

# Groton Daily Independent

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## City Council Special Meeting

The special meeting with Ray Woodsend will be Monday 8/31/15 at 5:30pm at CITY HALL.

### Groton City Council Agenda

- 1) Ray Woodsend, Dougherty & Company – Debt restructuring.

## Monday, August 31

**Senior Menu:** Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, parsley buttered carrots, banana cake with icing, whole wheat bread.

**School Lunch:** Cheese sticks, tater tots, carrots and dip, fresh and canned fruit.

**Anniversary:** Jamie & Vicki Rossow

**Birthdays:** Allison Sippel • Katelyn Hawkins • Bruce Merkel • Virginia Meister • Jeff Hendrickson • McKensy Sheridan • Tena Lund

6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study

7:00 pm: Special City Council meeting

## Tuesday, Sept. 1

**Anniv:** Perry & Laura Ptacek

**Birthdays:** TJ Johnson • Adam Feser • Shannon Koens

10:00am: United Methodist Women's Bible Study

10:00am: Boys golf at Lee Park, Aberdeen.

6:30 pm: Volleyball at Ipswich

## Wednesday, Sept. 2

**Birthdays:** Kylie Hawkins • Marvel Washnok • Brad Larson • Austin Schuelke • Jackson Doeden • Katie Osterman • Lee Schinkel

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

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

5:00 pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Sarah Circle

6:00 pm: Olive Grove Men's League

**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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## Friends . . . Near and Far

*Editor's Note: This is the 37th in a series featuring your friends, near and far.*

### Jill (Eikamp) McCorkle

**Where are you living today?** I currently live in Olathe, KS (Kansas City area).

**JobWise what are you doing today?** I am currently employed as a speech language pathologist in a school setting. I work with students in grades 5-8 to help them improve their speech and language skills.

**How long have you been working at the current job?** I have been an SLP for 17 years. I worked for five years at the Hickman Mills School District in Kansas City, MO and the last 12 years at Raymore-Peculiar School District in Raymore, MO.

**What year did you graduate from high school?** I graduated from Groton High School in 1990.

**Where did you attend college and what was your degree?** I attended the University of South Dakota and graduated with a B.S. in English and a M.A. in Communication Disorders.

**What advice would you give the high school students today?** Embrace each other's differences. There is so much to learn from other people and other cultures. Travel if you the opportunity.

**Family Life:** I am married to Paul McCorkle who grew up in Independence, MO and Olathe, KS. I have two step-daughters. Jordan is 20 and currently in her third year at the University of Kansas. Attisen is 13 and is in 8th grade.

**Do you feel that your high school and college education prepared you adequately for post education life?** I do feel that my high school and college experiences prepared me life in the "real" world.



## Marzahn places fifth at NEC Golf Tourney

Twenty-five golfers took part in the Northeast Conference golf tournament held Thursday, Aug. 27, at Pine Hills Golf Course in Milbank.

Groton Area golfers placed third in a field of five teams. Aberdeen Roncalli won the team title with 337 points followed by Sisseton with 357 points, Groton Area with 374 points, Milbank Area with 396 points and Redfield-Doland with 418 points.

Gabe Heller of Aberdeen Roncalli won the tournament with a 72. Groton Area's Landon Marzahn placed fifth with an 88, Brody Sombke placed eighth with a 90, Sean Schuring placed 13th with a 95, Cade Guthmiller was 16th with a 101 and Treyton Diegel was 20th with a 109.

## How the Tooth Fairy Can Teach Your Kids About Money

By Nathaniel Sillin

When those first baby teeth start wobbling, you and the Tooth Fairy can combine forces to teach your kids about money.

Visa's latest annual Tooth Fairy survey indicates that the average price of a lost tooth is \$3.19 in 2015. This is the fourth consecutive year that young Americans are finding more than \$3 under their pillows from the fabled fairy. That puts a full set of 20 departing baby teeth around \$63. The survey also found that the most common monetary gift given by the Tooth Fairy is \$1, and that dads report the Tooth Fairy is more generous, giving nearly 27 percent more than what moms report.

First, how much should parents give? Visa offers a free Tooth Fairy app ([www.practicalmoneyskills.com/apps](http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/apps)) for iOS and Android devices and an online calculator ([www.practicalmoneyskills.com/toothfairy](http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/toothfairy)) to help parents determine an appropriate amount for children to receive per lost tooth. While not an endorsement of how much money children should receive, the app and calculator uses Visa's latest survey data and demographic factors such as gender, age, home state, family size, marital status, income and education levels to formulate how much money the Tooth Fairy is leaving in comparable households.

You might consider giving kids a piggy bank – or a series of piggy banks for specific purposes such as spending, saving or investing – to have ready once that first tooth comes out. Talk with your child about the importance of putting some money away when it comes in for various purposes including charity, so he or she learns about the importance of helping those with less.

Here's how the Tooth Fairy can help you guide your kids through their important, first-time money activities:

Learning to handle coins and currency. Kids need a bit of time to get to know coins and bills – what they feel like, what they're worth and how they're used. Start by letting them handle a few coins and then start identifying their value – how five pennies makes a nickel and two nickels make a dime, and so on. Before a child can save, spend, invest or share, they have to understand the value of money that the Tooth Fairy has left under their pillow.

Making their first purchases. Tooth Fairy money may be a child's first source of income. Teaching your kids about the value of money is an important lesson. It's a chance to balance fun and priorities, wants and needs. Once a certain amount of money is set aside for savings, then head to the store with your kid to look for a small toy or treat. It's important to discuss the item first and to encourage comparison-shopping for the best price. But once the item is selected, put the child in charge of the transaction.

Dealing with other sources of monetary gifts. The Tooth Fairy often provides that first connection between kids and cash, but other money resources usually arrive soon afterward. Starting school means allowances and children may already be getting birthday and holiday gifts of cash from friends and relatives. With

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every new source of funds, keep the discussion going on the importance of spending wisely while saving, investing and giving to those in need.

**Budgeting.** As kids get older and start using money more extensively, introduce them to the concept of budgeting – the practice of tracking, counting and allocating spending. Parents might want to give themselves a refresher course (<http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/budgeting>) if they're not consistent about budgeting their own money.

**Moving from piggy banks to real banks.** Kids can keep a piggy bank around as long it's effective, but kids need to see how adults handle money. Regular trips to the bank allow children to ask questions about how banks work and why they're important. Eventually, they'll be ready for their first savings account. See what account savings options your bank provides for young children.

**Bottom line:** Lost teeth are an educational gold mine for your kid. You and the Tooth Fairy can work together to make each little windfall an important lesson about money.

Nathaniel Sillin directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Practical Money Skills on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney](http://www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney).

## TreeLine Tree Service



**Over 30 Years  
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Experience!**

**TJ Sperry:  
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**Tyler Sperry:  
216-8431**

## Sperry Stump Removal

## Today in Weather History

August 31, 1977: Strong winds accompanying thunderstorms moved across the southern part of Brown County during the early morning hours. A barn was destroyed three miles west of Warner. Many trees were damaged in the Stratford area. A large, empty fuel tank, southeast of Watertown was folded inward by strong winds. High wind damage was also reported in Faulk and Day Counties.

August 31, 2013: Thunderstorms produced numerous reports of large hail and damaging winds in and near Sioux Falls on the evening of August 31st. Large hail broke windows and damaged many vehicles, as well as siding and roofs on the west side of Sioux Falls. One automobile dealer with a large temporary outdoor display reported four thousand vehicles were damaged. Estimated property damage was listed at four million dollars. Thunderstorm winds also damaged several businesses, including a large retail store which was also struck by lightning. The large store lost part of its roof, while the stockroom of the same store and its contents were also damaged. A canopy type tent was destroyed, and a 20 foot retaining wall was blown down. The winds caused extensive tree damage, including several trees blown down, one of which blocked a major intersection when it fell.

1915 - The temperature at Bartlesville, OK, dipped to 38 degrees to establish a state record for the month of August. (The Weather Channel)

1954 - Hurricane Carol swept across eastern New England killing sixty persons and causing 450 million dollars damage. It was the first of three hurricanes to affect New England that year. (David Ludlum)

1971 - The low of 84 degrees and high of 108 degrees at Death Valley, CA, were the coolest of the month. The average daily high was 115.7 degrees that August, and the average daily low was 93.4 degrees. (The Weather Channel)

1984 - Lightning ignited several forest fires in Montana, one of which burned through 100,000 acres of timber and grassland. (The Weather Channel)








1987 - Eight cities in Washington and Oregon reported record high temperatures for the date, including Eugene OR and Portland OR with afternoon highs of 102 degrees. The high of 102 degrees at Portland smashed their previous record for the date by twelve degrees. Frost was reported in South Dakota. Aberdeen SD established a record for the month of August with a morning low of 32 degrees, and Britton SD dipped to 31 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)


1988 - August ended on a relatively mild and tranquil note for most of the nation. Forest fires in the northwestern U.S. scorched 180,000 acres of land during the last week of August. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms developing along a stationary front spread severe weather from Minnesota to Indiana through the course of the day and night. Thunderstorms in Minnesota produced baseball size hail near Saint Michael and Hutchinson, and drenched Moose Lake with nine inches of rain in six hours. Tucson AZ hit 100 degrees for a record 79th time in the year, surpassing a record established the previous year. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)


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Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday
						
Isolated Showers	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Hot	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 85 °F	Low: 53 °F	High: 86 °F	Low: 67 °F	High: 91 °F	Low: 68 °F	High: 89 °F






## Temperatures Above Average Little Chance For Moisture Till Late This Week



5 Day Outlook - Mobridge, SD					5 Day Outlook - Aberdeen, SD				
Today	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Today	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
									
84° 56° 25% NW 20	90° 66° 10% S 22	95° 65° 10% SE 15	90° 63° 10% W 8	85° 61° 35% SE 10	85° 53° 20% S 22	86° 67° 10% S 18	91° 67° 10% S 15	90° 65° 10% S 10	86° 63° 40% S 10

5 Day Outlook - Pierre, SD					5 Day Outlook - Watertown, SD				
Today	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Today	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
									
87° 59° 15% NW 21	94° 66° 10% S 22	100° 67° 10% SE 14	95° 64° 10% S 9	89° 64° 30% SE 10	84° 61° 10% S 24	85° 68° 10% S 18	87° 69° 10% S 18	87° 68° 10% S 14	84° 65° 40% S 13


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


[@NWSAberdeen](https://twitter.com/NWSAberdeen)

Published on: 08/31/2015 at 4:36AM

While a front will bring a few sprinkles and light showers to northern South Dakota, most of us will probably be more cognizant of the slight drop in temperatures and humidity today. Readings will still be above average though, with temperatures and humidity on the increase for the rest of the work week.

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## Yesterday's Weather

**High:** 86.1 at 4:11 PM

**Heat Index:** 92.0 at 4:13 PM

**Low:** 64.7 at 6:09 AM

**High Gust:** 30 at 7:47 PM

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

**Record High:** 98° in 1921

**Record Low:** 32° in 1987

**Average High:** 78°F

**Average Low:** 52°F

**Average Precip in Aug:** 2.43

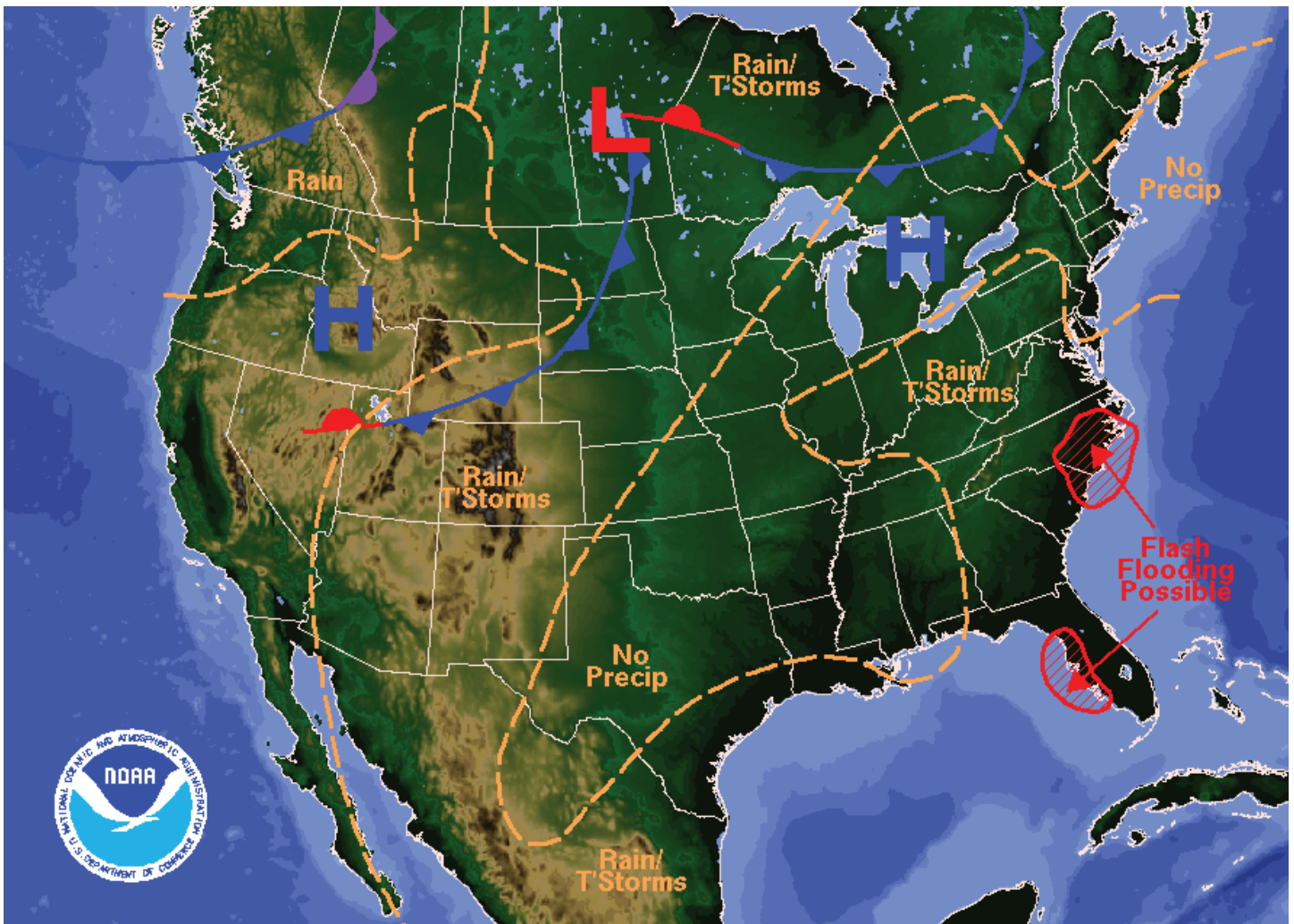
**Precip to date in Aug:** 4.99

**Average Precip to date:** 16.29

**Precip Year to Date:** 16.56

**Sunset Tonight:** 8:35 p.m.

**Sunrise Tomorrow:** 6:54 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, Aug 31, 2015, issued 4:35 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



## WORTHY WORDS

It has been estimated that the average person speaks about 34,000 words a day. Multiply that by 365 and that amounts to about 12,000,000 words a year. That ought to make our jaws hurt!

When he wrote Psalm 19, David said that he wanted the words coming from his mouth and the thoughts stored in his heart to be pleasing to God. David was so concerned about his words that he wondered if there was any way for him to know the sins that were already lurking in his heart. Jesus spoke of the importance of our words and said that "out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks." These "words" should get our attention.

What are we to do about the words that come from our mouths? David asked God to "Set a guard over my mouth and to keep a watch over my lips." What a great place to begin – to ask God to watch our lips and guard our mouths at all times.

Realizing that God knows every thought we think and every word we speak should cause us to ask Him to make our hearts and minds pure. Then with His power within us and His presence around us, our words will certainly be pleasing to Him and others.

**Prayer:** Father, may our hearts be so full of Your love that the words we speak will help others. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**Scripture for Today:** Psalm 19:12-14 Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression.



## News from the Associated Press

### **SDSU Extension, others to host grassland fire workshops**

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota State University Extension wants to teach landowners in South Dakota ways to properly plan for and conduct a prescribed fire.

SDSU Extension has partnered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and some conservancy groups to host four workshops in September meant to show landowners how to plan for a grassland fire.

The Extension office says landowners wanting to use prescribed fire as a management method in their Conservation Reserve Program contracts are required to follow an USDA-approved burn plan.

Workshop topics include USDA rules, firebreak development, weather and safety.

Workshops are scheduled for Wednesday at the SDSU Regional Extension Center in Aberdeen; Sept. 9 at the 1st Fidelity Bank in Platt; Sept. 18 at the fire hall in Kennebec; and Sept. 21 at the Selby Golf Course.

### **All state turkey farms hit by bird flu restocked, recovering**

**KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — All nine of the turkey farms in South Dakota that were affected by the deadly bird flu virus during the spring have restocked and are raising birds again, though the lone chicken farm has yet to recover.

Officials say South Dakota is recovering faster than most other states that were hit by the H5N2 virus, which wiped out 48 million turkeys and chickens in the U.S. and 1.7 million in the state. Jeff Sveen, the board chairman for Dakota Provisions, a farmer-owned plant that processes turkeys, attributes the speedy recovery to good cooperation with producers and Dustin Oedekoven, the state veterinarian.

"We're ahead of anybody else in the country," Sveen said, noting that the final farm was repopulated last week. "We're a small state, we get things done."

Oedekoven, on the other hand, gives credit to the turkey growers, who are all Hutterites, a German-speaking people who primarily work in agriculture. Plus, he said, the majority of South Dakota's farms are independently, not corporately, owned.

"They're very hard working. They definitely have an ownership in what they're doing and they have an interest in getting it done as well as possible and as quickly as possible so that they can get back in production," he said.

The bird flu, which first showed up in South Dakota at the beginning of April, took a financial toll on the state's farmers and processing plants.

Dakota Provisions lost 10 percent of its annual production, but since it all came at once, Sveen said, it's closer to about a quarter of what they would typically produce during a four-month period. Employees have been working fewer hours, but no one lost their job and Sveen's hope is that the plant will be back to regular operations by the last week of October, when the new birds will start to be processed.

South Dakota's only affected chicken farm, a 1.3 million-bird egg-laying operation, is still recovering, according to Jason Ramsdell, the vice president of the Flandreau-based Dakota Layers.

Egg-laying operations take much longer to clean, due to the size and complexity of the barns, Ramsdell said. Once they're cleared by animal health officials, they'll begin disinfecting all nine barns, heating them up to 120 degrees Fahrenheit to kill off any trace of the virus.

They're aiming to get their first flock back in the barns in December, but likely won't fully restocked until about Christmas 2016 due to a limited supply of baby chicks and only a set amount of space in which to grow them, Ramsdell said.

Despite having to euthanize their entire flock, Dakota Layers hasn't laid off any employees — in fact, they're working more to clean the barns as fast as possible.

"We're trying to do all we can to keep everybody employed," Ramsdell said, noting other employees will also work on building a new barn for young birds.

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All bird-farming operations are ramping up their biosecurity measures should the virus return this fall. Dakota Provisions' producers are implementing stricter protections, such as venting systems designed to prevent wild bird droppings from entering and wire screens to prevent wild birds from flying through. "We're just taking all kinds of extra precautions to try to prevent it from being reintroduced," he said. "And hopefully we won't have any of this again — we just don't know."

## Reward offered in South Dakota's Meeker Ranch vandalism case

CUSTER, S.D. (AP) — A \$500 reward has been offered for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the vandals who damaged a historic ranch on U.S. Forest Service property near Custer.

A large section of siding on the Meeker Ranch Barn in the Black Hills was vandalized earlier this summer. Antique windows in the ranch house were broken during the incident.

The Black Hills Historic Preservation Trust is offering the reward. President Skip Tillisch of Hill City says the ranch is an essential piece of the Black Hills history.

Tillisch says the trust doesn't have the money or the time to fix the windows at the moment, but the windows will soon be covered with Lexan plastic to protect the structure from the winter weather that's ahead.

## SD man convicted of sex, abuse charges gets 15 years

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man convicted of sexually abusing a child at the Rosebud Indian Reservation has been sentenced to 15 years in prison.

U.S. District Judge Roberto Lange has also ordered 18-year-old Ilijah White Lance to spend six years on supervised release. The Parmelee man earlier pleaded guilty to abusive sexual contact by force and child abuse charges.

The conviction stems from incidents that took place on February 10, when White Lance was visiting a friend's home in Parmelee. Prosecutors say White Lance that night had sexual contact with a 9-year-old girl.

Authorities say White Lance then exposed himself to a 7-year-old girl, who was also in the room and witnessed the first incident.

White Lance is under the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service.

## 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. POLICE SEEK 2 NEW SUSPECTS IN BANGKOK BOMBING PROBE

A Thai woman and a foreign man of unknown nationality are suspected in the blast at the Erawan Shrine, which killed 20 people and injured more than 120 others.

### 2. WHAT AWAITS OBAMA IN ALASKA

Shrinking glaciers, Arctic temperatures and a mix of messy energy politics are likely in store for the president as he begins his historic trip to the nation's largest state.

### 3. AFGHAN AIRFIELDS BUILT FOR WAR SEEN AS ECONOMIC HUBS

Airports, constructed by NATO to fight the Taliban, are being handed over to the government in a civil aviation upgrade that optimists hope will fuel regional trade and tourism.

### 4. WHO LOOKS TO IOWA TO REGAIN MOMENTUM

Scott Walker wowed Republicans at the Iowa Freedom Summit in January, but after some missteps and a lackluster debate performance, he has to reshape his campaign.

### 5. CHINA GIVES LITTLE CREDIT TO NATIONALIST WWII VETS

Instead, the government promotes the idea that Mao Zedong's Communists were the saviors of the nation, battling against Japanese forces that began occupying parts of the country in 1931 before launching an invasion in 1937.

### 6. HOW SOME CALIFORNIA FAMILIES COPE IN DROUGHT

Residents of Okieville, 5 miles outside of Tulare, intend to form their own water district and apply for state and federal grants to pay for two wells.

## 7. HORROR MOVIE DIRECTOR WES CRAVEN DIES AT 76

"He was a consummate filmmaker and his body of work will live on forever," says Weinstein Co. co-chairman Bob Weinstein, whose Dimension Films produced "Scream."

## 8. LAST TITANIC LUNCH MENU GOING TO AUCTION

It was saved by a passenger who climbed aboard the so-called "Money Boat" before the ocean liner went down and is expected to bring \$50,000 to \$70,000.

## 9. MTV VMA MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Taylor Swift wins video of the year, Miley Cyrus flashes one of her breasts and Kanye West announces that he plans to run for president in 2020.

## 10. ARRIETA PITCHES NO-HITTER FOR CUBS IN 2-0 WIN OVER DODGERS

"You see other guys around the league do it and you want to be a part of something like that," he says.

## AP News in Brief

### Thai police seek 2 new suspects in Bangkok blasts after raid finds bomb components

BANGKOK (AP) — Thai police issued arrest warrants Monday for two more suspects, a Thai woman and a foreign man of unknown nationality, and released their images in the widening investigation into Bangkok's deadly bombing two weeks ago that yielded its first arrest over the weekend.

National police spokesman Prawuth Thavornsiri said he was certain the two were part of a group police say was responsible for the Aug. 17 blast at the Erawan Shrine in central Bangkok that killed 20 people, more than half of them foreigners.

During a televised statement on Monday, Prawuth displayed a photograph of the woman's Thai identification card showing a young woman in a black headscarf and a sketch of the man. He later said police were asking for additional arrest warrants.

The development came after police arrested a man from an apartment in Bangkok's outskirts on Saturday and seized bomb-making equipment that included detonators, ball bearings and a metal pipe believed to be a bomb casing.

Thai police, meanwhile, awarded themselves a 3 million baht, or \$84,000, reward Monday for tips leading to the arrest of bombing suspects.

### Arctic chills, messy energy politics await Obama on his historic trip to Alaska

WASHINGTON (AP) — Shrinking glaciers, Arctic temperatures and a mix of messy energy politics await President Barack Obama as he begins his historic trip to Alaska.

Obama departs on Monday morning for a three-day tour of the nation's largest state, closely choreographed to call attention to the ways Obama says climate change is already damaging Alaska's stunning scenery. By showcasing thawing permafrost, melting sea ice and eroding shorelines, Obama hopes to raise the sense of urgency to deal quickly to slow climate change in the U.S. and overseas.

His excursion north of the Arctic Circle will make Obama the first sitting president to step foot in the Alaska Arctic, home to Alaska Natives who have received less attention amid Obama's recent efforts to improve conditions for Native Americans. In a major show of solidarity, Obama announced on the eve of his trip that his administration is changing the name of North America's tallest peak, Mount McKinley, to Denali, its traditional Athabascan name.

Obama's move to strip the mountain of its name honoring former President William McKinley, a son of Ohio, drew loud condemnations from Ohio lawmakers, including Republican Rep. Bob Gibbs, who said he planned to work with his colleagues to see what they could do to stop it.

Yet Obama was to navigate far more turbulent political waters when he arrived Monday afternoon in Anchorage, where his grand declarations on climate change have been met with skepticism by leaders in a state that's heavily dependent on oil revenues that have fallen precipitously.

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## **Syrian government official says amount of damage done to Palmyra temple unclear after bombing**

BEIRUT (AP) — A Syrian official in charge of antiquities said Monday his government has not been able to determine how much damage an explosion near the ancient Temple of Bel caused the ancient structure in the militant-controlled city of Palmyra.

Activists, including a resident of the city, said an Islamic State bombing extensively damaged the 2,000-year old temple Sunday. The resident described a massive explosion, adding that he saw pictures of the damage but could not get near the site.

Maamoun Abdulkarim, the head of the Antiquities and Museums Department in Damascus, said that "undoubtedly" a large explosion took place near the temple, which lies in a sprawling Roman-era complex. But he said the extent of the damage remains unclear.

An Islamic State operative told The Associated Press over Skype on Monday that the temple had been destroyed, without elaborating. He spoke on condition of anonymity because members of the group are not allowed to speak to journalists.

The extremists destroyed the smaller Temple of Baalshamin in the complex last week. It posted images of the destruction days later.

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## **Afghan airfields built for war now seen as hubs for economic growth of landlocked country**

KANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan (AP) — It is a striking vision for a country torn to pieces by war and jihadi insurrection: a series of airports, built by NATO to fight the Taliban, are being handed over to the Afghan government in a civil aviation upgrade that optimists hope will fuel not only regional trade but even tourism.

The eight airfields, worth an estimated \$2 billion, are scattered around a landlocked and mountainous land whose lack of rail transport or decent roads makes almost every intercity journey a perilous adventure — even without factoring in attacks from Taliban militants.

Ex-lawmaker Mohammad Daud Sultanzoy, who is overseeing the project for the government, said the airfields — self-contained cities that housed thousands of foreign troops who are now pulling out — will amount to a latter-day "Silk Road" that "will connect Afghanistan internally and to South Asia and Central Asia, and beyond."

The billions of people living in Asia and the Middle East "can constitute a huge number of tourists and related other activities: cargo, passenger and export/import," Sultanzoy said.

Pessimists will have little trouble imagining the Taliban trying to shoot down planes as they land, but officials say the militants do not currently have that ability, making air travel a reasonable and safe option.

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## **Wisconsin's Walker looks to neighboring Iowa to regain momentum in presidential race**

ONAWA, Iowa (AP) — With his sleeves rolled up, Scott Walker wowed Iowa Republicans in January at one of the first events of the 2016 campaign — a moment that shot the Wisconsin governor into the top-tier of GOP candidates for president.

In the months since, Walker has slowly fallen back into the pack of more than a dozen seeking the GOP nomination.

While he's no different from any of the other Republicans struggling for attention amid the spotlight fo-

cused on billionaire businessman Donald Trump, Walker has also endured a series of setbacks of his own making since launching his campaign in mid-July.

He's had to backtrack and clarify his positions on immigration and terrorism, reassure jittery donors after a lackluster performance in the first GOP debate and reshape his campaign to try and rekindle the spark he showed in the middle of the winter in Iowa.

That's where Walker was last week, retail politicking at diners and dives. Shaking hands with fewer than a dozen people at Miller's Kitchen in Onawa on Wednesday, he said such stops in all 99 Iowa counties — a classic campaign stunt that's paid off for candidates in the past — is the key to getting back on top.

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## Hyping Communists' WWII efforts, China gives little credit, or help, to aging Nationalist vets

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese veteran Sun Yibai doesn't have much time for the Communist Party's claim to have led China to victory against Japan in World War II.

"The Communist Party didn't fight Japan," said the sprightly 97-year-old, who once served as a translator with the storied Flying Tigers aviation brigade. "They made up a whole bunch of stories afterward, but it was all fabricated."

That view challenges a basic premise underpinning this week's lavish celebrations in Beijing of the 70th anniversary of Japan's defeat: That Mao Zedong's Communists were the saviors of the nation, battling against Japanese forces that began occupying parts of China in 1931 before launching a full-blown invasion in 1937.

Veterans such as Sun have long found themselves on the wrong side of that narrative. Their service with the Nationalists led to imprisonment, persecution and often death in the years after the 1949 Communist revolution. Now mostly in their 90s, they're living out their remaining years shunned and forgotten by all but a few who care to hear their stories.

"Nobody cares about veterans like me. Nobody cares. People just forget what happened in the past," said Sun in an interview in his Beijing apartment stuffed with books and old photos.

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## When the wells run dry: California neighbors rally together as they struggle with drought

TULARE, Calif. (AP) — Looking for water to flush his toilet, Tino Lozano pointed a garden hose at some buckets in the bare dirt of his yard. It's his daily ritual now in a community built by refugees from Oklahoma's Dust Bowl. But only a trickle came out; then a drip, then nothing more.

"There it goes," said Lozano, a 40-year-old disabled vet, masking his desperation with a smile. "That's how we do it in Okieville now."

Millions of Californians are being inconvenienced in this fourth year of drought, urged to flush toilets less often, take shorter showers and let lawns turn brown. But it's dramatically worse in places like Okieville, where wells have gone dry for many of the 100 modest homes that share cracked streets without sidewalks or streetlights in California's Central Valley.

Farming in Tulare County brought in \$8.1 billion in 2014, more than any other county in the nation, according to its agricultural commissioner. Yet 1,252 of its household wells today are dry, more than all other California counties combined.

Lozano, a 40-year-old disabled vet and family man, has worked with his neighbors to rig lines from house to house, sharing water from a well deep enough to hit the emptying aquifer below. County trucks, funded with state drought relief money, fill 2,500-gallon tanks in many yards. Residents also get containers of drinking water, stacking them in bedrooms and living rooms.

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## **Mourners to pay tribute to 27-year-old slain WDBJ television cameraman Adam Ward**

ROANOKE, Va. (AP) — Salem High School will open its doors to the community Monday to commemorate the life of an alumnus — Adam Ward, the 27-year-old cameraman for a Roanoke television station who was slain on live TV last week.

The family of Ward, a 2007 graduate of the school, has asked visitors to wear colors of his favorite teams, Virginia Tech and Salem High, where he played football for the Spartans on two state championship teams. His funeral is set for Tuesday at First Baptist Church in Roanoke.

"He was truly a Salem Spartan, born and bred. From childhood, he loved Salem sports, especially football," his obituary says. Ward's father, Charles, is a guidance counselor at the school, which Adam chose to attend even though he lived in another district.

The Ward family has stayed out of the spotlight since Wednesday when he and reporter Alison Parker were gunned down by a former co-worker. Ward and Parker were on an early morning assignment for WDBJ-TV at Smith Mountain Lake when Vester Lee Flanagan walked up and shot them and Vicki Gardner, a Chamber of Commerce official, with a 9mm Glock pistol during a live interview. Ward and Parker died at the scene and Gardner is recovering in a hospital.

The shootings occurred as thousands of viewers across the central Virginia community watched and the footage quickly spread to millions on social media. Flanagan shot himself as police pursued his car. He died hours later.

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## **Horror master Wes Craven, director of 'Nightmare on Elm Street' and 'Scream' films, dies**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It's hard enough to redefine a genre once in a career, but horror virtuoso Wes Craven managed to do it twice.

The prolific writer-director, who died Sunday at age 76, ushered in two distinct eras of suburban slashers, first in the 1980s with his iconic "Nightmare on Elm Street" and its indelible, razor-fingered villain Freddy Krueger. He did it again in the 1990s with the self-referential "Scream."

Both reintroduced the fringe genre to mainstream audiences and spawned successful franchises.

Perhaps it was his perfectly askew interpretation of the medium that resonated with his nail-biting audiences.

"Horror films don't create fear," Craven said. "They release it."

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## **Another MTV VMAs, another controversial Miley Cyrus: Wild child singer shows breast at show**

Justin Bieber cried, Taylor Swift won most of the awards and Kanye West ranted onstage, but Miley Cyrus still owned the 2015 MTV Video Music Awards.

The 22-year-old wild child flashed one of her breasts, wore outfits that showed most of her skin and traded words with Nicki Minaj. She closed the Sunday show with a performance of a new song about marijuana.

She posed for photos clutching a moon man trophy and passed out avocados to photographers and reporters.

"I didn't actually win one of these. They just give it to you for free because you host, so that I just wanted to clarify," she said.

Sunday's show comes after Cyrus stole the night at the 2013 VMAs after twerking on Robin Thicke, causing a frenzy. At last year's show, she won video of the year for "Wrecking Ball."

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## Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Monday, August 31, the 243rd day of 2015. There are 122 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On August 31, 1965, the U.S. House of Representatives joined the Senate in voting to establish the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

### On this date:

In 1886, an earthquake with an estimated magnitude of 7.3 devastated Charleston, South Carolina, killing at least 60 people, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

In 1888, Mary Ann Nichols, believed to be the first victim of "Jack the Ripper," was found slain in London's East End.

In 1939, the first issue of Marvel Comics, featuring the Human Torch, was published by Timely Publications in New York.

In 1941, the radio program "The Great Gildersleeve," a spinoff from "Fibber McGee and Molly" starring Harold Peary, debuted on NBC.

In 1954, Hurricane Carol hit the northeastern Atlantic states; Connecticut, Rhode Island and part of Massachusetts bore the brunt of the storm, which resulted in some 70 deaths.

In 1962, the Caribbean nation of Trinidad and Tobago became independent of British colonial rule.

In 1972, at the Munich Summer Olympics, American swimmer Mark Spitz won his fourth and fifth gold medals in the 100-meter butterfly and 800-meter freestyle relay; Soviet gymnast Olga Korbut won gold medals in floor exercise and the balance beam.

In 1980, Poland's Solidarity labor movement was born with an agreement signed in Gdansk (guh-DANSK') that ended a 17-day-old strike.

In 1985, Richard Ramirez, later convicted of California's "Night Stalker" killings, was captured by residents of an East Los Angeles neighborhood.

In 1986, 82 people were killed when an Aeromexico jetliner and a small private plane collided over Cerritos, California. The Soviet passenger ship Admiral Nakhimov collided with a merchant vessel in the Black Sea, causing both to sink; up to 448 people reportedly died.

In 1989, Britain's Princess Anne and her husband, Capt. Mark Phillips, announced they were separating after 15 years of marriage.

In 1997, a car crash in Paris claimed the lives of Princess Diana, Dodi Fayed and their driver, Henri Paul.

**Ten years ago:** New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin said there was "a significant number of dead bodies in the water" following Hurricane Katrina; Nagin ordered virtually the entire police force to abandon search-and-rescue efforts and instead stop increasingly hostile thieves. President George W. Bush, who viewed the devastation from Air Force One, pledged to do "all in our power" to save lives and provide sustenance but cautioned that recovery of the Gulf Coast would take years. Some 1,000 people were killed when a religious procession across a Baghdad bridge was engulfed in panic over rumors of a suicide bomber.

**Five years ago:** President Barack Obama ended the U.S. combat mission in Iraq, declaring no victory after seven years of bloodshed and telling those divided over the war in his country and around the world: "It is time to turn the page."

**One year ago:** On the Sunday talk shows, leaders of the House and Senate intelligence committees prodded President Barack Obama to take decisive action against what they said were growing threats from Islamic State militants on U.S. soil.

**Today's Birthdays:** Japanese monster movie actor Katsumi Tezuka is 103. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Frank Robinson is 80. Actor Warren Berlinger is 78. Rock musician Jerry Allison (Buddy Holly and the Crickets) is 76. Actor Jack Thompson is 75. Violinist Itzhak Perlman is 70. Singer Van Morrison is 70. Rock musician Rudolf Schenker (The Scorpions) is 67. Actor Richard Gere is 66. Olympic gold medal track and field athlete Edwin Moses is 60. Rock singer Glenn Tilbrook (Squeeze) is 58. Rock musician Gina Schock (The Go-Go's) is 58. Singer Tony DeFranco (The DeFranco Family) is 56. Rhythm-and-blues musician Larry Waddell (Mint

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Condition) is 52. Actor Jaime P. Gomez is 50. Baseball pitcher Hideo Nomo is 47. Rock musician Jeff Russo (Tonic) is 46. Singer-composer Deborah Gibson is 45. Rock musician Greg Richling (Wallflowers) is 45. Actor Zack Ward is 45. Golfer Padraig Harrington is 44. Actor Chris Tucker is 43. Actress Sara Ramirez is 40. Rhythm-and-blues singer Tamara (Trina & Tamara) is 38.

**Thought for Today:** "When you pray, rather let your heart be without words than your words without heart." - John Bunyan (1628-1688).