

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 1 of 34

- 1- Groton Ford ad
- 1- Recycling Trailers in Groton
- 1- Davies Bridal Shower
- 1- Today's Information
- 2- Upcoming events on gdilive.com
- 2- Golden LivingCenter Help Wanted Ad
- 3- Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling
- 3- Petition deadline is Feb. 26th
- 3- Kiwanis Potato Bar Feed
- 4- Township Meeting Notices
- 5- Feb. 8 School Board Minutes
- 6 - Kumla dinner planned in Groton
- 7- School Land Lease Auction
- 7- Heartland offers financing
- 8- McCranie joins Hungry for Truth Initiative
- 9- Heartland Letter to the Editor
- 10 - Today in Weather History
- 10- Livestreaming Weddings Ad
- 11- Local Weather Forecast
- 12- National Weather Map
- 12- Local Weather
- 13- Daily Devotional
- 14 - News from the Associated Press

Davies Bridal Shower

Open house bridal shower for Traci Davies will be held Saturday, February 20, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Groton. The bride is registered at Target.

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**

© 2015 Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, February 18

State FFA Proficiency Judging at Webster
School Breakfast: Breakfast bagel, fruit, juice, milk.

School Menu: Super nachos, refried beans, lettuce, fruit.

Senior Menu: Sweet and sour pork, steamed rice, carrots and broccoli medley, honey fruit salad, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Crystal Young, Zach Herron

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

5:15pm: GBB at Redfield (C at 5:15, JV at 6:30, Varsity at 8:00)

Friday, February 19

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

School Lunch: Fish nuggets, tri tater, broccoli and dip, fruit.

Senior Menu: Hot turkey combo, mashed potatoes and gravy, 7 layer salad, peach sauce.

1994: Kara and Todd Anderson

Birthdays: Connor Hanson, Gaylene Voss, Heather Westby, Heidi Westby, Robert Sippel, Robin O'Neill, Terry Furman, Tyler Kampa

3:00pm: BBBJH at Groton (7th at 3 pm, 8th at 4 pm)

5:15pm: BBB host Redfield-Doland (C at 5:15, JV at 6:30, Varsity at 8:00)

Saturday, February 20

Elementary PAC BBB Tourney in Groton (**Cancelled**)

Show Choir Murder Mystery Dinner

Anniv: Ken & Leslie Dinger

Birthdays: Gerald Osterman, Lori Giedt, Michael Wells, Shaun Wanner, Jerry Bjerke

9:00am: Robotics at SF Washington

10:00am: Regional Wrestling at Britton-Hecla



Put our experienced team to work for you!

GROTON
Ford
GROTONFORD.COM 605-397-2311

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 2 of 34



Follow The Groton
Activities On-Line



gdilive.com

Coming up this week at gdilive.com

Thursday, Feb. 18: GBB at Redfield (Varsity Only)

Friday, Feb. 19: BBB host Redfield-Doland (Varsity Only)

The Groton Area games for both boys and girls in the regions will be broadcast on gdilive.com. Watch for dates and details.

Ready to bring your heart and expertise to a team that feels more like a family? Bring your passion for patient care to the Golden LivingCenter in Groton. The Groton facility is now hiring for CNAs and Nurses. They have new wages with an excellent benefits package. All shifts are open. Join the team today by calling Jessica at 397-2365. The Golden LivingCenter of Groton is looking for you!

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 3 of 34

Groton Prairie Mixed

Team Standings: Shih Tzus 7, Coyotes 5, Pocket Gophers 5, Jackelopes 3, Foxes 2, Chipmunks 2

Men's High Games: Roger Spanier 236, 204, 201, Brad Waage 224, 219, Randy Stanley 222

Women's High Games: Vicki Walter 203, 180, Sue Stanley 178, Angie Carlson 162

Men's High Series: Roger Spanier 641, Brad Waage 624, Brad Larson 547

Women's High Series: Vicki Walter 544, Sue Stanley 455, Lori Giedt 423

Petition deadline is Feb. 26th

Only one school board member has taken out a petition as of Wednesday. Incumbent Merle Harder has taken out a petition for a three-year term. Incumbents Lars Hanson and Dorene Nelson have not taken out a petition.

Meanwhile on the city council, Councilmen Jay Peterson (1 year term), Burt Glover (2 year term) and David Blackmun (2 year term) have taken out petitions. Mayor Scott Hanlon has turned in his petition for mayor (3 year term). Councilman David McGannon has not taken out a petition in Ward 2. The deadline to turn in petitions is 5 p.m. on February 26.

Kiwanis Potato Bar Feed

Groton Area vs. Redfield-Doland

Friday, February 19th

\$6.00 per person



Serving 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Groton High School Arena

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 4 of 34

Bates Township

BATES TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE
Bates Township will hold its annual meeting and election on Tuesday, March 1st, 2016 at the home of the Clerk, 14523 409th Ave, Conde.

Election of officers and business meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m.

We will be receiving bids for road maintenance and gravel. Please mail bids to Betty Geist, Bates Township Clerk, 14523 409th Ave., Conde, SD 57434 prior to meeting date.

Betty Geist, Township Clerk

Henry Township

Henry Township Annual Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given that the annual Henry Township caucus and election of officers along with the other business that may come before the board will be held Tuesday March 1, 2016 at 7pm at Doug Abeln's Seed Company Office. Will also take bids for gravel and road maintenance.

Darlene Sass

Henry Township Clerk

Putney Township

NOTICE OF CAUCUS AND ELECTION IN PUTNEY TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given that the annual Putney Township Caucus and Election of Officers will be held Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at Mark Thompson's Shop.

Caucus at 5 p.m. followed by election of officers.

Sealed bids will be accepted for gravel, loaded and delivered, to designated placed in Putney Township. The township board reserves the right to inspect the gravel before awarding the bid. Bids must be addressed to Mark Thompson, Township Clerk, sealed and plainly marked "Bid for Gravel." Separate bids will be accepted for mowing weeds along road ditches. Bidders are to furnish township with name and address of insurance agent. Bids will be opened by the Board of Supervisors, Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at Mark Thompson's Farm House shop at 5 p.m. The board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Mark Thompson
Township Clerk

Riverside Township

NOTICE OF CAUCUS AND ELECTION IN RIVERSIDE TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given that the annual Riverside Township Caucus and Election of Officers will be held Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at Steve Simon's garage. Caucus 7:30 p.m., followed by election of officers from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Sealed bids will be accepted for 2,000 yards, more or less, of gravel, loaded and delivered to designated places in Riverside Township. The township board reserves the right to inspect the gravel before awarding the bid. Bids must be addressed to Bruce Sippel, Township Clerk, sealed and plainly marked "Bids for Gravel." Separate bids will be accepted for mowing weeds along road ditches. Bidders are to furnish township with name and address of insurance agent. Bids will be opened by the Board of Supervisors, Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at Steve Simon's shop at 7:30 p.m. The board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Bruce Sippel, Township Clerk

Shelby Township

Citizens of Shelby Township are hereby Notified that the Annual Township meeting will be held at the township hall on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, beginning at 1 p.m. for the following purposes: To elect one supervisor for a three (3) year term, one clerk and one treasurer and to do any other business proper to be done at said meeting.

Shelby Township will also accept bids for gravel and also road maintaining, snow removal and other road work as necessary for the year 2016-2017. The gravel is to be delivered before Aug. 1, 2016 and must meet the township board's specifications. The road maintaining, snow removal and road work bids must state per hour and per mile charges and will be required to provide date and time records of all work done. Bids must be received at the clerk's residence on or before March 29, 2016. Bids will be opened at the township hall in Houghton on March 29, 2016 at 7 p.m. All bids must be accompanied by a Certificate of Contractors Liability Insurance. The board of supervisor reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Brent Miller, Township Clerk

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 5 of 34

Groton School February 8 Meeting Minutes

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6

REGULAR MEETING

February 8, 2016

President Steve Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Conference Room. Members present: Hanson, Harder, Kjelden, Nelson, Smith and Weismantel. Absent: Rix. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principals A. Schwan and B. Schwan, and Business Manager Weber.

Moved by Nelson, second to Weismantel to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Harder, second Kjelden to approve all consent agenda items as presented: North Central Special Ed Coop agenda items, District minutes of January 11 and 25, bills, financial reports, agency reports, school lunch reports and transportation reports. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND: Net Salary – 163,955.08; FIT – 17,958.51; Medicare – 6,218.54; FICA – 26,589.52; American Funds – 702.40; Washington National – 98.40; SDRS – 27,212.74; First National Bank – 100.00; Waddell & Reed – 1,216.54; Horace Mann – 318.51; Thrivent – 205.80; AFLAC – 2,216.49; Delta Dental – 4,226.10; SDRS Supplemental – 830.80; Wellmark BCBS – 55,847.00; Reliastar Life – 538.90; 217 Productions – fundraiser pmt, 250.00; A&B Business – supplies, 225.84; Aberdeen Awards – trny awards, 199.40; AgEdNet.com – subscription, 399.00; Agency Fund – advance pmts, 19,738.17; Allen's Electric – services, 76.53; Kathryn Andersen – reimburse fees, 43.25; BSN Sports – bbb shirts, 84.00; Carquest Auto – supplies, 690.00; City of Groton – utilities, 13,018.50; Cole Papers – supplies, 2,938.51; Crawford Trucks – parts, 47.20; Dependable Sanitation – services, 1,238.00; Duenwald Transportation – repairs, 170.00; G&K Services – rug services, 430.06; G-Sports Wrestling – wr charts, 95.00; Geffdog Designs – sports shirts, 930.59; GASD-Food Service – trny supplies, 170.74; Hillyard – supplies, 1,563.22; House of Glass – keys, 15.60; J.W. Pepper – music, 572.53; James Valley Telecomm. – phone serv, 816.53; JB Repair – services, 60.00; Jostens – diplomas, 241.66; McLeod's – checks, 234.01; Mid-American Research – supplies, 1,295.21; Nasco – supplies, 83.00; Northwestern Energy – utilities, 5,946.36; Renneberg Hardwoods – supplies, 678.59; Riley Bus Service – sh ch charter, 1,282.50; S&S Lumber – supplies, 1,667.19; School Nurse Supply – face shields, 92.15; Anna Schwan – meals, 8.23; SDASSP – registrations, 200.00; Sewer Saver – services, 969.90; SW/WC Service Cooperatives – purchasing contract, 25.00; Taylor Music – repairs/suppl, 169.06; trackwrestling.com – trny services, 111.03; Twin Valley Tire – repairs, 1,470.31; Walmart Community – supplies, 22.96; Tammy Weiszhaar – cheer supplies, 186.82.

Total General Fund - \$366,691.98.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: Acme Tools – tools, 248.00; Agency Fund – adv pmts, 1,173.49; Apple Inc – ipads, 31,595.00; CDW Government – cases, 4,140.95; Follett School Solutions – lib. books, 780.59; John Deere Financial – drive shaft, 603.47; Johnson Controls – services contract, 23,125.95; Marco – copier leases, 2,175.99; MidAmerica Books – lib. books, 131.67; S&S Lumber – project materials, 77.06. Total Capital Outlay - \$64,052.17.

SPECIAL ED: Net Salary – 25,014.41; FIT – 2,366.66; Medicare – 951.14; FICA – 4,067.20; SDRS – 4,341.04; Waddell & Reed – 250.00; AFLAC – 409.66; Delta Dental – 845.22; SDRS Supplemental – 200.00; Wellmark BCBS – 11,666.00; Reliastar Life – 207.26; Agency Fund – adv pmts, 241.11; Avera St. Luke's – services, 6,845.37; Jan Hoffman – supplies, 7.64; Patron – mileage, 599.76. Total Special Ed - \$58,012.47.

ENTERPRISE: Food Service -Net Salary – 5,805.38; FIT – 379.26; Medicare – 205.10; FICA – 877.00; SD Retirement – 694.04; AFLAC – 54.22; Wellmark BCBS – 1,372.00; Reliastar Life – 1.30; Agency Fund – adv pmts, 246.36; CWD – food/suppl, 2,903.22; Dean Foods – dairy product, 1,715.05; Earthgrains – bakery product, 218.75; G&K Services – linen serv, 264.46; Reinhart – food/suppl, 4,354.27; Reliable One – gloves, 478.11; Rux Plumbing – repairs, 164.99; School Nutrition Assn – dues, 40.50; SDDOE-CANS – commodities, 334.81; Sysco – food, 1,377.34; US Foods – food/suppl, 2,337.25. Total Food Service - \$23,823.41.

OST -Net Salary – 1,251.06; FIT – 57.13; Medicare – 43.62; FICA – 186.48; SDRS – 160.86; AFLAC – 135.98; Wellmark BCBS – 604.00; Reliastar Life -- .65; Agency Fund – adv pmts, 312.47; Menards, 34.38.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 6 of 34

Total OST - \$2,786.63. Total Enterprise Funds - \$26,610.04.

AGENCY FUND: Total - \$26,766.21.

RECEIPTS: Local Sources, Taxes – 16,588.64; Other Local Sources – 77,118.18; County Sources – 3,953.51; State Sources – 287.50. Total Receipts - \$97,947.83.

Members of the public were allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public members present to speak, the board proceeded with their remaining agenda items.

There were no committee reports were given.

The following topics were discussed in administrative reports: legislative session update, cracker barrel schedule, long range facility planning sessions, special education accountability review, North Central Special Ed Coop, SDHSAA Out-of-Season Rule Proposal, Elem Pac looking for volunteers, parent-teacher conferences, Science Curriculum Review, CTE State Visit, inventory and requisition process and actuarial study on early retirement liability in regards to the annual report.

Superintendent Schwan presented Certificates of Appreciation to School Board Members in honor of School Board Recognition Week.

Moved by Harder, second Larson to approve hiring Brandon Clocksene as part-time kitchen staff, for 3.75 hours per date at a rate of \$10.50 per hour. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Nelson to approve changing the start time of the February 22, 2016 meeting from 7:00 pm to 5:00 pm to hold a facility planning session with Foster, Jacobs and Johnson, Inc. Motion carried.

Moved by Nelson, second Larson to move the March 28, 2016 meeting to March 29, 2016 due to Easter Monday. Motion carried.

Moved by Nelson, second Weismantel to go into executive session at 7:50 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) to discuss personnel. Motion carried.

Smith declared the board out of executive session at 8:12 pm.

Moved by Kjelden, second Weismantel to issue administrative contracts for school year 2016-17 with a return date of February 19, 2016, with terms and conditions to be negotiated at a later date. Motion carried.

Moved by Hanson, second Nelson to adjourn. Motion carried.

M. J. Weber, Business Manager

Steven R. Smith, President

The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.



Kumla Dinner

Sunday, Feb. 28th, Serving 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Groton Community Center

Sponsored by Heaven Bound Ministries of Pierpont

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 7 of 34

SCHOOL LAND LEASE AUCTION

A school land lease auction will be held at the Brown County Courthouse in Aberdeen, SD on March 17, 2016 at 1:15 PM (CT) on the following tract:

16 125N 65W E2NE, E2SE

A list of tracts available for lease may also be obtained at the Brown County Auditor's Office or by contacting the Office of School & Public Lands at (605) 773-4172. For more information contact Mike Cornelison, Office of School & Public Lands, 500 E Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501-5070 or phone (605)773-4172. Disabled individuals needing assistance should contact the Office of School and Public Lands at least 48 hours in advance of the auction to make any necessary arrangements.



Attention Groton Businesses!

Are you
...looking for low-interest financing?
...wanting to expand?
...planning to increase your labor force?

Heartland has programs available to help.
Contact us today!

CASEY CRABTREE
Heartland Director of Economic Development
(605) 256-6536 • ccrabtree@hcpd.com

Local Farmer Bridging the Gap Between Food and Farming

McCranie Joins Hungry for Truth Initiative



Local farmer Monica McCranie thinks a lot about food beyond the farm field. As a health-conscious mom, nutrition has always been important to her. Now, she wants to make the connection with like-minded South Dakotans to have open, honest conversations about food and farming.

"Because I'm a farmer, some people might not realize that I am thinking about the same things as they are when it comes to food choices," McCranie said. "As my kids were growing up, when making food decisions, I always asked, 'Is it nutritional, and is it healthy for them?' I always wanted to make sure they were fueling their bodies with what was important."

McCranie is a third-generation farmer who grew up as a city girl. She has been farming with her husband for 29 years, growing mostly corn and soybeans. McCranie believes many misconceptions exist about farming practices today, and she wants to reach across the table to have conversations with fellow South Dakotans about food.

"As a consumer and a mom, I understand how confusing it is to look at a label and understand what it means and doesn't mean," McCranie said. "What I think is important to know is that, no matter what the label says, whether that food was grown conventionally, genetically modified or organically, it has the same nutritional value."

McCranie is eager to start conversations with those who don't farm and learn more about what concerns they have about farming today. That's why she was excited to become a part of Hungry for Truth, an initiative from the South Dakota Soybean Research and Promotion Council (SDSRPC) that connects South Dakotans to the farmers who grow their food. Monica is one of eight featured farmers on the Hungry for Truth website, answering common questions about agriculture.

"Although agriculture is the No. 1 industry in South Dakota, most consumers are several generations removed from the farm and don't know what happens every day on the farm," McCranie said.

The Hungry for Truth website is at the heart of the initiative. It is a hub of information for consumers on all things food and farming. Website visitors can choose from topics including food safety, biotechnology, sustainability and food production, and then select questions to ask the farmers.

Visitors are encouraged to join the conversation by submitting questions to the farmers involved with Hungry for Truth. McCranie believes this element is key to generating meaningful conversations.

"There's no better source of information about food than the farmers who grow it. I want to help South Dakotans understand that, as farmers, we value being able to provide healthy food for our families and theirs," she said.

The Hungry For Truth initiative uses several techniques to unite farmers and consumers, including a website; social media; advertising in publications throughout the state; website promotions; interactive displays; and South Dakota Soybean's sponsorship and farmer participation in special events throughout the year.

Letter to the Editor from Heartland Consumers Power District

Dear Editor:

The Supreme Court recently voted to put the Environmental Protection Agency's final Clean Power Plan (CPP) rule on hold while the court hears legal challenges to it. This is an unprecedented move by the court and was in response to motions filed by several states and industry. Now, the EPA can't enforce the rule until the federal courts decide if it is legal.

The CPP aims to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants. While this is a worthy goal, at Heartland Consumers Power District, we know the effects of the CPP would be disastrous for electric consumers. The rule would require costly steps which would not only dramatically increase the price of electricity, but would threaten the reliability of the electric system.

The city of Groton receives wholesale power from Heartland and we take pride in serving our friends and neighbors. As a not-for-profit public power utility, Heartland's loyalty is to our customers. We take our responsibility seriously to provide reliable and affordable electricity while doing our best to protect the environment.

Heartland has already made significant investments to reduce emissions by installing emission reducing technology at our coal-fired plants, investing in wind power and offering a variety of incentives to consumers to increase energy efficiency. The EPA's plan doesn't take into account these past investments, which would mean increased costs from making further investments and decreased reliability from taking multiple plants out of service. The EPA also overreaches its legal authority with this rule and Heartland has strongly advocated for its reversal.

We applaud the Supreme Court's decision to put the EPA's rule on hold while legal challenges are heard. Over half the states, 24 national trade organizations, 37 rural electric cooperatives and three labor unions representing 900,000 members have sued the EPA over these rules. It is our hope that ultimately, the rule is overturned and we can focus on our priority of providing reliable, affordable electricity.

Sincerely,

Russell Olson, CEO

Heartland Consumers Power District

Madison, SD

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 10 of 34

Today in Weather History

February 18, 1962: Rain started in the afternoon of the 18th and by the late in the day, temperatures dropped to below freezing resulting in a glaze up to three quarters of an inch on trees and power lines. Many utility lines were downed by the glaze or by falling trees and branches. Temperatures continued to drop during the night changing the rain to snow by the 19th. Strong winds accompanied this snow causing local blizzard conditions.

1899 - While much of the central and eastern U.S. was recovering from the most severe cold wave of modern history, the temperature at San Francisco soared to 80 degrees to establish a record for month of February. (David Ludlum)

1959 - Some of the higher elevations of California were in the midst of a five day storm which produced 189 inches of snow, a single storm record for North America. (13th-19th) (David Ludlum)

1965: A large avalanche kills 26 men at the Granduc Copper Mine in British Columbia on this day.

1966: The temperature dropped to 49 degrees below zero at Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada, the city's all-time lowest recorded temperature.

1987 - A small but intense low pressure system combined with northerly upslope winds to produce eight inches of snow in five hours at Meeteetsie WY, located southeast of Cody. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thunderstorms soaked the Central Gulf Coast Region with heavy rain. Totals in southern Louisiana ranged up to 8.50 inches near the town of Ridge, with 6.55 inches at Plaquemine. Thunderstorms in northern Florida drenched Apalachicola with 5.41 inches of rain in 24 hours, and produced wind gusts to 75 mph at Mayo. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Low pressure off the coast of North Carolina brought freezing rain and heavy snow to Virginia and the Carolinas. Snowfall totals in Virginia ranged up to 18 inches at Franklin. Freezing rain reached a thickness of two inches around Charlotte NC. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1992: A thunderstorm spawned an unusually strong F4 tornado for so far north for the time of the year in southern Van Wert County in Ohio. The tornado touched down just west of US Route 127 and traveled northeastward for about 3 miles. One house was completely leveled and 9 others experienced severe damage. Six people were injured.










**Livestream
your
wedding!**

How cool would that be?!

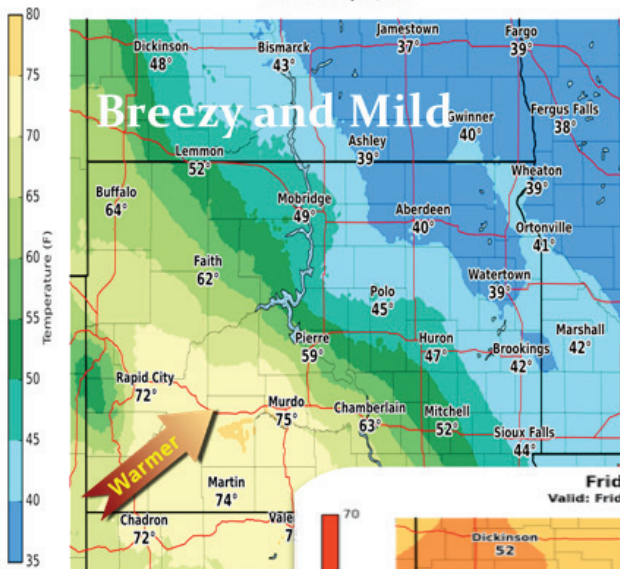
Call or text Paul at 605/397-7460.

Groton Daily Independent

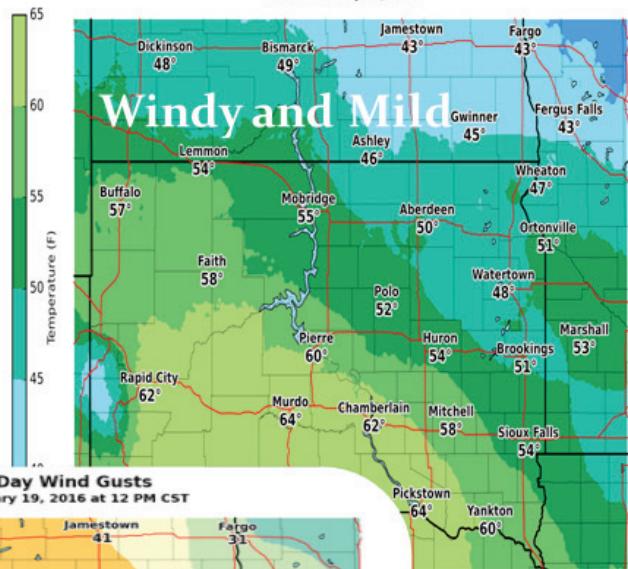
Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 11 of 34

Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
	 40%				 20% 20%	
Patched Fog then Mostly Cloudy	Chance Rain and Breezy	Mostly Sunny and Breezy	Partly Cloudy and Breezy then Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny	Slight Chance Rain/Snow then Slight Chance Snow	Partly Sunny
High: 40 °F	Low: 35 °F	High: 50 °F	Low: 27 °F	High: 43 °F	Low: 27 °F	High: 35 °F

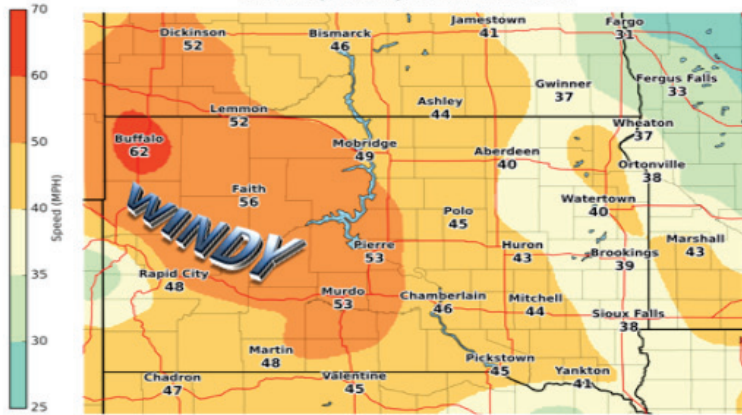
Today's High Temperatures
Valid: February 18, 2016



Friday Afternoon Highs
Valid: February 19, 2016



Friday Mid Day Wind Gusts
Valid: Friday, February 19, 2016 at 12 PM CST



National Weather Service
Aberdeen SD
02/18/2016 03:46 AM CST

Follow Us:   
weather.gov/abereen

Published on: 02/18/2016 at 4:38AM

The next couple of days will feature milder temperatures, but also increasing winds...especially for Friday. Friday afternoon gusts up to 50 mph from the west are possible.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 12 of 34

Yesterday's Weather

High: 33.8 at 3:07 PM

Low: 25.5 at Midnight

High Gust: 24 at 8:08 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 66° in 1930

Record Low: -32 in 1903

Average High: 29°F

Average Low: 8°F

Average Precip in Feb.: 0.31

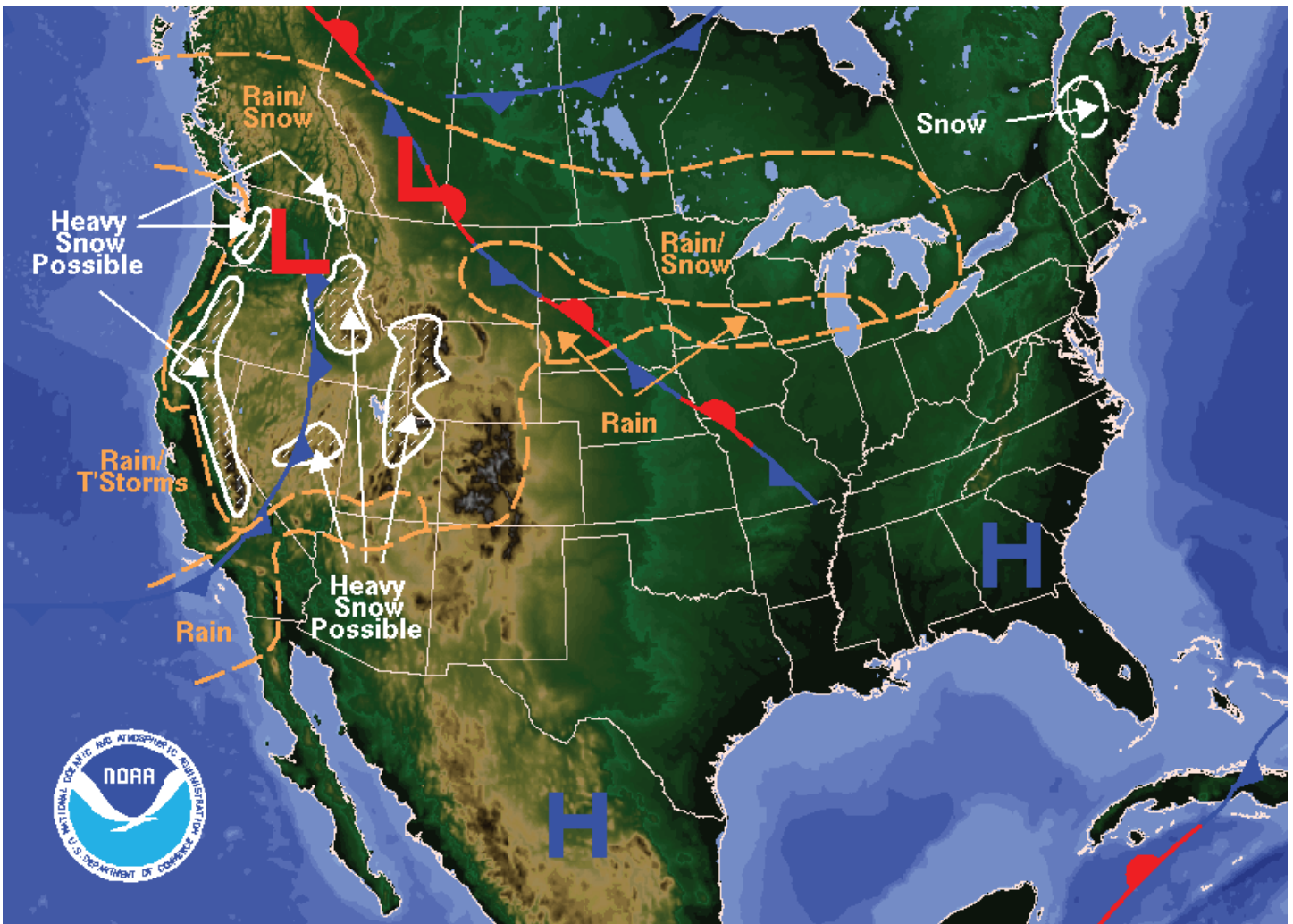
Precip to date in Feb.: 0.60

Average Precip to date: 0.78

Precip Year to Date: 0.60

Sunset Tonight: 6:04 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:29 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Thu, Feb 18, 2016, issued 2:50 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 13 of 34



"I WASN'T PRAYING TO YOU!"

One evening while a mother was teaching her children to pray, little Martha was tired and about to fall asleep. When she began to pray her words ran together and she began to mumble.

"I can't hear you, Martha," said her mother.

Back came the reply, "I wasn't praying to you Mom, I was praying to God!"

Prayer, quite simply stated, is having a conversation with God about whatever is on our minds or in our hearts. There is no special formula, no sacred position, no particular words, no recognized hour of the day or night to pray.

When we pray, we admit to God that we are weak and dependent upon Him. We need His grace and mercy to solve our problems, heal our bodies, comfort our broken hearts, and mend damaged relationships that we have shattered because of selfishness or greed. Whatever we find lacking in our lives can be filled by God.

We must always remember that everything is within God's power. Everything! Nothing is beyond our Creator. Jesus tells us to ask for "whatever" or "anything" in His name. If we do that in faith believing, He will grant our requests if they are in keeping with His will for our lives.

Remember: Prayer is asking and receiving. Not wondering, or wishing, or hoping – but receiving God's best.

Prayer: Give us the confidence, Lord, to take You at Your Word and come into Your presence with confidence that You will hear and answer our requests. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Luke 1:9-13 But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.

News from the Associated Press

House set to take up proposed sales tax hike for teacher pay

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The state House is set to take up the proposed half-cent sales tax increase that would help fund Gov. Dennis Daugaard's plan to boost teacher pay.

The full chamber is set to consider the tax measure Thursday.

Legislators have twice used a procedural move on the House floor to delay the bill. It passed unanimously earlier through the House Committee on Appropriations.

More than \$60 million from the hike would go toward the teacher salary plan. About \$40 million would go to property tax relief.

It takes two-thirds support in each chamber to pass a tax hike through the Legislature.

House Republican leader Brian Gosch is pursuing another avenue that would raise teacher pay without increasing taxes.

The governor's office has said Daugaard is optimistic about his proposal.

Parents encouraged to register children in ID program

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Parents in Rapid City are being encouraged to register their children in a comprehensive child identification program.

South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley says volunteers with the state's Child Identification Program will be in Rapid City on Thursday to collect identifying items from children.

The items, including dental impressions, a DNA cheek swab and a photo, are put in a package for parents or guardians to keep. If a child goes missing, parents can use the identification kit to assist law enforcement in the investigation. Participation is free.

Masonichip International and the South Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants are among the groups that help implement the program in South Dakota.

The event scheduled for Thursday will run from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Crossroads Wesleyan Church.

South Dakota drubs NAIA York College 82-55

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Tre Burnette scored 14 points and grabbed 15 rebounds, and Tyler Flack scored 13 points as 11 South Dakota players scored for the Coyotes who easily handled NAIA member York College 82-55 Wednesday night.

The Coyotes shot 33 for 66 from the field but were 1 for 17 from 3-point range. South Dakota (13-15) got eight points apiece from Trey Norris, D.J. Davis and Austin Sparks.

Marcus Price scored a pair of baskets and Cameron Coleman added a layup to give York a 6-1 lead. But baskets by Flack, Davis and Norris gave the Coyotes a 7-6 lead that was never surrendered. South Dakota led 37-23 at the break.

Flack's dunk with 15:31 to go put the Coyotes on top 49-29. Dan Jech hit a jumper with 5:31 to play for a 71-40 lead.

Price scored 12 points for York (20-8).

Transgender student: South Dakota bill doesn't accept me

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — When Thomas Lewis told his South Dakota high school last year that he is transgender, teachers called him by his new name and used male pronouns when addressing him. But he says the accommodations stopped at being able to use the men's bathroom.

Instead, the 18-year-old senior chooses to go home, where he feels safe to use the restroom, before

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 15 of 34

returning from lunch to rejoin his classmates at Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls.

Lewis has even spoken to his state's Legislature against a bill that would require transgender students like him to use bathrooms and locker rooms that correspond to their sex at birth, telling them that such a law "makes me feel like I'm not a human being."

It fell on mostly deaf ears: South Dakota is a governor's signature away from being the first state in the U.S. to approve such a law.

Several states have looked at addressing gender and public facilities in the past several years. South Dakota's bathroom bill is one of several measures introduced in its 2016 legislative session addressing transgender rights, including one that would void a South Dakota high school activities association policy that allows transgender student athletes to request playing on the team of their choice.

Advocates say the bathroom bill is meant to protect the privacy of students and not meant to be hurtful. Republican Sen. David Omdahl, a supporter, said it's inappropriate for a young girl to be exposed to the anatomy of a boy.

Opponents say it's discriminatory, and Lewis says it exposes a significant problem.

"The law means that no matter what people might think at school, how they might accept me at school, the state doesn't," he said.

Under the plan, schools would have to provide a "reasonable accommodation" for transgender students, such as a single-occupancy bathroom or the "controlled use" of a staff-designated restroom, locker room or shower room.

Federal officials have said that barring students from restrooms that match their gender identity is prohibited under the Title IX anti-discrimination law, and advocates of South Dakota's bill say it's a direct response to the Obama administration's interpretation.

Though the measure puts schools' federal funding at risk, said Democratic Sen. Angie Buhl O'Donnell, it also has "very real emotional impacts."

"Maybe this bill is not intended to be disrespectful, but I would submit this: If a whole community of people tells us that we are hurting them, who are we to decide that we didn't?" she said.

Lewis came out in March after an event in Sioux Falls where he read aloud a poem he'd written about a transgender man named Thomas. The reaction helped turn feelings of fear into "elation" and courage to be open about his gender identity, Lewis said.

His mother and close friends accepted him without question. But at school, the bathroom is still an issue.

Sioux Falls Superintendent Brian Maher said he couldn't talk about specific accommodations for individual students because of privacy issues.

"We would always have an accommodation for a student to use a bathroom on campus," he said. "We would not make a student leave campus to go to the bathroom. Whether or not it would be the bathroom of that student's choice or not could be another issue."

The American Civil Liberties Union of South Dakota and Human Rights Campaign said it's not clear how many transgender students there are in South Dakota.

Republican Gov. Dennis Daugaard offered a positive reaction last week to the proposal "at first blush," but said he'd need to research the issue and listen to testimony before deciding.

Another measure in the South Dakota Legislature this session would require government entities that accept information on a South Dakota birth certificate to recognize all information on the birth certificate as official — meaning transgender people would be seen in the eyes of the state as their sex at birth, not their current gender.

Republican Rep. Jim Bolin, the bill's sponsor, said such claims of different gender are "profound" and challenge "many basic concepts as to the nature and character of life and society."

The American Civil Liberties Union of South Dakota called the bill out for being "an attack on the very existence of transgender people."

"Frankly, I think we've seen enough of those attacks this year," said Libby Skarin, the organization's policy director.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 16 of 34

Governor to meet with nonprofit, transgender South Dakotans

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard's office says he will meet with members from a Sioux Falls nonprofit who want to introduce him to some transgender South Dakotans.

The governor's office had initially said Daugaard's schedule wouldn't allow for him to meet with The Center For Equality. Spokeswoman Kelsey Pritchard now says the governor plans to meet with the group this week or next week.

On Tuesday, the state Senate passed a bill that would require South Dakota students to use bathrooms and locker rooms that correspond to their sex at birth.

If Daugaard approves it, South Dakota would become the first state in the nation to pass such a law. The governor has not said whether he would sign the measure.

Pritchard says Daugaard will also meet with bill proponents.

ESPN's Berman to receive Al Neuharth journalism award

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Veteran ESPN broadcaster Chris Berman is this year's recipient of the Al Neuharth Award for Excellence in Media.

Berman has hosted a variety of ESPN studio shows since 1979. He also has covered 34 Super Bowls, 30 Major League Baseball All-Star Games and 29 World Series.

Berman also has hosted ESPN's NFL Draft telecast since 1987, and has served as emcee for the Pro Football Hall of Fame enshrinement ceremony 16 times. He has covered golf's U.S. Open for nearly three decades.

The annual award for lifetime achievement in media is named for the late USA Today and Freedom Forum/Newseum founder Al Neuharth, a South Dakota native and 1950 University of South Dakota graduate. USD co-sponsors the award.

A presentation is scheduled June 21 at the Newseum in Washington, D.C.

Send-off ceremony set for Guard unit heading to Kuwait

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A deployment ceremony has been scheduled for a Sioux Falls-based Army National Guard unit that's been called to serve in the Middle East.

Thirty-nine soldiers with the Guard's 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade will serve a yearlong tour in Kuwait. A public send-off ceremony is scheduled 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Harrisburg High School auditorium.

The soldiers will conduct protection and security operations in Kuwait. They'll head to Fort Bliss, Texas, for several weeks of training before heading overseas.

The 196th served in Afghanistan in 2010-11.

Hughes County raising wheel tax on large vehicles in 2017

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The Hughes County Commission is raising the county's wheel tax on large vehicles to generate more money for upkeep of roads and bridges.

The tax on vehicles weighing more than 6,000 pounds will go from \$2 per wheel to \$5 per wheel, and from a maximum of four wheels to as many as a dozen. That means the maximum wheel tax per vehicle will go from \$8 to \$60.

Opponents have the option of trying to refer the ordinance to a public vote. If that doesn't happen, the tax increase will take effect at the beginning of next year.

All students released from hospital after bus-pickup crash

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — All of the students taken to a Rapid City hospital after a school bus and a pickup truck collided in the Box Elder area have been released.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 17 of 34

All 26 students on the Douglas School District bus were taken to the hospital as a precaution after the Tuesday morning crash, and six were treated for minor injuries.

The Highway Patrol says the two vehicles collided at an intersection. Authorities are continuing to investigate.

The bus driver was not hurt. Authorities say the pickup driver suffered injuries that were serious but not life-threatening.

Global stocks gain as oil price extends recovery

YOUKYUNG LEE, AP Business Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Global stocks mostly posted strong gains on Thursday as a rebound in the price of oil and solid U.S. manufacturing data boosted investor sentiment.

KEEPING SCORE: In Europe, Germany's DAX was up 1.6 percent to 9,522.40 and France's CAC 40 traded 0.8 percent higher at 4,266.89. But Britain's FTSE 100 edged down 0.3 percent to 6,013.21. Futures augured some gains for U.S. stocks. Dow and S&P futures were up 0.4 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively.

IRAN RELIEF: Iran's oil minister said the country supports "any measure" to boost oil prices and voiced its support for a plan to stabilize and boost prices laid out earlier this week by four influential oil producers. Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Russia and Venezuela reached the agreement in Doha to cap their crude output if others do the same. It remains unclear, however, whether Iran would be willing to freeze its own output. Markets have been rattled the months-long slump in oil prices, which has hammered the shares of energy companies and spilled over into worries about losses for banks.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "Initial disappointment on the tentative 'freeze' agreement between Saudi Arabia and Russia was reversed after Iran voiced support for the agreement, raising hopes of further steps between major oil producers to stabilize the market," said Mizuho Bank in a daily commentary.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. oil added 90 cents to \$31.56 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Wednesday, the contract jumped \$1.62. Brent crude, a benchmark for international oils, rose 82 cents to \$35.32 in London.

ASIA'S DAY: Asian stock markets started with a broad rally but gains narrowed. Japan's Nikkei 225 jumped 2.3 percent to 16,196.80 and South Korea's Kospi rose 1.3 percent to 1,908.84. Hong Kong's Hang Seng surged 2.3 percent to 19,363.08. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 gained 2.3 percent to 4,992.00. Stocks in mainland China finished slightly lower while markets in Taiwan and Southeast Asian were higher.

US DATA: Sentiment has been buoyed by the Federal Reserve's report that U.S. factories' production of autos, furniture and other goods last month was the highest since July. Manufacturing output rose 0.5 percent in January, after falling in four of the previous five months. Overall industrial production, which includes mining and utilities, added 0.9 percent, the biggest jump in 14 months.

CURRENCIES: The dollar slipped to 113.92 yen from 114.14 yen. The euro fell to \$1.1097 from \$1.1124.

Obama plans historic trip to Cuba to further ties

JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

KEVIN FREKING, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama will pay a historic visit to Cuba in the coming weeks, senior Obama administration officials said, becoming the first president to set foot on the island in nearly seven decades.

The brief visit in mid-March will mark a watershed moment for relations between the U.S. and Cuba, a communist nation estranged from the U.S. for over half a century until Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro moved toward rapprochement more than a year ago. Since then, the nations have reopened embassies in Washington and Havana and have moved to restore commercial air travel, with a presidential visit seen as a key next step toward bridging the divide.

Obama's stop in Cuba will be part of a broader trip to Latin America that the president will take next month, said the officials, who requested anonymity because the trip hasn't been officially announced. The

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 18 of 34

White House planned to unveil Obama's travel plans later Thursday.

Though Obama had long been expected to visit Cuba in his final year, word of his travel plans drew immediate resistance from opponents of warmer ties with Cuba — including Republican presidential candidates.

Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, whose father fled to the U.S. from Cuba in the 1950s, said Obama shouldn't visit while the Castro family remains in power. Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, another child of Cuban immigrants, lambasted the president for visiting what he called an "anti-American communist dictatorship."

"Today, a year and two months after the opening of Cuba, the Cuban government remains as oppressive as ever," Rubio said on CNN. Told of Obama's intention to visit, he added, "Probably not going to invite me."

With less than a year left in office, Obama has been eager to make rapid progress on restoring economic and diplomatic ties to cement warming relations with Cuba that his administration started. Following secret negotiations between their governments, Obama and Castro announced in late 2014 that they would begin normalizing ties, and months later held the first face-to-face meeting between an American and Cuban president since 1958.

But Obama, facing steadfast opposition to normalized relations from Republicans and some Democrats, has been unable to deliver on the former Cold War foe's biggest request: the lifting of the U.S. economic embargo. Opponents argue that repealing those sanctions would reward a government still engaging in human rights abuses and stifling democratic aspirations.

Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a Florida Republican born in Cuba, called the visit "absolutely shameful."

"For more than 50 years, Cubans have been fleeing the Castro regime," said Lehtinen, the longest-serving Cuban-American in Congress. "Yet the country which grants them refuge — the United States — has now decided to quite literally embrace their oppressors."

Obama and supporters of the detente argue the decades-old embargo has failed to bring about desired change on the island 90 miles south of Florida. Still, while Obama has long expressed an interest in visiting Cuba, White House officials had said the visit wouldn't occur unless and until the conditions were right.

"If I go on a visit, then part of the deal is that I get to talk to everybody" — including political dissidents, Obama told Yahoo News in December. "I've made very clear in my conversations directly with President Castro that we would continue to reach out to those who want to broaden the scope for, you know, free expression inside of Cuba."

Officials didn't immediately specify what had changed in the last few weeks to clear the way for the trip, first reported by ABC News. But on Tuesday, the two nations signed a deal restoring commercial air traffic as early as later this year, eliminating a key barrier to unfettered travel that isolated Cuban-Americans from their families for generations.

Hundreds of thousands more Americans are expected to visit Cuba per year under the deal, which cleared the way for the U.S. Department of Transportation to open bidding by American air carriers on as many as 110 flights a day. Currently, there are about one-fifth as many flights operating between the two countries — all charters.

For Obama, the diplomatic opening with Cuba reflects one of the crowning achievements of a foreign policy rooted in a belief that the U.S. should test opportunities to ease hostilities with its historical enemies. Last month, the Obama administration lifted economic sanctions against Iran's nuclear program, following a diplomatic deal that has raised hopes about warmer ties between the U.S. and Tehran. Yet those achievements have been offset by deepening security challenges in Iraq, Syria, Libya and elsewhere as Obama nears the end of his term.

According to the State Department historian's office, President Harry Truman visited the U.S.-controlled Guantanamo Bay and its naval base on the southeast end of the island in 1948 and former President Jimmy Carter has paid multiple visits to the island since leaving office in January 1981. Not since President Calvin Coolidge went to Havana in January 1928 has a sitting U.S. president been to that city.

Clumsy burglary suspect crashes through fast food ceiling

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Investigators in the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office in north Florida say they are searching for clumsy burglary suspect who was caught on surveillance video falling through the ceiling of

a Popeyes fried chicken restaurant.

First Coast News (<http://bit.ly/1Ts6FAc>) reports the video shows the man crashing to the floor in a heap early Monday. He's then seen struggling to pry open a safe under a counter, using a variety of items that were on hand.

According to a news release on sheriff's website, the man got away with an undetermined amount of cash. No further details were immediately available.

Kenya army: Air raid kills al-Shabab's intelligence chief

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Kenya's military says an airstrike killed the head of intelligence of al-Shabab, a Somali-based extremist group who's believed to have been among those who planned attacks on Kenyans.

In a statement, military spokesman Col. David Obonyo said Thursday that Mahad Karate, also known as Abdirahim Mohamed Warsame, was killed along with 10 middle-level al-Shabab members in an airstrike 10 days ago in Nadris camp in Somalia's south.

The U.S. State department in April designated Karate a terrorist, saying he played key role in the Amniyat, the wing of al-Shabaab responsible for the April attack on Garissa University College in Kenya that resulted in nearly 150 deaths.

Al-Shabaab wants to topple Somalia's weak government and has launched extremist attacks on neighboring countries that have sent peace-keeping troops to back Somalia's government.

Voting in Uganda plagued by delays; social media shut down

RODNEY MUHUMUZA, Associated Press

BEN CURTIS, Associated Press

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Amid tardy delivery of voting materials, Ugandans tried to cast ballots Thursday in presidential elections. A top international election observer called the delays "worrying" while the main opposition party said they were deliberate, aimed at favoring President Yoweri Museveni.

Even at noon, five hours after voting was supposed to start, some polling stations in the capital, including a major one, still had not received any voting papers. People had formed long lines and ballot boxes had arrived mid-morning, but still there were no ballots, so no one could vote.

Museveni faces a strong challenge from Kizza Besigye, who has called Museveni a dictator and said he doubts that voting will be free or fair.

In Kampala's Ggabba neighborhood, people were waiting for seven hours for the poll to open when voting papers finally arrived. When they found out there were ballots only for voting for members of parliament, with no ballots for the vote for president, they overpowered the police, grabbed the boxes the ballots were in and threw them all over the field at the polling station.

"If the election is free and fair we will be the first people to respect it, even if we are not the winner," Besigye said Thursday at a polling station in his rural home of Rukungiri. "But where it is not a free and fair election then we must fight for free and fair elections because that is the essence of our citizenship."

In Kampala, the spokesman for Besigye's party, the Forum for Democratic Change, said the delays were a "deliberate attempt to frustrate" voters in urban areas where Besigye is believed to be very popular, especially Kampala and the neighboring district of Wakiso.

"Why is it that in areas where we enjoy massive support, like Kampala and Wakiso, that's where these things are happening? We can't have a credible election under this environment," said Ssemujju Nganda.

Many people complained of an apparent shutdown of social media sites like Twitter and Facebook when they couldn't open those sites on their computers and phones.

Godfrey Mutabazi, the head of the Uganda Communications Commission, said the network failure was likely due to an ongoing operation to contain a security threat.

"It's a security matter and I cannot answer on behalf of security," he told The Associated Press.

But Sarah Jackson of Amnesty International said in a statement: "The Ugandan government's decision to block access to social media on mobile phones on election day is a blatant violation of Ugandans' fun-

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 20 of 34

damental rights to freedom of expression and to seek and receive information.”

“Without clearly defined security concerns, this closure is nothing but an exercise in censorship as Ugandans elect their leaders,” said Jackson, Amnesty International’s deputy regional director for East Africa, the Horn and the Great Lakes regions.

More than 15 million people are registered to vote, for members of parliament as well as president. Many waited under the hot sun to vote at polling stations that at mid-day were still not functioning.

“These cases are worrying because every citizen of Uganda has the right to vote,” said Eduard Kukan of Slovakia, chief of the European Union’s election observer mission. “And if they are prevented by this kind of method then it would have to be criticized, because it would mean that they didn’t manage organizing of the elections the right way.”

Some ballot boxes had missing lids. Voting officials frantically made calls.

“We are late simply because the lids for ballot boxes are not here. The boxes and the lids should have arrived at the same time,” said Moses Omo, an official who was presiding over voting at a Catholic church in the central Ugandan district of Wakiso.

Many of those waiting said they would not leave without voting.

“This is very disappointing but I am going to stay here under the sun until it is my turn to vote,” said Fred Mubiru, a taxi driver. “Nothing will discourage me.”

Although opinion polls had shown Museveni to be ahead of his opponents, analysts expect this election to be his toughest yet, citing the massive crowds Besigye attracted across the country.

Museveni, 71, remains popular in some parts of rural Uganda, where he is seen as a father figure and is beloved by those who remember his time as a guerrilla leader fighting a dictatorship.

He came to power in 1986 and pulled Uganda out of years of chaos. He is widely credited with restoring peace and presiding over economic growth, and is a key U.S. ally on security matters, especially in Somalia. But his critics worry that he may want to rule for life, and accuse him of using the security forces to intimidate the opposition.

Besigye, 59, is running for the fourth time against Museveni. He campaigned on a promise to run a more effective government, vowing to stem official corruption. He said he will continue “the struggle” in other ways if he loses, suggesting a protest movement similar to the one that followed the last election in 2011. That movement was violently put down by security forces.

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. OBAMA PLANS HISTORIC TRIP TO CUBA

President Barack Obama’s planned visit to Cuba in the coming weeks will make him the first U.S. president to set foot on the island in nearly seven decades.

2. TENSIONS ESCALATE BETWEEN TURKEY, KURDS AFTER ANKARA ATTACK

Turkey’s prime minister says his country will retaliate against a Kurdish rebel group he has held responsible for the attack in Ankara that killed 28 people, while a Syrian Kurdish leader denies his group is behind the blasts and warns Ankara against Syria ground action.

3. HOW APPLE ENDED UP IN US GOVERNMENT’S ENCRYPTION CROSSHAIRS

Apple has positioned itself as a champion of user privacy — and landed in the government’s encryption crosshairs as a result.

4. WHAT’S AT STAKE AT EU SUMMIT

Prime Minister David Cameron is bracing for a crucial European Union summit with continued British membership in the bloc on the line and the migration crisis bedeviling the continent is also high on the agenda.

5. REPUBLICAN FEUD RAMPS UP

Republican Ted Cruz dares Donald Trump to sue him and dismisses Marco Rubio’s charges of dishonesty

just days before South Carolina's high-stakes primary.

6. WHERE PORN ACTORS COULD HAVE TO WEAR CONDOMS

Condoms could be coming to porn studios across California if the state adopts proposed new regulations aimed at protecting actors who make adult films.

7. WHY SOUTH KOREA SAYS NORTH KOREA IS PREPARING ATTACKS

A top Seoul official says North Korean leader Kim Jong Un recently ordered preparations for launching "terror" attacks on South Koreans.

8. WHO FACES INDICTMENT IN NEVADA

A federal grand jury has indicted Cliven Bundy, along with his sons Ammon and Ryan Bundy and two others, on charges related to an armed standoff near his ranch in 2014.

9. A LONGTIME AFRICAN RULER IS ON THE BALLOT

Uganda President Yoweri Museveni faces his toughest challenge yet after three decades in power, amid delays blamed on slow delivery of voting materials.

10. WHAT JAPANESE COMPANY WILL RECOGNIZE SAME-SEX MARRIAGES

Panasonic Corp. says it will recognize same-sex marriages in its employment policies in a rare move for a major Japanese manufacturer.

Protests against India student leader's arrest spread

NIRMALA GEORGE, Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — A protest that rocked a New Delhi university this week spread across India on Thursday, with students and teachers in at least 10 cities joining demands for the release of a student leader arrested on sedition charges and accused of being anti-Indian.

Protesters were outraged by nationally televised scenes of Kanhaiya Kumar, the student union president at Jawaharlal Nehru University, being kicked and punched while he was escorted to a court hearing Wednesday, renewing allegations of intolerance by the country's Hindu nationalist governing party.

He was arrested last Friday over his participation in events where anti-India slogans were allegedly shouted. A New Delhi court has ordered him to stay in custody for two weeks. The court will hear his bail plea on Friday.

The demands for the student's freedom in the Indian capital were met by mobs of Hindu nationalists, including many lawyers, attacking students and accusing them of being anti-Indian.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party and other Hindu groups accuse left-wing student groups of anti-nationalism because of their criticism of the 2013 execution of a Kashmiri separatist convicted of an attack on Parliament.

Kumar's treatment and attacks on teachers who supported him have triggered allegations that the Modi government and the BJP are cracking down on political dissent in the name of patriotism.

Soon after the protests began, India's Home Minister Rajnath Singh tweeted that anyone shouting anti-India slogans "will not be tolerated or spared."

On Thursday, students in at least 10 Indian cities marched through the streets and denounced Kumar's arrest.

In New Delhi, hundreds of students, professors and journalists gathered in the center of the city. They carried flowers as a sign of peace, Indian flags and placards saying, "Free Speech under attack" and "Just because I don't agree, doesn't mean I am an anti-national."

Police said the rally was not authorized.

In the southern city of Chennai, police arrested 40 students.

In Kolkata, police were on alert as two groups of students held rival rallies in the Jadavpur University campus. Student groups affiliated with the BJP demanded strict action against Kumar and others who they accused of being anti-Indian.

Cameron heads into EU summit with EU membership at stake

RAF CASERT, Associated Press
JILL LAWLESS, Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — British Prime Minister David Cameron is bracing for a crucial European Union summit on Thursday, convinced he needs to clinch a deal to fundamentally reform the bloc to make sure a U.K. referendum on continued British membership can be won.

With as many as four core issues still outstanding going into the two-day summit of EU leaders, EU President Donald Tusk said on the eve of the meeting that “frankly, there is still no guarantee that we will reach an agreement.”

The lingering disputes over anything from the reinforcement of national sovereignty to child benefits belie the fact that none of the other member states wants to see the departure of Britain, an economic and diplomatic giant in a struggling EU.

“We must not lose this. It would be a defeat both for the U.K. and the European Union, but a geopolitical victory for those who seek to divide us,” Tusk wrote in a letter to the summit participants.

On the other hand, Britain has been an increasingly half-hearted member over the past decades, deciding to stay out of both the common euro currency and the borderless Schengen zone. And the perception of increasing meddling of Brussels into affairs many Britons long considered sovereign issues made the time ripe for a referendum on membership.

Still, Cameron is convinced that if the right reforms are approved during the summit, the 28-nation EU will be good for Britain and he will campaign for an in-vote in the referendum, which could come as soon as June.

He has relentlessly consulted with EU leaders over the past months to get close to a deal on reform many would have long held impossible. A British official said that Cameron spoke with Tusk late Wednesday and both “agreed that good progress had been made in all four areas of our renegotiation.”

But Nigel Farage, leader of the U.K. Independence Party, said the changes the British leader was seeking were trivial.

“It’s not worth a row of beans, whatever he gets,” Farage told the AP in Brussels Thursday.

On Wednesday, German Chancellor Angela Merkel said that it was in Germany’s national interest for Britain to remain in the EU.

In a speech to Parliament, Merkel painted a largely positive picture of chances of an agreement on Britain’s EU reform demands, which she said are in many cases “justified and understandable.”

“Germany will make its contribution so that a result that satisfies everyone can be achieved, if possible already at the summit,” she said.

Merkel said Britain is an ally for Germany in promoting competitiveness and free trade, and that “Europe needs Great Britain’s foreign and security policy commitment to assert our values and interests in the world.”

California considers condoms for porn actors

JOHN ROGERS, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Condoms could be coming to porn studios across California if the state agency in charge of enforcing workplace safety adopts proposed new regulations aimed at protecting actors who make adult films.

The state Division of Occupational Safety and Health was scheduled to vote on the regulations following a hearing Thursday in Oakland.

Porn industry officials say the proposed restrictions go too far and could result in actors having to wear not only condoms but also safety goggles and dental dams — a rectangular piece of latex — when engaging in some acts like oral sex.

“That’s pure fantasy on their part,” responds Michael Weinstein, head of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, who has pushed Cal/OSHA for years to adopt workplace safety regulations aimed specifically at the porn industry.

Porn executives say their own requirement that actors be tested every 14 days for sexually transmitted

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 23 of 34

diseases provides adequate protection.

They add that tougher Cal/OSHA rules could drive their multibillion-dollar business, much of which is based in Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley, out of the state.

"These are unworkable regulations based in fear and stigma, not science or public health," said Eric Paul Leue, executive director of the industry trade organization the Free Speech Coalition.

He added that more than 100 actors plan to speak out against the proposed regulations.

The AIDS Healthcare Foundation is bringing a handful of former actors to the hearing who say they were infected with HIV while working in the business.

Under the 21-page proposal the agency is considering, so-called engineering controls, "such as condoms" must be used by actors engaging in sex to reduce the risk of being infected.

Producers would also be required to pay for medical visits, treatments and other health-care costs for their performers.

Condoms are already required for films made in Los Angeles County, thanks to an AIDS Healthcare Foundation-sponsored ordinance that voters adopted in 2012.

Weinstein has complained that filmmakers, who sometimes work out of houses they rent for just a day are two, sometimes ignore that law.

Cal/OSHA could enforce its regulations with, among other things, the kind of workplace visits it requires of other industries.

Critics: SPLC targets, demonizes conservative groups

PHILLIP LUCAS, Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Many consider The Southern Poverty Law Center's annual list of U.S. extremist groups an authoritative glimpse into racist and anti-government activity, but some of its targets contend the civil rights advocacy group is actually focused on silencing conservative viewpoints — sometimes with serious consequences.

The Family Research Council blames a 2012 shooting at its Washington, D.C., headquarters on its inclusion on the SPLC's hate-group list. The council's website says its mission "is to advance faith, family and freedom in public policy and the culture from a Christian worldview."

Last June, SPLC's Hate Watch blog featured two Anniston, Alabama, police officers who had been involved with the League of the South, which defines itself on its website as a "Southern Nationalist organization whose ultimate goal is a free and independent Southern republic." The SPLC defines the league as a racist neo-Confederate organization. One officer resigned and the other was quickly fired.

SPLC officials "have got an opinion like everybody else does and that's all it is, is an opinion about ideology," the fired officer, Josh Doggrell, said outside his home, where a sticker on the mailbox reads "SECEDE."

Southern Poverty Law Center officials strongly deny that they target groups whose beliefs don't align with theirs. They insist that the center has always and continues to define hate groups as organizations that attack an entire class of people for characteristics central to their identity — such as race, religion and sexual orientation — and that use lies or name-calling to promote their agenda. Sometimes, those groups may also be conservative, said SPLC senior fellow Mark Potok.

The Southern Poverty Law Center was founded in 1971 in Montgomery, Alabama. It began watching the Ku Klux Klan in the 1980s and expanded to other groups in the late '90s, including anti-government militias. It has since widened its focus to include white nationalist, black separatist, and anti-gay groups. It has also targeted the Christian Identity theology, which holds that whites are God's chosen people. The SPLC identifies Christian Identity as a racist, anti-Semitic theology.

In its annual report, released Wednesday, the SPLC said the number of hate groups and anti-government organizations in the United States jumped sharply in 2015 as political speech became more divisive, violent encounters between police and black men were increasingly publicized, and attacks in Paris and California spurred widespread fears of terrorism.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 24 of 34

The number of U.S. hate groups increased to 892 last year, up from 784 in 2014, the center said, while the number of anti-government groups increased to 998, up from 874 in 2014.

The nonprofit also noted an uptick in anti-Muslim behavior, which it linked to terrorist attacks in Paris and California, and talking points from Republican presidential candidates. Some candidates have suggested that Muslim Syrian war refugees be blocked from entering the country to ensure that Muslim extremists don't get in. SPLC leaders said they expect an increase in anti-Muslim groups in the future.

The group also noted that the number of black separatist groups, which it categorizes as hate groups, has risen from 113 in 2014 to 180 in 2015.

"We think that the growth of these groups is due almost entirely to the very dramatic attention that has been paid over the past year to police violence against black men," Potok said. The number of active Ku Klux Klan groups also increased in 2015 after falling between 2013 and 2014.

Pete Simi, an associate professor at the University of Nebraska Omaha School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, says he has yet to see a group on the SPLC's list that he believes shouldn't be, although he said defining hatred is subjective.

"The SPLC is a non-governmental, private organization," said Simi, who studies extremist movements. "They're not the only voice that exists out there about what is or what isn't hate."

Last year, the SPLC acknowledged its labels aren't always foolproof.

In February 2015, SPLC officials apologized to Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson for the 2014 profile of him in their online "Extremist Files."

SPLC leaders said that, following intense criticism, they determined that while some might consider Carson's statements on gay marriage and other issues extreme, he should not have been branded an extremist.

Leaders of the groups that remain on the SPLC's lists insist the center makes more mistakes than it acknowledges and is as intolerant as it accuses its targets of being.

League of the South President Michael Hill said he thinks the group's agenda is to demonize anyone it disagrees with — and make money in the process.

"I think they exploit an element of fear among their donor base," he said. "If you don't support us, these people are going to come get you."

On its tax form for the fiscal year ending Oct. 31, 2014, the SPLC reported about \$54 million in total revenue: more than \$44 million in contributions and grants, and nearly \$9 million in investment income. The group's endowment fund was worth more than \$302 million in October 2015 and it reported roughly \$338 million in total assets.

"Our hate-groups map is not about frightening people or raising money. The Southern Poverty Law Center was born, and still lives today, to essentially defend the 14th Amendment," said Potok, referring to the amendment that guarantees citizens of all races equal protection under the law.

Potok and other SPLC leaders say the nature of hatred and extremism has evolved — largely because of technology — and the organization had to make adjustments in how it tracks threats.

SPLC Intelligence Project Director Heidi Beirich cited Dylann Roof, the white man accused of killing nine people at a black church in South Carolina last year.

"As far as we can tell, he was completely radicalized online," she said. "It could be that in 10 years a hate map, a hate list, doesn't make any sense because people aren't in groups anymore."

Jane Sanders is central in her husband's surging campaign

CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

ROMULUS, Mich. (AP) — When Jane Sanders saw an early cut of the "America" ad for her husband's presidential campaign, she felt something wasn't quite right. The problem? Her husband was talking in it.

The uplifting spot for Bernie Sanders features sunny images of his packed rallies over a soundtrack of Simon and Garfunkel's "America." Jane Sanders found herself being carried away by the mood and the music, not by the clip of him speaking.

"So I just asked to cut Bernie out," she said. "He's talking all the time in other places."

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 25 of 34

Nine months into his insurgent presidential campaign, that ad stands out as a symbol of Bernie Sanders' effort to spark a grassroots political movement competing with the more traditional campaign of Hillary Clinton. And Jane Sanders' hand in the final product shows her influence in the campaign — one that may increase as she headlines more events on her own.

She's a former community organizer who has worked alongside her husband for more than 30 years — as a city department head when he was Burlington, Vermont, mayor, a volunteer congressional aide, and a campaign adviser.

"She is not afraid to be constructively critical," Bernie Sanders said. "She lets me have it if she thinks I make a mistake." And he joked that happens "every day, including 10 minutes ago."

Momentum is on Bernie Sanders' side after his 22-point win in the New Hampshire primary and a close finish in Iowa. His campaign, propelled by promises of "political revolution" and small-dollar donations, has proven a surprisingly robust challenge to Clinton

Along the way, Jane Sanders has done everything from buying the office furniture to helping prep for debates. She has tried to lighten up her policy-wonk husband, urging him to offer a "little less doom and gloom and a little more hope" in his speeches. She has also encouraged him to talk more about his congressional record, noting that "his opponent is trying to say that she's more effective than he is, so he needs to let people know how effective he's been."

Sanders has been deeply involved in her husband's political career practically from the moment they met, when he was running for mayor of Burlington, in 1981. She was working as a community organizer for a youth center. They quickly began working together and dating. They married in 1988 and promptly took off on a diplomatic trip to Burlington's sister city in Russia.

"She's one of his most trusted advisers, if not the most trusted adviser," said Sanders' senior adviser Tad Devine.

Over the years, Jane Sanders has served as director of youth services for the city of Burlington, helped set up his congressional office and advised his congressional and Senate campaigns. She also did stints outside of government, as provost of Goddard College and president of Burlington College. She resigned that job in 2011 amid apparent tension with the board of trustees.

"She is tough and has a very quiet sense of confidence," Sanders said, recalling some criticism when he made his then-girlfriend youth director in Burlington. "When she was attacked, she didn't blink an eye. She'd go on the radio and defend herself extraordinarily well."

Today the couple jets around the country on a 737 aircraft, accompanied by Secret Service protection and a robust political staff. Jane Sanders, 65, recently hugged nurses at an organizing event in Minneapolis. In Detroit, she joined her 74-year-old husband as he met families grappling with the Flint water crisis.

She frequently takes videos of the senator's rallies on her iPhone and is with him for rare moments of downtime — like taking a brief waterfront walk in Charleston, South Carolina, or stopping for lunch — tuna fish and grilled cheese sandwiches — at a St. Paul, Minnesota, cafe.

After some solo appearances in Iowa, Jane Sanders is expected to hold more events of her own soon. But Sanders said she won't be like her rival Democratic political spouse, Bill Clinton, who has at times gone negative on his wife's opponent.

"I'm not going to put down Bill or Hillary," Jane Sanders said. "I'm going to talk about what Bernie is proposing for the country, who he is as a person."

Brooklyn-born like her husband, Jane Sanders favors black attire and sensible shoes and wears her red hair long and loose. She said she first became aware of injustices as a child, when her father, who suffered health problems for years after breaking his hip, couldn't get good medical care until her brother started earning enough money as an equestrian to pay for it.

"It seemed really unfair that somebody could be in and out of the hospital for most of my childhood," Sanders said. "It seems very unfair that people cannot have adequate health care."

While Bernie Sanders is loath to share personal details, his wife offers a window into life behind the scenes. They love the movies, most recently, "The Big Short." He bought her treats from Dancing Lion Chocolate in Manchester, New Hampshire, for Valentine's Day.

But they miss their kids and grandkids — she has three children from her first marriage and he has one from a past relationship and they have seven grandchildren. She also said it is harder for them to do simple things they enjoy.

"In Wisconsin, we said we have a break in the schedule, we're going to go for a walk," she recalled. "It was frigid, but it was great to walk for an hour."

They've come a long way from Burlington, but as she watches the rallies packed with thousands shouting "Feel the Bern," Jane Sanders thinks maybe they could end up in the White House.

"I think that people are actually hearing him unvarnished," Sanders said. "He's being able to speak to the people directly, just as he did to me that first night I met him."

Cliven Bundy, 4 others, face federal indictment in Nevada

LISA BAUMANN, Associated Press

A federal grand jury in Nevada indicted Cliven Bundy and four others on 16 charges related to an armed standoff near his ranch in 2014 over unpaid grazing fees.

The 69-year-old Nevada rancher was arrested Feb. 10 in Portland, Oregon, where his sons, Ammon and Ryan Bundy, are jailed and accused of organizing the occupation of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. In the takeover, which lasted nearly six weeks, they had demanded that public lands be turned over to locals and that two area ranchers serving sentences for arson be freed.

Ammon Bundy, of Idaho, Ryan Bundy, of Nevada, Ryan Payne, of Montana, and Peter Santilli of Ohio, were also indicted by the Nevada grand jury Wednesday.

The charges against them and Cliven Bundy include: conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States, conspiracy to impede or injure a federal officer, weapon use and possession, assault on a federal officer, threatening a federal law enforcement officer, obstruction, extortion to interfere with commerce, and interstate travel in aid of extortion.

"This indictment sends a resounding message to those who wish to participate in violent acts that our resolve to pursue them and enforce the law remains unwavering," Nevada FBI Special Agent in Charge Laura Bucheit said in a written statement.

Cliven Bundy is accused of leading "a massive armed assault" of 200 followers to stop federal law agents who were rounding up about 400 of Bundy's cattle on federal lands in April 2014, according to documents filed by U.S. attorneys Wednesday.

Upon learning of the roundup, Bundy said he was "ready to do battle," with the Bureau of Land Management and that he would "do whatever it takes" to protect his property, according to documents.

The others allegedly organized and recruited followers and acted as leaders in the incident.

Federal officials have said Bundy unlawfully allowed his cattle to graze on federal public lands for more than 20 years, refusing to pay grazing fees and ignoring federal court orders in 1998 and in 2013 to remove his cows or have them removed by the government.

Court documents say on April 12, 2014, federal officials were outnumbered four to one by armed Bundy followers and wishing to avoid a firefight, diffused the situation by abandoning the cattle to Bundy.

"The rule of law has been reaffirmed with these charges," said U.S. Attorney Bogden. "Persons who use force and violence against federal law enforcement officers who are enforcing court orders, and nearly causing catastrophic loss of life or injury to others, will be brought to justice."

Ammon Bundy's lawyer, Mike Arnold, told The Oregonian Wednesday evening he had anticipated the indictments but declined comment on the specific charges, saying he hadn't yet read them.

"It's important for the public to remember that there is a constitutional presumption of innocence in America," Arnold said in an email to The Oregonian. "A government charge is proof of nothing. That's what courts and trials are for."

Five counts of criminal forfeiture are also included in the indictment which would require the forfeiture of property derived from the proceeds of the crimes totaling at least \$3 million, as well as the firearms and ammunition possessed and used on April 12, 2014.

Federal authorities said two years ago that Bundy owed more than \$1.1 million in fees and penalties for letting cows graze illegally for decades on public land near his ranch. A Bureau of Land Management

spokesman said last week an updated accounting has not been made.

Cliven Bundy and the other defendants are currently in custody in Oregon. Arraignments on the charges have not yet been set.

How Apple ended up in the government's encryption crosshairs

BRANDON BAILEY, AP Technology Writers

MICHAEL LIEDTKE, AP Technology Writers

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — As the maker of trend-setting gadgets like the iPhone and iPad, Apple has changed the way people use technology in their daily lives. Now, after positioning itself as a champion of privacy, the tech giant has sparked a potentially momentous conflict with the federal government over encryption.

For months, Apple CEO Tim Cook has engaged in a sharp, public debate with government officials over his company's decision to shield the data of iPhone users with strong encryption — essentially locking up people's photos, text messages and other data so securely that even Apple can't get at it. Law-enforcement officials from FBI Director James Comey on down have complained that terrorists and criminals may use that encryption as a shield.

Then on Wednesday, Apple found itself in the government's crosshairs over an iPhone used by one of the San Bernardino mass shooters. A federal magistrate ordered Apple to produce software that would help federal investigators hack into that phone — not by breaking the encryption directly, but by disabling other security measures that prevent attempts to guess the phone's passcode.

Apple has five days to challenge that order, setting the stage for a legal clash that experts say could change the relationship between tech companies and government authorities in the U.S. and around the world.

"This is really a deep question about the power of government to redesign products that we use," said Ryan Calo, a University of Washington law professor who studies data security and privacy issues.

Many leading tech companies — Facebook, Microsoft, Twitter and Yahoo — were conspicuously silent about the dispute on Wednesday, although some trade groups issued statements endorsing Apple's position. Google CEO Sundar Pichai also voiced support for Apple in a series of tweets late in the day. "Forcing companies to enable hacking could compromise users' privacy," Pichai wrote, adding that the case "could be a troubling precedent."

While tech companies have spoken against broad government surveillance in the past, the Obama administration has recently sought to enlist the tech industry's help in fighting terrorism. Several companies have recently heeded the administration's request for voluntary efforts aimed at countering terrorist postings on social media.

Civil liberties groups warned the fallout from the San Bernardino dispute could extend beyond Apple.

"This is asking a company to build a digital defect, a design flaw, into their products," said Nuala O'Connor of the Center for Democracy and Technology, a Washington-based group that has criticized government surveillance. In a statement, the center warned that other companies could face similar orders in the future.

Others said a government victory could encourage regimes in China and other countries to make similar requests for access to smartphone data. Apple sells millions of iPhones in China, which has become the company's second-largest market.

"This case is going to affect everyone's privacy and security around the world," said Lee Tien, a staff attorney for the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a digital rights group in San Francisco.

The case turns on an 18th-century law that the government has invoked to require private assistance with law enforcement efforts. Apple has also challenged a federal search warrant based on the same law in a Brooklyn drug case. Apple has complied with previous orders invoking that law — the All Writs Act of 1789 — although it has argued the circumstances were different.

While experts said the case will likely end up in appeals court, both sides seemed to be framing the debate for a public audience as much as for a judge.

The federal request "is very strategic on their part, to be sure" said Robert Cattanach, a former Justice

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 28 of 34

Department lawyer who handles cyber-security cases for the Dorsey & Whitney law firm. He said it appeared the government took pains to ask only for limited assistance in a mass-murder case that horrified the nation.

Apple's Cook, however, declared the demand would create what amounts to a "backdoor" in Apple's encryption software. "If the government can use the All Writs Act to make it easier to unlock your iPhone, it would have the power to reach into anyone's device to capture their data," he wrote in an open letter. Cook also pledged respect for law enforcement and outrage over the shootings.

Cook may have no choice but to mount a legal challenge, given his very public commitment to protecting customer data. He's made that position a part of Apple's marketing strategy, drawing a contrast with companies like Google and Facebook that sell advertising based on customers' online behavior.

Apple "can't be seen now as doing something that would make their products less safe," said Wendy Patrick, who lectures about business ethics at San Diego State University. "I think everyone saw this issue coming down the pike and Apple always knew it was going to push back when the moment came."

But in doing so, Apple risks alienating consumers who put a higher value on national security than privacy. A recent survey by the Pew Research Center found 82 percent of U.S. adults deemed government surveillance of suspected terrorists to be acceptable. Apple's stance was already drawing fire Wednesday from GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump and commentators on Fox News.

Only 40 percent of the Pew respondents said it's acceptable for the government to monitor U.S. citizens, however. The survey also found nearly three-fourths of U.S. adults consider it "very important" to be in control over who can retrieve personal information about them.

Israel's top general urges proportionate force amid attacks

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's top general said Wednesday that soldiers must use proportionate force when dealing with a wave of Palestinian attacks.

Lt. Gen. Gadi Eisenkot said that when "there is a 13-year-old girl who is holding scissors or a knife and there is a barrier between her and the soldiers, I wouldn't want a soldier to open fire and empty a cartridge on a girl like that even if she commits a very serious act." He urged soldiers to use only "necessary force."

He made the remarks in a meeting with Israeli high school students.

The remarks come amid Palestinian and international criticism that Israel is using excessive force in trying to subdue the five month-long outburst of violence, which has killed 27 Israelis. Some 162 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli fire, among them 115 said by Israel to be attackers. Many have been teenagers.

Eisenkot says soldiers can respond in life-threatening situations.

Seoul's spy service says North Korea is preparing attacks

HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un recently ordered preparations for launching "terror" attacks on South Koreans, a top Seoul official said Thursday, as worries about the North grow after its recent nuclear test and rocket launch.

In televised remarks, senior South Korean presidential official Kim Sung-woo said North Korea's spy agency has begun work to implement Kim Jong Un's order to "muster anti-South terror capabilities that can pose a direct threat to our lives and security."

He said the possibility of North Korean attacks "is increasing more than ever" and asked for quick passage of an anti-terror bill in parliament.

North Korea has a history of attacks on South Korea, such as the 2010 shelling on an island that killed four South Koreans and the 1987 bombing of a South Korean passenger plane that killed all 115 people on board. But it is impossible to independently confirm claims about any such attack preparations. The South Korean presidential official did not say where the latest information came from.

Earlier Thursday, Seoul's National Intelligence Service briefed ruling Saenuri Party members on a similar assessment on North Korea's attack preparations, according to one of the party officials who attended the private meeting.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 29 of 34

During the briefing, the NIS, citing studies on past North Korean provocations and other unspecified assessments, said the attacks could target anti-Pyongyang activists, defectors and government officials in South Korea, the party official said requesting anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak to media publicly.

Attacks on subways, shopping malls and other public places could also happen, he said.

The official quoted the NIS as saying North Korea could launch poisoning attacks on the activists and defectors, or lure them to China where they would be kidnapped.

The Saenuri official refused to say whether the briefing discussed how the information was obtained. The NIS, which has a mixed record on predicting developments in North Korea, said it could not confirm its reported assessment.

The standoff with North Korea is not expected to ease soon, as Seoul and Washington are discussing deploying a sophisticated U.S. missile defense system in South Korea that Pyongyang warns would be a source of regional tension.

The allies also say their annual springtime military drills will be the largest ever. South Korea's defense minister said Thursday that about 15,000 U.S. troops will take part, double of the number Washington normally sends.

The North says the drills are preparation for a northward invasion.

Seoul defense officials also said that they began preliminary talks on Feb. 7 with the United States on deploying the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, the same day North Korea conducted what it said was a satellite launch but is condemned by Seoul and Washington as a banned test of missile technology.

The talks are aimed at working out details for formal missile deployment talks, such as who'll represent each side, according to Seoul's Defense Ministry.

The deployment is opposed by China and Russia too. Opponents say the system could help U.S. radar spot missiles in other countries.

The United States on Wednesday flew four stealth F-22 fighter jets over South Korea and reaffirmed it maintains an "ironclad commitment" to the defense of its Asian ally. Last month, it sent a nuclear-capable B-52 bomber to South Korea following the North's fourth nuclear test.

Foreign analysts say the North's rocket launch and nuclear test put the country further along in its quest for a nuclear-armed missile that could reach the U.S. mainland.

Data inspires pride for Pidgin, the language of Hawaii

JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER, Associated Press

MILILANI, Hawaii (AP) — When Hawaii comedian Andy Bumatai was searching for a new way to attract the attention of audiences on the Internet, his wife suggested he find inspiration in something from the old days: Pidgin, the language of his youth.

Her idea came after news reports on census data showed the number of speakers in the islands who said they spoke Pidgin, a mix of the languages spoken by Hawaiian, Filipino, Chinese, Puerto Rican and other workers who toiled in the state's sugar plantations.

Bumatai put up some videos online doing his routines in Pidgin, and one with English subtitles got 1.5 million views. He said his videos resonated with those who grew up in Hawaii and were homesick for the sounds of the language.

It is "more than a language. It's become a lexicon that congeals the people who are from Hawaii," he said.

The news reports last fall helped spark a sense of pride among those who speak the language in their homes and among friends, and a discussion about its use and the stigma that limits its wider acceptance in the state.

There are other pidgins in other parts of the world, including in the Caribbean, Africa and Asia. Pidgin in Hawaii, or Hawaii Creole English, has long been considered a substandard form of English. Some saw the census numbers as recognition for the language, though the U.S. Census isn't in the business of recognizing languages. Census officials have been counting Pidgin since 1990.

Christine Gambino, a survey statistician at the agency, said with more people knowing that it's accept-

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 30 of 34

able to write down Pidgin on the federal questionnaires, future data will be more reflective of an accurate number of speakers. Many who speak Pidgin believe there are far more speakers than the 1,600 counted in the census surveys.

While Pidgin may sound like mixed-up English because English words provide a large portion of Pidgin vocabulary, it has its own grammar and sound system, said Kent Sakoda, who teaches a course about Pidgin at the University of Hawaii.

Native Hawaiians, Chinese and Portuguese had the most influence on Pidgin structure because they were the earliest plantation laborers. Pidgin borrows phrases from various other languages. "The house is big" in Pidgin, for example, is "big, da house," which borrows from Hawaiian sentence structure.

One of Cantonese's influences is evident in the Pidgin word "get," which means both "has" and "have," as well as both "there is" and "there are." "Para," for in Portuguese, influenced how Pidgin speakers use "for" in places where English uses "to."

Pidgin has flourished as the voice of Hawaii long after the end of the plantation era.

"You're ranked as to how local you are with how much you understand and are able to speak," Bumatai said.

TV station Hawaii News Now posted to Facebook a mock traffic report in Pidgin by reporter Lacy Deniz. Hawaii viewers were enthusiastic, while some outside the state thought it made her sound uneducated, she said.

In "Kapakahi Traffic," Deniz refers to a stalled motorist as "uncle" and roadside assistance workers as "braddahs." Her intonation is characteristically Pidgin, her grammar and vocabulary accurate: "We goin' have choke students out on da roadway tryin' fo get to school, makin' their classes ... It's gonna be supa busy."

"We knew that majority people here in Hawaii, it's something they connect to," she said.

Colbert Matsumoto, chairman of Island Insurance, Hawaii's largest locally owned insurance company, said he doesn't always speak Pidgin in the "downtown circle" he operates in. Sometimes he lets himself fall into the ease of Pidgin.

"I always thought that Pidgin was something of value," said Matsumoto, who grew up on Lanai, which can feel a world away from downtown Honolulu. "It made me feel grounded."

Mike McCartney, chief of staff for Gov. David Ige, said he's proud of his ability to speak Pidgin.

"To me it's part of who we are as a people, place and culture," said McCartney, whose father was an English teacher and would correct him when he spoke Pidgin. McCartney said now he can turn Pidgin on and off fluidly, as many others do.

Former Hawaii Gov. Ben Cayetano worries about those who can't switch back and forth.

"Hawaii kids are at a distinct disadvantage if they can't speak standard English," he said. "My first year in college on the mainland, I hardly said anything in class ... I was concerned about whether my English would be good enough."

The stigma against speaking Pidgin is strong, despite moments of pride, said Lee Tonouchi, an author and activist who calls himself the "Da Pidgin Guerrilla." He makes it a point to only speak Pidgin.

To him, until the state university system starts offering degrees in Pidgin or if Pidgin joins Hawaiian and English as the state's official languages, the language will never gain any true respect.

"I tink still get stigma," he said. "For me, I tink da goal always goin' be fo Pidgin to get institutionalized recognitions."

Republican feud escalates; SC Gov. Haley backs Rubio

SCOTT BAUER, Associated Press

STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

CHAPIN, S.C. (AP) — A three-way feud among the GOP's leading White House contenders escalated Wednesday, with Republican Ted Cruz daring Donald Trump to sue him and dismissing Marco Rubio's charges of dishonesty just days before South Carolina's high-stakes primary.

Yet it was Rubio who may have scored the day's biggest win as he secured the coveted endorsement

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 31 of 34

of South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley. The popular governor said she was tasked with identifying the best candidate as she surveyed the crowded GOP field.

"If we elect Marco Rubio, every day will be a great day in America," she said alongside the Florida senator during an evening rally in suburban Columbia.

While a major development, Haley's endorsement did little to quiet the intensifying clash between Cruz, Trump and Rubio over alleged ethical violations in the days leading up to Saturday's South Carolina contest.

Cruz, the Texas senator, has been trying to beat back charges of dishonesty from Trump and Rubio for weeks. He shifted his defense to the next level during an afternoon news conference that highlighted Cruz's extensive legal training.

"You have been threatening frivolous lawsuits for your entire adult life," said Cruz, a Harvard Law School graduate, speaking directly to Trump. "Even in the annals of frivolous lawsuits, this takes the cake."

Trump threatened earlier in the week to bring a defamation lawsuit against Cruz over a television ad that attacks the Republican front-runner's conservative bona fides. Specifically, the ad features footage of the billionaire businessman in a 1999 interview supporting abortion rights. Trump now says he opposes abortion.

Trump's attorney sent Cruz a letter Tuesday charging the ad was "replete with outright lies, false, defamatory and destructive statements" and saying Cruz could be held liable for damages if it's not taken down.

Cruz on Wednesday said a lawsuit against the ad has no chance, and said he would like to take Trump's deposition himself. He also announced plans to run the contested ad more frequently.

"Please Donald, file this lawsuit," Cruz said during a CNN presidential forum Wednesday night.

The prospective legal battle marks another extraordinary step in the turbulent 2016 Republican primary season.

Polls suggest Trump continues to hold a big lead in South Carolina and in upcoming states, as Cruz works to rally the Republican Party's most conservative wing and Rubio tries to consolidate mainstream Republicans behind his candidacy. Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush and Ohio Gov. John Kasich continue to battle for a spot at the table, while retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson struggles for relevancy.

Haley's endorsement was a major setback for Bush in particular, who told NBC News on Monday that "she is the probably the most meaningful endorsement" if there is one in the state.

Bush on Wednesday said her decision left him "disappointed." At one point during a Summerville campaign stop, Bush mimicked pundits suggesting the race is over.

"It's all decided, we don't have to go vote, I guess, it's all finished," Bush told the crowd in remarks circulated by rival campaigns. "I should stop campaigning maybe, huh? It's all done. That's not how democracy works."

Rubio continued his assault against Cruz's campaign tactics. He accused Cruz supporters of using "push polls" and creating a fake Facebook page wrongly claiming that South Carolina Rep. Trey Gowdy had switched his endorsement from the Florida senator to Cruz.

"He's been lying," Rubio said during the CNN forum. "If you say something that isn't true and you say it over and over again, and you know that it's not true, there's no other word for it."

Cruz denied being involved with anything untoward and called for anyone with evidence to come forward.

Trump and Rubio are "repeatedly putting forth fabrications with no evidence, no basis whatsoever, just trying to throw mud and attack," Cruz said. "The insults and the falsehoods and the fabrications have no business in politics. It is incumbent upon all of us to speak the truth."

Meanwhile, Trump again called Cruz a liar making desperate moves to boost his campaign.

"I am pro-life and I do not support taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood as long as they are performing abortions," Trump said in a statement.

The New York real estate mogul also repeated his threat to bring a lawsuit over Cruz's eligibility to be on the ballot, given that he was born in Canada. Cruz and legal experts have said he is eligible because his mother was a United States citizen at the time of his birth.

"Time will tell, Teddy," Trump said.

Film company asks Australia court to block download site

SYDNEY (AP) — Entertainment company Village Roadshow asked an Australian court on Thursday to order Internet service providers to block access to a website that allows users to download films and TV shows for free.

The complaint filed in the Federal Court will be the first test of Australia's anti-piracy website blocking law, which went into effect last year.

Village Roadshow Ltd. is asking that all Australian ISPs be required to block access to the Philippines-based website Solarmovie. Singapore's high court recently ordered all ISPs to block access to Solarmovie following legal action brought by the Motion Picture Association. Britain has also blocked the site, which enables users to freely access thousands of movies and TV shows, including *The Walking Dead* and *Better Call Saul*.

Australia approved legislation last year that allows content owners to ask the Federal Court to block overseas websites whose "primary purpose" is to facilitate copyright infringement. If the court approves the request, all Australian ISPs are required to comply.

Film and television production companies say the law is necessary to protect their content from costly theft. Opponents argue the vagueness of the law's language could result in access being blocked to legitimate sites, such as those that provide file-sharing.

Solarmovie did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Pope had message of love for Mexico, tough love for powerful

CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN, Associated Press

PETER ORSI, Associated Press

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) — Pope Francis wrapped up a five-day visit to Mexico with a message of love and compassion for the people of Mexico and the migrants who pass through it on their way to the United States. For their political and religious leaders, the trip was more a lesson in tough love.

The pontiff used his time here to criticize Mexico's ruling class for failing to protect people from predatory criminal gangs and rampant corruption, and he lectured bishops to get closer to their flock and ease their suffering. He also visited some of the country's poorest and most violent areas to shine a spotlight on residents' harsh reality.

The final day on Wednesday was the most symbolic and politically bold moment of Francis' trip, with hundreds of thousands gathering for Mass at a Ciudad Juarez fairground while an estimated 30,000 more watched via simulcast at a football stadium across the Rio Grande in El Paso, Texas.

Francis also aimed a message north of the border at a time of increasingly tough presidential campaign rhetoric on immigration in the United States.

The pope appealed for governments to open their hearts to the "human tragedy" of forced migration. "No more death! No more exploitation!" he implored.

Francis stopped short of calling outright for the U.S. to open its borders, but he urged recognition that the multitudes fleeing gangland killings and extortion in their homelands are victims.

"We cannot deny the humanitarian crisis which in recent years has meant the migration of thousands of people, whether by train or highway or on foot, crossing hundreds of kilometers through mountains, deserts and inhospitable zones," he said. "They are our brothers and sisters, who are being expelled by poverty and violence, drug trafficking and organized crime."

"It's a message directed at everyone, from the authorities to ourselves," said Natalia Herrera Miranda, a Juarez resident who was at the Mass. "And Americans as well, so that they take immigrants in and see them for what they are — people just like everyone else."

Before the Mass, Francis paused at the border for a silent prayer in memory of migrants who died trying to reach the United States. He also blessed several hundred migrants sitting on the other side of the fence.

Angelica Ortiz, one of those invited to be on the U.S. side, said she left Ciudad Juarez because drug traffickers threatened her son's life and now lives in El Paso after being granted asylum.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 33 of 34

"I'm overcome by emotion," Ortiz said afterward, practically speechless. "A lot of emotion."

It was the most poignant moment of Francis' trip, but he began to turn heads even before his plane touched down in Mexico.

Flying in from the Vatican on Friday he first landed in Havana for a historic meeting and embrace with Patriarch Kirill of the Russian Orthodox Church, the first such encounter since the schism that divided Christianity a millennium ago.

Once in Mexico, Francis appeared to go beyond the normally gentle criticism that popes make on foreign trips, holding the feet of Mexico's powerful to the fire again and again.

On his first full day in the country, Francis told President Enrique Pena Nieto and other members of the government in a speech at the National Palace that public officials must be honest and not be seduced by privilege and corruption.

He followed that up with a pointed address to his own bishops in which he admonished them to be true pastors, not career-minded clerics who spew inoffensive denunciations like so many "babbling orphans beside a tomb."

"We do not need 'princes,' but rather a community of the Lord's witnesses," Francis said.

Moving on to the hardscrabble Mexico City suburb of Ecatepec, Francis condemned drug traffickers as "dealers of death" and urged Mexicans to shun the temptation of money, saying, "With the devil, there is no dialogue." He repeated a similar message two days later in the violence-torn state of Michoacan, telling young people that Jesus "would never ask us to be hit men."

In the poor state of Chiapas in southern Mexico, Francis denounced centuries of exploitation and exclusion of indigenous Mexicans. He also prayed before the tomb of a priest who had made it his mission to protect the indigenous, often irking the church hierarchy in the process.

Observers said the pontiff's actions, words and choice of events showed he feels both the Mexican church and the government have failed the country's poorest and most vulnerable.

"The pope literally believes that the devil is on the loose in Mexico, sowing death, misery and resignation, and he believes that the state, the church and the drug dealers are complicit," said Andrew Chesnut, chairman of Catholic studies at Virginia Commonwealth University. "He believes that Mexico, with the second-largest Catholic population in the world, is going through an acute moral and political crisis and that the church needs to become an active agent to build a more just Mexico."

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Feb. 18, the 49th day of 2016. There are 317 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 18, 1516, Mary Tudor, the Queen of England who came to be known as "Bloody Mary" for her persecution of Protestants, was born in Greenwich.

On this date:

In 1546, Martin Luther, leader of the Protestant Reformation in Germany, died in Eisleben.

In 1861, Jefferson Davis was sworn in as provisional president of the Confederate States of America in Montgomery, Alabama.

In 1885, Mark Twain's "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" was published in the U.S. for the first time (after being published in Britain and Canada).

In 1913, Mexican President Francisco I. Madero and Vice President Jose Maria Pino Suarez were arrested during a military coup (both were shot to death on Feb. 22).

In 1930, photographic evidence of Pluto (now designated a "dwarf planet") was discovered by Clyde W. Tombaugh at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona.

In 1943, Madame Chiang Kai-shek, wife of the Chinese leader, addressed members of the Senate and then the House, becoming the first Chinese national to address both houses of the U.S. Congress.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 204 ♦ 34 of 34

In 1953, "Bwana Devil," the movie that heralded the 3D fad of the 1950s, had its New York opening.

In 1960, the 8th Winter Olympic Games were formally opened in Squaw Valley, California, by Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

In 1970, the "Chicago Seven" defendants were found not guilty of conspiring to incite riots at the 1968 Democratic national convention; five were convicted of violating the Anti-Riot Act of 1968 (those convictions were later reversed).

In 1984, Italy and the Vatican signed an accord under which Roman Catholicism ceased to be the state religion of Italy.

In 1995, the NAACP replaced veteran chairman William Gibson with Myrlie Evers-Williams, the widow of slain civil rights leader Medgar Evers.

In 2001, auto racing star Dale Earnhardt Sr. died in a crash at the Daytona 500; he was 49.

Ten years ago: American Shani Davis won the men's 1,000-meter speedskating in Turin, becoming the first black athlete to win an individual gold medal in Winter Olympic history. A Hamas-dominated Palestinian parliament was sworn in. Militants in Nigeria seized nine foreign oil workers, including three Americans (all were released unharmed). Eight workers at a meat processing plant in Nebraska won a record \$365 million Powerball jackpot. Character actor Richard Bright ("The Godfather" movies) was struck and killed by a bus in New York; he was 68.

Five years ago: The United States vetoed a U.N. resolution that would have condemned Israeli settlements as illegal and called for a halt in all settlement building; the 14 other Security Council members voted in favor of the measure.

One year ago: President Barack Obama, hosting a White House summit on countering violent extremism, said Muslims in the U.S. and around the world had a responsibility to fight a misconception that terrorist groups like the Islamic State were speaking for them.

Today's Birthdays: Actor George Kennedy is 91. Former Sen. John Warner, R-Va., is 89. Author Toni Morrison is 85. Movie director Milos (MEE'-lohsh) Forman is 84. Singer Yoko Ono is 83. Singer-songwriter Bobby Hart is 77. Singer Irma Thomas is 75. Singer Herman Santiago (Frankie Lymon and the Teenagers) is 75. Actress Jess Walton is 70. Singer Dennis DeYoung is 69. Actress Sinead Cusack is 68. Actress Cybill Shepherd is 66. Singer Juice Newton is 64. Singer Randy Crawford is 64. Rock musician Robbie Bachman is 63. Rock musician Larry Rust (Iron Butterfly) is 63. Actor John Travolta is 62. Actor John Pankow is 61. Game show host Vanna White is 59. Actress Jayne Atkinson is 57. Actress Greta Scacchi (SKAH'-kee) is 56. Actor Matt Dillon is 52. Rock musician Tommy Scott (Space) is 52. Rapper Dr. Dre is 51. Actress Molly Ringwald is 48. Actress Sarah Brown is 41. Actor Ike Barinholtz is 39. Actor Kristoffer Polaha is 39. Singer-musician Sean Watkins (Nickel Creek) is 39. Actor Tyrone Burton is 37. Rock-singer musician Regina Spektor is 36. Opera singer Isabel Leonard is 34. Roots rock musician Zac Cockrell (Alabama Shakes) is 28. Actor Shane Lyons is 28. Actress Maiara Walsh is 28.

Thought for Today: "Opinion is that exercise of the human will which helps us to make a decision without information." — John Erskine, American author and educator (1879-1951).