

Groton Daily Independent

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Sunday, Nov. 16

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.; Choir 6 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Worship with communion at St. John's, 9 a.m., and Zion, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

United Methodist: Worship at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m. (Sunday School Christmas Program Parts Handout); at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 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.

7th grade soccer at Elementary School Gym, 1 p.m.

5th grade GBB Practice, 4 p.m.

2nd grade GBB Practice, 4 p.m.

Dance Team Practice, 5 p.m.



Monday, Nov. 17

Senior Menu: Sweet and sour pork, steamed rice, carrot and broccoli medley, corn, honey fruit salad.

School Breakfast: Stuffed bagels.

School Lunch: Chef salad at elementary, build your own salad at high school.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Groton Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center, 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

1st grade GBB practice, 3:30 p.m.

MS GBB vs. Leola/Frederick at Frederick, one combined game at 5 p.m.

3rd-6th GBB Skills, 6 p.m.

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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

Remembering the Significance of the Landmark Case of Little v. Barreme as we Mark Veterans Day

This week's nationwide speeches and programs honoring military veterans reminds us of the courage of those who risked and sacrificed their lives on behalf of American ideals, principles and security. This grand federal holiday invites civic contemplation of the circumstances, events and decisions that led to the battlefield, and the sometimes difficult and complicated choices that men and women in uniform have been required to make when ordered by their superiors to carry out actions of doubtful legality.

The Supreme Court's landmark ruling in *Little v. Barreme* (1804), which arose in the context of the Quasi-War—a limited war between the United States and France, from 1798-1800-- raised a host of important constitutional issues at the intersection of congressional and presidential power in matters of war and peace, including some that have been fully resolved, others not, that resonate in our time, such as President Donald Trump's order to destroy fishing boats off the coast of Venezuela. While his orders are not the focus of this column, they have violated statutory, constitutional and international law. Of particular interest here, is the potential liability of military personnel for carrying out illegal acts.

The Court, in a trio of cases in the early days of the 19th Century, had decided that the "whole powers of war" are vested in Congress. Congress, alone, possessed the authority to declare total war or limited, that is, "imperfect" war, and with it the authority to determine the scope of military hostilities. The Court said the president has no authority to initiate hostilities on behalf of the American people. In an opinion written by Chief Justice John Marshall, the Court held in *Barreme*, that the president as commander in chief is subject to statutory commands, and thus obedience to a presidential order that violates a statute exposes an officer to liability for damages inflicted.

A 1799 statute authorized the president to seize vessels sailing "to" French ports. President John Adams exceeded his statutory authority by issuing an order that directed American ships to capture vessels sailing "to or from" French ports. Captain George Little of the U.S. frigate, *Boston*, carried out Adams's order and seized a Danish vessel sailing from a French port. The owner of the Danish vessel sued for damages, and the case went to the Supreme Court.

Chief Justice Marshall conceded that the case was a difficult one. At first blush, he admitted, it was clear that, although Adams had violated the law and his duty under the Take Care Clause of Article II to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed," which meant that he "could not give a right, yet they might yet excuse [a military officer] from damages." Marshall assumed an "implicit obedience" to "orders of superiors," which, he said, "is indispensably necessary to every military system." This reasoning would justify Little's actions. On further reflection, however, Captain Little could be sued for damages. Marshall admitted that he had been "influenced" by his "brethren" that Adams's instructions "cannot change the nature of the transaction, or legalize an act which, without those instructions, would have been a plain trespass." Since Adams's instructions collided with the act of Congress, they were illegal and could neither justify the seizure nor excuse Little from damages.

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But a sympathetic Congress, in 1807, passed a private bill to reimburse Little for the damages against him. Congress likely concluded that the law had failed to clarify the difference between lawful and unlawful orders. The First Congress had enacted in 1789 a statute that required military personnel "to observe and obey orders of the President of the United States." In 1799, Congress passed a law that declared, "any officer who shall disobey the orders of his superior . . . on any pretense whatsoever" shall be subject to death or other punishment. In 1800, Congress clarified by statute the duty of officers to obey commands. They were not required to obey all orders and commands, but only those that are lawful. Indeed, they are prohibited from carrying out "unlawful orders."

At bottom, as Captain Little learned, the duties of military officers are governed by statute and cannot be altered by the commander in chief. If the president possessed authority to ignore or revise statutes, he would, by definition, cease to be subordinate to the law, which would scuttle our constitutional jurisprudence.

David Adler is president of The Alturas Institute, a non-profit organization created to promote the Constitution, gender equality and civic education. This column is made possible with the support of the South Dakota Humanities Council, South Dakota NewsMedia Association and this newspaper.

Frosty is Back!!!

Please check the Groton Daily Independent for daily clues as to who the Groton Area Mystery Frosty is. The unveiling of Frosty will take place at the Groton Area Snow Queen Contest on Sunday, November 30th, at 4:00 pm.

2025 Frosty Clues

12. Went to Girl's State and Youth Business Adventure (YBA) in high school



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NSU Men's Basketball

Second half rally comes up short for NSU against No. 20 SNU

Bethany, Okla. – The Northern State University men's basketball team battled with No. 20 Southern Nazarene on Saturday evening, ultimately falling to the Crimson Storm. The Wolves grabbed a lead early in the second half, however SNU pulled away late in the contest and extended their lead with 15-of-20 made free throws.

THE QUICK DETAILS

Final Score: NSU 72, OBU 83

Records: NSU 0-2, SNU 2-0

Attendance: 210

HOW IT HAPPENED

Northern scored 25 points in the first and 41 in the second, while Southern Nazarene notched 29 in the first and 43 in the second

The Wolves shot 39.3% from the floor, 31.3% from the 3-point line, and 60.0% from the foul line, while the Crimson Storm shot 41.3% from the floor, 17.6% from the 3-point line, and 65.4% from the foul line

Northern led the contest with ten made 3-pointers and recorded 34 rebounds, 11 assists, and three blocks

They scored 16 points in the paint, 16 points off the bench, 11 points off turnovers, and nine second chance points, while Southern Nazarene led the contest with 42 points in the paint and 22 second chance points

Benjamin Bowen and Ty Rogers led four Wolves in double figures with 13 points a piece, knocking down three field goals, two of which were 3-pointers, and five free throws

Nelson Reynolds followed, and led the team off the bench with 11 points, including three made from beyond the arc

Cameron Mercadel rounded out the double figure scorers with ten points

On the glass, Tobi Obiora led the team with eight rebounds, followed by Bowen with seven and Rogers with six

Joshua Book dished out a team leading four assists and added seven points alongside Marshawn Smith

NORTHERN STATE STATISTICAL STANDOUTS

Benjamin Bowen: 13 points, 7 rebounds, 2 assists

Ty Rogers: 13 points, 6 rebounds

Nelson Reynolds: 11 points, 60.0 3-point FG%

Cameron Mercadel: 10 points, 5 rebounds, 2 assists

UP NEXT

The Wolves remain on the road next Friday and Saturday in the Wisconsin Dells. NSU is set to have Northern Michigan at 6 p.m. on Friday and Northwest Missouri State at 2 p.m. on Saturday. The Wolves will then open the 2025-26 home season on Tuesday, November 25, hosting Jamestown in the NSIC opener.

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NSU Football

Wolves battle Jimmies in season finale win

Jamestown, N.D. – The Northern State University football team closed out the 2025 campaign in the win column, defeating the University of Jamestown on the road. The contest marked the first meeting between the two teams since the fall of 1985.

THE QUICK DETAILS

Final Score: NSU 46, UJ 40

Records: NSU 7-4 (6-4 NSIC), UJ 1-9 (1-9 NSIC)

Attendance: 1759

HOW IT HAPPENED

Northern scored seven points in the first, 24 in the second, seven in the third, and eight in the fourth, while Jamestown notched seven in the first, 14 in the second, and 19 in the fourth

The Jimmies struck first at 4:54 in the opening quarter, however Wyatt Block and the Wolves responded, tying the game with 21 seconds remaining in the frame on a 15-yard run

It was Block again as the Wolves opened the second quarter, scoring a 9:18 on a 4-yard rush for Northern's first lead of the contest

Jamestown answered with just under five minutes in the half, tying the contest once again on a 15-yard receiving score

The Wolves grabbed and extended the lead on the next two drives with a pair of touchdowns from Gavin Giesler (10-yard reception) and Block (70-yard rush)

The Jimmies were not finished in the half, scoring on a 5-yard rush as the clock read 55 seconds

NSU quickly got to work on the final drive of the half and closed out the second quarter with a 43-yard field goal by Jeremy Caruso

Brock Bagozzi rushed for the lone score of the third quarter, a 1-yard giving Northern the 38-21 lead

It was a big fourth quarter for the Jimmies with three touchdowns to the Wolves one, however Bagozzi's 2-yard pass to Carter Campbell at 7:50 sealed the win for NSU

The Wolves led the contest with 325 yards rushing and 497 yards of total offense, adding 172 yards passing and game best 27 first downs

Northern scored five of the six times they entered the red-zone and was successful on their 2-point conversion attempt with Bagozzi hitting Block on Campbell's touchdown

Bagozzi threw for 151 yards, completing 14-of-24 attempts with one passing touchdown and one rushing

Block tallied his sixth 100-yard game of the season, rushing for 190 yards and three touchdowns, adding 19 yards receiving

Daniel Britt added 105 yards rushing, his second 100-yard game of the season, and threw for 21 yards and a touchdown

Trey Birdsong led the receivers with 40 yards, while Campbell and Giesler notched the receiving touchdowns in the win

Cooper Logan and Max Van Landingham led the team with nine tackles each, including a tackle for a loss Lorenzo Jones Jr. and Graham Borden followed with seven and six tackles respectively

Cooper Eisenbeisz led the returners with 73 kick return yards, while Jackson Isakson averaged 42.3 yards per punt and Caruso notched 54.4 yards per kickoff

Caruso went 5-for-5 in PAT and added the 43-yard field goal, scoring eight points in the win

NORTHERN STATE STATISTICAL STANDOUTS

Wyatt Block: 190 yards rushing, 3 touchdowns, 10.0 yards per carry, 19 yards receiving

Brock Bagozzi: 151 yards passing, 58.3 pass completion%, 1 touchdown

Daniel Britt: 105 yards rushing, 9.5 yards per carry, 21 yards passing, 1 touchdown

Max Van Landingham: 9 tackles, 6 solo stops, 1.0 sack

Cooper Logan: 9 tackles, 5 solo stops, 1.0 tackle for a loss

Jeremy Caruso: 5 PAT, 43-yard field goal

Brookings County Fatal Crash

What: Two vehicle fatal crash
Where: US Highway 14, mile marker 415, two miles east of Volga, SD
When: 7:17 p.m., Friday, November 14, 2025

Driver 1: 50-year-old male from Arlington, SD, fatal injuries
Vehicle 1: 2005 Chevrolet Impala
Seat belt Used: Yes

Driver 2: 20-year-old male from Brookings, SD, serious, non-life-threatening injuries
Vehicle 2: 2013 Ford Edge
Seat belt Used: Yes

Brookings County, S.D.- One man died and another was seriously injured in a two-vehicle crash Friday evening two miles east of Volga, SD.

The names of the persons involved have not been released pending notification of family members.

Preliminary crash information indicates the driver of a 2005 Chevrolet Impala was traveling westbound on US 14 near mile marker 415 in the passing lane. At the same time, the driver of a 2013 Ford Edge was traveling eastbound in the westbound lane. The vehicles collided head-on, coming to rest in the westbound lanes of US 14.

The driver of the Chevrolet was pronounced deceased at the scene. The driver of the Ford was transported to Brookings Hospital with serious, non-life-threatening injuries.

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.

Hughes County Fatal Crash

What: Single vehicle fatal crash

Where: US Highway 14, mile marker 252, two miles east of Blunt, SD

When: 6:43 p.m., Friday, November 14, 2025

Driver 1: 78-year-old male from Pierre, SD, fatal injuries

Vehicle 1: 2026 GMC Sierra

Seat belt Used: Yes

Hughes County, S.D.- A Pierre man died in a single vehicle crash Friday evening two miles east of Blunt, SD.

The name of the person involved has not been released pending notification of family members.

Preliminary crash information indicates the driver of a 2026 GMC Sierra was traveling eastbound on US Highway 14 near mile marker 252 when it left the roadway and entered the south ditch. The vehicle continued up a railroad track embankment and over the tracks, then down the other side into a ditch where it rolled, coming to rest on the passenger side. The driver 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.

BIBLE

TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

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

2. From which book's 10:35 does Jesus say the scripture cannot be broken? *Matthew, Mark, Luke, John*

3. In order to see Jesus, Zacchaeus climbed what type of tree? *Fig, Carob, Sycamore, Cedar*

4. From Matthew 17, what did Peter find with a coin in its mouth? *Ram, Fish, Viper, Raven*

5. In Mark 3:17, who were called "The Sons of Thunder"? *James/John, Thomas/Judas, Peter/Andrew, Philip/Matthew*

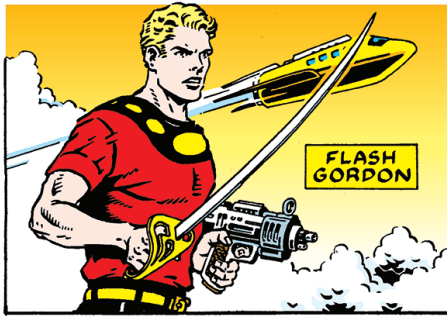
6. From Luke 8, Jesus caused swine to rush into what body of water? *River Jordan, Dead Sea, Nile, Sea of Galilee*

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) John, 3) Sycamore, 4) Fish, 5) James/John, 6) Sea of Galilee

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

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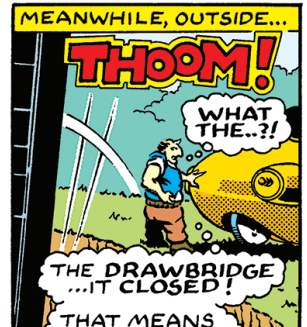
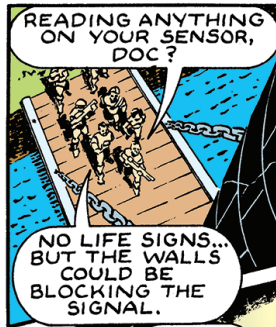


FLASH GORDON

BY JIM KEEFE 11-2-03

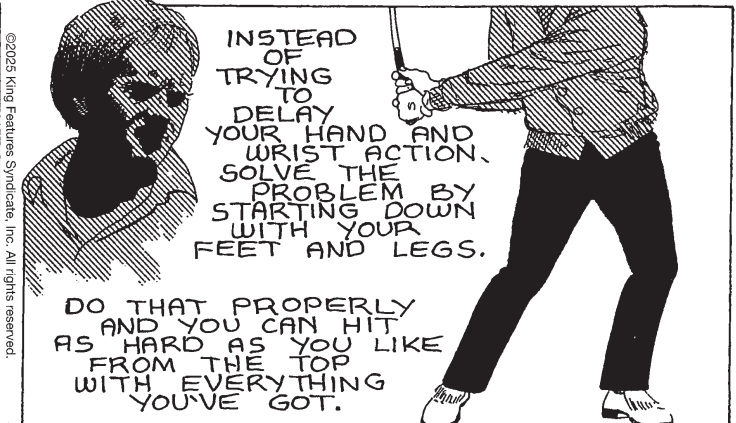
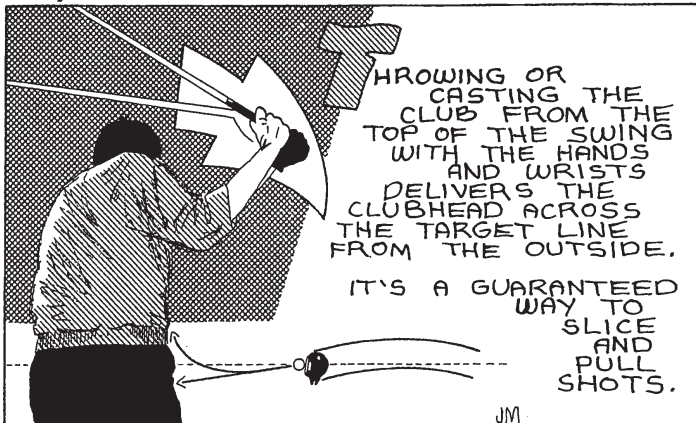
UNWARE THAT THEIR WEAPONS' POWER CARTRIDGES HAVE BEEN SWITCHED, FLASH AND HIS SCOUTING PARTY PREPARE TO ENTER GARAKAHN'S FORTRESS.

I'LL FOLLOW THEM INSIDE AND MAKE SURE THEY DON'T SUSPECT ANYTHING. ONCE THEY START POKING AROUND, I'LL HEAD BACK OUT AND WE CAN CLEAR OUTTA HERE.



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Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



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Pain Persists Around Puncture Site After Medical Procedure

DEAR DR. ROACH: Nine days ago, I had a medical procedure under general anesthesia. One of the lines was put in the artery in my left wrist. Aside from deep bruising that went halfway up my forearm, it seems that there is some nerve damage. I have constant pain from my thumb, through my wrist, and up to about 3 inches on my arm. Overnight, the pain becomes intense and radiates all the way up to my shoulder.

Tylenol and an arthritis sleeve only provide minimum relief. Should I request to see a neurologist, or is there another type of doctor to seek out for a diagnosis? This has become life-altering, and I'm hoping it will eventually be healed. -- B.F.

ANSWER: I suspect that the bruising on your forearm was caused by bleeding from the puncture site of the artery in your wrist. (This type of line is used to measure blood pressure accurately and instantaneously.) The hematoma (blood collection) inside the wrist might be compressing the median nerve in your carpal tunnel, which causes a neuropathy very much like carpal tunnel syndrome.

If I am right, then the condition should improve as your body absorbs the blood, which takes pressure off the nerve. However, there are case reports of permanent damage to the nerve from complications of an arterial puncture. In general, if the nerve compression is serious enough to cause weakness, it needs to be acted upon urgently.

The doctors who performed your procedure need to know about this complication, and a neurologist is exactly the right person to see. A simple nerve test could confirm my suspicion or disprove it by finding a different cause if your symptoms persist.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I'm an active 60-year-old who took a soccer ball to the groin some time back. After a few months, I noticed a change in my sexual organ. Narrowing and bending of my organ developed, and it seems to be getting worse.

My general doctor seems to think it's Peyronie's disease. After researching this, I started taking vitamin E and COq10 supplements. I scheduled a urologist exam but was hoping for some insight on this. -- G.

ANSWER: I suspect your general doctor is correct, and an evaluation by a urologist is certainly indicated. Peyronie's disease is often triggered by trauma in a person who is genetically susceptible to the condition. (Your trauma was very clear, but it isn't always clear in everyone what the trauma might have been.)

The diagnosis is made by an examination showing a bend in the penis, along with plaque that can be felt during an examination in most cases. Some men, but not all, will have pain.

In men who are in the active phase of the disease (where the curvature is getting worse), urologists will often prescribe pentoxifylline for three to six months in hopes of stabilizing the condition and preventing the curve from worsening.

Vitamin E was not found to be superior to a placebo treatment. CoQ10 was found to have a benefit in a small trial, and since it is very safe, this was a reasonable treatment for you to try.

Depending on your symptoms and degree of curvature, there are several options for treatment. Medication can be injected directly into the penis; men treated with this were found to have about a 34% improvement in curvature. Traction therapy is also frequently used.

In men with more severe disease that does not respond to the previous options, surgical treatment can be considered. This should be done in men whose sexual function is affected by the disease and in cases where medical treatments have failed to improve their symptoms adequately.

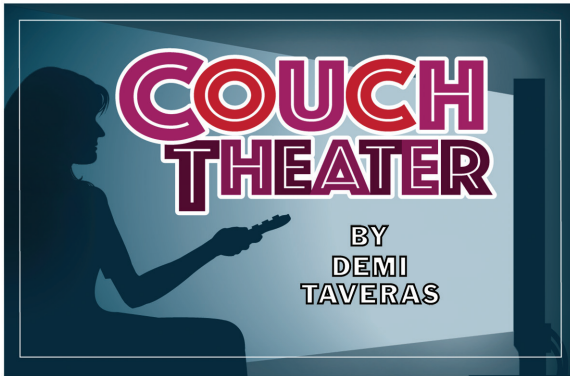
Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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By Demi Taveras

"One Battle After Another" (R) -- This is hands down my favorite release of the year so far. Starring LEOnardo DiCaprio, Sean Penn, Benicio del

Toro, and Teyana Taylor, this action thriller is directed by Paul Thomas Anderson ("Licorice Pizza")

and will be one to watch come award season. It picks up in the height of when far-left revolutionaries Pat Calhoun (DiCaprio) and Perfidia Beverly Hills (Taylor) are at their most successful with their group, the French 75. After a baby girl disrupts their work and leaves Perfidia in a horrible bout of post-partum depression, Perfidia is captured by the freakishly prejudiced military officer Steven Lockjaw (Penn). She and her family are forced into hiding separately, thinking they've escaped the law, but it all comes back to bite them when their daughter, Willa (Chase Infiniti), turns 16. Infiniti's performance opposite DiCaprio was an incredible highlight of the film for me. Out now to rent. (Amazon Prime Video)

"Train Dreams" (PG-13) -- Joel Edgerton ("The Boys in the Boat") leads this drama film based on the novella by Denis Johnson. Slowly paced and beautifully shot to match the depth of its story, the film follows logger Robert Grainier (Edgerton) as he embarks on a journey away from his wife, Gladys (Felicity Jones), to work across the United States and help develop a railroad that will stretch across the country. William H. Macy ("Ricky Stanicky") appears as an explosives expert with much wisdom to share, while Kerry Condon ("F1") plays a forestry services worker and Paul Schneider ("Parks and Recreation") plays another talkative logger in the film. Look for it to premiere on Nov. 21. (Netflix)

"Palm Royale: Season 2" (TV-MA) -- The hit comedy series led by Kristen Wiig ("Despicable Me 4") is back with its second season, and the very first episode is available to stream now. After Maxine's (Wiig) public breakdown, she is back at the bottom of the social totem pole, but she isn't letting this stop her. In fact, Maxine is determined to rule the town of Palm Springs, Florida. Meanwhile, she'll have to watch her back because Norma (Carol Burnett) is also seeking revenge for the events of last season and plans to destroy Maxine and her dreams once and for all. Allison Janney, Kaia Gerber, Laura Dern, Ricky Martin and Leslie Bibb all return for another "wild ride," according to creator Abe Sylvia. Subsequent episodes will be released every Wednesday through Jan. 14, 2026. (Apple TV+)

"Epic Ride: The Story of Universal Theme Parks" (TV-PG) -- Calling all Universal theme park fans! If you enjoy the magic of being in Universal Studios, Islands of Adventure, or even the newest park, Epic Universe, you'll love watching this three-part docuseries about Universal's history and their work leading up to the opening of Epic Universe this year. Viewers get to see rare footage and interviews from crew members and celebrities, such as Steven Spielberg ("E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial"), Bryce Dallas Howard ("Jurassic World"), and Jon M. Chu ("Wicked"). The series details the precision and risk involved in building these parks, how the Universal team ensures that guests are satisfied with their experiences, and how they bring their properties' stories to life. Out now! (Peacock)



Joel Edgerton, left, and Kerry Condon star in "Train Dreams." (Courtesy of Netflix)

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1. Who had a hit with "Shadow Dancing"?
2. Name the artist who wrote and released "Lay Down Sally."
3. Which female artist had a 1983 hit with "Time After Time"?
4. Name Billy Joel's first No. 1 chart topper.
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Don't go around tonight, Well it's bound to take your life."

Answers

1. Andy Gibb, in 1978. The song topped the charts for seven weeks. B-side songs would vary, depending on the country where the single was released.
2. Eric Clapton, in 1977. The song reached No. 3 on the Hot 100 chart and was used in the film "August: Osage County."
3. Cyndi Lauper. The song was released on Lauper's debut album, "She's So Unusual." It received a nomination for Grammy Award for Song of the Year, and awards for video award for Best Female Performance and the BMI Pop Award.
4. "It's Still Rock and Roll to Me," in 1980.
5. "Bad Moon Rising," by Creedence Clearwater Revival in 1969. The song has been used in video games, films and as the crowd song for a British football team. Years later the song made it to the list of "500 Greatest Songs of All Time."

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GRIN and BEAR IT Wagner

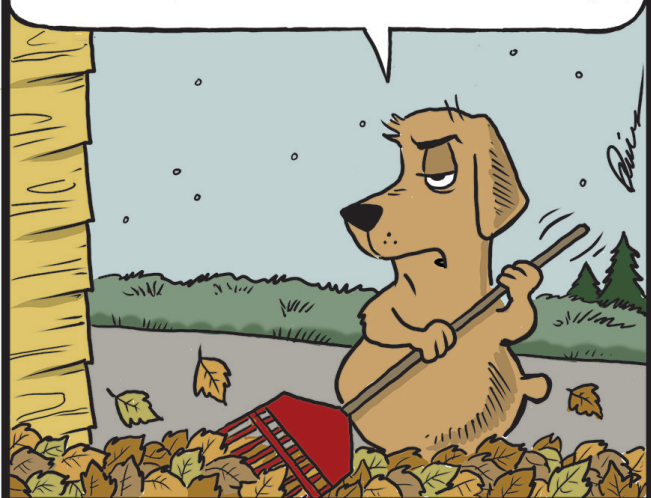
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"Halftime is quality time, son!"

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

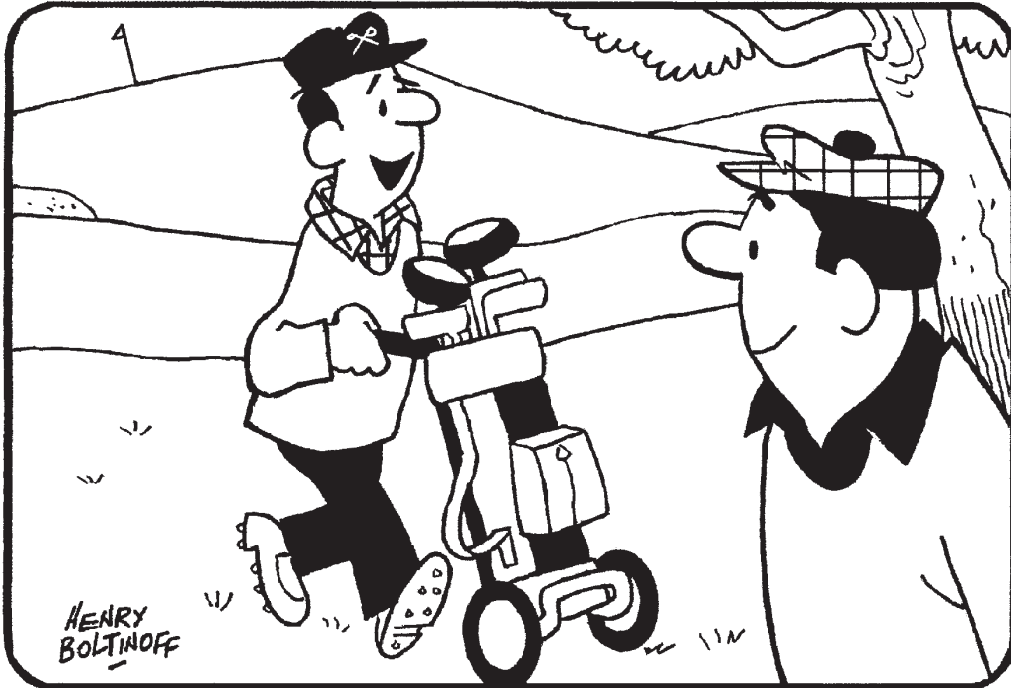
WHAT WOULD I GIVE FOR A NICE WINDY DAY IN THE DIRECTION OF MY NEIGHBOR. IT WOULD REALLY CUT OUT THE MIDDLEMAN.



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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Club is missing. 2. Man has less hair. 3. Cap is different. 4. Nose is different. 5. Shoe is different. 6. Golf bag strap is different.

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* "When there are big family jobs to be done (like getting ready for the holidays), we write all the tasks down on slips of paper and put them in a hat. We take turns choosing tasks until all the paper is divvied out. Sometimes we trade, but we all get a fair chore list." -- V.O. in Oregon

* "Let one person be responsible for putting prep dishes, pots and pans in the dishwasher while another prepares the bird and side dishes for the table. You will be halfway done with dishes by the time the meal is over." -- M.A. in Washington

* Leftover bread can be repurposed as croutons or bread-crumbs. In fact, this is an excellent job for kiddos. With clean hands and a butter knife, older children can cut leftover rolls into manageable size pieces. Spray with olive oil cooking spray and

bake at a low temperature (225 F) to dry out. Or crumble stale bread into crumbs and store in the freezer.

* If you love to burn candles, then the odds are good that you have a lot of candle "ends" that can no longer be used. You can purchase new wicks at the craft store and make a new candle from your leftovers. Simply scrape out the leftover wax into a clean tin can with one end removed. Set this can into a pot on your stovetop. Add a few inches of water, and boil to melt the wax. Then, holding the wick in place, you can pour the melted wax back into a candle-safe jar to let cool. Burn away!

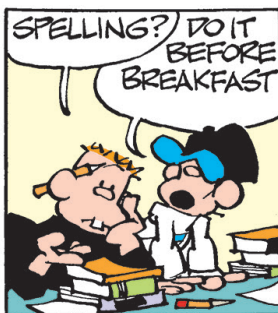
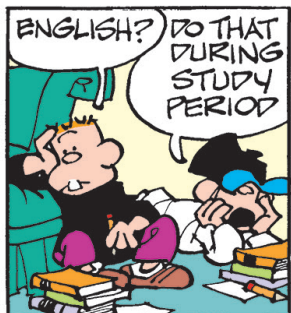
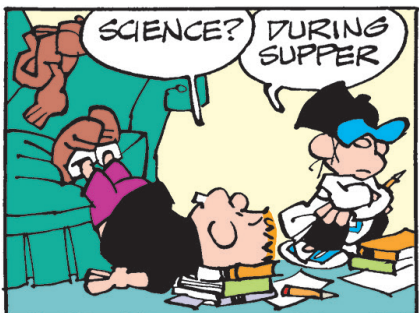
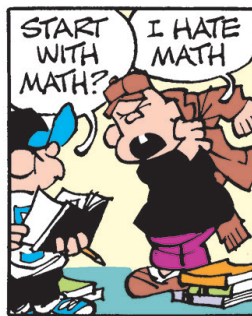
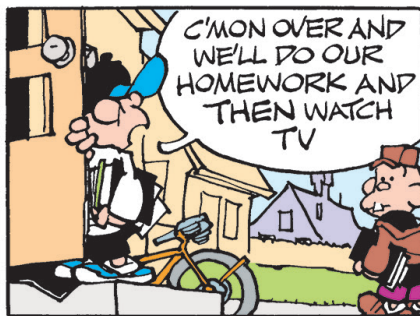
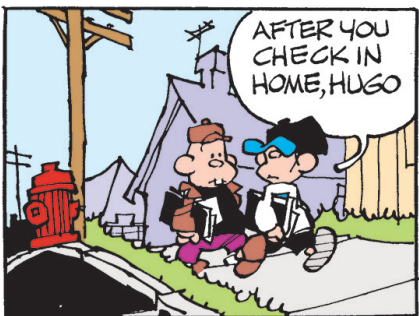
* If you have ever had a tough time threading a needle, try this trick. Spritz the end of the thread with a shot of hairspray. It makes the thread stiffer, and it goes right through with no fuss.

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

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TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



Groton Daily Independent

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Listening device
- 4 Wrestling style
- 8 Wax-coated cheese
- 12 Cagers' gp.
- 13 Jannings of old films
- 14 Showroom model
- 15 Cheek
- 17 Pleased
- 18 Sports venues
- 19 CEO's deg.
- 21 Cowboys quarterback Prescott
- 22 Equivalence
- 26 London —
- 29 Allen or Tebow
- 30 "Kitchy- —!"
- 31 Ore deposit
- 32 Madrid Mrs.
- 33 Small bell sound
- 34 '50s president
- 35 Layer
- 36 Speakers' platforms
- 37 Chasteness
- 39 Fixed
- 40 Search for gold
- 41 Salad choice
- 45 Designer Wang

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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37			38				39					
			40				41			42	43	44
45	46	47			48	49						
50					51					52		
53					54					55		

- 48 Magnitude
- 50 During
- 51 Vend
- 52 Homer's bartender
- 53 First-rate
- 54 Lays down the lawn
- 55 Evening hrs.
- 7 Dukakis of feeder
- "Moonstruck"
- 8 Mystery writer's award
- 9 N.J. neighbor
- 10 "I — Rock"
- 11 '60s chic
- 16 "Frasier" pooch
- 20 "Kapow!"
- 23 " — you not!"
- 24 "Sula" author Morrison
- 25 Meditative practice
- 26 Radar image
- 27 Video-streaming brand
- 28 Baltic Sea
- 29 Attempt
- 32 Fox's trait
- 33 Tribal emblem
- 35 Sch. fundraising group
- 36 Gems from oysters
- 38 Apple tablets
- 39 Berate
- 42 Ninny
- 43 Fermi's bit
- 44 Deli loaves
- 45 Cistern
- 46 Punk rock offshoot
- 47 Shred
- 49 "The Matrix" hero

DOWN

- 1 Tolkien creatures
- 2 Help a hood
- 3 Hindu hero
- 4 — number
- 5 Inuit boat
- 6 Cambridge sch.

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King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

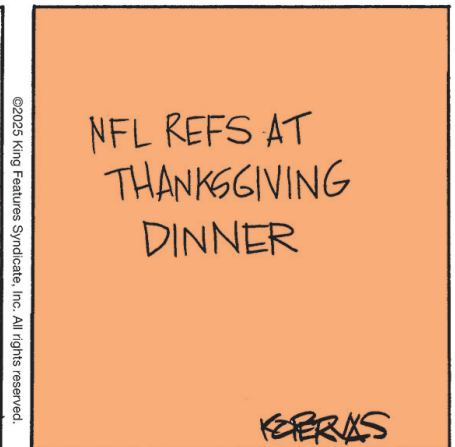
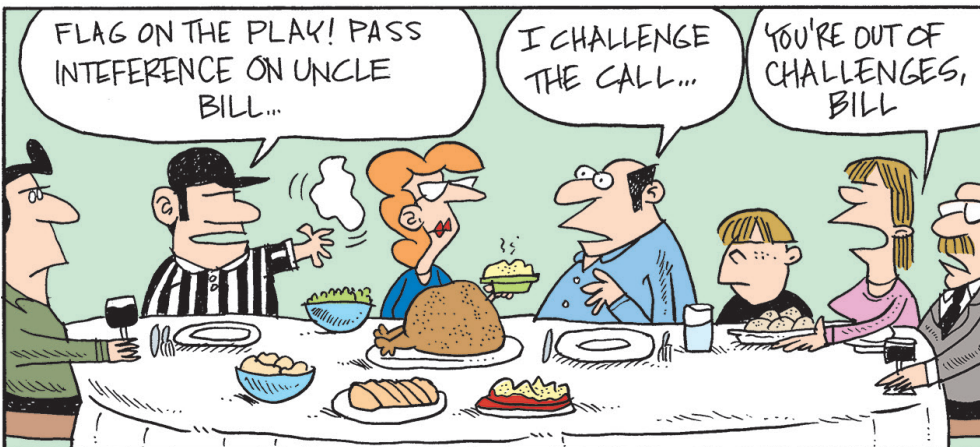
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Olive



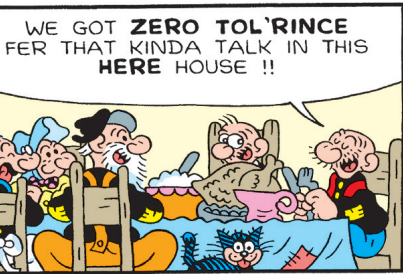
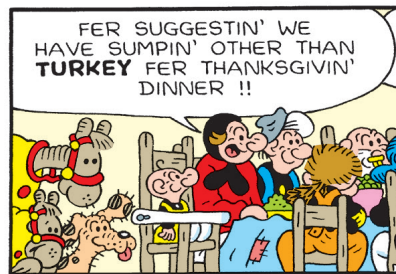
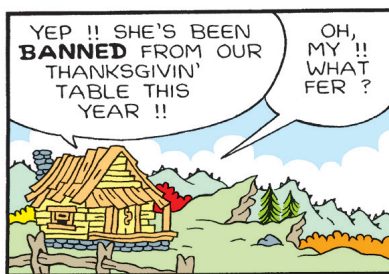
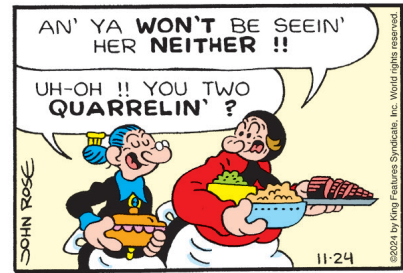
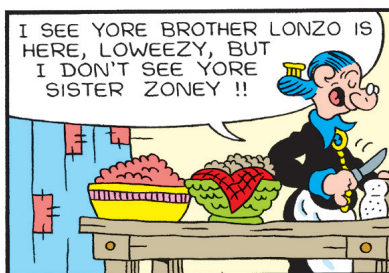
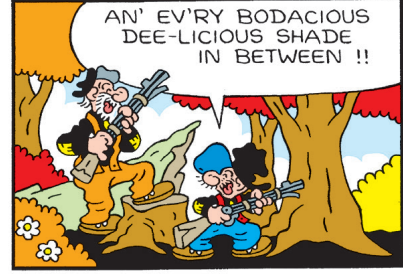
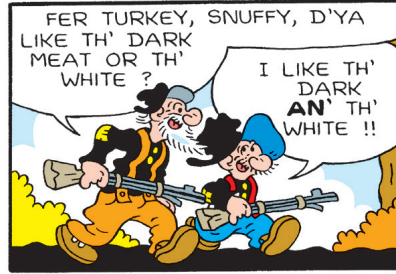
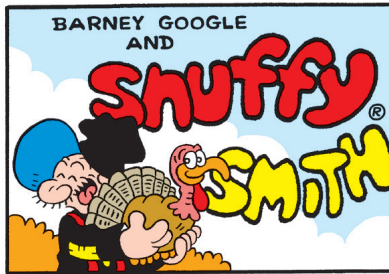
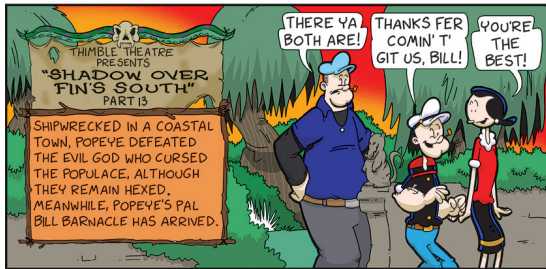
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



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HAL FOSTER'S **Prince Valiant** BY SCHULTZ AND YEATES

MUCH TO EVERYONE'S RELIEF, ALETA'S SALVAGE OPERATION HAS ENDED WITHOUT LOSS OF LIFE OR LIMB.

THE MYSTERIOUS ARTIFACT OF KAREN'S GIOVANNI HAS BEEN RECOVERED. ALL LAUGH, IF A BIT NERVOUSLY, EXCEPT FOR GURYAN, WHO STARES AT THE THING IN SOLEMN AWE.

MEANWHILE, VAL, BUKOTA AND THE IMAZIGHEN WOMEN HAVE REACHED THE CLIFFS THAT ENCLOSE THE SHORE ONTO WHICH THE PIRATE FLEET HAS SMASHED. "UNFORTUNATELY," WHISPERS ZULFA, "TOO MANY OF THEM HAVE SURVIVED."

BUT VAL IS INTERESTED IN THE ONE VESSEL THAT SEEMS RELATIVELY UNDA-MAGED - IT MAY PROVIDE A WAY OFF THIS ISLAND. FIRST, THOUGH, THE PIRATES MUST STAY CONTAINED. HE SIGNALS HIS SMALL FORCE TO SPREAD ACROSS THE SURROUNDING CLIFFS.

WITH HIS WARRIORS PLACED AT ALL ANGLES TO THE BEACH, VAL WATCHES AS THE BRIGANDS' LEADER PULLS TOGETHER A SMALL GROUP AND BEGINS TO EXPLORE THE CLIFFS.

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AS THEY DRAW CLOSE, VAL STANDS: "YOU HAVE COME HERE UNBIDDEN, AND ARE SURROUNDED BY A GREAT ARMY. LAY DOWN YOUR WEAPONS AND SUBMIT - OR DIE." NEXT: A counter-proposal

YEATES 9/21/14

4050

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

MY WIFE AND I ARE ALWAYS IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT...

...THAT I'M WRONG!!

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SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Why do we turn down help?

All too frequently we seniors don't ask for help when we need it, using as an excuse that others need it more. Sound familiar?

Our local senior center decided to host a free holiday dinner a few weeks before Christmas this year. It was to be a full turkey dinner, with several courses, a sit-down affair with table service from the Community Club at the high school. They needed to limit it to 100 people, and advance signup was required. Color them amazed when a full week after the announcement, there were still well over 50 dinner slots available.

Staff starting manning the phones, calling senior center members to ask if they'd heard about the dinner. Yes, people had heard. Yes, it sounded lovely. But no, they wouldn't be signing up for it. Other people, many stated, needed the free dinner more.

This did not surprise me. After all the times I've talked to seniors around me about how it was OK for them to go to the food bank, that it was OK to ask for help -- no, I wasn't shocked that many were turning down a free holiday dinner at the senior center.

Does this describe you? Someone who would turn down free things, saying that others might need it more?

There's more to it when we decline help, other reasons, if we're going to be honest with ourselves. Mostly we fear loss of independence. Somehow we equate getting help at the food bank -- or a free turkey dinner -- with not being able to take care of ourselves, thus possibly inviting scrutiny from others who might start questioning our ability to manage our lives.

I was not surprised when the senior center changed their promotion for the free dinner to say they would welcome donations, and the rest of the slots filled up.

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Downtown Groton

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Call/Text Tina: 605-397-7285



Open 24/7

Living Heart Fitness Center

Senior Citizens 65+
Physical Therapy. **\$20 a month**

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1. How many touchdown passes did the New England Patriots' Tom Brady throw in the second quarter of a 59-0 rout of the Tennessee Titans in 2009?

2. Name the Spanish soccer player for Barcelona who won the Women's Ballon d'Or in consecutive years from 2021 to 2022.

3. The 2025 sports biography film "The Smashing Machine" stars Dwayne Johnson as what mixed martial arts champion?

4. Where and when was the first World Series game to be played in a domed stadium?

5. What Southern California racetrack hosted the Breeders' Cup horse races in 2017, 2021 and 2024-2025?

6. What set of 72 trading cards was produced in 1979 and included cards of female athletes such as tennis player Rosie Casals, racecar driver Janet Guthrie, gymnast Cathy Rigby and Olympic skier Barbara Cochran?

7. Willie Thrower, recognized as the NFL's first Black quarterback in the modern era, played for what team in 1953?



Answers

1. Five, an NFL record for one quarter.

2. Alexia Putellas.

3. Mark Kerr.

4. At the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1987.

5. Del Mar Thoroughbred Club.

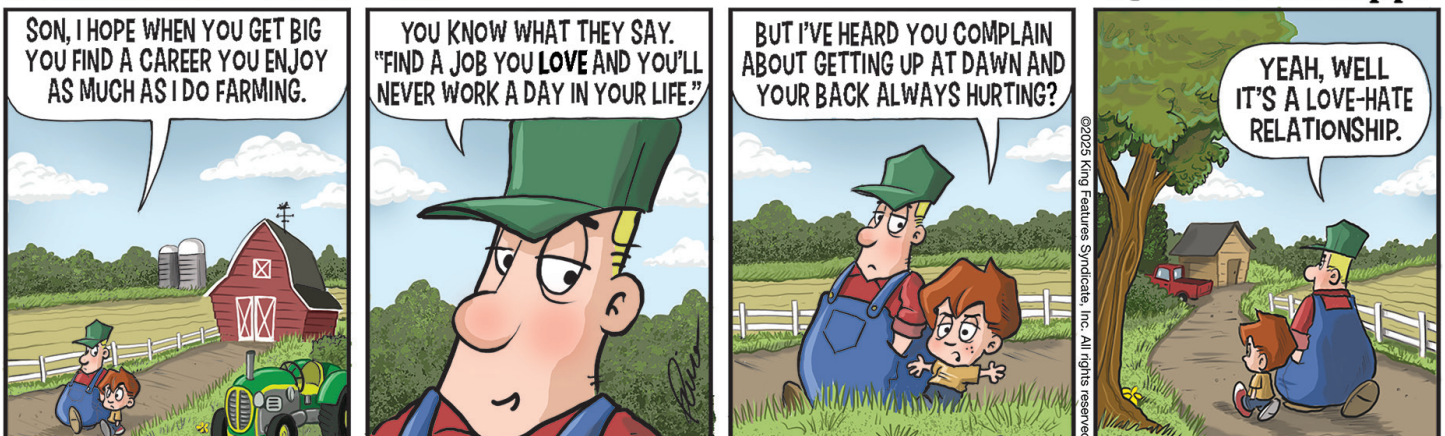
6. Supersisters.

7. The Chicago Bears.

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps





What's the best age to spay or neuter a dog?

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: When should I get my pure-bred puppy spayed? "Macy" is a rambunctious, 6-month-old Bernese, and I'm getting conflicting information from friends and my vet. My friends say that she should go through one or two heat cycles before I get her fixed. The vet wants it done right away. Who's right? -- Carol H., via email

DEAR CAROL: Oh, wow. This is quite a topic of conversation in my pet circles, as I'm sure it is with your fellow pet owners. I don't think anyone is going to be super happy with my answer, because I'm not going to give you a definitive age at which puppies should be spayed or neutered. Instead, I'm going to punt this to

the American Kennel Club (AKC), which has a great article on why recommended ages differ: www.akc.org/expert-advice/vets-corner/neutering-spaying-right-age-dog.

With that said, I commend you on making the decision to spay your puppy. Among owners of purebred dogs, deciding if and when to "fix" them is sometimes a tough choice. However, if an owner does not intend to breed their dog (responsibly, of course), spaying or neutering can curb some undesired behaviors and prevent some health problems.

If you decide to spay Macy after her first or second heat, wait until the heat cycle has completed before undergoing the procedure. This will reduce the possibility of excessive bleeding. Also, keep her under your control during her heat cycle -- indoors unless you're walking her. When you take her for walks, stay next to her and keep her on a strong leash. It will amaze you how many dogs become intensely interested in Macy as you pass by. Keep your distance from all of them during this period.

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

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Strange BUT TRUE

* The Great Pyramid of Giza was the tallest structure in the world for more than 3,800 years.

* More than 400,000 illnesses are caused by spoiled Christmas leftovers.

* Royal Air Force uniforms in World War II included a pants button that served as a compass.

* Those lovely aromas of candy and popcorn breezing down the sidewalks of Disney's Magic Kingdom's Main Street, U.S.A. are brought to you courtesy of scent machines called "Smell-

itizers" that release fragrances throughout the parks.

* Spider silk is stronger than steel.

* Gambia's citizens elect their political leaders using marbles rather than paper ballots in the voting booths, a method that was adopted in 1965 due to the country's low literacy rate.

* Humphrey Bogart never actually said "Play it again, Sam" in the film "Casablanca."

* High-heeled shoes exert more pressure on the ground than a skyscraper, which is why they're even banned at certain historical sites such as the Acropolis in Athens, to prevent damage to the ancient stone.

* The phrase "Don't mess with Texas" was coined to discourage road littering.

* The first zippers were for shoes, when inventor Whitcomb Judson was granted a patent for a rudimentary form that he called the "clasp-locker," an alternative to lengthy shoelaces.

* Ernest Hemingway's brother established his own micronation.

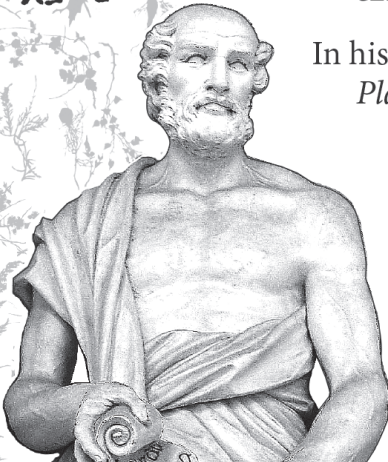
* Jackie Robinson was the first student athlete to letter in four sports at UCLA. Curiously, baseball was his worst sport in college.

* Olo, a color described as a "blue-green of unprecedented saturation," has only been viewed by five people in a laboratory, as it's beyond the range of normal human visibility.

* Washington State designated Sasquatch as its official state monster.

* There are an estimated 3 million shipwrecks in the ocean.

Thought for the Day: "A sign of intelligence is an awareness of one's own ignorance." -- Niccolo Machiavelli
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The Garden Bug

Theophrastus (c. 372–c.287 BC) was a Greek philosopher who is regarded as **the founder of botany.**

In his two ancient works, *Enquiry into Plants* and *On the Causes of Plants*, he covered the descriptions, classifications, distribution, propagation, germination, and cultivation of more than 500 species and varieties of plants. - Brenda Weaver

Source: www.cartage.org



by Freddy Groves

Helping other veterans over the holidays

The holidays are here, and for many veterans they won't be very merry. It's one struggle after the other, and the holidays just bring additional burdens.

There are presents to buy for the kids, there is the weekly dilemma of how to maneuver the rising costs of groceries, etc. We want to step in, but sometimes the needs seem endless and

we don't know if or how we can help.

But, we can. Even a small effort on our part can go a long way to helping fellow veterans make the holidays a little less of a struggle.

If you're a member of a veterans group, like the American Legion or Disabled American Veterans, you're in a perfect position to give some real assistance to other veterans.

Here are some ideas to get you started, either as part of a group or individually:

Call Voluntary Services at the closest VA medical center and ask what you can do. You might be asked to run the parking lot shuttle and bring veterans from their car to the door. You might be asked to do one-on-one visits with patients who don't have friends or relatives to stop by. You might be asked to read to patients with vision problems. If your group is big enough (as well as having a good budget), you might want to host a holiday party for a whole ward, with food, drinks and presents for each patient. Hint: You can seek donations from the community to defray the cost of purchases.

Take a local veteran and family under your wing and ask what they need, whether it's meals, presents for the kids, a warm pair of boots or some home repairs.

Work a shift at a homeless shelter that serves a large population of veterans. You might be cooking, serving meals at the tables or helping veterans find warm winter gear among the donated coats and gloves.

Whatever you do, your help will have an impact.

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Wishing Well®

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N	K	E	T	S	H	N	E	A	E	R	Y	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.

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1. HISTORY: Which country sold Alaska to the United States?
2. GEOGRAPHY: On which continent is the Sahara Desert?
3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Who created The Muppets?
4. MUSIC: What was singer Miley Cyrus' alter ego when she starred in a Disney sitcom?
5. MATH: How many sides does a heptagon (sometimes called a septagon) have?
6. MOVIES: Which singer is featured in the biopic "A Complete Unknown"?
7. FOOD & DRINK: What is carpaccio?
8. LITERATURE: In "The Jungle Book," who raised the boy called Mowgli?
9. TELEVISION: Where was Mork from in the sitcom "Mork and Mindy"?
10. LANGUAGE: What does the phrase "doubleplusungood" mean in Newspeak, featured in the dystopian novel "1984"?

Answers

1. Russia, in 1867.
2. Africa.
3. Jim Henson.
4. Hannah Montana.
5. Seven.
6. Bob Dylan.
7. Thinly sliced raw meat or fish, usually served as an appetizer.
8. Wolves.
9. Planet Ork.
10. Terrible.

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South Dakota Governor



Larry Rhoden



South Dakota: *Under God, the People Rule*

Opportunity and Innovation in Education

South Dakota is Open for Opportunity – and that includes opportunities for education. Our students are our future, so it is important that we equip them with the skills and resources they need to thrive!

I am proud that South Dakota is home to so many quality schools, and I'm also thrilled that parents have the opportunity to choose new and creative ways to educate their children. My administration is committed to finding additional ways to expand options for parents, so we are opting into the educational flexibility provided by President Donald J. Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill!

You might not know this, but I'm a proud graduate of Sunshine Bible Academy. I was very fortunate to receive an education that was centered around my faith. My parents had to work hard to afford that education – and they made sacrifices to give me that opportunity.

There are many families just like mine working to give their kids the best shot at success. As Governor, I will do everything I can to support all students and ensure they have the strongest foundation to navigate life.

Just since 2020, the number of homeschool students in South Dakota has doubled. We're also seeing a rise in other innovative models such as microschools and classical schools like St. Joseph's Classical Academy in Sioux Falls. St. Joseph's offers time-tested classical instruction, blending classroom learning with home instruction so parents can fully participate in their child's education. Their model is so effective that after only one year of operations, they will be expanding and opening a high school!

Onward Learning in Martin, SD is a very impressive example of the microschool model. They serve every type of learner – from general education students to learners with Dyslexia, ADHD, Autism, and learning gaps. Onward offers a personalized learning experience tailored for each child based upon their unique needs, interests, and strengths. You might not expect to find such an innovative school in Martin, and it's paying dividends for the kids who live there.

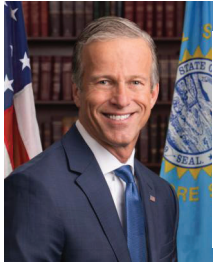
I'm excited that so many opportunities have opened for our students – all without government intervention.

Our Partners in Education Tax Credit Scholarship is another resource that has supported families for years. This scholarship makes private tuition affordable, eliminating a barrier for those who need a non-public option. And South Dakota's strong open enrollment provisions allow families to choose the district that meets their needs.

I am thankful that President Trump also recognizes the importance of open opportunities, school choice, and quality instruction. Under his One Big Beautiful Bill, individuals can donate to scholarship organizations instead of paying more taxes to the federal government. That is a huge win for taxpayers and for our schools!

Now that I've opted into this program, donors in South Dakota will be able to give up to \$1,700 to approved scholarship organizations for a 100 percent, nonrefundable tax credit starting in January 2027. This money will fund scholarships for families to use on a variety of educational purposes, and it will help support them as they discover what opportunities work best for their kids.

This program is a strong step in the right direction for South Dakota students, regardless of where they receive their education. My goal as Governor is to support innovation – not stand in the way. So, we will continue to champion policies that expand opportunities for our students and uphold the freedom to learn! By doing so, we will keep our state strong, safe, and free for generations to come.



JOHN THUNE
U.S. SENATOR FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

Important Work Ahead

More than 40 days after Democrats chose to shut down the government, Congress has finally passed a funding bill to reopen it. While I'm disappointed that the vast majority of Democrats in Congress were apparently willing to let the shutdown continue, I'm glad that the pain of the shutdown has ended, and Congress can get back to the important work before us.

As Democrats' shutdown dragged on for six weeks, it caused pain that was felt across the country. Nutrition benefits were in jeopardy for millions of needy families. Air travel was in an extremely precarious situation. Federal workers didn't receive a paycheck for weeks. Many turned to food banks to feed their families, and others couldn't afford to put gas in their cars to get to work. Many military families, too, were forced to turn to charity in order to put food on the table amid uncertainty about their paychecks.

South Dakota was not immune to these challenges. I was proud to work with the Trump administration to mitigate the harms the shutdown caused, as we did by finding funds to reopen Farm Service Agency offices that had been closed due to the shutdown. I know how critical FSA services are to farmers and ranchers, especially during harvest season, and I'm glad we were able to find a solution to that issue. But at the end of the day, there is no substitute for reopening the government, and I'm glad that enough Democrats finally relented to allow all the services that Americans depend on to be funded.

I also want to express my gratitude to the South Dakotans whose jobs were impacted by the shutdown. I know the last six weeks have been challenging for military families and federal employees. I'm especially grateful to every air traffic controller in South Dakota who showed up during the shutdown despite not being paid. Thank you to those who kept working and to those organizations and neighbors that helped these South Dakotans during this difficult time.

With the government shutdown behind us, Congress now returns to work on full-year government funding bills. I made it clear when I became majority leader that the Senate would be taking its role in the appropriations process seriously. My preference is for a regular order process that allows senators to advocate for their views and the views of the people they represent – the way things are supposed to work. My hope is that we will continue to build on the progress we've already made with the three funding bills that have been signed into law.

There are no winners in a government shutdown, but Democrats' 40-day long shutdown produced a lot of losers. It caused pain, uncertainty, and chaos for the American people. I hope that Democrats will leave these partisan political games in the past and join Republicans in the important work we need to do for our country.



Angels in Adoption

November is National Adoption Month. Adoption is a truly selfless decision and a meaningful way to grow a family.

Each year, the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute selects individuals, families, or organizations across the country who have demonstrated a commitment to improving the lives of children in need of permanent, loving homes.

This year, Marcus and Jackie Isakson of Hill City were selected as South Dakota's Angels in Adoption honorees. Marcus and Jackie have a big heart for fostering and adoption, which is evident through their story.

Marcus and Jackie had four biological children but had always desired to pursue fostering and adoption. After having kids of their own, they decided to begin the process. Over the years, they have fostered countless children and recently fostered four siblings. When the children's biological mother passed away, the Isaksons decided to pursue adoption of these four children.

On February 7, 2025, the Isakson family went from a family of six to a family of ten. This jump hasn't deterred the family's desire to continue fostering children. The Isaksons continue to take in emergency foster cases and currently have two foster children living in their home.

I had the privilege of meeting Marcus and Jackie this summer to honor them and thank them for their dedication to helping children in need find a loving home. I enjoyed talking with them and hearing their thoughts on how to improve our foster care system.

As the Thanksgiving season quickly approaches, it is a good time to be thankful for those in our communities who help others in need. I'm grateful to the Isaksons, and many other South Dakota families who foster or adopt, and for their commitment to make our families and our communities stronger.

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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries

PO Box 831313 - Ocala, FL 34483

1-352-216-3025

Did I Really Say That?

As far back as I can remember, I wanted to be a writer. My maternal grandmother wrote poems and would read one at the family gathering. I don't know if that's where I got it, but I got it.

I wrote poems as a teenager, although I never shared them with anybody. Back then, I did not have a computer, so all my poems were on paper. I had a stack of them, but when I moved away to college, for some reason, I left them behind and have not seen them since.

In high school, I was failing English—if you can believe that—and my teacher said if I gave him a poem each week, he would make sure I passed and graduated. That set me off writing poems; I only wish I knew what those poems were. At least I graduated.

Writing was a priority in my life, and I was around 16 when I got my first typewriter for Christmas. That was a very wonderful Christmas for me. I used that typewriter almost every day. Years later, I was able to get an electric typewriter, which made all the difference in the world to me.

I like to create words and phrases in my head and practice them before writing.

One of my favorite writers at the time was James Thurber, who wrote the famous short story, "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty." Later on, it was made into a movie.

James Thurber was blind, and his work schedule was to write his stories in his head at night, then dictate them to his secretary in the morning. That always impressed me.

It encouraged me to make things up in my head and think it through before I wrote them down.

I could create words and phrases and assemble them in sentences that really made sense. As I got older, however, my tongue and my brain had a falling-out. I could think of things in my head, but my stubborn tongue would never get them right. This caused me a lot of trouble. I think my tongue did it on purpose.

Most of the trouble was with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

One of her infamous questions to me is, "What are you thinking?"

That is one of the most challenging questions I have to answer. Do I tell her what I'm actually thinking or make up a story that would make her happy?

Usually, I would give a quick response that would satisfy her at that moment. To tell her what I was thinking would take several hours—who has time for that? Not her.

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Sometimes I'll be thinking about something and start chuckling to myself. The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is there with me and asked, "What's so funny?"

I look at her quite seriously and say, "I was just thinking about a joke. Why was 6 afraid of 7? Because, 7 8 9."

She might have believed me the first time I said that, but never after.

Sometimes, when you speak your mind, you either confuse the other person or get yourself in trouble. That's been my experience throughout the years.

Often, when watching TV at night, I'm thinking about my sermon for the weekend. I will go over and over the elements of that sermon and work it out in my mind.

I'm not paying too much attention to what we're watching on TV. But, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage will say, "Did you see that? Wasn't that amazing?"

At the time, I had no idea what she was talking about. But I go along with her and say, "That certainly was amazing."

Then, much to my shock, she replies, "Tell me what was the most amazing part of that scene?"

Now I am in a situation I can't get out of. She has caught me many times in this kind of situation.

It is not that I can't pay attention; I'm just thinking about something altogether different. I'm working it out in my head so I can put it all in writing in the morning. That's just the way I work.

We'll be driving across town in her Sissy Van. She's behind the wheel, and I'm sitting in the passenger seat, thinking about a project I'm working on. That's a great time for me to think through some project I'm working on.

"Oh, my," she said very excitedly. "Did you see that?"

Now I'm in a pickle jar, and not sure what she saw. Most of the time, I respond, "Yes, that was really something."

She will glance at me and say, "I was referring to the dead raccoon on the road back there."

I will never get it right. I can spend the first few moments in the car chatting back and forth, but sooner or later, my mind will focus on a project, and I won't hear or see anything around me.

It's not my mind that gets me into trouble; rather, it is my tongue.

I can't help but think of a verse in the Bible that deals with the tongue. "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!" (James 3:5).

Most of my trouble stems from my tongue. If I can control my tongue, my life would be a better experience.

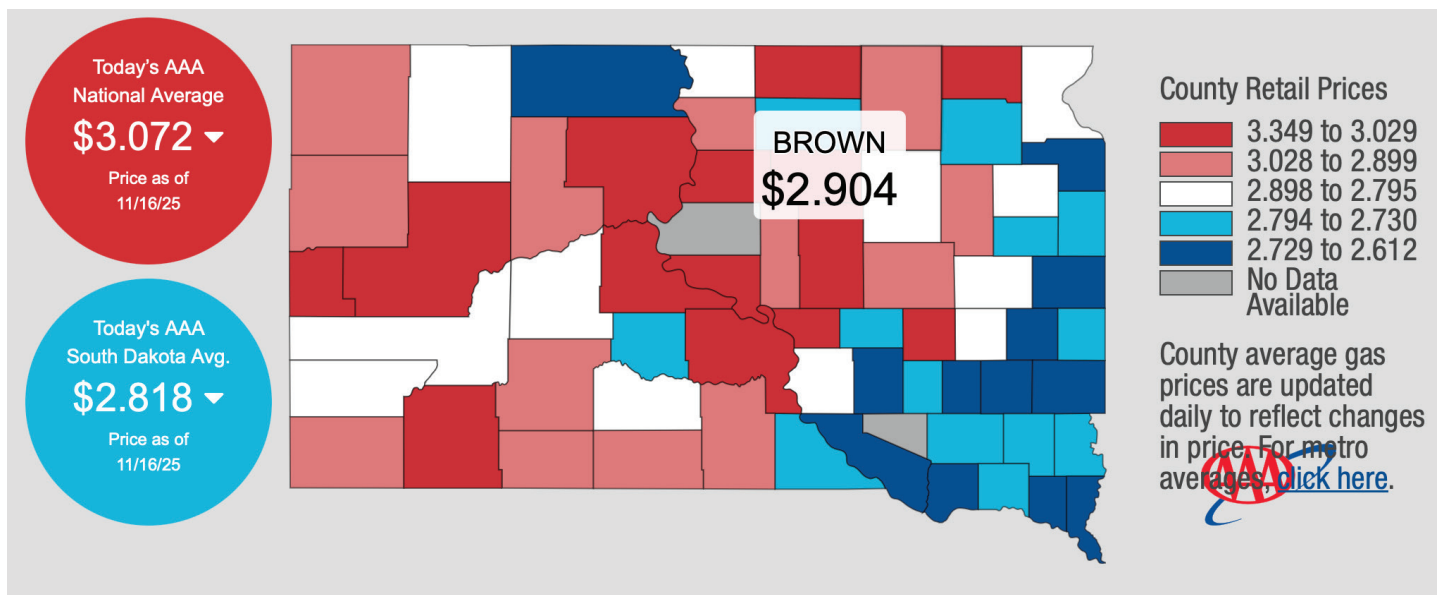
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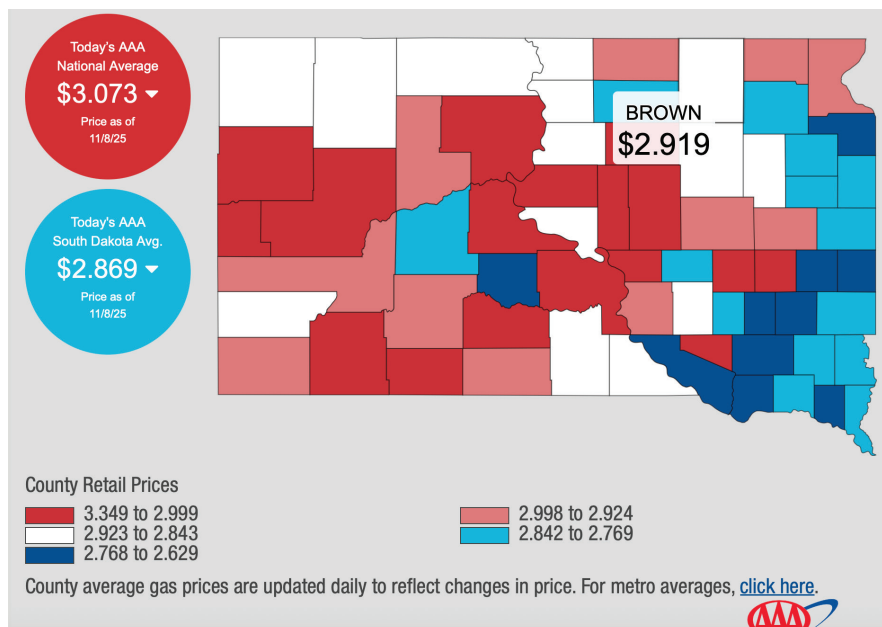
South Dakota Average Gas Prices

	Regular	Mid-Grade	Premium	Diesel
Current Avg.	\$2.818	\$3.026	\$3.474	\$3.491
Yesterday Avg.	\$2.828	\$3.008	\$3.458	\$3.491
Week Ago Avg.	\$2.853	\$3.053	\$3.524	\$3.454
Month Ago Avg.	\$2.859	\$3.034	\$3.506	\$3.318
Year Ago Avg.	\$2.880	\$3.096	\$3.513	\$3.224

This Week



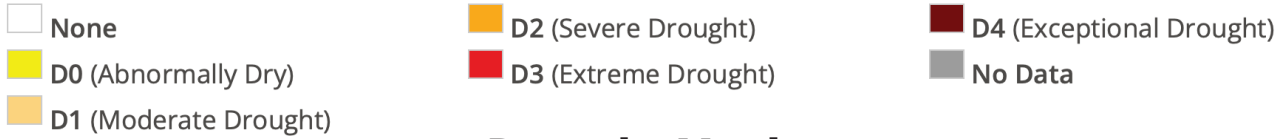
Last Week



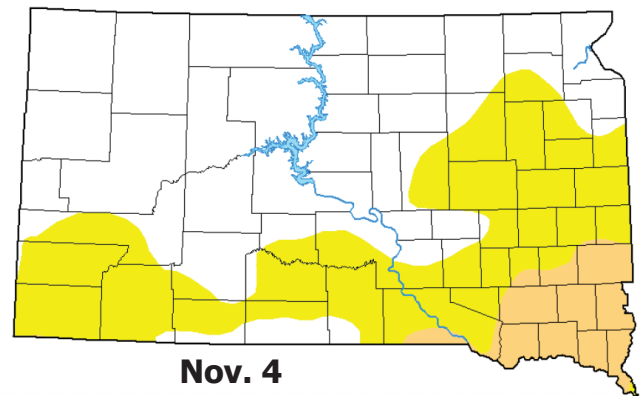
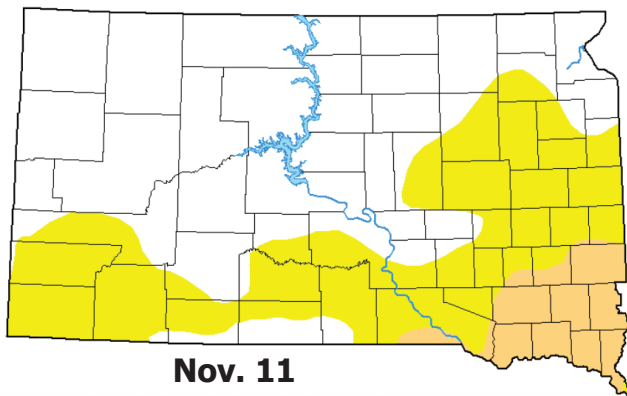
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Drought Classification



Drought Monitor



Temperatures in the eastern edge of the High Plains area remained mostly within a couple degrees of normal, as a strong cold front moved into the central U.S. near the end of the period. Otherwise, most of the region was warmer than normal, especially western Nebraska and central and western portions of Colorado and Wyoming, where temperatures from 4-8 degrees above normal were common this week. Some precipitation, generally under a half inch liquid equivalent, fell from central South Dakota to northeast Nebraska. Precipitation exceeding a half inch also fell in northwest Wyoming in the vicinity of Yellowstone National Park and in a section of the Black Hills of South Dakota. Elsewhere, mostly dry weather was the rule across the region. Short-term precipitation deficits grew in parts of eastern Nebraska, where abnormal dryness expanded in coverage north and northwest of Lincoln. Portions of western Nebraska and adjacent southeast Wyoming and Colorado continued to dry as well, and abnormal dryness and some moderate drought grew in these areas. In south-central Colorado, localized degradations were also due in part to effects from longer-term precipitation deficits.

EARTHTALK

Fossil Fuel Climate Risks Known Since 1950s

by Aurora Egbe

Dear EarthTalk: How long have scientists known about global warming and its potential catastrophic effects? Was there much effort to suppress this information? – T.D.V., Omaha, NE

The earth's average surface temperature has risen about two degrees Fahrenheit since the late 19th century, with more record high temperature events increasing and cold weather events decreasing. Contrary to popular assumptions, evidence by scientists for these climate changes on our planet have been present since the 1950s, and issues could have been regulated sooner. However, efforts were put in place to suppress this information to the public.

Fossil fuel corporations in the decades following the mid-20th century were troubled by the newfound climate evidence and its ability to hurt their profits, so some of them alluded to the idea that the newfound evidence was inconclusive. "If people think the science is unsettled, then they tend not to be motivated to act on the problem ...I wouldn't be motivated to act on a problem that I wasn't really sure was a real thing," Harvard professor Naomi Oreskes told Yale Climate Connections. This inconclusiveness, however, proved to be false: Results were already fully conclusive by the mid-1970s.

Exxon (now Exxon/Mobil) stands out for aggressively trying to de-bunk the effects of climate change since 1977, and was investigated by InsideClimateNews, revealing a harrowing account of the company spreading misinformation. In the 1980s, conscious that their products might not stay as profitable once the harmful effects were widely known, Exxon founded the Climate Coalition to question the scientific basis of distress due to climate change. The effort was so impactful that it helped stop the U.S. passing of the Kyoto Protocol in 1998.

In March 1974, past U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger announced in two speeches at the United Nations General Assembly and World Food Conference with CIA evidence stating that, "Leaders in climatology and economics agree that climate change is occurring...it has already caused major economic problems all around the world."

Overall, climate change was one of many issues shrouded due to motivations of profit over moral standing. Like tobacco is to lungs, the harm done to mother earth was suppressed in favor of corporate greed.



Scientists and oil company executives have known about the climate risks of our profigate fossil fuel use since the 1950s... Credit:

Pexels.com



SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

<https://southdakotasearchlight.com>

COMMENTARY

Lawmakers throw property tax proposals against the wall, hoping something sticks

by Dana Hess

Reform for something as delicately interconnected as the state's tax system should probably be handled with a scalpel. For the second year in a row, lawmakers have instead chosen to use a scattergun.

That scattershot approach was evident at the most recent meeting of the Legislature's Comprehensive Property Tax Task Force. At that meeting, the task force approved 19 property tax reform proposals that will be forwarded to the Legislature. Those proposals were pared down from more than two dozen. Some of the proposals that didn't earn task force approval will likely be offered as legislation as well.

In the Legislature, it seems that ideas about how to cut property taxes are like eyebrows, everybody has one or two.

It looks for all the world like lawmakers are throwing property tax reforms against the wall, hoping that one sticks. That's a trick they learned with mixed results in this year's session when 30 property tax bills were introduced. The only one left stuck to the wall was from Gov. Larry Rhoden. His legislation was full of enough limits, caps, exemptions and expansions to make Rube Goldberg dizzy.

At the start of the summer, the task force members had high hopes. They said they wanted to find a way to cut property taxes for homeowners by 50%. They have been hearing an ever-increasing clamor from homeowners whose total property tax payments increased by 38.8% between 2020 and 2024.

Anyone hoping that a summer's worth of work would lead the task force to come up with a single, simple solution to property tax reform has to be disappointed. Some of the solutions considered by the task force included: school tax limits, online relief applications, formula adjustments, a new education fund, capital outlay limits, tax relief for veterans, municipal rebates, tax increment financing restrictions, school levy elections, capital outlay elections, cutting general fund spending, an owner-occupied relief fund and a \$500 property tax credit.

Even the simplest of property tax reform solutions face an uphill fight in the Legislature. One simple solution was considered and rejected by the Legislature in February. If approved, House Bill 1019 would have raised the state sales tax from 4.2% to 5%.

According to Tim Goodwin, a Rapid City Republican and one of the bill's sponsors, the excess money generated by the sales tax increase would total \$280 million. Those funds would be used to pay \$417 of property tax relief per each \$100,000 of valuation on owner-occupied dwellings in the state.

The bill was rejected by the House State Affairs Committee on a vote of 9-2. Its rejection offers an insight into what lawmakers in the next session will be up against with their own reform proposals.

Rep. Greg Jamison, a Sioux Falls Republican, kicked off committee discussion of the bill with praise for the \$417 payment per \$100,000 of valuation: "That's a healthy reduction in their property taxes. It's probably what people want."

Moments later, Jamison would vote against the bill.

Despite his characterization of the bill as offering taxpayers exactly what they want, Jamison reasoned that it didn't mesh with the mood of the Legislature. His colleagues, he said, would rather cut spending than raise a tax to generate new revenue.

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If legislation that gives aggrieved taxpayers exactly what they want can't make it out of committee, it's hard to believe that other property tax reforms are likely to succeed. With so many proposals to consider, lawmakers who want to create true reform may be forced to vote for measures that go against the grain of what they believe.

The hard decisions they face will be a test of their political courage. They may have to put aside their dismay about raising taxes so that the revenue from one tax can be used to lower another. They may need to look past their belief in local control to put new restrictions on how and when school districts and county governments can raise taxes. No matter how much pride they take in their role running state government, they may have to take a meat cleaver to the budget with the savings earmarked for property tax relief.

The endorsement by the task force of 19 property tax reform proposals points to the complexity of the problem and a lack of clarity on how to tackle it. It doesn't take much of a crystal ball to know that the next legislative session will see a cluster of property tax reform bills. Here's hoping that with so many ideas on the table, lawmakers can find one that offers true, lasting property tax reform.

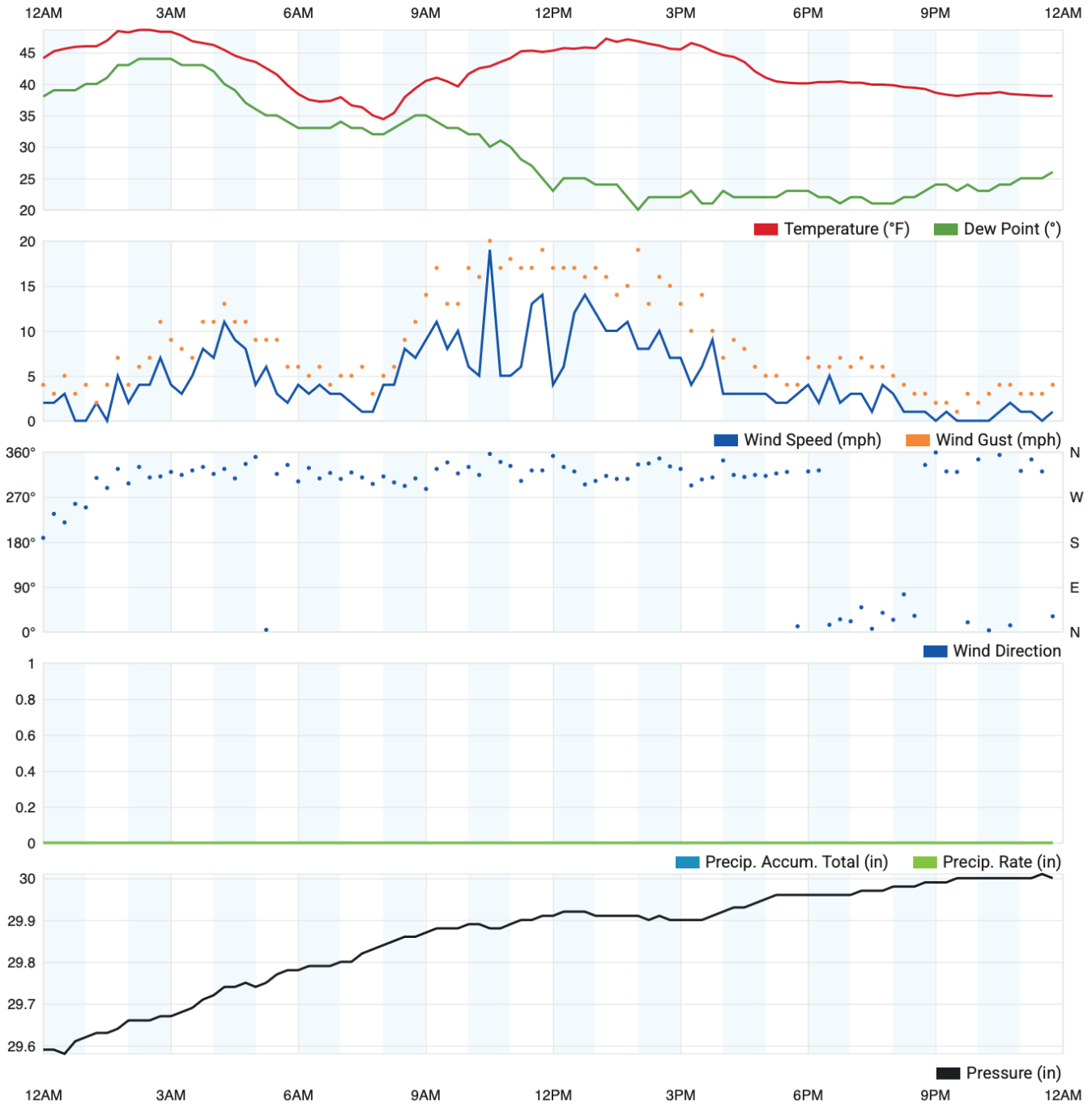
Dana Hess spent more than 25 years in South Dakota journalism, editing newspapers in Redfield, Milbank and Pierre. He's retired and lives in Brookings, working occasionally as a freelance writer.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

November 15, 2025



Broton Daily Independent

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Sunday

Sunday Night

Monday

Monday Night

Tuesday



High: 48 °F

Mostly Cloudy



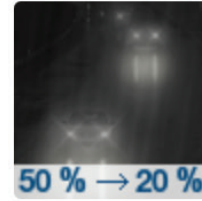
Low: 34 °F

Mostly Cloudy



High: 49 °F

Mostly Cloudy
then Slight
Chance Rain



Low: 33 °F

Chance Rain
then Slight
Chance Rain



High: 44 °F

Mostly Cloudy



Monday Rain/Snow System

November 16, 2025
3:44 AM

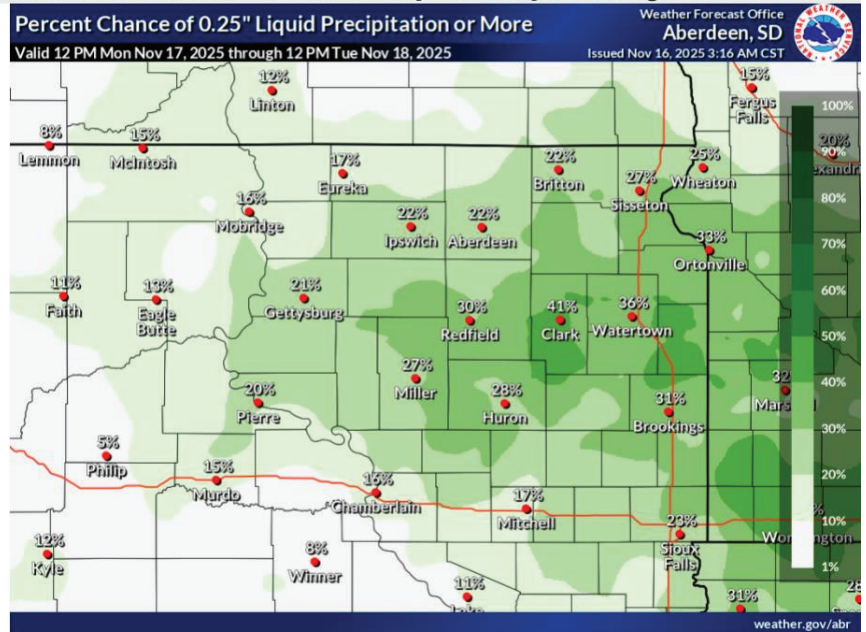
Precipitation will mainly be rain, but could transition to snow early Tuesday morning.

What

Precipitation, mainly in the form of rain, is expected to move into the area Monday into Tuesday. **Highest totals are expected over eastern South Dakota.**

When

Beginning Monday afternoon across central SD, then shifting to the east through the evening and into the night. Precipitation departs Tuesday morning.



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

Monday afternoon, precipitation, mainly rain, will move into the area and continue through Tuesday morning. The chance of more than a quarter of an inch of liquid is between 20 and 40%.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 49 °F at 2:09 AM

Low Temp: 34 °F at 7:54 AM

Wind: 21 mph at 10:29 AM

Precip: : 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 71 in 2001

Record Low: -12 in 1955

Average High: 42

Average Low: 19

Average Precip in Nov.: 0.44

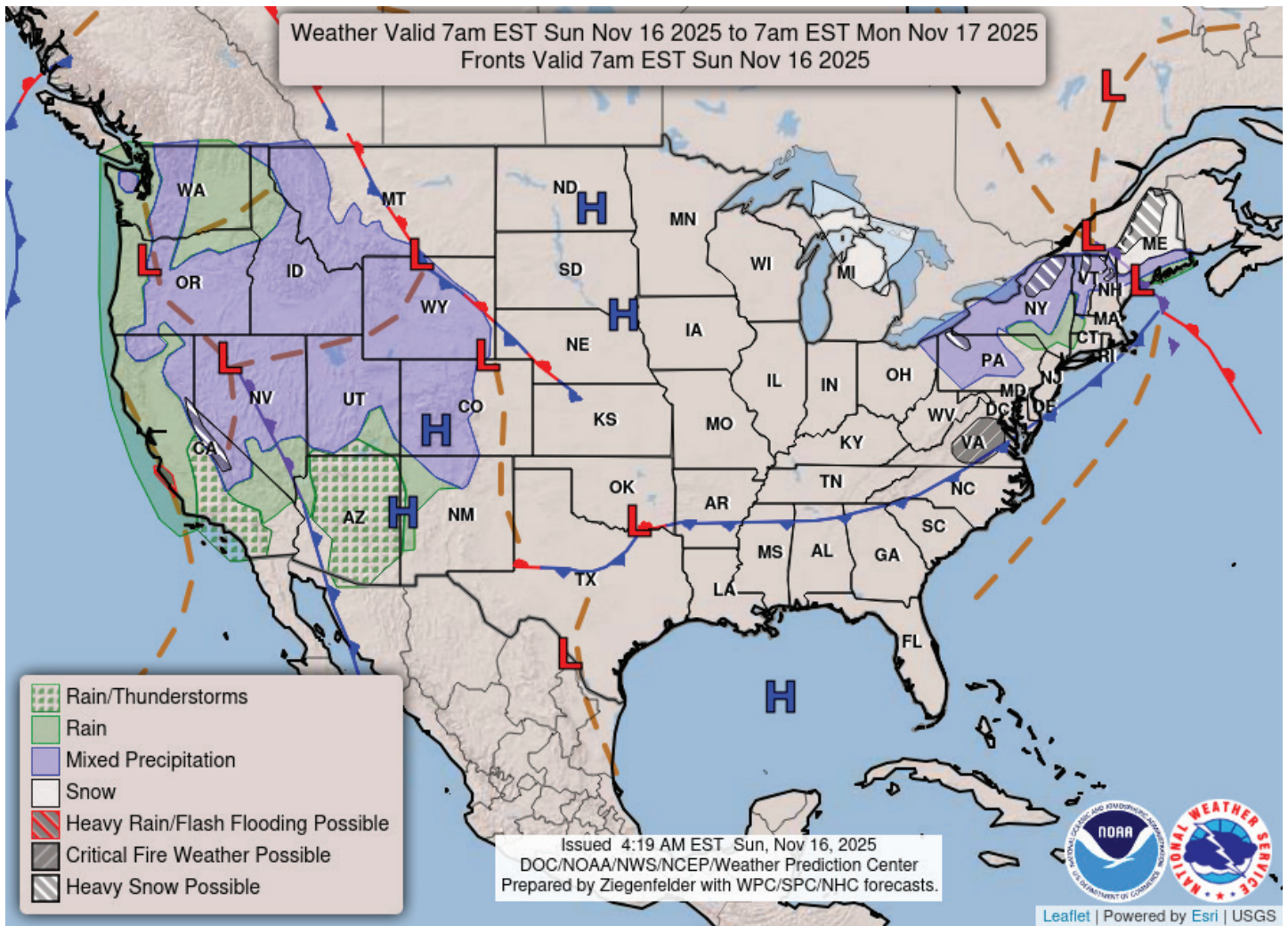
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 20.91

Precip Year to Date: 23.51

Sunset Tonight: 5:01 pm

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:34 am



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Today in Weather History

November 16, 1996: An area of low pressure brought 6 to 9 inches of snowfall to most of central and parts of north-central South Dakota on the 16th, while widespread freezing rain associated with the warm front of the system, along with 4 to 10 inches of snow, fell in northeast South Dakota. Travel was significantly affected, and a few minor accidents occurred during the storm. Several sporting events and activities were postponed or canceled. Strong north winds late on the 16th into early the 17th resulted in near-blizzard conditions across northeast South Dakota. Some storm total snowfall amounts include, 9.0 inches 12SSW of Harrold; 8.5 inches near Highmore; 8.2 inches in Roscoe; 8.0 in Eureka; 7.9 inches near Mellette; 7.0 inches in Waubay; 6.5 inches in Murdo and Redfield; 6.0 inches in Kennebec and Miller; 5.5 inches near Victor; and 5.3 inches in Sisseton.

1958 - More than six inches of snow fell at Tucson, AZ. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1959 - The most severe November cold wave in U.S. history was in progress. A weather observing station located 14 miles northeast of Lincoln MT reported a reading of 53 degrees below zero, which established an all-time record low temperature for the nation for the month of November. Their high that day was one degree above zero. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - High winds and heavy snow created blizzard conditions across parts of eastern Colorado. Wind gusts reached 68 mph at Pueblo, and snowfall totals ranged up to 37 inches at Echo Lake. In Wyoming, the temperature dipped to 14 degrees below zero at Laramie. Strong thunderstorms in Louisiana drenched Alexandria with 16.65 inches of rain in thirty hours, with an unofficial total of 21.21 inches north of Olla. Flash flooding in Louisiana caused five to six million dollars damage. (15th-16th) (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - A powerful low pressure system in the north central U.S. produced high winds across the Great Lakes Region, with wind gusts to 60 mph reported at Chicago IL. Heavy snow blanketed much of Minnesota, with eleven inches reported at International Falls. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Snow and gusty winds invaded the north central U.S. Winds gusting to 40 mph produced wind chill readings as cold as 25 degrees below zero, and blizzard conditions were reported in Nebraska during the late morning hours. High winds around a powerful low pressure system produced squalls in the Great Lakes Region. Winds gusted to 63 mph at Whitefish Point MI, and snowfall totals in Michigan ranged up to 19 inches at Hart, north of Muskegon. (15th-16th) (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2006: An early morning F3 tornado killed eight people, injured 20 others and left 100 people homeless in Riegelwood, North Carolina. This storm was the second deadliest tornado in the state in the past 50 years.



Praying With Faith

God will answer our prayers according to His will, which is always what's best for us.

Mark 11:20-24 : 20 In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. 21 Peter remembered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!"

22 "Have faith in God," Jesus answered. 23 "Truly[a] I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. 24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Prayer and faith are strongly connected. As we saw yesterday, James 1:6-7 says we "must believe and not doubt," or else we shouldn't expect to receive anything from God. But what does that mean? And if we do combine our prayers with faith, are we to think the Lord will give us whatever we ask?

Jesus said, "Have faith in God" (Mark 11:22). In other words, trust in the Lord is the foundation for prayer. If our requests are incompatible with His teachings, then we have no reason to believe He'll answer. And Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane teaches us that ultimate trust in God says, "Not My will, but Yours be done" (Luke 22:42).

1 John 5:14-15 tells us we can count on God answering requests prayed according to His will. As we fill our mind with God's Word, our desires and requests begin to align with His. When that's the case, we can confidently expect to receive whatever we ask. And in those instances when we're not sure of His will, His Holy Spirit intercedes for us (Romans 8:27).

As a loving heavenly Father, God protects, provides, guides, and cares for us. He has proven His love by sending His Son. And remember, the obstacles in our life are never a problem for God, which means we can trust Him with all our concerns.

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

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Upcoming Groton Events

- 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

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WINNING NUMBERS

MEGA MILLIONS

WINNING NUMBERS: 11.14.25

1 8 11 12 57 7

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$50,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LOTTO AMERICA

WINNING NUMBERS: 11.15.25

14 21 40 43 48 8

All Star Bonus: 3x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$7,130,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LUCKY FOR LIFE

WINNING NUMBERS: 11.15.25

16 29 32 33 37 16

TOP PRIZE:

\$7,000/week

NEXT DRAW: 15 Hrs 48 Mins 4 Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

DAKOTA CASH

WINNING NUMBERS: 11.15.25

6 8 16 23 26

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$88,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

DOUBLE PLAY

WINNING NUMBERS: 11.15.25

8 25 46 51 58 19

TOP PRIZE:

\$10,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

WINNING NUMBERS: 11.15.25

6 7 12 47 53 21

Power Play: 4x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$570,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

News from the **AP** Associated Press

PREP FOOTBALL

SDHSAA State Championship=
Class 11-A=
Sioux Falls Christian 28, Lennox 24
Class 11-AAA=
Brandon Valley 34, Sioux Falls Lincoln 27

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

Sandfort scores 28, Mast adds 26; Nebraska hits 15 3s in 105-99 win over Oklahoma

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Pryce Sandfort had 28 points and seven assists, Rienk Mast scored 26 points on 9-of-16 shooting, and the duo combined to hit nine of Nebraska's 15 3-pointers to help the Cornhuskers beat Oklahoma 105-99 on Saturday night at the Sanford Pentagon.

Nebraska (4-0) has won eight straight dating to last season, the program's longest win streak since the Cornhuskers won 11 in a row in the 2010-11 season.

Sandfort made 10 of 18 from the field, 4 of 9 from 3-point range, and Mast hit 5 of 7 from behind the arc. Jamarques Lawrence hit three 3s and finished with 14 points.

Nijel Pack led Oklahoma (2-2) with 27 points on 10-of-18 shooting, 6 of 12 from 3-point range. Xzayvier Brown hit four 3s and finished with 20 points, and Tae Davis scored 17 on 7-of-9 shooting.

Lawrence made a jumper and Sandfort followed with a 3-pointer that made it 72-67 with 10:38 left in the game and Nebraska led the rest of the way. Davis answered with a three-point play but Mast followed with a 3-pointer and a layup before Lawrence made a free throw to make it an eight-point game about 90 seconds later.

Pack made back-to-back 3s to make it a one-possession game with 4:41 to play. Sandfort made a pair free throws, found Mast for a 3-pointer, and then made a layup to make it 96-86 with three minutes left.

Nebraska made 34 of 59 (58%) from the field, shot 56% from behind the arc, and made 22 of 28 free throws. The Cornhuskers committed just five turnovers, their fewest in a game since Nebraska tied the program-record with two against Duquesne on Nov. 22, 2023

Illinois State scores 28 points in 1st quarter, goes on to beat South Dakota State 35-21

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Tommy Rittenhouse threw three touchdown passes to Daniel Sobkowicz and ran for another as Illinois State scored 28 points in the first quarter and went on to a 35-21 win over South Dakota State on Saturday.

Rittenhouse threw 10- and 2-yard touchdown passes to Sobkowicz sandwiched around a 5-yard pick-6 by Patrick Bauer and Rittenhouse added a 2-yard TD run to cap the big first quarter.

Rittenhouse and Sobkowicz connected for a 9-yard score and it was 35-0 before the Jackrabbits (7-4, 3-4 Missouri Valley Football Conference) scored twice in the final five minutes of the first half to trail 35-13.

Josiah Johnson's 2-yard TD run early in the fourth quarter got South Dakota State within 14 points but the Jackrabbits' final three drives ended on downs.

Sobkowicz's three TD catches gave him a school-record 33 for his career, passing Tyrone Walker (32, 2009-12).

Rittenhouse was 17 of 32 for 141 yards passing. Victor Dawson had 98 yards rushing on 20 carries. The

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Redbirds were outgained 321-263 but the Jackrabbits had three turnovers, all in the first half.

SDSU's Jack Henry was 32-of-51 passing for 254 yards with a touchdown, but threw two interceptions.

The Redbirds, ranked 13th in the FCS coaches' poll, ran their win streak to four games while the No. 15 Jackrabbits dropped their fourth in a row.

Fenner grabs 3 TDs, game-winning 2-pt for South Dakota in wild 53-51 5OT win over Southern Illinois

CARBONDALE, Ill. (AP) — Lorenzo Fenner caught six passes for 130 yards and three touchdowns, catching the game-sealing two-point try as South Dakota defeated Southern Illinois 53-51 in a five-overtime thriller on Saturday.

The 22nd-ranked FCS Coyotes (8-4, 6-2 Missouri Valley) rallied from a 10-point fourth-quarter deficit to take the lead with 1:10 left.

Fenner caught his second touchdown with 4:06 left in regulation to tie it, and Will Leyland kicked a 32-yard field goal to make it 34-31 with 1:10 remaining.

The 23rd-ranked Salukis (6-5, 3-4) marched down the field and Paul Geelan connected on a field goal from the 36 to force overtime.

Each team traded touchdowns through the first two overtime periods, with Southern Illinois scoring on the first play each time. Each team missed on their two-point tries in the third OT, each scored in the fourth, and South Dakota got a stop in the fifth to set up Fenner's game winner.

Aidan Bouman was 21-of-30 passing for 300 yards and five touchdowns, while throwing one interception. Carson Fletcher rushed for 104 yards on 19 touches.

For the Salukis, DJ Williams threw for 303 yards, four touchdowns, and one interception on 19-of-31 passing, and added 89 rushing yards on 16 carries.

Homeland Security agents surge into North Carolina's largest city. Here's what to know

By ED WHITE Associated Press

U.S. immigration agents are targeting Charlotte, North Carolina, despite objections from local leaders, prompting activists, elected officials and community groups to monitor any sweeps and support vulnerable residents.

President Donald Trump's administration confirmed Saturday that a surge of immigration enforcement in North Carolina's largest city had begun. Agents were seen making arrests in multiple locations.

It is the latest step in the Trump administration's strategy of putting immigration agents or the military on the streets of several large, Democratic-run cities. The push has caused fear and anxiety, especially among people who lack legal status to be in the country, and sparked a number of lawsuits.

Here's what to know:

Why send agents to Charlotte?

Charlotte is a racially diverse city of more than 900,000 residents, including more than 150,000 who are foreign-born, according to local officials. It is run by a Democratic mayor, though North Carolina's two U.S. senators are Republican and Trump won the state in the last three presidential elections.

Crime was down this year through August, compared with the same eight-month period in 2024, with homicides, rapes, robberies and motor vehicle thefts decreasing by more than 20%, according to AH Datalytics, which tracks crime across the country using local data for its Real-Time Crime Index.

But the Trump administration has seized upon the August fatal stabbing of Ukrainian refugee Iryna Zarutka on a Charlotte light-rail train to argue that Democratic-led cities fail to protect residents. A man with a lengthy criminal record has been charged with that murder.

There is no indication, however, that border agents could or would have a role in enforcing local or state laws.

How have locals reacted?

Critics have characterized the arrival of border agents as an invasion. Charlotte Mayor Vi Lyles said the agents "are causing unnecessary fear and uncertainty."

Local groups are training volunteers to protest and to safely document any immigration sweeps. They are also informing immigrants of their rights.

"We've seen what has taken place in other cities across this country when the federal government gets involved," state Rep. Jordan Lopez said.

Mecklenburg County Commissioner Susan Rodriguez-McDowell urged the public to "meet the moment peacefully" and "reduce panic."

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department has said it has no authority to enforce federal immigration laws and is not involved in such operations.

Is the National Guard involved?

There is no sign that the guard will go to Charlotte, though three Republican members of North Carolina's congressional delegation have urged Gov. Josh Stein, a Democrat, to request it.

The governor's office said local police are a better choice to keep neighborhoods safe.

The Trump administration has deployed the guard to the District of Columbia and the Los Angeles area, citing crime and a need to protect immigration agents, and Memphis, Tennessee. Courts have blocked the guard from operating so far in the Chicago area and in Portland, Oregon.

4 law enforcement officers shot in rural Kansas responding to domestic violence call

By JOHN HANNA and JACK DURA Associated Press

CARBONDALE, Kan. (AP) — Four law enforcement officers were shot Saturday morning while responding to a domestic violence call at a home in a rural area south of Topeka, and a 22-year-old male suspect died of gunshot wounds at the scene.

The suspect's 77-year-old grandfather also was wounded in the gunfire but he and the law enforcement officers are all expected to recover, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation said.

The shooting occurred around 10:30 a.m. Three Osage County sheriff's deputies and one Kansas Highway Patrol trooper were shot, the KBI's director and the patrol's superintendent said.

Two deputies underwent surgery at a Topeka hospital and were in good condition, the KBI said, and the third deputy was discharged. The trooper was transferred from the same hospital to the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas.

"After being on scene less than 10 minutes, gunfire erupted," patrol Superintendent Erik Smith said during a news conference at the Carbondale City Library.

Carbondale is a town of about 1,300 people about 16 miles (26 kilometers) south of Topeka, the state capital, off Interstate 75.

The shooting stunned neighbors John and Heather Roberts, who live about a mile north of where it occurred on the same two-lane road. They never sensed any problem in any of the family members, such as drugs, alcohol abuse or violence, and they said the suspect's grandmother gave Christian books to area children she knew.

They said it is not uncommon to see law enforcement vehicles on the road outside their home because they live at the line between Osage County, home to Carbondale, and Shawnee County, home to Topeka, and vehicles turn around there or the counties exchange prisoners.

John Roberts said he was putting siding on his barn when two law enforcement vehicles flew down the road in the morning.

"Both of them were running, I would say, well over 100 miles an hour as they went by," he said. "Then the city of Topeka officers started going by. That's when I started to really get concerned."

He said the suspect visited the shop he has at his home to return tools and was "a good kid." Roberts added that many families in the area own guns because hunting is a common hobby, and that was the

case with this family.

"I love the family. They're great people," Heather Roberts said, adding that she and her husband were praying for the wounded officers too.

She said every time the suspect visited their home, he would give her a hug and he was "very respectful." "I don't know what snapped in him today, but his grandparents loved him very much," she said.

Disability rights activist and author Alice Wong dies at 51

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Alice Wong, a disability rights activist and author whose independence and writing inspired others, has died. She was 51.

Wong died of an infection Friday at a hospital in San Francisco, said Sandy Ho, a close friend who has been in touch with Wong's family.

Ho called her friend a "luminary of the disability justice movement" who wanted a world in which people with disabilities, especially ones of marginalized demographics who were people of color, LGBTQ and immigrants, could live freely and have full autonomy over their lives and decisions.

The daughter of Hong Kong immigrants, Wong was born with muscular dystrophy. She used a powered wheelchair and an assistive breathing device.

Ho shared a statement on social media that Wong wrote before her death in which she said she never imagined her trajectory would turn out as it did, to writing, activism and more.

"It was thanks to friendships and some great teachers who believed in me that I was able to fight my way out of miserable situations into a place where I finally felt comfortable in my skin. We need more stories about us and our culture," Wong wrote.

She advocated for "getting people out of institutions and remaining in the community," Ho said and her works — including books she wrote and edited and the Disability Visibility Project blog, which she started — shared her writing and voices and the perspectives of others.

Ho said Wong was a funny person and a hilarious writer, not an easy skill. Her memoir "Year of the Tiger: An Activist's Life" is filled with humorous snippets but also humanizes disability, she added.

The legacy of Wong's work is that people with disabilities "speak for themselves and that nobody speaks for us," Ho said.

Wong was among the 2024 class of fellows of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, recipients of the "genius grant."

Atmospheric river hits Southern California with risks of flash floods and deaths on stormy seas

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An unusually strong storm system called an atmospheric river doused Southern California on Saturday, prompting flood warnings in areas of coastal Los Angeles County that recently were ravaged by wildfire.

The National Weather Service in Los Angeles and Oxnard reported heavy rainfall at rates as heavy as an inch (2.5 centimeters) per hour in coastal areas that are prone to flash flooding.

The previous day more than 4 inches (10 centimeters) of rain fell over coastal Santa Barbara County as the storm approached Los Angeles. The National Weather Service urged people to stay indoors amid heavy winds.

The long plume of tropical moisture that formed over the Pacific Ocean began drenching the San Francisco Bay Area on Wednesday and unleashed widespread rain over Southern California on Friday and Saturday. More than a foot of snow was predicted for parts of the Sierra Nevada.

The California Highway Patrol said a 71-year-old man died Friday after his vehicle was swept off a flooded bridge in Northern California, and a 5-year-old was swept into the ocean by 15-foot (4.6-meter) waves at a state park on the Central Coast, triggering a search.

Off the Southern California coast, a wooden boat believed to have been ferrying migrants toward the

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U.S. from Mexico capsized in stormy seas, leaving at least four people dead and four hospitalized, the Coast Guard said Saturday.

Flood advisories extended from the Ventura County coast through Malibu and into Los Angeles.

"Due to the potential for debris flows, an Evacuation Warning remains in effect within and around all recent burn scar areas, and select vulnerable properties remain under Evacuation Orders," Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said in the morning via the social platform X.

Mandatory evacuation orders were issued for high-risk properties in the Palisades and Eaton fire burn areas through Sunday morning. Law enforcement personnel were going to certain properties in those areas to urge people to leave, Bass said.

Americana troubadour Todd Snider, alt-country singer-songwriter, dies at 59

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Todd Snider, a singer whose thoughtfully freewheeling tunes and cosmic-stoner songwriting made him a beloved figure in American roots music, has died. He was 59.

His record label said Saturday in a statement posted to his social media accounts that Snider died Friday.

"Where do we find the words for the one who always had the right words, who knew how to distill everything down to its essence with words and song while delivering the most devastating, hilarious, and impactful turn of phrases?" the statement read. "Always creating rhyme and meter that immediately felt like an old friend or a favorite blanket. Someone who could almost always find the humor in this crazy ride on Planet Earth."

Snider's family and friends had said in a Friday statement that he had been diagnosed with pneumonia at a hospital in Hendersonville, Tennessee, and that his situation had since grown more complicated and he was transferred elsewhere. The diagnosis came on the heels of the cancellation of a tour after Snider had been the victim of a violent assault in the Salt Lake City area, according to a Nov. 3 statement from his management team.

But Salt Lake City police later arrested Snider himself when he at first refused to leave a hospital and later returned and threatened staffers, the Salt Lake Tribune reported.

The scrapped tour was in support of his most recent album, "High, Lonesome and Then Some," which released in October. Snider combined elements of folk, rock and country in a three-decade career. In reviews of his recent albums, The Associated Press called him a "singer-songwriter with the persona of a fried folkie" and a "stoner troubadour and cosmic comic."

He modeled himself on — and at times met and was mentored by — artists like Kris Kristofferson, Guy Clark and John Prine. His songs were recorded by artists including Jerry Jeff Walker, Billy Joe Shaver and Tom Jones. And he co-wrote a song with Loretta Lynn that appeared on her 2016 album, "Full Circle."

"He relayed so much tenderness and sensitivity through his songs, and showed many of us how to look at the world through a different lens," the Saturday statement from his label read. "He got up every morning and started writing, always working towards finding his place among the songwriting giants that sat on his record shelves, those same giants who let him into their lives and took him under their wings, who he studied relentlessly."

Snider would do his best-known and most acclaimed work for Prine's independent label Oh Boy in the early 2000s. It included the albums "New Connection," "Near Truths and Hotel Rooms" and "East Nashville Skyline," a 2004 collection that's considered by many to be his best.

Those albums yielded his best known songs, "I Can't Complain," "Beer Run" and "Alright Guy."

Snider was born and raised in Oregon before settling and making his musical chops in San Marcos, Texas. He eventually made his way to Nashville, and was dubbed by some the unofficial "mayor of East Nashville," assuming the title from a friend memorialized thusly in his "Train Song." In 2021, Snider said a tornado that ripped through the neighborhood home to a vibrant arts scene severely damaged his house.

Snider had an early fan in Jimmy Buffett, who signed the young artist to his record label, Margaritaville,

which released his first two albums, 1994's "Songs for the Daily Planet" and 1996's "Step Right Up."

The unpopular and politically weak 90-year-old Palestinian leader struggles for a role in Gaza

By LEE KEATH Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas turns 90 on Saturday, still holding authoritarian power in tiny pockets of the West Bank, but marginalized and weakened by Israel, deeply unpopular among Palestinians, and struggling for a say in a postwar Gaza Strip.

The world's second-oldest serving president — after Cameroon's 92-year-old Paul Biya — Abbas has been in office for 20 years, and for nearly the entire time has failed to hold elections. His weakness has left Palestinians leaderless, critics say, at a time when they face an existential crisis and hopes for establishing a Palestinian state, the centerpiece of Abbas' agenda, appear dimmer than ever.

Palestinians say Israel's campaign against Hamas that has decimated Gaza amounts to genocide, a view echoed by many international legal experts, organizations and other countries. Israel vehemently denies the accusation and has tightened its lock on the West Bank, where Jewish settlements are expanding and attacks by settlers on Palestinians are increasing. Right-wing allies of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu are pressing for outright annexation, a step that would doom any remaining possibility for statehood.

For now, the U.S. has bent to Israel's refusal to allow Abbas' Palestinian Authority to govern postwar Gaza. With no effective leader, critics fear Palestinians in the territory will be consigned to live under an international body dominated by Israel's allies, with little voice and no real path to statehood.

Abbas "has put his head in the sand and has taken no initiative," said Khalil Shikaki, head of the People's Company for Polls and Survey Research, a Palestinian pollster.

"His legitimacy was depleted long ago," Shikaki told The Associated Press. "He has become a liability to his own party, and for the Palestinians as a whole."

Within the pockets of the West Bank that it administers, the PA is notorious for corruption. Abbas rarely leaves his headquarters in the city of Ramallah, except to travel abroad. He limits decision-making to his tight inner circle, including Hussein al-Sheikh, a longtime confidant whom he named as his designated successor in April.

An October poll by Shikaki's organization found that 80% of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza want Abbas to resign. Only a third want the PA to have full or shared governance of the Gaza Strip. The survey of 1,200 people had a margin of error of 3.5 percentage points.

Arafat's successor

It's a long way from 20 years ago, when Abbas was elected president after the death of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat amid hopes he could negotiate an independent state.

The first blow came in 2007, when Hamas drove the PA out of the Gaza Strip in a violent takeover. Hamas' rule entrenched a split between Gaza and the West Bank, the Israeli-occupied territories that the Palestinians seek for a state.

Abbas was left in charge of pockets around the West Bank's main population centers. But his power is crippled because Israel has a chokehold on the economy, controlling the West Bank's resources, most of its land and its access to the outside world.

Netanyahu, who took power in 2009, rejects the creation of a Palestinian state. His "strategy from Day 1" has been to weaken the PA, said Ehud Olmert, who preceded Netanyahu as prime minister and perhaps came the closest to reaching a peace deal with Abbas shortly before being forced from office.

Netanyahu's aim, Olmert said, is to "prevent any genuine chance to come along with some compromise that could have been implemented into a historical agreement."

Cooperation with Israel

The campaign of weakening the PA comes even though Abbas has abided by a major role demanded by Israel and the international community: security cooperation with Israel. The PA trades intelligence with Israel on militants and often cracks down on armed groups.

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To many Palestinians, that makes the PA a subcontractor of the occupation, suppressing opponents while Israel swallows up an increasing amount of the West Bank.

"It has chosen to put itself hand-in-hand with the Israeli occupation, even as (Israel) acts to make it more fragile and weaker," said Abdaljawad Omar, an assistant professor of philosophy and cultural studies at the West Bank's Bir Zeit University.

Netanyahu frequently accuses Abbas of not genuinely seeking peace and of inciting violence against Israel. Netanyahu's government has repeatedly withheld transfers of tax money that Israel collects for the PA, because of stipends paid to families of those imprisoned or killed by Israel.

Despite reforms to the stipend system, Israel is withholding some \$3 billion, according to the PA. That has worsened an ongoing economic crisis in the West Bank.

Israel's campaign against the PA is "pushing it to the edge of collapse," said Ghassan Khatib, who was Palestinian planning minister under Abbas in 2005-06.

Khatib defended what Abbas' supporters call his policy of "practical realism." By working to prevent violence, Abbas has stayed credible on the international stage, he said, trying to build international backing and winning official recognition of a Palestinian state by a growing list of countries.

But that hasn't brought any successful pressure from the U.S. or Europe against Israel to stop settlement expansion or reach a peace deal.

Preventing alternatives

At a time when Israel's far right is pushing for "the eradication of the Palestinians," Omar said, Abbas' pragmatic realism is "a form of national suicide."

Fearing rivals, Abbas has prevented wide-scale participation in government, alternative leadership or popular movements even for significant non-violent resistance or civil disobedience against Israel, he said.

"Politics has been removed as a way for young people to engage, to stand against occupation," said Omar, who was 17 when Abbas came to office.

Shikaki said Abbas' inaction only fuels support for Hamas, which portrayed its Oct. 7, 2023, attack on southern Israel as aimed at ending Israel's occupation.

Even if some Palestinians believe the attack was disastrous, "they see Hamas as trying to do something on behalf of the Palestinian people," he said. "They see Abbas is doing nothing."

Reform attempts

U.S. President Donald Trump's plan calls for an international council to run the Gaza Strip after Hamas is removed, with a Palestinian administration carrying out day-to-day services. It holds out the possibility of the PA taking control if it carries out unspecified reforms to the council's satisfaction.

Abbas has made some gestures toward change.

He has promised legislative and presidential elections within a year after the war in Gaza ends. This week, meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron, he announced a Palestinian-French commission to draw up a new constitution. In a high-profile move against corruption, the transport minister was removed in October and put under investigation on allegations of bribery, according to local media.

Palestinians are skeptical. In the PCPSR poll, 60% of respondents said they doubted Abbas will hold elections. It found that if a vote were held, the clear winner would be Marwan Barghouti, a senior figure from Abbas' Fatah faction imprisoned by Israel since 2002. Abbas would come a distant third behind any Hamas candidate.

Ines Abdel Razak, co-director of Palestine Institute for Public Diplomacy advocacy group, said the U.S. and Israel don't have an interest in real democratization..

"That would mean all Palestinians would actually have a voice," she said. "Any effective ruler would confront the Israeli occupation."

Khatib said Israel will likely be able to keep the PA out of Gaza, since uniting it with the West Bank would only boost Palestinian demands for statehood.

"Israel is the party that is calling the shots on the ground," he said.

Naturalized US citizens thought they were safe. Trump's immigration policies are shaking that belief

By DEEPTI HAJELA Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — When he first came to the United States after escaping civil war in Sierra Leone and spending almost a decade in a refugee camp, Dauda Sesay had no idea he could become a citizen. But he was told that if he followed the rules and stayed out of trouble, after some years he could apply. As a U.S. citizen, he would have protection.

It's what made him decide to apply: the premise — and the promise — that when he became a naturalized American citizen, it would create a bond between him and his new home. He would have rights as well as responsibilities, like voting, that, as he was making a commitment to the country, the country was making one to him.

"When I raised my hand and took the oath of allegiance, I did believe that moment the promise that I belonged," said Sesay, 48, who first arrived in Louisiana more than 15 years ago and now works as an advocate for refugees and their integration into American society.

But in recent months, as President Donald Trump reshapes immigration and the country's relationship with immigrants, that belief has been shaken for Sesay and other naturalized citizens. There's now fear that the push to drastically increase deportations and shift who can claim America as home, through things like trying to end birthright citizenship, is having a ripple effect.

What they thought was the bedrock protection of naturalization now feels more like quicksand.

What happens if they leave?

Some are worried that if they leave the country, they will have difficulties when trying to return, fearful because of accounts of naturalized citizens being questioned or detained by U.S. border agents. They wonder: Do they need to lock down their phones to protect their privacy? Others are hesitant about moving around within the country, after stories like that of a U.S. citizen accused of being here illegally and detained even after his mother produced his birth certificate.

There has been no evidence of an uptick in denaturalizations so far in this Trump administration. Yet that hasn't assuaged some. Sesay said he doesn't travel domestically anymore without his passport, despite having a REAL ID with its federally mandated, stringent identity requirements.

Immigration enforcement roundups, often conducted by masked, unidentifiable federal agents in places including Chicago and New York City, have at times included American citizens in their dragnets. One U.S. citizen who says he was detained by immigration agents twice has filed a federal lawsuit.

Adding to the worries, the Justice Department issued a memo this summer saying it would ramp up efforts to denaturalize immigrants who've committed crimes or are deemed to present a national security risk. At one point during the summer, Trump threatened the citizenship of Zohran Mamdani, the 34-year-old democratic socialist mayor-elect of New York City, who naturalized as a young adult.

The atmosphere makes some worried to speak about it publicly, for fear of drawing negative attention to themselves. Requests for comment through several community organizations and other connections found no takers willing to go on the record other than Sesay.

In New Mexico, state Sen. Cindy Nava says she's familiar with the fear, having grown up undocumented before getting DACA — Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, the Obama-era program that protected people brought to the U.S. as children from being deported — and gaining citizenship through her marriage. But she hadn't expected to see so much fear among naturalized citizens.

"I had never seen those folks be afraid ... now the folks that I know that were not afraid before, now they are uncertain of what their status holds in terms of a safety net for them," Nava said.

What citizenship has meant, and who was included, has expanded and contracted over the course of American history, said Stephen Kantrowitz, professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He said while the word "citizen" is in the original Constitution, it is not defined.

"When the Constitution is written, nobody knows what citizenship means," he said. "It's a term of art, it comes out of the French revolutionary tradition. It sort of suggests an equality of the members of a

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political community, and it has some implications for the right to be a member of that political community. But it is ... so undefined."

American immigration and its obstacles

The first naturalization law passed in 1790 by the new country's Congress said citizenship was for any "free white person" of good character. Those of African descent or nativity were added as a specific category to federal immigration law after the ravages of the Civil War in the 19th century, which was also when the 14th Amendment was added to the Constitution to establish birthright citizenship.

In the last years of the 19th century and into the 20th century, laws were put on the books limiting immigration and, by extension, naturalization. The Immigration Act of 1924 effectively barred people from Asia because they were ineligible for naturalization, being neither white nor Black. That didn't change until 1952, when an immigration law removed racial restrictions on who could be naturalized. The 1965 Immigration and Naturalization Act replaced the previous immigration system with one that portioned out visas equally among nations.

American history also includes times when those who had citizenship had it taken away, like after the 1923 Supreme Court ruling in *U.S. vs. Bhagat Singh Thind*. That ruling said that Indians couldn't be naturalized because they did not qualify as white and led to several dozen denaturalizations. At other times, it was ignored, as in World War II, when Japanese Americans were forced into internment camps.

"Political power will sometimes simply decide that a group of people, or a person or a family isn't entitled to citizenship," Kantrowitz said.

In this moment, Sesay says, it feels like betrayal.

"The United States of America — that's what I took that oath of allegiance, that's what I make commitment to," Sesay said. "Now, inside my home country, and I'm seeing a shift. ... Honestly, that is not the America I believe in when I put my hand over my heart."

First strong winter rains soak Gaza's makeshift shelters

By WAFSA SHURAFU Associated Press

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — Winter's first strong rainfall sent water cascading through parts of Gaza's sprawling Muwasi tent camp on Saturday, as the territory struggles to cope with flooding and devastated infrastructure after two years of war.

Residents attempted to dig trenches to keep the water from flooding their tents, as intermittent rain that began on Friday dripped through tears in tarpaulins and makeshift shelters. The bursts soaked families' scant belongings. Strong winds can also topple tents and hamper attempts to gather scarce food and supplies.

Two weeks ago, Bassil Naggat bought a new tent on the black market for the equivalent of about \$712, because the summer sun had worn his old tent thin. Still, rainwater was leaking through.

"I spent all (Friday) pushing water out of my tent," Naggat said, adding that his neighbors' tents and belongings were wrecked. "Water puddles are inches high, and there is no proper drainage."

Barefoot children splashed in puddles as women made tea outside under dark clouds. Some people tried to shelter in destroyed buildings, even those at risk of collapse, with gaping holes covered by pieces of plastic.

According to the United Nations, Muwasi was sheltering up to 425,000 displaced Palestinians earlier this year, the vast majority in makeshift temporary tents, after Israel's war with Hamas displaced most of Gaza's population of over 2 million people.

Muwasi had largely been undeveloped sand dunes before the Israeli military designated it a humanitarian zone early in the war.

The Israeli defense body in charge of humanitarian aid in Gaza has said it is allowing in winterization materials including blankets and heavy tarps, but aid organizations warn the efforts are far from sufficient when winter temperatures plummet and the wind whips off the Mediterranean.

UN vote expected Monday

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The first stage of the ceasefire agreement is nearing its end. The next and even more challenging stage calls for the implementation of a governing body for Gaza and the deployment of an international stabilization force. It is not clear where either stands. Another looming question is the proposed disarming of Hamas.

The U.N. Security Council on Monday is expected to vote on a U.S. proposal for a U.N. mandate for a stabilization force in Gaza despite opposition from Russia, China and some Arab countries.

The war broke out on Oct. 7, 2023, when Hamas-led militants attacked southern Israel, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting 251 hostages. They still hold the remains of three hostages, which Israel is demanding before progressing to the second stage of the current ceasefire that took effect on Oct. 10.

Hamas has said the territory's devastation is complicating efforts to find the remains, but Israel has accused the militant group of dragging its feet.

"We made it through this long journey and we have a little bit left, just a little bit more," former hostage Maksym Harkin told the weekly rally in Tel Aviv, Israel, seeking the return of everyone.

Israel has been returning the remains of 15 Palestinians for the remains of each Israeli hostage. Gaza's Health Ministry on Saturday said Israel had returned 330 remains, and only 97 had been identified upon their return. Health officials in Gaza say identifications are complicated by a lack of DNA testing kits.

Israel's military campaign in Gaza has killed 69,100 Palestinians, including many women and children, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, which does not distinguish between civilians and combatants in its figures. The ministry, part of the Hamas-run government and staffed by medical professionals, maintains detailed records viewed as generally reliable by independent experts.

Trump, like Biden before him, finds there's no quick fix on inflation

JOSH BOAK Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's problems with fixing the high cost of living might be giving voters a feeling of déjà vu.

Just like the president who came before him, Trump is trying to sell the country on his plans to create factory jobs. The Republican wants to lower prescription drug costs, as did Democratic President Joe Biden. Both tried to shame companies for price increases.

Trump is even leaning on a message that echoes Biden's claims in 2021 that elevated inflation is simply a "transitory" problem that will soon vanish.

"We're going to be hitting 1.5% pretty soon," Trump told reporters Monday. "It's all coming down."

Even as Trump keeps saying an economic boom is around the corner, there are signs that he has already exhausted voters' patience as his campaign promises to fix inflation instantly have gone unfulfilled.

Voters are growing frustrated with Trump on inflation

Voters in this month's elections swung hard to Democrats over concerns about affordability. That has left Trump, who dismisses his weak polling on the economy as fake, floating half-formed ideas to ease financial pressures.

He is promising a \$2,000 rebate on his tariffs and said he may stretch the 30-year mortgage to 50 years to reduce the size of monthly payments. On Friday, Trump scrapped his tariffs on beef, coffee, tea, fruit juice, cocoa, spices, bananas, oranges, tomatoes and certain fertilizers, saying they "may, in some cases" have contributed to higher prices.

But those are largely "gimmicky" moves unlikely to move the needle much on inflation, said Bharat Ramamurti, a former deputy director of Biden's National Economic Council.

"They're in this very tough position where they've developed a reputation for not caring enough about costs, where the tools they have available to them are unlikely to be able to help people in the short term," Ramamurti said.

Ramamurti said the Biden administration learned the hard way that voters are not appeased by a president saying his policies would ultimately cause their incomes to rise.

"That argument does not resonate," he said. "Take it from me."

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How inflation hit Biden's presidency

Biden inherited an economy trying to rebound from the coronavirus pandemic, which had shut down schools and offices, causing mass layoffs and historic levels of government borrowing. In March 2021, he signed into law a \$1.9 trillion relief package. Critics said that was excessive and could cause prices to rise.

As the economy reopened, there were shortages of computer chips, kitchen appliances, autos and even furniture. Cargo ships were stuck waiting to dock at ports, creating supply chain issues. Russia's invasion of Ukraine in early 2022 pushed up energy and food costs, and the increase in consumer prices hit a four-decade high that June. The Federal Reserve raised its benchmark interest rates to cool inflation.

Biden tried to convince Americans that the economy was strong. "Bidenomics is working," Biden said in a 2023 speech. "Today, the U.S. has had the highest economic growth rate, leading the world economies since the pandemic."

His arguments did little to sway voters as only 36% of U.S. adults in August 2023 approved of his handling of the economy, according to a poll at the time by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Trump might be his own worst enemy on inflation

Republicans made the case that Biden's policies made inflation worse. Democrats are using that same framing against Trump today.

Here is their argument: Trump's tariffs are getting passed along to consumers in the form of higher prices; his cancellation of clean energy projects means there will be fewer new sources of electricity as utility bills climb; his mass deportations made it costlier for the immigrant-heavy construction sector to build houses.

Biden administration officials note that Trump came into office with strong growth, a solid job market and inflation declining close to historic levels, only for him to reverse those trends.

"It's striking how many Americans are aware of his trade policy and rightly blame the turnaround in prices on that erratic policy," said Gene Sperling, a senior Biden adviser who also led the National Economic Council in the Obama and Clinton administrations.

"He is in a tough trap of his own doing — and it's not likely to get easier," Sperling said.

Consumer prices had been increasing at an annual rate of 2.3% in April when Trump launched his tariffs, and that rate accelerated to 3% in September.

The inflationary surge has been less than what voters endured under Biden, but the political fallout so far appears to be similar: 67% of U.S. adults disapprove of Trump's performance, according to November polling data from AP-NORC.

"In both instances, the president caused a non-trivial share of the inflation," said Michael Strain, director of economic policy studies at the American Enterprise Institute, a center-right think tank. "I think President Biden didn't take this concern seriously enough in his first few months in office and President Trump isn't taking this concern seriously enough right now."

Strain noted that the two presidents have even responded to the dilemma in "weirdly, eerily similar ways" by playing down inflation as a problem, pointing to other economic indicators and looking to address concerns by issuing government checks.

White House bets its policies can tame inflation

Trump officials have made the case that their mix of income tax cuts, foreign investment frameworks tied to tariffs and changes in enforcing regulations will lead to more factories and jobs. All of that, they say, could increase the supply of goods and services and reduce the forces driving inflation.

"The policies that we're pursuing right now are increasing supply," Kevin Hassett, director of Trump's National Economic Council, told the Economic Club of Washington on Wednesday.

The Fed has cut its benchmark interest rates, which could increase the supply of money in the economy for investment. But the central bank has done so because of a weakening job market despite inflation being above its 2% target, and there are concerns that rate cuts of the size Trump wants could fuel more inflation.

Time might not be on Trump's side

It takes time for consumer sentiment to improve after the inflation rate drops, according to research done by Ryan Cummings, an economist who worked on Biden's Council of Economic Advisers.

His read of the University of Michigan's index of consumer sentiment is that the effects of the postpandemic rise in inflation are no longer a driving factor. These days, voters are frustrated because Trump had primed them to believe he could lower grocery prices and other expenses, but has failed to deliver.

"When it comes to structural affordability issues — housing, child care, education, and health care — Trump has pushed in the wrong direction in each one," said Cummings, who is now chief of staff at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research.

He said Trump's best chance of beating inflation now might be "if he gets a very lucky break on commodity prices" through a bumper harvest worldwide and oil production continuing to run ahead of demand.

For now, Trump has decided to continue to rely on attacking Biden for anything that has gone wrong in the economy, as he did on Monday in an interview with Fox News' "The Ingraham Angle."

"The problem was that Biden did this," Trump said.

Trump pardons Jan. 6 rioter for gun offense and woman convicted of threatening to shoot FBI agents

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER and CHRIS MEGERIAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has issued two pardons related to the investigation into the Jan. 6, 2021 riot, including for a woman convicted of threatening to shoot FBI agents who were investigating a tip that she may have been at the Capitol, officials said Saturday.

In a separate case, Trump issued a second pardon for a Jan. 6 defendant who had remained behind bars despite the sweeping grant of clemency for Capitol rioters because of a separate conviction for illegally possessing firearms.

It's the latest example of Trump's willingness to use his constitutional authority to help supporters who were scrutinized as part of the Biden administration's massive Jan. 6 investigation that led to charges against more than 1,500 defendants.

Suzanne Ellen Kaye was released last year after serving an 18-month sentence in her threats case. After FBI contacted her in 2021 about a tip indicating she may have been at the Capitol on Jan. 6, she posted a video on social media citing her Second Amendment right to carry a gun and she threatened to shoot agents if they came to her house. In court papers, prosecutors said her words "were part of the ubiquity of violent political rhetoric that causes serious harm to our communities."

An email seeking comment was sent to a lawyer for Kaye on Saturday. Kaye testified at trial that she didn't own any guns and didn't intend to threaten the FBI, according to court papers. She told authorities she was not at the Capitol on Jan. 6 and wasn't charged with any Capitol riot-related crimes.

A White House official said Kaye suffers from "stress-induced seizures," and experienced one when the jury read its verdict. The White House said this is "clearly a case of disfavored First Amendment political speech being prosecuted and an excessive sentence." The official requested anonymity because they weren't authorized to publicly discuss the case.

In a separate case, Trump pardoned Daniel Edwin Wilson of Louisville, Kentucky, who was under investigation for his role in the riot when authorities found six guns and roughly 4,800 rounds of ammunition in his home. Because of prior felony convictions, it was illegal for him to possess firearms.

Wilson's case became part of a legal debate over whether Trump's sweeping pardons for Jan. 6 rioters in January applied to other crimes discovered during the sprawling federal dragnet that began after the attack on the Capitol. The Trump-appointed federal judge who oversaw Wilson's case criticized the Justice Department earlier this year for arguing that the president's Jan. 6 pardons applied to Wilson's gun offense.

Wilson, who had been scheduled to remain in prison until 2028, was released Friday evening following the pardon, his lawyer said on Saturday.

"We are grateful that President Trump has recognized the injustice in my client's case and granted him this pardon," attorney George Pallas said in an email. "Mr. Wilson can now reunite with his family and

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begin rebuilding his life.”

The White House official Saturday that “because the search of Mr. Wilson’s home was due to the events of January 6, and they should have never been there in the first place, President Trump is pardoning Mr. Wilson for the firearm issues.”

Wilson had been sentenced in 2024 to five years in prison after pleading guilty to conspiring to impede or injure police officers and illegally possessing firearms at his home.

Prosecutors had accused him of planning for the Jan. 6 riot for weeks and coming to Washington with the goal of stopping the peaceful transfer of power. Authorities said he communicated with members of the far-right Oath Keepers extremist group and adherents of the antigovernment Three Percenters movement as he marched to the Capitol.

Prosecutors cited messages they argued showed that Wilson’s “plans were for a broader American civil war.” In one message on Nov. 9, 2020, he wrote: “I’m willing to do whatever. Done made up my mind. I understand the tip of the spear will not be easy. I’m willing to sacrifice myself if necessary. Whether it means prison or death.”

Wilson said at his sentencing that he regretted entering the Capitol that day but “got involved with good intentions.”

The Justice Department had initially argued in February that Trump’s pardons of the Jan. 6 rioters on his first day back in the White House didn’t extend to Wilson’s gun crime. The department later changed its position, saying it had received “further clarity on the intent of the Presidential Pardon.”

U.S. District Judge Dabney Friedrich, who was nominated to the bench by Trump, criticized the department’s evolving position and said it was “extraordinary” that prosecutors were seeking to argue that Trump’s Jan. 6 pardons extended to illegal “contraband” found by investigators during searches related to the Jan. 6 cases.

Politico first reported Wilson’s pardon on Saturday. ___ Megerian reported from West Palm Beach, Fla.

Feds expand terrorism charges in July shooting at Texas immigration detention center

DALLAS (AP) — Federal prosecutors in Texas have charged six more people with a new terrorism-related charge in the July shooting outside an immigration detention center near Dallas, and said six others are scheduled to enter guilty pleas in the case.

The latest indictment in the case, issued Friday, expands on previous charges and relies on President Trump’s recent declaration that deems the decentralized movement known as antifa a domestic terrorist organization. Trump blames antifa for political violence.

The case stems from the July 4 shooting outside the Prairieland Detention Center in Alvarado, southwest of Dallas, that injured a police officer. The charges also include rioting, attempted murder and weapons and explosives charges.

Prosecutors said the group threw fireworks at the facility, vandalized vehicles and then shot at responding police and correctional officers, striking an Alvarado officer in the neck. He was later released from a hospital.

The shooting took place as President Trump’s administration ramped up deportations.

Patrick McClain, a lawyer for defendant Zachary Evetts, said he has seen no evidence to support the government’s view of the case. He said his client would again plead not guilty at the Dec. 3 arraignment on the new charges.

“Mr. Evetts has never been a member of anything like a ‘North Texas Antifa Cell,’ and from the evidence provided to us by the government so far, there is no evidence that such an organization ever existed,” McClain said Saturday.

Short for “anti-fascists,” antifa is not a single organization but rather an umbrella term for far-left-leaning militant groups that confront or resist neo-Nazis and white supremacists at demonstrations.

Cities and states are turning to AI to improve road safety

By JEFF McMURRAY Associated Press

As America's aging roads fall further behind on much-needed repairs, cities and states are turning to artificial intelligence to spot the worst hazards and decide which fixes should come first.

Hawaii officials, for example, are giving away 1,000 dashboard cameras as they try to reverse a recent spike in traffic fatalities. The cameras will use AI to automate inspections of guardrails, road signs and pavement markings, instantly discerning between minor problems and emergencies that warrant sending a maintenance crew.

"This is not something where it's looked at once a month and then they sit down and figure out where they're going to put their vans," said Richard Browning, chief commercial officer at Nextbase, which developed the dashcams and imagery platform for Hawaii.

After San Jose, California, started mounting cameras on street sweepers, city staff confirmed the system correctly identified potholes 97% of the time. Now they're expanding the effort to parking enforcement vehicles.

Texas, where there are more roadway lane miles than the next two states combined, is less than a year into a massive AI plan that uses cameras as well as cellphone data from drivers who enroll to improve safety.

Other states use the technology to inspect street signs or build annual reports about road congestion.

Every guardrail, every day

Hawaii drivers over the next few weeks will be able to sign up for a free dashcam valued at \$499 under the "Eyes on the Road" campaign, which was piloted on service vehicles in 2021 before being paused due to wildfires.

Roger Chen, a University of Hawaii associate professor of engineering who is helping facilitate the program, said the state faces unique challenges in maintaining its outdated roadway infrastructure.

"Equipment has to be shipped to the island," Chen said. "There's a space constraint and a topography constraint they have to deal with, so it's not an easy problem."

Although the program also monitors such things as street debris and faded paint on lane lines, the companies behind the technology particularly tout its ability to detect damaged guardrails.

"They're analyzing all guardrails in their state, every single day," said Mark Pittman, CEO of Blyncsy, which combines the dashboard feeds with mapping software to analyze road conditions.

Hawaii transportation officials are well aware of the risks that can stem from broken guardrails. Last year, the state reached a \$3.9 million settlement with the family of a driver who was killed in 2020 after slamming into a guardrail that had been damaged in a crash 18 months earlier but never repaired.

In October, Hawaii recorded its 106th traffic fatality of 2025 — more than all of 2024. It's unclear how many of the deaths were related to road problems, but Chen said the grim trend underscores the timeliness of the dashboard program.

Building a larger AI database

San Jose has reported strong early success in identifying potholes and road debris just by mounting cameras on a few street sweepers and parking enforcement vehicles.

But Mayor Matt Mahan, a Democrat who founded two tech startups before entering politics, said the effort will be much more effective if cities contribute their images to a shared AI database. The system can recognize a road problem that it has seen before — even if it happened somewhere else, Mahan said.

"It sees, 'Oh, that actually is a cardboard box wedged between those two parked vehicles, and that counts as debris on a roadway,'" Mahan said. "We could wait five years for that to happen here, or maybe we have it at our fingertips."

San Jose officials helped establish the GovAI Coalition, which went public in March 2024 for governments to share best practices and eventually data. Other local governments in California, Minnesota, Oregon, Texas and Washington, as well as the state of Colorado, are members.

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Some solutions are simple

Not all AI approaches to improving road safety require cameras.

Massachusetts-based Cambridge Mobile Telematics launched a system called StreetVision that uses cell-phone data to identify risky driving behavior. The company works with state transportation departments to pinpoint where specific road conditions are fueling those dangers.

Ryan McMahon, the company's senior vice president of strategy & corporate development, was attending a conference in Washington, D.C., when he noticed the StreetVision software was showing a massive number of vehicles braking aggressively on a nearby road.

The reason: a bush was obstructing a stop sign, which drivers weren't seeing until the last second.

"What we're looking at is the accumulation of events," McMahon said. "That brought me to an infrastructure problem, and the solution to the infrastructure problem was a pair of garden shears."

Texas officials have been using StreetVision and various other AI tools to address safety concerns. The approach was particularly helpful recently when they scanned 250,000 lane miles (402,000 kilometers) to identify old street signs long overdue for replacement.

"If something was installed 10 or 15 years ago and the work order was on paper, God help you trying to find that in the digits somewhere," said Jim Markham, who deals with crash data for the Texas Department of Transportation. "Having AI that can go through and screen for that is a force multiplier that basically allows us to look wider and further much faster than we could just driving stuff around."

Autonomous vehicles are next

Experts in AI-based road safety techniques say what's being done now is largely just a stepping stone for a time when a large proportion of vehicles on the road will be driverless.

Pittman, the Blyncsy CEO who has worked on the Hawaii dashcam program, predicts that within eight years almost every new vehicle — with or without a driver — will come with a camera.

"How do we see our roadways today from the perspective of grandma in a Buick but also Elon and his Tesla?" Pittman said. "This is really important nuance for departments of transportation and city agencies. They're now building infrastructure for humans and automated drivers alike, and they need to start bridging that divide."

Voters in Virginia and New Jersey send a message: It's Trump's economy now

By OLIVIA DIAZ, MIKE CATALINI and MAYA SWEEDLER Associated Press

FREDERICKSBURG, Va. (AP) — Virginia Democrat Nicole Cole and her team spent much of their 2025 campaign for the state legislature standing in places like Weis Markets in Spotsylvania County, railing against prices that she said were too high: at least \$3.79 for a dozen eggs, up to \$7.99 for a pound of ground beef, \$9.39 for coffee beans.

Her effort paid off when she ousted a 36-year Republican from his state House seat. She was one of 13 Virginia Democrats to flip competitive House seats and contribute to big election wins in her state and New Jersey, the only ones with governor's races this year.

"We would greet them at the point of purchase," Cole said. "That's when it hurts most."

The cost of living also may have led voters to signal that this is President Donald Trump's economy now. Some prices have stabilized or even declined, and costs tend to be higher in New Jersey than Virginia. But economic concerns, which helped Trump return to power in 2024, appeared to weigh Republicans down in the two contests for governor in the first major election after they took control of the White House and Congress, according to the AP Voter Poll.

Democrats Abigail Spanberger and Mikie Sherrill, who won those races in Virginia and New Jersey, respectively, campaigned hard on economic issues and led a sweep for their party in both states.

The swings were especially dramatic in suburban and exurban areas like Spotsylvania and Morris County, New Jersey. Morris County is part of a traditionally Republican state legislative district where liberal Democrat Marisa Sweeney and one of two incumbent Republicans are so close in the vote count that The

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Associated Press considers the race, which will have two winners, too close to call.

"You go into the grocery store, you see what things cost, and it's just not working," Sweeney said.

Paying the bills

Over the past decade, places like Morris and Spotsylvania counties have become increasingly competitive — communities just beyond major metro areas where midterms are often won or lost. Morris County is about 30 miles west of New York City; Spotsylvania County is just south of Fredericksburg. Each is about two-thirds white, slightly wealthier than the national average, and at or above it in the share of residents with bachelor's degrees.

Heading into 2025, both looked like they would be close. Cole's district includes part of the Republican-leaning county, which Trump carried in 2020 and 2024, and GOP Gov. Glenn Youngkin won it by more than 20 percentage points in between.

Still, Cole remained persuaded that she could flip her district, which includes part of Spotsylvania and Caroline counties.

"Early on in my campaign, when I brought in my staff, one of the main messages I talked to them about was that we need to stop saying this district is red, and that it leans red," Cole said, adding: "We had to give some encouragement that this is possible to the people who aren't red."

Cole, who was elected to the Spotsylvania County School Board in 2021, developed a playbook focused on the cost of living and education. Two weeks before the Nov. 4 election, she spoke at a town hall in Fredericksburg about tackling high energy bills from electric utilities.

"You know you have to have heat and air, and a utility bill that has to get paid," she said. "So then something else is a sacrifice. The quality of food that you're able to buy for your kids is a sacrifice."

As she greeted voters in November after the election, most people were tired of talking politics. But one voter, Kaitlyn Sapp, seemed interested in learning what Democrats would do for her.

"I did not vote this year," Sapp said. "I have not been very political. But recently, I have been trying to learn more."

Cole smiled, not wasting a second before rattling off the issues her party aimed to tackle next year: health care costs, public education, utility bills and so on.

Prices to pay

Morris County also swung dramatically to Democrats.

It was one of just four New Jersey counties to back both Democrat Joe Biden in the 2020 presidential race and Republican Jack Ciattarelli in the governor's race the next year. Biden won Morris County by 4 percentage points, and Ciattarelli carried it by more than 11 percentage points. That 15.5 percentage point swing was the sixth-largest among the state's 21 counties. By 2024, Trump narrowly flipped Morris County, winning it by just under 3 percentage points.

This time around, Sherrill edged Ciattarelli there.

Sherrill's victory is not all that surprising, and she is no stranger to the county. The governor-elect represented it while serving in Congress, and had a track record of working with state Republicans in the county.

"She has a lot of crossover appeal with Republican voters," said Darcy Draeger, chairwoman of the Morris County Democrats.

Voters seemed to pay attention to how the president's policies were affecting them, said Sweeney, whose district includes part of the county.

"People are watching the news and they're looking to see what goes on in Trump's administration, and they are seeing how it affects people locally, and with the whole government shutdown and people losing their SNAP benefits," Sweeney said. "We're talking about people within our own communities."

It's an outlook shared by some conservatives. The all-encompassing effect of Trump's second administration and his clash with congressional Democrats cost the party in New Jersey, Republicans said.

"We need to make sure that our constituents understand that we are here to serve and that we're listening to their voices," said Republican state Sen. Anthony Bucco of Morris County. "I think the message was drowned out a little bit by Washington."

Passaic, a northern New Jersey county not far from New York, is another area that shows a shift back

to Democrats. The county, which has heavily Latino areas, went for Trump in 2024, the first time it went for a Republican in decades. This year, it swung back to Democrats by double digits.

John Currie, the longtime Democratic chairman in Passaic, chalked up the swing back to his party there to "hard work" by those running, along with a message about lowering costs. And by not talking about costs enough, Currie said Republicans paid the ultimate price.

"Affordability – it's that simple."

Trump says stopping suspected drug boats doesn't work. But the US reports record cocaine seizures

By JOSHUA GOODMAN and JIM MUSTIAN Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — In justifying American military strikes on boats suspected of smuggling drugs, President Donald Trump has asserted that the longtime U.S. strategy of interdicting such vessels at sea has been a major failure.

"We've been doing that for 30 years," he said last month, "and it's been totally ineffective."

Trump's comments came around the same time that the U.S. Coast Guard announced it had set a record for cocaine seizures — a haul of 225 metric tons of the drug over the previous year. That milestone, however, has not dissuaded the Republican president from upending decades of U.S. counternarcotics policy.

Under Trump, the U.S. military has blown up 20 suspected drug boats, resulting in 80 deaths, in the Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Sea. Trump and other top officials have contended that such boats are being operated by narco-terrorists and cartel members with deadly drugs bound for America.

The strikes have generated international pushback from foreign leaders, human rights groups, Democrats and some Republicans who have raised concerns that the United States is engaging in extrajudicial killings that undermine its stature in the world.

Veterans of the drug war, meanwhile, say U.S. resources would be better spent doubling down on the traditional approach of interdicting drug boats, especially in the long term. That is because crews of drug boats frequently have valuable intelligence that can help authorities better target cartels and trafficking networks. Dead men, they say, tell no tales.

The Coast Guard has fought the drug war a long time

The Coast Guard for decades has interdicted small vessels suspected of smuggling illicit narcotics. Much of that work is focused on halting shipments of cocaine, most of which is produced in the jungles of Colombia.

Working with partner nations and other federal agencies — the Drug Enforcement Administration, the departments of State and Justice as well as U.S. Southern Command's Joint Interagency Task Force-South in Key West, Florida — the aim is to inflict heavy losses on traffickers and limit the amount of drugs entering the U.S.

That campaign, by at least one measure, has never been more successful, despite constant complaints by the Coast Guard that it lacks funding to seize even more drugs.

The Coast Guard's recent record cocaine seizure was almost 40% higher than the past decade's annual average. The haul included 38 tons of cocaine offloaded by the cutter Hamilton when it returned from a two-month patrol. It was the largest amount confiscated by a single Coast Guard ship during a deployment, the Coast Guard reported. The interdictions have continued as part of what's known as Operation Pacific Viper even during the federal government shutdown, with several cutters reporting major seizures last month.

In almost every case, drug smugglers have been brought to the U.S. for prosecution, and valuable information about ever-changing smuggling routes and production methods was collected — all without any loss of life and a far lower cost to American taxpayers. Experts said each missile strike is likely to cost far more than the payload of cocaine on every ship.

"The Coast Guard has extraordinary powers and authorities to do effective drug interdiction without killing unidentified people on small boats," said Douglas Farah, a national security expert on Latin America and president of IBI Consultants. "When resourced, they are far more effective, sustainable and likely legal

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than the current Pentagon-led operations.”

Trump administration officials say strategy needed to change

Secretary of State Marco Rubio this week defended the shift in strategy, saying that “interdictions alone are not effective.”

“Interdictions have limited to no deterrent effect,” he added. “These drug organizations, they’ve already baked in the fact they may lose 5% of their drug shipments. It doesn’t stop them from coming.”

Part of the problem is that demand for cocaine is high, and supplies have never been so robust, according to authorities and experts. A sign of that trend: Cocaine prices have been hovering at historical lows for more than a decade.

The Coast Guard also does not have enough vessels or crew to halt it all. At most, it seizes not even 10% of the cocaine that officials believe flows to the U.S. on small vessels through what is known as the “Transit Zone” — a vast area of open water larger than Russia.

Cocaine shipments bound for the U.S. primarily work their way up the west coast of South America to Central America and then overland into the U.S. via Mexico. Shipments heading to Europe are smuggled through the Caribbean, often hidden in container ships.

Such interdiction efforts target cocaine, not fentanyl

In social media posts, Trump has claimed that his strikes have blown up boats carrying fentanyl and that each destroyed vessel has saved 25,000 American lives. According to experts and former U.S. counter-narcotics officials, Trump’s statements are either exaggerations or false.

For the past decade, U.S. officials have sounded the alarm about rising overdose deaths in the U.S., particularly from opioids and synthetic opioids. Overdose deaths from opioids peaked in 2023 at 112,000 but dropped to 74,000 in April. Experts have attributed that decline mostly to Biden administration efforts to boost the availability of lifesaving drugs that prevent overdose deaths.

The drug flowing to the U.S. from South America is cocaine. Fentanyl, on the other hand, is typically trafficked to the U.S. overland from Mexico, where it is produced with chemicals imported from China and India. Cocaine overdose deaths are less frequent than those from fentanyl. In the last year, just under 20,000 people in America died from cocaine overdoses, federal data shows.

Trump and administration officials have also claimed that the crews of targeted vessels were narco-terrorists or members of cartels.

The Associated Press visited a region in Venezuela from which some of the suspected boats have departed and identified four men who were killed in the strikes. In dozens of interviews, residents of the region and relatives said the dead men were mostly laborers or fisherman making \$500 a trip.

Law enforcement officials and experts echoed those findings, saying the smugglers captured by the Coast Guard are hired for little money to ferry drugs from point A to point B.

“They are hardly kingpins,” said Kendra McSweeney, an Ohio State University geographer who has spent years researching U.S. drug policies.

Trump administration officials recently promoted big seizures

In April, months before Trump launched his military campaign, his attorney general, Pam Bondi, traveled to South Florida to welcome home the Coast Guard cutter James from its latest antinarcotics patrol. It had seized 20 tons of cocaine worth more than \$500 million.

Flanked by FBI Director Kash Patel, she praised a “prosecutor-led, intelligence driven approach to stopping these criminal enterprises in their tracks.”

“This is not a drop in the bucket,” said Bondi, standing in front of the vessel loaded with colorful, plastic-wrapped bales of narcotics stacked several feet high. “Behind you is half a billion dollars of pure, uncut cocaine.”

Can't take hormone therapy for menopause?

There are other options

By LAURA UNGAR AP Science Writer

Shilpa Gajarawala struggled with hot flashes, night sweats, sleep problems and brain fog. But given her history of breast cancer, treating these menopausal symptoms with hormone therapy wasn't an option.

"For two years, I tried to kind of power through," said the 58-year-old physician assistant from Jacksonville, Florida.

But doctors say women like Gajarawala don't need to suffer.

Though many women take hormone therapy medications to ease menopause symptoms, recently announced label changes may encourage even more to start. But others choose not to use these medications that circulate throughout the body. And doctors advise some to avoid them because they have medical problems such as severe liver disease or a history of heart attack, stroke, blood clots or a type of breast cancer that grows in response to hormones such as estrogen.

For those people, there are lifestyle changes, medications without hormones and other strategies that can help.

"The key here is that there's something for everybody," said Dr. Stephanie Faubion, medical director at the Menopause Society. "There's always a solution. We have lots of other options available."

Lifestyle changes

Boosting physical activity can make a difference. While exercise hasn't been shown to alleviate menopausal symptoms directly, it can help to shed pounds, which is associated with reductions in hot flashes and night sweats.

Doctors suggest a mix of aerobic exercise, such as running or walking, and strength training, which slows the loss of bone density.

Along with exercise, doctors advise watching what you eat.

Emerging science shows that a "plant-forward diet," rich in produce and soy and low in oil, may help with managing hot flashes in particular, said Faubion of the Mayo Clinic Center for Women's Health. Experts aren't sure why this is true, but some suggest it may be because it also helps with weight loss.

Another key, doctors said, is to avoid things in the diet that may trigger hot flashes, like caffeine or alcohol.

Eating well and exercising also help with other midlife health issues, like rising heart and diabetes risks.

During menopause, the body's production of the hormones estrogen and progesterone declines greatly. The drop in estrogen levels can lead to higher blood pressure and cholesterol.

"It's important that we focus on maintaining cardiovascular health" such as stopping smoking, getting enough sleep and watching stress levels, Faubion said.

Prescription drugs

Beyond lifestyle changes, some nonhormonal prescription medicines have been shown to ease menopausal symptoms.

Antidepressants can help with hot flashes and mood issues. Recent data suggest that a drug for an overactive bladder called oxybutynin may reduce hot flashes while also treating frequent urination that's common during menopause.

And doctors pointed to a new drug on the market – Veozah, a brand name for fezolinetant — which works in the area of the brain that controls body temperature and blocks a source of hot flashes and night sweats. Another nonhormonal drug called elinzanetant — marketed as Lynkuet — was recently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. It works similarly, except it blocks two molecules in the nervous system instead of one.

One downside of such medications? Possible side effects.

Veozah's label includes a federally required warning about the risk of a rare but serious liver injury. Lynkuet's possible side effects include difficulty staying awake, fatigue and others. Some antidepressants can cause weight gain, although generally in doses higher than those used for menopause symptoms. And oxybutynin can cause dry mouth and, in some people, a condition in which they can't completely empty the bladder.

"There's no medication out there that's entirely free of risk," said Dr. JoAnn Manson at Harvard Medical

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School.

Other nonhormonal options

Over-the-counter products can also treat some menopausal symptoms. Lubricants available at drugstores can help women struggling with vaginal dryness.

Cognitive behavioral therapy, which focuses on changing unhealthy thought patterns and behaviors, has been shown to help women cope with hot flashes.

"It's not like it's going to make you not have a hot flash," Faubion said. "But it makes them less significant for you and less burdensome."

Manson said there's "moderate evidence" that clinical hypnosis might also help, with some studies showing reductions in the frequency and severity of hot flashes.

"That seems a promising option," she said. "But more research is needed."

The bottom line is that women don't have to simply "get through" menopause, said Dr. Juliana Kling, a women's health expert at Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine in Arizona. "I would implore women to have that conversation ... about what treatment might be beneficial for them."

Gajarawala did that. She now skips red wine, walks at least 10,000 steps a day, practices tai chi and takes an extended-release antidepressant to address her symptoms.

"It's been a significant improvement," she said.

Today in History: November 16, Nixon authorizes Alaska pipeline

By The Associated Press undefined

Today is Sunday, Nov. 16, the 320th day of 2025. There are 45 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On Nov. 16, 1973, President Richard Nixon signed the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Authorization Act into law, authorizing the construction of an 800-mile (1,290-kilometer) oil pipeline from the Alaska North Slope to the port city of Valdez.

Also on this date:

In 1907, Oklahoma became the 46th state of the union.

In 1914, the newly created Federal Reserve Banks opened in 12 cities.

In 1982, an agreement was announced in the 57th day of a strike by National Football League players.

In 1988, Benazir Bhutto was voted prime minister of Pakistan, the first woman elected to lead a Muslim-majority country.

In 1989, six Jesuit priests, a housekeeper and her daughter were killed by Salvadoran army troops at the University of Central America José Simeón Cañas in San Salvador, the capital.

In 2001, investigators found a letter addressed to Democratic Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont containing anthrax; it was the second letter bearing the deadly germ known to have been sent to Capitol Hill.

In 2001, the first film in the Harry Potter series, "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" (U.S. title: "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone") debuted in theaters around the world.

In 2006, after midterm elections that saw Democrats take control of the U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California was nominated by the Democratic caucus to become House speaker. (Pelosi would officially become speaker by House vote the following January, the first woman to serve in the role.)

In 2018, a U.S. official said intelligence officials had concluded that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ordered the October killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, Turkey.

In 2022, NASA resumes lunar exploration 50 years after the end of the fabled Apollo program, rocketing the uncrewed Orion space capsule aloft from the Kennedy Space Center on a 25-day mission to orbit the moon.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Miguel Sandoval is 74. Video game designer Shigeru Miyamoto is 73. NASCAR Hall of Famer Terry Labonte is 69. Actor Marg Helgenberger is 67. Former MLB All-Star pitcher Dwight Gooden is 61. Jazz singer Diana Krall is 61. Actor Lisa Bonet is 58. Actor Martha Plimpton is 55. Olympic figure skating gold medalist Oksana Baiul (ahk-SAH'-nah by-OOL') is 48. Actor Maggie Gyllenhaal (JIHL'-ehn-hahl) is 48. Actor-comedian Pete Davidson is 32.