

Groton Daily Independent

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Sunday, June 21

FATHER'S DAY

FIRST DAY OF SUMMER

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.

United Methodist: Worship at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.

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

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.

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

Sr. Legion at Heritage Tournament, Milbank

U12 Baseball - Groton Tournament

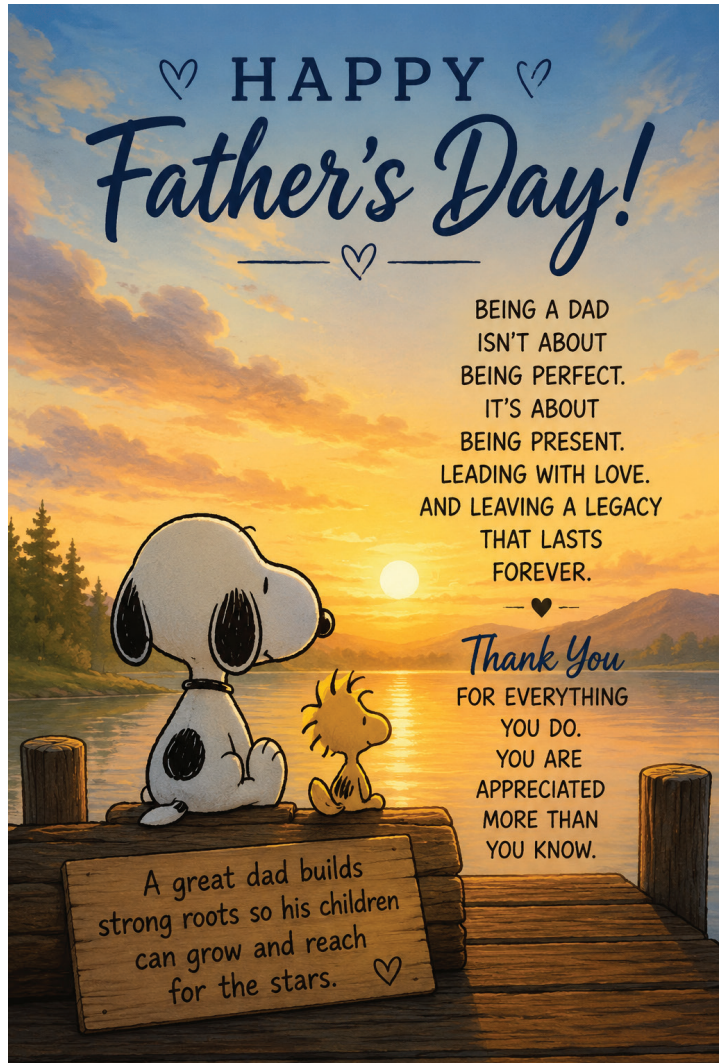
U14 Baseball: Hosts Clark, 4:00

Groton Daily Independent

PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445

Paul's Cell/Text: 605-397-7460

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Monday, June 22

Senior Menu: Spanish rice with hamburger, corn, fruit, whole wheat bread, sherbet.

Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center with potluck at noon

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

Rumble in the Jungle Boys Basketball Team Camp, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Arena/Gym

Jr. Legion at Sisseton, 5:30 p.m.

U12 Softball hosts Clark, DH, 6 p.m., (B&G)

U10 Softball hosts Clark, DH, 6 p.m., (W&G)

T-Ball girls at Brentford, 6 p.m.

T-Ball boys at Brentford, 7 p.m.

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We the People

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



By David Adler

Defiance of Reason, Law and the Constitution: The Spirit of Trump's Presidency

Donald Trump's misbegotten war in Iran reflects the worst aspects of his presidency. In defiance of reason, law and the Constitution, President Trump plunged the United States into a war of choice that has cost taxpayers tens of billions of dollars, rattled the world economy, spiked energy prices, inflicted immense pain on the pocketbooks of Americans, undermined our international leadership, stained our image and reputation abroad and, in the end, left Iran in possession of its enriched uranium, in a position to militarily threaten and intimidate its neighbors and control the Strait of Hormuz, at will.

The consequences of President Trump's disastrous exercise in unilateral, unconstitutional presidential warmaking is a function of the spirit of his presidency, defined by reckless and lawless policies and actions. Trump's presidency, the culmination of a long train of abuses of power and injuries inflicted on the Republic and the American people, reflects the many misguided, ill-conceived, illegal and unconstitutional actions that have colored his administration since the beginning of his second term. An abbreviated laundry list of Trump's misbegotten acts range from his grant of full and unconditional pardons to the 1,600 insurrectionists who beat Capitol Hill police officers and attempted to stop the solemn constitutional process of counting the Electoral College votes, to his self-aggrandizing scheme to grant himself, his family and businesses from IRS audits, to the conception and construction of a White House ballroom which, he said, at its rollout, would involve no taxpayer dollars, but upon examination of records will cost upwards of \$600 million, half of which will be borne by Americans struggling to pay for food, healthcare and gasoline.

While we're at it, there is no reason to omit mention of the consideration inside the inner sanctum of Trump's administration to invoke the Insurrection Act to empower ICE agents and members of the military to shutdown peaceful protestors in Minneapolis, or the insidious proposal to suspend, in defiance of both the Constitution and a recent Supreme Court ruling, the great Writ of Habeas Corpus to expedite the mass deportation of newly arrived undocumented immigrants, as well as those who have been in the United States for many years working, contributing to society and likely paying more in taxes than, for example, Donald Trump. Trump's misappropriation of funds allocated to the Secret Service for use in the construction of his coveted ballroom would, from the founders' perspective, constitute an impeachable offense as a piece of a long string of acts reflecting his unconstitutional aggrandizement of the congressional power to tax and spend. Want to talk about Trump's usurpation of powers granted exclusively to Congress? Consider the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, the foundation of all American liberties, which dates to the Magna Carta of 1215. Consider, as well, his usurpation of the war power, which the framers of the Constitution granted solely and exclusively to Congress, for fear of what James Madison called the executive's reckless propensity to make war.

Madison's warning could not be more timely, given Trump's failed war in Iran. Trump falsely brags about victory and triumph in the war, but the reality, of course, is far different. Trump's war has been an exercise in calamity and capitulation. Trump has not satisfied any of the goals that he advanced for going to war.

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There has been no regime change in Iran. There is, among the new faces of leadership, no change in views and values; indeed, those who have mounted the throne of power in Iran are, if anything, more brutal than the men who had inflicted horrific violence upon the Iranian people. The Strait of Hormuz which, before Trump initiated war on February 28, was understood across the world and, most importantly, inside Iran, as an international waterway, open for free transit to all ships. After four months of war, Iran now understands that it can control the Strait, and with it, the global economy. Iran's military has been weakened, but it remains dangerous and is brimming with confidence after withstanding the power of the American military. If anything, the U.S. military has been weakened, in substance for its depletion of missiles, and as a matter of reputation, for the military, once seen as invincible is now viewed, under the leadership of President Trump, as one that can be stymied by a moderately powerful military.

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

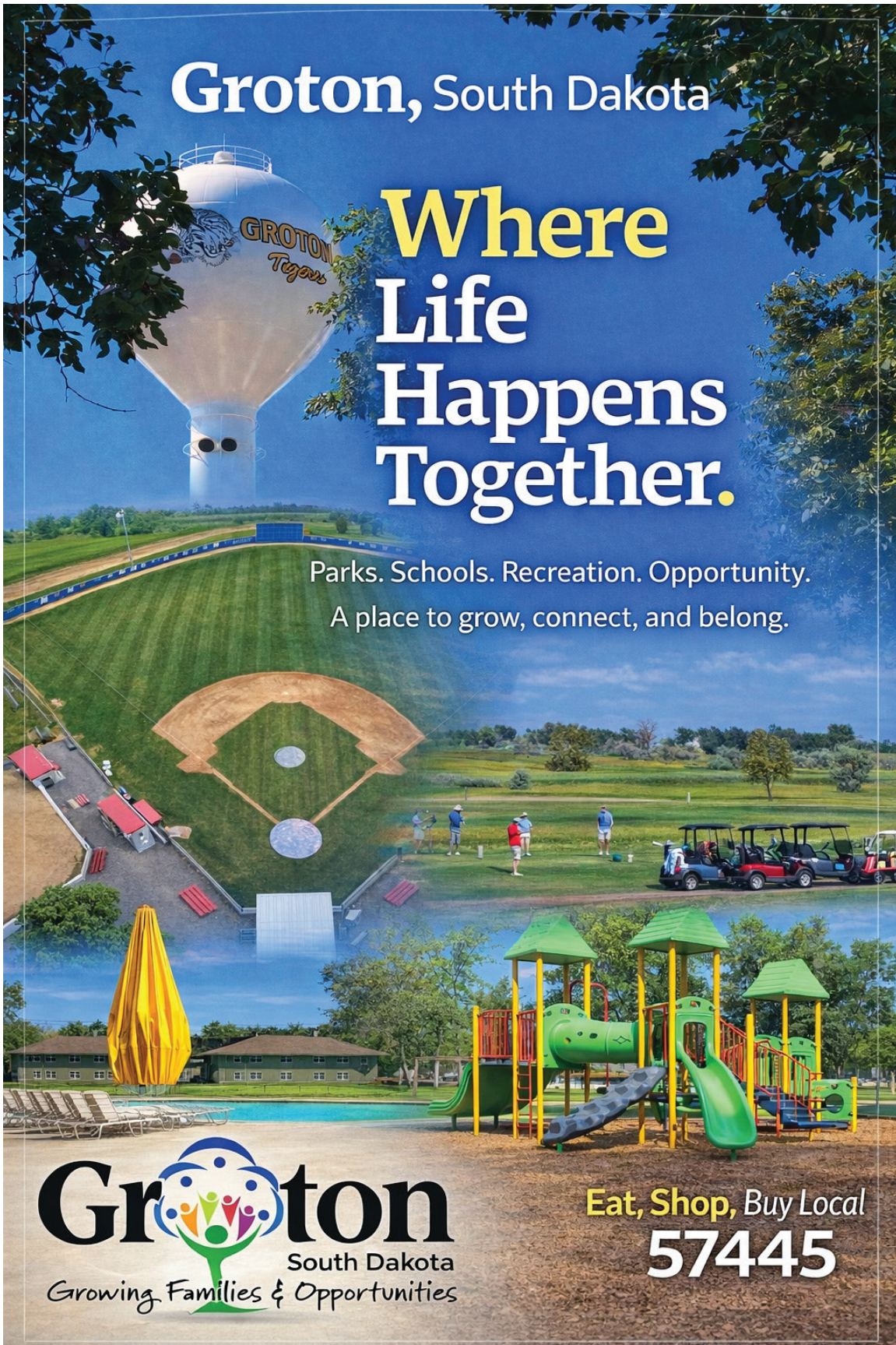
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Groton, South Dakota

Where
Life
Happens
Together.

Parks. Schools. Recreation. Opportunity.
A place to grow, connect, and belong.



Groton
South Dakota
Growing Families & Opportunities

Eat, Shop, Buy Local
57445

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Parkston hands Groton Legion Post 39 a 4-1 setback

PARKSTON — Groton Legion Post 39 managed just four hits Saturday as Parkston Sr. Legion Post 194 claimed a 4-1 victory.

Groton struck first in the top of the third inning. Carter Simon drove in the game's opening run when he reached on a fielder's choice, giving Post 39 a brief 1-0 advantage.

Parkston answered in the bottom half of the inning, taking the lead for good. Grady Bowar delivered a run-scoring single as Post 194 scored twice to move in front 2-1. Parkston added two more runs later in the game to provide the final margin.

Jarrett Erdmann turned in a solid effort on the mound for Groton, working 5 2/3 innings while allowing four runs on seven hits. He struck out six and walked four. Bowar went the distance for Parkston, surrendering just one run on four hits over seven innings while striking out seven and issuing one walk.

Lincoln Krause, Isaiah Scepaniak, Gavin Englund and Jordan Schwan each recorded a hit for Groton. Simon drove in the team's lone run.

Defensively, Groton played an error-free game. Karsten Fliehs led the way in the field with six defensive chances.

Bowar paced Parkston offensively with two RBIs, while Mason Jervik collected two hits to lead Post 194 at the plate.

Groton Legion Post 39 returns to action Tuesday when it hosts Milbank.



LIVE MUSIC
AT THE LEGION!

LIZZY
HOFER

PLAYING
FRIDAY
JUNE 26

9 P.M. TO 1 A.M.
GROTON
AMERICAN LEGION

GREAT MUSIC ★ COLD DRINKS ★ GOOD TIMES
≡ **EVERYONE WELCOME!** ≡



for Ida Hannon's 90th Birthday

Ida will be turning 90 on July 7th! While a party isn't possible this year, we still want to make her day extra memorable. We'd like for her dearest friends and family (that's you!) to send her a card or gift this year. Include a message, old memories, photos, or simply birthday wishes.

Help us make her day one that she won't forget.

We will gather the cards and gifts for her to have on her big day.

please mail your card/gifts to:

Ida hannon (granddaughter
Michelle)

1208 appollo ave
Aberdeen SD, 57401
by July 11th

*thank you
for making this day extra special for my
grandma.*



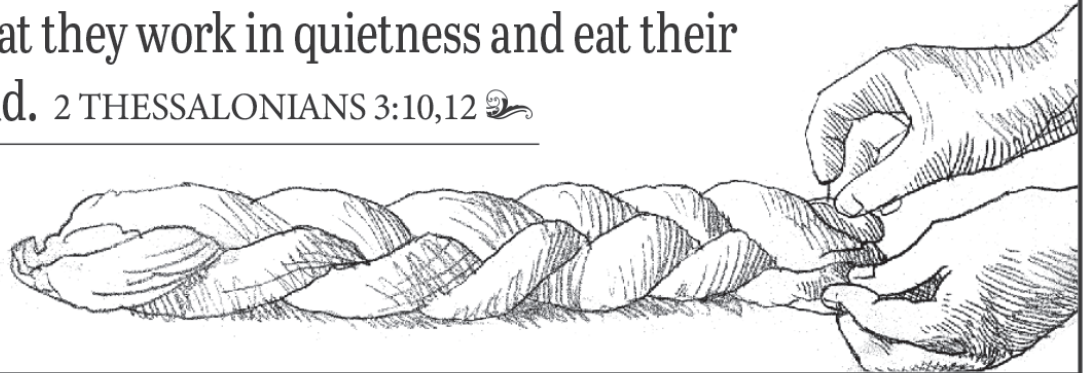
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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

...Even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread. 2 THESSALONIANS 3:10,12



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BIBLE

TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 2 Peter (KJV) in Old or New Testament or neither?

2. From Matthew 4, how many days and nights did Jesus fast before his temptation by Satan? 3, 12, 40, 7 x 70

3. Who said, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away"? *Satan, Adam, Job, Haman*

4. From Proverbs 6, what is held up as an example to the lazy man? *Bee, Flea, Locust, Ant*

5. How old was Abram when Hagar bore Ishmael? 19, 39, 68, 86

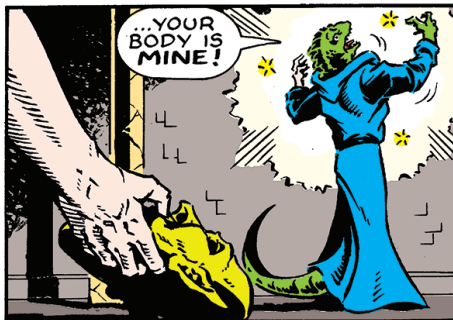
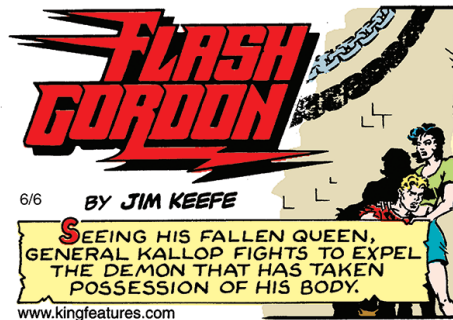
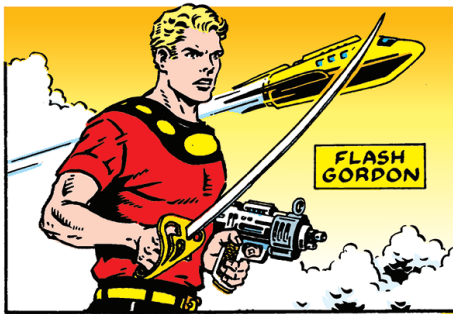
6. From Acts 13:1, where was Lucius from? *Cyrene, Zion, Sodom, Canaan*

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) 40, 3) Job, 4) Ant, 5) 86, 6) Cyrene

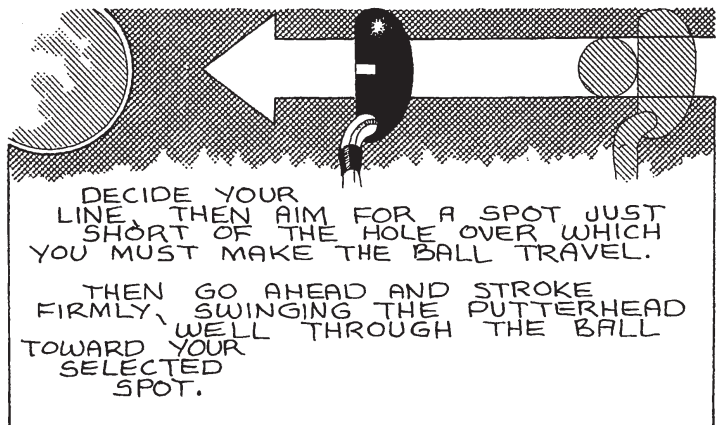
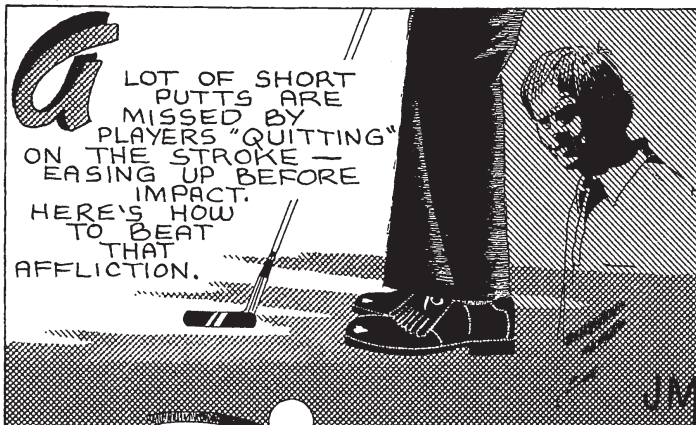
Find expanded trivia online with Wilson Casey at www.patreon.com/triviaguy. FREE TRIAL!

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Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS





High Cortisol Causes Patient To Feel Awful Amid Normal Tests

DEAR DR. ROACH: I've been feeling just awful. My doctor put me through the normal tests, and all were good. A neurologist recommended that I get a cortisol test. I did, and it showed a high cortisol level. I'd never heard of this. Would you explain what high cortisol is, how it's treated, and if there are any natural cures or therapies? -- S.K.

ANSWER: Cortisol is a critical hormone that is needed for the function of many body systems. Without cortisone, the body can't respond to stress, and a stressful event can literally kill a patient.

A medical condition called Addison's disease is when the body can't make cortisol (a type of steroid called a glucocorticoid). People with this condition need to take replacement cortisol or a synthetic form daily, and they need to take higher doses when under stress to prevent this. Addison's disease was most often caused by tuberculosis, but the leading cause of Addison's is an autoimmune disease of the adrenal cortex (where cortisone is made). People usually feel weak and tired with Addison's.

Cushing's syndrome is the opposite, where the body makes too much cortisone. The most common cause for this is a benign tumor. In Cushing's syndrome, the list of possible symptoms is seemingly endless, but fatigue and muscle weakness, weight gain in the abdomen but muscle loss in the limbs, and skin and hair changes are common. People can experience the same problem when taking high doses of cortisol or similar steroids such as prednisone, hydrocortisone or dexamethasone.

A cortisol level of 18 isn't diagnostic of Cushing's but almost certainly excludes Addison's disease. Depending on the time of day, cortisol levels can be between 5-25 mcg/dL, so a level of 18 mcg/dL in the morning may be normal. People with high levels of stress tend to have high to normal cortisol levels.

In contrast, a level of 18 mcg/dL at bedtime would be a very concerning sign for Cushing's. If your doctors were worried about Cushing's, additional testing could be recommended such as a 24-hour urine cortisol test, a bedtime salivary cortisol test, or checking the blood cortisol after suppressing its release with medication.

An endocrinologist is the expert in making the diagnosis and treating diseases of the adrenal hormones, including Addison's and Cushing's.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I'm 77 years old and concerned about getting a prostate biopsy. My last PSA test jumped from 2.25 to 3.75 ng/mL, and an MRI came back healthy and normal with a PI-RADS code of 2. My urologist suggested a biopsy to be sure that everything is OK, but he also felt comfortable if I wanted to wait six months and get another PSA test done.

I am in good health, exercise regularly, and am not on any medications. Also, can strenuous bike riding affect my PSA score? -- W.B.

ANSWER: A PI-RADS score of 2 means that there's a small chance of clinically significant prostate cancer. The best estimate of your risk is between 4% and 6%. One question I'd ask is whether you'd undergo surgery if a biopsy showed cancer. Surgery is associated with a worsened quality of life; erectile dysfunction and incontinence are common shortly after surgery and persist in many men.

The evidence suggests that in men over 75, surgery doesn't improve their length of life. In a large study, the length of life was actually decreased in men over 75. Radiation treatment is a reasonable alternative for men with symptomatic prostate cancer, so in the unlikely event that you develop symptoms from prostate cancer, this would be a reasonable approach.

Also, bike riding (250 miles over four days) had an increase of less than 0.1 ng/mL for a PSA test.

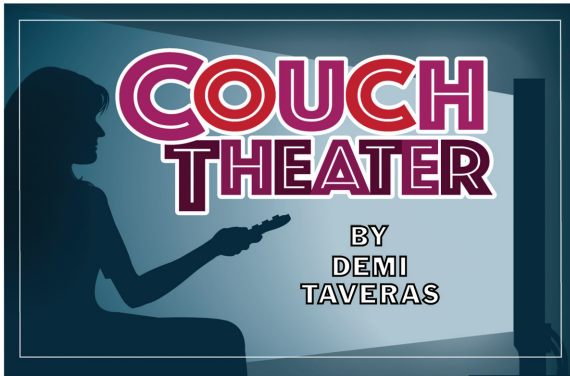
Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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Eric Andre, left, and John Cena star in "Little Brother." (Courtesy of Netflix)

"House of the Dragon: Season 3" (TV-MA) -- Fans of the "House of the Dragon" series have been waiting two years for this season premiere, and because much of the second season was a build-up to the third season. Eight episodes

long, the season kicked off on June 21 with episodes premiering every Sunday night at 9 p.m. ET. Heads of Team Black, Matt Smith ("The Death of Bunny Munro") and Emma D'Arcy ("Rhoda"), are back in their respective roles of Daemon and Rhaenyra as they brace themselves for war against Team Green. At the end of last season, viewers learned that Otto Hightower was taken captive, Rhaena finally found her wild dragon, and "King" Aegon and Larys fled the city together in secret. Get your flagons of wine and mead ready for what should be a memorable season! (HBO Max)

"Little Brother" (R) -- Guess we've lived long enough to see John Cena ("Heads of State") go from playing the funny guy in a buddy comedy to playing the serious one! (What range, am I right?) In this film premiering June 26, Cena plays Rudd, a type-A real estate agent who lives an orderly life with his wife (Michelle Monaghan) and sons. When he receives sudden news that his estranged "brother," Marcus (Eric Andre), was in a car accident, the incident leads them to reconnect. The thing is ... Marcus isn't really Rudd's brother; they met as kids through a "Big Brother, Little Brother" program. So, when Marcus starts causing havoc in Rudd's perfect life, Rudd wonders if having a brotherly bond is worth all this trouble. Ego Nwodim ("Saturday Night Live") and Christopher Meloni ("IF") co-star. (Netflix)

"Strung" (TV-MA) -- This latest Peacock original film is a psychological thriller from Blumhouse Productions, led by Chloe Bailey ("Fight Night: The Million Dollar Heist") and Lynn Whitfield ("Eyes of Wakanda"). Bailey plays a violinist named Layla, who signs on to be a live-in music tutor for a young girl from a wealthy family. Upon meeting the young girl, Layla is put off by an odd mask that the girl carries, as well as an ominous air that permeates the house. On top of this, the girl's mother, Jasmine (Coco Jones), becomes increasingly hostile toward Layla, leaving her to think that she made a terrible mistake in taking this job. Lucien Laviscount ("People We Meet on Vacation") and Anna Diop ("The Man in My Basement") co-star in the film, which premieres on June 26. (Peacock)

"Queens of the Dead" (TV-MA) -- This campy zombie-comedy film is a great watch for Pride Month, and hopefully, it'll pave the way for more queer horror in the future. Led by Katy O'Brian ("Love Lies Bleeding"), the film takes place on the night of a giant warehouse party in Bushwick. Club owner Dre (O'Brian) is scattered in her preparation for the party, which makes her warehouse the prime spot for a zombie attack. Later that night, as zombies start blending into the chaos of the party, drag queens, club kids and disco dolls are forced to join forces and put up a gnarly fight against the monsters. Premieres June 26. (Hulu)

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1. Who were Holland-Dozier-Holland?
2. Which group was the first to release "I'll Never Find Another You"?
3. Who was Mack in "Mack the Knife"?
4. Which artist wrote and released "It's All Over Now, Baby Blue"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "I wait in the darkness of my lonely room, Filled with sadness, filled with gloom."

Answers

1. Also known as HDH, the three (Brian Holland, Lamont Dozier and Eddie Holland) were a trio of writers famous for

creating what came to be known as the Motown sound.

2. The Seekers, in 1964. The Australian group had success around the globe with the song, including on the U.S. Hot 100 list.

3. Mack was Macheath, a serial underworld criminal in the original 1928 German play "The Threepenny Opera." Of all the covers of the song, the 1959 version by Bobby Darin is the most popular.

4. Bob Dylan, in 1965.

5. "Band of Gold," by Freda Payne, in 1970. The song tells of the bride who spent her wedding night in a separate room. Over the years the song has been covered by several others, including Bonnie Tyler, Charly McClain and Kimberley Locke.

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Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN and BEAR IT

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"I'll put you on hold while I try to calm him down."

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Lapel is different. 2. Bow tie is missing. 3. Sign is smaller. 4. Napkin holder is missing. 5. Ear is smaller. 6. Sleeve is shorter.

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* Having a yard sale? Here's a great way to put out extra signs when you don't have a way to stake them into the ground: "Write your sign advertising your yard sale on the sides of a big box. Place it where you want it, and add a large rock to the inside, then tape shut. We did this when we had no poles to tape signs to or any other way to get them to stand up. It worked really well!" -- D.R. in Georgia

* Avoid calling the pediatrician's office on Monday mornings for routine business. Wait until the afternoon. All the parents with mildly sick children over the weekend will be calling to consult with the doctor and nurses first thing when the office opens.

* If you drop an egg, sprinkle with salt before you attempt to clean it up. The salt binds the whites, which will not spread, making pickup easier!

* "My kids had kind of an obsession with colorful duct tape in the past year, and we made some "beach bags" to keep our electronics safe at the pool, lake and beach. We carefully covered a variety of sizes of zip-top self-sealing bags with the tape, creating tough, colorful pouches in which we can store cellphones, etc., to keep them safe from water damage." -- W.L. in North Carolina

* You can sharpen scissors by cutting folded aluminum foil into small strips.

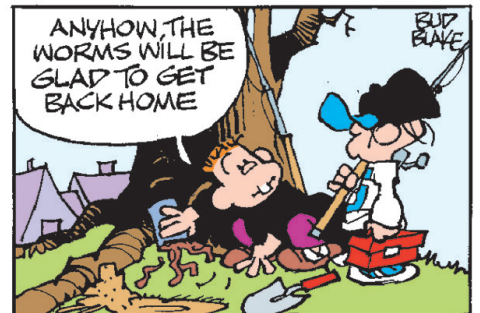
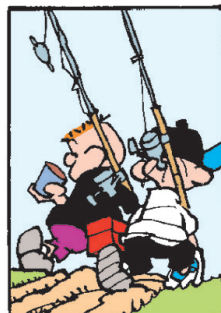
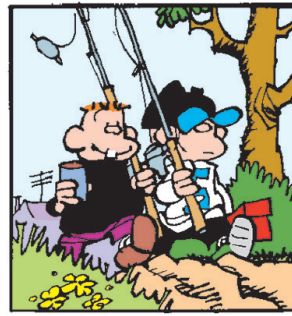
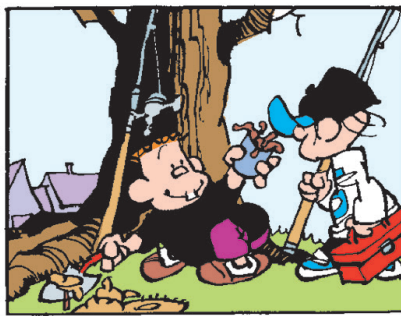
* The best time of day to water your lawn is the evening. The cooler temperatures allow the water to sink into the soil instead of evaporating with the heat of the day. Always follow your city or county guidelines on watering times for your area.

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 "Caught ya!"
4 Spring melt-down
8 Baby's bed
12 Barbecue seasoning
13 Meditative exercise
14 Verdi heroine
15 Muffin-like treats
17 General — Chicken
18 Couturier Christian
19 Bracelet site
20 Liniment targets
22 "Arrivederci —"
24 One-named supermodel
25 Castle features
29 Unruly group
30 Ram
31 Solidify
32 Short extracts
34 Taj Mahal site
35 TV host Kelly
36 Analyze
37 Poultry choice
40 Humdrum
41 Honker
42 Marching band section
46 Scrambled wd.

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
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46					47					48		
49					50					51		

- 47 Gumbo need
48 Language akin to Thai
49 Sleep phenomena
50 Whig rival
51 Bagel topper
7 Existed
8 40 winks
9 Jeopardize
10 Teen fave
11 Pyramid part
16 Carriage
19 You love (Lat.)
20 Goals
21 "Let's go!"
22 Indian yogurt dish
23 Unrefined metals
25 Get ready, briefly
26 Paint finish
27 Prefix with byte
28 Do in
30 Neat as —
33 Plug parts
34 Now, on a memo
36 Makeup brand
37 Scorch
38 Highly rated
39 Baby carriage
40 Duelist Aaron
42 Youngster
43 MGM rival
44 Eastern path
45 Boston team, for short

DOWN

- 1 Curved line
2 "Ben- —"
3 Middle Eastern capital
4 Printing errors
5 Farmer, at times
6 Literary rep

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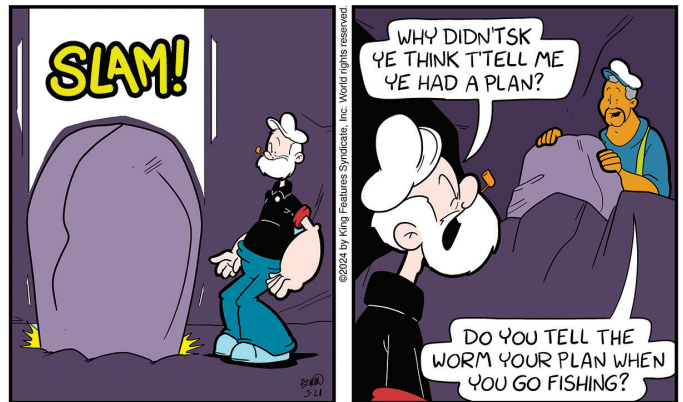
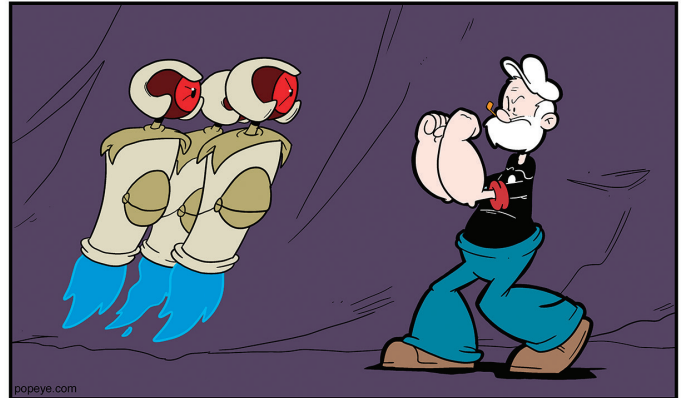
— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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



Out on a Limb

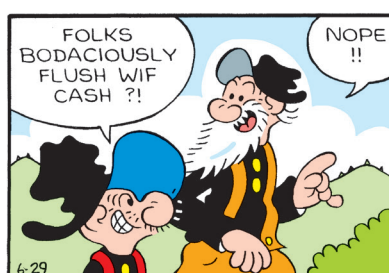
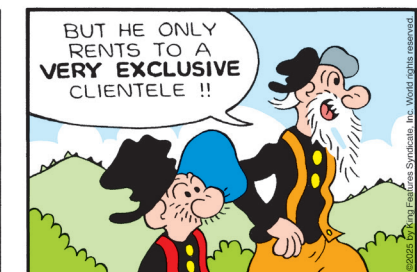
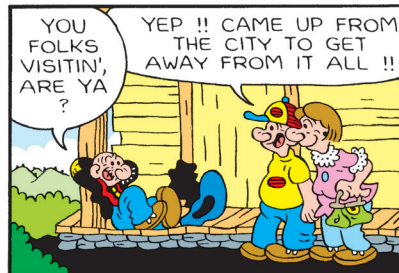
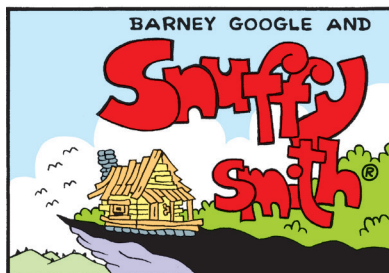
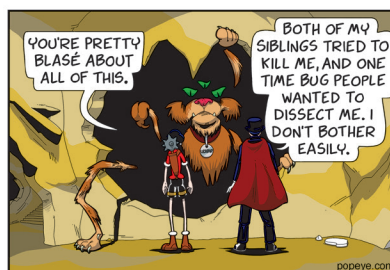
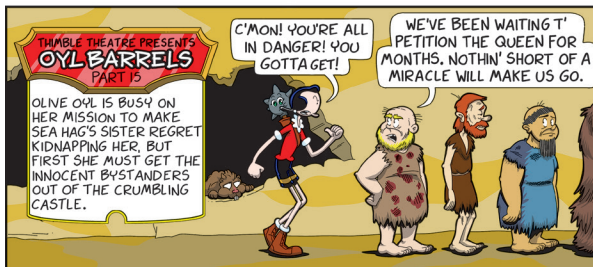
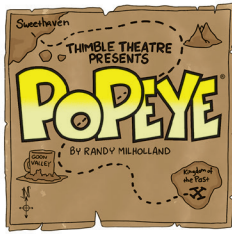
by Gary Kopervas



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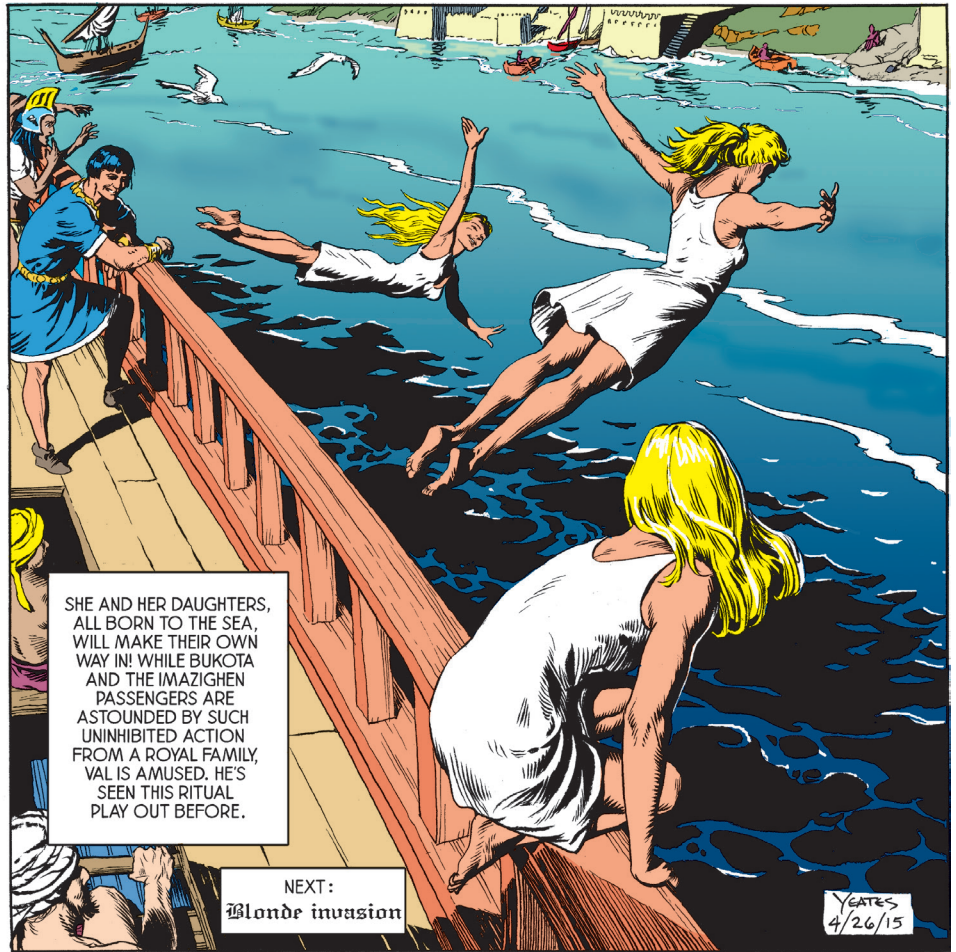
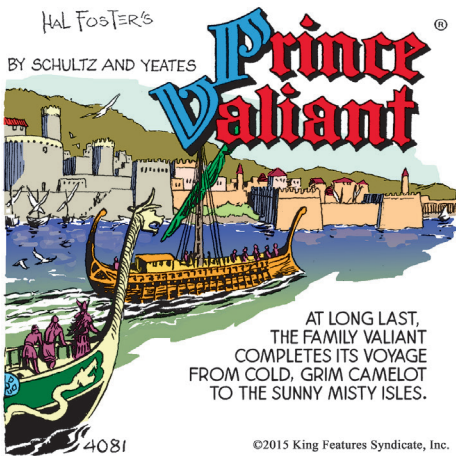
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The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Skimmer scams

Scammers are creative, you have to give them that. They come up with ways to steal from us that we've never thought about.

One new alleged scam involves a task we do frequently: pump gas into our car.

This scam has the thief inserting a tiny screw into the cradle where the nozzle rests on the pump. When you let go of the handle after pumping your gas and put it back in the cradle, it hasn't really released. The machine thinks it's still in the middle of a transaction. The minute you drive away, a scammer can come along and continue pumping gas into his own vehicle, leaving you with the bill for it.

The good news? This scam is a hoax. While it's all over the internet, it's (apparently) not a real scam.

However, there are genuine scams involving sales anywhere you put your credit card into a machine. Beware of the following:

Credit card skimmers:- Similar to what you'd look for at the ATM at your bank's drive-up, these little gadgets can read your card information or steal your PIN. Do an online search for "How to spot a credit card skimmer."

People who just want to help: If you've finished pumping gas and someone approaches you saying they will put the handle back, don't fall for it. This person won't put the handle all the way back into the pump (similar to the screw scam), making the machine think it's still an active transaction. When you drive off, they'll fill their own vehicle.

Self-checkout at the big box store: Before you start scanning your items, be sure there is nothing left on the screen from the previous customer. It's possible for them to scan an item and leave the transaction unfinished, until you come along and include their item in your own purchase.

As always, be aware.

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1. Which NBA expansion team began its inaugural 1988-89 season by losing its first 17 games?

2. Lennox Lewis was handed the WBC heavy-weight championship in 1992 after which boxer refused to fight him in a mandatory title defense?

3. Name the South Korean golfer who won the 2020 U.S. Women's Open by one stroke after scoring birdies on the last three holes.

4. Which two college football teams compete for the Arch Rivalry Trophy?

5. Which Rhode Island-based team played in the NFL from 1925 to 1931 and won the 1928 NFL championship?

6. Former NFL linebacker Spencer Paysinger inspired which sports drama TV series that premiered on The CW in 2018?

7. He served as president and CEO of the Green Bay Packers from 1989 to 2006. His son is a college basketball and NFL play-by-play announcer for CBS. Who are they?



by Ryan A. Berenz

Answers

1. The Miami Heat.

2. Riddick Bowe.

3. A Lim Kim (Kim A-lim).

4. The Illinois Fighting Illini and the Missouri Tigers.

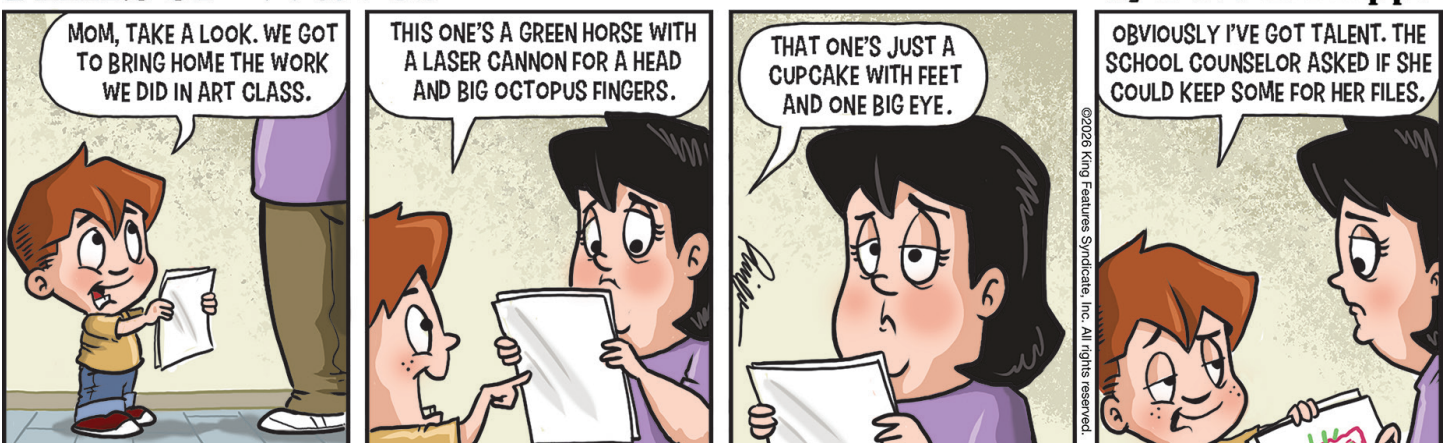
5. The Providence Steam Roller.

6. "All American."

7. Bob and Kevin Harlan.

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Amber Waves



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DEAR PAW'S CORNER: It is I, Oliver le Chat, informing you that we, ze cats of the planet Earth, are on the verge of world domination! We have many demands, but we are starting with just one: declare cats the greatest species ze world has ever seen! Yours balefully -- Oliver (the Cat)

DEAR OLIVER: OK, OK, fine! In honor of Cat World Domination Day on June 24, I'll do my best.

Cats are perhaps the greatest hunters, per capita, the world has ever seen. Sparrows and small creatures fall between their paws. Family dogs cower when they hear the yowl of the mighty hunter. They win the hearts of humans with a simple tiny "mew."

The genome of the cat is 95.6% tiger. Cats were once worshiped as tiny temperamental gods in Egypt. If they'd been better respected in medieval Europe, the Black Death that raged from 1346-1353 CE might not have happened. (It was spread by rats.) Today, the cat is the most popular pet in the U.S., with at least 74.2 million prowling living rooms across the country.

Cats have more bones than humans: 230 vs. 206. They can jump up to six times their length. And they have twice the amount of neurons in their cerebral cortex as dogs.

Now, don't get jealous, Oliver, but Stubbs, a ginger cat, served as honorary mayor of Talkeetna, Alaska, from 1997 to 2017.

Thanks to their association with humans, better overall care (including spaying and neutering), the lifespan of cats has steadily increased and is currently 13 to 17 years!

Now put down the catnip before someone gets hurt.

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

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Strange BUT TRUE

* Chuck Norris had his own line of jeans called "Action Jeans."

* At the time of its release, Grand Theft Auto 5 is the most expensive video game ever made -- \$265 million in production costs.

* Diet Coke isn't a modified form of Coke, but a totally different recipe.

* A brand of anti-chafing foot powder won a 1967 mayoral election in Picoaza, Ecuador. Its platform? The product was

touted as potentially bringing hygiene and well-being to the town of 4,000.

* The youngest soldier in the American Civil War was a 9-year-old boy from Mississippi, while the oldest was an 80-year-old man from Iowa.

* After the 9/11 tragedy in 2001, cyclist David Hale Sylvester began bicycling-and-hugging tours all over the world and staged multiple "hug parties" on three continents. As of 2021, he had hugged more than half a million people.

* Australian tennis player Samuel Groth once served a ball that was clocked at an astonishing 163.6 mph.

* Danish, Anglo-Saxon and Norman men were known for elaborate hairstyles and grooming, sometimes even before battle.

* According to practitioners, shiatsu massages should always be given with the recipient lying on the floor rather than on a table or chair.

* A Florida judge once called Elvis Presley "savage" for "undermining the youth."

* Tilapia are painted on ancient Egyptian tomb walls and included in a spell in the Egyptian Book of the Dead to help the deceased take their place in the sun boat.

* Up to 75% of people with Down syndrome have some hearing loss.

* Ancient Roman priestesses known as Vestal Virgins were required to remain virgins for 30 years; those convicted of breaking their vows could be buried alive.

Thought for the Day: "Time you enjoy wasting was not wasted." -- John Lennon

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Front door refreshing

Plants, attractive decor and tidiness play an important part in welcoming your guests.

- Pressure-wash and paint your entryway walls, sidewalks and door, if needed. Make sure your walkway is visible and safe.
- Place healthy, seasonal plantings adjacent to the walkway to your door. Keep them pest-free and trimmed back, so they cannot obscure your walkway.



Source: www.bhg.com

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by Freddy Groves

Veteran discounts

Are you taking advantage of the discounts available to you as a veteran? Discounts let you keep cash in your wallet, and there are more deals out there than you might imagine.

One of my favorites is the 10% discount from Lowe's and Home Depot. With summer, there are always projects, always a new hardware item or tool I need, and that discount helps. As an FYI, there's no limit to how many discounts I can get at Lowe's,

but there is an annual limit at Home Depot. (I've never hit it.)

There is a Bass Pro Shop discount on outdoor gear, as well as one for firearms and ammo. Look for discounts at L.L. Bean. T-Mobile will save you 40% on family phone lines and 50% off Paramount+, which will get you new movies, sports and Showtime.

Travel, restaurants, music events, you name it, there's a veteran discount available.

One thing to consider is how you'll prove you're a veteran when you try to claim your discount. Many places will just accept your VA health card. Some will want your Veteran ID card, and all states have the veteran designation on your driver's license. To get this, check your state's requirements. You might need to show up at a DMV with a copy of your DD214 when you apply for the veteran designation. This is very handy to have, by the way, as many places will take that as proof of your veteran status.

Quite a few companies are going with SheerID as a means of proving your veteran status and getting a discount. SheerID handles identification for all types of groups, including students, first responders, seniors and veterans.

Check out SheerID as best you can, which you should always do before giving anyone your private information (support.sheerid.com/en-US/help-center). Check out their webpage on military verification to see what documents you'd have to show. Be sure you're comfortable with it before you sign up.

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Wishing Well®

3	2	6	5	2	4	8	3	5	2	7	2	7
T	C	S	S	E	I	N	R	P	L	S	E	T
4	5	4	8	6	5	4	6	3	5	6	3	4
M	E	P	E	E	A	O	E	U	K	K	T	R
5	8	5	7	4	2	4	3	5	3	6	4	5
W	V	I	A	T	B	A	H	T	I	A	N	H
2	4	8	4	2	4	2	7	2	5	3	6	5
R	T	E	M	A	A	T	Y	E	C	S	D	A
4	8	2	6	2	3	2	7	4	8	2	6	7
I	R	L	V	I	R	V	O	L	Q	I	E	N
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N	T	U	N	R	D	G	E	A	I	O	C	N
3	8	6	5	7	3	6	3	6	3	6	3	3
V	T	T	R	K	E	U	A	R	L	E	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. TELEVISION: Which TV sitcom features a pet pig named Arnold Ziffel?

2. GEOGRAPHY: Which three countries make up Scandinavia?

3. MONEY: When was the euro currency introduced?

4. MEDICAL TERMS: What is a more common name for myocardial infarction?

5. MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Egyptian god of the underworld?

6. MOVIES: What is the building whose steps Rocky Balboa climbs triumphantly in the movie "Rocky"?

7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which three signs of the Zodiac are considered to be water signs?

8. GAMES: How many wooden blocks are in a game of Jenga?

9. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the Petrified Forest National Park?

10. ANATOMY: Which system in the human body is responsible for hormone production and regulation?

Answers

1. "Green Acres."
2. Denmark, Sweden and Finland.
3. 1999.
4. Heart attack.
5. Osiris.
6. The Philadelphia Museum of Art.
7. Pisces, Cancer and Scorpio.
8. 54.
9. Arizona.
10. Endocrine.

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South Dakota Governor



Larry Rhoden



South Dakota: *Under God, the People Rule*

National Security for the Next Generation

Engaging with the next generation keeps me focused on what's important: South Dakota's future. Recently, Sandy and I hosted all of the state government interns for a picnic. This is an annual summer tradition at the Governor's Residence, and it's a pretty special one. I love hearing all of their dreams for their future careers, and I'm glad that internships in state government can help turn those dreams into reality!

To make that happen, we need cutting-edge jobs. Our defense industry is key to setting our state and nation up for long-term success, especially when it comes to career opportunities for the next generation. This week, I helped break ground on another expansion for our "next big industry." It amazes me the number of small towns in South Dakota that are having a big national impact in the defense industry. This time, we were in Clear Lake at Tech Ord.

Tech Ord has called South Dakota home since the 1960s. They have over six decades of success strengthening our nation's defense, and they continue to thrive here in South Dakota. When their parent company was looking for a place to expand, they chose our state. This means more good paying jobs in a rural community!

I announced that national security is South Dakota's next big industry earlier this year because I believe in businesses like Tech Ord and small towns like Clear Lake. And I have followed through to make that a reality for our state. At the time of the announcement, I recognized MMS Products, a Sioux Falls-based company that is leading the field for innovation of drone munitions. I said then that their expansion announcement wouldn't be the last one we make – and we've backed that promise up with results!

These new and growing businesses are creating careers and opportunities for young South Dakotans. As Governor, I care about delivering a strong economy with robust career opportunities for our kids and grandkids. Our state is a leader in America's national security, and I want it to continue to remain a leader for my nine (soon-to-be 10) grandchildren and their families. I want all our kids and grandkids to inherit a state – and a nation – that is strong, safe, and free.

To ensure that future is secured, I stood up the GRIT taskforce – who also met in the past few days. This group has provided a way for us to protect our infrastructure and prepare for threats and disasters. Our state is only as strong as our resilience and grit, and for as long as I am Governor, enhancing that grit will be a top priority.

I also announced the creation of the South Dakota Defense Institute earlier this year. We are getting close to fully operationalizing this hub for national defense, and the excitement building is palpable. Our small state can move at an incredible pace and develop an idea into reality. We have the suppliers, the manufacturers, the researchers, the workforce, and the leaders. The Defense Institute will guide more direction, more growth, and more innovation. The defense industry is looking for partners who can deliver, and South Dakota is that partner.

When it comes to making national security our next big industry, speed matters. Responsiveness matters. Coordination matters.

Results matter.

As long as I am Governor, I will continue to deliver results that lead to a stronger future for our state and for the next generation of South Dakotans.

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June 1-14, 2026

We have a lot to cover since our last Weekly Round[s] Up! First up, the big news out of DC: Congress passed the Secure America Act, which funds Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Border Patrol for the next three years. This took place over a 20-hour vote-a-

rama in which we spent all day Thursday and well into the night voting on different amendments until the full reconciliation bill was passed at about 5:00 on Friday morning.

In addition to passing this legislation, I was in a classified setting for about 10 hours working on the full Senate Armed Services Committee version of the National Defense Authorization Act, or NDAA, for Fiscal Year 2027. This is the 12th NDAA I have had the opportunity to work on as a member of the Armed Services committee. It's an honor to work on this legislation and deliver real wins for service members across the country. This year's committee-passed NDAA includes authorizations for \$43.7 million for construction projects for the South Dakota National Guard and \$3.23 billion for the B-21 Raider procurement. [Click here to read more about this year's NDAA.](#)

More on this past week in the Weekly Round[s] Up:

South Dakota groups I visited with: South Dakota Cattlemen's Association; Lisa Jennings and Dawn Marie Johnson with the Sioux Falls School District; South Dakota Health Care Association; Rabbi Mendel Alperowitz from the Chabad Jewish Center of South Dakota; South Dakotans with the National Association of Home Builders; Bridgewater Emery Future Farmers of America (FFA); and representatives from SoDak Diesel & Performance LLC.

Met with South Dakotans from: Box Elder, Bridgewater, Centerville, Estelline, Marion, North Sioux City, Piedmont, Pierre, Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Watertown.

Other Meetings: Troy Meink, Secretary, U.S. Air Force (Troy is from Lemmon South Dakota); Charlie Cooke, Founder, The Cook Political Report; Roger Mason, nominee to be Director of the National Reconnaissance Office; Karl Elmshaeuser, Administrator, USDA Rural Utilities Service; Matt O'Malley, nominee to be Deputy Under Secretary of War for Acquisition and Sustainment; Skyler Onken, Co-Founder of Twenty; and leadership from the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies.

Last Tuesday, I attended Senate Bible Study hosted by Senator Daines.

NDAA markup: As I mentioned, this past week we completed the markup for this year's NDAA. This included markups within each subcommittee (which for me included the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, Subcommittee on Emerging Threat and Capabilities the Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, which I chair) and the full SASC markup. The bill is now on its way to the full Senate for consideration. [Click here to read my press release detailing this year's NDAA.](#)

Briefings: I attended one Senate Select Committee on Intelligence briefing.

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Hearings: This past week, I attended a hearing in the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs committee titled "AI and the American Dream: Promoting Innovation, Affordability, and American Dominance." Click [here](#) to watch my full line of questions.

Votes taken: In the past two weeks, I voted 37 times.

As I mentioned, one notable item the Senate voted on was the Secure America Act, which has officially passed Congress. On Thursday last week, the Senate participated in a vote-a-rama starting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday and finishing up around 5:00 a.m. on Friday. During this time, the Senate voted throughout the night and ultimately passed the Reconciliation bill which funds ICE and CBP for the remainder of the Trump Administration.

We held multiple votes on President Trump's nominations, including Justin Smith, Brock Dahl, Anthony Powell and Anthony Mattivi. Click [here](#) to read in more detail about these votes.

Steps taken: 62,827 steps or 29.42 miles in week one and 58,239 steps or 27.64 miles in week two.

My Staff in South Dakota Visited: Box Elder, Deadwood, Houghton, Milbank, Mitchell, Sisseton, Spearfish and Watertown.

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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries

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Help!!! I'm Becoming My Father

As I celebrated Father's Day this year, I remembered my father. It was 16 years ago that he passed away, and I have not forgotten him one single day.

One thing that stands out in my memories of him is his money. He did not have a lot of money, but the money he did have was somewhat of an obsession with him. When he got his monthly bank statements, he spent the whole day going through them line by line.

As he reviewed his statements and deposits, he remembered each deposit and its source. Sitting with him one time as he was going over his bank statements, I asked him how he could remember each deposit and where it came from.

Continuing to look at his bank statement, he said, "Son, it's more important to know where your money is coming from then where it's going."

I'm not sure I understood exactly at the time what he was talking about.

He had a construction business and kept track of all the money coming in from the sale of a house. It was important to him to review his money every month.

Today, we can check our bank balances online every day. Back in his day, he didn't have the Internet like we have today. I like to think of what it would be like if he could check his bank balances every day. I think he would really have enjoyed that.

Thinking of his connection with money, I could not help but think about going out to lunch with him. Often, several of his friends would come out together, and we would have lunch at a restaurant. I did not catch this at first, but it did not take me long to see what was happening.

Everybody paid their own bill, but Dad picked up mine, which I was thankful for. He told everybody that he would take care of the tip, and nobody needed to worry about it. I noticed that he laid down the tip. I did not quite understand what it was, but as he walked away, I looked back and saw that his tip was a quarter. Sometimes it was only a nickel, but this time he was being very generous.

As we were walking out, some of the guys would say they had to go to the bathroom and would catch up with us in the parking lot. I never assumed what they were doing, but later I realized they were going back to the table and leaving generous tips for the waitress. It's a good thing good old dad didn't know anything about that.

Tipping was not his favorite thing to do, as you can imagine.

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Compared to my father, my mother was not frugal at all. Believe me, Dad had to watch over her with a very sharp eye so she would not spend too much of his money, which taught me the value of careful spending and the importance of financial discipline in family life.

This was particularly true around Christmas time. Mother wanted to buy all of us kids a lot of presents for Christmas. Dad, on the other side of the Christmas tree, believed that each should only get one Christmas present. And he was unanimous in that. It was one of the few things they really disagreed. Dad was not going to spend a lot of money on Christmas.

When it came to Christmas trees, he was just as frugal. I remember that several years ago, the week before Christmas, we went driving around the countryside looking for a Christmas tree. I did not understand at the time, but I was later to understand what he was doing. If he found a tree that looked like a Christmas tree, he would stop, dig it out of the ground, put it in the car, and take it home.

That was our Christmas tree for the year.

Then, after the Christmas season, he would take that tree in our backyard and plant it. I cannot tell you how many Christmas trees were planted in our backyard, which made my father so very proud. I cannot tell you how many times he would sit on the back porch and look at those Christmas trees. He could tell which year each Christmas tree was acquired.

Of course, the same attitude was prevalent at our birthdays. Mom would like to get us half a dozen birthday gifts, but Dad would only settle for one. I can remember them arguing over which gift to get me for my birthday.

It was not that our father did not like us; he was just very careful about his money. Money came very hard to him, and he was going to make sure it would be harder to go out of his bank than to go in. From him, I learned the importance of saving and being cautious with spending, lessons that still guide me today.

I like to go online to check my bank account, and when I do, I think of my father. How he would have loved checking his money every day. To him, money was very important.

The Apostle Paul understood this in 1 Timothy 6:10a, "For the love of money is the root of all evil."

Our problem is not money itself. We need money to live every day. "The Love of money" is what undermines our lives.

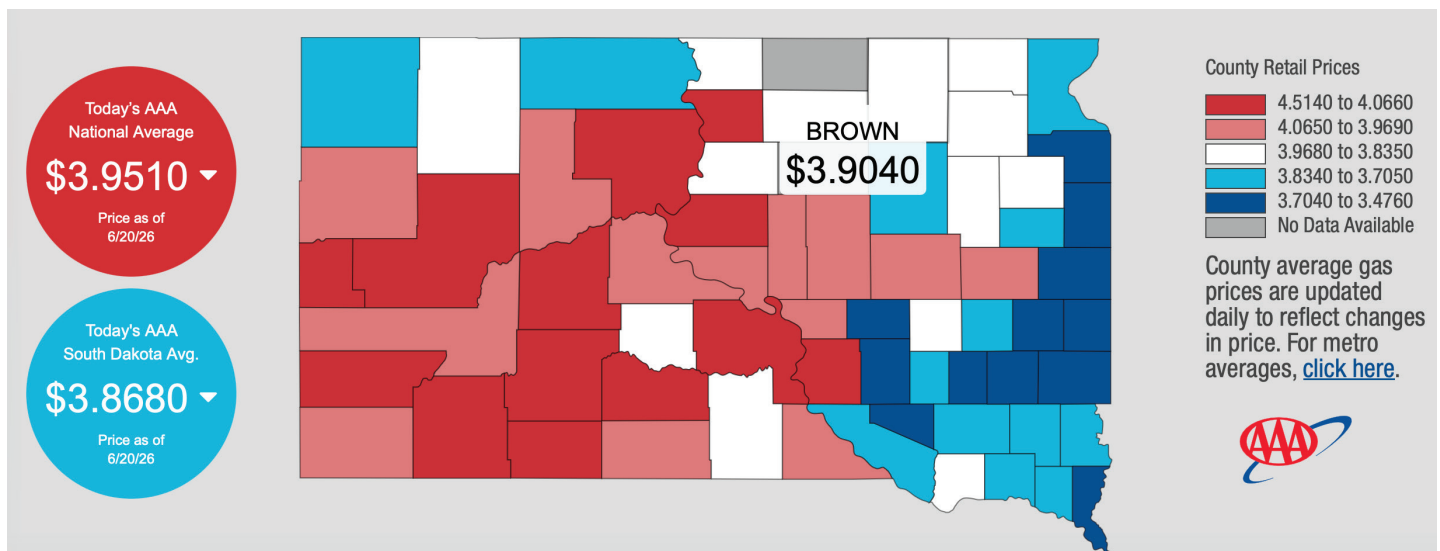
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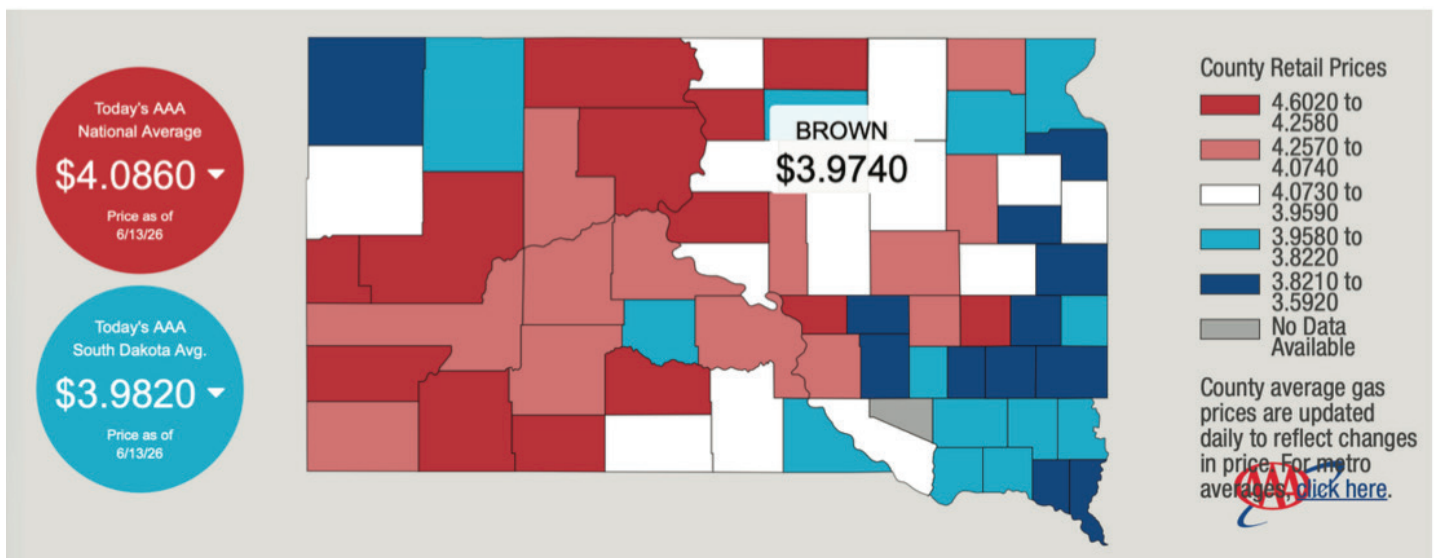
South Dakota Average Gas Prices

	Regular	Mid-Grade	Premium	Diesel
Current Avg.	\$3.8680	\$4.0970	\$4.5510	\$4.5540
Yesterday Avg.	\$3.8890	\$4.1100	\$4.5730	\$4.5840
Week Ago Avg.	\$3.9820	\$4.1970	\$4.6800	\$4.6920
Month Ago Avg.	\$4.3390	\$4.5020	\$5.0000	\$5.1570
Year Ago Avg.	\$3.0260	\$3.2190	\$3.6820	\$3.3600

This Week



Last Week



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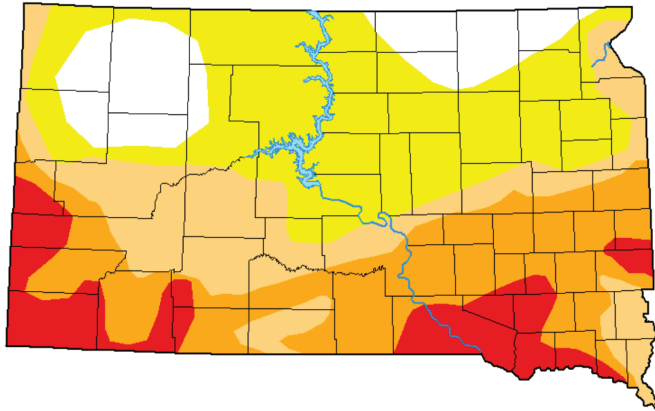
Drought Classification

None
D0 (Abnormally Dry)
D1 (Moderate Drought)

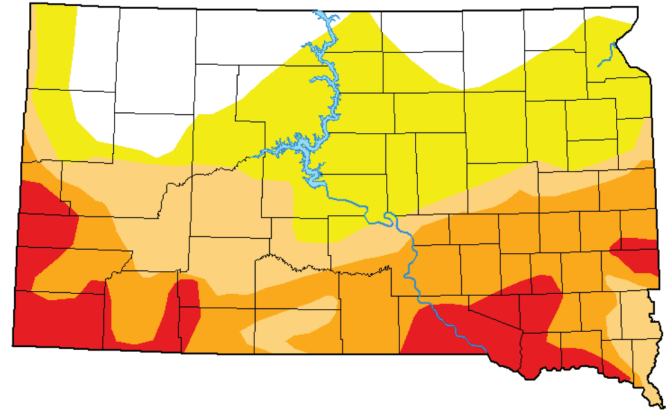
D2 (Severe Drought)
D3 (Extreme Drought)

D4 (Exceptional Drought)
No Data

Drought Monitor



June 16



June 9

Across the High Plains states, drought continues to persist across western Kansas and eastern Colorado. The most severe and exceptional drought areas extend from eastern Wyoming into western and northern Nebraska and far southern South Dakota. Continued lack of rainfall and warmer-than-normal temperatures led to worsening drought conditions in the plains of eastern Colorado and small portions of northwestern Kansas. Exceptional drought was expanded across three counties in the Nebraska panhandle, where pastures and dryland wheat conditions are the poorest seen in decades, as a result of the record warm, dry winter followed by meager spring rainfall. The agricultural impacts in western Nebraska were confirmed by drought indicators spanning the last 6-12 months.

Other areas of degradation occurred this past week over North Dakota, especially the western half of the state. Moderate drought expanded southward along the Montana border as dry conditions intensified in western North Dakota. Abnormal dryness was introduced from southwest to north-central North Dakota due to recent drier-than-normal conditions.

The only improvements in the High Plains region are in central and eastern Nebraska. A couple swaths of 2-4 inches of rain fell this past week along the Interstate 80 corridor and into the southeastern part of Nebraska, which is presently free of any drought or abnormal dryness.



SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

<https://southdakotasearchlight.com>

Production decreases, revenue increases at gold mine in South Dakota's Black Hills

BY: MEGHAN O'BRIEN

Gold production was down slightly last year at South Dakota's only active, large-scale gold mine, but revenue soared higher with the price of gold, according to a new annual report.

Chicago-based Coeur Mining owns the Wharf Mine in the northern Black Hills near the city of Lead and the Terry Peak Ski Area. The mine produced 97,327 ounces of gold last year, about 700 ounces less than 2024.

The company sold \$334.1 million worth of gold from the mine in 2025, an increase of more than \$100 million over 2024. The revenue growth came alongside gold prices that rose sharply in 2025.

The mine also produces silver, a lesser-value "co-product" of the gold mining process. Silver production in 2025 was 135,722 ounces — down more than 96,000 ounces from the prior year. Silver sales from the mine in 2025 were \$5.1 million.

Miners stripped nearly 15 million tons of earth and excavated more than 4.3 million tons of ore at the Wharf Mine last year, according to a report presented Thursday to the state Board of Minerals and Environment.

The mine employs 266 people with a payroll of about \$35 million including benefits, and it paid \$16.9 million in state precious-metal severance taxes last year. It also paid about \$840,000 in state and local taxes.

Coeur donated \$230,000 to community groups, schools, athletic programs and local charities last year, according to its report to the board.

Coeur also has mines in Nevada, Alaska and Mexico. Metal sales from all its operations totaled more than \$2 billion last year.

Meghan O'Brien is the audio reporter for South Dakota Searchlight where she covers the state government and its impact on South Dakotans. She's previously reported in Nebraska with a focus on health care and rural communities across the state.



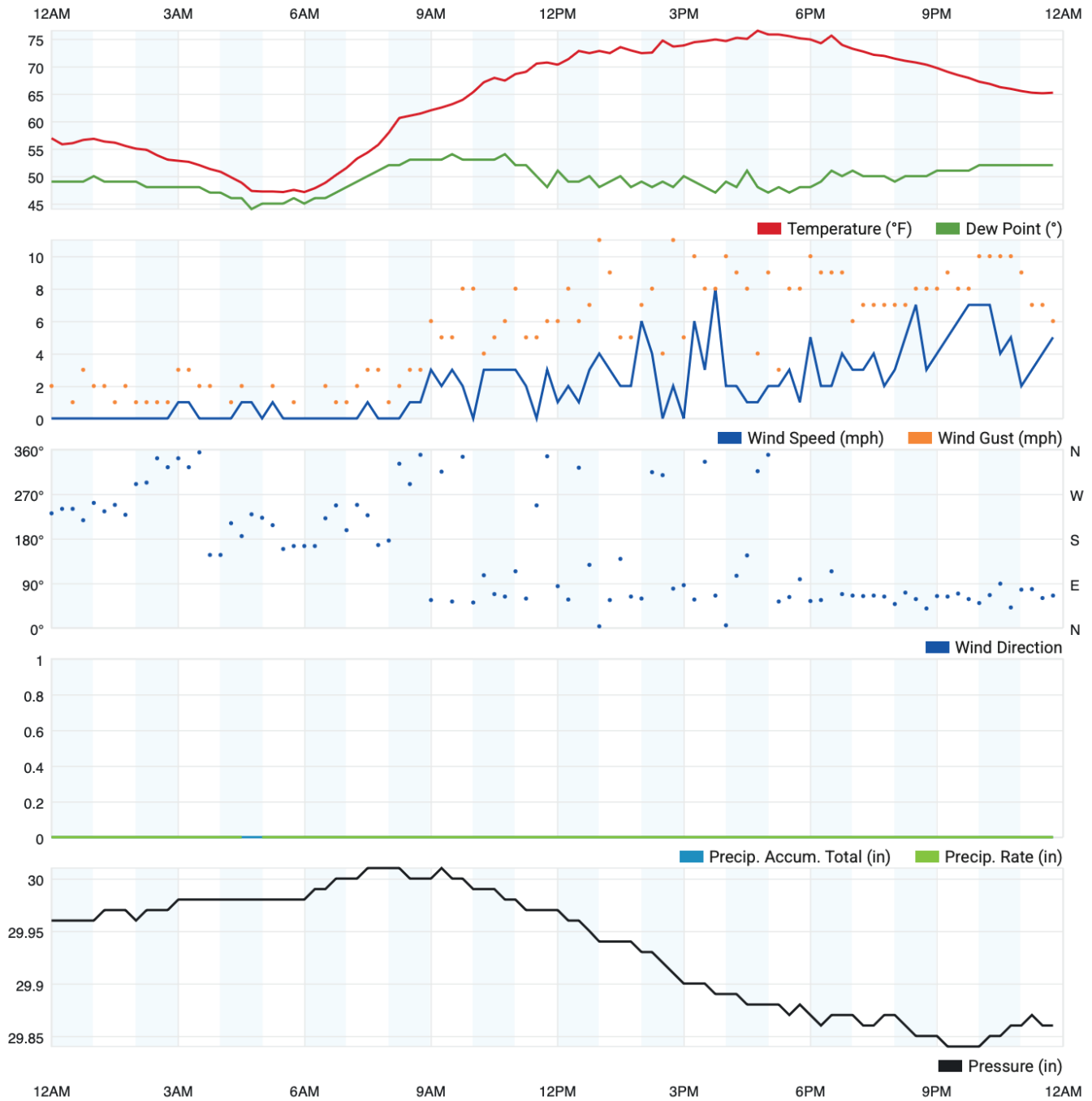
A partial aerial view of the Wharf Mine near Lead in May 2023. (Seth Tupper/South Dakota Searchlight, via EcoFlight)

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

June 20, 2026



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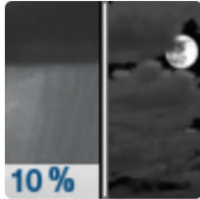
Today



High: 73 °F

Slight Chance
Showers

Tonight



Low: 50 °F

Slight Chance
Showers then
Mostly Cloudy

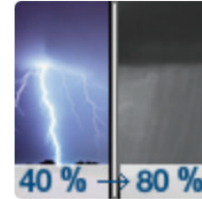
Monday



High: 76 °F

Partly Sunny

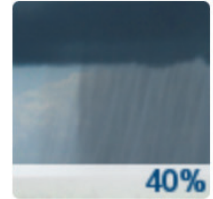
Monday Night



Low: 54 °F

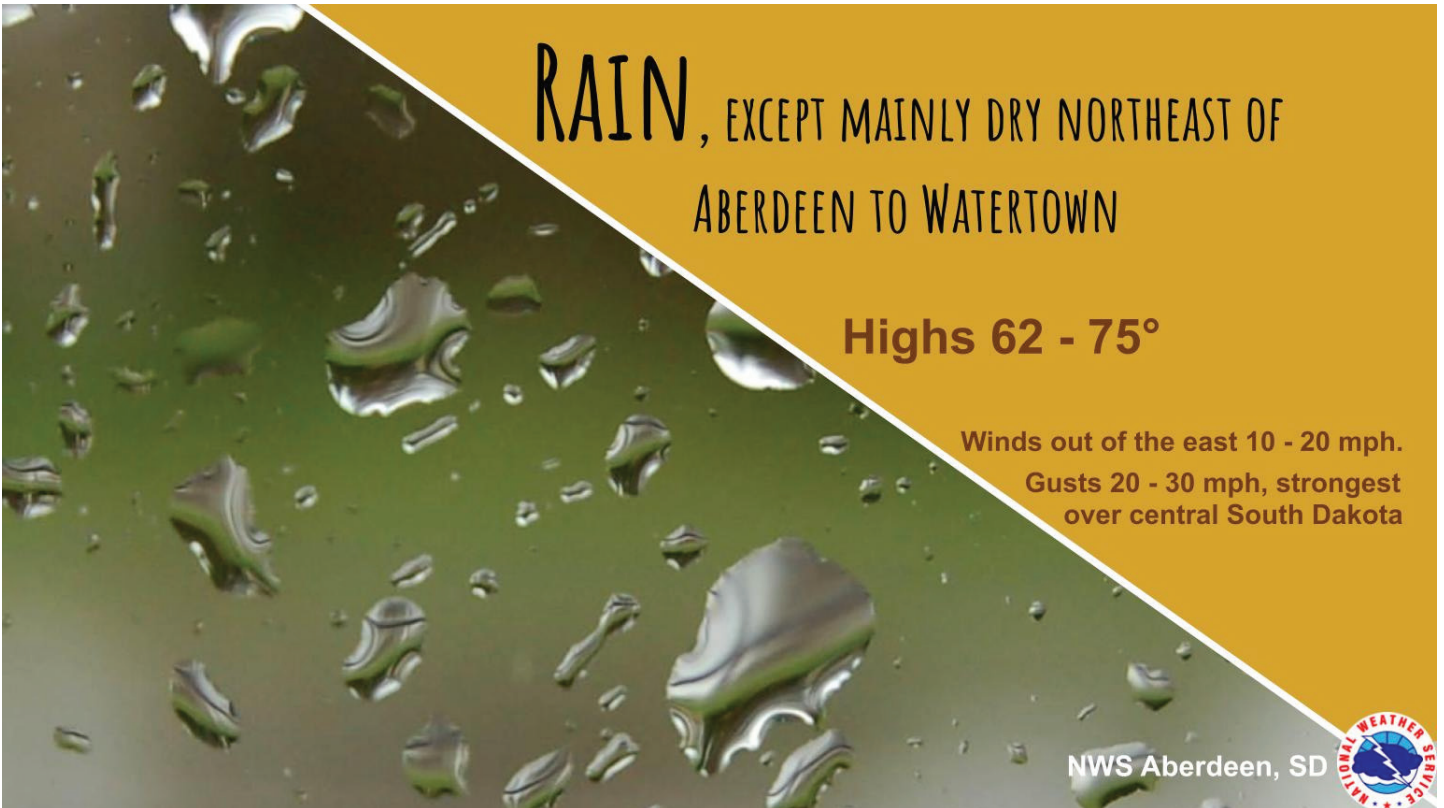
Chance
T-storms then
Showers

Tuesday



High: 77 °F

Chance
Showers



RAIN, EXCEPT MAINLY DRY NORTHEAST OF
ABERDEEN TO WATERTOWN

Highs 62 - 75°

Winds out of the east 10 - 20 mph.
Gusts 20 - 30 mph, strongest
over central South Dakota

NWS Aberdeen, SD 

Rainy weather will be the theme today over much of South Dakota, with mainly dry weather continuing northeast of a line from Aberdeen to Watertown - including west central Minnesota. Temperatures will rise into the low 60s to low 70s. The coolest temperatures will be over south central South Dakota, where rain will continue much of the day. Winds will be out of the east 10 to 20 mph, with gusts of 20 to 30 mph. Expect the strongest winds across central South Dakota.

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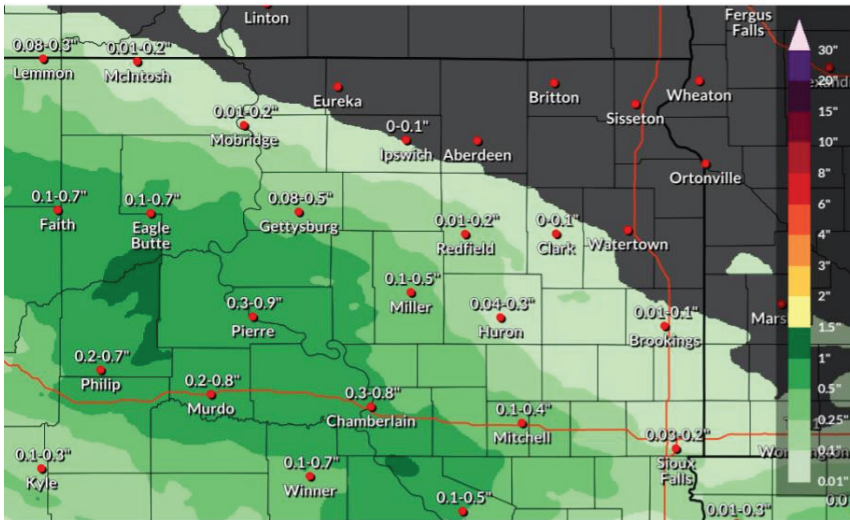
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Expected Rainfall 7 AM Today - 7 AM Monday

June 21, 2026
2:56 AM CDT

Rainfall Forecast 7 AM today through 7 AM Monday



- **Rain.** Isolated thunderstorms over south central South Dakota through this evening

- Most rain to fall during the daytime hours today. **Highest rainfall amounts of 0.2 to 0.9" over central to south central South Dakota.**

Mainly dry weather northeast of a line from Eureka to Aberdeen to Watertown.

Rain is forecast mainly southwest of a line from Eureka to Aberdeen to Watertown. Isolated thunderstorms are possible over south central South Dakota through this evening. Most of the rain will fall during the daytime hours today. The highest amounts of 0.2 to 0.9 inches are forecast over central to south central South Dakota.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 77 °F at 4:51 PM

Low Temp: 47 °F at 5:24 AM

Wind: 12 mph at 3:46 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 108 in 1988

Record Low: 31 in 1902

Average High: 82

Average Low: 57

Average Precip in June.: 2.56

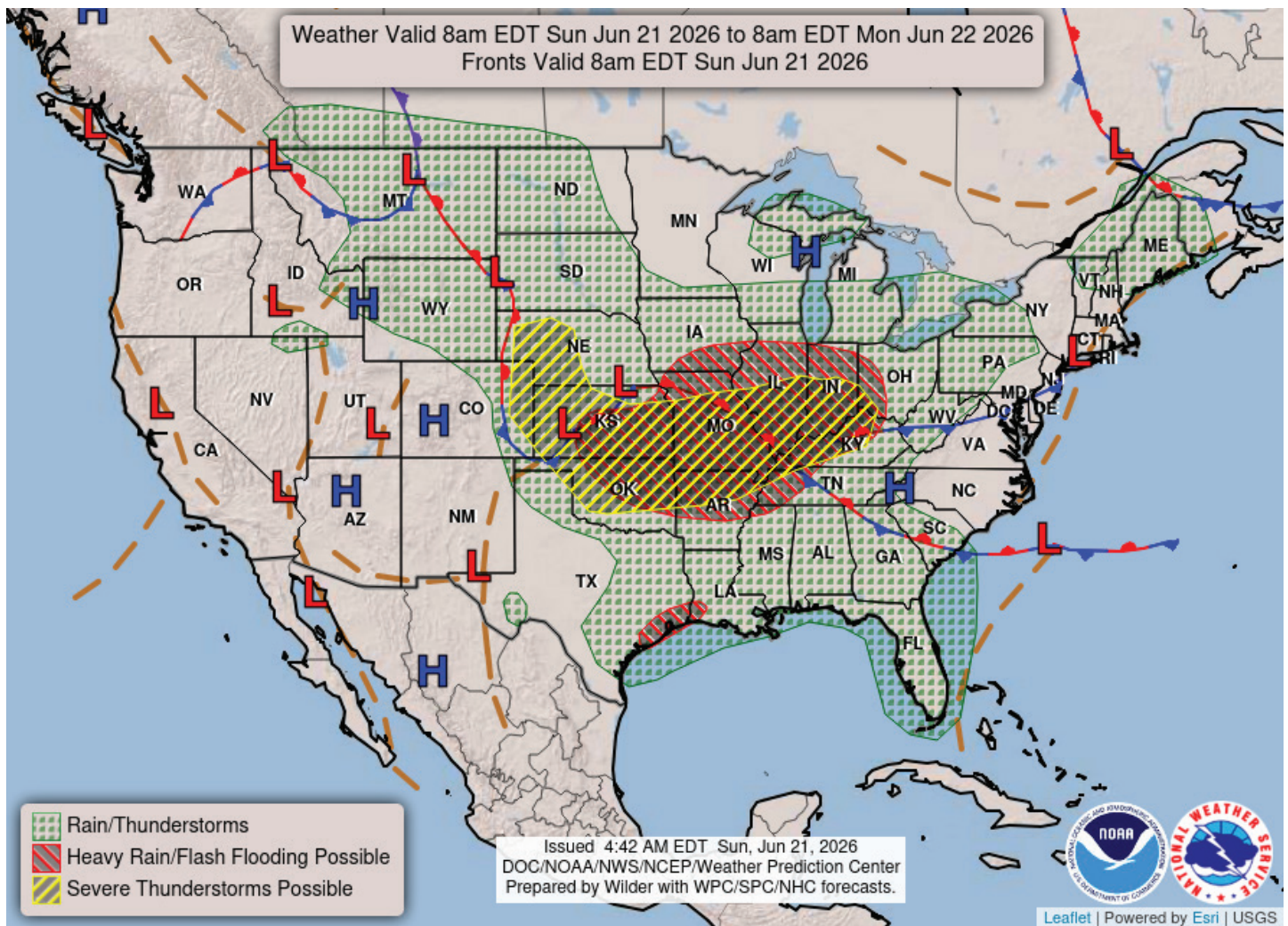
Precip to date in June.: 1.37

Average Precip to date: 9.81

Precip Year to Date: 8.13

Sunset Tonight: 9:24 pm

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:44 am



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Today in Weather History

June 21st, 1902: Light to heavy frost occurred over most of the state, with low temperatures ranging from the mid-20s to the lower 30s. Some record low temperatures include 27 degrees in Ipswich and Leola, 29 degrees in Kennebec, 30 degrees in Mellette, 31 degrees in Aberdeen, Clark, and Watertown, 32 degrees in Faulkton and Gann Valley, 36 degrees in Sisseton, and 40 degrees in Milbank.

June 21st, 1983: An F3 tornado touched down in a resort area two miles west of Pollock. Eleven people fled from the southwestern most cabin and crawled under a nearby cabin. The southwest cabin was destroyed, and the cabin the group crawled under was moved five feet from its concrete block foundation. Four people were treated for injuries. A van, boat, and trailer were demolished, and a small car was heavily damaged. The tornado turned east and reformed four miles east of Pollock, where it touched down briefly and dissipated. Another F3 tornado touched down in open prairie three miles northeast of Glad Valley and moved northeast, creating a path of destruction as it progressed. On one farm, nine buildings were wiped out and scattered up to two miles away. Trees and poles were uprooted and scattered a half mile away. This tornado was estimated to be on the ground for six miles with a path width of 300 yards. A third tornado, rated F2, touched down seven miles south of Pollock. This tornado damaged several cabin roofs and a restaurant and downed several trees. Boats were tossed into a lake, and picnic tables were hurled against cars.

June 21st, 2013: A long, severe thunderstorm developed over the southern Black Hills and moved eastward across the South Dakota plains in the morning. The storm produced large hail to softball size from eastern Custer to northern Jackson Counties. The softball-sized object fell 12 miles east-southeast of Fairburn in Custer County, damaging property. This storm intensified along a strong warm front with volatile air and strong, deep-layer winds into several supercell thunderstorms and a damaging line of thunderstorms/bow echo across parts of central and northeast South Dakota through the afternoon hours. Damaging winds up to 90 mph uprooted large trees and caused considerable structural and crop damage and loss of power to those along the path. The worst wind damage was at Lake Poinsett, Watertown, and Milbank. A woman was killed, and her husband was severely injured on Lake Poinsett when their lake house was destroyed. Numerous trees were downed, and many structures were damaged or destroyed. Many trees had fallen onto homes, cabins, and trailers. The bowling alley in Clear Lake lost its roof, and numerous pole barns were damaged along the storm's path. Thousands of people were also left without power. Four tornado touchdowns occurred, along with hail up to the size of softballs. Isolated flash flooding also occurred. Codington, Hamlin, Grant, and Deuel counties were all declared in a Federal Disaster Declaration. The total damage estimates were around 1,100,000 dollars.

1893 — On the first day of summer the temperature at Dodge City, KS, soared to 106 degrees during the midst of a blistering heat wave. The heat wave initiated a severe three year drought in the Central Plains Region. Ironically, at about the same time, heavy rains in the Mississippi Valley were causing the river to swell to its highest level of record at New Orleans, LA. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1919 — Seven heavy coach cars of a moving train were picked up and thrown from the tracks by tornado winds. A baggage car was set down thirty feet away from the rest of the train. (The Weather Channel)

1954 — A severe hailstorm struck Wichita KS and vicinity causing nine million dollars damage. (The Weather Channel)

1972 — Phoenix, AZ, was drenched with 1.64 inches of rain late on the 21st and early on the 22nd to easily surpass their previous June rainfall record of 0.95 inches. The total for the month was 1.70 inches. (The Weather Channel)

1987 — A tornado destroyed 57 mobile homes at the Chateam Estates trailer park northwest of Detroit, MI, killing one person and injuring six others. Total damage was estimated at 1.7 million dollars. Thunderstorms over Lower Michigan also drenched the Saginaw Valley with up to 4.5 inches of rain in less than six hours. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2005 — A slow-moving thunderstorm dumped up to a foot of hail in southeastern portions of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Snowplows had to be used to clear a route through a major thoroughfare in the city. Heavy rainfall from the storm left up to 4 feet of water in city streets, trapping dozens of motorists (Associated Press).

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Daily Devotion

The Keys to Success

God will work through any person who has a willing and obedient heart.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24:

23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

24 Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

Have you ever felt discouraged about trying to live the Christian life? If your efforts to make a difference in the world seem fruitless, following the Lord's example can change your outlook.

Christ served others in love, and His actions had a tremendous impact on the world. How was He so effective? Scripture tells us that Jesus did not speak or act on His own initiative but instead depended upon His Father's indwelling presence to do the work (John 14:10). As His children, we are to do likewise.

True service is commissioned, empowered, and blessed by God alone. It may be our hands that are laboring, but our Father is the One at work. And the glory belongs to Him.

What a comfort this is! The Lord is not looking only for people who are extremely talented or influential. He will use all who are willing to let His Spirit work through them. And we can be confident that He will provide everything we need in order to do whatever He asks.

Who among us can serve the living God? Truthfully, none of us can, in our own power. Genuine service occurs only when we allow the Almighty to pour Himself out through us; we are mere vessels. Even if the impact is not obvious, we can trust that God always achieves His purpose.

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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WINNING NUMBERS

MILLIONAIRE FOR LIFE

WINNING NUMBERS:

06.20.26

1 10 16 30 31 4

TOP PRIZE:

\$1,000,000/year

NEXT DRAW: 17 Hrs 37 Mins 21 Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

MEGA MILLIONS

WINNING NUMBERS:

06.19.26

13 16 21 26 50 12

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$467,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LOTTO AMERICA

WINNING NUMBERS:

06.20.26

8 14 31 41 52 4

All Star Bonus: 3x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$30,280,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

DAKOTA CASH

WINNING NUMBERS:

06.20.26

2 9 15 27 34

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$145,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

DOUBLE PLAY

WINNING NUMBERS:

06.20.26

11 12 25 42 57 20

TOP PRIZE:

\$10,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

WINNING NUMBERS:

06.20.26

16 20 44 48 50 15

Power Play: 2x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$312,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

News from the Associated Press

Starmer is on the precipice as pressure builds for the UK leader to resign

By JILL LAWLESS Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Keir Starmer is facing a career-defining decision: step down or fight a challenge from Labour Party rival Andy Burnham.

Starmer has publicly vowed to stay in post, but pressure is building as more and more Labour Party colleagues conclude his time is up. Expectation is growing that he will announce a timetable for his resignation as soon as Monday. That's the day Burnham will be sworn in as a lawmaker in the House of Commons after winning a special election last week.

Business Secretary Peter Kyle said Sunday that Starmer is "making time to reflect on the political realities, challenges and opportunities that he finds himself in."

"I know he is a prime minister who always puts his country first," Kyle told the BBC, though he said reports that Starmer will resign are "speculation."

Starmer is spending the weekend at Chequers, the country mansion used by British prime ministers, with his family. He gave no public hint about his decision, but sent a Father's Day message on social media.

"Being a dad is my greatest joy. Today, I'm thinking about my dad, and the father I am to my children because of him," he wrote on X.

If Starmer quits, he will be the sixth prime minister to leave office in the past 10 years, an extraordinary rate of churn for the United Kingdom.

Discontent with the prime minister has been building for months, with Labour lawmakers desperate to reverse the government's decline in popularity since Starmer led the center-left party to a landslide election victory in July 2024.

He has struggled to deliver promised economic growth, repair tattered public services and ease the cost of living, and has been hamstrung by repeated missteps, including his decision to appoint Peter Mandelson, a scandal-tarnished friend of Jeffrey Epstein, as the U.K. ambassador to the United States.

Labour is losing liberal voters to the growing Green Party and facing a rising Reform UK, the Nigel Farage-led anti-immigration party that consistently leads in nationwide opinion polls.

Burnham, until this week the popular mayor of Greater Manchester, decisively won the seat of Makerfield in northwestern England in a special election held Thursday. He took almost 55% of the 45,510 votes cast, over 9,000 more than the Reform UK runner-up.

Now that he is a lawmaker, he's in a position to challenge Starmer for leadership of the Labour Party. Burnham's acceptance speech left no doubt that he wants to lead both the party and the country.

"Everyone knows that politics isn't working," he said. "Everyone can feel that the country isn't where it should be. Tonight could, just could, be the turning point."

It's unclear whether Burnham would face a coronation or a challenge if Starmer steps aside. Wes Streeting, who resigned as health secretary last month to protest Starmer's leadership, has said he will run in a contest if there is one.

Starmer congratulated Burnham on Friday, but insisted he would fight any attempt to oust him.

"I will run, I will stand," if there is a Labour leadership contest, Starmer said. "I've said repeatedly I'm not going to walk away from that."

But Charlie Falconer, a senior Labour member of the House of Lords, said Saturday that Starmer has "absolutely no authority" left.

"There should be an agreed transition process in which Andy and Keir cooperate as to when the handover should take place," he told the BBC.

Vance and Iranian officials arrive in Switzerland to launch talks on Tehran's nuclear program

By AAMER MADHANI, SEUNG MIN KIM and JAMEY KEATEN Associated Press

OBBERGEN, Switzerland (AP) — U.S. Vice President JD Vance and senior Iranian officials arrived in Switzerland on Sunday to formally launch negotiations over Tehran's nuclear program and build out the fragile interim deal to end the war in Iran.

The framework was signed last week, and now top U.S. and Iranian negotiators are in a 60-day sprint to reach an agreement on the technical details that hold massive implications for the world economy and global security.

Yet only days after signing the agreement, it's being stress-tested after fighting escalated in Lebanon between Israel and the Iranian-backed militant group Hezbollah — and by the subsequent announcement by Iran's military that it had closed the Strait of Hormuz, the vital waterway that transits a fifth of the world's traded oil and natural gas.

Vance had originally been slated to be on the ground at the picturesque Bürgenstock resort near Lucerne on Friday, but his departure from the United States was delayed after fighting escalated in Lebanon and Iranian officials canceled plans to attend the talks.

Delegations from the U.S. and Iran, as well as mediators Pakistan and Qatar, arrived at the picturesque mountainside resort near Lake Lucerne on Sunday morning. Talks were expected to begin soon, according to the Swiss government.

U.S. Central Command disputed Iran's claim that it had once again shuttered the strait and said U.S. forces continued to monitor the situation to ensure traffic continues to flow through the waterway. Vance has said that millions of barrels of oil have moved through the strait in recent days.

Vance departed the U.S. just after Iranian state TV said Iran's negotiators had arrived in Switzerland. Tehran's negotiators include parliamentary speaker Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf and Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, along with central bank and oil officials.

The U.S. vice president joins special envoy Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner, President Donald Trump's son-in-law, who have already been on the ground to begin sifting through the technical details of the nuclear talks.

The talks between the U.S. and Iran will also include Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir, as well as Qatari mediators. Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Sharif will also meet separately with each delegation from Iran, Switzerland and the U.S. "to reaffirm Pakistan's enduring commitment to dialogue and durable peace in the region."

Vance and his wife, second lady Usha Vance, arrived at Emmen Air Base outside Lucerne just before 6 a.m. local time, according to his office.

While Vance said he planned to be in Switzerland for just "a day or two," leaving much of the detailed negotiations to be spearheaded by Witkoff and Kushner, his role in the talks has heightened scrutiny of the vice president at a time when he's actively considering a 2028 presidential campaign.

Trump and Vance have come under searing criticism from parts of their own party for the deal, with Republican hard-liners unfavorably likening it to a nuclear agreement signed by the Obama administration that Trump and the GOP have insisted did nothing to actually terminate Iran's nuclear program.

The agreement signed by Trump and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian immediately allows Tehran to sell its oil freely and paves the way for Iran to tap into billions of dollars in assets that are currently frozen. It also calls for Iran to dilute its stockpile of highly enriched uranium, believed to be buried under nuclear sites that were targeted in U.S. strikes last summer.

The agreement says commercial vessels can pass through the Strait of Hormuz for 60 days without a charge, but does not preclude future fees imposed by Iran. Trump made his own threat on Saturday to levy U.S. tolls on the strait if there is no deal with Iran in 60 days, insisting in a social media post that the money would be for "services rendered as the Guardian Angel to the countries of the Middle East."

The Trump administration has been working to reassure global markets that the Iran war has been

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merely a blip on oil prices, as Americans have complained the conflict resulted in hiking gasoline prices ahead of peak summer travel months. After the White House announced the deal a week ago, oil futures dropped almost 8% — and markets are expected to closely track the progress of talks when they open for trading on Sunday evening.

Further complicating matters, neither Israel nor Hezbollah is a signatory to the deal between the U.S. and Iran, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to keep his forces in southern Lebanon until any threat to Israel is eliminated. Hezbollah has refused to halt its attacks unless Israel commits to withdrawing from Lebanon.

Fighting between Israel and Hezbollah in the initial days after the agreement between the U.S. and Iran killed 47 people in Lebanon, as well as four Israeli soldiers.

Colombians vote in a presidential runoff that pits an outsider against a progressive

By REGINA GARCIA CANO and ASTRID SUÁREZ Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — A deeply divided electorate will choose Colombia's next president in a runoff on Sunday that pits a progressive against a conservative outsider, with both candidates tapping into fears of a renewed internal conflict in the country.

Voters will choose between businessman and lawyer Abelardo de la Espriella and Iván Cepeda, a lawmaker and heir to the political movement of outgoing President Gustavo Petro, the nation's first leftist leader. The two defeated nine other contenders in a May 31 vote.

Both are pitching strategies that they say will prevent the South American country from experiencing the nonstop merciless violence, such as car bombs, kidnappings, disappearances and forced displacements that Colombians lived with in previous decades.

De la Espriella is proposing a heavy-handed approach that has earned him the endorsement of U.S. President Donald Trump.

Cepeda is promising to continue Petro's efforts, including attempts at establishing dialogue with multiple illegal armed groups even though those efforts have largely failed.

The two candidates also are offering differing solutions for the country's struggling health system, ballooning public debt and entrenched corruption.

"Right now, what worries me is the polarization that exists between us: there are two very extreme sides, and the violence is concerning," John Manrique, a lawyer in the capital, Bogota, said as he walked his dog.

"What I hope is that people accept who won," he added. "Let's accept it, regardless of the side, and try to reach a social consensus. ... Let's not go out and fight."

In the first round, Cepeda earned 41% of the vote, while de la Espriella garnered 44%, according to official results. Petro, without evidence, sowed doubts in the results after Cepeda, who had consistently lead polls ahead of the May vote, did not win outright and even finished behind de la Espriella.

Fighting between rebel groups plagues the nation

The election comes 10 years after Colombia signed a historic peace pact with guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, that had offered hope to break the nation's vicious cycle of fighting between rebel groups and the government.

But violence has since roared back, particularly as most rebel groups abandoned their ideologically driven fight for the financial benefits of drug trafficking.

Last year, authorities recorded 14,780 homicides, the most since at least 2015 and driven by clashes among illegal armed groups. Among those killed was conservative presidential hopeful Miguel Uribe. Extortions have also soared, reaching 13,417 cases in 2025, more than double the number tallied in 2015.

More than 41 million people are eligible to vote on Sunday.

De la Espriella, a political newcomer nicknamed "The Tiger," has promised to fiercely go after criminals and build 10 mega-prisons, emulating the policies of El Salvador's President Nayib Bukele that have lowered homicide rates but have fueled accusations of human rights abuses.

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Cepeda wants to carry on Petro's fraught signature plan to achieve "total peace" by negotiating pacts with guerrillas and criminal gangs. The heavily criticized strategy that Petro kicked off in 2022 took until Thursday to see the first armed group — one with about 100 members — give up its weapons and begin a resettlement process that will lead to their reintegration into civilian life. Colombia's illegal groups have more than 27,000 members.

Yamile Guevara, a retired teacher in Bogota, said Petro's plans need more time to bear results as he could not reasonably be expected to make lasting changes in a conflict that has gone on for six decades. She also criticized what she described as voters' perennial distrust of Colombia's left over its long-held association with rebel groups.

"The left has always been viewed negatively; it has been harsh, and many people have died," Guevara, a Cepeda supporter, said. "So, one wonders what's wrong with people who have forgotten history ... how can they not think carefully about which candidate they are going to elect?"

The lead-up to the runoff has seen an increase in verbal attacks between the candidates as well as accusations of fraud, vote-buying and intimidation.

Cepeda filed a complaint with the Colombian Attorney General's Office and the International Criminal Court against de la Espriella, accusing him of having ties to paramilitary groups. De la Espriella has denied the accusation.

In Taylor Swift's beach town, every clue becomes a wedding rumor

By LEAH WILLINGHAM Associated Press

WESTERLY, R.I. (AP) — When a large tent appeared next door to Taylor Swift's Watch Hill estate this week, it didn't take long for speculation about the superstar's impending nuptials to ripple through the affluent New England seaside village — and the internet.

Soon, fans were swapping theories online, photographers were staking out vantage points and residents found themselves fielding questions about a wedding that never was. Or at least, a wedding that seems yet to happen.

The rumors, so far, have proved unfounded. But they offered a glimpse into life in Watch Hill, the Rhode Island beach community in the town of Westerly, close to the Connecticut border, where Swift has owned a home for more than a decade and where curiosity about the singer has become woven into everyday life.

Rumors take hold

From the nearby lighthouse, visitors craned for a better view of Swift's mansion, a sprawling white home perched atop a rocky bluff overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Security cameras dotted the property, and a guard called out to visitors who strayed too close.

Wedding planner Nicole Simeral, dressed in black, stood outside the small white chapel across from the massive yellow Ocean House hotel — Swift's neighbor on the beach — waving along cars and buses that slowed and directing traffic to keep moving.

She watched visitors speculate about a wedding she said she knew wasn't Swift's. She's working a different wedding every weekend in June in that spot. Still, the questions kept coming.

"Is Taylor Swift getting married here? Many, many, many have asked," Simeral said.

She said there had been "a lot of chitter chatter" as people tried to connect sightings of people who know Swift in local shops to impending nuptials. But she doubted Watch Hill would be practical for a wedding of that scale because of its limited luxury lodging.

The Watch Hill rumors also dovetailed with separate online speculation that Swift and her fiancé, Kansas City Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce, were planning a celebration at Madison Square Garden, though no details about the pair's wedding have been released, despite multiple requests for comment to Swift's spokesperson.

The tent itself, Simeral said, was hardly unusual. "Next weekend, there'll be another tent just like this."

For two summers, Westerly Police Department community service officer Nick Quaratella has stood at the entrance to a public path leading to the beach beside Swift's estate, answering questions from beach-

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goers and keeping traffic moving.

"They come to the beach, but then they also ask if she's here or not," Quaratella said.

He said he can't help but joke around with some fans.

"I'll say, 'Oh, did you hear that she moved?'" he said. "And they'll say, 'No.' And I say, 'Yeah, Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson moved in.' And they'll go, 'Oh, really?' and then they'll walk away."

"That's pretty funny," he concluded.

Over the years, he's seen plenty of unusual reactions. His coworker once spotted a fan on their knees, bowing toward the entrance gate near the property. Visitors have shouted "I love you, Taylor!" from the roadside. One woman convinced her granddaughter he was Swift's security guard and posed for a photo with him.

Quaratella has fielded a few questions about the supposed wedding, but not as many as he expected.

"At this point, it's part of my job," he said. "It makes me smile. It makes me laugh. I have no problem with it. It makes the day go by."

Living with Taylor Swift

Down near a strip of beach boutiques, lifelong resident Lauren Nigrelli said the frenzy surrounding the star has eased since Swift first moved into the neighborhood in 2013. Back then, Nigrelli recalled, fans would drive around in circles by her shop playing Swift's songs.

"Things have definitely calmed down since then," she said.

Today, Swift's presence remains a fixture among local businesses in what she described as a "quaint New England coastal community." Nigrelli, a Realtor who owns the boutiques Tide and Tide Kids, said she began selling apparel emblazoned with "Holiday House," the nickname associated with Swift's mansion, after children began coming into the store asking for it. On Saturday, she was also selling a Taylor Swift-Travis Kelce wedding sticker book.

"I think every shop has something related to her," Nigrelli said.

On the beach below the mansion, Audrey and John Curtis, a married couple from Connecticut who have been vacationing in Westerly for years, settled into beach chairs and debated the wedding rumors.

"We were just looking up at her house," Audrey Curtis said, pointing toward the mansion. "She's not getting married here now, though."

Curtis said she had heard various theories, including speculation that a wedding might be held at Ocean House. But as she thought through the logistics, she became skeptical.

"Then I was thinking about, 'How would everybody get here?'" she said. "In New York, you've got JFK, you've got LaGuardia, and she's got two penthouses in New York that she combined, so I figured they could obviously have more people there."

Her husband wasn't so sure.

"They could lie and say it's happening there, but it's happening here," John Curtis said. "When important people do things, they don't want people to know."

Trump tries to blame Reflecting Pool woes on vandalism, without offering substantiation

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Saturday announced that federal authorities had made "multiple arrests" of people he said were vandalizing the Reflecting Pool as he struggled to explain why the \$14-million-plus rehabilitation project he launched for the nation's 250th anniversary seemingly backfired.

Trump said his predecessors had let the pool turn an algae-stained green and that he'd line it with "American flag blue" so it better reflected the Washington Monument. But after the new pool was unveiled, its blue tinge quickly became a familiar green. Workers treated it with chemicals to kill the algae, but then the painted blue lining on the bottom began to peel.

On Friday night, Trump posted about the pool.

"We've had some real problems with Vandalism at the beautiful Reflecting Pool," he posted on his social

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media site Friday night. "Just like three days ago, they destroyed the grass outside of the Pool, they've also done everything possible to hurt the inside surface that was just installed."

He offered no details to substantiate his claim.

Agencies responsible for law enforcement and upkeep on the National Mall — the U.S. Park Police, National Park Service and Interior Department — did not respond to requests for comment. Trump on Saturday followed up by posting that Park Police "have arrested multiple individuals for vandalizing our Nations magnificent Reflecting Poll," correcting his spelling to "Pool" later.

He went on: "Who would do such a thing? These are very serious crimes having to do with the destruction of National Monuments. Years in jail!"

Trump later acknowledged in a post that the Reflecting Pool will need to be repaired, yet again, to restore it to "an equal level of Beauty" as before. "We met with contractors today, will probably be forced to release and drain much of the water in order to do the necessary repairs, but will have them done as quickly as possible," he wrote.

One man arrested was David Hearn, 67, of Bethesda, Maryland, who owned a company that made composite used to build watercraft. He said he stopped by the pool during his 64-mile bike ride Friday to see what was going on.

Hearn, a former Olympic canoe racer, told The Associated Press that he reached into the pool because he wanted to examine the peeling new coating. He said he briefly touched a chunk that was still attached to the side of the pool, then let go shortly after a park worker told him to.

But, Hearn said, he was then detained by National Guard troops and Park Police for five hours before being released Friday night.

"I'm a curious citizen," Hearn said in a telephone interview. "I reached down to see what it felt like. It was very rubbery."

The Washington Post first reported Hearn's arrest, and he said he has a date to appear in court next month and is looking for legal help.

Even if someone pulled ribbons of paint from the side of the pool, it would not explain the clouds of algae in green water and swaths of loose blue paint detached from the bottom.

Trump insisted something nefarious has been going on at the scene. "No different than the chemicals that were used on the National Mall, they used something similar in the Reflecting Pool to try to destroy and demean our beautiful work," he posted Friday evening.

That was an apparent reference to the discovery of large numbers etched in discolored grass on the National Mall the week before: "86 47." Authorities said the numbers could have been meant as a threat to Trump, the 47th president. The number 86 can be slang for "getting rid of." They are investigating.

Trump's claims came after days of negative attention to the state of the pool, which has drawn television cameras and curious onlookers.

Extreme heat expected again at the Grand Canyon after 3 hikers die in heat-related incidents

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK, Ariz. (AP) — Visitors to Grand Canyon National Park are being warned about extreme temperatures that will hit the popular destination early next week after a recent increase in heat-related incidents in the inner canyon, including the deaths of three hikers.

The National Weather Service issued an extreme heat watch at the Grand Canyon for midday Monday through Tuesday, forecasting temperatures that could reach or exceed 110 degrees Fahrenheit (43 degrees Celsius) at the low-elevation Phantom Ranch.

People are "strongly advised" to avoid hiking in the middle of the day, the National Park Service said this week in a statement following a "recent influx of heat-related incidents."

An extreme heat watch was in effect June 16 when two hikers, ages 67 and 68, were found dead on the North Kaibab Trail, which the NPS describes as the most difficult of the major inner canyon trails. The service said they appeared to have succumbed to symptoms of heat-related illness.

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A third person, 72, died June 12 along the South Kaibab Trail after becoming ill from the heat, NPS said. About 90 miles (145 kilometers) to the south, Oak Creek Canyon visitors and residents were evacuated late Friday as a wildfire burned hundreds of acres just north of Sedona.

Much of the Western U.S. from the Rockies to the Pacific Coast saw above-average temperatures Saturday and with even hotter weather anticipated for early next week. Officials also warned that the prolonged dry, hot weather and relatively low humidity increased the risk of fire danger.

Extreme heat increases risk of hiking at the Grand Canyon

Park and weather officials alike emphasize to visitors that hiking conditions can be deceiving. Temperatures at the rim of the Grand Canyon are often 20 to 25 degrees cooler than what hikers will experience at the bottom.

"It's just a hot place at the bottom of the Grand Canyon," said Justin Johndrow, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service office in Flagstaff. Johndrow warned that the region is approaching the hottest period of the year before rain monsoon season later in the summer offers some relief.

Hikers may have cooler temperatures and an easier time going downhill to start the descending trails, but they face an intense climb of thousands of feet in elevation and much hotter bottom-of-the-canyon temperatures to get back up. Those conditions can cause heat illness symptoms to sneak up on visitors.

"That's very strenuous even on a mild day," Johndrow said of the hike back up to the rim. "Throw in temperatures of 105 to 110 degrees, and that causes some pretty bad problems."

Wildfire near Oak Creek Canyon posed risk to public safety

A federal interagency team and at least a dozen local agencies were working to combat the blaze, which was burning nearly 300 acres (12 hectares) of very steep and rough terrain near Oak Creek Canyon, said Dick Fleishman, fire information officer with the Southwest area complex incident management team.

The fire was concentrated in the Red Rock-Secret Mountain wilderness area about 7 miles (11 kilometers) north of Sedona, but it started to creep into the Coconino National Forest. Firefighters were working to contain the burn, to prevent it from moving toward Oak Creek Canyon, where residents and visitors were evacuated, or Sedona, and to prepare for the possibility that it does.

Fleishman said the steep slope, the nearby property at risk, the heat from the fire and the risk of post-fire flooding caused by rainwater rushing down the slope were among the reasons the Pocket Fire is particularly concerning.

"This fire ramped up in complexity quickly," he said. "We want to try and keep it as small a footprint as possible."

About 30 miles (50 kilometers) of the adjacent state highway was closed in both directions.

The Coconino National Forest issued a formal closure Saturday afternoon for all campgrounds, picnic sites and trailheads in the area.

"For June 20," said Fleishman, who drove through the area, "I've never seen it that quiet."

Oak Creek Canyon attracts millions of visitors each year.

LA Mayor Bass declares emergency to secure resources to help fight warehouse fire

Associated Press undefined

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass declared an emergency Saturday to ensure the city gets the resources it needs to fight a large warehouse fire that has sent large plumes of smoke into the air.

"The city and county have opened spaces for families seeking relief from the smoke, and we will continue working around the clock and doing everything possible to put this fire out completely," Bass said in a news release announcing the emergency declaration.

The fire at a privately owned cold-storage warehouse in the city's Boyle Heights neighborhood started Wednesday, prompting shelter-in-place orders in the area because of the risk of hazardous air. Residents were told to close all windows, doors and vents, turn off air conditioning and bring people and pets to an inside room.

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Los Angeles Fire Department Chief Jaime Moore said in a news conference that they have taken care of the hazardous materials portion of the blaze and now they are working on the biohazard challenges.

"We have 85 million pounds of frozen food inside of this facility and the way the building has been laid out, it's very difficult for us to get in there because there's zero visibility inside," Moore said. "Our firefighters are not able to just go in there and start moving pallets."

The mayor's declaration asks for recovery help under the California Disaster Assistance Act. She also asked the state to expedite access to resources and other relief programs.

Bass said their chief concern is for the health and safety of the people impacted by the fire, so they are trying to secure the help needed to move the toxic materials away from the area and dispose of them in a way that will avert a major environmental disaster.

"So this is about prevention," she said. "This is about protecting your public health."

US and Iran to talk Sunday in Switzerland as Tehran says it closed Strait of Hormuz again

By KAREEM CHEHAYEB, BASSEM MROUE, SEUNG MIN KIM and MUNIR AHMED Associated Press

TYRE, Lebanon (AP) — U.S. and Iranian negotiators headed to a Swiss venue Saturday for talks on adding key details to their interim agreement to halt the war, hours after Tehran said it closed the Strait of Hormuz because of Israel's attacks in Lebanon and warned that little might be achieved if the fighting doesn't stop.

U.S. President Donald Trump, in response, unleashed a new threat to impose American tolls in the crucial waterway if a final deal with Iran isn't reached in 60 days, saying the money would be for "services rendered as the Guardian Angel to the countries of the Middle East." The agreement calls for toll-free travel for 60 days.

The announcements indicated a rough start to the technical-level talks that key mediator Pakistan said will begin Sunday, with Qatari mediators also participating.

U.S. Vice President JD Vance left for Switzerland on Saturday evening, just as Iranian state TV posted video showing Iran's negotiators arriving there. They are led by parliamentary Speaker Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf and include Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and central bank and oil officials, among others. The deal calls for billions of dollars of Iran's assets to be unfrozen.

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir also left for Switzerland late Saturday.

Talks were meant to start Friday, but the Iranians canceled plans to attend because of escalating fighting in Lebanon. Negotiators for the U.S. and Qatar, with help from Iran, worked out an agreement between Israel and the Iranian-backed Hezbollah militant group to tamp down hostilities, according to U.S. and regional officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to comment publicly.

Vance told reporters he would be in Switzerland "for a day or two" but was optimistic about making progress in talks about Iran's nuclear program and on a ceasefire in southern Lebanon. He earlier confirmed that top negotiators Jared Kushner and Steve Witkoff were already in Switzerland.

But Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei told state TV that negotiations toward a final agreement will begin once key commitments are upheld. If they are not, "the memorandum of understanding as a whole will be jeopardized."

The strait once again becomes a challenge

The strait has emerged again as a focus. Iran's joint military command said it was closed because of the U.S. "clear breach of its commitments" by failing to end the war. The interim deal is meant to stop fighting on all fronts, including Lebanon.

The U.S. disputed Iran's announcement.

"Iran does not control the Strait of Hormuz. Traffic continues to flow, and U.S. forces are monitoring the situation to ensure this remains the case," said Capt. Tim Hawkins, a spokesperson for U.S. Central Com-

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mand. The military said that 55 merchant ships transited Saturday with more than 17 million barrels of oil. The global economy braced for more uncertainty.

Ships began transiting after the interim U.S.-Iran agreement was signed earlier in the week, a milestone that left plenty of questions unanswered. The U.S. lifted its blockade of Iran's ports and now allows Tehran to sell its oil freely — terms that have left some in U.S. Congress asking whether the war was worth it.

The interim deal signed by Trump and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian gives negotiators 60 days to reach a nuclear agreement, but the issue is intricate and the time can be extended.

Israeli attacks in Lebanon kill at least 16

Earlier Saturday, as mediators tried to get the parties to Switzerland, a Hezbollah official told The Associated Press that Iran informed the militant group that Tehran won't reopen the strait until Israel announces publicly that it will comply with a "comprehensive ceasefire" in Lebanon and an end to military operations there. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak publicly.

The official said that Hezbollah would commit to a ceasefire if Israel does.

An Israeli military official, speaking on condition of anonymity in line with regulations, later said that the military had received "updated directives from the political echelon to cease fire." The official said that the military is operating in a defensive manner in Lebanon, which includes the right to respond to Hezbollah attacks.

The official also said that five Israeli soldiers had been killed in the past 48 hours in southern Lebanon.

Neither Israel nor Hezbollah are signatories to the deal between the U.S. and Iran.

Israeli strikes on southern Lebanon on Saturday killed at least 16 people, including two children. Seven people were trapped under rubble after strikes hit the southern city of Nabatiyeh and nearby villages, Lebanon's National News Agency said.

An Israeli military official said that Hezbollah fired more than 50 projectiles at Israeli forces in southern Lebanon overnight. Israel's army said that it struck dozens of Hezbollah targets and militants.

The death toll in the latest Israel-Hezbollah war has surpassed 4,000, Lebanon's health ministry later announced.

Hezbollah and Israel went to war two days after the U.S. and Israel launched strikes on Iran on Feb. 28, with Hezbollah firing rockets and drones at northern Israel and Israel seizing large swaths of southern Lebanon.

A new round of U.S.-backed talks between the Lebanese government, and Israel is expected in Washington next week.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to keep Israeli forces in southern Lebanon until any threat to Israel is eliminated. Hezbollah has refused to halt its attacks unless Israel commits to withdrawing from Lebanon.

Fighting continues near the Israel-Lebanon border

The dead in Lebanon included parents and two children in Barish village. In Arab Salim village, a body was pulled from a destroyed house, and in Doueir and Kfar Rumman villages, drone strikes killed a person on a motorcycle and a Lebanese soldier. Nine people were killed in strikes in Qannarit, Sohmor and Shehour villages.

Israeli jets flew low over the coastal city of Tyre.

"Our entire lives would change if there's a ceasefire," said one resident, Hussein Khoshman.

Some residents of northern Israel doubted the fighting would stop.

"I don't believe in a ceasefire because it doesn't exist," said Miriam Hod in Metula.

Trump deepens the dustup with Italy's Meloni, who says his 'unprovoked attacks are senseless'

By SEUNG MIN KIM Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Saturday lashed out at Italian Prime Minister Giorgia

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Meloni, insisting that she asked "over and over" for a photo with him at the recent Group of Seven summit and criticizing what he said was Italy's lack of cooperation during the Iran war.

The remarks deepen the spat that began this week with the Republican president's interview with an Italian broadcaster, during which Trump claimed Meloni "begged" for the photo during the G7 meeting in France. Meloni has called that "completely fabricated." The dustup led Italy's foreign minister to cancel a planned trip to the United States as Meloni's government lined up in her defense.

"Italian Prime Minister Gigiorgia Meloni asked, over and over, for a picture with me during the G-7 meeting in France," Trump wrote on his social media platform while spending the weekend at the Camp David presidential retreat. He misspelled her first name in the initial post, which he later corrected.

He continued: "She is doing poorly in Italy with her level of popularity, possibly because she turned down the United States of America, a Country that truly loves and protects Italy, when it came to denying Iran from obtaining or developing a Nuclear Weapon (But so did NATO, for that matter!)."

Meloni soon responded, saying in a statement to Trump that "these constant, unprovoked attacks are senseless."

"As for my popularity, being your friend certainly has not helped it, nor does it depend on my relationship with you. My popularity depends on my ability to defend Italy's national interest, and that is exactly what I have always done," Meloni said in a post on Instagram. She added that "in any case, my popularity is none of your concern. I suggest you focus on yours."

The rift between the two powerful leaders comes as Trump's relationship with Europe had long been fraying, mainly over the U.S. administration's trade policy toward the continent, the president's continued threats to take control of Greenland — a self-governing territory of Denmark — and Trump's decision to strike Iran.

At the just-concluded G7 summit in Évian-les-Bains, France, Trump took a warmer tone toward other European leaders in the coalition, as they aligned behind his interim agreement to end the war in Iran. But tensions again were expected to be on full display as Trump travels to Turkey for the annual NATO summit next month.

Trump's initial comments were aired Friday on the La7 network. A correspondent had asked the president about Ukraine, but Trump raised Meloni and made the claim about the photo. Trump said he was not obliged to take the picture with her but that he felt sorry for her and agreed, La7 said. The broadcaster put a dubbed version of the conversation online, but not the original English audio.

In his post, Trump also complained that Meloni would not allow the U.S. to use Italy's landing strips or runways during the Iran war even though the U.S. is a leader in defense spending among NATO allies. That is a long-standing complaint about the military alliance and one that Trump is raising again before his White House meeting Wednesday with NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte and the NATO summit in Ankara, Turkey.

Italy, a key logistics hub for the U.S., declined in March to allow American bombers headed for the Middle East to use a base in Sicily without parliamentary approval. It was a decision reflecting constitutional constraints and strong domestic opposition to the war. Meloni has insisted that any use of Italian bases for offensive operations would require parliamentary backing.

Trump vented his frustration about Meloni and on Saturday claimed that she "wants to be friends again" in light of the initial deal between the U.S. and Iran to end the war.

Newly released video captures the aftermath of a fatal teen stabbing at a Texas track meet

Associated Press undefined

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — Newly released video from an officer's body camera and a surveillance camera at a Texas running track captures the moments after a teenage athlete fatally stabbed another teen from a rival team in the stadium bleachers during a high school meet last year.

Karmelo Anthony, 19, was convicted of murder on June 10 in the death of Austin Metcalf, 17, and sen-

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tenced to 35 years in prison. A jury rejected Anthony's claims of self-defense. The videos were included in a batch of evidence released by the Collin County court following the conclusion of the trial.

The surveillance video shows the track and bleachers on a rainy day. Suddenly a figure wearing a gray sweatshirt is seen popping up from behind a yellow tent and then running down the steps. The video has no sound.

He got to the bottom of the bleachers, tripped and fell on the ground, and then kept running along the edge of the fencing that separates the bleachers from the running track. He stopped briefly, turned to look at what appeared to be someone chasing him, and then kept running.

After making his way part way around the track, he was joined by an unidentified person. They stopped to talk and then hugged. They started walking again and were joined by another person. After talking more, Anthony walked toward the fence where he appeared to meet up with a police officer.

The officer put him in handcuffs and walked him toward the police cruiser. Anthony obeyed the officer's commands and then started crying.

"He put his hands on me," Anthony said in a broken voice. "I told him not to. He put his hands on me."

The officers escorted him to the police cruiser and placed him inside.

Hurricanes fans jam into downtown Raleigh for Stanley Cup parade and rally

By AARON BEARD AP Sports Writer

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Thousands of jubilant Carolina Hurricanes fans crammed onto sidewalks, peered out office building windows and even lined up on floor after floor of a parking deck to cheer and wave at the team's Stanley Cup championship parade on Saturday.

The turnout that packed downtown was enough to leave their coach — the captain of the team's last Cup winner 20 years earlier — at a loss for words.

"I'm in shock," Rod Brind'Amour said in the gap between the end of the parade and the start of the rally that concluded the day's festivities in North Carolina's capital. "It doesn't happen very often, but I'm just kinda speechless."

The Hurricanes brought their Stanley Cup celebration to downtown Raleigh on Saturday, drawing a crowd that police estimated at 150,000, according to city public information officer Julia Milstead. That represented nearly a third of Raleigh's population (506,306) according to U.S. Census estimates for July 2025.

By comparison, the Hurricanes held a parade around the Lenovo Center arena grounds — then known as the RBC Center — that drew about 30,000 fans in 2006 after beating the Edmonton Oilers in 2006 for their first Cup title. Then came a smaller, second parade downtown that drew about 8,000, according to The News & Observer of Raleigh.

This time, players riding double-decker buses were greeted by what Brind'Amour called "wave on wave" of fans. They were screaming, chanting, waving flags and wearing Carolina jerseys, still buzzing from the franchise beating the Vegas Golden Knights last weekend.

"I was trying to explain to the fellas what I knew was going to happen," said captain Jordan Staal, who won the Conn Smythe Trophy as the playoff MVP. "And my expectations were so high because I know these Caniacs, I know what they're all about, and I was still blown away. I couldn't even describe how amazing that was."

The team took the rally stage with Staal hoisting the Stanley Cup skyward before a roaring crowd, while Jordan Martinook and Andrei Svechnikov were among a line of Hurricanes players who kept intermittently cranking the "Storm Warning" siren that is a pregame tradition for the team to take the ice.

The Hurricanes even got some business done, with general manager Eric Tulsky calling reserve forward Nicolas Deslauriers to the podium to sign a two-year \$1.75 million deal. The trade-deadline acquisition was set to become an unrestricted free agent, one of the few bits of roster uncertainty for a team that has the core of its roster locked up to long-term deals.

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Otherwise, it was a daylong party.

Carly Goodman, 35, of Raleigh, was hard to miss in the front row behind barricades in front of the stage where the parade would end with a rally. She sported a red Sebastian Aho jersey, waved a large Hurricanes flag and was blinged out with a silver "Stanley Cup" chain necklace.

She was drinking from a "beer skate," the novelty mug shaped like a Hurricanes skate that sold out immediately during the Game 1 of the second-round series against Philadelphia. She got up at 5 a.m. — "Let my dogs out, they were mad to get up," she said — and made sure to head straight downtown hours in advance to ensure a prime spot.

"It's been something special ever since 2006," Goodman said. "Raleigh's a small market. We've got college sports, but this is epic. It's a team that everybody can get behind. It breaks down all the barriers. Everyone just comes together and smiles, no matter if you're a Duke fan, Carolina fan, whatever — it doesn't matter."

It was a longer trek for Scott Stiles, 60, and his son, Joey, 24. They weren't about to miss the celebration even though they live in Concord, a city outside of Charlotte known for its ties to NASCAR and other motorsports. So they hopped in the car around 3 a.m. to make the 2 1/2-hour drive, arriving more than five hours before the parade was scheduled to start and finding fans like Goodman already waiting closer to the City Plaza stage.

The duo — Scott in a Svechnikov jersey, Joey wearing a Seth Jarvis one — had chairs plopped in the middle of Fayetteville Street straight back from the stage, their spot marked by a giant Hurricanes flag.

"When's the next time they're going to win a Cup?" Scott said, pausing as a "Let's go Canes!" chant wrapped up. "They might win it again next year, who knows? But we wanted to be a part of it."

Israeli strikes in Gaza kill 6, including 2 children and an Al Jazeera cameraman

By WAFAA SHURAFU Associated Press

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza (AP) — Israeli strikes in Gaza on Saturday killed at least six people, including two children and a cameraman with broadcaster Al Jazeera, according to Palestinian health officials.

Despite an October ceasefire between Israel and the militant group Hamas, the enclave has seen near-daily Israeli attacks that have killed over 1,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry.

The first strike on Saturday hit an apartment in Gaza City around 2 a.m., according to the ministry. At the site, an Associated Press reporter saw rubble and chunks of concrete stained with blood.

The bodies of two sisters, 4-year-old Zina and 14-year-old Lana, were sent to Shifa Hospital's morgue, where they lay in white hospital bags, surrounded by family members.

"I was sitting at home. The rocket fell on us without a warning," said their cousin, Mohammad Safadi, whose forehead was wounded. He said his wife was also hurt.

"This ceasefire the occupation and the negotiation team speak of ... is this really a ceasefire? We are civilians. I never held a weapon," Safadi said.

The Israeli military said it was looking into the incident.

On Saturday evening, three Israeli strikes killed four people and wounded at least a dozen others.

The first hit a house in central Gaza's Bureij refugee camp without warning, killing three people, including Al Jazeera cameraman Ahmed Wishah, according to Al-Aqsa hospital. Al Jazeera confirmed Wishah's death.

Wishah's brother Mohamed, who was a correspondent for Al Jazeera, was killed in an Israeli strike in April.

Another strike on Saturday targeted a group of people in the sprawling tent camp of Muwasi in southern Gaza, killing one and wounding eight others, according to Nasser hospital, where the casualties were taken.

A third strike in Gaza City targeted a group of people and wounded at least four, according to Shifa hospital.

The Israeli military in a statement said it killed the Al Jazeera cameraman in a "precise strike." It asserted that he had been part of Hamas' military wing and had posed a threat to troops in the area.

Israel says it is targeting Hamas and other militants who pose a threat. Five Israeli soldiers have been

killed since the truce.

The war began when Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel, killing 1,200 people and taking 251 hostage on Oct. 7, 2023. Israel's retaliatory military offensive in Gaza has killed 73,018 Palestinians, including those slain since the ceasefire, Gaza's Health Ministry said.

The ministry, part of the Hamas-led government, is staffed by medical professionals and maintains detailed records that are generally considered reliable by United Nations agencies and independent experts. It does not distinguish between civilians and militants but says women and children make up around half of all fatalities.

Counterterror police investigate after 5 hurt in Edinburgh attacks that appeared to target Muslims

By JILL LAWLESS Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Counterterrorism detectives in Scotland were investigating after five people were injured in attacks in Edinburgh that appeared to target Muslims, police said Saturday.

Police Scotland said that a 36-year-old man was arrested late Friday after officers received multiple reports of attacks in the west and north of the city.

The force said that five men — two of them age 22, and others ages 24, 27 and 39 — sustained a range of injuries and three needed hospital treatment. None of the injuries is considered life-threatening.

The charity Muslim Engagement and Development said that several of those injured are Muslim. The Scottish Association of Mosques said that two of the injured men were attacked after attending prayers at their local mosque.

U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer said that the suspect "appears to be motivated by anti-Muslim hatred."

"I will not tolerate this — he will face the full force of the law," Starmer said in a post on X.

Video posted on social media appeared to show a shirtless man carrying a long weapon roaming a street and battering a restaurant door in the Scottish capital. Another video seemed to show the same man on the ground shouting about "protecting the country" while being held by a police officer.

U.K. Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood said that she was "horrified by news of the attack in Edinburgh.

"There is no place for hatred and violence against Muslims," she said. "I know it is not who we are as a country."

The Muslim Council of Britain said in a statement that the Muslim community is "rightly nervous and worried." It said that the violence was "a direct consequence of political rhetoric that demonizes entire communities."

Police Scotland Assistant Chief Constable Catriona Paton said that it was a "shocking" incident. She said that officers "are being supported by Counter Terrorism Policing.

"I want to send a clear message of support to all our communities that there is no place for racism or faith-based hate in a Scotland, which is at its best when we stand together," she said.

James Burrows, director of classic TV comedies including 'Cheers' and 'Friends,' dies at 85

By BETH HARRIS Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — James Burrows, who helped create volumes of laughter as director of more than a thousand episodes of such classic television comedies as "Cheers," "Taxi," "Friends" and "Will and Grace," died Friday. He was 85.

His family confirmed his death in a statement to People, saying he "passed away peacefully today surrounded by his family." No location or cause of death was provided.

Burrows spent his career behind the camera specializing in situation comedies. Few viewers recognized him or knew his name, other than to see it flash quickly on the screen in the opening credits. But they knew his work.

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Burrows got his start in television relatively late at age 35 in 1974, directing episodes of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show," "The Bob Newhart Show," and "Laverne & Shirley."

He cocreated "Cheers," directing 243 of the 273 episodes, as well as all 246 episodes of "Will and Grace."

He also helmed multiple episodes of such hits as "Frasier," "Friends" and "Mike & Molly" and the pilots of "Two and a Half Men" and "The Big Bang Theory."

Sweet spot of script, performance and chemistry

"When I direct a television show, I try to reach that sweet spot where the best script meets the best performance and the best chemistry between performers," Burrows wrote in his 2022 memoir "Directed by James Burrows." "Hitting that exact moment, where these factors land in combination, results in the sweetest and most enduring laugh."

His family said, "Burrows understood that great comedy was never simply about laughter. It was about humanity, connection, and truth. That understanding became the foundation of a career that forever changed television."

"But beyond his remarkable achievements, Burrows will be remembered for something even greater: his kindness, generosity, and unwavering belief in the people around him. He possessed a rare ability to make everyone better and was known for remembering every person he met by name, making colleagues at every level feel seen, valued, and appreciated," the family statement said.

The majority of Burrows' shows aired on NBC, whose "Must See TV" slogan promoted its Thursday night lineup in the early 1990s that included "Friends" and "Frasier."

"Jimmy Burrows was the man behind the curtain. He knew how to make us laugh, what buttons to push and was the absolute master of getting the most out of every joke," NBC said in a statement. "His loss to the television comedy world is immeasurable. Every time you have a smile on your face watching 'The Mary Tyler Moore Show,' 'Taxi,' 'Cheers,' 'Will & Grace,' 'Friends' and countless others, think of Jimmy and know he made all our lives funnier."

Following in his father's path

Born James Edward Burrows on Dec. 30, 1940, in Los Angeles, he moved to New York when he was 5 years old. He spent five years in the Metropolitan Opera Children's Chorus until his voice started to change. He attended LaGuardia High School of Music & Art.

His father was writer, director and producer Abe Burrows, whose Broadway hits included "Guys and Dolls" and "Can-Can." The elder Burrows also mentored Larry Gelbart, future creator and producer of the TV show "MASH."

The younger Burrows spent hours of his youth in theaters and studios watching his father work, dining with him at such famed New York haunts as Sardi's and Gallagher's and meeting celebrities who attended his father's New Year's Eve parties.

After earning a bachelor's degree from Oberlin College, Burrows attended the graduate program of the Yale School of Drama, where his classmates included actor-comedian Robert Klein, playwright John Guare and film director John Badham.

At Yale, he was required to take directing classes and he got hooked.

Burrows' first sitcom experience was as Burl Ives' dialogue coach on "O.K. Crackerby!" which was directed by his father and ran for one season on ABC in 1965.

From there, he was an assistant on "The Patty Duke Show." He moved back to New York and worked for Broadway producers Lee Guber, Frank Ford and Shelly Gross. He first met actor Moore while working on the Broadway production of "Holly Golightly," an adaptation of "Breakfast at Tiffany's" that was directed by his father.

Burrows eventually worked as a stage manager for various road productions, where he met such actors as Hugh O'Brien, Zsa Zsa Gabor and Julie Harris.

Catching a break with Mary Tyler Moore

By 1974, after working in dinner theater and summer stock, he turned on his television and saw Moore's eponymous TV show. He wrote her a letter asking if there was any opening "small or smaller" at her

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production company that he could fill, according to his memoir.

Moore's husband and business partner, Grant Tinker, invited Burrows to Los Angeles to direct an episode of the comedy. He apprenticed for MTM Enterprises, which had four sitcoms on the air at the same time.

Burrows cited his theater background for learning how to give actors direction and block out scenes. He's credited for being one of the first sitcom directors to increase the typical multicamera television shoot from three to four cameras.

The common thread between Burrows' shows were the bonds between friends and unrelated families, whether it was the motley crew of regulars meeting at the bar in "Cheers" or the drivers working toward a better life in "Taxi" or the 20-somethings sharing the same apartment building in "Friends."

"The best sitcoms transcend the screen and reach out and grab the audience by the throat and by the heart," Burrows wrote in his memoir.

Actors Danny DeVito and Rhea Perlman worked with Burrows over 16 seasons between "Taxi" and "Cheers."

"He was the very best at his craft. His positive spirit, boundless energy, and tireless work defined what it takes to run a show and keep people laughing," they said in a statement. "He will always be in our hearts."

Burrows relished discovering new acting talent while directing more than 75 pilots that were picked up as series.

"Having directed over a thousand shows means that almost any night you can turn on your television or go online and find a show that I directed. I'm very proud of that," he wrote in his memoir.

In 2019, Burrows was an executive producer on live productions of "All in the Family" and "The Jeffersons" with famous actors re-creating episodes of those 1970s comedies.

"Jimmy was the greatest comedic television director in the history of the medium," his agent Rick Rosen said in a statement. "He directed the most iconic, defining shows of generations. Always a gentleman, it was an absolute honor to represent him."

Burrows was married in 1997 to Debbie Easton, whom he met when she worked as a hairstylist on "Frasier." Daughters Kat Schatzow, Ellie Gluck and Maggie Burrows, who followed her father into directing, are from his first marriage to Linda Solomon, who died in 2004. His stepdaughter Paris is from his wife's previous marriage. He has a sister, Laurie Burrows Grad, and seven grandchildren.

Russia strikes an apartment building in the Ukrainian city of Kharkiv and 1 person is killed

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Russian bombs struck an apartment building on Saturday in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, killing at least one person and wounding nine, including a 6-year-old child, authorities said.

A body was pulled from the rubble hours after the attack, Mayor Ihor Terekhov said on Telegram. He said that the bombs slammed into the low-rise building in Kharkiv's Kholodnohirskiy district in the early hours. The head of the regional administration, Oleh Syniehubov, said that at least nine people were wounded, five of whom were hospitalized.

Elsewhere in Kharkiv, a Russian drone struck a civilian vehicle on Friday evening, killing a man and wounding the woman who was driving the car, Syniehubov said.

Later on Saturday, Russia again launched guided bombs at Ukraine, striking the outskirts of the northern city of Sumy, according to local administration head Oleh Hryhorov. The attacks killed a male civilian and damaged at least 20 private houses, Hryhorov reported on Telegram.

Russian strikes on the southeastern city of Zaporizhzhia killed at least four people and wounded six others, according to regional administration head Ivan Fedorov. Guided aerial bombs were used in the attacks.

Moscow didn't immediately acknowledge or comment on the attacks.

Ukraine's air force said that it shot down 92 of 99 Russian drones launched overnight and that seven struck targets in three locations.

Meanwhile, Russian air defences repelled a drone attack on an oil refinery in Tyumen in Western Siberia,

Gov. Alexander Moor said Saturday. He said that there was no damage to the refinery and staff members were evacuated.

Ukraine has repeatedly targeted Russian oil facilities, aiming to cut Moscow's revenue for the war and make Russians feel the consequences of the invasion. Some areas have reported fuel shortages.

In one of the biggest drone attacks since Russia's full-scale invasion began on Feb. 24, 2022, Ukraine on Thursday struck a major Moscow oil refinery for a second time in a week, sending huge plumes of black smoke over the capital and disrupting hundreds of flights.

Russia's Defense Ministry said Saturday that its forces shot down 177 Ukrainian drones during the night. It didn't say how many reached their targets. Two drones were shot down on approach to Moscow, Mayor Sergei Sobyenin said.

Zelenskyy returns Poland's highest honor after Polish leader revokes it in a spat over history

By CLAUDIA CIOBANU and VOLODYMYR YURCHUK Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Ukrainian leader Volodymyr Zelenskyy has returned Poland's highest state honor, after the Polish president stripped him of the award as a politically charged dispute over World War II history resurfaced.

Ukrainians believed the order "was meant for the Ukrainian People and our army," Zelenskyy wrote in a social media post explaining the gesture. "Today, I sent the Order back to the President of Poland. I believe the future will confirm the respect Ukrainians deserve."

The message published on X is accompanied by photos of the Polish order and a postal receipt that it was about to be mailed to the Polish presidential office.

President Karol Nawrocki decided to strip Zelenskyy of the Order of the White Eagle over the Ukrainian leader's decision to name a military unit after a Ukrainian paramilitary organization accused of massacring Poles during WWII.

Former Polish President Andrzej Duda bestowed the award on Zelenskyy in 2023 for services to security, resilience and the defense of human rights.

Zelenskyy issued a decree on May 26 naming a unit of Ukraine's Special Operations Forces after the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, or UPA, which operated during the 1940s and 1950s and has been accused in Poland of mass killings.

"For the majority of Polish society, the Ukrainian Insurgent Army remains above all a formation responsible for cruel crimes against the citizens of the Polish Republic during World War II," Nawrocki said in a 13-minute address on social media.

Zelenskyy's move reopened old wounds in Poland

The Ukrainian decree was met with widespread criticism in Poland, which has hosted millions of Ukrainian refugees and is a key supporter of Kyiv as it battled Russia's four-year invasion. However, Nawrocki is a nationalist politician who has exploited anti-Ukrainian sentiment for electoral gain. Ukrainians in Poland have been facing increasing prejudice despite their contribution to the economy.

The decision to revoke the honor did not mean Poland's support for Ukraine in its defense against Russia would decrease, Nawrocki said.

Ukraine is grateful to Poland for its support, and would stay open to resolve historical differences with Poland, Zelenskyy wrote Saturday in his post. "I am proud of our people and of EVERY Ukrainian warrior."

Ukrainian Presidential Office chief Kyrylo Budanov wrote on Telegram that Nawrocki's decision was "an unfriendly act toward our people" and "a gift to the Moscow aggressor, which will certainly use it against both of our countries."

Four Ukrainian officials including Budanov said they would return state honors that Poland had issued them.

Some in Ukraine criticized the decision to return the Polish honors.

Arseniy Yatsenyuk, Ukraine's former prime minister, wrote on X that one "harmful and incorrect decision

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by the current president of Poland cannot be corrected by other incorrect decisions of ours.”

Calls to resolve differences

Poland is scheduled to host a major event on Ukraine’s postwar reconstruction next week, which Zelenskyy was expected to attend.

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk, a political rival of Nawrocki, urged the two leaders to “tone down emotions, not stoke tensions.”

“The front line runs elsewhere,” Tusk wrote on social media Friday night, adding that the row between Poland and Ukraine “delights Putin and shocks our allies.”

Zelenskyy’s May decree said the designation was meant to restore military traditions and recognize the unit’s performance in defending Ukraine’s territorial integrity and independence.

The UPA fought for Ukrainian independence against both Nazi Germany and Soviet forces. But it has been accused of killing tens of thousands of Poles, mostly in the Nazi-occupied regions of Volhynia and Eastern Galicia. In 2016, the Polish Parliament recognized the crimes committed by UPA as genocide.

Ukrainians say armed formations on both sides, including the UPA and Polish underground forces, were involved in attacks and reprisals that led to large-scale civilian casualties among Poles and Ukrainians.

Poland and Ukraine had recently made progress on the issue of exhumation of Polish victims. A December meeting between the two presidents in Warsaw had signaled progress on historical reconciliation.

Warsh’s gamble: A quieter Federal Reserve could mean volatile markets, higher rates

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER AP Economic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve has for decades moved steadily from a remote, opaque government agency that shared little about what it did or why to a more transparent institution willing to explain how it makes decisions and what it thinks about the economy.

But in his first press conference Wednesday, new chair Kevin Warsh began to reverse some of those steps. Warsh, like many economists, thinks the financial markets have become too dependent on Fed guidance, and that such direction is more effective in financial crises or economic downturns.

Warsh quickly made changes: The Fed’s statement on its interest-rate decision was slashed to 132 words, from 341 in April. And Warsh pointedly noted that the statement excluded any hints, or “forward guidance,” about what the Fed’s next moves might be.

In short, Warsh rapidly delivered on a promise to slash the Fed’s communications, particularly the guidance it gives to financial markets about its next interest-rate moves. Yet such an approach carries the risk of more violent swings in stock and bond prices, analysts say, and ultimately could lead to higher interest rates for consumers and businesses.

“Forward guidance in general has served to suppress volatility and anchor market expectations,” said George Pearkes, global macro strategist at Bespoke Investment Group. “And that has led to lower borrowing rates, relative to alternatives.”

Still, the impact on consumers is likely to be modest, Pearkes added, with mortgage rates perhaps a quarter-point higher than they would be otherwise.

Financial markets see-sawed, then fell Wednesday after the statement and news conference. The yield on the 10-year Treasury, which strongly influences mortgage rates, jumped Wednesday to 4.49% from 4.43%, though it fell back in Thursday trading. The yield on the 2-year Treasury, which closely tracks expectations for Fed action, was 4.16% Thursday, up sharply from 4.05% before the Fed’s meeting. The broad S&P 500 stock index dropped 1.2% Wednesday.

Warsh may be headed back to 1990s

Such swings could be a sign of things to come. Previous chairs have signaled the Fed’s next moves clearly enough that financial markets have largely anticipated the central bank’s actions. But Warsh has frequently cited as a model former chair Alan Greenspan, whose circumspect comments often kept investors guessing.

Greenspan, who served as chair from 1987 to 2005, did usher in the statement the Fed now issues af-

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ter each meeting announcing its decision. The first statement was issued Feb. 4, 1994, and said the Fed would increase its key rate for the first time in five years. The move caught investors off-guard and the Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged 2.4% that day.

The paring back of Fed communications is part of a larger package of potential reforms to the central bank's operations that Warsh signaled Wednesday. He announced that the Fed will set up five task forces to examine the Fed's communications, its balance sheet, how it analyzes and gathers economic data, the impact of AI on productivity and jobs, and the frameworks it uses to analyze inflation.

Warsh said the communications task force would consider changes to the quarterly economic projections the Fed issues as well as look at other recent innovations, including press conferences. Former chair Ben Bernanke was the first to hold them, though he did so only after every other Fed meeting. Warsh's predecessor, Jerome Powell, shifted to holding them after every meeting.

Such steps are a sharp contrast with the 1990s, when Greenspan never explained a Fed decision, on the record, to reporters. Warsh could ultimately dial back some of the Fed's increased transparency.

"This is a big change in how the Fed has conducted itself since the (2008-2009) global financial crisis," Matthew Luzzetti, chief U.S. economist at Deutsche Bank, said. "Since then there has been a one-way train to greater communication, more transparency, and more forward guidance. Warsh has now put that train in reverse."

Fed chairs have seen benefits to forward guidance

Previous Fed chairs, starting with Bernanke, have seen a clear benefit to more communication: It helps guide the markets in the direction the Fed wants. Fed officials control a short-term interest rate, but the rates that affect the economy — such as the yield on the 10-year Treasury — are heavily influenced by investors' expectations for inflation and economic growth. By telegraphing their next moves, policymakers can cause those longer-term rates to change even before the Fed adjusts its own benchmark rate.

Yet Warsh's view is that financial markets have become too dependent on Fed guidance. Instead, he wants investors to gauge where the Fed may move next by examining economic data and making their own judgments, which the Fed can then consider as part of their assessments of where the economy is headed.

"Financial market prices are probably the most important source of information to guide central bankers," Warsh said at Wednesday's news conference.

Guidance can help with unexpected events

David Andolfatto, an economics professor at the University of Miami and former economist at the St. Louis Fed, said he agreed with Warsh that forward guidance has flaws. It can be easily upended by unexpected events, he said, such as Russia's invasion of Ukraine or the Iran war.

But the chair should set out guidelines for how the Fed will react to unexpected events, Andolfatto said, or to challenges such as the persistent inflation it is grappling with now, yet Warsh so far hasn't done so.

"I'm with him on dispensing with forward guidance, but you have to replace it with a contingency plan," Andolfatto said. "It's not enough to say, trust me, we'll keep inflation at target."

Ironically, Warsh's decision to drop forward guidance may empower the other 18 members of the Fed's rate-setting committee, Pearkes said. Those officials — six members of the Fed's governing board, plus the presidents of the 12 regional Fed banks — frequently give public speeches, and their remarks will get even more attention as financial markets seek clues about what the Fed may do next.

A big challenge to Warsh's approach will come if there is a sharp financial downturn or economic crisis, as occurred during the COVID pandemic. In those circumstances, economists said, forward guidance can play an important role calming markets.

"Whether it will stand the test of time and he will behave this way for five years is a very different question, but one that we're going to have to wait for events to unfold to get an answer to," Pearkes said.

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Utah marks a year of battling measles, with no clear end in sight

By DEVI SHASTRI AP Health Writer

Utah has spent the past year fighting measles outbreaks — a grim milestone that could affect whether the United States can keep its measles-free designation.

More than 680 people have gotten sick since the state's first outbreak began on June 20, 2025.

Unlike measles outbreaks in Texas, South Carolina and Arizona, the spread in Utah has been tough to contain to one region — infecting undervaccinated communities in nearly every county.

Measles popped up in healthcare settings, big-box stores and restaurants, and youth sporting events. In February, an exposure at a state high school wrestling championship sparked at least 46 cases among attendees.

Measles is one of the most contagious diseases known to medicine. It causes a tell-tale rash, high fevers, strong cough, ear infections and diarrhea.

While most recover, some — including young babies, pregnant people and those with weak immune systems — are at higher risk of developing dangerous complications like pneumonia, brain swelling, blindness or even dying. Even healthy people can develop issues years down the road, including a rare but fatal degenerative brain disease that manifests about a decade after infection.

The measles vaccine is safe and 97% protective after two doses.

Though Utah's spread has slowed in recent weeks, state epidemiologist Leisha Nolen sees little opportunity to rest. She's worried the start of school and arrival of colder weather in the fall will cause measles to surge again.

"It's still here, it's still transmitting," she said. "We just need those few cases to hit the wrong community and it could flare up really big again."

Utah sees the impacts of dropping vaccination rates

The worst spread has been in the southwestern part of the state, where 265 people have fallen ill with the vaccine-preventable disease since last summer. Overall, measles infections hit 22 of the state's 29 counties.

In the state's rural northeast, the conditions were also ripe for measles to spread. Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah counties — collectively dubbed the "tricity" health region — has seen the second-largest decline in childhood vaccination rates in the state.

More than 16% of the region's kindergarteners were missing their measles vaccines in the last school year, according to state data. Statewide, 12.8% were missing their vaccine, putting the state far short of the 95% vaccination rate needed to prevent measles outbreaks.

The TriCounty Health Department logged 74 cases of measles this spring, after people who got sick at the youth wrestling tournament spread the virus in school and later within their households.

The frontier region had seen a rise in vaccine hesitancy for some time, said Sydnee Lyons, the health department's public information officer.

Despite the large number of cases, local and state health officials consider TriCounty's measles response a success.

Health officials focused efforts on mitigating the inevitable spread. Unvaccinated students were excluded from in-person school and people who were sick were told to isolate themselves. And their appeal to care for one's neighbors led to more people coming in to get vaccinated, officials said.

TriCounty's infectious disease specialist Cyndie Mattinson recalled a parent who told a school nurse she didn't want to talk to the health department because "she was worried that we would be angry with her and be judgmental because her children were unvaccinated."

The nurse vouched for the health department staff, and told the mom to let her know if she felt judged. Mattinson ultimately had a great conversation with the mother.

"The perceptions were changed that we weren't out there to police, we were there to be a help and a resource to the community," Mattinson said.

Health experts will meet to decide on US measles status

Utah's lengthy battle with measles will likely affect whether the U.S. can keep its measles-free designa-

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tion. Public health officials consider measles to be eliminated from a country when it shows it stopped continuous spread within local communities for at least a year.

The national measles case count was 2,104 as of June 18, nearly surpassing last year's record total.

Utah has fought measles for a year, but it's not clear if the earliest clusters are connected with the major outbreak on the Utah-Arizona state line, which was detected in August, Nolen said.

But since then, most of the state's measles cases have come from within Utah, not from other parts of the country.

International health experts will gather in November to determine if the U.S. and Mexico have lost their measles elimination status. Canada lost its status last year after ongoing outbreaks.

In Utah, doctors continue to reassure scared patients and lobby for better public health policy.

Dr. Ellie Brownstein, president-elect of the state chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a pediatrician in Salt Lake City, spent the height of the outbreak opposing a bill that would have made school vaccine waivers easier to get. It failed, but she says there hasn't been a clear cultural reckoning over measles' resurgence.

"I don't know that we get it to end," Brownstein said. "I don't know that we're going to get this genie back in the box because there's enough people out there to spread it."

Congress wonders as the Iran war draws to a close: Was it worth it?

By LISA MASCARO AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The question hangs in the halls at the Capitol: Was it worth it?

Congress, which never authorized the war against Iran yet never fully objected to it, now must grapple with the consequences of President Donald Trump's nearly four-month conflict: the lives lost, the billions spent and the national security fallout that has reordered the political dynamics in the Middle East.

Ask senators what they think about the deal Trump struck to end the war, and they do not search too far for words.

"Pathetic. Failure. Inevitable conclusion of a combination of never making the case to the American people, flawed strategic vision, lack of grasp of the regional dynamics," said Delaware Sen. Chris Coons, a Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"How many ways, can I say, bad, bad, bad?"

Yet Republican Sen. Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, a past chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, said that because of the president's actions, "We are safer today."

"You can criticize — Oh, he didn't totally win," Johnson said. "Well, that was always going to be very difficult."

As Trump moves on to the next phase, it is left to the Congress to pick up the pieces: explaining the war to voters back home, restocking the military arsenal that has run low from bombing runs and trying to ensure the fragile ceasefire holds as the United States seeks to halt Iran's nuclear ambitions and work toward an uneasy peace.

More money for the Pentagon

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth made the rounds on Capitol Hill this past week as lawmakers consider Defense Department funding as part of the Republican majority's next big budget package.

The White House has asked for a remarkable \$1.5 trillion for the Pentagon this year, on top of the extra money that Republicans delivered as part of the Trump's tax cuts package last year.

Republicans are mulling a sizable \$350 billion plus-up for Hegseth on par with the White House's budget request that the GOP could pass on its own, through the reconciliation process that allows majority rule over potential objections from Democrats.

Senators, meanwhile, are seeking to set some guardrails on Hegseth with a provision to block a portion of his travel fund until the Pentagon delivers various reports. One such report is on an investigation into

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the strike on an elementary school in Iran that killed more than 165 people, a flashpoint at the start of the war.

Officials have said they believe the U.S. was responsible for the strike and that it was based on faulty intelligence.

Questions swirl over what's next in Iran

Lawmakers are still processing what just happened after Trump swiftly signed a memorandum of understanding with Iran and opened a window of 60-day talks toward ending Tehran's nuclear program.

"I understand the president's trying to find a peaceful solution to this," said Sen. Mike Rounds, R-S.D., who serves on the Senate Armed Services and Intelligence committees. "I commend him for that. But we've got a lot of questions."

Senators are particularly concerned about the tentative deal's provision for a potential \$300 billion fund for the "reconstruction and economic development" of Iran.

To many skeptical Republicans, that money sounds similar to the planeloads-of-cash narrative they used against the Obama-era Iran nuclear deal, which offered a slim fraction of that amount, some \$1.7 billion overall. To this day, Trump tells an exaggerated story of how that payment to Iran, for U.S. military equipment it never received, was made.

"The only concerns I have are the money and the conditions," said Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C.

"If we send a trainload, a shipload, it's gonna age as well as that," he said.

Circumspect over what was gained and lost

Over and over again Congress tried and failed to exert its authority under the war powers act to halt the U.S. military action in Iran.

The House ultimately passed a war powers resolution that sought to force an end to the war after a small number of Republicans joined the Democratic measure last month. The Senate has voted nine times, including this past week, but failed to reach the majority needed.

At the same time, Congress did not affirmatively authorize the war with a use of force resolution, as has been done in certain other conflicts, including the Iraq War.

"I'm glad that the conflict has finally ended and hope the ceasefire holds," said a statement from Sen. Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire, the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

But Shaheen said the country must be clear-eyed about what has come about.

Not one of the president's objectives has been achieved, she said, and Iran won significant concessions.

"The American people are paying the price with higher costs in every aspect of life and tens of billions in tax dollars spent," she said.

Republican Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska said it's hard to see what leverage the U.S. gained to force Iran to a better negotiation.

"You want to be able to give the benefit of the doubt," she said.

But Murkowski said, "I think we're in a place where there is a deal that has been signed, but it doesn't appear to me that it puts us in that much of a different position than prior to the beginning of the war."

A top banker tried to sway Pope Leo XIV on rare earth mining

By DAVID BILLER and NICOLE WINFIELD Associated Press

ROME (AP) — The head of Latin America's top development bank made a pitch to Pope Leo XIV this week in the face of the Vatican's call to divest from the mining industry: that the mistakes of the past can be avoided in extracting rare earth minerals to supply a global tech boom.

Ilan Goldfajn, head of the Inter-American Development Bank, met privately with the pope on Friday and asserted the potential of rare earth mining, saying it could be a boon to Latin America provided there are safeguards and value is added locally.

It's probably not an easy sell. The Vatican for years has taken a firm stand against multinational mining corporations, especially in Latin America and in favor of the Indigenous peoples, whose lands and livelihoods are often ravaged when mining projects come to town.

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Goldfajn's visit, which followed one earlier this year by mining executives, suggests that he recognizes the weight of the pope's words in the majority-Catholic region, and a desire to sensitize him to the possibility of a better way of doing business. Whether Leo can be swayed is another matter, given his own experience in the region and criticism of the often corrupt deals mining companies ink with governments in the developing world.

Countries have identified dozens of minerals, including copper, cobalt, lithium and nickel, as critical because they are essential for new technologies. The 17 rare earth elements are a subset of them. They're used in a wide range of products, including smartphones, semiconductors, electric vehicles and jet engines.

"It's a unique opportunity for the region, but you need to do it in the right way with the standards, the labor conditions, with the environmental conditions, the governance," Goldfajn said in an interview in Rome on June 18, one day before his meeting.

"We have exactly the tools to do that," he added, noting the IADB has a roughly \$4 billion pipeline of critical mineral projects in the region, mostly in Chile, Argentina and Brazil, and three-quarters of that amount with private companies. He had just delivered a presentation on rare earth minerals at a finance conference, with an eye on potential European investors.

A pope who knows Peru

Mining has a checkered, centuries-long history in Latin America, from forced labor and displacement of Indigenous peoples to deforestation, poisoning of waterways and deadly dam collapses. Foreign companies withdrew much of the wealth from the earth without enriching local populations. In colonial times, silver and gold made its way across the ocean to adorn Catholic churches.

Leo, who spent two decades working as a missionary in Peru, would be intimately familiar with the plight of Indigenous peoples in mining areas and the environmental impact of extraction industries on the land. He ministered in Chulucanas, in the archdiocese of Piura, which has huge copper mining projects, and in Trujillo, known for its gold deposits. His final Peruvian posting, Chiclayo, is a big logistical hub for northern Peru's extraction industries.

"He must have seen both sides: the promise, the future, but also the challenges," Goldfajn said of Leo's time in Peru. He noted that Leo held a private audience with a group of top mining executives in January, which he heard from them had been "very constructive."

But two months later, the Vatican launched a campaign to encourage divestment from mining companies. At a Vatican news conference, top officials held up an ecumenical Christian network, known as the Church and Mining Network, that is active in particular in Latin America. The campaign seeks to encourage local churches to review their investment strategies and divest where needed, and to share information especially with Indigenous groups about the types of extraction occurring on their lands.

Leo is expected to visit Peru in November, including places where he ministered. In each of the three sub-Saharan countries he visited during his April trip to Africa — Cameroon, Angola and Equatorial Guinea — he blasted the "colonization" of Africa's minerals by mining companies.

It makes sense for people like Goldfajn to try to engage Leo, even if the pope alone won't move investment decisions, Bryan Harris, managing partner at Sabio, a Latin America-focused strategic advisory firm, wrote in an email.

"The decades he spent in Peru give him personal credibility and his messaging on mining sets the tone for how dioceses and parishes across the continent will engage with mining companies and projects," said Harris, who consults for international mining companies in the region. "These groups are often the basis of local opposition movements to mining, so the Pope has considerable sway on whether relations are confrontational or conciliatory."

Harris noted that processing of rare earths can be extremely dirty, involving heavy chemical use that can contaminate water resources without close monitoring of companies' sustainability commitments and enforcement by federal regulators.

Mining as colonization in modern day

Leo's predecessor, Pope Francis, a native of Argentina, singled out the toll of mining in his 2015 environ-

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mental encyclical "Praised Be," noting the pollution of underground water systems as a result of runoff, the mercury pollution in gold mining or sulfur dioxide pollution in copper mining.

Francis said it was "essential" for Indigenous communities to be the principal dialogue partners when large projects affecting their land are being considered.

The Vatican didn't provide any readout of Leo's private audience with Goldfajn. In a separate audience Friday, Leo met with participants in a conference at the Vatican's environmental educational center named for Francis' 2015 encyclical. He denounced the profit-at-all cost mentality of those who seek to plunder the earth "at the expense of the most vulnerable and enhances the risk of dehumanization."

There are 75 million tons (82.7 million U.S. tons) of rare earth oxides around the world, more than half in China, and with Brazil home to the second-largest reserves, according to the U.S. Geological Survey's most recent estimate.

Today in History: June 21, US Constitution becomes law

By The Associated Press undefined

Today is Sunday, June 21, the 172nd day of 2026. There are 193 days left in the year. Summer begins today.

Today in history:

On June 21, 1788, the United States Constitution went into effect as New Hampshire became the required ninth state to ratify it.

Also on this date:

In 1834, Cyrus Hall McCormick received a patent for his mechanical reaper.

In 1893, the first Ferris wheel opened to the public as part of the Chicago World's Fair.

In 1942, an Imperial Japanese submarine fired shells at Fort Stevens on the Oregon coast, but caused little damage.

In 1954, scientists of the American Cancer Society presented a study to a meeting of the American Medical Association in San Francisco which found that men who regularly smoked cigarettes died, particularly from lung cancer, at a considerably higher rate than non-smokers.

In 1964, civil rights activists James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner were killed in Neshoba County, Mississippi; their bodies were found buried in an earthen dam six weeks later. (Forty-one years later, on this date in 2005, Edgar Ray Killen, an 80-year-old former Ku Klux Klansman, was found guilty of manslaughter in their deaths; he was sentenced to 60 years in prison, where he died in January 2018.)

In 1982, a jury in Washington, D.C., found John Hinckley Jr. not guilty by reason of insanity in the 1981 shootings of President Ronald Reagan, Press Secretary James Brady, Metropolitan Police Officer Thomas Delahanty and Secret Service Special Agent Tim McCarthy.

In 1989, a sharply divided Supreme Court ruled, in *Texas v. Johnson*, that burning the American flag as a form of political protest was protected by the First Amendment.

In 1997, the WNBA made its debut as the New York Liberty defeated the host Los Angeles Sparks 67-57.

In 2004, the aircraft SpaceShipOne made the first privately funded human spaceflight.

In 2010, Faisal Shahzad, a Pakistan-born U.S. citizen, pleaded guilty to charges of plotting a failed car bombing in New York's Times Square. (Shahzad was later sentenced to life in prison.)

In 2021, Las Vegas Raiders defensive end Carl Nassib became the first active NFL player to come out as gay, saying he felt representation and visibility were important; other NFL players came out as gay after their careers were over.

Today's Birthdays: Musician Ray Davies (The Kinks) is 82. Actor Meredith Baxter is 79. Nobel Peace Prize laureate Shirin Ebadi is 79. Actor Michael Gross is 79. Author Ian McEwan is 78. Musician Nils Lofgren is 75. Cartoonist Berkeley Breathed is 69. Country musician Kathy Mattea is 67. Filmmaker Lana Wachowski is 61. Rapper-DJ-producer Pete Rock is 56. Actor Juliette Lewis is 53. Actor Chris Pratt is 47. Rock singer Brandon Flowers (The Killers) is 45. Britain's Prince William is 44. Singer-songwriter Lana Del Rey is 41. Golfer Scottie Scheffler is 30. Singer Rebecca Black is 29. Country singer Elizabeth Nichols is 24.