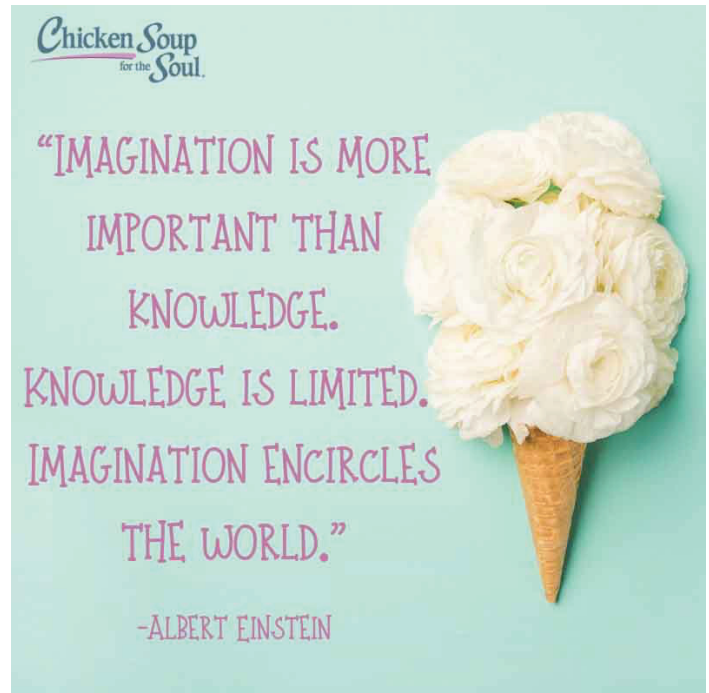


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August 9-11 State Junior Legion Tourney in Groton

- Aug. 12 First allowable day for FB/Golf practice
- Aug. 15 First allowable day for C-C/VB practice
- Aug. 20 Faculty Inservice
- Aug. 20 Open House / Picnic (5-7:30)
- Aug. 21 Faculty Inservice
- Aug. 22 1st Day of School

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

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Swimming Pool Hours

Open Swim Daily: 1 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.

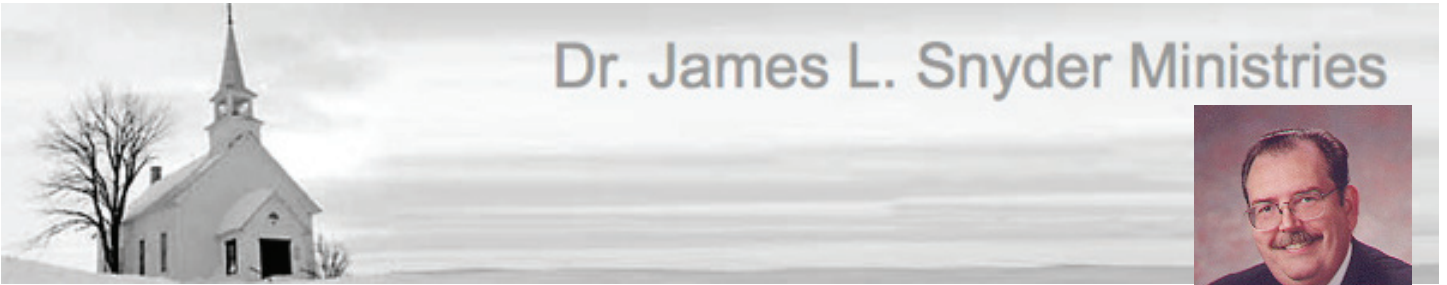
Fun Night is every Friday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.

Adult Water Aerobics: Monday through Thursday: 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 pm

Adult Lap Swim: Monday through Friday: 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.; Monday through Thursday: 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.; Friday-Sunday: 4:50 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

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My Mirror Doesn't Lie, But Sometimes It Giggles



I have never been fascinated by my looks, and I don't think anybody else has either.

Sometimes, however, I have to spend a little more time before the mirror to get prepared for where I am going. I must say, I am not fond of mirrors and I make it as quick as possible.

I do not trust mirrors. When I was a youngster, my family lived very close to Hershey Park in Pennsylvania. One of the major attractions there was the "House of Mirrors." You would walk in and the mirrors would distort what you really looked like.

Walking through, we would always laugh and point to the person in the mirror not acknowledging that it was us. I could not trust those mirrors at Hershey Park, which has stayed with me all my life.

I had forgotten about those mirrors until recently. I was getting ready to go somewhere and the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, "Have you looked in the mirror today?"

Not knowing what she was talking about I muttered, "Yes, I glanced at it this morning."

What she was getting at was beyond my speculation except that she saw something on my face that for some reason I had not seen.

"You ought to look in the mirror before you leave," she stated.

I never want to start a day objecting to anything my wife says if I don't have to. Therefore, to please her so I could get out of the house as quick as possible, I went and looked in the mirror and there it was.

That morning I had nicked myself shaving and did not notice it, but the blood started coming out very slowly. By the time I got out of the bathroom and into the kitchen, the blood had flowed down the side of my face. I looked at it, got some paper towels and cleaned up my face.

"That looks better," my wife said as I was leaving. Then she said something that struck me.

"Remember," she said as gently as possible, "the mirror never lies."

That phrase stuck with me all day long and as I pondered it, I wondered if it was true. Those mirrors at the Hershey Park lied all the time. I was not as twisted as they made me out to be.

The mirror in my bathroom, according to my wife, is not like those mirrors. The mirror in my bathroom

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always reflects the real me. Which, as I thought about it, it rather disturbed me. Am I really what I look like in the mirror?

Maybe that is why my wife spends 10 times more time before her mirror than I do before my mirror. In fact, I am thinking about looking in her mirror some morning to see if I am seeing what she sees when she looks in her mirror.

Wouldn't it be great if one morning we got our bathrooms mixed up? I went into her bathroom and looked in her mirror and she went into my bathroom and looked in my mirror. I will know when that happens because I will hear some loud screaming coming from my bathroom.

When I go to my barber, he always wants me to look at the back of my head in a mirror he provides to see if I like it. I always say to him, "If you like it, I'm okay with it." I never see the back of my head unless I am near a mirror.

In the morning, I glance in the mirror to make sure nothing is out of place, and then I go on with my day never thinking about that mirror ever again. If I had to think about what I look like in the mirror all day long I probably would go insane.

Of course, I spent all day thinking about my bathroom mirror. I have come to this rather sincere conclusion. My mirror does not lie, but sometimes it giggles. If I was a mirror and had to see a face like mine looking in, I think I would do more than giggle.

Outward looks are not that important, at least to me. It is not the outside that really is significant, but rather the inside.

I think it is rather hypocritical for some people, and I am not mentioning any names whatsoever, to plaster their face with makeup hiding their real self. Looking at some people you do not know if you are seeing the real person.

I saw someone the other day, I could not tell if it was male or female, but their face was plastered with makeup, they had earrings, nose rings and even a ring on their tongue. They had rings all over their face, which made them look like a ding-a-ling.

Walking away from that person, I wondered if they had a mirror in their bathroom. If so, I am not sure they looked at it that morning.

I could not help what Jesus said to the Pharisees of his day. "And the Lord said unto him, Now do ye Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and the platter; but your inward part is full of ravening and wickedness" (Luke 11:39).

I can be so caught up with my outward appearance I forget the important part is inside; my soul. The Bible is the mirror I need to see my soul.

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Local teams vie for state baseball title

When it comes to tradition, two local teams will battle it out for bragging rights as the State Junior Legion Class "B" Champion today at Locke-Karst Field in Groton.

Groton and Claremont-Britton both won their games yesterday with a 1-0 score. You can bet that fans will come out of the woods to watch this match-up.

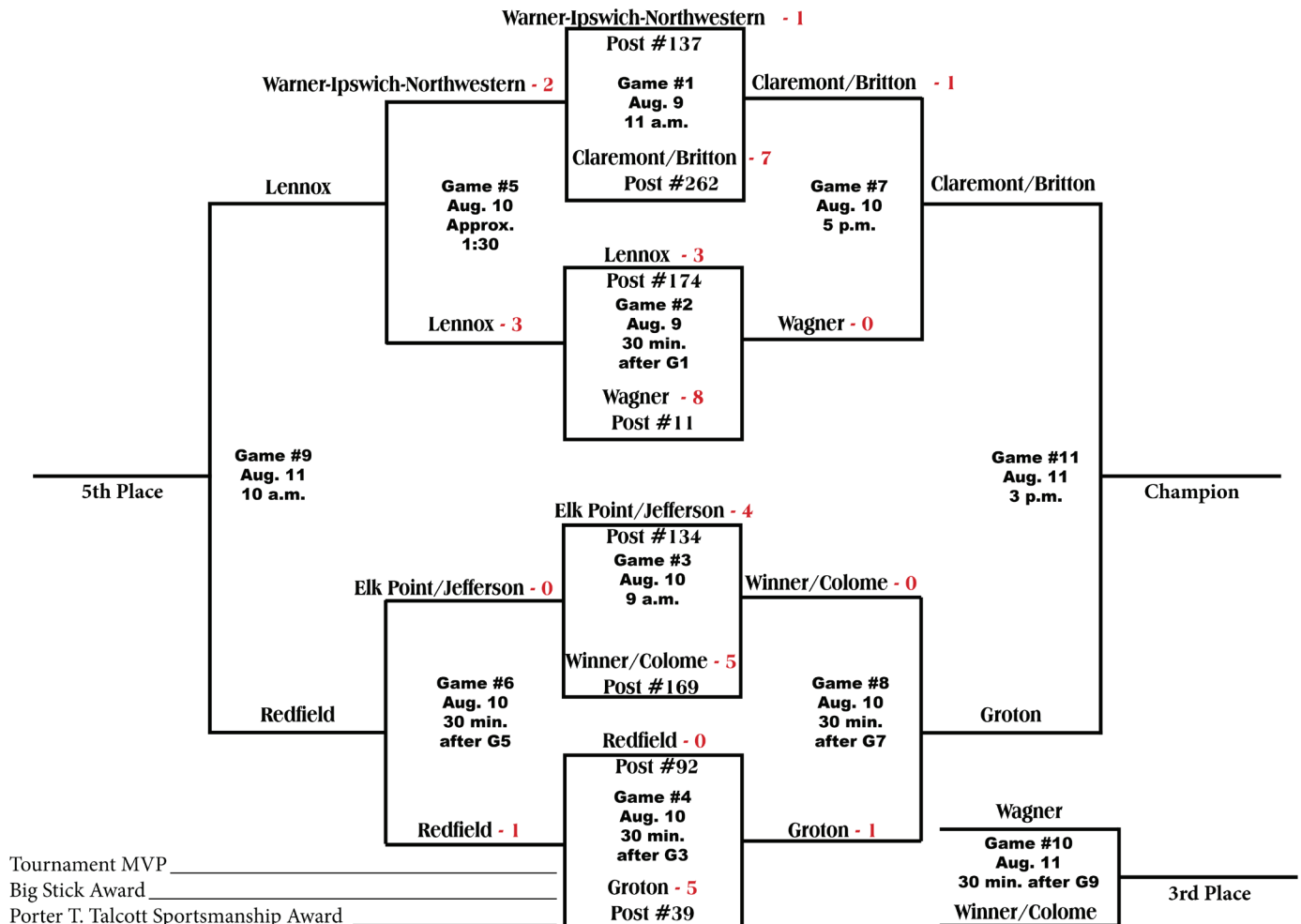
Earlier in the season, Groton lost to Claremont-Britton, 11-5 and 7-6. Later in the season, Groton defeated Claremont-Britton, 13-3.

In the State Junior Legion Tournament, Claremont-Britton defeated Warner-Ipswich-Northwestern, 7-1, then defeated Wagner, 1-0. Groton defeated Redfield, 5-0, then beat Winner/Colome, 1-0.

In Groton's win over Winner/Colome, it was scoreless until the top of the sixth inning when Groton got a break. Groton had a double to start off the inning, but a double play put Groton with two-outs. Alex Morris then drew a two-out walk. Chandler Larson got a hit and the overthrow to first allowed Larson to be safe at first and Morris wheeled over to third and would score to give Groton the 1-0 lead. Morris was also the winning pitcher. The final play of the game was Jackson Cogley throwing to Riley Thurston at second who tagged out the runner.

Today's games feature Lennox and Redfield for fifth place at 10 a.m., followed by the third place game between Wagner and Winner/Colome. The championship game between Groton and Claremont-Britton will start at 3 p.m.

2019 South Dakota American Legion State Class "B" Jr. Baseball Tournament



Tournament MVP _____
 Big Stick Award _____
 Porter T. Talcott Sportsmanship Award _____

We need our farmers.

We need them physically strong. We need them mentally strong.

Northeastern Mental Health Center is now offering counseling services for farmers and their families-**at no cost.**

With the current state of the industry, we understand that farm families can feel overwhelmed in times of stress, instability, and uncertainty.

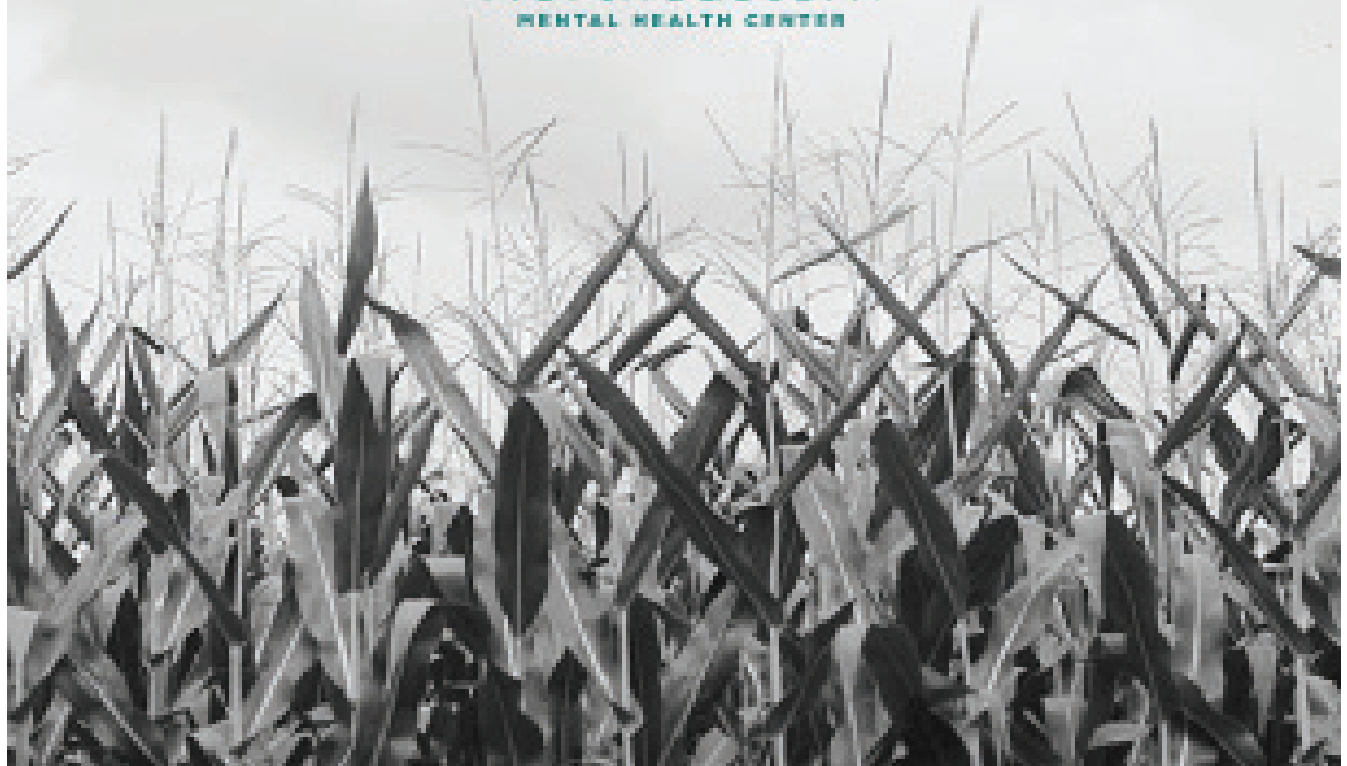
We're here to help.

Call 605-225-1010 for more information.

Northeastern Mental Health Center services the counties of Brown, Campbell, Day, Edmunds, Faulk, Marshall, McPherson, Potter, Spink and Walworth.



Northeastern
MENTAL HEALTH CENTER



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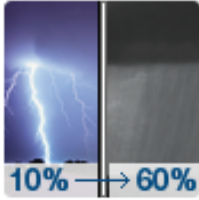
Today



Mostly Cloudy

High: 76 °F

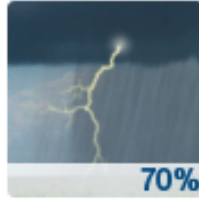
Tonight



Slight Chance
T-storms then
Showers
Likely

Low: 64 °F

Monday



T-storms
Likely

High: 75 °F

Monday
Night



Partly Cloudy

Low: 56 °F

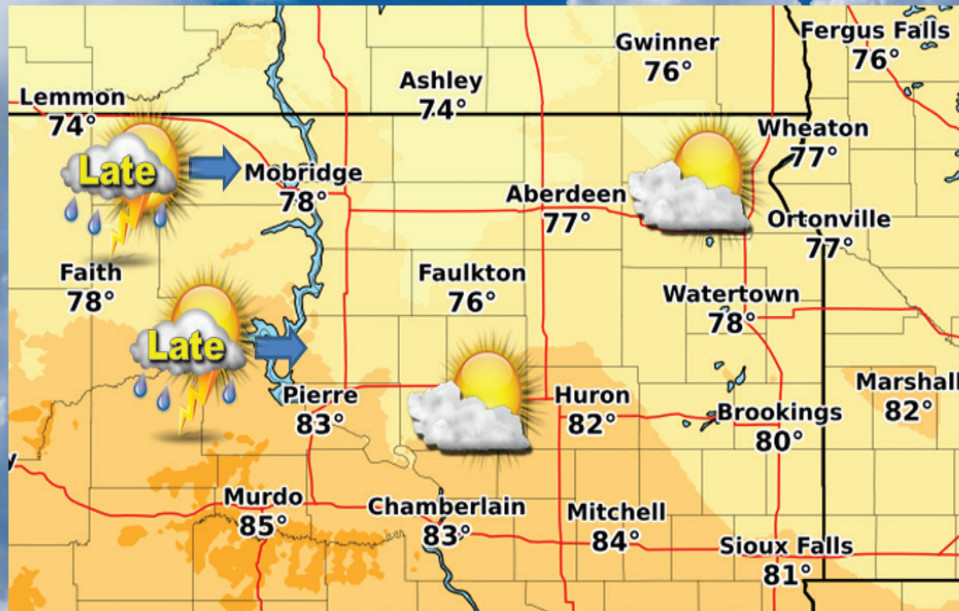
Tuesday



Partly Sunny

High: 70 °F

Dry Today – Storms Out West This Afternoon/Evening



Risk For Severe Weather Is Low

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Updated: 8/11/2019 4:03 AM Central

Published on: 08/11/2019 at 12:06AM

While clouds will be a little difficult to get out of the area, we anticipate dry conditions aside from some storms moving into central South Dakota late this afternoon/evening. Overnight we could continue to see storms move across the area, and into Monday as well.

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Today in Weather History

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

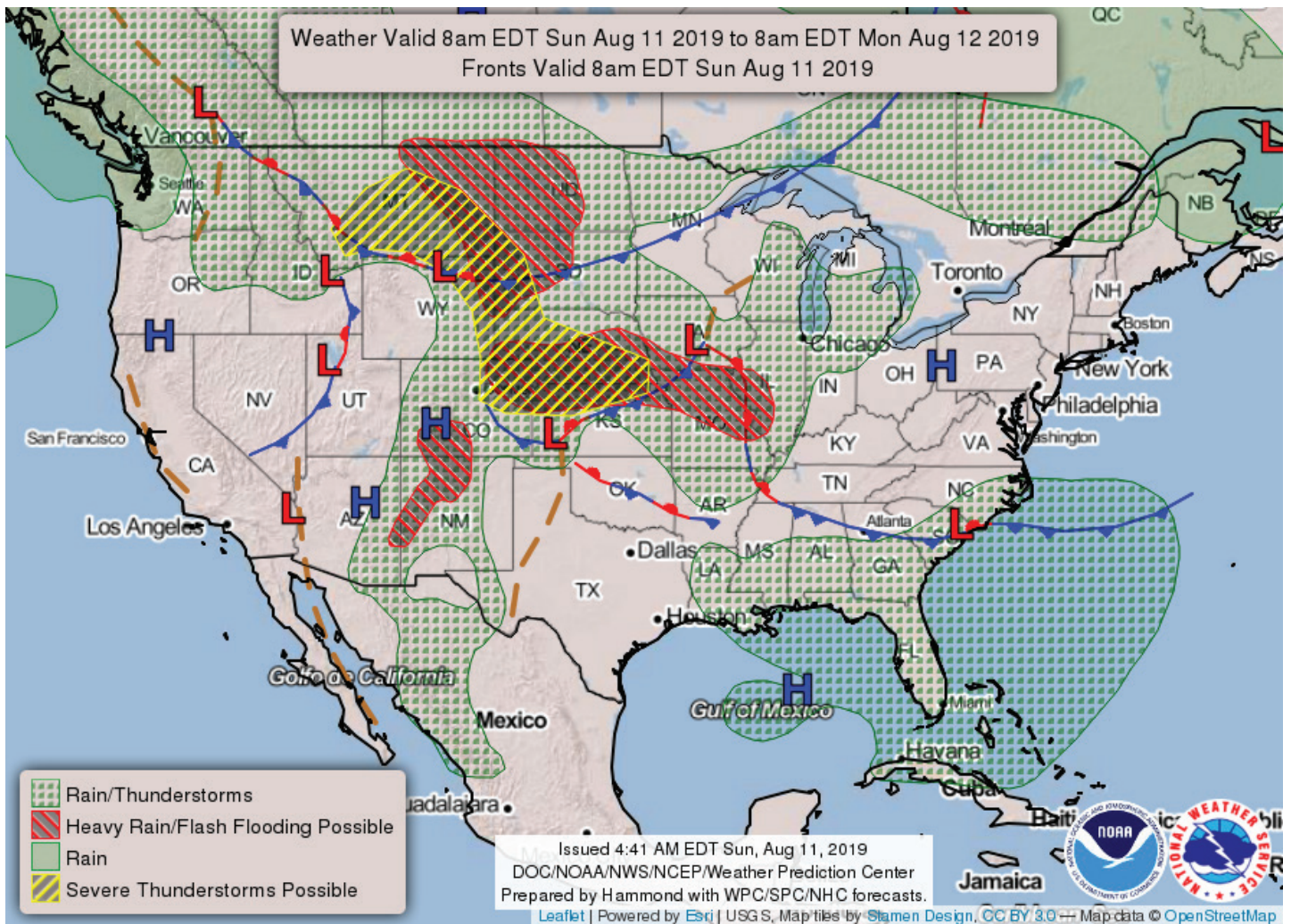
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Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 73 °F at 6:00 PM
Low Temp: 64 °F at 4:27 AM
Wind: 11 mph at 3:22 AM
Day Rain: 0.47

Record High: 103° in 1988
Record Low: 34° in 1902
Average High: 83°F
Average Low: 58°F
Average Precip in Aug.: 0.79
Precip to date in Aug.: 1.55
Average Precip to date: 14.65
Precip Year to Date: 18.14
Sunset Tonight: 8:48 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:31 a.m.



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PREPARING WISELY

All through college, it was my desire to be on the debate team. I would sit quietly, listen carefully and watch intently as one team would present their side of an issue. When finished, the other team would take issue with their position and attempt to dismantle their carefully stated, but opposing view. Although I saw the debate, I did not see the preparation. Both teams came to the contest thoroughly and carefully prepared. Both teams expected to win. Both teams were mentally alert and emotionally prepared. Both teams were ready to do battle with words, ideas, thoughts, and illustrations.

We saw the teams debate but we never saw what the teams did to prepare for the debate. Their preparation, however, is described by a proverb of Solomon: As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

Knives are first shaped and fashioned for their intended use. They are crafted for a special or specific purpose and then polished to give them beauty and elegance. The handle must fit properly and be smoothed to perfection for a sure grip. But the final step in the process is when they are sharpened by the knife-maker. The work is completed when one metal is used against another metal to sharpen the blade to perfection and precision.

No one knows everything about anything. We all have mental gaps and space in our brains for more knowledge, wisdom, and insight. Though the Bible is the best place to prepare for life, we must use other resources - books and friends - to sharpen our minds.

Prayer: Father, may we bring others into our lives who know You and who will challenge our thoughts and ideas so that we will become our best to do battle for You. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

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2019 Groton SD Community Events

- 08/07/2019 Storybook Land Theatre Performace at Granary Rural Cultural Center
- 09/07/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 09/08/2019 Sunflower Classic at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 09/12/2019 St. John's Lutheran Luncheon
- 09/20/2019 Presbyterian Luncheon
- 09/28/2019 Granary Living History Fall Festival
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/31/2019 Trunk or Treat/Halloween on Main (Halloween)
- 11/09/2019 Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/07/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Holiday Party
- 12/07/2019 Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services
- Bingo: every Wednesday at the Legion Post #39

2020 Groton SD Community Events

- 01/26/2020 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)
- 04/04/2020 Groton Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 04/25/2020 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 05/02/2020 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 06/8-10/2020 St. John's VBS
- 07/04/2020 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
Groton Hosting State B American Legion Baseball Tournament
- 07/12/2020 Summer Fest/Car Show
- 09/12/2020 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/10/2020 Pumpkin Fest

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News from the  Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash

05-10-12-15-22

(five, ten, twelve, fifteen, twenty-two)

Estimated jackpot: \$62,000

Lotto America

03-15-26-43-46, Star Ball: 2, ASB: 2

(three, fifteen, twenty-six, forty-three, forty-six; Star Ball: two; ASB: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$2.4 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$65 million

Powerball

35-41-44-58-59, Powerball: 3, Power Play: 3

(thirty-five, forty-one, forty-four, fifty-eight, fifty-nine; Powerball: three; Power Play: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$128 million

Report: Rapid City airport dumped sewage without permission

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — An official of Rapid City Regional Airport acknowledges the airport recently dumped sewage without permission from South Dakota regulators.

The Rapid City Journal reports the airport dumped about 74,100 gallons of sewage on the northern end of its property this past week without permission of the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Airport executive director Patrick Dame said Friday the airport contacted the department before it dumped the sewage but that the agency did not make it clear a permit was necessary. He says the airport has been looking at ways to remove excess wastewater that accumulated in its septic lagoon due to the combination of heavy rain and increased passenger traffic this summer.

A DENR spokesman says the agency is trying to determine if any contamination has occurred.

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

Ex-Crow Creek tribal chair pleads not guilty to embezzlement

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A former chairman of the Crow Creek Sioux has pleaded not guilty to embezzling from the South Dakota tribe.

Forty-five-year-old Brandon Sazue of Chamberlain entered his plea in federal court Friday. U.S. Attorney Ron Parsons says Sazue was indicted earlier in the week and has been released on bond.

Sazue is accused along with others of embezzling more than \$1,000 in tribal funds from 2014 through February of this year.

The others, including former tribal chairwoman Roxanne Lynette Sazue, also have pleaded not guilty. A trial date is set for Sept. 10.

The case resulted from the Guardians Project, a federal initiative bringing together law enforcement agencies to fight misuse of federal funds.

Nebraska woman is 2nd motorcyclist fatal at Sturgis rally

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota officials say a Nebraska woman is the second motorcyclist to die after a crash at the annual Sturgis motorcycle rally.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says 59-year-old Debra Milota of Omaha was westbound on U.S. 14A west of Lead on Tuesday afternoon when she failed to negotiate a curve and crossed the center line into the path of an eastbound motorcycle.

The two cycles collided. Milota died Friday in Rapid City. Authorities say she was wearing a helmet.

The other two riders suffered minor injuries. Both were wearing helmets.

On Monday, a 29-year-old man died in a motorcycle crash south of Lead. An Omaha man was found dead Tuesday of apparent carbon monoxide poisoning in his motor home at the rally, which wraps up Sunday.

Video shows Sioux Falls police tackling man

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police are reviewing a videotaped encounter that shows officers tackling a man after he made an obscene gesture and shouted obscenities at them.

The video showing the man being arrested was uploaded to YouTube. The Argus Leader reports the video prompted numerous people to call police phone lines.

Police say the incident took place at the scene of a traffic accident investigation around 6 p.m. Friday. Police said in a news release they are "aware of a videoed encounter with officers" and the matter is being reviewed.

A police shift supervisor did not respond to a call Saturday.

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

Epstein dies in the dark, but abuse investigation carries on

By JIM MUSTIAN, MICHAEL R. SISAK and MICHAEL BALSAMO undefined

NEW YORK (AP) — Jeffrey Epstein died of an apparent suicide in his jail cell, now prompting an additional federal investigation into his death along with one already examining allegations of sexual abuse and conspiracy against him.

Epstein, a wealthy financier accused of orchestrating a sex-trafficking ring and sexually abusing dozens of underage girls, was found Saturday morning unresponsive in his cell at the Metropolitan Correctional Center, according to the Federal Bureau of Prisons. He was later pronounced dead at New York Presbyterian-Lower Manhattan Hospital.

Epstein had been placed on suicide watch after he was found a little over two weeks ago with bruising on his neck, according to a person familiar with the matter who wasn't authorized to discuss it publicly. But he was taken off the watch at the end of July and therefore wasn't on it at the time of his death, the person said.

Attorney General William Barr, calling for an investigation by the FBI and the Justice Department's inspector general's office, said he was "appalled" to learn of Epstein's death while in federal custody.

"Mr. Epstein's death raises serious questions that must be answered," Barr said in a statement.

Epstein, 66, had been denied bail and faced up to 45 years behind bars on federal sex trafficking and conspiracy charges unsealed last month. He had pleaded not guilty and was awaiting trial.

The federal investigation into the allegations remains ongoing, U.S. Attorney Geoffrey Berman said. He noted in a statement Saturday that the indictment against Epstein includes a conspiracy charge, suggesting others could face charges in the case.

Epstein's death raises questions about how the Bureau of Prisons ensures the welfare of such high-profile inmates. In October, Boston gangster James "Whitey" Bulger was killed in a federal prison in West Virginia where had just been transferred.

Nebraska Sen. Ben Sasse, a Republican member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, wrote Saturday in

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a scathing letter to Barr that “heads must roll” after the incident.

“Every single person in the Justice Department — from your Main Justice headquarters staff all the way to the night-shift jailer — knew that this man was a suicide risk, and that his dark secrets couldn’t be allowed to die with him,” Sasse wrote.

Epstein’s removal from suicide watch would have been approved by both the warden of the jail and the facility’s chief psychologist, said Jack Donson, a former prison official who worked for the Bureau of Prisons for more than two decades.

On Friday, more than 2,000 pages of documents were released related to a since-settled lawsuit against Epstein’s ex-girlfriend by Virginia Giuffre, one of Epstein’s accusers. The records contain graphic allegations against Epstein, as well as the transcript of a 2016 deposition of Epstein in which he repeatedly refused to answer questions to avoid incriminating himself.

Giuffre, in an interview with The New York Times, said she’s grateful Epstein will never harm anyone again, but is angry that there would be no chance to see him answer for his conduct.

“We’ve worked so hard to get here, and he stole that from us, too,” she told the newspaper.

Sigrid McCawley, Giuffre’s attorney, said Epstein’s suicide less than 24 hours after the documents were unsealed “is no coincidence.” McCawley urged authorities to continue their investigation, focusing on Epstein associates who she said “participated and facilitated Epstein’s horrifying sex trafficking scheme.”

Epstein’s arrest drew national attention, particularly focusing on a deal that allowed Epstein to plead guilty in 2008 to soliciting a minor for prostitution in Florida and avoid more serious federal charges.

Federal prosecutors in New York reopened the probe after investigative reporting by The Miami Herald stirred outrage over that plea bargain.

His lawyers maintained that the new charges in New York were covered by the 2008 plea deal and that Epstein hadn’t had any illicit contact with underage girls since serving his 13-month sentence in Florida.

Before his legal troubles, Epstein led a life of extraordinary luxury that drew powerful people into his orbit. He socialized with princes and presidents and lived on a 100-acre private Caribbean island and one of the biggest mansions in New York.

Sisak reported from Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and Balsamo from Savannah, Georgia. Associated Press writers Curt Anderson, Jennifer Peltz, David Klepper and Larry Neumeister contributed to this report.

Muslims clash with Israeli police at Jerusalem holy site

By ILAN BEN ZION Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Muslim worshippers and Israeli police clashed Sunday at a major Jerusalem holy site during prayers marking the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Adha.

Palestinian medics said at least 14 people were wounded, one seriously, in the skirmishes with police at the site, which Muslims refer to as the Al-Aqsa mosque compound and Jews refer to as the Temple Mount. Police said at least four officers were wounded. Witnesses said at least two people were arrested.

Tens of thousands of Muslims had flocked to the site in Jerusalem’s Old City early Sunday for holiday prayers, police said. Jews are also observing on Sunday the Ninth of Av, a day of fasting and mourning for the destruction of the two Biblical temples which stood at the site in antiquity.

The site is the holiest for Jews and the third holiest for Muslims, after Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia, and has long been a flashpoint at the epicenter of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Large numbers of Palestinians had gathered at the gates of the compound early Sunday after rumors circulated that police would allow Jewish visitors to enter the site. The protesters chanted “Allahu Akbar” (God is greatest) and threw stones at police, who then charged into the compound while firing stun grenades and rubber-coated bullets.

Israeli police had initially barred entry to Jewish visitors, but reversed their decision after the clashes broke out and allowed them to enter. Several dozen entered the site under close police escort and Muslim worshippers began throwing chairs and other objects at the group. The Jewish visitors left the compound

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shortly thereafter.

Jerusalem District police commander Doron Yedid told Israeli media that the decision to allow Jewish visitors to enter the site was made "with the backing of the top political officials." Police spokesmen could not be reached for comment.

The reversal came after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's religious nationalist allies called for the site to be opened to Jewish visitors. Israelis are headed to unprecedented repeat elections next month after Netanyahu failed to form a government following April's elections.

Jews are barred from praying at the compound under a longstanding arrangement between Israel and Muslim authorities. Jewish tradition also maintains that Jews should avoid entering the holy site.

But in recent years Israeli religious nationalists have stepped up visits to the site to challenge the arrangement.

Jewish extremists have called for destroying the mosque and rebuilding the Biblical temple.

The Palestinians view such visits as provocations, and have long feared that Israel intends to take over the site or partition it. The Israeli government has repeatedly said it has no intention of changing the status quo.

Hanan Ashrawi, a senior leader in the Palestine Liberation Organization, said Israel was "fueling religious tensions in Jerusalem," adding that Israeli officials are "fully responsible for its grave consequences."

The compound is in east Jerusalem, which Israel captured in the 1967 war along with the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, territories the Palestinians seek as part of a future state. Israel views all of Jerusalem as its unified capital, while the Palestinians want east Jerusalem as the capital of their future state.

Israeli-Palestinian tensions have spiked following President Donald Trump's decision in 2017 to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and move the U.S. Embassy there. The Israeli-Palestinian peace process has been moribund for at least a decade, and the Palestinians have cut ties with the Trump administration over what they see as its unfair bias toward Israel.

In a separate incident on Sunday, Israeli troops killed a Palestinian gunman after he opened fire on them from across the perimeter fence around the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli military said an "armed terrorist" approached the frontier early Sunday and opened fire toward troops on the other side, who responded by shooting at the attacker. The army said a tank also targeted a nearby military post operated by the Islamic militant group Hamas.

The Palestinian Health Ministry in Gaza identified the deceased as 26-year-old Marwan Nasser. It was not clear if he was a member of an armed group, and no one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

On Saturday, Israeli troops killed four Palestinian militants who the army said had tried to carry out a cross-border attack. Hamas, which has ruled Gaza since 2007, said the attack was an "individual act" carried out by youths frustrated at the Israeli-Egyptian blockade on Gaza and was not planned by the group.

___ Associated Press writer Fares Akram in Gaza City, Gaza Strip contributed.



Israeli police clashes with Palestinian worshippers at al-Aqsa mosque compound in Jerusalem, Sunday, Aug 11, 2019. Clashes have erupted between Muslim worshippers and Israeli police at a major Jerusalem holy site during prayers marking the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Adha. (AP Photo/

Mahmoud Illean)

N. Korea says Kim supervised weapons tests, criticizes Seoul

By KIM TONG-HYUNG

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea said Sunday leader Kim Jong Un supervised test firings of an unspecified new weapons system, which extended a streak of launches that are seen as an attempt to build leverage ahead of negotiations with the United States while driving a wedge between Washington and Seoul.

The report by North Korean state media came hours after President Donald Trump said North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has expressed desire to meet again to start nuclear negotiations after the end of ongoing joint U.S.-South Korea military exercises, and apologized for the flurry of recent short-range ballistic launches that rattled U.S. allies in the region.

North Korea's Foreign Ministry in a separate statement on Sunday blasted South Korea for continuing to host military drills with the United States, and said that its future dialogue will be held strictly between Pyongyang and Washington and not between the Koreas.

South Korea's military said the North on Saturday fired what appeared to be two short-range ballistic missiles. It said they flew about 400 kilometers (248 miles) before landing in waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

Kim expressed "great satisfaction" over the launches, which Pyongyang's Korean Central News Agency said verified that the new weapon system performs as designed. The official Rodong Sinmun newspaper published several photos that showed Kim watching from an observation post and what appeared to be a missile soaring from a mobile launcher.

The agency didn't specify whether the weapons were ballistic missiles or rocket artillery, but said they were developed to suit the North's "terrain condition" and provide "advantageous tactical character different from existing weapons systems."

Kim Dong-yub, an analyst at Seoul's Institute for Far Eastern Studies, said that North Korea's photos and South Korea's flight data of the launches suggest that the North tested a new weapon system that is different from the short-range ballistic missiles it repeatedly fired in recent weeks.

South Korea's military had described the previous missiles as similar to the Russian-made Iskander, a solid-fuel, nuclear-capable missile that is highly maneuverable and travels on low trajectories, improving its chances of evading missile defense systems.



In this Saturday, Aug. 10, 2019, photo provided by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, sitting, watches test firings of short-range weapons at an undisclosed location in North Korea. North Korea on Saturday extended a recent streak of weapons displays by firing what appeared to be two short-range ballistic missiles into the sea, according to South Korea's military. The content of this image is as provided and cannot be independently verified. Korean language watermark on image as provided by source reads: "KCNA" which is the abbreviation for Korean Central News Agency. (Korean Central News Agency/Korea News Service via AP)

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North Korea's fifth round of weapons launches in less than three weeks was seen as a protest of the slow pace of nuclear negotiations and continuance of the U.S.-South Korea military drills the North claims are an invasion rehearsal.

Experts say Trump's downplaying of the North's launches allowed the country more room to intensify its testing activity while it seeks to build leverage ahead of a possible resumption of negotiations. Talks have stalled since the collapse of Trump's second summit with Kim in Vietnam in February over disagreements on exchanging sanctions relief and disarmament.

By launching a slew of weapons that directly threaten South Korea but not the U.S. mainland or its Pacific territories, North Korea also appears to be dialing up pressure on Seoul to make stronger efforts to coax major concessions from the United States on Pyongyang's behalf.

North Korea in recent months has ignored the South's calls for dialogue while demanding that Seoul turn away from Washington and resume inter-Korean economic cooperation held back by U.S.-led sanctions against the North.

In a statement released through KCNA, Kwon Jong Gun, director of the U.S. affairs department at Pyongyang's Foreign Ministry, criticized South Korea for raising concerns over the North's recent testing activity while continuing the drills with the U.S.

The North also on Saturday lashed out at South Korea's recent acquisition of U.S.-made F-35 fighter jets and other plans to expand its military capabilities, saying that the South will gain "nothing but destruction" if it pursues a contest of strength with the North.

"Though we are to enter into a dialogue in future as the currents flow in favor of dialogue, (the South) had better keep in mind that this dialogue would be held strictly between the D.P.R.K and the U.S., not between the North and the South," Kwon said, referring to North Korea by its formal name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"Given that the military exercise clearly puts us as an enemy in its concept, (the South) should think that an inter-Korean contact itself will be difficult to be made unless they put an end to such a military exercise or before they make a plausible excuse or an explanation in a sincere manner for conducting the military exercise," Kwon said.

South Korea has said North Korea's recent launches could hurt efforts to stabilize peace on the Korean Peninsula and called for the North to uphold an agreement to form a joint military committee to discuss reducing tensions, which was part of an inter-Korean military agreement reached last year.

Hours after the North's latest launches, Trump tweeted that Kim spent much of his letter complaining about "the ridiculous and expensive" U.S.-South Korea military exercises. He said that Kim offered him "a small apology" for the flurry of missile tests, and that he assured him they would stop when the exercises end.

India eases restrictions in Kashmir for Islamic festival

ASHOK SHARMA Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — Authorities in Indian-administered Kashmir said that they eased restrictions Sunday in most parts of Srinagar, the main city, ahead of an Islamic festival following India's decision to strip the region of its constitutional autonomy.

Magistrate Shahid Choudhary in a tweet said that more than 250 ATMs have been made functional and bank branches opened for people to withdraw money ahead of Monday's Eid al-Adha festival.

There was no immediate independent confirmation of reports by authorities that people were visiting shopping areas for festival purchases as all communications and the internet remain cut off for a seventh day.

Authorities appear to be acting with utmost caution because of a fear of a backlash from residents who have been forced to stay indoors since last Monday.

India's main opposition Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said there are reports of

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violence and "people dying" in the region. Talking to reporters in New Delhi, Gandhi said "things are going very wrong there," and called for the Indian government to make clear what is happening.

Authorities in Srinagar said there have been instances of stone pelting by protesters but no gun firing by security forces in the past six days. Television images showed movement of cars and people in some parts of Kashmir.

State-run All India Radio quoted the region's top bureaucrat, Chief Secretary B.V.R. Subrahmanyam, as saying that people were coming out of their homes for Eid shopping. He also said that Srinagar and other towns witnessed good road traffic on Saturday.

India's junior Home Minister G. Kishan Reddy said he expected the situation in Kashmir to become "fully peaceful" in 10-15 days.

He said communication facilities would be restored in phases. "We have only taken precautionary measures with the view that even small incidents should not occur when a major decision has been made," the Press Trust of India news agency quoted him as saying.

Reddy said there had been occasions in the past when a curfew had continued for weeks at a stretch, but there was no such expectation now.

On Thursday, Modi assured the people of Jammu and Kashmir that normalcy would gradually return and that the government was ensuring that the current restrictions do not dampen the Islamic festival.

New Delhi rushed tens of thousands of additional soldiers to one of the world's most militarized regions to prevent unrest and protests after Modi's Hindu nationalist-led government announced revoking of Kashmir's special constitutional status and downgrading its statehood. Modi said the move was necessary to free the region of "terrorism and separatism."

On Saturday, Pakistan said that with the support of China, it will take up India's unilateral actions in Kashmir with the U.N. Security Council and may approach the U.N. Human Rights Commission over what it says is the "genocide" of the Kashmiri people.

Kashmir is claimed in its entirety by both India and Pakistan and is divided between the archrivals. Rebels have been fighting New Delhi's rule for decades in the Indian-controlled portion, and most Kashmiri residents want either independence or a merger with Pakistan.

"When a demographic change is made through force, it's called genocide, and you are moving toward genocide," Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi told reporters in Islamabad after returning from Beijing.

With India moving to erase the constitutional provision that prohibited outsiders from buying property in Jammu and Kashmir state, Indians from the rest of the country can now purchase real estate and apply



Indian paramilitary soldiers guard as a Kashmiri livestock seller crosses a street ahead of Eid al Adha during a security lock down in Srinagar, Indian controlled Kashmir, Saturday, Aug. 10, 2019. Authorities enforcing a strict curfew in Indian-administered Kashmir say they will bring in trucks of essential supplies for the Islamic festival next week, as the divided Himalayan region remained in a lockdown following India's decision to strip it of its constitutional autonomy. (AP Photo/Mukhtar Khan)

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for government jobs there. Some fear this may lead to a demographic and cultural change in the Muslim-majority region.

Qureshi also said that while Pakistan is not planning to take any military action, it is ready to counter any potential aggression by India.

The Indian ambassador to Pakistan, Ajay Bisaria, left Islamabad on Saturday night after Pakistan retaliated against India by lowering diplomatic ties. Fourteen other Indian mission officials and their families also left Islamabad, airport official Mohammad Wasim Ahmed said.

A regional political party from Kashmir petitioned the Supreme Court to strike down the government's move to scrap the region's special status and divide the state into two federal territories. An opposition Congress party activist has already filed a petition challenging the communications blockade and the detentions of Kashmiri leaders.

In Carter's home county, voting rights case tests democracy

By BLAKE PATERSON Associated Press

PLAINS, Ga. (AP) — Former President Jimmy Carter's hometown makes a point of celebrating democracy. American flags wave outside stores selling old campaign buttons and vintage political posters, and tourists mill around the train depot that served as his 1976 campaign headquarters.

The rural Georgia county where tiny Plains is located is also the site of historic struggles for civil rights, and it could continue to offer lessons on the costly conflicts that may lie ahead nationwide when states redraw voting district lines after the 2020 Census.

Sumter County is embroiled in a court fight over voting rights and redistricting that challenges the composition and credibility of its school board.

In the midst of it is Kelvin Pless, whose election to the board nearly a decade ago shifted control toward an African American majority. Before then, a white-majority board had governed the district where black students constitute an overwhelming majority. It also unleashed what Pless said felt like a "race war" that returned control to whites after state lawmakers intervened.

"I don't like to use the term too much, but I think it was borne out of racism," said Pless. "It was almost like a very mild version of terrorism."

The board's white chairman, Michael Busman, said the election changes that reconstituted the board had "nothing to do with race." Instead, he called it the simplest path to shrinking the nine-member body, which he said was too large and costly for the small school district.

With a population estimated around 30,000, Sumter County is about 53% black and 43% white. Like many other Southern communities, it was run by whites until courts overturned Jim Crow laws and ordered



FILE-In this Sunday, Aug. 23, 2015 file photo, the sun rises behind Main Street in the hometown of former President Jimmy Carter in Plains, Ga. Former President Jimmy Carter's home county in rural south Georgia has been embroiled in a costly voting rights lawsuit that experts say could soon be replicated nationwide.(AP Photo/David Goldman)

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desegregation during the civil rights era.

The county saw large-scale civil rights demonstrations in the 1960s and drew national attention for imprisoning dozens of African American girls in a squalid stockade for months and charging four other activists with treason. The first students to integrate Sumter's schools faced violent white mobs. Their buses were pummeled by rocks and eggs, their notebooks ripped to pieces.

Today, the district — with 4,400 students — is 72% black, 14% white and 12% Hispanic. Many white families send children to private or public schools in neighboring counties with larger white populations.

"I come back now, and I see things virtually unchanged. It's a city that's still polarized, a school system that remains just as segregated today as it was decades ago," said Sam Mahone, a veteran of the county's civil rights movement.

Before entering state and national politics, Carter served on the school board in the 1950s.

Once a majority-black board was seated in 2011, Pless said agitated white residents crammed meetings in what felt "like a lynch mob." The local press disparaged the new 6-3 African American majority as the "gang of six," he said. At least two African American board members during that time say their employers received threatening letters, advocating they be fired.

Then the state legislature downsized the board, redrew its election districts and added two at-large seats. The motivation for the change remains contested, but the effect was clear. The board shifted to a 5-2 white majority, prompting the lawsuit that the American Civil Liberties Union later joined.

Two of the last four board elections were called off by judges, and two were held under the new plan, which a federal district judge ruled last year violated the 1965 Voting Rights Act by "diluting" African American voting strength. The judge also said decades of discrimination had hindered the black community's ability to exercise electoral power in at-large elections.

Under the Voting Rights Act, the county's plan previously would have been cleared in advance by the Justice Department to guarantee it didn't harm minorities. That process, called "preclearance," was effectively dismantled by a 2013 Supreme Court decision. That allowed Georgia to implement the plan without oversight.

With no more federal preclearance required, expensive court fights like the one in Carter's county could erupt nationwide over post-2020 Census redistricting.

"It's taken four years and probably millions of dollars just to litigate in this one tiny jurisdiction," said Leah Aden, deputy director of litigation at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. "It's very concerning that there might be a need for many more of these types of cases across thousands of jurisdictions across our country in the coming years."

During such lawsuits, officials who may have been elected through an unfair process remain in office. In Sumter County, three of the seven sitting school board members are holdovers, their terms already expired. Still, they're making decisions about hiring district personnel and building a new \$48 million high school.

"It's not like there aren't remaining tools to combat discrimination, but they keep the inertia on the side of those who would do harm," said Justin Levitt, a professor at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles.

Some African American leaders in Sumter County said they're disappointed that Carter, who's traveled worldwide to promote democracy, hasn't weighed in on the case unfolding in his hometown.

"He's all around the world talking about people having bad elections and he's got one right in his backyard and he hasn't opened his mouth," said John Marshall, publisher of the county's African American newspaper.

A representative of Carter didn't respond to emails and calls requesting comment.

The county argues on appeal that African American voters have the opportunity to elect candidates to at-large districts, noting the county voted for Democrat Stacey Abrams — an African American woman who narrowly lost 2018's high-profile gubernatorial race.

For now, the Sumter County case is back before a U.S. District Court judge who's overseeing the drawing of new districts for the 2020 election. Progress is slow.

"There's no end in sight," said attorney Bryan Sells, who represents plaintiff Mathis Kearsie Wright Jr., the local NAACP president.

Alice Green, one of the two remaining African American board members, said she hopes the litigation ends soon.

"The community is divided, and the school system is only as good as the community," she said.

New AMC drama follows Japanese American internment horror

By RUSSELL CONTRERAS and TERRY TANG Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — The second season of an AMC-TV drama series follows the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II and a number of bizarre deaths haunting a community.

"The Terror: Infamy" is set to premiere Monday and stars Derek Mio and original "Star Trek" cast member George Takei as they navigate the forced internment and supernatural spirits that surround them.

It's the first television series depicting the internment of Japanese Americans on such a massive scale and camps were recreated with detail to illustrate the conditions and racism internees faced.

The show's new season is part of the Ridley Scott-produced anthology series.

Mio, who is fourth-generation Japanese American and plays Chester Nakayama, said he liked the idea of adding a supernatural element to a historical event such as Japanese American internment. He says he had relatives who lived on Terminal Island outside of Los Angeles and were taken to camps.

Residents there were some of the first forced into internment camps after the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. "If you add the supernatural element, it's a little more accessible and now it's like a mainstream subject and it can open up more discussion about what really happened and what's going on right now," Mio said.

It was a role personal to him as well. "It's not just another kind of acting job for me," Mio said. "I really do feel a responsibility to tell this story that my ancestors actually went through."

From 1942 to 1945, more than 110,000 Japanese Americans were ordered to camps in California, Colorado, Idaho, Arizona, Wyoming, Utah, Texas, Arkansas, New Mexico and other sites.

Executive Order 9066, signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, forced Japanese Americans, regardless of loyalty or citizenship, to leave the West Coast and other areas for the camps surrounded by barbed wire and military police. Half of those detainees were children.

Takei, who was interned in a camp as a child, said he was impressed with the show's research into recreating the camp.

"The barracks reminded me again - mentally, I was able to go back to my childhood. That's exactly the way it was," Takei said. "So for me, it was both fulfilling to raise the awareness to this extent of the terror. But also to make the storytelling that much more compelling."

The series also involves others who are connected to historic World War II events. Josef Kubota Wladyka,



This undated image released by AMC shows a scene from "The Terror: Infamy." The second season of an AMC-TV drama series scheduled to premiere Monday, Aug. 12, 2019, follows the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II and a number of bizarre deaths haunting a Japanese American community. (Ed Araquel/AMC via AP)

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one of the show's directors, had a grandfather who was in Hiroshima when the atomic bomb dropped and managed to survive.

Max Borenstein, one of the show's executive producers who lost relatives at the Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland, said the show's horror genre still doesn't compare to the horror of the internment camp.

"It was important to do the research, the lived reality that people faced," Borenstein said. "The fact of taking people who are citizens of the country and (putting them in camps) is a great stain of our country."

Co-creator Alexander Woo, who is Chinese American, said he believes the series is especially relevant now given the debate over immigration in the U.S. and Europe.

"The struggle that immigrants go through of embracing a country that doesn't embrace you back is a story, unfortunately, that keeps repeating," Woo said. "There's going to be some people who likely didn't know of the internment. There will be some people who had relatives in camps. We have a responsibility to be accurate."

Associated Press writer Ryan Pearson contributed to this report from San Diego.

Associated Press writer Terry Tang reported from Phoenix. She is a member of The Associated Press' race and ethnicity team. Follow her on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/ttangAP>

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Today in History By The Associated Pres

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Aug. 11, the 223rd day of 2019. There are 142 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 11, 1992, the Mall of America, the nation's largest shopping-entertainment center, opened in Bloomington, Minnesota.

On this date:

In 1919, Germany's Weimar Constitution was signed by President Friedrich Ebert.

In 1949, President Harry S. Truman nominated General Omar N. Bradley to become the first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

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

In 1960, the African country of Chad became independent of France.

In 1964, the Beatles movie "A Hard Day's Night" had its U.S. premiere in New York.

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

In 1984, at the Los Angeles Olympics, American runner Mary Decker fell after colliding with South African-born British competitor Zola Budd in the 3,000-meter final; Budd finished seventh.

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

In 1993, President Bill Clinton named Army Gen. John Shalikashvili to be the new chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, succeeding the retiring Gen. Colin Powell.

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

In 2012, Republican presidential contender Mitt Romney announced his choice of Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin to be his running mate. Usain Bolt capped his perfect London Olympics by leading Jamaica to victory in a world-record 36.84 seconds in the 4x100 meters.

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In 2017, a federal judge ordered Charlottesville, Virginia, to allow a weekend rally of white nationalists and other extremists to take place at its originally planned location downtown. (Violence erupted at the rally, and a woman was killed when a man plowed his car into a group of counterprotesters.)

Ten years ago: A Myanmar court found democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi guilty of violating her house arrest by allowing an uninvited American to visit her home; she was ordered to serve an 18-month sentence under house arrest. Jeers and taunts drowned out Democratic lawmakers calling for a health care overhaul at town halls; during his own town hall in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, President Barack Obama assailed "wild misrepresentations" of his health care plan. Eunice Kennedy Shriver, sister of President John F. Kennedy and founder of the Special Olympics, died in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, at age 88.

Five years ago: Academy Award-winning actor and comedian Robin Williams, 63, died in Tiburon, California, a suicide.

One year ago: Nobel Prize-winning novelist V.S. Naipaul died at his London home at the age of 85. President Donald Trump said former White House staffer and reality-TV star Omarosa Manigault Newman was a "lowlife"; Manigault Newman had been promoting a book in which she said Trump is a racist who had used racial slurs on the set of "The Apprentice." Republican U.S. Rep. Chris Collins of New York ended his re-election bid, days after his indictment on insider trading charges.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Arlene Dahl is 94. Songwriter-producer Kenny Gamble is 76. Rock musician Jim Kale (Guess Who) is 76. Magazine columnist Marilyn Vos Savant is 73. Country singer John Conlee is 73. Singer Eric Carmen is 70. Computer scientist and Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak is 69. Wrestler-actor Hulk Hogan is 66. Singer Joe Jackson is 65. Playwright David Henry Hwang is 62. Actor Miguel A. Nunez Jr. is 60. Actress Viola Davis is 54. Actress Embeth Davidtz is 54. Actor Duane Martin is 54. Actor-host Joe Rogan is 52. Rhythm-and-blues musician Chris Dave is 51. Actress Anna Gunn is 51. Actress Ashley Jensen is 51. Actress Sophie Okonedo is 51. Rock guitarist Charlie Sexton is 51. Hip-hop artist Ali Shaheed Muhammad is 49. Actor Nigel Harman is 46. Actor Will Friedle is 43. Actor Rob Kerkovich is 40. Actress Merritt Wever is 39. Actor Chris Hemsworth is 36. Rock musician Heath Fogg (Alabama Shakes) is 35. Singer J-Boog is 34. Rapper Asher Roth is 34. Actress Alyson Stoner is 26.

Thought for Today: "You will have bad times, but they will always wake you up to the stuff you weren't paying attention to." — Robin Williams (1951-2014).