

Groton Daily Independent

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Service Notice: Ramona Rossow

Memorial services for Ramona Rossow, 75, of Groton will be 10 a.m., Friday, October 23 at the Presbyterian Church, Groton. The Rev. Terry Kenny will officiate. Inurnment will follow in Union Cemetery.

Visitation will be held on Thursday from 5-7 p.m. at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel in Groton.

Ramona died Sunday, October 18, 2015 at Golden Living Center in Groton.

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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Tuesday, October 20

School Breakfast: Breakfast bagel, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Mini corn dog, baked beans, fruit, carrots and dip.

Senior Menu: Roast pork, mashed potatoes and gravy, parsley buttered carrots, apple sauce, Molasses cookie, whole wheat bread.

Anniversary: Charity and Scott Hinman

Birthdays: Jackie Quiggle, Travis Kurth

9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Quilting

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

5:15pm: VB hosts Northwestern (7th/C at 5:15, 8th/JV at 6:30 followed by varsity)

Wednesday, October 21

School Breakfast: Pancake on a stick, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Taco salad, bread stick, fruit, tri potato.

Senior Menu: Hamburger with multigrain bun, coleslaw, baked beans, ice cream sundae.

Birthdays: Gary Heitmann • Mary Rix • Paige Harris • Jackie Hein • Kathleen Engel • Tony Lyren

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

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

12:30pm: Sixth Grade MathCounts at Warner

3:45pm: 3:45 pm: St. John's Lutheran Confirmation

6:45pm: Emmanuel Lutheran League

7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Confirmation

Thursday, October 22

END OF FIRST QUARTER

School Breakfast: Cereal, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Hamburgers, French fries, fruit, romaine salad.

Senior Menu: Lasagna rotini, tossed salad with dressing, Ambrosia fruit salad, oatmeal spice

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TJ: 605/380-7915
TreeLine Tree Service

THINKING ABOUT HEALTH

Seniors Face Higher Medicare Premiums, Deductibles Next Year

By Trudy Lieberman, Rural Health News Service

The last couple of weeks have brought unexpected and unwelcome news to millions of seniors and disabled people on Medicare. Their already high out-of-pocket costs are going to get higher. For some, premiums for Medicare Part B coverage that pays for doctor and outpatient services will go up as much as 52 percent. For everyone Part D premiums, which cover drug benefits, will increase an average of 13 percent, and everyone will see their annual Part B deductible rise from \$147 to \$223.

These are not trivial amounts considering that half of all people on Medicare are living on annual incomes of \$24,150 or less. In 2010 about 7 million people covered by the program lacked supplemental insurance such as Medigap policies, which cover what Medicare doesn't. By 2013 the number of people without the additional coverage had more than doubled, most likely because they couldn't afford to buy it.

What's going on here? Weren't Medicare's costs supposed to go down thanks to the Affordable Care Act?

These increases have nothing to do with Obamacare and everything to do with the laws governing Medicare and Social Security. Each year the Secretary of Health and Human Services examines the spending for Part B services which actually has risen this past year. By law premiums paid by everyone on Medicare must cover 25 percent of the program's cost. (General tax revenues cover 75 percent.) And each year the Social Security Administration determines the cost-of-living increases (COLA) for seniors based on the Consumer Price Index. There will be no increase for the coming year.

All this means about 30 percent of beneficiaries will see increases for Part B. Most people have their premiums deducted from their Social Security checks, but the law prohibits any Part B premium increase that would result in a reduction in their Social Security benefits. Without a COLA increase, a higher premium means a smaller Social Security check.

Because Medicare premiums must cover 25 percent of Part B costs, the government has to find the money somewhere. So four groups of people will have to shoulder the added financial burden.

They include those who begin receiving Medicare benefits in 2016, those over age 65 who are on Medicare but who have not taken their Social Security benefits yet; wealthier beneficiaries (individuals with incomes above \$85,000 and couples with \$170,000) and low-income people eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. State Medicaid programs pay those increases and they, too, are grumbling.

Increases in Part D premiums stem from higher costs for both brand and generic prescriptions and particularly for specialty drugs like Sovaldi to treat hepatitis C.

Will Congress fix these inequities and find other funds to protect everyone from these increases? "It's very hard to predict what Congress will do," says Tricia Newman, senior vice president at the Kaiser Family Foundation. Newman points out this year's higher premiums and deductibles may be temporary and are expected to come down in 2017.

The other day I explained all this on a New York City radio show along with Joe Baker who heads the Medicare Rights Center, which helps beneficiaries from all over the country understand their options. Callers on fixed incomes and tight budgets drove home the point: The increases will pinch. One woman told of a \$300 rent increase she had to absorb along with higher prices for food and medicines.

Another said her husband had cancer, and the family had been socked with high medical costs. She said they had to pay a \$3,000 deductible before insurance kicked in. Most likely she meant the requirement to pay \$3,000 out of pocket before her Medicare Advantage plan pays benefits. That's a common out-of-pocket limit for these types of plans. Even if she didn't label the source of the problem correctly, she knew the family budget was in trouble.

That led to a discussion of the how the COLA adjustment is calculated and whether it is fair to seniors because they spend money on a different market basket of goods than younger Americans do. They spend more on healthcare, for example, and less on gasoline, which is heavily factored into the cost-of-living calculations. But despite years of talk and experiments with a more accurate cost of living index for seniors, the government has yet to implement one.

Years ago healthcare expert Marilyn Moon, who served as a public trustee of the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds, urged Americans to save their money because they were going to need it for medical care when they got older. This year's situation shows how right she was.

How much do you pay for healthcare even with Medicare? Write to Trudy at trudy.lieberman@gmail.com.

Council gives okay to refinance and bond up to \$3 million

The Groton City Council approved a bond resolution refinancing the city's debt to the tune of up to \$3 million. The council will review the final numbers once all of the payoff amounts are received. Once the resolution is published, the city has to wait for 20 days in case someone wants to take the resolution to a vote of the people. Once that time period has passed, the council can move forward with the refinancing option.

The council grappled with the proposal presented by Paul Kosel, publisher of the Groton Daily Independent. He proposed live streaming the council meetings on-line through The CUBE. There were pros and cons about the proposal. "I probably could come in and just do it, but I would rather have your blessings on this," Kosel said. "I feel we need to work together on this and not buck heads."

Mayor Scott Hanlon said people are always welcome to come to the meeting. "If you want to be part of the meeting, you need to be here," he said.

"I could see this being a good thing," said Councilman Burt Glover. "But I think it's more for bigger cities. The interaction during the meeting is much different than the interaction tomorrow or the next day after someone has watched the meeting."

Councilmen Mary Flihs and Eddy Opp were opposed to the live stream. "We should just keep it the way it is," Opp said.

Councilman David Blackmun said he liked the idea of going live. "I like the idea of getting the discussion into the people's homes," he said. "It's technology."

Councilman Jay Peterson said he sided with those not in favor of it. "This is Groton and not Sioux Falls," he said. "I like the small town participation and to have people here to participate nose to nose."

Betty Breck was also at the meeting and she video taped that part of the meeting. She also presented cases in favor of live videoing. "I urge you to allow live videoing to get more public interaction," she said.

It was also said that someone may see something from the meeting on the video and they may decide to come to the next meeting to further discuss an issue, as a way to get more people involved.

The council took no action on the request.

The city is still waiting for a reply from the state on the status of the airport. Phone calls and emails have gone unanswered so there are no updates from the state. Councilman Eddy Opp said he was concerned about the airport if the inspector came now. "There are tall weeds on the border line and it has not been cultivated," he said. "I don't think he would like to see that if he came to inspect it right now."

Higher electric bills are on the way to the city. Heartland, WAPA and other electric companies in this part of the United States have joined the Southwest Power Pool. All wheeling charges that are being charged right now will be eliminated and all costs will be averaged and assessed to each entity. For Groton, that will see a wheeling rate increase from \$1.19 per KW to \$4.60 per KW. On a month where the city peaks at 3,000 KW, the city currently pays \$3,570 in wheeling charges. Under the new rate, it will be \$13,800. Heartland will absorb the increase from October, November and December, but starting in January of 2016, the wheeling charges will be added. The council will have to mull over what to do with the rate increase. City Finance Officer Anita Lowary said at the city's current financial condition, it cannot absorb those rate increases. Heartland will be hosting a meeting at the Groton American legion on November 18 to go over the rate increase.

The council was also given something else to chew on until the next meeting. What do to about overhead electrical services? One electrical customer incurred a charge of \$377 because of a downed electrical line and another customer incurred a \$150 charge because a tree was rubbing in the line creating sparks.

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The council reviewed the delinquent utility bills, which is about 3 percent. Many other towns are running around 7 percent.

City Attorney Drew Johnson talked about the forgiveness request of the Jack Dixon property where there is \$6,700 in curb and gutter/sidewalk special assessments on the property. Johnson said the improvement is there for the new owners to enjoy so the special assessment should stay.

The possibility of the city accepting credit cards for payments was discussed. Lowary said she is getting two to three requests per week on taking credit cards. It is something the council will consider after finding out what the fees will be and how to pass them along to the card holder.

A little lady is on her way!

It's a baby shower honoring
SYDNEY ERICKSON

.....
Saturday, October 24
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
1104 N 3rd St | Groton, SD
(2 blocks north of the park)
.....

Sydney is registered at Target



Planning an Eco-Friendly Home Renovation

By Nathaniel Sillin

Plenty of people are now putting the sun, wind and water to work to cut their energy bill. Should you join them?

Before any shift to renewable energy technology, you've got to do some very individualized research and above all, work the numbers.

Solar energy seems to be getting the most attention. You might have heard recent news reports about solar energy's sliding costs and rising support in Washington. A recent White House report (<https://www.whitehouse.gov>) noted that the average cost of a solar electric system has dropped by 50 percent since 2010 and that federal agencies are working to make it easier for lower-income taxpayers to borrow up to \$25,000 for solar and energy efficient home improvements.

And many are rushing to do installations by the current year-end 2016 expiration date for the 30 percent federal consumer energy efficiency tax credits (http://www.energystar.gov/about/federal_tax_credits) covering solar energy systems, small wind turbines and geothermal heat pumps.

How should you evaluate the cost of a renewable energy project? Consider these questions first:

Could incremental energy-saving projects be more practical? Start with baby steps. Before you decide on an expensive solar or other renewables project, see if smaller changes around the home could save money. You can improve the performance of heating and air conditioning systems and seal air leaks from windows, doors and other areas of the home. A do-it-yourself or professional energy audit (<http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/energy-audits>) might be a good first step in detecting energy waste.

What's going on locally? When it comes to renewable energy, geography matters, and not just for tax breaks and credits for systems. Generally, weather, temperature, wind and sun exposure measurements matter when you're choosing a particular project. For example, the Solar Energy Industries Association reports that solar installations are more common on the East and West Coasts, mainly because – that's because sun exposure is greater on the coasts than in the center of the country. State and local organizations dealing with renewables can offer guidance to cost, effectiveness, installation and many other issues you'll need to evaluate. A local evaluation of options is essential.

Do you really understand the technology? There is no doubt that technology is always evolving, and this is one of the reasons why solar and other renewable energy options are becoming cheaper. However, falling costs are one thing, but you need to fully understand what you're buying so you can hire the best people to install it and service the system over time. For the basics, a good place to start is the U.S. Department of Energy's [Energy.gov](http://energy.gov) site's renewable energy section.

Should you buy, lease or borrow? One of the drivers behind the recent growth in solar is a new generation of vendors who provide one-stop shopping, installation and billing for systems at little or no initial cost. These vendors facilitate both purchase by loan and lease options. As convenient as this option might be, watch for inflation clauses, fees and penalties that could drive you above what you're paying for conventional, utility-produced electricity.

How will it affect resale? There's a fair amount of debate as to whether green home improvements actually boost home prices. Also, many real estate experts have mixed opinions about how prospective buyers feel about purchasing a home with existing renewable energy equipment that's either been bought or leased.

Should I involve my financial and tax advisors? Whether you plan to buy, borrow or lease a system or do intermediary energy improvements around the home, talking to a qualified financial or tax advisor isn't just worthwhile, it's essential. It is also a good idea to speak with your homeowners insurance agent to see if your project will affect your coverage.

Bottom line: Want to save money while saving the planet? Do your homework and make sure an investment in renewable energy works for you.

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

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Today in Weather History

1770 - An exceedingly great storm struck eastern New England causing extensive coastal damage from Massachusetts to Maine, and the highest tide in 47 years. (David Ludlum)

1983 - Remnants of Pacific Hurricane Tico caused extensive flooding in central and south central Oklahoma. Oklahoma City set daily rainfall records with 1.45 inch on the 19th, and 6.28 inches on the 20th. (17th-21st) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Cold arctic air invaded the Upper Midwest, and squalls in the Lake Superior snowbelt produced heavy snow in eastern Ashland County and northern Iron County of Wisconsin. Totals ranged up to 18 inches at Mellen. In the western U.S., the record high of 69 degrees at Seattle WA was their twenty-fifth of the year, their highest number of record highs for any given year. Bakersfield CA reported a record 146 days in a row with daily highs 80 degrees or above. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Unseasonably warm weather continued in the western U.S. In California, afternoon highs of 96 degrees at Redding and Red Bluff were records for the date. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Forty-nine cities reported record low temperatures for the date as readings dipped into the 20s and 30s across much of the south central and southeastern U.S. Lows of 32 degrees at Lake Charles LA and 42 degrees at Lakeland FL were records for October, and Little Rock AR reported their earliest freeze of record. Snow blanketed the higher elevations of Georgia and the Carolinas. Melbourne FL dipped to 47 degrees shortly before midnight to surpass the record low established that morning. Showers and thunderstorms brought heavy rain to parts of the northeastern U.S. Autumn leaves on the ground clogged drains and ditches causing flooding. Up to 4.10 inches of rain soaked southern Vermont in three days. Flood waters washed 600 feet of railroad track, resulting in a train derailment. (The National Weather Summary)(Storm Data)



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**TJ Sperry:
380-7915**

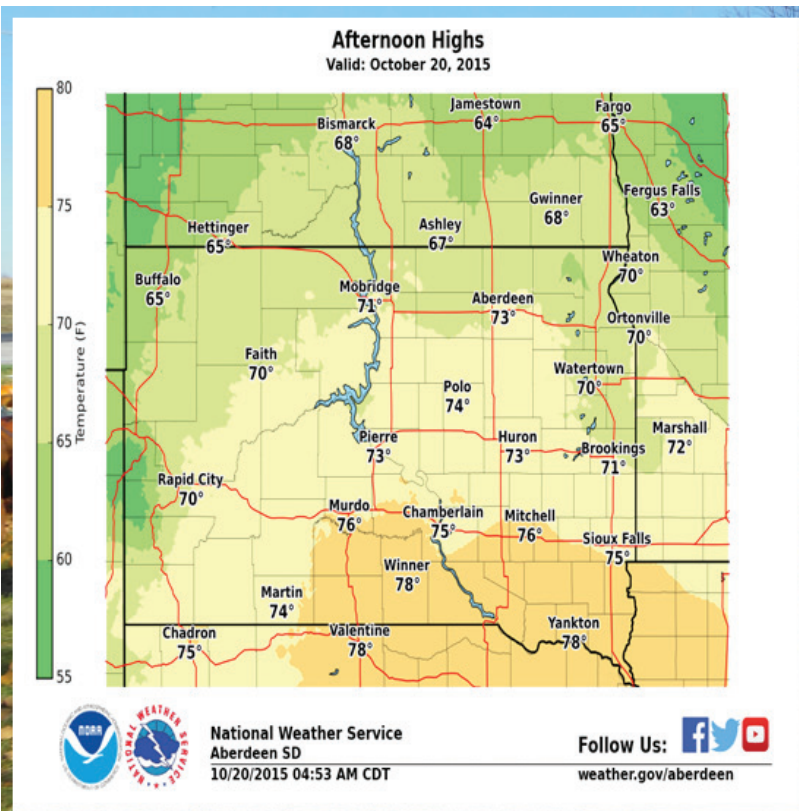
**Tyler Sperry:
216-8431**

Sperry Stump Removal

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Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
						
Partly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny then Slight Chance Rain	Rain	Rain Likely
High: 72 °F	Low: 44 °F	High: 63 °F	Low: 28 °F	High: 63 °F	Low: 44 °F	High: 56 °F



Mild Temperatures Continue

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

[weather.gov/Aberdeen](#) [f](#) National Weather Service Aberdeen [t](#) @NWSAberdeen | Updated: 10/20/2015 5:04 AM Central

Published on: 10/20/2015 at 5:06AM

Mild readings will continue Today - with temperatures back closer to average for the middle of the work week. The next opportunity for moisture comes late Thursday into Friday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 71.2 at 3:58 PM

Low: 46.9 at 7:19 AM

High Gust: 18 mph at 12:16 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 87° in 1947

Record Low: 12° in 1930

Average High: 56°F

Average Low: 31°F

Average Precip in Oct.: 1.43

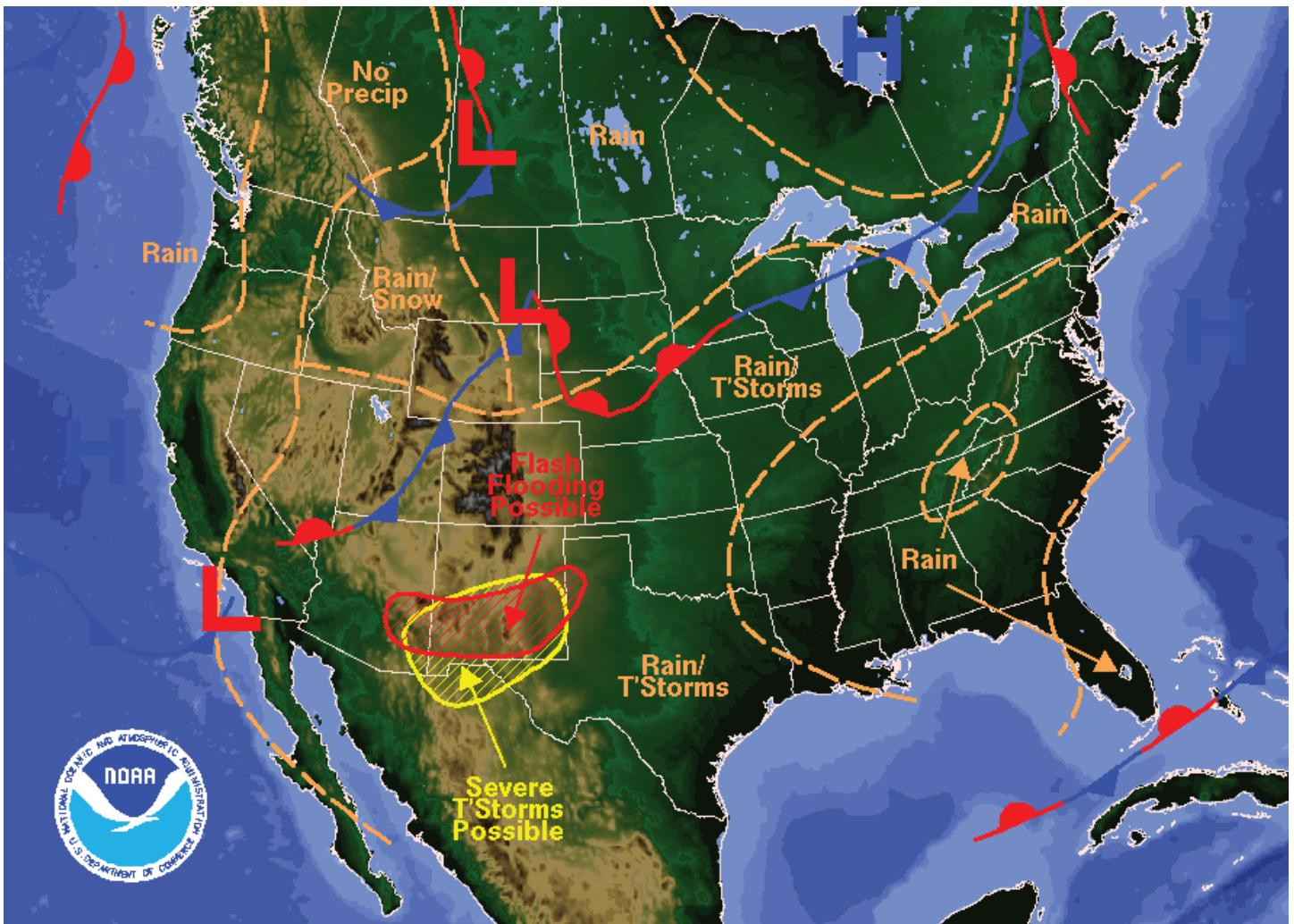
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 19.91

Precip Year to Date: 18.12

Sunset Tonight: 6:39 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:57 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Tue, Oct 20, 2015, issued 4:44 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



PRETZELS AND PRAYER

Years ago, there was a group of monks in the northern part of Italy who gathered a group of children together to teach them to pray. Each time the children learned a new prayer, they were given a gift as a reward.

One monk began to pray about the gifts he was giving the children. He wanted them to remind the children to pray. So, he decided to give the children a tasty item baked in his oven from unleavened bread. Rolling out a piece of dough, he carefully designed a pastry with three holes and a twist in the middle that represented two arms folded in prayer. He called it a "pretola" which means "little gift." It was eventually called a "pretzel" and has been enjoyed all over the world for 1300 years.

All of us have many opportunities to remind people of the importance of prayer. One thing we can do is to share God's answers to our prayers with others. Another thing we can do is to invite people to pray with us. We can also remind others of what God's Word teaches about prayer. Perhaps one day when eating a pretzel with a friend, we can share the story of the pretzel and remind them to pray whenever they see a pretzel.

Prayer: Help us, Lord, to realize the importance of prayer, to set an example in prayers and to teach others to pray. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Luke 18:1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

News from the Associated Press

Proposed ban on cellphone use by Sioux Falls drivers fails

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Sioux Falls City Council has rejected a ban on cellphone use while driving. Monday night's vote was 5-3 against banning motorists in the city from using hand-held electronic devices including cellphones.

Sioux Falls already bans texting while driving, but some believe that doesn't go far enough. City Councilwoman Michelle Erpenbach pushed for an expansion of the ban, saying talking on a hand-held phone while driving is just too dangerous.

Councilman Greg Jamison told the Argus Leader newspaper after the vote that "there hasn't been an outcry" for a cellphone ban.

Youth inmates missing from Custer facility apprehended

CUSTER, S.D. (AP) — Two teenagers who ran away from a youth correctional facility in western South Dakota are back in custody.

Corrections officials say authorities with the Pennington County Sheriff's Office apprehended the 15- and 16-year-old boys Monday evening near Hill City.

The boys went missing from the State Treatment and Rehabilitation Academy near Custer early Sunday.

Dakotas sunflower harvest well ahead of last year's pace

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota and North Dakota sunflower growers are well ahead of last year's harvest pace, with the percentages coming in right around the five-year average.

The National Sunflower Association says that 34 percent of the crop is harvested in South Dakota, well ahead of last year's pace of 11 percent and just ahead of the five-year average of 32 percent.

In North Dakota, 31 percent of the crop is harvested, well ahead of last year's pace of 10 percent and just ahead of the five-year average of 26 percent.

Seventy-eight percent of the South Dakota crop is reported in good to excellent condition. That number drops to 72 percent in North Dakota.

The association says that a hard freeze in the region last week should aid harvest progress.

Sioux Falls officials increase rates at city's public pools

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Sioux Falls City Council has decided to increase rates at the city's six outdoor pools and its new indoor aquatic center.

Council members voted unanimously Monday to raise daily admission, establish seasonal rates and only offer free passes at the new facility during the summer months.

Daily fees at the public pools will increase by \$1 annually over the next three years for children, adults and seniors. Annual season passes will start at \$60 for children, \$150 for adults and \$250 for families in 2016.

When the indoor aquatic center is complete, an annual pass for children will start at \$60 and increase by \$10 annually, while a pass for adults will start at \$120 and increase by \$25 annually.

Reduced rates will be offered to low-income families, seniors and veterans.

South Dakota state parks to host Halloween-themed events

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Several state parks in South Dakota will be hosting Halloween-themed events starting this weekend.

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department says Custer State Park will host one-mile guided night hikes on Friday and Saturday. The hikes will be along a path lit only by jack-o-lanterns.

Good Earth State Park near Sioux Falls will host a hike and dog costume contest on Saturday. Dogs must

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be on a leash, and prizes will be awarded for the best costume.

Richmond Lake Recreation Area will host a spooky night at the park Oct. 31. It will feature a scavenger hunt, coloring contest and hay rides.

Costumes are encouraged for the hikes but not required. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Officials accepting hazard mitigation grant applications

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota public safety officials say local governments and certain nonprofit organizations can now apply for \$440,000 in federal hazard mitigation grants.

The money is available as part of the presidential disaster declaration approved for a dozen counties and three tribes after June storms that are thought to have done \$4 million in damage to public property.

Officials are hosting two conference calls this week to discuss grant requirements.

Disaster funding rules mandate that a percentage of the money is set aside for projects that could reduce or eliminate the effects of future disasters.

Applications for the funds are due by May 1.

Monday's Scores The Associated Press

Volleyball

Andes Central/Dakota Christian def. Bridgewater-Emery, 25-16, 25-23, 25-12

Belle Fourche def. Spearfish, 18-25, 21-25, 25-23, 25-20, 15-13

Cheyenne-Eagle Butte def. Dupree, 25-21, 25-13, 25-12

Clark/Willow Lake def. Deubrook, 18-25, 25-21, 25-23, 28-26

Colman-Egan def. Flandreau Indian, 25-10, 25-14, 25-15

Colome def. St. Francis Indian, 25-16, 21-25, 25-23, 25-15

DeSmet def. Iroquois, 25-21, 25-10, 25-11

Ethan def. Avon, 17-25, 28-26, 25-22, 25-22

Eureka/Bowdle def. Edmunds Central, 25-6, 25-13, 25-17

Great Plains Lutheran def. Rosholt, 25-13, 25-23, 19-25, 25-16

Hanson def. Scotland, 25-16, 25-20, 25-16

Leola/Frederick def. Britton-Hecla, 25-20, 25-21, 25-17

Menno def. Centerville, 25-19, 25-20, 25-17

Miller def. Hitchcock-Tulare, 23-25, 26-24, 16-25, 25-21, 15-13

Oelrichs def. Edgemont, 25-17, 25-20, 25-19

Potter County def. Mobridge-Pollock, 25-17, 25-19, 25-23

Sanborn Central/Woonsocket def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-14, 25-9, 25-21

Sioux Falls Lincoln def. Sioux Falls Washington, 25-23, 18-25, 20-25, 25-23, 16-14

Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Yankton, 25-12, 25-15, 25-9

Waverly-South Shore def. Langford, 25-14, 25-22, 25-11

Defendants still protesting convictions in wind farm fraud

BEN NEARY, Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — Two defendants who pleaded guilty in 2013 in a case involving investments in nonexistent wind farms in Wyoming and South Dakota are continuing efforts aimed at overturning their convictions.

Lauren Elizabeth Scott of Morgan, Utah, is serving a prison sentence of nearly five years after pleading guilty to charges of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and money laundering.

Scott filed a federal lawsuit in Wyoming this month claiming federal officials trumped up the charges to justify seizing her assets.

Scott, who is serving her sentence at a federal prison in California, argues in her lawsuit that the term of the federal grand jury that considered the case against her and other defendants had expired by the

time she was indicted.

She claims state and federal law enforcement officers improperly obtained evidence and that no investors had missed an anticipated payment before federal prosecutors brought charges.

Prosecutors with the U.S. attorney's office in Cheyenne responded to Scott's new lawsuit by noting that she's already failed in earlier appeals and that she shouldn't get to file another one.

Scott's brother, Robert Arthur Reed, also has filed repeated appeals of his 12-year federal prison sentence with the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals, maintaining the grand jury that indicted him and others in the case was improper and that no actual crime had been committed. Federal prosecutors oppose the appeals of Reed, who is serving his sentence in Texas.

Scott and Reed are not represented by lawyers.

Federal prosecutors filed a lengthy brief Monday with the U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver urging it to reject four separate appeals Reed has pending with the court.

It said Reed should not have entered a guilty plea if he wants to challenge the legitimacy of the indictment or the integrity of prosecutors.

John Powell, spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office in Cheyenne, said his office had no further comment on the legal challenges.

Prosecutors maintain that investors lost more than \$4.4 million in the scam after being told they had to make a minimum investment of \$25,000.

Prosecutors said Scott, Reed and other co-defendants used aliases for themselves and for the companies involved in the scheme — Mountain State Power Group, Mountain State Power and Sovereign Energy Partners.

Court records show the scam involved acquiring land near Casper and in Butte County, South Dakota, to satisfy investors that the projects were moving forward with construction of wind farms. Organizers put up signs at the South Dakota site and took pictures of contractors they hired to push dirt around to make it appear construction was ongoing.

At the 2013 sentencing hearing for Reed, U.S. District Judge Scott Skavdahl of Casper read letters from elderly victims without giving their names.

The judge said some stated they had retired early and left jobs where they had health insurance based on promises of high rates of return from their investment in wind farms that were never built. He said they all lost all their money.

The judge quoted from one elderly woman's letter: "I think these guys are more cruel than if they had just gone ahead and killed me."

Keystone XL opponents continue push to overturn pipeline law

GRANT SCHULTE, Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska landowners who oppose the Keystone XL pipeline are still trying to overturn a state law that allowed the governor to approve the project route, even though pipeline developer TransCanada is no longer relying on it.

Pipeline opponents said Monday they're concerned that companies could use the law in the future to avoid a five-member state commission that regulates pipelines, opting instead for a governor's review and blessing.

Their comments came after a court hearing in O'Neill over a lawsuit filed by landowners, seeking to dismantle the law. A judge could rule on the case as early as next month.

Attorneys for TransCanada are trying to get the lawsuit dismissed after the company announced that it was withdrawing its eminent domain claims against landowners and reapplying to the regulatory Nebraska Public Service Commission.

"Our focus is entirely on moving forward with the (commission) process and building the Keystone XL route in Nebraska in the most timely way possible," TransCanada spokesman Mark Cooper said in an email after the hearing.

Former Gov. Dave Heineman approved a Nebraska route for the Keystone XL in 2013 after a review by

the state Department of Environmental Quality.

But the 2012 law that gave him the power to do so has been mired in court, preventing the project from moving forward and contributing to delays from Washington. The pipeline plan also requires presidential as well as state approval because it crosses an international border.

In January, the Nebraska Supreme Court allowed the pipeline-siting law to stand by default. Four judges on the seven-member court ruled in favor of landowners who challenged the law, but a super-majority of five was needed.

The remaining three judges refused to rule on the law, arguing that they couldn't because the plaintiffs in the lawsuit didn't have legal standing. Opponents responded by filing a nearly identical lawsuit, the one heard in court Monday, with landowners who were directly affected. Legal experts have suggested the law is likely to be struck down when it returns to the state's high court.

The pipeline would travel from Canada through Montana and South Dakota to Nebraska, where it would connect with existing pipelines to carry more than 800,000 barrels of crude oil a day to refineries along the Texas Gulf Coast.

Current Gov. Pete Ricketts met with landowners earlier this month, but said afterward that he still supports the pipeline.

Jane Kleeb, leader of the anti-pipeline group Bold Nebraska, said state officials shouldn't allow companies to choose which regulators get to review a pipeline project.

"We think there should be only one pipeline (approval) path, or we're going to have the exact mess in the future that we're watching right now," she said. "You can go through one or the other, but you can't choose both."

One affected landowner, Susan Straka of Stuart, said she wants the law invalidated to prevent the kind of drawn-out legal dispute that dogged her family from affecting others.

"Eight years we've been fighting this," she said. "And it's getting really, really old."

SD driver dies after losing control of SUV, hitting tree

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota driver is dead after he lost control of his sport utility vehicle and hit a tree Sunday night.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol on Monday said the 33-year-old man was driving a 1999 Chevrolet Suburban eastbound on Milwaukee Avenue in Aberdeen, when he lost control while negotiating a curve and hit a tree around 8 p.m. Sunday.

The Highway Patrol says the man was not wearing a seatbelt and was pronounced dead at the scene. He has not been publicly identified pending notification of his family.

The Highway Patrol says the incident remains under investigation.

Sex trafficking sting in central South Dakota nets 1 arrest

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man is facing a sex trafficking charge after authorities accused him of attempting to solicit sex from a person he believed to be a minor.

The office of South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley says 34-year-old Joseph Raleigh, of Miller, has been charged with one count of attempted commercial sex trafficking.

The Capital Journal reports Raleigh was arrested Friday after he allegedly answered an advertisement placed by a law enforcement task force on a classified advertising website.

Jackley's office says Raleigh's arrest was the result of weekend joint operation between state, federal and local officials in the Pierre area.

Raleigh faces a mandatory sentence of 10 years in prison if convicted. It wasn't immediately clear if he has an attorney who could comment on the charge.

Feds notify SD of intent to end EB-5 program participation

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A U.S. immigration agency intends to terminate South Dakota's scandal-ridden participation in a program for recruiting wealthy foreign investors for projects in exchange for green cards because of problems with administration of the program.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services determined that South Dakota's regional center for the EB-5 visa program isn't promoting economic growth and said administrators have failed to submit required information to the agency, according to the Sept. 28 notification. The state has until the end of the month to respond.

It's the latest turn in a complicated scandal that has included state and federal investigations and an inquiry into the suicide of a former government official accused of contributing to its mismanagement. The management of the program also became a distraction for now-U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds during his campaign last year.

The notification cites conflicting information in federal filings that leaves \$5 million in EB-5 funds unaccounted for; paying expenses with funds intended to create jobs; and the diversion of about \$1.7 million intended for a South Dakota beef plant to a Cyprus-based holding company for two Russian firms involved in railway transportation and the repair of railroad rolling stock.

Many of the questions raised in an agency inquiry into the South Dakota regional center, detailed in the notification, concern the management of the program under Joop Bollen, who oversaw the program as a public employee and as part of SDRC Inc., a private company that he founded. The state ended its contract with SDRC in 2013, and administration of the program went to the state.

But the federal agency says the South Dakota program's pattern of incorrect and inconsistent filings hasn't ended with new management.

Tony Venhuizen, chief of staff to Gov. Dennis Daugaard, said in an email that the agency questions the accuracy of reports since SDRC's departure "because they built upon information SDRC had reported."

Venhuizen said the state hired an immigration law firm for advice on how to move forward. The state also filed a complaint last week in state court against SDRC in part to compel it to turn over all documentation about its management of the program. Bollen said in written testimony to a legislative oversight committee in 2014 that he gave the state EB-5 documents when the contract to run the regional center was canceled.

South Dakota was one of the states that led the way in EB-5 financing under Bollen and former cabinet secretary Richard Benda. Attorney General Marty Jackley was ready to file felony theft charges and seek an indictment against Benda days before authorities say he killed himself with a shotgun in October 2013. The investigation stemmed from allegations that Benda double-billed the state for flights and redirected \$550,000 in economic development money for his own use.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation announced in June that it had ended an investigation into the program in South Dakota and that the state's U.S. Attorney would not pursue any prosecution.

Bollen headed the EB-5 program for the state when he was in charge of the South Dakota International Business Institute at Northern State University. The program was privatized in 2009 and turned over to SDRC, a company Bollen had founded and for which he served as president, until the state took over management in 2013.

Bollen, reached at his home Sunday evening, declined to comment.

There haven't been any new EB-5 projects since the state took over in 2013, Venhuizen said. Since then, the state has filed annual reports relying on what he called SDRC's incomplete records.

Among detail in the federal agency notification:

—Northern Beef Packers Limited Partnership, a business formed to build a beef plant in South Dakota using EB-5 investment, wired about \$1.7 million in three separate payments to an offshore account held by Ultracare Holdings Limited, a Cyprus-based holding company for two Russian rail-related firms. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services said it wasn't clear how Russian rail transportation relates to the construction and operation of a beef plant in South Dakota.

—The agency alleged that Bollen facilitated Northern Beef Packers' purchase of a firm incorporated in

the British Virgin Islands. The company, called Epoch Star Limited, agreed in March 2010 to loan \$30 million to Northern Beef Packers with an interest rate of 29 percent. A 2011 Northern Beef Packers business plan called the terms of the loan "bordering on usury."

—In July 2010, Northern Beef Packers received \$2.85 million in bridge financing from Epoch Star and in several months had spent more than \$7.4 million of EB-5 funds for the financing, including more than \$4.5 million in fees and interest.

—In November 2010, Northern Beef Packers "ostensibly to escape the burden of servicing the debt owed to (the company)," bought Epoch Star for \$5.14 million. The notice says SDRC "oversaw and arguably orchestrated this diversion of investor funds."

Jackley leads delegation of attorneys general on Taiwan trip

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A delegation of attorneys general from across the U.S. led by South Dakota's top prosecutor recently traveled to Taiwan to discuss various criminal justice issues.

South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley is the president of the National Association of Attorneys General. He says the U.S. and Taiwan face similar challenges in protecting "communities from the same addictions and violent crimes such as human trafficking."

The delegation visited Taiwan Oct. 12-17. The topics that the American prosecutors discussed with Taiwanese officials included addiction, human trafficking and the economic partnerships between the U.S. and the island in east Asia.

The delegation included the attorneys general of Florida, New Hampshire, Montana and Georgia.

Jackley's office says the trip takes place every two years and is paid for by the Taiwanese government.

Official: Federal agency approves change to GEAR UP grant

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A state official says the federal government has approved South Dakota's request to have the Board of Regents manage a college-readiness grant under scrutiny after an apparent murder-suicide.

Tony Venhuizen is chief of staff to Gov. Dennis Daugaard. Venhuizen says the U.S. Department of Education has notified the state of the approved change.

The GEAR UP grant aims to improve Native American college readiness in South Dakota. Its future had been uncertain since the state declined to renew its contract with Mid-Central Educational Cooperative for program administration.

Authorities believe Mid-Central employee Scott Westerhuis shot his wife and four children last month before shooting himself. That was just hours after the state informed Mid-Central it was losing its most recent contract.

A federal Education Department spokesman didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

Dakotas ranch owned by Florida man fails to sell at auction

MOBRIDGE, S.D. (AP) — A bison ranch in the Dakotas that has been a source of frustration for other ranchers in the area failed to sell at auction over the weekend.

The auction Saturday of the 20,000-acre ranch in Mobridge owned by Florida real estate tycoon Maurice Wilder drew a total of about \$17 million in bids from two buyers, but Wilder nixed the deals, according to The Bismarck Tribune.

"He's stuck on a higher number," said bison rancher David Meier of Flasher, North Dakota, who offered more than \$12 million for about \$15,000 acres.

Wilder had told the Capital Journal in Pierre last month that he wouldn't sell the ranch if it didn't bring what he wanted, though he didn't give a figure. Ranch land in South Dakota has been selling for as much as \$1,000 per acre over the past year, fueled by recent high cattle prices, according to the newspaper.

The ranch straddles the North Dakota-South Dakota border. Neighbors for years have complained about

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Wilder's bison getting out of fences, damaging hay stacks and pastures and creating road hazards. Wilder, who has owned the ranch for 21 years, told the Journal that he's tired of the complaints and the hassles of running a ranch on the Northern Plains, where winters can be harsh.

Meier told the Tribune that he was frustrated with the outcome of the auction.

"It's a lot of effort to go through and then nothing happens," he said.

Wilder sold another South Dakota ranch to media mogul Ted Turner about a decade ago, but Turner was not among the bidders Saturday.

Powerball ticket sold in Black Hawk worth \$150,000

BLACK HAWK, S.D. (AP) — A Powerball ticket sold in Black Hawk is worth \$150,000.

South Dakota lottery officials say the ticket matched four of five white ball numbers and the Powerball in Saturday's drawing to win the game's \$50,000 third prize, and an option purchased for an additional dollar tripled the amount.

Winning numbers are 48, 49, 57, 62 and 69, and the Powerball is 19.

The odds of winning the third prize are 1 in about 913,000. The winner has about six months to claim the prize.

Powerball is played in 44 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The jackpot is at \$90 million for the next drawing, on Wednesday.

Authorities identify man killed in crash near Bridgewater

BRIDGEWATER, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified a 28-year-old man who died after the pickup he was driving collided with a semitrailer near Bridgewater.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says Benjamin Tollefson of Parkston was driving along state Highway 42 on Friday afternoon when his pickup crossed the center line and hit the truck, which was carrying a harvesting combine on its trailer.

The 26-year-old driver of the semi wasn't injured. The two drivers were the only people involved in the crash. Both drivers were wearing seatbelts.

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. NEW LEADER IN CANADA WITH FAMILIAR NAME - TRUDEAU

The Liberal party's Justin Trudeau, the son of the former prime minister, sweeps to a stunning victory as voters end 10 years of Stephen Harper's Conservative rule.

2. WHO IS COMING ON SURPRISE VISIT TO ISRAEL, PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is traveling to the region to try and bring an end to the monthlong wave of violence.

3. ELDERLY KOREANS TEARFULLY CELEBRATE REUNIONS ACROSS DMZ

One South Korean woman has reunited with her husband after 65 years of separation by war and a heavily fortified border. KOREAS-DIVIDED FAMILIES

4. OSCAR PISTORIUS AT HOME WITH HIS FAMILY

The double-amputee Olympic runner is released from jail to move to house arrest for the remaining four years of his five-year sentence for killing girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp.

5. RUSSIANS SUPPORT AIRSTRIKES IN SYRIA, DESPITE AFGHAN LEGACY

The sentiment is widespread across Russia, despite haunting memories of the humiliating Soviet adventure in Afghanistan.

6. WHAT REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES HAVE TO JUGGLE

They are trying to mount an all-consuming campaign and still have time for the day job that voters elected them to do.

7. SLOVENIA ACCUSES CROATIA OF LACK OF CONTROL ON MIGRANT SURGE

"The pressure of immigrants arriving from Croatia is intensifying," the Slovenian government says in a statement.

8. MONARCHS GET HELP FROM UNLIKELY SOURCE

In California's drought, the struggling butterfly species is helped by suburban homeowners who are dotting their new drought-tolerant landscapes with milkweed that serve as places for egg-laying.

9. HOW TO SPOT FAKE ONLINE REVIEW

Beware of overly enthusiastic or negative feedback, recommendations that read like product manuals, and check out reviewer profiles.

10. RYNO, SARGE AND DOCTOR K

Long before squaring off in this year's NL Championship Series, the New York Mets and Chicago Cubs went head-to-head during a star-studded pennant race in 1984.

AP News in Brief

Son of late PM Pierre Trudeau becomes prime minister as Liberals defeat Harper's Conservatives

TORONTO (AP) — Canadian voters emphatically reclaimed their country's liberal identity, putting Justin Trudeau, the youthful son of one of the country's most dynamic politicians, in the prime minister's office, and ending 10 years of leadership by Stephen Harper, whose dream was to recast Canada as a more conservative country.

The victory in Monday's election by Trudeau's Liberal Party was stunning. The Liberals were on a path to win at least 184 seats out of 338 - a parliamentary majority that will allow Trudeau to govern without relying on other parties. Harper's Conservatives were winning 100. The Liberals received 39.5 percent of the overall vote compared to 32 percent for the Conservatives and 19.6 for the New Democrats.

Harper, one of the longest-serving Western leaders, will step down as Conservative leader, the party announced as the scope of its loss became apparent.

Trudeau's victory could result in improved ties with the United States, at least for the remainder of Barack Obama's presidency. Harper was frustrated by Obama's reluctance to approve the Keystone XL pipeline from Alberta to Texas and clashed with the president on other issues, including the Iran nuclear deal. Although Trudeau supports the Keystone pipeline, he argues relations should not hinge on the project.

Trudeau is the son of the late Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, who swept to office in 1968 on a wave of support dubbed "Trudeaumania." He was prime minister until 1984 with a short interruption and remains one of the few Canadian politicians known in America, his charisma often drawing comparisons to John F. Kennedy.

Son of a man who brought glamor and excitement to Canadian politics becomes next PM

TORONTO (AP) — Justin Trudeau has fulfilled the great expectations he was born into, following in the footsteps of his storied father to become Canada's next prime minister.

Now, he has the chance to restore the late Pierre Trudeau's Liberal legacy, which has been under siege during 10 years of Conservative rule under Stephen Harper.

Justin Trudeau's Liberal Party won a resounding victory in Monday's election, gaining an outright parliamentary majority.

More than 40 years ago, no less than the most powerful man on the planet predicted the younger Trudeau's destiny.

"Tonight we'll dispense with the formalities. I'd like to toast the future prime minister of Canada: to Justin Pierre Trudeau," Richard Nixon said during a state dinner in Ottawa hosted by Pierre Trudeau in 1972.

UN chief to make surprise visit to Israel and Palestinian territories amid wave of violence

JERUSALEM (AP) — U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon will make a surprise visit to Israel and the Palestinian territories on Tuesday, in a high-profile gambit to bring an end to the monthlong wave of violence that has plagued the region.

The visit comes amid unrest that erupted in Jerusalem a month ago over tensions surrounding a Jerusalem holy site sacred to Jews and Muslims. It soon spread to Arab neighborhoods of east Jerusalem and then to the West Bank, Gaza and Israel. The spate of daily attacks have caused panic across Israel and raised fears that the region is on the cusp of a new round of heavy violence.

The violence continued Tuesday as a 24-year-old Palestinian stabbed an Israeli military officer in the West Bank and lightly wounded him, before Israeli forces shot and killed the assailant, according to the Israeli military and Palestinian health officials.

The Israeli army said the attack took place in the village of Beit Awwa near Hebron during a "violent riot" of Palestinian demonstrators.

Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad Malki told Palestinian radio that Ban, who is currently in Europe, will arrive later Tuesday and meet with both sides. Ban will meet with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli President Reuven Rivlin, the two leaders' offices said.

Elderly Koreans celebrate reunions across DMZ, 1st between rival nations in more than year

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Hundreds of mostly elderly Koreans — some in wheelchairs or leaning on walking sticks, most overcome by tears, laughter and shock — began three days of reunions Tuesday with loved ones many have had no contact with since war divided the North and South more than 60 years ago.

About 390 South Koreans traveled to the North's scenic Diamond Mountain resort. Dressed in business suits, formal dresses and traditional hanbok, they brought long johns, medicine, parkas, calligraphy works and cash to give as presents to about 140 family members in the North.

The reunions, as always, are a mixture of high emotion and media frenzy. Journalists crowded around South Korean Lee Soon-kyu, 85, as she met with her North Korean husband, Oh Se In, 83. As camera flashes bathed them in glaring white light, she cocked her head and looked with amazement at Oh, who wore a dapper suit and hat and craned backward to take in Lee.

The images are broadcast throughout South Korea, where the reunions are big news. North Korea's government, which analysts believe worries that scenes of affluent South Koreans might influence its grip on power, had not published any reports hours after the reunions began.

The deep emotions stem partly from the elderly reuniting after decades spent apart, partly from the knowledge that this will be their only chance. None of the past participants has had a second reunion.

Oscar Pistorius at uncle's mansion after being moved at night from jail to house arrest

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Oscar Pistorius is with members of his family at his uncle's multi-story mansion Tuesday after being released from prison and moved to house arrest a day earlier than expected, a spokeswoman for the Olympic athlete said.

"Oscar is here, and Oscar is at home with the family," spokeswoman Anneliese Burgess said, addressing dozens of reporters outside Arnold Pistorius' luxurious home in an upmarket suburb of South Africa's capital Pretoria. "The family is happy that Oscar is at home," Burgess said.

Pistorius, the double-amputee runner who fatally shot girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp in 2013, was moved from a central Pretoria jail on Monday night when he had been expected to be released on Tuesday.

He has served a year of his five-year sentence for manslaughter for killing Steenkamp. Under South

African law, he is eligible to serve the remainder under correctional supervision, a form of house arrest. The decision to release Pistorius, 28, a day earlier was only communicated to his family at short-notice, Burgess said. Confirming Pistorius' release, South Africa's Department of Corrections said that the decision over when and how an offender is released is made by the prison.

Russians support airstrikes in Syria, despite haunting memories of quagmire in Afghanistan

KUBINKA, Russia (AP) — A vast workshop that upgrades warplanes of the kind Russia is using in Syria is this town's lifeblood, and support for the Syria campaign is strong.

"We've extended a helping hand and that's how it should be," said 70-year-old Tamara Vlasenko, a resident of the town 65 kilometers (40 miles) outside Moscow. "Those who started the conflict will pay handsomely, as they should."

Like Vlasenko, more than 70 percent of Russians support President Vladimir Putin's decision to begin airstrikes, which Russia says are directed against the Islamic State extremist group, according to a poll from the independent Levada Center.

Although many Russians are still unsettled by the grisly and humiliating Soviet involvement in Afghanistan in the 1980s, the new foreign military campaign doesn't faze Kubinka's people.

"I don't think Syria will turn into another Afghanistan for Russia," said Tatiana Okhabkino, 43, bouncing her 7-month-old granddaughter on her lap. "I'm not too worried it will affect my grandchildren, or even my children. I really believe in our president. He knows what he is doing."

Campaign travel trips up some Republican candidates juggling day jobs as governor, senator

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — As Republican Gov. John Kasich travels the country in a quest for the presidency, his people back home want Ohioans to know that he's still focused on his day job. As his spokesman put it: "his cellphone works just as well in Cincinnati, Iowa, as it works in Cincinnati, Ohio."

But is he just phoning it in? That's a question every officeholder running for the presidency faces.

Rivals have hit Florida's Marco Rubio with mounting criticism over his spotty attendance record in the Senate.

The freshman senator has missed 31 percent of the votes this year, including every vote held so far in October. That's more than any of the other three senators competing for the GOP nomination.

Kasich, one of three governors vying for the White House, has held just three public events in Ohio since joining the race nearly three months ago. Like his rivals, he's been tromping through the early voting states of New Hampshire, South Carolina, Iowa and more.

Slovenia accuses Croatia of lack of control on migrant surge as thousands arrive daily

BREZICE, Slovenia (AP) — Slovenia accused Croatia on Tuesday of sending thousands of migrants toward its borders "without control," ignoring requests to contain the surge.

While Slovenia has said it can handle only 2,500 migrants a day, Slovenia's police said that some 8,300 migrants seeking to head toward Western Europe were currently in reception centers in the small country, with thousands more arriving.

Police in riot gear surrounded hundreds of migrants in a muddy field near the border village of Rigonce, from where they were to be escorted on foot to an already overcrowded reception center some 15 kilometers (9 miles) away.

"The pressure of immigrants arriving from Croatia is intensifying," the Slovenian government said in a statement. "They send immigrants toward Slovenia without control, deliberately dispersed."

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Croatia did not seem ready to slow the flow. On Tuesday morning, a train carrying more than 1,000 migrants from the town of Tovarnik and some 20 buses full of migrants from the Opatovac refugee camp were headed toward the Slovenian border.

Report: Apple says it has 15 million users on streaming-music service

NEW YORK (AP) — Apple Inc. says it has 15 million users on its streaming-music service, including 6.5 million paying subscribers.

Speaking at WSJLive, The Wall Street Journal's global technology conference, Apple CEO Tim Cook said the company has 6.5 million paying customers for Apple Music and 8.5 million customers on three-month trials.

The newspaper says (<http://on.wsj.com/1LAy1Mz><http://on.wsj.com/1LAy1Mz>) in a report from Laguna Beach, California, posted early Tuesday on its website that Apple launched Apple Music on June 30 and offered every user a three-month trial period.

The Journal reports that after the trial period, users pay \$9.99 a month for individual subscriptions or \$14.99 for families. The first batch of customers came off the trial period at the end of September.

Cook says consumers are responding positively to one of the main differentiating features of its service: human curation of playlists.

Ryno, Sarge and Doctor K: A look back at memorable NL East race between Mets and Cubs in '84

NEW YORK (AP) — Way before wild cards and "Moneyball," before instant replay and interleague games, before the Chicago Cubs had endured seven painful decades without a single stinkin' pennant, the dubious drought was more akin to a mid-life crisis: 39 years old.

It was 1984 and apparently anything was possible, according to George Orwell.

Even at Wrigley Field.

Especially at Wrigley Field.

As summer heated up and the sun finally shined on Chicago, the old town was all abuzz about its baseball team on the North Side. Ryno Sandberg and Rick Sutcliffe had the Cubs steaming toward their first winning season in 12 years, seemingly primed to stop those two infamous streaks at long, long last.

Today in History **The Associated Press**

Today is Tuesday, October 20, the 293rd day of 2015. There are 72 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On October 20, 1965, in one of the more colorful moments of his presidency, Lyndon B. Johnson, recovering from gall bladder surgery at Bethesda Naval Medical Center, pulled up his shirt and jacket to show off his abdominal scar to reporters and photographers. (Although critics were appalled by the display, Johnson later said he was trying to dispel rumors that he'd actually been operated on for cancer.)

On this date:

In 1714, the coronation of Britain's King George I took place in Westminster Abbey.

In 1803, the U.S. Senate ratified the Louisiana Purchase.

In 1914, "Stay Down Here Where You Belong," an antiwar song by Irving Berlin, was published by Waterson, Berlin & Snyder Co. in New York.

In 1936, Helen Keller's teacher, Anne Sullivan Macy, died in Forest Hills, New York, at age 70.

In 1944, during World War II, Gen. Douglas MacArthur stepped ashore at Leyte (LAY'-tee) in the Phil-

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ippines, 2 1/2 years after saying, "I shall return." A series of gas storage tank explosions and fires in Cleveland killed 130 people.

In 1947, the House Un-American Activities Committee opened hearings into alleged Communist influence and infiltration in the U.S. motion picture industry.

In 1964, the 31st president of the United States, Herbert C. Hoover, died in New York at age 90.

In 1968, former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy married Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis.

In 1973, in the so-called "Saturday Night Massacre," special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox was dismissed and Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson and Deputy Attorney General William B. Ruckelshaus resigned.

In 1981, a bungled armored truck robbery carried out by members of radical groups in Nanuet, New York, left a guard and two police officers dead.

In 1990, three members of the rap group 2 Live Crew were acquitted by a jury in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, of violating obscenity laws with an adults-only concert in nearby Hollywood the previous June.

In 2011, Moammar Gadhafi, 69, Libya's dictator for 42 years, was killed as revolutionary fighters overwhelmed his hometown of Sirte (SURT) and captured the last major bastion of resistance two months after his regime fell.

Ten years ago: U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay turned himself in at the sheriff's office in Travis County, Texas, where he was fingerprinted, photographed and released on \$10,000 bail on conspiracy and money-laundering charges. (DeLay was convicted in 2010, but had his convictions overturned on appeal.) A defense lawyer in Saddam Hussein's mass murder trial was abducted from his office and found murdered hours later. Jazz pianist and vocalist Shirley Horn died in Washington, D.C. at age 71.

Five years ago: Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (ah-muh-DEE'-neh-zahhd) and visiting Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez hailed what they called their strong strategic relationship, saying they were united in efforts to establish a "new world order" that would eliminate Western dominance over global affairs. NPR fired news analyst Juan Williams after he talked about feeling nervous on airline flights with people in Muslim attire during an interview on Fox News Channel. Bob Guccione, 79, founder of Penthouse magazine, died in Plano, Texas.

One year ago: The White House said former Nazis should not have been collecting Social Security benefits as they aged overseas as it responded to an Associated Press investigation that revealed millions of dollars had been paid to war-crimes suspects and former SS guards forced out of the U.S. Police investigating the slayings of seven northwestern Indiana women said they believed it was the work of a serial killer. (Suspect Darren Vann has been charged with two deaths; police said he has confessed to all seven slayings.) New York's Metropolitan Opera opened "The Death of Klinghoffer" amid protests that the work glorified Palestinian terrorists. Fashion designer Oscar de la Renta, 82, died in Kent, Connecticut. Rene Burri, 81, a Swiss photographer best known for his black-and-white portraits of Communist revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara and painter Pablo Picasso, died in Zurich.

Today's Birthdays: Actor William Christopher is 83. Japan's Empress Michiko is 81. Rockabilly singer Wanda Jackson is 78. Former actress Rev. Mother Dolores Hart is 77. Singer Tom Petty is 65. Actor William "Rusty" Russ is 65. Actress Melanie Mayron is 63. Actor Bill Nunn is 63. Retired MLB All-Star Keith Hernandez is 62. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., is 60. Movie director Danny Boyle is 59. Former Labor Secretary Hilda Solis is 58. Actor Viggo Mortensen is 57. Rock musician Jim Sonefeld (Hootie & The Blowfish) is 51. Rock musician David Ryan is 51. Rock musician Doug Eldridge (Oleander) is 48. Political commentator and blogger Michelle Malkin is 45. Actor Kenneth Choi is 44. Rapper Snoop Lion (formerly Snoop Dogg) is 44. Singer Dannii Minogue is 44. Singer Jimi Westbrook (country group Little Big Town) is 44. Country musician Jeff Loberg is 39. Actor Sam Witwer is 38. Actor John Krasinski is 36. Rock musician Daniel Tichenor (Cage the Elephant) is 36. Actress Katie Featherston is 33. Actress Jennifer Nicole Freeman is 30.

Thought for Today: "Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit." - Conrad Hilton, American hotelier (1887-1979).