

Groton Daily Independent

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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
• **Anniv:** Marc & Jayne Rossow

Birthdays: • Deb Thurston • Jeff Sippel • Connie McDonald • Colby Merkel • Virginia Breitreutz

12:00pm: Girls Soccer hosts St. Thomas More

2:00pm: Boys Soccer hosts St. Thomas More

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

Sunday, August 23

Birthdays: Lisa Pray • Robin Flihs • Allerie Loeschke • Ashley Larson • Jeremy Paul • Trista Telkamp • Lorraine Sippel

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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FOUR ADDITIONAL GAMES ADDED TO SDHSAA FOOTBALL SCHEDULES

PIERRE – SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director John Krogstrand announced today that four additional contests have been added to the slate of regular season games for the 2015 football season due to the dissolution of the Highmore-Harrold football team. Each contest features two squads that were originally scheduled to play Highmore-Harrold and allows each team to maintain a full slate of games for the upcoming season.

The additional games are as follows:

Week Zero, August 28th: Wolsey-Wessington @ Platte-Geddes

Week One, September 4th: Hanson @ Woonsocket/Wessington Springs/Sanborn Central

Week Six, October 9th: Sully Buttes @ Hitchcock-Tulare

Week Seven, October 16th: Sunshine Bible Academy @ Potter County

Each of these four games will also be played on the corresponding date in 2016, with the locations being reversed.

"We feel very fortunate that we were able to find an amicable solution for all eight teams who would

have otherwise lost a contest for each of the next two years," Krogstrand stated. "While some of the fixes may not be perfect, the fact that we were able to preserve a full schedule for each of our member schools is a positive resolution for all."

Full schedule information for all 138 SDHSAA Football teams can be found on the Association's website: SDHSAA.com.



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Groton has Schwantastic Administrators

Three Schwans are at the helm of the Groton Area School District, but the two families are not related. Joe Schwan is the superintendent. Brett and Dr. Anna Schwan are the principals. Anna just recently earned her doctorate degree. Joe became superintendent in 2013, Anna became the middle/high school principal in 2013 and Brett became the elementary principal



**In back is Superintendent Joe Schwan
In front is Dr. Anna Schwan, middle/high school principal;
and her husband, Brett, elementary principal.**

Superintendent Joe Schwan

Hometown and High School you graduated from: Warner High School

Your education background:

Undergraduate Degree - BS Mathematics Education (NSU) 2005

Master's Degree - Leadership and Administration (NSU) 2007

Specialists Degree - School Superintendent (USD) 2013

Previous Jobs and time at each place:

Arlington High School, Math Teacher/Coach, 4 years (2005-2009)

Hamlin School District, MS Principal/Athletic Director, 2 years (2009-2011)

Groton School District, MS/HS Principal, 2 years (2011-2013)

Groton School District, Superintendent 2013-Present

Why did you decide to go into education? My mother has been an educator for over 30 years. Obviously that has played a major impact in my decision to pursue a career in education. As many educators will tell you, I was fortunate to have had many teachers and coaches that played important roles in helping me to grow and learn. The opportunity to pass that along can be tremendously rewarding.

After one year of college, I was accepted into South Dakota School of Mines and Technology and was weeks away from transferring out of NSU to pursue a career in Civil Engineering. After giving full consideration, I determined that the best opportunity for me to make an impact was to work with developing people, rather than objects. I stayed at NSU and finished my education studies.

What have been your challenges or are going to be challenges in Groton? Like many schools, a major challenge for us will be competing with the private sector for qualified employees, including teachers and all support staff. All of the services that we provide for our students depend entirely upon being able to hire the best people to work with them.

Do you feel that your high school and college education prepared you adequately for post education life? Yes. There is, however, much to be said for learning by experience.

What advice would you give the high school students today? Be diligent in your studies to prepare yourself for the opportunities that have yet to present themselves. If you wait for an opportunity to arise before you begin to prepare, you'll be too late. If school is easy for you, work to expand your skill set outside of your comfort zone. Take advantage of all the opportunities provided for you while you are in high school.

Is there any relation between your two families? No known relationship.

Middle/High School Principal

Dr. Anna Schwan (Raber)

Hometown and High School you graduated from: Lake Preston High School, Lake Preston, SD

Your education background: BA in English and Spanish from SDSU, Master's Degree from Valley City State University in Teaching English Language Learners, Specialist Degree from USD in School Administration, and Doctorate Degree from USD in School Administration.

Previous Jobs and time at each place: English and Spanish teacher at Leola School (8 years), ELL Teacher at Aberdeen Central High School (3 years).

Why did you decide to go into education? I decided to become a teacher because I decided my contribution to society could be through education. Education stole my heart when I was in 1st grade, and I have been dedicated ever since to helping young people realize their potential not only as students but as human beings.

What have been your challenges or are going to be challenges in Groton? Groton is a fantastic school district with a supportive community, exceptional students, and a truly amazing staff. My goal in this position is to take it to a new level. I don't want us to be good; I want us to be the best.

Do you feel that your high school and college education prepared you adequately for post education life? Realizing the tools that were available when I was in high school, I do believe I was adequately prepared. However, I am very excited for kids in the school system today because of what we know now about teaching, critical thinking, problem solving, and authentic content. As a college graduate, nothing ever prepares you completely for the real world, and keeping up with the changes and developments in education is no small task. I am interested to see the results of studies looking at year-long student teaching placements and some of the reforms that are happening in post-secondary schools in the teacher preparation program.

What advice would you give the high school students today? I hand out advice all day long! My advice to all students is that truly realizing your place in this world begins with how you perceive education and your role as a life-long learner. Sometimes it is difficult to see the relevance in what we ask you to do at school, but allowing yourself to believe in us and that what we are teaching you is all for you... to give you the means to be able to think for yourself and live your life as genuinely as you wish will truly show you the way.

Elementary Principal

Brett Schwan

Hometown and High School you graduated from: Born in Aberdeen. Later moved to Mina Lake and graduated in 2001 from Ipswich High School.

Your education background: Attended NSU and majored in K-12 Special Education. Later attended NSU and received my graduate degree in Leadership and Administration which certified me to be a PK-12 Principal.

Previous Jobs and time at each place:

2005-2008: Edmunds Central - K-12 Special Education Teacher, Head Football, Head Basketball

2008-2010: Leola School District - Dean of Students (6-12 Principal Duties), Testing Coordinator, Athletic Director, Junior High Football, and Junior High Basketball.

2010-2015: Holgate Middle School - 8th Grade Special Education Teacher, After School Program Tutor

Why did you decide to go into education? I've always enjoyed helping and instructing kids. To see a student grow academically, socially, emotionally, and physically over a period of time is a very enjoyable and rewarding experience for any teacher or administrator.

What have been your challenges or are going to be challenges in Groton? My first challenge will be getting to know the staff, students, and parents. I'm also quickly learning the traditions and day-to-day operations of Groton Elementary and how they are different than my previous school. I'm excited for change but with change comes plenty of observing, learning, advice taking, and responsibility. These few challenges will keep me plenty busy for the first part of the school year.

Do you feel that your high school and college education prepared you adequately for post education life? Very much so. I learned at a young age that responsibility and accountability are two very important characteristics that all people should have. I can honestly say I don't remember every little detail of every class I took, but I do remember being held accountable and taking responsibility for my own study habits and effort.

What advice would you give the high school students today? Take ownership in what you do and don't do and understand that not all tasks put before you are going to be easy.

Today in Weather History

August 20, 1904: A destructive, estimated F4 tornado moved ESE from 7 miles WNW of Willow Lake, through the town, and on into Bryant. Most of the damaged occurred in those two towns. All buildings on at least three farms were blown away. One woman died in Bryant, Hamlin County, as the tornado swept across the residential west side of town. Another man was killed just west of Willow Lake, as his farm house was scattered for miles.

1886: The 1886 Indianola Hurricane destroyed the town of Indianola, Texas and as such had a significant impact on the history and economic development of Texas. The storm ended the rivalry between Galveston and Indianola as the chief port of Texas. With the abandonment of Indianola and the unwillingness of the former residents to rebuild close to shore, Galveston became the most important Texan port until the 1900 Galveston Hurricane led to the rise of Houston as a major port. It was the fifth hurricane of the 1886 Atlantic hurricane season and one of the most intense hurricanes ever to hit the United States.

1910: The Great Fire of 1910 finally came to an end in Idaho. A record dry August fueled 1736 fires that burned three million acres destroying six billion board feet of timber. The fires claimed the lives of 85 persons, 78 of which were fire fighters, and consumed the entire town of Wallace. The smoke spread a third of the way around the world producing some dark days in the U.S. and Canada. The forest fires prompted federal fire protection laws.



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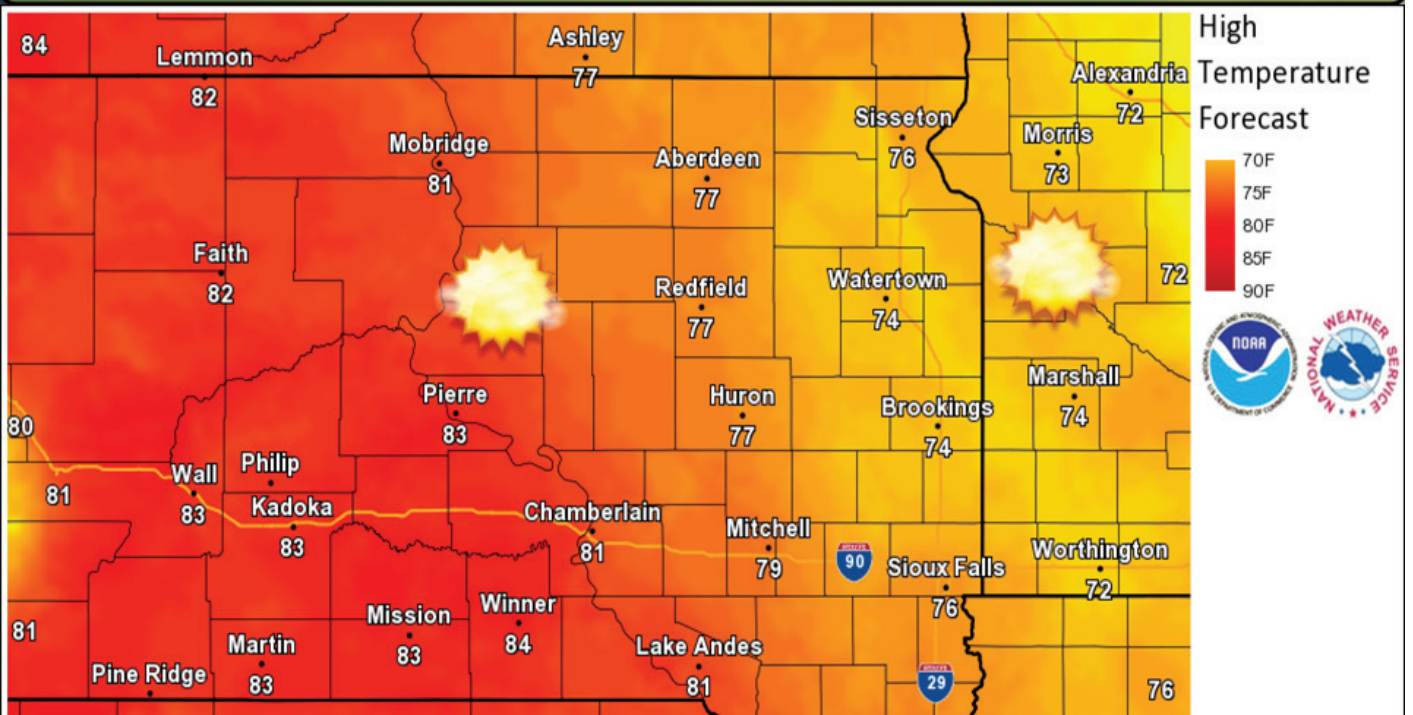
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Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
						
Patched Fog then Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Partly Cloudy then Partly Cloudy and Breezy	Mostly Sunny and Breezy	Slight Chance Showers and Breezy	Sunny and Breezy
High: 78 °F	Low: 55 °F	High: 87 °F	Low: 67 °F	High: 79 °F	Low: 51 °F	High: 70 °F



Sunshine and Warmer Today



Valid ending Thursday August 20th, 2015 at 7 PM CDT

Created Thursday August 20th, 2015 at 4:57 AM CDT

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 8/20/2015 5:01 AM Central

Published on: 08/20/2015 at 5:04AM

High pressure over the region this morning will slowly move east through the day. This will bring mostly sunny skies and dry conditions. Warmer temperatures will also start moving back into the region, with 70s and low 80s expected for highs. Temperatures will be even warmer on Friday, with 80s and low 90s forecast across the area.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 70.7 at 4:57 PM

Low: 52.8 at 11:53 PM

High Gust: 29 at 12:08 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 103° in 1976

Record Low: 33° in 1950

Average High: 81°F

Average Low: 56°F

Average Precip in Aug: 1.56

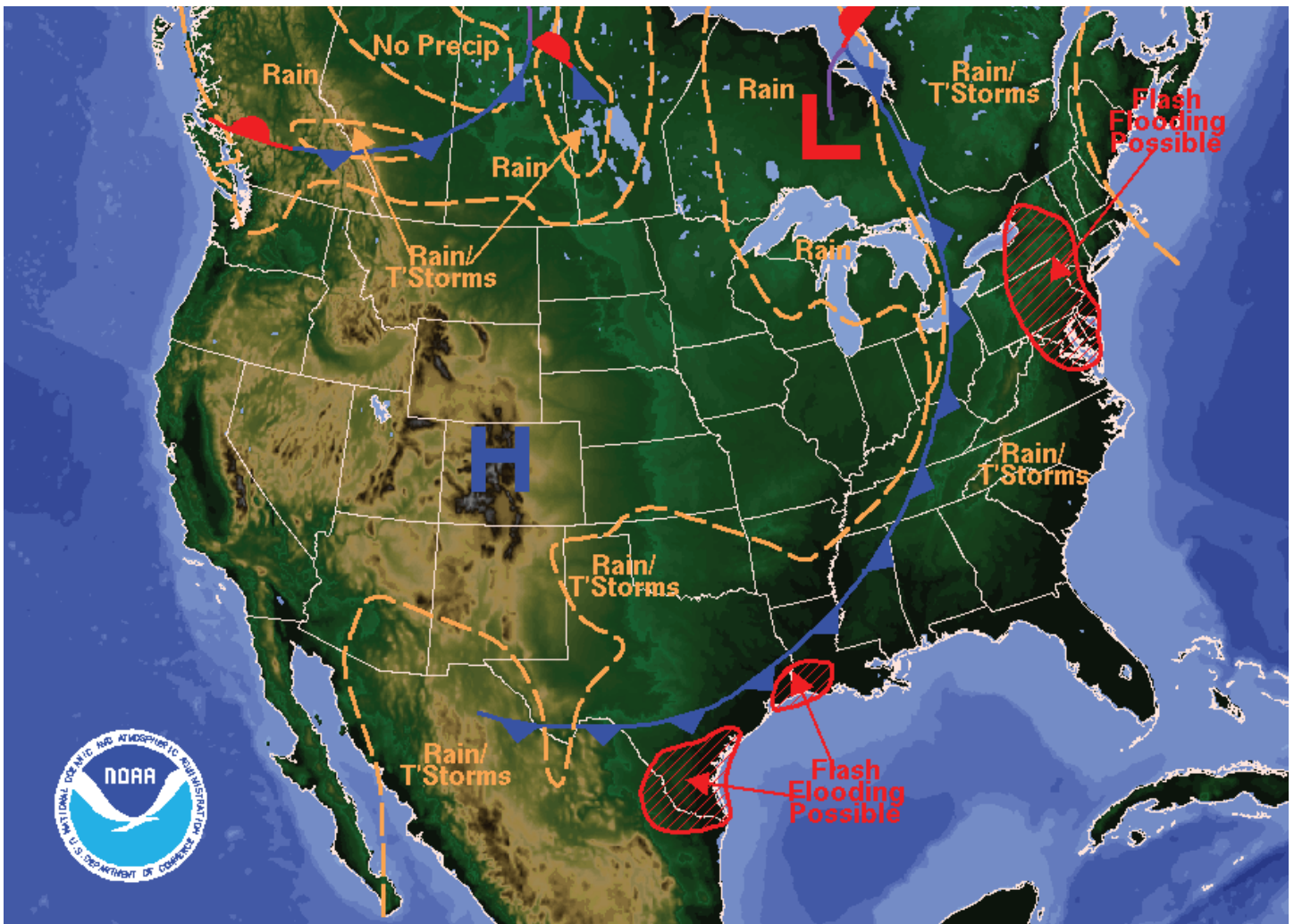
Precip to date in Aug: 4.91

Average Precip to date: 15.42

Precip Year to Date: 16.48

Sunset Tonight: 8:33 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:41 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Thu, Aug 20, 2015, issued 4:47 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Tate based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



TELL ME, WHAT DO YOU DO?

An employee was suddenly taken very ill at work and was rushed to the hospital. He was well liked by everyone for his constant humor and great disposition. The first one to visit him at the hospital was his boss.

Standing by the side of his bed and holding his hand, his boss encouraged him by saying, "John, please don't worry about a thing. Just get well. We'll all get together and do your work – as soon as we can figure out what you've been doing."

It seems as though every organization has an employee named "John." He's over here, over there, everywhere but where he is supposed to be, not doing what he has been hired to do. He's busy but doing nothing while others take up the slack.

Paul said to "Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than people." We are encouraged to work responsibly as if Jesus were our supervisor. Even when we find our work unsatisfying or unfulfilling at times, we must always remember that God will reward us for what we do and how we will do it, for we do it for His glory.

Prayer: Lord, when our work becomes difficult and we want to quit, encourage us to go on for You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Ephesians 6:7-8 with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men, 8 knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free.

News from the Associated Press

Authorities identify victim of stabbing death in Lead

LEAD, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified the victim in what they say is a homicide in Lead. The Lawrence County Sheriff's Office says preliminary results from an autopsy indicate 27-year-old Caitlin Walsh, of Lead, died of stab wounds sometime before her body was discovered Monday evening. Forty-four-year-old James Rogers Jr. was arrested Monday and is being held without bond on a first-degree murder charge. It's unclear if he has an attorney. Authorities have not released details of the incident that led to Walsh's death.

Authorities searching for man missing in river find body

ELK POINT, S.D. (AP) — Authorities searching for a 19-year-old man who went missing in the Missouri River in southeastern South Dakota have recovered a body. The Union County Sheriff's Office says the body was discovered Wednesday afternoon in the river about 2 1/2 miles from where the man was reported missing while swimming with friends on Sunday near Elk Point. The body is being sent to a Sioux Falls lab for positive identification. Authorities have not released the name of the missing man.

Unveiling party planned in Pierre for new Monopoly version

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Board game enthusiasts rejoice: The new version of Monopoly featuring South Dakota's capital will be unveiled this week in Pierre. Prairie Pages Booksellers in Pierre is hosting an unveiling party for the new game Friday. Owner Peggy Stout says the party is an opportunity for the public to take a look at the new game and revel in the accomplishment. Pierre secured the most votes of any U.S. city in an online vote in February to win "Boardwalk" placement in the game. Pierre Mayor Laurie Gill spearheaded a campaign to get people to vote for the capital city. Pierre will now hold the top spot in Monopoly's new version featuring U.S. cities. Hasbro Inc. left it to voters to choose which cities would appear in the new game.

South Dakota farm real estate value up 12 percent over year

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The value of farm real estate in South Dakota has risen 12 percent in the past year. Farm real estate value is a measurement of all land and buildings on farms. The Agriculture Department says the value in South Dakota averages \$2,320 per acre, up \$250 per acre from last year. Cropland value averages \$3,730 per acre, up 9 percent from last year. Pastureland is up 14 percent, to \$980 per acre on average. Cash rent is mixed compared to last year. Irrigated cropland rent averages \$186 per acre, down \$7. Non-irrigated cropland averages \$125 per acre, up \$11. Pasture land averages \$27 per acre, up \$5.

Women's business center holding Spearfish networking lunch

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Center for Enterprise Opportunity Women's Business Center is holding a monthly networking lunch in Spearfish. The center at Black Hills State University says the lunch will be held on Sept. 8. Spearfish Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Melissa Barth says the Women in Networking event allows her to meet with many women she wouldn't otherwise have the chance to speak with. The events are held the second Tuesday of the month. The speaker for the upcoming event is Ketel Thorstenson Office Manager Kate Schmidt.

Sheep growers to gather next month in Rapid City

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The state's sheep growers plan to gather in Rapid City next month.

The South Dakota Sheep Growers Association 78th Annual Convention begins Friday, September 25, with tours of several area facilities. Seminars during the following Saturday at the Best Western Ramkota will be led by speakers from the sheep industry, universities and sheep organizations. Topics include the new Veterinary Feed Directive, managing internal parasites, H2A workers and research updates.

South Dakota Agriculture Secretary Lucas Lentsch, state Game, Fish and Parks Secretary Kelly Hepler and USDA Under Secretary of Agriculture Edward Avalos are scheduled to appear.

Master Lamb Producer awards and highlights will be presented during Saturday's luncheon, and Trapper of the Year and Shepherd's Award will be announced during the Saturday evening banquet.

SD to receive nearly \$739K from settlement with drugmaker

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Attorney General Marty Jackley says South Dakota will receive nearly \$739,000 from a multistate settlement with drugmaker Amgen Inc.

Under a settlement announced this week, the company will pay \$71 million to settle an investigation into illegal marketing of its drugs Aranesp and Enbrel, ending an investigation by 48 states and the District of Columbia.

The states allege Amgen marketed the drugs for purposes not approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

Aranesp is used to treat certain types of anemia by stimulating bone marrow to produce red blood cells. Enbrel is used to treat various conditions, including plaque psoriasis.

Jackley says the settlement requires Amgen to reform its marketing practices.

Amgen says it is pleased to have resolved the matters and adds it has a strong legal compliance program.

Critic of South Dakota foster care arrested on old charge

DIRK LAMMERS, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Family members of a Crow Creek Sioux Tribe woman who has spoken out against South Dakota's handling of Native American children in foster care are questioning whether her arrest on a 13-year-old charge was politically motivated.

But Sara Rabern, spokeswoman for the South Dakota Attorney General's Office, said Wednesday that the arrest of 54-year-old Janice Howe, of Harrold, is simply a case of authorities finally catching up with someone who has been able to evade an old warrant.

"There's nothing politically motivated here," she said.

Howe pleaded guilty Tuesday to one felony count of perjury related to petition signatures she gathered in 1999 for a proposed constitutional amendment. In exchange for prosecutors dropping several similar charges, Howe acknowledged improperly vouching in a notarized document that she witnessed signatures on the petition.

She was released from the Hughes County jail Wednesday afternoon pending an Oct. 6 sentencing.

Howe's husband, Louis Adrian, told the Pierre Capital Journal that the couple was returning from Fort Thompson to their home on the Crow Creek reservation on July 13 when they drove into a checkpoint arrest involving tribal police, U.S. marshals and Hughes County deputies.

Adrian said he believes South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley pursued the arrest because of Howe's outspokenness against the state.

Rabern said Jackley wasn't South Dakota's attorney general when the case was initiated and the prosecutor on the case has since moved on to private practice.

Howe, a former public health nurse, was featured in a 2011 National Public Radio investigation that reported that state officials removed hundreds of Native American children each year, sometimes in questionable circumstances, while failing to place the children with their relatives or tribes. State officials at the time said that they were doing everything they could to keep families together.

Howe took on the issue while fighting to have two granddaughters returned to the family.

The Indian Child Welfare Act gives preference to American Indian families in adoptions of Indian children. Congress passed the act in 1978 after finding a high number of Indian children were removed from their homes and placed with non-Indian caretakers.

Howe's attorney, Bradley Schreiber, did not immediately return a call Wednesday seeking comment on her arrest.

Adrian said he learned that tribal officials gave permission to law enforcement agencies to make the arrest.

Roxanne Sazue, chairwoman of the Crow Creek Tribe, said she didn't have any information on the case.

The ballot initiative in question was sponsored by a libertarian group called Justice Unlimited. It would have allowed people accused of crimes to argue that certain laws have no merit and should be ignored by juries. The group pulled Howe's petitions from its filing amid doubts about their legitimacy. The measure failed.

During Tuesday's court hearing in Pierre, Howe also pleaded guilty to one count of forgery related to a 2001 check-cashing case, according to the Hughes County State's Attorney's Office.

Farms in the Dakotas have high rate of computer access

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The percentage of farms with access to computers is slightly higher in the Dakotas than in the nation as a whole.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture on Wednesday said 78 percent of North Dakota farms and 75 percent of South Dakota farms have computer access, higher than the national average of 73 percent.

Department statistics also show internet access at farms in the Dakotas has increased since the last time this data was collected in 2013.

The USDA says 75 percent of farms in North Dakota have internet access, up 2 percentage points from two years ago. The rate of internet access in South Dakota is also 75 percent, up 3 percentage points from the previous survey.

Federal program gives tribes access to criminal databases

MARTHA BELLISLE, Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — Federal officials on Wednesday launched a new program that will allow tribes access to national criminal databases and fix a system that allowed a man to buy a gun that was later used by his son to kill four classmates and himself at a Washington high school.

Raymond Fryberg was the subject of a 2001 domestic violence restraining order issued by a Tulalip Tribal Court, which should have kept him from buying a firearm, but the restraining order was never sent to the federal criminal database used to check criminal histories during firearm purchases because of a breakdown in information sharing between tribes and outside authorities.

Fryberg's 15-year-old son, Jaylen, shot the students and himself on Oct. 24, 2014, at Marysville-Pilchuck High School north of Seattle.

The Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information, or TAP, will allow federally recognized tribes to enter criminal records into and pull information out of national databases overseen by the Criminal Justice Information Services Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The program was announced during a conference hosted by the U.S. Department of Justice and the FBI held in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Justice officials said the mass shooting by Jaylen Fryberg at Marysville-Pilchuck High School last October drove home the importance of getting an effective system in place for all tribes.

"Empowering tribal law enforcement with information strengthens public safety and is a key element in our ongoing strategy to build safe and healthy communities in Indian country," Deputy Attorney General Sally Quillian Yates said. "The Tribal Access Program is a step forward to providing tribes the access they need to protect their communities, keep guns from falling into the wrong hands, assist victims, and prevent domestic and sexual violence."

Michelle Demmert, a Tulalip Tribal attorney who was at the conference in Oklahoma said they've spent

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years working with federal officials to identify gaps in the criminal database system and this announcement seems to say "the Department of Justice and the Office of Tribal Justice has heard the tribe's voice."

"The TAP program will reinforce the Tulalip Tribes commitment to using available tools to protect its community," Demmert told The Associated Press in an email.

Brian Cladoosby, president of the National Conference of American Indians, the oldest and largest organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribes, said the plan "responds to a long-standing public safety concern in Indian Country."

"Today's announcement is an encouraging step, and we hope that the new DOJ Tribal Access Program will lead to real change and meaningful solutions," he said in an email. "The safety of our communities depends on it."

In addition to letting tribes submit data, it will also allow them to conduct background checks when a tribe needs to place a child with a foster parent in an emergency situation — another area tribes have long-sought to have fixed.

Taking that a step further, the Bureau of Indian Affairs announced at the conference that it and the Office of Justice Services have created another new program that will give tribal social service agencies 24-hour access to criminal history records to ensure the safe placement of children in foster care.

Demmert praised that move, saying the Tulalip Tribe "is encouraged that our ability to protect our most vulnerable population — children — in times of crisis will be assisted with this work around issue to access name-based criminal history records when children need to be placed out of the home."

Francesca Hillary, spokeswoman for the Tulalip Tribes, has said tribes have been asking for a system to access the national databases for years. Justice officials said they've been working with tribes to resolve the roadblocks that kept a system from working effectively.

The FBI oversees a justice information services system in all 50 states. The system includes the National Crime Information Center, used by law enforcement to get data on stolen property, wanted people, sex offenders; and the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, used by Federal Firearms Licensees during gun purchases.

To date, the systems have been available to federal, state and local law enforcement but not to all tribes.

The new TAP program will support and train tribes as they connect with the system. Once established, they'll be able to use the databases in the same way as outside law enforcement.

Raymond Fryberg has been charged in federal court with six counts of illegally buying 10 guns during a period when he was prohibited from having firearms. On Wednesday, his trial was moved from Aug. 31 to Sept. 21, according to the U.S. Attorney's office.

Officials: Salmon caught on Lake Oahe is South Dakota record

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Wildlife officials in South Dakota have confirmed that a chinook salmon caught on Lake Oahe last week is a state record.

The state's Game, Fish and Parks Department says Highmore angler Gordon Sampson boated the salmon that weighed 24 pounds, 8 ounces. Sampson caught the salmon only after five minutes of fishing Friday.

The whopper fish broke the previous state record of 23 pounds, 14 ounces.

The department says the record was verified by state fisheries biologist Hilary Meyer. She says the department has received reports of several large salmon being caught and two fish were actually close to the state record.

Meyer adds that Lake Oahe's salmon are in great shape thanks to large numbers of bait fish, such as lake herring.

Police arrest 4 in SD in human trafficking investigation

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Four people are in custody after law enforcement authorities carried out an investigation against a suspected prostitution operation.

The Sioux Falls Police Department says undercover investigators answered a prostitution-related online

advertisement Tuesday and arranged to meet with two women. Officers then detained the women and learned they were being forced into prostitution.

Police say the individuals suspected of pimping the women were later arrested. Authorities say the charges against the 25-year-old man and 32-year-old woman include first-degree human trafficking.

During the operation, officers searched a Sioux Falls home and arrested two other people. The charges against the 28-year-old woman and 24-year-old man include possession of marijuana with intent to distribute.

The four people who were arrested are from Sioux Falls and are due in court Wednesday.

Site sacred to Sioux takes step toward federal trust

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The Pennington County Commission has decided to support the placement of a South Dakota site that's sacred to the Great Sioux Nation into a federal trust.

In 2012, Sioux tribes raised \$9 million with the help of celebrities, including Sean "Diddy" Combs and Bette Midler, to buy a 3-square-mile tract in the Black Hills known as Pe' Sla from private landowners. The tribes want to put the land in trust with the federal government to be held on behalf of tribal members.

On Tuesday, county commissioners voted 3-2 to release the land from the county's tax roll and to send a letter of support to the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The tribes have been working to secure service agreements for law enforcement, fire protection, paramedics, road maintenance and pest control for the land since it would stop generating tax revenue if placed into trust. The Rapid City Fire and Ambulance Service will lead the land's emergency teams and will be reimbursed through the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service, said Mark Van Norman, a Maryland-based attorney representing the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, Crow Creek, Rosebud and Standing Rock Sioux tribes.

All of the parties involved have approved the services, but the agreements only are valid if the land is granted trust status, said Chief Deputy State's Attorney Jay Alderman.

Pennington County Commissioner Deb Hadcock believes the commission's support of the land trust will be a positive step for the county.

"It is sacred land, and if you work with the native people, you know sacred land means the same as church land, in a sense, for the native people," she said. "They use it for ceremonies and different things to do with their culture."

All of Pe' Sla has sacred value because of the land's role in tribal creation, Van Norman said. In addition to using the land for ceremonies, the tribes also plan to reintroduce bison to Pe' Sla.

The U.S. Department of the Interior is expected to make a decision after a public comment period closes around Sept. 20, Van Norman said.

\$2 million Pentagon grant to benefit Nevada sage grouse

SCOTT SONNER, Associated Press

RENO, Nev. (AP) — State and federal land managers working to keep the greater sage grouse off the list of endangered species have secured a \$2 million grant from the Pentagon to help finance habitat restoration beneath thousands of square miles of U.S. Navy training airspace in Nevada.

The money recently was approved by the Defense Department's Military Services' Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program, officials for the Nevada Department of Wildlife and U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

"This unique partnership between the military and environmental partners is the first of its kind in Nevada," Gov. Brian Sandoval said in a statement prepared for Thursday's formal announcement.

The grant will leverage an additional \$2 million in matching funds to help restore more than 11,000 acres of prime sage grouse habitat — a total of about 7 square miles — under airspace controlled by the Fallon Naval Air Station headquartered about 60 miles east of Reno.

The DOD program also recently approved \$2 million to help protect 7,000 acres of gopher tortoise habitat surrounding Fort Benning in Georgia and \$2 million to protect 10,000 acres of forest in Maine affiliated

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with the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard's survival school.

In Nevada, the funds will help ranchers and others who apply for assistance to make rangeland and riparian improvements, including removal of pinon pine trees that serve as perches for raptors that feed on sage grouse eggs and chicks. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has to make a court-ordered decision by Sept. 30 on whether to add the bird to the list of species protected under the Endangered Species Act.

"We are thrilled to be able to move forward at an increased pace to protect parcels of greater sage grouse habitat, thanks to the REPI Challenge award and the commitment by so many partners," NDOW Director Tony Wasley said.

In addition to NDOW and the NRCS, participants include The Nature Conservancy, Nevada Land Trust, Nevada Conservation Districts Program and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

"That they all came together is pretty monumental in itself," said Heather Emmons, Nevada spokeswoman for the NRCS in Reno.

Rob Rule, NAS Fallon's community plans and liaison officer, said the funding is "beneficial for everyone."

The chicken-sized bird, which once numbered in the millions, has dwindled to a few hundred thousand across the vast sagebrush seas remaining in 11 states from California to the Dakotas. Some of its most critical remaining habitat is in the Great Basin spread across parts of Nevada, Utah, Idaho and Oregon.

Most of that land is managed by the BLM, but some 13,000 square miles in Nevada also falls under the jurisdiction of Fallon NAS airspace.

"It's a huge chunk of pretty significant habitat," said Mark Freese, a wildlife biologist for NDOW.

Thad Heater, NRCS state wildlife biologist, said the trees give hawks and ravens a better view of sage grouse especially during the nesting season.

"They can raid the nests and get the chicks," he said.

Heater said they're already seeing results from the removal of trees just a year ago to benefit the bistate sage grouse in Douglas County along the Nevada-California line.

"The birds are crossing areas they hadn't been using before. It's really opened up some important corridors," he said.

Freeman halts varsity football due to lack of players

FREEMAN, S.D. (AP) — The once-dominant high school football team in Freeman hasn't won a game since 2012, and it won't win any in the next two years, either.

The school board has decided that Freeman won't field a varsity team for the 2015 and 2016 seasons, because of low numbers and a perceived risk of injury.

Only 10 players showed up to the first practice last week, and head coach Chris Saylor said a couple of them had never before played at the high school level.

Freeman once was a powerhouse, winning four straight state titles in the late 1990s. Freeman hopes to work out a cooperative agreement with another school so that students can still play if they want.

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. GLOBAL TERROR LINK IS 'UNLIKELY' IN BANGKOK BOMBING

Chinese tourists, who were among the 20 victims, were not the "direct target," says Thai military spokesman Col. Winthai Suvaree.

2. KEEPING CITIES SAFE REFLECTS GENERATIONAL STRUGGLE

While it can seem that in some bygone era the world was a safer place, the reality is that coverage in our social media age brings events and imagery on to our screens globally and much more quickly.

3. MASSIVE CAR BOMB EXPLODES IN CAIRO, WOUNDING 6 POLICE

A statement apparently issued by the Islamic State affiliate in Egypt hours later claims responsibility for the blast, saying it was to avenge the execution of six convicted militants in May.

4. WHAT ANGERS GOP

Republican opposition to Obama's nuclear deal is flaring over a secret side agreement involving Iranian inspections which was revealed by the AP.

5. TIANJIN'S DEADLY BLASTS EXPOSE CHINA'S WORK SAFETY WOES

By official data, the country is becoming safer from accidents, but the port explosions are a reminder that it has far to go in preventing workplace disasters.

6. 3 WASHINGTON FIREFIGHTERS DIE IN WILDFIRE

Their vehicle crashed and was likely caught by flames as they battled a blaze.

7. EX-SUBWAY PITCHMAN AGREES TO PLEAD GUILTY TO CHILD SEX, CHILD PORN CHARGES

Jared Fogle capitalized on his business trips to New York City to arrange trysts with minors in luxury hotels, federal prosecutors say.

8. JIMMY CARTER TO DISCUSS CANCER DIAGNOSIS PUBLICLY

The former U.S. president plans to talk about his tumor at a news conference in Atlanta.

9. WHICH EX-CONVICT IS NOW A SKYDIVING INSTRUCTOR

Alex Kelly, who gained international infamy as the "preppy rapist" two decades ago, makes a post-prison career out of jumping from planes, often with customers strapped to his body.

10. WHY ASHLEY MADISON MEMBERS MIGHT NOT SUE OVER HACKING

Those who decide to take legal action will likely out themselves as one of the website's purported 39 million members and would have to prove they were harmed to collect damages.

AP News in Brief

Thai military says international terrorism link 'unlikely' in Bangkok bombing

BANGKOK (AP) — Thailand's military junta said Thursday that this week's deadly bombing in downtown Bangkok that killed 20 people was "unlikely" to have been carried out by international terrorists. Police, meanwhile, said they suspected the plot was well-planned by a network of at least 10 people.

But three days after the attack at a revered shrine in central Bangkok, authorities appeared to have few solid leads into who carried out the deadliest attack in Thailand's recent history.

Confusing statements emerged Thursday, with the military spokesman saying in a televised statement that investigators believe the attack wasn't the work of international terrorists — a day after police issued an arrest warrant for the prime suspect who was described as a "foreign man."

"Security agencies have collaborated with intelligence agencies from allied countries and have come to the same preliminary conclusion that the incident is unlikely to be linked to international terrorism," said Col. Winthai Suvaree, the military spokesman.

But when contacted by telephone for clarification, he said that a link to global terrorism hadn't been ruled out. "We still have to investigate in more detail," he said.

Massive car bomb strikes Cairo security building, wounds 6 police

CAIRO (AP) — A massive car bomb exploded early Thursday near a national security building in a popular residential neighborhood in Cairo, wounding at least six police officers and blowing the facades off nearby buildings, Egyptian security officials said.

There were no immediate reports of deaths from the explosion, which demolished a wall in front of the government building and smashed its structure, leaving gaping holes exposing its offices. Glass from blown-out windows littered the surrounding streets in the popular Shubra el-Kheima neighborhood.

Ambulances and fire trucks rushed to the scene, which was flooded with water from pipes broken by what authorities said was a blast from high explosives. The explosion could be heard and felt across the city.

Emergency aid head Ahmed al-Ansari said the six wounded were being evacuated to nearby hospitals. Wrecked cars stood around the building, as security forces patrolled the streets and set up roadblocks to

ward off hysterical residents.

A statement apparently issued by the Islamic State affiliate in Egypt hours later claimed responsibility for the blast, saying it was to avenge the execution of six convicted militants in May.

Report on secret Iran side deal angers GOP but Pelosi pledges House Dems will back up Obama

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican opposition to President Barack Obama's nuclear deal is flaring over revelations of a secret side agreement involving Iranian inspections. But House Democrats are shrugging off the report and claiming they have the votes to back up Obama anyway.

The Associated Press reported Wednesday on a previously undisclosed side deal between Iran and the U.N.'s International Atomic Energy Agency that would allow Tehran to use its own inspectors to investigate a site it has been accused of using to develop nuclear arms.

The revelation, based on a document seen by the AP, newly riled Republican lawmakers who have been severely critical of the broader agreement to limit Iran's future nuclear programs, signed by the Obama administration, Iran and five world powers in July. Those critics have complained that the wider deal is unwisely built on trust of the Iranians, while the administration has insisted it depends on reliable inspections.

"President Obama boasts his deal includes 'unprecedented verification.' He claims it's not built on trust," said House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio. "But the administration's briefings on these side deals have been totally insufficient — and it still isn't clear whether anyone at the White House has seen the final documents."

Said House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce, R-Calif.: "International inspections should be done by international inspectors. Period."

Officials: 3 Washington firefighters die after vehicle crashes, flames likely overtook them

TWISP, Wash. (AP) — Three firefighters died after their vehicle crashed and was likely caught by flames as they battled a blaze in Washington state, authorities said. Four other firefighters were injured.

The casualties came Wednesday as firefighters on several fronts fought against raging wildfires advancing on towns in the north-central part of the state.

The accident during the wildfire occurred near the town of Twisp, the National Forest Service said.

"The firefighters were engaged in initial attack operations and were involved in a vehicle accident when it is believed that the fire overtook the vehicle," the statement from Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest said, relaying information from Okanogan County Sheriff Frank Rogers.

It wasn't immediately clear if the four injured were also involved in the accident.

South Korean military says it returned fire after North Korea fired on S. Korean border town

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea's military fired dozens of shells Thursday at rival North Korea after the North lobbed a single artillery round at a South Korean border town, the South's Defense Ministry said.

The ministry said in a statement that its artillery landed at the place where North Korea had fired its shell. There were no other immediate details from the military, but it appeared that North Korea did not respond to South Korea's returned fire.

About 80 residents in the South Korean town where the shell fell, Yeoncheon, were evacuated to underground bunkers, and authorities urged other residents to evacuate, a Yeoncheon official said, requesting anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak to the media. He said there were no reports of injuries or damage in Yeoncheon.

In the nearby border city of Paju, residents were asked to stay home, officials said.

North Korea had previously threatened to attack South Korean loudspeakers that have been broadcasting, for the first time in 11 years, anti-Pyongyang propaganda messages across their shared border. Pyongyang also restarted its own loudspeakers aimed at the South.

Former Subway pitchman agrees to plead guilty to sex acts with minors, child porn charges

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Longtime Subway pitchman Jared Fogle capitalized on his business trips to New York City to arrange trysts with minors in luxury hotels, federal prosecutors said in charging the Indiana man in a case that also documented his acceptance of child pornography from a close associate.

Fogle agreed Wednesday to plead guilty to allegations that he paid for sex with girls as young as 16 and received child pornography. The case has already destroyed his career with the sandwich-shop chain and could send him to prison for more than a decade.

Prosecutors allege Fogle knew the pornography he received had been secretly produced by the former director of his charitable foundation, which sought to raise awareness about childhood obesity and arranged for Fogle to visit schools and urge children to adopt healthy eating and exercise habits.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven DeBrotta said Fogle used his trips to New York on behalf of both Subway and his Jared Foundation to seek out child prostitutes for sex.

"We're dealing with a celebrity who had the access, power and resources to do anything he wanted to do in the world but he chose to utilize that to cajole, convince and even take advantage of children," said Indianapolis Police Chief Rick Hite, whose department helped analyze evidence seized July 7 from Fogle's suburban Indianapolis home.

Apache helicopter pilot, military police officer are 1st Army women to pass Ranger School

FORT BENNING, Ga. (AP) — A pilot of attack helicopters who competed in triathlons and a wilderness enthusiast who became a military police officer because it was the closest she could get to a combat job are the first women to finish the Army's elite Ranger School.

First Lt. Shaye Haver of Copperas Cove, Texas, and Capt. Kristen Griest of Orange, Connecticut, are "just like all the soldiers" graduating this week from the grueling two-month Ranger course, their families said in a joint statement that confirmed their identities.

Griest, 26, and Haver, 25, are "happy, relieved, and ready for some good food and sleep" before they line up Friday at Fort Benning alongside 94 male soldiers who also earned the coveted black-and-gold Ranger tab to adorn their uniforms.

The course tests soldiers' ability to overcome fatigue, hunger and stress during combat operations. The Army opened Ranger School to female soldiers for the first time this year as part of the military's push to open more combat jobs to women.

"This has been something she's wanted to do for a long, long time," Griest's older brother, Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Mike Griest, told The Associated Press in a phone interview. "We're all very, very proud of her. It's a tremendous achievement not only for her personally but for the Army and women in the military in general."

Tianjin blasts that killed 114 expose China's work safety woes, with rampant violations

BEIJING (AP) — By official data, China is becoming safer from accidents year after year. But the explosions over the Tianjin port last week are a stark reminder that it has far to go in preventing workplace disasters — from blasts on factory floors to leaks of oil pipes and warehouse fires.

The blasts that started at a hazardous material warehouse in the eastern city of Tianjin and killed at

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least 114 people in one of China's worst industrial accidents in years came despite countless pledges by authorities to strictly enforce workplace safety regulations. There have been numerous campaigns — always one after each fatal accident — to eliminate safety risks, and local officials are routinely fired over fatal workplace incidents.

But a deep-rooted business mentality that puts profits ahead of safety seems hard to break in Beijing's fight against workplace accidents. The latest revelations on Ruihai International Logistics, the operator of the hazmat warehouse, suggest that a common Chinese business model — which heavily taps into connections with people in government — means safety rules can be easily bent for the convenience of the company.

"Companies are taking chances to skimp on safety measures, and regulating agencies are unable to enforce rules," said Zhong Shengjun, associate professor on industrial explosion and prevention at Northeastern University in Shenyang. "This is consistent with China's corporate culture, which is most interested in cutting costs and maximizing profits without adequate heed for safety."

Within days of the disaster, blatant violations of workplace safety have been exposed at Ruihai International Logistics, which was storing too much hazardous material too closely to residential homes and public infrastructure, including a light-rail station.

Jimmy Carter to discuss cancer publicly for 1st time since announcing diagnosis

ATLANTA (AP) — Former President Jimmy Carter plans to discuss his recent cancer diagnosis Thursday for the first time since revealing last week that he was ill.

Carter, 90, is scheduled to hold a news conference at 10 a.m. at the Carter Center in Atlanta. The event will be closed to the public.

Carter announced Aug. 12 that liver surgery found cancer that has spread to other parts of his body. The three-sentence statement did not identify the cancer or say where it originated.

Doctors not involved in treating Carter have said those characteristics could determine Carter's options for treating the cancer. His father, brother and two sisters died of pancreatic cancer. His mother also had the disease.

Carter's health has been closely watched this year. He cut short an election monitoring trip to Guyana in May. A spokeswoman said he did not feel well and Carter later said he had a bad cold.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, August 20, the 232nd day of 2015. There are 133 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On August 20, 1940, during World War II, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill paid tribute to the Royal Air Force before the House of Commons, saying, "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few." Exiled Communist revolutionary Leon Trotsky was assassinated in Coyoacan, Mexico by Ramon Mercader, a Spanish Communist agent working at the behest of Josef Stalin. (Trotsky died the next day.)

On this date:

In 1833, Benjamin Harrison, 23rd president of the United States, was born in North Bend, Ohio.

In 1866, President Andrew Johnson formally declared the Civil War over, months after fighting had stopped.

In 1882, Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture" had its premiere in Moscow.

In 1910, a series of forest fires swept through parts of Idaho, Montana and Washington, killing at least 85 people and burning some 3 million acres.

In 1914, German forces occupied Brussels, Belgium, during World War I.

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In 1953, the Soviet Union publicly acknowledged it had tested a hydrogen bomb.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Economic Opportunity Act, a nearly \$1 billion anti-poverty measure.

In 1968, the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact nations began invading Czechoslovakia to crush the "Prague Spring" liberalization drive.

In 1972, the Wattstax concert took place at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

In 1977, the U.S. launched Voyager 2, an unmanned spacecraft carrying a 12-inch copper phonograph record containing greetings in dozens of languages, samples of music and sounds of nature.

In 1989, entertainment executive Jose Menendez and his wife, Kitty, were shot to death in their Beverly Hills mansion by their sons, Lyle and Erik. Fifty-one people died when a pleasure boat sank in the River Thames (tehms) in London after colliding with a dredger.

In 1994, Benjamin Chavis Jr. was fired as head of the NAACP after a turbulent 16-month tenure.

Ten years ago: Northwest Airlines mechanics went on strike rather than accept pay cuts and layoffs; Northwest ended up hiring replacement workers. San Francisco 49ers offensive lineman Thomas Herrion, 23, died of a heart attack shortly after a preseason game against the Denver Broncos. With a deafening boom, the ashes of gonzo journalist Hunter S. Thompson were blown into the sky above Woody Creek, Colorado.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama invited Israel and the Palestinians to meet face-to-face in Washington the following month for talks aimed at achieving an agreement to establish an independent Palestinian state and secure peace for Israel.

One year ago: The United States launched a new barrage of airstrikes against Islamic State extremists and weighed sending more troops to Iraq as President Barack Obama vowed to be relentless in pursuit of a terrorist group that beheaded American journalist James Foley. U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder arrived in Ferguson, Missouri, to meet with federal investigators and reassure residents of the community torn by several nights of racial unrest since the fatal shooting of a black 18-year-old by a white police officer.

Today's Birthdays: Writer-producer-director Walter Bernstein is 96. Boxing promoter Don King is 84. Former Sen. George Mitchell, D-Maine, is 82. Former U.S. Rep. Ron Paul, R-Texas, is 80. Former MLB All-Star Graig Nettles is 71. Broadcast journalist Connie Chung is 69. Musician Jimmy Pankow (Chicago) is 68. Actor Ray Wise is 68. Actor John Noble is 67. Rock singer Robert Plant (Led Zeppelin) is 67. Country singer Rudy Gatlin is 63. Singer-songwriter John Hiatt is 63. Actor-director Peter Horton is 62. TV weatherman Al Roker is 61. Actor Jay Acovone is 60. Actress Joan Allen is 59. Movie director David O. Russell is 57. TV personality Asha Blake is 54. Actor James Marsters is 53. Rapper KRS-One is 50. Actor Colin Cunningham is 49. Actor Billy Gardell is 46. Rock singer Fred Durst (Limp Bizkit) is 45. Rock musician Brad Avery is 44. Actor Jonathan Ke Quan is 44. Actor Misha Collins is 41. Rock singer Monique Powell (Save Ferris) is 40. Jazz/pop singer-pianist Jamie Cullum is 36. Actor Ben Barnes is 34. Actress Meghan Ory is 33. Actor Andrew Garfield is 32. Actor Brant Daugherty is 30. Actress-singer Demi Lovato is 23.

Thought for Today: "Justice is conscience, not a personal conscience but the conscience of the whole of humanity." - Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Russian author (1918-2008).