

# Groton Daily Independent

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## Friday, February 26

Debate at Brookings  
State Wrestling in Rapid City  
**School Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, fruit, juice, milk.  
**School Lunch:** Garlic cheese bread, green beans, carrots and dip, fruit.  
**Senior Menu:** Tuna noodle casserole, peas, swedish apple pie square, whole wheat bread.  
**Birthdays:** Mary Ann Wehde, Waylon Severson

## Saturday, February 27

Debate at Brookings  
State Wrestling in Rapid City  
**Birthdays:** Alice Severson, Eddy Nehls  
4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass

## Sunday, February 28

**Birthdays:** Meagan Stearns, Shirlee Briggs  
9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran School and Confirmation  
9:00am: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass  
9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Worship  
9:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Fellowship  
10:00am: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at

## 2016 Groton Area Elementary Preschool Developmental Screening for 4 and 5 year olds February 29 and March 1

Parents of children ages 4 and 5 in the Groton Area School District are asked to contact Heidi Krueger at the Groton Area Elementary School during school hours at 397-2317 to set up a screening time or to confirm their screening time. If your child is already receiving services or enrolled at Groton Elementary School they will not need to be screened.

Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate and immunization record.

The Developmental Screening will take place at the Groton Area High School Arena. Please park and use the east entrance to the arena.

**Open:** Recycling Trailer in Groton  
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

**The cardboard/paper**  
recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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### Midwest Masonry & concrete Pumping

**Greg Heilman, owner**

405 E 1st Ave., Groton

Greg: 253/929-9137

Mike: 605/492-7041

midwestmasonry1@yahoo.com



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Follow The Groton  
Activities On-Line



# gdilive.com

**Coming up next week at [gdilive.com](http://gdilive.com)**

**Boys Regional Game**

**6:15 p.m. Monday, Feb. 29**

**Groton Area vs. Webster Area (not finalized yet)**

**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!**

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## Region 1A Girls Basketball Tournament

Aberdeen Roncalli 45, Milbank Area 27  
 Britton-Hecla 39, Sisseton 23  
 Groton Area 54, Tiospa Zina Tribal 37

Webster Area 54, Britton-Hecla 35  
 Aberdeen Roncalli 54, Groton Area 45

### #1 Webster Area

Score:

Date: February 25

Time: 6:00

Site: Britton Hecla Arena

### Britton-Hecla

Score:

### #4 Sisseton

Score:

Date: February 23rd

Time: 20 minutes following 2nd

Site: Britton Hecla Arena

Score:

### #5 Britton-Hecla

### #3 Aberdeen Roncalli

Score:

Date: February 23rd

Time: 20 minutes following first

Site: Britton Hecla

Score:

### #6 Milbank Area

### #2 Groton Area

Score:

Date: February 23rd

Time: 4:30

Site: Britton Hecla Arena

Score:

### #7 Tiospa Zina

### Webster

Score:

Date: March 1st

Time: 7:00

Site: Britton Hecla Arena

**CHAMPION**

State Qualifier

### Roncalli

Score:

### Roncalli

Score:

### Groton

Score:

Date: February 25th

Time: 20 minutes following

Site: Britton Hecla Arena

### Region 1

Seed  
Points

W-L

[Webster Area](#)

45.60

18-2

[Groton Area](#)

42.65

14-6

[Aberdeen Roncalli](#)

40.95

11-9

[Sisseton](#)

40.70

11-9

[Britton-Hecla](#)

39.28

7-11

[Milbank Area](#)

39.00

6-14

[Tiospa Zina](#)

36.89

4-15

Follow the Lady Tigers on

[gdilive.com](http://gdilive.com)

## Roncalli's 13 point rally stops Groton in regions

Two well matched teams played in the regional championship semifinal game and when the steam had all cleared from the Britton gym, Aberdeen Roncalli pulled out a 54-45 win.

The game was tied five times and the lead changed hands 11 times. But the big balance changer was Roncalli scoring 13 straight points in the second half taking Groton's 31-30 lead into a 43-31 deficit. Groton did close to within two, 45-43, but was unable to overcome the deficit.

Groton's lone senior, Carly Wheeting, finished the night with six points, was four of six from the line for 67 percent, had three offensive and four defensive rebounds, three assists, one steal, one block and had two fouls.

Audrey Wanner led the Tigers with 18 points followed by Harleigh Stange with 12, Katie Koehler had four, Miranda Hanson three and Jessica Bjerke two.

Grace Imbery led Roncalli with 14 points while Taylor Morgan had 13, Jami Ewart 10, Megan Streier nine, Mariah Winegar six and Kennedy Lorenz two.

Both teams made 40 percent of their shots with Groton making 17 of 43 and Roncalli 18 of 45.



**Harleigh Stange brings the ball upcourt.** (Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



**Carly Wheeting is triple teamed as she tries to put up this shot.** (Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)

Coverage Sponsored by

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Telecommunications

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Blocker Construction

Producer's Hybrids -

John Wheeting

Groton Dairy Queen

John Sieh Agency

Groton Lions Club

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**Katie Koehler looks for an opening under the basket.**

(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



**Harleigh Stange.**

(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



**Carly Wheeting is Groton's lone senior on the team.**

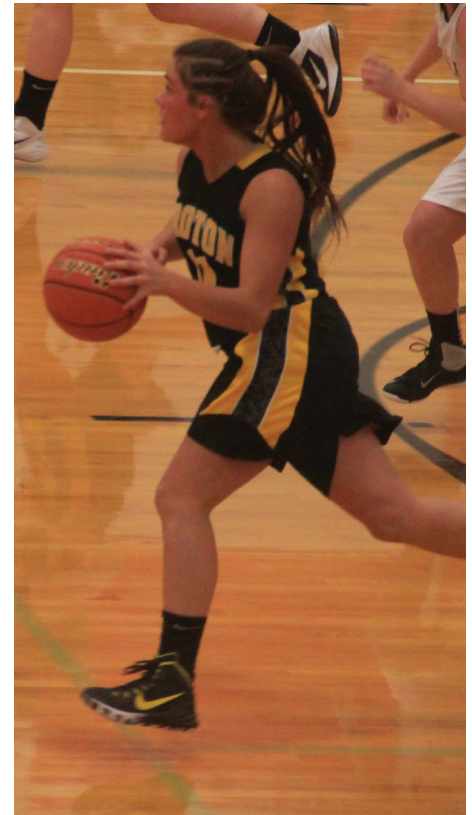
(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



**Katie Koehler quickly dribbles the ball to the top of the key.** (Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)

The Tigers made seven of 11 free throws for 64 percent off of Roncalli's 13 team fouls and Roncalli made 13 of 18 for 72 percent off of Groton's 14 team fouls. Groton had 10 turnovers and Roncalli had eight. The Tigers had nine assists, Wanner had three of Groton's five steals, Wheeting and Bjerke each had seven of Groton's 23 rebounds.

Groton finishes its season 14-7 and Roncalli goes to 12-9. The Cavaliers will play Webster in the regional championship game on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Britton. The Bearcats defeated Britton-Hecla, 54-35, in the other semifinal game.



**Audrey Wanner.**

(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)

## Petition deadline is 5 p.m. today

The positions of Merle Harder, Dorene Nelson and Lars Hanson are up for 3-year renewal on the Groton School Board. Merle Harder and Clint Fjelstad have taken out and returned valid nominating petitions. Corey Mitchell has taken out a petition but has not yet returned it to be validated.

Meanwhile on the city council, Councilmen Jay Peterson (1 year term) and Burt Glover (2 year term) have turned in their petitions. David Blackmun (2 year term) and David McGannon (2 year term) have taken out a petition. Mayor Scott Hanlon has turned in his petition for mayor (3 year term).

Deadline to submit a petition is 5:00 pm, today.



# Kumla \$10 Dinner

Sunday, Feb. 28th

Serving 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Groton Community Center**

(From US 12, go south on Main Street, then go east on 2nd Ave for one block.)

Sponsored by  
**Heaven Bound Ministries  
of Pierpont**



With Assistance from Thrivent Action Program

By placing an order through Schwans.com a portion of the sales will come back in support of our congregation! Your support of Heaven Bound Ministries is greatly appreciated! (When you check out, under Step 2: Coupon Codes and Fundraising, Click on "I would like to contribute to a new fundraiser." Then enter Campaign ID 26276. Campaign starts Monday, Feb. 22.

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## 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](mailto:ccrabtree@hcpd.com)

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## Today in Weather History

February 26, 1995: Heavy snow fell on the 26th and the 27th in western and central South Dakota near the northern border of the state. McLaughlin received 14 inches, Eureka 12 inches, and McIntosh 11 inches. Snowfall amounts dropped off to two to four inches about 20 miles south of the northern border.

February 26, 1998: A strong area of low pressure moved across central and northeast South Dakota from the morning of the 26th to the morning of the 27th. As the low moved northeast, cold north winds of 25 to 35 mph gusting to 45 mph caused widespread rain to change over to snow. Many roads became icy and poor visibilities in snow and blowing snow and low wind chills developed. Four to 8 inches of snow fell across the counties bordering the Missouri river and in far western McPherson and far western Edmunds counties. Many area schools were dismissed early or canceled. Some residents, especially West River, lost power during the storm. Many McIntosh residents were without power for over 24 hours. Numerous activities and sports events were canceled. There were also some car accidents which did not result in injury. A semi rolled onto its side northwest of Gettysburg on the 26th. Ranchers also experienced some calving problems as a result of the winter storm. Some snowfall amounts included, 4 inches at Selby, Herreid, and Mobridge, 5 inches at Isabel, 6 inches at Gettysburg, 7 inches about 11 miles east of Hosmer, and 8 inches at McIntosh. Some large drifts also developed, especially West River, as a result of the heavy snow and strong winds.

February 26, 2009: A vigorous, but relatively fast moving winter storm system tracked across South Dakota Wednesday night and Thursday. Even with the fairly quick movement of the system, storm total snowfall amounts were quite impressive. In fact, during the peak of the snowstorm, snowfall rates of 1" to 2" per hour were observed! [Click HERE](#) for snowfall amounts.

1910: Parts of Washington State were in the midst of a storm which produced 129 inches of snow at Laconia between the 24th and the 26th, a single storm record for the state. A series of storms, which began on the 23rd, led to a deadly avalanche on the first of March. By late on the 28th, the snow had changed to rain, setting the stage for disaster.

1972: The Buffalo Creek disaster occurred in the Buffalo Creek Hollow of Logan County in West Virginia. A coal slag dam on the Middle Fork of Buffalo Creek burst sending a fifty-foot wall of water down a narrow valley killing 125 persons and causing 51 million dollars damage. Three days of rain atop a six inch snow cover caused the dam to break.

1987 - A slow moving storm in the southwestern U.S. spread heavy snow from the southern and central Rockies into the Central High Plains Region. Totals in Colorado ranged up to 62 inches at Purgatory. Colorado Springs CO reported a February record of 14.8 inches of snow in 24 hours. Lander WY received four inches in one hour, 13 inches in seven hours, and a record storm total of 26 inches. High winds created near blizzard conditions at Colorado Springs. Fairplay CO reported 43 inches of snow, with drifts ten feet high. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Eight cities in the central and western U.S. reported new record high temperatures for the date, including Lamoni IA with a reading of 67 degrees. Temperatures in North Dakota were as warm as those in Florida. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - An upper level weather disturbance brought snow to parts of the central U.S. which just one day earlier were enjoying temperatures in the 60s. Snowfall totals in Missouri ranged up to nine inches at Rolla. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2000: Both Buffalo, NY and International Falls, Minnesota set new record high temperatures for February with 71 and 58 degrees, respectively.




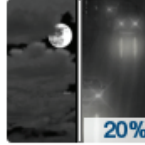



2004 - A major snowstorm dumps up to 20 inches of snow in the Charlotte metropolitan area. Charlotte's third largest snowstorm on record accumulates 11.6 inches at the airport.

2011: The tallest tree in Wales falls after a wind storm. Located on the Lake Vyrnwy Estate, this 124-year-old Douglas fir stood at 63.7 m (208.9 feet). The tree reportedly was leaning over and had two substantial cracks in the main trunk. This tree would be carved into a giant hand.

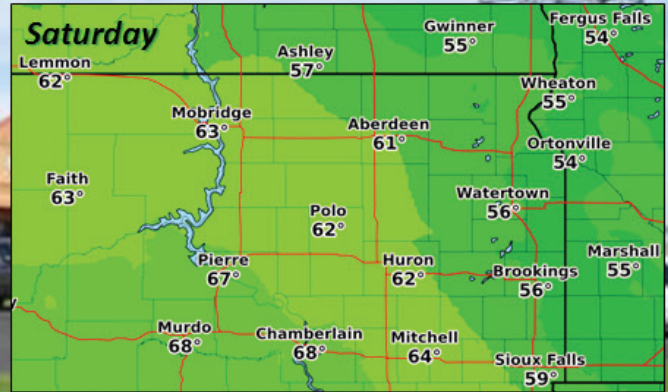
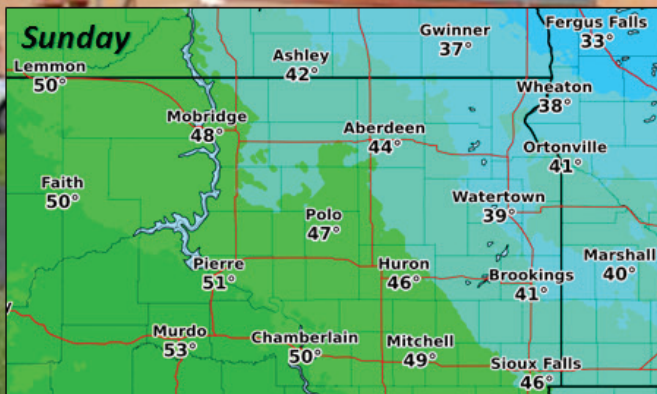
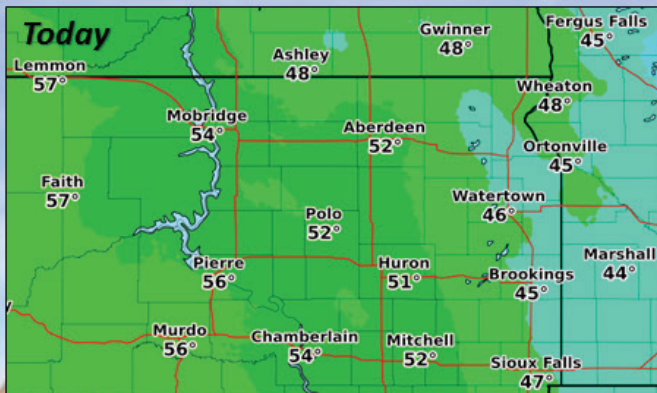


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Today	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
						
Sunny	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy then Slight Chance Rain	Partly Sunny and Breezy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny
High: 51 °F	Low: 29 °F	High: 60 °F	Low: 35 °F	High: 43 °F	Low: 29 °F	High: 37 °F

## Warm Through The Weekend Mostly Dry Too!



**Average Highs For Late February Are In The 30s!**



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



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Published on: 02/26/2016 at 5:11AM

Very mild air is going to develop across the region today - with temperatures peaking on Saturday. Sunday will see a few passing sprinkles and falling temperatures - but these will still be about 10 degrees above average.

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## Yesterday's Weather

**High:** 31.9 at 3:46 PM

**Low:** 23.0 at 10:48 PM

**High Gust:** 21 at 3:30 AM

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

**Record High:** 65° in 1896

**Record Low:** -20 in 1962

**Average High:** 32°F

**Average Low:** 12°F

**Average Precip in Feb.:** 0.50

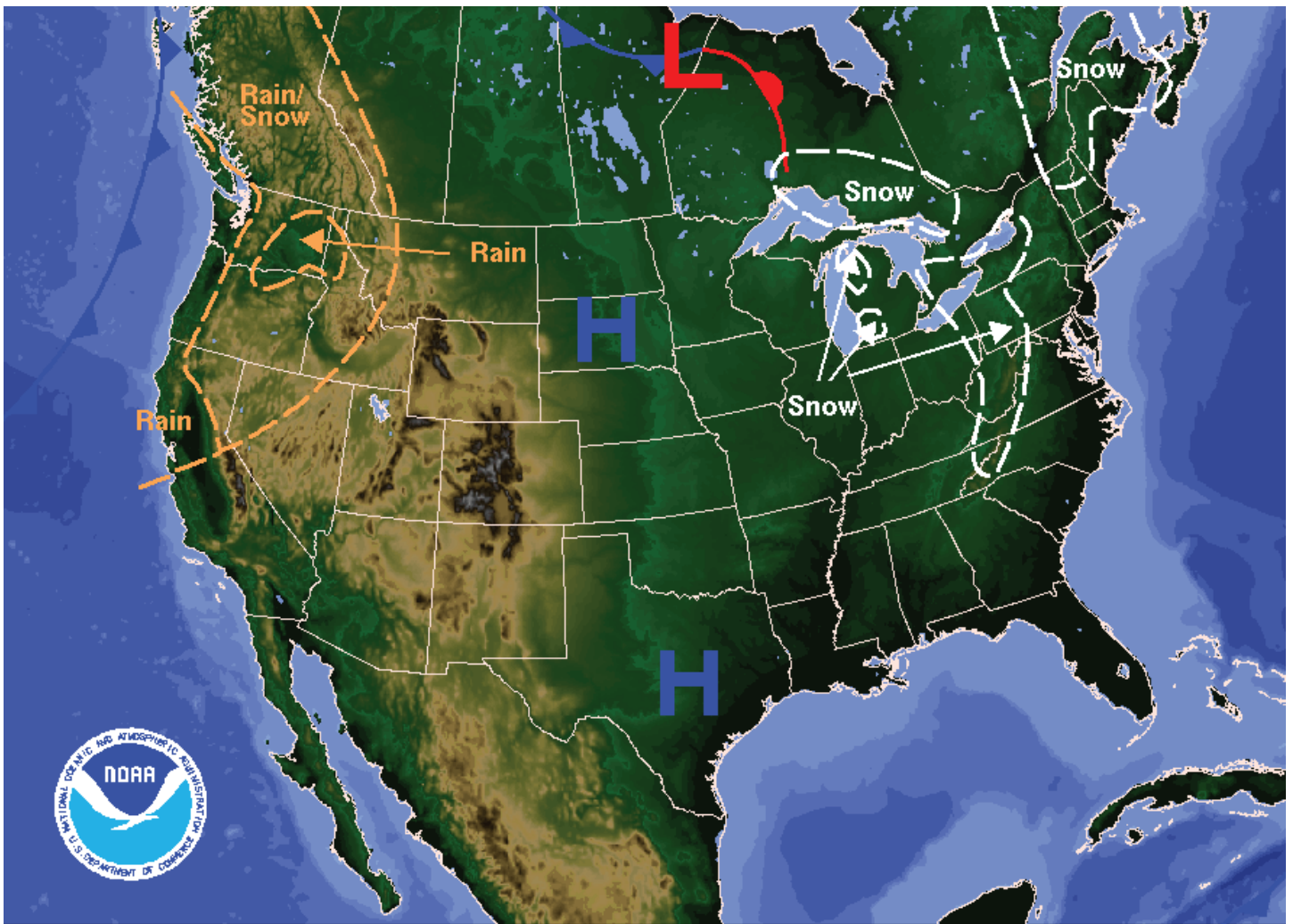
**Precip to date in Feb.:** 0.60

**Average Precip to date:** 0.97

**Precip Year to Date:** 0.60

**Sunset Tonight:** 6:15 p.m.

**Sunrise Tomorrow:** 7:16 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Fri, Feb 26, 2016, issued 3:39 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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## NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!

A small child was sitting alone looking out the window of a train traveling to Northern England. A kind, elderly lady saw him quietly looking out the window. Thinking he might be lonely or afraid, she asked, "Are you traveling alone, sonny?"

"Yes, ma'am," he replied.

"How far are you traveling?" she inquired.

"To the end of the line, ma'am," he answered.

"Aren't you afraid of taking such a long trip all by yourself?" she said in amazement.

"No, ma'am," he said with confidence. "My father's the engineer."

The quiet confidence and unwavering assurance of being safe and protected can become the centerpiece of the life of every Christian. We often find ourselves in situations that are fearful and frightening, turbulent and threatening. While life around us may seem to be falling apart, our Heavenly Father is still "the Engineer." He knows His own and He owns this planet and everything on it. We can always be confident and courageous because we have the assurance that He will constantly guard us.

The Living Bible puts it this way: Let Him have all your worries and cares, for He is always thinking about you and watching everything that concerns you.

**Prayer:** Help us, Father, to take You at Your Word and in faith, believe that everything in our lives is there because You are in control. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

**Scripture for Today:** 1 Peter 5:7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

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## News from the Associated Press

### **Pierre and Huron pursuing studies on local business markets**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Officials in Pierre and Huron want to know what types of businesses their cities can support.

KOKK radio reports that the Greater Huron Development Corp. has hired an independent contractor to analyze opportunities for hotels and restaurants to start up in the city. The study should be done in about a month and a half.

Pierre City Administrator Leon Schochenmaier (SHAWK'-ehn-my-ur) is proposing hiring a consultant to do a retail study for that city. The idea is to generate data on what stores and restaurants Pierre can support, to try to draw businesses.

The Capital Journal reports that the last such study was done about eight years ago, and helped convince Menards to build a store in Pierre.

The City Commission must approve the new study.

### **USD getting federal grant money for telehealth network**

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — The University of South Dakota is getting federal telecommunications grant money to connect facilities in Vermillion, Pierre, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls with 24 rural hospitals and clinics, including one on the Lake Traverse Indian Reservation.

The Vermillion-based school is getting about half a million dollars through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Distance Learning and Telemedicine program.

USDA Rural Development Acting State Director Bruce Jones says the DLT program aims to bring medical and educational opportunities to rural areas.

USD spokeswoman Cheryl Tiaht says the money will enable the university to build a telehealth video network linking school resources and educators with health care professionals and students across the state.

## **Thursday's Scores** The Associated Press

### **BOYS' BASKETBALL**

Burke/South Central 67, Avon 55  
Colome 63, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 30  
Gayville-Volin 57, Andes Central/Dakota Christian 41  
Gregory 52, Platte-Geddes 47  
Menno 56, Centerville 54  
Parker 74, Freeman 28  
Rapid City Stevens 67, Sturgis Brown 38  
Tiospa Zina Tribal 64, Hamlin 49

### **GIRLS' BASKETBALL**

Region 1A Regional Semifinal  
Aberdeen Roncalli 54, Groton Area 45  
Webster 54, Britton-Hecla 35  
Region 2A First Round  
Clark/Willow Lake 50, Deuel 35  
Redfield/Doland 60, Great Plains Lutheran 34  
Region 3A Regional Semifinal  
Dell Rapids 53, Sioux Falls Christian 36  
Flandreau 50, Madison 39

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Region 4A Regional Semifinal  
Elk Point-Jefferson 64, Vermillion 28  
Lennox 52, Dakota Valley 46  
Region 5A Regional Semifinal  
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 50, Wagner 45  
West Central 46, McCook Central/Montrose 39  
Region 6A Regional Semifinal  
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 68, Chamberlain 54  
McLaughlin 68, Mobridge-Pollock 50  
Region 7A Regional Semifinal  
Little Wound 57, Red Cloud 45  
Winner 50, Pine Ridge 47  
Region 8A Regional Semifinal  
Belle Fourche 51, Lead-Deadwood 47  
St. Thomas More 80, Spearfish 42  
District 1B Championship: Waverly-South Shore 42, Wilmot 36  
District 2B Championship: Leola/Frederick 41, Warner 36  
District 3B Championship: Ipswich 47, Herreid/Selby Area 35  
District 4B Championship: Sully Buttes 65, Hitchcock-Tulare 40  
District 5B Semifinal  
Castlewood 38, Deubrook 35  
DeSmet 48, Arlington 29  
District 6B Championship: Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 62, James Valley Christian 42  
District 7B Semifinal  
Chester 43, Colman-Egan 30  
Elkton-Lake Benton 55, Dell Rapids St. Mary 40  
District 8B Semifinal  
Ethan 72, Howard 41  
Hanson 63, Mitchell Christian 34  
District 13B Championship: Jones County 56, Lyman 34  
District 14B Championship: Wall 39, New Underwood 23  
District 15B Championship: Timber Lake 53, Lemmon 40  
District 16B Championship: Faith 46, Harding County 26

## South Dakota State handles North Dakota State 71-59

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Mike Daum scored 20 points on 8-of-14 shooting with six rebounds and South Dakota State handled North Dakota State 71-59 Thursday night.

George Marshall had 15 points, Reed Tellinghuisen added 14 and Deondre Parks scored 11 points with seven rebounds. The Jackrabbits (22-7, 11-4 Summit League) remain one game behind conference-leading IPFW (23-7, 12-3), winners over Western Illinois.

North Dakota State (18-11, 8-7) was led by A.J. Jacobson with 19 points and six rebounds, while Carlin Dupree added 17 points. The Bison made just 5 of 21 from beyond the arc.

A close game throughout, the Bison drew to within three at 54-51 after Jacobson sank a pair of free throws. But the Jackrabbits got a layup from Parks and a 3-pointer by Tellinghuisen on consecutive possession and finished on a 16-8 run.

## 30 mountain lions killed so far in Black Hills season

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Hunters in South Dakota have reported 30 mountain lion killings during the ongoing hunting season in the Black Hills Fire Protection District.

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A report from the state's Game, Fish and Parks Department shows 17 of the 30 lions killed were females. Ten of the 30 lions were hunted this month.

The biggest lion killed so far was a 7-year-old, 156-pound male harvested in Custer County, while the youngest was a 3-month-old, 14-pound female harvested in Lawrence County.

The 13-week season will end March 31, unless the harvest limit of 60 total mountain lions or 40 female lions is reached prior to that date. The mountain lion season outside of the Black Hills district runs year-round.

The state has had a residents-only mountain lion season since 2005.

## More than 200 expected at South Dakota nursing convention

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — Some 200 nursing students from across the state are expected to attend the 2016 South Dakota State Nursing Association Convention on Friday and Saturday at Mount Marty College.

The "Nursing: Putting the Pieces Together" conference will include panel discussions, a statewide meeting, awards and officer nominations and elections.

Speakers include an experienced ICU nurse and clinical nurse educator, a U.S. Army nurse and a person sharing stories about mental illness, suicide and co-occurring disorders.

A physician assistant will speak about his firsthand experience working in Liberia, Africa, during the 2014 Ebola outbreak and a Mount Marty alumnus will discuss home-based care in homebound elderly and frail patients.

## Federal arrests reveal South Dakota polygamist sect details

**JAMES NORD, Associated Press**  
**DIRK LAMMERS, Associated Press**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A federal crackdown on an alleged food stamp fraud scheme by a polygamist sect on the Arizona-Utah border is offering details about a secretive compound in far southwestern South Dakota that has served as one of the church's "lands of refuge."

Top leaders from Warren Jeffs' Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, including his brothers Lyle Jeffs of Utah and Seth Jeffs of South Dakota, were arrested Tuesday. Prosecutors accuse church leaders of orchestrating a fraud scheme instructing members how to use food-stamp benefits illegally and avoid getting caught, according to an indictment from the U.S. Attorney's Office in Utah.

But court documents say sect members living in the South Dakota compound were prohibited from using food stamps while living there, potentially part of the church leadership's efforts to keep secret their property near Pringle, population 111. Known to the faithful as "R23," the group started work on the compound there over a decade ago.

Warren Jeffs is serving a life sentence in Texas for assaulting two of his child brides. Authorities say his brother Seth is the bishop of the church's South Dakota congregation. Seth Jeffs, who previously downplayed his church role in dealings with South Dakota water regulators, is behind bars in South Dakota pending a Monday hearing in the food stamp case. An attorney for Seth Jeffs didn't immediately return telephone messages requesting comment.

Only about 30 miles from the popular tourist attraction of Mount Rushmore, the church's 140-acre South Dakota property sits along a gravel road secluded by tall pine trees and a recently completed privacy fence. A roving security force of two was bolstered by two or three guards stationed inside the compound's watch tower, a steel-enforced octagonal structure manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, according to an FBI report on a 2014 interview with Sam Steed. He was a compound resident from 2006-2007.

Cell phone batteries had to be removed while on the property. The presiding bishop carried a phone but had to leave to use it, Steed told the FBI.

Steed didn't immediately respond to telephone and email messages requesting comment about the information attributed to him in the court documents.

"You can't see a whole lot anymore," Custer County Sheriff Rick Wheeler said of the South Dakota

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compound.

After a 2008 federal raid of the sect's Texas ranch that led to Warren Jeffs' conviction, the South Dakota property's population swelled to 100-150, Steed said, according to court documents. Some girls and young women were also moved to the South Dakota compound from the Arizona-Utah border to receive "special training," he said.

"There was a selection process for these girls chosen to go to R23," Steed said. "Lyle (Jeffs) was instrumental in the selection process and told the girls that you had to 'qualify' to go."

Only a dozen people were approved to work on Warren Jeffs' house on the South Dakota property. Construction started in 2008, and it was built with one-foot thick walls, sound barriers and double padded flooring, according to the documents.

Warren Jeffs' son Roy was sent to live in the South Dakota compound for nearly a year in 2007-2008, where he spent long days building houses with log exteriors. Other men helped raise livestock or stood guard in the tower, Roy Jeffs told The Associated Press. He left the sect in February 2014.

Roy Jeffs said only a few dozen people were there at a time. He saw women, but didn't know what they were there for. People weren't supposed to leave without approval from leaders.

Before 2010, the only people allowed to go to South Dakota were devout followers in good standing, he said. In the faith's hierarchy, it was considered more sacred than the base on the Utah-Arizona border but below the Texas compound, which had a temple, Roy Jeffs said.

The sect in 2011 wanted to build a temple on the South Dakota property, but leaders told the Custer County planning commission that the structure was going to be a storage building. The project was scrapped when leaders ran out of money, according to Steed.

"It has the same dimensions as the temple down in Texas, but it was kind of roughed out and never really started," Wheeler said.

Warren Jeffs said sites such as South Dakota were necessary because he believed that the government intended to seize property on the Arizona-Utah border, according to Jerold Williams, a former church elder who supervised early construction of the South Dakota compound until 2006.

"It was a prophesy kind of thing," Williams said. "He was going to do these 'lands of refuge,' he called them, for people to have somewhere to go to."

Some of the detail in court documents matches Williams' account of South Dakota, which was meant to be "top secret." Members doing the work often didn't really know what Warren Jeffs had in mind, said Williams, who left the church in 2012.

Neighbors have regarded the Pringle outpost with mistrust and concern, including skepticism about Seth Jeffs' truthfulness during a hearing last year on a request to draw water more quickly at the compound.

Linda Van Dyke Kilcoin, a nearby landowner, said she hopes the current case prompts government agencies to intensify scrutiny of the group.

## 7th person surrenders in polygamous food stamp fraud case

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A seventh person who was indicted in a food stamp fraud scheme in the polygamous community on the Utah-Arizona border has surrendered, leaving four who are still at large.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Utah says Nephi Steed Allred was booked Thursday into a jail in St. George, Utah. Prosecutors say Allred is an accountant who helped sect leader Warren Jeffs move around the group's money.

Allred is scheduled to make his first court appearance Friday in St. George.

Five others, including Lyle Jeffs, have already pleaded not guilty to the charges. Lyle Jeffs runs the day-to-day operations for the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints with his brother Warren Jeffs serving a life prison sentence.

Warrants are out for the remaining four. They are followers of Jeffs, but not high-ranking leaders.

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## **Environmentalists sue for more rules to protect sage grouse**

**MATTHEW BROWN, Associated Press**

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) Environmental groups sued Thursday to force the Obama administration to impose more restrictions on oil and gas drilling, grazing and other activities blamed for the decline of greater sage grouse across the American West.

A sweeping sage grouse conservation effort that the government announced last September is riddled with loopholes and will not be enough to protect the bird from extinction, according to the lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Idaho.

It follows several legal challenges against the same rules from the opposite end of the political spectrum. Mining companies, ranchers and officials in Utah, Idaho and Nevada argue that the administration's actions will impede economic development.

The ground-dwelling sage grouse, known for their elaborate mating ritual, range across a 257,000-square-mile region spanning 11 states.

The new rules and land use policies for federal lands in the region were meant to keep the popular game bird off the endangered species list. They are backed by more than \$750 million in commitments from the government and outside groups to conserve land and restore the bird's range.

But the lawsuit from the Western Watersheds Project, Center for Biological Diversity and two other groups said the rules have too many exceptions favorable to industry at the expense of the bird.

"Each state had its own specific loophole," said Erik Molvar with WildEarth Guardians, another plaintiff in the case. "For Wyoming, there are huge loopholes for oil and gas. Nevada has loopholes for geothermal power. In southeastern Oregon, there were loopholes for wind farms. And everywhere there are loopholes for transmission projects."

Interior Department spokeswoman Jessica Kershaw declined to comment directly on the lawsuit, but she said the government's conservation plans follow the best science and were crafted in partnership with state and local officials.

"The plans are both balanced and effective, protecting key sage-grouse habitat and providing for sustainable development," Kershaw said in an emailed statement.

The grouse population once was estimated at 16 million birds across North America. It's lost roughly half its habitat to development, livestock grazing and an invasive grass that encourages wildfires in the Great Basin of Nevada and adjoining states. There are now an estimated 200,000 to 500,000 greater sage grouse.

The Prairie Hills Audubon Society of South Dakota was another plaintiff in Thursday's suit.

Notably absent was its parent organization, the National Audubon Society. The influential, New York-based advocacy group supports the administration's plans and wants them to be given time to work, spokesman Nicholas Gonzalez said.

## **Sioux Falls police investigating stabbing of woman in alley**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Authorities in Sioux Falls are investigating the stabbing of a 22-year-old woman in an alley.

Police say they were dispatched to an alley in the 200 block between South Phillips and South Main avenues about 11:30 a.m. when the woman reported that she had been assaulted and stabbed by an unknown man.

The woman was taken to a nearby hospital with what appeared to be a non-life threatening injury. Her name was not released.

The suspect was not located, but police say the public is not considered to be in danger.

The investigation is still ongoing.

## **Man sentenced for arson crime near Wasta on Halloween 2014**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A man accused of setting fire to a vacant house in Pennington County 1 1/2 years ago has been sentenced to serve five years in prison.



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Thirty-five-year-old Utah native Shawn Hall initially had been declared not mentally fit to stand trial. After nearly half a year in treatment he was deemed competent to participate in court proceedings. He pleaded guilty to arson and was sentenced this week.

Authorities say Hall set fire to a vacant house along Interstate 90 near Wasta on Halloween 2014, causing serious damage.

Hall was given credit for about 1 1/3 years he's already spent behind bars. He also faces an arson charge in Utah.

## **Man gets life for raping, killing woman in Sioux Falls home**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls man will spend the rest of his life in prison for raping and killing a Sioux Falls woman in her home.

A jury last November convicted 42-year-old Christopher Kryger of first-degree murder, forcible rape and first-degree burglary. He was sentenced Thursday to life behind bars with no possibility of parole on the murder charge.

Kryger was arrested in March 2014 after 56-year-old Kari Anne Kirkegaard was found dead in her bathtub.

Prosecutors say DNA and other evidence show that Kryger raped and killed Kirkegaard. Kryger maintained the two had consensual sex and that he didn't kill her.

## **Panel advances tax hike for teacher pay to Senate floor**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Senate committee has advanced Gov. Dennis Daugaard's proposed half-cent sales tax hike to help increase teacher pay to the chamber's floor.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations voted 7-2 for the plan. If passed by the full Senate, the bill would head to the supportive governor.

It takes two-thirds support in each chamber to pass a tax hike. The House hit the exact number of required votes earlier this week.

Advocates for the tax increase say the state needs a sustainable funding source to boost teacher pay. Opponents argue that education could be prioritized in existing tax dollars.

Most of the proposed tax increase would go toward teacher salaries, but a large chunk would go to property tax relief. A small portion would go toward salaries at technical schools.

## **Mitchell woman accused of trying to kill man with a vehicle**

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — A Mitchell woman is accused of trying to kill a man with a vehicle.

Authorities allege that 38-year-old Roberta Woodside hit a 40-year-old man walking in a field about 2 a.m. Wednesday, turned the vehicle around and hit him a second time, then drove over him before leaving the scene.

The man was taken to a hospital with broken bones. He hasn't been identified and his condition isn't known. Police say it appears the man was in the car with Woodside before the incident and that the two know one another.

Woodside is charged with aggravated assault and attempted murder. It's not clear if she has an attorney.

## **Pierre nursing home sued over nursing aide's actions**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Pierre nursing home is facing a civil lawsuit after a nursing aide took nude photos of a resident and allegedly posted them on social media.

The lawsuit was filed on behalf of the resident, who has since died, and her estate. It seeks unspecified damages from Golden Living Center.

Center employee Callie Jones pleaded guilty last year to secretly recording the body of a person. The Argus Leader reports that she was sentenced to three days in jail on the misdemeanor.

A spokeswoman for the center's corporate office told KCCR radio that the company conducts background checks on workers but that "there is an element of unpredictability in human behavior."

## Sanford Health pledges up to \$3 million to Minnesota college

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Dakotas-based Sanford Health is pledging up to \$3 million to help a Minnesota college pay for a \$45 million science complex.

Sanford CEO Kelby Krabbenhoft is a 1980 graduate of Concordia College and also serves on the private liberal arts school's Board of Regents. Sanford Health will match 10 percent of donations to the school's capital campaign, up to \$3 million.

"While we typically do not invest in general science infrastructure, we were moved by the market impact for enrollment growth and the focus on health careers at Concordia as a result of this project," Krabbenhoft said in a statement Wednesday.

The project will update and expand laboratories and classrooms in the Ivers and Jones Science Center on the Moorhead campus.

"Science study and health professions preparation are marks of distinction for Concordia College and its talented graduates, who regularly become leaders in medicine, nursing, research, and health care administration," President William Craft said in a statement. "This match will inspire new giving to the project, for which fundraising has already been strong."

To date, \$27 million has been raised. Construction is to begin in April and wrap up in August 2017.

Sanford, based in Sioux Falls, S.D., and Fargo, N.D., bills itself as one of the largest health systems in the nation, with 43 hospitals and nearly 250 clinics in nine states.

## Rubio and allies renew Trump attacks after wild debate

**STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press**

**JULIE BYKOWICZ, Associated Press**

HOUSTON (AP) — Marco Rubio waged an all-out verbal assault on Donald Trump Friday morning as his allies prepared to spend millions on new attack ads in key states, promising an aggressive and well-funded takedown effort the morning after the Republican front-runner was knocked on his heels on the debate stage.

Rubio, the leading aggressor during the debate, picked up where he left off Friday morning. In several television interviews, he questioned Trump's business background, his ability to lead the nation, and repeatedly called the billionaire businessman a "con artist" who has spent decades "sticking it to the little guy."

"A con artist is about to take over the Republican Party and the conservative movement, and we have to put a stop to it," Rubio charged on CBS' "This Morning."

The comments come as the GOP presidential candidates barreled into the final stretch to Super Tuesday following after a name-calling, insult-trading, finger-pointing final debate in which Rubio and Ted Cruz engaged in a tag-team attack intended to slow Trump's momentum before it's too late.

"I've dealt with tougher," Trump sniffed after taking incoming for two-plus hours Thursday night. He said he knew the attacks were coming because "they're desperate. They're losing by massive amounts."

Eleven states vote in Tuesday's mega-round of voting, with 595 delegates at stake. Trump, with three straight victories behind him, has the momentum, and his rivals know they have to change that dynamic to have any hope of derailing his steamroll toward the nomination.

As Trump's rivals ratcheted up their criticism, a pro-Rubio super PAC also announced plans to start running new Trump attack ads in key states Friday morning.

One of the ads charges that Trump "knows nothing about foreign policy." Another targets his business background, highlights the businessman's use of "sleazy bankruptcy laws to avoid paying workers" and highlights his recent comment that he loves "the poorly educated."

The ads are part of a "significant part of a multi-state, multi-million dollar buy," said the pro-Rubio group's spokesman, Jeff Sadosky.

It was far from clear, though, that the new effort will solve Trump's rivals' basic conundrum — each struggling to emerge as the clear alternative to the front-runner as non-Trump voters continue to splinter

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their support among the alternatives.

On the Democratic side, Hillary Clinton claimed new momentum on Friday on the eve of a South Carolina Democratic primary that she's expected to win handily.

"I think it does take me a little bit longer to get into the rhythm of campaigning," she said on MSNBC's "Morning Joe." "We hit our stride in Nevada. Our message of breaking all barriers is really beginning to take hold. I really felt we were on an upward trajectory."

From Houston, the GOP candidates spread out in the hunt for Super Tuesday votes, with Cruz headed for Tennessee and Virginia on Friday. Both Trump and Rubio are signaling they're unwilling to cede Texas, the crown jewel of Super Tuesday, to the home state senator, Cruz. Each scheduled campaign events in Texas before heading to Oklahoma City.

Up until Thursday, Rubio and Cruz had shown little willingness to take on Trump when the national spotlight shines the brightest. That all changed in Houston.

Rubio was the principal aggressor, spitting out a steady stream of criticism on everything from Trump's position on immigration to his privileged background, his speaking style and more. Cruz was happy to pile on, too, questioning the front-runner's conservative credentials, foreign policy savvy and electability.

In one testy moment, Rubio speculated that if Trump "hadn't inherited \$200 million, you know where Donald Trump would be right now? Selling watches in Manhattan."

Not long after that, he took on Trump's declaration that he'd build a wall on the Mexican border, declaring: "If he builds a wall the way he built Trump Tower he'll be using illegal immigrant labor to do it."

Joining in, Cruz criticized Trump for suggesting he alone had "discovered the issue of illegal immigration." Both said Trump had had to pay a \$1 million fine for illegal immigration hiring.

It was a rare night where the bombastic Trump, standing between the two senators, found himself on the defensive.

He was hardly silent, responding to both Rubio and Cruz: "This guy's a choke artist and this guy's a liar. ... Other than that I rest my case."

## **The Latest: Sheriff: Protection order likely led to attack**

HESSTON, Kan. (AP) — The Latest on the attack at a central Kansas factory (all times local):  
7 a.m.

Authorities say a man who opened fire on the central Kansas factory where he worked was served with a protection from abuse order shortly before the attack.

Harvey County Sheriff T. Walton said Friday that the sheriff's office served the suspect with the order at around 3:30 p.m. Thursday and that he thinks it was likely what triggered the attack, which began about 90 minutes later.

He says such orders are typically served "because there's some type of violence in a relationship," but he declined to specify the nature of the relationship in question or to disclose the attacker's name.

Pickett says the suspect shot two people while driving to the Excel Industries plant in Hesston where he worked and shot another person in the parking lot before going inside. He says the man shot 15 others in the lawnmower parts factory, killing three of them, before a Hesston police officer shot him dead.

## **South Carolina deputy shot, wounded; suspect found dead**

GOOSE CREEK, S.C. (AP) — A South Carolina sheriff's deputy was shot and wounded early Friday and the suspect was later found dead after barricading himself into a home, authorities said.

The man died of an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound, said Spencer Pryor, spokesman for the North Charleston Police Department.

A female Berkeley County sheriff's deputy was wounded early Friday after she stepped out of her vehicle in Goose Creek. Capt. Mike Cochran of the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office said the deputy was in serious but stable condition after surgery at a hospital.

Other details about her shooting were not immediately available.

Officers were tipped off that the suspect appeared to be heading from Goose Creek to North Charleston,

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Pryor said.

Three people who were asleep in the house were able to get out safely and told officers the suspect was injured and bleeding, Pryor said.

Hostage negotiators spent more than two hours talking with the suspect in an attempt to convince him to surrender, Pryor said. The SWAT team then moved in and found the man dead.

The names of the deputy and the suspect have not been released. Cochran said the officer had worked as a correctional officer for a couple of years and had been a patrol officer for about a year.

The State Law Enforcement Division has taken over the investigation.

## Cruise ship food: 10,680 hot dogs just tip of the iceberg

**SCOTT MAYEROWITZ, AP Business Writer**

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — It's still dark out at this industrial port. Most passengers aboard the Oasis of the Seas are sound asleep in their staterooms.

But below deck the crew of one of the world's largest cruise ship is preparing to turn the vessel around. They have just ended a week-long voyage taking 6,222 people throughout the Caribbean. In just hours, another 6,114 will start their vacations.

Suitcases need to be unloaded and loaded. Piles of trash and recycling are removed and an entire week's worth of food for the passengers — and 2,193 crew members — needs to be loaded onboard.

The clock is ticking. There are just 10 hours to essentially empty and restock a small town. If that weren't enough, housekeeping needs to turn over 2,700 staterooms for the new guests.

"I'm amazed every single time you do it," says Raimund Gschaider, associate vice president for hotel operations at Royal Caribbean International. "It's an orchestration of all different operations. Everything needs to be fine-tuned down to the last minute."

By 6:30 a.m., the first of 25 trucks are lined up on the dock, ready to unload their goods.

The Oasis and its sister ships — the Allure of the Seas and the soon-to-sail Harmony of the Seas — are the three largest passenger ships in the world. While many passengers remember the zipline, the onboard surfing machine or the 25 different dining establishments, it's really what happens below deck that amazes.

When the Oasis leaves for a week-long voyage to the Caribbean, it takes everything needed. The islands visited don't have the quantity — or the quality — of supplies to meet the needs of the ship, Gschaider says.

"In a hotel, you get your supplies on a daily basis. You're never tied into a limited timeframe," he adds. "For us, we only have one go at it."

That means when the ship pulls away from the dock in Florida, it must have 10,272 new rolls of toilet paper, 7,397 pounds of cheese and 330 cases of pineapples onboard. Not to mention 1,000 new lightbulbs, 30 replacement TVs, 1,899 pounds of coffee and 23 gallons of hand sanitizer. Every week.

Orders are based on past trends and slightly adjusted each week to account for the age and nationalities of those sailing. If there is a big sporting event — say the college basketball championship tournament — more beer and hot dogs might be purchased.

Here's a look at some of the items on one sailing:

- Lobster tails: 5,400
- Ice cream cones: 21,000
- Tomatoes: 8,800 pounds
- Lettuce: 9,000 pounds
- Potatoes: 14,800 pounds
- Apples: 2,600 pounds
- Bananas: 5,400 pounds
- Eggs: 46,800
- Milk: 2,622 gallons
- Chicken: 19,723 pounds
- Beef: 18,314 pounds
- Fish: 7,070 pounds

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- Hot dogs: 10,680
- Beer: 31,900 bottles and 900 cans
- Soda: 16,900 cans
- Vodka: 820 bottles
- Whiskey: 179 bottles
- Scotch: 293 bottles
- Rum: 765 bottles
- White wine: 3,360 bottles
- Red wine: 2,776 bottles

## Iran votes in first elections since landmark nuclear deal

**ALI AKBAR DAREINI, Associated Press**

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iranians across the Islamic Republic voted Friday in the country's first election since its landmark nuclear deal with world powers, deciding whether to further empower its moderate president or side with hard-liners long suspicious of the West.

The election for Iran's parliament and a cleric body known as the Assembly of Experts hinges on both the policies of President Hassan Rouhani, as well as Iranians worries about the country's economy, long battered by international sanctions.

Nearly 55 million of Iran's 80 million people are eligible to vote and there were long lines at polling places since morning hours. Voters cast ballots at some 53,000 polling stations, writing down the names of their picks on two separate ballots and dyeing their fingers with ink to show they had voted.

Turnout figures and other statistics were not immediately available, though Interior Minister Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli predicted late Thursday there would be a turnout of 70 percent. Polls are scheduled to close at 6 p.m., though extending voting hours is common in Iran.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the country's supreme leader who has final say on all state matters, was among the first to vote in the capital, Tehran.

"Whoever likes Iran and its dignity, greatness and glory should participate in this election," he said after casting his ballot. "We have enemies who are eyeing us greedily. Turnout in the elections should be such that our enemy will be disappointed and will lose its hope. People should be observant and vote with open eyes."

Rouhani, himself a candidate in the Assembly of Experts election, also addressed journalists after voting, saying he expected an "epic" turnout.

"Whoever comes out of the ballot boxes, either in the parliament or the Assembly of Experts, with the votes of the people will be respected by us and everyone will respect the votes of the majority of the people," he said.

The vote is unlikely to radically change Iran, but reformists and moderates peeling away seats from hard-liners could help Rouhani push through his domestic agenda. While the majority of reformists were barred from running, they could still win a substantial bloc of parliament's 290 seats with their allies. Lawmakers serve four-year terms.

Also of concern is the Assembly of Experts, an 88-seat body of clerics officially charged with selecting the replacement for the supreme leader from among its members. The assembly is elected every eight years and there is a chance its members may need to find a successor for the ayatollah, who is 76 years old and underwent prostate surgery in 2014, renewing speculation about his health.

In Tehran, many voters had saved a list of their favorite candidates on their mobile phone. Others carried pocket-size campaign papers. Many of those lists were blue, the color of the reformist-moderate faction, while others had the yellow lists put out by hard-liners.

Voters said they worried about economic issues and hoped for a better future after the nuclear deal.

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"There are economic problems, unemployment (and) people are a bit tired of hard-line policies," Tahereh Meisami, a women's right activist, told The Associated Press. "To get rid of those problems they want to vote so that, God willing, they can select lawmakers who can meet their demands."

## Slain Russian opposition leader's daughter faults probe

LONDON (AP) — On the eve of the anniversary of Russian opposition leader Boris Nemtsov's slaying, his daughter says President Vladimir Putin bears some blame for the crime remaining unsolved.

Nemtsov was gunned down on a bridge near the Kremlin just before midnight on Feb. 27, 2015.

Like with other politically motivated cases, Putin has sought to distance himself from the investigation and has said that the public should wait for the outcome of the probe and the trial before drawing any conclusions.

The suspected triggerman was an officer in the security forces of Kremlin-backed Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov, but who ordered the killing remains unknown.

Zhanna Nemtsova tells The Associated Press in an interview in London that Putin said he would take the investigation under personal control and no one is satisfied with the result.

## 10 Things to Know Today The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about Thursday:

### 1. WHICH REPUBLICAN CAME OUT SWINGING

Marco Rubio finally takes on Donald Trump in a freewheeling Republican debate ahead of Tuesday's crucial primaries, but is it too late?

### 2. ANOTHER US SHOOTING SPREE

A gunman armed with an "assault-style" weapon shot three people before storming the Kansas factory where he worked, killing three people and wounding 14 others before being shot dead by an officer.

### 3. US MILITARY LAUNCHES CYBERATTACKS ON THE ISLAMIC STATE GROUP

U.S. officials tell The AP that the U.S. military is using the online attacks to erode the Islamic State group's recruiting efforts on social media and across the Internet.

### 4. IRANIANS HEAD TO THE POLLS

Iran holds its first parliamentary elections since its landmark nuclear deal with world powers last summer, in part a referendum on the policies of moderate President Hassan Rouhani.

### 5. US PAYMENTS TO AFGHANS IN CLINIC ATTACK CALLED INADEQUATE

The U.S. military is paying hundreds of thousands of dollars to wounded survivors and relatives of 42 Afghans killed when an American gunship attacked a hospital run by Doctors Without Borders, which says the "sorry money" doesn't compensate for the loss of life.

### 6. WHERE A CEASE-FIRE COULD EMPOWER PUTIN

A cease-fire is set to effect Friday night in Syria, where Russian President Vladimir Putin could emerge as a peace broker with international stature.

### 7. BUTTERFLIES AND BIRDS IN TROUBLE

A United Nations-sponsored scientific report warns that too many species of pollinators crucial to the world's food supply are nearing extinction.

### 8. SURGEONS PERFORM FIRST UTERUS TRANSPLANT IN US

The operation on a 26-year-old woman used a deceased donor's uterus, an experimental treatment that might be an alternative for women who lack wombs and want to give birth.

### 9. CHINA RULES OUT WEAKENING ITS CURRENCY

The move by China's central bank chief aims to boost exports, as global finance ministers open a closely watched meeting in Shanghai.

### 10. FIFA VOTES FOR A NEW CHIEF

The support of most nations in Africa and Asia and the backing of one of sports' biggest power brokers could be enough to put Sheikh Salman of Bahrain in charge of the world's most popular sport.

## **Analysis: Rubio finally makes move on Trump — but too late?**

**JULIE PACE, AP White House Correspondent**

### **An AP News Analysis**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Marco Rubio unleashed a campaign's worth of harsh criticism on Donald Trump in the final Republican debate before Tuesday's crucial primaries.

The problem may be that it took 10 debates and three Trump victories to get Rubio fired up.

Rubio, along with most of the other GOP presidential candidates, has treated Trump with kid-gloves for months, tiptoeing around glaring questions about the real estate mogul's business record, political ideology, brash temperament and ambiguous policy proposals.

Only now, with Trump threatening to pull away from the field, did Rubio aggressively try to dismantle the billionaire businessman's grip on the Republican race, with occasional help from Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

Rubio accused Trump of shifting his position on deportation and staffing his hotels and other businesses with foreign workers instead of Americans. He also punched holes in the real estate mogul's vague proposal for replacing President Barack Obama's health care law.

"What is your plan, Mr. Trump? What is your plan on health care?" Rubio pressed.

The senator also gleefully pointed out Trump's propensity for repeating talking points over and over again, the same criticism that tripped up Rubio in a debate earlier this month.

"Now he's repeating himself!" Rubio exclaimed.

Rubio's assertive posture was sure to be cheered by the crush of Republican officials who have rallied around his campaign in recent days, desperate for the senator to become a viable alternative to Trump. But privately, many were likely wondering why it took so long for Rubio to make his move — and whether his strong showing came too late.

Next week's Super Tuesday contests mark the biggest single-day delegate haul of the nomination contests. A strong showing by Trump could put the nomination within his grasp, raising the stakes for his rivals to stop him.

Rubio was sometimes joined by Cruz in tag-team attacks on Trump. It was a tactical shift for two senators who had trained their fire on each other in recent weeks, both betting that the best strategy was to clear the field of other rivals before moving on to Trump.

But Tuesday's Nevada caucuses clearly changed their calculus. Trump dominated that contest, beating second-place Rubio by more than 20 points, and pulling ahead significantly in the early delegate count after victories in South Carolina and New Hampshire as well.

Trump appeared rattled at times as he faced the most sustained, face-to-face attacks of the campaign. Before Thursday, only Jeb Bush had made a real effort to tangle with Trump on the debate stage, though it did little to help the former Florida governor. Bush ended his campaign last week after disappointing showings in early primaries and a fundraising drought.

Rubio appeared to have taken lessons from Bush's exchanges with Trump. The senator was prepared for Trump's frequent habit of interrupting and almost willfully refused to back down when the businessman tried to talk over him. He also took a page out of Trump's own playbook, lacing his more substantive critiques with some sharply personal attacks.

During a particularly biting exchange, Rubio said that if Trump hadn't inherited family money, he would be "selling watches in Manhattan."

Trump punched back with trademark insults.

After Rubio criticized his hiring practices, the businessman said, "You haven't hired one person, you liar." And when Cruz challenged Trump's conservative credentials by suggesting he's been too cozy with Democrats, the front-runner ripped the senator for being loathed by many of his Senate colleagues.

"You get along with nobody," Trump said. "You should be ashamed of yourself."

At times, the three-way fight between Trump, Rubio and Cruz devolved into a shouting match, with each struggling to be heard, let alone make a substantive policy point. The debate moderators were virtually helpless, as were the two other candidates on stage, John Kasich and Ben Carson.

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For Rubio, the squabbling was a long way from the uplifting calls for a generational change in American politics and heavy focus on his family's moving immigrant story that have been the cornerstone of his campaign. Those were the messages that have set Democrats on edge about the prospect of their eventual nominee, likely Hillary Clinton, facing the telegenic, 44-year-old Cuban-American in the general election.

Rubio's next challenge — beyond topping Trump in at least some of the upcoming primaries — will be infusing that more optimistic message into his critique of Trump. He's also likely to face the full force of Trump's attacks for the first time in the campaign.

Even before the debate was over, Trump suggested he was eager to keep up the fight.

"This is a lot of fun up here, I have to tell you," Trump said.

## **APNewsBreak: DoD launches aggressive cyberwar against IS**

**LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. military has launched a newly aggressive campaign of cyberattacks against Islamic State militants, targeting the group's abilities to use social media and the Internet to recruit fighters and inspire followers, U.S. officials told The Associated Press.

The surge of computer-based military operations by U.S. Cyber Command began shortly after Defense Secretary Ash Carter prodded commanders at Fort Meade, Maryland, last month to ramp up the fight against the Islamic State group on the cyber front.

U.S. officials confirmed that operations launched out of Fort Meade have focused on disrupting the group's online activities. The officials said the effort is getting under way as operators try a range of attacks to see what works and what doesn't. They declined to discuss details, other than to say that the attacks include efforts to prevent the group from distributing propaganda, videos, or other types of recruiting and messaging on social media sites such as Twitter, and across the Internet in general.

Other attacks could include attempts to stop insurgents from conducting financial or logistical transactions online.

Several U.S. officials spoke about the cyber campaign on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss it publicly. Much of the effort is classified.

Carter mentioned the operations briefly Thursday, telling a House Appropriations subcommittee only that Cyber Command is beginning to conduct operations against the Islamic State group. He declined to say more in a public setting.

The more aggressive attacks come after months of pressure from Carter, who has been frustrated with the belief that the Pentagon — and particularly Cyber Command — was losing the war in the cyber domain.

Late last year Carter met with commanders, telling them they had 30 days to bring him options for how the military could use its cyberwarfare capabilities against the group's deadly insurgency across Iraq and Syria, and spreading to Libya and Afghanistan. Officials said he told commanders that beefing up cyberwarfare against Islamic State was a test for them, and that they should have both the capability and the will to wage the online war.

But the military cyber fight is limited by concerns within the intelligence agencies that blocking the group's Internet access could hurt intelligence gathering.

Officials said Carter told commanders that he wanted creative options that would allow the U.S. to impact Islamic State without diminishing the indications or warnings intelligence officers can glean about what the group is doing.

On Jan. 27, Carter and Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, went to Fort Meade for an update.

Officials familiar with Carter's meetings said the secretary was frustrated that as Cyber Command has grown and developed over the past several years, it was still focused on the cyberthreats from nations, such as Iran, Russia and China, rather than building a force to block the communications and propaganda campaigns of Internet-savvy insurgents.

"He was right to say they could be more forward leaning about what they could possibly do against ISIS," said James Lewis, a cybersecurity expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "You could disrupt their support networks, their business networks, their propaganda and recruitment networks."



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However, Lewis added, the U.S. needs to be careful about disrupting the Internet to insure that attacks don't also affect civilian networks or systems needed for critical infrastructure and other public necessities.

U.S. officials have long been stymied by militants' ability to use the Internet as a vehicle for inspiring so-called lone wolf attackers in Western nations, radicalized after reading propaganda easily available online.

"Why should they be able to communicate? Why should they be using the Internet?" Carter said during testimony before the defense appropriations subcommittee. "The Internet shouldn't be used for that purpose."

He added that the U.S. can conduct cyber operations under the legal authorities associated with the ongoing war against the Islamic State group.

The U.S. has also struggled to defeat high-tech encryption techniques used by Islamic State and other groups to communicate. Experts have been working to find ways to defeat those programs.

Cyber Command is relatively new. Created in 2009, it did not begin operating until October 2010.

Early on, its key focus was on defending military networks, which are probed and attacked millions of times a day. But defense leaders also argued at length over the emerging issues surrounding cyberwarfare and how it should be incorporated.

The Pentagon is building 133 cyber teams by 2018, including 27 that are designed for combat and will work with regional commands to support warfighting operations. There will be 68 teams assigned to defend Defense Department networks and systems, 13 that would respond to major cyberattacks against the U.S., and 25 support teams.

## China rules out weakening yuan to boost trade

**PAUL TRAYNOR, The Associated Press**

SHANGHAI (AP) — China's central bank chief promised Friday to avoid weakening its yuan to boost sagging exports as he tried to reassure nervous financial markets about his government's handling of its economy and currency at the start of a closely watched gathering of global finance officials.

Beijing wanted to use the gathering of finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of 20 rich and developing countries to promote its campaign for a bigger voice in managing global trade and finance. Instead, the communist government is scrambling to defend its reputation for economic competence following stock market and currency turmoil.

A key worry, despite repeated Chinese denials, is that Beijing will allow its yuan to decline in value to support struggling exporters. That expectation has driven an outflow of capital from China that spiked to a record \$135 billion in December.

"We will not resort to competitive depreciation to boost our advantage in exports," said Zhou Xiaochuan, governor of the People's Bank of China, at a news conference.

Zhou said the meeting of finance officials from the United States, Japan, Europe and other major economies should focus on managing lackluster global demand, structural economic reforms and promoting "sustainable and balanced" growth.

Other officials attending the meeting include U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew and Federal Reserve Chairwoman Janet Yellen; China's finance minister, Lou Jiwei and their counterparts from Germany, Britain, Japan, South Korea, India and South Africa.

Global growth has slowed to its lowest rate in two years and private sector forecasters say the danger of a worldwide recession is rising. The International Monetary Fund cut its forecast for this year's global growth by 0.2 percentage points last month to 3.4 percent. It said another downgrade is likely in its April update.

Japanese and Eurozone officials have called for coordinated global action but have yet to say what they might propose at the Shanghai meeting.

The foreign view of China's economic health was shaken last year by a stock market collapse that wiped out \$5 trillion in paper wealth. On Thursday, its main market index fell by an unusually large daily margin of 6.4 percent. Last year's exports fell 2.8 percent from 2014, well below the official target of 6 percent growth in total trade.

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The ruling Communist Party is in the midst of a marathon reform plan aimed at transforming China into a consumer-led economy and reducing reliance on trade and investment.

In separate comments at the G-20 opening ceremony, Zhou tried to reassure his audience the Chinese economy is healthy after growth slowed to a 25-year low of 7.3 percent last year. He noted that it still was among the world's strongest performances.

"China's economic fundamentals remain strong and supportive of growth," he said. "The Chinese economy will continue to grow at a moderate-to-high pace."

Economists complain the secretive Chinese government has fueled market volatility by failing to communicate policy changes clearly.

In a report ahead of the Shanghai meeting, the IMF urged G-20 leaders to support China's economic reforms but also called on Beijing to "ensure clear communication of their exchange rate policies."

Other governments are trying to douse expectations the Shanghai meeting will produce specific growth plans similar to those rolled out in 2009 in response to the global crisis.

Germany's finance minister, Wolfgang Schauble, said his government would not agree to a coordinated fiscal stimulus package in the event of further deterioration in the global economy. He urged other countries to deliver on promises of pro-growth structural reforms instead of relying on monetary and fiscal policy to boost growth.

"The debt finance growth model has reached its limit," said Schauble said at an event organized by the Washington-based Institute of International Finance alongside the Shanghai meeting. "We do not agree on a G20 fiscal stimulus package."

The IMF managing director, Christine Lagarde, who was attending the Shanghai meeting, urged policy-makers to speed up the pace of reforms.

"We think they should go bold, they should go broad and they should go together," said Lagarde. Referring to monetary and fiscal policy and structural reforms, she said, "There has to be action on all fronts."

## Today in History The Associated Press

### Today in History

Today is Friday, Feb. 26, the 57th day of 2016. There are 309 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 26, 1916, actor-comedian Jackie Gleason was born in Brooklyn, New York.

### On this date:

In 1616, astronomer Galileo Galilei met with a Roman Inquisition official, Cardinal Robert Bellarmine, who ordered him to abandon the "heretical" concept of heliocentrism, which held that the earth revolved around the sun, instead of the other way around.

In 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte escaped from exile on the Island of Elba and headed back to France in a bid to regain power.

In 1904, the United States and Panama proclaimed a treaty under which the U.S. agreed to undertake efforts to build a ship canal across the Panama isthmus.

In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson signed a congressional act establishing Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona.

In 1929, President Calvin Coolidge signed a measure establishing Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming.

In 1945, authorities ordered a midnight curfew at nightclubs, bars and other places of entertainment across the nation.

In 1952, Prime Minister Winston Churchill announced that Britain had developed its own atomic bomb.

In 1966, South Korean troops sent to fight in the Vietnam War massacred at least 380 civilians in Go Dai hamlet.

In 1970, National Public Radio was incorporated.

In 1986, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and author Robert Penn Warren was named the first poet laureate of the United States by Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin.

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In 1993, a truck bomb built by terrorists exploded in the parking garage of New York's World Trade Center, killing six people and injuring more than 1,000 others.

In 2012, Trayvon Martin, 17, was shot to death in Sanford, Florida, during an altercation with neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman, who said he'd acted in self-defense. (Zimmerman was subsequently acquitted of second-degree murder.)

**Ten years ago:** On the final day of the Turin Winter Olympics, Sweden beat Finland 3-2 to win the men's hockey gold. Germany finished first in overall medals with 29 and golds with 11, while the Americans won 25 medals overall, nine of them gold. Drew Lachey leaped to victory with professional partner Cheryl Burke on ABC's "Dancing with the Stars."

**Five years ago:** In a statement, President Barack Obama said Moammar Gadhafi had lost his legitimacy to rule and urged the Libyan leader to leave power immediately. Space shuttle Discovery arrived at the International Space Station, making its final visit before being parked at a museum.

**One year ago:** Internet activists declared victory over the nation's big cable companies after the Federal Communications Commission voted 3-2 to impose the toughest rules yet on broadband service to prevent companies like Comcast, Verizon and AT&T from creating paid fast lanes and slowing or blocking web traffic. "Jihadi John," the masked knife-wielding Islamic State militant seen in execution videos, was identified as Mohammed Emwazi, a London-raised university graduate known to British intelligence for more than five years. Theodore Hesburgh, 97, a Catholic priest who transformed the University of Notre Dame into a school known almost as much for academics as football and who championed human rights around the globe, died in South Bend, Indiana.

**Today's Birthdays:** Game show host Tom Kennedy is 89. Singer Fats Domino is 88. Country-rock musician Paul Cotton (Poco) is 73. Actor-director Bill Duke is 73. Singer Mitch Ryder is 71. Actress Marta Kristen (TV: "Lost in Space") is 71. Rock musician Jonathan Cain (Journey) is 66. Singer Michael Bolton is 63. The president of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, is 62. Actor Greg Germann is 58. Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., is 58. Bandleader John McDaniel is 55. Actor-martial artist Mark Dacascos is 52. Actress Jennifer Grant is 50. Rock musician Tim Commerford (Audioslave) is 48. Singer Erykah Badu (EHR'-ih-kah bah-DOO') is 45. Rhythm-and-blues singer Rico Wade (Society of Soul) is 44. Olympic gold medal swimmer Jenny Thompson is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Kyle Norman (Jagged Edge) is 41. Actor Greg Rikaart is 39. Rock musician Chris Culos (O.A.R.) is 37. Rhythm-and-blues singer Corinne Bailey Rae is 37. Country singer Rodney Hayden is 36. Pop singer Nate Ruess (roos) (fun.) is 34. Tennis player Li Na is 34. Latin singer Natalia Lafourcade is 32. Actor Alex Heartman is 26. Actress Taylor Dooley is 23.

**Thought for Today:** "If you have it and you know you have it, then you have it. If you have it and don't know you have it, you don't have it. If you don't have it but you think you have it, then you have it." — Jackie Gleason (1916-1987).