

# Groton Daily Independent

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## Sunday, August 23

**Birthdays:** Lisa Pray • Robin Fliehs • Allerie Loeschke • Ashley Larson • Jeremy Paul • Trista Telkamp • Lorraine Sippel  
9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship  
9:00am: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass  
9:15am: C&MA School  
10:15am: C&MA Fellowship time  
10:45am: C&MA Worship  
11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship  
5:00pm: HBM Great Maple Tree Event in Pierpont

## Monday, August 24

Boys Golf at Dell Rapids  
Faculty In-Service  
**Senior Menu:** Tater tot hot dish, green beans, grape juice, sour cream apple pie square, whole wheat bread.  
**Birthdays:** Mitchell Koens • Bill Stolle • Clint Mortenson • Tanea Clocksene  
6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study  
5:00pm: Welcome Back Community Picnic  
6:30pm: JK-5 Open House at Elementary School  
6:30pm: Sixth Grade Orientation at GHS

## Tuesday, August 25

Faculty In-Service  
**Senior Menu:** Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, frosted brownie, whole wheat bread.  
**Birthdays:** Tim Fliehs • Angela Mettler  
10:00am: C&MA Ladies Bible Study  
10:00am: United Methodist Women's Bible

**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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## **Boosting Opportunity** **By Rep. Kristi Noem**

South Dakota is a small business state. Drive through nearly every town and the main street will be lined with family-owned businesses – the café, the grocery store, the seed dealer, the hair salon, you name it. It's part of what makes South Dakota so great to live in. We can do business with people we know, and that's a rare thing in today's world.

My own family has run small businesses throughout our lives. We've built up a family farm, managed a restaurant, even opened a hunting lodge at one point. Those experiences have given me an understanding of the challenges small businesses face in getting the word out about what they have to offer. And doing so efficiently when margins are tight is imperative.

That's why I was proud to work with the Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce and Facebook for a "Boost Your Business" event earlier this month. I wanted it to be another tool to help level the playing field so growing South Dakota businesses can better compete in their communities and across the globe. All in all, more than 300 South Dakotans turned out for the event, learning from social media experts and their peers in South Dakota about how to use technology to grow their customer base.

I'm proud to be able to help facilitate opportunities like this. To me, unlocking the potential of others is one of my primary responsibilities and something I work to do not only at events like this, but also through the policies I help advance as South Dakota's lone representative in the U.S. House.

This year, I've helped push an opportunity-driven agenda that works to pave the way for South Dakota businesses to thrive. For instance, I helped the House pass the America's Small Business Tax Relief Act. Provisions in this bill make Section 179 expensing levels permanent, so small businesses and millions of Americans who depend on them can better plan for the future. This has been a critical provision for many South Dakota farmers and small businesses. If it's made permanent, I'm hopeful we can give these job creators more incentive to invest and greater certainty.

Additionally, we took up and passed the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act. According to the National Federation of Independent Businesses, "government requirements and red tape" ranked as one of the biggest issues facing small business. This bill helps cut through that red tape by requiring federal agencies to consider the impact on small business when writing new regulations. It also provides greater opportunity for these growing businesses to offer input on the rules and regulations that will hit them hardest.

In South Dakota, 82,705 small businesses employ nearly 200,000 workers. In fact, more than 96 percent of employers in our state are small businesses. We need to make sure we do all we can to unlock the potential of each of these businesses. So whether it means plugging family businesses into social media networks or giving them a bigger voice in the federal rule-making process, I'm committed to doing all I can to support them.

## Good Times At The South Dakota State Fair

**A column by Gov. Dennis Daugaard:**

Classes are beginning again, football season will soon be underway and South Dakota's favorite end-of-summer event is coming up – the South Dakota State Fair, held Sept. 3 through Sept. 7 in Huron.

The State Fair has a proud history of educating children (and their parents) about how our farmers and ranchers produce food. Whether it's watching a livestock show, getting "up close and personal" with a calf or lamb, sitting in the seat of a new combine or tractor, asking an exhibitor what their goats eat, or learning Mrs. Olson's secret for growing massive pumpkins, there are a host of opportunities for inspiring and educating young people about the wonders of agriculture.

Of course, the State Fair is located in Huron, but for a few days each year, the fairgrounds become a community unto itself. Be sure to stop at the FFA Animal Nursery and ask state officers how their year of service is going. Take a walk through the exhibition halls and chat with 4-H'ers about their projects. Visit with the vendors. Dozens of families from South Dakota and around the country come back year after year because they have such a good time. And everyone has a story to share.

This annual celebration wouldn't be complete without the great fair food, exciting carnival rides and unique activities. Enjoy The Band Perry concert at the grandstand, try your luck in the arm wrestling competition, take your spouse for a twirl in the jitterbug contest, or play a game or two on the midway. No matter your interest, you're bound to have a good time.

I am proud of our State Fair. It's a one-of-a-kind celebration of agriculture and community. I hope you will mark the dates on your calendar and make plans to come out for at least one day. It's worth the trip.

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## It's My Mess And I Love It

Dr. James L. Snyder

In our house, we have a rule that has enabled us to live at peace with one another for more years than I can remember. That rule is simple, "Don't mess with my space and I won't mess with your space."

I must admit some rather close calls have challenged that relationship during those years. I will not say from which side of the house it came from; just that it was not my side.

It must be quite difficult for someone like the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage whom, I must confess is a neat freak, and I am just a plain old messy freak.

My wife cannot relax if something is out of place. On occasion, I will catch her glancing in the direction of "my space" and I know exactly what she is thinking. I do not always know what she is thinking, because that would be very taxing on my thinking machine. But here, I know exactly what she is thinking. She wants to clean up my mess. "Do you need any help tidying up your office?"

I know it is a ploy for her to get her organizing paws on my things and arrange them so I cannot find anything I want, when I want it. Although it may not look like it to her, I am quite organized, thank you.

I guess we have a different idea when it comes to organization.

When I go to the cupboard in the kitchen, I know everything will be in its place. In the bathroom, the same thing goes. Everything is neatly put in its place. She knows where everything is and everything is where she wants it. Well, maybe not quite everything. There are those issues with me.

To make matters worse, she has this idea of cleaning the house on a regular basis. Do you know how annoying it is to hear the vacuum cleaner running when trying to take a nap? Like clockwork, "our" vacuum cleaner takes its weekly, if not more frequently, run throughout the house. Do you know how much electricity it takes to do that on a weekly basis?

If I had to choose between dirt and electricity, I would choose dirt every time.

My space is just a little bit different. I like to think of my space as actual living/working quarters. It may look like a mess to some Philistine, but I can assure you everything has a place and everything is in its place. I can find what I want when I want it, which is the only thing that really matters. If I cannot find what I need when I need it, then I do not really need it. Life is that simple when you accept "messy" as a lifestyle.

Just recently, my wife suggested that perhaps she could help me organize my office space. I just scowled at her and said, "Don't mess with my space and I won't mess with your space."

She smiled one of those sympathetic smiles she gives everyone she thinks does not know what is going on in the world. Quite frankly, I do not need to know what is going on in the world. All I need to know is what is going on in my world and I have several piles in my office I can consult on that topic.

All offers to help me tidy up "my mess" go unheeded. I like my mess because it is my mess. I made it, I'm proud of it and I love it.

I have grown quite uneasy as of late. Every time I go away, I come back to find some new remodeling project completed in our house. I am starting to believe she sees too much of "This Old House."

I spent a week in California once, only to come home and find the kitchen completely remodeled. Now, I think the plan was for me not to know where anything in the kitchen is. All the old cupboards have been replaced by newer and bigger cupboards.

I am afraid at this point to raise any kind of an objection. After all, we do have that "my space/your space" policy and I really do not want to jeopardize that in any fashion.

My basic concern is this; I fear when I go for a week and come back "my space" will be so completely remodeled and organized that I will not recognize it and will not be able to find anything I need. What, then, would I do?

If I compliment her on her remodeling jobs, it might make her confident about doing more remodeling jobs which may spill over into "my space." Can you imagine how awful it would be?

It would be a sad day if I came home from some trip and found "my mess" completely gone. What would I do with my life? I would have to start life all over again and you know how expensive that is.

It is tough married to a fix-up guru; then again, I suppose it is harder to be wedded to a mess-up guru.

I have one concession in this area. David said it so well, "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow" (Psalms 51:7 KJV).

God specializes in cleaning up messes and preparing people like me for heaven. That's what really matters.

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 1-866-552-2543 or e-mail [jamesnyder2@att.net](mailto:jamesnyder2@att.net). His web site is [www.jamesnyderministries.com](http://www.jamesnyderministries.com).

## The Great Maple Tree Event Sunday, August 23, 2015 ~ 5 p.m.

NO 10 a.m. Service

Don't miss out on this afternoon's "Great Maple Tree Event" at Heaven Bound Ministries in Pierpont, 5 p.m. The Revs. Craig and Janine Werling will do an informal, interactive talk on being heaven bound---Heaven minded in the world and how to live prepared. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy this inspiring message. There will be a bounce house for the kids after the service and we will be serving BBQs and chips.



## Guest Speakers Rev. Craig and Janine Werling

**Bounce House Inflatable for the Kids**

**Bring your own lawn chair!**

**The event will be held across the street from the Pierpont church under the Great Maple Tree.**

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## Today in Weather History

1906 - Thunderstorms deluged Kansas City, MO, with six inches of rain during the early morning, including nearly three inches in thirty minutes. (The Kansas City Weather Almanac)

1921 - Denver, CO, was drenched with 2.20 inches of rain in one hour, a record for that location. (The Weather Channel)

1933 - The Chesapeake-Potomac hurricane moved over Norfolk VA and Washington D.C. A tide seven feet above normal flooded businesses in Norfolk, and damage in Maryland was estimated at seventeen million dollars. (David Ludlum)

1970 - Dry thunderstorms ignited more than one hundred fires in the Wenatchee and Okanogan National Forests of Washington State. Hot, dry, and windy weather spread the fires, a few of which burned out of control through the end of the month. More than 100,000 acres burned. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A cold front brought autumn-like weather to the Northern and Central Plains Region. Afternoon highs were in the 50s and 60s across parts of Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska that just two days earlier were in the 90s or above 100 degrees. Thunderstorms produced locally heavy rain in New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Thunderstorms produced hail an inch in diameter, wind gusts to 64 mph, and 2.62 inches of rain at Tucson AZ resulting in three million dollars damage. Cool weather prevailed in the northeastern U.S. Hartford CT reported a record low of 42 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced heavy rain with flash flooding in West Virginia. Pickens, WV, reported 4.80 inches of rain in 24 hours. Evening thunderstorms in Mississippi deluged Alta Woods with 4.25 inches of rain in less than an hour. Thunderstorms also produced heavy rain in southeastern Kentucky, and flooding was reported along Big Creek and along Stinking Creek. The Stinking Creek volunteer fire department reported water levels 12 to 14 feet above bankfull. Fort Worth TX hit the 100 degree mark for the first time all year. Strong winds ushering cool air into northwest Utah gusted to 70 mph, raising clouds of dust in the salt flats. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)



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Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
						
Sunny and Breezy	Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 70 °F	Low: 43 °F	High: 73 °F	Low: 44 °F	High: 75 °F	Low: 51 °F	High: 78 °F



**Today ... Breezy West & Windy East**

Follow us on *Social Media*

Issued: August 23, 2015

[weather.gov/Aberdeen](http://weather.gov/Aberdeen)

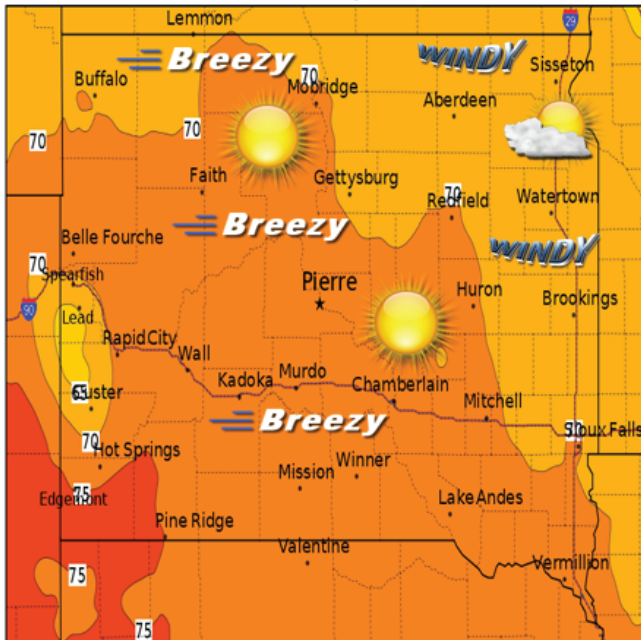


National Weather Service Aberdeen

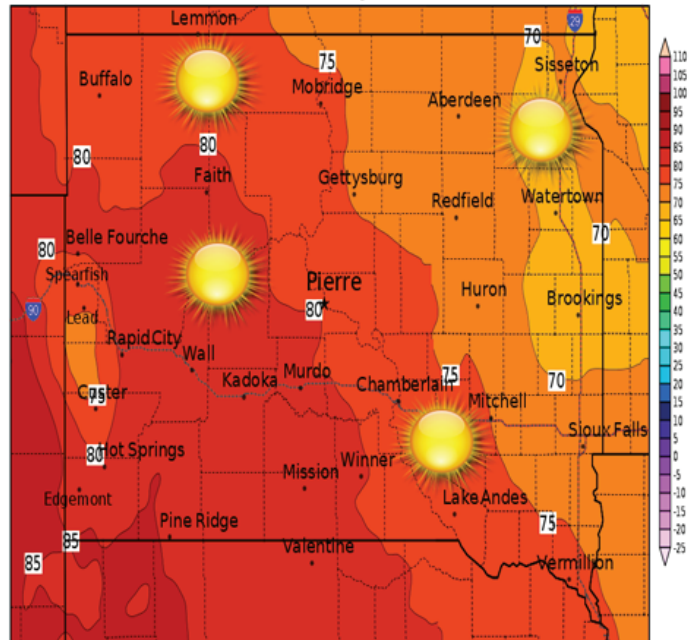


@NWSAberdeen

Maximum Temperature (°F)  
Valid: Sun, Aug 23, 2015



Maximum Temperature (°F)  
Valid: Mon, Aug 24, 2015



Published on: 08/23/2015 at 3:49AM

Surface high pressure will continue to usher in a cooler and drier airmass to the region today. It will also serve to keep winds somewhat elevated today. Winds will be lighter on Monday; and temperatures will rebound somewhat.

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## Yesterday's Weather

**High:** 76.4 at 12:37 PM

**Low:** 52.3 at 11:11 PM

**High Gust:** 32 at 7:52 PM

**Precip:** 0.08

## Today's Info

**Record High:** 106° in 2003

**Record Low:** 39° in 1942

**Average High:** 81°F

**Average Low:** 55°F

**Average Precip in Aug:** 1.80

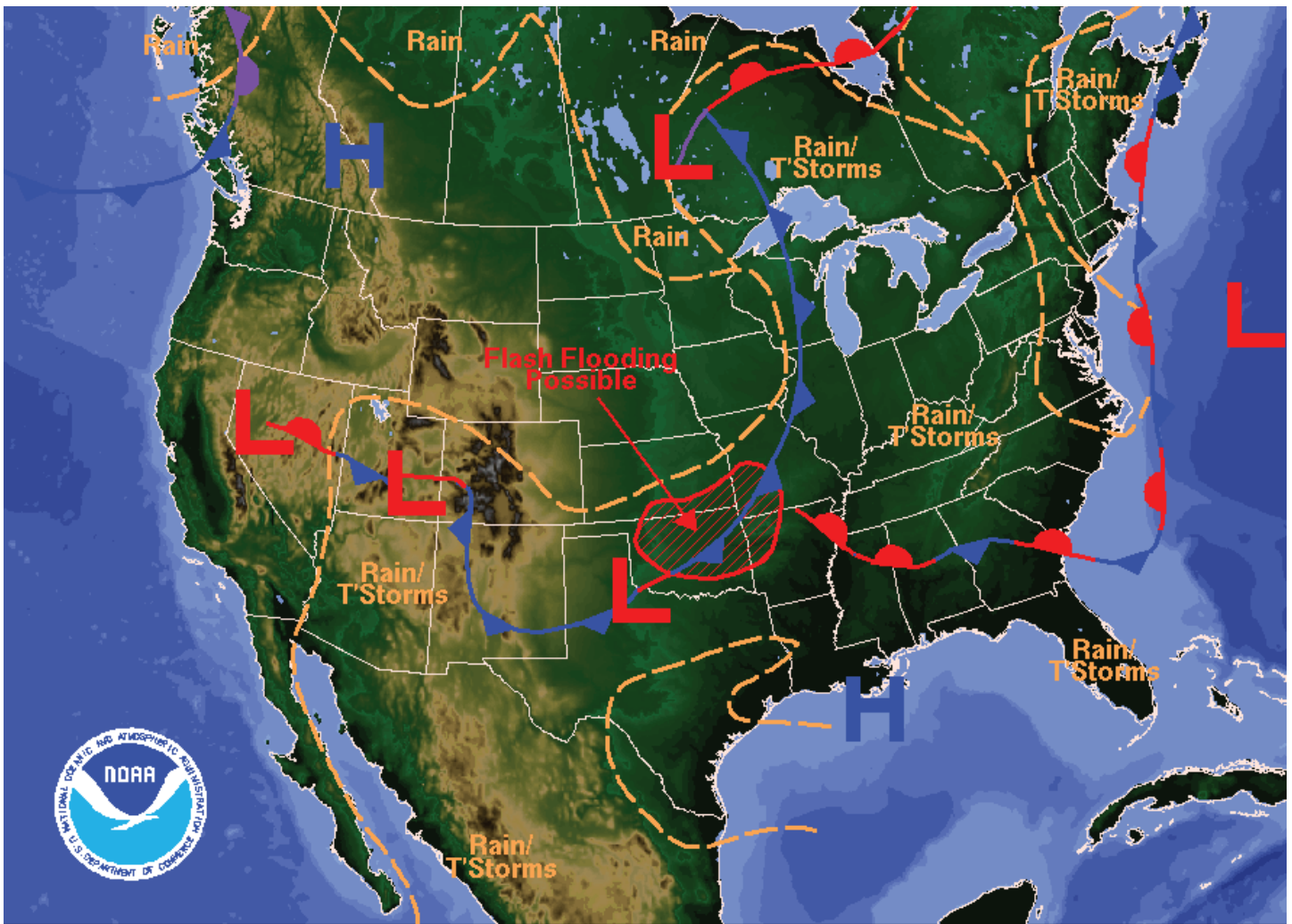
**Precip to date in Aug:** 4.99

**Average Precip to date:** 15.66

**Precip Year to Date:** 16.56

**Sunset Tonight:** 8:27 p.m.

**Sunrise Tomorrow:** 6:45 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sun, Aug 23, 2015, issued 4:41 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Fanning based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



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## PUT IT DOWN!

A farmer was walking down a long, winding mountain road in Mexico carrying a heavy sack. Without realizing it, a man with a mule-drawn wagon was suddenly beside him and offered him a ride. He climbed on the back of the wagon and breathed a long sigh of relief.

After traveling for some time, the man driving the wagon turned around, and to his amazement, the man was still holding his sack. "Why don't you drop it next to you?" asked the wagon driver.

"Oh, no," came the reply. "You are kind enough to carry me. You do not have to carry my load as well."

Many of us are like that farmer. God pleads with us to give Him our burdens. Yet, we needlessly and continuously carry them rather than setting them down. We say that we trust Him and talk of turning to Him in times of need, but we refuse to "let go and let God" do what He wants to do: completely take the weight from our shoulders and place it in His loving, caring hands.

If we can trust Him for our salvation, surely we can trust Him with every care or concern we have. Most assuredly, His strength will sustain us, always.

**Prayer:** Lord, help us to be willing to believe that You are able to relieve us of life's burdens if we truly trust You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**Scripture for Today:** Psalm 55:22 Cast your burden on the Lord, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.

## News from the Associated Press

### **SD Attorney General warning of IRS phone scam**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Attorney General's Office is warning residents of a telephone scam in which callers say they're trying to collect money owed to the Internal Revenue Service.

Attorney General Marty Jackley says the scam involves a caller telling the person that they are being sued by the IRS for an unresolved debt. Some of the threats claimed that an arrest warrant had been issued. Callers then ask for personal identifying information or demand a wire payment.

Jackley says the IRS does not ask for personal identifying or financial information through phone calls. He says anyone receiving such calls should contact his office's Consumer Protection Division at 1-800-300-1986 or [consumerhelp@state.sd.us](mailto:consumerhelp@state.sd.us).

### **Police investigating Rapid City convenience store robbery**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Police in Rapid City are investigating an early morning convenience store robbery. Officers responded to the store on North Lacrosse Street about 4:15 a.m. Saturday after a call from an employee.

The employee reported that a man displaying a handgun entered the business, approached the cash register counter and asked for cash. The suspect was seen leaving the store wearing a hooded sweat shirt, black or dark blue sweat pants and a grey stocking cap.

The incident remains under investigation.

### **South Dakota cattle on feed up 20 percent**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota feedlots with capacities of 1,000 or more animals reported 210,000 cattle on feed on August 1, up 20 percent from last year.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says in its latest report that placements in feedlots during July totaled 17,000 head, down 15 percent from 2014.

Marketings of fed cattle during in July totaled 34,000 head, down 13 percent from last year.

Other disappearance during July totaled 3,000 head, up 2,000 head from last year.

### **Wind Cave seeking public comment on park management plans**

WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK, S.D. (AP) — Wind Cave National Park is asking for public comments on a zoning and general management plan and an environmental assessment.

Park superintendent Vidal Dávila says the plan analyzes three action alternatives for the greater park area, four action alternatives for the Sanson Ranch area and three action alternatives for the existing visitor center area.

Dávila says the proposed alternatives focus on what resource conditions, visitor uses and experiences or opportunities could be at the park rather than on details of how these conditions and experiences would be achieved.

The comment period runs through Sept. 25.

Comments can be submitted through a website (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/wica>), and printed copies of the assessment are available for review at the park's visitor center and the Custer, Hot Springs and Rapid City libraries.

## AP News in Brief

### **Rival Koreas restart talks in effort to pull back from brink and threats of war**

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — For the moment, North and South Korea have pulled back from the brink and on Sunday resumed a second round of talks that temporarily pushed aside vows of imminent war on the peninsula.

The first round of marathon talks on Saturday came to nothing, and South Korea's military reported Sunday that it detected unusual troop and submarine movements in North Korea that indicated Pyongyang was strengthening its capability for a possible strike.

Still, even the decision for senior officials from countries that have spent recent days vowing to destroy each other to simply sit down at a table in Panmunjom, the border enclave where the 1953 armistice ending fighting in the Korean War was agreed to, is something of a victory.

The length of the first round of talks — nearly 10 hours — and the lack of immediate progress are not unusual. While the Koreas often have difficulty agreeing to talks, once they do, overlong sessions are often the rule. After decades of animosity and bloodshed, however, finding common ground is much harder.

South Korean presidential spokesman Min Kyung-wook did not disclose details about the first round of talks, which adjourned just before dawn Sunday. The talks began shortly after a deadline set by North Korea for the South to dismantle loudspeakers broadcasting anti-Pyongyang propaganda at their border. North Korea had declared that its front-line troops were in full war readiness and prepared to go to battle if Seoul did not back down.

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### **The Latest on Koreas: South Korea reports unusual army, submarine movements in the North**

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The latest on the tensions on the Korean Peninsula (all times local):

4:30 p.m.

Even as North and South Korea resumed talks Sunday, South Korea's military is reporting that it detected unusual troop and submarine movements in North Korea that indicated Pyongyang was strengthening its capacity for a possible strike.

An official from Seoul's Defense Ministry, who didn't want to be named because of office rules, says about 70 percent of the North's 77 submarines had left their bases and were undetectable by the South Korean military as of Saturday. The official said he couldn't immediately confirm whether the North's submarine activity was one of its strongest since the 1950-53 Korean War.

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### **UAE says army frees British hostage held by al-Qaida in Yemen, takes him to Abu Dhabi**

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — The United Arab Emirates said Sunday that its military freed a British hostage held by al-Qaida in Yemen who had been kidnapped 18 months ago while working as a petroleum engineer in the war-torn country.

A statement carried by the UAE's official WAM news agency said Douglas Robert Semple, 64, was freed during a military intelligence operation and taken to the Yemeni port city of Aden before being flown by UAE military aircraft to Abu Dhabi. He was greeted at the airport by the British ambassador and taken for medical checks at a hospital, the statement said.

The statement did not say where in Yemen Semple had been held or provide any details on the rescue operation. The UAE is part of the Saudi-led and U.S.-backed coalition that has been launching airstrikes against Shiite rebels in Yemen since March.

British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond confirmed the release of a British hostage by UAE forces in a

military intelligence operation.

"The British national is safe and well, and is receiving support from British government officials," he said in a statement, adding that the government is "very grateful for the assistance of the UAE."

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## **Kalashnikov-wielding man a 'radical Islamist' on radar of authorities in 3 countries**

PARIS (AP) — The man who boarded a high-speed Amsterdam-to-Paris train with a Kalashnikov rifle before being tackled by passengers was on the radar of authorities in three countries, had ties to radical Islam and may have traveled to Syria, authorities said.

The attacker was identified by a French official close to the investigation as Ayoub El-Khazzani, 26, who was known to authorities in France, Belgium and Spain. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing.

Officials did not disclose a possible motive for the Friday attack, but Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said Spanish authorities had advised French intelligence about the suspect because he belongs to the "radical Islamist movement." Three people were injured but no one died, and authorities credited brave American, French and British passengers with stopping El-Khazzani, who they said was armed with the assault rifle, nine magazines, a pistol and a box cutter.

El-Khazzani was being questioned Saturday by French counter-terrorism police who confirmed through fingerprints their suspicions that he was the same man who had been brought to their attention in February 2014, according to the French official. French authorities said he had lived in the southern Spanish city of Algeciras, frequenting a mosque which is under surveillance there. He was transferred Saturday morning to anti-terror police headquarters outside Paris and can be held for up to 96 hours.

There were discrepancies between French and Spanish accounts of the gunman's travels.

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## **British foreign secretary reopens embassy in Iran after 4-year closure**

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond reopened the British Embassy in Tehran on Sunday, nearly four years after it was closed following an attack by hard-liners, Iranian state TV reported.

Hammond arrived in Tehran on Sunday to attend the reopening ceremony and to hold talks with Iranian officials. The trip marked the first time a British foreign secretary has visited Tehran since 2003.

Britain has had no diplomatic presence in Tehran since hard-liners protesting the imposition of international sanctions stormed it in November 2011, but the election of President Hassan Rouhani and the recent nuclear deal between Iran and world powers have brought about a significant diplomatic thaw.

The Iranian Embassy in London was simultaneously reopened in London, the semiofficial ISNA news agency said.

"Four years on from an attack on the British Embassy, I am today re-opening it," Hammond said in a prepared statement. "Our relationship has improved since 2011. President Rouhani's election and last month's nuclear agreement were important milestones. I believe that we have the potential to go much further."

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## **Belief growing in Koch-backed group that winning presidency beats finding perfect Republican**

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The head of the Koch brothers' flagship political organization says a Republican winning the presidency is becoming a higher priority for more of its members, suggesting a rift between pragmatists and ideologues in its independent-minded membership.

Americans for Prosperity President Tim Phillips said conservative fatigue after the George W. Bush's presidency in 2008 and overconfidence in beating Barack Obama in 2012 has focused more members on winning back the White House than he's seen since the group formed a decade ago.

"I do think there is a sense of urgency about the future," he said, "that you owe it to your principles to win for those principles."

It's hard to tell how deep the divide between pragmatists and purer ideologues runs, although reactions were mixed at the group's annual summit in Ohio Friday and Saturday. Five presidential candidates addressed the roughly 3,600 conservative activists from around the country, from tea party star Ted Cruz to Jeb Bush, a relative newcomer to the group's events.

"I think people are coming to the conclusion that there is no perfect candidate," Americans for Prosperity Iowa Director Drew Klein said.

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## **Police fear Bangkok bombing suspect may have fled as new video offers possible clue**

BANGKOK (AP) — Despite new surveillance video that may offer a possible clue to the bombing in central Bangkok that killed 20 people, Thai police said Sunday the perpetrators may have already fled the country.

Surveillance video leaked to Thai media shows a man in a blue shirt placing a bag on a riverside walkway, then kicking it into the water on Monday night shortly after the explosion several kilometers (miles) away at the downtown Erawan shrine. About 18 hours later, at 1 p.m. Tuesday, an explosion took place at the same spot near a busy pier, causing no casualties.

Col. Winthai Suvaree, a spokesman for Thailand's ruling junta, also said that closed circuit television showing the main bombing suspect was used to trace the route he took to and from the site of Monday evening's rush-hour attack. He said that a police sketch of the suspect had been distributed to border posts.

Police spokesman Prawut Thawornsiri said he believes the perpetrator would have timed an escape carefully and "wouldn't have much time to stay around."

"I suspect that he may have left, but we will keep searching, in case we can find others who may be in the country or find clues, evidence and witnesses who may have seen him," he told Channel 3 TV network.

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## **Jury member issued challenge to colleagues during deliberations in police officer's trial**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — A juror who heard evidence in the trial of a white North Carolina police officer said he challenged his colleagues to determine what an unarmed black man did to lead the defendant to fatally shoot him.

"I wrote on the board: 'What did Jonathan Ferrell do, and I underlined "do," to warrant death: 10 shots.' I had done this because there was nothing that I had seen in the weeks preceding that showed me what he had done," said juror Moses Wilson, who was one of the jurors who chose to convict Officer Randall Kerrick of voluntary manslaughter.

"And I said that if anyone can show me what he did, I might change my vote — which is going to be for conviction — to acquittal, and every day, that was my challenge," he said.

After four days of deliberations, the jury was deadlocked, 7-5 on an initial vote and 8-4 on the succeeding three votes. And when Judge Robert C. Ervin asked the jury foreman last Friday if further deliberations would resolve the impasse, the response was no. Ervin then declared a mistrial.

Wilson said when he first went into deliberations, he didn't know how he was going to vote. From there, he decided to review his notes and form his opinion.

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## **It's panda-monium! National Zoo says giant panda Mei Xiang has given birth to twins**

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's double trouble for the National Zoo after its adult female panda gave birth to twins.

The cubs arrived about five hours apart Saturday. Panda mom Mei Xiang (may-SHONG) gave birth to

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the first cub at 5:35 p.m. and a second at 10:07 p.m., the zoo said. If the cubs survive, they would be the 17-year-old panda's third and fourth surviving offspring.

Mei Xiang's first cub, Tai Shan, was born in 2005 and returned to China in 2010. Her second cub, Bao Bao, turns 2-years-old Sunday and still lives at the zoo.

The new additions mean that for the first time the zoo has five pandas in residence. In addition to Bao Bao, Mei Xiang and the new cubs, the zoo is also home to an adult male panda named Tian Tian. In the past, the zoo has never had more than three pandas at one time.

Zoo director Dennis Kelly said at an evening news conference following the first cub's birth that he was "so happy, so pleased, so excited." The zoo's chief veterinarian Don Neiffer was also asked about the possibility of a second cub. In 2013, when Mei Xiang gave birth to Bao Bao, she also gave birth to a stillborn cub. Asked about the possibility of a second cub this time around, Neiffer said that during an ultrasound earlier this week he did see "two areas that made me excited."

## **Weakening Tropical Storm Danny heads toward Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands**

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — A weakening Tropical Storm Danny swirled toward the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, where a prolonged drought has led to hopes that it would bring rain.

But forecasters said the storm would become a tropical depression before reaching Puerto Rico and bring little relief to the U.S. territory.

Late Saturday night, Danny was located 480 miles (775 kilometers) east of the Leeward Islands, with maximum sustained winds of 60 mph (95 kph), according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center. It was traveling west at 15 mph (24 kph).

The hurricane center said it expected Danny to be near the Leeward Islands by Sunday night or Monday morning, and reach Puerto Rico early Tuesday.

"The biggest threats to land are the northern Leeward Islands, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Hispaniola," said hurricane center specialist Robbie Berg.

## **Today in History** **The Associated Press**

Today is Sunday, August 23, the 235th day of 2015. There are 130 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 23, 1775, Britain's King George III proclaimed the American colonies to be in a state of "open and avowed rebellion."

On this date:

In 1305, Scottish rebel leader Sir William Wallace was executed by the English for treason.

In 1858, "Ten Nights in a Bar-room," a play by Timothy Shay Arthur about the perils of alcohol, opened in New York.

In 1913, Copenhagen's Little Mermaid statue, inspired by the Hans Christian Andersen story, was unveiled in the harbor of the Danish capital.

In 1914, Japan declared war against Germany in World War I.

In 1926, silent film star Rudolph Valentino died in New York at age 31.

In 1927, amid protests, Italian-born anarchists Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti were executed in Boston for the murders of two men during a 1920 robbery.

In 1939, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union agreed to a non-aggression treaty, the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, in Moscow.

In 1944, Romanian Prime Minister Ion Antonescu was dismissed by King Michael, paving the way for Romania to abandon the Axis in favor of the Allies.

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In 1960, Broadway librettist Oscar Hammerstein (HAM'-ur-STYN') II, 65, died in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

In 1973, a bank robbery-turned-hostage-taking began in Stockholm, Sweden; the four hostages ended up empathizing with their captors, a psychological condition now referred to as "Stockholm Syndrome."

In 1982, Lebanon's parliament elected Christian militia leader Bashir Gemayel president. (However, Gemayel was assassinated some three weeks later.)

In 1989, in a case that inflamed racial tensions in New York, Yusuf Hawkins, a 16-year-old black youth, was shot dead after he and his friends were confronted by a group of white youths in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn. (Gunman Joey Fama was convicted of second-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison; he will be eligible for parole in 2022.)

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush said he understood the anguish of war protester Cindy Sheehan, but said fulfilling demands like hers to withdraw from Iraq would weaken the United States. Israeli forces evicted militant holdouts from two Jewish settlements, completing a historic withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and part of the West Bank. A Peruvian airliner crash-landed in the Amazon jungle, killing 40 of the 98 people aboard. Actor Brock Peters died in Los Angeles at age 78.

Five years ago: A dismissed policeman armed with an automatic rifle seized a bus in the Philippine capital with 25 people on board, mostly Hong Kong tourists; the gunman released nine of the hostages and demanded his job back to free the rest. The hijacking lasted 11 hours before the gunman opened fire on his hostages; a Manila SWAT team then killed the hostage-taker, but not before eight tourists also died. A jury in Goldsboro, North Carolina, convicted former Marine Cesar Laurean of first-degree murder in the death of a pregnant colleague, Lance Cpl. Maria Lauterbach. (Laurean was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.) Tiger Woods and his wife, Elin Nordegren, officially divorced.

One year ago: Israel bombed an apartment tower in downtown Gaza City, collapsing the 12-story building in an unprecedented strike. Hundreds of Russian aid trucks returned home from eastern Ukraine, a day after a bitterly disputed crossing.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Vera Miles is 85. Actress Barbara Eden is 84. Political satirist Mark Russell is 83. Pro Football Hall of Famer Sonny Jurgensen is 81. Actor Richard Sanders is 75. Ballet dancer Patricia McBride is 73. Former Surgeon General Antonia Novello is 71. Pro Football Hall of Famer Rayfield Wright is 70. Country singer Rex Allen Jr. is 68. Actor David Robb (TV: "Downton Abbey") is 68. Singer Linda Thompson is 68. Actress Shelley Long is 66. Actor-singer Rick Springfield is 66. Country singer-musician Woody Paul (Riders in the Sky) is 66. Queen Noor of Jordan is 64. Actor-producer Mark Hudson is 64. Actor Skipp Sudduth is 59. Retired MLB All-Star pitcher Mike Boddicker is 58. Rock musician Dean DeLeo (Army of Anyone; Stone Temple Pilots) is 54. Tejano singer Emilio Navaira (nah-VY'-rah) is 53. Country musician Ira Dean (Trick Pony) is 46. Actor Jay Mohr is 45. Actor Ray Park is 41. Actor Scott Caan is 39. Country singer Shelly Fairchild is 38. Figure skater Nicole Bobek is 38. Rock singer Julian Casablancas (The Strokes) is 37. NBA player Kobe Bryant is 37. Actress Joanne Froggatt is 35. Actress Annie Ilonzeh is 32. Dance musician Sky Blu is 29. Actress Kimberly Matula is 27. NBA player Jeremy Lin is 27

Thought for Today: "All life is a concatenation of ephemerality." - Alfred E. Kahn, American economist (1917-2010).