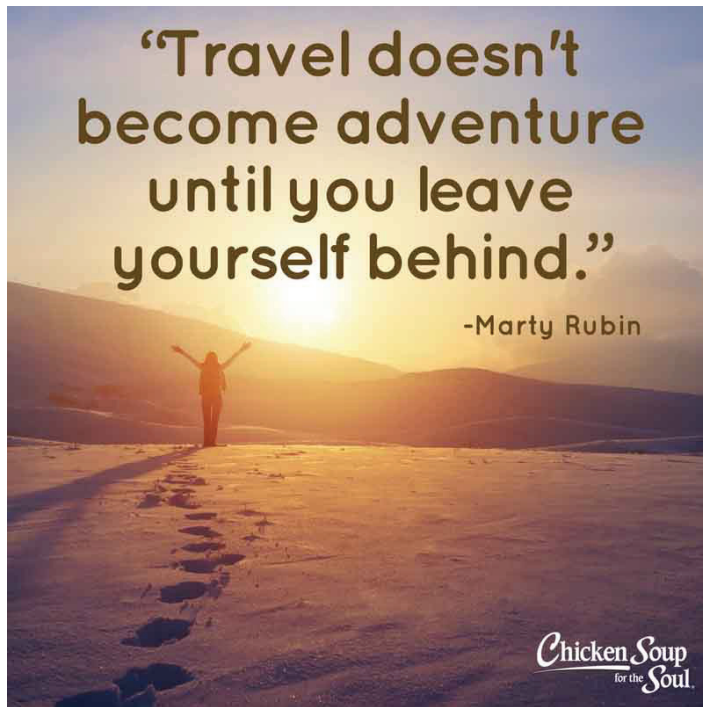


Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 1 of 26



- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Groton Chiropractic Clinic Ad
- 1- SunDial Help Wanted Ad
- 2- Groton Care & Rehab Help Wanted Ad
- 2- Weekly Vikings Roundup
- 3- Farmers Union PSA
- 3- Sobriety Checkpoints Planned for January
- 3- A Riddle
- 4- CELEBRATING OUR NATION'S DIVERSITY
- 4- Silver Skates Ad
- 5- The King in South Dakota
- 7- Today in Weather History
- 8- Today's Forecast
- 9- Yesterday's Weather
- 9- Today's Weather Info
- 9- National Weather Map
- 10- Daily Devotional
- 11- 2018 Community Events
- 12- News from the Associated Press

Boys' Basketball
Webster Area at Groton Area
C Game at 5:15 p.m.
JV game at 6:30 p.m.
Varsity game at 8 p.m.

Varsity game to be broadcast on GDILIVE.COM

Groton Chiropractic Clinic

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



Job Opening

Sun Dial Manor in Bristol is accepting applications for a Full or Part time Cook/Dietary Tech. Hours Vary. Sign-on Bonus available.

Please contact Mandy at 605-492-3615 or P.O. Box 337, Bristol, SD 57219 for more information.

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**

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 2 of 26

Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

The Minnesota Vikings (13-3) had a wonderful 2017, closing out the year by clinching the #2 seed and a first-round bye in the playoffs with a 23-10 win against the Chicago Bears (5-11). The Vikings are playing at an elite level heading into the playoffs, and they'll be able to use this extra week to get healthy so they can keep this train moving.

The Vikings offense didn't struggle against the Bears, but they weren't firing on all cylinders either. The Vikings only had three 3-and-outs on offense – but they were forced to punt eight times, which is unacceptable against a Chicago team that only won five games this season. Case Keenum completed 21 of 29 passes for 189 yards and a touchdown, and he was only sacked twice. The Vikings had a conservative game plan going into the game, choosing to put the ball into Latavius Murray's hands. Murray responded by carrying the ball 20 times for 111 yards (5.6 yards per carry) and 2 touchdowns. The Vikings ran the ball for 147 total yards (36 carries) against the Bears on Sunday, which was the team's fourth highest mark of the season on the ground.

The Vikings offense was slightly out of sync on Sunday, but the defense was ready and able to continue its dominance that's been displayed this entire season. Chicago ended the season 29th in points scored per game (16.5), but the Vikings essentially held them to a field goal if you take out the punt return for a touchdown Chicago had because of a trick play. The Vikings defense has only given up 17 points over the last three weeks of the season, and they ended the year allowing an NFL best 15.8 points per game. Harrison Smith continues to prove to the NFL that they made a mistake by not voting him as a pro bowler, finishing the game as the team's leading tackler while also adding a pass deflection. Trae Waynes continues to show he isn't a weak link on the defense, adding two pass deflections and a very impressive tackle for a loss against Chicago. Perhaps no player has made as big of an improvement as Waynes this season, which is great to see out of the former first-round pick.

The Vikings won't be playing next weekend, but we know the team will play their divisional playoff game on Sunday, Jan. 14 at 3:40 Central time. The Vikings will have three possible matchups, facing either the Los Angeles Rams, New Orleans Saints, or Carolina Panthers (whoever the highest remaining seed is af-

ter the wildcard matchups). The Vikings will play at U.S. Bank Stadium, and will only have to leave town if the Philadelphia Eagles win their divisional round game and the two teams meet in the NFC Championship game.

Next week, I'll be recapping the Vikings season (so far) and looking at the Vikings matchup in the divisional round. You won't want to miss it!

If you have any questions or comments, reach out to me on Facebook ([facebook.com/SkolJWright](https://www.facebook.com/SkolJWright)) or on Twitter (@SkolJWright).

NEW SIGN-ON BONUSES!

★ ★ ★ **\$1,500 for CNAs** ★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ **\$3,000 for LPNs** ★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ **\$4,500 for RNs** ★ ★ ★

Alzheimer's Care Unit Director Medication Aid

Contact Brynn Pickrel or Nellie Hatfield at 605-397-2365
or apply in person.



GROTON
CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

1106 N. 2nd Street, Groton

Sobriety Checkpoints Planned for January

PIERRE, S.D. – South Dakota’s Department of Public Safety will kick off 2018 by conducting sobriety checkpoints in 17 counties during the month of January.

The monthly checkpoints are funded by the South Dakota Office of Highway Safety and conducted by the South Dakota Highway Patrol. The checkpoints are designed to discourage people from drinking and then driving.

January checkpoints are scheduled in the counties of: Brookings, Brown, Butte, Charles Mix, Clay, Codington, Day, Fall River, Hamlin, Hughes, Jackson, Meade, Mellette, Minnehaha, Pennington, Sanborn and Tripp.

Both the Office of Highway Safety and the Highway Patrol are part of the Department of Public Safety.

A Riddle

There are four brothers in this world that were all born together. The first runs and never wearies. The second eats and is never full. The third drinks and is always thirsty. The fourth sings a song that is never good. What are the four brothers?

Answer after the AP News



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")

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 4 of 26

CELEBRATING OUR NATION'S DIVERSITY

By: **Patty Hoffman**

Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

January 15 is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a federal holiday and a day of remembrance. Martin Luther King, Jr. dedicated his life to creating and fostering equal rights for African Americans, and he died during his efforts to make his dream a reality.

Diversity of skills, knowledge, and perspective is what you want when putting together a strong team. In a way, America is a super team of diverse members, all of whom dream of prosperity and success. Many people honor Martin Luther King, Jr. for dedicating his life to showing us that diversity is a strength.

Social Security's "People Like Me" website has custom information for preparing for your future. Our diverse country is made up of countless backgrounds, ethnicities, and nationalities, yet we all want the same thing — a secure future. You can see the many diverse people we serve at www.socialsecurity.gov/people.

Younger people need to know that the earlier you start saving, the more your money can grow. Our website for young workers at www.socialsecurity.gov/people/youngpeople/saving.html has many resources that can help you secure today and tomorrow.

Veterans and wounded warriors, as well as their families, sometimes face unique obstacles when saving for their future. Our website has great resources and information at www.socialsecurity.gov/people/veterans.

Social Security values your diverse skillset and knowledge. That's what makes our country a world leader. Now you can take the lead and show your friends and family what Social Security has to offer.

Patty Hoffman is the Public Affairs Specialist for ND, SD and Western MN. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 4207 Boulder Ridge Road, Ste. 100, Bismarck ND 58503 or via email at patty.hoffman@ssa.gov.



The Carnival of Silver Skates theme for January 2018 is
"80 Years of Memories".

We would like to honor the former skaters who have
passed away.

Please contact Tina at the Groton Independent at 397-6397 or
email her at tina@grotonsd.net to share the name of someone you
would like remembered at this year's carnival.

Thank you for helping us to honor those who started this great
community tradition.

The King in South Dakota



Photo is courtesy of the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center. It shows a packed civic center with Elvis on stage.

reviews seemed to focus more on Presley's weight and sometimes bizarre behavior than on his singing. But to Gulbransen, Presley still wore the crown as the King of Rock.

"Elvis Presley sang, swiveled his hips, played the guitar, threw scarves, cracked a few jokes and gave the capacity audience at the grand opening of the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center their money's worth Tuesday night," Gulbransen wrote of the June 21, 1977, performance in a review headlined "There's no doubt about it – Elvis is still 'king.'"

More than 10,000 people, most of them purchasing tickets for \$15.00, attended the concert. Backstage, Rapid City Mayor Art LaCroix presented Presley with a plaque thanking him for giving the inaugural concert, and young Monique Brave gave Presley a hand-beaded medallion of life. He also received a T-shirt promoting the Boys Club Rent-A-Kid program.

But while Presley was presented with gifts, he arguably gave the audience more: seeing and hearing what Gulbransen described as a super performer in action.

"From 'Jailhouse Rock' and 'Are you Lonesome Tonight' to 'If You Love Me Let Me Know,' Elvis gave old favorites and newer songs a real crooning treatment.

"Although the gyrations that helped boost Elvis to popularity with teenage girls in the '50s are fewer and farther apart, the voice that continued to sell gold record after gold record sounded even better in person," Gulbransen wrote.

The show in Rapid City, along with a show in Omaha, was recorded by RCA and CBS for a planned television special.

On June 22, 1977, a day after the Rapid City show, Presley performed at the Sioux Falls Arena.

"With a voice as distinctive as has ever blistered a concert hall, Elvis and his backup performers presented the capacity crowd of 8,189 with hand-clapping spirituals, down home country and western tunes full of cheatin' hearts and the obligatory Presley standards like 'Jailhouse Rock,' 'Teddy Bear' and 'It's Now

The King was coming.

The King of Rock 'n' Roll, Elvis Presley, was coming to perform in the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in Rapid City to celebrate its grand opening.

"Saws were buzzing, special lights positioned, stage sections assembled and concession items stockpiled at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center last week," read an article by Jeri Gulbransen in the June 19, 1977, Rapid City Journal. "And the flurry of activity is scheduled to increase Monday and Tuesday in preparation for the grand opening concert starring Elvis Presley on Tuesday night."

Presley was born to Vernon and Gladys Presley on Jan. 8, 1935, in East Tupelo, Miss. He recorded his first single, "That's All Right" on July 5, 1954, and was an international sensation by 1956. By the time he came to Rapid City in 1977,

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 6 of 26

or Never.' And the crowd loved it," wrote Sioux Falls Argus-Leader Entertainment Editor Hugh O'Gara.

The one-hour performance by Presley produced a display of pyrotechnics unrivaled since the Fourth of July as fans lit the Arena with flashbulbs, O'Gara wrote.

Fans rushed the stage clamoring for the blue scarves Presley tossed from around his neck and presented him with roses.

This was the second concert that Presley had played in Sioux Falls in less than a year. The King's first concert in that city was on Oct. 18, 1976. Presley arrived on his private jet, and he and his entourage occupied the top three floors of the Holiday Inn City Centre.

O'Gara wrote of the 1976 concert, "Presley, fighting middle age spread and losing, is still as flashy, magnetic and outrageous as he was in 1957 when he appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show ... from the waist up."

The three South Dakota shows all seemed to follow the same pattern: performances by Presley's band, a Gospel quartet, a comedian and a female trio, intermission and the arrival of Presley clad in a white gold-sequined jumpsuit.

The 1977 South Dakota concerts were among the last Presley gave. He died at age 42 in Memphis, Tenn., on Aug. 16, 1977. He still has a presence in the Mount Rushmore State, as a motorcycle belonging to The King can be seen at the Pioneer Auto Museum in Murdo and the National Music Museum in Vermillion preserves Presley's C.F. Martin & Co.'s D-35 Dreadnaught guitar made in 1975 and played by him in 29 concerts between Oct. 17, 1976, and Feb. 14, 1977.

This moment in South Dakota history is provided by the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation, the nonprofit fundraising partner of the South Dakota State Historical Society at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. Find us on the web at www.sdhsf.org. Contact us at info@sdhsf.org to submit a story idea.

-30-

SOUTH DAKOTA



HISTORY & HERITAGE

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 7 of 26

Today in Weather History

January 2, 1999: Heavy snow of 6 to 8 inches fell across part of northeast South Dakota from the late afternoon hours of the 1st to the early morning hours of the 2nd. Strong north winds of 15 to 30 mph combined with temperatures in the single digits generated wind chills from 25 to 40 below and visibilities below 1/4 of a mile at times. Holiday travel along Interstate-29 and Highway 12 was most affected by this winter storm. There were some travel delays and some stranded motorists as a result. Some snowfall amounts included, 6 inches at Kidder, Victor, Sisseton, Webster, Waubay, Wilmot, and 8 inches at Britton and near Peever.

1870: One unofficial source reported the heaviest snowfall ever known in Louisville, Kentucky, piled up to about four feet. That would be more than twice as much as the accepted official record of 22.4 inches set February 4 through 6.

1897: Tornadoes in January? Two tornadoes touched down on this day. The first tornado touched down in the town of Mooringsport, Louisiana, killing five people and injuring 21 others. The second tornado occurred at Benton, Arkansas. Although this tornado was more destructive regards to property damage, it caused one death.

1910 - A great flood in Utah and Nevada washed out 100 miles of railroad between Salt Lake City UT and Los Angeles CA causing seven million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1955: Hurricane Alice passed through the Islands of Saint Martin and Saba in the Caribbean Sea on this day. Alice, which developed on December 30, 1954, is the only known Atlantic hurricane to span two calendar years.

1961 - The coldest temperature of record for the state of Hawaii was established with a reading of 14 degrees atop Haleakela Summit. (David Ludlum)

1987 - A winter storm moving up the Atlantic coast brought heavy snow and high winds to the north-eastern U.S. Wind gusts reached 82 mph at Trenton NJ and Southwest Harbor in Maine. Snowfall totals ranged up to two feet at Salem NH and Waterboro ME. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - "Old Man Winter" took a siesta, with snow a scarcity across the nation. For the second day in a row Alamosa CO reported a record low of 31 degrees below zero. (National Weather Summary)

1989 - Strong and gusty winds prevailed along the eastern slopes of the northern and central Rockies. Winds gusted to 71 mph at Colorado Springs CO and Livingston MT. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








1990 - The first winter storm of the new year and decade developed in the southwestern U.S., and blanketed the northern mountains of Utah with 12 to 23 inches of snow. Up to 22 inches of snow was reported in the Alta-Snowbird area. The storm brought Las Vegas NV their first measurable precipitation in four and a half months, since the 17th of August. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1994 - High winds buffeted the Northern Front Range of Colorado during the morning hours. Peak wind gusts included 105 mph atop Squaw Mountain near Idaho Springs and 89 mph at Fort Collins. A fast moving "Alberta Clipper" brought up to six inches of snow to Iowa. Up to a foot of snow blanketed the Snowy Range Mountains in southeastern Wyoming. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2008 - The second day of 2008 brought snow to areas of Indiana, Ohio and the Appalachians through the Northeastern United States. Parts of New England received the heaviest amounts, with some areas receiving storm totals of over 15 inches (38 cm) in several areas of central and eastern Maine. (NCDC)

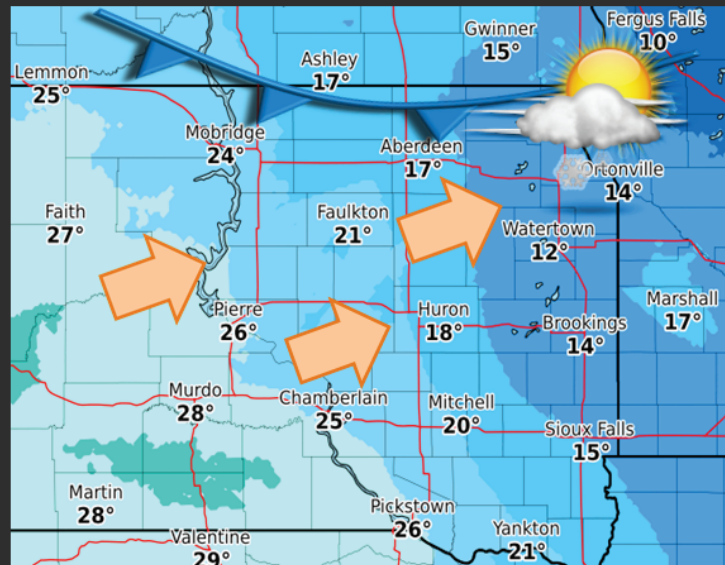
Broton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 8 of 26

Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
						
50%				20%		
Mostly Sunny then Chance Snow Showers	Partly Cloudy	Cold	Mostly Cloudy	Slight Chance Snow then Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Cold
High: 17 °F	Low: -4 °F	High: 6 °F	Low: -7 °F	High: 11 °F	Low: -5 °F	High: 10 °F

Warmer Today

Southwest
Breeze Ahead
Of Clipper
Dusting Of
Snow
Northeast



National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 1/2/2018 5:18 AM Central

Published on: 01/02/2018 at 5:22AM

A clipper moving across the western lakes region today will bring a chance for light snow (dusting) but more importantly will draw "milder" air into the region and help get temperatures above zero finally. Colder air will follow for the middle of the work week but the core of the coldest air will have passed and temperatures will just be a few degrees below average.

Groton Daily Independent

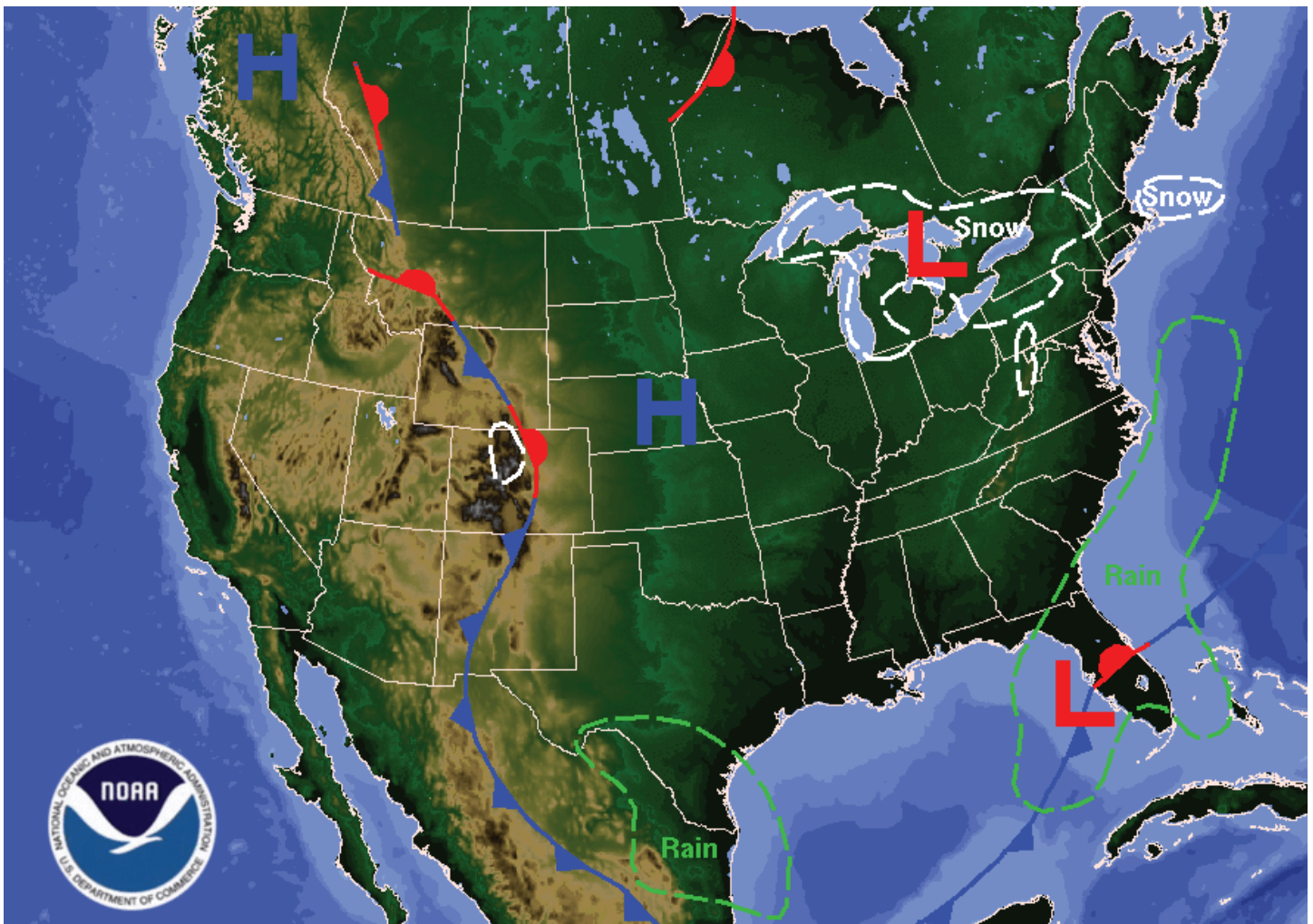
Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 9 of 26

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: -10.7 at 3:11 PM
Low Outside Temp: -28.9 at 8:05 AM
Wind Chill: -45.0 at 7:25 AM
High Gust: 13 at 8:52 PM
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 50° in 1953
Record Low: -30° in 2010
Average High: 22°F
Average Low: 2°F
Average Precip in Jan: 0.04
Precip to date in Jan: 0.00
Average Precip to date: 0.04
Precip Year to Date: 0.00
Sunset Tonight: 5:02 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:13 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Mon, Jan 01, 2018, issued 4:55 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

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 10 of 26



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

During an inspection of his soldiers prior to a parade, Alexander the Great said to one of them, "Your name is Alexander. My name is Alexander. Either change your name or change your way of living!"

Another leader spoke of a Name and the honor it deserved. King David wrote, "He guides me along right paths bringing honor to his name."

Names are important for many reasons. In Scripture the word name or words that have the same meaning as name occur nearly 1,100 times. Slightly half of that number refer to the name of God or God's Son. But the use of the word name in the Bible always carries with it one's identity or reputation.

Luke writes, "It was there at Antioch that the believers were first called 'Christians'" or Christ-ones – emphasizing the fact there was something very different, yet something very similar, about those who were believers in Christ. This young church in Antioch included a mixture of Jews and Gentiles whose languages were Greek and Aramaic. And though their languages were different they had one thing in common: Christ. Yet together they lived Christlike lives that reflected His unending and always obvious love. Their lives were so different because of Christ that they had to be given a new name.

Question: Do you qualify for a new name? Do you qualify to be called Christian?

Prayer: Lord, we often falter and fail in our lives that bear the name of Your Son. Forgive us for those times when our lives do not reflect Your love and Your life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Acts 11:26 ...and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

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

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 12 of 26

News from the  Associated Press

Bone-chilling cold grips wide swath of US, at least 2 deaths

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Bone-chilling cold gripped much of the U.S. as 2018 began, breaking century-old records and leading to at least three deaths attributed to exposure to the dangerously low temperatures.

The National Weather Service issued wind chill advisories and freeze warnings Tuesday covering a vast area from South Texas to Canada and from Montana through New England. Authorities opened warming shelters in the South as temperatures dipped notably close to zero in Alabama and Georgia.

The bitter cold wave enveloped much of the Midwest on Monday, yet that didn't deter hundreds of people from ringing in the new year by jumping into Lake Michigan. Throngs of people took part in the Polar Plunge in Milwaukee, despite sub-freezing temperatures and a warning of potential hypothermia from the local fire chief. Organizers canceled a similar event on the Chicago lakefront, after the temperature there dipped below zero and thick white steam rose from the lake. Organizers said the arctic blast made jumping into the lake too dangerous.

Temperatures plunged below zero elsewhere in the Midwest, including in Aberdeen, South Dakota, where the mercury dropped to a record-breaking minus 32 (-36 Celsius). The city's previous New Year's Day record had stood for 99 years.

In Nebraska, temperatures hit 15 below zero (-26 Celsius) before midnight Sunday in Omaha, breaking a record low dating to 1884. Omaha officials cited the forecast in postponing the 18th annual New Year's Eve Fireworks Spectacular that draws around 30,000 people.

It was colder in Des Moines, Iowa, where city officials closed a downtown outdoor ice skating plaza and said it wouldn't reopen until the city emerged from sub-zero temperatures. The temperature hit 20 below zero (-29 Celsius) early Monday, with the wind chill dipping to negative 31 degrees (-35 Celsius).

Indianapolis Public Schools canceled classes for Tuesday on all its campuses due to the predicted sub-zero temperatures. Students had been scheduled to return from winter break.

In northeastern Montana, the wind chill readings dipped as low as minus 58 (-50 Celsius). And in Duluth, Minnesota, a city known for its bitter cold winters, the wind chill dipped to 36 below zero (-38 Celsius).

Plunging overnight temperatures in Texas brought rare snow flurries as far south as Austin, and accidents racked up on icy roads across the state. In the central Texas city of Abilene, the local police chief said more than three dozen vehicle crashes were reported in 24 hours.

It's even cold in the Deep South, as temperatures plummeted early Tuesday to 14 (-10 Celsius) in Atlanta and 26 (-3 Celsius) as far south as New Orleans. Temperatures fell to 8 degrees near Cullman, Alabama, and 20 degrees in Mobile, Alabama. Georgia saw one of its coldest temperatures of the winter: 2 degrees shortly before dawn at a U.S. Forest Service weather station at Toccoa, Georgia. Warming shelters were opened across the South as freeze watches and warnings blanketed the region, including hard freeze warnings for much of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

The Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office said two bodies found Sunday showed signs of hypothermia. They included a man in his 50s found on the ground in an alley and a 34-year-old man. Police believe the cold weather also may have been a factor in the death of a man in Bismarck, North Dakota, whose body was found near a river/

Report cites December rise in Midwest economic conditions

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — An economist says a business conditions index for nine Midwest and Plains states rose over the past month, pointing to continuing improvement in regional economic conditions.

A report released Tuesday says the Mid-America Business Conditions Index climbed to 59.0 from 57.2 in November. The October figure was 58.8.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss oversees the survey, and he says profit growth, low interest rates and the recently passed tax package pushed business confidence last month to its highest level

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 13 of 26

since January 2011.

The survey results are compiled into a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests growth in that factor. A score below that suggests decline.

The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

2018 starts with record cold in parts of the Midwest

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Bone-chilling cold gripped much of the central U.S. as 2018 began Monday, breaking century-old records, icing over some New Year's celebrations and leading to at least two deaths attributed to exposure to the elements.

The National Weather Service issued wind chill advisories covering a vast area from South Texas to Canada and from Montana and Wyoming through New England. Dangerously low temperatures enveloped much of the Midwest, yet didn't deter hundreds of people from ringing in the new year by jumping into Lake Michigan.

Despite sub-freezing temperatures and a warning of potential hypothermia from the local fire chief, throngs of people took part in the annual tradition in Milwaukee, warming up later with chili or heat from a beach fire pit.

A similar event was canceled from the Chicago lakefront, where the temperature dipped below zero as thick white steam rose from the lake Monday morning. Organizers said the arctic blast made jumping into the lake too dangerous.

"I'm not happy about it. But I was down by the lake and, gosh, if you were dropped in there, it'd take you 10 minutes to get out," Jeff Coggins, who helped organize the thwarted Chicago event, told WBBM-TV.

Instead, would-be Chicago plungers had their pictures taken while jumping on the frozen beach — in their swimsuits.

Temperatures plunged below zero elsewhere in the Midwest, including in Aberdeen, South Dakota, where the mercury dropped to a record-breaking minus 32 (-36 Celsius). The previous New Year's Day record had stood for 99 years.

In Nebraska, temperatures hit 15 below zero (-26 Celsius) before midnight Sunday in Omaha, breaking a record low dating to 1884. Omaha officials cited the forecast in postponing the 18th annual New Year's Eve Fireworks Spectacular that draws around 30,000 people.

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Plunging overnight temperatures in Texas brought rare snow flurries as far south as Austin, and accidents racked up on icy roads across the state. In the central Texas city of Abilene, the local police chief said more than three dozen vehicle crashes were reported in 24 hours.

It's even cold in the Deep South, a region more accustomed to brief bursts of arctic air than night after night below zero. Frozen pipes and dead car batteries were concerns from Louisiana to Georgia as overnight temperatures in the teens were predicted across the region by Monday night.

The Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office said two bodies found Sunday showed signs of hypothermia. They included a man in his 50s found on the ground in an alley and a 34-year-old man. Police believe the cold weather also may have been a factor in the death of a man in Bismarck, North Dakota, whose body was found near a river.

Authorities ID McLaughlin man killed in Corson County crash

MCLAUGHLIN, S.D. (AP) — The Highway Patrol has identified a McLaughlin man who died in a single-vehicle crash in Corson County.

Thirty-seven-year-old Joseph Summers was driving a Suburban that rolled multiple times in the ditch off U.S. Highway 12 on Wednesday morning.

Summers was pronounced dead at the scene, about 4 miles east of McLaughlin. He was alone in the vehicle.

South Dakota cities set weather records as cold continues

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Record-setting cold weather continues to blanket South Dakota as the new year begins.

The National Weather Service says Aberdeen, Mobridge and Pierre set or tied record-cold temperatures for the date on Monday. The mercury plunged to minus 21 in Pierre, minus 30 at Mobridge and minus 32 in Aberdeen.

Aberdeen's previous record-low temperature for New Year's Day had stood for 99 years.

Several South Dakota cities also set cold-weather records over the weekend. Wind chill reports around the state early Monday were in the minus 30s, minus 40s and even minus 50s.

Nearly 1,000 people in Mitchell were without power for a couple of hours Monday morning before Northwestern Energy fixed the problem. The local fairgrounds and the Corn Palace were opened as emergency shelters but it wasn't clear if anyone used them.

Walleye in good shape in North Dakota's Lake Sakakawea

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The number of young walleye in the Lake Sakakawea reservoir on the Missouri River in North Dakota is among the highest in decades, though walleye reproduction downstream of the lake's dam wasn't as successful last year. Still, state wildlife officials are pleased with both results.

Walleye are generally considered the most popular game fish sought by anglers in the state, and Lake Sakakawea is considered one of the finest walleye lakes in the region. State Game and Fish Department crews last year had the fourth-highest catch of young walleye in the lake in the half-century history of fall surveys.

Scott Gangl, the department's fisheries management section leader, credits both the stocking efforts and the natural reproduction aided by a rebounding smelt population since major flooding seven years ago flushed substantial numbers of the forage fish through Garrison Dam.

The flood also changed the river channel downstream of the dam, damaging areas such as side channels and sandbars where fish like to breed. The damage hurt fish numbers, and the habitat is still recovering.

"We've seen increased numbers of fish, but it's not where it was before the flood," Gangl said.

There were fewer young walleye produced downstream last year, but that isn't necessarily a bad thing.

"We've had a couple of good (walleye) classes since the flood, and we've got a lot of young fish out there that need to feed before adding more young fish to the system," Gangl said.

There also are more forage fish for walleye to eat. Reproduction of gizzard shad in the river from Bismarck to the South Dakota border rebounded last year, though "numbers aren't terribly high" compared to pre-flood levels, according to Gangl.

"Hopefully sometime we will get back to pre-flood conditions ... but we don't know if that will happen in a matter of years or decades," he said.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 15 of 26

Sisseton man injured in crash dies nearly 2 weeks later

SISSETON, S.D. (AP) — A Sisseton man injured in a three-vehicle crash in the town last month later died of his injuries.

The Highway Patrol says 61-year-old Tony Gutierrez was a passenger in a sport utility vehicle that collided with a car on state Highway 10 while trying to turn into a parking lot the afternoon of Dec. 11. The SUV overturned and slid into another SUV that was leaving the parking lot.

Gutierrez was taken to a Sioux Falls hospital. Authorities say he died of his injuries on Dec. 23. No one else was seriously hurt in the crash.

Sioux Falls police investigate armed robbery of business

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police are investigating the armed robbery of a business on New Year's Eve.

Authorities say robbers armed with a gun entered the business about 7:30 a.m. Sunday and fled with an undisclosed amount of cash.

No one was hurt. The name of the business wasn't released due to Marsy's Law, which protects the rights of crime victims.

Death of Chamberlain man attributed to vehicle strike

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — Authorities believe a Chamberlain man whose body was found on a highway north of Yankton on Christmas Eve was struck and killed by a vehicle.

The body of 18-year-old Justin Arcoren was found on U.S. Highway 81 about 4 miles north of Yankton in the early morning hours of Dec. 24. The highway was shut down for nearly nine hours while authorities investigated.

The state attorney general's office says preliminary autopsy results indicate Arcoren died of blunt force injuries to the head and chest after being hit by a vehicle. The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan reports the investigation is continuing.

Information from: Yankton Press and Dakotan, <http://www.yankton.net/>

On Trump's plate: Congress, midterm elections, North Korea

By CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has returned from an end-of year holiday to face fresh legislative challenges, midterm elections and threats abroad.

The president began the second year of his presidency with confrontational tweets targeting Iran and Pakistan. He slammed Islamabad on Monday for "lies & deceit," saying the country had played U.S. leaders for "fools," by not doing enough to control militants.

Pakistani officials, including Foreign Minister Khawaja Asif, responded on Twitter that the country would make clear "the difference between facts and fiction."

Meanwhile, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said Monday the United States should be aware that his country's nuclear forces are now a reality, not a future threat. To that, Trump only said: "We'll see."

The president is hoping for more legislative achievements after his pre-Christmas success on taxes. He plans to host Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky and House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin at Camp David next weekend to map out the 2018 legislative agenda.

Republicans are eager to make progress before attention shifts to the midterm elections. The GOP wants to hold House and Senate majorities in 2018, but must contend with Trump's historic unpopularity and some recent Democratic wins.

The president concluded 2017 with his first major legislative achievement — a law to cut taxes, beginning this year, for corporations and individuals at an estimated cost of \$1.5 trillion added to the national

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 16 of 26

debt over 10 years. The tax overhaul also will end the requirement, in 2019, that all Americans buy health insurance or pay a fine. That's a key component of the Obama-era health law that that Republicans have been unable to repeal; other features of the law remain intact.

The White House has said Trump will come forward with his long-awaited infrastructure plan in January. Trump has also said he wants to overhaul welfare and recently predicted Democrats and Republicans will "eventually come together" to develop a new health care plan.

Ryan has talked about overhauling Medicaid and Medicare and other safety-net programs, but McConnell has signaled an unwillingness to go that route unless there's Democratic support for any changes. Republicans will have just a 51-49 Senate majority — well shy of the 60 votes needed to pass most bills — giving leverage to Democrats.

Congress also has to deal with a backlog from 2017. It must agree on a spending bill by Jan. 19 to avert a partial government shutdown.

Lawmakers also have unfinished business on additional aid to for hurricane victims, lifting the debt ceiling, extending a children's health insurance program and extending protections for immigrants brought to the U.S. illegally as children. Trump has said he wants money for a border wall in exchange for protecting those immigrants.

Trump spent his last day in Florida as he spent most other days — visiting his golf course and tweeting.

On Pakistan, he said: "The United States has foolishly given Pakistan more than 33 billion dollars in aid over the last 15 years, and they have given us nothing but lies & deceit, thinking of our leaders as fools. They give safe haven to the terrorists we hunt in Afghanistan, with little help. No more!"

It was not immediately clear why the president decided to comment on Pakistan. The U.S. has long accused Islamabad of allowing militants to operate relatively freely in Pakistan's border regions to carry out operations in neighboring Afghanistan. In August, the United States said it would hold up \$255 million in military assistance for Pakistan until it cracks down on extremists threatening Afghanistan.

On Iran, Trump kept up his drumbeat in support of widespread anti-government protests there. He tweeted Monday that Iran is "failing at every level" and it is "TIME FOR CHANGE."

While some Iranians have shared Trump's tweets, many distrust him as he's refused to re-certify the nuclear deal that eased sanctions on the country and because his travel bans have blocked Iranians from getting U.S. visas.

Khamenei says 'enemies of Iran' meddling in deadly unrest

By NASSER KARIMI and JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Clashes overnight between protesters and security forces in Iran killed nine people, state television reported Tuesday, including some rioters who tried to storm a police station to steal weapons.

The demonstrations, the largest to strike Iran since its disputed 2009 presidential election, have seen six days of unrest across the country and a death toll of at least 20. Offering his first comments since they began, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Tuesday accused the "enemies of Iran" of meddling in the country's affairs.

The protests began Thursday in Mashhad over Iran's weak economy and a jump in food prices and have expanded to several cities, with some protesters chanting against the government and the supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Hundreds of people have been arrested and a prominent judge on Tuesday warned that some could face death penalty trials.

State TV reported that six people were killed during an attack on a police station in the town of Qah-darijan. It reported that clashes were sparked by rioters who tried to steal guns from the police station.

State TV also said an 11-year-old boy and a 20-year-old man were killed in the town of Khomeinishahr, while a member of Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard was killed in the town of Najafabad. It says all three were shot by hunting rifles, which are common in the Iranian countryside.

The towns are all in Iran's central Isfahan province, some 350 kilometers (215 miles) south of Tehran.

It wasn't immediately clear if the Revolutionary Guard member was the same fatality reported late Mon-

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 17 of 26

day night by Iran's semi-official Mehr news agency. Mehr had said an assailant using a hunting rifle killed a policeman and wounded three others in Najafabad.

Monday marked the first night to see a fatality among Iran's security forces.

President Hassan Rouhani has acknowledged the public's anger over the Islamic Republic's flagging economy, though he and others warned that the government wouldn't hesitate to crack down on those it considers lawbreakers. All the protest rallies so far haven't received prior permission from the Interior Ministry, making them illegal under Iranian law.

In comments posted to his official website, Khamenei appeared to blame foreign nations for at least exacerbating the unrest gripping Iran.

"In the recent days' incidents, enemies of Iran utilized various means — including money, weapon, politics and intelligence apparatuses — to create problems for the Islamic system," he said.

Khamenei said he would elaborate further in the coming days.

In Tehran alone, 450 protesters have been arrested in the last three days, the semi-official ILNA news agency reported Tuesday. ILNA quoted Ali Asghar Nasserbakht, a security deputy governor of Tehran, as saying security forces arrested 200 protesters Saturday, 150 Sunday and 100 Monday. So far, authorities have not released a nationwide figure for arrests.

The head of Tehran's Revolutionary Court also reportedly warned Tuesday that arrested protesters could potentially face death penalty cases when they come to trial.

Iran's semi-official Tasnim news agency quoted Mousa Ghazanfarabadi as saying: "Obviously one of their charges can be Moharebeh," or waging war against God. That's a death penalty offense in Iran.

Ghazanfarabadi also was quoted as saying some protesters will come to trial soon on charges of acting against national security and damaging public properties.

Iran's Revolutionary Court handles cases involving alleged attempts to overthrow the government.

The protests began over Iran's economy, which has improved since the nuclear deal that saw Iran agree to limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the end of some international sanctions. Tehran now sells its oil on the global market and has signed deals to purchase tens of billions of dollars' worth of Western aircraft.

That improvement has not reached the average Iranian, however. Unemployment remains high, and official inflation has crept up to 10 percent again. A recent increase in egg and poultry prices by as much as 40 percent, which the government has blamed on a cull over avian flu fears, appears to have been the spark for the economic protests.

Gambrell reported from Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Associated Press writer Amir Vahdat in Tehran, Iran, 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. WHERE PROTESTS REMAIN DEADLY

The largest demonstrations to strike Iran since its disputed 2009 presidential election have seen six days of unrest across the country and a death toll of at least 20.

2. WHO'S OFFERING TALKS TO NORTH KOREA

South Korea proposes high-level talks with rival North Korea to find ways to cooperate on next month's Winter Olympics in the South.

3. POST-HOLIDAY, TRUMP FACES FULL PLATE

The president returns to Washington from his Florida club to face a hefty legislative to-do list, critical midterm elections and thorny issues abroad.

4. CALIFORNIA ROLLS ITS OWN RECREATIONAL POT SALES OUT FOR 2018

Ceremonial ribbon cuttings marked the occasion as the nation's biggest producer of illicit marijuana

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 18 of 26

moved from the shadows toward a regulated market.

5. WHERE WINTER HAS BLOWN IN WITH GUSTO

Bone-chilling cold grips much of the central U.S. as 2018 begins, breaking century-old records.

6. WHY FEW COLLEGES TRACK SUICIDES

Nearly half of the largest U.S. public universities do not track suicides among their students, despite making investments in prevention at a time of surging demand for mental health services.

7. HOW CALIFORNIA'S LEGISLATURE IS GRAPPLING WITH SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Debates loom over legislation to boost protections for victims and people who report sexual misconduct, as well as a confrontation with a state senator who has refused calls to step aside amid an investigation into his alleged inappropriate behavior.

8. WHO'S TAKING REINS OF BEAUTY PAGEANT

Former Fox News anchor and 1989 Miss America Gretchen Carlson is named chairwoman of the Miss America Organization's board of directors, after leaked emails surfaced showing CEO Sam Haskell and others disparaging the appearance, intellect and sex lives of former Miss Americas.

9. LEADER OF NYC BALLET RETIRING AMID MISCONDUCT INVESTIGATION

Peter Martins, the longtime leader of the New York City Ballet, is retiring in the midst of an investigation into accusations of sexual misconduct.

10. WHO WILL MEET IN THE COLLEGE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Alabama and Georgia won their College Football Playoff semifinals, making next Monday night's national championship in Atlanta an all-SEC affair.

S. Korea offers to talk with North on Olympic cooperation

By **HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press**

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea on Tuesday offered high-level talks with rival North Korea to find ways to cooperate on next month's Winter Olympics in the South. Seoul's quick proposal following a rare rapprochement overture from the North a day earlier offers the possibility of better ties after a year that saw a nuclear standoff increase fear of war on the Korean Peninsula.

In a closely watched New Year's address, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said Monday that he was willing to send a delegation to the Olympics, though he also repeated fiery nuclear threats against the United States. Analysts say Kim may be trying to drive a wedge between Seoul and its ally Washington in a bid to reduce international isolation and sanctions against North Korea.

Kim's overture was welcome news for a South Korean government led by liberal President Moon Jae-in, who favors dialogue to ease the North's nuclear threats and wants to use the Olympics as a chance to improve inter-Korean ties.

Moon's unification minister, Cho Myoung-gyon, proposed in a nationally televised news conference that the two Koreas meet Jan. 9 at the shared border village of Panmunjom to discuss Olympic cooperation and how to improve overall ties.

Earlier Tuesday, Moon spoke of what he described as Kim's positive response to his earlier dialogue overtures and ordered officials to study how to restore talks with North Korea and get the North to participate in the Olympics.

North Korea did not immediately react. But if there are talks, they would be the first formal dialogue between the Koreas since December 2015. Relations between the Koreas have plunged as North Korea has expanded its weapons programs amid a hard-line stance by Moon's conservative predecessors.

Last year, North Korea conducted its sixth and most powerful nuclear test and test-launched three inter-continental ballistic missiles as part of its push to possess a nuclear missile capable of reaching anywhere in the United States. The North was subsequently hit with toughened U.N. sanctions, and Kim and President Donald Trump exchanged warlike rhetoric and crude personal insults against each other.

Kim said in his speech Monday that North Korea last year achieved the historic feat of "completing" its nuclear forces. Outside experts say that it's only a matter of time before the North acquires the ability to

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 19 of 26

hurl nuclear weapons at the mainland U.S., but that the country still has a few technologies to master, such as a warhead's ability to survive atmospheric re-entry.

Talks could provide a temporary thaw in strained inter-Korean ties, but conservative critics worry that they may only earn the North time to perfect its nuclear weapons. After the Olympics, inter-Korean ties could become frosty again because the North has made it clear it has no intention of accepting international calls for nuclear disarmament and instead wants to bolster its weapons arsenal in the face of what it considers increasing U.S. threats.

"Kim Jong Un's strategy remains the same. He's developing nukes while trying to weaken international pressure and the South Korea-U.S. military alliance and get international sanctions lifted," said Shin Beom-chul of the Seoul-based Korea National Diplomatic Academy.

He said the North might also be using its potential Olympic participation as a chance to show its nuclear program is not intended to pose a threat to regional peace.

In his address Monday, Kim said the United States should be aware that his country's nuclear forces are now a reality, not a threat. He said he has a "nuclear button" on his office desk, warning that "the whole territory of the U.S. is within the range of our nuclear strike."

He called for improved ties and a relaxation of military tensions with South Korea, saying the Winter Olympics could showcase the status of the Korean nation. But Kim also repeated that South Korea must stop annual military exercises with the United States, which he calls an invasion rehearsal against the North.

About 28,500 American troops are stationed in South Korea to help deter potential aggression from the North, a legacy of the 1950-53 Korean War, which ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

Colorado authorities were warned about gunman's mental state

DENVER (AP) — Colorado authorities were contacted with concerns about the mental health of Matthew Riehl over a month before he shot and killed a deputy and wounded four others. But the 37-year-old man was never held for a mental health evaluation.

Authorities say Riehl fired more than 100 rounds in his suburban Denver apartment before he was killed by a SWAT team on Sunday.

Wyoming College of Law students had been warned about Riehl, a former student, because of social media posts critical of professors at the school in Laramie, reported KTWO-AM in Casper, Wyoming.

A Nov. 6 email from Assistant College of Law Dean Lindsay Hoyt told students to notify campus police if they spotted Riehl or his car near campus. In addition, security on campus was increased for several days.

Campus officers called police in Lone Tree, Colorado, in mid-November to warn them about Riehl, suggesting his rants were indicative of mental illness, UW Police Chief Mike Samp told The Denver Post.

Samp said it's possible that Colorado authorities faced the same issue as Wyoming officials when an apparently mentally ill, dangerous person makes indirect threats.

"Wyoming statutes are pretty clear: If someone is not making an immediate threat, they cannot be held for a mental evaluation. They are very tough cases," Samp said.

Riehl, an attorney and an Iraq war veteran, had also posted videos criticizing Colorado law enforcement officers in profane, highly personal terms.

Early Sunday, authorities responded to a complaint of a verbal disturbance involving two men at an apartment building in Highlands Ranch, 16 miles (about 25 kilometers) south of Denver. A caller said Riehl was acting bizarre and might be having a mental breakdown, but responding deputies found no evidence of a crime and left.

When deputies were called back to the scene, a man who had left gave them a key and granted permission to enter the apartment.

Douglas County Sheriff Tony Spurlock said deputies came under fire almost immediately after trying to talk with the suspect, who was holed up inside a bedroom.

"They all went down almost within seconds of each other, so it was more of an ambush-type of attack on our officers," Spurlock said.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 20 of 26

The wounded deputies tried to pull the fallen officer, Zackari Parrish, out of the line of further gunfire but were unable to because of their own injuries and only managed to "crawl to safety," Spurlock said. Two civilians also were injured.

All of the wounded except Deputy Jeff Pelle, 32, have been treated at hospitals and released. The son of Boulder County Sheriff Joe Pelle was in fair condition.

Hundreds gathered Monday night for a candlelight vigil for Parrish inside Mission Hills Church in Littleton, Colorado — the church he attended with his wife and two young daughters.

"I've heard from so many different people that he just loved his community and being a police officer," Mission Hills Pastor Craig Smith told KDVR-TV.

"Zack didn't see law enforcement as a job. He saw it as a calling, as a way to serve his community and a blessing."

California rolls its own recreational pot sales out for 2018

By **BRIAN MELLEY** and **KATHLEEN RONAYNE**, Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — From a pot shop in Santa Cruz that hung a banner proclaiming "Prohibition is Over!" to one in San Diego handing out T-shirts showing the first moon landing and declaring a "giant leap for mankind," the Golden State turned a shade greener with its first sales of recreational marijuana.

Ceremonial ribbon cuttings marked the occasion Monday as the nation's biggest producer of illicit marijuana moved from the shadows toward a regulated market. Freebies and food greeted those who waited in long lines to get their hands on weed with names like "Oh Geezus" and "Banana Breath."

"I'm scared, I'm excited, I'm relieved," exclaimed Kimberly Cargile, director of a shop in Sacramento that has sold medical pot since 2009.

Cargile's shop, A Therapeutic Alternative, opened at 9 a.m. with the celebratory cutting of a red ribbon — a symbolic gesture that could be seen as a nod to those who cut through red tape in time to open the doors to a new era.

First-day sales were brisk in shops lucky enough to score one of the roughly 100 state licenses issued so far, but would-be customers in some of the state's largest cities encountered reefer sadness.

Riverside and Fresno outlawed sales and Los Angeles and San Francisco didn't act soon enough to authorize shops to get state licenses by New Year's Day.

The state and local governments still have a lot of work ahead to get the massive industry running that is projected to bring in \$1 billion annually in tax revenue within several years.

Charles Boldwyn, chief compliance officer of ShowGrow in Santa Ana, which opened to retail customers Monday, said he's concerned that a delay in local and state approvals could create a shortage of products for consumers.

"We're looking at ... hundreds of licensed cultivators and manufacturers coming out of an environment where we literally had thousands of people who were cultivating and manufacturing," Boldwyn said. "So the red tape is a bit of a bottleneck in the supply chain."

Regulators at the Bureau of Cannabis Control worked through the holiday to try to process 1,400 pending license applications for retail sales, distribution, testing facilities and other businesses, bureau spokesman Alex Traverso said.

A flood of applications for shops in LA and San Francisco is expected after being approved locally. Because Los Angeles is the biggest market in the state, some of those shops will be licensed by the state more quickly than others already in line, Traverso said.

The status of Los Angeles shops highlights broad confusion over the new law.

Los Angeles officials said they won't begin accepting license applications until Wednesday, and it might take weeks before any licenses are issued. That has led to widespread concern that long-established businesses would have to shut down during the interim.

Attorneys advising a group of city dispensaries have concluded those businesses can legally sell medici-

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 21 of 26

nal marijuana as "collectives," until they obtain local and state licenses under the new system, said Jerred Kiloh of the United Cannabis Business Association, an industry group.

It wasn't immediately clear how many of those shops, if any, opened.

"My patients are scared, my employees are scared," said Kiloh, who owns a dispensary in the city's San Fernando Valley area.

With sales lighting up around California, the nation's most populous state joined a growing list of others, and the nation's capital, where so-called recreational marijuana is permitted even though the federal government continues to classify pot as a controlled substance, like heroin and LSD.

The state banned what it called "loco-weed" in 1913, though it has eased criminal penalties for use of the drug since the 1970s and was the first state to legalize marijuana for medicinal purposes in 1996.

California voters in 2016 made it legal for adults 21 and older to grow, possess and use limited quantities of marijuana, but it wasn't legal to sell it for recreational purposes until Monday.

The signs that California was tripping toward legal pot sales were evident well before the stroke of midnight.

California highways flashed signs before New Year's Eve that said "Drive high, Get a DUI," reflecting law enforcement concerns about stoned drivers. Weedmaps, the phone app that allows customers to rate shops, delivery services and shows their locations, ran a full-page ad Sunday in the Los Angeles Times that said, "Smile California. It's Legal."

In shops where recreational weed was on the menu, former medical marijuana patients got in line with pot-heads and hippies, as well as first-timers willing to give legal weed a chance.

Heather Sposeto, 50, who is not a marijuana user, wanted to see the hype around legal weed, so she went to Northstar Holistic Collective in Sacramento with her boyfriend, who is a daily pot smoker.

She said it felt surreal to be in a shop with options ranging from chocolate edibles to the green flower and said she was considering taking a toke now that it's not illicit.

"I come from the era where it was super illegal," Sposeto said.

At San Diego's Mankind Cooperative, lines were 40 minutes long and buyers from as far away as Iowa, Kansas and Canada waited with their California cannabis brethren to ogle offerings such as "Island Sweet Skunk" and a particularly potent strain called, "The Sheriff."

"We're insane down here. And it's still going on, girlfriend," said marketing retailer Cathy Bliss said.

Outside KindPeoples dispensary in Santa Cruz, which tacked up the end of prohibition sign, people gathered in shorts and sweatshirts, winter coats and wool hats while waiting to get inside. A gray-bearded professor emeritus at the University of California, Santa Cruz, wearing a blue sport coat was the first customer.

In Orange County, shops in Santa Ana received the green light over the weekend to open and a steady flow showed up at ShowGrow.

Ellen St. Peter, 61, shopped with her son, Bryce St. Peter, 23, both medical marijuana users.

She said she smoked pot until she had kids and fantasized in her teens about pot shops and "couldn't have dreamed of this place."

Her son said he hoped legalization would change the image people have of pot users.

"I work hard and I play hard," Bryce St. Peter said. "There shouldn't be this stigma of people being lazy stoners."

Melley reported from Los Angeles. Associated Press writers Ellen Knickmeyer in San Francisco; Terence Chea in Oakland; Krysta Fauria in Santa Ana; and Christopher Weber and Michael R. Blood in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

Follow AP's complete coverage of marijuana legalization in California: <https://apnews.com/tag/CaliforniaMarijuana> .

No. 4 Alabama dominates No. 1 Clemson 24-6 in Sugar Bowl

By PAUL NEWBERRY, AP National Writer

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Nick Saban is back in his comfort zone.

Let others run up the points. He'll take a defensive slugfest every time.

Especially when it gives Alabama another shot at a national title.

In a game where every yard was a struggle, the Crimson Tide defenders took matters into their own hands. They accounted for a pair of touchdowns just 13 seconds apart in the third quarter to turn an offensive slog into a 24-6 rout of defending national champion Clemson in the Sugar Bowl semifinal game Monday night.

"This game was about our identity as a team," Saban said. "I don't think anybody would doubt our relentless attitude out there. We had a warrior-like mentality."

He was clearly pleased.

Sure, it was quite a contrast to the first two meetings in the Alabama-Clemson trilogy, both high-scoring classics with the national title on the line, not to mention the Rose Bowl semifinal that preceded it. Georgia knocked off Oklahoma 54-48 in a double-overtime thriller that wasn't decided until the Alabama was on its second possession in the Big Easy.

There would be no drama in the nightcap. With Deshaun Watson off to the NFL, top-ranked Clemson (12-2) simply had no answer for the Tide's latest group of defensive standouts, setting up an all-Southeastern Conference showdown for the national title — with Saban matched against his former defensive coordinator, Georgia coach Kirby Smart.

"I'm proud of the job he's done," Saban said. "I'm sure it will be a great football game."

Leading only 10-6 after a turnover to start the second half handed Clemson a field goal, the fourth-ranked Tide (12-1) quickly snuffed out any thoughts of a repeat title for the Tigers.

It began with 308-pound defensive tackle Da'Ron Payne picking off a wobbly pass after besieged Clemson quarterback Kelly Bryant was hit as he threw. Payne rumbled 21 yards on the return, shedding one would-be tackler with a deft open-field move and drawing a 15-yard personal foul penalty when he was finally dragged down with a horse collar tackle.

After Alabama drove to a first down at the Clemson 1, Payne re-entered the game — presumably to add another big body for blocking purposes. Instead, he slipped open near the right pylon on a play fake and hauled in a touchdown pass, even managing to get both feet down before the celebration commenced beyond the sideline.

"I've got gold hands," quipped Payne, who was picked as the game's defensive MVP.

A bit shell-shocked by that turn of events, Clemson was thoroughly demoralized after its next offensive play. Bryant's pass deflected off the hands of Deon Cain and was intercepted by linebacker Mack Wilson, who returned it 18 yards for another TD.

They could've called it right then.

"Just incredibly disappointed in our performance," Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said. "But congratulations to Alabama. They were the better team today. No doubt about it."

The Tide, which began the season in Atlanta beating Florida State, will return to Mercedes-Benz Stadium next Monday night to face No. 3 Georgia and give Saban a shot at his sixth title, which would match Bear Bryant.

Saban has four championships in the last eight years at Alabama, along with a BCS title at LSU during the 2003 season.

This is eerily reminiscent of Alabama's run to the 2011 championship, another season when the Tide didn't even win its own division or play for the SEC title. That year, Saban's team lost at home to LSU during the regular season but got a second chance against the top-ranked Tigers with the biggest prize on the line — in the Sugar Bowl, no less.

On that night in the Big Easy, Alabama defense didn't allow LSU to cross midfield until the closing minutes of a suffocating 21-0 victory. This defensive performance was nearly as impressive.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 23 of 26

Clemson was held to 188 yards — 260 yards below its season average — and never reached the end zone. Bryant was sacked five times and the Tigers were held to 64 yards on the ground.

Alabama played it tough right to the end, denying Clemson on a fourth-down pass into the end zone with just over a minute remaining.

Clearly, the Tide was still ticked off about the way last season ended, giving up a TD pass with 1 second remaining to hand Clemson the national title.

"This," Saban said, "was a little bit personal for us."

SILENT RENFROW

Clemson receiver Hunter Renfrow was known as the Tide Killer.

Not this time.

After hauling in four TD passes in the last two national championship games — including, of course, the title winner a year ago — Renfrow was held to just 31 yards on five receptions. All of his catches came in fourth quarter with Alabama comfortably ahead.

"From the opening kickoff, they hit us in the mouth," Renfrow said.

THE TAKEAWAY

Alabama: The Tide's defense against Georgia's offense will be an especially intriguing matchup given the way the semifinal games played out. One thing to keep an eye on: Anfernee Jennings was helped off with a sprained knee late in the game after recording a sack and three tackles for losses, another potential blow to the Tide's already beleaguered linebacker corps.

Clemson: The Tigers looked at this game as a chance to show they had surpassed Alabama as college football's most dominant program. Sorry, the Tide is still king.

"We'll be back," Swinney vowed.

UP NEXT

Alabama: A national championship game to end the season for the third year in a row and sixth time in the last nine seasons.

Clemson: Opens the 2018 season Sept. 1 by hosting FCS school Furman.

Follow Paul Newberry on Twitter at www.twitter.com/pnewberry1963 . His work can be found at <https://apnews.com/search/paul%20newberry>

More AP college football: <http://collegefootball.ap.org> and http://www.twitter.com/AP_Top25

Leader of NYC Ballet retiring amid misconduct investigation

NEW YORK (AP) — The longtime leader of the New York City Ballet is retiring in the midst of an investigation into accusations of sexual misconduct by him.

Peter Martins wrote a letter to the company's board of directors on Monday announcing his retirement, saying the scandal had "exacted a painful toll on me and my family."

The 71-year-old Martins told board members he continues to deny sexually harassing or abusing members of the company, including dancers. He said he had been the subject of news articles reporting largely anonymous and decades-old accusations.

City Ballet announced last month Martins would take a leave of absence from the company and its School of American Ballet during an independent investigation. The company hired a law firm to conduct the investigation after receiving an anonymous letter accusing Martins of harassment.

Martins said he had "cooperated fully" in the investigation.

"I believe its findings would have vindicated me," he wrote in his letter to the board.

He said that to "bring an end to this disruption which has enveloped the Ballet and the School," however, he had decided it was time for him to retire.

Board chairman Charles Scharf heaped praise on Martins for his work but said the investigation would continue.

"We thank Peter for his tremendous contributions to New York City Ballet as ballet master in chief for over three decades, leading the Company to exceptional artistic heights and accomplishments," Scharf wrote in a statement. "At the same time, the board takes seriously the allegations that have been made against him and we expect the independent investigation of those allegations to be completed soon."

Iran protests have violent night; at least 13 dead overall

By **NASSER KARIMI** and **JON GAMBRELL**, Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Protests across Iran saw their most violent night as "armed protesters" tried to overrun military bases and police stations before security forces repelled them, killing 10 people, Iranian state television said Monday.

The demonstrations, the largest to strike Iran since its disputed 2009 presidential election, have seen five days of unrest across the country and a death toll of at least 13 with the slaying of a police officer announced late Monday.

The protests began Thursday in Mashhad over Iran's weak economy and a jump in food prices and have expanded to several cities, with some protesters chanting against the government and the supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Hundreds of people have been arrested.

Iranian state television aired footage of a ransacked private bank, broken windows, overturned cars and a firetruck that appeared to have been set ablaze. It said 10 people were killed by security forces during clashes Sunday night.

"Some armed protesters tried to take over some police stations and military bases but faced serious resistance from security forces," state TV said.

In a later report, state TV said six people were killed in the western town of Tuyserkhan, 295 kilometers (185 miles) southwest of Tehran, and three in the town of Shahinshahr, 315 kilometers (195 miles) south of Tehran. It did not say where the 10th person was killed.

Earlier Monday, the semi-official ILNA news agency quoted Hedayatollah Khademi, a representative for the town of Izeh, as saying two people died there Sunday night. He said the cause of death wasn't immediately known, though authorities later described one of the deaths as the result of a personal dispute.

Late Monday, Iran's semi-official Mehr news agency said an assailant using a hunting rifle killed a policeman and wounded three other officers during a demonstration in the central city of Najafabad, about 320 kilometers (200 miles) south of Tehran. The slaying marked the first security force member to be killed in the unrest.

Two protesters also were killed during clashes late Saturday in Doroud, some 325 kilometers (200 miles) southwest of Tehran in Lorestan province, authorities have said.

On Sunday, Iran blocked access to Instagram and the popular messaging app Telegram used by activists to organize.

President Hassan Rouhani acknowledged the public's anger over the Islamic Republic's flagging economy, though he and others warned that the government wouldn't hesitate to crack down on those it considers lawbreakers.

That was echoed Monday by judiciary chief Ayatollah Sadegh Larijani, who urged authorities to confront rioters, state TV reported.

"I demand all prosecutors across the country to get involved and the approach should be strong," he said.

Rouhani also stressed Monday that Iran "has seen many similar events and passed them easily."

U.S. President Donald Trump, who has been tweeting in support of the protesters, continued into the New Year, describing Iran as "failing at every level despite the terrible deal made with them by the Obama Administration."

"The great Iranian people have been repressed for many years," he wrote. "They are hungry for food & for freedom. Along with human rights, the wealth of Iran is being looted. TIME FOR CHANGE!"

While some have shared Trump's tweets, many in Iran distrust him because he has refused to re-certify the nuclear deal and his travel bans have blocked Iranians from getting U.S. visas.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 25 of 26

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, calling the protesters "brave" and "heroic," said in a video posted to YouTube on Monday that the protesters sought freedom, justice and "the basic liberties that have been denied to them for decades."

He criticized the Iranian regime's response to the protests and also chided European governments for watching "in silence" as the protests turn violent.

British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson issued a statement late Monday saying "there should be meaningful debate about the legitimate and important issues the protesters are raising and we look to the Iranian authorities to permit this."

"We regret the loss of life that has occurred in the protests in Iran, and call on all concerned to refrain from violence and for international obligations on human rights to be observed," he said.

German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel also said in a statement that "after the confrontation of the past days it is all the more important for all sides to refrain from violent action." Both countries were part of the 2015 nuclear deal.

Iran's economy has improved since the nuclear deal, which saw Iran agree to limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the end of some international sanctions. Tehran now sells its oil on the global market and has signed deals to purchase tens of billions of dollars' worth of Western aircraft.

That improvement has not reached the average Iranian, however. Unemployment remains high, and official inflation has crept up to 10 percent again. A recent increase in egg and poultry prices by as much as 40 percent, which the government has blamed on a cull over avian flu fears, appears to have been the spark for the economic protests.

While the protests have sparked clashes, Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard and its affiliates have not intervened as they have in other unauthorized demonstrations since the 2009 election.

It wasn't immediately clear if the Guard would change its posture given the reported attacks on police stations and military bases. In Tehran on Monday, streets were calm, though a heavy police presence was noticeable.

Brig. Gen. Massoud Jazayeri, the Guard commander and deputy chief of staff for Iran's military, said Monday that Trump's support of the protesters "indicates planning by the U.S. for launching a new sedition in Iran."

Associated Press writer Nasser Karimi reported this story in Tehran and AP writer Jon Gambrell reported from Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 2, the second day of 2018. There are 363 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 2, 1893, the U.S. Postal Service issued its first-ever set of commemorative stamps to honor the upcoming World's Columbian Expedition in Chicago as well as the quadricentennial of Christopher Columbus' voyage.

On this date:

In 1788, Georgia became the fourth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1792, the first classes began at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

In 1900, U.S. Secretary of State John Hay announced the "Open Door Policy" to facilitate trade with China.

In 1921, religious services were broadcast on radio for the first time as KDKA in Pittsburgh aired the regular Sunday service of the city's Calvary Episcopal Church.

In 1935, Bruno Hauptmann went on trial in Flemington, New Jersey, on charges of kidnapping and murdering the 20-month-old son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh. (Hauptmann was found guilty, and executed.)

In 1942, the Philippine capital of Manila was captured by Japanese forces during World War II.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Jan. 02, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 177 ~ 26 of 26

In 1955, the president of Panama, Jose Antonio Remon Cantera, was assassinated at a racetrack.

In 1967, Republican Ronald Reagan took the oath of office as the new governor of California in a ceremony that took place in Sacramento shortly just after midnight.

In 1974, President Richard Nixon signed legislation requiring states to limit highway speeds to 55 miles an hour as a way of conserving gasoline in the face of an OPEC oil embargo. (The 55 mph limit was effectively phased out in 1987; federal speed limits were abolished in 1995.) "Singing cowboy" star Tex Ritter died in Nashville at age 68.

In 1983, the original Broadway production of the musical "Annie" closed after a run of 2,377 performances.

In 1991, Sharon Pratt was sworn in as mayor of Washington, D.C., becoming the first black woman to head a city of Washington's size and prominence.

In 2006, a methane gas explosion at the Sago (SAY'-goh) Mine in West Virginia claimed the lives of 12 miners, but one miner, Randal McCloy, Jr., was eventually rescued. The roof of a skating rink collapsed in the German town of Bad Reichenhall (bahd RYK'-ehn-hahl), killing 15 people.

Ten years ago: The Justice Department opened a full criminal investigation into the destruction of CIA videotapes of the interrogation of two al-Qaida suspects. (A special prosecutor later cleared the CIA's former top clandestine officer and others.) Oil prices soared to \$100 a barrel for the first time. Late-night talk shows returned to the air two months into a writers strike. (David Letterman and Craig Ferguson had reached agreements to allow writers to work on their shows; Jay Leno, Conan O'Brien and ABC's Jimmy Kimmel returned without theirs.)

Five years ago: The United Nations gave a grim new count of the human cost of Syria's civil war, saying the death toll had exceeded 60,000 in 21 months. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton left a New York hospital, three days after doctors discovered a blood clot in her head. No. 22 Louisville topped No. 4 Florida, 33-23, in the Sugar Bowl.

One year ago: A suicide bomber driving a pickup loaded with explosives struck a bustling market in Baghdad, killing at least 36 people in an attack claimed by the Islamic State group hours after French President Francois Hollande (frahn-SWAH' oh-LAWND') arrived in the Iraqi capital. No. 9 Southern California rallied from a 14-point deficit in the fourth quarter for a spectacular 52-49 victory over No. 5 Penn State in the Rose Bowl.

Today's Birthdays: Country musician Harold Bradley is 92. Former House Speaker Dennis Hastert is 76. TV host Jack Hanna is 71. Actress Wendy Phillips is 66. Actress Cynthia Sikes is 64. Actress Gabrielle Carteris is 57. Movie director Todd Haynes is 57. Retired MLB All-Star pitcher David Cone is 55. Actress Tia Carrere is 51. Actor Cuba Gooding Jr. is 50. Model Christy Turlington is 49. Actor Taye Diggs is 47. Actress Renee Elise Goldsberry is 47. Rock musician Scott Underwood is 47. Rock singer Doug Robb (Hoobastank) is 43. Actor Dax Shepard is 43. Actress Paz Vega is 42. Country musician Chris Hartman is 40. Ballroom dancer Karina Smirnoff (TV: "Dancing with the Stars") is 40. Rock musician Jerry DePizzo Jr. (O.A.R.) is 39. Rhythm-and-blues singer Kelton Kessee (IMX) is 37. Pop singer-musician Ryan Merchant (Capital Cities) is 37. Actress Kate Bosworth is 35. Actor Peter Gadiot is 33. Jazz singer-musician Trombone Shorty is 32. Singer-songwriter Mandy Harvey (TV: "America's Got Talent") is 30. Rhythm-and-blues singer-rapper Bryson Tiller is 25.

Thought for Today: "It is good to have an end to journey towards; but it is the journey that matters, in the end." — Ursula K. Le Guin, American author.

Answer to riddle on page 3: Water, Fire, Earth, and Wind.