

# Groton Daily Independent

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## Sunday, May 24

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Worship at St. John's, 9 a.m., at Zion, 11 a.m.

United Methodist: Worship at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Groton Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.; Cody Swanson Piano Recital, 3 p.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.

## Monday, May 25

MEMORIAL DAY

See ad on page 3 for Groton Legion Schedule.

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

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



## Tuesday, May 26

Senior Menu: Goulash, green peas, fruit, whole wheat bread.

Pickleball, 5:30 p.m., Elementary Gym

## Wednesday, May 27

Senior Menu: Teriyaki chicken, wild rice, oriental blend, fruit, whole wheat bread.

Pickleball, 5:30 p.m., Elementary Gym

## Thursday, May 28

Senior Menu: Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes with gravy, carrots, fruit, whole wheat bread.

Pickleball, 5:30 p.m., Elementary Gym

State Track Meet in Sioux Falls

James Valley Telecommunications Annual Meeting



## Four Way Stop at 10th Avenue and Main Street

The intersection of Main Street and 10th Avenue have been transformed from a season four-way stop to a permanent four-way stop. A temporary stop sign has been put in place until the permanent ones can be installed.

It should be noted that if all four directions have flashing red lights, you must still treat the intersection as a four-way stop even if there are no physical stop signs posted.

Under South Dakota law, the flashing red signal itself carries the legal authority of a stop sign.

The controlling statute is:

SDCL 32-28-7 — Flashing signals

It states that when a red lens is illuminated with rapid intermittent flashes, drivers:

“shall stop before entering the nearest crosswalk at an intersection or at a limit line,” and

“the right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a stop sign.”





# MEMORIAL DAY

★ HONORING ALL WHO SERVED ★

## GROTON POST #39 MEMORIAL DAY SCHEDULE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★	7:30 A.M. HUFTON
🏷️	8:15 A.M. JAMES
🏠	8:45 A.M. VERDON
🌿	9:15 A.M. BATES-SCOTLAND
🇺🇸	10:00 A.M. FERNEY
✝️	11:00 A.M. ANDOVER CATHOLIC

### GROTON AT NOON

★ ★ GUEST SPEAKER ★ ★  
**AARON WALBERG,**  
THE BROWN COUNTY  
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**LUNCH TO FOLLOW**  
AT THE GROTON POST #39  
HOME SERVED BY  
THE LEGION AUXILIARY.

★ IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, ★  
THE CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT THE POST HOME. ★



THE SERVICE WILL BE  
BROADCAST LIVE ON  
**GDILIVE.COM**  
SPONSORED BY THE  
GROTON POST #39



IT WILL ALSO BE  
BROADCAST LOCALLY ON  
**89.3 FM**

★ ★ HONOR ★ REMEMBER ★ NEVER FORGET ★ ★

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## Groton Area Girls Send Strong Group to State Track Meet

The Groton Area girls track and field team will be well represented at the South Dakota Class A State Track and Field Meet, scheduled for Thursday through Saturday at Howard Wood Field in Sioux Falls.

The Tigers qualified in multiple individual and relay events, highlighted by standout performances from McKenna Tietz, Makenna Krause, Rylee Dunker and Ryelle Gilbert.

Tietz enters the state meet ranked among the top contenders in both hurdle events. The junior is seeded fourth in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 45.78 and sits 10th in the 100-meter hurdles at 15.66. Her 300 hurdle mark broke both the Groton Area school record and the Northeast Conference record earlier this season.

Groton Area also boasts one of the top relay programs in Class A heading into the state meet. The Tigers are ranked fourth in the 4x200-meter relay with a time of 1:46.87, seventh in the 4x400-meter relay at 4:11.14 and 12th in the 4x100-meter relay at 51.24.

The girls sprint medley relay team also secured a state berth and enters the meet ranked 13th with a time of 4:24.48.

Krause qualified individually in the 100-meter dash, where the sophomore is tied for 20th statewide with a time of 12.96.

In the field events, Dunker earned the fifth seed in the javelin with a throw of 112 feet, 7 inches, giving Groton Area another strong medal contender entering the weekend.

Gilbert punched her ticket to state in dramatic fashion during a final qualifying opportunity last week. The sophomore moved into the 19th position statewide in the 800-meter run after posting a season-best time of 2:25.21 at Arlington.

The Class A State Track and Field Meet begins Thursday morning at Howard Wood Field in Sioux Falls and continues through Saturday.

## Groton Area Boys Send Deep, Talented Group to State Track Meet

The Groton Area boys track and field team will take a strong group of athletes to the South Dakota Class A State Track and Field Meet, scheduled for Thursday through Saturday at Howard Wood Field in Sioux Falls.

The Tigers qualified in numerous individual and relay events and enter the state meet with several athletes ranked among the top contenders in Class A.

Leading the way is senior Keegen Tracy, who qualified in three individual sprint events while also helping anchor multiple relay teams. Tracy enters the state meet ranked third in the 400-meter dash with a time of 50.44. He also sits seventh in the 200-meter dash at 22.73 and eighth in the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.99.

Distance standout Jayden Schwan qualified in three individual events and one relay. Schwan enters the state meet seeded fifth in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:00.34, seventh in the 1600-meter run at 4:35.89 and ninth in the 3200-meter run at 10:04.87.

Groton Area also qualified multiple relay teams for the state meet, highlighted by the boys sprint medley relay team that currently ranks fourth in Class A with a time of 3:37.18. The relay team of Lincoln Krause, Jordan Schwan, Keegen Tracy and Jayden Schwan broke both the school and Webster Last Chance Meet records earlier last week with the performance.

The Tigers also qualified in the 4x400-meter relay, where they enter ranked 16th at 3:33.57, the 4x200-meter relay ranked 19th at 1:34.13 and the 4x100-meter relay ranked 21st at 45.33.

In the field events, Ethan Kroll qualified in the triple jump and enters the state meet ranked 19th with a leap of 41 feet, 1 inch.

The Class A State Track and Field Meet begins Thursday morning at Howard Wood Field in Sioux Falls and continues through Saturday.



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GROW BEAUTIFUL. *Live Beautiful.*

# WEBER

LANDSCAPING

# GREENHOUSE

*➤ Your Local Source for Quality Plants, Flowers & More! ➤*

 <b>ANNUALS &amp; PERENNIALS</b> Brighten every season!	 <b>VEGETABLES &amp; HERBS</b> Grow your own fresh & healthy!	 <b>HANGING BASKETS &amp; COMBOS</b> Instant color for your home!	 <b>SOILS, MULCHES &amp; SUPPLIES</b> Everything you need to grow!
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*➤ Open All Week! ➤*

 <b>MONDAY</b> 10AM - 6PM	 <b>TUESDAY</b> 10AM - 6PM	 <b>WEDNESDAY</b> 10AM - 6PM	 <b>THURSDAY</b> 10AM - 6PM	 <b>FRIDAY</b> 10AM - 6PM	 <b>SATURDAY</b> 10AM - 4PM	 <b>SUNDAY</b> 12PM - 4PM
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## EARTHTALK

### Are Pesticides Worth It? Trading Off Human Health For Less Bugs

by Saanvi Doshi

Dear EarthTalk: What does the science say about how common pesticides affect human health?

-- Jay Jackson, New York, NY

Pesticides are used to control the spread of or eliminate pests in the agricultural field. The primary purpose of using them is to control invasive species that can impact crop growth. By using pesticides, crop yield is increased, leading to a higher supply of a particular crop. Some of the most commonly used pesticides are herbicides, insecticides and fungicides (to control plants, insects and fungi, respectively).

While pesticides have benefits in the agricultural industry in increasing crop yield, pesticides are not only harmful to pests; they can harm humans as well. "Early symptoms of pesticide exposure can include headaches, nausea, dizziness and respiratory secretion," says Michelle Perro, founder of GMOScience, a non-profit which facilitates discussion among physicians about the impact of genetically modified crops.

Prolonged exposure to pesticides can also lead to skin and eye irritation. Additionally, more serious conditions linked to pesticide exposure include cancer and neurological disorders.

Several studies have been conducted that back the idea that pesticides have detrimental effects on human health. A study conducted by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) after reviewing the prominence of pesticides and the impact of pesticide residue asserts that exposure to pesticides is indeed a health concern, especially for farmers. Gabriel Counsens, a homeopath and author, says there is "suggestive evidence that the use of pesticides...increas[es] the incidence of Parkinson's disease up to seven times."

Pesticides can harm us in many ways. In 2014, there was a case of pesticide poisoning in the Bordeaux region of France. There, 23 schoolkids experienced nausea, headaches and skin irritation after fungicides were sprayed in vineyards near their school. Pesticide traces in water and food are also common.

There have been efforts to regulate the use of pesticides to mitigate their impact on human health and the environment. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has regulations in place to assess the risk of various pesticides. Agreements like the Rotterdam Convention, a treaty among countries engaged in the trade of harmful chemicals, also promote responsible pesticide management.

Consumers can also play a role in pesticide impact mitigation. By thoroughly washing produce, we can lower the chances of exposure. Additionally, by supporting sustainable practices and Integrated Pest Management, we can advocate for a shift to an agricultural industry with fewer pesticides. Finally, by supporting organizations such as the Pesticide Action Network and local pesticide regulation organizations, we can educate ourselves and advocate for more sustainable practices.



**Our profligate use of pesticides is taking a toll on human health across the United States and beyond.** Credit: Pexels.com.



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## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Detail of "The Raven,"  
artist unknown (1879)



Who provides food for the  
raven, when its young  
ones cry to God,  
and wander about  
for lack of food?

JOB 38:41

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"I KNEW WE SHOULDN'T LET TRUMP RENOVATE THE REFLECTING POOL."

## BIBLE

## TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

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

2. In which book's 13:12 does Jesus predict children rebelling against their parents to be a sign of end times? *Matthew, Mark, Luke, John*

3. As found in 1 Chronicles 29, how many years did David reign over Israel? *Five, Thirteen, Twenty-two, Forty*

4. From 2 Samuel 4, what 5-year-old boy was dropped by his nurse and lamed for life? *Moses, Mephibosheth, Peter, Andronicus*

5. What prophet was the son of Elkanah and Hannah? *Samuel, Huldah, Daniel, Nathan*

6. How many times in the Bible do the words "Christian" or "Christians" appear? *3, 13, 30, 300*

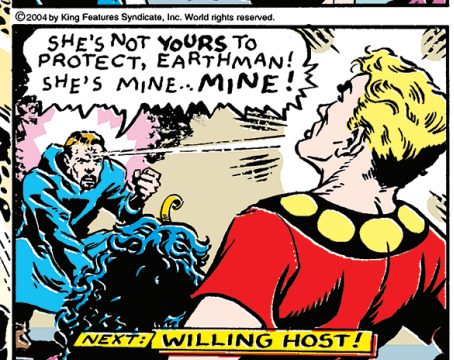
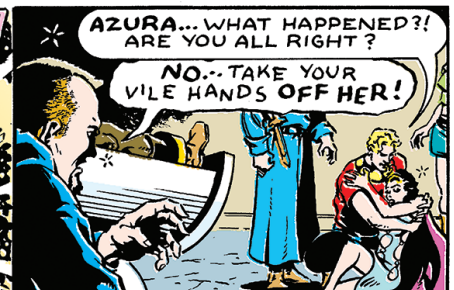
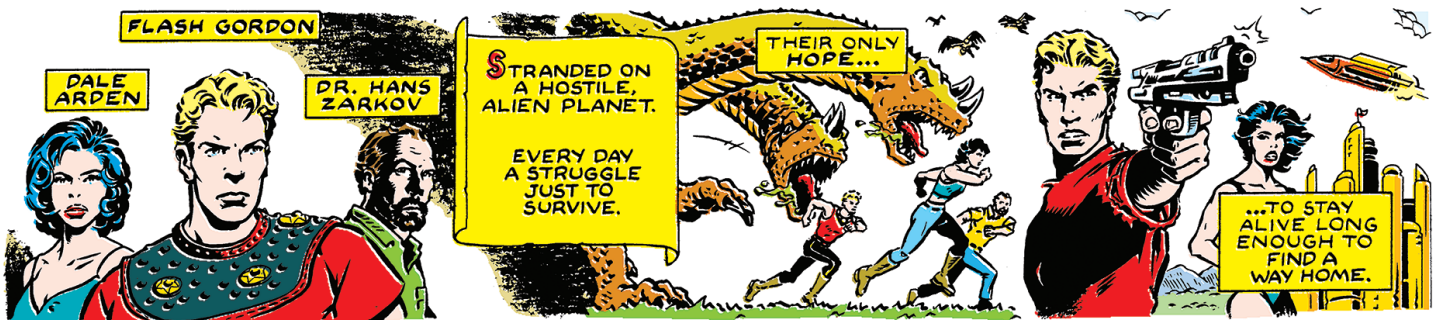
ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Mark, 3) Forty, 4) Mephibosheth, 5) Samuel, 6) Three

*More than 1,200 brand-new trivia questions in Wilson Casey's latest book "Quest for Bible Knowledge" available in bookstores and online.*

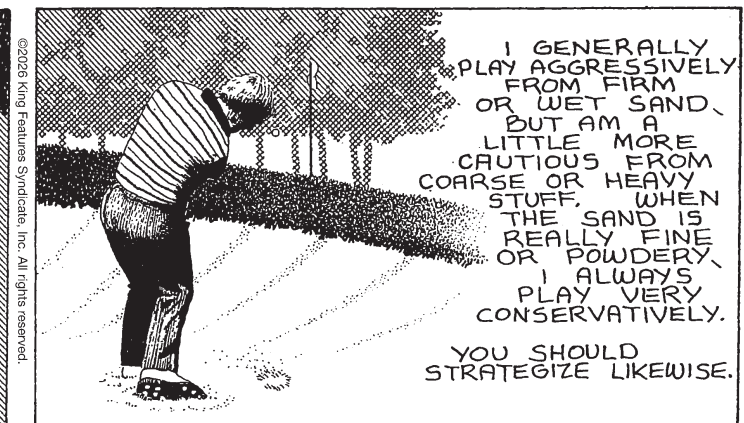
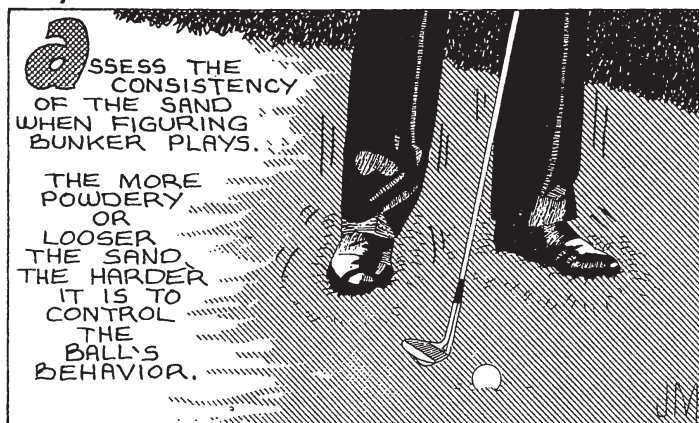


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## Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS





## Weighing Whether A Nerve Block Is Right for Case of Arthritis

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have bad knee arthritis. My doctor is suggesting a genicular nerve block. Is this a good idea? Will it fix the problem? -- P.O.V.

ANSWER: Chronic knee pain from osteoarthritis is a common problem in middle-aged and older adults. Before a person receives treatment, the diagnosis should be confirmed by an X-ray. First-line treatments are exercise and anti-inflammatory drugs, like naproxen (orally) or diclofenac (topically).

When first-line treatments are ineffective, there are other options. Knee injections with steroids have long been used, but recent studies cast doubt on their effectiveness and raise concern for damage to the knee cartilage. Hyaluronic acid and plasma-rich platelet injections have been shown in re-

cent trials to only be slightly better than saline injections, and they are much more expensive. Duloxetine, an antidepressant that has pain-relieving properties, is effective for some people but not for everyone.

Before considering knee-replacement surgery, a nerve block or ablation of the nerves that carry pain information (there are three genicular nerves) can be attempted when an expert is available. There is significant pain relief from this procedure, although the benefit is greatest within a few weeks and generally lessens after three to four months. About half of the people who got the procedure report being "much improved" or "very much improved" afterward. It's generally safe with a low risk of side effects, and it can be repeated.

\*\*\*

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 81 years old and have been diagnosed by my ophthalmologist with age-related macular degeneration (the dry type). I was advised to start taking the AREDS2 eye vitamin and mineral supplement. Shortly afterward, I came across a magazine advertisement for AREDS2, which included a disclaimer from the Food and Drug Administration (in fine print, ironically) stating that the product is "not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease."

I'm confused. If the over-the-counter mineral supplement doesn't do any of this, then of what value is it, and why take it? The disclaimer was easy to overlook and nearly impossible to read. -- E.D.

ANSWER: You are very wise to look at the disclaimer, and I appreciate your asking me. The FDA requires this disclaimer on all supplements, even ones with strong evidence that supports them. I often refer readers to this disclaimer when I'm trying to give them a realistic expectation of the benefit that a person can get from a supplement.

In this particular case, however, there is strong evidence that the AREDS and AREDS2 formulations of over-the-counter supplemental vitamins and minerals do slow the progression of dry-type AMD. I agree with your ophthalmologist that it's worthwhile for you to take this formulation. I recommend the AREDS2 formulation for current or former smokers, as the beta-carotene in the original AREDS formulation was associated with an increase in lung cancer risk.

I do want to emphasize that you should only take these supplements when your eye professional recommends them. They aren't of proven benefit in people who don't have AMD, nor in people with very early AMD.

There are mixed data about prostate cancer risk with vitamin E, which is in both the AREDS and AREDS2 formulations. The AREDS trials didn't show any increased risk of prostate cancer with these formulations, but a 2011 trial did show a small increase in prostate cancer with the same dose of vitamin E that was used in the AREDS trials. Other studies have shown both small protection and no change in risk.

Still, because there's a potential for risk, the AREDS supplements should only be taken when prescribed by your regular doctor or eye doctor.

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](mailto:ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu).

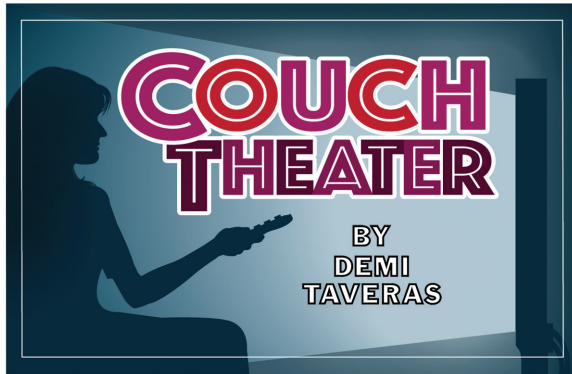
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"The Four Seasons: Season 2" (TV-MA) -- Viewers who caught season 1 of this slice-of-life dramedy series should be excited that another round of the four seasons lands in our laps on May 28! Season 2 kicks off after the passing of Steve

Carell's ("Rooster") character, Nick, and his friends (portrayed by Tina Fey, Will Forte and Colman Domingo) are naturally grieving his passing -- each in their own special and different way. But they still vow to keep up their tradition of vacationing together, along with Nick's ex-wife (played by Kerri Kenney-Silver) and his expecting girlfriend (Erika Henningsen). Fey teased to Netflix, "They have to learn to re-form as a group in a different configuration." Whatever the configuration, I'm sure it'll be entertaining to watch! (Netflix)

"Summer House: Season 10 Reunion" (TV-MA) -- If you are in the Bravo realm and have been watching the recent scandal unfold, you'll be just as hyped as the rest of "Summer House" fans to finally watch the season 10 reunion. The first episode of the three-part reunion premieres May 26, when Andy Cohen ("Watch What Happens Live") will ask intense personal questions to the cast. Stars Amanda Batula and West Wilson recently rocked the internet when news of a romantic affair between the two surfaced online. Criticism from fans stems from Batula being a close friend of co-star Ciara Miller, who is Wilson's ex-girlfriend and still somewhat intertwined with Wilson herself. Not to mention, Batula's still technically married to Kyle Cooke, who's been the main star of the show since season 1. Talk about messy! Can't wait! (Peacock)

"Mother Mary" (R) -- One of A24's latest releases didn't do so hot at the box office, scraping together \$3 million against a \$20 million budget. (Luckily, its main star also just had another major movie release.) Anne Hathaway ("The Devil Wears Prada 2") leads this psychological drama film about a pop icon named Mother Mary, who reconnects with her former best friend, Sam (Michaela Coel), on the night of her comeback performance. The performance is meant to smooth over a previous accident, where Mary was suspected of trying to commit suicide on stage. Although Sam's grown to resent Mary after their fallout, she agrees to design her a dress for the performance. Through this vulnerable moment, the two friends can repair the wound that infected their friendship -- and release a few emotional demons as well. Out now to rent. (Amazon Prime Video)

"Forbidden Fruits" (R) -- This comedy-horror film is based on a stage play written by Lily Houghton and landed a handful of young actresses to tell its story on the big screen. Lili Reinhart ("Riverdale") stars as a girl named Apple, who works with her friends Fig (Alexandra Shipp) and Cherry (Victoria Pedretti) at a clothing store in a Dallas shopping mall. When Pumpkin (Lola Tung), a girl from the pretzel counter at the food court, expresses her interest in working at the store, Apple reveals that their trio is a coven of witches. To work at the store, Pumpkin must be initiated and follow Apple's rules to a T. But little do the other girls know that Pumpkin has a secret of her own. The film is out now to rent and features Emma Chamberlain ("YOLO") and Gabrielle Union ("Goat") in smaller roles. (Fandango at Home)



**From left, Lili Reinhart, Victoria Pedretti and Alexandra Shipp star in "Forbidden Fruits."** (Courtesy of MovieStillsDB)

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1. Where did Beatle George Harrison get his idea for "While My Guitar Gently Weeps"?
2. Paul Revere & the Raiders were originally known by what name?
3. What was the Big Bopper's real name?
4. Which artist released an album titled "Highway 61 Revisited"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "I'll try every trick in the book, With every step that you take, everywhere that you look."

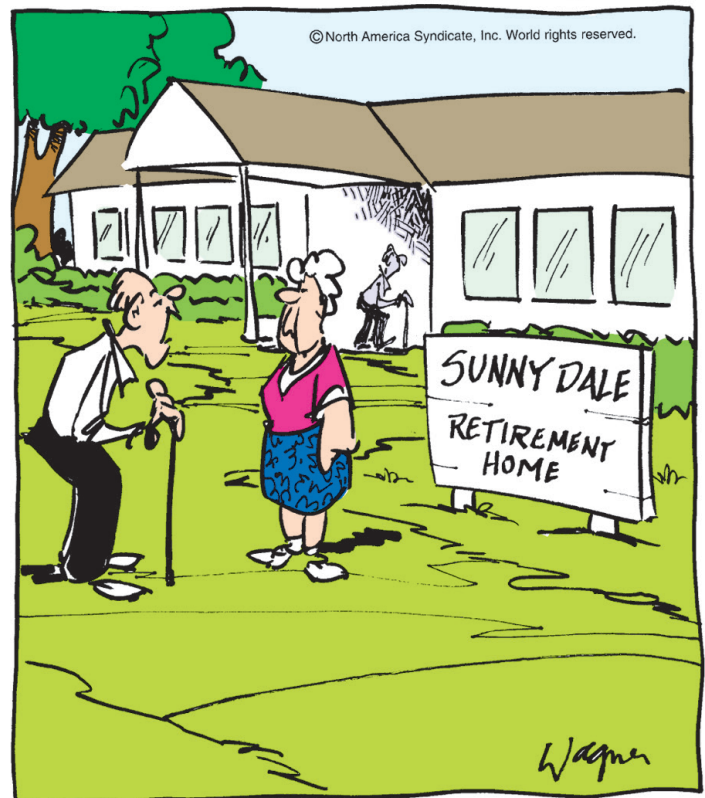
Answers

1. While reading about the "I Ching," Harrison decided to write a song based on the first words he saw upon opening a book at random. The first words he saw were "gently weeps." The song appears on the group's double white album, released in 1968.
2. The Downbeats. As Raiders, the group wore Revolutionary War costumes on stage and had their first hit with "Just Like Me" in 1965.
3. Jiles Perry Richardson Jr. He died in the plane crash that also killed Buddy Holly and Ritchie Valens in February 1959.
4. Bob Dylan, in 1965.
5. "I'm Gonna Make You Mine," by Lou Christie, in 1969. The song charted around the globe and spent 12 weeks on the Hot 100.

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**GRIN and BEAR IT** 

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"Then I apologize for hitting on you. ...  
I didn't know you were my wife."

## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



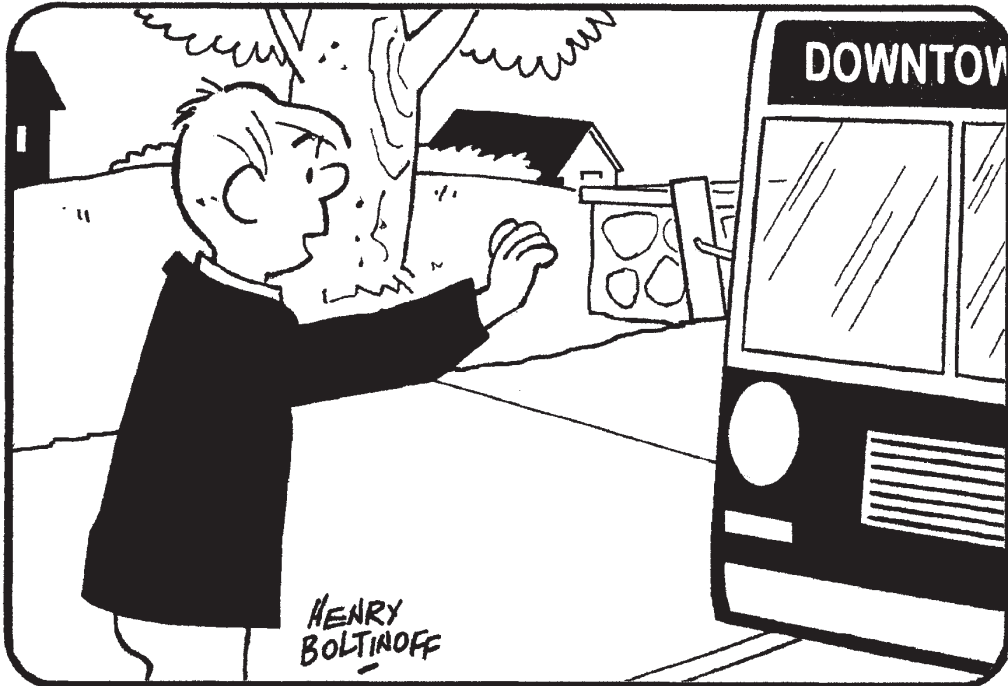


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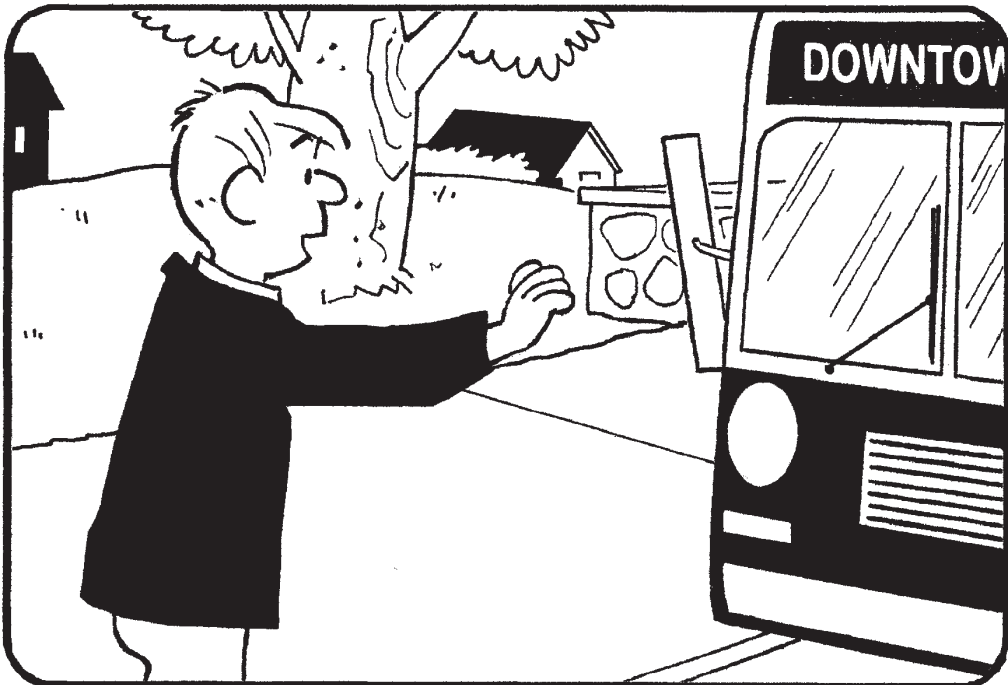
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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Mirror is longer. 2. Arm is lower. 3. Nose is different. 4. Windshield shape is different. 5. Windshield wiper is added. 6. Bush is missing.

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\* A grill tip just in time for summer: When you need to cook something that needs covering (say, chicken) alongside something that does not (like hot dogs), simply invert an aluminum roaster/cake pan over the needs-covering item. You can purchase smaller size pans that can be reused.

\* "I have a tip about taking medicine. Regardless of the size of the pill, I always feel as if it is stuck in my throat. I have started to have a chunk of banana after taking a pill. I don't get that stuck feeling anymore." -- T.B. in New Hampshire

\* "The sticky residue from price tags can be really annoying. I use WD-40 to get it off. Works every time for me!" -- J.K. in Alabama

\* "Painting stairs? This tip will save your life! Paint every other step to start with. When they are dry, go back and paint the others. This way, you can use the staircase anytime during your project. This is particularly important if the stairs are the only way to get to bed after a long day of painting!" -- I.L. in Nevada

\* Mix a quarter cup of salt in with 2 tablespoons of bath wash for a sudsy, refreshing, skin-soothing salt scrub.

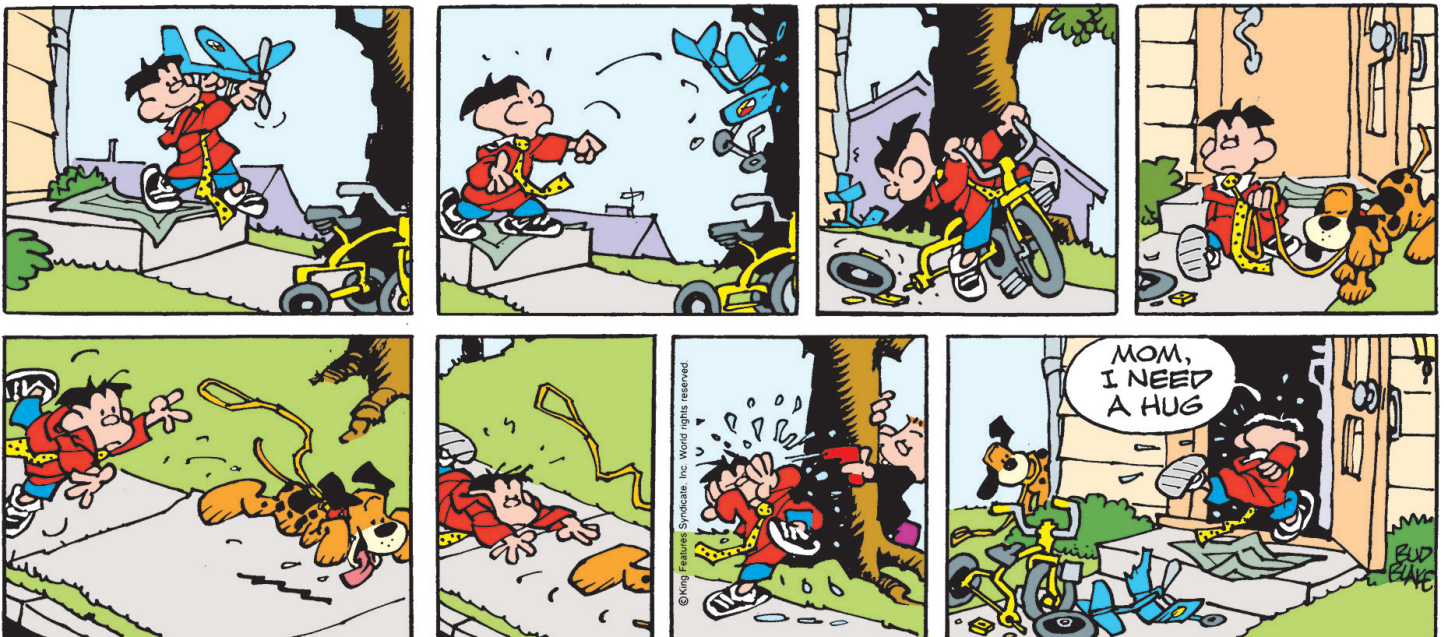
\* To travel with pleated skirts, use this packing trick: Turn the skirt inside out, and straighten all the pleats. Then tape the bottom so that all the pleats are held together. Next, feed the skirt into a leg of pantyhose with the foot cut off. You end up with a nice tube, which you can tuck into the sides of your luggage.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 1800 Pembroke Dr., Suite 300, Orlando, FL 32810.

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 **TIGER**

by **BUD BLAKE**





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## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Rain-delay cover  
5 Prattle  
8 Minn. neighbor  
12 Declare  
13 Lab eggs  
14 "Rule, Britannia!" composer  
15 "Arrivederci!"  
16 Dawn  
18 Airport area  
20 Upper House  
21 Fed. workplace monitor  
23 Director Burton  
24 9-to-5 work period  
28 Slightly  
31 Dos preceder  
32 — the above  
34 Equi-  
35 Boxing match  
37 The "D" of DST  
39 ICU workers  
41 Sent a dupe to  
42 Barely manage  
45 Coiffure  
49 Make a short-term investment  
51 Last write-up  
52 Sheltered  
53 — Angeles

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
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52					53				54			
55					56				57			

- 54 Maxi's opposite  
55 GI dining hall  
56 Permit  
57 Bygone fliers  
8 Aslan's land  
9 Have lofty aspirations  
10 Gray's subj.  
11 "Nope" actress Palmer  
17 Wager  
19 Author Bandele  
22 Insurance giant  
24 Name  
25 Year in Mexico  
26 "For — Only" (Bond film)  
27 Kid's storage unit  
29 Somewhat (Suff.)  
30 Youngster  
33 Beagle's bane  
36 Govt. securities  
38 Figures of speech  
40 South, in Spanish  
42 Dutch cheese  
43 Curly cabbage  
44 Towering  
46 Baseball stats  
47 Force  
48 Elevator name  
50 Fawn's mama unit

### DOWN

- 1 Diplomacy  
2 Athletic shoe brand  
3 Bring up  
4 "Coming Soon" ads  
5 Sponsored infant  
6 "Selma" director  
7 Inlets

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## King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

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



Out on a Limb

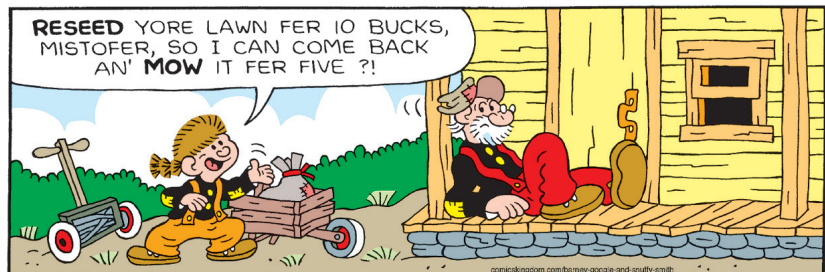
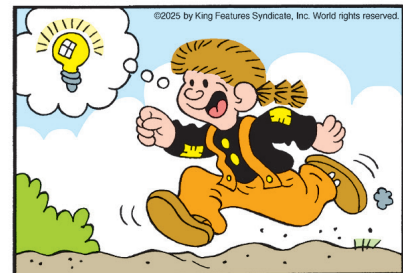
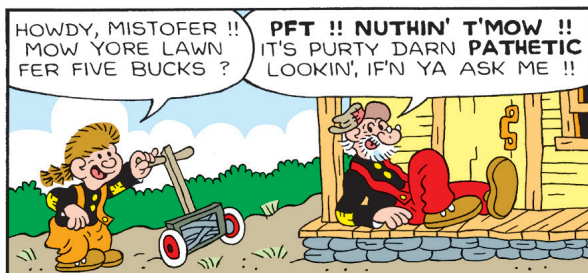
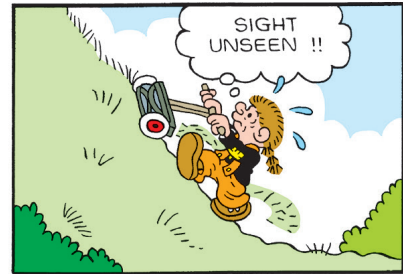
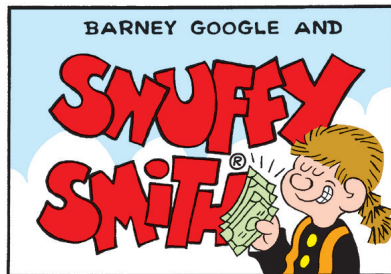
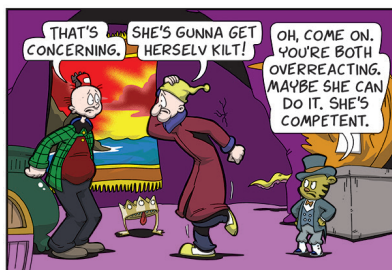
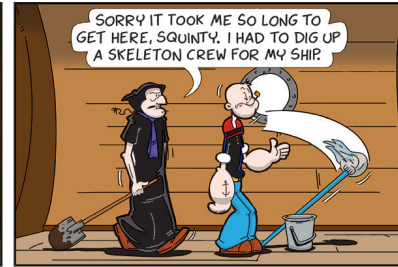
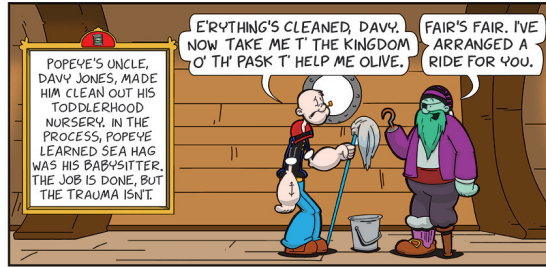
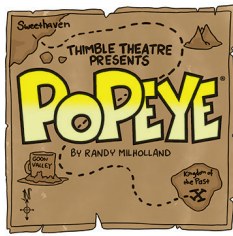
by Gary Kopervas





# Groton Daily Independent

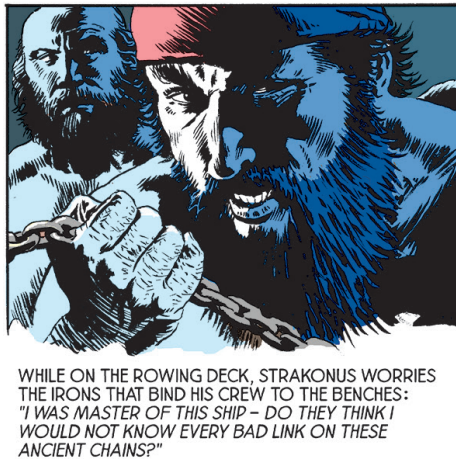
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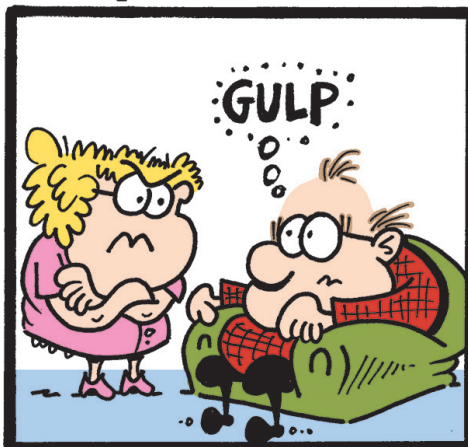
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## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering





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## SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

### Forgotten subscriptions

Here's a short quiz. What do the following have in common: the local car wash, vitamins, printer ink, credit monitoring and razors.

The answer: They can all be subscription goods or services. And all of them could be expenses you're paying for without being aware.

Per the research, our downfall is when the payments for those subscriptions are set to auto pay, either monthly or annually, making them easy to miss or forget. The research group asked participants to guess how much they spent on subscriptions. The actual spending turned out to be two times the estimate.

There are so many more: air filters, tech support, exercise bike online classes, meal kit delivery and internet access. And more: extended warranties, big box store memberships and exercise apps.

You can reclaim some of your money with a little work. Go through a year of bank and credit card statements to look for recurring charges. Did you sign up for a trial subscription and forget to cancel? Did the price of a subscription go up without you knowing? Have you previously asked to cancel but it wasn't done?

Even if you don't find that you have forgotten subscriptions, you could be overpaying for the ones that you do want. Example: By changing to a smaller cellphone plan, I was able to cut \$20 off my monthly cost. Example: By changing to a movie streaming service that included ads, I was able to save \$10 per month. Example: I was able to save \$15 per month by canceling a movie service that I didn't use often enough to justify keeping it. These three alone come to \$45 of my money that I get to keep. That's \$540 per year.

To be considered: The research showed that many seniors have as many as a dozen forgotten subscriptions they're still paying for.

Do you have any?

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1. What retired U.S. Air Force lieutenant general was named Major League Baseball Commissioner in 1965 but was forced to resign in 1968?

2. What Czechoslovakian tennis player ended Martina Navratilova's 74-match winning streak and her bid for a calendar Grand Slam at the 1984 Australian Open?

3. What NFL stadium set a new Guinness World Record for the loudest crowd roar when it hit 142.2 dB in September 2014?

4. Major League Baseball's Rule 7.13, prohibiting catchers from blocking baserunners at home plate, is informally named after what former San Francisco Giants catcher?

5. "Welcome to the legendary Pit, a mile high and louder than ..." is a phrase painted on the tunnel walls of what college basketball team's home arena?

6. In 1942, the first artificial nuclear chain reaction took place at the University of Chicago's Stagg Field, on a court used for what sport?

7. What university band has been the official host band of the Indianapolis 500 auto race since 1919?



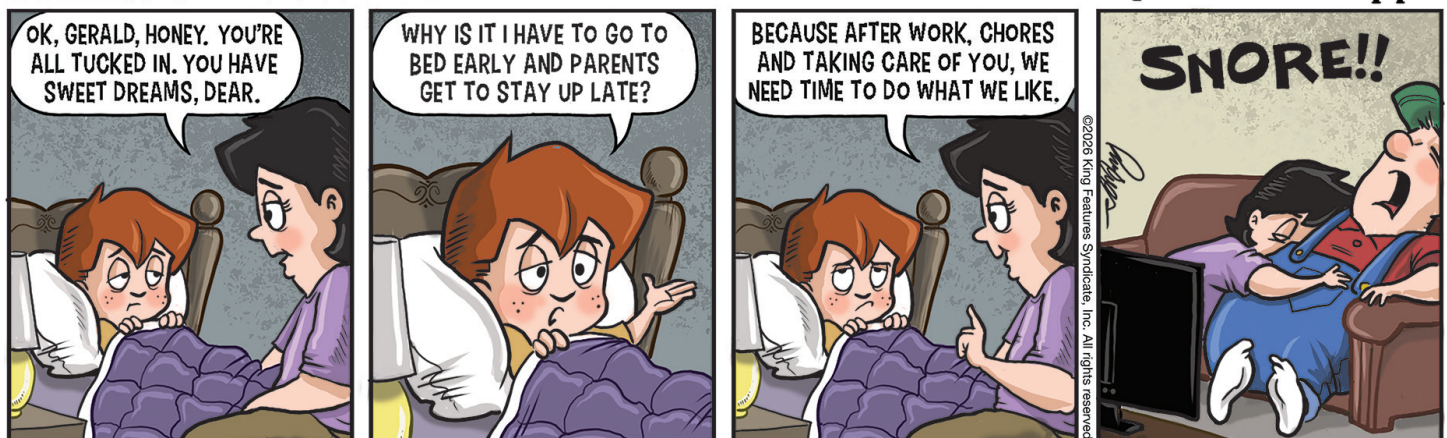
## Answers

1. William Eckert.
2. Helena Sukova.
3. The Kansas City Chiefs' Arrowhead Stadium.
4. Buster Posey.
5. The University of New Mexico Lobos.
6. Squash.
7. The Purdue All-American Marching Band.

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## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps







## One tiny chip, one big lifeline for lost pets

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I take my two pups, "Roscoe" and "Pekoe," to a free clinic to save money on their annual shots. When I took them this time, the vet told me that I should microchip them in case they ever escape. I think it's a money grab. What do you think? -- Margie M., Oviedo, Florida

DEAR MARGIE: A microchip is worth considering, even if it seems unlikely that your pets will escape the house or yard. We can't always predict what will happen in life. For example, what if you get into a car accident and your dogs escape through the open door? What if a neighbor leaves the back gate open?

Microchipping can greatly increase the chance that your dogs will be reunited with you should they escape. An American Veterinary Medical Association study found that lost microchipped dogs were identified and returned 52.2% of the time, and microchipped cats 38.5% of the time, compared to 21.9% and 1.8%, respectively.

It's also a safe, nearly painless procedure; the chip is inserted just under the skin, either on the left side of the neck or between the shoulder blades. Afterward, you must register the chip with a reputable database -- instructions are usually included with the post-procedure pamphlets that the vet will give you. You can learn more here: [www.pumpkin.care/post/microchipping-dogs-cats](http://www.pumpkin.care/post/microchipping-dogs-cats).

Keep a collar on each of your dogs, with an ID tag and their vaccination tag on the D-ring, even if you decide not to microchip them. This provides fast identification without having to run a microchip scanner over the pet -- something that is normally available only at shelters and vet offices.

Send your tips, comments or questions to [ask@pawscorner.com](mailto:ask@pawscorner.com).

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## Strange BUT TRUE

\* In 1960, the average life expectancy of a person with Down syndrome was 10 years. By 2007, the average had risen to 47 years.

\* The world's oldest emergency phone number is the U.K's 999 number, introduced on June 30, 1937.

\* Snakes evolved from a four-legged reptilian ancestor, probably a small, burrowing, land-bound lizard, approximately 100 million years ago. Some, such as pythons and boas, still have traces of back legs.

\* Jupiter contracts by about 2 centimeters per year as it radiates internal heat into space.

\* The Zimbabwean dollar bank note holds the record for the greatest number of zeros shown (100,000,000,000,000).

\* During the Middle Ages, people tried a number of ways to cure the black plague, including avoiding bad thoughts, eating and drinking in moderation, and not abusing the poor.

\* The five-second rule is, sadly, a myth, since bacteria can live after four weeks on carpet.

\* In 1946, two partners in a leading pest control company were tried by a British military court, convicted and hanged on genocide charges, the argument being that they must have realized the amount of Zyklon B they provided to concentration camps far exceeded that needed for delousing.

\* The Greek dramatist Menander once wrote that, "No chaste woman ought to make her hair yellow." Guess he preferred brunettes.

\* If the U.S. Army were a city, it would be the 10th largest in the country, having more people than popular cities such as San Francisco; Jacksonville, Florida; and Austin, Texas.

\* Warm Dr Pepper was once a popular Christmas drink and even thought to aid colds and other ailments.

\* The Statue of Liberty is made of more than 300 layers of copper.

\*\*\*

Thought for the Day: "There are three constants in life ... change, choice and principles." -- Stephen Covey

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Unless you live in a tropical climate, nutmeg trees do best in containers. As the plant grows, move it gradually into containers with two more inches of width and depth than the previous pot. Eventually, transplant nutmeg trees into five-gallon pots. Once the roots fully occupy that space, move the tree into its final location, either a larger container (like a ten-gallon pot) or the ground.

**Nutmeg** Nutmeg grows best in full sun to partial shade, with four to six hours of direct sunlight per day. Water when the top soil feels dry.

— Brenda Weaver

Source: [www.epicgardening.com/nutmeg-tree](http://www.epicgardening.com/nutmeg-tree)



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by Freddy Groves

## When the perps get what they deserve

It's rare that we're able to look under the hood of the court cases when thieves that steal from the VA are caught and sentenced. But here we have a case, thanks to online documents, that allows us to do just that.

The crime: A man put together a scheme that involved billing the VA and Medicare through eight different companies for medical items the patients didn't need. They used overseas call centers to prey on disabled veterans and the elderly, paid kickbacks, laundered money, falsified documents and bilked the government (and taxpayers) out of a cool \$197 million. He was caught, arrested, went to trial and could have received the max sentence of 35 years in prison.

The 29-page presentencing document (the defense attorney's last stab at eliciting a short sentence from the judge) is an interesting piece of legalese and heartstring pulling.

Twenty-nine pages of why his client should not be given the max 35 years -- many pages of complicated math to calculate prison sentences ("calculated offense levels"), sentence lengths assigned to certain behaviors by other courts and the labeling of eight levels of criminal activity as "a single course of conduct."

The perp was at the head of a group that bilked the government out of \$197 million. That's not a single course of conduct.

I was also not swayed by the many pages describing the perp's small town upbringing, the perp rushing to his mother's side when she needed surgery, having two children and a widowed mother, raising his niece when her family couldn't ...

No, I'm not impressed. All those things could be said of millions of people.

Most of us manage to go our whole lives without soliciting, defrauding, conspiring, forging, bribing, etc. And most of us manage to go our whole lives without attempting to swindle the government out of \$197 million.

I was heartened that, for once, the courts did not apply a hand-slap punishment, which seems so prevalent nowadays. The perp received a sentence of 16 years 4 months, forfeiting \$17 million and paying back \$111 million.

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## Wishing Well®

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Y	L	S	O	A	D	H	I	E	F	A	E	D

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

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1. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a female fox called?
2. HISTORY: In what year was the first iPhone released?
3. MOVIES: What was the first U.S. movie to be rated PG-13?
4. GEOGRAPHY: What is the southernmost capital city in the world?
5. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the world's largest cave system?
6. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What category of writing are the Hugo and Nebula Awards given for?
7. TELEVISION: In what year did the comedy show "Saturday Night Live" debut?
8. MATH: What is a polygon with seven sides?
9. LITERATURE: What city is the setting for Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet"?
10. ENTERTAINERS: Which New Jersey city has a statue of singer Frank Sinatra?

### Answers

1. A vixen.
2. 2007.
3. "Red Dawn," 1984.
4. Wellington, New Zealand.
5. Kentucky.
6. Science fiction and fantasy.
7. 1975.
8. Heptagon.
9. Verona, Italy.
10. Hoboken, New Jersey.

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South Dakota Governor



**Larry Rhoden**



**South Dakota:** *Under God, the People Rule*

## Service and Sacrifice

On Memorial Day, people across South Dakota and the nation will gather for parades, backyard barbeques, and the unofficial start of summer. American flags will wave proudly in our communities, cemeteries will be decorated with flowers, and families will plan for long weekends spent together.

But Memorial Day is far more than a three-day weekend. It is one of our nation's most solemn and meaningful observances. Memorial Day is a time to remember the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives in service to our country. Their sacrifice secured the freedoms we enjoy every day. The freedom to speak openly, worship freely, raise our families in peace, and pursue our own version of the American Dream.

Across South Dakota, we understand the importance of fighting to defend our freedoms. Our state has a proud tradition of military duty and patriotism. From small towns to tribal communities to our largest cities, generations of South Dakotans have answered the call to defend this nation. And sometimes, that means that the men and women who go off to fight do not come home.

Military service runs deep in my family. I served in the South Dakota National Guard for six years. My son, Cody, was a Blackhawk pilot. My brother served in Vietnam. My dad served in World War II and survived the Battle of the Bulge. My grandfather survived the Meuse-Argonne offensive in World War I. My great-great-great grandfather came to America from France during the Revolutionary War and fought alongside General Lafayette. He survived – but his brothers did not.

This holiday gives us an opportunity to pause and reflect on what their sacrifice truly means. Reflection requires more than a moment of silence. It asks us to consider the cost of freedom and the responsibilities that come with it. It reminds us not to take our liberties for granted but to defend them with courage – because they were preserved by ordinary Americans who displayed extraordinary courage.

We should also remember the families who carry the burden of loss long after the ceremonies end. Gold Star families live each day with the absence of a loved one who made the ultimate sacrifice. Their strength and resilience deserve our gratitude and support not only on Memorial Day, but every single day.

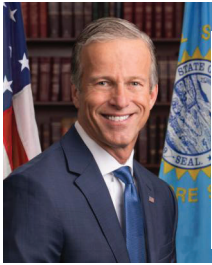
In today's fast-paced world, taking time to reflect can sometimes be difficult. We move quickly from one responsibility to the next. Memorial Day challenges us to slow down and remember those who came before us. We remember those brave individuals who stood watch in dangerous places so future generations could live in freedom and opportunity.

This Memorial Day, I encourage everyone to recommit to the values our fallen heroes defended: faith, freedom, service, sacrifice, and love of country. Let us teach the next generation why these values matter and why the memory of our fallen must never fade.

Whether attending a community ceremony, visiting a veteran's cemetery, flying the American flag, or simply sharing stories of loved ones who served, each of us can honor the meaning of this day in our own way. May God bless the families of our fallen service members, our veterans, those currently serving in uniform, and the United States of America.

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**JOHN THUNE**  
U.S. SENATOR FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

## The Best of America

The month of May is dedicated to those who have served and continue to serve our country at home and around the world. Military Spouse Day, Armed Forces Day, and Memorial Day, when we remember all those who have laid down their lives in service to our country, all fall during this month, and we celebrate Military Appreciation Month all May long.

It's an extraordinary thing to choose to serve in the military. It's not simply choosing to serve but choosing a type of service that may require you to sacrifice everything. That so many Americans do it willingly and with pride and love for their country, their fellow servicemembers, and love of their fellow man is a testament to the values for which America stands.

The blessings we enjoy as Americans can easily be taken for granted, but they would not last long in the absence of the men and women who commit their lives to defending them. Our prosperity, our freedom, our peace, and our security have been won and are safeguarded by each successive generation of men and women serving in the armed forces. And I'm profoundly grateful for those who protect the things we hold most dear.

My job offers me the privilege to meet a lot of these patriotic Americans. Just recently, I had the opportunity to welcome home members of the 114th Fighter Wing at Joe Foss Field in Sioux Falls and to meet Vietnam veterans from South Dakota at the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C. It's always humbling to talk with these South Dakotans and with the families and friends of those who have sacrificed for our country.

Members of the armed forces put it all on the line when they put on their uniform, and we should not forget those who died wearing it and fighting under our nation's flag. Driving up I-90 near Sturgis, you see row upon row of white markers at the Black Hills National Cemetery that bear witness to men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice serving our country. This is just one of the veterans cemeteries in our state where one can appreciate the widespread contributions of South Dakota patriots. And to mark Memorial Day, volunteers place American flags at veterans' graves as a sign that their sacrifice is not forgotten and a reminder that our freedom has been secured for us at a great cost.

This Memorial Day, there are South Dakotans serving our country around the world, and there will be empty chairs at dinner tables across our state until they come home. The families of servicemembers also embrace the cause of freedom, and they serve so often silently and without recognition. So as we remember America's soldiers, we remember their families too and strive to live in a way that honors the sacrifices that so many make on our behalf.



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May 11-17

We're back with another edition of the Weekly Round[s] Up to update you on another jam-packed week in DC. As always, the highlight of the week was meeting with so many groups from across South Dakota visiting our nation's capital. These

South Dakotans are typically here representing their professional organizations and discussing legislation or federal policies that impact the work they do. It requires them to take time away from their families and other commitments to be here, but I'll tell you what I tell them: If you're not here telling your story, someone else is going to try and tell it for you.

Alongside meetings in the office, I spent time in hearings reviewing the President's FY27 budget request and casting votes on several key pieces of legislation. One notable action this week was the Senate's passage of an en bloc package of executive nominees as we continue working through the backlog of nominations awaiting confirmation. Since President Trump took office, no nominee has been confirmed by unanimous consent, making these packages an important way to move nominees forward efficiently. More on this past week in the Weekly Round[s] Up:

South Dakota groups I visited with: South Dakotans with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention; Doug Curry and Rob Timm from City of Box Elder; Matt Campbell, COO / CLO of My Place Hotels of America LLC based in Aberdeen; Peter Mehlhaff, CEO and Chairman of Great Plains Bank and Director of Federal Home Loan Bank; South Dakota Edward Jones Grassroots Task Force; South Dakotans with the American Association of People with Disabilities; South Dakotans representing the American College of Physicians; Associated General Contractors of South Dakota; South Dakotans with the Black Hills Chapter of Pheasants Forever; South Dakotans with the American Land Title Association; and Trace Beck with National Automobile Dealers Association from Pierre.

Over the weekend I also attended and spoke at the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association State Conference in Pierre.

Met with South Dakotans from: Aberdeen, Belle Fourche, Black Hills, Box Elder, Eureka, Flandreau, Pierre, Rapid City and Sioux Falls.

Other Meetings: Steve Squeri, Chairman & CEO of American Express; Neil Bradley, Executive Vice President and Rodney Davis, Head of Government Relations at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; and Sir Charles Roxburgh, Chairman of Lloyd's of London.

In addition, on Thursday, the Senate Banking Committee held a two hour long executive session where we voted on all of the amendments put forward for the Digital Asset Market Clarity Act of 2025.

I also gave remarks and participated in a Q&A at the U.S. Bank D.C. Fly-In breakfast.

Hearings: This past week, I spoke at 2 hearings.

On Tuesday, I attended an Appropriations Legislative Branch Subcommittee hearing titled "A Review of the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Requests for the Architect of the Capitol and Library of Congress." During the hearing, I spoke with Thomas E. Austin, Architect of the Capitol, and Robert R. Newlen, Acting Librarian of Congress. [Click here to watch the exchange.](#)

On Wednesday, during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing, I discussed artificial intelligence with Secretary of Energy Chris Wright and Brandon Williams, Under Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Security and Administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration. The hearing focused on the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2027 and the Future Years Nuclear Security Program. [Click here to watch.](#)

Briefing: On Wednesday I chaired a classified briefing with the Cybersecurity Subcommittee.

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Votes taken: 11. This past week, I voted to confirm the nomination of Kevin Warsh to serve as Chairman and Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve.

The Senate also approved an en bloc package of 49 executive nominations as we continue working through the backlog of nominees awaiting confirmation. Additionally, the Senate unanimously passed a resolution, 99-0, to withhold senators' pay during a government shutdown.

Lastly, I cast multiple Nay votes this week, including on a resolution that would have required the removal of U.S. Armed Forces from unauthorized hostilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran. I also voted Nay on resolutions relating to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection. [Click here to see the votes I took this past week.](#)

Steps taken: 60,461 steps or 27.89 miles.

My Staff in South Dakota Visited: Custer and Hot Springs.



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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries

PO Box 831313 - Ocala, FL 34483

1-352-216-3025

## What If I Don't Want To Act My Age

Throughout my life, I have often heard people telling other people what they should be or do. I do not know where they get the right to say that about other people.

I first encountered this attitude with my mother. She would often say to me, "Son, you need to start acting your age." At the time, I did not know what she really meant by that.

As far back as I can remember, I have never had any thespian ambitions. From the day I was born, I was always the real me. I never acted like something I was not. How could my mother look at me and tell me to start acting my age? If anyone should know how old I was, it would be her.

I had a hard time handling that until I went to school. At school, I did not know any other kids who were acting their age. Maybe they did not have a mother like mine.

I lived with it but could never act my age. By the time I figured out my age and learned how to act it, I had another birthday, which pushed me beyond that aspiration. When do you stop aging so that you can learn how to act your age?

When I left home, I got married, and The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage seemed to have the same kind of ideas as my mother.

Too often she would say, "Why don't you just act your age?"

The first time she said that to me, I was quite stunned.

I don't know how to do all of this acting. I can act like a fool, and I know how to do that quite well. But I don't know how to act my age because I don't know what my age is today. I do know that by the time I understand my age, I'll have another birthday, and I'll have to start the process all over again.

In all my years, I have never had any thespian training. I wouldn't even know where to start with that sort of thing.

Once, when The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, "Why don't you just act your age?"

I responded, "If you can give me the script I'll study it so that I can act my age."  
The look she gave me was well worth my comeback.

But it is true. If I'm going to act my age, I need to have the script, but where do I find that script?

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I had one concern: what if she gave me a script and I had to follow it? So far, she hasn't given me a script, so, fortunately, I will not have to act my age.

Recently, I was at the mall for some shopping. After getting my items, I got a cup of coffee and sat down in the middle of the mall. When it comes to shopping, I certainly don't have the energy. So resting after the shopping is what I do.

As I sipped my coffee, I looked around and watched people come and go. And then that question of The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage seemed to pop into my head. I looked at the people and thought to myself, "Are they really acting their age?"

I watched everyone and asked myself that question about them. I could not find anyone that afternoon who really knew their age. If they did know, they certainly were not acting it. The older the person was, the less they acted their age.

What if I get up one morning and feel like I'm 25? Do I then need to act my age, which is 25? I'm sure that would not thrill The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

The next morning, I get up feeling like I'm 65. Do I then need to act my age of 65? I'm sure that would not thrill The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. In fact, I don't think it would thrill me either. I don't know how to act like I'm limping.

Instead of acting my age, why can't I live my age? The problem with both sides is that we cannot define age. Age is not a number, so they tell us. Embracing who I am feels more genuine than conforming to societal norms.

If I lined up 10 people who are 25, each would act differently from the others. They would all be different, so how can I act my age when I really don't understand what my age is?

Fifteen years ago, on my 60th birthday, I made a resolution to myself that I would have no more birthdays. At 60, I was all I needed to be. I don't need any more age to define myself. If I don't know who or what I am at 60, I will never find out.

I've decided to never act my age because embracing my true self, regardless of societal norms, brings me more happiness and freedom than conforming ever could.

The great challenge of life for me is always to be true, and it's not always easy. In reflecting on this, I was reminded of a verse of scripture.

"Lying lips are abomination to the Lord: but they that deal truly are his delight" (Proverbs 12:22).

Pondering this verse, I believe my main objective in life is to delight God and not yield to the demands of anybody else.



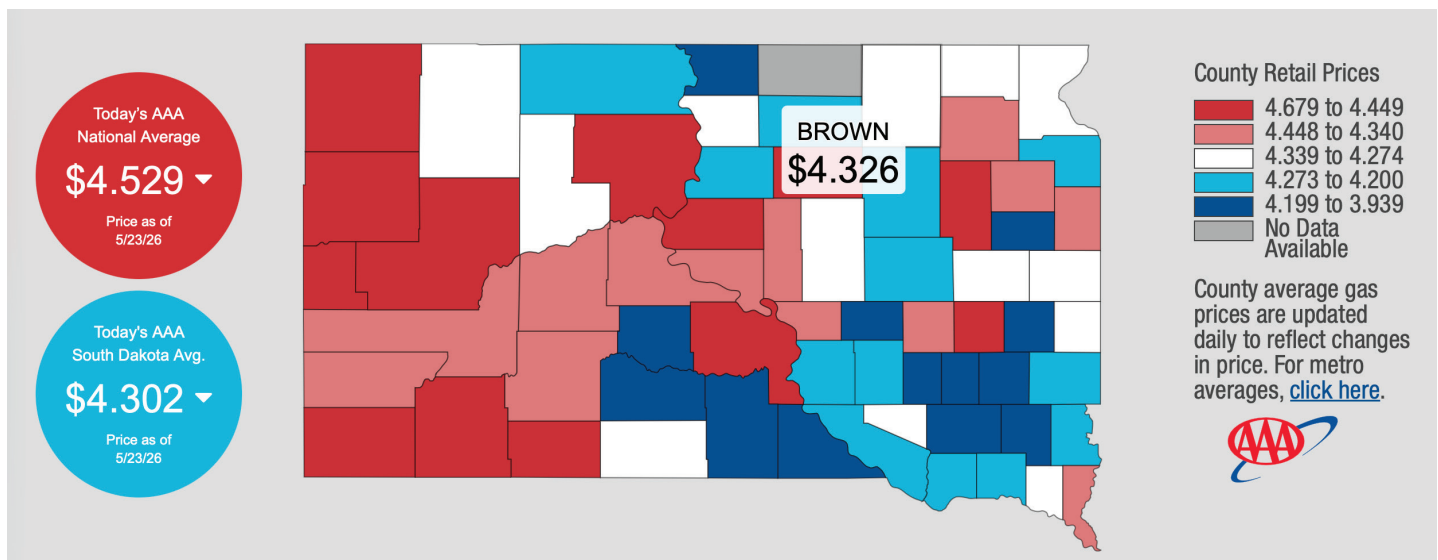
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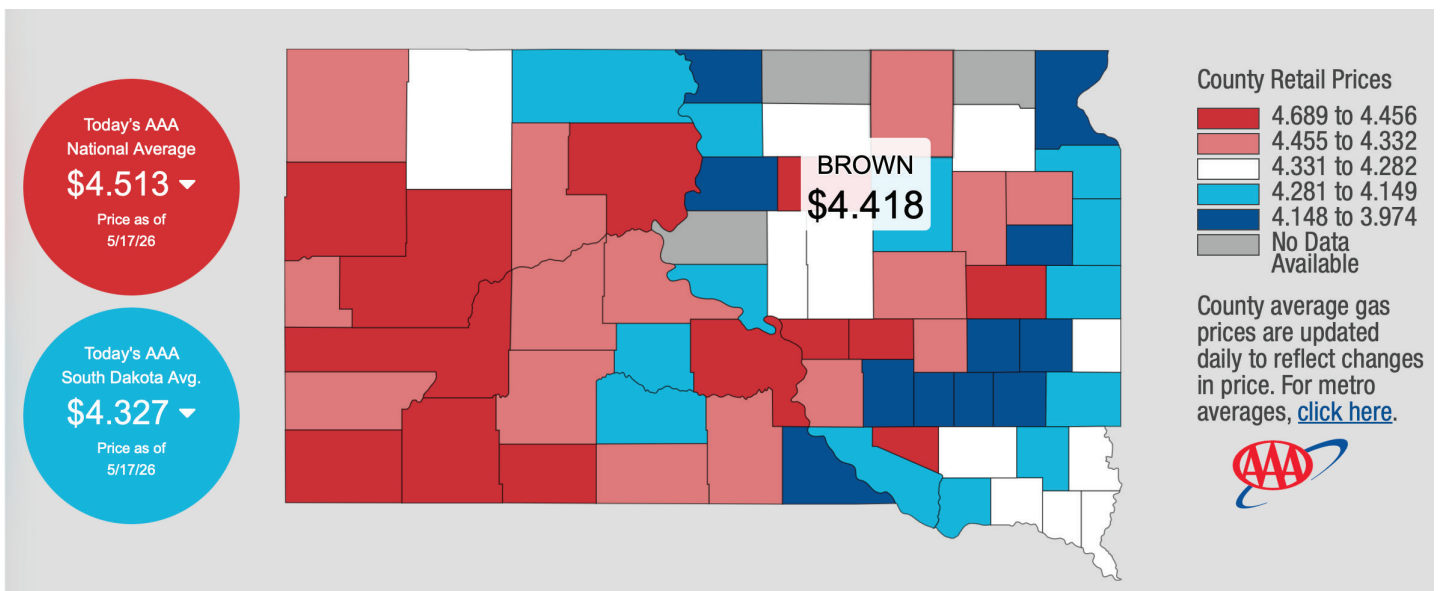
## South Dakota Average Gas Prices

	Regular	Mid-Grade	Premium	Diesel
Current Avg.	\$4.302	\$4.497	\$4.987	\$5.144
Yesterday Avg.	\$4.326	\$4.509	\$4.971	\$5.151
Week Ago Avg.	\$4.338	\$4.510	\$4.989	\$5.170
Month Ago Avg.	\$3.659	\$3.834	\$4.303	\$4.710
Year Ago Avg.	\$3.015	\$3.229	\$3.656	\$3.241

### This Week



### Last Week



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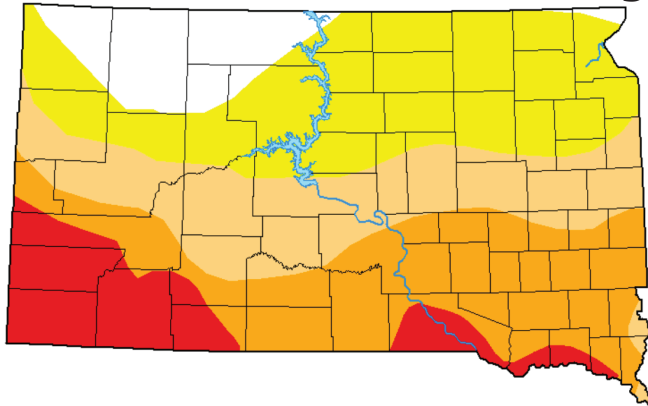
## Drought Classification

None  
D0 (Abnormally Dry)  
D1 (Moderate Drought)

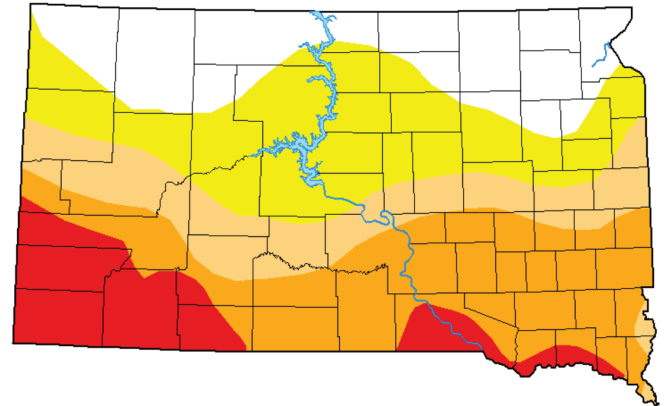
D2 (Severe Drought)  
D3 (Extreme Drought)

D4 (Exceptional Drought)  
No Data

## Drought Monitor



May 19



May 12

Temperatures were above normal across much of the region this week, with average readings ranging from the low 40s along the Canadian border and in the mountains to the mid-70s across southern Kansas. Highly anomalous early-season warmth gripped the southern half of the region. The core of this heat anomaly was centered over Kansas and Colorado, where weekly temperatures soared 6°F to 12°F above historical averages, with localized spots in southern Kansas peaking more than 12°F above normal. This unseasonable warmth extended moderately northward into Nebraska, yielding departures of 3°F to 6°F above average. Conversely, the northern High Plains remained under a more seasonal air mass; North Dakota, South Dakota, and northern Wyoming experienced below-normal conditions, fluctuating within 3°F to 6°F of historical baseline temperatures. Precipitation amounts varied across the region, with extreme dryness across the much of the region and a highly concentrated deluge along the southeastern boundary. Large portions of Wyoming, Colorado, and western parts of North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas, reported weekly totals below 0.50 inches, with extensive areas receiving less than 0.10 inches. This lack of moisture resulted in departures of 0.5 to 1.5 inches below average, causing conditions to deteriorate. Extreme (D3) drought expanded in southwestern Kansas and southern Colorado. Severe (D2) in parts of Colorado and northeast Wyoming, while moderate (D1) drought expanded in parts of South Dakota. In powerful contrast, intense convective activity generated a sharp corridor of heavy rainfall across eastern portions of Kansas and Nebraska. Totals in this localized zone rapidly climbed between 2.5 and 5.5 inches, with departures ranging between 1.5 to over 4.5 inches above normal, resulting in improvements to moderate (D1) to exceptional (D4) drought in Nebraska and moderate (D1) to extreme (D3) drought in Kansas. Heavy rainfall also brought improvements to severe (D2) to exceptional (D4) drought in northern Colorado and a reduction of exceptional (D4) drought in southern Wyoming this week.

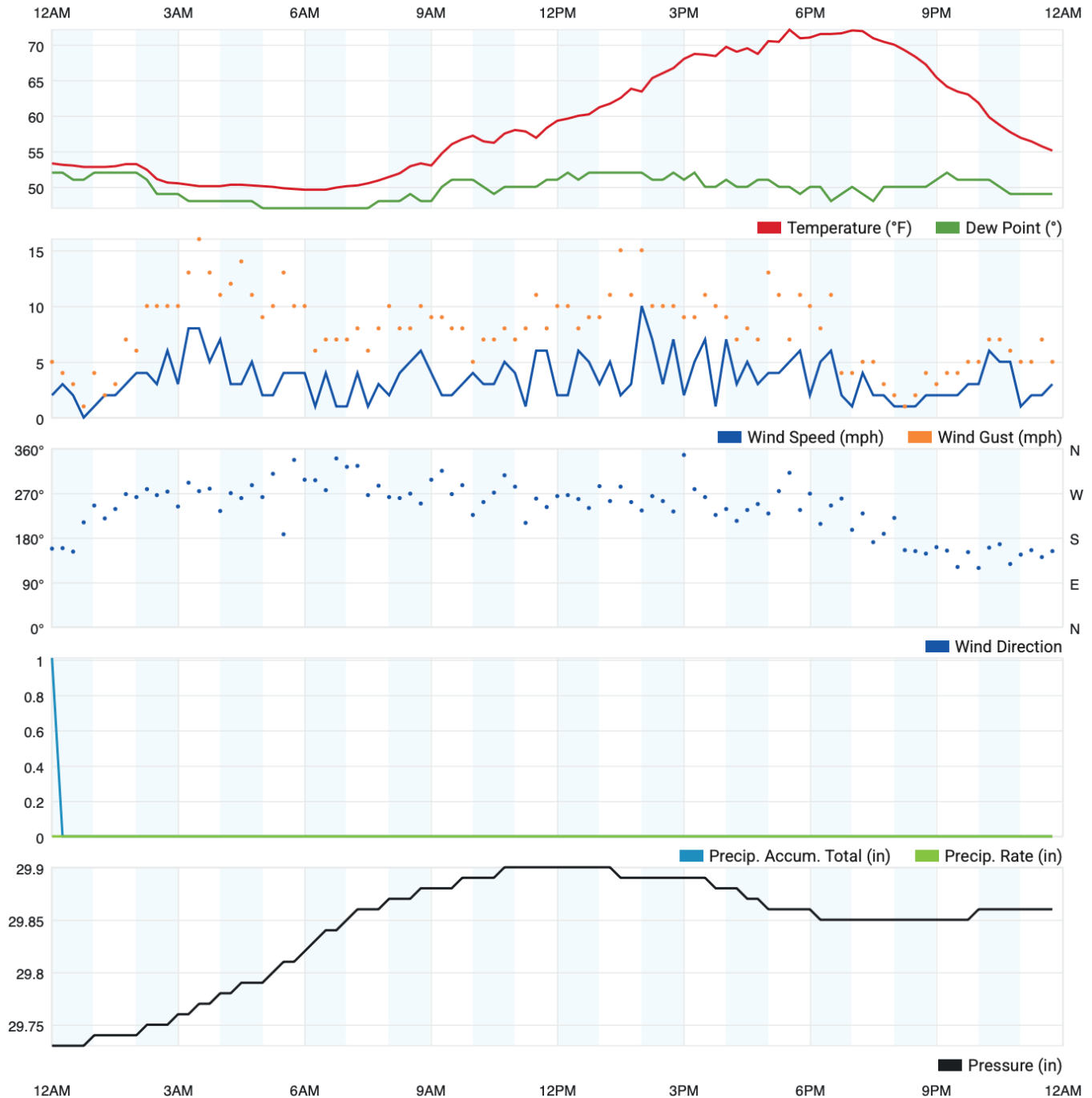


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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

May 23, 2026



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Today

Tonight

Memorial Day

Monday Night

Tuesday



High: 83 °F

Sunny



Low: 50 °F

Partly Cloudy



High: 90 °F

Hot



Low: 55 °F

Mostly Clear



High: 91 °F

Hot

## Today



Mostly sunny  
80-85°

## Early week Outlook

Mon

Tue



88-92°



88-92°

[weather.gov/abr](http://weather.gov/abr)

May 24, 2026 3:46 AM



Warmer air moves into the region today and looks to stick around through the upcoming week. Highs will be in the low to mid 80s for many areas today under mostly sunny skies. There is a slight chance for showers and thunderstorms this evening over portions of east central South Dakota, with better chances further south into the southeast part of the state.



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## Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 72 °F at 6:55 PM

Low Temp: 50 °F at 5:59 AM

Wind: 17 mph at 3:21 AM

Precip: : 0.00

## Today's Info

Record High: 99 in 1926

Record Low: 25 in 1897

Average High: 73

Average Low: 48

Average Precip in May.: 2.61

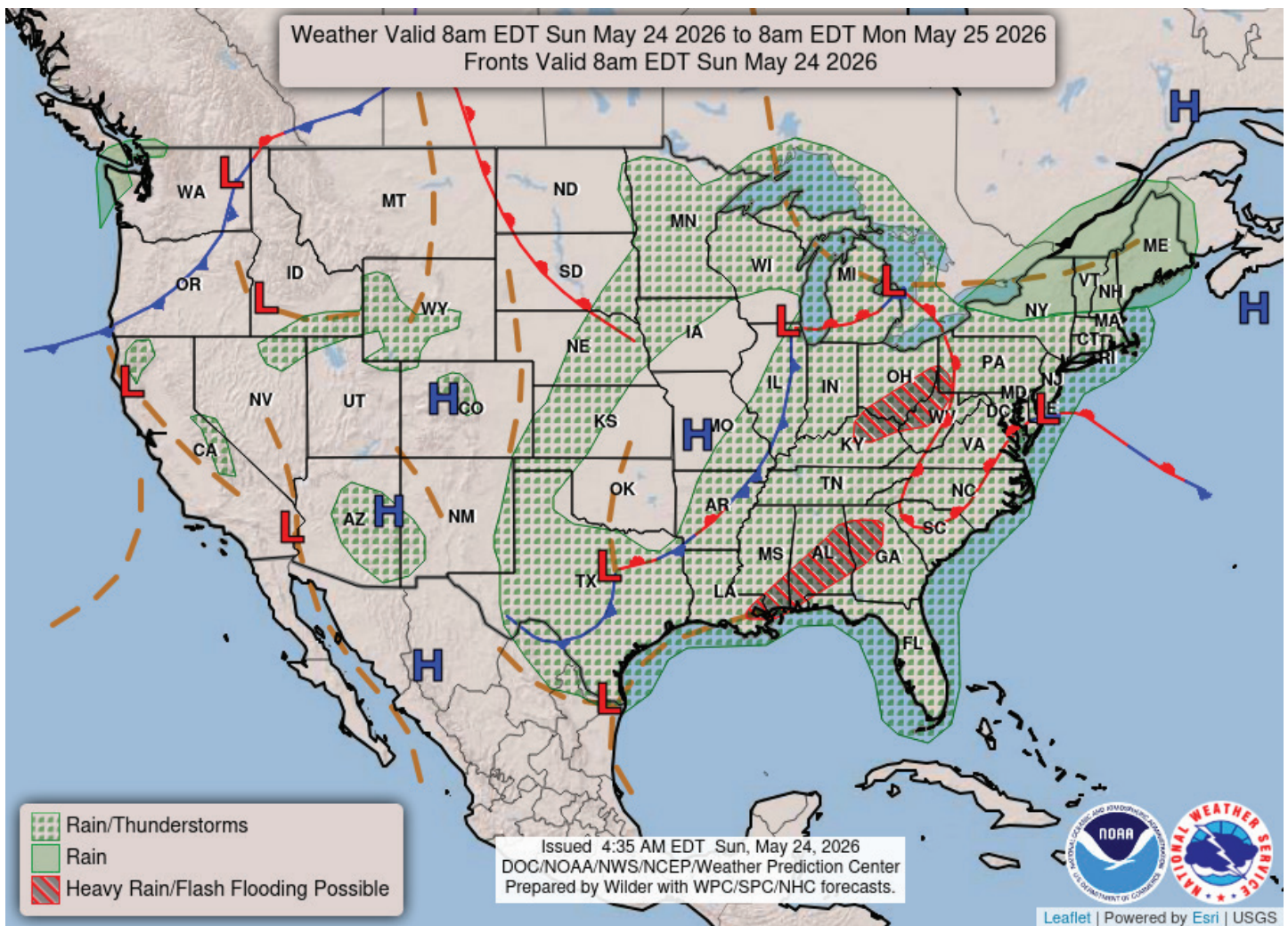
Precip to date in May.: 1.73

Average Precip to date: 6.58

Precip Year to Date: 4.85

Sunset Tonight: 9:05 pm

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:52 am



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## **Today in Weather History**

May 24th, 1960: A tornado touched down about 7 miles northwest of Roscoe and destroyed a small shed near a country schoolhouse. Funnel clouds were also observed in the Hosmer area, near Eureka, and 30 miles west of Aberdeen. An unofficial report of 4 inches of rain fell at Hosmer.

May 24th, 2008: A supercell thunderstorm produced seven tornadoes in Dewey County. Since these tornadoes remained in the open country, all were rated EF0.

1894 — Six inches of snow blanketed Kentucky. Just four days earlier as much as ten inches of snow had fallen across Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia. Six days earlier a violent storm had wrecked nine ships on Lake Michigan. (David Ludlum)

1930 — A tornado touched down near the town of Pratt, KS, and traveled at the incredibly slow speed of just 5 mph. (The Weather Channel)

1940 — Hail fell near Ada OK to a depth of six to eight inches, and rainfall runoff left drifts of hail up to five feet high. (The Weather Channel)

1987 — Severe thunderstorms in southwest Texas spawned a couple of tornadoes near Silverton, and produced golf ball size hail east of the town of Happy. Thunderstorms also produced large hail and damaging winds in Louisiana and Texas. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 — Thunderstorms produced severe weather in the southeastern U.S. Thunderstorm winds gusted to 88 mph at Columbia, NC. Baseball size hail was reported near Tifton GA. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 — Thunderstorms developing ahead of a cold front produced severe weather across the Upper Midwest through the day and night. Thunderstorms spawned 30 tornadoes, and there were 158 reports of large hail and damaging winds. A strong (F-3) tornado caused five million dollars damage at Corning, IA, and a powerful (F-4) tornado caused five million dollars damage at Traer, IA. Thunderstorm winds gusting to 88 mph killed one person and injured five others at Stephenville, WI. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 — Severe thunderstorms spawned two dozen tornadoes from Montana to Oklahoma. Four tornadoes carved a 109-mile path across central Kansas. The third of the four tornadoes blew 88 cars off an 125-car train off the track, stacking them three to four cars high in some cases, and the fourth tornado caused 3.9 million dollars damage. The third tornado injured six persons who were trying to escape in vehicles. A woman was "sucked out" of a truck and said that at one time she was "airborne, trying to run but my feet wouldn't touch the ground". She also saw a live deer "flying through the air". (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Daily Devotion

## The Great Divide

**Only when clothed in Christ's righteousness can we stand before a holy God.**

Isaiah 55:8-9: 8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD.  
9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.

When we picture Jesus as our bridge to God, we might begin to wonder what creates the gap between us and the Father.

Scripture reveals God's holiness in vivid terms. He is the "Most High" and is described as "lofty and exalted" (Psalm 9:2; Isaiah 6:1). He declares, "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways" (55:9). This isn't just about physical distance—it's about the infinite difference between God's perfect holiness and our sinful nature.

Moses experienced this at the burning bush when God warned him not to come too close (Exodus 3:5). Later, when Israel built the tabernacle, God restricted access to the Holy of Holies, allowing only the chief priest to enter just once a year—on the Day of Atonement (Hebrews 9:7). The message was clear: Sinful humanity could not approach a holy God and survive. Scripture even describes God as "consuming fire" and dwelling in "unapproachable light" (Deuteronomy 4:24; 1 Timothy 6:16).

Why did Jesus come to us? Only the perfect, sinless Son of God could reach the Father and stand in His presence. And in Christ, we can share in that intimacy—not because we've earned it through our own holiness, but because He clothed us in His righteousness and brought us safely across.

*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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Printed & Mailed Weekly Edition

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## WINNING NUMBERS

### MILLIONAIRE FOR LIFE

WINNING NUMBERS:

05.23.26

15 20 30 45 49 3

TOP PRIZE:

**\$1,000,000/year**

NEXT DRAW: 17 Hrs 51 Mins 20 Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

### MEGA MILLIONS

WINNING NUMBERS:

05.22.26

3 22 34 54 61 8

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

**\$311,000,000**

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

### LOTTO AMERICA

WINNING NUMBERS:

05.23.26

5 16 24 32 41 4

All Star Bonus: 3x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

**\$27,550,000**

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

### DAKOTA CASH

WINNING NUMBERS:

05.23.26

2 5 7 10 16

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

**\$104,000**

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

### POWERBALL

DOUBLE PLAY

WINNING NUMBERS:

05.23.26

36 42 53 57 63 17

TOP PRIZE:

**\$10,000,000**

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

### POWERBALL

WINNING NUMBERS:

05.23.26

4 16 41 48 66 26

Power Play: 2x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

**\$141,000,000**

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

## News from the **AP** Associated Press

### **A powerful bomb has exploded near railway track in southwest Pakistan, killing at least 19 people**

By ABDUL SATTAR and MUNIR AHMED Associated Press

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP) — A suicide bomber detonated an explosives-laden vehicle near a railway track as a passenger train passed through the southwestern Pakistani city of Quetta on Sunday, killing at least 19 people and wounding over 70 others, officials said.

The force of the explosion caused two of the train cars to overturn and catch fire, sending thick black smoke into the air, according to footage shared online.

The attack happened in an area where security forces are usually stationed, badly damaging several nearby buildings and smashing more than a dozen vehicles parked along the road, according to witnesses and images circulating on social media.

Doctors at local hospitals said they had received the wounded, with 20 in critical condition. Three security officials told The Associated Press the bodies were transported to hospitals following the attack. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to be able to speak to the media.

The outlawed Baloch Liberation Army, or BLA, which demands independence from Pakistan's central government, has claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement sent to reporters. The militant group said it targeted a train carrying security personnel.

Quetta is the capital of insurgency-hit Balochistan province. The oil- and mineral-rich region has long been the scene of a low-level insurgency. The insurgents have frequently targeted security forces, government installations and civilians in the province and elsewhere in the country.

"We strongly condemn the targeting of innocent civilians and are deeply saddened by the loss of precious human lives. Terrorist elements deserve no leniency," said Shahid Rind, Balochistan provincial government spokesman.

He said following the explosion, a medical emergency was declared at hospitals in Quetta, and an investigation has been launched.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif strongly condemned the attack, calling it a "cowardly act of terrorism" in a post on X and offering condolences to the families of the victims.

Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti strongly condemned the attack in Quetta, saying the militants targeted "innocent civilians, including women and children," vowing to "hunt (them down)" in a post on X.

Bugti and the federal government in Islamabad often use the phrase "Fitna al-Hindustan" to refer to the BLA, which they allege is backed by India. New Delhi denies the allegation.

Pakistan and India have long had strained relations and have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir, which is claimed by both in its entirety.

Although Pakistani authorities say they have quelled the insurgency, violence in Baluchistan has persisted.

At least 26 people, including soldiers, were killed in 2024 when a suicide bomber attacked a train station in Balochistan.

### **Russia uses hypersonic Oreshnik missile in mass attack on Kyiv**

By SAMYA KULLAB and VASILISA STEPANENKO Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Sunday Russia used the powerful hypersonic Oreshnik ballistic missile during a mass drone and missile attack on Kyiv on Sunday that killed at least two people, marking the third time the weapon has been used in the four-year war.

The intense aerial assault damaged buildings across the Ukrainian capital, including near government offices, residential buildings and schools.

The Oreshnik, which is capable of carrying nuclear or conventional warheads, struck the city of Bila



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Tserkva in the Kyiv region, Zelenskyy said in a post on Telegram. The target was not immediately clear. Russia's Defense Ministry on Sunday confirmed it used the Oreshnik, as well as other missile types, to strike Ukrainian "military command and control facilities," air bases and military industrial enterprises. It did not specify where the targets were.

The ministry added the attack was retaliation for Ukrainian strikes on "civilian facilities on Russian territory", without immediately giving detail.

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday denounced a drone strike on a college dormitory in Russian-occupied eastern Ukraine, which Moscow blames on Kyiv, and ordered the Russian military to submit its proposals for retaliation. He said there were no military or law enforcement facilities near the college.

The death toll from the strike in Starobilsk had risen to 21 as search-and-rescue operations closed, the press service of Russia's Ministry of Emergency Situations said late on Saturday. It said 42 other people had been injured in the attack the previous night. The Kremlin-installed authorities of the Luhansk region announced two days of mourning on Sunday and Monday to honor the victims.

At a U.N. Security Council emergency meeting on the strike, held at the request of Russia, Ukrainian Ambassador Andrii Melnyk denied his Russian counterpart's accusations of war crimes, calling them a "pure propaganda show" and asserting that the May 22 operations "exclusively targeted the Russian war machine."

Ukraine and its allies have accused Russia of routinely targeting civilians and key civilian infrastructure since the early days of the war. The Kremlin denies this.

Russia says the Oreshnik is immune to any missile defense system

Russia first used the multiple-warhead Oreshnik on the Ukrainian city of Dnipro in November 2024. It was used a second time in January in the western Lviv region.

The latest combined attack included 600 strike drones and 90 air, sea and ground-launched missiles, according to Ukraine's Air Force. Ukrainian air defenses destroyed and jammed 549 drones and 55 missiles. Around 19 missiles failed to reach targets, the Air Force said.

Earlier, Zelenskyy warned that Russia was planning to use the Oreshnik, citing intelligence from the U.S. and Western partners.

President Vladimir Putin earlier said the Oreshnik, which means "hazelnut tree" in Russian, streaks at 10 times the speed of sound, or Mach 10, and is capable of destroying underground bunkers "three, four or more floors down."

The weapon travels "like a meteorite" and is immune to any missile defense system, Putin said, adding that several such missiles, even fitted with conventional warheads, could be as devastating as a nuclear strike.

Air raid sirens blared through the night as smoke billowed across the city from strikes. Associated Press reporters heard powerful explosions near the city center and close to government buildings.

Kyiv residents who have stayed until now consider relocating

Damage was recorded in 40 locations across several districts of the capital, including residential buildings, Kyiv military administration head Tymur Tkachenko said in a Telegram post.

"It was a terrible night, and there had never been anything like it in the entire war," said Kyiv resident Svitlana Onofrychuk, 55, who had worked in the market that was damaged for 22 years.

"I am very sorry that I have to say goodbye to Kyiv now, I am not staying there anymore, there is no possibility," she added. "My job is gone, everything is gone, everything has burned down."

Yevhen Zosin, 74, a Kyiv resident who witnessed the attack, said the moment he heard the explosion he rushed to grab his dog.

"Then there was another explosion and she and I were thrown back like a pin by the shock wave. We both survived, she and I. My apartment was blown to pieces," he said.

In Kyiv's Shevchenko district, a five-story residential building was hit, which caused a fire, and one person was killed, Ukraine's state emergency service reported.

A school building was damaged by an attack while people sheltered inside, Mayor Vitalii Klitschko said. Local authorities reported supermarkets and warehouses across the city also were damaged.

Multiple communities recorded damage throughout the Kyiv region, according to Mykola Kalashnyk, the regional governor.

Elsewhere, a Ukrainian drone killed a civilian in the Russian town of Grayvoron, in the Belgorod region bordering Ukraine, local authorities reported on Sunday morning.

Russia's Defense Ministry said its forces shot down or jammed 33 Ukrainian drones overnight into Sunday, including over the Moscow region, western and southwestern Russia, and Russian-occupied Crimea.

## **9-story building under construction in the Philippines collapses, leaving 21 people missing**

ANGELES, Philippines (AP) — A nine-story building under construction in a city north of the Philippine capital of Manila collapsed before dawn and at least 21 people were missing Sunday morning, authorities said.

Rescuers were "hearing voices" in the rubble, while 24 workers managed to dash to safety or were rescued, police and other officials said.

The building collapsed after a fierce thunderstorm in Angeles City in Pampanga province. More than 100 police and other government personnel were scrambling to rescue those believed to be trapped in the rubble, police Brig. Gen. Jess Mendez said.

Mendez and other officials at the scene said there were no immediate reports of deaths but some of those who got out safely sustained injuries.

Among the 21 people who remained unaccounted for, most were believed to be workers at the building, according to Francis Pangilinan, who heads Angeles City's disaster mitigation office and was at the scene.

Two other people, including a Malaysian tourist, were injured when their lodgings were hit by debris from the collapsed building, officials said.

Rescuers including firefighters, police and disaster-response teams used their hands and sniffer dogs in a dangerous scramble to search for the trapped survivors, Public Works Secretary Vinzon Dizon told reporters near the rubble of concrete slabs, twisted iron bars and other debris.

"There are some signs of life ... There are voices that are being heard," Dizon said, adding that rescuers were moving with extreme caution. "It's a very very unstable site and the priority is to get the people out."

Angeles City hosted one of the largest U.S. Air Force bases outside of the American mainland until it closed in the early 1990s, helping develop Angeles and outlying cities and towns into entertainment and commercial hubs in the main northern Philippine region of Luzon.

The former air base, now called the Clark Freeport Zone, is about 80 kilometers (50 miles) north of Metro Manila.

## **Trump says a deal with Iran and opening of Strait of Hormuz are 'largely negotiated'**

By MUNIR AHMED, SAMY MAGDY and DARLENE SUPERVILLE Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — President Donald Trump said Saturday that a deal with Iran on the war, including opening the Strait of Hormuz, has been "largely negotiated" after calls with Israel and other allies in the region.

"Final aspects and details of the Deal are currently being discussed, and will be announced shortly," Trump said on social media, with no details. He said he had spoken with leaders from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Pakistan, Turkey, Egypt, Jordan and Bahrain, and separately with Israel.

He described it as a "Memorandum of Understanding pertaining to PEACE" that still must be finalized by the United States, Iran and the other countries that participated in the calls. It capped a week in which the U.S. weighed a new round of attacks on the Islamic Republic that would break a fragile ceasefire.

There was no mention of Iran's nuclear program and highly enriched uranium, which Iran has sought to discuss later. There was no immediate comment from Iran or Israel. Trump said speaking with Israeli

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Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who had pressed the U.S. to go to war, went "very well."

There had been growing optimism among officials

Earlier on Saturday, a regional official with direct knowledge of the Pakistan-led mediation efforts said the U.S. and Iran were closing in on a deal to end the war.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss closed-door deliberations, cautioned that "last-minute disputes" could blow up the efforts. This is not the first time in recent weeks that a deal has been described as close.

The official said the deal would include an official declaration of the war's end, with two-month negotiations on Iran's nuclear program. The Strait of Hormuz would be reopened and the U.S. would end its blockade of Iran's ports.

Iran, meanwhile, had signaled "narrowing differences" in negotiations after Pakistani army chief Asim Munir held more talks in Tehran.

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday welcomed Trump's efforts to advance peace in the Middle East. He said Pakistan would continue supporting peace efforts "with utmost sincerity" and "we hope to host the next round of talks very soon."

In a post on X, Sharif congratulated Trump on what he called his "extraordinary efforts to pursue peace" and described discussions among regional leaders as "very useful and productive."

Twelve weeks have passed since the U.S. and Israel attacked Iran on Feb. 28, killing top Iranian officials including its supreme leader and interrupting nuclear talks between the U.S. and Iran for the second time in less than a year. Iran fired at Israel and at neighbors hosting U.S. forces, shaking Gulf nations that had considered themselves safe havens in a tough region.

A ceasefire has held since April 7. But Iran's decision to effectively close the Strait of Hormuz for ships carrying regional oil, natural gas and other critical supplies has been a focal point of global concern and economic pain.

Iran described it as a 'framework agreement' for more talks

Iran state TV earlier quoted Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei as describing the draft as a "framework agreement" and adding: "We want this to include the main issues required for ending the imposed war and other issues of essential importance to us. Then, over a reasonable time span, between 30 to 60 days, details are discussed and ultimately a final agreement is reached."

He said the Strait of Hormuz is among the topics discussed.

But Baghaei told Iran's official IRNA news agency that nuclear issues are not part of current negotiations. "Our focus at this stage is on ending the war on all fronts, including Lebanon," he said, adding that lifting sanctions on Tehran "has explicitly been included in the text and remains our fixed position."

The Iranian-backed Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV reported that the Lebanese militant group's leader received a letter from Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi saying Tehran will not abandon its allies. There is a fragile, U.S.-brokered ceasefire in the Israel-Hezbollah war in Lebanon, a conflict that began two days after the Iran war started.

Trump had said 'serious negotiations' were underway

Trump earlier said he was holding off on a military strike against Iran because "serious negotiations" were underway, and at the request of allies in the Middle East. Trump has repeatedly set deadlines for Tehran and then backed off.

Iran's parliament speaker, Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf, the lead negotiator in historic face-to-face talks with the U.S. last month in Islamabad, said Saturday that Iran has rebuilt its military assets and if Trump resumed attacks, the result would be "more crushing and more bitter" than at the start of the war.

State TV said he spoke after meeting with Pakistan's army chief, who also met with Araghchi, President Masoud Pezeshkian and other senior officials. Qatar sent a senior official to Tehran to support Pakistan's efforts.

The war's stated aims have not been achieved. Iran still has its enriched uranium and a missile program it says is being rebuilt. It continues to express support for armed proxies in the region. The new supreme



leader, though still unseen publicly since the war began, is the son of the previous one and close to the powerful Revolutionary Guard.

And the Iranian people have not revolted against the government as both Trump and Netanyahu had predicted after nationwide protests early this year.

## **Southern California chemical tank at risk of exploding as 40,000 residents are ordered to evacuate**

By JOHN RABY and JOSH FUNK Associated Press

Authorities braced for the possibility that a damaged chemical tank in Southern California could leak or explode as an evacuation order continued into the Memorial Day weekend for 40,000 residents with no timeline on when they can return.

No injuries were reported after the pressurized tank overheated Thursday and began venting vapors at a company site in Garden Grove, about 40 miles (60 kilometers) south of downtown Los Angeles, according to the Orange County Fire Authority.

But officials said the valves on the tank are broken or "gummed up," which prevented crews from removing the chemical or relieving the pressure on the tank, said Craig Covey, Orange County Fire Authority division chief.

Firefighters' first hope is to find a way to cool off the chemical inside the tank so it won't leak or explode. If that is not possible, Purdue University engineering professor Andrew Whelton said it would be best if the tank sprang a leak so the chemical could be mostly contained. An explosion that could spread the chemical over a broad area and send shrapnel flying would be the worst-case scenario.

If the temperature inside the tank continues to increase, the pressure will continue to build as the methyl methacrylate converts from a liquid to a gas, because officials said the pressure relief valves on the tank were no longer working. Whelton said it's unlikely that firefighters would consider creating a hole in the tank because of fears that could create a spark that might ignite the volatile and flammable gas.

Drones were monitoring temperatures at 10-minute intervals to watch for any spikes and planning was underway to ensure a possible leak could quickly be prevented from spreading into waterways or the ocean, Covey said in an early evening post on social media platform X.

"Sitting back and allowing these tanks to fail is unacceptable," Covey said, adding there was no guarantee tanks will not breach and leak. "Our goal is to protect your homes — no damage to them — and protect the environment."

Tank wasn't cooling as first thought

Efforts to cool the tank appeared to be working Friday, but Covey backtracked the following day, saying a reading conducted by drones actually showed the temperature on the outside of the tank, not the inside.

"Unfortunately I do have to report that the temperature was 90 degrees," Covey said, up from 77 Fahrenheit (25 Celsius) the previous morning.

Cooling the tank is important because the liquid chemical's flashpoint is 50 Fahrenheit (10 Celsius), according to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Residents are frustrated and stressed

Initially people in Garden Grove were ordered to leave. Evacuation orders were then expanded to some parts of five other Orange County cities including Cypress, Stanton, Anaheim, Buena Park and Westminster. Some people with pets planned to sleep in their cars.

Several shelters remained open Saturday, including at three high schools.

Marco Solano, 32, spent Friday night at his parents' home, frustrated by the situation and monitoring the news to see if he could go home.

"I don't think that they should have dangerous chemicals in a neighborhood area, especially that dangerous that they have to evacuate people," Solano said. "But again, it's not up to me. I don't make the laws. I don't make the rules. We just have to do what is best I guess."

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Solano, who has multiple jobs, said he felt very tired and weak and believed the stress of the chemical leak was exacerbating his anemia and ulcerative colitis.

"This has been affecting me quite a bit," he said.

Solano also said he went to his apartment after work Friday to grab belongings and saw other residents who had not evacuated, and he was worried for them.

Exposure could lead to health problems

The damaged tank is located at GKN Aerospace, which makes parts for commercial and military aircraft. It holds 6,000 to 7,000 gallons (22,700 and 26,500 liters) of methyl methacrylate, used to make plastic parts.

Exposure to methyl methacrylate can cause serious respiratory problems and even render someone unconscious. It can also cause neurological problems and irritate the skin, eyes and throat, according to fact sheets about the chemical. But Orange County health officials said the chemical is easy to smell and residents may notice it over a large area without being harmed.

Whelton said the volume of chemical in the tank is much smaller than in the disastrous 2023 train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, which he studied when more than 115,000 gallons (435,000 liters) of vinyl chloride was released after officials blew open five tank cars and burned the chemical.

"Many of these are acute, fast-acting effects. But the longer somebody stays in contact with it, the more potential for significant damage that occurs," Whelton said.

If there is an explosion, officials said they expect "severe structural damage and significant harm" in the blast zone closest to the tank.

If an explosion releases the chemical into the air, Whelton said, it will be crucial to conduct detailed air monitoring specifically for methyl methacrylate and not just generic tests for volatile organic compounds as officials did in East Palestine. General tests, often completed with handheld detectors, may not be capable of detecting the chemical. Indoor tests of buildings and homes may also be needed before residents return home.

The weather will be an important factor in determining where a plume of chemicals would go in the event of an explosion. Officials were developing maps to predict different scenarios about which areas would be most affected.

Meanwhile containment barriers have been set up to prevent the chemical from getting into storm drains or reaching creeks or the nearby ocean in the event of a spill, Covey said.

Emergency declaration

Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in Orange County, making state resources available to local agencies and letting state-owned properties and fairgrounds be used for shelters if necessary.

Garden Grove is next to Anaheim, home to Disneyland's two theme parks, which were not under evacuation orders. Park officials said they were monitoring the incident and supporting employees impacted by evacuations.

GKN agreed to pay state regulators more than \$900,000 in 2025 to settle violations involving recordkeeping, permitting issues and nitrogen oxide emissions, according to a report on the South Coast Air Quality Management District website.

## **Suspect dead after opening fire near White House security checkpoint, Secret Service says**

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, ALANNA DURKIN RICHER and MEG KINNARD Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A man who opened fire Saturday near a White House security checkpoint is dead after being shot by officers who returned fire, the U.S. Secret Service said. It was the third incidence of gunfire in the vicinity of President Donald Trump in the past month.

The law enforcement agency said in a statement posted on X that the man was in the area of 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue when he "pulled a weapon from his bag" shortly after 6 p.m. EDT and began firing. Secret Service officers returned fire and hit the suspect, who died at a hospital, the agency said.

The suspect was identified as 21-year-old Nasire Best, said a law enforcement official who spoke on the

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condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the investigation.

According to District of Columbia court records, Best was arrested in July 2025 after he attempted to enter a different White House checkpoint without authorization, didn't heed officers' commands to stop, "claimed he was Jesus Christ" and said he wanted to be arrested.

An initial hearing was held and a "Pretrial Stay Away Order" was issued, typically a measure ordering a defendant not to go near a person or area before a trial. A bench warrant was issued in August after a notice of "noncompliance" against Best, who did appear for a subsequent hearing.

## Latest gunfire incident around Trump

It was the third time in the past month that shots were fired near the president after incidents at the White House Correspondents' Association Dinner in April and near the Washington Monument earlier in May.

A bystander was also struck on Saturday, but a law enforcement official said it wasn't clear whether that person was hit by the suspect's initial bullets or those fired subsequently by officers.

Secret Service said none of its officers were injured, and that Trump — who was at the White House at the time — was not "impacted." Trump originally was scheduled to spend the weekend at his New Jersey golf club but changed his plans on Friday to stay at the White House instead.

FBI Director Kash Patel said on social media that agency personnel were on the scene and "we will update the public as we're able."

Evidence of the shooting was visible on a sidewalk just outside the White House complex, where yellow crime scene tape snaked across the pavement and Secret Service officers placed dozens of orange evidence markers on the ground. Medical material, including what appeared to be purple surgical gloves and kits typically used by emergency medical personnel, were also seen.

## Gunshots heard by journalists at the White House

Journalists working at the White House on Saturday evening reported hearing a series of gunshots and were told to seek shelter inside the press briefing room.

In a post shared on X, ABC News senior White House correspondent Selina Wang shared dramatic video of the moment she said she heard what "sounded like dozens of gunshots" and ducked for cover. Writing that she had been performing a routine task that White House reporters do daily — filming themselves on a cellphone for a social media post — Wang's video shows her speaking for a few seconds about Trump's statements earlier Saturday about a potential Iran deal.

As the sounds of gunfire are heard in the background, Wang's eyes grow wider, and she ducks down in the media tent, which is among those situated in a line along the White House driveway where broadcasters film their reports. On X, Wang's video had been shared thousands of times as of Saturday evening, and viewed at least 3 million times.

## Shooting scene not far from a deadly incident last year

The shooting scene is within walking distance of where a gunman ambushed two members of the West Virginia National Guard last November.

U.S. Army Specialist Sarah Beckstrom, 20, died from the wounds she suffered in that shooting. Staff Sgt. Andrew Wolfe, then 24, was critically wounded. Rahmanullah Lakanwal has been charged in that incident.

The gunfire Saturday came nearly a month after what law enforcement authorities said was an attempted assassination of the president as he attended the annual White House Correspondents' Association Dinner at a Washington hotel on April 25. Cole Tomas Allen, of Torrance, California, recently pleaded not guilty to charges that he attempted to kill Trump. Allen is accused of running through a security checkpoint inside the hotel and firing a shotgun at a Secret Service officer.

Following that scare, Secret Service officers shot a suspect they said had fired at officers near the Washington Monument, several blocks from the White House. Michael Marx, 45, of Midland, Texas, was charged in a complaint filed in U.S. District Court in connection with the May 4 shooting. A teenage bystander was wounded in that incident.



## Norway-set drama about political polarization 'Fjord' wins Palme d'Or at Cannes

By JAKE COYLE AP Film Writer

Cristian Mungiu's Norway-set drama about political polarization, "Fjord," has won the Palme d'Or, handing the Cannes Film Festival's top honor for the second time to Mungiu, the Romanian director of "4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days."

At a 79th Cannes Film Festival that saw few films cause a stir, "Fjord" found wide admiration for its engrossing tale of what Mungiu called "left-wing fundamentalism." It stars Sebastian Stan and Renate Reinsve as Romanian Evangelicals who move to Norway, but soon after have their children taken from them by child services for spanking them.

"Today the society is split. It's divided. It's radicalized," said Mungiu. "This film is a pledge against any type of fundamentalism. It's a pledge for these things we quote very often, like trauma and inclusion and empathy. These are lovely words but we need to apply them more often."

Mungiu becomes just the 10th filmmaker to win the Palme d'Or twice. His "4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days," a Romanian abortion drama, won the award in 2007.

The win for "Fjord" extends one of the movies' most extraordinary streaks. Neon, the specialty label, has now taken seven Palme d'Or winners in a row. "Fjord" adds to its unparalleled run, including last year's champion, Jafar Panahi's "It Was Just an Accident," and the 2024 winner, "Anora." The latter went on to win best picture at the Oscars.

'Minotaur' wins Grand Prix

The Grand Prix, or second prize, went to "Minotaur," Andrey Zvyagintsev's domestic thriller set against Russia's war with Ukraine. Loosely based on Claude Chabrol's 1969 film "The Unfaithful Wife," "Minotaur" is about a Russian businessman suspicious of his wife's indiscretions. At the same time, he's tasked with conscripting 150 of his workers for Vladimir Putin's war machine.

"The only person who can stop this butchery is you, Mr. President of the Russian Federation," Zvyagintsev said, accepting his award. "Put an end to this slaughter. The whole world is waiting for this."

By wide consensus, it wasn't a banner festival. Hollywood largely sat out this year's edition. Many of the selections struggled to bowl over critics. The global buzz that Cannes typically generates was fitful at best.

But the awards handed out Saturday as the 79th Cannes drew to a close will significantly raise the international profiles of the winners. Last year's Cannes produced a long string of Oscar nominees, including "Sentimental Value" and "The Secret Agent."

The nine-member jury that decided the awards was headed by Korean filmmaker Park Chan-wook. Demi Moore, Chloé Zhao and Stellan Skarsgård were also jurors. Chan-wook, a Cannes regular including last year with his satirical thriller "No Other Choice," joked that he preferred not to give away the Palme.

"To be honest, I didn't want to award the Palme d'Or to any of the films, because it's an award I myself have never gotten," Chan-wook told reporters after the ceremony. "But I had no other choice."

Awards are split and shared

Two films won for best director: the Polish filmmaker Pawel Pawlikowski, for his postwar drama "Fatherland," and the Spanish creative duo Javier Ambrossi and Javier Calvo for "The Black Ball," a generation-spanning queer epic "The Black Ball."

It was Pawlikowski's second time winning the same Cannes prize in as many films, following his "Cold War" in 2018. But the award marked a breakthrough for Ambrossi and Calvo in their first Cannes entry.

"No one knew us. Thierry didn't know us," Ambrossi told reporters, referring to Thierry Fremaux, Cannes artistic director. "It was just that the movie spoke."

Virginie Efira and Tao Okamoto, the two stars of Ryusuke Hamaguchi's "All of a Sudden" shared the best actress award. In the elegantly empathetic drama, the two play women brought together in friendship out of their mutual sense of care for others.

The jury also split the best actor prize. They chose Emmanuel Macchia and Valentin Campagne, the two stars of "Coward," Lukas Dhont's drama about young Belgian men sent to the front lines of World War II.

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The prize for best screenplay was awarded to Emmanuel Marre for "A Man of His Time," a French drama about a Nazi collaborator in Vichy France. Marre based it on the experiences of his own great-grandfather.

The jury prize, or third place, went to German filmmaker Valeska Grisebach's "The Dreamed Adventure," a crime drama set in a Bulgarian border town.

Saturday's ceremony was missing its tribute honoree. Barbra Streisand was to receive an honorary Palme d'Or, but a knee injury prevented her from attending. Isabelle Huppert nevertheless celebrated Streisand during the ceremony, and Streisand appeared in a taped video message.

The Camera d'Or, Cannes' award for best first film, went to Marie Cl  mentine Dusabekambo's post-genocide drama "Ben'Imana," the first Rwandan film to be officially selected for the festival.

## **Iran's soccer federation says team's World Cup base camp has been moved to Mexico from the US**

By DAVID BRANDT AP Sports Writer

PHOENIX (AP) — The president of the governing body of Iranian soccer said Saturday the nation's World Cup training base has been moved to Mexico from the United States after getting approval from FIFA.

Mehdi Taj, president of the Iran Football Federation, announced the decision Saturday in a statement issued by the federation's media relations official. FIFA has not confirmed the move.

Iran had been scheduled to train in Tucson, Arizona, but a move has been a possibility because of uncertainty surrounding the war in the Middle East and security concerns. Officials at Tucson's Kino Sports Complex had no comment.

The federation says the team will now be based in Tijuana, Mexico, just south of San Diego. This year's World Cup runs from June 11 to July 19 and will be co-hosted by the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

"All team base camps for the countries participating in the World Cup must be approved FIFA," Taj said in his statement. "Fortunately, following the requests we submitted and the meetings we held with FIFA and World Cup officials in Istanbul, as well as the webinar meeting we had yesterday in the Tehran with the respected FIFA secretary general, our request to change the team's base from the United States to Mexico was approved."

Iran plays Group G games in Inglewood, California, against New Zealand on June 15 and Belgium six days later, then faces Egypt on June 26 in Seattle. The federation said Tijuana's relatively close proximity to Inglewood, a suburb of Los Angeles, will benefit the team and the new location "includes all training facilities, gym, private restaurant and everything else the team needs."

Team Melli is appearing in its fourth straight World Cup and seventh overall. It has never advanced past the first round.

Iran's federation said moving the base camp will resolve potential visa issues since the team will enter the U.S. through Mexico. The president said that the team "may even be able to travel to and from Mexico using Iran Air flights."

Teams use base camps for training ahead of and after matches.

## **Investigators looking for cause of fatal New York explosion that also wounded over 30 firefighters**

By DAVE COLLINS Associated Press

Investigators were combing through a New York City shipyard on Saturday trying to find the cause of a fire and an explosion that killed one person and injured more than 30 firefighters and other first responders.

Authorities provided no major updates to the incidents that occurred Friday afternoon in the Mariners Harbor neighborhood on the north shore of Staten Island. Besides investigators, some firefighters were at the site as a precaution Saturday, officials said.

Firefighters were called to the shipyard about 3:30 p.m. Friday on reports that there was a fire, heavy

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smoke and two workers trapped in a basement area, city Fire Commissioner Lillian Bonsignore said. Less than an hour later, as firefighters and emergency medical personnel were working the scene, an explosion rocked the site, officials said.

A civilian died, and another was wounded. Authorities said a fire marshal and a firefighter were seriously injured, while 29 firefighters had minor to moderate injuries and four emergency medical personnel had minor injuries. All were taken to area hospitals.

"We got very lucky this day," Bonsignore said at a Friday evening news conference. "We got lucky in the sense that none of our people were killed. It's unfortunate we had one fatality, and they did everything they could to get to that person."

The name of the person who died had not been released as of Saturday.

The fire marshal who was injured, Christopher Cuccaro, suffered a fractured skull and brain bleed, said the fire department's chief medical officer Dr. David Prezant. He was in critical but stable condition.

"We will be watching him very carefully over the next 24 hours to make certain there is not subsequent brain swelling. As long as there is not, he should do well," Prezant said at Friday's news conference.

Cuccaro and the other firefighter with serious injuries were wounded by the shock wave from the blast, Prezant said. The firefighter was doing "very well," he said.

"Thankfully both of these firefighters do not have penetrating injuries and do not have blast injury damage to their organs, to their heart, lungs or abdomen," Prezant said.

The fire and explosion happened in a 150-foot-by-150-foot (46 meters by 46 meters) metal structure at the back of the shipyard, Bonsignore said. Around 200 firefighters and emergency medical personnel responded.

Richard Oviogor, who was in the area, told WABC-TV that he heard two explosions and what seemed like a "big shock wave."

The area is home to several businesses, including a coffee roasting company and a self-storage facility. The shipyard used to be owned by the Bethlehem Steel Company, which built ships for the U.S. Navy during World War II.

## **Trump's Justice Department scrubs its website of news releases about Jan. 6 defendants**

By ERIC TUCKER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Department of Justice is acknowledging it has removed from its website news releases about criminal cases related to the Jan. 6, 2021, riot, calling the information about the prosecutions "partisan propaganda."

The purge of news releases documenting criminal charges, convictions and sentencings is the latest step by the Trump administration to dramatically rewrite the history of the assault on the Capitol, when hundreds of supporters of Republican President Donald Trump stormed the building in an effort to halt the congressional certification of his 2020 election loss to Democrat Joe Biden.

Trump, on his first day back in office in January 2025, pardoned, commuted the prison sentences or vowed to dismiss the cases of all of the 1,500-plus people charged with crimes during the Capitol assault, including those convicted of attacking officers with makeshift weapons such as flagpoles, a hockey stick and crutch.

On Monday, the Justice Department announced the creation of a \$1.776 billion fund meant to compensate Trump allies who feel they were unjustly investigated and prosecuted. Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche has not ruled out that rioters convicted of violence will be eligible for payouts, prompting bipartisan anger in Congress.

After a journalist on Friday observed on the social media platform X that the Justice Department was "quietly" removing news releases on its website that were related to the Jan. 6 attack, including about a Texas man who pleaded guilty to assault and also faced separate state charges of soliciting a minor, the department responded through its "rapid response" account that there was "nothing 'quiet' about it."



"We are proud to reverse the DOJ's weaponization under the Biden administration. We will do everything in our power to make whole those who were persecuted for political purposes," the post said. "This includes stripping DOJ's website of partisan propaganda."

Among the releases removed from the site were those concerning seditious conspiracy cases against members of the Proud Boys and Oath Keepers, far-right extremist groups. The Justice Department, in an unopposed motion last month, asked a federal appeals court to vacate those seditious conspiracy convictions, a request that was granted Thursday. The department on Friday moved to dismiss the cases against the group members.

## **Kyle Busch died after severe pneumonia progressed into sepsis, his family says**

By STEVE REED AP Sports Writer

CONCORD, N.C. (AP) — Kyle Busch died after severe pneumonia progressed into sepsis, resulting in rapid and overwhelming complications, according to a statement released by his family.

Dakota Hunter, vice president of Kyle Busch Companies, said in a news release the family received the medical evaluation on Saturday.

Busch, a two-time NASCAR champion, died at 41 on Thursday, a day after passing out in a Chevrolet simulator.

Sepsis is considered a life-threatening medical emergency that occurs when the body has an extreme, overactive response to an infection, causing the immune system to damage its own tissues and organs, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Typically the immune system releases chemicals to fight off pathogens like bacteria, viruses or fungi, but with sepsis the response goes into overdrive. The results can cause widespread inflammation, form microscopic blood clots and make blood vessels leak.

Busch was thought to have had a sinus cold while racing at Watkins Glen on May 10 and radioed in to his team saying that he needed a "shot" from a doctor after the race. However, he bounced back to win the Trucks Series race at Dover last weekend, and then he finished 17th in the All-Star race on Sunday.

Busch, who was preparing to race Sunday at the Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte Motor Speedway, was testing in the Chevrolet racing simulator in Concord on Wednesday when he became unresponsive and was transported to a hospital in Charlotte, several people familiar with the situation told The Associated Press.

During the emergency call placed late that afternoon, an unidentified caller calmly told the dispatch: "I've got an individual that's (got) shortness of breath, very hot, thinks he's going to pass out, and is producing a little bit of blood, coughing up some blood."

The caller said Busch was lying on the bathroom floor inside the complex and told dispatch "he is awake," according to audio provided by the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Office. The man then gave directions on where emergency responders should go and asked that they turn off any sirens upon arrival.

NASCAR driver Brad Keselowski said he knew Busch wasn't feeling well recently.

"Yes, but I won't go into any specifics," Keselowski said. "But then when he ran the Trucks race last week, those (thoughts) were honestly kind of erased in my mind."

Keselowski said running multiple races on the same weekend can be difficult on a driver's health — but most don't want to miss a race for fear of being replaced.

"There's no shortage of drivers that would love to take my seat or anybody else's seat if we weren't feeling well, and I think every driver feels that pressure," Keselowski said. "All athletes do. It's not unique to NASCAR in that sense. We're all thinking to ourselves, 'I don't wanna be replaced.' ... So you try to power through it the best you can."

Keselowski said Busch's unexpected death has forced him to pay attention to his own health moving forward.

Chase Briscoe said Busch's health issues served as a "wake-up call" for him and other drivers, who

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often put aside dealing with potential issues because they are so busy traveling around the country and competing on a weekly basis.

He said if something feels off, "you need to get checked out."

Busch's Richard Childress Racing teammate Austin Dillon was not made available for comment.

Austin Hill will replace Busch on Sunday and drive the No. 33 car. RCR is temporarily retiring Busch's No. 8 until his 11-year-old son Brexton is old enough to race.

All 39 cars in the field for Sunday's race will include a small black No. 8 decal to honor Busch.

Busch won 234 races across NASCAR's top three series over his two-decade career, more than any driver in history.

Drivers spoke at length on Saturday about his accomplishments, praising his toughness, competitive spirit and penchant for speaking his mind — all of which led to him earning a reputation as NASCAR's villain.

"He was a polarizing figure that no matter if you like him or disliked him as a racer, he was always talked about," Ryan Blaney said. "Just this guy that was always there and won too much, which is why people didn't like him. And he always spoke his mind. I think people came to respect that about him, that he was true to who he was and that never changed."

Blaney added that Busch's personality outside of the car and his competitiveness behind the wheel made him "a larger-than-life person in racing."

## **Pope Leo meets families of youth lost to illegal toxic waste dumping in Italy's 'Land of Fires'**

By SILVIA STELLACCI Associated Press

ACERRA, Italy (AP) — Pope Leo XIV on Saturday greeted one by one families who lost loved ones to illegal toxic dumping in an area near Naples, tied to a multi-billion criminal racket run by the mafia.

Many paused to share photographs and other mementos of children and young people who have died or are battling cancer because of the pollution.

Leo's visit to the so-called Terra dei Fuochi, or Land of Fires, came on the eve of the 11th anniversary of Pope Francis' big ecological encyclical *Laudato Si* (Praised Be), and indicates Leo's commitment to carry on his predecessor's environmental agenda.

"I have come first of all to gather the tears of those who have lost loved ones, killed by environmental pollution caused by unscrupulous people and organizations who for too long were able to act with impunity," Leo said in remarks to family members and local clergy inside Acerra's cathedral.

The pontiff recalled that the area now dubbed the Land of Fires was once called "Campania felix," Latin for blessed or fruitful countryside, "capable for enchanting for its fertility, its produce and its culture, like a hymn to life.

"And yet — here is death, of the land and of men," the pope said.

The European Court of Human Rights last year validated a generation of residents' complaints that mafia dumping, burial and burning of toxic waste led to an increased rate of cancer and other ailments in the area of 90 municipalities around Caserta and Naples, encompassing a population of 2.9 million people.

The court found Italian authorities had known since 1988 about the toxic pollution, blamed on the Camorra crime syndicate that controls waste disposal, but failed to take necessary steps to protect the residents. The binding ruling gave Italy two years to set up a database about the toxic waste and verified health risks associated with living there.

Bishop says the dumping continues

Bishop Antonio Di Donna estimated 150 young people had died in the city of some 58,000 over the past three decades — emphasizing in his opening remarks that the number didn't take into account adults and victims in other municipalities.

He urged the pope to admonish those who continue to pollute, noting that the dumping of tons of toxic waste was reported a day earlier near Caserta. Di Donna said that Italian officials had identified dozens more human-caused contamination sites throughout the country, including the Venetian port of Marghera,

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and the leaching of PFAS forever chemicals into groundwater near Vicenza.

"We say to those brothers of ours ensnared in evil and seized by a mirage of fabulous earnings: Convert, change your ways, because what you are doing is not only a crime, it is a sin that cries out to God for vengeance," the bishop said.

The pope later greeted the mayors of the 90 communities impacted by the toxic dumping, and greeted thousands of people waving yellow flags and chanting "Papa Leone" along the route of his popemobile and in a central piazza.

Families of young victims appeal to the pope

The victims include Maria Venturato, who died of cancer in 2016 at the age of 25. Her father, Angelo, said he hopes to speak with the pope to explain their reality, "not for me ... for the next generation."

"I'd like to give these young people a future, so I'm asking for the pope's help with this. That is, I'm making a strong appeal to him to go to those in power and say, 'Look, let's heal this land of fires,'" he said on the eve of the pope's visit.

Inside the cathedral, Filomena Carolla presented the pope with a book containing memories from the life of her daughter, Tina De Angelis, who died of cancer at the age of 24.

"I'm just angry at the people who poisoned the soil, because what did our children have to do with it? What did they have to do with it, so young," Carolla told The Associated Press on Friday.

Francis' plans to visit the area in 2020 were canceled due to the pandemic.

## **Deadliest coal mine explosion in China in years kills at least 82 people, local officials say**

BEIJING (AP) — A gas explosion at a coal mine in China's northern Shanxi province killed at least 82 people, local officials said Saturday, in what was the country's deadliest mining accident in recent years.

The official Xinhua News Agency said the accident at Changzhi city's Liushenyu coal mine happened on Friday evening.

At a news conference late Saturday, local authorities said 82 were dead and that more than 120 people were hospitalized. Two were still missing. The death toll was a revised, lower number from earlier reports by state broadcaster CCTV that said 90 had died.

The scene at the coal mine was "chaotic" in the immediate aftermath of the accident, they said, and figures provided at the time were initial and not definite.

The explosion was under investigation, local officials said, adding there were "serious violations" of the law by the mine's operator. They did not elaborate on any specific violations.

Earlier on Saturday, Xinhua reported that rescue work was pressing on a day after the accident, with hundreds of rescuers and medical personnel sent to the site. Among the injured, many were hurt by toxic gas, according to CCTV.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has called for an all-out effort to rescue the missing, Xinhua reported. Xi also called for a "thorough investigation" and accountability "in accordance with the law."

Xinhua later reported that those responsible for the company involved in the mine accident have been "placed under control," citing the local emergency management bureau.

An investigation team sent by China's powerful State Council, equivalent to the country's Cabinet, would be conducting a "rigorous and uncompromising" probe into the deadly explosion, a separate Xinhua report said following Xi's remarks.

Wang Yong, one of the hospitalized miners, told CCTV in a video interview that he smelled sulfur "like firecrackers" and saw smoke.

"I told people to run," he said. "As I ran, I saw people being choked by the smoke. And then I blacked out."

The state broadcaster also reported that blueprints provided by the coal mine did not match the actual layout, hampering rescue efforts.



The coal mine, operated by the Shanxi Tongzhou Coal & Coke Group with an annual production capacity of 1.2 million tons, was placed on a national list of disaster-prone coal mines by China's National Mine Safety Administration in 2024 for having "high gas content."

Shanxi province is known as China's main coal mining province. With a size larger than Greece and a population of around 34 million, the province's hundreds of thousands of miners dug 1.3 billion tons of coal last year, almost a third of China's total.

In China, coal remains a key energy source due to its lower cost and high availability, even as the country accelerates its transition toward green energy. Mining disasters have been common although authorities had implemented measures to improve safety over the past years.

In February 2023, 53 people were killed after a collapse at an open-pit mine in northern China's Inner Mongolia region. In November 2009, an explosion at a mine in northeastern China's Heilongjiang province killed 108, according to state media.

## **Gunmen open fire in 2 separate attacks in Honduras, killing at least 25 people**

By MARLON GONZÁLEZ Associated Press

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — Gunmen opened fire in two separate attacks Thursday on the Honduran coast, killing at least 25 people, including six police officers, authorities said.

The first incident took place at a plantation in the municipality of Trujillo in northern Honduras, where at least 19 workers were shot and killed, according to Public Prosecutor's Office spokesperson Yuri Mora.

The resource-rich region has been the site of a decades-long agrarian conflict.

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights has previously issued precautionary measures to some activists in the region who have been threatened, surveilled and intimidated for their work defending the environment and land rights.

The 2024 killing of environmental leader Juan López highlighted the dangers of defending natural resources in this highly militarized area of Honduras. The Central American nation regularly ranks as one of the most dangerous for environmentalists, with five killed in 2024 and 18 the year before, according to nongovernmental organization Global Witness.

Three people were recently arrested for masterminding López's killing, providing a rare glimpse of justice in a country with high rates of impunity.

In the second attack, assailants opened fire on police in the municipality of Omoa in the Cortes department near the Guatemalan border, killing six officers, including a senior officer, police said.

The officers were assigned to an anti-gang mission and were attacked while traveling to Omoa from the capital, Tegucigalpa, police said.

National Police spokesperson Edgardo Barahona said earlier Thursday that determining the death toll in Trujillo was complicated partly because relatives of the victims have removed bodies of their loved ones. Investigators have been sent to the scene, he said.

The National Police and armed forces will respond to both of the areas where attacks took place, and teams including forensic specialists and prosecutors will be formed to investigate, the Security Ministry said.

Honduras has struggled with high rates of crime linked to gangs and the transnational drug trade, although its homicide rate has decreased significantly in recent years since a 2011 peak of 83 murders per 100,000 residents, according to the World Bank.

International human rights organizations have criticized Honduras for its militarized approach to fighting crime, which they say has led to human rights abuses including torture, forced disappearances and extrajudicial killings.

This includes a three-year state of exception to suspend some constitutional rights and grant more power to security forces that ended in January 2026.

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## 1 person has died after blast at New York City shipyard that also injured 36 people, officials say.

By MICHAEL R. SISAK and REBECCA BOONE Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — One person has died after a fire and two explosions Friday at a New York City shipyard, officials say.

Officials said 36 people were injured, most of them firefighters and other first responders, and one civilian died at the scene.

A firefighter and a fire marshal were inside the structure when a second explosion happened, and both were seriously injured by the shock wave from the blast.

"This was a complex, fast-developing emergency situation," New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani said during a news conference Friday evening.

Multiple people called the fire department around 3:30 p.m., reporting smoke and two workers trapped in the basement of a 150-foot by 150-foot (46 meters by 46 meters) metal structure at the back of the shipyard, Fire Commissioner Lillian Bonsignore said.

Firefighting and EMS crews were on the scene within six minutes. But shortly after they arrived, an explosion occurred, causing serious injuries to multiple fire department members and a couple of civilians, Bonsignore said — including one who died at the scene.

Five firefighters and rescue paramedics were searching for the trapped workers inside, on top of and next to the structure when the second blast occurred, said Chief of Department John Esposito, causing more injuries.

The most serious injuries happened to a fire marshal and a firefighter who were inside and hit by the energy wave from the blast.

"Confined spaces are very dangerous operations for any rescuers," Esposito said.

The fire marshal is in critical but stable condition with a fractured skull and a small brain bleed, said the fire department's chief medical officer Dr. David Prezant.

"We will be watching him very carefully over the next 24 hours to make certain there is not subsequent brain swelling. As long as there is not, he should do well," Prezant said.

The firefighter was in serious condition when he arrived at the hospital. But Prezant said he was doing "very well" by Friday evening, and he was being observed to ensure he doesn't have muscle injuries.

The fire was still burning but under control Friday night, with more than 200 firefighters still at the scene, Mamdani said. A comprehensive investigation into the cause of the fire will begin as soon as possible, he said.

Richard Oviogor, who was in the area, told WABC-TV that he heard two explosions and what seemed like a "big shock wave."

The area is home to several businesses, including a coffee roasting company and a self-storage facility. The shipyard used to be owned by the Bethlehem Steel Company, which built ships for the U.S. Navy during World War II.

## Today in History: May 24, the Uvalde school shooting

By The Associated Press undefined

Today is Sunday, May 24, the 144th day of 2026. There are 221 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On May 24, 2022, an 18-year-old gunman opened fire at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, killing 19 children and two teachers. The gunman, Salvador Ramos, a former student at the school, was also killed. It was the deadliest shooting at a U.S. elementary school since the 2012 attack on Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut.

Also on this date:

In 1844, Samuel F.B. Morse transmitted the message "What hath God wrought" from Washington to Baltimore as he formally opened America's first telegraph line.

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In 1883, New York's Brooklyn Bridge, at the time the world's longest suspension bridge, opened to traffic.  
In 1935, the first Major League Baseball game to be played at night took place at Cincinnati's Crosley Field as the Reds beat the Philadelphia Phillies, 2-1.

In 1937, in a pair of rulings, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Social Security Act of 1935.

In 1941, during World War II, the German battleship Bismarck sank the British battle cruiser HMS Hood in the North Atlantic, killing all but three of the 1,418 men on board. (The Bismarck would be sunk by British battleships three days later.)

In 1962, astronaut Scott Carpenter became the second American to orbit the Earth as he flew aboard the Aurora 7 Mercury spacecraft.

In 1974, American jazz composer and bandleader Duke Ellington, 75, died in New York.

In 1994, four Islamic extremists convicted of bombing New York's World Trade Center in 1993 were each sentenced to 240 years in prison.

In 2021, the European Union agreed to impose sanctions on Belarus over the forced diversion of a Ryanair jetliner flying from Greece to Lithuania to arrest journalist Raman Pratasevich, a key foe of authoritarian Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian Tommy Chong is 88. Musician Bob Dylan is 85. Actor Gary Burghoff (M(asterisk)A(asterisk)S(asterisk)H) is 83. Singer Patti LaBelle is 82. Actor Priscilla Presley is 81. Actor Jim Broadbent is 77. Cinematographer Roger Deakins is 77. Actor Alfred Molina is 73. Musician Rosanne Cash is 71. Actor Kristin Scott Thomas is 66. Author Michael Chabon is 63. Basketball Hall of Famer Joe Dumars is 63. Actor John C. Reilly is 61. Basketball Hall of Famer Tracy McGrady is 47. Dancer-choreographer Mark Ballas is 40. Country singer Billy Gilman is 38. Rapper G-Eazy is 37. Actor Brianne Howey is 37. Actor Daisy Edgar-Jones is 28.