

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 1 of 24

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Groton Chiropractic Ad
- 1- Graham Prayer Rally
- 1- Emergency Management Briefing
- 2- Groton Lions Club Meeting
- 2- Groton Community Historical Society plans open house
- 3- May 16 City Council minutes
- 4- Senator Thune's Weekly Column
- 5- Senior Citizens plant flowers
- 6- Today in Weather History
- 6- Golden Living Center ad
- 6- Cutting Edge Lawn Care Ad
- 7- Local Weather Forecast
- 8- Yesterday's Groton Weather
- 8- Today's Weather Climate
- 8- National Weather map
- 9- Daily Devotional
- 10 - AP News

## Decision America Tour 2016 with Franklin Graham

Free bus ride to the prayer rally, Tuesday May 24, 2016 in Pierre. The bus will leave from First Presbyterian Church in Groton at 7:30 am with a pick up in Aberdeen at the Lakewood Mall at 8:00. This is a time of prayer for our great nation. Please call Pastor Kenny @ 397-8344 to reserve your seat.

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

## The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

© 2016 Groton Daily Independent

## Emergency Management Briefing

**SEVERE STORM RISK** - If skies clear, there is a good chance for severe storms along a cold front entering the western Dakotas this afternoon. If clouds persist, the threat is diminished, although a strong to severe storm or two may develop this evening/overnight as the system pushes into central & eastern South Dakota. The main threats: hail, wind and heavy rain. Isolated tornado can not be ruled out.

### Sunday, May 22

**Birthdays:** Logan Larsen • Jamie Osborne • Gavin Krueger • Duane Kavanaugh • Christopher Scott Larsen

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship

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

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

10:00am: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Pierpont Church

11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

### Monday, May 23

**Senior Menu:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, broccoli or carrots, garlic toast, orange sherbet.

**Birthdays:** Evan Sperry • Jessica Claussen • Robert Gibbs

6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study

9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Vacation Bible School

### Tuesday, May 24

**Senior Menu:** Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes, vegetables, buttermilk biscuits, banana pudding with bananas.

**Birthdays:** Noah Tullis • Blake Merkel • Katie Anderson

## Groton Chiropractic Clinic

Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C.  
1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 2 of 24

## GROTON LIONS CLUB

The Groton Lions Club met last Thursday evening, for their May monthly meeting.

Justin Olson, vice president; led the business session.

Committee reports were given by Justin, very successful annual spring rummage sale. Michelle Mulenburg was the chairman.

Lee Schinkel, final scholarship committee report. Nine high school seniors received each, a \$500 college scholarship.

Topper Tastad, car show at Terry Thompson's farm, June 12.

Lee and Justin Kerstan, 80 and over ice cream social.

Brock Abeln, ATV plans. July 4 will be ride the first trail ride.

Several members reported on the fun ditch cleanup.

Nancy Larsen, secretary; read minutes of the last meeting.

Lee presented membership for Landon Larson, and Jeremy Sheridan. Both were voted upon to become the latest new members of the Groton Lions Club.

Lee and Topper served lunch.

## Groton Community Historical Society plans open house

The newly-formed Groton Community Historical Society cordially invites the public to a come-and-go Open House Celebration at the Historic Trinity Church, 3rd Street and 3rd Avenue, Groton, on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, from 3 to 5 pm.

The Society has many reasons to celebrate! They include:

1) Formation of a local nonprofit organization (the Groton Community Historical Society) to maintain and preserve the Historic Trinity Church;

2) Transfer of ownership of the Church from the Brown County Historical Society to the Groton Community Historical Society;

3) Award of a Historic Preservation Grant from the SD State Historical Society, matched by the Brown County Historical Society, to repair the beautiful altar window in the Church;

May is Historic Preservation Month, and the SD State Historical Society encourages local communities to plan activities in celebration of their locally significant historic places. Trinity Church, built in 1884, is the oldest historic monument in Groton. It was built as a community gathering place and an Episcopal Church, but several denominations held services in it until they could build their own churches. It was deconsecrated from the Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota in 1975 when it was deeded to the Brown County Historical Society. It is now a historic monument, belonging to the entire community of Groton through the Groton Community Historical Society.

2016 is the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, recognizing the value of historic preservation and creating the federal framework supporting the preservation of the irreplaceable buildings, landscapes, and archaeology across the United States.

The Director of the SD State Historical Society said "This annual celebration serves as a showcase for local communities to honor their past and help build their future. It brings historic preservation to the forefront of our daily lives."

Visitors will be able to closely examine the beautiful stained glass windows and see for themselves the need for their repair. They will see the exquisite hand hewn ecclesiastical furnishings that Groton pioneers created with their own hands. They can learn about the history of this local landmark and about the famous architect who designed it. Visitors will have an opportunity to join the Groton Community Historical Society and to learn about how they can become involved in the preservation of this historic gem.

Please join us!

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 3 of 24

## Groton City Council May 16 Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2016

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00pm at the Groton Community Center for their regular second monthly meeting with the following members present: Opp, Fliehs, McGannon, Peterson, Blackmun, Glover, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Finance Officer Lowary, Attorney Johnson, Betty Breck, Terry Herron, and staff from 3 newspapers.

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

Moved by Peterson and seconded by Opp to authorize the following bills for payment. All members present voted aye.

1st State Bank 7,435.12 ss & wh; Consolidated Fed Cr Union 1,100.00 emp savings; SD State Treasurer 7,146.71 sales tax; A-1 Sanitation 1,160.00 cleanup hauling; AFLAC 782.32 emp ins; Border States 1,330.03 materials; Car Quest Auto Parts 31.84 filters, oil, cleaner; Dearborn Life Ins 88.00 life ins; Full Circle Ag 217.79 herbicide; Galls 49.79 belt; Groton Ford 485.55 repairs; Groton Independent 41.63 publishing; Guardian Ins 245.30 emp ins; Harry Imp 26.89 ends; Heartland Cons Power District 52,055.53 power; Kens 746.27 gas,dsl, paper products, water; Paul Kosel 95.00 med flex; Leidholdt Tool 328.45 ratchet, wrench; MJ's Sinclair 593.19 gas, dsl, tire repair, battery; Michael Todd 271.52 lightbar, shovels; RDO 67.12 filter elements; Riteway 678.07 util bill forms; SD Supplement Retirement 1,160.00 emp retirement; Share Corp 182.85 cleaner; Specialty Mfg 52.80 hot rod; TW Services 999.60 transformer oil disposal; Watertown Baseball 250.00 Jr Teener tourn fee; Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield 12,548.62 health ins; Western Area Power Adm 24,263.09 power

Terry Herron explained that the Railroad well was free flowing and it was ruining the wellhouse floor and walls. Quotations for capping the well are being obtained and other alternatives were discussed. Moved by Glover and seconded by Blackmun to table any action until another quotation is received. All members present voted aye.

Dr. Steve Smith, Chelsea Hanson, Doug Jorgenson, and Jason Holm enter the meeting during the discussion.

Since the current water tower is over 95 years old, the need for a water tower reserve fund was explained as grants require matching funds and the cost of a new tower will be hard to work into one or two budgets. Additional funds could come from the water charges, or other sources. Moved by Opp and seconded by Peterson to table until the next meeting. All members present voted aye.

Mayor Hanlon reminded everyone that the ordinance restricting any yard waste from being blown into the street or alley while mowing has been in effect for over a year. Costs for cleaning storm sewers, and street sweeping were reviewed. Warnings and fines will be implemented.

Blackmun reported on meeting with the school board regarding the lease for soccer field. Cost sharing for upkeep and rates still need to be negotiated.

Chelsea Hanson, Jason Holm, and Doug Jorgenson came before the Council to request 3 way stop signs to be located at the corner of N State St and W 3rd Ave due to additional traffic from the baseball complex. Police Officer Jerry Bjerke also spoke in favor of the signs. The request was tabled.

Doug Sombke enters the meeting during the discussion.

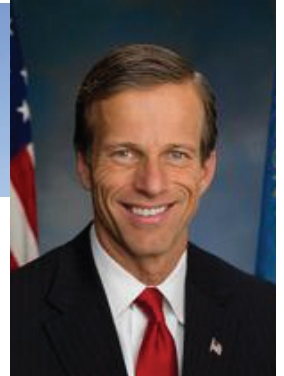
Rules for videoing the meeting were suggested. Betty Breck addressed the Council on her objections and interpretations of the terms reasonable and not disruptive from state law. Moved by Glover and seconded by Fliehs to table the proposed rules. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Peterson and seconded by Opp to hire Rebecca Fliehs to assist with teaching swimming lessons at the pool. All members present voted aye.

At 7:56pm the Council adjourned into executive session on a motion by Opp and seconded by Fliehs to discuss legal matters. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened at 9:03pm.

Meeting adjourned.

**John Thune**  
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



## Bringing Some Much-Needed Accountability to the Indian Health Service

The crisis plaguing the Indian Health Service (IHS) and its facilities throughout the Great Plains area isn't new. In fact, if you ask Native Americans in South Dakota to

share their personal experiences dealing with the agency, you'd be hard-pressed to find any positive reviews. The stories they've shared with me are heart-wrenching and call into question the commitment of the IHS leaders who are responsible for ensuring our tribal citizens get the quality care they deserve, but unfortunately haven't been receiving.

It's hard to imagine walking into a medical exam room that is anything less than clean and orderly, but based on some of the stories I've heard, a clean exam room would be a luxury for many IHS patients in South Dakota. The idea that medical professionals are sometimes relegated to using dirty and unsanitary equipment is hard enough to fathom, but we've also heard of patients being prematurely discharged from hospitals. This substandard environment is unacceptable, it's dangerous, and it's having a real and often-times devastating impact on Native Americans, their families, and their communities.

It is clear the IHS is ineffectively managed. For example, it settled an \$80 million lawsuit with unions, \$6.2 million was taken from Great Plains area service units alone. This all occurred because IHS could not properly manage an administrative task like overtime pay, and IHS took money that would have been better suited for patient care.

In February, Sen. John Barrasso (R-Wyo.), the chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, invited me to participate in a hearing he organized to examine a number of these ongoing issues and try to determine what can be done to finally fix them. During the hearing, we heard from witnesses, including representatives from the Oglala and Rosebud Sioux tribes, about the abysmal conditions they'd been exposed to. The hearing was a good opportunity for my Senate colleagues to hear about these experiences firsthand, and it provided us with more than enough information to help craft a comprehensive bill that would address this crisis head on.

Sen. Barrasso and I have been working together for months to craft the right kind of bill that tackles patient care and safety issues and emphasizes the need for greater transparency and accountability at the agency. The IHS Accountability Act of 2016, which Sen. Barrasso and I just introduced, does just that. This bill would address some of the systemic failures at IHS by implementing several key, common-sense reforms.

Most importantly – it says it in its name – the IHS Accountability Act increases accountability. It creates an expedited procedure for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) secretary, who oversees IHS, to terminate senior leaders at the agency who aren't doing their jobs. Leadership starts at the top, so if an underperforming member of leadership is creating a barrier to fulfilling the agency's core mission of providing quality care to patients, then it's time for them to find a new line of work.

The bill also streamlines the hiring process so we can get more dedicated, hard-working people on the job faster and keep them there longer. Tribal input is key, which is why we built in a provision to the bill that ensures tribes are consulted during the hiring process for area directors, service unit CEOs, and other key officials. Retaining good employees has always been a problem, which is something we sought to correct by giving the HHS secretary greater flexibility to create competitive pay scales and reward employees for good performance.

Protecting whistleblowers was also an important goal of ours, which is why the bill requires the Govern-

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 5 of 24

ment Accountability Office to review the protections that are currently in place and determine whether or not any changes are required to create additional layers of protection. And in the spirit of complete transparency, the bill requires the HHS Office of Inspector General to investigate each and every patient death in which the IHS is involved.

The IHS Accountability Act is hands-down the most comprehensive IHS bill introduced this Congress. And while this is an important step, it's just the first step. Our effort will mean nothing unless we continue to engage with the tribes, solicit their input, and improve this bill where we can. I look forward to continuing that conversation and building on the important groundwork we've laid together.



Last Friday, Groton senior citizens planted flowers, as they do every year, at the Groton Community Center. Workers pictured in back, left to right, are Beulah Hoops, Elda Stange, Eunice McCollister, Jan Raap and Ella Johnson, president. In front, Pat Larson. Sitting on ground is Lee Schinkel. Missing is Tony Goldade.

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 6 of 24

## Today in Weather History

1876 - Denver CO was drenched with 6.53 inches of rain in 24 hours, an all-time record for that location. (The Weather Channel)

1911 - The temperature at Lewiston ME soared to 101 degrees. It was the hottest temperature ever recorded in New England during the month of May. (David Ludlum)

1987 - A powerful tornado virtually wiped the small southwest Texas community of Saragosa off the map. The twister destroyed eighty- five percent of the structures in the town killing thirty persons and injuring 121 others in the town of population 183. The tornado hurled trucks and autos through adobe and wood- frame homes, with some vehicles blown 500 feet. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather over the Central Gulf Coast States. Tennis ball size hail was reported at Ripley MS. Showers and thunderstorms in southern Missouri produced 3.20 inches of rain at Springfield to easily surpass their rainfall record for the date. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Unseasonably hot weather continued in southern Texas and parts of the southwestern U.S. Seven cities reported record high temperatures for the date, including El Paso TX with a reading of 100 degrees. Presidio TX was the hot spot in the nation with a high of 111 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1990 - Late afternoon and evening thunderstorms developing ahead of a cold front in the north central U.S. produced severe weather from northwestern Kansas to central Minnesota and southeastern North Dakota. There were twenty-nine reports of damaging winds, or dime to golf ball size hail. Strong thunderstorm winds gusted to 69 mph at Alexandria, MN. Showers and thunderstorms over eastern North Carolina soaked Wilmington with 2.91 inches of rain, which established a record for the date. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








**Now Doing Core Aeration**  
**Mowing ~ Trimming**  
**Edging ~ Fertilizing**  
**Spring/Fall Cleanups**  
Travis Kurth, Licensed and Insured  
Free Estimates ~ 605/397-7469  
**Cutting Edge Lawn Care**  
Quality Lawn Care At Affordable Prices



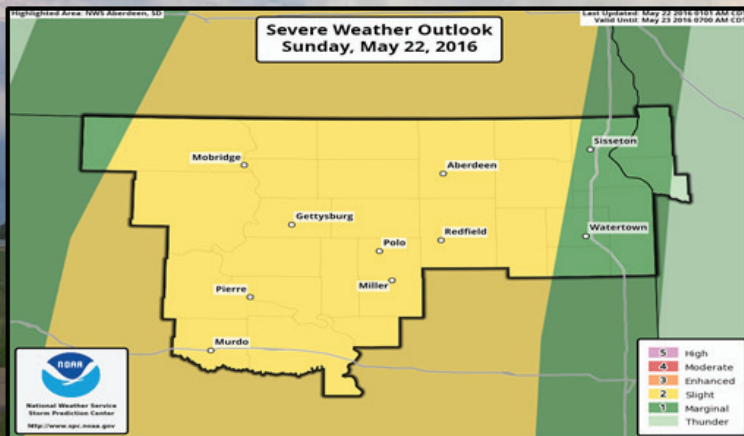
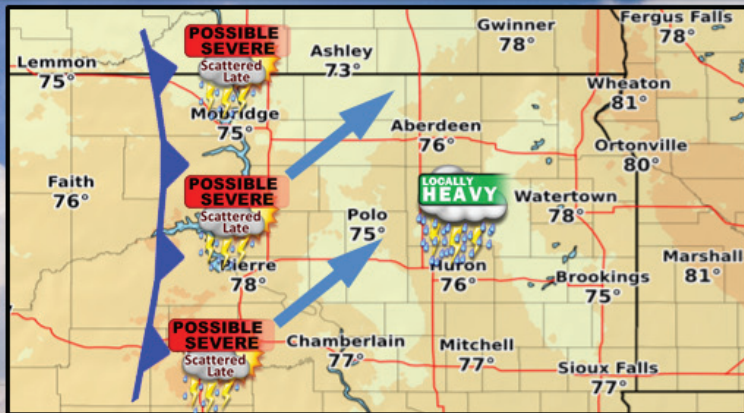
  
**We now accept**  
  
**for out patient therapy.**  
1106 N 2nd St., Groton  
605/397-2365

# Groton Daily Independent

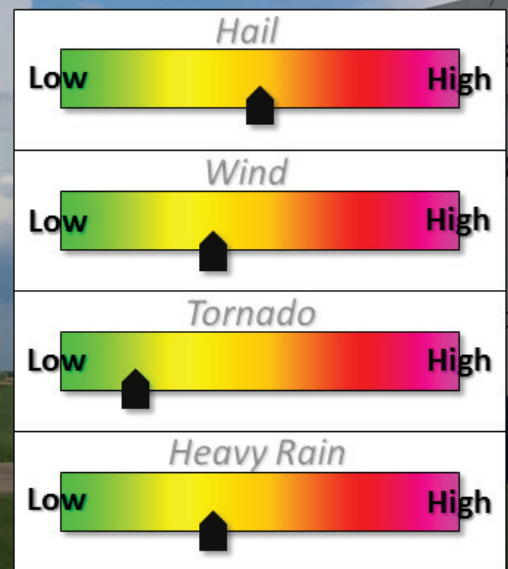
Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 7 of 24

Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
 20%	 60%	 60%		 20%	 30%	 50%
Slight Chance T-storms and Breezy	T-storms Likely and Breezy	T-storms Likely then Sunny	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny then Slight Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms
High: 75 °F	Low: 58 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 53 °F	High: 83 °F	Low: 55 °F	High: 77 °F

## Thunderstorms West & Central Possible This Afternoon/Evening Main Risk – Large Hail/Strong Winds – Isolated Tornadoes – Heavy Rain (Overnight)



### Threat Forecast



National Weather Service, Aberdeen SD

Published on: 05/22/2016 at 5:13AM

If we can move the clouds out of the region today, there is a good chance for storms to form along a cold front entering into the western Dakotas. If the clouds persist, the severe weather threat will be diminished, although a few strong to severe storms are still expected to develop this evening and overnight as the system pushes into central and eastern South Dakota. The main threats will be large hail, strong winds and heavy rain - however an isolated tornado or two cannot be ruled out.

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 8 of 24

## Yesterday's Weather

**High:** 77.4 at 3:57 PM

**Low:** 51.7 at 5:07 AM

**High Gust:** 33 at 12:04 pM

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

**Record High:** 92° in 1928

**Record Low:** 22 in 1963

**Average High:** 70°F

**Average Low:** 46°F

**Average Precip in May:** 2.25

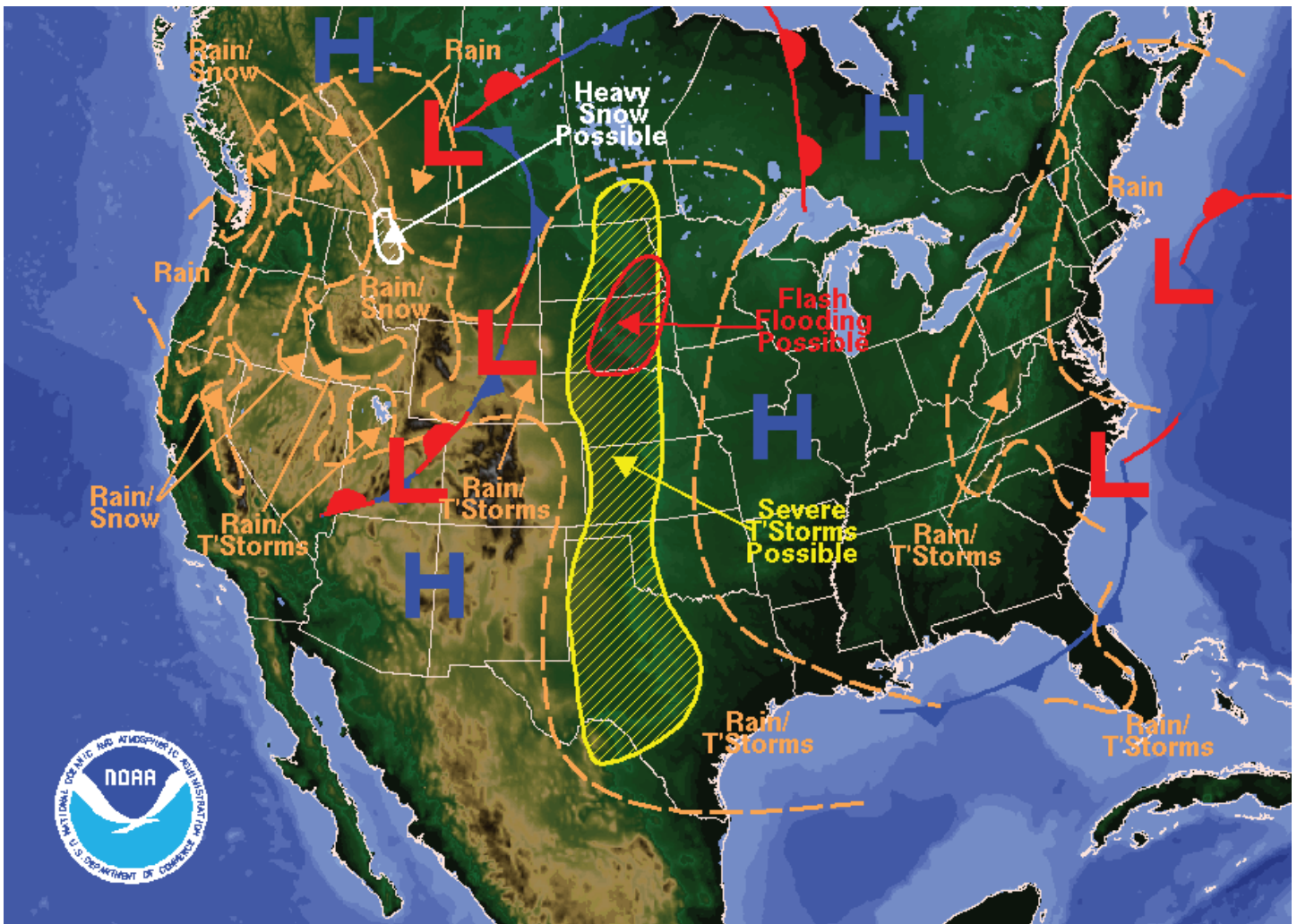
**Precip to date in May:** 0.11

**Average Precip to date:** 6.28

**Precip Year to Date:** 3.50

**Sunset Tonight:** 9:04 p.m.

**Sunrise Tomorrow:** 5:54 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sun, May 22, 2016, issued 4:43 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Santorelli based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 9 of 24



## KNOW YOUR ENEMY

President Theodore Roosevelt had a very feisty little dog that could not resist fighting with other dogs. Sadly, he lost every fight.

After one such loss a friend said to him, "Mr. President, your dog isn't much of a fighter."

"On the contrary," he replied, "he's a good fighter. Unfortunately, he underestimates his adversaries!"

"Know thyself. Know thy enemy" was the advice of a Greek philosopher. We often think that we know our strengths and limitations and how to meet the challenges of life. But, for whatever reason, we know neither one of them well enough to keep us from falling into temptation and then into sin.

Paul said that "God is faithful and...He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you the way out so that you can endure." Note that Paul said God "will show us the way out."

The important fact here is that God's faithfulness must be coupled with our willingness to accept a way out. God always provides a moment between the temptation and the choice to sin. But we must seize the moment of decision.

Prayer: We pray, Father, that we might become more alert to the temptations we face and know that with Your strength we need not fail You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: 1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

## News from the Associated Press

### **Woman pleads not guilty to beating man with coffee mug**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A woman accused of beating a man with a coffee mug is facing two charges in federal court.

Vanessa Taylor, of Fort Yates, has pleaded not guilty to assault with intent to commit murder and assault with a dangerous weapon.

Authorities say the incident happened in March on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation.

Trial is scheduled for July 18.

A federal public defender could not be reached for comment.

### **Longstanding family farms, ranches set to be recognized**

HURON, S.D. (AP) — Families that have spent 100 or 125 years of life on farming or ranching have the opportunity to be recognized during the South Dakota State Fair.

The recognition will be awarded Sept. 1 at the fair in Huron. A farm or ranch is eligible if at least 80 acres of original land have been continuously owned by the same family for 100 years or longer.

Applications can be obtained online for both the Century Farm and the Quasquicentennial Farm recognition. Documentation of the original purchase date must be included.

The deadline to apply is Aug. 11.

Since it began in 1984, there have been more than 2,800 century farms and ranches and nearly 300 quasquicentennial farms and ranches recognized.

### **Authorities looking for inmate who left job in Rapid City**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Authorities are seeking an inmate who left his community service job in Rapid City.

Paul Steiner left the job Friday without approval. He has been housed at the Rapid City Community Work Center.

The 62-year-old is serving a 10-year sentence with five years suspended. If anyone sees Steiner or knows about his location, they should contact law enforcement.

### **Bomb squad responds to destructive device found in Aberdeen**

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — The Division of Criminal Investigation's bomb squad has assisted in taking care of a destructive device found on top of the Aberdeen American News building.

Attorney General Marty Jackley said Friday that bomb squad agents disposed of the device without incident.

The Aberdeen Police Department, Aberdeen Fire and Rescue and Brown County Emergency Management also assisted. Jackley says that an investigation is ongoing.

### **Highway Patrol to hold seminars to recruit women to join**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol is again reaching out to women who may want to work as state troopers.

The Highway Patrol is holding women's recruiting seminars for the second year in Aberdeen, Pierre, Rapid City and Sioux Falls. They offer an opportunity for women to learn about how to join.

Col. Craig Price is the superintendent of the Highway Patrol. Price says the patrol wants to build on momentum from the last recruiting process, in which two women were hired.

The seminars will be held during June. The Highway Patrol is accepting applications into July for the next class of recruits.

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 11 of 24

## Sioux Falls chamber hosting Armed Forces Day ceremonies

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting Armed Forces Day ceremonies on Saturday.

The event from the chamber's military and veterans affairs committee begins with a musical prelude at 10 a.m., followed by a 10:30 a.m. gathering on the grounds of the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center. The gathering includes a formal military program, a Sioux Falls Municipal Band concert and a keynote address by retired Lt. Col. Reid Christopherson.

The ceremonies will be moved to the South Dakota Air National Guard in the case of inclement weather.

An Avenue of Flags ceremony will feature men and women from the armed forces presenting American flags. The chamber will also present Stars and Stripes awards to Rob and Gail Dickerson and Vern Eide Motoplex for displaying American flags year-round.

## After shakeup, Israeli PM says he still strives for peace

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's prime minister says his government will continue pushing for peace with the Palestinians, even after adding an ultranationalist party to its ranks.

Benjamin Netanyahu appeared to be trying Sunday to soothe fears over the appointment of Avigdor Lieberman as the new defense minister. Lieberman is one of Israel's most polarizing politicians and is known for his fiery rhetoric toward the Palestinians, among others.

Opening his weekly Cabinet meeting, Netanyahu said he wished to clarify that his broader government will "continue to seek a peace process with the Palestinians."

Lieberman's posting caps a dramatic political week in Israel, in which Netanyahu appeared close to adding the moderate Labor party instead. Defense Minister Moshe Yaalon later announced his resignation, saying he no longer trusts Netanyahu and warning of an extremist takeover.

## 7 dead after volcano erupts in western Indonesia

**BINSAR BAKKARA, Associated Press**

GAMBER, Indonesia (AP) — The death toll in the eruption of a volcano in western Indonesia rose to seven on Sunday, with two other people in critical condition, as an official warned of more eruptions.

Mount Sinabung in North Sumatra province blasted volcanic ash as high as 3 kilometers (2 miles) into the sky on Saturday, said National Disaster Management Agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho. He said ash tumbled down the slopes as far as 4.5 kilometers (3 miles) westward into a river.

All the victims of the eruption were working on their farms in the village of Gamber, about 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) away from the slope, or within the danger area.

Photos taken on Sunday showed evidence of pyroclastic flows — a fast-moving cloud of hot volcanic gases, rocks and ash — in the village. Dead and injured animals were lying on the ground, around them scorched homes and smoky vegetation. Soldiers were setting up roadblocks and people were carrying their belongings and leading farm animals to safety.

Nata Nail, an official at the local Disaster Management Agency, said a man died Sunday at a hospital, leaving two other victims in critical condition.

Rescuers including soldiers, police, and personnel from disaster combating agencies, as well as volunteers and villagers, halted search operations around the area after they found there were no more victims or villagers inside the danger zone, Nail said.

Earlier on Sunday, security personnel blocked some villagers who wanted to enter the village to take their abandoned belongings.

Nugroho warned of more potential eruptions, with volcanic activity still high at the mountain.

Mount Sinabung had been dormant for four centuries before reviving in 2010, killing two people. An eruption in 2014 killed 16 people.

Sinabung is among more than 120 active volcanoes in Indonesia, which is prone to seismic upheaval due to its location on the Pacific "Ring of Fire," an arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the Pacific Basin.

## Taliban official: Group leader killed in drone strike

MIRWAIS KHAN, Associated Press

LYNNE O'DONNELL, Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A senior commander of the Afghan Taliban confirmed on Sunday that the extremist group's leader, Mullah Mohammed Akhtar Mansour, has been killed in a U.S. drone strike.

Mullah Abdul Rauf, who recently reconciled with Mansour after initially rebelling against his ascension to the leadership, told The Associated Press that Mansour died in the strike late Friday "in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border area."

Afghanistan's intelligence agency confirmed Sunday that Mansour had been killed.

Earlier in the day Afghan Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah said that Mansour is "more than likely" dead.

Speaking live on television as he chaired a Cabinet meeting, Abdullah said Mansour's death would have a positive impact on attempts to bring peace to Afghanistan, where the Taliban have been waging an insurgency for 15 years.

Mansour was "the main figure preventing the Taliban joining the peace process," Abdullah said. "From the day he took over the Taliban following the death of Mullah Omar, he intensified violence against ordinary citizens, especially in Afghanistan."

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, speaking in Myanmar Sunday, repeatedly referred to Mansour in the past tense.

Mansour, he said "posed a continuing imminent threat to U.S. personnel in Afghanistan, Afghan civilians, Afghan security forces" and members of the U.S./NATO coalition.

He said the air strike on Mansour "sends a clear message to the world that we will continue to stand with our Afghan partners."

"Peace is what we want, Mansour was a threat to that effort," Kerry said. "He also was directly opposed to peace negotiations and to the reconciliation process. It is time for Afghans to stop fighting and to start building a real future together."

Mansour formally led the Taliban after the death was announced last summer of Mullah Mohammad Omar, the movement's founder.

Mansour, Mullah Omar's deputy, concealed Mullah Omar's death for more than two years, and ran the Taliban in his name until the death was revealed by the Afghan government.

The revelation caused wide fissures in the movement that Mansour worked hard to mend.

Mullah Rauf was an early detractor of Mansour's but decided earlier this year to declare loyalty to him in the interest of unifying the movement.

Earlier, the U.S. Department of Defense said a drone strike had targeted Mansour "in a remote area of the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region."

Afghan officials, who spoke on the condition that they not be named as they were not authorized to speak to media on the subject, said the drone strike took place in Pakistan's Baluchistan province, near the village of Ahmad Wal.

The Afghan government has long accused the Pakistani authorities of harboring and supporting the Afghan Taliban.

The drone strike targeted Mansour's vehicle which was carrying Mansour and one other person at the time, a U.S. military source said.

Another Taliban source identified the driver as Muhammad Azam Hasanai, and said the vehicle the two men were traveling in was completely destroyed.

After taking office in 2014, Ghani prioritized appeasing the Pakistani authorities in the hope that they would encourage the Taliban to participate in a dialogue aimed at ending the war.

Overtures to Islamabad failed, however, and earlier this year Mansour's Taliban said that they rejected peace talks and would not participate.

A four-country process with Afghanistan, Pakistan, China and the United States appears to have floundered, with Kabul refusing to send a delegation to the most recent round of talks, sending only the am-

bassador to Islamabad.

A senior Afghan official, who also spoke only on condition of anonymity, said Mansour controlled a substantial financial empire, largely built on smuggling drugs produced in southern Afghanistan's Helmand province. Different Taliban factions have recently fought over control of smuggling routes, the official said, an indication that the group's ideological discipline and unity was slipping.

"When they started fighting for power, that was the erosion of the legitimacy of their own rank and file," he said.

The official said there had been a recent shift in the balance of power from Mansour to his deputy, Surajuddin Haqqani, a leader of the notoriously brutal Haqqani network. It is not clear, however, which commander or faction will now take over the leadership of the group.

Mullah Mohammad Yaqub, the son of Taliban founder Mullah Omar, is popular, charismatic and believed to favor participation in a peace talks. He controls the Taliban's military commissions in 15 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces and, like Rauf, recently reconciled with Mansour.

## US Secretary of State Kerry urges further reforms in Myanmar

**MATTHEW LEE, AP Diplomatic Writer**

NAYPYIDAW, Myanmar (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry on Sunday urged Myanmar's new civilian-led government to complete the Southeast Asian nation's transition to democracy by implementing further reforms to enshrine free markets, development and human rights.

Speaking with Myanmar's foreign minister and de facto leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, after talks in the capital of Naypyidaw, Kerry pledged continuing U.S. support for the country and hailed progress it has made since Suu Kyi's political party took office in late March after winning historic elections that ended decades of military control.

"We strongly support the democratic transition that is taking place here," Kerry said.

His visit came less than a week after the Obama administration lifted sanctions against 10 state-run companies and banks in a sweeping modification of penalties imposed while Myanmar was under military rule. The administration, however, left in place restrictions on trade and investment with the nation's still-powerful military. The changes are intended to spur more U.S. investment and support economic growth under the new government, but also to encourage more reforms.

The U.S. waived its longstanding bans on investment and trade in 2012 after Myanmar began political and economic reforms, but retained restrictions on dozens of companies and individuals designated by the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control because they oppose reform, or are implicated in human rights abuses and military trade with North Korea. In addition, the U.S. continues to ban the import of jade and rubies from Myanmar.

"The key to the lifting of the (remaining) sanctions is really the progress that is made within Myanmar in continuing to move down the road of democratization," Kerry said, adding, "It is very difficult to complete that journey, in fact impossible to complete that journey, with the current constitution."

He called for the charter to be revised to fully respect civilian authority and clearly spell out a separation of powers among various branches of government as well as protect minority rights and promote inclusivity. And he said he would raise those issues with the commander in chief of Myanmar's military before leaving the country later Sunday to join President Barack Obama on a visit to Vietnam.

Suu Kyi said she did not believe the remaining sanctions would stay in place for long, but did not look at them as a punishment.

"We're not afraid of sanctions, we're not afraid of scrutiny," she said. "The time will come soon that the United States will know that this is no longer the time for sanctions."

Under the current, junta-era constitution, Myanmar's military controls the ministries for defense, home affairs and border affairs, and 25 percent of parliamentary seats. Rights groups say stateless Rohingya Muslims and other minorities still face repression.

The treatment of the Rohingya remains a major sticking point in U.S.-Myanmar ties, with the government

complaining that even U.S. officials use the term to refer to the group, which many Buddhists inside Myanmar call "Bengalis." They say the 1 million or so members of the minority are mostly illegal immigrants and not a native ethnic group. In fact, the families of many Rohingya have lived in Myanmar for generations.

Because Myanmar does not officially recognize the Rohingya as an ethnic group, it denies most of them citizenship and basic rights. Conflict over land and resources in the western state of Rakhine, where most of them live, caused deadly violence between Buddhists and Muslims that later spread to other parts of the country. More than 100,000 Rohingya were forced to flee their homes and now live in poor conditions in decrepit camps.

Suu Kyi, who won international admiration and a Nobel Peace Prize for her nonviolent struggle for democracy during Myanmar's years of military rule, has in recent years disappointed many former fans by failing to speak on behalf of the Rohingya. Despite international expressions of concern, Myanmar's previous military-backed government did nothing to ease the Rohingya's plight.

She called on Myanmar's "well-wishers," like the United States, to give the authorities time and space to deal with what she acknowledged was a problem. But she also warned against using the term "Rohingya," saying it is a sensitive matter that complicates efforts to resolve the situation.

"Emotive terms make it very difficult for us to find a peaceful and sensible solution," she said. "People should be aware of the difficulties that we are facing and give us a safe distance. ... What we are saying is that there are more important things to deal with than issues of nomenclature."

Kerry agreed that the matter was a sensitive one, but said it is key to ease the crisis in Rakhine state.

"The name issue is obviously very sensitive, it is divisive and I know that it arouses strong passions here," he said, adding, however, that the matter could not be ignored. "What is critical to focus on is solving the problems."

## Some 30 climbers frostbitten or sick on Everest after 2 die

**BINAJ GURUBACHARYA, Associated Press**

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP) — Some 30 climbers have developed frostbite or become sick near the summit of Mount Everest, a mountaineering official said Sunday, after two deaths from apparent altitude sickness in recent days highlighted the risks on the world's highest mountain.

Most of the sick climbers suffered frostbite while attempting to reach the summit or on their descent, Mountaineering Department official Gyanendra Shrestha said. Favorable weather has allowed nearly 400 climbers to reach the summit from Nepal since May 11, but the altitude, weather and harsh terrain can cause problems at any time.

Several Sherpa guides carried one sick climber from the highest camp, at nearly 8,000 meters (26,240 feet), to camp two, at 6,400 meters (21,000 feet), where attempts are being made to pick her up with a helicopter, said Pemba Sherpa of the Seven Summit Treks agency in Kathmandu. Seema Goshwami of India had frostbite to her hands and feet at the South Col camp and was unable to move.

"It took a big and risky effort but we were able to save her," Sherpa said, adding that an Iranian climber identified only as S. Hadi had been brought to Kathmandu and was recovering in a hospital.

A Norwegian woman, 45-year-old Siv Harstad, suffered snow blindness and was helped down from the summit Saturday, the Norwegian news agency NTB said.

The two climbers who died were on the same expedition team. It was undecided when and if their bodies would be brought down from the high altitude and it would depend on the team and family members, Pasang Phurba of the Seven Summits agency said. Carrying bodies down Everest takes at least eight Sherpas since they become frozen and heavier than normal.

More details were not available because of communication difficulties on the 8,850-meter (29,035-foot) mountain.

The two deaths were the first confirmed this year on Everest, during a busy climbing season that follows two years in which the peak was virtually empty due to two fatal avalanches.

Eric Arnold, 35, had enough bottled oxygen with him, as well as climbing partners, but he complained of

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 15 of 24

getting weak and died Friday night near South Col before he was able to get to a lower altitude, Phurba said. Just hours after Arnold died, Australian climber Maria Strydom also showed signs of altitude sickness Saturday afternoon before she died, Phurba said.

Strydom was a finance lecturer at Monash University's business school in Melbourne. The school posted on Facebook that the community was deeply saddened by her death.

Arnold was from Rotterdam, according to his Twitter account, which was updated on Friday with a post that he had reached the summit on his fifth try.

In an interview earlier this year with RTV Rijnmond, Arnold noted that the risks of climbing the world's highest peak did not end at the summit.

"Two-thirds of the accidents happen on the way down," he said. "If you get euphoric and think 'I have reached my goal,' the most dangerous part is still ahead of you."

Strydom and her husband were attempting to climb the seven summits, the highest peaks on the seven continents, according to the Monash Business School's website.

She had already climbed Denali in Alaska, Aconcagua in Argentina, Mount Ararat in Turkey and Kilimanjaro in Kenya, the website said. Strydom said she felt well-prepared for her attempt to climb Everest, and that depending on whether she reached the summit, her mind would likely turn to her next adventure.

Thousands of people have summited Mount Everest since it was first conquered by New Zealander Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay in 1953. But more than 250 people have died in the attempt.

Trekking companies were anxious to see foreign climbers return after two years of disasters. The devastating earthquake last year caused the season to be canceled, and climbing attempts were largely abandoned in 2014 after an avalanche above the base camp killed 16 Sherpa guides.

## Man shot outside White House remains in critical condition

**BEN NUCKOLS, Associated Press**

**DAVID DISHNEAU, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — A man shot by a U.S. Secret Service officer outside the White House remained in critical condition in a Washington hospital, a hospital spokeswoman said.

George Washington University Hospital spokeswoman Susan Griffiths would provide only his condition Saturday, one day after the shooting. She referred other questions to the Secret Service, but a spokesman for that agency, Robert Hoback, declined to discuss the case, citing the continuing investigation.

On Friday, a U.S. law enforcement official said that authorities identified the gunman as Jesse Oliveri of Ashland, Pennsylvania, about 80 miles northwest of Philadelphia. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to release the information.

Secret Service Deputy Assistant Director David Iacovetti said Friday that one of the agency's officers shot the man once after he approached a checkpoint at about 3 p.m. and refused repeated commands to drop his weapon.

Iacovetti said the gunman never made it inside the White House complex, and no one else was injured.

The Metropolitan Police Department, the Secret Service, Park Police and the FBI said in a joint statement Friday night that there was "no known nexus to terrorism."

Messages left Saturday at a home telephone number for Oliveri in Ashland weren't returned.

John Yagielniskie, of Girardville, Pennsylvania, told WNEP-TV (<http://bit.ly/1TrxiRZ>) that he knew Jesse Oliveri his whole life.

"He was one of my best friends. We went to football games together. That is messed up," Yagielniskie said.

Yagielniskie said Oliveri continued to loyally attend his alma mater's football games after graduating from North Schuylkill High School in 2003.

"Football season starts, I see him. We go to the games. We always go to the games," added Yagielniskie.

Cathy Hadesty, who lives across the street in the wooded area, said police closed a section of the road near the house Friday night but reopened it by Saturday.

Hadesty said she never met Oliveri and only knows the family "just to say, 'Hi,' when we're going down

the driveway.”

“They’ve always been really good neighbors,” she said.

Court records show that Oliveri, 31, had just one recorded run-in with police in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, resulting in a 2004 guilty plea to careless driving.

## DeRozan, Raptors end Cavaliers’ streak with 99-84 win

**IAN HARRISON, Associated Press**

TORONTO (AP) — Cleveland’s perfect playoff run went south in the north.

DeMar DeRozan scored 32 points, Bismack Biyombo set a Toronto playoff record with 26 rebounds and the Raptors beat Cleveland 99-84 in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference Finals on Saturday night, handing the Cavaliers their first loss this postseason.

Kyle Lowry scored 20 points, Cory Joseph added 14, and Patrick Patterson and DeMarre Carroll each had 10 for the Raptors. They rebounded after losing the first two games in Cleveland by a combined 50 points.

In Toronto, where “We The North” is a rallying cry, a sell-out crowd dressed in red and white T-shirts cheered the Raptors to their seventh victory in nine home playoff games. Game 4 is Monday night at Air Canada Centre.

“It’s a long series,” Raptors coach Dwane Casey said. “It’s not over with yet, but everybody thought we were going to get swept. I think that fuels us and if that’s what it takes, so be it.”

LeBron James scored 24 points, and J.R. Smith had 22 for the Cavaliers. They won their first 10 playoff games and were trying to match the Los Angeles Lakers’ record of 11 straight victories to begin a post-season. The Lakers did it in 1989 and again in 2001.

“We didn’t play our game and they made us pay for it,” James said. “We didn’t start the game as physical as we should have at the point of attack.”

Biyombo had four blocks, helping Toronto limit the Cavaliers to 20 points in the paint. The Cavs had 106 points in the paint in the first two games.

“It was amazing, honestly,” DeRozan said about Biyombo’s performance. “He was big time tonight. Without him, we probably wouldn’t get this win.”

Kyrie Irving scored 13 points, and Channing Frye had 11 for Cleveland. The Cavaliers were held below 100 points for the first time in these playoffs.

“They came out and they beat us,” Cleveland coach Tyronn Lue said. “They were more aggressive. They were more physical. They were more active. They were faster. They beat us to the ball.”

James had five assists, moving past Jason Kidd and into third place on the NBA’s career playoff list.

It was a rough night for Cavaliers forward Kevin Love, who scored three points and made just one of nine field goal attempts. Irving also struggled with his shooting, missing 16 of 19.

“Those guys will be better,” James pledged.

Irving checked out at 1:38 of the fourth quarter and had to be helped to the locker room following a collision with Joseph.

“I just got the wind knocked out of me,” Irving said.

With his team ahead by eight, Biyombo scored six straight points in the fourth to put the Raptors up 91-77 at 3:38.

“He was huge,” Casey said. “I thought he played a big-time game in the paint.”

DeRozan scored 12 points in the first but saw a buzzer-beating 3 waved off after video review. Lowry scored eight points despite picking up his second four at 5:40 as Toronto led 30-24 after one. It was the first time in nine quarters this series that the Raptors had outscored the Cavaliers.

Carroll, Joseph and Patterson each made 3-pointers during a 16-2 Toronto run midway through the second as the Raptors overcame Lowry’s third foul to take a 54-37 lead.

James went down clutching his face after being accidentally elbowed by Thompson during a scuffle at center court late in the second. Thompson and Joseph were given technicals on the play. James recovered to make a 3 in the final seconds, but Cleveland trailed 60-47 at halftime.



# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 17 of 24

"Our second quarter lineup didn't do a great job of paying attention to detail," James said. "They were able to bust the game open."

## TENDER MOMENT

Biyombo went down in pain at the end of the game after taking a knock below the belt. "I got hit in an area I probably wasn't supposed to get hit in," Biyombo said. "Whenever the league has a chance they should take a look."

## WAGGING WAR

Lue said he had no problem with Biyombo wagging his finger, Dikembe Mutombo-style, after blocked shots. "They were kicking our butts, so he should have the right to wave his finger until we do something about it," Lue said. For his part, Biyombo said he'd got a "licence" from Mutombo to copy Hall of Famer's celebration.

## TIP INS

Cavaliers: Irving and Love combined to shoot 0 for 9 in the first. ... Matthew Dellavedova played after suffering a sprained left ankle in Game 2.

Raptors: Biyombo set a Toronto playoff record with 16 rebounds in the first half. He broke Jonas Valanciunas' record of 15, set against Indiana in Game 1 of the first round. Biyombo had 10 rebounds in the first quarter alone.

## Clinton calls Trump's gun policies "dangerous"

**SERGIO BUSTOS, Associated Press**

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — Donald Trump's gun policies are "not just way out there" but "dangerous" and would make America less safe, Hillary Clinton said Saturday.

"This is someone running to be president of the United States of America — a country facing a gun violence epidemic — and he's talking about more guns in our schools, he's talking about more hatred and division in our streets," the likely Democratic presidential nominee said of her presumptive Republican rival. "That's no way to keep us safe."

Clinton's criticism of the Trump came the day after he slammed her as "Heartless Hillary" for backing restrictions on gun ownership in a speech before the National Rifle Association convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

Clinton spoke at a conference organized by the Trayvon Martin Foundation to help mothers whose children or other relatives have died from shootings. It was led by Sybrina Fulton, whose 17-year-old son, Trayvon Martin, was fatally shot by neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman in 2012. She has campaigned with Clinton during the Democratic presidential primaries.

"The reason why I stand with her is because she first stood with me," Fulton said before introducing Clinton to more than 200 people packed inside a hotel banquet room.

Queen Thompson Brown, a Miami mother whose son was the victim of gun violence in 2006 and who has mentored Fulton, said she and others do not want to take away guns from Americans but hope to "promote common sense gun laws."

Clinton praised the courage of Fulton and others who had suffered the loss of loved ones to gun violence or while in police custody.

"We have a moral obligation to protect our children no matter what zip code they live in," she said.

She then turned her attention to Trump and his gun policies.

"If you want to imagine what Trump's America will look like, picture more kids at risk of violence and bigotry, picture more anger and fear," she said.

Clinton repeated her pledge to fight the powerful National Rifle Association lobby, saying "we will not be silenced, we will not be intimidated."

The gun rights organization endorsed Trump, even though he had previously supported measures like an assault weapons ban that the NRA vigorously opposes. The group applauded Trump's call for ending "gun-free zones" across the country.

## No kidding: Exaggerator beats Nyquist in Preakness

**RICHARD ROSENBLATT, AP Racing Writer**

BALTIMORE (AP) — Despite the fog, the rain and an undefeated Kentucky Derby winner to contend with, Hall of Fame jockey Kent Desormeaux knew the best route to the Preakness winner's circle with Exaggerator — stay inside and wait.

The rider who started his career in Maryland guided Exaggerator to a 3 1/2-length victory over Cherry Wine in Saturday's \$1.5 million Preakness, ending any chance for a Triple Crown follow up after American Pharoah accomplished the rare feat last year. Nyquist finished third.

Just call Pimlico Race Course home track advantage, Desormeaux.

Stride by stride, Exaggerator made up ground along the rail as Nyquist and Uncle Lino dueled for the lead. Desormeaux was watching.

"I had a dream trip," he said. "To me it looked like Nyquist was trying to establish an outward position, maybe in the four path. He was jockeying for position all the way down the back side. And Exaggerator just kind of slid up the fence to the far turn where I actually got to slow him down and say 'whenever I'm ready.'"

He was ready with 3/16ths of a mile to go, and splashed his way past Nyquist to finally beat his nemesis after four losses, including a runner-up finish in the Derby.

"It was an amazing race and Exaggerator is an amazing horse," Desormeaux said.

The day began on a somber note. Two horses died and a jockey was injured in the first four races, one of the horses bred and owned by Gretchen and Roy Jackson — the owners of the ill-fated Barbaro.

It was 10 years ago when Derby winner Barbaro shattered bones in his right hind leg at the start of the Preakness. Seven months later, he was euthanized. The Jacksons' 4-year-old filly Pramedya was euthanized on the track Saturday after she broke down during the fourth race. Jockey Daniel Centeno broke his right collar bone.

Earlier, 9-year-old gelding Homeboykris won the first race, and then collapsed and died while being led back to his barn.

Nyquist was the 3-5 favorite in the 11-horse field, with Exaggerator the second choice at 5-2. But this day was all Exaggerator — no kidding.

The 3-year-old son of two-time Horse of the Year Curlin trailed by 13 lengths at one point but kept gaining ground along the rail. Desormeaux saw an opening around the final turn, angled outside and Exaggerator took over.

"I was actually trying to slow him down, asking him to wait," Desormeaux said. "And he just blew up and felt like King Kong. And when I pitched him out, he did what he can do. He exploded."

Stradivari was fourth, followed by Lani, Laoban, Uncle Lino, Fellowship, Awesome Speed, Collected and Abiding Star.

Exaggerator, the 5-2 second choice, returned \$7.20, \$3.20 and \$2.40. Cherry Wine paid \$9.80 and \$4.20, and Nyquist \$2.20 to show. Winning time for the race was 1:58.31.

Nyquist broke well under Mario Gutierrez, and he and 34-1 long shot Uncle Lino went back and forth on the lead. The duel was costly. When asked for his usual winning burst, the son of Uncle Mo just didn't have it for the first time in his career.

"Hats off to Exaggerator and Team Desormeaux. What a great run," Nyquist's trainer Doug O'Neill said. "I didn't think we could get beat, to be honest with you."

Trained by Kent's younger brother, Keith, Exaggerator showed his talent in the slop once again. He won the Santa Anita Derby over a sloppy track. It was the first Preakness winner for the trainer who also began his career in Maryland, and third for the Hall of Fame rider.

Last year, American Pharoah became the first Triple Crown winner in 37 years, and there were many who thought Nyquist would make it two in a row and become the 13th horse to sweep the Derby, Preakness and Belmont.

Exaggerator earned \$900,000 for the win, improving his career bankroll to \$2,971,120. The powerfully

built bay colt has won five of 11 starts, with three runner-finishes. He was beaten by Nyquist twice last year — in the debut race for each last June, and then in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile. In the 3-year old debuts for each, it was Nyquist by 1 1/2 lengths in the San Vicente.

"I did what I could to get him happy and fresh and strong. I've always said he's had a great ability to recover and he showed it today," Keith Desormeaux said

The Desormeaux brothers have different personalities, and seem to enjoy ribbing each other. There were no family hugs, and no special celebrations.

"I looked at him and he looked at me, and I got a fist pump," Kent said. "That's all we did."

A drenched record crowd of 135,256 saw Exaggerator end his losing streak in a big way.

"It wasn't like we felt we could grind him down," Keith said. "We always felt we had an exceptional talent."

And now, it's on to the Belmont Stakes for Exaggerator.

"We can't wait to run in that race," Keith said.

## Bondholders sue over Puerto Rico debt-moratorium I

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Holders of bonds from Puerto Rico's Government Development Bank are suing to challenge aspects of a debt-moratorium law that island officials say is crucial to maintaining essential services as the U.S. territory struggles under a nearly \$70 billion debt load.

The amended federal lawsuit filed late Friday in the U.S. District Court in San Juan names Puerto Rico's governor and treasury secretary as well as an unidentified bank receiver. It argues that amendments to the law prioritize the rights of certain creditors at the expense of others in violation of U.S. and Puerto Rican law.

Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla said the lawsuit's challenge of the Debt Moratorium and Financial Recovery Act could affect the commonwealth's ability to have police in the streets, teachers in the classrooms and nurses in hospitals. He said because Congress excluded Puerto Rico from the bankruptcy code in 1984 without any explanation, and the federal courts have impeded past attempts to create a local bankruptcy law, the act is the commonwealth's only option to restructure its debt.

"If the commonwealth cannot proceed with its intention to restructure the debt in an organized manner, chaotic litigation will ensue and the courts can take control of the limited resources of the government and make them available to the interests of the Wall street funds," the governor said in a written statement Saturday evening. "We are not going to close the government to pay a considerable profit to the hedge funds, who bought the bonds at a big discount after the crisis began."

The Ad Hoc Group behind the lawsuit comprises five investment funds that hold \$900 million of the GDB's nearly \$4 billion in outstanding debt.

The GDB defaulted on the bulk of a \$423 million payment due May 1, but also announced a tentative debt-restructuring deal with the group that would offer it a recovery rate of about 50 cents on the dollar.

"Notwithstanding the Commonwealth's unconstitutional actions, the members of the Ad Hoc Group understand that the Commonwealth faces significant challenges and want to continue working with GDB, as they have for over a year, to achieve a fair, equitable and mutually beneficial restructuring," the bondholders said in a statement.

Other creditors are also challenging an executive order issued this year by Garcia Padilla to "claw back" revenue supporting different bonds and use the money for to pay for essential services and government debt obligations.

And this month, bond insurer Ambac Assurance Corp. filed suit to seek the appointment of a receiver at the Puerto Rico Highways & Transportation Authority, charging that the government was illegally taking money from the public corporation to pay for other debts.

The House Committee on Natural Resources will hold a markup session next Tuesday and Wednesday on legislation to address Puerto Rico's fiscal crisis. The measure would create an oversight board to ensure that Puerto Rico begins running balanced budgets and would also have the power to authorize the restructuring of existing debt.

The U.S. Supreme Court is also reviewing decisions that overturned the local bankruptcy law.

## Smoke, cockpit woes signal chaotic end for EgyptAir plane

**RAPHAEL SATTER, Associated Press**

**HAMZA HENDAWI, Associated Press**

CAIRO (AP) — Leaked flight data showing trouble in the cockpit and smoke in a plane lavatory are bringing into focus the chaotic final moments of EgyptAir Flight 804, including a three-minute period before contact was lost as alarms on the Airbus 320 screeched one after another.

Officials caution it's still too early to say what happened to the aircraft — France's foreign minister said Saturday that "all the hypotheses are being examined" — but mounting evidence points to a sudden, dramatic catastrophe that led to its crash into the eastern Mediterranean early Thursday.

The Egyptian military on Saturday released the first images of aircraft debris plucked from the sea, including personal items and damaged seats. Egypt is leading a multi-nation effort to search for the plane's black boxes — the flight data and cockpit voice recorders — and other clues that could help explain its sudden plunge into the sea.

"If they lost the aircraft within three minutes that's very, very quick," said aviation security expert Philip Baum. "They were dealing with an extremely serious incident."

Authorities say the plane lurched left, then right, spun all the way around and plummeted 38,000 feet (11,582 meters) into the sea — never issuing a distress call.

The Facebook page of the chief spokesman for Egypt's military showed the first photographs of debris from the plane, shredded remains of plane seats, life jackets — one seemingly undamaged — and a scrap of cloth that might be part of a baby's purple-and-pink blanket.

The spokesman, Brig-Gen. Mohammed Samir, later posted a video showing what appeared to be a piece of blue carpet, seat belts, a shoe and a white handbag. The clip opened with aerial footage of an unidentified navy ship followed by a speedboat heading toward floating debris.

Flight 804 left from Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport on Wednesday night en route to Cairo with 66 people aboard. The first available audio from the doomed flight indicates that all was routine as the pilot checked in with air traffic controllers in Zurich, Switzerland, around midnight, before being handed over to Italian air traffic controllers in Padua (Padova): Pilot — "This is 0-7-2-5 Padua control. (Unintelligible) 8-0-4. Thank you so much. Good day er good night."

The communication, taken from liveatc.net which provides live air traffic control broadcasts from around the world, occurred about 2 ½ hours before Greek air traffic controllers lost contact with the plane.

Greek officials say at 2:24 a.m. local time the flight entered the Athens sector of Greek airspace. Twenty-four minutes later, controllers chatted with the pilot, who appeared to be in good spirits.

In Greek, the pilot quipped: "Thank you."

At 3:12 a.m., the plane passed over the Greek island of Kasos before heading into the eastern Mediterranean, according to flight data maintained by FlightRadar24.

Less than 15 minutes later, about midway between Greece and Egypt, a sensor detected smoke in a lavatory and a fault in two of the plane's cockpit windows, according to leaked flight data published by The Aviation Herald.

Messages like these "generally mean the start of a fire," said Sebastien Barthe, a spokesman for France's air accident investigation agency. But he warned against inferring too much more from the reading. "Everything else is pure conjecture."

At 3:27 a.m. Greek time, air traffic controllers in Athens attempted to contact the plane to hand over monitoring of the flight from Greek to Egyptian authorities, according to Greek officials. There was no response from the plane despite repeated calls, including on the emergency frequency. At the same time, a sensor detected that smoke had reached the aircraft's avionics, the network of computers and wires that control the plane, according to the leaked flight data.

Two minutes later, the aircraft reached Egyptian airspace. Alarms went off warning about the plane's autopilot and wing control systems, suggesting serious structural problems. Within seconds, the plane fell off the radar (about 2:30 a.m. Egyptian time, which is behind Greek summer time). Air traffic controllers

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 21 of 24

in Cairo sought assistance from the Egyptian air force to track the missing plane — to no avail.

David Learmount, a widely respected aviation expert and editor of the authoritative Flightglobal magazine, said Aviation Herald's reported readings from the plane's Aircraft Communications Addressing and Reporting System, or ACARS, suggested a quick-spreading fire.

On his website, Learmount wrote: "The question now is whether the fire that caused the smoke was the result of an electrical fault — for example a short-circuit caused by damaged wiring — or whether some form of explosive or incendiary device was used."

In the absence of a claim of responsibility, it's still unclear whether the crash was the result of a fault or an attack, Learmount wrote.

Egyptian aviation expert Hossam Elhamy Shaker said the presence of smoke on board alone does not solve the mystery.

"It just leads us into an area where smoke is a major contributor to the incident, either by destroying the aircraft's equipment or suffocating the pilots," he said.

Baum was skeptical that a fire alone was the reason the plane went down.

"Fires happen aboard aircraft, but they don't usually result in the destruction of the aircraft in three minutes," he said.

Some have wondered at the lack of a mayday signal, but Baum said that could make sense if the crew were unconscious or struggling to regain control of the aircraft.

Investigators have been poring over the plane's passenger list and questioning ground crew at Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport, where the airplane took off. Ships and planes from Britain, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece and the United States have taken part searching a wide area of sea 180 miles (290 kilometers) north of the Egyptian port city of Alexandria.

The waters in the area are 8,000 to 10,000 feet deep (2,440 to 3,050 meters). Pings from the plane's black boxes can be detected up to a depth of 20,000 feet (6 kilometers).

Egyptian authorities have said they believe terrorism is a more likely explanation than equipment failure, and some aviation experts say the erratic finale to the flight suggests a bomb blast or a struggle in the cockpit — though no evidence of that have emerged.

"All the hypotheses are being examined — none are being favored," French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault told reporters Saturday after meeting with about 100 family members of the victims to express "our profound compassion" over the crash.

At Charles de Gaulle airport on Saturday, dozens of passengers — mostly Egyptians — queued up for the latest EgyptAir flight to Cairo. Checks were thorough but there were no overt signs of extra security in the waiting area. A French security team did walk through the plane's aisles, however, before the aircraft took off.

Whatever caused the aircraft to crash, the tragedy deepens Egypt's struggles to revive a battered economy. While the EgyptAir crash may not reflect directly on Egypt's airports — unlike a Russian jet bombed in October by the Islamic State group that took off from an Egyptian resort — the country's association with yet another air disaster will further damage tourism and the flow of foreign investment.

## Top US commander makes secret visit to Syria

**ROBERT BURNS, AP National Security Writer**

NORTHERN SYRIA (AP) — On a secret trip to Syria, the new commander of U.S. forces in the Middle East said Saturday he felt a moral obligation to enter a war zone to check on his troops and make his own assessment of progress in organizing local Arab and Kurd fighters for what has been a slow campaign to push the Islamic State out of Syria.

"I have responsibility for this mission, and I have responsibility for the people that we put here," Army Gen. Joseph Votel said in an interview as dusk fell on the remote outpost where he had arrived 11 hours earlier. "So it's imperative for me to come and see what they're dealing with — to share the risk they are dealing with."

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 22 of 24

Votel, who has headed U.S. Central Command for just seven weeks, became the highest-ranking U.S. military officer known to have entered Syria since the U.S. began its campaign to counter the Islamic State in 2014. The circumstance was exceptional because the U.S. has no combat units in Syria, no diplomatic relations with Syria and for much of the past two years has enveloped much of its Syria military mission in secrecy.

Votel said he brought reporters with him because, "We don't have anything to hide. I don't want people guessing about what we're doing here. The American people should have the right to see what we're doing here."

Votel flew into northern Syria from Iraq, where he had conferred on Friday with U.S. and Iraqi military commanders. In Syria he met with U.S. military advisers working with Syrian Arab fighters and consulted with leaders of the Syrian Democratic Forces, an umbrella group of Kurdish and Arab fighters supported by the U.S.

A small group of reporters accompanied Votel under ground rules that, for security reasons, prohibited disclosing his visit until after he had left Syria. After landing at a remote camp where American military advisers are training Syrian Arab troops in basic soldiering skills, Votel split off from the reporters who flew in with him; he then visited several other undisclosed locations in Syria before returning to the camp.

Syria is a raging war zone, torn by multiple conflicts that have created severe human suffering across much of the country. But on Saturday the U.S. advisers camp that Votel visited was quiet. Situated about 50 miles from the nearest fighting, it was remarkably quiet. The sharpest sound was a month-old puppy's yapping as he ran between visitors' legs. A light breeze nudged several bright-yellow flags of the Syrian Democratic Forces attached to small bushes and atop a post buried in an earthen berm beside a shooting range.

Aides said Votel's flight into Syria was the first made in daylight by U.S. forces, who have about 200 advisers on the ground. Military ground rules for the trip prohibited reporting the kind of aircraft Votel used, the exact location of where he landed and the names and images of the U.S. military advisers, who said they have been operating from the camp since January.

An Associated Press reporter and journalists from two other news organizations were the first Western media to visit the secretive operation.

The last known high-level U.S. official to visit Syria was Brett McGurk, Obama's envoy to the coalition fighting the Islamic State. He spent two days in Syria in late January, including a tour of Kobani, the small town near the Turkish border where Kurdish fighters backed by U.S. airstrikes had expelled an entrenched group of Islamic State fighters a year earlier.

In the interview, Votel said his visit had hardened his belief that the U.S. is taking the right approach to developing local forces to fight IS, an acronym for the Islamic State.

"I left with increased confidence in their capabilities and our ability to support them," he said. "I think that model is working and working well."

The U.S. has struggled to find an effective ground force to take on IS in Syria, where President Barack Obama has ruled out a U.S. ground combat role. This presents a different problem than in Iraq, where the U.S. at least has a government to partner with.

The problem in Syria is complicated by the fractured nature of the opposition to the government of President Bashar al-Assad. The U.S. is trying to develop credible Arab fighters to retake Raqqa, the Islamic State's self-declared capital, while Syrian Kurds have retaken territory from IS in other parts of northern Syria.

The U.S. is supporting what it calls the Syrian Democratic Forces, which is predominantly comprised of Syrian Kurds, numbering at least 25,000 fighters, with a smaller element of Syrian Arabs, numbering perhaps 5,000 to 6,000. The U.S. is trying to increase the Arab numbers.

Syrian Arab commanders who were made available for interviews at the U.S. camp Saturday said their forces are gaining battlefield momentum but also need a lot more help. They were quick to say the U.S.-led coalition should pitch in more.

Qarhaman Hasan, the deputy commander of the Syrian Democratic Forces, said he has given the Ameri-

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 23 of 24

cans a list of his most pressing needs. Atop his list: armored vehicles, heavy weapons like machine guns, as well as rocket launchers and mortars.

"We're creating an army," he said through an interpreter, and have had to rely on smuggling to get weapons.

"You can't run an army on smuggling," he said.

Tribal leaders said in interviews that they also want to see the U.S. do more, both militarily and with humanitarian aid.

"America has the capabilities," said Sheik Abu Khalid as he puffed on a cigarette under the shade of pomegranate and pine trees.

Talal Selo, spokesman for the Syrian Democratic Forces, was especially strong in his criticism of the U.S. for providing too little assistance and for giving the SDF "very useless" support. He said that if this continued the Syrians opposing the Islamic State will have to fight for another 50 years.

## 5-year-old girl playing with gun fatally shoots herself

LAPLACE, La. (AP) — Authorities say a 5-year-old girl shot and killed herself with a handgun at a Louisiana home.

The St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office said in a statement that the girl's father told investigators his daughter was playing with the gun when she shot herself inside a LaPlace home on Saturday morning.

Paramedics took the girl to a hospital, where she later died.

Detectives said the gun hadn't been securely stored in the home before the shooting occurred, about 9:45 a.m.

The sheriff's office said the shooting remained under investigation and additional information would be released "when warranted."

## Today in History

### The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, May 22, the 143rd day of 2016. There are 223 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 22, 1960, an earthquake of magnitude 9.5, the strongest ever measured, struck southern Chile, claiming some 1,655 lives.

On this date:

In 1860, the United States and Japan exchanged ratifications of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce during a ceremony in Washington.

In 1913, the American Cancer Society was founded in New York under its original name, the American Society for the Control of Cancer.

In 1915, the Lassen Peak volcano in Northern California exploded, devastating nearby areas but causing no deaths.

In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appeared before Congress to explain his decision to veto a bill that would have allowed World War I veterans to cash in bonus certificates before their 1945 due date.

In 1939, the foreign ministers of Germany and Italy, Joachim von Ribbentrop and Galeazzo Ciano, signed a "Pact of Steel" committing the two countries to a military alliance.

In 1947, the Truman Doctrine was enacted as Congress appropriated military and economic aid for Greece and Turkey.

In 1968, the nuclear-powered submarine USS Scorpion, with 99 men aboard, sank in the Atlantic Ocean. (The remains of the sub were later found on the ocean floor 400 miles southwest of the Azores.)

In 1969, the lunar module of Apollo 10, with Thomas P. Stafford and Eugene Cernan aboard, flew to within nine miles of the moon's surface in a dress rehearsal for the first lunar landing.

In 1972, President Richard Nixon began a visit to the Soviet Union, during which he and Kremlin leaders signed the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty. The island nation of Ceylon became the republic of Sri Lanka.

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, May 22, 2016 ♦ Vol. 22 - No. 296 ♦ 24 of 24

In 1981 "Yorkshire Ripper" Peter Sutcliffe was convicted in London of murdering 13 women and was sentenced to life in prison.

In 1992, after a reign lasting nearly 30 years, Johnny Carson hosted NBC's "Tonight Show" for the last time.

In 1996, "Mission: Impossible," an action-thriller inspired by the TV series and starring Tom Cruise, was released by Paramount Pictures.

Ten years ago: The Department of Veterans Affairs said personal data, including Social Security numbers of 26.5 million U.S. veterans, was stolen from a VA employee after he took the information home without authorization. Seven-year-old Braxton Bilbrey of Arizona swam from Alcatraz Island to San Francisco — an estimated distance of 1.4 miles — in 47 minutes.

Five years ago: A tornado devastated Joplin, Missouri, with winds up to 250 mph, claiming at least 159 lives and destroying about 8,000 homes and businesses. President Barack Obama defended his endorsement of Israel's 1967 boundaries as the basis for a future Palestine, telling the American Israel Public Affairs Committee his views reflected longstanding U.S. policy. Joseph Brooks, 73, the Academy Award-winning songwriter of "You Light Up My Life" who was awaiting trial for rape, was found dead in his Manhattan apartment, a suicide.

One year ago: Ireland's citizens voted in a landslide to legalize gay marriage, with 62.1 percent saying "yes" to changing the nation's constitution to define marriage as a union between two people regardless of their sex. Mexican federal police got into a gunbattle with drug cartel suspects at a ranch in the western state of Michoacan (meech-wah-KAHN'); of the 43 people killed, all but one were suspected criminals, raising questions how the operation went down.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Charles Aznavour is 92. Actor Michael Constantine is 89. Conductor Peter Nero is 82. Actor-director Richard Benjamin is 78. Actor Frank Converse is 78. Former CNN anchor Bernard Shaw is 76. Actress Barbara Parkins is 74. Retired MLB All-Star pitcher Tommy John is 73. Songwriter Bernie Taupin is 66. Actor-producer Al Corley is 61. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, is 59. Singer Morrissey is 57. Actress Ann Cusack is 55. Country musician Dana Williams (Diamond Rio) is 55. Rock musician Jesse Valenzuela is 54. Actor Mark Christopher Lawrence is 52. Former White House Press Secretary Jay Carney is 51. Rhythm-and-blues singer Johnny Gill (New Edition) is 50. Rock musician Dan Roberts (Crash Test Dummies) is 49. Actress Brooke Smith is 49. Actor Michael Kelly is 47. Model Naomi Campbell is 46. Actress Anna Belknap is 44. Actress Alison Eastwood is 44. Singer Donell Jones is 43. Actor Sean Gunn is 42. Actress A.J. Langer is 42. Actress Ginnifer Goodwin is 38. Rhythm-and-blues Vivian Green is 37. Actress Maggie Q is 37. Olympic gold-medal speed skater Apolo Anton Ohno is 34. Actress Camren (cq) Bicondova (TV: "Gotham") is 17.

Thought for Today: "Pride is an admission of weakness; it secretly fears all competition and dreads all rivals." — Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, American religious leader (1895-1979).