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## It's June!

June has finally arrived. The COVID-19 virus is still around, but more activity is gearing up. City Hall will be opening up today to the public. The Groton Pool will be open to the public at 1 p.m. today. More activity will be ongoing at the baseball complex. Life is great! Give God the glory!

## **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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## Covid-19 Update: by Marie Miller

The numbers are down tonight.

We're at 1,797,400 cases in the US. New case numbers declined, sliding below 20,000 again. NY leads with 375,575 cases, a decline. NJ has 160,445 cases, holding. Remaining top-10 states are as follows: IL – 120,582, CA – 112,700, MA – 96,965, PA – 75,887, TX – 64,746 MI – 57,355, FL – 56,155, and MD – 53,456. These ten states account for 65% of US cases. 4 more states have over 40,000 cases, 2 more states have over 30,000 cases, 5 more states have over 20,000 cases, 9 more have over 10,000, 8 more + DC over 5000, 7 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 states with substantial numbers of cases which are not showing much change include TX, LA, FL, OH, MD, IN, GA, and CO. States where new case reports are increasing include CA, AZ, VA, WI, NC, AL, TN, and MS. States where new case reports are decreasing include NY, PA, NJ, MI, IL, CT, MA, and RI. We'll watch the states showing increases and hope those with decreases continue the decline.

There have been 104,373 deaths in the US. Today the number of new deaths declined, staying below 1000. NY has 29,699, NJ has 11,698, MA has 6846, PA has 5555, MI has 5491, IL has 5426, CA has 4240, and CT has 3944. All of these states are reporting fewer than 100 new deaths today, 4 fewer than 50. There are 6 more states over 2000 deaths, 5 more states over 1000 deaths, 8 more over 500, 13 more + DC and PR over 100, and 10 + GU, VI, and MP under 100.

A topic about which I've been reading for weeks now is infective dose, that is, the number of virus particles it takes to establish an infection in a susceptible person. This varies with the pathogen. The estimate I've seen most often for SARS-CoV-2 is 1000, but there is not general agreement on this. The only way to find out for sure would be to put varying numbers of virus particles into healthy people and see who gets sick; and it should be fairly obvious why we're not going to do that. We are fairly sure that more is worse, which is, we speculate, why young, healthy health care workers are turning up with serious infections more often than you'd expect based on their general state of health and other risk factors; the high-dose exposures are thought to account for this incidence.

We know exposure only a small number of virus particles is not going to make you sick. Your immune system's well equipped to knock those few off before they can make trouble; but we don't really know how many is too many. We know for SARS the estimate runs at a few hundred, whereas for MERS, it runs more to thousands. Given SARS is more closely related to Covid-19 than MERS is, it seems likely the smaller number is more relevant here; but it's hard to be confident because this virus doesn't act much like other viruses. For example, most of the time, people who have high numbers of a pathogen in their bodies (a high viral load) are sicker and more likely to transmit the infection; but that's not exactly how it works with Covid-19. With this one, people with no symptoms at all seem to have viral loads as high as those who are very ill, and people are most infectious before they ever have symptoms at all. And some people spread the virus to many more people than others; these are your so-called superspreaders. We haven't figured out what that means for this infection, whether this is someone who simply had more opportunities to spread (going to five crowded bars in one night, for example) or there's something biological going on there that makes this person more efficient at transmitting the virus.

We've had this part of the conversation before, but to review, we are fairly sure touching things that are contaminated and then transferring the virus to your own mucous membranes is probably not a primary means of transmission; seems likely this means of transmission via fomites (contaminated objects) takes a lot more virus particles to establish infection than when you inhale them. We've figured out you don't have to be coughing and sneezing to transmit the virus; just breathing, especially heavy breathing, and speaking will do it. We also know large droplets don't hang in the air as long as aerosols, which are lighter, but that smaller droplets will contain fewer viruses so that, perhaps, these risks sort of balance out.

The main factors that affect transmission between one person and another appear to be proximity, air flow, and timing. So the closer you are, the less air movement there is, and the longer you're around a source, the more likely you are to become infected. This means outdoors is overall safer than indoors,

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well-ventilated and larger rooms are safer than small ones with little air movement, and a place with lots of people or a lot of traffic is riskier than one without many people. And, of course, wearing a mask reduces transmission considerably, but you knew that.

There is a real need to sort out the racial and ethnic distribution of cases and deaths from Covid-19; but that project is fraught with difficulty. First, many states are reporting no or incomplete data with respect to these parameters. Second, there is a concern that showing disproportionate effect on minority populations will cause majority groups to conclude this is a "them" problem instead of an "us" problem and push for reopening that is unwise; this results from a failure to recognize how public health works, that risk for any portion of the population creates risk for the whole, and also simple dismissal of problems that don't seem to affect "us," which is more of a moral failure than a public health one.

That said, there are real disparities. A few examples: Across the nation, African-American cases and deaths are far greater than the share of this group in the population. White deaths are less than their share of the population in 37 states plus DC. Something that points to the ways this disparity affects everyone is that while disproportionately black counties contain 30% of the population, they account for 56% of deaths, even when these counties are above average for wealth and health care. That tells us that non-black people in those counties are feeling the spillover effects of this inequity. Even those who don't care about the fate of minority populations ought to care about that fact.

Rates of infection are higher among those of Hispanic ethnicity as well—twice as high in 30 states and more than four times greater in eight states. Considering that many states do not even break out statistics for this ethnic group, these data are disturbing; the real picture is almost certainly worse. In only eight states are Hispanic and Latino people not disproportionately represented in case counts. At Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, Latinos represented 35% of patients before the pandemic, but represent over 80% of Covid-19 cases. Overall, Latinos are not as disproportionately represented as blacks; but this may be due to the fact that the Latino population runs much younger, so are less likely to be diagnosed or hospitalized.

Native populations are also being hammered by this virus. New Mexico reports 60% of cases among Natives while they are only 9% of the population. In Arizona, 21% of deaths are in Natives, who are just 4% of the population.

When we consider that minority communities are not as likely to be tested, it is likely that the counts in these populations are serious undercounts. Testing sites tend to cluster in whiter communities, and when testing levels increase in disadvantaged communities, evidence of disproportionate impact increases too.

What we're seeing here is due to many factors. Minority populations have less access to health care overall. They have higher rates of risk factors like diabetes and heart disease. They are more likely to have jobs that place them at risk—that don't permit working from home and put them into close contact with many other people. They use public transportation more. They are more likely to be poor and have no benefits at work, so that they are more likely to try to continue working while ill. They are more likely to live in crowded conditions and in multigenerational households. And for all of these reasons, it seems apparent that members of racial and ethnic minorities are suffering disproportionate harm from this pandemic. I am not sure what measures will help this problem, but it is important to recognize there will be spillover to other racial and ethnic groups, making it a problem for all of us.

Suppose you are going to travel. What's safe? The first thing to note is that, unless travel is really essential, it should be postponed. It creates additional risk over staying nearer to home. Travel creates the risk of carrying virus from one part of the country to another, each with its own case rate and transmission statistics. So if you live in an area with higher case numbers, you run the risk of carrying the infection to the place you visit; and if you live in a place with lower case numbers, there's a chance you'll bring it home with you.

Then there is the chance you will be exposed while traveling. If you are in a high-risk category, consider especially carefully how essential your travel is. If you are going to travel, it's hard to say which mode of travel is best; but there are some general guidelines that may be helpful.

When driving, you have more control over how many people you contact. If you will be making multiple

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stops for food and gas, then there is a certain amount of contact which may be difficult to avoid. Bringing food and water along to minimize stops will be helpful, as will getting food as takeout or at a drive-through. There may be bathroom stops to consider as well on a trip of any length. There may also be lodging to consider if you will be on the road more than one day. One expert recommends you consider camping, but if that's not possible, then choose a place without elevators and other confined spaces that may place you in close contact with others. Consider bringing your own alcohol wipes and disinfecting frequently-touched surfaces and objects in your room and opening windows if possible. Plan to remain in your room as much as possible; common areas will have traffic.

Flying will shorten the duration of a trip, and the air circulation systems on planes have high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters, but there can be crowding in airports and people in your immediate vicinity on the plane—within two rows in front of or behind you—will still pose a risk. Unless a flight is not very full, social distancing isn't really an option, and you really have no control over the people with whom you are in contact. As travel picks up, planes may be fuller, and that could make distancing impossible. Most airlines are requiring masks for all employees and passengers, and this is a good thing since you're all going to be spending an extended time together, sharing air. It is recommended you choose a window or middle seat since aisle seats will have people brushing by throughout the flight. You will want hand sanitizer with you: the surfaces most likely to be contaminated are the bathroom faucet handle, the bathroom door lock, and the magazine pockets and tray tables. You will wish to remain mindful of what you are touching throughout the flight and absolutely refrain from touching your face for the duration. It is also recommended you bring disinfectant wipes along and wipe down surfaces in your area, seat belts, window shades, tray tables, and seat-back screens. And if someone is coughing or sneezing within two rows of you and you cannot move away, turn on the air vent to medium and aim it slightly in front of your face to create air turbulence.

I spent a good share of today outdoors, getting my garden ready for the upcoming summer; but first we took a look at my husband's flowers that are now just coming into bloom. He's a flower guy, has always loved them, and over the years has added more and more pots and planters and plots, burgeoning nature in vivid, living color. On this Sunday morning, seeing all the new buds that will be opening and bravely facing the sun tomorrow and the day after—and the day after that—brought to my mind the words of Mauritian writer and painter, Malcolm de Chazal, "The flower has no weekday self, dressed as it always is in Sunday clothes." Which is nice. For the next few months, whenever I feel trapped by this pandemic, I'll have these lovely things just a few steps outside any door in the house that remind me of something I once heard Leo Buscaglia say, that when we feel sorrow, whatever we've lost, we can remember the world is still and always filled with beautiful things and good things to eat.

When you get sad, as we all do during this difficult time, it may help you to consider his reminder. A way to lift the darkness is to turn to the light—the beauty that surrounds us. And the good things to eat too, while you're at it. And to offer some of this to others who are struggling. We know for sure that bringing light to someone else's darkness dispels your own at the same time; light spills over every time, and sharing it doesn't diminish its reach. Reach out. Be the light for someone in need.

Keep yourself well, and I'll see you tomorrow.

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If everything goes according to plan, the Minnesota Vikings will be playing their first preseason game on August 14. To get prepared for the start of the 2020 season, we'll go through the roster and break it down, position by position. Today, we start with the quarterbacks.

For better or for worse, the Vikings are tied to Kirk Cousins for the foreseeable future. For most of his career, Cousins has been labeled as a good-but-not-great QB. He did a fantastic job of changing the narrative last season, capped off with an impressive overtime win against the Saints in the playoffs – which led to the team rewarding him with a massive extension and tying the two together through the 2022 season.

In 2019, Cousins had a Pro Football Focus grade of 84.3 (the highest of his career). He finished the season with a completion percentage of 69% (307/444) for 3,603 yards, 26 touchdowns and only six interceptions. His touchdown total was tied with Patrick Mahomes, Aaron Rodgers, Matt Ryan, and Deshaun Watson for eighth best in the league, and his low interception mark was beaten by only four quarterbacks who threw at least 300 passes last year (Drew Brees, Mahomes, Rodgers, and Russell Wilson).

It's clear, just based on stats alone, that Cousins should be considered to be among the best quarterbacks in the league. He will be 32 years old when the season starts, but with QBs playing into their forties, Cousins could remain a member of the Vikings for another decade. He proved to me last year that he can help the Vikings win games, but with the departure of Stefon Diggs and an arguably worse offensive line, this will be a big year for Cousins.

Sean Mannion, the 28-year-old former Ram is entering the sixth year of his career and is penciled in as the primary backup to Cousins. I say penciled in because the only thing he really has going for him is his age. Mike Zimmer prefers to have a veteran backup at QB, a player who can step in and lead the team if anything were to happen to the starter.

The bad news is that Mannion has only started two games in his NFL career – throwing 74 passes for zero touchdowns and three interceptions. The good news is that he is on a one-year contract which would only cost the Vikings \$137,500 to cut him.

The Vikings will likely keep two quarterbacks on the roster, which means second-year player Jake Browning and rookie Nate Stanley will be battling it out for a practice squad spot. Browning was an undrafted rookie in 2019 out of Washington. He signed a two-year contract this offseason, however, so the Vikings obviously see potential in the 24-year old.

The Vikings spent a seventh-round pick on Nate Stanley this year. During his four year college career at Iowa, Stanley completed 58% of his passes (673/1155) for 8,297 yards, 68 touchdowns and 23 interceptions.

Make sure to check out next week's article, as we dive into the running back depth chart. Until then, reach out to me on Twitter (@JordanWrightNFL) and let me know who you think should be the Vikings' backup QB. Skoll!



By Jordan Wright



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## Area COVID-19 Cases

	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23	May 24	May 25	May 26
Minnesota	17,029	17,670	18,200	19,005	19,845	20,573	21,315
Nebraska	10,846	11,122	11,425	11,662	11,989	12,134	12,355
Montana	471	478	479	479	479	479	479
Colorado	22,482	22,797	23,191	23,487	23,964	24,174	24,269
Wyoming	583	596	608	608	615	638	644
North Dakota	1,994	2095	2229	2317	2365	2418	2457
South Dakota	4,085	4177	4250	4356	4468	4563	4586
United States	1,528,661	1,551,853	1,577,758	1,602,148	1,622,670	1,643,499	1,662,768
US Deaths	91,938	93,439	94,729	96,013	97,087	97,722	98,223
Minnesota	+657	+641	+530	+805	+840	+728	+742
Nebraska	+221	+276	+303	+237	+327	+145	+221
Montana	+1	+7	+1	0	0	0	0
Colorado	+280	+315	+394	+296	+477	+210	+95
Wyoming	+6	+13	+12	0	+7	+23	+6
North Dakota	+63	+101	+134	+88	+48	+53	+39
South Dakota	+58	+92	+73	+106	+112	+95	+23
United States	+20,493	+23,192	+25,905	+24,390	+20,522	+20,829	+19,269
US Deaths	+600	+1,501	+1,290	+1,284	+1,074	+635	+501
	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31	June 1	
Minnesota	21,960	22,464	22,947	23,531	24,190	24,850	
Nebraska	12,619	12,976	13,261	13,654	13,905	14,101	
Montana	479	481	485	493	505	515	
Colorado	24,565	24,767	25,121	25,613	26,098	26,378	
Wyoming	648	653	667	682	688	693	
North Dakota	2422	2439	2481	2520	2554	2577	
South Dakota	4653	4710	4793	4866	4960	4993	
United States	1,681,418	1,699,933	1,721,926	1,747,087	1,770,384	1,790,191	
US Deaths	98,929	100,442	101,621	102,836	103,781	104,383	
Minnesota	+652	+504	+483	+548	+659	+660	
Nebraska	+264	+357	+285	+393	+251	+196	
Montana	0	+2	+4	+8	+12	+10	
Colorado	+296	+202	+354	+492	+485	+280	
Wyoming	+4	+5	+14	+15	+6	+5	
North Dakota	-----	+17	+42	+39	+34	+23	
South Dakota	+67	+57	+83	+73	+94	+33	
United States	+18,650	+18,515	+21,993	+25,161	+23,297	+19,807	
US Deaths	+706	+1,513	+1,179	+1,215	+945	+602	

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## May 31st COVID-19 UPDATE

### Groton Daily Independent from State Health Lab Reports

It was a relatively quiet day in South Dakota with no county having double digit increases in positive cases. May looks to go out like a lamb. We'll see what June will bring!

Beadle and Pennington county each had an increase of 9. We did lose another county with perfect negative record - Gregory County had its first positive test. Only 33 cases in South Dakota.

Brown County has 3 fewer active cases, 2 new positive cases and 38 negative tests.

North Dakota reported one new death.

#### **Brown County:**

Active Cases: -3 (63)

Recovered: +5 (209)

Total Positive: +2 (273)

Ever Hospitalized: +1 (13)

Deaths: 1

Negative Tests: +38 (1507)

Percent Recovered: 77% (+2 percentage Points)

#### **South Dakota:**

Positive: +33 (4993 total)

Negative: +1157 (39135 total)

Hospitalized: +5 (432 total) - 86 currently hospitalized (7 less than yesterday)

Deaths: 0 (62 total)

Recovered: +32 (3837 total)

Active Cases: 1094 (1 more than yesterday)

Percent Recovered: 76.8% up 0.1

Counties with no positive cases report the following negative tests (Lost Gregory): Bennett 24, Brule +6 (238), Butte +1 (187), Campbell +8 (31), Custer +3 (147), Dewey +2 (348), Haakon +1 (37), Hanson +8 (73), Harding 29, Jones +2 (14), Mellette 66, Perkins +1 (22), Potter +1 (104), unassigned +65 (2713).

Aurora: +1 positive (13 of 26 recovered)

Beadle: +9 positive (68 of 261 recovered)

Brown: +2 positive, +5 recovered (209 of 273 recovered)

Codington: +1 positive (18 of 37 recovered)

Davison: +1 positive (9 of 16 recovered)

Gregory: First positive test

Jerauld: +1 positive, +2 recovered (18 of 35 recovered)

Lincoln: +1 positive, +2 recovered (202 of 238 recovered)

Meade: +1 positive (6 of 19 recovered)

Minnehaha: +4 positive, 16 recovered (2895 of 3349 recovered)

Oglala Lakota: +1 positive, +1 recovered (7 of 26 recovered)

Pennington: +9 positive, +5 recovered (59 of 227 recovered)

Todd: +1 positive, +1 recovered (17 of 27 recovered)

Union: -1 recovered (61 of 89 recovered)

Fully recovered from positive cases: Clark 4-4, Deuel 1-1, Faulk 1-1, Hyde 1-1, McPherson 1-1, Miner 1-1, Sully 1-1, Tripp 6-6, Walworth 5-5, Ziebach 1-1.

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The NDDoH & private labs report 2,084 completed tests today for COVID-19 with 23 new positive cases, bringing the statewide total to 2,577. NDDoH reports one new death.

State & private labs have reported 94,711 total completed tests.

1,959 ND patients are recovered.

## RACE/ETHNICITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

Race/Ethnicity	# of Cases	% of Cases
Asian, Non-Hispanic	580	12%
Black, Non-Hispanic	906	18%
Hispanic	881	18%
Native American, Non-Hispanic	493	10%
Other	594	12%
White, Non-Hispanic	1539	31%

County of Residence	# of Deaths
Beadle	5
Brown	1
Jerauld	1
McCook	1
Minnehaha	49
Pennington	4
Todd	1



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County	Positive Cases	Recovered Cases	Negative Cases
Aurora	26	13	118
Beadle	261	68	436
Bennett	0	0	24
Bon Homme	8	6	355
Brookings	16	15	676
Brown	273	209	1507
Brule	0	0	238
Buffalo	17	1	173
Butte	0	0	187
Campbell	0	0	31
Charles Mix	17	10	212
Clark	4	4	123
Clay	15	13	489
Codington	37	18	1074
Corson	4	3	57
Custer	0	0	147
Davison	16	9	782
Day	13	10	193
Deuel	1	1	211
Dewey	0	0	348
Douglas	3	1	151
Edmunds	1	0	67
Fall River	4	3	165
Faulk	1	1	51
Grant	13	9	135
Gregory	1	0	74
Haakon	0	0	37
Hamlin	4	3	150
Hand	2	1	98
Hanson	0	0	73
Harding	0	0	29
Hughes	19	15	649
Hutchinson	5	3	336

Hyde	1	1	33
Jackson	4	0	32
Jerauld	35	18	114
Jones	0	0	14
Kingsbury	1	0	201
Lake	8	6	262
Lawrence	11	9	510
Lincoln	238	202	2643
Lyman	14	8	204
Marshall	4	2	102
McCook	6	4	271
McPherson	1	1	53
Meade	19	6	635
Mellette	0	0	66
Miner	1	1	111
Minnehaha	3349	2895	13501
Moody	19	15	223
Oglala Lakota	26	7	262
Pennington	227	59	3328
Perkins	0	0	22
Potter	0	0	104
Roberts	36	17	596
Sanborn	13	6	93
Spink	5	4	272
Stanley	10	8	93
Sully	1	1	35
Todd	27	17	469
Tripp	6	6	185
Turner	24	20	347
Union	89	61	620
Walworth	5	5	192
Yankton	51	41	1378
Ziebach	1	1	55
Unassigned****	0	0	2713

## SEX OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

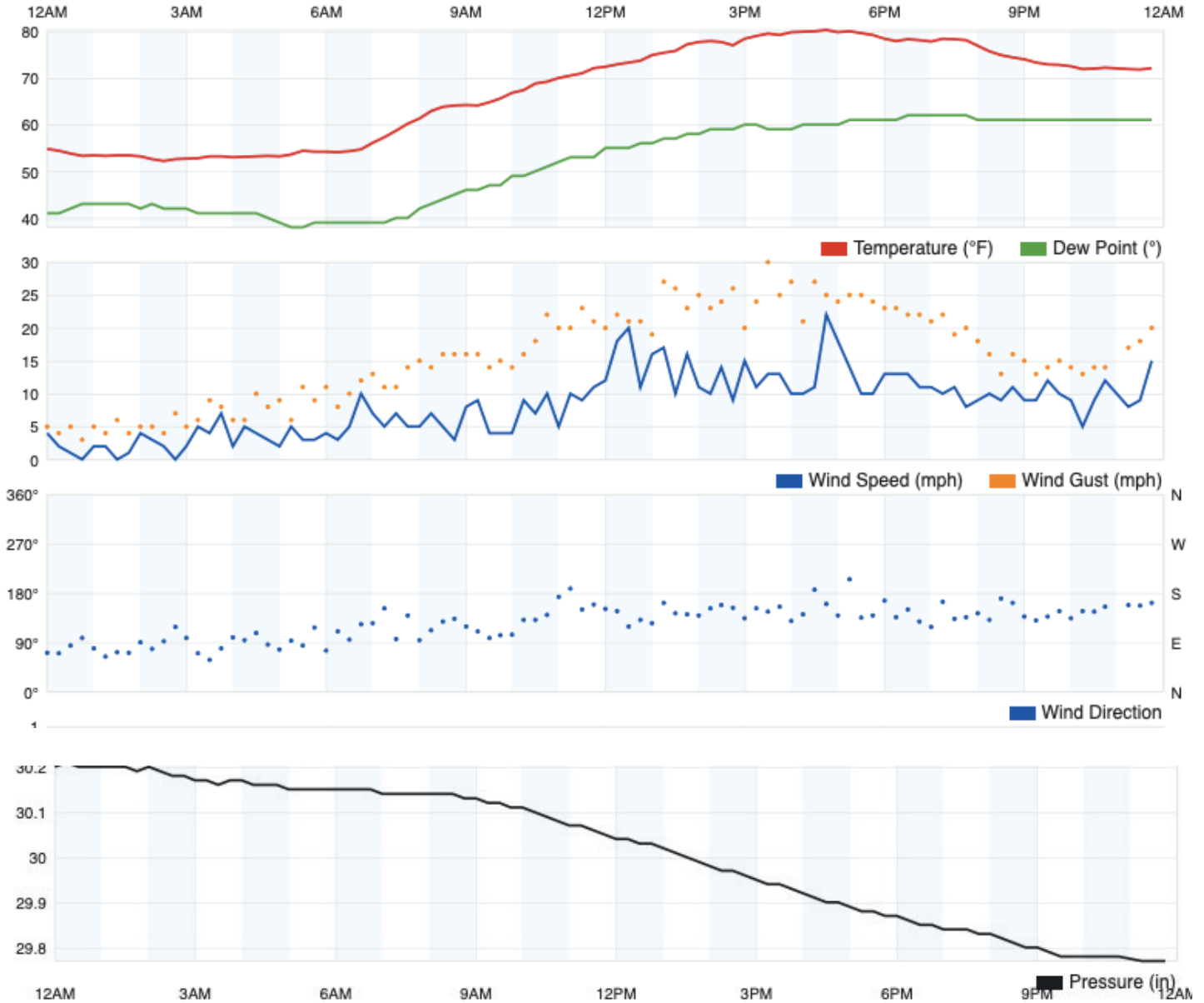
Sex	# of Cases	# of Deaths
Female	2329	35
Male	2631	27

Age Range	# of Cases	# of Deaths
0-19 years	475	0
20-29 years	964	1
30-39 years	1123	3
40-49 years	868	4
50-59 years	825	8
60-69 years	462	10
70-79 years	136	6
80+ years	140	30

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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs



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Today



Hot

High: 93 °F

Tonight



Mostly Clear

Low: 64 °F

Tuesday



Chance  
T-storms

High: 85 °F

Tuesday  
Night



Mostly Clear

Low: 57 °F

Wednesday



Sunny

High: 84 °F

## Severe Storms Possible Tuesday

ISSUED: 5:41 AM - Monday, June 01, 2020

### WHAT

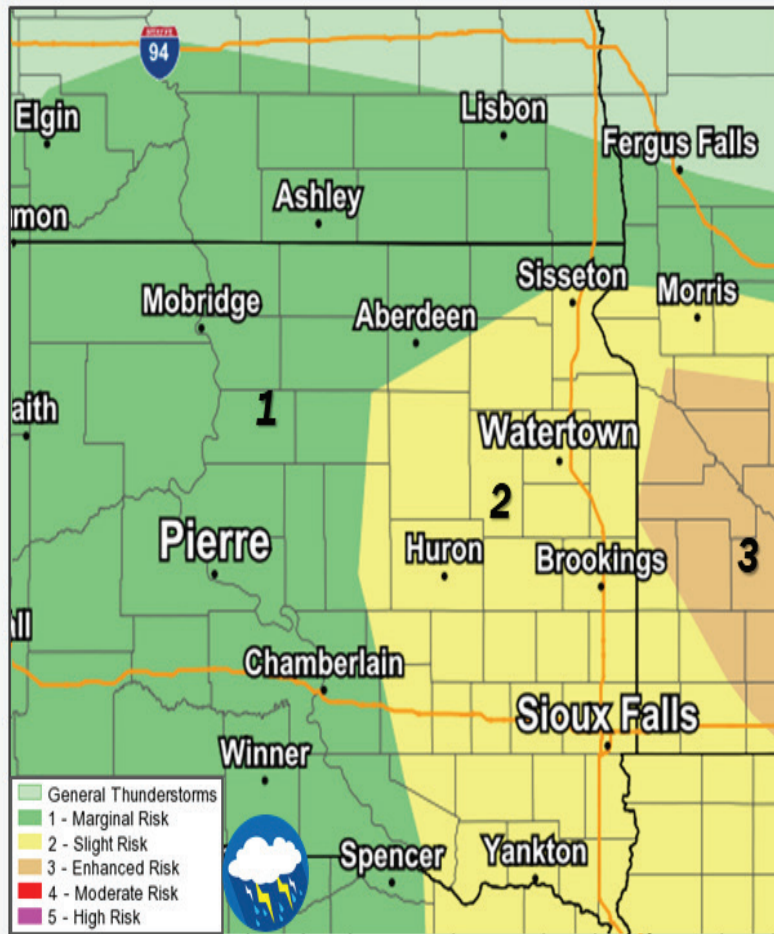
Scattered severe thunderstorms possible. These storms could produce **damaging wind gusts**, **large hail of around 2" in diameter**, and **even a tornado or two**.

### WHERE

Much of northeastern South Dakota and west central Minnesota, including Ortonville, Milbank, Watertown, and Redfield.

### WHEN

While a few strong t-storms are possible across north central South Dakota overnight, **the main event would take place during the afternoon hours** in the "Slight" (2) risk and higher "Enhanced" (3) risk areas, seen at right.



The risk for strong to severe storms exists Tuesday, as detailed in the graphic. Monitor the weather for updates, and have a plan of action in case storms threaten your area.

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## Today in Weather History

June 1, 1990: A small F0 tornado blew over two mobile homes on the north side of Groton. Numerous trees were either blown down or lost limbs. Also, high winds of 65 mph occurred 5 miles south and 1 mile east of Mellette.

June 1, 2008: Severe thunderstorms developed along the eastern slopes of the Black Hills and dropped large hail and heavy rain over eastern Custer and Shannon Counties. Softball sized hail was reported south of Hermosa.

June 1, 2011: High water levels coming into June along with above average June rainfall kept water levels up on Blue Dog, Bitter, Rush, and Waubay Lakes in Day County throughout the month. The high lake levels continued to cause extensive road and property damage. Many families remained away from their homes and cabins. Also, hundreds of acres of farmland remained flooded along with many roads. Road and property damage would be in the several millions of dollars. The high lake levels and flooding would continue for the next several months. In Hamlin County, Lake Poinsett, including several other lakes, continued to flood and damage several homes along with several county and township roads. High lake levels and flooding would continue for the next several months.

1903: During the early afternoon, one of the most destructive tornadoes in the history of Georgia up to this time, struck the outskirts of Gainesville. The track of the storm was about four miles in length and varied between 100 to 200 feet in width. The tornado touched down about one mile southwest of Gainesville, striking a large cotton mill at 12:45 pm, Eastern Time, just 10 minutes after 750 employees filed into the great structure from dinner. On the top floor of the mill were employed 250 children, and it was here that the greatest loss of life occurred.

1919: Snowfall of almost a half-inch fell at Denver, Colorado. This storm produced their greatest 24-hour snowfall recorded in June. Two temperature records were set: The low temperature of 32 degrees was a record low for the date, and the high of only 40 degrees was a record low maximum. Cheyenne, Wyoming recorded 1.6 inches of snow, which is one of only six times that at least one inch of snow has fallen at Cheyenne in June.

1934: June started off on a warm note as high temperatures surpassed the century mark across parts of the Midwest. Several locations tied or set a record high temperatures for June including: Rockford, IL: 106°, Mather, WI: 105°, Hatfield, WI: 103°, Mondovi, WI: 102°, Chicago, IL: 102° and Grand Rapids, MI tied their June record high with 102°.

1999: A tornado with an intermittent damage path destroyed 200 homes, businesses, and other buildings in the southern portion of St. James, Missouri. Of these, 33 homes were destroyed along with the St. James Golf Course clubhouse and two Missouri Department of Transportation buildings. The tornado then moved east, south of the downtown St. James area and intensified. F2 to F3 damage occurred with a 200 to 300-yard damage path. Several homes and farm buildings were severely damaged or destroyed. Further north, severe thunderstorms produced many tornadoes around central Illinois. The most intense tornado touched down in Montgomery County south of Farmersville and moved into southwest Christian County. One person was killed when a semi-trailer overturned at a rest area on I-55. Across eastern parts of the state, high winds up to 70 mph caused damage to trees, power lines, and some buildings. The Mattoon area also reported flooding from these storms, producing \$3 million dollars in damage.



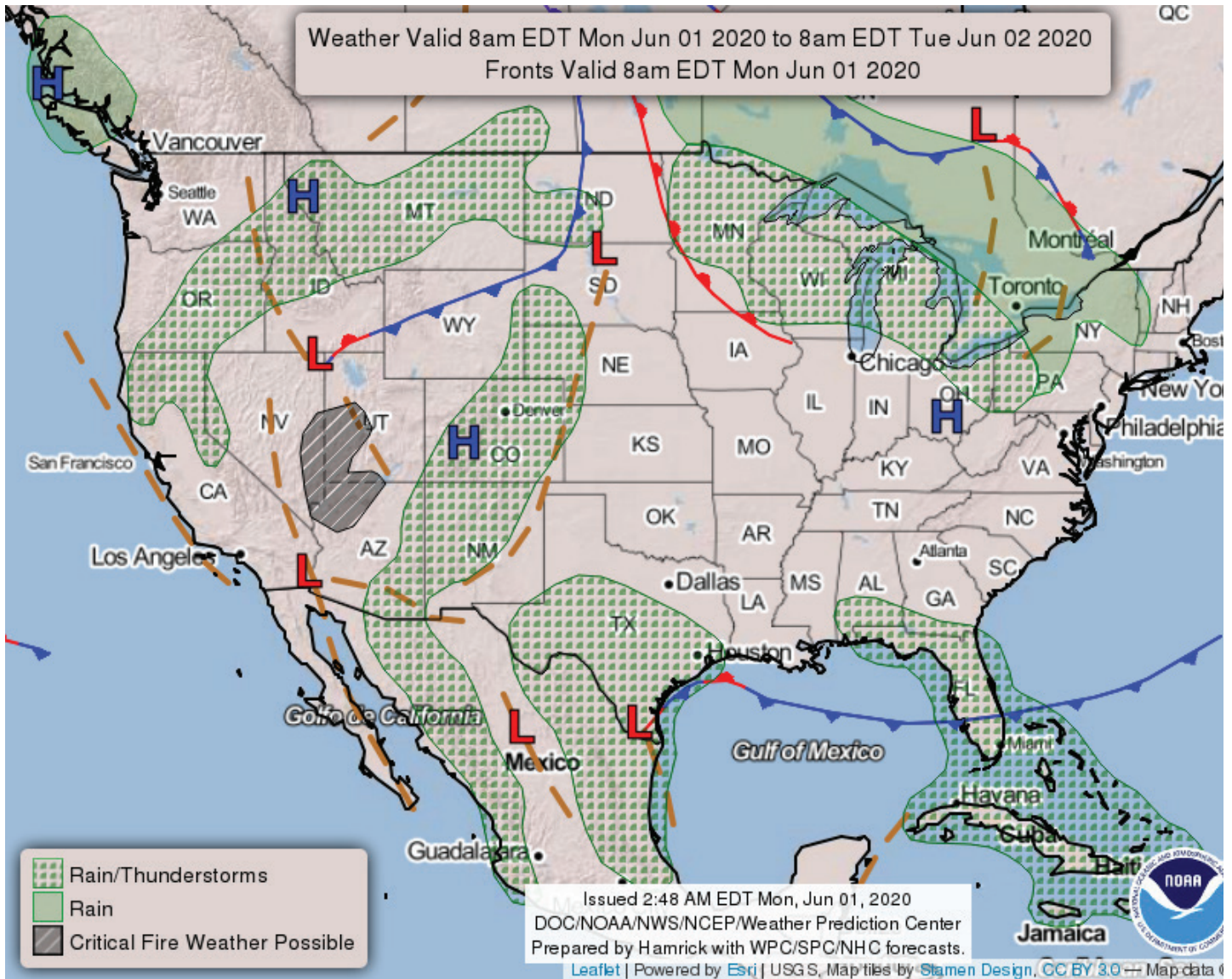
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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

**High Temp: 80 °F at 4:20 PM**  
**Low Temp: 52 °F at 2:25 AM**  
**Wind: 30 mph at 3:22 PM**  
**Precip: .00**

**Record High: 99° in 1933**  
**Record Low: 34° in 1946**  
**Average High: 73°F**  
**Average Low: 50°F**  
**Average Precip in May.: 3.11**  
**Precip to date in May.: 2.73**  
**Average Precip to date: 7.14**  
**Precip Year to Date: 4.63**  
**Sunset Tonight: 9:15 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:48 a.m.**





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## WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH MY WORLD?

It was Jim's sixth birthday, and his father wanted him to begin to understand continents and nations. So, he bought him a lighted globe. He was fascinated with the way it glowed in the dark and gently lit his room. And, he also enjoyed the time his Dad spent in his room telling him stories about the different countries of the world and bodies of water.

One evening his Dad silently slipped into his room thinking that Jim was asleep. He wanted to "borrow" the globe so he could locate the countries that were mentioned during the evening news hour.

As he was leaving, Jim who was not asleep, asked, "Dad, what are you doing with my world?"

What a great question. Surely, God would have each of us answer a similar question: "What are you doing in My world on My behalf?" Or, perhaps, "What are you doing for Me in My world?"

Jesus said that "God loved the world so much that He sent Me into the world to save the people of the world." We know that Jesus fulfilled God's plan for His life; He gave His life on the cross for our salvation. We also know that He is now in heaven with His Father. And, we also know that the work that Jesus began is to be carried on by us - His disciples.

As His disciples, it is important, no it is critical, that we ask ourselves constantly, "What are we doing in God's world today to save the lost for whom my Son, your Savior, died?"

Prayer: Lord, give us an urgency to do Your work in Your world to save the lost. Do not let us know peace or rest until we bring Your message to someone each day. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

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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

## News from the Associated Press

### **Noem activates National Guard after protests turn violent**

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Gov. Governor Kristi Noem activated the National Guard after protests in Sioux Fall turned violent over the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis last week.

The Argus Leader reports the protest in South Dakota's largest city started Sunday afternoon with a march downtown. Police said dozens of protesters later congregated at the Empire Mall and began throwing rocks at officers.

Several businesses in the area of the Empire Mall had windows damaged.

Police said protesters had dispersed by 11 p.m.

Noem said about 70 Guard members are in Sioux Falls and will remain until they are no longer needed. "Rioting and looting will not be tolerated in South Dakota," Noem said.

### **Primaries become test run for campaigning during coronavirus**

By **NICHOLAS RICCARDI** and **MARC LEVY** Associated Press

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Tuesday's primaries in eight states are the biggest test to date of campaigning during the coronavirus era, a way for parties to test-drive new ways of getting out the vote during a time when it can be dangerous to leave your home.

Voters from Pennsylvania to Iowa to New Mexico will cast ballots in both the Democratic presidential contest, where former Vice President Joe Biden is the only contender with an active campaign, and a host of down-ballot primaries for everything from governors to state representatives. Many states postponed elections scheduled between mid-March and May to the date because of the coronavirus outbreak.

Unable to send candidates out to barnstorm the states or volunteers to knock on voters' doors, campaigns have had to improvise. One Pennsylvania Republican congressional campaign recruited 100 people, including its candidate's large extended family, to hand-write thousands of letters to voters urging support. Another organized "pop-up food banks" for the needy. Others moved up television advertising to capitalize on a captive audience locked down at home. Democrats have created a phone banking model almost along the lines of a technology support hub, where knowledgeable volunteers and staffers can guide confused voters, step by step, through the process of voting by mail.

"Any plan you had three months ago is out the window," said Brock Lowrance, a Republican strategist working on two Montana races — Sen. Steve Daines' reelection bid and Rep. Greg Gianforte's bid for the GOP gubernatorial nomination. "Campaigns are having to adapt in the ways they're talking to voters but also in the ways voters are going to vote."

Some voting experts predict half or more of all ballots cast in the November election will be sent through the mail, as the Centers for Disease Control recommends as a way to lessen risk of exposure to the virus at polling stations. States have scrambled to adjust to the new reality with some sending every voter an absentee ballot request.

In Iowa, the traditional frenzy of pre-primary barbecues and rallies has shifted to twice-a-week Zoom training of volunteers for Democratic Senate candidate Theresa Greenfield, who then start dialing voters to ensure they've requested and returned their mail ballots.

"Just because we're staying home doesn't mean we're standing still," said Sam Newton, communication director for Greenfield.

In Montana, where the populace is more accustomed to voting by mail, the outbreak has still altered the rhythm of the political season. Lowrance says he's noticed far more down-ballot races advertising on television, a reflection of how campaigns have fewer ways to reach voters and more eyeballs glued to the screen during quarantine.

Lowrance said campaigns, including his own, have had to watch their budgets as the pandemic and eco-

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conomic crash have crimped fundraising and refrained from hiring the legion of door-knockers who usually hit the streets before elections. And now they are having to plan for two possibilities — that November will resemble the intense lockdowns of the past two months, or the more mixed reality of reopened states.

“It’s really trying to build two different plans and execute them,” Lowrance said.

The greatest attention is on Pennsylvania, however. It’s simultaneously the biggest state voting on Tuesday, the only one that is likely to be a presidential battleground in November and the state that’s seen the biggest shift in voting in the COVID-19 era.

That’s because this is the first statewide election under a new, more permissive mail voting law passed last year. In 2016, only 4.6% of the state’s voters cast a ballot by mail. Now 21% of all the state’s 8.5 million voters have already requested absentee ballots.

Democrats are overwhelmingly the ones asking to vote by mail — 1.3 million have filed requests, compared with 525,000 Republicans, state records show. That’s partly a reflection of GOP distrust of mail voting that’s been stoked by President Donald Trump, who’s claimed without evidence it will lead to widespread fraud. Even the Trump campaign, recognizing that getting supporters to mail ballots in is key to winning elections, has been pushing Republicans to use the technique.

Some Pennsylvania Republicans have worried Trump is hobbling the party by making its voters distrust the easiest method of voting during the pandemic. Others argue the gap will close in the fall, when Democrats aren’t the only ones to have a presidential candidate on the ballot.

“They had that Bernie and Biden thing going, and it drove some enthusiasm, as it naturally would,” said Dave Feidt, the party chairman in Dauphin County, home to the state capital of Harrisburg. “But to come full circle, you’ll see a very different dynamic in the fall when things are R against D.”

Democrats are elated with their mail ballot lead, saying it reflects their voters’ excitement. “They’re willing to crawl through broken glass to make sure they participate,” said Democratic National Committee spokesman David Bergstein.

The party has also shifted its campaign tactics, building upon its success in Wisconsin, where the state party pushed mail voting heavily and Democrats won a contested state supreme court election in April. The party has distributed new call scripts to volunteers with detailed instructions on mail voting and ensured there are experts who can walk confused voters through requesting ballots. People marooned at home are answering phones and texts at a notably higher rate, Bergstein said.

Pennsylvania has revealed one potential weak spot for Democrats in the mail voting era — African Americans voters, who operatives say have been requesting ballots at lower rates. Claudette Williams, a black Democrat running for a state legislative seat in eastern Pennsylvania, has had to replace her regular circuit of black churches with regular Zoom calls with black ministers and their parishioners. Her campaign has also organized “pop-up food banks” to distribute food to the needy, at a distance, during the outbreak.

Normally Williams would be frantically meeting voters in the days before a primary. “Today I have to pick up 60 pounds of meat for a pop-up pantry,” she said Friday.

Republicans have also been testing new ways of reaching voters. Once the lockdowns began, it switched its Trump Victory organizing push to online meetings, says it recruited 300,000 new members who have made millions of calls, often with the aid of the campaign’s app that helps target voters in key states.

“Within just 24 hours, our teams transitioned to an entirely virtual campaign,” said Republican National Committee spokeswoman Mandi Merritt.

Also conducting primaries Tuesday are Indiana, Maryland, Rhode Island and South Dakota.

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Catch up on the 2020 election campaign with AP experts on our weekly politics podcast, “Ground Game.”

## South Dakota coronavirus cases near 5,000; 33 new cases

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota is nearing 5,000 confirmed cases of the coronavirus, according to the South Dakota Department of Health.

State health officials on Sunday reported 33 new COVID-19 cases, bringing the state’s total to 4,993.

The number of active cases grew by one, to 1,094. The number of deaths reported in South Dakota since the start of the pandemic remains at 62.

The Department of Health reports 86 people are currently hospitalized, a drop of seven since Saturday. Of South Dakota's confirmed coronavirus cases, Minnehaha County, the state's most populous county, leads with 3,349, with four new cases Sunday, the Argus Leader reports.

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.

## The Latest: Calls in Paris for protest over Floyd, Traore

By The Associated Press

The Latest on the death in Minneapolis of George Floyd, a handcuffed black man who pleaded for air as a white police officer pressed a knee on his neck:

**PARIS** — In France, family and friends of a French black man who died shortly after he was arrested by police in 2016 have called for a protest on Tuesday which will also pay homage to George Floyd.

The circumstances of the death of Adama Traore, a French 24-old-man of Malian origin, are still under investigation by justice authorities.

Calls for Tuesday's protest in front of the Paris court come after some medical experts last week attributed the death to a cardiac problem, the latest in a series of conflicting medical assessments.

French police claimed Traore died of a heart attack due to pre-existing medical condition. His family said he died from asphyxiation from police tactics.

In a video message published on social media, Traore's sister Assa Traore calls for protesters to express their indignation "at a time when the world, when France is outraged by the death of George Floyd."

She said "they had the same words, their last words: 'I can't breathe, I can't breathe.'"

She denounced the latest medical experts' report as "racist" and "untrue."

The family wants the officers in charge of Traore's arrest to go on trial.

**ALBUQUERQUE**, New Mexico — A protest along the historic Route 66 into downtown Albuquerque turned violent early Monday after police reported demonstrators setting small fires and officers say they were fired upon.

Albuquerque police spokesman Gilbert Gallegos says officers reported shots fired at them in front of the historic Kimo Theater early Monday after a mostly peaceful demonstration disbanded. Gallego said there was damage to several properties in the area, including broken windows and some stealing from stores.

No injuries were reported.

Before the chaos, hundreds of people on Sunday marched down historic Route 66, protesting the death of George Floyd.

Protesters in New Mexico's largest city held signs, wore masks and chanted, "Say his name: George Floyd" and "Hands up, don't shoot."

Activist Arthur Bell told protesters there will be another demonstration Monday evening in front of Albuquerque Police Department headquarters, but that rally will be "different."

When The Associated Press asked Bell what he meant by "different," he said: "A general never gives out his tactics."

**SYDNEY** — Fearful of conflict, organizers have canceled a peaceful protest planned for Sydney over the death of George Floyd in the United States.

A rally planned at Sydney's downtown Hyde Park for Tuesday was canceled on Monday after people threatened to create "havoc and protest against the event," an organizer said on social media.

The rally was presented as a peaceful protest against the overrepresentation of indigenous Australians



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in Australia's criminal justice system as well as in solidarity for Floyd who was "brutally and inhumanly murdered."

Organizers posted that "although Australia is far from where the murder took place, we have a voice."

Thousands of protesters are expected at similar rallies planned for the Australian cities of Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide on Saturday.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison told Sydney Radio 2GB on Monday "there's no need to import things ... happening in other countries here to Australia," referring to U.S. riots.

**TEHRAN, Iran** — In Iran, which has in the recent past violently put down nationwide demonstrations by killing hundreds, arresting thousands and disrupting internet access to the outside world, state television has repeatedly aired images of the U.S. unrest.

Foreign ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi urged the U.S. government and police to stop the violence against their own people during a press conference in Tehran on Monday.

"To American officials and police! Stop violence against your people and let them breathe," Mousavi said and also sent a message to the American people that "the world is standing with you." He added that Iran is saddened to see "the violence the U.S. police have recently" set off.

**BEIJING** — Chinese state media has weighed in on the protests in the U.S., comparing them to last year's violent anti-government demonstrations in Hong Kong that Beijing accuses the U.S. and other foreign forces as encouraging.

In an editorial Sunday, the ruling Communist Party newspaper Global Times said Chinese experts had noted that U.S. politicians might "think twice" before commenting again on issues in Hong Kong, knowing that "their words might backfire on them one day."

That followed a commentary on state broadcaster CCTV Saturday that described the violence between police and protesters in the U.S. as "cup of bitter wine distilled by the U.S. politicians themselves." Racism, the commentary said, is the "darkest shadow on American history and the scar that will not heal."

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said Monday that the protests in various American cities "once again reflect the racial discrimination in the U.S., the serious problems of police violent enforcement and the urgency of solving these problems." China hopes the U.S. will "safeguard and guarantee the legal rights of ethnic minorities," Zhao said at a daily briefing on Monday.

The protests are an opportunity for China to allege double-standards and counter criticism from foreign governments and the Western media over its handling of the Hong Kong protests, its treatment of Muslim minorities in the northwestern region of Xinjiang and other human rights issues.

**SAN FRANCISCO** — The state Department of Human Resources sent a directive to close all California state buildings "with offices in downtown city areas" on Monday, a sweeping mandate that covers everything from Department of Motor Vehicles offices to those that license workers and provide health care.

"After consultation with the California Highway Patrol and Office of Emergency Services, the decision was made this evening to advise all state departments with offices in downtown city areas to close tomorrow, and to notify staff of the decision," said Amy Palmer, a spokeswoman for the state Government Operations Agency.

The directive was sent Sunday evening and it was left up to officials at individual agencies to determine which buildings should be closed.

A state Department of Justice memo sent to employees said the attorney general's offices in Sacramento, Oakland, San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego would be closed, though employees who can work from home should do so.

"Staff assigned to these offices should not report to work for any reason. Staff who are able to telework should continue to do so despite the office closures," the memo said.

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PORTLAND, Ore. — Police in Portland deployed tear gas to disperse a large crowd downtown late Sunday night after authorities said projectiles were thrown at officers.

Earlier, police said protesters smashed windows at the federal courthouse, and authorities on loudspeakers declared the gathering a civil disturbance.

Thousands of people marched throughout Oregon's largest city on Sunday, the third day of George Floyd protests in Portland. For much of the afternoon and evening protesters were largely peaceful, but there were reports of increased violence directed at police into the night.

BOSTON — A Sunday afternoon of mostly peaceful protests in Boston broke at nightfall when protesters clashed with officers, throwing rocks, breaking into several stores and lighting a police vehicle on fire.

Boston police tweeted that at least 40 people had been arrested as of 3 a.m. Monday. Police said seven police officers had been hospitalized and 21 police cruisers were damaged.

A National Guard unit had been called in to help quell the clashes.

Republican Gov. Charlie Baker called the violence "criminal and cowardly" in a tweet. The nighttime destruction was a stark contrast to the several protests earlier Sunday that featured thousands of demonstrations marching peacefully.

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea's official Rodong Sinmun newspaper on Monday reported the demonstrations across the United States in reaction to the death of George Floyd, saying protesters "harshly condemned" a white police officer's "lawless and brutal murder" of a black citizen.

The article, published with photos, said hundreds of protesters gathered in front of the White House chanting "No justice, no peace." It also said there were demonstrations in Minneapolis, New York, Denver, Chicago, Los Angeles and Memphis and that the protests were expected to grow further.

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — Several thousand people marched Monday in New Zealand's largest city, Auckland, to protest George Floyd's death and show solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement.

The protesters marched from Aotea Square to the U.S. consulate, where they kneeled. They held banners with slogans such as "I can't breathe" and "The Real Virus is Racism." Hundreds more joined protests and vigils elsewhere in the country, on a day that was a public holiday.

The protests were peaceful. Protesters said they were also standing up against police violence and racism in New Zealand.

## Lockdowns ease across Europe, Asia with new tourism rules

By NICOLE WINFIELD, PABLO GORONDI and KELLI KENNEDY Associated Press

ROME (AP) — The first day of June saw coronavirus restrictions ease from Asia to Europe on Monday, even as U.S. protests against police brutality sparked fears of new outbreaks. The Colosseum opened its ancient doors in Rome, ferries restarted in Bangladesh, golfers played in Greece, students returned in Britain and Dutch bars and restaurants were free to welcome hungry, thirsty patrons.

Countries around the Mediterranean Sea began tentatively to kickoff a summer season in which tourists could bask in their famously sunny beaches while still being protected by social distancing measures from a virus that is marching relentlessly around the world.

"We are reopening a symbol. A symbol of Rome, a symbol for Italy," said Alfonsina Russo, director of the Colosseum's archaeological park. "(We are) restarting in a positive way, with a different pace, with a more sustainable tourism, compatible with our cities."

Greece lifted lockdown measures Monday for hotels, campsites, open-air cinemas, golf courses and public swimming pools, while beaches and museums reopened in Turkey and bars, restaurants, cinemas and museums came back to life in the Netherlands.

A long line of masked visitors snaked outside the Vatican Museums, which include the Sistine Chapel, as they reopened for the first time in three months. Italy is eager to reboot its tourism industry, which

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accounts for 13% of its economy.

The Vatican Museums' famous keyholder — the "clavigero" who holds the keys to all the galleries on a big ring on his wrist — opened the gate in a sign both symbolic and literal that the Museums were back in business.

Still, strict crowd control measures were in place at both the Vatican and the Colosseum: visitors needed reservations to visit the landmarks, their temperatures were taken before entering and wearing a mask was mandatory.

The Dutch relaxation of coronavirus rules took place on a major public holiday with the sun blazing, raising immediate fears of overcrowding in popular beach resorts like Scheveningen, near The Hague. The new rules let bars and restaurants serve up to 30 people inside if they keep social distancing, but there's no standing at bars and reservations are necessary.

Britain, which with over 38,500 dead has the world's second-worst death toll behind the United States, eased restrictions despite warnings from health officials that the risk of spreading COVID-19 was still too great.

Some elementary classes reopened in England and people could now have limited contact with family and friends, but only outdoors and with social distancing.

In Asia, Bangladesh restarted bus, train, ferry and flight services Monday, hoping that a gradual reopening revives an economy in which millions have become jobless. Traffic jams and crowds of commuters clogged Manila, as the Philippine capital embraced a high-stakes gamble to kickstart the economy.

Around 6.18 million infections have been reported worldwide, with over 372,000 people dying, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University. The true death toll is believed to be significantly higher, since many victims died without ever being tested.

In the U.S., the often-violent protests over the death of George Floyd, a black man pinned at the neck by a white Minneapolis police officer, are raising fears of new virus outbreaks in a country that has more confirmed infections and deaths than any other.

Protests over Floyd's death have shaken the U.S. from New York to Los Angeles. Demonstrators are packed cheek by jowl, many without masks, many chanting, shouting or singing. The virus is dispersed by microscopic droplets in the air when people cough, sneeze, talk or sing.

"There's no question that when you put hundreds or thousands of people together in close proximity, when we have got this virus all over the streets ... it's not healthy," Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan said.

The U.S. has seen more than 1.7 million infections and over 104,000 deaths in the pandemic, which has disproportionately affected racial minorities in a nation that does not have universal health care.

South Korea and India offered cautionary tales Monday about just how hard it is to halt the virus.

South Korea reported a steady rise in cases around the capital after getting praise earlier from around the world for appearing to bring its outbreak under control. Hundreds of infections have been linked to nightspots, restaurants and a massive e-commerce warehouse near Seoul, the capital. The 35 new cases reported Monday include 30 around Seoul, and the resurgence is straining the country's ability to test patients and trace their contacts.

"We have been seeing an increased number of high-risk patients who have been infected through family members or religious gatherings," said Jeong Eun-kyeong, director of the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "There's a particular need for people over 65, pregnant women and those with chronic medical conditions to be alert."

Incheon, a port city west of Seoul, on Monday said it's considering banning gatherings at 4,200 churches and other religious facilities.

In India, cases increased rapidly even as it eased restrictions Monday on shops and public transport in more states. Subways and schools remain closed and experts said India is still far from reaching the peak of its outbreak. The government was easing the lockdown to help millions of day laborers who have lost their jobs and are unable to feed their families.

China, where the global pandemic is believed to have originated late last year, reported 16 new cases on Monday, all travelers from abroad. With local transmissions having fallen to virtually zero, much of China

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has reopened for business and Monday saw the further restart of classes in middle and high schools. Kindergartners and fourth- and fifth-graders will be allowed back next week.

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa says China has pledged to make available 30 million COVID-19 testing kits per month to African countries, which are facing a shortage.

The U.S. has sent Brazil more than 2 million doses of a malaria drug touted by President Donald Trump as potential treatment for coronavirus, despite a scientific study that shows it can actually harm patients. Brazil is Latin America's hardest-hit nation in the pandemic, with nearly 515,000 confirmed cases, second only to the U.S.

Japan, meanwhile, started blood tests Monday in three areas including Tokyo to check to what percentage of its people have developed antibodies, a sign of past coronavirus infections. The tests will be conducted on 10,000 randomly selected people over 20 years old and results are expected at the end of the month.

## Trump took shelter in White House bunker as protests raged

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secret Service agents rushed President Donald Trump to a White House bunker on Friday night as hundreds of protesters gathered outside the executive mansion, some of them throwing rocks and tugging at police barricades.

Trump spent nearly an hour in the bunker, which was designed for use in emergencies like terrorist attacks, according to a Republican close to the White House who was not authorized to publicly discuss private matters and spoke on the condition of anonymity. The account was confirmed by an administration official who also spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The abrupt decision by the agents underscored the rattled mood inside the White House, where the chants from protesters in Lafayette Park could be heard all weekend and Secret Service agents and law enforcement officers struggled to contain the crowds.

Friday's protests were triggered by the death of George Floyd, a black man who died after he was pinned at the neck by a white Minneapolis police officer. The demonstrations in Washington turned violent and appeared to catch officers by surprise. They sparked one of the highest alerts on the White House complex since the Sept. 11 attacks in 2001.

"The White House does not comment on security protocols and decisions," said White House spokesman Judd Deere. The Secret Service said it does not discuss the means and methods of its protective operations. The president's move to the bunker was first reported by The New York Times.

The president and his family have been shaken by the size and venom of the crowds, according to the Republican. It was not immediately clear if first lady Melania Trump and the couple's 14-year-old son, Barron, joined the president in the bunker. Secret Service protocol would have called for all those under the agency's protection to be in the underground shelter.

Trump has told advisers he worries about his safety, while both privately and publicly praising the work of the Secret Service.

Trump traveled to Florida on Saturday to view the first manned space launch from the U.S. in nearly a decade. He returned to a White House under virtual siege, with protesters — some violent — gathered just a few hundred yards away through much of the night.

Demonstrators returned Sunday afternoon, facing off against police at Lafayette Park into the evening.

Trump continued his effort to project strength, using a series of inflammatory tweets and delivering partisan attacks during a time of national crisis.

As cities burned night after night and images of violence dominated television coverage, Trump's advisers discussed the prospect of an Oval Office address in an attempt to ease tensions. The notion was quickly scrapped for lack of policy proposals and the president's own seeming disinterest in delivering a message of unity.

Trump did not appear in public on Sunday. Instead, a White House official who was not authorized to discuss the plans ahead of time said Trump was expected in the coming days to draw distinctions between



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the legitimate anger of peaceful protesters and the unacceptable actions of violent agitators.

On Sunday, Trump retweeted a message from a conservative commentator encouraging authorities to respond with greater force.

"This isn't going to stop until the good guys are willing to use overwhelming force against the bad guys," Buck Sexton wrote in a message amplified by the president.

In recent days security at the White House has been reinforced by the National Guard and additional personnel from the Secret Service and the U.S. Park Police.

On Sunday, the Justice Department deployed members of the U.S. Marshals Service and agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration to supplement National Guard troops outside the White House, according to a senior Justice Department official. The official could not discuss the matter publicly and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

## Civil unrest could influence Biden's search for running mate

By ALEXANDRA JAFFE and BILL BARROW Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Joe Biden's search for a running mate could be reshaped by the police killing of George Floyd and the unrest it has ignited across the country, raising questions about contenders with law-and-order backgrounds and intensifying pressure on the presumptive Democratic nominee to select a black woman.

Biden, who has already pledged to pick a woman, has cast a wide net in his search. Some of the women on his list have drawn national praise amid the protests over Floyd's death, including Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms, who delivered an impassioned appeal for calm in her city on Friday night. But the outcry over police brutality against minorities has complicated the prospects of Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, who had a controversial record addressing police violence as a prosecutor in the city where Floyd died.

Biden's choice of a running mate will be among the most consequential decisions he makes in the campaign, particularly given that the 77-year-old is already talking about himself as a "transition" candidate to a new generation of Democratic leaders. His pick will also be viewed as a signal both of his values and who he believes should have representation at the highest level of the American government.

Even before the outcry over Floyd's death, some Biden allies were already urging him to put a black woman on the ticket given the critical role African Americans played in his path to the Democratic nomination. Those calls have gotten louder in recent days.

"The more we see this level of hatred, the more I think it's important to confront it with symbolic acts, including potentially the selection of an African American woman as vice president," said Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers and one of the labor leaders who's been asked for input by Biden's team on the selection process.

Bottoms is one of several black women under consideration by Biden's campaign. Others Biden is believed to be considering include California Sen. Kamala Harris, Florida Rep. Val Demings and Stacey Abrams, the Georgia Democrat and voting rights activist.

Demings didn't answer directly when asked if the events of the past week increased pressure on Biden to choose a black woman in an interview with The Associated Press on Sunday.

"Well, we've never seen a black woman selected as a vice presidential candidate. But I think the American people want someone who cares about their issues and are willing to move the ball forward,"

Asked if she believes race should be left out of the conversation, she was careful to defer to Biden.

"It doesn't really matter what I think," she said. "What matters is what Americans think, and what Joe Biden thinks."

Demings, a former Orlando police chief, wrote a high-profile editorial on Friday challenging her former colleagues in law enforcement.

"As a former woman in blue, let me begin with my brothers and sisters in blue: What in the hell are you doing?" Demings wrote in The Washington Post.

Politicians with law-and-order backgrounds have been viewed skeptically by some in the Democratic Party



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given the high-profile instances of police brutality against minorities and other inequities in the criminal justice system. In an interview Sunday, Demings defended herself and other potential contenders with such backgrounds, declaring "you're either gonna be part of the problem or part of the solution."

"And I think the community wants people who understand the system from the inside out in order to bring real life necessary reforms," she said.

Harris faced criticism throughout her Democratic primary campaign for her record as a prosecutor and attorney general in California, when she resisted reforms that would have required her office to investigate killings by police and established statewide standards for body cameras.

Former Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid suggested a resume as a prosecutor could be problematic for potential contenders.

"Prosecutors are not very popular, especially among young people now," he said. "I've got a granddaughter who is graduating from law school and she wants to be a public defender. She doesn't want to be a prosecutor. And I think a lot of younger people feel the same."

Klobuchar, who also sought the Democratic nomination, has faced questions about her eight years as prosecutor for Minnesota's largest county during the primary. Most of the more than two dozen people who died during police encounters in her tenure were people of color, according to data compiled by Communities United Against Police Brutality and news articles reviewed by the AP.

An officer involved in one of those past fatal incidents was Derek Chauvin, who was arrested and charged Friday with Floyd's murder.

Since ending her campaign, Klobuchar has emerged as a key Biden surrogate and some Democrats see her as a running mate who could help him appeal to some of the white, working-class voters who turned against the party in the 2016 election. Yet some Democrats say the renewed focus on police brutality could complicate her path.

"This is very tough timing for her," said Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C., a top Biden ally.

Klobuchar has said that she is confident Biden will make the right choice and that she's not thinking about politics right now.

Biden has said he will announce a running mate by Aug. 1, a timeline that leaves plenty of time for the national mood to shift again, particularly as the coronavirus pandemic and resulting economic collapse pressed on.

Those twin crises have already led to increased scrutiny for others in the mix to become Biden's running mate.

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, a frequent Trump target during the pandemic for her resistance to lifting stay at home orders, faced questions after her husband allegedly tried to skip the line with a dock company and get his boat in the water ahead of other patrons over Memorial Day weekend.

And Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham of New Mexico was criticized by Republicans in her state following a report that she purchased jewelry from a local business just days after she ordered non-essential businesses to shut down and told residents to stay home.

Former New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, who was vetted as a potential vice presidential pick in 2004, said the scrutiny contenders are facing now has "proliferated."

"The scrutiny compared to when I was vetted is so much more intense and potentially troublesome for a VP candidate," he said.

Biden's search process is still in a relatively early phase. A search committee has been meeting with power players on the left, with special attention to Democratic leaders on Capitol Hill and across organized labor. Biden, who has largely been cloistered at his home in Delaware during the pandemic, would also like to conduct in person meetings with finalists.

"It's important for him to see the candidate, talk to the candidate, get body language from the candidate. And I don't mean one time. I think it needs to be several times," said Cedric Richmond, a Louisiana congressman and campaign co-chair.

## Mass gatherings, erosion of trust upend coronavirus control

By MIKE STOBBE AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Protests erupting across the nation over the past week — and law enforcement's response to them — are threatening to upend efforts by health officials to track and contain the spread of coronavirus just as those efforts were finally getting underway.

Health experts need newly infected people to remember and recount everyone they've interacted with over several days in order to alert others who may have been exposed, and prevent them from spreading the disease further. But that process, known as contact tracing, relies on people knowing who they've been in contact with — a daunting task if they've been to a mass gathering.

And the process relies on something that may suddenly be in especially short supply: Trust in government. "These events that are happening now are further threats to the trust we need," said Dr. Sandro Galea, dean of the Boston University School of Public Health. "If we do not have that, I worry our capacity to control new outbreaks becomes more limited," he said.

Government officials have been hoping to continue reopening businesses, churches and other organizations after months of stay-at-home orders and other infection-prevention measures. But health experts also hoped that any reopening would be accompanied by widespread testing, contact tracing and isolation to prevent new waves of illness from beginning.

Over the past week, protests sparked by the death of George Floyd, a black man who died after a white Minneapolis police officer pinned a knee to his neck, have involved thousands of people gathered tightly together in large crowds in more than 20 cities nationwide.

It's unclear if the protests themselves will trigger large new outbreaks. The protests were outside, where infections don't spread as readily as indoors. Also, many of the protesters were wearing masks, and much of the contact was likely less-hazardous "transient" moments of people moving around, passing each other, said Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious diseases expert at Vanderbilt University.

But, still, experts worry that public efforts to contain the disease in the future could be undermined.

In Los Angeles, the city's mayor announced Saturday that COVID-19 testing centers were being closed because of safety concerns related to violent protests. Testing in Minneapolis will be affected because some of the clinics that provide the service have been damaged in the protests, according to a city government spokesperson.

Reduced testing could "be giving the virus another head start," Schaffner said.

And contract tracing, which is only just getting going in several states, is an even bigger concern. It involves people who work for or with health departments asking intimate questions about where a person has been and who they've been talking to — and getting full, truthful answers in return.

"In this current environment which has enhanced or brought forth a mistrust of governmental authority, it might make them disinclined to speak with anyone in government," Schaffner said.

That is especially true in black communities trying to cope with episodes of police violence and longstanding frustrations with how they have been marginalized and mistreated by people who work for government agencies. And those are the communities that have been hardest hit by the coronavirus in the U.S. and most in need of public health measures to help control it.

In a press conference Saturday, Minnesota Public Safety Commissioner John Harrington used the term "contact tracing" when describing an investigation into arrested protesters there. He said the goal is to "see if there are crime or white supremacy organizations that have played a role" and "to understand how do we go after them, legally," Harrington said.

But Harrington's use of "contact tracing" by law enforcement may complicate the job of health workers as they try to track the virus's spread, some experts said.

"That was an abuse of the word 'contact tracing.' That is not what contact tracing is," said Dr. Tom Frieden, former director of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Contact tracing is a service to patients and their contacts to provide services for patients and warning for contacts. It has nothing to do with police activity. Nothing," said Frieden, who is currently president of Resolve to Save Lives, a nonprofit that works to prevent epidemics.

Galea said he hopes many people will separate in their minds the contact tracing done by public health workers from crime investigations by the police. But, he added, "I do think sometimes it's difficult to make a distinction when you feel marginalized by, and targeted by, the entire government."

## US heads into a new week shaken by violence and pandemic

By **ASHRAF KHALIL, AARON MORRISON and JIM VERTUNO** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — With cities wounded by days of violent unrest, America headed into a new week with neighborhoods in shambles, urban streets on lockdown and shaken confidence about when leaders would find the answers to control the mayhem amid unrelenting raw emotion over police killings of black people.

All of it smashed into a nation already bludgeoned by a death toll from the coronavirus pandemic surging past 100,000 and unemployment that soared to levels not seen since the Great Depression.

Sunday capped a tumultuous weekend and month that saw city and state officials deploy thousands of National Guard soldiers, enact strict curfews and shut down mass transit systems. Even with those efforts, many demonstrations erupted into violence as protesters hurled rocks and Molotov cocktails at police in Philadelphia, set a fire near the White House and were hit with tear gas and pepper spray in Austin and other cities. Seven Boston police officers were hospitalized.

In some cities, thieves smashed their way into stores and ran off with as much as they could carry, leaving shop owners, many of them just ramping up their business again after coronavirus pandemic lockdowns, to clean up their shattered storefronts.

In others, police tried to calm tensions by kneeling in solidarity with demonstrators, while still maintaining a strong presence for security.

The demonstrations were sparked by the death of George Floyd, a black man who pleaded for air as an officer pressed a knee into his neck. Floyd's death in Minneapolis came after tensions had already flared after two white men were arrested in May for the February shooting death of black jogger Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia, and the Louisville police shooting death of Breonna Taylor in her home in March.

The scale of the coast-to-coast protests rivaled the historic demonstrations of the civil rights and Vietnam War eras.

"They keep killing our people. I'm so sick and tired of it," said Mahira Louis, 15, who was at a Boston protest with her mother Sunday, leading chants of "George Floyd, say his name."

Tensions rose Sunday outside the White House, the scene of three days of demonstrations, where police fired tear gas and stun grenades into a crowd of more than 1,000 chanting protesters across the street in Lafayette Park. The crowd ran, piling up road signs and plastic barriers to light a raging fire in a nearby street. Some pulled an American flag from a building and threw it into the blaze. A building in the park with bathrooms and a maintenance office went up in flames.

The district's entire National Guard — roughly 1,700 soldiers — was called in to help control the protests, according to two Defense Department officials who insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the matter.

As the protests grew, President Donald Trump retweeted conservative commentator Buck Sexton who called for "overwhelming force" against violent demonstrators.

Former Vice President Joe Biden, the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, visited the site of protests in his hometown of Wilmington, Delaware, and talked to demonstrators. He also wrote a post on Medium expressing empathy for those despairing about Floyd's killing.

At least 4,400 people have been arrested over days of protests, according to a tally compiled by The Associated Press. Arrests ranged from stealing and blocking highways to breaking curfew.

In Salt Lake City, an activist leader condemned the destruction of property but said broken buildings shouldn't be mourned on the same level as black men like Floyd.

"Maybe this country will get the memo that we are sick of police murdering unarmed black men," said Lex Scott, founder of Black Lives Matter Utah. "Maybe the next time a white police officer decides to pull

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the trigger, he will picture cities burning.”

Yet thousands still marched peacefully in Phoenix, Albuquerque and other cities, with some calling for an end to the fires, vandalism and theft, saying it weakened calls for justice and reform.

In downtown Atlanta, authorities fired tear gas to disperse hundreds of demonstrators. Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms said two officers had been fired and three placed on desk duty after video showed police surrounding a car Saturday, and using stun guns on the man and woman inside.

In Los Angeles, a police SUV accelerated into several protesters in a street, knocking two people to the ground. Nearby in Santa Monica, not far from a peaceful demonstration, groups broke into stores, walking out with boxes of shoes and folding chairs, among other items. A fire broke out at a restaurant across the street. Scores swarmed into nearby outlet stores in Long Beach. Some hauled armloads of clothing from a Forever 21 store away in garbage bags.

In Minneapolis, the officer who pressed his knee onto Floyd’s neck has been charged with murder, but protesters are demanding the other three officers at the scene be prosecuted. All four were fired.

“We’re not done,” said Darnella Wade, an organizer for Black Lives Matter in neighboring St. Paul, where thousands gathered peacefully in front of the state Capitol. “They sent us the military, and we only asked them for arrests.”

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz brought in thousands of National Guard soldiers on Saturday to help quell violence that had damaged or destroyed hundreds of buildings in Minneapolis over days of protests. That appeared to help minimize unrest, but thousands marching on a closed freeway were shaken when a semitrailer rolled into their midst.

Disgust over generations of racism in a country founded by slaveholders combined with a string of recent racially charged killings to stoke the anger. Adding to that was angst from lockdowns brought on by the pandemic, which has disproportionately hurt communities of color, not only in terms of infections but in job losses and economic stress.

The droves of people congregating for demonstrations threatened to trigger new outbreaks, a fact overshadowed by the boiling tensions.

In Indianapolis, two people were reported dead in bursts of downtown violence this weekend, adding to deaths reported in Detroit and Minneapolis.

In tweets Sunday, Trump blamed anarchists and the media for fueling violence. Attorney General William Barr pointed a finger at “far left extremist” groups. Police chiefs and politicians accused outsiders of causing the problems.

At the Minneapolis intersection where Floyd was killed, people gathered with brooms and flowers, saying it was important to protect what they called a “sacred space.”

Among those in Minneapolis was Michael Brown Sr., the father of Michael Brown, whose killing by a police officer in Ferguson, Missouri, set off unrest in 2014.

“I understand what this family is feeling. I understand what this community is feeling,” he said.

Morrison reported from Minneapolis and Vertuno reported from Austin, Texas. Zeke Miller from Washington and Associated Press journalists across the U.S. contributed to this report.

## 5 things to know today - that aren't about the virus

By The Associated Press undefined

Your daily look at nonvirus stories in the news:

1. AMERICA RATTLED BY VIOLENCE, PANDEMIC With cities reeling by days of violent unrest, the U.S. heads into a new week with neighborhoods in shambles, urban streets on lockdown and confidence shaken in its leadership.

2. POLICE CRITICIZED FOR USE OF FORCE IN PROTESTS Some are questioning whether tough police tactics against demonstrators are making the violence worse rather than quelling it.

3. WHAT'S GETTING RENEWED FOCUS Pressure on Joe Biden to pick a black woman as his running



mate after the police killing of George Floyd and the civil and political unrest that's followed.

4. 'NO KNOCK' WARRANTS FACE SCRUTINY More than two months after police fatally shot Breonna Taylor, Louisville's mayor suspends warrants that allow officers to enter a home without announcing their presence.

5. UN FORCED TO CUT AID TO YEMEN Some 75% of the world body's programs in the war-torn nation have had to shut their doors or reduce operations, affecting food and health services.

## Use of force criticized in protests about police brutality

By JAY REEVES and KAT STAFFORD Associated Press

As protests grip the nation, officers have doused crowds with pepper spray, struck protesters with batons, steered police cars into throngs, shoved demonstrators and screamed curses. Some police action has been directed against people smashing windows, breaking into stores and burning cars, but many find other instances more difficult to understand — like the elderly man knocked over by police as he walked with a cane on a Salt Lake City sidewalk.

The protests began after the May 25 death of George Floyd, a black man who died in Minneapolis after a white police officer who is now charged with murder, Derek Chauvin, pressed his knee into Floyd's neck for several minutes even after he stopped moving and pleading for air.

Now, some are questioning whether tough police tactics against demonstrators are actually making the violence worse rather than quelling it.

While the protests and subsequent police interactions may be shocking to some, many African Americans aren't surprised because they've endured police brutality for decades, said Chris White, director of the Detroit Coalition Against Police Brutality,

"What's happening, it's the way American society has always been," White said.

U.S. Rep. Joyce Beatty, who was hit by pepper spray Saturday as scuffles broke out near the end of a demonstration in Columbus, Ohio, said police escalated matters by using heavy-handed tactics against "passionate" young demonstrators who were mostly orderly.

"Too much force is not the answer to this," said Beatty, who pressed for peaceful tactics on both sides in a video posted on Twitter by Columbus City Council president Shannon Hardin, who also was pepper-sprayed. Both are African American.

In Salt Lake City, a police officer shoved and knocked over an older man who was walking with a cane on a sidewalk near a protest. Another officer stepped in within seconds to assist the man, as did the officer who knocked him down. Police Chief Mike Brown issued a video Sunday saying he'd personally apologized to the man.

"It was hard for me to watch what happened, and I know it was even harder for him to experience it," Brown said.

In New York, where video showed two police vehicles driving into a crowd, knocking aside demonstrators, Mayor Bill de Blasio decried what he called "structural racism" that leads to violence against minorities, but also defended police.

"It is inappropriate for protesters to surround a police vehicle and threaten police officers," he said. "That's wrong on its face and that hasn't happened in the history of protests in this city."

Two police officers in Atlanta were fired and three others placed on desk duty over excessive use of force during a protest incident involving two college students Saturday night. Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms said Sunday that she and the police chief made the decision after reviewing body-camera footage.

Footage shown on TV as captured by local reporters shows a group of police officers in riot gear and gas masks surround a car being driven by a man with a woman in the passenger seat. The officers pull the woman out and appear to use a stun gun on the man. They use zip-tie handcuffs on the woman on the ground.

In a message some saw as encouraging police violence, President Donald Trump praised U.S. Secret Service officers guarding the White House amid demonstrations and said any protesters who breached



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its fence would face "the most vicious dogs, and most ominous weapons, I have ever seen. That's when people would have been really badly hurt, at least."

In a letter titled "Dear America," civil rights leader Rev. William Barber II, a pastor at Greenleaf Christian Church in Goldsboro, North Carolina, said protesters have the right to decry "brutal and inhumane" treatment at the hands of police.

"What if, instead of a President who tweets 'when the looting starts, the shooting starts,' we had leadership that could unequivocally say, 'When you use police power in the name of the state to murder, lynch, and destroy, you will be prosecuted for your crimes,'" Barber wrote.

Trump wasn't alone in using loaded language.

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety sent a tweet Saturday saying it would strengthen its response to "a sophisticated network of urban warfare." Hours later, video emerged of police shooting paint projectiles at people gathered on the front porch of a home after curfew in Minneapolis. "Light 'em up," a man is heard saying before the shooting began. No one appeared seriously injured.

Activist Meeko Williams organized a peaceful demonstration in Detroit on Friday and later traveled to Minnesota to help support organizers there. Trying to understand what he sees as increasingly aggressive law enforcement tactics, Williams said police shouldn't "antagonize, provoke or instigate" protesters.

"I don't know what's going to happen over these next few days in this country because they want these killer cops arrested and they're not going to stop until they are," Williams said, referring to the lack of charges against the other three officers at the scene when Floyd's neck was pinned under Chauvin's knee. "People are just sick and tired of being in this predicament, where innocent life has been taken at the hands of those who were to protect and serve us. We have not been heard."

Some protesters are increasing efforts to protect themselves. On Sunday, Black Lives Matter organizers in Tampa, Florida, had nearly 100 safety marshals in fluorescent vests patrolling their march, trained in de-escalation tactics. The group also had medics and enlisted lawyers and those with legal training to watch out for protesters' rights from the sidelines.

In New York, a police labor group, the Detectives' Endowment Association, noted some police there had been attacked and patrol cars set ablaze.

"As we do everything to stop NYC from burning, all we hear from elected officials is criticism," the group tweeted. "Maybe they should try it on the front lines."

## Deadly police raid fuels call to end 'no knock' warrants

By **DYLAN LOVAN, MICHAEL KUNZELMAN and ADRIAN SAINZ** Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — It's the stuff of nightmares: Breonna Taylor and her boyfriend were in bed when a trio of armed men smashed through the front door. Gunfire erupted, killing the 26-year-old black woman.

The three men turned out to be plainclothes police detectives, one of whom was wounded in the chaos and violence that March night. Taylor's death led to protests and a review of how Louisville police use "no knock" search warrants, which allow officers to enter a home without announcing their presence, often in drug cases to prevent suspects from getting rid of a stash.

Taylor's name is one of those being chanted during nationwide protests decrying police killings of black people. The unrest began after the death of George Floyd, a black man who pleaded that he couldn't breathe as a white Minneapolis police officer pinned him to the ground with a knee.

More than two months after Taylor's death, Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer announced last week that the police department's use of no-knock warrants has been suspended indefinitely. Civil rights advocates are calling for a permanent ban, though Oregon and Florida are the only states that have outlawed such warrants.

Fischer changed the policy after an outcry from Taylor's family and they sued the department and the three officers who served the warrant. The new policy requires Louisville's police chief to sign off on all no-knock warrants before they go to a judge.

"These changes, and more to come ... should signal that I hear the community and we will continue to

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make improvements anywhere that we can," Fischer said.

The three narcotics detectives had a no-knock warrant when they busted down the door of Taylor's apartment after midnight on March 13. They were investigating a drug dealer named Jamarcus Glover, who was arrested elsewhere the same day. Police said Glover was using Taylor's address to receive packages they believed could be drugs. No drugs were found at her apartment.

Tom Wine, the city's top criminal prosecutor, said he believes police knocked and announced their presence.

"Simply because the police get a no-knock warrant does not mean they can't knock and announce," Wine said last week.

But the lawsuit filed on behalf of Taylor's mother says neighbors didn't hear the plainclothes detectives knock or identify themselves as officers before they crashed into the apartment.

Taylor's boyfriend, Kenneth Walker, told investigators that he thought he was being robbed or that it might be an ex-boyfriend of Taylor's trying to get in. Walker told police he heard knocking but didn't know who it was. He said he and Taylor were moving toward the door when it was knocked down, so he fired a shot that hit an officer.

Authorities had charged Walker with attempted murder but dropped the case last week. Wine said he wanted to let state and federal authorities complete their review of the shooting.

Meanwhile, the American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky has urged city leaders to ban no-knock warrants, saying they lead to the deaths of innocent people.

A 2014 ACLU report on police militarization detailed several botched SWAT team raids as no-knock warrants were served, including one that year in Georgia that ended with a toddler in a medically induced coma.

More recently, police in Montgomery County, Maryland, shot and killed 21-year-old Duncan Lemp in his family's home while serving a no-knock search warrant. An eyewitness said Lemp was asleep in his bedroom when police opened fire from outside his house, according to an attorney for his family. Police said Lemp, who was white, was armed with a rifle and ignored commands.

Lemp family attorney Rene Sandler said police began using no-knock warrants decades ago as a tool in the nation's war on drugs. They have become the "norm" for many kinds of criminal cases, including non-violent offenses, she said.

"It's an abuse of authority across the board," said Sandler, a former county prosecutor.

Law enforcement consultant Melvin Tucker, who's been a police chief in four cities in the U.S. South, said the element of surprise afforded by no-knock warrants isn't always justified.

"If you're going in on a drug case where the quantity is so small that they could dispose of it by flushing it down the toilet, you probably shouldn't be there with a search warrant in the first place. It's not worthwhile," said Tucker, who has been an expert witness in dozens of court cases.

The number of no-knock warrants served during SWAT team deployments has grown from approximately 1,500 annually in the early 1980s to about 45,000 in 2010, according to Eastern Kentucky University professor Peter Kraska, an expert in police militarization. He said police are adept at working around restrictions and tailoring paperwork to suit the standards of judges issuing search warrants.

"Banning no-knock warrants, if any jurisdiction can pull that off, is an important step," Kraska said. "At the end of the day, banning them probably won't accomplish much in the real world. But getting them off the books on one level is important."

Kentucky has a "stand your ground" law that gives residents the right to use deadly force against an intruder. Those laws generally haven't protected people who unwittingly shoot at officers entering their homes, but Walker's dropped charges suggests the circumstances of Taylor's death could be an "ideologically compatible situation for the left and right," Kraska said.

"These different groups that normally would be at odds with one another all agree on the inappropriateness of no-knock warrants," he added. "There's been a lot more political agreement that this is problematic."

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## World's reaction to US weaves solidarity, calls to change

BANGKOK (AP) — Several thousand people marched in New Zealand's largest city on Monday to protest the killing of George Floyd in the U.S. as well as to stand up against police violence and racism in their own country.

Many people around the world have watched with growing unease at the civil unrest in the U.S. after the latest in a series of police killings of black men and women. Floyd died on May 25 in Minneapolis after a white police officer pressed his knee on Floyd's neck until he stopped breathing. The officer was fired and charged with murder.

The protesters in Auckland marched to the U.S. Consulate, where they kneeled. They held banners with slogans like "I can't breathe" and "The real virus is racism." Hundreds more joined the peaceful protests and vigils elsewhere in New Zealand, where Monday was a public holiday.

In Iran, which has in the recent past violently put down nationwide demonstrations by killing hundreds, arresting thousands and disrupting internet access to the outside world, state television has repeatedly aired images of the U.S. unrest.

Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi urged the U.S. government and police to stop the violence.

"To American officials and police: Stop violence against your people and let them breathe," Mousavi said at a news conference in Tehran on Monday. He also told the American people that "the world is standing with you." He added that Iran is saddened to see "the violence the U.S. police have recently" set off.

At a gathering in central London on Sunday, thousands offered support for American demonstrators, chanting "No justice! No peace!" and waving placards with the words "How many more?"

In other places, too, demonstrators wove solidarity with the U.S. protesters with messages aimed at local authorities.

In Brazil, hundreds of people protested crimes committed by the police against black people in Rio de Janeiro's working-class neighborhoods, known as favelas. Police used tear gas to disperse them, with some demonstrators saying "I can't breathe," repeating Floyd's own words.

In Canada, an anti-racism protest degenerated into clashes between Montreal police and some demonstrators. Police declared the gathering illegal after they say projectiles were thrown at officers who responded with pepper spray and tear gas. Some windows were smashed and some fires were set.

In authoritarian nations, the unrest became a chance to undermine U.S. criticism of their own situations. Iranian state television repeatedly aired images of the U.S. unrest. Russia said the United States had systemic human rights problems.

And state-controlled media in China saw the protests through the prism of American views on Hong Kong's anti-government demonstrations, which China has long said the U.S. encouraged. In a commentary, the ruling Communist Party newspaper Global Times said Chinese experts had noted that U.S. politicians might think twice before commenting again on Hong Kong, knowing "their words might backfire."

North Korea's official Rodong Sinmun newspaper on Monday reported about the demonstrations, saying that protesters "harshly condemned" a white policeman's "lawless and brutal murder" of a black citizen. Three large photos from the Minneapolis Star Tribune, Reuters news agency and Agence France-Presse showed protest scenes from recent days in the city where Floyd was killed.

The article said hundreds of protesters gathered in front of the White House chanting "No justice, no peace," and that demonstrations were occurring in other cities and were expected to grow. It did not make any direct comments about the Trump administration.

## UN forced to cut aid to Yemen, even as virus increases need

By MAGGIE MICHAEL and MAGGIE HYDE Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Aid organizations are making an urgent plea for funding to shore up their operations in war-torn Yemen, saying they have already been forced to stop some of their work even as the coronavirus rips through the country.

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Some 75% of U.N. programs in Yemen have had to shut their doors or reduce operations. The global body's World Food Program had to cut rations in half and U.N.-funded health services were reduced in 189 out of 369 hospitals nationwide.

"It's almost impossible to look a family in the face, to look them in the eyes and say, 'I'm sorry but the food that you need in order to survive we have to cut in half,'" Lise Grande, resident U.N. coordinator for Yemen, told The Associated Press.

The dwindling funds are the result of several factors, but among the top reasons is obstruction by Yemen's Houthi rebels, who control the capital, Sanaa, and other territories. The United States, one of the largest donors, decreased its aid to Yemen earlier this year, citing interference by the Houthis.

It's yet to be seen whether the Houthis will allow monitoring and oversight or give U.N. agencies the space to operate. A U.N. pledging conference for Yemen on Tuesday seeks \$2.41 billion to cover essential activities from June to December.

Grande said the Houthis are working to become more transparent, and that she hopes this will encourage donor countries to give aid.

Her optimism, however, comes as the Houthis face heavy criticism for suppressing information about the number of COVID-19 cases and fatalities in areas they control, while putting no mitigation measures in place.

Tuesday's conference will be co-hosted for the first time by Saudi Arabia — a major player in Yemen's civil war since it first unleashed a bombing campaign in 2015 to try to push back the Iranian-backed Houthis who had seized the northern half of the country.

Critics question the Saudis' high-profile role in rallying humanitarian support even as they continue to wage a war — as do the Houthis — that has created the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

Maysaa Shuja al-Deen, a Yemeni researcher and a non-resident fellow at the Sana'a Center for Strategic Studies, said the kingdom is trying to repair its international image by changing the conversation.

Saudi Arabia "has always tried to change the narrative of the war and present itself as a backer of the legitimate government, not part of the conflict," she said.

In past years, the kingdom has been one of the top donors for U.N. humanitarian aid operations in Yemen. The Saudi ambassador to Yemen, Mohammed al-Jaber, said the kingdom will allocate half a billion dollars this year to support U.N. programs, including \$25 million for a COVID-19 response plan.

The U.N. itself has also investigated allegations of corruption and diversion of aid in Yemen in its own ranks.

Reports indicate that the coronavirus is spreading at an alarming rate throughout the country.

Among the slashed programs is financial support to thousands of health workers who haven't received salaries from the government for nearly three years. Grande said that just a week before the first coronavirus case was announced in Yemen, aid agencies had to stop paying health workers.

Without salaries, medical staff won't be able to provide health services to patients amid the pandemic.

The U.N. received around \$3.6 billion in 2019 in international donations for its campaign, short of its \$4.2 billion goal. For its 2020 plan, it has so far received only 15% out of the needed \$3.5 billion.

Yemen has been caught in a grinding war since 2014 when Houthi rebels descended from their northern enclave and took over Sanaa, forcing the internationally recognized president to flee. In the spring of 2015, a U.S.-backed, Saudi-led coalition began a destructive air campaign to dislodge the Houthis while imposing a land, sea and air embargo on Yemen.

The air war and fighting on the ground has killed more than 100,000 people, shut down or destroyed half of Yemen's health facilities, and driven 4 million Yemenis from their homes. Cholera epidemics and severe malnutrition among children have led to thousands of additional deaths.

As the war enters its sixth year, with no sign of a viable cease-fire, the suffering looks set to continue. Fighting has continued unabated along several front lines in Yemen, including in Marib, an oil-rich eastern province, threatening new waves of displacement.

The U.N.'s massive aid program, totaling \$8.35 billion since 2015, is vital to keeping many Yemenis alive. Ten million people are on the brink of famine and 80% of the 30 million population are in need of aid,



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according to the U.N.

With the coronavirus spreading, more money is needed.

Since April, authorities in areas controlled by Yemen's internationally recognized government reported 283 cases, including 85 deaths. The Houthis declared only four cases, including one death.

The World Health Organization believes that there is a significant underestimation of the outbreak, which could further hinder efforts to get supplies into Yemen that are needed to contain the virus.

Richard Brennan, the WHO's regional emergency director, told the AP that he believes the deaths are in the hundreds and cases in the thousands, based on what he's heard from numerous health care providers. But he said the lack of funding means the organization's health programs are hanging by a thread.

The International Rescue Committee, an aid group, said Yemen is conducting just 31 tests per one million people, among the world's lowest scores.

With increasing needs and fewer funds, the U.N. refugee agency will have to stop cash assistance and shelter programs for more than 50,000 displaced families by August, said spokeswoman Heba Kanso. She said the agency will be forced to end its partnership with dozens of Yemeni NGOs that will have let go more than 1,500 national staff.

Relief agencies worry that donors will give less as many countries struggle their own virus outbreaks. But they warn that the world's worst humanitarian crisis can indeed get much worse.

"The world's attention is diverted elsewhere and these are the vulnerable among the most vulnerable on the planet, and we need a commitment," said Brennan.

## The Latest: California closes all downtown state buildings

The Associated Press

The Latest on the death in Minneapolis of George Floyd, a handcuffed black man who pleaded for air as a white police officer pressed a knee on his neck:

**SAN FRANCISCO** — The state Department of Human Resources sent a directive to close all California state buildings "with offices in downtown city areas" on Monday, a sweeping mandate that covers everything from Department of Motor Vehicles offices to those that license workers and provide health care.

"After consultation with the California Highway Patrol and Office of Emergency Services, the decision was made this evening to advise all state departments with offices in downtown city areas to close tomorrow, and to notify staff of the decision," said Amy Palmer, a spokeswoman for the state Government Operations Agency.

The directive was sent Sunday evening and it was left up to officials at individual agencies to determine which buildings should be closed.

A state Department of Justice memo sent to employees said the attorney general's offices in Sacramento, Oakland, San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego would be closed, though employees who can work from home should do so.

"Staff assigned to these offices should not report to work for any reason. Staff who are able to telework should continue to do so despite the office closures," the memo said.

**PORTLAND, Ore.** — Police in Portland deployed tear gas to disperse a large crowd downtown late Sunday night after authorities said projectiles were thrown at officers.

Earlier, police said protesters smashed windows at the federal courthouse, and authorities on loudspeakers declared the gathering a civil disturbance.

Thousands of people marched throughout Oregon's largest city on Sunday, the third day of George Floyd protests in Portland. For much of the afternoon and evening protesters were largely peaceful, but there were reports of increased violence directed at police into the night.

**SEOUL, South Korea** — North Korea's official Rodong Sinmun newspaper on Monday reported the dem-

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onstrations across the United States in reaction to the death of George Floyd, saying protesters "harshly condemned" a white police officer's "lawless and brutal murder" of a black citizen.

The article, published with photos, said hundreds of protesters gathered in front of the White House chanting "No justice, no peace." It also said there were demonstrations in Minneapolis, New York, Denver, Chicago, Los Angeles and Memphis and that the protests were expected to grow further.

Several thousand people marched Monday in New Zealand's largest city, Auckland, to protest George Floyd's death and show solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement.

The protesters marched from Aotea Square to the U.S. consulate, where they kneeled. They held banners with slogans such as "I can't breathe" and "The Real Virus is Racism." Hundreds more joined protests and vigils elsewhere in the country, on a day that was a public holiday.

The protests were peaceful. Protesters said they were also standing up against police violence and racism in New Zealand.

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — More than 15 people were arrested during protests in Charlotte on Sunday night, the city's police department said.

Police said four demonstrators were arrested for assaulting officers, including one for hitting an officer with a rock. Three others were arrested on illegal weapon charges, police said.

KANSAS CITY, Missouri — Shortly after local officials praised what had been a peaceful protest in Kansas City, Missouri, police fired tear gas into the crowd after some demonstrators began lobbing water bottles, law enforcement officials said.

A large crowd had gathered at County Club plaza and police had allowed it to slowly dissipate after the city's 8 p.m. curfew took effect. But police used stronger tactics against the smaller crowd that remained when rocks and water bottles started flying and two television station news vehicles were smashed and set on fire.

Police declared the scene an "unlawful assembly" and said the area was clear of activity by midnight.

OLYMPIA, Wash. — Washington Gov. Jay Inslee late Sunday ordered a statewide activation of the National Guard following vandalism and stealing in stores and shopping malls in multiple cities.

Inslee had previously authorized 400 troops for Seattle and 200 for Bellevue. On Saturday night people smashed downtown Seattle store fronts and stole items from many businesses, tossing mannequins into the street. On Sunday there were break-ins and thefts in stores and shopping malls in Bellevue, Spokane, Tukwila and Renton.

Inslee's activation means more troops will be used to help control unrest.

"We must not let these illegal and dangerous actions detract from the anger so many feel at the deep injustice laid so ugly and bare by the death of George Floyd," Inslee said in a statement. "But we also will not turn away from our responsibility to protect the residents of our state."

WASHINGTON — Break-ins and stealing were rampant in downtown Washington and elsewhere in the city as protests over George Floyd's death turned violent for a third straight night.

Protesters broke into a branch of Capital Bank, and empty jewelry boxes could be seen scattered on the sidewalk outside a Mervis Diamonds store.

After protesters broke into a La Colombe coffee shop, someone in the crowd yelled, "What are you looting a coffee shop for? You're messing up the whole message."

NEW YORK — The mayor of New York City's own daughter is one of the nearly 790 people who have been arrested in the city since protests over the death of George Floyd began last week.

A law enforcement official who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter

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tells The Associated Press that 25-year-old Chiara de Blasio was arrested Saturday night. An arrest report obtained by The New York Post says she refused to leave a Manhattan street ordered cleared by officers because people were throwing things.

Chiara de Blasio, who is black, was later given a court summons and released.

Mayor Bill de Blasio, who is white, didn't mention the arrest in his Sunday press briefing. City Hall spokespeople didn't have an immediate comment.

— By Michael R. Sisak

**AUSTIN, Texas** — Police fired rubber bullets and pepper spray late Sunday night at demonstrators who gathered outside the downtown police station in Austin.

Live television cameras on Spectrum News showed officers firing several shots into the crowd and several people on the ground. Some people could be seen throwing water bottles at police.

The officers were stationed above the crowd on the steps of the police station and a raised section of Interstate 35.

Unlike Dallas, where police made dozens of arrests to enforce a downtown curfew, Austin doesn't have a curfew and demonstrators have been roaming downtown from the police station to the state Capitol several blocks away for nearly 10 hours. The crowd has ebbed and flowed from a few thousand to a few hundred.

Demonstrators could not get on the Capitol grounds, which were protected by a large police presence.

**DENVER** — Police fired tear gas and projectiles at demonstrators defying a Denver curfew Sunday night following a day of peaceful marching and chants of "Don't shoot" alongside boarded-up businesses that had been vandalized the night before.

Dozens of demonstrators, some throwing fireworks, taunted police and pushed dumpsters onto Colfax Avenue, a major artery, in the sporadic confrontations that occurred east of downtown. The demonstration over the death of George Floyd came after turbulent protests that led to the arrest of 83 people Saturday night.

Denver Mayor Michael Hancock called the behavior of unruly protesters "reckless, inexcusable and unacceptable."

**PHOENIX** — Protests held Sunday night in downtown Phoenix appeared to be peaceful, according to local media reports.

An hour before a curfew went into effect, activist Armonee Jackson told protesters in the parking lot of an art gallery downtown that they should avoid any violence, The Arizona Republic reported.

"Listen to me: We are not ending in violence. I refuse to end in violence," Jackson told the crowd.

David Riutta told the newspaper that he came out to protest police brutality and wants to see a panel of civilians investigate officers' use-of-force cases.

**WASHINGTON** — As demonstrations continued past an 11 p.m. curfew, D.C. police said they were responding to multiple fires that were "intentionally set" around the city. One was at St. John's Episcopal Church, which is located across Lafayette Park from the White House.

The church says every president beginning with James Madison, "until the present," has attended a service at the church, giving it the nickname, "the church of presidents."

The first services at the church were held in 1816, according to its website.

**WASHINGTON** — The entire Washington, D.C., National Guard — roughly 1,700 soldiers — is being called in to help with the response to protests outside the White House and elsewhere in the nation's capital, according to two Defense Department officials.

Washington Mayor Muriel Bowser said Sunday she had requested 500 Guardsmen to assist local law

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enforcement. Later on Sunday, as the protests escalated, Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy ordered the rest of the Guardsman — about 1,200 soldiers — to report.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the matter.

The D.C. National Guard did not reply to a request from The Associated Press for comment.

- By James LaPorta

**WASHINGTON** — Protesters started fires near the White House as tensions with police mounted during a third straight night of demonstrations held in response to the death of George Floyd at police hands in Minnesota.

An hour before the 11 p.m. curfew, police fired a major barrage of tear gas stun grenades into the crowd of more than 1,000 people, largely clearing Lafayette Park across the street from the White House and scattering protesters into the street.

Protesters piled up road signs and plastic barriers and lit a raging fire in the middle of H Street. Some pulled an American flag from a nearby building and threw it into the blaze. Others added branches pulled from trees. A cinder block structure, on the north side of the park, that had bathrooms and a maintenance office, was engulfed in flames.

As the curfew hit, police sealed the perimeter of the park. Shortly beforehand, police pushed a crowd of about 300 demonstrators several blocks with a series of charges with batons and riot shields.

Enraged protesters screamed, "Who do you serve? Who do you protect?" Police shot pepper powders point blank at several protesters.

Several miles north, a separate protest broke out in Northwest D.C., near the Maryland border. The Metropolitan Police Department says there were break-ins at a Target and a shopping center that houses Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue Men's Store, T.J. Maxx, a movie theater and specialty stores. Police say several individuals have been detained.

At least 4,100 people have been arrested over days of protests across the country since George Floyd's death Monday, according to a tally compiled by The Associated Press.

Arrests ranged from thefts to blocking highways and breaking curfew.

The arrest figures as of 11 p.m. EST on Sunday included those from demonstrations in New York and Philadelphia on the East Coast, Chicago and Dallas in the Midwest and Southwest, and Los Angeles on the West Coast as protests take place all over the country.

In Dallas, police began sweeping downtown streets with arrests to enforce a curfew that went into effect at 7 p.m.

**CHARLOTTE, N.C.** — Michael Jordan is "deeply saddened, truly pained and plain angry."

With protesters taking to the streets across the United States again Sunday, Jordan released a statement on George Floyd and the killings of black people at the hands of police.

"I am deeply saddened, truly pained and plain angry," the former NBA star and current Charlotte Hornets owner said in the statement posted on the Jordan brand's social media accounts and the team's Twitter account.

"I see and feel everyone's pain, outrage and frustration. I stand with those who are calling out the ingrained racism and violence toward people of color in our country. We have had enough.

"I don't have the answers, but our collective voices show strength and the inability to be divided by others. We must listen to each other, show compassion and empathy and never turn our backs on senseless brutality. We need to continue peaceful expressions against injustice and demand accountability. Our unified voice needs to put pressure on our leaders to change our laws, or else we need to use our vote to create systemic change. Every one of us needs to be part of the solution, and we must work together to ensure justice for all.

"My heart goes out to the family of George Floyd and to the countless others whose lives have been



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brutally and senselessly taken through acts of racism and injustice.”

**BOSTON** — A Sunday afternoon of mostly peaceful protests in Boston broke at nightfall when demonstrators clashed with officers, throwing rocks, breaking into several stores and lighting a police vehicle on fire.

Boston police tweeted that at least 40 people had been arrested as of 3 a.m. Monday. Police said seven police officers had been hospitalized and 21 police cruisers were damaged.

A National Guard unit was called in to help quell the unrest.

Republican Gov. Charlie Baker called the violence “criminal and cowardly” in a tweet. The nighttime destruction was a stark contrast to the several protests earlier Sunday that featured thousands of demonstrators marching peacefully.

**ATLANTA** — Riot police firing volleys of tear gas dispersed hundreds of demonstrators as a curfew took hold Sunday night, scattering a crowd that had protested for hours in downtown Atlanta over the deaths of George Floyd in Minnesota and Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia.

Hundreds of police, National Guard troops and other forces lined up in positions around downtown Centennial Park, a focal point of the weekend of protests.

An overnight curfew took hold at 9 p.m. as some on the fringes of what was a largely peaceful afternoon protest were setting off fireworks and burning construction materials near the park. An Associated Press photographer saw police then begin firing many 40 millimeter canisters of tear gas toward the crowd. People were choking, gasping and some throwing up as they scattered, leaving only a few still in the streets.

As police and National Guard troops took up positions with plastic shields on major streets, crowds melted away. WSB-TV showed footage about an hour later of officers taking people who lingered in the streets into custody, using plastic ties to handcuff them on street corners.

**WASHINGTON** — Secret Service agents rushed President Donald Trump to an underground bunker Friday, as hundreds of protesters gathered outside the White House, some throwing rocks and tugging at police barricades just outside the executive mansion.

That’s according to a Republican close to the White House not authorized to publicly discuss private matters and confirmed by another official. The abrupt decision by the agents underscored the rattled mood inside the White House, where the chants from Lafayette Park could be heard all weekend and Secret Service agents and law enforcement officers struggled to contain the crowds.

The Friday protests, triggered by the death of George Floyd, a black man who died after he was pinned at the neck by a white Minneapolis police officer, turned violent and appeared to catch officers by surprise. It sparked one of the highest alerts on the White House complex since the Sept. 11 attacks in 2001. In the days since, security at the White House has been reinforced by the National Guard and additional personnel from the Secret Service and the U.S. Park Police.

On Sunday, the Justice Department also deployed members of the U.S. Marshals Service and agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration to supplement national guard troops outside the White House, according to a senior Justice Department official. The official could not discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

— By Jonathan Lemire and Zeke Miller

## Unrest overshadows peaceful US protests for another night

By **ASHRAF KHALIL, AARON MORRISON and TIM SULLIVAN** Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Tens of thousands of protesters took to the streets across America again Sunday, with peaceful demonstrations against police killings of black people overshadowed by unrest that ravaged cities from Philadelphia to Los Angeles and flared near the White House.

City and state officials deployed thousands of National Guard soldiers, enacted strict curfews and shut down mass transit systems to slow protesters’ movements, but that did little to stop parts of many cities

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from again erupting into mayhem.

Protesters in Philadelphia hurled rocks and Molotov cocktails at police, officials said, while thieves in more than 20 California cities smashed their way into businesses and ran off with as much as they could carry — boxes of sneakers, armloads of clothes, and cellphones, TVs and other electronics.

In Minneapolis, a tanker truck driver drove into a massive crowd of demonstrators nearly a week after the death of George Floyd, a black man who pleaded for air as an officer pressed a knee into his neck. No protesters appeared to be injured, and the driver was arrested.

Tensions spiked outside the White House, the scene of three days of demonstrations, where police fired tear gas and stun grenades into a crowd of more than 1,000 chanting protesters across the street in Lafayette Park. The crowd ran away and piled up road signs and plastic barriers to light a raging fire in a nearby street. Some pulled an American flag from a building and threw it into the blaze.

A building in the park with bathrooms and a maintenance office went up in flames and people broke into banks and jewelry stores. As demonstrations persisted past curfew, Washington police said they were responding to multiple fires set around the capital.

The entire Washington, D.C., National Guard — roughly 1,700 soldiers — was called in to help control the protests, according to two Defense Department officials who insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the matter.

As the protests grew, President Donald Trump retweeted conservative commentator Buck Sexton who called for “overwhelming force” against violent demonstrators.

Secret Service agents had rushed Trump to a White House bunker on Friday night as hundreds of protesters gathered outside the executive mansion, some of them throwing rocks and tugging at police barricades. The president spent nearly an hour in the bunker designed for use in emergencies like terrorist attacks, according to a Republican close to the White House who was not authorized to publicly discuss private matters and spoke on condition of anonymity. The account was confirmed by an administration official who also spoke on condition of anonymity.

Former Vice President Joe Biden, the presumptive Democratic nominee for president, visited the site of protests in his hometown of Wilmington, Delaware, and talked to some of the demonstrators. He also wrote a post on Medium expressing empathy for those despairing about the killing of George Floyd.

At least 4,400 people have been arrested over days of protests, according to a tally compiled by The Associated Press. Arrests ranged from stealing and blocking highways to breaking curfew.

In Salt Lake City, an activist leader condemned the destruction of property but said broken buildings shouldn't be mourned on the same level as black men like Floyd.

“Maybe this country will get the memo that we are sick of police murdering unarmed black men,” said Lex Scott, founder of Black Lives Matter Utah. “Maybe the next time a white police officer decides to pull the trigger, he will picture cities burning.”

Yet thousands still marched peacefully in Phoenix, Albuquerque and other cities, with some calling for an end to the fires, vandalism and theft, saying it weakened calls for justice and reform.

“They keep killing our people,” said Mahira Louis, 15, who marched with her mother and several hundred others in a peaceful protest through downtown Boston. “I'm so sick and tired of it.”

But as night fell that demonstration also descended into violence, with some protesters throwing rocks, bricks and glass bottles at officers and lighting a police vehicle on fire.

In downtown Atlanta, authorities fired tear gas to disperse hundreds of demonstrators. Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms said two officers had been fired and three placed on desk duty after video showed police surrounding a car Saturday, then pulling a woman out of the passenger seat and appearing to use a stun gun on a man who was driving. Police Chief Erika Shields called it “really shocking to watch.”

In downtown Los Angeles, a police SUV accelerated into several protesters in a street, knocking two people to the ground. The pair got up and ran onto the sidewalk.

Nearby in Santa Monica, not far from a peaceful demonstration, a group broke into a Gap and a Vans sneaker store, where people walked out with boxes of shoes. Others shattered the windows of an REI

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outdoor supply store and snatched folding chairs, a bike and backpacks. A fire broke out at a restaurant across the street.

About 30 miles (48 kilometers) south, as hundreds of protesters gathered in Long Beach, scores of thieves swarmed into nearby outlet stores. A steady stream emerged from a Forever 21 store carrying armloads of clothing. Some hauled it away in garbage bags, and a few stopped outside to change into stolen items.

In Minneapolis, the officer who pressed his knee onto Floyd's neck has been charged with murder, but protesters are demanding the other three officers at the scene be prosecuted. All four were fired.

"We're not done," said Darnella Wade, an organizer for Black Lives Matter in neighboring St. Paul, where thousands gathered peacefully in front of the state Capitol as state patrolmen and National Guard soldiers lined up in front of about a dozen military-style armored vehicles. "They sent us the military, and we only asked them for arrests."

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz brought in thousands of National Guard soldiers on Saturday to help quell violence that had damaged or destroyed hundreds of buildings in Minneapolis over days of protests. That appeared to help minimize unrest both Saturday and Sunday.

Disgust over generations of racism in a country founded by slaveholders combined with a string of recent racially charged killings to stoke the anger. Adding to that was angst from months of lockdowns brought on by the coronavirus pandemic, which has disproportionately hurt communities of color, not only in terms of infections but in job losses and economic stress.

The droves of people congregating for demonstrations threatened to trigger new outbreaks, a fact overshadowed by the boiling tensions.

The scale of the coast-to-coast protests rivaled the historic demonstrations of the civil rights and Vietnam War eras.

Curfews were imposed in major cities around the U.S., including Atlanta, Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle. About 5,000 National Guard soldiers and airmen were activated in 15 states and Washington, D.C.

In Indianapolis, two people were reported dead in bursts of downtown violence this weekend, adding to deaths reported in Detroit and Minneapolis in recent days.

In tweets Sunday, Trump blamed anarchists and the media for fueling violence. Attorney General William Barr pointed a finger at "far left extremist" groups. Police chiefs and politicians accused outsiders of coming in and causing the problems.

At the Minneapolis intersection where Floyd was killed, people gathered with brooms and flowers, saying it was important to protect what they called a "sacred space."

Among in Minneapolis was Michael Brown Sr., the father of Michael Brown, whose killing by a police officer in Ferguson, Missouri, set off unrest in 2014.

"I understand what this family is feeling. I understand what this community is feeling," he said.

## Unrest demonstrates Biden's challenge in breaking through

By ALEXANDRA JAFFE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Joe Biden is facing some stiff competition in getting his campaign message out. President Donald Trump spent much of the weekend using Twitter as a bullhorn to urge "law and order" and tougher action by police against protesters around the country. Biden quietly visited the site of protests in his hometown of Wilmington, Delaware, and talked to some of the demonstrators. Earlier, he wrote a post on Medium expressing empathy for those despairing about the killing of George Floyd.

That low-key, high-touch approach may be a sign of how the presumptive Democratic nominee presents himself in the five months before the presidential election, emphasizing calm and competence as a contrast to a mercurial president.

It is an approach that carries the risk of being drowned out by the much louder, more persistent voice of Trump. On one of the most profound weekends the nation has seen, with violence in dozens of cities, Biden was out of wide public view.

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"He's not in office, and he certainly does not have the megaphone like the person currently occupying the White House does, but I do think our people are looking for someone who can make them feel better during these extremely tough times," said Rep. Val Demings of Florida, whom Biden is considering as a running mate. "America just needs to be reassured that there's someone who's understanding, someone who's willing to say, 'Yes, we do have some issues,' and someone who's willing to address it."

Reassurance requires presence, though, and that has been a hurdle for the former vice president, driven inside by the coronavirus pandemic, still working to adapt to the power of social media as a substitute and without the natural platform of a public office.

There are some signs that Biden is looking to take on a more active role. On Sunday, his campaign released a photo of him visiting the site of protests in Wilmington. Biden, wearing a mask to protect from COVID-19, knelt down to talk to a man and a young child.

"The only way to bear this pain is to turn all that anguish to purpose," Biden wrote in a message attached to the photo. "And as President, I will help lead this conversation — and more importantly, I will listen."

On Monday, Biden plans to venture out again to meet with community leaders in Wilmington.

Demings said she has also offered to have discussions with the Biden campaign on criminal justice reforms. She's pushed for a major Justice Department review of law enforcement agencies throughout the country, and said she saw a role for the federal government in implementing standard policies that govern hiring, training, retention and pay and benefits for law enforcement officers.

"What I have done is offer my service to the campaign and, and anyone else, to look at what we can do working together moving forward. And so we'll see. We have a lot of work to do," she said. "We're going to discuss ideas and make recommendations."

Biden released a criminal justice reform plan last July, but has not issued an updated or more specific proposal since then. In early May, he released his "Plan for Black America," an economic- and education-focused agenda that included marijuana decriminalization.

Much of Biden's campaign strategy centers on trying to draw a contrast with Trump on temperament and values. He's called the White House contest a battle for the soul of the nation and has been particularly forceful in condemning Trump's handling of moments of racial tension.

Democrats believe the former vice president draws a contrast with Trump in such moments that works in his favor. They note that while Biden didn't appear on television all weekend, he spoke about Floyd's death before Trump addressed it and has shown compassion for the protesters. Trump has alternated between expressing alarm over Floyd's death and sympathy for his family and issuing tweets antagonizing protesters and disparaging his political enemies.

And in an election that is likely to be a referendum on the sitting president, some Biden aides say privately that the best plan may be to let Trump do himself in.

Yet there is also a recognition that Biden needs to do more than simply wait for voters who may be turned off by Trump to turn toward him. And some Democrats who have criticized Biden in the past for not being more visible during the onset of the coronavirus said he is making the right moves now.

"I'm sure they have some reluctance, understandably, right now to politicize it. That's not who he is," said Democratic strategist James Carville. "There might be a time for eloquence, but I think that simplicity is eloquence right now."

## Virus-proofing sports facilities presents a big challenge

By **DAVE CAMPBELL AP Sports Writer**

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The jersey-wearing camaraderie. The scent of sizzling sausages. The buzz before a big game.

The distinctive atmosphere of live sports, that feeling in the air, will return in time as pandemic restrictions are eased. But will that very air be safe in a closed arena with other fans in attendance?

The billions of dollars spent on state-of-the-art sports facilities over the last quarter-century have made high-efficiency air filtration systems more common, thanks in part to the pursuit of green and healthy



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building certifications. Upgrades will likely increase in the post-coronavirus era, too.

The problem is that even the cleanest of air can't keep this particular virus from spreading; if someone coughs or sneezes, those droplets are in the air. That means outdoor ballparks have high contaminant potential, too.

"Most of the real risk is going to be short-distance transmission, people sitting within two, three or four seats of each other," said Ryan Demmer, an epidemiologist at the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health. "It's not really about the virus spreading up, getting into the ventilation system and then getting blown out to the entire stadium because this virus doesn't seem to transmit that way. It doesn't aerosolize that well."

The three hours spent in proximity to thousands of others is part of the fan experience. It's also why major sports leagues have been discussing plans to reopen in empty venues, for now. High-touch areas with the potential to spread the virus — called fomite transmission — are plentiful at the ballgame, of course. Door handles. Stair rails. Restroom fixtures. Concession stands.

Hand washing by now has become a societal norm, but disinfectant arsenals need to be brought up to speed, too.

"I can't really find good hand sanitizer easily in stores. So think about trying to scale that up, so everybody who comes into U.S. Bank Stadium gets a little bottle of Purel. Things like that can be modestly helpful," Demmer said.

There is much work to be done. Vigilant sanitizing of the frequent-touch surfaces will be a must. Ramped-up rapid testing capability during pre-entry screening could become common for fans. Minimizing concourse and entry bottlenecks, and maintaining space between non-familial attendees, could be mandatory. Mask-wearing requirements? Maybe.

Most experts, including those at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, believe the primary mode of transmission for COVID-19 is close person-to-person contact through breathing, coughing or sneezing but there's no consensus on some of the details.

"There's still widespread disagreement between experts on which mode of transmission dominates for influenza. So the likelihood of us figuring this out soon for this virus is low," said Joe Allen, director of the Healthy Buildings Program and an assistant professor at Harvard's School of Public Health. "We may never figure it out, but I also think it's irrelevant because it's a pandemic and we should be guarding against all of them."

Including, of course, the air.

The American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers designed the Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) scale to measure a filtration system's effectiveness (from 1-16) at capturing microscopic airborne particles that can make people sick. Not just viruses, but dust, pollen, mold and bacteria. Most experts recommend a MERV rating of 13 or higher, the minimum standard for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.

An emerging technology in this area is called bipolar ionization. Connecticut-based AtmosAir has a bipolar ionization air treatment system in about 40 sports venues. Staples Center in Los Angeles was one of the first major sports customers. TD Garden in Boston and Bridgestone Arena in Nashville are among the others who've signed on.

The Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority approved last year a 10-year contract for a little more than \$1 million with AtmosAir to install its system in U.S. Bank Stadium, home of the Vikings and the first indoor NFL stadium to use it. The building, which measures 1.8 million square feet, has 53 air handling units with AtmosAir tubes installed, including 30 in the seating bowl.

The ions act like fresh air, reducing the amount of outside air needed to be introduced for the cleansing process. The protein spikes in the coronavirus particles make them easier to catch and kill, said Philip Tierno, a New York University School of Medicine professor of microbiology and pathology.

Said AtmosAir founder and CEO Steve Levine: "We're never going to create a mountaintop, but we're going to put in maybe three to four times the ions over the ambient air and then let those ions attack

different pollutants in the air. The ions grab onto particles and spores and make them bigger and heavier, so they're much easier to filter out of the air."

The next time fans do pass through the turnstiles, in a few weeks or a few months, in most cases they will probably encounter an unprecedented level of cleanliness.

"There will be some controls that are visible, extra cleaning and disinfection, but some of it will be invisible, like for what's happening in the air handling system," said Allen, the Harvard professor. "The consumers will decide when they feel comfortable going back, and that's going to depend on what strategies are put in place in these venues and stadiums and arenas and, most importantly, how well these organizations communicate that to the paying public."

## Lives Lost: A century of learning, bookended by pandemic

By MATT SEDENSKY AP National Writer

In her 80s, Phyllis Antonetz moved to a new state, quickly settling in and volunteering at a school. In her 90s, she was living on her own, keeping a busy calendar of classes and outings. In her 100s, still primly dressed and manicured, she held court as she made the rounds in her nursing home.

Her grandchildren proclaimed her the Greatest of All Time and speculated she might last forever, this force of nature whose life stretched so long that it was bookended by two great pandemics.

"Mom loved the story of her life," says her youngest daughter, Alexa Mullady. "She felt blessed."

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This is part of an ongoing series on people around the world who have died from the coronavirus.

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Born during World War I to Italian immigrants in New York, the former Phyllis Pirro grew up in Little Italy to parents with no formal education who wanted something different for their three children.

"To go to college," says her oldest daughter Ria Battaglia, "was to them the American dream."

She went to New York University and built a career at Macy's, where she climbed the ranks to become a special events coordinator, making Thanksgiving Day Parade duties among her biggest. It also is where Battaglia believes she first met an operations manager named Alexander Antonetz.

Romance blossomed and they secretly passed notes to one another at the Herald Square landmark. They were married at St. Patrick's Cathedral — her in a hand-beaded gown of Alencon lace, him in a morning coat with striped pants and an ascot — and were feted in a reception at the Waldorf-Astoria.

When children came, the new mother put her career aside and made the home a hive of learning.

She jotted thoughts and interesting facts in notebooks and on index cards and would grow excited by the way a writer turned a phrase or assembled a sentence or used alliteration.

Volumes of great artists amassed on the coffee table and she devoured biographies. When her girls pelted questions, she took them to the library or had them write to the newspaper. The weeks before Christmas came with elaborate lessons every year, with each day bringing instruction of a new state capital or European country, say, complete with color-coded stars indicating the girls' performance.

"Mom was always teaching," Mullady says.

She was 55 when she earned a master's in education and began teaching elementary school on Long Island. Battaglia says it wasn't easy for her father to accept that she didn't want to be a housewife anymore. But when graduation came, he gave her a briefcase and her eyes welled with tears.

"You have no idea what this means," she said of a gift she saw as acceptance of her decision.

The schoolchildren adored her and, decades later, the occasional wedding invitation would arrive for a woman whose first-grade lessons stuck with her students for a lifetime.

When her husband died, she charged on. She took classes in everything from genealogy to foreign languages, keeping a quick wit all the while. Mullady remembered once seeing an Italian textbook at her mother's place and learning it was for another class at the senior center.

"Do they know you speak fluent Italian?" she asked.

"They don't need to know that," was the reply.

She spent her final years at a nursing home in Fairfield, Connecticut. She still prayed, still found joy in the visit of a grandchild or great-grandchild, still seemed much younger than she was in tailored pants and silky blouses, up to the very end when she died of the coronavirus at 103 on April 17.

Her family thinks of the things she witnessed in her long lifetime, seeing the Depression unfold as a child, volunteering as a nurse's aide during World War II, watching John F. Kennedy's funeral in a darkened room. Most of all, though, they think of all the knowledge she gave and absorbed.

"She never stopped learning," Battaglia says.

## Officials see extremist groups, disinformation in protests

By COLLEEN LONG, ZEKE MILLER and MICHAEL BALSAMO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. officials sought to determine Sunday whether extremist groups had infiltrated police brutality protests across the country and deliberately tipped largely peaceful demonstrations toward violence — and if foreign adversaries were behind a burgeoning disinformation campaign on social media.

As demonstrations spread from Minneapolis to the White House, New York City and overseas, federal law enforcement officials insisted far-left groups were stoking violence. Meanwhile, experts who track extremist groups also reported seeing evidence of the far-right at work.

Investigators were also tracking online interference and looking into whether foreign agents were behind the effort. Officials have seen a surge of social media accounts with fewer than 200 followers created in the last month, a textbook sign of a disinformation effort.

The accounts have posted graphic images of the protests, material on police brutality and material on the coronavirus pandemic that appeared designed to inflame tensions across the political divide, according to three administration officials. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss investigations.

The investigations are an attempt to identify the network of forces behind some of the most widespread outbreak of civil unrest in the U.S. in decades. Protests erupted in dozens of cities in recent days, triggered by the death of George Floyd, who died after he was pinned at the neck by a white Minneapolis police officer.

Pandemic-weary Americans were already angry — about COVID-19 deaths, lockdown orders and tens of millions of people out of work. The pandemic has hit African Americans harder than whites in the U.S., and the killings of black people by police have continued over the years even as the topic faded from the national stage.

But there are signs of people with other disparate motives, including anarchist graffiti, arrests of some out-of-state protesters, and images circulating in extremist groups that suggest the involvement of outside groups.

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz said Sunday that state authorities were hit with a cyber attack as law enforcement prepared to diffuse protests in Minneapolis and St. Paul, the epicenter of the unrest. He described it as a "very sophisticated denial of service attack on all computers."

President Donald Trump, Attorney General William Barr and others have said the left-wing extremist group antifa is to blame. Short for anti-fascists, antifa is an umbrella term for far-left-leaning militant groups that resist neo-Nazis and white supremacists at demonstrations.

Barr on Sunday said the FBI would use its regional joint terrorism task forces to "identify criminal organizers," and Trump threatened again to name antifa a terrorist group.

The Justice Department is also deploying members of the U.S. Marshals Service and agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration on Sunday to supplement National Guard troops outside the White House, a senior department official said. The official was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The addition of the federal agents, who will have armored vehicles, came as Barr warned that prosecutors could seek to use terrorism statutes against "violent radical agitators" who attempt to hijack protests to cause destruction.

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An antifa activist group disseminated a message in a Telegram channel on Saturday that encouraged people to consider Minnesota National Guard troops "easy targets," two Defense Department officials said. The message encouraged activists to steal "kit," meaning the weapons and body armor used by the soldiers. The officials were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

As a result, soldiers with the Minnesota National Guard were armed during their mission at protests across the state Sunday, the officials said. The soldiers are sometimes armed but had not been since they moved into parts of the state that had been besieged by riots in the last few days. The troops do not have the authority to make arrests, and are there to act mostly as extra security for police.

Others have seen evidence of right-wing extremists. J.J. MacNab, a fellow at George Washington University's Program on Extremism, has been monitoring chatter about the protests among anti-government extremists on social media platforms. She has access to dozens of private Facebook groups for followers of the loosely organized "Boogaloo" movement, which uses an '80s movie sequel as a code word for a second civil war.

She also has been poring over images from the weekend protests and spotted some "boogaloo bois" in the crowds, carrying high-powered rifles and wearing tactical gear.

"They want to co-opt them in order to start their war. They see themselves as being on the side of protesters and that the protesters themselves are useful in causing anarchy," MacNab said.

She also sees signs that the Three Percenters militia movement appears to be taking an interest.

Megan Squire, an Elon University computer science professor who tracks online extremism, saw images of at least four members of the far-right Proud Boys group on the periphery of a protest Saturday night in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Trump was expected in the coming days to draw distinctions between the legitimate anger of peaceful protesters and the unacceptable actions of violent agitators, said a White House official who was not authorized to discuss the plans ahead of time and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Trump administration has largely remained silent on local reports that far-right protesters were also involved. Meanwhile, Democratic mayors said Trump's handling of the crisis was reminiscent of one of the darkest moments of his presidency — when he said there were "good people on both sides" of protests in 2017 over white supremacists demonstrating in Charlottesville, Virginia.

America's racial fault lines are a perfect opportunity for foreign adversaries looking to sow discord and portray the U.S. in a negative light, according to James Ludes, director of the Pell Center for International Relations and Public Policy at Salve Regina University in Rhode Island.

"This is a real issue and Americans are legitimately upset about it," said Ludes, who studies foreign disinformation tactics. "That's one of the hallmarks of these campaigns. You don't create new issues, you exploit existing issues."

There's a history of this. In 2016, another black man, Philando Castile, was killed by police in a Minneapolis suburb, his death livestreamed on Facebook. Russians used a fake Black Lives Matter page to confuse and stoke anger among the protesters. There were nearly 700,000 followers, but it's not clear how many were real.

One debunked example from this week: That Atlanta had deployed a "child militia."

Floyd was accused of trying to pass a bad bill at a grocery store after he was laid off in the pandemic. Disturbing video showed him prone on the street, while a white police officer pressed his knee into Floyd's neck even as he cried he couldn't breathe. He later died. The officers have been fired; Derek Chauvin, the officer who pinned Floyd in the video, was charged with murder.

At first there were peaceful demonstrations, but violence soon erupted. A Minneapolis police station was torched and protests took off around the country, growing increasingly tense. Video showed a police vehicle ramming into demonstrators in New York. Meanwhile, a van with four New York Police Department officers inside was hit with a Molotov cocktail and torched.

Hundreds have been arrested nationwide and cities braced for more protests. But booking information from the county jail in Minneapolis, for example, showed that out of 59 protest-related arrests, 47 people



had a home address in Minnesota, with the majority coming from the Twin Cities.

Before protests began in New York City, organizers of anarchist groups began raising money for bail, recruited medical teams to deploy for violent interactions with police and planned how to target high-end stores, said John Miller, the NYPD's deputy commissioner of intelligence and counterterrorism.

Scouts on bicycles would also move ahead of the groups to report where the police would be and then direct small breakaway groups to areas where they could torch police cars or throw Molotov cocktails, Miller said.

The NYPD has arrested 786 people related to protests since May 28 and 1 in 7 of them were not from New York City, he said.

In Washington, where protesters raged outside the White House, most of the 17 people arrested were from the area. D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser said the groups seemed, at the least, organized to destroy with tools to break windows and distribute materials.

## Unrest devastates a city's landmark street of diversity

By KATHLEEN HENNESSEY and TIM SULLIVAN Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Along the miles-long Minneapolis street where more than a century of migrants have found their American footholds -- Germans, Swedes, Vietnamese, Somalis, Mexicans -- a new history can be traced.

There's the smoldering police station torched early Thursday morning by protesters enraged by the death of George Floyd while in custody. There's the Wells Fargo bank branch a couple of blocks away that mobs stormed through the next night, leaving behind a carpet of shattered glass and strewn paperwork. "Kill Bankers" reads the graffiti now spray-painted on an outside wall.

Go further up Lake Street and there's more fresh history: the Somali restaurant with the broken windows, the empty hulk of a burned sneaker store, the boarded-up party supply store owned by a Mexican immigrant who had been praying for the coronavirus lockdown to end so he could reopen.

The protests that have roiled Minneapolis night after night didn't inflame just a single neighborhood: Much of the violence raged up Lake Street, an artery of commerce and culture that cuts across a broad swath of the city.

For residents, for businesspeople, for artists, the Lake Street corridor has long been a symbol of the city's complex history, a block-by-block study in immigration, economic revitalization and persistent inequality.

On one end is a trendy district of bars and shopping. On the other are quiet neighborhoods atop the Mississippi River bluff. Between the two is a timeline that spans almost five miles marking each wave of arrivals, along with a tangle of languages spoken in each group's markets, restaurants, churches and community groups.

The Lake Street businesses owned by Suad Hassan's family are now boarded up, bearing messages like "black owned – solidarity." Each night, the family has stood guard, successfully begging the mobs to pass them by.

The 35-year-old was born in Somalia, but her family fled the country to escape war when she was a child.

"When I saw the fire two nights ago, it was like a trauma that was triggered again for me," she said. "I had put that away in my life a long, long time ago ... I told my mom 'This is a war zone.'"

It's Lake Street's minority-owned small businesses that may suffer the most from the racial firestorm that hit the city this week. As thousands of people protested a police force with a history of violence against people of color, the collateral damage spread wide — from immigrant-owned restaurants to a center for Native American youth to an affordable housing complex under construction.

"What happened with Mr. Floyd is a horror," said Eduardo Barrera, the general manager of Mercado Central, a cooperative of largely Latino-owned businesses that helped spark economic revitalization along the street when it opened 20 years ago. The muraled corner building was broken into twice during the unrest, with some of its goods stolen.

"Nothing changes and people feel they've lost everything," Barrera said. "There's nothing to lose for

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them anymore. When there's no justice, no fairness and no equity, they lose hope."

"But we are hurting ourselves," he said.

Many speculate that Lake Street was hit so hard because its eastern stretch includes the station associated with the white officer now charged with murdering Floyd. The destruction is particularly painful because Lake Street had become a success story, an achievement people took pride in.

Residents and business owners say they've spent the last 20 years working to revive its chain of neighborhoods -- many blighted by years of neglect, suburban flight and disinvestment.

Deb Frank moved into the Longfellow neighborhood just off East Lake Street 25 years ago, buying a two-bedroom, 100-year-old home for \$40,000. The mail carrier and her neighbors teamed up to rid the area of two brothels by calling in license plates to the police and embarrassing the patrons.

Frank and her husband became used to walking to restaurants and coffee shops. "It was a really big transformation," she said.

Today, she wonders: Is it all fleeting?

"It took years to get where we were and here we're back in square one," she said, noting even the local post office had been damaged enough to disrupt mail service. "No, we're worse than square one."

By all accounts, immigrant entrepreneurs have been the engine of Lake Street's repeated resurgences. The stretch, which runs east-west through the city's south side, has long been a landing pad for recent arrivals to the city.

Early in the last century, it was Germans like Emil Schatzlein, who opened a saddle shop on West Lake Street in 1907 that still sells cowboy boots today. And the Scandinavians whose imprint is still visible in the nearly 100-year-old Ingebretsen's Nordic Marketplace, a local institution known for its lefse and herring.

Today, within a couple blocks of Ingebretsen's, you can buy a bottle of fresh camel milk in an East African grocery and fried tortillas at Taqueria La Poblana.

Just like many American cities, the 1960s saw a stream of white residents and businesses leave Lake Street for the suburbs. Buildings emptied out. By the time the Sears department store abandoned its towering building in the mid-1990s, much of the corridor was desperate for an economic infusion.

"It reinvented itself as an immigrant gateway," said Bill Convery, director of research at the Minnesota Historical Society. "The economic blight led to opportunity."

Somali immigrants fleeing war were among those who soon took advantage of the affordable rents to build businesses. Community organizations reopened the Sears building as the Midtown Global Marketplace, a showcase for food and crafts.

Still, the economic progress did not erase the stubborn poverty, the racism or the striking inequality.

The corridor's neighborhoods, along with city's north side and core, know about police tensions all too well. An ACLU study of city arrests from 2012-2014 found black and Native American people more than eight times more likely than white people to be arrested for low-level offenses.

Minneapolis also has wrestled with its growing racial segregation -- a division uncomfortably illustrated by driving east on Lake Street, which begins in the overwhelmingly white, quiet and leafy neighborhoods near Uptown before shifting into largely black or mixed neighborhoods.

Businesses already were suffering from the pandemic's stay-at-home orders when the protests started.

Gregorio De La Cruz, a Mexican immigrant, was just starting to reopen his two East Lake Street businesses -- a party supply and candy store, and a commercial cleaning business -- when the violence erupted. Less than a mile from the torched police precinct, he has closed shop again.

"I never imagined there would be so much violence in this neighborhood," he said, his eyes welling up as his 19-year-old daughter translated his Spanish words into English.

"We understand what's going on and we get that this is important. They have a right to protest. I wish they'd do it peacefully," he said.

De La Cruz hung a sign on his boarded-up door -- "Justicia Por George Floyd" -- one of scores of pleas emblazoned on Lake Street's plywood-lined storefronts. Two doors down, Ingebretsen's offered another: "One Human Family."

## **DC mayor: We have to be concerned about virus rebound**

**By KELLI KENNEDY, DANICA KIRKA and PABLO GORONDI Associated Press**

MIAMI (AP) — In hindsight, Rosa Jimenez Cano realizes that attending a protest against police brutality was risky — and not just for the usual reasons.

"This can be kind of a tinderbox for COVID," the 39-year-old venture capitalist said after attending a demonstration in Florida, one of many around the country sparked by the death of George Floyd, a black man who died after he was pinned at the neck by a white Minneapolis police officer.

As more beaches, churches, mosques, schools and businesses reopened worldwide, the sudden and mass civil unrest in the United States is raising fears of new virus outbreaks in a country that has more confirmed infections and deaths than any other. And it's not just in the U.S. — London hosted a large anti-racism protest Sunday where demonstrators violated social distancing rules.

Rosa Jimenez Cano said she planned to self-quarantine for 14 days, worrying she was perhaps "irresponsible" when she attended Saturday night's protest in Miami, where she exposed herself to crowds of people.

Protests over Floyd's death — the latest in a series of killings of black men and women at the hands of police in America — have shaken the country from Minneapolis to New York, from Atlanta to Los Angeles. Some turned into riots and clashes with police, leaving stores in flames and torched cars in the streets.

Health experts fear that silent carriers of the virus could unwittingly infect others at protests where people are packed cheek to jowl, many without masks, many chanting, singing or shouting. The virus is dispersed by microscopic droplets in the air when people cough, sneeze, sing or talk.

"There's no question that, when you put hundreds or thousands of people together in close proximity, when we have got this virus all over the streets ... it's not healthy," Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan said Sunday on CNN's "State of the Union."

"Two weeks from now across America, we're going to find out whether or not this gives us a spike and drives the numbers back up again or not."

The U.S. has seen over 1.7 million infections and nearly 104,000 deaths in the pandemic, which has disproportionately affected racial minorities in a nation that does not have universal health care.

Washington Mayor Muriel Bowser said Sunday she was very concerned that the protests in the nation's capital and elsewhere could provide fertile ground for a new series of outbreaks. Many of the protesters were wearing masks, but there were no attempts at social distancing.

"We've been working very hard in these last eight to 10 weeks to not have any mass gatherings," she said. "As a nation, we have to be concerned about a rebound."

Even the many protesters wearing masks are not guaranteed protection. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says cloth masks keep infected people from spreading the virus but are not designed to protect wearers from getting it.

Mass protests in connection with Floyd's death were also being held in Europe.

In London, thousands of people marched Sunday chanting "No justice! No peace!" while carrying signs reading "Justice for George Floyd" and "Racism is a global issue." Many demonstrators were not wearing masks and most in the crowd at Trafalgar Square were packed closely together. Britain has seen nearly 38,500 virus deaths, the second-highest in the world after the United States.

In Berlin, hundreds of protesters picketed outside the U.S. Embassy on Saturday night under the motto: "Justice for George Floyd." Others marched near the U.S. embassy in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Many Americans returned Sunday to in-person church services for the first time in weeks and tens of thousands of mosques reopened across the Middle East, but countries from India to Colombia still saw rising numbers of new infections.

Nearly 6.1 million infections have been reported worldwide, with nearly 370,000 people dying, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University. The true death toll is believed to be significantly higher, since many victims died of the virus without ever being tested.

The situation worsened Sunday in India, where new daily cases topped 8,000 for the first time and 193

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more deaths were reported. Despite that, India still is easing restrictions on shops and public transport in more states beginning Monday, although subways and schools will remain closed.

In Saudi Arabia, mosques reopened Sunday for the first time in more than two months, but Islam's holiest site in Mecca remained closed. In Jerusalem, throngs of worshippers waited outside the Al-Aqsa Mosque before it reopened. Many wore surgical masks and waited for temperature checks as they entered.

In Bogota, the capital of Colombia, authorities were locking down an area of nearly 1.5 million people as cases continued to rise. Mayor Claudia Lopez said no one in the working-class Kennedy area — inaugurated by the late U.S. President John F. Kennedy in 1961 — will be allowed out, except to seek food or medical care or in case of an emergency. Factories must also close.

In Spain, Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez said Sunday that he would ask Parliament for a final two-week extension of the nation's state of emergency that is set to expire on June 7. That allows the government to keep ordering lockdown measures to control its coronavirus outbreak, which has claimed at least 27,000 lives, many of them in overwhelmed nursing homes.

"We have almost reached safe harbor," Sánchez said.

At the Vatican, Pope Francis cautioned people against being pessimistic as they emerge from coronavirus lockdowns.

During Mass in St. Peter's Basilica to mark Pentecost Sunday, Francis noted a tendency to say that "nothing will return as before." That kind of thinking, Francis said, guarantees that "the one thing that certainly does not return is hope."

## SpaceX's historic encore: Astronauts arrive at space station

By **MARCIA DUNN AP Aerospace Writer**

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — SpaceX delivered two astronauts to the International Space Station for NASA on Sunday, following up a historic liftoff with an equally smooth docking in yet another first for Elon Musk's company.

With test pilots Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken poised to take over manual control if necessary, the SpaceX Dragon capsule pulled up to the station and docked automatically, no assistance needed. The hatches swung open a few hours later, and the two Dragon riders floated into the orbiting lab and embraced the three station residents.

Unlike the SpaceX and NASA flight control rooms, where everyone was spaced well apart, there was no social distancing or masks needed in orbit since the new arrivals had been in quarantine for many weeks.

"The whole world saw this mission, and we are so, so proud of everything you have done for our country and, in fact, to inspire the world," NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine said in a call from Mission Control in Houston.

Hurley credited SpaceX and added, "'It's great to get the United States back in the crewed launch business.'"

It was the first time a privately built and owned spacecraft carried astronauts to the space station in its more than 20 years of existence. NASA considers this the opening volley in a business revolution encircling Earth and eventually stretching to the moon and Mars.

"NASA is not going to purchase, own and operate rockets and capsules the way we used to," Bridenstine said. "'We're going to partner with commercial industry.'"

The docking occurred barely 19 hours after a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket blasted off Saturday afternoon from Kennedy Space Center, the nation's first astronaut launch to orbit from home soil in nearly a decade and drawing a Washington delegation led by President Donald Trump. NASA said peak viewership online hit 10 million.

Despite the coronavirus pandemic, thousands jammed surrounding beaches, bridges and towns as SpaceX ended a nine-year launch drought for NASA. The achievement, years in the making, is expected to drive down launch costs so more people might be able to afford a ticket to space in the coming years.

Behnken told the welcoming committee at NASA's Johnson Space Center that the Dragon was "a slick



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vehicle” and said he was surprised at how rough the ride was on the latter part of ascent, compared with the space shuttle, which he and Hurley rode twice.

“Dragon was huffing and puffing all the way into orbit,” he said.

Two Texas members of Congress at Johnson for the docking — Sen. Ted Cruz and Rep. Brian Babin — said the flight offered inspiration and hope during a particularly tough time of protests and pandemic.

“Having it go off without a hitch was a tremendous blessing for our country,” Babin told the astronauts.

Gleaming white in the sunlight, the Dragon was easily visible on NASA TV from a few miles away from the space station, its nose cone open and exposing its docking hook as well as a blinking light. Hurley and Behnken took over the controls and did a little piloting less than a couple hundred yards (meters) out as part of the test flight, before putting it back into automatic for the final approach.

Once on board the space station, Hurley said the capsule, newly named Endeavour after the retired shuttle, handled extremely well. He was the pilot on the last U.S. spaceship to visit the space station — the last shuttle flight, by Atlantis, in July 2011.

Restoring American launch capability nine years later, he noted, “is just one effort that we can show for the ages in this dark time that we’ve had over the past several months to kind of inspire, especially the young people in the United States, to reach for these lofty goals.”

There was one small glitch: Hurley bumped his head entering the space station and frequently wiped his forehead during the welcoming ceremony.

NASA turned to private industry to pick up the slack following the shuttle fleet’s retirement, hiring SpaceX and Boeing in 2014 for space station taxi services. Boeing’s first astronaut flight isn’t expected until next year.

Until Saturday, SpaceX had launched only space station supplies or satellites. The company’s employees took to calling the astronauts “dads” to drive home the fact that two lives were at stake in this highly technical effort.

Clearly relieved, NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine tweeted a big “welcome home” to the Dragon fliers — “America’s two favorite dads.”

NASA has yet to decide how long Hurley and Behnken will spend at the space station, somewhere between one and four months. While they’re there, they’ll join NASA’s Chris Cassidy and two Russian station residents in performing experiments and possibly spacewalks to install fresh station batteries.

While U.S. astronauts will continue to catch a ride on Russian Soyuz rockets, it will be through a barter system now that NASA’s commercial crew program has finally taken flight. NASA had been shelling out tens of millions of dollars for every Soyuz seat.

In a show-and-tell earlier Sunday, the astronauts gave a quick tour of the Dragon’s sparkling clean insides, quite spacious for a capsule.

The blue sequined dinosaur accompanying them — their young sons’ toy, named Tremor — was also in good shape, Behnken assured viewers. Tremor was going to join Earthy, a plush globe delivered to the space station on last year’s test flight of a crew-less crew Dragon. Behnken said both toys would return to Earth with them at mission’s end.

An old-style capsule splashdown is planned.

After liftoff, Musk told reporters that the capsule’s return will be more dangerous in some ways than its launch. Even so, getting the two astronauts safely to orbit and then the space station had everyone breathing huge sighs of relief.

As always, Musk was looking ahead.

“This is hopefully the first step on a journey toward a civilization on Mars,” he said Saturday evening.

## History, right now: Echoes of 1968, and other American years

By TED ANTHONY AP National Writer

The streets were on fire as National Guard troops streamed into American cities. The shouts were soaked in anger and anguish: “We’re sick of it!”

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There was dark talk of “radical agitators.” Violent outbursts and arrests piled up across the republic. The White House issued martial statements about law and order. On TV, footage of unrest and anger played on a continuous loop.

The voice from mission control was cool and calm as the rocket soared into the sky and towards space. “Stage One propulsion is nominal.”

It was the late 1960s. It is right now.

For Americans of a certain age — and for those mindful of the past — it is impossible to ignore the similarities between these past few days and some of the more unsettling moments from the 1960s. In particular 1968, a year marred by assassinations and violent social unrest.

And there are reasons to believe that 2020, not yet half done, may even surpass 1968 as one of American history’s most powerful social and political flashpoints.

From an impeachment trial to a devastating pandemic, from galloping unemployment to George Floyd’s death at the hands of Minneapolis police, all the threads are there, flowing together into a raging, muddied river that serves up unimaginable challenges.

“All these things are being woven together,” says historian Thurston Clarke, author of “The Last Campaign,” which chronicles Robert F. Kennedy’s 1968 presidential campaign and assassination on June 6 of that year.

“It’s like an anti-hit parade, a convergence of the greatest catastrophes of the past 100 years or so, all hitting us at once,” Clarke says. “And with what hope?”

In the morass that is 2020, history’s ghosts from an assortment of American eras have resurfaced:

— From 1918, when a pandemic’s first wave ravaged, ebbed and then gave way to a more powerful second wave.

— From 1930, when an economic crash revealed its longer-term effects on American citizens in the form of the Great Depression.

— From 1974, and the governmental disarray that preceded Richard M. Nixon’s resignation, echoed in January and February with the impeachment trial of President Donald Trump.

— From 1992, and its images of Los Angeles burning after the acquittal of four police officers in the beating of Rodney King.

Perhaps the most uncomfortable era to summon for comparison is the one no one really wants to talk about: 1860, when the final pieces of polarization fell into place for what would be a cataclysmic Civil War.

Slavery, America’s greatest historical shame, was the flashpoint then. Today, it is police brutality against black people, a descendant of that awful legacy. Then, as now, there was deep economic disparity, and a debate between individual rights and the common good. Different visions of American life. Different sets of facts and ever-hazier notions of truth.

“What’s fundamentally common for all of these things in our history is a lack of agreement of what reality is — a lack of agreement about facts, about causes,” says U.S. historian John Baick of Western New England University. “When we can’t agree on basic truth, we reach our greatest periods of divide.”

Now, we also must navigate a social media landscape overloaded with instantly uploaded imagery to persuade and provoke — an echo chamber full of lighter fluid that itself is a subject of national contention, thanks in part to the president.

Problems sometimes addressed, sometimes ignored, never truly solved. That’s what makes the deepest impression on Frederick Gooding Jr., who teaches about race.

He sees parallels between today and the Reconstruction period that immediately followed the Civil War, when African Americans — coming off a war that, on paper, rebooted American society for them — were confronted with the realities of life in the postwar United States.

“You had the premise that ‘I’m free, but I walk the streets in psychological terror,’” says Gooding, an associate professor of African American studies at Texas Christian University.

“There really is nothing new under the sun here about the fundamental structure of our society and the way it behaves,” Gooding says. “The cycle is starting to repeat. There’s outrage, it flares up, there’s new understanding, things are put in place, and then it rears its head again.”

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But right here, right now, 1968 seems the most relevant touchpoint of all.

Then, it was politics and economics and race — the death of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in particular — with the backdrop of the Vietnam War, a long-running national cataclysm that was killing many thousands of Americans.

Now, it is politics and economics and race — the death of George Floyd in particular — with the backdrop of the pandemic, a long-running national cataclysm that is killing many thousands of Americans.

There are key differences, of course. The power structures have evolved and to some extent are more inclusive, though nowhere near where many hoped they'd be.

One example: Chicago, where in 1968 Mayor Richard J. Daley decried the protests at the Democratic National Convention and pushed the aggressive policing that helped make that a national flashpoint. Today, the mayor is Lori Lightfoot, an African American woman and first openly gay person to hold the office.

Perhaps the most striking difference is the one that may be fueling the fires of anger across the land: Now, unlike any other moment in history, protesters in one place can, with a device in their pockets, see and hear what's happening elsewhere and match or surpass it in real time.

Some questions, then:

Is this period — what one Minneapolis resident called "a volcano finally erupting after years of simmering" — a singular moment in American life? It's hard to declare that from within, but it certainly has most of the convulsive themes that have driven and riven U.S. history since its beginnings.

Will people gathering and colliding in the most aggressive of fashions — shouting in each other's faces in the era of the coronavirus — create repercussions we can't even consider? "This can be kind of a tinderbox for COVID," protester Rosa Jimenez Cano said in Miami.

On Saturday afternoon, the SpaceX rocket streaked into the sky from Cape Canaveral, summoning an American moment of pride, control and expert accomplishment. And like those Apollo missions in the late 1960s and early 1970s, it left a troubled planet behind. "Congratulations to the Astronauts that left Earth today," actor and comedian Andy Milonakis tweeted. "Good choice."

Below it, all else felt tumultuous, a word that has been used so often to describe 1968 that it has become a cliché. Nevertheless, the word fits 2020, too — like a well-constructed face mask.

"For a surprisingly large number of Americans, I think, 1968 marked the end of hope," Charles Kaiser wrote in "1968 in America," his 1988 book. "Twenty years later, it may now be possible to start unraveling the mystery of how its traumas and its culture changed us."

Is that how long it will take this time? Will 20 years be enough? And, as with Apollo 11 in 1969, might there be small steps and giant leaps just ahead — breakthroughs in figuring this all out — that help Americans find new ways to soar again?

## AP Interview: Floyd's death opens old wounds for Sefolsha

By TIM REYNOLDS AP Basketball Writer

Thabo Sefolsha knows what it's like to be a black man, on the ground, surrounded by police officers.

Such was the scenario when George Floyd died in Minneapolis last week.

And when Sefolsha watched that video, his memories came flooding back.

"I was just horrified by what I saw," Sefolsha said. "That could have been me."

Time has not healed all wounds for Sefolsha, the NBA veteran who said he was attacked by a group of New York Police Department officers in April 2015 while they were arresting him outside a nightclub in the city's Chelsea neighborhood. The leg that was broken in the fracas is fine now. The emotional pain returned last week when he saw video of Floyd, a handcuffed black man who pleaded for air in the final moments of his life as a white police officer — subsequently charged with murder — pressed a knee on his neck.

Sefolsha has not watched much news since. His experience with police in New York has left him with a deep distrust of law enforcement, the pangs of angst flooding back even when he walks into NBA arenas and sees uniformed officers. And the latest example of police brutality left him even more upset.

"People talk about a few rotten apples," Sefolsha said in an interview with The Associated Press. "But

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you know, in my experience and from what we're seeing, I think it's deeper than that as a culture that's deeply rooted in it, to be honest. That's just my honest opinion. I think it's really ... part of a culture where it's deeper than just a few bad apples."

The four officers who were involved in the incident where Floyd died were fired; the one who knelt on Floyd's neck, Derek Chauvin, has been charged with third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter. Massive protests have broken out in several cities in recent days.

Sefolsha — a black man and Swiss citizen who plays for the Houston Rockets — considered but decided against joining protests in Atlanta, where he is waiting for the resumption of the NBA season that was shut down in March because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"I'm mad, for sure," Sefolsha said. "That's for sure. I mean, it's 2020. Nobody should have to go through this in this time, especially after black people have given up so much for America. Black people have given up so much and done so much for this country. It's hurtful to see it this way."

Sefolsha's perspective changed forever on April 8, 2015. Chris Copeland, an NBA player at the time, was among three people stabbed outside the club where Sefolsha was that night; police arrived and ordered everyone to leave the area. Sefolsha says he complied but began getting harassed by officers anyway.

Before long, he was on the ground.

Sefolsha's leg was broken and some ligaments were torn in the fracas, and he was arrested on several charges that a jury needed about 45 minutes to determine were unfounded. He wound up suing for \$50 million, alleging his civil rights were violated, settled for \$4 million and gave much of that money to a public defenders' organization working in marginalized communities.

"It changed me a lot, toward the way I see law enforcement in this country," Sefolsha said. "And also toward the way I see the whole justice system. I went to court and I had to do all of this to prove my innocence. It really got me deep into the system and I'm really skeptical of the whole system."

NBA players have used their platforms often in recent years to protest racial inequality. Sterling Brown of the Milwaukee Bucks filed a federal civil rights lawsuit after police used a stun gun on him and arrested him over a parking incident in 2018. On Saturday, Malcolm Brogdon of the Indiana Pacers and Jaylen Brown of the Boston Celtics were among those taking part in Atlanta protests.

"You see what happened in Minnesota where three human beings with a badge are watching another human being killing somebody," said Sefolsha, who has played in the NBA since 2006 and intends to return to Switzerland when he retires. "And instead of saying, 'OK, this is my duty as a human being,' the duty was more toward not interfering with the other officer and saying, 'We are a clan, we stick together no matter what.' It should be the other way around."

The NBA is closing in on finalizing a plan to resume the season in July at the Disney complex near Orlando, Florida. Sefolsha and the Rockets figure to be contenders for a championship when play resumes.

For obvious reasons, Sefolsha's mind isn't there yet.

"I'll be happy to be with my teammates and reunited with basketball in general," Sefolsha said. "But you know, we're human beings, and the fight has been going on for too long and the same protests have been going on for too long. I think it's definitely time for change and that should be a priority for all of us."

## AMERICAN DIARY: To be black and a journalist at this moment

By **AMANDA BARRETT** Associated Press

For many Americans, "space" means leaving the Earth's atmosphere and exploring the galaxy. They think of this weekend's SpaceX launch. Or going where no one has gone before on "Star Trek."

But the concept of space has a different meaning for African Americans. It's about finding places in American society — white society — where we are free to just be. Those spaces have been shrinking in recent months. With the flames lit in Minneapolis spreading to other cities after yet another black man's death, it felt like only an airhole was left.

I am tired. Tired of how routine violence against African Americans at the hands of white people has been and continues to be. Angry as a journalist that this has happened so often that we all know the angles that must be covered, the questions to be asked, the stories to be written. Angrier still that as an



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African American journalist, I must explain, again and again, how dehumanizing this all is.

And I think: Is doing this kind of job enough? Shouldn't I be doing something to stop the racism, the violence against us?

For years, my identities as an African American and a journalist have been in sync. Growing up, I was curious (my family would say nosy). I read my hometown newspaper religiously and watched the evening news. I especially loved how journalists used facts to shine a light on the world's injustices while also telling stories people needed to know to make decisions in their lives. As a teenager, I attended a two-week minority journalism workshop and my career choice was set.

But in recent times, the dissonance between the two parts of me has grown louder.

I woke up Tuesday morning to video of George Floyd, a handcuffed man, struggling for breath while a police officer pressed a knee into his neck for several minutes even after he stopped moving and pleading for air. Bystanders captured the video and can be heard increasingly pleading with the officer, Derek Chauvin, and three others to come to his aid.

I heard echoes of Eric Garner repeated. "I can't breathe," said George Floyd. My heart broke. And I cried. But as a journalist, I had to put my individual feelings on the back burner.

I immediately shared that horrible video to make sure my colleagues were responding to the story quickly and covering the anger arising online, on the streets of Minneapolis and beyond. I did my part. But inside, I went from anger to rage to exhaustion.

The week's misery had begun on Memorial Day when a black man asked a white woman in Central Park to leash her dog. Birdwatcher Christian Cooper pulled out his phone. On it, he captured Amy Cooper calling police to report she was being threatened by "an African American man."

In the words of Yogi Berra, it was *deja vu* all over again for black folks. Cooper was later fired by the investment firm where she worked.

The birdwatcher said he felt targeted — just like Ahmaud Arbery, a black jogger in Georgia. He was killed when a white father and son chased him through their neighborhood and shot him in February. No charges were filed until two months later, after video of the shooting leaked online.

On Friday, I awoke to the words of the president of the United States: "When the looting starts, the shooting starts," he tweeted, summoning the civil rights era with a phrase used in the 1960s by a Miami police chief and by George Wallace, an aggressive segregationist.

If African Americans being killed by police is the throughline of our times, then the drumbeat of aggressions for existing in white spaces is the steady rhythm. No driving while black. No swimming while black. No picnicking while black. No shopping while black. No standing while black. No sleeping while black. No breathing while black.

No being me while black.

And all this while the coronavirus stalks black bodies, killing us disproportionately. Doctors talk about our illnesses, but they don't delve into the systemic inequalities that bring them to bear. Being sick while black is dangerous, too.

There is one space where we are welcome: jobs that, during the pandemic, have been deemed essential. We keep subways and buses moving, grocery stores stocked, food delivery services humming while many white-collar workers stay home. And white men hang governors in effigy for not reopening fast enough as African American deaths rise.

Barack Obama, the nation's first and only black president, tackled what getting back to normal means for African Americans in a statement Friday about George Floyd's death.

"We have to remember that for millions of Americans, being treated differently on account of race is tragically, painfully, maddeningly 'normal,'" he said, "whether it's while dealing with the health care system, or interacting with the criminal justice system, or jogging down the street, or just watching birds in a park."

Part of me wants to go off and join the fight. To put aside my journalistic reserve and give full voice to my anger, my disappointment that my country doesn't always live up to its lofty ideals of equality and justice. To build a brighter future like it seemed on "Star Trek," where races, nationalities and even species

lived together in mutual respect and Lt. Uhura's presence as a respected, competent black officer assured little Amanda of her place among them.

But I'm doing my part right where I am. I'm telling stories that help readers understand the world around them. I'm sharing the voices of the unheard and holding those in power accountable. Just as important, I am working to make our newsrooms more accurately reflect the communities we cover and to make our storytelling and our decision-making more inclusive.

My voice is the voice of facts and context. My voice is the hope that they can bring the understanding and, eventually, the equality that my country's founding documents promise.

My space is the newsroom.

I'm good here.

## Faith leaders in dual roles guiding congregations and police

By GIOVANNA DELL'ORTO Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — As an African American pastor who serves as a chaplain in the Minneapolis police precinct where the white officer charged with murdering George Floyd worked, the Rev. Charles Graham believes he is exactly where God intended.

"God is putting us where he wants us to be," said Graham, pastor emeritus at Macedonia Baptist Church in Minneapolis and chaplain at the 3rd Precinct for six years. "I know it's my job to show the hope. We might as well learn how to live together."

Graham and other Twin Cities faith leaders who minister to communities historically ravaged by racial injustice know their neighborhoods are also the most vulnerable to poverty and crime. Most of the worst looting and vandalism this week struck long-established Native American and African American areas that more recently became home to large groups of Hmong, Somali and Latino migrants.

Firm in their denunciation of brutality and racism, the religious leaders believe that using faith to build bridges between law enforcement and the communities they police will ultimately keep everyone safe.

"We're better together," said Joan Austin, a minister at New Creation Baptist Church in Minneapolis and a chaplain in the 5th Precinct, which was engulfed in violent protests the night after the third precinct was torched. "I lift (officers and congregants) up in prayer every single night."

Praying with police officers before they go on duty, bringing them into meetings with the communities they serve but often don't live in, and trying to break down mutual fear and suspicion are some of the ways in which chaplains serve both their congregations and their precincts.

"The reason I work with the police department right now is that I want to help the culture change," Graham said. "Some policemen think they're in charge of black folks. If you'd treat me as someone that's important too, it would be so much better."

Even as he struggles with his own sense of helplessness Carl Valdez, a long-time deacon at Incarnation / Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, has been spending long hours at the 5th Precinct where he's chaplain, urging the officers not to give in to anger or that same helplessness.

"There's a culture of 'the community is against us and we have to pretend that we're not angry or afraid with all that,'" Valdez said.

As the long-time deacon at Incarnation / Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, the spiritual home of a large Spanish-speaking community that often carries the memory of abuses in home countries, he knows how crucial it is to build relationships.

Before he became chaplain, multiple squad cars showed up at the church after a neighbor called police on a group of Latinos there. It was a family doing volunteer repairs to the century-old building.

Since then, the parish community and the police have held regular dialogue. Uniformed officers shared tamales at the celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe and kept an eye on traffic during pandemic food drives in which 90 tons of food were donated to nearly 3,000 households.

"Poor people and those on the margins are more likely to be preyed upon and building good relationships with law enforcement is crucial to protect this community," said parish priest Rev. Kevin McDonough. "My

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message now is, stay the course.”

Across town in St. Paul, the parish priest of the historic African American parish of St. Peter Claver was similarly confident in the power of faith to bring healing and renewal, but he also worried about whether the church and its school would remain unscathed, with a gas station vandalized on the same block.

“We didn’t expect we’d be a target, because we’re standing with the community. But most of the damage wasn’t done by protestors,” the Rev. Erich Rutten said Saturday afternoon, as two dozen volunteers boarded up windows and doors with plywood.

Two miles down the interstate highway, that would be closed two hours later in an effort to prevent more violence, the rector of the Cathedral of St. Paul celebrated the first public Mass there since the pandemic.

To the faithful in masks scattered throughout the huge historic structure, the Rev. John L. Ubel admitted being “nervous,” but said being able to gather together again for the solemnity of Pentecost -- with its emphasis on the Holy Spirit bringing the fearful apostles the courage to go out into the world -- couldn’t come at a better time.

“We’re meant to gather,” he preached in his homily. “But so too we’re called to live in community. Our differences are not to be a source of division. The Lord has not abandoned us, has not abandoned our cities.”

## Mosques reopen in Saudi Arabia and Jerusalem amid virus woes

By AYA BATRAWY Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Tens of thousands of mosques across Saudi Arabia reopened Sunday for the first time in more than two months, with worshipers ordered to follow strict guidelines to prevent the spread of the coronavirus as Islam’s holiest site in Mecca remained closed to the public.

The Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, Islam’s holiest site outside of Saudi Arabia, also reopened for prayers for the first time since it was closed in mid-March.

With little regard for social distancing, throngs waited outside the holy site’s gates before it opened early Sunday, with many wearing surgical masks. As they were allowed to enter, the faithful stopped to have their temperature measured.

The mosque was one of Jerusalem’s many holy sites, including the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the Western Wall, whose access was restricted at the height of Israel’s coronavirus outbreak. Throughout that period, worshipers continued to pray in the alleyways outside the mosque.

Jews also resumed their pilgrimages Sunday to the hilltop compound they revere as the Temple Mount, site of the two Jewish biblical temples.

In Saudi Arabia, the government prepared for the reopening of around 90,000 mosques after sanitizing prayer rugs, washrooms and shelves holding copies of the Quran, the Muslim holy book.

The Ministry of Islamic Affairs said millions of text messages were sent to people in multiple languages to inform them about the new rules for public prayer, which include keeping a two-meter (six-foot) distance between people during prayer, wearing face masks at all times and abstaining from greeting one another with handshakes or hugs.

Children under 15 years-old were not being allowed inside mosques. The elderly and those with chronic conditions were being told to pray at home. People are also being advised to perform the mandatory ablution at home since washrooms at mosques will be closed, to use hand sanitizers and to bring their own prayer rugs and copies of the Quran.

The restrictions call for mosques to open just 15 minutes before each of the five daily prayers and to close 10 minutes after they conclude. Friday sermons and prayers are to last no longer than 15 minutes.

On Sunday, Saudi Arabia also lifted a ban on domestic air travel and permitted some public sector workers to resume office work again, though full attendance will not be allowed until mid-June.

The new measures come as Saudi Arabia and other countries around the world begin to loosen restrictions and stay-at-home orders following weeks of curfews and lockdowns.

However, the Grand Mosque in Mecca, which houses the cube-shaped Kaaba that Muslims around the

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world pray toward, will remain closed to the public. The city has been under a strict lockdown for several weeks. The mosque in Medina where the Prophet Muhammad is buried will be partially opened to the public to pray outside.

The continued closure of Mecca points to the increasing likelihood that the kingdom may suspend this year's annual Muslim hajj pilgrimage, which falls in late July. Already, a senior Saudi official has told prospective pilgrims not to plan for the hajj this year amid the global pandemic.

Despite taking early and unprecedented measures to curb the spread of the virus, Saudi Arabia has recorded more than 83,000 people contracting the virus, including 480 deaths.

Israel has recorded fewer than 300 deaths and mostly kept its daily infection count to the low dozens since the beginning of May. But it also imposed severe restrictions that battered its economy and sent its unemployment rate skyrocketing. Many of those restrictions, including on places of worship, began to be eased earlier this month.

On Sunday night, Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, announced it would restrict movement within the sheikhdom for a week beginning Tuesday. The government said in a statement it would "reduce contact, curb the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health and safety of all community members."

In Pakistan, meanwhile, the government withdrew limits on congregations in mosques and churches, the latest easing of restrictions.

The country's coronavirus death toll of 1,483 is third only to Iran and Turkey in the Middle East, and 88 new deaths were recorded overnight. Pakistan has an acute bed shortage and near daily warnings from health professionals to tighten lock down measures. The government has kept mosques open, urging safe distancing but not enforcing it.

In Lebanon, the Ministry of Energy announced the extension of a deadline for submitting bids for the country's second offshore oil and gas licensing round until an unspecified date before the end of 2021 because of coronavirus. The date has been already postponed twice so far from Jan. 31 until the end of April and later until June 1.

Lebanon has registered 27 deaths from the coronavirus and reported 29 new cases Sunday, raising the registered cases to 1,220.

## **Pope: Pull together, avoid pessimism in this coronavirus era**

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis is cautioning against pessimism as many people emerge from coronavirus lockdowns to lament that nothing will ever be the same.

During Mass in St. Peter's Basilica to mark Pentecost Sunday, Francis noted a tendency to say "nothing will return as before." That kind of thinking, Francis said, guarantees that "the one thing that certainly does not return is hope."

He took to task his own church for its fragmentation, saying it must pull together.

"The world sees conservatives and progressives" but instead all are "children of God," he said, telling the faithful to focus on what unites them.

"In this pandemic, how wrong narcissism is," Francis said, lamenting "the tendency to think only of our needs, to be indifferent to those of others, and to not admit our own frailties and mistakes."

"At this moment, in the great effort of beginning anew, how damaging is pessimism, the tendency to see everything in the worst light and to keep saying that nothing will return as before!" the pope said. "When someone thinks this way, the one thing that certainly does not return is hope."

A few dozen faithful, wearing masks and sitting one to a pew, attended the ceremony as part of safety measures to avoid spreading COVID-19.

While the Vatican has re-opened the basilica to tourists, the rank-and-file faithful still aren't allowed yet to attend Masses celebrated by the pope for fear of crowding.

In a videotaped message for the Pentecost service led by the Anglican church leader, Justin Welby, archbishop of Canterbury, Francis spoke of how during the pandemic people are required to keep a safe distance from each other. "Yet we have also come to understand, perhaps better, what others are expe-



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riencing. We have been brought together by fear and uncertainty.”

Francis encouraged prayers for those who must make “complex and pressing decisions,” which he said should be focused on investing in “health, employment and the elimination of inequalities and poverty.”

“Now as never before, we need a vision rich in humanity. We cannot start up again by going back to our selfish pursuit of success without caring about those who are left behind,” the pope said.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, June 1, the 153rd day of 2020. There are 213 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On June 1, 1939, Lou Nova defeated Max Baer at Yankee Stadium in the first U.S. televised heavyweight prizefight.

On this date:

In 1813, the mortally wounded commander of the USS Chesapeake, Capt. James Lawrence, gave the order, “Don't give up the ship” during a losing battle with the British frigate HMS Shannon in the War of 1812.

In 1916, Louis Brandeis took his seat as an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, the first Jewish American to serve on the nation's highest bench.

In 1926, actress Marilyn Monroe was born Norma Jeane Mortenson in Los Angeles.

In 1939, the British submarine HMS Thetis sank during a trial dive off North Wales with the loss of 99 lives. Mexico officially abolished the siesta.

In 1943, a civilian flight from Portugal to England was shot down by Germany during World War II, killing all 17 people aboard, including actor Leslie Howard.

In 1958, Charles de Gaulle became premier of France, marking the beginning of the end of the Fourth Republic.

In 1967, the Beatles album “Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band” was released, as was David Bowie's debut album, eponymously titled “David Bowie.”

In 1980, Cable News Network made its debut.

In 2003, leaders of the world's seven wealthiest nations and Russia pledged billions of dollars to fight AIDS and hunger on the opening day of their summit in Evian, France.

In 2008, fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent died in Paris at age 71.

In 2009, General Motors filed for Chapter 11, becoming the largest U.S. industrial company to enter bankruptcy protection.

In 2017, President Donald Trump declared he would pull the U.S. from the landmark Paris climate agreement. (The U.S. remains a part of the agreement until November of this year.)

Ten years ago: Attorney General Eric Holder said federal authorities had opened criminal and civil investigations into the BP oil spill. A divided U.S. Supreme Court ruled, 5-4, that criminal suspects had to explicitly invoke their right to remain silent, and that simply remaining silent was not sufficient to stop police questioning. Former Vice President Al Gore and his wife, Tipper, announced their separation after 40 years of marriage.

Five years ago: South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham opened his campaign for the Republican presidential nomination. The Supreme Court threw out the conviction of a Pennsylvania man prosecuted for making threats on Facebook, but the justices stopped short of laying out broad constitutional protections for such comments. A cruise ship capsized in China's Yangtze River, killing 442 people. Vanity Fair released its cover photo featuring the former Bruce Jenner with the headline, “Call Me Caitlyn” as the Olympic gold medalist publicly completed his gender transition.

One year ago: Serena Williams suffered her earliest loss at a major tournament in five years, losing a third-round match at the French Open to 20-year-old American Sofia Kenin, 6-2, 7-5; hours earlier, top seed Naomi Osaka was eliminated by 42nd-ranked Katerina Siniakova of the Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-2.

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Today's Birthdays: Singer Pat Boone is 86. Actor Morgan Freeman is 83. Opera singer Frederica von Stade is 75. Actor Brian Cox is 74. Rock musician Ronnie Wood is 73. Actor Jonathan Pryce is 73. Actress Gemma Craven is 70. Actor John M. Jackson (TV: "NCIS: Los Angeles") is 70. Blues-rock musician Tom Principato is 68. Country singer Ronnie Dunn is 67. Actress Lisa Hartman Black is 64. Actor Tom Irwin is 64. Singer-musician Alan Wilder is 61. Rock musician Simon Gallup (The Cure) is 60. Country musician Richard Comeaux (River Road) is 59. Actor-comedian Mark Curry is 59. Actor-singer Jason Donovan is 52. Actress Teri Polo is 51. Basketball player-turned-coach Tony Bennett is 51. Actor Rick Gomez is 48. Model-actress Heidi Klum is 47. Singer Alanis Morissette is 46. Actress Sarah Wayne Callies is 43. Comedian Link Neal (Rhett & Link) is 42. TV personality Damien Fahey is 40. Americana singer-songwriter Brandi Carlile is 39. Actor Johnny Pemberton is 39. Actress-writer Amy Schumer is 39. Former tennis player Justine Henin is 38. Actor Taylor Handley is 36. Actress Zazie Beetz is 29. Actress Willow Shields is 20.

Thought for Today: "When a thing ceases to be a subject of controversy, it ceases to be a subject of interest." — William Hazlitt, British essayist (1778-1830).

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