

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 1 of 30

- 1- Paul's Lawn Care Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailers in Groton
- 1- Today's Information
- 2- Groton P.E.O. Scholarship awarded
- 2- Geary Bridal Shower
- 2- Handyman looking for work
- 2- Cutting Edge Lawn Care Ad
- 3 - Today in Weather History
- 3- Golden Living Center Ad
- 4- Local Weather Forecast
- 5- National Weather Map
- 5- Local Weather
- 6- Daily Devotional
- 7 - News from the Associated Press

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.

Birthday: 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

10:00am: St. John's Lutheran School

10:15am: Emmanuel Lutheran worship with Communion

11:00am: HBM Kumla Dinner at Groton Community Center

11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

3:30pm: Emmanuel Lutheran fellowship at Golden Living Center (Confirmands serve)

Monday, April 18

School Breakfast: French toast, links, fruit,

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

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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Paul's Lawn Care	 <p>Paul, Julianna and Jeslyn Kosel 605/397-7460</p>
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Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 2 of 30

GROTON P.E.O. SISTERHOOD SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

The academic P. E.O. Scholarship for the 2016-2017 academic year, was presented to Allison Ann Weber, a senior at Groton High School. This scholarship is in memory of P.E.O. members of the Groton Chapter AC.

Allison is the daughter of Mike and Lorrie Weber and plans to attend the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. She would like to achieve a major in business administration with an emphasis in human resources and a minor in finance.

The P. E. O. Scholarship is a \$500 scholarship based on excellence in leadership, community service, academics, and potential for future success. The program is open to young women who are citizens of the U. S. and who are graduating high school seniors at the time of application.

The P.E.O. Sisterhood, founded January 21, 1869, at Iowa Wesleyan College, Mount Pleasant, Iowa, is an international philanthropic and educational organization which promotes increased educational opportunities for women. There are approximately 6,000 local chapters in the United States and Canada with more than 350,000 initiated members. The P.E.O. Sisterhood owns Cottey College for women, a two year liberal arts college, with the recent addition of selected four-year degrees. Cottey College is located in Nevada, Missouri.

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.

Handiman looking for work

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Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 3 of 30

Today in Weather History

April 15, 1896: A tornado, possibly an F3, moved northeast from Burkmere, which is 10 miles west of Faulkton. About half dozen farms were torn apart. Two children were killed, and the rest of the family critically injured as a home was leveled. 6 miles northwest of Faulkton, near Millard.

April 15, 2011: A strong upper-level low-pressure area brought widespread heavy snowfall to central and parts of northeast South Dakota. This early spring storm brought 6 to 14 inches of heavy snow to the area. The heavy wet snow caused a lot of travel problems along with a few accidents. Locations with a foot or more of snowfall included 12 inches 12 SSW Harrold, 23 N Highmore, and Orient; 13 inches 14 NNE Isabel and Eureka with 14 inches at Eagle Butte.

1921 - Two mile high Silver Lake, CO, received 76 inches of snow in 24 hours, the heaviest 24 hour total of record for North America. The storm left a total of 87 inches in twenty-seven and a half hours. (David Ludlum)

1927 - New Orleans LA was drenched with 14.01 inches of rain, which established a 24 hour rainfall record for the state. (The Weather Channel)

1949 - A hailstone five inches by five and a half inches in size, and weighing four pounds, was measured at Troy NY. (The Weather Channel)

1958 - A tornado 300 yards in width skipped along a five mile path near Frostproof FL. A 2500 gallon water tank was found one mile from its original position (it is not known how much water was in the tank at the time). (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced severe weather in the Southern Atlantic Coast Region. A tornado killed one person and injured seven others near Mount Dora FL. Drifts of hail up to two feet deep were reported in Davidson and Rowan counties in North Carolina. Myrtle Beach SC was deluged with seven inches of rain in three hours. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Death Valley, CA, was soaked with 1.53 inches of rain in 24 hours. Snow fell in the mountains of southern California. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Showers and thunderstorms soaked the eastern U.S. with heavy rain, pushing the rainfall total for the month at Cape Hatteras NC past their previous April record of 7.10 inches. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1990 - Thunderstorms developing along a stationary front produced severe weather from west central Texas to west central Arkansas during the late afternoon and evening. Thunderstorms spawned a tornado which caused more than half a million dollars damage at Fort Stockton TX, produced wind gusts to 65 mph at Dennison TX, produced baseball size hail at Silo OK and near Capps Corner TX, and drenched southeastern Oklahoma with up to 4 inches of rain in two hours. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

golden
living

We now accept

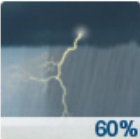

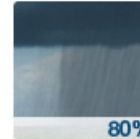
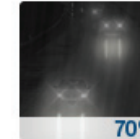

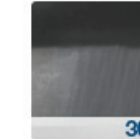
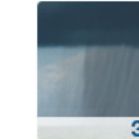


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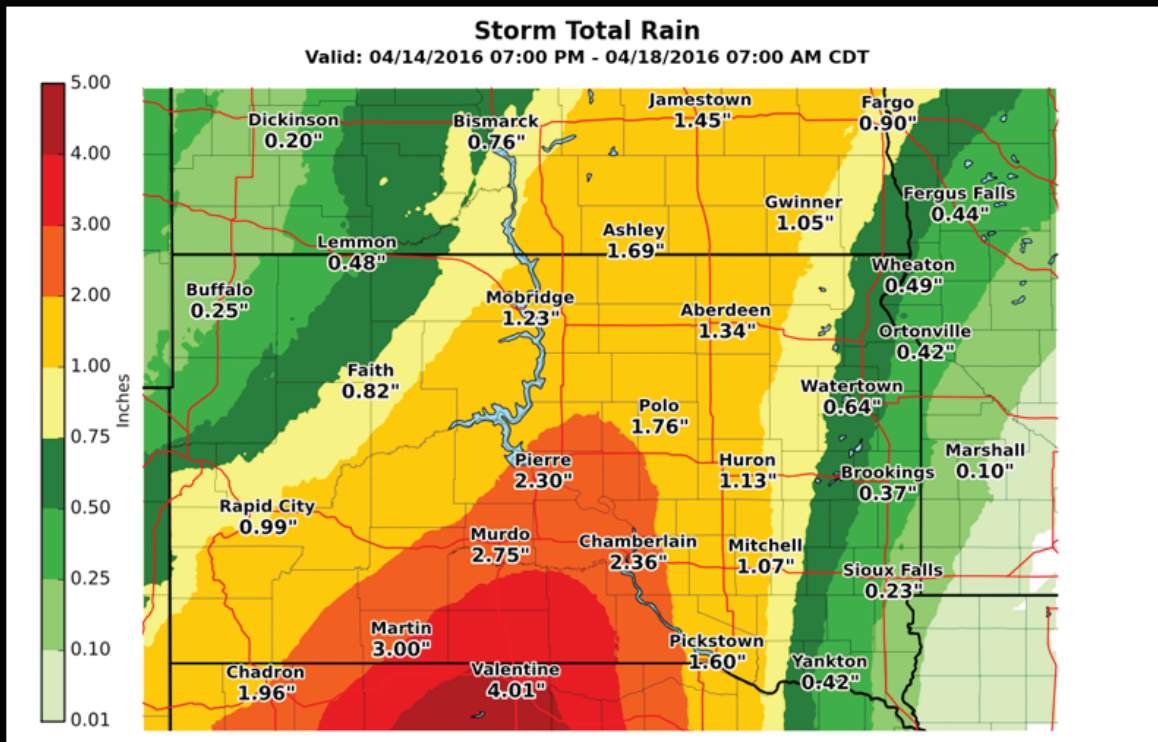
**1106 N 2nd St., Groton
605/397-2365**

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 4 of 30

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
						
60%	70% 90%	80%	70%	40%	30%	30%
T-storms Likely and Breezy	T-storms Likely then Showers	Showers	Rain Likely	Chance Rain	Chance Showers	Chance Showers
High: 67 °F	Low: 48 °F	High: 53 °F	Low: 38 °F	High: 50 °F	Low: 37 °F	High: 59 °F

How Much Rain Will Fall Today Through Monday?



National Weather Service, Aberdeen SD

Published on: 04/15/2016 at 5:33AM

Showers and a few thunderstorms will move east out of central South Dakota this morning, but they are expected to gradually diminish towards midday. A second wave of showers and thunderstorms will develop this afternoon and evening over central South Dakota and bring the potential for moderate rain along the Missouri River and east to Aberdeen and Redfield through tonight. Chances of precipitation will continue through the weekend.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 5 of 30

Yesterday's Weather

High: 83.9 at 3:23 PM

Low: 50.1 at 4:25 AM

High Gust: 40 at 5:00 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 91° in 1926

Record Low: 8 in 2014

Average High: 57°F

Average Low: 32°F

Average Precip in April.: 0.74

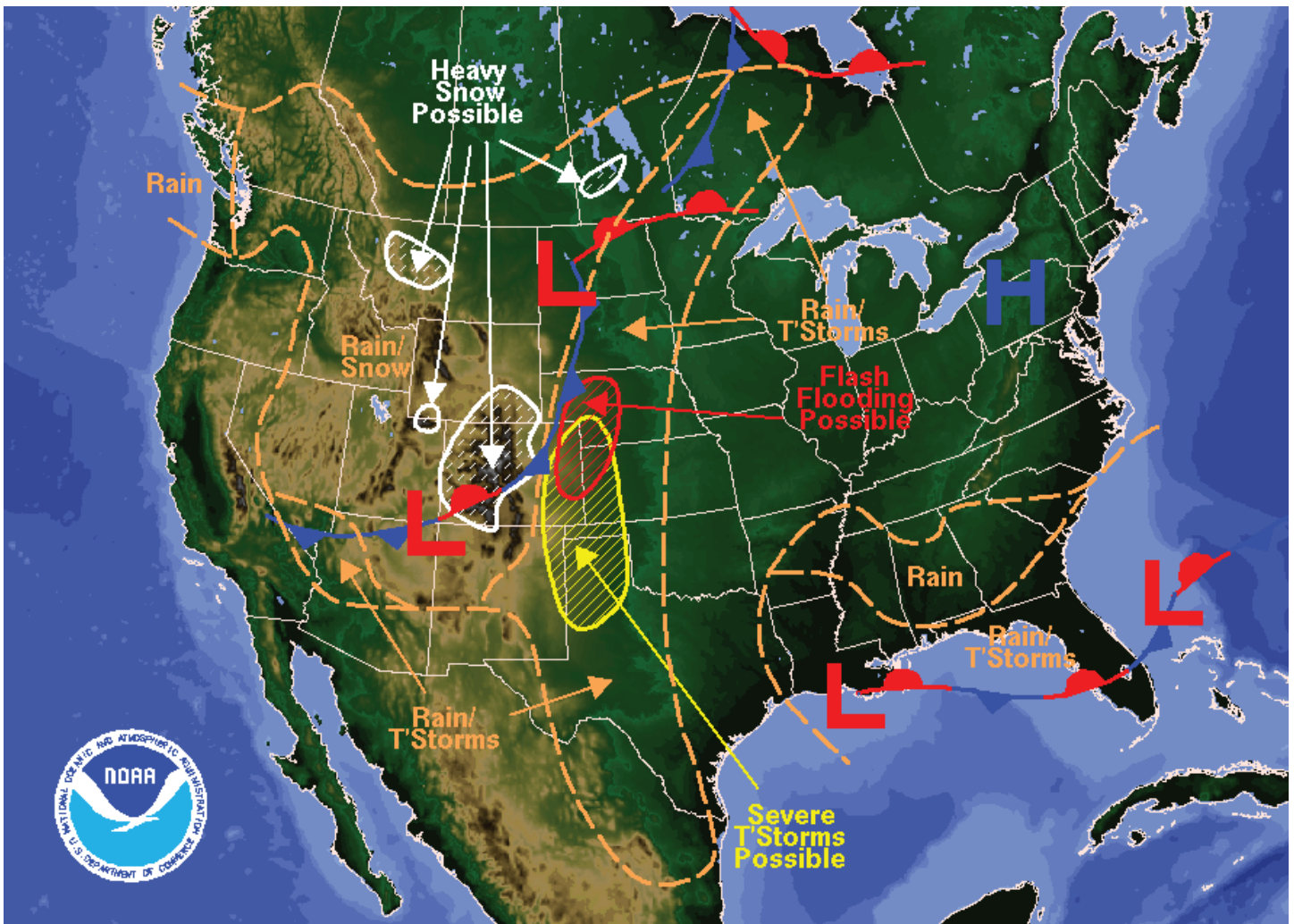
Precip to date in April.: 0.08

Average Precip to date: 2.92

Precip Year to Date: 1.03

Sunset Tonight: 8:20 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:45 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Fri, Apr 15, 2016, issued 4:30 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 6 of 30



GIVE TO RECEIVE

It was Jayne's turn to return thanks before the evening meal. With all heads bowed, eyes closed and hands joined for prayer, the inquisitive five-year old said, "Thank you Lord, for the potatoes!"

"Potatoes?" exclaimed her father. "We're not having potatoes, we're having pizza!"

"I know, Dad," came the response. "I was just wondering if God was listening to me."

Peter reminds us to "Give all our worries and cares to God, for He cares what happens to us." We often, without thinking, become overwhelmed with the issues and problems of life, forgetting that God is always available whenever we call upon Him. When we labor under the stress and strain of life, and neglect to call upon the Lord, we are admitting that we do not trust God or perhaps even convince ourselves that God is not interested in our well-being. Or could it be that we are so proud that we think we can handle life by ourselves?

Going to God with the cares, small and large, begins with humility and is followed by honesty. To admit that we need God's help in the everyday issues reveals our need for His guidance and our desire for Him to be a vital part of everything in our lives. Humility expresses our need for Him and honesty demonstrates that we choose not to try to hide anything from Him. Humility bows before Him and honesty opens our heart to Him and allows us to admit our faults and failures and our need for His grace.

Prayer: We know, Father, that what concerns us concerns You because we are Your children. May we open our hearts in love and with trust, knowing You are there to help us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

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

News from the Associated Press

Circuit judge to pay \$50K in Indian Child Welfare Act case

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A state circuit court judge in Rapid City will pay \$50,000 in a settlement over whether he concealed information when he was a defendant in a federal lawsuit alleging violations of the Indian Child Welfare Act.

U.S. District Chief Judge Jeffrey Viken signed off on the order on Wednesday. Although 7th Judicial Circuit Judge Jeff Davis agreed to pay the plaintiffs \$50,000 for reasonable attorneys' fees, he did not admit concealing any information.

Davis was a defendant in a federal lawsuit that accused him and other state officials of violating the Indian Child Welfare Act in their handling of abuse and neglect cases involving Native American children. Viken last year ruled in favor of the plaintiffs, which included the Oglala Sioux and Rosebud Sioux Tribes.

The settlement is over accusations that Davis had allegedly concealed documents related to custody hearings.

Attorney general: 3 indicted in GEAR UP misconduct case

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Three people have been indicted on felony charges stemming from a financial investigation into South Dakota's GEAR UP college-readiness program, Attorney General Marty Jackley said Thursday.

Jackley's office said an arraignment is scheduled in May for Dan Guericke, Stephanie Hubers and Stacy Phelps. The state filed charges last month against the three, who are associated with Mid-Central Educational Cooperative and the GEAR UP program.

The investigation was launched in September after Scott Westerhuis, who served as Mid-Central's business manager, shot his wife, Nicole Westerhuis, and their four children, then set fire to their home and killed himself. Investigators believe Scott and Nicole Westerhuis, the assistant business manager, stole more than \$1 million before their deaths.

The two also had ties to nonprofit organizations that received GEAR UP funding, including the American Indian Institute for Innovation, where they had financial oversight.

Authorities say Phelps, a former GEAR UP administrator who had been CEO of the American Indian Institute for Innovation, and Guericke, Mid-Central's director, helped the Westerhuses attempt to avoid a potential audit of the nonprofit.

Guericke and Phelps are accused of backdating two contracts between Mid-Central and the American Indian Institute for Innovation in August 2015 before they were made available to the state Department of Legislative Audit.

Guericke is also accused of conspiring with Scott and Nicole Westerhuis to backdate contracts with other individuals.

Hubers, who was an employee of the cooperative, is accused of receiving more than \$50,000 from the organization to which that she was not entitled or that she knew had been stolen.

An attorney for Hubers wasn't immediately available for comment. An attorney for Guericke declined to comment, but said Guericke, who is on administrative leave, would enter a not guilty plea at the arraignment scheduled for May 2.

Dana Hanna, an attorney for Phelps, also said his client plans to plead not guilty. "We look forward to

proving his innocence in a court of law," Hanna said.

South Dakota St hires Otzelberger as men's basketball coach

DIRK LAMMERS, Associated Press

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota State on Thursday introduced T.J. Otzelberger, a top assistant at Iowa State, as its new men's basketball coach.

Otzelberger replaces longtime coach Scott Nagy, who took the job at Wright State after leading the Jackrabbits to the NCAA Tournament three of the past five years.

Athletic director Justin Sell said Otzelberger hit every checkbox for qualities the Jackrabbits were seeking, and his style and values are a great fit for the program.

"We're getting a guy who is known as a great recruiter," Sell said. "He can handle X's and O's. He can handle academics. He can handle compliance. He can do all the things from the leadership position."

Otzelberger, who was introduced during a news conference Thursday at Frost Arena, said becoming a head coach has always been his dream.

He wants to continue developing a program so it annually competes to win the Summit League reaches the NCAA tourney. He also wants his team to earn a cumulative grade-point average exceeding 3.0 and sees each of his athletes graduate.

Otzelberger said he inherited a great group of players from Nagy.

"As we move forward and add to this great group, we're going to recruit young men with great character who desire to succeed on the court and academically," he said. "We're going to recruit student-athletes who are going to make us proud after earning their degree, and as they move on, be successful members of the community."

The 38-year-old Otzelberger spent three seasons on coach Fred Hoiberg's staff prior to leaving Iowa State to take the position of associate head coach at Washington, where he spent two seasons. The Milwaukee native returned to the Cyclones in April 2015.

Nagy led the Jackrabbits this season to a 26-8 record and a Summit League Tournament championship. South Dakota State lost to Maryland 79-74 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

South Dakota truck driver killed after driving off I-25

WELLINGTON, Colo. (AP) — A truck driver from South Dakota is dead after driving off Interstate 25 in northern Colorado and plowing through a line of garages at an apartment complex.

The crash happened just after 4 a.m. Thursday in Wellington, about 70 miles north of Denver, killing 51-year-old Donald Butterfield of Hill City. Tire marks left behind show how the truck veered off the highway, across the service road next to it and then a patch of grass before crashing diagonally through the garages and coming out the other side.

The garages are just across a small parking lot from apartments but no one else was injured.

An autopsy found Butterfield died because of the crash, rather than a preceding medical problem, and the Larimer County coroner deemed it an accident.

USPS to accept mail until midnight on Tax Day in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Last-minute tax filers, the U.S. Postal Service wants to help you meet this year's filing deadline.

The Postal Service says it will collect mail until midnight Monday at the Sioux Falls mail processing and distribution center. Monday is the last day to file 2015 federal tax forms without requesting an exten-

sion.

Despite the extended hours of service, the Postal Service is still encouraging taxpayers to mail their returns or extension requests early on Tax Day.

The agency is also recommending tax filers to double-check the pickup schedule if they choose to use a street side collection box to ensure that their documents will be collected and postmarked before the deadline.

The Postal Service's mail processing and distribution center in Sioux Falls is at 4801 N. 4th Ave.

Feds charge BIA policeman in Wyoming with kidnapping

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — A U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs police officer faces a federal kidnapping charge following what prosecutors allege was a violent confrontation with his wife at their home on the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming.

The U.S. Attorney's Office in Cheyenne has filed a criminal complaint against William Arthur Curran. The complaint identifies Curran as a BIA police officer and a member of the Yankton Sioux Tribe of South Dakota.

The complaint alleges the officer's wife reported her husband had handcuffed her and threatened to kill her at their home in Ft. Washakie on Monday evening. It states she called 911 while she was restrained.

Curran faces an initial court appearance Thursday in Casper. Court records don't indicate that he has retained a lawyer yet.

Federal drug sentence reductions nearly complete in Dakotas

DAVE KOLPACK, Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Sixteen months after Congress ordered a retroactive review and reduction of federal drug sentences, officials in North Dakota and South Dakota are close to completing the task.

Amendment 782 of the federal sentencing guidelines took effect in November 2014 and is meant to reduce overcrowding in federal prisons, where more than 200,000 offenders are currently housed in more than 300 facilities. Most of the reductions have involved mandatory minimum sentences and been recalculated based on drug quantities.

Prosecutors and public defenders told The Associated Press on Thursday that South Dakota is down to a couple of cases remaining. There are about 40 left in North Dakota.

"I challenged staff here to get all these done in a year and they will get incredibly close," said Neil Fulton, head of the public defender's office for the Dakotas. "Like all good North and South Dakotans, we pulled up our boots and got to work."

U.S. Sentencing Commission statistics show that North Dakota had ruled on 182 motions and South Dakota on 152 through March 25. Reductions were granted in 99 percent of the North Dakota cases and 77 percent of the South Dakota ones. The average reductions have been 27 months in North Dakota and 26 months in South Dakota.

The work was done without any additional money from the federal government. Fulton took dollars out of his own budget and hired a paralegal to organize and review documents. Otherwise the work was done by existing staff attorneys.

"One of the things that made it so difficult, is it placed a lot of additional burden on all the U.S. attorneys, probation officers, public defenders and so on," said Brett Shasky, an assistant U.S. attorney who handled the cases in North Dakota. "We had to find time among our regular duties to fit this in."

Kevin Koliner, an assistant U.S. attorney and appellate chief from South Dakota, said another chal-

lenge was going through files that were 10 years old or more.

"Oftentimes these are cases that were prosecuted by someone who is no longer at our office and defended by a defense lawyer who is no longer in practice," Koliner said.

However, attorneys who would normally be arguing over the length of sentences had few disagreements during this process, according to Fulton and the prosecutors. Public defenders and prosecutors went through a practice run a few years ago on crack cocaine sentences and had what Koliner called a "really kind of a slick process" to give each case the attention it deserved without much litigation.

"Frankly, I think that's what the administration had in mind with this process," Koliner said.

Nationwide, nearly 27,000 offenders have been granted sentence reductions. Of those, 31 percent have been for methamphetamine convictions, 28 percent for powder cocaine, 20 percent for crack cocaine, 9 percent for marijuana, 7 percent for heroin and 5 percent for other drugs.

"The amendment achieved its stated purpose," Fulton said. "It reduced drug sentences across the board to some degree."

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 Minnesota man and injured two other people.

The Highway Patrol says a pickup truck driven by 90-year-old Edward Thraen, of Slayton, Minnesota, was traveling in the wrong lane and collided head-on with another pickup.

Thraen was pronounced dead at the scene mid-afternoon Wednesday. The two people in the other pickup, from Crooks, suffered injuries that authorities say are serious but not life-threatening. They were taken to a Sioux Falls hospital.

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

Deadwood mayor wins re-election by a single vote

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — Deadwood Mayor Chuck Turbiville has retained his position by a single vote, though the result of Tuesday's city election is still unofficial and likely will be recounted.

Turbiville got 165 votes and challenger Georgeann Silvernail 164. Silvernail is a longtime city commissioner.

The City Commission will canvass the ballots on Monday. If nothing changes, Silvernail has vowed to request a recount, which is allowable under state law.

If a recount changes nothing, Turbiville will serve a second three-year term.

Hot Lotto ticket sold in North Sioux City worth \$9,000

NORTH SIOUX CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Hot Lotto ticket sold in North Sioux City is worth \$9,000 in Wednesday's drawing.

South Dakota lottery officials say the ticket matched four of five white ball numbers and the Hot Ball to win the game's \$3,000 third prize, and an option purchased for an additional dollar tripled the amount.

The odds of winning the third prize are 1 in about 139,000. The winner has about six months to claim the money.

Hot Lotto is played in 15 states including South Dakota. The jackpot is at \$2.05 million for Saturday's drawing.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 11 of 30

10 Things to Know for Friday

The Associated Press

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

1. NEW YORK DELIVERS ROWDY NIGHT OF CAMPAIGNING

A wild night in politics culminates with a fierce Democratic debate, as all five presidential candidates converge in New York ahead of the state's crucial Tuesday primary.

2 WHO IS LEAVING THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL FOR ROME

The Vatican conference drawing Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders away from the campaign for New York delegates is steeped in his lifelong passions of economic and social justice.

3. AFTERSHOCKS RATTLE JAPAN

Tremors shake communities in southern Japan as businesses and residents got a fuller look at the widespread damage from an overnight earthquake that killed nine people.

4. WHERE A MISSILE LAUNCH FAILED

A North Korean launch of a missile on the birthday of its revered founder appears to have failed, South Korean and U.S. defense officials say.

5. POLITICAL TURMOIL IN BRAZIL GATHERS PACE

In a blow to President Dilma Rousseff, the nation's Supreme Court rejects a motion seeking to block an impeachment vote against her in Congress' lower house.

6. MANSON FOLLOWER GETS PAROLE

A panel recommends parole for Leslie Van Houten, who was a rebellious teen when she joined the cult of Charles Manson more than 40 years ago and helped kill a wealthy grocer and his wife.

7. WHY INDIA IS SUFFERING A DROUGHT

Decades of groundwater abuse, populist water policies and poor monsoons have turned vast swaths of central India into a dust bowl, driving distressed farmers to suicide or menial day labor in the cities.

8. GLOBAL FINANCE LEADERS MEET IN WASHINGTON

Facing a shaky world economy and political attacks on free trade, finance chiefs are expected to make a pledge of cooperation in fighting an array of economic threats.

9. DON'T PASS THE NUTS

A planned donation of surplus American peanuts has dismayed Haitian farmers. The U.S. government says Haiti's harvests have been dismal and children need more nutrition.

10. A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY AS NBA PLAYOFFS BEGIN

The postseason starts this weekend, as a record-breaking team is favored to capture its second straight title: the Golden State Warriors.

Vatican conference reflects Sanders' admiration for Francis

KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

RACHEL ZOLL, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The Vatican conference drawing Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders away from the campaign for New York delegates is steeped in his lifelong passions of economic and social justice and reflects his admiration for Pope Francis.

The self-described democratic socialist departed New York for Rome after Thursday night's debate with front-running rival Hillary Clinton. He will join several speakers commemorating the 25th anniversary of "Centesimus Annus," a high-level teaching document by Pope John Paul II on the economy and

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 12 of 30

social justice at the end of the Cold War.

The roughly 24-hour break from the campaign comes just five days before the New York primary. Sanders said in an interview with The Associated Press that he was "appreciative and proud" to be invited to the conference organized by the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences.

"The theme from the conference, which is essentially how we create a moral economy, is one that has occupied my attention for decades. And the teachings from Pope Francis have moved me very much," the Vermont senator said.

Sanders was joined by his wife, Jane Sanders, and 10 family members, including four grandchildren. The senator planned to work on his speech during the flight, spokesman Michael Briggs said.

Sanders' talk is titled "The Urgency of a Moral Economy: Reflections on the 25th Anniversary of Centesimus Annus." The conference was organized by a Vatican advisory group comparable to a think tank that Francis appointed to guide him on a wide range of public policy issues.

Clinton holds a significant delegate lead against Sanders, but the senator has vowed to stay in the campaign until the party's July convention. His message calling for a political revolution to address wealth inequality and the influence of Wall Street on U.S. politics has galvanized many Democrats and independents. A Sanders rally Wednesday night in New York City attracted 27,000 people.

Despite being enmeshed in an increasingly bitter campaign against Clinton, Sanders aides said the trip was not aimed at appealing to Catholic voters who comprise a large share of the Democratic electorate in New York and an upcoming contest in Pennsylvania.

"This is not going to be a political speech," Sanders senior adviser Tad Devine said. "We're not looking at this through a political lens."

Sanders, the first Jewish candidate to win a presidential primary, called the trip "an opportunity that comes once in a lifetime."

Sanders and his campaign have held out hope that he might meet with the pope during his visit. Francis will be in Rome on Friday, but the Vatican said he had no plans to either address the conference or meet with Sanders.

The Vatican has been loath to get involved in electoral campaigns and usually tries to avoid any perception of partisanship involving the pope. Popes rarely travel to countries during the thick of political campaigns, knowing a papal photo opportunity with a sitting head of state could be exploited for political ends.

As a result, the invitation to Sanders to address the Vatican conference raised eyebrows and allegations that the senator lobbied for the invitation.

The chancellor for the pontifical academy, Bishop Marcelo Sanchez Sorondo, has said he invited Sanders because he was the only U.S. presidential candidate who showed deep interest in the teachings of Francis.

Other attendees will include Presidents Evo Morales of Bolivia and Rafael Correa of Ecuador, along with Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga of Honduras, a member of the academy, and Columbia University professor Jeffrey Sachs, an adviser to the United Nations on environmental and sustainability issues. Sachs has advised Sanders on foreign policy issues.

The Rev. Matt Malone, editor of the Jesuit magazine America, said Sanders' trip was unlikely to have much of an impact on Catholic voters, noting that conferences like the one Sanders is attending "happen all the time."

"I don't think that Bernie Sanders going to the Vatican is going to help Bernie with Catholics any more than Ted Cruz going to a matzo factory is going to help him with the Jewish vote," said Malone, who served as a speechwriter to former Rep. Marty Meehan, a Massachusetts Democrat.

Popes rarely attend such events and do so only if the topic is of special interest and there is room in their schedule, Malone said.

Land mines of the sea: Cleaning up lost fishing gear

WAYNE PARRY, Associated Press

WARETOWN, N.J. (AP) — They are the land mines of the sea, killing long after being forgotten.

Abandoned or lost fishing gear, including traps, crab pots and nets, litter the ocean floor in coastal areas around the world. Many continue to attract, entrap and kill fish and other marine life in what's called "ghost fishing."

Groups, governments and companies around the world are engaged in efforts to retrieve and recycle as much of the abandoned gear as they can get their hands on. The goal is to protect the environment, prevent marine life from being killed, remove threats to navigation, and in some cases, generate energy.

Pascal van Erp, a Dutch diver who was horrified by the amount of abandoned fishing equipment he encountered, founded the Ghost Fishing Foundation to tackle the issue.

"The problem with lost gear is enormous," he said. "It is found in all seas, oceans and inland waters at all depths, along the beach and under the sand. I think the problem never can be resolved completely, but we can keep it from getting worse by showing the problem to the public and the authorities."

For as long as mankind has been fishing, it has been losing some of that gear, but the problem has become particularly acute in recent decades with rapid advances in technology and the expansion of global fishing fleets.

Industry experts and scientists estimate that commercial fishermen lose about 10 percent of their traps per year to bad weather, currents that drag them to far-flung places or boats that sever tie lines intended to keep them in place.

Recommended solutions include degradable panels on traps that will quickly break down and allow trapped marine life to escape, and fast-degrading screws on whelk pots that serve the same purpose. Numerous international agreements also prohibit the deliberate dumping of fishing equipment at sea.

Some debris is deliberately thrown overboard; in England, small vessels can run up landfill charges of 500 British pounds (\$702) per year, giving them an incentive to ditch broken gear.

"Crabs get trapped in the pots and starve to death," said John Wnek, supervisor of New Jersey's Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science, whose students are involved in a project to collect abandoned fishing gear from New Jersey's Barnegat Bay. "They're still fishing long after they're not supposed to be. This happens everywhere there's commercial fishing."

A 2009 United Nations report estimated there are 640,000 tons of abandoned fishing nets on the ocean floor worldwide. A 2005 survey found fishing boats in Greenland lose an average of 15 nets per day, stretching nearly 2,500 feet.

A 2001 study suggested that ghost fishing kills 4 million to 10 million blue crabs each year in Louisiana alone.

A 2002 study found 260,000 traps being lost each year in the Gulf of Arabia, leading the United Arab Emirates to mandate degradable panels in the traps, a step other jurisdictions have also adopted. The following year, a study in South Korea off the coast of Incheon found 97,000 tons of discarded fishing gear, and about 1,000 tons of lost gear are recovered each year from the Sea of Japan.

The U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service estimates 12 miles of net are lost each day of the fishing season in the North Pacific, and in Queensland, Australia, about 6,000 crab pots are lost each year.

While the scope of the problem is vast, so is the range of projects to address it. One such effort, called

"Fishing For Energy," has collected over 3 million pounds of discarded fishing gear nationwide. It has already plucked more than 400 crab traps from Barnegat Bay and has its sights on 600 more. It also is active in Massachusetts, Oregon, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Florida.

Traps that are still usable are returned to local fishermen; unusable ones are either recycled or burned in one of 40 trash-to-energy incinerators run by the energy company Covanta.

The work involves volunteers taking boats onto the bay and using sonar to detect crab pots on the bay's floor. They mark the spot with buoys and slowly sail over them, trying to snag the debris with a grappling hook dragged from a heavy rope. It is funded in part by a \$109,000 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Cleanups are also underway in other countries. A September effort in Orkney, England, retrieved 60 crab pots and 25 whelk pots, along with rope and netting that a local artist used to create doormats.

Documentary explores healing journeys after Newtown shooting

PAT EATON-ROBB, Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Tain Gregory lost a friend in the December 2012 massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary school. Jimmy Greene lost a daughter.

The role the arts have played in helping both on their journeys through grief and toward healing is explored in a "Midsummer in Newtown," a documentary debuting on Sunday at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York.

The film follows the staging of "A Rockin' Midsummer Night's Dream," a musical adaptation of Shakespeare's play, which was put on in Newtown by Broadway professionals during the summer of 2014 using children from the community.

It focuses on two of the young local actors, Gregory and a girl named Sammy Vertucci, who find the play's themes of love helping to restore order from chaos reflected in their own lives.

A separate track follows Greene as he creates his album "Beautiful Life," to honor his daughter Ana Grace, while his wife, Nelba Marquez-Greene, creates a foundation to help troubled children.

"It's about people finding ways to move forward," said director Lloyd Kramer.

The film is the second major documentary this year about the Newtown shooting, in which a gunman killed 20 schoolchildren, six educators, his mother and finally himself. The film "Newtown" premiered earlier this year at the Sundance Film Festival. It also explores the effects of the events of that day on the community.

Marquez-Greene said they choose to be part of "Midsummer in Newtown" because it allowed them to tell their story the way they wanted it told. That includes a moment when she stops being angry at her husband, a well-known jazz saxophonist, for not joining her as a political activist in Washington, D.C., pushing for new laws.

"It was very powerful for me when I heard his music to realize that this was not only his way to fight, but his way to continue to be a dad," she said.

Filmmakers say they chose to debut the documentary at Tribeca because of the festival's history. It was created in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks as a way for the arts to help heal the community in New York.

Sophronia Scott Gregory, Tain's mother, said she hopes people see her son come out of his shell in the film and understand the healing power the play had on her family.

For Tain, she said, being part of the production became a microcosm of his part in a community dealing with stress. He and others used the safe space of the theater community to overcome their fears, learn to trust and be vulnerable again.

He cries when the production is over. His mother said that was a good thing, because it meant that he missed something he loved and began to understand feelings that went far beyond the play.

"It's always OK to love," she said. "Don't be afraid of the pain. The pain is going to go away at some point, but the love is going to stay."

Kramer said they were very careful in the film not to make it about closure, or good coming from evil or happy endings. Because, he said, the truth in Newtown is not that simplistic.

Instead, he said the movie is about the journey — what Jimmy Greene describes as a search to reflect love and beauty "through all the trauma and the horror that we've been through."

"You can't choose what happens to you in this life in a lot of ways, but you can choose how you respond to it," Greene says near the movie's end.

Microsoft suit is latest tech clash with US over privacy

BRANDON BAILEY, AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — As we live more of our lives online, the companies we trust with our digital secrets are increasingly clashing with authorities who want access to the messages, pictures, financial records and other data we accumulate in electronic form.

Microsoft opened a new front in the battle over digital privacy this week, suing the Justice Department over its use of court orders requiring the company to turn over customer files stored in its computer centers — often without notifying the customer involved.

It's the latest in a series of legal challenges brought by Microsoft and some of its leading competitors. Apple recently fought a high-profile battle over the FBI's demand for help unlocking an encrypted iPhone in San Bernardino, California, and it's continuing to challenge similar demands in other cases.

Other companies, including Google, Facebook and Yahoo, have increased their use of encryption. They've also sued for the right to report how often authorities demand customer information under national security laws, after former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden leaked details of government data-gathering efforts.

Privacy advocates have applauded those moves, while authorities complain they could stymie legitimate investigations. But those legal maneuvers may benefit the companies as well as their customers. In the wake of Snowden's revelations and high-profile hacking attacks, tech firms want to reassure customers their information is safe.

"Privacy is an economic good at this point," said Jennifer Daskal, a former Justice Department attorney who now teaches law at American University in Washington, D.C. "It's good for business because consumers care about it. So the companies are competing over being privacy protective."

Many tech companies make money directly from customer information, of course, by selling advertising targeted to their users' interests and behavior. While some privacy advocates have criticized those practices, others note that's different from handing over information to authorities who have the power to put people in jail.

In the latest case, Microsoft Corp. says the U.S. Justice Department is using a decades-old law to obtain court orders for customers' data, while in some cases prohibiting the company from notifying the customer. Microsoft says those "non-disclosure" orders violate its constitutional right to free speech, as well as its customers' protection against unreasonable searches.

Microsoft is also fighting a court battle in New York over the government's demand for emails of a non-U.S. citizen that the company has stored in a data center located in Ireland. Microsoft President Brad Smith has argued the case could open the door to other governments demanding information stored in the United States.

As people and businesses store more information on their electronic gadgets, or online in corporate

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 16 of 30

data centers, "these companies are increasingly the intermediary between the government and our own privacy," said Daskal.

One former federal official was critical of Microsoft's latest lawsuit. Daniel "D.J." Rosenthal, a former Justice Department lawyer, said it could lead to warning "child molesters, domestic abusers, violent criminals and terrorists that they're being investigated."

But authorities are required to disclose most search warrants for information stored in filing cabinets, safes or other physical locations, as Microsoft notes in its lawsuit. With more people storing data online, the company contends the government is exploiting that trend "as a means of expanding its power to conduct secret investigations."

The company understands the need for secrecy in some cases, Smith added in a statement. "But based on the many secrecy orders we have received, we question whether these orders are grounded in specific facts that truly demand secrecy. To the contrary, it appears that the issuance of secrecy orders has become too routine."

Microsoft's business customers "regularly convey to us their strong desire to know when the government is obtaining their data," Smith said, while adding that individual customers should have the same right.

The Redmond, Washington-based company says authorities used the 1986 law, known as the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, to demand customer information more than 5,600 times in the last 18 months. In nearly half those cases, a court ordered the company to keep the demand secret and, in about 1,750 cases, those gag orders were indefinite.

In recent years, the tech industry and civil liberties groups have pressed Congress to reform several aspects of the law, which they say is outdated, but previous attempts have stalled.

"Hopefully this litigation will either produce a ruling or it will spur Congress to act," said Neil Richards, a law professor at Washington University in St. Louis.

Microsoft's move was also praised by Aaron Levie, the CEO of online data storage company Box. In a statement, Levie said his company has been expanding its encrypted storage services to "give customers more control over their data."

Levie added: "We also fully support Microsoft's effort to require more transparency in government data requests and the government's full observance of the protections guaranteed by the First and Fourth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution."

Panel OKs parole for former Manson cult member Van Houten

AMY TAXIN, Associated Press

CHINO, Calif. (AP) — A California panel recommended parole Thursday for former Charles Manson follower Leslie Van Houten more than four decades after she and other cult members went to prison for the notorious killings of a wealthy grocer and his wife.

The now-66-year-old Van Houten was "numb" after the panel announced its decision following a five-hour hearing at the California Institution for Women in Chino, said her attorney Rich Pfeiffer.

"She's been ready for this for a long time," Pfeiffer said outside the prison, adding that those who signed an online petition opposed to her release don't know the woman she is today.

"It really should have happened a long time ago," he said.

The decision will now undergo administrative review by the board. If upheld it goes to Gov. Jerry Brown, who has final say on whether Van Houten is released.

Van Houten, a one-time homecoming princess, participated in the killings of Leno La Bianca and his

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 17 of 30

wife Rosemary a day after other so-called "Manson family" members murdered pregnant actress Sharon Tate and four others in 1969.

The killings were the start of what Manson believed was a coming race war that he dubbed "Helter Skelter" after a Beatles song. Van Houten said the group planned to retreat to the desert and hide in a hole.

Van Houten was the youngest Manson follower to take part in the killings after she descended into a life of drugs and joined Manson's cult in the 1960s.

Since then, she has completed college degrees and been commended for her behavior as a model prisoner.

"Your behavior in prison speaks for itself. Forty-six years and not a single serious rule violation," Commissioner Ali Zarrinnam told Van Houten Thursday at the close of her 20th parole hearing.

Brown previously blocked the parole of former Manson follower Bruce Davis, citing his refusal to fully accept responsibility for his role in the murders of a stunt man and a musician and the gravity of his offenses.

On Thursday, Van Houten described in graphic detail for the panel how she helped secure a pillow over the head of Rosemary La Bianca with a lamp cord and hold her down while another member of the "Manson family" began stabbing the woman in her home.

Van Houten said she had looked off into the distance until another Manson follower told her to do something and she joined in the stabbing.

"I don't let myself off the hook. I don't find parts in any of this that makes me feel the slightest bit good about myself," she told the panel.

The La Biancas were stabbed numerous times and the word "WAR" was carved on the stomach of Leno La Bianca.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's office vehemently opposed Van Houten's release. After the decision, District Attorney Jackie Lacey said in a statement she would evaluate how to proceed.

Louis Smaldino, nephew of Leno La Bianca, pleaded with the panel not to release Van Houten after the horror she and the others inflicted by taking a carving knife used at annual Thanksgiving dinners to mutilate his family.

"The Manson family are terrorists, albeit homegrown," he said. "They're long before their time. What we're seeing today, these people were back in the 60s."

At her last hearing in 2013, a parole commissioner told Van Houten she had failed to explain how someone as intelligent and well-bred as she could have committed such cruel and atrocious crimes.

Van Houten told the panel she had been traumatized by her parents' divorce when she was 14, her pregnancy soon after and her mother's insistence she have an abortion. During the hearing, she apologized to everyone she had harmed.

Van Houten did not participate in the Tate killings but went along the next night when the La Biancas were slain. She was 19 at the time.

During the penalty phase of her trial, she confessed to joining in stabbing Rosemary La Bianca after she was dead.

Van Houten's conviction was overturned on appeal. She was retried twice and convicted in 1978 of two counts of murder and conspiracy.

Manson, 81, and other followers involved in the killings are still jailed.

Patricia Krenwinkel and Charles "Tex" Watson have each been denied parole multiple times, while fellow defendant Susan Atkins died in prison in 2009.

Davis was approved for parole but Brown blocked his release in 2014. Davis was not involved in the Tate-La Bianca murders.

For these bald eagles, Arizona real estate is above par

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — For one pair of bald eagles, Scottsdale real estate is truly above par.

The couple and their two 6-week-old hatchlings have been living in a massive nest above a golf course in the city, reported The Arizona Republic (<http://bit.ly/1T4DT6k>).

The eagles were likely attracted by the course's lush greenery and fish-filled lake, said Kenneth Jacobson of the Game and Fish Department. He speculated that the birds may have been nesting along the Lower Salt and Verde rivers and needed more room to spread out.

More bald eagles have been nesting in Arizona. Today, there are 59 breeding pairs, compared to 11 pairs in 1978. Last year was record-setting: 89 eggs were laid and 66 eaglets made their first flight.

Bald eagles have been in the Scottsdale area for at least five years, according to Jacobson, but this is the first time they've nested there. He expects that the eaglets will be flying in another month.

Bald eagle rehabilitation volunteer Joe Miller, who works with Liberty Wildlife in Scottsdale, has been giving Game and Fish regular reports on the eagles since the nest was built over the winter.

"They've done a good job of picking out the tree inside the city where they are protected by a golf course fence and a larger outside fence. Plus, if you were to walk across the street, a big tree blocks (the nest) view," said Miller, who watches the birds through a spotting scope.

"These birds," he said, "appear somewhat desensitized to traffic all day, every day. Everyone's been responsible, and we hope that it stays that way."

A sign on the course tells golfers not to disturb the eagle's nest. The Republic didn't publish the exact location of the golf course because the parents could abandon the nest if they are disturbed.

It takes nine weeks for the eaglets to grow to full size and develop the white head and yellow beak of an adult. They are expected to leave the nest in late June, searching for cooler weather in the north.

Arizona State University ornithologist David Pearson said seeing a bald eagle is a "goose bump" moment.

"Even for a hardened scientist, every time I see one I get the same feeling. It's a wonderful bird. It's so big. It's so powerful. It's so majestic," Pearson said. "It stands for so many things, and especially unity. It shows what you can do if conservatives, Democrats, or whoever work together — which we don't have a lot of right now."

Chicago weighs cost, complexity of proposed police changes

DON BABWIN, Associated Press

JASON KEYSER, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — A day after a task force blasted the Chicago Police Department for decades of discrimination, law enforcement officials weighed which of the panel's recommendations could be adopted and how much they might add to Chicago's already heavy financial burdens.

The only thing that was clear about the group's 190-page report was that it can't be treated like critics say previous studies were — shoved into a desk drawer and forgotten.

"Either we act now and do the right thing or the Department of Justice is going to mandate that we turn and do the right thing," Alderman Anthony Beale said, referring to a separate review of Chicago police practices being conducted by the federal government.

The task force created late last year by Mayor Rahm Emanuel portrayed the Chicago department as a place where racist officers have been able to hide behind rules and procedures and police brutality was easily kept secret.

Chicago officers have "no regard for the sanctity of life when it comes to people of color," the panel's

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 19 of 30

report said.

The report issued Wednesday also offered a list of suggested reforms, including increasing the number of body cameras and posting complaints against officers and their discipline records online for everyone to see.

The Justice Department launched a civil rights probe of the police force in the wake of the November release of a video showing a white officer firing 16 bullets at black teenager Laquan McDonald, killing him.

That investigation will almost certainly result in another list of proposed changes that can't be ignored. That is what the city of Ferguson, Missouri, learned after a similar Justice Department probe into the death of Michael Brown Jr., the black 18-year-old whose fatal shooting by a white officer helped launch the Black Lives Matter movement.

The Ferguson City Council rejected as too expensive a Justice Department plan that included hiring a monitor and outfitting all officers with body cameras, only to back down when it was hit by a federal lawsuit.

"Change is coming," said Lori Lightfoot, the head of the task force. "And it would be better for the department, for individual officers and for our city for us to take control of our own destiny and not have the Department of Justice force a solution on us that may or may not make sense for Chicago."

How much might it cost? In much smaller Ferguson, for example, the Justice Department's measures were estimated to require well over \$2 million over three years.

"We're clearly talking about millions of dollars," Lightfoot said. But, she noted, millions are being found "every month, every year" to pay for legal settlements and court judgments involving people who were mistreated by police.

Police misconduct has cost the city \$660 million since 2004 — an amount that dwarfs the price tag of all the recommendations put together, Lightfoot and others agree.

The task force recommendations call for creating several positions, including an inspector general and deputy police chief. Those roles offer salaries of at least \$170,000.

Chicago's financial woes include the worst-funded employee pension system of any major city in the U.S., and massive deficits in the public school system. Emanuel recently pushed through a huge property tax increase and other new fees, warning that the only alternative would include severe cuts to police and fire services, recycling programs, pothole repair and even rodent control.

The department is already doing some of the things the task force recommends, including offering training for officers in de-escalating encounters with people in the throes of a mental health crisis. Fifteen percent of Chicago's 12,000 police officers have already completed what is known as crisis intervention team training. The task force suggests increasing that to 35 percent.

To see how other ideas might be adopted, Chicago in some cases need only look as far as the suburbs. DuPage County already has a so-called Smart911 system, which allows households to create a safety profile with information about family members with mental health problems or other medical issues.

The profile pops up during 911 calls and allows dispatchers to give responding officers detailed information before they arrive on the scene. The system costs the county about \$145,000 a year.

The task force report said such a system might have prevented a deadly encounter in December in which a white police officer shot and killed a 19-year-old black college student who called 911 for help.

The hardest part of turning the report into reality may not be paying the cost but making sure everyone from rank-and-file officers to political leaders embraces the change, Lightfoot said.

The difficulty of that was evident when Alderman Edward Burke stood at Wednesday's City Council

meeting to explain why the council should vote to settle for \$1.5 million the lawsuit filed by the family of a man who died in police custody after suffering an asthma attack.

Witnesses, Burke said, described how officers refused to allow Justin Cook to use his inhaler after he was arrested and handcuffed. One witness, he said, shaking his head, told of seeing an officer spraying the inhaler into the air as he told the gasping Cook that he should have thought about his asthma before he ran from them.

Such actions had nothing to do with training, he said. Nor is there any training "that can cure a person of inhumanity."

High copper or lead levels seen in 19 Detroit schools' water

COREY WILLIAMS, Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit's hard-pressed school system has found elevated levels of lead and copper in nearly a third of its elementary schools, contamination that one expert says could be found nationwide, wherever school authorities spend the time and money to look.

The news gave parents in the 46,000-student district yet another reason to worry, and prompted the teachers' union to appeal for help from autoworkers, who trucked bottled water to a school where some students were drinking from bathroom sinks after the water fountains were shut down as a precaution.

"Our students want water all day long," Detroit teachers' union president Ivy Bailey said Thursday.

Nine of every 10 schools and day care centers in the U.S. are not required to test for lead contamination under federal law, since their water is already tested by municipal suppliers. But like most other school districts nationwide, Detroit has aging buildings with lead pipes and water fixtures that have parts made with lead — and that's where the trouble lies.

The testing was prompted by the crisis in Flint, where lead flowed from taps after state authorities switched that city's water supply from Detroit's system to the Flint River to save money. About 8,000 Flint-area children under age 6 have potentially been exposed to lead.

In Detroit, school officials discovered that even though the municipal water complies with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards, elevated levels of lead and some of copper were found in the drinking water fountains or kitchens at 19 of the 62 schools tested so far.

"It provides clear evidence that schools have to be proactive in finding and fixing these problems — it is not going to go away by itself," said Marc Edwards, a Virginia Tech professor who helped expose Flint's water crisis.

"Because the harm from lead is irreversible, finding and fixing lead in school problems is good news. The alternative is to do nothing and be willfully blind and allow even more harm to occur," Edwards added.

Lead is a neurotoxin that can damage child brain development, cause behavioral problems and sicken adults. Copper can cause gastrointestinal distress, and long-term exposure can damage the liver or kidneys.

District spokeswoman Michelle Zdrodowski characterized the levels of lead and copper as concerning but "by no means excessive or extreme."

On the high end, a lead sample from a water fountain at Brown Academy showed 1,500 parts per billion — 100 times the EPA limit of 15 parts per billion. Water from a kitchen sink at Priest Elementary-Middle School showed copper levels of 3,400 parts per billion — nearly three times the EPA limit of 1,300 parts per billion.

"What we want parents to know is that we did this because we want to provide the best, safest learning conditions for our students and really safe working conditions for our staff," Zdrodowski told The

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 21 of 30

Associated Press.

The rest of the district's 93 buildings, where middle and high schoolers are taught, will be screened over the next two weeks, and the schools already showing elevated levels will get more intensive testing by an environmental consulting firm, she said.

Schools and child care centers across the country are testing classroom sinks and cafeteria faucets in the wake of the Flint crisis, trying to uncover problems and reassure parents. But few are as financially pressed as Detroit Schools, which is paying for half of the \$50,000 testing cost from its district budget and using a city grant for the rest.

Michigan lawmakers recently approved \$48.7 million in emergency funding just to keep Detroit schools open this academic year. Republican Gov. Rick Snyder also is pushing a \$720 million school restructuring plan to pay off the district's operating debt, and wants to spend \$18 million over two years to test water in every state school.

The district, meanwhile, is working on detailed mitigation plans, to be shared with the Detroit Health Department to make sure all proper actions are taken, the spokeswoman said.

"There's no legal mandate that we had to do this," Zdrodowski said. "We just understood, given the time that we're in and the circumstances that are facing — not only the state of Michigan but across the United States — that this was the right thing for us to do at the right time."

Parents are taking action, too.

Each of James Hardwick's three daughters grabbed bottled water Thursday before they left home for nearby Sampson-Webber Leadership Academy, where elevated lead levels were found. The school shut down its water system after some students were drinking from restroom sinks, prompting the teacher's union to reach out to UAW-Ford for help. The autoworkers' union soon delivered pallets of bottled water.

"The first thing I told my kids was, 'No more drinking from the fountains in the school,'" said Hardwick, 32. "They pretty much understood it."

The federal government requires testing only by those schools and child care systems that operate their own water systems. A recent analysis of Environmental Protection Agency data by the AP found that 278 of these had violated federal lead standards at some point during the past three years.

An estimated 90,000 schools and child care centers nationwide face no federal testing requirement, leaving most children in buildings that are unchecked and vulnerable, because lead particles can build up in plumbing when water goes unused over weekends and school breaks.

U.S. stock indexes wobble to a mixed finish

MARLEY JAY, AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks hardly budged Thursday and finished with a mix of small gains and losses. Banks and airlines rose on strong first-quarter reports, while consumer products companies struggled.

The market wavered throughout the day. Stocks are coming off two big gains in a row and are trading at their highest levels of the year.

"People are getting a bit more confident of what's going on in the market," said J.J. Kinahan, chief strategist for TD Ameritrade.

The Dow Jones industrial average added 18.15 points, or 0.1 percent, to 17,926.43. The Standard & Poor's 500 index ticked up 0.36 points to 2,082.78. The Nasdaq composite lost 1.53 points to 4,945.89.

The results from banks haven't been great so far, but investors expected even worse because of shaky loans to energy companies and low interest rates that have made lending less profitable. Kinahan said

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 22 of 30

banks are benefiting from lower expenses and more people are seeking mortgage loans.

"If businesses are starting to expand a little bit, if the consumer is out there trying to buy housing, (lending) is a steady source of income for these institutions," he said. Investors feared "this was going to be an absolutely disastrous earnings season," he said.

Bank of America picked up 35 cents, or 2.5 percent, to \$14.14, as its results met investor expectations. First Republic Bank jumped \$2.38, or 3.5 percent, to \$69.88 after the San Francisco bank reported a bigger-than-expected profit. Fifth Third Bank, another regional bank, gained 32 cents, or 1.8 percent, to \$17.73.

Wells Fargo's profit fell as it set aside more money to cover its struggling portfolio of oil and gas loans, one of the chief worries investors have about the financial industry. The stock slipped 24 cents to \$48.79. Bank stocks jumped Wednesday after JPMorgan Chase, the largest U.S. bank, reported results that beat expectations.

Data storage company Seagate Technology said its third-quarter profit margins and revenue will be lower than expected. The company said it's seeing lower demand for some kinds of hard disk drives. Its stock plunged \$6.82, or 20.1 percent, to \$27.11, by far the largest loss in the S&P 500. Competitor Western Digital fell \$2.98, or 6.7 percent, to \$41.82 and NetApp lost \$1.06, or 4 percent, to \$25.64.

Delta Air Lines' first-quarter profit jumped 27 percent, helped by low fuel costs. Delta's stock gained 45 cents to \$48.49, but its competitors had even bigger gains. American Airlines rose \$1.23, or 3.1 percent, to \$41.17 and United added \$1.15, or 2.1 percent, to \$56.73. JetBlue and Southwest also rose.

Pier 1 Imports fell after the home decor company gave a shaky outlook for the first half of its fiscal year. Pier 1 said it expects pressure on its profit and sales because of marketing expenses, including a return to TV advertising, as well as price markdowns. The stock gave up 43 cents, or 5.9 percent, to \$6.91.

Benchmark U.S. crude oil fell 26 cents to \$41.50 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, the international standard, gave up 34 cents to \$43.84 a barrel in London.

Gold fell \$21.80, or 1.7 percent, to \$1,226.50 an ounce. Silver fell 15 cents to \$16.17 an ounce. Copper was unchanged at \$2.17 a pound.

Claims for unemployment benefits dropped sharply last week and reached their lowest level since 1973. They've been at low levels for a year, which indicates the job market is healthy and employers aren't letting go of workers. That suggests many companies see the recent slowdown as temporary.

In other energy trading, wholesale gasoline fell 2 cents to \$1.51 a gallon. Heating oil dipped 1 cent to \$1.25 a gallon. Natural gas fell 7 cents, or 3 percent, to \$1.97 per 1,000 cubic feet.

In Europe, Germany's DAX was up 0.7 percent while the CAC-40 in France rose 0.5 percent. The FTSE 100 index in Britain held steady. Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 closed 3.2 percent higher as the yen weakened slightly against the dollar. Hong Kong's Hang Seng gained 0.8 percent and the KOSPI in South Korea climbed 1.7 percent.

Bond prices slipped. The yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note rose to 1.79 percent from 1.77 percent. The euro fell to \$1.1267 from \$1.1283 and the dollar edged up to 109.28 yen from 109.24 yen.

Japan earthquake: 'I thought I was going to die'

EMILY WANG, Associated Press

MASHIKI, Japan (AP) — A still shocked resident from a town in southern Japan recounted his terror the previous night as he examined the damage Friday from a powerful earthquake that brought down buildings and left nine people dead.

"It's as if all control was lost, I thought I was going to die and I couldn't bear it any longer," said Yuichiro Yoshikado, who was taking a bath in his apartment in the hardest-hit town of Mashiki.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 23 of 30

"I grabbed onto the sides of the bathtub, but the water in the tub, it was about 70 percent filled with water, was going like this," he said waving his arms, "and all the water splashed out."

More than 100 aftershocks from Thursday night's magnitude-6.5 earthquake continued to rattle the region as businesses and residents got a fuller look at the widespread damage from the unusually strong quake, which also injured about 800 people.

A bright spot broadcast repeatedly on television was the overnight rescue of an apparently uninjured baby, wrapped in a blanket and carried out of the rubble of a collapsed home.

The quake struck near the city of Kumamoto on the island of Kyushu, about 1,300 kilometers (800 miles) southwest of Tokyo. Mashiki is on Kumamoto's eastern border, about 15 kilometers (9 miles) from the city's center.

Rescue workers combed through wreckage to make sure there were no more trapped people, said Shotaro Sakamoto, a Kumamoto prefecture official. Concern about aftershocks was keeping many people from starting the huge task of cleaning up, police said.

Yoshikado, whose building was undamaged despite the intense shaking, was checking the damage at his aunt and uncle's home nearby.

Kitchenware was scatted on the floor, and a clock had stopped around 9:26 p.m., the time of the earthquake. Power and water have yet to be restored, and many in the neighborhood have yet to return because of the aftershocks.

"Everyone in Kumamoto is still in a panic," Yoshikado said. "We see in the news phrases like 'Major earthquake in Kumamoto,' or 'The Kumamoto Quake,' but it just doesn't seem real. It feels like something that would happen somewhere else."

About 44,000 people stayed in shelters overnight, and Sakamoto said it was difficult to predict how many would return Friday night.

The dead included five women and four men, the Fire and Disaster Management Agency said. One man was in his 20s, and the rest of the victims ranged from their 50s to one woman in her 90s. Eight of the nine victims were from Mashiki.

There were varying reports on the number of injured. The government's chief spokesman, Yoshihide Suga, said at least 860 people had been injured, 53 seriously. Kumamoto prefecture tallied 784 injured.

Suga said 1,600 soldiers had joined the relief and rescue efforts. TV reports showed troops delivering blankets and adult diapers to those in shelters.

With water service cut off in some areas, residents were hauling water from local offices to their homes to flush toilets.

Suga said there were no abnormalities at nearby nuclear facilities. The epicenter was 120 kilometers (74 miles) northeast of Kyushu Electric Power Co.'s Sendai nuclear plant, the only one operating in the country.

Most of Japan's nuclear reactors remain offline following the meltdowns at the Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s Fukushima plant in 2011 after a magnitude 9.0 earthquake triggered a huge tsunami.

According to the Japan Meteorological Agency, Mashiki sits near two faults on Kyushu. The area is also near Mount Aso, a huge, active volcano. JMA officials said the quake was unusually strong for Kyushu.

New York delivers rowdy night of campaigning

JULIE PACE, Associated Press

JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Democrats brawled in Brooklyn while Republicans in black tie threw sharp elbows at a Manhattan gala in a rowdy New York night of politics ahead of the state's Tuesday presidential primary.

As protests raged outside a state GOP dinner, Republican front-runner Donald Trump delivered an impassioned defense of the city he calls home. Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, meanwhile, aggressively challenged each other's judgment to be president at a raucous Democratic debate over Wall Street banks, minimum wage, gun control and foreign policy.

The Democratic fight Thursday night came at a pivotal moment in the party's primary campaign, with Clinton leading in the delegate count but Sanders generating huge enthusiasm for his surprising candidacy. The debate also left no doubt that a rivalry that once centered on wonkish policy disagreements has turned strikingly personal.

The Vermont senator took a biting and often sarcastic tone as he sought to chip away at Clinton's credibility on issue after issue. He went as far as to suggest that her labeling of certain criminals as "superpredators" when she was first lady was "a racist term and everybody knew it was a racist term."

The tone among Republicans was somewhat more subdued.

Trump praised the city's response to the nation's deadliest terrorist attacks in remarks designed to jab rival Ted Cruz, a Texas senator who has repeatedly condemned "New York values" in his push to defeat the New York real estate mogul.

"In our darkest moments, as a city we showed the world the very, very best in terms of bravery, heart and soul of America," Trump charged. "These are the values we need to make America great again."

On the sidewalks outside, Trump was the target of rowdy protesters who hung an effigy of the billionaire businessman and chanted, "How do you spell racist? T-R-U-M-P."

The scene came shortly after Florida prosecutors dismissed a criminal complaint against Trump's campaign manager, Corey Lewandowski, two weeks after local police charged him with grabbing a reporter.

Florida state attorney Dave Aronberg declared police were right to charge Lewandowski with misdemeanor battery, but said the burden on prosecutors to prove the case turned out to be weightier.

The Democratic debate was the first for Clinton and Sanders in five weeks, and a lively crowd cheered their candidates loudly and occasionally booed their foes. At one point Clinton said with a smile, "I love Brooklyn."

For Clinton, a win in a state that twice elected her senator would blunt Sanders' recent momentum and put his pursuit of the nomination further behind. A Sanders upset over Clinton would shake up the race, raising fresh concerns about her candidacy and breathing new life into the Vermont senator's campaign.

The Democratic primary has been fought for months on familiar terrain. Clinton has cast Sanders' proposals for breaking up banks and offering free tuition at public colleges and universities as unrealistic. Sanders has accused Clinton of being part of a rigged economic and political system, hammering her repeatedly for giving paid speeches to Wall Street banks and refusing to release the transcripts.

Clinton continued to struggle to explain why she has not released the transcripts, saying only that she'll do so when other candidates are required to do the same. She tried to raise questions about Sanders' own openness by noting that he has yet to release his income tax information.

The senator pledged to release his most recent tax returns on Friday, and said there would be "no big money from speeches, no major investments" in the disclosures.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 25 of 30

The candidates also sparred over raising the federal minimum wage, with Sanders expressing surprise as Clinton voiced support for efforts to set the hourly pay rate at \$15, the level he has long backed.

"The secretary has confused a lot of people. I don't know how you're there for the fight for \$15 when you say you want a \$12-an-hour national minimum wage," he said. Clinton clarified that while she does support a \$12-per-hour federal minimum wage, she would sign legislation raising that level to \$15.

Sanders, whose campaign has focused squarely on economic issues, showed more fluency on foreign policy than in previous debates, particularly during an extended exchange on the intractable conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. He urged the U.S. to be "even-handed" in dealing with both sides and said Washington must acknowledge that Israel isn't right all of the time.

Clinton highlighted her involvement with Mideast peace efforts as President Barack Obama's secretary of state, saying pointedly, "Describing the problem is a lot easier than trying to solve it."

After the debate, Sanders flew from New York to Rome for a Vatican City conference on social and economic justice. In justifying taking a day off from campaigning in New York, Sanders said he was honored to have been invited to speak to the conference and admired Pope Francis.

Poor policies blamed as India reels from drought, hardship

NIRMALA GEORGE, Associated Press

SHAHAPUR, India (AP) — Shantabai Babulkar's day begins before dawn with a 5-kilometer (3-mile) trek across barren fields and dusty scrubland to fetch water from a distant well.

She balances two metal pots of muddy water atop her head, and carries a third in the crook of her arm — the only water she and her family of five will have for the day's needs of drinking, cooking and washing.

Babulkar's village of Shahapur, in Thane district of the west Indian state of Maharashtra, is in the grips of one of the worst droughts in decades. Parched fields, burnt crops and wasted cattle have helped drive up the number of suicides by distressed farmers unable to repay their loans. Tens of thousands have left their farms in search of menial jobs, with many joining the ranks of the unemployed poor in the cities.

The vast Indian hinterland has long faced water shortages, especially in the torrid months from April to June, before the annual monsoon rains bring some relief. The showers, which normally run from June to September, are crucial in a country where 60 percent of the 1.25 billion population works in agriculture and less than half the farmland is irrigated. But decades of groundwater abuse, flawed water policies and poor monsoons have turned large parts of central India into an arid dust bowl.

Hundreds of millions of people in at least 13 states are reeling from severe drought, a situation that is expected to worsen in the coming months. Last month, a power plant was shut down for 10 days in West Bengal after running out of water to cool the coal-fired plant's heating pipes. Sizzling temperatures touching nearly 43 degree Celsius (110 Fahrenheit) this week have led to more than 130 heat-related deaths in Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states.

But nowhere is the situation as extreme as in Maharashtra.

On Wednesday, a Mumbai court demanded 13 Indian Premier League cricket matches be moved to locations other than Maharashtra because maintaining the cricket grounds would require millions of gallons of water.

Environmental activist Darryl D'Monte said Maharashtra's water crisis had been exacerbated by a recent agricultural shift from growing crops of millet, sorghum and other cereals to growing water-guzzling sugarcane.

"It's time we took a longer view and stop the wastage of water with sugarcane," he said, accusing

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 26 of 30

big sugarcane interests and politicians of ignoring the region's naturally dry climate in pursuit of profits from the lucrative crop.

Failed harvests force poor farmers to borrow money at high interest rates for buying seeds, fertilizers and even food for themselves and their cattle. They often mortgage their lands and, as borrowings mount, many are driven to suicide.

Last year, 3,228 farmers in Maharashtra alone committed suicide, according to government data. In the first three months of this year, 273 farmers took their lives just in Marathwada, the state's worst-affected region.

Scientists and activists have warned that relentless and unchecked groundwater extraction has led to a precipitous drop in water tables across India — the world's fastest rate of groundwater decline. Unless the country drastically curtails consumption and pollution, they warn, India will only have half the water it needs for residential use, industry and agriculture by 2030.

Already more than half of India's 688 districts are suffering from severe drought, water conservationist Rajendra Singh said.

"Climate change and rising temperatures are a reality. Yet the government does not have a strategy to deal with the permanent water shortages that we've been seeing for a decade," Singh said. He accused the government of being indifferent to the plight of the poor, and called for a long-term strategy to revive water bodies and recharge aquifers.

India's meteorological department has said this year's monsoon rains could be above average, as El Nino — a warming of the eastern Pacific Ocean that leads to dry spells in South Asia — was receding.

"This could be the government's chance to begin work on water security," Singh said. Meanwhile, criticism of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government is mounting. India's top court recently reprimanded the government for its apathy in dealing with what it called a "national calamity" affecting millions of the poor.

Social activists have also criticized the government's tardiness in releasing public welfare funds meant to ensure 100 days of work for the unemployed. State governments complain that a large chunk of this year's funds are being used to clear last year's pending wage bills, leaving even less at a time when drought is escalating unemployment on farms.

As temperatures across the subcontinent soar, small lakes and streams have dried up.

The situation was so dire in Maharashtra this week that the government sent a "water train" of tankers carrying half a million liters (132,000 gallons) to the worst-hit district of Latur. The train, traveling a distance of 350 kilometers (220 miles), was stopped along the way by angry villagers wanting a share of the water. Finally, police had to escort it to its destination.

Neighbors are also fighting over water.

Farmer Devaki Bai Gadkari said she leaves her home before dawn to avoid meeting the owner of the well from where she draws water.

"If they see me carrying three pots of water, they get angry," Gadkari said, as she trudged home to her three small children in the village of Raichi Wadi, about 120 kilometers (75 miles) northeast of Mumbai.

In cities and towns across India, water shortages have led to the formation of private water companies that control water that is supplied by tankers often at exorbitant rates.

Farmers are selling their cattle and moving to nearby cities in search of daily wage labor.

"We can't get water anywhere," said Vyankatesh Manjulkar, after being forced to sell his cows and bulls because they were going thirsty.

Even as millions go thirsty, real estate companies are advertising high-rise buildings in Mumbai with

a swimming pool on every floor. The state's urban areas are getting 400 percent more drinking water than rural areas, said activist Palagummi Sainath, who has spent three decades writing about rural poverty.

"People have to decide if availability of drinking water is a human right," he said.

Debate Takeaways: Clinton, Sanders show their fighting side

KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders let loose with a series of combative accusations on Wall Street, the minimum wage and guns in a rough-and-tumble debate Thursday at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

The contentious, fast-paced back-and-forth between the two Democratic presidential candidates was proof of how much is at stake entering Tuesday's New York primary.

For Sanders, a loss in New York would narrow his already difficult path to the nomination. For Clinton, anything less than victory in the state she represented in the Senate would be an embarrassment and make nervous Democrats even more anxious.

Here are the top takeaways from Thursday's debate:

TOUGH TONE

Clinton and Sanders did little to hide their annoyance with each other.

Sanders was often caustic as he questioned Clinton's credibility on super PACs, the Iraq War and Wall Street. "My goodness! They must have been really crushed by this," Sanders said in a mocking manner about Clinton's response to financial executives after the 2008 financial crisis.

Clinton suggested Sanders didn't have the judgment to be both president and commander in chief and implied he had cut a deal with the National Rifle Association to get elected to Congress in 1990. "He kept his word to the NRA," she said.

Both talked over each other at times, their voices rising. At one point, CNN moderator Wolf Blitzer said if they continued "screaming at each other," no one would be able to hear either of them.

WALL STREET

Sanders hoped to use the debate just miles from Wall Street to portray his opponent as insufficiently tough on corporate greed. When Sanders played the Wall Street card, Clinton tried to turn it around as an attack on President Barack Obama — among the party's most popular figures.

Clinton said Obama and the groups that supported his candidacy received "tens of millions of dollars" from the financial industry, but he still steered the Dodd-Frank financial overhaul through Congress. "This is a phony attack," she said.

Sanders pointed to the Wall Street-backed donations filling the coffers of a pro-Clinton super PAC. And he dismissed Clinton's contention that she had told Wall Street firms to reform their ways before the financial crisis in 2008. "They must have been very, very upset by what you did," he said sarcastically.

MINIMUM WAGE

Sanders tried to paint Clinton as a johnny-come-lately on hourly wages, expressing surprise when he thought Clinton said she was supportive of a \$15 an hour federal minimum wage.

Clinton has supported the "Fight for \$15" push by labor unions, but backed a more incremental ap-

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 28 of 30

proach in a Senate bill that calls for an increase in the federal minimum wage to \$12 an hour. Cities and states, Clinton argues, should be free to go further.

But Sanders said he was surprised to hear that Clinton might support the \$15 threshold, telling the audience, "I think the secretary has confused a lot of people."

Clinton said she was being consistent and in the eight previous encounters, "I have said the exact same thing."

SANDERS' TAKE ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE

In standing by his past criticism of Israel, Sanders delivered some straight talk that might cost him some voters in New York — but highlighted Clinton's rigid orthodoxy on the issue of Middle East peace.

Sanders wasn't fazed when asked whether he believes Israel has acted disproportionately in responding to attacks from Hamas. He said the devastation to schools, hospitals and infrastructure in Gaza has not matched the threat.

"That does not make me anti-Israel," Sanders said.

Clinton stuck to the pro-Israel hard line. In war, leaders must take "appropriate precautions," she said — but Israelis "did not seek this kind of attack, they do not invite rockets raining down on their towns and villages." Sanders, she said, was again describing a problem without proposing a solution.

Sanders came back by accusing Clinton of evading the question.

"We are going to have to say that Netanyahu is not right all the time," he said, referring to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. "Long-term, there will never be peace in that region unless the United States plays a role — an even-handed role."

TRANSCRIPTS OR TAX RETURNS?

Clinton was pressed again to release the transcripts of her paid private speeches to Wall Street executives after she departed the State Department in 2013.

The ex-secretary of state again demurred, saying Republican candidates should also be forced to comply. But this time she pointed out that Sanders hadn't released his recent tax returns, which she said was a basic standard for any presidential hopeful.

Sanders announced that he would release his 2014 tax return on Friday and he would release others in due time. The senator said his wife, Jane Sanders, handled the family's taxes but offered this excuse: "We've been a little bit busy lately."

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Friday, April 15, the 106th day of 2016. There are 260 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 15, 1912, the British luxury liner RMS Titanic foundered in the North Atlantic off Newfoundland more than 2 1/2 hours after hitting an iceberg; 1,514 people died, while less than half as many survived.

On this date:

In 1850, the city of San Francisco was incorporated.

In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln died nine hours after being shot the night before by John Wilkes

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 29 of 30

Booth at Ford's Theater in Washington; Andrew Johnson became the nation's 17th president.

In 1920, a paymaster and a guard were shot and killed during a robbery at a shoe company in South Braintree, Massachusetts; Italian immigrants Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti were accused of the crime, convicted and executed amid worldwide protests that they hadn't received a fair trial.

In 1945, during World War II, British and Canadian troops liberated the Nazi concentration camp Bergen-Belsen. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who had died on April 12, was buried at the Roosevelt family home in Hyde Park, New York.

In 1959, Cuban leader Fidel Castro arrived in Washington to begin a goodwill tour of the United States. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles resigned for health reasons (he was succeeded by Christian A. Herter).

In 1960, a three-day conference to form the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) began at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina. (The group's first chairman was Marion Barry.)

In 1974, members of the Symbionese Liberation Army held up a branch of the Hibernia Bank in San Francisco; a member of the group was SLA kidnap victim Patricia Hearst, who by this time was going by the name "Tania" (Hearst later said she'd been forced to participate).

In 1986, the United States launched an air raid against Libya in response to the bombing of a discotheque in Berlin on April 5; Libya said 37 people, mostly civilians, were killed.

In 1989, 96 people died in a crush of soccer fans at Hillsborough Stadium in Sheffield, England. Students in Beijing launched a series of pro-democracy protests; the demonstrations culminated in a government crackdown at Tiananmen Square.

In 1998, Pol Pot, the notorious leader of the Khmer Rouge, died at age 73, evading prosecution for the deaths of two million Cambodians.

In 2013, two bombs packed with nails and other metal shards exploded at the Boston Marathon finish line, killing two women and an 8-year-old boy and injuring more than 260. (Suspected bomber Tamerlan Tsarnaev (TAM'-ehr-luhn tsahr-NEYE'-ehv) died in a shootout with police; his brother and alleged accomplice, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev (joh-HAHR' tsahr-NEYE'-ehv), was tried, convicted and sentenced to death.)

In 2014, Boko Haram terrorists kidnapped some 276 girls from a school in northeastern Nigeria.

Ten years ago: U.S.-led coalition forces using warplanes and artillery clashed with a small band of militants holed up in a house and a cave complex in eastern Afghanistan in fighting that killed at least seven Afghan civilians.

Five years ago: The first of three days of tornadoes to strike the central and southern U.S. began; according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, there were an estimated 177 twisters and at least 38 fatalities.

One year ago: Douglas Hughes, a postal carrier from Florida, flew a one-person gyrocopter onto the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol as a protest against money in politics; he later pleaded guilty to operating a gyrocopter without a license, a felony. Former New England Patriots star tight end Aaron Hernandez was convicted in Fall River, Massachusetts, of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison for a late-night shooting that claimed the life of Odin Lloyd, a 27-year-old landscaper who was dating the sister of Hernandez's fiancée.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Roy Clark is 83. Actress Claudia Cardinale is 78. Author and politician Jeffrey Archer is 76. Rock singer-guitarist Dave Edmunds is 73. Actor Michael Tucci is 70. Actress Lois Chiles is 69. Writer-producer Linda Bloodworth-Thomason is 69. Actress Amy Wright is 66. Columnist Heloise is 65. Actor Sam McMurray is 64. Actress-screenwriter Emma Thompson is 57. Bluegrass musician Jeff Parker is 55. Singer Samantha Fox is 50. Olympic gold, silver and bronze medal swimmer

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, April 15, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 259 ♦ 30 of 30

Dara Torres is 49. Rock musician Ed O'Brien (Radiohead) is 48. Actor Flex Alexander is 46. Actor Danny Pino is 42. Actor Douglas Spain is 42. Country singer/songwriter Chris Stapleton is 38. Actor Luke Evans is 37. Rock musician Patrick Carney (The Black Keys) is 36. Actor-writer Seth Rogen is 34. Actress Alice Braga is 33. Rock musician De'Mar Hamilton (Plain White T's) is 32. Actress Emma Watson is 26. Actress Maisie Williams is 19.

Thought for Today: "True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve others at whatever cost." — Arthur Ashe, American tennis champion (1943-1993).