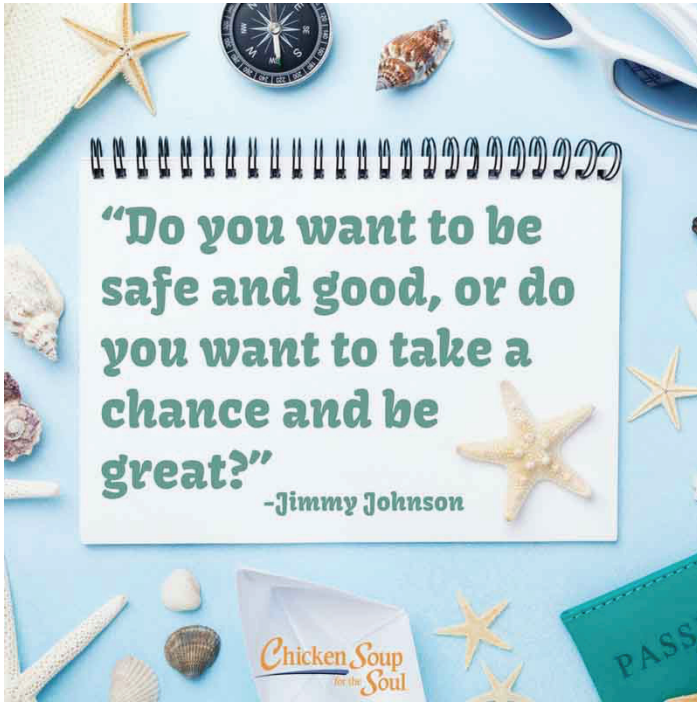


Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 1 of 35



- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Blocker Construction Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- What's going on in State Government this week
- 4- SunDial Manor ad
- 5- Dairy Queen Facelift continues
- 6- Old White Guy Stereotype by Paula Jensen
- 8- Rev. Snyder's Column
- 9- Groton Care & Rehab Ad
- 10- Midwest Masonry ad
- 11- Arts help businesses innovate in rural settings
- 12- Hot again today!
- 13- Today in Weather History
- 14- Today's Forecast
- 15- Yesterday's Weather
- 15- National Weather map
- 15- Today's Weather Almanac
- 16- Daily Devotional
- 17- 2018 Groton Community Events
- 18- News from the Associated Press

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.



Broton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 2 of 35

What's going on in State Government this week Gov. Dennis Daugaard's Public Commitments; Public Meetings:

Tuesday, July 10, 4 p.m. CDT, Mitchell – Gov. Dennis Daugaard will speak at the ribbon cutting ceremony for Vantage Point Solutions, Mitchell.

Thursday, July 12, 11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – Gov. Dennis Daugaard will speak at the 2018 Governor's Agricultural Summit Award Luncheon, Best Western Ramkota, Rapid City.

Tuesday, July 10, 8:30 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The Animal Industry Board will have its annual meeting in the conference room at 411 S. Fort St. in Pierre. A full agenda can be found here: <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=8>

Tuesday, July 10, 9 a.m. CDT, Brookings – The American Dairy Association of South Dakota will meet at the SDSU Dairy Science Building in Brookings. A full agenda can be found here: <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=26>

Tuesday, July 10, 9:30 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission will meet in room 414 of the Capitol Building in Pierre. A full agenda can be found here: <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=213>

Tuesday, July 10, 9:30 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The REDI (Revolving Economic Development and Initiative) board meeting will be on Tuesday, July 10, at 9:30 a.m. CDT at 711 E Wells Ave. Please contact Cassie Stoeser, GOED Finance Director, at 605-773-GOED (4633) for more information. <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=31>.

Wednesday, July 11, 8:30 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks' (GFP) Commission will meet at Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center in Pierre. A public hearing will begin at 10 a.m. CDT discussing the finalizations of June's meeting. The full agenda for the July meeting can be found here: gfp.sd.gov/commission/information. For more information, please contact wildinfo@state.sd.us or call 605-773-3718.

Thursday, July 12, 8 a.m. CDT, State Penitentiary – The Board of Pardons and Paroles will meet in the Jameson Annex Visit Room. For more information, go to <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=74>.

Thursday, July 12, 11 a.m. CDT, Pierre – DENR's Water Management Board will meet in the Floyd L. Matthew Environmental Education and Training Center in the Joe Foss Building, 523 E. Capitol Ave. For a complete agenda, visit <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?Boardid=106>. For more information, contact Eric Gronlund, DENR, at 605-773-3352

Thursday, July 12, 1:30 p.m. CDT – The State Library Board will meet via teleconference. An agenda, including call-in information, is posted at <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=61>. The meeting will also be livestreamed at <http://www.sd.net/mackay/>.

Friday, July 13, 9 a.m. CDT, Brookings – The Advisory Board to the South Dakota Arts Council will meet at 9 a.m. in the classroom at the Brookings Arts Council, 524 Fourth St. The public is invited to attend. To view the meeting agenda, posted 72 hours in advance, visit <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=7>. For more information contact Rebecca Cruse at 605-773-3301.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 3 of 35

Friday, July 13, 10 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees will be meeting by conference call at 10 a.m. at the Cultural Heritage Center located at 900 Governors Drive in Pierre. To join the meeting, the dial-in number is 605-224-1125 and the access code is 0055144#. For more information, contact Jay D. Vogt, director of the SD State Historical Society, at 605-773-3458.

You Might Also Be Interested To Know:

Monday, July 9, to Thursday, July 12 – The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Field Service Officers will be at the following County and Tribal Veterans Service Offices to assist with veteran related claims, issues, and questions.

Monday, July 9:

- 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Faulkton – 110 9th Ave. N 605-280-4308
- 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Lake Andes – 400 Main St. 605-280-4306
- 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – 725 N. Lacrosse St. #200 605-280-4307
- 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT, Yankton Sioux Tribe – 20 Main St. SW 605-280-4306

Tuesday, July 10:

- 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. CDT, Armour – 706 Braddock St. 605-280-4306
- 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. CDT, Eureka – 717 7th St. 605-280-4308
- 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. MDT, Hot Springs (Vets Home) – 2500 Minnekahta Ave. 605-280-4307
- 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. MDT, Hot Springs (Fall River) – 906 N. River St. 605-280-4307
- 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. CDT, Lake Andes – 400 Main St. 605-280-4306

Wednesday, July 11:

- 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Chamberlain – 300 Courtland St. #102 605-280-4306
- 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – 725 N. Lacrosse St. #200 605-280-4307
- 10:30am. – 2:30 p.m. CDT, Roscoe – 210 S. Mitchell St. 605-280-4308
- 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. CDT, Wessington Springs – 205 Wallace Ave. S. 605-280-4306

Thursday, July 12:

- 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. MDT, Fort Yates, ND – Standing Rock Tribal Ofc. 605-280-4307
- 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Kadoka – 700 Main St. 605-280-4308
- 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Redfield – 210 E. 7th Ave. 605-280-4306

Wednesday, July 11, to Thursday, July 12 – The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation will host Job Search Assistance Programs (JSAP). JSAP is a workshop for people recovering from job loss or enhancing their job search skills. Trained instructors speak on modern-day techniques used to successfully find employment. Topics covered include resume and cover letter writing, interviewing etiquette, networking effectively, using social media and much more. JSAP will be offered at the following locations:

· Tuesday, July 10, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – at 2330 N. Maple Ave. For more information, call 605-394-2296 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

· Thursday, July 12, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT, Huron – at 333 9th St. SW, in the Huron Campus Center, Hohm Conference Room. The Financial Literacy class is in the morning and the Job Search Assistance class is in the afternoon. For more information or to register to attend, call 605-353-7155 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

· Thursday, July 12, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT, Watertown – at 2001 9th Ave. SW, Suite 200. For more information, call 605-882-5131 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 4 of 35

Tuesday, July 10, to Wednesday, July 11 – The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation will hold itinerant office hours. Both job seekers and employers interested in receiving employment and career services at no cost may visit or call during these office hours. More information on programs and services is available at www.sdjobs.org. Itinerant office hours will be held at the following locations:

· Tuesday, July 10, 1 – 3 p.m. CDT, Redfield – at the Spink County Court House, third floor. For more information during these hours, call 605-380-8930 and 605-626-2340 at any other time. Additional information at www.sdjobs.org.

Wednesday, July 11, 1 – 4:30 p.m. CDT, Wagner – at City Hall, 60 S. Main. For more information, call 605-487-7607, ext. 207 or 212, or visit www.sdjobs.org.

· Wednesday, July 11, 1 – 3 p.m. CDT, Webster – at the Day County Court House basement. For more information during these hours, call 605-380-8930 and 605-626-2340 at any other time. Additional information at www.sdjobs.org.

Tuesday, July 10, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT, Brookings – General Education Development (GED) testing will take place at the Brookings Job Service, 1310 Main Ave. S., Suite 103. For more information, call 605-688-4370 or visit www.GED.com.

Tuesday, July 10, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – Aramark will be conducting walk-in interviews at the Rapid City Job Service, 2330 N. Maple Ave. Positions available include utility (dishwasher), lead food services workers, food service workers, and student food service workers. For more information, call 605-394-2296.

Wednesday, July 11, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT, Sioux Falls – G4S Secure Solutions will be conducting walk-in interviews at the Sioux Falls Job Service, 811 E. 10th St. Positions are available for upscale security officers. For more information, call 605-367-5300 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Thursday, July 12, 12:30 – 2 p.m. CDT, Brookings – Aramark will conduct walk-in interviews at Brookings Job Service, 1310 Main Ave. S., Suite 103, every Thursday through Aug. 30. For more information call 605-688-4350.

Thursday, July 12, 12 – 7 p.m. CDT, Beresford – The Beresford Community Job Fair will take place at the Bridges at Beresford Event Center, 601 S. 7th St. More than 100 jobs are available. Showcase yourself, share your resume, check out available jobs and meet with multiple local employers. This event is sponsored by the South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation along with the City of Beresford, BEDCO and the Beresford Chamber of Commerce. Vermillion Job Service can help you prepare. For more information, call 605-677-6900.

Tuesday, July 10 – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be



**Sun Dial Manor in Bristol
is accepting applications for
full time and part time CNA's.
12 hr. shifts - days and nights
(SIGN ON BONUS OFFERED)**

**DIETARY OPENINGS
Full time cook, 8 hr. shifts
(WITH SIGN ON BONUS)**

**For more information,
Call 605/492-3615**

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 5 of 35

available at the following itinerant office locations. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

- Kyle, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT
- Canton, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT
- Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT
- Webster, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Timber Lake, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT

Wednesday, July 11 – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be available at the following itinerant office locations. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

- Wanblee, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT
- Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT
- Salem, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Britton, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT
- Faulkton, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Dupree, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MDT

Thursday, July 12 – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be available at the following itinerant office locations. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

- Canton, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT
- Kyle, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT
- Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT
- Lemmon, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. MDT
- Armour, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT

-30-



The Groton Dairy Queen has lost its red color as it is undergoing a major facelift.

Old White Guy Stereotype

by Paula Jensen

Vice President of Advancement

Dakota Resources / Dakotas America

I often hear jovial stories and stereotypes, in and out of rural places, about how small-town people are stuck in the 1960s and refuse to accept change. They joke that we nostalgically hang on to our traditions, our history, our ways of doing things, and our small-town values. Personally, I choose to live in a small town because it's safe, close to family, and offers me the quality of life I need.

I don't appreciate these generalizations and stereotypes about how rural people are stuck in an outdated place. Those words certainly don't represent the community leaders I work alongside every day. But don't misunderstand, there are people leading and living in rural places that are stuck in an old system and their hard truth is, it's not 1969 and it never will be again.



The conversation about change in rural places is certainly necessary, but hard. Often, when people courageously open up that conversation, it creates a barrier to progress because we aren't listening to understand. The barrier emerges because the new system feels held back and the old system feels pushed away. We must recognize that old systems are not bad, but they do need to be nurtured toward the new system that is always certain to emerge.

I have recently experienced some Aha! moments that have the potential to make our rural communities merge toward a new system that will make us stronger, better, and hopeful again.

Aha! #1 - There is a new 3-legged stool of economic development.

The old 3-legged stool includes traditional areas of economic development:

1. business retention and expansion;
2. business attraction; and
3. business creation/entrepreneurship.

The new 3-legged stool focuses on creating a community where people want to live. The reason for this change is because our emerging workforce is choosing a place before selecting a job. The three legs of this stool are:

1. Business Development (create, attract, retain, expand);
2. Talent Development; and
3. Place Making.

Working on these three aspects together, creates a place where our main streets and industry connect; youth are being educated and encouraged to return home to add value to the local economy; and the community has a strong quality of place focused on the health & wellness, citizen engagement, daycare, housing, education, art & culture, and events.

Aha! #2 - We must acknowledge that your own presence does matter in our community.

Last week I heard Whitney Kimball Coe, Director of National Programs at the Center for Rural Strategies state, "Many of our communities are run by men of a certain age who like to explain things." This stereotype of 'old white guys' struck a chord with me when I heard her say those words. I saw others in the room bristle at her words. I am grateful for the dedicated men who built a strong foundation for the

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 7 of 35

community I call home. They have supported me in making change. Yet, I know Whitney's words to be true. I was the only woman to serve on my city council in 113 years. I serve on many boards that are mostly men. I also work in other rural communities where this is a barrier to progress.

Similarly, Joe Bartmann, President of Dakota Resources says, "More leaders are not needed in rural communities. The old way of leading is obsolete. Something must change to engage the greater community so they become empowered to embrace the vision they have for their community and shape it into the place they want to live."

There are people full of energy for change rising up in our rural communities. They are creative, passionate, and want to change the old systems of leadership and organizations to accommodate a more empowered citizen-base. This emerging system allows more people to step-up and support the creation of a thriving community. It takes in to consideration things like work/life blend and working on what matters to individuals and their crowd.

Aha! #3 - Make thriving more important than growing your community!

The Argus Leader recently posted a headline, "Rural South Dakota is losing people while bigger metros gain." This article was also picked up by the The Seattle Times with the headline, "More than half South Dakota communities losing population". You can't just read the headlines to get the full story. Jessica Schad with South Dakota State University Data Center provided the numbers to prove those headlines true and, also stated, "Population loss doesn't mean that communities aren't strong."

Many small towns are beginning to take a different look at how they define and measure success in rural South Dakota. Instead of measuring success on traditional sales tax and population growth, these communities are looking at what matters to them and coming up with their own indexes and definition of success.

There is a new rural emerging and it looks like a place where the community is:

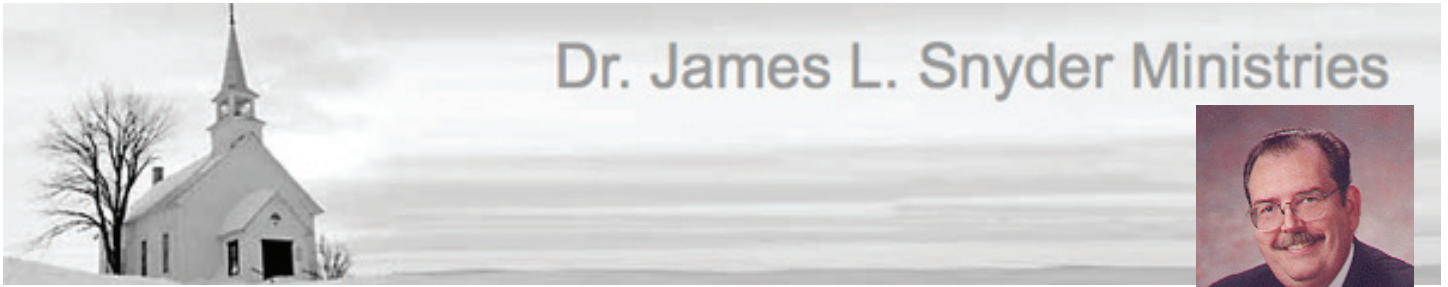
- Making thriving more important than growth.
- Filled with courageous people willing to have hard conversations; facing the reality of where they've been and where they are going.
- Empowering people to take part in planning for and creating local outcomes.
- Building up spaces that create community connections through education, art, culture, and more.
- Becoming not-knowers; a community willing to ask questions and find the answers together, rather than pretending to need to know all the answers.
- Acknowledging and embracing the many visions living within the community.

Together we can become the shapers of a thriving new rural. Let's release old stereotypes and visions of our past to create the community we all want to live in. And, the key to making this happen is that we ALL need to keep showing up, over-and-over-and-over again, even the old white guys.

Having a passion for community leadership and development is what drives Paula Jensen's personal and professional life. Paula resides in her hometown of Langford, South Dakota, population 318+. She serves as a grant writer and community coach with Dakota Resources based in Renner, South Dakota. Dakota Resources is a 501c3 Community Development Financial Institution with the purpose of stimulating financial and human investments in rural communities that are invested in themselves. Contact her at paula@dakotaresources.org.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 8 of 35



Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries



Enough Is Enough and I've Had Enough

I have had enough of some things. There are, however, some things I can never have enough. Apple fritters and coffee are things I can never have enough of. I would never use the word "enough" with these words.

Some things are in this category of "I've Had Enough."

Recently, the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, "Your birthday is coming up. What do you want to do for your birthday?"

I looked at her like I have never looked at her before and said, "Enough, I've had enough of birthdays I don't want another birthday."

She looked at me, laughed like usual and said, "Silly boy, everybody has a birthday."

In a way, I guess she is right, but I have had enough birthdays and I do not want another birthday.

I think birthday celebrations are rather silly when you get to be a certain age. Sure, when you are young and full of energy, you looked forward to birthday celebrations. You looked forward to all the birthday presents you are going to be getting. Nothing is more exciting than celebrating your birthday.

That certainly is one stage of life. However, that stagecoach has left the ranch. I have had enough birthdays.

One of the aggravating things about a birthday is that you have to disclose your age. You know when you say, for example, "I'm 60," people will always respond by saying, "You don't look 60."

Everybody knows that is the code for saying, "You sure do look old."

Or, somebody will say, "60 is the new 40." I have no idea what that means, but I certainly do not want to live 40 again.

Mind you, I have nothing against birthday cakes and such. I have had enough birthday cakes throughout my life that I probably do not need anymore. If only I could get a birthday cake without all of the hullabaloo and the singing, "Happy birthday to you..."

But there is a main concern I have about my birthday. I have given this some rather deep thought and I have come to my ultimate conclusion.

That conclusion is, I really do not know when my birthday is.

That may sound silly, but I have good reasons to question the actual birth date. Unfortunately, I cannot remember anything about that day. I do have a vague memory of being hung upside down by my feet and somebody slapping my backside. That is all I remember.

I do not know the actual date and year.

My wife one time said to me, "Well, your parents told you what your birthday was. You should trust them."

And that is the problem. It is a problem of trust. In the beginning years of my life, whenever it started, my parents had the habit of lying to me.

For instance. It took me years to discover that they had been lying to me about Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny. For many years, they assured me there was a real Santa Claus and a real Easter Bunny. Can you imagine the heartache I experienced when I discovered that they were not being truthful to me?

If they were not truthful to me about Santa Claus or the Easter Bunny, how can I be sure they were truthful to me about my actual birth date?

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 9 of 35

Someone once pointed out that I had a birth certificate, but I do not know the validity of that birth certificate. I do not remember being present when that certificate was signed. How do I know it is not fake?

It took me a long time to realize that even the Tooth Fairy was not actually true. When they told me about the Tooth Fairy, I could hardly wait to yank a tooth out of my mouth and put it under my pillow.

Imagine the disappointment I felt when I discovered there was no such thing as a Tooth Fairy.

If I would take the time to investigate, I probably would find a lot more things my parents told me that turned out not to be true. So, when it comes to my birth date, how can I really believe that that is my actual birth date?

What, if I am not as old as my parents say I am?

So, with all the information I have not found, how can I celebrate my birthday again? I think I should just put it aside as I did Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny and the Tooth Fairy. I should put it in the same category, laugh it off and say, "Ha, ha, ha, none of this is true."

"What do you mean," my wife queried, "you're not going to celebrate your birthday anymore?"

I explained to her that I celebrated enough birthdays, birthday I'm not quite sure is my actual birthday, so I don't need to celebrate anymore. Enough is certainly enough.

"What about my birthday?"

I simply looked at her and said, "We sure will be celebrating your birthday at least once a year." She smiled and I let it at that.

Later that night I thought of some Scripture I had read in the morning. "The Lord our God spake unto us in Horeb, saying, Ye have dwelt long enough in this mount" (Deuteronomy 1:6). God was trying to get Israel to move on.

Like Israel, sometimes we can stay "long enough" at a certain place and then we need to move on.

Thank You

Groton Care and Rehab would like to sincerely thank the community for your unending support!

We remain to be a strong and caring facility, focusing on quality of life.

We will continue to be an integral part of the Groton Community.

Our staff continues to provide the greatest care to our residents.

Come visit us to learn about the new opportunities!!

We Are Hiring!



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CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

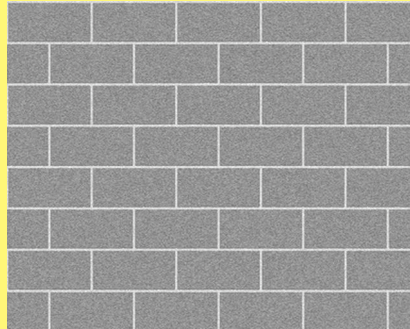
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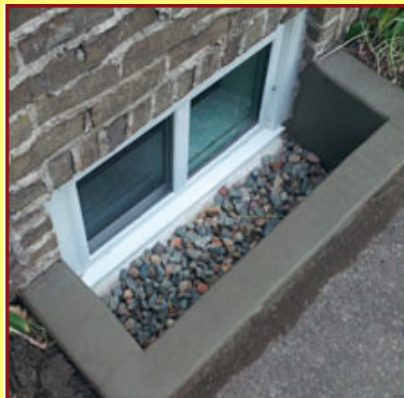
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Arts help businesses innovate in rural settings

By Jim Speirs, Executive Director, Arts South Dakota

Many people today mistakenly believe that urban areas are innovative and rural areas are not. While a relatively small number of major metropolitan areas do attract and foster innovation and creativity, recent research shows that rural areas are also attracting innovation and creativity—and that the arts play a major part in nurturing innovative rural businesses.

A series of studies from research professionals at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service has spotlighted the sources of rural innovation. They used a variety of data sets, including the Rural Establishment Innovation Survey, a large-scale survey that compares innovation in over 11,000 business establishments in rural and urban areas. The businesses studied had at least five paid employees and produced goods and services that are or could be traded internationally.

The survey found that the arts may be even more important to rural innovation than they are to urban innovation. According to research by the National Endowment for the Arts, probability that a rural firm will be a substantive innovator rises from 60 percent in rural counties with no performing arts organizations, to nearly 70 percent for those that have two or three, to as high as 85 percent if a rural county has four or more performing arts organizations.

Furthermore, the share of firms that are highly innovative rises sharply alongside performing arts organizations in rural areas. The probability that a rural business will be highly innovative increases from 17 percent to 44 percent as the number of performing arts organizations in a rural county increases from zero to one. When that number rises to two, the probability that a business will be highly innovative grows to 70 percent or higher.

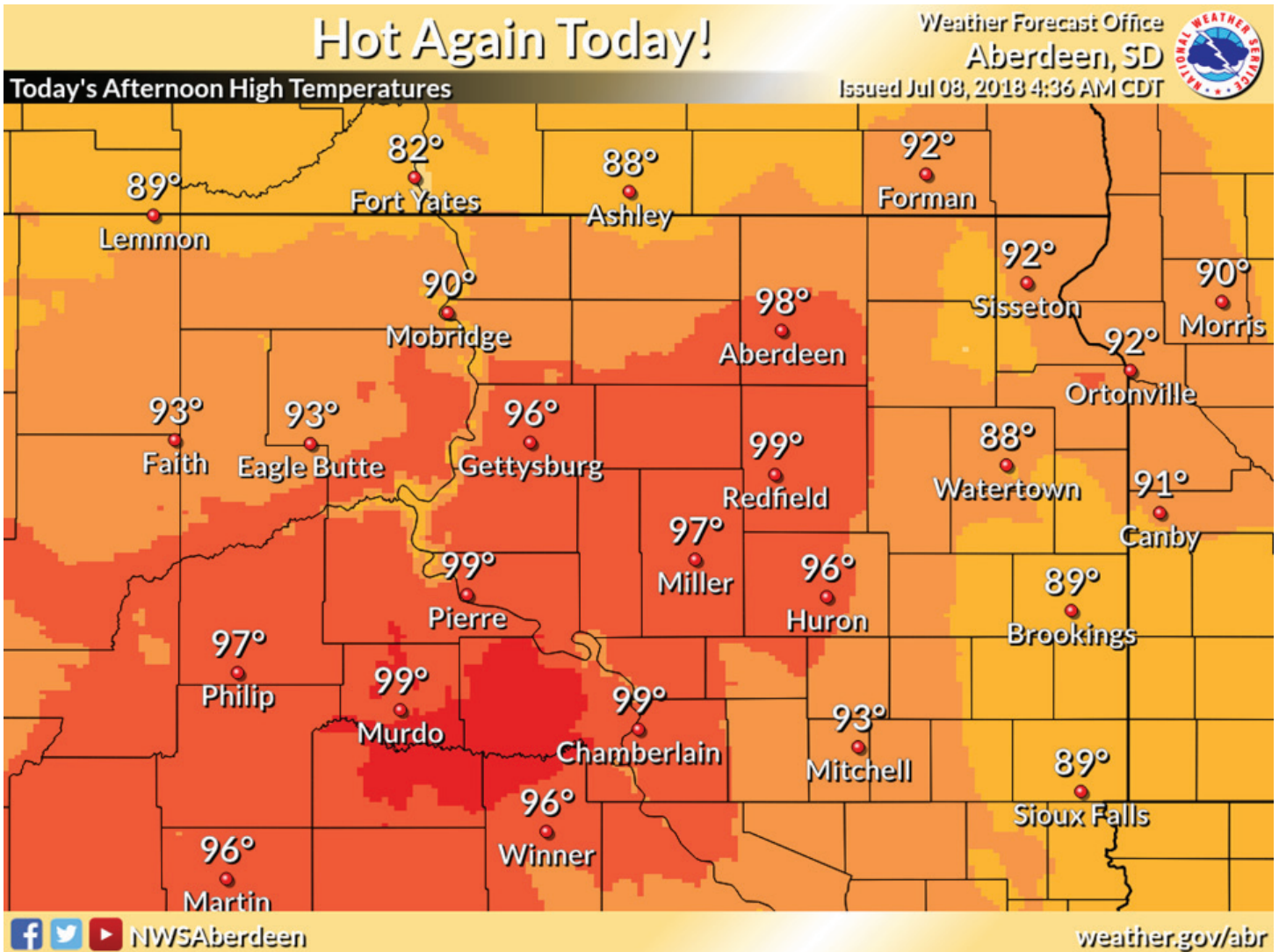
The analysis found a strong statistical association between the arts, innovation and economic dynamism in rural areas. This led the researchers to conclude that the arts are a direct force in rural innovation, not just an indirect factor that helps to attract and retain talent. Our experience here in our state strongly supports this conclusion. The arts in South Dakota truly are part of the fabric of our lives—and our businesses!

For more information, check out our blog space on the Arts South Dakota website: <https://arts-southdakota.org/category/blog/>.



Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 12 of 35



Published on: 07/08/2018 at 4:44AM

Once again today, the mercury will climb into the hot category across the region. It will also remain humid.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 13 of 35

Today in Weather History

July 8, 1922: Two tornadoes occurred near the southern border of South Dakota, with one at St. Charles in Gregory County, and the other on the south shore of Lake Andes, in Charles Mix County. The distance apart was about 30 miles. The tornado in Gregory County missed the town of Lake Andes. However, it destroyed about 29 cottages and five large barns. Fifteen people were injured, but no one was killed.

July 8, 1951: An F2 touched down in open country and moved northeastward, passing three miles northwest of Corona in Roberts County. Thirteen buildings were destroyed on a farm with only the house left standing. Three cows and 20 pigs were killed.

July 8, 2009: A tornado passed through the city of Dickinson, ND, on the far south side, mainly just south of the Heart River. From their eyewitness accounts, and from video obtained from the Dickinson Police Department, it is likely that this was a rain-wrapped tornado, and very difficult if not impossible to see. The tornado occurred before sunset, yet it was described as being as dark as night during the event. Over 450 structures were damaged, of which nearly 100 were declared destroyed or beyond repair. Numerous vehicles were damaged or destroyed; some were on their roofs. From that, it was determined that peak wind speeds in the tornado were on the order of 150 mph.

July 8, 2011: Historical releases on the Oahe Dam of 160,000 CFS kept the Missouri River from Pierre to Chamberlain at record flood levels throughout July. Extensive sandbagging and levee building had been done earlier to hold back the river. Residents in the Pierre, Fort Pierre, and Oacoma areas continued to be the most affected by the river. Many homes, along with roads, crop, and pastureland remained flooded throughout the month. The Missouri River at Pierre continued from 5 to 6 foot above flood stage throughout July. The Missouri River at Chamberlain reached a record stage of 75.1 feet on July 8th. Flood stage at Chamberlain is 65 feet. The flooding on the river began in late May and continued into August.

July 8, 2013: A thunderstorm complex moving across central and north central South Dakota produced gusty winds up to 70 mph. These strong winds brought down several tree branches around the area with Dewey County the hardest hit location. In Timber Lake, downed tree branches fell on houses and vehicles causing damage.

1680: The first confirmed tornado death in the United States occurred in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The funnel was filled with stones, bushes, and other things. The tornado also unroofed a barn and snapped many large trees.

1816 - Frost was reported in low places throughout New England. (David Ludlum)

1950 - The town of York, NE, was deluged with 13.15 inches of rain in 24 hours to establish a state record. (The Weather Channel)

1975 - Three people were killed and six others were injured when lightning struck a walnut tree near Mayo, FL. The nine people were stringing tobacco under a tin shed when the bolt hit the nearby tree. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms in the central U.S. produced wind gusts to 90 mph at Waterloo, IA, 6.38 inches of rain at Tescott, KS, and twenty-five minutes of ping-pong ball size hail at Drummond, OK. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








1988 - Thirty cities in the north central and northeastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Beckley, WV, equalled their all-time record with a high of 93 degrees. Afternoon and evening thunderstorms spawned seven tornadoes in Adams and Logan counties of eastern Colorado, and hail caused 2.3 million dollars damage in Adams, Logan and Washington counties. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2003: What may be the world's highest dew point temperature was recorded at Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, in the Persian Gulf. A dew point of 95 degrees was recorded at 3 PM while the air temperature was 108 degrees. The apparent temperature at that time would have been 172 degrees.

2009: An intense cold front brings heavy snow, hail, high winds and unusually cold temperatures to southern Peru. The severe conditions were blamed for the deaths of more than 246 children due to cold related illnesses.

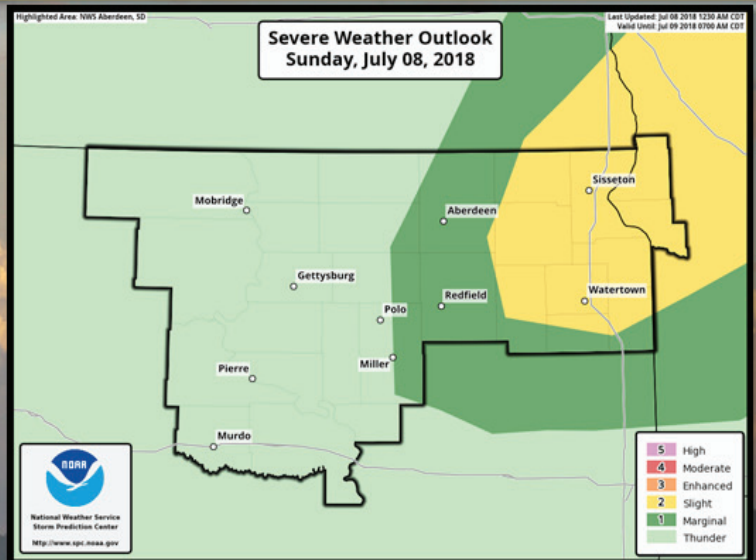
Broton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 14 of 35

Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
						
Hot	Chance T-storms then Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy then Slight Chance Showers	Slight Chance Showers	Partly Cloudy and Breezy then Partly Cloudy	Hot
High: 97 °F	Low: 67 °F	High: 86 °F	Low: 65 °F	High: 90 °F	Low: 71 °F	High: 92 °F

Severe Storms Possible This Evening

The main threats being strong winds and large hail this evening and overnight, especially across northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota.



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Updated: 7/8/2018 1:56 AM Central

Published on: 07/08/2018 at 1:59AM

A front will slide south into the region this afternoon. Hot afternoon temperatures and high amounts of moisture could lead to some evening storms, a few of which may become severe.

Groton Daily Independent

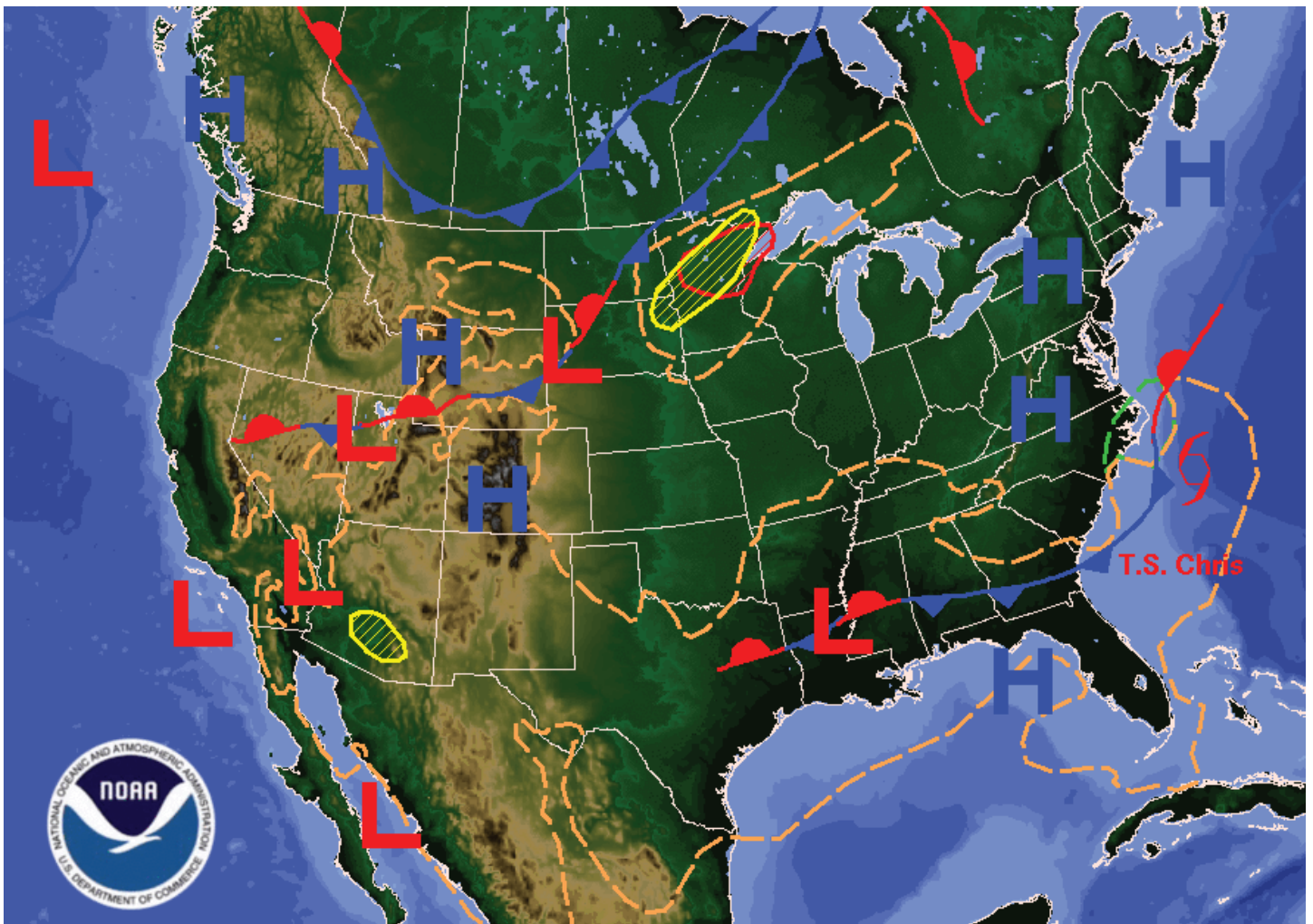
Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 15 of 35

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 90.6 F at 4:17 PM
Heat Index: 106 at 4:15 PM
Low Outside Temp: 67.8 F at 4:51 AM
High Gust: 34.0 Mph at 3:59 PM
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 106° in 1936
Record Low: 43° in 1922, 1904
Average High: 83°F
Average Low: 59°F
Average Precip in July: 0.64
Precip to date in July: 1.82
Average Precip to date: 11.48
Precip Year to Date: 7.64
Sunset Tonight: 9:24 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:53 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Jul 08, 2018, issued 4:46 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Rubin-Oster 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

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 16 of 35



RELATIONSHIPS

Relationships come in all sizes and shapes. Some last longer than others and some are more important than others. Some are temporary while others are permanent. Some are by chance and others by choice. So, whenever a person, place or thing "invades" our life and "consumes" our time, it becomes obvious that we have a "relationship" with that "thing." Well, so what?

When we say we "have" or are "in" a relationship with some object, it literally means that we are connected to "it." And perhaps the most significant fact about the "connection" is the amount of time we stay connected to "it." Time always tells the story about how much we value anything or anyone. If we spend much time with "it," we know that "it" has much value to us. If we spend little time with "it," we know that "it" has little value to us. Time tells the truth about the value of any of our relationships. The amount of time with "it" exposes our value of "it."

Our Psalmist makes a very revealing statement about his relationship with God's Word. He boldly states, "Oh, how I love Your law! I meditate on it all day long!" In other words, he stays "connected" to God by "meditating" or being "connected" to His Word all day long.

Notice the results of his "connection" to God's Word: "Your commands are with me...make me wise... give me more insight...more understanding...for I obey them."

If we expect our relationship with God to have value, we must invest time with Him. Staying "connected" to Him by meditating on and reading His Word works!

Prayer: Lord, help us to stay "connected" to You. May we hide Your Word in our hearts and think on it always. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 119:97 Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 17 of 35

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)
- 1/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 4/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 5/4/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/27/2019 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)
- 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party

- 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

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 18 of 35

News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) _ These South Dakota lotteries were drawn Saturday:

Dakota Cash
03-07-17-19-33
(three, seven, seventeen, nineteen, thirty-three)
Estimated jackpot: \$105,000

Lotto America
03-06-13-38-40, Star Ball: 7, ASB: 2
(three, six, thirteen, thirty-eight, forty; Star Ball: seven; ASB: two)
Estimated jackpot: \$4.6 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$306 million

Powerball
01-10-43-45-64, Powerball: 22, Power Play: 3
(one, ten, forty-three, forty-five, sixty-four; Powerball: twenty-two; Power Play: three)
Estimated jackpot: \$80 million

Rapid City man pleads guilty in friend's death

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Rapid City man has pleaded guilty to fatally beating his friend during a fight in January.

The Rapid City Journal reports 27-year-old Joseph Dowty pleaded guilty to second-degree manslaughter in the death of 27-year-old Nathaniel Ten Fingers.

Sentencing is set for Aug. 8. Dowty faces up to 10 years in prison.

Rapid City police officers found Ten Fingers lying outside the back door of an apartment in the early hours of Jan. 26, his face covered in blood. He was pronounced dead after paramedics arrived.

Defense attorney Shiloh MacNally says both men were intoxicated at the time of the fight.

Information from: Rapid City Journal, <http://www.rapidcityjournal.com>

South Dakota attorney general considers his future

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's attorney general says he'll set aside his political future after experiencing a month of highs and lows.

Marty Jackley was defeated in the Republican governor primary in June by Kristi Noem, the Argus Leader reported. He then won a victory after the U.S. Supreme Court decided to uphold South Dakota's online sales tax law, only to have a Sioux Falls jury deal him a blow by acquitting a woman accused in a high-profile embezzlement case.

Jackley said his family will help him decide on his next steps following the primary defeat.

"The only decision we've made as a family is I'm staying in South Dakota," he said.

He said he'll likely set aside his political future for now and will also step out of the spotlight.

"It's probably time for me to follow a different path," he said. "I'm never going to say never, but I want

to watch my kids play more baseball games, volleyball games and basketball games, and I wouldn't mind taking my wife on a date."

Jackley said that while he won't completely close the door on politics, he'll most likely return to politics in support of others instead of running as a candidate.

"If I truly believe somebody needs that help, and they'll serve the people of their area well, I'm willing to step up," he said. "That might be my step back into politics, to help good people get elected."

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

Authorities identify 5 people killed South Dakota car crash

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota authorities have released the names of five people killed in a crash after a driver failed to stop for police and hit another vehicle.

Authorities say the accident happened Wednesday when a Yankton police officer tried to stop an Acura Integra on Highway 50 near Yankton when its headlights shut off. The Acura crossed into oncoming lanes, hitting a Nissan.

The Highway Patrol says two Sioux Falls men were in the Acura. The driver, 29-year-old Michael Worlie, and the passenger, Joshua Odens, 27, were pronounced dead at the scene.

Three people in the Nissan also died. The patrol identified them as 40-year-old Tawna Lichty-Reineke, 43-year-old Chad Reineke, and 10-year-old Janicka Luschen.

The Highway Patrol says a 12-year-old girl also suffered life-threatening injuries.

Kids as young as 1 in US court, awaiting reunion with family

By ASTRID GALVAN, Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — The 1-year-old boy in a green button-up shirt drank milk from a bottle, played with a small purple ball that lit up when it hit the ground and occasionally asked for "agua."

Then it was the child's turn for his court appearance before a Phoenix immigration judge, who could hardly contain his unease with the situation during the portion of the hearing where he asks immigrant defendants whether they understand the proceedings.

"I'm embarrassed to ask it, because I don't know who you would explain it to, unless you think that a 1-year-old could learn immigration law," Judge John W. Richardson told the lawyer representing the 1-year-old boy.

The boy is one of hundreds of children who need to be reunited with their parents after being separated at the border, many of them split from mothers and fathers as a result of the Trump administration's "zero-tolerance policy." The separations have become an embarrassment to the administration as stories of crying children separated from mothers and kept apart for weeks on end dominated the news in recent weeks.

Critics have also seized on the nation's immigration court system that requires children — some still in diapers — to have appearances before judges and go through deportation proceedings while separated from their parents. Such children don't have a right to a court-appointed attorney, and 90 percent of kids without a lawyer are returned to their home countries, according to Kids in Need of Defense, a group that provides legal representation.

In Phoenix on Friday, the Honduran boy named Johan waited over an hour to see the judge. His attorney told Richardson that the boy's father had brought him to the U.S. but that they had been separated, although it's unclear when. He said the father, who was now in Honduras, was removed from the country under false pretenses that he would be able to leave with his son.

For a while, the child wore dress shoes, but later he was in just socks as he waited to see the judge. He was silent and calm for most of the hearing, though he cried hysterically afterward for the few seconds that a worker handed him to another person while she gathered his diaper bag. He is in the custody of the U.S. Health and Human Services Department in Arizona.

Richardson said the boy's case raised red flags over a looming court-ordered deadline to reunite small

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 20 of 35

children with their families. A federal judge in San Diego gave the agency until next Tuesday to reunite kids under 5 with their parents and until July 26 for all others.

Richardson repeatedly told the Immigration and Customs Enforcement attorney who was acting as the prosecutor that he should make note of the cases involving young children because of the government's obligation to meet the reunification deadline. The attorney said he wasn't familiar with that deadline and that a different department within ICE handled such matters.

ICE spokeswoman Jennifer Elzea said the attorney was familiar with the injunction but didn't know the specifics of the timeline requirements off the top of his head "and did not want to misspeak about any timeline commitments without that knowledge."

The agency's Enforcement and Removal Operations is leading the review of cases who are a part of the class impacted by the judge's order, while the rest of the agency is supporting them in the effort to complete it in as efficient and accurate a manner possible.

In the end, Johan was granted a voluntary departure order that would allow the government to fly him to Honduras so that he could be reunited with his family. An attorney with the Florence Project, an Arizona-based nonprofit that provides free legal help to immigrants, said both his mother and father were in Honduras.

The boy's case was heard on the same day that the Trump administration said it needed more time to reunite 101 children under 5 years old to ensure the children's safety and to confirm their parental relationships. The two sides had a hearing on the matter Friday in San Diego and will determine over the weekend which cases merit a delay. Justice Department attorney Sarah Fabian stressed to the judge that the government is deploying significant resources to ensure that children are being reunited with parents in timely fashion.

Around the same time as the San Diego hearing, other kids who had been separated from their parents made their way to court in Phoenix.

A boy from Guatemala dressed in a vest and tie was asked by the judge how old he was, and the child simply put five fingers up.

His attorney said his father had brought him to the country and had been returned two weeks ago to their home in Guatemala. He asked for a voluntary departure to be issued for the boy.

"What do you think about going back to Guatemala?" Richardson asked the boy.

The family separation issue is especially urgent for the parents of young children who are even more dependent on their mothers and fathers. Studies show that major stress at a very young age can create a lifetime of emotional and even physical problems.

Honduran immigrant Christian Granados has been separated from his 5-year-old daughter Cristhy for more than a month after they were detained in El Paso, Texas, attempting to enter the U.S.

She was taken to a holding facility in Chicago, while he was released pending an asylum request on June 24.

He has been in the midst of one bureaucratic hassle after another in trying to get his daughter back, responding to intermittent requests for identification documents and biographical information from government social workers who are attending to his daughter.

Granados sought out a suitable home to help reclaim his child by moving in with relatives in Fort Mill, S.C. — but now fears he won't be able to afford airfare for his girl to be reunited with him. He said authorities requested \$1,250 to fly her from Chicago.

"I haven't felt the happiness I should feel with being here in the United States," said Granados. "Happiness is when I have my daughter with me."

For some separated families, the reunion will occur in Guatemala, Honduras or El Salvador — the violence-plagued countries that many of them were fleeing.

A 7-year-old girl in a pink bow and dress sat patiently on a wooden bench for over an hour before Richardson called her. The girl had come to the U.S. from Guatemala with her dad and had also been separated. The father was now back in Guatemala.

Richardson again told the ICE attorney to mark her case with a red flag to ensure the government reunites her with her family in time.

He asked the girl whether she wanted to go back to Guatemala and she had a fear of getting hurt there. The girl said she wasn't afraid to go home, and Richardson granted her a voluntary departure. He asked her if she had ever been on a plane. When the girl nodded that she hadn't, Richardson said she was in for an experience.

Associated Press Writer Morgan Lee in Santa Fe, N.M., contributed to this report.

Follow Astrid Galvan on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/astridgalvan>. See AP's complete coverage of the debate over the Trump administration's policy of family separation at the border: <https://apnews.com/tag/Immigration>

Trump lawyers call Comey 'Machiavellian' in note to Mueller

By ERIC TUCKER and CHAD DAY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawyers for President Donald Trump unleashed a blistering attack on former FBI Director James Comey in a confidential memo last year to the special counsel, casting him as "Machiavellian," dishonest and "unbounded by law and regulation" as they sought to undermine the credibility of a law enforcement leader they see as a critical witness against the president.

The letter, obtained by The Associated Press, underscores the intense effort by Trump's legal team over the last year to tarnish Comey's reputation and pit the president's word against that of the former FBI director. Comey's firing in May 2017 helped set in motion the appointment of special counsel Robert Mueller, and one-on-one conversations with Trump that Comey documented in a series of memos helped form the basis of Mueller's inquiry into whether the president obstructed justice.

The June 27, 2017, letter was written by Marc Kasowitz, then the president's lead lawyer, as Mueller and his team were in the early stages of their investigation into Trump associates and as they had begun examining whether the president, by firing Comey, had sought to stymie an FBI investigation into the Trump campaign's ties to Russia. The White House initially pointed as justification for the firing to a Justice Department memo that faulted Comey for his handling of the Hillary Clinton email investigation, though Trump later said that "this Russia thing" was on his mind when he made the move.

It's not clear to what extent, if any, the attacks on Comey have resonated with Mueller's team, which is broadly investigating Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election and continues to seek an interview with the president to assess whether he had a corrupt intent when he fired the FBI director. And even in the face of withering criticism, Comey has been largely consistent in his telling of his interactions with Trump in his memos, his book and press interviews he's given in recent months.

The 13-page document provides a window into the formation of a legal strategy that remains in use today by Trump's lawyers — to discredit Comey's value as a witness. It could have new relevance in the aftermath of a Justice Department inspector general report that criticized Comey for departing from protocol in the Clinton investigation.

The letter aims to identify for Mueller what the lawyers believe are grievous errors both in how Comey handled the Clinton investigation and in his early, and limited, encounters with the president. In it, Kasowitz argues that Comey cannot be trusted as a witness because he repeatedly embellished his testimony before Congress, put his "own personal interests and emotions" above FBI protocol and left a cloud of undue suspicion above the president's head.

"Over the last year, Mr. Comey has engaged in a pattern of calculated unilateral action unbounded by governing law, regulation and practice, and plainly motivated by personal and political self-interest," wrote Kasowitz, who has since stepped aside as lead lawyer.

Lawyers for Comey declined to comment Saturday, as did Peter Carr, a spokesman for Mueller. Kasowitz and Trump lawyer Jay Sekulow did not return messages, and former Trump attorney John Dowd declined

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 22 of 35

to comment.

The document, unlike other correspondence between Trump lawyers and Mueller's team, does not dwell on questions of Trump's guilt or innocence. Instead, it casts in a negative light actions that Comey has said he carefully reasoned and that he has vigorously defended in his book and interviews. Those include the decision to announce without Justice Department consultation the conclusion of the Clinton investigation, and the decision months later to brief Trump, then the president-elect, on salacious allegations about him in a dossier.

"Mr. Comey continued his Machiavellian behavior after President Trump was elected," Kasowitz wrote.

Among the principal lines of attack are Comey's acknowledgment that he provided his lawyers with contemporaneous memos about his interactions with Trump and authorized one of them to share details with the news media. In one such encounter, Comey said Trump asked him at a private dinner for his loyalty and that Comey offered him "honest loyalty" instead.

"There is no 'honest loyalty' in an FBI Director surreptitiously leaking to civilians his privileged and confidential conversations with the president, or misappropriating and disseminating his confidential FBI memos or their contents about those meetings," Kasowitz wrote. "There is no 'honest loyalty' in using those civilians as surrogates to feed stolen information and memos to the press to achieve a personal, political, and retributive objective of harming a sitting president."

Like Trump, the lawyer also complains about Comey's refusal to state publicly to Congress that the president was not under investigation even though he said so privately.

"Despite his repeated assurances to the President over the prior three months that he was not under investigation, the President's repeated pleas to make that fact public, and Mr. Comey's testimony that he had DOJ (Department of Justice) approval to make this 'extraordinary' announcement, Mr. Comey not only declined to clarify that there was no investigation of the President, but he used broad language that only reinforced the inaccurate perception that the President was under investigation," Kasowitz wrote.

The New York Times earlier reported that Kasowitz had written two letters to Mueller in June 2017, and published one in which he rejected the idea that Comey's firing could constitute obstruction of justice. The AP obtained a copy of the other document, along with a two-page memo from September in which Trump lawyers lament to Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein that Mueller was "inexplicably" not investigating Comey's "misconduct" they had earlier raised.

In the Kasowitz letter, he says Comey stonewalled the president's request to clear his name in order to "sustain an investigative cloud" over his head that would make it hard for Trump to fire him. Comey has said he had already told congressional leaders the FBI was not investigating Trump personally, and that he was reluctant to make public statements in case that changed and he needed to correct the record.

The letter also castigates Comey for usurping the authority of his Justice Department bosses by announcing the conclusion of the Clinton investigation without seeking their approval, a criticism echoed by the inspector general last month. Comey has said he made the announcement alone because of concern that Justice Department leadership was seen as politically compromised.

The letter says Comey "confronted" the president-elect in a January 2017 Trump Tower meeting "with phony but highly embarrassing allegations concerning his personal life" from a dossier compiled by a former British spy. It was the first in a series of conversations Comey documented in writing, something Trump lawyers say he did with the ultimate goal of undermining the president. Comey has said he told Trump about the dossier allegations because they were widely known in Washington, including by the media, and that he kept his memos because he was concerned that Trump might lie about their conversations.

In the September memo obtained by AP, Dowd, who left the legal team in March, expressed dismay to Rosenstein that there was no grand jury investigation into "the obviously corrupt conclusion" of the Clinton investigation, suggesting it was improper that Comey had begun drafting a statement closing the probe even before Clinton was interviewed.

"Today, you are faced with a terrible blight on our Department of Justice which must be addressed to restore and inspire confidence in the Department," Dowd said.

Though the inspector general's office faulted Comey for some of his decisions, it did not find that his actions in the case were motivated by political bias.

Text of memos: <https://www.apnews.com/a63dd6001a0c4796a23a3380337a8715/Text-of-Trump-team-memos-to-special-counsel-assailing-Comey>

Day reported from Fish Creek, Wisconsin.

Operation to rescue Thai boys in flooded cave starts

By TASSANEE VEJPONGSA and KAWEEWIT KAEWJINDA, Associated Press

MAE SAI, Thailand (AP) — The operation has begun to rescue 12 boys and their soccer coach who will need to dive out of the flooded Thai cave where they have been trapped for more than two weeks, with officials saying Sunday morning that "today is D-Day."

Chiang Rai acting Gov. Narongsak Osatana-korn said 13 foreign and five Thai divers were taking part in the rescue and two divers will accompany each boy as they are gradually extracted. The operation began at 10 a.m. and he said it would take at least 11 hours for the first person to be rescued.

The entire operation to get all 13 out of the cave could last 2-4 days, depending on weather and water conditions, said army Maj. Gen. Chalongchai Chaiyakam.

The only way to bring them out of Tham Luang Nang Non in Chiang Rai province is by navigating dark and tight passageways filled with muddy water and strong currents, as well as oxygen-depleted air. A former Thai navy SEAL passed out making the dive Friday and died.

Experienced cave rescue experts consider an underwater escape a last resort, especially with people untrained in diving, as the boys are. The path out is considered especially complicated because of twists and turns in narrow flooded passages.

But the governor supervising the mission said earlier that mild weather and falling water levels over the last few days had created optimal conditions for an underwater evacuation that won't last if it rains again.

Before announcing that the rescue was underway, authorities ordered the throngs of media that have gathered at the cave from around the world to leave.

The boys, ages 11-16, and their 25-year-old coach became stranded when they went exploring in the cave after a practice game June 23. Monsoon flooding cut off their escape and prevented rescuers from finding them for almost 10 days.

Authorities had said that incoming monsoon rains that could send water levels in the cave rising, coupled with falling oxygen levels in the enclosed space, added to the urgency of getting those trapped out. Earlier efforts to pump out water from the cave have been set back every time there has been a heavy downpour.



In this undated photo released by Royal Thai Navy on Saturday, July 7, 2018, a member of Thai rescue team walks inside a cave where 12 boys and their soccer coach have been trapped since June 23, in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, northern Thailand. The local governor in charge of the mission to rescue them said Saturday that cooperating weather and falling water levels over the last few days had created appropriate conditions for evacuation, but that they won't last if it rains again. (Royal Thai Navy via AP)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 24 of 35

Narongsak said Saturday that experts told him water from new rain could shrink the unflooded space where the boys are sheltering to just 10 square meters (108 square feet).

"I confirm that we are at war with water and time from the first day up to today," he said Saturday. "Finding the boys doesn't mean we've finished our mission. It is only a small battle we've won, but the war has not ended. The war ends when we win all three battles — the battles to search, rescue and send them home."

The boys sounded calm and reassuring in handwritten notes to their families that were made public Saturday. The notes were sent out with divers who made an 11-hour, back-and-forth journey to act as postmen.

One of the boys, identified as Tun, wrote: "Mom and Dad, please don't worry, I am fine. I've told Yod to get ready to take me out for fried chicken. With love."

"Don't be worried, I miss everyone. Grandpa, Uncle, Mom, Dad and siblings, I love you all. I'm happy being here inside, the navy SEALs have taken good care. Love you all," wrote Mick.

"Night loves Dad and Mom and brother, don't worry about me. Night loves you all," wrote Night, in the Thai manner of referring to one's self in the third person.

The most touching note came from one whose name was not clear: "I'm doing fine, but the air is a little cold, but don't worry. Although, don't forget to set up my birthday party."

Another, of indistinct origin, asked their teacher not to give them a lot of homework.

In a letter of his own, the coach, Ekapol Chanthawong, apologized to the boys' parents for the ordeal.

"To the parents of all the kids, right now the kids are all fine, the crew are taking good care. I promise I will care for the kids as best as possible. I want to say thanks for all the support and I want to apologize to the parents," he wrote.

An update Saturday from the Thai navy said three navy SEALs were with the boys and their coach, one a doctor. The 13 were having health evaluations and rehabilitation, and were being taught diving skills. Food, electrolyte drinks, drinking water, medicine and oxygen canisters have been delivered to them. A major concern of the rescuers is that oxygen levels in their safe space could fall dangerously low.

Rescuers have been unable to extend a hose pumping oxygen all the way to where the boys are, but have brought them some oxygen tanks.



In this undated photo released by Royal Thai Navy on Saturday, July 7, 2018, Thai rescue team members walk inside a cave where 12 boys and their soccer coach have been trapped since June 23, in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, northern Thailand. The local governor in charge of the mission to rescue them said Saturday that cooperating weather and falling water levels over the last few days had created appropriate conditions for evacuation, but that they won't last if it rains again. (Royal Thai Navy via AP)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 25 of 35



Australian Federal Police and Defense Force personnel arrive near a cave where 12 boys and their soccer coach have been trapped since June 23, in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, in northern Thailand Sunday, July 8, 2018. Thai authorities are racing to pump out water from the flooded cave before more rains are forecast to hit the northern region. (AP Photo/Sakchai Lalit)



Thai police stand guard near a cave where 12 boys and their soccer coach have been trapped since June 23, in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, in northern Thailand Sunday, July 8, 2018. Thai authorities are racing to pump out water from the flooded cave before more rains are forecast to hit the northern region. (AP Photo/Sakchai Lalit)



Media staff leave the area around the entrance of the cave where 12 boys and their soccer coach have been trapped for two weeks, in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, in northern Thailand Sunday, July 8, 2018. Thai authorities asked media to leave the area, fueling speculation on Sunday morning that a rescue mission could be imminent. (AP Photo/Sakchai Lalit)



Rescuers arrive near cave where 12 boys and their soccer coach have been trapped since June 23, in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, in northern Thailand Sunday, July 8, 2018. Thai authorities are racing to pump out water from the flooded cave before more rains are forecast to hit the northern region. (AP Photo/Sakchai Lalit)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 26 of 35



In this undated photo released by Royal Thai Navy on Saturday, July 7, 2018, Thai rescue team members walk inside a cave where 12 boys and their soccer coach have been trapped since June 23, in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, northern Thailand. The local governor in charge of the mission to rescue them said Saturday that cooperating weather and falling water levels over the last few days had created appropriate conditions for evacuation, but that they won't last if it rains again. (Royal Thai Navy via AP)



This undated photo released via the Thailand Navy SEAL Facebook page on Sunday, July 8, 2018, shows rescuers hands locked with a caption reading "We Thai and the international teams join forces to bring the young Wild Boars home" where 12 boys and their soccer coach have been trapped since June 23 in a cave in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, northern Thailand. The operation has begun to rescue 12 boys and their soccer coach who will need to dive out of the flooded Thai cave where they have been trapped for more than two weeks, with officials saying Sunday morning that "today is D-Day." (Thailand Navy SEAL Facebook page via AP)



Media staff leave the area around the entrance of the cave where 12 boys and their soccer coach have been trapped for two weeks, in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, in northern Thailand Sunday, July 8, 2018. Thai authorities asked media to leave the area, fueling speculation on Sunday morning that a rescue mission could be imminent. (AP Photo/Sakchai Lalit)

Family in China say relatives sent Thai boat's last moments

By EILEEN NG, Associated Press

PHUKET, Thailand (AP) — The boat lists hard to the right, sending a man tumbling across an aisle toward windows that look almost straight down on fast-moving white-capped waves. Another man catches him and appears to laugh nervously. A woman cries out. Someone else adjusts the child they are holding tightly in their lap.

The 10 second video captures the chaotic final moments of the Phoenix dive boat before it capsized and sank Thursday off the coast of the Thai resort of Phuket. The maritime disaster has claimed 41 lives, including the woman who sent the clip to her family in China and at least one of her two children.

"It's shaking violently, and I'm feeling very dizzy," Chen De Qiong, 47, wrote to her family's WeChat group just before the accident. "I want to go ashore immediately," she said in another message, adding that her 12-year-old son was feeling ill.

Her family, who shared the video with The Associated Press, is now demanding "justice" from Thai authorities. Her sister, Chen Wei, a businesswoman from China's Chongqing province, said the disaster was caused by human error and could have been avoided, noting that passengers in the video were not wearing life vests.

The boat was carrying 105 people, including 93 tourists, most of them from China, when it capsized after it was hit by 5-meter (16-foot) waves. As of Sunday morning, 14 people were still missing.

Chen De Qiong, a doctor, arrived in Phuket on July 1 for a long-planned vacation with her son and 21-year-old daughter. Her husband, Xing Yong, who is also a doctor, stayed behind in China as he was busy with work.

"I can hear the voice of my daughter screaming," Xing Yong said Saturday while transiting at Kuala Lumpur airport on his way to Phuket, as he showed the video to an AP reporter. "You can see that nobody wore life jackets."

The body of the daughter, Xing Yu Jie, was recovered Friday.

Once they arrived in Phuket on Saturday, Chen's sister and husband identified Chen's body at a hospital it had been taken to after being recovered earlier in the day. The son, Xing Hao Ran, was among the missing.

Chen Wei said the boat company ignored warnings of bad weather and failed to take adequate measures to ensure passenger safety. She said the video showed that glass windows in the boat cabin were sealed but they should have had latches so that they can be opened to allow passengers to swim out in an emergency.

Despite rough waves, the boat didn't stop and kept sailing, Chen Wei said.

"Three out of a family with four members gone. How would you feel about it? Which family can bear such a blow?" she said.

"There are loopholes everywhere that caused this tragedy," she said.

"I just want to seek justice for my family. This is not a natural disaster. This tragedy is man-made and could have been avoided," she added.

She said the vacation was planned as a celebration for her niece, who had just graduated from university, and her nephew, who is about to enter high school.

"A beautiful family gone like that, just like in a dream," a distraught Chen said.

Wildfires rage through California amid heat rage

By JOHN ANTCZAK, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Firefighters toiled in stifling heat Saturday on the lines of destructive wildfires across the U.S. West, making progress against some blazes while struggling to tame others that have forced evacuations of hundreds of homes.

In heat-stricken Southern California, powerful winds that sent an overnight inferno hopscotching through the Santa Barbara County community of Goleta vanished in the morning, allowing firefighters to extinguish smoldering ruins of an estimated 20 structures, including homes.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 28 of 35

Authorities announced that mandatory evacuation orders were being greatly reduced and many of the 2,500 people who fled Friday night would be able to return home by late afternoon.

County Fire Chief Eric Peterson thanked residents for heeding the call to evacuate, allowing firefighters to focus on fire suppression rather than rescues.

"There very likely would have been fatalities last night had those evacuations not occurred," Peterson said.

The fire's spread was stopped at about 100 acres (40.5 hectares) in a neighborhood where some houses were in ruins while homes next door were intact.

Eric Durtschi stood outside his destroyed house, where a burned-out car stood in the driveway and kids' bicycles were strewn about.

Durtschi, his wife and six children had left Utah and moved in just a few weeks ago. He said he hadn't yet told his two oldest children their home was gone. He managed to collect his severely burned vintage guns, hoping to salvage them.

A neighbor's home across the street was spared. The man had stayed through the night spraying down other people's houses.

Elsewhere in Southern California, firefighters increased containment of a central San Diego County fire that rapidly spread over 400 acres (162 hectares), destroyed 18 structures and damaged eight, and a wildfire in the San Bernardino National Forest was holding at 1.5 square miles (404 hectares) and forced evacuation of about 700 homes in the mountain community of Forest Falls.

Fires also burned on the Marine Corps' sprawling Camp Pendleton base in northern San Diego County.

Among new fires Saturday, a blaze erupted on a steep mountain slope just above the Los Angeles suburb of Burbank and helicopters pounded it with water to try to keep it from getting out of hand.

Southern California fires began erupting Friday as strong high pressure over the West spawned an epic heat wave that saw parts of Los Angeles broil in temperatures up to 117 degrees (47.2 Celsius). There was little relief overnight.

"Temperatures at 8 a.m. were ridiculously over 100 degrees" in foothills near Forest Falls and many inland valleys, the National Weather Service said.

Forecasters said the region's siege of heat would gradually ease through the weekend, but the unstable air mass unleashed downpours that triggered flash-flood warnings for the mountains northeast of Los Angeles.

Further up north and just south of the California-Oregon border, the 34-square-mile (88-square-kilometer) Klamathon Fire in rural Siskiyou County was just 5 percent contained. The body of a resident was found Friday in the ruins of a home, among 15 destroyed structures tallied so far.

Authorities described "extreme fire behavior with movement in multiple directions," with threats to the California communities of Hornbrook and Hilt as well as Colestin, Oregon. Ray Haupt, chairman of the county Board of Supervisors, said losses included homes and livestock.

Elsewhere in California, the 138-square-mile (357-square-kilometer) County Fire northwest of Sacramento was more than half contained Saturday. Ten structures were counted destroyed but damage assessments were continuing.

With fires occurring statewide, a Colorado-based Boeing 747-400 supertanker was deployed to California.

Scott McLean, deputy chief of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, said the supertanker was undergoing checks at an airfield outside Sacramento.

Software issues needed to be resolved before the aircraft owned by Global SuperTanker Services of Colorado Springs could be activated under a call-when-needed contract.

In Utah, meanwhile, authorities allowed the return of some residents who fled a wildfire near a popular fishing lake 80 miles (130 kilometers) southeast of Salt Lake City. The blaze has burned about 75 square miles (193 square kilometers) and destroyed 90 structures, including homes, cabins, sheds and garages, since starting Sunday in the mountains.

In Colorado, firefighters took advantage of occasional rainstorms to extend their containment lines at several large wildfires.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 29 of 35

In the south, crews Saturday contained about 45 percent of a 167-square-mile (433-square-kilometer) fire that has destroyed more than 130 homes, while in Rocky Mountain ski country firefighters from 20 states were battling an 8-square-mile (22-square-kilometer) wildfire above the Roaring Fork Valley. Commanders said they hoped for one-third containment by late Sunday.

Crews also had 50 percent containment of a southwestern Colorado fire that has blackened 85 square miles (220 square kilometers) north of Durango. Authorities said Saturday that afternoon storms could produce flash floods and mudslides in burn scars.

And in central Colorado's Park County, crews encircled a third of a spotty fire that forced the Buffalo Creek Wilderness to close. A stretch of busy U.S. Highway 285 between Fairplay and Antero Junction reopened Saturday.

Associated Press writers Paul Davenport in Phoenix, Jim Anderson in Denver and freelance photographer Noah Berger in Goleta contributed to this report.

After talks, NKorea accuses US of 'gangster-like' demands

By MATTHEW LEE, Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has delivered a dose of harsh reality to Donald Trump, bashing hopes for a quick denuclearization deal in a pointed rebuke to the president's top envoy while accusing the U.S. of making "gangster-like" demands.

After the historic U.S.-North Korea summit in Singapore, Trump declared the North was no longer a threat and would hand over the remains of Americans killed during the Korean War. Now, three weeks later, the two sides were still at odds on all issues, including exactly what denuclearization means and how it might be verified, after a third visit to Pyongyang by U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. And, the promised remains have yet to be delivered.

Pompeo wrapped up two days of talks in the North Korean capital on Saturday on an optimistic note even without meeting Kim Jong Un, as he had on his previous two trips. He said his discussions had been productive and conducted in good faith, but he allowed that much more work needed to be done. And, he and other U.S. officials said the two countries, still technically at war after the 1950-53 Korean War, had set up working groups to deal with details of an agreement.

Pompeo said he had won commitments for new discussions on denuclearization and announced a Thursday meeting between U.S. and North Korean military officials on the repatriation of the remains. But in a harsh response issued just hours after Pompeo arrived in Tokyo, the North blasted the discussions, saying the visit had been "regrettable" and that Washington's "gangster-like" demands were aimed at forcing it to abandon nuclear weapons.

In a statement carried by the North's official Korean Central News Agency, the foreign ministry said the outcome of Pompeo's talks with senior official Kim Yong Chol was "very concerning" because it has led to a "dangerous phase that might rattle our willingness for denuclearization that had been firm."

"We had expected that the U.S. side would offer constructive measures that would help build trust based on the spirit of the leaders' summit ... we were also thinking about providing reciprocal measures," it said. "However, the attitude and stance the United States showed in the first high-level meeting (between the countries) was no doubt regrettable. Our expectations and hopes were so naive it could be called foolish."

It said the North had raised the issue of formally ending the Korean War, which concluded with an armistice and not a peace treaty, but the U.S. came up with a variety of "conditions and excuses" to delay a declaration. It downplayed the significance of the United States suspending its military exercises with South Korea, something trumpeted by Trump after the summit as a success, by saying it made a larger concession by blowing up the tunnels at a nuclear test site.

In criticizing the talks with Pompeo, however, it carefully avoided attacking Trump personally, saying "we wholly maintain our trust toward President Trump," but stressed that Washington must not allow "headwinds" against the "wills of the leaders." That appeared to be a reference to Trump's national secu-

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 30 of 35

ity adviser John Bolton, a prominent North Korea hawk who has been vilified by Pyongyang in the past. Pompeo spoke with Trump, Bolton and White House chief of staff John Kelly on Saturday before his second round of meetings with Kim Yong Chol.

The North's statement, coming so soon after Pompeo's trip, was sure to fuel growing skepticism in the U.S. over how serious Kim Jong Un is about giving up his nuclear arsenal.

After his talks in Pyongyang, Pompeo stopped in Tokyo and met with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and planned to brief him on his discussion with North Korean officials.

On North Korea talks just concluded, Pompeo said: "We raised a full range of issues with them, all the issues that are important to both the United States and Japan." He said "there is much work for us to do together and I'm honored to be with you here today."

A former top U.S. diplomat for Asia, Daniel Russel, said the setback with North Korea was to be expected and warned Trump he is engaged in a long negotiation that would not produce easy quick, made for television results that the president likely wants.

"Dealing with North Korea is hard because Kim Jong Un wants it to be hard," said Russel, who was assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs in the Obama administration. "If you make the Americans fight for every inch, the Americans will start measuring progress in inches — and will wind up paying by the inch. At this point, even to get the North Koreans to follow through with the return of Korean War-era MIA remains, would feel like a big win for Pompeo, even though it wouldn't affect the nuclear threat."

"Kim can afford to play hardball because it's clear to him that Trump, who has already told Americans they can sleep soundly because the threat is now over, badly wants a deal," Russel said. "And when you want it bad, you get it bad. Why should the North Koreans make concessions to one of Trump's aides given the president's record of undercutting them?"

In his comments to reporters before leaving Pyongyang, Pompeo said he and Kim Yong Chol had made "a great deal of progress" in some areas. He stressed that "there's still more work to be done" in others, which will be handled by the working groups.

He said North Korea said it offered to discuss the closure of a missile engine test site, which would "physically affirm" a move to halt the production of intercontinental range ballistic missiles, that the two sides had agreed that a Pentagon team would meet North Korean officials on or about Thursday at the border between North and South Korea to discuss the repatriation of remains.

However, in the days following the June 12 summit with Kim Jong Un in Singapore, Trump had already announced the return of the remains and the destruction of the missile facility had been completed or were in progress.

Pompeo said more talks were needed on both.

Judge insists timeline be met to reunite children at border

By ELLIOT SPAGAT and JULIE WATSON, Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A judge insisted on Friday the Trump administration stick to a deadline to reunite children separated from their parents at the border, instead acknowledging that more time may be justified only in specific cases.

U.S. District Judge Dana Sabraw ordered the administration to share a list of the 101 children with the American Civil Liberties Union, which successfully sued to force the reunions, by Saturday afternoon. The two sides will try to determine over the weekend which cases merit a delay in an effort to present a unified front in court on Monday morning.

"The government must reunite them," the judge said. "It must comply with the time frame unless there is an articulable reason."

The administration said it needed more time to reunite 101 children under 5 years old to ensure the children's safety and to confirm their parental relationships.

"There's always going to be tension between a fast release and a safe release," said Sarah Fabian, a

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 31 of 35

Justice Department attorney.

The administration has matched 86 parents to 83 children and 16 are not yet matched, Fabian said.

The deadline is July 10 for parents with children under 5 and July 26 for everyone else.

More than 2,000 children were separated from their parents after Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced in May that the zero tolerance policy was in full effect, even if it meant splitting families. While parents were criminally prosecuted, children were placed in custody of the Health and Human Services Department.

Trump reversed course on June 20 amid an international outcry from opponents who said families should remain together.

On Thursday, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said fewer than 3,000 children are believed to have been separated, but that includes kids who may have lost parents along the journey, not just parents who were detained at the border.

If DNA testing is inconclusive, officials said in a court filing, they won't be able to confirm a child's parentage by the deadline. They will need more time to collect DNA samples or other evidence from parents who have been released from government custody.

About half of the parents of the 101 children are in the custody of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Others have left the country or were released, Fabian said. She said it has been more difficult to reunite children when parents are outside government custody.

The judge, who was appointed by President George W. Bush, set the deadline last week, writing that the "situation has reached a crisis level" and that the "chaotic circumstances" were of the government's own making.

Jonathan White, a Health and Human Services official, filed a declaration with the court that gives perhaps the most detailed account yet of what the government is doing and the hurdles it faces. Its database has some information about the children's parents but was not designed to reunify families by the court's deadline.

The department has manually reviewed the cases of all 11,800 children in its custody by working nights and weekends, White said. The results of that review are being validated.

DNA cheek swab tests on parent and child take nearly a week to complete, said White, who called the risk of placing children with adults who aren't their parents "a real and significant child welfare concern."

"The Government does not wish to unnecessarily delay reunifications or burden class members," the Justice Department filing reads. "At the same time, however, the Government has a strong interest in ensuring that any release of a child from Government custody occurs in a manner that ensures the safety of that child."

The ACLU sued in March on behalf of a Congolese woman who was separated from her daughter for five months after seeking asylum at a San Diego border crossing and a Brazilian asylum-seeker who has been separated from her son since an arrest for illegal entry in August near the Texas-New Mexico border.

Anti-violence protesters shut down part of Chicago freeway

By SARA BURNETT, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Thousands of anti-violence protesters marched along a Chicago interstate on Saturday, shutting down traffic to draw attention to the gun violence that's claimed hundreds of lives in some of the city's poorest neighborhoods and pressure public officials to do more to stop it.

Marchers chanted, "Stop the killing," and carried signs reading, "We need jobs," and other messages. Some stopped to scrawl on the road with chalk: "Enough is enough" and "Peace." Toward the front of the march the Rev. Michael Pfleger, a Roman Catholic priest on the city's South Side who organized the protest; Chicago police Supt. Eddie Johnson; and the Rev. Jesse Jackson linked arms.

"The people won today because the people showed up. They saw this many people out here, black and white and brown and young and old, and saying, 'We're tired of the damn violence in Chicago,'" Pfleger said after completing the roughly 1.5-mile (2.4 kilometer) route.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 32 of 35

"We want the governor, the mayor, the elected officials and the community all to come together and say, 'We want peace now.'"

The march took place along the northbound lanes of Interstate 94, known as the Dan Ryan Expressway, after a roughly hourlong standoff between police and the protesters. The expressway was fully reopened less than 90 minutes later, after the protest ended.

Illinois State Police, which had warned earlier in the week that any pedestrian entering the expressway would face arrest, said early Saturday that an agreement had been reached for protesters to march on a portion of the roadway. Officers and vehicles lined up, forming a barrier to keep protesters in two northbound lanes, allowing some traffic to pass in other northbound lanes.

But Pflieger and protesters insisted there was no agreement and that they would shut down the entire northbound roadway, with Pflieger noting the city closes major roads for parades and other occasions. The crowd began creeping into other lanes — a situation Pflieger said had the potential to become dangerous.

Illinois State Police, which has jurisdiction over expressways, announced around 11:30 a.m. that they were shutting down all northbound lanes of the expressway. Protesters then began walking northbound along the route.

Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner took to Twitter to call the shutdown "unacceptable," saying there had been parameters set to allow protesters to march while "respecting law and order" but that protesters instead chose "chaos." The Republican also said he was "disappointed" in Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

"I am calling on the Mayor to take swift and decisive action to put an end to this kind of chaos," Rauner wrote.

Emanuel, a Democrat, responded in a tweet : "It was a peaceful protest. Delete your account."

Pflieger said the next step is accomplishing the actual goal — an "aggressive plan" to address the violence . Among the demands the protesters listed were more resources, jobs and better schools for their communities as well as stronger gun laws.

There's a historical significance to marching along the Dan Ryan Expressway — a roadway some believe was built in the early 1960s to separate white communities and poor, black ones. To the west of the new interstate were Comiskey Park, home of the White Sox, and neighborhoods such as Bridgeport, home to then-Mayor Richard J. Daley and his clan. To the east rose the Robert Taylor Homes, a high-rise public housing complex that became notorious for its violence.

It was the kind of racial and economic segregation that still exists in Chicago today.

Chicago police said the city had 252 homicides and 1,100 shootings in the first six months of this year, a decrease from the same period last year. But those crimes have been heavily concentrated in predominantly black, low-income neighborhoods.

Associated Press photojournalist Annie Rice contributed to this report.

For the latest developments on the protest: <https://bit.ly/2zfpS64>

How the trade war is changing minds in a Senate battleground

By JONATHAN MATTISE and STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Jimmy Tosh's sprawling hog farm in rural Tennessee is an unlikely battleground in the fight for control of the U.S. Senate.

Yet his 15,000 acres (6,000 hectares) two hours west of Nashville showcase the practical risks of President Donald Trump's trade policies and the political threat to red-state Republican Senate candidates such as Tennessee's Marsha Blackburn.

Tosh, a third-generation farmer who almost always votes Republican, said he's voting this fall for Blackburn's Democratic opponent, former Gov. Phil Bredesen, in part because Trump's trade wars are hurting his family business — a sizable one with some 400 employees and 30,000 pigs. The cost of steel needed for new barns is up, Tosh said, and the expanding pork market stands to suffer under new tariffs.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 33 of 35

"This tariff situation has got me very, very, very concerned," Tosh told The Associated Press. "I just think Bredesen would be better on that situation." He said Blackburn has shifted "toward the center" on tariffs, "but in my opinion, it's a little late and not far enough."

Similar concerns are roiling high-profile Senate contests in Missouri, Indiana, Pennsylvania and North Dakota and forcing GOP candidates to answer for the trade policies of a Republican president they have backed on almost every other major issue.

In 2016, populist attacks against free trade defined Trump's political rise. Now, as he sparks an international trade war four months before the midterm elections, few policies could be more problematic for Trump's allies in pivotal Senate contests.

The Trump administration imposed a 25 percent tax on \$34 billion worth of Chinese imports on Friday, and China is retaliating with taxes on an equal amount of U.S. products, including soybeans, electric cars and pork. The administration has penalized steel and aluminum imports from allies such as Canada and Mexico, leading to retaliation against American-made products such as blue jeans, motorcycles and whiskey.

The tension has reshaped the race to replace retiring Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn. Blackburn, an eight-term congresswoman, has been one of the president's biggest boosters for the past two years, yet with the business community up in arms, she's dramatically softened her support for Trump's trade policies, at least.

"We fully appreciate that some of these countries have had a trade war against us for years, certainly China would be in that list, and it's time that somebody really stands up," Blackburn told AP. "But with that said, it does cause us tremendous concern, just grave concern."

Still, Blackburn opposed a proposal by Corker that would have given Congress new authority to check the president's trade moves. She called Corker's approach "a little bit too broad."

Instead, Blackburn helped write a letter urging Trump's commerce secretary to reconsider broad tariffs so as to avoid harm to Tennessee's economy.

An estimated \$1.4 billion in Tennessee exports are threatened by Trump's trade moves, according to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, a longtime Republican ally. Those exports are linked to more than 850,000 jobs in the state related to farming, steel, baked goods, car manufacturing, whiskey and more.

Nationwide, the U.S. Chamber reported that \$75 billion in U.S. exports will soon be subject to retaliatory tariffs. Many of the hardest hit states are those that backed Trump and feature top-tier Senate races in November.

Indiana, where Republican Senate candidate Mike Braun is trying to defeat Democratic Sen. Joe Donnelly, has more than 812,000 jobs tied to global trade, the Chamber found. In April, Braun said concerns about the tariffs were being "overdramatized."

Missouri Sen. Claire McCaskill, a Democrat, has pounded her Republican opponent, Josh Hawley, for backing Trump's trade decisions. Hawley, whose state has more than 826,000 jobs tied to global trade, says the president is right to shake up trade deals and should have time to negotiate.

And in North Dakota, Democratic Sen. Heidi Heitkamp has seized on Republican challenger Kevin Cramer's description of the tariff fallout as "hysteria." Cramer blames China for the trade dispute that could affect as many as 111,000 jobs.

But back in Tennessee, Blackburn has been backed into a corner by the state's business leaders.

Tennessee whiskey maker Jack Daniel's, for example, sends roughly 60 percent of its business out of the country.

Jack Daniel's parent company was forced to increase prices across Europe as a result of tariffs imposed by the European Union in response to Trump's tariffs on U.S. steel and aluminum. Shares of the company dropped sharply last month after Mexico announced plans to impose a 25 percent tariff on whiskey in response to Trump's moves.

"Tariffs such as these, they can only do harm," said Jack Daniel's general manager Larry Combs.

Another major Tennessee employer, home appliance maker Electrolux, continues to delay a \$250 million expansion in Tennessee "given the uncertainty of U.S. trade policy," said company spokeswoman Eloise Hale.

"These tariffs are directly increasing our costs," she said.

The Democrat in the Senate race, former Gov. Bredesen, has seized on the issue. Even in a state Trump

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 34 of 35

won by 26 points, he's betting he can use Blackburn's loyalty to the president against her because of the tariff-related fallout.

"She clearly is very loath to do anything contrary to what the Trump playbook is," Bredesen said.

"The way I've read her expression is, 'We elected Trump president. I'm here to make sure he gets his agenda passed,'" Bredesen continued. "What I would like to do is say, 'Look, I'm there to be with the president on stuff that makes sense for Tennessee, to be against him on stuff that is not.' And that's true whether it's a D or an R president."

Blackburn is eager to change the subject.

She's quick to highlight her support for the GOP's tax cuts. And with a sudden Supreme Court vacancy that gives the GOP an opportunity to cement a conservative majority for a generation, she's emphasizing the importance of having a Republican Senate majority to approve Trump's judicial appointments.

But back at the hog farm, Tosh is worried about the family business.

"The pork producers in the country are probably being impacted more so than any element of the economy right now," he said. "We're probably going to scale back some plans that we had, at least put them on hold."

Peoples reported from New York.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, July 8, the 189th day of 2018. There are 176 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 8, 1776, Col. John Nixon gave the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence, outside the State House (now Independence Hall) in Philadelphia.

On this date:

In 1663, King Charles II of England granted a Royal Charter to Rhode Island.

In 1889, The Wall Street Journal was first published.

In 1907, Florenz Ziegfeld staged his first "Follies," on the roof of the New York Theater.

In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson received a tumultuous welcome in New York City after his return from the Versailles (vehr-SY') Peace Conference in France.

In 1947, a New Mexico newspaper, the Roswell Daily Record, quoted officials at Roswell Army Air Field as saying they had recovered a "flying saucer" that crashed onto a ranch; officials then said it was actually a weather balloon. (To this day, there are those who believe what fell to Earth was an alien spaceship carrying extra-terrestrial beings.)

In 1950, President Harry S. Truman named Gen. Douglas MacArthur commander-in-chief of United Nations forces in Korea. (Truman ended up sacking MacArthur for insubordination nine months later.)

In 1965, Canadian Pacific Air Lines Flight 21, a Douglas DC-6B, crashed in British Columbia after the tail separated from the fuselage; all 52 people on board were killed in what authorities said was the result of an apparent bombing.

In 1967, Academy Award-winning actress Vivien Leigh, 53, died in London.

In 1975, President Gerald R. Ford announced he would seek a second term of office.

In 1986, Kurt Waldheim was inaugurated as president of Austria despite controversy over his alleged ties to Nazi war crimes. Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, widely regarded as father of the nuclear navy, died in Arlington, Virginia.

In 1994, Kim Il Sung, North Korea's communist leader since 1948, died at age 82.

In 2007, Roger Federer won his fifth straight Wimbledon championship, beating Rafael Nadal 7-6 (7), 4-6, 7-6 (3), 2-6, 6-2.

In 2011, former first lady Betty Ford died in Rancho Mirage, California, at age 93. Atlantis thundered into

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, July 08, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 359 ~ 35 of 35

orbit on a cargo run that would close out the three-decade U.S. space shuttle program.

Ten years ago: A bipartisan group chaired by former secretaries of state James Baker III and Warren Christopher released a study saying the next time the president goes to war Congress should be consulted and vote on whether it agrees. A well-organized assault by gunmen on horseback on a United Nations-African Union patrol in Darfur left seven peacekeepers dead and 22 wounded.

Five years ago: Breaking their public silence, three women who'd been held captive in a Cleveland home for a decade issued a YouTube video; in it, Amanda Berry, Gina DeJesus and Michelle Knight thanked the public for the encouragement and financial support allowing them to restart their lives.

One year ago: At the Group of 20 summit in Hamburg, Germany, world powers lined up against President Donald Trump on climate change, reaffirming their support for international efforts to fight global warming. On trade, the U.S. and international partners endorsed open markets while acknowledging that countries had a right to put up barriers to block unfair practices. After their first face-to-face meeting, Russian President Vladimir Putin said he thought Trump believed his denials of Russian meddling in the U.S. presidential vote.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Steve Lawrence is 83. Actor Jeffrey Tambor is 74. Ballerina Cynthia Gregory is 72. Actress Kim Darby is 71. Actress Jonelle Allen is 70. Children's performer Raffi is 70. Celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck is 69. Actress Anjelica Huston is 67. Writer Anna Quindlen is 66. Actor Kevin Bacon is 60. Actor Robert Knepper is 59. Rock musician Andy Fletcher (Depeche Mode) is 57. Country singer Toby Keith is 57. Rock musician Graham Jones (Haircut 100) is 57. Rock singer Joan Osborne is 56. Writer-producer Rob Burnett is 56. Actor Rocky Carroll is 55. Actor Corey Parker is 53. Actor Lee Tergesen is 53. Actor Michael B. Silver is 51. Actor Billy Crudup is 50. Actor Michael Weatherly is 50. Singer Beck is 48. Country singer Drew Womack (Sons of the Desert) is 48. Comedian Sebastian Maniscalco is 45. Actress Kathleen Robertson is 45. Christian rock musician Stephen Mason (Jars of Clay) is 43. Actor Milo Ventimiglia (MEE'-loh vehn-tih-MEEL'-yuh) is 41. Rock musician Tavis Werts is 41. Singer Ben Jelen (YEL'-in) is 39. Actor Lance Gross is 37. Actress Sophia Bush is 36. Rock musician Jamie Cook (Arctic Monkeys) is 33. Actor Jake McDorman is 32. Actress Maya Hawke is 20. Actor Jaden Smith is 20.

Thought for Today: "America is not just a power, it is a promise." — Nelson A. Rockefeller, American politician and businessman (born this date in 1908, died 1979).