

Groton Daily Independent

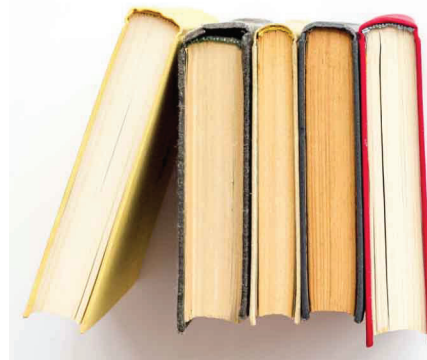
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“

THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR A STORY THAT CAN TRANSPORT PEOPLE TO ANOTHER PLACE. ”

-J.K. ROWLING



Chicken Soup
for the Soul

Legion Baseball Update

Well, in a word of confusion, it even continues in baseball. The latest word is that the American Legion Baseball season is cancelled for 2020. The new thing is that if teams want to go and play as an independent team, they can wear the Legion uniforms, but they will get no support from the American Legion for scheduling, insurance or any thing else.

Church Services on-line

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/215332349572015/>)

Groton Christian & Missinary Alliance Church (<https://www.facebook.com/GrotonCMA/>)

St. John's Lutheran Church (<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsgroton/>)

Emmanuel Lutheran Church:

(<https://www.facebook.com/Emmanuel-Lutheran-Church-GrotonSD-ELCA-636505039852208/>)

United Methodist Church: (<https://www.facebook.com/grotonsdumc>)

Buffalo Lake Lutheran Church, rural Eden, has resumed services at 10:30 a.m. People will stay in their vehicles and listen to the service on their FM radio.

Heaven Bound Ministries of Pierpont / Buffalo Lake Lutheran Church, rural Eden - will have a podcast posted. <https://anchor.fm/paul-irvin-kosel>

OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

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

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Sunday Extras



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home. JOHN 19:26, 27

papershrines.blogspot.com



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BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 2 Samuel in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. What's the only Jesus miracle reported in all four gospels of the New Testament? *Water to wine, Feeding of 5,000, Raising Lazarus, Red Sea parting*

3. To which attendees of an event did Jesus refer to as "the salt of the earth"? *Daniel's visions, Sermon on the Mount, Rebuilding temple, Holy congregation*

4. From 1 Timothy 5, what was the minimum widow age to be put on a church's support list? *40, 50, 60, 70*

5. In Judges 9, who had 70 of his brothers killed on one stone? *Belshazzar, Naboth, Hanun, Abimelech*

6. From Daniel 4, who dreamed of a tree that reached into Heaven? *Obadiah, Joshua, Nebuchadnezzar, Matthew*

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Feeding of 5,000; 3) Sermon on the Mount; 4) 60; 5) Abimelech; 6) Nebuchadnezzar.

Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com

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Comfort foods

Made fast and healthy



by Healthy Exchanges

Layered BLT Salad

I took most men's much-loved sandwich, the BLT, and transformed it into something that tasted great but didn't come between two slices of bread!

- 4 cups finely shredded lettuce
- 1½ cups chopped fresh tomatoes
- ¼ cup purchased bacon bits
- 4 slices reduced-calorie white bread, toasted and cubed
- ½ cup shredded reduced-fat Cheddar cheese
- ½ cup fat-free Thousand Island dressing
- ¼ cup fat-free mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes

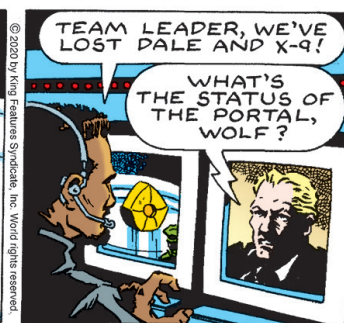
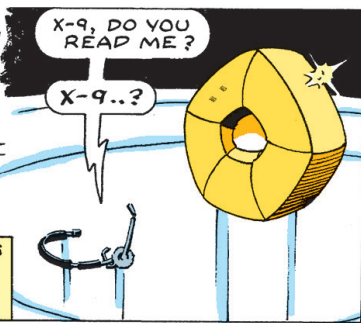
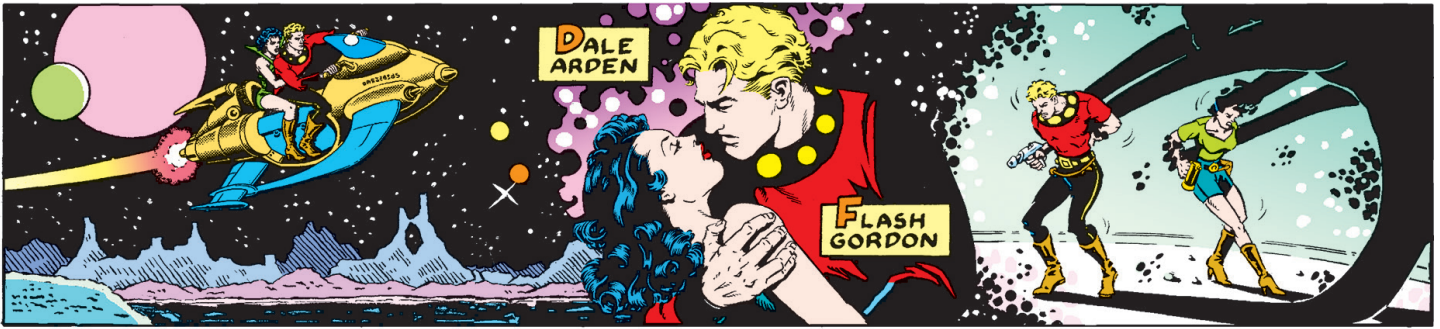
In an 8-by-8-inch dish, layer lettuce, tomatoes, bacon bits, toast cubes and Cheddar cheese. In a small bowl, combine Thousand Island dressing, mayonnaise and parsley flakes. Spread dressing mixture evenly over top. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes. Divide into 4 servings.

• Each serving equals: About 175 calories, 3g fat, 10g protein, 27g carb., 684mg sodium, 2g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Starch, 1 ½ Vegetable, ½ Meat.

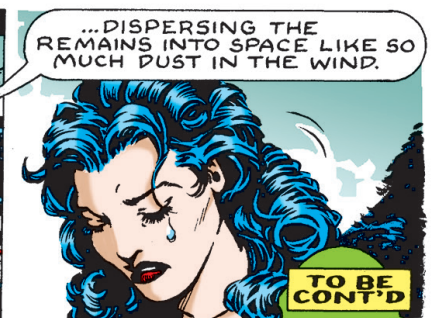
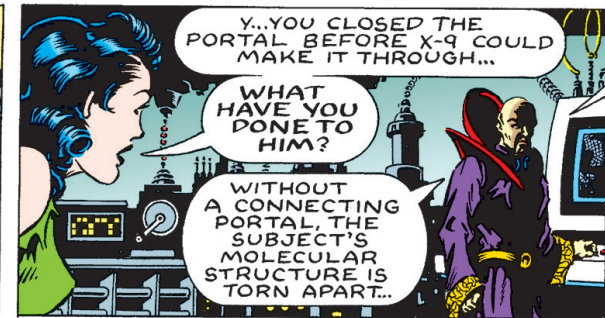
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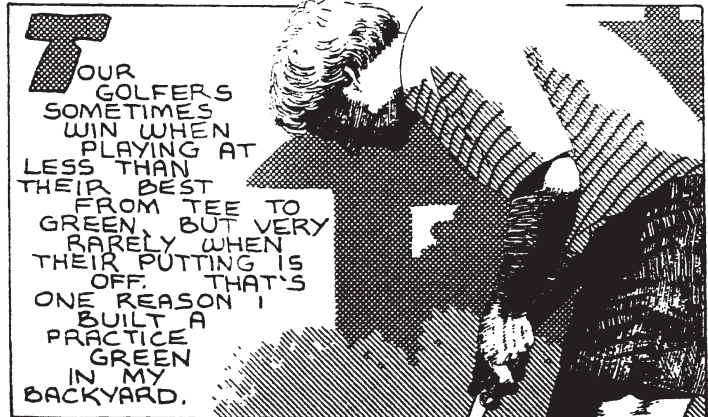
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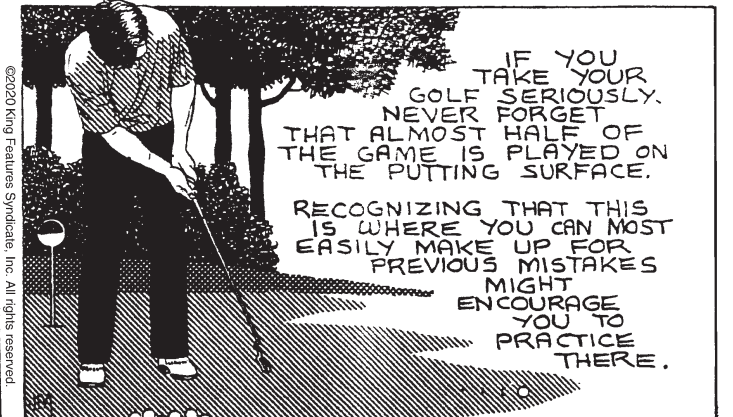
THE LINK CONNECTING EARTH TO THE PLANET MONGO IS SUDDENLY SEVERED!



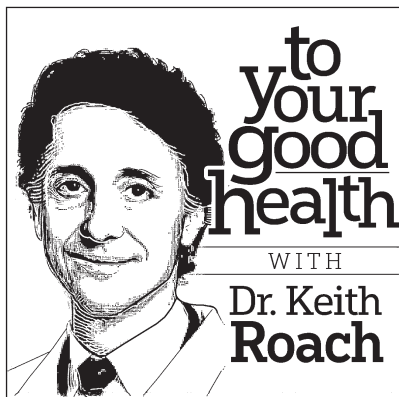
Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



TOUR GOLFERS SOMETIMES WIN WHEN PLAYING AT LESS THAN THEIR BEST FROM TEE TO GREEN, BUT VERY RARELY WHEN THEIR PUTTING IS OFF. THAT'S ONE REASON I BUILT A PRACTICE GREEN IN MY BACKYARD.



IF YOU TAKE YOUR GOLF SERIOUSLY, NEVER FORGET THAT ALMOST HALF OF THE GAME IS PLAYED ON THE PUTTING SURFACE. RECOGNIZING THAT THIS IS WHERE YOU CAN MOST EASILY MAKE UP FOR PREVIOUS MISTAKES MIGHT ENCOURAGE YOU TO PRACTICE THERE.



He Can't Find Relief for Itchy Ear Canal

DEAR DR. ROACH: I just turned 68. For the past couple of months, my ear canals have been very itchy. Also, my wife was constantly cleaning earwax out of my ears. Now for some reason I no longer produce earwax, but my ears itch a lot. Do you have any idea what may be causing this? How do I stop the itching? I have tried olive oil. It seems to work but not really that well. A doctor looked in my ear and said the ear canals look fine. — R.K.

ANSWER: Itching in the ear canals is common, but usually an exam is able to lead the examiner to at least suspect a diagnosis. An incipient ear infection is one common reason, but your issue has been going on for months. Skin conditions that itch, such as eczema, is another common one. The doctor might have seen this, but sometimes the findings are subtle. Just having dry skin is a common cause, especially in winter, and olive oil is one treatment, but if it isn't working it's time to stop.

I often see people make their problem worse by using inappropriate therapies, especially peroxide, and also by putting objects in the ear to scratch it. This can lead to abrasions, lacerations and worse that I won't horrify you with.

I would get the ear looked at again, and if there still is nothing to see, one treatment is a mild prescription steroid drop for a period of time. Your regular doctor or an ear/nose/throat specialist

would be a good choice.

DEAR DR. ROACH: Are net carbs really a thing? I understand low impact on blood sugar, but not measuring net carbs. — H.C.

ANSWER: The "net carbs" number is normally calculated by taking the grams of total carbohydrates and subtracting the grams of fiber and sugar alcohols. It's an attempt to look at the effect on blood sugar, and it has modest informational benefit. It can be misleading, because some sugar alcohols (ending in "-ol," like maltitol and xylitol) do increase blood sugar somewhat, though not as much as sugars (which end in "-ose," like glucose and sucrose).

I don't recommend using the term "net carbs." I think it's more important to look at ingredients. Avoid large amounts of added sugar and processed starches. Make sure the carbohydrates you take in come mostly from vegetables, fruits, legumes and whole grains. These are the foundations of a healthy diet, and you don't need to count numbers.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I recently was diagnosed with kidney disease and was advised to drink eight glasses of water daily. I can only get down three glasses. Is it OK to drink tea instead? Would vitamins help? — E.K.

ANSWER: From the standpoint of your kidneys, tea and coffee count as water. Having adequate fluid intake is important for your kidneys, but most people who aren't exercising or living in hot or dry environments don't need eight full glasses a day. Vitamins are not necessary for kidney health; however, people with very advanced kidney disease often need a special form of vitamin D called calcitriol.

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

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1. Which band started out calling themselves On a Friday?
2. Name the artist who wrote and released "Run for the Roses."
3. Gogi Grant had two hits. One was "Wayward Wind." What was the other one?
4. Which Survivor song ended up as a movie theme?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Oh play me back home again, pull your bow for me, my friend, Send me where I should have been a long, long time ago."

Answers

1. Radiohead. Fridays were when they practiced, the only night the high-school students had available. They later named themselves after a song, "Radio Head."
2. Dan Fogelberg, in 1980. Network ABC commissioned the song for a TV special the night before the 1980 Kentucky Derby. It's on Fogelberg's "An Innocent Age" album.
3. "Suddenly There's a Valley," 1955. The song was covered by numerous others, including The Drifters and Glen Campbell.
4. "Eye of the Tiger." It was used in the 1982 "Rocky III" after movie director Sylvester Stallone wasn't allowed to use "Another One Bites the Dust" by Queen.
5. "City Ties," by Red, White & Blue(grass), 1977, with the inimitable Ginger Boatwright singing lead. Listen to the album on YouTube.

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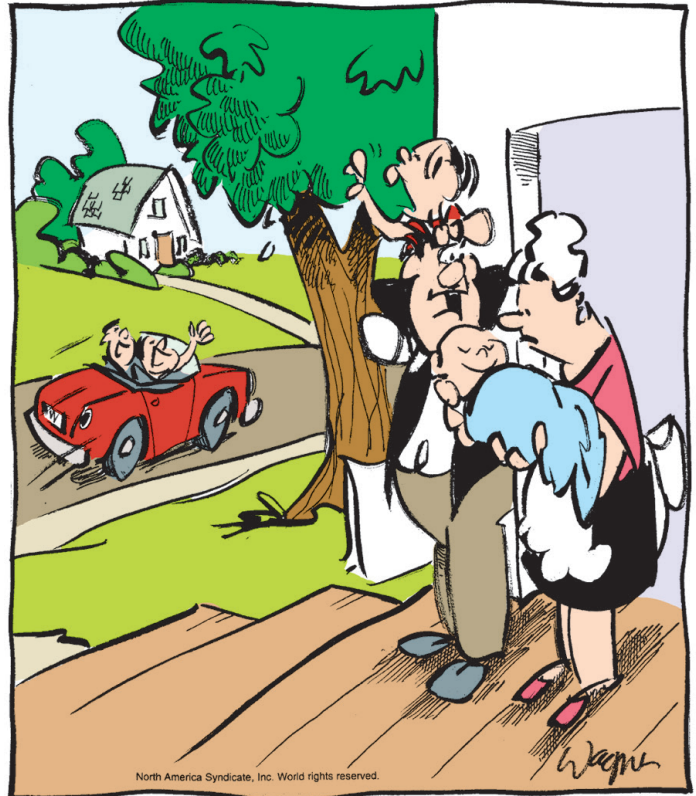
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Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



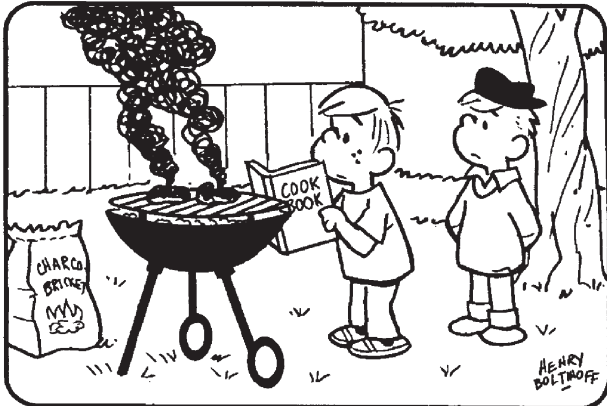
GRIN and BEAR IT



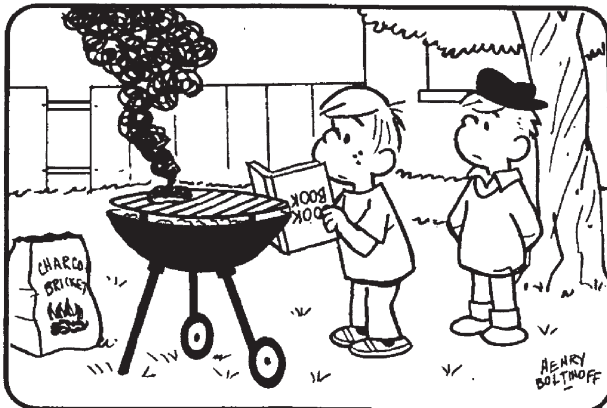
"MY grandchildren? I thought they were YOUR grandchildren!"

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Fence slat is missing. 2. Window is added. 3. Book is upside down. 4. Steak is missing.

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• “I found a small waste basket that fits right between the wall and my dryer. There’s a gap that’s about 8 inches wide. The lip of the basket keeps it from sliding down to the floor, so it’s easy to clean out the lint trap and put the waste in the basket. Also, I used a strip of hook-and-loop tape to attach a tissue holder box vertically to the wall. I stick a box of fabric softener sheets in it, and they, too, are right where I need them.” — *T.K. in Nevada*

• “To keep the kitchen garbage can from smelling, I put spoiled food items in a bread bag, and then put it in the freezer until it’s time for the garbage collector. I also have a friend with a compost bin, and I am doing the same with vegetables, fruit and peelings. I plan to bring the whole mess when I get to visit. The compost bin won’t care if it’s been defrosted!” — *E.L. in Virginia*

• “Place recipes inside of a plastic bag so that they can be handled while cooking, but not dirtied. This is especially necessary with heirloom recipes. For myself, I have made photocopies of recipes handed down from my grandmother, so the originals are safe in the cookbook. I like handwritten recipe cards because it’s like the writer is there with you.” — *T. in Ohio*

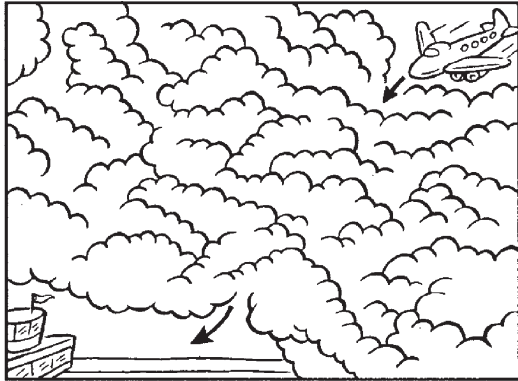
• Clogged drain? Don’t use chemicals. “If you do encounter a full clog, try hot water and baking soda first. If that doesn’t work, try a mixture of baking soda and vinegar. Avoid plumbing snakes, which can scratch the interior of your pipes, and commercial chemical cleaners, which are caustic and a health hazard, even when used according to instructions.” — *Colepepper Plumbing in California*

• To keep dirt from sticking to your dustpan, spray it lightly with furniture polish. Buff with a cloth so that it’s not wet. Floor dirt will slide right off.

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

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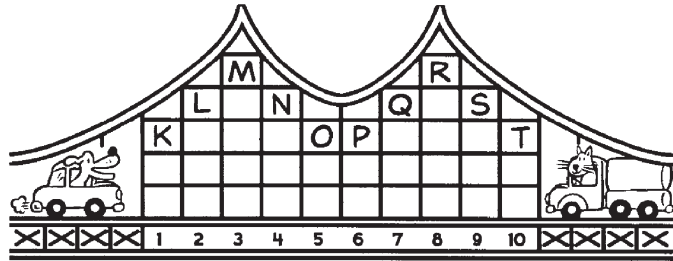
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Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



Illustrated by David Coulson

A WORD BRIDGE!

The bridge above contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each word plus plenty of hints:

1. A family relation.
2. Type of onion.
3. A free-for-all fight.
4. A snack or light meal.
5. A lyric poem.
6. A wooden church bench.
7. A clever, witty remark.
8. A picture puzzle.
9. A short performance.
10. A sailor.

Answers: 1. Kin. 2. Leek. 3. Meleé. 4. Nosh. 5. Ode. 6. Pew. 7. Quip. 8. Rebus. 9. Skit. 10. Tar.

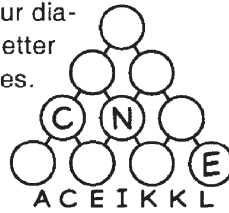
SOCKED IN! Visibility is zero. Can you guide the small plane through the maze of clouds to a safe landing at the airport pictured above?

LUCKY SEVENS! Professor Flunkum wants you to make up a math problem using seven 7's and one minus sign to arrive at the answer "7." You have seven minutes to solve this one.

Answer: $7.777 - .777 = 7.$



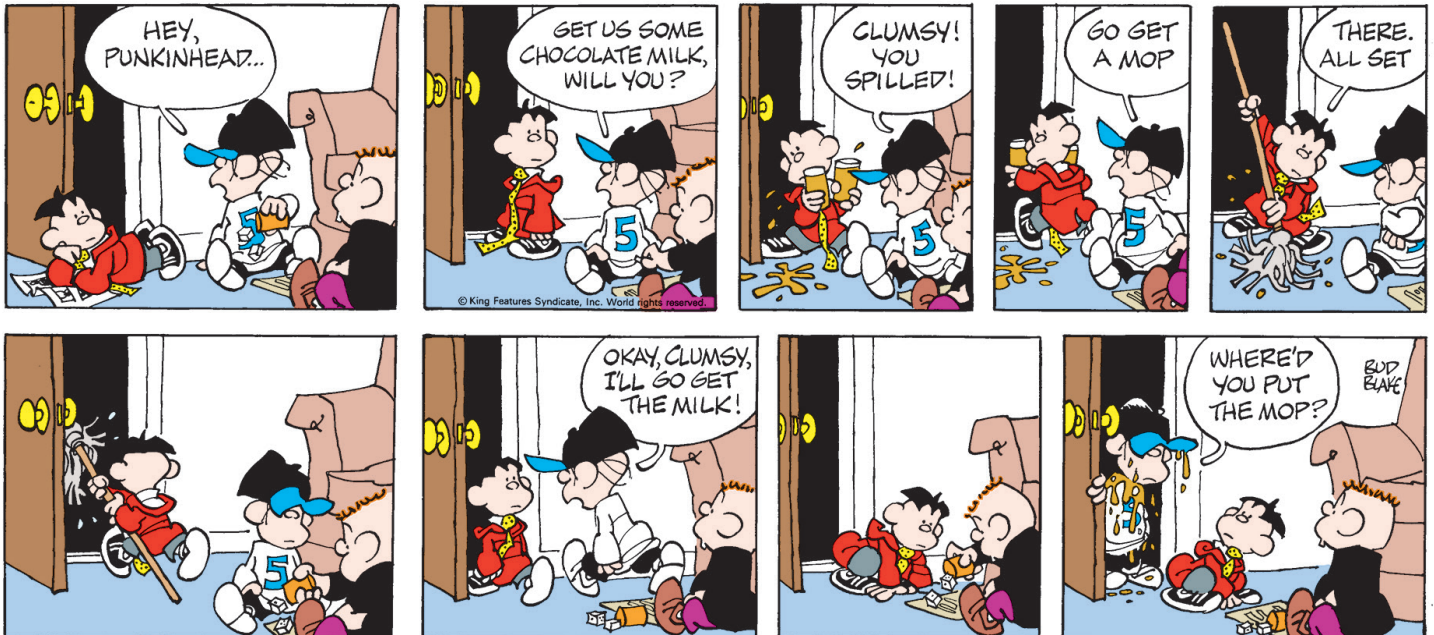
CHAIN REACTION! Take the seven letters printed below our diagram and place them in the circles so that eight four-letter words can be read, top to bottom, along the connecting lines. All the words will begin with the letter in the top circle.



Answers: Top to bottom, left to right: Lack, lace, lane, lank, line, link, lick, lice.

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Comes together
- 5 Sail support
- 9 Drenched
- 12 Met melody
- 13 From the beginning
- 14 Wall crawler
- 15 Voles
- 17 Back talk
- 18 Man's hat style
- 19 Confound
- 21 First word of "America"
- 22 Gotham City super-villain
- 24 Renown
- 27 Standard
- 28 Linger
- 31 Chicken-king link
- 32 Recede
- 33 Mongrel
- 34 Two-wheeler
- 36 Ph. bk. listings
- 37 Relinquish
- 38 Occurrence
- 40 Letter after lambda
- 41 Discussion group
- 43 Insect with pincers
- 47 Hawaiian neckpiece
- 48 Crockett and Tubbs' show
- 51 Tolkien ogre

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

- 52 Beige alterations
- 53 North Sea feeder
- 54 Buck's mate
- 55 Deli loaves
- 56 Reps.' rivals
- 9 Grain also called water
- 10 Satan's forte
- 11 Work at the keyboard
- 16 Parched
- 20 Society newbie
- 22 Frilly blouse accessory
- 23 Spheres
- 24 "Great!"
- 25 Clay, today
- 26 "Stop fighting"
- 27 Teller's partner
- 29 Flop
- 30 Before
- 35 Leading lady?
- 37 Not straight
- 39 "Wabbit" hunter
- 40 — tai
- 41 Walk wearily
- 42 Prefix re planes
- 43 Flightless flock
- 44 — E. Coyote
- 45 Warhead weapon, briefly
- 46 The Bee —
- 49 Unfriendly
- 50 Exist

DOWN

- 1 Handled hook
- 2 Great Lake
- 3 Told a whopper
- 4 Biblical dancer
- 5 One of the Three Bears
- 6 Blackbird
- 7 Moment
- 8 Make slight

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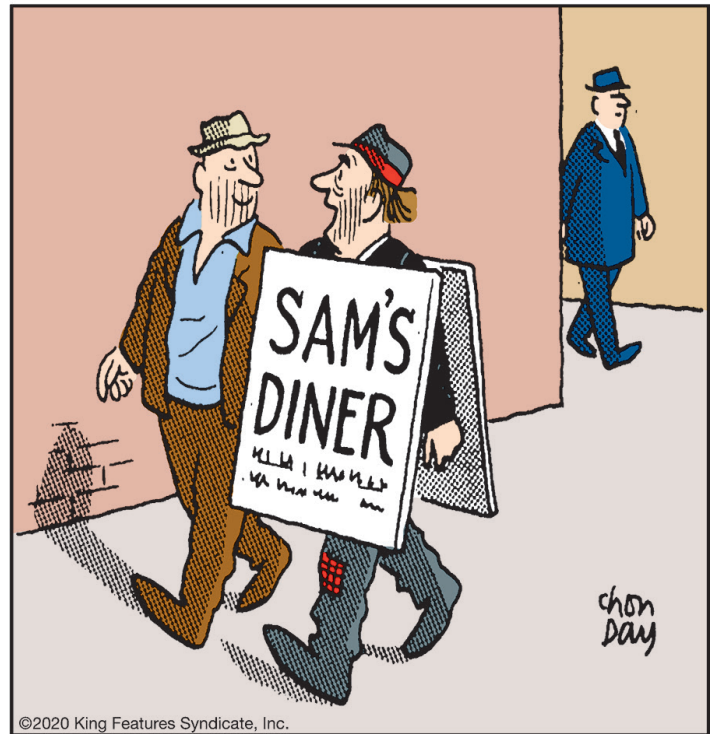
— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

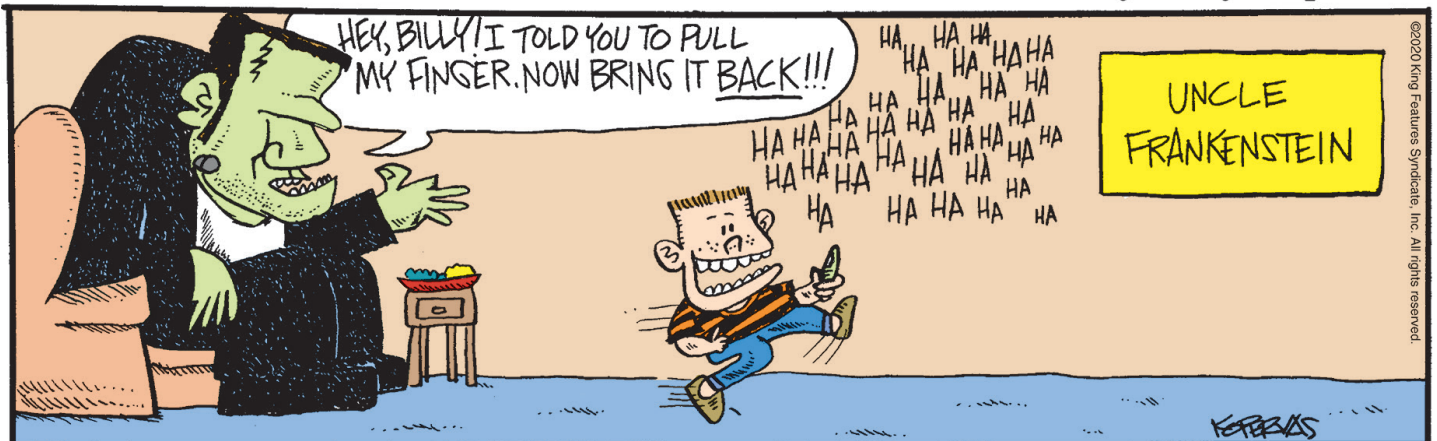
LAFF - A - DAY



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 "How's that for a promotion? From dishwasher to head of public relations."

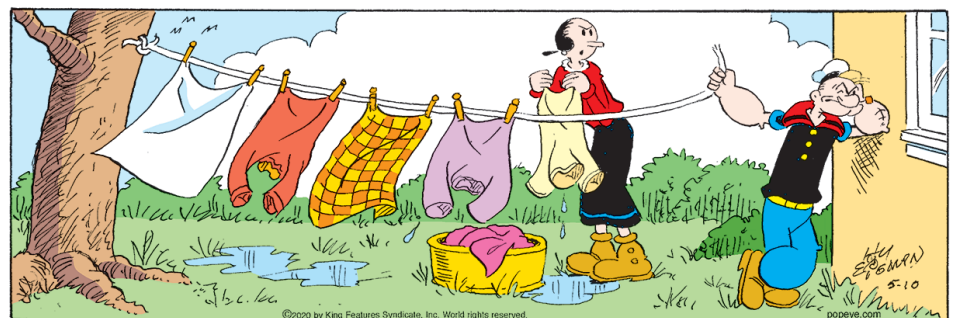
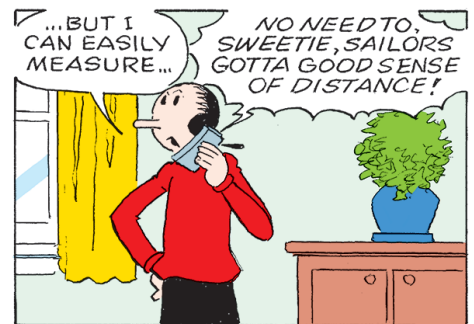
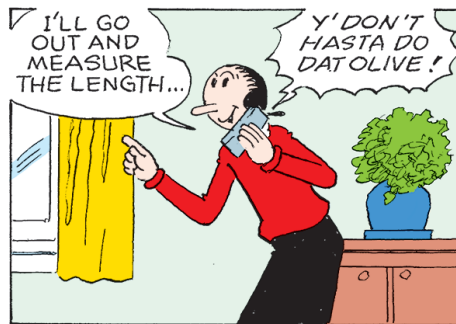
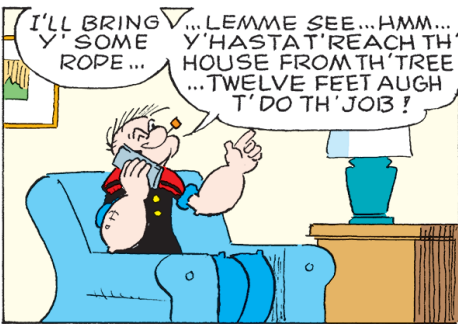
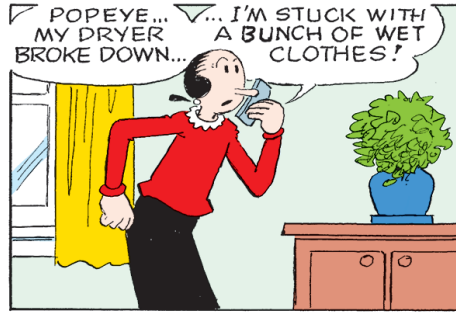
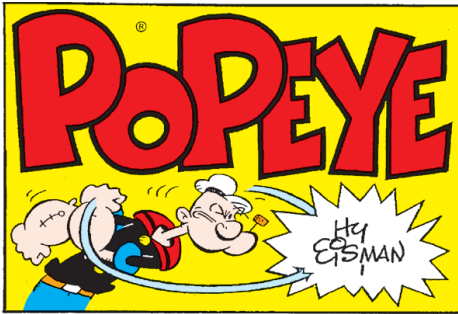
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



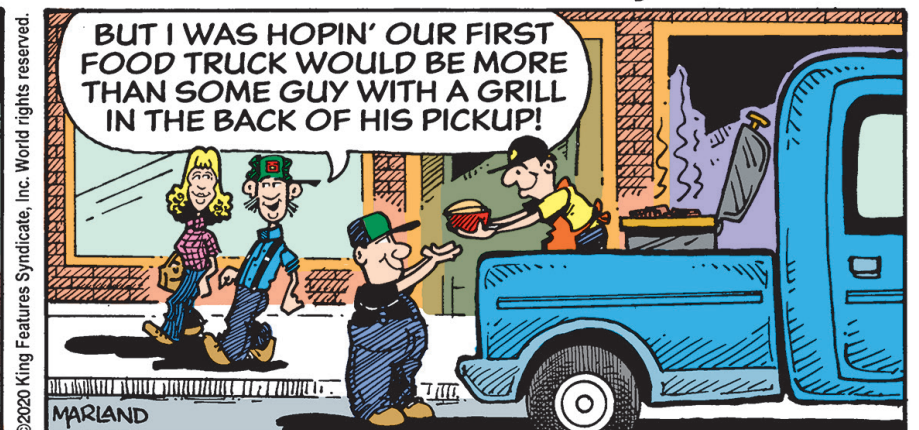
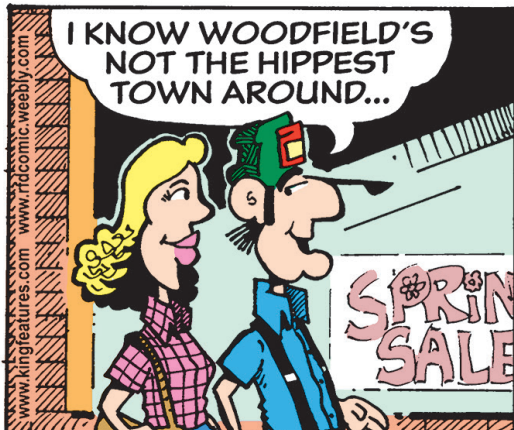
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R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



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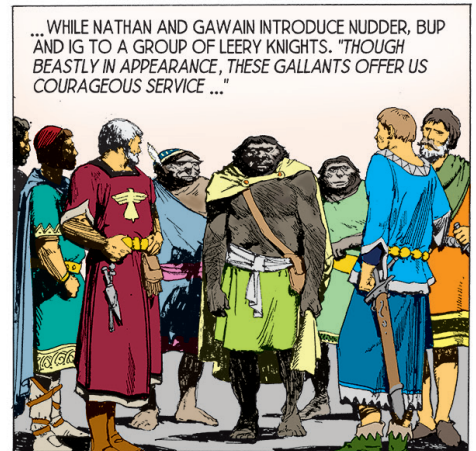
Hal Foster's BY GIANNI AND SCHULTZ
Prince Valiant

Our Story:

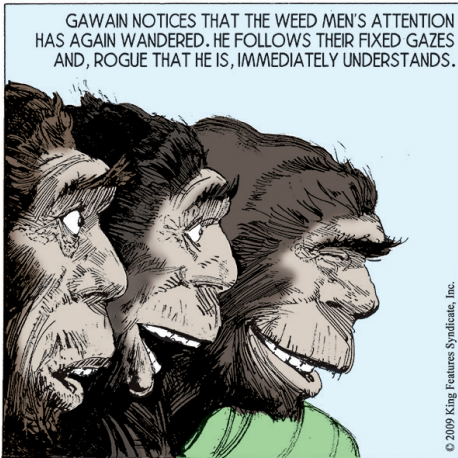
TOO LONG HAVE VAL, ALETA AND NATHAN BEEN FAR FROM CAMELOT. ESCORTED BY ARN, THEIR RETURN TO COURT DRAWS QUITE A CROWD, FOR THIS FAMILY'S ENTRANCES ARE NEVER BORING.



VAL'S FIRST BUSINESS IS TO ANNOUNCE A WONDROUS NEW ENVOY...



...WHILE NATHAN AND GAWAIN INTRODUCE NUDDER, BUP AND IG TO A GROUP OF LEERY KNIGHTS. "THOUGH BEASTLY IN APPEARANCE, THESE GALLANTS OFFER US COURAGEOUS SERVICE ..."



GAWAIN NOTICES THAT THE WEED MEN'S ATTENTION HAS AGAIN WANDERED. HE FOLLOWS THEIR FIXED GAZES AND, ROGUE THAT HE IS, IMMEDIATELY UNDERSTANDS.

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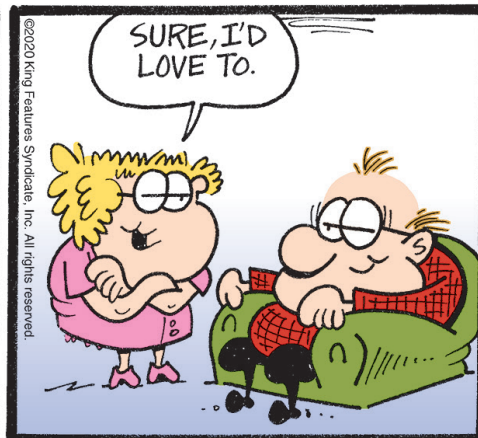
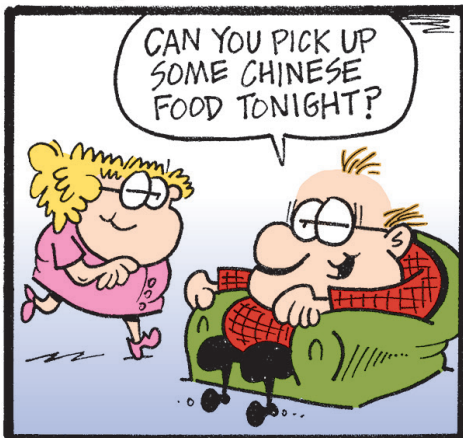
THEY HAVE SIGHTED A FLOCK OF COMELY COURT ATTENDANTS - OBVIOUSLY, SUCH ARE FAIR GAME FOR BACHELORS DEPRIVED OF FEMALE COMPANIONSHIP.

GAWAIN FEARS THERE WILL BE AGGRESSIVE COURTING.

NEXT: Girl trouble

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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Pickering

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Getting Around Canceled Events

Life might be slowly getting back to normal, but a number of things we anticipated won't be happening now.

The expired prescription-drug drop off: Once a year in my area, the drug store turns its parking lot over to an organization that collects and destroys old drugs. Not this year; it's already been canceled. A thought: Some local police departments have a collection bin in their facility, usually in the lobby. Call to inquire if your police department has one, or if they're planning a drug event of their own.

The shredding events: Twice a year the bank and the senior center hire a company to bring in their shredding truck and accept all paper items to be shredded: old tax records, bills, documents with personal information on them. This is a very valuable service, and unfortunately, around here

those have been canceled. One way to get around this is to have your own shredder. They can be ordered online, typically for less than \$40. Learn the difference between strip cut, cross cut and confetti cut. Pictures can be deceptive, so read the specs for the machine. Some will only shred small receipts.

Plays and dinners: Once you hear that an event you'd paid for is being canceled, start right away to get your money back. The group might ask that you let them keep your money for their expenses, saying you can claim it as a donation on your taxes. You might consider it, but don't assume you can get a credit for the same event next year. Better to get your money in hand now.

There are so many other events — senior games and fitness clinics, summer banquet and dance, the legal help event, monthly tech help — all likely canceled for the foreseeable future.

Tip: Call the organization anyway. They might have found a way to safely hold their events.

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1. The 1963 San Francisco Giants had three outfielders who were brothers. Name them.

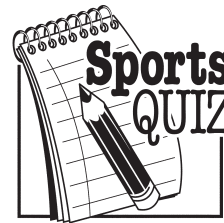
2. The Chicago Blackhawks' Bill Mosienko scored the fastest hat trick in NHL history during a 1952 game vs. the New York Rangers. How many seconds did it take him?

3. Baseball legend Sadaharu Oh spent his entire professional playing career (1959-80) with what Nippon Professional Baseball team?

4. This oceanic bird is often used as a symbol of frustration and guilt, but it's also the name of a very good 3-under-par hole score in golf. What is it?

5. What Winston-Salem State University basketball standout was selected by the Baltimore Bullets at No. 2 overall in the 1967 NBA Draft?

6. Quarterback Joe Montana won four Super Bowls during his career with the San Francisco 49ers (1979-92), but he played his final two NFL seasons with what team?



by Ryan A. Berenz

7. What California university's athletic teams are known as the Banana Slugs and have Sammy the Slug as their mascot?

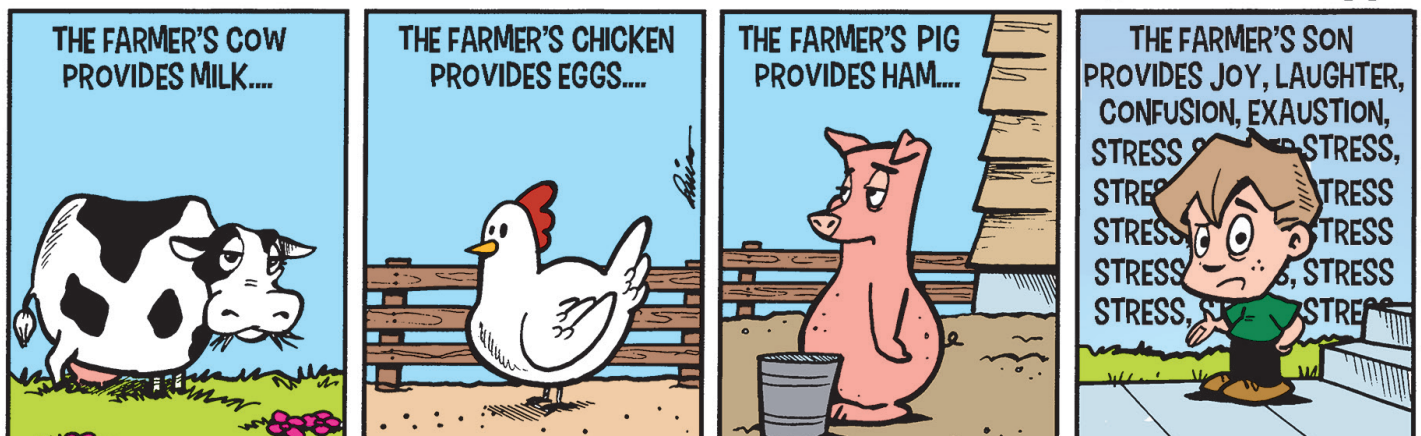
Answers

1. Felipe, Jesus and Matty Alou.
2. 21 seconds. Mosienko scored goals at 6:09, 6:20 and 6:30 into the 3rd period.
3. The Yomiuri Giants.
4. An albatross (aka "double eagle" in the U.S.).
5. Earl "The Pearl" Monroe.
6. The Kansas City Chiefs.
7. The University of California, Santa Cruz.

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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



Bad Reputation

People like to compare the U.S. and China, so much so I think many people have forgotten a key point – our values are not the same, not even close. Large economies, yes, but China is a communist, authoritarian nation with a state-run media and a government obsessed with surveillance and control.

China's handling of this worldwide pandemic has brought these differences to the forefront once again. For weeks, China covered up the COVID-19 outbreak and continued to allow travel from Wuhan to other parts of the world. China kicked out foreign journalists and they hid valuable information from the rest of the world. These actions will be a blood-red stain on China's reputation for generations to come.

For years, the United States and China have developed an increasingly interdependent economic relationship, and it's put us in a position where we excuse and accept their behavior out of convenience. It's time for change.

Republicans in the House have established a task force aimed at combating threats posed by China. This is a good starting point, but now – more than ever – we need actions, not political theater or words without consequences.

While we still need a comprehensive investigation on the spread of the coronavirus from China, as leaders, we must be forward thinking. How does the U.S. ensure we are never in the same position again? How does the U.S. better prepare for future pandemics? How does the U.S. stockpile and develop an industrial base for supplies moving forward?

The U.S. is in an unstable relationship with China – every time they tell us they will change their ways, we see the same irresponsible behavior. This pandemic has exposed flaws in our supply chain, both domestic and abroad. More than 72% of active pharmaceutical ingredients are manufactured abroad.

Government should stay out of the business of private enterprise. At the same time, our nation's leaders have an obligation to protect the American people. These values are in tension with each other. With that said, I find it unwise to watch a majority of our pharmaceuticals, processing plants and personal protective equipment become increasingly dependent on a good-standing relationship with China.

America needs to do better. We need to rely on companies here at home, like 3M, to produce our PPE stockpile. We need to ensure bad actors aren't investing in our food supply chain. That's why I signed onto the Agricultural Security Risk Review Act to allow USDA to analyze any foreign investment into our nation's food supply. COVID-19 has reminded America that our food security and our ability to quickly produce supplies are vital.

Most of all, we need to hold China accountable. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House to make sure this accountability happens.

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Standing Up for South Dakota's Livestock Producers

South Dakota's number one industry is agriculture, and for years, farmers and ranchers have been dealing with difficulties including trade uncertainty, low commodity prices and price disparities between what they receive versus what the consumer pays at the grocery store for the product. These issues have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 outbreaks at processing plants have forced them to shut down temporarily, resulting in fewer facilities available for producers to process their livestock. Not only does this affect producers and processing plant workers, it impacts all Americans who rely on a steady food supply chain to put food on the table for their families each day.

As of May 9, total cattle slaughter in the U.S. was down 32 percent compared to the same time in 2019. This has created a backlog of approximately 882,000 cattle waiting to be processed. The pork and poultry industries are facing similar backlogs resulting in protein shortages nationwide. The last thing we want to see is a nationwide food shortage during this time.

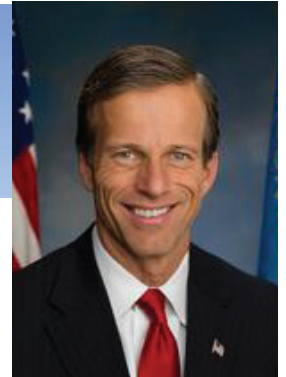
These issues are serious enough to finally have drawn support for some of the measures we've been working on. My original March 19 letter to the Department of Justice requesting an investigation into packer concentration has now drawn the support of numerous other members of the Senate, and the president has now publicly stated his interest in seeing the same investigation proceed. We've also seen more support for legislation that I've introduced with Sen. Angus King of Maine. This legislation—called the New Markets for State Inspected Meat and Poultry Act—would allow us to sell state-inspected meat and poultry across state lines. Currently, if you had meat or poultry inspected by a South Dakota inspector in Hudson, South Dakota, you wouldn't be able to sell it across the border in Iowa, but you could sell it several hundred miles away in Lemmon, South Dakota. It really doesn't make much sense, especially since state meat and poultry inspection facilities are required by law to be at least equal to federally inspected processing facilities. A number of senators, from both sides of the aisle, have now joined me in a letter to Senate leaders urging them to include this legislation in any future COVID-19 response efforts. This measure would help to change our food supply chain for the long-term by making it easier for Americans to get high-quality meat from local processors.

Consumers want and deserve to know where the beef they buy at the store originally came from. Bringing back mandatory country of origin labeling—or MCOOL—has been a hot topic in the ag community since it was eliminated in 2015 due to trade restrictions. I recently partnered with Sen. Jon Tester of Montana to introduce bipartisan legislation that would require negotiations to reinstate MCOOL. Specifically, it calls for the U.S. Trade Representative to enter into negotiations that would allow for MCOOL to be reinstated without the threat of tariffs. Our bill is the most meaningful legislation that I've seen in five years—we have bipartisan, cross-country support for it. However, we need President Trump to work to remove tariff barriers. Otherwise bringing back MCOOL would threaten every other commodity, including soybeans, sugar, cotton, corn and ethanol. Our legislation begins an important conversation on food security in America. As we continue to gain support for our measure, we'll work to include it in any upcoming must-pass COVID-19 legislation.

I also recently introduced legislation to increase transparency in cattle pricing so producers receive a fairer price for their product by requiring that a minimum of 50 percent of a meat packer's weekly volume of beef slaughter be purchased on the open or spot market. Cattle prices in South Dakota are affected by the average negotiated cash trade nationwide which has dropped dramatically over the past 15 years. The decrease in cash trades has reduced price discovery. In order to establish a fair cattle market for cattle producers, real, vigorous price discovery is needed. This is only one piece of what needs to be fixed in the cattle market, but it's an important step forward.

As Americans focus on keeping their families safe and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic, I'm working to remove some of the roadblocks livestock producers are facing so that they can continue to provide high quality food for families across the country.

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



To the Class of 2020: Be Difference Makers

Congratulations, class of 2020. I can't gloss over the fact that these are unusual times. This isn't a normal high school graduation. And this hasn't been a normal semester.

I know this is a wonderful time of the year when the spring season rolls around. There should've been spring sports and music recitals and prom and, of course, a walk across the stage to get your diploma.

I want to tell you that I feel your pain, and I appreciate what you guys are having to go through. But, as I've experienced in my life, when I've gone through adversity, oftentimes it strengthens my faith, gives me a greater appreciation for my family and friends, and challenges me to reexamine my priorities. Those seem like three important lessons for graduating seniors. And for those of you leaving "the nest" next year, I know your parents enjoyed this quality time with you. So my hope is that somewhere down the road, as you look back on this experience, it will be something that you have learned from and something that you have grown from.

I grew up in the small town of Murdo. I don't know if any of you know where that is, but it's a small town of about 500 people. My dad was a teacher, coach, athletic director, and he drove the bus at my school. My mom was the school librarian. It meant there wasn't anywhere I could go to get away from my parents. But it also meant that growing up, I saw firsthand the dedication of our educators.

And so, I want to take a moment to thank your teachers, your school officials, and their staff for their very hard work and dedication – and especially for going above and beyond in these past few weeks to make it possible for you to continue to pursue your studies and to reach this important milestone.

As a 1979 high school graduate, just saying "class of 2020" makes me feel old. Even 40 years down the road, I still remember my high school experience. But I don't remember the exams or papers or even my exact GPA. What I do remember is my friends, my teachers, my coaches, and the many lessons that I learned. Trust me, that's what you'll remember, too.

Keep hanging in there. Stay strong. Keep doing the work. If you do, I can assure you that it will pay off in the future.

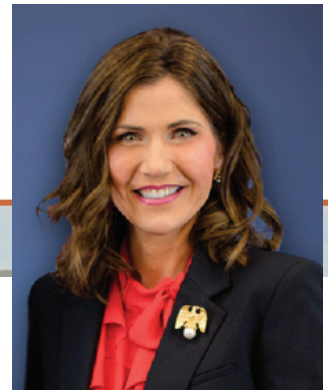
When I was growing up in Murdo, I never thought that I would be addressing a class of graduating seniors as your U.S. senator. But just remember: Sometimes doors open to you and don't be afraid to push them open to see what's on the other side. If an opportunity comes along, go for it. You can't imagine where it can take you. Be difference makers.

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SOUTH DAKOTA GOVERNOR
KRISTI NOEM



Our Plan to Ramp Up Testing

As communities work their way back to normal, one of the tools in our fight against COVID-19 that we will continue to ramp up is mass testing. Earlier this week, Secretary of Health Kim Malsam-Rysdon laid out our plan to conduct testing events over the next four weeks.

First, we'll test our most vulnerable population: residents and staff at nursing homes and connected assisted living centers. The first week will focus on the approximately 7,400 individuals at nursing homes in counties with substantial community spread. Week two will be nursing homes in all other counties, roughly another 10,200 South Dakotans. Then, weeks 3 and 4 will focus on the remaining assisted living centers, approximately 4,300 folks for each of those weeks.

Though we still have some finalizing to do, none of this could be possible without the nursing home and assisted living industry. I want to thank them; they have been fantastic in helping with the planning for this testing. We expect these next four weeks will be a heavy lift, but it's important that we try and identify whether the virus has found its way into these vulnerable facilities, so we can work to slow its spread.

Second, we'll also conduct mass testing in some of our tribal communities. For a variety of reasons, these folks could also be among the most vulnerable population as well, and we want to do everything we can to inhibit the spread in tribal communities. Our first event will be on the Lake Traverse Reservation with the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate tribe, and this will be conducted jointly with North Dakota.

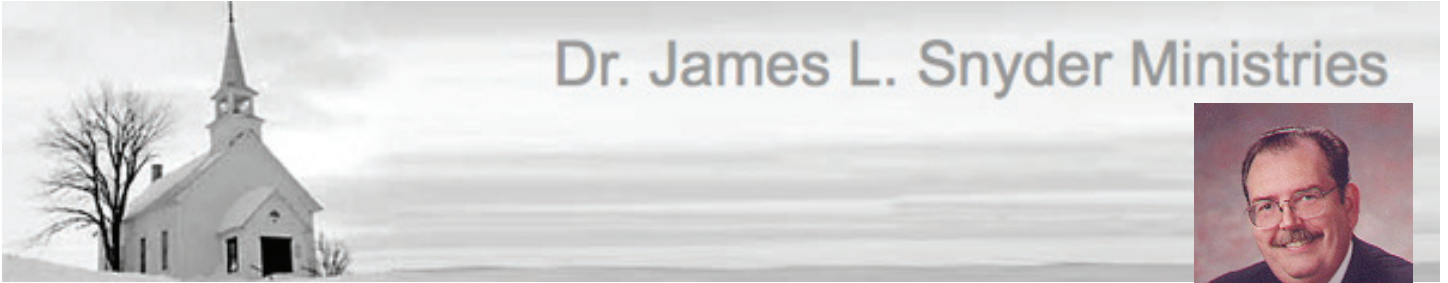
Third, we'll also continue to work with employers of essential and critical infrastructure. As a reminder, South Dakota first conducted mass testing in connection to the reopening of the Smithfield Foods facility in Sioux Falls – a critical infrastructure business. Thanks to the tremendous collaboration between the State Department of Health and Avera Health, we were able to test roughly 3,700 Smithfield employees and their families over a four-day period. This testing did produce an uptick in positive cases this week, but that was expected. Finding these positives is a good thing because it means that we can isolate these individuals, get them home, and get them healthy.

Please know that this testing will not replace the testing of symptomatic individuals—that will continue without interruption. Also, it's important to remember that mass testing is point-in-time specific—that means it's a snapshot of the situation at a given moment. If someone tests negative today, they may still contract the virus tomorrow. Because of this, testing is not a silver bullet in the fight against COVID-19, but it does help us understand the situation at a given time and isolate those who test positive.

With the science, facts, and data driving our decision-making, we will continue to adapt to this virus and the threat it brings to our state. Thank you, South Dakotans, for your continued diligence in this effort. Together, we will get through this.

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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries



Love Bugs Are Really Not That Loving

Here in Florida, we have what people call "Love Bugs." I know exactly why they are called "Love Bugs," but I am not fond of these little critters. Why don't they just get a motel room?

Being shut down at home for quite a while it is not that exciting. You can only be shut down for so long.

On Tuesday, I needed to go across town for some quick business and office supplies. It would not take me long, and I would get back home in a short time.

"Anything you want me to pick up while I'm out?" I queried the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. I always like to try to help whenever I can.

She is a great shopper, particularly a great thrift store shopper. She knows every thrift shop within a 100-mile radius, but more than that, they know her by her first name. I, on the other side of the room, am not a very good shopper.

Quite a few times, my wife has sent me to the store with a list, and I could never get everything on that list. I do not know why, but I would miss two or three items on her list. I am not saying because the list was too long, that is probably the reason, but I am not saying it.

Knowing this, my wife shot back to me, "No, I can't think of anything I'd like you to pick up. Drive carefully." I sighed a deep sigh of relief, knowing that now I was not going to get into any kind of trouble.

Not many places are open this time because of the shutdown, so I did not have many choices. Therefore, I just did what I was supposed to do as quickly as possible and headed back home. Please, do not let this get out to, you-know-who, but I did go through a drive-through and picked up some very delicious ice cream. I enjoyed it all the way home. For me, ice cream is much more delicious when nobody knows you're eating it.

I almost got home when out of nowhere came a big dark cloud that hit my truck in the front as I have never been hit before. At first, I thought it was the apocalypse.

When I got through it, I realized I had hit, or rather, they hit me, a group of "Love Bugs" and were smeared all over my window and the front part of my truck. I used to have a silver truck, now it was just about all black, at least in the front.

I know they are "Love Bugs," but at that time, I did not feel any kind of love toward them. I was feeling the exact opposite, but I will not mention it.

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When I walked in through the front door at home, my wife saw I was more agitated than ever. I even slammed the door behind me, which indicated how aggravated I was.

"What happened?"

I just looked at my wife and then said, "Those lousy Love Bugs attacked me as I was driving, and they're all over my truck. I'm never going to get them off."

With that, I went, got a bucket of water, and tried to clean them off my truck.

I noticed my wife was smiling as I left and said to me, "You should drive more carefully." Then she snickered. I hate it when she snickers.

No matter how hard I worked to get those bugs off my truck, I could not get them all off. It was a dark reminder of bug love.

When I walked in, my wife said, "Well, did you get them all off your truck?" Then she gave me one of her infamous snickers.

Throughout the day, when she looked at me, she was snickering.

The next morning my wife had to go down to the store to get a few groceries. As she shut the door behind her, she said to me, "I guess I'm going to have to drive carefully." Then she snickered again.

A little over an hour later, she returned, and when she came in the door, I noticed something was wrong. I asked her if anything was wrong, and all she said, "No, nothing's wrong. I'll take care of it."

I knew by her demeanor, something was wrong, and something she really did not want me to know. That perked my curiosity.

In a few minutes, I looked out the window and there she was with a bucket of water washing the front of her van. I had my suspicions, which proved correct.

When she came in the front door, I was waiting for her and said, "Any Love Bug problem?" With that, I not only snickered, but I laughed out loud hilariously.

"Maybe," I said between laughing, "you should drive a little more carefully."

Her stare informed me that she did not think it was funny, which made it even funnier for me.

Thinking about that, I remembered what the prophet Amos once said. "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3).

Walking together on the same pathway, we experience the same thing. Sometimes we forget that, I know I do. I am learning not to criticize other people for what they're going through at the time because I may go through that same experience tomorrow.



Jean Walter's Birthday

Please join with Jean's family in celebrating her 90th birthday on May 18. Greetings may be sent to Jean Walter at 705 N 6th St, Groton, SD



Bahrs celebrate 50th Anniversary

Alvin and Donna Bahr are celebrating 50 years of marriage on June 15 and Alvin will also turn 85 on June 5th please help them celebrate with cards being sent to 40814 165th street , Turton, SD 57477.

Helmer graveside service

Richard E. Helmer: December 16, 1926 – March 26, 2020

Private family graveside services will be held for Richard E. Helmer, on Saturday, May 23, 1:30 p.m. at the Andover Cemetery. Pastor Gary Compton, First Baptist Church of Aberdeen will officiate.



S.D. colleges face vast logistical and financial unknowns heading into next academic year

Higher education in South Dakota challenged by pandemic

Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

The COVID-19 pandemic has already changed the way colleges and universities are teaching students, forcing a move this spring and summer away from in-person classroom learning to remote education.

Moving forward, the virus and the unknowns surrounding it have the potential to fundamentally alter the short-term and long-range future of higher education in South Dakota and across the country.

The pandemic is affecting higher education and causing concern at both public universities and private colleges, at schools large and small, and at research institutions with doctoral capabilities, and at liberal arts colleges that focus mostly on undergraduate degrees.

The virus has caused great uncertainty for higher education, with administrators, faculty, staff and students all waiting to see what a new normal may look like in the fall and beyond.

One thing seems certain: The pandemic will change who goes to college, how they are taught, what campuses look like, how they operate, and how higher education is funded and at what level.

"I do think the landscape in higher education for South Dakota has the potential to look very different, depending on how we all get through this pandemic," said Sheila Gestring, president of the University of South Dakota.

The challenges and changes will likely fall into two major categories: the logistics of living, learning and teaching on and off campus; and the broad financial implications of the potential for significantly reduced enrollment.

On a logistical level, in-class learning could decrease and more teaching may shift online, reducing the future need for new classroom buildings, labs and other brick-and-mortar structures. The Board of Regents announced in early May that state universities would hold in-person classes on campuses in the fall, and most private colleges have followed suit, though that could change depending on the state of the pandemic. Whether to hold in-person classes is a hot topic in higher education with the University of California system, the nation's largest public university system, announcing on May 12 that it would not bring students back in the fall.

The virus may force colleges to enact strict safety measures. Gestring suggested during a recent Board



Sheila Gestring

"If some of those experts are right, and enrollments decline the way they're talking, it is not an overstatement to say this will challenge higher education like it hasn't been challenged in decades."

-- Sheila Gestring, president of the University of South Dakota

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of Regents meeting that masks may be required for everyone on the USD campus this fall, that hand sanitizer will be omnipresent and that plexiglass barriers might separate teachers from students.

But the biggest and most long-term impact of the pandemic is likely to be financial for the institutions and those who attend, teach or work on campuses.

The COVID-19 pandemic has put unprecedented financial challenges on the American higher-education system, according to David Tandberg, a vice president for policy research at the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association, a Colorado trade group representing college administrators.

The pandemic is likely to result in reduced student enrollment, reducing the main revenue driver for most colleges across the country. But the pandemic has simultaneously required colleges to increase spending to create and implement remote learning opportunities and make campuses safe for students, faculty and staff.

"This is like the perfect storm when it comes to a negative financial hit on our institutions of higher education," Tandberg said. "They're getting hit on all ends."

South Dakota public universities have already taken a big fiscal hit: Regents officials told News Watch that the six schools in the state system reimbursed \$16 million to students for tuition, fees, housing, meals and parking after shifting to remote learning in the spring semester.

Some national experts have predicted enrollment in the fall 2020 semester could fall by 15% to 20% at colleges across the country. A recent survey of more than 400 parents of college-bound students by a Philadelphia public relations firm found that 40% of parents may delay sending their children to college amid the pandemic. Most South Dakota colleges are seeing signs that fewer students than normal are enrolling for the fall or signing up for financial aid or to live in student housing.

The impacts of reduced enrollment will be felt far beyond reductions in tuition and fees, which alone would be significant.

Fewer students may choose to live in on-campus housing, dine at university food-service outlets and spend money in the cities where universities are located. Some students — many whose families are facing financial challenges created by high unemployment and income declines — may decide to skip a year of college or forgo attending a university altogether.

College sports may be put on hold or held without fans in the stands, reducing the opportunity for athletes to attend college, dampening school spirit and cutting off a significant revenue source for schools and the communities in which they reside.

As a result, a host of cuts or cost-saving measures are possible at schools in South Dakota and across the country. Holding positions open, delaying construction projects, laying employees off or mandating unpaid furloughs, and possibly raising tuition and fees, are all on the table.



At a time when college campuses would usually be buzzing with students taking exams, celebrating graduation or preparing for summer classes, most campuses in South Dakota are lonely places amid the COVID-19 pandemic. On a recent day, South Dakota State University instructor Macarena Escondrillas walks across a mostly deserted campus. Photo: David Bordewyk, South Dakota News Watch

"If some of those experts are right, and enrollments decline the way they're talking, it is not an overstatement to say this will challenge higher education like it hasn't been challenged in decades," Gestring said in an interview with News Watch.

Colleges face big-picture challenges

The fiscal headwinds faced by the American higher-education system — an industry with an annual financial impact of \$600 billion — could also reach far beyond what happens on college campuses. Millions of employees and the communities in which colleges are located could all suffer significant financial setbacks.

The pandemic has already been devastating to colleges large and small across the country.

The University of Arizona projects a \$250 million revenue loss due to the pandemic, and has instituted unpaid furloughs and pay cuts for employees. The University of Wisconsin system, similarly, anticipated a \$100 million loss and enacted mandatory furloughs across the system.

The state system in Vermont is considering closing three campuses and layoffs that could number as high as 500. The private, faith-based Valparaiso University in Indiana has cut arts programming and some sports to make ends meet.

Colleges and universities received some help from the CARES Act bailout passed by Congress, receiving in total \$14 billion of the \$2 trillion overall assistance package. But with unknowns around every corner and enrollments certain to fall, the higher-education portion of the act was called "woefully inadequate" by the American Council on Education, which had requested \$50 billion in bailout funding.

Higher education in the U.S. has been on a long, slow decline in revenues and financial stability, Tandberg said. After the Great Recession of 2008, for example, per-student state funding fell at a rate faster than enrollment growth, putting universities behind where they had been. South Dakota's state university system receives among the lowest level of state funding in the nation, Tandberg said.

That led in many cases to increased tuition and an increased financial burden on students and families. If that trend continues amid the pandemic, it will exacerbate the gap between students who can afford college and those who cannot.

"I worry about enrollment and I worry about the equity gap," Tandberg said. "This cohort of students could get harmed significantly if they don't get degrees or become credentialed."

The South Dakota public university system saw falling enrollment before the pandemic. Overall enrollment in fall 2019 was about 34,500 students, down 3.4% from the prior year. That followed a 2% decline in fall 2018 compared with fall 2017.

Heather Forney, the regents vice president for finance, said each state university has created a local task force to examine enrollment, create contingency plans for the unknowns and try to make appropriate hiring decisions. The uncertainty has made accurate planning almost impossible, she said.

Forney noted that the decision has been made not to raise tuition for the coming school year. She added that the final enrollment data will be critical to budgeting wisely in the coming year. A 15% enrollment decline would amount to a \$48 million loss to the university system, she said.

"That's a challenge, trying to deter-



Enrollment and revenue declines at South Dakota universities and colleges could slow the pace of research, including at South Dakota State University in Brookings.

Photo: David Bordewyk, South Dakota News Watch

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mine how do we financially model for fall because we don't know what we're going to look like," she said.

Jay Perry, vice president for academic affairs at the Board of Regents, said South Dakota universities are generally well-positioned to deliver course content online. He noted that half of students in the state system had taken an online course before the pandemic.

But to make in-person learning safer, he said, schools will likely repurpose classroom space to keep students separate and may tap unused office space to spread out classes and participants.

Perry said the biggest unknown in predicting enrollment will be the decisions made by late enrollees, those students who wait until late in the summer to decide whether and where they will attend college. "At this point, I would be surprised if we held even or if we were at a 15% decline," he said.

Hard choices for parents and students

The slowdown of the economy in South Dakota and beyond has put parents of college-bound students in a difficult position.

The April survey of 405 parents by Brian Communications of Philadelphia, a research and public relations firm, showed that 40% of parents may delay college enrollment by their children, mostly due to financial concerns.

Nearly half said they may require their child to attend a school closer to their home. Almost two-thirds of respondents said the pandemic has made them more cautious about paying for their child's higher education. And more than half were also concerned about their child's safety on a college campus amid the pandemic.

By early May, many students and prospective enrollees at Black Hills State University in Spearfish were already facing difficulty in paying to attend college, said Laurie Nichols, university president.

Only about 35 of the university's roughly 4,200 students stayed in residence dorms on campus after the pandemic hit, she said.

When the CARES Act financial aid became available in early April — with \$400,000 available to 800 qualified BHSU students — the school received 250 responses to an email announcement about the aid within an hour, Nichols said.

"There really is student need out there, and we're doing our very best to get that money out to them," Nichols told the Regents.

With the world battling the pandemic, and with travel restrictions in place, universities are certain to lose out on international students who often pay full price to attend American colleges.

Timothy Downs, president of Northern State University in Aberdeen, said he hopes there may be a bump in graduate-school enrollment or pursuit of additional degrees as those who are unemployed or face career crossroads see few options for work in the struggling economy.

"We're encouraging students at this time, if they're feeling uncertain about their futures if they're graduates, to consider coming back to school or continuing their education given the economic conditions of unemployment and employability," Downs said.

Shannan Nelson, executive vice president and CFO of Augustana University in Sioux Falls, said economic concerns are top of mind for parents right now.

"With the hits the economy has taken, our parents are in a position right now that is much different than they thought they would be in," Nelson said. "Is college tuition the top of their mind right now, versus if they're being financially impacted in their job or through their retirement?"

Augustana, a private college with about 2,300 students, is seeing interest from 100 to 150 fewer prospective students than in a typical May, Nelson said. The university is anticipating a \$2 million to \$3 million financial hit from the pandemic, about 4% to 6% of its annual spending, he said.

In mid-May, the university was planning to hold in-person classes and move forward with all fall sports.

Augustana was isolated from some of the financial impacts of the pandemic because 10% of the school's revenue comes from its strong "certificate learning" program, in which online courses are offered in graduate programs for a master's of education and a master's of special education in which teachers maintain certification in their fields.

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Augustana recently launched an online Masters in Business Administration program that Nelson said has attracted a full initial cohort of students.

Like all colleges, Augustana reacted quickly to implement remote teaching in the spring and has since been refining its processes, Nelson said. The challenge moving forward will be to gain expertise in providing remote teaching, but also to continue to remain attractive to students who seek the traditional in-person college experience.

In a typical year, about 70% of the student population lives on campus at the university, Nelson said.

"The small liberal arts university, that face-to-face experience, is what students are coming here for, so the question is, 'How do we create that in this new environment?'" he said. "Universities that think holistically about how to adapt to this pandemic will come out stronger on the other side."

As of early May, USD had seen about an 8% drop in financial-aid filings by prospective students, Gestring said.

Despite anticipated revenue reductions, Gestring said administrators at USD and other schools must avoid what is being called the "death spiral" of higher education, in which the cost steadily rises as the quality steadily falls.

As fiscal challenges arise, the university will enact "low-impact measures" to reduce spending, such as leaving open positions unfilled.

USD reimbursed students about \$2.5 million after closing for the spring semester, which amounts to a loss of about 15% of its non-academic budget, Gestring said.

To compensate, the university has, for now, shelved a plan to build a \$2.5 million parking lot on the west side of the Dakota Dome, Gestring said.

USD, with a strong endowment and cash reserves, is well-positioned to weather the pandemic, she said. Still, she worries about the long-term implications if a large number of students take a gap year amid the traditional educational spectrum in which some students never go to college and those who expected to graduate never finish.

"The talk of a gap year concerns me because of the long-term effect that is going to have two, three or four years from now," Gestring said. "If you're having fewer doctors, lawyers, teachers, that would have a lasting effect."

Wondering about a 'new normal'

South Dakota State University President Barry Dunn said it was "surreal" to be on the Brookings campus in May and not have 11,500 students rushing to and from final exams.

Dunn said the university did a good job transitioning to online courses in the spring and in keeping people safe, resulting in not a single COVID-19 case so far. He also said the faculty and staff did well to reduce the impact of projected revenue shortfalls of \$2.2 million in Fiscal Year 2020 and \$3 million in Fiscal Year 2021 by holding jobs open, reducing travel and cutting discretionary spending.

Still, the university is likely to face new challenges amid the pandemic, which Dunn said could result in an enrollment drop of 300 to 500 students in fall 2020. "We're doing everything we can to encourage them to come," he said, including expanding scholarship opportunities.

SDSU took a significant hit in reimbursements paid out in the spring semester when it paid \$6.7 million back to students for housing, meals and parking.

The CARES Act has helped SDSU and its students endure the pandemic. SDSU received \$6.2 million, half of which went directly to students who qualified, and the rest to the university to offset reimbursements and other costs, Dunn said.

Dunn is concerned that research endeavors and the university's extension efforts may suffer during the pandemic, especially in regard to research that requires lab work or in-person contact with subjects. SDSU has \$68 million in research expenditures in Fiscal Year 2019, and spent \$18.5 million on extension services.

"It's been a victim of COVID-19," he said of research in biology, food science and veterinary science, among other fields. "We're encouraged to get our research engine up and going again, because that's what provides the answers to complex questions like COVID-19."

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Dunn said he and other educators remain committed to the idea that in many cases there is no replacement for in-person teaching and learning.

"The loss of human contact — there's a real price there," he said. "For all the chatter about how good online education is, almost everyone will tell you that it's impossible to train nurses, doctors, scientists, engineers or farmers and ranchers without face-to-face, experiential learning."

Dunn said he is concerned about the potential for long-term implications of an "educational hangover" from the pandemic caused by the potential for a "gap year" among college students and the extended learning loss taking place in the K-12 system, in which young students are being taught remotely and some have been hard for teachers to reach at all.

"I'm predicting we'll have a need for more remedial education at the college or the technical college level, and that's a very expensive thing," Dunn said. "I think that hangover will be with us for at least five years ... maybe a decade."

Dunn said remote learning amid the pandemic has posed challenges for some rural students who do not have good internet connections. He said he had heard of some students driving to the top of a nearby hill in order to download coursework documents.

Dunn also expressed concern about the potential that fall sports, including Division 1 football and other revenue-generating sports, could be damaged by the pandemic. Dunn said the decision on whether sports will be held or whether fans will be allowed to attend is mainly in the hands of the National Collegiate Athletics Association.

"It's really up to the NCAA and we're all very anxious to hear what will happen in the fall and whether fall sports will be held," Dunn told the Regents. "That is not in our hands, but we're very anxious about that."

Private schools adjust in unique ways

Some national experts predicted that the COVID-19 pandemic would have an especially devastating impact on small, rural private colleges that did not have the financial foundation to survive enrollment and revenue declines.

But in South Dakota, Mount Marty College has no such concerns and is bucking the trend of falling enrollment amid the pandemic, said President Marcus Long.

"There's a lot of time between the fall semester and now, but we're actually projecting a significant enrollment increase," Long said. "Our admissions are running 60% ahead of where we were last year."

A slate of capital projects has made the main campus of the Benedictine liberal arts college in Yankton more attractive to students, as has the plan to add a football program in 2021, Long said. The college built a state-of-the-art nursing center, erected a new residence hall and is finishing up a \$15 million field house, he said.

The college, with overall enrollment of about 800 at its three locations, including satellite campuses in Watertown and Sioux Falls, saw roughly 2% annual enrollment increases dating to 2016. Many of the



In a photo taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, students attend a course in the new nursing and science center at Mount Marty College in Yankton, a South Dakota college expecting to see an enrollment increase in fall 2020. Photo:

Courtesy Mount Marty College

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new enrollees for this fall are student athletes, he said.

The college expects to host in-person classes and have students reside on campus in the fall, but will prioritize health and safety by offering a mix of face-to-face and online courses, Long said. The college has done well in attracting students from South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa who seek an intimate college experience in a small-town setting that they see as mostly safe from COVID-19, Long said.

"There's a huge amount of momentum here," he said. "We were looking for a fantastic year before the pandemic came, and we're still looking pretty strong now."

Oglala Lakota College, a private school of about 1,200 mostly Native American students in Kyle, S.D., is expecting an enrollment decline of only about 5% due to the pandemic, which President Thomas Short Bull said will not create any long-range financial hardships for the school. Short Bull said the college has \$48 million in endowments in reserve for its faculty and student scholarship programs.

In some respects, the college and its students may see a long-range benefit from the pandemic once it passes, Short Bull said.

The CARES Act passed by Congress has been particularly helpful for OLC and its students, he said. The college received about \$3 million in funding from the CARES Act, \$1.3 million paid directly to students in need and the rest helping to fund college operations. Nearly 90% of the students qualified for federal assistance to attend college and for aid from the CARES Act, Short Bull said.

Part of the money was used to pay for meal programs for students during the pandemic, but some was used to prepare students for remote learning in the fall semester, Short Bull said. The college purchased 600 laptops and 300 cell phones to lend to students who needed to become connected to online learning, he said.

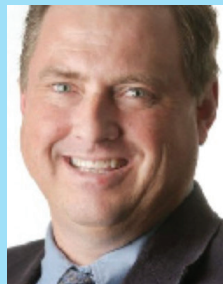
Despite challenges that students in the remote region of southwestern South Dakota may face with distance learning and obtaining internet connections, Short Bull said the college would not bring back students for face-to-face learning in the fall.

"It's too risky to bring students back to campus," he said. "I think that's a big mistake to bring students back."



Thomas Short Bull, president of Oglala Lakota College

ABOUT BART PFANKUCH



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

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Covid-19 Update: by Marie Miller

Tonight, I'll be brief. I figure you've all earned a break from my endless pontificating, and I sort of took the day off from serious work. So I have just the numbers and a few words otherwise to close out the week.

The numbers are either declining or holding steady, even better than yesterday. Remembering that reporting is a bit glitchy on weekends, this looks good.

We're at 1,474,300 cases in the US. New case numbers are down today. NY leads with 353,136 cases, holding steady. NJ has 145,089 cases, which is holding for the second day. Remaining top-10 states are as follows: IL - 92,669, MA - 84,933, CA - 78,747, a worrying increase, PA - 65,228, MI - 50,416, TX - 47,793, FL - 44,803, and MD - 38,083. These ten states account for 68% of US cases. 3 more states have over 30,000 cases, 4 more states have over 20,000 cases, 12 more have over 10,000, 8 more + DC over 5000, 8 more + PR and GU over 1000, 5 more over 100, and VI + MP under 100.

Here's the latest on movement in new case reports. Those with substantial numbers of cases which are not showing much change include IL, FL, CA, MA, PA, CT, MI, and GA. States where new case reports are increasing include TX, SD, LA, VA, and AR. We have 5 states listed as increasing; I'm thinking there could be more as easing continues, but I hope not.. States where new case reports are decreasing include NY, CO, NJ, WA, MA, IA, IN, and RI. We'll watch the states showing increases and hope those with decreases continue the decline.

There have been 88,658 deaths in the US. Today the number of new deaths is well down after a bump yesterday. NY has 27,953, NJ has 10,249, MA has 5705, MI has 4880, PA has 4490, IL has 4149, CT has 3339, CA has 3254, and LA has 2413. All of these states reported fewer than 200 new deaths, and over half reported fewer than 100. Things are going our way. There are 9 more states over 1000 deaths, 5 more over 500, 15 more + DC and PR over 100, and 12 + GU, VI, and MP under 100.

I have a documentary for you. I have not yet watched it, but it's from NOVA, a series with an excellent reputation for solid science and interesting presentation. I'll be watching it online tomorrow. You can find it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dz5WE3hgVBY>

First topic tonight is about some issues turning up with one of the new rapid tests for Covid-19. This particular test is produced by Abbott, which appears to be returning an unacceptable number of false negative results. Remember, a false negative happens when someone who actually has the infection tests negative. There have been indications it is missing as many as 48% of infections. This is, of course, a problem because someone who believes they're negative would not isolate and may not exercise proper precautions to avoid spreading it to others. There's a chance this is related to improper storage of swabs in transport medium instead of being inserted directly into the testing machine; if so, this will pass quickly. If not, then we're going to be looking at reduced testing capacity again, which is not great.

You may have heard or read something in the past couple of days about a miracle cure this company, Sorrento, has come up with, an antibody that can be given to people to cure them of Covid-19. The antibody they've identified "completely blocked SARS-CoV-2 from infecting healthy cells," according to a news release. The plan is to develop what they call "a cocktail" of several antibodies with high activity against three different parts of the virus, and the hope is that this would work as a stand-alone therapy for sick patients instead of the combination of other therapeutics now available. The company plans to produce 1 million doses while they wait for approval for clinical trials. They're hoping these could begin as soon as mid-July. If, indeed, this antibody is able to shut down infections in progress, that would be a

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large step forward, but before you start the celebration, there are a couple of things to note. First is that this discovery has a long road to travel for approval. Right now, it's been tested only in the lab on tissue cultures. That means we don't actually know whether it will work inside real people. And since animal tests haven't begun yet, we also have no safety data either. So it might not work at all, or it might not be safe in humans. And even if it does and is, we're probably looking at early next year at the soonest. So while this may be very good news, for now you can leave the champagne in the wine rack. I will update as the data rolls in.

A troubling development is a return of the issue of people who recover, test negative, then later test positive, sometimes with the development of symptoms again. Things had looked fairly settled on a conclusion that testing failures accounted for these, likely that the negative tests were false negatives (that is, they said the person was no longer infected when he/she actually was). Researchers in Asia where these cases first surfaced had confirmed this explanation over the past week. In the next few days, there has been a small number of the Navy personnel who'd been on the USS Theodore Roosevelt on Guam and are turning up with positive tests after apparent recovery and two successive negative tests. Some of these people are showing symptoms too.

So now there appears to be some question whether virus remaining in the body after recovery can be reactivated. This would seem to indicate that the person did not build a sufficient immune response or that the immune system weakened after recovery, maybe even that the virus can lie dormant for some time inside a patient. None of this would be good news. On the other hand, it is still not looking likely a person who's recovered can very soon be reinfected.

We also have the possibility we'll be able to confirm this is all due to poor specimen collection or testing errors; but that no longer looks as sure a thing as it had looked. The Korea CDC is now recommending patients stay home an additional two weeks after recovery until we better understand what is happening there.

Here's a bit of good news: If you've been reading some pretty scary statistics about the mortality rates for patients who are placed on mechanical ventilators—some placing the death rate around 88-90%, there is good evidence those numbers are not close to right. Turns out the preliminary numbers used in the early reports included only patients who had either died or been discharged, and since many remained on vents at the time of these reports, more than half of patients receiving ventilation were excluded from the report. And apparently, a bunch of those excluded folks went on to come off the ventilators and do very well. Another factor in numbers from early on is that, with the rapid influx of patients who were critically ill, some of them were being tended in makeshift ICUs by critical care teams working extra shifts and physicians who were not ICU specialists with experience caring for patients on vents. Now that hospitals have settled into the care routines, staffing has improved, and physicians have gained experience in what was once an unfamiliar field, outcomes are improving. Between these two things—longer follow-up and changing conditions of care, the picture is considerably better. It appears from recent work done at Vanderbilt University Medical Center that mortality rates for patients on vents is going to clock in more like the mid-to-high 20% range. That's only a bit higher than for patients placed on vents for other severe lung infections. Looking like going on a vent is not a death sentence after all and these tools still have real value. We're learning as we go along.

Good news seems like a nice way to close out the week. Despite the good news, I have watched with dismay as the numbers of sick and dying people in our country rise inexorably. When I'm looking at death and destruction on the level we are all seeing now, I have been looking for comfort. This has me thinking about lessons from my past. One of those came about while I was in graduate school the first time. Sort

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of by happenstance, in a course I wasn't really supposed to need for my degree, I was introduced to the work of Leo Buscaglia. That course wasn't wasted, even though I don't think it fit into my plan of study for the degree and it didn't do one thing for my Masters' thesis. Something he said that sticks with me and came back to me as I considered the horrid losses in this pandemic is this: "Death is a challenge. It tells us not to waste time... It tells us to tell each other right now that we love each other." Good lesson for any time, but especially for this particular time.

And while we're on the subject of Dr. Buscaglia, here's another one: "Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." I think it's time to live by these words. We cannot offer touch at the moment, but people abound who need a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring. These really can turn a life around. Be generous in offering each of these things to someone who needs them. Who knew you could turn a life around with so little effort? Seems sort of mean-spirited to deny them, doesn't it? Go forth and do good.

And stay healthy. I'll be back tomorrow, God willing and the creek don't rise.

3 Weeks Ago

Confirmed Cases by Country/Region/Sovereignty	
735,287	US
195,944	Spain
175,925	Italy
152,978	France
143,724	Germany

2 Weeks Ago

Confirmed Cases by Country/Region/Sovereignty	
1,133,069	US
216,582	Spain
209,328	Italy
183,500	United Kingdom
168,518	France

Last Week

Confirmed Cases by Country/Region/Sovereignty	
1,309,541	US
223,578	Spain
218,268	Italy
216,525	United Kingdom
198,676	Russia

This Week

Confirmed Cases by Country/Region/Sovereignty	
Total Confirmed	
4,656,639	
Confirmed Cases by Country/Region/Sovereignty	
1,467,884	US
281,752	Russia
241,461	United Kingdom
233,511	Brazil
230,698	Spain

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Area COVID-19 Cases

	May 5	May 6	May 7	May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11
Minnesota	7,851	8,579	9,365	10,088	10,790	11,271	11,799
Nebraska	6,438	6,771	7,190	7,831	8,234	8,315	8,572
Montana	456	456	456	458	458	458	459
Colorado	17,364	17,830	18,371	18,827	19,375	19,375	19,879
Wyoming	452	479	483	490	495	504	510
North Dakota	1266	1,323	1,371	1,425	1,464	1,491	1,518
South Dakota	2,721	2,779	2,905	3,144	3,393	3,517	3,614
United States	1,204,475	1,228,609	1,256,972	1,286,833	1,309,541	1,329,225	1,347,388
US Deaths	71,078	73,431	75,670	77,280	78,794	79,525	80,397
Minnesota	+617	+728	+786	+723	+702	+481	+528
Nebraska	+355	+333	+419	+741	+403	+81	+257
Montana	+8	0	0	+2	0	0	+1
Colorado	+457	+466	+541	+456	+548	-----	+504
Wyoming	+8	+27	+4	+7	+5	+9	+6
North Dakota	+41	+57	+48	+54	+39	+27	+27
South Dakota	+53	+58	+126	+239	+249	+124	+97
United States	+23,841	+24,134	+28,363	+29,861	+22,708	+19,684	+18,163
US Deaths	+2,144	+2,353	+2,239	+1,610	1,514	+731	+872
	May 12	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16		
Minnesota	12,494	12,917	13,435	14,240	14,969		
Nebraska	8,692	9,075	9,416	9,772	10,220		
Montana	461	462	462	466	468		
Colorado	20,157	20,475	20,838	21,232	21,633		
Wyoming	513	523	529	541	559		
North Dakota	1,571	1,647	1,712	1,761	1,848		
South Dakota	3,663	3,732	3,792	3,887	3,959		
United States	1,370,016	1,390,764	1,417,889	1,444,870	1,467,884		
US Deaths	82,389	84,136	85,906	87,595	88,754		
Minnesota	+695	+423	+518	+805	+729		
Nebraska	+120	+383	+341	+356	+448		
Montana	+2	+1	0	+4	+2		
Colorado	+278	+318	+363	+394	+401		
Wyoming	+3	+10	+6	+12	+18		
North Dakota	+53	+76	+65	+49	+87		
South Dakota	+49	+69	+60	+95	+72		
United States	+22,628	+20,748	+27,125	+26,981	+23,014		
US Deaths	+1,992	+1,747	+1,770	+1,689	+1,159		

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May 16th COVID-19 UPDATE

Well, not sure where to start here, except that Brown County is now the hot spot in the state with more new cases than Minnehaha County. Brown County recorded 21 positive cases and now has 194 cases, just 7 less than Lincoln County. Minnehaha had 18 positive cases and a big number in recoveries with 93. Beadle County, which had been quiet for some time, had a big spike yesterday with 8 more positive cases. Pennington County recorded 6 more cases.

On the good news, there are five fewer people hospitalized in South Dakota and more people have fully recovered than tested positive with 236 recovered and 72 new positive cases.

Brown County:

Active Cases: +19 (107)

Recovered: +2 (87)

Total Positive: +21 (194)

Ever Hospitalized: +2 (9)

Deaths: 0 Negative Tests: +68 (934)

South Dakota:

Positive: +72 (3,959 total) (23 less than yesterday)

Negative: +690 (24,217 total)

Hospitalized: +8 (304 total) - 75 currently hospitalized (5 less than yesterday)

Deaths: 0 (44 total)

Recovered: +236 (2673 total)

Active Cases: 1242 (27 less than yesterday)

Counties with no positive cases report the following negative tests: Bennett 19, Brule +3 (87), Butte +1 (97), Campbell +3 (17), Custer +4 (75), Dewey +2 (107), Edmunds +1 (37), Gregory +2 (45), Haakon 18, Hanson +3 (43), Harding +1 (3), Jackson 15, Jones 7, Kingsburg 96, Mellette +1 (34), Perkins +1 (13), Potter +2 (42), unassigned +125 (1285).

Beadle: +8 positive (19 of 30 recovered)

Brown: +21 positive, +2 recovered (87 of 194 recovered)

Clay: +2 positive (8 of 14 recovered)

Grant: +2 positive (2 of 9 recovered)

Lincoln: +3 positive, +2 recovered (151 of 201 recovered)

Minnehaha: +18 positive, +93 recovered (2059 of 3101 recovered)

Oglala Lakota: +3 positive (1 of 9 recovered)

Pennington: +6 positive, -1 recovered (14 of 49 recovered)

Roberts: +1 positive (11 of 19 recovered)

Sanborn: +1 positive (3 of 5 recovered)

Todd: +1 positive (5 of 16 recovered)

Tripp: +1 positive (0 of 2 recovered)

Union: +3 positive, +3 recovered (42 of 60 recovered)

Yankton: +2 positive (26 of 40 recovered)

Fully recovered from positive cases: Bon Homme, Brookings, Buffalo, Deuel, Douglas, Fall River, Faulk, Hamlin, Hand, Hutchinson, Hyde, Lawrence, Marshall, McPherson, Miner, Spink, Sully, Walworth.

The N.D. DoH & private labs report 2,861 completed tests today for COVID-19 with 88 new positive cases, bringing the statewide total to 1,848.

State & private labs have reported 63,353 total completed tests.

1,111 ND patients are recovered. One case was reassigned out of state.

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County	Positive Cases	Recovered Cases	Negative Cases
▲			
Aurora	2	1	54
Beadle	30	19	239
Bennett	0	0	19
Bon Homme	4	4	137
Brookings	14	14	486
Brown	194	87	934
Brule	0	0	87
Buffalo	1	1	26
Butte	0	0	97
Campbell	0	0	17
Charles Mix	8	5	144
Clark	4	1	77
Clay	14	8	230
Codington	16	15	647
Corson	3	1	31
Custer	0	0	75
Davison	9	6	408
Day	10	9	89
Deuel	1	1	99
Dewey	0	0	107
Douglas	1	1	41
Edmunds	0	0	37
Fall River	2	2	91
Faulk	1	1	29
Grant	9	2	79
Gregory	0	0	45
Haakon	0	0	18
Hamlin	2	2	103
Hand	1	1	33
Hanson	0	0	43
Harding	0	0	3
Hughes	16	12	349
Hutchinson	3	3	131

Hyde	1	1	23
Jackson	0	0	15
Jerauld	6	5	45
Jones	0	0	7
Kingsbury	0	0	96
Lake	5	4	189
Lawrence	9	9	262
Lincoln	201	151	1978
Lyman	4	3	79
Marshall	1	1	66
McCook	5	3	144
McPherson	1	1	29
Meade	5	1	371
Mellette	0	0	34
Miner	1	1	27
Minnehaha	3119	2152	10913
Moody	17	9	141
Oglala Lakota	9	1	63
Pennington	49	14	1355
Perkins	0	0	13
Potter	0	0	42
Roberts	19	11	227
Sanborn	5	3	48
Spink	4	4	162
Stanley	9	7	52
Sully	1	1	16
Todd	16	5	200
Tripp	2	0	88
Turner	19	17	195
Union	60	42	340
Walworth	5	5	76
Yankton	40	26	613
Ziebach	1	0	18
Unassigned****	0	0	1285

SEX OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

Sex	# of Cases	# of Deaths
▲		
Female	1816	23
Male	2143	21

Age Range	# of Cases	# of Deaths
▲		
0-19 years	366	0
20-29 years	714	0
30-39 years	923	1
40-49 years	726	1
50-59 years	669	6
60-69 years	362	7
70-79 years	93	5
80+ years	106	24

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Vold Auctioneers & Realty

Lenling Inventory Liquidation Sale, Claremont, SD

ONLINE ONLY SALE

May 22-27, 2020



Trailers, Vehicle, Lawn Mower, Scooter

Enclosed 8'x20' Roadmaster Specialty Trailer (Has lighting and outlets inside)
18' Dressen Custom Trailer with ramps • John Deere 116 lawn mower • Honda Express Scooter
1981 Mercury cougar XR-7 • C1500 truck for parts only

Plumbing Supplies

Plastic sump pump hose • PVC pipe of many sizes and lengths • Urinal (NEW)
3 toilets (2 new, 1 used) • 3 toilet seats • Pipe insulation • Flexible tubing
Many various PVC connectors (too many to count) • Porcelain sink
Misc. fittings and shut off valves • 3 hydrants (1 new, 2 used) • Many faucets and drains
Homeguard sump pump • Many brass fittings of various sizes • Hose clamps (too many to count)
Ritchie waterer parts

Electrical and Heating Supplies

Thermador wall heater (NEW) • Energy-Mate wood burner for boiler
Various types and sizes of electrical wire (several partial roles and several new roles)
Homemade wire unwinders • Approximately 30 to 40 breaker boxes (some used, some new)
Glass insulators • Gear for climbing electrical poles • Fuses (too many to count)
Outlets (too many to count) • Light switches (too many to count) • Electrical boxes (too many to count)
• Light bulbs • Electric motors • Duct work and stove pipe (many pieces)

Tools, Garage and Shop supplies

Milwaukee right angle drill • Black and Decker cordless drill • Black and Decker bench grinder
5 ton hydraulic bottle jack • Makita grinder • 2 Milwaukee heavy duty rotary hammer drills
Black and Decker electric drill • Watsco vacuum pump • Drill bits • 40 pc tap and die set
Circular saw • Pipe threaders • Cable crimper • Acetylene tank and torch
Rockwell Jawhorse (new) • Echo Chainsaw • 2 wooden saw horses • 8' wooden A frame ladder
2 wheel dolly cart • Appliance cart • 2 wood storage bins • Red Devil Paint shaker
Plastic tub • Wood carts with wheels • Small chain bind • Ball hitches
Hard hats and welding mask • Portable air compressor • Metal storage bin
Empty oil barrel with hand pump • Insulation blower with hose • Many yard tools
Arrow wood burning stove • Metal shelving • Wood tool box • Many wood storage bins
Several metal work benches with top half shelving

Collectibles, Neon Beer Signs, Pepsi Cola Pop Machine

3 large wooden crates • Wood crate with dividers • 2 copper wash tubs
Fuller-Warren wood burning stove • Vintage scale • 2 collectible hardware scales
Singer sewing machine (treadle machine) • 4 neon beer signs • 7up light up sign
Zima electric reflective display • Water filter crock • Window shade cutter and shades
Many collectible tins • 2 wooden barrels • Vintage folding chairs
Pepsi Cola Pop Machine for glass bottles • National Cash Register

Boat, Outdoors and Sporting/Fishing

Slick Craft Boat and Shoreland'r trailer • 3 sets of cross country skis • Earthquake garden tiller
Go cart (needs work, comes with many spare parts) • 3 bikes • Brinkman Propane Grill
Coleman folding table • Tent (3 room, believe all poles and stakes are there)
Coleman air mattress • Fishing reels • Fish cleaning board • Fishing net
Several fishing rods and reels • Tackle boxes • Ice fishing poles • Minnow buckets

Store Displays and Office Equipment

2 glass display cases • Several display/work benches • 2 office desks
Several metal filing cabinets • Maytag dryer • Microwave • Hot dog cooker



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Auctioneer's Note:

Gary Lenling has passed away and Marian is selling the business inventory. Take advantage of this opportunity to stock up on plumbing and electrical supplies for your business, home, office, or farm!
Call for viewing. Pick up dates are Friday, May 29th and Saturday, May 30th, 2020 from 1-4 p.m. both days.

TERMS: Payment of cash, check, or CC must be made before removal of items. Nothing removed before settlement.

Statements made sale day take precedence over all advertising. Printed material was taken from sources believed to be correct but is not warranted. Any warranties are between seller and buyer. Sellers or Vold Auctioneers are not responsible for accidents. Subject to additions and deletions.

Vold Auctioneers & Realty, Inc.

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PO Box 31 – Britton, SD 57430

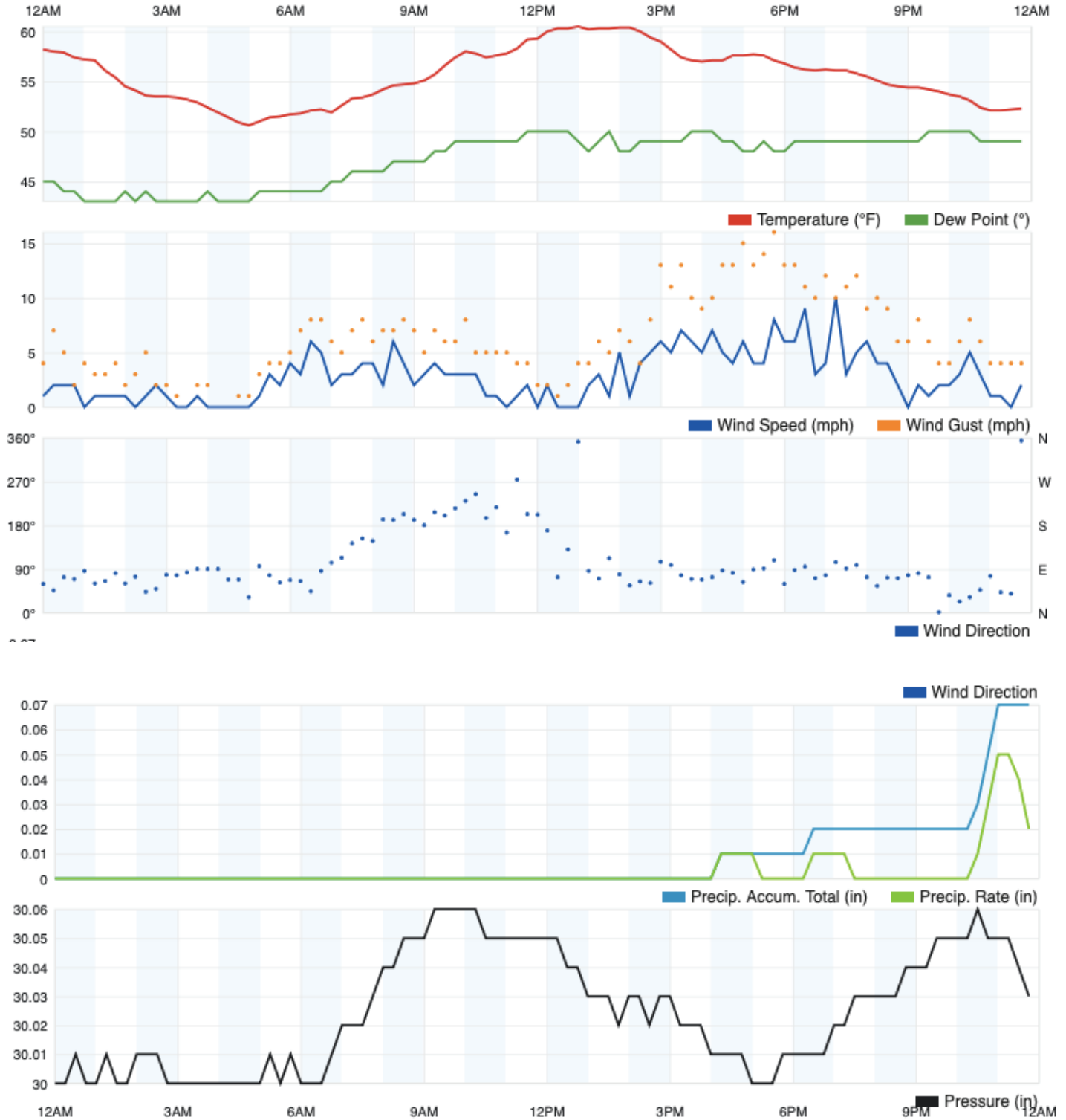
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www.voldrealty.com – www.ag4bid.com

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs



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Today



Partly Sunny

Tonight



Mostly Clear

Monday



Sunny

Monday Night



Mostly Clear

Tuesday



Sunny

High: 68 °F

Low: 44 °F

High: 71 °F

Low: 51 °F

High: 76 °F



A General Outlook For Central And Northeast South Dakota This Week

Pierre, South Dakota - 7 Day Forecast

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NNE 5-10	ESE 6-18 G26	SE 14-21 G30	SE 14-23 G32	S 14	S 3-10	ESE 6-12
Mostly Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Partly Sunny	Chance Showers And Thunderstorms	Mostly Sunny	Chance Showers And Thunderstorms
68° 43°	73° 46°	81° 53°	80° 58°	80° 59°	82° 54°	81° 55°
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Clear	Partly Cloudy	Chance Showers And Thunderstorms	Chance Showers And Thunderstorms then Partly Cloudy	Slight Chance Showers And Thunderstorms
NW 6	ESE 6-10	SE 14-18 G26	SE 14-21 G29	SE 13-23 G31	SSW 3-12	ESE 6-10

Aberdeen, South Dakota - 7 Day Forecast

Normal High: 69°F		Normal Low: 45°F					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
NE 6-10	ESE 6-14	SSE 10-17	SSE 13-20	S 16-21	S 7-10	SE 5-10	
Partly Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Partly Sunny then Chance Showers And Thunderstorms	Mostly Sunny then Slight Chance Showers And Thunderstorms	Chance Showers And Thunderstorms	
68° 46°	71° 44°	76° 51°	79° 57°	78° 60°	80° 57°	80° 56°	
Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Clear	Mostly Clear	Mostly Clear	Mostly Cloudy	Chance Showers And Thunderstorms	Chance Showers And Thunderstorms	
N 6	E 5-10	SE 10-15	SSE 12-17	SSE 16-20	S 8-16	SSE 5-9	

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

www.weather.gov

Updated: 5/17/2020 4:11 AM CT

Things dry out and warm up heading into the first half of the week. Breezy to windy southerly winds are also expected. Chances for precipitation start to return to the forecast during the second half of the week and into the weekend.

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Today in Weather History

May 17, 1902: An estimated F3 Tornado moved northeast from 6 miles southwest of Mina to south of Westport, a distance of about 25 miles. A four-year-old girl was killed in one of two farmhouses blown apart in Edmunds County. Three more homes were damaged in Brown County. There were probably two if not three separate tornadoes involved.

May 17, 1937: A complex of tornadoes and downbursts skipped southeast from near Roslyn and Greenville. This storm also caused \$50,000 in damage in downtown Waubay and damaged farm property to about 4 miles west of Gray, Minnesota. About 20 barns were destroyed. Sheep and horses were killed. These events traveled a distance of about 70 miles. The strongest tornado was estimated at F2 strength.

May 17, 1996: An F1 tornado touched down 20 miles southeast of Wilmot or 5 miles northwest of Ortonville, Minnesota at Schmidts Landing on Big Stone Lake. The roof was ripped off of a house, and a garage wall was blown off its foundation. Three RV's were demolished, and a trailer was overturned and destroyed. This tornado moved into Big Stone County and intensified. An F3 tornado crossed Big Stone Lake from Roberts County, South Dakota destroying on a cabin at the Meadowbrook Resort. It also blew the roof off another cabin, and the third cabin was demolished when a tree fell onto it. Several boats on Big Stone Lake were overturned. Approximately 150 buildings sustained damage or were destroyed as the tornado moved northeast across Big Stone County. Southwest of Clinton, a pontoon boat, and a camper were destroyed. East of Clinton, a farm lost all buildings with severe damage to their home. Estimated property damage was listed at \$1.5 million.

A wind gust of 90 mph blew two garage roofs off, destroyed an antenna, blew large trees down, and also a grain dryer was blown down near Dumont, Minnesota.

1883 - A three day flood in the Black Hills of western South Dakota resulted in a million dollars damage at Rapid City. (David Ludlum)

1896: An estimated F5 tornado tracked 100 miles through northeastern Kansas and extreme southeastern Nebraska. Seneca, Oneida, Sabetha, and Reserve, Kansas sustained severe damage. While passing through Reserve, the tornado was 2 miles wide. 25 people were killed, and 200 were injured. The cost was estimated at \$400,000.

1979 - A reading of 12 degrees at Mauna Kea Observatory established an all-time record low for the state of Hawaii. (The Weather Channel)

1983 - A golfer playing the Fox Meadows Course in Memphis TN was struck by a bolt of lightning that went through his neck, down his spine, came out a pocket containing his keys, and went into a nearby tree. Miraculously, he survived! (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A summer-like weather pattern continued, with warm temperatures and scattered thunderstorms across much of the nation. A cold front in the north central U.S. produced a sharp contrast in the weather across the state of Minnesota during the afternoon. At the same time Duluth was 50 degrees with rain and fog, Mankato was 95 degrees with sunny skies. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Thunderstorms produced large hail and damaging winds over the Carolinas during the afternoon and evening. A "thunderstorm of a lifetime" in northern Spartanburg County, SC, produced hail for forty-five minutes, leaving some places knee-deep in hail. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms ravaged the south central U.S. with severe weather for the third day in a row. Thunderstorms spawned another nineteen tornadoes, for a total of fifty tornadoes in three days. A strong (F-2) tornado injured 14 persons and caused two million dollars damage at Apple Springs TX. Baseball size hail was reported at Matador TX. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced severe weather in New York State during the late morning and afternoon. A tornado injured one person at Warren, and wind gusts to 80 mph were reported at Owego. Evening thunderstorms over southwest Texas produced wind gusts to 80 mph at Marfa, along with golf ball size hail which accumulated to a depth of ten inches. Late night thunderstorms over southwest Texas produced up to seven inches of rain in western Crockett County. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

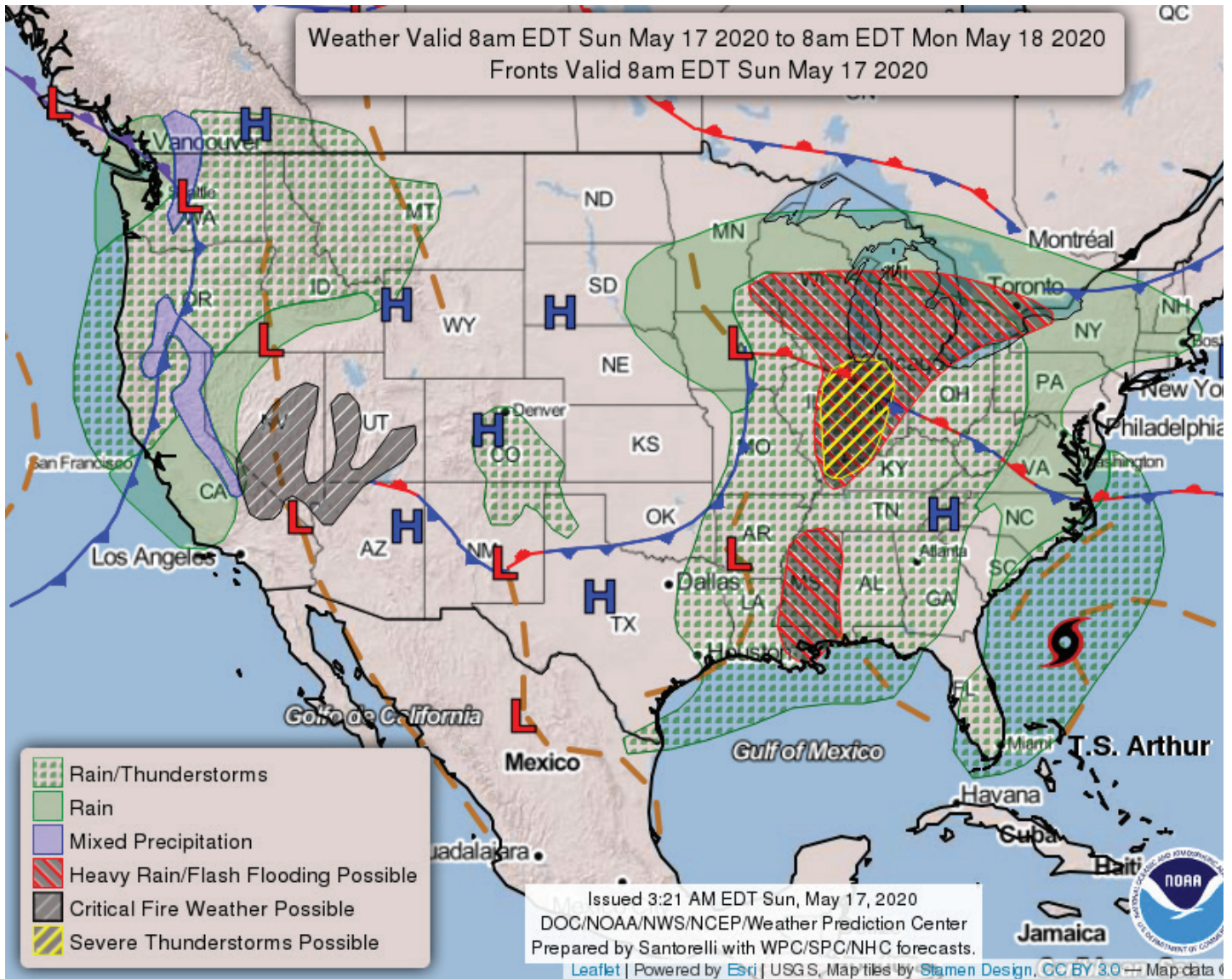
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Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 61 °F at 12:53 PM
Low Temp: 50 °F at 4:58 AM
Wind: 16 mph at 5:38 PM
Precip: .07

Record High: 103° in 1934
Record Low: 27° in 1925
Average High: 69°F
Average Low: 45°F
Average Precip in May.: 1.64
Precip to date in May.: 2.45
Average Precip to date: 5.67
Precip Year to Date: 4.35
Sunset Tonight: 9:00 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:49 a.m.



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HOW DID GOD GET IN YOUR LIFE?

The new pastor wanted to get to know the members of his congregation. One evening, at a church dinner, he asked Mark, a deacon, how he came to know the Lord as his Savior.

To his surprise, Mark replied, "Well pastor, I believe God is at work in our family."

One thing is for certain: If our faith is real and at work, it will be real and at work in our homes. Family relationships always seem to be "on the edge." There are so many different wants and needs, so many competing priorities and interests, that relationships always seem to be stressed to the point of breaking.

The letter to the Ephesians has some sound advice for families. It very clearly states that children are to obey their parents as long as parents act in the will and way of God. Parents have every right to make expectations of their children that are in keeping with His Word. Ideally, parents will act with thoughtfulness, gentleness, and love. While this may seem difficult, if family member's actions follow the teachings of God's Word, each will put the other's interests ahead of their own and selfishness will be replaced with selflessness because the real Father is the head of the home and worshiping Him will come first.

Fathers are also advised to "Bring up your children with the discipline and instruction approved by the Lord." If parents are submissive to God's rules first, then God will bless their efforts,

Prayer: We pray, Father, for families that are struggling to survive, dealing with overwhelming problems that leave them hopeless. Give courage to follow your teachings. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Ephesians 6:1-4 If you honor your father and mother, "things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth."

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2020 Groton SD Community Events

- **CANCELLED** Groton Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt - City Park (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
 - **CANCELLED** Dueling Piano's Baseball Fundraiser at the American Legion
 - **CANCELLED** Fireman's Fun Night (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
 - **POSTPONED** Front Porch 605 Rural Route Road Trip
 - **CANCELLED** Father/Daughter dance.
 - **CANCELLED** Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales, (1st Saturday in May)
 - **CANCELLED** Girls High School Golf Meet at Olive Grove Golf Course
 - 05/25/2020 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Services
 - 06/05/2020 Athletic Fundraiser at Olive Grove Golf Course
 - 06/8-10/2020 St. John's VBS
 - 06/19/2020 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove Golf Course
 - 06/20/2020 Shriner's Golf Tournament at Olive Grove Golf Course
 - 06/22/2020 Olive Grove Golf Course Ladies Invitational
 - 06/26/2020 Groton Businesses Golf Tournament at Olive Grove Golf Course
 - 07/04/2020 Firecracker Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course
 - 07/12/2020 Summer Fest/Car Show
 - 07/16/2020 Olive Grove Golf Course Pro Am Golf Tourney
 - **CANCELLED** State American Legion Baseball Tournament in Groton
 - 08/07/2020 Wine on Nine Event at Olive Grove Golf Course
 - 09/12/2020 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Sat. after Labor Day)
 - 09/13/2020 Olive Grove Golf Course Couples Sunflower Classic
 - 10/09/2020 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
 - 10/10/2020 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
 - 10/31/2020 Downtown Trick or Treat
 - 10/31/2020 Groton United Methodist Trunk or Treat
 - 11/14/2020 Groton Legion Annual Turkey Party (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
 - 11/26/2020 Community Thanksgiving at the Community Center
 - 12/05/2020 Olive Grove Golf Course Tour of Homes & Holiday Party
 - 12/05/2020 Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services
 - 01/--/2021 83rd Annual Carnival of Silver Skates
-
- Bingo every Wednesday 6:30pm at the American Legion Post #39
 - Groton Lions Club Wheel of Meat, American Legion Post #39 7pm (Saturday nights November 30th thru April 11th)
 - Groton Lions Club Wheel of Pizza, Jungle Lanes 8pm (Saturday nights November 30th thru April 11th)
-
- All dates are subject to change, check for updates here

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News from the  Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash

12-17-28-32-34

(twelve, seventeen, twenty-eight, thirty-two, thirty-four)

Estimated jackpot: \$70,000

Lotto America

08-14-25-29-49, Star Ball: 8, ASB: 5

(eight, fourteen, twenty-five, twenty-nine, forty-nine; Star Ball: eight; ASB: five)

Estimated jackpot: \$2.6 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$274 million

Powerball

08-12-26-39-42, Powerball: 11, Power Play: 2

(eight, twelve, twenty-six, thirty-nine, forty-two; Powerball: eleven; Power Play: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$86 million

Rare result: Minnehaha County not at top of COVID-19 update

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The COVID-19 update in South Dakota Saturday showed at least one rare result with the state's most populous county recording the second-most cases in the daily report.

Brown County, which has been dealing with an outbreak at the DemKota beef processing plant in Aberdeen, topped the report with 21 new cases. Minnehaha County, which went over 3,000 positive tests in Friday's summary, recorded 18 new cases Saturday.

Brown County has now seen 194 positive tests. Three new cases were confirmed in Lincoln County, putting its total over the 200 mark.

Statewide, the total number of cases increased from 3,887 to 3,969 and the number of active cases dropped from 1,269 to 1,242. Health officials have warned the the actual number of infections is higher because many people may not display symptoms or have not sought testing for mild symptoms.

The state said 762 tests were processed on Friday.

For most people, the coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough that clear up in two to three weeks. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia.

Five years later, Delmont still living with scars of tornado

By RANDY DOCKENDORF Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — On that May morning in 2015, the Sunday school classes had gathered in the Zion Lutheran Church basement shortly after worship services.

Moments later, a loud noise pierced the air — sirens warning of a tornado descending upon the town. The Sunday school teachers and children took cover as the F-2 twister roared through the Douglas County community of Delmont with wind speeds of at least 130 miles per hour.

The Sunday school members drew on their faith as they huddled and prayed.

And then, silence.

Their prayers were answered: The tornado passed, and they found their way out of the rubble. They emerged to find the century-old brick church had lost its roof, stained glass windows and pipe organ.

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The Rev. Brian Lemcke said his congregation and the rest of Delmont was spared in an important way. "God blessed us with no injuries to anyone present (in the church basement)," he told the Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan. "Although both the parsonage and church buildings were virtually destroyed, along with many homes and other structures in town, we were blessed with no deaths and only minor injuries in Delmont."

The tornado hit for just a few seconds, but its aftermath has remained for years. Last Sunday marked the fifth anniversary of the May 10, 2015 twister — with the date falling on a Sunday and Mother's Day both then and now.

Lemcke has been pastor of the church since 2018 and has seen the tornado's impact on his congregation. "The lives of many people were changed that day, but God has brought us back together into a new and more useful facility," he said, noting some items were used from the former church building.

TO THE RESCUE

The tornado's anniversary brings intense memories not also only for residents but for first responders, volunteers and others who worked with cleanup and getting the town back on its feet.

Douglas County Emergency Manager Pat Harrington said the storm started between Wagner and Dante in Charles Mix County. The twister moved north-northeast into Douglas County before stopping four miles north of Delmont.

"Normally, you don't have a tornado mid-morning," he said. "A straight-line wind is one thing, but an actual tornado is fairly uncommon in the morning."

The tornado traveled 17.3 miles and was 400 yards wide. The twister destroyed several farms, many miles of barbed wire fence and a considerable amount of debris — some papers were found in Letcher, 60 miles to the north.

"For what that town (Delmont) went through, it was a miracle that no one was killed or that there weren't more injuries," Harrington said.

An estimated 20 buildings were damaged in Delmont, including the town's fire hall. Nine people were treated for injuries, with seven released from the hospital shortly afterward.

The 911 dispatch in Lake Andes put out a call for all available assistance, with firefighters and ambulance crews arriving from within a 60-mile radius, Harrington said. At the time, he reported assistance from 14 fire departments and six EMS units accounting for 140 firefighters and more than 35 EMTs.

The first responders conducted a door-to-door search of the town's residences and marked houses with an "X" to show the structure had been checked and no one was there.

"We didn't know what we were going to find as far as (injuries) or even deaths," Harrington said.

After the injured residents were transported for treatment, the first responders met at the baseball field to develop a plan. The town had lost its electricity, water and phone service. In addition, officials cited the danger of leaking propane tanks.

Delmont was evacuated that afternoon, with residents not allowed back into town until responders could guarantee their safety.

Then-Gov. Dennis Daugaard declared a state of emergency during his visit that afternoon. He met with then-Mayor Mae Gunnare, Fire Chief Elmer Goehring and Harrington for a briefing. The governor remained for a town hall meeting that evening.

Besides coordinating the first responders, Delmont officials faced hundreds — perhaps thousands — of non-residents descending on the community.

"Keeping everything organized and maintaining crowd control was a big deal. We had people coming to help with cleanup. We had people who came to see their mom and dad or other relatives, to see if everything was OK," Harrington said.

"But we also had certain people who just wanted to come to Delmont and see it, to see what was going on. We literally had people from Sioux Falls driving around and trying to get into Delmont (to see damage)."

Authorities also sought to keep away looters. The South Dakota Highway Patrol and the Douglas County sheriff's office locked down the town, with only Delmont residents allowed inside the town's limits.

The Tripp-Delmont school in Tripp was set up as an emergency shelter for displaced Delmont residents,

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Harrington said. However, to his knowledge, only one person used the shelter because everyone else stayed with family and friends.

Fire protection remained a concern, not only because of no water supply but also because the new fire hall — which had yet to be dedicated — was destroyed and collapsed on the firetrucks and equipment inside.

Goehring made arrangements with other departments to provide round-the-clock fire protection for about a week. In addition, fire departments, along with the South Dakota Department of Forestry, loaned or gifted trucks and equipment for Delmont's usage.

In addition, the authorities sought a way of controlling the traffic and crowds which came to Delmont each day. Yankton County Emergency Manager provided and set up the Rapid Tag method of identification badges used to register and classify individuals as resident, volunteer, media or other role.

"You had to wear those badges, and it created an accountability piece," Harrington said. "Anyone who didn't have one of those badges was quickly escorted out of town."

In the days following the tornado, Delmont received a visit from Sen. John Thune and then-Rep. Kristi Noem of the South Dakota congressional delegation. The third member, Sen. Mike Rounds, couldn't attend personally but sent a staff member.

Daugaard returned in another capacity — as a private citizen picking up debris, without media coverage or other fanfare, Gunnare said at the time.

Gunnare and others worked with local, state and federal officials on receiving assistance, Harrington said. An emergency operations center was set up, and the National Guard and Red Cross played a major role, he added.

In addition, Delmont received state assistance in removing more than four tons of debris, which could have cost the city \$330,000 and beyond the residents' ability to pay, Gunnare said at the time. The city also received donations of trees, machinery and 1,200 pounds of grass seed, she said.

"Delmont had this little rubble site, which just wasn't feasible," Harrington said. "We had to work out something with the county to use some of their ground a couple of miles away."

In a manner of paying it forward, Gunnare received advice from the Wessington Springs mayor and finance officer about their town's recovery following its June 2014 tornado. After the Delmont tornado, Gunnare was invited to an international disaster conference in Minneapolis for a session on small communities' response to disasters.

MOVING FORWARD

After the tornado, Delmont residents revived the New Year's Eve Day parade and celebration, the firemen's sausage supper, the kuchen festival and the Twin Rivers Old Iron Association's harvest festival. Also, residents Elizabeth "Sam" Grosz and Barb Hoffman launched an effort to hang red wooden cardinals to brighten the town and symbolize new birth and hope.

In addition, Delmont city maintenance man Leo Holzbauer purchased the "Onion House," whose trademark domes had sustained damage, in order to keep the building in the community.

During a recent interview, Harrington fought back emotions upon recalling memories and seeing photos from the damage and recovery process.

"In all honestly, I look at weather a whole lot differently after this storm. Things can happen that you don't expect," he said. "Sometimes, it seems longer than five years (since the tornado), and then sometimes it seems like it's been just a couple of weeks. By far, it's the largest event that I've worked with as emergency manager. I wasn't there every day, but we were still dealing with it more than a year later. Recovery is a long process."

Goehring, who was named the 2018 South Dakota Firefighter of the Year, said the tornado will continue to impact Delmont.

"We didn't ask for this (tornado), and we didn't have choices. We just rolled with it," he said during a post-tornado interview. "This will stay with us for the rest of our lives."

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After virus shutdown, kids, calves again greet zoo patrons

By KELDA J.L. PHARRIS Aberdeen American News

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — It's late morning on the last day of April, and a bison cow sets herself off from two others who have new calves tucked in close as they lazily graze and chew cud in the sun.

The standoffish cow, Annie, will be the third to give birth at the Wylie Park Zoo. It's a sure sign she's nearly ready when she distances herself from the others.

"She's part of the original Wylie stock herd. We have very sought-after animals because they're docile and have good genetics," said park supervisor Mark Grote of the bison herd.

Annie was born at the zoo in 2013. Cheyenne and Dixie, the other cows, are from an Onaka ranch, part of a program to keep a healthy genetic line. The calves on average are 65 pounds at birth, Grote told the Aberdeen American News. They get sold off as surplus around December each year.

The bull will be gradually introduced back to the herd after the last calf is born.

In the shop barn, a maternity ward has been set up for a handful of nanny Nigerian dwarf goats. Three sets of twins have already been born. The ones that are about a week or so older have been introduced to the petting zoo barn. They are only the size of small cats. They're a hobby breed and great for controlling noxious weeds. That's why they were introduced to the park about three years ago, Grote said. In all there are eight rams, six nannies and now six kids and counting in the herd.

At about 2 weeks old, they start drinking water on their own. Eventually their mothers will wean them. These kids are here to stay as Wylie grows its herd. Currently, the males are out in the geese pen keeping things mowed down and weeds at bay.

The whitetail, sika deer and elk will be bringing their next generation into the world in a couple weeks, Grote estimates. The park, empty of much of its normal spring foot traffic because of the COVID-19 pandemic, is peaceful, with the only sounds from wee bleats, chirping song birds and the rumble of an off-distance mower.

Myriad projects have been getting done at Wylie Park and the zoo during the health crisis. Maintenance and animal crews have been working as usual.

"We'll have the prettiest park," said Grote, only half-joking.

He sees the zoo as a great therapy for those feeling lonely, isolated and cooped up, so the loosening of COVID-19 restrictions might help folks out in that sense. On May 8, local residents were again able to roam where the bison, deer, llamas, elks and goats play.

'COVID toes,' other rashes latest possible rare virus signs

By LAURAN NEERGAARD AP Medical Writer

Skin doctors suddenly are looking at a lot of toes — whether by emailed picture or video visit — as concern grows that for some people, a sign of COVID-19 may pop up in an unusual spot.

Boston dermatologist Esther Freeman expected to see skin complaints as the pandemic unfolded — various kinds of rashes occur when people get very ill from other viruses.

"But I was not anticipating those would be toes," said Freeman of Massachusetts General Hospital, who has viewed via telemedicine more toes in the last several weeks than in her entire career.

They're being called "COVID toes," red, sore and sometimes itchy swellings on toes that look like chilblains, something doctors normally see on the feet and hands of people who've spent a long time outdoors in the cold.

Don't race to the emergency room if toes are the only worry, said the American Academy of Dermatology.

Earlier this month, it issued advice that a telemedicine check is the first step for people wondering if they have "COVID toes" and who have no other reason for urgent care. Doctors then should decide if the patient should stay in home isolation or get tested.

The most common coronavirus symptoms are fever, a dry cough and shortness of breath -- and some people are contagious despite never experiencing symptoms. But as this bewildering virus continues to spread, less common symptoms are being reported including loss of smell, vomiting and diarrhea, and

increasingly, a variety of skin problems.

In one report, dermatologists evaluated 88 COVID-19 patients in an Italian hospital and found 1 in 5 had some sort of skin symptom, mostly red rashes over the trunk. In another, Spanish doctors reported a series of 375 confirmed virus patients with a range of skin complaints, from hives to chickenpox-like lesions to the toe swellings.

Pictures of reddened toes and rashes all over social media and doctor chat groups have “already enabled the rapid recognition of skin signs by dermatologists. It is now time for rigorous science” to understand the link, Dr. Kanade Shinkai of the University of California, San Francisco wrote in a recent JAMA Dermatology editorial.

Boston’s Freeman directs an international COVID-19 registry for doctors to report cases of possibly virus-linked skin symptoms. Of 500 reports since late March, about half are chilblain-like spots on the feet, she said.

Chilblains, what doctors call “pernio,” are an inflammatory reaction. When pernio-like reactions appear in coronavirus-infected patients is one of many mysteries. For some people, it’s the first or even only symptom they notice. Others see the toe problem at the same time or even a few weeks after experiencing more common and serious COVID-19 symptoms.

It’s showing up in young people too, according to Dr. Amy Paller of Northwestern University, who is part of a pediatric dermatology registry also collecting images of patients’ toes.

Among the theories: Is it just inflammation triggered by an infection instead of the cold? Is the virus irritating the lining of blood vessels in the skin, or perhaps causing microscopic blood clots?

“The public health message is not to panic,” Freeman said, noting that most toe patients she’s seen haven’t become severely ill.

Are they contagious? “We can’t tell just by looking at your toes,” she said. Other medical conditions, such as lupus, can cause similar spots — another reason doctors should discuss each patient’s overall health and next steps for testing or other needed care.

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

Biden’s VP search puts spotlight on how long he’ll serve

By WILL WEISSERT Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Joe Biden has longed to win the White House for more than three decades. If he finally makes it there after November’s election, he’s already talking about leaving.

In an effort to ease concerns about his age, the 77-year-old presumptive Democratic nominee has said he wouldn’t seek reelection if his mental or physical health declined. He has also referred to himself as a “transition candidate,” acting as a bridge to a younger generation of leadership.

Biden is rarely known for sticking to a script, and the comments are evidence of his candid style. But they’re also contributing to intense speculation about who is best positioned to lead the party after him.

“We do have a longer bench as Democrats, a younger bench in terms of elected leadership all across the country,” said Democratic strategist L. Joy Williams, chairwoman of Higher Heights PAC, which is dedicated to electing more women to national and statewide offices.

Biden has not ruled out running for a second term, in part because such an explicit pledge would immediately render him a lame duck in Washington, where political capital will be needed to manage the coronavirus recovery.

But the question of his long-term prospects looms over his candidacy, especially as he considers his options for vice president.

While someone like Elizabeth Warren could broaden Biden’s appeal among progressives, the 70-year-old Massachusetts senator wouldn’t be the face of a new generation many in the party are seeking. That might be an advantage for younger contenders, such as California Sen. Kamala Harris, 55, or Minnesota

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Sen. Amy Klobuchar, 59.

It's an awkward dynamic for Biden, whose lead in the Democratic primary coincided with the onset of a pandemic, making it harder to establish himself as the party's unquestioned leader. He can ill afford chatter about who might succeed him when he still faces a competitive race against President Donald Trump in the fall.

There are few historic precedents for a president opting against reelection. None has passed up a chance at a second term after just four years in the White House since shortly after Reconstruction. President Lyndon B. Johnson declined to seek a second, full term in 1968, but was already in office five years by then because of John F. Kennedy's assassination.

There's also no guarantee that Biden's running mate will be the immediate president-in-waiting he envisions. Biden has pledged to pick a woman, but virtually no one under active consideration is likely to satisfy all Democrats. That raises the prospect of a primary battle in 2024 if he steps aside.

Republican pollster Chris Wilson said Biden might elevate several younger Democrats to Cabinet positions to deliberately set up "almost a hand-picked primary pool rather than a single candidate he tries to hand things off to."

That, Wilson said, "would still be the kind of legacy-building move he seems to be interested in."

Biden might also change his mind and decide to run for reelection if he unseats Trump. That still might not insulate him from a progressive primary challenge, though.

"Even if Biden wins and says he's going to run in 2024, he's absolutely going to be challenged from within the party," said Eric Hauser, who was press secretary for Bill Bradley's primary run in 2000 against Al Gore, who had been Bill Clinton's vice president for eight years and was seen by many as his natural successor. "The left has felt like it got hoodwinked twice, in '16 and now. They feel overlooked."

Gilberto Hinojosa, chairman of the Texas Democratic Party, said Biden's choice of running mate will have to fill twin roles. That person would need to continue to move the country away from the Trump era "if something were to happen while he's still in office" or later "if Biden decides to retire and pass the baton."

"I think the stakes are already really high, no matter how you look at it," Hinojosa said.

Republicans could also face similar tumult. If Trump secures a second term, Vice President Mike Pence would seem to be a natural successor. But there are plenty of other Republicans with presidential ambitions who could be more attractive if Trump becomes unpopular at the end of a second term, which often happens to presidents after eight years in office.

George H.W. Bush is the only sitting vice president in modern history to be elected president. The only other examples are Martin Van Buren in 1836, and Thomas Jefferson and John Adams before that.

"Mike Pence would be inheriting eight years of a tsunami," Hauser said of Trump's legacy.

For all the speculation, if Biden is elected, he could decide to seek another term in 2024 in part because the lure of the White House is one of the greatest forces in politics — especially for someone ambitious enough to be on his third presidential bid since 1988.

"Once you're president, it's very tempting to keep power," said Julian Zelizer, a history and public affairs professor at Princeton University who has written about single-term presidents. "It could very well be a genuine idea right now. But we just don't see people relinquish power very easily."

11 Los Angeles firefighters hurt while running from blast

By STEFANIE DAZIO and FRANK BAKER Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An explosion Saturday at a hash oil manufacturer in downtown Los Angeles injured 11 firefighters who had gone inside and on the roof to try to knock down a fire and then had to run for their lives when a ball of flames shot out the building and scorched a fire truck across the street.

Los Angeles Fire Department Capt. Erik Scott said "one significant explosion" shook the neighborhood around 6:30 p.m. Firefighters inside had to run through a wall of flames he estimated as 30 feet high and wide, and those on the roof scrambled down a ladder that was engulfed in fire.

Scott said people at the scene described the explosion as sounding like a freight train or jet engine. Some

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of the fleeing firefighters were on fire and tore off their protective equipment and left it on the sidewalk, along with melted helmets, Scott said.

"The was one of the worst scenes I've seen," he said.

All 11 firefighters suffered burns ranging from minor to serious. Three were listed as critical condition, and two of them were on ventilators. All were expected to survive.

"The good news is everybody's going to make it," Mayor Eric Garcetti said at a news conference outside the Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center where all the injured were treated.

"Things could have been so much worse," said Los Angeles Fire Department Medical Director Dr. Marc Eckstein, who works at the hospital and helped treat the injured.

Firefighters were called to 327 East Boyd St. in the city's Toy District for a report of a fire at a one-story commercial building. There was light to moderate smoke when firefighters entered the building and went on the roof, normal procedures to try to quickly knock down any flames.

Los Angeles Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas said one of the firefighters inside the building thought things didn't seem right — the pressure from the smoke and heat coming from the rear of the building were increasing. He directed everyone to get out, and as they quickly started exiting the building as it was rocked by the explosion.

Firefighters on the roof scrambled down ladders with their protective coats on fire. The wall of flames shot out the building and burned seats inside a fire truck across the street.

More than 200 firefighters rushed to the scene, and dozens of engines, trucks and rescue vehicles clogged the streets. The fire spread to several nearby buildings, but firefighters were able to douse it in about an hour.

The injured firefighters were rushed to the hospital. Those who remained at the scene, unaware of the seriousness of their colleagues' injuries, were traumatized by what had transpired, Terrazas said.

"You can imagine the amount of emotional stress," he said.

Scott said the building was a warehouse for SmokeTokes, which he described as a maker of "butane honey oil." Butane is an odorless gas that easily ignites, and it's used in the process to extract the high-inducing chemical THC from cannabis to create a highly potent concentrate also known as hash oil. The oil is used in vape pens, edibles, waxes and other products.

On its website, SmokeTokes advertises a variety of products including "puff bars," pipes, "dab" tools, vaporizers, "torches and butane," and cartridges. The company says it is "an international distributor and wholesaler of smoking and vaping products, and related accessories." Founded in 2009, it offers "discounts to loyal customers, fast shipping, a huge catalog of products and customer service that is untouched."

The cause of the fire is under investigation.

European leaders are blunt: Vaccines won't come soon enough

By COLLEEN BARRY, PABLO GORONDI and KELVIN CHAN Associated Press

SOAVE, Italy (AP) — In separate, stark warnings, two major European leaders have bluntly told their citizens that the world needs to adapt to live with the coronavirus and cannot wait to be saved by the development of a vaccine.

The comments by Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and British Prime Minister Boris Johnson came as both nations around the world and U.S. states are struggling with the increasing need to reactivate economies blindsided by the pandemic. With 36 million people newly unemployed in the U.S. alone, that economic pressure is building even as authorities acknowledge the risks of kicking off new waves of infections and deaths from a virus that people have no immunity to.

Britain and Italy have recorded the most coronavirus deaths in the world after the U.S.

Pushed hard by Italy's regional leaders and weeks in advance of an earlier timetable, Conte is allowing restaurants, bars and beach facilities to open Monday, the same day that church services can resume.

"We are facing a calculated risk, in the awareness ... that the epidemiological curve could go back up," Conte said late Saturday. "We are confronting this risk, and we need to accept it, otherwise we would

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never be able to relaunch.”

Conte added that Italy could “not afford” to wait until a vaccine was developed. Health experts have said the world could be months, if not years, away from having a vaccine available to everyone despite the scientific gold rush now on to create a coronavirus vaccine — or vaccines.

“We would find ourselves with our social and productive fabric heavily damaged,” Conte said.

Italy’s economy is forecast to contract 9% this year due to the impact of the coronavirus, which has prompted Europe’s longest strictest lockdown.

For his part, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who was hospitalized last month with a serious bout of COVID-19, speculated Sunday that a vaccine may not be developed at all, despite the huge global effort to produce one.

“I said we would throw everything we could at finding a vaccine,” Johnson wrote in the Mail on Sunday newspaper. “There remains a very long way to go, and I must be frank that a vaccine might not come to fruition.”

Johnson said Britain was taking “baby steps” toward reopening, “trying to do something that has never had to be done before — moving the country out of a full lockdown.”

“Despite these efforts, we have to acknowledge we may need to live with this virus for some time to come,” Johnson wrote.

Coronavirus has infected 4.6 million people and killed over 312,000 worldwide, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University of government reports, which experts say clearly undercounts the true toll of the pandemic. The U.S. has seen over 88,000 people die and Europe has had at least 160,000 dead, including over 34,000 in Britain and nearly 32,000 in Italy.

Professional soccer matches in Germany’s Bundesliga resumed over the weekend, a move keenly watched by the rest of the soccer world as well as American sports leagues like MLB, the NBA, the NFL and the NHL, which all face major changes to their operations amid the pandemic.

Germany has won wide praise for its widespread testing amid the pandemic, which some coaches said was the only way the league could resume. Not all fans were happy about the restart, which took place in empty stadiums, but the games were broadcast widely around the world.

Players were warned not to spit, shake hands or hug each other in celebrations after goals. Team staff and substitutes wore masks on the bench, and balls and seats were disinfected.

“The whole world is watching Germany to see how we do it,” Bayern Munich coach Hansi Flick said. “It can act as an example for all leagues.”

Churches throughout Greece opened their doors to the faithful after two months Sunday, while limiting the number of congregants and dispensing disinfectants. Turkey on Sunday allowed people over 65 to leave their homes for a second time — up to six hours — but kept them under a general lockdown.

In Asia, China’s commercial hub of Shanghai announced a June 2 restart of classes for younger students amid falling virus cases.

China’s airline regulator reported that flights had returned to 60% of pre-outbreak levels, exceeding 10,000 per day for the first time since Feb. 1. No new deaths have been reported in a month in the world’s second-largest economy, where the coronavirus was first detected late last year.

China reported just five new cases on Sunday, while South Korea recorded 13, raising hopes that a new outbreak linked to nightclubs in Seoul may be waning, even though 168 patients have been infected so far.

In the U.S., Former President Barack Obama again criticized U.S. leaders overseeing the coronavirus response, telling college graduates online that the pandemic shows many officials, as he put it, “aren’t even pretending to be in charge.” He mentioned no names but appears to be gearing up to campaign for his former vice president, Joe Biden, a Democratic who is running against President Donald Trump in the November election.

In New Orleans, a city famous for its cuisine, restaurants will have to limit the number of reservations as officials cautiously eased more restrictions on eateries, shops and outdoor venues. Louisiana is among a number of U.S. states trying to restart their economies without triggering a surge in new coronavirus infections.

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"We're going to trial run what it is to operate in the new normal," said Kirk Estopinal, one of the owners of Cane & Table in the city's famed French Quarter. "We're looking at a restaurant experience that is almost touch-less for our guests."

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said horse racing tracks and the Watkins Glen International auto track can reopen with "no crowds, no fans." He also said he could envision a return of Major League Baseball in New York, which has been the epicenter of the U.S. outbreak, also without spectators.

"If it works economically, that would be great," he said.

In California, more parks and hiking trails welcomed visitors in a second phase of reopening, and more retailers offered curbside pickups to customers.

In good news, Australian soprano Jane Ede will perform Monday for the first time since the pandemic forced the cancellation of live shows. Accompanied by several musicians, Ede will perform in a hotel courtyard for about 450 guests who have spent two weeks in a government-ordered quarantine after returning from overseas.

"It will be lovely just to have a really good sing again," Ede said.

— Gorondi reported from Budapest, Hungary and Chan reported from London. Associated Press journalists from around the world contributed to this report.

— Follow AP pandemic coverage at <http://apnews.com/VirusOutbreak> and <https://apnews.com/UnderstandingtheOutbreak>.

As mosques reopen in West Africa, COVID-19 fears grow

By KRISTA LARSON Associated Press

DAKAR, Senegal (AP) — It's been a Ramadan unlike any other for Abdourahmane Sall, far from the mosque during the Muslim holy month as coronavirus cases mount. With only a little over a week left, he decided joining thousands of others in tradition was worth the risk after authorities allowed prayers to resume.

Men formed orderly lines outside the Massalikul Jinaan mosque in Dakar as they waited to receive hand sanitizer before entering while uniformed police watched on nearby. Inside, some 2,000 men set their prayer mats 1.5 meters apart while 3,000 others spread out into the courtyard of West Africa's largest mosque.

"We are being careful but to be honest we cannot escape the virus," said Sall, a 58-year-old tailor in a flowing orange tunic and face mask made of thick fabric. "If we abide by the precautions that health officials tell us, then God will protect us."

The World Health Organization has warned that as many as 190,000 Africans could die from the coronavirus in the first year of the pandemic, and countless more from other diseases as the continent's limited medical resources are stretched even further.

But across West Africa, countries are finding it increasingly difficult to keep mosques closed during Ramadan even as confirmed virus cases mount and testing remains limited. The holy month is already a time of heightened spiritual devotion for Muslims, and many say prayer is now more important than ever.

Last week Niger and Senegal allowed mass prayers to resume, and Liberia is reopening its houses of worship beginning Sunday. In Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation, several states recently signaled the reopening of mosques even as the number of confirmed cases nationwide exceeded 5,000.

The warnings about resuming public gatherings are being made worldwide — but the stakes are particularly high in West Africa, where countries with fewer hospitals and ventilators have been prioritizing disease prevention as a public health strategy. As elsewhere, though, decisions here are starting to reflect an acknowledgement that the coronavirus crisis might last longer than some restrictions can be tolerated.

"We must now learn to live in the presence of the virus, adapting our individual and collective behavior to the evolution of the pandemic," Senegalese President Macky Sall said in an address announcing the easing of several social distancing measures.

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His speech came just hours after Senegal marked its highest daily number of newly confirmed cases since the crisis began here in early March, prompting concerns that the easing was premature. With a large diaspora population in Europe, Senegal was among the first African countries to report COVID-19 cases as citizens returned home, but it has maintained a relatively low death toll despite having never enforced a total lockdown as other nations have.

Those early successes have been attributed to the limits on public gatherings and on regional transport, as mosques, churches and schools were swiftly shut down. Critics fear Senegal now risks an explosion of new cases if people pray in large numbers and hold gatherings to mark the Eid al-Fitr holiday at the end of Ramadan.

"We have passed the 2,000 case mark," lamented 39-year-old teacher Daba Senghor. "The opening of the mosques will help the spread of the virus. I am really afraid for my country."

Even some religious leaders in Senegal are still urging their followers to stay home: The Cheikh-Oumar-Foutiyou mosque in Dakar remained closed even after the president's announcement because the COVID-19 threat "is not yet totally under control," according to a statement put out before anyone showed up for prayers Friday.

Where bans have remained in place in West Africa, the restrictions have been contentious.

Two prominent imams were suspended in northern Nigeria, while a Gambian court fined several Muslim clerics who led prayers despite the state of emergency in place.

And in Guinea, a group of young men recently used force to physically open the mosques' doors in Dubreka, a city located 50 kilometers (31 miles) north of Guinea's capital, Conakry.

"The gels, the soaps, the barriers, it's all a joke. It is God who cures this disease, that's why we must open the mosques," said Mouctar Camara, a 26-year-old student who was briefly detained after the incident.

Local leader Alseny Bangoura said they brought together the imams and tried to educate the young men about the risks of COVID-19. Guinea now has more than 2,500 cases even with limited testing.

"We were shocked that they had taken crowbars to open the mosques," he said. "We told them even Mecca is closed."

Babacar Dione in Dakar, Senegal; Haruna Umar in Maiduguri, Nigeria; Boubacar Diallo in Conakry, Guinea; and Dalatou Mamane in Niamey, Niger contributed.

Tropical Storm Arthur forms, 1st named storm of season

MIAMI (AP) — Tropical Storm Arthur formed off the coast of Florida on Saturday, making it the sixth straight year for a named storm to develop before the official June 1 start of the Atlantic hurricane season.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami issued a tropical storm warning for North Carolina's Outer Banks in its 5 a.m. Sunday advisory. At that time, the storm's center was located about 380 miles (610 kilometers) south-southwest of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. Arthur had top sustained winds of 40 mph (65 kph) and was moving to the north-northeast at 9 mph (14 kph), slowing slightly from 13 mph (20 kph).

Forecasts say Arthur will stay well offshore of Florida, Georgia and South Carolina on Sunday and then approach the North Carolina coast on Monday, where it will drop 1-3 inches of rain Sunday night and Monday.

The tropical storm warning was issued for parts of North Carolina's coast, from Surf City to Duck, including Pamlico and Albemarle Sounds.

Dangerous coastal surf conditions and rip currents are expected to spread northward from Florida to the mid-Atlantic states during the next few days.

While there may be a component of warming waters and climate change in other pre-June storms, Arthur is more of a subtropical storm system than a traditional named storm and its water is cooler than what's usually needed for storm formation, said Colorado State University hurricane researcher Phil Klotzbach.

A lot of these out-of-season storms are weak fleeting ones that meteorologists can see now because of satellites and better technology and would have been missed in earlier times, Klotzbach said. Like most earlier-than-usual storms, Arthur is likely to remain offshore, but could come relatively close to North

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Carolina's coast Monday, Klotzbach said.

Hurricane season officially starts June 1.

Local forecasters in the Bahamas said showers have lingered over the islands of Grand Bahama and Abaco, which are still struggling to recover after being hit by a Category 5 hurricane last year.

However, no flooding has been reported as the depression swirls just northwest of the archipelago and is expected to head into open ocean as it strengthens.

Officials said they were prepared to evacuate patients currently housed in tents in Grand Bahama after Hurricane Dorian damaged the island's hospital, but forecasters said the bulk of thunderstorms are located north and east of the depression and are not expected to affect the region.

Danica Coto in San Juan, Puerto Rico, contributed to this report

Iran stock market booms, but analysts fear a growing bubble

By **NASSER KARIMI** Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Even as U.S. sanctions, unemployment, inflation and low oil prices batter the Iranian economy, there seems to be at least one refuge for investors.

The Tehran Stock Exchange has seen gains of 225% in the last year, with sharp increases even as the country struggled with one of the first serious coronavirus outbreaks outside of China.

Encouraged by a government eager to privatize state-owned firms, average people now have access to the market and can trade shares, earning returns they'd never see in a savings account or a certificate of deposit.

But these rapid gains increasingly have analysts and experts worried about a growing stock market bubble, one that could be particularly dire and wipe away the earnings of the average people flooding into the market.

"We have witnessed a very strange incident," said Hossein Tousi, a member of Iran's Chamber of Commerce, speaking to 90eghtesadi.com, an Iranian economic review website. "As all markets have fallen, crude prices have fallen sharply, but in our market, the situation is upside-down. It is clear that it is a bubble."

Global stock markets have seen rapid swings amid the coronavirus pandemic. The crisis has sent U.S. unemployment surging to 14.7%, a level last seen during the Great Depression. Benchmark Brent crude prices, trading over \$70 a barrel a year ago, now hovers just over \$20 a barrel as demand collapses amid an oversupplied market.

But that hasn't slowed in the Tehran Stock Exchange. Founded in 1967, the market lists some 1,000 companies, including major firms like car manufacturer Iran Khodro. The bourse now has a market cap of more than \$200 billion. And its daily 5% gains haven't gone unnoticed by ordinary Iranians.

"I visited the related office for several days to receive my Sejam code to get able to trade," said Mohammad Reza Mansouri, who makes deliveries using his personal van. "The office was crowded with people like me."

The exchange lists a half-million active traders out of some 12 million people who registered to buy and sell stocks.

"An everyday 5% percent is very sexy," said Abdollah Rahmani, a retired bank employee who trades stocks. "What other market makes such a profit?"

Even President Hassan Rouhani, beleaguered since U.S. President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew America from his 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, has pointed to the market as a rare bright spot for the country. Iran's rial currency has fallen to 160,000 to 1 against the U.S. dollar, as opposed to the 35,000 to \$1 in 2015.

"As Iran's bourse has developed, (our enemies) become nervous and asked why the market is developing while markets in the world are in chaos," Rouhani said at a Cabinet meeting last month. This rise "is because of efforts by all companies, business people and fortunately offering shares of big companies to the stock market."

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The stock market rise in part takes root in how Iran's economy has changed in the decades since its 1979 Islamic Revolution. Immediately after taking power, Iran's Shiite theocracy seized large private industries, putting them in large trusts, or bonyads. The bloody 1980s war with Iraq saw Iran further nationalize its economy.

In the 1990s, Iran began a privatization effort. The stock market became one way to accomplish this, with former hard-line populist President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad giving out so-called "Justice Shares" in firms to the poor. Some 50 million Iranians now hold those shares.

But Ahmadinejad's efforts at privatization also saw firms sold off to the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard and its allies, further empowering the hard-line force answerable only to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Some firms that moved into private ownership have seen the businesses stripped and later collapse, leaving workers without pensions and fueling sporadic protests.

Lower returns in other investments also are sending people to the stock market.

"The rise in liquidity in Iran's financial market has made people expect high inflation in future," said Reza Khanaki, a Tehran-based financial analyst and manager. "Their bank deposits are yielding profits less than the inflation rate, and so they are shifting their investments to the stock market. This change is causing the rise in the index."

Squeezed by U.S. sanctions, Rouhani's government hopes to raise money through selling assets on the exchange. His government in January also allowed firms to recalculate their values, something critics warn masks the true worth of their production by instead inflating the price of land they own, for instance.

"The Iranian financial press as well as foreign economists have raised concerns that the meteoric rise of the market is detached from the underlying value of the assets traded there and that bubbles have formed," said Henry Rome, an analyst at the Eurasia Group. "The government's decision to focus privatization attention on the market has elevated these risks. A loss of confidence in the market could lead to a destabilizing crash."

Iranian political analyst Akbar Mokhtari warns it could be even worse, comparing the "Justice Shares" to Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's so-called "White Revolution" in the 1960s that broke up the control of feudal land barons and saw the poor rush into cities. Those poor became the backbone of the protests that later drove him from power.

"The other side of this very important economic development can be the impatience of shareholders about possible crashes that can cause instability in the government," he was quoted as saying by Rahbord, an Iranian political review channel on Telegram.

Already, the exchange has seen some stumbles. On Saturday, the market closed at 987,475 points, down some 60,300 points compared to last Monday, when it reached a record high of over 1 million points.

But some, like Mansouri, the stock-trading deliveryman, say those fears don't bother them.

"I do not care about the analysis as long as I profit day by day," he said.

Associated Press journalists Mehdi Fattahi in Tehran, Iran, and Jon Gambrell in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, contributed.

No contest: In corona era, Eurovision seeks to unite Europe

By MIKE CORDER Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — This was no contest.

Shut down by the coronavirus crisis, Europe's annual musical spectacular that pits countries against one another instead sought to unite them Saturday.

The Eurovision Song Contest whose final was scheduled for Saturday night was canceled amid restrictions aimed at reining in the global pandemic.

So rather than judging songs from 41 artists from Albania to the United Kingdom and having countries allocate points to elect a winner, organizers created a two-hour show called "Eurovision: Europe Shine A Light" that was broadcast in more than 40 countries.

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Underscoring the effects of the coronavirus, the show opened with a montage of videos of the deserted streets of European cities before cutting to an almost empty studio in the Netherlands.

It was a stark contrast to the frenetic scenes of flag-waving, screaming fans that form the backdrop for normal Eurovision finales.

Part of the Ahoy convention center in the port city of Rotterdam that was to have hosted the contest was transformed earlier this year into a makeshift care center to ease strain on regular hospitals treating COVID-19 patients.

At the end of the show, it was announced that Ahoy and Rotterdam will host the 2021 Eurovision Song Contest.

Saturday's show featured appearances by past favorites as well as the artists that were to have taken part in this year's competition jointly performing 1997's winning song, "Love Shine a Light," made famous by Katrina and the Waves.

From its humble beginnings in 1956, the contest has become a vector of camp and kitsch with almost 200 million viewers tuning in for the finale.

Johnny Logan of Ireland, who won twice as a singer and once as a writer, opened Saturday's show with a performance of his 1980 winning song, "What's Another Year," accompanied by Eurovision fans on screens like a Zoom meeting and the three Dutch presenters of the show. Organizers called it "a huge Eurovision choir."

Måns Zelmerlöw of Sweden sang his 2015 winning song, "Heroes," this year dedicated to health care workers battling the virus.

Snippets of the 41 songs that were to have taken part in this year's contest were played throughout the show with recorded messages from the performers.

The Mamas, Sweden's entry, urged viewers to stay safe and wash their hands.

One of Sweden's brightest musical stars, Bjorn Ulvaeus of ABBA, paid tribute to the contest that catapulted him and the band to global fame after their song "Waterloo" won in 1974.

"It still remains one of the most genuinely joyous events of the TV year — and it's so disarmingly European," he said in a video message. "It so allows you to escape and be happy — even forget about the coronavirus for a little while."

Follow AP pandemic coverage at <http://apnews.com/VirusOutbreak> and <https://apnews.com/UnderstandingtheOutbreak>

Fred Willard, the comedic improv-style actor, has died at 86

By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr. AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fred Willard, the comedic actor whose improv style kept him relevant for more than 50 years in films like "This Is Spinal Tap," "Best In Show" and "Anchorman," has died. He was 86.

Willard's daughter, Hope Mulbarger, said in a statement Saturday that her father died peacefully Friday night. The cause of his death has not been released.

"He kept moving, working and making us happy until the very end," Mulbarger said. "We loved him so very much! We will miss him forever."

Willard was rarely a leading man or even a major supporting character. He specialized in small, scene-stealing appearances.

As an arrogantly clueless sports announcer on "Best In Show," his character seemed to clearly know nothing about the dogs he's supposed to talk about and asks his partner on-air: "How much do you think I can bench?" He also played the character of Frank Dunphy, the goofy father of Phil in the ABC series "Modern Family."

Willard was a four-time Emmy nominee for his roles in "What's Hot, What's Not," "Everybody Loves Raymond," "Modern Family" and "The Bold and the Beautiful."

In Pixar's 2008 hit "WALL-E," he voiced the character of Shelby Forthright, the CEO of a ubiquitous big-

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box chain called Buy'n'Large.

"How lucky that we all got to enjoy Fred Willard's gifts," said actress Jamie Lee Curtis on Twitter. She is married to Christopher Guest who directed the mockumentary films, "Best in Show" and "Waiting for Guffman."

"Thanks for the deep belly laughs Mr. Willard," she continued.

Willard's death comes nearly two years after his wife Mary Willard died at the age of 71. She was a playwright and TV writer, earning four Emmy nominations.

After his wife died, Willard questioned whether he would work again. But the beloved actor was brought on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" to mock President Donald Trump's "space force." It was a reprise role of the 1978 NBC show "Space Force."

"There was no man sweeter or funnier," Kimmel said on Twitter. "We were so lucky to know Fred Willard and will miss his many visits."

In 2012, Willard had a brush with the law. The actor was arrested after being suspected of committing a lewd act at a Hollywood adult theater.

Willard was fired from a narrating job and had to complete a diversion program. He called the arrest "very embarrassing" but insisted he did nothing wrong.

"It's the last time I'm going to listen to my wife when she says, 'Why don't you go and see a movie?'" Willard said during an appearance on Jimmy Fallon's NBC show "Late Night."

Fallon was sympathetic toward Willard, calling him a "good man" and one of his favorites.

Willard was continually beloved in Hollywood.

"Fred Willard was the funniest person that I've ever worked with," Steve Carell said on Twitter. "He was a sweet, wonderful man."

AP Entertainment Writer Andrew Dalton contributed to this report.

The Latest: South Korea reports 13 new virus cases

By The Associated Press

The Latest on the coronavirus pandemic. The new coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms for most people. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness or death.

TOP OF THE HOUR:

- California resident who attended church on Mother's Day tests positive for virus
- Venezuela sees its largest one-day virus increase
- Atlanta zoo opens outdoor exhibits.
- Louisiana governor releases proposal to close budget gap.
- 8 more sailors aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt test positive again.
- Washington state death total reaches 1,000.

SEOUL, South Korea ___ South Korea has reported 13 new cases of the coronavirus over a 24-hour period, raising hopes that a new outbreak linked to nightclubs in Seoul may be waning.

The additional figures released Sunday by the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention brought the national tally to 11,050 with 262 deaths.

The agency says 9,888 of them have recovered and that 17,660 were under tests to determine whether they've contracted the virus.

After weeks of a slowdown of new cases, South Korea's daily jump marked an average of about 30 for several days, mostly associated with nightclubs in Seoul's Itaewon entertainment district. But the daily increase marked 19 on Saturday.

The disease control agency didn't immediately say how many of the 13 new cases were linked to nightlife spots in Itaewon.

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OROVILLE, Calif. -- A person who attended a religious service on Mother's Day has tested positive for the coronavirus, possibly exposing it to more than 180 members of a congregation.

The church in Butte County, north of Sacramento, chose to open its doors despite rules banning gatherings of any size, county public health officials said in a statement Friday.

"Moving too quickly through the reopening process can cause a major setback and could require us to revert back to more restrictive measures," the statement said.

Most people with the virus experience fever and cough for up to three weeks. Older adults and people with existing health problems can face severe illness, including pneumonia, and death. The vast majority recover.

SYDNEY — Opera singer Jane Ede will perform Monday for the first time since the coronavirus pandemic forced the cancellation of live shows, but in an unusual location.

Ede, Opera Australia's principal soprano, will join several other musicians for about 450 guests who have spent two weeks in government-ordered hotel quarantine after returning from overseas locations.

The audience, on their last night in quarantine, will be able to watch the courtyard performance from their balconies, or on their in-room televisions or devices.

"It's really just to sort of bring everyone together and it will be quite an uplifting concert to sort of have a moment of connection and celebration before they end their quarantine," Ede said.

For the soprano, who has starred in productions of *The Marriage of Figaro*, *La Boheme*, *Don Giovanni* and *Falstaff* among many others, it will be her first live performance since March.

"It will be lovely just to have a really good sing again," Ede said.

CARACAS, Venezuela -- Venezuela is reporting its biggest one-day increase in confirmed coronavirus cases since the pandemic hit the South American nation.

Vice President Delcy Rodriguez said Saturday that the 45 new cases bring Venezuela's total to 504 illnesses, with 10 resulting in death. Officials have reported a relatively low number of cases since the first were discovered in mid-March.

While Venezuela has reported relatively few cases so far, health experts say its hospitals are especially vulnerable to being overwhelmed. Venezuela is in a deep political and economic crisis that has left its health care system in a shamble.

President Nicolás Maduro ordered a nationwide lockdown shortly after the first cases, and he recently extended it until mid-June, hoping to contain the virus' spread.

Officials say that 35 of Saturday's cases involved people returning to Venezuela, including several on a flight from Peru.

BEIJING — China on Sunday reported five new cases of coronavirus, as the commercial hub of Shanghai announced the restart of classes for kindergarteners, first-, second- and third-graders from June 2.

Also, airlines say they have seen a revival of flights.

Of the new cases, two were imported and three were domestic infections in the northeastern province of Jilin that has seen a small spike in cases of unknown origin.

In Shanghai, students retain the option of continuing to follow classes online rather than facing virus testing and social distancing measures to be imposed at schools. As in Beijing and other cities, Shanghai has already re-started classes for middle and high school students preparing for exams.

No new deaths have been reported for the past month, but Jilin added one fatality retroactively, bringing China's total to 4,634 out of 82,947 cases reported since the outbreak was first detected in the central city of Wuhan late last year. Just 86 people remain hospitalized for treatment of COVID-19 while another 519 people are in supervised isolation for showing signs of the virus or having tested positive without displaying symptoms.

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China now has the capacity to perform 1.5 million nucleic acid tests per day, National Health Commission Guo Yanhong told reporters Saturday. The commission is placing a new emphasis on bio-safety, management of laboratories and training of personnel, Guo said.

Meanwhile, the number of domestic flights has returned to 60 percent of pre-outbreak levels, exceeding 10,000 per day for the first time since Feb. 1, the country's civil aviation regulator reported. The number of flight hit 10,262 on Friday, up from a low of 3,931 flights on Feb. 13, the Civil Aviation Administration of China said. No passenger numbers were given.

With the summer holidays approaching, numerous tourist sites have re-opened, including Beijing's storied Forbidden City palace complex and Shanghai's Disneyland resort, although with strict social distancing measures still in place.

ATLANTA — Outdoor exhibits along a one-way flow for visitors at Zoo Atlanta opened Saturday for the first time since mid-March, but indoor habitats, rides, playgrounds and other attractions remain closed because of COVID-19.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reports the zoo is limiting the number of visitors by requiring them to make reservations with specific times to enter the park.

Zoo employees had to answer a health survey and have their temperatures taken before returning to work.

Zoo Atlanta deputy director Hayley Murphy says disinfectant is used on the grounds every 60 to 90 minutes and every hour in restrooms.

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards' proposal to close a \$1 billion budget gap caused by the coronavirus pandemic would avoid deep cuts to health care and education programs by relying on hundreds of millions in federal relief aid and a portion of the state's "rainy day" fund.

Under the plan offered by Edwards, Louisiana would use nearly \$1.2 billion in federal assistance approved by Congress to respond to the pandemic and about \$90 million from the rainy day fund to fill most of the gaps in the state's \$30 billion-plus budget.

The recommendations would require only modest reductions in the financial year that begins July 1. The free college tuition program, K-12 schools and the social services department would be spared cuts entirely, though college campuses and health programs would take hits.

The Edwards administration submitted its reworked budget proposal to legislative leaders Friday night.

WASHINGTON — Eight more sailors aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt have tested positive a second time for the new coronavirus, raising to 13 the number who appear to have become infected again while serving aboard the sidelined aircraft carrier.

All the sailors had previously tested positive and had gone through at least two weeks of isolation. Before they were allowed to go back to the ship, all had to test negative twice in a row, with the tests separated by at least a day or two.

On Saturday, a Navy official confirmed eight additional sailors had tested positive again. A day earlier the Navy had said in a statement that five had tested positive a second time. The Navy official was not authorized to speak publicly and requested anonymity.

SANTA FE, N.M. — The loosening of some restrictions imposed on nonessential businesses by New Mexico's governor to slow the coronavirus outbreak's spread took effect Saturday, along with a new edict that people wear masks in public under most circumstances.

State officials reported six additional deaths from the outbreak and 185 additional COVID-19 cases.

The loosening of restrictions applied to most of the state but not in the northwest region, where much of the outbreak is centered. Retailers and many services, along with houses of worship, can reopen at limited capacity.

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham ordered that face masks be worn in public, except with exceptions that

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include eating, drinking and exercising.

SEATTLE — The number of deaths in Washington state because of the new coronavirus has reached 1,000.

The Washington State Department of Health on Saturday added eight more deaths and listed the total number of confirmed cases at 18,288.

The first confirmed case of COVID-19 in the U.S. was in the state on Jan. 20 when a man tested positive. He had been traveling in Wuhan, China, where the outbreak appears to have originated and had returned to the Seattle area five days earlier.

The Seattle area also saw the nation's first deadly coronavirus cluster at a nursing home. The Life Care Center of Kirkland was linked to more than 40 deaths.

GREENVILLE, N.C. — A federal judge on Saturday blocked the enforcement of restrictions that North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper ordered affecting indoor religious services during the coronavirus pandemic.

The order from Judge James C. Dever III came days after two Baptist churches, a minister and a Christian revival group filed a federal lawsuit seeking to immediately block enforcement of rules within the Democratic governor's executive orders regarding religious services. Dever agreed with the plaintiffs, who argued that the limits violate their right to worship freely and treat churches differently from retailers and other secular activities.

Cooper's latest order still largely prevented most faith organizations from holding indoor services attended by more than 10 people. His office had said the newest order stating permitted services may "take place outdoors unless impossible" carries only a narrow exception, such as when religious activities dictate they occur indoors with more people.

Cooper's spokesman, Ford Porter, said the governor's office disagrees with the decision but will not appeal.

SAN FRANCISCO -- More parks and hiking trails welcomed visitors again in California, and one city declared itself a "sanctuary" from the state's stay-at-home order as diverse regions carved their own path toward reopening.

Officials in Atwater, a city of 30,000 in central California, unanimously agreed not to enforce a nearly 2-month-old order intended to slow the spread of the new coronavirus. That means local authorities won't interfere with any business or church that decides to reopen ahead of state restrictions.

The declaration was a symbolic gesture of defiance against Gov. Gavin Newsom's order, and the city's mayor cautioned that businesses were taking their own risks by reopening.

California is moving through the second phase of relaxing its restrictions. Businesses deemed lower risk have been gradually allowed to reopen, with retailers offering curbside pickup.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — The results of more than 35,000 COVID-19 tests ordered by a Florida-based health care system and performed by a third-party lab are unreliable, the company said Saturday.

According to AdventHealth, a faith-based health care system, the situation has created "unacceptable delays." AdventHealth didn't name the third-party lab but said it had terminated its contract with the lab.

The tests were a mixture of positive and negative results, and some had been at the lab for a while. About 25,000 of the unreliable tests were in the central Florida area.

AdventHealth president and CEO Terry Shaw said the company will notify patients who are impacted.

AdventHealth has 49 hospitals in nine states. Company spokeswoman Melanie Lawhorn said two of those states are joint venture systems and were not affected by the unreliable testing.

CAIRO — Sudan's Health Ministry has reported the country's highest one-day tally of coronavirus infections, with 325 new COVID-19 patients and six deaths.

Saturday's figures have taken the country's tally to 2,289 confirmed cases, including 97 fatalities, the ministry said. A total of 222 were discharged after recovering.

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Most of the country's COVID-19 patients were in the capital, Khartoum where authorities imposed round-the-clock curfew in April to stem the spread of the virus.

Sudan's health care system has been weakened by decades of war and sanctions. The country is still reeling from last year's uprising that toppled longtime ruler Omar al-Bashir.

ISTANBUL — Turkey's health ministry says 41 more people have died from COVID-19 in the past 24 hours, bringing the death toll to 4,096.

The death rate is the lowest registered since the end of March.

Minister Fahrettin Koca also tweeted Saturday that 1,610 new infections were confirmed, which brings the total number of confirmed cases 148,067.

Fifteen provinces, including Istanbul, are on a four-day lockdown. The country has instituted partial lockdowns to combat the novel coronavirus. People under 20 and above 65 have been stuck at home for weeks, though they are now allowed to leave for a few hours on allotted days.

Other easing measures have gone into effect, including the opening of malls, barbershops and hair salons.

The number of provinces under lockdown on weekends and national holidays has dropped from 31 to 15.

ROME — Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte acknowledged on Saturday that the reopening of the Italian economy brings a risk of new outbreaks of the coronavirus but said "we must accept it."

Conte told reporters during a press conference that the nationwide lockdown that began in early March had brought "the expected results," putting the country in a position to expand economic activity in the second phase of reopening.

Stores, bars, cafes, restaurants, hairdressers and museums are among the business and cultural activities that can resume starting Monday. Gyms and swimming pools can reopen a week after. Travel between regions and into Italy from abroad will be permitted starting June 3.

Conte said the country must accept the risks and open before the availability of a vaccine. But an extensive monitoring system is in place and the government would intervene to close areas if there are new outbreaks.

ALBANY, N.Y. — Several dozen protesters gathered in front of the New York state Capitol on Saturday holding American flags and signs demanding that businesses reopen.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo began to allow large swaths of northern and central New York to begin reopening on Friday, permitting certain businesses such as construction to open their doors under safety guidelines. But residents in downstate areas hard-hit by cases of COVID-19 remain under tight restrictions as their communities try to lower infection rates and amass enough testing and tracing to reopen in coming weeks.

New York's ban on all non-essential gatherings remains in effect.

NEW ORLEANS — New Orleans began taking its first steps Saturday toward loosening two months of restrictions on businesses, restaurants and houses of worship.

The city is restricting buildings to 25% of capacity and requiring restaurants, nail salons and other businesses to only take customers by reservation. Malls and retail stores can reopen, but casinos, video poker, live entertainment and bars are still closed.

Officials are still urging people to stay home as much as possible and requiring people to wear masks in public unless exercising.

The coronavirus struck New Orleans so quickly in March there were worries the pandemic would overwhelm the state health system. Hospitalizations have been going down for nearly a month, but officials warned a spike in cases or deaths could lead to putting restrictions back in place.

CINCINNATI — Just days after announcing it would end hazard "hero" pay to front-line workers, Kroger says it will give them extra "thank you" bonuses.

That's according to the Cincinnati Enquirer. The move comes after an outcry from the grocery store's

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union, which said workers are still risking their lives by coming to work.

The bonus is \$400 for full-time workers and \$200 for part-time workers, to be paid in two installments, Kroger announced. Hazard pay was a \$2-per-hour supplement.

The Cincinnati-based grocer estimates the new bonus will provide \$130 million to its workers.

United Food and Commercial Workers International estimates that nationwide at least 65 grocery workers have died at Kroger and other retailers after contracting the coronavirus.

RIO DE JANEIRO — A small plane carrying a doctor sick with COVID-19 crashed in the Brazilian state of Ceara on Friday night, killing all four people on the aircraft, according to online news site G1, citing the state's firefighters.

The sick doctor was being transferred to an intensive care unit in his home state of Piaui. Two medical staffers treating him, as well as the pilot, were also on the plane.

The Ceara Fire Department and Sao Bernardo municipality, where the plane crashed, did not immediately respond to requests for information.

MILAN — Italy recorded the lowest number of deaths in a 24-hour period since early in its coronavirus lockdown at just 153.

That brings the total in the epidemic to 31,763, the civil protection agency reported on Saturday. The last time the death count was that low was March 9, the day after the nationwide lockdown was announced.

The number of confirmed new infections rose by 875 for a total of 224,760, while the number of currently infected dropped to just over 70,000.

Follow AP news coverage of the coronavirus pandemic at <https://apnews.com/VirusOutbreak> and <https://apnews.com/UnderstandingtheOutbreak>.

Inside the rush to secure Rio de Janeiro's few COVID-19 beds

By YESICA FISCH and DIANE JEANTET Associate Press

DUQUE DE CAXIAS, Brazil (AP) — Specialists stood over intubated patients in the intensive care unit, reviewing charts and jotting down notes. They conversed in low voices, barely audible amid the incessant beeps from patients' monitors.

Two empty beds were in sight Saturday morning, but doctors at the Sao Jose hospital in a working class city just north of Rio de Janeiro said they would be occupied by afternoon. It likely will be only a matter of days, or perhaps hours, until the rest are full, too, as the coronavirus spreads.

"People are coming from all over," José Carlos de Oliveira, health secretary for the city of Duque de Caxias, told The Associated Press in the hospital's parking lot.

"This disease is not kidding around. Whoever thinks it's a joke is going to lose their life," said de Oliveira, a physician who recently recovered from the virus himself.

Four ambulances soon pulled up simultaneously at the hospital. A fifth had arrived 20 minutes earlier. All transported COVID-19 patients and were making a dash for the facility's precious few remaining beds.

Sao Jose is accepting overflow from other hospitals whose facilities are already maxed out in treating COVID-19 cases.

In Rio de Janeiro state, which has the second highest number of deaths in Brazil, most hospitals accepting COVID-19 patients have run out of intensive care beds. According to the state's health secretary, as of Thursday, 369 people thought to have the virus were waiting to be transferred to an ICU.

The Sao Jose facility was just inaugurated, on May 4, and already 90% of its 128 beds are occupied. Less than a week after the World Health Organization declared a pandemic, the city of Duque de Caxias bought a private hospital and began racing to transform it into an intensive care facility exclusively for treatment of COVID-19 patients.

More than 15,000 Brazilians have died from the disease so far, though many experts say the figure is

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probably significantly higher, with cases missed because of insufficient testing. In recent days, more than 800 people have been added to the death toll every 24 hours and the crisis' peak has yet to hit Latin America's largest nation, the experts say.

President Jair Bolsonaro has consistently downplayed the pandemic, calling the coronavirus a "little flu" and fiercely criticizing state governors and mayors who have closed businesses, introduced lockdowns and recommended stay-at-home measures. Bolsonaro has instead advocated for everyone who doesn't belong to "at-risk" groups to return to work so the economy doesn't collapse.

For most people, the new coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms including fever and cough. The risk of death is greater for the elderly and people with other health problems such as diabetes or hypertension.

Associated Press video journalist Yesica Fisch reported this story in Duque de Caxias and AP writer Diane Jeantet reported from Rio de Janeiro.

Hundreds demand justice for Arbery at Georgia rally

By AARON MORRISON Associated Press

BRUNSWICK, Ga. (AP) — Justice for Ahmaud Arbery, a black man killed during a pursuit by a white man and his son in Georgia, isn't just prison time for his killers — it's changes in a local justice system that never charged them with a crime, rallygoers said Saturday.

Hundreds of people came to the Glynn County courthouse demanding accountability for a case in which charges weren't filed until state officials stepped in after a leaked video sparked national outrage.

Arbery, 25, was killed Feb. 23 just outside the port city of Brunswick. Gregory McMichael, 64, told police he and his son, Travis McMichael, 34, pursued Arbery because they believed he was responsible for recent break-ins in the neighborhood.

The McMichaels weren't arrested and charged with murder until May 7, after a video of the shooting was publicly released to a local radio station and less than 48 hours after state agents took over the case.

"Justice for Ahmaud is more than just the arrests of his killers," said John Perry, president of the Brunswick NAACP chapter at the Saturday rally. "Justice is saying that we've got to clean up the house of Glynn County."

Speakers at the rally demanded the resignation of Jackie Johnson, the district attorney for the Brunswick Judicial Circuit who recused herself from the investigation, and George Barnhill, the Waycross circuit district attorney who took over the case and declined to press charges. Gregory McMichael was an investigator in Johnson's office before retiring last May. Both Johnson and Barnhill have denied wrongdoing.

Organizers of the rally said around 250 vehicles drove more than four hours from Atlanta for the rally, bringing historically black fraternities and sororities, civil rights organizations and black-led gun rights groups, who said if Arbery had armed himself, he might be alive today.

Attorney Mawuli Davis came from his suburban Atlanta home because he wanted to make it clear how many people are not satisfied with how the Arbery case has been handled.

"Georgians are just not safe when you allow an injustice like this to take place," said Davis, who is an organizer with the Black Man Lab in Decatur, Georgia.

The case has brought reminders of several other black people killed in confrontations with white police officers or others and the names of Trayvon Martin, Sandra Bland and others were mentioned during the rally.

"We're going to keep on marching. We're going to stand in solidarity. We're going to keep on protesting. We're going to keep on raising our voices because Ahmaud Arbery will get justice," said Triana Arnold James, president of the Georgia chapter of the National Organization for Women.

Organizers asked the crowd to wear masks and stay a safe distance apart because of COVID-19. There were plenty of masks — some with Arbery's picture — but many in the crowd were shoulder to shoulder

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for the rally and marched with arms locked after it was over.

Arbery family attorneys have said he's the person recorded inside a house under construction right before he was killed. Gregory McMichael told police he suspected Arbery was responsible for recent break-ins and he also said Arbery attacked his son before he was shot.

Arbery's mother has said she believes her son was merely out jogging. The video of the confrontation shows the McMichaels' truck in front of Arbery as he runs toward it.

The attorney of the owner of the house under construction said she thinks Arbery was getting water. A man in similar clothes appeared in videos from the home at least twice, lawyer J. Elizabeth Graddy said.

The homeowner, Larry English, lives hours away and set up motion-activated security cameras that send him a text when they start filming.

English called the Glynn County Police after one notification Dec. 17. No one was arrested, but a detective sent English a text message three days later giving him Gregory McMichael's phone number and identifying him as a retired law enforcement officer, adding "he said please call him day or night when you get action on your camera," according to the Dec. 20 text shared by Graddy.

English never read the text until Graddy's firm started reviewing his phone days ago.

"He never called Gregory McMichael. He never took him up on that offer," Graddy said.

The text message was first reported by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Arbery's family ended Saturday's rally thanking the crowd for their support and saying "we are all running for Ahmaud."

The crowd then marched away from the courthouse, taking a knee in silence and blocking traffic for more than 60 seconds to symbolize the days it took for arrests in the case.

Then they chanted: "When black lives are under attack, what do we do? Stand up, fight back."

Jeffrey Collins in Columbia, South Carolina, contributed to this report. Morrison is a member of The Associated Press' Race and Ethnicity team. Follow him on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/aaronlmorrison>.

Obama criticizes virus response in online graduation speech

By JILL COLVIN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former President Barack Obama on Saturday criticized U.S. leaders overseeing the nation's response to the coronavirus, telling college graduates in an online commencement address that the pandemic shows many officials "aren't even pretending to be in charge."

Obama spoke on "Show Me Your Walk, HBCU Edition," a two-hour event for students graduating from historically black colleges and universities broadcast on YouTube, Facebook and Twitter. His remarks were unexpectedly political, given the venue, and touched on current events beyond the virus and its social and economic impacts.

"More than anything, this pandemic has fully, finally torn back the curtain on the idea that so many of the folks in charge know what they're doing," Obama said. "A lot them aren't even pretending to be in charge."

Later Saturday, during a second televised commencement address for high school seniors, Obama panned "so-called grown-ups, including some with fancy titles and important jobs" who do "what feels good, what's convenient, what's easy."

"Which is why things are so screwed up," he said.

Obama did not name President Donald Trump or any other federal or state officials in either of his appearances. But earlier this month, he harshly criticized Trump's handling of the pandemic as an "absolute chaotic disaster" in a call with 3,000 members of his administrations obtained by Yahoo News.

The commencement remarks were the latest sign that Obama intends to play an increasingly active role in the coming election. He has generally kept a low profile in the years since he left office, even as Trump has disparaged him. Obama told supporters on the call that he would be "spending as much time as necessary and campaigning as hard as I can" for Joe Biden, who served as his vice president.

As he congratulated the college graduates Saturday and commiserated over the enormous challenges

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they face given the devastation and economic turmoil the virus has wrought, the former president noted the February shooting death of Ahmaud Arbery, 25, who was killed while jogging on a residential street in Georgia.

"Let's be honest: A disease like this just spotlights the underlying inequalities and extra burdens that black communities have historically had to deal with in this country," Obama said. "We see it in the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on our communities, just as we see it when a black man goes for a jog and some folks feel like they can stop and question and shoot him if he doesn't submit to their questioning."

"Injustice like this isn't new," Obama went on to say. "What is new is that so much of your generation has woken up to the fact that the status quo needs fixing, that the old ways of doing things don't work." In the face of a void in leadership, he said, it would be up to the graduates to shape the future.

"If the world's going to get better, it's going to be up to you," he said.

It is a perilous time for the nation's historically black colleges and universities, which have long struggled with less funding and smaller endowments than their predominantly white peers and are now dealing with the financial challenges of the coronavirus. Even at the better-endowed HBCUs, officials are bracing for a tough few years.

Obama's message to high school students came at the end of an hourlong television special featuring celebrities, including LeBron James, Yara Shahidi and Ben Platt, and was less sharp-edged than his speech to the college graduates. He urged the young graduates to be unafraid despite the current challenges facing the nation and to strive to be part of a diverse community.

"Leave behind all the old ways of thinking that divide us — sexism, racial prejudice, status, greed — and set the world on a different path," Obama said.

Trump's emergency powers worry some senators, legal experts

By DEB RIECHMANN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The day he declared the COVID-19 pandemic a national emergency, President Donald Trump made a cryptic offhand remark.

"I have the right to do a lot of things that people don't even know about," he said at the White House.

Trump wasn't just crowing. Dozens of statutory authorities become available to any president when national emergencies are declared. They are rarely used, but Trump last month stunned legal experts and others when he claimed — mistakenly — that he has "total" authority over governors in easing COVID-19 guidelines.

That prompted 10 senators to look into how sweeping Trump believes his emergency powers are.

They have asked to see this administration's Presidential Emergency Action Documents, or PEADs. The little-known, classified documents are essentially planning papers.

The documents don't give a president authority beyond what's in the Constitution. But they outline what powers a president believes that the Constitution gives him to deal with national emergencies. The senators think the documents would provide them a window into how this White House interprets presidential emergency powers.

"Somebody needs to look at these things," Sen. Angus King, I-Maine, said in a telephone interview. "This is a case where the president can declare an emergency and then say, 'Because there's an emergency, I can do this, this and this.'"

King, seven Democrats and one Republican sent a letter late last month to acting national intelligence director Richard Grenell asking to be briefed on any existing PEADs. Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., wrote a similar letter to Attorney General William Barr and White House counsel Pat Cipollone.

"The concern is that there could be actions taken that would violate individual rights under the Constitution," such as limiting due process, unreasonable search and seizure and holding individuals without cause, King said.

"I'm merely speculating. It may be that we get these documents and there's nothing untoward in their checks and balances and everything is above board and reasonable."

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Joshua Geltzer, visiting professor of law at Georgetown University, said there is a push to take a look at these documents because there is rising distrust for the Trump administration's legal interpretations in a way he hasn't seen in his lifetime.

The most publicized example was Trump's decision last year to declare the security situation along the U.S.-Mexico border a national emergency. That decision allowed him to take up to \$3.6 billion from military construction projects to finance wall construction beyond the miles that lawmakers had been willing to fund. Trump's move skirted the authority of Congress, which by law has the power to spend money in the nation's wallet.

"I worry about other things he might call an emergency," Geltzer said. "I think around the election itself in November — that's where there seems to be a lot of potential for mischief with this president."

The lawmakers made their request just days after Trump made his startling claim on April 13 that he had the authority to force states to reopen for business amid the pandemic.

"When somebody's the president of the United States, the authority is total," Trump said, causing a backlash from some governors and legal experts. Trump later tweeted that while some people say it's the governors, not the president's decision, "Let it be fully understood that this is incorrect."

Trump later backtracked on his claim of "total" authority and agreed that states have the upper hand in deciding when to end their lockdowns. But it was just the latest from a president who has been stretching existing statutory authorities "to, if not beyond, their breaking point," said Stephen Vladeck, a law professor at the University of Texas.

Questions about Trump's PEADs went unanswered by the Justice Department, National Security Council and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

Elizabeth Goitein, co-director of a national security program at the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law, said PEADs have not been subject to congressional oversight for decades. She estimates that there are 50 to 60 of these documents, which include draft proclamations, executive orders and proposed legislation that could be swiftly introduced to "assert broad presidential authority" in national emergencies.

She said the Eisenhower administration had PEADs outlining how it might respond to a possible Soviet nuclear attack. According to the Brennan Center, PEADs issued up through the 1970s included detention of U.S. citizens suspected of being subversives, warrantless searches and seizures and the imposition of martial law.

"A Department of Justice memorandum from the Lyndon B. Johnson administration discusses a presidential emergency action document that would impose censorship on news sent abroad," Goitein wrote in an op-ed with lawyer Andrew Boyle published last month in *The New York Times*.

"The memo notes that while no 'express statutory authority' exists for such a measure, 'it can be argued that these actions would be legal in the aftermath of a devastating nuclear attack based on the president's constitutional powers to preserve the national security.'"

Goitein said she especially worries about any orders having to do with military deployment, including martial law.

"You can imagine a situation where he (Trump) engineers a crisis that leads to domestic violence, which then becomes a pretext for martial law," said Goitein, who insists she's simply playing out worst-case scenarios.

She said she wonders if there is a PEAD outlining steps the president could take to respond to a serious cyberattack. Would the president aggressively interpret telecommunications law and flip an internet kill switch, or restrain domestic internet traffic? she asks.

Bobby Chesney, associate dean at the University of Texas School of Law, said some fears might be exaggerated because while Trump makes off-the-cuff assertions of authority far beyond past presidents, he doesn't necessarily follow up with action.

Says Chesney: "His actions don't match the rhetoric always — or even often."

This story has been corrected by deleting Goitein quote beginning, "What I worry about ..." because of a misunderstanding over its context.

Restaurants and racing can resume, but new rules abound

By REBECCA SANTANA and MARINA VILLENEUVE Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Restaurants can reopen in New Orleans, a city famous for its cuisine, but they must take reservations and limit the number of diners. Auto and horse racing tracks in New York can resume competitions but without spectators.

Officials cautiously eased more restrictions Saturday on eateries, shops and outdoor venues as they tried to restart economies without triggering a surge in new coronavirus infections. But the reopenings came with new rules designed to curb the spread of the disease — another indication that the familiar ways of dining out or watching sporting events are gone for now.

Public health experts warn that the pandemic, which has killed more than 88,000 people in the U.S. and 300,000 worldwide, could pick up again if precautions are not taken or officials move too quickly to get people back to work.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said horse racing tracks and the Watkins Glen International auto track can reopen with "no crowds, no fans." He also said he could envision a return of Major League Baseball in New York, the epicenter of the U.S. outbreak, also without spectators.

"If it works economically, that would be great," he said.

The governor has let large parts of upstate New York start reopening by allowing certain businesses such as construction to operate under safety guidelines. But most residents — particularly in hard-hit areas closer to New York City — remain under tight restrictions as communities try to reduce infection rates and amass enough testing and tracing to reopen in coming weeks or months.

Cuomo also announced that residents of suburban Westchester and Suffolk counties, two of the nation's early hot spots, will again be eligible for elective surgeries and ambulatory care. New York's ban on all nonessential gatherings is still in effect.

New Orleans took its first steps to loosen restrictions that have been in place for two months, one day after the rest of Louisiana did the same.

The city is restricting buildings to 25% of capacity, like the rest of the state, but also requires restaurants, nail salons and other businesses to take customers by reservation. The city has capped the number of people allowed in houses of worship and movie theaters at fewer than 100.

Malls and retail stores can reopen, but casinos, video poker, live entertainment and bars are still closed.

Some restaurateurs decided to try reopening. Others planned to stick to takeout or stay closed all together.

Kirk Estopinal, one of the owners of Cane & Table in the French Quarter, planned to open Saturday. Guests are supposed to order their food when they make a reservation online and are asked to wear masks. Cleaning will be stepped up, and bathrooms cleaned after every use.

"We're going to trial run what it is to operate in the new normal," he said. "We're looking at a restaurant experience that is almost touch-less for our guests."

Jennifer Weishaupt, chief executive of the Ruby Slipper Cafe, said the company reopened in New Orleans, Metairie and Baton Rouge. Business was not as busy as anticipated, possibly because of bad weather.

"We had some folks standing in line before we opened at 8 a.m., which was really great," Weishaupt said.

"We're cautiously optimistic," she added. "We've had a steady stream of customers, and we've seen a lot of regulars and it's been nice to reconnect with them."

In California, more parks and hiking trails welcomed visitors again in a second phase of reopening in which businesses deemed lower risk are allowed to operate with retailers offering curbside pickup.

Similar steps took place around the world as infections declined in many cities and countries.

Australians went out to eat for the first time in weeks Saturday, but the reopening of restaurants, pubs and cafes came with distancing and capacity rules and a warning: Don't overdo it.

"The message is, yes, appreciate all the efforts, appreciate the opportunity to release some of those

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measures, but let's not have a party, let's not go to town," said Tony Bartone, president of the Australian Medical Association.

Germany's top soccer league resumed season play with what fans call "ghost games," with no spectators in the stands and players warned to keep their emotions in check and desist from spitting, handshakes and hugging.

In New Zealand, even Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and her fiancé, Clarke Gayford, were initially turned away for brunch by a restaurant in the capital, Wellington, because it was too full under coronavirus guidelines.

There was a happy ending: A spot freed up, and staff chased down the street to call the couple back.

Italy's tourism industry is focused firmly on June 3, when both regional and international borders re-open, allowing the first prospect of tourists since Europe's first lockdown went into place in early March. In tourist-reliant Venice, occupancy of the city's 50,000 hotel beds has hovered around zero ever since.

"Venice lives on tourism, period," said Claudio Scarpa, head of the city's hotel association. "All the economic structures that operate in the city, including the port, are tied to tourism."

France was also cautious, calling for a coordinated European effort on opening. At the same time, officials could make decisions "that protect the French" regarding countries "where the virus is still active," Interior Minister Christophe Castaner said Saturday.

As hundreds of beaches reopened, Castaner warned that the government would not hesitate to close them again if rules are not respected.

Local authorities were charged with deciding which beaches would reopen as part of a staggered plan to end a strict two-month lockdown that began March 17. Under the rules, beachgoers can take a dip but may not sunbathe or picnic. Social distancing must be maintained, and groups must be limited to 10 people.

"The virus is still there," Castaner said. "It moves around with our movements."

In Milan, Italy's financial capital, 3,400 restaurants planned to open Monday, along with 4,800 bars, 2,900 hairdressers, 2,200 clothing stores and 700 shoe shops.

"After a long period at home, we will all want to go out and have a good coffee in a bar, eat a pizza in a pizzeria, buy a pair of jeans or go to the hairdressers," Milan Mayor Giuseppe Sala said Saturday in a Facebook video.

Many restaurant owners complained that the rules for reopening were unclear and that the entire sector — including suppliers and food producers — was suffering. Dozens protested outside Milan's main train station and called for an abolition of taxes and more help.

In England, officials and tourism boards discouraged people from visiting popular spots like beaches or parks on the first weekend since the lockdown was eased. Stricter rules remain in place in other parts of the U.K., and English daytrippers have been warned against crossing into Scotland or Wales.

Spain's prime minister, Pedro Sánchez, said he would ask Parliament for what he hopes will be the last extension of a state of emergency to battle the pandemic, until around late June.

The country is slowly scaling back confinement measures, but tourism, which accounts for 12% of GDP, looks set to lose its critical summer season.

"Spain needs tourism," Sánchez said. "But tourism needs security. It needs health guarantees."

Villeneuve reported from Albany, New York. Associated Press journalists from around the world contributed to this story.

Follow AP pandemic coverage at <http://apnews.com/VirusOutbreak> and <https://apnews.com/Understand-ingtheOutbreak>.

Democrats investigating Trump firing of State Dept. watchdog

By **MATTHEW LEE AP Diplomatic Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats demanded on Saturday that the White House hand over all records related to President Donald Trump's latest firing of a federal watchdog, this time at the State Department, and they suggested Secretary of State Mike Pompeo was responsible, in what "may be an illegal act of retaliation."

"We unalterably oppose the politically-motivated firing of inspectors general and the President's gutting of these critical positions," the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee wrote in a letter to the administration announcing their investigation.

Trump announced late Friday that he was firing the inspector general, Steve Linick, an Obama administration appointee whose office was critical of what it saw as political bias in the State Department's management. The ouster was one more move by the president against independent executive branch watchdogs who have found fault with his administration.

New York Rep. Eliot Engel and New Jersey Sen. Bob Menendez sent letters to the White House, the State Department and the inspector general's office asking that administration officials preserve all records related to Linick's dismissal and provide them to the committees by this coming Friday. They promised to "look deeply into this matter" and said they would seek to interview White House officials. They said they "trust that the White House will cooperate fully with our investigation."

A senior department official said Trump removed Linick from his job on Friday but gave no reason for the action. In a letter to Congress, Trump said Linick, who had held the job since 2013, no longer had his full confidence and that his removal would take effect in 30 days. Trump did not mention Linick by name in his letter.

Democrats soon cried foul. Engel suggested Linick was fired in part in retaliation for opening an unspecified investigation into Pompeo.

Engel offered no details. Two congressional aides said it involved allegations that Pompeo may have improperly treated staff. Linick's office has issued several reports critical of the department's handling of personnel matters during the Trump administration, including accusing some political appointees of retaliating against career officials.

Engel and Menendez said it was "their understanding" that Pompeo recommended that Linick be fired because the watchdog was investigating "wrongdoing" by the Cabinet officer. They gave no specifics, but said such a move "may be an illegal act of retaliation."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said Linick was "punished for honorably performing his duty to protect the Constitution and our national security." She said Trump "must cease his pattern of reprisal and retaliation against the public servants who are working to keep Americans safe, particularly during this time of global emergency."

Linick, whose office also took issue with former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server while she served as America's top diplomat, played a minor role in the Ukraine impeachment investigation into Trump.

In October, Linick turned over documents to House investigators that he had received from State Department Counselor T. Ulrich Brechbuhl, a close Pompeo associate, which contained information from debunked conspiracy theories about Ukraine's role in the 2016 election.

In the Senate, Republican Chuck Grassley of Iowa on Saturday defended the role of the inspector general in the federal government and noted that Congress requires written reasons to justify removal. "A general lack of confidence simply is not sufficient detail to satisfy Congress," Grassley said in a statement that did not mention Trump or Pompeo.

Sen. Jack Reed, a Rhode Island Democrat, cited both the president and a possible investigation of the secretary of state in his broadside against the firing. "I hope Republicans will join us in standing up for taxpayers and getting to the bottom of this. There must be a bipartisan commitment to upholding our system of checks and balances and ensuring accountability and oversight at the highest levels," Reed said

in a statement.

Linick will be replaced by Stephen Akard, a former career foreign service officer who has close ties to Vice President Mike Pence, said the official, who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. Akard currently runs the department's Office of Foreign Missions. He had been nominated to be the director general of the foreign service but withdrew after objections he wasn't experienced enough.

The lawmakers' request for information from the White House includes any evaluations of Linick's job performance and any assessment of Akard's job qualifications.

Linick, a former assistant U.S. attorney in California and Virginia, had overseen inspector general reports that were highly critical of the department's management policies during the Trump administration. His office had criticized several Trump appointees for their treatment of career staff for apparently being insufficiently supportive of Trump and his policies.

Under Linick, the State Department's inspector general office was also critical of former Secretary of State Rex Tillerson's hiring freeze and attempts to streamline the agency by slashing its funding and personnel.

Trump has been taking aim lately at inspectors general.

In April, he fired Michael Atkinson, the inspector general for the intelligence community, for his role in the whistleblower complaint that led to Trump's impeachment.

Then Trump removed Glenn Fine as acting inspector general at the Defense Department. The move stripped him of his post as chairman of the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee, which is among those overseeing the vast economic relief law pass in response to the coronavirus.

During a White House briefing on COVID-19, Trump questioned the independence of an inspector general of the Department of Health and Human Services over a report that said there was a shortage of supplies and testing at hospitals. Trump has since moved to replace the HHS official, Christi A. Grimm. She is a career person who has held the position in an acting capacity, but now Trump has nominated a permanent replacement.

Associated Press writer Deb Riechmann contributed to this report.

Bosnians protest Mass in Sarajevo for Nazi-allied soldiers

By SABINA NIKSIC Associated Press

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Thousands of Bosnians, many wearing masks, demonstrated Saturday against a Mass in Sarajevo for Croatia's Nazi-allied soldiers and civilians killed by partisan forces at the end of World War II.

The Mass in Sarajevo was a replacement for a controversial annual gathering usually held in Bleiburg, Austria, which was canceled due to restrictions imposed by the coronavirus pandemic. Another small replacement event took place Saturday at a cemetery in Zagreb, Croatia.

The decision to hold the Mass in Sarajevo provoked a strong backlash in a country where the memory of ethnic war in the 1990s is still fresh. It was condemned by Bosnia's Serbian Orthodox Church, the Jewish and Muslim communities and several antifascist organizations.

Protesters walked through the city singing anti-fascist songs and holding up photos of resistance members who were tortured and killed by Nazi-allied Croatian forces during their rule over Sarajevo during World War II.

Zvonimir Nikolic, a 57-year-old economist, called the Mass a "disaster for Sarajevo."

"Sarajevo is among a few cities in the world where this mass should never be held because the regime it commemorates committed monstrous crimes in Sarajevo," said Nikolic, who is Catholic.

Protesters were prevented by police from reaching the Sacred Heart Cathedral, where the Mass was led by the highest-ranking clergyman of the Catholic Church in Bosnia, Archbishop Vinko Puljic.

Protesters described the Mass as a thinly veiled attempt to rehabilitate the pro-fascist nationalist movement brought to power in Croatia by Nazi German forces when they occupied Yugoslavia in 1941.

Their protest was one of the largest religiously and ethnically mixed antifascist gatherings in Bosnia in over two decades.

"This is a horrifying farce. Sarajevo and Bosnia-Herzegovina do not deserve this," said Sead Sahovic, a Muslim protester who was born in the Stara Gradiska concentration camp, which was run by Croatian soldiers during the war.

Bosnia's Catholic Church says the Mass honored all innocent victims of the war and postwar era, including all those killed without trial.

Croatian forces oversaw the Holocaust in Sarajevo, resulting in the murder of more than 7,000 of the city's 10,000 Jews. Tens of thousands of Serbian, Roma, and Bosnian and Croatian anti-fascists were also sent to death camps.

For Croatian nationalists, the annual Mass symbolizes their suffering under communism in the former Yugoslavia. However, in recent years, Croatia has increasingly been criticized for historical revisionism. The annual Mass in Bleiburg, and the one in Sarajevo, have been held under the tutelage of the Croatian parliament.

Soccer reboot in Germany: No fans, lonely goal celebrations

By CIARÁN FAHEY AP Sports Writer

BERLIN (AP) — Erling Haaland scored the Bundesliga's first goal in more than two months and then celebrated.

Alone.

The 19-year-old's Borussia Dortmund teammates stayed away, mindful of the strict hygiene measures amid the coronavirus pandemic, as Germany's soccer season resumed in unprecedented conditions on Saturday.

Dortmund beat Schalke 4-0 in the first Ruhr derby to be played in an empty stadium. Calls and shouts from coaching staff and players, and the thud of the sanitized ball being kicked, reverberated around the mainly deserted stands.

Players had been warned to keep their emotions in check, and to desist from spitting, handshakes and hugging with the games keenly watched by the rest of the soccer world hoping to restart their own leagues.

Team staff, and players who didn't start, wore masks. Substitutes took their positions in the stands, rather than beside the field, while balls and seats were disinfected.

Haaland celebrated his 10th goal in nine Bundesliga games with a restrained dance as his teammates stayed back.

"It's hard," midfielder Julian Brandt said. "But that's the way it is now. We try to stick to the rules."

Brandt set up Raphaël Guerreiro before the break and Thorgan Hazard after it. Hazard celebrated alone in front of the Westfalenstadion's south terrace, where normally the club's "Yellow Wall" of almost 25,000 fervent fans would be standing.

"It felt strange, also for the players. You could see that with the celebrations," Dortmund team coordinator Sebastian Kehl said.

Haaland set up Guerreiro to seal the result as Dortmund cut the gap on leader Bayern Munich to a point. Bayern is due to play at Union Berlin on Sunday.

Schalke became the first team to make five substitutions in a Bundesliga game in a new temporary measure allowed in the league, but they couldn't change the outcome. Dortmund's players celebrated in front of the empty south terrace afterward.

"To applaud all our fans who were watching on TV," Kehl said.

Pre-game television interviews were conducted with long poles holding microphones and participants keeping their distance.

"It's quite surreal," Dortmund chief executive Hans Joachim Watzke told Sky TV. "I've received messages from all over the world in the last couple of hours that everybody is watching and then you go through the city and there's nothing going on."

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Borussia Mönchengladbach moved third, three points behind Bayern, with a 3-1 win at Eintracht Frankfurt in the late game.

Also: Hertha Berlin won 3-0 at Hoffenheim in coach Bruno Labbadia's first game in charge; Freiburg drew at Leipzig 1-1; Paderborn drew at Fortuna Düsseldorf 0-0; and Wolfsburg won 2-1 at Augsburg, where the home side's new coach Heiko Herrlich was forced to watch from the stands after breaking quarantine to buy toiletries. Herrlich will only return after twice testing negative for the virus.

Celebrations were muted throughout, with only Hertha's players overstepping calls for restraint. "Goal celebrations are part of soccer. We're tested so often I think they can be allowed," Labbadia said in defense of his team.

Even though the stadium contained less than 300 people, one of them — a camera operator behind the goal — still managed to be hit on the head by a wayward shot from Leipzig's Ademola Lookman.

Leipzig was grateful to VAR for ruling out what would have been a winning injury-time goal from Freiburg's Robin Koch.

They were the first games to be played in the league since March 11.

Earlier Saturday, the second division resumed with four games, also without fans present and amid strict distancing measures.

South Korea midfielder Lee Jae-sung scored the division's first goal for Holstein Kiel in a 2-2 draw at Jahn Regensburg. He celebrated by giving teammates fist bumps.

Goal celebrations in other games were also marked by fist bumps and elbow-to-elbow touching.

The game's authorities were keen to restart the country's top two divisions with several clubs, including Schalke, facing severe financial difficulties because of the suspension in play.

Numerous polls showed a growing majority in Germany were against the resumption of the leagues. Fans are also critical.

"Soccer without fans is nothing," read a joint statement from several Bayern Munich fan groups after the league decided on May 7 to resume.

Cologne fans accused authorities Saturday of prioritizing money over people's health. A banner at Augsburg's game against Wolfsburg said, "Soccer will survive, your business is sick!"

There was criticism too from players over health concerns and the threat of injury with games now packed into a tight schedule.

Players and staff have been subjected to regular testing for COVID-19. Three cases were found at Cologne, while second-division Dynamo Dresden was ordered into 14 days of quarantine after two more positive results brought its total to three last Saturday. Dresden's game against Hannover on Sunday was called off, and the team cannot train during the quarantine period.

More AP soccer: <https://apnews.com/Soccer> and https://twitter.com/AP_Sports

Ciarán Fahey on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/cfaheyAP>

Michigan Rep. Amash ends his Libertarian bid for White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — Michigan Rep. Justin Amash, a high-profile critic of President Donald Trump who quit the GOP and became an independent, announced Saturday he would not seek the Libertarian nomination for the White House, weeks after saying he was running because voters wanted an "alternative" to the two major parties.

In deciding to drop out, he cited the challenges of trying to campaign as a third-party candidate during the coronavirus pandemic.

"After much reflection, I've concluded that circumstances don't lend themselves to my success as a candidate for president this year, and therefore I will not be a candidate," he said in one in a series of tweets explaining his decision. He said "the new reality of social distancing levels the playing field among the candidates in many respects, but it also means lesser known candidates are more dependent on ad-

equate media opportunities to reach people.”

Amash said he still thinks such a candidacy could prove successful in the future.

“I continue to believe that a candidate from outside the old parties, offering a vision of government grounded in liberty and equality, can break through in the right environment,” he tweeted. “But this environment presents extraordinary challenges.”

Amash would have faced nearly impossible odds of winning the presidency. But third-party campaigns can have unpredictable consequences for the Democratic and Republican candidates in the race.

In 2000, Ralph Nader’s Green Party presidential bid cost Democrat Al Gore crucial support and was a contributing factor in Republican George W. Bush’s narrow victory. Democrat Hillary Clinton’s 2016 loss to Trump has been blamed in part on the support that Green Party candidate Jill Stein picked up in states such as Pennsylvania.

Amash left the Republican Party last year and later supported Trump’s impeachment in the Democratic-led House.

In announcing his intention in late April to seek the Libertarian nomination, Amash said he wanted to represent the millions of Americans who do not feel well represented by either major party.

Top fugitive in Rwanda’s genocide arrested outside Paris

By **IGNATIUS SSUUNA** Associated Press

KIGALI, Rwanda (AP) — One of the most wanted fugitives in Rwanda’s 1994 genocide, a wealthy businessman accused of supplying machetes to killers and broadcasting propaganda urging mass slaughter, has been arrested outside Paris, authorities said Saturday.

Felicien Kabuga, who had a \$5 million bounty on his head, had been accused of equipping militias in the genocide that killed more than 800,000 ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus who tried to protect them.

The 84-year-old Kabuga was arrested as a result of a joint investigation with the U.N.’s International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals office of the prosecutor, French authorities said.

He had been living in a town north of Paris, Asnieres-Sur-Seine, under an assumed name, the appeals court’s prosecutor’s office said.

The U.N.’s International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda indicted Kabuga in 1997 on charges related to conspiracy to commit genocide, persecution and extermination.

Rwandan prosecutors have said financial documents found in the capital, Kigali, after the genocide indicated that Kabuga used dozens of his companies to import vast quantities of machetes that were used to slaughter people.

The wealthy businessman also was accused of establishing the station Radio Television Mille Collines that broadcast vicious propaganda against the ethnic Tutsi, as well as training and equipping the Interahamwe militia that led the killing spree.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres welcomed Kabuga’s arrest, according to U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

It “sends a powerful message that those who are alleged to have committed such crimes cannot evade justice and will eventually be held accountable, even more than a quarter of a century later,” Dujarric said.

Mausi Segun, Africa director at Human Rights Watch, described the arrest as “an important step towards justice for hundreds of thousands of genocide victims.”

Kabuga was close to former President Juvenal Habyarimana, whose death when his plane was shot down over Kigali sparked the 100-day genocide. Kabuga’s daughter married Habyarimana’s son.

Kabuga is expected to be transferred to the custody of the U.N. mechanism, where he will stand trial. It is based at The Hague in the Netherlands.

“The arrest of Kabuga today is a reminder that those responsible for genocide can be brought to account, even 26 years after their crimes,” the mechanism’s chief prosecutor Serge Brammertz said in a statement. He said partners who contributed to the arrest included law enforcement agencies and prosecution services from Rwanda, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Luxembourg,

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Switzerland and the United States.

Officials in Rwanda hailed the arrest. According to prosecutors, other top fugitives still at large include Protais Mpiranya, the former commander of the Presidential Guards, and former Defense Minister Augustin Bizimana.

Guterres, the U.N. chief, stressed that all countries have an obligation to cooperate in the location, arrest and transfer of those sought by international courts, Dujarric said.

"The secretary-general's thoughts today are first and foremost with the victims of Mr. Kabuga's alleged crimes, the victims of other serious international crimes, and their families," the U.N. spokesman said. "Ending impunity is essential for peace, security and justice."

For years after the genocide, relations between Rwanda and France were under strain, with Rwanda's ruling party blaming the French government in part for supporting the genocidal regime.

But under French President Emmanuel Macron, Kigali and Paris appear to have made some amends. In 2018, French authorities said they dropped an investigation into the 1994 plane crash, citing lack of sufficient evidence. Several people close to Rwandan President Paul Kagame had been under investigation and his government denounced the probe, saying it was aimed at exonerating France's suspected role in the genocide.

In 2019, Macron announced the creation of a commission tasked with investigating France's alleged role.

"After many years, the old guards in the French government who could have been protecting Kabuga have left power and you find the young generation have no interest in protecting the aging fugitive under the new administration," asserted Gonza Muganwa, a Rwandan political analyst.

"It's clear he was being protected and some powerful people knew his hiding place. They sold him."

Elaine Ganley in Paris and Mike Corder in Amsterdam contributed.

Puerto Rico to hold statehood referendum amid disillusion

By DÁNICA COTO Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Gov. Wanda Vázquez announced on Saturday that she will hold a non-binding referendum in November to decide whether Puerto Rico should become a U.S. state, a move that comes amid growing disillusion with the island's U.S. territorial status.

For the first time in the island's history, the referendum will ask a single, simple question: Should Puerto Rico be immediately admitted as a U.S. state?

It's an answer that requires approval from U.S. Congress and a question that outraged the island's small group of independence supporters and members of the main opposition Popular Democratic Party, which supports the status quo. But it's a gamble that members of the governor's pro-statehood party are confident will pay off given that Puerto Rico has struggled to obtain federal funds for hurricanes Irma and Maria, a string of recent strong earthquakes and the coronavirus pandemic amid growing complaints that the island does not receive fair and equal treatment.

"Everything important in life carries some risk," said former Puerto Rico governor Carlos Romero Barceló, a member of the Progressive New Party.

Previous referendums have presented voters with more than one question or various options, including independence or upholding the current territorial status, but none have been so direct as the one scheduled to be held during the Nov. 3 general elections.

"Our people will have the opportunity once and for all to define our future," Vázquez said. "It's never too late to be treated as equals."

Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens but cannot vote in U.S. presidential elections. And while the island is exempt from the U.S. federal income tax, it still pays Social Security and Medicare and local taxes and receives less federal funding than U.S. states. Many believe the island's territorial status has contributed to its struggle to recover from the hurricanes and earthquakes, as well as worsened its economic crisis, largely caused by decades of heavy borrowing and the elimination of federal tax incentives.

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U.S. Congress would have to accept the referendum results for it to move forward, and it has never acted on the island's previous five referendums. The last one, held in 2017, was hit by a boycott and a low turnout that raised questions about the vote's legitimacy. More than half a million people favored statehood in that referendum, followed by nearly 7,800 votes for free association/independence and more than 6,800 votes for the current territorial status. Voter turnout was just 23 percent. In the three referendums prior to 2017, no clear majority emerged, with voters sometimes almost evenly divided between statehood and the status quo.

Statehood would award Puerto Rico two senators and five representatives, but it's unlikely a Republican-controlled Congress would acknowledge the referendum because Puerto Rico tends to favor Democrats.

Roberto Prats, a former Puerto Rico senator and member of the Popular Democratic Party, said in a phone interview that the upcoming referendum will be an exercise in futility like the five previous ones.

"The only thing they've done is take away credibility from the statehood movement," he said, adding that Puerto Rico has eroded the federal government's trust with its decades of corruption and mismanagement, and that any referendum should first have support from U.S. Congress. "If we're going to make a decision regarding our relationship with the U.S., the U.S. has to be involved in that discussion."

Adopt a grandparent: Young help the old in Bolivian pandemic

By PAOLA FLORES Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — Sergio Royuela lived far from his parents in Bolivia and was concerned how they were faring in the quarantine imposed by interim President Jeanine Áñez to stop the spread of the coronavirus.

"So, I looked for a neighbor to help me and I did the same in my condominium and adopted another grandfather," Royuela said.

Thus, a volunteer campaign was born. "Adopt a Grandparent" urges volunteers to help senior citizens if they need safe support. So far, about 20 young people have volunteered to help, said Royuela, who serves as the campaign coordinator.

For most people, the global pandemic causes mild or moderate symptoms but older adults and people with existing health problems have been particularly vulnerable.

In Bolivia, more than half of the 76 people confirmed to have been killed by the virus as of May 3 were elderly, according to health ministry data. For many elderly Bolivians, particularly those who are ill, it is difficult to shop for the basics and they are often far from their families.

That's where the volunteers come in.

Royuela has been delivering food and words of encouragement to 97-year-old Oscar Gemio and 62-year-old Inés Urrelo, who live in a makeshift tent in a small wooded area of La Paz after losing their home in a landslide last year. He has advised them on following the health precautions, including keeping a safe distance from other people.

Word of the campaign is spreading. In a neighborhood south of La Paz, a 70-year-old woman knew that volunteer Ana Rosa Guzmán was helping her neighbor and called to donate rice, flour and other food so the younger woman could better support the grandfather who lives in a small room with his two daughters and a granddaughter.

"I was raised by my grandparents, who have already died," said 30-year-old Guzmán. "For me, it is essential to have a grandfather in our lives and give them a better quality of life at these times when they need him."

For some, the volunteer work hasn't been about getting the elderly food, but helping them work through the bureaucracy.

About one million Bolivians, or nearly 10% of the population, are elderly. The government has arranged for aid packages for the elderly, but many poor Bolivians cannot collect them for various reasons. They include Dominga Aduviri, a La Paz resident who needs an identity document to collect the package.

Fortunately, 31-year-old architect Wilmer Gutiérrez has adopted Aduviri and he is determined to sort out her problems.

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"Can you imagine getting old and nobody worries or even knows if you have an identity card?" Gutiérrez said.

While nonstop global news about the effects of the coronavirus have become commonplace, so, too, are the stories about the kindness of strangers and individuals who have sacrificed for others. "One Good Thing" is an AP continuing series reflecting these acts of kindness.

Houses of worship gain audience by going online during virus

By **ANDREW SELSKY** Associated Press

On a rainy evening in St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis delivered a special blessing, asking God for help against the coronavirus.

The square in Vatican City would normally be packed with onlookers, but no one was standing on the glistening cobblestones in March as he implored God to "not leave us at the mercy of the storm." Millions were watching on TV and online, however.

From the Vatican, to the village church, to mosques and temples, shuttered places of worship are streaming religious services for a global audience seeking spiritual help and connections with others during the pandemic.

Vaishno Devi, one of India's most revered Hindu shrines, is livestreaming prayers.

"We are missing the pilgrims, their hustle and bustle. Their slogan shouting used to infuse new energy into us," said Amir Chand, a priest at the temple. "But ... in the present scenario, it is better to stay home, and therefore, we also advise the devotees to stay home and enjoy prayers."

At Jerusalem's Western Wall, the holiest site where Jews can pray, prayers went online as throngs of worshippers disappeared. The three daily Jewish prayers were broadcast on several platforms, garnering millions of views from around the world, according to Yohanna Biraor, a spokeswoman for the Western Wall Heritage Foundation, which administers the site.

Most synagogues in Israel are Orthodox, which typically do not allow livestreaming on the Jewish Sabbath, when turning on electronic devices is forbidden. More liberal congregations, though, have embraced online prayer.

Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque, the third-holiest site in Islam, has been streaming prayers throughout the Ramadan holy month, which runs through next week.

"In normal times, you see hundreds and thousands of people praying behind you and you can feel it when they say 'Amen,'" said Sheikh Youssef Abu Sneineh, the mosque's imam.

In Nara, Japan, priests at Todaiji Buddhist temple prayed and chanted to drive out the coronavirus in a livestreamed event.

Onoterusaki Shrine in Tokyo is offering an "online shrine" where people submit prayers, each printed on a wooden tablet and offered to the gods of Shinto by the priest.

"I thought about how people can pray and have a peace of mind at a time everyone is feeling uneasy about all the news (of the pandemic) and going through major changes to life, but still cannot go out to pray," head priest Ryoki Ono said.

Omar Suleiman, an Islamic leader in Irving, Texas, said YouTube videos uploaded by his Yaqeen Institute for Islamic Research had 30 million views for all of 2019 and have received 20 million in just the last six weeks.

"People in general, I think, are looking for more meaning and spirituality in the midst of all this," Suleiman said. "So I think there's just a general increase in religiosity and consumption of religious content."

Online viewership of Francis "has grown significantly," Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni told The Associated Press by email. Francis' television audience also has increased, including his celebration of Mass every morning to empty pews.

"The numbers indicate that even people who would not have participated in religious services on a daily

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basis in the past are attending a Mass every morning and listening to the pope's daily reflection on the gospel," Bruni said.

Also reaching more people is a tiny church with just a few dozen parishioners in the small Oregon community of Yoder, 25 miles (40 kilometers) south of Portland.

Tom Daniels, who grew up in Yoder and has retired in Oakland, California, edits video of the pastor of Smyrna United Church of Christ giving a sermon from her home, of the organist playing in the empty church and other clips. He uploads it to YouTube and has seen a bump in traffic.

For Karen Peterson, who grew up in Yoder and lives in Souderton, Pennsylvania, her Oregon community is just a click away.

"My family still lives there and goes there — it was a connection," Peterson said. "I like how they do their format. It's nicely done and it gives me solace."

Religious leaders are getting used to the changes.

"It's really hard to talk to the camera for a long period of time, especially to give something that's meant to stir emotionally and intellectually and spiritually," said Suleiman, the Islamic leader in Texas, who records on an iPhone perched on a stand. "I think I'm getting better at it because I'm getting more used to it."

The pope, of course, has a more sophisticated setup, with Vatican staffers — most working from home — producing his homilies live, online and in a downloadable booklet in five languages, Bruni said.

Speaking to a camera "is a challenge, of course, but nothing the papacy is unprepared for," Bruni said.

The priests of Notre Dame had a jump on preparations, even before the Paris cathedral was heavily damaged by fire last year. They started streaming evening prayers, or vespers, years ago.

After the fire, the priests began streaming vespers last September from Saint-Germain l'Auxerrois church near the Louvre Museum. During the pandemic, they started streaming the lengthier and more elaborate Mass starting in March.

"For them, it's really complicated because they are happy when they have some people in front of them," said Andre Finot, Notre Dame's spokesman.

With countries starting to relax restrictions, the pope will celebrate his last livestreamed Mass on Monday. Some conservative Catholics have blasted the suspension of Masses and inability to receive the Eucharist.

After some normalcy returns, places of worship will need to decide how far to dial back their online presence.

Suleiman, the Islamic leader, expects the pandemic "will change things forever," giving rise to better quality online programming.

Peterson, who tunes in to her hometown church's online service, wants to see that endure.

"We certainly would like to worship at our church," she said. "But there's a lot of boundaries that I think we've broken down and a lot of ways that we can be together that we didn't think of and weren't doing before."

Selsky reported from Salem, Oregon. Associated Press journalists Nicole Winfield in Rome; Biswajeet Banerjee in Lucknow, India; Mari Yamaguchi in Tokyo; and Josef Federman and Tia Goldenberg in Jerusalem contributed to this report.

Follow Selsky on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/andrewselsky>.

German soccer falls silent as 'ghost games' begin

By JAMES ELLINGWORTH AP Sports Writer

DORTMUND, Germany (AP) — German soccer is normally a riot of color and noise. No longer.

The Bundesliga season resumed Saturday with what German fans call "ghost games," played without spectators, and in Dortmund it was hard to tell that the city's beloved team was playing at all.

Instead of thousands of fans chatting and drinking beer outside the stadium, there were only a few locals out for a weekend bike ride as Borussia Dortmund hosted Schalke in a usually fierce local rivalry.

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On the field, there were fireworks as Erling Haaland scored in a 4-0 win after two months of no games. Outside the stadium there was near silence. Passersby occasionally asked whether a game was actually going on.

Police relaxed as it became clear that fans wouldn't gather outside — a concern for authorities ahead of the game — and potentially spread the virus.

"It is really very calm in the city and regarding the virus dangers I can only praise the Dortmunders and the fans," police spokesman Oliver Peiler said.

The song "You'll Never Walk Alone," a favorite of Dortmund fans as well as Liverpool supporters, echoed around the stadium ahead of kickoff. It was so quiet that the starting whistle could be heard outside — unthinkable at a regular game.

The arena has an 81,000 capacity but league rules permit just 213 people, including players, to be inside for the game, none of them supporters. Players tried to keep contact to a minimum, even during celebrations and the traditional salute to the — now empty — stands at the final whistle.

In the city center ahead of the match, longtime Dortmund fan Marco Perz sat outside the German Football Museum in a jacket patched with club emblems. He said he hasn't missed a home game since the 1990s.

"I'd normally be on the South Stand right now, in the yellow wall," he said, referring to the vast terrace which underpins Dortmund's reputation for passionate support. Now Perz is planning to watch the game with a friend over food and a beer. "The main thing is to see the game," he added.

On the next street, face masks were on sale in Dortmund's yellow and black, with the stallholder saying they were the most popular on offer.

Local authorities had pleaded with fans not to mass outside the stadium.

"Anyone who stands in front of the stadium because they want to follow the game has got it wrong," Dortmund mayor Ullrich Sierau said Wednesday. "It's an appeal to the good sense of all fans, and I'm sure that the fans of both Schalke 04 and Borussia Dortmund are sensible people."

Dortmund fan Nicole Bartelt said she would stay away from the stadium — which she called "the temple" — in the hope of showing fans could be trusted to return sooner rather than later for games.

If fans gather, "we'll end up waiting even longer to be back," she said.

Police were spread along the road by the stadium in vans, on motorbikes and horseback. There have been clashes between fans at Dortmund-Schalke games before, but the police had little to do except remind TV crews to stand further away from each other as they filmed team buses arriving. One bus driver blasted out a Dortmund club song as he drove away.

Dortmund's last game was in an empty stadium too, but with big crowds outside.

Thousands of Paris Saint-Germain supporters gathered outside the Parc des Princes as their team beat Dortmund in the Champions League on March 11.

Those scenes — and the decision of PSG players to sing along with the fans — showed that a game risks spreading the disease even without letting a single supporter into the arena. Similar scenes the same evening at a Bundesliga game between Borussia Mönchengladbach and Cologne caused concern.

During the following two days, the German, English, French and Spanish leagues all opted to suspend competition rather than play in empty stadiums, at least for the time being.

More AP soccer: <https://apnews.com/Soccer> and https://twitter.com/AP_Sports

AP FACT CHECK: Trump, GOP distortion on Flynn; virus fiction

By HOPE YEN, ERIC TUCKER and MATTHEW PERRONE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump and his GOP allies are misrepresenting the facts behind the legal case of former national security adviser Michael Flynn as they seek to allege improper behavior during the Obama administration in the presidential campaign season.

Broadly dubbing his allegations "Obamagate," Trump points to unspecified conspiracies against himself in 2016 and suggests the disclosure of Flynn's name as part of legal U.S. surveillance of foreign targets

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was criminal and motivated by partisan politics. There's no evidence of that.

In fact, the so-called unmasking of Americans' names like Flynn's is legal, and such requests have been more frequently sought in the Trump administration than in the last stretch of Obama's tenure.

In a politically tumultuous week, the president also mischaracterized messages between FBI employees and again alleged without evidence corruption involving Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden's son, Hunter, in China.

Meanwhile, Trump continued to spread falsehoods about the availability of tests needed to help stem the spread of the coronavirus in the U.S.

A look at the past week's political rhetoric and reality:

FLYNN

TRUMP: "OBAMAGATE!" — tweet Wednesday.

TRUMP: "Biggest political crime and scandal in the history of the USA." — tweet Thursday.

THE FACTS: He's making an unsupported claim that former President Barack Obama broke the law.

Trump and his supporters have made the unmasking of Flynn one of their major talking points, claiming that it proves the Obama administration unfairly and illegally targeted Flynn and other Trump associates.

But there is nothing illegal about unmasking. The declassified document also states that the unmasking requests were approved through the National Security Agency's "standard process."

Earlier in the week, when Trump was asked by reporters to define Obama's criminal offense in the alleged "Obamagate," Trump failed to articulate one. "You know what the crime is," he said Monday. "The crime is very obvious to everybody. All you have to do is read the newspapers, except yours."

During routine surveillance of foreign targets, names of Americans occasionally come up in conversation, either because the foreigner is talking to or about them. For privacy reasons, those names are generally concealed, or masked, before the intelligence is distributed to administration officials. U.S. officials can ask the agency that collected the intelligence to unmask the name if they think it is vital to understanding the intelligence.

While Trump casts unmasking as sinister, the number of identities unmasked in response to such requests has actually increased during the first years of the Trump administration from the final year of the Obama administration.

SEN. LINDSEY GRAHAM, Republican chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee: "The unmasking of General Flynn by the Obama Administration regarding conversations during the presidential transition are deeply troubling and smell of politics, not national security." — statement Wednesday.

THE FACTS: There is nothing from newly released material that suggests the unmasking requests were rooted in politics rather than national security.

There were indeed multiple Obama administration officials, including then-Vice President Biden, who asked the NSA to disclose the name of an American whose identity was concealed in intelligence reports. That American was revealed to be Flynn.

But there's nothing inherently unusual about the requests, and the documents released by the Trump administration say the people who made the requests were authorized to receive the underlying intelligence reports.

SEN. RAND PAUL, R-KY: "But it should be and is illegal to listen to an American's conversation. And it's even worse if you're listening to an American who just happens to be your political opponent from the opposite party." — interview Wednesday on Fox News Channel.

THE FACTS: It is not illegal to listen to an American's conversations, and law enforcement officials do it routinely with a warrant or court order. But in any event, that's not what happened here.

No one was listening intentionally to an American's conversation. Instead, U.S. officials learned of the conversations that involved or mentioned Flynn during surveillance of foreign targets.

TRUMP, addressing the criminal case against Flynn that Trump's Justice Department is now seeking to

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drop: "This was all Obama, this was all Biden. These people were corrupt, the whole thing was corrupt, and we caught them." — interview Thursday on Fox News.

THE FACTS: He's suggesting partisan politics by the Obama administration were completely behind Flynn's investigation. That's incorrect.

It is true that the counterintelligence investigation into ties between Russia and the Trump campaign, and into Russia in particular, began during the Obama administration. But it continued well into Trump's own administration. The investigation into Flynn was taken over by a special counsel who was appointed by Rod Rosenstein, Trump's own deputy attorney general.

VIRUS TESTING

TRUMP: "We just cracked 10 million tests ... Ten million. ... If you look down here, these are other countries that have not done anywhere near what we're doing. We're double. If you add them up and double them, we've done more tests. But I can't get the press to print that, unfortunately." — remarks Wednesday with governors of Colorado and North Dakota.

TRUMP: "What we've done on testing, we've now tested more than the entire world put together." — remarks Thursday to reporters.

THE FACTS: False. The U.S. has not tested more than all other countries combined, let alone double the number for the entire world. It also lags many countries in testing its population proportionally.

Together, just three countries — Russia, Germany and Italy — have reported more tests than the U.S.

This week, the U.S. had reported conducting more than 10 million tests since the pandemic began, after failing in the crucial early weeks of the outbreak. That compared with more than 23 million tests by the other countries in the top 10 of the testing count.

The U.S. was followed by Russia, Germany, Italy, Spain, Britain, India, United Arab Emirates, Turkey and France.

BRETT GIROIR, the federal health official overseeing U.S. testing: "Everybody who needs a test can get a test. ... If you're symptomatic with a respiratory illness, that is an indication for a test and you can get a test. If you need to be contact traced, you can get a test." — news briefing Monday.

THE FACTS: Not according to public health experts, who say the U.S. is not near the testing level to safely reopen.

Researchers at the Harvard Global Health Institute, for instance, said the U.S. should now be doing 900,000 tests a day to help stop the spread of the virus. Trump this week said the U.S. was doing about 300,000.

Giroir stressed that an adequate number of diagnostic tests were available for those with symptoms of COVID-19, but studies have shown many who get infected never show symptoms. Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's top infectious diseases expert, has urged enough testing to include at the least asymptomatic people in vulnerable populations, such as nursing homes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently broadened its guidelines for coronavirus testing to include certain asymptomatic people who may be seen at higher risk.

More than 40 states are failing to test widely enough to reach the level needed to safely loosen stay-at-home orders, according to an AP analysis of metrics developed by the Harvard Global Health Institute. The group includes four — Colorado, Florida, Georgia and Texas — that have already reopened.

TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

TRUMP: "In January I put — and I was criticized by everybody including Dr. Fauci — I put in a wall. We put in a very strong wall. Only a small number of people were allowed in, and they were all U.S. citizens. I can't tell a U.S. citizen, you can't come back into your country. ... We actually acted very early." — interview Thursday with Fox News.

THE FACTS: The travel restrictions he imposed on China in late January had other loopholes besides the exceptions for U.S. citizens. It was not a solid wall or total "ban," as he often puts it.

There were many gaps in containment and initial delays in testing in January and February, leading to

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the U.S. rising to No. 1 globally in the number of people infected by COVID-19.

His order temporarily barred entry by foreign nationals who had traveled in China within the previous 14 days, with exceptions for U.S. citizens, but also their immediate family and permanent residents.

Dr. Anne Schuchat, the No. 2 official at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, told The Associated Press the federal government was also slow to understand how much coronavirus was spreading from Europe, which helped drive the acceleration of U.S. outbreaks in February. Trump announced restrictions for many European countries in mid-March.

"I think the timing of our travel alerts should have been earlier," she said.

MORE ON 'OBAMAGATE'

TRUMP: "So even before I got elected, you remember the famous — the two lovers, right, Strzok and Page, the insurance policy, she's going to win, but just in case she doesn't we have an insurance policy. That means that if I won, they're going to try and take me out." — Fox News interview Thursday.

THE FACTS: There was no conspiracy afoot to take out Trump in the 2016 text message between two FBI employees.

Trump depicts the two as referring to a plot — or insurance policy — to oust him from office if he won the presidential election over Democrat Hillary Clinton. It's apparent from the text that it wasn't that.

Agent Peter Strzok and lawyer Lisa Page, both now gone from the bureau, said the text messages reflected a debate about how aggressively the FBI should investigate Trump and his campaign when expectations at the time were that he would lose anyway.

Strzok texted about something Page had said to the FBI's deputy director, to the effect that "there's no way he gets elected." But Strzok argued that the FBI should not assume Clinton would win: "I'm afraid we can't take that risk." He likened the situation to "an insurance policy in the unlikely event you die before you're 40." He has said he was not discussing a plot to drive Trump from office.

TRUMP, on Hunter Biden: "Worst of all, was the last eight years under President Obama and Biden, where his son gets a billion and a half dollars, and then they're supposed to be tough on China. ... And he walked out of China with \$1.5 billion dollars to invest for them, of which he makes hundreds of thousands — and actually millions — of dollars." — interview Thursday on Fox News.

THE FACTS: There's no evidence Hunter Biden pocketed \$1.5 billion from China. More generally, accusations of criminal wrongdoing by father or son are unsubstantiated.

In 2014, an investment fund started by Hunter Biden and other investors joined with foreign and Chinese private equity firms in an effort to raise \$1.5 billion to invest outside China. That's far from giving Hunter Biden such a sum, as Trump describes it.

Hunter Biden's lawyer, George Mesires, wrote in an internet post last year that his client was an unpaid director of the fund at the time "based on his interest in seeking ways to bring Chinese capital to international markets."

"He has not received any return on his investment," Mesires said.

Hunter Biden stepped down from the Chinese board last October as part of a pledge not to work on behalf of any foreign-owned companies should his father win the presidency.

Associated Press writers Meghan Hoyer and Deb Riechmann contributed to this report.

EDITOR'S NOTE — A look at the veracity of claims by political figures.

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'Everyone has a story': How will world remember pandemic?

By SARA BURNETT and REGINA GARCIA CANO Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Artist Obi Uwakwe was driving through Chicago's empty streets, camera on his lap to document life during COVID-19, when he saw something that made him stop: a casket being carried out of a church while a few mourners stood by, their faces covered.

The 43-year-old raised his camera and took a photograph. Later, it would become one of the images Uwakwe used to create paintings inspired by the pandemic.

"To see maybe six people there, everyone wearing a mask," he said, "it brought everything together."

Around the world, people like Uwakwe are creating photographs, paintings, emails, journals and social media posts that will shape how the world remembers the coronavirus pandemic for years and centuries to come. Museums and historical societies already are collecting materials, often with help from people accustomed to capturing and sharing even the most mundane moments around them.

The result, historians say, will be a collective memory more personal than perhaps any other moment in history.

"Everyone is touched by this. Everyone has a story," said Erika Holst, curator of history at the Illinois State Museum, one of hundreds across the U.S. gathering pieces of a generational treasure trove. Collecting the items in real time allows historians to nudge people for the stories behind them — a luxury rarely available, Holst said.

"Usually as historians, we get a lot of numbers — the number of people who died, the number who got sick, the economic effect," she said. "It doesn't always capture what it felt like."

The enormity of the event is forcing historians to balance capturing ephemeral moments and those that will transcend time.

At the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, a task force is looking into how to gather and preserve objects, images and documents that could become part of permanent collections. But the pandemic itself is challenging the group's ability to collect because the museum is closed, so curators are asking potential donors to hold onto items.

"We are trying to take the long view on this, so (we are) focusing now most on objects that are ephemeral, things that might disappear, that might get thrown away or just used up," said Benjamin Filene, the museum's associate director of curatorial affairs.

Unlike during other national crises, people have a camera in their pocket at all times, documenting whatever they deem relevant and sharing it on social media, from the cloth mask they sew and the sourdough bread they baked to the cheer for front-line workers and the Zoom meeting of school students.

But not every quilt made or puzzle finished can tell the story of what happened in the U.S. in the spring of 2020.

"There is sort of this overwhelming mass of information, but that information is not necessarily being captured in a way that's going to be preserved," Filene said. "And there's also the possibility that it is so fragmentary that how much will it translate to somebody else five years from now or 25 or 50 years from now? We don't just need a thing; we want the story that goes with the thing."

The National Museum of African American History and Culture has been working with doctors, nurses and other health workers who have offered to donate personal protective equipment. Senior curator for history William Pretzer said cultural organizations nowadays do "rapid-response collecting" and no longer wait until materials are considered memorabilia.

"You collected stuff because you had historical perspective on that event. You collected the Civil War 20 years after the Civil War. You collected World War II experience in the 1950s," Pretzer said. "You didn't do it immediately. Beginning in some ways with 9/11, however, it became clear that rapid-response collecting, collecting on the spot meant that you got the original evidence."

Pretzer said the museum wants to "go behind the statistics" showing the virus has disproportionately affected people of color. and explain the reasons for the disparity and what can be done about it in the future.

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"In other words, it's not a race or color or ethnicity that determines this disproportionate impact. It's the underlying conditions," Pretzer said. "What's the economic role? What kinds of jobs are available in that community? What kind of access to health care do people have? What type of access to healthy foods have they had? What access to transportation? What is education like in those communities?"

Technology is helping historians collect material and tell stories as well. The Historic New Orleans Collection, a museum and publishing house, is using technology known as a "spider" to crawl the web and collect information about how the pandemic is affecting the hard-hit city. Among its finds: the city's cell-phone alert system's webpage.

The Maryland Historical Society is sharing posts on its blog and on social media using its own hashtags, #LettersFromtheHomeFrontMD and #CollectingInQuarantineMD. An April 16 entry includes a letter from a woman identified as Lauren from Darlington, Maryland, explaining her fears of contracting COVID-19 while at work. She said she works for the U.S. Postal Service, while her husband is an electrical foreman.

"I have two young children at home and I can not afford to stay home and only receive two-thirds of my pay," she wrote. "We are both exposed to the world ... My mother can not get this disease, it may kill her."

Heather Voelz of Taylorville, Illinois, submitted a photo to the Illinois State Museum of her kids on Easter. But she said most of what she's recording are things that "wouldn't mean much to anyone but us." Voelz and two of her children, ages 3 and 5, are keeping a kids' journal she found online, and Voelz plans to put the pages in their baby books.

"I know they don't fully grasp what is happening," she said. "But they will someday."

Zofia Oles, 18, of suburban Chicago started taking photos for her school photography class but kept at it to remember her senior year. Some photos show Oles dancing alone in her room, she and her brother going to the store and neighbors gathering — at a distance — in a parking lot.

"I want to have a memory of how it looked so when I am able to be with my friends again, I can appreciate how it was," she said.

Uwakwe said recent weeks remind him of the days after 9/11, when streets were quiet and there was a collective sense of grieving, helping and appreciation for people on the front lines.

Uwakwe didn't walk around with a camera back then. In the years since, he's thought about those missed images. It's what ultimately moved him to get in his car and capture what's happening.

"The more I sat, I thought: 'I don't want to regret not doing it again.'"

Garcia Cano reported from Baltimore. AP reporter Janet McConnaughey contributed from New Orleans. Follow Sara Burnett on Twitter at http://twitter.com/sara_burnett and Regina Garcia Cano at <http://twitter.com/reginagarciakNO>

Local health agencies struggle to ramp up virus tracking

By CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — As state after state begins to reopen, local health departments charged with tracking down everyone who has been in close contact with those who test positive for the new coronavirus are still scrambling to hire the number of people they need to do the job.

They are often hundreds — even thousands — of people short of targets for their contact tracing programs. Public health experts have consistently said robust programs to test more people and trace their contacts are needed for states to safely reboot their economies and prevent a resurgence of the virus.

Cook County, Illinois, has just 29 contact tracers serving 2.5 million people living in suburban communities around Chicago. Los Angeles County, which at more than 10 million people has a population slightly greater than Michigan, has just 400 of the estimated 6,000 contact tracers it will need under California's criteria for a broader reopening.

With 2.7 million residents and roughly 100 to 300 new COVID-19 cases a day, Miami-Dade County has 175 people tracking down people who were potentially exposed to the virus.

"The whole point of the lockdown was to buy time to have a better way to keep numbers down," said

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Jeremy Konyndyk, who led the humanitarian response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa during the Obama administration. "And that's why so many of us are screaming ourselves hoarse about testing and tracing."

Public health experts say contact tracing systems should be in place before cases become widespread, so every new infection can be tracked and the person's contacts identified, tested and isolated from the rest of the community.

Until recently, there had been scant federal guidance on what contact tracing should look like, and there is still no coordinated federal strategy. While other countries are taking a national approach to contact tracing, the U.S. is leaving it to states to devise their own programs.

The result has been a patchwork of efforts. An AP review in late April found little consensus among states on basic questions such as how many investigators are needed.

Officials in Cook County, which has the highest number of cases in Illinois outside of Chicago, have said they need at least 200 additional contact tracers and as many as 400 to supplement the work of the 29 currently on staff. Illinois has maintained a statewide stay-at-home order since late March, and Gov. J.B. Pritzker has said the state needs a "massive statewide contact tracing operation."

"The county cannot open safely if additional contact tracers cannot be hired in a timely manner," said Hanna Kite, spokeswoman for the county health department.

On Monday, Miami-Dade County will begin to allow restaurants and stores to resume limited operations, joining the rest of Florida in an initial reopening. It's unclear when the county — the state's most populous and by far hardest-hit by COVID-19 — plans to bring on more contact tracers to assist the 175 staffers doing the work now.

"In Miami, we need definitely more than we have, but so far we have been able to manage the amount of cases that we have to maintain a balanced activity in terms of contacting all the positive cases," said Dr. Alvaro Mejia-Echeverry, a state epidemiologist for the county.

Contact tracing was one of the "core state preparedness responsibilities" outlined in the White House guidelines for reopening the country, but governors have been pressing ahead with lifting restrictions without having comprehensive programs in place.

Hall County, which has over 200,000 residents and the second-highest rate of coronavirus cases in Georgia, has between 30 and 40 contact tracers assigned to the local public health district, which also serves a dozen neighboring counties. It hopes to receive an additional 30 from the state.

Georgia was among the first states to ease restrictions. Public health experts have expressed concern that the state was risking a spike in cases by moving too quickly. So far, the state has hired 250 contact tracers with a goal of reaching 1,000.

While there is no federal formula for how many of the disease detectives are needed, public health experts have said one contact tracer is needed for every 1,000 to 3,000 residents in the U.S., or between 100,000 and 300,000 nationally. For Georgia, that would be between 3,333 and 10,000.

During congressional testimony this past week, the nation's top infectious disease expert, Dr. Anthony Fauci, reiterated his concern that parts of the U.S. might be easing restrictions too early without having the ability to respond effectively to an increase in cases with "good identification, isolation and contact tracing."

The next day, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released general guidance to states on contact tracing. It said the number of case investigators and contact tracers needed in each community "may be large" and will vary, in part due to caseloads.

The document was released two-and-a-half weeks after Georgia and other states began lifting restrictions. It included recommendations on how to prioritize cases when staffing is limited and said communities that don't have the capacity to investigate a majority of their new cases will have to consider reinstating measures such as stay-at-home orders.

Under California's criteria for a broader reopening, counties should have 15 people trained in contact tracing for every 100,000 residents. The state is helping, working to train between 10,000 and 20,000 tracers, but most large counties are falling short.

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San Diego County, home to 3.3 million people, had 171 contact investigators on the job with plans to have 450 as soon as possible. In Orange County, which has about 3.1 million residents, about 75 staffers are assigned to investigating cases and tracing contacts.

Harris County, Texas' most populous with more than 4.7 million residents, is working to train about 300 contact tracers by May 22. It's been two weeks since Texas reopened retail, restaurants, malls and movie theaters to limited numbers of customers.

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo, the county's top elected official, said she is concerned the reopening is too fast and it may "make our work difficult and perhaps impossible."

In Philadelphia, the Department of Public Health has trained a small number of contact tracers and wants to hire more to be deployed once the number of new infections has dropped enough to make contact tracing practical, spokesman James Garrow said.

A few states, including Utah, made contact tracing a priority before beginning to ease restrictions. In early April, Massachusetts launched a \$44 million effort and enlisted Partners in Health, a Boston-based nonprofit known for its healthcare work in developing countries, to hire and train 1,600 people. They were to supplement the more than 600 case investigators already doing the work at the local level.

"If anything can be learned from Massachusetts' experience, it's that the process takes time and states need to start ramping up their contact tracing efforts well before reopening their economies," said Dr. Joia Mukherjee, chief medical officer at Partners in Health. "We should have done this on day one."

Associated Press writers Kathleen Foody in Chicago; Adriana Gomez Licon in Miami; Brian Melley in Los Angeles; Philip Marcelo in Boston; Juan Lozano in Houston; Michelle R. Smith in Providence, Rhode Island; and Michael Rubinkam in northeastern Pennsylvania contributed to this report.

Today in History By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Sunday, May 17, the 138th day of 2020. There are 228 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 17, 1792, the New York Stock Exchange had its beginnings as a group of brokers met under a tree on Wall Street and signed the Buttonwood Agreement.

On this date:

In 1510, early Renaissance painter Sandro Botticelli died in Florence, Italy; he was probably in his mid 60s.

In 1536, Archbishop of Canterbury Thomas Cranmer declared the marriage of England's King Henry VIII to Anne Boleyn invalid after she failed to produce a male heir; Boleyn, already condemned for high treason, was executed two days later.

In 1946, President Harry S. Truman seized control of the nation's railroads, delaying — but not preventing — a threatened strike by engineers and trainmen.

In 1954, a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court handed down its *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* decision which held that racially segregated public schools were inherently unequal, and therefore unconstitutional.

In 1973, a special committee convened by the U.S. Senate began its televised hearings into the Water-gate scandal.

In 1980, rioting that claimed 18 lives erupted in Miami's Liberty City after an all-white jury in Tampa acquitted four former Miami police officers of fatally beating black insurance executive Arthur McDuffie.

In 1987, 37 American sailors were killed when an Iraqi warplane attacked the U.S. Navy frigate *Stark* in the Persian Gulf. (Iraq apologized for the attack, calling it a mistake, and paid more than \$27 million in compensation.)

In 1992, orchestra leader Lawrence Welk died in Santa Monica, Calif., at age 89.

In 1995, Jacques Chirac (zhahk shih-RAHK') was sworn in as president of France, ending the 14-year tenure of Socialist Francois Mitterrand (frahn-SWAH' mee-teh-RAHN').

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In 1996, President Bill Clinton signed a measure requiring neighborhood notification when sex offenders move in. ("Megan's Law," as it's known, was named for Megan Kanka, a 7-year-old New Jersey girl who was raped and murdered in 1994.)

In 2002, former President Jimmy Carter ended a historic visit to Cuba sharply at odds with the Bush administration over how to deal with Fidel Castro, saying limits on tourism and trade often hurt Americans more than Cubans.

In 2004, Massachusetts became the first state to allow same-sex marriages.

Ten years ago: The Supreme Court ruled 5-4 that young people serving life prison terms should have "a meaningful opportunity to obtain release" provided they didn't kill their victims. Laura Silsby, the last of 10 Americans detained while trying to take 33 children out of Haiti after the Jan. 2010 earthquake, was freed after a judge sentenced her to time already served.

Five years ago: A shootout erupted between bikers and police outside a restaurant in Waco, Texas, leaving nine of the bikers dead and 20 people injured. The contested city of Ramadi, capital of Iraq's largest province, fell to the Islamic State group in a major loss despite intensified U.S.-led airstrikes. Pope Francis canonized Sisters Mariam Bawardy and Marie Alphonsine Ghattas, two nuns from what was 19th-century Palestine, in hopes of encouraging Christians across the Middle East who were facing a wave of persecution from Islamic extremists.

One year ago: Herman Wouk (wohk), the Pulitzer Prize winning author of "The Caine Mutiny" and "The Winds of War," died at his California home; he was 103. With a score of 128 after the second round of the PGA Championship, Brooks Koepka (KEHP'-kuh) achieved the lowest 36-hole score in major championship history, and the largest lead (seven shots) of anyone at the halfway point of a Grand Slam event in 85 years. (Koepka would win the event for a second straight year.) Taiwan's legislature voted to legalize same-sex marriage, making Taiwan the first place in Asia with a law that allowed and spelled out the terms of same-sex marriage. The owners of the pet known as Grumpy Cat, an internet sensation because of her sourpuss expression, announced on social media that the feline had died at her Arizona home at the age of seven.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Peter Gerety is 80. Singer Taj Mahal is 78. Rock musician Bill Bruford is 71. Singer-musician George Johnson (The Brothers Johnson) is 67. TV personality Kathleen Sullivan is 67. Boxing Hall of Famer Sugar Ray Leonard is 64. Actor-comedian Bob Saget is 64. Sports announcer Jim Nantz is 61. Producer Simon Fuller (TV: "American Idol") is 60. Singer Enya is 59. Actor-comedian Craig Ferguson is 58. Rock singer-musician Page McConnell is 57. Actor David Eigenberg is 56. Singer-musician Trent Reznor (Nine Inch Nails) is 55. Actress Paige Turco is 55. Rhythm-and-blues musician O'Dell (Mint Condition) is 55. Actor Hill Harper is 54. TV personality/interior designer Thom Filicia is 51. Singer Jordan Knight is 50. Rhythm-and-blues singer Darnell Van Rensalier (Shai) is 50. Actress Sasha Alexander is 47. Rock singer-musician Josh Homme (HAHM'-ee) is 47. Rock singer Andrea Corr (The Corrs) is 46. Actor Sendhil Ramamurthy (SEN'-dul rah-mah-MURTH'-ee) is 46. Actress Rochelle Aytes is 44. Singer Kandi Burruss is 44. Actress Kat Foster is 42. Actress Ayda Field is 41. Actress Ginger Gonzaga is 37. Folk-rock singer/songwriter Passenger is 36. Dancer-choreographer Derek Hough (huhf) is 35. Actor Tahj Mowry is 34. Actress Nikki Reed is 32. Singer Kree Harrison (TV: "American Idol") is 30. Actress Leven Rambin is 30. Actress Samantha Browne-Walters is 29. Actor Justin Martin is 26.

Thought for Today: "If an article is attractive, or useful, or inexpensive, they'll stop making it tomorrow; if it's all three, they stopped making it yesterday." — Mignon McLaughlin, American journalist (1913-1983).

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