PROBLEM

Travelers to New York City bold enough to book a parked van for \$22 a night through Airbnb do get a

bed and a spectacular view of the Manhattan skyline from across the East River in Queens.

10. WHO SIGNED OFF FROM 'THE DAILY SHOW'

Jon Stewart, America's foremost satirist of politicians and the media, tapes his final Comedy Central hit after 16 years as host.

AP News in Brief

Donald Trump's debate drama highlights the still-unsettled Republican race for president

CLEVELAND (AP) — It took just one question for chaos to erupt in Cleveland.

"Is there anyone on stage, and can I see hands, who is unwilling tonight to pledge your support to the eventual nominee of the Republican Party and pledge to not run an independent campaign against that person," asked Fox News' Bret Baier to kick off the first Republican debate of the 2016 campaign for president.

Only one hand went up, and with it, billionaire businessman Donald Trump sparked fresh waves of anxiety within the GOP as he went on to headline a debate that at times felt more like a circus than a forum for those who aspire to the White House.

The primetime ruckus on national television overshadowed some of the GOP's biggest stars, while creating fresh openings for others. But more than anything else, Thursday night's two-hour show — and Trump's presence made sure it was a show — was an in-your-face reminder the race for Republican nomination remains leaderless and unsettled.

The yelling erupted just minutes into the debate, when Trump answered Baier's question and refused to rule out a third-party bid should one of his many rivals beat him in the Republican contest.

FACT CHECK: Republican candidates veer from the truth in 1st presidential primary debate

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans seeking their party's 2016 presidential nomination have the challenging task of trying to stand out among the 17 candidates in the race, and Thursday's televised debate was the first opportunity for the party to start whittling down its choices. So it's no surprise that the candidates had a vested interest in puffing up their own records as governors, senators and public figures. And some of them just got the facts wrong.

Some of the claims in the Cleveland debate and how they compare with the facts:

DONALD TRUMP: "If it weren't for me, you wouldn't even be talking about illegal immigration."

THE FACTS: Republicans have been talking about immigration for at least 30 years, including former President George W. Bush and the Republican field in the 2008 and 2012 presidential elections. In 2013, an immigration overhaul seeking to address illegal immigration passed the Senate with strong Republican support, although the House never took it up. And Republican debate about immigration has only intensified in the wake of President Barack Obama's sweeping executive action shielding from deportation millions of immigrants in the U.S. illegally.

No. 3 Senate Democrat opposes nuclear deal with Iran, says risk it presents is too great

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Chuck Schumer, a New York Democrat expected to be the party's next leader in the Senate, said he will oppose the Iran nuclear deal in spite of President Barack Obama's intense lobbying in favor of the accord.

The deal, struck last month with Tehran and Western powers, would curb Iran's nuclear program in

exchange for billions of dollars in relief from crippling sanctions.

"The very real risk that Iran will not moderate and will, instead, use the agreement to pursue its nefarious goals is too great," Schumer said in opposing the pact. He said he based his decision on the nuclear and non-nuclear elements of the accord and on the question, "Are we better off with the agreement or without it?"

A leading Jewish Democrat, Schumer was the first senator of Obama's party to step forward to oppose the deal. His announcement Thursday night came just hours after two other Senate Democrats — New York's Kirsten Gillibrand and New Hampshire's Jeanne Shaheen — announced their support for the international accord.

"After deep study, careful thought and considerable soul-searching, I have decided I must oppose the agreement and will vote yes on a motion of disapproval," he said in a statement issued weeks before he will cast a vote.

French officials question Malaysia claims on more debris from missing Flight 370

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Malaysia's assertion that more debris potentially linked to missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 had washed up on an Indian Ocean island prompted puzzlement from French officials, adding to criticisms that the international response to one of the most famous aviation mysteries of all time is suffering from an exasperating lack of cohesion.

Ever since the Boeing 777 vanished on a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing on March 8, 2014, Malaysian officials have been accused of giving inaccurate statements and withholding information from families and other countries involved in the investigation.

On Thursday, Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak's statement that a wing fragment found on a French island had been definitively linked to Flight 370 prompted cautious responses from French, U.S. and Australian officials involved in the probe, who would say only that it was likely or probable the part came from the missing plane.

Malaysian Transport Minister Liow Tiong Lai added to the confusion later Thursday, saying a Malaysian team had found more debris on Reunion Island, including a window and some aluminum foil, and had sent the material to local authorities for French investigators to examine.

"I can only ascertain that it's plane debris," Liow said. "I cannot confirm that it's from MH370."

A year after Michael Brown's death, a changed Ferguson tries to move beyond shooting, protests

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP) — A year ago, Ferguson, Missouri, was a mostly quiet working-class suburban town. The uneasy relationship between its growing black population and its mostly white police force barely registered in local headlines.

Everything changed on Aug. 9, 2014, when a white police officer named Darren Wilson shot and killed Michael Brown, an unarmed black 18-year-old. The street confrontation on that sultry day launched the "Black Lives Matter" movement.

Now the city government, and the streets themselves, look much different.

The city has a new police chief, a new city manager and a new municipal judge — all blacks who replaced white leaders. All Ferguson officers wear body cameras. The city council has new members, too, several of whom are black. And the business district that was at the center of last year's sometimes-violent protests is slowly rebuilding.

The unrest that followed the shooting scarred a proud community, which has spent nearly a year trying to atone for past sins and move ahead.

As Fed weighs rate hike, US jobs report for July likely to show another solid gain above 200K

WASHINGTON (AP) — The jobs report for July that the government will release Friday is expected to show another month of solid gains, matching the steady hiring that has propelled the U.S. economic expansion.

The report will also provide a key piece of evidence for the Federal Reserve to weigh in deciding whether the U.S. economy is ready for it to raise interest rates from record lows as soon as September.

Economists have forecast that employers added 225,000 jobs in July and that the unemployment rate remained at a seven-year low of 5.3 percent, according to a survey by FactSet. The job growth would roughly match June's 223,000 gain and the healthy monthly average of 244,583 over the past year.

The government will issue the July jobs report at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time.

Another hiring gain above 200,000 would likely nudge the Fed closer to its first rate hike in nearly a decade. The Fed has held its key short-term rate near zero since late 2008, a policy introduced after the financial crisis to try to energize the economy through stronger borrowing, investing and spending. Now, more than a half-dozen years into the recovery, Fed Chair Janet Yellen has suggested that the economy not only can tolerate but needs higher rates.

Survivors of A-bomb — 'marked with same scar' — find acceptance at Hiroshima nursing homes

HIROSHIMA, Japan (AP) — Ayako Ishii was 19 and in love for the first time: She was studying the art of flower arranging in Kyoto and fell for her teacher. It was not to be, for the same reason her many subsequent attempts to find love were not to be.

When the man's family found out that Ishii was from Hiroshima, they banned their relationship from developing further.

"There are many things I could have said, but I didn't as my heart was closed and I was resigned," Ishii, now 78, said with a cynical laugh. Beneath her neatly coiffed gray hair, her eyes glittered, as if they were filled with tears.

Even those who survived the Aug. 6, 1945, A-bomb attack on Hiroshima were transformed by it. They were harmed not only physically but mentally, long before post-traumatic stress disorder was even a diagnosis. Many lost relatives — sometimes all of them. They were stigmatized by people fearful that the radiation they were exposed to could cause disease and birth defects.

Many grew old with no one to care for them, which is why Ishii's nursing home, Mutsumi-en or "Garden of Amity," opened in 1970. Now some 600 Hiroshima survivors live in a total of four nursing homes intended just for them.

Huge migrant camp in Calais, a nest of squalor, takes on air of permanence with lives in limbo

CALAIS, France (AP) — The kitchen is a rustic grill under a tarp in a fetid-smelling camp teeming with migrants — but for Zubair Nazari it means survival. The teen, who ended up in this port city after a perilous escape from the Taliban, sticks with a group of fellow Afghans who do their best to recreate the tastes of home — a stew of eggs, onions and tomatoes — amid a stretch of squalor known as "the jungle."

"We don't eat like this every day," said Nazari of the simple meal that was, in fact, a special treat cooked up for visitors. "The jungle is not a place for humans. It's just for animals."

An estimated 2,500 migrants are currently at the wind-swept camp surrounded by sand dunes that sprang up in early April when a state-approved day center for migrants was opened nearby. Unlike the others, this refuge far from Calais' city center — and more than a two-hour walk to the Channel tunnel — has mushroomed into a veritable village. A mosque, church and myriad shops, all built by migrants from plastic tarp and plywood, convey a sense of permanence. It's a sign that, while most migrants are desperate to

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leave Calais, they appear increasingly resigned to the long haul in a city that is groaning under the strain of the migrant load.

Maya Konforti of Auberge des Migrants — Migrants' Shelter — an NGO that helps supply food, tents and blankets, says the camp's building binge is due in part to its far-flung location, with no nearby grocery stores. But another reason is that some 30 percent of the camp population is seeking political asylum in France — and these people know they are in for a prolonged wait.

Squalor is the only constant between this new "jungle" and the makeshift encampments bulldozed by authorities. "There is no water, no food, no clothing," Nazari said. "Where are the human rights?"

Last laughs: Jon Stewart ends 'Daily Show' run with 'moment of Zen,' Bruce Springsteen

NEW YORK (AP) — Jon Stewart said goodbye to "The Daily Show" on Thursday, America's foremost satirist of politicians and the media ushered out by Bruce Springsteen and a reunion of the many colleagues that he worked with during 16 years as host.

"Guess what? Stewart said. "I've got big news. This is it."

Armed with a razor-sharp wit and research team adept at finding video evidence of hypocrisy or unintentional comedy among the nation's establishment, Stewart turned a sleepy basic-cable entertainment show into a powerful cultural platform. But the 52-year-old comic announced last winter that he was getting restless and it was time to move on.

For his finale, he pretended to report on Thursday's Republican presidential debate — which actually happened after the taping — but said he didn't have enough remaining correspondents to talk about all the candidates. That proved to be the vehicle to bring in a long succession of personalities whose careers were jump-started by Stewart when they were on the show, like Aasif Mandvi, Lewis Black, Stephen Colbert, Steve Carell, Rob Corddry, Samantha Bee and Wyatt Cenac.

He'd been away from the show for more than a decade, but Carell said that "becoming an international superstar is just something I did while awaiting my next assignment."

Van down by the river: Parked vehicles latest NYC lodging choice for bold, cheap tourists

NEW YORK (AP) — There's no electricity, no running water, no bathroom.

But travelers to New York City bold enough to book a parked van for \$22 a night through Airbnb do get a real bed and a spectacular view of the Manhattan skyline from across the East River in Queens.

"If you want a New York adventure, this is it. Great location, great view," says Rapha Schaele, a 23-year-old student from Freiburg, Germany, who recently stayed in the van with two friends for four days.

While parked vehicles make up a tiny fraction of the thousands of Airbnb private accommodation listings in New York City — just three vans, a converted yellow taxi and two campers — they provide an option for adventurous, budget-minded visitors seeking a place to rest their heads for far less than the \$200-and-up most hotels charge.

"The money is perfect," says Clemens Spath, 24, among the German trio who stayed in the 78-square-foot van down by the river. They did complain, however, that the battery-powered fan was not enough to cool them on a sweltering night and mosquitoes got in through an open window.

Key takeaways from the first GOP debate of 2016 campaign

JULIE BYKOWICZ, Associated Press

THOMAS BEAUMONT, Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — The first Republican debate of the 2016 campaign for president opened with an absolute bang as billionaire businessman Donald Trump refused to pledge his loyalty to the GOP.

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Over the course of the next two hours, the 10 leading candidates for the Republican nomination argued about issues that included immigration, taxes, health care, individual rights and foreign policy.

And there were plenty of personality conflicts, too.

Here are five takeaways from Thursday's debate.

TRUMP AT CENTER STAGE

Trump may be leading his fellow GOP presidential candidates in many of the national polls, but he was the only candidate on stage who refused — in the very first moment of the debate — to commit to running only as a Republican.

The reality TV star and real estate mogul said he would prefer to be the Republican Party's nominee, but he wouldn't promise to back any nominee other than himself. "I will not make the pledge at this time," he said.

His answer drew an angry rebuke from Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul: "Hey, look, look! He's already hedging his bet on the Clintons, OK? So if he doesn't run as a Republican, maybe he supports Clinton, or maybe he runs as an independent, but I'd say that he's already hedging his bets because he's used to buying politicians."

That was one of the few moments when one of the other nine candidates on stage directly engaged with Trump. The closest anyone came later in the debate may have been former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, who offered up a gentle critique.

"Mr. Trump's language is divisive," Bush said. "We're not going to win by doing what Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton do every day — dividing the country."

READY TO RUMBLE: CHRISTIE VS. PAUL

There was no such gentleness between Paul and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, who have fought over government mass data collection in the past and traded perhaps the most pointed barbs of the night.

Christie said he'd attended funerals of victims of the Sept. 11 attacks and slammed Paul's efforts in the Senate to thwart renewal of government surveillance programs. "Listen, senator, you know, when you're sitting in a subcommittee, just blowing hot air about this, you can say things like that."

Paul shot back, "I don't trust President Obama with our records." He continued, invoking an infamous interaction between Christie and Obama during the 2012 campaign: "I know you gave President Obama a big hug, and if you want to give him a big hug again, you go right ahead."

HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE FOR KASICH

It was a solid night for Ohio Gov. John Kasich, who was the last candidate to make the cut for the debate as the 10th-ranked candidate in the average of national polls Fox News used to select the participants.

Kasich earned a rousing round of applause for his answer to a question about same-sex marriage. He said he opposes gay marriage, but when asked how he would explain that position to a child who announced he or she was gay or lesbian, he said: "I'm going to love my daughters no matter what they do. Because you know what? God gives me unconditional love, and I'm going to give it to my family and my friends and the people around me."

The former congressman, who attended a same-sex union shortly after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling made gay marriage legal nationwide, said that "issues like that are planted to divide us."

RUBIO AND WALKER COOL AND CALM

Avoiding the debate's testy back-and-forth were Florida Sen. Marco Rubio and Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, who mostly stuck to giving answers to the questions posed.

After an incendiary answer from Trump about his widely condemned comments about immigrants from Mexico, Rubio displayed his command of the issue by telling the crowd at Quicken Loans Arena that immigrants who live in the U.S. illegally are from Central American nations such as Guatemala and El Salvador, and are overstaying their legally obtained visas — as opposed to sneaking over the border.

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Rubio also earned some of the loudest applause of the night when he offered up one of his well-used zingers to mock Clinton. "Well, first let me say, I think God has blessed us. He's blessed the Republican Party with some very good candidates," he said. "The Democrats can't even find one."

Walker, meanwhile, talked often of his record in Wisconsin. He said even when he drew over 100,000 protesters to the state Capitol, upset by his ultimately successful effort to strip away the union rights of most public employees, he was "trying to do the right thing" and acted in an upright manner.

He said he is "not a perfect man," but he has tried to act with respect.

"What God calls us to do is follow his will," he said. "And, ultimately, that's what I'm going to try to do. And I hope people have seen that in my state."

HILLARY WHO?

Amid all the fireworks, there was little to no chatter during the GOP debate about an issue which Republicans have obsessed for months: Clinton's use of a private email server while secretary of state and the deadly 2012 attacks on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

It was left to Walker to first mention Clinton's email habits when answering Russia's threat to U.S. allies in NATO, and that came with just 20 minutes left in the debate. Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee was first to mention the Benghazi attacks, during his answer to the next question — but it was only as an aside.

Bykowicz contributed to this report from Washington.

JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

THOMAS BEAUMONT, Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Before the first Republican debate of the 2016 campaign for president, there was the undercard: a matchup of seven GOP candidates who didn't have the poll numbers to make the main event.

It was a chance for the four current and former governors, a sitting senator from a crucial early-voting state, a former senator and the GOP's only female White House candidate to try for the sort of hit-it-out-of-the-park performance that could vault them back into the top-tier of candidates.

Here are five takeaways from Thursday's pre-debate debate.

PLAYING NICE

Instead of going after one another, the candidates in the pre-debate event focused on who wasn't there: Donald Trump, Jeb Bush and, of course, Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Trump, the billionaire real estate developer and former star of reality TV, took shots early from former Texas Gov. Rick Perry and former Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly Fiorina. They both questioned his conservative credentials, pointing to his past support for universal health care and abortion rights.

"He is the party's frontrunner right now, and good for him," Fiorina said, adding later: "Since he has changed his mind on amnesty, on health care and on abortion, I would just ask, what are the principles by which he will govern?"

Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal went after Bush by name, rejecting the idea that — as the former Florida governor has suggested — Republicans need to be willing to lose in the primary to win the general election. "Let me translate that for you," Jindal said. "That's the establishment telling us to hide our conservative principles to get the left and the media to like us. That never works."

As for Clinton, the former secretary of state and Democratic frontrunner?

Said South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham: "To the people who are dying for a better America, you better change course, and she doesn't represent the change that we need."

NO OOPS MOMENTS FOR PERRY

Perry entered the forum with more to prove than anyone. He just missed making the main event, denying him the chance to show a primetime audience how far he has come since his disappointing 2012 campaign. That first run for the White House more or less ended for Perry when he couldn't remember

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during a primary debate the name of the third federal agency he wanted to eliminate, saying only: "oops."

Perry got the first question on Thursday night and didn't make any gaffes during the hour-long forum. He appeared confident and well-rehearsed, especially on the issue of immigration, and repeatedly talked about his record as governor of Texas — the nation's biggest red state.

"This is going to be a show-me, don't-tell-me election," Perry said, adding: "And I think that the record of the governor of the last 14 years of the 12th largest economy in the world is just the medicine America is looking for."

FIORINA MAKES HER MARK

Fiorina, the former chief at Hewlett-Packard, didn't have the poll numbers to make the main event, but they could rise after her performance Thursday.

Fiorina painted herself as an outsider prepared to take on the status quo and delivered some of the night's most pointed barbs against Trump, Bush and Clinton.

"Hillary Clinton lies about Benghazi. She lies about emails," she declared in her closing statement, adding that, "We need a nominee who is going to throw every punch, not pull punches."

Along with potentially convincing a fair number of viewers that she's the candidate to do it, she also won over one of her on-stage rivals.

"I will tell you one thing," Perry said of the recently concluded talks with Iran over the Islamic nation's nuclear program, "I would a whole lot rather had Carly Fiorina over there doing our negotiation than John Kerry."

GRAHAM: WHY SO SAD?

Graham is known for his deep foreign policy knowledge, but also his biting sense of humor and happy-go-lucky approach to his work in the Senate and time on the campaign trail.

That Graham was missing on Thursday.

Instead, South Carolina's senior senator was consistently low-key — lacking the energy of Perry's performance and Fiorina's commanding stage presence. In one particularly downbeat moment, he responded to a question about how he would inspire the nation with a story of family loss.

"When I was 21, my mom died. When I was 22, my dad died. We owned a liquor store, restaurant, bar and we lived in the back," Graham said. He added, "Today, I'm 60. I'm not married. I don't have any kids."

It's a story Graham tells often, usually with warmth that endears him to his audience. But without a large crowd at Quicken Loans Arena to play to, it didn't have that kind of effect on this night.

REACHING FOR RELEVANCE

For several of the contenders, who are barely registering in early national polls, the debate was a chance to stake a claim for relevance in the crowded GOP field.

Former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum, who won the Iowa caucuses in 2012, tried to do it by calling for strict new limits on legal immigration.

As part of his "pro-worker immigration plan," he called for reducing the level of legal immigration by 25 percent, claiming that "almost all" the legal immigrants who have entered the country over the last 20 years "are unskilled workers, flattening wages, creating horrible lack of opportunities for unskilled workers."

None of the others on stage, including New York Gov. George Pataki and former Virginia Gov. Jim Gilmore, had the sort of stand-out moment viewers — and voters — are likely to remember.

FACT CHECK: GOP candidates veer from the truth in 1st debate

JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

EDITOR'S NOTE _ An occasional look at political claims that take shortcuts with the facts or don't tell the full story

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans seeking their party's 2016 presidential nomination have the challenging

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task of trying to stand out among the 17 candidates in the race, and Thursday's televised debate was the first opportunity for the party to start whittling down its choices. So it's no surprise that the candidates had a vested interest in puffing up their own records as governors, senators and public figures. And some of them just got the facts wrong.

Some of the claims in the Cleveland debate and how they compare with the facts:

DONALD TRUMP: "If it weren't for me, you wouldn't even be talking about illegal immigration."

THE FACTS: Republicans have been talking about immigration for at least 30 years, including former President George W. Bush and the Republican field in the 2008 and 2012 presidential elections. In 2013, an immigration overhaul seeking to address illegal immigration passed the Senate with strong Republican support, although the House never took it up. And Republican debate about immigration has only intensified in the wake of President Barack Obama's sweeping executive action shielding from deportation millions of immigrants in the U.S. illegally.

JEB BUSH, on his goal of 4 percent economic growth: "We can do this."

THE FACTS: Most economists say the U.S. under any president is unlikely to grow consistently at even close to 4 percent, largely due to the difficulty of overcoming decades-long trends.

Current forecasts put growth averaging half the rate of Bush's goal. To grow the economy faster, the country must either add more workers or increase their efficiency so their time on the job generates more income. The retirement of the baby boom generation will shrink the number of workers in the economy, making a huge increase of new employees unlikely.

Only four of the 16 presidential terms since World War II have experienced annual economic growth averaging more than 4 percent after inflation, according to research published last year by Princeton University economists Alan Blinder and Mark Watson.

BUSH: "You get rid of Obamacare and replace it with something that doesn't suppress wages and kill jobs."

THE FACTS: According to the Labor Department, the unemployment rate was 9.9 percent in March 2010, when Obama signed the Affordable Care Act. In June of this year, it had fallen to 5.3 percent. The economy has added more than 12 million jobs since March 2010.

While the health care law doesn't seem to have had a major impact on jobs, some lesser consequences are likely. The Congressional Budget Office projected that having government subsidized health insurance will prompt some people to leave the labor market, since they can get coverage without a job.

And although Republicans may be able to repeal Obama's law, it's unclear if and how they would replace it. The party has yet to rally behind a plan of its own, partly because of internal ideological differences. Some Republicans say it would be the 2016 presidential nominee's job to forge a consensus.

TRUMP: "We're giving them (Iran) \$150 billion plus" in sanctions relief under the nuclear deal.

THE FACTS: That might be an exaggeration.

Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew has said Iran has \$100 billion in foreign reserves that it's been unable to access. After sanctions relief, Treasury estimates that Iran will be able to freely access about half of that \$100 billion. He said more than \$20 billion is inaccessible because it is committed to projects with China and tens of billions of other restricted funds are in non-performing loans to Iran's energy and banking sector.

CHRIS CHRISTIE: "We brought the budget into balance with no tax increases."

THE FACTS: Not exactly.

As New Jersey's governor, Christie in his first term cut the earned income tax credit, which largely benefits low-income workers, from 25 percent of the federal credit to 20 percent. He surprised Democrats this summer by proposing to bring it up to 30 percent. Democrats quickly approved the change.

Christie also repeatedly delayed implementing the Homestead credit program, which grants property tax relief, even as he capped property tax increases overall. He also extended the sales tax on online

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purchases to out-of-state retailers and pushed for higher taxes on e-cigarettes, but failed.

So while Christie indeed vetoed a number of proposed tax increases, his record isn't free of hikes in taxes or their close cousin: fees.

TRUMP: "I built a net worth of more than \$10 billion."

THE FACTS: Trump's precise net worth has long been a moving target.

Documents filed with the Federal Election Commission put Trump's wealth at \$8.7 billion. But the form requires disclosures of value ranges, not precise sums. The FEC also doesn't specify how to value real estate, leaving Trump free to assess many of his properties in the highest bracket — over \$50 million.

Trump argues many of his properties are worth even more, a claim that cannot be verified without access to his private documents. He's valued his personal brand and marketing deals at \$3.3 billion.

Yet other assessments put his wealth at far less. Forbes Magazine valued his brand at just \$125 million, and last month, Bloomberg News estimated his total worth at \$2.9 billion.

BUSH: "During my eight years in office, 1.3 million jobs were created, and we left the state better off."

FACT CHECK: Yes, but by December 2009, 900,000 of those 1.3 million jobs had been eliminated.

During Bush's tenure as governor, the state benefited from a huge housing bubble that then burst just as he left the governor's mansion. Home prices jumped 160 percent in Florida from 1999 through 2006 — more than double the national increase of 74 percent — according to real estate data provider Zillow.

That growth fueled a 50 percent jump in construction jobs, and the boost to home values made many Floridians feel wealthier, leading them to spend more. Home prices started to fall in 2006, Bush's last year in office.

BEN CARSON: "Our Navy is at its smallest size since 1970, our Air Force since 1940."

THE FACTS: Actually, the U.S. Air Force was created in 1947. Established initially as the Aeronautical Division of the U.S. Army Signal Corps in 1907, the force went through a number of iterations before becoming a full-fledged branch of the military equal to the Army and the Navy in the wake of World War II.

A dearth of reliable public data makes it difficult to examine Carson's broader argument that the military's capacity is smaller now than in 1940. But it's true that the number of U.S. military aircraft has diminished in recent decades.

GOP Scorecard: How the candidates fared in the first debate

JULIE PACE, Associated Press

THOMAS BEAUMONT, Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — On a crowded debate stage, 10 Republican candidates for president sought breakout moments and tried to avoid missteps that could sink their White House hopes at this early stage.

Here's a look at how they fared during the first Republican debate of the 2016 campaign.

DONALD TRUMP

Unquestioned star of the show. Set the tone for the raucous two-hour debate by declining to pledge to support the eventual Republican nominee if he's not the pick. Provided few concrete answers to the policy questions posed during the debate.

JEB BUSH

Used his time to try to introduce himself and his record in Florida to a nationwide audience. Turned boos about his immigration position, which would offer those in the country illegally a path to legal status, into cheers by shifting focus to economic growth.

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SCOTT WALKER

A quiet figure early, stood out late while discussing his faith and talking tough on policy toward Iran and the Islamic State. Won applause by jabbing at Clinton, saying Russia and China "know more about Hillary Clinton's email server than do the members of the United States Congress."

MIKE HUCKABEE

Held firm on the party's right flank, especially on social issues. His call for recognizing unborn fetuses as persons with full rights ignited applause from the audience.

BEN CARSON

Used humor to make his mark, quipping at one point that he wasn't sure whether he was going to get to talk again. Conceded his lack of foreign policy credentials, but appealed for the votes of those eager to get new voices in the political arena.

TED CRUZ

Sharp on illegal immigration. Took on his own party's leadership, slamming the "Washington cartel" that supports "amnesty" for those living in the U.S. illegally. But the accomplished college debater lacked a breakout moment.

MARCO RUBIO

Energetic and confident. Rejected idea the campaign is a "resume competition." Aggressively pushed idea the GOP nominee must be focused on the future, using his standard line that the "the economy we live in today is dramatically different from the one we had five years ago."

RAND PAUL

An aggressor from the start. He was the first candidate to take on Trump after the real estate mogul raised the prospect of a third-party candidacy. His fiery exchange with Chris Christie over government surveillance programs will resonate well with his libertarian supporters.

CHRIS CHRISTIE

Aggressive, but kept his notoriously hot temper in check. He picked his spots, including a robust defense of New Jersey's economy. Showed flickers of why he was heavily courted by Republicans for a run in 2012.

JOHN KASICH

Buoyed by a home-state crowd. Lifted his national profile by selling an optimistic vision for the country. Defended decision to expand Medicaid in Ohio and earned a rousing round of applause of saying that while he opposes gay marriage, he would support his children if they were gay.

Trump jolts first GOP debate, rivals scramble for attention

JULIE PACE, Associated Press

STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — A combative Donald Trump, the billionaire businessman-turned-presidential candidate, jolted the first Republican debate of the 2016 campaign by warning he might run as an independent if denied the GOP nomination. His startling declaration left his onstage rivals scrambling to compete for attention the rest of the night.

Asked in the debate's opening minutes whether he could rule out a third-party run, Trump declared Thursday night, "I will not make the pledge at this time." He also refused to apologize for making crude comments about women, defended his changing policy positions and tangled with the debate moderators.

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While Trump was characteristically bombastic, most of the contenders standing alongside him clamored for their piece of the spotlight without engaging him directly. They quarreled over immigration, terrorism and gay marriage, each casting himself as the strongest to take on Democratic front-runner Hillary Rodham Clinton. They also assailed President Barack Obama and his nuclear deal with Iran.

The closest former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, a favorite of the party's moderate, establishment wing, came to tangling with Trump was a gentle critique of the businessman's over-the-top rhetoric.

"Mr. Trump's language is divisive," Bush said. "We're not going to win by doing what Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton do every day — dividing the country."

On immigration, one of the main topics of the night, Bush defended his call for a path to legal status for some of the people living in the U.S. illegally, an unpopular position among some Republican voters who equate legal status with amnesty.

"The great majority of people coming here have no other option," Bush said.

Trump in particular has pushed the issue of immigration throughout the summer, drawing criticism for saying Mexican immigrants are rapists. He said Thursday that he had been told that by border patrol agents, and he took credit for immigration being an issue in the campaign.

"If it weren't for me, you wouldn't even be talking about illegal immigration," he said, despite the fact that immigration has been a hot-button issue in presidential campaigns for years.

Trump's blunt style was in line with the approach he's taken to his campaign throughout the summer, appealing to voters frustrated with career politicians and perplexing his rivals. He entered the first debate leading the polls in a field filled with governors and senators.

Seventeen Republicans are seeking the party's nomination, but only 10 were invited by debate host Fox News to participate in the main event based on their showing in recent polls. The remaining seven were relegated to a pre-debate forum.

On stage in his home state, Ohio Gov. John Kasich sought to raise his profile by striking an optimistic tone on the economy, saying all Americans need an opportunity to "share in this great American dream." He said that while he favored traditional marriage, he had recently attended a same-sex wedding and would support his children if they were gay.

A raucous crowd cheered the candidates on throughout the debate in Cleveland, the same city where Republicans will nominate their general election candidate next summer. No Republican has ever won the presidency without winning Ohio.

While the candidates peppered their remarks with barbs about Clinton, they avoided lengthy attacks on her record as secretary of state and the deadly attack in Benghazi, Libya. Only late in the debate did Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker raise the controversy surrounding her use of personal email and a private server while serving in the Obama administration.

"Probably the Russian and Chinese governments know more about Hillary Clinton's email server than do the members of the U.S. Congress," Walker said.

The first debate highlighted deep divisions within the Republican Party, with Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul representing a segment of GOP voters frustrated with military action overseas and what they see as infringements on personal liberties.

In a lengthy exchange with New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, Paul defended his opposition to the USA Patriot Act and laws giving government access to Americans' phone records. He said he wanted to collect more information from terrorists, not law-abiding Americans.

Christie, a former U.S. attorney, was dismissive. "Listen, senator, you know, when you're sitting in a subcommittee, just blowing hot air about this, you can say things like that," he said.

Paul was also the most aggressive in taking on Trump, challenging him early on his refusal to commit to supporting the party nominee.

"He's already hedging his bets because he's used to buying politicians," Paul said.

Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, the youngest candidate in the field at age 44, has tried to carve out a niche as a foreign policy authority, but has struggled to break through this summer — particularly since Trump's surge. He said the election "cannot be a resume competition."

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"This election better be about the future, not the past," he said.

Rounding out the field was Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, surgeon and tea party favorite Ben Carson and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee.

The crowded field meant limited talking time for candidates, many of whom were introducing themselves to Americans for the first time.

"I wasn't sure I was going to get to talk again," Carson quipped when the moderators came back to him at one point.

The remaining seven candidates were relegated to a pre-debate forum, a low-key event in a largely empty arena, where candidates avoided debating each other and largely stuck to scripted responses on domestic and foreign policy.

Former Texas Gov. Rick Perry and businesswoman Carly Fiorina opened the early event with biting criticisms of Trump.

Perry — whose failed 2012 White House campaign was damaged by an embarrassing debate stumble — accused Trump of using "his celebrity rather than his conservatism" to fuel his run for president.

Fiorina, the only woman in the GOP field, said that Trump had tapped into Americans' anger with Washington, but she challenged the businessman as lacking policy positions. "What are the principles by which he would govern?" she asked.

While the candidates pitched their visions for the Republican Party's future, they also made the case that they would present the strongest general election challenge to Clinton.

Clinton, in Los Angeles, said in Los Angeles she's often left in a "state of disbelief" by what she hears from some of her 2016 rivals.

Thursday's debate was the first of six party-sanctioned forums scheduled before primary voting begins in February. Fox News used national polls to determine which 10 candidates would be on the stage, and several candidates were grouped together in the single digits — most separated by a number smaller than the polls' margin of error.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Friday, August 7, the 219th day of 2015. There are 146 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 7, 1782, Gen. George Washington created the Order of the Purple Heart, a decoration to recognize merit in enlisted men and noncommissioned officers.

On this date:

In 1789, the U.S. War Department was established by Congress.

In 1814, Pope Pius VII issued a bull restoring the Society of Jesus, or Jesuits, four decades after the order had been suppressed by Pope Clement XIV.

In 1882, the famous feud between the Hatfields of West Virginia and the McCoys of Kentucky erupted into full-scale violence.

In 1927, the already opened Peace Bridge connecting Buffalo, New York, and Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada, was officially dedicated.

In 1942, U.S. and other allied forces landed at Guadalcanal, marking the start of the first major allied offensive in the Pacific during World War II. (Japanese forces abandoned the island the following February.)

In 1959, the United States launched the Explorer 6 satellite, which sent back images of Earth.

In 1964, Congress passed the Gulf of Tonkin resolution, giving President Lyndon B. Johnson broad powers in dealing with reported North Vietnamese attacks on U.S. forces.

In 1974, French stuntman Philippe Petit (fee-LEEP' peh-TEET') repeatedly walked a tightrope strung between the twin towers of New York's World Trade Center.

In 1989, a plane carrying U.S. Rep. Mickey Leland, D-Texas, and 14 others disappeared over Ethiopia. (The wreckage of the plane was found six days later; there were no survivors.)

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In 1990, President George H.W. Bush ordered U.S. troops and warplanes to Saudi Arabia to guard the oil-rich desert kingdom against a possible invasion by Iraq.

In 1998, terrorist bombs at U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania killed 224 people, including 12 Americans.

In 2000, Vice President and Democratic presidential candidate Al Gore selected Connecticut Sen. Joseph Lieberman as his running mate; Lieberman became the first Jewish candidate on a major party's presidential ticket.

Ten years ago: ABC News anchorman Peter Jennings died in New York at age 67. Seven people in a Russian mini-submarine trapped for nearly three days under the Pacific Ocean were rescued after a British remote-controlled vehicle cut away undersea cables that snarled their vessel. Israeli Finance Minister Benjamin Netanyahu resigned from his post to protest an upcoming withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and part of the West Bank.

Five years ago: Elena Kagan was sworn in as the 112th justice and fourth woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. A healthy-looking Fidel Castro appealed to President Barack Obama to stave off global nuclear war in an address to parliament that marked his first official government appearance since emergency surgery four years earlier. Jerry Rice, Emmitt Smith, John Randle, Dick LeBeau, Rickey Jackson, Russ Grimm and Floyd Little were inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

One year ago: President Barack Obama authorized U.S. airstrikes in northern Iraq, warning they would be launched if needed to defend Americans from advancing Islamic militants and protect civilians under siege. President Obama signed a \$16.3 billion measure aimed at helping veterans avoid long waits for health care. A jury convicted a suburban Detroit homeowner of second-degree murder and manslaughter in the killing of an unarmed woman on his porch, rejecting Theodore Wafer's claim that he was afraid for his life when he heard Renisha McBride pounding on his door in the middle of the night and had acted in self-defense. (Wafer was sentenced to at least 17 years in prison.)

Today's Birthdays: Magician, author and lecturer James Randi is 87. Former MLB pitcher Don Larsen is 86. Actress Verna Bloom is 77. Humorist Garrison Keillor is 73. Singer B.J. Thomas is 73. Singer Lana Cantrell is 72. FBI Director Robert Mueller is 71. Actor John Glover is 71. Actor David Rasche is 71. Former diplomat, talk show host and activist Alan Keyes is 65. Country singer Rodney Crowell is 65. Actress Caroline Aaron is 63. Comedian Alexei Sayle is 63. Actor Wayne Knight is 60. Rock singer Bruce Dickinson is 57. Marathon runner Alberto Salazar is 57. Actor David Duchovny is 55. Country musician Michael Mahler (Wild Horses) is 54. Actress Delane Matthews is 54. Actor Harold Perrineau is 52. Jazz musician Marcus Roberts is 52. Country singer Raul Malo is 50. Actor David Mann is 49. Actress Charlotte Lewis is 48. Actress Sydney Penny is 44. Actor Michael Shannon is 41. Actress Charlize Theron (shahr-LEES' THAYR'-ehn) is 40. Rock musician Barry Kerch (Shinedown) is 39. Actor Randy Wayne is 34. Actor-writer Brit Marling is 33.

Thought for Today: "There are a lot of people who think our job is to reassure the public every night that their home, their community and their nation is safe. I don't subscribe to that at all. I subscribe to leaving people with essentially sorry it's a cliché a rough draft of history. Some days it's reassuring, some days it's absolutely destructive." - Peter Jennings (1938-2005).