

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 1 of 34

- 1- Olde Bank Floral Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailers in Groton
- 1- Today's Information
- 2- POPS Concert Photos
- 2- Geary Bridal Shower
- 2- Handyman looking for work
- 2- Cutting Edge Lawn Care Ad
- 3- Groton Rob Luecke Track Meet Results
- 4- City Council April 4 Meeting Minutes
- 6- More POPS Concert Photos
- 9 - Today in Weather History
- 9- Golden Living Center Ad
- 10- Local Weather Forecast
- 11- National Weather Map
- 11- Local Weather
- 12- Daily Devotional
- 13 - News from the Associated Press

Thursday, April 14

School Breakfast: Mini pancakes, fruit, juice, milk.

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

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

Birthdays: Aloise Brolin, Toby Dobbins, Becky Hearnen

4:00pm: 7th/8th Track Meet in Sisseton

Friday, April 15

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

School Lunch: Shrimp poppers, mixed vegetables, carrots and dip, fruit.

Senior Menu: Lemon baked fish, rice pilaf, California blend veggies, peach crisp, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Brady Graf, Wayne Wienk, Sam Thorson

Saturday, April 16

Birthdays: Amy Briggs, Charles Raap, Clark Gibbs, Connor Smith, Cooper Smith, Jeff Larson, Kristi Peterson, Leslie Dohman, Marvin Bonn, Rodney Boehmer, Tom Tietz

4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass

7:00pm: GHS Prom Grand March

Sunday, April 17

Birthdays: Bernice Fliehs, Dan Felkey, Morghan Waage, Aaron Delzer

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran School

9:00am: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass

9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Worship with Communion

9:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran fellowship

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

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 2 of 34



Aubray Harry sang, "You're Still the One."

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.



Marlee Jones and Luke Thorson were the masters of ceremony at the POPS Concert.

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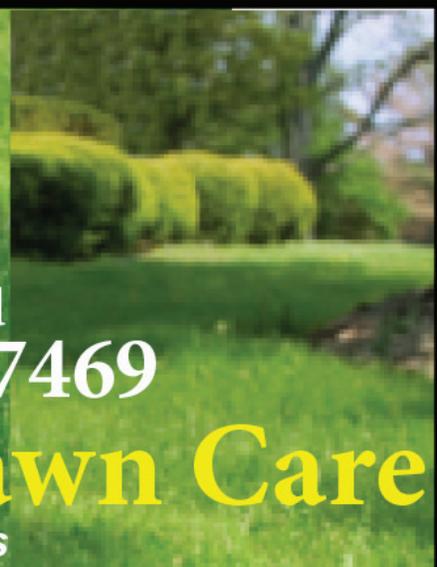
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Wanner, Wheeting are winners at "Rob Luecke" Invite

Two Groton athletes took first place at the Groton "Rob Luecke" Invitational Track meet held Tuesday. Audrey Wanner won the triple jump and Carly Wheeting not only won the discus, but was also the winner of the Dick Donovan Field Events MVP award.

110m Hurdles: Tylan Glover, 22.1

300m Hurdles: 4, Tylan Glover, 46.59.

100m Dash: Joy Nay 12.25, Jackson Oliver 12.12, James Thompson 13.75.

200m Dash: Frankie Wüstenwald, 25.8; Lucas Hintan, 24.32.

400m Dash: 8, Frankie Wuestenwald, 58.65.

800m Run: 3, Sean Schuring, 2:19.70; 5, Trenton Diegel, 2:21.81.

1600m Run: 5, Sean Schuring, 5:12.57; 8, Trenton Diegel, 5:18.83; Micah Poor, 5:46.9; Mitchell Koens, 5:47.5.

3200m Run: Mitchell Koens placed 12th and Micah Poor placed 13th.

400m Relay: 5, Groton (Bennett Shabazz, Jackson Oliver, Lucas Hinman, Joy Nay), 47.06.

800m Relay: 3, Groton (Bennett Shabazz, Jackson Oliver, Lucas Hinman, Joy Nay), 1:40.91.

Long Jump: 6, Adam Herman, 19-7; Bennett Shabazz, 17-11 1/2; Tylan Glover, 17-5 1/2; Frankie Wuestenwald, 17-3 1/2.

Triple Jump: 4, Adam Herman, 38-11.

High Jump: 8, Bennett Shabazz, 5-5.

Shot Put: 3, Stevie Fey, 46-2 3/4; 5, McClain Lone, 41-3 1/2; Luke Thorson, 36-6 1/2.

Discus: 5, McClain Lone, 124-2; Luke Thorson, 107-11; Stevie Fey, 113-2.

100m Hurdles: 2, Audrey Wanner, 16.05; 5, Josie Doeden, 17.16.

100m Dash: Aubray Harry, 15.3.

200m Dash: Payton Maine, 30.1; Jodi Hitman, 30.3; Emily Blocker, 31-6; Melanie Shultz, 31.95; Renee Hinman, 44.2.

400m Dash: Melanie Shultz, 1:19.

800m Run: Hannah Lewandowski, 3:09.12; Emily Thompson, 3:19.64.

1600m Run: Emily Thompson, 7:08; Hannah Lewandowski, 6:49.95.

400m Relay: 8, Groton (Josie Doeden, Aubray Harry, Heather Lone, Haleigh Stange), 58.65.

800m Relay: Groton (Aubray Harry, Payton Maine, Jodi Hitman, Emily Blocker), 2:04.

High Jump: Katie Koehler, 4-4; Audrey Wanner, 4-2.

Long Jump: 3, Audrey Wanner, 15-6; Katie Koehler, 14-4 1/2; Jodi Hinman, 12-8 3/4.

Triple Jump: 1, Audrey Wanner 33-7 1/2 (SQ); Katie Koehler, 29-3 1/2.

Shot Put: 2, Carly Wheeting, 35-1; 6, Jessica Bjerke, 31-1 1/2; 7, Marlee Jones, 30-11; Nicole Fey, 28-11; Taylor Holm, 28-0; Madison Sippel, 29-8 3/4; Kaycie Hawkins, 25-6 1/2; Jennie Doeden, 28-0.

Discus: 1, Carly Wheeting, 106-10; 4, Jessica Bjerke, 100-8; 7, Marlee Jones, 96-2; Nichole Fey, 80-7; Taylor Holm, 71-4; Kaycie Hawkins, 67-8; Jennie Doeden, 86.0.

Dick Donovan Field Events MVP: Carly Wheeting.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 4 of 34

Groton City April 4, 2016 Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2016

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7pm at City Hall for their regular first monthly meeting with the following members present: Flihs, McGannon, Blackmun, Opp, Peterson, Glover and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Johnson, Finance Officer Lowary, representatives of the press, and 24 other citizens.

The minutes were approved as read on a motion by Opp and seconded by Glover. All members present voted aye.

The financial report was approved on a motion by Flihs and seconded by McGannon. All members present voted aye.

The following bills were approved for payment on a motion by Peterson and seconded by Opp. All members present voted aye.

Executive Payroll 1,015.85 salaries; Administrative Payroll 6,365.53 salaries; Public Safety Payroll 13,631.37 salaries; Public Works Payroll 17,345.51 salaries; Cultural & Recr Payroll 27.76 salaries; First State Bank 7,809.23 ss & wh; City of Groton 841.75 dep ref, post, util, phone; Cons Fed Cr Union 1,125.00 emp savings; US Post Office 208.10 postage; Gerald Bermel 14.68 deposit refund; Larry Leidholt Estate 66.83 deposit refund; Associated Supply Co 275.00 school registration; Paul Kosel 180.00 med flex; MidStates Org Crime Info Center 100.00 dues; Alan Zoellner 300.00 hwh sales incentive; 1st National Bank 4,344.69 sewer loan; 1st National Bank 6,975.69 sewer loan; A&B Business Solutions 132.30 toner; April Abeln 24.00 med flex; Border States 1,569.99 strap, bracket, cutout, wire; Buhls 31.70 rug rent; Chase Visa 1,019.77 motel, supp, bks, ipad, bbequip; Chief Supply 67.79 belt; Clark Engineering 465.00 engineering; Justin Cleveland 372.60 mileage; Colonial Research 2,837.58 herbicide, cleaner; Cummins Central Power 1,797.20 repair; Darrels 32.00 repairs; Digital Ally 395.00 repair; Cannon Tech 840.48 retro kit; Fastenal 12.27 rods, nuts; Galls 63.04 batteries, cord, shirt; Groton Independent 29.03 publishing; Groton Vet Clinic 9.90 gloves; Harry Implement 83.12 blades; Heartland Waste 6,150.64 garbage hauling; James Valley Tele 555.08 phones, internet; Anita Lowary 85.32 mileage; Matheson 8.06 lube; NW Energy 10.61 nat gas; Pressure Washer Central 62.84 swivel; Runnings 550.54 tape, batteries, tools; Sanitation Products 97.37 chain, sprockets; S & S Lumber 179.58 supplies; SD Dept of Health 104.00 testing; SD Municipal League 24.00 meeting reg; SD Retirement 8,047.16 retirement; Specialty Mfg 1,732.04 pipe, metal, welding; Stan Houston Equipment 725.00 saw parts; Verizon Wireless 41.63 gate comm.; WEB Water 9,745.99 water; Wells Fargo 8,182.00 06 C&G loan

The hearing for the appeal of the Planning and Zoning decision to deny a special exception for a Dollar General Store to be located on Lots 1-9, Block 4, Randalls Addition to Groton, SD; with vacated alley in Block 4; with the north half of vacated 12th Ave lying adjacent to said Block 4, except lots H1, H2, H3, and H4; and Lot 18, Block 11, Randalls Addition to Groton, SD, with the south half of vacated 12th Ave lying adjacent to said Lot 18 was held at 7:10pm. Attorney Johnson explained the procedure and Tyler Oliver of Colby Capitol presented responses to concerns raised at the Planning and Zoning meeting. Other members of the audience who spoke were: Gordon Nelson, Paula Kokalas, Todd Kokalas, Doug Sombke, Carol Smith, Dr. Steve Smith, Jeannette Hughes, Carl Schwab, Marcy Blackmun, and Merle Harder. Tyler Oliver responded to questions. Moved by Opp and seconded by Glover to approve the appeal and grant a special exception to Colby Capitol, LLC to build a Dollar General at 220 E Hwy 12, Groton, SD with conditions that lighting is contained on site, a fence is located on the south side and around the garbage dumpsters, the driveway is relocated to an acceptable distance from the intersec-

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 5 of 34

tion, and drainage is managed under the plan approved by Clark Engineering. Members voting aye were: Opp, Glover, McGannon, Peterson, and Flihs. Blackmun voted nay. Motion carried. Attorney Johnson will present the findings and conclusions at the next meeting. 20 persons left the meeting at this point.

Discussion was held on the unowned cat population and licensing cats. Deanna Hendrickson, Dwight Zerr, and Jerry Bjerke spoke to the Council with their concerns. Moved by Flihs and seconded by McGannon to no longer consider 2nd Reading of Ordinance 704. Members voting aye were: Flihs and McGannon. Members voting nay were: Peterson, Glover, Blackmun, and Opp. Motion failed. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting. 4 persons left the meeting at this point

A letter of resignation from Sherwin Nyberg from the Planning and Zoning Commission was read and approved on a motion by Opp and seconded by McGannon. All members present voted aye. Volunteers for Planning and Zoning were asked to contact Mayor Hanlon before the next meeting.

Paul Kosel announced a tree grant was awarded to Groton from Dept of Agriculture for \$1,000 to plant 23 new trees. The Garden Club has already donated \$900 for the matched funds. Moved by Glover and seconded by Blackmun to have the City pay for the \$100 additional required matched funds. All members present voted aye.

Department reports were given by Dwight Zerr, Wastewater Supt., Terry Herron, Public Works Supt.; and Shawn Lambertz, Electric Supt. Topics included televising 3 blocks of sanitary sewer main and manholes and cleaning lift stations; reconstruction of the backstops at the little fields of the baseball complex; garbage routes will resume to normal pickup on Tuesday, April 12; street sweeping and repairs are starting; the power outage from the burned out cutout; transformer replacement; load management inspections; and superintendents school. April 1st was the date that all sump pumps should be discharging outdoors. Three left the meeting at this point.

Moved by McGannon and seconded by Opp to set Groton Cleanup Week from May 1-9. All members present voted aye.

Lowary announced that the FAA has approved the location of the Gengerke grain handling system. The SD inspector will come soon to get all measurements and bring the markers from the grant. Alan Zoellner was thanked for his offer to plant alfalfa or grass around the landing strip, but more information on height will be gathered. Two left the meeting.

Moved by Opp and seconded by Peterson to send Anita Lowary to Finance Officers School in Spearfish June 7-10. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Opp and seconded by Blackmun to adjourn into executive session for personnel matters at 9:15pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 9:27pm.

Moved by Glover and seconded by Flihs to give 2nd Reading to Ordinance No. 703, The 2016 Summer Salary Ordinance. All members present voted aye.

Meeting adjourned.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor

Anita Lowary, Finance Officer

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 6 of 34



Adam Herman and Macy Knecht had a part in one of the Show Choir performances.



Tylan Glover performed, "I Won't Give Up."



The Jazz Band performed at the start of each half of the POPS Concert.



Emily Raap, Kari Hanson and Maggie Simon sang and performed to, "Proud Mary."



The Chamber Choir sang, "Baba Yetu"

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 7 of 34



The Show Choir performed several selections at the end of the POPS Concert.



Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 8 of 34



Jerick Hanson entertained the crowd at the beginning of the POPS Concert and also had a part in one of the other performances.



Adam Herman dedicated his performance to his mom, Kari Herman. He sang, "Grace Kelly."



Prom is Saturday Night at the GHS Gym. The Grand March begins at 7 p.m. That is an hour earlier than normal.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 9 of 34

Today in Weather History

April 14, 1991: Thawing ice on top of a television tower fell onto buildings below in Garden City, Clark County. The ice had accrued during a freezing rain event on the 11th and 12th. No one was injured, but damage estimates ranged from \$35,000-\$40,000.

April 14, 2005: A dust devil developed on the west side of Bison as a dry cold front passed through the area. As it moved east across town, it blew out windows on several automobiles, damaged a 160 square foot section of roof from a house, and tore shingles off several buildings. The dust devil also pulled a flagpole out of the ground. No one was injured. The dust devil was approximately 20 feet wide, and the path length was one and a half miles.

1873 - A famous Easter blizzard raged across Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota. Gale force winds blew the wet snow into massive drifts, however there were few deaths due to the sparse population and due to the gradual increase of the storm. (David Ludlum)

1886 - A devastating tornado, 800 yards in width at times, cut a twenty mile path through Saint Cloud MN killing 74 persons. The bottom of the Mississippi River was said to have been seen during the tornado's crossing. Eleven persons were killed at a wedding party near the town of Rice. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1935: Black Sunday refers to a particularly severe dust storm that occurred on April 14, 1935, as part of the Dust Bowl. During the afternoon, the residents of the Plains States were forced to take cover as a dust storm, or "black blizzard", blew through the region. The storm hit the Oklahoma Panhandle and Northwestern Oklahoma first and moved south for the remainder of the day. It hit Beaver around 4:00 p.m., Boise City around 5:15 p.m., and Amarillo, Texas, at 7:20 p.m. The conditions were the most severe in the Oklahoma and Texas panhandles, but the storm's effects were felt in other surrounding areas.

1987 - A storm system moving slowly northeastward across the Middle Mississippi Valley produced severe thunderstorms which spawned three tornadoes around Ottumwa IA, and produced up to four inches of rain in southeastern Nebraska, flooding rivers and streams. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - A weather disturbance off the southern coast of California brought parts of southern California their first rain in six weeks. Rain-slickened roads resulted in numerous accidents in southern California, including a ten car pile-up at Riverside. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Late afternoon thunderstorms in northern Florida soaked the town of Golden Gate with 4.37 inches of rain in about two hours, resulting in local flooding. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced severe weather in southeastern Texas during the mid morning hours. Thunderstorms produced dime size hail at Galveston, and wind gusts to 59 mph at Port Arthur. Afternoon thunderstorms over southeast Louisiana spawned tornadoes south of Bogalusa and at Rio. (Storm Data)

1999: In Sydney, Australia, a hailstorm causes \$1.6 billion in damage, making it the costliest hailstorm to strike a populated city in the country. The hail damaged some 22,000 homes and more than 60,000 vehicles. Also, aircraft damage at Sydney Airport was extensive.



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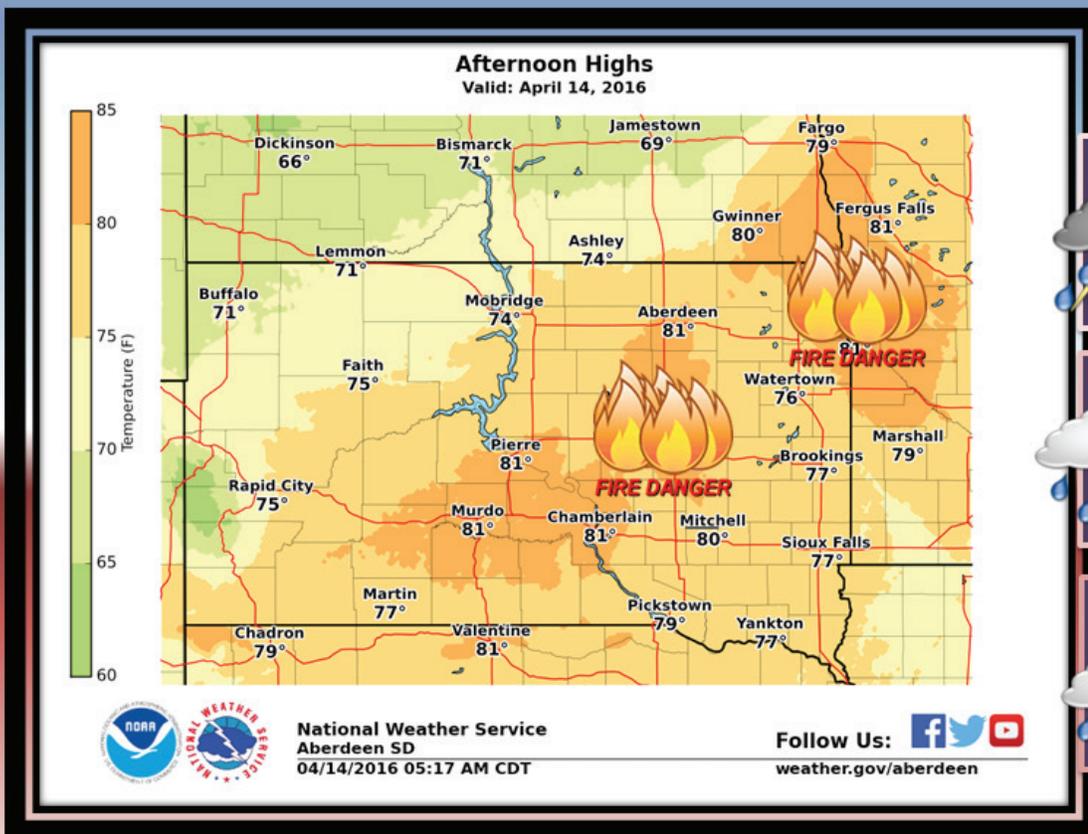
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Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 10 of 34

Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
						
Mostly Sunny then Mostly Sunny and Breezy	Breezy. Partly Cloudy then Chance T-storms	Breezy. Chance T-storms then Chance Showers	Showers Likely	Showers Likely	Chance Showers	Chance Showers
High: 81 °F	Low: 54 °F	High: 68 °F	Low: 47 °F	High: 52 °F	Low: 37 °F	High: 54 °F

Warm and Breezy Today



Friday

Low 60s to
the Low 70s

Saturday

Upper 40s to
the Low 60s

Sunday

Low to Mid
50s

Published on: 04/14/2016 at 5:41AM

Increasing southerly winds will bring warm temperatures into the region today with highs reaching the 70s and low 80s. While generally dry conditions are expected, locations in north central South Dakota could see scattered sprinkles throughout the day. Precipitation chances will increase from west to east later tonight through Friday as a stronger system impacts the region. Temperatures will gradually become cooler through the weekend.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 11 of 34

Yesterday's Weather

High: 70.7 at 6:31 PM

Low: 25.0 at 7:20 AM

High Gust: 17 at 6:11 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 86° in 1942

Record Low: 9 in 1928

Average High: 57°F

Average Low: 31°F

Average Precip in April.: 0.69

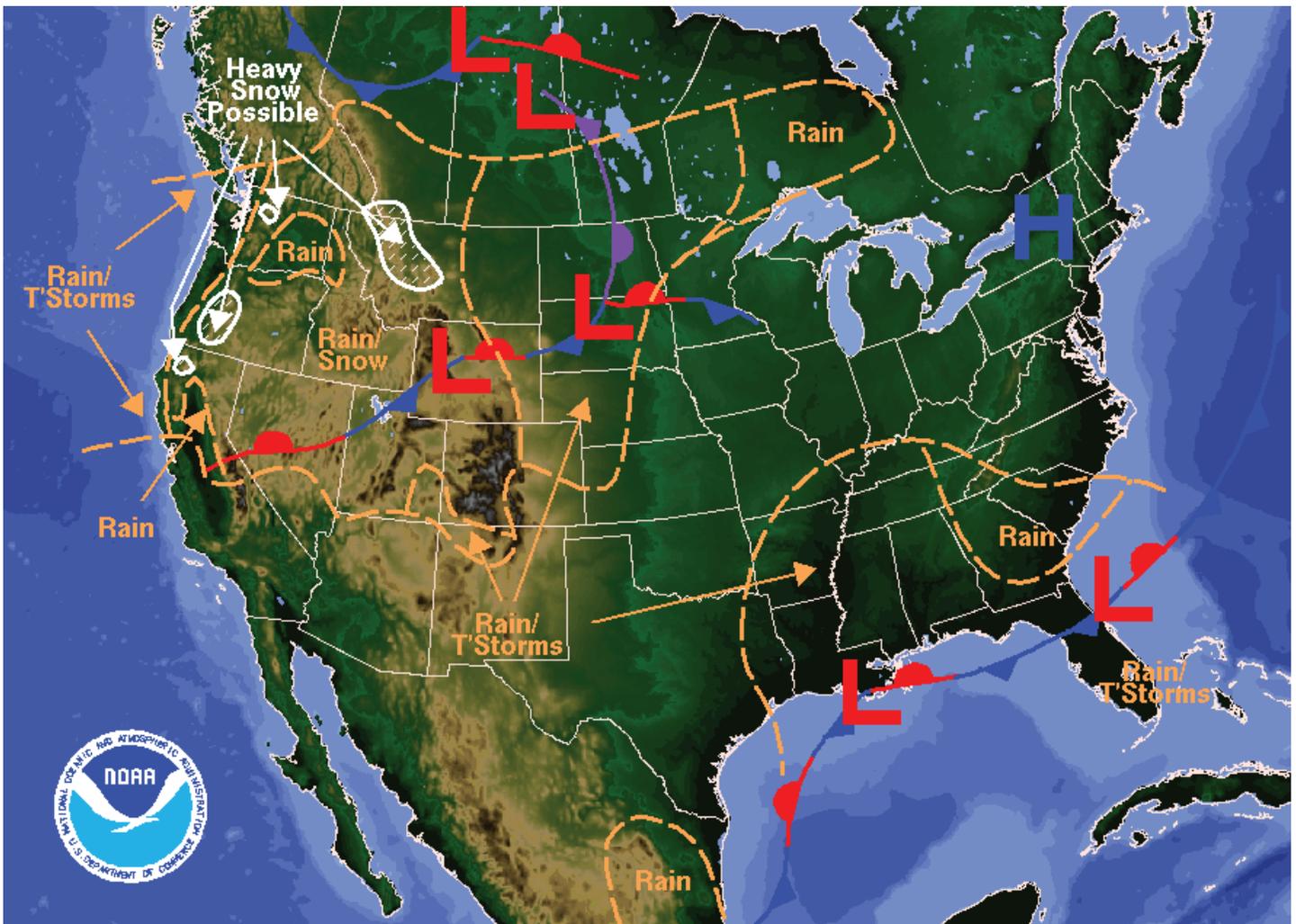
Precip to date in April.: 0.08

Average Precip to date: 2.87

Precip Year to Date: 1.03

Sunset Tonight: 8:19 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:47 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Thu, Apr 14, 2016, issued 4:41 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 12 of 34



FOLLOW THROUGH

Great golfers know the meaning of follow through. In fact, they have a saying that sums up its importance: "Where you end up tells a lot about how you got there." In other words, the lack of follow through severely limits the distance the golf ball will travel.

As in golf, so in the Christian life: follow through is what matters most!

On one occasion, when giving instructions about what it meant to be one of His disciples Jesus said this: "Truly you are my disciples if you keep obeying my teachings. And you will know the truth and the truth will make you free." In only a few words, Jesus presents a complete picture of discipleship.

Christian discipleship begins with accepting Jesus as Savior and Lord. It acknowledges our sinful condition and that He alone can save us by His death on the cross and His resurrection from the grave.

Christian discipleship requires that we constantly remain in God's Word. We must listen carefully to the voice of God that speaks to us as we read and meditate on His Word and spend time with Him in prayer. Unless we take time to be with Him and open our minds and hearts to Him we will never come to know Him.

Christian discipleship demands that we live a life of obedience to the teachings of God's Word. We study God's Word to learn what He would have us to do and live as He would have us to live. The truth that Jesus gave us is designed for action not intellectual satisfaction!

Follow through for the Christian means that we behave what we profess to believe. It is being faithful to Jesus' teachings.

Prayer: Help us, Lord, to be more than believers who simply know what You taught. May we surrender our lives completely to You and live Your truth each day. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: John 8:31-32 Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

News from the Associated Press

Wrong-way crash on I-229 in Sioux Falls kills 1, injures 2

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A two-vehicle crash on Interstate 229 in Sioux Falls killed a man and injured two other people.

The Highway Patrol says a pickup truck driven by a 90-year-old man was traveling in the wrong lane and collided head-on with another pickup.

The 90-year-old man was pronounced dead at the scene mid-afternoon Wednesday. The two people in the other pickup suffered injuries that authorities say are serious but not life-threatening.

The crash shut down that portion of the interstate for a time.

EPA, other agencies seek more careful review of oil pipeline

DAVID PITT, Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — The Environmental Protection Agency and two other federal agencies have asked the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to more carefully review and revise its preliminary plan for the Dakota Access oil pipeline, saying it should pay closer attention to the impact a spill would have on drinking water for Native American tribes.

Besides the concerns over water for the tribes near the pipeline route, the EPA, Department of the Interior and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation also want a better look at whether the route would disturb historic sites.

The pipeline will cross through Illinois, Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota. Dakota Access, a unit of Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners, has received state permits to proceed with the 1,168-mile pipeline, which will carry nearly half a million barrels of oil a day from northwestern North Dakota's Bakken oil fields. It awaits final federal approval from the corps, which has jurisdiction over portions of the pipeline that cross public waterways including the Missouri and Mississippi rivers and must consider impact on historical sites, animal habitat for threatened species and the environment.

The corps' Omaha District is responsible for the project in South Dakota and North Dakota, where the pipeline crosses the Missouri River. Corps officials in Omaha released a draft environmental assessment in December that concluded the company's proposed route "is not expected to have any significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts on the environment."

In March, corps officials received letters from the EPA, Interior Department and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation criticizing that evaluation.

The EPA said the corps should better assess the potential impact of a pipeline leak to drinking water sources for Native American tribes. Philip Strobel, an EPA official responsible for ensuring compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, said the Missouri River is used as the drinking water supply for much of western South Dakota and five Tribal Nations — the Cheyenne River, Crow Creek, Oglala, Rosebud and Lower Brule Sioux tribes.

He questioned the corps' draft assessment conclusion that says there is minimal risk of an oil spill to water resources, noting the pipeline crosses the Missouri just 10 miles above the drinking water intake for Fort Yates, North Dakota, the headquarters for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.

"There would be very little time to determine if a spill or leak affecting surface waters is occurring, to notify water treatment plants and to have treatment plant staff on site to shut down the water intakes," Strobel said.

A March 29 letter from an Interior Department official said the corps must more adequately justify its conclusion that there would be no significant impact on the environment. And a letter from an official at the Advisory Council On Historic Preservation said the corps should expand its review of the project to include the potential impact on historic properties in consultation with affected Native American tribes.

A spokeswoman in the corps' Omaha office said the concerns are under review.

"We're evaluating real concerns and real issues that have been brought to our attention through public comments, and it's our responsibility to recognize those concerns and ensure that the applicant addresses them," Eileen Williamson said.

A spokesman for the corps' Rock Island District, which oversees the Mississippi River crossing and others in Iowa and Illinois, said the agency's work assessing the project with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies continues. Ron Fournier said permits aren't expected to be issued until at least June if all goes smoothly.

The corps has adequately addressed the portions of the project under its jurisdiction, a spokeswoman for Dakota Access said.

"They are the experts in this area and we believe they have done an excellent job addressing any comments received to date," Vicki Granado said.

She said the corps' jurisdiction involves just 3.5 percent of the entire pipeline and a more thorough environmental impact statement is not required and would be a misuse of taxpayer money.

Sanford gets BNSF grant for oil field health care program

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Sanford Health has received a \$10,000 grant from the BNSF Railway Foundation to support an effort to provide health care services directly in the western North Dakota oil fields.

Sanford has two MobileMED units in the oil patch. One is in Watford City and the other sees patients in Underwood and Stanton.

Sanford says the BNSF grant was used to offset startup costs.

Dakotas-based Sanford Health is one of the largest health systems in the nation with 43 hospitals and nearly 250 clinics in nine states and three countries.

Mount Rushmore achieves climate-friendly park status

KEYSTONE, S.D. (AP) — Mount Rushmore National Memorial has achieved "climate-friendly park" status thanks to energy reduction, waste management and other efforts that the park has undertaken since 2007.

The designation is part of a National Park Service plan that focuses on sustainability.

Mount Rushmore Superintendent Cheryl Schreier says the park's staff, partners and visitors have contributed toward the goal of earning the designation. She says "everyday visitors are using water bottle filling stations, park partners are recycling waste products and staff members are turning off lights in unoccupied offices."

The efforts undertaken by the park include the installation of a new lighting system to illuminate the mountain carving, resulting in energy savings of more than 90 percent, and the installation of new thermostats that provide a consistent control of building energy use.

Crews continuing Custer State Park prescribed burn

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Wildland fire crews are planning to continue a prescribed burn in Custer State Park on Thursday.

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture's Wildland Fire Division, the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks and Custer State Park plan on burning about 800 acres in the park's southeast corner near the Wildlife Visitor Station.

Firefighters successfully completed 395 acres of Unit 1 in the Swint Well prescribed fire area and 595 acres in the South Fork area on Tuesday.

Officials say prescribed fire helps maintain healthy native vegetation and is needed to prevent the encroachment of invasive species. Fire also reduces the hazardous buildup of debris and dead vegetation, which can fuel wildfires.

Minnehaha sheriff's office: Chase ends with suspect arrest

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a pursuit that ended with a crash in Sioux Falls led to the arrest of a man suspected in an attempted homicide in Sisseton earlier this month.

The Minnehaha County Sheriff's Office says deputies, Sioux Falls police and state troopers pursued the vehicle after it refused to stop. Authorities say the vehicle drove the wrong way on the interstate before crashing into a fence.

Deputies say two subjects were immediately detained, and a perimeter was created to prevent the escape of the attempted homicide suspect, who was taken into custody after he was found lying down in a pickup truck.

The sheriff's office identified him as 29-year-old Zachariah Ryan. Attorney information for Ryan was not immediately available.

Authorities say no one was injured in the incident.

Laws decried as LGBT discrimination proposed across country

The Associated Press

Legislation has been proposed in states across the country to protect those who — due to religious beliefs — decline to employ or serve certain people. Critics say the laws are aimed at the LGBT community and are discriminatory. Recent laws denounced as discriminatory in North Carolina and Mississippi has prompted a growing backlash from opponents. Here's a look at legislation around the country:

ALABAMA:

Alabama lawmakers are pushing a measure to prevent the state from refusing to license childcare service providers who decline services that conflict with their religious beliefs. Religious organizations contract with the state to provide some childcare services, and opponents of the proposal have argued that the bill could be used to exclude gay and lesbian couples from adopting children or being foster parents. The proposal comes after the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously struck down an Alabama Supreme Court order that invalidated a lesbian couple's adoption in Georgia.

ALASKA

In Alaska, bills barring discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity have gone nowhere since being introduced last year. Bills in the House and Senate would allow clergy to refuse to solemnize a marriage without being subject to criminal or civil liability but so far have not gotten legs. The legislative session is scheduled to end Sunday.

ARKANSAS

Arkansas lawmakers last year approved a revised version of a religious objections measure after the

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 16 of 34

initial version faced widespread criticism that it was anti-LGBT. The Legislature also enacted a law aimed at preventing cities and counties from passing anti-discrimination measures that include sexual orientation or gender identity.

COLORADO

Colorado lawmakers introduced a bill in February that would have blocked the state from taking any action that may burden a person's religious freedom unless it was the least restrictive means of furthering a compelling governmental interest. A House committee indefinitely postponed discussion on the bill.

FLORIDA

Republican Gov. Rick Scott signed a law stating that clergy, churches, religious schools and other religious organizations cannot be required to marry people or allow their facilities to be used for marriage celebrations that violate "a sincerely held religious belief." The law takes effect July 1.

GEORGIA

Republican Gov. Nathan Deal vetoed a bill that would have prohibited the government from imposing penalties on religious schools and organizations that chose not to employ or serve people based on their sincerely held religious beliefs. The proposal would have also protected clergy who declined to perform weddings for gay and lesbian couples.

HAWAII

A bill to prevent insurers and health care providers from discriminating against transgender patients has passed both chambers of the Legislature, and they're currently working out differences on the amendments. The measure prohibits denying, canceling or limiting coverage for services including care related to gender transition, under certain conditions. Several lawmakers also introduced bills to protect the freedom to express religious beliefs by prohibiting the state from taking discriminatory action based on the person's moral convictions, but the bills were never granted a hearing.

ILLINOIS

Lawmakers are considering legislation that would require school boards to designate separate boys and girls' bathrooms, changing rooms and other facilities being used during school-sponsored activities. The legislature defines sex as a student's gender at birth and not their gender identity.

INDIANA

Republican Gov. Mike Pence signed a bill last year barring government entities from substantially burdening the religious exercise of individuals, organizations and businesses, unless by the least restrictive means to further a compelling government interest. After businesses raised concerns, Pence signed an amended version stating that the law cannot be used to deny services, public accommodations, employment or housing based on race, religion, age, sexual orientation or gender identity.

IOWA

A proposed bill to prohibit the government from substantially burdening a person's exercise of religion similar to legislation being considered in many other states was introduced in the Iowa House of Representatives in January. The proposal has been referred to the judiciary committee.

KANSAS

A new law prevents colleges and universities from denying religious student associations the same funding or benefits available to other groups because of requirements that its members follow the association's religious beliefs, standards or conduct. The law will take effect July. Bills were also introduced to order public schools and colleges to designate restrooms, locker rooms and other facilities for use by males or females according to students' gender at birth.

KENTUCKY

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 17 of 34

The Republican-led Senate passed a measure that would expand the state Religious Freedom Restoration Act by barring penalties against those who decline to provide "customized, artistic, expressive, creative, ministerial or spiritual goods or services" to people that would infringe on their "right of conscience" or religious freedoms. The bill is pending in the Democratic-led House.

LOUISIANA

Gov. John Bel Edwards signed an executive order providing state employees and contractors with protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and more. The order recognizes exemptions for churches and religious organizations. Edwards also rescinded an order former Gov. Bobby Jindal signed that prohibited state agencies from denying licenses and contracts to businesses that take actions because of religious beliefs against same-sex marriage.

MASSACHUSETTS

The Legislature is weighing a bill to expand a 2011 state law banning discrimination against transgender people in the workplace and in housing by also banning discrimination in restaurants, malls and other public accommodations, including restrooms.

MICHIGAN

Michigan Sen. Tom Casperson says he's firmly committed to introducing legislation to prohibit transgender students from using a bathroom other than the one matching the sex listed on their birth certificate. Casperson said his proposed bill, which has not yet been introduced, would allow transgender students to use staff restrooms in the school, or single occupancy unisex bathrooms, but only with the consent of the student's parent.

MINNESOTA

A bill was introduced in late March to require employers and public facilities to designate separate restrooms and changing rooms for men and women. A portion of the bill reads, "No claim of nontraditional identity or 'sexual orientation' may override another person's right of privacy based on biological sex."

MISSISSIPPI

A new law prohibits the government from taking "any discriminatory action" against religious organizations that decline to host marriages, employ people or facilitate adoption or foster care based on a religious belief that marriage should be between one man and one woman, sex outside marriage is wrong or that sexual identity is determined by a person's anatomy at birth. Several states and cities have banned travel to Mississippi and rock singer Bryan Adams canceled a concert in the state to protest.

MISSOURI

The Senate passed a proposed amendment to the state constitution in March that would bar government penalties against individuals and business such as florists or photographers who cite "a sincere religious belief" while declining to provide "services of expressional or artistic creation" for same-sex weddings and receptions. The protections also would apply to clergy and religious organizations that decline to make their facilities available for same-sex weddings. If passed by the House, the proposal will go before voters. The proposal has generated backlash from more than 60 businesses and the Missouri Chamber of Commerce.

NEBRASKA

A bill to ban workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity was defeated in the Nebraska Legislature this year. Lawmakers have shelved the bill for the rest of the year.

NEW MEXICO

Three New Mexico lawmakers in December 2015 introduced a measure "to prevent discriminatory

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 18 of 34

action by a person or a government agency in response to a person's free exercise of religion." The proposal died during the 2016 regular session.

NORTH CAROLINA

A new law prevents local and state government from mandating protections for LGBT people in the private sector or at stores and restaurants. The Legislature held a special session in March to overturn an ordinance in Charlotte that would have allowed transgender people to use bathrooms that correspond to their gender identity. Lawmakers then blocked all cities and counties from passing rules that targeted LGBT discrimination.

NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota lawmakers have defeated measures in each of the past three sessions to prohibit discrimination in housing and employment based on sexual orientation.

OKLAHOMA

A new law states clergy and other religious officials cannot be required to perform marriages or provide marriage counseling, courses or workshops that violate their conscience or religious beliefs. On March 14, gay rights advocates in the state celebrated the failure of 27 bills in the Legislature that they said unfairly discriminated against LGBT people.

PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania's Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf earlier this month signed an executive order barring state contractors and grant recipients from discriminating based on sexual orientation or gender identity. State Sen. Mike Folmer says he wants to vet the bill in committee to make sure it does not violate anybody's religious liberties or freedom of conscience.

SOUTH DAKOTA

The Legislature passed a bill to require students to use bathrooms and locker rooms matching their gender at birth, but GOP Gov. Dennis Daugaard vetoed it. The House also passed legislation barring government from taking "discriminatory action" against people, organizations or businesses based on religious beliefs that marriage should be between one man and one woman, sex outside marriage is wrong or that sexual identity is determined by a person's biological sex at birth. The bill did not pass before the legislative session ended.

TENNESSEE

Tennessee lawmakers passed legislation exempting counselors and therapists from providing services to clients related to behaviors that conflict with "a sincerely held religious belief," as long as they refer the clients to someone else. The American Counseling Association has said Tennessee would be the only state to allow counselors to refuse to treat patients if the bill is signed into law.

TEXAS

Before the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states must allow gay marriage, Republican Gov. Greg Abbott signed a law last June stating that clergy and religious organizations cannot be required to marry people or allow their facilities to be used for wedding celebrations that violate a "sincerely held religious belief." Texas did not hold a legislative session in 2016, but the previous year, a Republican-backed bill repealing local ordinances banning discrimination against gay and transgender people failed without reaching a floor vote in either chamber. The proposal attempted to roll back such ordinances that already existed in all the state's largest cities. Instead, the all-Republican state Supreme Court heard a legal challenge to an anti-discrimination ordinance approved by Houston's City Council, and ruled that it had to be put to a referendum. Houston voters soundly defeated the ordinance in a November 2015 election featuring very low turnout.

UTAH

Utah in 2015 passed an anti-discrimination law that makes it illegal to base employment and housing

decisions on sexual orientation or gender identity. Gay-rights advocates had tried for years to pass similar legislation but only succeeded last year when the measure won support of the Utah-based Mormon church and included religions protections.

VIRGINIA

Democratic Gov. Terry McAuliffe vetoed a Republican-backed bill stating that clergy and religious organizations cannot be penalized for declining to participate in same-sex marriages.

WASHINGTON

Multiple pieces of legislation concerning sex-specific restrooms were introduced by Republicans in both chambers of Washington's legislature. A bill that would have blocked the Washington Human Rights Commission from initiating any rule-making procedures involving gender segregated bathrooms died in a Senate committee.

WISCONSIN

The only bill introduced in the Republican-led Legislature dealing with gays, lesbians and transgender people was a measure to force transgender students in public schools to use bathrooms and locker rooms assigned to their gender at birth. GOP leaders never brought the bill up for a vote before the two-year session ended.

WEST VIRGINIA

The Republican-led House passed a bill modeled after the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act, stating that government "shall not substantially burden a person's exercise of religion" unless by the least restrictive means for a compelling government interest. The bill was amended and then defeated in the Senate.

Reward money offered in Rapid City stolen guns case

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A reward fund is offering \$2,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspect who stole 25 hand guns from a Rapid City outdoors store.

Police say The Rooster on West Main Street was broken into during the morning hours of April 10, and 25 hand guns were missing from the business. Police Capt. James Johns says it's a particularly concerning burglary considering that 25 handguns are now in the hands of criminals.

Anyone with information about this burglary, the suspect or the guns' whereabouts is asked to contact Detective Dan Trainer at (605) 394-4134.

The Community Reward Fund is a public charity incorporated in 1994 that provides funds to be offered to facilitate the resolution of serious crimes.

DENR: Smoke impacting eastern South Dakota air quality

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota environmental officials say smoke traveling north from agricultural fires in Kansas is affecting air quality in the eastern part of the state.

The state Department of Environment and Natural Resources says air quality conditions will vary throughout Wednesday. Monitoring site readings Wednesday morning indicate "unhealthy" air in Union County, air that is "unhealthy for sensitive groups" in Sioux Falls and "moderate" conditions in Brookings. Sensitive groups generally include children, older adults and people with lung diseases.

The department encourages residents to visit the state's Real Time Air Quality Index at <http://denr.sd.gov/des/aq/aarealtime.aspx> or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's site at www.airnow.gov for updates.

Dakotas join other states in legal brief in cross dispute

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The Dakotas and two dozen other states are weighing in on a legal battle over a cross in Maryland.

The atheist American Humanist Association has appealed a federal judge's ruling that a 40-foot-tall cross on land owned by the state of Maryland doesn't violate the U.S. Constitution. The case is in the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley says that state, North Dakota and 24 others have signed a brief asking the appeals court to affirm the federal judge's ruling.

The judge ruled in December that the 90-year-old monument known as the Bladensburg Cross doesn't amount to government sponsorship of religion. The judge wrote that the cross was meant predominantly for secular commemoration of World War I. The humanist association says the cross endorses Christianity.

News conference amid reports Trump aide won't be prosecuted

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — A Florida prosecutor's office plans to hold a news conference amid reports that presidential candidate Donald Trump's campaign manager won't be prosecuted over a videotaped altercation with a female reporter.

A spokesman for Palm Beach County state attorney Dave Aronberg told The New York Times there will be a news conference Thursday afternoon but would not say what the news conference will be about.

Police in Jupiter, Florida, charged Corey Lewandowski with simple battery, a misdemeanor, last month.

The charge came after a video showed Lewandowski grabbing Michelle Fields, who worked for Breitbart News at the time, as she tried to ask Trump a question after a March 8 appearance. The video appears to show him yanking her backward.

Lewandowski has said he's innocent.

Police: Deputy constable shot multiple times in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — A deputy constable was rushed to a hospital after a suspect shot him from behind multiple times in Houston, authorities said.

The shooting happened around 11:20 p.m. Wednesday as the deputy constable was standing next to another deputy constable's vehicle, Houston police spokesman Kese Smith told The Associated Press.

Meanwhile, authorities were questioning a male who showed up a nearby fire station after the shooting and matched the description of the suspected shooter, Smith said. The person had not been arrested or charged, but also said authorities were not currently looking for anyone else in the shooting, he said.

The deputy constable is Alden Clopton, an 11-year veteran of the force who is married and has children, Lt. Holland Jones of the Harris County Precinct 7 Constable's Office told media outlets Thursday morning. Clopton was in surgery Thursday morning with wounds to the abdomen and a bullet lodged near his heart, said Pamela Greenwood, also with Precinct 7.

"So right now, we're not really sure of his condition," she said.

According to Smith, the shooting came after a female reserve deputy constable made a traffic stop and called the male deputy constable to assist. The vehicle that was pulled over was cleared and left and the male deputy constable was standing outside the window of the female's vehicle when he was shot. The female deputy constable got out and shot back, but it was unknown if she hit the suspect, who then fled, Smith said.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 21 of 34

The person being questioned at the fire station did not have any injuries, Smith said. Smith also said he did not think the shooting was related to the traffic stop.

"It was completely unprovoked," Greenwood said.

Asked if authorities believed the shooter was targeting law enforcement, Smith noted that both deputy constables were in uniform and had marked vehicles.

"I can't see how someone can mistake them for someone other than law enforcement," Smith said.

10 Things to Know for Thursday

The Associated Press

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

1. WHERE THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN IS HEADED

The entire presidential field descends on America's largest city. Donald Trump hopes New York marks an end to the worst period of his candidacy, while Democrats prepare to debate in Brooklyn. CAMPAIGN 2016

2. TRUMP'S NY FUNDRAISING GALA DRAWS PROTESTS

Trump, who has repeatedly promised to build a massive wall along the Mexican border, plans an appearance near the site of a notorious 2008 attack on a Latino immigrant on New York's Long Island. GOP 2016-TRUMP-HISPANIC PROTESTS

3. NORTH KOREANS NOW FEEL PAIN AT THE PUMP

Gas prices are surging in Pyongyang, which could put a damper on North Korea's nascent, and officially frowned-upon, market economy. NKOREA-PAIN AT THE PUMP

4. WHO IS CRACKING CALIFORNIA'S NUT CROPS

Sophisticated crime rings are increasingly making off with truckloads of nuts, despite efforts by authorities to crack down on such heists costing millions. CALIFORNIA NUT THEFTS

5. CANADA'S NEW ASSISTED SUICIDE LAW WILL EXCLUDE NON-CANDIANS

Americans won't be able to travel to Canada to die. CANADA ASSISTED SUICIDE

6. NBA REGULAR SEASON ENDS WITH A BANG

Kobe Bryant scores 60 and leads the L.A. Lakers to victory in his finale, while the Golden State Warriors wins a record 73rd game and Stephen Curry reaches 400 3-pointers. NBA'S BIG NIGHT

7. A CONSERVATIVE BACKLASH TO GAY MARRIAGE ACROSS SOUTHERN US

Proposals that critics say limit the rights of LGBT people are part of a backlash across the historically conservative South against the U.S. Supreme Court decision that effectively legalized same-sex marriage. LGBT RIGHTS-CHANGING SOUTH

8. THE SUPREME COURT IS TAKING UP IMMIGRATION

The raging political fight over immigration comes to the Supreme Court in a dispute that could affect millions of people who are in the United States illegally. SUPREME COURT-IMMIGRATION

9. AFGHANISTAN'S MINERAL WEALTH IS BEING LOOTED

Afghanistan is missing out in millions of dollars in revenues, as smugglers bribe local officials to turn a blind eye as they transport gems to be sold on the black market. AFGHANISTAN-ILLEGAL MINING

10. SUSPECT IN SLAYING OF FORMER NFL PLAYER DESCRIBED AS 'MILD-MANNERED'

The man accused of gunning down former New Orleans Saints player Will Smith is said by his pastor and his high school coach to be soft-spoken, respectful person who always calls older women "ma'am." SAINTS-WILL SMITH SHOT

What a night! Golden State wins 73, Kobe scores 60 in finale

TIM REYNOLDS, AP Basketball Writer

The stars did not disappoint.

And the most-celebrated closing night in NBA regular-season history not only lived up to expectations, it might have exceeded them with a pair of performances that will be talked about for years to come.

Golden State became the first team to win 73 games in a season, Warriors guard Stephen Curry scored 46 points and topped the 400 3-pointer mark to cap what will almost certainly be his second straight MVP campaign. Kobe Bryant's career with the Los Angeles Lakers ended in most surprising fashion — a 60-point game, the first time he's gotten to that plateau since 2009.

"I think this has been an amazing day for sports fans, basketball fans in particular," Bryant said as he wore his Lakers' uniform about an hour after the game, not quite willing to take it off for the final time. "It's been a great day with them setting such an unbelievable record — you think about that, 73 wins, that's ridiculous. And then obviously what happened here tonight, it's been a great night in basketball history."

That most everyone can agree on, including President Barack Obama, Michael Jordan and NBA Commissioner Adam Silver.

The Warriors beat the Memphis Grizzlies 125-104, finishing the season 73-9 and breaking the 72-10 mark that was put together by Jordan and the Chicago Bulls and lasted 20 years as the NBA's all-time single-season standard. Steve Kerr played for that Bulls team, and was the one who went on to coach these Warriors to a level not even that club could reach.

Jordan congratulated the Warriors in a statement released after the game. He also said, "The Warriors have been a lot of fun to watch and I look forward to seeing what they do in the playoffs."

In other words, Jordan was saying 'now go win the title.' When the Bulls won 72 games, they capped that season with a championship.

Curry made 10 3's to get to 402 for the season, officially wrapped up the NBA scoring title, and sent a message to the rest of the league going into the postseason — that the Warriors are far from satisfied, with Curry saying he was happy that all the team needs to worry about now is getting 16 postseason wins.

"I just try to keep getting better," said Curry, who was the MVP last year at 23.8 points per game — and went to 30.1 points per game this season. "I just want to keep pushing myself."

Somehow, the Warriors' 73-win record — "the new Golden Standard," the team called it — almost seemed overshadowed.

"Nobody really cares about the 73 wins it was all about Kobe today," Indiana guard C.J. Watson wrote on Twitter.

That's how impressive Bryant's last game was.

"There's no way I could possibly imagine this happening," Bryant said.

Who could?

Bryant scored 60 points and took 50 shots, the most of any game in his career — a total that came with the blessing of teammates who just wanted him to score as much as possible one final time.

"Felt good to be able to do that," Bryant said, "one last time."

And when it ended, the basketball world was buzzing.

"4-13 should go down in the archives as #MambaDay," longtime NBA sharpshooter Mike Miller tweeted. "@Kobe Bryant thanks for the memories. It was amazing to be able to compete against u!"

Added Heat forward Chris Bosh: "73 wins and one dude shooting 50 shots in one game on the same

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 23 of 34

night. Has that ever happened before?" Bosh ended that tweet with the hashtag "awesome."

Fans who had to resort to the secondary resale markets paid more than \$1,000 for tickets — or much more in some cases — just to get a seat to see the Warriors chase history or Bryant play one final time.

Odds are, none of them left thinking they made a mistake.

"Whoever paid those crazy ... prices for those tickets y'all got y'all money's worth tonight," Lakers guard Jordan Clarkson tweeted.

Fans in Los Angeles bought up just about every piece of Bryant memorabilia they could find at Staples Center, and 350 miles or so up the road at Oracle Arena, Warriors fans cheered long and loud when the 73rd win was finally secure.

"The team held itself to a high standard throughout the season, playing with purpose every night and captivating fans around the world with its free-flowing style, spectacular shooting and flair for the dramatic," Silver said. "Kudos to the entire Warriors organization."

Not long after Silver released his statement, the NBA put out its schedule for the first round that starts Saturday. The confetti that flew in Oakland was swept up, the champagne that was sprayed on Bryant after his finale had long dried.

The night was over.

The playoffs await for the Warriors, but not Bryant. His career is done, and his last act on the floor at Staples Center was a two-word farewell to Lakers fans:

"Mamba out."

Following vaccine controversy, Tribeca rolls out red carpet

JAKE COYLE, AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The 15th annual Tribeca Film Festival kicked off fashionably with the premiere of Andrew Rossi's "The First Monday in May," a behind-the-scenes documentary about the mounting of an ambitious fashion exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the museum's annual star-studded Met Gala.

The film is an intimate and lively look at the highest aspirations of fashion, revealing everything from Anna Wintour fretting over seat assignments (Where to put Anne Hathaway?) to Rihanna's eye-popping budget for performing at the ball.

The opening night, held Wednesday at the festival's customary Westside outpost at the Borough of Manhattan Community College, drew an especially well-heeled crowd eager for a documentary antidote to "The Devil Wears Prada." Among the fashion luminaries in attendance were Wintour, Vogue's Grace Coddington and designer Zac Posen.

Rossi, a filmmaker who has profiled other New York institutions including The New York Times ("Page One") and Le Cirque restaurant, said Tribeca was a fitting place to unveil "The First Monday in May."

"The Metropolitan Museum and Vogue are tremendous powerhouses in the creative life of New York City, certainly occupying more of the uptown world," Rossi said. "So Tribeca, which is a festival founded to celebrate the arts in New York, for them to embrace the film and present it as opening night is a great honor."

This year's Tribeca bows amid a controversy. When Tribeca programmed a screening of an anti-vaccination documentary, "Vaxxed," by the discredited British doctor Andrew Wakefield, it prompted an uproar from science researchers and filmmakers.

Festival co-founder Robert De Niro, who has an 18-year-old autistic son, said including the film was his decision. The festival quickly retracted "Vaxxed" from its program, but on Wednesday De Niro said he partially regrets that decision.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 24 of 34

"I think the movie is something that people should see," he told the "Today" show in an unusually passionate interview.

De Niro expressed bitter disappointment in filmmakers who threatened to pull out from the festival over the film, and he promised to find out who had.

Considerable scientific research has found no connection between vaccinations and autism, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has emphatically stated that "vaccines do not cause autism." But De Niro insisted on "Today": "There's something there that people aren't addressing."

The ordeal has threatened to overshadow one of Tribeca's more ambitious editions. Over the next 12 days, the festival has some 100 films to unveil, a robust multimedia program including numerous virtual reality exhibits, a host of television show premieres and numerous staged celebrity conversations.

"At Tribeca we keep an eye on tomorrow," festival co-founder Jane Rosenthal at a press luncheon Wednesday. "We love stories in just about any form, from a Harold Lloyd silent film captured on a 35 millimeter hand-cranked camera to a virtual reality adventure shot with multiple GoPros to a video game in which the viewer is in the driver seat determining how the narrative unfolds."

"The First Monday in May" is a fitting opener. It mostly follows Met Costume Institute curator Andrew Bolton as he frantically puts together what would be a blockbuster exhibit, "China: Through the Looking Glass," and strives for equal standing amid the Met's more traditional art forms.

But for many, the film will be most sought out for its rare look inside Wintour's annual Met ball, one of the biggest nights in fashion. The Hollywood Reporter called it "catnip for fashionistas."

Rossi said he viewed his film, shot with what he called "a crackling cinema verite approach," a kind of hybrid between the 2009 Vogue documentary "The September Issue" and Frederick Wiseman's 2014 portrait of the exalted London museum "National Gallery."

The biggest challenge, Rossi said, wasn't getting access to the many personalities of "The First Monday in May," including Baz Luhrmann, Wong Kar Wai and Wintour. More difficult, he said, was getting the Met to allow him and his cameramen freedom to follow their subjects in the museum's hallowed halls.

"It was absolutely necessary to say, 'We can't be on a tripod the whole time,'" Rossi said.

Entire 2016 field descends on New York City ahead of primary

JULIE PACE, Associated Press

JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — New York's matzo factories and diners will take a backseat to the debate stage and talk show circuit as the entire presidential field — two Democrats and three Republicans — descends on the nation's largest city.

Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders will hold their first debate in more than a month, a showdown Thursday in Brooklyn that comes at a tense moment in the Democratic primary. Republicans Donald Trump, Ted Cruz and John Kasich will each speak at a state GOP gala before the latter two candidates make appearances on the late night shows.

While the White House hopefuls have been blanketing New York state for several days, holding rallies and mingling at local hangouts, Thursday's events are among the last high-profile opportunities they'll have to appeal to voters.

Front-runners Clinton and Trump hope the state can propel them past stubborn challengers and into the general election. Preference polls show Clinton and Trump leading their respective contests heading into Tuesday's primary, an edge New York billionaire John Catsimatidis attributes to their local ties.

"I favor them both, as New Yorkers," said Catsimatidis, a grocery chain owner who hosts a weekly

radio show.

Clinton spent eight years as a New York senator. Trump is a Queens native, built his fortune in New York's real estate market and lives in an opulent Manhattan high-rise bearing his name.

Sanders, a Vermont senator who was born in Brooklyn, has also been touting his local roots as he seeks to upset Clinton in New York. While Sanders is on a winning streak in primaries and caucuses, he desperately needs a big victory in New York if he hopes to cut into Clinton's delegate lead and slow her march to the nomination.

The Democratic race has become increasingly heated in New York — including Sanders first questioning Clinton's qualifications to be president, and then reversing himself — and the tensions could spill over onto the debate stage. Even getting Clinton and Sanders to agree on the date and location for the debate was a herculean task, underscoring the discord between the rivals.

Trump hopes New York marks an end to the worst period of his candidacy, a stretch that raised new questions about his policy chops and revealed his campaign's lack of preparedness for a potential delegate fight if the GOP race heads to a contested convention. A big victory in New York could preserve his ability to clinch the nomination before the convention.

Cruz has been cutting into Trump's delegate lead and working feverishly to court the delegates who would determine the race at the July convention.

But New York hasn't been friendly territory for the Texas senator. Even as he's tried to embrace East Coast culture, including making matzo with children in an Orthodox Jewish neighborhood in Brooklyn, he's been dogged by his earlier criticism of Trump's "New York values" and had to cancel an event at a school because students threatened to walk out.

Seeking to lower expectations, Cruz said Wednesday that if Trump doesn't get more than 50 percent of the vote in his home state, "that's widely going to be seen as a crushing loss."

Still, Cruz is looking for opportunities to pick off some delegates both upstate and in the Bronx and Brooklyn. He was participating in an MSNBC town hall in Buffalo before heading back to New York City for the state party gala and his first appearance on "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon."

Kasich, the Ohio governor who has stayed in the race despite only winning his home state thus far, also sees areas where he could pick up delegates in New York. Kasich is eyeing congressional districts in the Albany and Syracuse areas, where he's arguing that he's the only Republican left in the race who could defeat Clinton in a fall campaign.

In addition to his remarks at the state party event, Kasich was scheduled to appear on the NBC's "Late Night with Seth Meyers."

Kobe scores 60 points in unbelievable farewell victory

GREG BEACHAM, AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kobe Bryant scored 60 incredible points. He carried a miserable Los Angeles Lakers team to an improbable comeback victory.

And with sweat and confetti all over his gold uniform for the final time, he expressed humble thanks to his fans and family for their loving support over two decades.

"What else can I say?" Bryant asked. "Mamba out."

Now that's a Hollywood ending to a remarkable career.

Bryant utterly dominated his final game Wednesday night, wrapping up 20 NBA seasons with one last offensive showcase in the Lakers' 101-96 victory over the Utah Jazz.

He scored 23 points in the fourth quarter, posting his first 50-point game since February 2009 and rallying the Lakers from a 15-point deficit to win the final game of the worst season in franchise history.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 26 of 34

It was messy, ridiculous and magical — even to the man who did it so many times over 20 years.

"It's hard to believe it happened this way," Bryant said. "I'm still shocked about it."

With the entire Staples Center crowd standing, Bryant made a 3-pointer with 59 seconds left. He hit another with 31 seconds to play, putting the Lakers ahead 97-96. He finished with an assist before checking out for good with 4.1 seconds left in just the Lakers' 17th win of the season.

"The perfect ending would have been a championship," Bryant said with a smile. "But tonight was (me) trying to go out, play hard and try to put on a show as much as I possibly could. It felt good to be able to do that one last time."

Bryant and his teammates conspired for one last omnivorous scoring performance by the third-leading scorer in NBA history. He played 42 minutes and took a career-high 50 shots, his teammates attempting to set him up for points on nearly every possession.

Kobe came up with the fifth highest-scoring game of his career. He became the oldest player to score 50 points in an NBA game with his highest-scoring performance since getting 61 against New York in 2009 — oh, and he had four assists and four rebounds.

The Lakers sprayed him with champagne in the locker room, although he didn't like it: "That's only for championships."

It was still one last classic from the Black Mamba.

"It just didn't surprise me, the way he would go out," said Lakers coach Byron Scott, Bryant's teammate in his rookie season. "Sixty points wasn't a surprise. I knew he had it in him."

The entire night was a tribute to Bryant, who is retiring after 20 seasons, five championship rings and 18 All-Star selections with the Lakers, who honored him before and after the game. Bryant is just the fifth player in NBA history to play 20 seasons, and the first with just one team.

"I think the most important part is that we all stayed together throughout," Bryant said to the crowd. "You'll always be in my heart, and I sincerely, sincerely appreciate it. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I love you guys."

He also had a few laughs after finishing his 1,346th regular-season game with 33,643 career points.

"The thing that had me cracking up all night long is, I go through 20 years of everybody screaming to pass the ball," Bryant said with a grin. "And then the last night, they're like, 'Don't pass it!'"

It was daylong tribute with thousands of fans thronging the downtown streets around Staples Center and chanting his name from early afternoon. Fans lucky enough to get inside Staples Center greeted him with ovations at every opportunity. Magic Johnson anchored a brief pregame tribute by calling Bryant "the biggest and greatest celebrity we've had in this town for 20 years" and "the greatest to wear the purple and gold."

Bryant embraced his roles as a hero and villain throughout his career, and he mentioned the duality in describing his outlook on sports afterward. He had rocky times in Los Angeles, from his sexual assault charge in Colorado in 2003 to his feud with Shaquille O'Neal, who watched the finale at courtside.

It was all forgotten by the time Bryant took the Staples court for the final time.

After blowing kisses and pounding his heart before the game, Bryant got right to work on what the fans wanted to see. He didn't count on the nerves that caused him to miss his first five shots before he pump-faked and finally connected on a jumper.

Bryant found a rhythm then, finishing the first quarter with 15 points on 13 shots. He kept it up after sitting out the first six minutes of the second, finishing with 22 points despite missing a last-minute shot, his 20th of the first half.

The Lakers snapped a six-game skid in their final outing, but their demanding fans could forget about the awful season for one night.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 27 of 34

Trey Lyles scored 18 points and Gordon Hayward had 17 for the Jazz, who were eliminated from playoff contention shortly before tipoff by Houston's win over the Sacramento Kings. The Jazz played defense, but Bryant's persistence wore them down.

"We weren't trying to let him go off on a win," said Joe Ingles, who guarded Bryant closely. "As it goes on, it will sink in more, and what he did was pretty impressive. He made some tough shots, too. I don't think we gave him any open looks. He was obviously pretty hyped up for the game. Forty-two minutes and 50 attempts will get you 60, apparently."

TIP-INS

Jazz: Utah has missed the playoffs in four straight seasons, its longest drought since 1980-83. ... The Jazz rested Trey Burke, Derrick Favors and Alec Burks. Favors and Burks have right knee soreness.

Lakers: Bryant surpassed his previous career high of 47 shots, taken in a loss to Boston on Nov. 7, 2002. ... Los Angeles has missed the playoffs in three straight seasons, the longest drought in franchise history. ... Bryant shot his 10,000th free throw to complete an early three-point play. ... Jordan Clarkson's 12 points were the second-most by the Lakers.

UP NEXT

Lakers, Jazz: End of the season for both teams.

Fighting the bear: John Scott demonstrates a hockey fight

JOHN MARSHALL, AP Sports Writer

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) — The thought of fighting a bear is terrifying. It's bigger, stronger, faster, has absolutely no fear of you and every confidence it can destroy you in seconds.

Once hockey tough guy John Scott put his massive paws on me, I wished I was fighting a bear instead.

"Don't worry, I'm not going to hit you," he told me, right fist clenched, left wadding up my practice jersey.

If you don't know who Scott is, he's 6-foot-8, 270 pounds of knock-your-face-in.

He's spent nine seasons honing his craft, so good at pummeling NHL players he has a hard time finding anyone who will square off with him anymore.

Scott moved from the shadows of an enforcer's world into the national spotlight earlier this season, when a fan campaign gained steam until he was voted a captain of the All-Star team. Scott said an NHL official asked if he thought his daughters would be proud of him for playing, yet he held his ground despite being traded to Montreal and demoted to the AHL.

He ended up being the game's MVP and was hoisted on his teammates' shoulders as fans chanted "MVP!" Scott went right back down to the AHL, but was called up by the Canadiens at the end of the regular season.

Long before his All-Star adventures, Scott, then still with the Arizona Coyotes, agreed to teach me the nuances of hockey fighting in a conference room inside Gila River Arena.

Once he entered the room, I started looking for the quickest exit — not that it would have done any good.

It's one thing to see a 6-8 player a head taller than everyone on the ice, another terrifying one when you're engulfed by his Bunyan-esque shadow.

The helpless feeling grew more once Scott grabbed my jersey and started manhandling me like a stuffed toy.

But what really sent the shivers up my spine were the punches.

Scott was only shadow boxing, but those fake punches came with such speed and power within

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 28 of 34

inches of my face that I imagined he could put his fist right through my head and the wall behind it.

"See, I could just hit you like this," Scott said as we were posing for a photo.

That didn't help any.

The first step in fighting is getting someone to square off, typically with "You wanna have a go?" and gloves dropping.

Since Scott is the NHL's last true heavyweight, he has a hard time finding an opponent, so he often has to stir things up.

"If he says yeah, we go, if not, I kind of go on my way and try to hit somebody, bump into the goalie or rile things up another way where the guy's forced to fight me," Scott said.

With smaller guys (me, apparently), Scott will take a step back to gain some space. He has a wingspan like a pterodactyl, so the only shot smaller players (pretty much everyone in the league compared to him) have is to dive in and get close.

But there's a danger in that. Scott has fought long enough to know what's coming, so he'll grab the player's jersey and use momentum against them, pulling them directly into a boulder-sized-fist uppercut.

"Yeah, that's the one; it's usually game over at that point," Scott said.

Squaring off against a taller player, Scott still usually has a reach advantage, so he tries to grab their jersey around the right shoulder to prevent them from getting a shot off.

Once he grabbed me there, I felt like Joaquin Phoenix weakly flailing at Russell Crowe at the end of *Gladiator*.

Scott also watches his opponent's left hand, swatting it away when they reach to prevent them from grabbing his right shoulder. Come up short and, well, you know what's next.

"Once you grab here (jersey center), you're done," Scott said.

Scott has different tactics for different styles of fighters.

Against counterpunchers, which he hates, he'll use the stiff left arm he used to grab their jersey to repeatedly pop them in the face until he can clear a lane for his right.

With fighters who flail right from the start, he'll sit back and wait them out, absorbing a few punches until they wear out and he can deliver the knockout blow.

Same thing with big punchers who try to land a haymaker right at the start: Absorb and destroy.

"As long as I can get one of mine in, I'll eat one of his all day long," Scott said.

Yeah, that's not frightening at all.

Scott had several other small tricks of the trade, including how to break a player's grip on his jersey and a method for unhooking his opponent's helmet and popping it off with one hand — while still fighting with the other.

The one that really resonated was when Scott used his oven-mitt left hand to grab both sides of my jersey at the same time. With both sleeves pinched into my chest in what was essentially a straitjacket, I turned into a human heavy bag for Scott to hit wherever and whenever he wanted.

Talk about an uneasy feeling.

Where is that bear?

Israeli raid on militant funds in West Bank sparks fire

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — The Israeli military says it's investigating a fire that erupted while soldiers were raiding the offices of a West Bank money changer suspected of funding Palestinian militant groups.

The military says the money changer refused to cooperate and open a safe during the raid on Thursday. Soldiers then opened it by using a "controlled detonation" that caused the fire.

Palestinian security says the blaze spread to nearby shops and offices and damaged 10 of them in a commercial building in the city of Ramallah.

Nael al-Azzeh, spokesman for Palestinian security, said the fire at the Al-Ajouli company was extinguished by Palestinian forces.

The military says the raid was an operation "to confiscate terror funds" but did not elaborate which groups the money exchanger is suspected of funding.

Trump visit roils town still healing from Latino's killing

FRANK ELTMAN, Associated Press

CLAUDIA TORRENS, Associated Press

PATCHOGUE, N.Y. (AP) — By all accounts, tensions between Latino newcomers and whites have eased in the nearly eight years since a vicious hate-crime stabbing left an Ecuadorean immigrant dead.

Enter Donald Trump.

Trump's planned appearance at a GOP fundraiser on Thursday just blocks from the site of the attack has ignited protests from Latinos, who fear the billionaire's tough talk against immigrants could open old wounds and undo the progress that's been made in the Long Island community.

"If he comes, there might be a toxic environment again. Maybe something bad happens," said 23-year-old Jocelyn Fajardo, who was born in New York City to Ecuadorean parents. "Trump puts U.S. people against us, Latinos. He divides people."

Joselo Lucero, whose brother was killed in the 2008 attack, says Patchogue is the wrong place for Trump to visit. "My community has suffered so much discrimination."

So far, there's been no comment on the controversy from Trump, who caused a firestorm on the first day of his campaign when he labeled illegal immigrants from Mexico as rapists and criminals, and he has repeatedly promised to build a massive wall along the border.

"I feel like that's the only thing he talks about," said businessman Angel Zhicay, 50, who is from Ecuador.

Thursday's gala to raise funds for Republican candidates across eastern Long Island is being held in a nightclub about 200 yards from the intersection where 37-year-old Marcelo Lucero was confronted by a gang of teens who admitted they regularly targeted Hispanic immigrants. They called the altercations "beaner hopping."

Lucero was walking with a friend when the teens began yelling ethnic slurs and approached them. Lucero hit Jeffrey Conroy, then 17, in the head with a belt. Conroy lost his temper, took out a folding knife and fatally plunged it into Lucero's chest.

Conroy was convicted of manslaughter as a hate crime and was sentenced to 25 years in prison. The six others pleaded guilty to lesser crimes.

At the time of Lucero's slaying, police acknowledged there had been a tense atmosphere in the town of nearly 12,000, including attacks on immigrant day laborers, but they say tensions have noticeably subsided. Last month, the top prize in the town's annual St. Patrick's Day parade went to a group of Ecuadorean step dancers.

"As much as one might hear that hateful echo in Trump's words today, it does not negate his right to speak," Long Island newspaper Newsday said in an editorial Wednesday. "More important, his trip is a chance for Patchogue to tell the story of its progress."

Activists are planning protests leading up to and during Trump's appearance. This week at the site of the slaying a sign reads: "Hate is not welcome in Patchogue. Make America Love Again."

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 30 of 34

John Jay LaValle, chairman of the Suffolk County Republican Committee, said Thursday's event was scheduled more than two months ago and he invited every Republican candidate. He said Trump, who was recently been endorsed by the county GOP, accepted only last week.

"While we offer the greatest empathy possible to the family of Marcelo Lucero," LaValle said, "We can't help but to be suspicious of the motives of those leading the charge to connect that vicious hate crime with Mr. Trump's commitment to enforcement of immigration laws that have gone largely ignored by both parties for 30 years."

Felix Diaz, 47, an immigrant from El Salvador who owns his own landscaping business, said he hopes Trump cancels.

"He talks about separating families", Diaz said of Trump. "I have two kids who are here undocumented, but I am not speaking for them only. I am speaking for the whole Latino community. Even if someone would pay me to go, I would never go and listen to him."

Sanders, Clinton battle in NY ahead of Sanders' Vatican trip

KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton staged dueling New York City rallies on Wednesday ahead of the state's pivotal presidential primary, with the Vermont senator drawing thousands of supporters in a show of force for his self-proclaimed political revolution.

Sanders' campaign said his rally in Manhattan's Washington Square Park brought out 27,000 people, one of the largest gatherings in support of the 74-year-old democratic socialist who has galvanized Democrats and independents alike with his calls for reforms to corporate America and remedies for income inequality.

"When I look at an unbelievable crowd like this I believe we're going to win here in New York," Sanders declared in front of the iconic Washington Square Arch in the city's Greenwich Village neighborhood.

Clinton attracted a smaller but still enthusiastic crowd of 1,300 people at a Bronx community center, where she made no mention of Sanders but focused instead on Republican rivals Donald Trump and Ted Cruz.

"Mr. Trump wants to set Americans against each other. He wants us to build walls, I want us to build bridges," Clinton said. Referencing Cruz's earlier criticism of "New York values," Clinton said, "I think New York values are at the core of American values."

Sanders didn't return the favor, mentioning Clinton by name throughout his speech. He noted that she had the support of super PACs and had voted in favor of the Iraq War, drawing boos from the crowd.

Foreshadowing a likely issue in Thursday night's debate, Sanders urged Clinton to back an expansion of Social Security benefits, a major cause among liberals.

"I am still waiting for her response," Sanders said.

The rallies set the stage for a high-stakes Brooklyn debate Thursday night and capped a day in which both candidates courted organized labor. Sanders picked up support from the local transit workers union and walked a picket line with striking Verizon workers—a small army of backers who could pass out leaflets in subways in the days ahead.

Clinton also walked a picket line in solidarity with the Verizon workers and addressed the National Action Network, led by the Rev. Al Sharpton, giving her a visible platform for the city's black community. There she stressed her differences with Sanders on gun laws, calling gun violence a "national emergency."

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 31 of 34

New York City offers by far the largest bloc of votes in next Tuesday's primary, and campaign officials estimate it could account for about 70 percent of the state vote. In 2008, when Clinton dueled with then-Illinois Sen. Barack Obama in the state's primary, more than half of the vote came from the city's five boroughs.

Polls have shown Clinton with a lead against Sanders, putting pressure on Sanders to overcome the former secretary of state's edge. Clinton holds a lead of about 250 pledged delegates in the chase for the nomination, an advantage Sanders is trying to chip away in upcoming primaries in New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and beyond.

Sanders sought to lower expectations at the end of his rally, saying "this is a tough race for us" given Clinton's tenure representing New York in the Senate. He also noted that the primary does not allow independents to participate or feature same-day registration. But he added defiantly, "I think we've got a surprise for the establishment."

As Clinton dug into campaigning in her adopted home state, Sanders prepared to fly to Rome for a 10-minute speaking slot Friday at a Vatican conference on social and economic trends. He's expected to head overseas just after the pair debate Thursday night.

His comments in Rome would dovetail with his campaign push for economic equality and come ahead of critical primaries in states with large Roman Catholic populations: New York on Tuesday and Rhode Island and Connecticut a week later.

"What I'm planning to say is that it is not acceptable from a moral perspective, from an economic perspective or from an environmental perspective, that so few have so much and that greed is running as rampant as it is throughout the entire planet," Sanders said in a phone interview with The Associated Press.

Clinton was heading to California on a fundraising swing with weekend events planned with actor George Clooney.

While Clinton has captured the endorsements of most Senate Democrats, Sanders claimed progress in nabbing his first endorsement from a Senate colleague, Oregon's Jeff Merkley.

In an op-ed piece in The New York Times, Merkley cited Sanders' positions on the dangers of global warming, and the "threats to our economy from high-risk strategies at our biggest banks." He said Sanders has fought hard for military veterans, and he conceded he has an uphill battle ahead to win the Democratic nomination.

NY set to remove ban on professional mixed martial arts

MICHAEL VIRTANEN, Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — New York is expected to end its ban on professional mixed martial arts when Gov. Andrew Cuomo signs legislation to put the New York State Athletic Commission in charge of the sport.

A signing ceremony is scheduled Thursday at Madison Square Garden, a potentially lucrative venue for big promotions like Ultimate Fighting Championship, which wants to hold an event there late this year.

The law takes effect in 120 days, giving the commission time to adopt regulations, train staff and begin licensing promoters and fighters.

The commission already regulates pro boxing. The law also brings amateur MMA, which has continued unregulated in New York, under state jurisdiction.

The sport's violence drew opposition from some lawmakers. The law will require increases in medical coverage for professional fighters in New York.

APNewsBreak: Thieves targeting California almonds, walnuts

SCOTT SMITH, Associated Press

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — International crime rings targeting California's booming agriculture industry are increasingly stealing truckloads of high-value nuts, prompting authorities and the firms falling victim to ramp up efforts to break the spree costing millions.

The sophisticated organizations in many cases use high-tech tactics, hacking into trucking companies to steal their identity. Armed with false shipping papers, they pose as legitimate truckers, driving off with loads of nuts such as almonds, walnuts or pistachios valued at \$150,000, and some worth \$500,000 each.

Days later, when a shipment fails to arrive to its intended destination, the nuts may already be in another state or on a ship destined for Europe or Asia, where they fetch top dollar on the black market, authorities say.

Last year, nut thefts hit an all-time high in California — with losses totaling \$4.6 million from 31 reported cases, more than the three previous years combined, according to CargoNet, an alliance of cargo shipping firms and law enforcement agencies aimed at preventing losses.

Losses for all four years combined were nearly \$7.6 million, the group reports.

"It's made my life miserable," said Todd Crosswell, general manager of Caro Nut Co.

Caro was victimized six times last year for a total loss of \$1.2 million. In each case, thieves stole cashews imported from Vietnam and Africa that were roasted, salted and packaged in Fresno.

"You get hit with that kind of loss — it hurts," Crosswell said.

The value of nuts grown and processed in California, the nation's leading agricultural state, have soared in recent years as global demand for the health-food snack grows in places such as China and emerging economies.

California produces more almonds, walnuts and pistachios than any other state with a combined value of \$9.3 billion in 2014. Almonds alone were valued at \$5.9 billion, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The high value of nuts grabbed the attention of criminal organizations, who are exploiting weaknesses in the cargo shipping industry to reap big profits, said Dan Bryant, supervisory special agent for the violent and organized crimes programs of the FBI Sacramento office.

Bryant declined to identify any organizations under suspicion, citing an ongoing criminal investigation. "It's not just some teenage kids ripping off nuts," he said. "These are sophisticated people."

Local authorities are also taking action. One state lawmaker has introduced a bill to fund a statewide taskforce targeting all types of cargo thefts. And law enforcement officials and nut processors are meeting Thursday to share information to help prevent more nut thefts.

Alarmed by a spike in large-scale nut thefts, Tulare County Sheriff Mike Boudreaux last year beefed up his agriculture crimes unit from two to six detectives.

In 2013, his office investigated a \$189,000 pistachio theft. No cases were reported the next year, but in 2015, six loads of almonds and pistachios were stolen at a combined loss of \$1.6 million.

Investigators tracked at least one load to Los Angeles and made one arrest. Boudreaux declined to name the suspect due to the ongoing investigation.

"They do tend to have some overseas connections," said Scott Cornell, an investigator for Travelers Insurance and an expert on cargo thefts. "Wherever they can sell it and move it they're going to."

Crosswell said he's put in place new safeguards with hopes he doesn't fall victim once more, taking photographs and finger prints of the roughly 25 truck drivers each day that pull up to the shipping

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 33 of 34

docks. Despite these effort, Crosswell said he fears the criminals will strike again.

"Whoever they are, they're watching," Crosswell said. "They'll try it again. They'll figure out how to beat the system. We just have to stay one step ahead of them."

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, April 14, the 105th day of 2016. There are 261 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 14, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was shot and mortally wounded by John Wilkes Booth during a performance of "Our American Cousin" at Ford's Theater in Washington.

On this date:

In 1775, the first American society for the abolition of slavery was formed in Philadelphia.

In 1828, the first edition of Noah Webster's "American Dictionary of the English Language" was published.

In 1912, the British liner RMS Titanic collided with an iceberg in the North Atlantic at 11:40 p.m. ship's time and began sinking. (The ship went under two hours and 40 minutes later with the loss of 1,514 lives.)

In 1935, the "Black Sunday" dust storm descended upon the central Plains, turning a sunny afternoon into total darkness.

In 1939, the John Steinbeck novel "The Grapes of Wrath" was first published by Viking Press.

In 1949, the "Wilhelmstrasse Trial" in Nuremberg ended with 19 former Nazi Foreign Office officials sentenced by an American tribunal to prison terms ranging from four to 25 years.

In 1956, Ampex Corp. demonstrated the first practical videotape recorder at the National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters Convention in Chicago.

In 1965, the state of Kansas hanged Richard Hickock and Perry Smith for the 1959 murders of Herbert Clutter, his wife, Bonnie, and two of their children, Nancy and Kenyon.

In 1975, Academy Award-winning actor Fredric March, 77, died in Los Angeles.

In 1981, the first test flight of America's first operational space shuttle, the Columbia, ended successfully with a landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

In 1986, Americans got word of a U.S. air raid on Libya (because of the time difference, it was the early morning of April 15 where the attack occurred.) French feminist author Simone de Beauvoir died in Paris at age 78.

In 1995, Oscar-winning actor-singer Burl Ives died in Anacortes, Washington, at age 85.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush rebuffed recommendations from a growing number of retired generals that he replace Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, saying, "He has my full support." Kobe Bryant broke the Los Angeles Lakers' single-season scoring record, getting 50 points to eclipse Elgin Baylor's long-standing total of 2,719 points in a 110-99 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers.

Five years ago: Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi rolled defiantly through the streets of Tripoli the same day NATO air strikes shook the city. North Korean confirmed it was holding an American who was detained in November 2010, reportedly for proselytizing. (Eddie Jun was freed in May 2011.) ABC canceled two of its longtime soap operas, "One Life to Live" and "All My Children."

One year ago: The White House announced that President Barack Obama would remove Cuba from the list of state sponsors of terrorism, a key step in his bid to normalize relations between the two

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, April 14, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 258 ♦ 34 of 34

countries. Percy Sledge, 74, who soared from part-time singer and hospital orderly to lasting fame with his aching, forlorn performance on the classic "When a Man Loves a Woman," died in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Bradford Dillman is 86. Country singer Loretta Lynn is 84. Actress Julie Christie is 76. Retired MLB All-Star Pete Rose is 75. Rock musician Ritchie Blackmore is 71. Actor John Shea is 67. Actor-turned-race car driver Brian Forster is 56. Actor Brad Garrett is 56. Actor Robert Carlyle is 55. Rock singer-musician John Bell (Widespread Panic) is 54. Actor Robert Clendenin is 52. Actress Catherine Dent is 51. Actor Lloyd Owen is 50. Baseball Hall of Famer Greg Maddux is 50. Rock musician Barrett Martin is 49. Actor Anthony Michael Hall is 48. Actor Adrien Brody is 43. Classical singer David Miller is 43. Rapper DaBrat is 42. Actor Antwon Tanner is 41. Actress Sarah Michelle Gellar is 39. Actor-producer Rob McElhenney is 39. Roots singer JD McPherson is 39. Rock singer Win Butler (Arcade Fire) is 36. Actress Claire Coffee is 36. Actor Christian Alexander is 26. Actor Nick Krause is 24. Actress Vivien Cardone is 23. Actor Graham Phillips is 23. Actress Skyler Samuels (TV: "Scream Queens") is 22. Actress Abigail Breslin is 20.

Thought for Today: "I am a man of fixed and unbending principles, the first of which is to be flexible at all times." — Everett Dirksen, American politician (1896-1969).

Asian stocks surge, buoyed by Wall Street rally, China trade

TERESA CERAJANO, Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Asian stocks surged in morning trading Thursday in a second day of solid gains, buoyed by a rally on Wall Street and European markets, and an uptick in China's trade.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 added 2.5 percent to 16,788.28. Hong Kong's Hang Seng gained 0.8 percent to 21,326.90 while the Shanghai Composite index was up 0.3 percent at 3,076.16. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 rose 0.8 percent to 5,168.60. South Korea's KOSPI climbed 1.2 percent to 2,004.08.

WALL STREET: U.S. stocks climbed Wednesday as quarterly results from JPMorgan Chase, the largest bank in the U.S., lifted financial stocks. Industrial stocks and tech stocks rose on reports that exports from China grew 11.5 percent in March compared with a year earlier. The Dow Jones industrial average jumped 187.03 points, or 1.1 percent, to 17,908.28. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 20.70 points, or 1 percent, to 2,082.42. The Nasdaq composite index advanced 75.33 points, or 1.6 percent, to 4,947.42.

THE QUOTE: "Overnight action confirms that China trade data released yesterday is a game changer," said Michael McCarthy, chief market strategist at CMC Markets. "Strong continuations of commodity and US share rallies, and a melt-up on continental bourses, have futures traders expecting further strength in Asia Pacific shares in trading today."

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude oil fell 44 cents to \$41.32 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It lost 41 cents to \$41.76 a barrel on Wednesday. Brent crude, the international standard, fell 50 cents to \$43.68.

CURRENCIES: The euro fell to \$1.1268 from \$1.1275 on Wednesday. The dollar fell to 109.36 yen from 109.43 yen.