

Groton Daily Independent

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Tuesday, March 22

CDE in Miller

Student Congress at Groton Area

School Breakfast: Egg omelette, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Mini corn dogs, baked beans, lettuce, fruit.

Senior Menu: Herbed roast pork, baked potato with sour cream, lemon buttered broccoli, cinnamon apple sauce, whole wheat bread.

Anniversaries: Bruce & Pam Merkel, Jennifer & Brett Grenier

Birthdays: Brett Grenier, Don Walter, James Mortenson

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

Wednesday, March 23

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

School Lunch: Soft shell taco, tater tots, fruit.

Senior Menu: Turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, carrot bar, whole wheat bread

Birthdays: Fern Westby, Greg Peterson. Greg Stark, Jacki Ferrell, Larry Flihs, Linda Bahr, Todd Kokales

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

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

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

6:30pm: Emmanuel League

7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Confirmation meets at Catholic Church for Stations

Thursday, March 24

School Breakfast: French toast, links, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic toast, green beans, fruit.

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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Fresh flowers, silks, home decor



Olde Bank @ Floral 

& so much more

 101 N. Main St., Groton ~ 397-8650
www.oldebankfloral.com

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South Dakota State Pump Prices Reflect National Trend

March 21, 2016 – The U.S. pump price average has climbed higher for two straight weeks, and the national average price of gas may soon climb above \$2 per gallon for the first time this year, AAA reports.

“Gas prices around the country have increased largely due to seasonal increases in fuel demand and reduced production as some refineries conduct maintenance,” said Marilyn Buskohl, spokeswoman for AAA South Dakota. “Today’s nationwide average price of \$1.98 per gallon is the highest daily mark since January although it’s still 44 cents below the mark recorded one year ago.”

South Dakota’s statewide gas price average for self-serve regular has increased five cents over the last week, and jumped 28 cents over the last month.

	Today	Last Week	Change	Feb. 22	Change	Last year
Aberdeen	\$2.025	\$1.932	\$0.093	\$1.717	\$0.308	\$2.422
Brookings	\$2.022	\$2.037	-\$0.015	\$1.639	\$0.383	\$2.421
Huron	\$1.998	\$1.868	\$0.130	\$1.899	\$0.099	\$2.416
Mitchell	\$1.945	\$1.960	-\$0.015	\$1.700	\$0.245	\$2.290
Pierre	\$2.069	\$1.982	\$0.087	\$1.824	\$0.245	\$2.413
Rapid City	\$1.881	\$1.832	\$0.049	\$1.809	\$0.072	\$2.229
Sioux Falls	\$1.956	\$1.903	\$0.053	\$1.601	\$0.355	\$2.337
Vermillion	\$1.849	\$1.924	-\$0.075	\$1.716	\$0.133	\$2.399
Watertown	\$2.105	\$1.997	\$0.108	\$1.593	\$0.512	\$2.351
Yankton	\$2.055	\$2.105	-\$0.050	\$1.716	\$0.339	\$2.396
South Dakota	\$1.986	\$1.937	\$0.049	\$1.701	\$0.285	\$2.362

Prices in a majority of states (45), including South Dakota, are more at the pump today versus one week ago. Retail averages in 19 states are up by a nickel or more per gallon week-over-week, and gas prices in Arizona (+19 cents), Nevada (+12 cents) and Florida (+11 cents) have climbed higher by more than a dime per gallon over this same period.

“We’re back to supply and demand basics,” said Buskohl. “Gas prices tend to reach their highest levels of the year in the spring before the summer driving season. As the weather turns warmer and days grow longer, people tend to drive more, which results in increased demand. But this increase in demand comes at the same time many refineries conduct maintenance to prepare equipment for the busy summer driving season, which leads to a temporary decline in fuel production. In addition, refineries also begin to transition to summer-blend gasoline, which is more expensive to produce.”

For the first time in 13 weeks, the U.S. oil rig count increased, which raises the possibility of continued strong production in the United States despite relatively low crude oil prices. Both Brent and West Texas Intermediate crude oil closed last week with gains, but each benchmark moved lower on Friday as oversupply concerns again come into focus. Global oil prices are expected to continue to move in response to ongoing discussions by some of the world’s top producers to potentially freeze production, which could be finalized at a meeting scheduled for April 17.

The U.S. dollar is also drawing attention after posting its largest two-day loss in value since 2009. All eyes are on the Federal Reserve to see if corrective action is taken to help boost its value. A weaker dollar makes oil relatively less expensive for investors holding other currencies, which could help offset some of the market’s losses.

At the close of Friday’s formal trading session on the NYMEX, WTI was down 76 cents to settle at \$39.44 per barrel.

Motorists can find current gas prices along their route with the free AAA Mobile app for iPhone, iPad and Android. The app can also be used to map a route, find discounts, book a hotel and access AAA roadside assistance. Learn more at AAA.com/mobile.

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District Legion/Auxiliary Meeting set for Bowdle

BOWDLE - The annual District 4 Spring Meeting of the South Dakota American Legion will be held Friday, April 8, 2016 in Bowdle for Legionnaires from Brown, Campbell, Edmunds, Faulk, McPherson, Walworth and Spink counties.

The Legion business session will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the American Legion Post Home. The social will be held at 5:00 p.m. with a meal being served at 6:00 p.m.

Participants will elect District Commanders and District Vice Commanders for two-year terms and County Commanders and Vice Commanders in the District for one-year terms during the business meeting.

The session will also feature Post Americanism reports, a membership turn-in, recognition of the District 4 Legionnaire of the Year and an address by State American Legion Commander Terry Hanson of Arlington.

District 4 Commander Harley Hansen will conduct the Legion business session. Bowdle Post Commander Norbert Thomas will be in charge of local arrangements.

The District 4 Auxiliary will hold its meeting at 7:00 p.m. the same evening in the Multi-Purpose Room.

golden
living

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!

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

**Groton's NOON
GOOD FRIDAY service**

**Hosted this year at
Emmanuel Lutheran**

**Noon, Friday, March 25, 2016
Pastor Doug Duncan is preaching.**

**Let us join together in Word, song,
hope & prayer...**

We welcome all!

**Fellowship & refreshment
to follow.**



Prom *Open House*

Monday, March 21st
3:30pm-7pm

Saturday, March 26th
10am-2pm

*Designers on hand for specialized ordering

*Choose designs specific for you

*Gems, ribbons, and jewelry



Keeping the Peace Between Adult Children in Estate Planning

By Nathaniel Sillin

When you die, will your kids fight over your money?

It's an important question that might be hard to answer now, but parents who devote themselves to estate planning with relevant updates over their lifetimes can potentially keep arguments between adult children to a minimum.

As of 2013, American retirees are the sixth most generous in the world when it comes to the amount of assets passed on to family, according to a survey by HSBC, the global British bank. The latest survey (<http://www.about.hsbc.com.au/news-and-media>) noted that 56 percent of American retirees planned to leave an inheritance with an average amount of \$176,814.

How you allocate your estate, no matter what the amount, requires planning and proper communication. Here are a few ways to start.

Know where you stand first. If you haven't updated your estate planning in the last 5-10 years, do so now to fully understand your complete financial picture. Like all personal finance issues, estate planning should be adjusted when significant life changes happen or there is a major shift in assets, such as when a relative needs help. In short, your estate picture has to reflect current financial realities, so before you decide how to allocate your wealth either before or after you die, seek qualified financial, tax (<https://www.irs.gov/Businesses/Small-Businesses-&Self-Employed/Estate-and-Gift-Taxes>) and estate advice.

Once you've determined distribution, confirm your plan. Managing money and family are usually parallel issues until the topic of estate planning arises. For some families, splitting money, property and possessions more or less equally among adult children is a smooth process. However, when it doesn't result in the fairest outcome for everyone involved, it can be trickier to navigate. Varying situations for each child might mean that an even split won't work. Once you are able to determine your assets, start thinking through how you can distribute them.

Re-affirm your executor and powers of attorney. Making a will and designating various health, financial and business powers of attorney as applicable are the standard first steps in estate planning. Certain kinds of trusts might also be relevant. Generally it's good to have documents in place (<http://www.practical-moneyskills.com/estateplanning>) early in life. As your children get older, it's a good idea to review those documents and designated leadership.

Start communicating. Hollywood has produced many a movie scene with family members sitting nervously in a lawyer's office waiting for the will to be read. Such moments make for great comedy or drama, but not great modern estate planning. Based on what you hope to leave your family, the state of your relationship with your adult children and whatever weigh-in you get from qualified advisors, it's usually better to communicate your plans to your children in advance in person and make sure your legal documents confirm exactly what you plan to do.

Bottom line: Could your current estate planning eventually put your kids and other family members at odds? Don't wait – the time to update or start estate planning is right now.

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City Council

The Groton City Council held a very short meeting before switching to an equalization board.

At the meeting, the council talked about the walking path grant. At the present time, there is no good proposal to create a walking path in Groton. One was proposed around the golf course, but Councilman Eddy Opp said that he had talked to several golfers and they were opposed to the idea. Councilman Burt Glover said maybe someone from the community would put together a proposal for a walking path. The grant is available every other year.

A brown bag permit was approved for the Groton Firemen for April 16.

Summer employees hired were Mason Madson and Travis Kurth at the baseball field, Aaron Severson for the public works department and Bennett Shabazz at the pool.

Paul Kosel was approved to attend pool school April 18-19 in Fargo.

During equalization, all of the property in Groton was reviewed. Many went up, many went down in evaluation. Overall, the city seen a 2.5 percent increase in evaluation.

After the equalization, City Finance Officer Anita Lowary handed the councilmen a copy of why the Dollar General Store should not be located at the proposed site from Steve Smith. The Planning and Zoning Commission will be having a hearing on March 28, 7 p.m., at the Groton Community Center on the proposed Dollar General Store.

City of Columbia has opening for city finance officer and city maintenance worker. Call at 396-2655 apply before April 4th application deadline.

Come and go bridal shower for Sarah Geary, bride-to-be of Sam Thorson, Saturday, April 23, 10 a.m., St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Groton. The couple is registered at Bed Bath and Beyond and at Target.

The Livestream logo features a red and white stylized 'L' icon to the left of the word 'livestream' in a lowercase, sans-serif font.The Dollar General logo consists of the words 'DOLLAR GENERAL' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with a registered trademark symbol (®) to the right of 'GENERAL'. The text is centered within a yellow rounded rectangle with a grey drop shadow.

Special Exception Hearing
Monday, March 28th, 7 p.m.
Groton Community Center
If you can't make it to the
hearing, watch it live on

gdilive.com

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Today in Weather History

March 21, 1997: As temperatures began to warm up towards the end of March, the near record to record winter snowpack over central, north central, and northeast South Dakota began melting. The resulting runoff filled up ditches, lakes, creeks, streams, and low-lying areas. The massive amount of water swamped hundreds of sections of county and township roads as well as several state and federal highways. The inundated sections of roads were either broken up or washed out. Tens of culverts were blown out or damaged, and several bridges were either damaged or washed out by chunks of ice and the high water flow. Road closures were extensive, with rerouting taking place for school buses, mail carriers, farmers, and ranchers. Many spillways and dams received some damage or were washed out. In addition, thousands of acres of farmland and pastureland were underwater. Due to the high groundwater, a countless number of homes received water in their basements. A few towns were partially flooded, including Twin Brooks in Grant County, Corona in Roberts County, and Raymond in Clark County. The following week, in the early morning hours of March 27, water flowed into Raymond filling the basements of several homes. In rural areas, several farms were surrounded by water and were inaccessible, leaving some people stranded and livestock marooned. Many other residences and businesses, mainly across northeast South Dakota, received significant damage or were a total loss. As a result, several people had to be evacuated. At the time, many long-term residents said this was the most significant flooding they had seen in their lifetimes. The flooding continued into early to mid-April.

March 21, 2012: Several record high temperatures occurred across the region in March.

1801: The Jefferson Flood hit the Connecticut Valley. The flooding was the greatest since 1692. The Federalists named the flood for the new President, who they blamed for the disaster.








1876: More than 40 inches of snow stopped traffic at Montreal, Quebec Canada. Trains were delayed, and mail carriers resorted to snowshoes.

1932: A tornado swarm occurred in the Deep South. Between late afternoon and early the next morning severe thunderstorms spawned 31 tornadoes in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and Tennessee. The tornadoes killed 334 persons and injured 1784 others. Northern Alabama was hardest hit. Tornadoes in Alabama killed 286 persons and caused five million dollars damage.

1951: Antarctica is the windiest place in the world. Port Martin averaged 40 mph winds throughout the year. On this day, the winds averaged 108 mph.

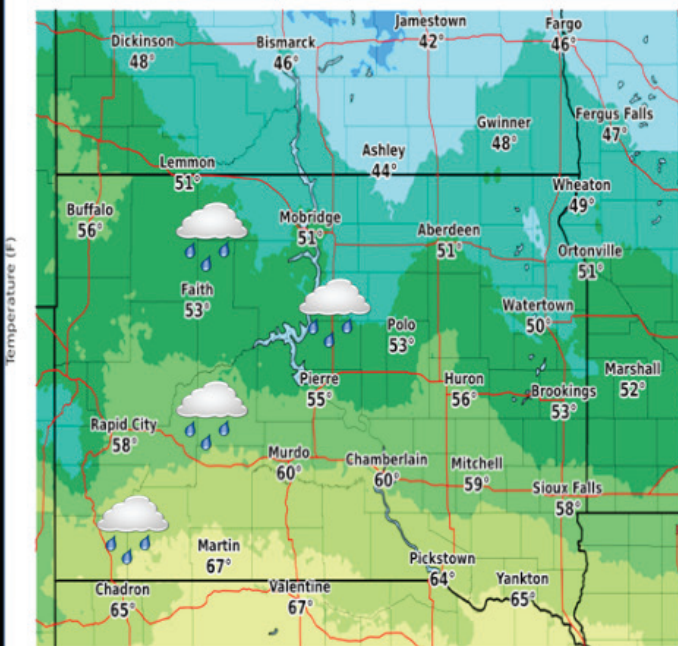
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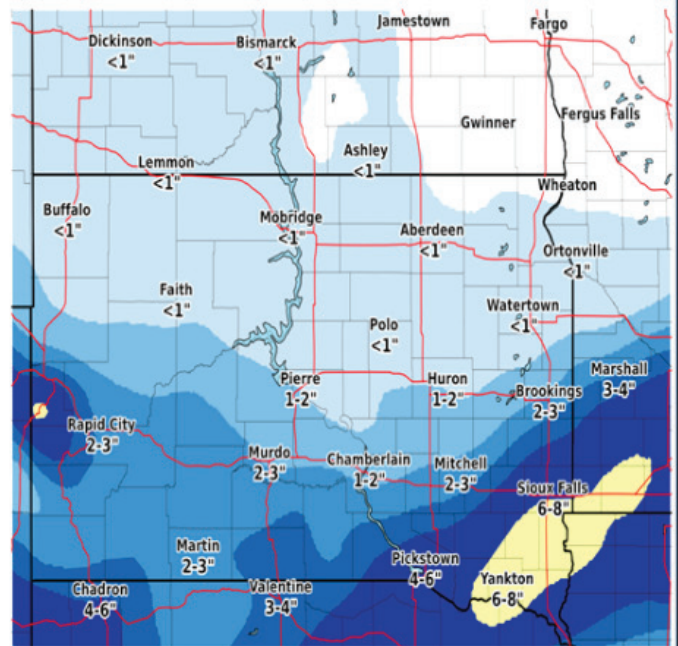
Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
						
Mostly Cloudy	Chance Rain then Chance Rain/Snow and Blustery	Slight Chance Snow and Breezy	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Chance Rain/Snow then Chance Rain
High: 50 °F	Low: 29 °F	High: 39 °F	Low: 21 °F	High: 47 °F	Low: 31 °F	High: 51 °F

Relatively Mild Today, Snow Tonight & Wednesday

Today's Afternoon Highs
Valid: March 22, 2016



Storm Total Snow Tonight Through Wednesday
Valid: 03/22/2016 07:00 PM - 03/24/2016 01:00 AM CDT



National Weather Service, Aberdeen SD

Published on: 03/22/2016 at 4:48AM

Relatively mild temperatures are expected today. However, a storm system will approach from the west this afternoon, with rain developing over areas mainly west of the Missouri River. Tonight that rain will transition to snow, with the heaviest amounts expected over the Black Hills and southeast South

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 53.4 at 5:57 PM

Low: 29.6 at 1:21 AM

High Gust: 18 at 9:12 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 78° in 1945

Record Low: -16 in 1899

Average High: 43°F

Average Low: 22°F

Average Precip in March.: 0.75

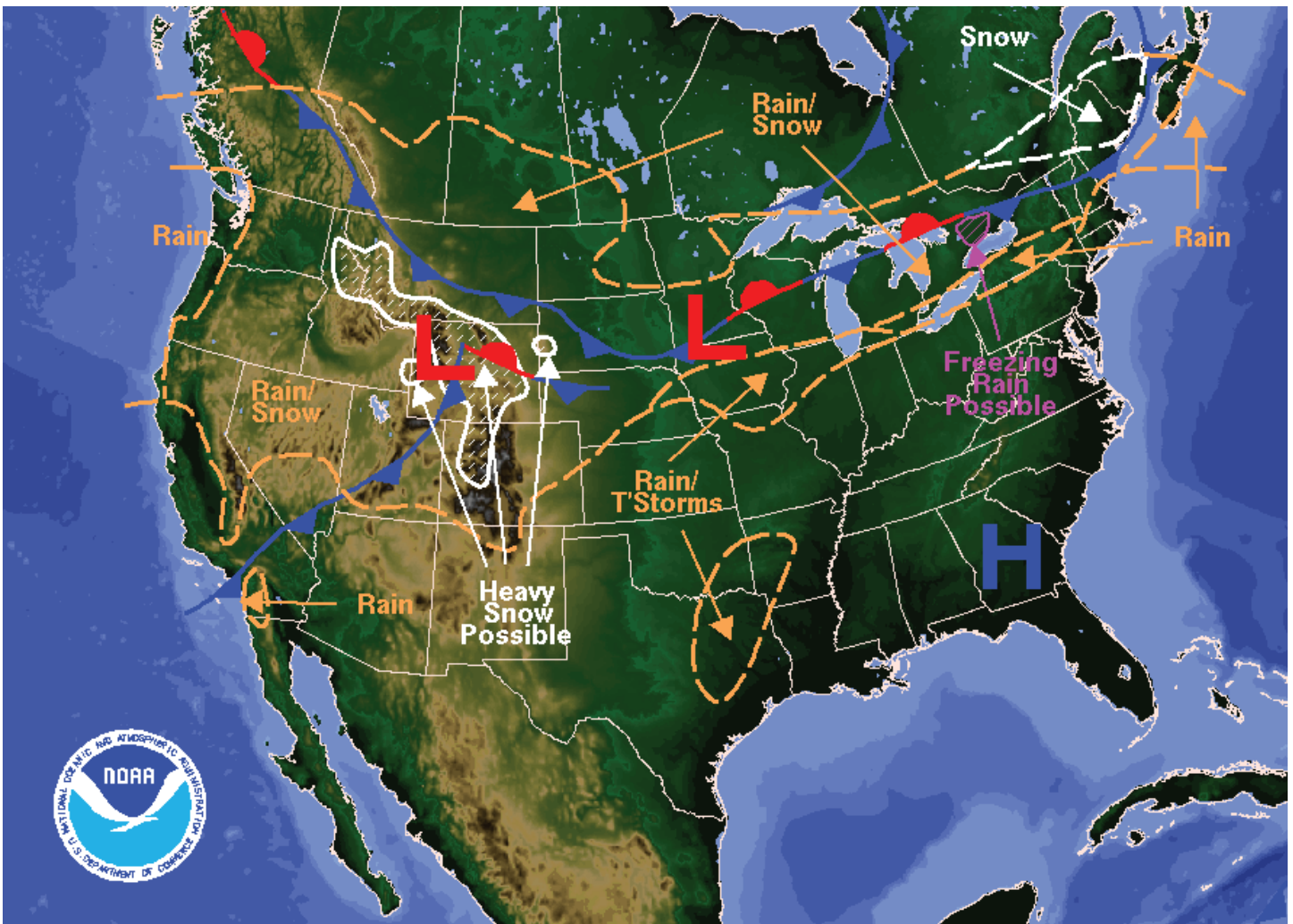
Precip to date in March.: 0.35

Average Precip to date: 1.77

Precip Year to Date: 0.95

Sunset Tonight: 7:49 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:29 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Tue, Mar 22, 2016, issued 4:35 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



TELL THE TRUTH

It was a crowded Sunday morning worship service when the pastor reminded his congregation of the church prayer meeting. Unfortunately, only two members came: the pastor and the three-hundred pound church janitor.

The next Sunday the pastor informed his flock that there was a "large and enthusiastic crowd" at prayer meeting.

The janitor became upset and accused the pastor of lying.

"But," protested the pastor, "I did not lie. You're large and I'm enthusiastic."

There are times when we twist the truth to make ourselves or others look good or bad. Sometimes we offer a lie as an asset but it always proves to be a liability. There are times when we stretch the truth but it will always snap back and hurt us.

One translation of the Bible put it this way: "Stop lying to each other; tell the truth...when we lie to each other we are only hurting ourselves."

Prayer: Father, often we are tempted to explain away our short comings or exaggerate the faults of others. Help us to realize that You expect truth and honesty from us and that You will hold us responsible for every word we speak: in Thy Name. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Ephesians 4:25 (TLB) Stop lying to each other; tell the truth, for we are parts of each other and when we lie to each other we are hurting ourselves.

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News from the  Associated Press

Garretson voting on opt out of state property tax freeze

GARRETSON, S.D. (AP) — Residents of Garretson are deciding whether to opt out of the state property tax freeze.

KDLT-TV reports the measure being voted on Tuesday would generate an additional \$500,000 over five years for Garretson schools.

Dropping enrollment over the past decade has led to financial woes for the school district.

The Argus Leader newspaper reports the measure would increase taxes by about \$328 annually on a \$100,000 home and about \$54 annually on \$100,000 worth of farmland.

Parts of southern South Dakota could be in for heavy snow

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The calendar might say spring, but not the weather forecast in southern South Dakota.

The National Weather Service has posted a winter weather advisory for the southwest late Tuesday into Wednesday, and a winter storm watch for the southeast on Wednesday.

Forecasters say the precipitation will start out as rain and turn to snow. More than half a foot could fall in some areas, and travel could be dangerous due to slippery roads and gusty winds.

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Thompson's 3-point play with 8.2 seconds left lifts Stanford

JANIE McCAULEY, AP Sports Writer

STANFORD, Calif. (AP) — Lili Thompson had to forget her miss that could have cost Stanford its season. There was still time left.

"You kind of hear it growing up, you have to have a short memory," Thompson said.

She delivered when it mattered most. Thompson converted a go-ahead three-point play with 8.2 seconds left before Erica McCall delivered a big block moments later, lifting No. 4 seed Stanford into the Sweet 16 with a 66-65 comeback win against 12th-seeded South Dakota State on Monday night.

Stanford needed every last tick of the clock to extend its long run of regional semifinals appearances to nine.

McCall swatted Macy Miller's shot in the key with 1 second left to seal it. Thompson, who missed a 3-point try with 18 seconds to go, made a driving layup with 8.2 seconds left and converted the free throw as the Cardinal erased a five-point deficit over the final 3 minutes.

"She is the one. You want the ball in her hands," McCall said of Thompson. "She is clutch. This girl is crazy good."

What a finish for Tara VanDerveer's team in the 1,000th game at Stanford for the Hall of Fame coach.

The Cardinal (26-7) will face Notre Dame on Friday in the Lexington Regional.

VanDerveer even hated to see South Dakota State's special season end considering how hard the opponent played. And with so much passion.

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"Tonight we played against a team that executed really well, a team that was extremely well coached and a team that put their heart on the floor," VanDerveer said. "Honestly, I wish they'd been in a different bracket because it was sad to see them lose when they had played so well."

South Dakota State (27-7) missed a chance at reaching the Sweet 16 for the first time in program history despite pushing the Cardinal to the very end at Maples Pavilion where they have been so dominant in the NCAAs.

"We wanted to be that first team that made it to the Sweet 16," guard Kerri Young said. "We got a pretty good lead, they went on a little bit of a run and we kind of fell and didn't really counter that and make runs back at them. That's what changed the game."

Briana Roberson hit a 3-pointer with 1:11 left that pulled Stanford within 64-63.

Immediately after Thompson's missed 3 at 18 seconds, Miller couldn't convert the second of two free throws. VanDerveer called timeout before Thompson's winning play.

"Every person, every basket, every rebound was one of those coaches like to talk about because each play mattered," VanDerveer said.

Stanford survived for its 14th straight NCAA win at home since Florida State stunned the Cardinal 68-61 at Maples in the second round on March 19, 2007.

The Cardinal overcame shooting 10 for 22 from the free-throw line — "horrendous," VanDerveer said — while the Jackrabbits were 7 for 13 after struggling in their first-round upset of fifth-seeded Miami on Saturday.

Miller converted a three-point play with 6:01 left to put South Dakota State ahead 58-51, then Ellie Thompson hit from long range at 4:41 for a 62-54 lead that forced Stanford to use a timeout.

McCall scored 13 of her 20 points in the first half but was largely held in check the rest of the way. Thompson wound up with 19 points and five assists.

Gabby Boever was held to three points on 1-of-7 shooting in her final collegiate game, while Thompson had 14 points and Young 13.

HEARTBREAKING FINISH

South Dakota State's loyal, blue-clad traveling fan base is headed home from rainy Northern California to snow in the forecast.

The Jackrabbits reached the second round for the first time in 2009 after five first-round exits.

"You knew it was going to come down to the end," coach Aaron Johnston said. "It'll probably be quite a while before I go back and watch this."

TIP-INS

South Dakota State: After struggling taking care of the ball late in a first-round win against No. 5 Miami, the Jackrabbits didn't the ball over once in the opening quarter and finished with seven turnovers. ... The Jackrabbits have never reached a regional in school history. ... They had won five straight games and 18 of 21. ... There will still be more NCAA women's basketball in basketball-crazed South Dakota, with Sioux Falls hosting a regional this weekend.

Stanford: VanDerveer, who coached her 1,203rd career game overall, is 21 victories from joining Pat Summitt as the only NCAA women's coaches with 1,000 career wins. ... The Cardinal improved to 34-4 in NCAA games on their home floor. ... The 65 NCAA women's games played at Maples are second most at any venue behind Tennessee's Thompson-Boling Arena (66).

UP NEXT

South Dakota State: Season over.

Stanford: Faces Notre Dame on Friday.

Lawyers say woman accused in fatal crash not fit for trial

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Prosecutors and defense attorneys say a woman accused of driving through a crowded public event in Sioux Falls and killing a woman is still unfit to stand trial.

Lois Two Bulls is facing three charges for the July 2014 death of 43-year-old Angel Stevens. A 13-year-old boy who Stevens pushed out of the way of Two Bulls' van was badly injured, but survived.

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The Sioux Falls Argus Leader reports (argusne.ws/1ZIZV78) that lawyers for both sides agreed to allow Two Bulls to receive treatment at the Human Services Center in Yankton.

Authorities say Two Bulls was not intoxicated at the time, but charged her with second-degree manslaughter for "recklessly killing" another person. She's also facing charges of simple assault and reckless driving. The crash happened during a car and motorcycle show.

Daugaards hosting Easter egg hunt at governor's residence

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Families looking for a place to hunt Easter eggs can set their sights on the South Dakota governor's residence in Pierre.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard and first lady Linda Daugaard will host the 63rd Annual Elks Easter Egg Hunt on the residence lawn at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Children up to age 12 are invited to participate. Egg hunt chairman Steve Wegman estimates that up to 1,500 children participate each year.

Gov. Daugaard says he and his wife are happy to have the opportunity to continue the tradition.

The event is sponsored by the Pierre Elks.

South Dakota governor signs tuition freeze bill into law

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard has signed a bill to freeze tuition at the state's public universities and technical schools.

The House initiative uses \$42.3 million in one-time spending to provide for the early repayment of four bond issues. That's expected to save the state \$3.7 million annually, which will be repurposed to fund tuition buy downs.

The move is should also stave off \$14.6 million in future interest and fees.

Daugaard says the freeze will make college more affordable and put the state "on a stronger financial footing for years to come."

South Dakota leader of polygamist sect pleads not guilty

ST. GEORGE, Utah (AP) — A South Dakota man accused of helping to orchestrate a food stamp fraud scheme among members of a polygamous sect based on the Arizona-Utah border has pleaded not guilty.

Seth Jeffs is charged in federal court with conspiracy to defraud the United States and money laundering. U.S. Magistrate Judge Robert Braithwaite scheduled a status conference in the case for Tuesday afternoon.

The alleged scam involves church leaders in Warren Jeff's Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Authorities say Seth Jeffs is the bishop of the group's South Dakota congregation.

Prosecutors say church leaders instructed members how to use food stamp benefits illegally.

Braithwaite on Monday appointed St. George attorney Jay Winward to represent Seth Jeffs. Winward did not immediately respond to a phone message seeking comment.

Trich disease diagnosed in another South Dakota cattle herd

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A reproductive disease of cattle has been found in another South Dakota herd.

The state Animal Industry Board says bovine trichomoniasis, or trich, was recently diagnosed in a bull that was leased to a ranch with pastures in Gregory and Mellette counties.

Several herds have been found to have the disease since last November.

Trich can cause early term abortions in cattle. The board says the disease is transmitted between cows and bulls during breeding and producers are often unaware of trich until it is well established in the herd.

The board has put several rules in place to try to prevent its spread.

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Man who escaped custody in Davison County apprehended

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — A man who authorities say escaped from a Davison County sheriff's vehicle Thursday night was arrested Sunday night in Gregory County.

Authorities say 29-year-old Jamie Benedict, of Spearfish, was handcuffed Thursday but still managed to kick out a window and flee after he was arrested during a traffic stop in Mitchell.

Gregory County authorities acting on a tip apprehended Benedict after a chase Sunday night. It wasn't immediately clear if he had an attorney.

Authorities say they found drugs during both the Thursday and Sunday incidents. They also are investigating whether Benedict might be involved in the thefts of two vehicles, both of which have been recovered.

Exotic dancer serving prison time for tax fraud loses appeal

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — An exotic dancer serving time in federal prison for income tax fraud has lost her appeal to the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Veronica Fairchild, of Canistota, was sentenced in October 2014 to nearly three years in prison for not paying taxes on more than \$850,000 earned from exotic dances over four years. She also was ordered to pay almost \$215,000 in back taxes.

Fairchild on appeal challenged the evidence supporting her conviction, jury instructions and the length of her sentence.

U.S. Attorney Randolph J. Seiler says the appeals court recently rejected her arguments.

1-vehicle crash in Codington County kills 35-year-old man

KRANZBURG, S.D. (AP) — A one-vehicle crash in Codington County over the weekend killed the driver.

The Highway Patrol says the GMC Denali driven by the 35-year-old man hit a bridge guard rail, went into the ditch and rolled several times.

The crash happened near Kranzburg about 11:45 p.m. Sunday. The man was pronounced dead at the scene. He was alone in the vehicle. Authorities did not immediately identify him.

In Cuba, Obama briefed on Brussels attacks

JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

ALICIA C. CALDWELL, Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — President Barack Obama, traveling in Cuba, was briefed Tuesday morning on the Brussels attacks that killed dozens of people. The White House said U.S. officials were in contact with Belgian officials about the explosions at the Brussels airport and subway system.

At least one of the attacks was believed to be caused by a suicide bomber, and Belgium raised its terror alert to its highest level.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security was closely monitoring the unfolding events in Brussels, officials said Tuesday. The department said it "would not hesitate to adjust our security posture, as appropriate, to protect the American people."

It reiterated that members of the public should report any suspicious activity in their communities to law enforcement authorities.

Attorney General Loretta Lynch was also briefed on the attacks, Justice Department officials in Washington said. They said the Justice Department and the FBI was coordinating with other U.S. government agencies, as well as with Belgian counterparts.

In Brussels, the U.S. Embassy recommended sheltering in place and warned U.S. citizens there to monitor local developments and take "appropriate steps to bolster your personal security."

Last week U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson said Homeland Security officials constantly monitor world events and evaluate if there is a need to either publicly raise the nation's security posture or issue another bulletin via the government's National Terror Advisory System.

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Such a bulletin was issued in December advising the public that federal law enforcement was concerned about the possibility of homegrown violent extremists and terrorist-inspired individuals.

Library book overdue nearly 50 years returned to Ohio school

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — A library book overdue by nearly 50 years has been returned to a university library in southwest Ohio.

The University of Dayton says a former student who borrowed the "History of the Crusades" in 1967 has sent it back with an apology for the late return.

The university says James Phillips, of Minnesota, apparently checked out the book as a freshman before leaving school to join the U.S. Marines. Phillips says the book and other belongings must have been gathered from his dormitory room and sent to his parents' house where they remained until his parents' died. Phillips recently found the book in a box of belongings forwarded to him by his brother.

University officials say they won't be charging Phillips the late fee that would have been about \$350.

European airports increase security after Brussels attacks

VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV, Associated Press

VANESSA GERA, Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Authorities in Europe have tightened security at airports, on subways, at the borders and on city streets after deadly attacks Tuesday on the Brussels airport and its subway system.

With Brussels on lockdown and the French prime minister saying that Europe is "at war," European leaders held emergency security meetings and deployed more police, explosives experts, sniffer dogs and plainclothes officers at key points across the bloc.

The Paris airport authority said security was tightened at all Paris airports soon after the Brussels explosions on Tuesday morning. Airports in London, Prague, Amsterdam, Vienna, and many others, also saw increased security.

The attacks come just days after the main suspect in the Nov. 13 Paris attacks was arrested in Brussels on Friday.

In Moscow, Russian Transport Minister Maxim Sokolov told Russian news agencies that authorities will "re-evaluate security" at Russian airports, although its measures are already among some of the toughest across Europe. There have been mandatory checks at the entrances to airports since a 2011 suicide bombing at Moscow's Domodedovo airport that killed 37.

Gatwick airport said that "as a result of the terrible incidents in Brussels we have increased our security presence and patrols around the airport." Heathrow said it was working with police to provide a "high-visibility" presence in light of the attacks.

In Germany, the state rail system, Deutsche Bahn, has halted its high-speed rail service from Germany to Brussels. The company said its ICE trains are now stopping at the border city of Aachen.

The British, Dutch and Polish governments convened emergency meetings as they beefed up security at airports.

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte and Britain's David Cameron vowed to help Belgium.

"Our thoughts are there, in Brussels, and we are praying for the victims," said Polish Prime Minister Beata Szydlo, who canceled a routine news conference to attend an emergency meeting with her government security council.

Austrian Interior Ministry spokesman Karl-Heinz Grundboeck said more police are on the streets and at airports in Vienna and other major Austrian cities even though there appears to be no "Austria connection."

Spain's Interior Ministry said officials would meet later Tuesday to discuss the situation but that for the moment Spain was maintaining its Security Alert Level 4 — one step below the maximum — that has been in place since 2015 extremist attacks in France, Kuwait and Tunisia.

In Greece, police added additional security at airports, metro stations and embassies with uniformed

and plain-clothed officers.

But Greece's government spokeswoman Olga Gerovasili said there were no additional security measures being taken for refugees and migrants following the Brussels attacks.

"We are not making any linkage between those two issues. That would be a defeat for Europe," Gerovasili said.

New Polish historical policy could silence Holocaust debates

VANESSA GERA, Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Poland's governing party is seeking to shape the country's future by controlling perceptions of the past.

The conservative Law and Justice party's strategy includes the use of museums, film, public television and other tools to promote certain episodes in Poland's history, like the anti-communist resistance after World War II. More controversial, though, are attempts to suppress discussion and research into painful topics, primarily Polish violence against Jews during the Nazi occupation.

Law and Justice, which since last year has wielded more power than any party in post-communist times, sees the moves as harnessing history in a mission to build a stronger nation state. President Andrzej Duda said the nation's new "historical policy offensive" aims to create a new generation of patriots and "to build up the country's position in the international space."

Critics see historical revisionism that will produce little beyond national self-righteousness and will prevent an honest reckoning with the country's wartime history — an extremely complex story that includes suffering and heroism of the highest order but also cases of murder and betrayal by Poles of defenseless Jews.

"They want to narrow our view of the past," said Pawel Spiewak, director of the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw. "They want to use the state apparatus to force their new view of political history, and this is very dangerous."

Duda waded deeply into controversy when his office announced earlier this year that it might strip a prominent Princeton Holocaust scholar, Jan Tomasz Gross, of a state honor that he received in 1996.

Polish nationalists have long demonized the Polish-American academic for a body of work focused on Polish violence against Jews during and after the war. The controversy surrounding him began with his 2000 book "Neighbors," about the 1941 massacre in the village of Jedwabne, where Polish villagers burned hundreds of Jews alive in a barn. Last year Gross caused a new outcry with a highly provocative claim that Poles killed more Jews than they killed Germans during the war, something that challenges the nation's self-image.

Duda's office said it was considering the move against Gross in reaction to 2,000 angry letters about him.

Prosecutors have also summoned Gross to appear next month in an investigation into whether he committed the crime of slandering Poland.

Just the threat to strip Gross of the honor brought letters of protest from prominent scholars. If strengthening Poland's international position is truly an aim, the tactic is backfiring, creating a widespread impression that authorities who are already facing criticism for undermining democratic institutions are also prepared to stifle free scholarly inquiry.

Gross, who was born in Poland to a Jewish father and a Christian mother and who left his homeland following the communist regime's notorious anti-Semitic campaign of 1968, is extremely critical of Poland's new direction. He said he has long been attacked by a segment of the population that is "right-wing, Catholic, nationalist and xenophobic."

"What is new to me is that this is a segment of the population that now has managed to put its representatives in all of the government offices," he said. "They use a foul and violent language to describe me as a traitor, as someone who hates Poland."

Poland's historical policies are wide-ranging, and also include efforts to undermine the legacy of Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, part of an effort to show that the entire political order that Walesa helped create is tainted. But it is the Holocaust policies that resonate most powerfully across the world, especially in Israel and the United States.

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With disputes raging, Duda opened a museum last week dedicated to the Ulma family — Poles slaughtered by the Nazis for sheltering Jews. He strongly condemned anti-Semitism and noted that the German murderers were helped by a Polish policeman in their hunt for the family. He called for remembering “the truth about heroism but also the sad truth about meanness.”

Poland’s Chief Rabbi Michael Schudrich praised it as a “brave” speech and “one of the strongest condemnations, if not the strongest, of anti-Semitism by a Polish leader.”

But historian Jan Grabowski was not impressed. He noted that Duda, who has said in the past that Poles need not apologize for Jedwabne, claimed incorrectly that “hundreds of thousands of Poles” helped Jews during the war, a hugely exaggerated number that promotes a larger narrative of Polish heroism.

“Duda’s speech is a huge step backwards from the historical truth and towards a more aggressive abuse of the memory of the Holocaust,” said Grabowski, author of “Hunt for the Jews: Betrayal and Murder in German-Occupied Poland.”

The Justice Ministry is also preparing a new law foreseeing prison terms for anyone who refers to Auschwitz or other German death camps in occupied Poland as “Polish.”

That project comes in reaction to years of anger at foreigners referring to “Polish death camps” — language even used once by U.S. President Barack Obama. Poles find that wording extremely offensive since Poles were among the victims of the camps and had no role in running them.

“Enough of this lie,” Justice Minister Zbigniew Ziobro said. “There must be accountability.”

Michal Bilewicz, a Holocaust researcher at Warsaw University, said: “the new law aims to silence Polish historians as it is obvious that this law would not be effective in sentencing anyone outside of the country.”

Spiewak, the director of the Jewish Historical Institute, says he now has to worry about whether researchers at his center might end up in prison.

The historical offensive comes amid a strong anti-migrant mood in Poland and as the ruling party is also centralizing its power in a way that undermines democratic institutions, most dramatically the independence of the constitutional court.

The trend resembles recent moves in Hungary, where historical revisionism has gone hand-in-hand with Prime Minister Viktor Orban’s creation of what he calls an “illiberal state.” Hungarian authorities have been rehabilitating wartime anti-Semites and portraying the country as the victim of German aggression when it in fact was allied with Hitler most of the war.

The high emotions surrounding Polish wartime behavior touch on what some call a Polish “obsession with innocence” — a conviction the nation is morally blameless thanks to its resistance and widespread suffering, with millions killed in the war.

Dariusz Stola, director of the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw, said he believes many cling to this conviction of innocence because it is all they have.

“Poles lost the war. They lost a lot: family members, cities, libraries, churches, 20 percent of their territory and national independence. Little was left but their innocence,” Stola said. “When you lose everything it’s good to at least be innocent.”

Still, he condemned the historical policies as “radical, unreflective and, of course, harmful.”

“Poland was on the right side of this war, and Poland lost it to Hitler and then lost it to Stalin,” Stola said. “We are not responsible for what happened 70 years ago but we are responsible for what we do with this past today. And I think the right thing to do is to talk about it.”

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. EXPLOSIONS ROCK BRUSSELS AIRPORT, SUBWAY; AT LEAST 13 PEOPLE KILLED

Authorities tell everyone in the Belgian capital to remain where they are. The blasts came just days after the main suspect in the November Paris attacks was arrested in the city.

2. OBAMA MEETS WITH DISSIDENTS AND SPEAK TO THE CUBAN PEOPLE

The U.S. president will cast a spotlight on political repression and economic hardship at the close of his

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trailblazing trip.

3. THE DIVISIVE PRIMARY SEASON MOVES WEST TO ARIZONA, UTAH AND IDAHO

Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton are seeking to pad their delegate lead while their rivals struggle to reverse the sense of inevitability around the front-runners.

4. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MAKES A STUNNING REVERSAL IN ITS LEGAL FIGHT WITH APPLE

Federal prosecutors ask a judge to halt a hearing on their efforts to force Apple to unlock an iPhone used by the San Bernardino attackers, saying the FBI may have found another way.

5. HOW SOME VETERANS ARE INCREASINGLY COPING WITH POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

A growing number are using marijuana to treat the condition even though it remains illegal in most states and major studies have yet to show it is effective against PTSD.

6. WHY CHINESE DISSIDENTS WHO FLED TO THAILAND WENT BACK ON THE RUN

Fears of China's reach in Thailand, one group attempted a risky sea voyage to New Zealand thousands of miles away.

7. WHICH GOP SENATORS ONCE VOTED IN FAVOR OF SUPREME COURT NOMINEE MERRICK GARLAND

These seven voted in 1997 to confirm Garland to his current post: Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch, Indiana Sen. Dan Coats, Mississippi Sen. Thad Cochran, Maine Sen. Susan Collins, Kansas Sen. Pat Roberts, Arizona Sen. John McCain and Oklahoma Sen. James Inhofe.

8. FORMER INTEL CORP. CEO ANDY GROVE DIES AT 79

His youth Nazi occupation inspired an "only the paranoid survive" management philosophy that saved the chip maker from financial ruin in the 1980s.

9. VIRULENT ANTI-GAY REMARKS TEST INDONESIA'S MODERATE IMAGE

It started in late 2015 when top academics attacked gay support groups at universities and has since become an onslaught.

10. WHAT HULK HOGAN SAID WHEN A JURY AWARDED HIM \$25 MILLION IN PUNITIVE DAMAGES FROM GAWKER

The grinning former pro wrestler said his legal team made history and "people treat me like I'm still the champ."

17 Hindus die from alcohol poisoning in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AP) — A Pakistani police officer says at least 17 Hindus have died after consuming illegally-made alcohol during religious celebrations in southern Pakistan.

Niaz Shah said Tuesday that 37 people from the Hindu community in Tando Muhammad Khan district were rushed to hospital on Monday.

He says they consumed the hooch during preparations for Holi celebrations, which will begin Wednesday.

Shah says 11 people have since been discharged, but nine remain in a critical condition in hospital. He says four people have been arrested over brewing the illegal drink.

With the exception of a few licensed shops permitted to sell alcohol to non-Muslims, it is against the law to drink or sell alcoholic drinks in Pakistan. Numerous incidents of mass poisonings from homemade alcohol have been reported in the past.

Trump, Clinton aim to pad delegate lead in Western states

STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eager to move beyond a divisive primary season, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton seek to pad their delegate lead over their underdog rivals as the 2016 race for the White House moves West on Tuesday.

Arizona and Utah feature contests for both parties, while Idaho Democrats also hold presidential caucuses. Trump and Clinton hope to strengthen their leads in delegates that decide the nominations, as Democrat Bernie Sanders and Republicans Ted Cruz and John Kasich struggle to reverse the sense of inevitability taking hold around both party front-runners.

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"I have more votes than anybody," Trump charged on the eve of the elections as he courted skeptical Republican officials in Washington. "The people who go against me should embrace me."

A firm delegate lead in hand, Clinton looked past Sanders ahead of Tuesday's contests and instead sharpened her general election attacks on Trump. "We need steady hands," she said, "not a president who says he's neutral on Monday, pro-Israel on Tuesday and who-knows-what on Wednesday because everything's negotiable."

Despite the tough talk, both Trump and Clinton face challenges on Tuesday.

Trump's brash tone has turned off some Republican voters in Utah, where preference polls suggest Cruz has a chance to claim more than 50 percent of the caucus vote — and with it, all of Utah's 40 delegates. Trump could earn some delegates should Cruz fail to exceed 50 percent, in which case the delegates would be awarded proportionally based on each candidate's vote total.

Kasich hopes to play spoiler in Utah, a state that prizes civility and religion. A week ago, the Ohio governor claimed a victory in his home state — his first and only win of the primary season. Yet Mitt Romney, the GOP's 2012 presidential nominee, is telling his fellow Utah voters in a recorded phone message that Cruz "is the only Republican candidate who can defeat Donald Trump."

Kasich has invested heavily in Utah in recent days, airing \$215,000 in ads, including an online-only ad that falsely implies Romney backed him, rather than Cruz, in Utah. Romney, whose primary goal is stopping Trump, supported Kasich in Ohio.

Trump appears to be in a stronger position in Arizona. Cruz's team has been aggressively lowering expectations in that state, which will award all of its 58 delegates to whichever candidate wins the most votes.

Anti-Trump Republicans are running out of time to prevent the billionaire businessman from securing the 1,237 delegates needed to claim the nomination.

With more than half of all delegates already awarded during the first seven weeks of primary voting, Trump's challengers' best — and perhaps only — hope lies with denying the front-runner a delegate majority and forcing a contested national convention in July.

"This is going to the convention," Kasich said Tuesday night on CNN.

On the Democratic side, Clinton's advantage is even greater.

The former secretary of state is coming off last week's five-state sweep of Sanders, who remains popular among his party's most liberal voters but needs to improve his performance if he expects to stay relevant. The Vermont senator, now trailing Clinton by more than 300 pledged delegates, has targeted Tuesday's races as the start of a comeback tour.

Clinton, it appeared at times Tuesday, had already moved on. Campaigning in Phoenix, she took aim at Joe Arpaio, the sheriff in the county that includes Phoenix who made his name by chasing down people who are in the country illegally. Arpaio is a vocal Trump supporter, and Clinton called him and others out for "treating fellow human beings with such disrespect."

"I don't ever remember anything like it," she said. "You know pitting groups of Americans against each other, it just is wrong."

Virulent anti-gay remarks test Indonesia's moderate image

STEPHEN WRIGHT, Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Gays are a contagion, declares the banner in bold red and black lettering that hangs on the sidewalk of a bustling neighborhood in the Indonesian capital close to embassies, luxury hotels and the homes of some of the country's leaders.

Erected by an ultra-conservative Islamic group, it's the latest manifestation of a virulent campaign of denigration against gays, lesbians and other sexual minorities that has entered the mainstream and is testing Indonesia's image for moderation.

Echoing venomous headlines in conservative newspapers, government officials and leaders in areas from psychiatry to religion also have heaped condemnation on homosexuality. The defense minister even said gays and lesbians were a more serious threat to national security than nuclear war.

The fevered atmosphere began emerging in late 2015 when top academics attacked gay support groups

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at universities. By February it had become an onslaught. Pressure from Islamic hardliners forced the closure of an Islamic boarding school for transgender students in Yogyakarta last month.

"Everyone in society is reading the propaganda of hate," said Augustine, a veteran lesbian activist who goes by one name. "They forget LGBT are human."

She said that for several weeks, she has received phone calls late at night or before dawn from men who threaten to kill her if she does not close the advocacy organization she works for.

Augustine said she has not felt so abused over her sexual orientation since she fled her own father's anti-gay violence in the late 1990s.

Indonesia's human rights commission has deplored the outpouring of hatred, but President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo has been silent. He was elected on a platform that included human rights and respect for diversity as a top priority.

Kyle Knight, a researcher for New York-based Human Rights Watch, said it feels like the cause of equality has been set back by a generation. Bigoted officials "actually do ruin people's lives," he said.

Among the startling announcements from officials, the minister for technology, research and higher education said LGBT people should not be welcome on university campuses. Harking back to medical theories discredited decades ago, the head of the psychiatry association called homosexuality a mental condition that could be treated, earning a rebuke from professional associations abroad.

Smartphone messaging app Line pulled stickers showing same-sex couples from its Indonesian emoji store in a response to a quixotic order from officials to stop the spread of gay and transgender imagery.

Homosexuality is not illegal in Indonesia, which is the world's most populous Muslim nation and embraces both democracy and moderate Islam. Some of the archipelago's ethnic groups have centuries-old traditions of same-sex love. Transgender women, known as waria, are familiar to many people and extended tolerance by the majority. Some of the stickers abruptly censored by Line were created with the help of waria, whose slang has been widely adopted in popular culture.

But daily life is lived under an uneasy status quo that tolerates LGBT people as long as they are not too visible. Activism has largely focused on areas such as preventing the spread of HIV and reducing social isolation rather than pushing for specific rights such as anti-discrimination measures. Violence has forced some gay people to flee Aceh, a Sumatran province that practices a form of Shariah law and canes people for behavior such as adultery, gambling and drinking alcohol.

Many activists believe conservatives in Indonesia's ruling circles are unnerved by incremental liberalization in neighboring Southeast Asian countries and the advance of gay rights in Western nations, including the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling last year in favor of same-sex marriage.

Some misunderstand homosexuality as being a disease or cultural trend and fear the idea of an Indonesian gay movement, said Dede Oetomo, who founded Indonesia's first gay-rights groups in the early 1980s.

A U.N. report in 2014 on the status of gay rights in Asia that estimated Indonesia has more than 100 LGBT groups was probably also unsettling to some a country where ignorance about sexuality is widespread, he said.

"They are afraid LGBT will recruit their children," said Oetomo.

Some government ministers have grudgingly spoken out against the anti-gay onslaught, saying LGBT Indonesians have the same rights as anyone else.

"We have to treat them as citizens of Indonesia," said Luhut Pandjaitan, coordinating minister of legal, political and security affairs. "This is something naturally happening. I don't think we can stop this one. But to contain, we can do it to some extent."

He said he prays daily that none of his grandchildren are gay because "nobody wants to be like that."

Groups that represent foreign businesses in Indonesia hope the current controversy will blow over, like previous episodes of social panic about alcohol and prostitution.

Despite being one of biggest economies in the developing world, Indonesia lags behind neighbors such as Singapore and Thailand in attracting foreign investment. If the anti-gay hysteria mounts or produces legal measures at the national level, it could add to perceptions of the country as unpredictable and deter

some foreign executives from working in the country.

Oetomo said there are signs the level of hysteria is abating. *Republika*, a hardline newspaper, has toned down its attacks after activists met with its editors.

Though activists say the onslaught was frightening and wiped away years of progress, in the longer run it may galvanize more activism and be a catalyst for overcoming social isolation.

"LGBT has become a household word," Oetomo said. "It's going to be long haul, but in an ironic way, we could thank the bigots."

FBI: Attacker's phone possibly accessible without Apple help

BRANDON BAILEY, Associated Press

AMANDA LEE MYERS, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The government has been adamant for weeks: FBI investigators need to unlock an encrypted iPhone used by one of the San Bernardino attackers, and Apple Inc. was the only one that could do it.

In a stunning reversal on Monday, federal prosecutors asked a judge to halt a much-anticipated hearing on their efforts to force Apple to unlock the phone. The FBI may have found another way, and Apple's cooperation may no longer be needed, according to court papers filed late Monday, less than 24 hours before Tuesday's hearing.

"An outside party" came forward over the weekend and showed the FBI a possible method to access the data on Syed Rizwan Farook's encrypted phone, according to the filing.

"Testing is required to determine whether it is a viable method that will not compromise data on Farook's iPhone," the filing said. "If the method is viable, it should eliminate the need for the assistance from Apple."

If it's viable, that also means the government has significantly undermined its arguments against Apple, said Kristen Eichensehr, a visiting law professor at the University of California, Los Angeles.

"If they found another way into the phone, that doesn't just weaken their case. It means they can't satisfy the legal standard to sustain the court's order," said Eichensehr, referring to Magistrate Judge Sheri Pym's Feb. 16 ruling compelling Apple to create software that would disable security features on the phone.

Pym granted the government's request to postpone Tuesday's arguments in the case and stayed her previous order. She ordered the government to file a status report by April 5.

The development raised more questions than it answered. It's unclear who is helping the FBI with the phone and why it took so long for a possible solution to be identified.

One thing seems clear — that the government likely would not have disclosed it had found another possible way to unlock the phone unless it was almost certain the method would work, said Robert Catanach, a former U.S. Department of Justice attorney who handles cyber-security cases for the Dorsey & Whitney law firm.

He said the disclosure alone weakens the government's case by introducing doubt that it could only access the phone with Apple's help. "They've created ambiguity in a place where they've previously said there is none," he said.

In a conference call with reporters, Apple attorneys said it's premature to declare victory in the case because authorities could come back in a few weeks and insist they still need the company's help. The attorneys spoke under an Apple policy that wouldn't allow them to be quoted by name.

The company hopes the government will tell Apple about whatever method it uses to access the phone's encrypted files. But the attorneys said it may be up to the FBI to decide whether to share the information.

Lawmakers, civil rights advocates and other tech companies have criticized the FBI for not doing more to try to crack the iPhone itself before seeking to force Apple's hand.

"To me, it suggests that either the FBI doesn't understand the technology or they weren't giving us the whole truth when they said there is no other possible way" of examining the phone without Apple's help, said Alex Abdo, staff attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union. "Both of those are scary to me."

The ACLU has filed a court brief supporting Apple's position.

Prosecutors have argued that the phone used by Farook probably contains evidence of the Dec. 2 attack

in which the county food inspector and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, slaughtered 14 at a holiday luncheon attended by many of his work colleagues. The two were killed in a police shootout hours later.

The FBI has said the couple was inspired by the Islamic State group. Investigators still are trying to piece together what happened and find out if there were collaborators.

The couple destroyed other phones they left behind, and the FBI has been unable to circumvent the passcode needed to unlock the iPhone, which is owned by San Bernardino County and was given to Farook for his job.

Apple has argued that the government was seeking "dangerous power" that exceeds the authority of the All Writs Act of 1789 it cited, and violates the company's constitutional rights, harms the Apple brand and threatens the trust of its customers to protect their privacy. The 18th-century law has been used on other cases to require third parties to help law enforcement in investigations.

It's not clear what method the government now wants to test. But even as the FBI has insisted that only Apple is able to provide the help it needs, some technical experts have argued there are other options.

The most viable method involves making a copy of the iPhone's flash memory drive, said Jonathan Zdziarski, a computer expert who specializes in iPhone forensics. That would allow investigators to make multiple tries at guessing the iPhone's passcode. A security feature in the phone is designed to automatically erase the data if someone makes 10 wrong guesses in a row.

But if that happens, Zdziarski said, investigators could theoretically restore the data from the backup copy they have created.

The data itself would remain encrypted until the phone is unlocked, but it would remain viable while investigators continued to guess the passcode, he added.

"It's a lot more involved than it sounds," Zdziarski cautioned, and no one has demonstrated that it would work in this case.

Some experts have also suggested that investigators could use lasers and acid to deconstruct the phone's memory chip, in order to physically examine the encrypted data and the encryption algorithm, in hopes of cracking the code. But hardware experts say that method has a high risk of destroying the memory during the process.

High court weighs whether to spare Texas man from execution

MICHAEL GRACZYK, Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court was considering whether a Texas man who killed a city worker in 2005 should be spared from a lethal injection, as his lawyers argue that a ban on executing mentally impaired prisoners should be extended to him.

Adam Ward's attorneys say he's delusional and should not be put to death because of his mental illness. His execution is set for Tuesday evening and would be the fifth this year in Texas and ninth nationally.

Ward, 33, insists he was defending himself when he killed code enforcement officer Michael Walker, who was taking photos of junk piled outside the Ward family home in Commerce, about 65 miles northeast of Dallas.

"Only time any shots were fired on my behalf was when I was matching force with force," Ward told The Associated Press last month from a visiting cage outside death row. "I wish it never happened but it did, and I have to live with what it is."

Evidence showed the 44-year-old Walker had a camera and cellphone but no weapon.

In a videotaped statement to police following his arrest, Ward said he believed Commerce officials long conspired against him and his father, described in court filings as a hoarder who had been in conflict with the city for years. Evidence showed the Ward family had been cited repeatedly for violating housing and zoning codes.

In their appeal to the high court, Ward's attorneys renewed arguments that he is mentally ill and contended his execution would be unconstitutional because of evolving sentiment against executing the

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mentally ill.

The justices have ruled that mentally impaired people, generally those with an IQ below 70, may not be executed. However, the court has said mentally ill prisoners may be executed if they understand they are about to be put to death and why they face the punishment.

State attorneys, who said evidence showed Ward's IQ as high as 123, said the late appeal did not raise a new issue, meaning it was improper and without merit. They also disputed claims of changing attitudes about executing the mentally ill.

Evidence of Ward's delusions, paranoia and bipolar disorder was presented at his 2007 trial and resurfaced in earlier unsuccessful appeals. The Supreme Court last October refused to review Ward's case.

"It's frustrating, tormenting, it's depressing," Dick Walker, the father of the man killed, said Monday. "I believe in appeals. I really do. ... It shouldn't drag on for almost 11 years."

Witnesses said Michael Walker was taking photos of the Ward property on June 13, 2005, when he and Ward got into an argument.

Walker told Ward he was calling for assistance. Ward thought that meant police were on their way to kill him, Ward's lead trial attorney, Dennis Davis, said last week.

"Mr. Walker walked into a hornet's nest and didn't know it," Davis said.

Walker made the call and waited near the back of his truck. Ward went inside the house, emerged with a .45-caliber pistol and started firing. Walker was shot nine times.

"I think the only thing he was there for was harassment," Ward said from prison.

Dick Walker, an emergency medical technician when the shooting happened, was the first medic to arrive at the Ward property. He said he "had to intubate my own son on scene to save his life."

He said he's spent years "getting rid of my anger" and in the last year prayed to forgive Ward for the slaying. Still, he believes the punishment is justified.

"I do want him to get the sentence he was given by the jury, and he definitely deserves it," said Dick Walker, who planned to witness Ward's execution.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, March 22, the 82nd day of 2016. There are 284 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 22, 1941, the Grand Coulee hydroelectric dam in Washington state officially went into operation.

On this date:

In 1638, religious dissident Anne Hutchinson was expelled from the Massachusetts Bay Colony for defying Puritan orthodoxy.

In 1765, the British Parliament passed the Stamp Act to raise money from the American colonies, which fiercely resisted the tax. (The Stamp Act was repealed a year later.)

In 1894, hockey's first Stanley Cup championship game was played; home team Montreal defeated Ottawa, 3-1.

In 1929, a U.S. Coast Guard vessel sank a Canadian-registered schooner, the *I'm Alone*, in the Gulf of Mexico. (The schooner was suspected of carrying bootleg liquor.)

In 1933, during Prohibition, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a measure to make wine and beer containing up to 3.2 percent alcohol legal.

In 1945, the Arab League was formed with the adoption of a charter in Cairo, Egypt.

In 1958, movie producer Mike Todd, the husband of actress Elizabeth Taylor, and three other people were killed in the crash of Todd's private plane near Grants, New Mexico.

In 1963, The Beatles' debut album, "Please Please Me," was released in the United Kingdom by Parlophone.

In 1976, principal photography for the first "Star Wars" movie, directed by George Lucas, began in Tunisia.

In 1986, world financier Michele Sindona died two days after ingesting cyanide in his Italian prison cell in what authorities later ruled was a suicide. (Sindona was serving a life sentence for ordering the death

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of a bank examiner investigating his tangled financial affairs.)

In 1991, high school instructor Pamela Smart, accused of recruiting her teenage lover and his friends to kill her husband, Gregory, was convicted in Exeter, New Hampshire, of murder-conspiracy and being an accomplice to murder and was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

In 1995, convicted Long Island Rail Road gunman Colin Ferguson was sentenced to life in prison for killing six people.

Ten years ago: More than 125,000 hourly workers of General Motors Corp. and auto supplier Delphi Corp. were offered buyouts to help cut the companies' huge labor costs. The Basque separatist group ETA announced a permanent cease-fire with Spain. A Gabon-bound ferry sank off the coast of Cameroon; more than 120 people are believed to have died. A bus carrying cruise ship tourists plunged off a highway in northern Chile and tumbled down a mountainside, killing 12 Americans.

Five years ago: Yemen's U.S.-backed president, Ali Abdullah Saleh (AH'lee ahb-DUH'luh sah-LEH'), his support crumbling among political allies and the army, warned that the country could slide into civil war as the opposition rejected his offer to step down by the end of the year. NFL owners meeting in New Orleans voted to make all scoring plays reviewable by the replay official and referee; also, kickoffs would be moved up 5 yards to the 35-yard line.

One year ago: CIA Director John Brennan, in an interview on Fox News Sunday, said the leader of Iran's elite Quds Force was contributing to instability in Iraq and complicating the U.S. mission against terrorism. The U.N. special envoy for Yemen, Jamal Benomar, warned an emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council in a video briefing from Qatar that events were pushing the Arab country "to the edge of civil war."

Today's Birthdays: Composer-lyricist Stephen Sondheim is 86. Evangelist broadcaster Pat Robertson is 86. Actor William Shatner is 85. Senate President Pro Tempore Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, is 82. Actor M. Emmet Walsh is 81. Actor-singer Jeremy Clyde is 75. Singer-guitarist George Benson is 73. Writer James Patterson is 69. CNN newscaster Wolf Blitzer is 68. Composer Andrew Lloyd Webber is 68. Actress Fanny Ardant is 67. Sportscaster Bob Costas is 64. Country singer James House is 61. Actress Lena Olin is 61. Singer-actress Stephanie Mills is 59. Actor Matthew Modine is 57. Country musician Tim Beeler is 48. Actor-comedian Keegan-Michael Key is 45. Olympic silver medal figure skater Elvis Stokjo is 44. Actor Guillermo Diaz is 41. Actress Anne Dudek is 41. Actor Cole Hauser is 41. Actress Kellie Williams is 40. Actress Reese Witherspoon is 40. Rock musician John Otto (Limp Bizkit) is 39. Rapper Mims is 35. Actress Constance Wu (TV: "Fresh Off the Boat") is 34. Actor James Wolk is 31. Rock musician Lincoln Parish (Cage the Elephant) is 26.

Thought for Today: "Happiness does not lie in happiness, but in the achievement of it." — Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Russian author (1821-1881).