

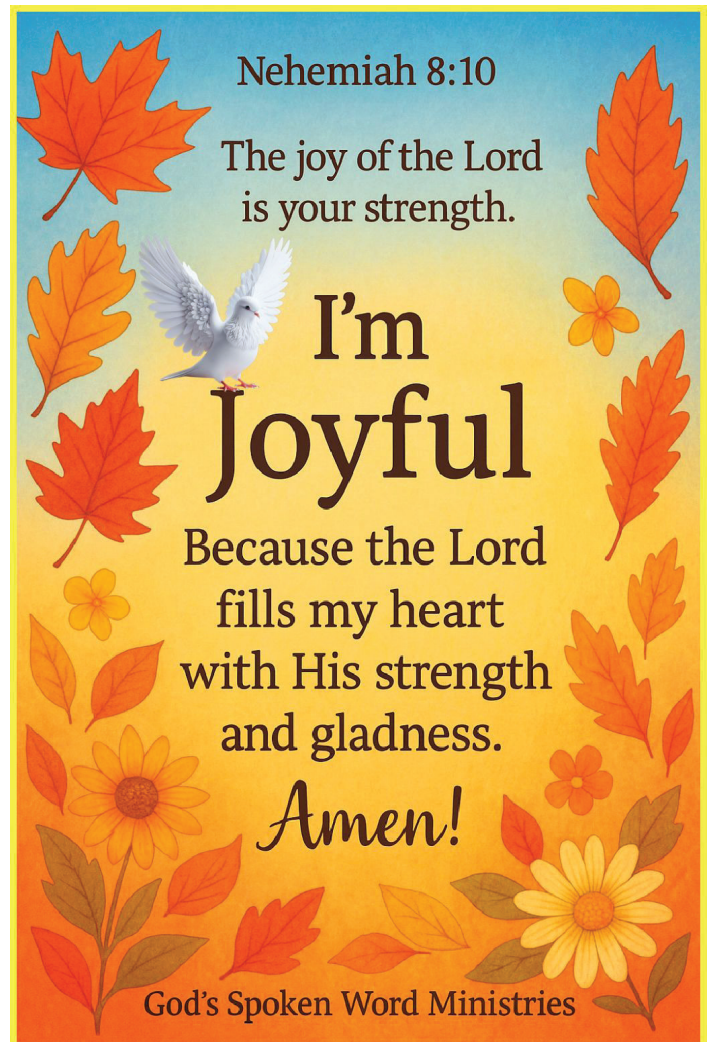
Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 1 of 94

- [1- Upcoming Events](#)
- [2- We the People Column: Ours is a Nation of Constitutional Law, Not Martial Law](#)
- [3- Names Released in Pennington County Fatal Crash](#)
- [4- Dakota Valley stops Groton Area in girls state semifinal game](#)
- [6- Volleyball Information for Britton-Hecla Match on Monday](#)
- [7- A night to remember at home, Northern defeats No. 10 Minnesota Duluth](#)
- [8- Power Outages this morning](#)
- [9- Pumpkin Fest held in Groton](#)
- [12- Sunday Extras](#)
- [30- Gov. Rhoden's Weekly Column](#)
- [31- Sen. Thune's Weekly Column](#)
- [32- Rep. Dusty Johnson's Weekly Column](#)
- [33- Weekly Round\[s\] Up](#)
- [34- Rev. Snyder's Column](#)
- [36- South Dakota Average Gas Prices](#)
- [37- Drought Monitor](#)
- [38- EarthTalk - Rela Estate Market](#)
- [39- SD SearchLight: Professor called out by candidates for social media post says politics is on a 'dangerous path'](#)
- [40- SD SearchLight: South Dakota governor, officials pledge \\$30.94 nightly to cover Rushmore lighting during shutdown](#)
- [41- SD SearchLight: Competition in Big Tech is at stake as Trump seeks more control of FTC](#)
- [44- Weather Pages](#)
- [49- Daily Devotional](#)
- [50- Subscription Form](#)
- [51- Lottery Numbers](#)
- [52- Upcoming Groton Events](#)
- [53- News from the Associated Press](#)

Sunday, Oct. 12

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with communion, 9 a.m.; Sunday School 10:15 a.m.; Choir 6 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Worship St. John's, 9 a.m., and Zion, 11 a.m.
United Methodist: Worship at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.
Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.
First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.



Groton CM&A: Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.

1st Grade GBB, 3:30 p.m.
2nd Grade GBB Practice, 6 p.m.
Dance Team Practice, 5 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 13

Native American Day
No School
Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.
4th Grade GBB, 4 p.m.
Volleyball hosts Britton-Hecla ((Gym: 7th-5, 8th-6; Arena: C-5, JV-6, V-7:15)
Senior Citizens meet at the Community Center, 1 p.m.

Groton Daily Independent
PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445
Paul's Cell/Text: 605-397-7460

© 2025 Groton Daily Independent

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 2 of 94

We the People

The South Dakota Humanities Council is making available a weekly column -- "We the People" -- that focuses on the U.S. Constitution. It is written by David Adler, who is president of The Alturas Institute, a non-profit organization created to promote the Constitution, gender equality, and civic education.



By David Adler

Ours is a Nation of Constitutional Law, Not Martial Law

Those words of rebuke from U.S. Federal District Judge Karin Immergut to President Donald Trump, who nominated her to the federal bench, might seem like an unnecessary reminder to most Americans raised in a civics tradition that teaches the supremacy of the Constitution and the president's subordination to it. But adherence to the supreme law of the land cannot be taken for granted when it represents an impediment to Trump's goals.

On October 4, Judge Immergut issued a ruling that blocked Trump's order calling up 200 National Guard troops in Oregon, which was based on his false characterization of Portland as a "war-ravaged" city, a hellscape of violence and arson, "under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists." Trump's misleading description of Portland in October of 2025 is attributable, in part, to the fact that he has been viewing news clips of the sporadic violence that broke out in the City of Roses in May of 2020, in the wake of the murder of George Floyd, who died at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer. Those sporadically violent protests in Portland in 2020, however, are not at all comparable to the current peaceful protesters in Portland, who complain of the treatment of undocumented immigrants.

With few exceptions, according to Portland law enforcement officials and reporters on the ground, current protests are peaceful, faithful to the law, and thus wholly entitled to First Amendment protections of speech and assembly. Trump's false portrayals of protesters' behavior in a small area in southwest Portland, where the Immigration and Custom Enforcement facility is located, Judge Immergut said, "are untethered to the facts" and risk unconstitutional military rule.

The facts on the ground are critical to the question of the legality of Trump's deployment of the Oregon National Guard, and his subsequent order to send members of the California National Guard to Portland, to circumvent Judge Immergut's prohibition, which she also blocked. For legal justification, Trump has invoked Title 10 of the U.S. Code, which pertains to the military. Trump relied on this statute in June when he called up the California guard and active-duty Marines, but U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer held that he had acted illegally, on the same reasoning employed by Judge Immergut: his false description of violence in Los Angeles was not grounded in the facts. It's likely that a federal judge in Chicago, who will hear on Thursday a legal challenge brought by Governor JB Pritzker and Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson, to Trump's deployment of the Texas National Guard to Illinois, will reach the same conclusion and render the same ruling.

Title 10, Section 12406, sets forth three statutory conditions that permit a president to federalize a state Guard: when the nation has been "invaded or is in danger of invasion by a foreign nation," when "there is a rebellion or danger of rebellion," or when "the president is unable with regular forces to execute the laws of the United States."

A court reviewing a presidential order must determine whether the president's decision to federalize the Guard "reflects a colorable assessment of the facts and law within a 'range of honest judgment.'" Courts, historically, have been deferential to presidential assessments of national security threats, but within limits, lest judges become rubber stamps for executive orders. Judge Immergut checked the "no" box on each of the conditions. Nobody's fantasy world is vibrant enough to believe an invasion is at hand, nor is it conceivable that the small group of Portland protesters constitutes a rebellion. Similarly, there is no colorable interference with the enforcement of the laws. Pity the poor Trump attorney whose defense collapsed on his argument that, because a shooter fired bullets at an ice facility in Dallas, Portland needed federalized troops.

Judge Immergut was likely astonished that an event 1,500 miles from Portland could be invoked to

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 3 of 94

justify an order to send guardsmen into Portland. She noted that a few of the protesters' acts might have crossed the line, but they occurred three months ago. In any case, they were readily handled by local law enforcement and did not require federal assistance. A "range of honest judgment" should not be understood as a blank check. "Facts," John Adams said, "are stubborn things." Indeed, they should be when a court determines, as it has in Portland, that Trump has acted illegally.

-David Adler

Names Released in Pennington County Fatal Crash

What: Single vehicle fatal crash

Where: SD Highway 44, mile marker 90, three miles east of Scenic, SD

When: 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, October 1, 2025

Vehicle 1: 2004 Honda Pilot

Driver 1: Chad Lee Doyle, Jr., 24-year-old male from Wanblee, SD, fatal injuries

Passenger 1a: Byron Joey Bear Killer, 23-year-old male from Allen, SD, fatal injuries

Passenger 1b: Twila Whitney Hard Heart, 21-year-old female from Rapid City, SD, fatal injuries

Passenger 1c: Danielle Lee Long Soldier, 33-year-old female from Wanblee, SD, fatal injuries

Passenger 1d: 10-year-old female, fatal injuries

Pennington County, S.D.- Five people died in a single vehicle crash late Wednesday evening, October 1, three miles east of Scenic, SD.

Preliminary crash information indicates Chad Lee Doyle, Jr., the driver of a 2004 Honda Pilot, was traveling eastbound on SD Highway 44 near mile marker 90 and failed to negotiate a curve. The vehicle entered the north ditch and struck an embankment. The vehicle then became engulfed in flames.

Doyle and four passengers, Byron Joey Bear Killer, Twila Whitney Hard Heart, Danielle Lee Long Soldier, and a 10-year-old female, died at the scene.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol is investigating the crash. All information released so far is only preliminary.

The Highway Patrol is an agency of the South Dakota Department of Public Safety.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 4 of 94

Dakota Valley stops Groton Area in girls state semifinal game

by Coach Matt Baumgartner

Final : Dakota Valley 3, Groton Area 0

Dakota Valley got two late first half goals and added a third for insurance in the second to beat us.

Hard to believe our season wrapped up so quick like it did. We endured a lot of good and fun moments throughout the season. For our record finishing at 8-6 I'm proud of it, but know we would have all liked 2-3 of our games to be flip flopped to wins and or at least a tie or two. The number 6 in losses hurts a little as it truly doesn't feel like it was "6" with a couple close games barely squeaking out of our reach and or just a miraculous 1/100 rainbow shot out of our favor, we were far superior than what the paper says of 8-6.

This 2nd season of coaching the girls had more emotional teaching moments and more humble behaviors for what it really takes to succeed in the game of soccer. Having 12 of our girls play in 2 consecutive state finals and coming up one game short from a third is something to be very thankful and proud of. Especially want to give kudos to seniors; Jerica Locke, Jaedyn Penning, Carly Gilbert and Mia Crank; their experience and dedication to our program, our community and youth are going to leave an everlasting mark and will always be part of the tiger soccer family.

It really is a testament to how close knit the group of seniors are and were to the younger classes and how they helped lead by example from day one and set the tone and standards for how our program trains, prepares and performs.

For myself, sadly I now have to relax a week early than I intended to. Overall though I am eager to get into my office and shuffle and sort through my dozens of game film notes, seed point scenario scribbles and relocate the top of my organized but mess of a desk. Having been at the helm of coaching all summer since May and being at the fields or preparing in my office space almost every day, a week or two off is all I really need to recharge. I'm also looking forward to a bit of the down time to watch back all our games in numerical sequence and see the growth and improvement on certain situations and players. It's the best feeling as a coach to sit back at the conclusion of the season and see the scenarios and skills taught in training come out and be on display when there isn't a game plan you're not strategizing up for.

I'm proud of the girls and thankful for all the teaching moments, the laughter they brought out and memories that were made.

None of our successes and happiness goes without the countless support of great parents, great teachers and a great community. It's truly a blessing to coach in the Groton Community and the future is bright!

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Avartara Groton, Basekamp Lodge, Bierman Farm Service, BK Custom Ts & More, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Ag Solutions, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton American Legion, Groton Dairy Queen, Harry Implement of Ferney, Ken's Food Fair, KR Body Shop of Andover, Lori's Pharmacy, The Meat House of Andover, Spanier Harvesting, Sun and Sea Travel, Weismantel Agency of Columbia.



Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 5 of 94



Jaedyn Penning
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Mia Crank
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Ashlyn Warrington adjusts the Captains band on the arm of Jerica Locke. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Taryn Traphagen
(Photo by Paul Kosel)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 6 of 94



High School Girls Volleyball Game *Britton-Hecla @ Groton Area* *Monday, October 13th, 2025*

Game Times/Locations:

Main Court in Arena <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 5:00PM → C- 6:00PM → JV- 7:15PM → Varsity	Main Court in Old Gym: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 5:00PM → 7th Grade- 6:00PM → 8th Grade	Ticket Takers (Report @ 4pm): <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Jodi Schwan- Janene Harry- Aaron Helvig Admin on Duty: Brett Schwan
--	---	---

Pre-Game Introductions:

1. National Anthem
2. Varsity Introductions/Lineups

LOCKER ROOM: Britton-Hecla will use the two locker rooms down the JH hallway. JH in the first, HS in the last.

ATHLETIC TRAINER: There will be an athletic trainer on site. AED is located near the ticket booth.

ADMISSION & SPECTATORS: Adults: \$5.00 Students: \$4.00.

CONCESSIONS: Will be available. **Full Circle Ag** is sponsoring FREE POPCORN at tonight's matches!

JV/Varsity Refs: Holly Vancura and Valeree DeVine

JV/Varsity Line Judges: Kristi Zoellner and Melanie Johnson

C Ref: Melanie Johnson

JH Scoreboard/JH Refs/JH Line Judges/C Line Judges: HS VB Players

C/JV/Varsity Scoreboard: Kristen Dolan

JV/V Official Book: Lynette Grieve

JV/V Libero Tracker: Becky Erickson

Announcer: Mike Imrie

National Anthem: Recording

Team Benches –

Groton: South Bench

Britton-Hecla: North Bench

Livestream:

- [Groton High School | High School Sports | Home | Hudl](https://fan.hudl.com/usa/sd/groton/organization/12097/groton-high-school)
fan.hudl.com/usa/sd/groton/organization/12097/groton-high-school
- GDlive.com (must pay \$5 to watch)

A night to remember at home, Northern defeats No. 10 Minnesota Duluth

Aberdeen, S.D. – The Northern State University football team made history on Saturday evening from The Bank with a 3-point upset victory over No. 10 Minnesota Duluth. The top-10 victory for the Wolves is the first in the Schmidt-era and only top-10 win in the last 20-plus years. In addition, the loss is the first of the season for the Bulldogs.

THE QUICK DETAILS

Final Score: NSU 34, UMD 31

Records: NSU 4-2 (4-2 NSIC), UMD 6-1 (5-1 NSIC)

Attendance: 5077

HOW IT HAPPENED

Minnesota Duluth scored on the opening drive of the contest, however the Wolves rallied back to take the lead at the end of the quarter

Jeremy Caruso put NSU on the board with a 36-yard field goal at 5:12 in the first, followed by a quick 3-and-out by UMD to give the Wolves the ball back

Three plays and a 62-yard receiving touchdown by Wyatt Block, via Brock Bagozzi, gave Northern their first lead of the contest

The Bulldogs tied the game five minutes into the second with a 32-yard field goal and Caruso responded with a 27-yard of his own for the 13-10 lead just three minutes later

The Wolves closed out the half, extending their lead to ten on a 2-yard rushing touchdown by Bagozzi with under a minute to play

Duluth opened the second half with a rushing score and held Northern to a 3-and-out, however a muffed punt return by the Bulldogs and recovery by Andrew Ewald turned the tables in NSU's favor

The Wolves kicked off the drive on the Duluth 18 yard-line and a 9-yard rush by Daniel Britt set DJ Smith up for the 9-yard receiving touchdown and a 27-17 lead for NSU

UMD clawed back with under five minutes remaining in the third, scoring on a 6-yard run by Walljasper; once again they were within three of the Wolves

As the third quarter ticked down, the Wolves went 78-yards down field, capped off by a 28-yard rushing touchdown by Daniel Britt to extend their lead to ten

The team's traded possessions in the fourth, however UMD broke through with 1:36 remaining in regulation for their fourth touchdown of the contest

Duluth successfully executed an onside kick and had the ball on the 50 yard-line with 1:35 on the clock

A 5-yard pass and pass interference penalty by the Wolves and the Bulldogs at the Northern 34 yard-line and within scoring distance, however Tasean Young Jr. sealed the game for NSU with an interception at the 25

Northern led the contest with 257 yards rushing and added 96 yards passing for 353 yards of total offense in the win; averaging 12.0 yards per completion and 5.8 yards per rush

The Wolves defense tallied one forced fumble, two fumble recoveries, and one interception in the win Bagozzi threw for 80 yards and a touchdown, leading the team, while Britt tallied a team second best 81 yards rushing; the pair each recorded a passing and rushing touchdown in the win

Block had a career day for the Wolves, notching 156 yards rushing with a 44-yard long, and 81 yards receiving with a 62-yard long

Jake Adams led the defense, returning to double figures with 17 tackles, including five solo stops, one pass break-up and one QB hurry

Elijah Jopp and Max Van Landingham followed with eight tackles a piece, while Javonnee Szymanski notched the team's forced fumble

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 8 of 94

Caruso tallied two field goals and four PATs, scoring ten points for the Wolves in the win, while Jackson Isakson punted for 73 yards including a 43-yard long

Cooper Eisenbeisz led returners with 95 total yards, including a 53-yard long on Northern's opening return of the game

NORTHERN STATE STATISTICAL STANDOUTS

Wyatt Block: 156 yards rushing, 6.5 yards per carry, 81 yards receiving, 1 touchdown

Daniel Britt: 81 yards rushing, 9.0 yards per carry, 1 touchdown

Jake Adams: 17 tackles, 5 solo tackles

Tasean Young Jr.: 2 tackles, 1 fumble recovery, 63 return yards, 1 interception

BEYOND THE BOX SCORE

Northern tallied their second straight win over the Bulldogs, the first back-to-back win seasons for NSU over UMD since 1999/2000

Block recorded his third straight 100-plus yard rushing game this season with a season second best 156

NSU is just the third team to rush for over 100-yards and only to rush for over 200 yards against UMD this season

UP NEXT

The Wolves are back in action next Saturday from Dacotah Bank Stadium in their lone non-conference contest of the season. NSU will host Southwest Minnesota State for a 4 p.m. kickoff as a part of Family Weekend.

Power Outages this morning

There are approximately 906 NorthWestern Energy customers without power this morning in Brown County. Otter Tail Power Company is reporting 77 customers without power in Kingsbury County.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 9 of 94



Scott Hanlon drives the kiddie train at the Groton Pumpkin Festival on Saturday. (Photo by Elizabeth Varin)



Aspen Cowan shows off the pumpkin she chose at the Steve Herron Memorial Pumpkin Patch during the Groton Pumpkin Festival on Saturday. (Photo by Elizabeth Varin)



People sort through pumpkins at the Steve Herron Memorial Pumpkin Patch during the Groton Pumpkin Festival on Saturday. (Photo by Elizabeth Varin)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 10 of 94



A group loads back onto a trailer for a hayride from the Steve Herron Memorial Pumpkin Festival to the City Park during the Groton Pumpkin Festival on Saturday. (Photo by Elizabeth Varin)



The Locken family (Chad, Britt, Calvin, Jorie and Graham) pose for a photo at the Groton Pumpkin Festival on Saturday. (Photo by Elizabeth Varin)



River Wipf lifts a large pumpkin at the Steve Herron Memorial Pumpkin Patch during the Groton Pumpkin Festival on Saturday. (Photo by Elizabeth Varin)



Denise Koehler and her grandson Crue Falcon, 5, were among the crowd of out-of-towners who headed to Groton for the Pumpkin Festival on Saturday. The two traveled five hours from Iowa to visit family and go to the event. (Photo by Elizabeth Varin)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 11 of 94



Hazel Neu show Louis Berg his painted face at the Groton Pumpkin Festival on Saturday.

(Photo by Elizabeth Varin)



Scott Hanlon drives the kiddie train at the Groton Pumpkin Festival on Saturday.

(Photo by Elizabeth Varin)



Volunteers kept the event running, serving food, facilitating different activities and driving the hayrides at the Groton Pumpkin Festival on Saturday.

(Photo by Elizabeth Varin)



Event organizers April Abeln and Topper Tastad pose for a photo at the Groton Pumpkin Festival on Saturday. Volunteers are already being sought to help plan next year's event as Abeln is stepping down after 10 years of helping and leading organization of the event.

(Photo by Elizabeth Varin)



Topper Tastad announces raffle prizes at the Groton Pumpkin Festival on Saturday.

(Photo by Elizabeth Varin)

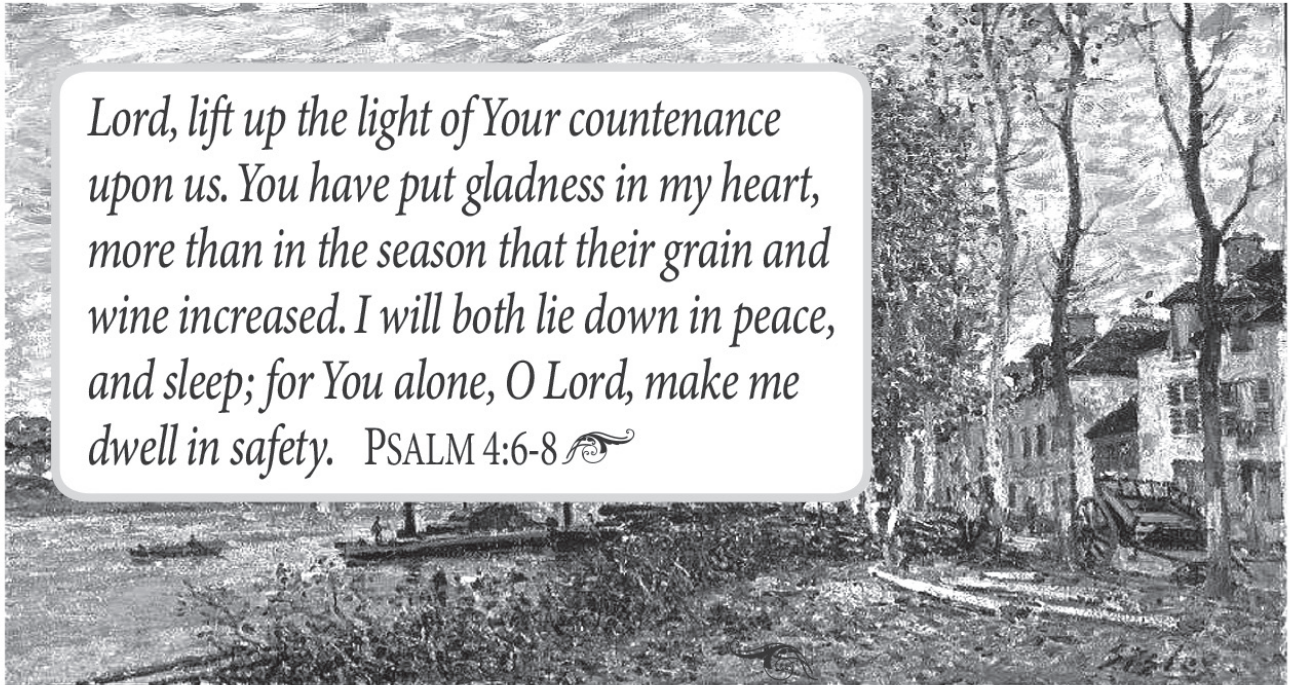
Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 12 of 94



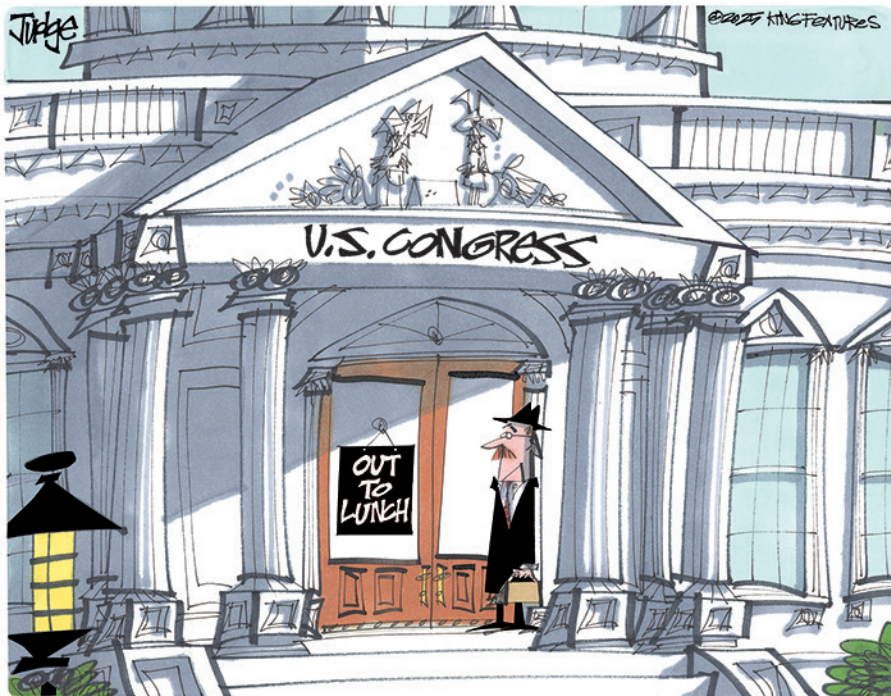
THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Lord, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us. You have put gladness in my heart, more than in the season that their grain and wine increased. I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety. PSALM 4:6-8



Detail of "Overcast Day at Saint-Mammes" by Alfred Sisley (1880)

© 2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.



BIBLE

TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Mark (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. From Genesis 32, who was “greatly afraid and distressed” about a reunion with a brother he had wronged? *Joseph, Jacob, Cain, Peter*

3. What city was beat down and sowed with salt? *Shechem, Caesarea, Gaza, Berea*

4. From Numbers 20, who died on a mountaintop after having his garment stripped? *Moses, Abraham, Noah, Aaron*

5. Who lost all his horse-drawn chariots in a sea? *Ornan, Balaam, Pharaoh, Benaiah*

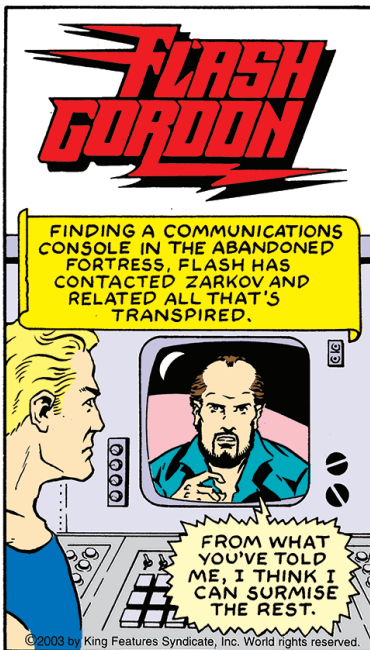
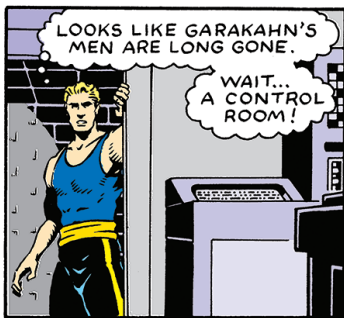
6. Where did Abraham meet angels? *River, Tent door, Juniper tree, Prison*

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Jacob, 3) Shechem, 4) Aaron, 5) Pharaoh, 6) Tent door

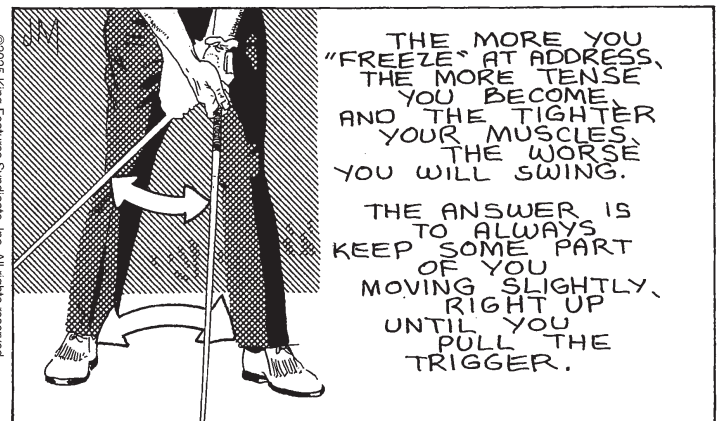
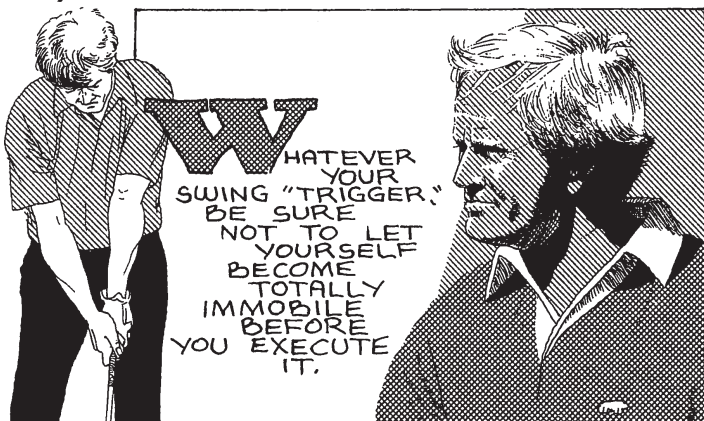
“Test Your Bible Knowledge,” a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 14 of 94



Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS





Man With Pacemaker Must Be Careful Around Induction Stovetops

DEAR DR. ROACH: My husband has a pacemaker. We have an induction stove, and his cardiologist was uncertain if it was safe for him to use it. So, he does not cook on the stovetop and stays clear of it when I am cooking.

Is it safe for him to use at least the back burners? When I am out of town or just not home, he is afraid to use the cooktop. I feel like at least the back burners should be at a sufficient distance to be safe. Do you know if it would be safe for him to use? He is 5 feet, 5 inches tall. Thank you. -- V.S.

ANSWER: Induction cooking stoves use powerful electromagnets to create a magnetic field. Inside the metal of your cookware, this creates electronic currents, which dissipate heat through electric resistance. However, this

powerful magnetic field can also "tell" your pacemaker to turn itself off or change its mode of activity. This is why it's important to avoid strong magnetic fields when one has a pacemaker.

For an induction stovetop, the recommendation is to stay 60 centimeters (2 feet) away from the device while it's turned on. This doesn't mean that he can't use it at all, just that he shouldn't be touching the pot continuously and should be using the back burners, which will likely keep him the requisite distance away.

DEAR DR. ROACH: My oncologist tries to type out his own notes from my office visit, but I think that he copies and pastes info from old notes. My history with him is very long and detailed (MRIs, CT scans, lab results, etc.). In addition, notes from all my hospital stays for chemo are there.

After my last office visit, he scheduled me for an MRI but made no mention of any change in medication. I read his notes on the app and noticed there was an order for a new medication that was sent over to my pharmacy. It was for procarbazine, which I took as part of my chemotherapy in early 2024.

It was a mistake, but it was very upsetting. I had to make several phone calls to get it straightened out. So, if people have access to online notes, please make sure that you are looking at the most recent information. -- M.D.

ANSWER: Having the ability to read your physician's notes is, in my opinion, a very good thing. Correcting mistakes is probably the most important reason why. One study found that 25% of doctors picked up an important mistake in their record based on patient feedback.

Procarbazine, by the way, is an extremely powerful chemotherapy drug and would never have been dispensed by the pharmacy without confirmation from your doctor. In the hospital, there are multiple layers of protection to make sure that the right person gets the right dose of the right medicine. It wouldn't be given out lightly.

Reading your doctor's note hopefully gives a person some insight into a doctor's thought process and may help people understand why their doctor made the recommendations that they did. Occasionally I have people who ask to change their medical records. This isn't allowed, but a note can be made about what the mistake was so that the information can be corrected.

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.

(c) 2025 North America Synd., Inc.

All Rights Reserved

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 16 of 94



"Freakier Friday" (PG) -- With the 2003 film "Freaky Friday" being near and dear to many millennial and Gen-Z hearts, Disney knew exactly what it was doing in greenlighting a sequel to the

film. It fared well, grossing \$153 million worldwide on a \$45 million budget, and brought Lindsay Lohan back to the big screen. Jamie Lee Curtis reprises her role as Anna's (Lohan) mother, Tess, in the film, which kicks off with Anna getting engaged to Londoner Eric (Manny Jacinto). Much to her daughter Harper's dismay, Anna debates uprooting them across the pond to appease Eric's daughter, Lily (Sophia Hammons). So, when some trickery ensues where Tess swaps bodies with Lily and Anna swaps bodies with Harper, Harper and Lily plan to use the situation to their advantage and split their parents up! Out now to rent. (Amazon Prime Video)

"Vicious" (R) -- Dakota Fanning is following up her last role in "The Watchers" with yet another horror film, which gives us another example of how well the genre fits the 31-year-old actress. She plays a young woman named Polly, who receives a visitor in the dead of the night. Polly foolishly lets in her visitor, an old woman, who presents her with a mysterious box. The old woman's instructions are simple: Place inside the box something you need, something you hate, and something you love. Failing to do so in time will result in Polly dying that very night. At first, Polly's at a complete loss as to how to proceed, but as time ticks away, she realizes she has no choice but to give the box exactly what it wants. Premieres on Oct. 10. (Paramount+)

"Mr. Scorsese" (TV-MA) -- Italian-American filmmaker Martin Scorsese has been responsible for creating some of the greatest films in Hollywood history, including "Taxi Driver" (1976), "Goodfellas" (1990), "The Departed" (2006), "The Wolf of Wall Street" (2013), and "Killers of the Flower Moon" (2023). The 82-year-old director still has more projects in the pipeline, but now is the perfect time to take a look back at Scorsese's legendary career and how he became an Academy Award and Palme d'Or winner. This five-part documentary series, directed by Rebecca Miller ("She Came to Me"), spans the life of Scorsese from when he was a student at New York University up until the present day. Some interesting names to watch for in this series are Robert De Niro, Steven Spielberg, Brian De Palma, Jodie Foster, and Daniel Day-Lewis. All five parts premiere on Oct. 17. (Apple TV+)

(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.



Dakota Fanning stars in "Vicious."

(Courtesy of MovieStillsDB)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 17 of 94



1. What does "P.Y.T." stand for, and who sang the song?
2. Who had a hit with "Sink the Bismark"?
3. How did ABBA get their start?
4. Who wrote "Funny How Time Slips Away"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "You give your hand to me and then you say, 'Hello.' And I can hardly speak, my heart is beating so."

Answers

1. "Pretty Young Thing," a song by Michael Jackson in 1982. It was one of seven singles released on his "Thriller" album.
2. Johnny Horton, in 1960. The Bismark was a German

battleship the United States sank in 1941. The song was inspired by the British film "Sink the Bismarck!" in 1960.

3. They won the 1974 Eurovision Song Contest for their song "Waterloo."

4. Willie Nelson, in 1961. It was first released by country artist Billy Walker and has since been covered by several artists, including Lyle Lovett and Al Green.

5. "You Don't Know Me," most notably by Ray Charles, in 1962. It was first released by singer-songwriter Eddy Arnold in 1955, and then by dozens of artists over the years, most recently this year by Irish artist Brigid Mae Power.

(c) 2025 King Features Syndicate

GRIN and BEAR IT *by Wagner*



"I have a list of things for you to do if you ever get out."

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

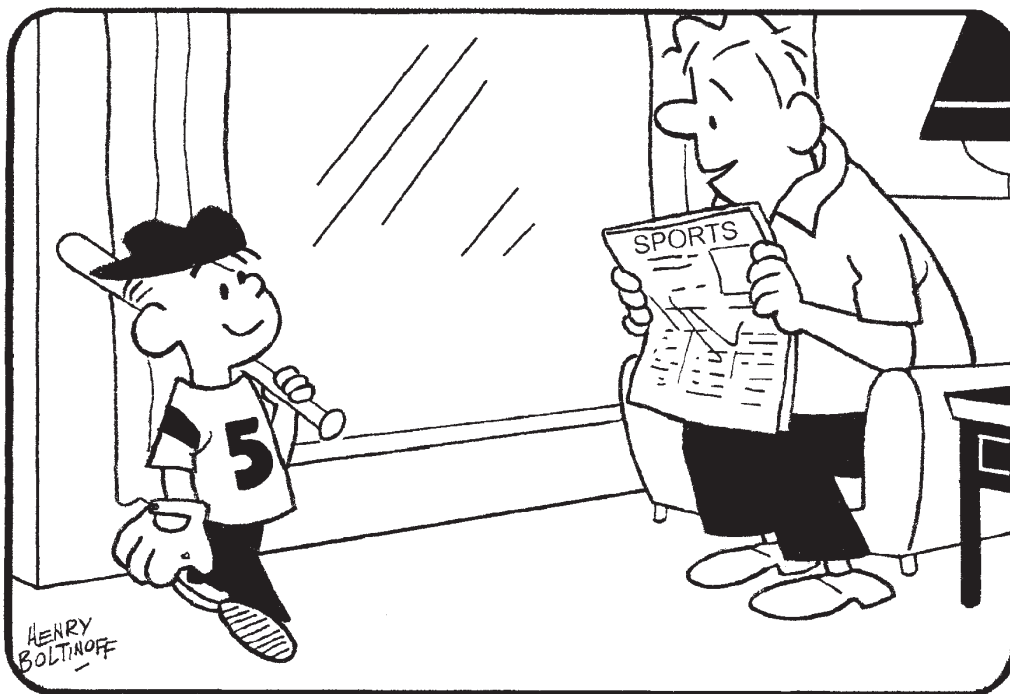


Groton Daily Independent

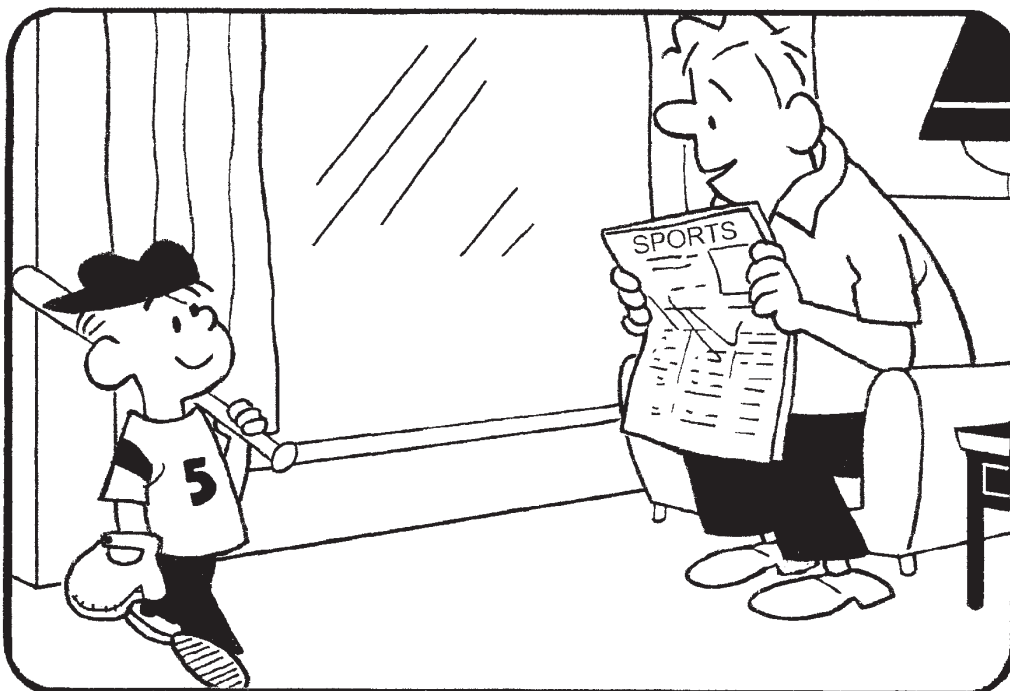
Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 18 of 94

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

Differences: 1. Boy is moved. 2. Table is smaller. 3. Newspaper is longer. 4. Glove is a catcher's mitt. 5. Number on shirt is smaller. 6. Curtain is wider on left side.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 19 of 94



* No apron? No problem. String a dishtowel around your waist using a belt, a bungee cord or a simple ribbon.

* "Want the smells of the season? Here's a great herbal tea that doubles as a whole-house fragrance: Combine one orange cut up, a cinnamon stick, a pinch of ground cloves and nutmeg with a few fresh cranberries and enough water to cover. Boil and waft. Then cool and drink! Happy fall." -- A.D. in New Hampshire

* "Dentists say to replace your toothbrush every two months, but they DON'T say to get rid of the old one. There are plenty of good uses for it. In the bathroom and kitchen to clean around the sink. Or for scrubbing stains after you dip it in pretreater. Just make sure you mark it well". -- V.E. in Washington

* Use baking soda to clean your stainless steel sink. It is a

mild abrasive and will remove gunk and make the sink shine.

* For use when camping: Mix together your dry spices and carefully pour into a straw. You must fold over the end and secure it with tape. Do the same to the other side to seal and you can stick it right in a plastic bag for use at the campsite. You can have many spices without having to bring a bunch of jars. Steaks taste terrific, or maybe you like cinnamon sugar for oatmeal or on baked apple.

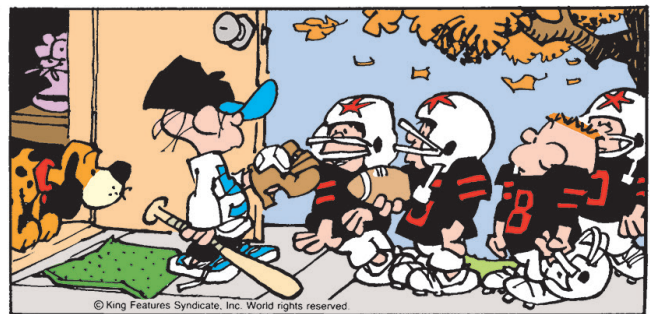
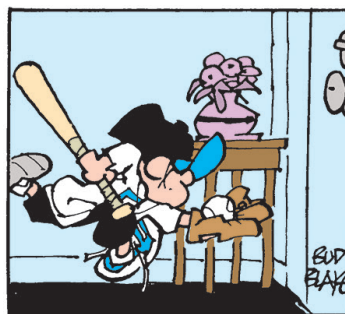
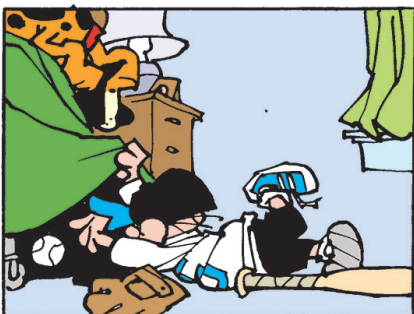
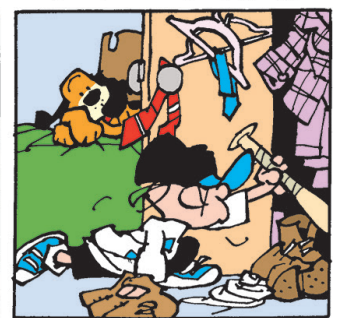
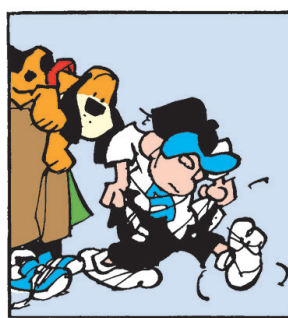
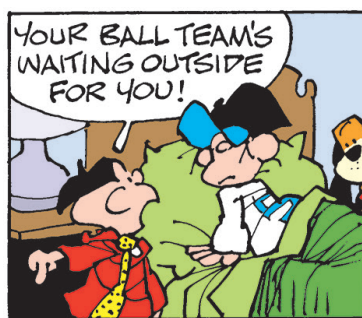
* Here's a tip to preserve an arrangement of greens, maybe the last of the season for some of you: Spray with hairspray. Arrange and spray again.

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

(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

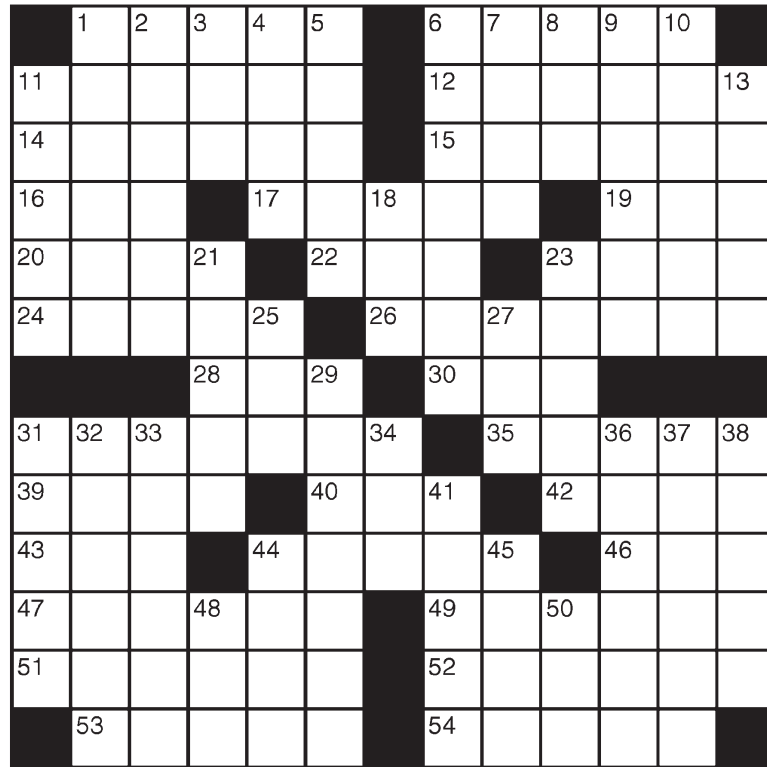


© King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Bulgaria's capital
6 Tub toys
11 Bacon pieces
12 Mistakes in print
14 Serengeti howlers
15 Pre-Easter
16 Swiss canton
17 Univ. divisions
19 Toll rd.
20 Lincoln in-law
22 "No seats"
23 Spring
24 Entangle
26 Surpassed
28 Tic-tac-toe win
30 Roofing goo
31 Indy 500 skid
35 Singer Norah
39 Marathoner's stat
40 Recipe abbr.
42 Humorist Sahl
43 Chang's brother
44 Unadorned
46 Kanga's kid
47 Asian peninsula
49 Designer Pierre
51 Van Gogh's " — Night"



- 52 How chicken may be served
53 Juan's farewell
54 Puccini opera
8 Prince Valiant's son
9 Body art
10 Intervene
11 Closes
13 Bracelet site
18 Expert
21 Unmanned plane
23 PC drive insert
25 Bathroom, to a Brit
27 — Mahal
29 Expenditures
31 Rose parts
32 Target at a fiesta
33 "That makes me happy!"
34 Airport screening org.
36 Type of skiing
37 Beethoven's Third
38 Sculptor's material
41 Loop of lace
44 Arsonist
45 iPod model
48 Onassis nickname
50 Train lines (Abbr.)

DOWN

- 1 "Sophie's Choice" author
2 Frozen fries brand
3 Shark feature
4 Apple tablet
5 Ninnies
6 Sing loudly
7 Unrefined metals

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 21 of 94

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

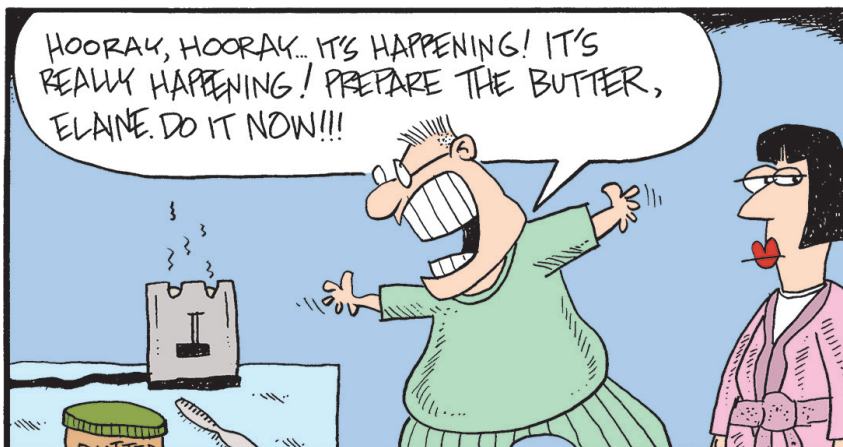
	S	O	F	I	A		B	O	A	T	S	
S	T	R	I	P	S		E	R	R	A	T	A
H	Y	E	N	A	S		L	E	N	T	E	N
U	R	I		D	E	P	T	S		T	P	K
T	O	D	D		S	R	O		C	O	I	L
S	N	A	R	L		O	U	T	D	O	N	E
			O	O	O		T	A	R			
S	P	I	N	O	U	T		J	O	N	E	S
T	I	M	E		T	S	P		M	O	R	T
E	N	G		P	L	A	I	N		R	O	O
M	A	L	A	Y	A		C	A	R	D	I	N
S	T	A	R	R	Y		O	N	R	I	C	E
	A	D	I	O	S		T	O	S	C	A	

Olive



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

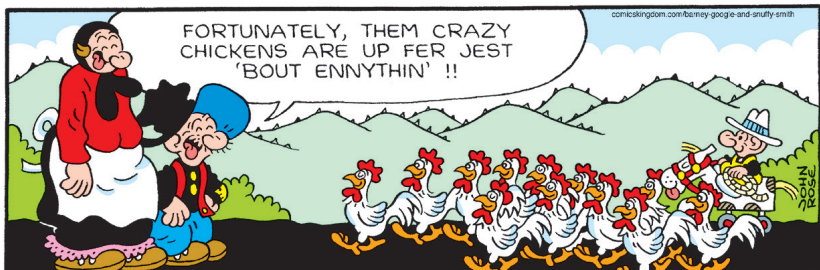
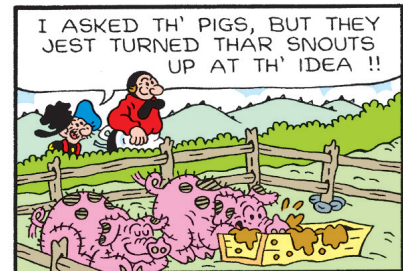
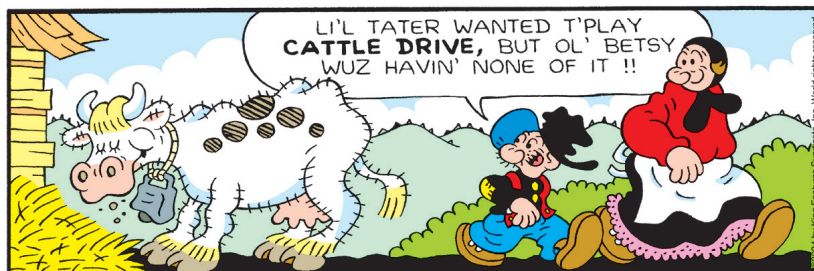
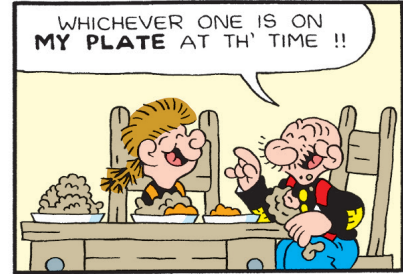
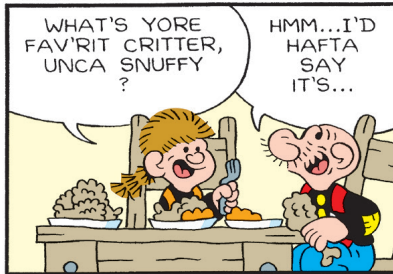
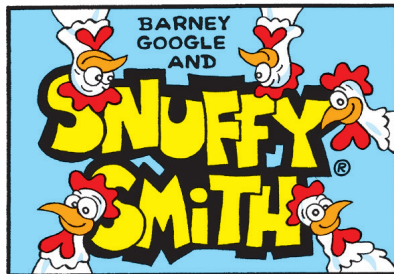


ANOTHER WAY TO TELL YOU'RE DEALING WITH SOMEONE WHO'S WAY TO ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT TOAST

KOPERVAS

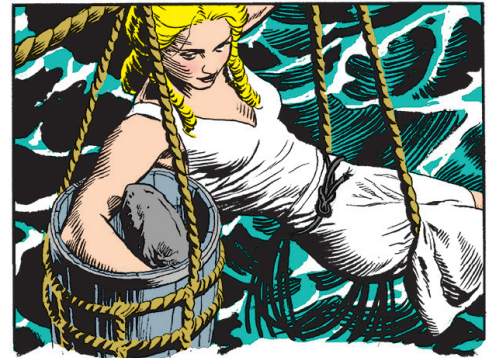
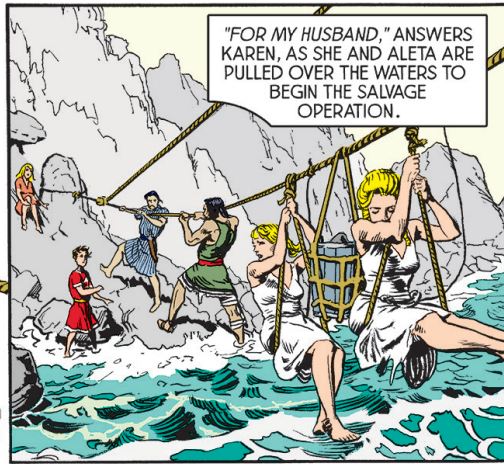
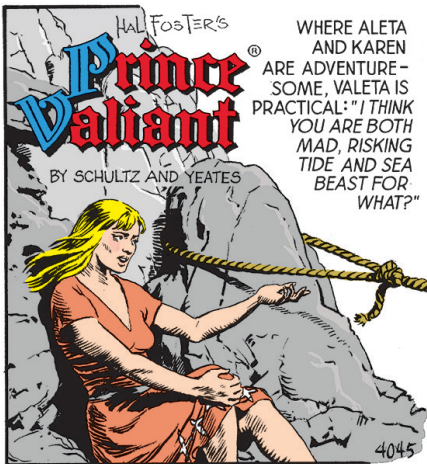
Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 22 of 94

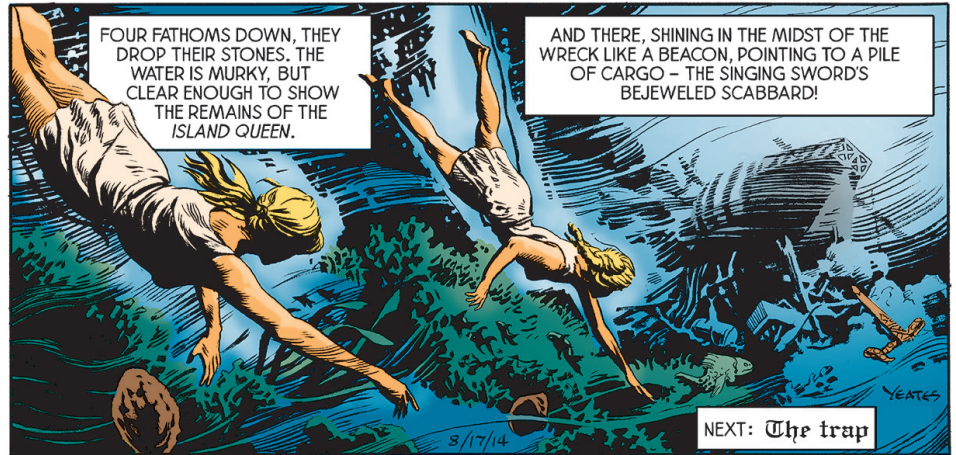
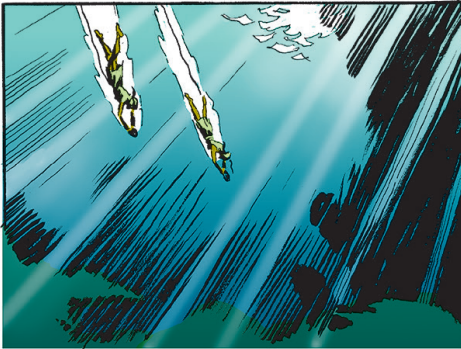


Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 23 of 94

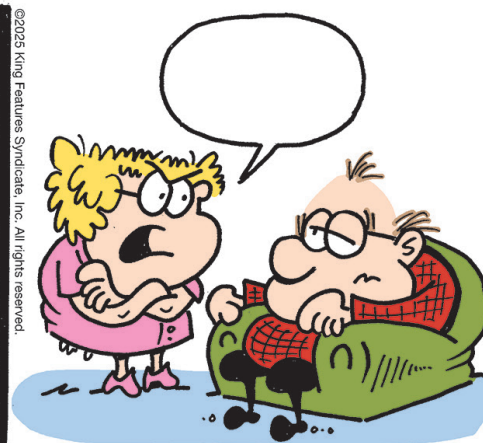
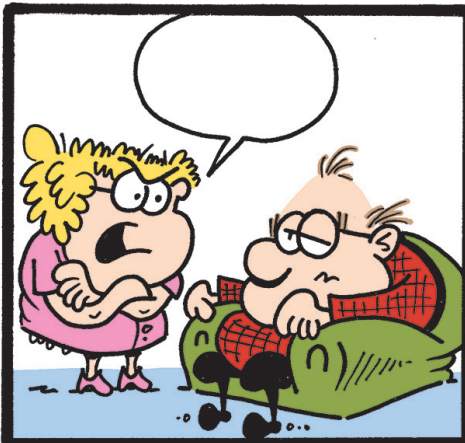


©2014 King Features Syndicate, Inc.



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 24 of 94

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Robotic pets

Some of us have gotten to the age where we wonder if adopting a pet would be the right thing to do, even though we know that having a pet would help with feelings of loneliness. Or maybe we have a friend or relative with Alzheimer's or who is in long-term care and needs some company or stress reduction but can't have a pet.

With those very things in mind, a company has created animatronic robot cats -- Joy For All Companion Pets for Seniors by Ageless Innovation.

While mostly marketed to seniors in long-term care facilities, there's no reason you can't have one at home!

Look for them on Amazon.com (Joy For All Companion Cats) to get all the details. The cats are the size of adult cats and come in three colors: black and white tuxedo, silver and white, and orange tabby.

They run on four C batteries and there are three settings: on, mute and off. The videos on the Amazon page show just what these robotic kitties do. They roll on their back, open and close their eyes, move their limbs, turn their head and even meow and purr when petted. And I can verify: When I played one of the cat videos and the robotic cat meowed, my own cat woke up from a nap and reacted to it!

These cats are expensive, ranging from \$125 to \$179, depending whether you find one on sale. They're also marketed to children, perhaps to get them used to a pet before getting a real one, but they're not toys.

Not a cat person? Rather have a puppy? You're not being left out. The Joy For All Companion Pet Golden Pup feels like a puppy, moves, barks, wags his tail and has a heartbeat. It even comes with a bandanna. Early Christmas gifts maybe? One thing is certain: These little robots are very cute.

(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

15 N Main St. - Ste. 101
Downtown Groton

Call/Text Paul: 605-397-7460
Call/Text Tina: 605-397-7285



Living Heart Fitness Center

Senior Citizens 65+

Physical Therapy.

\$20 a month

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 25 of 94

1. What NASCAR driver competed in 560 races from 1963-88 but never took the checkered flag despite having 103 finishes in the top 10?

2. Doug Easton, who founded Easton Archery in 1953, pioneered the use of what metal in sports equipment?

3. Name the Australian golfer who beat Fred Couples by three strokes to win his only major at the 1990 PGA Championship.

4. How many events are in the ultra-combined athletics competition known as the icosathlon?

5. Filipino flyweight boxing champion Francisco Villaruel Guilledo (1901-25) was better known by what name? (Hint: He shares it with a Mexican revolutionary.)

6. What American Greco-Roman wrestler won a gold medal at the 1984 Los Angeles Summer Olympics and was later instrumental in the growth of Ultimate Fighting Championship?

7. Luis Aparicio of the Chicago White Sox became the first Latin American player to win AL Rookie of the Year honors when he did it in 1956. Aparicio hailed from what country?



by Ryan A. Berenz

Answers

1. Buddy Arrington.

2. Aluminum.

3. Wayne Grady.

4. 20.

5. Pancho Villa.

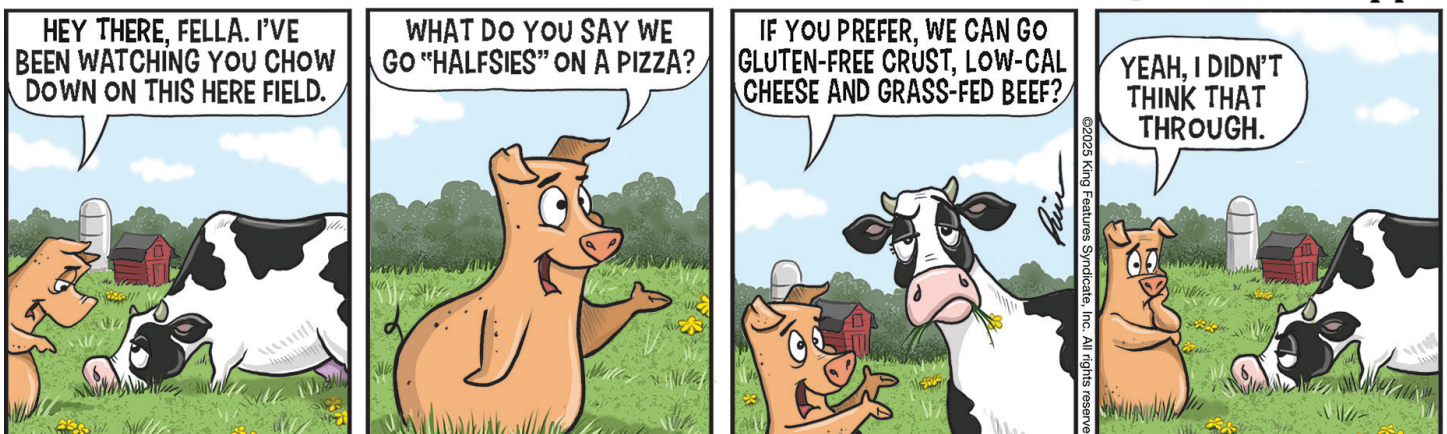
6. Jeff Blatnick.

7. Venezuela.

(c) 2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps





Puppy training 103: Regression

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I adopted a beautiful black Lab. "Sadie" was 10 weeks old, well socialized to people and other dogs by the shelter staff, and started training beautifully. Now she is 7 months old, and some days it seems like she has forgotten all of her behavioral training. She won't respond to commands, she pulls the leash and she jumps on people at the door. Why is she suddenly such a handful? -- Barry G. in Bellingham, Washington

DEAR BARRY: Congratulations! Your puppy is reaching the "rebellious teenager" phase of growth. This is a totally normal (if irritating) phase of a healthy, happy young dog, and it starts at about 7 to 10 months of age.

Much like human teenagers, puppies at this phase develop fun traits like selective hearing (they won't always listen or respond when called), challenging authority and testing boundaries. Part of what's happening is hormonal changes and growing pains, along with more familiarity with her environment and the routine you've set. These are important stages in Sadie's development, so don't get discouraged. You haven't failed at training her.

During a regression (which can also happen in adult dogs), it's important to focus on the basics of behavior training and maintain the routine you've established. If you walk Sadie each morning and practice "sit," "lay down," "heel" and "come" (recall from the end of the leash), don't change.

It's also important to manage your frustration. That can be hard when an adolescent dog is tangling the leash around your ankles! Breathe deeply, remind yourself that this, too, shall pass, and keep the leash short.

Send your tips, comments or questions to ask@pawscorner.com.

(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 27 of 94

Strange BUT TRUE

* In Birmingham, England, 2.5 million Mills & Boon books were pulped to create the top layer of the M6 toll road.

* A dog that had been kicked by a driver returned with a bunch of its friends and proceeded to trash the man's car, chewing up the fenders and wipers.

* Charles Joughin, the chief baker on the Titanic, allegedly treaded water for two hours before being rescued from the sunken vessel. He later claimed that the copious amounts of whiskey he consumed before the ship went down kept his

body warm enough to survive the subfreezing ocean temperature.

* Arnold Schwarzenegger once eloquently said: "I love Thanksgiving turkey. It's the only time in Los Angeles that you see natural breasts."

* Alcatraz holds an annual Indigenous Peoples' Thanksgiving Sunrise Gathering, also known as Unthanks-giving Day, to commemorate the 1969 occupation of Alcatraz and to protest the colonialist history of Thanksgiving.

* Instead of saying something like "the cat's pajamas" or "the bee's knees," the French say "the baby Jesus in velvet shorts."

* The red parasol moss *Splachnum rubrum* grows only on moose poop.

* In 2013, an American man named Ashrita Furman took the title of "the most bananas sliced with a sword on a slackline in one minute" by slicing 36 of them in 60 seconds.

* Some birds change the size of their brain every winter.

* In the 1970s, the NFL team now called the Seattle Seahawks opened a competition in which the public could suggest and vote on a name for them. About 1,750 suggestions and 20,000 entries were received.

* "Subdermatoglyphic" is the longest word without duplicate letters.

Thought for the Day: "Being the richest man in the cemetery doesn't matter to me. Going to bed at night saying we've done something wonderful, that's what matters to me." -- Steve Jobs

(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.



Witch hazel



The Osage tribes used witch hazel bark to treat skin ulcers and sores. The Potawatomi steamed twigs of the plant to soothe sore muscles. The Iroquois brewed a tea from it to treat dysentery, colds, and coughs. The early European settlers observed native American tribes using sticks from the witch hazel shrub to find underground sources of water: the "dowsing" end of the forked branch would bend when underground water was detected. - Brenda Weaver

Sources: theatlantic.com, www.fs.usda.gov

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 28 of 94



by Freddy Groves

Missing medical equipment at the VA

The VA appears to have lost \$211 million worth of medical equipment from their facilities, approximately 5% of the total. This includes computers, exam tables, microscopes ... over 75,000 items.

Per a recent 13-month audit of medical facilities by the VA's Office of Inspector General, there might be even more missing, because the VA only tracks nonexpendable items, those with a

shelf life of more than two years that have a purchase cost of more than \$5,000.

How is it possible to lose that much stuff?

One way to "lose" items is when the batteries in the electronic location tags die, making the item impossible to find.

Items were also "lost" because they were not in the location indicated by the inventory system. In this recent audit, the OIG could not find 537,000 items (33%) at the locations indicated on the previous inventory.

Add to that staff informed the OIG that if certain items were included in a previous audit, they didn't need to be included in the next audit. Many items had an average of 600 days between inventory dates, increasing the risk that items go missing forever.

It gets worse: The OIG learned that reporting of missing items had not been conducted as it should be in all cases. There were 915 missing item reports (value \$31.2 million) that had not been completely investigated, and over 200 items that hadn't been reported at all.

So what happens when proper inventories aren't done? If nothing else, items can't be assessed to determine whether they're in a condition to be used for patient care. If inventories aren't accurate, medical items can't be found immediately for patient care. If missing item reports aren't done, it can't be determined just how those items came to be missing. And there can't be accurate planning of future purchases if there isn't an accurate accounting of what is actually on hand.

I hope VA Secretary Doug Collins is paying attention to this.

(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 29 of 94

Wishing Well®

4	6	2	6	8	7	8	3	4	2	7	2	5
B	E	B	X	A	Y	C	N	E	E	O	O	L
4	7	8	6	8	5	6	8	4	7	4	6	4
O	U	T	P	O	O	E	N	P	G	E	C	N
2	4	8	3	6	2	4	8	7	5	4	8	3
R	T	Y	O	T	I	O	O	A	V	L	U	W
6	7	6	2	5	7	6	3	6	8	6	5	2
C	I	H	G	E	N	A	C	N	R	G	I	I
8	3	4	7	4	8	5	4	6	7	3	8	7
T	O	I	R	F	H	S	E	E	E	N	O	S
3	8	2	8	7	2	5	6	8	2	8	3	5
T	U	N	G	P	A	F	S	H	L	T	E	O
8	7	5	7	5	7	5	3	5	3	5	3	3
S	E	R	C	E	T	V	N	E	T	R	E	D

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

©2025 King Features Syndicate



1. GEOGRAPHY: Which U.S. state is the only one that borders on two oceans?

2. LITERATURE: Which famous author used the pseudonym Richard Bachman early in his career?

3. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the national animal of France?

4. MATH: What is the sum of the interior angles in a triangle?

5. HISTORY: Who was the first American president to win a Nobel Peace Prize?

6. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which ancient civilization built Machu Picchu?

7. ACRONYMS: What does the computing acronym API stand for?

8. MOVIES: What is the name of Elle Woods' Chihuahua in "Legally Blonde"?

9. MUSIC: Which musical instrument has 88 keys?

10. TELEVISION: Which television sitcom character is famous for saying, "Did I do that?"?

Answers

1. Alaska: Pacific Ocean and Arctic Ocean.

2. Stephen King.

3. The Gallic rooster.

4. 180 degrees.

5. Theodore Roosevelt.

6. Incan.

7. Application Programming Interface.

8. Bruiser.

9. Piano.

10. Steve Urkel.

© 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 30 of 94

South Dakota Governor



Larry Rhoden



South Dakota: *Under God, the People Rule*

A Shared Land

I recently visited Washington, DC, to see our South Dakota National Guard soldiers who are part of President Trump's effort to make DC safe and beautiful again. I was amazed by what they told me about their mission. But I was even more impressed by what I heard from a South Dakota native who lives in DC: "Having the National Guard here has changed everything. I've been here for 5 years, and I've never felt so safe as right now."

Washington, DC, is our nation's shared capital city. It's a place that all of us should admire and respect, because it's the seat of a government founded in admirable and respectable principles.

I heard our founding principles reflected time and time again throughout my trip to DC. Both the Trump Administration and Congress are focused on returning our government to one that is of, by, and for the people – and that is limited by the constitutional provisions that our Founding Fathers so wisely put into place. We talked about restoring opportunity for agriculture, security for our people, and economic possibilities that will make South Dakota, and our entire nation, grow and thrive.

I strengthened my rapport with crucial leaders like Senate Majority Leader John Thune (we are proud to have a South Dakotan in such a key position!), U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins, and Deputy Director of ICE Madison Sheahan (herself a former South Dakotan). And I strengthened our connection to the U.S. Department of the Interior, which is such a crucial entity for a rural state like ours.

I'm also working on strengthening relationships with our Native American tribes. I know that maintaining trust between the State and the Oceti Sakowin can be challenging, but I am committed to achieving it. I've visited several tribal nations on my Open for Opportunity tour, and I hope to visit all nine of our tribal nations soon.

South Dakota became a state in 1889, but long before that, this great land was already home to the Oceti Sakowin. We have nine tribal nations: Cheyenne River, Crow Creek, Flandreau, Lower Brule, Oglala Lakota, Rosebud, Standing Rock, Sisseton Wahpeton, and Yankton.

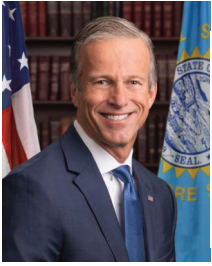
Just a few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to visit Crazy Horse Memorial and stand atop his arm. This monument has always impressed me – his face rises over 87 feet tall! Crazy Horse was recognized by the tribes as their greatest leader, which is why that memorial is such a crucial part of our Black Hills today.

Since 1990, South Dakota has recognized tribal nations on Native American Day. As we celebrate Native American Day, I encourage all South Dakotans to learn more about each of the tribes that call this land home. The South Dakota Office of Indian Education provides valuable resources for teachers, students, and the general public to learn more about the history, language, and cultural values of the Oceti Sakowin.

I invite tribal leaders to reach out with ideas on how we can better support your communities – just as I did with our federal leaders in Washington, DC. If we communicate and work together, the sky is the limit for what we can achieve.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 31 of 94



JOHN THUNE
U.S. SENATOR FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

Democrats' Shutdown Drags On

The government shutdown has entered its second week. In that time, Democrats have had numerous opportunities to end the shutdown by supporting the clean funding extension that has already passed the House and that President Trump is ready to sign. But, at the behest of their far-left base, they remain determined to prolong the government shutdown and the pain it is causing around the country.

Not even the prospect of American troops, law enforcement, and other federal workers going without a paycheck has been enough to get Democrats to support a clean bill to reopen the government. The Democrat leader's only interest seems to be in what the shutdown does for his party. "Every day gets better for us," he says. I don't know whether every day is getting better for Democrats, but it's certainly not getting better for the American people, who continue to suffer the consequences of Democrats' shutdown.

The reason we're in this mess – the reason why paychecks for service members and law enforcement officers are in jeopardy – is because Democrats' far-left base has demanded that Democrats fight President Trump at all costs. And so even though Republicans haven't asked Democrats to support a single new Republican policy, Senate Democrats continue to reject passing a clean, nonpartisan funding bill. They continue to bow to their far-left base, which is telling them to hold out, and insist on a staggering \$1.5 trillion in new partisan spending.

Democrats may be earning points with the far left, but I doubt they are getting much praise from any other corner. A recent poll found that 65 percent of voters think Democrats should reopen the government instead of holding out for their partisan demands. And I expect that number will only grow as Democrats' blocking government funding only causes more pain.

There's no reason it has to be this way. The clean, nonpartisan funding extension the House advanced is just one Senate roll call vote away from going to the president. President Trump stands ready to sign it. The shutdown can end as soon as a handful of Democrats decide they have had enough and join Republicans to support the clean extension. If Democrats would only agree, we could reopen the government in a matter of hours and stop this madness.

When this ends is entirely up to Democrats. The only viable option is to pass the clean funding extension, and we need just a handful more Democrat senators to pass this bill. We need just a handful of Democrats to realize that their partisan demands aren't worth widespread pain. Time will tell if they will.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 32 of 94



Peace and Protection

BIG Update

Just days after the two-year anniversary of Hamas' abhorrent attack on Israel, there was an agreement reached on a peace deal between Israel and Hamas is a great step towards lasting peace in the region. I'm grateful the Trump Administration never gave up in their efforts to end the violence and release the hostages. Leading with peace through strength delivers real results. This is a historic peace deal.

BIG Idea

Monday marks the 35th Native American Day in South Dakota. The holiday was adopted in 1990 as a sign of reconciliation and to honor the culture and contribution of the Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota people.

In March, I was named the most effective House member on Native American issues by the Center for Effective Lawmaking. The federal government has trust and treaty obligations to assist our nation's tribes. That's why I've advocated for additional law enforcement funding for tribes, reforms to the Indian Health Service, funding for tribal colleges and universities, and more. I can't do it all without the leadership and coordination of tribal leaders in South Dakota. I'm grateful for their partnership.

BIG News

The federal government remains shut down and the impact continues to grow. I voted two weeks ago to keep the government open and ensure essential services continue, which includes paying federal employees. Next week, 1.3 million service members will miss their paycheck if the government is not reopened. I've completed the necessary paperwork to not receive a paycheck while our men and women in uniform go without. Our troops deserve better—it's time for liberals in the Senate to reopen the government.

Federal safety nets, like WIC, are already running out of funds. WIC helps the most vulnerable women, infants, and children afford formula and food they need. This shutdown is already impacting these vulnerable populations the hardest.

Shutdowns don't benefit anybody. I've introduced a bill to make sure a shutdown never happens again. The government must be open to work as it should for the American people.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 33 of 94



**SEPTEMBER 29 -
OCTOBER 5, 2025**

Welcome back to another Weekly Round[s] Up.

As you know, this past week, we entered a government shutdown, otherwise known as the Schumer Shutdown. Democrats chose to shut down the government by refusing to pass a clean, 7-week continuing

resolution (CR). This legislation received bipartisan support in the House and would keep government open and funded through November 21. Instead, Senate Democrats are following their leader of Chuck Schumer and using the American people as leverage, attempting to unwind provisions from the reconciliation bill. One issue that will need to be addressed is whether to extend the enhanced ACA tax credits before they expire at the end of the year. Republicans will work with Democrats on this issue, but not until we get government reopened again.

While Republicans control the Senate, we still have a filibuster in place which requires about 10 Democrats to join us to end this Schumer Shutdown. Nobody wins in a government shutdown, especially essential personnel such as military members and law enforcement officers who are working without receiving pay. This is unacceptable and fully avoidable. We will continue to bring the clean, nonpartisan CR up for a vote in the hopes that cooler heads will prevail.

Despite the Schumer Shutdown, all five of my offices remain open and working for South Dakota. This past week, we continued our regular business of working to confirm President Trump's team and meeting with South Dakotans who were in Washington, D.C. More on the rest of my week in my Weekly Round[s] Up:

South Dakota groups I visited with: South Dakotans with American Optometric Association, Basin Electric Cooperative and South Dakota Rural Electric Association and Truckload Carriers Association.

Met with South Dakotans from: Rapid City, Madison, Brandon, Pierre and Sioux Falls.

Other meetings this past week: Brandon Pugh, Principal Cyber Advisor for the Department of the Army; James Caggy, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Mission Capabilities nominee; and Mark Uyeda, Commissioner for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Briefings: I attended four briefings including a CIA briefing, a Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Closed Briefing, a Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) briefing on the Golden Dome for America and one classified SASC briefing.

Votes taken: 13 – As mentioned above, I voted to fund the government three times, and Democrats continued to oppose, placing us in a government shutdown. We will remain in the shutdown until Democrats decide to end the Schumer Shutdown. We also voted to confirm 108 of President Trump's nominees for positions within his administration.

Legislation introduced: This past week I introduced "Kamisha's Law", legislation to eliminate the statute of limitations (SOL) for certain murder charges on federal and tribal lands. The law will remove the SOL for non-capital homicide offenses including second-degree murder as well as murder of federal officers. Read more on it here.

My staff in South Dakota visited: Keystone, Aberdeen, Bristol, Brookings, Hartford and Dallas.

Steps taken: 51,103 steps or 22.28 miles.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 34 of 94



Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries

PO Box 831313 - Ocala, FL 34483

1-352-216-3025

Snoozing Has Become My New Hobby

The Gracious Mistress Of The Parsonage asked me a question this past week.

"Well, my dear, have you come up with a new hobby yet?"

I've been retired for about four years. But I haven't been doing nothing. I have a weekly Sunday morning service at an assisted living facility. I have several writing projects on my desk. Also, I produced three weekly radio programs. So, it's not like I don't have anything to do.

When I officially retired, that's when The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said I needed to come up with some new hobby to occupy my time.

When she asked me that question, I asked her in return, "What is your definition of a hobby?"

She hesitated for a moment and then said very sternly, "A hobby is something you do for fun."

"Perhaps," I said with a twinkle in my eye, "my marriage to you is my primary hobby."

She had no reply to that, and so she walked away. That was four years ago, and I'm still doing the same things each week. Everything I do, I do for fun, if that's the definition of a hobby.

It is amazing how fast time flies by. You blink an eye, and a year has disappeared. I'm not sure where it goes, and I'll likely never find it.

The one thing that has my attention is what I like to call "Snoozing". Before I retired, I didn't think much about it, and of course, I didn't do too much about it either. However, after four years, I have developed a wonderful hobby I call Snoozing.

The fantastic thing about snoozing is that you can do it just about anywhere. The place I can't do it is behind the steering wheel in my truck while I'm driving. But I can practice my new hobby anywhere else.

A few weeks back, I went to a restaurant for lunch. I was all by myself, and before long, I found myself snoozing. The waitress came up, tapped me on my shoulder, and said, "Is there anything I can get you?"

As I woke up, I almost said, "And, who are you?" Fortunately, I didn't say.

There is no place I cannot practice my new hobby. Every week, I try to find a new place to practice my new hobby.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 35 of 94

It was last week when The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage asked me about my new hobby. "Do you have a new hobby for your retirement time?"

I looked at her and said most sweetly, "Yes, my dear I do have a new hobby that I'm very excited about."

Well, that excited her, and she replied, "Oh, please tell me about your new hobby. Maybe we can do it together."

I wasn't sure where to start, but I said, "I'm open to sharing my new hobby with you." This brought a smile to her face.

"I call my new hobby Snoozing. It has taken me several years to practice it to perfection. And I must say I am very close to perfecting this new hobby."

"What?" she said. "How can snoozing be hobby?"

"Don't you remember when I just retired you told me that a hobby was something you do for fun?"

She shook her head, and I went on, "I find nothing funner than snoozing. So, if you want to join me in my new hobby I will be glad to welcome you and I know we can have so much fun together."

Of course, I knew I was talking to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, who has quite a few hobbies. At the end of our house, she has a "craft room." I can't tell all the stuff she does in that little room. I once walked into it and got lost, which took me three hours to find my way out. I'm not going to collaborate with her and her hobbies.

Snoozing, on the other hand, is one hobby that can't be shared.

"I'm sorry," she said, "but I don't think I have any time in my schedule for your hobby. Enjoy it yourself."

That's exactly what I wanted to hear her say. When I'm practicing my hobby, I can only do it by myself. If there are two of us, one will sit in one rocking chair while the other sits in another rocking chair.

Everybody has a different view of their hobby, which they enjoy doing. When I was younger, I would never have considered snoozing to be a hobby. I had so many things to do, so little time to do them, that snoozing was never on my calendar.

As I grow older, my energy has become limited. I have prepared myself for taking a short snooze in the morning, a longer snooze in the afternoon, and a short snooze right after dinner. I've

never felt better than after I finished one of my hobbies.

Solomon said something that caught my attention. "There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God" (Ecclesiastes 2:24).

I have often been so caught up with work that there was no place in my life for laughter. I plan to make up for that in retirement. So far, I am making good on that.

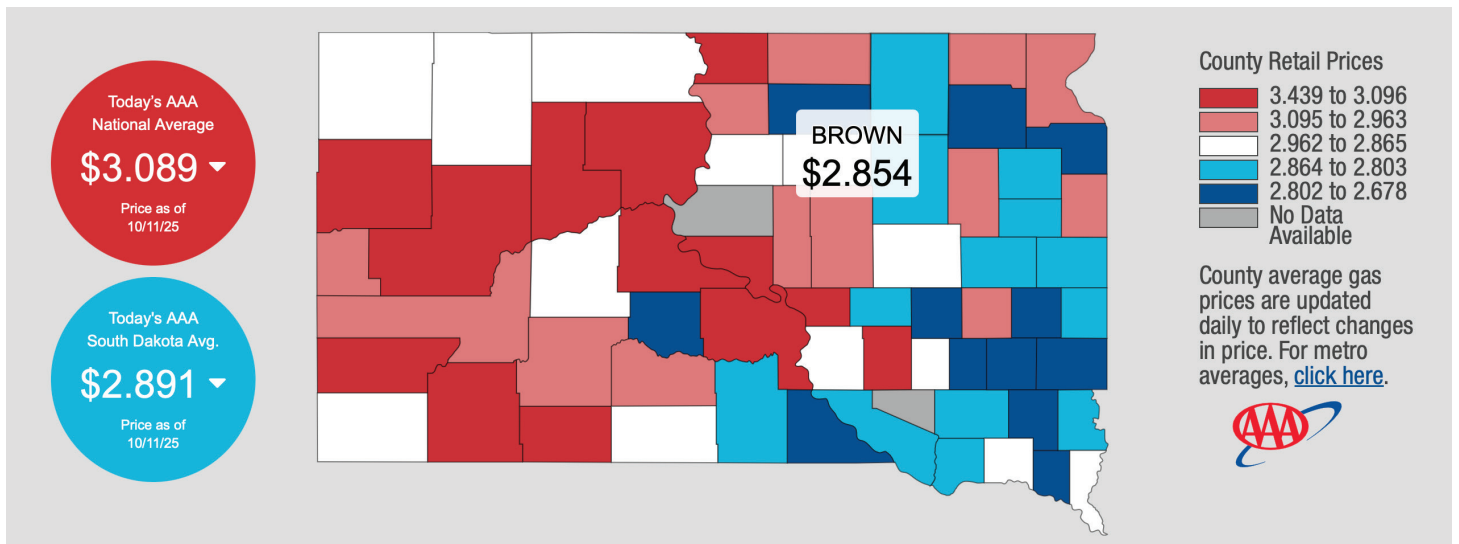
Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 36 of 94

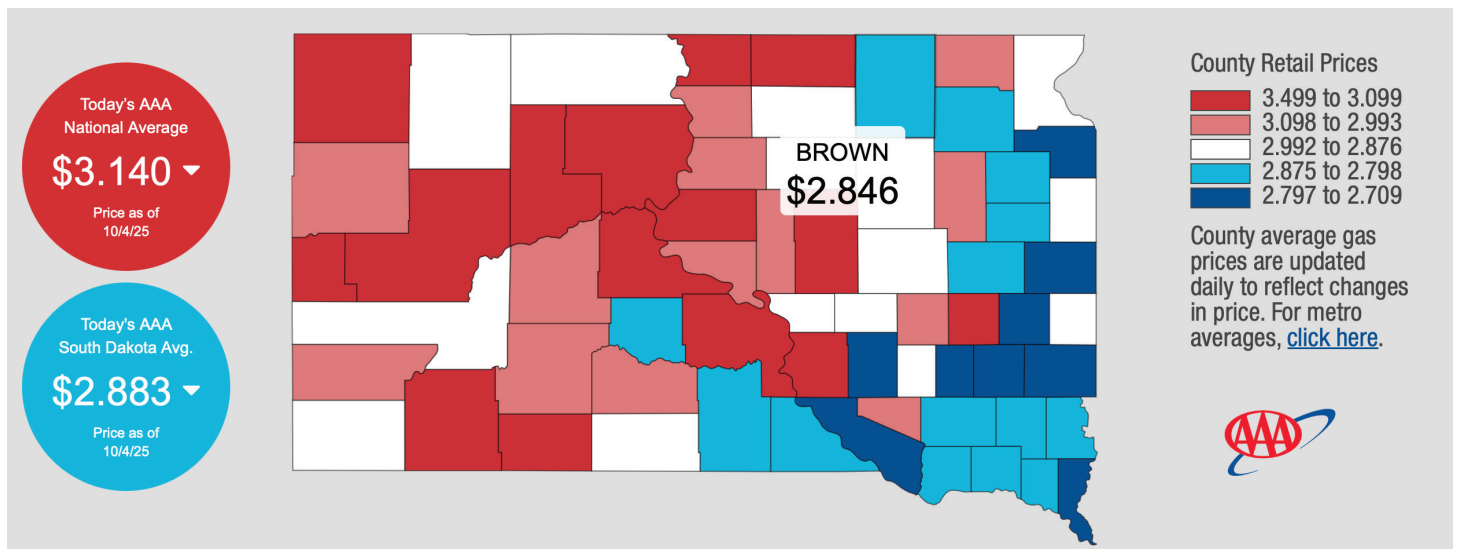
South Dakota Average Gas Prices

	Regular	Mid-Grade	Premium	Diesel
Current Avg.	\$2.891	\$3.072	\$3.549	\$3.323
Yesterday Avg.	\$2.897	\$3.064	\$3.554	\$3.332
Week Ago Avg.	\$2.883	\$3.056	\$3.525	\$3.349
Month Ago Avg.	\$3.013	\$3.202	\$3.649	\$3.411
Year Ago Avg.	\$3.094	\$3.273	\$3.697	\$3.317

This Week



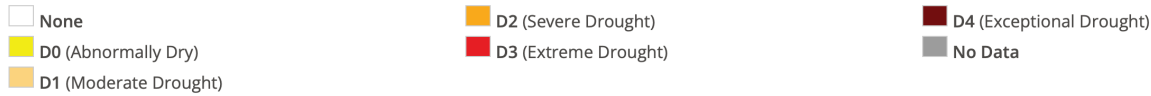
Last Week



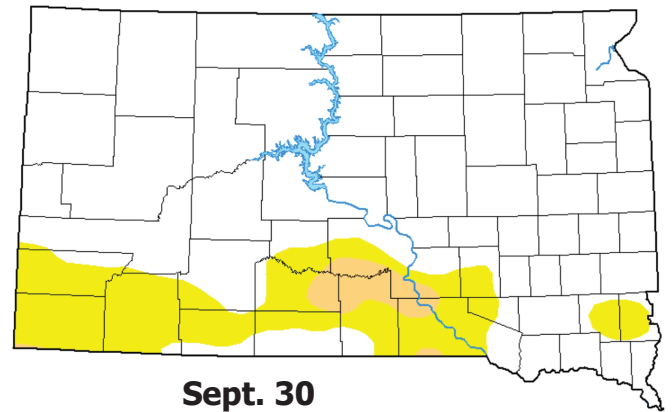
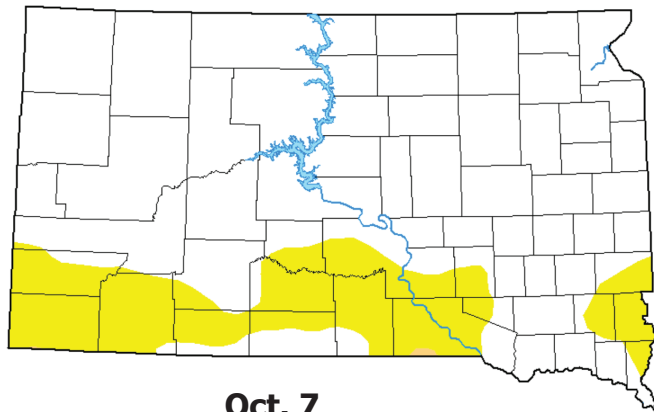
Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 37 of 94

Drought Classification



Drought Monitor



Temperatures this week across the High Plains region were mostly 5-15 degrees above normal, with parts of central Colorado and southern and western Wyoming seeing closer to normal temperatures. Moderate to locally heavy precipitation fell in parts of the San Juan Mountains in southwest Colorado, the Rocky Mountains of northern Colorado and across much of Wyoming, northwest South Dakota and central to north-central North Dakota. Precipitation this week added to a generally wetter recent pattern in the San Juans, north-central Colorado and southeast Wyoming. In these areas, short- and medium-term precipitation deficits lessened and soil moisture conditions improved, allowing for some improvements to ongoing drought and abnormal dryness. In north-central Kansas, moderate drought improved in some areas where locally over 2 inches of rain fell. In eastern Kansas, short-term abnormal dryness and moderate drought worsened in spots where streamflow and soil moisture levels dropped along with growing precipitation shortages. In northeast Nebraska and southeast South Dakota, dry weather over the past couple of months continued this week, leading to a large expansion in abnormal dryness that also extended further into northwest Iowa and southwest Minnesota.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 38 of 94

EARTHTALK

Real Estate Values Going Down Due To Global Warming by Shashwat Mishra

Dear EarthTalk: Has global warming already affected U.S. real estate values? —P.D., via email

Climate change isn't just a future threat—it's already reshaping the U.S. real estate market in ways many didn't expect. Rising sea levels, wildfires and flooding are making some areas riskier to live in. In some high-risk regions, home values are already declining while in others rising insurance costs and financing challenges are making it harder to sell. "Climate change is no longer a theoretical concern, it is a measurable force reshaping real estate markets and regional economies across the United States," says Jeremy Porter, First Street's head of climate implications research.

Coastal areas in states like Florida and Louisiana are seeing some of the biggest price drops. As weather intensifies and sea levels rise, buyers are becoming more hesitant to invest in waterfront properties that could be underwater—literally and financially—within a few decades. A 2023 study found that homes in flood-prone areas were overvalued by up to \$200 billion, suggesting that the market is due for major correction. In areas prone to fires, rising insurance costs have made homeownership more expensive.

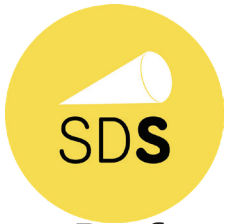
The financial consequences of climate-driven real estate shifts extend beyond individual homeowners. As property values drop, local governments lose tax revenue, which affects schools, infrastructure projects and emergency services. Municipalities that rely on property taxes to fund public programs may struggle to maintain essential services especially in areas that are seeing population declines due to climate migration. The banking industry is evolving as some lenders begin to factor climate risk into mortgage evaluations and interest rates. If a property is highly vulnerable to flooding or wildfires, lenders might be less willing to offer funding—or they might raise interest rates to counter potential risks.

As climate-related real estate trends speed up, homeowners and buyers can take actions to safeguard themselves. Reviewing FEMA's flood maps and local climate forecasts prior to purchasing a home is becoming increasingly important. In certain regions, property owners are putting money into retrofitting techniques like elevating foundations or utilizing fire-resistant substances to enhance the resilience of their homes. Promoting improved climate policies at both local and federal levels could also be beneficial, especially regarding infrastructure enhancements and land use rules.

As climate change keeps altering the housing market, both people and communities must adjust. Whether via more informed buying choices, improved climate strategies or enhanced financial protections, tackling the escalating threats to real estate is increasingly important for homeowners, investors, and governments.



Climate change isn't just a future threat—it's already reshaping the U.S. real estate market in ways many didn't expect. Credit: Pexels.com.



SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

<https://southdakotasearchlight.com>

Professor called out by candidates for social media post says politics is on a 'dangerous path'

Multiple Republican candidates for governor in South Dakota have publicly supported firing university employees for online comments

BY: JOSHUA HAIAR-OCTOBER 11, 2025

After multiple Republican candidates for governor advocated firing university professors recently for personal social media posts, one of those professors says South Dakota politics is sliding down a "dangerous path."

"They're trying to limit what universities can offer, what faculty members can teach, what we can say in the classroom, and now, apparently, outside of it," said Timothy Schorn, an associate professor of political science and director of the University of South Dakota's international studies program.

After the Sept. 10 fatal shooting of political activist and commentator Charlie Kirk, some Republican officials nationwide encouraged Americans to report people who criticized Kirk. Schorn is one of the people who has received scrutiny.

On the evening of Sept. 12, Schorn published a more than 700-word criticism of Kirk to a personal Facebook account. The post included criticism of Kirk's views on race, guns, religion and more.

On Sept. 30, Republican gubernatorial candidate Toby Doeden, of Aberdeen, published a social media post calling attention to Schorn's writings and accusing him of "indoctrination and radicalization of our young people."

"Under my leadership," Doeden wrote, people like Schorn "will have no place in the classroom!"

In a statement to South Dakota Searchlight, Doeden said taxpayers should not fund Schorn's views.

"This is about taxpayers' money, plain and simple," Doeden said. "If Mr. Schorn wants to open a business with his own money and speak this way, that is his right as an American."

U.S. Rep. Dusty Johnson, another Republican running for governor, has not called for firings in reaction to comments about Kirk. He told South Dakota Searchlight that he has disagreed with many of Schorn's comments.

"It's important to remember, though, that stupid comments from professors are generally protected by the First Amendment when issued as private citizens, rather than state employees," Johnson said.

Republican Gov. Larry Rhoden has not yet said whether he'll be a candidate to keep his job next year. He declined to comment about Schorn, but a spokesperson said Rhoden "takes open and civil discourse on our college campuses very seriously."

Rhoden was previously involved in another controversy about statements by a university professor.

In a post to a personal social media account within hours of Kirk's death, University of South Dakota art professor Michael Hook used profanity and derogatory terms to describe Kirk while questioning the veracity of Kirk supporters' concerns about political violence.

Two days later, candidate for governor and state Speaker of the House Jon Hansen, R-Dell Rapids, posted to social media about Hook.

"I immediately reached out to USD President Sheila Gestring and called on the professor to be fired," Hansen wrote.

Two hours after Hansen posted that, Rhoden posted to social media that "the Board of Regents intends to FIRE this University of South Dakota professor, and I'm glad."

"We must not send the message to our kids that this is acceptable public discourse. We need more

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 40 of 94

Charlie Kirks on campus and less hatred like this," Rhoden wrote.

The state Board of Regents and the university placed Hook on administrative leave with an intent to fire him. He sued, and a federal judge issued a temporary restraining order on Sept. 24, requiring the university to reinstate him pending further proceedings in the case.

The judge found that Hook had spoken as a citizen on a matter of public concern, which is a form of constitutionally protected speech; that the state failed to produce evidence that his speech had an adverse impact on the efficiency of university operations; and that Hook had a fair chance of prevailing in his lawsuit by showing the actions taken against him were a form of retaliation that could chill protected speech.

On Oct. 3, Hook's attorney released a letter from USD President Sheila Gestring informing Hook he would no longer be fired.

"We have taken into consideration your remorse for the post, your past record of service, and the university's interest in efficient operations," the letter said.

Hook issued a statement that said in part, "I hope the state now understands that the First Amendment prohibits it from punishing anyone for speech about public issues — no matter how much state or national leaders or others disagree with it."

Schorn, who studies authoritarian governments and human rights, said he views the threats of termination as part of a broader, national effort to chill speech and control thought.

"If universities can't tolerate uncomfortable ideas, then we're no longer educating, we're indoctrinating," Schorn said. "And that's exactly what these politicians claim to oppose."

Joshua Haiar is a reporter based in Sioux Falls. Born and raised in Mitchell, he joined the Navy as a public affairs specialist after high school and then earned a degree from the University of South Dakota. Prior to joining South Dakota Searchlight, Joshua worked for five years as a multimedia specialist and journalist with South Dakota Public Broadcasting.

South Dakota governor, officials pledge \$30.94 nightly to cover Rushmore lighting during shutdown

BY: JOHN HULT-OCTOBER 11, 2025 10:19 AM

South Dakota Gov. Larry Rhoden has pledged to pay \$217 of his own money to keep Mount Rushmore lit for the next week.

Rhoden's Saturday morning announcement came in tandem with pledges from West River lawmakers to personally pay the national memorial's nightly lighting ceremony bills. Rhoden pledged to cover seven nights. Various lawmakers and one private citizen have made pledges to pay the daily bill after Rhoden if the shutdown continues.

The nightly light bill is \$30.94, Rhoden spokeswoman Josie Harms told South Dakota Searchlight.

The memorial has remained open during the shutdown, but South Dakota's Travel SD website notes that the lighting ceremony is "temporarily unavailable." The visitor center is also closed and ranger talks are temporarily unavailable.

The promise to pay Rushmore's light bills is the latest in a series of statements from the Republican governor aimed at pressuring Congressional Democrats to fold and pass the funding bill supported by the body's GOP majority.

Since the shutdown began on Oct. 1, Democrats have pushed their Republican counterparts to negotiate on extensions for expiring health care subsidies before supporting a funding bill. Rhoden is among the Republican governors that signed on to a letter Thursday urging Democrats to give in and pass a funding bill.

On Sept. 30, Rhoden signed a statement from a group called the Governors Council of the America First Policy Institute urging both sides to find a way to avoid the shutdown that came hours later.

This week on social media, Rhoden used the term "Schumer Shutdown," a reference to the Senate's Democratic Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, of New York. Daily news releases from Republican Senate

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 41 of 94

Majority Leader John Thune, of South Dakota, use the term in their subject lines.

Rhoden's news release on the lights at Mount Rushmore says the payments were facilitated by the nonprofit Mount Rushmore Society through its partnership with the National Park Service.

It also says Rhoden "has received many other pledges to support shining the lights if the shutdown continues longer."

Rushmore boosters

The following private citizen and state lawmakers have pledged to pay the \$30.94 fee to light Mount Rushmore during a continued government shutdown.

- Marilyn Oakes, in memory of her late husband Arthur Oakes
- Rep. Mike Derby, R-Rapid City
- House Majority Leader Scott Odenbach, R-Spearfish
- Sen. Helene Duhamel, R-Rapid City
- Rep. Steve Duffy, R-Rapid City
- Sen. Randy Diebert, R-Spearfish
- Rep. Mary Fitzgerald, R-Spearfish
- Rep. Tim Goodwin, R-Rapid City
- Rep. Trish Ladner, R-Hot Springs
- Rep. Curt Massie, R-Rapid City

John is the senior reporter for South Dakota Searchlight. He has more than 15 years experience covering criminal justice, the environment and public affairs in South Dakota, including more than a decade at the Sioux Falls Argus Leader.

•

Competition in Big Tech is at stake as Trump seeks more control of FTC

BY: PAIGE GROSS-OCTOBER 11, 2025 6:02 PM

Leaders in the tech industry have enjoyed more freedom to make business moves and an overall de-regulatory attitude under the Trump administration, but antitrust experts say the administration's hands-off approach could end up hurting American companies' ability to innovate and compete on a global scale.

Antitrust laws protect fair competition, ensuring that no one company controls an entire market, price gouges for their products or controls the cost of labor. In the short term, a lax approach to these laws could mean the American people may see more big tech companies merge or acquire smaller competitors.

In the long-term, it means the already small group of people running the country's most powerful tech firms would gain even more control of the market, Illinois-based legislative attorney Maaria Mozaffar said.

"Traditionally, innovation in tech is inspired by how we can solve problems. And if there's fewer people that are not invested in solving problems, but more invested in making profit, the innovation's intent is going to be different," Mozaffar said. "We're going to get a repetition of the same models and the same products that are not actually solving problems, but just a faster way to make money."

Trump's approach to the FTC

Though Democrats and Republicans may have had different "philosophies" for antitrust rules in the past, it's unusual to see wide swings in attitudes from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), said New Jersey-based antitrust attorney Nadine Jones.

The independent regulatory agency, which protects consumer interests and anti-competitive business practices like price-fixing, illegal mergers and monopolization, has historically run with little influence from the president, Jones said, though it technically is housed under the executive branch.

But recent moves by the Trump administration suggest he wants a much more hands-on approach, Jones said. Before taking office, Trump chose Andrew Ferguson as the FTC chairman, replacing Lina Khan,

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 42 of 94

who fought Big Tech overreach during her tenure. Together with antitrust specialist Mark Meador, the pair have focused on issues of “censorship” by big tech, arguing that tech platforms have unfairly restricted conservative views.

Earlier this year, Trump fired two Democratic commissioners from the FTC, a decision that was recently supported by the Supreme Court, and set a precedent that gives more executive branch control over the independent agency.

And in August, Trump revoked a Biden-era executive order that called for enforcement of antitrust laws to promote more competition within industries and keep companies from monopolizing.

All of it points to a central theme of deregulation for the tech industry, with a goal of growing the industry with as little government involvement as possible. Trump’s alignments with big tech leaders during the 2024 election were probably the first clue that he’d handle the FTC differently, Jones said.

“I think if I were to try to read the tea leaves in past administrations, currying favor with the president was of less importance,” Jones said. “The DOJ, antitrust division, the assistant attorney general of the division was who you wanted to curry favor with, or the chair of the FTC. Whether or not you’re smiling nicely with the president was, I think, of less significance, because they typically left these technical areas of law to the experts.”

For California-based tech founder and author Mark Weinstein, The FTC holds a critical role in upholding democracy and free market capitalism. Trump’s attempts to fill the commission with Republicans is a threat to both concepts, he said.

“It’s concerning, even when he appoints people who are inclined to be strong antitrust enforcers, because they’re still appointed by the president,” Weinstein said. “There’s a quid-pro-quo that’s clearly inferred there.”

Weinstein thinks that before his second term, Trump realized the immense power that information giants like Meta and Apple had in controlling content and shaping public opinion. Deregulatory policies could curry favor with the leaders of Big Tech, and help him control information, Weinstein said.

“If Meta bans him from their platform, then they have all the power,” he said. “And he wants to have all the power.”

With influence over large tech platforms, Mozaffar said, Trump is more capable of spreading his ideas around diversity, equity and inclusion and past “censorship” of conservatives.

“When you see the tech giants behind Donald Trump, people think it’s just about making them richer,” Mozaffar said. “It’s really [Trump’s] ability to have control over how those tech platforms do their business, as far as content control.”

What does this mean for American tech companies?

So far, the FTC has been continuing antitrust lawsuits from previous administrations against some tech giants, like Google, which is currently awaiting a decision on a trial alleging it monopolized its search engine, after being found liable in a separate advertising-related trial in 2024.

The commission is also awaiting an outcome on a six-week trial in a case it brought against Meta, parent of Facebook, alleging in 2020 — under direction from the first Trump administration — that the company created a monopoly by acquiring Instagram and WhatsApp.

Trump-appointed FTC commissioner Meador said at NYU’s Law Forum last month he believes most Americans support the scrutiny into big tech companies.

“I don’t think this moment is a flash in the pan,” Meador said during the event. “I think that it is growing out of deeper sentiments and concerns about economic fairness and economic regulation and policy at a very broad level. And this is just one manifestation of it. I think that’s a generational thing. I think it’s only going to amplify. So, I don’t think it’s going away.”

But the current Trump administration has only brought one antitrust case against a tech merger, when it sued to block Hewlett Packard Enterprise from buying Juniper Networks for \$14 billion earlier this year.

Trump is likely feeling out his options, Mozaffar said — he could fall in line with more traditional Republican action, aiming to enforce antitrust laws to promote competition. But he could also be using a framework FTC Chair Ferguson outlined, which criticises tech platform’s content moderation rules, as a way to rein

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 43 of 94

in platforms that the GOP has long accused of censoring conservative viewpoints.

Mozaffar said she's watching how the administration handles both horizontal and vertical mergers. Horizontal mergers, when two similar companies merge to create one company, are likely more familiar to the average American. But vertical mergers, which involve partnerships of companies across several layers of a supply chain, have the potential to have truly expansive power.

One possible example is a recent \$100 billion deal between AI giant OpenAI and computing powerhouse Nvidia. Nvidia's investment into OpenAI includes the ability to build out its data center capacity and computing chip needs, tying the companies' growth and success together. The deal immediately raised antitrust concerns.

"How much control do you have over every piece of the process? To the point where there's no innovation in product and competition leading up to that final product?" Mozaffar said. "And then how much are you controlling as far as protecting labor rights and best practices, because you can always cut corners to be able to make sure that the final product serves the profit that it's supposed to serve."

Amid conflicting federal antitrust cases, Jones advised corporate lawyers to pay attention to their state's antitrust laws, as state attorneys general are some of the biggest enforcers of antitrust law in the country.

She said although letting tech businesses operate unfettered may meet some of Trump's short-term goals, a lack of enforcement will ultimately make the United States a less competitive, less innovative place.

"Antitrust philosophy believes the only way to get genuine benefits for consumers, to get people to race to get to the finish line of your dollars — and you choosing them with your dollars — is to compete with each other," Jones said. "And then we, the consumers, enjoy the fruits of those competitions."

This story was originally produced by News From The States, which is part of States Newsroom, a non-profit news network which includes South Dakota Searchlight, and is supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity.

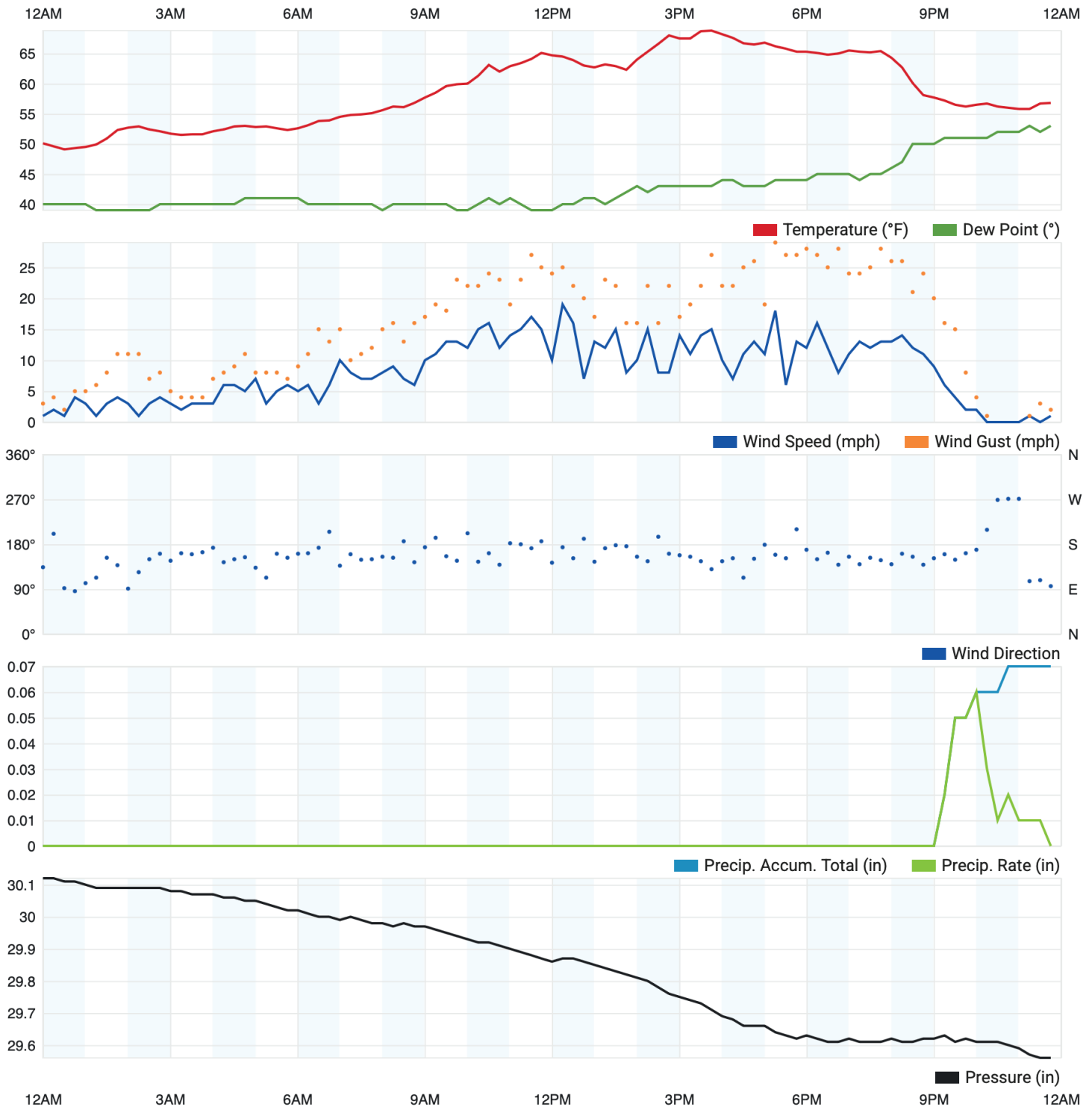
Paige Gross is a Philadelphia-based reporter covering the evolving technology industry for States Newsroom. Her coverage involves how congress and individual states are regulating new and growing technologies, how technology plays a role in our everyday lives and what people ought to know to interact with technology.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 44 of 94

Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

October 11, 2025



Broton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 45 of 94

Today



High: 73 °F

Increasing
Clouds and
Breezy

Tonight



Low: 35 °F

Decreasing
Clouds then
Areas Frost

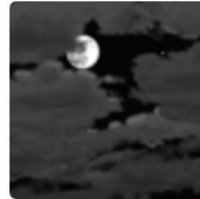
Columbus Day



High: 56 °F

Areas Frost
then Sunny

Monday Night



Low: 39 °F

Increasing
Clouds

Tuesday



High: 49 °F

Chance
Showers

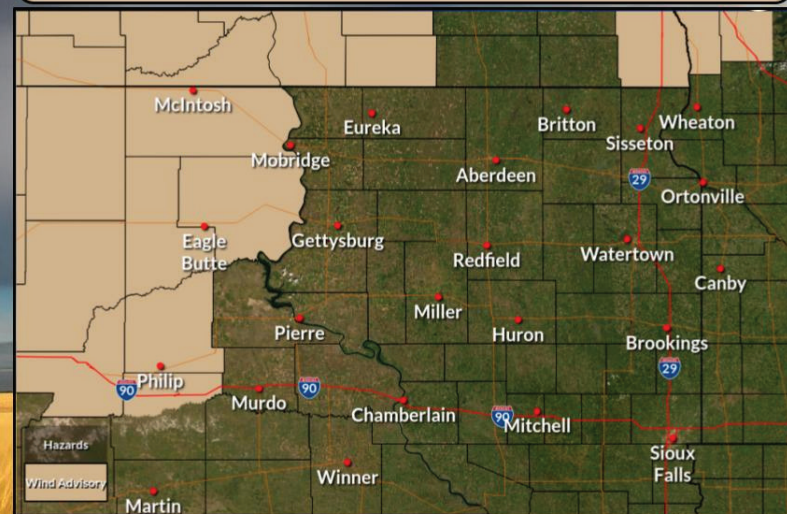


Wind Advisory Today in Northwest SD

October 12, 2025
3:35 AM

In effect from 11 AM MDT through 7 PM MDT.

- A Wind Advisory is in effect for *Corson and Dewey counties* today.
- Sustained wind speeds of **25 to 30 mph with gusts of 45 mph** are expected.
- Winds will begin out of the south in the morning before turning to the west.



Maximum Wind Gust Forecast (mph)

	10/12 Sun						10/13 Mon					Maximum
	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	
Aberdeen	40	40	37	37	33	25	23	18	15	15	15	40
Britton	47	47	41	40	37	31	28	22	16	18	17	47
Chamberlain	31	31	37	37	32	24	20	16	14	17	17	37
Clark	45	44	40	40	37	29	25	21	17	17	17	45
Eagle Butte	32	41	45	45	40	31	26	23	18	16	17	45
Eureka	32	36	44	45	40	35	31	26	21	17	16	45
Gettysburg	31	35	40	41	37	29	25	22	18	16	16	41
McIntosh	33	44	48	48	47	37	30	24	20	16	16	48
Milbank	37	37	37	35	33	28	23	20	16	17	17	37
Miller	41	39	39	39	36	25	22	18	15	16	16	41
Mobridge	30	36	41	43	39	33	28	23	18	16	16	43
Murdo	30	38	40	40	36	25	20	16	14	15	17	40
Pierre	29	36	40	40	36	26	22	16	12	14	17	40
Redfield	43	40	38	40	35	24	22	18	15	17	17	43
Sisseton	40	40	38	35	33	28	25	22	18	18	18	40
Watertown	45	44	39	38	36	31	25	22	17	17	17	45
Webster	44	44	41	39	36	25	26	23	18	18	18	44
Wheaton	38	39	36	32	31	25	23	21	18	18	18	39



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

A Windy Advisory remains in effect from 11 AM MDT to 7 PM MDT today for Corson and Dewey counties. Sustained wind speeds of 25-30 mph with gusts of 45 mph or greater are expected. Other areas may see gusts of 35 to 45 mph.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 46 of 94



Frost/Freeze Possible Tonight

October 12, 2025
3:15 AM

Coldest temperatures in central South Dakota

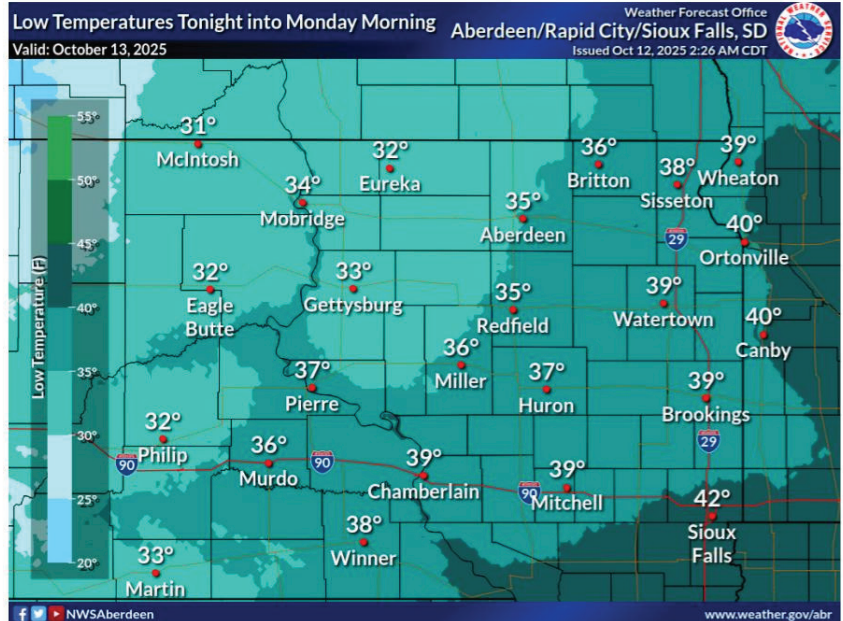
Key Messages

- Much colder air will filter in behind today's cold front
- This will bring the **potential for Frost and even freezing temperatures over central SD**
- Best opportunity for freezing temperatures is in north central SD



Actions You Can Take

- Cover or bring in your sensitive outdoor plants.
- If you have an outdoor sprinkler system that hasn't been winterized, wrapping any exposed pipes with a blanket may reduce the potential for them to freeze.



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

Cold air moving in behind a cold front today will bring the potential for frost tonight for areas along and west of the James River Valley and even some freezing temperatures in north central SD. Make sure to bring in or cover any sensitive plants.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 47 of 94

Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 69 °F at 3:32 PM

Low Temp: 49 °F at 12:28 AM

Wind: 30 mph at 3:44 PM

Precip: : 0.07 (+.10 since midnight)

Today's Info

Record High: 89 in 1910

Record Low: 11 in 1917

Average High: 62

Average Low: 35

Average Precip in Oct.: 0.90

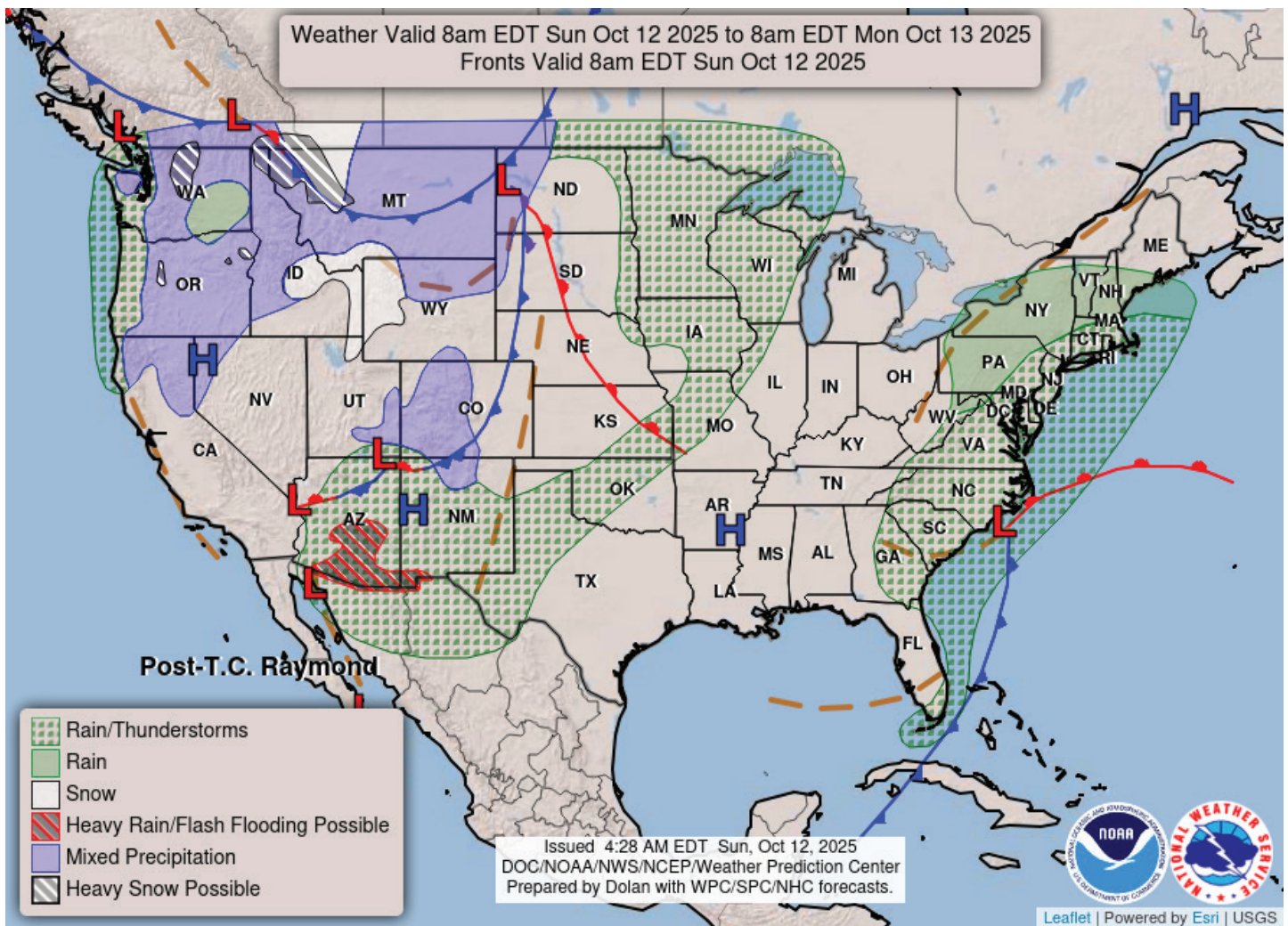
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 19.23

Precip Year to Date: 22.92

Sunset Tonight: 6:52 pm

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:46 am



Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 48 of 94

Today in Weather History

October 12, 1997: High winds upward of 60 mph were recorded throughout western South Dakota.

1918: On October 10, 1918, two men working near a railroad siding northwest of Cloquet, Minnesota, saw a passenger train pass by the siding, and soon after, that discovered a fire burning through grass and piles of wood. The fire could not be contained, and by October 12, fires had spread through northern Minnesota. At least 450 lives were lost, and 52,000 people were injured or displaced, 38 communities were destroyed, 250,000 acres were burned.

1925 - Widespread early season snows fell in the northeastern U.S., with as much as two feet in New Hampshire and Vermont. The heavy snow blocked roads and cancelled football games. (David Ludlum)

1954 - A deluge of 6.72 inches of rain in 48 hours flooded the Chicago River, causing ten million dollars damage in the Chicago area. (9th-11th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1962: The Columbus Day Storm of 1962 was a Pacific Northwest windstorm that struck the West Coast of Canada and the Pacific Northwest Coast of the United States. It is considered the benchmark of extra-tropical wind storms. The storm ranks among the most intense to strike the region since at least 1948, likely since the January 9, 1880 "Great Gale" and snowstorm.

1979: The lowest barometric pressure ever recorded occurs in the center of Typhoon Tip on this day. A fly reconnaissance mission recorded the low pressure of 870 hPa or 25.69 inHg. Typhoon Tip was the most extensive tropical cyclone on record with a wind diameter of 1380 miles at its peak.

1987 - More than thirty cities in the Upper Midwest reported record low temperatures for the date, including Waterloo IA and Scottsbluff NE where the mercury dipped to 16 degrees. Tropical Storm Floyd brought heavy rain to southern Florida, moisture from Hurricane Ramon produced heavy rain in southern California, and heavy snow blanketed the mountains of New York State and Vermont. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Low pressure brought gale force winds to the Great Lakes Region, with snow and sleet reported in some areas. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed in the north central U.S. The mercury hit 84 degrees at Cutbank MT and Worland WY. The temperature at Gunnison CO soared from a morning low of 12 degrees to a high of 66 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Much of the nation enjoyed "Indian Summer" type weather. Nine cities in the central U.S. reported record highs for the date as temperatures warmed into the 80s and 90s. Record highs included 90 degrees at Grand Island NE and 97 degrees at Waco TX. Strong winds along a cold front crossing the Northern High Plains Region gusted to 80 mph at Ames Monument WY during the early morning. (The National Weather Summary)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 49 of 94



Daily Devotion

Faith Barriers

God doesn't seek out the most qualified; He calls those who are willing to obey Him.

Exodus 3:10-22; Exodus 4:1-17

Yesterday, we saw how God used Moses to carry out His plans, and ultimately the mission became one of the greatest in all of Scripture. But it didn't start out that way.

When first called, the future leader responded with list of reasons explaining why he shouldn't obey. He tried to hide behind the same faith barriers believers cite today: a poor self-image (Ex. 3:11-12), ignorance about God (vv. 13-21), self-doubt (4:1-9), and feelings of inadequacy (vv. 10-11). Fearing that he would fail, Moses protested that the Lord had asked the wrong person, but God responded with a firm, persuasive rebuttal.

The theme of God's answers is something all believers need to understand, just as Moses finally did—namely, that when we are called to serve, human strength, skill, and wisdom do not matter. Rather, it is the Lord who does the work through us. He doesn't seek out the most qualified person for a particular job but instead calls those who are willing to surrender to Him.

Excuses for disobedience haven't changed much since Moses encountered the burning bush. When you're tempted to respond with "But ...," remember you don't have to be qualified or prepared. God saw Moses as he was and equipped him. He will do the same for you.

We all need the encouragement, comfort, and peace that comes through God's grace. Our daily devotionals, known as Seeds of Hope, have been a means through which thousands of people have experienced this grace. Each devotional comes from God's Word and we pray this good "seed" finds good soil in your heart. Our aim is that the Seeds of Hope will be a great source of daily encouragement to you and that God will use them to draw you near to Him

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 50 of 94

The Groton Independent Printed & Mailed Weekly Edition Subscription Form

All prices listed include 6.2% Sales Tax

- ☐ Black & White\$48.99/year
- ☐ Colored\$79.88/year
- ☐ Colored\$42.60/6 months
- ☐ E-Weekly*\$31.95/year

* The E-Weekly is a PDF file emailed to you each week. It does not grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____

State, Zip Code _____

E-mail _____

Phone Number _____

Mail Completed Form to:

Groton Independent

P.O. Box 34

Groton, SD 57445-0034

or scan and email to paperpaul@grotonsd.net

Groton Daily Independent www.397news.com Subscription Form

This option will grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.

- ☐ 1 Month\$15.98
- ☐ 3 Months.....\$26.63
- ☐ 6 Months.....\$31.95
- ☐ 9 Months.....\$42.60
- ☐ 12 Months.....\$53.25

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____

State, Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

The following will be used for your log-in information.

E-mail _____

Password _____

Pay with Paypal. Type the following into your browser window:

paypal.me/paperpaul

Pay with Venmo: @paperpaul Phone Number to Confirm: 7460

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 51 of 94



WINNING NUMBERS

MEGA MILLIONS

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.10.25

3 18 23 32 56 8

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$600,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LOTTO AMERICA

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.11.25

1 17 31 35 39 3

All Star Bonus: 2x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$4,650,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LUCKY FOR LIFE

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.11.25

10 37 40 42 45 8

TOP PRIZE:

\$7,000/week

NEXT DRAW: 14 Hrs 46 Mins 48 Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

DAKOTA CASH

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.11.25

9 12 14 21 30

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$44,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

DOUBLE PLAY

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.11.25

12 22 41 46 56 15

TOP PRIZE:

\$10,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.11.25

13 16 18 20 27 10

Power Play: 2x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$258,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 52 of 94

Upcoming Groton Events

08/09/2025 Groton Legion 30th Anniversary Celebration
08/07/2025 Groton Firemen Summer Splash in the GHS Parking Lot 7:30-8:30pm
08/11/2025 Vitalant Blood Drive at the Community Center 3:30-6pm
08/23/2025 Glacial Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course
09/05/2025 Homecoming Parade 1pm
09/06/2025 Lion's Club Fall Citywide Rummage Sale 8am-3pm
09/06-07/25 Groton Airport Fly-In/Drive-In, Groton Municipal Airport
09/07/2025 Couples Sunflower Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 10am
09/07/2025 9th Annual Doggie Day at the Swimming Pool 3-5pm
10/10/2025 Lake Region Marching Band Festival 10am
10/11/2025 Pumpkin Fest at the City Park 10am-3pm
10/31/2025 Downtown Trick or Treat 4-6pm
10/31/2025 United Methodist Church Trunk or Treat 5:30-7pm
11/15/2025 Legion Post #39 Turkey Party 6:30pm
11/27/2025 Community Thanksgiving 11:30am-1:30pm Community Center (Thanksgiving)
11/30/2025 Snow Queen Contest, 4 p.m.
12/06/2025 Olive Grove Holiday Party and Silent Live Auction Fundraiser

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 53 of 94

News from the Associated Press

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Dakota Valley def. S.C. East, Iowa, 21-16, 21-15
Huron def. Rapid City Central, 25-14, 25-10, 22-25, 25-14
MOC-Floyd Valley, Iowa def. Sioux Falls Roosevelt, 21-10, 21-18
Mitchell def. Rapid City Stevens, 27-25, 28-26, 18-25, 20-25, 16-14
Sergeant Bluff-Luton, Iowa def. Sioux Falls Roosevelt, 24-22, 21-11
T F Riggs High School def. Lennox, 25-23, 20-25, 25-22, 25-19
Todd County def. Stanley County, 25-10, 25-11, 25-18
Dakota Oyate Challenge=
Pool B=
Omaha Nation, Neb. def. Dupree, 25-19, 25-6
Omaha Nation, Neb. def. Marty, 25-13, 25-11
Pine Ridge def. Dupree, 19-25, 25-15, 26-24
Gettysburg Tournament=
Faulkton def. Ipswich, 25-16, 25-22
Faulkton def. Lyman, 25-17, 25-15
Ipswich def. Faith, 27-25, 25-10
Ipswich def. Lyman, 25-18, 26-24
Lyman def. Faith, 25-18, 29-27
Wolsey-Wessington def. Gettysburg, 25-6, 25-6
Wolsey-Wessington def. Ipswich, 25-18, 25-10
Wolsey-Wessington def. McIntosh High School, 25-14, 25-5
Wolsey-Wessington def. Philip, 25-6, 25-14
Kooima Varilek Classic=
Baltic def. Bishop Heelan Catholic, Sioux City, Iowa, 21-17, 21-19
Baltic def. Central Lyon, Iowa, 21-18, 21-18
Dakota Valley def. Unity Christian, Iowa, 21-15, 21-16
Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Baltic, 25-14, 25-18
Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Unity Christian, Iowa, 25-20, 25-22
Western Christian, Iowa def. Baltic, 21-18, 21-12
New Underwood Triangular=
Harding County def. New Underwood, 25-21, 25-15, 25-11
Kadoka def. Harding County, 25-13, 25-18, 22-25, 25-21
Kadoka def. New Underwood, 25-15, 25-16, 25-21
Northwestern Tournament=
Corsica/Stickney def. Northwestern, 25-12, 25-10
Northwestern def. Aberdeen Roncalli, 23-25, 25-16, 25-13
Northwestern def. Elk Point-Jefferson, 25-17, 25-14
Northwestern def. Mobridge-Pollock, 27-25, 25-9
Championship=
Northwestern def. Herreid-Selby, 19-25, 25-12, 25-17
Omaha Skutt Invitational=
Harrisburg def. Omaha Skutt, Neb., 26-24, 25-21
Harrisburg def. Papillion-LaVista South, Neb., 25-22, 25-19
Harrisburg def. St. Thomas Aquinas, Kan., 25-23, 25-19

____Some high school volleyball scores provided by Scorestream.com, <https://scorestream.com/>

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 54 of 94

Mason accounts for 4 TDs, South Dakota State defense has 5 takeaways in 31-3 win over Northern Iowa

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Chase Mason accounted for four touchdowns, Chase Van Tol had two sacks and an interception, and the South Dakota State defense forced five turnovers in a 31-3 rout of Northern Iowa on Saturday afternoon.

Mason's first touchdown was a two-yard scramble on the other end of Northern Iowa's first turnover, a Matthew Schecklman interception by Isaiah Johnson. Schecklman was 12 of 20 with 120 yards passing. Aidan Dunne and Jaxon Dailey both threw interceptions.

Van Tol, Myles Green and Jalen B. Lee had the other interceptions for the Jackrabbits, with Cullen McShane forcing a fumble and Joe Ollman recovering it. Ollman had a team-high eight tackles, including one for a loss.

It's the first time since October 2, 2021 that the FCS No. 2 Jackrabbits (6-0, 2-0 MVFC) have secured four interceptions in a game. Their defense allowed just 221 yards of total offense, and entered Saturday allowing 273 yards per game, the sixth-lowest mark in FCS football.

Mason was 18-for-30 with 249 yards and two passing touchdowns, with his other two scores on the ground. He had -2 yards rushing on seven carries.

Northern Iowa (2-4, 0-2) still leads 17-16 in the all-time series with South Dakota State, but its last win came in 2021.

Phillips runs for 187, Leyland boots 4 field goals for South Dakota in 19-14 win over Indiana State

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. (AP) — L.J. Phillips Jr. ran for 187 yards, Will Leyland kicked four field goals, and South Dakota defeated Indiana State 19-14 on Saturday.

Phillips, the FCS leader in rushing yards, is closing in on 1,000 yards for the season. He has 986 yards on the ground, 913 coming in the last five games.

Phillips carried 23 times for 123 yards in the first half and his 1-yard touchdown run helped lead the Coyotes to a 13-7 lead at the break.

Leyland made one field goal in each quarter, the longest coming from 42 yards for a 19-7 lead in the fourth quarter.

Brock Riddle's short touchdown pass to Nick Osho with 4 1/2 minutes remaining made it 19-14 but the Sycamores turned the ball over on downs near midfield on their only remaining possession.

Aidan Bouman completed 16 of 25 passes for 186 yards and the Coyotes (4-3, 2-1 Missouri Valley Football Conference) had 376 yards of total offense.

Riddle had 125 yards passing and Indiana State (2-4, 0-2) was held to 210 total yards.

Man receives 3 life sentences in South Dakota killings

Associated Press undefined

CANTON, S.D. (AP) — A man accused in the killings of three people at a house party last year in South Dakota has received multiple life sentences in connection with the shooting deaths.

A jury had found Justin Cody Rackley guilty of three counts of first-degree murder and two counts of aggravated assault. On Friday, he was sentenced to three consecutive life sentences without parole, as well as 30 additional years, KELO-TV reported.

The June 2024 shooting in a Sioux Falls neighborhood left 43-year-old Daniel Carl Kemnitz, 43-year-old Kellie Elizabeth Reaves and 34-year-old Michael Andrew Thompson dead. Two other people were wounded.

Rackley had pleaded not guilty. The Associated Press left a phone message for his attorney.

Preparations begin to ramp up aid in Gaza as ceasefire brings hope

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 55 of 94

for end to 2-year war

By SAMY MAGDY, SARAH EL DEEB and MELANIE LIDMAN Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Preparations were underway Sunday to ramp up aid entering the war-battered Gaza Strip under a new ceasefire deal that many are hoping will signal an end to the devastating 2-year-long war.

The Israeli defense body in charge of humanitarian aid in Gaza, COGAT, said the amount of aid entering the Palestinian territory is expected to increase on Sunday to around 600 trucks per day, as stipulated in the agreement.

Egypt said it is sending 400 aid trucks into Gaza Sunday. The trucks will have to be inspected by Israeli forces before being allowed in.

Associated Press footage showed dozens of trucks crossing the Egyptian side of the Rafah crossing. The Egyptian Red Crescent said they carried medical supplies, tents, blankets, food and fuel. The trucks will head to the inspection area in the Kerem Shalom crossing for screening by Israeli troops.

Expanding Israeli offensives and restrictions on humanitarian aid have triggered a hunger crisis, including famine in parts of the territory.

The United Nations has said it has about 170,000 metric tons of food, medicine and other humanitarian aid ready to enter once Israel gives the green light.

Abeer Etifa, a spokeswoman for the World Food Program, said workers were clearing and repairing roads inside Gaza on Sunday to facilitate delivery.

Gaza Humanitarian Fund's future in question

The fate of the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, an Israeli- and U.S.-backed contractor that replaced the U.N. aid operation in May as the primary food supplier in Gaza, remains unclear.

Food distribution sites operated by the group in the southernmost city of Rafah and central Gaza were dismantled following the ceasefire deal, several Palestinians said Sunday.

GHF had been touted by Israel and the United States as an alternative system to prevent Hamas from taking over aid. However, its operations were mired in chaos and hundreds of Palestinians were killed by Israeli gunfire while heading to its four sites. The Israeli military has said its troops fired warning shots to control crowds.

A GHF representative said in a statement that there might be "tactical changes in GHF operations and temporary closures of some distribution sites" during the transfer of hostages to Israel but "there is no change to our long-term plan."

Preparations for hostage, prisoner release, Trump visit

Preparations were also underway Sunday for the release of Israeli hostages held in Gaza and Palestinian prisoners held in Israel.

A message sent Saturday from Gal Hirsch, Israel's coordinator for the Hostages and the Missing and obtained by the AP, told hostage families to prepare for the release of their loved ones, starting on Monday morning. One of the families of the hostages confirmed the note's authenticity.

Hirsch said preparations in hospitals and in Rei'im camp were complete to receive the live hostages, while the dead will be transferred to the Institute of Forensic Medicine for identification.

An international task force will start working to locate deceased hostages who are not returned within the 72-hour period, said Hirsch. Officials have said the search for the bodies of the dead, some of whom may be buried under rubble, could take time.

Israeli officials believe about 20 of the hostages out of 48 held by Hamas and other Palestinian factions in Gaza are still alive. All of the living hostages are expected to be released Monday.

U.S. President Donald Trump, who pushed to clinch the ceasefire deal, is expected to arrive in Israel Monday morning. He will meet with families of hostages and speak at the Knesset, Israel's parliament, according to a schedule released by the White House.

Trump will then continue on to Egypt, where the office of Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi has said he will co-chair a "peace summit" on Monday with attendance by regional and international leaders.

Timing has not yet been announced for the release of some 2,000 Palestinian prisoners held in Israel

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 56 of 94

who are to be freed under the deal. They include 250 people serving life sentences in addition to 1,700 people seized from Gaza during the war and held without charge.

Health authorities in Gaza are preparing for the return of 1,900 Palestinian prisoners — many of whom are expected to require “urgent treatment” — and dead bodies taken by Israel’s military from the strip, Dr. Mounir al-Boursh, Director General of the Ministry of Health in the enclave, said in a statement.

He said he hopes that the bodies of medical personnel who died in Israeli detention centers will be among those handed over and called for the release of doctors Hossam Abu Safiya and Marwan al-Hams, who were detained from Gaza during the war.

Gaza residents return home

Palestinians continued to move back to areas vacated by Israeli forces Sunday, although many were returning to homes reduced to rubble.

Satellite photos analyzed by The Associated Press showed a line of vehicles traveling north to Gaza City. The photos taken Saturday showed a line of vehicles on Al Rashid Street, which runs north-south along the Gaza Strip’s coastline on the Mediterranean Sea.

Tents along the coast also could be seen near Gaza City’s marina. Many people have been living along the sea to avoid being targeted in Israeli bombardment of the city.

Armed police were seen in Gaza City and southern Gaza patrolling the streets and securing aid trucks driving through areas from which the Israeli military had withdrawn, according to residents. The police force is part of the Hamas-run Interior Ministry.

The pause in fighting allowed first responders and residents to search previously inaccessible areas for bodies buried under rubble. Health officials said more than 100 bodies were recovered and brought to hospitals between Friday and Saturday.

Yasser el-Bureis, who was at the morgue in Nasser hospital in Khan Younis Sunday, said he and his relatives had finally retrieved the bodies of his two cousins killed months earlier when they were trying to flee their homes.

“For five months, we didn’t manage to recover the bodies,” he said.

Two years of war have wrought devastation

The war began when Hamas-led militants launched a surprise attack on southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, in which some 1,200 people were killed and 250 taken hostage.

In Israel’s ensuing offensive, more than 67,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza, according to Gaza’s Health Ministry, which doesn’t differentiate between civilians and combatants but says around half the deaths were women and children.

The war has destroyed large swaths of Gaza and displaced about 90% of its 2 million residents. It has also triggered other conflicts in the region, sparked worldwide protests and led to allegations of genocide that Israel denies.

While both Israelis and Palestinians in Gaza welcomed the initial halt to the fighting and plans to release the hostages and prisoners, the longer-term fate of the ceasefire remains murky. Key questions about governance of Gaza and the post-war fate of Hamas have yet to be resolved.

Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz said in a post on X that he had instructed the Israel military to prepare to begin destroying the network of tunnels built by Hamas under Gaza “through the international mechanism that will be established under the leadership and supervision of the U.S.” once the hostages are released.

World’s oldest president could extend his rule as Cameroon votes in an election

By NALOVA AKUA and WILSON MCMAKIN Associated Press

YAOUNDE, Cameroon (AP) — Cameroon voted in an election Sunday that could see Africa’s oldest leader extend his rule by another seven years.

Analysts have predicted a victory for President Paul Biya. Now 92, he would be 99 by the time his term

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 57 of 94

finishes. He first came to power in 1982 following the resignation of Cameroon's first president, Ahmadou Ahidjo, and has ruled the country since then. Biya was declared the winner of seven subsequent elections. Cameroon has seen just two leaders since independence in 1960.

His health has routinely been a topic of speculation as he spends most of his time in Europe, leaving day-to-day governing to key party officials and family members.

"In the face of increasingly difficult international environment, the challenges facing us are more and more pressing," Biya said in announcing another run. "In such a situation, I cannot shirk my mission."

Biya faces nine opposition candidates, including some former allies and appointees. They include Bello Bouba Maigari, who was minister for tourism, and Issa Tchiroma Bakary, who until recently served as the minister of employment.

There is a single round of voting in Cameroon and whoever gets the most votes is the winner.

Cheukam Ginette, a 34-year-old environmentalist and first-time voter, said she won't choose Biya.

"Things have to change. First of all, life is expensive, getting medical care is not easy," she said outside of a polling station in the capital of Yaounde. "There are no roads, we have potholes everywhere. Everything is ruined. That's why I voted for the opposition. I do not have confidence in the electoral process because we know our country but I'm hopeful."

At a campaign rally last week in the northern city of Maroua, Biya promised change for one of Cameroon's poorest areas. The predominantly Muslim north accounts for nearly 20% of the eligible voters, and Maigari and Bakary command strong followings there.

Cameroon faces escalating security crises. In the western region, a secessionist war is being fought between mainly English-speaking separatists who claim they are marginalized by the French-speaking majority, and government forces. In the north, the Boko Haram insurgency spills over from neighboring Nigeria, with armed groups routinely attacking border towns.

At least 43% of the population live in poverty as measured by core living standards such as income, education and health, according to U.N. estimates.

Around 8 million voters, including over 34,000 overseas, are eligible to vote at more than 31,000 polling stations in the Central African nation. Cameroon has a population of over 29 million people, a majority overwhelmingly young.

Polls are expected to close at 6 p.m. and the results are expected at the latest by Oct. 26.

Afghanistan says it has killed 58 Pakistani soldiers in overnight border operations

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghanistan said Sunday it killed 58 Pakistani soldiers in overnight border operations, in response to what it called repeated violations of its territory and airspace. Pakistan's army gave far lower casualty figures, saying 23 troops were killed.

Earlier in the week, Afghan authorities accused Pakistan of bombing the capital, Kabul, and a market in the country's east. Pakistan did not claim responsibility for the assault.

The Taliban government's chief spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, said Afghan forces have captured 25 Pakistani army posts, leaving 30 Pakistani soldiers wounded.

"The situation on all official borders and de facto lines of Afghanistan is under complete control, and illegal activities have been largely prevented," Mujahid told a news conference in Kabul.

Pakistan has previously struck locations inside Afghanistan, targeting what it alleges are militant hide-outs, but these have been in remote and mountainous areas. The two sides have also skirmished along the border in the past. Saturday night's heavy clashes underscore the deepening tensions.

The Taliban government's Defense Ministry said early Sunday morning its forces had conducted "retaliation and successful operations" along the border.

"If the opposing side again violates Afghanistan's territorial integrity, our armed forces are fully prepared to defend the nation's borders and will deliver a strong response," the ministry added.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 58 of 94

The Torkham crossing, one of two main trade routes between the two countries, did not open on Sunday at its usual time of 8 a.m.

The crossing at Chaman, southwest Pakistan, was also closed. People, including Afghan refugees leaving Pakistan, were turned away due to the worsening security situation.

An Associated Press reporter in Chaman heard jets over Spin Boldak, a city in Afghanistan's southern Kandahar province, and saw smoke rising after an explosion.

Regional powers call for calm

Pakistan accuses Afghan authorities of harboring members of the banned group Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan. Islamabad says the group carries out deadly attacks inside Pakistan, but Kabul denies the charge, saying it does not allow its territory to be used against other countries.

Pakistan is grappling with surging militancy, especially in areas bordering Afghanistan. It also accuses its nuclear-armed neighbor and rival India of backing armed groups, without providing any evidence.

The overnight border clashes could fuel regional instability, as India and Pakistan came close to war earlier this year after a tourist massacre in the disputed region of Kashmir.

India has also boosted its relations with Afghanistan's Taliban rulers, most recently announcing an upgrade of its technical mission in Kabul to a full embassy.

The Saudi Foreign Ministry called for "restraint, avoidance of escalation and the adoption of dialogue and wisdom to help de-escalate tensions and maintain the security and stability of the region." Saudi Arabia just reached a mutual defense pact with Pakistan. Qatar also urged restraint.

The Taliban Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi, who is in India on an official visit, told journalists that Afghanistan respected the calls made by the two Gulf powers to stop what he called "retaliatory strikes" against Pakistan. But he also warned that Kabul reserved the right to protect itself.

"We want a peaceful resolution of the situation, but if the peace efforts don't succeed, we have other options," Muttaqi said.

Pakistan condemns attack

Before the Afghan claim of casualties, Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif condemned the assault and said the country's army "not only gave a befitting reply to Afghanistan's provocations but also destroyed several of their posts, forcing them to retreat."

Pakistani security officials shared videos purporting to show destroyed Afghan checkpoints, but the footage could not be independently verified because the media does not have access to these areas.

The Pakistani army said more than 200 "Taliban and affiliated terrorists have been neutralized, while the number of injured is much higher."

According to Pakistani security officials, Afghan forces opened fire in several northwestern border areas in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

One official in Islamabad told The Associated Press that Pakistan had taken control of 19 Afghan border posts from where attacks were being launched. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media.

"The Taliban personnel at these posts have either been killed or fled. Fires and visible destruction have been observed at the captured Afghan posts," the official added.

The two countries share a 2,611-kilometer (1,622-mile) border known as the Durand Line, but Afghanistan has never recognized it.

Trump says inflation is 'defeated' and the Fed has cut rates, yet prices remain too high for many

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Inflation has risen in three of the last four months and is slightly higher than it was a year ago, when it helped sink then-Vice President Kamala Harris' presidential campaign. Yet you wouldn't know it from listening to President Donald Trump or even some of the inflation fighters at the Federal Reserve.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 59 of 94

Trump told the United Nations General Assembly late last month: "Grocery prices are down, mortgage rates are down, and inflation has been defeated."

And at a high-profile speech in August, just before the Fed cut its key interest rate for the first time this year, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell said: "Inflation, though still somewhat elevated, has come down a great deal from its post-pandemic highs. Upside risks to inflation have diminished."

Yet dismissing or even downplaying inflation while it is still above the Fed's target of 2% poses big risks for the White House and the Federal Reserve. For the Trump administration, it could find itself on the wrong side of a potent issue: Surveys show that many Americans still see high prices as a major burden on their finances.

The Fed may be taking an even bigger gamble: It has cut its key interest rate on the assumption that the Trump administration's tariffs will only cause a temporary bump up in inflation. If that turns out to be wrong — if inflation gets worse or remains elevated for longer than expected — the Fed's inflation-fighting credibility could take a hit.

That credibility plays a crucial role in the Fed's ability to keep prices stable. If Americans are confident that the central bank can keep inflation in check, they won't take steps — such as demanding sharply higher pay when prices rise — that can launch an inflationary spiral. Companies often increase prices further to offset higher labor costs.

But Karen Dynan, a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics, said this week that with memories of pandemic-era inflation still fresh and tariffs pushing up the cost of imported goods, consumers and businesses could start to lose confidence that inflation will stay low.

"If that proves to be the case, in hindsight it will be that the Fed cuts -- and I do expect several more -- are going to be seen as a mistake," Dynan said.

So far, the Trump administration's tariffs haven't lifted inflation as much as as many economists expected earlier this year. And it remains far below its 9.1% peak three years ago. Still, consumer prices increased 2.9% in August from a year earlier, up from 2.6% at the same time last year and above the Fed's 2% target.

The government is scheduled to release the September inflation report on Wednesday, but the data will probably be delayed by the government shutdown.

Tariffs have pushed up the cost of many imported items, including furniture, appliances, and toys. Overall, the cost of long-lasting manufactured goods rose nearly 2% in August from a year earlier. It was a modest gain, but comes after nearly three decades when the cost of such items mostly fell.

The cost of some everyday goods are still rising more quickly than before the pandemic: Grocery prices moved up 2.7% in August from a year ago, the largest gain, outside the pandemic, since 2015. Coffee prices have soared nearly 21% in the past year, partly because Trump has slapped 50% import taxes on Brazil, a leading coffee exporter, and also because climate change-induced droughts have cut into coffee bean harvests.

Most Fed officials are still concerned that inflation is too high, according the minutes of its Sept. 16-17 meeting. Yet they still chose to cut their key interest rate, because they were more worried about the risk of worsening unemployment than about higher inflation.

But the concern for some economists is that the ongoing rollout of tariffs and the fact that many companies are still implementing price hikes in response could result in more than just a temporary boost to inflation.

"It is a big gamble after what we've been going through ... to count on it being transitory," said Jason Furman, an economist at Harvard University and a former top adviser to President Barack Obama. "Once upon a time, (3% inflation) would have been considered really high."

Just two weeks ago, Trump slapped new tariffs on a range of products, including 100% on pharmaceuticals, 50% on kitchen cabinets and bathroom vanities, and 25% on heavy trucks. On Friday, he threatened "a massive increase of tariffs" on imports from China in response to that country's restrictions on rare earth exports.

Some companies are still raising prices to offset the tariff costs. Duties on steel and aluminum imports

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 60 of 94

have pushed up the cost of the cans used by Campbell Soups, leading the company's CEO to say in September that it will implement "surgical pricing initiatives."

Chris Butler, CEO of National Tree Company, the nation's largest artificial Christmas tree seller, says his company will raise prices by about 10% this holiday season on its trees, wreaths, and garlands to offset tariff costs. About 45% of its trees are made in China, with the rest from Southeast Asia, Mexico, and other countries. The cost of labor and real estate is too high to make them in the United States, he said.

Butler also expects there will be a reduced supply of artificial trees and decorations this year, which could lift industry-wide prices further, because most production in China shut down when tariffs on that country hit 145% earlier this year. Production resumed after Trump reduced the duties to 30% but at a slower pace.

Butler has pushed his suppliers to absorb some of the cost of the tariffs, but they won't pay all of it.

"At the end of the day, we can't absorb the entirety of it and our factories can't absorb the entirety of it," he said. "So we've had to pass along some of the increases to consumers."

Many Fed policymakers are aware of the risks. Jeffrey Schmid, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, who votes on interest rate decisions, said Monday that high inflation that results from a loss of confidence in the central bank is harder to fight than other price spikes, such as those that result from supply disruptions.

"The Fed must maintain its credibility on inflation," Schmid said. "History has shown that while all inflations are universally disliked, not all inflations are equally costly to fight."

Yet some Fed officials say that other trends are offsetting the impact of tariffs. Fed governor Stephen Miran, whom Trump appointed just before the central bank's September meeting, said Tuesday that a steady slowdown in rental costs should reduce underlying inflation in the coming months. And the sharp drop in immigration as a result of the administration's clampdown will reduce demand, he said, cooling inflation pressures.

"I'm more sanguine about the inflation outlook than a lot of other people are," he said.

Estonia closes road through Russian territory due to presence of Russian troops

TALLIN, Estonia (AP) — Estonia has temporarily closed access for its citizens to a road they normally use that passes through a stretch of Russian territory, after the interior minister reported on a group of Russian soldiers standing there, Estonia's public broadcaster said Sunday.

Estonia's Police and Border Guard Board said in a statement Friday that the closing took place that day "after border guards observed a larger-than-usual unit moving on the territory of the Russian Federation."

The Estonian border agency said that the closure of the Saatse Boot is necessary to ensure the safety of people in Estonia and to prevent possible incidents.

The Saatse Boot in southeastern Estonia is a small, boot-shaped area of Russian territory extending into Estonia. Estonians and other citizens can drive through the area without a permit, but are not allowed to stop.

Estonian media reported that the Russian unit was made up of about 10 men. While Russian border patrols are normal in the area, it is unusual for them to stand in the middle of the road that is also used by Estonians, media reports said.

Interior Minister Igor Taro was quoted as saying Saturday that the Russian soldiers had left the area again. He added that the situation was calm but that the road would remain closed at least until Tuesday.

"There is no direct threat of war. This has been constantly confirmed by the Estonian Defense Forces. The Saatse Boot incident has not changed the situation," he was quoted as saying by the daily newspaper Postimees, according to the public broadcaster EER.

Estonia has been on alert for Russian border incursions after three Russian fighter aircraft entered its airspace without permission last month and stayed there for 12 minutes.

A week earlier, Russian drones violated Poland's airspace in the most serious cross-border incident involving a NATO member since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Other NATO countries

on the bloc's eastern flank have reported similar incursions and drone crashes on their territory.

UK police arrest 2 in stabbing death of former Lostprophets singer in prison

LONDON (AP) — British police have arrested two men on suspicion of murder after the former Lostprophets singer Ian Watkins was stabbed to death at a prison in northern England, where he was serving a 29-year sentence for child sex offenses.

Emergency services were called to HMP Wakefield in West Yorkshire on Saturday morning after Watkins, 48, was attacked with a knife. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

A murder investigation is underway following the arrests of two men, aged 25 and 43, West Yorkshire Police said in a statement.

In 2013, Watkins pleaded guilty to 13 charges, including trying to rape a baby, sexually touching a 1-year-old, encouraging a fan to abuse her child and making child pornography.

At the time of his sentencing, Judge John Royce called Watkins a manipulative and dangerous sexual predator who had abused his fame to help satisfy his "insatiable lust."

"Those who have appeared in these courts over many years see a large number of horrific cases," Royce said in sentencing at Cardiff Crown Court. "This case, however, breaks new ground."

Watkins was the lead singer for Lostprophets, a Welsh rock band that topped the U.K. charts in 2006 with its third album, "Liberation Transmission." The band announced it was disbanding after Watkins' arrest.

A Myanmar town lies in shambles as both sides in civil war vie for control

By AUNG SHINE OO Associated Press

KYAUKME, Myanmar (AP) — Ten days after it was recaptured by Myanmar's military government, the town of Kyaukme stands eerily silent. Schools have reopened but the town's once-busy market is mostly empty. Vendors at some stalls closed them at the sight of visiting journalists, visibly nervous.

The once-thriving town in Myanmar's Shan State is in shambles, an Associated Press journalist confirmed on Friday in a rare visit to the war-torn area allowed by the country's military government.

The army allowed an AP photographer to join a trip supervised by pro-military Myanmar media, the only representative of foreign media who was permitted to do so. The military doesn't allow a free press and bars journalists from entering conflict zones independently.

The journalists saw the charred wreckage of official buildings, such as the courthouse, police station and government housing. Much of the area around the town's hospital was destroyed, with its operations temporarily shifted to a nearby Chinese temple. At least one of the town's fire engines was burnt out.

Civilian houses seemed to be mostly unscathed, except those near damaged official buildings, but most of the town's original population of 46,000 had fled.

The ethnic militia that previously controlled the town accused the army of causing the damage with airstrikes and heavy weapons, while the government soldiers who took over the town said the militia destroyed structures as it retreated.

Because of its strategic location on a highway connecting central Myanmar to China, Kyaukme has been much fought over. About 115 kilometers (70 miles) northeast of Mandalay, the country's second-largest city, it has changed hands twice since the army in 2021 ousted the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi, setting off the current civil war between the military government and an alliance of militias representing ethnic minorities and pro-democracy activists.

Kyaukme was captured by the Ta'ang National Liberation Army in August 2024, amid a wave of victories by opponents of military rule that left them apparently in control of most of the country's territory. The TNLA is the guerrilla army of the Palaung ethnic minority.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 62 of 94

The town fell back into the hands of the military government on Oct. 1 after a three-week battle, in a significant victory for government forces.

The army has mounted a succession of successful offensives in recent months, ahead of elections set for the end of the year. Critics say the polls will be neither free nor fair, but the army hopes that high turnout will help legitimize the vote.

Before attacking Kyaukme, the army in July recaptured the town of Nawngkhio, considered a gateway to Myanmar's heartland because it sits at the crossroads of Myanmar's eastern hills and its central flatlands.

From there, the 55 kilometers (33 miles) to Kyaukme is flanked by buildings damaged by bombs and bullets, or pummeled into debris.

Army checkpoints manned by newly drafted soldiers stand every 500 to 1,000 meters (yards) along the route. A major bridge was damaged, but remains standing and is under repair.

The authorities blocked journalists' access to some residential areas, which they said were dangerous.

"There are still land mines that haven't been cleared in parts of the neighborhood," said Capt. Wai Yan Kyaw, who was stationed at one of the town's gates.

The journalists saw unexploded ordnance, including a mortar shell sunk into the ground inside the compound of a Buddhist monastery.

Locals who spoke to the AP said that only a small part of the town's population had returned since its recapture.

A resident who had stayed behind during the fighting said that the overwhelming majority fled after fighting broke out last year, and those who stayed, like him, did so because they couldn't afford to leave. He spoke on condition of anonymity to avoid harassment from the authorities.

Kyaukme is near the front line of the continuing army offensive, with soldiers saying they believe TNLA forces are in the hills just 32 kilometers (20 miles) away.

A motorbike taxi driver in his mid-30s, who also asked not to be named for his own security, said he believed residents would be unwilling to return until the army recaptures more nearby towns.

"People are unwilling to live near the front line," said the driver, who came back on Tuesday.

Chinese coast guard rams and damages a Philippine vessel off an island in the South China Sea

By JIM GOMEZ Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A Chinese coast guard ship used a powerful water cannon on Sunday then rammed and slightly damaged an anchored Philippine government vessel off an island inhabited by Filipinos in the disputed South China Sea, the Philippine coast guard said.

There were no injuries among Filipino crewmen of the BRP Datu Pagbuaya, part of the fisheries fleet that provides support to Filipino fishermen. The Chinese coast guard targeted Pagbuaya off the Philippines-occupied Thitu island in the latest flare-up of the long-simmering territorial disputes involving Manila, Beijing and four other governments.

The Chinese coast guard accused the Philippine vessels of illegally entering what it called Chinese waters near a cluster of sandbars known as Sandy Cay, which lies between Thitu and China's artificial island base called Subi and "ignoring repeated stern warnings from the Chinese side." It said it "took control measures against the Philippine vessels in accordance with the law and resolutely drove them away."

China has repeatedly restated its sovereignty and control over virtually the entire South China Sea, a major trade route, despite a 2016 arbitration ruling that invalidated its historic claims. That ruling has been rejected by China but supported by the United States and its Western and Asian allies, including Japan, Australia, the European Union and Canada.

The U.S. immediately condemned "China's aggressive actions in defiance of international law" and expressed support for the Philippines, a close Asian treaty ally. U.S. Ambassador to Manila MaryKay Carlson praised the Filipino personnel involved in the incident for their "tremendous valor and skill in the face of China's dangerous ramming and use of water cannons."

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 63 of 94

Pagbuaya and two other Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources vessels were anchored in the territorial waters off Thitu, called Pag-asa by the Philippines, when Chinese coast guard and suspected militia ships suddenly approached and staged "dangerous and provocative maneuvers," the Philippine coast guard spokesperson Commodore Jay Tarriela said in a statement. He added that such aggression would not prompt Manila to "surrender a square inch of our territory to any foreign power."

A Chinese coast guard ship with bow number 21559 "fired its water cannon directly at the BRP Datu Pagbuaya, hitting the vessel," then rammed the stern of the Philippine fisheries vessel three minutes later, causing "minor structural damage but no injuries to the crew."

Video issued by the Philippine coast guard shows a Chinese coast guard ship firing a water cannon, hitting the vessel and its two Philippine flags. The Filipino-manned ship is seen moving away from the Chinese coast guard ship.

"Despite these bullying tactics and aggressive actions, the Philippine coast guard and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources remain resolute," Tarriela said. "We will not be intimidated or driven away."

In Beijing, Chinese coast guard spokesperson Liu Dejun said in a statement the two Philippine vessels illegally entered waters near Sandy Cay, which China calls Tiexian Reef, "without the permission of the Chinese government." One dangerously approached the Chinese Coast Guard vessel, causing a scrape, he said.

The responsibility rests entirely with the Philippine side, Liu said, accusing the Philippines of undermining the peace and stability in the South China Sea and "sternly warned" the Southeast Asian country "to immediately stop infringement and harassment."

"The harassment we faced today only strengthens our resolve," Philippine coast guard commandant Admiral Ronnie Gil Gavan said. "Filipino fisherfolk depend on these waters and neither water cannons nor ramming will deter us from fulfilling our commitment to Pres. Ferdinand Marcos to not surrender a square inch of our territory to any foreign power."

Thitu is the largest of nine islands, islets and reefs inhabited by Philippine forces and also has a fishing community in the Spratlys archipelago, the most fiercely disputed region of the South China Sea, where China turned seven barren reefs into island bases protected by a missile system. Three of the artificial islands have runways, including Subi, which lies just more than 20 kilometers (12 miles) from Thitu, which China also claims.

Schauffele wins in Japan, the country where his mother grew up and where he has many connections

YOKOHAMA, Japan (AP) — This may not have been Xander Schauffele's most prestigious tournament victory, but it should be the American's most memorable.

Schauffele's shot a 7-under 64 on Sunday to win the Baycurrent Classic in Japan — a country where his mother grew up and where he has many connections.

Schauffele, who shot 19-under 265 over four rounds at the Yokohama Country Club, finished one shot ahead of American Max Greyserman, who was also the runner-up at this event a year ago as he chases his first PGA Tour title.

Schauffele has maternal grandparents living in Japan and his mother has roots in Taiwan and grew up in Japan. His mother-in-law is also Japanese, and his wife is half Japanese and grew up in Japan's southern island of Okinawa.

"I've been coming here since I was about 9 years old to visit my grandparents," Schauffele said. "I sort of fell in love with this country a long time ago. I can't wait to bring my son here when he's old enough to sort of understand and appreciate the culture here in Japan."

"Yeah, the ties run deep for the Schauffele family here in Japan," he added.

Schauffele and his wife Maya became parents just over a month ago with the birth of a son.

"It's still kind of fresh, but it's definitely a cool thing being a dad and I'm so excited to go home to him

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 64 of 94

and Maya after this," Schauffele said.

Schauffele was cheered during the tournament by family members who attended, including his 81-year-old grandmother who walked the course with him. He said there would probably be a "get-together" with family members later to celebrate.

"I mean, I don't get to see them very often and they've always been gracious with their time to come out wherever the event was," he said. "They've been awesome to me and this is pretty cool. I've really wanted to share a win with them, so can't wait to get together with them."

Greyserman closed with a 65 and held or shared the lead through the first three rounds. American Michael Thorbjornsen finished with a 64 and was three strokes behind the winner.

Schauffele has won two major championships — including the British Open in 2024 which was his last victory — and took gold in the Tokyo Olympics, which were delayed until 2021 by the pandemic. He's also compiled a considerable list of other PGA Tour titles — but this PGA Tour title is different.

Soft conditions and still winds led to low scoring. American Matt McCarty shot an 11-under 60 — he still finished nine strokes back. Japanese Takumi Kanaya finished with a 9-under 62 and was five behind with winner.

McCarty had a chance at a 58 but hit into the trees on his final hole and settled for a bogey and a 60. Jim Furyk holds the PGA Tour record with a 58 in the final round of the Travelers Championship in 2016.

China vows to stand firm against Trump's 100% tariff threat

By KEN MORITSUGU Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China signaled Sunday that it would not back down in the face of a 100% tariff threat from President Donald Trump, urging the U.S. to resolve differences through negotiations instead of threats.

"China's stance is consistent," the Commerce Ministry said in a statement posted online. "We do not want a tariff war but we are not afraid of one."

It was China's first official comment on Trump's threat to jack up the tax on imports from China by Nov. 1 in response to new Chinese restrictions on the export of rare earths, which are vital to a wide range of consumer and military products.

The back and forth threatens to derail a possible meeting between Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping and end a truce in a trade war in which new tariffs from both sides briefly topped 100% in April.

Trump has raised taxes on imports from many U.S. trading partners since taking office in January, seeking to win concessions. China has been one of the few countries that hasn't backed down, relying on its economic clout.

"Frequently resorting to the threat of high tariffs is not the correct way to get along with China," the Commerce Ministry said in its post, which was presented as a series of answers from an unnamed spokesperson to four questions from unspecified media outlets.

The statement called for addressing any concerns through dialogue.

"If the U.S. side obstinately insists on its practice, China will be sure to resolutely take corresponding measures to safeguard its legitimate rights and interests," the post said.

In addition to the 100% tariff, Trump threatened to impose export controls on what he called "critical software," without specifying what that means.

Both sides accuse the other of violating the spirit of the truce by imposing new restrictions on trade.

Trump said in a social media post that China is "becoming very hostile" and that it is holding the world captive by restricting access to rare earth metals and magnets.

The Chinese Commerce Ministry post said the U.S. has introduced several new restrictions in recent weeks, including expanding the number of Chinese companies subject to U.S. export controls.

On rare earths, the ministry said that export licenses would be granted for legitimate civilian uses, noting that the minerals also have military applications.

The new regulations include a requirement that foreign companies get Chinese government approval to export items that contain rare earths sourced from China, no matter where the products are manufactured.

China accounts for nearly 70% of the world's rare earths mining and controls roughly 90% of their global processing. Access to the material is a key point of contention in trade talks between Washington and Beijing.

The critical minerals go into many products, from jet engines, radar systems and electric vehicles to consumer electronics including laptops and phones. China's export controls have hit European and other manufacturers, as well as American ones.

The Commerce Ministry statement said that the U.S. is also ignoring Chinese concerns by going forward with new port fees on Chinese ships that take effect Tuesday. China announced Friday that it would impose port fees on American ships in response.

Sarkozy prison date to be set. Here's why the former French president will serve time despite appeal

By SYLVIE CORBET Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — The date for Nicolas Sarkozy's imprisonment will be set Monday, after the former French president was sentenced to five years in prison for criminal conspiracy in a scheme to finance his winning 2007 campaign with funds from Libya.

Sarkozy, 70, says he's innocent. He denounced the verdict as "a scandal" and filed an appeal. He is the first former president of modern France sentenced to actual time behind bars.

Sarkozy, who was involved in several other legal cases, was France's president from 2007 to 2012. He has been retired from active politics for years but remains very influential, especially in conservative circles.

Why Sarkozy is going to prison

In a surprise decision, the Paris court said the prison sentence, which would otherwise have been suspended on appeal, is effective immediately.

Sarkozy must be incarcerated without delay, the court explained, because "of the seriousness of the disruption to public order caused by the offense,"

Still, Sarkozy was given 18 days since the ruling to "organize his professional life" before his summoning by the National Financial Prosecutor's office to set a date for incarceration.

Sarkozy's supporters criticized the ruling because Sarkozy, since he appealed, is presumed to be innocent according to French law.

The debate has been recently revived after far-right leader Marine Le Pen was sentenced in March to a five-year ban on running for public office for embezzling EU funds, also taking effect immediately despite her appeal.

Sarkozy's case does not appear as an exception in France's judicial system. The justice ministry said in 2024, 90% of adults convicted and sentenced to at least two years in prison were immediately incarcerated.

What Sarkozy has been convicted of

The court said Sarkozy, as a presidential candidate and interior minister, used his position "to prepare corruption at the highest level" from 2005 to 2007, to finance his presidential campaign with funds from Libya — then led by longtime ruler Moammar Gadhafi.

The panel of three judges stated that Sarkozy's closest associates, Claude Guéant and Brice Hortefeux, held secret meetings in 2005 with Abdullah al-Senoussi, Gadhafi's brother-in-law and intelligence chief, despite the fact that he was "convicted of acts of terrorism committed mostly against French and European citizens."

Al-Senoussi is considered the mastermind of attacks on a Pan Am jumbo jet over Lockerbie, Scotland in 1988 and a French airliner over Niger the following year — causing hundreds of deaths. He was convicted and sentenced in absentia to a life sentence by a Paris court in 1999 for the attack on the French UTA Flight 772.

The court also said there was evidence Sarkozy endorsed meetings between Guéant, then his chief of staff, and an intermediary able to provide secret financial arrangements.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 66 of 94

Why he says it's a plot

Sarkozy consistently said he is innocent and the victim of "a plot" staged by some people linked to the Libyan government, including what he described as the "Gadhafi clan."

He suggested that the allegations of campaign financing were retaliation for his call — as France's president — for Gadhafi's removal.

Sarkozy was one of the first Western leaders to push for military intervention in Libya in 2011, when Arab Spring pro-democracy protests swept the Arab world. Gadhafi was toppled and killed in the uprising that same year, ending his four-decade rule of the North African country.

In addition, Sarkozy insists the court cleared him of three other charges, including passive corruption, illegal campaign financing and concealing the embezzlement of public funds.

The court said there's no evidence the money transferred from Libya to France ended up being used in Sarkozy's 2007 campaign and acknowledged it was not used to serve his "direct personal enrichment."

What comes next

For safety reasons, Sarkozy is expected to be incarcerated under conditions reserved for high-profile inmates, possibly in a special area that has been dubbed the "VIP area" of La Santé prison, the only prison located in Paris. This is where some of France's most notorious criminals have been imprisoned.

Once behind bars, Sarkozy will be able to file a release request to the appeals court. Judges will then have up to two months to process the request.

An appeal trial is to take place at a later date, possibly next spring.

French business owner Pierre Botton, who is a friend of Sarkozy, spent almost four years in prison in two separate cases, including from 2020 to 2022 at La Santé.

He described incarceration as a "violent" shock "for anyone," speaking on France Info news broadcaster after the ruling.

He said Sarkozy would likely spend a week in the arrival area to be "assessed" then transferred into the so-called "area for vulnerable personalities" for safety reasons.

Sarkozy will likely be alone in the prison cell, which is equipped with a shower, toilet, small heating element, a fridge and a television, Botton described. He will have access to a special phone he'll need to pay to use, Botton said.

A man in Brazil turned his childhood dream into a small cinema for film lovers

By GABRIELA SÁ PESSOA Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP) — Carlos Costa would never forget the summer day his grandmother took him to the movies. He was 6 years old when he first walked into a dark theater to watch "O Trapalhão nas Minas do Rei Salomão," a 1977 Brazilian comedy that remains one of the country's biggest box office hits.

"When I saw that giant screen, wow, I was mesmerized. I thought: someday I'll have a movie theater of my own," he said. "Fifty years later, that dream has come true."

In 2022, Costa opened Cine LT3, a 35-seat cinema in Sao Paulo. Using his savings and credit card, he spent about 100,000 reais (\$18,600) to renovate an old garage, buy vintage wooden seats — which he found in an old shuttered theater in the countryside — and transform the space into a movie theater.

The screening room now occupies what was once a studio — a space behind the garage of his small company that was left idle during the pandemic. Costa, who worked as a TV producer, opened the studios in 2012 and rents them out for screening tests and commercials. Where cars once stood, there are now tables and chairs where moviegoers can wait for their sessions, along with a small counter where he sells popcorn, snacks, soft drinks and wine.

There's also a small box office where Costa sells tickets to walk-ins. To buy in advance, customers must send him a WhatsApp message to reserve directly.

"The movie theater is just me. I project the films, make the popcorn, sell the tickets, everything. For

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 67 of 94

economic reasons, I can't afford an employee," Costa said. "But I also think that's part of the charm. I know the regulars by name, and that's what makes this place different."

A tale of resistance

Cine LT3 has established itself as a small haven for film lovers, slowly building a loyal neighborhood community and drawing movie buffs with programming that stands apart from the city's multiplexes.

Costa's independent cinema is also part of a resistance of venues surviving outside the mall circuit. According to 2024 official data, there were only 423 screening rooms in small theaters like LT3 across the country. In contrast, nearly 90% of Brazil's 3,542 cinema screens operate inside shopping malls.

Some of the country's most traditional stand-alone cinemas now rely on corporate sponsorships to stay open. Many others have shut down and been demolished. In Sao Paulo, where the buildings remain, the former screening rooms have often been repurposed into evangelical churches or adult movie theaters.

Even the venues that survived have faced the threat of closure in recent years. When that happens, local movie lovers often organize protests — and in some cases, they succeed. That was the case with Cine Belas Artes, located on one of the city's most iconic corners, at the intersection of Avenida Paulista.

Maria Amélia Marcos, a 71-year-old teacher, was visiting LT3 for the first time on Thursday, though she often goes to other independent theaters around Sao Paulo. She believes these venues are essential to preserving the city's cultural memory.

"Independent theaters are very important because they have a completely different appeal," she said. The film selection is fantastic. I imagine the curators are very thoughtful people who want audiences to see the kind of movies they themselves would love to watch."

A man's life dream

Costa curates the lineup himself, focusing on art-house titles from Brazil and abroad. When The Associated Press visited the theater on Thursday, the schedule included a restored screening of "Paris, Texas," part of a citywide retrospective marking the 80th birthday of German director Wim Wenders.

Maída Alves, 63, a regular at LT3, had just left a screening of "Paris, Texas" when she spoke with the AP. For her, the venue holds deep emotional value. Having witnessed collective spaces emptying out during the pandemic, she sees the theater as a rare and essential common ground.

"I think Costa does a really great job," she said. "I see him selling tickets, making popcorn, cleaning, running the film, answering the phone. That fascinates me. It shows how you have to take initiative to pursue a dream, which I imagine is his life's dream."

Costa often hears people question his decisions, especially from a financial perspective. While he admits the work is challenging, he is happy doing what he loves. And he loves cinema, just like Toto, the protagonist of his favorite movie, "Cinema Paradiso," whom he paid tribute to with a painting on the wall outside LT3.

The character bonds with a local cinema projectionist and, through that relationship, develops a lifelong devotion to movies. Costa said he sees his own life in Toto's story and believes movies have the power to transform people.

"No one leaves a movie theater the same way they entered," he said. Watching people come and go from his theater every day for the past three years, he says he has learned more about human nature.

"For example, I screen a film, and some people leave crying while others don't understand it at all. I can see the diversity of human beings," he said. "What affects one person emotionally doesn't have the same effect on another. I learn something new every day."

For some Israelis, saving hostages held in Gaza means freeing militants who killed their loved ones

By MELANIE LIDMAN Associated Press

ZICHRON YAACOV, Israel (AP) — On Tal Hartuv's chest is a jagged scar, one of 18 stab wounds on her body from a brutal attack outside Jerusalem in 2010 that killed her friend. Next to the 7-centimeter (3-inch) mark rests a dog tag inscribed with the words "Our heart is captive in Gaza," a popular symbol of support for a ceasefire deal exchanging Israeli hostages for Palestinian prisoners.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 68 of 94

On Friday, as many were celebrating a deal between Israel and Hamas after two years of war, Hartuv read through the list of Palestinian prisoners set to be released and saw the name Iyad Hassan Hussein Fatafta. He was one of three men who tried to kill her and who were convicted of killing her friend Kristine Luken, an American who was visiting Israel as a tourist.

Survivors like Hartuv and families of those killed in attacks have faced a wrenching dilemma throughout the war: Should the killers of their loved ones go free, risking future attacks, or should hostages held in the Gaza Strip be left to their fate?

"I can feel thrilled and hopeful and joyful that our hostages are coming home," said Hartuv, who changed her name as part of her rehabilitation. "But I can still feel angry, I can feel betrayed, I can feel hollow. They're not mutually exclusive," she said.

No one from the Israeli government reached out to let her know he would likely be released. She received the list from a journalist.

By Monday, Hamas is to begin releasing the remaining 48 Israeli hostages held in Gaza, around 20 of them believed to be alive. Israel will release around 2,000 Palestinians, including senior militants convicted of deadly attacks, as well as people convicted of lesser offenses and those held without charge under what is known as administrative detention.

'We need to bring them back'

Twenty-two years ago, a suicide bomber blew up Bus 37 in the northern Israeli city of Haifa, killing 17 people, including nine children heading home from school.

Israel convicted five Palestinians of assisting the bomber. Three were released in 2011 as part of an exchange for Gilad Shalit, an Israeli soldier held in Gaza. A fourth was released during the last ceasefire, earlier this year.

For years, Yossi Zur, whose 17-year-old son, Asaf, was killed in the 2003 Haifa bombing, was a leader campaigning against releases, especially against the 2011 exchange, in which 1,027 Palestinian prisoners were released.

Zur remembers being heartbroken as buses were loaded with convicted militants leaving prison.

Those released in the Shalit deal included Yahya Sinwar, who went on to orchestrate the Oct. 7, 2023, attack that triggered the war. Sinwar became Hamas' top leader before he was killed by Israeli troops last year.

"It was my failure that I did not manage to protect my son, and now I'm not managing to prevent his murderers from going out of prison," Zur said.

But when fellow activists reached out to him to protest the ceasefire exchanges in the current war, he declined.

"With the amount of people that were taken on Oct. 7, and with a range of ages, I just came to the conclusion that it's not going to be worth the fight this time," he said. "We need to bring them back."

The worst hostage crisis Israel has faced

Hamas-led militants killed some 1,200 people in the Oct. 7 attack and abducted 251.

Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed over 67,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which does not say how many of the dead were militants.

In a previous ceasefire this year, Israel released nearly 1,800 Palestinians, including around 230 serving lengthy sentences for deadly attacks, in exchange for 25 living hostages and the bodies of eight others. Most prisoners convicted of deadly attacks were deported.

This time, Israel is expected to release around 250 prisoners serving long sentences as well as around 1,700 people seized from Gaza the past two years and held without charge.

After previous releases, joyful crowds welcomed them home, adding to the agony of the families of Israeli victims.

'I want to try and make Israel a safer place'

Ron Kehrmann's 17-year-old daughter, Tal, a popular high school senior who loved singing and doodling, was also killed on Bus 37. He still cries whenever he thinks of her.

It feels better to focus on his activism, he says.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 69 of 94

He remains staunchly opposed to the release of Palestinian prisoners, saying it's about deterring attacks. "I want to try and make Israel a safer place," he said. The Oct. 7 attack happened "because of the mistake of the government," in releasing militants for Shalit, he said.

"If a youngster knows that at one point, if he succeeds in killing the Israelis, he will be released, so why shouldn't he do it?" said Kehrmann. "Israel needs to break the equation of releasing hostages via releasing terrorists."

A decision to maintain empathy

Since receiving the news of her attacker's impending release, Hartuv has felt herself sinking into feelings of anger and betrayal. When that happens, she said, she pulls up a photo of a hostage on her phone, or their anguished parents, and looks in their eyes.

"It doesn't melt me, but it creates that room for empathy and reminds me there's another side of the coin," she said.

"That doesn't dissipate my feeling of anger at the Israeli government, or their sloppiness in not even contacting me, or feelings of betrayal at Western governments who didn't hold Hamas to account, but it does mollify my sense of injustice to some degree," she said.

It's the ability to go back and forth between those heartbreaking stories, holding space for both, that Hartuv wishes more people would emulate. She feels that Israeli discourse has been so fixated on the hostages that people who raise questions about the price of the deal have been pushed aside. She doesn't want to stop the deal, but after the hostages return, she wants some recognition for the price Israel, and she in particular, had to pay, and for the fear that this could lead to more attacks.

"It would make the release of the hostages so much more magnificent if you understand how necessary this is for Israel, but also how difficult," she said.

Oscar-winner Diane Keaton, star of 'Annie Hall' and 'The Godfather,' dies at 79, reports say

By LINDSEY BAHR AP Film Writer

Diane Keaton, the Oscar-winning star of "Annie Hall," "The Godfather" films and "Father of the Bride," whose quirky, vibrant manner and depth made her one of the most singular actors of a generation, has died. She was 79.

People Magazine reported Saturday that she died in California with loved ones, citing a family spokesperson. No other details were immediately available, and representatives for Keaton did not respond to inquiries from The Associated Press.

The unexpected news was met with shock around the world.

"She was hilarious, a complete original, and completely without guile, or any of the competitiveness one would have expected from such a star," Bette Midler said in an Instagram post. She and Keaton co-starred in "The First Wives Club."

Keaton was the kind of actor who helped make films iconic and timeless, from her "La-dee-da, la-dee-da" phrasing as Annie Hall, bedecked in that necktie, bowler hat, vest and khakis, to her heartbreaking turn as Kay Adams, the woman unfortunate enough to join the Corleone family.

Her star-making performances in the 1970s, many of which were in Woody Allen films, were not a flash in the pan and she would continue to charm new generations for decades thanks in part to a longstanding collaboration with filmmaker Nancy Meyers.

She played a businessperson who unexpectedly inherits an infant in "Baby Boom," the mother of the bride in the beloved remake of "Father of the Bride," a newly single woman in "The First Wives Club," and a divorced playwright who gets involved with Jack Nicholson's womanizing music executive in "Something's Gotta Give."

Keaton won an Oscar for "Annie Hall" and would go on to be nominated three more times, for "Reds," "Marvin's Room," and "Something's Gotta Give."

In her very Keaton way, upon accepting her Oscar in 1978 she laughed and said, "This is something."

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 70 of 94

Keaton was born Diane Hall in January 1946 in Los Angeles. Her mother was a homemaker and photographer, and her father was in real estate and civil engineering, and both would inspire her love in the arts, from fashion to architecture.

Keaton was drawn to theater and singing while in school in Santa Ana, California, and she dropped out of college after a year to make a go of it in Manhattan. Actors' Equity already had a Diane Hall in their ranks, and she took Keaton, her mother's maiden name, as her own.

She studied under Sanford Meisner in New York and has credited him with giving her the freedom to "chart the complex terrain of human behavior within the safety of his guidance. It made playing with fire fun."

She started on the stage as an understudy in the Broadway production for "Hair," and in Allen's "Play It Again, Sam" in 1968, for which she would receive a Tony nomination.

Keaton made her film debut in the 1970 romantic comedy "Lovers and Other Strangers," but her big breakthrough would come a few years later when she was cast in Francis Ford Coppola's "The Godfather," which won best picture and become one of the most beloved films of all time.

The 1970s were an incredibly fruitful time for Keaton thanks in part to her ongoing collaboration with Allen in both comedic and dramatic roles. She appeared in "Sleeper," "Love and Death," "Interiors," "Manhattan," and the film version of "Play it Again, Sam." The 1977 crime-drama "Looking for Mr. Goodbar" also earned her raves.

Allen and the late Marshall Brickman gave Keaton one of her most iconic roles in "Annie Hall," the infectious woman from Chippewa Falls whom Allen's Alvy Singer cannot get over. The film is considered one of the great romantic comedies of all time, with Keaton's eccentric, self-deprecating Annie at its heart.

Keaton and Allen were also in a romantic relationship, from about 1968, when she met him while auditioning for his play, until about 1974. Afterward they remained collaborators and friends.

"He was so hip, with his thick glasses and cool suits," Keaton wrote in her memoir. "But it was his manner that got me, his way of gesturing, his hands, his coughing and looking down in a self-deprecating way while he told jokes."

She was also romantically linked to Pacino, who played her husband in "The Godfather," and Warren Beatty who directed her and whom she co-starred with in "Reds." She never married but did adopt two children when she was in her 50s: a daughter, Dexter, and a son, Duke.

In 1987 she began another long-standing collaboration with Nancy Meyers, which would result in four beloved films starting with "Baby Boom," directed by Charles Shyer.

Their next team-up would be in the remake of "Father of the Bride," which Shyer directed and co-wrote with Meyers. She and Steve Martin played the flustered parents to the bride which would become a big hit and spawn a sequel.

In 2003, Meyers would direct her in the romantic comedy "Something's Gotta Give." Her character Erica Barry, with her beautiful Hamptons home and ivory outfits was a key inspiration for the recent costal grandmother fashion trend. It earned her what would be her last Oscar nomination and, later, she'd call it her favorite film.

Keaton continued working steadily throughout the 2000s, with notable roles in "The Family Stone," "Morning Glory," and the "Book Club" films.

Keaton was celebrated with an AFI Life Achievement Award in 2017.

"I feel like it's the wedding I never had, or the big gathering I never had, or the retirement party I never had, or all these things that I always avoided — the big bash," she told the AP. "It's really a big event for me and I'm really, deeply grateful."

From 'Annie Hall' to 'Something's Gotta Give,' 6 great Diane Keaton films and where to watch them

By LINDSEY BAHR AP Film Writer

Diane Keaton never really played the part of glamorous movie star. She was in iconic films and she dated some of the biggest stars of her generation, and yet she somehow remained other and defiantly herself.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 71 of 94

despite so many years working in the Hollywood system. Eccentric and approachable, with a sort of effervescent charm, it's no surprise that she played muse to so many, from Woody Allen to Nancy Meyers.

People often describe her as self-deprecating, as if it was a choice and not a product of deep-seated insecurity. Keaton was someone who thought herself ugly, who battled eating disorders and who never seemed to give herself enough credit for her successes. But she was also able to channel that into her performances spanning five decades unlike none other.

There are so many Keaton films worth noting, including her full run with Allen. There are the Instagram favorites like "The First Wives Club" (available to rent), nostalgic classics like "Father of the Bride" (streaming on Hulu) and dramatic turns in "Marvin's Room" (streaming on Kanopy) and "Shoot the Moon" (available to rent).

Here are six essential roles to get you started.

"The Godfather" (1972)

Kay Adams, the future Mrs. Corleone, could have been a wallpaper role. But Keaton, in her breakout role, held the screen next to her flashier counterparts. She was the wife who had something going on behind her eyes, who could hold the screen in the chilling final shot of the first film. Social media doesn't often produce anything worthwhile but in 2023 Francis Ford Coppola and Keaton had an exchange on an Instagram story "ask me anything" session. She wondered why he'd picked her.

"I chose you, because although you were to play the more straight/vanilla wife, there was something more about you, deeper, funnier, and very interesting. (I was right)," Coppola wrote.

WHERE TO WATCH: Available to rent on various platforms including Prime Video.

"Annie Hall" (1977)

"La-dee-da, la-dee-da" where to even begin with "Annie Hall?" It is the quintessential Keaton role, a love-letter to her quirks, eccentricities, insecurities and charm all wrapped up in this fictional tie-wearing WASP from Chippewa Falls.

Allen encouraged her to wear what she wanted to wear, and so she assembled her iconic outfit — khaki pants, vest, tie — from "cool-looking women on the streets of New York." The hat was lifted from actor Aurore Clement.

"No one had any serious expectations. We were just having a good time moving through New York's landmark locations," she wrote in her memoir. "As always, Woody concerned himself with worries about the script. Was it too much like an episode of 'The Mary Tyler Moore Show'? I told him he was nuts. Relax."

WHERE TO WATCH: Streaming on Fubo TV.

"Looking for Mr. Goodbar" (1977)

Keaton's OTHER great film from 1977 drifted into cult classic status as it wasn't released on home video or DVD and has only recently been made available on digital platforms. The part of Theresa Dunn makes Annie Hall look like a nun. With her Catholic upbringing and "good girl" job teaching deaf children by day, at night Theresa cruises bars looking for men to hook up with — the more dangerous (like Richard Gere's character) the better.

WHERE TO WATCH: Available to rent on various platforms.

"Reds" (1981)

Warren Beatty directed, produced, co-wrote and starred in this historical epic about the journalists documenting the Bolshevik Revolution alongside Keaton, playing journalist and activist Louise Bryant. They were dating by the time they started making the film and their relationship curdled during production.

"Everyone knew I didn't take well to Warren's direction," she wrote in her memoir. "It was impossible to work with a perfectionist who shot 40 takes per setup. Sometimes it felt like I was being stun-gunned. Even now I can't say my performance is my own. It was more like a reaction to Warren — that's what it was: a response to the effect of Warren Beatty."

WHERE TO WATCH: Streaming on Kanopy.

"Baby Boom" (1987)

In this comedy from Charles Shyer and Nancy Meyers, Keaton plays a Manhattan yuppie who unexpectedly inherits a 14-month-old and begins to reassess her life, eventually moving to Vermont where she

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 72 of 94

meets a veterinarian played by peak handsome Sam Shepard. An ahead-of-its-time commentary on the have-it-all discourse of the next 30 years, Roger Ebert wrote at the time that "'Baby Boom' makes no effort to show us real life. It is a fantasy about mothers and babies and sweetness and love, with just enough wicked comedy to give it an edge."

WHERE TO WATCH: Available to rent on various platforms.

"Something's Gotta Give" (2003)

Oh Erica Barry and her fabulous Hamptons home and ivory turtleneck sweaters. This was purely the brainchild of Meyers, the writer-director who had the glorious idea to make a 50-something woman the object of desire in a mainstream romantic comedy. Keaton plays this brilliant playwright who catches the eye of both an older playboy (Jack Nicholson) with a proclivity for much younger women and a young, handsome doctor (Keanu Reeves). Keaton has called it her favorite movie, in part because she got to kiss Nicholson (who she had acted alongside before, in "Reds") "because it was so unexpected at age 57."

WHERE TO WATCH: Available to rent on various platforms.

What to know about National Guard deployments in Memphis, Tennessee, and other cities

By The Associated Press undefined

Judges have stalled President Donald Trump's plans to deploy the National Guard in Chicago and in Portland, Oregon, but troops are now patrolling in Memphis, Tennessee, with the blessing of the state's governor.

The troops, dressed in Guard fatigues and protective vests, with guns in their holsters, patrolled at a Bass Pro Shops store and a nearby tourist welcome center beside the Mississippi River on Friday. It was unclear how many troops have been deployed to Memphis.

Trump has sent or discussed sending troops to other cities as well, including Baltimore; the District of Columbia; New Orleans; and the California cities of Oakland, San Francisco and Los Angeles. The federal government says the troops support immigration agents and protect federal property.

The Guard troops in Memphis remain under the command of Republican Gov. Bill Lee, who supports their use to further a federal crackdown on crime.

By contrast, Trump has attempted to deploy National Guard troops — including some from Texas and California — in Portland and Chicago after taking control of them himself, over objections from state and local leaders who say such interference violates their sovereignty and federal law. Federal courts in Illinois and Oregon this week blocked Trump's efforts to send troops out in those cities.

Here's where things stand:

What's happening in Memphis

Trump announced Sept. 15 that he intended to deploy the Guard to Memphis, and Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee, a Republican, embraced the plan to bolster law enforcement operations there.

Mayor Paul Young, a Democrat who did not request the deployment, said he hopes the task force will target violent offenders rather than scare, harass or intimidate residents.

Federal officials say agents from the FBI, Drug Enforcement Administration, Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the U.S. Marshals Service have made hundreds of arrests and issued more than 2,800 traffic citations since the task force began operating in Memphis on Sept. 29.

Illinois senators denied entry to ICE building

Illinois Sens. Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth said they were denied access Friday to the ICE facility in Broadview, Illinois, a site of confrontations between protesters and federal agents.

"It is appalling that two United States senators are not allowed to visit this facility," Duckworth said. "What are you afraid of?"

The senators said they have congressional oversight authority.

"Something is going on in there they don't want us to see," Durbin said. "I don't know what it is."

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 73 of 94

Illinois judge blocks troop deployment

An appeals court ruled Saturday that troops Trump sent to Illinois can remain there under federal control but can't be deployed, and granted a pause in the case until it hears further arguments.

The ruling came two days after U.S. District Judge April Perry in Chicago blocked the deployment of troops in Chicago for at least two weeks. The Justice Department appealed the next day.

The judge said the Trump administration violated the 10th Amendment, which grants certain powers to states, and the 14th Amendment, which assures due process and equal protection, when he ordered National Guard troops to the city.

In a written order Friday explaining her rationale, Perry noted the nation's long aversion to having military involvement in domestic policing.

"Not even the Founding Father most ardently in favor of a strong federal government" — Alexander Hamilton — "believed that one state's militia could be sent to another state for the purposes of political retribution," Perry wrote.

Hamilton called that notion "preposterous."

"The court confirmed what we all know: There is no credible evidence of a rebellion in the state of Illinois. And no place for the National Guard in the streets of American cities like Chicago," Gov. JB Pritzker said.

Oregon judge also blocks Trump efforts

Another court battle in Oregon earlier delayed a similar troop deployment to Portland. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals heard arguments in that case Thursday.

Lt. Cmdr. Teresa Meadows, a spokesperson for U.S. Northern Command, said the troops sent to Portland and Chicago are "not conducting any operational activities at this time."

Troops patrol outside Chicago

Five hundred guard members from Texas and Illinois arrived this week at a U.S. Army Reserve Center in Elwood, southwest of Chicago, and have been activated for 60 days.

They started patrolling Thursday morning behind portable fences outside the ICE Broadview facility.

A federal judge late Thursday ordered ICE to remove a separate 8-foot-tall (2.4-meter) fence outside the Broadview facility after the Village of Broadview said it illegally blocks a public street.

Also Thursday, another federal judge in Illinois temporarily ordered federal agents to wear badges and banned them from using certain riot-control weapons against peaceful protesters and journalists outside the ICE facility, about 12 miles (19 kilometers) west of Chicago.

In Chicago, federal prosecutors have obtained a grand jury indictment against a woman and man accused of using their vehicles to strike and box in a Border Patrol agent's vehicle last Saturday.

The agent exited his car and fired five shots at Marimar Martinez, 30, who was treated at a hospital. The indictment filed Thursday formalizes charges of assaulting a federal officer with a dangerous weapon — a vehicle. Anthony Ruiz, 21, is also charged.

Steve Martin, Bette Midler and Goldie Hawn are among stars paying tribute to Diane Keaton

By The Associated Press undefined

Oscar winning actor Diane Keaton, who died at 79, was known for her performances and style that helped shaped some of the most indelible films of all time, including "The Godfather," "Annie Hall," "Father of the Bride" and "Something's Gotta Give."

She was beloved by fans and fellow actors, many of whom paid tribute Saturday after news of Keaton's death broke. They included co-stars such as Bette Midler, Mandy Moore and Steve Martin, who shared an excerpt of an interview with Keaton and Martin Short that he said "sums up our delightful relationship with Diane."

Here is a roundup of some notable reaction to Keaton's death and legacy:

Bette Midler

"She was hilarious, a complete original, and completely without guile, or any of the competitiveness one

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 74 of 94

would have expected from such a star. What you saw was who she was ... oh, la, lala!" — On Instagram. Middler co-starred with Keaton in "The First Wives Club."

Kimberly Williams-Paisley

"Diane, working with you will always be one of the highlights of my life. You are one of a kind, and it was thrilling to be in your orbit for a time. Thank you for your kindness, your generosity, your talent, and above all, your laughter." — On Instagram. Williams-Paisley played Keaton's daughter in the "Father of the Bride" films.

Steve Martin

"Loved!" — On the social platform X. Martin, who co-starred with Keaton in "Father of the Bride," also posted on Instagram an interview exchange in which Short asked Keaton who was sexier, him or Martin. Keaton's response: "I mean, you're both idiots."

Goldie Hawn

"How do we say goodbye? What words can come to mind when your heart is broken? You never liked praise, so humble, but now you can't tell me to "shut up" honey. There was, and will be, no one like you." — in an Instagram post.

Cynthia Nixon

"When I was a kid, Diane Keaton was my absolute idol. I loved her acting. I loved her vibe. I loved her everything." — On Instagram. Nixon also recalled working with Keaton on the film "Five Flights Up" as a "dream come true."

Mandy Moore

"They say don't meet your heros but I got to work with one of mine and even call her 'mom' for a few months. An honor of a lifetime. What an incandescent human Di is and was." — On Instagram. Moore starred opposite Keaton in the 2007 film "Because I Said So."

Octavia Spencer

"Thank you, Diane, for reminding us that authenticity never goes out of fashion." — On Instagram.

Ben Stiller

"One of the greatest film actors ever. An icon of style, humor and comedy. Brilliant. What a person." — On X.

Trump's indictment of New York attorney general Letitia James stirs concerns for Black women leaders

By MATT BROWN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The coalition of New York NAACP chapters had just begun its annual state convention when Letitia James, a longtime member and the state's attorney general, canceled her appearance.

James had just been indicted by the Justice Department for alleged mortgage fraud, a charge which she called "baseless" and "a grave violation of our constitutional order."

For the New York convention's organizers, the moment was alarming and underscored the gathering's importance, which featured multiple sessions on building political power at the state level in response to what NAACP leaders called federal attacks on social welfare, civil rights and the rule of law.

"It was through our collective action that a democracy was built," said NAACP New York State Conference President L. Joy Williams. "What we have to do is not only defend against what is happening now, but we have to push further past where we were before, to build a system to build a better American democracy that we all deserve."

The indictment of James, who had previously prosecuted the Trump Organization for business fraud, immediately sparked debate over whether the justice system had been politicized for President Donald Trump's personal grievances. It also drew many parallels with the recent effort by Trump to remove a Federal Reserve Board governor, Lisa Cook, from her post over similar allegations.

Claims against James and Cook carry symbolic weight

Advocates see some of Trump's recent moves as exceptionally targeted at Black women leaders.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 75 of 94

"This is something that we've been grappling with since the start of this administration," said Shavon Arline-Bradley, president and CEO of the National Council of Negro Women, the country's oldest civil rights organization for Black women.

The claims also have symbolic weight to Black families, Arline-Bradley said, where property ownership has historically been restricted by the legal system through outright and implicit discrimination.

Homeownership has since become a disproportionate — and sometimes sole — avenue of wealth creation for Black Americans. And a recent national survey shows a widening of the racial wealth gap between white and Black individuals, even as income has increased for Black workers.

"When you attack someone's home, you attack their ability to own, you attack their ability to have choice, you have attacked their ability to make a statement about their economic future," Arline-Bradley said. "This is a consistent pattern that has highlighted what they think is an Achilles' heel in the Black community."

Black women, Arline-Bradley added, "feel very targeted" because of the president's words and actions, which she said was rooted in "a misunderstanding about the accomplishments and leadership of these women."

'One tier of justice for all Americans'

The Trump administration contends its prosecution of James over alleged mortgage fraud is justified and impartial.

"No one is above the law," Lindsey Halligan, the U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, said in a statement. "The charges as alleged in this case represent intentional, criminal acts and tremendous breaches of the public's trust. The facts and the law in this case are clear, and we will continue following them to ensure that justice is served."

And Attorney General Pam Bondi wrote, "One tier of justice for all Americans" shortly after James' indictment in a post on X.

Critics of the administration have countered that the administration's actions amount to political retribution and an attempt to unlawfully consolidate power. Black leaders have further argued that the administration's actions have come at the expense of trailblazing Black leaders and Black communities.

"President Trump has made clear through his own public comments against Attorney General James that the goal of this indictment is simply to exact retribution against his political opponents," Yvette Clarke, chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, said in a statement.

"The American people see this corrupt prosecution for what it is — a desperate attempt by President Trump to weaponize the justice system. It will not withstand public or legal scrutiny," she added.

Case against James 'very uncommon,' legal expert says

In addition to James, the Trump Justice Department has indicted former FBI Director James Comey for making a false statement and obstruction of justice related to a 2020 Senate Judiciary Committee testimony.

The Justice Department is also investigating Sen. Adam Schiff, a California Democrat, for mortgage fraud. Trump has called for Schiff, who was the lead manager of Trump's first impeachment, to be jailed.

Experts question the merits and motives of the mortgage fraud inquiries.

"It is very uncommon for prosecutors to bring these sorts of claims absent a pattern of malicious activity or evidence that the individual has actually harmed the bank by not paying their mortgage or if it's part of a much larger fraudulent scheme," said Paul Schiff Berman, a professor of law at the George Washington University School of Law.

For James, Berman said, "the claim is that she said that the house was going to be used as her second home but she also used it as a rental property sometimes," which Berman said could be argued as a reasonable use for a second home and likely not in violation of a typical mortgage contract.

Regardless of the ensuing legal debates, allies of James say they are ready to support her in whatever manner is needed. Organizers at the New York conference say she is welcome to return to the event when ready.

"While we are responding in this moment, this is also happening to her, and so we want to give her space," said Williams, the New York NAACP leader. "And the thing about home is you can always go there. So we know she'll always come back."

Southern California beachgoers watch helicopter spiral out of control, slam into palms

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif. (AP) — A helicopter that was coasting above a popular Southern California beach Saturday suddenly lost control and began spiraling in midair, eventually losing altitude and slamming into a row of palms as stunned sunbathers and beachgoers looked on.

Multiple videos posted online show the aircraft twirling clockwise above Huntington Beach, then plunging toward the edge of the beach, where it becomes wedged between palms and a staircase near Pacific coast Highway.

The Huntington Beach Fire Department said five people were hospitalized, including two who were in the helicopter and were “safely pulled from the wreckage.” Three other people on the street were injured. Details on their injuries were not immediately available.

No cause was released.

The department said the helicopter was associated with an annual “Cars ‘N Copters” fundraising event planned for Sunday.

Rainbows but also clouds as NC town hosts Pride Fest amid Trump administration’s anti-trans push

ALLEN G. BREED AP National Writer

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (AP) — Thousands turned out Saturday in this Baptist seminary town to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community, but the current political climate was never far from their thoughts.

“If we’re paying attention, we’re seeing what could happen,” said Amanda Cottrill, co-chair of Wake Forest Pride Fest. “History repeats itself, (which is) why it’s so important for us to be learning and celebrating history.”

This year’s event coincided with National Coming Out Day. It also came at a time when President Donald Trump’s administration is seeking to bar transgender people from serving in the military and issuing orders about biological sex and gender.

Police watched from atop the town hall and patrolled the streets with dogs, as people in rainbow clothing confronted a group that came to sing hymns and wave signs telling them to repent. There were applause and tears in the crowd as author, activist and former youth pastor John Pavlovitz spoke from a stage.

“We are going through it right now, but we’re going through it together,” Pavlovitz said as he paced the plaza in brightly-colored sneakers. “We will not allow ourselves or the people we care about to be dehumanized or mistreated or erased. We will not stand for it.”

Phoenix Bilodeau, who is transgender, said they always worry about violence when attending such public events.

“They’ve already designated trans as terrorists,” Bilodeau said. “So, like, maybe next they’re going to say, like, we’re enemies of the state. I don’t know. And so it’s just scary, because you don’t even know what’s going to happen.”

Wake Forest, just north of the state capital, is home to the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. In front of the town hall, people banged drums and shouted as the group sang hymns and waved signs. Local farmer Will Arterburn, who organized the singing, lamented the attempts to drown them out.

“This particular event is directly against the scriptures and the teachings of the Bible,” he said. “Sexual immorality on display in the public square. And we wanted to be here as a presence of light, to oppose the principalities and powers on display here.”

Nikki Lyons, whose family moved here from California about a year and a half ago, laughed as she watched her 2-year-old daughter, Maeve, use a miniature Pride flag to joust with a blow-up man. Lyons said events like this are more important than ever.

“We have to come together and stand against this administration,” Lyons said, choking up with emotion

and scooping her daughter up in a hug. "Because we all deserve to be loved."

Rainbows but also clouds as NC town hosts Pride Fest amid Trump administration's anti-trans push

ALLEN G. BREED AP National Writer

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (AP) — Thousands turned out Saturday in this Baptist seminary town to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community, but the current political climate was never far from their thoughts.

"If we're paying attention, we're seeing what could happen," said Amanda Cottrill, co-chair of Wake Forest Pride Fest. "History repeats itself, (which is) why it's so important for us to be learning and celebrating history."

This year's event coincided with National Coming Out Day. It also came at a time when President Donald Trump's administration is seeking to bar transgender people from serving in the military and issuing orders about biological sex and gender.

Police watched from atop the town hall and patrolled the streets with dogs, as people in rainbow clothing confronted a group that came to sing hymns and wave signs telling them to repent. There were applause and tears in the crowd as author, activist and former youth pastor John Pavlovitz spoke from a stage.

"We are going through it right now, but we're going through it together," Pavlovitz said as he paced the plaza in brightly-colored sneakers. "We will not allow ourselves or the people we care about to be dehumanized or mistreated or erased. We will not stand for it."

Phoenix Bilodeau, who is transgender, said they always worry about violence when attending such public events.

"They've already designated trans as terrorists," Bilodeau said. "So, like, maybe next they're going to say, like, we're enemies of the state. I don't know. And so it's just scary, because you don't even know what's going to happen."

Wake Forest, just north of the state capital, is home to the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

In front of the town hall, people banged drums and shouted as the group sang hymns and waved signs. Local farmer Will Arterburn, who organized the singing, lamented the attempts to drown them out.

"This particular event is directly against the scriptures and the teachings of the Bible," he said. "Sexual immorality on display in the public square. And we wanted to be here as a presence of light, to oppose the principalities and powers on display here."

Nikki Lyons, whose family moved here from California about a year and a half ago, laughed as she watched her 2-year-old daughter, Maeve, use a miniature Pride flag to joust with a blow-up man. Lyons said events like this are more important than ever.

"We have to come together and stand against this administration," Lyons said, choking up with emotion and scooping her daughter up in a hug. "Because we all deserve to be loved."

Mississippi school homecoming celebrations turn deadly as 8 people are killed in separate shootings

By KATIE ADKINS and JEFF MARTIN Associated Press

LELAND, Miss. (AP) — High school homecoming celebrations in Mississippi ended in gunfire, with two separate shootings on opposite sides of the state Friday night that left at least eight people dead and many more injured, authorities said.

Six were killed in downtown Leland after a high school football homecoming game in the Mississippi Delta region on the state's western edge, according to the county coroner. On the east side of the state, a pregnant woman was among the dead, Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves said.

About 20 people hurt in Delta region shooting

In Leland, four people were killed and two died later at a hospital, according to a statement from Washington County Coroner La'Quesha Watkins.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 78 of 94

Some 20 people were injured in the gunfire after people gathered in the downtown area following the game, state Sen. Derrick Simmons said. Of those, four were in critical condition and were flown from a hospital in nearby Greenville to a larger medical center in the state capital, Jackson, Simmons told The Associated Press. He was being updated on developments from law enforcement authorities in the Delta.

On Saturday, pieces of tattered, yellow crime scene tape were wrapped around a pole in the city's tiny downtown area. The police tape could also be seen in front of a boarded-up storefront, tangled up at the base of a sign commemorating the late soul singer Tyrone Davis, who was born nearby.

The crime scene is not far from City Hall, where family members gathered to seek answers. The media was not allowed inside.

"People were just congregating and having a good time in the downtown of Leland," Simmons said of the town with a population of fewer than 4,000 people.

He was told that after the gunfire, the scene was "very chaotic," as police, sheriff's deputies and ambulances "responded from all over."

"It's just senseless gun violence," he said. "What we are experiencing now is just a proliferation of guns just being in circulation."

No arrests have been announced, and Simmons said late Saturday morning that he had not heard any information about possible suspects.

One witness, Camish Hopkins, described seeing people wounded and bleeding from various parts of their bodies and four people lying dead on the ground.

"It was the most horrific scene I'd ever seen," Hopkins told The Associated Press after the meeting at City Hall.

Police shouted at people to keep behind crime-scene tape in the chaos, Hopkins added.

"No one was trying to really help," Hopkins said. "Leland failed Leland yesterday, but I know that we can do better because this isn't Leland."

A separate shooting in eastern Mississippi killed 2

Meanwhile, police in the small Mississippi town of Heidelberg in the eastern part of the state are investigating a shooting during that community's homecoming weekend that left two people dead.

Both of them were killed on the school campus Friday night, Heidelberg Police Chief Cornell White said. He declined to say whether the victims were students or provide other information about the crimes.

"Right now we've still got a subject at large, but I can't give specifics," White said Saturday morning.

An 18-year-old man was being sought for questioning in the Heidelberg shooting, the Jasper County Sheriff's Office said in a statement. The sheriff asked that anyone with information contact the police chief or sheriff's office.

The shooting in Heidelberg happened on the school campus where the Heidelberg Oilers were playing their homecoming football game Friday night. The town of about 640 residents is about 85 miles (137 kilometers) southeast of the state capital of Jackson.

It wasn't clear exactly when the gunfire occurred or how close it was to the stadium. White said he was at the scene Saturday investigating, and that more information might be released in coming days.

The Mississippi Bureau of Investigation is helping local and federal law enforcement agencies in investigating, the governor said.

"Our state is praying for the victims and their families, as well as the entire Heidelberg and Leland communities," Reeves said in a social media post. "Those responsible will be brought to justice."

A third shooting under investigation, sheriff says

In Sharkey County, Mississippi, also in the Mississippi Delta region, the local sheriff was investigating yet another shooting after a high school football game in the area, authorities said.

Two people have been arrested in that shooting, which happened at a local school after its game Friday night, Sharkey County Sheriff Herbert Ceaser Sr. said in a statement.

The statement did not include any information on possible injuries, but said: "Our thoughts and prayers are with the victim's family during this incredibly difficult time." The sheriff could not immediately be reached for more information.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 79 of 94

As the National Guard enters Memphis, memories of MLK and 1968 unrest resurface

By JONATHAN MATTISE and ADRIAN SAINZ Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — As National Guard troops arrive in Memphis, the memory of thousands of them with bayoneted rifles and tanks in 1968 is still fresh for Joe Calhoun. Back then, he marched in the streets with sanitation workers and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

King had come to support some 1,300 predominantly Black sanitation workers striking to protest inhumane treatment after a malfunctioning garbage truck killed two laborers. King led a demonstration in late March, but it turned violent when police and protesters clashed and an officer fatally shot a 16-year-old. The National Guard quickly lined the streets in response.

"You felt very uncomfortable just going about your daily routine, especially at night," Calhoun said. "They were stopping cars and randomly picking people out."

Al Lewis, then 14, still recalls a week later when Walter Cronkite said on television that King had been shot and killed in his city. Almost immediately, gunfire erupted in a cacophony Lewis said he had not heard in such volume other than on New Year's. The National Guard quickly returned, and he saw military vehicles and troops downtown during the day and Guard members on neighborhood night patrols.

President Donald Trump announced last month that the National Guard would be deployed to combat crime in Memphis alongside authorities from a slew of federal agencies. Republican Gov. Bill Lee, who supports the effort, said the troops would be deputized by the U.S. Marshals Service to "play a critical support role" for local law enforcement. Guard members won't have tanks, according to the city.

At least nine armed Guard members wearing fatigues patrolled Friday near the Pyramid, an iconic Memphis landmark, and at a visitor welcome center along the Mississippi River. Troops donned protective vests with "military police" on them and had guns in holsters.

While state and federal authorities have been increasingly visible, troops have yet to be seen in large numbers. It was unclear how many Guard members were on the ground or expected to arrive later.

For years, Memphis has dealt with high violent crime, including assaults, carjackings and homicides. While this year's statistics show improvement in several categories, including murders, many acknowledge that violence remains a problem.

The city is a majority Black epicenter for civil rights, where residents like Calhoun and Lewis remember the Guard responding during more than one period of unrest. A decade after King's assassination, troops were in Memphis during a strike by firefighters and police when parts of the city were set ablaze.

Calhoun, 75, remains an activist and recently marched against the current deployment. He had hoped he would never again see the National Guard in his city.

"I've got four grandchildren, so much of what I do is to help make a better world for them, so they don't have to go through the same thing. But it's taken a lot longer than I thought it would," he said.

Memphis is at 'key moment,' the governor says

Lee has previously said he doesn't expect many more than 150 troops in Memphis, though he's since said there is no estimate.

"You talked about the National Guard being in Memphis at key moments; I think this is a key moment for that city," Lee said in responding to a reporter's question. "They've been plagued with violence."

Memphis was among several places in the South where the National Guard was deployed during the Civil Rights Movement, including Little Rock, Arkansas; Oxford, Mississippi; and places in Alabama.

A 'show of strength' in 1968

Looking back at 1968, Calhoun recalled sleeping in the Clayborn Temple and making the now-famous "I AM A MAN" signs for sanitation workers. And he remembers officers throwing tear gas into the church.

Associated Press accounts document the ensuing military presence, including this description from March 30, 1968: "Heavily armed police and 4,000 national guardsmen, sent to preserve order ... patrolled the area around historic Beale Street. Plyboarded shop fronts and broken glass stood as testimony to the

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 80 of 94

Thursday violence."

As demonstrators emerged from Clayborn Temple for another mass march, AP documented how "the National Guard roared past in a show of strength which included four armored personnel carriers with mounted .30 caliber machine guns, six jeeps and several trucks filled with personnel."

King blamed violence surrounding the marches on a "small group of young militants."

"I wouldn't have come if I had known the outbreak of violence was possible," King said in an AP account. "I would have held up the march."

Calhoun said the soldiers, some armed and others in armored vehicles, presented "a very imposing sight for young kids to see that on the way to school, to see that on the way to church or whatever. So, we do not want to see that at all."

Additionally, he said Guard members at checkpoints targeted and harassed people who attended the 1968 marches downtown.

Troops return after King's killing

A week after the violence, King was back in Memphis, where he promised to lead a second, peaceful march despite a federal court order against it. But he was killed by a sniper while standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel on April 4.

The assassination sparked civil unrest in Memphis and other U.S. cities.

Some 4,000 National Guard troops were reactivated in Memphis and a curfew reimposed, according to AP reports.

Lewis, now 71, saw Guard vehicles and armed Guard members on foot in the downtown area, but he never saw them fire their weapons or get physical with anyone. He did see some young men throw Molotov cocktails into a furniture store, setting it ablaze.

"I didn't know what was happening. It was like an invasion of sorts," Lewis said. "I felt fear and excitement, if you can understand the two happening at once. I didn't know what was going to happen and how far it was going to go."

Once used to put out fires, today's Guard may be 'beautifying' Memphis

In 1978, Lewis was working for the U.S. Postal Service when local police and firefighters went on strike. Because of his job, he was allowed to drive home from work and pass through Guard checkpoints in the early morning darkness, despite a curfew. He recalls Guard members putting out fires.

"The police and the fire department were on strike, and there were a lot of fires being set and a lot of looting going on," Lewis said. "Still, I didn't feel the same menace that I felt like I did when King got killed."

Mayor Paul Young, a Democrat, has listed some roles he thinks the Guard could help with now. They include monitoring police cameras, "beautifying" neighborhoods, or helping homeless people.

Young has referenced the deployment after King's assassination, saying he understands community fears about the upcoming action.

"We don't want to invoke those same images here," Young said.

Palestinians return to ruins and US expects hostages freed on Monday as Gaza ceasefire holds

By ABDEL KAREEM HANA, SAM METZ, SARAH EL DEEB and SAM MEDNICK Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — The Gaza ceasefire held in its second day as tens of thousands of Palestinians returned to their neighborhoods Saturday and Israelis cheered Monday's expected release of remaining hostages.

"Gaza is completely destroyed. I have no idea where we should live or where to go," said Mahmoud al-Shandoghli in Gaza City as bulldozers clawed through the wreckage of two years of war. A boy climbed debris to raise the Palestinian flag.

Israelis applauded U.S. President Donald Trump, and some booed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, as U.S. envoy Steve Witkoff and Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner addressed a weekly rally in Tel Aviv that many hoped would be the last.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 81 of 94

"To the hostages themselves, our brothers and sisters, you are coming home," Witkoff told the crowd estimated in the hundreds of thousands. Kushner said they would celebrate on Monday, when Israel's military has said the 48 hostages still in Gaza would be freed. The government believes around 20 remain alive. Kushner also noted the "suffering" in Gaza.

Israelis hugged and took selfies. Many waved U.S. flags. "It's a really happy time, but we know that there are going to be some incredibly difficult moments coming," said one person in the crowd, Yaniv Peretz.

About 200 U.S. troops arrived in Israel to monitor the ceasefire with Hamas. They will set up a center to facilitate the flow of humanitarian aid as well as logistical and security assistance.

"This great effort will be achieved with no U.S. boots on the ground in Gaza," said Adm. Brad Cooper, head of the U.S. military's Central Command. Witkoff, Kushner and Cooper met with senior U.S. and Israeli military officials in Gaza.

The Egyptian presidency in a statement late Saturday said Trump will co-chair a "peace summit" there on Monday on Gaza and the wider Middle East. Earlier, France confirmed that President Emmanuel Macron would visit Egypt on Monday.

New details from copy of signed deal

A copy of the signed ceasefire says Hamas must share all information related to any bodies of hostages that are not released within the first 72 hours, and that Israel will provide information about the remains of deceased Palestinians from Gaza held in Israel.

The photo of the document was obtained by The Associated Press and its veracity was confirmed by two officials, including one whose country was a signatory. Both requested anonymity due to the sensitivity of the talks. The U.S. did not confirm whether it was authentic.

Hamas and Israel will share the information through a mechanism supported by mediators and the International Committee of the Red Cross. It will also ensure all hostages are exhumed and released.

The agreement says mediators and the ICRC will facilitate the exchange of the hostages and prisoners without public ceremonies or media coverage.

Israel is to free some 250 Palestinians serving prison sentences, as well as around 1,700 people seized from Gaza the past two years and held without charge. The Israel Prison Service said prisoners have been transferred to deportation facilities at Ofer and Ktzi'ot prisons, "awaiting instructions from the political echelon."

Tons of desperately needed food

Aid groups urged Israel to reopen more crossings to allow aid into famine-stricken Gaza. A U.N. official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss details not yet public, said Israel has approved expanded aid deliveries, starting Sunday.

The World Food Program said it was ready to restore 145 food distribution points. Before Israel sealed off Gaza in March, U.N. agencies provided food at 400 distribution points.

Though the timeline remains unclear, Palestinians will be able to access food at more locations than they could through the U.S.- and Israel-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, which operated four locations after taking over distribution in May.

Some 170,000 metric tons of food aid have been positioned in neighboring countries awaiting Israeli permission.

Questions about Gaza's future

Questions remain about who will govern Gaza after Israeli troops gradually pull back and whether Hamas will disarm, as called for in the ceasefire agreement.

Netanyahu, who unilaterally ended the previous ceasefire in March, has suggested Israel could resume its offensive if Hamas fails to disarm. He has pledged that the next stage would bring Hamas' disarmament.

The scale of Gaza's destruction will become clearer if the truce holds. And the death toll is expected to rise as more bodies are found.

A manager at northern Gaza's Shifa Hospital told the AP that 45 bodies pulled from the rubble in Gaza City had arrived over the past 24 hours. The manager, speaking on condition of anonymity for safety

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 82 of 94

reasons, said the bodies had been missing for several days to two weeks.

New security arrangements

Trump's initial 20-point plan calls for Israel to maintain an open-ended military presence inside Gaza, along its border with Israel. An international force, largely of troops from Arab and Muslim countries, would be responsible for security inside Gaza, though the timeline is unclear.

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi on Saturday called for the Gaza deployment of an international force authorized by the U.N. Security Council.

The Israeli military has said it will continue to operate defensively from the roughly 50% of Gaza it still controls after pulling back to agreed-upon lines.

Witkoff told Israeli officials on Friday that the United States would establish a center in Israel to coordinate issues concerning Gaza until there is a permanent government, according to a readout of the meeting obtained by the AP. Another official who was not authorized to speak to the media confirmed the readout's contents.

The war began when Hamas-led militants stormed into Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people and taking about 250 hostage.

In Israel's ensuing offensive, more than 67,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which doesn't differentiate between civilians and combatants but says around half the deaths were women and children. The ministry is part of the Hamas-run government, and the U.N. and many independent experts consider its figures to be the most reliable estimate of wartime casualties.

The war has triggered other conflicts in the region, sparked worldwide protests and led to allegations of genocide that Israel denies.

Trump directs the Pentagon to use 'all available funds' to ensure troops are paid despite shutdown

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Saturday that he has directed the Defense Department to use "all available funds" to ensure U.S. troops are paid Wednesday despite the government shutdown, a short-term fix that will not apply to the hundreds of thousands of federal workers who have been furloughed.

Trump said in a social media post that he was acting because "our Brave Troops will miss the paychecks they are rightfully due on October 15th."

The Republican president's directive removes one of the pressure points that could have forced Congress into action, likely ensuring that the shutdown — now in its 11th day and counting — extends into a third week and possibly beyond. But no similar action seems forthcoming for federal employees also working without pay while thousands are now being laid off during the lapse in government operations. The White House budget office started the layoffs on Friday.

Trump blamed Democrats and said he was exercising his authority as commander in chief to direct Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth "to use all available funds to get our Troops PAID on October 15th." The Republican president added, "We have identified funds to do this, and Secretary Hegseth will use them to PAY OUR TROOPS."

U.S. service members were in danger of not receiving their next paycheck on Wednesday after the government shut down on Oct. 1, the start of the federal budget cycle. The U.S. has about 1.3 million active-duty service members, and the prospect of troops going without pay has been a focal point when lawmakers on Capitol Hill have discussed the shutdown's negative impact.

Trump did not say where he's getting the money, but a spokesperson for the White House Office of Management and Budget said Pentagon research and development funds would be tapped.

The Pentagon said it identified about \$8 billion of unobligated research development testing and evaluation funds from the last fiscal year that will be used to issue the mid-month paychecks, "in the event the funding lapse continues past October 15th."

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 83 of 94

Federal workers typically receive back pay after a shutdown ends, as now required by a law that Trump signed during his first term. He recently floated the idea of not making up the lost salaries.

It was unclear if the president's directive applies to the U.S. Coast Guard, which is a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces but is overseen by the Department of Homeland Security during peacetime.

The nation's third shutdown in 12 years has again raised anxiety levels among service members and their families as those in uniform are working without pay. While they would receive back pay once the impasse ends, many military families live paycheck to paycheck.

During previous shutdowns, Congress passed legislation to ensure that troops kept earning their salaries, but discussion of taking a similar step by lawmakers appeared to have fizzled out.

Asked earlier this week if he would support a bill to pay the troops, Trump said, "that probably will happen." "We'll take care of it," he said Wednesday. "Our military is always going to be taken care of."

The shutdown began on Oct. 1 after Democrats rejected a short-term funding fix and demanded that the bill include an extension of federal subsidies for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act. The expiration of those subsidies at the end of the year will result in monthly cost increases for millions of people.

Trump and Republican leaders have said they are open to negotiations on the health subsidies, but insist the government must reopen first.

Both sides appear dug in on their positions, making it unclear when, or how, the shutdown ends.

Court: National Guard troops sent to Illinois by Trump can stay but can't be deployed for now

CHICAGO (AP) — National Guard troops sent to Illinois by President Donald Trump can stay in the state and under federal control, but can't be deployed to protect federal property or go on patrol for now, an appeals court ruled Saturday.

The decision comes after federal Judge April Perry on Thursday ruled to temporarily block the National Guard deployment for at least two weeks, finding no substantial evidence that a "danger of rebellion" is brewing in Illinois during Trump's immigration crackdown.

The appeals court on Saturday granted a pause in the case until it can hear further arguments.

The on-again, off-again deployments stem from a political and legal battle over Trump's push to send the Guard to several U.S. cities. His administration claims crime is rampant in those cities, despite statistics not always supporting that.

If a president invokes the Insurrection Act, they can dispatch active duty military in states that fail to put down an insurrection or defy federal law. However, Perry said she found no substantial evidence that a "danger of rebellion" is brewing in Illinois during Trump's immigration crackdown.

She followed up Friday with an opinion that cites a mix of law and history, including the Federalist Papers, which were written in 1787-88 to support ratification of the U.S. Constitution.

"There has been no showing that the civil power has failed," Perry said. "The agitators who have violated the law by attacking federal authorities have been arrested. The courts are open, and the marshals are ready to see that any sentences of imprisonment are carried out. Resort to the military to execute the laws is not called for."

The judge said there was significant evidence that federal agents have been able to carry out their work, noting "huge increases in arrests and deportations."

The 500 Guard members from Texas and Illinois were mostly based at a U.S. Army Reserve Center in Elwood, southwest of Chicago. A small number were sent to a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement building in Broadview.

Luigi Mangione's lawyers seek dismissal of federal charges in assassination of UnitedHealthcare CEO

By MICHAEL R. SISAK and LARRY NEUMEISTER Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Lawyers for Luigi Mangione asked a New York federal judge Saturday to dismiss some criminal charges, including the only count for which he could face the death penalty, from a federal indictment brought against him in the December assassination of UnitedHealthcare's chief executive.

In papers filed in Manhattan federal court, the lawyers said prosecutors should also be prevented from using at trial his statements to law enforcement officers and his backpack where a gun and ammunition were found.

They said Mangione was not read his rights before he was questioned by law enforcement officers, who arrested him after Brian Thompson was fatally shot as he arrived at a Manhattan hotel for an investor conference.

They added that officers did not obtain a warrant before searching Mangione's backpack.

Mangione, 27, has pleaded not guilty to state and federal charges in the fatal shooting of Brian Thompson on Dec. 4 as he arrived at a Manhattan hotel for his company's annual investor conference.

The killing set off a multi-state search after the suspected shooter slipped away from the scene and rode a bike to Central Park, before taking a taxi to a bus depot that offers service to several nearby states.

Five days later, a tip from a McDonald's about 233 miles (375 kilometers) away in Altoona, Pennsylvania, led police to arrest Mangione. He has been held without bail since then.

In their submission, defense lawyers provided a minute-by-minute description of how police officers apprehended a cooperative Mangione, including a photograph from a police body-worn camera of the suspect initially sitting alone at a table with a white mask covering nearly all of his face.

They said Mangione was first approached by two "fully armed" police officers when one of them "told Mr. Mangione that someone had called the police because they thought he was suspicious" after he'd been there about 40 minutes.

When the officers asked to see his identification, Mangione turned over a New Jersey driver's license with someone else's name, according to the filing.

As Mangione prepared to eat his food, the officers asked him to stand up with his hands atop his head so they could frisk him, the lawyers wrote.

Soon afterward, one of the officers went outside to summon more officers, telling a colleague he was "100 percent" convinced that Mangione was the suspect they were looking for, the lawyers said. Within minutes, nearly a half dozen additional officer arrived.

Last month, lawyers for Mangione asked that his federal charges be dismissed and the death penalty be taken off the table as a result of public comments by U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi. In April, Bondi directed prosecutors in New York to seek the death penalty, calling the killing of Thompson a "premeditated, cold-blooded assassination that shocked America."

Murder cases are usually tried in state courts, but prosecutors have also charged Mangione under a federal law on murders committed with firearms as part of other "crimes of violence." It's the only charge for which Mangione could face the death penalty, since it's not used in New York state.

The papers filed early Saturday morning argued that this charge should be dismissed because prosecutors have failed to identify the other offenses that would be required to convict him, saying that the alleged other crime — stalking — is not a crime of violence.

The assassination and its aftermath have captured the American imagination, setting off a cascade of resentment and online vitriol toward U.S. health insurers while rattling corporate executives concerned about security.

After the killing, investigators found the words "delay," "deny" and "depose," written in permanent marker on ammunition at the scene. The words mimic a phrase used by insurance industry critics.

A long-lost ancient Roman artifact reappears in a New Orleans backyard

By JACK BROOK Associated Press/Report for America

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A New Orleans family cleaning up their overgrown backyard made an extremely unusual find: Under the weeds was a mysterious marble tablet with Latin characters that included the phrase “spirits of the dead.”

“The fact that it was in Latin that really just gave us pause, right?” said Daniella Santoro, a Tulane University anthropologist. “I mean, you see something like that and you say, ‘Okay, this is not an ordinary thing.’”

Intrigued and slightly alarmed, Santoro reached out to her classical archaeologist colleague Susann Lusnia, who quickly realized that the slab was the 1,900-year-old grave marker of a Roman sailor named Sextus Congenius Verus.

“When I first saw the image that Daniella sent me, it really did send a shiver up my spine because I was just floored,” Lusnia said.

Further sleuthing by Lusnia revealed the tablet had been missing from an Italian museum for decades.

Sextus Congenius Verus had died at age 42, of unknown causes, after serving for more than two decades in the imperial navy on a ship named for the Greco-Roman god of medicine, Asclepius. The gravestone calls the sailor “well deserving” and was commissioned by two people described as his “heirs,” who were likely shipmates since Roman military could not be married at the time, Lusnia said.

The tablet had been in an ancient cemetery of around 20 graves of military personnel, found in the 1860s in Civitavecchia, a seaside in northwest Italy about 30 miles (48 kilometers) from Rome. Its text had been recorded in 1910 and included in a catalog of Latin inscriptions, which noted the tablet’s whereabouts were unknown.

The tablet was later documented at the National Archeological Museum in Civitavecchia prior to World War II. But the museum had been “pretty much destroyed” during Allied bombing and took several decades to rebuild, Lusnia said. Museum staff confirmed to Lusnia the tablet had been missing for decades. Its recorded measurements — 1 square foot (0.09 square meters) and 1 inch (2.5 centimeters) thick — matched the size of the tablet found in Santoro’s backyard.

“You can’t have better DNA than that,” Lusnia said.

She said the FBI is in talks with Italian authorities to repatriate the tablet. An FBI spokesperson said the agency could not respond to requests for comment during the government shutdown.

A final twist to the story suggests how the tablet made its way to New Orleans.

As media reports of the find began circulating this week, Erin Scott O’Brien says her ex-husband called her and told her to watch the news. She immediately recognized the hunk of marble, which she had always seen as a “cool-ass piece of art.” They had used as a garden decoration and then forgot about it before selling the home to Santoro in 2018.

“None of us knew what it was,” O’Brien said. “We were watching the video, just like in shock.”

O’Brien said she received the tablet from her grandparents — an Italian woman and a New Orleans native who was stationed in the country during World War II.

Perhaps no one would be more thrilled by the tablet’s rediscovery than Sextus himself. Grave markers were important in Roman culture to uphold legacies, even of everyday citizens, Lusnia said.

“Now Sextus Congenius Verus is being talked about so much,” Lusnia said. “If there’s an afterlife and he’s in it and he knows, he’s very happy because this is what a Roman wants — to be remembered forever.”

Many unresolved questions remain as a ceasefire holds in Gaza

By SAMY MAGDY and LEE KEATH Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — A ceasefire was holding in Gaza between Israel and Hamas on Saturday after two years of war. But will the agreement lead, as U.S. President Donald Trump proclaimed, to “a Strong, Durable, and Everlasting Peace”?

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 86 of 94

The deal took pressure on Israel and Hamas from the United States, Arab countries and Turkey. The war has devastated the Gaza Strip, killed tens of thousands of Palestinians, sparked other conflicts around the region and increasingly isolated Israel.

The deal's first phase is meant to free the remaining hostages within days in exchange for the release of hundreds of Palestinians imprisoned by Israel.

A long list of questions remains over what happens next.

The war began when Hamas-led militants stormed into Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people and taking 251 hostage.

Israel wants to ensure that Hamas disarms. Hamas wants to ensure Israel pulls its troops completely out of Gaza and is not allowed to restart the war. At the same time, a postwar government for Gaza must be worked out to replace Hamas' rule. Without that, reconstruction is unlikely, leaving Gaza's more than 2 million people in continued misery.

Any hitch in working out those intertwined issues could unravel everything and potentially lead to Israel resuming its campaign to destroy Hamas.

Here is what we know about the deal.

The first steps begin

The ceasefire took effect at noon Friday. The Israeli military said it had pulled back its troops to lines inside Gaza agreed on for the first day, withdrawing from much of Gaza City, the southern city of Khan Younis and other areas. Troops remain in most of the southern city of Rafah, towns of Gaza's far north and the wide strip along Gaza's border with Israel.

Tens of thousands of displaced Palestinians are now returning to their homes in the north.

Israel has given the United Nations the green light to begin delivering scaled-up aid into Gaza starting Sunday, a U.N. official said. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss details not yet made public.

By Monday, Hamas is to begin releasing the remaining 48 hostages, around 20 of them believed to be alive. Israel will release around 2,000 Palestinians, including several hundred serving prison sentences and others seized from Gaza during the war.

Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner on Saturday told a rally in Israel that they would celebrate on Monday. Negotiations for the next phases would then begin.

Troop withdrawal

Hamas had long insisted it would not release its last hostages unless Israeli troops leave Gaza completely. After agreeing to free them first, Hamas says it is relying on guarantees from Trump that the full withdrawal will happen.

How long it will take — weeks, months, years — is unknown.

An initial 20-point plan issued by Trump called for Israel to maintain a narrow buffer zone within Gaza along their shared border, and Israel has also spoken of keeping hold of the Philadelphi corridor, a strip of land on Gaza's border with Egypt.

Israel is unlikely to relinquish those areas unless Hamas disarms and the void left in running Gaza is filled by a body that Israel deems palatable.

Trump's plan also called for an Arab-led international security force to move into Gaza, along with Palestinian police trained by Egypt and Jordan. It said Israeli forces would leave areas as those forces deploy.

Disarmament

Hamas long refused to give up its weapons, saying it had a right to armed resistance until Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories ends.

For Israel, disarmament is a key demand. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has repeatedly said its campaign will not end until Hamas' military capabilities are dismantled, including the network of tunnels built around the territory.

There are signs, however, that Hamas could agree to a "decommissioning" of its offensive weapons, handing them over to a joint Palestinian-Egyptian committee, according to Arab officials with direct knowledge of the negotiations who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 87 of 94

Future government

Israel has said it wants Gaza purged of Hamas influence. But it has also rejected giving any role to the West Bank-based Palestinian Authority or any arrangement that could lead to the creation of a Palestinian state.

Hamas, which has ruled Gaza since 2007, has agreed to step down from governing the territory and hand over governance to a body of Palestinian technocrats.

What takes its place is uncertain.

Under Trump's plan, an international body will govern. It would hold most power while overseeing the administration of Palestinian technocrats running day-to-day affairs. It would also hold the commanding role of directing reconstruction in Gaza. Trump's initial 20-point plan called for former British Prime Minister Tony Blair to lead the body.

Hamas has so far not agreed, saying Gaza's government should be worked out among Palestinians.

The stakes

For much of the Israeli public, freeing the last of the hostages held for two years has been their top priority.

Among Palestinians in Gaza, there is relief that the bombardment and ground offensives may stop for a time and aid may flow in. But there is also skepticism and worry over how long any pause in fighting would last, whether hundreds of thousands will be able to return to their homes, and whether Gaza — its cities largely in ruins — will ever be rebuilt.

Many Palestinians fear Israel will take any breakdown in the talks as a chance to resume its assault. For months, Netanyahu and his hard-line allies have insisted they will keep long-term direct security control over Gaza and have spoken of pushing out its Palestinian population on a "voluntary" basis. In Gaza, many believe that remains Israel's objective.

Pressure from the U.S. and its allies — if it continues after hostages are freed — could prevent Israel from relaunching a full-fledged war.

If Hamas and Israel cannot reach a final deal or negotiations drag on inconclusively, Gaza could slide into limbo, with Israeli troops holding parts of it and Hamas still active. In that case, Israel would be unlikely to allow significant reconstruction, leaving Gaza's population languishing in tent camps or shelters.

Biden is receiving radiation and hormone therapy to treat his prostate cancer

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former President Joe Biden is receiving radiation and hormone therapy as part of a new phase of treating the aggressive form of prostate cancer he was diagnosed with after leaving office, a spokesperson said Saturday.

"As part of a treatment plan for prostate cancer, President Biden is currently undergoing radiation therapy and hormone treatment," said Biden aide Kelly Scully.

The 82-year-old Democrat left office in January after he had dropped his bid for reelection six months earlier following a disastrous debate against Republican Donald Trump amid concerns about Biden's age, health and mental fitness. Trump defeated Democrat Kamala Harris, who was Biden's vice president.

In May, Biden's postpresidential office announced that he had been diagnosed with prostate cancer and that it had spread to his bone. The discovery came after he reported urinary symptoms.

Prostate cancers are graded for aggressiveness using what is known as a Gleason score. The scores range from 6 to 10, with 8, 9 and 10 prostate cancers behaving more aggressively. Biden's office said his score was 9, suggesting his cancer is among the most aggressive.

Last month, Biden had surgery to remove skin cancer lesions from his forehead.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 88 of 94

Drone footage above Gaza City shows the toll of 2 years of war

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — New drone footage shows what remains of Gaza City after two years of war and as a ceasefire holds in its second day.

The footage taken by The Associated Press on Saturday shows few buildings still standing in the Tal al-Hawa neighborhood. The rest appear to be gutted. Piles of debris rise well above the tops of vehicles. Roads are shrouded in concrete dust.

The footage also shows few people out and about. They walk or drive among the ruins as tens of thousands of Palestinians make their way to what is left of their homes. Gaza City was the focus of Israel's military offensive in the weeks before the ceasefire.

Some returning residents told the AP they were shocked by a new level of ruin.

"We did not expect this magnitude of destruction," said one, Farah Saleh.

"Is that what is left of Gaza? We are returning to no homes and no shelter for our kids, and winter is approaching," said another, Shreen Aboul Yakhni.

Their clothing and possessions were rare spots of color in the shattered landscape.

If the ceasefire holds, the toll of devastation will be better understood. Already, the United Nations Satellite Center estimated that 83% of all structures in Gaza City had been destroyed or had some damage by late September. It has said around 78% of structures across all of Gaza had been destroyed or sustained damage by July.

The new drone footage helps put the scale of reconstruction into focus. Some 61 million tons of debris will need to be cleared across the territory — the equivalent of 25 Eiffel Towers by volume, according to the United Nations Environment Program.

Gaza's vegetation, too, is largely dead. UNEP has said that 97% of tree crops, 95% of shrubs and 82% of annual crops are gone.

Rebuilding Gaza will require more than \$50 billion, the World Bank has estimated. The territory's over 2 million Palestinians hope to begin now, one blanket or beam at a time.

The war began when Hamas-led militants stormed into Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people and taking about 250 hostage.

In Israel's ensuing offensive, more than 67,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which doesn't differentiate between civilians and combatants but says around half the deaths were women and children. The ministry is part of the Hamas-run government, and the U.N. and many independent experts consider its figures to be the most reliable estimate of wartime casualties.

The war has also triggered other conflicts in the region, sparked worldwide protests and led to allegations of genocide that Israel denies.

2 dead after shooting on school campus in Mississippi

LELAND, Miss. (AP) — Police in a small Mississippi town are investigating a shooting during the school's homecoming weekend that left two people dead.

Both were killed on the school campus Friday night, Heidelberg Police Chief Cornell White told The Associated Press. He declined to say whether the victims were students or provide other information about the crimes.

"Right now we've still got a subject at large, but I can't give specifics," White said Saturday morning.

An 18-year-old man is being sought for questioning in the shooting, the Jasper County Sheriff's Office said in a statement. The sheriff asked that anyone with information contact the police chief or sheriff's office.

The shootings happened on the school campus where the Heidelberg Oilers were playing their homecoming football game on Friday night, but it wasn't clear exactly when the gunfire occurred or how close it was to the stadium. White said he was at the scene Saturday investigating, and that more information might be released in coming days.

The town of about 640 residents is about 85 miles (137 kilometers) southeast of the state capital city of Jackson.

Prescription drug coverage options are shrinking for Medicare shoppers

By TOM MURPHY AP Health Writer

Fewer choices may be on the menu again as Medicare patients shop for prescription coverage this fall. The number of available, stand-alone drug plans has fallen for a few years, and that trend will continue for 2026. Most markets will still have several choices, but some options are becoming particularly sparse for shoppers with low-income subsidies. And help may be harder to find because some insurers no longer pay brokers commissions for new business.

Shoppers have from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7 to find new coverage that starts in January.

Some things to consider:

Here's who needs a Medicare Part D plan

Regular Medicare, which most people qualify for after turning 65, does not come with prescription coverage, known as Part D. People must choose that separately.

About 23 million people with regular Medicare have this standalone coverage, according to the non-profit KFF, which studies health care.

Another roughly 34 million people have Medicare Advantage plans, which are privately run versions of Medicare that often come with prescription coverage.

How Medicare Part D plans are changing

A typical shopper will be able to choose a standalone drug plan from among eight to 12 options for 2026, according to KFF Medicare expert Juliette Cubanski. That's down from 12 to 16 options in 2025.

Shoppers had nearly 30 choices as recently as 2021, according to the Commonwealth Fund's Gretchen Jacobson.

Depending on the state, a range of one to four plans will be available at no premium to people who qualify for low-income subsidies, according to KFF. Eight were available in 2021.

Some insurers are reducing their presence in standalone Part D plans, while the Blue Cross-Blue Shield carrier Elevance is leaving the market entirely. Insurers and analysts who follow the industry note that the Inflation Reduction Act, which will cap annual out-of-pocket drug costs at \$2,100 in 2026, puts more financial pressure on insurers. The same law now allows patients to spread the cost of prescriptions over the year.

There are still many Medicare Part D options

Most markets will have several choices. But experts say Medicare Part D customers don't like to shop, especially if they already have a plan that covers their medications. Finding affordable coverage for multiple prescriptions can be tricky.

"I think there's a lot of inertia and, frankly, people may be concerned that if they switch, they're going to end up worse off," Cubanski said.

More people are being pushed to shop. Nearly 11% of those with standalone prescription drug coverage lost their plan in 2024, according to research published recently in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Before 2023, that figure was often under 1%, said Dr. Christopher Cai, one of the researchers involved in the study.

Here's how Medicare Part D prices are changing

Monthly premiums, or coverage prices, will fall nearly 10% on average to \$34.50, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services announced last month.

At least one option with a premium of under \$20 exists in almost every region of the country, according to the consulting firm Oliver Wyman.

Individual prices will range widely, with premiums for the same plan varying by state, Cubanski noted.

But while plans may provide lower coverage prices, they could also raise deductibles or offer more limited lists of covered drugs, which are called formularies. Shoppers should check these details.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 90 of 94

Insurers will be allowed to raise premiums by as much as \$50 a month for 2026, up from a \$35 increase allowed this year. But Cubanski said only some plans will hit that higher limit and not necessarily in all states.

Where to get help shopping for Medicare Part D plans

Shoppers can use a federal government website to compare plan prices and coverage.

States also have a State Health Insurance Program created specifically to help people on Medicare find coverage.

Consumers can help themselves by checking their coverage for changes and comparing it with other plans.

Shoppers also should consider whether their pharmacy is in the network covered by any plan they are considering, said Jacobson, Commonwealth's vice president of Medicare.

Some might also consider switching to Medicare Advantage plans with prescription coverage. But those plans can have more limited networks of covered doctors, which can pose a problem for people with fewer care choices in rural areas.

Why delaying may not be wise

The enrollment window spans several weeks, but brokers say many people wait until that first week in December to make decisions, often after talking with family during holiday dinners.

That can create a deadline crunch that makes it harder to find help in early December.

4 dead in shooting that injured others after homecoming football game in Mississippi, official says

LELAND, Miss. (AP) — Four people were killed in a shooting in a small town in the Mississippi Delta region after a high school football homecoming game there, a state senator said Saturday.

The shootings happened occurred in the downtown area of the small town of Leland, Mississippi, where people had gathered following the game, said Mississippi state Sen. Derrick Simmons, who represents people in that region.

Four other victims who were among about 20 people injured in the shooting were taken to a hospital in Greenville and then flown to a larger hospital in the state capital city of Jackson, where they were in critical condition, Simmons told The Associated Press.

Simmons said he was confident the information is correct because he received updates from authorities with the Washington County Sheriff's Office, which is investigating, as well as from other law enforcement authorities.

"People were just congregating and having a good time in the downtown of Leland," Simmons said of the town with a population of fewer than 4,000 people.

He was told that after the gunfire, the scene was "very chaotic," as police, sheriff's deputies and ambulances "responded from all over."

"It's just senseless gun violence," he said. "What we are experiencing now is just a proliferation of guns just being in circulation."

No arrests have been announced, and Simmons said late Saturday morning that he had not heard any information about possible suspects.

"They are on the ground working and I have all the faith in the world that they will get to the bottom of this," he said.

"As the state senator for the area, we are asking any and all individuals who might have any information regarding the horrific shooting last night to come forward and provide whatever information they have," he added.

Power restored to 800,000 in Kyiv after major Russian strikes on Ukraine's energy grid

By The Associated Press undefined

Power was restored to over 800,000 residents in Kyiv on Saturday, a day after Russia launched major attacks on the Ukrainian power grid that caused blackouts across much of the country, and European leaders agreed to proceed toward using hundreds of billions of frozen Russian assets to support Ukraine's war effort.

Ukraine's largest private energy company, DTEK, said "the main work to restore the power supply" had been completed, but that some localized outages were still affecting the Ukrainian capital following Friday's "massive" Russian attacks.

Russian drone and missile strikes wounded at least 20 people in Kyiv, damaged residential buildings and triggered blackouts across swaths of Ukraine early Friday.

Prime Minister Yulia Svyrydenko described the attack as "one of the largest concentrated strikes" against Ukraine's energy infrastructure.

Russia's Defense Ministry on Friday said the strikes had targeted energy facilities supplying Ukraine's military. It did not give details of those facilities, but said Russian forces used Kinzhal hypersonic missiles and strike drones against them.

Ukraine's air force said Saturday that its air defenses intercepted or jammed 54 of 78 Russian drones launched against Ukraine overnight, while Russia's defense ministry said it had shot down 42 Ukrainian drones over Russian territory.

At least two people were killed and five wounded in airstrikes on Kostiantynivka, a city in Ukraine's Donetsk region Saturday, regional Gov. Vadim Filashkin said.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Saturday that he had a "very positive and productive" phone call with U.S. President Donald Trump.

In a post on X, Zelenskyy said he told Trump about Russian attacks on Ukraine's energy system, and that the two discussed opportunities to strengthen Ukraine's air defense. "There needs to be readiness on the Russian side to engage in real diplomacy — this can be achieved through strength," Zelenskyy wrote.

Ukraine's energy sector has been a key battleground since Russia launched its all-out invasion more than three years ago.

Each year, Russia has tried to cripple the Ukrainian power grid before the bitter winter season, apparently hoping to erode public morale. Winter temperatures run from late October through March, with January and February the coldest months.

Zelenskyy said in his nightly address Friday that Russia was taking advantage of the world being "almost entirely focused on the prospect of establishing peace in the Middle East," and called for strengthening Ukraine's air defense systems and tighter sanctions on Russia.

"Russian assets must be fully used to strengthen our defense and ensure recovery," he said in the video, posted to X.

Meanwhile, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said in a joint statement on Friday they were ready to move toward using "in a coordinated way, the value of the immobilized Russian sovereign assets to support Ukraine's armed forces and thus bring Russia to the negotiation table."

The statement added they aimed to do this "in close cooperation with the United States."

Ukraine's budget and military needs for 2026 and 2027 are estimated to total around 130 billion euros (\$153 billion). The European Union has already poured in 174 billion euros (about \$202 billion) since the war started in February 2022.

The biggest pot of ready funds available is through frozen Russian assets, most of which is held in Belgium — around 194 billion euros (\$225 billion) as of June — and outside the EU in Japan, with around \$50 billion, and the U.S., the United Kingdom and Canada with lesser amounts.

Republicans try to weaken 50-year-old law protecting whales, seals and polar bears

By PATRICK WHITTLE Associated Press

BOOTHBAY HARBOR, Maine (AP) — Republican lawmakers are targeting one of the U.S.'s longest standing pieces of environmental legislation, credited with helping save rare whales from extinction.

Conservative leaders feel they now have the political will to remove key pieces of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, enacted in 1972 to protect whales, seals, polar bears and other sea animals. The law also places restrictions on commercial fishermen, shippers and other marine industries.

A GOP-led bill in the works has support from fishermen in Maine who say the law makes lobster fishing more difficult, lobbyists for big-money species such as tuna in Hawaii and crab in Alaska, and marine manufacturers who see the law as antiquated.

Conservation groups adamantly oppose the changes and say weakening the law will erase years of hard-won gains for jeopardized species such as the vanishing North Atlantic right whale, of which there are less than 400, and is vulnerable to entanglement in fishing gear.

Here's what to know about the protection act and the proposed changes.

Why does the 1970s law still matter

"The Marine Mammal Protection Act is important because it's one of our bedrock laws that help us to base conservation measures on the best available science," said Kathleen Collins, senior marine campaign manager with International Fund for Animal Welfare. "Species on the brink of extinction have been brought back."

It was enacted the year before the Endangered Species Act, at a time when the movement to save whales from extinction was growing. Scientist Roger Payne had discovered that whales could sing in the late 1960s, and their voices soon appeared on record albums and throughout popular culture.

The law protects all marine mammals, and prohibits capturing or killing them in U.S. waters or by U.S. citizens on the high seas. It allowed for preventative measures to stop commercial fishing ships and other businesses from accidentally harming animals such as whales and seals. The animals can be harmed by entanglement in fishing gear, collisions with ships and other hazards at sea.

The law also prevents the hunting of marine mammals, including polar bears, with exceptions for Indigenous groups. Some of those animals can be legally hunted in other countries.

Changes to oil and gas operations — and whale safety

Republican Rep. Nick Begich of Alaska, a state with a large fishing industry, submitted a bill draft this summer that would roll back aspects of the law. The bill says the act has "unduly and unnecessarily constrained government, tribes and the regulated community" since its inception.

The proposal states that it would make changes such as lowering population goals for marine mammals from "maximum productivity" to the level needed to "support continued survival." It would also ease rules on what constitutes harm to marine mammals.

For example, the law currently prevents harassment of sea mammals such as whales, and defines harassment as activities that have "the potential to injure a marine mammal." The proposed changes would limit the definition to only activities that actually injure the animals. That change could have major implications for industries such as oil and gas exploration where rare whales live.

That poses an existential threat to the Rice's whale, which numbers only in the dozens and lives in the Gulf of Mexico, conservationists said. And the proposal takes specific aim at the North Atlantic right whale protections with a clause that would delay rules designed to protect that declining whale population until 2035.

Begich and his staff did not return calls for comment on the bill, and his staff declined to provide an update about where it stands in Congress. Begich has said he wants "a bill that protects marine mammals and also works for the people who live and work alongside them, especially in Alaska."

Fishing groups want restrictions loosened

A coalition of fishing groups from both coasts has come out in support of the proposed changes. Some

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 93 of 94

of the same groups lauded a previous effort by the Trump administration to reduce regulatory burdens on commercial fishing.

The groups said in a July letter to House members that they feel Begich's changes reflect "a positive and necessary step" for American fisheries' success.

Restrictions imposed on lobster fishermen of Maine are designed to protect the right whale, but they often provide little protection for the animals while limiting one of America's signature fisheries, Virginia Olsen, political director of the Maine Lobstering Union, said. The restrictions stipulate where lobstermen can fish and what kinds of gear they can use. The whales are vulnerable to lethal entanglement in heavy fishing rope.

Gathering more accurate data about right whales while revising the original law would help protect the animals, Olsen said.

"We do not want to see marine mammals harmed; we need a healthy, vibrant ocean and a plentiful marine habitat to continue Maine's heritage fishery," Olsen said.

Some members of other maritime industries have also called on Congress to update the law. The National Marine Manufacturers Association said in a statement that the rules have not kept pace with advancements in the marine industry, making innovation in the business difficult.

Environmentalists fight back

Numerous environmental groups have vowed to fight to save the protection act. They characterized the proposed changes as part of the Trump administration's assault on environmental protections.

The act was instrumental in protecting the humpback whale, one of the species most beloved by whale watchers, said Gib Brogan, senior campaign director with Oceana. Along with other sea mammals, humpbacks would be in jeopardy without it, he said.

"The Marine Mammal Protection Act is flexible. It works. It's effective. We don't need to overhaul this law at this point," Brogan said.

What does this mean for seafood imports

The original law makes it illegal to import marine mammal products without a permit, and allows the U.S. to impose import prohibitions on seafood products from foreign fisheries that don't meet U.S. standards.

The import embargoes are a major sticking point because they punish American businesses, said Gavin Gibbons, chief strategy officer of the National Fisheries Institute, a Virginia-based seafood industry trade group. It's critical to source seafood globally to be able to meet American demand for seafood, he said.

The National Fisheries Institute and a coalition of industry groups sued the federal government Thursday over what they described as unlawful implementation of the protection act. Gibbons said the groups don't oppose the act, but want to see it responsibly implemented.

"Our fisheries are well regulated and appropriately fished to their maximum sustainable yield," Gibbons said. "The men and women who work our waters are iconic and responsible. They can't be expected to just fish more here to make up a deficit while jeopardizing the sustainability they've worked so hard to maintain."

Some environmental groups said the Republican lawmakers' proposed changes could weaken American seafood competitiveness by allowing imports from poorly regulated foreign fisheries.

Today in History: October 12, Bali nightclub bombings kill more than 200

By The Associated Press undefined

Today is Sunday, Oct. 12, the 285th day of 2025. There are 80 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On Oct. 12, 2002, bombs blamed on al-Qaida-linked militants destroyed two nightclubs on the Indonesian island of Bali, killing 202 people, many of whom were foreign tourists.

Also on this date:

In 1492, Christopher Columbus's first expedition made landfall on what is now San Salvador Island in

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 130 ~ 94 of 94

the Bahamas.

In 1870, General Robert E. Lee, former overall commander of the Confederate States Army in the Civil War, died in Lexington, Virginia, at age 63.

In 1960, Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev protested remarks at the United Nations by pounding his shoe on his desk.

In 1968, Mexican track and field athlete Enriqueta Basilio became the first woman to light the Olympic flame at the opening ceremonies of the Mexico City Summer Games.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon nominated House Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford of Michigan to succeed Spiro T. Agnew as vice president.

In 1984, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher escaped an attempt on her life when an Irish Republican Army bomb exploded at a hotel in Brighton, England, killing five people.

In 2000, the destroyer USS Cole was attacked by boat-borne al-Qaida suicide bombers during a refueling stop in Yemen's port city of Aden, killing 17 on board.

In 2019, Eliud Kipchoge became the first person to run a marathon in less than two hours, crossing the finish line of the INEOS 1:59 Challenge in Vienna, Austria, with a time of 1:59:40.

Today's Birthdays: NASCAR Hall of Famer Ned Jarrett is 93. Broadcast journalist Chris Wallace is 78. Singer-songwriter Jane Siberry is 70. Actor Hiroyuki Sanada is 65. Jazz musician Chris Botti (BOH'-tee) is 63. Actor Hugh Jackman is 57. Country musician Martie Maguire (The Chicks) is 56. Actor Kirk Cameron is 55. Olympic gold medal skier Bode Miller is 48. Actor Josh Hutcherson is 33.