

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 1 of 79

- [2- City Council Agenda](#)
- [3- Covid-19 Update by Marie Miller](#)
- [7- Brood Route Demise](#)
- [8- Area COVID-19 Cases](#)
- [9- June 15th COVID-19 UPDATE](#)
- [12- Updated Baseball Schedule](#)
- [13- Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs](#)
- [14- Weather Pages](#)
- [17- Daily Devotional](#)
- [18- 2020 Groton Events](#)
- [19- News from the Associated Press](#)



**A power outage happened Monday morning after a fuse along a Northwestern Energy wheeling route had blown. Some repairs had to be made and the outage lasted about two hours.**

**Well, we had an internet outage for about 17 hours on Sunday and a power outage for two hours on Monday. What will Tuesday bring?!**

## **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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# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 2 of 79

## Groton City Council Meeting Agenda

June 16, 2020 – 7:00pm

Groton Community Center

(IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CALL IN TO THIS MEETING, PLEASE MAKE PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS TO DO SO BY CALLING CITY HALL 605-397-8422)

1. Glen Cooper – Utility bill discussion
2. Dave McGannon – Flag at the City Park
3. Public Comments - pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1  
(Public Comments will offer the opportunity for anyone not listed on the agenda to speak to the council. Speaking time will be limited to 3 minutes. No action will be taken on questions or items not on the agenda.)
4. Minutes
5. Bills
6. May Finance Report
7. Reject all bids for the Water Main Extension Schedule A project
8. Legion Coach annual salary – \$3,000
9. Executive session personnel & legal 1-25-2 (1) & (3)
10. Hiring seasonal employees
11. Adjournment

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 3 of 79

**#113 in a series**

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

My data source is back to timely reporting today, so we'll try to catch up. All of the growth in numbers today represents two days' data. Of course, I have no way to know how many to assign to Sunday and how many to assign to Monday, so I'll just look at some averages, dividing the growth evenly between the days to get an idea how things are looking. And I'm going to say up front, things are looking good, not as good as I would like them to look, but we're not going backward. Here's what I have:

We're at 2,123,900 cases in the US. New case numbers (divided by 2) declined considerably; based on Saturday's increase, we should have been looking at some 54,000 new cases over the past two days, but we're seeing 41,000 instead. That's a pretty significant decline. NY leads with 388,719 cases, staying below 1000 new cases per day on average. Based on Saturday's increase, I would have expected to see around 1800 new cases in the past two days, but we have 1300 instead, also a nice decline. NJ has 167,103 cases. They'd been staying below 500 for several days; they went one better and stayed below 500 new cases over the two-day period. Remaining top-10 states are as follows: CA – 155,581, IL – 134,247, MA – 105,690, TX – 91,714, PA – 83,687, FL – 77,318, MI – 66,302, and MD – 62,653. These ten states account for 63% of US cases. We have 2 more states over 50,000. 5 more states have over 40,000 cases, 3 more states have over 30,000 cases, 5 more states have over 20,000 cases, 11 more have over 10,000, 5 more + DC and PR over 5000, 6 more + GU over 1000, 3 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 CA, KY, WA, KS, IA, NM, MS, and SD. States where new case reports are increasing include TX, NC, FL, AZ, GA, TN, LA, and AL. States where new case reports are decreasing include NY, PA, NJ, MI, IL, MD, MA, and VA. We'll watch the states showing increases and hope those with decreases continue the decline.

There have been 116,206 deaths in the US. The number of new deaths in this two-day period wasn't much higher than the one-day number on Saturday, so these are well down, averaging under 500. NY has 30,645, NJ has 12,676, MA has 7647, IL has 6543, PA has 6307, MI has 6025, CA has 5118, and CT has 4204. All of the two-day totals in these states but one are under 100. There are 1 more state over 3000 deaths, 6 more states over 2000 deaths, 6 more states over 1000 deaths, 8 more + DC over 500, 12 more + PR over 100, and 9 + GU, VI, and MP under 100.

One quick news item: The FDA has pulled the emergency use authorization (EUA) for hydroxychloroquine for treatment of hospitalized Covid-19 patients. Their reason was that "the drug carries too many risks without any apparent benefit." We've been expecting this; the handwriting's been on the wall for a couple of weeks now. I'd say this book is closed. Moving on.

Here's something interesting to consider: respiratory virus interactions. Most respiratory viruses peak in winter for a whole bunch of reasons we explored a few days ago—cold dry air, people staying indoors, vitamin D, even maybe pollen. Whether or not this one turns out to be seasonal, in a few months, we're going to be facing this one along with the usual cast of winter virus culprits. Does that matter?

It could. Or it could go the other way. Let's explore.

Come fall, we're going to have a crowded field—influenza, rhinovirus, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), four other coronaviruses known to cause colds. They might all play nicely together, or they might push and shove for advantage, and if they do that, no telling who wins. (I do want to be clear here that viruses don't really have the capability to form intentions or plans, so I say things like "push and shove" purely for illustrative purposes. Viruses are neither good nor evil; they're not "the enemy;" they simply exist, doing what viruses do. They have less choice in the matter than we do. I will, however, continue to anthropomorphize where I think it will promote understanding of what's going on here.)

One possibility, one we discussed a bit the other night, is cross-protection. Some viruses can help your immune system to respond to other viruses. This can happen in two ways. One is that the other virus is similar to the one we need protection from, similar enough that some of the antibodies we make to it are actually at least partially protective against it. You may not have full immunity, but this cross protection

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 4 of 79

might reduce the severity or duration of infection with SARS-CoV-2. Cross-protection is how the first effective smallpox vaccine worked; it relied on the similarity between cowpox, a mild infection with a related virus, and smallpox, a severe, frequently fatal infection. (In fact, the word, vaccine, is derived from the Latin word for cow, vacca, because of this association.) Flu vaccines work in the same way. Flu strains change from year to year because of the incredible genetic variability of that virus (something we can be grateful is not a characteristic of coronaviruses); so we develop a new vaccine each year by making educated guesses as to which strains are coming around months from now. We don't always guess just right, but still the vaccination against related strains confers at least some protection, which is why a flu shot is worth it, even in a bad-guess year.

We know coronavirus responses exhibit some cross-protective effect. The four that cause colds come in two kinds, alpha and beta. Infection with one of the alphas gives you some level of protection against the other one; same thing is true for the betas. This results in a two-year cycle for each of them. SARS-CoV-2 is a beta-coronavirus, so it is possible the two betas in the cold virus category will compete for space with it in the fall. We do know that SARS-CoV-2 can be recognized by the immune systems of people who've previously had a coronavirus infection; we do not know that this response is protective, but it's definitely there. So it could be when a beta-coronavirus is circulating, it could compete for space in the respiratory infection market with this nasty one, and it could also be, if you've had a fairly recent infection with one of them, you will have some degree of protection against Covid-19 as a result.

The other way cross-protection works is the thing we talked about a few days ago, that vaccination against one virus maybe, weirdly provides some marginal level of assistance with this one.

When you get an infection, you mount a fast, broad-spectrum (nonspecific) response, sort of a first-line of defense, and then later a slower, specific response targeted to the particular virus. Here, we're interested in that first-line defense. When your immune system is already revved up to deal with some other virus, it is also prepared to deal with anything else that comes along. We've seen that historically: In 2009, for example, the H1N1 influenza pandemic delayed the onset of the RSV season for some weeks.

Another possibility is that one virus can make things worse with another virus. Measles virus weakens your immune responses, leaving you more vulnerable to other infections for quite a period of time afterward. But something else can occur, something that looks a lot to me like the antibody-dependent enhancement we talked about as a possibility in response to vaccines. This is where antibodies produced in response to the vaccine actually help the pathogen make you sick, usually by facilitating binding of the pathogen to your cells—not exactly the desired goal. I don't know that the mechanism is exactly the same (not a virologist or an immunologist, remember), but we see something similar between closely related viruses. Dengue fever is probably the best example: Your first infection with the virus is generally mild; the second one can kill you. That's just the opposite of how we've come to expect things to work, isn't it? You're supposed to be protected after that first go-round. What happens here is that the antibodies produced in response to the first strain of virus that infects you can pick up and deliver the next strain of virus to your cells, then help it to enter. We can hope antibodies to coronaviruses don't act like that.

So which of these things might operate here? Any of them? We don't know, but we should start getting some hints soon enough. Winter is coming on in the southern hemisphere, so you can bet epidemiologists will be watching to see what happens there. There are also a bunch of studies underway, looking at respiratory viruses in general in relation to one another in hopes of sorting some of this out. With luck, these and the surveillance work over the next few months will give us an idea what to expect with respect to these potential viral interactions. Even best case, none of these viruses is going to deal a knock-out blow to Covid-19, but a break would be nice. We'll keep an eye on the news.

By now, you've probably seen one of those charts circulating on the Internet showing the risk of various activities, rated from 1 to 10. I've seen a lot of comments in response to them—someone saying they can't figure out why X is rated a 9 when Y is rated a 4 and it doesn't make sense to them. I'm guessing the translation of those comments goes something like, "I really like to do X, and so I need to find a way to see it as low-risk enough to engage in." For the record, this is a bad approach.

The list was generated in consultation with four infectious disease specialists in Michigan, and it looks

# Groton Daily Independent

**Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 5 of 79**

pretty solid to me. Here's the quick run-down. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 carrying the least risk and 10 carrying the most risk, based on whether the activity is indoor or outdoor, your proximity to others while engaging in the activity, the duration of exposure during the activity, and the likelihood of compliance with basic precautions during the activity:

- 9 – Bars, large concerts (even outdoors)
- 8 - Sporting events in stadiums, gyms, amusement parks, church, buffets
- 7 – Basketball (even outdoors), public swimming pools, schools
- 6 – Casinos, restaurants – indoor seating, playgrounds, barbershops and hair salons, pontoon boat rides (with a big group not from your household), indoor movie theaters
- 5 – Dinner parties in a home, airplanes (although opinions on this one varied widely among the experts), backyard barbecues, malls, beaches, bowling
- 4 – Dentists' offices (a lot of variance here too), walking in a busy downtown, offices, doctors' waiting rooms, outdoor dining at a restaurant
- 3 – Grocery shopping, camping (not at a big camping event), hotels, golfing, libraries and museums
- 2 – Going for a walk, run, or bike ride with others, getting gas for your vehicle
- 1 – Getting takeout from a restaurant, playing tennis

It helps to remember that any of these activities can be made higher or lower risk based on individual contexts. If everyone present is engaging in risk reduction strategies, then the activity is safer; if the venue is crowded, then the activity is riskier. So outdoor dining on a jam-packed patio where there is plenty of drinking is not a safe activity, whatever rating you see below; running in a pack is dangerous, even though running with one other person is not. Outdoor seating at a quiet neighborhood bar without drunks lurching around is likely as safe as eating in an outdoor setting. Working out by yourself at the gym is safer than spin class. A church with good ventilation, no singing, everyone in a mask, and proper distancing observed might be relatively safe, especially if the service is short. Activities involving heavy breathing (whether it's a workout, singing in church, or reciting the Pledge of Allegiance) are riskier, especially if you're in proximity to others also engaging in heavy breathing. One of those famously well-ventilated, open floor-plan casinos in Las Vegas, especially if crowding is avoided, is probably going to be less risky than the little corner place with the poker machines in your hometown.

We talked yesterday about thinking about this virus the way you think about second-hand smoke. If everyone else is a smoker, any measures that reduce your exposure to the smoke are measures that reduce your exposure to the virus. Add the consideration of how many people are wearing masks, and assess the risk of the setting from there.

There are many kinds of needs and many ways we can reach out to help others during this difficult time. A teacher in Philadelphia saw a need: She noted the viral "senior photo challenge," where people shared pictures of their own proms and graduations in support of high school seniors who missed out on these experiences and asked, "How was this supporting them? If my house burned down, I wouldn't want people to share photos of their living room and say they're supporting me." And so she started a Facebook group called Adopt a High School Senior, which gave people a chance to send the kids cards, words of encouragement, or gifts. Many of these kids' parents returned the favor by mentoring other children in the group. The movement grew from just the Philadelphia area to the rest of the country with thousands of seniors now adopted. And there is now a Adopt-A-Senior scholarship fund, handing out \$1000 scholarships to seniors for essays or community work. And there have been other benefits, for example, mentoring relationships have been formed. One of the adopters of one scholarship recipient decided to adopt when he learned the student was going to his alma mater in the fall. He hopes to maintain a lasting relationship with his adoptee. Most students have their families' support, but graduations are also about community support, and this Facebook project has provided some of that. Kelli Wyatt, the teacher who founded this movement, says, "The love has been overwhelming. . . . This group has impacted people's lives." Not bad at all.

If there's a theme here, it seems to be love. Not the mushy romantic kind you have for your partner, but the kind that encompasses your fellow human beings, the kind that sees taking care of our society as a

# Groton Daily Independent

**Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 6 of 79**

benefit to all of us, the kind that sees this as an obligation of being human. Which we all are—or should try to be on our good days. Look for that, offer that, be that. I know you can.

And keep yourself healthy. We'll talk again.

## Brood Route Demise

by George Vandel, Pierre

At the recent June 4th GFP Commission teleconference meeting, GFP Secretary Kelly Hepler announced his decision, and the Commission agreed, to cancel the 2020 pheasant brood route surveys and likely all future pheasant brood surveys. This was done without public notice or public input. The justification was two-fold 1) the brood survey results are not used to set the pheasant season, and 2) in years when the results indicate a pheasant decline, some pheasant hunters, both resident and nonresident, chose not to purchase a small game license. Other than a brief mention of reason 1, I'll concentrate my comments on reason 2.

Kelly Hepler is correct, our annual pheasant season, which changes very little, is not set using the brood route data. In fact it is set using very little science at all. Instead it is determined by social issues, land-owner preferences and economic impact. If biology drove the season it would be much longer, run from sunrise to sunset with the bag limit adjusted annually depending on the pheasant population. Reason number 1 is simply fluff.

Should GFP conduct an annual, well established, long-term data driven pheasant population survey? Yes. Information gathered via the annual brood survey provides several critical wildlife management needs. It provides a long-term data set, going back to 1949. This data is used to document pheasant reproductive trends and how pheasant populations respond to weather, habitat changes and Federal Farm programs. Information obtained by conducting annual brood routes provides critical reproductive data to accurately, scientifically and consistently estimate our annual pheasant population. With the elimination of the survey only guesses and unscientific speculation will be used to fill this void.

The 2nd justification, that brood route counts should be eliminated because they can reduce license sales, make it painfully obvious that Kelly Hepler and the GFP Commission are far more interested in license sales and economics than they are in accurately and honestly conducting scientific surveys to track, document and annually report to the public the status of South Dakota's most important game bird. Rather than put out the truth, the accurate information obtained from our annual brood routes, they prefer to keep pheasant hunters guessing. Is the pheasant population up or is it down? From here out, your guess on pheasant numbers and trends holds as much value as GFP's--a guess is a guess. Rather than provide the public with the facts and accept the honest risk that some hunters may choose not to hunt, Kelly Hepler and the GFP Commission have decided to quit gathering pheasant reproductive and population data and to simply "market" our pheasants. Eliminate the facts and encourage all to hunt regardless if our pheasant population goes up or goes down.

One thing is crystal clear--our pheasant population will go up and it will go down. Without good reproduction and population data we will no longer know the long-term pheasant population trends. As the pheasant population responds to habitat changes, how will we know? And, how will we know what to do about it? For example additional emphasis has been put on increased habitat in the last 5-8 years due to a decline in pheasant numbers. The Pheasant Summit initiated by Governor Dugaard was driven by the documented decline in pheasant numbers which was established by brood counts, Governor Noem's Second Century Habitat Initiative was put into place for the same reason, a decline in pheasant numbers established by brood route information. If we don't know the population trend will there ever been a push for these types of initiatives in the future?

Other than the decision to openly deceive pheasant hunters, Kelly Hepler and the GFP Commission are attempting to take the annual choice to hunt or not hunt away from hunters. They have chosen to replace it with an annual \$700,000 "come one, come all, it's always great, we always have lots of birds" marketing plan.

This is a horrible and unacceptable way to manage pheasants. It's a bad decision by Kelly Hepler and the GFP Commission and a bad day for pheasant hunters. It's time for pheasant hunters everywhere to ask these blunt questions. Don't we deserve the truth, the pheasant facts? Don't we deserve science based. data-driven wildlife management? Don't we deserve better from Kelly Hepler and the GFP Commission?

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 8 of 79

## Area COVID-19 Cases

	June 3	June 4	June 5	June 6	June 7	June 8	June 9
Minnesota	25,508	25,870	26,273	26,980	27,501	27,886	28,224
Nebraska	14,611	14,866	15,117	15,379	15,543	15,634	15,752
Montana	523	525	539	541	540	545	548
Colorado	26,788	27,060	27,360	27,615	27,848	28,001	28,183
Wyoming	701	703	709	721	726	734	748
North Dakota	2646	2679	2706	2745	2816	2861	2880
South Dakota	5067	5162	5247	5277	5367	5438	5471
United States	1,831,821	1,851,520	1,872,660	1,898,401	1,920,061	1,938,931	1,961,185
US Deaths	106,181	107,175	108,211	109,137	109,802	110,481	111,007
Minnesota	+300	+362	+403	+707	+521	+385	+338
Nebraska	+266	+255	+251	+262	+164	+91	+118
Montana	+4	+2	+14	+2	-1	+5	+3
Colorado	+211	+272	+300	+255	+233	+153	+182
Wyoming	+1	+2	+6	+12	+5	+8	+14
North Dakota	+21	+33	+27	+39	+71	+45	+19
South Dakota	+33	+95	+85	+30	+90	+71	+33
United States	+20,451	+19,699	+21,140	+25,741	21,660	+18,870	+22,254
US Deaths	+1,016	+994	+1,036	+926	+665	+679	+526
	June 10	June 11	June 12	June 13	June 14	June 15	June 16
Minnesota	28,523	28,869	29,316	29,795	30,172	30,471	30,693
Nebraska	15,883	16,025	16,315	16,513	16,633	16,725	16,851
Montana	554	561	563	573	588	601	609
Colorado	28,347	28,499	28,647	28,822	29,017	29,130	29,299
Wyoming	760	768	793	811	832	841	856
North Dakota	2901	2941	2980	3016	3058	3080	3101
South Dakota	5523	5604	5665	5742	5833	5898	+5928
United States	1,979,971	2,000,464	2,023,347	2,048,986	2,074,526	2,094,069	2,111,622
US Deaths	112,006	112,924	113,820	114,669	115,436	115,732	116,114
Minnesota	+299	+346	+447	+479	+377	+299	+222
Nebraska	+131	+142	+290	+198	+120	+92	+126
Montana	+6	+7	+2	+10	+15	+13	+8
Colorado	+164	+152	+148	+175	+195	+113	+169
Wyoming	+12	+8	+25	+18	+21	+9	+15
North Dakota	+21	+40	+39	+36	+42	+22	+21
South Dakota	+52	+81	+62	+77	+91	+65	+30
United States	+19,786	+20,493	+22,883	+25,639	+25,540	+19,543	+17,553
US Deaths	+999	+918	+896	+849	+767	+296	+382



# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 9 of 79

## June 15th COVID-19 UPDATE

### Groton Daily Independent from State Health Lab Reports

Bennett County registered its first positive case. Otherwise, the numbers in the state are hovering lower with only 30 positive cases statewide and 62 more being recovered. Pennington and Minnehaha County each registered six positive cases. Brown County had two positive and four recovered cases as the percent recovered rose by .7 and is nearing 90 percent recovered. Statewide, 83.7 percent of the patients are recovered.

#### **Brown County:**

Active Cases: -2 (30)  
Recovered: +4 (281)  
Total Positive: +2 (313)  
Ever Hospitalized: 0 (16)  
Deaths: 2  
Negative Tests: +26 (2170)  
Percent Recovered: 89.8 % (.7 increase)

#### **South Dakota:**

Positive: +30 (5928 total) 2  
Negative: +1046 (60467 total)  
Hospitalized: +5 (544 total) - 93 currently hospitalized (up 6 from yesterday)  
Deaths: 0 (75 total)  
Recovered: +62 (4961 total)  
Active Cases: -32 (892)  
Percent Recovered: 83.7% +.6

Counties with no positive cases report the following negative tests (Lost Bennett): Butte 355, Campbell 58, Haakon 180, Harding 33, Jones +1 (22), Perkins 71, Potter +2 (148), unassigned +646 (6195).

Aurora: +1 recovered (27 of 33 recovered)  
Beadle: +2 positive, +17 recovered (304 of 448 recovered)  
Bennett: First positive case  
Brookings: +2 positive, +2 recovered (26 of 36 recovered)  
Brown: +2 positive, +4 recovered (281 of 313 recovered)  
Buffalo: +2 positive, +1 recovered (23 of 53 recovered)  
Clark: +2 positive (4 of 11 recovered)  
Corson: +1 recovered (4 of 11 recovered)  
Davison: +1 positive, +1 recovered (34 of 33 recovered)  
Hutchinson: +1 positive (6 of 9 recovered)  
Hyde: +1 recovered (2 of 3 recovered)  
Lake: +1 positive (11 of 15 recovered)  
Lincoln: +3 positive, +3 recovered (243 of 270 recovered)  
Meade: +1 positive (20 of 37 recovered)  
Minnehaha: +6 positive, +7 recovered (3210 of 3485 recovered)  
Moody: +1 recovered (18 of 20 recovered)  
Oglala Lakota: +1 recovered (24 of 46 recovered)  
Pennington: +6 positive, +7 recovered (205 of 392 recovered)  
Todd: +4 recovered (32 of 37 recovered)

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 10 of 79

Union: +3 recovered (93 of 113 recovered)  
Yankton: +1 recovered (50 of 58 recovered)

Fully recovered from positive cases: Day 13-13, Deuel 1-1, Edmunds 4-4, Grant 13-13, Gregory 1-1, Marshall 4-4, McPherson 3-3, Sanborn 13-13, Spink 5-5, Sully 1-1, Walworth 5-5.

The N.D. DoH & private labs report 2,025 completed tests today for COVID-19 with 22 new positive cases, bringing the statewide total to 3,101.

State & private labs have reported 133,896 total completed tests.  
2,683 ND patients are recovered.

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

Race/Ethnicity	# of Cases	% of Cases
Asian, Non-Hispanic	658	11%
Black, Non-Hispanic	946	16%
Hispanic	990	17%
Native American, Non-Hispanic	747	13%
Other	658	11%
White, Non-Hispanic	1929	33%

County of Residence	# of Deaths
Beadle	6
Brown	2
Jerauld	1
Lake	1
McCook	1
Meade	1
Minnehaha	53
Pennington	8
Todd	1
Union	1

# Broton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 11 of 79

County	Positive Cases	Recovered Cases	Negative Cases
Aurora	33	27	215
Beadle	448	304	1093
Bennett	1	0	240
Bon Homme	9	7	488
Brookings	36	26	1287
Brown	313	281	2170
Brule	10	4	368
Buffalo	53	23	331
Butte	0	0	355
Campbell	0	0	58
Charles Mix	32	17	403
Clark	11	4	253
Clay	66	35	773
Codington	46	37	1539
Corson	11	4	101
Custer	2	1	336
Davison	33	24	1336
Day	13	13	293
Deuel	1	1	245
Dewey	2	0	670
Douglas	4	3	251
Edmunds	4	4	250
Fall River	6	4	445
Faulk	20	13	82
Grant	13	13	367
Gregory	1	1	199
Haakon	0	0	180
Hamlin	11	6	244
Hand	6	4	160
Hanson	3	1	98
Harding	0	0	33
Hughes	22	17	844
Hutchinson	9	6	555

Hyde	3	2	74
Jackson	5	1	254
Jerauld	40	34	212
Jones	0	0	22
Kingsbury	5	3	329
Lake	15	11	535
Lawrence	12	11	1017
Lincoln	270	243	3554
Lyman	33	14	429
Marshall	4	4	167
McCook	8	5	387
McPherson	3	3	152
Meade	37	20	961
Mellette	1	0	121
Miner	3	2	144
Minnehaha	3485	3210	16351
Moody	20	18	383
Oglala Lakota	46	24	1271
Pennington	392	205	4952
Perkins	0	0	71
Potter	0	0	148
Roberts	40	33	803
Sanborn	13	13	161
Spink	5	5	672
Stanley	11	9	110
Sully	1	1	37
Todd	47	32	646
Tripp	7	6	235
Turner	25	23	519
Union	113	93	1020
Walworth	5	5	323
Yankton	58	50	1855
Ziebach	2	1	95
Unassigned****	0	0	6195

## SEX OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

Sex	# of Cases	# of Deaths
Female	2829	41
Male	3099	34

Age Range	# of Cases	# of Deaths
0-19 years	599	0
20-29 years	1203	1
30-39 years	1303	3
40-49 years	980	5
50-59 years	947	11
60-69 years	537	13
70-79 years	183	6
80+ years	176	36

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 12 of 79

## 2020 Groton Baseball Schedule

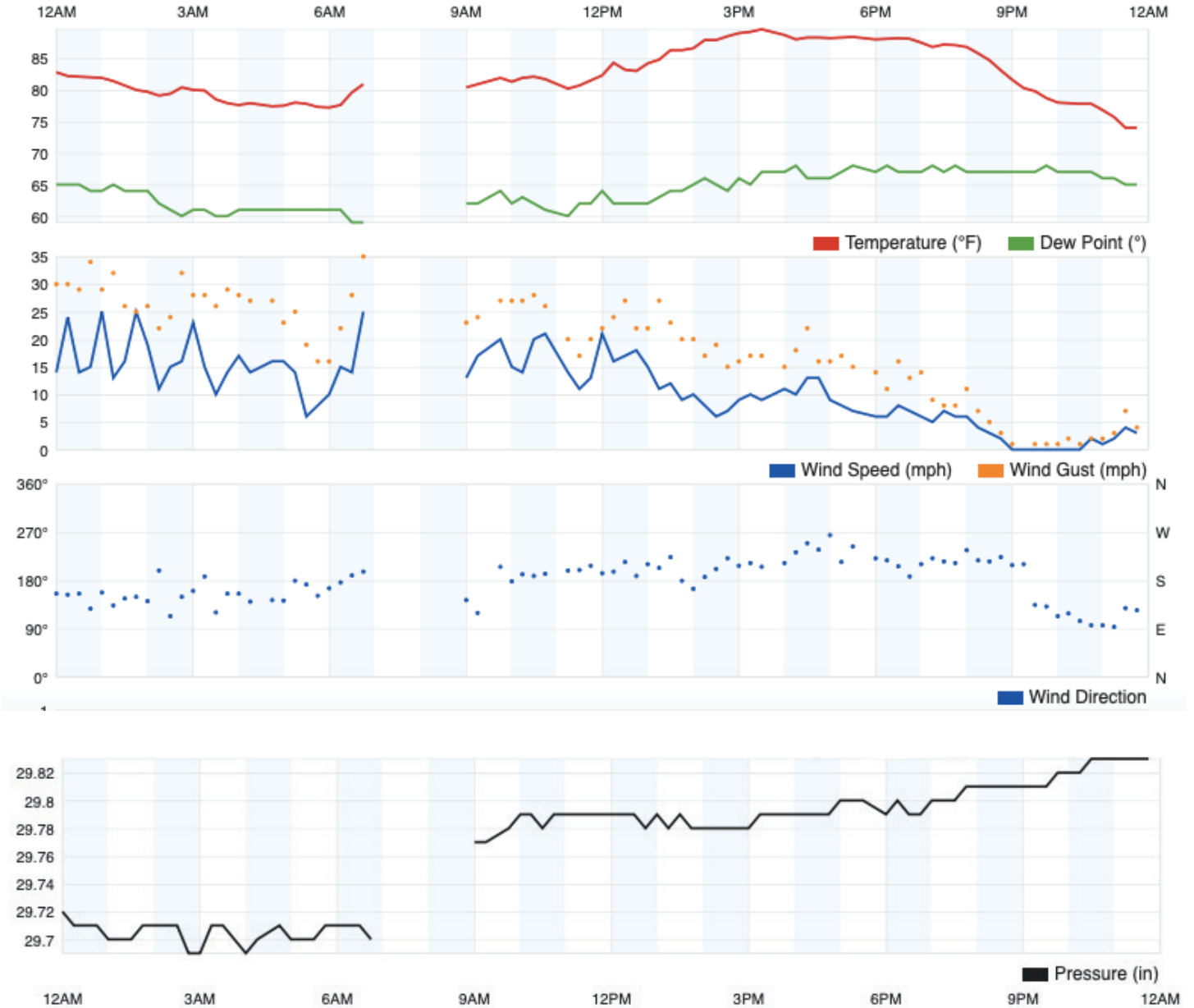
**Updated June 13, 2020**

Date	Team	Opponent	Location	Time
June 13	Jr. Legion	Northville	Groton	4:00 (2)
June 14	Jr. Legion	Lake Norden	Groton	3:00 (1)
June 14	Legion	Lake Norden	Groton	5:00 (1)
June 15	Jr. Teener	Fredrick	Groton	5:30 (2)
June 15	Jr. Legion	Claremont	Claremont	5:00 (1)
June 15	Legion	Claremont	Claremont	6:30 (1)
June 17	Legion	Redfield	Groton	6:00 (2)
June 18	Jr. Legion	Northville	Northville	6:00 (2)
June 19	Jr. Teener	Webster	Groton	6:00 (2)
June 22	Jr. Teener	Clark	Clark	6:00 (2)
June 23	Jr. Legion	Claremont	Groton	6:00 (1)
June 23	Legion	Claremont	Groton	8:00 (1)
June 24	Jr. Legion	Faulkton	Faulkton	6:00 (2)
June 25	Jr. Teener	Webster	Webster	6:00 (2)
June 26	Legion	Clark	Groton	5:30 (2)
June 27	Jr. Teener	Lake Norden	Lake Norden	2:00 (2)
June 27	Legion	Redfield	Redfield	2:00 (1)
June 28	Jr. Teener	Northville	Groton	4:00 (2)
June 29	Jr. Legion	Redfield	Groton	6:00 (2)
June 29	Legion	Webster	Webster	6:00 (2)
June 30	Jr. Legion	Northville	Northville	6:00 (2)
July 1	Jr. Teener	Lake Norden	Groton	5:30 (2)
July 1	Legion	Northville	Northville	6:00 (2)
July 2	Jr. Teener	Clark	Groton	6:00 (2)
July 6	Jr. Legion	Clark	Groton	5:30 (2)
July 7	Legion	Redfield	Redfield	6:00 (2)
July 10	Jr. Legion	Faulkton	Groton	6:00 (2)
July 14	Jr. Legion	Lake Norden	Lake Norden	5:30 (1)
July 14	Legion	Lake Norden	Lake Norden	7:00 (1)
July 15	Jr. Legion	Redfield	Redfield	6:00 (2)
July 15	Legion	Webster	Groton	6:00 (2)
July 20	Jr. Legion	Clark	Clark	6:00 (2)
July 20	Legion	Northville	Groton	6:00 (2)

# Groton Daily Independent

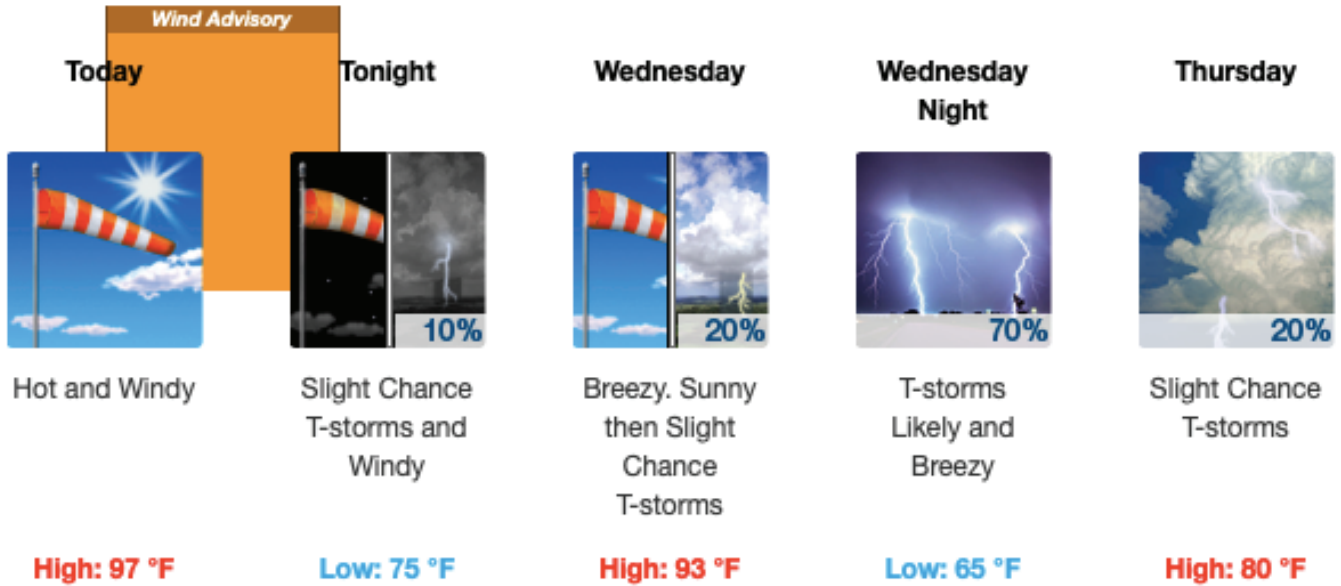
Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 13 of 79

## Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

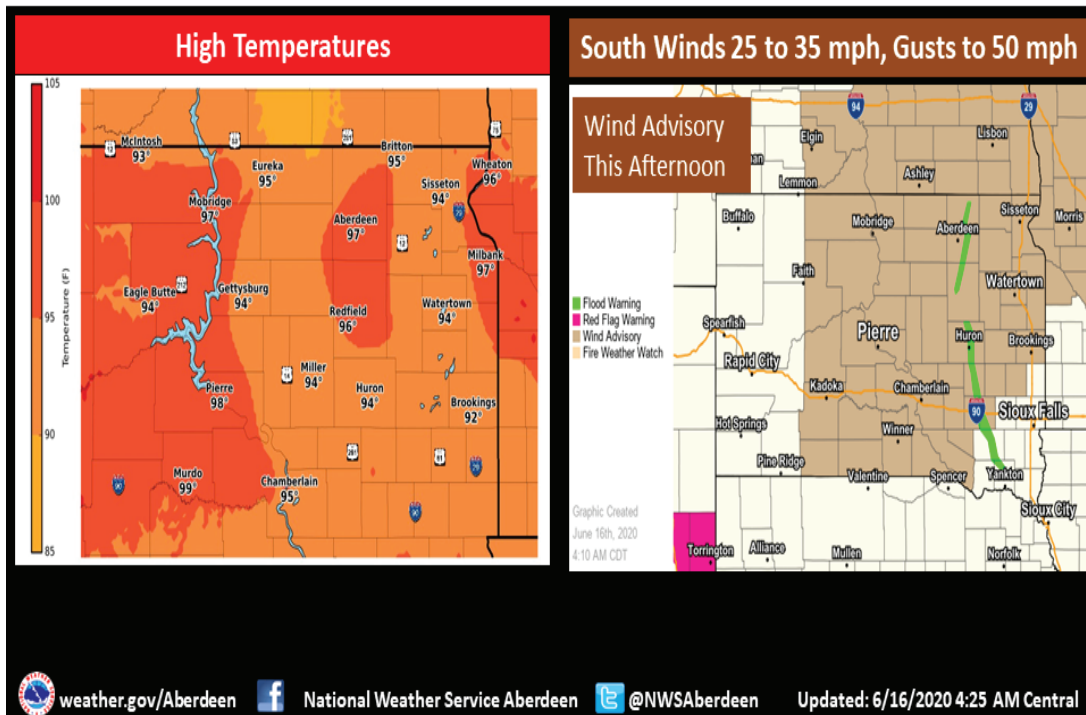


# Broton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 14 of 79



## Hot and Windy Today



Today will feature hot and humid conditions, with high temperatures reaching the mid to upper 90s. Strong southerly winds can be expected as well, with gusts up to 50 mph. A Wind Advisory is in effect this afternoon and evening. Isolated to scattered strong to severe storms will be possible this evening over parts of central South Dakota.

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 15 of 79

## Today in Weather History

June 16, 1915: A tornado swept over a narrow path in Hughes, Hyde, and Hand counties during the afternoon hours. This tornado caused several thousands of dollars in property damage and seriously injured many people. Luckily there were no fatalities reported.

June 16, 1992: An F3 tornado caused significant destruction as it moved northeast across the northwestern side of Ft. Thompson. The tornado virtually destroyed the Lake Sharpe Visitor Center. In Ft. Thompson, the tornado destroyed at least four homes and 15 mobile homes were damaged, leaving about 55 persons homeless. Eight people were injured, two of them seriously. The storm also destroyed other buildings, six 50,000 bushel grain bins, and four high voltage towers from Big Bend Dam. At the Shady Bend Campground, 19 campers and several boats were destroyed.

Also, heavy rains fell over a three-day period beginning on the 15th. The hardest hit area was in Clear Lake where the three-day total was 11.53 inches. As a result, a wall of water up to 15 feet high swept down creeks in the Clear Lake area. The resultant flash flooding went through first floors of many houses and even filled basements of houses on hills. The wave of water hit a car that was occupied by a woman and her son. The water spun them around as they floated about 200 yards. The car finally grounded without any reported injuries. All roads into Clear Lake were cut off as the town became surrounded by water. Officials in Deuel County estimated at least 37 bridges and culverts were destroyed. Other three-day rainfall totals include; 6.35 inches in Conde; 5.99 in Castlewood; 4.91 inches 2NW of Big Stone City; 4.90 in Redfield; and 4.65 inches at Artichoke Lake.

June 16, 2009: An upper low-pressure area brought several supercell thunderstorms which produced severe weather across parts of central and northeast South Dakota. Large hail up to 2 inches in diameter, several tornadoes, along with flash flooding occurred with these storms. Slow moving thunderstorms brought very heavy rains of 2 to 4 inches in and around Aberdeen causing extensive road flooding throughout the city. Dozens of basements were flooded and damaged along with some sewer backups. Many vehicles became stalled with the police sent out to direct traffic. There were also some power outages. A tornado touched down briefly northwest of Lebanon in Potter County with no damage occurring. A tornado touched down southeast of Polo in Hand County, in an open field. No damage occurred. Heavy rains of 3 to over 5 inches caused flash flooding of several roads and crops in north-central and northeast Spink County. Torrential rains from 3 to 6 inches fell across southeast Brown County bringing flash flooding. Many roads were flooded and damaged along with many acres of cropland. A tornado touched down in southeastern Hand County and remained on the ground for nearly 15 minutes before lifting. No damage occurred with this tornado as it stayed in the open country.

June 16, 2010: Very strong winds were observed during the evening hours in Dewey County, South Dakota. Three weather stations near Lantry observed winds from 101 to 142 mph. One station had recorded a 101 mph wind before it was destroyed. The other two stations recorded 131 mph and 142 mph winds. The winds destroyed an airplane hangar and severely damaged another one. Several semi-trailers were also tipped over and damaged by the very high winds.

1806: Great American total solar eclipse occurred from California to Massachusetts with nearly five-minute in duration. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

1896: A tsunami ravages the coast of Japan killing between 22,000 and 27,000 people.

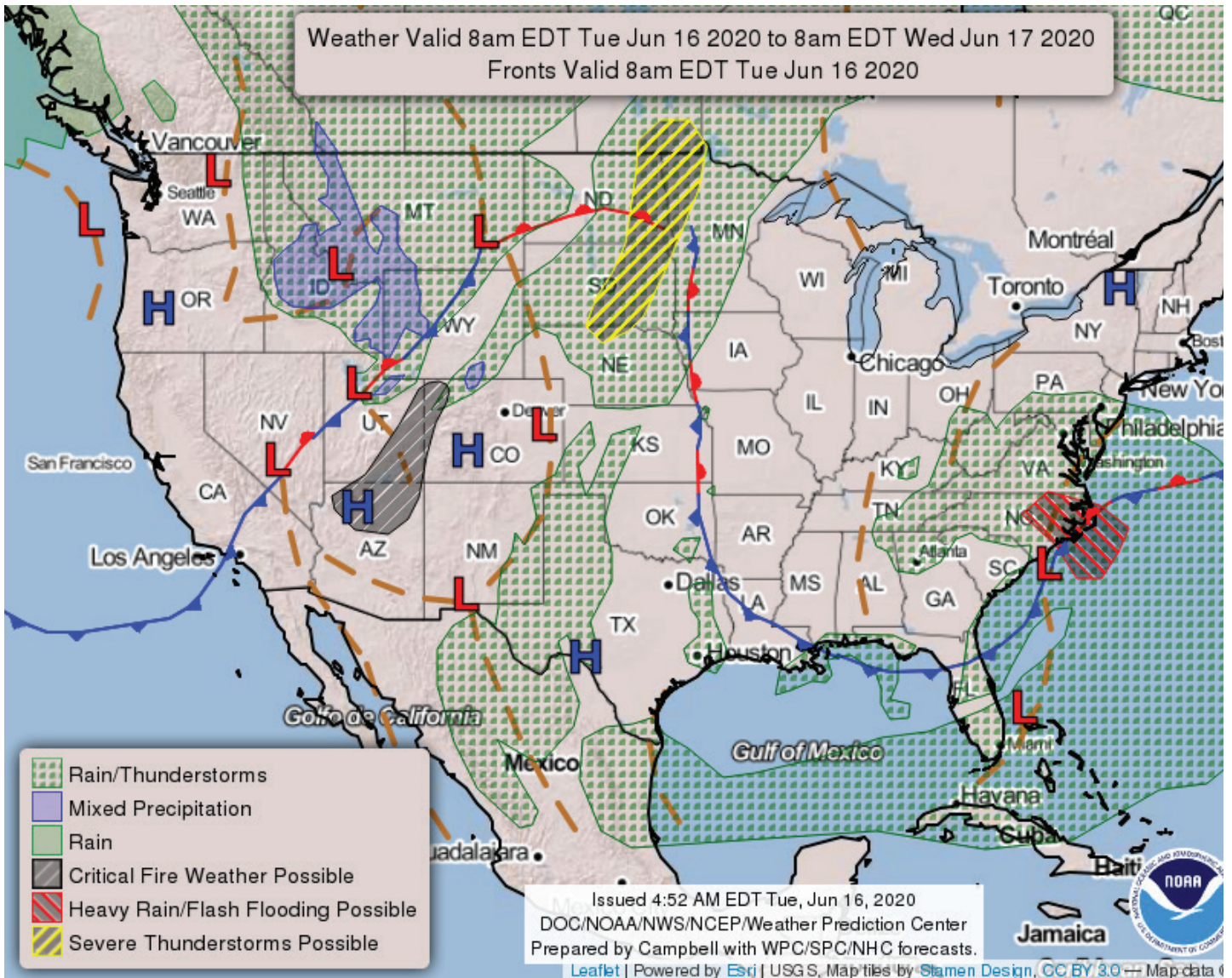
# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 16 of 79

## Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

**High Temp: 90 °F at 3:12 PM**  
**Low Temp: 74 °F at 11:36 PM**  
**Wind: 36 mph at 1:01 AM**  
**Precip: .00**

**Record High: 109° in 1933**  
**Record Low: 34° in 1903**  
**Average High: 78°F**  
**Average Low: 54°F**  
**Average Precip in June.: 1.81**  
**Precip to date in June.: 1.75**  
**Average Precip to date: 8.95**  
**Precip Year to Date: 6.38**  
**Sunset Tonight: 9:24 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:45 a.m.**





# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 17 of 79



## THE TRUE BELIEVER

His license plate proudly proclaimed "SAY NO." But when the "outspoken" advocate for living a drug-free life was stopped for speeding, the police officers discovered that he was transporting drugs in his automobile.

While we may shake our heads in disbelief at that man's hypocrisy, he is not that different from many Christians. The Apostle John wrote, "Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Christ did." We might say that this is an "If/Then" statement. John wants us to have no doubt about one important fact: "If we say that we live in God, then others will be able to see Christ living in us, in what we do to and for others and hear the way we speak His love in what we say." A rather troubling statement, isn't it?

In only a few words John states two ways that will assure us that we belong to Christ: If we do what Christ says and live as Christ wants us to live. A few verses later in his little letter John clearly describes what he means: "Believe in the name of His Son and love one another."

True "lived-out" Christian faith results in "loving behavior." For this reason, John reminds us that what we say and the way we act is proof that we are living in God and belong to Christ. If we are obedient to the teachings of Scripture and show God's love as Jesus did, then we know without a doubt that we "live in God."

Prayer: Father, we truly love You and want to "live in You" as You would have us to live. Make our faith strong, our love deep, and our lives worthy of Your grace. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did. 1 John 2:6

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 18 of 79

## 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
- 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

## News from the Associated Press

### **Judge: U.S. must release \$679M in tribal virus relief funds**

**By FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press**

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) — The U.S. Treasury Department must release \$679 million in coronavirus relief funding for tribes that it intended to withhold while a court challenge over the agency's initial round of payments to tribal governments played out in court, a federal judge ruled late Monday.

U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta in Washington, D.C., said the agency doesn't have discretion to withhold the money that is part of a federal relief package that included \$8 billion for tribes. He ordered the Treasury Department to disburse it among tribal governments by Wednesday.

"Continued delay in the face of an exceptional public health crisis is no longer acceptable," Mehta said.

The relief package was approved in late March with a deadline for the funding to be distributed to tribes by April 26.

The payments were delayed as the Treasury Department grappled with methodology. It decided to use federal tribal population data for the initial \$4.8 billion distribution to 574 federally recognized tribes in early May. Much of the remaining \$3.2 billion based on tribes' employment and expenditure data went out Friday, the department said.

Mehta's ruling came in one of several cases filed by tribes, some of which have been consolidated.

Mehta said no court order prevents the Treasury Department from releasing the \$679 million. He allowed the department to withhold \$7.65 million that the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation of Kansas tribe alleges it was shortchanged in the initial distribution of funding.

The Prairie Band said the Treasury Department should have relied on the tribe's own enrollment figures to calculate its share of the money.

Mehta denied the tribe's request to halt further distribution of the money last week, saying the Treasury Department has authority to determine how to allocate the money. Attorneys for the tribe said Monday they are appealing.

The Treasury Department said the \$679 million withholding would cover the Kansas tribe if the tribe wins its case and any other tribal governments that might raise challenges. That amounts to the difference between relying on data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the enrollment figures submitted by tribes.

"It's a means of ensuring that Treasury has actually determined an appropriate amount and paid an appropriate amount," U.S. Department of Justice attorney Jason Lynch, representing the Treasury Department, said Monday during a court hearing in a related case.

In that case, tribes renewed a request to force the Treasury Department to disburse the remaining money, which Mehta granted.

Keith Harper, who is representing several tribes in the request, suggested earlier Monday that the Treasury Department withhold only the amount in question for the Prairie Band.

"The tribes have only until the end of this year to figure out how to spend these funds, and they can't even make decisions on planning on how to utilize these funds," Harper said. "Every day that goes by is further difficulties for these tribal plaintiffs."

An undisclosed amount also was reserved for Alaska Native corporations in case the court rules in favor of the Treasury Department in a separate lawsuit brought by tribal nations over eligibility.

### **District, state fail to meet special ed federal requirements**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The state and district did not meet federal requirements on several indicators and performance targets, annual reports by the South Dakota Department of Education show.

The report that's based on the 2018-19 school year shows the state and district did not meet targets

such as the graduation and dropout rates, according to the Rapid City Journal.

The target graduation rate for youth with IEPs (individualized education program) graduating from high school with a regular diploma in four years was 85%. The state's rate was 62.9% and the district's was 60%.

Rapid City Area Schools and the state also did not meet the statewide proficiency targets for reading and math for children with disabilities on statewide assessments.

For reading, at a goal of 46.07%, the state's rate was 18.43% and the district's rate was 17.79%.

In math, the statewide goal was 45.49%. The state's rate was 16.73% proficiency while the district's rate was 14.67%.

Todd Christensen, special education program manager, said he's confident the district will soon come close to meeting their mark by the time data is out for the previous year. He plans to implement new curriculums and have both grade-level teachers and special education teachers participate in professional development to make sure they get the same training.

For child outcomes in the percent of preschool children with IEPs, the district and state both failed to meet the state target in three areas, social-emotional skills, acquisition and use of knowledge and skills, and use of appropriate behaviors.

Social-emotional skills are measured at age 3 and before age 5 to help give a baseline of data in those areas for students, according to Christensen.

"When you look at the report card, we have a lot of things we need to work on and I'm hoping in this next school year that we're going to see the fruition of these efforts and see some of these things go up," Christensen said. "I'm very confident in some of these areas that we will see progress."

## Attorney general: Police shooting in Rapid City justified

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's attorney general has concluded the fatal shooting by Rapid City police last month was a justified use of deadly force.

Attorney General Jason Ravnsborg and the Division of Criminal Investigation on Monday released a summary on the death of Anthony Angel.

The 30-year-old Rapid City man was killed May 13 after police stopped a vehicle that was under surveillance for possible illegal drug activity.

According to the summary, Angel was a passenger in the vehicle and refused to identify himself when asked by police.

The attorney general's report says Angel got out of the vehicle, backed away from officers and aimed a handgun at them. It says shots were exchanged and Angel was hit twice,

Angel fired two rounds, one which hit the windshield of a patrol car and the other struck the ground in front of the officers, the report said.

Angel died the following day at Monument Hospital in Rapid City.

"As Attorney General it is my conclusion that the use of lethal force and discharge of a duty weapon by the Rapid City Police Officer was justified," said Ravnsborg.

The Division of Criminal Investigation assisted by the Rapid City Police Department, Pennington County Sheriff's Office, Meade County Sheriff's Office, the Unified Narcotics Enforcement Team (UNET), and the South Dakota Highway Patrol, investigated the incident.

## Two legislative primary races headed for recounts

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Two legislative primary races in southeast South Dakota are headed for recounts.

The Republican primaries for the District 17 Senate and District 19 House races both finished with narrow margins, according to state election officials.

The Yankton Press and Dakotan reports those vote differences each fell within 2% of the ballots cast, which qualifies under state law for a recount if the losing candidate requests it, which they did.

In the District 17 Senate race, incumbent Art Rusch of Vermillion defeated challenger Nancy Rasmussen of Hurley by six votes of nearly 2,000 cast.

In the District 19 House race, incumbent Kent Peterson of Salem and challenger Jessica Bahmuller of Alexandria claimed the two available spots with 1,881 and 1,741 votes, respectively. The third candidate, incumbent Marty Overweg of New Holland, finished with 1,720 votes.

Recounts must be completed within 14 days following the filing of the petition request.

## Soccer star takes on UK leader over meals for needy kids

By JILL LAWLESS Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was facing pressure Tuesday to make a policy U-turn as opponents and allies alike rallied behind a young soccer star's campaign to help families struggling with food poverty.

Marcus Rashford, who plays for Manchester United and England's national team, wants the government to provide free meals for needy students over the summer holidays.

Rashford, 22, wrote an open letter to all of Britain's lawmakers on Sunday, describing how, as one of five children of a hard-working single mother, "we relied on breakfast clubs, free school meals, and the kind actions of neighbors and coaches."

"A black man from a low-income family in Wythenshawe, Manchester, I could have been just another statistic," he wrote. "Instead, due to the selfless actions of my mum, my family, my neighbors, and my coaches, the only stats I'm associated with are goals, appearances and caps. I would be doing myself, my family and my community an injustice if I didn't stand here today with my voice and my platform and ask you for help."

About 1.3 million British children are eligible for free school meals. When schools were shut down in March as part of a nationwide coronavirus lockdown, a food voucher scheme was set up to help ensure they did not go hungry. Vouchers worth 15 pounds (\$19) are available to spend each week in supermarkets.

The government plans to stop the voucher program when the scheduled school term ends in July in England and Northern Ireland, although authorities in Scotland and Wales plan to continue it.

So far, Johnson's Conservative government has refused to budge, pointing out that it has earmarked an extra 63 million pounds (\$80 million) for local authorities to support vulnerable families. Johnson's spokesman said Monday that the prime minister planned to respond to Rashford's letter, but hadn't done so yet.

But Rashford's campaign appeared to be picking up steam, backed by celebrities, opposition politicians and some Conservative lawmakers nervous that the government appears impervious to the struggles faced by many British families during the coronavirus pandemic.

Conservative legislator Robert Halfon, who chairs Parliament's education committee, said after three months of a lockdown that has seen the British economy sink over 20% "so many people up and down the country are struggling to keep a roof over their heads and to feed their families."

Halfon said the meal voucher program "is not a lot of extra money ... but it's simple, it works and the public understand it."

The government is already facing intense criticism for its response to the coronavirus pandemic. Britain's official death toll of more than 41,000 is the highest in Europe, and the government is defending itself against claims it had inadequate stocks of protective equipment, lacked testing capacity and put the country into lockdown too late, costing thousands of lives.

Rashford kept up the pressure Tuesday, tweeting: "When you wake up this morning and run your shower, take a second to think about parents who have had their water turned off during lockdown."

Work and Pensions Secretary Therese Coffey replied saying: "Water cannot be disconnected though" — and was roundly criticized for such a tone-deaf response.

Rashford replied: "I'm concerned this is the only tweet of mine you acknowledged. Please, put rivalries aside for a second, and make a difference."

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

## 'Still scared': Health workers feel the toll of virus fight

By JENNIFER PELTZ Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Outside a back door to a hospital where the coronavirus hit like a hurricane, a half-dozen staffers gathered recently to look back, and look inward.

"I am still scared," Dr. Gwen Hooley told her colleagues at Elmhurst Hospital, which was swamped with patients in late March as the virus rampaged through New York.

Physician's assistant Diane Akhbari recalled her husband leaving food on the cellar stairs while she isolated herself for months for fear of infecting her family: "I felt like an animal," she said, her voice cracking.

Co-workers talked about how terrifying it felt early on, not knowing whether they'd have enough protective gear. How one endured his own case of COVID-19 and others saw young and healthy people like themselves get critically sick. How colleagues discussed drawing up wills.

And how haunting it is to think it may all happen again.

"I feel like it's a calm before a second storm," said Hooley, an emergency room physician who lost a relative to the virus.

While the global pandemic hasn't abated, the days when gasping patients arrived at Elmhurst nonstop, when ventilators ran low and deaths so high that a refrigerated morgue truck was stationed outside, have subsided. Not necessarily the pain.

At Elmhurst and hospitals around the country, nurses, doctors and other health care workers are reckoning with the psychological toll of the virus fight, coupled with fears that the disease could flare anew later this year.

"There's this overarching feeling of 'Is the next shift going to be the shift where there's 200 people in the waiting room again?'" said Dr. Samantha LeDonne, an ER physician. "You still can't enjoy the calmness or feel like you're at normal when you have that in the back of your head."

Health care workers have been cheered as heroes in the virus crisis, and some have found the challenge and teamwork deeply meaningful. But the work also has been exhausting and traumatic, even for people accustomed to a life-and-death job.

A study of 1,200 Chinese hospital workers found half reported symptoms of depression and 44% reported signs of anxiety amid the coronavirus outbreak there. The United Nations said frontline healthcare workers faced "exceptional stress" in the pandemic, and that ensuring their mental health is critical to the world's recovery.

Calls to a colleague-to-colleague "psychological first aid" program in the Baltimore-based Johns Hopkins hospital system increased from a handful a week to scores, said program co-founder Dr. Albert Wu. Taking calls and making rounds, volunteers spoke with 2,000 co-workers in 10 weeks.

In places where the virus raged, hospital staffers say they were broadsided by the sheer, shocking volume of serious illness and death. As healers, they felt the pain of not being able to offer a cure, while pushing through their own concerns about contracting the virus. They mourned relatives and colleagues and bore the weight of seeing patients suffer and die without the comfort of loved ones because of bans on visitors.

After six years as an intensive care nurse, Angelyn Bannor was conditioned to patients dying sometimes. But "this was beyond," she said.

"I couldn't handle it. It's not physical, but emotionally, it was very hard," said Bannor, who works at Metropolitan Hospital — like Elmhurst, a New York City public hospital that had a heavy coronavirus caseload. She has looked for solace in prayer and in tearful phone sessions with colleagues.

For now, the virus' surge has given way to an uneasy quiet.

"The adrenaline wore off a bit, and it was like, 'What did we just go through?'" says Dr. Eric Wei, an ER physician who also oversees quality-improvement initiatives for city public hospitals. "We're still in that grieving, recovery phase, but also, we know that time is critical before the next mini-surge or before the next peak."

There's nothing unusual about distress or anxiety following an upsetting experience, psychologists note. Most people work through the feelings in a few weeks.

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 23 of 79

But there is concern that some who cared for COVID-19 patients may develop post-traumatic stress disorder, a longer-term and more disruptive condition.

Witnessing death and feeling exposed to life-threatening risk repeatedly in a single workday can have prolonged effects, said New York psychologist Paula Madrid. She's working with about two dozen health care professionals who are grappling with sleeplessness, edginess and other reactions to the pandemic.

She encourages them to see their experiences "for what they really are, which is going through something that no one is really prepared for."

Elmhurst staffers have been trying to help each other see that, too, with support from hospital management.

They share thoughts at "debrief" sessions, like the recent one by the back door. A special break room is staffed by a social worker and decorated with thank-you notes from around the country. Another room quietly pays respects to several colleagues who died of the virus.

Some have taken initiative from loss. After losing her father and a brother to the virus in her native Spain, pediatrician Dr. Pilar Gonzalez organized a hotline to help families of Elmhurst patients get updates on their infected loved ones.

Other staffers aren't inclined, or ready, to examine how the virus affected them, said Dr. Suzanne Bentley, an ER physician who helps lead Elmhurst's efforts to foster emotional support among staffers.

"There's a certain fear that when you let that all out, you're never going to be able to put that back in. And the reality is: We still need to put on our brave faces and our clearest thoughts and deal with the remaining patients ... compounded with the fear of the next wave," Bentley said.

But "there's so much power in just coming together and saying, 'I see you, and this is hard. And you feel how you feel, and that is exactly how you should feel.'"

Associated Press video journalists Ted Shaffrey and Robert Bumsted contributed.

## North Korea blows up inter-Korea office, raising tensions

By KIM TONG-HYUNG and HYUNG-JIN KIM Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea blew up an inter-Korean liaison office building just north of the heavily armed border with South Korea on Tuesday in a carefully choreographed display of anger that sharply raises tensions on the Korean Peninsula and puts pressure on Washington and Seoul amid deadlocked nuclear diplomacy.

The demolition of the building, which is located on North Korean territory and had no South Koreans working there, is largely symbolic. But it's still the most provocative thing North Korea has done since it entered nuclear diplomacy in 2018 after a U.S.-North Korean standoff had many fearing war. It will pose a serious setback to the efforts of liberal South Korean President Moon Jae-in to restore inter-Korean engagement.

North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency said the nation destroyed the office in a "terrific explosion" because its "enraged people" were determined to "force (the) human scum and those, who have sheltered the scum, to pay dearly for their crimes," apparently referring to North Korean defectors living in South Korea who for years have floated anti-Pyongyang leaflets across the border.

The agency did not detail how the office in the border town of Kaesong was destroyed.

South Korea's government later released a military surveillance video showing clouds of smoke rising from the ground as a building collapsed at a now-shuttered joint industrial park in Kaesong, which is where the liaison office stood.

South Korea expressed "strong regret" over the destruction and warned of a stern response if North Korea takes additional steps that aggravate tensions.

The statement, issued following an emergency National Security Council meeting, said the demolition is "an act that betrays hopes for an improvement in South-North Korean relations and the establishment of peace on the Korean Peninsula." South Korea's Defense Ministry separately said it closely monitors North

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 24 of 79

Korean military activities and was prepared to strongly counter any future provocation.

The North said last week that it was cutting off all government and military communication channels with the South while threatening to abandon bilateral peace agreements reached during North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's three summits with Moon in 2018.

Some outside analysts believe the North, after failing to get what it wants in nuclear talks, will turn to provocation to win outside concessions because its economy has likely worsened because of persistent U.S.-led sanctions and the coronavirus pandemic. North Korea may also be frustrated because the sanctions prevent Seoul from breaking away from Washington to resume joint economic projects with Pyongyang.

The South Korean response to Tuesday's demolition was relatively strong compared to past provocations. Moon's government has faced criticism that it didn't take tough measures when North Korea performed a series of short-range weapons tests targeting South Korea over the past year.

Moon, a liberal who champions greater reconciliation with North Korea, shuttled between Pyongyang and Washington to help set up the first summit between the Kim and President Donald Trump in June 2018.

The liaison office has been shut since late January because of coronavirus concerns. The office, built with South Korean money, was opened in September 2018, to facilitate better communication and exchanges. It was the first such office between the Koreas since they were divided into a U.S.-backed South Korea and a Soviet-supported North Korea at the end of the World War II in 1945. The office was considered a symbol of Moon's engagement policy.

North Korea had earlier threatened to demolish the office as it stepped up its fiery rhetoric over what it called Seoul's failure to stop civilian leafleting campaign. South Korea said it would take steps to ban the leafleting, but North Korea argued that the South Korean response lacked sincerity.

On Saturday night, Kim Yo Jong, the influential sister of North Korea's leader, warned that Seoul will soon witness "a tragic scene of the useless North-South liaison office (in North Korea) being completely collapsed." She also said she would leave to North Korea's military the right to take the next step of retaliation against South Korea.

The North has threatened to dismantle the shuttered Kaesong factory complex completely and abandon a 2018 bilateral tension-reduction agreement, which observers say could allow the North to trigger clashes along the land and sea borders.

Earlier Tuesday, North Korea's military threatened to move back into unspecified border areas that have been demilitarized under agreements with South Korea and "turn the front line into a fortress." Experts say this suggests North Korea may try to tear down factory buildings and equipment at Kaesong, mostly South Korean assets.

On Monday, Moon urged North Korea to stop raising animosities and return to talks, saying the two Koreas must not reverse the 2018 inter-Korean summit deals.

North Korea has a history of taking highly visual symbolic steps for political gains. It invited foreign journalists to watch the detonation of its underground nuclear testing tunnels in 2018 and the demolition of a cooling tower at its main nuclear complex in 2008. Both events were an attempt by the North to show it was serious about denuclearization amid rampant outside skepticism about its commitment.

"It's hard to see how such behavior will help the Kim regime get what it wants from the world, but clearly such images will be used for domestic propaganda," said Leif-Eric Easley, a professor at Ewha University in Seoul.

Inter-Korean relations have been strained since the breakdown of a second summit between Kim and Trump in Vietnam in early 2019. That summit fell apart because of disputes over how much sanctions should be lifted in return for Kim's dismantling his main nuclear complex, a limited denuclearization measure.

After the Vietnam summit, inter-Korean relations turned strained again. Kim entered the new year vowing to expand his nuclear arsenal, introduce a new strategic weapon and overcome the U.S.-led sanctions that he said "stifles" his country's economy.



## The Latest: Germany: Pets with virus must be reported

By The Associated Press undefined

BERLIN — The German government plans to introduce an obligation that any cases of coronavirus in pets be reported to authorities. It says the move is needed to assist research into the virus.

Agriculture Minister Julia Kloeckner said Tuesday that the plan is for the move to be considered by parliament next month.

Kloeckner said that there will be no obligation for people to test their pets, but it would make sense to do so in certain situations – for example, if a cat living in a household with human coronavirus cases itself shows symptoms. She stressed there's no evidence so far that pets can transmit COVID-19 to humans.

Germany has about 31 million pets and 83 million people. The head of the country's animal disease research center said there has only been one known animal case there so far.

### HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE VIRUS OUTBREAK:

— China reimposes some travel restrictions in the capital to contain a new outbreak, highlighting calls for vigilance as the U.S., Europe and Latin America continue to reopen.

— Germany introduces its contact-tracing app but its not clear how warmly it will be embraced in a nation that fiercely protects its personal data.

— Health care workers are reckoning with the psychological toll of fighting the virus.

— U.S. data says death rates are 12 times higher for virus patients with chronic illnesses, hospitalization 6 times more likely.

— A judge ruled the U.S. Treasury Department must release \$679 million in coronavirus relief for tribes it was holding during a court challenge over payments to tribal governments.

— Baseball commissioner says whole season in jeopardy after a breakdown in talks over money issues.

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

### HERE'S WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING:

LONDON — Scientists at Imperial College London will start immunizing people in Britain this week with their experimental coronavirus shot, becoming the latest entry into the race to find an effective vaccine to stop the pandemic.

In a statement, the British government said 300 healthy people will be immunized with two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine candidate developed at Imperial, which has been backed by 41 million pounds (\$51 million) in government funding.

So far, the vaccine candidate developed by Imperial College London has only been tested in animals and in the laboratory, where it produced much higher levels of antibodies than would normally be seen in infected people.

Many scientists have warned that the pandemic might only be stopped with an effective vaccine, which typically takes years to develop.

TOKYO — Japan's central bank echoed the Federal Reserve's pledge of support for financial markets by beefing up its support for corporate lending. The Bank of Japan ended its policy meeting Tuesday without a change to its minus 0.1% benchmark interest rate and ultra-lax monetary stance.

It did expand its "Special Program," including purchases of commercial paper and corporate bonds and its lending programs for commercial banks, from 75 trillion yen to 110 trillion yen (\$690 billion to \$1.02 trillion).

The Bank of Japan said the economy "is likely to remain in a severe situation for the time being due to the impact of COVID-19," though it expects economic activity to resume gradually.

BOJ Gov. Haruhiko Kuroda told reporters that recovery for the world's third-largest economy could come in the latter part of the year if the effects of the outbreak are mitigated. He stressed that the central banks

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 26 of 79

board agreed on taking extra action if needed.

**KYIV, Ukraine** — The wife of Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskiy has been hospitalized with double-sided pneumonia after getting infected with the new coronavirus.

Zelenskiy's office said in a statement Tuesday that Olena Zelenska's condition was stable and the president himself and the couple's children tested negative for the virus on Monday.

Zelenska said she tested positive for the virus on Friday.

Ukraine's authorities started to gradually ease lockdown restrictions in late May, resuming the operation of public transport, reopening malls and gyms. On Monday, the country's authorities resumed international flights to several countries.

**LYON, France** — France's president and the CEO of drug maker Sanofi are visiting a vaccine lab amid a worldwide race to develop a vaccine for the new coronavirus.

Tuesday's visit comes after rival pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca this weekend announced a deal to supply 400 million vaccine doses to EU countries, including France. The company is hoping to have it ready by the end of the year.

Efforts by AstraZeneca and Sanofi are among dozens of vaccine candidates being pursued around the world. The race has prompted concerns that an eventual vaccine will go to the richest countries first.

Last month, Sanofi CEO Paul Hudson prompted outrage in France by promising to give the United States first access to the company's eventual vaccine, because the U.S. had invested more in its research. After pressure from the French government, Sanofi backtracked and said it would be available in all countries.

**HELSINKI** — Finland says it has lifted the emergency powers act adopted by the lawmakers in mid-March to tackle the coronavirus crisis.

Finnish Prime Minister Sanna Marin said the measure to end the state of emergency, effective Tuesday, was taken as the COVID-19 infection rate has slowed down in the Nordic nation.

Marin said there was no need anymore for the exceptional measure act allowing bigger powers for the government and Finland would now gradually return to normal conditions.

She however stressed that "the end of the emergency act does not mean the threat of the epidemic is over" and urged Finns to continue practising social distancing and pay attention to hygiene.

**ISLAMABAD** — Authorities in Pakistan are taking action to seal off high-risk areas in the country's 20 biggest cities after an increase in coronavirus infections.

Pakistan's National Command and Control Center says raids are being carried out to impose fines and shut markets, industries and shops where social distancing regulations were being violated.

The sealing of high-risk areas began after Pakistan reported a big jump in COVID-19 deaths and a steady increase in infections.

Pakistan put its entire population of 220 million under lockdown from March until last month, when Prime Minister Imran Khan's government loosened restrictions, saying it was necessary to save the country's economy.

Critics say the government's gamble resulted into a sharp increase in infections and deaths.

On Tuesday, Pakistan reported 111 new COVID-19 fatalities. It raised the overall death toll from the virus to 2,839 among 148,921 confirmed cases.

**ANKARA, Turkey** — Turkey has made the wearing of face masks mandatory in five more provinces, following an uptick in COVID-19 cases.

Health Minister Fahrettin Koca tweeted early Tuesday that the wearing of masks was now compulsory in 42 of Turkey's 81 provinces.

In the remaining provinces, residents are required to wear masks on public transportation and in shops and malls, and are being advised to wear masks and keep to social distancing practices elsewhere.

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 27 of 79

Koca tweeted: "We cannot struggle against the virus without masks."

Turkey is seeing an upward trend in the daily number of infections after the government authorized cafes, restaurants, gyms, parks, beaches and museums to reopen, lifted inter-city travel restrictions and eased stay-at-home orders for the elderly and young at the start of June. The daily number of infections climbed to above 1,500 in the past five days after hovering around 800-900 previously.

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JOHANNESBURG — Africa's coronavirus cases are now above a quarter-million after South Africa registered a series of daily record-high new cases over the weekend.

South Africa further loosened its lockdown measures on June 1, allowing alcohol sales, more business openings and religious gatherings limited to 50 people.

The country has more than a quarter of the cases on the 54-nation African continent with more than 73,000. It saw its highest jump in cases on Sunday with more than 4,300.

South Africa's struggle to balance measures to slow the spread of the virus and relieve economic pain are common throughout Africa, where the World Health Organization last week said the pandemic is now "accelerating."

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ATHENS, Greece — Hundreds of health care workers have marched through central Athens demanding the hiring of permanent workers for the health sector, while Greece's hospital doctors' union declared a 24-hour strike Tuesday.

The union for state hospital workers also declared a seven-hour work stoppage for the Greek capital and a 24-hour strike for the rest of the country with the same demands.

Greece's center right government hired hundreds of workers for state hospitals on fixed-term contracts to tackle the coronavirus pandemic. Unions are demanding permanent hires, and for funding for the country's health care system.

—  
NEW DELHI — India recorded another 10,000-plus coronavirus infections as patients swamp health services in its largest cities.

The Health Ministry on Tuesday also reported a 24-hour increase of 380 deaths due to COVID-19, driving the death toll to 9,900.

The 10,667 new cases raise the nation's total to 343,091, fourth-highest in the world behind the U.S., Brazil and Russia. The actual numbers, like elsewhere in the world, are thought to be far higher due to a number of reasons such as limited testing.

Maharashtra, the western state that is home to Mumbai, India's financial and entertainment capital, continues to have the highest state toll. Mumbai, Chennai and the capital New Delhi are seeing rising infections swamp their health services.

New Delhi is a growing concern with the federal government criticizing its contact tracing and hospital capacity. The capital has about 10,000 beds dedicated to COVID-19 patients, half of which are already occupied. Hotels and sports stadiums are being considered for use as field hospitals.

—  
WELLINGTON, New Zealand — New Zealand is no longer free from the new coronavirus after two women who flew from London to see a dying parent tested positive.

The new cases sparked a round of testing for anybody who might have been close to them, including their flight's fellow passengers and crew, staff members at a hotel and a family member.

The women are isolated and have delayed the funeral of their parent until they have recovered.

New Zealand has counted 22 deaths from COVID-19, and until Tuesday, everyone else among the 1,500 people known to have been infected had recovered.

—  
MANILA, Philippines — Philippine officials have placed a central city back under strict lockdown and retained quarantine restrictions in the capital for another two weeks as coronavirus infections continue

to spike alarmingly.

President Rodrigo Duterte approved in a televised meeting Monday night with key Cabinet officials a recommendation to lock down Cebu city anew and retain quarantine restrictions in metropolitan Manila, where many of the nearly 26,500 infections and more than 1,000 deaths have been recorded.

First imposed in mid-March, the COVID-19 restrictions in metropolitan Manila have been among the longest in the world.

"The battle with COVID isn't over," Duterte said. "I can't stop you from going out and I can't catch all of you ... don't blame us. Do not forget that we warned you about the grave consequences."

## Businesses ask patrons to waive right to sue if they get ill

By TOM KRISHER and MARK SHERMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As businesses reopen across the U.S. after coronavirus shutdowns, many are requiring customers and workers to sign forms saying they won't sue if they catch COVID-19.

Businesses fear they could be the target of litigation even if they adhere to safety precautions from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state health officials. But workers' rights groups say the forms force employees to sign away their rights should they get sick.

The liability waivers, similar to what President Donald Trump's campaign is requiring for people to attend a Saturday rally in Tulsa, Oklahoma, would protect businesses in states that don't have liability limits or immunity from coronavirus-related lawsuits.

So far, at least five states — Utah, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Alabama — have such limits through legislation or executive orders, and others are considering them. Business groups such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce are lobbying for national immunity legislation.

The novel coronavirus has sickened more than 2 million people in the U.S. and killed more than 115,000, according to Johns Hopkins University.

At Salon Medusa in West Hartford, Connecticut, hair stylist Lena Whelan says they're using only two of six styling stations since reopening June 1. Customers have to wait outside, they have to wear masks, and all stations and tools are disinfected between clients.

Despite all those safety measures, customers must sign a form saying they won't sue if they get infected with the novel coronavirus. The form, which also asks patrons if they or any family members have virus symptoms, gives the salon extra legal protection, Whelan said.

Critics argue that liability waivers open the door for corporations to skirt protocols like erecting Plexiglas barriers, providing face masks and other protective equipment, and keeping people the proper distance apart without suffering any repercussions.

The waivers are particularly onerous for workers who may feel compelled to sign them in order to keep their jobs, unlike customers who at least have a choice to walk away.

"It's a terrible choice for an employee," said Hugh Baran, an attorney with the National Employment Law Project, a worker advocacy group. "Do you sign this and potentially give up your legal recourse or do you refuse and feel like you are going to lose your job?"

Worse yet, in many states, if workers refuse to sign the waivers and return to work, they risk losing unemployment benefits, Baran said. Also, immunity legislation and liability waivers disproportionately affect black and Latino workers, many of whom have jobs that can't be done remotely, he said.

Lawyers say many business clients are asking about the waivers. Whether they can be enforced varies by state and is open to debate. Owners are wise to take a "better safe than sorry" approach, said John Wolohan, a sports law professor at Syracuse University.

"It's hard for me to believe people don't understand the danger of going out in public and interacting. But when somebody gets sick, I'm sure they're going to claim the business didn't protect them the way they should have. By having a waiver, the business will better withstand the lawsuit," Wolohan said.

In 45 states and the District of Columbia, courts will generally enforce voluntary waivers, according to "Law for Recreation and Sport Managers," a book Wolohan co-wrote with Doyce Cotten. Connecticut,

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 29 of 79

Hawaii, Louisiana, Virginia and Wisconsin offer consumers the best chance to challenge liability waivers. But Baran says a lot depends on how state contract laws have been interpreted by the courts. Many states, he said, have laws on the books saying that businesses have a general duty to maintain healthy and safe working conditions. In some instances, however, courts have determined that employees can sign away those rights, he said.

"This is a new situation," Baran said of the liability forms related to the coronavirus. "It's hard to know how state courts would view such waivers."

Data on just how many businesses require liability waivers of employees or customers is difficult to find. Lawyers say the forms are showing up at small businesses such as hair salons and gyms where it's hard to maintain social distancing. But it's also showing up at the New York Stock Exchange, where Jonathan Corpina, senior managing partner with Meridian Equity Partners Inc., said Monday he was required to sign a waiver in order to enter the trading floor.

Cheryl Falvey, a partner at the Crowell and Moring law firm in Washington, D.C., and a former top lawyer at the federal Consumer Product Safety Commission, said she does not think most employers would try to get their workforce to sign them.

Falvey also noted there are circumstances that waivers would not cover, including if someone who signs a waiver gets infected and then spreads the disease to family members or neighbors.

"I don't think these waivers would cover that," Falvey said. The wife of someone infected might argue, "I didn't sign that waiver. You let him in and you didn't protect him," she said.

Harold Kim, president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for Legal Reform, said federal immunity legislation would be better for businesses rather than a patchwork of conflicting state laws. The legislation sought by the chamber would be temporary and grant immunity only if businesses followed CDC and state guidelines on the virus, he said.

"You don't get those protections if you don't follow that guidance," he said.

Employees who get sick on the job might not be able to sue their employers, but would have access to workers' compensation to cover lost wages and medical care, legal experts said. Proposed federal legislation wouldn't affect workers' compensation programs, which most states have, Kim said.

Through Monday, there were 2,741 lawsuits filed in the U.S. over COVID-19 infections, according to a complaint tracker maintained by the Hunton Andrews Kurth law firm. Many of the cases were over government shutdown orders and which businesses were deemed essential. Only seven came from consumers and 49 were filed by employees over exposure to the virus or other related injuries. Kim said federal legislation would prevent a big surge in litigation.

Business Writer Alex Veiga contributed from Los Angeles. Krisher reported from Detroit.

## 5 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press undefined

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. NORTH KOREA BLOWS UP INTER-KOREA LIAISON OFFICE The demolition of the building is largely symbolic, but it's still likely the most provocative thing Pyongyang has done since it entered nuclear diplomacy in 2018.

2. RAYSHARD BROOKS' DEATH FILLED WITH 'WHAT IFS' Law enforcement experts debate if Atlanta police could have done something to avoid using deadly force or even let him walk home rather than arrest him for intoxication.

3. VIRUS SEES RESURGENCE IN CHINA A third neighborhood in Beijing has been locked down as Chinese authorities rush to prevent the spread of a new coronavirus outbreak.

4. 'I THINK SHE'S TOTALLY STILL VIABLE' Some black leaders say Elizabeth Warren's progressive politics, economic populism and specific policy proposals make her an ideal running mate for Joe Biden.

5. GOODELL ENCOURAGES TEAMS TO SIGN KAEPERNICK The NFL commissioner would like to see the

32-year old quarterback, who began protesting racial injustice in 2016 by kneeling for the national anthem, back in the league.

## The Latest: African nations want UN to examine racism in US

By The Associated Press undefined

### TOP OF THE HOUR:

- African nations to ask UN to examine racism in U.S., elsewhere.
- Brick hurled at media car in Louisville as police shoot pepper balls
- President Trump, Senate GOP seek police changes.
- Maryland panel votes to remove Civil War plaque from Capitol.
- Man shot as protesters in New Mexico try to tear down statue.

GENEVA — African nations have prepared a draft resolution at the U.N.'s top human rights body that singles out the United States and would launch intense international scrutiny of systemic racism against people of African descent in the wake of recent high-profile killings of blacks by American police.

The draft text, a copy of which has been obtained by The Associated Press, could become the centerpiece for an urgent debate hastily scheduled for Wednesday for the Geneva-based Human Rights Council.

It calls for a Commission of Inquiry — the rights body's most powerful tool to inspect human rights violations — to look into "systemic racism" and alleged violations of international human rights law and abuses against "Africans and of people of African descent in the United States of America and other parts of the world recently affected by law enforcement agencies," especially encounters that resulted in deaths.

The goal would be "to bringing perpetrators to justice," said the text, circulated by the Africa Group. The breadth of support for the measure was not immediately clear.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Louisville's interim police chief said some demonstrators in the city blocked traffic and threw a brick into a media car while police deployed pepper balls at them.

The statements from Chief Robert Schroeder came in a joint news conference with Louisville's mayor nearly three hours after police warned residents to avoid the city's downtown area, and after a video posted on social media shows the brick being hurled into the window of a WLKY-TV camera crew's car.

News outlets reported some demonstrators created barricades on streets using road signs and rocks. Mayor Greg Fischer said in the virtual news conference the city "can not have vehicles blocked from passing on roads safely."

WLKY-TV reported the demonstrators chanted "No justice! No peace!" and called for three officers involved in the death of Breonna Taylor, a black woman gunned down by officers who burst into her Kentucky home in March, to be fired and charged.

WASHINGTON — Embracing a new priority, President Donald Trump is set to announce executive actions on police procedures and Senate Republicans are preparing a package of policing changes as the GOP rushes to respond to mass demonstrations over the deaths of George Floyd and other black Americans.

It's a sudden shift for the Republican Party, one Democrats are watching warily, and a crush of activity that shows how quickly the mass protests over police violence and racial prejudice are transforming national politics.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., declared that Republicans are developing "a serious proposal to reform law enforcement."

The Senate Judiciary Committee will gavel in Tuesday afternoon for an extensive hearing on "Police Use of Force and Community Relations," drawing testimony from the nation's leading civil rights and law enforcement leaders.

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — A panel has voted to remove a plaque from Maryland's Capitol that honors the Civil War's Union and Confederate soldiers and until recently showed the U.S. flag and Confederate flag crossed.

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 31 of 79

The four members of the State House Trust, which oversees the Maryland State House and its grounds voted to remove the plaque after Maryland House Speaker Adrienne Jones renewed her push to get rid of it — after the panel decided last year to cover the flags with an image of Maryland's state flag. Jones continued pushing for complete removal because of the sign's language.

"I want to thank the State House Trust for this important vote today to remove this confederate-sympathizing plaque," Jones wrote on Twitter. "We have made great strides to reflect the importance of African-Americans in our State's history over the past year."

In February, Maryland unveiled bronze statues of famed abolitionists Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass, both of whom were born slaves on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Those statues are now in the Capitol's Old House Chamber, the room where slavery was abolished in the state in 1864.

Jones, a Democrat who is Maryland's first black and first female House speaker, renewed her push to remove the Civil War plaque last week.

**ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.** — A man was shot Monday night as protesters in New Mexico's largest city tried to tear down a bronze statue of a Spanish conquistador outside the Albuquerque Museum.

The man was taken to a hospital and was listed in critical but stable condition late Monday, said Albuquerque police spokesman Gilbert Gallegos.

A confrontation broke out between protesters and a group of armed men who were trying to protect the statue of Juan de Oñate before protesters wrapped a chain around the statue and began tugging on it while chanting, "Tear it down." One protester repeatedly swung a pickax at the base of the statue.

Moments later a few gunshots could be heard down the street and people started yelling that someone had been shot.

Gallegos said officers used tear gas and flash bangs to protect officers and detain those involved in the shooting. He said they were disarmed and taken into custody for questioning as police worked to secure the scene. Gallegos said detectives were investigating with the help of the FBI.

"The shooting tonight was a tragic, outrageous and unacceptable act of violence and it has no place in our city," Mayor Tim Keller said in a statement. "Our diverse community will not be deterred by acts meant to divide or silence us. Our hearts go out to the victim, his family and witnesses whose lives were needlessly threatened tonight."

The violence came just hours after activists in northern New Mexico celebrated the removal of another likeness of Oñate that was on display at a cultural center in Alcalde. Rio Arriba County officials removed it to safeguard it from possible damage and to avoid civil unrest.

**SEOUL, South Korea** — A large Black Lives Matter banner has been quietly removed from the U.S. Embassy building in South Korea's capital three days after it was raised there in solidarity with protesters back home.

The banner was put up Saturday, with Ambassador Harry Harris tweeting that his embassy "stands in solidarity with fellow Americans grieving and peacefully protesting to demand positive change." But the banner was removed Monday and another banner commemorating the Korean War was on display Tuesday.

The embassy said the banner's removal was meant to avoid any perception that it aimed to encourage donations for certain unspecified organizations.

Harris "wanted to highlight the enduring American values of racial equality, freedom of speech, and the right to peacefully protest," the U.S. Embassy said in a statement. "However, the Ambassador's intent was not to support or encourage donations to any specific organization. To avoid the misperception that American taxpayer dollars were spent to benefit such organizations, he directed that the banner be removed."

Follow all AP coverage of protests against racial injustice and police brutality at <https://apnews.com/GeorgeFloyd>

## Warren's outreach to black voters could help VP standing

By WILL WEISSERT Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Shortly before Elizabeth Warren joined their virtual happy hour on a recent Friday afternoon, the five African American women co-hosting the #TheSipHour mused about calling her by her first name.

The Massachusetts senator had her own moniker in mind.

"I was going to say I'm here today as an ally, but can we really just say co-conspirator?" laughed Warren, one of the few white women to appear at the events organized by Higher Heights For America, which promotes the organizing and voting power of black women. "Nothing's going to change unless it is black women's voices that are uplifted."

Such overtures could help Warren's bid to become Joe Biden's running mate. The presumptive Democratic nominee is under mounting pressure to pick a black woman in the wake of recent outrage over racial injustice and police brutality. But some black leaders say Warren's progressive politics, economic populism and specific policy proposals addressing everything from maternal mortality to the coronavirus could put her in a strong position.

"I think she's totally still viable," said Nelini Stamp, director of strategy and partnerships for the Working Families Party, a progressive labor activist group that endorsed Warren in the primary. "Warren is one of the folks whose been talking about big structural change. And when we're thinking about re-imagining public safety, that is something that's going to require some actual structural change."

Representatives for Warren and Biden declined to comment. The pair speak frequently, and Warren hosted a virtual fundraiser for Biden on Monday that raised an impressive \$6 million.

Warren told an audience of more than 600 that when her eldest brother died of the coronavirus in April "he was alone. I couldn't be with him." But she said Biden called and "told funny stories that made me laugh in a way that reminds us all of the good times that we have had with someone we have loved and lost."

"He offered me kindness and comfort at a time when I needed some kindness and comfort," Warren said, "because that's the kind of man Joe Biden is."

"The door to change has been cracked open," Warren said. "If we want to swing that door wide open then we must do the most good that we can do at this moment." She urged sowing "a seed for the America of your greatest imaginations."

Biden's vice presidential search is entering a new round of vetting, and Warren is still on the list along with several black women. They include Sen. Kamala Harris of California; Susan Rice, who served as President Barack Obama's national security adviser; Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms; and Rep. Val Demings. New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham, a Latina, is also being considered.

Some Democrats say Amy Klobuchar's standing has fallen since George Floyd's killing by Minneapolis police. The Minnesota senator, who's white, was a prosecutor years ago in the county that includes Minneapolis. During that period, more than two dozen people — mostly people of color — died during encounters with police.

The search was described by Democrats familiar with the process. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to publicly discuss the vetting.

During her bid for the Democratic nomination, Warren actively courted black activists and assembled a deep roster of endorsements. She gave a memorable speech in Atlanta in November on empowering black women and combating institutional racism that some African American leaders laud as prescient.

Warren talked "in a very straightforward manner about many of the systemic issues that have plagued African Americans from the very beginning of our time here in America," said South Carolina state Rep. Kambrell Garvin, who endorsed Warren in the primary. He said those included voter suppression and redlining, a term for banking standards that long made it difficult, if not impossible, for black families to secure mortgages in white neighborhoods.

"I think that she could be an interesting and compelling pick for Vice President Biden in regards to reaching out to African American voters," Garvin said.

Still, Warren's appeals didn't translate to primary votes.



# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 33 of 79

Some 61% of African American voters supported Biden, according to AP VoteCast surveys in 17 states that voted between Feb. 3 and March 17. Warren earned just 5% of their vote, far less than the race's other strong progressive voice, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, at 21%.

But about 7 in 10 black voters nonetheless said they would be satisfied if Warren won the Democratic nomination for president, roughly as many that said that of Sanders. That suggests favorable ratings possibly durable enough to apply to the vice presidency under Biden.

Warren has continued to focus on race after ending her presidential campaign.

She joined Black Lives Matter protesters outside the White House this month with her husband and their golden retriever, Bailey. She has called for banning chokeholds as just the start of a larger overhaul of policing nationwide, and introduced legislation prohibiting the use of Confederate names and symbols from all U.S. military assets that has even drawn the support of some of her Republican Senate colleagues — as well as Biden.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson hosted a virtual town hall with Warren this month on the effects of the coronavirus. He said he still considers her "in the mix" for the vice presidential slot, but said picking a black woman could give Biden a boost in support from African American female voters that might be similar to the one that lifted Democrat Doug Jones to an upset 2017 Senate victory in Alabama.

"I think he should choose an African American," Jackson said. "He needs the South to come alive."

During her appearance on #TheSipHour, Warren was asked candidly by Fatima Goss Graves, president and CEO of the National Women's Law Center, how she talked with white relatives and friends about the protest movement. Warren responded that she's stressed the need for non-blacks to educate themselves on the African American perspective.

"You've got to stop talking," she said, "and start listening."

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Associated Press writers Meg Kinnard in Columbia, South Carolina, and Hannah Fingerhut in Washington contributed to this report.

## India says 3 soldiers killed in standoff with Chinese troops

By AIJAZ HUSSAIN Associated Press

SRINAGAR, India (AP) — At least three Indian soldiers, including a senior army officer, were killed in a confrontation with Chinese troops along their disputed border high in the Himalayas where thousands of soldiers on both sides have been facing off for over a month, the Indian army said Tuesday.

The incident — in which neither side fired any shots, according to Indian officials — is the first deadly confrontation between the two Asian giants since 1975.

The Indian army said in a statement that a "violent faceoff" took place in Galwan Valley in the Ladakh region on Monday night, "with casualties on both sides."

"The loss of lives on the Indian side includes an officer and two soldiers," the statement said. "Senior military officials of the two sides are currently meeting at the venue to defuse the situation."

China, for its part, accused Indian forces along the border of carrying out "provocative attacks" on its troops, leading to "serious physical conflicts" between the sides.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian gave no details on any casualties on the Chinese side, but said Tuesday that China had strongly protested the incident while still being committed to maintaining "peace and tranquility" along the disputed and heavily militarized border.

"But what is shocking is that on June 15, the Indian troops seriously violated the consensus of the two sides, crossed the border illegally twice and carried out provocative attacks on Chinese personnel, resulting in serious physical conflicts between the two border forces," Zhao said.

Thousands of soldiers from the two countries, backed by armored trucks and artillery, have been facing off just a few hundred meters (yards) apart for more than a month in the Ladakh region near Tibet. Army officers and diplomats have held a series of meetings to try to end the impasse, with no breakthrough.

Indian authorities have officially maintained near-total silence on the issues related to the confrontation,

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 34 of 79

and it was not immediately clear how the three Indian soldiers died.

But two Indian security officials familiar with latest developments told The Associated Press that soldiers from the two sides engaged in fistfights and stone-throwing, which led to the casualties. Both maintained that no shots were fired by either side. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity in keeping with government regulations.

The tense standoff started in early May, when Indian officials said that Chinese soldiers crossed the boundary in Ladakh at three different points, erecting tents and guard posts and ignoring verbal warnings to leave. That triggered shouting matches, stone-throwing and fistfights, much of it replayed on television news channels and social media.

China has sought to downplay the confrontation while saying the two sides were communicating through both their front-line military units and their respective embassies to resolve issues.

The disputed border covers nearly 3,500 kilometers (2,175 miles) of frontier that the two countries call the Line of Actual Control.

Though skirmishes aren't new along the disputed frontier, the standoff at Ladakh's Galwan Valley, where India is building a strategic road connecting the region to an airstrip close to China, has escalated in recent weeks.

India and China fought a border war in 1962 that also spilled into Ladakh. The two countries have been trying to settle their border dispute since the early 1990s without success.

Since then, soldiers from the two sides have frequently faced off along their long frontier that stretches from Ladakh in the north to the Indian state of Sikkim in the northeast.

The Indian army statement said the "violent faceoff" occurred "during the deescalation process underway in the Galwan Valley."

## African nations seek scrutiny of US, others over racism

**JAMEY KEATEN Associated Press**

GENEVA (AP) — African nations have prepared a draft resolution at the U.N.'s top human rights body that singles out the United States and would launch intense international scrutiny of systemic racism against people of African descent in the wake of recent high-profile killings of blacks by American police.

The draft text, a copy of which has been obtained by The Associated Press, could become the centerpiece for an urgent debate hastily scheduled for Wednesday for the Geneva-based Human Rights Council.

It calls for a Commission of Inquiry — the rights body's most powerful tool to inspect human rights violations — to look into "systemic racism" and alleged violations of international human rights law and abuses against "Africans and of people of African descent in the United States of America and other parts of the world recently affected by law enforcement agencies" especially encounters that resulted in deaths.

Such work would be carried out "with a view to bringing perpetrators to justice," said the text, circulated by the Africa Group in the council. The breadth of support for the measure was not immediately clear.

The U.S. mission in Geneva declined immediate comment on the draft resolution.

President Donald Trump pulled the United States out of the 47-member body two years ago, accusing it of an anti-Israel bias and of accepting members from some autocratic governments that are serial rights violators.

On Monday, the council agreed unanimously to hold the urgent debate on "racially inspired human rights violations, systemic racism, police brutality and the violence against peaceful protests" in the wake of the George Floyd killing in the United States.

Follow all AP coverage of stories about racial injustice and police brutality at <https://apnews.com/George-Floyd>.

## Coronavirus tracing app a test for privacy-minded Germany

By FRANK JORDANS Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Germany launched a coronavirus tracing app Tuesday that officials say is so secure even government ministers can use it.

Smartphone apps have been touted as a high-tech tool in the effort to track down potential COVID-19 infections. Experts say finding new cases quickly is key to clamping down on fresh clusters, especially as countries slowly emerge from lockdowns and try to avoid a second wave of infections and deaths.

But governments in Europe have run into legal and cultural hurdles, trying to reconcile the need for effective tracing with the continent's strict data privacy standards.

Germany, where a person's right to their own data even after death is rooted in the constitution, has proved a particular challenge. Early government suggestions about using location data including cell tower information and GPS coordinates for the app prompted a swift backlash.

"Tracking where a person is in real time, that does remind us of China and its surveillance system," said Frederick Richter, who heads the independent Foundation for Data Protection.

It also recalls Germany's own history of dictatorships. Both the Nazis and East Germany's communist regime amassed vast amounts of information to persecute dissidents and undesirables.

"That's why we have always been very sensitive in Germany when it comes to the state collecting information on its citizens," Richter said.

Like many other European tracing apps, Germany's system now relies on low-energy Bluetooth technology that's standard in modern smartphones. The app scans the user's surroundings and records which other smartphones with the app are nearby and for how long.

If someone using the app tests positive for COVID-19, they can inform others who were in close proximity for at least 15 minutes that they, too, might be infected.

The German government insists users will have full control over their data. There's no requirement to download the app. It's up to the user to confirm their test results and trigger the process of informing contacts they might have been exposed.

The app won't replace manual contact tracing. In fact, German health authorities won't receive the data at all and may end up having to conduct a lot more tests on people who've received exposure alerts. Ute Teichert, director of Germany's Academy of Public Health Services, said that's a price worth paying if more people are willing to sign up.

"Every additional person who uses the app is a gain," she said.

Still, concerns remain.

Because some labs aren't yet equipped to transmit test results electronically, users may have to call a hotline to report themselves as having COVID-19 in the app. This opens the door to trolls who could try to trick hotline staff, setting off a cascade of consequences for everyone they were close to on public transport or in supermarket queues.

The opposition Left party, meanwhile, has called for a law to ensure that private businesses don't try to push customers or employees into using the app, either through incentives or sanctions.

The German government insisted Monday that "voluntary means voluntary."

Asked whether the app meets security standards for top-tier officials, a spokesman for the German Interior Ministry said the country's IT security agency has been involved from the start.

"I presume that from their side there can be an unreserved recommendation to members of the federal government to use this app," said the spokesman, Bjoern Gruenewaelder.

Die-hard skeptics are more likely to be reassured by Germany's Chaos Computer Club, which bills itself as Europe's largest hackers association. The group has a history of punching holes in government and corporate IT systems and of campaigning against surveillance technology.

Linus Neuman, a club spokesman, said some early suggestions for the app contained "absolutely unacceptable methods."

He also dismissed the approach taken by France, which has opted for centralized data storage, as inef-

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 36 of 79

fective, since it won't work with Apple iPhones "under real conditions."

France, which launched its app earlier this month, and Britain have rejected using Bluetooth software jointly developed by Google and Apple, saying it doesn't give them enough information to manage outbreaks.

The developers of Germany's app — wireless carrier Deutsche Telekom and software company SAP — say it will take several more weeks for the app to get a "roaming" function that will enable it to work with other countries' systems. Germans traveling to France will need to download the French app, officials said.

Neumann praised the German app's developers for using the coding site Github to let the public look over their shoulder and suggest improvements.

The group won't officially endorse the app, however.

"What we want is for every user to make an informed decision," said Neumann. "And this decision might be different for an investigative journalist than for a teenager who spends most of the day on WhatsApp, Facebook, Google or YouTube."

The German government says its app cost 20 million euros (\$22.7 million) to develop and will require 2.5 million to 3.5 million euros per month to operate.

Germany has recorded almost 190,000 cases of COVID-19 and just over 8,800 deaths so far, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University. Chancellor Angela Merkel's government has been praised for its handling of the pandemic, which has resulted in a death toll about one-fifth of Britain's and one-fourth of Italy's.

A poll this month published by public broadcaster ARD found that slightly more Germans — 42% — said they would use the tracing app than the 39% who wouldn't. The rest either said they didn't have a smartphone or hadn't made up their mind.

The telephone poll of 1,005 had a margin of error of up to 3 percentage points.

A major glitch could hurt uptake. On Monday, Norway suspended use of its track and trace app after a public spat between health authorities and the information watchdog.

At Berlin's Friedrichstrasse train station, commuters appeared cautious when asked whether they would download the German app.

Klaudia Kruczkiewicz said using a smartphone to scan her surroundings felt "a bit creepy," but wouldn't rule out signing up.

"First I'd need to see how it works," she said. "But otherwise, at the moment, I'm keeping my distance. I always wear a mask. I don't need this app."

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

## Saudis see high hopes for 2020 upended by pandemic

By AYA BATRAWY Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — This was supposed to be Saudi Arabia's year to shine as host of the prestigious G20 gathering of world leaders. The event would have seen Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman share handshakes and wide smiles with presidents and prime ministers.

Instead, the gathering this November will likely be a virtual meet-up, stripping its host of the pomp that would have accompanied televised arrivals on Riyadh's tarmac just two years after the killing of Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi had cast a shadow over the crown prince, who U.S. intelligence says bore responsibility for the crime.

It was also to be another year of sweeping change for Saudi Arabia. The kingdom had only just begun to swing open its doors to tourists and eye-popping concerts when the pandemic struck, spawning social distancing and lockdowns.

"It's unfortunate, but I think that some of the sectors that Saudi Arabia was most interested in going into are going to be hit hard," said Bessma Momani, a professor of Middle East studies at the University of Waterloo in Canada. "If you look at the investment that was being announced and part of the construction

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 37 of 79

effort, a lot of it included theater venues, concert halls... That's really under risk."

With Saudi cities under curfew and the country's borders shut, even the upcoming hajj pilgrimage in Mecca could be cancelled or dramatically pared down. The hajj, which starts in late July this year, has not been cancelled in the 90 years since Saudi Arabia's founding.

The hajj not only provides Saudi Arabia with immense influence and prestige among Muslims, it also generates around \$6 billion in revenue for the government annually.

Since early April, Mecca has been under a strict 24-hour curfew. The Grand Mosque there housing the cube-shaped Kaaba, Islam's holiest site, is closed to the public, and the smaller, year-round umrah pilgrimages have been suspended.

The impact of the coronavirus and low oil prices have forced a recalibration of Prince Mohammed's ambitious plans to revamp the oil-dependent economy, which is expected to contract 3% this year.

Cuts of at least \$8 billion are being made to the crown prince's mega-projects, like a futuristic city in the desert called Neom and luxury tourism resorts along the Red Sea.

Prince Mohammed hopes to transition the country away from oil, but in the short-term his plans rely on oil revenues, which have plummeted to below \$40 a barrel. After producing a market-jolting level of 12 million barrels a day in April, Saudi Arabia is now producing just 9.3 million barrels a day as it leads major oil producers in an agreement to cut production.

Revenue from oil is expected to generate just \$133 billion in 2020 for Saudi Arabia, down 34% from last year and down 58% from highs in 2013, according to research by Jadwa Investment.

The seismic blows have also curtailed the state's largesse of subsidies and welfare for citizens. A monthly bonus for civil servants has been stopped and taxes on basic goods are tripling in July. A committee is being formed to review salaries in the public sector, where most Saudis are employed. That wage bill alone will cost the government \$134 billion this year, half of all projected spending.

Despite the challenges, Saudi Arabia has relatively low debt and hefty financial reserves built-up during years of high oil prices. This has allowed the government to comfortably provide free health care and hotel quarantines for anyone with the coronavirus, including those residing in the kingdom illegally.

Saudi Arabia has one of the highest rates of the coronavirus infection in the region, with the number of new daily cases reaching their highest level ever on Monday. The kingdom has confirmed more than 132,000 cases of the virus, including 1,011 deaths.

As the pandemic hit businesses across the country, King Salman allocated \$2.4 billion to cover 60% of salaries for many Saudis in the private sector, where a \$32 billion stimulus package was announced. Jadwa Investment estimates that up to 75% of all Saudis who work in the private sector will have their salaries partially covered by the government during the pandemic.

To cover the budget deficit, Saudi Arabia has plowed into its net foreign assets, which have dwindled from nearly \$740 billion in 2014 to less than \$450 billion in April.

Some \$40 billion in reserves were moved in March and April to the Saudi sovereign wealth fund to invest abroad as stock prices plunged. The Public Investment Fund, which Prince Mohammed oversees, purchased \$7.7 billion worth of stakes in companies, including Boeing, Disney, Marriott, Facebook and Starbucks, as well as U.S. banks Citigroup and Bank of America. The fund also bought shares in oil companies BP, Royal Dutch Shell and Total amid market volatility.

In other risky bets, the fund in April purchased an 8.2% stake in cruise line company Carnival and a 5.7% stake in Live Nation, the entertainment company behind concerts for the world's biggest stars. The deals are worth some \$872 million and were welcomed by both companies.

It's a turnaround from late 2018, when Western businesses turned away from the crown prince and the fund following outcry over Khashoggi's slaying and dismemberment by Saudi government agents inside the kingdom's consulate in Turkey.

"I think as time has gone on, more companies are taking their cue from their own governments, which have continued to engage Saudi Arabia and have also looked to other steps the kingdom has tried to take to reform," said Prem Kumar, who leads Albright Stonebridge Group's Middle East strategy and commercial

diplomacy division.

Domestically, Jadwa Investment estimates that 1.2 million foreign workers, many of whom work in hospitality, tourism, retail and construction, will leave Saudi Arabia by the end of the year.

Momani, the professor, said the expat exodus could provide a silver lining for women and young Saudis to fill some of those jobs.

"The one slow factor has always been women's participation in the labor force. So there's room to expand that," she said. "This might be an opportunity with further Saudization of the labor force."

## Beijing expands lockdowns as cases top 100 in new outbreak

By KEN MORITSUGU Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese authorities locked down a third neighborhood in Beijing on Tuesday as they rushed to prevent the spread of a new coronavirus outbreak that has infected more than 100 people in a country that appeared to have largely contained the virus.

The resurgence in China highlighted public health expert calls for vigilance as many nations move forward with easing virus restrictions to revive their economies.

New Zealand, which hadn't seen a new case in three weeks, said it is investigating a case in which two women who flew in from London to see a dying parent were allowed to leave quarantine and drive half-way across the country before they were tested and found to be positive. And the Philippines reimposed a strict lockdown on the city of Cebu after a rise in cases.

China reported 40 more coronavirus infections nationwide through the end of Monday, including 27 in Beijing, bringing the total to 106 in the nation's capital since Thursday. At least one patient was in critical condition and two were in serious condition. Four cases were also reported in neighboring Hebei province, with three linked to the Beijing outbreak.

Most of the cases have been linked to the Xinfadi wholesale food market, and people lined up around the city for massive testing campaigns of anyone who had visited the market in the past two weeks or come in contact with them. About 9,000 workers at the market were tested previously.

The initial spread happened among market workers, Wu Zunyou, the chief epidemiologist at the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, told state broadcaster CCTV. He said that authorities detected the outbreak early enough to be confident they can contain it.

"For those who were infected, they will start showing symptoms either tomorrow or the day after tomorrow," he said. "So, if there's no sharp increase of newly reported cases tomorrow or the day after tomorrow, the outbreak this time will basically stay at the current scale."

Authorities locked down seven residential compounds in Beijing's Xicheng district, where the first case was confirmed on Thursday. They also barring residents of areas considered high-risk from leaving Beijing and banned taxis and car-hailing services from taking people out of the city.

The number of passengers on buses, trains and subways will also be limited and all are required to wear masks.

Fresh meat and seafood in the city and elsewhere in China was also being inspected, though experts have expressed doubt the virus could be spread via food supplies. Nonetheless, Chinese media reports said that salmon had been pulled from shelves in 14 cities including Beijing after the virus was found in a sample taken from a salmon chopping board at Xinfadi market.

The market has been closed for disinfection, as has a second market where three cases were confirmed. Residential communities around both markets have been put under lockdown, affecting 90,000 people in a city of 20 million.

China had relaxed many of its coronavirus controls after the ruling Communist Party in March declared victory over the virus, which was first detected the central Chinese city of Wuhan late last year.

The two women in New Zealand had been allowed to leave quarantine for compassionate reasons and traveled from Auckland to Wellington by car. Director-General of Health Ashley Bloomfield said that as

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 39 of 79

part of their travel plan, they had no contact with any people or any public facilities on their road trip.

The women remain in isolation in Wellington, and tests were being conducted on passengers and staff on their flights, others at the Auckland hotel they initially quarantined at and a family member they met in Wellington.

South Korea, also battling to prevent a resurgence of the virus, reported 34 new cases of COVID-19 on Tuesday. Half were in the densely populated Seoul metropolitan area where officials have been scrambling to stem transmissions linked to leisure and religious activities and low-income workers who can't afford to stay home.

The Seoul government has so far resisted calls to reimpose stronger social distancing guidelines, fearing further damage to the fragile economy.

Besides Cebu, Philippine officials retained quarantine restrictions in Manila for another two weeks as infections continued to spike.

"The battle with COVID isn't over," Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said.

Turkey, which has seen an uptick in cases since easing restrictions in early June, made the wearing of face masks mandatory in five more provinces on Tuesday. "We cannot struggle against the virus without masks," Health Minister Fahrettin Koca tweeted.

The epidemic continues to grow sharply in India, which recorded 10,667 new cases, taking the tally to 343,091. Health services in the worst-hit cities of Mumbai, New Delhi and Chennai have been swamped by the rising infections. Nearly 10,000 people have died.

In the United States, Vice President Mike Pence encouraged governors Monday to highlight the "good news" around efforts to fight the virus despite several states reporting a rise in infections, which could intensify as people return to work and venture out during the summer.

In audio of the call obtained by The Associated Press, Pence said the U.S. is seeing strong drops in virus-related hospitalization and mortality rates and urged governors to make it clear to residents that "there's a lot of really, really good news."

One governor, Nevada's Steve Sisolak, announced that current limits on businesses and gatherings would remain in place while health officials evaluate whether the state's uptick in cases is cause for concern.

Sisolak said he and state health officials anticipated an increase in new cases after reopening and expanding testing capacity throughout June. "Recently we've experienced some trends that require additional evaluation and analysis," he said at a news conference,

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Associated Press reporters around the world contributed to this report.

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

## Could the police shooting in Atlanta have been prevented?

By LISA MARIE PANE Associated Press

It started off as routine: a man asleep in his car in a fast-food drive-thru. But it rapidly spun out of control when Atlanta police tried to handcuff and arrest Rayshard Brooks for being intoxicated.

Video of the scene from late Friday shows the 27-year-old black man wrestling with two white officers, taking a Taser from one of them, running a short distance through the Wendy's parking lot, and then pointing the stun gun toward one. That officer shot him twice in the back, killing him.

How did it all go so wrong so fast? And what, if anything, could officers have done to defuse the situation?

Law enforcement experts say the answers to those questions are complicated and not as clear-cut as in the recent death of George Floyd, the black man who was pronounced dead after a Minneapolis officer put his knee on Floyd's neck for nearly 9 minutes.

Among the questions being asked: Instead of arresting Brooks, couldn't officers have just taken away his keys and let him walk home or get a lift from someone? Could the officers have said or done something

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 40 of 79

else to help keep him calm and safely place him under arrest?

And why did one of the officers shoot him rather than just let him run away and catch him later, since they already had his driver's license information?

"It's not an open-and-shut case. The DA has a hell of a choice on his hands to deal with this case," said Timothy T. Williams Jr., a use-of-force expert who spent nearly three decades with the Los Angeles Police Department. "It's a very complicated case."

The officer who killed Brooks has been fired, and the other officer has been put on desk duty. Atlanta's police chief has resigned. The district attorney expects to decide by midweek whether to charge the officers.

Some observers said the officers had options other than to arrest Brooks, especially at a time when the coronavirus is making jails more dangerous.

"They could have easily waited and caught him later," L. Chris Stewart, the Brooks family's lawyer, said on NBC's "Today" show. "It was just unnecessary."

Williams said it's not that easy and called efforts to second-guess the decision to arrest Brooks Monday-morning quarterbacking.

"You're trained to enforce the law. If there are laws being broken in front of you, you have an obligation, a legal obligation, to do what has to be done," he said.

Law enforcement experts are split on whether deadly force was warranted in this case.

Police generally can use deadly force if they reasonably believe their lives or the lives of others are in imminent danger. Legal rulings have recognized that officers are required to make split-second decisions, and they are given certain leeway under the law.

The question here is: Would a reasonable officer, fearful that the Taser could be used to incapacitate him, decide that deadly force was necessary to stop the threat?

While police generally consider Tasers in their own hands to be nonlethal weapons, Kevin Davis, a police officer in Ohio for nearly three decades who specializes in training, said that a stun gun in the wrong hands and pointed at the head, for example, could prove deadly or cause serious injury.

On the other side of the argument, Tasers have a reach of about 15 feet, so the officer could have tried to keep his distance. Also, it was a crowded parking lot, making it risky for an officer to fire his gun.

Could the officer have shot Brooks in the leg or somewhere else that wouldn't have been deadly? Police experts reject that idea, saying that officers facing what they believe is a deadly threat are trained to stop it cold, which usually means shooting at a person's torso.

In any case, "the notion that under these kinds of situations, when you've got a subject moving and you're moving, and you're going to shoot him in the leg? That's preposterous. It's just not realistic," Davis said.

Some experts say the real friction happened well before Brooks and the officers even met.

How they interacted was influenced by decades of racism and distrust between police and the black community, said Kalfani Ture, a professor of criminal justice at Quinnipiac University and a former metro Atlanta police officer.

"Whether we like it or not, this society socializes us to see black men in particular ... as potential threats, if not outright threats. And while it may appear to you and I watching this film that this is a very innocuous exchange, encounter, it's filled with much just roiling beneath the surface," Ture said.

Davis pushed back on the notion that race was a significant factor in this case.

He watched the videos, slowed down the footage and zoomed in to analyze it frame-by-frame. From his perspective, he said, the officer who killed Brooks was trying to run for cover in the parking lot and evade Brooks. Those actions, he said, show that the officer felt there was a threat of imminent harm.

Brooks "was shot because at that moment he presented a deadly threat to those officers," Davis said. "Mr. Brooks escalated this resistance to a point where these officers were forced in very dynamic chaotic conditions to make a split-second decision."



## NFL commissioner Goodell encourages team to sign Kaepernick

By JOE REEDY AP Sports Writer

Roger Goodell would like to see Colin Kaepernick back in the NFL this season.

The NFL commissioner said during ESPN's "The Return of Sports" special on Monday that he is encouraging teams to sign the 32-year old quarterback, who hasn't played the past three seasons. Kaepernick was with the San Francisco 49ers in 2016 when he kneeled during the national anthem to protest racial injustice.

"If he wants to resume his career in the NFL, then obviously it's gonna take a team to make that decision. I welcome that, support a club making that decision and encourage them to do that," Goodell said during his interview with ESPN's Mike Greenberg.

Seattle Seahawks coach Pete Carroll said last week that he received a call from another team about Kaepernick. Carroll and the Seahawks brought in Kaepernick for a workout in 2017 and had another planned in 2018 before it was canceled.

Goodell set up a tryout for Kaepernick in Atlanta last year for scouts of all 32 teams to attend, but it unraveled at the last moment due to lack of media access and what Kaepernick's representatives saw as an unusual liability waiver. Instead of the workout taking place at the Falcons' training complex, Kaepernick conducted an impromptu session at a high school in front of media and scouts from eight teams.

The NFL released a video on June 5 in which Goodell apologized for the league for not doing a good job of listening to concerns by players on racial inequality. Goodell though was roundly criticized for the apology not mentioning Kaepernick.

The video came out a day after many players released a video criticizing the league for not condemning racism following the May 25 death of George Floyd.

"We had spent time prior to that understanding all the frustration, fear and sadness. When the video came out on Thursday it was very powerful. It was appropriate for me to respond," Goodell said. "We should have listened to our players earlier including Colin Kaepernick, Eric Reid, Kenny Stills, Malcolm Jenkins and so many people really brought these issues to light."

Atlanta Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan said Goodell's video was a great step in the right direction.

"We all need to be on the same page and address some of the uncomfortable things that need addressed," he said.

Goodell did not answer how the league would respond if President Donald Trump continued to criticize them if players kneeled for the National Anthem. Goodell also said that he wants to include Kaepernick's voice on how the league should approach social issues.

"I hope we're at a point now where everybody's committed to making long-term, sustainable change," Goodell said. "If his efforts are not on the field but continuing to work in this space, we welcome him to that table and to help us, guide us, help us make better decisions about the kinds of things that need to be done in the communities."

NBA commissioner Adam Silver said when the league gathers at the Disney campus it would provide an opportunity for the league to do more to promote social and societal change -- especially since players, who will be confined to the campus, will have plenty of free time on their hands and with what's expected to be a sizable media contingent present.

"How can we use our larger platform, the NBA together with our players, really to affect change?" Silver asked. "There's an appropriate role, of course, for protests. There's an appropriate role for those who choose not to engage in the game of basketball down in Florida. But ... for those who decide to come, together with the league, what are those things we can be doing?"

Another interesting point in what Silver said was the acknowledgement that some players may choose not to go to the ESPN Wide World of Sports complex for the restart of the season. A group of players, led by Kyrie Irving, has made it clear in recent days that they want their colleagues to think about the ramifications of playing at a time of racial and social unrest.

Portland guard Damian Lillard has been part of a protest and said he hopes that people realize "that the black community has had enough" when it comes to injustice. But he also said he plans to play, even

though he expressed some reservations about how safe it will be from a health perspective.

"This is what we do. This is our job," Lillard said. "And this is how we take care of our families. And this is my way of providing for communities and impacting my community. So to play the game I love, to resume the season, I guess it's a risk I'm willing to take."

Goodell, NHL commissioner Gary Bettman and MLS commissioner Don Garber acknowledged there will be positive tests once their sports return, but that they are hoping to isolate those as quickly as possible along with aggressive use of contact tracing.

Monday's show began with baseball commissioner Rob Manfred casting some doubt on whether there will be games this season after a breakdown in talks with the players' union on salaries. Manfred said last week he was 100% certain games would be played.

"I'm not confident. I think there's real risk; and as long as there's no dialogue, that real risk is going to continue," Manfred said. "The owners are 100% committed to getting baseball back on the field. Unfortunately, I can't tell you that I'm 100% certain that's going to happen."

AP Basketball Writer Tim Reynolds contributed to this story.

More AP sports: <https://apnews.com/apf-sports> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/AP_Sports)

## **New execution dates set for federal inmates on death row**

**By MICHAEL BALSAMO Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department has set new dates to begin executing federal death-row inmates following a monthslong legal battle over the plan to resume the executions for the first time since 2003.

Attorney General William Barr directed the federal Bureau of Prisons to schedule the executions, beginning in mid-July, of four inmates convicted of killing children. Three of the men had been scheduled to be put to death when Barr announced the federal government would resume executions last year, ending an informal moratorium on federal capital punishment as the issue receded from the public domain.

The Justice Department had scheduled five executions set to begin in December, but some of the inmates challenged the new procedures in court, arguing that the government was circumventing proper methods in order to wrongly execute inmates quickly.

The department wouldn't say why the executions of two of the inmates scheduled in December hadn't been rescheduled.

The move is likely to add a new front to the national conversation about criminal justice reform and raise interest in an issue that has largely lain dormant in recent years amid the culture battles that President Donald Trump already is waging on matters such as abortion and immigration in the lead-up to the 2020 elections.

The federal government's initial effort was put on hold by a trial judge, and the federal appeals court in Washington and the Supreme Court both declined to step in late last year. But in April, the appeals court threw out the judge's order. Lawyers for the inmates are asking the Supreme Court to order a halt to the process.

"The American people, acting through Congress and Presidents of both political parties, have long instructed that defendants convicted of the most heinous crimes should be subject to a sentence of death," Barr said in a statement. "The four murderers whose executions are scheduled today have received full and fair proceedings under our Constitution and laws. We owe it to the victims of these horrific crimes, and to the families left behind, to carry forward the sentence imposed by our justice system."

The resumption comes as the federal prison has struggled to combat the coronavirus pandemic behind bars, including at least one death at USP Terre Haute, where they will take place. One inmate there has died from COVID-19.

The inmates who will be executed are: Danny Lee, who was convicted in Arkansas of killing a family

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 43 of 79

of three, including an 8-year-old; Wesley Ira Purkey, of Kansas, who raped and murdered a 16-year-old girl and killed an 80-year-old woman; Dustin Lee Honken, who killed five people in Iowa, including two children; and Keith Dwayne Nelson, who kidnapped a 10-year-old girl who was rollerblading in front of her Kansas home and raped her in a forest behind a church before strangling the young girl with a wire.

Three of the executions — for Lee, Purkley and Honken — are scheduled days apart beginning July 13. Nelson's execution is scheduled for Aug. 28. The Justice Department said additional executions will be set at a later date.

Executions on the federal level have been rare and the government has put to death only three defendants since restoring the federal death penalty in 1988 — most recently in 2003, when Louis Jones was executed for the 1995 kidnapping, rape and murder of a young female soldier. Though there hasn't been a federal execution since 2003, the Justice Department has continued to approve death penalty prosecutions and federal courts have sentenced defendants to death.

In 2014, following a botched state execution in Oklahoma, President Barack Obama directed the Justice Department to conduct a broad review of capital punishment and issues surrounding lethal injection drugs.

The attorney general said last July that the Obama-era review had been completed, clearing the way for executions to resume. He approved a new procedure for lethal injections that replaces the three-drug combination previously used in federal executions with one drug, pentobarbital. This is similar to the procedure used in several states, including Georgia, Missouri and Texas, but not all.

Barr told the AP in November that the federal Bureau of Prisons had been testing and conducting practice drills ahead of the first execution. He would not say where the drugs would come from.

Those chosen were among inmates who had exhausted their appeals, and the cases were forwarded to senior Justice Department officials who reviewed the cases and made recommendations to him, Barr said.

President Donald Trump has spoken often about capital punishment and his belief that executions serve as an effective deterrent and an appropriate punishment for some crimes, including mass shootings and the killings of police officers.

Lawyers for the men decried the Justice Department's decision to move ahead with the executions.

Ruth Friedman, an attorney for Danny Lee, said the government relied on "junk science and false evidence" in his case and said he is trying to get a court to consider problems in his case. A federal judge denied Lee's request for a new trial but noted that evidence presented by his attorneys "is reasonably likely" to have led to a different sentence.

"Given all of these circumstances, it would be unconscionable for the government to execute Danny Lee," Friedman said.

Purkey's attorney, Rebecca Woodman, said her client suffers from schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease and dementia and doesn't understand why the government plans to execute him. "No execution should proceed unless and until the question of Wes's competency is resolved," she said.

And an attorney for Honken, Shawn Nolan, said Honken's trial and sentencing proceeding were "plagued by misconduct and the ineffectiveness of counsel" and said he was been denied a full and fair review of the alleged defects in the case. Nolan described Honken as a "deeply remorseful and devout Catholic and loving father of two children."

An attorney for Nelson did not immediately respond to a message seeking comment.

## Don't ask Tulsa's mayor about Trump rally plans

By SEAN MURPHY Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — For most mayors in deep-red states like Oklahoma, the prospect of hosting the first rally for President Donald Trump in months would be a delight. It would showcase the city on an international stage and draw revenue for local businesses that have been shuttered for months amid the coronavirus outbreak.

But G.T. Bynum, the first-term mayor of Tulsa, isn't celebrating Trump's planned rally Saturday at the city's 19,000-seat downtown BOK Center arena. While other Oklahoma GOP officials are hailing the event,

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 44 of 79

Bynum finds himself in a precarious position, balancing partisan politics, the city's deep racial wounds and a COVID-19 infection rate that is suddenly spiking.

Trump announced the rally in Tulsa as the kick-off a tour to rev up his political base and show the nation's economy reopening after the long quarantine. Trump said in a tweet that almost 1 million people have requested tickets, although party officials haven't announced the total. Oklahoma has followed a Trump-friendly aggressive schedule for its economic reopening, ticking through a series of phases that now have almost all businesses free to resume operations.

But the announcement comes as Tulsa's infection rate is rising steadily after remaining moderate for months. The four-day average number of new cases in the city has doubled from the previous peak in April. The city's own health department director, Dr. Bruce Dart, has said he hopes the rally will be postponed, noting that large indoor gatherings are partially to blame for the recent spread.

Meanwhile, many leaders in the city's black community have lashed out at Trump's visit as provocative after the death of black Minneapolis resident George Floyd and mass protests around the world. Tulsa was the site of the nation's deadliest race massacre in 1921, when up to 300 black residents were killed by a white mob and the city's thriving Black Wall Street district was burned to the ground.

The massacre was covered up in subsequent years, "and I'm not sure we've ever really even gotten over the hump," said state Rep. Monroe Nichols, an African-American Democrat who represents the city's largely black north side. "I think the fact that the president is coming annoys folks in the African-American community just as much as other folks in the community who don't subscribe to his brand of politics."

Bynum has maintained an awkward balancing act — not joining Dart's plea to postpone the rally to avert a health emergency, even though both have been strident about avoiding large groups, and not joining other Republican officials in celebrating with the popular Trump. Bynum said he would not attend the rally.

"I think he's trying to bring people together to find that middle ground and common purpose. And that's never going to be satisfying for the people at the ideological extremes, and they tend to be noisy," said David Holt, the mayor of Oklahoma City and a friend of Bynum's.

Bynum, 43, who did not respond to a request for an interview, is part of a political dynasty in Tulsa. His uncle, grandfather and great-great-grandfather all served as mayor. The city of 400,000 has long been Republican country, and he served as a staff member for GOP U.S. Sens. Don Nickles and Tom Coburn before defeating a fellow Republican in the nonpartisan mayor's race in 2016.

He campaigned on public education but also on investing in the black community, traditionally a Democratic cause. After the shooting of Terence Crutcher, an unarmed black man, by a Tulsa police officer in 2016, Bynum pushed for independent oversight of the police department, but was thwarted by fierce opposition from the police union. He has also pushed for publicly coming to terms with the race massacre, earning him credit in the black community that may have helped the city avert violence after Floyd's death at the hands of a white police officer in Minneapolis.

Bynum did draw the ire of many for comments in a national interview in which he blamed drug use, not race, for Crutcher's death. Bynum later walked back the comments, writing in a post on social media: "When your friends start calling you and repeatedly using the phrase, 'I know your heart,' it's a good indicator you've screwed up.

"I would hope that my work during 8 years on the City Council and 4 years in the Mayor's Office would speak louder than one dumb and overly-simplistic answer to a complex question, but I understand if it doesn't."

Other Oklahoma Republican officials insisted the Trump rally can be good for the black community — Republican Gov. Kevin Stitt said he has invited Trump to join him on a walking tour of the Greenwood district, where the massacre occurred, to build understanding. And the head of the Oklahoma Republican Party, David McLain, insisted the rally can be safe. He said all rally goers will be provided with masks, although there will be no mandate to wear them. He said party officials would like to see every seat filled.

Holt said he's confident Bynum will navigate the situation because he's "very collaborative."

"I think mayors across the country have got a lot on their plates, and we're all challenged right now to

find the right balance of a lot of competing interests in the midst of generational crises happening one after the other, but I think obviously in Tulsa you have an even more complicated history with race," Holt said.

## 'When does it stop?' Slain man's family makes tearful plea

By **RUSS BYNUM** and **KATE BRUMBACK** Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Pleading through tears Monday, the family of a black man killed by Atlanta police outside a drive-thru demanded changes in the criminal justice system and called on protesters to refrain from violence amid heightened tensions across the U.S. three weeks after George Floyd's death in Minneapolis.

An autopsy found that 27-year-old Rayshard Brooks was shot twice in the back late Friday by a white officer who was trying to arrest him at a fast food restaurant for being intoxicated behind the wheel of his car. Brooks tried to flee after wrestling with officers and grabbing a stun gun from one of them.

"Not only are we hurt, we are angry," said Chassidy Evans, Brooks' niece. "When does it stop? We're not only pleading for justice. We're pleading for change."

Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms announced Monday that she was ordering changes to police use-of-force policies, including requiring that officers receive continuous training in how to deescalate situations and use those techniques before taking action that could be fatal. She said she also was requiring officers to intervene if they see a colleague using excessive force.

The mayor said that after Brooks' shooting, it was clear Atlanta did not have "another day, another minute, another hour to waste" in changing police practices.

Other cities nationwide are taking similar steps, and packages of police reforms have been proposed or are emerging in Congress.

About 20 of Brooks' children, siblings, cousins and other family members sobbed at a news conference as over 1,000 people gathered not far away at an NAACP-led protest outside the Georgia Capitol.

Floyd's death May 25 after a white Minneapolis officer pressed his knee into the black man's neck touched off demonstrations and scattered violence across the U.S., and Brooks' killing rekindled those protests in Atlanta. The Wendy's restaurant where Brooks was shot was burned down over the weekend.

Evans said there was no reason for her uncle "to be shot and killed like trash in the street for falling asleep in a drive-thru."

"Rayshard has a family who loves him who would have gladly come and got him so he would be here with us today," she said.

Relatives described Brooks as a loving father of three daughters and a stepson who had a bright smile and a big heart and loved to dance. His oldest daughter learned her father was slain while celebrating her eighth birthday with cupcakes and friends, wearing a special dress as she waited for Brooks to take her skating, said Justin Miller, an attorney for the family.

"There's no justice that can ever make me feel happy about what's been done," said Tomika Miller, Brooks' widow. "I can never get my husband back. ... I can never tell my daughter he's coming to take you skating or for swimming lessons."

She asked those demonstrating to "keep the protesting peaceful," saying: "We want to keep his name positive and great."

Several Democratic lawmakers joined protesters and called for Georgia to pass reforms including the repeal of the state's citizen's arrest and stand-your-ground laws.

While some Republican leaders pushed back against swift action on some proposals, GOP House Speaker David Ralston endorsed rapid passage of a hate-crimes law, telling lawmakers that failure to act would be "a stain on this state we can never wash away."

Morgan Dudley, 18, skipped work to join the demonstration after her job kept her from joining protests following Floyd's death three weeks ago.

"I was like, 'You know what? This is not a trend. This is an actual problem that we're facing,'" said Dudley, who is black.

Officials nationwide are responding to calls for reform while protests persist. The New York City Police

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 46 of 79

Department is disbanding the type of plainclothes anti-crime units that were involved in the 2014 chokehold death of Eric Garner and have long been criticized for aggressive tactics, Commissioner Dermot Shea said Monday.

In Chicago, Mayor Lori Lightfoot said a panel of residents, activists and one police official will review the Police Department's policy on when officers can use force. Albuquerque, New Mexico, Mayor Tim Keller said he wants a new department of social workers and civilian professionals to provide another option when someone calls 911.

And New Jersey's attorney general ordered police to begin divulging names of officers who commit serious disciplinary violations.

In Congress, Republicans are on the brink of introducing a bill with restrictions on police chokeholds and other practices, while a Democratic proposal would limit legal protections for police, create a national database of excessive-force encounters and ban chokeholds. The White House will announce its own executive actions Tuesday.

In the Atlanta shooting, Officer Garrett Rolfe, who fired the shots that killed Brooks, was fired, and the other officer at the scene, Devin Brosnan, was put on desk duty. Police Chief Erika Shields resigned.

Police released the officers' disciplinary histories, which showed Rolfe received a written reprimand in 2017 for use of force with a firearm but provided no other details. Rolfe, who was hired in October 2013, also got a written reprimand in 2018 and an oral admonishment in 2014, both for vehicle crashes. A firearm discharge case from 2015 listed no conclusion.

Brosnan was hired last June and had no disciplinary history.

Fulton County District Attorney Paul Howard said he hopes to decide by midweek whether to charge the officers. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation took over the investigation.

Police were called to the restaurant over complaints of a car blocking the drive-thru lane. An officer found Brooks asleep in the car.

Police video showed Brooks cooperating with the officers for more than 40 minutes until a breath test determined his blood-alcohol level was over the legal limit. When one of the officers moved to handcuff him, Brooks tried to run and the officers took him to the ground.

Brooks broke free and took off with a stun gun but was shot. Rolfe told authorities that Brooks fired the stun gun at him.

Asked why Brooks ran, family attorney L. Chris Stewart suggested that he may have feared for his life.

"They put George Floyd in handcuffs and he was subsequently killed," Stewart said. "So just getting put in handcuffs if you're African American doesn't mean, oh, you're going to get nicely taken to the back of a police car."

Bynum reported from Savannah, Georgia. Associated Press writer Ben Nadler in Atlanta contributed to this report.

## Commissioner Rob Manfred says baseball season in jeopardy

By RONALD BLUM AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred says there might be no major league games this year after a breakdown in talks between teams and the players' union on how to split up money in a season delayed by the coronavirus pandemic.

The league also revealed several players on big league rosters have tested positive for COVID-19.

Two days after union head Tony Clark declared additional negotiations futile, Manfred reversed his position of last week when he said he was "100%" certain the 2020 season would start.

Deputy Commissioner Dan Halem sent a seven-page letter to players' association chief negotiator Bruce Meyer asking the union whether it will waive the threat of legal action and tell MLB to announce a spring training report date and a regular-season schedule.

These were just the latest escalating volleys in a sport viewing disagreements over starting the season

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 47 of 79

as a preliminary battle ahead of bargaining to replace the labor contract that expires on Dec. 1, 2021.

"It's just a disaster for our game, absolutely no question about it," Manfred said during an appearance on ESPN. "It shouldn't be happening, and it's important that we find a way to get past it and get the game back on the field for the benefit of our fans."

Spring training was stopped because of the pandemic on March 12, two weeks before opening day, and the sides reached an agreement March 26 on how to revise their labor deal to account for the virus.

Since then, the hostility has escalated to 1990s levels as the sides exchanged offers. MLB claims teams can't afford to play without fans and pay the prorated salaries called for in the March deal, which included a provision for "good-faith" negotiations over the possibility of games in empty ballparks or neutral sites.

"The proliferation of COVID-19 outbreaks around the country over the last week, and the fact that we already know of several 40-man roster players and staff who have tested positive, has increased the risks associated with commencing spring training in the next few weeks," Halem wrote in his letter to Meyer, which was obtained by the AP.

Halem sent Meyer a letter with a sarcastic tone Friday accompanying MLB's latest offer, and Meyer responded with a hostile timbre Saturday as the sides memorialized positions ahead of a possible grievance before the panel chaired by independent arbitrator Mark Irving. Halem's letter Monday asked the union for many clarifications of its positions.

"I note that both the NBA and NHL, two leagues which you repeatedly reference in your letter, do not intend to resume play until about Aug. 1, and both intend to resume play at a limited number of sites with a quarantine approach," Halem wrote. "Please let us know the association's views on quarantining players in league-approved hotels (like the NBA's Disney World model) when they are not at the ballpark if conditions worsen over the next few weeks."

Clark had issued a statement Saturday that told MLB: "It's time to get back to work. Tell us when and where." The union then said it might file a grievance seeking additional economic documents and money damages that could total \$1 billion or more.

"Players are disgusted that after Rob Manfred unequivocally told players and fans that there would '100%' be a 2020 season, he has decided to go back on his word and is now threatening to cancel the entire season," Clark said in a statement Monday.

"This latest threat is just one more indication that Major League Baseball has been negotiating in bad faith since the beginning," Clark added. "This has always been about extracting additional pay cuts from players and this is just another day and another bad faith tactic in their ongoing campaign."

Manfred said ahead of last week's amateur draft that the chance of a season was "100%."

He reversed his position Monday.

"I'm not confident. I think there's real risk; and as long as there's no dialogue, that real risk is going to continue," Manfred said on ESPN. "The owners are 100% committed to getting baseball back on the field. Unfortunately, I can't tell you that I'm 100% certain that's going to happen."

Players think Manfred is delaying to shorten the schedule — and their pay.

"So, Rob, explain to us how you can be 100% sure that there's going to be baseball but not confident there will be baseball at the same time?" Cincinnati pitcher Trevor Bauer tweeted. "The tactic is to bluff with 'no season' again and delay another 2-3 weeks."

Halem asked the union for written permission to go ahead with the season.

"Rob Manfred and the owners are walking back on their word...AGAIN," tweeted Washington pitcher Max Scherzer, a member of the union's eight-man executive subcommittee. "The fans do not deserve this. So I'll say it one more time, tell us when and where."

MLB has made three economic offers, the last offering to guarantee players 70% of their salaries as part a 72-game schedule beginning July 14 and increasing the total to 80% if the postseason is completed.

Players previously offered two proposals, holding their position that no additional pay cuts were acceptable beyond the prorated salaries for 2020 that they had agreed to in March. That deal called for \$170 million in salary advances and a guarantee of service time credit if no games are played this year.

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 48 of 79

Manfred had threatened a shorter schedule, perhaps of about 50 games. The union could respond by filing a grievance, arguing players should be paid for the season of 119 games they initially proposed. The union's first plan would result in salaries of nearly \$3 billion.

Players are angry following five years of flat salaries, a lost grievance claiming the Chicago Cubs manipulated the service time of star third baseman Kris Bryant in violation of the labor contract and allegations several teams did not properly use revenue sharing proceeds, which the union called "tanking."

Players hope to see documents detailing regional sports networks' agreements with teams, financial interests of MLB owners in RSNs and real estate ventures adjacent to ballparks, plus MLB affiliated companies such as the MLB Network, MLB Advanced Media and BAM Tech. During a grievance, they would ask Irvings to order document production.

In their March agreement, the sides vowed to "work in good faith to as soon as is practicable commence, play, and complete the fullest 2020 championship season and post-season that is economically feasible, consistent with" a series of provisions.

Absent Manfred's consent, the agreement said, the season would not begin unless there were no travel restrictions in the U.S. and Canada impacting play, no restrictions on mass gatherings at all 30 regular-season ballparks and no health or safety risks in playing in front of fans at the regular stadiums. But it also provided that the sides "will discuss in good faith the economic feasibility of playing games in the absence of spectators or at appropriate substitute neutral sites."

MLB told the union it would lose an additional \$640,000 for each regular-season game played with no gate revenue and does not want to extend the regular season past Sept. 27 because it fears a second wave of the coronavirus could endanger the postseason, when \$787 million of broadcast revenue is earned.

AP Sports Writer Joe Reedy contributed to this report.

More AP MLB: <https://apnews.com/MLB> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/AP_Sports)

## Fed moves to ensure companies can tap bond market for funds

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve said Monday that it will begin purchasing corporate bonds as part of a previously announced plan to ensure companies can borrow through the bond market during the pandemic.

The program will purchase existing bonds on the open market, as opposed to newly issued debt. The central bank said will seek to build a "broad and diversified" portfolio that will mimic a bond-market index. The bonds will have to be from highly rated, investment-grade companies, or ones that fit that description before the viral outbreak struck.

The announcement boosted the stock market, which was already rebounding from early losses. The S&P 500 index rose 0.8% Monday.

The Fed's purchases should hold down corporate bond yields, making it cheaper for companies to borrow. But by also lowering the return from investing in those bonds, the Fed's actions will likely encourage investors to shift money from corporate bonds to stocks in hopes of achieving a higher return.

When the Fed announced its bond-purchase program in March, few companies were able to issue bonds. Banks and other large investors were dumping assets in favor of cash. New research has found that simply by announcing the program, the Fed was able to encourage more bond trading and improve the market's efficiency.

The Fed has said it will buy up to \$750 billion of corporate bonds and exchange-traded funds made up of corporate bonds. The Treasury Department has provided the Fed \$75 billion of taxpayer funds to offset any losses that occur from the investments.

Separately, the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston said Monday that banks can now register to participate in the Fed's Main Street Lending program, which is intended to funnel more credit to small- and medium-



sized businesses.

Under the Main Street facility, the Fed will buy 95% of a loan from a participating bank, which removes most credit risk from the bank and frees up more capital for lending. The loans can be made to companies that either have up to 15,000 employees or \$5 billion in revenue.

Lenders "are encouraged to begin making Main Street program loans immediately," the Boston Fed said.

Treasury has also provided \$75 billion to offset losses on Main Street loans, which can range from \$250,000 to \$300 million. The Fed has said it will spend up to \$600 billion on Main Street. Fed officials have depicted the program as one targeted to companies that may be too large for the government's small business loan program, and too small for the government's bond buying program.

## Feds to review cases into hanging deaths of 2 black men

By STEFANIE DAZIO Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Federal authorities will review local investigations into the hanging deaths of two black men in Southern California to determine whether federal law was violated, officials said Monday.

Local authorities have said there is no evidence of foul play in the deaths of Robert Fuller in Palmdale and Malcolm Harsch in Victorville and early indications point both to suicide, but sheriffs have pledged to continue to investigate the cases.

Monday's announcement follows weekend protests, which were prompted by the initial determination of suicide as the likely cause of death for Fuller.

People who participated in a town hall hosted by Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva on Monday also voiced concerns that Fuller and Harsch may have been lynched. The callers denounced what they described as a rush to judgment and urged investigators to look into the possibility that hate crimes were committed.

The FBI, U.S. attorney's office in the Central District of California and the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division are monitoring the investigations of the Los Angeles County and San Bernardino County sheriffs, authorities said in a statement.

The city of Palmdale issued a statement supporting an independent inquiry, and three elected officials urged California Attorney General Xavier Becerra to lead the probe. Becerra said for now his investigators will just support the sheriff's department, "though we also have the ability to do it on our own if necessary."

Fuller's body was discovered around 3:30 a.m. Wednesday in a park near City Hall. An autopsy was conducted Friday and the Los Angeles County medical examiner-coroner's office said the 24-year-old man appeared to have died by suicide.

The finding prompted outcry by his family, who believed he wasn't suicidal, and community members who called for an independent investigation and autopsy. More than 1,000 people turned out for a protest and memorial Saturday around the tree where Fuller's body was found about 40 miles (64 kilometers) north of Los Angeles.

Dr. Jonathan Lucas, the chief medical examiner-coroner, said the initial finding was the result of nothing at the scene indicating foul play. Investigators only found rope and a backpack in the park.

"The initial report appeared to be consistent with a suicide but we felt it prudent to roll that back and continue to look deeper," Lucas said Monday at a news conference.

The coroner's office is awaiting toxicology results, Lucas said. Investigators are also looking at Fuller's medical history.

Homicide detectives plan to analyze the rope and its knot, canvass the area for video footage, interview Fuller's social services case worker and speak to anyone who had recently interacted with him.

They are also seeking to meet with Fuller's family, authorities said.

Fuller's family and friends described him as a peacemaker who was street-smart, loved music and video games, and mostly stayed to himself. Days before he died, he attended a Black Lives Matter protest, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Fuller's sister, Diamond Alexander said her brother was not suicidal. "My brother was a survivor," she said.

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 50 of 79

The state Senate began its session Monday with a moment of silence for Fuller and Harsch, a 38-year-old homeless black man who was found hanging from a tree on May 31 in Victorville, a desert city about 45 miles (72 kilometers) east of Palmdale.

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department said foul play was not suspected in the death of Harsch, but his family said in a statement issued Saturday that they were concerned it will be ruled a suicide to avoid further attention.

San Bernardino authorities provided a fuller accounting Monday of the circumstances surrounding Harsch's death. In a statement, the department said his girlfriend called 911 and told a dispatcher that he had hanged himself in a homeless encampment. The woman said they had been together earlier in the morning but separated for a brief time when she returned to her tent.

Others in the encampment had cut him down and tried to revive him, the sheriff's department said. Detectives have interviewed several people who were nearby at the time.

The department said there was no evidence of foul play found at the scene or discovered during Harsch's autopsy. Toxicology results are still pending so the official cause and manner of Harsch's death has not been determined.

Villanueva said his investigators will consult with San Bernardino detectives to see if there are any commonalities between the deaths of the two men.

On Saturday, hundreds of protesters marched from the Palmdale park near City Hall to the sheriff's station. Many carried signs that read, "Justice for Robert Fuller." Meanwhile, an online petition demanding an investigation collected more than 200,000 signatures.

## AP Exclusive: New dates set to begin federal executions

By MICHAEL BALSAMO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department has set new dates to begin executing federal death-row inmates following a monthslong legal battle over the plan to resume the executions for the first time since 2003.

Attorney General William Barr directed the federal Bureau of Prisons to schedule the executions, beginning in mid-July, of four inmates convicted of killing children. Three of the men had been scheduled to be put to death when Barr announced the federal government would resume executions last year, ending an informal moratorium on federal capital punishment as the issue receded from the public domain.

The Justice Department had scheduled five executions set to begin in December, but some of the inmates challenged the new procedures in court, arguing that the government was circumventing proper methods in order to wrongly execute inmates quickly.

The department wouldn't say why the executions of two of the inmates scheduled in December hadn't been rescheduled.

The move is likely to add a new front to the national conversation about criminal justice reform and raise interest in an issue that has largely lain dormant in recent years amid the culture battles that President Donald Trump already is waging on matters such as abortion and immigration in the lead-up to the 2020 elections.

The federal government's initial effort was put on hold by a trial judge, and the federal appeals court in Washington and the Supreme Court both declined to step in late last year. But in April, the appeals court threw out the judge's order. Lawyers for the inmates are asking the Supreme Court to order a halt to the process.

"The American people, acting through Congress and Presidents of both political parties, have long instructed that defendants convicted of the most heinous crimes should be subject to a sentence of death," Barr said in a statement. "The four murderers whose executions are scheduled today have received full and fair proceedings under our Constitution and laws. We owe it to the victims of these horrific crimes, and to the families left behind, to carry forward the sentence imposed by our justice system."

The resumption comes as the federal prison has struggled to combat the coronavirus pandemic behind

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 51 of 79

bars, including at least one death at USP Terre Haute, where they will take place. One inmate there has died from COVID-19.

The inmates who will be executed are: Danny Lee, who was convicted in Arkansas of killing a family of three, including an 8-year-old; Wesley Ira Purkey, of Kansas, who raped and murdered a 16-year-old girl and killed an 80-year-old woman; Dustin Lee Honken, who killed five people in Iowa, including two children; and Keith Dwayne Nelson, who kidnapped a 10-year-old girl who was rollerblading in front of her Kansas home and raped her in a forest behind a church before strangling the young girl to death with a wire.

Three of the executions — for Lee, Purkey and Honken — are scheduled days apart beginning July 13. Nelson's execution is scheduled for Aug. 28. The Justice Department said additional executions will be set at a later date.

Executions on the federal level have been rare and the government has put to death only three defendants since restoring the federal death penalty in 1988 — most recently in 2003, when Louis Jones was executed for the 1995 kidnapping, rape and murder of a young female soldier. Though there hasn't been a federal execution since 2003, the Justice Department has continued to approve death penalty prosecutions and federal courts have sentenced defendants to death.

In 2014, following a botched state execution in Oklahoma, President Barack Obama directed the Justice Department to conduct a broad review of capital punishment and issues surrounding lethal injection drugs.

The attorney general said last July that the Obama-era review had been completed, clearing the way for executions to resume. He approved a new procedure for lethal injections that replaces the three-drug combination previously used in federal executions with one drug, pentobarbital. This is similar to the procedure used in several states, including Georgia, Missouri and Texas, but not all.

Barr told the AP in November that the federal Bureau of Prisons had been testing and conducting practice drills ahead of the first execution. He would not say where the drugs would come from.

Those chosen were among inmates who had exhausted their appeals, and the cases were forwarded to senior Justice Department officials who reviewed the cases and made recommendations to him, Barr said.

President Donald Trump has spoken often about capital punishment and his belief that executions serve as an effective deterrent and an appropriate punishment for some crimes, including mass shootings and the killings of police officers.

Lawyers for the men decried the Justice Department's decision to move ahead with the executions.

Ruth Friedman, an attorney for Danny Lee, said the government relied on "junk science and false evidence" in his case and said he is trying to get a court to consider problems in his case. A federal judge denied Lee's request for a new trial but noted that evidence presented by his attorneys "is reasonably likely" to have led to a different sentence.

"Given all of these circumstances, it would be unconscionable for the government to execute Danny Lee," Friedman said.

Purkey's attorney, Rebecca Woodman, said her client suffers from schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease and dementia and doesn't understand why the government plans to execute him. "No execution should proceed unless and until the question of Wes's competency is resolved," she said.

And an attorney for Honken, Shawn Nolan, said Honken's trial and sentencing proceeding were "plagued by misconduct and the ineffectiveness of counsel" and said he was been denied a full and fair review of the alleged defects in the case. Nolan described Honken as a "deeply remorseful and devout Catholic and loving father of two children."

An attorney for Nelson did not immediately respond to a message seeking comment.

## Supreme Court says gay, transgender workers protected by law

By MARK SHERMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court ruled Monday that a landmark civil rights law protects gay, lesbian and transgender people from discrimination in employment, a resounding victory for LGBT rights from a conservative court.

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 52 of 79

The court decided by a 6-3 vote that a key provision of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 known as Title VII that bars job discrimination because of sex, among other reasons, encompasses bias against people because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

"An employer who fires an individual for being homosexual or transgender fires that person for traits or actions it would not have questioned in members of a different sex," Justice Neil Gorsuch wrote for the court. "Sex plays a necessary and undisguisable role in the decision, exactly what Title VII forbids."

The decision was a defeat not just for the employers, but also the Trump administration, which argued that the law's plain wording compelled a ruling for the employers. Gorsuch, a conservative appointee of President Donald Trump, concluded the opposite, and Trump said Monday he accepted the court's "very powerful decision."

Gorsuch was joined in the majority by Chief Justice John Roberts and the court's four liberal members. Justice Brett Kavanaugh, Trump's other Supreme Court pick, dissented, along with Justices Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas.

"The Court tries to convince readers that it is merely enforcing the terms of the statute, but that is preposterous," Alito wrote in the dissent. "Even as understood today, the concept of discrimination because of 'sex' is different from discrimination because of 'sexual orientation' or 'gender identity.'"

Kavanaugh wrote in a separate dissent that the court was rewriting the law to include gender identity and sexual orientation, a job that belongs to Congress. Still, Kavanaugh said the decision represents an "important victory achieved today by gay and lesbian Americans."

Trump had a restrained reaction, telling reporters that he'd read the decision and that "some people were surprised."

He added: "But they've ruled and we live with their decision. That's what it's all about. We live with the decision of the Supreme Court. Very powerful. A very powerful decision actually. But they have so ruled."

The outcome is expected to have a big impact for the estimated 8.1 million LGBT workers across the country because most states don't protect them from workplace discrimination. An estimated 11.3 million LGBT people live in the U.S., according to the Williams Institute at the UCLA law school.

Gerald Bostock, a gay county government worker from Georgia whose lawsuit was one of three the Supreme Court decided Monday, said no one should have to be "fearful of losing their job because of who they are, who they love or how they identify. And the justices have now made sure that we won't have to worry about that."

John Bursch, who argued the appeal from a Michigan funeral home owner against a fired transgender employee, said, "Americans must be able to rely on what the law says, and it is disappointing that a majority of the justices were unwilling to affirm that commonsense principle. Redefining 'sex' to mean 'gender identity' will create chaos and enormous unfairness for women and girls in athletics, women's shelters, and many other contexts."

But Monday's decision is not likely to be the court's last word on a host of issues revolving around LGBT rights, Gorsuch noted.

Rights groups have said they will challenge the administration's effort to roll back anti-discrimination protections for transgender people in health care. Lawsuits are pending over transgender athletes' participation in school sporting events, and courts also are dealing with cases about sex-segregated bathrooms and locker rooms, a subject that the justices seemed concerned about during arguments in October. Employers who have religious objections to employing LGBT people also might be able to raise those claims in a different case, Gorsuch said.

"But none of these other laws are before us; we have not had the benefit of adversarial testing about the meaning of their terms, and we do not prejudge any such question today," he wrote.

The cases were the court's first on LGBT rights since Justice Anthony Kennedy's retirement and replacement by Kavanaugh. Kennedy was a voice for gay rights and the author of the landmark ruling in 2015 that made same-sex marriage legal throughout the United States. Kavanaugh generally is regarded as more conservative.

The Trump administration had changed course from the Obama administration, which supported LGBT

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 53 of 79

workers in their discrimination claims under Title VII.

During the Obama years, the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission had changed its long-standing interpretation of civil rights law to include discrimination against LGBT people. The law prohibits discrimination because of sex, but has no specific protection for sexual orientation or gender identity.

Democratic presidential contender Joe Biden, Obama's vice president, praised the decision on Twitter as "another step in our march toward equality for all. The Supreme Court has confirmed the simple but profoundly American idea that every human being should be treated with respect."

In recent years, some lower courts have held that discrimination against LGBT people is a subset of sex discrimination, and thus prohibited by the federal law.

Efforts by Congress to change the law to explicitly bar job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity have so far failed.

The Supreme Court cases involved two gay men and a transgender woman who sued for employment discrimination after they lost their jobs.

Aimee Stephens lost her job as a funeral director in the Detroit area after she revealed to her boss that she had struggled with gender most of her life and had, at long last, "decided to become the person that my mind already is." Stephens told funeral home owner Thomas Rost that following a vacation, she would report to work wearing a conservative skirt suit or dress that Rost required for women who worked at his three funeral homes. Rost fired Stephens.

The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati, Ohio, ruled that the firing constituted sex discrimination under federal law.

Stephens died last month. Donna Stephens, her wife of 20 years, said in a statement that she is "grateful for this victory to honor the legacy of Aimee, and to ensure people are treated fairly regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity."

The federal appeals court in New York ruled in favor of a gay skydiving instructor who claimed he was fired because of his sexual orientation. The full 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled 10-3 that it was abandoning its earlier holding that Title VII didn't cover sexual orientation because "legal doctrine evolves." The court held that "sexual orientation discrimination is motivated, at least in part, by sex and is thus a subset of sex discrimination."

That ruling was a victory for the relatives of Donald Zarda, who was fired in 2010 from a skydiving job in Central Islip, New York, that required him to strap himself tightly to clients so they could jump in tandem from an airplane. He tried to put a woman with whom he was jumping at ease by explaining that he was gay. The school fired Zarda after the woman's boyfriend called to complain.

Zarda died in a wingsuit accident in Switzerland in 2014.

In a case from Georgia, the federal appeals court in Atlanta ruled against Bostock, a gay employee of Clayton County, in the Atlanta suburbs. Bostock claimed he was fired in 2013 because he is gay. The county argues that Bostock was let go because of the results of an audit of funds he managed.

The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals dismissed Bostock's claim in a three-page opinion that noted the court was bound by a 1979 decision that held "discharge for homosexuality is not prohibited by Title VII."

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Associated Press writers Alex Sanz in Atlanta and Ed White in Detroit contributed to this report.

## Trump: Former adviser Bolton faces charges if book released

By DEB RIECHMANN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Monday that his former national security adviser, John Bolton, could face a "criminal problem" if he doesn't halt plans to publish a new book that describes scattershot, sometimes dangerous, decision-making by a president focused only on getting re-elected.

Trump said it would be up to Attorney General William Barr to issue any charges, but hinted that the matter would end up in court. "We'll see what happens. They're in court — or they'll soon be in court," Trump said about the book, set to be released early next week.

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 54 of 79

The president accused Bolton of not completing a pre-publication review to make sure the book does not contain classified material. That contradicts statements from Bolton's attorney, Chuck Cooper, who says his client worked painstakingly for months with classification specialists at the White House National Security Council to make changes to avoid releasing classified material.

Barr echoed Trump's accusation. During an event at the White House, the attorney general said administration officials who have access to sensitive information typically sign non-disclosure agreements that require them to go through a clearance process before they can publish something based on information they accessed in the job.

"We don't believe that Bolton went through that process — hasn't completed the process — and, therefore, is in violation of that agreement," Barr said. The Trump administration is "trying to get them to complete the process — go through the process — and make the necessary deletions of classified information," Barr said.

Bolton's book, "The Room Where It Happened: A White House Memoir," was supposed to be released in March. Its release date was twice delayed and it is now set to be released next week by publisher Simon & Schuster.

"Bolton covers an array of topics — chaos in the White House, sure, but also assessments of major players, the president's inconsistent, scattershot decision-making process, and his dealings with allies and enemies alike, from China, Russia, Ukraine, North Korea, Iran, the United Kingdom, France, and Germany," according to the publisher.

"I am hard-pressed to identify any significant Trump decision during my tenure that wasn't driven by reelection calculations," Bolton writes in the book, according to a news release from the publisher.

In a recent op-ed published in The Wall Street Journal, Cooper accused the White House of using the pre-publication review process as a way to protect the president from embarrassment.

He said he sent Bolton's manuscript to classification specialist Ellen Knight on Dec. 30, 2019. Knight and Bolton, who was Trump's national security adviser for 18 months ending Sept. 10, 2019, spent nearly four months going through the nearly 500-page book multiple times, "often line by line," Cooper said.

In a March 27 letter, Knight thanked Bolton for his efforts to address the classification issues, but said additional edits were required to ensure national security information was protected. She outlined her concerns in 17 single-spaced pages of typed comments, Cooper said. He said Bolton worked through that weekend and sent Knight a response the following Monday. Bolton accepted most of Knight's suggestions and proposed alternative solutions to others, Cooper said.

In mid-April, after resolving a shorter list of remaining issues, it appeared that the pre-publication review process had been finalized. Yet when Bolton asked for a letter confirming his book was cleared for publication, Cooper said his client was told his book had prompted "very delicate" interactions at the White House and there remained "some internal process considerations to work through."

Knight said she thought the letter might be ready soon, but more than six weeks later, Bolton still hasn't received it. On June 8, Bolton got a letter from John Eisenberg, the president's deputy counsel for national security, who claimed that Bolton's manuscript still contained classified information and that publishing the book would violate his nondisclosure agreements.

"This is a transparent attempt to use national security as a pretext to censor Mr. Bolton, in violation of his constitutional right to speak on matters of the utmost public import," according to Cooper. "This attempt will not succeed, and Mr. Bolton's book will be published June 23."

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Associated Press writer Zeke Miller contributed to this report.

## Feds: eBay staff sent spiders, roaches to harass couple

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER Associated Press

Six former eBay Inc. employees have been charged with waging an extensive campaign to terrorize and intimidate the editor and publisher of an online newsletter with threats and disturbing deliveries to their

# Groton Daily Independent

**Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 55 of 79**

home, including live spiders and cockroaches, federal authorities said Monday.

Executives were upset about the newsletter's coverage, so their employees set out to ruin the lives of the couple who ran the website, sending a funeral wreath, bloody pig face Halloween mask and other alarming items to their home, authorities said. The employees also sent pornographic magazines with the husband's name on it to their neighbor's house and planned to break into the couple's garage to install a GPS device on their car, officials said.

"This was a determined, systematic effort by senior employees of a major company to destroy the lives of a couple in Natick all because they published content that company executives didn't like. For a while they succeeded, psychologically devastating these victims for weeks as they desperately tried to figure out what was going on and stop it," Massachusetts U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling told reporters.

James Baugh, of San Jose, California, who was eBay's senior director of safety & security, and David Harville, of New York City, who was eBay's director of global resiliency, are charged with conspiracy to commit cyberstalking and conspiracy to tamper with witnesses. The other former eBay employees charged are Stephanie Popp, former senior manager of global intelligence; Brian Gilbert, former senior manager of special operations for eBay's Global Security Team; Stephanie Stockwell, former manager of eBay's Global Intelligence Center; and Veronica Zea, a former eBay contractor who worked as an intelligence analyst in the Global Intelligence Center.

There were no lawyers listed for them in court documents.

Court documents detail how two members of the company's executive leadership team orchestrated a plot to go after the couple after the newsletter published an article in August 2019 about a lawsuit filed by eBay accusing Amazon of poaching its sellers. The article also discussed an executive, referred only in court documents as "Executive 1," according to court documents.

A half hour after the article was published, "Executive 1" texted another executive, identified as "Executive 2": "(Victim 1) is out with a hot piece on the litigation. If you are ever going to take her down..now is the time," according to court documents.

An online article with the same headline as the one described in court documents shows the person described as "Executive 1" as eBay's CEO, who was then Devin Wenig.

Wenig stepped down in September and is not charged in the case. On Monday, a person who answered at a phone number listed for Wenig said "we're not interested," before hanging up.

In addition to the disturbing deliveries, the employees set up fake social media accounts to send threatening messages to the couple, authorities said. After the bloody pig mask was delivered, the editor received a message saying: "DO I HAVE UR ATTENTION NOW????," according to court documents. They also posted the couple's names and address online, advertising things like yard sales and encouraging strangers to knock on the door if they weren't outside.

Authorities said the staff lied to police about eBay's involvement in the cyberstalking campaign, and lied to company lawyers about their roles. Gilbert, a former police captain in Santa Clara California, even reached out to the couple to offer help in stopping the harassment, authorities said.

"They hoped this 'white knight strategy' would create some good will toward the company, result in more favorable articles and please eBay's management," said Joseph Bonavolonta, special agent in charge of the FBI office in Boston.

An internal investigation was launched after eBay was notified by law enforcement in August of "suspicious actions by its security personnel," company officials wrote in a prepared statement. The employees were fired in September, the company said.

Wenig said at the time that he was stepping down over differences with the board of directors and the company didn't clarify Monday whether this investigation played a role in his departure.

The committee formed by the company's board of directors to oversee the investigation said eBay "took these allegations very seriously from the outset."

"Upon learning of them, eBay moved quickly to investigate thoroughly and take appropriate action," it said.

## US revokes emergency use of drugs touted by Trump vs. virus

By **MATTHEW PERRONE AP Health Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. regulators on Monday revoked emergency authorization for malaria drugs promoted by President Donald Trump for treating COVID-19 amid growing evidence they don't work and could cause serious side effects.

The Food and Drug Administration said the drugs hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine are unlikely to be effective in treating the coronavirus. Citing reports of heart complications, the FDA said the drugs' unproven benefits "do not outweigh the known and potential risks."

In a separate announcement, the FDA also warned doctors against prescribing the drugs in combination with remdesivir, the lone drug currently shown to help patients with COVID-19. The FDA said the anti-malaria drugs can reduce the effectiveness of remdesivir, which FDA cleared for emergency use in May.

Hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine are frequently prescribed for lupus and rheumatoid arthritis, and can cause heart rhythm problems, severely low blood pressure and muscle or nerve damage. The agency reported Monday that it had received nearly 390 reports of complications with the drugs, including more than 100 involving serious heart problems. Such reports represent an incomplete snapshot of complications with the drugs because many side effects go unreported.

FDA's move means that shipments of the drugs obtained by the federal government will no longer be distributed to state and local health authorities for use against the coronavirus. The decades-old drugs are still available for alternate FDA-approved uses, so U.S. doctors could still prescribe them for COVID-19 — a practice known as off-label prescribing.

Dr. Steven Nissen, a Cleveland Clinic researcher who has been a frequent FDA adviser, agreed with the decision and said he would not have granted emergency access in the first place.

"There has never been any high-quality evidence suggesting that hydroxychloroquine is effective" for treating or preventing coronavirus infection, he said, but there is evidence of serious side effects.

On Thursday, a National Institutes of Health panel of experts revised its recommendations to specifically recommend against the drug's use except in formal studies, and "that, I'm sure, had influence on the FDA," Nissen said.

The actions by FDA and NIH send a clear signal to health professionals against prescribing the drugs for coronavirus.

Trump aggressively pushed hydroxychloroquine beginning in the first weeks of the outbreak and stunned medical professionals when he revealed he had taken the drug preemptively against infection. After Trump's repeated promotions, prescriptions for hydroxychloroquine soared, contributing to shortages.

No large, rigorous studies have found the drugs safe or effective for preventing or treating COVID-19. And a string of recent studies made clear they could do more harm than good.

Dr. Peter Lurie, a former FDA associate commissioner and an Obama administration appointee, said the agency had tarnished its reputation by clearing the drugs based on scant evidence and under apparent political pressure.

"This is an agency that gains its credibility from the strength of its scientific pronouncements," said Lurie, now president of the nonprofit Center for Science in the Public Interest. "The lesson of this whole tawdry episode is that it's the old, painstaking ways of science that ultimately deliver safe and effective therapies."

The only remaining drug with FDA authorization against COVID-19 is remdesivir, an intravenous medication from Gilead Sciences that has been shown to help severely ill, hospitalized patients recover faster.

Late Monday afternoon, the FDA announced it would update remdesivir's prescribing label to warn against combining it with hydroxychloroquine or chloroquine. The agency said results from laboratory tests suggest the drugs interfere with remdesivir's virus-fighting ability in human cells. Despite that risk, regulators said they have not yet seen the problem in patients.

The FDA granted emergency use for the anti-malaria drugs in late March at the same time the U.S. government accepted 30 million doses of hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine that had been donated by two foreign drug manufacturers. Millions of those doses were shipped to U.S. hospitals to treat patient



who weren't enrolled in clinical trials.

But the FDA previously warned doctors that it had seen reports of dangerous side effects and heart problems reported to poison control centers and other health systems.

The agency said it revoked the authorization in consultation with the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, or BARDA, which had requested the emergency use.

BARDA's former director said in April that he was removed from his job because he resisted political pressure from Trump appointees to allow widespread use of the malaria drugs. Rick Bright said he worked with FDA senior staff to limit the drugs' authorization to patients hospitalized with COVID-19 and under professional supervision.

Among other issues, Bright objected to the fact that some of the doses imported were manufactured at facilities in India and Pakistan that had not been inspected by the FDA. Bright is seeking reinstatement to his position at BARDA after being transferred to the NIH.

The FDA says it sampled and tested the imported drugs to confirm they met the agency's standards for safety and quality.

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Follow Matthew Perrone on Twitter: @AP\_FDWriter

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AP Chief Medical Writer Marilyn Marchione contributed to this report from Milwaukee.

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

## Academy delays 2021 Oscars ceremony because of coronavirus

By LINDSEY BAHR AP Film Writer

For the fourth time in its history, the Oscars are being postponed. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the ABC Television Network said Monday that the 93rd Academy Awards will now be held April 25, 2021, eight weeks later than originally planned because of the pandemic's effects on the movie industry.

The Academy's Board of Governors also decided to extend the eligibility window beyond the calendar year to Feb. 28, 2021, for feature films, and delay the opening of the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures from December until April 30, 2021.

"Our hope, in extending the eligibility period and our Awards date, is to provide the flexibility filmmakers need to finish and release their films without being penalized for something beyond anyone's control," said Academy President David Rubin and Academy CEO Dawn Hudson in a joint statement.

Karey Burke, the president of ABC Entertainment, added: "We find ourselves in uncharted territory this year and will continue to work with our partners at the Academy to ensure next year's show is a safe and celebratory event."

The 12th annual Governors Awards has also been canceled. The event, in which honorary Oscars are bestowed to previously announced recipients, is generally held in Los Angeles during the second week of November. The untelevised event is a major gathering for many of the year's awards hopefuls.

The film academy has been grappling with how to handle the pandemic's near shutdown of the theatrical exhibition and film production and festival business since mid-March. With theaters shuttered, release dates pushed and major festivals like Cannes canceled, the academy in April made the unprecedented decision to allow films that did not have a theatrical run to be eligible for the awards — but only for one year.

The Oscars ceremony date was the big lingering unknown, however. The organization's leadership has acknowledged all along that the situation was fluid and that everything was on the table. Now, Oscars nominations will be announced on March 15 and the nominees luncheon will be on April 15.

Still, many decisions need to be made. Academy leadership has not yet addressed the format of the show and whether it will be virtual or in-person. Further, the future eligibility of films for the 94th Oscars

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 58 of 79

and that show date will be announced later.

The Oscars have been postponed before, but never this far in advance. The ceremony was pushed back a week because of disastrous flooding in Los Angeles in 1938. In 1968, it was delayed two days following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. And in 1981, it was put off for 24 hours after President Ronald Reagan was shot in Washington D.C. The 1981 decision was made four hours before the broadcast was scheduled to begin.

The eligibility window was extended beyond 12 months once before — in advance of the 6th Academy Awards in 1934.

Other entertainment industry awards shows are also in flux. The 74th Tony Awards, originally set for June 7, has been postponed indefinitely. But the 72nd Emmy Awards is still holding onto Sept. 20. The BAFTAs announced Monday that its annual film awards were being pushed from Feb. 14, 2021 to April 11. And the 78th Golden Globes does not yet have a date.

Even as the country begins to “open up,” studios are still making decisions to delay releases. Just Friday, Warner Bros. announced that it was pushing back what was supposed to be the first major movie in theaters, Christopher Nolan’s “Tenet,” by two weeks.

## France backs off chokehold ban, adds stun guns for police

By ARNO PEDRAM and LORI HINNANT Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Less than a week after France announced it would abandon police chokeholds, the government responded to growing officer discontent by announcing it would test stun guns for wider use, adding to the ranks of European law enforcement agencies that have recently adopted the weapons that many in the U.S. equate with excess police violence.

Then, on Monday, the government backed away from a complete chokehold ban, saying it would no longer teach the maneuver to recruits but allow its use until a better alternative emerges.

For Johnny Louise, it felt as though the 22 seconds of Taser pulses that led to his son’s death counted for nothing.

“They need more death so that one day they understand, but it will be more pointless deaths and sufferings for families,” Louise said.

Gendarmes in Orléans responding to a drunken brawl tried to arrest his son, Loïc. One officer, Noham Cardoso, fired his Taser for the first time, hitting Loïc Louise in the chest with the twin darts and jolting him for a full 17 seconds, rather than the usual 5-second cycle, then hitting him again less than a minute later with another 5 seconds, according to court documents obtained by The Associated Press. Loïc Louis, who was black, passed out and was later pronounced dead at the hospital.

Cardoso was charged last year with involuntary homicide in the Nov. 3, 2013, death. He has said Loïc Louise was aggressive and appeared ready to attack.

The officer’s lawyer, Ludovic de Villèle, can’t fathom why France would replace an immobilization technique with a weapon. He said it would make more sense to invent another technique to replace chokeholds.

“It’s a bad sign to say, ‘You can’t strangle, but here are Tasers for you to use,’” de Villèle said.

But stun guns are increasingly the weapon of choice for European law enforcement as they have been for years in the United States, where they are considered effective protection for officers trying to arrest violent suspects. In Atlanta, just hours after the French stun gun announcement on Friday, a seemingly routine sobriety check outside a Wendy’s restaurant ended in gunshots after Rayshard Brooks grabbed a Taser from officers and ran.

The killing of the 27-year-old black man in an encounter with two white officers late Friday rekindled fiery protests in Atlanta and prompted the police chief’s resignation. One of the officers was dismissed.

Axon, the company that makes Tasers, has made a big push outside the United States in recent years and agencies in the Netherlands and Italy recently expanded use of stun guns, following the path of Britain, where use has increased steadily since they were introduced in 2003.

Stun guns are in limited but increasing use in France already. The number of discharges increased from

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 59 of 79

1,400 in 2017 to 2,349 in 2019. According to the French police oversight agency, stun guns killed one person last year and three suffered severe injuries. After France said it would abandon the chokehold last week, police across the country staged scattered protests, saying they felt abandoned by the government.

Police in England and Wales discharged Tasers 2,700 times over the 12 months ending in March 2019, according to government statistics, which also showed black people were more likely than white ones to have stun guns used on them.

Britain's Independent Office for Police Conduct said last month that there were growing concerns "about its disproportionate use against black men and those with mental health issues."

British rapper Wretch 32 posted video last week of his 62-year-old father being hit by a Taser in his London home during a police raid in April. The Metropolitan Police force said a review found no indication of misconduct, but London Mayor Sadiq Khan called for an urgent investigation.

According to Amnesty International, at least 18 people in Britain have died after a stun gun was discharged on them by police, but in many cases it was not determined that the weapon caused the death. The human rights group has said at least 500 people died after being hit by stun guns between 2001 and 2012 in the United States.

Italy's government approved using Tasers in January after a two-year trial and opened a bidding process to purchase nearly 4,500 stun guns to be divided among various law enforcement agencies. Police chief Franco Gabrielli said in March that the next phase would involve a period of training and "operational experimentation" in a half-dozen cities.

"The security of our personnel is first, obviously without causing damage to the people who might find themselves on the other side," Gabrielli said outside a Genoa hospital where he had gone to visit two police officers injured in a shootout.

The Netherlands began issuing stun guns to police in 2017 and is training 17,000 of the force's 40,000 officers. But far fewer of the weapons are on order and they will not be part of an officer's standard equipment.

There are about 15,000 stun guns in France, which has a total police and gendarme force of around 240,000. In the United States, by contrast, more than three-quarters of officers carry the weapons as standard issue, according to William Terrill, a professor of criminal justice at Arizona State University. Axon says it has standing relationships with 95% of American law enforcement agencies.

Terrill said training must come before widespread distribution of Tasers, which are sold as a way to protect officers from aggressive suspects while avoiding deadly force.

"It's almost asking a police department to make an unfair choice in many respects," he said. "By articulating it that way, it's almost saying I value my officers' safety more than the community's safety."

Chuck Wexler, executive director of the Police Executive Research Forum, based in Washington, D.C., said stun guns can be effective but also fail to subdue people as much as 45% of the time.

"We have seen circumstances where police officers get themselves in a situation where they use them, they don't work and now they are very close to the person they are dealing with and they wind up having to use force, deadly force in some circumstances," Wexler said.

Wexler said they can be foiled by distance, heavy clothing or only one of the weapon's two prongs making contact.

For Loïc Louise's family, from the French Indian Ocean island of Reunion, it was a weapon used far too easily on someone with dark skin.

His father does not believe all gendarmes are racist but "some use their uniform to do whatever they please," said Johny Louise. "And my son paid for it."

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Associated Press writers Jill Lawless in London, Nicole Winfield in Rome Jake Bleiberg in Dallas and Mike Corder in The Hague, Netherlands, contributed to this report.

## Under police pressure, France backs off ban on chokeholds

PARIS (AP) — Under pressure from police, the French government backed away Monday from a ban on chokeholds during arrests.

France's interior minister announced a week ago that the immobilization technique would be abandoned, in the face of growing French protests over police brutality and racial injustice unleashed by George Floyd's death in the U.S.

But French police responded with five straight days of counterprotests, arguing that the ban deprived them of a key tool to subdue unruly suspects. They also bristled at being compared to police in the U.S., or painted as white supremacists.

On Monday, the national police director sent a letter to staff, obtained by The Associated Press, saying chokeholds will no longer be taught in police schools but they can continue to be used "with discernment" until alternatives are found.

Police unions hailed the reversal.

Activists and some lawmakers have long lobbied for French police to abandon violent techniques blamed for injury and possible death, such as chokeholds and pressing on a prone suspect's chest.

The French government has also promised that more police officers will be equipped with body cameras to help ensure that identity checks don't lead to excessive violence or discrimination against minority groups.

Researchers have documented racial profiling by French police, and investigations were opened recently into racist comments on private Facebook and Whatsapp groups for police officers.

Tens of thousands of people have marched or rallied around France over the past two weeks against police brutality and discrimination.

## Coronavirus death rate is higher for those with chronic ill

By LINDSEY TANNER AP Medical Writer

Death rates are 12 times higher for coronavirus patients with chronic illnesses than for others who become infected, a new U.S. government report says.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report released Monday highlights the dangers posed by heart disease, diabetes and lung ailments. These are the top three health problems found in COVID-19 patients, the report suggests.

The report is based on 1.3 million laboratory-confirmed coronavirus cases reported to the agency from January 22 through the end of May.

Information on health conditions was available for just 22% of the patients. It shows that 32% had heart-related disease, 30% had diabetes and 18% had chronic lung disease, which includes asthma and emphysema.

Among patients with a chronic illness, about 20% died compared with almost 2% of those who were otherwise healthy. Virus patients with a chronic condition were also six times more likely to be hospitalized — 46% versus almost 8%.

People with chronic disease "are much more likely to suffer severe effects of COVID-19, but we can't lose sight of the fact that previously healthy people can also become very ill and even die as well," Dr. Leana Wen, an emergency physician and public health specialist at George Washington University, said in a statement.

Race and ethnicity data, available for just under half of patients, show 36% were white, 33% Hispanic, 22% black, 4% Asian and about 1% American Indian. Though the numbers are incomplete, they echo other reports that found minorities have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

Overall, 14 % of patients were hospitalized and 5% died based on available data. Among patients aged 80 and up who died, half had a chronic illness.

Roughly equal numbers of men and women were infected, but men were more likely to have severe cases, the report found.

Follow AP Medical Writer Lindsey Tanner on Twitter: @LindseyTanner

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

## Voice of America director, deputy resign amid Trump clash

By BEN FOX Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The director of Voice of America and her deputy resigned Monday following recent clashes with the Trump administration that have sparked fears about the independence of the U.S. government-funded news organization.

Amanda Bennett and Deputy Director Sandy Sugawara announced they were leaving the organization as Trump ally and conservative filmmaker Michael Pack takes over leadership of the agency that oversees VOA.

Bennett and Sugawara told the staff in an email obtained by The Associated Press that Pack should be able to choose the leadership of the organization, which was created to promote democracy and American values abroad.

Trump and his supporters have been sharply critical of coronavirus reporting by the outlet that ran counter to the administration narrative on China's response to the outbreak. The White House went so far as to blast VOA in a press statement and directed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to not cooperate with its journalists, an unusual attack on a venerable organization that has sought to be an objective source of news despite its government ties.

In their farewell email, Bennett and Sugawara praised the VOA staff for its "rapid, can-do response to the Coronavirus crisis" and expressed hope that the new CEO of the U.S. Agency for Global Media would not interfere with its mission, as some fear.

"Michael Pack swore before Congress to respect and honor the firewall that guarantees VOA's independence, which in turn plays the single most important role in the stunning trust our audiences around the world have in us," they wrote. "We know that each one of you will offer him all of your skills, your professionalism, your dedication to mission, your journalistic integrity and your personal hard work to guarantee that promise is fulfilled."

Democrats objected to the nomination of Pack, a one-time associate of former Trump adviser Steve Bannon, in part for his refusal to answer questions about past business dealings. That didn't stop his confirmation by the Senate in a 53-38 vote.

The Agency for Global Media, which runs VOA, also oversees its sister outlets Radio Free Asia, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Cuba-focused Radio Marti.

VOA confirmed the resignations of the director and co-director in a statement that summarized Bennett's email to staff but did not address the clash with the administration.

Trump and his allies have long viewed VOA with suspicion, regarding it as an element of a "deep state" trying to thwart their policies. That hostility burst into the open on April 9, when Trump communications adviser Dan Scavino posted a VOA story about China to his official Twitter account with the comment, "American taxpayers—paying for China's very own propaganda, via the U.S. Government funded Voice of America! DISGRACE!!"

The story that VOA posted was actually a report by the AP about the lifting of a lockdown in the Chinese city of Wuhan, where the new coronavirus first emerged. The following day, the White House released a statement that accused VOA of using taxpayer money "to speak for authoritarian regimes." Trump weighed in several days later, calling its coverage "disgusting" and demanding that the Senate confirm Pack.

An April 30 email obtained and initially published by the Knight First Amendment Institute showed that the CDC directed its press staff to rebuff all interview requests from anyone affiliated with VOA, including Greta Van Susteren. The cable news veteran hosts a weekly VOA program.

Rep. Eliot Engel, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, blasted the CDC ban, noting Monday that the law requires VOA be a news source and "not a propaganda outlet for the administration."

"That decision should be reversed at once and whoever is responsible should face consequences," the New York Democrat said.

Bennett, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author and investigative journalist who was appointed to the position in March 2016, responded to the criticism at the time by highlighting the role of the VOA.

"One of the big differences between publicly funded independent media, like the Voice of America, and state-controlled media is that we are free to show all sides of an issue and are actually mandated to do so by law as stated in the VOA Charter," she said.

She and Sugawara, who came to VOA from The Washington Post, attached to their farewell email a lengthy document highlighting their efforts to modernize the organization over the past four years and said they also sent it to Pack. They include links to their coverage of the virus in various languages along with many other subjects and detailed metrics on audience engagement.

"You are remarkable people with a remarkable mission," they wrote. "We are so proud to have been a part of that mission."

AP Diplomatic writer Matthew Lee contributed to this report.

## Can job market sustain its gains? Uncertainties cloud future

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER and JOSH BOAK AP Economics Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Layoffs are slowing, unemployment is declining and hiring is gradually rising, suggesting that a steady rebound may be afoot in the U.S. job market.

Or is it?

So many uncertainties are overhanging the economy that no one knows whether hiring will expand steadily in the months ahead or merely plateau as employers recall only enough of their laid-off staffers to partially reopen for business.

The most dangerous risk is that the coronavirus will roar back with renewed intensity, forcing millions of businesses to shut down again and resume deep job cuts.

The outlook is so opaque that at a news conference last week, Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell used the words "uncertain" or "uncertainty" seven times to describe the outlook for economy.

"The extent of the downturn and the pace of recovery," Powell said, "remain extraordinarily uncertain and will depend in large part on our success in containing the virus."

While it's hard to say what the future holds for America's roughly 30 million unemployed, here are some key factors that will determine how that future unfolds.

WILL THERE BE ANOTHER WAVE OF THE VIRUS?

On Thursday, stock prices plunged more than 5%, driven largely by reports that the number of coronavirus cases is rising again in much of the United States as more reopened businesses draw customers without the full use of protective masks and social distancing.

An Associated Press analysis this week found that in 21 states, the rolling seven-day average of new cases per capita was higher than the average seven days earlier. In some states, reported cases and hospitalizations surged after state officials lifted their business lockdowns.

Powell and other economists have warned that a second viral outbreak would lead many more consumers to stay home, thereby dealing another blow to restaurants, bars and retailers, and likely causing more layoffs.

WILL MANY COMPANIES GO OUT OF BUSINESS?

Many people who have lost jobs say they regard their layoffs as temporary and that as the economy rebounds, they expect to return to their old employers. This has already happened to some employees of restaurants, retailers and construction companies. If that trend were to continue, it could deliver a relatively fast recovery and a steady decline in unemployment.

Yet as the recession that began in February drags on, more and more of the unemployed will face a tougher problem: They may have no business to go back to.

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 63 of 79

Retailers, for example, are closing stores permanently and declaring bankruptcy. Discount goods retailer Tuesday Morning late last month became the fifth large retail chain to go bankrupt amid the pandemic, after J.C. Penney, J. Crew, Neiman Marcus and discounter Stage Stores.

Coresight Research says it expects 20,000 to 25,000 stores to permanently close this year, up from 9,800 last year, which was itself a record. This trend would mean that hundreds of thousands of jobs wouldn't return. Some companies in the travel and energy industries will likely go out of business in the coming weeks or months.

So far, the pace of business bankruptcies has yet to surge. Amy Quackenboss, executive director of the American Bankruptcy Institute, credits the government's relief efforts, notably its small business lending program, with limiting the number of household and business bankruptcies.

"As this relief runs its course, however," she added, "mounting financial challenges may result in more households and companies seeking the shelter of bankruptcy."

## HOW FAST WILL CONSUMERS RESTART SPENDING?

The lifting of government-ordered shutdowns of nonessential businesses will increasingly allow more Americans to shop and spend. But consumers won't likely return to their pre-pandemic habits of eating out, traveling by plane, going to movies or visiting yoga studios and barbershops until they're confident that they won't be infected. And that would likely require significantly expanded testing capability or the availability of a vaccine.

In the meantime, as long as consumer spending remains subdued, so will hiring. The outlook is particularly dim for businesses that depend on mass gatherings — from concert venues and professional sports leagues to airlines and the film and television industry.

Professional sports, according to analytics firm EMSI, creates up to 1.3 million jobs, some of which are only part time or seasonal. Still, about 3,000 workers are needed to make U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis hum for a Vikings game, for example. It's unclear when or whether all those jobs will return. College sports will be deeply affected, too. To take one example, Iowa State University is considering selling only half the tickets needed to fill its football stadium this fall.

## HOW MANY RESTAURANT JOBS WILL RETURN?

As much as it has any industry, the pandemic has devastated restaurants and left their future deeply uncertain. Forced to close their dining rooms to comply with government lockdowns, U.S. restaurants and bars slashed 5.4 million jobs in April, a 45% plunge. Barely 1.4 million of those lost jobs returned in May.

Restaurants are increasingly, if only partially, reopening, in many cases with their indoor dining strictly limited to fewer customers. It's unclear whether most Americans will regain their pre-pandemic enthusiasm for eating out. Local governments, newly vigilant about a potential resurgence of the virus, may continue to require restaurants to restrict seating capacity.

"A lot of those restaurants may not have been able to carry themselves through the shutdown ... or they can't make a profit on a table setup that is half of what is used to be," said Barbara Denham, senior economist at the commercial real estate research firm Moody's Analytics REIS.

Sanford Sigal, CEO of NewMark Merrill, which owns 85 shopping centers in California, Colorado and Illinois, remains optimistic.

"Good, well-run restaurants will come back stronger than ever," Sigal predicted. Those restaurants have used the lockdown period to bulk up their takeout and delivery operations.

## WILL GOVERNMENT AID END TOO QUICKLY?

Without the nearly \$3 trillion in government aid that has been distributed, the unemployment rate would be even higher than its current 13.3%. Just over half the rescue aid has been given to households and businesses, keeping workers employed, mortgages and rents paid and many bills current.

But the economy will likely need another major dose of aid to fuel the recovery, and it's unknown just how much will be spent or where it would go. The risk is that without more aid soon, a rebound in consumer spending could plateau and hiring gains could shrivel.

House Democrats approved an additional \$3 trillion aid package in May. It includes funding for state and local governments, which are starved of tax revenue while facing much higher health care costs. Many

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 64 of 79

states will be forced to lay off workers.

But White House officials and Republican lawmakers have resisted that package and signaled that they want to take time to see how the economy is faring before approving more money.

WILL DOWNTOWN BUSINESS DISTRICTS HOLLOW OUT?

The pandemic disrupted the basics of commerce. Workers stopped going to offices. Bars and restaurants lost their lunch and happy hour crowds. Fitting rooms at clothiers became a possible health risk. Many cities long ago based the economic redevelopments of their city centers around restaurants, coffee shops and yoga studios — in-person services that won't fully return for the foreseeable future.

Without the recovery of those businesses, many jobs that revolved around downtown commerce won't return, either.

Starbucks is shifting more toward a takeout model, eschewing the original vision of an Italian coffeehouse where drinkers could freely linger. Among smaller businesses, about a quarter of restaurants and bars are still closed, and roughly half of leisure and hospitality retailers are shuttered, according to Homebase, a scheduling and worker management company.

Workers have been steadily returning since early May, Homebase's data shows. That progress may not last, though, if downtown neighborhoods don't soon regain their former vibrancy.

AP Writers Paul Wiseman in Washington and Mike Stobbe and Anne D'Innocenzio in New York contributed to this report.

## Streaming revolution: Protesters make point with viral clips

By JAKE SEINER Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Hundreds of protesters marched up Manhattan's Fifth Avenue last week, their signs and chants demanding police reform captured from within their ranks by dozens of camera phones.

"This revolution won't be televised!" shouted one protester. "It's going to be streamed!"

Citizen footage has played a role in previous protest movements: Rodney King's violent arrest in Los Angeles in 1991 was filmed by a man on his nearby balcony with a camcorder, and images posted to social media were crucial to the Arab Spring and Occupy Wall Street.

But the Black Lives Matter movement has been different. Bystander video sparked it, with cellphone-bearing citizens capturing the killings of Eric Garner, Alton Sterling, George Floyd and others. While those high-profile clips showed the extremes of police brutality, the ubiquity of smart phones during nationwide protests in recent weeks has provided a window into protesters' interactions with officers unimaginable to past generations of Americans.

Some of the weeks' most jarring videos have been shot by traditional news media, like two Buffalo police officers shoving peace activist Martin Gugino. Many non-TV journalists have used the camera apps on their smart phones, too.

But for every encounter captured by reporters, dozens more have been uploaded to social media by protesters and onlookers themselves. Among the most notable: a Philadelphia police officer striking a Temple University student in the head and neck with a metal baton, and a New York City officer shoving a woman to the ground and cursing at her. Both officers are facing charges only after recordings filmed by citizens went viral.

Camera phones are allowing protesters to tell their own stories, whether it be through photos or videos on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, or via livestreaming apps like Periscope. Every demonstration in the world is being documented, from New York and London all the way to Holland, Arkansas — population roughly 550. Documentary filmmakers have been out collecting footage, too.

Yet, what is resonating most now are videos that offer evidence of police aggression that's helping to disprove police claims and show some Americans a side of law enforcement that black communities have been complaining about for decades.

"The only way those folks are ever going to change their mind is to just be overwhelmed with so much



# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 65 of 79

evidence that they can't really deny it anymore," said criminal defense and First Amendment lawyer T. Greg Doucette.

That's what Doucette hoped to convey when he began compiling footage of aggressive police behavior from the initial days of protests following Floyd's death on May 25. Doucette's Twitter thread now includes over 500 videos from protests nationwide, and his direct messages are inundated with more recordings than he has time to vet.

Mathematician Jason Miller has saved the video links in a Google spreadsheet, creating a sortable database cataloging police behavior in the face of a national movement condemning their efforts.

"OK, fine, you always tell me that it's just one bad apple," Doucette said of his thinking. "Well, here's at least 10 bad apples. How do you explain that?"

Doucette estimated about 80% of the clips he published in the first few days came from non-journalists.

Art Acevedo, chief of Houston Police Department and president of the Major Cities Chiefs Association, said he's seen videos from protests around the country, and some — including imagines of Gugino being shoved in Buffalo — have shown clear police misconduct.

He also believes many paint incomplete pictures of the interactions. His request: if a bystander is going to upload footage of alleged police misconduct to Twitter, they should send it directly to police departments for review, too.

"I think the video sometimes shows one part of the interaction and sometimes it's complete, and sometimes it isn't," Acevedo said. "I think you have to look at it through the prism of objectivity, all of us, and make sure that it actually is comprehensive in terms of what we're looking at."

Acevedo acknowledges culture as an issue in policing, but he believes law enforcement is being held to a higher standard than other public-serving systems, like the courts and healthcare, in part because of all those camera phones.

"The difference is that policing in the world, and thankfully, is one of the most transparent by design and one of the most transparent because of cell phones," he said.

"When we don't do the right thing, more than ever, there's a high likelihood that it will be exposed," he added. "And it will be exposed and spread throughout the country at lightning speed."

Crucial as it's proven for accountability, there is still risk for citizens in filming police.

Courts have generally ruled that recording officers in public spaces is a right protected by the First Amendment, yet experts and activists say law enforcement has long targeted onlookers with cameras anyway, arresting them on other charges to shut down their recordings.

It happened in the 1960s during the Civil Rights Movement, when television crews and civilians had equipment destroyed by authorities.

Protest videos show similar actions from the past three weeks, with officers appearing to go after civilians with camera phones. In one video from Denver, an officer leaving a seemingly peaceful scene shot a pepper ball directly into the camera phone of an onlooker.

Several hundred protesters in Brooklyn last week were stunned when state Sen. Zellnor Myrie told them New York had no law protecting their ability to film police. That changed last Monday when the state legislature passed a bill guaranteeing that right.

Chris Dunn, legal director for the New York Civil Liberties Union, called the legislation an "affirmation" but was skeptical about its actual impact until there's a change in law enforcement culture.

"We've brought many false arrest cases on behalf of people filming the police, and there's never been any dispute they're entitled to do it, but they ended up in handcuffs anyhow," said Dunn.

Protesters are certainly aware of the power in their pockets.

In New York City, where bystander footage showed Garner dying in an officer's chokehold in 2014, it's been sometimes difficult to get sufficient cellular service amid protest groups because so many people are filming and uploading videos to social media.

"We've seen videotape revolutionize and expose police accountability now for 15-20 years," Dunn said. "It's absolutely essential to trying to change what's happened to policing in this country."

Follow Jake Seiner: [https://twitter.com/Jake\\_Seiner](https://twitter.com/Jake_Seiner)

## Carson thinks Trump will 'get there' on athletes kneeling

By KEVIN FREKING Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The lone African American member of President Donald Trump's Cabinet said Monday he would work with the president on the issue of athletes taking a knee during the national anthem, though Trump has shown no signs of softening, tweeting over the weekend that he would not watch soccer or football if players don't stand for the national anthem.

Housing and Urban Development Secretary Ben Carson said he believes that most players are kneeling to protest police brutality, not because they disrespect the flag. He added that players need to make that clear.

When asked on the Hugh Hewitt Show if he might persuade the president not to be upset with players kneeling during the anthem, Carson replied: "Well, I don't think he has manifested as much animosity in that region lately. And I think we just continue to work with him. He'll get there."

HUD officials said Carson was not available to elaborate further. However, they pointed out that the show's transcript dropped an important word in Carson's comments — in which the secretary said he would work "with" Trump on the issue, rather than "work" the president. An Associated Press reporter who listened to the audio confirmed that Carson's response included the "with."

Carson's take runs contrary to Trump's tweeting over the weekend. He retweeted Republican Reps. Jim Jordan of Ohio and Matt Gaetz of Florida taking issue with the U.S. Soccer Board of Directors voting to repeal the policy that required players to stand during the national anthem.

"It has become clear that this policy was wrong and detracted from the important message of Black Lives Matter," the directors said.

Jordan said, "Let me get this straight, UNITED STATES Soccer won't stand for the UNITED STATES National Anthem." In retweeting Jordan, Trump said "And it looks like the NFL is heading in that direction also, but not with me watching!"

There has been renewed interest in the kneeling issue following the death of George Floyd while in police custody. Former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick sparked the issue four years ago when he refused to stand during the national anthem because of his views on the country's treatment of racial minorities. Kaepernick has not played since that season as no team has been willing to sign him.

Trump has returned to the topic frequently over the years as he considers it politically beneficial, saying at one point that those players who don't stand for the national anthem should be fired.

## Europe's borders reopen but long road for tourism to recover

By GEIR MOULSON Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Mallorca's first tourists in 93 days touched down Monday, saying they feel safe in the popular Spanish island and ready to make the most of the beach and sunny weather without the hordes of visitors found there in normal times.

As borders opened up across Europe three months after closures that began chaotically in March, Spain prioritized the entry of a first batch of thousands of Germans who were allowed to fly to its Balearic Islands. The country waived its 14-day quarantine to test out with them the best practices in the coronavirus era.

Spaniards themselves are still not allowed to travel to the archipelago and it will take one more week for the rest of country, one of the hardest hit by the pandemic in Europe, to catch up with other countries in the region, where border checks dropped overnight on Monday.

The European Union's 27 nations, as well as those in the Schengen passport-free travel area, which also includes a few non-EU nations such as Switzerland, aren't expected to start opening to Americans, Asians and other visitors from outside the continent until at least the beginning of next month, and possibly later.

Announcing Monday's reopening of borders and Paris restaurants, French President Emmanuel Macron said it's time "to turn the page of the first act of the crisis" and "rediscover our taste for freedom."

# Groton Daily Independent

**Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 67 of 79**

But he warned: "This doesn't mean the virus has disappeared and we can totally let down our guard. ... The summer of 2020 will be a summer unlike any other."

That caution is widespread after more than 182,000 virus-linked deaths in Europe. The region has had more than 2 million of the world's 7.9 million confirmed infections, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University.

Even so, social distancing was in short supply as London's Oxford Street shops reopened and crowds jammed the entrance to London's Niketown store despite efforts by employees to have an orderly line. Paris bistros like Café Des Anges welcomed back regular customers.

"It's very hard to get people who are sitting at the bar to respect social distancing," said cafe manager Virgile Grunberg. "People have missed this, because they come in every morning before work, have a little coffee and a discussion, so of course it's part of Paris."

The need to get Europe's tourism industry up and running again is urgent, especially for Mediterranean nations like Spain, Italy and Greece, as the economic fallout of the crisis mushrooms.

In a sign of that anticipation, workers in a Mallorca hotel welcomed with cheers the bus ferrying the first guests from the airport. The visitors had gone through temperature checks on arrival and had to leave their contact information and health status registered with authorities.

"We are totally happy that we can get out," said Martin Hofman, who traveled on the first flight from Duesseldorf, adding that his holiday couldn't be postponed "and to stay in Germany was not an option."

Daniel Borgerding, who squeezed in the last-minute visit before his wife is due to give birth, said the couple was looking forward to having "a quiet and relaxed time, empty beaches, restaurants, bars and a little more space than usual."

Regional officials have expanded the capacity of the archipelago's health system in case any tourists shows signs of infection. They said the lessons from the trial in the islands will be taken into account for the country's full re-opening.

"We have got the pandemic under control, (but) the reopening of our frontiers is a critical moment," Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez said over the weekend as he announced he was bringing forward Spain's opening to European travelers by 10 days to June 21. "The threat is still real. The virus is still out there."

On Monday, Greece welcomed the first international flights whose passengers didn't face compulsory COVID-19 tests to Athens and Thessaloniki. Direct international flights to regional Greek airports, including its sun-kissed islands, will begin on July 1. Visitors will be subject to random virus testing.

"A lot will depend on whether people feel comfortable to travel and whether we can project Greece as a safe destination," Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis acknowledged.

Europe's reopening isn't a repeat of the chaotic free-for-all in March, when panicked, uncoordinated border closures caused traffic jams that stretched for miles.

Still, it's a complicated, shifting patchwork of different rules, and not everyone is equally free to travel everywhere. Norway and Denmark, for example, are keeping their borders closed with Sweden, whose virus strategy avoided a lockdown but produced a relatively high per-capita death rate. Other nations also have travel restrictions for Swedes.

In an interview with state broadcaster SVT, Prime Minister Stefan Lofven rejected the idea that Sweden's strategy had failed, citing a continuing decline in hospitalizations and fatalities. While the rate of new infections has increased, officials say that reflects a long-delayed increase in testing.

German drivers queued up in long lines Monday to cross into Denmark, which is letting in German visitors but only those who have booked accommodation for at least six nights.

Britain, which left the EU in January but remains closely aligned with the bloc until the end of this year, only last week imposed a 14-day quarantine requirement for most arrivals, horrifying its tourism and aviation industries. As a result, France is asking people from Britain to self-quarantine for two weeks and several other nations are not letting British tourists in during the first wave of reopenings.

With flights only gradually picking up, nervousness about new outbreaks abroad, uncertainty about social distancing at tourist venues and millions facing record unemployment or pay cuts, many Europeans may

choose to vacation at home.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz are both planning to vacation in their homelands this year.

The Dutch government said its citizens can now visit 16 European nations, but urged caution.

"You can go abroad for your holiday again," Foreign Minister Stef Blok said. "But it won't be as carefree as before the corona crisis. The virus is still among us and the situation remains uncertain."

Aritz Parra in Madrid contributed to this report.

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

## Rescuers relieved after legendary \$2M treasure found

By MEAD GRUVER Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — They've been pulled from steep canyons and rushing rivers, sometimes no longer breathing, after chasing a cryptic poem's clues and promise of treasure deep into the Rocky Mountains.

Now, many of those who've encountered imperiled or dead treasure seekers over the past decade have the same reaction to news that an unidentified person supposedly has found Forrest Fenn's purported \$2 million treasure at an undisclosed location.

"We are very happy," said Dan Johnson, spokesman for Dinosaur National Monument.

A decorated U.S. Air Force fighter pilot in the Vietnam War and retired Santa Fe art and antiques dealer, Fenn announced June 6 that a man from "back East" he didn't know — and who didn't want to be named — a few days earlier found the antique chest containing coins, gold nuggets and other valuables.

Fenn stashed the chest in 2010 somewhere in the Rocky Mountains north of Santa Fe, in New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming or Montana, he wrote in "The Thrill of the Chase," a memoir with a 24-line poem he claimed led to the chest if deciphered.

Many seem to think the poem's clues lead to Dinosaur National Monument, a rugged, desert area known for dinosaur fossils on the Utah-Colorado line near Wyoming. Treasure hunters have run into trouble there a couple times every year, Johnson said.

"Then there's always the ones who won't say that's what they were actually doing. But we definitely had some inclination that's what was going on," Johnson said.

Last year, one pair of searchers in the monument got in trouble with a swimming-pool-grade raft on the treacherous Green River. Not far away, two treasure hunters using snowmobiles needed rescue twice this past February and March.

The second time, searchers found one of the men dead.

Rangers in no-less-auspicious areas such as Wyoming's Grand Teton National Park and adjacent Bridger-Teton National Forest report no treasure-related rescues over the years. An official in northwestern Colorado doubted his local lookers were on the right track.

"It was not in these locations where people had been going and endangering themselves," Moffat County sheriff's Lt. Chip McIntyre said.

Fenn's poem can be read to refer to a vast number of locations in the region. The opening lines say, "As I have gone alone in there, And with my treasures bold, I can keep my secret where, And hint of riches new and old." They could mean "go NE @ lone in" and refer to Montana's Lone Indian Peak; Gold Run and Gold Prize creeks are about 20 miles (32 kilometers) to the northeast.

Or maybe Fenn was referring to Soldiers Chapel, a quaint church gorgeously framed by Lone Mountain near Big Sky, Montana, and perfectly aligned in the opposite direction with Devils Tower in northeastern Wyoming.

In any case, Fenn, 89, drastically reduced potential hiding spots by saying repeatedly the 40-pound (18-kilogram) treasure was neither in a dangerous location nor one where a 79-year-old man couldn't

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 69 of 79

schlep it alone. But plenty of searchers who took Fenn at his word that he indeed hid a treasure nonetheless forgot, disregarded or didn't hear about that promise about accessibility.

In January, treasure hunter David Christensen, of Winamac, Indiana, needed rescue after rappelling deep into Yellowstone National Park's Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. He pleaded guilty in March to two misdemeanors and was sentenced to seven days in jail. An attempt to reach Christensen by phone Friday was unsuccessful.

Just east of Yellowstone in Park County, Wyoming, a Virginia woman needed rescue three times — in 2013, 2015 and 2016, the Billings Gazette reported.

Treasure hunters who discovered the outdoors will hopefully continue to do so "with preparation and safety in mind," Park County Sheriff Scott Steward said in a statement Friday.

"You have lightning, bears, cliffs, thermal areas. Lodgepole pine trees aren't known for staying standing — they come down easy. There have been people killed by all of those methods over the years," said backcountry guide Jim Holstein with Yellowstone Tour Guides in Big Sky. "You definitely have to be prepared and you should know what you're doing."

At least four people have died pursuing the treasure. Linda Bilyeu, the ex-wife of one, voiced bitter doubt Fenn hid the treasure, let alone that it was found.

"It's another game for him to get back into the news so he could get more attention," Bilyeu told The Associated Press. "Enough people have died because of that selfish man."

During the search for Randy Bilyeau in 2016 — the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers found his remains along the Rio Grande River in northern New Mexico — his relatives and New Mexico State Police pleaded for Fenn to call off the hunt.

Fenn refused, saying that would be unfair to those who spent time and money looking for the chest. Fenn has not returned messages from The Associated Press and other news media since announcing the treasure was found.

A photo not made public confirmed the chase was over, Fenn told the Santa Fe New Mexican.

"It was under a canopy of stars in the lush, forested vegetation of the Rocky Mountains and had not moved from the spot where I hid it more than 10 years ago," Fenn said in a statement on his Old Santa Fe Trading Co. website.

He promised "more information and photos" in the days ahead.

The statement — especially the "canopy of stars" part — has settled little for avid Fenn treasure hunters in online forums: They want to know the solution. But McIntyre in Moffat County was glad that the treasure is put to rest through discovery.

"We are relieved that it's been found and hopefully people won't be out endangering themselves," McIntyre said.

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Susan Montoya Bryan in Albuquerque, New Mexico, contributed to this report.

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## **Poll: Black Americans most likely to know a COVID-19 victim**

**By KAT STAFFORD and HANNAH FINGERHUT Associated Press**

DETROIT (AP) — African Americans are disproportionately likely to say a family member or close friend has died of COVID-19 or respiratory illness since March, according to a series of surveys conducted since April that lays bare how black Americans have borne the brunt of the pandemic.

Eleven percent of African Americans say they were close with someone who has died from the coronavirus, compared with 5% of Americans overall and 4% of white Americans.

The findings are based on data from three COVID Impact surveys conducted between April and June by NORC at the University of Chicago for the Data Foundation about the pandemic's effect on the physical, mental and social health of Americans.

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 70 of 79

While recent surveys conducted by the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research have found that black Americans are especially likely to know someone who had the virus, the new data from the COVID Impact research further details the toll the pandemic has taken on black Americans.

Pre-existing conditions and limited access to health care have been identified as reasons black Americans have been particularly susceptible to the virus. Experts and medical professionals say the longstanding effects of structural racism and generational trauma exacted upon black Americans in the centuries following slavery also cannot be ignored.

"The health inequities that we're seeing here are nothing new, because we're starting in a place where during slavery, we had black women who were enslaved and were being experimented on by white male physicians," said New York-based Dr. Uché Blackstock, a former associate professor at the NYU School of Medicine and the founder of Advancing Health Equity. "So our healthcare system is founded on racism, and our communities have been essentially made sick by racism. We carry the highest disease burden in almost every parameter. We were already in a crisis."

The COVID Impact surveys show the racial gap is equally striking in some cities and states hit especially hard by the virus. In Louisiana, 16% of black adults, compared with 6% of white adults, are close with someone who has died, according to the surveys. Black people represent about 33% of the state's population but account for 53% of the state's nearly 3,000 COVID-19 deaths, according to data from the state's health department.

The differences are equally stark in several metropolitan areas: Among black adults in Atlanta, 14% have a family member or close friend who has died, compared with 4% of white adults. The comparison is 12% vs. 4% in Baltimore, 15% vs. 2% in Birmingham, Alabama, and 12% vs. 4% in Chicago.

Twenty-six percent of nonwhite New Yorkers say a family member or close friend has died from COVID-19, compared with just 10% of white adults in New York City.

Meanwhile, an Associated Press analysis of data from state and local health departments nationwide found that more than a quarter of all COVID-related deaths nationwide have been black victims — nearly double the share of the black population in the areas sampled. The data, from early June, included nearly 87,000 deaths in which the dead person's race was known in 38 states and Washington, D.C.

In a number of states, the disparity was even more outsized — for instance, in Michigan, black deaths per 100,000 black residents were four times the rate of white deaths per 100,000 white residents.

"I think we will have a national conversation, not only about those inequities, but about how we get to solutions, because it's not just about what's going on right now, it's really what has gone on for decades regarding structural racism, implicit bias, discriminatory housing policies and the like," said Dr. Patrice Harris, the immediate past president of the American Medical Association and the first African-American woman elected president of the organization.

Harris said the AMA launched a Center for Health Equity a year and a half ago to address implicit bias at the physician and institutional level. During the pandemic, she said, many stories have emerged of black patients detailing how their needs were ignored or unmet by doctors, which some experts say is indicative of a historical mistrust of the medical system.

"We heard with COVID-19, the stories, or some of the data that says that black men in particular were more likely to take advice from another black physician or that there have been studies where our younger colleagues believe the myth that blacks did not feel pain in the same way as whites," Harris said. "AMA is going to lead these conversations and make sure everyone has information so we can address issues around implicit bias and discriminatory practices."

The nation must also begin to grapple with the psychological trauma of the pandemic, coupled with the economic fallout, the civil unrest in the wake of several high profile killings of African Americans and witnessing black grief on a mass scale, said University of Michigan health behavior and health education professor Enrique Neblett.

Neblett, who studies the intersection of racism and health, said many African Americans could be dealing with depression, anxiety and other mental struggles.

"It's the confluence of all these factors where it's not just one or two things and that is really weighing hard and heavily on the psyche of black people," Neblett said. "We do know that when you experience loss at unexpected times, there is scientific evidence showing that that's related to worse health outcomes later on in life. I think these impacts may be generational."

Fingerhut reported from Washington. AP data journalist Meghan Hoyer contributed to this report.

The three COVID Impact surveys were conducted between April and June. The national survey uses a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. State and metropolitan area surveys were conducted using address-based sampling.

Online:  
COVID Impact Survey: <https://www.covid-impact.org>.

## Supreme Court for now stays out of police immunity debate

By JESSICA GRESKO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court is for now declining to get involved in an ongoing debate by citizens and in Congress over policing, rejecting cases Monday that would have allowed the justices to revisit when police can be held financially responsible for wrongdoing.

With protests over racism and police brutality continuing nationwide, the justices turned away more than half a dozen cases involving the legal doctrine known as qualified immunity, which the high court created more than 50 years ago. It shields officials, including police, from lawsuits for money as a result for things they do in the course of their job.

As is usual the court didn't comment in turning away the cases, but Justice Clarence Thomas wrote a 6-page dissent saying he would have agreed to hear one of the cases.

"I have previously expressed my doubts about our qualified immunity jurisprudence," he wrote, explaining he believes the court's "qualified immunity doctrine appears to stray from the statutory text."

As a result of qualified immunity, even when a court finds that an official or officer has violated someone's constitutional rights, they can still be protected from civil lawsuits seeking money. The Supreme Court has said that qualified immunity protects officials as long as their actions don't violate clearly established law or constitutional rights which they should have known about.

The Supreme Court's decision not to wade into the qualified immunity debate follows nationwide protests against racism and police brutality sparked by the death in Minnesota of George Floyd, a 46-year-old black man who died May 25 while being restrained by a white officer.

In Congress, a bill introduced by House Democrats in the wake of Floyd's death would make it easier for injured individuals to claim damages in civil suits against police offices. The White House, however, has said that provision is a nonstarter and not likely to be part of a Senate Republican bill that's in the works.

The push for the court to reexamine qualified immunity has come both from the left and right, including Thomas, a conservative, and Justice Sonia Sotomayor, a liberal. In 2018, when the court said that an Arizona police officer who shot a knife-wielding woman four times was immune from being sued, Sotomayor said the decision "sends an alarming signal to law enforcement officers and the public."

Since then, the court has been asked to take a number of different cases involving qualified immunity. Some of the cases the court rejected Monday were filed at the court more than a year ago and many others had been pending for months, before Floyd's death and the protests it prompted. The incidents themselves that sparked the lawsuits go back years and in some cases almost a decade.

## Drake tops BET Awards nods; show to air on CBS for 1st time

By MESFIN FEKADU AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Drake is the leading nominee at the 2020 BET Awards, which will celebrate its 20th anniversary later this month.

BET announced Monday that Drake is nominated for six honors, including video of the year and best male hip-hop artist. For both best collaboration and the viewer's choice award, Drake is nominated twice thanks to the hits "No Guidance" with Chris Brown and "Life Is Good" with Future.

The 2020 BET Awards will air live on June 28 across ViacomCBS networks, including CBS for the first time. The show, which will be a virtual celebration because of the coronavirus pandemic, will also air on BET and BET HER.

Breakthrough rappers Megan Thee Stallion and Roddy Ricch follow Drake with five nominations each. Megan Thee Stallion, who recently topped the Billboard Hot 100 chart with her Beyoncé-assisted "Savage" remix, is nominated for video of the year, best female hip-hop artist, best collaboration, the viewer's choice award and album of the year for "Fever."

Ricch, who won his first Grammy Award earlier this year, also topped the pop charts with his upbeat hit "The Box." The video for that song is nominated for video of the year alongside DaBaby's "Bop," DJ Khaled, Nipsey Hussle and John Legend's "Higher," Doja Cat's "Say So," Megan Thee Stallion's "Hot Girl Summer" and Chris Brown and Drake's "No Guidance."

Beyoncé, Minaj, Brown, Lizzo and DaBaby earned four nominations each.

Kanye West, who released a gospel album last year, is nominated for the Dr. Bobby Jones best gospel/inspirational award. He will compete with Kirk Franklin, the Clark Sisters, Fred Hammond, John P. Kee and PJ Morton.

## American convicted of spying in Russia, gets 16 years

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — A Russian court convicted an American corporate security executive Monday of espionage and sentenced him to 16 years in prison after a closed trial that the U.S. denounced as a "mockery of justice," and it angrily said his treatment in jail was "appalling."

Paul Whelan, a former Marine from Novi, Michigan, has insisted he was innocent, saying he was set up when he was arrested in Moscow in December 2018 while he was visiting Russia to attend a friend's wedding.

"We have serious concerns that Mr. Whelan was deprived of the fair trial guarantees that Russia is required to provide him in accordance with its international human rights obligations," U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in a statement.

The 50-year-old Whelan, who also holds British, Irish and Canadian citizenship, has publicly complained of poor prison conditions and has said his life is in danger. Two weeks ago, Whelan underwent a hernia operation, which his twin brother, David, described as "emergency surgery ... which is never a good sign."

He said his brother had been allowed one phone call in 18 months and had voiced concern about coronavirus infections in Moscow's Lefortovo prison, where he was being held.

Pompeo said the U.S. was "outraged" by the verdict and noted that Paul Whelan's treatment "has been appalling," adding that authorities ignored his medical condition and kept him isolated from family and friends.

He called the proceedings "a secret trial, with secret evidence and without appropriate allowances for defense witnesses." The Moscow City Court, where the trial took place, said it was held behind closed doors because authorities saw it as necessary for considering sensitive information.

Speaking to reporters after the verdict, U.S. Ambassador John Sullivan called the trial "a mockery of justice." Whelan's lawyer has said his client was handed a flash drive that had classified information on it that he didn't know about.



# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 73 of 79

David Whelan described the case as political and voiced hope that the U.S. government will help gain his freedom.

"The Russian Federation wouldn't talk about releasing Paul until he was convicted," he told The Associated Press. "And so, now that that has happened, we hope that the U.S. government will speak to the Russian government. We will have to continue to treat it as a political case, which is what it is, and seek a political solution for his freedom."

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov rejected allegations that Whelan was a political hostage, telling reporters his guilt was proven at the trial. Peskov refused to comment on whether Russia could be eyeing his exchange for some of its citizens in the U.S. custody.

Whelan's Russian lawyer, Vladimir Zherebenkov, pointed at Russian official statements signaling a possibility that Whelan could be exchanged for Russians Viktor Bout and Konstantin Yaroshenko.

"There have been proposals of exchange, the issue is being discussed," he said.

Bout, a Russian arms trader, is serving a 25-year sentence in the U.S. for a 2011 conviction on charges he conspired to sell millions of dollars of weapons to Colombian rebels. He insisted he was a legitimate businessman.

Yaroshenko, a Russian pilot, is serving a 20-year sentence for conspiracy to smuggle cocaine into the U.S. after he was arrested in Liberia in 2010 and extradited to the U.S.

Russian officials and lawmakers have cast the convictions of Bout and Yaroshenko as politically motivated and pushed for their release.

Leonid Slutsky, the head of foreign affairs committee in the Kremlin-controlled lower house of parliament, rejected Pompeo's statement as "meddling in Russia's judicial system." He said Moscow is open to discuss Whelan's possible exchange for "Russian citizens who have remained in the U.S. prisons on unfounded charges and in inhumane conditions."

"Political will is required for reaching such agreements," he said.

Yaroshenko's wife, Viktoria, also voiced hope that he could be exchanged for Whelan, the Interfax news agency reported.

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Associated Press writers Matthew Lee in Washington and Mike Householder in Canton Township, Michigan, contributed.

## Pen pal program forges connections beyond nursing homes

By **HOLLY RAMER** Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — Rich Vanderweit saw the loneliness of older people in the COVID-19 pandemic, and he devised a modest effort to ease their isolation.

Vanderweit, an activity aide at Sullivan County Health Care in Claremont, thought: Why not match his nursing home residents with pen pals at Summercrest Senior Living Community 12 miles away in Newport? Both facilities had stopped allowing visitors because of the virus.

By the end of April, about 20 residents were participating. But then the program was featured in the local newspaper and on TV.

"That's when the trouble began," Vanderweit said, laughing.

Soon, letters began pouring in, at least 700 from around the United States. The stacks of mail got so large that Vanderweit organized a pen pal club which gathers once a week to read the letters aloud and respond as a group. Sometimes they get simple cards that say "Just brightening your day, no need to write back." Others send heartfelt letters.

"The whole country is suffering because of this, and we're getting stories of people's lives and what their everyday existence is like," he said. "It's been really amazing. We have a window on America here."

Flo Young, a 93-year-old resident of the Sullivan County home, said she didn't think much of the program initially.

"I thought maybe we'd get a couple of letters or so, but boy, we got bombarded!" she said.

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 74 of 79

Young said she's received letters from Texas, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Iowa, and other states.

"Sometimes they tell us about themselves, other times their hobbies," she said. In turn, she tells them about "the weather, our beautiful weeping willow tree, and the big red barns we have out here."

Another resident, Marion Duford, has been writing to a woman from nearby Charlestown, who described taking a ride in a motorcycle sidecar. They hope to meet in person someday.

"I get all excited when I get a letter," she said. "It's an old-time thing, but it's a chance to meet new people."

Barbara Rabtoy, the activities director at Summercrest, said the program is equally beloved by her residents, including one who has struck up a friendship with a fellow baseball fan and has been exchanging baseball cards along with letters.

"They can't have visitors, they can't have family come in, so this is a way of reaching out," she said.

Some writers give updates on their pets ("Blackie is doing much better now that I got him to the salon. He was getting very shaggy."). A midwestern woman described canning vegetables from her garden.

"I pray that all is well with you and that you continue to stay safe," she wrote. "Please write back, I would love to continue writing to my new friends."

Vanderweit said his initial goal was to build a bridge between two lonely populations.

"This is such a community-based facility, it's been a hardship for the residents because they can't have people in like we used to," he said. "It started out as people writing to us to offer support, and now we are also supporting our new friends."

As grateful as he is for the outpouring, residents can't take on any more requests for pen pals for now, he said. Postcards are welcome, or he suggests people reach out to nursing homes in their home states.

"We are swamped," he said. "But it's beautiful."

While nonstop news about the effects of the coronavirus has become commonplace, so, too, have tales of kindness. "One Good Thing" is a series of AP stories focusing on glimmers of joy and benevolence in a dark time. Read the series here: <https://apnews.com/OneGoodThing>

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# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 75 of 79

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## To help distance learning absentees, educators go sleuthing

By MICHAEL MELIA Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — After a knock on his door, third-grade student Jamie-Lee emerged to see his school principal smiling at him from his doorstep. She held out her arms, offering a socially distant "air hug," and told the boy how much she'd missed him since the pandemic closed their school building.

As they chatted, Principal Tayarisha Batchelor picked up on a clue to the question that brought her to the apartment. The boy was not looking up from a smartphone. Twice, she asked what he was doing on it before he confirmed her suspicions: He was playing video games.

"I like playing games," Batchelor told the boy as his parents looked on, before suggesting he spend more time first on his daily schoolwork. "I want to make sure you're still learning, OK?"

Nearly a third of her students at Rawson Elementary School in Hartford, Connecticut, have been unplugged from distance learning. On a Friday afternoon, as she visited some of their homes, she saw many of the reasons why: Internet service is unreliable. Parents are away at work. Some are uncomfortable with the technology. Still others think their children are doing fine when they are actually using the devices for other things.

As the academic year nears an end, districts around the country have been racing to get large numbers of no-show students back on track. It's one thing not to participate this spring, when expectations are lower because of the crisis. It will be another if distance learning resumes in the fall, when the stakes are raised by the return of formal grading and attendance tracking.

Students who were struggling before the pandemic are the ones falling farthest behind. Across the Hartford school system, roughly 80% of students are at least partially active in distance learning. Among students considered most at risk because of issues including past absenteeism, disciplinary problems and poor academic performance, less than half are participating at all.

Batchelor made her first stop the home of a student whose mother works late, hoping to catch her. The girl's older sister, a high school student, often watches her. But there was no answer at the door. Batchelor

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 76 of 79

left a voicemail on the mother's phone.

"How do we get in touch with the kids? This is it. This is like our last effort before the summer. For me it's trying to figure out, what exactly is it that we're missing?" Hartford Superintendent Leslie Torres-Rodriguez said. "First of all, are they safe? I just want to know if they are safe."

Many districts report engagement has improved since the scramble of the March transition to distance learning, but it's nowhere near full participation. Some students still have not been heard from at all.

At the 4,800-student Jamestown Public Schools in the southwest corner of New York, superintendent Bret Apthorpe said about 75% are engaged and most of the others participate at least somewhat. Around 1%, he said, have "fallen off the map."

"Of everything through this virus, that probably has worried me the most," said Apthorpe, whose district has been reaching out to students and their families through school administrators, counselors and, as a last resort, attendance officers.

At Clark County schools in Nevada, over 30% of students — or more than 12,000 — were unaccounted for in mid-April. Outreach efforts whittled the number to about 4,500 students by the of the school year in May. Some students needed computers and others had taken jobs, Superintendent Jesus Jara said.

On her visits to families in Hartford's north end, an area with high poverty and low rates of home internet access, Batchelor brings books to give the children. She is accompanied by a representative from a community agency that helps families with food, clothing and finances.

School administrators decide among themselves who will visit families of low-activity students, based on who has the strongest relationships. The goals of the conversations with parents, Batchelor says, are to stress that school is still in session, to ask what the impediments are, and to gauge parents' understanding of the process and the learning.

At Jamie-Lee's house, his father, Oral Henderson, said his son was comfortable on the computer and, as far as he knew, the boy had been keeping up with his school lessons — despite a weak internet signal from a community provider. A restaurant worker who has been without a job amid the coronavirus scare, Henderson said it has been a challenging time for them all.

On the next home visit, Batchelor met a father who said he was uncomfortable with computers. His daughter was spending hours on the digital learning platforms, he said, but they were not able to figure out how to upload assignments.

"Don't let that stop you," Batchelor told the third-grader's parents, assuring them the technical issue could be figured out later. "Just let her go in and do the things that she can do."

For her part the girl, Nevaeh, said she was enjoying the online learning.

"Some of the challenges are pretty hard, but I still get through them," she said. "Even when they're really hard I still get through some of them."

Batchelor said the effects of the disruption will not be clear until educators see students' work in the fall, when she expects many will be dealing with various kinds of trauma from the months at home. Nationally, research has suggested the shutdowns could cost students the equivalent of a full school year's worth of academic gains.

For now, Batchelor said, parents and educators have been doing their best.

"It's important for people to know that people are shouldering up. People are working really hard to make it work. People are hopeful, people are resilient. And because of that, we are able to keep students engaged," she said. "I have not been told by a parent, 'Oh, we're not doing this.' They may be having a difficult time doing it, but parents want their students to succeed, and they want to work with us."

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Associated Press writer Carolyn Thompson contributed to this report from Buffalo, New York.

## Supreme Court rejects several gun rights cases for next term

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court on Monday passed up several challenges to federal and state gun control laws, over the dissent of two conservative justices.

Gun rights advocates had hoped the court would expand the constitutional right to “keep and bear arms” beyond the home.

Instead, the justices left in place restrictions on the right to carry weapons in public in Maryland, Massachusetts and New Jersey. They also declined to review Massachusetts’ ban on some semi-automatic firearms and large-capacity ammunition magazines, a California handgun control law and a half-century-old federal law banning interstate handgun sales.

Justice Clarence Thomas, joined by Justice Brett Kavanaugh, wrote a dissent in the court’s denial of a New Jersey resident’s appeal seeking the right to carry a gun in public for self-defense. Rather than take on the constitutional issue, Thomas wrote, “the Court simply looks the other way.”

## Muslims join to demand police reforms, back black-led groups

By MARIAM FAM Associated Press

In the wake of George Floyd’s death in police custody, dozens of American Muslim organizations have come together to call for reform to policing practices, and to support black-led organizations.

“The victimization of unarmed Black Muslims has a long and troubling history,” said a coalition statement signed by more than 90 civil rights, advocacy, community and faith organizations. “As American Muslims, we will draw on our diversity, our strength, and our resilience to demand these reforms because Black lives matter.”

Proposed changes include prohibiting racial profiling and maneuvers that restrict the flow of blood or oxygen to the brain, such as choke holds; making it legally easier for prosecutors to hold law enforcement accountable; and redirecting police funding “into community health, education, employment and housing programs.”

The statement also calls for establishing “a federal standard that use of force be reserved as a last resort, only when absolutely necessary” and after exhausting all reasonable options.

“These demands are a floor for our groups and not a ceiling. Some would call for much more,” Farhana Khera, executive director of Muslim Advocates, one of the statement’s co-conveners, said in response to e-mailed questions. “We’re also urging all American Muslims to call their members of Congress right now and to demand a stronger response from them.”

Like members of other faith groups, many Muslims in America have joined in the outrage unleashed after Floyd, a black man, died after a white Minneapolis police officer pressed a knee to his neck. Groups from multiple denominations across faiths have publicly called for action against racism and aligned with the goals of peaceful demonstrators.

In street protests, statements, sermons and webinars, American Muslims have rallied against racism and discussed reforms.

“Muslim American organizations are committed to advocating at all levels to put an end to excessive use of force which has led to the murders of countless Black Americans,” said Iman Awad, legislative director of Engage Action, one of the statement’s signatories. “Our message is that we will continue to fight but most importantly uplift the work being done by our Black leaders.”

Muslims in America are ethnically and racially diverse and Floyd’s death has also reinvigorated conversations about the treatment and representation of black Muslims in their own faith communities.

“I’m hopeful and heartened by the number and diversity of groups that have signed on,” said Kameelah Rashad, president of Muslim Wellness Foundation, also a co-convener. “That says to me that there’s at least recognition that we as a whole can no longer separate Islamophobia, anti-Black racism, surveillance, and violence. People are reconciling with the notion that means our struggles are intertwined.”

Now, she said, is the time for action.

“It’s vital that non-Black Muslims develop a respect for the resilience and resistance of Black people.”

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 78 of 79

The statement said: "Black people are often marginalized within the broader Muslim community. And when they fall victim to police violence, non-Black Muslims are too often silent, which leads to complicity."

Moving forward, American Muslim communities must make space for black-led organizations, Awad said. Also, "we must commit to having leadership positions which reflect the diversity of our faith community," she said. "We cannot be successful until we have all voices represented at all levels within our organizational structures and our communities must do better."

The statement said the demands represent only a "down payment" on needed reforms.

"If this deep-seated discrimination cannot be done away with through reform, then these systems will need to be abolished and re-imagined entirely."

Associated Press religion coverage receives support from the Lilly Endowment through the Religion News Foundation. The AP is solely responsible for this content.

## Today in History By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, June 16, the 168th day of 2020. There are 198 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 16, 1996, Russian voters went to the polls in their first independent presidential election; the result was a runoff between President Boris Yeltsin (the eventual winner) and Communist challenger Gennady Zyuganov (geh-NAH'dee zyoo-GAH'-nawf).

On this date:

In 1567, Mary, Queen of Scots, was imprisoned in Lochleven Castle in Scotland. (She escaped almost a year later but ended up imprisoned again.)

In 1858, accepting the Illinois Republican Party's nomination for the U.S. Senate, Abraham Lincoln said the slavery issue had to be resolved, declaring, "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

In 1883, baseball's first "Ladies' Day" took place as the New York Gothams offered women free admission to a game against the Cleveland Spiders. (New York won, 5-2.)

In 1903, Ford Motor Co. was incorporated.

In 1911, IBM had its beginnings as the Computing-Tabulating-Recording Co. which was incorporated in New York State.

In 1932, President Herbert Hoover and Vice President Charles Curtis were renominated at the Republican National Convention in Chicago.

In 1933, the National Industrial Recovery Act became law with President Franklin D. Roosevelt's signature. (The Act was later struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court.) The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. was founded as President Roosevelt signed the Banking Act of 1933.

In 1963, the world's first female space traveler, Valentina Tereshkova (teh-ruhsh-KOH'-vuh), 26, was launched into orbit by the Soviet Union aboard Vostok 6; Tereshkova spent 71 hours in flight, circling the Earth 48 times before returning safely.

On June 16, 1967, the three-day Monterey International Pop Music Festival, a major event of the "Summer of Love," opened in northern California; among the featured acts were Jefferson Airplane, The Who, the Grateful Dead, the Jimi Hendrix Experience, Janis Joplin, Otis Redding and Ravi Shankar.

In 1970, Kenneth A. Gibson of Newark, N.J., became the first black politician elected mayor of a major Northeast city. Chicago Bears running back Brian Piccolo, 26, died at a New York hospital after battling cancer.

In 1978, President Jimmy Carter and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos (toh-REE'-ohs) signed the instruments of ratification for the Panama Canal treaties during a ceremony in Panama City.

In 1987, a jury in New York acquitted Bernhard Goetz (bur-NAHRD' gets) of attempted murder in the subway shooting of four youths he said were going to rob him; however, Goetz was convicted of illegal

# Groton Daily Independent

**Tuesday, June 16, 2020 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 339 ~ 79 of 79**

weapons possession. (In 1996, a civil jury ordered Goetz to pay \$43 million to one of the persons he had shot.)

Ten years ago: After meeting with President Barack Obama at the White House, BP Chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg announced the oil giant was establishing a \$20 billion claim fund and suspending dividends as he insisted, "We care about the small people." Movie director Ronald Neame ("The Poseidon Adventure") died in Los Angeles at age 99.

Five years ago: Real estate mogul Donald Trump launched his successful campaign to become president of the United States with a speech at Trump Tower in Manhattan.

One year ago: Gary Woodland captured the U.S. Open golf tournament in Pebble Beach, California, holding off two-time defending champion Brooks Koepka for a three-shot victory. A massive blackout left tens of millions of people without electricity in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay in what Argentina's president called an "unprecedented" failure in the countries' power grid; most people had their power back on by evening.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Eileen Atkins is 86. Actor Bill Cobbs is 86. Author Joyce Carol Oates is 82. Country singer Billy "Crash" Craddock is 82. Songwriter Lamont Dozier is 79. Rhythm and blues singer Eddie Levert is 78. Actress Joan Van Ark is 77. Actor Geoff Pierson is 71. Rhythm and blues singer James Smith (formerly w/The Stylistics) is 70. Boxing Hall of Famer Roberto Duran is 69. Pop singer Gino Vannelli is 68. Actress Laurie Metcalf is 65. Actor Arnold Vosloo is 58. Actor Danny Burstein is 56. Model-actress Jenny Shimizu is 53. Actor James Patrick Stuart is 52. Rapper MC Ren is 51. Actor Clifton Collins Jr. is 50. Golfer Phil Mickelson is 50. Actor John Cho is 48. Actor Eddie Cibrian is 47. Actor Fred Koehler is 45. Actress China (chee-nah) Shavers is 43. Actor Daniel Bruhl is 42. Bluegrass musician Caleb Smith (Balsam Range) is 42. Actress Sibel Kekilli is 40. Actress Missy Peregrym (PEH'-rih-grihm) is 38. Actress Olivia Hack is 37. Singer Diana DeGarmo (TV: "American Idol") is 33. Pop-rock musician Ian Keaggy (Hot Chelle (SHEL) Rae) is 33. Actress Ali Stoker is 33. Tennis player Bianca Andreescu is 20.

Thought for Today: "Our memories are card indexes consulted and then returned in disorder by authorities whom we do not control." — Cyril Connolly, British critic (1903-1974).

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