

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 1 of 18

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Hanlon Brothers Ad
- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 2- Snow Queen Photos and Info
- 3- Farmers Union PSA
- 3- Half staff flag notification
- 4- Today in Weather History
- 4- Roslyn 4-Plex for sale
- 5- Today's Forecast
- 6- Yesterday's Weather
- 6- Today's Weather Info
- 6- National Weather Map
- 7- Daily Devotional
- 8- 2018 Community Events
- 9- News from the Associated Press



Gia Gengerke was the senior snow queen and Tanae Lipp was the junior snow queen.

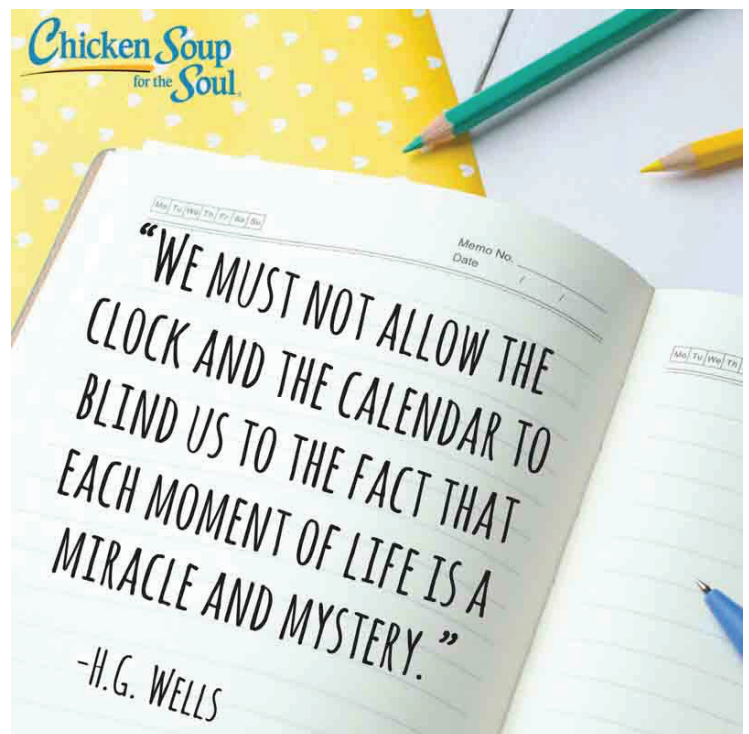
(Photo by Julianna Kosel)

Hanlon Brothers
Gravel Hauling
New & Cleaning of
Stockdams with our
60' reach trackhoe
605/395-6531

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**

© 2017 Groton Daily Independent



Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 2 of 18



The Snow Price was Gavin Hanten, son of Cody and Sarah Hanten; Senior Snow Queen was Gia Gengerke, daughter of Shawn and Lara Gengerke; Junior Snow Queen was Tanae Lipp, daughter of Tom and Kami Lipp; and Snow Princess was Rowan Patterson, daughter of Drake and Jacquelyn Patterson. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



Junior Snow Queen: First Runner-up was Alexis Hanten; Junior Snow Queen was Tanae Lipp; Second Runner-up was Tiara DeHoet. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



Senior Snow Queen: Madison Sippel was the second runner-up, Gia Gengerke was the senior snow queen and Hannah Lewandowski was the first runner-up.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 3 of 18



All auto owners!

Save \$2-\$4 /tank

& grow your local economy
by choosing low carbon

Super Premium E30's

94 octane, more power,
same mileage, fewer
carbon deposits, lower
maintenance costs,
slashed benzene & related
genotoxic, carcinogenic
tailpipe emissions;

*see sdfu.org's E30 tab for
info, E30 prices\locations.

***Farmers Union's
PSA: Courtesy Merle
Anderson (Merle is 94
year old founder of Ace
and legendary ethanol
supporter... "because it is
the right thing to do")**

Snow Queen Contest held

The 71st Annual Snow Queen Pageant was held Sunday evening.

In the senior snow queen division, Gia Gengerke was named the senior snow queen, Hannah Lewandowski was the first runner-up, Madison Sippel the second runner-up, and Alexandra Stange was named Miss Congeniality.

In the junior snow queen division, Tanae Lipp was named junior snow queen, Alexis Hanten was named first runner-up and Tiara DeHoet was named second runner-up.

Rick Carlson was the mystery Frosty. Teresa Davies was the winner of the \$25 for making the correct guess.

The snow prince was Gavin Hanten and the snow princess was Rowan Patterson.

Anna Bisbee won the junior division talent contest and Madeline Schuelke won the senior division talent contest.

Half-Staff Flag Notification

Honoring the Victims of the Tragedy in Sutherland Springs, Texas - Until November 9th 2017

As a mark of respect for the victims of the senseless act of violence perpetrated on November 5th, 2017, the President has proclaimed that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff until sunset, November 9th, 2017.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 4 of 18

Today in Weather History

November 6, 1959: A strong cold front that brought near blizzard conditions and cold temperatures on the 5th continued to bring record or near record lows during the morning hours on this day. Some low temperatures include: -13 in Murdo; -12 in Eureka; -11 in Britton; -10 in Castlewood; -9 near McIntosh and Redfield; -8 in Andover; -7 in Clear Lake and Kennebec; -6 degrees in Aberdeen; -5 in Watertown; and -4 in Pierre.

November 6, 2008: A strong area of low pressure moving across South Dakota and into Minnesota brought widespread rain, freezing rain, and snow to central, north central, and northeast South Dakota.

ROSLYN, SOUTH DAKOTA

4-PLEX FOR SALE

The following real estate is for sale:

Lots Seven (7), Eight (8) and Nine (9), Block Twenty-two (22), Original Plat, Roslyn, Day County, South Dakota;

A/k/a 716 1st Street, Roslyn, South Dakota; st Consisting of lots and 4-plex apartment house, currently unoccupied and has been for five (5) years. Property is to be sold "AS IS". Apartment units have electric baseboard heat and electric hot water heaters. Apartment units also include electric ranges, refrigerators, and washers/dryers.

No warranties are being offered on the appliances ("AS IS").

Interested parties should submit sealed bids to Law Office of Danny R. Smeins, P.C., 506 Main Street, Webster, SD 57274, or hand delivered to the same address prior to 5:00 p.m. on the 14th day of November, 2017. Bids will be opened after the bid deadline, and Seller will identify the bidders that will be invited to raise their bid on the 17 day of November, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at the Law Office of Danny R. Smeins, P.C. in Webster, South Dakota. Not all bidders will be invited to raise their bid.

Successful bidder will be required to execute a standard Purchase Agreement and make an earnest money deposit.

SELLER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS.

Direct all inquiries, questions or requests for real estate information to Danny R. Smeins, Attorney at Law, at (605) 345-4875 or (605) 448-5964 or Ray Lardy, Roslyn Homes, Inc., at (605) 228-1597 or Richard Galbraith at (605) 229-0180.

Much of the freezing fell across central and north central South Dakota west of the Missouri River. As the freezing rain changed over to snow and the winds increased, the ice and snow buildup on the power lines and poles caused hundreds of power poles to break across Jones, Stanley, Dewey, and Corson counties. East of the Missouri River, the colder air and stronger winds moved in changing the rain over to snow. High winds of 30 to 45 mph with gusts near 60 mph brought widespread blizzard conditions to all of the areas.


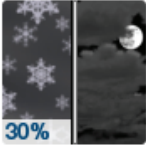





Ice buildup from the freezing rain ranged from a tenth to as much as an inch for counties west of the Missouri River. Snowfall amounts across the entire area ranged from 2 to 8 inches with a 15-inch amount recorded in southwest Corson County. Other snowfall amounts include 3 inches in Eagle Butte, Blunt, Kennebec, Mission Ridge, and Onida; 4 inches in Pollock, Gettysburg, and Bowdle; 5 inches south of Harrold, Iona, and near McIntosh; 6 inches in Mobridge; 7 inches in Murdo; 8 inches in McLaughlin, and 15 inches southwest of Keldron.

All 4,600 customers of the Moreau-Grand Electric Company lost power due to the storm. The last time this occurred was during the winter of 1967-68. The monetary loss to this cooperative and other electric cooperatives for Jones, Stanley, Corson, and Dewey counties was in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Over 100 line workers were working countless hours with crews coming as far away as Nebraska and Iowa to assist in the power recovery. Over 1,000 customers were without power for an extended period. Cell phone coverage was also knocked out for parts of the West River area due to downed towers.

The blizzard resulted in numerous school, business, and road closures along with flight cancellations. Interstate 90 was shut down from Mitchell, South Dakota to the Wyoming border from Thursday the 6th until Friday evening of the 7th. Many semi-trucks and cars were stranded along the Interstate with many people being rescued. Many travels took shelter in Murdo, Chamberlain, and Pierre until the Interstate reopened. There were several accidents across the area with a serious accident in Walworth County on Highway 83 near the Potter County line. In the early afternoon hours of Friday the 7th, slippery roads, high winds, and low visibilities contributed to the rollover of a passenger van carrying seven students. The passenger van rolled several times causing serious injuries to three of the students. The Governor declared a state of emergency on the 7th, and President Bush declared South Dakota a disaster area.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 5 of 18

| Today | Tonight | Tuesday | Tuesday Night | Wednesday | Wednesday Night | Thursday |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chance Snow | Chance Snow then Mostly Cloudy | Sunny | Mostly Clear | Mostly Sunny | Mostly Cloudy | Mostly Sunny |
| High: 28 °F | Low: 7 °F | High: 25 °F | Low: 8 °F | High: 32 °F | Low: 11 °F | High: 21 °F |



Light Snow Today



**South Central To Eastern South Dakota Today
Additional Light Accumulations North Central This Evening**

Totals Only Around An Inch

Cold Temperatures Persist Through Work Week

**Temps Some 10 to 20
Degrees Below Average**

Mostly Dry As Well...



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD
www.weather.gov/abr



11/6/2017 4:54 AM

Published on: 11/06/2017 at 5:03AM

A weak system will spread light snow across south central South Dakota this morning spreading north-east through the day. Another area of light snow will develop towards evening across north central South Dakota. Not much accumulation is expected however, with only around an inch or so. Cold air follows this system with readings below average through the work week.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 6 of 18

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 42.4

Low Outside Temp: 29.8

High Gust: 21

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 79° in 1904

Record Low: -8° in 1991

Average High: 46°F

Average Low: 24°F

Average Precip in Nov: .18

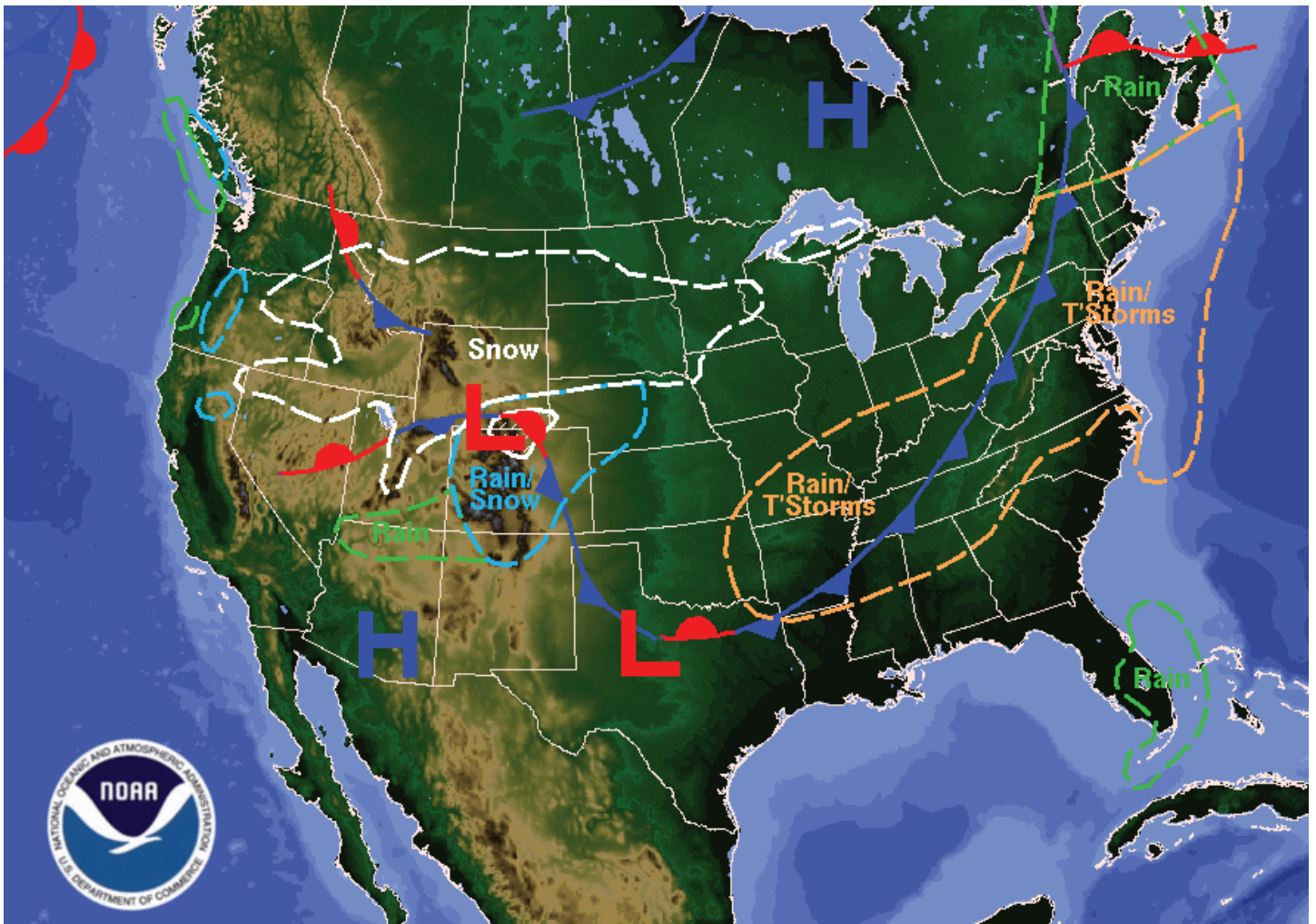
Precip to date in Nov: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 20.65

Precip Year to Date: 13.47

Sunset Tonight: 5:13 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:21 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Mon, Nov 06, 2017, issued 4:24 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain

Rain and T'Storms

Rain and Snow

Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)

Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)

Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)

Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 7 of 18



TO PROTECT AND TO PROVIDE

A biographer once wrote of Christopher Columbus that "He discovered no island or sea as lonely as himself."

How different for those who trust God!

David wrote, "When You, God, went out before Your people, when You marched through the wilderness...You provided for the poor!"

The writer of Hebrews echoed those words when he wrote of the risen Christ, "I will never leave you nor ever forsake you."

King Nebuchadnezzar refused to hear the testimony of three young men. He bound them and threw them into a fiery furnace. In amazement, when he looked into the furnace he did not see three men, but four: unharmed and unbound. He shouted, "Servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!" God went before them, protected them and rescued them.

On one occasion the disciples of Jesus were frightened by the winds and the waves that were threatening them. They were in a little boat with little hope. Then Jesus appeared and said, "Take courage. Don't be afraid. It is I!" He went to them, calmed their fears and then said, "You of little faith. Why did you doubt?"

A Psalmist was traveling through a deep valley with dark shadows. He was filled with great fear as he faced the "unknown." Yet, he was able to say, "I will fear no evil, for You are with me. Your rod and Your staff will comfort me!" He trusted God because he knew God would never abandon him.

The Lord always goes before us to protect us. He will provide for everything we need now and through eternity.

Prayer: Thank You, God, for assuring us that we do not face the threats of life alone. Thank You for Your protection. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 68:7 & 10b When you, God, went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,... and from your bounty, God, you provided for the poor.

2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- 11/18/2017-3/31/2018 Groton Lion's Club Wheel of Meat- Saturday Nights 7pm at the Groton Legion (Fall/Winter Months)
- 1/28/2018 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 3/24/2018 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 5/5/2018 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/28/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery, Lunch to follow at the American Legion (Memorial Day)
- 6/14/2018 Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- 6/15/2018 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
- 6/16/2018 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 7/4/2018 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 7/22/2018 Summer Fest (4th Sunday in July)
- 9/8/2018 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/6/2018 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/12/2018 Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)

- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events

News from the Associated Press

Semitrailer-pickup crash kills 1, seriously injures 1

WOLSEY, S.D. (AP) — A two-vehicle crash in Beadle County late last week killed one person and seriously injured another.

The Highway Patrol says a semitrailer failed to stop at a junction of U.S. Highways 14 and 281 north of Wolsey and collided with a pickup truck Friday afternoon.

The 18-year-old woman driving the pickup died at a Huron hospital. An 18-year-old female passenger suffered life-threatening injuries.

The 24-year-old semi driver suffered what the patrol described as minor injuries. Charges are pending against the man.

The names of the people involved weren't immediately released.

Authorities ID Whitewood man killed in pickup rollover

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified a Whitewood man who died after a one-vehicle crash in Lawrence County.

The Highway Patrol says 47-year-old Richard Griffith was driving a pickup truck that hit the side of a bridge on a rural road east of Spearfish Wednesday morning. The pickup went into the ditch and rolled.

Griffith was flown to a Rapid City hospital, where he died the next day.

Man sentenced for assaulting officer on tribal campus

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Mission man has been sentenced to two years in prison for assaulting a federal officer on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation.

Authorities say a bat-wielding 23-year-old Richard Peneaux came at a tribal officer who had responded to a disturbance report on the Sinte Gleska University campus on March 23.

The officer pepper-sprayed Peneaux, who then fled but was later apprehended.

U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says Peneaux pleaded guilty in August to assaulting, resisting and impeding a federal officer. He'll be on supervised release for three years following his prison term.

Man sentenced for assaulting officer on tribal campus

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Mission man has been sentenced to two years in prison for assaulting a federal officer on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation.

Authorities say a bat-wielding 23-year-old Richard Peneaux came at a tribal officer who had responded to a disturbance report on the Sinte Gleska University campus on March 23.

The officer pepper-sprayed Peneaux, who then fled but was later apprehended.

U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says Peneaux pleaded guilty in August to assaulting, resisting and impeding a federal officer. He'll be on supervised release for three years following his prison term.

Wealthy residents transform South Dakota city

By PATRICK ANDERSON, Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Robert Stefani watched as workers smoothed a porous concrete mix in a pit that would eventually become a vinyl-lined pool.

A biting autumn wind signaled the end of another season. Stefani's team has five pools left to install before the ground freezes. Though that number depends on who you ask and what's actually possible, Stefani said with one of his affable half-smiles.

It's been a busy season. Busier than any Stefani can remember in his 18 years with Combined Pool and

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 10 of 18

Spa, and usually the workload includes more jobs outside the metro area, he said.

"Every year it's gone up," Stefani told the Argus Leader. "It really let loose this year."

The last decade has brought a distinct rise in the number of high-income earners in Sioux Falls, and with it, rising demand for luxury goods and services. But one economic development official worries the gap between the rich and poor is widening, thinning out the middle class.

Want a sign that more Sioux Falls residents are bringing home big paychecks? Just follow demand for in-ground pools.

Pool builders were exceptionally busy in the Sioux Falls market in the three years leading up to the housing market's 2007 collapse, according to building permits filed with City Hall. Interest cooled during the Great Recession, but city permits show it returned with a vengeance in 2015 and has remained strong.

Bigger homes dot the landscape on the southern, eastern and western outskirts of town. And behind dozens of those arched, peaked and window-laden facades is a handiwork of pool builders.

"It makes it difficult to sell a million dollar home without putting a swimming pool in it," said Jeff Carlson, co-owner of Combined Pool and Spa.

Corresponding with the renaissance of backyard pools is a dramatic shift in the yearly salaries of the city's residents.

Draw a line at \$75,000 — thousands of dollars above the metro's median income — and nearly all of the growth in the last decade has happened in the top half of that line, according to U.S. Census Bureau data.

High-end cars and homes are also on the rise. Flat sales tax revenue caught City Hall sideways last year. But Sioux Falls spent nearly \$11 million more on eating out at restaurants.

Local salaries are tracked and split into 10 different buckets by the U.S. Census Bureau. The fastest-growing group of earners between 2005 and 2015 were those households bringing in between \$150,000 and \$199,999 a year, followed immediately by households in the highest category tracked by the Census Bureau: \$200,000 a year or higher.

"If you kind of take it at face value and go, 'OK, this looks like Sioux Falls is creating an awful lot of higher income opportunities,'" said Slater Barr, executive director of the Sioux Falls Development Foundation.

The easiest explanation for the influx of highly paid households and their penchant for taking backyard dips is the city's demand for health care workers.

"The most logical answer is probably medical," Barr said. "Again I don't have any data that ties that back specifically."

The two hospitals in town are some of the city's biggest employers. Hundreds of millions of dollars of donations and spending in medicine created thousands of jobs as both Sanford Health and Avera Health expand services and add clinics and specialty care facilities.

But there are other industries in Sioux Falls that have also created jobs with higher incomes.

Mark Fiechtner, a general contractor and real estate agent, lives in a \$1.5 million home he built in southern Sioux Falls' Prairie Hills development.

The modern-style house won honors in the spring Parade of Homes tour, sponsored by the Home Builder Association of the Sioux Empire and is surrounded by homes in a similar price range or higher.

"In this neighborhood, I could throw a rock and hit a million-dollar home," Fiechtner said.

Sioux Falls' growing interest in high-end homes was enough to catch the attention of the Wall Street Journal last year. Yes, it seems like the medical community is contributing to the trend, Fiechtner said. But not all of his neighbors are doctors.

"There's a lot of entrepreneurs; a lot of business owners," Fiechtner said.

Homes listed and sold in the million-or-above price range continue to become increasingly common in the Sioux Falls housing market.

Developers continue to break ground on luxury subdivisions far removed from the core, with big lots, winding roads and plenty of privacy. There is Prairie Hills to the south, Cherry Lake to the west and Arbor's Edge to the east.

The city's real estate market had just eight homes listed at \$1 million or higher in 2007. Last year, there were 21 homes listed in that price range.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 11 of 18

More wealth means more opportunity for some Sioux Falls residents and businesses. For others, however, questions linger about potential breaks in the path between a low-paying job and the house on the hill.

"What concerns me is I just don't think we're getting the job done in creating enough middle class," said Slater Barr, executive director of the Sioux Falls Development Foundation.

Barr is concerned about what he describes as a resulting "bifurcation" of salaries in the city.

Most of the job opportunities in Sioux Falls are at the high end of the spectrum or at the low-end, working in service and retail jobs.

The local trend reflects what's happening across the country, Barr said.

"It's an America that's being divided into the kind of haves and have-nots," Barr said.

The four-county metro area has experienced steady job growth in the retail and food service industry, but so far it doesn't seem to have widened the city's pay divide.

While the middle class is shrinking, last year marked a steep drop in Sioux Falls' poverty rate. Long-term, there was also a drop in the percentage of households in the lowest income brackets.

Barr's organization facilitated the acquisition of a \$20 million, 820-acre piece of land in northwestern Sioux Falls for an industrial park. Foundation Park opened in 2015 and went without an anchor tenant until this spring when the Development Foundation announced interest from a local developer in opening a \$40 million food distribution warehouse on the site.

Attracting more manufacturers to Sioux Falls could help bridge the gap between the low and high ends of the spectrum when it comes to local salaries, Barr said.

"We've got to create a ladder of opportunities for both training, and a ladder of opportunity for jobs for those people to move up," Barr said.

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

President of Spearfish Hospital dies

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — The president of Spearfish Hospital has died.

Rapid City-based Regional Health announced the death of Larry Veitz (vaytz) but gave no details. An online obituary says the 59-year-old Veitz died Saturday.

Veitz had been president of Spearfish Hospital for 15 years. He also oversaw clinics in Spearfish and Belle Fourche.

In a statement, Regional Health CEO Brent Phillips said Veitz's contributions "will have a lasting impact" and that he "set a great vision for the future."

Phillips says Veitz helped expand the health-care system's markets to include over 500 caregivers and 40 physicians serving patients from the northern Black Hills, eastern Wyoming and eastern Montana.

In September, Veitz was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for Health Care Professionals from the South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

Sheriff says gunman's ex-in-laws sometimes attended services

SUTHERLAND SPRINGS, Texas (AP) — The Latest on the church shooting in Texas (all times local): 7:45 a.m.

A sheriff says the former in-laws of a man suspected of killing 26 people at a Texas church attended services there "from time to time."

Wilson County Sheriff Joe D. Tackitt Jr. told CNN Monday morning that the former in-laws weren't in attendance Sunday when the shooting occurred. He says it wasn't clear why the gunman picked that day for the shooting.

The mass shooting occurred Sunday morning at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, about 30 miles southeast of San Antonio. About 20 others were wounded in the attack.

Two officials who spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity identified the gunman

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 12 of 18

as Devin Kelley. An Air Force spokeswoman said records confirm Kelley received a bad conduct discharge after being court-martialed in 2012 for assaulting his spouse and child.

7:05 a.m.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott is suggesting there may have been a connection between the gunman who shot and killed 26 people in a South Texas community and the Baptist church where the slayings happened.

Abbott tells ABC's "Good Morning America" he expects people will learn about any such link "in a few days." He said he didn't want to go further, saying "law enforcement is looking very aggressively into this."

"I don't think this was just a random act of violence," Abbott told anchor George Stephanopoulos. But when pressed to elaborate on his connection theory, the governor replied that "it's very important that law enforcement have the ability ... to tie the loose ends of this investigation up."

He called the man, identified by a U.S. official and one in law enforcement as Devin Kelley, "a very de-ranked individual."

3:30 a.m.

Authorities say a gunman armed with an assault rifle opened fire inside a small South Texas church, killing 26 people who ranged in age from 5 to 72.

The mass shooting occurred Sunday morning at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, about 30 miles southeast of San Antonio. About 20 others were wounded in the attack.

Two officials who spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity identified the gunman as Devin Kelley. An Air Force spokeswoman said records confirm Kelley received a bad conduct discharge after being court-martialed in 2012 for assaulting his spouse and child.

Wilson County Sheriff Joe D. Tackitt Jr. described the scene inside the church as "terrible."

Investigators have not yet determined a motive for the attack.

Trump says US will arm Japan to knock down Korea missiles

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — President Donald Trump on Monday refused to rule out eventual military action against North Korea and declared that the United States "will not stand" for Pyongyang menacing America or its allies.

In his first stop of an extended trip in Asia, Trump stood with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at a news conference and suggested the United States will arm Japan, much as the United States has done with allies in the Middle East like Saudi Arabia. He did not deny reports that he has expressed frustration that Japan did not shoot down a ballistic missile North Korea recently fired over its territory.

"He will shoot 'em out of the sky when he completes the purchase of lots of additional military equipment from the United States," Trump said of Abe. "He will easily shoot them out of the sky."

Japan, under its war-renouncing Constitution, can shoot down a missile only when it is aimed at the country or in case debris are falling on to its territory.

Some hawkish members of Abe's Liberal Democratic Party say that it may be possible to shoot down a missile headed toward Guam in case it causes existential threat to the U.S. as Japan's ally, but experts say that is questionable.

Trump's trip abroad comes amid dismal ratings among voters for the first-time president and questions about whether he can handle the nuclear standoff with North Korea.

Standing in an Asia capital in range of North Korea's missiles, Trump defended his fiery language, declaring Pyongyang "a threat to the civilized world."

"Some people say my rhetoric is very strong but look what has happened with very weak rhetoric in the last 25 years," said Trump with Abe at the news conference.

Abe, who has taken a more hawkish view on North Korea than some of his predecessors, agreed with Trump's assessment that "all options are on the table" when dealing with Kim Jong Un and announced

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 13 of 18

new sanctions against several dozen North Korea individuals.

Japan is already seeking money to purchase upgraded SM3 interceptors with greater accuracy and range, as well as other advanced missile defense systems such as land-based Aegis Ashore interceptors or the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, a U.S. mobile anti-missile system installed in South Korea. An installment of THAAD in Japan would further escalate reaction from Beijing, which has already balked at the installment of THAAD in South Korea, saying its advanced radar system can monitor deep into China.

Trump and Abe have struck a strong friendship, forged in meetings, phone calls and on the golf course — a friendship that was on display at a Monday evening banquet that was the final event of Trump's visit. Abe called Trump his "dear friend" and hailed the benefits of what he called "golf diplomacy."

The two men on Monday also put a face on the threat posed by the North, earlier standing with anguished families of Japanese citizens snatched by Pyongyang's agents.

Trump and first lady Melania Trump stood with nearly two dozen relatives, some of whom held photos of the missing. Seeking to increase pressure on North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, Trump pledged to work to return the missing to their families, saying "it's a very, very sad number of stories that we've heard."

North Korea has acknowledged apprehending 13 Japanese in the 1970s and 1980s, but claims they all died or have been released. But in Japan, where grieving relatives of the abducted have become a symbol of heartbreak on the scale of American POW families, the government insists many more were taken — and that some may still be alive.

Though Trump and Abe repeatedly touted their friendship, looming disagreements on trade could strain the friendship.

Trump complained Monday that Japan had been "winning" for decades and rebuked the current relationship, saying the trade deals were "not fair and not open." He told a group of American and Japanese business leaders: the United States was open for business, but he wanted to reshape the nations' trade relationship, though he did not say how he would cut the trade deficit with Japan, which totaled nearly \$70 billion last year.

He also downplayed the potentially contentious nature of the negotiations, though the Japanese government has not shown much appetite for striking a new bilateral trade agreement. Tokyo had pushed to preserve the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which Trump has abandoned.

"We will have more trade than anybody ever thought under TPP. That I can tell you," Trump said. He said the multinational agreement was not the right deal for the United States and that while "probably some of you in this room disagree ... ultimately I'll be proven to be right."

Abe, for his part, publicly deflected questions about trade.

Japan orchestrated a lavish formal welcome for the Trumps, complete with military honor guard and an audience with Japan's Emperor Akihito and his wife, Empress Michiko, at the Imperial Palace.

As part of the pageantry, Trump and Abe took part in a traditional feeding of koi in a pond Monday. At first, both leaders spooned out small amounts of feed into the pond below. Abe then lightly tossed the remainder of his box into the pond below, while Trump more theatrically dumped the rest of his box down to the fish.

Abe laughed.

Follow Lemire on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire> and Colvin at <http://twitter.com/@colvinj>

'Defenseless people': Gunman kills 26 at South Texas church

By JIM VERTUNO, Associated Press

SUTHERLAND SPRINGS, Texas (AP) — A gunman dressed in black tactical-style gear and armed with an assault rifle opened fire inside a small South Texas church, killing 26 people in an attack that claimed tight-knit neighbors and multiple family members ranging in age from 5 to 72 years old.

Once the shooting started Sunday at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, there was likely "no way" for congregants to escape, said Wilson County Sheriff Joe D. Tackitt Jr. Officials said about 20

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 14 of 18

others were wounded.

"He just walked down the center aisle, turned around and my understanding was shooting on his way back out," said Tackitt, who said the gunman also carried a handgun but that he didn't know if it was fired. Tackitt described the scene as "terrible."

"It's unbelievable to see children, men and women, laying there. Defenseless people," he said.

Authorities didn't identify the attacker during a news conference Sunday night. But two other officials — one a U.S. official and one in law enforcement — identified him as Devin Kelley. They spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to discuss the investigation.

The U.S. official said Kelley lived in a San Antonio suburb and didn't appear to be linked to organized terrorist groups. Investigators were looking at social media posts Kelley made in the days before the attack, including one that appeared to show an AR-15 semiautomatic weapon.

Kelley received a bad conduct discharge from the Air Force for assaulting his spouse and child, and was sentenced to 12 months' confinement after a 2012 court-martial. Kelley served in Logistics Readiness at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico from 2010 until his 2014 discharge, Air Force spokeswoman Ann Stefanek said.

At the news conference, the attacker was described only as a white man in his 20s who was wearing black tactical gear and a ballistic vest when he pulled into a gas station across from the church, about 30 miles (48.28 kilometers) southeast of San Antonio, around 11:20 a.m.

The gunman crossed the street and started firing the rifle at the church, said Freeman Martin, a regional director of the Texas Department of Safety, then continued firing after entering the white wood-frame building, where an 11 a.m. service was scheduled.

As he left, the shooter was confronted by an armed resident who "grabbed his rifle and engaged that suspect," Martin said. A short time later, the suspect was found dead in his vehicle at the county line.

Federal agents, including ATF investigators and the FBI's evidence collection team, swarmed the small rural community of just hundreds of residents.

Several weapons were found inside the vehicle and Martin said it was unclear if the attacker died of a self-inflicted wound or if he was shot by the resident who confronted him. He said investigators weren't ready to discuss a possible motive.

Martin said 23 of the dead were found in the church, two were found outside and one died after being taken to a hospital.

The man who confronted Kelley had help from another local resident, Johnnie Langendorff, who told KSAT TV that he was driving past the church as the shooting happened. He didn't identify the armed resident but said the man exchanged gunfire with the gunman, then asked to get in Langendorff's truck and the pair followed as the gunman drove away.

Langendorff said the gunman eventually lost control of his vehicle and crashed. He said the other man walked up to the vehicle with his gun drawn and the suspect did not move. He stayed there for at least five minutes, until police arrived.

"I was strictly just acting on what's the right thing to do," Langendorff said.

Among those killed was the church pastor's 14-year-old daughter, Annabelle Pomeroy. Pastor Frank Pomeroy and his wife, Sherri, were both out of town when the attack occurred, Sherri Pomeroy wrote in a text message.

"We lost our 14-year-old daughter today and many friends," she wrote. "Neither of us has made it back into town yet to personally see the devastation. I am at the charlotte airport trying to get home as soon as i can."

Church member Nick Uhlig, 34, who wasn't at Sunday's service, told the AP that his cousin, who was 8 months pregnant, and her in-laws were among those killed. He later told the Houston Chronicle that three of his cousin's children also were slain.

President Donald Trump, who was in Japan, called the shooting an "act of evil," later calling the gunman "a very deranged individual."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 15 of 18

Sunday evening, two sheriff's vans were parked outside the gate of a cattle fence surrounding the address listed for Kelley on the rural, western outskirts of New Braunfels, north of San Antonio.

Ryan Albers, 16, who lives across the road, said he heard intensifying gunfire coming from that direction in recent days.

"It was definitely not just a shotgun or someone hunting," Albers said. "It was someone using automatic weapon fire."

The church has posted videos of its Sunday services on a YouTube channel, raising the possibility that the shooting was captured on video.

In a video of its Oct. 8 service, a congregant who spoke and read Scripture pointed to the Oct. 1 Las Vegas shooting a week earlier as evidence of the "wicked nature" of man. That shooting left 58 dead and more than 500 injured.

Gov. Greg Abbott called Sunday's attack the worst mass shooting in Texas history. It came on the eighth anniversary of a shooting at the Texas' Fort Hood, where 13 people were killed and 31 others wounded by a former U.S. Army major.

The previous deadliest mass shooting in Texas had been a 1991 attack in Killeen, when a mentally disturbed man crashed his pickup truck through a restaurant window at lunchtime and started shooting people, killing 23 and injuring more than 20 others.

The University of Texas was the site of one of the most infamous mass shootings in modern American history, when U.S. Marine sniper Charles Whitman climbed the Austin campus' clock tower in 1966 and began firing on stunned people below, killing 13 and wounding nearly three dozen others. He had killed his wife and mother before heading to the tower, one victim died a week later and medical examiners eventually attributed a 17th death to Whitman in 2001.

Associated Press writers Sadie Gurman and Eric Tucker in Washington, Nomaan Merchant in Houston, Will Weissert in Austin, Diana Heidgerd in Dallas, Michael Balsamo in Los Angeles and Paul J. Weber in New Braunfels, Texas, contributed to this report.

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

1. 'IT'S UNBELIEVABLE TO SEE CHILDREN, MEN AND WOMEN, LAYING THERE'

A gunman armed with an assault rifle opens fire inside a small church east of San Antonio, killing 26 people. Victims, many of whom were related, ranged in age from 5 to 72 years old.

2. WHO TEXAS GUNMAN WAS

Authorities have identified the First Baptist Church shooter as Devin Kelley, who was discharged from the Air Force for allegedly assaulting his spouse and child, an Air Force spokeswoman says.

3. TRUMP DENOUNCES NORTH KOREAN AGGRESSION

In Japan, the president refuses to rule out eventual military action and declares that the United States "will not stand" for Pyongyang menacing America or its Asian allies.

4. SAUDI-YEMEN CRISIS INTENSIFIES

The Saudi-led coalition announces the closure of all land, air and sea ports in the wake of a ballistic missile being fired by Yemen's Houthi rebels at an international airport near Riyadh which was intercepted.

5. BELLWETHER ELECTION KEY TO MIDTERM CONGRESSIONAL RACES

The fate of the closely watched Virginia governor's race will likely make a weighty statement about Democratic prospects in 2018 and beyond.

6. WHERE HOMELESSNESS IS SOARING

Tens of thousands are sleeping unsheltered in some of the nation's biggest and trendiest metropolises along America's West Coast, driven there by soaring housing and rental costs.

7. POLICE HONE TACTICS TO QUELL VIOLENCE AT HATE-FUELED RALLIES

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 16 of 18

From snipers to helicopters to drones, officers change tactics to prevent the kind of bloodshed that marred a white supremacists' rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, this past summer.

8. HOUSE GOP WEIGHS REPEAL OF HEALTH MANDATE IN TAX BILL

Speaker Paul Ryan says Republicans are discussing scrapping "Obamacare's" requirement that people have insurance coverage or face a penalty.

9. 'PART OF THE SOLUTION'

Ben Affleck tells AP that the storm of sexual harassment allegations engulfing Hollywood has led him to examine his own behavior.

10. RAIDERS WIN TO STAY IN PLAYOFF HUNT

Derek Carr throws for 300 yards and Marshawn Lynch runs for two touchdowns as Oakland beats Miami 27-24 to improve to 4-5.

House GOP weighs repeal of health mandate in tax bill

By MARCY GORDON AND ANDREW TAYLOR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans are weighing a repeal of a key tenet of the Obama-era health care law in their tax overhaul as the House's tax-writing committee begins work on shaping the bill.

Speaker Paul Ryan said Sunday Republicans are discussing whether their tax plan should include a repeal of the Obama health law's requirement that people have insurance coverage or face a penalty, a step pushed by President Donald Trump but seen by some GOP lawmakers as possibly imperiling a much-needed legislative victory.

It would be another shot at further undermining the Affordable Care Act after repeated failures by the GOP-led Congress to repeal and replace the law. That is a step Trump has demanded and Republicans promised would happen after President Barack Obama left office and Republicans won the presidency and have control of Congress.

The House Ways and Means Committee begins work on the tax rewrite Monday, with the goal of full House action before Thanksgiving. The committee chairman, Rep. Kevin Brady, R-Texas, has said that including a repeal of the health law's individual mandate would be politically problematic, given that the Senate has failed to pass health legislation in Trump's first year.

Ryan, R-Wis., told "Fox News Sunday" that "a lot of members are suggesting" that the House include the repeal, though he did not weigh in personally on how to deal with the coverage mandate.

Equally as evasive was the second-ranking House GOP leader: "Well, I know people are talking about it," Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., said on CBS' "Face the Nation." He added: "Look, my focus is on tax. As the individual mandate goes, I would not be opposed to that. But I want to see this bill go forward."

The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that repealing the individual mandate would save \$416 billion over a decade. That's because without it, fewer people would enroll in Medicaid or buy federally subsidized coverage on insurance exchanges. The money represents a tempting revenue source for GOP tax writers whose plan for extensive tax cuts would add an estimated \$1.5 trillion to the nation's debt over 10 years.

Republicans are likely to make changes to the measure to ease opposition among some GOP lawmakers as the Ways and Means Committee takes up the plan. Some want to broaden tax relief to include more small businesses, while others are upset at a provision eliminating a tax credit for adoption expenses.

Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., the chairman of the House Freedom Caucus, said that revenue counted through the repeal could be used to enhance various tax credits and deductions popular with constituents.

For example, the GOP proposal eliminates the deduction for state and local income taxes, and caps the deduction for state and local property taxes at \$10,000. Some lawmakers from New York and New Jersey oppose the change. Meadows said the money gained through repealing the health coverage mandate could be used to "adjust that state and local tax issue."

The tax proposal is the first major rewrite of the U.S. tax code in three decades, mixing sharp tax cuts for corporations and businesses with more modest relief for individuals. An inflation change to tax brackets

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 17 of 18

announced on Friday reduced the tax cut to individuals by \$89 billion over 10 years.

The measure is enthusiastically backed by Trump, House GOP leaders and many rank-and-file Republicans, who are promising a simpler IRS code, a more globally competitive business tax structure, and tax cuts for the middle class and families with children.

But there's considerable trepidation as well. Many earners in the upper middle class, especially those from high-tax states, are facing tax increases.

In examining the GOP's tax bill, Congress' Joint Committee on Taxation projected that the expiration of certain tax breaks would result in tax increases for some income groups in some years.

An analysis from the liberal Center on Budget and Policy Priorities said the committee's projections showed the tax cuts would overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest households. Meanwhile, the joint committee's analysis indicated that tax filers with incomes between \$20,000 and \$40,000 would pay higher individual income taxes in 2023 and each year thereafter, as would filers with incomes between \$200,000 and \$500,000.

"They give with one hand and take away with the other," said Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

The bill would telescope today's seven personal income tax brackets into four: 12 percent, 25 percent, 35 percent and 39.6 percent. The 25 percent rate would start at \$45,000 for individuals and \$90,000 for married couples.

The standard deduction — used by people who don't itemize, around two-thirds of taxpayers — would nearly double to \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for couples. That's expected to encourage even more people to use the standard deduction with a simplified tax form Republicans say will be postcard-sized.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, Nov. 6, the 310th day of 2017. There are 55 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 6, 1977, 39 people were killed when the Kelly Barnes Dam in Georgia burst, sending a wall of water through Toccoa Falls College.

On this date:

In 1860, former Illinois congressman Abraham Lincoln of the Republican Party was elected President of the United States as he defeated John Breckinridge, John Bell and Stephen Douglas.

In 1861, Confederate President Jefferson Davis was elected to a six-year term of office.

In 1906, Republican Charles Evans Hughes was elected governor of New York, defeating newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst.

In 1928, in a first, the results of Republican Herbert Hoover's presidential election victory over Democrat Alfred E. Smith were flashed onto an electric wraparound sign on the New York Times building.

In 1934, Nebraska voters approved dissolving their two-chamber legislature in favor of a nonpartisan, single (or "unicameral") legislative body, which was implemented in 1937.

In 1947, "Meet the Press" made its debut on NBC; the first guest was James A. Farley, former postmaster general and former Democratic National Committee Chair; the host was the show's co-creator, Martha Rountree.

In 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower won re-election, defeating Democrat Adlai E. Stevenson.

In 1962, Democrat Edward M. Kennedy was elected Senator from Massachusetts.

In 1976, Benjamin L. Hooks was chosen to be the new executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, succeeding Roy Wilkins.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan won re-election by a landslide over former Vice President Walter Mondale, the Democratic challenger.

In 1986, former Navy radioman John A. Walker Jr., the admitted head of a family spy ring, was sentenced

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Nov. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 120 ~ 18 of 18

in Baltimore to life imprisonment. (Walker died in prison in 2014 at age 77.)

In 1990, about one-fifth of the Universal Studios backlot in southern California was destroyed in an arson fire.

Ten years ago: Six lawmakers were killed by a suicide bomber in northern Afghanistan during a visit to a sugar factory; 61 students also died as a result of the bombing and shots fired by guards. Country singer Hank Thompson died in Keller, Texas, at age 82. George Osmond, father of Donny and Marie Osmond and patriarch to the family's singing group The Osmond Brothers, died in Provo, Utah, at age 90.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama rolled to re-election, vanquishing Republican Mitt Romney as he picked up 332 electoral votes compared to 206 for the former Massachusetts governor; Obama also received 51 percent of the popular vote as opposed to 47 percent for Romney.

One year ago: FBI Director James Comey abruptly announced that Democrat Hillary Clinton should not face criminal charges related to newly discovered emails from her tenure at the State Department. Eritrea's Ghirmay Ghebreslassie (ghir-MY' geb-rah-SLAH'-say) and Kenya's Mary Keitany (kuh-TAHN'-ee) won the New York City Marathon.

Today's Birthdays: Actress June Squibb is 88. Country singer Stonewall Jackson is 85. Singer Eugene Pitt (The Jive Five) is 80. Singer P.J. Proby is 79. Actress Sally Field is 71. Singer Rory Block is 68. Jazz musician Arturo Sandoval is 68. TV host Catherine Crier is 63. News correspondent and former California first lady Maria Shriver is 62. Actress Lori Singer is 60. Actor Lance Kerwin is 57. Rock musician Paul Brindley (The Sundays) is 54. Former Education Secretary Arne Duncan is 53. Rock singer Corey Glover is 53. Actor Brad Grunberg is 53. Actor Peter DeLuise is 51. Actress Kelly Rutherford is 49. Actor Ethan Hawke is 47. Chef/TV judge Marcus Samuelsson is 47. Actress Thandie Newton is 45. Model-actress Rebecca Romijn (roh-MAYN') is 45. Actress Zoe McLellan is 43. Actress Nicole Dubuc is 39. Actress Taryn Manning is 39. Basketball player Lamar Odom is 38. Actress Patina Miller is 33. Actress Katie Leclere (LEH'-klehr) is 31. Singer-songwriter Ben Rector is 31. Singer-songwriter Robert Ellis is 29. Actress Emma Stone is 29. Actress Mercedes Kastner is 28.

Thought for Today: "People change and forget to tell each other." — Lillian Hellman, American playwright (1905-1984).