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**Missing North of Groton, a black
600 lb. Heifer Calf.
Yellow Ear Tag #955
If found or seen,
call 605/290-1019.**

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

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

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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Record Low This Morning

If it's going to be this cold, we might as well have something to show for it in the record books. The previous record low for this morning was -28 recorded in 1951. The low this morning was -31.8 at 3:01 AM and the windchill was -50 at 4:52 AM.

Since we have been keeping records since 2002, the only other sub 30 below mornings have been:
-31.2 on Dec. 28, 2015
-39.9 on Jan. 16, 2009

Programs Today

Emmanuel Lutheran Christmas Sunday School program will be held at 3 p.m. today.

Join the congregation of the Groton Christian & Missionary Alliance Church as they present "Code Red: An ER CHRISTMAS" at 5 pm in the church sanctuary followed by their annual complimentary banquet, Christmas Turkey/Ham dinner with all the trimmings provided by the members of the congregation for all the attendees to enjoy at no cost. Pastor Doug Duncan and the congregation invite all to come and enjoy a Christmas sharing for the whole family.

Both of these programs will be broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM.

Open Gym

Grades JK-8; 2:30 - 4:30
Grades 6-12; 4:30 - 6:30

"From minor scratches to a complete rebuild . . . we can do it all"

NOW OPEN

Harrs
Auto Body ABDN

**225 Brown County Hwy 19 South
Aberdeen: 605/725-4900**

The Life of Edward Fordham



Mass of Christian Burial for Edward Fordham, 69, of Groton will be 10:30 a.m., Monday, December 19th at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Groton. Father Mike Kelly will officiate.

Visitation will be held at Paetznick-Garress Funeral Chapel on Sunday from 5-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Ed passed away December 15, 2016 at Avera St. Luke's Hospital, Aberdeen.

Edward William was born on October 17, 1947 in Aberdeen to Clarence and Irene (Knittel) Fordham. He attended and graduated from Central High School in 1965. Ed was united in marriage with his high school sweetheart, Sheila Sanders on June 30, 1967 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Aberdeen. At the age of 15, he began working for a small grocer checking eggs. When Ken's Superfair Foods opened in Aberdeen, he began a 50 year career, first as produce manager and later assistant store manager. After several years, Ed became manager at Ken's Fairway in Groton. He enjoyed his work at the store, as well as visiting with the many customers. Ed will be forever remembered for his infectious smile and jovial personality.

Ed was a member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Groton. He enjoyed camping, golfing with his son and watching football, especially the Dallas Cowboys with his kids. One of his favorite hobbies was to go fishing with family and friends and on his last fishing trip, he caught a proud angler

small mouth bass. He loved spending time with his grandchildren and great-granddaughter and will be missed by his dog, Laila.

Celebrating his life is his wife of 49 years, Sheila of Groton, his children, Michael (Tina) Fordham of Bristol, Scott (Mary) Fordham of Groton and Michelle Fordham (Matt Menzia) of Groton, his five grandchildren: Justin, Austin, Alyssa, Amanda and Kayla and great-granddaughter, Eliana.

Preceding him in death were his parents and one brother, Larry.

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Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 1-866-552-2543 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net or website www.jamesnyderministries.com.



Twas the night before Christmas

Every family has those traditions and days that help define their family. I personally know some families (although I shall not divulge any names unless there is enough cash present) that are adequately defined by April 1.

Christmas Eve clearly defines me.

Christmas Eve means many things to me. For one, it means shopping. Yes, it is true; I do all my Christmas shopping on Christmas Eve. It cuts down on the stress. I know some people who spend weeks shopping and their life is full of stress.

Unlike me in many ways, the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage begins her Christmas shopping in January and by August, she is in full shopping mode. There should be a law that any present bought before December cannot be considered a Christmas present.

When the children were still at home, I was just as eager as they were on Christmas morning to see what I had bought them for Christmas. They always appreciated the thought that went into their gift. You did not hear this from me, but sometimes my wife was surprised at the gift as well.

There have been times, and again you did not hear it from me, when my wife bought a Christmas present and forgot about it by the time December rolled around. Once, and I will never repeat this, we discovered a cache of Christmas presents in the corner of our garage when we were packing to move. Only Santa really knows how long they were there.

Up to this year, I have successfully eluded such Christmas faux pas. My Christmas Eve starts bright and early in the morning. My first stop is the "Slurp 'N Burp Café" for a big breakfast. After an early breakfast, it is off to the mall for my Christmas Eve ritual of shopping. I only go to the mall once a year.

It is a tradition with me. My philosophy is, the more torturous the shopping experience the more the recipient will appreciate the gift. For me, nothing is more torturous than a visit at the local shopping mall.

Some go to the mall for pleasure and recreation. I go for penitence.

The average mall is so anti-man that every man enters its doors at his own peril. Many insurance companies have a disclosure, in fine print, in their policies to men making all insurance claims invalid when in a shopping mall.

Shopping malls are deliberately designed to frustrate the male equation of the marital state of mind. Let me list a few observations in this regard: Is it just me, or do they move the mall stores around from year to year just to confuse the average man? Why is it, no matter what door I enter the mall it is never there when I want to leave?

Once inside the mall it only takes me three hours to acclimate myself to the hostile environment. By that time, I am hopelessly lost. As I wander aimlessly around the mall, I try to remember why I am there. One of the things on my shopping agenda is a Christmas present for my wife. Although I have had over 45 years experience in this, I am no better off than our first Christmas.

In all those years, I have given her everything from jewelry to perfume to bubble bath. At this stage in my life, I do not know what to get her.

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Last year I was tempted to wrap myself and put the box under the tree, but I was afraid I would suffocate by Christmas morning. As I wandered from store to store, I could not find anything to buy for her. I could get her a card with money in it but I'm afraid the check would bounce - and then I would.

If I bought her a dress, I would only be putting my life on the line. If the dress I bought were too small, she would be offended to think I thought she was gaining weight. If the dress I bought was too large - well, you know what that would mean.

If I did not get her something, I would look pretty silly come Christmas morning - I mean sillier than usual.

Wandering in and out of store after store brought me no closer to that gift of all gifts that would say, "I think you're terrific."

I was exhausted and about to give up and go home in shameful disgrace. Then, when I was about to give up, there it was. The perfect gift. I could not believe my eyes. I rubbed them in disbelief and loudly exclaimed, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus after all."

I wept, I laughed, I burped (musta been the soda). Right before my eyes was the perfect gift for my wife. A gift that said, "Honey, you're the greatest." Watching the salesperson carefully wrap my Christmas trophy, I could not help thinking about the real meaning of Christmas.

God searched all of heaven to find that one special gift to tell mankind how much He really loved them. Finding nothing better, He settled on that Gift of all gifts, the Lord Jesus Christ.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

My Christmas prayer is that this year you will celebrate with me God's gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ.



House for Sale

3 bedroom house for sale. Groton S. D. Detached garage. 1/2 block from high school. Call (605) 397-8405.

GROTON
Chamber Of Commerce

Sign Up for Groton Chamber Bucks at the Holiday Boxes Located This week at the Olde Bank Floral 'N More and Subway

Week of Dec. 19: Lori's Pharmacy and Groton Ford

Remington, Vale married

Hannah Remington, daughter of Larry and Glenna (Geary) Remington of Groton and granddaughter of the late Dolores Geary, Conde, was married to Simon Vale of Palmerston North, New Zealand, Sept. 10, 2016. Hannah and Simon were married in an outdoor ceremony at Chapel Hills Rapid City, SD and their reception was at Canyon Lake Park. As part of the wedding were some family, bridesmaids- Christy Remington and Jessica Remington, sister in laws of Hannah, and all of the grandchildren, Wyatt and Maela Remington, children of Philip and Jessica Remington from Hutchinson, Mn. and Jemma and Jaxon Remington, children of Ryan and Christy Remington of Rapid City. Hannah and Simon are making their home in Palmerston North, New Zealand. Simon just completed his Doctorate in Geography in Sept. and is



currently working as a geomorphology and earth scientist in a government environmental research organization at Massey University in New Zealand. Hannah and Simon Vale also had a wedding reception in New Zealand after their honeymoon.

A Christmas Reminder From Laura Ingalls Wilder

A column by Gov. Dennis Daugaard:

Christmas is a special time in South Dakota, and it was no less special in the 1880s. Laura Ingalls Wilder, author of *The Little House on the Prairie* series, lived on a homestead near De Smet, and wrote about Christmas in Dakota Territory in "The Long Winter."

Even if the train was unable to reach De Smet at Christmas time, Santa Claus always managed to find his way to the Ingalls household. In "The Long Winter," which takes place in 1880, Laura and her family were faced with a tough, snowy winter, but they still took time to enjoy Christmas. Each of the girls had packages of Christmas candy. Pa got a pair of blue suspenders. Ma got a cardboard hair receiver. Mary got a roll of knitted lace. Carrie got a nice Christmas card in a frame. In addition to the presents, Pa bought two cans of oysters from the store and let the girls have the last of the cow's milk – a cow they recently had to sell. Laura wrote that whatever happened, they always had a lovely Christmas.

Today, in a time of greater abundance and spending, it might seem odd that something as simple as knitted lace could mean so much. But it reminds us that a gift is not measured by size or monetary value, but by the love with which it is given. Gifts made with a true and sincere heart, to those we love, are tokens of our deeper feelings.

The story told by Laura Ingalls Wilder is also a reminder that the meaning of Christmas extends beyond the trappings of the holiday. Decorating the Christmas tree is fun. Receiving presents is enjoyable. So are hot cocoa, Christmas cookies and ham. But sharing our abilities and resources with those in need gives true meaning to Christmas. The man who shovels his neighbor's driveway, the little girl who gives her allowance to the bell ringer and the church that opens its doors to someone without shelter – they are expressing the true spirit of Christmas.

We're all busy, especially during this time of year. But find time this Christmas, if only in a small way, to be a blessing to someone in need. I'm sure you won't regret it. Don't underestimate the immense value of your life and the difference you can make in the lives of those you touch.

Merry Christmas!

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Today in Weather History

December 18, 1985: On one of the coldest mornings of the year, most places in South Dakota experienced low temperatures of less than 20 degrees below zero. The coldest temperature was 30 below zero at Huron in Beadle County and Canton in Lincoln County. Aberdeen dropped to 22 below zero, Highmore and Mobridge fell to 23 below zero; Britton fell to 24 below zero, and Summit bottomed out at 25 below.

December 18, 1996: A powerful Alberta Clipper and a slow-moving deep Arctic high-pressure system brought widespread prolonged blizzard conditions to the entire region from the 16th to the 19th. The clipper dropped from 1 to 5 inches of snowfall on top of the already extensive snow cover of 1 to almost 4 feet. Across central and north central South Dakota, northerly winds increased to 25 to 40 mph with gusts to 55 mph late in the morning of the 16th. Temperatures also fell, and widespread blizzard conditions and dangerous wind chills of 40 to 70 below zero developed, prevailing through noon on the 18th. Across northeast South Dakota, conditions changed through late in the day of the 16th, with widespread blowing snow, falling temperatures, and dangerous wind chills. Widespread blizzard conditions developed on the morning of the 17th and continued into the evening of the 18th. Conditions changed throughout the afternoon of the 16th in west central Minnesota, with a full-fledged blizzard by the morning of the 17th.

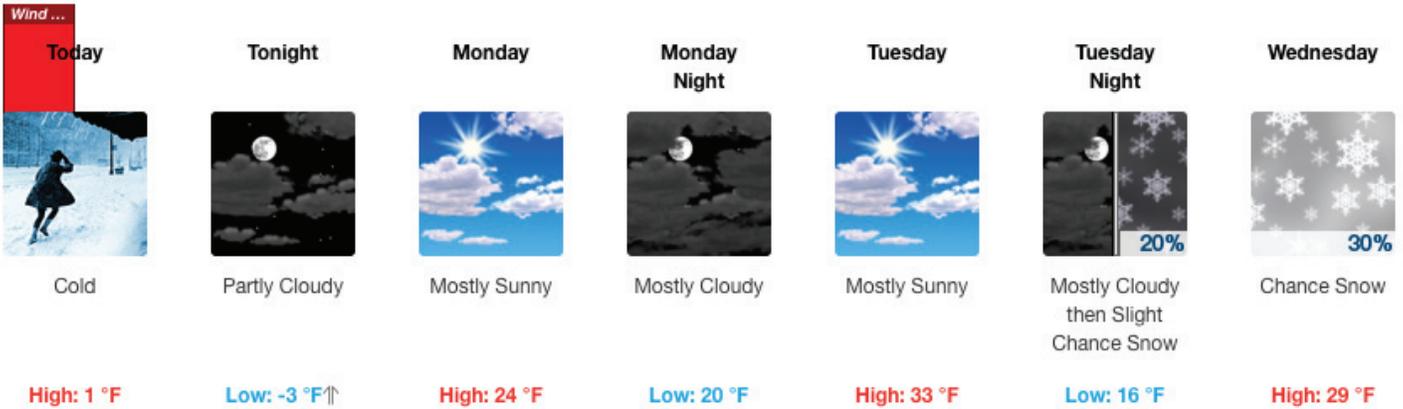
North winds of 30 to 40 mph gusting to 50 mph brought visibilities to near zero and caused heavy drifting, making travel difficult. Many people had to be rescued from their vehicles after getting stuck in massive snowdrifts or going into ditches because of low visibilities. Some people had to wait to be rescued for many hours, for some over a day. Due to the massive amount of blowing snow, widespread heavy drifting occurred across the entire area, blocking roads, making travel difficult, and leaving some people stranded to wait out the storm. Some snowdrifts from the storm were as high as 15 feet with a few houses almost buried. A Burlington Northern locomotive became stuck in a 12-foot drift near Hazel and had to be dug out. Due to the weight of the snow, the roof of a hanger at the Gettysburg Airport collapsed on an airplane.

All schools were let out early on the 16th with some schools not reopening until the 20th. Several school buses went into the ditch or got stuck in drifts and had to be pulled out. There were several accidents, most with minor injuries; however, one accident in Dewey County resulted in serious injury. Most of the roads, state highways and Interstate 90 were closed for a day or two until road crews could get to them. Interstate 29 also received heavy drifting, with parts of it closed for a while during the storm. Most snow plows had to be called back because they could not see the roads or the roads would be drifted over shortly after they were plowed. Some county snow removal budgets were already depleted or were close to being consumed. Emergency personnel and road crews were working extended hours to keep up with the storm. Rescue vehicles had a difficult time responding to emergencies. In one case, a lady from Mobridge had to be brought to Aberdeen. The 100-mile trip took six hours. Also, a rural Westport man died because the rescue units could not get to him in time.

Airports were closed or flights were canceled or delayed. Mail was delayed for some people up to several days with a massive backup of Christmas packages. Some government offices and many businesses were closed for several days. All sports and other activities were postponed or canceled. Farmers and ranchers had a difficult time getting feed to their livestock. Many cattle were loose and had to be found as they walked on snow drifts over fences. The storm also killed several animals and a countless number of pheasants with some buried in the snow. Several dairy producers had to dump thousands of pounds of milk because trucks could not get to them in time. Fortunately, there were only spotty power outages throughout the storm. For several hours on the night of the 16th in the extreme cold, 3000 people in Pierre were without power for several hours.

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Dangerous Wind Chills

Wind Chills -30 to -50°

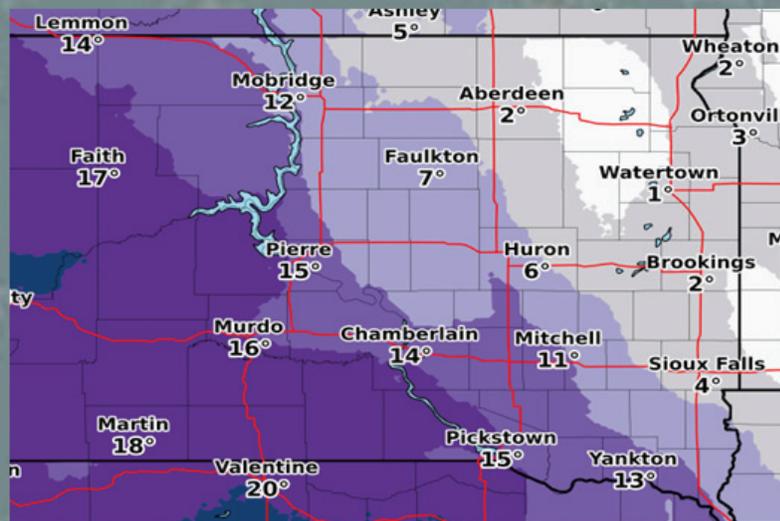
Wind Chill Warnings this morning

Bundle Up!

Frostbite on exposed skin in as little as 5 to 10 minutes

Highs Today (after lows in the -20s to -30s)

Warm Up on the way!



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 12/18/2016 5:50AM Central

Published on: 12/18/2016 at 5:53AM

Dangerously low wind chills remain this morning, ranging from 30 below to near 50 below zero. Frostbite can occur on exposed skin in as little as 5 to 10 minutes. Bundle up if you need to go outside this morning. A warm up is in the works, with high temperatures crossing over into the single digits above zero this afternoon. This trend will continue through the first half of the week, with highs in the low to mid 30s by Tuesday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: -0.2 F at 12:00 AM

Low Outside Temp: -26.8 F at 11:38 PM

High Gust: 23.0 Mph at 2:29 AM

Snow:

Today's Info

Record High: 58° in 1979

Record Low: -28° in 1951

Average High: 25°F

Average Low: 6°F

Average Precip in Dec.: 0.30

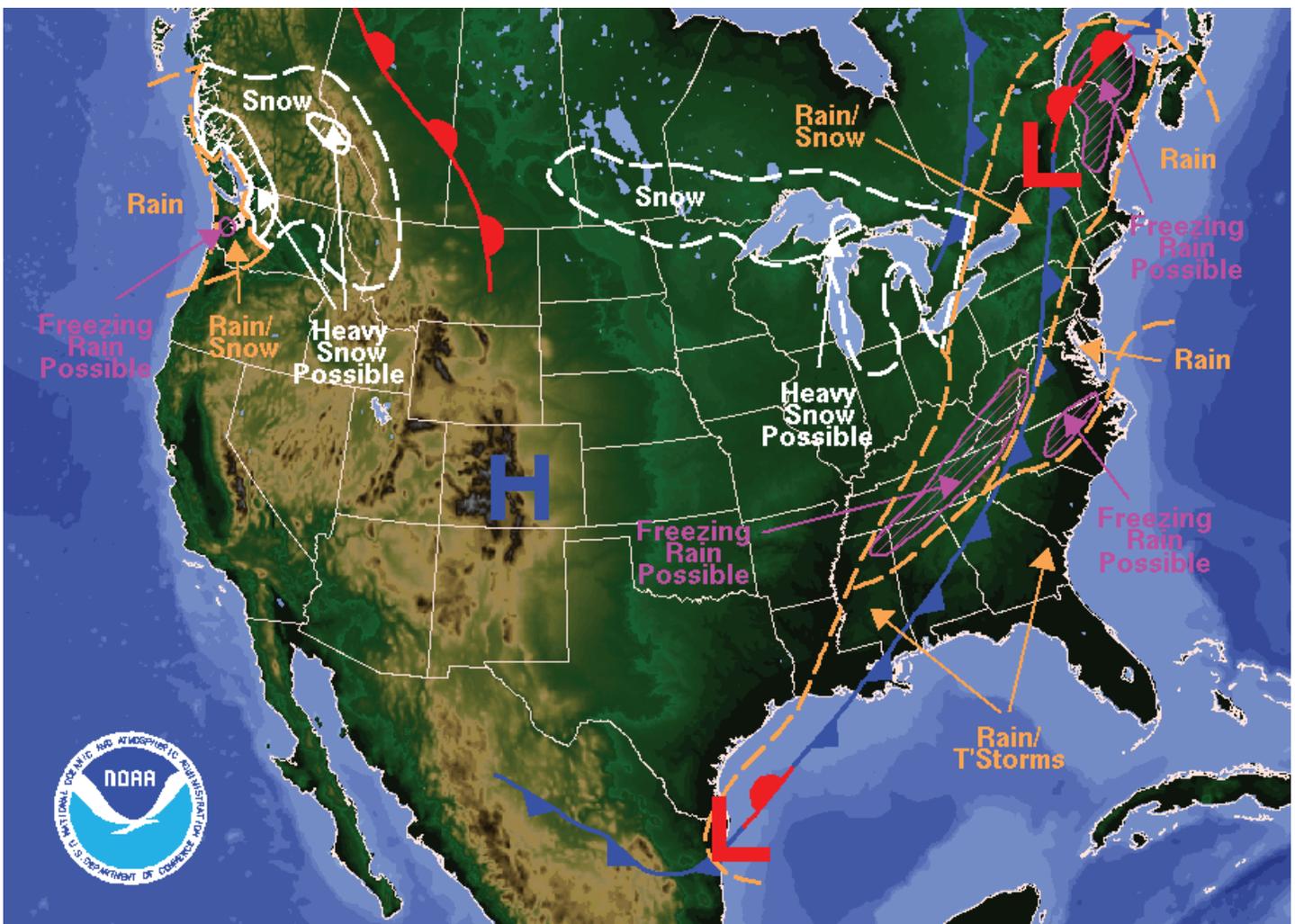
Precip to date in Dec.: 0.88

Average Precip to date: 21.50

Precip Year to Date: 18.22

Sunset Tonight: 4:52 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:09 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sun, Dec 18, 2016, issued 4:47 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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GOD WANTS YOU

A little girl went to church for the first time. She was full of questions.

When a baby was presented for baptism she became more interested than ever. Noticing her attentiveness, her father said, "The parents are giving her to God."

After the baptism, the minister gave the baby back to the parents.

Not understanding, she whispered to her father, "I guess God didn't want that one."

Not so! God wants every one of us.

On one occasion He said, "Come to Me, all of you..." On another occasion He said, "If you come to Me I will not reject you."

We have all experienced the pain of rejection. We know what it is like to feel alone. Family members leave us. Friends turn their backs on us. But Jesus? Never!

Someone said, "With Jesus, the welcome mat is out and the door is always open." Paul said, "...nothing... will ever separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord." There is nothing that we have done or ever will do that can separate us from Him, His love or His salvation.

Prayer: Father, we are so grateful for Your love that reaches out to all of us. We are thankful that Your arms are always open to each of us. We rejoice in Your salvation that can save and keep us: in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Scripture: Romans 8:38, 39 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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News from the Associated Press

Saturday's Scores

By The Associated Press

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Hettinger/Scranton, N.D. 57, Lemmon 52
Hill City 66, Rapid City Christian 26
Strasburg-Zeeland, N.D. 46, Timber Lake 41
Lakota Nation Tournament (Makosica Bracket)
Seventh Place
Todd County 88, Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 76
Fifth Place
Little Wound 77, White River 56
Third Place
Pine Ridge 71, Crow Creek 59
Lakota Nation Tournament (Paha Sapa Bracket)
Seventh Place
Crazy Horse 73, Tiospa Zina Tribal 69
Fifth Place
McLaughlin 60, Standing Rock, N.D. 44
Third Place
St. Francis Indian 62, Custer 52
Championship

Lower Brule 52, Omaha Nation, Neb. 50
POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS

Garretson vs. Parker, ppd. to Dec 29.
Harrisburg vs. Pierre, ppd.
Ipswich vs. Webster, ppd. to Jan 7.
Langford vs. Hitchcock-Tulare, ppd.
Rapid City Stevens vs. Mitchell, ppd. to Jan 7.
Tri-Valley vs. Sisseton, ppd. to Feb 11.
Walthill, Neb. vs. Freeman Academy, ppd. to Dec 22.
Wilmot vs. Richland, N.D., ppd.
Yankton vs. Brandon Valley, ppd. to Dec 29.
Stateline Shootout
Sundance, Wyo. vs. Lead-Deadwood, ppd. to Dec 20.
Belle Fourche vs. Newcastle, Wyo., ppd. to Dec 20.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Hettinger/Scranton, N.D. 46, Lemmon 33
Timber Lake 53, Strasburg-Zeeland, N.D. 17
Lakota Nation Tournament (Makosica Bracket)
Seventh Place
McLaughlin 62, Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 30
Fifth Place
Red Cloud 63, Custer 49
Third Place
Todd County 85, Omaha Nation, Neb. 47
Lakota Nation Tournament (Paha Sapa Bracket)
Seventh Place

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Tiospa Zina Tribal 60, Crazy Horse 20
Fifth Place
Lower Brule 57, St. Francis Indian 48
Third Place
White River 67, Winnebago, Neb. 55
Championship
Crow Creek 67, Standing Rock, N.D. 60
Sanford Classic
Moorhead, Minn. 78, Sioux Falls Lincoln 71
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 53, Worthington, Minn. 24
Western Christian, Hull, Iowa 56, Sioux Falls O'Gorman 53
POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS
Freeman vs. Platte-Geddes, ppd. to Dec 22.
Miller vs. Northwestern, ppd.
Mitchell vs. Rapid City Stevens, ppd. to Jan 27.
Pierre vs. Harrisburg, ppd.
Scotland vs. Ethan, ppd. to Jan 10.
Walthill, Neb. vs. Freeman Academy, ppd. to Dec 22.
Yankton vs. Brandon Valley, ppd. to Dec 29.
Entringer Classic
Dell Rapids St. Mary vs. Colman-Egan, ppd. to Dec 23.
Dell Rapids vs. Hamlin, ppd. to Dec 23.
DeSmet vs. Flandreau, ppd. to Dec 23.
Deubrook vs. Sioux Valley, ppd. to Dec 23.
Deuel vs. Lake Preston, ppd. to Dec 23.
Elkton-Lake Benton vs. Chester, ppd. to Dec 23.
Estelline vs. Arlington, ppd. to Dec 23.
Garretson vs. Oldham-Ramona/Rutland, ppd. to Dec 23.
Madison vs. Castlewood, ppd. to Dec 23.
Sanford Classic
Aberdeen Roncalli vs. Dakota Valley, ppd.
Avon vs. Hanson, ppd.
Crofton, Neb. vs. Sioux Falls Washington, ppd.
Wynot, Neb. vs. Parker, ppd. to Dec 29.
Stateline Shootout
Belle Fourche vs. Newcastle, Wyo., ppd. to Dec 20.
Sundance, Wyo. vs. Lead-Deadwood, ppd. to Dec 20.

South Dakota high schools introduce students to health care

By Jaci Conrad Pearson, Black Hills Pioneer

LEAD, S.D. (AP) — In an effort to introduce students to a growing and understaffed field, Lead-Deadwood has added a health occupations class to its high school lineup.

"The purpose of the class is to explore different health careers, jobs, skill development, and job descriptions," said class instructor Dr. Bree Oatman, who has a background in public health. "To help kids think about careers they might be interested in and how to prepare in high school and post high school."

In order to develop the background needed to make educated decisions regarding possible careers in health-related fields, students spend an immersive semester visiting locales like Lead-Deadwood Regional Hospital, the Black Hills Pioneer (<http://bit.ly/2gRL6ZO>) reported. Among other new skills, students learned how to intubate a patient and perform CPR, planned ambulance ride-alongs, received an overview of anatomy and physiology from a vocational perspective, and even took a trip to the pharmacy to learn

how prescriptions are measured out.

As a practical everyday experimental lesson students grew bacteria in petri dishes in order to demonstrate how bacteria grows on cell phones, door knobs, etc., and learned why hand washing is so important in battling bacteria. They then took their findings and shared them with Lead-Deadwood Elementary School third graders, demonstrating the importance of hand washing.

As part of the health occupations class, students will also enjoy a fair amount of career exploration through job shadowing and problem-based learning modules, in addition to learning about the history of medicine in the United States and completing a brochure on the career of their choice.

"We also play a board game called Pandemic," Oatman said. "It deals with cure and prevention of disease outbreaks around the world. It's kind of like Risk."

Junior Jachin Ruth said he signed up for the class because he had a vague interest in health care.

"I'm interested in becoming a doctor and helping people," Ruth said. "I'm hoping to learn more about all the different occupations and steps I need to take to get into said occupation. Pharmacy is another one I'm interested in and want to see it first-hand."

As an accompaniment to the class and other science classes, Oatman also started a HOSA: Future Health Professionals Club, the only one in West River South Dakota.

"We want to introduce kids to the numerous occupations out there related to the health care fields and introduce kids to those fields," said Principal Tony Biesiot. "A lot of schools do this class as a club, but with a small school and kids being busy, we decided to make it part of the curriculum."

Biesiot said that the class has benefited students in a variety of ways thus far.

"I was talking to a student who was interested in going into the health care field," Biesiot said. "Through this experience, they were able to decide that it was not for this student. We've also developed great relationships with Lead-Deadwood Regional. It's opened the doors to it and a lot of other occupations out there, not just at the hospital, but they're checking out other careers, as well."

Information from: Black Hills Pioneer, <http://www.bhpioneer.com>

Twin nurses retire after over 30 years of service

By Victoria Lusk, Aberdeen American News

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — As twin sisters in the same profession — with almost the same name — it seems fitting that Janice Patterson and Janet Reich would decide to retire from the same employer at virtually the same time.

Reich started at Avera St. Luke's Hospital Feb. 6, 1980. Her last day was Dec 2. Patterson began her Avera career Jan. 2, 1985. She retired Nov. 22.

As twins, "We both always knew that we wanted to be nurses," Patterson said.

After graduating from Redfield High School, they started schooling at South Dakota State University in Brookings. Patterson later switched to the University of South Dakota in Vermillion before the sisters graduated with their nursing degrees in 1975.

They both later earned master's degrees.

When Reich's husband Gene retired roughly a year ago, he said he just felt like it was time to call it quits.

"I see that in my sister-in-law (that she's ready to retire), but I'm a little worried about my wife," Gene Reich joked.

"I know what the kicker was. They both had to do it," he said. "Everything they say about twins, I've experienced it."

Indeed, that's how it happened, the sisters said. Once Patterson announced her retirement, Janet Reich followed suit.

"I'm the oldest so I just said I'm done on this day," said Patterson, who was born six minutes before her younger sister.

And that was it.

Gene Reich thinks the same mentality will hold true in retirement.

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"If the Pattersons decide to go someplace, then we'll go too. (The twins) will have to decide together," he said.

While neither woman is setting plans in stone, there is talk of visiting family in Norway, as well as enjoying the Patterson grandkids.

The sisters aren't the only experienced St. Luke's workers who have recently retired. The hospital is now shy four employees who accounted for more than 140 years of experience in all, said Avera CEO Todd Forkel.

Jill Hanley retired Friday after hitting a milestone 40 years with Avera. Lee Ann Tople retired in October, after 31 years.

Forkel called Avera's four recent retirees "intertwined," while emphasizing that each woman has been instrumental to getting Avera to where it is today.

Supervisors and administrators alike spoke to each of the retiree's mentoring skills, their commitment to Avera's mission, and how each was a leader for the health care system. Avera hosted a retirement tea Dec. 1 to honor the women, Aberdeen American News (<http://bit.ly/2hw0DCz>) reported.

When he first met "The Jans," Forkel said he thought something was up. They looked alike, but how could they be sisters if they are both named Jan, he wondered.

Both Patterson and Reich are known as "Jan" at the hospital, which sometimes required clarification.

During his tenure, Patterson came in as the chief nursing officer and handled many challenges in the health care industry with steady leadership that always had an emphasis on patient care, Forkel said.

Reich focused much of her career on educating others.

"When I think of my work with Janet, it is based around education of the patient, education of us as staff members and taking ownership over that in terms of how we can carry out the work we do every day," Forkel said.

Bernie Reddy, lab tech supervisor, said Hanley was instrumental in the Avera lab network and its outreach program.

"The work she did implementing lead philosophies ... is something we carry forward today, and that made such a profound impact," Forkel said.

Tople actually hired Forkel in 1991.

"She saw something in me," he said. "I would not be a CEO today without her.

"Really, for all four of these ladies, and I personally felt this from Lee Ann, was mentoring others, seeing something in others that they themselves didn't see and help craft that," he said.

Through the work that they've done by being such good mentors, each retiree is leaving Avera better than they found it, Forkel said.

Because of that, the hospital is confident about the future, Forkel said. He described the retirees as being owners, not renters, who will always have a chapter in the book of Avera.

All gave at least six months notice. Not all of them, though, know yet just how they'll spend their extra free time.

"I'm not scheduling myself for anything," Patterson said.

And that's the beauty of it.

"You don't have to have a plan," Hanley said.

Information from: Aberdeen American News, <http://www.aberdeennews.com>

North Dakota, South Dakota under wind chill warnings

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The entire states of North Dakota and South Dakota are under wind chill warnings, as wind chills could get as low as minus-55 in some areas, including central and western North Dakota.

The National Weather Service warns that these brutally cold temperatures could cause frostbite in under 10 minutes, and could be deadly for those outside without shelter. The area where protesters have been camping out to demonstrate against the Dakota Access pipeline project is included in the wind chill warning area.

Lows Saturday night into early Sunday morning will drop to 25 below zero in the Bismarck area.

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Wind chills in western South Dakota could get to minus-40, with the coldest weather expected Saturday night into Sunday morning.

But a warmup is in sight as early as Monday.

Daum leads South Dakota St over Murray St 88-84 in OT

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Mike Daum scored a career-high 39 points, including 10 in overtime, lifting South Dakota State to an 88-84 win over Murray State on Saturday.

Daum, the national leader in free throw attempts (100) and makes (89) as of Dec. 14, set a South Dakota State (6-7) record with a 16-for-16 performance at the charity stripe — 6 for 6 in overtime. He added 11 boards.

Murray State's Jonathan Stark converted a 4-point play to give the Racers a 79-76 lead with 3:10 left in overtime. But the Jackrabbits got a pair of free throws from Daum and Reed Tellinghuisen, a layup from Daum and three more free throws to cap a 9-0 run and give SDSU an 85-79 advantage with 46 seconds to play.

Stark's 32 points were a career high, and his nine 3-pointers tied the Murray State (5-7) school record. The Racers tied a program mark for 3s made (17) and set the record for 3s attempted (45).

10 pipeline protesters face disorderly conduct trial

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Ten people charged with disorderly conduct during protests of the Dakota Access pipeline are the first to face trial.

A joint misdemeanor trial is scheduled Monday for 10 people arrested Aug. 11 after they allegedly pushed through law enforcement lines or police tape to access a construction site.

The Bismarck Tribune reports (<http://bit.ly/2hKWXJZ>) prosecutors are asking that issues of tribal sovereignty be kept out of the trial, but defense attorneys say their clients have a right to explain why they were there. The judge has yet to rule on that.

It's the first trial tied to pipeline protests. The defendants are from nine states, including North Dakota, South Dakota, Oregon and Hawaii.

The Morton County Sheriff's Department says more than 570 people have been arrested in connection with the protests.

Information from: Bismarck Tribune, <http://www.bismarcktribune.com>

Sioux Falls' efforts to host F-35 fighter jets deflated

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls won't host F-35 fighter jets, despite time, money and effort invested by city officials, who spent this year trying to catch the military's eye.

The U.S. Air Force has chosen five of 18 sites under consideration for a follow-up survey, scratching the South Dakota Air National Guard's 114th Fighter Wing at Joe Foss Field off its list, the Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2gK7JhX>) reported.

South Dakota National Guard officials said the survey would've been the next step for the location to be selected.

"We are disappointed but know we are an outstanding unit among an outstanding community," Col. Nathan Alholinna said in a statement.

R.J. Clifft, chairman of the Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce's military task force, said a lack of flight training facilities in close proximity to Sioux Falls hurt the unit during the selection process.

Currently, the unit has training runs in the Powder River training range near Ellsworth Air Force Base in western South Dakota and another facility near Salina, Kansas.

"It's just too far away for what they were looking for," Clifft said. "That was 10 points out of a 100-point grading scale that hurt us."

The five bases that are still under consideration are in Montgomery, Alabama; Madison, Wisconsin; Boise,

Idaho; Jacksonville, Florida; and Harrison Township, Michigan.

The first F-35s will be delivered to the two bases selected no sooner than 2022.

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

Syrian media say Aleppo evacuations to resume

By PHILIP ISSA, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Dozens of buses and ambulances were poised to enter east Aleppo to resume evacuating rebel fighters and civilians from the opposition's remaining districts in the city, pro-Syrian government media said Sunday.

As part of a wider deal, convoys were also preparing to evacuate more than 2,000 wounded and sick residents from two villages that have been besieged by rebels, the reports said. The opposition's Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said buses had begun entering the villages, Foua and Kfarya.

Evacuations from Aleppo had been halted amid mutual recriminations Friday, after several thousand trapped civilians had already been moved from the city. The suspension of the evacuations had thrown an Aleppo deal brokered by Russia and Turkey last week into disarray.

The deal marked a turning point in the country's war. With the opposition leaving Aleppo, Syrian President Bashar Assad has effectively reasserted his control over the Syria's five largest cities and its Mediterranean coast nearly six years after a national movement to unseat him took hold.

The International Committee of the Red Cross, which has overseen the Aleppo evacuations, had no comment Sunday on the possible resumption of evacuations. The agency has said thousands of people, among them women, children, the sick and the injured, remained trapped in besieged areas of the city, waiting in freezing temperatures for the evacuations to resume.

English teacher Wissam Zarqa, an Aleppo resident waiting to leave, said Sunday that families have been assigned bus numbers, in an apparent sign that evacuations would resume.

Syria's pro-government Al-Ikhbariya TV and Al-Manar TV, the media arm of the Lebanon-based Hezbollah militant group that supports the Syria government, on Sunday showed buses lined up at an access road leading into Aleppo. Al-Manar said 75 buses were to enter east Aleppo, and that convoys were also preparing to evacuate sick and wounded from the two rebel-besieged villages.

Also Sunday, the U.N. Security Council was expected to vote on a resolution demanding immediate and unconditional access for the United Nations and its partners to besieged parts of Aleppo and throughout Syria to ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid.

The council scheduled consultations Sunday morning on the French-drafted resolution followed by an open meeting where members are expected to vote.

The draft resolution, obtained by The Associated Press, calls on Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to immediately redeploy U.N. humanitarian staff already on the ground to carry out "neutral monitoring" and "direct observation and to report on evacuations."

It stressed that evacuations of civilians must be voluntary and to the destinations of their choice.

Russia's U.N. Ambassador Vitaly Churkin said Friday he would examine the draft, but was skeptical that monitors could be deployed quickly.

China says it seized US Navy drone to ensure safety of ships

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China says its military seized a U.S. Navy unmanned underwater glider in the South China Sea but it will give the drone back. But President-elect Donald Trump says the Chinese government should be told "we don't want the drone they stole back" and "let them keep it!"

This comes after United States officials had confirmed that they "secured an understanding" for the return of the device. Trump's tweet Saturday evening may extend one of the most serious incidents between the American and the Chinese militaries in years.

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The Chinese navy on Thursday seized the drone, which the Pentagon said was being operated by civilian contractors to conduct oceanic research. The U.S. lodged a formal diplomatic complaint and demanded the drone back.

Chinese Defense Ministry spokesman Yang Yujun issued a statement late Saturday saying that a Chinese navy lifeboat discovered an unknown device in the South China Sea on Thursday.

"In order to prevent this device from posing a danger to the safe navigation of passing ships and personnel, the Chinese lifeboat adopted a professional and responsible attitude in investigating and verifying the device," Yang said.

The statement said that after confirming that the device was an American unmanned submerged device, "China decided to transfer it to the U.S. through appropriate means."

The U.S. said that "through direct engagement with Chinese authorities, we have secured an understanding that the Chinese will return" the unmanned underwater vehicle, according to a statement from Peter Cook, spokesman for U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter.

But Trump, after holding a rally to thank supporters for his election, took to Twitter to criticize the deal. "We should tell China that we don't want the drone they stole back.- let them keep it!" the president-elect tweeted Saturday evening.

He earlier in the day had blasted the seizure.

Misspelling "unprecedented," he tweeted: "China steals United States Navy research drone in international waters - rips it out of water and takes it to China in unprecedented act." He later reissued the tweet, correcting the spelling.

The U.S. said China's "unlawful seizure" came in international waters. Yet China pointedly accused the U.S. of long sending ships "in China's presence" to conduct "military surveying."

"China is resolutely opposed to this and requests the U.S. stop such activities," it said. "China will continue to maintain vigilance against the relevant U.S. activities and will take necessary measures to deal with them."

Earlier Saturday, China's foreign ministry said the nation's military was in contact with its American counterparts on "appropriately handling" the incident, though it offered no details on what discussions were underway.

The drone was seized while collecting unclassified scientific data about 92 kilometers (57 miles) northwest of Subic Bay near the Philippines in the South China Sea, which China claims virtually in its entirety, Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, a Pentagon spokesman, said Friday.

"It is ours. It's clearly marked as ours. We would like it back, and we would like this not to happen again," Davis told reporters. He said the drone costs about \$150,000 and is largely commercial, off-the-shelf technology.

The USNS Bowditch, which is not a combat ship, was stopped in international waters Thursday afternoon and recovering two of the gliders when the Chinese ship approached, Davis said. The two vessels were within some 450 meters (500 yards) of each other. He said the USNS Bowditch carries some small arms, but that no shots were fired.

According to the Pentagon, as the Chinese ship left with the drone, which is about 3 meters (10 feet) long, its only radio response to the U.S. vessel was, "We are returning to normal operations."

Bonnie Glaser, senior adviser for Asia at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the seizure of the glider occurred inside the exclusive economic zone of the Philippines, not China, and appeared to be a violation of international law.

China delineates its South China Sea claims with a roughly drawn sea border known as the "nine-dash line" that runs along the west coast of the Philippines. However, it hasn't explicitly said whether it considers those waters as sovereign territory, and says it doesn't disrupt the passage of other nations' shipping through the area. The U.S. doesn't take a position on sovereignty claims, but insists on freedom of navigation, including the right of its naval vessels to conduct training and other operations in the sea.

Davis said that the incident could be the first time in recent history that China has taken a U.S. naval vessel. Some observers have called it the most significant dispute between the sides' militaries since the

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April 2001 midair collision between a U.S. Navy surveillance aircraft and a Chinese fighter jet about 110 kilometers (70 miles) from China's Hainan island that led to the death of a Chinese pilot.

The drone seizure seemed likely to fray the already tense relations between U.S. and China. Beijing was angered by Trump's decision to talk by phone with Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen on Dec. 2, and by his later comments that he did not feel "bound by a one-China policy" regarding the status of Taiwan, unless the U.S. could gain trade or other benefits from China. China considers the self-governing island its own territory to be recovered by force if it deems necessary.

There also have been increased tensions over Beijing's ongoing military buildup in the South China Sea, mainly the development and militarization of man-made shoals and islands aimed at extending China's reach in the strategically vital area, through which about \$5 trillion in global trade passes annually.

S. Korea to begin trial of impeached president's confidante

By HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The jailed confidante of disgraced South Korean President Park Geun-hye begins a trial Monday that will explore a scandal that led to Park's impeachment after millions took to the streets in protest.

The trial of Choi Soon-sil, Park's friend of 40 years, is the biggest since the 2014 trial of the crew of a ferry that sank and killed more than 300 people, mostly teenagers. Ten others swept up in the scandal also face trial.

Speculation about Choi dominated local news every day for months, but she is still a mystery. She last appeared in public on Oct. 31, when, after losing a Prada shoe in a crush of media and protesters, she told reporters at the Seoul prosecutors' office that she had "committed a sin that deserves death."

What you should know:

THE TRIAL

Monday's hearing at the Seoul Central District Court will review the charges against Choi, who prosecutors say manipulated state affairs and extorted businesses. It will also set the trial schedule. Choi is not required to attend this session.

The trial is open to the public. Worried about a crush of spectators, the court last week raffled admission tickets.

It's not clear how long the trial will last. Courts normally issue a verdict within six months of indictment, so she'll likely get a verdict by May if prosecutors don't bring new charges.

THE CHARGES

Choi is charged with abuse of power, extortion and attempted fraud. If convicted on all charges, she could receive up to 15 years in prison, according to court spokesman Shin Jae-hwan.

Before her arrest, Choi said she that received some of Park's speeches in advance but that she didn't know if they included confidential information. She denied the other allegations.

Prosecutors allege that Choi helped pressure 16 companies to donate a total of 77.4 billion won (\$65.6 million) to create two nonprofit foundations, Mir and K-Sports.

According to the prosecution, Park first brought up the idea of launching the foundations and ordered her senior secretary for policy coordination at the time, Ahn Jong-beom, to ask companies to finance their establishment while letting Choi handle the appointment of foundation officials.

Choi allegedly used a top Chinese official's visit to Seoul to propose pressuring firms to donate quickly to Mir.

Choi has been charged with pressuring Hyundai Motors and the KT telecommunication firm to sign \$6 million and \$5.7 million worth of ad contracts, respectively, with Playground, an ad agency she ran. She was also charged with pushing Hyundai to buy \$930,450 worth of car components from a company owned by an acquaintance.

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WHO IS SHE?

Choi, 60, is a daughter of the late Choi Tae-min, a purported cult leader who served as Park's mentor. Park, 64, is the daughter of Park Chung-hee, a dictator who ruled South Korea for 18 years until his 1979 assassination.

The two women became friends in the 1970s, around the time when Park Geun-hye began serving as first lady after her mother was killed during a failed 1974 assassination attempt on Park Chung-hee. Park Geun-hye once headed a patriotic group set up by the elder Choi, while Choi Soon-sil served as head of its college unit.

Park acknowledged her ties with Choi Soon-sil after the scandal broke in October, and described Choi as someone who helped her "when I had difficulties" in the past — an apparent reference to her parents' assassinations.

Choi's ex-husband served as chief of staff for Park when she was a member of parliament before becoming president in early 2013.

OTHERS INDICTED

Among the others indicted are four former government officials.

Ahn, Park's former economic adviser, allegedly conspired with Park and Choi to extort companies. Another ex-presidential adviser, Jung Ho-sung, has been charged with passing on confidential documents to Choi. Former Vice Culture and Sports Minister Kim Chong allegedly pressured companies to donate money to a winter sports-related foundation run by Choi's niece, Chang Si-ho, who has also been indicted.

A well-known music video director, Cha Eun-taek, is also on trial for allegedly using his ties with Choi to win key culture-related projects from government agencies.

Park has immunity from prosecution for most crimes while in office. She has acknowledged that she got help from Choi for editing speeches and unspecified "public relations" issues, but has denied any other legal wrongdoing.

The country's Constitutional Court is reviewing Park's impeachment. If it rules against her, she'll be formally unseated and must undergo a direct investigation.

Follow Hyung-jin Kim on Twitter at twitter.com/hyungjin1972

Official: Texas city had 3 reports of dirty water before ban

By FRANK BAJAK, Associated Press

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) — There were three reports of dirty water before the 300,000 residents of Corpus Christi were told not to drink the city's water due to a chemical leak at an asphalt plant, city officials said Saturday, adding that the city hasn't found evidence of water contamination.

Mayor Dan McQueen said he won't know until Sunday whether a ban on drinking, cooking or bathing with tap water will be lifted for the 113,000 people still under the restriction.

McQueen, who took office Tuesday after defeating an incumbent who came under fire for her handling of previous water crises, said there's no indication the chemical leak contaminated the Gulf Coast city's water supply.

Officials are hoping the answer will come Sunday with the release of the first results of 30 samples taken by the Environmental Protection Agency and being tested in Houston.

McQueen said the city would seek to recoup its losses from the polluter.

The EPA said there were four "unconfirmed reports" of symptoms possibly related to prohibited water use. McQueen called the reports "rumors."

Assistant City Manager Mark Van Vleck said earlier that the first dirty-water report came Dec. 1 from the administration building at the asphalt plant that oil refiner Valero leased to Ergon Asphalt and Emulsions. City workers flushed the pipe. A second report came from the building Dec. 7, he said, and the main was flushed again.

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"We get dirty-water reports all the time," Van Vleck said of the first two, saying old cast-iron pipes are usually the reason.

But Monday, Valero workers told the public works department "something white and sudsy" was in water at the administration building. City workers determined there was a leak in a chemical tank at the asphalt plant, and on Tuesday they determined there was a backflow problem.

The city told the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality about it Wednesday, Van Vleck said, and hours later the state banned use of public drinking water.

TCEQ spokesman Terry Clawson said the full city ban was justified.

"We did not have enough info to lift any bans or modify any bans until we did so," he said.

Neither the city nor the state had information on the chemical composition of the spilled substance until Thursday. Van Vleck cautioned that the investigation is ongoing, "so we don't know what happened."

The ordeal was unnerving for Corpus Christi residents, especially those who live near the asphalt plant. "Have we been exposed?" Carol Gonzalez asked. "We just don't know."

Her family lives less than a mile away and her husband, Anthony Gonzalez, had made spaghetti for their 9- and 10-year-old daughters the night the water use ban was announced.

The couple, interviewed while picking up a free case of bottled water at a city-run senior center, had already spent \$150 on water, not to mention eating out. And they've been driving out of the city to fill buckets of water they use to bathe their children, who include a 6-month-old girl.

"It's gotten very expensive, and there's not going to be any reimbursement," Carol Gonzalez said.

A TCEQ report obtained Friday indicates a combination of Indulin AA-86 and hydrochloric acid leaked into the water supply. Indulin is an asphalt-emulsifying agent that's corrosive and can burn the eyes, skin and respiratory tract if a person comes into contact with concentrated amounts. The amber liquid is considered a hazardous material by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Ergon on Saturday acknowledged the "soap solution" had backflowed into a pipe through which it receives water. It said that pipe isn't directly connected to the city water main but rather is interconnected. It didn't offer additional details but said it has cooperated fully with the city, TCEQ and EPA and would continue to do so.

Ergon spokesman Bill Miller said earlier the company was pushing the TCEQ for answers on whether there was actually contamination.

Valero suggested Ergon was sluggish to acknowledge responsibility for the leak. It said its employees alerted Ergon three times after they encountered the dirty and contaminated water, on Dec. 2, 8 and 12, to ask if it could be related to Ergon operations.

Hill, the Ergon spokesman, had no immediate response to Valero's statement.

More than a half-dozen lawsuits have been filed against Valero and the privately held Flowood, Mississippi-based Ergon subsidiary, which makes paving and pavement preservation products.

The Corpus Christi Caller-Times reported that several businesses and a class action lawsuit representing all of the city's residents allege the companies recklessly exposed business owners and residents to toxic chemicals.

City public works employees couldn't find backflow valves on the chemical tank of the water intake pipes connected to the city water main, Van Vleck said.

"They thought it was there, but they could not show it to us," he said.

The city estimated that up to 24 gallons of Indulin leaked because Ergon officials told them that was the amount of the chemical used to mix a batch of the asphalt emulsifier; 10 gallons of hydrochloric acid is used per batch.

It's the latest in a string of water scares for the city. In May, the city issued its third boil-water advisory in a year as a precaution after nitrogen-rich runoff from rain flowed into the water system, resulting in low chlorine disinfectant levels in the water supply.

According to a TCEQ report, the asphalt plant reported a spill of about 350 gallons of asphalt emulsion into the soil on March 25. The company cleaned up the spill, which it classified as nonhazardous waste, and disposed of it at a nearby landfill. The state agency did not issue a violation.

A city manager said 23,000 cases of bottled water have been distributed, much of it donated, to help

residents. The mayor said no one has turned up at a hospital with symptoms that might indicate he or she was sickened or burned by the chemical.

Associated Press writer Emily Schmall in Fort Worth and Paul J. Weber in Austin contributed to this report.

Minnesota team ends boycott threat, will go to Holiday Bowl

By JON KRAWCZYNSKI, Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The University of Minnesota football team's boycott started with a bold demand for apologies and a threat to skip a bowl game if 10 teammates suspended after a sexual assault investigation weren't reinstated.

It ended less than 36 hours later, the university leadership never blinking, and the players backing down amid pressure from many who read details of the allegations.

The Golden Gophers players announced Saturday morning that they planned to play in the Holiday Bowl, rescinding their boycott after two exhausting days of meetings with attorneys, school President Eric Kaler and athletic director Mark Coyle.

"As a team we understand that what has occurred these last few days and playing football for the University of Minnesota is larger than just us," receiver Drew Wolitarsky said.

The school declined the players' request to reinstate the suspended players. The team will now go ahead with its Dec. 27 game against Washington State in San Diego after getting assurances that those accused will get a fair hearing next month.

Wolitarsky, reading from a statement, said after many hours of team discussion and speaking with Kaler, "it became clear that our original request of having the 10 suspensions overturned was not going to happen."

And many of the players who made the initial stand Thursday had not read the university's 82-page report detailing the woman's specific allegations. The university kept the details private under federal law, but players saw it after KSTP-TV published it Friday. The details fractured the group's resolve, according to a person with knowledge of the situation. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly for the group.

The Star Tribune of Minneapolis first reported how the report affected the group's thinking.

Kaler and Coyle issued statements Friday, and reiterated to the players in a meeting late Friday night, that they had no intention of changing their decision after an internal investigation determined the suspended players violated school conduct codes in an encounter involving a woman and several players at an off-campus dorm Sept. 2.

"I'm very pleased that the football team has realized the opportunity to represent the university and come out strong in support of the victims of sexual violence," Kaler said Saturday. "They've come out strongly in support of the victims of sexual violence. I have promised a very fair hearing to the students involved and charged and I attend to have that be true. We will judge them very fairly."

The Holiday Bowl is one of the most lucrative and well-known of the second-tier bowl games. The payout to the school was \$2.8 million last year. Not including the New Year's Six bowls that are tied to the College Football Playoff, the Holiday Bowl's distribution was the fifth largest of the other 34 postseason games.

Bowl revenue is pooled and shared by conferences. For the Big Ten, which distributed more than \$30 million to each of its 14 members last season, Holiday Bowl revenue is a small piece of a large pie.

Four players were initially suspended for three games earlier this season while the police investigated allegations by a woman, who said several players pressured her into having sex with them after a season-opening win over Oregon State. No arrests or charges were made and the players, who maintained the sex was consensual, were reinstated after a judge lifted a restraining order.

"She described it as a line of people, like they were waiting for their turn ... She recalls yelling for them to stop sending people in the room because she couldn't handle it," one of the reports said.

The university said it holds its students to higher standards than those applied by the law, and its announcement of the suspensions Tuesday caught the team off guard.

Wearing their maroon game jerseys, the entire team issued a statement Thursday saying they would boycott all football activities until Kaler and Coyle apologized for their lack of communication and reinstated the suspended players. But after hours of sometimes contentious meetings on Friday, a group of players gathered Saturday morning to denounce sexual assault and say there is no place for it on campus.

"There is only one acceptable way to treat all women and that is with the utmost respect at all times," Wolitarsky said. "We are not here to judge nor defend their actions. That is for the authorities."

The players also asked the university to show "support for the team and the character shown by the great majority of our players" and help them "use our status as public figures to bring more exposure to the issue of sexual harassment and violence against women."

Players said Saturday they were most disappointed with the lack of communication and due process.

"As football players, we know that we represent this university and this state and that we are held to a higher standard," Wolitarsky said. "We want to express our deepest gratitude to our coaching staff and so many others for their support during this difficult time, and we hope that our fans and community understand why we took the actions that we did."

Dean Johnson, chairman of the university's Board of Regents, said he supports the decision to end the boycott and to keep the 10 players under suspension.

He added that the situation has shown that while the university does not tolerate sexual violence, more must be done to ensure the campus is safe for all students. That change, he said, could come in stronger policies, enforcement or more educational opportunities and sensitivity training.

"It's not been a good thing for the University of Minnesota, with donors, with ticket holders, with the administration, the regents — it's not been a proud week," Johnson said.

Associated Press writer Amy Forliti contributed to this report.

Winter storm socks Midwest, East, spawning accidents, deaths

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER, Associated Press

A winter storm of snow, freezing rain and bone-chilling temperatures socked the nation's mid-section and East Coast on Saturday, causing hundreds of accidents on icy roads and putting a crimp on Christmas shopping.

At least nine deaths were blamed on the slick roads and authorities were investigating a few other traffic fatalities as possibly weather-related. Perhaps the biggest accident happened in Baltimore, when a tanker carrying gasoline skidded off a highway and exploded, authorities said.

Two people died in the nearly 70-vehicle pileup on Interstate 95, authorities said. Hospital officials said nearly two dozen people were treated for injuries including broken bones and head trauma.

Baltimore City Fire Chief Roman Clark said it was too early to determine the cause of the crash.

It was unclear whether the pileup started before the tanker crash or was caused by it. The northbound lanes of I-95 were closed while crews cleaned up the mess.

Winter weather advisories were posted from Denver to Bangor, Maine. Airports reported hundreds of flight delays or cancellations, interstates and toll roads reduced speed limits and authorities urged drivers to use extreme caution.

The nasty weather put a damper on holiday plans for Luke Perez, who was hoping to make it home to Los Angeles on Saturday for a family party. Perez's flight out of D.C., where he is in graduate school, was canceled, so he said he's going to try again Sunday or Monday.

"My family has a Christmas party ... and I was hoping to make it to that tonight, but that's not going to happen anymore," the 23-year-old said.

There were dozens of crashes in Indiana — two of them involving fatalities — due to freezing rain and ice, officials said. It was not immediately clear how many people were killed. The roads were so slick that authorities had to move motorists stranded on an overpass with a ladder.

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In Ohio, a Columbus woman died Saturday when her car skidded off a slick road, authorities said. In another accident in Baltimore, six people were taken to the hospital after a crash on I-695 involving 15 to 20 vehicles, Baltimore County tweeted. In Nebraska, Douglas County Sheriff's deputies said one person was killed Friday night when his car slid off an icy road north of Omaha, hit a tree and burst into flames.

Temperatures plummeted and people braced for the cold. Temperatures in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area were expected to drop to minus-20 degrees overnight. People were advised to stay indoors for the weekend. The low temperature was expected to reach 4 degrees in Chicago on Sunday.

Portions of six states, from Missouri to Mississippi, were under the threat of tornadoes or severe thunderstorms.

In Virginia, a Fairfax County fire truck slid off an icy road while responding to a crash, local news media reported. No one was injured.

Meanwhile, more than three dozen crashes and a fatality were reported in the northern part of the state, authorities said. Police said a man was found dead on the side of I-495, about a mile from a 23-vehicle crash. It appears the man was involved in the crash and had walked away from disabled vehicle. It wasn't immediately clear how the man died.

At least three highway deaths Friday in Missouri are being blamed on icy conditions. The Missouri State Highway Patrol crash reports say a 13-year-old girl died from injuries suffered in an accident when a tractor-trailer lost control on ice on Interstate 44, striking a Jeep Renegade driven by the girl's mother. Reports say two men, ages 72 and 56, died in separate accidents when the vehicles they were in went out of control on ice.

In Colorado, up to a foot of snow fell in places, snarling traffic. Even weather-hardened locals apparently had trouble driving.

"I worked for the fire department for 45 years, and we used to call this highway hockey because people keep bumping into each other," said Kevin Sweeney, of Brighton, a town about 20 miles northeast of Denver. "I think it's that first big snow thing."

In North Carolina, police and emergency workers reported more than 100 crashes overnight in Raleigh and Charlotte as the drizzle combined with temperatures below freezing to create dangerous icy patches.

Charlotte police reported two people killed in separate fatal crashes early Saturday, although investigators were still trying to figure out if ice caused the wrecks.

Associated Press writer Steven K. Paulson in Denver contributed to this report.

Follow Alanna Durkin Richer on Twitter at twitter.com/aedurkinricher. Her work can be found at <http://bigstory.ap.org/journalist/alanna-durkin-richer>.

Trump says Michelle Obama's 'no hope' comment about the past

By JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — President-elect Donald Trump said first lady Michelle Obama "must have been talking about the past" when she said there's no sense of hope after his election.

Trump, speaking Saturday at the final rally of his postelection "thank you" tour, then resisted escalating the spat further, suggesting "she made that statement not meaning it the way it came out."

But as Trump praised the Obamas for treating him so nicely when he visited the White House shortly after the election, many in the Mobile, Alabama, crowd booed the first family.

Michelle Obama, in an interview with Oprah Winfrey set to air Monday on CBS, said she was now certain that her husband's victory had inspired people because "now we're feeling what not having hope feels like."

"What do you give your kids if you can't give them hope?" she added.

Trump's comments about Michelle and President Barack Obama was one of the few conciliatory notes he sounded during a victory tour in which he showed few signs of turning the page from his blustery campaign to focus on uniting a divided nation a month before his inauguration.

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At each stop, the Republican gloatingly recapped his election night triumph, reignited some old political feuds while starting some new ones, and did little to quiet the hate-filled chants of "Lock her up!" directed at Democratic rival Hillary Clinton.

At the tour's finale at the same football stadium in Mobile that hosted the biggest rally of his campaign, Trump saluted his supporters as true "patriots" and made little attempt to reach out to the more than half of the electorate that didn't vote for him.

"We are really the people who love this country," said Trump.

He reminisced about his campaign announcement and his ride down Trump Tower's golden escalator. He disputed a newspaper's account of the size of the crowd at one of his rallies and bashed the press as dishonest. And he joked that he had booked a small ballroom for his election night party so, if he lost, he "could get out!"

He paid homage to the August 2015 rally in the same stadium that he said jump-started his campaign. Though the crowd was not as large on Saturday, it was no less fervid, repeatedly chanting "Build the wall!" when Trump renewed his vow to build an impenetrable border at the Mexican border.

Trump brought his nominee for attorney general, Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama, up onstage to receive cheers from his hometown crowd. When Trump's plane landed, he received a water cannon salute from a pair of fire trucks and was greeted by several Azalea Trail Maids, local women dressed in antebellum Southern Belle outfits.

The raucous rallies, a hallmark of his campaign, are meant to salute supporters who lifted him to the presidency. But these appearances also have been his primary form of communication since the Nov. 8 election.

Trump has eschewed the traditional news conference held by a president-elect within days of winning. He's done few interviews, announced his Cabinet picks via news release and continues to rely on Twitter to broadcast his thoughts and make public pronouncements.

That continued Saturday morning when Trump turned to social media to weigh in on China's seizure of a U.S. Navy research drone from international waters, misspelling "unprecedented" when he wrote "China steals United States Navy research drone in international waters - rips it out of water and takes it to China in unprezidented act."

He later corrected the tweet. China said Saturday it intended to return the drone to the U.S.

Within days of beating Clinton, Trump suggested to aides that he resume his campaign-style barnstorming. Though he agreed to hold off until he assembled part of his Cabinet, Trump has repeatedly spoken of his fondness for being on the road. Aides are considering more rallies after he takes office, to help press his agenda with the public — a possibility that Trump embraced from the stage Saturday.

But Trump has also sounded some notes of unity on the tour. In Mobile, he acknowledged that "now the hard work begins" and ended with a plea for all Americans, including those who did not support him, to "never give up."

After the rally, Trump planned to return to Mar-a-Lago, his Palm Beach estate. Aides said the president-elect probably would spend Christmas week there and could stay until New Year's.

Earlier Saturday, he announced the nomination of South Carolina Rep. Mick Mulvaney to head the Office of Management and Budget, choosing a tea partyer and fiscal conservative with no experience assembling a government spending plan.

Mulvaney, a founder of the hard-right House Freedom Caucus, has taken a hard line on budget matters, routinely voting against increasing the government's borrowing cap and pressing for major cuts to benefit programs as the path to balancing the budget.

Reach Lemire on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire>

West African leaders aim to enforce Gambian election upset

By MICHELLE FAUL and BASHIR ADIGUN, Associated Press

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) — West African leaders promised Saturday to enforce the results of a Gambian election that was won by a little-known businessman backed by an opposition coalition but rejected by the country's longtime coup leader.

A summit of the Economic Community of West African States ended with all leaders stating they will attend the Jan. 19 inauguration of Gambia's new president, Adama Barrow.

They also pledged to "guarantee the safety and protection of the president-elect," who has said he fears for his life.

Gambian President Yahya Jammeh surprised his fellow citizens by conceding defeat the day after the Dec. 1 vote, and then changed his mind and called for a new election. The United Nations, the United States and the African Union have all condemned the move.

The summit in Abuja, Nigeria, attended by 11 presidents with Jammeh absent, agreed "to take all necessary actions to enforce the results" of the Gambian election. It called for Jammeh to accept the results and refrain from compromising a peaceful handover of power.

A new deployment of soldiers across the country risks increased intimidation and harassment, the U. N. high commissioner for human rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, warned late Saturday.

"This is deeply worrying, given the record of human rights violations in Gambia, including excessive use of force against demonstrators, arbitrary detention and deaths in custody, as well as allegations of torture and ill-treatment of detainees," Zeid said.

The summit named a mediation committee headed by Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari with his deputy Ghana President John Dramani Mahama, who conceded defeat in an election a few days after Gambia's. It was Ghana's first electoral defeat of a sitting president.

The president of the West African community, Marcel de Souza, said this week that if diplomacy fails, a military intervention and "draconian measures" must be considered for Gambia. He spoke in an interview with Radio France International.

Jammeh's defiance challenges the first regional community in the world to agree to military interventions in member states accused of abusing human rights and democratic principles. It has spent 25 years nurturing democracy in a region once prone to military coups.

Jammeh acted after an opposition coalition official said he should be prosecuted for rights abuses.

Jammeh used the excuse of errors in the vote tally, ignoring the country's Independent Electoral Commission, which said the winner remains Barrow with a revised count of 227,708 votes to Jammeh's 208,487.

The ruling party filed a court challenge against the results Tuesday, a constitutional move complicated by the fact that Gambia's Supreme Court does not have a quorum. The United States said it doubts it is "a credible court dedicated to ensuring the integrity of Gambia's democratic process."

Jammeh on Tuesday sent troops to take over the electoral commission's office in Banjul, the capital, shortly before a delegation of West African leaders arrived on an inconclusive mission.

Jammeh seized power in a bloodless coup in 1994 in the country of 1.9 million people known for its beaches.

Faul reported from Lagos, Nigeria.

Henry Heimlich, life-saving maneuver creator, dies at 96

By LISA CORNWELL, Associated Press

CINCINNATI (AP) — The surgeon who created the life-saving Heimlich maneuver for choking victims died early Saturday in Cincinnati. Dr. Henry Heimlich was 96.

His son, Phil, said he died at Christ Hospital after suffering a heart attack earlier in the week.

"My father was a great man who saved many lives," said Heimlich, an attorney and former Hamilton

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County commissioner. "He will be missed not only by his family but by all of humanity."

Heimlich was director of surgery at Jewish Hospital in Cincinnati in 1974 when he devised the treatment for choking victims that made his name a household word.

Rescuers using the procedure abruptly squeeze a victim's abdomen, pushing in and above the navel with the fist to create a flow of air from the lungs. That flow of air then can push objects out of the windpipe and prevent suffocation.

Much of Heimlich's 2014 autobiography focuses on the maneuver, which involves thrusts to the abdomen that apply upward pressure on the diaphragm to create an air flow that forces food or other objects out of the windpipe.

The Cincinnati chest surgeon told The Associated Press in a February 2014 interview that thousands of deaths reported annually from choking prompted him in 1972 to seek a solution. During the next two years, he led a team of researchers at Jewish Hospital in Cincinnati. He successfully tested the technique by putting a tube with a balloon at one end down an anesthetized dog's airway until it choked. He then used the maneuver to force the dog to expel the obstruction.

The Wilmington, Delaware, native estimated the maneuver has saved the lives of thousands of choking victims in the United States alone. It earned him several awards and worldwide recognition. His name became a household word.

The maneuver was adopted by public health authorities, airlines and restaurant associations, and Heimlich appeared on shows including the "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson" and "The Today Show."

His views on how the maneuver should be used and on other innovations he created or proposed put him at odds with some in the health field. He said his memoir was an effort to preserve his technique.

"I know the maneuver saves lives, and I want it to be used and remembered," he told the AP. "I felt I had to have it down in print so the public will have the correct information."

The maneuver has continued to make headlines. Clint Eastwood was attending a golf event in Monterey, California, in 2014 when the then-83-year-old actor saw the tournament director choking on a piece of cheese and successfully performed the technique.

"The best thing about it is that it allows anyone to save a life," Heimlich told the AP.

In 2016, Heimlich himself was the hero, saving a woman choking on food at his senior living center.

Heimlich said the maneuver is very effective when used correctly, but he did not approve of American Red Cross guidelines calling for back blows followed by abdominal thrusts in choking cases that don't involve infants or unconscious victims. Red Cross officials said evidence shows using multiple methods can be more effective, but Heimlich said blows can drive obstructions deeper into a windpipe. The American Heart Association backs abdominal thrusts.

Neither organization supports Heimlich's view that using the maneuver to remove water from the lungs could save drowning victims. They recommend CPR.

Heimlich was proud of some of his other innovations, such as a chest drain valve credited by some with saving soldiers and civilians during the Vietnam War. But he drew sharp criticism for his theory that injecting patients with a curable form of malaria could trigger immunity in patients with the HIV virus that causes AIDS. Medical experts have said injecting patients with malaria would be dangerous and have criticized Heimlich for conducting studies involving malariotherapy on HIV patients in China.

Heimlich mostly brushed off critics.

"I'll be the first to admit that a number of my ideas are controversial and in some ways unorthodox," Heimlich told the AP. "But I have enough guts to know that when I am right, it will come about as the thing to do, even if others do the wrong thing for a time."

One of his most vocal critics has been his son, Peter Heimlich. The younger Heimlich split with his father years ago over a personal rift. He initially circulated anonymous criticisms of his father before openly speaking out against him online and in media interviews.

Peter Heimlich has called many of his father's theories dangerous and spent years challenging many of his claims and trying to discredit them. The elder Heimlich maintained that his relationship with his son was a family matter refused to comment on it to the media.

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The elder Heimlich attended Cornell University undergraduate and medical schools and interned at Boston City Hospital. During World War II, the U.S. Navy sent him to northwest China in 1942 to treat Chinese and American forces behind Japanese lines in the Gobi Desert.

Beginning in the 1950s, he held staff surgeon positions at New York's Metropolitan Hospital and Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center. He later was an attending surgeon on the staffs at Jewish and Deaconess hospitals in Cincinnati and a researcher at his nonprofit Heimlich Institute.

Heimlich's wife Jane, daughter of the late dance teacher Arthur Murray, died in November 2012.

He is survived by two sons and two daughters.

Phil Heimlich said a private family service and burial is planned soon. The family hopes to arrange a public memorial, he added, that will give his father's friends and admirers a chance to pay their respects.

Associated Press writer Dan Sewell contributed in Cincinnati.

Roof won't use mental health experts to try to save his life

By JEFFREY COLLINS, Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — Dylann Roof doesn't want jurors to consider his mental health when they decide next month whether he should face the death penalty for killing nine black Charleston church worshippers, according to a handwritten motion he filed.

Roof's decision late Friday to not call mental health experts to testify isn't too much of a surprise. In his hate-filled, racist journal read to the jury during his trial, Roof said he doesn't believe in psychology.

"It is a Jewish invention and does nothing but invent diseases and tell people they have problems when they don't," Roof wrote.

Roof, 22, is acting as his own lawyer during the penalty phase of his trial, which starts Jan. 3.

The same jury that convicted him Thursday on 33 charges including hate crime and obstruction of religion will decide if Roof is sentenced to life in prison without parole or death for the massacre on June 17, 2015, at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal church in Charleston.

In his handwritten note, he said: "I will not be calling mental health experts or presenting mental health evidence."

Roof's lawyers unsuccessfully tried to stop him from being his own lawyer, saying he was a high-school dropout and that they feared Roof fired them because he was afraid the attorneys would present evidence that would embarrass him and his family when trying to save his life.

Prosecutors are expected to present evidence showing that Roof picked his victims because of their race, killed them to incite more violence, showed no remorse and killed three particularly vulnerable people who were 70 years old or older, according to court papers.

State prosecutors have also said they will seek the death penalty against Roof in a separate trial on nine murder charges, likely to begin sometime next year.

Follow Jeffrey Collins on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/JSCollinsAP> . His work can be found at <http://big-story.ap.org/content/jeffrey-collins> .

Car bomb kills 13 Turkish soldiers on bus; 7 suspects held

By DOMINIQUE SOGUEL, Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — A suicide car bomber set off an explosion Saturday that demolished a public bus transporting off-duty soldiers in Turkey's central province of Kayseri, killing 13 troops and wounding 56 other people, authorities said.

Saturday's blast comes a week after a car bomb attack claimed by Kurdish militants killed 44 people, mainly riot police, and wounded over 150 others near a soccer stadium in Istanbul.

Interior Minister Suleyman Soylu said the identity of the Kayseri attacker was known and that seven people had been taken into custody in connection with the attack. Police were searching for five others.

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Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said the suicide bomber ambushed a commando brigade on weekend leave in the city of Kayseri.

The Turkish army said 48 troops were among the wounded in Saturday's "treacherous attack." The state-run Anadolu Agency said the explosion at the entrance gate to Erciyes University hit a bus transporting off-duty soldiers.

Speaking in Kayseri, Health Minister Recep Akdag told reporters 56 people had been wounded in the attack, including four who were in critical condition.

Images taken moments after the explosion showed a smoking public bus, still in flames, with its windows blown open and its interior blackened.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility but the statements of top officials suggested suspicion was focused on the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, which Ankara and the West consider a terrorist organization. Kurdish militants have claimed multiple attacks against soldiers and police across Turkey this year in violence that has also caused many casualties among civilians.

"Turkey is under a combined attack by terrorist organizations, especially the divisive terrorist organization," President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said in a statement Saturday, referring to the PKK.

Turkey has fought the PKK for decades in a conflict that has claimed tens of thousands of lives. The collapse of a two-and-a-half year cease-fire in July 2015 set the stage for a violent new chapter and ushered vast security operations in Turkey's predominantly Kurdish southeast.

Turkey is also at odds with Western-backed Kurdish factions fighting against Islamic State extremists in neighboring Syria and Iraq. Turkey views these groups as extensions of the PKK.

"We know that these attacks we have endured are not unrelated to happenings in Syria and Iraq, or even our economical fluctuations," Erdogan said.

A state of emergency was declared following a botched July 15 coup attempt in Turkey and remains in force. The Turkish government has detained tens of thousands of people and fired tens of thousands of others for alleged ties to a cleric-led movement it says was behind the attempted coup, a claim the group denies.

As usual with attacks in Turkey, the prime ministry office imposed a temporary blackout on coverage of Saturday's explosion and urged media to refrain from publishing anything that may cause "fear in the public, panic and disorder and which may serve the aims of terrorist organizations."

Ayşe Wieting, Bulut Emiroglu and Neyran Elden in Istanbul also contributed reporting.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Dec. 18, the 353rd day of 2016. There are 13 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 18, 1916, during World War I, the 10-month Battle of Verdun ended with French troops succeeding in repulsing a major German offensive.

On this date:

In 1787, New Jersey became the third state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1863, in a speech to the Prussian Parliament, Prime Minister Otto von Bismarck declared, "Politics is not an exact science."

In 1865, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery, was declared in effect by Secretary of State William H. Seward.

In 1892, Tchaikovsky's ballet "The Nutcracker" publicly premiered in St. Petersburg, Russia.

In 1912, fossil collector Charles Dawson reported to the Geological Society of London his discovery of supposed early human remains at a gravel pit in Piltdown. (More than four decades later, Piltdown Man was exposed as a hoax.)

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In 1944, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the government's wartime evacuation of people of Japanese descent from the West Coast while at the same time ruling that "concededly loyal" Americans of Japanese ancestry could not continue to be detained.

In 1956, Japan was admitted to the United Nations. The controversial movie "Baby Doll," starring Carroll Baker, was released by Warner Bros. The panel game show "To Tell the Truth" debuted on CBS-TV.

In 1962, "Mister Magoo's Christmas Carol," an animated musical adaptation of the Charles Dickens story, first aired on NBC-TV.

In 1966, the animated TV special "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" starring Boris Karloff as the narrator as well as the voice of the Grinch, first aired on CBS.

In 1972, the United States began heavy bombing of North Vietnamese targets during the Vietnam War. (The bombardment ended 11 days later.)

In 1980, former Soviet Premier Alexei N. Kosygin died at age 76.

In 1992, Kim Young-sam was elected South Korea's first civilian president in three decades.

Ten years ago: Robert Gates was sworn in as U.S. defense secretary. President George W. Bush signed legislation to let America share its nuclear know-how and fuel with India. The NBA suspended seven players for their roles in a brawl between the Denver Nuggets and New York Knicks; each team was fined \$500,000. Animator Joe Barbera died in Los Angeles at age 95.

Five years ago: The last convoy of heavily armored U.S. troops left Iraq, crossing into Kuwait in darkness in the final moments of a nine-year war. Vaclav Havel (VAHTS'-lahv HAH'-vel), 75, the dissident playwright who became Czechoslovakia's first democratically elected president, died in the northern Czech Republic. Medical student Sophie Clarke was crowned the winner of CBS' "Survivor: South Pacific."

One year ago: Congress ended a chaotic year on a surprising note of bipartisan unity and productivity as it overwhelmingly approved a massive 2016 tax and spending package and sent it to President Barack Obama, who promptly signed it. United Nations Security Council members unanimously approved a resolution endorsing a peace process for Syria.

Today's Birthdays: Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark is 89. Actor-producer Roger Smith is 84. Blues musician Lonnie Brooks is 83. Actor Roger Mosley is 78. Rock singer-musician Keith Richards is 73. Writer-director Alan Rudolph is 73. Movie producer-director Steven Spielberg is 70. Blues artist Ron Piazza is 69. Movie director Gillian Armstrong is 66. Movie reviewer Leonard Maltin is 66. Rock musician Elliot Easton is 63. Actor Ray Liotta is 61. Comedian Ron White is 60. R&B singer Angie Stone is 55. Actor Brad Pitt is 53. Professional wrestler-turned-actor "Stone Cold" Steve Austin is 52. Actor Shawn Christian is 51. Actress Rachel Griffiths is 48. Singer Alejandro Sanz is 48. Actor Casper Van Dien is 48. Country/rap singer Cowboy Troy is 46. Rapper DMX is 46. International Tennis Hall of Famer Arantxa Sanchez Vicario is 45. DJ Lethal (Limp Bizkit) is 44. Pop singer Sia is 41. Country singer Randy Houser is 40. Actor Josh Dallas is 38. Actress Katie Holmes is 38. Actor Ravi Patel is 38. Singer Christina Aguilera is 36. Christian rock musician Dave Luetkenhoelter (Kutless) is 34. Actress Ashley Benson is 27. Actress-singer Bridgit Mendler is 24. Actress Isabella Cramp is 12.

Thought for Today: "When you make a world tolerable for yourself, you make a world tolerable for others." — Anais Nin, French-born author (1903-1977).