

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 1 of 58

- [2- Sunday Extras](#)
- [15- Rep. Johnson's Weekly Column](#)
- [16- Gov. Noem's Weekly Column](#)
- [17- Sen. Thune's Weekly Column](#)
- [18- Sen. Rounds' Weekly Column](#)
- [19- Rev. Snyder's Column](#)
- [20- JVT Holiday Open House Ad](#)
- [21- SD News Watch: SPECIAL REPORT: Expansion of large 'CAFO' livestock farms causing division and concern across South Dakota](#)
- [30- Coming up on GDILIVE.COM](#)
- [31- Johnson places first at LaMoure Tournament](#)
- [32- Groton Area goes 4-0 over Leola/Frederick](#)
- [33- Weather Pages](#)
- [36- Daily Devotional](#)
- [37- 2019 Groton Events](#)
- [38- News from the Associated Press](#)



Sunday, December 15, 2019

2:00pm- 6:00pm - Open Gym - Groton Area High School Arena

2:00-4:00 PM Grades JK-8 (Students must be accompanied by an adult) 4:00-6:00 PM Grades 6-12

Monday, December 16, 2019

4:15pm: Basketball: Girls 7th/8th Game vs. Warner @ Groton Area High School
7th Grade @ 4:15 ~ 8th Grade @ 5:15

4:30pm: Wrestling: Boys 7th/8th Tournament vs. Webster Area High School @ Webster Armory

Tuesday, December 17, 2019

GBB hosts Waubay-Summit

Combined 7th/8th Grade game 4:30 p.m.

Junior Varsity game at 6 p.m. followed by varsity game

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Boys Basketball hosts Redfield - JV at 6:30 p.m. followed by varsity game

Friday, December 20, 2019

Debate at Brookings High School (Brookings Bell Tournament)

End of Second Quarter

Elementary Christmas Concert at 1 p.m. at GHS Gym

School Dismisses for Christmas Vacation at 2 p.m.

Girls Basketball at Redfield

Combined 7th/8th Grade game 5 p.m.

Junior varsity game at 6:30 p.m. followed by varsity game

Saturday, December 21, 2019

Debate at Brookings High School (Brookings Bell Tournament) Brookings Bell

9:00am: Wrestling: Varsity Tournament at Madison

10:00am: Wrestling: Boys 7th/8th Tournament at Watertown HS Arena

OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

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Sunday Extras



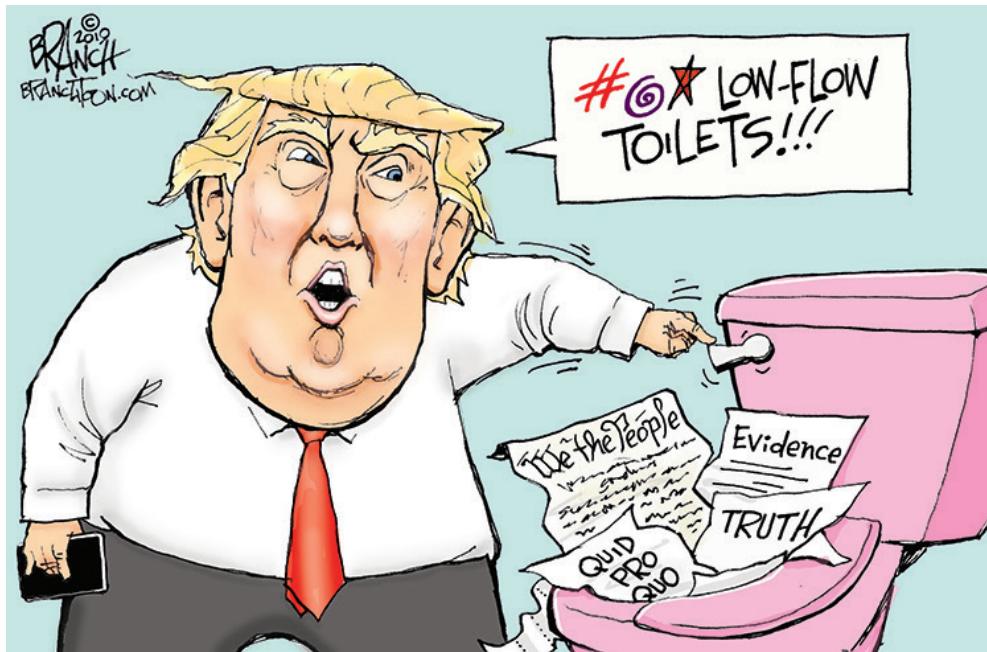
THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

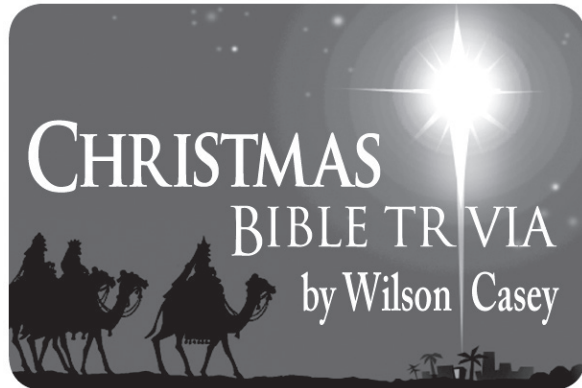


Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

LUKE 1: 26, 27

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1. Is the book of Immanuel in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. Which Old Testament prophet said the most about the birth of Christ? *Isaiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah*

3. From Matthew 1:18 when Mary became pregnant, she and Joseph were ...? *Married, Engaged, Just friends, Strangers*

4. In Luke 2:8-11, how did the shepherds learn of Christ's birth? *Magi informed, Joseph announcement, Mighty wind, Angel appearance*

5. Where did the wise men go first when they arrived in the Holy Land? *Nazareth, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron*

6. What does the Bible record as to when Jesus was born? *Late September, Dec. 25, March 17, Does not*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Isaiah; 3) Engaged; 4) Angel appearance; 5) Jerusalem; 6) Does not

Last-minute gift? "Test Your Bible Knowledge: 1,206 Questions to Sharpen Your Understanding of Scripture," by Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.

Comfort foods

Made fast
and
healthy



by Healthy Exchanges

S'more Cake Brownies

Enjoy a couple of these yummy holiday chocolate treats without guilt.

- 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- Sugar substitute to equal 3/4 cup sugar, suitable for baking
- 1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 cup fat-free yogurt
- 1/3 cup fat-free mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3/4 cup water
- 1 cup miniature marshmallows
- 6 tablespoons purchased graham cracker crumbs
- 1/4 cup mini chocolate chips

1. Heat oven to 350 F. Spray a 9-by-13-inch cake pan with butter-flavored cooking spray.

2. In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar substitute, cocoa, baking soda and baking powder. In a medium bowl, combine yogurt, mayonnaise, vanilla extract and water. Add liquid mixture to dry mixture. Mix gently just to combine.

3. Spread batter evenly into prepared cake pan. Bake for 15 minutes. Evenly sprinkle marshmallows over top of partially baked brownies. In a small bowl, combine cracker crumbs and chocolate chips. Sprinkle crumb mixture evenly over top.

4. Continue baking for 10 to 15 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Place cake pan on a wire rack and let set for at least 10 minutes. Cut into 16 brownies. Makes 8 (2 each) servings.

• Each serving equals: 170 calories, 2g fat, 4g protein, 34g carb., 352mg sodium, 2g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 1/2 Starch, 1/2 Fat

Groton Daily Independent

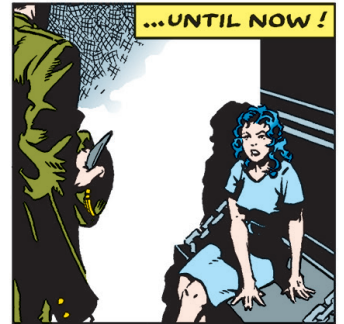
Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 4 of 58

Our Story So Far...

HAVING RETURNED TO EARTH VIA MING'S SPACE PORTAL, DALE ARDEN FINDS HERSELF A PRISONER OF A COVERT GOVERNMENT AGENCY.



SEPARATED FROM FLASH BY LIGHT YEARS, SHE FINDS HERSELF AT THE MERCY OF AN ORGANIZATION SKEPTICAL OF HER INTELLIGENCE REGARDING THE PLANET MONGO...



...UNTIL NOW!

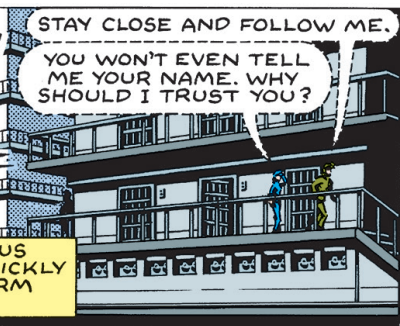
FLASH GORDON

12-8

BY JIM KEEFE

FREED BY A MYSTERIOUS SECRET AGENT, DALE QUICKLY DONS A GUARD'S UNIFORM AND EXITS HER CELL.

STAY CLOSE AND FOLLOW ME. YOU WON'T EVEN TELL ME YOUR NAME. WHY SHOULD I TRUST YOU?



BECAUSE I'M THE ONLY OPTION YOU'VE GOT.



YOU THERE, WHERE ARE YOUR PAPERS? THIS IS A RESTRICTED AREA!

WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS...



...HAVE TO PUT THIS JOKER DOWN FAST.

WAIT, THERE'S ANOTHER WAY.



I'M SORRY, OFFICER...



...IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN---HELP YOU WITH?

I'M SURE THERE IS...

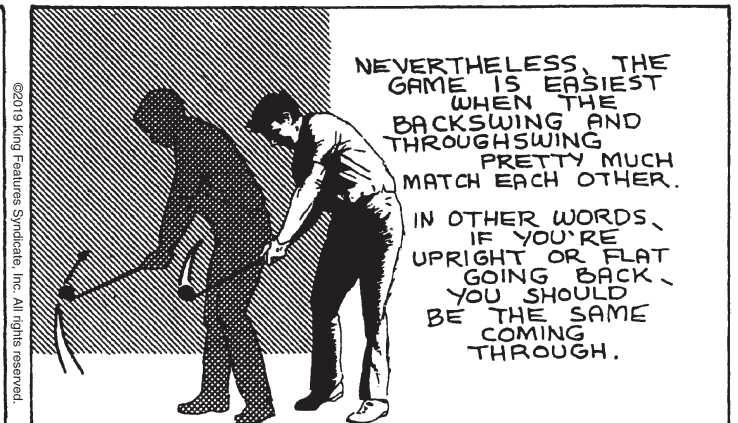
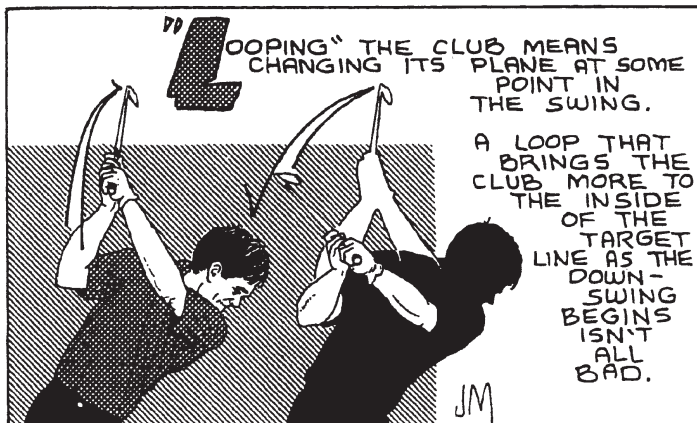


THEN LET'S GET STARTED!

WAP!

TO BE CONT'D...

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS





Risk of Surrogacy at Advanced Age

DEAR DR. ROACH: Would you please comment on common or uncommon issues that might be expected in a pregnancy at age 57? I am overall very healthy, with no issues other than slightly elevated LDL. I have not gone through menopause. I had four full-term pregnancies, the last at age 35 (after which I had my tubes tied), and no miscarriages. I asked my doctor two years ago if I would have an issue being a surrogate and was told there was no reason I couldn't be, but my current physician told me that it can be very dangerous at my age. I am concerned that the practice is just covering itself against any liability. I realize that this is my decision alone and I would not hold my doctors accountable, but I'd also like the real truth regarding any potential issues I would be likely to encounter. I appreciate your thoughts. — M.V.

ANSWER: I admire your willingness to consider being a surrogate. However, the risks of pregnancy in a 57-year-old woman are significant.

A study from the U.K. from 2016 quantified the risks pretty thoroughly; however, of the 233 women studied, only two of them were older than 57, so your risks are probably higher than the average risk for an older mother in the study (which was defined here as 48 years or older at the date of delivery).

Before I go over the risks, let me point out that one major risk for older mothers, Down syndrome, may

not apply, since the ovum (egg) you would be carrying would come from another woman and it is her age that determines the risk for the fetus. Older mothers also are more likely to carry twins (or more than two fetuses).

Compared with younger mothers, older mothers have a higher risk for: high blood pressure during pregnancy (15% vs. 5%); pre-eclampsia, also called toxemia (6% vs. 2%); diabetes during pregnancy (18% vs. 4%); hemorrhage after delivery (26% vs. 15%); Caesarean section (78% vs. 33%); preterm delivery (22% vs. 8%); and admission of the baby to the intensive care unit (3% vs. less than 1%). Miscarriage rate (after 11 weeks) in women over 55 is estimated to be about 10%, compared with 1% in younger women. Maternal death is much more likely for older women than younger; however, that risk is small, less than 2 per 1,000 in a separate Swedish study of mothers over 45.

Overall, these risks are not small. You should think through your risks before making a decision. I'm disappointed in the lack of advice you received.

DEAR DR. ROACH: The 71-year-old woman from a recent column who finds sticking her finger to test her blood glucose too painful to be willing to do it likely was never told that while sticking her finger at the tip IS painful, sticking at the side of the end of the finger is barely painful, if at all. I find myself surprised that those who stick fingers for blood at the hospital don't seem to know this either. Shame on them. — R.S.

ANSWER: There are more nerve endings at the tip of the finger, so that is more painful for most. There often is better blood flow on the sides as well. Thank you for writing with this reminder.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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1. How did Cherry Garcia get its name?
2. Which singer had the most success with "I Shot the Sheriff"?
3. Gregg Allman was married to someone for nine days before she filed for divorce. Who was she?
4. Who originally released "Tell It Like It Is"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "No matter what I do, no matter what I say, No matter how I try, I just can't turn the other way."

Answers

1. Ben & Jerry's ice cream paid a tribute to Jerry Garcia of the Grateful Dead by naming the flavor after him. Ben and Jerry got started in a converted gas station in Vermont in 1978.
2. Eric Clapton, in 1974. Bob Marley of the Wailers wrote and released the song the previous year. Marley originally wanted to write "police" but didn't dare.
3. Cher. Rumor says she married him three days after her divorce from Sonny Bono was final.
4. Aaron Neville, in 1966. Heart had a cover hit with the song in 1980.
5. "My Heart Has a Mind of Its Own," by Connie Francis in 1960. Three final versions of the song were completed, and two weeks after the song was released, Francis and the songwriters requested that a different version be used.

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Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 6 of 58

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN and BEAR IT ^{by Wagner}



"Here's a list of Santa Claus threats."

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Plant on mantel is missing. 2. Man has black. 5. Shirt zipper is gone. 6. Earmuff has added band. 3. Fireplace has more stones. 4. Mitten is moustache.

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- Movie theater hack: “When buttering up your popcorn, grab a straw and stick it down into the tub. Line up the straw with the butter dispenser, and you can distribute butter into the lower layers of your popcorn. Remove the straw and finish off with butter over the top.” — *P.A. in Florida*

- “Defog your bathroom mirror with a quick shot of shaving cream. Smear all around and wipe off with a clean, dry face cloth.” — *L.A. in Georgia*

- Use one leg of a pair of stockings over the hose of a vacuum cleaner to “dust” a bookcase. If you have small knickknacks they won’t get sucked up, but dust will. If your stocking gets clogged by a dust bunny, just wipe it off and continue.

- A toilet paper or paper towel roll slit down the side makes a handy clamp for keeping wrapping paper from unraveling.

- Go Green Tip: Most large chains have really gotten on the bandwagon with reusable shopping bags. Here’s a tip to help you have one with you at the right moment. Keep several in the trunk. Purchase one or two foldable bags. There are some that fold small enough to fit comfortably in a woman’s purse. Keep one of them hanging from your gearshift, and if you attach it to a carabiner clip, you might remember to clip it right to your belt!

- Common substitutions: Recipe call for arrowroot starch? Substitute all-purpose flour.

Send your tips to Now Here’s a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 8 of 58

PUZZLE CARD



Here's a neat stunt. Challenge a friend to take a playing card and place it flat against the wall so that it stays there without falling to the ground. Nothing such as glue or tape can be used to make it stick.

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Secret: To make it stick, stand in front of the wall, scuff your feet several times on the carpet, and then slap the card against the wall. Static electricity will cause the card to adhere to the wall.

A PUZZLE FOR THE BIRDS

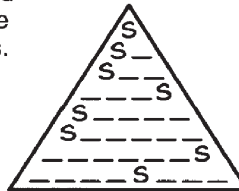
"Tweet, tweet, tweet, tweet equals tweet-tweet." This clever bird challenges you to make four 3's equal to 33!



ANSWER: $3 \times 33/3 = 3 \times 11 = 33$

THE "S" PYRAMID! As you move down the word pyramid shown here, each word contains the same letters as the word above it, plus a new letter. We give you all the S's. Here are some hints from the top down:

1. Symbol for sulfur.
2. Compass direction.
3. Group of games in tennis.
4. Part of foot.
5. To tend a fire.
6. A bulb holder.
7. Kangaroos have them.
8. Close marching order.

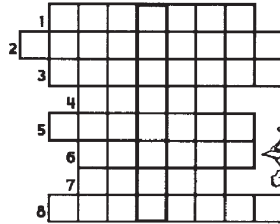


Answers: The words are: S, SE, set, toes, stoke, socket, pockets, lockstep.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

CHRISTMAS DAY FUN



Here's a "word" present for you. There's room in the grid on the left for eight words about the holiday season. Here are some hints to light the way:

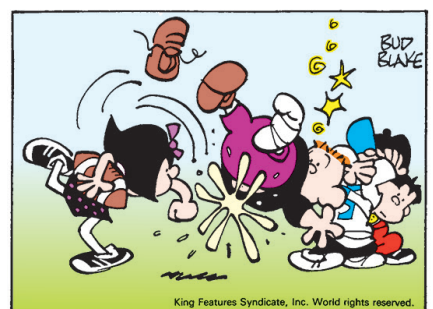
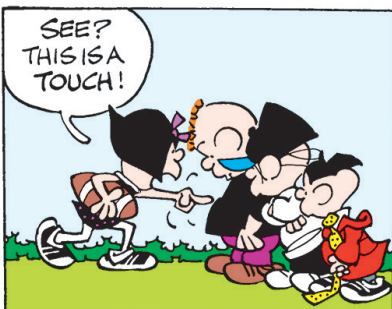
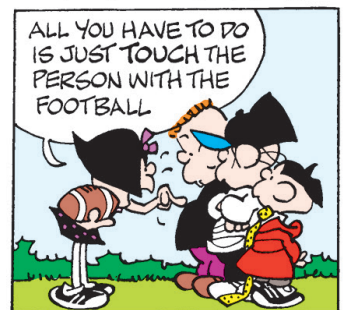
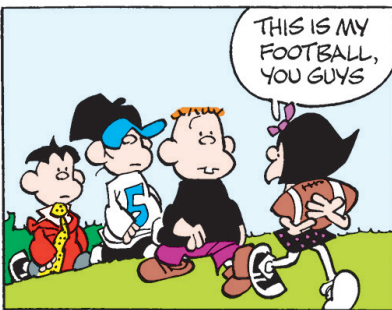
1. Great for tandem snow fun.
2. This dessert is made with many ingredients.
3. The joyful sound of Christmas.
4. Enjoyed in front of the fire.
5. Mom and Dad need plenty of help with this two-day activity.
6. A type of toy airplane made of balsa wood.
7. Found hanging on the Christmas tree.
8. This is the season for joy and _____.

There's a dark frame around one column of the grid. If you have correctly solved the puzzle, it spells out the name of an important Christmas item

The dark framed column spells "Stocking".
Answers: 1. Bobbled, 2. Fruitcake, 3. Caroling, 4. Cocoa, 5. Cooking, 6. Gilder, 7. Candy, 8. Laughter.

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



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Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 9 of 58

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Grill fill
- 6 Easily split rock
- 12 Give in
- 13 Beer gut
- 14 Fitting
- 15 "Camelot" role
- 16 First victim
- 17 Bullets and such
- 19 Big bother
- 20 Director Kazan
- 22 Unruly group
- 24 Trouble
- 27 Taj Mahal city
- 29 " — Mis-behavin'"
- 32 New Orleans neighborhood

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11
12								13				
14								15				
16					17	18				19		
			20	21				22	23			
24	25	26		27			28		29		30	31
32			33					34				
35					36					37		
		38		39		40			41			
42	43			44	45				46	47	48	49
50			51				52	53				
54								55				
56								57				

- 35 Criterion
- 36 Yanks
- 37 Sauce source
- 38 That girl
- 40 Send forth
- 42 Raw rock
- 44 Sheltered
- 46 Capri, e.g.
- 50 Swiss city
- 52 Country
- 54 TV's
Superman
portrayer
- 55 Nasal qualities
- 56 First-born
- 57 Have a hunch

DOWN

- 1 " — Your
Enthusiasm"
- 2 Reed instru-
ment
- 3 More than
enough
- 4 Whopper
- 5 Unwavering
- 6 Unwanted
email
- 7 Ricochet, in
billiards
- 8 Shack
- 9 Occupies
- 10 Gulf War mis-
sile
- 11 "Comin' —
the Rye"
- 12 Masseur's
workplace
- 18 Theater cano-
py
- 21 Fond du —,
Wis.
- 23 Scull need
- 24 Sternward
- 25 Anger
- 26 Diminished
- 28 Increases
- 30 Ultramod-
ernist
- 31 Have a go at
- 33 Ultimate

- 34 " — was say-
ing ..."
- 39 Icicles' homes
- 41 Saturn's larg-
est moon
- 42 Storybook
baddie
- 43 Stagger
- 45 Survive
- 47 Deadly septet
- 48 Playgoers'
box
- 49 Type mea-
sures
- 51 Previous
night
- 53 Shock and —

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 10 of 58

— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

	C	O	A	L	S		S	C	H	I	S	T	
S	S	U	B	M	I	T		P	A	U	N	C	H
P	P	R	O	P	E	R		A	R	T	H	U	R
A	B	E	L		A	M	M	O		A	D	O	
		E	L	I	A		M	O	B				
A	I	L		A	G	R	A		A	I	N	T	
F	R	E	N	C	H	Q	U	A	R	T	E	R	
T	E	S	T		T	U	G	S		S	O	Y	
		S	H	E		E	M	I	T				
O	R	E		A	L	E	E		I	S	L	E	
G	E	N	E	V	A		N	A	T	I	O	N	
R	E	E	V	E	S		T	W	A	N	G	S	
E	L	D	E	S	T		S	E	N	S	E		

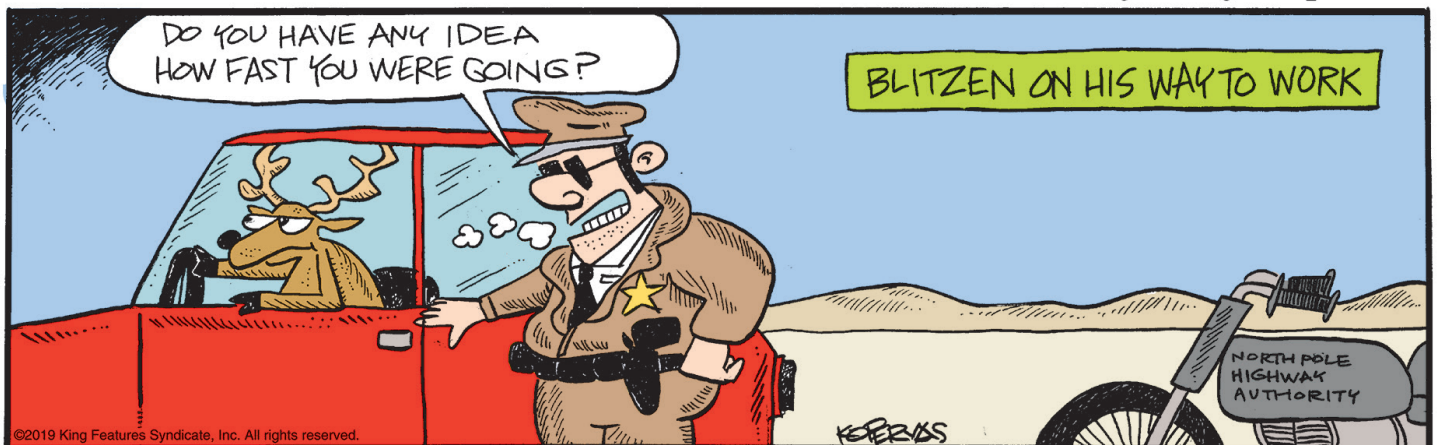
LAFF - A - DAY



"Do you mind? I just had to sit down for a minute or two."

Out on a Limb

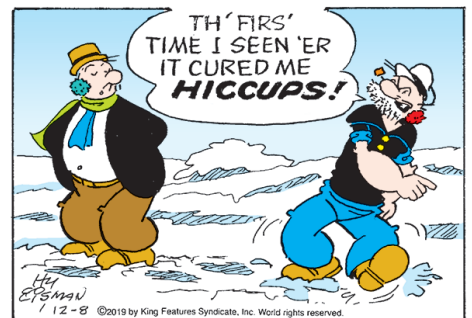
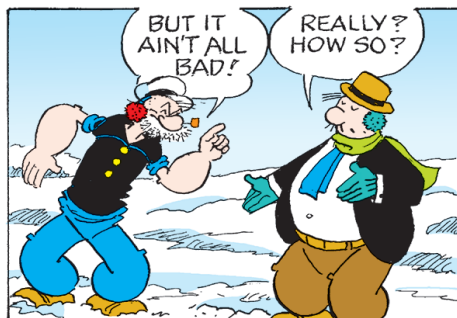
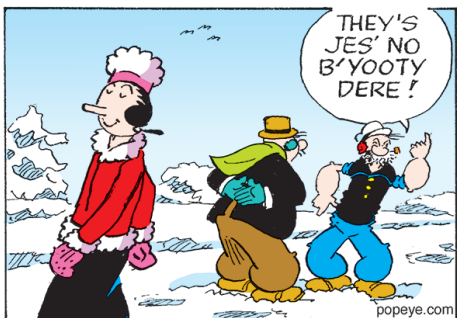
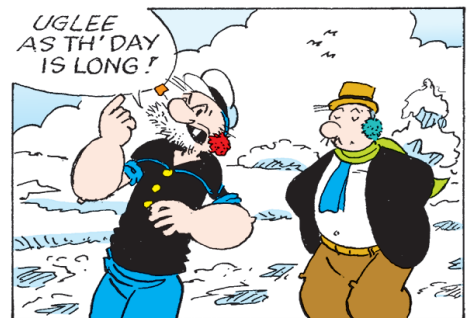
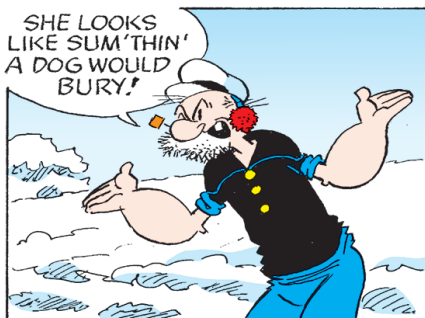
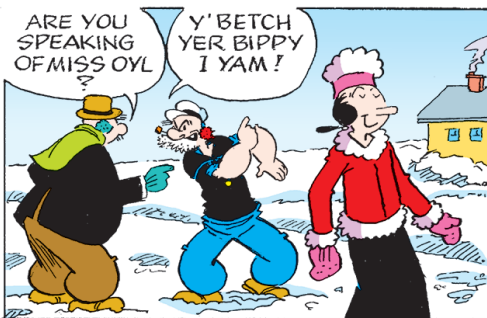
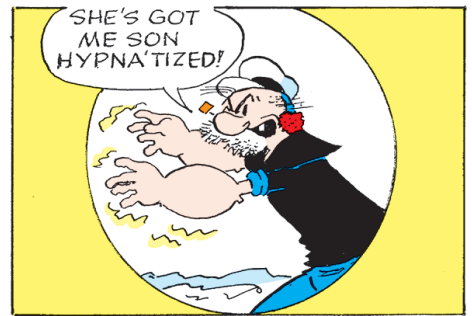
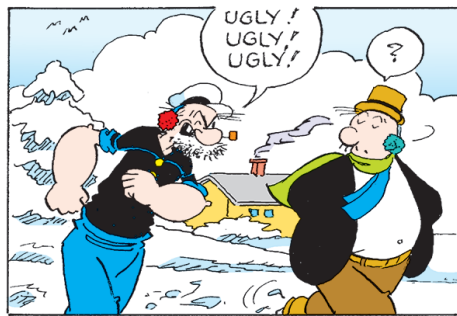
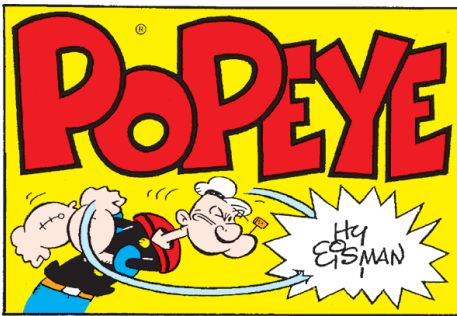
by Gary Kopervas



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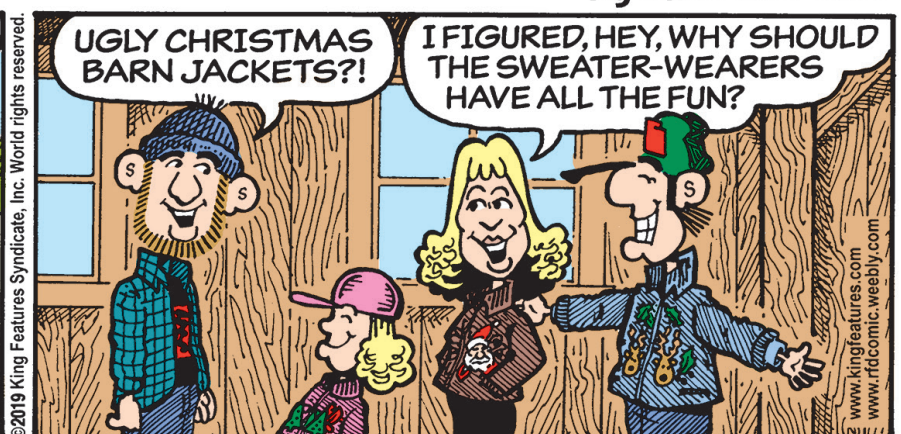
Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 11 of 58



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 12 of 58

HAL FOSTER'S BY GIANNI AND SCHULTZ
Prince Valiant

Our Story:

VAL IS RESCUED FROM THE CLUTCHES OF A GIANT MOLLUSK BY THREE HULKING, MISSHAPEN BOWMEN WHO GLIDE OUT OF THE MISTY WEED.

WITH REMARKABLE AGILITY, THE STRANGERS ARE OVER THE DERELICT'S HULL BEFORE THE PRINCE AND HIS FRIENDS CAN REACT.



THEY ARE BEASTLY AND ROUGH IN FORM AND DRESS, BUT VAL NOTES THAT THEY ARE, NONETHELESS, HUMAN. SHOWING MORE RUDE CURIOSITY THAN HOSTILITY, ONE SNIFFS AT VAL AS WOULD AN ANIMAL ...

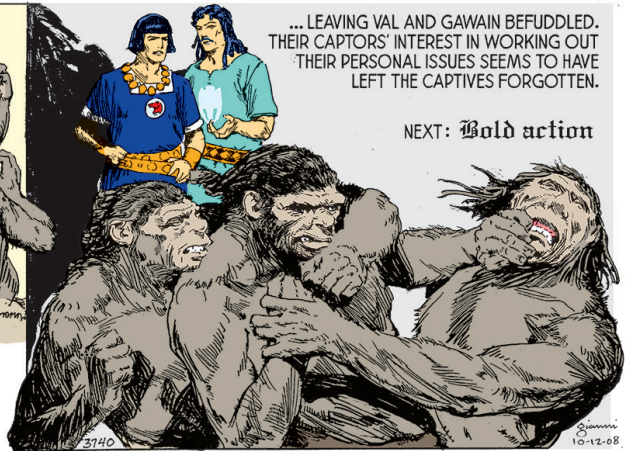


... AND IMMEDIATELY RECEIVES A SHARP ELBOW TO THE THROAT FROM HIS FELLOW, WHO DISPLAYS A JEALOUS POSSESSIVENESS TOWARD THESE FASCINATING NEW CREATURES.

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WITH MUCH ANGRY GRUNTING AND GROWLING, THE THIRD BEAST MAN JOINS THE DISAGREEMENT...

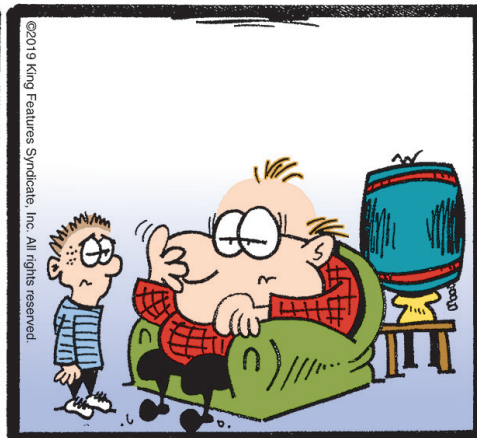


... LEAVING VAL AND GAWAIN BEFUZZLED. THEIR CAPTORS' INTEREST IN WORKING OUT THEIR PERSONAL ISSUES SEEMS TO HAVE LEFT THE CAPTIVES FORGOTTEN.

NEXT: **Bold action**

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Taking a Breather in 2020

I think we can agree that 2019 was a long, tough year. We all know why. Is it time to tune out?

Here are some thoughts on how to have a better 2020:

- Turn off the TV now and then, especially those news shows. We've been around long enough to have figured out the political stuff years ago. We don't need to continually have it thrown at us.

- If we do want to watch TV, we can flip to PBS, or maybe the History channel or Discovery. For those of us with Netflix or Amazon Prime, there are plenty of shows, more than we could ever watch. Check out travel videos: wine country in France, narrowboats on the canals in Britain or the scenery in Iceland.

- Consider loading up on jigsaw puzzles and inviting a few friends over. New puzzles can be expensive, but Goodwill has them for \$3. Put on tea or coffee, turn on some quiet music in the background and talk about anything but politics while you put puzzles together.

- Vow to have better nutrition in 2020. It doesn't have to be a huge overhaul of your diet, maybe just a few small steps. An extra piece of fruit each day, brown rice instead of white ... it can all add up to better health.

- Winter won't last forever. Eventually spring will arrive and thoughts of planting. Begin now to consider what you might grow: a few pots of flowers outside the door, vegetables in a community space. Make plans.

- We need to do something for others for our own peace of mind. Consider signing up for an afternoon each week at the food bank, or walk a small dog at the shelter once the weather warms up.

Just turn off the TV.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 14 of 58



1. When was the last time before 2018 that the Boston Red Sox were at least 40 games above .500 at some point in the season?

2. In 2018, the Angels' Mike Trout became the second major-leaguer to hit at least 30 homers and steal at least 20 bases in a season three times by the age of 26. Who else did it?

3. Name the last team before the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2017 to win a playoff game without scoring a touchdown.

4. How many consecutive years has Gonzaga's men's basketball team made the NCAA Tournament?

5. Who holds the Edmonton Oilers' franchise record for career shutouts by a goaltender?

6. In 2019, LAFC's Vela reached 20 goals in a season faster than anyone in Major League Soccer history (20 games played?) Who had been the fastest?

7. What was the biggest upset in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile race before Storm the Court won with 45-1 odds in 2019?

Answers

1. It was 1949.

2. Willie Mays.

3. Indianapolis, in 2006.

4. Twenty-one consecutive seasons entering 2019-20.

5. Tommy Salo, with 23 shutouts (1999-2004).

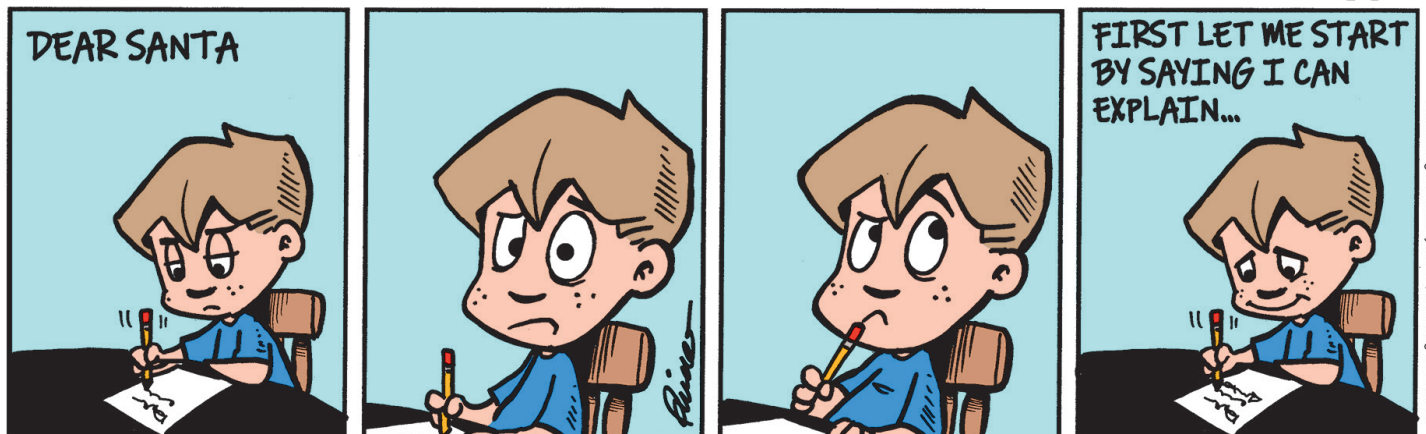
6. In 2018, Atlanta United's Josef Martinez needed 22 games to tally 20 goals.

7. Vale of York won the 2009 Juvenile at 30-1 odds.

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 15 of 58



CONGRESSMAN
DUSTY JOHNSON
Representing **SOUTH DAKOTA** at large



24 Hours

Twenty-four hours. That's how long it took for the House of Representatives to roll out massive agreements on a defense authorization package and a trade deal.

Government is a finicky thing. For months Congress has debated the United States Mexico Canada Agreement (USMCA), a trade deal that will deliver over 176,000 jobs and \$68 billion to our economy. With only a few weeks left in 2019, the Speaker left us all on our toes, but we now have a trade deal House Democrats and the administration will support. The Trump administration fought for over a year to get the USMCA across the finish line, and I'm looking forward to voting in support of it as soon as possible.

We only have a handful of legislative days left on the 2019 calendar and almost overnight, the House and Senate were able to come together on a Conference Agreement for the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

As a freshman congressman in the House minority, it's not every day you get a bill signed into law. My legislation, the Rapid Fielding Defense Capabilities and Risk Assessment Act, which will help streamline defense acquisition efforts, was included in the final version of NDAA and will be signed into law by President Trump. Our nation's military should never swing in the balance. The bipartisan NDAA agreement supports our nation's military branches, ensures survivors of deceased service members receive their benefits, and provides the biggest raise our troops have seen in over a decade.

Congress doesn't always work how it's supposed to, but this was a very good week for bipartisanship. There's still more work to be done, though.

Before the end of the year, the House and Senate must pass a budget agreement, take a vote on the USMCA agreement, and work out its issues on prescription drug pricing. There was robust debate on the House floor regarding drug pricing this week. House Democrats passed a partisan drug pricing bill which the president has said he would veto, and House Republicans introduced a bipartisan bill that encourages new innovation and has large support by the Senate. There are bipartisan drug pricing bills out there and I believe the House should focus on those.

A twenty-four-hour turnaround isn't exactly conventional, but sometimes it takes getting down to the wire to get things done. I'm glad the American people received big wins in the House this week.

Broton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 16 of 58



SOUTH DAKOTA GOVERNOR **KRISTI NOEM**



Lead Now.

South Dakota thrives when South Dakotans lead. I've said it before, and I'll say it again... Our people are our greatest resource, and it's all of our responsibility to invest in each other and step into the giftings we possess.

As governor, I want to foster opportunities that help South Dakotans lead and thrive. In December, I hosted the first-ever South Dakota LEADS Conference in Sioux Falls for students, educators, and women, where we challenged folks to say yes to opportunities that will strengthen them and help them grow.

I was thrilled to have Clint Pulver headline our event. His message was one of empowerment – about not requiring yourself to be the best **IN** the world, but the best **FOR** the world. I was thrilled to see his message resonate with the people at the conference, and I trust it inspires them to make a difference in their own communities.

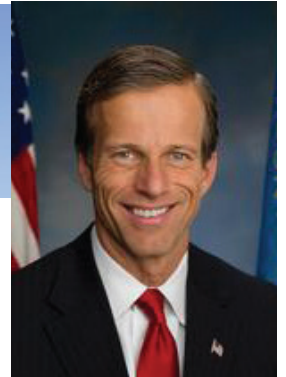
One of his quotes that stood out to me was this: "No significant loyalty will happen without significant connection." I talk a lot about mentorship and the impact it has when someone comes along side you, encourages you, and helps you learn from mistakes. Great mentors connect people to their dreams. Take some time to think about this... How can you help someone else reach their aspirations? Do you have someone helping you achieve yours?

The Set Me Free Project, a group that combats human trafficking, was another featured guest at the conference. As Garretson freshman Chloe Flahaven said, "If we don't bring awareness to [human trafficking and addiction], then no one knows they're happening." This is great insight. As we discussed the ways we can all make a difference in our communities, people gained a greater understanding of these problems and the power they have to change their corners of the world.

My hope is that people left the conference looking at themselves differently. I hope they understood more profoundly that they are created for a purpose – that they can serve as role models, change agents, and leaders.

And the same goes for all of us. Whatever season of life you find yourself in right now, make the decision to lead now. Say yes to new opportunities. Invest in the people around you. Focus on leaving the world a little better than you found it. This is how we strengthen South Dakota.

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



The Season to Rejoice

The holiday season is a special time of year. We get to rejoice in God's gift to mankind while spending time with our family and friends, enjoying traditions of holidays past and the moments and memories created with those we love. It's also a good reminder to slow down and take stock of the blessings that surround us.

For me, many of those blessings come in the form of family – my wife, daughters, sons-in-law, and grandkids; my siblings and my dad, a World War II veteran who will turn 100 years old shortly after Christmas Day. A bounty of blessings, to be sure.

The Christmas season can also be a time capsule of sorts – both in terms of what you put in and everything you can take out. For example, this time of year often takes me back to a snow-covered Jackson Avenue in Murdo, which we'd sled down as kids. I'm reminded of all those Christmas Eve nights at my grandmother's house and the unmistakable aroma of her lutefisk and lefse wafting through the air. And I can't help but smile when I think of watching Brittany and Larissa perform in church and school Christmas programs through the years.

I cherish the old memories and how they've shaped me and our family, but I also look forward to creating new ones with my kids and grandkids, who I hope will be able to remember these moments during Christmases yet to come.

Looking back on 2019, like most years, there's a lot for which I can be thankful. Aside from health, happiness, and my family, I'm always thankful to know that I live in the greatest country on the face of the earth. There is no other place on the planet where people enjoy the same freedom and opportunities that are afforded to the American people, and we should never forget that.

We also shouldn't forget that our freedom comes at a cost. A big one. I'm so thankful for the men and women in our military – for their humility, honor, courage, and sacrifice. I'm also thankful for their families. Ask any service member, and they will tell you that service is a partnership, because families are just as invested as those in uniform.

In Washington, I'm continually thankful and humbled to be able to serve South Dakota and work on the issues that are important to the state. As politically divided as the country might seem right now, believe it or not, we can still work in a bipartisan way. In fact, I'm hopeful that by the end of the year, my bipartisan bill that would help protect consumers from illegal robocallers will land on the president's desk. In a sea of disagreement, going after these scammers is one thing on which nearly everyone can agree, and for that, I hope we all can be thankful.

As the year comes to a close, I want to wish you and your family the blessings of this holiday season, and I hope you have a safe, enjoyable, and memorable time with those who you hold dear.

Broton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 18 of 58



South Dakota Well-Represented in Defense Authorization Bill

Every year for nearly 60 years, Congress has worked in a bipartisan, bicameral manner to pass the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). By the end of 2019, we will have passed the 59th NDAA in a row. This one, which authorizes funding for the military for Fiscal Year 2020, includes some major wins for South Dakota, to include Ellsworth Air Force Base and Dakota State University (DSU).

As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and chairman of our Cybersecurity Subcommittee, I worked with my colleagues to make sure a number of important provisions were included in the NDAA. This year's bill provides the resources necessary to rebuild and improve our military while also taking care of our troops and their families. It provides the largest pay raise for our troops in a decade, and includes measures to help military families with housing, childcare and moving expenses.

Our bill will fully fund the B-21 Raider bomber program, which will help keep the program on time for the B-21 to come to Ellsworth Air Force Base in the mid-2020s. In March, then-Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson announced that Ellsworth was selected to receive the training squadron and the first operational squadron of B-21 Raiders, which are the Air Force's next-generation stealth bombers. This decision solidified the important role Ellsworth will play in our national defense for years, if not generations, to come. Making sure the B-21 Raider program is fully funded and delivered on time has been, and will continue to be, a top priority for me. The NDAA also fully funds additional purchases of the F-35A Lightning II fighter jets. The more of these that are purchased in the future, the greater the possibility that we will get them assigned to South Dakota Air National Guard's 114th Fighter Wing, which is based at Joe Foss Field in Sioux Falls. The unit's current aircraft is the F-16 Block 40.

Legislation I offered to establish a cyber consortia for certain universities, including Dakota State University in Madison, was also included in the final NDAA. The consortia will provide an opportunity for schools designated as National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security Centers of Academic Excellence to lend their cybersecurity expertise to the Department of Defense. The consortia can also pave a path for college students studying cybersecurity to work on important national security issues following their graduation. Our government needs highly skilled cybersecurity employees, and students who graduate from DSU have some of the best education available for the cybersecurity workforce.

The armed forces have dealt with years of underfunding which has diminished combat readiness. Thanks to President Trump, our Armed Services Committee Chairman, Sen. Jim Inhofe, senior Defense Department leaders and our bipartisan Armed Services Committee, we are making progress to rebuild and strengthen our armed forces. The NDAA further solidifies the integral role South Dakota will continue to play in the defense of our nation for many years to come. I am proud to serve on the Senate Armed Services Committee, and be part of its efforts to make certain our troops have the tools they need to keep us safe.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 19 of 58



Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries



Where Does Santa Get His Naughty or Nice List?

This week the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage approached me with a serious question.

As far as I am concerned, life is full of questions, but coming from her, I need to be very careful. I have found out that a question with her is not merely a question. It can be a whole lot more than that with multiple layers. I am still trying to figure out the dimensions of her questions.

If I do not understand her question, my answer is going to get me into trouble. Believe me; I know what trouble is all about.

I have several cats in the neighborhood that I feed. I am not sure where they come from, but they show up at the back porch for the free treats I put out for them. This has also attracted possums, raccoons, and foxes that come for the treats I have there for them.

Most of them are somewhat antsy and try to stay out of trouble as much as possible. I can certainly relate to that.

Last week my wife purchased a brand-new rug for the back porch. It was red and looked very nice. Showing it to me, she said, "Make sure you don't spill anything on this new rug."

I must not have been the only one who heard that. Ever since then, none of my "critters" coming to my back porch has walked on that rug. They all walk around it and stare at it as though it is something very special.

I understood their dilemma since I have faced that dilemma many times myself.

However, the question posed to me by the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage was, "Are you on Santa's naughty or nice list this year?"

Hearing that question caused me some trepidation. If anybody knows the difference between naughty and nice, it has to be my wife. I assume that Good Old Santa gets advice on this from my wife. If I am on his naughty list, then I know who put me there.

I am not sure I can remember any time that I was on his nice list. There must be a story behind that, I am sure.

Precisely, what does it mean to be naughty from Santa's point of view?

For a moment, the temptation danced in my mind to ask my wife about this, but I was sure if I did, she would tell me and tell me more than I actually wanted to know.

I tried reflecting over the year to see if there was any indication that I crossed the line somewhere into the naughty area. I could not think of any, but I am sure I was overlooking something.

The thing I try to figure out is, how do I get on his nice list? Is there something I can do to get off the naughty list? I am open to all kinds of suggestions here.

It is not that I am worried about being on Santa's naughty list. I can handle that. I simply do not want to be on my wife's naughty list. That certainly is my goal in life. I will do anything within reason (if I had any reason) to not only get on her nice list but to stay there.

I must confess there are times when I lean toward the naughty. I hope Santa never sees me in that

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 20 of 58

stage of my life. More importantly, I hope my wife never sees me at that stage.

Naughty, for me, is doing something behind my wife's back. For instance: eating an Apple Fritter is best done behind my wife's back. If she sees me eating an Apple Fritter, she will remind me that it is not on my diet.

When she says, "my diet," she is referring to her diet imposed upon me. If you look at my diet, it includes Apple Fritters and a whole lot more not on hers.

Personally, I do not consider it naughty to eat according to my diet. I do not know of anything nicer than sitting down with a nice hot cup of coffee and a fresh Apple Fritter. Then, it is a lot nicer when I am not caught.

As to the question, am I on Santa's naughty or nice list, I am not quite sure. All year long, I tried to stay out of the naughty and focus on the nice. I must confess it is difficult trying to focus on being nice when naughty comes so much easier.

Another consideration is, why should somebody who only visits once a year know anything about whether I'm naughty or nice? How can their judgment be correct if they do not keep tabs on me all year long?

So, to answer my wife's question, I simply said, "I believe I'm on his nice list this year."

She simply looked at me with one of "those looks" and I knew that her belief and my belief were on different pages.

I thought about what I read in the Bible a couple of days ago. Something King Solomon said. "That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous" (Proverbs 2:20).

The important thing is not if I'm naughty or nice or if I'm on Santa's list. The important thing is to surround myself with "good men." The companions I keep are the ones that will help me walk in the path of righteousness.



SPECIAL REPORT: Expansion of large 'CAFO' livestock farms causing division and concern across South Dakota

By: Bart Pfankuch

PART 1 OF A 2-WEEK SERIES: South Dakota livestock production is undergoing a major transition with the expansion of concentrated animal feeding operations, or CAFOs, in which thousands and even millions of animals are raised in a confined space. The large livestock operations are efficient and profitable, but they can also harm human health and damage the environment. As opposition rises, state government is offering financial incentives to counties that approve new projects. Along the way, the farms are sowing heated division in many rural communities and stoking fears South Dakota may end up like CAFO-heavy Iowa, which has seen fish kills and waterway pollution. **THIS WEEK:** Overview of CAFO growth in S.D.; Health concerns follow CAFOs; New state program provides financial incentives for CAFOs. **NEXT WEEK:** A visit to three large S.D. livestock operations



The livestock industry in South Dakota — among the state's largest economic engines — is undergoing a fundamental transformation that may alter farms, farmers and rural communities for generations to come.

Despite a rising wave of grassroots opposition, South Dakota is seeing a steady increase in the development of livestock operations known as CAFOs, concentrated animal feeding operations, in which thousands and sometimes more than a million animals are bred, housed and fed in a confined space.

Supporters of CAFO development say the farms can boost the state's agricultural economy and strengthen rural communities. Opponents say the farms are causing division among rural populations and will limit opportunities for non-agricultural development in small-town South Dakota.

The state has seen a nearly 15% rise in the number of CAFOs in operation over the past decade, and the pace of development has picked up recently, with 18 new CAFOs put into production over the past 18 months.

As of October 2019, there were 452 permitted CAFOs allowed to house about 9.6 million cows, hogs, turkeys and chickens in the state, according to the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

When it comes to CAFO development, the stakes for South Dakota are high in terms of both risk and reward.

Supporters of the farms — including Gov. Kristi Noem — see strong opportunity for expansion of the livestock and related products market, which accounted for \$4.5 billion in sales in 2017, about half of the state's total agricultural economy.

A single hog-birthing facility recently approved for a rural site south of Miller in Hand County, for example, is expected to create 19 full-time jobs with an annual payroll of \$1.3 million and produce another \$1.3 million in annual feed purchases.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 22 of 58

But each new large livestock operation brings environmental and odor concerns, and for some, emotional heartache and health problems.

Lyle Reimnitz, who lives a half-mile from a Davison County hog farm permitted for 8,000 sows, said the odors and gasses from the farm prevent him from living a normal life. He and his wife suffer from headaches and respiratory problems, they rarely sit outside or hang out laundry, and they have given up on their dream of having their daughter's family move to the farm when her husband retires from the military.

"It doesn't smell every day, but in the evenings, especially when the wind goes down and the humidity is high, we stay inside and keep our windows shut," said Reimnitz. "The manure pits have gasses in them, and it gives me headaches, my eyes burn and I start coughing. My doctor said if I breathe it long enough, I will end up with respiratory problems."

Reimnitz and others fear that if livestock confinements continue to develop rapidly in South Dakota, the state may follow the path of Iowa, the national leader in large hog farms where consistent odors, waterway pollution and fish kills have resulted from heavy CAFO development.

"I don't want to see South Dakota become another Iowa," he said. "We don't need all our rivers and streams polluted. I know everybody wants cheap meat, but that comes at a terrible price for people who live here."

Each time a new CAFO project is proposed, it invariably faces objections from some neighbors and environmentalists who raise concerns over human health risks, reduction of property values, animal treatment and antibiotic use, odors, and fears of potential contamination of air, land and waterways from high volumes of animal waste.

Yet, at the same time, the state of South Dakota this year started a new effort to provide a major financial incentive to county governments that approve new CAFO projects.

Industry groups and some state officials say CAFOs provide new opportunities for existing farmers, create options for young farmers to get started and add significant financial value to the state's largest industry.

"I do think we need more ag development in South Dakota," Gov. Noem said in an interview with News Watch in September. "Anytime we can add value to the commodities and livestock that we raise here, it puts more money into South Dakota's pocket and for those producers out there that are working so hard to feed the world."

Operators and industry groups say large livestock farms are generally well run and are subject to strong permitting processes and regular inspections that don't apply to smaller farms.

Noem said she will continue to support CAFOs as long as they are properly sited and operate within state guidelines.

"I actually live right down the road from a large dairy that has thousands of head of dairy cattle, and I'm a rancher too," Noem said. "The smart thing is to make sure we're putting these in the right locations, that we're protecting our resources, and that we're protecting our environment and putting them in areas where economic development can grow. Agriculture is our number-one industry and if we can add value



Lyle Reimnitz has lived on his family farm in Davison County since he was born 67 years ago. But since a hog CAFO was built nearby in 2013, his life has changed for the worse. When odors and gasses waft in, he and his wife suffers health problems and his dream of having his daughter and her family move onto the farm is now gone.

Photo and video: Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

to those products right here, that is a win for everyone.”

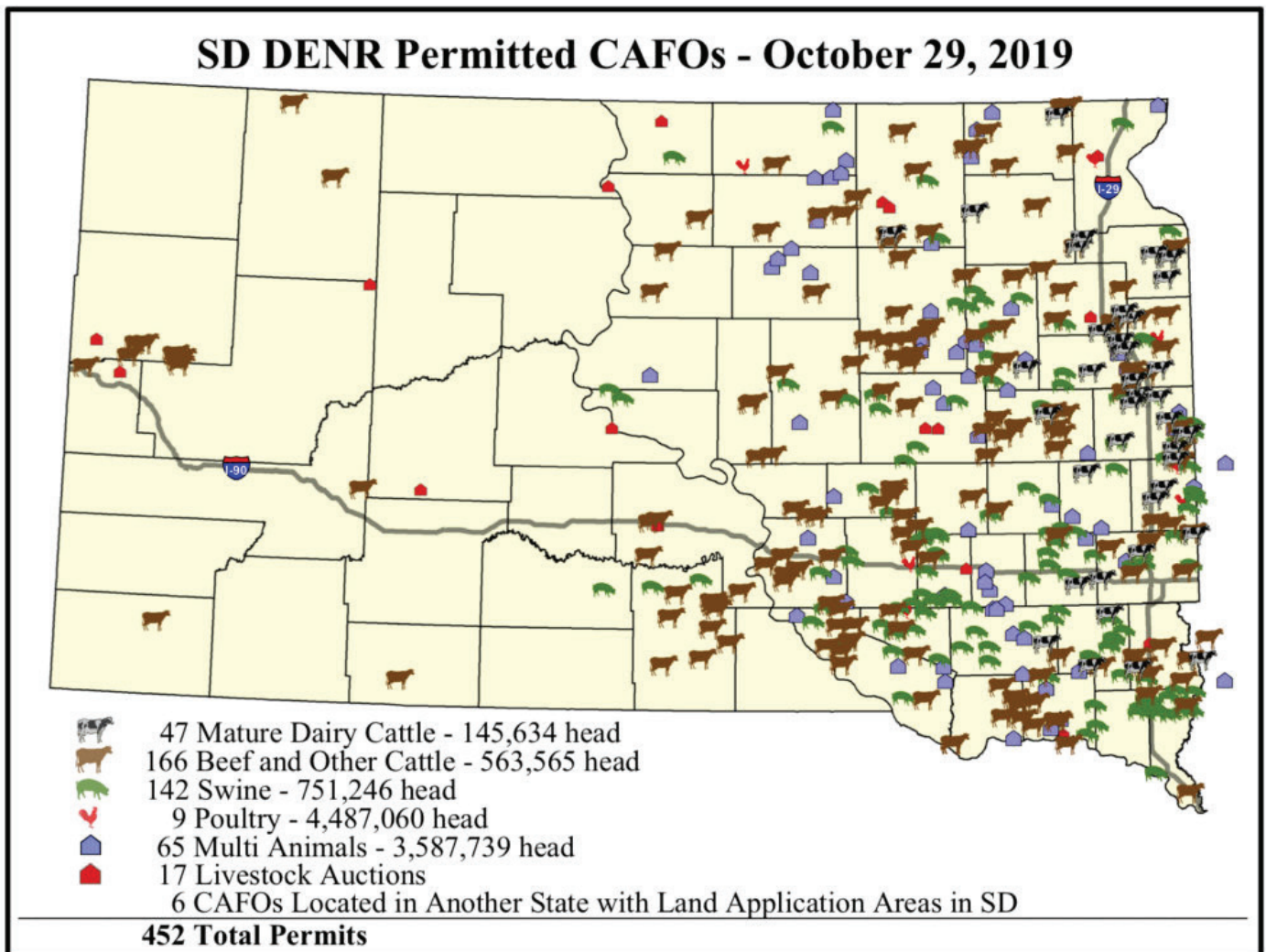
Livestock industry scaling upward

The vast majority of American livestock is now raised in CAFOs, with federal data showing that about 70% of cows, 98% of pigs and 99% of chickens and turkeys are produced in CAFOs each year.

The farms differ from traditional livestock farming in the number of animals raised and where and how they are kept.

Large CAFOs are farm operations that require a state permit and are subject to regular inspection once they reach 1,000 or more “animal units.” Based on weight, 1,000 animal units equates to either 700 dairy cows, 1,000 head of cattle, 2,500 adult hogs or 10,000 juvenile swine, 55,000 turkeys, 82,000 laying hens or 155,000 chickens.

Rather than feeding and holding animals in fenced fields, outdoor pens or open barns, the animals are



This map from the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources gives the approximate locations and types of concentrated animal feeding operations across the state. South Dakota has seen a steady increase in the number of large livestock operations in recent years, particularly in the hog and dairy cattle industries.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 24 of 58

kept en masse in large barns that often are segregated into smaller pens inside. Animals typically are not exposed to the sun or the elements, usually live on concrete slabs or metal slats, and sometimes stand almost shoulder-to-shoulder, especially as they age and grow closer to harvesting weight.

South Dakota has increasingly become a magnet for CAFO development by both existing local farmers and out-of-state firms that partner with local landowners and investors to implement well-defined systems of animal birthing, feeding and housing. South Dakota, particularly in the east, is attractive for CAFO developers owing to access to inexpensive feed, solid infrastructure, available land and close proximity to major slaughterhouses and processing plants. The state is bordered by three states that are top-five in the nation for number of large CAFOs — Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska.

CAFOs provide farmers with a way to produce a high-volume, valuable and stable crop of animals in a climate-controlled setting with low capital costs for equipment and land. The development of CAFOs is also generating new jobs, state and local tax revenues and significant spinoff spending on feed and other commodities. The ultimate result is affordable meat for a growing population of consumers in the U.S. and across the world.

Agricultural organizations say CAFOs are part of an ongoing advancement in efficiency of handling and raising animals. They also stress that the vast majority of CAFOs and other farm operations in South Dakota remain owned or operated by families.

"Agriculture has been changing for 100 years, and just like the four-row planter became the 16-row planter and then the 20-row planter, the common theme is that there's still a family that is out there doing it," said Steve Dick, director of Ag United, a Sioux Falls organization that represents farmers in several agricultural sectors in South Dakota. "And I don't know if hogs or cattle being in a confined space has changed. I think what has changed in the last 10, 15 or 20 years is the technology for the comfort of those animals."

Farmers and industry officials say that in order to make a good living in the modern agriculture industry, getting larger and creating economies of scale is one way to find success.

"The days of having a few chickens, a few milk cows, a few cows, those days have changed a lot as [livestock] farmers have specialized in one species, just as a lot of farmers have specialized in corn or soybeans," Dick said.

Supporters and producers also say the growth of large livestock operations that produce cheap meat is



Hog production is rising in South Dakota and much of the increase is taking place in concentrated animal feeding operations, or CAFOs, in which thousands of hogs are held within huge barns and not allowed to roam. These hogs are located in a CAFO at the Oak Lane Hutterite Colony in Hanson County. Click the arrow in the image to watch a montage of animals housed in South Dakota CAFOs, including turkeys, hogs, beef cattle and dairy cows. Photo and video by Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 25 of 58

being driven by consumers, not farmers.

"This is what we're getting pushed into doing; we're not driving our own market, it's demand," said Brian Alderson, a part-time cattle farmer who raises about 600 head in a CAFO-style barn in western Minnehaha County. "You tell us what you want us to do when you go to the grocery store. It's supply and demand, and the consumers make the rules, not us."

But opponents worry that aggressive development of CAFOs, particularly by out-of-state firms, will change the nature of farming and rural living in South Dakota.

"Industrial CAFOs that store manure under their operations for 365 days before spreading are a sepa-

CAFOS IN THE GREAT PLAINS

Here is a look at 2018 data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency listing the number of concentrated animal feeding operations with 1,000 or more animal units by state in the Great Plains, and the percentage of those operations that have a federal wastewater-discharge permit that provides regulations on how and where wastewater can be spread.

State	CAFOS	% with federal permit
Iowa	3,744	5%
Minnesota	1,400	79%
Nebraska	1,207	36%
South Dakota	431	100%
Montana	124	83%
North Dakota	76	0%
Wyoming	49	82%
United States	20,382	32%

CAFOs can be found in all U.S. states except Alaska, Hawaii and Rhode Island; the top five states for large CAFOs are Iowa (3,744), Minnesota (1,400), North Carolina (1,222), Nebraska (1,207) and California (1,083).



Steve Dick is the executive director of Ag United, a Sioux Falls-based organization that supports producers in several agricultural sectors. Dick said CAFOs tend to be well-run, efficient farms that are operated mostly by families and are subject to county and state permitting and regular inspections. Photo and video

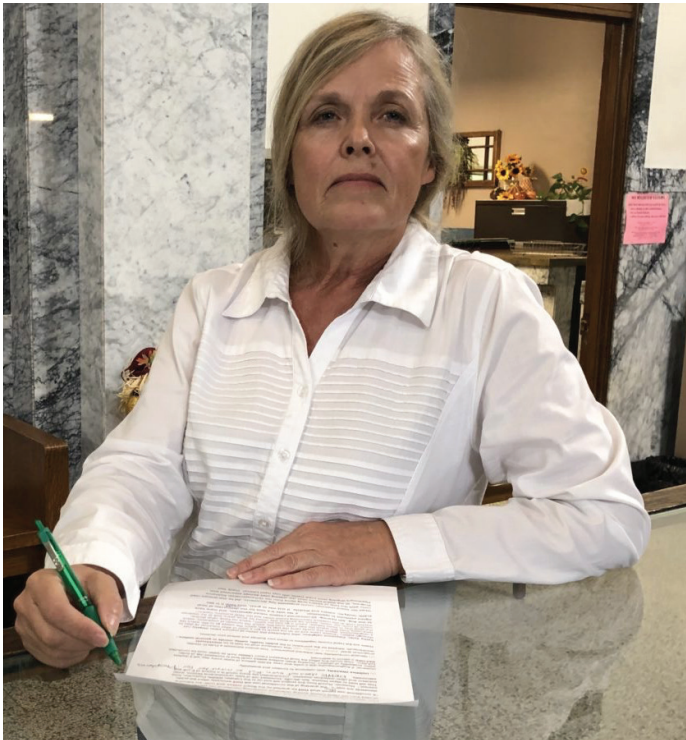
by Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

rate agricultural business than compared to grazing animals that are not confined, not under a roof, but are under the sun and the air where they can naturally distribute the manure that makes it a positive, instead of a toxic overload," said Candice Lockner, a Ree Heights rancher who fended off a proposed 50,000-head cattle CAFO in her neighborhood in 2014 and has since become a grassroots organizer against the farms. "If we want to have strong rural communities, we should have farms that have family farmers who care about the animals in a way that is environmentally sound and is regenerative and sustainable."

Research done mainly in North Carolina and Iowa has shown that large livestock operations can cause health problems in workers in the farms and to neighbors. One study found that children who live or attend school near large livestock operations suffer from higher rates of asthma. The farms emit high levels of ammonia and hydrogen sulfide that can

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 26 of 58



Candice Lockner of Ree Heights is a farmer who successfully fought against a CAFO proposed for her neighborhood and has since become an opponent of large-scale livestock operations. Lockner is against how animals are treated in CAFOs and is also concerned that the large farms harm the environment and rural communities.

Photo and video: Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

neighbors. One study found that children who live or attend school near large livestock operations suffer from higher rates of asthma. The farms emit high levels of ammonia and hydrogen sulfide that can harm humans, the research has shown.

So far, South Dakota has avoided major environmental disasters from large livestock farms.

According to data obtained through a public-records request by News Watch to the DENR, permitted CAFOs in South Dakota violated state regulations 217 times from October 2009 to August 2019 and \$207,000 in fines were levied. Violations led to farm wastes making their way into state waterways nine times during that period, but little or no environmental damage resulted, DENR officials said.

Further expansion of CAFOs likely in S.D.

Development of new large livestock farms and expansion of existing farms can result in large payments to counties that approve them under a new tax-rebate program started by the Governor's Office of Economic Development in spring 2019.

The program is not the first time the state has tried to encourage counties to approve new CAFOs. In 2013, the state Department of Agriculture embarked on a program to use Geographic Information Systems data to provide each county in the state with a report on which areas would be appropriate for new agricultural operations, specifically including CAFOs.

Just as worldwide demand has led to more mechanized livestock production, changing consumer de-

harm humans, the research has shown.

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Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 27 of 58

sires have also led to an increase in organic and sustainable farms that eschew the use of antibiotics and hormones and raise animals in a free-range setting. Recent research shows that the millennial generation, in particular, has a desire for more organic and sustainable agricultural products.



Flies hang heavy in the air above the land and roads near the National Foods egg laying plant in Aurora County and can quickly infest a vehicle that stops nearby with windows lowered. The plant is the largest CAFO in the state, permitted to house about 1.98 million chickens. Photo: Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

The website for the group EatWild, a consortium of sustainable farms in South Dakota, lists 15 farms that feature only

grass-fed, open-range livestock. A 2017 report on farm size by South Dakota State University indicated a 57% increase in the number of farm operations with 100 or fewer acres.

However, such farms still make up only a small fraction of farms in the state overall.

Farm size and production data also illustrate the rapid growth in the largest farms in South Dakota, both in row cropping and in livestock. SDSU found that farms with more than 2,000 acres took up almost 67% of the state's total cropland in 2017, compared with only 48% in 1997.

South Dakota has seen a steady increase in the number of CAFO operations permitted by the state since state regulation began in 1997, from 15 that year to 338 in 2007 to 452 as of October 2019.

State data also show that the number of animals allowed at those operations has also increased significantly in recent years, from 8.4 million animals at 400 permitted operations in January 2011 to 9.8 million animals at 443 permitted operations in January 2019.

The majority of the recent growth has occurred in the hog industry, which has seen a 21% increase in permitted operations from 2011 to 2019 and a 32% rise in the number of permitted animals during that time.

The largest CAFO operations in South Dakota include the National Foods egg hatchery east of Plankinton in Aurora County with 1.98 million chickens; the Schlitz Goose Farm in Sisseton with 193,000 geese; the PIC Apex Farm in Mound City in Campbell County, with 36,400 sows; and the Fall River Feed Yard southeast of Hot Springs in Fall River County with 25,000 head of beef cattle.

Hog farming has grown significantly in scale in recent years, and statistics reveal the impact of CAFO growth on the industry. While the number of hog farms overall in South Dakota has fallen by 16% from 2012 to 2017, the number of large farms producing 5,000 or more hogs per year has jumped by almost 30% over that period.

In 2012, the state had 145 large hog farms that produced 3.6 million hogs valued at \$390 million, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Census of Agriculture. In 2017, 188 large farms produced 5.2 million hogs valued at \$545 million, the USDA said. Also, the USDA data show that 20 of the 85 largest hog farms in South Dakota are operated by contract farmers or integrators, indicating the growing push into the state by outside interests.

The concerns over involvement of non-local CAFO system providers are misplaced, said Nick Fitzgerald, business development manager with the Pipestone System, a Minnesota-based firm that works with landowners and investors to start up and operate hog facilities in seven Midwestern states, including South Dakota.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 28 of 58

Pipestone operates 74 hog birthing and weaning facilities, including more than 20 in South Dakota. The company provides new hog farmers with siting expertise, management training and full production systems to raise hogs.

Fitzgerald said the firm, started by a group of veterinarians in Pipestone, Minn., employs a proven method of farming that engages safeguards for animal safety and protection of the environment.

"We want to be great neighbors, and we don't want to be an environmental risk in any way, shape or form," Fitzgerald said.

Pipestone will likely continue its expansion in South Dakota, which has inexpensive feed, including corn and ethanol by-products, Fitzgerald said.

"In terms of setbacks and siting, South Dakota is more strict than other states," Fitzgerald said. "But we would like to raise more pigs in South Dakota because we can raise them at a lower cost than in the state of Iowa, for example."

Industry experts say there is more room for growth in American hog production, particularly due to growth in the foreign market. Iowa, for instance, passed the \$1 billion mark in exports of hogs to China and Hong Kong alone in 2016.

South Dakota is also likely to see strong growth in dairy cattle CAFOs, especially in the far northeast, to accommodate expansion in the cheese-making industry. The Valley Queen Cheese company in Milbank, Dimock Dairy in Dimock and the Agropur cheese plant in Lake Norden all underwent significant expansion in 2019. The tripling of capacity at Agropur alone will require milk from 85,000 more cows in the region, the company said.

The expansion of CAFOs in South Dakota may also be hastened by a need for room for expansion within the livestock industry in the Great Plains.

South Dakota is flanked by three states that are in the national top five for number of large CAFOs — Iowa at No. 1, Minnesota at No. 2 and Nebraska at No. 4.

David Osterberg, who has studied CAFOs in Iowa for three decades for the Iowa Policy Project, said South Dakota should expect to see even more CAFO projects proposed as those neighboring states reach a saturation point for CAFOs, with dwindling land where CAFO wastes can legally be spread.

"It makes sense they are moving into South Dakota, because we're running out of room to put the manure over here," said Osterberg. "Especially in the northwest of Iowa toward you guys, there are so



Young turkeys, such as these at the Oak Lane Colony in Hanson County, will be held in a "starter barn" like this for five to six weeks until reaching a weight of about 3 pounds. They are then transferred to a finishing barn for about 20 weeks when they will reach a shipping weight of about 45 to 50 pounds each. Photo: Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 29 of 58

many CAFOs that finding a place to get rid of the manure is getting difficult.”

Regulation higher on largest CAFOs

Even though CAFOs can generate millions of gallons of cattle and hog manure and thousands of pounds of litter from turkeys and chickens, industry and government officials say CAFOs can be cleaner than smaller farms.

The animal wastes created by CAFOs are collected and held in lagoons or huge underground tanks and then are spread onto nearby farm fields as fertilizer. Spreading typically takes place when the frost breaks in spring and before the ground freezes in fall. Farmers use trucks to haul wastes or flexible pipes that run for miles to get the liquid manure to nearby farm fields, where it is forced into ground dug up by a discing machine. The days when the manure is spread are the most malodorous.

The manure is an effective, valuable fertilizer that reduces the need for commercial fertilizers; CAFO operators are typically paid for the nutrient value of the manure by crop farmers.

Regulation of large animal-feeding operations in South Dakota is based on the federal Clean Water Act, which became law in 1972, and subsequent livestock laws that were developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1974.

The state began regulating animal-feeding operations beginning with hog farms in 1997 and adding other animal types in 1998. The CAFO permit rules were updated in 2003 and again in 2017.

CAFOs in South Dakota are subject to far more regulation than smaller farms. Once a farm reaches CAFO status, it must obtain a state permit that provides for regulation of waste management and water use, said Kent Woodmansey, who oversees the CAFO inspection program within the state DENR. CAFO operators must attend a producer training class to become educated on state regulations and monitoring requirements, he said.

New CAFOs are inspected within the first 18 months of operation and then every one to three years after, depending on size, Woodmansey said. Inspections are announced in advance so operators can prepare and in some cases arrange to have their outside waste management consultant present, Woodmansey said. “Otherwise we drive out there and they’re not there,” he said.

CAFO operators are held to strict standards on proper storage of wastes, with a close eye on their not overreaching the capacity of waste-holding ponds or lagoons that are typically lined with clay or concrete. Soil testing is done, and operators must adhere to plans for how, when and where they will spread the wastes, Woodmansey said.

State regulators will also make contact with an operator or inspect the operator’s property if they receive a formal, signed complaint from the public. Most complaints relate to concerns over potential contamination of water sources and the spreading of wastes, he said.

The state also receives complaints about odors, but has no authority to monitor or take action against strong odors because no state or federal law regulates smells released by agricultural operations, including CAFOs.

“We won’t respond to an odor complaint because we don’t have any criteria for that,” Woodmansey said. “If somebody sent something in about odors or called about that, we would respond that we have no authority over that.”

South Dakota CAFOs also must gain approval, typically in the form of a conditional-use permit, from county commissions or planning and zoning boards before being built. That process provides a level of local control not in place in states such as Iowa.

Counties can have a range of local rules and guidelines, the most important being the “setback” limits on how close a CAFO can be to residences, municipalities and water sources. The limits can vary from county to county, and undergo fairly frequent updates.

The new hog farm in Hand County has a two-mile setback requirement from any residence and 660 feet from any ground or surface water supply. Voters in Grant County passed a referendum in 2016 to double the setback from homes of new large CAFOs from a half to a full mile. Meanwhile, the Minnehaha County Commission in 2017 reduced the setback from buildings for new feeding operations of 2,000 or

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 30 of 58

more animals from 4,620 feet to 3,960.

CAFOs also face significant scrutiny at the county level and are sometimes rejected.

The Hamlin County Board of Adjustment in May 2019 rejected a proposal for a 10,000-head dairy CAFO in part because a well was discovered within a half-mile of the farm.

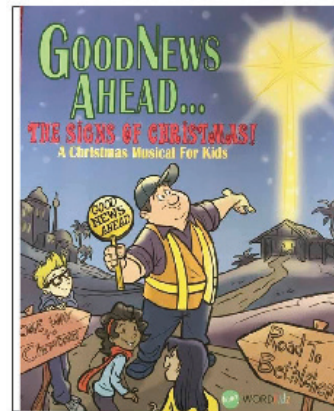
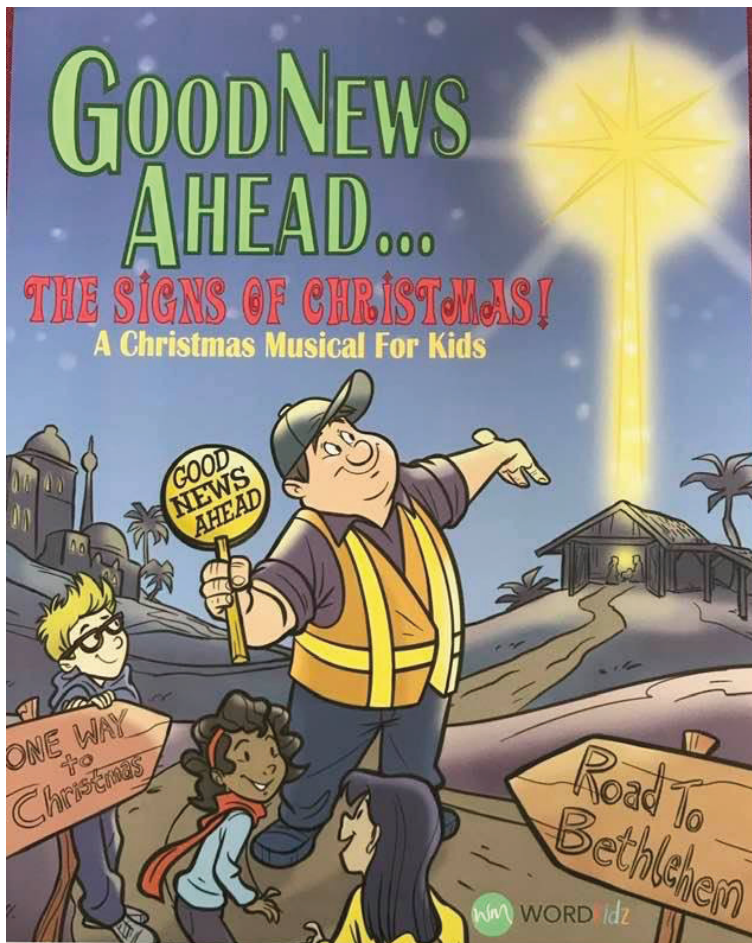
Yankton County has had an embattled history with CAFOs and the zoning and approval processes. CAFO proposals have faced strong opposition; a few that were approved faced a lawsuit. Over the years, the county has floated a special zoning designation to allow CAFOs, but is now considering a full moratorium on CAFO development.

At least 20 counties in Iowa have passed resolutions to ban further development of large livestock farms, but the measures are virtually meaningless because only state approval is needed for CAFO development in that state, Osterberg said.

ABOUT BART PFANKUCH



Bart Pfankuch, Rapid City, S.D., is the content director for South Dakota News Watch. A Wisconsin native, he is a former editor of the Rapid City Journal and also worked at newspapers in Florida. Bart has spent more than 30 years as a reporter, editor and writing coach.



Coming up on
GDILIVE.COM

Sunday,
Dec. 15, 2019
5 p.m.

Groton C&MA
Church

WHERE: Groton C+MA Church
706 N. Main
WHEN: Sunday, Dec. 15th at 5 pm
Enjoy a Christmas dinner on us!

Johnson places first at LaMoure Tournament

Porter Johnson made his varsity debut at the LaMoure Wrestling Tournament held Saturday and he came home with a first place finish. Groton Area had six wrestlers that placed at the tournament including Dragr Monson with a second place finish, Thomas Cranford and Grady O'Neill both placed fourth, Cole Bisbee placed fifth and Lane Krueger placed sixth.

106JV Porter Johnson (3-0) placed 1st and scored 14.0 team points.

Round 1 - Porter Johnson (Groton Area) 3-0 won by decision over Jace Duffy (LaMoure) 2-2 (Dec 14-10)

Round 2 - Porter Johnson (Groton Area) 3-0 won by fall over Holter Bridwell (Linton) 1-4 (Fall 0:53)

Round 3 - Porter Johnson (Groton Area) 3-0 won by fall over Jerimiah Kolstad (Ellendale/Edgeley/Kulm) 1-5 (Fall 1:37)

120 Dragr Monson (4-1) placed 2nd and scored 18.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 4-1 won by fall over Polo Cantu (Linton) 0-7 (Fall 0:27)

Semifinal - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 4-1 won by fall over Jace Nitschke (South Border JV) 7-2 (Fall 1:11)

1st Place Match - Marshall Lindgren (South Border) 8-0 won by decision over Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 4-1 (Dec 7-3)

160 Cole Bisbee (1-4) placed 5th and scored 7.0 team points.

Round 1 - Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 1-4 received a bye () (Bye)

Round 2 - Easton Ogren (Kindred) 10-0 won by fall over Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 1-4 (Fall 0:57)

Round 3 - Lucien Peterson (South Border) 5-5 won by fall over Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 1-4 (Fall 1:13)

Round 4 - Brady Lettenmaier (LaMoure) 9-1 won by fall over Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 1-4 (Fall 1:05)

Round 5 - James Schumacher (South Border JV) 6-4 won by fall over Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 1-4 (Fall 1:09)

170 Thomas Cranford (5-3) placed 4th and scored 14.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) 5-3 won by fall over Bram Johannsen (Bishop Ryan) 6-8 (Fall 2:12)

Semifinal - Jaden Bosch (Linton) 4-3 won by fall over Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) 5-3 (Fall 1:43)

Cons. Semi - Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) 5-3 won by fall over Sage Gusaas (LaMoure) 3-4 (Fall 0:55)

3rd Place Match - Nick Seefeld (Ellendale/Edgeley/Kulm) 4-4 won by fall over Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) 5-3 (Fall 4:01)

182 Lane Krueger (3-3) placed 6th and scored 7.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Noah Klusmann (Ellendale/Edgeley/Kulm) 2-2 won by fall over Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 3-3 (Fall 3:52)

Cons. Round 1 - Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 3-3 won by fall over Brooke Leedahl (Kindred) 2-5 (Fall 2:53)

Cons. Semi - Ashton Peterson (South Border) 8-2 won by fall over Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 3-3 (Fall 0:52)

5th Place Match - Noah Klusmann (Ellendale/Edgeley/Kulm) 2-2 won by decision over Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 3-3 (Dec 8-5)

195 Grady O'Neill (3-3) placed 4th and scored 3.0 team points.

Round 1 - Nathan Schauer (South Border) 8-0 won by fall over Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) 3-3 (Fall 2:12)

Round 3 - Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) 3-3 won by fall over Wyatt Weight (LaMoure) 5-4 (Fall 1:00)

Round 4 - Bridger Mathern (Ellendale/Edgeley/Kulm) 6-2 won by fall over Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) 3-3 (Fall 3:15)

Round 5 - Chris Heyd (LaMoure) 7-2 won by fall over Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) 3-3 (Fall 1:10)

285 Adrian Knutson (3-3)

Quarterfinal - Grant Lyons (Lisbon JV) 2-2 won by fall over Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 3-3 (Fall 1:15)

Cons. Round 1 - Zachary Lahlum (LaMoure) 5-4 won by fall over Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 3-3 (Fall 2:54)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 32 of 58

Groton Area goes 4-0 over Leola/Frederick



Gracie Traphagen

(Photo by Paul Kosel)

The opening day of basketball was held Saturday at the GHS Gym with the Groton Area Tigers winning all four games.

In the junior varsity games, Groton Area won the girls game, 33-9, and the boys won their game, 41-6.

Gracie Traphagen led the Tigers with 18 points followed by Brooke Gengerke with 14, Alyssa Thaler had 10, Tricia Keith six, Madeline Fliehs five, Maddie Bjerke three and Kaycie Hawkins added two points. Allyssa Locke led the boards with 10 of the team's 39 rebounds. Locke and Thaler each had two steals, Fliehs had two blocks and Gengerke had three assists.

Avery Wolff led the Titans with eight points followed by Anna Lapka with six and Kaylin Achen had one.

Groton Area made 24 of 45 two-pointers for 53 percent and was three of 18 from three-point country for 17 percent. The Tigers were one of there from the line. Leola/Frederick made five of 32 field goals for 16 percent.

Groton Area led at the quarters tops at 17-3, 34-10 and 49-13 en route to the 58-15 win.

Meanwhile the boys varsity game was a barn burner down to the end with free throws determine the outcome. Leola/Frederick missed two free throws with just 14 seconds left. Then on the other end, Jonathan Doeden was fouled with two seconds left and he made one of two free throws to give Groton Area a 56-55 win.

Groton Area jumped out to a 4-0 lead before the Titans came back and the game went back and forth five times before the Titans had a 14-12 lead.

Leola/Frederick scored 10 unanswered points in the second quarter and took a 39-19 lead at halftime. The Tigers made only 30 percent of their shots in the second quarter. The Titans kept adding to the score difference with at point, the Titans enjoying a 16-point lead 36-20.

Then the Tigers kept chipping away at the lead. IT was down to nine at the end of the third quarter, 48-39. It was a dunk by Jonathan Doeden that tied the game at 52 and the Tigers took the lead, 54-53. The Titans tied the game at 55 before the one free throw determined the winner.

Jonathan Doeden and Brodyn DeHoet led the Tigers with 16 points each followed by Kaden Kurtz with 11, Austin Jones had six, Tristan Traphagen four and Isaac Smith had three points. DeHoet had seven of the team's 20 rebounds. DeHoet and Doeden each had two of the team's seven steals. Doeden, Traphagen and Jayden Zak each had a blocked shot.

Groton Area made 16 of 25 two-pointers for 64 percent and five of 19 three-pointers for 26 percent. Groton Area was nine of 19 from the line for 47 percent off of Leola/Frederick's 17 team fouls. Leola/Frederick was six of 11 from the line off of Groton Area's 14 team fouls with DeHoet fouling out with 14 seconds left in the game.

Isaac Sumption led the Titans with 18 points followed by Spencer Hoffman with 13, Haydn Podoll had nine, Jake Kenser had seven and Josh Hoffman had six points.

Leola/Frederick made 20 of 40 field goals for 50 percent. They shot 54 percent in the first three quarters.



Brodyn DeHoet

(Photo by Paul Kosel)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 33 of 58

Today



Mostly Cloudy

High: 16 °F

Tonight



Mostly Cloudy

Low: 2 °F

Monday



Partly Sunny

High: 16 °F

Monday
Night



Mostly Clear

Low: 7 °F

Tuesday



Mostly Sunny

High: 16 °F

NWS ABERDEEN

COOL AND MOSTLY CLOUDY, BUT DRY

TODAY

Clouds diminish across Central SD in the afternoon

HIGHS: ~15° along and east of the James Valley, 20-25° across central SD

LOWS: 0 to 10°

MONDAY

Patchy fog possible in the morning

HIGHS: ~15° along and east of the James Valley, 20-30° across central SD

LOWS: 5 to 15°

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
Aberdeen, SD 12/15/2019 3:52 AM

WEATHER.GOV/ABR

Below average temperatures will persist today and Monday, but a gradual warming trend will take over thereafter. Besides this Sunday morning for those south of Pierre (light snow), no appreciable precipitation chances exist the entire coming work-week.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 34 of 58

Today in Weather History

December 15, 1983: A storm system impacted the region on the 14-15th with five inches of snow and high winds to produce blocked roads and numerous school closings on the 15th throughout most of the eastern third of South Dakota. No travel was advised from late afternoon on the 14th due to low visibility and blocked roads in Roberts and Brookings Counties. The conditions contributed some to several traffic accidents. Meanwhile, snow also spread across Minnesota on December 13th and diminished late on the 15th. Snow accumulations ranged from 1 to 2 inches in west central Minnesota to higher amounts over 10 inches to the east. Winds increased and temperatures began to fall on December 14th as an arctic cold front pushed through the state. The strongest winds occurred during the night of December 14th and into the morning of December 15th. Near-blizzard conditions developed in the southwest and west-central sections of Minnesota where the visibility was reported to be near zero with winds of 20 to 30 mph. The wind chill index dropped to 30 below to 60 below zero. Blowing and drifting snow conditions occurred to some degree throughout all of Minnesota. Snow drifts caused many roads to close. Drifting snow continued during the evening of December 15th as the winds and snowfall gradually diminished. This event, associated with an arctic cold front, was the beginning of what would become, and remains, the coldest stretch of December days on record across most of the area. For the next nine days, beginning on December 16th, Aberdeen did not warm above -6 degrees, enduring temperatures as low as -34 F and high temperatures as low as -15 F. Other stations around the region had very similar cold temperatures during the December 16th through December 24th period, with temperatures warming into single digits above zero on Christmas Day.

December 15, 1992: Cyclone John hit the sparsely populated northwest coast of Australia with winds gusting to 185 mph. John was the strongest cyclone to hit Australia in over 100 years.

1839 - The first of triple storms hit Massachusetts Bay. The storm produced whole gales, and more than 20 inches of snow in interior New England. There was great loss of life at Gloucester MA. (David Ludlum)

1901 - An intense cold front swept across the eastern U.S. The cold front produced heavy rain in Louisiana, and heavy snow in the northeastern U.S. (David Ludlum)

1945 - A record December snowstorm buried Buffalo, NY, under 36.6 inches of snow, with unofficial totals south of the city ranging up to 70 inches. Travel was brought to a halt by the storm. (14th-17th) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A major winter storm hit the Great Lakes Region, intensifying explosively as it crossed northern Illinois. High winds and heavy snow created blizzard conditions in southeastern Wisconsin. Winds gusted to 73 mph, and snowfall totals ranged up to 17 inches at LaFarge. The barometric pressure at Chicago IL dropped three quarters of an inch in six hours to 28.96 inches, a record low reading for December. Up to a foot of snow blanketed northern Illinois, and winds in the Chicago area gusted to 75 mph. O'Hare Airport in Chicago was closed for several hours, for only the fourth time in twenty years. High winds derailed train cars at Avon IN. Light winds and partly sunny skies were reported near the center of the storm, a feature typical of tropical storms. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - High pressure in the Pacific Northwest and low pressure in the southwestern U.S. combined to produced high winds from Utah to California. Winds gusting to 70 mph in the San Francisco area left nearly 300,000 residents without electricity. Winds in Utah gusted to 105 mph at Centerville. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - A couple of low pressure systems spread heavy snow across the northeastern U.S. Up to two feet of snow was reported along Lake Erie in northeastern Ohio, and up to ten inches was reported in Connecticut. Heavy snow squalls developed over Michigan for the third day in a row. Three Oaks MI reported 25 inches of snow in two days. Twenty-six cities in the north central U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. The low of 10 degrees below zero at Wichita KS was a December record for that location. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 35 of 58

Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 8 °F at 12:00 AM

Low Temp: -5 °F at 8:57 AM

Wind: 15 mph at 12:00 AM

Day Rain: 0.00

Record High: 60° in 1939

Record Low: -24° in 1917

Average High: 25°F

Average Low: 6°F

Average Precip in Dec.: 0.24

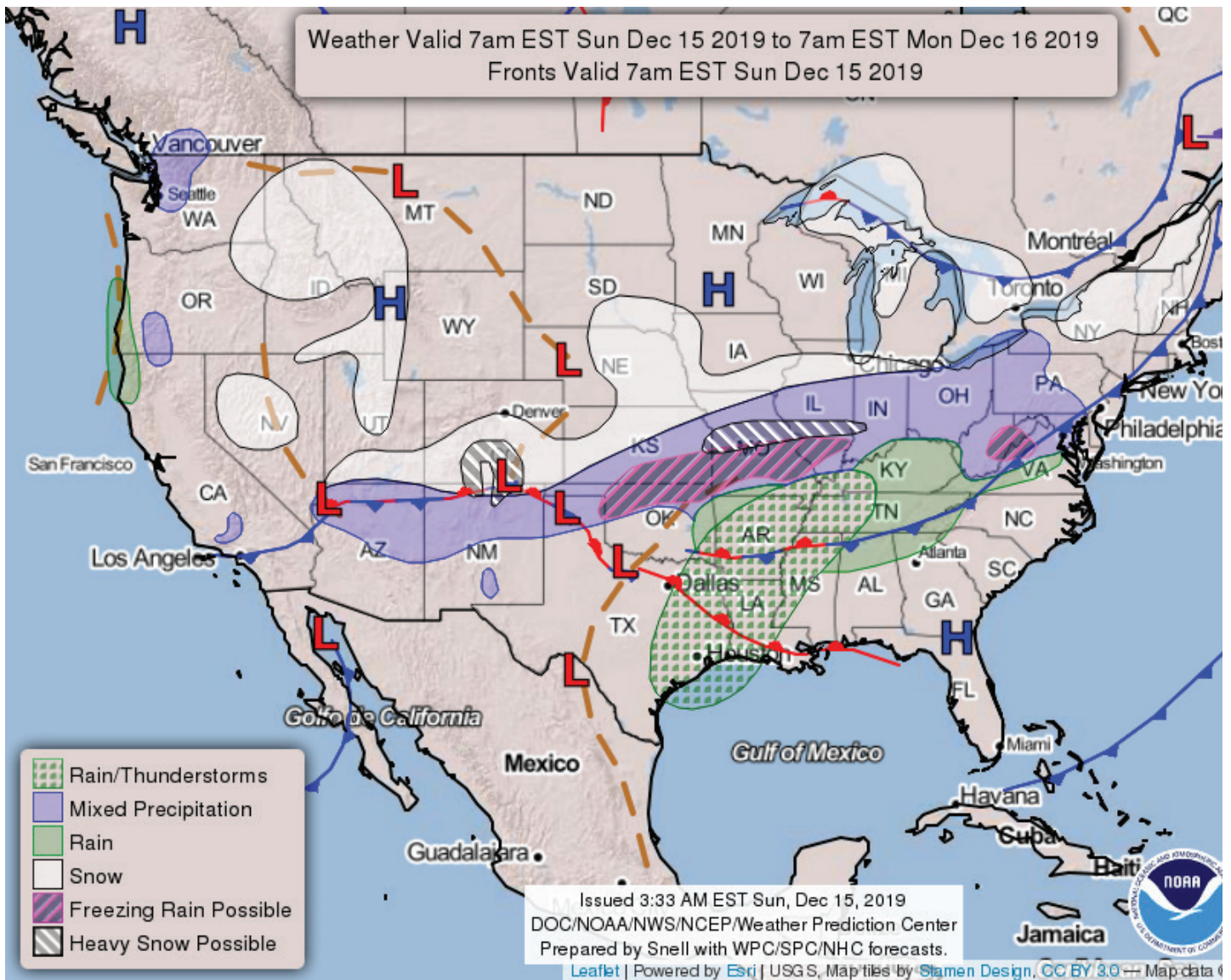
Precip to date in Dec.: 0.11

Average Precip to date: 21.44

Precip Year to Date: 28.06

Sunset Tonight: 4:51 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:07 a.m.



Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 36 of 58



PLANNING AHEAD

It was the Sunday before Christmas and the teacher of the fifth-grade class was reviewing the details of the birth of Jesus. With carefully chosen words, she talked about the difficult journey to Bethlehem. Then she said with sadness, "And when they arrived, there was no room for them in the inn. Wasn't that terrible?"

George, after thinking for a moment about the vacations his family had taken and the careful, detailed plans they made said without thinking, "Why didn't Joseph make a reservation?"

There will be many around us during this holiday season who will make no room – no reservation – for Jesus to be with them this year. We often remind each other that "He's the reason for the Season" but do not take time to explain to others what that "reason" is. We are quick to condemn those who want to take "Christ out of Christmas" but do not take time to plant the message of Christ in their minds and hearts at Christmas. We place the manger scene under the tree, cover it with presents and then wrap it back up and forget about His birth and its significance for another year.

Hanging next to Jesus on a cross was a thief who was dying for crimes he committed. In his final moments, he turned to Him and said, "Jesus, remember me." And Jesus said, "I certainly will! Today you will be with me in paradise." The best day to make your reservation to be with Him is this day if you have not done so. Don't delay!

Prayer: Your Word, Lord, declares with certainty: "Today is the day of salvation." May we take advantage of this day and not risk the uncertainties of life! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Luke 2:1-7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 37 of 58

2019 Groton SD Community Events

12/19/2019 – Christmas Open House 10am-4pm, Wells Fargo Bank

12/20/2019 – Holiday Bake Sale & Open House 9am-4pm, Groton Community Transit

- 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, 10 a.m. Sharp (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)

- 04/25/2020 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)

- 04/26/2020 Father/Daughter dance.

- 05/02/2020 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (1st Saturday in May)

- 05/25/2020 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Services (Memorial Day)

- 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, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (1st Sat. after Labor Day)

- 10/10/2020 Pumpkin Fest

- 10/31/2020 Groton United Methodist Trunk or Treat (Halloween)

- 11/14/2020 Groton American Legion Post #39 Annual Turkey Party (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 38 of 58

News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash

08-15-19-26-30

(eight, fifteen, nineteen, twenty-six, thirty)

Estimated jackpot: \$392,000

Lotto America

07-08-33-37-51, Star Ball: 8, ASB: 2

(seven, eight, thirty-three, thirty-seven, fifty-one; Star Ball: eight; ASB: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$5.98 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$372 million

Powerball

03-06-12-32-64, Powerball: 19, Power Play: 3

(three, six, twelve, thirty-two, sixty-four; Powerball: nineteen; Power Play: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$150 million

Saturday's Scores

By The Associated Press

BOYS PREP BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Christian 80, James Valley Christian 35

Brandon Valley 78, Spearfish 48

Canton 73, Flandreau Indian 65

Crow Creek 75, Little Wound 52

Dakota Valley 72, Tea Area 55

Faith 48, Kadoka Area 43

Groton Area 56, Leola/Frederick 55

Harding County 77, Lead-Deadwood 44

Herreid/Selby Area 61, Glen Ullin-Hebron, N.D. 42

Huron 57, Mitchell 52

Jones County 46, Highmore-Harrold 43

Madison 75, Elk Point-Jefferson 43

Marty Indian 63, Lower Brule 59

McLaughlin 63, Belle Fourche 60

Milbank 83, Lennox 40

Mobridge-Pollock 61, Britton-Hecla 22

New Underwood 54, Dupree 29

Newell 51, Bison 20

Parkston 76, Avon 41

Platte-Geddes 76, Andes Central/Dakota Christian 36

Ponca, Neb. 75, Irene-Wakonda 49

Rapid City Christian 72, Philip 25

Red Cloud 70, Hill City 20

Sioux Falls Christian 72, West Central 25

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 39 of 58

Sioux Falls Washington 76, Brookings 53
Tiospaye Topa 64, Crazy Horse 39
Todd County 64, Bennett County 30
Tripp-Delmont/Armour 61, Menno 42
Wall 63, Edgemont 48
Waubay/Summit 49, Tri-State 43
West Sioux, Iowa 84, Alcester-Hudson 45
Yankton 57, Rapid City Stevens 44
Barefoot Classic
Howard 76, Lemmon 50
Ipswich 49, Hitchcock-Tulare 14
Scotland 57, Wakpala 42
St. Thomas More 66, West Lyon, Inwood, Iowa 51
Gillete Tournament
Scottsbluff, Neb. 62, Rapid City Central 49
GIRLS PREP BASKETBALL
Andes Central/Dakota Christian 51, Platte-Geddes 37
Brandon Valley 68, Spearfish 32
Bridgewater-Emery 59, Wessington Springs 21
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 51, Miller 47
Groton Area 59, Leola/Frederick 15
James Valley Christian 61, Aberdeen Christian 42
Jones County 54, Highmore-Harrold 52
Lead-Deadwood 33, Harding County 23
Lennox 78, Milbank 10
Lower Brule 57, Marty Indian 41
Lyman 53, Potter County 48
Madison 51, Elk Point-Jefferson 43
Menno 62, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 56
Ponca, Neb. 54, Irene-Wakonda 50
Rapid City Christian 61, Philip 43
Rapid City Stevens 60, Yankton 31
Richland, N.D. 58, Wilmot 33
St. Thomas More 66, Belle Fourche 30
Wall 52, Edgemont 50
Warner 57, Webster 51
Waubay/Summit 56, Tri-State, N.D. 35
Barefoot Classic
Hitchcock-Tulare 55, Ipswich 38
Viborg-Hurley 49, Deubrook 36
West Lyon, Inwood, Iowa 56, Gayville-Volin 26

Some high school basketball scores provided by Scorestream.com, <https://scorestream.com/>

Umude leads South Dakota past Mayville State 96-60

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Stanley Umude matched his season high with 21 points as South Dakota easily defeated NAIA-member Mayville State 96-60 on Saturday.

Tyler Hagedorn had 16 points and 11 rebounds for South Dakota (9-3), which earned its fifth straight home victory. Tyler Peterson added 16 points and Cody Kelley had 13.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 40 of 58

The 96 points were a season best for South Dakota.
Max Cooper had 12 points for the Comets and Rene Melendez added 10.
South Dakota faces Northern Colorado on Friday.

For more AP college basketball coverage: <https://apnews.com/Collegebasketball> and http://twitter.com/AP_Top25

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Longest UN climate talks end with no deal on carbon markets

By FRANK JORDANS and ARITZ PARRA Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Marathon international climate talks closed Sunday with negotiators postponing until next year a key decision on global carbon markets.

After two weeks of negotiations on tackling global warming, delegates from almost 200 nations passed declarations calling for greater ambition in cutting planet-heating greenhouse gases and in helping poor countries suffering the effects of climate change. But despite holding the longest climate talks ever in 25 nearly annual editions they left one of the thorniest issues for the next summit in Glasgow, in a year's time.

Environmental groups and activists accused the world's richer countries of showing little commitment to seriously tackling climate change.

THIS IS A BREAKING NEWS UPDATE. AP's earlier story follows below:

Marathon climate talks edged to a close Sunday with delegates calling for greater ambition in cutting planet-heating greenhouse gases and in helping poor countries who are suffering the effects of climate change.

But after two weeks of negotiations on tackling global warming, the future of global carbon markets remained a looming question. Strong, last-minute disagreements on the topic made it likely that decision would be postponed until next year.

This year's meeting broke the record for longest climate talks ever in 25 nearly annual editions. After more than 40 hours of overtime, sleep-deprived delegates began holding a closing plenary Sunday morning in the Spanish capital of Madrid.

Among the early documents to be passed was the "Chile-Madrid Time for Action" declaration calling on countries to improve their current pledges to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. That is needed to come in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement target of avoiding a temperature increase of more than 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) by the end of the century.

So far, the world is on course for a 3- to 4-degree Celsius rise, with potentially dramatic consequences for many countries.

Countries also agreed to designate funds for the most vulnerable countries to compensate them for the effects of extreme weather events, one of the most pressing issues for small island states and other developing nations.

But environmental groups and activists accused the world's richer countries of showing little commitment to seriously tackling climate change.

"The Paris Agreement may have been the victim of a hit-and-run by a handful of powerful carbon economies, but they are on the wrong side of this struggle, the wrong side of history," said Jennifer Morgan, Greenpeace International's executive director.

"Climate blockers like Brazil and Saudi Arabia, enabled by an irresponsibly weak Chilean leadership, peddled carbon deals and steamrolled scientists and civil society," she said.

Chile chaired the talks, which had to be quickly moved to Madrid amid violent anti-government protests back home. Despite the pressure to deliver a positive outcome, activists criticized the Chilean government of President Santiago Piñera for holding on to coal-fired power plants until 2040.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 41 of 58

Carbon markets, which economists consider key in providing incentives for the world to move toward low carbon growth models, remained one of the thorniest issues, and one that was set to be left for next year's discussions in Glasgow.

Setting a price on emissions of carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas, the markets allow countries or companies to trade emissions permits that can be steadily reduced — encouraging the uptake of low-emission technologies.

Europe and other countries had said that no deal on how to govern the exchange of carbon credits was better than one that could undermine a dozen or so existing regional mechanisms.

The talks have been accompanied at times by angry protests from indigenous and environmental groups, both inside and outside the venue. The demonstrations reflected growing frustration, particularly among young people, at the slow pace of government efforts to curb climate change.

Helen Mountford from World Resources Institute, an environmental think tank, said the talks "reflect how disconnected country leaders are from the urgency of the science and the demands of their citizens in the streets."

"They need to wake up in 2020," she added.

Follow AP's climate coverage at <https://www.apnews.com/Climate>

The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

UK Labour chief Corbyn apologizes for election debacle

By MIKE CORDER Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn apologized Sunday for this party's crushing defeat in the British general election but defended his campaign, which failed to resonate with the party's working-class base, as "one of hope rather than fear."

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Conservative Party won 365 of the 650 seats in the House of Commons in Thursday's landslide election. Labour took 203 seats, its worst total since 1935.

Corbyn, 70, has pledged to stand down as the decimated party's leader and the maneuvering to replace him has begun.

"I'm sorry that we came up short and I take my responsibility for it," Corbyn wrote in a letter published in the left-leaning Sunday Mirror newspaper.

But he also said his party's ambitious, big-spending policy platform was popular and blamed the British media for its portrayal of Labour. Corbyn was widely criticized for his perceived tolerance of anti-Semitism in his inner circle.

After coming under fire from within his own party in the aftermath of the electoral carnage, Corbyn said he will step down after a "period of reflection." The process of choosing a replacement will begin early next year, but some have called for Corbyn's immediate resignation.

"I remain proud of the campaign we fought. I'm proud that no matter how low our opponents went, we refused to join them in the gutter," Corbyn wrote. "And I'm proud that our message was one of hope, rather than fear."

At least one potential successor came forward Sunday. Labour lawmaker Lisa Nandy told the BBC she is "seriously thinking about" running to become the party's next leader.

Corbyn's policies failed to energize voters weary of more than three years of political wrangling over Britain's divorce from the European Union. Johnson's campaign, meanwhile, revolved around three words: His pledge to "get Brexit done."

Johnson's 80-seat majority means he is well placed to complete the first part of that Brexit process by pushing through legislation in time for Britain to leave the EU by the Jan. 31 deadline.

Then comes the hard part for his government — completing a comprehensive free trade deal with

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 42 of 58

Brussels by the end of the year. A transition period built into Johnson's Brexit deal means that Britain will remain closely aligned to Brussels until the end of 2020. But if no trade pact is ready then, the United Kingdom could still face an economically damaging departure from the EU.

Senior Johnson ally Michael Gove declined Sunday to outline the Conservatives party's detailed plans for the coming week, when the new House of Commons meets for the first time on Tuesday.

"We will have an opportunity to vote on the withdrawal agreement bill in relatively short order, and then we will make sure ... that it passes before Jan. 31," Gove told Sky News.

He said investing in Britain's cherished National Health Service would be the government's top domestic priority.

The government's plans will be laid out next week in a speech by Queen Elizabeth II that is written by Johnson's government.

One thing that is not on Johnson's agenda is Scottish independence.

Nicola Sturgeon, whose Scottish National Party made strong gains in Thursday's election, has been pushing hard since then to get U.K. government approval for a second referendum on Scottish independence, something Johnson has ruled out.

Gove was emphatic when asked if Johnson's government would allow a second referendum five years after Scottish voters rejected independence.

"No," he told Sky.

Follow AP's full coverage of Brexit and British politics at <https://www.apnews.com/Brexit>.

Lebanese burn ruling parties' offices after night of clashes

BEIRUT (AP) — Attackers in northern Lebanon set fire to the offices of two major political parties on Sunday, the state-run National News Agency said.

The assaults came just hours after the capital Beirut was rocked by the most violent government crack-down on protesters since nationwide demonstrations began two months ago. Lebanese security forces fired rubber bullets, tear gas and used water cannons throughout the night to disperse anti-government protesters from the city center — the epicenter of the protest movement in Beirut — and around parliament.

The overnight confrontations in Beirut left more than 130 people injured, according to the Red Cross and the Lebanese Civil Defense.

In the northern Akkar district on Sunday, attackers broke the windows and torched the local office for resigned Prime Minister Saad Hariri's political party in the town of Kharibet al-Jindi.

In a separate attack in Akkar district, assailants stormed the local office of the largest party in parliament, affiliated with President Michel Aoun and headed by Foreign Minister Gebran Bassil. Their party said the contents of the office in Jedidat al-Juma town had also been smashed and burned.

Lebanon is facing one of its worst economic crises in decades, and the protesters accuse the ruling political class in place for three decades of mismanagement and corruption.

The violence comes a day before the president is due to hold talks with different parliamentary blocs to name a new prime minister on Monday.

Interior Minister Raya al-Hassan on Sunday ordered an investigation into the clashes which she said injured both protesters and security forces. She said she watched the confrontations "with concern, sadness and shock."

Al-Hassan blamed "infiltrators" for instigating the friction and called on the demonstrators to be wary of those who want to exploit their protests for political reasons. She didn't elaborate.

Nationwide protests began on Oct. 17, and the government headed by Hariri resigned two weeks later. Political parties have since been bickering over the shape and form of the new Cabinet. Protesters want a technocratic government, not affiliated with established political parties.

After weeks of back and forth, Hariri has emerged as the likely candidate for the job.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 43 of 58

75 years on, Battle of the Bulge memories bond people

By RAF CASERT Associated Press

THIMISTER-CLERMONT, Belgium (AP) — As a schoolboy three quarters of a century ago, Marcel Schmetz would regularly see open trucks rumble past to a makeshift American cemetery — filled with bodies, some headless, some limbless, blood seeping from the vehicles onto the roads that the U.S. soldiers had given their lives to liberate.

Sometimes, Schmetz said, there were over 200 bodies a day, casualties of one of the bloodiest and most important battles in World War II: The Battle of the Bulge which started 75 years ago on Monday and effectively sealed the defeat of Nazi Germany.

"It gave me nightmares," Schmetz said. It also gave the 11-year-old the resolve that, one day, he would give something back.

"I had to do something," he said.

M&M

Fast forward to 2019, when memories are fading and relations between Europe and the United States deteriorating.

There's a rambling house and converted warehouse in the bucolic, verdant hills that were once among the worst killing grounds of World War II. Zoom in to the living-room table, where Marcel, 86, sits with his wife, Mathilde, and one of the many WWII veterans that have shared coffee and cake — and often a nip of something stronger — with them, telling stories that span generations.

"Well, I don't share them very often," said Arthur Jacobson, who was just 20 when he fought in the Battle of the Bulge. "Once in a while, somebody is interested and I tell them a little bit."

In Marcel and Mathilde's home, which also serves as the Remember Museum 39-45, "a little bit" doesn't count. Soon the former Bazooka operator was sharing stories of friends lost, ties gained, all between a chuckle and a moist eye.

For M&M, as the couple is known to fans from across the United States, remembering has become a mission in life, since memory brings understanding and friendship. They are not alone. From the shores of Normandy, where the allies first landed on D-Day, to the forests deep in the Belgian Ardennes, there remains a deep appreciation for what the soldiers did.

Yet, those people live on the scar tissue of war, where battlefields, memorials and cemeteries lie just a few miles away. That memory fades quickly the more one moves from the old front lines to European cities, where peace and prosperity has reigned for the best part of a century. The voices of the last witnesses of the war's fighting, mostly in their 90s now, are also becoming frailer by the day.

And with the growing questioning of trans-Atlantic ties and trust, the challenge to keep those bonds across the ocean intact has increased.

It makes Marcel and Mathilde's mission to connect all the more vital.

"Whoever is your president, whoever runs the show, the boys who were on the front lines, who still go out and fight for our freedoms, they need to know we appreciate them," Mathilde said.

IT GIVES ME GOOSEBUMPS

Lt. Col. Jim Moretti of the 171st Air Refueling Wing knows it well, and whenever he is in Germany on a mission he always makes the pilgrimage to Marcel and Mathilde just across the border.

The first time he thought to spend perhaps half an hour in their small museum. Then he found out that the hardware sinks into insignificance compared to the software of the place — the stories which are linked to every item on show.

"We ended up being there for 3, 4, 5 hours," he said.

Mathilde connects a face in a photograph to a veteran she met years ago and still remembers the story that makes it all relevant to the families of the fallen.

"It gives me goosebumps. It's sobering, humbling," Moretti said.

It became even better when he was able to be part of such a story himself.

THE SMALLEST OF THINGS

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 44 of 58

Softspoken local policeman Serge Fafchamps had something troubling him for a while. Through his family, he obtained a fist-sized bible that had been left behind by Pvt. Millard Weekley in a local hotel during the war, likely in the rush to reach the front line.

Like so many locals, Fafchamps is strongly aware of the sacrifices U.S. soldiers made during WWII and wanted to make a gesture, however small, to show that in the 21st century it was not forgotten.

"It was, I think, the smallest of things, it was a friendly act that I hoped would deliver some happiness to the family," he said.

Even though he got close to finding the family, there was still a missing link, and he long thought he had reached a dead end. Then, by chance, he learned of Marcel and Mathilde. Soon, they were on the case.

"I began to make these searches with the help of American friends," Mathilde said. "Then, finally, someone found the daughter," Paula Ferrell.

But they still needed someone to deliver the bible, in person. So in walked Lt. Col Moretti, who saw, as luck would have it, that Ferrell lived close to his airbase in Coraopolis, Pa.

"Of all the places in the U.S., this could not be true," Moretti said.

And one Sunday on the airbase, Ferrell and her family were handed the bible.

"It was an amazing idea. I am so thankful for that," Ferrell said of Fafchamps' kindness. Now the bible sits on a night table next to her bed, the handwriting on the opening page a palpable memory of a father who was always taciturn when it came to war stories and memories.

"He never talked about it. He was a man of few words," she said.

A new bond had been forged across the ocean. "If he was here, I'd give him a hug," she said of Fafchamps.

The policeman himself said it gave him "a sense of mission accomplished."

IT IS NOT TO FORGET THEM

The mission though, is getting tougher by the day.

Perhaps the best part of the museum is a "Red Ball Express" army supply truck, on which countless veterans have written their names. Ever more though, the owners of the white-painted signatures are dying off. Just this week, Mathilde opened a letter informing her of yet another death.

Marcel, ever the optimist, is looking to a new generation of U.S. troops, soldiers like Moretti, to carry on the torch.

"When I look at the young soldiers who are on U.S. bases in Germany," he said, "it always reminds me of the arrival of the Americans in 1944," who had come to liberate him and his family.

"It is not to forget them. It is not to forget them, no?"

AP photojournalist Virginia Mayo and videojournalist Mark Carlson contributed.

Home-cooked food in Iraqi square brings protesters together

By NASSER NASSER Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — In Baghdad's Tahrir Square, there are the anti-government protesters demonstrating for a better future for Iraq, and there are the volunteers who feed them.

From stuffed lamb and fish, to the giant pots of soups and rice, to the plates of lentils and other beans, there is no shortage of food to go around. Volunteers from the capital and southern provinces cook traditional dishes that reflect the country's rich cuisine and bring protesters together.

Tahrir Square has been the focal point for the protests that have continued to roil Iraq since Oct. 1. The spontaneous, leaderless demonstrations were organized on social media over long-standing grievances including government corruption, unemployment and a lack of basic services. For many, the square in central Baghdad has become a miniature model for the kind of state they dream of, where factional and sectarian politics play no part and public services exist.

Services, including the near-constant supply of food, have been integral to keeping people in the square, but volunteers are eyeing a gradual drop in donations with concern.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 45 of 58

Iraqis are used to communal meals and many volunteer food. Every year, during the annual Shiite religious commemoration known as Arbæen, volunteers prepare food for pilgrims making their way to their sects' holy shrines in the city of Karbala. Shortly after the protests started Oct. 1, volunteers began setting up similar tents to cook and distribute traditional Iraqi dishes for the protesters in and around Tahrir Square.

"We make it for the hungry people, and people in need here in Tahrir Square," said a woman who gave her name as Um Ammar, which means "Ammar's mother." She is from the southern province of Missan and was cooking Seyah, a thick mixture of rice flour and water fried on a hot plate. Other popular dishes are lentils and beans; Tepsy, a traditional Iraqi casserole; Dolma, consisting of stuffed cabbage and grape leaves, onions and aubergines cooked in tomato sauce; and Makhlama, a mixture of potato, tomatoes, onion and egg all fried together and put in bread. It is a favorite breakfast for people in Baghdad.

"It is an old Baghdadi (dish). It is common in the morning. All the Iraqi people, but specifically the people of Baghdad, love this food," said Muhsin Salman, a cook from the capital who was making Makhlama.

Arouk bread — a tandoor bread made of dough mixed with celery and spices — is another favorite.

And there are the popular sweets: Hareesa is boiled whole wheat sweetened with sugar and cinnamon. Cherek is baked wheat flour bread stuffed with dates. And there's also the fried dough balls called Awamah.

On any given day, people can be seen lining up to fill plastic dishes with food. Protesters say the free food is important to help sustain the protest movement, especially for those who cannot afford to eat meat on a regular basis. But it's not the main attraction, they say.

Hashem al-Jabouri said that after more than two months of protests, he's worried that support for the movement is dwindling. Speaking as he fried falafel in a huge pot, he said support was not as strong as it was in the beginning. "There's a lot of pressure and threats targeting the volunteers," he said.

At least 400 people have been killed at the hands of security forces and unidentified assailants firing live ammunition and tear gas to disperse the demonstrations since the protests erupted in October. A string of targeted assassinations, forced disappearances and arrests of civil activists and journalists have also fostered fear among protesters.

Some said they will not be intimidated.

"I distribute food to my protester brothers. We will not retreat even if they kill or threaten us. We don't care," said Um Mohammed, who was cooking rice and beans on a recent day. Her husband was killed in Iraq's sectarian conflict in 2006.

"I am a martyr's wife, but it is OK," said the mother of four. "I am not retreating and will not leave the square. My house is here now, until they give me my rights."

Associated Press writer Ali Abdul-Hassan in Baghdad contributed reporting.

Sackler-owned opioid maker goes global with OD treatment

By **CLAIRE GALOFARO** and **KRISTEN GELINEAU** Associated Press

The gleaming white booth towered over the medical conference in Italy in October, advertising a new brand of antidote for opioid overdoses. "Be prepared. Get naloxone. Save a life," the slogan on its walls said.

Some conference attendees were stunned when they saw the company logo: Mundipharma, the international affiliate of Purdue Pharma — the maker of the blockbuster opioid, OxyContin, widely blamed for unleashing the American overdose epidemic.

Here they were cashing in on a cure.

"You're in the business of selling medicine that causes addiction and overdoses, and now you're in the business of selling medicine that treats addiction and overdoses?" asked Dr. Andrew Kolodny, an outspoken critic of Purdue who has testified against the company in court. "That's pretty clever, isn't it?"

As Purdue Pharma buckles under a mountain of litigation and public protest in the United States, its foreign affiliate, Mundipharma, has expanded abroad, using some of the same tactics to sell the addictive opioids that made its owners, the Sackler family, among the richest in the world. Mundipharma is

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 46 of 58

also pushing another strategy globally: From Europe to Australia, it is working to dominate the market for opioid overdose treatment.

"The way that they've pushed their opioids initially and now coming up with the expensive kind of antidote -- it's something that just strikes me as deeply, deeply cynical," said Ross Bell, executive director of the New Zealand Drug Foundation and a longtime advocate of greater naloxone availability. "You've got families devastated by this, and a company who sees dollar signs flashing."

This story was produced with support from the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting.

Mundipharma's antidote, a naloxone nasal spray called Nyxoid, was recently approved in New Zealand, Europe and Australia. Mundipharma defended it as a tool to help those whose lives are at risk, and even experts who criticize the company say that antidotes to opioid overdoses are badly needed. Patrice Grand, a spokesman for Mundipharma Europe, said in a statement that heroin is the leading cause of overdose death in European countries and nasal naloxone is an important treatment option.

Injectable naloxone has long been available; it is generic and cheap. But Mundipharma's Nyxoid is the first in many countries that comes pre-packaged as a nasal spray — an easier, less threatening way for those who witness an overdose to intervene. Nyxoid, which isn't sold in the U.S., is more expensive than injectable naloxone, running more than \$50 a dose in some European countries. A similar product manufactured by another pharmaceutical company has been available for years in the U.S. under the brand name Narcan.

Critics say Nyxoid's price is excessive, particularly when inexpensive naloxone products already exist. Grand declined to say how much Nyxoid costs Mundipharma to manufacture or how profitable it has been.

The Sackler family's pharmaceutical empire has long considered whether it might make money treating addiction, according to lawsuits filed against Purdue and the family. In the U.S., Purdue Pharma called its secret proposal Project Tango, the attorneys general of Massachusetts and New York have alleged, and discussed it in a September 2014 conference call that included family member Kathe Sackler.

In internal documents, the lawsuits allege, Purdue illustrated the connection they had publicly denied between opioids and addiction with a graphic of a blue funnel. The top end was labeled "Pain treatment." The bottom: "opioid addiction treatment." The slideshow said they had an opportunity to become an "end-to-end provider" — opioids on the front end, and addiction treatment on the back end.

"It is an attractive market," the staff wrote, according to the Massachusetts complaint. "Large unmet need for vulnerable, underserved and stigmatized patient population suffering from substance abuse, dependence and addiction."

In its response to the court, the family's lawyers wrote that the plan was put forward by a third-party private equity fund as a potential joint venture and "at the very most, Project Tango was mentioned in passing on a few occasions and the proposal was subsequently abandoned." A press release issued by the Sacklers said no member of the family or board had an active role in the presentations or supported the proposal, and called the lawsuits "sensationalized" and "misleading." Purdue declined to comment.

New York's lawsuit alleges that in 2015, Project Tango was presented to Purdue's board as a joint venture to sell the addiction medication suboxone that could become the "market lead in the addiction medicine space." The presentation highlighted the sales opportunity in opioid addiction: 40 to 60 percent who went through treatment would relapse and need it again.

Project Tango stalled. It was revised the next year with a new plan to sell naloxone, the lawsuits allege.

Publicly, Purdue was denying that its painkillers caused the addiction epidemic. But in internal communications, the company described naloxone as a "strategic fit" and a "complementary" product to the prescription opioids they were already selling, the Massachusetts attorney general said. Purdue calculated that the need for overdose reversal medication was increasing so rapidly, potential revenue could triple from 2016 to 2018.

The lawsuit alleges that Purdue identified its own painkiller patients as a target market for naloxone —

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 47 of 58

and that it could use its sales force already visiting doctors to promote opioids to also promote overdose reversal medication. They saw potential profits in government efforts to expand access to naloxone to stem the tide of overdose deaths, a toll that has soared to 400,000 since the American epidemic began.

Project Tango fizzled in the U.S.; the family's press release said Purdue's board rejected it.

But half a world away, in Australia, Mundipharma embarked on an effort to promote naloxone that was sweeping and effective.

As part of an Australian coroner's investigation last year into six fatal opioid overdoses in New South Wales state, Mundipharma submitted a 15-page document touting the benefits of naloxone. If people around the overdose victims had had access to naloxone, the company wrote, many of those deaths may have been avoided. At the same time, Mundipharma was registering Nyxoid in Australia, a fact it acknowledged within its submission.

In the document, the company suggested that officials change the country's laws to allow for easier access to naloxone, get naloxone into needle exchange programs, detox centers and supervised injecting clinics, and establish a national, free take-home naloxone program.

"The Coroner should consider what is needed to realise the full public health benefits of this essential medicine," Mundipharma wrote.

During the coroner's inquest, Mundipharma sent a staffer to court to testify about the benefits of naloxone nasal spray. According to a transcript, Mundipharma's Medical Affairs Director, Brian Muller, came to court with samples of naloxone products, including Nyxoid.

Health and addiction experts also praised the drug's life-saving potential. In her written findings delivered in March, Coroner Harriet Grahame agreed that naloxone should be more widely distributed and Nyxoid given to the state's paramedics, police agencies, doctors and hospital emergency departments.

Mundipharma also paid for a drug policy institute's study on naloxone that the federal government ultimately used as a blueprint for a 10 million Australian dollar (\$6.8 million) pilot program to distribute naloxone, including Nyxoid. And in October, Australian Health Minister Greg Hunt announced that Australia's government would subsidize Nyxoid prescriptions, meaning it costs Australians as little as AU\$6.50 (\$4.50) per pack, versus around AU\$50 without the subsidy.

Asked in an interview whether the government had any concerns about following the recommendations of a Mundipharma-funded report that stood to benefit the company financially, Hunt replied: "All of the advice is that this is a product that will save lives and protect lives and our approach is to be fearless of the source of the product."

In a statement, Mundipharma Australia denied its Nyxoid push in the country had any connection to, or was influenced in any way, by Purdue's Project Tango.

"Mundipharma Australia and Purdue Pharma are independent companies," the Australian company wrote. "Mundipharma Australia introduced Nyxoid to help meet a clear clinical need."

Grand, the spokesman for Mundipharma Europe, also rejected any link between the company's Nyxoid strategy and Project Tango, saying that the European company and Purdue have separate managements, boards and strategies.

In some countries, including Norway, Nyxoid is the only nasal naloxone product approved, said Thomas Clausen, a professor at the University of Oslo in Norway who runs the nation's naloxone program. Clausen is happy that Nyxoid is available, but not that a company profiting from mass marketing opioids is now trying to profit again off opioid addiction.

"It's kind of a paradox," he said.

Clausen said he hopes other companies will enter the market, and that competition will drive down cost. In its basic, generic form, Clausen said, naloxone is so cheap that the United Nations launched a pilot program in central Asian countries providing injectable naloxone at a cost of around \$1 per kit.

Some critics argue that Mundipharma should be providing a cheaper — or even free — naloxone product, although Nyxoid's cost is not remarkable when compared to the exorbitant price of many prescription drugs in the U.S. The most common nasal antidote in the U.S. retails for more than \$100, double what most Europeans pay for Nyxoid.

Still, in some countries, Nyxoid's price could prove problematic.

Pernilla Isendahl runs a naloxone distribution program in a county in south Sweden that began in June 2018, when Nyxoid came onto the market. Each kit costs the government 450 Swedish Krona (\$47.)

The project is expected to run for at least three years, and she hopes after that the county will continue to pay for the medication, despite budget constraints.

"I can't really see how it would be financed by the people themselves, at the price it is now," she said.

In the United Kingdom, Nyxoid is being distributed by a handful of charities, said Peter Furlong, coordinator of British charity Change Grow Live's Nyxoid distribution pilot program in Manchester. Furlong is pleased more people now have access to the medicine, but it still costs more than injectable naloxone. Furlong said he asked Mundipharma if they could reduce the drug's price for the charity's pilot, which began in August, but Mundipharma told him it was too early to talk discounts.

Grand, the spokesman for Mundipharma Europe, said the company was working closely with charities and addiction organizations to identify the best ways to make the drug available to those who may benefit from it. Nyxoid's price reflects the company's investment, manufacturing cost and the value of the technology, while recognizing the "prevailing financial pressures that exist within care sectors," he said.

Stephen Wood, a fellow at the Harvard Medical School Center for Bioethics who studied how pharmaceutical companies in the U.S. raised prices on naloxone products as the addiction epidemic intensified, says that Sackler-owned companies manufacturing naloxone have an ethical duty to make it widely available.

"If they were trying to find a solution, they would just distribute naloxone for free," he said. "They could use all that money they made off opioids to help support a program where they are giving away this life-saving medication."

The Global Opioids project can be seen here: <https://www.apnews.com/GlobalOpioids>

Shooting at suburban Atlanta mall injures 1 as shoppers flee

By JEFF AMY Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — A shooting that wounded one man in a mall food court sent suburban Atlanta shoppers fleeing in panic Saturday.

The Cobb County Police Department said in a statement that the man was wounded at Cumberland Mall around 1 p.m. following an argument and that the shooting suspect ran away. The victim was taken to a hospital, where Cobb County Police spokeswoman Ofc. Sarah O'Hara said he was in surgery and "expected to survive his injuries."

Police said they have identified a suspect and are looking for him, but O'Hara provided no further details.

Three witnesses told The Associated Press they saw a man bleeding on the floor of the mall's food court after shots were heard. None of the witnesses would identify themselves.

Videos posted online showed people with shopping bags running in all directions from the food court, with some hiding under counters and tables. Shoppers reported that store employees in some cases told them to hide in stockrooms. Police, upon arriving, evacuated people who were found hiding.

Zyon Davis told WGCL-TV that he was shopping in a sporting goods store when he overheard two men arguing loudly at a deli in the food court. Davis said one of the men then drew a gun.

"You heard the gunshots, probably two or three shots," Davis said.

In the aftermath, Davis said some people pushed and shoved others to the ground as they ran.

"It was very chaotic," Davis said. "Everybody was running everywhere. Everything was a mess."

O'Hara said multiple shoppers were examined by paramedics because of panic attacks, while several pregnant women also sought examinations. She said a motorcycle officer was struck by another vehicle while coming to the mall, but was treated for minor injuries and released.

Police said in statements that the shooting was "an isolated incident," calling it a dispute between people who knew each other and "not an active shooter event." Police added that the original supervisor who arrived at the mall, "out of an abundance of caution," described the scene as an active shooter incident,

meaning a gunman targeting numbers of people in a public place.

Jammal Jones, a 29-year-old Atlanta resident, said he was with his girlfriend eating in the food court when he saw the fight break out.

"You could tell somebody was like fighting. You could hear the sneakers. You could hear them screeching like on the basketball courts," Jones said, adding he ducked for cover when the gun went off. He described a scene of chaos with people running after the fight broke out and then the gunfire.

"Everybody running and got out of there quick," he said. "...It was just like, wow, that's crazy. I usually watch this sort of thing on YouTube and there it is happening in front of you."

The mall was closed for a time Saturday afternoon following the shooting, but later reopened. O'Hara said shoppers left behind "copious amounts of items" while running away, urging people to claim them.

Cumberland Mall, in suburban Cobb County, is owned by Brookfield Properties, which manages more than 170 shopping centers across the United States. The mall has more than 1 million square feet (92,000 square meters) of retail space and is anchored by Macy's and Costco. It's in a busy suburban business district, near where major league baseball's Atlanta Braves play in their new stadium.

This story has been corrected to fix the spelling of "Jammal."

Toxic air, gases hamper search for last 2 volcano victims

By MARK BAKER and STEVE McMORRAN Associated Press

WHAKATANE, New Zealand (AP) — A second land search of New Zealand's volcanic White Island on Sunday failed to locate the bodies of the last two victims of an eruption that has now claimed 16 lives, most of them tourists.

New Zealand police confirmed the 16th victim died Saturday at Sydney's Concord Hospital, one of several Australian hospitals where survivors suffering from severe burns were being treated.

Ten of the dead are thought to be Australians. Of the 47 people on White Island when it erupted, 24 were Australian citizens and four more were permanent residents of Australia.

Two four-person teams landed on the island by helicopter early Sunday morning and searched a location thought to be the most likely place where one of the bodies might be. The teams, wearing heavy protective clothing, were using breathing apparatus that allowed them to search for only 75 minutes.

They were unable to locate either body and returned to the New Zealand mainland where they underwent decontamination after being exposed to toxic ash and gases.

"We have always anticipated recovering all bodies from the island and we remain deeply committed to that goal to allow families some closure," Police Deputy Commissioner John Tims said.

Later Sunday, divers were due to resume their search of waters around the island despite near zero visibility that hampered their efforts on Saturday. Rescue teams had reported seeing a body in the sea a day after Monday's eruption.

Police have not included the two missing — believed to be a New Zealander tour guide and a boat captain who had taken tourists to the island — among the dead until their bodies are recovered. Police meanwhile released the names of five victims who have been formally identified. They include four Australians and one New Zealander.

Among the dead are 15-year-old Zoe Hosking from Australia and her stepfather Gavin Dallow, 53. The first named victim was Krystal Browitt, a veterinary nursing student from Melbourne, Australia, who turned 21 on Nov. 29.

Ash and other fallout from the eruption has made the sea near the island toxic and divers have to be washed clean after every completed dive.

Tims called search conditions "unique and challenging."

"Divers have reported seeing a number of dead fish and eels washed ashore and floating in the water," he said.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern called on New Zealanders to observe a minute's silence in memory of

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 50 of 58

victims of the disaster at 2:11 p.m. on Monday, exactly a week from the eruption. Ardern and her Cabinet will pause in silence during their regular meeting at Parliament in Wellington.

Military specialists recovered six bodies on Friday thought to be of Australians, who were most of the visitors to the island when the volcano blew up.

Scientists have warned that White Island, which is the exposed tip of a mostly undersea volcano, is highly volatile, and has been venting steam and mud regularly.

Husband and wife Pratap and Mayuri Singh were confirmed Saturday to be among survivors. The Atlanta couple are recovering from burns in Auckland's Middlemore Hospital where their conditions were listed as stable.

Specialist medical teams were heading to New Zealand from Australia, Britain and the United States. Skin banks were also sending tissue to New Zealand hospitals to use for grafts.

Authorities say 24 Australians, nine Americans, five New Zealanders, four Germans, two Britons, two Chinese and a Malaysian were on the island at the time. Many were from a Royal Caribbean cruise ship that had left Sydney two days earlier.

McMorran reported from Wellington, New Zealand.

Newtown football title brings joy on painful anniversary

NEWTOWN, Conn. (AP) — Newtown marked the seventh anniversary of the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School with vigils, church services and a moment of joy when the community's high school football team — with a shooting victim's brother as linebacker — won the state championship Saturday in a last-minute thrill.

The Newtown High School Nighthawks won the Class LL state championship on a 36-yard touchdown pass as time expired, beating Darien 13-7. The title was the first for Newtown since 1992. The team ends the season undefeated.

Ben Pinto, whose brother Jack was among those killed in the shooting, played linebacker for Newtown. "The whole town showed out on this special night," senior Jared Dunn told The Hartford Courant. "We knew we had to bring it home for our town."

Twenty first graders and six educators were killed at the elementary school on Dec. 14, 2012.

At a remembrance service earlier Saturday, Monsignor Robert Weiss, of St. Rose of Lima Church, expressed dismay about how the spate of deadly gun violence has continued in the U.S. since Sandy Hook.

"On this day seven years ago, we all thought the world was going to change. But it seems we were deluded because the situation has gotten even worse with the violence of guns," Weiss told a packed memorial Mass on Saturday, Hearst Connecticut Media reported. "We live in fear, we live in anxiety, and yet we live in hope because we know God walks with us."

According to Connecticut Against Gun Violence, which helped to organize vigils held in the state on Saturday, more than 700,000 Americans have been killed or injured in gun violence since the Sandy Hook shooting.

The annual memorial Mass at St. Rose of Lima began with the traditional reading of the names of the Sandy Hook victims. A bell was solemnly rung after each name was recited.

While seven years have passed, many in the small community of Newtown still struggle to cope with the magnitude of the tragedy.

"Just when I thought I was moving past the difficult part of this experience, it comes back. And I know it is like that for a lot of us in Newtown," Rabbi Shaul Praver said during an interfaith service at Newtown Congregational Church.

Weiss was overcome by tears at the end of his homily.

"I am asked all the time how we are doing — how our families are doing — and my answer is, 'I don't know,' because every day brings something new," Weiss said. "All we are given is what we have here this morning."

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 51 of 58

Gov. Ned Lamont ordered all state and U.S. flags in Connecticut to be flown at half-staff from sunrise to sunset on Saturday in remembrance of the Newtown victims.

"The tragedy that occurred that day is one of the worst in our history," Lamont, a Democrat, said in a statement. "But in its aftermath, we witnessed an unprecedented outpouring of humanity, hope, and kindness cascading into our state from over the entire world, spreading a message of love that we must proactively protect."

Perry tops 300 yards, Navy trickery tops Army 31-7

By DAN GELSTON AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Navy coach Ken Niumatalolo wrapped Malcolm Perry tighter than an Army defense could muster for an embrace that served as a bit of an apology.

Perry had done it all for Navy in a 31-7 victory Saturday that earned him MVP honors in the 120th game between the service academies. Perry became the fourth quarterback in FBS history to rush for 300 yards, running for 304 yards with two touchdowns, and set a slew of program records.

It forced Niumatalolo to go on TV and issue a mea culpa: "I'm a bad coach. How did I bench him last year?"

Perry's biggest number? For the senior it was one, as in, the first time he led the No. 21 Mids past Army.

"This was the biggest game I've played in my life," Perry said. "We didn't win the last three games. But that makes this even more sweet."

Navy (10-2, No. 23, CFP) used a trick play to help reverse a rare losing streak against Army and won the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy for the 16th time.

Navy leads the series 61-52-7. The Black Knights (5-8) were trying to win four straight games in the Army-Navy series for the first time since 1993 to 1996.

Perry, the 5-foot-9, 190-pound senior quarterback, helped the fleet-of-foot Navy offense run away with the game. He ran for a 55-yard TD in the first half, added a 44-yard scamper and set Navy season records in yards rushing and total 100-yard games.

"We wanted to open up the box. The last few years, we played in a phone booth," Niumatalolo said. "We didn't want to play that way. We wanted to spread things out and let Malcolm's talent take over."

But Perry's role in Navy's most GIF-worthy play didn't end up with his name on the scoring sheet.

Perry took the snap at the 1-yard line, ran to his left and handed off the ball to receiver Chance Warren, who threw to Jamale Carothers for the score and a 14-7 lead. It was Navy's twist on the Philly Special — the Naval Special? — at the home of the Philadelphia Eagles.

It was Navy's only yard passing of the game.

"I kind of suspected it when we got down there," Perry said.

Perry, who ran 29 times, did not attempt a pass and Army surprise starter Christian Anderson threw just two times. There was more running at Lincoln Financial Field than at the Penn Relays held down the road each spring.

Anderson wasn't even listed on the two-deep depth chart and got the call over Kelvin Hopkins Jr. Hopkins had two rushing touchdowns last year in Army's 17-10 win over Navy and curiously played only mop-time in Saturday's loss. Anderson sparked the Black Knights on the game's methodical 10-minute, 41-second opening drive, scoring on a 5-yard run.

Army coach Jeff Monken said Hopkins had a pulled hamstring and only practiced once this week.

"He wasn't going to be able to just turn it on and open up," Monken said.

Perry needed just four plays to even the score on his first dynamic run of the game that sent the Mids into a frenzy. The traditional Philly game drew 68,075 fans and ESPN's "College GameDay" was on hand. The Cadets and Midshipmen stood, saluted, bounced and cheered for the entirety of what's billed as "America's Game." President Donald Trump attended the game for the second straight year. Trump also was at the 2016 game as president-elect.

Trump wore a red "Keep America Great" hat for the traditional coin flip in misty conditions. Army called

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 52 of 58

heads, the coin landed tails and the Midshipmen deferred possession. The referee said before the toss it was with "great pride, great honor, to welcome our Commander in Chief, our President of the United States, Donald J. Trump. Mr. President, thank you for all that you do."

With pride and patriotism stretched end zone to end zone, Trump sat on the Army side of the field in the first half and crossed the field to the Navy side for the second half.

Carothers crossed the goal line for a 5-yard score in the third that made it 21-3 and sent the 10½-point favorite Mids on their way toward clinching the CIC Trophy, awarded to the team with the best record in games among the three service academies.

"We're taking it home!" Navy players yelled as they carried the trophy.

Bijan Nichols kicked a 37-yard field goal and Perry added a 15-yard TD run in the fourth.

THE TAKEAWAY

Army: The Black Knights rushed for only 123 yards after averaging 311.7 yards this season, good enough for second nationally. Army had to surrender the CIC Trophy after winning it in consecutive seasons for the first time in program history.

"I wish I could pick out one thing that went wrong," Monken said. "We just never seemed to be playing as well as we're capable of playing. We're never going to be so talented that we can line up and whip a team on talent alone. When there's mistakes, they can be very costly for us."

Navy: Is trying to finish the season ranked in the AP Top 25 for only the third time (2004, 2015) in the last 56 years. Navy has been ranked during the season four times in the last five years. The Mids also improved to 11-2 over Army at Lincoln Financial Field.

RECORD WIN

Niumatalolo became the winningest coach in the history of the Army-Navy series with nine. Army's Earl Blaik went 8-8-2 from 1941-1958.

300 YARDS

QBs Khalil Tate in 2017, Jordan Lynch in 2013 and Stacey Robinson in 1990 all topped the 300-yard rushing mark in a game.

NAPOLEON OVERTHROWN

Perry passed Napoleon McCallum to set Navy's single-season rushing mark with 1,804 yards. McCallum held the record since 1983 with 1,587 yards.

Perry also became Navy's single-season record holder in total offense (2,831 yards). He also became the career leading rusher in the Army-Navy series, and he had the most rushing yards in a single game in the series.

UP NEXT

Army's season is over.

Navy plays Kansas State on Dec. 31 in the Liberty Bowl.

More AP college football: <https://apnews.com/Collegefootball> and https://twitter.com/AP_Top25

Under pressure, Hallmark pulls gay-themed wedding ads

By JOCELYN NOVECK AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Under pressure from a conservative advocacy group, The Hallmark Channel has pulled ads for a wedding-planning website that featured two brides kissing at the altar.

The family-friendly network, which is in the midst of its heavily watched holiday programming, removed the ads because the controversy was a distraction, a spokesperson said in an interview Saturday.

"The debate surrounding these commercials on all sides was distracting from the purpose of our network, which is to provide entertainment value," said a statement provided by Molly Biber, senior vice president for public affairs and communications at Hallmark.

In an interview, she added: "The Hallmark brand is never going to be divisive. We don't want to generate controversy, we've tried very hard to stay out of it ... we just felt it was in the best interest of the brand

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 53 of 58

to pull them and not continue to generate controversy.”

There was immediate criticism on Twitter. Ellen DeGeneres asked Hallmark: “Isn’t it almost 2020? What are you thinking? Please explain. We’re all ears.”

Biwer confirmed that a conservative group, One Million Moms, part of the American Family Association, had complained about the ads to Bill Abbott, CEO of Crown Media Family Networks, Hallmark’s parent company.

A post on the group’s website said that Abbott “reported the advertisement aired in error.” The group also wrote: “The call to our office gave us the opportunity to confirm the Hallmark Channel will continue to be a safe and family-friendly network.”

Zola had submitted six ads, and four had a lesbian couple. After Hallmark pulled those ads, but not two featuring only opposite-sex couples, Zola pulled its remaining ads, the company said.

“The only difference between the commercials that were flagged and the ones that were approved was that the commercials that did not meet Hallmark’s standards included a lesbian couple kissing,” said Mike Chi, Zola’s chief marketing officer, in a statement sent to the AP. “Hallmark approved a commercial where a heterosexual couple kissed.

“All kisses, couples and marriages are equal celebrations of love and we will no longer be advertising on Hallmark,” Chi said.

In one of the pulled ads, two brides stand at the altar and wonder aloud whether their wedding would be going more smoothly if they had used a wedding planning site like Zola. The lighthearted ad ends with the two brides sharing a quick kiss on the altar.

Actress Sandra Bernhard, who played one of the first openly bisexual characters on network TV in “Roseanne,” also criticized Hallmark’s decision.

“All the groovy gay ladies i know won’t be watching your Christmas schlock,” she wrote on Twitter, addressing Hallmark. “They’ll be out celebrating with their ‘families’ wives, children, friends on & on & getting married in chic ensembles. Didn’t you all get the memo? Family is all inclusive.”

The developments came as Hallmark appeared to be considering more same-sex themed content.

Asked about the possibility of holiday movies based on same-sex relationships, Abbott was quoted in The Hollywood Reporter in mid-November as saying on its TV podcast: “We’re open to really any type of movie of any type of relationship.”

Trump impeachment vote underscores a harshly partisan era

By ALAN FRAM Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — This coming week’s virtually certain House impeachment of President Donald Trump will underscore how Democrats and Republicans have morphed into fiercely divided camps since lawmakers impeached President Bill Clinton.

Twenty-one years ago this Thursday, a Republican-led House approved two impeachment articles against Democrat Clinton. While that battle was bitterly partisan, it was blurrier than the near party-line votes expected this week when the House, now run by Democrats, is poised to impeach Republican Trump.

Two of the four Clinton impeachment articles were killed — something party leaders today would jump through hoops to avoid for fear of highlighting divisions. All four Clinton articles drew GOP opposition, peaking at 81 on one vote. That’s an unthinkable number of defections today.

“Obviously it was partisan, but it wasn’t as intensely partisan as today is,” said Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., one of four Republicans who opposed all the Clinton impeachment articles and the last remaining member of that group in Congress. “So you could basically argue conscience, you could say you looked at it and didn’t think this was the way to go.”

In the upcoming votes on impeaching Trump, Democrats expect support from all but a few — two to perhaps five — of their members. Republican leaders envision no GOP desertions.

Underscoring the intensity of the partisanship, Rep. Jeff Van Drew of New Jersey, one of the Democrats planning to oppose impeachment, intends to switch parties and join the GOP. That’s according to

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 54 of 58

a Republican official who said top House Republicans have been told of Van Drew's plans and described the conversations on condition of anonymity.

Few defections are expected by either party when the GOP-run Senate holds a trial, probably in January, on whether to oust Trump from office. No one expects Democrats to muster the two-thirds Senate majority needed for removal over charges that he leveraged U.S. military aid and a White House meeting coveted by Ukrainian leaders to pressure them to announce investigations of his Democratic political foes.

Most Democrats were dismissive of the GOP's impeachment charges that Clinton lied to a grand jury and others about his affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

"The Constitution is really to protect the nation against the abuse of presidential power. Any husband could lie under oath about an affair. It doesn't take presidential powers to do that," Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., who opposed the Clinton impeachment and is still in Congress, said in an interview Friday.

Clinton was a lame duck but widely popular president who was presiding over a booming economy, and polling showed that impeachment had little support. That gave Democrats little reason to back the effort to remove him and made many Republicans think twice about backing impeachment.

Back then, each party had scores of moderate lawmakers who would cross party lines on issues such as abortion, taxes and spending.

That helps explain why 81 Republicans opposed one defeated Clinton impeachment article. The other three articles drew 28, 12 and 5 GOP "no" votes. No more than five Democrats backed any of the articles impeaching Clinton.

Former Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, was chief House GOP vote counter in 1998 and was known as "The Hammer" for his effectiveness in lining up support. In an interview Friday, he said he urged wavering Republicans to read evidence gathered by Ken Starr, the independent counsel who headed the investigation into Clinton that led to the impeachment.

DeLay said party leaders "cannot break arms" on an impeachment vote because it is too important. That echoes current Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who has said she's not lobbying Democrats on the upcoming Trump votes.

"I knew where the votes were all along, and why they were wavering and why they were struggling," DeLay said. "The questions they had, we wanted to make sure that we got answers for them."

The numbers of moderate House Democrats and Republicans have dwindled dramatically, especially among the GOP. Only three House Republicans represent districts that Democrat Hillary Clinton carried in the 2016 presidential election, yet all three are expected to oppose Trump's impeachment.

Trump faces reelection next year and has a strong track record of weaponizing Twitter to demolish the political careers of Republicans who oppose him. Retired GOP Sens. Jeff Flake of Arizona and Bob Corker of Tennessee left Congress following running battles with Trump, and South Carolina Rep. Mark Sanford lost a party primary last year after running afoul of him.

"If you cross Trump, you're a short-timer when it comes to politics," said John Feehery, a GOP consultant and former House leadership aide.

In contrast, several House Republicans who opposed at least one Clinton impeachment article saw their political careers prosper. They include John Thune of South Dakota, now the No. 2 Senate GOP leader; John Kasich, who became a two-term Ohio governor and challenged Trump for the 2016 presidential nomination; and current Sens. Rob Portman of Ohio and Richard Burr of North Carolina.

Sanford rose to South Carolina governor, but abandoned the job after admitting to an extramarital affair. He returned to the House but was defeated after clashing with Trump.

Clinton's impeachment came four years after Republicans led by Rep. Newt Gingrich of Georgia captured House control for the first time in four decades.

Gingrich became speaker and embraced aggressive confrontations with Democrats. That culminated in the House impeachment of Clinton, which the GOP-led Senate later rejecting. But even the Gingrich era's battles were tamer than today's fights, with Clinton's impeachment a case in point.

The calendar of both impeachment votes also helps explain why party divisions will be sharper this time than they were for Clinton.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 55 of 58

The House's Clinton impeachment votes came a month after congressional elections, giving incumbents two years — a lifetime in politics — until they next faced voters.

This year's Trump impeachment votes will come as the 2020 primary season is about to begin, putting recalcitrant Republicans at risk of facing Trump-backed primary challengers.

At Army-Navy game, Trump touts new pro sports option

By JONATHAN LEMIRE Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — President Donald Trump used his appearance at the annual Army-Navy football game to pitch to the players an administration policy change that clears the way for athletes at the nation's military academies to play professional sports after they graduate and delay their active-duty service.

To cheers in each locker room before the 120th playing of the game, he said he was giving those athletes with pro potential the chance "to make a fortune and after you're all finished with your professional career, you'll go and you'll serve and everybody's thrilled."

Turning to Army's coach, Jeff Monken, the president joked, "It probably gives the coach no reason to ever lose another game."

A memo signed in November by Defense Secretary Mark Esper spelled out the new guidelines. It said the athletes must get approval from the Pentagon chief and it requires them to eventually fulfill their military obligation or repay the costs of their education. The Obama administration put a policy in place allowing some athletes to go to the pros and defer their military service.

In the Navy locker room, he congratulated the favored Midshipmen on "a hell of a season," but added, "You know, it's only a great season, you know it has to happen today, otherwise you wouldn't call it a great season. So you better go out there and play hard."

With impeachment looming in Washington, Trump made the day trip to Philadelphia for the second year in a row for the storied game. Trump, who also went in 2016 as president-elect, is the 10th commander in chief to attend the contest.

In 2016, Army snapped Navy's 14-game winning streak and has won three years in a row. But the Midshipmen routed Army's Black Knights 31-7 on Saturday. They had entered the game as a significant favorite.

Trump was accompanied by Esper and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Mark Milley. The president was on the field for the coin toss.

The crowd cheered as Trump walked off the field after the national anthem. He put on a red Keep America Great hat.

Trump emerged during the first half and sat on the Army side of the field, near the 50-yard line. There were sporadic shouts of "Trump!" and "Let's go Trump!" He crossed the field to the Navy side for the second half and left in the third quarter to return to Washington for an evening fundraiser at his hotel.

Trump has closely linked himself to the military, promoting increases in defense spending and overseas triumphs such as the October killing of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in Syria.

The game comes amid a renewed push by the White House to deliver moments that depict Trump governing — such as his visit to NATO in London last week and his successful lobbying for a new U.S.-Canada-Mexico trade deal — that it believes stands in stark contrast to the Democrats' impeachment effort.

In the coming week, Trump is expected to become the third president impeached after the House votes on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress.

Trump also has drawn the ire of many in the Pentagon. He has clashed with military leadership on a number of fronts, including on pushes to withdraw some U.S. forces from the Middle East and the Korean Peninsula as well as his at times lackluster support for military alliances such as NATO. His first defense secretary, James Mattis, resigned last year over Trump's decision to pull troops out from Syria.

Last month, Navy Secretary Richard Spencer was fired amid tensions between the Pentagon and the White House after Trump intervened to reverse sentences against three service members accused of committing war crimes.

Trump ignored Pentagon leaders who had told him such a move could damage the integrity of the military judicial system, the ability of military commanders to ensure good order and discipline, and the confidence of U.S. allies and partners who host U.S. troops.

Among the other presidents to attend the Army-Navy game are Barack Obama, George W. Bush, Gerald Ford and John F. Kennedy.

Fighting rages near Libya's capital amid push by rebel army

By SAMY MAGDY Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Just two days after rebel Libyan commander Khalifa Hifter declared a "final" and decisive battle for the capital Tripoli, heavy fighting raged for a 24-hour period between his troops and militias loosely allied with the internationally backed government based in the city, officials said Saturday.

The fighting came after Hifter, the leader of the self-styled Libyan National Army, said Thursday that the "zero hour" of his battle for Tripoli had begun, nearly eight months after he began an offensive to take the city from the country's Government of National Accord supported by the U.N.

The LNA's media office shared images of reinforcements arriving in Tripoli, including ground troops and pickup trucks with mounted machine guns and of clashes in southern parts of the city. Hifter's forces took control of the town of al-Tawghaar, just south of Tripoli, the LNA said. But Tripoli-based forces disputed that claim.

The fighting has threatened to plunge Libya into another bout of violence rivaling the scale of the 2011 conflict that ousted and killed longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi.

In the chaos that followed Gadhafi's death, the country was divided into two parts — a weak U.N.-supported administration in Tripoli and a rival government in the east aligned with the LNA.

The LNA's media office said it shot down a Turkish-made drone over the town of Ain Zara south of the capital. Hifter forces captured a major military camp from the Tripoli-allied militias and clashes continued around the camp, officials from both sides said.

The LNA also launched airstrikes overnight against an air base at the Air Force Academy in the city of Misrata, targeting military warehouses allegedly housing Turkish-made drones used by Tripoli-allied militias, said LNA spokesman Ahmed al-Mesmari.

Misrata, in western Libya, is the country's second largest city and is home to fierce militias who oppose Hifter and have been extremely important in the government's defense of Tripoli.

There was heavy fighting elsewhere around Tripoli in the new push by Hifter's forces and officials on both sides said the latest offensive has been more intense than Hifter's other offensives over the past eight months.

Since his troops marched toward Tripoli in April, Hifter has only been able to lay siege to the city, failing to claim it from the government of Prime Minister Fayez al-Sarraj.

In past months, battle lines have barely changed, with both sides dug in and shelling each other in the southern capital's reaches. Both sides have also sought support from regional and international backers.

U.N. experts said in a 376-page report to the U.N. Security Council this week that Jordan, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates are supporting Libya's warring sides and have "routinely and sometimes blatantly supplied weapons, with little effort to disguise the source" in violation of a U.N. arms embargo.

Hifter is backed by the United Arab Emirates and Egypt, France and Russia. The Tripoli-based government receives aid from Turkey, Qatar and Italy.

Libyan and U.S. officials have accused Russia of deploying fighters through a private security contractor, the Wagner Group, to key Libyan battleground areas in recent months.

While Moscow has repeatedly denied any role in the fighting in Libya, the Government of National Accord said it has documented between 600 and 800 Russian fighters in Libya fighting with Hifter forces.

"The Russian fighters' toughness, lethal techniques and coordination discipline have instilled fear in the anti-Hifter forces," said Jalel Harchaoui, a Libya expert at The Netherlands Institute of International Relations. "Now, Hifter and all foreign states backing him have become dramatically more confident that

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 57 of 58

Hifter's brigades will enter Tripoli within the foreseeable future."

The U.N. experts' report also said the presence of Chadian and Sudanese fighters in Libya "has become more marked" in 2019 and said they represent "a direct threat" to the country's security and stability.

Hifter's declaration of his most recent offensive came after the signing of a security arrangement and maritime deal between Sarraj's government and Turkey last month.

The maritime deal would give Turkey access to a Mediterranean Sea economic zone offshore from Libya. Cyprus, Egypt and Greece claim the accord violates international law.

The deal has also added tension to Turkey's ongoing dispute with Greece, Cyprus and Egypt over oil and gas drilling rights in the eastern Mediterranean.

Today in History

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Dec. 15, the 349th day of 2019. There are 16 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 15, 1978, President Jimmy Carter announced he would grant diplomatic recognition to Communist China on New Year's Day and sever official relations with Taiwan.

On this date:

In 1791, the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution, went into effect following ratification by Virginia.

In 1890, Sioux Indian Chief Sitting Bull and 11 other tribe members were killed in Grand River, South Dakota, during a confrontation with Indian police.

In 1944, a single-engine plane carrying bandleader Glenn Miller, a major in the U.S. Army Air Forces, disappeared over the English Channel while en route to Paris.

In 1961, former Nazi official Adolf Eichmann was sentenced to death by an Israeli court for crimes against humanity. (Eichmann was hanged 5 1/2 months later.)

In 1966, movie producer Walt Disney died in Los Angeles at age 65.

In 1967, the Silver Bridge between Gallipolis (gal-ih-puh-LEES'), Ohio, and Point Pleasant, West Virginia, collapsed into the Ohio River, killing 46 people.

In 1971, the Secret Service appointed its first five female special agents.

In 1974, the horror spoof "Young Frankenstein," starring Gene Wilder and directed by Mel Brooks, was released by 20th Century Fox.

In 1989, a popular uprising began in Romania that resulted in the downfall of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu (chow-SHEHS'-koo).

In 2000, the long-troubled Chernobyl nuclear power plant in Ukraine was closed for good.

In 2001, with a crash and a large dust cloud, a 50-foot tall section of steel — the last standing piece of the World Trade Center's facade — was brought down in New York.

In 2013, Nelson Mandela was laid to rest in his childhood hometown, ending a 10-day mourning period for South Africa's first black president.

Ten years ago: World leaders formally opened a U.N. climate change conference in Copenhagen. The Washington, D.C. City Council voted to legalize same-sex marriage. Boeing's new 787 "Dreamliner" jet went on its long-delayed first test flight, lifting off from Paine Field in Everett, Washington. Evangelist Oral Roberts died in Newport Beach, California, at age 91.

Five years ago: A 16-hour hostage siege began in Sydney, Australia, as an Iranian-born self-styled Muslim cleric took 17 hostages at a cafe; police ended up storming the cafe, resulting in the deaths of the gunman and two of his captives.

One year ago: President Donald Trump said Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke would be leaving the administration at year's end; Zinke was facing federal investigations into his travel, political activity and potential

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 167 ~ 58 of 58

conflicts of interest. Fearing that the incoming administration of Brazilian President-elect Jair Bolsonaro could restrict same-sex marriage, about 40 gay couples were married in downtown Sao Paulo.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Cindy Birdsong (The Supremes) is 80. Rock musician Dave Clark (The Dave Clark Five) is 77. Rock musician Carmine Appice (Vanilla Fudge) is 73. Actor Don Johnson is 70. Actress Melanie Chartoff is 69. Movie director Julie Taymor is 67. Movie director Alex Cox is 65. Actor Justin Ross is 65. Rock musician Paul Simonon (The Clash) is 64. Movie director John Lee Hancock is 63. Democratic Party activist Donna Brazile is 60. Country singer Doug Phelps (Brother Phelps; Kentucky Headhunters) is 59. Movie producer-director Reginald Hudlin is 58. Actress Helen Slater is 56. Actor Paul Kaye (TV: "Game of Thrones") is 55. Actress Molly Price is 54. Actor Garrett Wang (wahng) is 51. Actor Michael Shanks is 49. Actor Stuart Townsend is 47. Figure skater Surya Bonaly is 46. Actor Geoff Stults is 43. "Crowd-hyper" Kito Trawick (Ghostown DJs) is 42. Actor Adam Brody is 40. Actress Michelle Dockery is 38. Actor George O. Gore II is 37. Actress Camilla Luddington is 36. Rock musician Alana Haim (HYM) is 28. Actress Maude Apatow (AP'-ih-tow) is 22. Actress Stefania Owen is 22.

Thought for Today: "The world is moving so fast these days that the one who says it can't be done is generally interrupted by someone doing it." — Harry Emerson Fosdick, American clergyman (1878-1969).

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