

Groton Daily Independent

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Wednesday, August 19

Senior Menu: Baked chicken breast, noodles roman, lemon buttered broccoli, pineapple strawberry ambrosia, whole wheat bread.

Anniv: Sherwin & Christine Nyberg

Birthdays: Michelle Leonhardt • Helen "Pat" Nehls • Blake Anderson

7:00am: United Methodist Men's Bible Study

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

7:00pm: C&MA Adult Bible Study, Youth Group, Kids Club

Thursday, August 20

Senior Menu: Roast beef, potatoes/carrots/onions, gravy, honey dew melon or peaches, dinner roll.

Anniv: Bob & Laurie Pray • Doug & Heidi Krueger

Birthdays: Marc Sippel • Megan Unzen • Marie Loutsch • Beve Farmen • Kim Evans • Kim Claussen

1:30pm: Emmanuel Lutheran WELCA "DO Day"

Friday, August 21

Senior Menu: Swiss steak with mushroom gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, rice and raisins, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: • Tara Carlson • Scott Krueger

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

4:00pm: Girls Soccer hosts Belle Fourche

6:00pm: Boys Soccer hosts Belle Fourche

Saturday, August 22

Anniversaries: • **Anniv:** Rick & Melanie Rossow

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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Milbank Golf Results

Groton's boys golf team took part in its first meet on Monday at the Poet Invitational held in Milbank. Brody Sombke shot a 91, Landon Marzahn a 95, Sean Schuring a 96, Hunter Schaller 103, Cade Guthmiller 104 and Treyton Diegel 105.

Team Scores were as follows:

Parkston 318	Sioux Valley 373
Madison 337	Groton Area 385
Sisseton 340	Redfield-Doland 398
Tea Area 340	Aberdeen Central 405
Chamberlain 342	Milbank Area 437
Vermillion 345	Mobridge-Pollock no score
Aberdeen Roncalli 347	
Dell Rapids 352	
West Central 367	
Watertown 370	



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Midwest Refinery Throws Wrench into Gasoline Price Slide

AAA reports South Dakota's pump price average for self-serve regular climbed 5 cents over the past week to an average today of \$2.74 per gallon. However, over the last seven days some Midwestern states have seen dramatic increases:

Indiana — up 59 cents Illinois — up 57 cents Michigan — up 51 cents
Ohio — up 44 cents Wisconsin — up 39 cents

"These price spikes are the result of a BP refinery going down unexpectedly in Whiting, Indiana. Unfortunately, it's the largest refinery supplying fuel to the Great Lakes region and the central U.S.," said Marilyn Buskohl, spokeswoman for AAA South Dakota. "We're feeling some impact here in South Dakota because fuel is being purchased from surrounding areas to supplement the demand, tightening our supply and boosting retail prices."

	Today	Last Week	Change	Jul. 21	Change	Last year
Aberdeen	\$2.634	\$2.643	(\$0.009)	\$2.700	(\$0.066)	\$3.389
Brookings	\$2.686	\$2.639	\$0.047	\$2.856	(\$0.170)	\$3.459
Huron	\$2.794	\$2.766	\$0.028	\$2.688	\$0.106	\$3.493
Mitchell	\$2.845	\$2.757	\$0.088	\$2.758	\$0.087	\$3.448
Pierre	\$3.002	\$2.919	\$0.083	\$3.092	(\$0.090)	\$3.555
Rapid City	\$2.864	\$2.865	(\$0.001)	\$2.869	(\$0.005)	\$3.601
Sioux Falls	\$2.646	\$2.512	\$0.134	\$2.695	(\$0.049)	\$3.302
Vermillion	\$2.576	\$2.591	(\$0.015)	\$2.726	(\$0.150)	\$3.302
Watertown	\$2.621	\$2.446	\$0.175	\$2.802	(\$0.181)	\$3.518
Yankton	\$2.685	\$2.693	(\$0.008)	\$2.817	(\$0.132)	\$3.465
South Dakota	\$2.748	\$2.696	\$0.052	\$2.797	(\$0.049)	\$3.467

Initial reports indicate it may take BP a month or longer to repair the troubled crude distillation unit. The refinery is capable of producing 430,000 barrels of refined product per day.

The national average price for regular gasoline ended a 27-day streak of daily declines last week and has since increased for six of the last seven days. Today's average price of \$2.66 per gallon is an increase of eight cents per gallon versus one week ago,

"It appears crude oil prices have room to move even lower," said Buskohl. "We just have so much of it around the world. And now we're hearing reports that the Japanese economy is shrinking. Both exports and consumer spending fell in Japan from April to June, which will likely reduce their demand for oil."

West Texas Intermediate closed down 63 cents yesterday to settle at \$41.87 on the NYMEX. WTI prices are the lowest since March, 2009 due to the continued global oversupply of crude oil and weakening foreign economies.

Motorists can find current gas prices along their route with the free AAA Mobile app for iPhone, iPad and Android. The app can also be used to map a route, find discounts, book a hotel and access AAA roadside assistance. Learn more at AAA.com/mobile.

AAA is North America's largest motoring, leisure travel and safety advocacy organization with more than 55 million members. A not-for-profit, fully tax-paying auto club, AAA South Dakota serves its 92,800 South Dakota members with emergency roadside assistance, auto travel counseling and a wide range of personal insurance, worldwide travel and financial services at branch offices across South Dakota and online at AAA.com.



GHS Class of 1975

Members of the GHS class of 1975 held a 40 year reunion the weekend of July 17 & 18. Friday night's gathering at Deb Olson's home in Groton started, literally, with a bang when a severe thunderstorm moved thru the area just as guests were arriving and some outdoor activities were curtailed. The weather did cooperate for Saturday's golfing event and the afternoon tour of the school involved a lot of reminiscing.

One of the most notable items of remembrance was that 4 members of this class (Deb Olson, Earleen Pope, Carla Stahl and Beth Wegehaupt) were on the first Groton Girl's Basketball team that was formed in 1975. Saturday night's program included a tribute to deceased classmates Michael Ball, Donna (Chell) Meyer, John Luce, Robert McGannon, and Arnold Zoellner. Other memories included mood rings, pet rocks, hip huggers, bellbottoms, leisure suits, 8 tracks, disco, PEZ candy, TV show Saturday Night Live, President Gerald Ford and ten cent postage stamps.

Attendees not pictured include Lisa Schelle, Bill Sieh, Sherry (Zimney) Arneson, Carla (McKiver) Ronning, Loren Johnson, David and Connie (Sperry) Nilson.

Pictured in the back row are: Eugene Johnson, Greg Siefkes, Jeff Braun, Beth (Kruse) Wegehaupt, John Ries, Rick Kammerer and Brad Morehouse;

Middle row: Bruce Sippel, Kris (Raap) Schneider, Earleen (Daly) Pope, Sandy (Schuring) Jebbens, Janel (Hanson) Merkel, Dale Abeln, Tami (Erickson) Zimney, and Scott Sueltz;

Seated: Steve Herron, Harvey Flihs, Yvonne (Larson) Ablen, Carla (Reed) Stahl, and Deb (Hoops) Olson.

Today in Weather History

1788 - A small but powerful hurricane inflicted great havoc upon forests along a narrow track from New Jersey to Maine. A similar storm track today would cause extreme disaster in the now populated area. (David Ludlum)

1969 - 'Never say die' Camille let loose a cloudburst in Virginia resulting in flash floods and landslides which killed 151 persons and cause 140 million dollars damage. Massies Hill VA received 27 inches of rain. (David Ludlum)

1986 - The temperature at San Antonio, TX, soared to an all-time record high of 108 degrees. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987)

1987 - Thunderstorms moving out of southeastern Nebraska spread severe weather into eastern Kansas and western Missouri during the day. Thunderstorms in Nebraska produced hail three inches in diameter at Albion, and high winds which downed a large tent at Waterloo injuring a dozen persons. Thunderstorms in Kansas produced baseball size hail northwest of Topeka, and wind gusts to 80 mph at Fulton. Ten persons were injured in a thunderstorm at Princeton KS, and damage to crops in southern Franklin County KS was estimated at 3.5 million dollars. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Raleigh, NC, reported a record hot temperature reading of 103 degrees. Afternoon thunderstorms in Oklahoma produced wind gusts to 75 mph in southern Pittsburg County. Thunderstorms in Indiana produced 4.50 inches of rain at Morgantown. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Early morning thunderstorms deluged southeastern Delaware with six to ten inches of rain in four to six hours, with local reports of 13 to 20 inches of rain. Twenty-six major roads were closed or damaged, and fourteen bridges were washed out. Flooding caused nearly four million dollars damage to local businesses. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)



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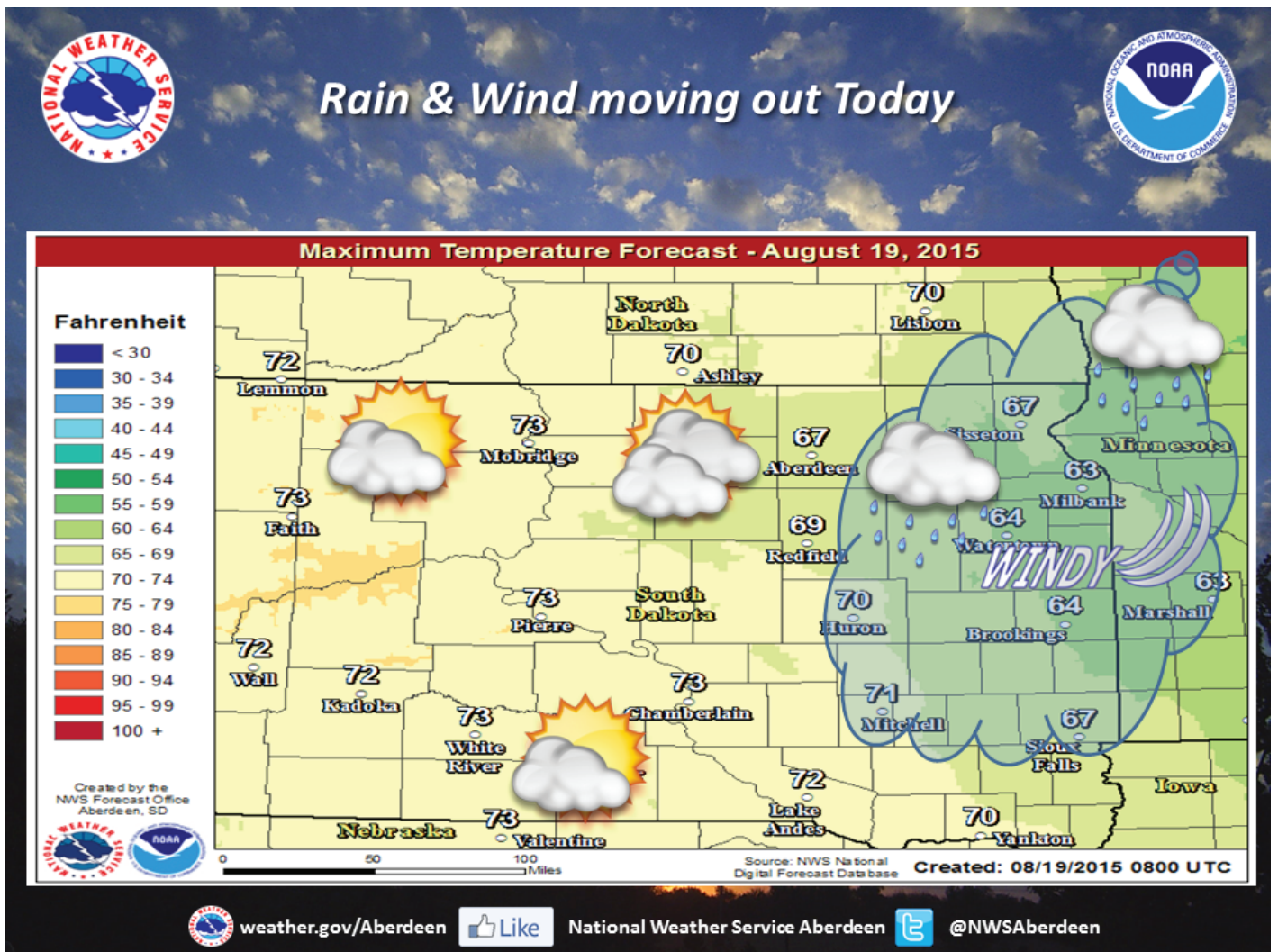
216-8431

Sperry Stump Removal

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Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday
						
20%						30%
Breezy. Isolated Showers then Partly Sunny	Mostly Clear then Areas Fog	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Chance T-storms
High: 68 °F	Low: 46 °F	High: 78 °F	Low: 56 °F	High: 86 °F	Low: 66 °F	High: 80 °F



Published on: 08/19/2015 at 4:50AM

The weakening storm system will continue to drift east with a slow end to the rain and wind through the remainder of the morning hours. Clouds will persist however with temperatures well below average. More August like readings return for Thursday-Friday and Saturday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 57.7 at 1:34 PM

Low: 49.4 at 11:29 PM

High Gust: 27 at 3:07 PM

Precip: 2.69

Today's Info

Record High: 103° in 1976

Record Low: 34° in 2004

Average High: 82°F

Average Low: 56°F

Average Precip in Aug: 1.48

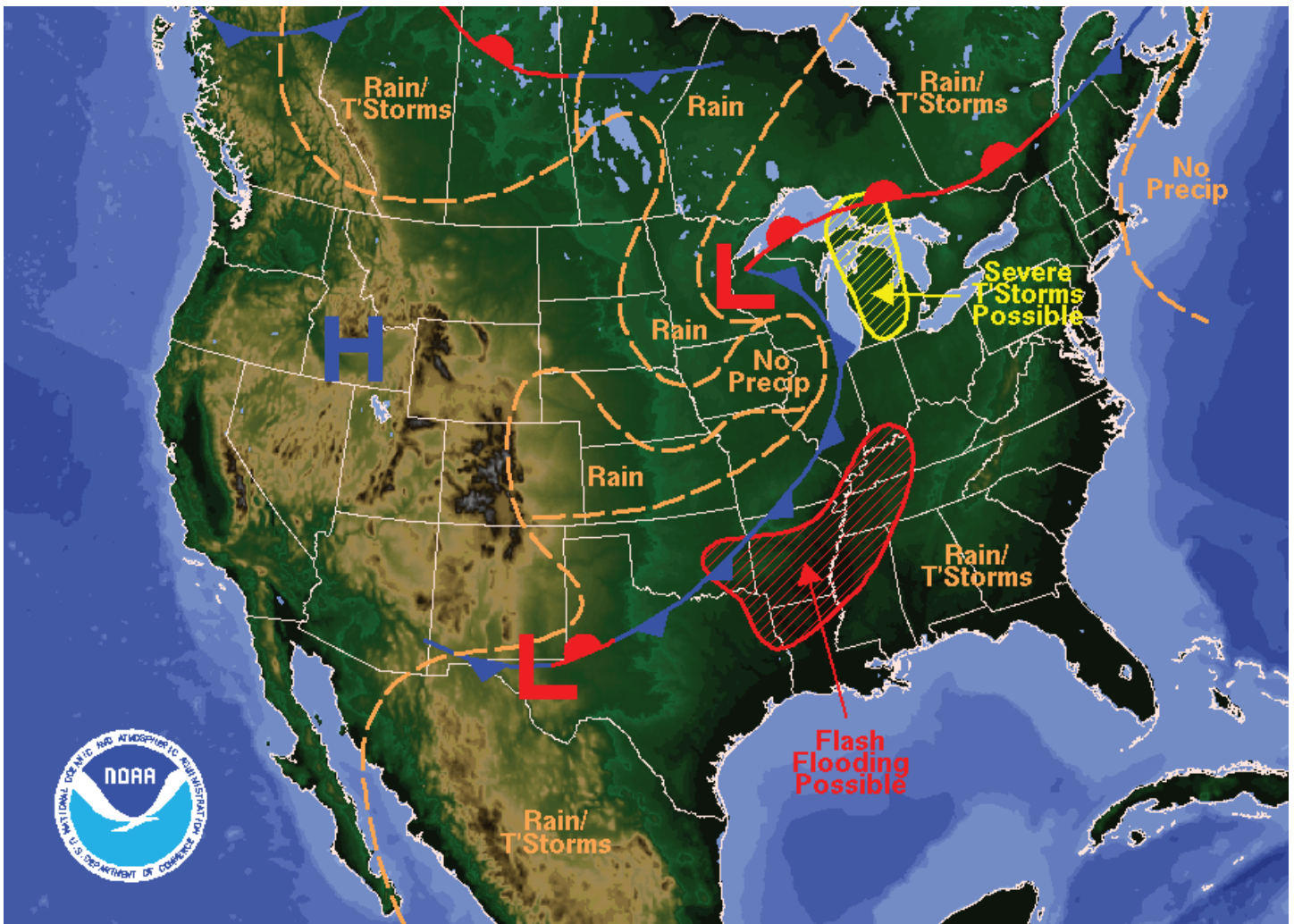
Precip to date in Aug: 4.91

Average Precip to date: 15.34

Precip Year to Date: 16.48

Sunset Tonight: 8:34 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:40 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Wed, Aug 19, 2015, issued 4:37 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



SAY IT ISN'T SO

A deacon phoned his pastor who was on vacation in a distant city. When he answered the call, the deacon blurted out, "Pastor, a cyclone just came through our county and destroyed my house and barn."

"I'm not surprised," he replied. Then he continued, "The punishment for sin is inevitable!"

"But Pastor," continued the deacon, "it destroyed your house as well."

"It did?" exclaimed the pastor. "The ways of the Lord are past human understanding."

There are times when it is difficult to offer love and kindness to those whom we feel do not deserve it. Our responses to another person's trials and tragedies often come from a distorted view of God's love. We are inclined to look at what happens to others from a normal, human response and believe that "they got what they deserved."

When we realize the kindness of God to us, and truly realize how undeserving we are, perhaps we may see things differently. If God does not hold anything good from us, should He not treat others the same?

Prayer: Lord, may we look at others the same way You do – with love, kindness, care and compassion. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: 1 Corinthians 16:14 Let all that you do be done with love.

News from the Associated Press

8 national guard soldiers commissioned as 2nd lieutenants

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Eight of the state's national guard soldiers have been commissioned as second lieutenants.

The South Dakota Army National Guard says the eight lieutenants recently completed officer candidate school. They took the oath of office and were commissioned during a ceremony Aug. 15 at Mount Rushmore National Park.

In order to become officers, the soldiers first had to undergo three intense phases of training.

Col. Deb Bartunek says they give soldiers the opportunity go through stressful situations so officials can evaluate their ability to act under pressure and make decisions.

The second lieutenants will now be assigned to units across the state. They will attend basic officer leader course where they will continue their training.

Clinton seeks distance from Obama on climate change issues

JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

NORTH LAS VEGAS, Nevada (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton is voicing opposition to President Barack Obama's authorization for oil drilling in the Alaska Arctic and his delays on Keystone XL, in some of the clearest signs of the Democratic front-runner distancing herself from the president.

Having agreed with him on most issues so far in her 2016 race, Clinton edged to Obama's left on climate change on Tuesday. In the course of a few hours, she announced her disapproval of his move to allow Royal Dutch Shell to drill in the Arctic Ocean and her impatience for a decision on the controversial Keystone XL pipeline.

Clinton argued on Twitter that the Arctic is a unique treasure and "not worth the risk of drilling." Then as she took questions from reporters later in Nevada, she said the U.S. should be focusing on cleaner sources of renewable energy, rather than risking "potential catastrophes" in the search for more oil.

"I think the very great difficulties that Shell encountered the last time they tried to do that should be a red flag for anybody," Clinton said, referring to a setback that beset the oil giant when it tried to drill there in 2012, including a rig that ran aground.

In the early months of her campaign, Clinton has rarely disagreed publicly with Obama, who remains popular among core Democratic voters but much less so among the broader American public. Her biggest rebuff came in June when she declined to support giving Obama expedited negotiating authority on trade. Even in that case, she characterized her position as more of a wait-and-see approach than outright opposition to the trade deals he's pursuing.

One of Clinton's challenges is winning enough support in the liberal wing of the Democratic Party. Her primary opponents like Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders have been vocal in their opposition to Keystone, Arctic drilling and other projects deemed risky for the environment. And in recent weeks, Clinton has sought subtle distinctions with Obama by suggesting that she could be more effective in working with Republicans to get things done.

Clinton's comments on Arctic drilling came less than a day after the Obama administration, in a long-expected move, gave Shell the final permits needed to drill for oil off Alaska's northwest coast, drawing consternation from environmentalists who warn about its effects on climate change and already vulnerable species in the region.

Unsurprisingly, the same groups that had criticized Obama praised Clinton for stating her opposition. "We applaud Secretary Clinton for standing up for what science, the will of the American people and common sense demand," said Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune.

But Clinton's Republican opponents pushed back, working to portray the Democrat as hostile to U.S.

energy development.

"Wrong," former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush responded on Twitter. "Being more-anti energy than Obama is extreme."

Added New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie: "Still waiting to hear your position on Keystone."

Clinton has said she won't take a stance on whether to approve the Keystone XL pipeline, which would carry oil from Canada into the U.S., unless the decision is still pending if and when she's elected. Citing her work on the issue as secretary of state, Clinton argued it would be imprudent for her to weigh in. But Keystone supporters and opponents alike have questioned her refusal to say what she believes about an issue important to voters.

Following a town hall Tuesday in Nevada, Clinton sought to reframe the question as one about Obama and why the pipeline was even still an open question. She said she "would really hope" a decision would come soon, adding she felt some responsibility since she was involved in the process earlier.

"But I am getting impatient, because I feel that at some point a decision needs to be made," Clinton said. "And I'm not comfortable saying, you know, 'I have to keep my opinion to myself' given the fact that I was involved in it. So at some point I may change my view on that."

Department of Health says vaccinations not just for children

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The Department of Health is reminding South Dakotans that vaccination is important to protect adults from diseases that can cause serious health problems.

The agency said Tuesday that residents need to remember that vaccinations aren't just for children.

The department says its reminder is part of recognizing August as National Immunization Awareness Month.

Barbara Philips is a nurse educator for the department's immunization program. She says people never outgrow the need for immunizations.

The department says adults should speak with health professionals about which vaccines they should get.

SDSU Extension to host several soil health, cover crop tours

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota State University Extension staff and ag experts will be hosting several soil health and cover crop field tours next month in the eastern part of the state.

Anthony Bly is an SDSU Extension soils field specialist. He says the tours provide growers with first-hand knowledge on management practices to improve soil health.

Extension staff and other industry experts will evaluate cover crops for beneficial soil health properties, as well as for forage and feed value for grazing livestock.

The tours have been scheduled for Sept. 8 in Sioux Falls; Sept. 10 in Beresford; Sept. 14 in Madison; Sept. 15 in Brookings; and Sept. 17 in Raymond.

Harrold woman pleads guilty to violating election law

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Harrold woman who lived for more than a decade with an outstanding arrest warrant has pleaded guilty to a felony for violating election law.

South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley said Tuesday that 54-year-old Janice Howe is scheduled to be sentenced in October.

Jackley says Howe was arrested in July on an outstanding warrant, which was issued after she was charged in 2002. A spokeswoman for the Attorney General's Office didn't immediately provide more details of the arrest.

Court documents allege Howe in 1999 forged signatures on petitions for a constitutional amendment and lied about personally witnessing people sign the petitions.

Authorities say organizers paid for each signature gathered.

Howe's guilty plea is for a single felony count of perjury. Howe's attorney didn't answer a phone call seeking comment.

Police: Baby rescued from SD creek, mother arrested

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Law enforcement authorities in western South Dakota say a Good Samaritan rescued a 1-year-old baby who fell into a creek as the child's mother lay unconscious nearby.

The rescue happened around 8 p.m. Monday at Rapid Creek. The Rapid City Police Department says the person who reported the incident was able to remove the baby from the water and officers later determined the child was doing well.

Police say officers found a 34-year-old Rapid City woman lying on the sidewalk near an empty stroller. As officers attempted to wake up the woman, they noted a strong smell of alcohol. Eventually, officers were able to wake her up and arrested her on a felony child abuse charge.

The woman is in custody at the Pennington County jail. It's unclear whether she has an attorney.

Officials: Fire at Coca-Cola facility started near ice maker

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Public safety officials say a fire at the Coca-Cola Bottling Co. in Mitchell has been ruled accidental and is not suspicious.

Mitchell's Department of Public Safety says the blaze that started about 2 a.m. Tuesday originated near an ice maker. No injuries were reported.

Firefighters had the blaze contained about 5:30 a.m., though crews remained on scene to fight hot spots.

Cy Chesterman is president of Iowa-based Chesterman Company, which owns the Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of Central South Dakota. Chesterman tells The Daily Republic the facility in Mitchell employs about 30 people and is trying to service its customers. Employees worked in temporary offices Tuesday.

The facility's roof partially collapsed and a thunderstorm moved through the area during the day.

The value of the damage wasn't immediately clear.

Diesel for harvest might be adequate with drilling slowdown

JAMES MacPHERSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The slowdown in North Dakota's oil patch should help keep fuel supplies adequate for the state's fall crop harvest due to the dramatic drop in the number diesel-thirsty drill rigs, officials say.

The harvest, which already has begun for some crops, often spurs diesel shortages for farm machinery in the Upper Midwest. The problem was particularly acute in North Dakota in recent years because of the oil drilling activity in the western part of the state.

Mike Rud, president of the North Dakota Petroleum Marketers Association, and Mark Watne, president of the North Dakota Farmers Union, said there is no indication that diesel supplies will be tight when the harvest ramps up to full speed next month.

"I have not heard of anything anybody is concerned about," said Watne, whose group has about 41,000 members in North Dakota.

Dawna Leitzke, director of the South Dakota Petroleum Marketers Association, said an expected "phenomenal harvest" this fall puts the odds of a diesel shortage in that state "at better than 50 percent" and petroleum dealers may look to North Dakota for relief.

"If there is not a supply, marketers will drive wherever they can to get it," she said.

The oil industry replaced agriculture a few years ago as the biggest user of diesel in North Dakota. State Tax Department records show that diesel fuel consumption in the state has nearly doubled to more than 925,000 gallons annually since 2008, when its oil boom was in its infancy.

North Dakota's seven coal-fired power plants and lignite mines also are big users of diesel. But it's the equipment supporting the drilling in the Bakken and Three Forks shale formations in North Dakota that are the biggest guzzlers.

It takes about 3,000 gallons of diesel each day to power one drill rig. On Tuesday, there were 73 drill rigs working in the state, which is 120 fewer than a year ago. The drop is due to depressed oil prices.

"That tells me that diesel should be available somewhere," Rud said.

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North Dakota gets most of its diesel from refineries in-state as well as those in neighboring Montana and Minnesota, Rud said. Diesel production in the region has increased to meet demand, he said.

At the Tesoro Corp. refinery in Mandan, diesel production was increased in 2013 by 5,000 barrels per day, to 22,000 barrels. A barrel is 42 gallons.

In Dickinson, North Dakota's newest oil refinery lost nearly \$3.9 million in its first few months of operation. Bismarck-based MDU Resources Group and Indianapolis-based Calumet Specialty Products Partners built the \$430 million plant that can process 20,000 barrels of western North Dakota crude daily into diesel fuel and other products. Fuel began being sold in May amid what MDU officials called extremely difficult market conditions for diesel fuel, which included big stockpiles of the fuel nationally.

MDU spokesman Tim Rasmussen said the factory is keeping production constant and the company expects strong sales during fall harvest.

"The refinery is a long-term investment and we have a long-term view on the operation of that facility," Rasmussen said. "Demand patterns are going to fluctuate over the long term with oil production."

Suspect in South Dakota slaying ordered held without bond

LEAD, S.D. (AP) — A judge in western South Dakota has ordered that the suspect in a Monday evening slaying be held without bond.

Lawrence County Magistrate Eric Strawn on Tuesday denied bond for 44-year-old James L. Rogers Jr., who is facing a first-degree murder charge. Police in Lead arrested Rogers in connection with the slaying Monday.

Law enforcement authorities are withholding the victim's identity pending positive identification and notification of next of kin. Authorities would not release details of the incident.

Chief Deputy Paul Hansen with the Lawrence County Sheriff's Office says an autopsy has been scheduled for Wednesday. He says the case is being investigated by the Lead Police Department, the sheriff's office and the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation.

North Dakota judge grants hearing on federal water rule

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A federal judge in North Dakota has ordered a hearing on an effort to block a new rule that gives federal authorities jurisdiction over some state waters.

Thirteen states led by North Dakota are challenging the rule by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers. The states say the new rule illegally expands the jurisdiction of those agencies under the federal Clean Water Act.

The law goes into effect Aug. 28. The states want the judge to order an injunction to suspend the new rules.

Judge Ralph Erickson set a hearing on the request for Friday in Fargo.

The other states joining the lawsuit with North Dakota are Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Nevada, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Daugaard appoints new judge in Second Judicial Circuit

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard is appointing Sioux Falls attorney Jon Sogn (sawng) to the bench in South Dakota's Second Judicial Circuit.

Sogn will fill a new judgeship created by the 2015 Legislature. The Second Circuit includes Lincoln and Minnehaha counties.

Sogn has practiced with the law firm of Lynn, Jackson, Shultz and Lebrun since 1986. He is a Canton native and a 1983 graduate of Augustana College. He earned his law degree from the University of South Dakota law school in 1986. He's served as an adjunct lecturer in trial techniques at his alma mater.

Daugaard says Sogn has "earned the respect of his peers over a long legal career, and he will be an excellent judge."

Sogn says he's grateful for the appointment.

Body of missing woman recovered from Pactola Reservoir

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Searchers have recovered the body of a Rapid City woman who went missing after a boat crash on Pactola Reservoir.

The Pennington County Sheriff's Office says searchers on Monday used a remotely operated underwater vehicle to locate the body of 33-year-old Gabrielle Fisher.

The Burleigh County Sheriff's Department and the Bismarck Rural Fire Department in North Dakota sent personnel and equipment to the scene to help in the search.

Fisher was one of two people on a boat that collided with a personal watercraft Friday. The personal watercraft driver is facing charges of boating under the influence and manslaughter.

Jody Kreycik made his initial court appearance Monday but did not enter a plea. He faces up to 11 years in prison if convicted.

Winter wheat harvest nears completion in South Dakota

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The winter wheat harvest is nearing completion in South Dakota, after a week of varied rainfall in the state.

The Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that the northwest, north central and eastern portions of the state received rain but the southwest remains dry.

The winter wheat harvest is 95 percent done, ahead of 86 percent at the same time last year but nearly equal to the 94 percent long-term average.

About three-fourths of South Dakota's spring wheat crop is in the bin, well ahead of both last year's pace and the average.

Pasture and range conditions in the state are 59 percent good to excellent, and stock water supplies are 75 percent adequate to surplus.

South Dakota nurse embeds in colony life to transform care

KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press

OLIVET, S.D. (AP) — A spaghetti dinner with people in prairie dress and a church service in German is all in a day's work for Kerri Lutjens.

The 33-year-old nurse, who doesn't speak German, has spent the past few years gaining the trust of several communities of Hutterites, a deeply religious people with ancestral ties to the Amish who live in insular farming communities in the Plains, Upper Midwest and Canada.

Although she provides a broad range of care to the eight South Dakota Hutterite colonies she serves, Lutjens has paid particular attention to vaccinating children in these communities and preventing outbreaks like one in Ohio last year in which 383 people, most of them unvaccinated Amish, got the measles.

In the first seven colonies that welcomed Lutjens, the combined rate of children with up-to-date vaccinations has gone from about 13 percent since she started administering vaccines in 2013 to well over 90 percent today. Her work hasn't gone unnoticed: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently lauded Lutjens' vaccination success, noting the cultural sensitivity she has shown along the way.

"They're their future. They're going to keep their colony going," Lutjens said of the children she treats. "So if we can instill those values as little people, we're going to have a much healthier colony in 20 years."

In traditional Hutterite colonies, the women wear ankle-length dresses and black head scarves and the men serve as the providers, working mostly in agriculture or building homes on the colonies. Like the Amish, the Hutterites aren't averse to vaccinations, but because they live in remote areas and go into town infrequently, getting their children vaccinated hasn't been routine.

"They're not anti anything," Lutjens said. "They just have a different way of going about things."

Hutterites colonies are spread across the Great Plains of the U.S. and southern Canada and the majority

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of American colonies are centered in Montana and South Dakota. Along with the Mennonites and Amish, the Hutterites are descended from Anabaptists and trace their roots back to the Radical Reformation of the 16th century.

Unlike the Amish, those in the Hutterian Brethren Church embrace technology, using cellphones, cars and trucks — and modern medicine. Residents of Lutjens' colonies still seek medical treatment at local hospitals and clinics, but she provides much of their initial care.

Lutjens said her personal interactions are the key to earning these communities' trust.

Hoping to establish ties with an eighth colony, she attended a communal dinner this spring to explain what she could offer to residents. She then joined them for their nightly church service in German, which is the primary language in many colonies and which many Hutterites learn before learning English.

"That's what makes it work," she said. "It's a very personable relationship. Each person has a name, and you try to figure that out, and you try to figure out the connections between the colonies."

With the help of a physician's assistant, Lutjens sets up shop in a different one of the eight colonies she treats nearly every day.

At the Tschetter Colony, a remote outpost of single-story homes and communal buildings surrounded by acres of farmland about 70 miles southwest of Sioux Falls, Lutjens' makeshift clinic is housed in an empty room, sandwiched between the colony's church and usual dining hall. Lutjens uses the colony's speaker system here to let patients know she has arrived and is seeing patients; she'll also use a phone in the nearby church to call families and ask them to come in.

Lutjens treats hundreds of patients in the eight colonies, and she greets each with a warm familiarity.

On a recent day, Karen Hofer brought her son to Lutjens' clinic for an ear infection. She said Lutjen's presence has helped families by making health care more accessible. In Hutterite colonies, mothers are the primary caretakers, but in many they don't drive.

"It's ... just easier, and she stresses (vaccinations) a lot," said Hofer, who wore a long purple dress and black head scarf and spoke in a thick German accent.

Larry Decker, 64, said Lutjen's presence helps the entire colony be healthier, particularly him, who has a lengthy medical history and is generally apprehensive of leaving the colony to seek medical attention.

"Like today, I wouldn't have seen anybody. I would have pushed it off five years if I had to go see somebody, but if I can go see her I will," said Decker, who farms and keeps honeybees.

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. BANGKOK BOMBING CARRIED OUT BY 'A NETWORK'

Thailand's national police chief says the man seen in a grainy security video leaving a backpack behind just 20 minutes before the explosion did not work alone.

2. ISLAMIC STATE GROUP BEHEADS LEADING SYRIAN ANTIQUITIES SCHOLAR

Extremist militants reportedly take Khaled Asaad's body to Palmyra's archaeological site and hang it from one of the Roman columns.

3. U.S. APPROVES DRUG TO BOOST SEXUAL DESIRE IN WOMEN

The decision is a milestone for the pharmaceutical industry, eager to replicate the success of impotence drugs for men.

4. EX-SUBWAY PITCHMAN EXPECTED TO ADMIT TO CHILD-PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

An Indiana television station reports the development six weeks after authorities seized electronics and other items from Jared Fogle's home near Indianapolis.

5. WHO ACCOUNTS FOR HALF OF JEB BUSH'S DONATIONS

About 50 percent of the roughly \$120 million raised to help him win the Republican presidential nomination comes from donors who previously gave to his brother or father.

6. WHAT STILL HAUNTS NEW ORLEANS NEIGHBORHOOD

After Vera Smith died during Hurricane Katrina, her body lay on a sidewalk for days and then became a symbol of a stricken city.

7. SOUTH KOREAN FAME RECIPE

Hundreds of people, sometimes thousands, are watching online as Kim Sung-jin, a 14-year-old from Seoul, gorges on food and chats before a live camera.

8. HACKERS CLAIM TO HAVE EXPOSED ASHLEY MADISON USERS ON WEB

A group calling itself Impact Team says in a statement the owners of the matchmaking site for cheating spouses did not bow to their demands.

9. WHY CHELSEA MANNING IS FOUND GUILTY OF VIOLATING PRISON RULES

The transgender Army private is accused of having a copy of Vanity Fair with Caitlyn Jenner on the cover and an expired tube of toothpaste.

10. COE BEATS BUBKA FOR TOP JOB IN INTERNATIONAL TRACK AND FIELD

He is given an immediate mandate to restore the image of an IAAF hierarchy grappling with a doping controversy.

Tree pluribus unum: Many fruits stem from artists' grafts

MICHAEL HILL, Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — Plums, peaches, nectarines and cherries all grow on just one of Sam Van Aken's fruit trees. The trees blossom in a riot of red, white and pink each spring.

The artist calls his creations the Tree of 40 Fruit. And the tree at Syracuse University, and others like it, really does bear 40 or more varieties of stone fruit, thanks to carefully planned grafts.

The hybrid trees provide both juicy fruit and food for thought about preserving agricultural heritage. But most of all, Van Aken wants to provoke a response.

"When somebody happens upon it and they see it blossom in these different colors and they see it growing all these different fruit ... there's this rethinking, there's this sort of moment that sort of interrupts the everyday," said Van Aken, who teaches art at the university.

Van Aken's first 40-fruit tree has been located for the past four years on the edge of a campus green. On a recent broiling summer day, Van Aken plucked a few yellow plums the size of golf balls and ducked under a low branch to give a trunk-to-leaf tour. Starting with a plum root stock, he has over the years grafted on a cornucopia of fruit.

"Right here is a nectarine. It comes out on a plum base, but it continues to grow up here, until you have peaches on the end," he said. "There's a couple of apricots that have been grafted on, and this out on the end is a red-leaf plum variety."

The tree project is an outgrowth of Van Aken's work as a sculptor — one used to working with nontraditional materials. Early on, he considered arranging different trees that blossomed at different times before realizing he could "collapse the entire orchard on to one tree." He decided to work with stone fruit — that is, fruit with pits.

"It actually started with a Tree of 100 Fruit," he said with a laugh. "I was sort of ambitious."

He eventually settled on 40, a number rich with biblical allusions, such as the 40 days and 40 nights of rain when Noah built an ark and the amount of time Jesus fasted. Van Aken was inspired to include harder-to-find fruits after reading a century-old book, "The Plums of New York," that listed hundreds upon hundreds of varieties. The abundance was strikingly different from the few types of purple plums found in modern supermarkets.

He stocked the campus nursery where he works with antique and heirloom varieties, including some from a now-defunct research orchard. Over time, he has collected more than 40 varieties of plums, peaches, nectarines, apricots, cherries and almonds that he can graft to his trees.

The trees can turn heads in the spring, when the multicolored blossoms signal something unusual. But

people who walked by the Syracuse University tree on a recent day barely looked up from their phones to notice the subtle differences in fruit from branch to branch. University employee Karen Davis said she had heard of Van Aken's tree, but walked by it at least twice a day without realizing it.

"I heard about the tree but I didn't know it was right here," said Davis, who called it "fantastic."

Van Aken said there are 16 trees sited around the nation, mostly in the Northeast. More are being grown and grafted in the nursery, including eight that will be planted in downtown Syracuse next year.

Several of the trees have been donated. The cost of the others depends on his travel expenses. Each tree is planted with 20 varieties grafted to it. He returns twice a year for three years after each planting to graft the rest of the varieties.

The trees keep him busy April through September, but he likes the fact that this is a unique type of sculpture that keeps on evolving.

"Every year it's something different. It appears different. It's radically different than it was six months previous," he said. "And that part has been the most rewarding part."

AP News in Brief

Sierra Leone awaits countdown to Ebola-free declaration as families still grieve

MASSESEHBEH, Sierra Leone (AP) — It had been five months since an Ebola death when Musa Kamara traveled to his hometown for festivities to mark the end of Ramadan. Not long after his sudden death in this roadside village, authorities came with a grim message: The killer virus was back.

Soon officials barricaded this community of nearly 600 people, putting up orange plastic fencing to quarantine half the town for the 21-day Ebola incubation period after potential exposure.

But late last week, residents who could only talk to family on the other side of the fence by phone erupted into song and dance when President Ernest Bai Koroma came to cut it down, marking the formal end of Sierra Leone's largest remaining quarantine.

Alie Senkoh, 21, said he couldn't wait to "move all around town" after days of playing cards and dice at home with his aunt and grandmother.

"We are feeling good because we are healthy and there is no more Ebola here," he said. "We believe this was the only way to stop the transmission."

Police release sketch of Bangkok bombing suspect and offer \$28,000 reward for help finding him

BANGKOK (AP) — Police in Thailand released a sketch Wednesday of the man they believe carried out this week's deadly Bangkok bombing, and offered a 1 million baht (\$28,000) reward for help leading to his arrest. But apart from a rough portrait, authorities have few solid leads — they don't know the bomber's motive, where he's from or if he's still in the country.

The sketch was released after grainy security video footage showed the man leaving behind a backpack just 15 minutes before the blast at a popular downtown shrine. Police said the picture was also partly based on a description provided by a motorcycle taxi driver believed to have given him a ride on the night of the Monday blast.

Two days after the attack, which authorities have called the worst in Thai history, the open-air Erawan Shrine reopened to the public. But little is known about who carried out the blast that left 20 people dead and more than 120 injured, and no one has claimed responsibility.

Police chief Somyot Poompanmoung said authorities didn't know if the suspect seen in the video was still in the country, whether he was Thai or a foreigner and were wondering if he wore a disguise to mask his identity.

The sketch released Wednesday showed a young man in eyeglasses with bushy, dark hair that is cropped at the sides.

Deadly Thai blast strikes blow to tourism, sole bright spot in ailing economy

BANGKOK (AP) — The bomb blast that ripped through a Bangkok shrine, killing 20 and injuring dozens, is also certain to take its toll on tourism, the one bright spot in Thailand's sputtering economy.

The Southeast Asian country's tourism industry has expanded strongly over recent years, driven by rising numbers of Chinese tourists, which has helped offset the drag on growth from a decade of political instability.

In the bombing's aftermath, some foreign travel agencies cancelled group tours and the baht sank to a six-year low. The country's stock benchmark fell to its lowest since the start of the year, led by tourism-related shares.

The explosion at the shrine, which is popular with Chinese visitors, is likely to dampen their enthusiasm for Bangkok as a tourist destination. The industry has emerged stronger after every crisis the country has faced in the last decade, but the latest incident appears to mark a change by targeting tourists. That raises questions about whether the impact on tourism will be short term or a crippling blow that drives visitors away for longer.

Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha called the bombing "the worst incident" to ever hit the country, saying, "this time they aimed for innocent lives. They want to destroy our economy, our tourism."

FDA OKs first pill for boosting sexual desire in women, but it comes with safety restrictions

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration has approved the first prescription drug designed to boost sexual desire in women, a milestone long sought by a pharmaceutical industry eager to replicate the blockbuster success of impotence drugs for men.

But stringent safety measures on the daily pill called Addyi mean it will probably never achieve the sales of Viagra, which has generated billions of dollars since the late 1990s.

The drug's label will bear a boxed warning — the most serious type — alerting doctors and patients to the risks of dangerously low blood pressure and fainting, especially when the pill is combined with alcohol. The same problems can occur when taking the drug with other commonly prescribed medications, including antifungals used to treat yeast infections.

"Patients and prescribers should fully understand the risks associated with the use of Addyi before considering treatment," said Dr. Janet Woodcock, director of the FDA's drug center, in a statement announcing the approval Tuesday.

Under an FDA-imposed safety plan, doctors will only be able to prescribe Addyi after completing an on-line certification process that requires counseling patients about Addyi's risks. Pharmacists will also need certification and will be required to remind patients not to drink alcohol while taking the drug.

The Latest on Bangkok: Thai police release detailed sketch of bombing suspect in video

BANGKOK (AP) — The latest on the bombings in the Thai capital (all times local):

4 p.m.

Thai police have released a detailed sketch of the main suspect in Monday evening's bombing that killed 20 people at the Erawan shrine in downtown Bangkok.

It depicts a young man wearing glasses with bushy black hair and is apparently based on security camera video from the shrine showing a man in a yellow shirt carrying a backpack.

Television report: Ex-Subway pitchman expected to plead guilty to child-pornography charges

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Longtime Subway pitchman Jared Fogle is expected to plead guilty to child-pornography charges, an Indiana television station reported.

The Tuesday report on Fox59 came six weeks after authorities seized electronics and other items from Fogle's home in Zionsville, an affluent Indianapolis suburb.

Citing sources it did not identify, the station said Fogle would enter a plea Wednesday. It also said the U.S. Attorney's Office in Indianapolis planned to hold a news conference Wednesday.

The 37-year-old Fogle became a Subway pitchman more than 15 years ago after shedding more than 200 pounds as a college student, in part by eating the chain's sandwiches.

Subway suspended its association with Fogle after the raid. The company declined to comment Tuesday, saying only that the chain had "already ended our relationship with Jared."

The Bush boost: Donors who gave to Jeb Bush's father and brother account for half of his money

WASHINGTON (AP) — Jeb Bush's fundraising network is two generations in the making, and it shows.

About half of the roughly \$120 million raised to help him win the Republican presidential nomination comes from donors who previously gave to his brother or father, both former presidents, according to a new analysis of Federal Election Commission records by Crowdpac.com, a nonpartisan political research company.

The finding puts a numerical exclamation point on the advantage Bush's presidential family gives him when it comes to fundraising.

In Crowdpac's review of named contributors to three political committees helping Bush, \$59.2 million came from first-time Bush donors, while \$60.3 million came from returning donors to the earlier campaigns of President George W. Bush, President George H.W. Bush or both.

One such Bush family stalwart is Dirk Van Dongen, president of the Washington-based National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors. Van Dongen said he is one of a "huge" network of volunteer fundraisers — called "bundlers" because they gather checks from friends and associates to turn over to campaigns — who sprang to action when the former Florida governor said at the beginning of the year that he was thinking about running.

Activists: IS suicide bomber kills 11 in Kurdish town in northeastern Syria

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian activists say an Islamic State suicide bomber has targeted a predominantly Kurdish town in northeastern Syria, killing at least 11 people.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights says Wednesday's explosion happened outside a local Kurdish police station in the town of Qamishli. It also says more than 40 people were wounded.

Syria's state news agency SANA reported the explosion, saying it killed 13 and wounded about 50.

The Islamic State group has been fighting Kurdish fighters in Syria since last year and the extremists have carried out dozens of suicide attacks against the Kurds. The Kurdish fighters, aided by U.S.-led airstrikes, have also captured significant territory from IS in northern Syria.

Here lies Vera: Woman's death still haunts New Orleans neighborhood a decade after Katrina

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Amid the chaos after Hurricane Katrina swamped New Orleans, Vera Smith's body decayed for four days on a sidewalk until her horrified neighbors covered her with dirt, a makeshift

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plastic shroud and a bleak epitaph: "Here lies Vera. God help us."

Broadcast to the world, the stark image came to stand for what seemed like the complete breakdown of a great American city.

Although her cremated remains were later buried on a family plot in Texas and the place where she died of unknown causes has sprung back since Katrina, Vera Smith remains part of her neighborhood.

A colorful memorial by local artist Simon Harveld stands beside an upscale restaurant built near the site of her death, and her all-too-public demise was recounted in a book written by a man who helped erect her temporary sidewalk tomb.

Ten years later, friends — as well as neighbors who never even met Elvia Briones Smith, her full name — sense that she could have been any of them, a tragic victim of a natural disaster compounded by human mistakes.

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, August 19, the 231st day of 2015. There are 134 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 19, 1955, torrential rains caused by Hurricane Diane resulted in severe flooding in the north-eastern U.S., claiming some 200 lives.

On this date:

In A.D. 14, Caesar Augustus, Rome's first emperor, died at age 76 after a reign lasting four decades; he was succeeded by his stepson Tiberius.

In 1812, the USS Constitution defeated the British frigate HMS Guerriere off Nova Scotia during the War of 1812, earning the nickname "Old Ironsides."

In 1814, during the War of 1812, British forces landed at Benedict, Maryland, with the objective of capturing Washington D.C.

In 1918, "Yip! Yip! Yaphank," a musical revue by Irving Berlin featuring Army recruits from Camp Upton in Yaphank, New York, opened on Broadway.

In 1934, a plebiscite in Germany approved the vesting of sole executive power in Adolf Hitler.

In 1936, the first of a series of show trials orchestrated by Soviet leader Josef Stalin began in Moscow as 16 defendants faced charges of conspiring against the government (all were convicted and executed).

In 1942, during World War II, about 6,000 Canadian and British soldiers launched a disastrous raid against the Germans at Dieppe, France, suffering more than 50-percent casualties.

In 1964, The Beatles opened their first full-fledged U.S. tour as they performed at San Francisco's Cow Palace.

In 1974, U.S. Ambassador Rodger P. Davies was fatally wounded by a bullet that penetrated the American embassy in Nicosia, Cyprus, during a protest by Greek Cypriots.

In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford won the Republican presidential nomination at the party's convention in Kansas City.

In 1980, 301 people aboard a Saudi Arabian L-1011 died as the jetliner made a fiery emergency return to the Riyadh airport.

In 1991, Soviet hard-liners made the stunning announcement that President Mikhail S. Gorbachev had been removed from power. (The coup attempt collapsed two days later.)

Ten years ago: A Texas jury found pharmaceutical giant Merck and Co. liable for the death of a man who'd taken the once-popular painkiller Vioxx, awarding his widow \$253.4 million in damages. (Texas caps on punitive damages reduced that figure to about \$26 million; a Texas court overturned the verdict in May 2008, but the widow has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to hear her case.) Attackers firing Katyusha rockets narrowly missed a U.S. amphibious assault ship docked at the Red Sea resort of Aqaba, but killed a Jordanian soldier. Britain's former Northern Ireland chief, Mo Mowlam, died in Canterbury, England; she was 55.

Five years ago: The last American combat brigade exited Iraq, seven years and five months after the

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U.S.-led invasion began. A federal grand jury in Washington indicted seven-time Cy Young Award winner Roger Clemens for allegedly lying to Congress about steroid use. (However, Clemens' trial in 2011 ended in a mistrial when the jury was shown inadmissible evidence by prosecutors; Clemens was acquitted in a retrial in 2012.)

One year ago: A video released by Islamic State militants purported to show the beheading of American journalist James Foley as retribution for U.S. airstrikes in Iraq. The New York Islanders announced the team had been sold to a former Washington Capitals co-owner Jon Ledecky and London-based investor Scott Malkin.

Today's Birthdays: Actor L.Q. Jones is 88. Actress Debra Paget is 82. USTA Eastern Tennis Hall of Famer Renee Richards is 81. Former MLB All-Star Bobby Richardson is 80. Actress Diana Muldaur is 77. Rock musician Ginger Baker (Cream, Blind Faith) is 76. Singer Johnny Nash is 75. Actress Jill St. John is 75. Actor and former U.S. senator Fred Thompson is 73. Singer Billy J. Kramer is 72. Country singer-songwriter Eddy Raven is 71. Rock singer Ian Gillan (Deep Purple) is 70. Former President Bill Clinton is 69. Actor Gerald McRaney is 68. Tipper Gore, wife of former Vice President Al Gore, is 67. Actor Jim Carter is 67. Rock musician John Deacon (Queen) is 64. Actor-director Jonathan Frakes is 63. Political consultant Mary Matalin is 62. Actor Peter Gallagher is 60. Actor Adam Arkin is 59. Singer-songwriter Gary Chapman is 58. Actor Martin Donovan is 58. Pro Football Hall-of-Famer Anthony Munoz is 57. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ivan Neville is 56. Actor Eric Lutes is 53. Actor John Stamos is 52. Actress Kyra Sedgwick is 50. Actor Kevin Dillon is 50. Country singer Lee Ann Womack is 49. TV reporter Tabitha Soren is 48. Country singer-songwriter Mark McGuinn is 47. Actor Matthew Perry is 46. Country singer Clay Walker is 46. Rapper Fat Joe is 45. Olympic gold medal tennis player Mary Joe Fernandez is 44. Actress Tracie Thoms is 40. Actor Callum Blue is 38. Country singer Rissi (REE'-see) Palmer is 34. Actress Erika Christensen is 33. Actress Melissa Fumero is 33. Pop singer Missy Higgins is 32. Actor Peter Mooney is 32. Actress Tammin Sursok is 32. Country singer Karli Osborn is 31. Olympic silver medal snowboarder Lindsey Jacobellis is 30. Actor J. Evan Bonifant is 30. Rapper Romeo is 26.

Thought for Today: "Cheer up! The worst is yet to come!" - Philander Chase Johnson, American author (1866-1939).