

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 1 of 35

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Frost Construction Ad
- 1 - Bus Driver Needed
- 1- Manager Wanted
- 1- Apts. for Rent
- 2- Making Financial Literacy Fun
- 3- Drought Resources
- 3- Pillow Cleaning Day ad
- 4- Britton Grain Terminal Open House
- 4- Remington, Vale engaged
- 5- Gazillion of bugs
- 5- Golden Living Center Ad
- 6- CM&A VBS
- 7- Today in Weather History
- 7- Pillow Cleaning ad
- 8- Local Weather Forecast
- 9- Yesterday's Groton Weather
- 9- Today's Weather Climate
- 9- National Weather map
- 10- Daily Devotional
- 11 - AP News

Bus Driver Needed

The Groton Area School District has an opening for a morning bus route driver for the 2016-17 school year. Interested persons should contact Superintendent Joe Schwan at 397-2351.

Manager Wanted

Part Time Apartment Manager wanted. Responsible for showing apartments, handing out applications, overseeing maintenance and other duties as needed. Up to \$25 per hour. Previous sale experience a plus. Send email of interest to Grotnmnger@gmail.com

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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Monday, July 25

Couples Golf Night at Olive Grove
Senior Menu: Beef stroganoff noodles, mixed vegetables, cake with strawberries, whole wheat bread.

Anniversary: Steve and Lori Giedt

Birthdays: April Woodward • Stan Knudsen • Taylor Holm • Hannah Webb

Tuesday, July 26

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

Birthdays: Curtis Krueger • Lucius Geffre • Taylor Gese • Mark Kittelson • Sierra Tunby • Karsten Flihs • Sandy Bunn

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

12:00pm: Bridge at Olive Grove

6:00pm: Laides Night at Olive Grove

Wednesday, July 27

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

Anniversary: Tom and Nancy Cutler

Birthdays: Ryland Strom • Tony Madsen • Kalli Leonhardt • Lori Herron • Bill Schuelke

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

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

1:00pm: 1 pm: Rounds staff to visit Groton at the Groton Community Center

6:00pm: Olive Grove Men's League

Apts for Rent

1 bedroom and HUGE 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments available NOW! All utilities included except A/C, 1 bedroom \$504 and HUGE 2 bedroom 2 bath \$674 Please call or text 239-849-7674



Making Financial Literacy Fun

By Nathaniel Sillin

What important lessons will you teach your child this summer? Riding a bike? Sharing with others? How about teaching them important financial skills.

Financial literacy may not immediately come to mind when parents think of essential skills for students, but what children know about money at a young age can shape the way they manage money in adulthood. In fact, a 2015 study by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) found that credit scores among young adults improved in states with mandatory financial education.

However, not all states implement financial education. So how do we close the gap between what American students currently know about money and what they need to know?

Edutainment – one of the key personal finance instruction tactics that Visa uses to reach people of all ages – is an innovative learning method that strikes a balance between education and entertainment. Students can learn financial lessons without feeling like they're studying, and edutainment can help them retain the information better. According to a 2013 study commissioned by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, students who played educational games in addition to the standard curriculum performed better on tests than students who didn't.

Here are a few simple ways your child can learn about money this summer.

Learn together: Mymoney.gov offers activities and lessons for all ages, ranging from fun cartoons about American coins to guides on how to budget effectively. The website features World of Cents, a child-friendly game for ages 5 and up designed to help teach the value of money through the concepts of earning, saving and spending money, while incorporating basic math concepts.

Begin with the basics: Knowing the value of money is essential to financial literacy. The sooner children learn how much everyday items are worth, the better. Visa's Practical Money Skills initiative has developed a game, Peter Pig's Money Counter, which helps children improve basic financial skills such as sorting and counting coins to learn their monetary value. The free game is available online, as an Android app and from Visa's Practical Money Skills website.

Animate it: Educational favorite Schoolhouse Rock! makes finance fun with songs about interest, savings accounts, paying bills, and more. Dynamic animation and catchy songs help children learn basic financial facts while having fun. Search for clips on YouTube or pop in a DVD to teach your children these important and practical lessons in a fun and memorable way.

Play the market: The Stock Market Game is an online simulation of the global capital markets that engages students grades 4-12 in the world of economics, investing and personal finance, and has prepared 15 million students for financially independent futures. The game is part of a program provided by the SIFMA Foundation.

Make it comical: Visa recently teamed up with Marvel Custom Solutions to create a Guardians of the Galaxy comic that promotes saving and smart spending and introduces young children to the difference between wants and needs. The comic, "Rocket's Powerful Plan," features an exciting storyline where saving money in an emergency fund is crucial to helping the Super Heroes. If your children are fans of Rocket, Groot and Ant-Man, they're bound to love this comic featuring the same iconic characters.

Bring it to life: Jump\$tart Clearinghouse offers a variety of games and resources that demonstrate how money skills transfer to real life. Children are challenged to plan their budgets, stretch their money, and be financially responsible. The website also provides a range of educational materials for both parents and teachers.

Additional edutainment resources include:

MyMoney.gov Youth Resources

TreasuryDirect Kids MoneyMemory and Perry's Pennies

The United States Mint H.I.P. Pocket Exchange games

Visa's Financial Football and Financial Soccer

Bottom line: It's important to teach your children about finance, and edutainment is both an effective and engaging way to do so. Use these summer months to teach your children important basic personal finance skills that they can use for the rest of their lives.

SDSU Extension Connects South Dakotans to Drought Resources & Information

BROOKINGS, S.D. - As South Dakota's farmers, ranchers and communities deal with the challenges brought on by drought conditions impacting more than half the state, SDSU Extension is connecting individuals with resources and research-based information.

"The land grant university mission positions SDSU Extension to be responsive to the needs of citizens during challenging times like the drought," explains Karla Trautman, SDSU Extension Interim Director. "SDSU Extension and its team of experts provide citizens with science based knowledge that can inform decisions and ultimately mitigate the impact of the drought on the family, the farm/ranch operation and the local community."

Whether it is warning citizens about the first signs of heat stress, providing gardeners with tips to conserve water, or connecting producers with timely updates - South Dakotans can rely on SDSU Extension.

Timely information can be accessed 24/7 on iGrow.org, SDSU Extension's online platform; by contacting SDSU Extension Staff at any one of the eight SDSU Extension Regional Centers or by calling AnswerLine, 1-888-393-6336.

"Providing applicable information is what we do. Our team is out in the field, closely connected to challenges faced on South Dakota farms and ranches. They are also up to date on the latest research and resources to help people make informed decisions," said Alvaro Garcia, SDSU Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Director & Professor.

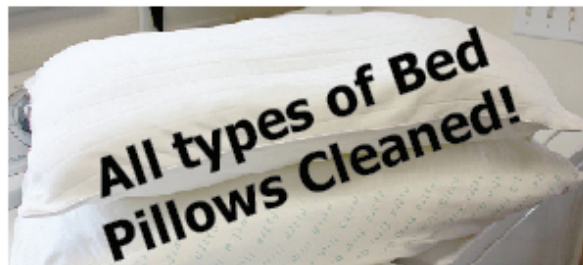
Challenges brought on by a drought are not isolated to those connected to agriculture, explained Suzanne Stluka, SDSU Extension Food & Families Program Director.

"South Dakota is a tight knit state. When one community of our state faces hard times, the trickle-down effect is felt everywhere - and in more areas than just economics. We have resources to not only help families budget, but also resources to help make consumers aware of the mental health aspects of a drought," Stluka said.

To learn more, visit iGrow.org or contact your local SDSU Extension Regional Center.

Pillow Cleaning Day

Friday, July 29, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 1006 N 2nd St,



~ Feather ~ Foam
~ Fiberfilled ~ etc.

- ▶▶ Contents removed from old ticking (old material)
- ▶▶ Cleaned
- ▶▶ Sanitized
- ▶▶ Deodorized
- ▶▶ Choice of new ticking (new outside material)

Broton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 4 of 35



Remington, Vale engaged

Larry and Glenna Remington are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Hannah, to Simon Vale, son of Sheryl and the late Kieran Vale, of Palmerston North, New Zealand.

A September wedding is planned at Chapel Hills in Rapid City, SD. Simon will be finishing his Doctorate of Geography in September and Hannah and Simon will be making their home in New Zealand.

Britton Grain Terminal

Open House and Ribbon Cutting

Monday, August 1st, 2016 ~ 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Located 1 mile south of Britton, SD on SD Highway 27

This recently completed facility has a licensed capacity of 4.5 million bushels of upright storage. In total, the new facility will be capable of receiving grain at 60,000 bushels per hour and loading 120-car shuttle trains at 80,000 bushels per hour.

Governor Dennis Daugaard is scheduled to attend the ribbon cutting!

Tours and lunch will begin at Noon.

**Wheaton
Mumford
CO-OP ELEVATOR**
Britton Grain Terminal
11081 SD Highway 27
Britton, SD 57430
605-448-2261

Everyone is welcome to come and tour the new facility!

www.wdcoop.com

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 5 of 35



The warm weather, coupled with no wind in the evening has brought out gazillions of bugs at night. This swarm of bugs is seen at the flood light at the Arena parking lot Sunday night.



We now accept



for out patient therapy.

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



Join us for

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

where we will learn about

Jesus -- the ONE WAY!

*Bible/Mission stories, Songs, Games,
Snack, Crafts, Skits... FUN!*

Bring a Friend!!!

Who: Ages 3-12

When: **July 25-29**
Monday- Friday
6:15-8:45 pm

Friday:
Family Fun Night -
program, picnic and
games!

Where:

Groton C&MA Church
706 N Main

For more info contact:

Pastor Doug Duncan 887.7730
Amy Duncan 887.7794
Jenna Franken 216.4291

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 7 of 35

Today in Weather History

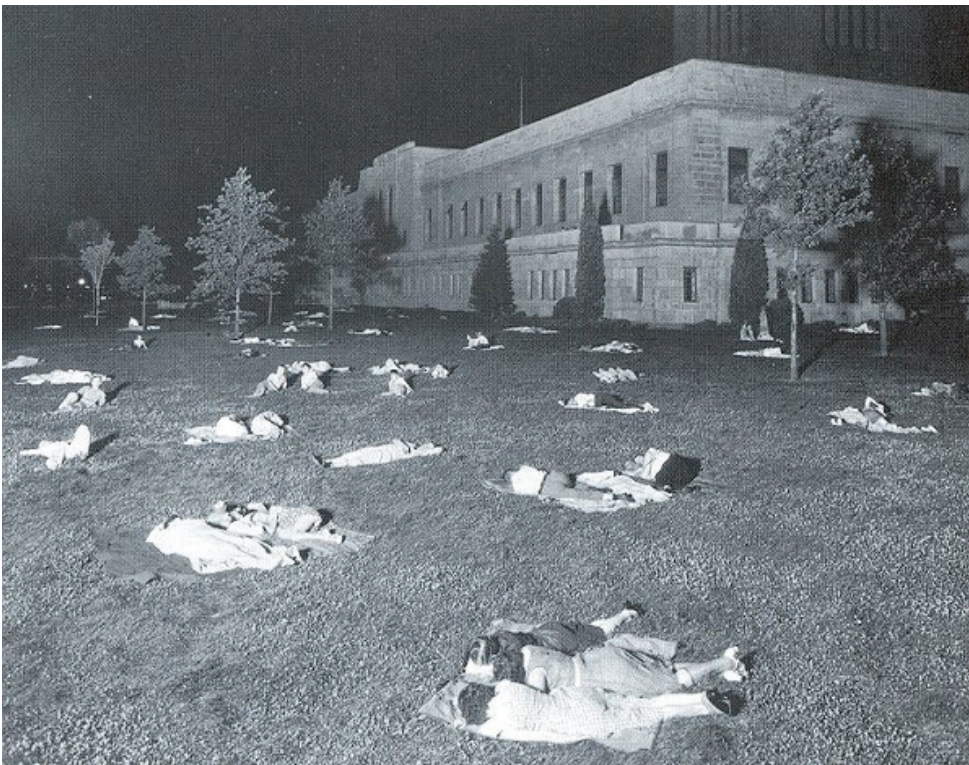
July 25, 1961: This storm started late in the evening on the 25th and went into the early morning hours of the 26th. A sizeable area suffered 50 to 100 percent loss of crops resulting from hail over the following counties, Bison, Perkins, Faulk, Sully, and western Hand. Corn was stripped of leaves and broken off. Oats and wheat were flattened. High winds with recorded gusts of 75 to 80 miles per hour cause numerous power failures and damaged trees in Pierre. Winds also unroofed a small cattle shed in Redfield.

July 25, 1972: Unofficial rainfall amounts of 8 inches caused flash flooding in Ferney and surrounding area in Brown County. Water, over two feet depth was reported in a parking area. Basements were flooded, and foundations were damaged. The torrential rains caused extensive damage to crops in the area.

July 25, 1984: Severe thunderstorms caused considerable damage to the Pierre area. Winds were gusting to 83 mph at the Pierre airport, where thirteen planes, as well as several hangars, were destroyed. In town, a home and three businesses lost their roofs, and a trailer home was destroyed. Rains of four inches in thirty minutes produced flash flooding with some streets closed for some time. Some basements were reported to have 6 to 8 inches of water in them. At Dupree, high winds caused extensive damage to the grandstand roof at the fairgrounds. Along the entire path of the thunderstorms, hail and high winds broke windows, damaged cars, downed trees, damaged crops, and caused power outages.

July 25, 1993: Lake Kampeska, near Watertown, reached near record level at 37 inches over full mark due to runoff from heavy rains in previous days. Dozens of homes and two businesses were flooded out. About 100,000 sandbags were distributed to help prevent more flood damage to lakeside property owners.

July 25, 2000: A powerful F4 tornado hit the city of Granite Falls in Minnesota. The tornado first touched down in rural parts of the county west-northwest of Granite Falls. The tornado struck the city at 6:10 pm. After tearing through the residential sections of town, the tornado lifted at approximately 6:25 PM after being on the ground for over nine miles. One person was killed, more than a dozen were injured, and the town and surrounding area suffered millions of dollars in property damage.










1936: Lincoln, Nebraska saw an all-time high temperature of 115 degrees. The low only dropped to 91 degrees and the average temperature was 103. Many people spent the night sleeping outside to escape the heat.

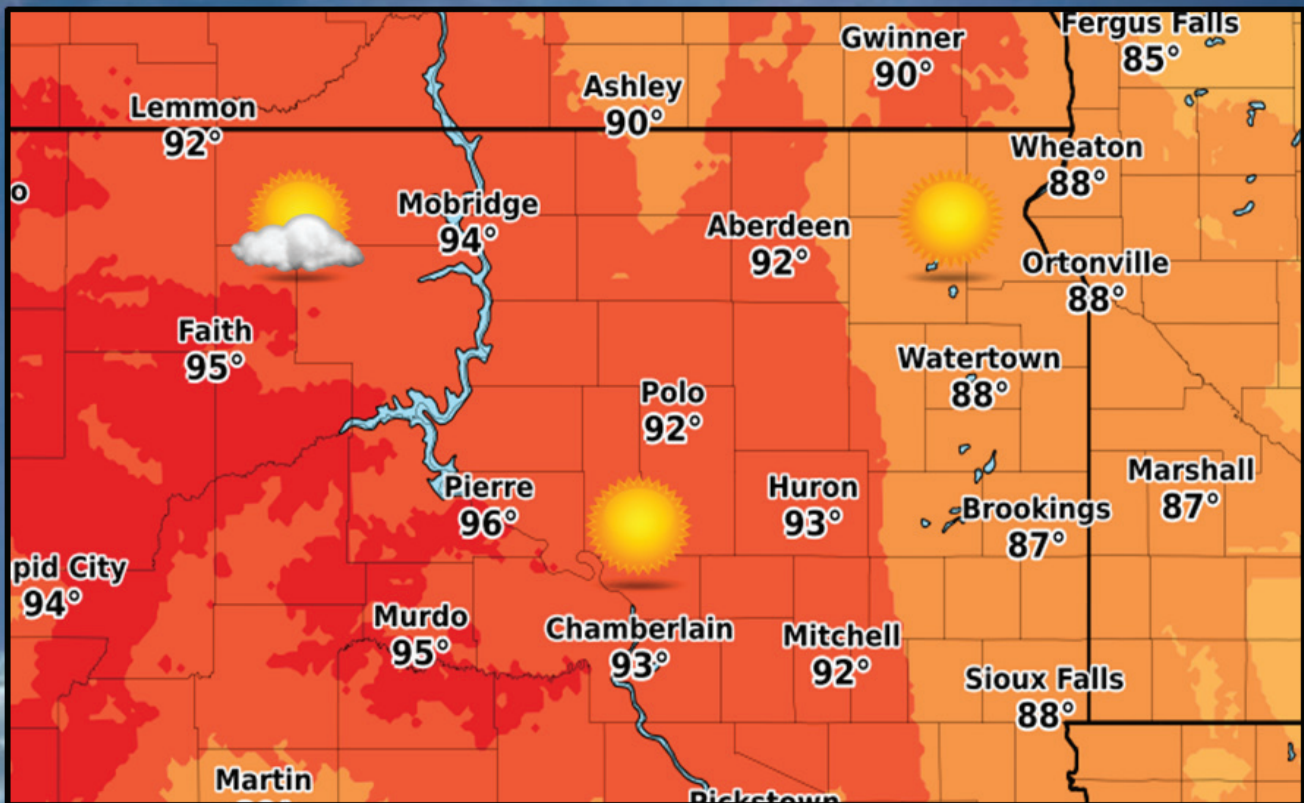
The image is courtesy of the Nebraska Historical Society.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 8 of 35

Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday
						
Hot	Mostly Clear then Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Slight Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms
High: 91 °F	Low: 66 °F	High: 87 °F	Low: 63 °F	High: 81 °F	Low: 60 °F	High: 80 °F

Mostly Sunny and Hotter Today



 weather.gov/Aberdeen  National Weather Service Aberdeen  @NWSAberdeen Updated: 7/25/2016 3:30 AM Central

Published on: 07/25/2016 at 3:33AM

High pressure will move east of the area today and allow for southerly winds and hotter temperatures to return to the region. Highs will range from the upper 80s to mid 90s for most areas. There will be a chance for showers and thunderstorms across north central South Dakota by late afternoon into this evening.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 9 of 35

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 83.4 F at 3:06 PM

Low Outside Temp: 59.6 F at 6:37 AM

High Gust: 19.0 Mph at 3:22 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 111° in 1931

Record Low: 44 in 1911

Average High: 84°F

Average Low: 59°F

Average Precip in July: 2.51

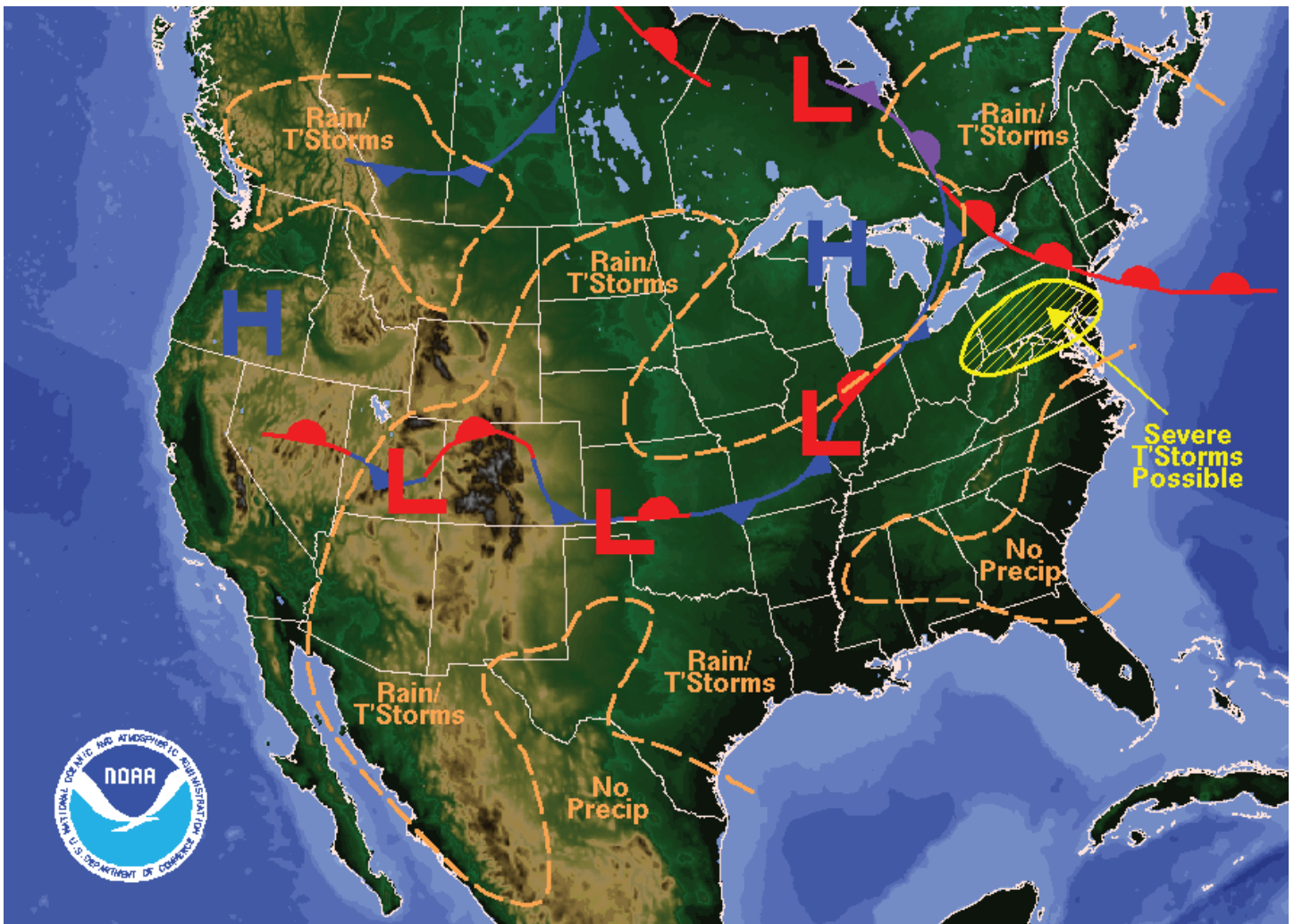
Precip to date in July: 3.55

Average Precip to date: 13.35

Precip Year to Date: 10.21

Sunset Tonight: 9:09 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:11 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, Jul 25, 2016, issued 4:21 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 10 of 35



THE HAND OF GOD

Someone estimated that humans breathe eighteen times a minute, approximately 1,080 times an hour and about 25,000 times a day. That amounts to 912,500,000 breaths a year - a staggering number!

Our lungs are critical to our well-being. They provide our blood with oxygen that nourishes our brain that allows us to think. They are the exhaust system that removes carbon dioxide and water. If we stop breathing we die.

Yet, we are rarely aware of a single breath that we take or the importance of breathing until we have a serious cough or illness.

So often we take this simple yet critical gift from God for granted. We inhale and then exhale. Occasionally we breathe in more deeply than at other times and we can feel our lungs expand and contract. We even hear the noise that comes from exhaling.

What a wonderful gift from God. A gift that provides life! The Bible says that "For the life of every living thing is in His hand, and the breath of all humanity."

How very easy it is for each of us to go through life unaware and ungrateful for the simple gifts that God gives us. Rarely do we pause and think, then give thanks to Him for His simple yet significant gifts that make life possible and purposeful.

Let's breathe a prayer of thanksgiving now!

Prayer: Father, we rejoice in the goodness of Your gifts that we rarely recognize. Give us grateful hearts for all of Your blessings, especially the breath of life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind. Job 12:10

News from the Associated Press

Sioux Falls officers suffer minor injuries in scuffle

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police say two officers suffered minor injuries over the weekend during a scuffle with a drunken woman who had threatened to jump off a building.

Officers responded to the scene shortly before 6 a.m. Sunday. Authorities say the officers encountered the woman in a stairwell and she started fighting with them.

The 23-year-old woman was arrested for simple assault. Formal charges were pending.

Couple playing Pokemon Go game help recover stolen statue

HILL CITY, S.D. (AP) — A couple playing the popular smartphone game Pokémon Go in Hill City helped recover a statue that had been stolen from Rapid City.

Pennington County Sheriff's Deputy Doug Kimball tells KOTA-TV that the couple was playing the game over the weekend when they noticed a bronze bust in some bushes and alerted authorities.

Kimball says the bust was of former Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce board chairman E.P. Howe. It had recently been taken from the chamber's board room.

KEVN-TV reports that the statue was in good condition and has been returned to the chamber. The sheriff's office is still investigating.

The "augmented reality" Pokemon go game layers gameplay onto the physical world and sends players to real-world locations to capture virtual creatures.

Sioux Falls teen charged in suspicious death of 19-year-old

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A 16-year-old Sioux Falls boy faces manslaughter charges in connection with the death of a 19-year-old man.

Sioux Falls police say the man died early Saturday after police, fire officials and paramedics responded to a call of cardiac arrest. The 19-year-old was taken to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Police say the circumstances around his death were suspicious, so they began investigating.

The 16-year-old was taken into custody on two counts of manslaughter. Detectives are still investigating and police said they would have no more information until a Monday briefing.

Federal prison escape recaptured in Nebraska corn field

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Federal officials say an inmate has been recaptured after escaping from a minimum security work camp in Yankton.

The U.S. Marshals Service says 33-year-old Johnny Tiner was re-arrested Saturday after he was found walking on a gravel road, and then hiding in a corn field in rural Hartington, Nebraska. Authorities say tips from the public helped locate Tiner.

He was unarmed, but was wearing prison clothing when he was found. He was also dehydrated and taken to a hospital for evaluation.

Tiner was seen jumping a fence earlier in the day. He'd been serving a 10-year sentence out of north Texas for being a felon in possession of a firearm. He now faces an escape charge.

Besides Texas, Tiner also has ties to Colorado and Tennessee.

Man gets 20 years in child abuse case involving death of boy

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Mission man has been sentenced to 20 years in prison in a child abuse case that involved the death of a boy.

Thirty-three-year-old Tyler Erickson was sentenced this week, nearly four months after pleading guilty to child abuse and methamphetamine distribution.

Federal authorities say Erickson “slapped or hit” one of his 5-year-old twin sons at one point between Aug. 1 and Aug. 10, 2013. On Aug. 11 of that year, the child collapsed and later died at a hospital.

Authorities say the child’s cause of death was initially determined to be a blood infection, but an autopsy revealed he had died as a result of blunt force trauma. Authorities say his injuries included liver lacerations and an intestine tear.

Erickson is under the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service.

Afterschool programs get funds for academic support efforts

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Ten afterschool programs offered in different South Dakota communities are receiving grants to provide academic support opportunities to students.

The South Dakota Department of Education says the grants range from \$50,000 to \$150,000 a year. They are awarded through the department’s 21st Century Community Learning Centers program.

This year’s recipients include the Alcester-Hudson School District, the Multi-Cultural Center of Sioux Falls and the Crow Creek Sioux Tribal School.

The Education Department says the 21st Century Community Learning Centers provide students tutoring and mentoring opportunities, homework help, and music, arts, sports and cultural activities.

The families of children who participate in the centers’ programs can also receive literacy and other educational services.

The department says this year’s grant winners join 32 grant recipients already serving 49 sites across South Dakota.

Mitchell sets ‘safe exchange zone’ for online transactions

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Mitchell residents who must meet strangers to complete purchases started on websites such as Craigslist and eBay can now set up the meeting in area that city officials have designated as a “safe exchange zone.”

The city’s Department of Public Safety has installed a surveillance camera and a sign outside its building that reads “internet purchase exchange location.”

Officials say they hope that the designated location for exchanges can “minimize the opportunity for an encounter to go wrong.” The department says the popularity of some websites makes them an “easy target for criminal activity.”

Chief of Public Safety Lyndon Overweg says the camera will provide a live feed to the department and record what happens in the area.

China scores diplomatic victory, avoids criticism from ASEAN

VIJAY JOSHI, Associated Press

DANIEL MALLOY, Associated Press

VIENTIANE, Laos (AP) — China scored an unequivocal diplomatic victory Monday, preventing South-east Asia’s main grouping from criticizing it for territorially expanding in the South China Sea, even though some of the bloc’s members are victims of Beijing’s actions.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 13 of 35

After hectic negotiations, the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations issued a watered-down rebuke that amounted to less than a slap on the wrist, and exposed the deep divisions in a regional body that prides itself on unity.

In a joint communique released after their talks, the foreign ministers of ASEAN said only that they "remain seriously concerned over recent and ongoing developments" in the South China Sea. The statement did not mention China by name in referring to the developments.

Most significantly, it failed to mention a recent ruling by an international arbitration panel in a dispute between the Philippines and China that said Beijing's claims in the South China Sea were illegal and that the Philippines was justifiably the aggrieved party. China has dismissed the ruling as bogus, saying the Hague-based tribunal has no authority to rule on what Beijing calls bilateral disputes. China wants direct negotiations with the Philippines instead.

The tribunal's award "amounts to prescribing a dose of wrong medicine ... and it seems that certain countries outside the region have got all worked up, keeping the fever high," Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said, referring to the United States. "And if the prescription is wrong it will not help cure any disease. That's why we urge other countries in the region to lower the temperature," he told a news conference after 90 minutes of talks with the ASEAN ministers.

Wang said about 80 percent of that time was spent on ASEAN-China relations, and only 20 percent on South China Sea. He joked that reporters had expended more than 80 percent of the question-and-answer time on South China Sea.

"Both China and ASEAN believe this page should have been turned and temperature lowered," he said.

China was able to push through its stance in ASEAN with the help of Cambodia, and to some extent Laos, both of which are close friends of Beijing. ASEAN's guiding principle is to make all statements by consensus, so a veto by Cambodia would have prevented a more stinging rebuke.

"We reaffirmed the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, security, stability, safety and freedom of navigation in and over-flight above the South China Sea," the joint statement said.

"We further reaffirmed the need to enhance mutual trust and confidence, exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities and avoid actions that may further complicate the situation," it said.

Such statements have previously been issued, notably after an ASEAN-U.S. summit in California in February, and have led to criticism that ASEAN is becoming a toothless organization.

Analysts say this amounted to another capitulation by ASEAN in face of China's power.

"ASEAN's failure to mention the tribunal's decision will not affect the implementation of the ruling per se, as China has already indicated that it won't recognize or accept it. But failure to even mention the landmark legal ruling once again highlights ASEAN's inability to present a united front and China's skill at using Cambodia as a proxy to further its own interests," said Ian Storey, a senior fellow at Singapore's Institute of Southeast Asian Studies think tank.

The South China Sea is dotted with reefs and rocky outcroppings that several governments claim, including China and the Philippines. The arbitration panel didn't take a position on who owns the disputed territories. It did conclude that many of them are legally rocks, even if they've been built into islands, and therefore do not include the international rights to develop the surrounding waters. That and other findings invalidated much of what China has called its historic claims to the resource-rich sea.

In order to ease tensions, China, the Philippines and possibly other claimants must define what the ruling means for fishing, offshore oil and gas exploration, and military and other activities in the vast body of water that lies between the southern Chinese coast and the Philippine archipelago.

In recent days, China's military has staged live-firing exercises in the area and said it would begin regular aerial patrols over the sea. It also has asserted that it will not be deterred from continuing construction of its man-made islands.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 14 of 35

FBI investigates DNC hacking; Clinton campaign blames Russia

VIVIAN SALAMA, Associated Press

JACK GILLUM, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI said Monday it is investigating how thousands of Democratic National Committee emails were hacked, a breach that Hillary Clinton's campaign maintains was committed by Russia to benefit Donald Trump.

A statement from the FBI confirmed that it is "investigating a cyber intrusion involving the DNC," adding that "a compromise of this nature is something we take very seriously."

Wikileaks posted emails Friday that suggested the DNC was favoring Clinton over her rival Sen. Bernie Sanders during the primary season, prompting Clinton's campaign to point to a massive hacking of DNC computers in June that cybersecurity firms linked to the Russian government.

Clinton campaign chairman John Podesta added fuel to the debate Monday, saying there was "a kind of bromance going on" between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Trump. The Clinton campaign says Russia favors Trump's views, especially on NATO.

Donald Trump on Monday dismissed as a "joke" claims by Hillary Clinton's campaign that Russia is trying to help Trump by leaking thousands of emails from the Democratic National Committee.

"The new joke in town is that Russia leaked the disastrous DNC e-mails, which should have never been written (stupid), because Putin likes me," Trump wrote as part of a series of Tweets. "Hillary was involved in the e-mail scandal because she is the only one with judgement (sic) so bad that such a thing could have happened."

The hacking enraged die-hard Sanders supporters who have long claimed that the DNC had its finger on the scale throughout the primaries. The disclosures prompted the resignation of DNC chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz on the eve of the party's convention in Philadelphia, where Clinton is expected to officially accept the nomination for president.

It wasn't immediately clear how WikiLeaks received copies of the internal Democratic emails.

Democratic Party officials learned in late April that their systems had been attacked after they discovered malicious software on their computers. A cybersecurity firm they employed found traces of at least two sophisticated hacking groups on the Democrats' network — both of which have ties to the Russian government. Those hackers took at least one year's worth of detailed chats, emails and research on Donald Trump, according to a person knowledgeable of the breach who wasn't authorized to speak publicly about the matter.

Stocks pull back after 4 weeks of gains; Yahoo slips

KEN SWEET, AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks were pulling back in mid-morning trading Monday following four weeks of gains as investors work through another batch of corporate earnings and look ahead to this week's Federal Reserve policy meeting. Yahoo fell after Verizon Communications announced it would buy most of Yahoo's internet businesses for \$4.83 billion.

KEEPING SCORE: The Dow Jones industrial average lost 108 points, or 0.6 percent, to 18,462 as of 11:10 a.m. Eastern. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 12 points, or 0.6 percent, to 2,163 and the Nasdaq composite lost 12 points, or 0.2 percent, to 5,088.

YAHOO'S DEMISE: Yahoo fell 90 cents, or 2.3 percent, to \$38.48 after the company announced that Verizon would buy Yahoo's advertising, media and email businesses for \$4.83 billion, ending a five-month auction. Verizon will add Yahoo to its portfolio of recently purchased media companies, including AOL.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 15 of 35

Once finished, Yahoo will be a shell of its former self, existing mainly as a holding company for its Alibaba and Yahoo Japan investments, as well as its patent portfolio.

Verizon shares fell 24 cents, or 0.5 percent, to \$55.86.

ACCELERATING: Sprint jumped 94 cents, or 21 percent, to \$5.57 after the company reported a wider-than-expected loss but added a larger number of subscribers than expected. Japan's Softbank purchased a controlling stake in Sprint nearly three years ago.

CENTRAL BANKS: The Bank of Japan and Federal Reserve hold policy meetings this week. With Japan's economy barely growing, economists are speculating about whether its central bank may push more stimulus. The U.S. economy is in better shape than other advanced economies, but expectations are that the Fed will hold interest rates steady and look to raise interest rates later this year.

GLOBAL MEETING: Over the weekend, envoys of the Group of 20 major economies, meeting in China, promised to protect the world economy from the shockwaves of Britain's decision to leave the EU and to boost sluggish growth, while rejecting trade protectionism. While the statement was short of concrete promises, the tone seemed to have reassured some investors at a time of heightened uncertainty.

ENERGY: Oil prices continued on their month-long slide, with the price of U.S. crude falling 90 cents to \$43.29 a barrel. Brent crude, the global benchmark, slipped 71 cents to \$44.99 a barrel in London.

The 2 percent drop in oil prices dragged down major energy companies. Chevron lost \$2.48, or 2.3 percent, to \$103.21 and Exxon Mobil gave up \$1.67, or 1.7 percent, to \$92.27, the two biggest drops in the Dow Jones industrial average.

Oil prices are down nearly 12 percent this month.

BONDS, CURRENCIES: U.S. government bond prices rose. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 1.56 percent from 1.57 percent. The dollar fell to 106.04 yen from 106.17 yen. The euro rose to \$1.0978 from \$1.0961.

Breaking down the gender stereotypes in kids' clothing

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO, AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Pink for girls. Truck motifs for boys. A growing number of parents want to get outside those parameters when it comes to dressing their kids.

Kristin Higgins was adamant about not pushing "girly" stereotypes on her daughter, and painted her room in shades of green. Higgins later dressed her up in superhero costumes. But as her daughter got older, it took more work to locate items that broke the mold. For "Star Wars"-themed pajamas, she had to go to the boys' section.

"It's hard to find gender-neutral clothing," said Higgins, 35, of Little Rock, whose daughter is now 6. "I want her to just get up and put on the clothing without thinking of putting on a costume, an identity."

Shopping for her 7-month-old son, Higgins finds clothes mainly have pictures like fire engines or sharks. What about cats, cupcakes or hearts, she wonders.

For parents looking for clothes that defy gender norms, the options for back-to-school shopping are still limited — but they're growing. Some big retailers like Lands' End and Zara are making small changes to their offerings, while some frustrated parents have launched their own companies to make the items they wanted to find.

"There is really a sharp divide between what is considered girls' stuff and what's considered boys' stuff," said Courtney Hartman. She started Seattle-based Jessy & Jack, a collection of unisex T-shirts for kids that have robots and dinosaurs, and Free to Be Kids, where a shirt with the slogan, "I'm a Cat Guy" comes in blue, gray and yellow.

Companies like Jessy & Jack and a collection called Princess Awesome, where dresses have trains and

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 16 of 35

planes, are among nearly 20 online brands that formed a campaign called Clothes Without Limits last year that they're reprising for the back-to-school season. Still, many of the items are not cheap — T-shirts at \$20 can be pricey for growing kids.

Bigger companies are offering some options, after similar shifts in the toy and bedding aisles to more neutral signs and products. Lands' End launched a line of science T-shirts two years ago after a customer complained on social media that there was only one version for boys. As part of its new Cat & Jack brand of children's clothing that kids helped design, Target offers unisex-fit T-shirts online with slogans like, "Smart & Strong" and "Future Astronaut."

And fast-fashion chain Zara launched a collection in March for teens and older called "Ungendered" under its TRF line, which focuses on basics like T-shirts, sweatshirts and jeans. Experts and parents also notice that some images like dinosaurs are popping up on girls' clothing under the Boden brand and others.

More has changed for girls' clothes than for boys, but the vast majority of children's clothing is still gender-specific, says Marshal Cohen, chief industry analyst at market research group NPD Group Inc.

Martine Zoer, who founded Seattle-based Quirkie Kids because her sons wanted to wear pink, said that in response to her selling unisex shirts in that hue, she says she got emails saying "boys should not wear pink as it would turn them gay."

A good portion of children's clothing buyers are grandparents who tend to embrace more traditional ideas, says Cohen, who doesn't expect large-scale change until the next generation starts having children.

"Once we get past the cultural discussion, that's when you'll see the (major) brands step out," Cohen said. "No one wants to risk the chance of rocking the boat."

Chris Guerin of Portland, Oregon, says teaching his mother-in-law to buy clothes that don't reinforce gender stereotypes is a work in progress.

"When she goes shopping with Nana, she comes back with princess (outfits) and tiaras," Guerin says of his 3-year-old daughter. "We don't care for that. But it's hard to bring up the issue."

The differences crystallized in the late 1980s, according to Jo B. Paoletti, a professor of American Studies at the University of Maryland and author of "Pink and Blue: Telling the Girls from the Boys in America." Paoletti noticed it when buying clothing for her daughter, who was born in 1982, and her son, four years later. By the mid-1990s, "pink-washing was widespread," she said. Even disposable diapers came in blue and pink.

In part, manufacturers and marketers wanted to boost sales to American couples having fewer kids, Paoletti said. She also reasoned that parents were rebelling against the more unisex fashions like corduroy pants they grew up with. But Paoletti said the change is harmful.

"It encourages very young children — as young as 2 — to judge and interact with others in highly stereotyped ways," she said. "We know, based on nearly 50 years of social science research, that stereotyped thinking hurts all of us, whether we are dealing with racial, gender, or any other form of stereotype."

Macy's says kids' clothes are generally separated into boys' and girls' sections, but with an array of colors and styles in each. "A lot of kids' apparel today is active — sweatpants and sweatshirts, graphic Ts, etc. — and are inherently unisex," spokeswoman Holly Thomas said in an email.

Stores like J.C. Penney and Nordstrom say they listen to shoppers, but aren't getting customer requests to blur the gender lines.

Those behind the new brands say they're seeing the demand. Hartman said annual sales are pushing six-digit figures.

Higgins recalled that when her daughter was in day care, she came home crying because some boys made fun of her navy blue sneakers, calling them "boy shoes." She often puts together kid outfits from thrift shops, and as she thumbs through the racks reminds her daughter: "There are no boy colors. There are no girl colors."

Band of monkeys raid Thai polling place, tear up voter lists

BANGKOK (AP) — Election officials in northern Thailand think they can buy off a gang of monkey vandals with fresh fruit and vegetables, after about 100 macaques tore up voter lists publicly posted ahead of next month's referendum on a proposed constitution.

Phichit election official Prayoon Jakkraphatcharakul said if feeding the monkeys did not deter them, then newly installed sliding glass doors might - if they don't figure out how to open them.

Prayoon speculated that the pink color of the voter lists for the Aug. 7 referendum might have attracted the animals.

Two 8-year-old girls in the northern province of Kamphaeng Phet were charged last week with obstructing the referendum process and destroying public property when they tore down voter lists because they liked the pink paper on which they were printed.

Philippine leader declares ceasefire with communist rebels

JIM GOMEZ, Associated Press

TERESA CEROJANO, Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte declared a unilateral cease-fire with communist guerrillas effective immediately Monday and asked the rebels to do the same to end decades of deadly fighting and foster the resumption of peace talks.

In his first state of the nation address before Congress, Duterte said he wanted a "permanent and lasting peace" before the end of his six-year term, which commenced on June 30. The ex-city mayor, who built a name for his tough, crime-busting style, also focused on his battle against illegal drugs, threatening drug dealers anew with death.

Addressing the New People's Army guerrillas, Duterte said: "Let us end these decades of ambushes and skirmishes. We are going nowhere and it is getting bloodier by the day."

"Let me make this appeal to you," he said. "If we cannot as yet love one another, then in God's name, let us not hate each other too much."

The communist guerrillas welcomed Duterte's move and said they would wait for a copy of his truce order before "reciprocating positively."

"We share his desire to achieve a just and lasting peace," chief rebel negotiator Luis Jalandoni told The Associated Press by telephone from the Dutch city of Utrecht, where he and other rebel leaders have been on self-exile for years.

The guerrillas were waiting for Duterte's government to free the first 22 of hundreds of what they regard as political detainees who would serve as rebel consultants in the resumption of peace talks in the Norwegian capital of Oslo from Aug. 20 to 27, Jalandoni said.

Among those to be freed were top rebel couple Benito and Wilma Tiamzon, who were captured by government forces in 2014, he said.

The Philippine military also welcomed Duterte's announcement, but said it "will remain alert, vigilant and ready to defend itself and pursue attackers if confronted by armed elements of the New People's Army."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 18 of 35

"The commander in chief has initiated a very bold move and we fully support him in his effort to bring sustainable and lasting peace," said military spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla.

The decades-long communist insurgency, one of Asia's longest, has left about 150,000 combatants and civilians dead since it broke out in the late 1960s. It also has stalled economic development, especially in the countryside, where the Maoist insurgents have had an active presence.

Under Duterte's predecessor, Benigno Aquino III, peace negotiations with the communists that were brokered by Norway stalled over the government's rejection of a rebel demand for the release of captured insurgents. But Duterte, 71, who describes himself as a socialist, had given concessions to the rebels and designated left-wing activists to at least two Cabinet posts.

The rapport he had built with the political left was evident outside the House of Representatives complex, where Duterte delivered his nationally televised speech. Instead of the violent confrontations between riot police and left-wing protesters that have taken place in the past, activists were allowed to camp outside the congressional complex and policemen were seen greeting and giving them juice drinks.

"This is a refreshing development," protest leader Renato Reyes said. "What's new with this president is he's ready to dialogue with the people and he does not hide behind container vans, barbed wires and thousands of anti-riot policemen."

The rebels have also praised Duterte's critical stance on the security policy of the United States, which has blacklisted the communist insurgents as terrorists for its bloody attacks, including an ambush that killed a U.S. Army colonel near Manila in 1989.

Government negotiators have met with rebel counterparts and agreed to restart peace talks soon. Jose Maria Sison, a rebel leader in self-exile in Europe, plans to fly home to meet Duterte, his former student at a Manila university.

Duterte also said his administration was ready to pursue peace talks with Muslim guerrillas in the country's south, where he was a longtime mayor of Davao city and built a name for his tough style before rising to the presidency.

"Let me say this, all of us want peace," Duterte said. "Not the peace of the dead, but the peace of the living."

While extending the hand of peace to the Muslim insurgents, Duterte had a more hard-line stance on Abu Sayyaf extremists, who have been blamed for local and cross-border kidnappings of Malaysian and Indonesians in the south. The military's might, he said, "will be applied to crush these criminals, who operate under the guise of religious fervor."

Duterte's warning to drug dealers and rogue officials and policemen was harsh.

"We will not stop until the last drug lord, the last financier and the last pusher have surrendered or been put behind bars or below the ground if they so wish," he said, drawing applause.

Since Duterte rose to the presidency, nearly 300 suspected drug dealers and users have been killed in reported gunbattles with police and in still-unexplained deaths while more than 129,750 others have been arrested, according to police. Human rights groups have been alarmed by the scale of drugs killings and criticized Duterte for not taking steps to stop it.

"As long as President Duterte turns a blind eye to — or implicitly or explicitly encourages — summary killings, the fundamental right to life of all Filipinos is at risk from potentially random extrajudicial violence," said Phelim Kine, deputy director in Asia of the U.S.-based watchdog Human Rights Watch.

Germany: IS claims responsibility for attack in Germany

TOMISLAV SKARO, Associated Press

KIRSTEN GRIESHABER, Associated Press

ANSBACH, Germany (AP) — A Syrian man whose asylum bid had been rejected in Germany recorded a cellphone video of himself pledging allegiance to the Islamic State group before he tried to get into an outdoor concert with a bomb-laden backpack. He was turned away and blew himself up outside a wine bar instead, injuring 15 people, authorities said Monday.

The Islamic State group claimed responsibility.

It was the fourth attack to shake Germany in a week — three of them carried out by recent migrants.

The 27-year-old, whom authorities have not identified, set off a backpack laden with explosives and shrapnel Sunday night after being refused entry to the nearby festival in the Bavarian city of Ansbach because he didn't have a ticket.

Bavarian authorities said a video found on the Ansbach bomber's phone showed him pledging allegiance to the Islamic State. Germany's top security official, Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere, had said it was too early to rule out terrorism as a motive, but noted that the suspect had twice attempted suicide and had been receiving psychological care.

"Or it could be a combination of both," de Maiziere said.

The attack was carried out by "one of the soldiers of the Islamic State," the extremist group said.

The IS-linked Amaq news agency said the man carried out the attack in response to calls by the group to target countries of the U.S.-led coalition that is fighting IS.

The bombing was the latest of the recent attacks that have heightened concerns about how Germany can deal with the estimated 1 million migrants who entered the country last year. Those fears had waned as the numbers of new arrivals had slowed this year dramatically, but already the nationalist Alternative for Germany party and others have seized on the attacks as evidence that Chancellor Angela Merkel's migration policies are flawed.

A 17-year-old Afghan asylum-seeker injured five with an ax before being killed by police near Wuerzburg last week in an attack that was claimed by Islamic State. On Sunday a Syrian man killed a woman with a knife in the southwestern city of Reutlingen before being captured by police in an incident that authorities say was not likely linked to terrorism.

In between, the 18-year-old son of Iranian asylum seekers went on a rampage Friday night at a Munich mall, killing nine and wounding dozens. Authorities say he was undergoing psychological treatment and had no known links to terrorism.

The attack in Ansbach, a serene city of about 40,000 west of Nuremberg, came near the end of the closing night of a popular open air festival being attended by about 2,000 people.

Following the Munich mall shooting, city officials had ordered extra security and bag checks at the entrance of the venue, but the man never got that far, being turned away for lack of a ticket, Mayor Carda Seidel said.

Roman Fertinger, the deputy police chief in Nuremberg, said there likely would have been more casualties if the man had not been turned away.

Four of the 15 victims suffered serious injuries.

"My personal view is that I unfortunately think it's very likely this really was an Islamist suicide attack," Bavarian interior minister Joachim Herrmann told German news agency dpa.

Herrmann said the man's request for asylum was rejected a year ago, and a spokesman for Germany's interior ministry said he had received two deportation notices.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 20 of 35

Tobias Plate said the man was told on July 13 that he would be deported to Bulgaria, where he submitted his first asylum request.

Plate told reporters that the first deportation notice was issued on Dec. 22, 2014, but it wasn't clear why he hadn't been deported then. Asylum-seekers are routinely deported to the first country where they registered if they don't follow proper procedures, even if they're considered to have a legitimate claim for asylum.

The unidentified man had repeatedly received psychiatric treatment, including twice for attempted suicide, authorities said, and had been known to police for drug possession.

Authorities on Monday morning raided the asylum shelter where he lived in the suburbs of Ansbach and searched his room.

One resident there said he had occasionally drunk coffee with the attacker and they had discussed religion. Alireza Khodadadi told The Associated Press that the man, whom he would identify only as Mohammed, had told him that the extremist Islamic State group was not representative of Islam.

"He always said that, no, I'm not with them, I don't like them and such stuff. But I think he had some issues because, you know, he told lies so often without any reason, and I understand that he wants to be in the center of (attention), you know, he needed (attention)," Khodadadi said.

A team of 30 investigators was interviewing the man's acquaintances and examining evidence collected from his home.

Meantime, in Munich on Sunday evening, 1,500 people gathered at the scene of the shooting there, lighting candles and placing flowers in tribute to the victims of an 18-year-old German-Iranian. Police said that he had planned the attack for a year.

Munich authorities said Monday at a news conference that a 16-year-old Afghan friend of the Munich attacker may have known of the attack in advance.

Police said Monday the teenager was arrested late Sunday and investigators were able to retrieve a deleted chat between him and the attacker on the messaging app WhatsApp.

Police say the chat appears to show that the 16-year-old met with the attacker immediately before the shooting started, and knew the attacker had a pistol.

Investigators say the teenagers met last year as in-patients at a psychiatric ward. Both were being treated for online game addiction, among other things.

Brandi Chastain: On headers, concussions, soccer wages

MELISSA MURPHY, AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Brandi Chastain is confident the U.S. women's soccer team can win the gold medal again in Rio, is advocating for fewer headers in youth games and dealing with her son's diagnosis of Crohn's disease.

It's been 17 years since Chastain's winning kick in a penalty shootout against China in the Women's World Cup at the Rose Bowl, and the celebratory photo of her overhead jersey twirl landed on magazine covers.

These days, she's coaching youth, high school and college soccer in California. Chastain is keeping an eye on the current women's national team — without retired star Abby Wambach — after helping the U.S. win two golds and a silver in the Olympics during her career.

"We have a very deep roster, a nice balance of young players and veterans," she said. "Those two components have always proved successful."

Chastain, who transitioned from forward to defense on the U.S. national team, calls it "humbling" to

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 21 of 35

be selected for induction into the Soccer Hall of Fame later this year at its new location at FC Dallas stadium.

Here are a few things to know about Chastain, who plans to donate her brain for concussion research.

SAFER SOCCER: Some think less heading in youth soccer games will lower the risk of concussions. Chastain works with the Safer Soccer initiative, which advocates for fewer headers. Since U.S. Soccer approved no headers for children under 11 last year, the whistle is blown for a foul if the ball is headed in a game. Chastain would like the ban to extend to 14 and under, but for now, it's about reducing headers in practice and "teaching kids spacial awareness, getting their head up and away from the ball. When the kids get fixated on the ball, their eyes never leave it, so they don't see any danger that potentially could be coming."

She tells her boys' youth team they're not quite ready for headers and cautions her boys' high school Bellarmine team. At the youth level, she says it's best to avoid them.

"I hope U.S. Soccer educates refs on the rules, so it's implemented at all levels and (teach) coaches about how to coach awareness skills for kids to protect themselves."

She's also a volunteer assistant coach at her alma mater, Santa Clara University, helping her husband Jerry Smith, who has been the head coach for 30 years.

BELL RUNG: Chastain's experienced her share of concussions during a 24-year career spanning college, national teams and pro soccer. The 48-year-old says she's donating her brain to the Concussion Legacy Foundation because she "won't need it at the time" and "might as do some good with it." Chastain wants to "leave soccer in a better place" and "if they can get some information out of looking at my brain, then I'm happy to contribute."

CROHN'S CHALLENGE: Chastain's 10-year-old son Jaden was recently diagnosed with Crohn's disease, which causes inflammation of the gastrointestinal tract. Symptoms of the disease that affects about 700,000 people in the U.S. include cramping, diarrhea and fatigue. The cause isn't exactly known, but doctors think it's a combination of genetics, an over-reactive immune system and environmental factors. Jaden, who plays soccer, baseball and swims, has a supportive school and a treatment plan to manage his symptoms.

NEW ATTITUDE: Chastain acknowledges that helping her son deal with the emotional and social impact of the disease initially weren't her strengths.

"As a pro athlete, my philosophy was you kind of grind it out," she said. "Sometimes you won't feel good and you still have to do the work. I had to take a step back and know I'm not always in control, and Jaden will take the lead. He knows when he needs to rest or can't play. That was a great lesson for me."

SOCCER EQUITY: She's been watching the efforts by the U.S. women's team to receive better wages and benefits from U.S. Soccer.

Chastain says a lack of money is "absolutely not the reason" the federation offers different pay scales for the U.S. men's and women's teams. It's more about distribution, given the money the federation receives from TV revenue, sponsorships and FIFA.

"I'm a big advocate for equal reward for the work we do on the field," she said. "It's been a continual fight and a battle that, hopefully, we'll very soon win."

She says it's similar to the struggle for women's voting rights and Title IX, which opened opportunities for girls and women in education and sports. Chastain believes people will eventually look back at the wage issue and consider it archaic.

"Women — and not just women, there are a lot of male advocates out there — are saying, 'It's time. There's no logical reason for this to exist any longer.'"

Dems' division, emails roil party on Day 1 of convention

KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

KATHLEEN HENNESSEY, Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Angry Democrats heckled outgoing party chief Debbie Wasserman Schultz with boos and cries of "shame!" on Monday as the party tried to move past an embarrassing email controversy and heal divisions before this week's national convention begins.

In her first remarks since announcing her resignation on Sunday, the Florida congresswoman struggled to be heard in her Monday morning address before her home-state delegation. Some delegates, apparently disappointed supporters of her primary rival, Bernie Sanders, jeered and waved signs reading "Thanks for the 'help,' Debbie," and more simply, "E-mail."

Her supporters pushed back, standing on chairs and yelling at the Sanders people to step back or sit down.

Wasserman Schultz tried to shout over the raucous crowd, saying, "We have to make sure that we move together in a unified way!"

The scene was a troubling display of tumult for Democrats who awoke Monday to a firestorm over hacked party emails. The correspondence appeared to show top officials at the supposedly neutral Democratic National Committee favoring Hillary Clinton in the presidential primaries against Sanders.

The embarrassing emails, posted by WikiLeaks over the weekend, have ripped open the primary wounds and exposed a rift that threatens to undermine Democrats' attempt to display four days of focus on putting Clinton in the White House.

The party announced Monday it would kick off its convention with speeches from some of its most popular figures. Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, a progressive favorite, would deliver the convention keynote. Sanders and first lady Michelle Obama will also take the stage.

The kickoff lineup had long been intended to appeal to the party's restive liberal wing, but that task has become unexpectedly urgent by the trove of 19,000 leaked emails.

Clinton campaign officials pointed the finger for the hack at Russian military intelligence agencies. They accused Russia of trying to meddle in the U.S. election and favoring GOP nominee Donald Trump.

"We don't have information right now about that, but what we have is a kind of bromance going on between Vladimir Putin and Trump which is distinct from this leak," Clinton adviser John Podesta said in an MSNBC interview.

Trump dismissed the suggestion in a tweet: "The joke in town is that Russia leaked the disastrous DNC emails, which should never have been written (stupid), because Putin likes me."

It wasn't immediately clear how WikiLeaks received copies of the internal Democratic emails. Party officials learned in late April that their systems had been attacked after they discovered malicious software on their computers.

A cybersecurity firm they employed found traces of at least two sophisticated hacking groups on their network — both of which have ties to the Russian government. Those hackers took at least a year's worth of detailed chats, emails and research on Trump, according to a person knowledgeable of the breach who wasn't authorized to speak publicly about the matter.

Republicans relished Democrats' pre-convention tumult, just days after they bumped and bumbled through their convention, unsuccessfully trying to paper over their own division. Trump declared on Twitter: "The Dems Convention is cracking up."

Resistance to Clinton was on display during a demonstration Sunday as many thronged to a main thoroughfare and chanted, "Hell no, DNC, we won't vote for Hillary." Still many delegates, and Sanders

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 23 of 35

himself, said they planned to fall in line, mindful of the Republican alternative.

Ohio's Michael Skindell, a Sanders delegate, said Monday he plans to "strongly support the nominee of the party."

DNC Vice Chair Donna Brazile, a veteran Democratic strategist who will lead the party on an interim basis after the convention, warned more leaked emails, and more apologies, could be coming.

For now, party leaders tried to make Wasserman Schultz's exit as graceful as possible. Clinton and President Barack Obama both quickly praised the departed party chief. Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe told delegates Monday morning he hoped delegates will treat the often-controversial Wasserman Schultz with respect as she continues to participate in the convention, noting that "she wants to get up there."

At the Republican convention, Trump cast himself as the law-and-order candidate in a nation suffering under crime and hobbled by immigration, sticking to the gloom-and-doom theme. As he accepted the Republican nomination, Trump said: "The legacy of Hillary Clinton is death, destruction, terrorism and weakness."

In return, Clinton seized upon what she called the "fear and the anger and the resentment" from Trump and Republicans, dismissing Trump's declaration that only he could fix the problems that afflict the nation.

Clinton was due to campaign in Charlotte, North Carolina, on Monday. Ahead of her speech to the VFW, she secured the endorsement of retired Gen. John Allen, former deputy commander of U. S. Central Command and a former commander of the International Security Assistance Force, overseeing NATO troops in Afghanistan

"I have no doubt that she is the leader we need at this time to keep our country safe, and I trust her with that most sacred responsibility of commander in chief," he said.

Clinton is within just days of her long-held ambition to become the party's official presidential nominee. She will formally accept the nomination on Thursday. Obama will speak on Wednesday night. Other high-profile speakers include former President Bill Clinton and Vice President Joe Biden.

Overcoming the lingering resentment among Sanders supporters may become the task of the week.

Kenny Madden, a Sanders delegate from Kentucky, said he doesn't "think there can be anything Bernie can say that will bring people together. I think that's going to have to come from the other side."

U2, Drake, Britney Spears to perform at iHeartRadio festival

NEW YORK (AP) — U2, Drake, Britney Spears and Sting will perform at the 2016 iHeartRadio Music Festival in September.

Sia, Billy Idol, Ariana Grande, Usher, Sam Hunt and Florida Georgia Line will also perform during the two-day event at the T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas on Sept. 23-24, iHeartMedia announced Monday.

Tickets go on sale Saturday. Pitbull, Zedd, twenty one pilots, OneRepublic, Cage the Elephant and Tears for Fears will also perform on the main stage.

The festival will also include its daytime performances, dubbed Daytime Village, at the Las Vegas Village. It will feature Sam Hunt, Panic! at the Disco, Alessia Cara, Troye Sivan, Hailee Steinfeld, Good Charlotte, Jeremih and Bryson Tiller.

The CW Network will air a two-day televised special Oct. 6-7.

Sanders, delegates to meet privately amid lingering angst

CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Amid lingering angst over the primary process, Bernie Sanders has a chance to encourage his supporters to embrace party unity.

Sanders is set to meet privately with supporters Monday before the start of the Democratic National Convention. Sanders backers have expressed frustration over the nominating procedures, the party platform and party leadership, with some suggesting they may protest or take action on the floor. But the Vermont Senator has struck a positive message in recent interviews, expressing his support for Hillary Clinton.

"I'm proud that, in the Democratic platform that was passed a few weeks ago, we are making some real progress," Sanders said on CNN Sunday. He added: "My focus right now is defeating (Donald) Trump, electing Clinton, electing progressive candidates around this country and focusing on the issues that matter the most to working families."

Sanders will address the full convention Monday night.

Efforts to promote party togetherness were not helped by the publication last week of thousands of hacked emails, some of which suggested the DNC was favoring Clinton during the primary season. For many Sanders fans, the messages proved that their concerns about party officials preferring Clinton were correct. While party chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz is stepping down soon, she will still have a convention role, which could draw jeers from Sanders delegates.

At a meeting of the DNC credentials committee Sunday, comments praising Wasserman Schultz were met with laughter by some Sanders supporters. At a committee meeting the previous day, Sanders backers shouted "shame, shame, shame" as amendments to abolish or limit superdelegates in future nominating competitions were voted down.

Some Sanders delegates feel the Clinton campaign is not taking their policy concerns seriously. At a news conference Sunday, Sanders delegate Norman Solomon, 65, of Point Reyes Station, California, said many of Sanders' liberal supporters were disappointed in Clinton's vice presidential pick of Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine. He said most viewed Kaine as not progressive enough and that there had been discussion about a variety of protest actions at the convention, including walking out.

"We've got to challenge the corporate power in the Democratic Party represented by Hillary Clinton today," Solomon said.

Still, Sanders delegate Courtney Rowe, 34, from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, said "we are not here to disrupt for the purpose of disruption." She said she was not currently planning on any action and wanted to hear from Sanders.

Sanders, who endorsed Clinton two weeks ago after a long-fought primary, has sought to find common ground around the party platform and rules. He successfully won major platform concessions, including a \$15 federal minimum wage, abolishing the death penalty and breaking up large Wall Street banks. And at the DNC rules committee the two sides agreed on a "unity commission" that will review changes to the nominating process, including limiting the role of superdelegates.

After the unity commission agreement, Sanders supporters seeking to pass amendments to abolish or curtail superdelegates opted against pursuing convention floor fights on the issue.

Sanders has made clear that he would like to see a full roll call vote at the convention, so that his delegates can show their support.

10 Things to Know for Today

The Associated Press

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

1. AUTHORITIES: 17 SHOT, 2 KILLED AT FLORIDA NIGHTCLUB

A captain with the Fort Myers Police Department tells WINK-TV as many as 17 people have been shot at Club Blu. Authorities say three people have been taken into custody and that there are two active crime scenes.

2. GERMAN ATTACKER SLATED TO BE DEPORTED

The failed asylum-seeker from Syria who blew himself up and wounded 12 people after being turned away from an open-air music festival in southern Germany was to be deported to Bulgaria, a German official says.

3. DEMOCRATS SEEK DISPLAY OF UNITY DESPITE LEADERSHIP SHUFFLE

Democrats open their national convention in Philadelphia eager to show off a forward-looking party united behind Hillary Clinton, but face lingering bitterness among supporters of Bernie Sanders and the resignation of Debbie Wasserman Schultz as party chair.

4. HUGE PROTESTS, HIGH TEMPS EXPECTED IN PHILLY

The Democratic convention gets underway in Philadelphia with much bigger demonstrations than the GOP edition and much higher temperatures, as the region copes with a heat wave.

5. 'GLASS CEILING' CLOSER, BUT WOMEN STILL LAG IN POLITICS

Clinton may be closer than ever to shattering what she called "the highest, hardest glass ceiling," but women in the U.S. remain significantly underrepresented at all levels of elected office.

6. BOGUS WANDS EXPOSED AFTER CATASTROPHIC IRAQ BOMBINGS

The government halts the use of fake wands soldiers were using at Baghdad's many checkpoints after a massive suicide bombing killed almost 300 people earlier this month.

7. 'LESS GENDERED' KIDS CLOTHING GENRE GROWING

And with that some big retailers are making small changes, while some frustrated parents have started their own companies.

8. PHILIPPINE LEADER DECLARES CEASEFIRE WITH COMMUNIST REBELS

Rodrigo Duterte asks the Maoist rebels to end decades of deadly violence and foster the resumption of peace talks.

9. 'POKEMON GO' PLAYERS STUMBLE ON HIDDEN HISTORY

Historical markers have long dotted the landscape, often barely noticed by passers-by — until they became treasure-filled stops this month on the "Pokemon Go" trail.

10. DURANT READY FOR WARM WELCOME IN OAKLAND

Even in a jersey with "USA" on the chest, Kevin Durant got some boos from fans in Los Angeles for an exhibition blowout of China. That's expected to change the next night in Oakland.

DNC steps off in Philadelphia with huge protests, high temps

GEOFF MULVIHILL, Associated Press

MEGAN TRIMBLE, Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Democratic National Convention gets underway Monday in Philadelphia with much bigger demonstrations than the Republican convention and much higher temperatures as the region copes with an oppressive heat wave.

In one of the largest rallies planned for the day, a pro-Bernie Sanders group is expected to walk across the Ben Franklin Bridge, which connects Camden, New Jersey, with Philadelphia.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 26 of 35

The demonstrations, largely driven by Sanders supporters, have been peaceful so far.

On Sunday, throngs of people marched along a main thoroughfare of the city to show their support for Sanders and their disdain for presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton.

They chanted "Hell no, DNC, we won't vote for Hillary" and "This is what democracy looks like."

Although planned for months, the marches came as fractures appeared in the party that had been trying to display a show of unity in recent weeks. Debbie Wasserman Schultz resigned Sunday as Democratic Party chairwoman over emails suggesting the DNC had played favorites for Clinton during the primary.

The Democrats had been trying to avoid the divide that was apparent in Cleveland during the Republican National Convention last week. But the hacked emails, published by WikiLeaks, further fired up Sanders supporters, who long accused the party of favoring Clinton despite officially being neutral.

Sanders had called for Wasserman Schultz's resignation and said Sunday that she made the right decision for the party's future by resigning.

Darcy Samek, 54, traveled alone from Minneapolis to protest through the four-day convention. She said Wasserman Schultz has been a "miserable failure" who needed to be gone.

"Everyone kind of knew (the Democratic Party was against Bernie Sanders), but that doesn't mean it will change now that it's proven. It's just more of the same," she said.

Philadelphia police called Sunday's protests peaceful and said they were pleased with how things were going.

Earlier in the day, thousands of clean-energy activists jammed a downtown street in their milelong march from City Hall to Independence Hall, near the Liberty Bell. They held anti-fracking and anti-pipeline signs, some with illustrations showing a train surrounded by a fireball and the words "No Exploding Trains." Others held "Bernie or Bust" signs.

Sam Miller, 82, traveled from Erie, Pennsylvania, to join the march that stretched several blocks and across a wide street as temperatures in the city soared into the mid-90s. He said he was inspired because "fracking is invading Mother Earth."

The heat wave is not going away anytime soon. It will hit a peak Monday with temperatures in the city possibly reaching 100 degrees but feeling like 108, according to the National Weather Service.

Officials said volunteers will be handing out water to demonstrators all week.

Some of the largest protests will start about 4 miles north of the Wells Fargo Center in south Philadelphia, where the convention is being held. Most protests during the RNC were concentrated in a tight, 1.7-square-mile zone downtown. A heavy police presence and fewer than expected protesters helped keep the calm. About two dozen arrests were made, and there were no significant injuries.

More than 5,000 delegates are among the 50,000 people set to attend the four-day convention, which is expected to culminate with Clinton being named the party's official nominee for president.

Ukraine's Georgian corruption fighter sets his sights higher

YURAS KARMANAU, Associated Press

ODESSA, Ukraine (AP) — Mikhail Saakashvili, the former president of Georgia, has brought his corruption-fighting record to his job as governor of the Odessa region in Ukraine.

So far, however, the pace has been dismally slow. His stifled efforts in Odessa show the systemic problems still facing the entire country two years after it broke with Moscow and aligned itself firmly with the West.

Odessa, Ukraine's largest port, is known not only for exquisite theaters and museums but for its organized crime, which Saakashvili said resembles Chicago at the time of Al Capone. Saakashvili blames

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 27 of 35

the lack of progress on the preservation of the old system of backroom deals and the pervasive power of politically connected businessmen.

"I think the patience of Ukrainians is running out," Saakashvili said inside a sweltering canvas tent with European Union and Ukrainian flags flying overhead. "This corrupt system cannot continue."

Saakashvili recently set up the tent along the potholed road that leads to EU member Romania to express his frustration at the obstacles he's faced in cleaning up this notoriously corrupt region and helping Ukraine move closer to the 28-nation bloc. He then moved his office inside, the wooden chairs resting in the mud.

He did this to demand that the government come through with promised money to repair the strategically important highway.

The funds have been allocated, but Saakashvili said only about 10 percent had been received. Although he refused to directly accuse government bureaucrats of corruption, he hinted they were waiting for him to agree to operate according to the "old scheme," a reference to a system of kickbacks for state contracts that by many accounts remains in place.

Saakashvili passionately described plans for European-style reforms, including restructuring the police force and customs service, which he said will determine the future not only of Ukraine but of the entire post-Soviet region.

In Georgia, Saakashvili's main achievements as president from 2004 to 2013 included a significant reduction in corruption and a crackdown on organized crime. He completely reformed the police force, ending its long-held tradition of taking bribes.

Saakashvili was appointed Odessa governor in 2015, a year after President Petro Poroshenko came to power following mass protests against corruption and demanding closer ties with the West. Poroshenko made the appointment to promote greater integration with the EU.

In an example of the corruption Saakashvili is trying to fight, Estonian businessman Marcel Vichmann was forced to stop a project to build a 12-kilometer (seven-mile) promenade in the beach resort of Zatoka after the construction permits were stolen, his lawyer was attacked and the town administration reconsidered its decision to lease him the land.

"We may be able to win in court, but we are powerless to resist the criminal structures," Vichmann said at a news conference.

Saakashvili has fired the heads of 24 of the 27 districts in the Odessa region, but critics say it has had little impact on corruption. Saakashvili blames the resistance of local elites and his limited powers as governor.

This is particularly true with respect to Odessa Mayor Gennady Trukhanov, a member of the party once headed by Viktor Yanukovich, the Kremlin-supported former president who was ousted in 2014.

Trukhanov figured in the so-called Panama Papers. The leaked documents from the Panamanian law firm showed he owned more than 20 companies registered offshore and had identified himself as a Russian citizen.

Trukhanov has denied being a Russian citizen and responded to the report of 20 offshore companies by passing it off as a "crude joke."

In Odessa, companies affiliated with him continue to win most city tenders.

"You can talk about the fight against corruption all you want, but actually it is much more difficult to defeat," Odessa businessman Oleg Minayev said. "The old system in Odessa has not changed."

Minayev's company bid on a contract to reconstruct a dam whose failure could flood parts of Odessa, but lost out to a company associated with Trukhanov even though that company's bid was significantly higher.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 28 of 35

"Hopes for Saakashvili and a new type of management have begun to evaporate, while the oligarchic influence on politics and business in Odessa has not gone away," Minayev said.

To spearhead the fight against corruption, Saakashvili set out to reform the police force and the customs service in Odessa.

Associated Press journalists unexpectedly were witness to a special operation to detain two police officers accused of taking bribes. A chase involving patrol cars with flashing lights and a shootout in the center of Odessa ended with the suspected police officers in handcuffs.

The customs service in Odessa says that businesses no longer need to wait weeks or even months for goods to clear, now that shadow schemes have been eliminated and procedures have been simplified.

"We have managed to create a healthy alternative to the corrupt system," said Yulia Marushevskaya, the head of Odessa's custom service.

She acknowledges, however, that businesses are able to get around paying full duties by bypassing Odessa and clearing customs elsewhere in the country where corrupt practices still operate.

In a show of his frustration, Saakashvili has joined calls by Poroshenko's critics for early parliamentary elections.

"I do not see a situation where this parliament and the oligarchs who have really taken the country hostage can hold out for three more years," Saakashvili said. "Any progressive bill concerning customs, tax reform, local self-government or the fight against corruption instantly gets stuck."

And he is creating an organization of his own with the potential to play a role in national politics and catapult him into the top leadership. The organization is holding forums around the country that have attracted thousands and it has drawn support from more than 20 of the groups that played key roles in the 2014 protests.

Saakashvili insists he is not creating a political party. But he has been mentioned as among the most likely candidates to become prime minister.

"I have no claims on specific political structures, but I feel an urgent need to support young people in changing the political elite," he said. "Without this, Ukraine cannot move forward."

Boos to cheers: Durant heads home to Oakland with Team USA

GREG BEACHAM, AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Even in a jersey with "USA" on the chest, Kevin Durant got some boos at Staples Center on Sunday night.

He'll probably need to get used to that sound in this building for the rest of his basketball career.

When he suits up in Oakland on Tuesday for the first time since joining the Golden State Warriors, he'll get another reception entirely.

But no hate or love from the stands is going to deter Durant from trying to win a gold medal or an NBA title.

"The crowd here tonight was great, so hopefully it's just as good at Oracle," Durant said after scoring 19 points at a packed Staples Center during the Americans' 106-57 victory over China in the second stop of a five-game pre-Olympics showcase.

When told he had been booed in pregame introductions, Durant seemed surprised: "No, I didn't hear it. I did? Huh. I didn't hear it."

The Los Angeles fans were gathered to cheer for the Americans during an exhibition blowout, but some of them couldn't resist jabbing at the newest member of the Warriors and his two-team teammate, Draymond Green. The Clippers fans in the crowd supported the red, white and blue — but those colors represent something else to them for most of the year, and they let their new nemesis know it.

Golden State general manager Bob Myers was in attendance to see his newest signing's performance alongside Green and Klay Thompson, who scored 17 points in another impressive exhibition victory for the gold medal favorites.

Myers was surprised by the boos, but only to a point.

"I think it's Clipper fans, because they cheered DeAndre (Jordan)," Myers said. "That's just my guess."

The Clippers have a fierce rivalry with the Warriors, but it seems increasingly likely Durant will be a magnet for boos throughout the league after spurning Oklahoma City to chase a championship with Stephen Curry in Oakland.

He'll return to his new home in the East Bay for what's likely to be a less hostile reception before the Americans' next exhibition, also against China.

"He won't get booed on Tuesday," Myers said dryly.

Durant isn't taking anything for granted. He is just beginning to grasp the enormity of his move in the eyes of fans and opponents. The gifted scorer and former MVP has been widely popular around the game for most of his career, but his decision this month has made him a target of jealousy, frustration and even derision — and not even a Team USA jersey can deflect it.

"I'm excited to go to Oakland as a member of the Warriors," Durant said. "We'll see. I don't know what to expect. I'm just going to go up there, be my normal self and do my normal routine."

Durant could need months to feel normal in a Warriors uniform, but he's getting a valuable head start during this six-week attempt to win his second gold medal in Rio de Janeiro.

While Curry decided to skip the Olympics, Green and Thompson will be with Durant for the duration, building chemistry and togetherness as the second trio of NBA teammates to play Olympic hoops together since the NBA joined the Games in 1992.

Durant, Green and Thompson were all on court together for the first time last Friday during the U.S. blowout of Argentina in Las Vegas.

"When you're out there right now, you don't even think about the fact that we are teammates," Green said. "I didn't even notice that me, Klay and K.D. were out there together. ... To be on the same team competing for the same goal, it's definitely something that at first is weird, but then when you get around all these guys, and it is such a great group of guys, down-to-earth, fun to hang around with, it makes everything more fun."

DIVIDED AMERICA: Clinton highlights lack of women in office

CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY, Associated Press

Hillary Clinton and Mary Thomas have little in common, except for this: They both hope to add to the meager ranks of America's female elected officials come January.

You know about Clinton, but probably not Thomas — a conservative Republican, opponent of abortion and Obamacare, former general counsel of Florida's Department of Elder Affairs. She's running in Florida's 2nd District to become the first Indian-American woman in Congress. It's no easy task.

"There is still a good ol' boys network that is in place," she says, though she insists that "A lot of people see the value in having different types of people in Washington."

EDITOR'S NOTE — This story is part of Divided America, AP's ongoing exploration of the economic, social and political divisions in American society.

Even as Clinton attempts to shatter what she has called "the highest, hardest glass ceiling," other

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 30 of 35

women like Thomas are testing other, lower ceilings. There are many: Women in the U.S. remain significantly underrepresented at all levels of elected office.

"Historically, we have centuries of catching up to do," says Missy Shorey, executive director of the conservative-leaning Maggie's List, one of a number of groups supporting female candidates.

Though women are more than half of the American population, they now account for just a fifth of all U.S. representatives and senators, and one in four state lawmakers. They serve as governors of only six states and are mayors in roughly 19 percent of the nation's largest cities.

There has been progress; as recently as 1978, there were no women U.S. senators, and now there are 20. Still, there has been little headway since a surge of women won office in the 1980s and early 1990s. Sixteen states have fewer women serving in legislatures than in 2005, and five others have shown no improvement, according to an analysis by The Associated Press of data collected by the National Conference of State Legislatures.

It is another aspect of the gender divide — one of the most glaring in our society. Women still earn 79 cents for every dollar men take home; men outnumber women in higher paying occupations, though even there they are often paid less. And the division plays out politically, as well. Women have tended to vote with the Democrats more often; polls have shown Clinton with a double-digit lead over Donald Trump among women, and Trump leading Clinton by double digits among men.

Advocates say the dearth of women officeholders has had consequences. They say women's voices have been muted in local, state and national discussions of all issues, from climate change to foreign policy, but particularly of concerns important to women and working mothers: family leave, child care and equal pay, for example. They point to instances where women in office have made a difference.

Kim McMillan was first elected as a Democrat to her seat in Tennessee's House of Representatives in 1994 when she was 32 years old, a working mother of two children under the age of 3. She was motivated to run after visiting the state Capitol as part of her law practice.

"I went up to the gallery upstairs and you could look out at the entire House of Representatives. I remember standing up there and looking at the House floor, and I didn't see anybody who looked like me," McMillan says. "There were no women that I could see."

More than once, she was told she couldn't win because she was a woman. She recalls being asked why she would run with two young children to care for.

McMillan won that race and eventually served six terms, rising to become the first woman majority leader. A major accomplishment: expansion of pre-kindergarten education around the state.

"I felt like I represented people who didn't have any representation, working mothers like me," says McMillan, who now serves as the first female mayor of Clarksville, the fifth largest city in Tennessee.

Whether a Clinton win in November will inspire a new generation of female politicians remains to be seen. While the election of a woman as U.S. president would be unprecedented, at least 52 other countries around the world have had a female head of state in the last 50 years. Great Britain got its second female prime minister when Theresa May took office this month.

Female representation varies significantly around the U.S. Six states have never elected or appointed a woman to the U.S. House of Representatives, and 22 have never had a woman represent them in the U.S. Senate. Mississippi is the only state where a woman has never served as a congresswoman, U.S. senator or governor.

Colorado has the highest number of women serving in a state legislature, with 42 percent, but it has never had a woman governor or U.S. senator.

And while Nikki Haley is South Carolina's governor, the state has never sent a woman to the U.S. Sen-

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 31 of 35

ate and has one of the lowest percentages of female state lawmakers at 14 percent.

A major problem, activists say, is convincing women to run. Researchers say women generally need to be recruited to seek elected office, whereas men are more likely to decide on their own. Men are also the ones who are more likely to be recruited.

"We know that when women run for office, they win as often as men do," says Debbie Walsh, executive director of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University. "The number of women running isn't going up, and so the number of women in office isn't going up."

Quotas have been credited by some researchers with boosting the number of women in office in a few countries, but the political parties in the U.S. are unlikely to consider any such system. Instead, the work of recruiting and supporting women has largely fallen to outside groups such as EMILY's List.

Founded in 1985, the group backs Democrats who support abortion rights. It points to a record of helping elect 19 women to the U.S. Senate, 110 women to the U.S. House of Representatives and more than 700 women to state and local offices, including 11 governors.

It's not just financial support, although EMILY's List says it has raised more than \$400 million since it was created. The group works to recruit female candidates, offering them training and guidance in such areas as hiring staff, developing a financial plan and honing campaign messages. It also offers a support network of elected officials who can mentor female candidates.

"No matter who you are, when running for office for the first time you have a lot of questions and need answers," says Marcy Stech, who oversees communications for EMILY's List. "We want to help them make sure those boxes are checked."

A support network has been instrumental throughout Ellen Rosenblum's career, beginning as a lawyer in Oregon and continuing as she was appointed a state court judge and later during her successful bid for state attorney general. Two of her early mentors were former Oregon Supreme Court Justice Betty Roberts, the first woman to serve on an Oregon appellate court, and Barbara Roberts, the first woman elected governor of Oregon.

Rosenblum says she worked to pay it forward, helping to build up a statewide group of women lawyers. When it came to deciding in late 2011 whether to launch her first bid for statewide office, that same network was instrumental.

"I needed lots and lots of advice," says Rosenblum, who at the time had just retired as a judge. "I needed women to talk to, to make sure I was not completely out of my mind to do this."

The first woman elected as Oregon's attorney general, Rosenblum is seeking a second term in November.

In California, Hannah-Beth Jackson had long been active in her community beyond her work as a lawyer and former prosecutor, but it took the encouragement of one of her mentors to convince her to run for state Assembly in 1998.

"Women tend to ask permission, and we're never quite sure we are good enough or ready enough," she says. "Men generally don't have those same concerns."

Now in the state Senate, she is chairwoman of the powerful judiciary committee as well as the California Legislative Women's Caucus. Jackson's legislative accomplishments include what was considered the strongest equal pay legislation in the country.

Despite her influence and tenure, the Democratic lawmaker does not always succeed. Earlier this year, a bill she sponsored extending California's family leave protections to small-business employees died in an all-male committee amid concerns of regulatory burdens.

She is undeterred.

"Let's see what happens when I bring the bill back," Jackson says. "Hopefully, that committee will have some women members."

'Pokemon Go' players stumble on hidden history

MATT O'BRIEN, Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — Historical markers have long dotted the landscape, often barely noticed by passers-by — until they became treasure-filled stops this month on the "Pokemon Go" trail.

Players hunting for fictional creatures on their smartphones are now visiting real-life memorial plaques, statues, mosaics and landmarks, ranging from a Civil War battlefield in Chancellorsville, Virginia, to a Hells Angels clubhouse on New Zealand's North Island.

Some don't bother to linger at these Pokestops, staying just long enough to stock up on the virtual balls they'll use to bonk and capture the next Pokemon. But for others, the GPS-powered "augmented reality" game is heightening awareness of the history and geography of their neighborhoods.

"Before I was just going from Point A to Point B, but now I'm learning things," said 15-year-old Jaiden Cruz as he walked by a plaque Wednesday in downtown Providence, Rhode Island, marking where Abraham Lincoln spoke at an old railroad hall in 1860. The plaque is a Pokestop, and shortly before Cruz arrived, another player dropped a "lure module" that attracts Pokemon to the site.

The 380-year-old city abounds with Pokestops, including the nation's oldest Baptist church — founded by religious dissident Roger Williams in 1638 — and a stone marking where French troops camped during the Revolutionary War.

"It gets you to learn about your surroundings," said 59-year-old Cheryl DiMarzio, who on the advice of her daughter ventured into an urban park to capture an owl-like Pidgey and some purple rodent Rattatas. "Different landmarks, the statues and historical places."

How such markers became the backbone of the wildly popular video game that launched this month is a story that goes back at least five years, when tech giant Google signed a licensing agreement to use The Historical Marker Database, a volunteer-run website that has tracked the geographic coordinates of more than 80,000 historical markers around the world, most of them in the United States.

J.J. Prats, founder and publisher of the Virginia-based marker database, said many but not all the Pokestops and Pokemon gyms — where players send their creatures into battle — are from his website. He's thrilled.

"Hopefully people will take their eyes off the phone and read the historical markers," Prats said.

The game has delighted Anthony Golding, a middle school history teacher in Tupelo, Mississippi, who is looking forward to incorporating Pokestops into his curriculum in the fall.

He has replenished his Pokemon wares where the Civil War's Battle of Tupelo was fought, at monuments to Civil Rights Movement figures, and at a pedestal that holds the Tupelo Meteorite. But Elvis Presley holds the monopoly on Tupelo's Pokestops, from his birthplace to the Main Street store where he got his first guitar.

"Pretty much every Elvis landmark has a Pokestop devoted to it," Golding said.

Prats said his website's views have quadrupled since the game launched, possibly because gamers are looking to get ahead and find new stops. His editors in recent days have had to strike down a rash of "bogus" submissions for markers that have no historical significance but that he suspects might be near where players live or where businesses are hoping for foot traffic, he said.

Game maker Niantic Labs, which began as an internal Google startup, originally used the markers for its earlier game, Ingress, which attracted a smaller but dedicated community when it launched in 2012. Niantic, which spun off from Google last year, did not respond to emails seeking comment about its "Pokemon Go" locations.

But the Ingress website gives clues about how the Pokestops were created. Before closing off submissions, Ingress invited its users to identify new locations for "portals," real-life places of cultural signifi-

cance that gamers try to capture and connect on the Ingress app.

The company sought spots “with a cool story, a place in history or educational value” or a “cool piece of art or unique architecture.” It prized libraries and little-known gems, and welcomed places of worship because they are “a nod to the otherworldly” that amplified the game’s mysterious tone.

Ingress player John Jannotti, who teaches computer science at Brown University, said he began stumbling upon the hidden history of his Providence neighborhood, including obscure stone markers showing the location of race riots where white mobs attacked black residents in the early 19th century. He even submitted some portals of his own.

Now, those markers are Pokestops attracting a whole new community.

Golding, the teacher, said he frequently runs into his students in downtown Tupelo while playing the game.

“It’s probably more about the game for them right now,” Golding said. “After the newness kind of wears off, we can start to have those conversations about the historical significance behind those Pokestops.”

Crash kills Nebraska punter, former Michigan State punter

WAUKESHA, Wis. (AP) — Nebraska punter Sam Foltz and former Michigan State punter Mike Sadler died in a car crash in Wisconsin after working at a kicking clinic, a sheriff’s department official said Sunday. LSU kicker Colby Delahoussaye was injured in the crash.

Waukesha County Sheriff’s Lt. Thom Moerman said speed was likely a factor in the single-vehicle crash that happened around 11:45 p.m. Saturday.

The 24-year-old Sadler, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was driving. He and 22-year-old Foltz, of Greeley, Nebraska, both died at the scene. Delahoussaye, 21 of New Iberia, Louisiana, was also a passenger. He was treated at Waukesha Memorial Hospital and released. A statement from LSU said his injuries were minor and that he was scheduled to return home Monday.

Moerman said in a statement that Sadler lost control on the wet pavement, left the roadway and struck a tree.

The University of Nebraska said Sunday the team will skip this week’s planned Big Ten media days in Chicago because of Foltz’s death.

Foltz was a three-year starter for the Nebraska team and last year he was named the Big Ten’s punter of the year. Foltz graduated from Nebraska with a degree in agronomy in May. He led the Big Ten in punting last year at 44.2 yards per kick and ranked fifth in school history (42.6).

Nebraska Coach Mike Riley said Foltz was respected on the team and had a positive influence on everyone he interacted with.

“The young men in our football program are hurting but I know that their strength of character and resolve will bring us together and we will honor Sam every day moving forward,” Riley said.

Several hundred friends and teammates of Foltz gathered outside Memorial Stadium in Lincoln Sunday afternoon to remember him. Several players talked about how hard Foltz worked and his faith in God.

“Sam was a kind and thoughtful young man who was a leader on the playing field, in the classroom, and in his community,” Nebraska Chancellor Ronnie D. Green said in a statement. “He was an exemplary student-athlete who grew as a player and as a person on his path to recent completion of his degree in agronomy from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and anyone who knew him can testify that he had an enduring influence on those around him.”

Sadler was a four-year starter and four-time academic All-American at Michigan State. He finished his

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 34 of 35

college playing career after the 2014 season. He drew something of a cult following during his playing days because of his sense of humor and wit.

"I just asked my waitress what sport she thought I played. Her answer? Disk golf. Time to reevaluate my life," Sadler once tweeted.

He helped get his own mock Heisman Trophy candidacy rolling one season by pushing the hashtag #sadler4heisman. He would also regularly exchange funny lines on Twitter with the @FauxPelini account, a popular parody of the former Nebraska and current Youngstown State coach Bo Pelini.

"Mike impacted so many people not only as a football player, but also from an academic standpoint and in the community as well," Michigan State coach Mark Dantonio said in a statement. "The world has lost a rising star who dreamed big and was accomplishing those dreams, one after another. He was one of those people that brightened your day."

Dan Tracy with Kohl's Kicking said both Sadler and Foltz had been working at a weekend clinic at the camp in Wisconsin. Tracy said the camp ended early Sunday after an announcement about the deaths.

A statement from kicking camp director Jamie Kohl said the staff was mourning with the players' families and football programs.

"We mourn today with all of the people who were better men and women for knowing Sam and Mike," Kohl said. "Our thoughts and prayers are with them."

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, July 25, the 207th day of 2016. There are 159 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 25, 1956, the Italian liner SS Andrea Doria collided with the Swedish passenger ship Stockholm off the New England coast late at night and began sinking; 51 people — 46 from the Andrea Doria, five from the Stockholm — were killed. (The Andrea Doria capsized and sank the following morning.)

On this date:

In 1866, Ulysses S. Grant was named General of the Army of the United States, the first officer to hold the rank.

In 1909, French aviator Louis Bleriot (bleh-ree-OH') became the first person to fly an airplane across the English Channel, traveling from Calais (kah-LAY') to Dover in 37 minutes.

In 1918, the musical revue "The Passing Show of 1918" opened on Broadway, featuring a cast that included Fred Astaire and his sister, Adele, and the song "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles."

In 1934, Austrian Chancellor Engelbert Dollfuss was assassinated by pro-Nazi Austrians in a failed coup attempt.

In 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt froze Japanese assets in the United States in retaliation for Japan's occupation of southern Indochina.

In 1946, the United States detonated an atomic bomb near Bikini Atoll in the Pacific in the first underwater test of the device.

In 1952, Puerto Rico became a self-governing commonwealth of the United States.

In 1965, Bob Dylan drew boos from some spectators at the Newport Folk Festival as he performed with a rock band.

In 1975, the musical "A Chorus Line" opened on Broadway at the Shubert Theatre, beginning a run of 6,137 performances.

In 1986, movie director Vincente Minnelli, known for such musicals as "Gigi," "An American in Paris"

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, July 25, 2016 ♦ Vol. 23 - No. 025 ♦ 35 of 35

and "Meet Me in St. Louis," died in Los Angeles at age 83.

In 1994, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Jordan's King Hussein (hoo-SAYN') signed a declaration at the White House ending their countries' 46-year-old formal state of war.

In 2000, a New York-bound Air France Concorde crashed outside Paris shortly after takeoff, killing all 109 people on board and four people on the ground; it was the first-ever crash of the supersonic jet.

Ten years ago: Israeli troops sealed off a Hezbollah stronghold and widened their control of southern Lebanon; an Israeli airstrike hit a U.N. border outpost, killing four observers. President George W. Bush was visited at the White House by Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki (NOO'-ree ahl-MAHL'-ih-kee), who said he and Bush agreed that training and better arming Iraqi forces as quickly as possible was central to efforts to stabilizing his country.

Five years ago: In a prime-time address to the nation, President Barack Obama made a last-ditch call for compromise on raising the government's borrowing ability before an Aug. 2 deadline; in a rebuttal, House Speaker John Boehner (BAY'-nur) said negotiations with the White House had been futile. The NFL Players Association executive board and 32 team reps voted unanimously to approve the terms of a deal to end a 4½-month lockout. Movie director Michael Cacoyannis ("Zorba the Greek") died in Athens at age 89.

One year ago: President Barack Obama, visiting Kenya, mixed blunt messages on gay rights, corruption and counterterrorism with warm reflections on his family ties during a news conference with Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta in Nairobi. First lady Michelle Obama opened the Special Olympics at a star-studded ceremony in Los Angeles. Cole Hamels became the first pitcher to throw a no-hitter against the Chicago Cubs in 50 years while leading the Philadelphia Phillies to a 5-0 win.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Barbara Harris is 81. Folk-pop singer-musician Bruce Woodley (The Seekers) is 74. Rock musician Jim McCarty (The Yardbirds) is 73. Rock musician Verdine White (Earth, Wind & Fire) is 65. Singer-musician Jem Finer (The Pogues) is 61. Model-actress Iman is 61. Cartoonist Ray Billingsley ("Curtis") is 59. Rock musician Thurston Moore (Sonic Youth) is 58. Celebrity chef/TV personality Geoffrey Zakarian (TV: "Cooks vs Cons" "The Kitchen" "Chopped" "Iron Chef") is 57. Actress-singer Bobbie Eakes is 55. Actress Katherine Kelly Lang is 55. Actress Ileana Douglas is 51. Country singer Marty Brown is 51. Actor Matt LeBlanc is 49. Actress Wendy Raquel Robinson is 49. Rock musician Paavo Lotjonen (PAH'-woh LAHT'-joh-neh-n) (Apocalyptica) is 48. Actor D.B. Woodside is 47. Actress Miriam Shor is 45. Actor David Denman is 43. Actor Jay R. Ferguson is 42. Actor James Lafferty is 31. Actress Shantel VanSanten is 31. Actor Michael Welch is 29. Actress Linsey (cq) Godfrey is 28. Classical singer Faryl Smith is 21. Actor Pierce Gagnon is 11.

Thought for Today: "The truth is all things seen under the form of eternity." —