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Bus Driver Wanted

The Groton Area School District has openings for a part time (morning) bus route and for a full-time bus route driver. Assistance in obtaining the proper licensure is available. Please contact Transportation Supervisor, Loren Bahr, at 397-8117 for more details.

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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Thursday, Aug. 11

Presidential Joke Day
Son and Daughter Day

Senior Menu: Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas and carrots, peach cobbler, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Joshua Clocksene • Carol Dix • Jeff Stolle • Renee Tastad Mc Donald • Samantha Jondahl • Tylan Glover • Christina Kramp

12

Middle Child's Day

Senior Menu: Spanish rice/hamburger, green beans, Mandarin oranges, chocolate pudding, whole wheat bread.

Anniv: Shawn & Michelle Kelly

Birthdays: Alexa Nilsson • Amber Wolken • Haida Boyd • Jadyne Geffre • James Westby • Fern McPartland

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Left Handers' Day

Anniv: Jonathan & Mandilyn Fliehs

Birthdays: Logan Nilsson • Sam Furman • Mike Weber • Ralph Merkel • Jennifer Neff • Dee Riley • Don Hepola

4:00pm: Girls Soccer hosts Garretson

4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass 14

National Creamsicle Day

V-J Day

Shoot Out at Olive Grove

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



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Rose Waage, 716 N. 2nd St., Groton, was chosen as this week's Yard of the Week. The Yard of the Week is sponsored by the Groton Garden Club.



Left Photo: Kami Lipp and Brenda Madsen get educated on how to do the water testing at the Groton Pool.

4-H Royalty Candidates

The 2016 4-H Royalty candidates have submitted their applications and will be selected by 4-H members through online votes, as well as paper ballots prior to Monday, August 15th. Royalty candidates will be actively participating in different events throughout the fair, just look for the navy shirts!

The Royalty will be crowned Friday, August 19th, 2015, during the 4-H Royalty Coronation and 4-H Fashion Show at the Brown County Fair. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Kessler's tent on the east side of the Expo Building located on the Brown County Fairgrounds. 2015 4-H Royalty Jonathan Sumption and MiKayla Forsting will preside over the 2016 Royalty Event.

The 2016 Royalty Candidates are as follows:

Daniel Sharp, 17, is a ten year member of the Dakota Sharpshooters 4-H Club. In that time he has held the office of Vice-President, Secretary, and Reporter. During this time he has participated in the following project areas: Aerospace & Rocketry, Community Service, Dairy Science, Exploring 4-H, Engineering, Foods & Nutrition, Judging at State, Music, Photography, Public Speaking, Small Engines, Visual Arts, Meat Goats, Sheep and Wool, and Horticulture. Daniel has participated in dairy judging and multiple livestock skill-a-thons, including: beef, sheep, goat, and pig. He has also participated in Brown County Fair clean up, and consumer Decision Making. His most memorable 4-H accomplishments include: participating in Round Robin

twice; once as a junior with dairy cattle and once as a senior with meat goats, receiving a purple ribbon at the State Fair in public speaking, showing dairy cattle for 10 years and having multiple class winners, participating in the robotics challenge at both the county and state levels for three years, and participating in dairy judging for five years. Outside of 4-H, Daniel was a 2016 Boys State Delegate, is a member of the National Honor Society, a one year member of High School All State Band, and a two year member of High School All State Jazz Band.

Trey Wright, 17, is a ten year member of the Friendly Fellows and Daisies 4-H Club. In that time he has held the office of Vice-President, Secretary, Reporter, and Junior Leader. During this time he has participated in the following project



Customer Appreciation and Check-R-Board Days

Aug. 22 through Aug. 25

Different happenings everyday

Monday is cookies and coffee

On Tuesday all attendees receive a Purina cap

Wednesday is bring your pet in for a treat

**Thursday is roast beef sandwiches, beans and drink
served from noon to 7 pm.**

**Be sure to wear your checker board clothing
to be eligible to win \$500.**

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areas: Aerospace & Rocketry, Beef Production, Community Service, Crops & Crop Science, Exploring 4-H, Dogs, Electric, Food Preservation, Foods & Nutrition, Hippology, Hobbies & Collections, Home Environment, Home Environment, Horses & Ponies, Judging at State, Rodeo, Public Speaking, Horse Quiz Bowl, Sheep Production, Shooting Sports, Special Foods, Visual Arts, Welding Science, and Wood Science. Trey was a Denver Stock Show Hippology contestant, a State 4-H Rodeo participant for 2 years, a State Archery contestant for 2 years, and a state small bore rifle contestant. His most memorable 4-H accomplishments include: his team placing 5th at the National 4-H Hippology Contest, participating in the Round Robin Showmanship competition for 2 years, being elected as vice-president for his 4-H club, participating in State 4-H Rodeo for 2 years, and purpling in both State Special Foods and in State Public Presentations. Outside of 4-H, Trey placed 3rd in Destination Imagination Global Finals, participated in the 20Xtreme High School Rodeo Show Case, and participated in the national VEX Robotics Competition.

McKenzie Hassebroek, 14, is a six year member of the Rural Lads and Lassies 4-H Club. In that time she has held the office of Treasurer. During this time she has participated in the following project areas: Bread Baking, Clothing & Textiles, Community Service, Exploring 4-H, First Aid, Food Preservation, Home Environment, Poultry & Eggs, visual Arts, Welding Science, Wood Science, and Sheep Showing. McKenzie has participated in the Brown County 4-H Phoneathon for 2 years in a row and went as a Chicken Speaker at Runnings 2 years in a row. Her most memorable 4-H accomplishments include: holding the office of treasurer, as well as being involved in her clubs community service and photography. She has earned Best of Show waterfowl in 2012, 2013, and 2014. She received Best of Show for poultry in 2012. She has received 3rd place in bird showmanship, has earned 2 purple ribbons showing Suffolk sheep, and has earned top fruit seller for the 4-H Fruit Sale. Outside of 4-H, McKenzie is a Girl Scout and has earned her silver award by making walker bags for nursing home residents and earned her bronze award by rebuilding new stairs for the girl scout camp. At school she has earned a presidential award, was picked as the S.A.D.D student of the month, and was hand-picked to be a web-leader. McKenzie is also a part of the Teen Advisor Board for the public library. As a part of this board, she helps set up events for younger children and teens.

Sophie Wieland, 16, is an eight year member of the Lincoln Maids and Spaid's 4-H Club. In that time she has held the office of President, Secretary, and Treasurer. During this time she has participated in the following project areas: Clothing and Textiles, Foods & Nutrition, Gardens-Fruite/Begetables, Horticulture, Home Environment, and Visual Arts. Sophie has participated in the Brown County 4-H Phonathon for 3 years and Special Foods for 7 years. She has recorded PSAs for Brown County 4-H, has worked at the 4-H concession stand at the fair, and judged Horticulture at county and state levels. Her most memorable 4-H accomplishments include: receiving purple ribbons on her 4-H record books, becoming secretary of her 4-H club and finding that it was a job she enjoyed, receiving two perfect scores at the Brown County Special Foods contest in 2015 and 2016, as well as working with her fellow club members to make their club more welcoming for cloverbuds, by adding activities and crafts. Outside of 4-H, Sophie placed in several debate tournaments this past year in Public Forum, including 3rd in varsity at the McGovern Invitational and 1st in junior varsity at the Silver Bowl Tournament. She has been a member of both All State Orchestra and Band, on violin and oboe, as well as earning enough points in the Aberdeen area Piano Festival to earn her second cup.

Please join us for an
Open House Bridal Shower for

Sydney Erickson

Bride-to-be of
Blake Wilkinson

Saturday, August 13
9:30-11:30am
United Methodist Church
Groton

The couple is registered at
Target and Herbergers.



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THINKING ABOUT HEALTH

New Hospital Safety Ratings Available to the Public

By Trudy Lieberman, Rural Health News Service

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently signaled to the nation's hospitals that it was getting serious-and tough-about patient safety and the quality of care hospitals provide. The government's rating system-five stars for the best hospitals and one star for the worst-sends a message that patients have a right to know what's going on inside the hospitals they entrust with their lives or those of their family members.

The overall star ratings, the first for CMS, are a composite of 64 measures the government has used the past few years to rate hospital performance. They include factors such as complication rates for patients who've had knee and hip replacement surgery, urinary tract infections associated with catheter use, death rates among patients with serious but treatable complications after surgery, and patients' reported experience with their care.

Only 102 hospitals out of the 3,600 rated received five stars, and they included less well-known specialty facilities such as Lincoln Surgical Hospital in Lincoln, Nebraska, and the Orthopaedic Hospital of Lutheran Health Network in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Medicare gave 129 hospitals one star. They included two prominent hospitals in Washington D.C. - MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and George Washington University Hospital - as well as several hospitals in New York City. Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pennsylvania, that health policy experts and politicians cite for exemplary quality involving new ways of delivering and coordinating care, received a below-average two-star rating.

The ratings reveal a contradiction between scientifically measured evidence and the advertising hospitals use to build their brand. Hospitals like to tell their communities about new cancer treatments or new children's wings, not mediocre ratings. In my neighborhood New York City's Mt Sinai Hospital has used banner ads on the street to create an awareness of the hospital, which received only a mediocre three-star rating.

Those of us who have written about hospitals know that smart patients need to look way beyond the nightly advertising on TV.

Medicare often caves in to healthcare industry demands and has backed off many proposed rules that powerful doctors, hospitals, and drug companies opposed. But it isn't pulling any punches on this one despite attempted roadblocks. Last April some 200 members of the House of Representatives and 60 U.S. senators sent letters to CMS urging delay in releasing the star ratings.

They argued that the ratings may not take into account that many hospitals treat low-income patients

with complex conditions and, thus, may not be fair to providers. "The star system is an irresponsible slap in the face to America's most essential hospitals, those that take in the sickest patients," Dr. Eric Dickson, the chief executive of UMass Memorial Health Care, told the Boston Globe. His flagship teaching hospital in Worcester, Massachusetts, received one star.

But as Leah Binder who heads The Leapfrog Group, which advocates for patient safety, has noted on Forbes.com, the letter sent by the senators did not mention responsibility to patients who may suffer harm in a hospital. The British Medical Journal reported in May that researchers who examined the scientific evidence concluded that in 2013 medical errors were the third-leading cause of death in the U.S. behind heart disease and cancer.

That's cause for alarm and may be a reason why CMS



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didn't bow to political pressure this time.

Jordan Rau, a staffer at Kaiser Health News who has written about the evolution of hospital ratings, told me the stars may influence low-rated hospitals to improve their scores.

Hospitals may also fear that consumers will see the stars, which are easy to understand, dig into the numbers behind them, ask questions, and perhaps choose other facilities if they can. If that happens, CEOs may feel mighty uncomfortable going before their boards and explaining why they received only one or two stars.

Medicare has also just released the names of hospitals required to pay monetary penalties for having more patients than expected return to the hospital. About one-third of readmissions, considered a marker of quality, are preventable. The government looks at readmissions for such conditions as heart attacks, pneumonia, and hip and knee replacements.

Clearly, if you're planning a hospital stay for major surgery or any reason, check both CMS sites for the star ratings (<https://kaiserhealthnews.files.wordpress.com/2016/07/hospital-stars-july-2016-pdf1.pdf>) and the readmissions penalties (<https://kaiserhealthnews.files.wordpress.com/2016/08/medicare-readmission-penalties-year5-pdf-final1.pdf>).

Examining the ratings for facilities you are considering should either give you peace of mind-although nothing is guaranteed in the patient safety business-or cause for concern.

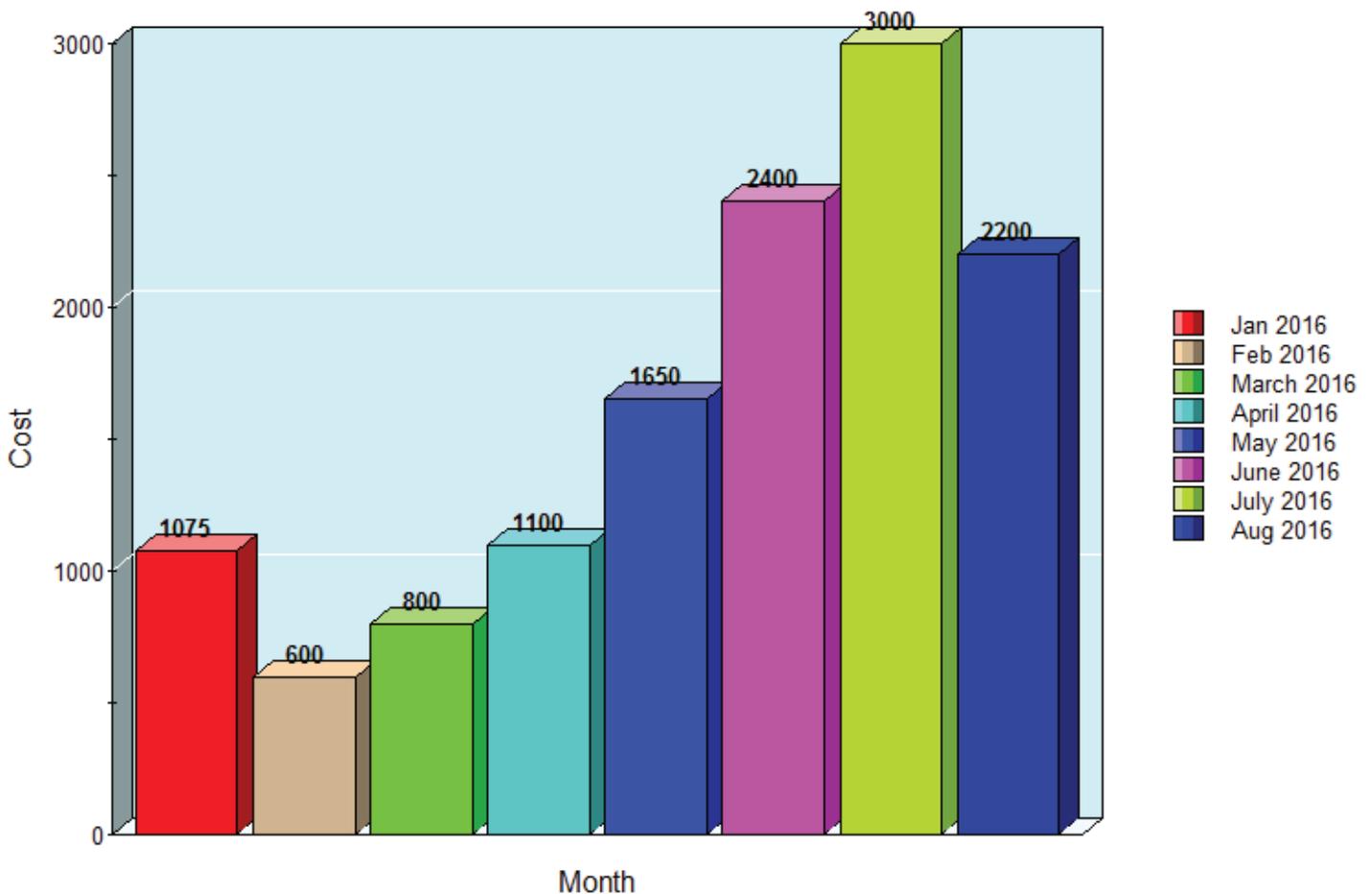
My advice: see how the "stars" align before you're a patient at any hospital.

What's been your experience finding a good hospital or with hospitals where you or a family member have experienced a medical error? Write to Trudy at trudy.lieberman@gmail.com.

City defending attacks on two fronts costs nearly \$5,000

The city of Groton has been engaged in a double front attack, resulting in escalating attorney fees as the city attorney defends the city. According to official minutes published in the Groton Independent, city attorney, Drew Johnson, charged the city a low of \$600 in attorney fees in February (January billing). Even April's billing of \$1,100 is close to the 2.5 year average of \$1,077. But then came the Dollar General Store challenge and Betty Breck's complaints. The June billing (May services) climbed to \$2,400 and escalated to \$3,000 in July (June services). The Breck complaints were deemed unmerited (except for one that the city will have to defend in the open meetings commissions hearing) and the Dollar General Store challenge was settled. The August billing dropped to \$2,200 for the July services. Based on the 2.5 year monthly average, the last four months have cost city taxpayers an additional \$5,000 in attorney fees.

City Attorney Fees



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Today in Weather History

August 11, 1975: A line of thunderstorms moved rapidly across portions of central and eastern South Dakota during the early morning hours. Winds gusted to 70 mph, causing considerable damage to trees. At Canton, in Lincoln County, the winds were estimated as high as 70 mph. In Sioux Falls, the peak wind gust measured 69 mph. Wind damage was also reported in Miller and Ree Heights in Hand County, as well as in Selby and Mobridge in Walworth County.

August 11, 1985: Lightning set off eleven fires in the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation area. Twenty acres of grassland were burned two miles northeast of Bear Creek. About 600 acres of grassland were burned 8 miles southwest of Lantry. About 3,000 acres of grassland burned near Eagle Butte.

August 11, 2011: Severe thunderstorms brought hail up to the size of ping pong balls and damaging winds up to 90 mph to parts of central South Dakota. Jones and Lyman Counties received the brunt of the strong winds with eighty mph winds downing several grain bins along with knocking a few semis off of Interstate-90 near Murdo. The winds also downed some power lines and poles along with destroying a hanger. The two planes in the hanger were damaged at the Murdo Airport. Near Kennebec in Lyman County, eighty mph winds took shingles off the house and also damaged the deck. A barn was also destroyed with a horse being injured. Many tree branches were also downed.

1940: A Category 2 hurricane struck the Georgia and South Carolina coast. A 13-foot storm tide was measured along the South Carolina coast, while over 15 inches of rain fell across northern North Carolina. Significant flooding and landslides struck Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia during the system's slow trek as a weakening tropical storm, and then as an extratropical cyclone, through the Southeast. The landslides which struck North Carolina were considered a once in a century event. Damages relating to the storm totaled \$13 million (1940 USD) and 50 people perished.

1944 - The temperature at Burlington, VT, soared to an all-time record high of 101 degrees. (The Weather Channel) The Dog Days officially come to an end on this date, having begun the third day in July. Superstition has it that dogs tend to become mad during that time of the year. (The Weather Channel)

1980 - Clouds and moisture from Hurricane Allen provided a brief break from the torrid Texas heat-wave, with daily highs mostly in the 70s to lower 90s. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - An early evening thunderstorm in Wyoming produced hail up to two inches in diameter from Alva to Hulett. Snow plows had to be used to clear Highway 24 south of Hulett, where hail formed drifts two feet deep. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Moisture from what remained of Tropical Storm Beryl resulted in torrential rains across eastern Texas. Twelve and a half inches of rain deluged Enterprise TX, which was more than the amount received there during the previous eight months. Philadelphia PA reported a record forty-four days of 90 degree weather for the year. Baltimore MD and Newark NJ reported a record fourteen straight days of 90 degree heat. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - One of the most severe convective outbreaks of record came to a climax in southern California after four days. Thunderstorms deluged Benton CA with six inches of rain two days in a row, and the flooding which resulted caused more than a million dollars damage to homes and highways. Thunderstorms around Yellowstone Park WY produced four inches of rain in twenty minutes resulting in fifteen mudslides. Thunderstorms over Long Island NY drenched Suffolk County with 8 to 10 inches of rain. Twenty-three cities in the southeastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. It was, for some cities, the fourth straight morning of record cold temperatures. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

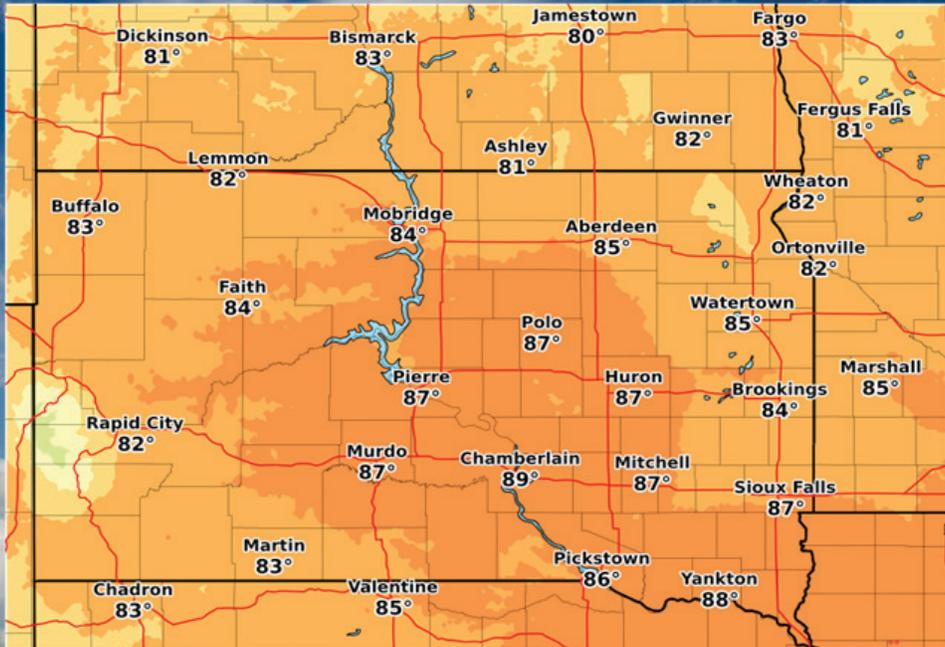
1999: An F2 tornado touched down in the metropolitan area of Salt Lake City. The tornado lasted ten minutes and killed one person, injured more than 80 people, and caused more than \$170 million in damages. It was the most destructive tornado in Utah's history, and awakened the entire state's population to the fact that the Beehive State does experience tornadoes.

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Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
 20%						
Slight Chance T-storms	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 83 °F	Low: 61 °F	High: 82 °F	Low: 58 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 55 °F	High: 82 °F

Today's High Temperature Forecast



Afternoon
T'Storms
across the
area

A few strong
storms
possible
across
eastern SD
and west
central MN



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Published on: 08/11/2016 at 5:33AM

Isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms are possible across the region this afternoon. A few storms may become strong across far eastern SD and west central MN. Slightly cooler and drier air will then follow for Friday and the weekend.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 89.5 at 2:28 PM

Heat Index: 104 at 2:27 PM

Low Outside Temp: 63.7 at 2:54 AM

High Gust: 37 at 2:30 AM

Precip: 1.38

Today's Info

Record High: 103° in 1965

Record Low: 34 in 1902

Average High: 83°F

Average Low: 58°F

Average Precip in Aug: 0.87

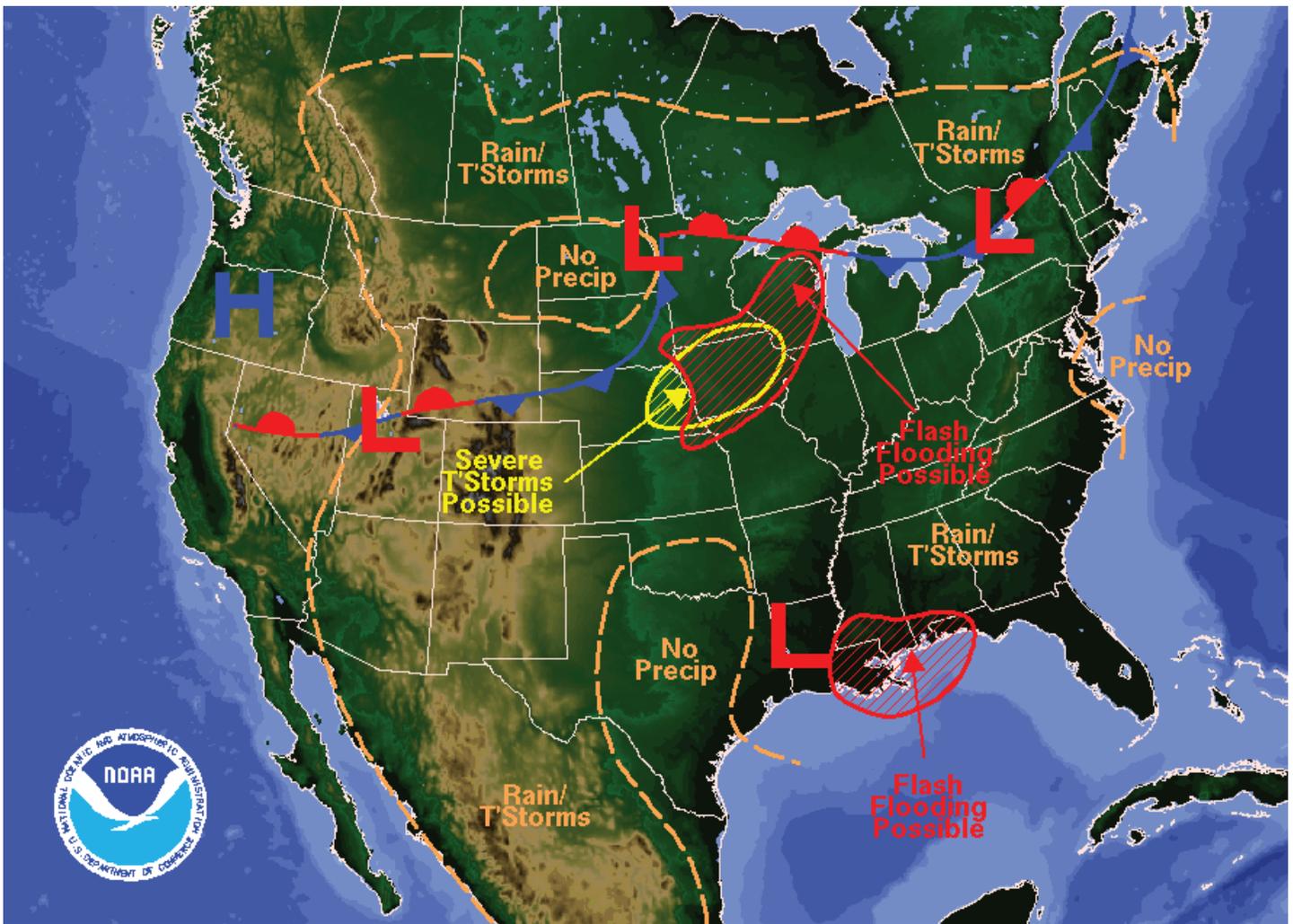
Precip to date in Aug: 1.40

Average Precip to date: 14.73

Precip Year to Date: 12.48

Sunset Tonight: 8:46 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:31 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Thu, Aug 11, 2016, issued 4:51 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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GETTING DIRTY TAKES TIME

Two young children who lived in a ghetto were invited to a Salvation Army Christmas banquet. They were amazed at the lovely surroundings and were surprised to discover that the tables were covered with clean white tablecloths.

When they placed their hands next to their napkins one boasted, "Look, my hands are dirtier than yours." "Yes," responded his friend, "but you are two years older than I am."

How like sin. Sin is subtle and moves silently but surely, quietly and quickly until it invades every aspect of one's life. The longer one lives in sin the more it expands and grows until it completely controls one's life. It is rarely recognized for what it is unless an individual comes to know and understand and accept God's Word and His message of salvation.

The only way to be redeemed and reclaimed from a sin-centered life is to accept Jesus Christ as Savior and enthrone Him as Lord. Not only is He powerful enough to save us but strong enough to strengthen us, to sustain us and safeguard us from sin.

Jesus offers us His salvation freely as a gift of His eternal love. There is nothing we can do to earn His salvation, but there is much to do once we accept it.

Prayer: Lord, we acknowledge our need for Your salvation if we want to be saved from our sins and live lives that are free from sin and worth living. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 32 Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered... Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him.

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News from the  Associated Press

Strong thunderstorms cause damage throughout the Dakotas

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Strong thunderstorms this week have caused damage throughout the Dakotas.

In North Dakota, storms Tuesday and Wednesday caused flash flooding in several counties, including the flooding of state Highway 11 in the Ellendale area. That prompted a warning to motorists from the state Transportation Department.

Winds gusting more than 70 mph damaged buildings in Strasburg including a school addition under construction, and knocked out power in Linton.

Strong winds also hit South Dakota, causing widespread tree damage and scattered power outages. A convenience store in Ipswich lost part of a roof, and numerous power poles in the Rapid City area were knocked down.

The National Weather Service says Rapid City experienced a rare phenomenon known as a heat burst, which is strong winds that occur when a thunderstorm rapidly decays.

State Department of Revenue to hold office hours in Huron

HURON, S.D. (AP) — The state Department of Revenue is going to hold office hours in Huron as a way to help out taxpayers.

The department says there will be office hours Thursday at Huron City Hall from 9:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. The office hours will be held on one day each month into December.

Taxpayers will be able to get help with general questions, filling out tax returns and getting a sales tax license.

Healthy cooking lessons coming to South Dakota State Fair

HURON, S.D. (AP) — Looking for alternatives to the state fair's deep-fried staples? Worry no more, the South Dakota State University Extension has you covered.

Registered dietitians with the SDSU Extension will be offering healthy cooking lessons during this year's South Dakota State Fair in Huron.

Suzanne Stluka is the Extension's Food and Families Program director. She says the fair provides an opportunity to Extension staff to share with South Dakota residents "healthy new recipes with ingredients that are trending across the United States right now."

The classes scheduled for Sept. 2 will feature various recipes that incorporate quinoa and a recipe for avocado chocolate pudding.

Extension staff will also offer an introductory yoga class on Sept. 1.

The fair runs Sept. 1-5.

3 Rapid City men arrested after shooting investigation

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have arrested three Rapid City men allegedly connected to a meth-related dispute after investigating a man believed to have accidentally put a bullet in himself.

Law enforcement got a report Monday of a gunshot victim seeking treatment at a Rapid City hospital.

Officials say an investigation shows the victim was a passenger when 41-year-old Fred Brassfield shot at people in another vehicle. Nobody was injured.

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Brassfield then allegedly assaulted an occupant and stole the vehicle he fired at, ditching it later. While again riding with Brassfield, authorities believe the victim accidentally shot himself.

Authorities have also arrested 34-year-old Paul Roubideaux and 33-year-old Joshua Wahle on drug charges. Officials say they are thought to be connected to the case. Brassfield was arrested in Sioux Falls and faces charges including aggravated assault.

Court records don't list attorneys for the three men arrested.

Opposition to oil pipeline heats up in North Dakota, Iowa

JAMES MacPHERSON, Associated Press

DAVID PITT, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — American Indians blocked crews constructing the \$3.8 billion Dakota Access oil pipeline in North Dakota on Wednesday, while Iowa landowners are asking a judge to halt work in their state until their constitutional challenges are heard.

Law enforcement was called to keep the peace between protesters and armed security guards hired by the Texas-based developer of the four-state pipeline as crews worked on the part of the pipeline that's just north of the Standing Rock Sioux reservation in southern North Dakota. There, at the confluence of the Cannonball and Missouri rivers, American Indians have for months been staging a nonviolent protest at a "spirit camp."

"Everybody is nonviolent and peaceful," said LaDonna Brave Bull Allard, a tribal historian at Standing Rock. "We want to hold them back until we can get to court."

A dozen Iowa landowners are hoping for the same thing, asking a state court in documents filed Tuesday in Des Moines to immediately hear their motion and keep the company from digging a trench across their land. Attorney Bill Hanigan says the Iowa Utilities Board misinterpreted a 2006 state law that bans agricultural land from being taken for private projects via eminent domain.

The 1,172-mile pipeline planned by Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners starts in North Dakota and passes through South Dakota and Iowa before ending in western Illinois.

Energy Transfer Partners officials didn't return phone calls Wednesday seeking comment from The Associated Press, but said in an email that it is continuing construction in Iowa on schedule. Work already has begun in North Dakota, South Dakota and Illinois.

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe late last month sued federal regulators for approving the pipeline, which would be the biggest-capacity one to carry oil out of the western part of the state. The tribe argues that the pipeline would impact drinking water and sacred sites on its 2.3-million acre reservation straddling the North Dakota-South Dakota border.

About 45 construction vehicles were backed up along a road Wednesday afternoon, Brave Bull Allard said.

Highway Patrol Lt. Tom Iverson said five troopers were on scene Wednesday, along with deputies with the Morton County Sheriff's office. No arrests had been reported, but crews had been blocked earlier in the day.

"We are there to ensure the safety of the motoring public, as well as all those involved," Iverson said.

Passenger on motorcycle dies after crash in Hill City

HILL CITY, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol says a 68-year-old woman has died after a trike-style motorcycle hit the back of a pickup in Hill City.

Authorities said Wednesday that the motorcycle's female passenger was thrown from the motorcycle

after it rear-ended the pickup. Authorities say she died later from her injuries.

The Highway Patrol says the driver of the motorcycle received minor injuries, while the pickup driver wasn't injured.

North Dakota law enforcement monitoring pipeline protest

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Law enforcement officers have been called to southern North Dakota to keep the peace between American Indian protesters and developers of the \$3.8 billion Dakota Access Pipeline from North Dakota to Illinois.

Native Americans have been staging a nonviolent protest for months at a "spirit camp" established by the Standing Rock Sioux at the confluence of the Cannonball and Missouri rivers.

Highway Patrol Lt. Tom Iverson says construction crews with armed security were in the area on Wednesday but were initially blocked by protesters. He says troopers are helping the Morton County Sheriff's office.

Iverson says no arrests were reported.

Tribal member LaDonna Brave Bull Allard says about 45 construction vehicles were backed up on roads Wednesday afternoon. She says protesters have been peaceful.

Highway Patrol identifies California man killed in crash

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol has identified a 65-year-old man who died in a one-vehicle motorcycle crash south of Sturgis.

Authorities say James Smith of Concord, California, was pronounced dead Monday at the scene. Officials say his motorcycle went into the ditch and hit several rocks after he failed to negotiate a turn.

The Highway Patrol says Smith was thrown from the motorcycle. Authorities say the victim wasn't wearing a helmet.

Missing weapons among police calls involving murder suspect

ROSWELL, Ga. (AP) — A man charged with killing two Georgia teenagers was identified as the suspect in the theft of a rifle from his grandfather's gun case last year, according to police reports documenting multiple police visits to his house in recent years.

Jeffrey Hazelwood was a suspect after the rifle went missing from the Roswell home of his grandparents, with whom Hazelwood lived while growing up in the suburban city north of Atlanta, according to a February 2015 report released by Roswell police.

In a report from 2013, police said Hazelwood's grandparents told them their grandson, then 16, stole a sword and knives from their gun safe. In that report, which doesn't identify the teen by name, officers say he told his grandmother that "he was going to blow and people were going to get hurt."

Hazelwood, now 20, is accused of killing 17-year-olds Natalie Henderson and Carter Davis on Aug. 1 in Roswell. Hazelwood then stole Henderson's wallet and Davis' car jumper cables, according to arrest warrants filed in Roswell Municipal Court.

Hazelwood followed the two teenagers into an alley behind a Publix grocery store before shooting each one of them in the head, the arrest warrants state.

Hazelwood is charged with murder and theft. Police have declined to discuss a possible motive for the slayings, whether Hazelwood knew the teens, or any details about the gun used.

Hazelwood's attorney, Lawrence Zimmerman, has said he will provide a vigorous defense. Hazelwood's next court hearing is scheduled for Aug. 19.

Henderson and Davis, who used to live in Rapid City, South Dakota, would have been seniors this year

at their Georgia high schools.

Interest rate cap foes take to court to block ballot measure

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A political group working against a ballot measure that would cap short-term lenders' interest rates in South Dakota is pushing in court to stop it from going before voters.

Give Us Credit South Dakota is requesting that the court order Secretary of State Shantel Krebs to remove it from the ballot.

The legal proceedings began Wednesday over Initiated Measure 21, which would cap interest rates for products such as payday loans at 36 percent.

An attorney for Give Us Credit South Dakota, which is funded by a Georgia car title lender, says in court filings that the proposal doesn't have enough valid signatures to meet the threshold to be on the ballot.

Measure supporters have said the payday lending industry will spend serious money trying to keep it from voters.

Hughes County farm explosion and fire kills 1, injures 2

HARROLD, S.D. (AP) — One man was killed and two others injured in an explosion and fire at a shop building on a Hughes County farm.

Sheriff Mike Leidholt says 22-year-old Troy Hattum, of rural Harrold, was severely burned when a fuel tank he was welding exploded Monday morning. Hattum died of his injuries at a Pierre hospital.

Twenty-two-year-old Chalan Hedman and 52-year-old Jeff Holshauser also suffered burns. They also were taken to hospitals. Their conditions aren't known.

The building was destroyed, along with a mobile home.

Doctor to return library book overdue from the 1970s

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — A Florida doctor is returning a long-overdue book that he checked out from a West Virginia library and donating \$500.

WCHS-TV reports (<http://bit.ly/2b72He2>) that as a child in the mid-1970s, Dr. Michael Kelly checked out "So You Want To Be a Doctor" from the Kanawha County Library.

Kelly, a graduate of Charleston High School, is now a successful plastic surgeon in Miami and owns Miami Plastic Surgery.

Kelly told the news station that he recently found the book in a bookshelf at his home and is "extremely embarrassed" that it has been checked out for so long.

Library officials say Kelly will return the book at 1 p.m. Friday, along with a check to show gratitude for his success. Kelly says he hopes his story will inspire the children of Charleston to follow their dreams.

Clinton to portray Trump economic plans as handouts for rich

CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

LISA LERER, Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Hillary Clinton is set to go after Donald Trump's economic agenda, aiming to portray her rival's approach as offering handouts for the rich that could imperil the economy.

The goal of her speech Thursday afternoon at manufacturing company in Warren, Michigan, was to play up her focus on job development, public works projects and tax policy while trying to undercut the celebrity businessman's approach. Clinton was not expected to come out with any major new policies

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during her remarks.

She intended to try to make the case that Trump's agenda would benefit him and his wealthy friends, and to characterize his plans as an update of "trickle-down economics," according to her campaign.

Also look for Clinton to argue that Trump's drive to cut taxes on certain business income would benefit many of his companies.

Trump outlined a revamped economic package during an appearance in Detroit on Monday, and Clinton attempted to draw contrasts when she spoke at a rally Wednesday in Des Moines, Iowa. She said that according to independent analysis "under my plans, we'll create about 10.4 million new jobs. Under Donald Trump's so-called plans, we will lose about three and a half million jobs."

Clinton has proposed a large public works project, pledged to roll back tax breaks for companies that ship jobs overseas, and said she would not raise taxes on the middle class. She has promised more money for education, a higher federal minimum wage and increased support for small businesses.

"We're going to stand up for small business and help create more of them to create more good jobs here and across America," Clinton said in Iowa.

Trump wants to cut taxes for businesses and workers, and go with a three-bracket income tax system that's close to what House Republicans have recommended. With few exceptions, Trump has provided more of a philosophical basis for an economic plan than specifics, although he did call for greater child care deductions for families.

At a rally Wednesday in Abingdon, Virginia, Trump was dismissive of Clinton's upcoming speech and criticized her economic record as a senator for New York. He said her remarks would be "very limited."

Both candidates chose tightly contested Michigan — specifically, the Detroit area — to make their updated economic pitches. The former manufacturing powerhouse has been hard hit by the decline of the automobile industry and the real estate market.

Trump has struggled to keep the focus on his economic proposal week after fresh controversy with his comments about the Second Amendment. At a rally Tuesday, Trump falsely said his Democratic rival wanted to revoke the right to gun ownership. He then said there was no way people would be able to stop a President Clinton from stacking the Supreme Court with anti-gun justices, before adding, "Although the Second Amendment people, maybe there is — I don't know."

Democrats said such comments were further evidence that Trump was undisciplined and unprepared for the presidency. Trump insisted he was never advocating violence against Clinton.

Clinton said it was one more example of words that could have "tremendous consequences." Clinton said the remark was a "casual inciting of violence" that shows Trump lacks the temperament to be commander in chief.

Later Wednesday, Trump stirred up another fuss by calling President Barack Obama the "founder" of the Islamic State militant group — and Clinton its co-founder.

Clinton's campaign stepped up efforts to win over Republicans and independents, launching a group that aims to use a wave of nearly 50 recent endorsements of Clinton by high-profile Republicans and independents to persuade voters to cross party lines.

Australia to ban Chinese from leasing Sydney power grid

ROD MCGUIRK, Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Australia announced on Thursday it plans to block Chinese bidders from leasing a major Sydney electricity grid on national security grounds.

Treasurer Scott Morrison said Chinese state-owned State Grid Corp. and Hong Kong-registered Cheung Kong Infrastructure Group had until next Thursday to respond to his preliminary view that their leasing

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a 50.4 percent stake in Ausgrid over 99 years would not be in the national interest.

The decision almost certainly sinks the deal for the New South Wales state-owned electricity network that would have earned more than 10 billion Australian dollars (\$7.6 billion). The money would have been spent on Sydney rail and road infrastructure projects.

Morrison declined to detail the security issues raised by the deal.

"The issues are real, they're matters obviously of national security interest to the Commonwealth and elaborating on those obviously would not be in the national interest either," Morrison told reporters.

"When it comes to foreign investment, particularly in an asset such as this, the national security issues are paramount," he said.

China's state-run Xinhua News Agency criticized the decision by Australia and a move by Britain to delay a decision on a new nuclear power plant backed by Chinese investment. It said that although China's "dramatic development, huge population and unique culture" may cause concern for some countries, it could also result in "China-phobia."

"To suggest that China would try to kidnap the countries' electricity network for ulterior motive is absurd and almost comical, since it is widely recognized in the world that business reputation is critical to any corporate activity," Xinhua said.

"It's also ridiculous to suggest that Chinese enterprises would risk their credit and commit suicide on the world stage by threatening to deny the Australian and British public electricity," it added.

Some security analysts said a Chinese-controlled Ausgrid could become vulnerable to being shut down by cyberattack as hackers linked to Russia had done in the Ukraine in December.

Hackers used a coordinated attack to take down part of western Ukraine's power grid, blacking out more than 225,000 people after hitting regional electric power distribution companies. U.S. officials called it the realization of a nightmare scenario — hackers able to take down a critical system on which a country depends.

Chinese foreign investment, particularly from state-owned companies, has become increasingly contentious in Australia as China takes a more aggressive stance in territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

Such investments have to be approved by Morrison after investigations by the Foreign Investment Review Board establish that they are in Australia's national interests.

He has recently added emphasis to the national security aspects of that decision-making process by appointing a former spy agency chief and former defense consultant to that board.

Morrison said the message from the Ausgrid decision to potential foreign investors was that Australians "have a robust process for examining foreign investment."

Gray skies and green water at the Rio de Janeiro Games

ARNIE STAPLETON, AP Sports Writer

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Skies and pools both darkened Wednesday as the sun-splashed Olympics in Rio de Janeiro gave way to gray clouds and murky green waters.

The Rio Games were drenched in rain and continued questions about why the diving well and water polo pools look so much like neglected aquariums.

The first American male basketball player to appear in four Olympics, Carmelo Anthony passed LeBron James as the national team's most prolific scorer. The U.S. men's basketball team needed every one of his 31 points as they got their first good test in fending off Australia 98-88.

Katie Ledecky's strong final leg helped the U.S. women win the 4x200 freestyle relay over silver medalist Australia.

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Brazil finally found its scoring touch in the men's soccer tournament at the Olympics, the host country advancing to the quarterfinals by beating Denmark 4-0 and avoiding an embarrassing elimination in front of the home fans. Brazil plays Colombia in Sao Paulo on Saturday.

The third day of the men's water polo tournament began in green-tinged water, though not nearly as dark as the neighboring diving pool at the aquatics center. It was crystal blue the day before.

Water quality has been a major issue surrounding the Rio de Janeiro Olympics, but in the ocean and lagoons, not pools.

A decrease in the alkaline level in the diving well Tuesday afternoon led to the green color, organizing committee spokesman Mario Andrada said. He added that the pool for water polo and synchronized swimming is being affected in the same way but "we expect the color to be back to blue very shortly."

Rio organizers insisted the athletes weren't at risk in the green pools.

They were on the waters and slippery roadways, though.

Strong winds rattled palm trees along the coast and whipped up waves on the scenic lagoon where rowing was postponed for a full day for the second time this week. With winds too blustery, rowers packed up their oars for the day as cyclists hit slick roads on skinny time-trial bikes unsuited to harsh weather conditions.

Under dark skies, the cyclists faced lashing rain and wind on the time-trial course along Rio's southern coast. The conditions might have cost Ellen van Dijk of the Netherlands a medal. She slid off the road and got tangled in weeds before finishing fourth.

American Kristin Armstrong won the race.

With the cooler weather, away went the bare skin and out came the full leggings and long-sleeve shirts in beach volleyball as temperatures dipped into the lower 60s after sunset, the coldest night yet.

Other highlights from Day 5 at the Rio Games:

SWIMMING SHOCKER : Kazakhstan has its first Olympic swimming medal, and it's golden. Dmitriy Balandin pulled off a stunning upset in the men's 200-meter breaststroke, winning from the eighth lane to put his central Asian country on the swimming medal stand for the first time. Yosuhiko Koseki of Japan went out fast and was more than a second under world-record pace at the final turn but faded to fifth. Josh Prenot of the United States claimed silver and Anton Chupkov of Russia landed the bronze.

EBNER ELIMINATED : Nate Ebner, the safety for the New England Patriots who took a break from training camp to fulfill his Olympic dream, sprinted from almost halfway to score a try in the right corner against Fiji to make it 24-19, piling the pressure on Madison Hughes. But the U.S. captain and goal kicker missed the conversion from out wide, leaving the margin at five. Less than that and the Americans would have advanced.

ROWING AT RISK : Twenty-two races, including the first two medal races, were postponed in the regatta but international rowing federation director Matt Smith said there's still room on the schedule without having to resort to drastic measures — even if competition is also called off Thursday.

LIFE'S A BEACH : The American beach volleyball team of Jake Gibb and Casey Patterson were eliminated from the Olympics on a tiebreaker. That's the first U.S. men's team to fail to advance out of pool play since the 2004 Athens Games. On the women's side, April Ross and Kerri Walsh Jennings defeated Switzerland and boisterously celebrated after the match. But the Americans lost a set — something that has happened only once to Walsh Jennings in the last three Olympics.

Canada attack suspect dead after police operation in Ontario

ROB GILLIES, Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — A Canadian man previously banned from associating with Islamic State extremists has been killed as Canada's national police force thwarted what they believed was a suicide bomb plot, a senior police official said.

The suspect allegedly planned to use a bomb to carry out a suicide bombing in a public area, a senior Canadian police official said late Wednesday.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak ahead of a Thursday news conference, identified the suspect as Aaron Driver, a man in his mid-20s originally from Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Driver had been under the spotlight for at least a year, as authorities believed he was a threat because he could help terror groups.

The police operation involving Driver took place Wednesday night in the southern Ontario town of Strathroy, 140 miles (225 kilometers) southwest of Toronto.

Details of how Driver died have not been released. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police said it halted a possible attack after receiving credible information of a potential terrorist threat.

They said a suspect was identified and the "proper course of action has been taken" to ensure no danger to public safety.

Driver was under a court order from earlier this year to not associate with any terrorist organization, including the Islamic State group. In February, Driver's lawyer and the prosecutor agreed to a peace bond stating there are "reasonable grounds to fear that he may participate, contribute directly or indirectly in the activity of a terrorist group."

Winnipeg-based lawyer Leonard Tailleir, who handled Driver's peace bond, said he was "shocked" to hear what had happened.

"Saddened to hear that it had to end this way for him," Tailleir said in an email to The Canadian Press.

Driver was first picked up in Winnipeg in June 2015.

Amarnath Amarasingam, a post-doctoral fellow at Dalhousie University who studies radicalization and terrorism, maintained in 2015 that Driver had posted for several months on social media about disliking Canada and about a desire to move overseas.

Mounties applied for the peace bond, which can impose limits on Driver's activities, alleging in provincial court documents that investigators believed he might help with terrorist group activities.

When Driver was released later that month, he was ordered to wear a GPS tracking device and banned from going on the internet or having any communication with the Islamic State group, including wearing or carrying anything with an IS logo.

His bail conditions drew criticism from the Manitoba Association of Rights and Liberties. Later, the government announced that some of his strict bail conditions had been lifted and that he would not be going to trial.

Driver was allowed to remove his monitoring bracelet but continued to be prohibited from using a computer or cellphone — rules that were to be in place until the end of August.

Canadian Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale said he had spoken to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau about the police operation Wednesday night "to confirm that public safety has been and continues to be properly protected."

He said the RCMP, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service and other police and security agencies were involved in the operation. He also said the national terrorism threat level for Canada remains at "medium," where it has stood since the fall of 2014.

After a 2014 shooting rampage by a lone gunman at Parliament in Ottawa, a Canadian police report said the attack that killed a soldier showed that Canada was "ill-prepared" to stop terrorist attacks.

The Ottawa attack came two days after a man, described by authorities as an Islamic State group-inspired terrorist, ran over two soldiers in a parking lot in Quebec, killing one and injuring the other before being shot to death by police. That attacker had been under surveillance by Canadian authorities.

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. WHO TRUMP SAYS FOUNDED ISLAMIC STATE GROUP

Donald Trump accuses President Barack Obama of being the "founder" of the group that is wreaking havoc from the Middle East to European cities.

2. WHY SOME MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ARE NOT OK WITH BEING MUM ON TRUMP

Professional ethics dictate that psychiatrists and psychologists avoid publicly diagnosing someone they've never examined. But after the Republican nominee's string of incendiary comments, some are chaffing at the restriction.

3. WHY MORE PROGRESS IS NEEDED ON US HEALTHCARE

About 9 in 10 Americans now have health insurance, but rising costs could bedevil the next occupant of the White House, and "Obamacare" remains divisive.

4. FEDS HAVE ZERO TOLERANCE FOR BALTIMORE POLICE

A scathing government report on the department suggests the strategy of cracking down on minor infractions before they lead to more serious crimes leads to routine discrimination against blacks.

5. CANADIAN POLICE SAY THEY KILLED A WOULD-BE SUICIDE BOMBER

A suspect who was being monitored by authorities and banned from associating with the Islamic State group is dead.

6. WHERE THEY KEPT THE CANOLIS, AND MAYBE LEFT A FEW GUNS

A passing reference to the "Mulberry Street Crew" in a new mob indictment revives questions about whether the Mafia still has at least a toehold in Manhattan's Little Italy.

7. A FINAL ALL-AMERICAN SHOWDOWN AWAITS IN THE OLYMPIC POOL

Michael Phelps and Ryan Lochte will meet in the 200-meter individual medley, ending a 13-year rivalry that has been one of the greatest in swimming history.

8. UNLIKE US AND CHINA, MANY NATIONS HAVE A SMALL SHOT AT OLYMPIC GLORY

Some, like India and Fiji, very rarely reach the podium. So they come to Rio with their collective focus pinned on one team, or one athlete, to break through.

9. THE YANKEES' \$300 MILLION MAN

By the time Alex Rodriguez collects his last payment as a player from the Yankees next year, he will have received \$317,368,852 from New York, according to a review of his contracts by The Associated Press.

10. WHERE A TINY CAR IS CHERISHED

In Cuba, where car and gas prices are the highest in the Western Hemisphere, drivers love the Fiat Polski, which has the legroom of an airplane seat and the horsepower of a riding lawnmower.

Japan, Philippines to China: Respect law for Asian stability

DAVAO, Philippines (AP) — The top diplomats from Japan and the Philippines called on China Thursday to avoid intimidating actions and follow the rule of law in disputed waters where Beijing has defied an arbitration ruling that invalidated its expansive territorial claims.

Foreign Secretary Perfecto Yasay Jr. and his Japanese counterpart Fumio Kishida made the call after meeting in southern Davao city, where they discussed their countries' territorial rifts with China, including Tokyo's help to provide patrol vessels to the Philippines, and enhancing strategic ties. Kishida later met President Rodrigo Duterte.

"Maritime order based on the rule of law is indispensable for regional stability and prosperity," Kishida told reporters, adding that the international community should strive to ensure that long-seething conflicts are resolved peacefully.

Yasay said that the two countries have had "the same experience in East China Sea and the South China Sea ... with respect to certain actions that use force, intimidation and provocation in order to assert one's claim over a particular territory."

"This is the not kind of action that is mandated by international law and if anyone, including China, has any particular claim that it asserts over any particular territory, it must bring this within the concept of a peaceful resolution," Yasay said.

The Philippines challenged the validity of China's claims and aggressive actions in the South China Sea after Chinese government ships took control of the disputed Scarborough Shoal following a tense standoff in 2012. In July, the Hague-based arbitration tribunal ruled heavily in the Philippines' favor, but China ignored the decision and continued to block Filipino fishermen from the shoal and develop newly-built islands.

A day before he flew to the Philippines on Wednesday, Kishida summoned China's ambassador in Tokyo to protest the increased number of Chinese vessels in waters near islands in the East China Sea that China and Japan have been contesting.

Kishida told Chinese Ambassador Cheng Yonghua that the ships must leave the area, saying their presence has escalated tensions. He said their repeated infiltration and unilateral attempt to change the status quo were unacceptable.

Cheng said both sides need to make efforts through diplomatic dialogue to keep the situation under control and reiterated China's territorial claims to the islands.

Indonesia urged to take stern action on illegal bird trade

ALI KOTARUMALOS, Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — A wildlife trade monitoring group has called on Indonesia to take strong action against traders of endangered birds who are driving several species toward extinction.

Traffic, a U.K.-based group, said Thursday that its latest survey recorded nearly 23,000 birds in five markets in three cities in eastern and central Java.

It said 28 of the 241 species identified were fully protected under Indonesian law. They include seven Black-winged Mynas, a critically endangered species found only in Java and Bali.

Serene Chng, a program director for the group, said the scale of the illegal trade is "staggering." "Almost all of the birds were native to Indonesia, 15 percent of them found nowhere else on Earth," she said. "The outlook for some of Indonesia's bird populations is very bleak."

The research was carried out in Surabaya, Yogyakarta and Malang. The capital Jakarta is already known as a hotspot for the illegal bird trade with three markets including one in the east of the city

that is country's biggest.

Elizabeth John, a spokeswoman for Traffic, said the number of birds was based on an actual count of visible birds in each shop at the markets conducted over three days.

Under Indonesia's conservation laws, trade in protected wildlife carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and fines of 100 million rupiah (\$7,700).

Traffic said a similar survey in Jakarta in 2014 documented about 19,000 birds for sale over a three-day period.

Indonesia, the world largest archipelago with 17,000 islands, is home to more than 130 threatened bird species.

Police: Woman killed by Florida officer in academy exercise

TAMARA LUSH, Associated Press

PUNTA GORDA, Fla. (AP) — The officer who shot and killed a 73-year-old retired librarian during a police "shoot/don't shoot" demonstration in Florida was accused of using excessive force with his police dog and resigned from another police agency in 2013 for failing to satisfactorily complete an agency field training program.

Officer Lee Coel, 28, was put on administrative leave Tuesday as the Florida Department of Law Enforcement investigates why real ammunition was used by mistake at an event designed to bring police and the public together in the small Gulf Coast city of Punta Gorda.

Authorities are expected to hold a news conference about the shooting Thursday morning.

Lieutenant Katie Heck, the spokeswoman for the Punta Gorda Police, said Coel has worked for the department since 2014. She said Coel frequently gave department presentations and tours, "specifically role-playing in these shoot/don't shoot scenarios."

The department did not make Coel available for comment Wednesday. A woman who answered a phone listed in public records for Coel said she didn't want to talk and hung up.

On Tuesday night, Heck said Mary Knowlton, a well-known community volunteer, assumed the role of the officer during the "shoot/don't shoot" exercise.

During such an exercise, Heck said, the citizen "assumes the role of the officer, and is confronted with situations in which they must make a decision about whether to use force on the role-player. The situations escalate quickly, forcing fast decisions. Historically, it fosters a better understanding for what officers face during an intense situation, and leads to informative dialogue between the community and officers who act as role players."

Both the citizen and the officer have a firearm during these scenarios.

But the guns are either supposed to be loaded with blanks or "simunition guns," which are real-looking weapons that fire a non-lethal projectile with reduced force. But Knowlton was mistakenly struck with a live round, officials said.

Mary Knowlton attended the class with her husband and it was supposed to be "a fun night," her son said Wednesday. Even the police chief was in attendance at the class and was visibly upset during a news conference Wednesday.

What officials didn't discuss: Coel's record.

Coel left the Miramar Police Department after 14 months of service in the Broward County agency. Tania Rues, Miramar police spokeswoman, said Coel resigned, but could not comment on the reasons why. Coel wrote a resignation letter saying he was resigning for "personal reasons;" the News-Press reported that he failed to complete an agency field training program.

A Punta Gorda lawyer said Wednesday that Coel shouldn't have been on the Punta Gorda force. Scott

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Weinberg, who is representing a man who said he was mauled by Coel's K-9 during an arrest in November. Scott Weinberg took the man's case in June, and that's when he viewed Coel's dashcam video of the arrest and informed local media about the case.

"I told everyone that this officer was dangerous and he needed to be fired," said Weinberg, who didn't identify his client. "If he had been fired like he should have been when he ordered that dog to maul my client for a minute and 47 seconds, then this wouldn't have happened."

Punta Gorda officials aren't saying how a gun with a live round came to be used at Tuesday evening's demonstration, noting blank rounds are typically used in such classes.

"We were unaware that any live ammunition was available to the officer," Punta Gorda Police Chief Tom Lewis said at a news conference Wednesday. "The officer involved is grief stricken. We've got officers assigned to him to make sure he's psychologically stable."

The victim's son, Steve Knowlton, said in an interview at his parents' home that, on his mother's behalf, he was forgiving the officer who fired.

Mary Knowlton moved to Florida after living for years in the Twin Cities area of Minnesota. Books and magazines lay scattered on tables of the home she shared in Florida with Gary, her husband of 55 years. The couple split their time between Minnesota and the small Gulf Coast community. She had two sons.

"There's too much hate in this world, in America, we always feel like we need revenge and it doesn't solve anything," Steve Knowlton said. "I obviously can't say it's easy to forgive, but it needs to be done. She's watching me now."

WHY IT MATTERS: All will be touched by choice in November

CALVIN WOODWARD, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump offer voters distinct choices this fall on issues that shape everyday lives. Actual ideas are in play, as difficult as it can be to see them through the surreal layers of the 2016 presidential campaign.

Washington, even in normal times, may feel like a foreign capital far removed from the places politicians love to talk about — the proverbial kitchen table, Main Street, your wallet.

But decisions to be made by President Trump or President Clinton are going to matter to home and hearth. The tax bite, the social safety net, the social fabric, potholes, prices, jobs, war, the air we breathe, personal debt and national debt — all that and more are touched in some way by the ballots of Tuesday, Nov. 8.

America's place in the world is in the balance, too. So is the direction of the Supreme Court, tied between Republican and Democratic appointees. In a sense, a vote for president is also a vote to break the court's left-right divide. Which side are you on?

Whichever side, voters are in the driver's seat, not the cheap seats, for this election spectacle.

Clinton brings some predictability. She has a public-service record and an economic agenda rooted in the traditions of the Democratic Party. Trump at the core is a party of one. The Republican nominee serves up ideas in improvised explosive tweets and broad brushstrokes from the stage.

That contrast is a guide to what to expect, not the whole story. Both are known to have shifted with the political winds. And their plans require the approval of that famously ornery place, Congress, to become real.

Even so, they point to divergent paths for the country on immigration, the economy, health care,

global warming and any number of other topics. They present, in short, discernible choices.

In this series, Associated Press writers who cover subjects at stake in the election illuminate the economic, social and foreign policy landscape, summarize the positions of the candidates and look at why those choices matter.

Trump accuses Obama of being the 'founder of ISIS'

JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

SUNRISE, Fla. (AP) — Donald Trump is now accusing President Barack Obama of founding the Islamic State group that is wreaking havoc from the Middle East to European cities.

"In many respects, you know, they honor President Obama," Trump said Wednesday during a raucous campaign rally outside Fort Lauderdale, Florida. "He is the founder of ISIS."

He repeated the allegation three more times for emphasis.

Trump also pointedly referred to the president by his full legal name: Barack Hussein Obama.

The Republican presidential nominee in the past has accused his opponent, Democrat Hillary Clinton, of founding the militant group. As he shifted the blame to Obama on Wednesday, he said "crooked Hillary Clinton" was actually the group's co-founder.

Trump has long blamed Obama and his former secretary of state — Clinton — for pursuing Mideast policies that created a power vacuum in Iraq that was exploited by IS, another acronym for the group. He's sharply criticized Obama for announcing he would pull U.S. troops out of Iraq, a decision that many Obama critics say created the kind of instability in which extremist groups like IS thrive.

The White House declined to comment on Trump's accusation.

The Islamic State group began as Iraq's local affiliate of al-Qaida, the group that attacked the U.S. on Sept. 11, 2001. The group carried out massive attacks against Iraq's Shiite Muslim majority, fueling tensions with al-Qaida's central leadership. The local group's then-leader, Jordanian-born Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, was killed in 2006 in a U.S. airstrike but is still seen as the Islamic State group's founder.

Trump's accusation — and his use of the president's middle name, Hussein — echoed previous instances where he's questioned Obama's loyalties.

In June, when a shooter who claimed allegiance to IS killed 49 people in an Orlando, Florida, nightclub, Trump seemed to suggest Obama was sympathetic to the group when he said Obama "doesn't get it, or he gets it better than anybody understands." In the past, Trump has also falsely suggested Obama is a Muslim or was born in Kenya, where Obama's father was from.

The president, a Christian, was born in Hawaii.

Trump lobbed the allegation midway through his rally at a sports arena, where riled-up supporters shouted obscenities about Clinton and joined in unison to shout "lock her up." He railed against the fact that the Orlando shooter's father, Seddique Mateen, was spotted in the crowd behind Clinton during a Monday rally in Florida, adding, "Of course he likes Hillary Clinton."

Sitting behind Trump at his rally on Wednesday was former Rep. Mark Foley, R-Fla., who resigned in 2006 after allegations he sent sexually suggestive messages to former House pages.

Man scales facade of Trump Tower; police grab him

EZRA KAPLAN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A man who claimed to be a researcher seeking "a private audience" with Donald Trump spent three hours scaling the glass facade of Trump Tower using large suction cups before officers hauled him to safety through an open window.

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The climber wore a backpack and used a harness and rope stirrups to fasten himself to the side of the 68-story Manhattan skyscraper on Wednesday. He climbed as high as the 21st floor before officers grabbed him.

Police identified him as a 20-year-old Virginia man and said he was taken to a hospital for evaluation.

The tower is headquarters to Donald Trump's Republican presidential campaign and his business empire. Trump also lives there, though he was in Virginia in the afternoon and was headed to Florida for an evening event.

The man played a slow-motion cat-and-mouse game with his would-be rescuers as he climbed Trump Tower. Officers smashed windows and broke through ventilation ducts to block his progress. Police also lowered themselves toward the man using a window washer's platform.

The climber kept his distance by methodically working his way back and forth across the facade, repeatedly repositioning suction cups resembling a type commonly used by window washers to remove big panes of glass.

The chase ended dramatically just after 6:30 p.m.

As a crowd gasped on the street below, two officers leaned far out of a window, grabbed the climber's arm and harness, and in a flash yanked him from his dangling stirrups. He went through the opening head first, his legs pointed skyward.

"I reached out. I took hold of his hand and I said, 'Sir, would you come with me,'" said detective Christopher Williams, who made the grab.

Police had deployed large, inflated crash pads at the scene, but it was unclear how much protection they would have offered if the climber fell.

A day before the ascent, police said the climber posted a video on YouTube entitled, "Message to Mr. Trump (why I climbed your tower)." He posted the video under the name Leven Thumps, which is a character in a series of children's fantasy novels by the writer Obert Skye.

"I am an independent researcher seeking a private audience with you to discuss an important matter. I guarantee that it's in your interest to honor this request," he said. "Believe me, if my purpose was not significant, I would not risk my life pursuing it. The reason I climbed your tower is to get your attention. If I had sought this via conventional means, I would be much less likely to have success because you are a busy man with many responsibilities."

NYPD Assistant Chief William Aubrey said the man, who was not named by police, told officers the same thing after he was safely inside the building.

"At no time did he express that he wanted to hurt anybody," he said.

"This man performed a ridiculous and dangerous stunt," Michael Cohen, an executive at the Trump Organization, said in an emailed statement. "I'm 100 percent certain the NYPD had better things to do."

Later Wednesday evening, Trump tweeted "Great job today by the NYPD in protecting the people and saving the climber."

The climber began his ascent from a terrace that is open to the public during the day.

Fire official: Dozens hurt in Maryland apartment blaze

SILVER SPRING, Md. (AP) — Fire officials say at least 20 to 25 people, including two firefighters, have been injured in a large fire at an apartment building in a Maryland suburb of Washington.

According to the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service, first responders were dispatched to the scene in Silver Spring just before midnight Wednesday.

The department said early Thursday morning that the fire was believed to be under control.

Capt. Oscar Garcia tells The Associated Press the two firefighters injured are believed to have injuries

that are not life-threatening. The extent of the others' injuries wasn't immediately known.

Garcia says not everyone is yet accounted for. The fire involved at least two or three buildings.

The department tweeted photos that showed a building at least partially collapsed and rubble strewn on the street in front of it.

Tiny Polish car catches a wave in auto-crazy Cuba

MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN, Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Ramses Fernandez's most cherished possession is barely larger than a refrigerator, with the legroom of an economy airplane seat and a little more horsepower than a riding lawnmower.

"That's my second baby," said Fernandez, smiling proudly at the 39-year-old automobile purchased about the time his 10-month-old son was born. "My wife says that car is my child."

A humble two-cylinder Polish-made hatchback, the Fiat 126p was forgotten by most people after the fall of the Berlin Wall. Decades later, the car lovingly known as the Polski is basking in a Cuban revival.

Buses and taxis are in short supply as Cuba struggles with cutbacks in subsidized oil from Venezuela. The average salary is about \$25 a month, but government-controlled car and gasoline prices are among the highest in the world.

With around just 24 horsepower, depending on exactly how each one has been altered, the half-ton Polski offers families a shot at independent mobility for a few thousand dollars, a sum within reach of those able to save from private jobs or family sending money from overseas.

So the self-taught mechanics who've kept Cuba's famed American sedans running for decades are turning their talents to this automotive artifact from the Cold War, equipping Polskis with stronger suspensions, more powerful motors, even high-end sound systems and upholstery.

"2016 has been the year of the Fiat Polski 126p," said Hendy Coba, president of Friends of the Car, an officially sanctioned Havana car owners club.

An estimated 10,000 Polskis are registered in Cuba, according to aficionados. Although many are out of service, thousands of others buzz along Cuban roads, literally overshadowed by the 1950s American behemoths known as almendrones, and even by the rattling Ladas and Moskovitches imported from the Soviet Union.

Fernandez, an auto mechanic, said he sold his motorcycle around the time of his son's birth and bought his Polski with the proceeds, about \$5,000.

He's equipped it with disc brakes, new tires, an upgraded gearbox and a water-cooled engine nearly twice as powerful as the one it came with.

The normally air-cooled Polski is so prone to overheating in Cuba that many owners drive around with the rear hatch open in an attempt to suck hot air away from the engine. Fernandez's closed hatch, and his car's relative nimbleness, makes him the object of constant admiring comments from other drivers at red lights.

"People love my car," he said. "Everybody says, 'What a beautiful vehicle!'"

Raul Seoane's family saved years of remittances from relatives working in Spain and spent \$2,000 for a well-worn red Polski manufactured in 1986.

Seoane, a 32-year-old computer technician, said the family mainly uses the car to run errands, get to work and take older relatives to doctors' appointments.

He's been surprised by the number of tourists who ask to pose with the family vehicle.

"Foreigners take photos as if they've never seen something like this," he said. "For being an economical car, the Polski has really caught on."

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Asian shares slide after US losses due to lower oil prices

TERESA CEROJANO, Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Asian stocks were mostly down Thursday after a sell-off in energy companies due to lower oil prices pulled down U.S. stocks overnight, and with regional volumes affected by the closure of Japan's stock exchange for a holiday.

KEEPING SCORE: Hong Kong's Hang Seng index was nearly flat at 22,489 after shifting between gains and losses. Australia's S&P ASX 200 fell nearly 1 percent at 5,490.60. China's Shanghai Composite index 0.1 percent down at 3,015.16. South Korea's KOSPI slid 0.3 percent to 2,038.73 following the South Korean central bank's decision to maintain its monetary policy rate. New Zealand's NZE50 index was down less than 0.1 percent at 7,346.64 after New Zealand's central bank lowered official interest rates by a quarter point to 2 percent, disappointing some investors looking for a more aggressive cut. Southeast Asian markets were mixed.

WALL STREET: A sharp sell-off in energy companies pulled U.S. stock indexes modestly lower Wednesday, wiping out small gains from the day before. Another slide in crude oil prices weighed on the energy sector. Banking, health care and technology companies also declined, while consumer-focused stocks and phone companies posted gains. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 37.39 points, or 0.2 percent, to 18,495.66. The Standard & Poor's 500 index shed 6.25 points, or 0.3 percent, to 2,175.49. The Nasdaq composite index lost 20.90 points, or 0.4 percent, to 5,204.58. In the absence of major economic news, in what is a seasonally slow period for the markets, investors have been monitoring company earnings for clues about how the second half of the year is shaping up for corporate America. A strong jobs report last Friday boosted investors' confidence in the U.S. economy. Traders are looking ahead to Friday, when the government delivers its latest monthly retail sales figures.

ANALYST QUOTE: "All eyes will now turn to Friday's retail sales figures from the U.S., which could provide the market with some direction," said Alex Furber, senior client services executive at CMC Markets. "Investors are currently weighing the low interest rate environment against high valuations."

OIL: Benchmark U.S. crude fell 26 cents to \$41.45 after closing at \$41.71 a barrel in New York Wednesday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, slid 25 cents to \$43.80 in London from \$44.05.

CURRENCIES: In currency markets, the dollar weakened to 101.19 yen from 101.20 on Wednesday. The euro weakened to \$1.1180 from \$1.185.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Aug. 11, the 224th day of 2016. There are 142 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 11, 1956, abstract painter Jackson Pollock, 44, died in an automobile accident on Long Island, New York.

On this date:

In 1860, the nation's first successful silver mill began operation near Virginia City, Nevada.

In 1909, the steamship SS Arapahoe became the first ship in North America to issue an S.O.S. distress signal, off North Carolina's Cape Hatteras.

In 1934, the first federal prisoners arrived at Alcatraz Island (a former military prison) in San Francisco Bay.

In 1942, during World War II, Pierre Laval, prime minister of Vichy France, publicly declared that "the

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hour of liberation for France is the hour when Germany wins the war.”

In 1954, a formal peace took hold in Indochina, ending more than seven years of fighting between the French and Communist Viet Minh.

In 1962, Andrian Nikolayev became the Soviet Union’s third cosmonaut in space as he was launched on a 94-hour flight.

In 1965, rioting and looting that claimed 34 lives broke out in the predominantly black Watts section of Los Angeles.

In 1975, the United States vetoed the proposed admission of North and South Vietnam to the United Nations, following the Security Council’s refusal to consider South Korea’s application.

In 1984, during a voice test for a paid political radio address, President Ronald Reagan joked that he had “signed legislation that will outlaw Russia forever. We begin bombing in five minutes.”

In 1991, Shiite (SHEE’-eyet) Muslim kidnappers in Lebanon released two Western captives: Edward Tracy, an American held nearly five years, and Jerome Leyraud, a Frenchman who’d been abducted by a rival group three days earlier.

In 1997, President Bill Clinton made the first use of the historic line-item veto, rejecting three items in spending and tax bills. (However, the U.S. Supreme Court later struck down the veto as unconstitutional.)

In 2014, Academy Award-winning actor and comedian Robin Williams, 63, died in Tiburon, California, a suicide.

Ten years ago: The U.N. Security Council adopted a resolution calling for a cease-fire between Israel and Hezbollah. TV talk show host Mike Douglas died in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, on his 81st birthday.

Five years ago: Minnesota rivals Tim Pawlenty and Michele Bachmann sparred bitterly during an eight-candidate Republican debate in Ames, Iowa; Mitt Romney sought to stay above the fray as he focused on President Barack Obama, saying, “Our president simply doesn’t understand how to lead and how to grow the economy.”

One year ago: Federal authorities charged that an international web of hackers and traders had made \$100 million on Wall Street by stealing a look at corporate press releases before they went out and then trading on that information ahead of the pack. China rattled global financial markets by devaluing its currency in an effort in part to revive economic growth. New York Jets quarterback Geno Smith suffered a broken jaw after being punched by teammate IK Enemkpali (EYE-KAY eh-nehm-PAH’-lee) in the locker room. (Enemkpali was released and claimed off waivers by Buffalo a day later.)

Today’s Birthdays: Actress Arlene Dahl is 91. Songwriter-producer Kenny Gamble is 73. Rock musician Jim Kale (Guess Who) is 73. Magazine columnist Marilyn Vos Savant is 70. Country singer John Conlee is 70. Singer Eric Carmen is 67. Computer scientist and Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak is 66. Wrestler-actor Hulk Hogan is 63. Singer Joe Jackson is 62. Playwright David Henry Hwang is 59. Actor Miguel A. Nunez Jr. is 57. Actress Viola Davis is 51. Actor Duane Martin is 51. Actor-host Joe Rogan is 49. Rhythm-and-blues musician Chris Dave is 48. Actress Anna Gunn is 48. Actress Ashley Jensen is 48. Actress Sophie Okonedo is 48. Rock guitarist Charlie Sexton is 48. Hip-hop artist Ali Shaheed Muhammad is 46. Actor Nigel Harman is 43. Actor Will Friedle is 40. Actor Rob Kerkovich is 37. Actress Merritt Wever is 36. Actor Chris Hemsworth is 33. Rock musician Heath Fogg (Alabama Shakes) is 32. Singer J-Boog is 31. Rapper Asher Roth is 31. Actress Alyson Stoner is 23.

Thought for Today: “Don’t wake me for the end of the world unless it has very good special effects.” — Roger Zelazny, American science-fiction writer (1937-1995).