

# Groton Daily Independent

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## Soccer Scores

**Girls: Tea Area 1, Groton Area 0**

**Boys: Tea Area 9, Groton Area 1**



## Church Services

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church: Worship in the church at 8:30 a.m. (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/215332349572015/>)

Groton Christian & Missiary Alliance Church: Worship in the church at 10:30 a.m.: (<https://www.facebook.com/GrotonCMA/>)

St. John's Lutheran Church: Worship in the church at 9 a.m. (<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsgroton/>)

Emmanuel Lutheran Church - Worship outside and also on-line at 9 a.m. Pastoral candidate preaching.

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

United Methodist Church: Worship in the Sanctuary at 11 a.m. (<https://www.facebook.com/grotonsdumc>)

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

Heaven Bound Ministries of Pierpont has worship on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. in the basement.

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



## **OPEN:** Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located west of the city shop. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

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## Sunday Extras



### THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

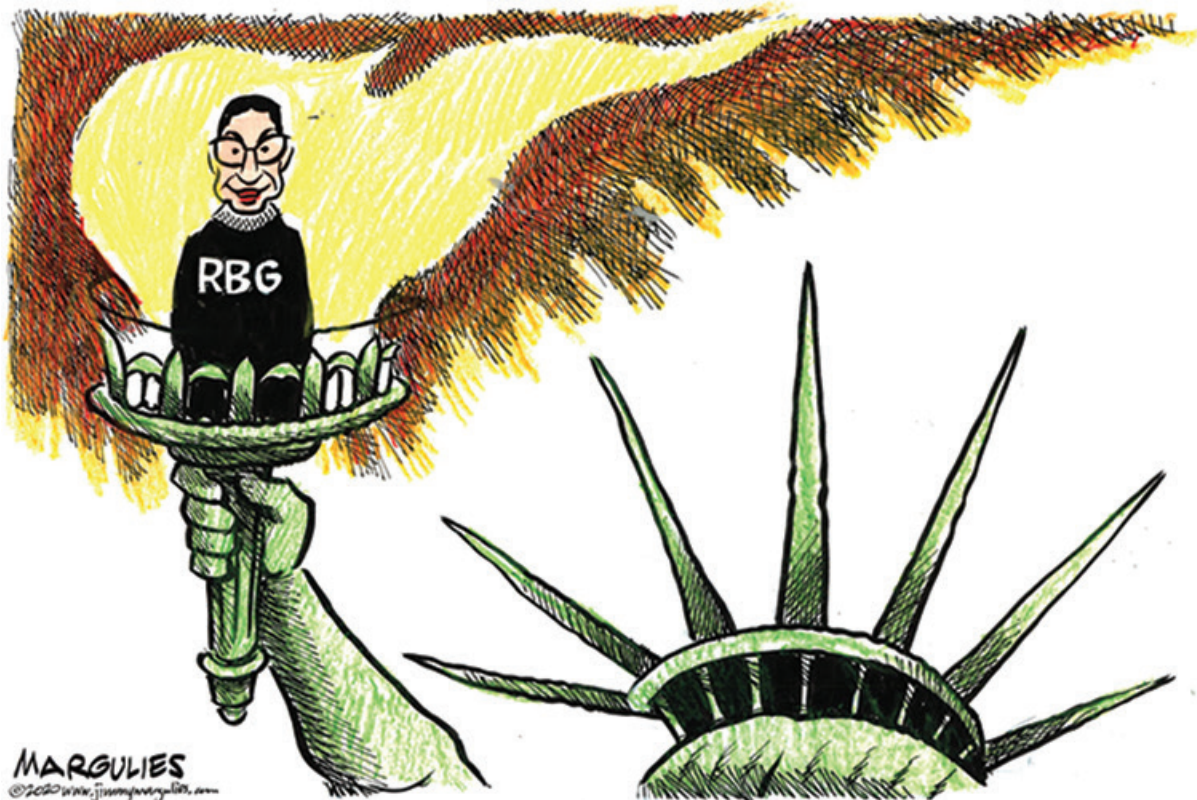


*"Untitled (Shepherd)" by Marc Chagall (1958)*

*The Lord is their strength,  
and He is the saving refuge of  
His anointed. Save Your people,  
and bless Your inheritance;  
shepherd them also,  
and bear them up forever.*

*Psalm 28:8,9*

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## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

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

2. Why had Jonah been thrown overboard from a ship, later to be swallowed by the big fish? *He asked to, For stealing, Being a stowaway, Brandishing his sword*

3. From Genesis 29, which of Jacob's wives was first to bear children? *Leah, Rachel, Bilhah, Zilpah*

4. In 2 Kings 16, who burned his son alive as a sacrifice? *Joab, Ahaz, Isaac, Josiah*

5. From Acts 22, what famous rabbi was Paul's teacher? *Hillel, Turkel, Zakkai, Gamaliel*

6. Who stole idols from her father? *Elisabeth, Martha, Rachel, Deborah*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) He asked to; 3) Leah; 4) Ahaz; 5) Gamaliel; 6) Rachel

*Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson's Casey's latest book, "Test Your Bible Knowledge," available in bookstores and online.*

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by Healthy Exchanges

### Double Chocolate Cream Pie

Double your pleasure with two — yes, two — kinds of chocolate! When it comes to chocolate, more is never too much!

- 1 (4-serving) package sugar-free instant chocolate fudge pudding mix
- 1½ cups nonfat dry milk powder
- 2¼ cups water
- 1 (6-ounce) purchased chocolate-flavored pie crust
- 1 (4-serving) package sugar-free instant white chocolate pudding mix
- 1/2 cup reduced-calorie whipped topping
- 1 (2 1/2-inch) chocolate graham cracker square, made into fine crumbs
- 1 tablespoon mini chocolate chips

1. In a large bowl, combine dry chocolate fudge pudding mix, 2/3 cup dry milk powder and 1 1/4 cups water. Mix well, using a wire whisk. Pour mixture evenly into pie crust. Refrigerate while preparing topping.

2. In another large bowl, combine dry white chocolate pudding mix, remaining 2/3 cup dry milk powder and remaining 1 cup water. Mix well, using a wire whisk. Blend in whipped topping.

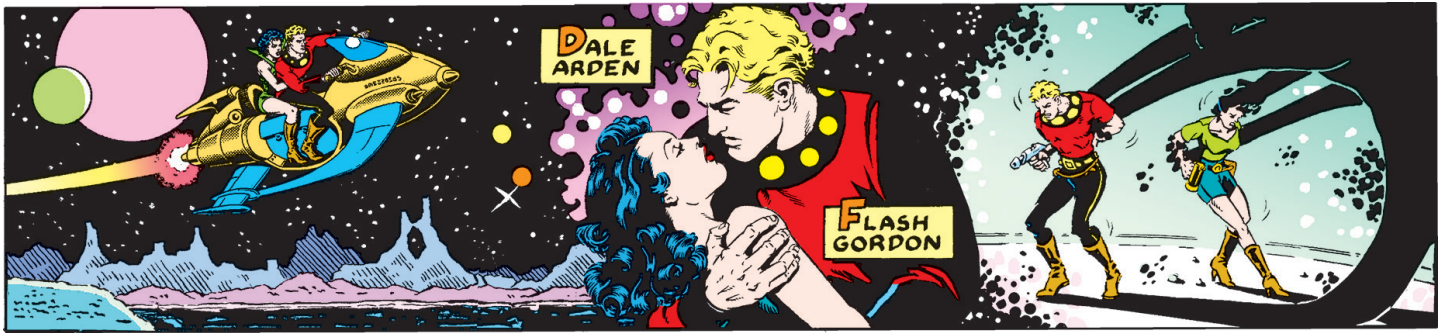
3. Evenly spread topping mixture over set chocolate fudge layer. Sprinkle chocolate graham cracker crumbs and chocolate chips evenly over top. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Cut into 8 servings. Freezes well.

• Each serving equals: 198 calories, 6g fat, 6g protein, 30g carb., 495mg sodium, 1g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 1/2 Starch/Carb, 1/2 Skim Milk, 1/2 Fat.

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## FLASH GORDON

BY JIM KEEFE

9-20



ENRAGED BY THE WOUND DALE HAS INFLICTED, DUROK CHARGES!

I'LL CRUSH YOU WITH MY BARE HANDS!

YOU'LL HAVE TO CATCH ME FIRST.



RAHRRUHH?!

SEE...NOT GETTING CAUGHT IS THE KEY TO SURVIVING DOWN HERE.



JUST STAY AWAY FROM THE WEBS.

OTHERWISE...

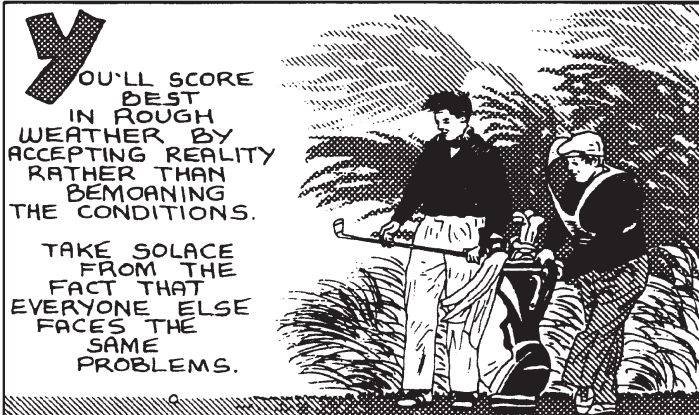


NOOOOOOO!

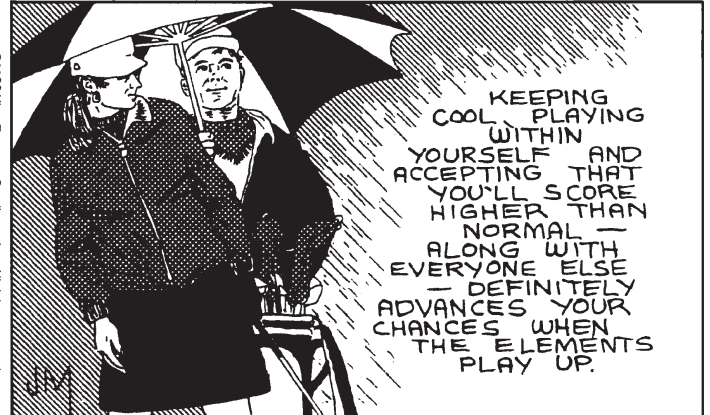
KRUNCH!

TO BE CONT'D ~

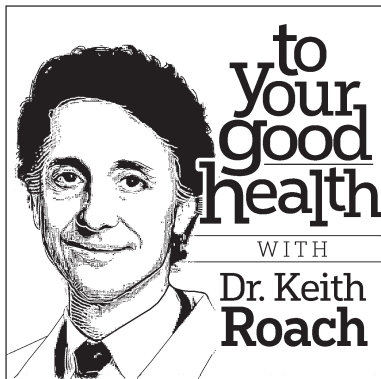
## Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



**Y**OU'LL SCORE BEST IN ROUGH WEATHER BY ACCEPTING REALITY RATHER THAN BEMOANING THE CONDITIONS. TAKE SOLACE FROM THE FACT THAT EVERYONE ELSE FACES THE SAME PROBLEMS.



KEEPING COOL, PLAYING WITHIN YOURSELF AND ACCEPTING THAT YOU'LL SCORE HIGHER THAN NORMAL — ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE — DEFINITELY ADVANCES YOUR CHANCES WHEN THE ELEMENTS PLAY UP.



## Diabetes Not Limited to Only 2 Main Types

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** Last year, at 57, I was diagnosed with Type 1 LADA diabetes. Initially I was put on insulin to get my blood sugar within the normal range. Then I was just on metformin until the “honeymoon period” was over. My endocrinologist is great. I now am back on insulin (six units at night). I walk anywhere between 3 and 8 miles about three times a day. My blood pressure is excellent. I initially lost about 18 pounds after diagnosis, so my weight is good.

When looking at Google, it says my life expectancy has been cut by 20 years! Yikes, I JUST retired and if I go by their gauge, I’ll be passing around age 68! Is this based on someone who has had diabetes for many years, since Type 1 is usually diagnosed much earlier? The doctor said even though my initial sugars were over 500 when diagnosed, I was very healthy and that’s why nothing was “destroyed.” My vision was off for about a month but no permanent damage was done. Any reassurance would be appreciated! — M.W.

**ANSWER:** Most people are familiar with Type 1 diabetes, with a typical onset in childhood and at a normal weight. It is caused by an autoimmune destruction of the insulin-making cells in the pancreas. People also know about Type 2 diabetes, usually adult-onset and usually diagnosed in someone who’s overweight; it’s caused by resistance to insulin. But there are other subtypes of diabetes, including latent autoimmune diabetes in adults (LADA).

In the U.S. and Canada, it accounts for a small fraction of diabetes cases, but is more common in Scandinavian countries. It has some characteristics of both Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes, but the autoimmune nature and the usual progression to insulin need makes most experts feel it is closer to Type 1 than to Type 2. A recent paper has outlined a potential new classification of diabetes types.

The change in life expectancy from diabetes relates to how long you have had diabetes and how well-controlled it has been. With outstanding diabetes control (normal or near-normal blood sugar levels), the effect on overall mortality is modest, at best. In one model, the reduction in life expectancy is less than a year. However, it certainly is possible to have life expectancy drop by 20 years with very poorly controlled, longstanding diabetes. For people with diabetes, to a very large extent, their potential to live longer (and healthier) can be improved by better blood sugar control.

For new-onset autoimmune diabetes (both Type 1 and LADA), early and aggressive blood sugar control with insulin may reduce the amount of autoimmune damage and improve long-term prognosis. Studies are in progress to evaluate this.

\*\*\*

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** I am a female, 16 years old. My white blood cell count is 16.6. I am suffering from so much weakness and pain in my legs, arms and shoulder area. I also have a cough and cold. Is it dangerous? What should I do for it? — K.C.

**ANSWER:** I don’t have enough information to help much. A white blood cell count that high suggests an infection. At your age, those symptoms are most likely a viral infection, but acute mononucleosis and even pneumonia are possible, so you need to see your doctor.

\*\*\*

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

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1. How many No. 1 hits has Electric Light Orchestra had in the U.S.?
2. Which group had a debut single with “Man on the Silver Mountain”?
3. Who released “Stuff Like That”?
4. Who were Maurice, Barry and Robin?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: “I’m your friend, you can talk to me, I read your face, I see misery.”

### Answers

1. None. The British band holds the record for having the most Billboard Hot 100 top 40 hits (20) without a No. 1 single.
2. Rainbow, aka Ritchie Blackmore’s Rainbow or Blackmore’s Rainbow, in 1975. Rainbow has gone through personnel changes too numerous to mention, with Blackmore the only remaining original member.
3. Quincy Jones, with Chaka Khan, in 1978. The disco song was co-penned by the team of Ashford & Simpson, known for writing dozens of Motown hits such as “You’re All I Need to Get By.”
4. The Brothers Gibb, aka The Bee-Gees. Barry is the only one still living.
5. “Better Love Next Time,” by Dr. Hook and the Medicine Show, in 1979. In the song, he advises a friend that better love is coming down the road.

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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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## GRIN and BEAR IT <sup>by</sup> Wayne



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"If I hadn't run out of money, I could have saved even more!"

### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Bear has been added. 2. Window is wider. 3. Pants are longer. 4. Flowers have been added. 5. Bushes have been added. 6. Tree has additional limb.



- For a little extra visibility in the basement, try applying glow-in-the-dark or reflective tape on the edges of the stairs.

- “Peppermint is a wonderful cure for indigestion. To make a quick peppermint tea, use a rolling pin to smash three to four peppermint candies. Add them to a glass of water and microwave for a minute and a half. Stir to melt the candies completely, and drink slowly.” — *G.L. in California*

- Don’t stop reading just because it’s hard to get to a library! Many public libraries are offering delivery services these days. My local library will let you reserve books online for quick pickup, renew your due date or even have books delivered to your home. Some have regular seminars on all kinds of topics — and many of them are done virtually.

- If you are replacing a hinge to re-hang a door and you need to use the same holes, make sure you add grip by

placing a matchstick or toothpick in the hole before rescrewing the attachments. Just break it off flush with the frame. It will add some security to the hole so it won’t be as loose.

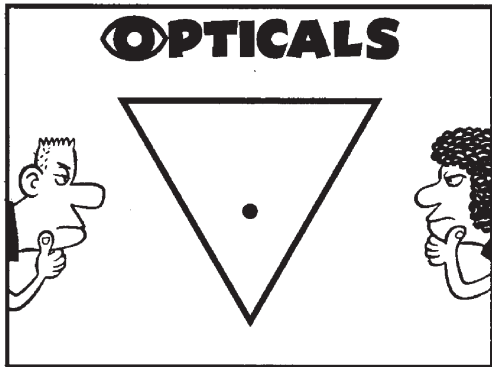
- Maintain a list of all drugs you take — both prescription and over the counter — and when you fill a new prescription, give a copy to your pharmacist to check for interactions. Also, if you have multiple or complicated medical issues, it might help to patronize a single pharmacy. That way, the pharmacist can advise you of any interactions or complications.

- “My mother swears by wrapping her feet in a vinegar-soaked rag once a week to soften calluses. She does this before her bath, and uses a pumice stone to rid her heels of hardened spots on the skin. It seems to work for her, so I thought I would pass it on!” — *C.D. in Colorado*

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

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**IN THE TRIANGLE ABOVE,** is the dot closer to the top line, the bottom point, or the middle?

Answer: The dot is in the middle, halfway between the top line and the bottom point of the triangle.

**FARMER BROWN'S BARN!** Farmer Brown paid 20 workmen \$2,000 to put up a new addition to his barn. Each Master Carpenter made \$300, each Apprentice Carpenter made \$150, and each helper made \$50. How many of each were included in the team of 20 workmen?



Answer: 2 Master Carpenters, 5 Apprentice Carpenters and 13 helpers. (Total salaries came to: \$600 + \$750 + \$650 = \$2,000.)

**THE FIVE-LETTER WORD POWER GRID!** Each of the five words needed to fill in our "word power grid" contain the same five letters. We give you one of these letters and plenty of hints below.

1. Costs per units of service.
2. Weights to deduct.
3. An intent gaze.
4. Expression of emotion.
5. Type of flower

1.	R				
2.		R			
3.			R		
4.				R	
5.					R

Answers: 1. Rates. 2. Tares. 3. Stare. 4. Tears. 5. Aster.

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



### AN ODD PARAGRAPH

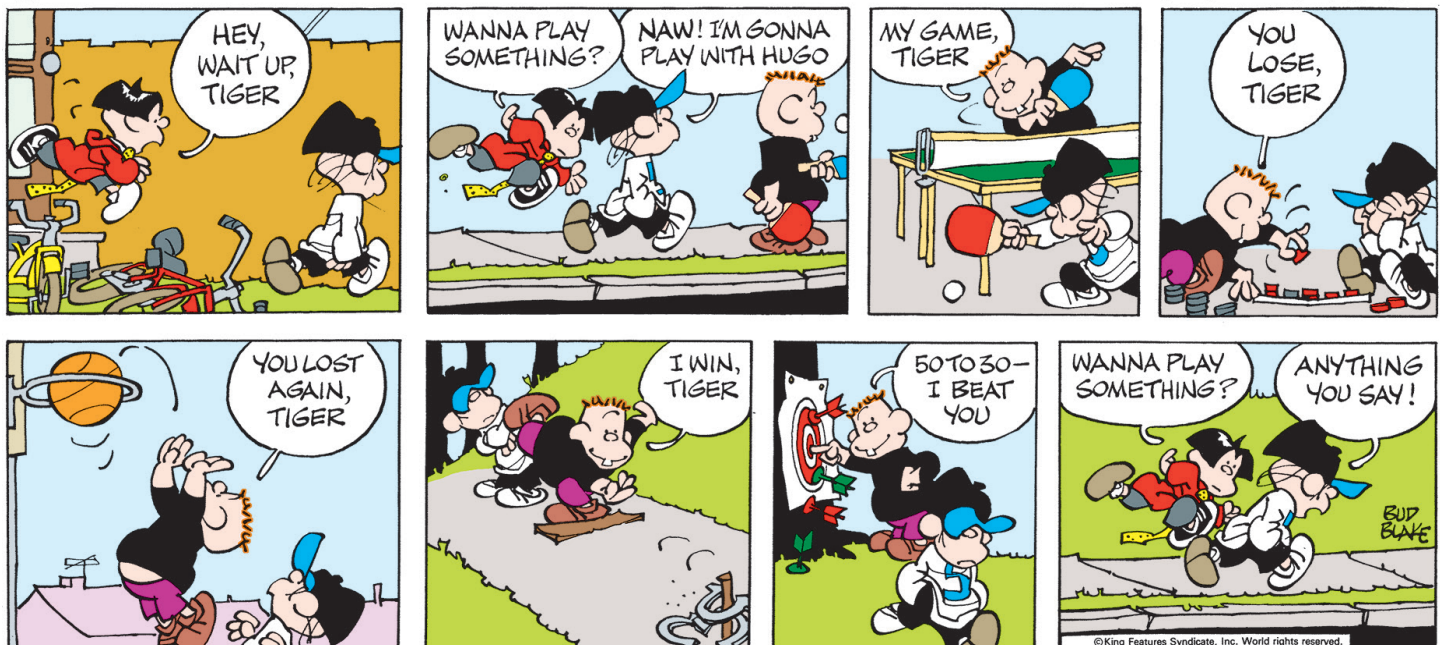
What is particularly unusual about this paragraph? You won't find many paragraphs similar to it. In all probability you will not find out what is so unusual about it right away, but if you look at it and study it for long, it may dawn on you. If you should find out what is odd or unusual, don't say what it is until I ask you; if you can't find out, look on the back of this paragraph. Don't look at my solution until you fail to find out what is odd about it. I could throw you a hint, but I won't!

Illustrated by David Coulson

Answer: You won't find an "e" in the entire paragraph.

## TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



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## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Former freshmen
- 6 Squid squirt
- 9 Doctrine
- 12 Construction piece
- 13 Cattle call
- 14 IRS employee
- 15 1492 ship
- 16 SAT takers' equipment
- 18 Pet rodent, often
- 20 Warmth
- 21 Second person
- 23 More, to Manuel
- 24 Portion of a repair bill
- 25 Great Lake

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11
12						13				14		
15						16			17			
			18			19				20		
21	22			23				24				
25			26		27		28					
29				30			31			32	33	34
			35			36			37			
38	39	40				41		42		43		
44					45			46				
47				48				49			50	51
52				53				54				
55				56				57				

- 27 Amulet
- 29 "Where the Wild Things Are" author
- 31 "Nighthawks" painter
- 35 Edition
- 37 Genesis maker
- 38 Sings like Ella
- 41 Apprehend
- 43 Promptly
- 44 Sea eagle
- 45 Downy ducks
- 47 Necklace ornament
- 49 "Psycho" star
- 52 Commotion
- 53 Tall tale
- 54 Rod of tennis lore
- 55 Actress Myrna
- 56 Toss in
- 57 Tools for duels
- 6 Mischievous
- 7 Yule refrain
- 8 " — -Tiki"
- 9 Less friendly
- 10 Pie-in-the-face sound
- 11 Sail supports
- 17 Winners
- 19 Supports
- 21 "Certainly"
- 22 Mined find
- 24 Expert
- 26 Rewrote, maybe
- 28 Winning
- 30 Fool
- 32 Musingly
- thoughtful
- 33 Swelled head
- 34 Uncooked
- 36 One
- 38 Calyx component
- 39 Guiding principle
- 40 Bother
- 42 Ball VIP
- 45 Oklahoma city
- 46 Harvest
- 48 Carte lead-in
- 50 "Golly!"
- 51 Storefront sign abbr.

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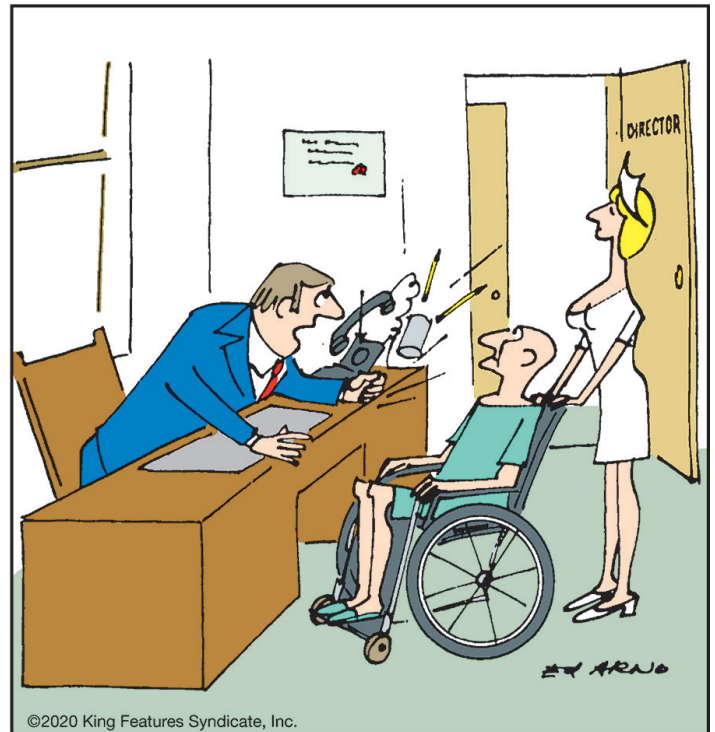
## — King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

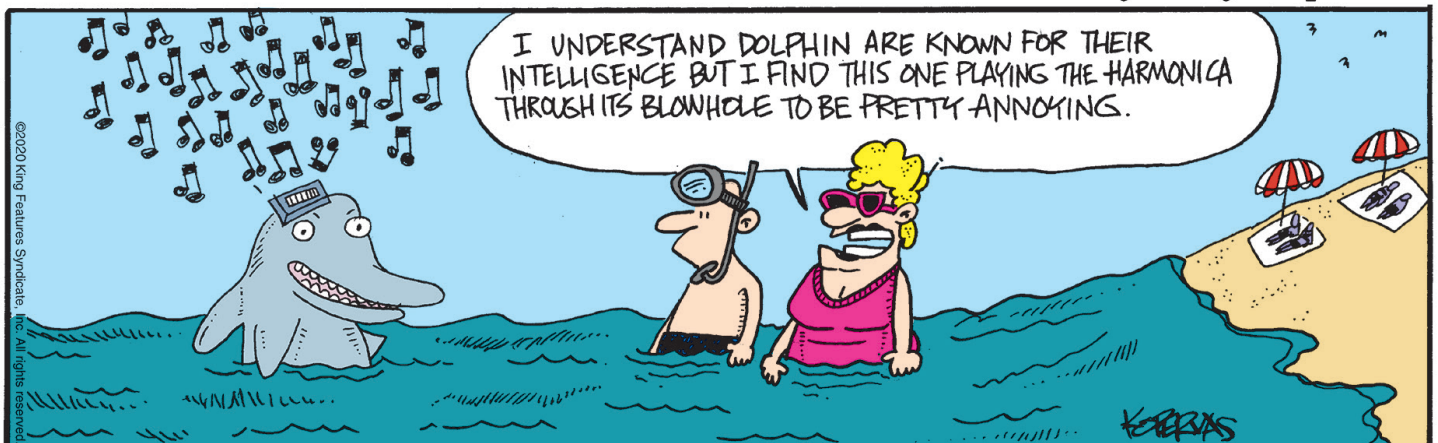
## LAFF - A - DAY



"If you couldn't afford the operation, why did you have it?"

## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas





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Hal FOSTER'S  
**Prince Valiant**  
BY GIANNI AND SCHULTZ

**Our Story:**  
VAL HAS THE EGG, AND THE MOTHER IS HOT ON ITS TRAIL. HE CAUTIONS THOSE WHO INSIST ON ATTACKING THE BEAST.

"RUN LIKE THE DEVIL!" HE YELLS AS HE THUNDERS OUT OF CAMELOT.

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SECONDS LATER, THE EGG'S PARENT ALSO CLEARS THE RUINED FORTRESS—BY THE MOST DIRECT ROUTE POSSIBLE.

THE BEAST'S PERSISTENCE, NOTES VAL, IS EVERY BIT AS GREAT AS HER PHYSICAL STRENGTH.

Gianni 9-26-09

3781

NEXT: To the sea

## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

I ALWAYS LIKE TO GET THE BIGGEST BANG FOR MY BUCK.

**BANG!!**

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YOU OWE ME A DOLLAR.

PICKERING

## SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

### Now More Than Ever, Get Your Flu Shot

A sincere wish just came true: This year's high-dose senior version of the flu shot will contain all four vaccines. In past years, the senior shot (for those over age 65) contained only three of the vaccines, two A and one B. Most years I would write a snarly note to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and ask about the reason for the false economy. Of course I never got a reply, but now ... finally, we seniors will have a flu shot with all four vaccines.

And what a shot it will be. The four vaccines are names we haven't heard in a while, if ever: A/Guangdong-Maonan (H1N1), A/Hong Kong (H3N2), B/Washington and B/Phuket. To help us kick start our immune system, the senior version will contain four times the amount that younger folks get. The standard trivalent (three-way) will have two A and one B, while the standard

quadrivalent (four-way) has all four.

If your doctor says you should have a flu shot, don't delay. When I called my pharmacy (where I get my flu shots each year), the first appointment was many days out, and they had been swamped with requests for the shot. Yes, they will be resupplied when they run out, but no, they didn't know how quickly that would be.

By getting a flu shot, should you get sick later this season, it will be a good bet that it's not the regular flu, which will save much time in getting a diagnosis.

To find flu shots, call your doctor, local pharmacies, grocery stores or go to [vaccinefinder.org](http://vaccinefinder.org). If you have a Medicare or insurance card, you won't have to pay anything.

If you want to know more, check the CDC website: [www.cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2020-2021.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2020-2021.htm).

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1. Fred Thurston, an offensive lineman for the Vince Lombardi-era Green Bay Packers, was better known by what nickname?

2. What team selected Georgetown Hoyas basketball standout Ruben Boumtje-Boumtje with the 50th overall pick in the 2001 NBA Draft?

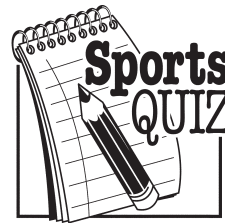
3. Name the brothers who played college football for the Miami Hurricanes and were both on the 1997 Seattle Seahawks roster.

4. What Big Ten team did Lute Olson leave to accept the head coaching job for the University of Arizona Wildcats men's basketball team in 1983?

5. What Heisman Trophy winner from the Florida State University Seminoles was selected by the New York Knicks in the first round of the 1994 NBA Draft?

6. "Brass Bonanza" was the popular theme song for what now-defunct NHL team?

7. What prolific actor was known as



by Ryan A. Berenz

"The Hammer" during his eight-year pro football career in the 1960s?

## Answers

1. "Fuzzy."
2. The Portland Trail Blazers.
3. Bennie and Brian Blades.
4. The University of Iowa Hawkeyes.
5. Charlie Ward.
6. The Hartford Whalers.
7. Fred Williamson.

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## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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



## Weekly Windup

### Back in Session

This year has been far from normal. But over the last few weeks Congress has been back in session, and the pace seems to be picking up again. Last week, I unveiled a bipartisan pathway for another COVID-19 relief bill, and this week, the House has been focused on passing a number of tribal bills as well as a bill to keep our government open through the election.

I was proud to speak on the House floor in support of my own bill that passed the House this week – unanimously. The Tribal School Federal Insurance Parity Act will divert millions back to tribal students' education. For ten years, leaders have tried to bring parity to tribal grant schools' benefits program, and I'm grateful for the input tribal members gave me along the way to ensure this got done. The House also passed the Savanna's Act, and as a co-sponsor of this bill and a representative for a state with a large tribal population, I was proud to see legislation to combat the startling number of missing and murdered indigenous women pass unanimously.

The House also managed to pass a government spending bill that funds the government through December 11. There was a lot of debate about this "Continuing Resolution." Initially, funding for critical agriculture programs weren't included in the bill. Republicans and many rural Democrats told Speaker Pelosi this was a non-starter – this important funding for agriculture was included in the final version of the bill.

### Headed to the floor

Thomas Jefferson said, if he had to choose, he would prefer newspapers without government, over government without newspapers. That is a dramatic statement, but I think it highlights how critical journalism is to holding government accountable. Every good reporter has faced the wrath of a wronged politician and has had disgruntled readers or listeners cancel their patronage. In politics, it is tempting to be among the disgruntled, but if we want a free society, we have to support a free press. One whose loyalty is not to partisan endeavors or to stoking division and conflict, but rather, is to the truth. That is why I headed to the floor this week to highlight how "Democracy Demands Journalism." Watch here.

### Back to Business

Back in session means congressional hearings continued. I participated in two hearings this week. One on the National Apprenticeship Act and another on the 2020 wildfires.

In the Education and Labor Committee's hearing on the National Apprenticeship Act, I offered an amendment that would streamline the process of what's considered a "registered apprenticeship" through the Department of Labor (DOL). Right now, it's extremely difficult to add an occupation to DOL's list. This amendment was bipartisan and was adopted by my colleagues on the Committee.

During the Agriculture Committee's Forestry Subcommittee hearing, I spoke on the need for proactive forest management and follow through of forest service projects – so many of them don't make it through implementation. South Dakota continues to see a decline in forest fires because of timber sales and tree thinning, and I was proud to highlight our successes. A managed forest is a healthy forest.

Congress will be back in session next week and there's a possibility we will be discussing a COVID-19 relief bill with a price tag of \$2.4 trillion. Stay tuned...

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## Adult Supervision

I come from a big family – a good Catholic family! I'm the oldest of eleven kids - Mike, Mick (Michele), Doc (Dennis), Doug, Tim, Dan, Tom, Pat, Steve, Scott and Jamie. We grew up together in Pierre and no matter what we did, whether it was exploring the hills north of Pierre or wandering the neighborhood, we always made an adventure out of it. Being the oldest, my parents naturally expected me to use good judgement and to keep my siblings safe. I don't know if that meant adult supervision or just showing maturity; but for purposes of this column, we'll say they wanted me to act mature. They'd tell my siblings to listen to me, but as you can imagine, that didn't always happen. (I'm not naming names, but we all know I'm talking about Doug.) Whenever they'd spout off, I'd have to say, "Knock it off you guys or I'll pound ya!" Sometimes it worked, sometimes it didn't. If you come from a big family, you understand.

By now, you've heard the information that will dominate the news for the next few weeks: the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. RBG lived a life devoted to pursuing justice. We send our prayers to her family and loved ones as they go through this difficult time. She leaves behind a legacy of public service we can all respect.

The nation now turns its attention to filling the vacancy left behind on the Supreme Court. The court rules on things we hold most dear – our life, our liberty and our property – natural rights as Locke would call them. The next justice will be making decisions on cases involving your Second Amendment rights, your healthcare, the sanctity of human life, property rights and multiple environmental issues.

Our Founding Fathers intended the Senate to be the body to provide a mature approach to governance. George Washington is said to have told Thomas Jefferson the framers had created the Senate to "cool" House legislation, just as a saucer was used to cool hot tea. They achieved this by structuring each legislative body differently: the House, based on population, has 435 members which are elected every two years; the Senate only has 100 members, two from each state, which are elected every six years. Senate elections are also staggered so only one-third of members are up for election every two years to limit turnover and maintain stability. In the case of judicial nominations, the Founders also intended to provide a process with checks and balances on the executive branch's ability to put members on the court. They delegated the nominating task to the president and the responsibility of confirmation to the Senate. Clearly the Founders wanted a second opinion in the form of a mature review of the president's selection.

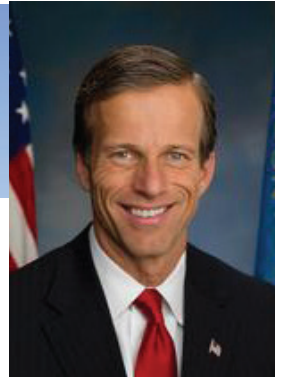
That brings us to the events of today, National Democrats are disappointed with the timing. They say if Senate Republicans fulfill their constitutional duty and provide 'advice and consent' on the president's nominee before the election, they'll retaliate. Should Democrats win the presidency and the Senate this November, they'll pack the Supreme Court, which means adding additional seats to be filled by liberal justices. But to do this, they will have to eliminate the filibuster - a Senate process that leads to bipartisanship and compromise. I'll admit the filibuster rule is frustrating for those of us who would like to see legislation move more quickly, but it's a Senate tradition rooted in the Founder's vision of mature decision-making. Back when there were only 26 Senators, finding consensus was easier, but even then, they strived to find consensus. Our Founding Fathers were brilliant.

If Democrats were to eliminate the filibuster, it would allow major legislation to pass by simple majority, paving the way for Democrats to raise your taxes to pay for their radical socialist agenda like the Green New Deal and Medicare for All. They would also pass D.C. and Puerto Rico statehood, in an attempt to add four safe Democrats seats to the Senate, further diluting South Dakota's voice (the House of Representatives under Democratic control have already passed legislation providing the District of Columbia with statehood).

Elections do matter. In 2014, the people of South Dakota elected me to serve them in the Senate. That's what I'm going to do. I'll do my homework and meet with President Trump's nominee, just as I did in the past with Justices Gorsuch and Kavanaugh and President Obama's nominee Judge Garland. When the nomination comes to the floor, I'll be fully prepared to cast my vote to fulfill my constitutional duty - providing mature leadership. Or as provided in the constitution, 'advice and consent'.



**John Thune**  
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



## My Constitutional Duty

Ruth Bader Ginsburg served with distinction on the Supreme Court for more than 25 years, and she embraced the law at a time when being a woman meant a constant uphill battle. She was involved in some of the court's most memorable exchanges and was always able to disagree with her colleagues without indicting their character. Justice Ginsburg could disagree without being disagreeable – a principle that's always guided my life, too. She will be missed, and my thoughts and prayers are with her family.

After the nation says its final goodbye to Justice Ginsburg, the Senate will turn its attention to its constitutional duty to provide advice and consent on the president's nominee. I always take that responsibility seriously, but there's an added layer of importance when it comes to a Supreme Court nominee.

There has been some criticism that in 2016, the Senate decided it would not confirm President Obama's nominee to the Supreme Court, but that decision follows longstanding Senate precedent and practice. You'd have to go back to the 1800s to find the last time a Supreme Court vacancy was created and filled during an election year when the Senate majority and White House were controlled by opposite parties. While some people disagreed with our decision, the Senate fulfilled its constitutional responsibilities in 2016 by withholding consent on that nominee.

On the flip side, in all but one case (which involved an ethics scandal and bipartisan opposition), every single Supreme Court nominee who was nominated in an election year when the Senate majority and White House were occupied by the same party was confirmed. I'm by no means predetermining confirmation of President Trump's nominee, but the precedent for considering her is clear.

I've voted on six of the current members of the Supreme Court, and I've applied the same standards for each of them as I considered their nominations. I've always looked for someone who acts as an umpire and call balls and strikes when it comes to interpreting the law. We cannot have Supreme Court justices legislating from the bench – that's the job of the Congress. When I meet with her, I will underscore that I believe it's important for the Supreme Court to apply the law as Congress intended and decide cases with impartiality, free from personal opinions or preferred outcomes.

Over the last few decades, we've seen too many examples of judicial activism and pushing a political agenda from the federal bench, including the Supreme Court. That's not what our Founders intended.

One of the main reasons many of my colleagues, myself included, ran for the Senate was to be in a position to restore the Supreme Court to its original constitutional purpose as a judicial body, not a legislative one. We ran for this. We were elected for this. Now, we will follow through.

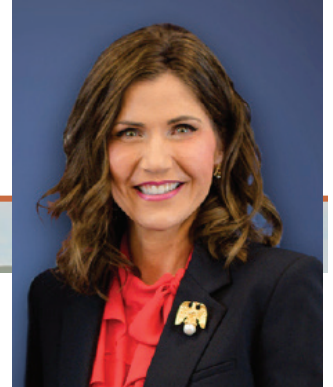
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SOUTH DAKOTA GOVERNOR  
**KRISTI NOEM**



## Reaching Out to Our Neighbors

I recently had a chance to visit with a single mom, the mother of two young girls, from another state. Her state is locked down. Her little girls are doing 100% distance-learning. She is working full-time from home. And she is struggling.

The balancing act was something she could do at first. But now, it seems like this horrible situation will never end. I could hear the stress and fatigue in her voice, and I could see the anxiousness on her face. She is fed up, angry, and in desperate need of some relief. My heart hurt listening to her story.

COVID-19 has posed lots of new challenges for all of us. We have taken time to thank the folks on the frontlines of this pandemic, such as healthcare professionals, truck drivers, grocery store employees, law enforcement personnel, teachers, unemployment specialists, and many others. But I want to take a minute to speak directly to the men and women who don't fall into these categories. I know you may be struggling too.

This week, I'd like to remind everyone that at our core we are neighbors, and we are all in this together. Please remember that the woman in front of you at the grocery store or the man at the pharmacy could be going through a lot right now.

I challenge each South Dakotan to reach out to a family member, a friend, a loved one, a neighbor, or even a stranger and ask how they are doing. Take some time out of your day to really listen to their reply. There are a lot of people in this country who are fed up and at their breaking points. Some people may be losing hope.

In South Dakota, we are so fortunate to have had the opportunity to approach this virus differently. To allow businesses to innovate, schools to open up on time, and not resort to a lockdown. But that doesn't mean people in our state aren't having a hard time too.

Please help your loved ones focus on the good things we have in our lives, and maybe reflect with gratitude on how fortunate we are to live in the modern world. A threat like this can break us down – or it can make us truly appreciate the many blessings we have.

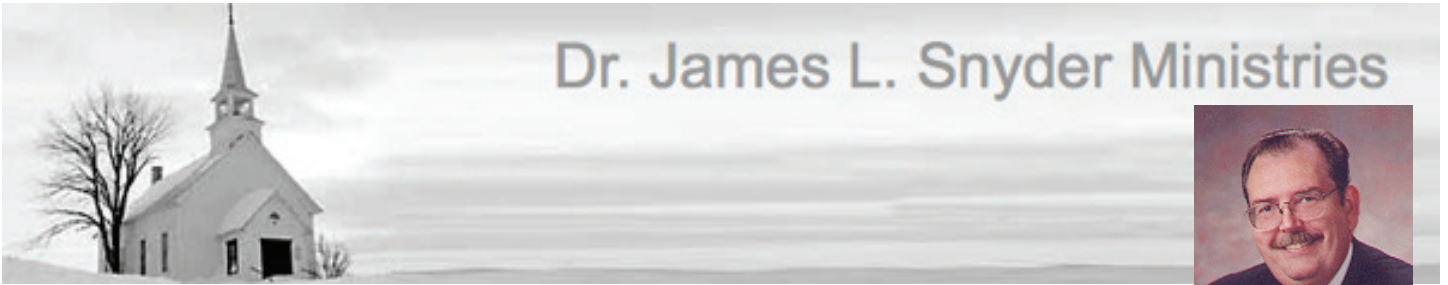
If there's anything we all can rally around at the moment, it's that we all have a common enemy – this virus. It's okay to be scared, worried, or fed up. But at the same time, we can also pour ourselves into our families, our neighbors, our communities.

My message to you this week is please hang in there. We will get through this.

My hope is that, despite this horrible situation, we all find a way to allow it to make the bonds of community stronger. To remind us of what is important in life. To remind us of three things: faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love.

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## Oh, to Be Crazy and Get Paid for It

I usually don't complain a lot. When I do I get caught in some dilemma that I can't talk my way out. You think I would learn my lesson, but I'm still in the learning curve.

It was a long week, and the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I had a busy schedule. She went her way, I went my way and the Spousal Twain only meets after the week's work is done.

Some weeks are better than others, but some aren't. And I was having a rather dismal week with a few things going wrong. For one, my vehicle needed to go to the garage to be fixed.

I always fear taking my truck in for repairs because it usually ends up costing more than expected. However, this week, when I went to pick up my vehicle, it was only 1/3 of what I thought it would cost. I was happy. After all, who wouldn't be happy?

I drove home in time for supper, and the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage had a wonderful supper prepared for us, and we enjoyed our time together. I am a little careful because she has a way of sneaking in vegetables that I don't recognize.

After supper, we took our coffee into the living room to watch a little bit of the news. That is always the wrong thing to do, and you would think I would know it by this time.

If there's anything positive on the news, it has something to do with this coronavirus. I'm a little weary of that.

Watching the news, my wife could see that I was getting a little bit agitated. I don't always get agitated, but when I do... I do.

"What has you all worked up," my wife asked?

I was afraid to respond to that question. I have learned that every time your wife asks you a question, there is an agenda behind the scene that you can't see. I was afraid I was being set up or something.

Finally, I broke my silence and said, "I'm rather tired of all of these crazy politicians who don't know their right hand from their left hand, except when they stick it out for donations. I'm tired of these crazy politicians being on television! Why can't they go to the principal's office like I had to do so often when I was in grade school?"

I tried to keep my rant as short as possible. I had a lot more that I wanted to say, but I was a little frustrated, so I tucked it in the back of my brain. Incidentally, there's plenty of room back there.

When I quieted down, I heard some chuckles across the room. I looked in my wife's direction, and there she sat giggling and chuckling and having a great time of it.

"What's so funny?"

She just looked at me and continued giggling and then finally said, "Don't you know that those crazy politicians get paid for being crazy. The crazier they are, the more money they make."

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Then she broke into one of her hysterical laughs.

"Don't you," she said between giggles, "wish you were that crazy?"

I had to think about that. I never thought of that before. But, as usual, my wife is right. I wish I could get a job where I didn't have to do anything and get paid 100 times more than I'm worth.

"If you want to make money like them," my wife said rather soberly, "you will have to be just as crazy as they are."

That's a very good thought. Maybe I ought to look into this situation a little closer.

"That's why you don't have much money," my wife explained, "you are not crazy enough!"

That was a surprise coming from my wife. I thought she knew how crazy I really was. But then I got to thinking. Perhaps she is right after all.

"Where do you suppose they get all of their craziness?"

Again, my wife chuckled and looked at me and said, "Because they have no idea what they say from one day to the next. They live in a bubble and have lost a sense of reality in this world of ours."

Again, she was spot on about this craziness in politics.

"They don't live in the real world," my wife began to explain to me. "They live in a world of their imagination, and their imagination creates a spirit of craziness."

"So," I said to her, "if I'm going to get paid for being crazy, I gotta quit living in the real world."

"Now you got it," she replied.

I got it, but I'm sure not going to get it. Getting paid for being crazy means that I have to live in a bubble and not the real world, I wonder if it's really worth it?

Maybe being poor and sane is the better alternative.

I must confess that there are moments when I am tempted towards craziness. Then, I watched some politician on television giving a speech, and I realized being that crazy is worth it for me.

How much money would be worth becoming that crazy?

I then thought of a verse in the Bible. "Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless" (Ecclesiastes 5:10).

Being crazy isn't worth all the money in the world.

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**#216 in a series**

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

Still not looking good. We had 50,000 new case reports today, a 0.7% increase to 7,100,300. The 14-day new-case average is higher than ever at 22%; this is a huge increase. South Dakota set a single-day new-case record today, second time for that this week; and we've had more new cases this week than during any other seven-day stretch throughout. We have broken hospitalization records twice this week as well. Meanwhile, North Dakota has the fastest rate of growth in per capita cases in the country, a 50% increase from two weeks ago. Their chief public health official has resigned after less than a month on the job; the governor accepted the resignation saying the penalty for breaking quarantine had become a "large and unforeseen distraction." Because the actual pandemic is no distraction at all, I guess, so quarantines don't really matter. Wisconsin's case numbers have more than doubled since the beginning of the month, averaging more than 2000 new cases per day over the past week. Other states setting single-day new-case records are Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Oklahoma, and Missouri. Oklahoma has reported more new cases over the past week than at any other point in the pandemic. And in Missouri where the governor and his wife have both tested positive, plans continue for a fall festival at the governor's mansion a few days before their quarantine is over. Nothing to see here folks, nothing at all.

We are now up to 204,300 deaths. There were 832 deaths reported today, a 0.4% increase. Staying in that range right around 1000 per day.

We have an update since yesterday on trends by state, and like so many things these days, it's worse by quite a lot. We're now up to 34 states and territories with increasing new case numbers: Oregon, Nevada, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Wisconsin, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Maine, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, West Virginia, District of Columbia, North Carolina, Florida, and Puerto Rico.

I watched an interview with Dr. Katya Corado of the Harbor-Lundquist Institute (at UCLA), lead investigator for the Oxford/AstraZeneca phase 3 vaccine trial. She indicated they do not yet have an open date for their US arm of the trial which was paused when a patient in the UK developed a serious adverse event. She explained the work being done now is to determine whether that event was caused by the trial, was a preexisting condition, or was caused by an outside event. The trial will not reopen until that question is answered. She also addressed the importance of including communities of color in trials and efforts being made to enroll such participants, while recognizing the reasons for those communities to feel mistrustful of participation in this sort of research. She was also asked what she thought of the governors of a number of states who have said they will independently vet the research underlying any licensed vaccine before approving it for use in their states. I thought her answer was interesting: She said it is a good idea to do whatever is necessary to have confidence a vaccine is safe and efficacious, so that if states wanted to have their own look, she thinks this is appropriate. I'll add that this is the way real scientists talk because this is the way real scientists work; they welcome sunlight on their findings.

We are getting a tantalizing clue as to why children appear to be so well-protected from SARS-CoV-2. We know that the majority of children do not get sick when infected, and when they do, they generally recover. There have been very few serious infections, lingering after-effects, or deaths in children throughout this pandemic. The first study comparing children's immune response to the virus to that in adults suggests children's innate responses are taking care of the virus before it has any opportunity to damage tissue.

We've talked before about the two lines of defense you have against an unfamiliar pathogen, the first-line innate response and the second-line adaptive response. Let's review. (For a more thoroughgoing discussion of these two lines of defense, see my Update #150 posted on July 22 at <https://www.facebook.com/marie.schwabmiller/posts/3796230603726651>.)

Your first-line innate responses are nonspecific, that is, they work with pretty much any pathogen that happens along. They offer general protection against threats and include cells that clear away foreign

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particles of all kinds, cells that clean up damaged tissue, and inflammatory responses that move immune cells into those damaged areas to produce a further response. Then there is that second line, acquired responses. These are called acquired because we acquire the specificity of their response after contact with a particular foreign pathogen, an antigen, which sensitizes them so they lock on to just that particular invader. You're going to respond to one antigen and build both antibody and cellular responses to it, but that's going to take a little more time to develop because of the steps required to mount the response. You'll do this all over again for each new threat, and there isn't a great deal of cross-over from one to the next, so you need to do it over and over again for each new threat. That's why your immunity to, say, measles virus doesn't do you any good against a coronavirus and your response to one coronavirus doesn't do you much good against a different coronavirus. The good news is that after you've had one of these specific kinds of responses, the memory of the encounter lingers from weeks to a lifetime (depending on the antigen), insuring a more rapid and vigorous response upon subsequent encounters as long as the memory lasts.

Now to a child, pretty much every antigen encountered is a new one; they don't have much immunological experience. It so happens that their innate response—that first nonspecific one—is really fast and, typically, overwhelming. Kids keep running across new pathogens (think of the infant crawling around the floor putting every damned thing into his mouth) and so they build up a repertoire of cells sensitized to various pathogens. By the time you're an adult, you don't need such a strong innate response anymore; you have this catalog of ready-to-go, highly-sophisticated, specialized responses stored in immunological memory and all ready to go. That works well because by the time you're all grown up, you're about done encountering new pathogens—you've seen it all. Except when a novel virus rears its ugly head. Like now.

Because the innate response tends to fade with age and the reduced need for it, older adults are more vulnerable to novel pathogens; we don't have such a perky innate response, and acquired responses happen more slowly. When your innate responses don't swoop in and clean house early, the adaptive responses don't have as much time to get underway so they can stop a new pathogen before it's had the opportunity to do some real damage.

A group of researchers at Albert Einstein College of Medicine has had a paper published a few days ago in the journal *Science Translational Medicine* comparing cytokine, humoral (antibody), and cellular immune responses in 65 pediatric (under age 24) and 60 adult patients at a hospital system in New York. Their findings show that the adult group had more robust acquired responses to the virus than the pediatric patients, which strongly suggests innate responses make the difference. Further, the children showed much higher blood levels of two cytokines, interleukin 17A (IL-17A) and interferon gamma, which were most abundant in the youngest patients and progressively decreased with age. Production of IL-17A might forestall the more vigorous adaptive response that is associated with hyperinflammation and the harmful inflammatory responses we've seen in Covid-19 patients. Adults showed a weaker early (innate) response, which may be setting off an intense and unregulated adaptive reaction once the threat has grown, and this may be what leads to that acute respiratory distress syndrome and eventual death.

While all of this is suggestive of where we might go from here in terms of research, it is important to recognize that the study was small and enrolled patients quite late in their disease. That is a feature of studies of Covid-19 because patients don't show symptoms very early; the innate response flourishes within hours of exposure, but people don't typically come to the hospital (so they can be studied) until a week or so into their infection. That makes it difficult to pin down just what their innate responses might have been several days earlier. This makes some of the work here speculative.

This does, however, probably put a dent in the theories that children were protected because of their more recent exposure to the more common cold-causing coronaviruses because this study found no significant differences in the immune response to the two types of coronavirus. This work may also damage the theory that children generate a stronger antibody response than adults because it showed adults actually produce more powerful antibodies than children do. It also surfaces concerns about antibody-dependent enhancement (ADE), that situation where an antibody can actually help the virus to damage host cells. If

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that turns out to be a thing here, it could be that high levels of antibodies are actually harmful. We're a ways from that being a concern, but vaccine trials are acutely attuned to the possibility. There is a great deal left to learn.

We hear talk of herd immunity from time to time. Herd immunity is definitely a real thing: If a sufficient percentage of the population is immune to a given pathogen, then the  $R_e$  drops because an infected case encounters so few susceptible individuals to whom they can give the virus and the infection ceases to spread. The herd immunity threshold (HIT) varies from pathogen to pathogen, but the majority of experts place the HIT for this virus around 60 to 70%. A recent study places the current immunity level of the population in the US at around 9.7%, varying from near 20% in New York City to around 1% in some rural areas. All of this is a fair distance from 60 to 70%. Let's consider for the moment that 9.7% immunity cost us 203,000+ lives. All else being equal, we're going to need 6.2 times more Americans to be infected to reach our low HIT of 60%. That equates, at the current rate of deaths to cases, to a million and a quarter lives lost, everything else equal. That just doesn't seem like a great plan to me.

Tonight's closing story won't even generate a raised eyebrow in my neighborhood; we've all seen things like this many times over the years. One such event happened just a couple of miles east of where I sit right now. For those who aren't as fortunate as we are here in farm country, I have the following:

Lane Unhjem, 57, is a farmer in North Dakota; his farm's been in the family for more than 60 years. He has a bit of seasonal and family help, but it's mostly a one-man operation. As he undoubtedly knew, even before this fall, farming is one of the most hazardous occupations in the United States (#7 to be precise). One day, earlier this month, Lane's number came up as he was harvesting durum with his combine and suddenly flames began to leap up around him; his combine was on fire. Now there is little more dangerous than a fire in a field of ripe wheat: The stuff burns fast and hot, and wheat fires spread rapidly. I've witnessed it; the speed of these things is terrifying. Neighbors saw the black smoke rolling off the machinery, billowing into the air, and raced in to help him put the flames out, saving his field from going up in smoke; but after all the exertion and smoke inhalation, Unhjem, who apparently has a cardiac history, went into cardiac arrest. He went to the hospital. His daughter said his heart stopped three more times in the emergency room, so he was airlifted about 100 miles to a medical center in Minot, North Dakota, where he remains in critical condition. At best, he has months of recovery ahead of him.

Clearly, Unhjem's not going to get his crops out of the field himself this year, and they wait for no one. You harvest when it's ready, or you lose much of the value of the crop and your year's income to weather. So (and here's the "of course" portion of the program for anyone who lives in farm country) despite their own crops also ripe in their fields, his neighbors stopped their own harvesting, and nearly 60 of them—in a county with only 2000 residents—showed up on his farm bright and early on the morning of September 12, bringing harvesting equipment along for the ride. A neighbor had "made a couple of phone calls and started getting equipment offered left and right, plus the help to go with it:" 11 combines, six grain carts, and 15 semi-trucks along with dozens of workers. Some of them came 30 miles and more to pitch in. Local businesses and other neighbors came too, bringing food and water for the workers. A local photographer heard about the event and showed up to take pictures. He said, "You can't truly appreciate it unless you were there. The ground was rumbling. It's not only something you felt emotionally, but it was also a physical feeling. It was really something to be proud of."

For these farmers, this is a reflex reaction. They know the stakes. One said, "If we hadn't done it, I don't know how he would have gotten the crop off in time. It was crucial to get it off when we did. It's one less thing for the family to worry about."

Two of Unhjem's daughters sent pictures from the farm along to Dad and Mom at the hospital in Minot as the day wore on. Another daughter at the hospital said, "Mom was being strong, but every time a photo came in, she got emotional." Everyone the area knows how devastating it would have been if the neighbors had not come in to help. And by nightfall, 1000 acres of wheat and canola were harvested and hauled off; and everyone went back to their own fields as if nothing special had just happened. Because that's what neighbors do in farm country.

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One such neighbor said, "This is just something that comes naturally. This is the farming way of life." That would be my observation too.

The community also cooked up and stocked the family's freezer with a month's worth of meals. A community member said, "We will definitely continue to support the family, especially when they get home." Folks came back the following weekend to move cows to different pastures and haul hay. A local restaurant is having a pancake breakfast Sunday with the proceeds going to help the family out. A local said, "We will definitely continue to support the family, especially when they get home."

People sometimes ask me why I choose to live in such a Godforsaken part of the country. Now you know. Keep yourself healthy. I'll see you all tomorrow.



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## COVID CASES OVER THE WEEKS WORLDWIDE

**3 Weeks Ago**

**2 Weeks Ago**

**Last Week**

**This Week**

Global Cases	Global Cases	Global Cases	Global Cases
<b>26,906,338</b>	<b>28,787,808</b>	<b>30,804,120</b>	<b>32,870,631</b>
<b>6,246,162</b> US	<b>6,486,401</b> US	<b>6,766,631</b> US	<b>7,079,689</b> US
<b>4,123,000</b> Brazil	<b>4,754,356</b> India	<b>5,400,619</b> India	<b>5,992,532</b> India
<b>4,113,811</b> India	<b>4,315,687</b> Brazil	<b>4,528,240</b> Brazil	<b>4,717,991</b> Brazil
<b>1,022,228</b> Russia	<b>1,059,024</b> Russia	<b>1,098,958</b> Russia	<b>1,146,273</b> Russia
<b>683,702</b> Peru	<b>716,670</b> Peru	<b>758,398</b> Colombia	<b>806,038</b> Colombia
<b>658,456</b> Colombia	<b>708,964</b> Colombia	<b>756,412</b> Peru	<b>794,584</b> Peru
<b>636,884</b> South Africa	<b>663,973</b> Mexico	<b>694,121</b> Mexico	<b>726,431</b> Mexico
<b>629,409</b> Mexico	<b>648,214</b> South Africa	<b>659,656</b> South Africa	<b>716,481</b> Spain
<b>498,989</b> Spain	<b>566,326</b> Spain	<b>640,040</b> Spain	<b>702,484</b> Argentina
<b>471,806</b> Argentina	<b>546,481</b> Argentina	<b>622,934</b> Argentina	<b>669,498</b> South Africa
Global Deaths	Global Deaths	Global Deaths	Global Deaths
<b>880,008</b>	<b>920,795</b>	<b>957,348</b>	<b>994,534</b>
<b>188,540</b> deaths US	<b>193,705</b> deaths US	<b>199,268</b> deaths US	<b>204,499</b> deaths US
<b>126,203</b> deaths Brazil	<b>131,210</b> deaths Brazil	<b>136,532</b> deaths Brazil	<b>141,406</b> deaths Brazil
<b>70,626</b> deaths India	<b>78,586</b> deaths India	<b>86,752</b> deaths India	<b>94,503</b> deaths India
<b>67,326</b> deaths Mexico	<b>70,604</b> deaths Mexico	<b>73,258</b> deaths Mexico	<b>76,243</b> deaths Mexico
<b>41,638</b> deaths United Kingdom	<b>41,712</b> deaths United Kingdom	<b>41,848</b> deaths United Kingdom	<b>42,060</b> deaths United Kingdom
<b>35,534</b> deaths Italy	<b>35,603</b> deaths Italy	<b>35,692</b> deaths Italy	<b>35,818</b> deaths Italy

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## Area COVID-19 Cases

	Sept. 23	Sept. 24	Sept. 25	Sept. 26	Sept. 27
Minnesota	91,422	92,100	93,012	94,189	95,659
Nebraska	41,785	42,278	42,731	43,162	43,596
Montana	10,700	10,912	11,242	11,564	11,907
Colorado	66,053	66,669	67,217	67,926	68,510
Wyoming	4,231	4,368	4,488	4,585	4,618
North Dakota	18,508	18,981	19,451	19,885	+20,380
South Dakota	19,189	19,634	20,097	20,544	+21,133
United States	6,897,495	6,935,415	6,978,874	7,034,824	7,079,689
US Deaths	200,818	201,920	202,819	203,789	204,499

Minnesota	+480	+678	+912	+1,177	+1,460
Nebraska	+397	+493	+453	+431	+434
Montana	+271	+212	+330	+323	+343
Colorado	+654	+616	+548	+709	+584
Wyoming	+42	+137	+120	+97	+33
North Dakota	+264	+473	+470	+434	+495
South Dakota	+320	+445	+463	+457	+579
United States	+39,357	37,920	+43,459	+55,950	+44,865
US Deaths	+928	+1,102	+899	+970	+710

	Sept. 16	Sept. 17	Sept. 18	Sept. 19	Sept. 20	Sept. 21	Sept. 22
Minnesota	85,351	85,813	86,722	87,807	88,721	90,017	90,942
Nebraska	38,970	39,419	39,921	40,387	40,797	41,083	41,388
Montana	9,244	9,431	9,647	9,871	10,163	10,299	10,429
Colorado	62,099	62,686	63,145	63,750	64,356	64,857	65,399
Wyoming	3,762	3,866	3,936	4,009	4,039	4,124	4,189
North Dakota	16,066	16,333	16,723	17,230	17,607	17,958	18,244
South Dakota	16,994	17,291	17,686	18,075	18,444	18,696	18,869
United States	6,606,674	6,631,561	6,676,410	6,726,480	6,766,631	6,799,141	6,858,138
US Deaths	195,961	196,831	197,655	198,603	199,268	199,474	199,890

Minnesota	+402	+462	+909	+1,085	+914	1,296	+925
Nebraska	+328	+449	+502	+466	+410	+286	+305
Montana	+137	+187	+216	+224	+292	+136	+130
Colorado	+400	+587	+459	+605	+606	+501	+542
Wyoming	+39	+104	+70	+73	+30	+85	+65
North Dakota	+ 235	+267	+390	+507	+377	+351	+286
South Dakota	+195	+297	+395	+389	+369	+252	+173
United States	+51,431	+24,887	+44,849	+50,070	+40,151	+32,510	+58,997
US Deaths	+1,416	+870	+824	+948	+665	+206	+416

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## September 26th COVID-19 UPDATE

### Groton Daily Independent from State Health Lab Reports

Two more deaths were recorded in South Dakota. Both males, one in the 70s and one in the 80+ age group, one in Pennington and one in Union county. North Dakota had eight more deaths.

Positive numbers jumped to 579 with the positivity daily rate at 14.6 percent. There are 19 more being admitted to the hospital, leaving the currently hospitalized now at 213. Active cases in South Dakota increased by 235 to 3,742.

Locally, Brown had 36 positive and 24 recovered. Day County had 4 positive and 4 recovered. Edmunds had 1 recovered. Marshall had 2 recovered. McPherson had 2 positive and 1 recovered. Spink had 5 positive and 5 recovered.

Lots of counties with double digit increases. They are Beadle 26, Brookings 20, Brown 36, Charles Mix 11, Codington 37, Davison 25, Grant 10, Hughes 45, Hutchinson 10, Lawrence 15, Lincoln 35, Meade 10, Minnehaha 72, Oglala Lakota 18, Pennington 51, Roberts 23, Tripp 13 and Union 10.

#### **Brown County:**

Total Positive: +36 (1,160) Positivity Rate: 23.5%

Total Tests: 153 (10,234)

Recovered: +24 (974)

Active Cases: +12 (182)

Ever Hospitalized: +2 (44)

Deaths: +0 (4)

Percent Recovered: 84.0%

#### **South Dakota:**

Positive: +579 (21,133 total) Positivity Rates: 14.6%

Total Tests: 3,955 (260,219 total)

Hospitalized: +34 (1,434 total). 213 currently hospitalized +19)

Deaths: +2 (218 total)

Recovered: +342 (17,173 total)

Active Cases: +235 (3,742)

Percent Recovered: 81.2%

Staffed Hospital Bed Capacity: 9% Covid, 49% Non-Covid, 42% Available

ICU Bed Capacity: 12% Covid, 60% Non-Covid, 27% Available

Ventilator Capacity: 5% Covid, 14% Non-Covid, 82% Available

The following is the breakdown by all counties. The number in parenthesis right after the county name represents the number of deaths in that county.

Aurora: +3 positive, +1 recovered (7 active cases)

Beadle (9): +26 positive, +6 recovered (106 active cases)

Bennett (1): +4 positive, +0 recovered (26 active

cases)

Bon Homme (1): +0 positive, +2 recovered (13 active cases)

Brookings (2): +20 positive, +23 recovered (124 active cases)

Brown (4): +36 positive, +24 recovered (182 active cases)

Brule: +5 positive, +5 recovered (27 active cases)

Buffalo (3): +0 positive, +1 recovered (18 active cases)

Butte (3): +6 positive, +2 recovered (31 active cases)

Campbell: +1 positive, +0 recovered (17 active cases)

Charles Mix: +11 positive, +0 recovered (41 active cases)

Clark: +3 positive, +0 recovered (10 active cases)

Clay (5): +4 positive, +7 recovered (44 active cases)

Codington (3): +37 positive, +20 recovered (222 active cases)

Corson (1): +0 positive, +0 recovered (13 active cases)

Custer (2): +1 positive, +1 recovered (38 active case)

Davison (2): +25 positive, +6 recovered (95 active cases)

Day: +4 positive, +4 recovered (18 active cases)

Deuel: +1 positive, +1 recovered (13 active cases)

Dewey: +1 positive, +3 recovered (57 active cases)

Douglas (1): +2 positive, +5 recovered (32 active cases)

Edmunds: +0 positive, +2 recovered (18 active cases)

Fall River (3): +1 positive, +2 recovered (17 active cases)

Faulk (1): +5 positive, +4 recovered (14 active cases)

Grant (1): +10 positive, +3 recovered (50 active cases)

Gregory (3): +7 positive, +1 recovered (65 active

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cases)

Haakon: +1 positive, +0 recovered (10 active case)  
 Hamlin: +3 positive, +0 recovered (16 active cases)  
 Hand: +1 positive, +1 recovered (13 active cases)  
 Hanson: +2 positive, +0 recovered (9 active cases)  
 Harding: 2 active cases  
 Hughes (5): +45 positive, +24 recovered (207 active cases)  
 Hutchinson (2): +10 positive, +1 recovered (36 active cases)  
 Hyde: +0 positive, +3 recovered (7 active cases)  
 Jackson (1): +2 positive, +1 recovered (11 active cases)  
 Jerauld (1): +2 positive, +3 recovered (23 active cases)  
 Jones: +3 positive, +0 recovered (7 active cases)  
 Kingsbury: +3 positive, +3 recovered (14 active cases)  
 Lake (7): +2 positive, +2 recovered (31 active cases)  
 Lawrence (4): +15 positive, +8 recovered (100 active cases)  
 Lincoln (2): +35 positive, +22 recovered (192 active cases)  
 Lyman (3): +9 positive, +0 recovered (45 active cases)  
 Marshall: +0 positive, +2 recovered (8 active cases)

McCook (1): +1 positive, +0 recovered (19 active cases)  
 McPherson: +2 positive, +1 recovery (6 active case)  
 Meade (5): +10 positive, +12 recovered (111 active cases)  
 Mellette: +0 recovery (3 active cases)  
 Miner: +1 positive (2 active cases)  
 Minnehaha (81): +72 positive, +54 recovered (593 active cases)  
 Moody: +5 positive, +0 recovered (26 active cases)  
 Oglala Lakota (3): +18 positive, +1 recovered (64 active cases)  
 Pennington (37): +51 positive, +32 recovered (402 active cases)  
 Perkins: +0 positive, +0 recovered (10 active cases)  
 Potter: +0 positive, +0 recovered (13 active cases)  
 Roberts (1): +23 positive, +5 recovered (69 active cases)  
 Sanborn: +2 positive, +1 recovered (10 active cases)  
 Spink: +5 positive, +5 recovered (32 active cases)  
 Stanley: +1 positive, +0 recovery (12 active cases)  
 Sully: +1 positive, +1 recovered (2 active cases)  
 Todd (5): +0 positive, +2 recovered (24 active cases)  
 Tripp: +13 positive, +9 recovered (72 active cases)  
 Turner (2): +6 positive, +4 recovered (37 active cases)  
 Union (7): +10 positive, +7 recovered (61 active cases)  
 Walworth (1): +2 positive, +3 recovered (43 active cases)  
 Yankton (4): +9 positive, +12 recovered (79 active cases)  
 Ziebach: +0 recovered (13 active case)

## AGE GROUP OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

Age Range	# of Cases	# of Deaths
0-9 years	667	0
10-19 years	2361	0
20-29 years	5042	2
30-39 years	3672	7
40-49 years	2870	10
50-59 years	2828	22
60-69 years	1959	32
70-79 years	995	38
80+ years	739	107

North Dakota Dept. of Health Report  
 COVID-19 Daily Report, September 26:

- 6.6% rolling 14-day positivity
  - 6.9% daily positivity
  - 497 new positives
  - 7,188 susceptible test encounters
  - 104 currently hospitalized (+15)
  - 3,672 active cases (+110)
- Total Deaths: +8 (227)

## SEX OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

Sex	# of Cases	# of Deaths
Female	10938	100
Male	10195	118

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County	Positive Cases	Recovered Cases	Negative Persons	Deceased	Community Spread
Aurora	51	44	502	0	Minimal
Beadle	784	669	2534	9	Substantial
Bennett	67	42	658	1	Substantial
Bon Homme	81	67	1145	1	Moderate
Brookings	751	625	4495	2	Substantial
Brown	1160	974	6758	4	Substantial
Brule	115	88	1049	0	Moderate
Buffalo	135	112	779	3	Minimal
Butte	97	63	1287	3	Moderate
Campbell	24	7	143	0	Moderate
Charles Mix	171	127	2161	0	Moderate
Clark	40	30	536	0	Moderate
Clay	558	509	2335	5	Substantial
Codington	842	617	4791	4	Substantial
Corson	91	77	726	1	Moderate
Custer	182	142	1048	2	Substantial
Davison	283	186	3314	2	Substantial
Day	74	56	926	0	Moderate
Deuel	83	70	616	0	Substantial
Dewey	144	87	2852	0	Substantial
Douglas	81	48	550	1	Substantial
Edmunds	91	73	583	0	Substantial
Fall River	93	73	1329	3	Substantial
Faulk	71	56	298	1	Moderate
Grant	124	73	1092	1	Substantial
Gregory	125	57	620	3	Substantial
Haakon	23	13	337	0	Moderate
Hamlin	97	77	954	0	Moderate
Hand	36	23	447	0	Moderate
Hanson	37	28	322	0	Minimal
Harding	5	3	66	0	Minimal
Hughes	429	217	2789	5	Substantial
Hutchinson	95	60	1198	2	Moderate

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Hyde	19	12	211	0	Moderate
Jackson	34	22	551	1	Moderate
Jerauld	83	57	330	1	Substantial
Jones	13	6	89	0	Minimal
Kingsbury	55	41	776	0	Substantial
Lake	190	152	1285	7	Substantial
Lawrence	395	291	3321	4	Substantial
Lincoln	1331	1136	9995	2	Substantial
Lyman	155	107	1229	3	Moderate
Marshall	38	32	640	0	Moderate
McCook	93	73	869	1	Substantial
McPherson	33	27	303	0	Moderate
Meade	519	403	3124	5	Substantial
Mellette	30	27	468	0	Minimal
Miner	21	19	337	0	Minimal
Minnehaha	6580	5906	38714	81	Substantial
Moody	90	64	849	0	Moderate
Oglala Lakota	270	203	3761	3	Substantial
Pennington	2249	1810	15285	37	Substantial
Perkins	37	27	311	0	Moderate
Potter	42	29	465	0	Moderate
Roberts	204	134	2670	1	Substantial
Sanborn	29	19	313	0	Minimal
Spink	129	97	1478	0	Substantial
Stanley	41	29	419	0	Moderate
Sully	11	9	135	0	Minimal
Todd	122	94	2779	5	Moderate
Tripp	148	76	837	0	Substantial
Turner	159	120	1304	2	Substantial
Union	394	325	2642	7	Substantial
Walworth	117	73	1131	1	Substantial
Yankton	402	313	4353	4	Substantial
Ziebach	60	47	504	0	Minimal
Unassigned	0	0	14283	0	

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- ✓ 30 year law enforcement veteran with city and county government experience
- ✓ Progressive thinker/ Conservative spender
- ✓ Common sense approach to solving issues



#### I pledge

- ✓ to put taxpayers first by no wasteful spending
- ✓ to increase transparency to taxpayers
- ✓ to maintain roads and bridges
- ✓ to the creation of a criminal justice task force addressing Meth, Opioid and other drug addictions

*Your vote will be much appreciated!*



**Absentee voting begins September 18th**



**Representation from eastern Brown County is long overdue! (35 years)**

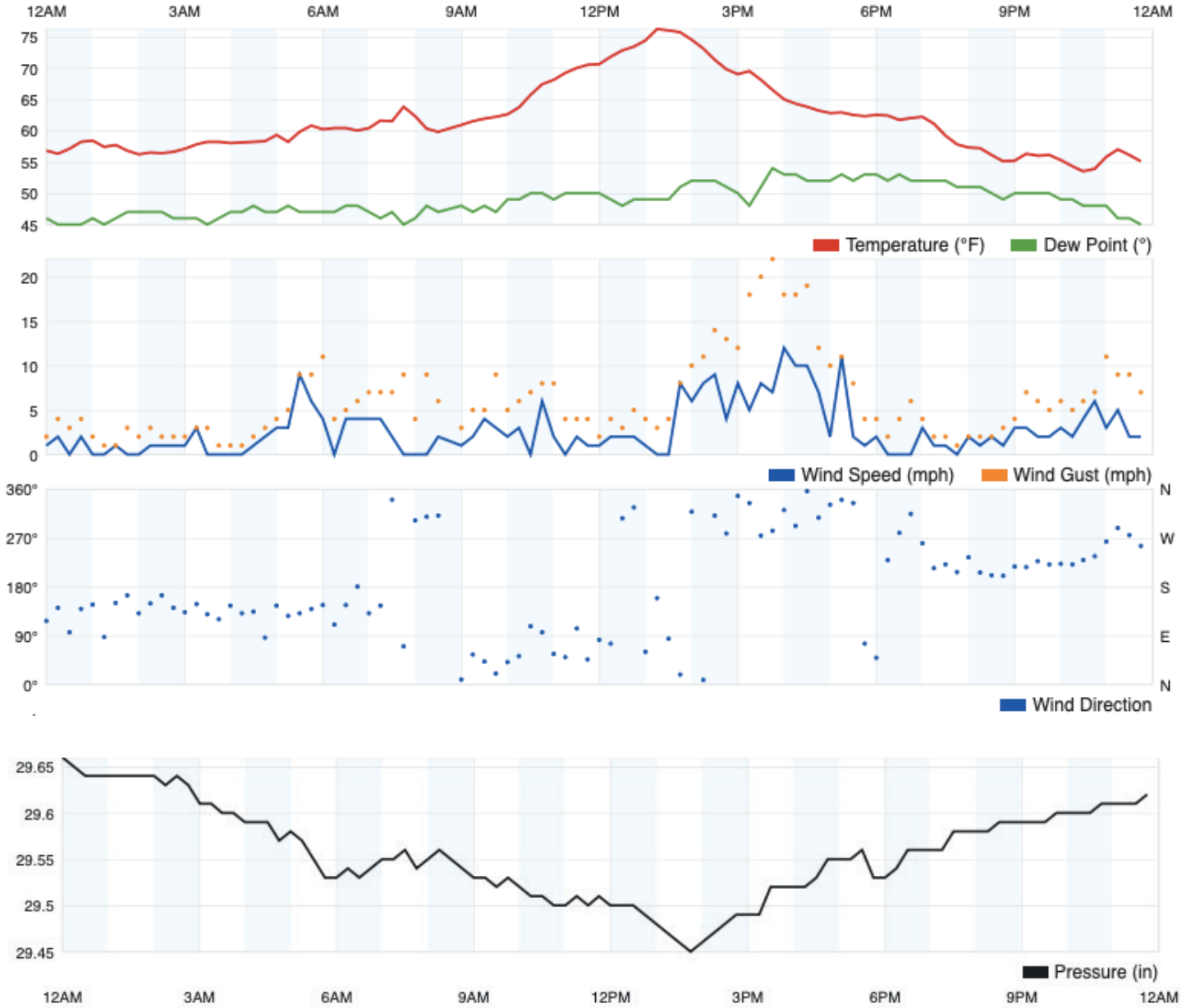
**Vote for Michael Nehls for Brown County Commission (your vote **only** for Mike could make a difference)**

Paid for by the committee to elect Mike Nehls to Brown County Commission

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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs





# Broton Daily Independent

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**Today**

**Tonight**

**Monday**

**Monday  
Night**

**Tuesday**



Chance  
Showers and  
Breezy

**High: 60 °F**



Mostly Cloudy  
and Breezy  
then Mostly  
Clear

**Low: 44 °F**



Mostly Sunny  
and Breezy

**High: 57 °F**



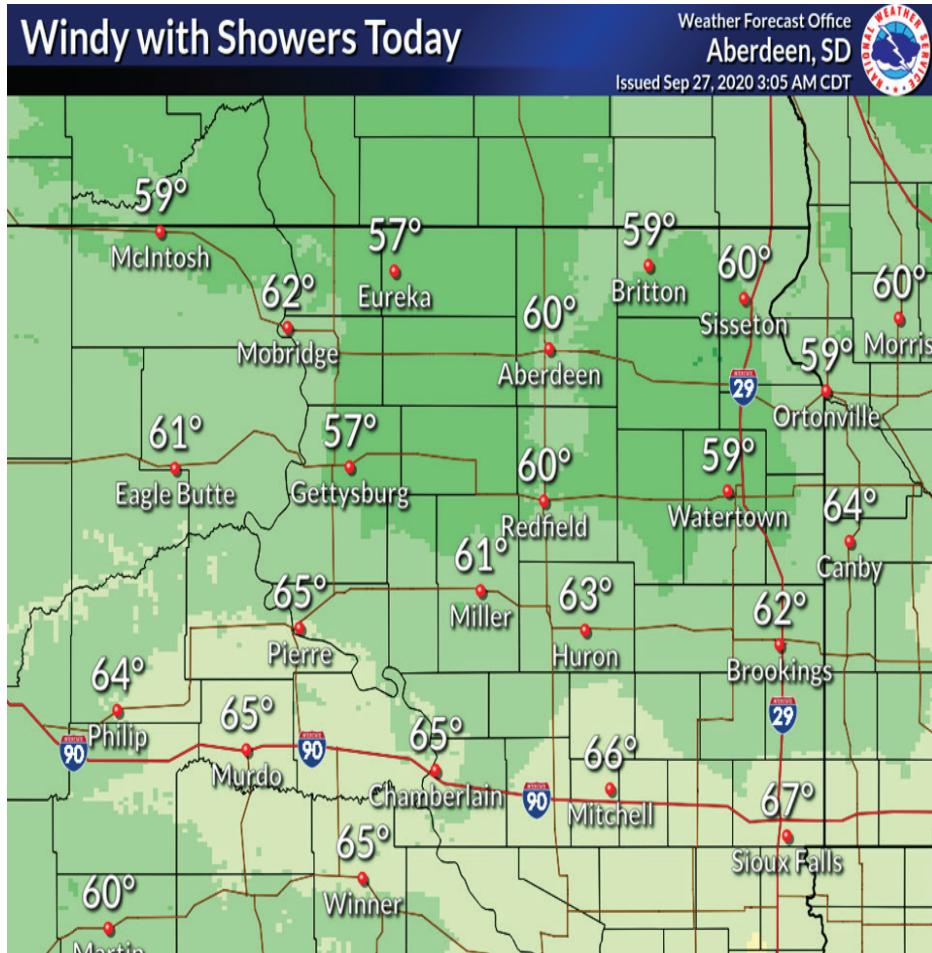
Partly Cloudy

**Low: 41 °F**



Mostly Sunny

**High: 70 °F**



Gusty winds are expected today with cooler temperatures. Showers will pass through the region through the afternoon, however little if any moisture is anticipated. Breezy conditions are expected tonight with winds increasing again Monday.

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## Today in Weather History

September 27, 1983: Lightning caused a grass fire which burned 25,000 acres northwest of Reliance during the evening hours. At its peak, the fire was four miles wide by ten miles long.

September 27, 1985: Snow fell across south-central South Dakota from the evening of the 27th until the early afternoon of the 28th. Three to five inches of snow occurred with up to 18 inches reported around Winner. Eight to 12 inches fell around Gregory and Burke.

1816 - A black frost over most of New England kills unripened corn in the north resulting in a year of famine. (David Ludlum)

1822: Using various documents and meteorological observations determined a hurricane moved ashore on this day in South Carolina. One account from Bull Island, South Carolina records the eye passing directly over that location.

1906: The second September storm of 1906 was one of great violence. On the 27th the hurricane reached the central Gulf Coast with destructive winds and unprecedented tides. At Pensacola, FL, the tide was 10 feet above normal. At Mobile, AL property damage was severe. An estimated 134 lives were lost from Pensacola, FL to Mississippi from this storm.

1911: The earliest photograph of a tornado in Australia occurred on this day. The estimated F3 tornado tore through Marong, Victoria, or about 150 km from Melbourne.

1959 - A tornado 440 yards in width traveled twenty miles from near Hollow, OK, to western Cherokee County KS. Although a strong tornado, it was very slow moving, and gave a tremendous warning roar, and as a result no one was killed. (The Weather Channel)

1959: Typhoon Vera was the strongest and deadliest typhoon on record to make landfall on the islands of Japan. Damage totals from this typhoon are estimated at \$4.85 billion (USD 2015). An estimated 4,000 deaths occurred from Typhoon Vera. This Category 5 Typhoon first made landfall on September 26 near Shionomisaki on Honshu. Vera transitioned to an extratropical cyclone on September 27, which continued to affect the island for an additional two days.

1970 - Afternoon highs of 103 degrees at Long Beach, CA, and 105 degrees at the Los Angeles Civic Center were the hottest since September records were established in 1963. Fierce Santa Ana winds accompanying the extreme heat resulted in destructive fires. (The Weather Channel)

1985: Hurricane Gloria swept over the Outer Banks then rushed across Long Island, New England, and Canada. It was the first significant hurricane to hit New England in twenty-five years and brought heavy rains and high winds to the Mid-Atlantic states as well.

1985 - A record early season snowstorm struck the Central High Plains Region. The storm left up to nineteen inches of snow along the Colorado Front Range, and as much as a foot of snow in the High Plains Region. (Storm Data)

1987 - While those at the base of Mount Washington, NH, enjoyed sunny skies and temperatures in the 70s, the top of the mountain was blanketed with 4.7 inches of snow, along with wind gusts to 99 mph, and a temperature of 13 degrees. Severe thunderstorms developed along a cold front in the south central U.S. A thunderstorm west of Noodle TX produced golf ball size hail and wind gusts to 70 mph. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thunderstorms developing ahead of a cold front produced large hail in southeastern Wyoming during the afternoon, with tennis ball size hail reported at Cheyenne. Strong winds ushering the cold air into the north central U.S. gusted to 59 mph at Lander WY. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Freezing temperatures were reported in the Great Lakes Region and the Ohio Valley. Houghton Lake MI reported a record low of 21 degrees. Thunderstorms in the western U.S. produced wind gusts to 50 mph at Salt Lake City UT, and gusts to 58 mph at Cody WY. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2014: A squall line impacted central Arizona, including the Phoenix Metro area.

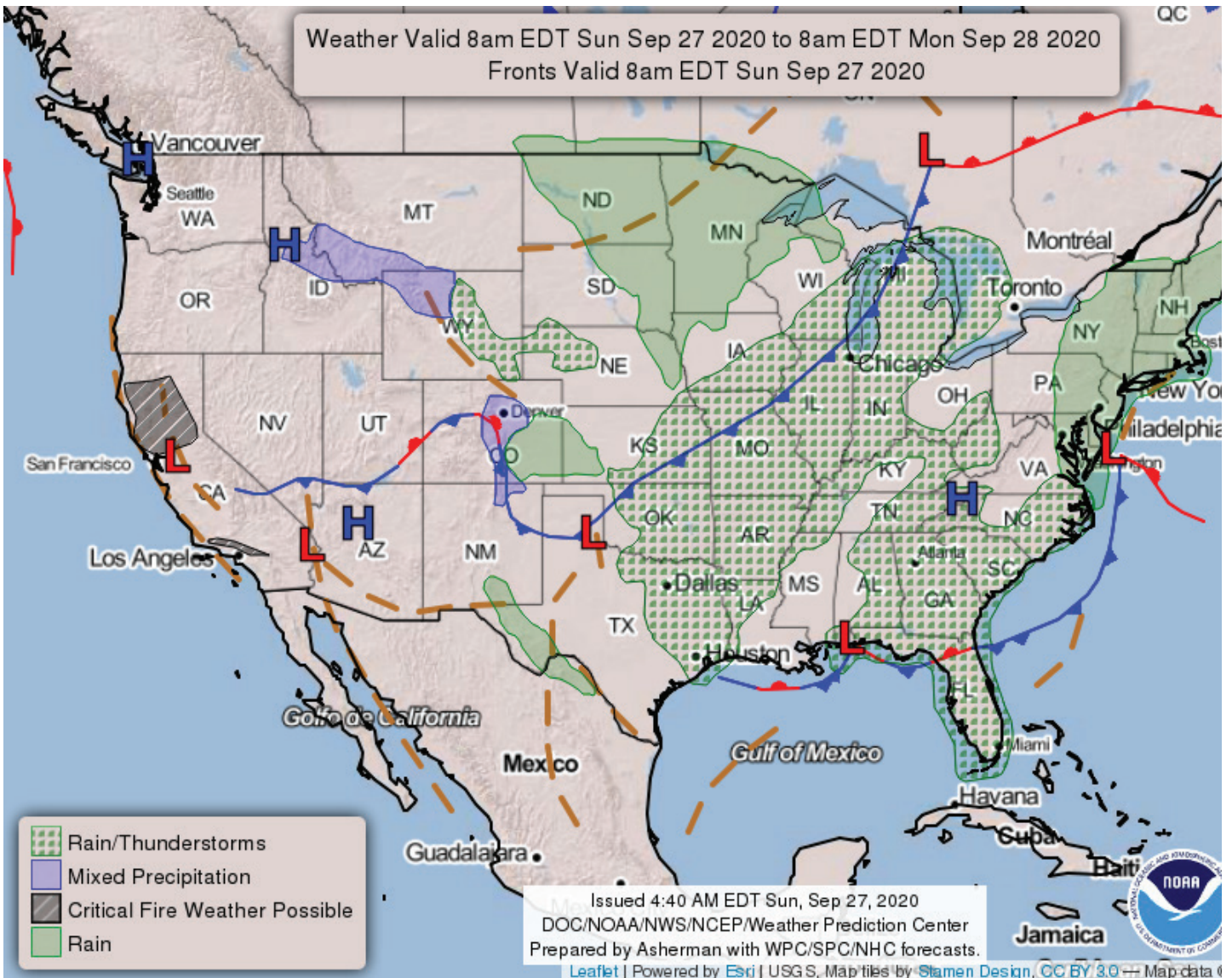
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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

**High Temp: 77 °F at 1:33 PM**  
**Low Temp: 53 °F at 10:35 PM**  
**Wind: 24 mph at 3:51 PM**  
**Precip: .00**

**Record High: 95° in 1952**  
**Record Low: 22° in 1900**  
**Average High: 67°F**  
**Average Low: 41°F**  
**Average Precip in Sept...: 1.90**  
**Precip to date in Sept.: 1.52**  
**Average Precip to date: 18.17**  
**Precip Year to Date: 14.87**  
**Sunset Tonight: 7:21 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:29 a.m.**



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## ACCIDENTS OR APPOINTMENTS

A rough-and-ready cowboy applied for a large life insurance policy. Worried about his lifestyle, the agent was careful and cautious to ask questions to make sure that the cowboy would not take any foolish chances.

"Have you had any accidents?" asked the agent.

"No, not really," he answered. "Come to think of it, though, a rattlesnake bit me and a horse kicked me once."

"Well," questioned the agent, "aren't those accidents?"

"Oh no," he responded. "They did it on purpose!"

There are no accidents in the life of the Christian - only appointments from God to let us know He is with us and working out His will in our lives. Fortunately, God is always working in "everything," not as though He is bored and wants something to do, but because of His love for us. Many things that happen to us are not good in themselves, but are good for us. Though not obvious at the time things "happen," they ultimately bring us closer to God.

God, through His power and love, is able to take every event and turn it into an experience that will fulfill His purpose for our lives. Wherever we are and whatever occurs in our lives is because of one singly, significant fact: Christ is in us preparing us for that time when we will be with Him. We need a heavenly "mindset" that enables us to see beyond the moment and into our future with Him.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, help us to develop an eternal vision that allows us to see beyond what is: You are always active in our lives, preparing us for life with You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. Romans 8:28

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## 2020 Groton SD Community Events

- **CANCELLED** Groton Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt - City Park (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- **CANCELLED** Dueling Piano's Baseball Fundraiser at the American Legion
- **CANCELLED** Fireman's Fun Night (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- **POSTPONED** Front Porch 605 Rural Route Road Trip
- **CANCELLED** Father/Daughter dance.
- **CANCELLED** Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales, (1st Saturday in May)
- **CANCELLED** Girls High School Golf Meet at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 05/25/2020 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Services
- 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
- 07/24/2020 Olive Grove Golf Course Ferney Open Golf Tourney
- 07/25/2020 City-Wide Rummage Sales
- **CANCELLED** State American Legion Baseball Tournament in Groton
- 08/07/2020 Wine on Nine Event at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 09/12-13/2020 Groton Fly-In/Drive-In at the Groton Airport north of Groton
- 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)
- 10/30/2020 Downtown Trick or Treat
- 10/31/2020 Groton United Methodist Trunk or Treat
- **CANCELLED** 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

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## News from the Associated Press

### Saturday's Scores

By The Associated Press

PREP FOOTBALL=

Florence/Henry 56, Great Plains Lutheran 15

West Sioux, Iowa 38, Elk Point-Jefferson 0

Some high school football scores provided by Scorestream.com, <https://scorestream.com/>

### SD Lottery

By The Associated Press undefined

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

Dakota Cash

05-11-16-28-33

(five, eleven, sixteen, twenty-eight, thirty-three)

Estimated jackpot: \$207,000

Lotto America

11-12-18-24-51, Star Ball: 1, ASB: 5

(eleven, twelve, eighteen, twenty-four, fifty-one; Star Ball: one; ASB: five)

Estimated jackpot: \$2.5 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$32 million

Powerball

11-21-27-36-62, Powerball: 24, Power Play: 3

(eleven, twenty-one, twenty-seven, thirty-six, sixty-two; Powerball: twenty-four; Power Play: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$25 million

### South Dakota coronavirus spread continues at all-time high

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The number of daily new coronavirus cases topped 500 for the first time in South Dakota on Saturday, as the state continued to break records of active cases and hospitalizations.

The wave of cases has caused concerns about hospitals' ability to handle COVID-19 patients along with patients needing medical care for other issues. One hospital system in northwest Iowa has reported that larger hospitals in Sioux Falls are not accepting transfers of acute patients.

South Dakota currently has 213 people hospitalized by COVID-19. That number represents 9% of hospital beds in the state, and 42% of beds are available, according to the Department of Health.

But the number of infections has continued to climb. Health officials reported 579 more people have tested positive on Saturday, contributing to a total of 3,742 people with active infections. Over the past two weeks, the state has recorded the second-highest number of new infections per capita, with 503 new cases per 100,000 people.

The positivity rate for coronavirus testing has also remained among the country's highest, an indicator that many more people have infections than tests are revealing.

Health officials reported two more deaths from COVID-19, bringing the tally to 218 deaths.

### South Dakota's buffalo roundup draws thousands of spectators

CUSTER, S.D. (AP) — Thousands of people in South Dakota gathered to watch buffalo being herded into corrals at the annual Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup on Friday.

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The event usually attracts between 19,000 and 20,000 people, the Rapid City Journal reported. Several participants in the roundup said the crowds this year looked bigger than in previous years. Officials at Custer State Park have not yet released an official estimate of the crowd size.

The event draws people from across the region to watch park officials drive over a thousand bison across the open plains of Custer State Park. The state maintains the herd at roughly 1,000 bison and auctions off the rest.

Gov. Kristi Noem rode in the roundup, as she did last year. She has aggressively promoted the state's tourist offerings amid the pandemic.

## Macron's party faces struggle in French Senate elections

PARIS (AP) — Nearly half of France's Senate seats are up for grabs Sunday in an election that is likely to leave the chamber dominated by conservatives and serve a new electoral blow to President Emmanuel Macron's centrist party.

The election is indirect, with senators chosen primarily by some 75,000 local elected officials like city councilors. They are voting for 172 of the 348 seats in the Senate, whose senators serve six-year terms.

The conservative Republicans party is expected to keep its majority, now at 143 seats.

Macron's Republic on the Move party was created just four years ago and has 23 seats in the outgoing Senate. It has lost popularity since the last election in 2017 because of yellow vest protests against policies seen as favoring the rich, party infighting and voter disenchantment with Macron's leadership, including its management of the coronavirus crisis.

The Greens party, meanwhile, enjoyed a boost in this year's municipal elections thanks to growing public concern about climate change. It is hoping Sunday's election gives it enough senators to form an official voting group in the upper house. The party currently has just four senators and needs 10 to form a group.

French Senate elections are held every three years, with part of the chamber replaced each time.

Macron's party has struggled in recent elections, and the president has not announced whether he will seek a second term in 2022. The virus pandemic and resulting recession, along with years of protests, have jeopardized his grand plans to transform France's economy to be more globally competitive and to reinvent European unity.

In the last few weeks, France has been struggling with a resurgence of the virus that has already killed over 31,600 of its citizens, one of Europe's highest virus death tolls.

Macron's party still controls the lower house of parliament, the National Assembly, which has the final say in legislation over the Senate. And the Republicans who dominate the Senate generally support Macron's pro-business economic policies.

## Attenborough gives shark tooth to 7-year-old Prince George

LONDON (AP) — Veteran broadcaster and naturalist David Attenborough has given Britain's Prince George a giant shark tooth fossil after a private viewing of his new documentary at Kensington Palace.

Photos released by the palace showed the 7-year-old prince looking intrigued as he looked at the tooth from a carcharocles megalodon, a species that lived more than 3 million years ago and was three times the size of modern great white sharks.

Attenborough, 94, found the tooth during a family holiday to Malta in the late 1960s.

Attenborough, who spent his childhood collecting fossils and other natural specimens, visited the palace for a private viewing of his new environmental documentary with George's father, Prince William.

The film, "David Attenborough: A Life on Our Planet," is a personal reflection on his career as a naturalist and the changes he has seen in the natural world during his lifetime.

Attenborough has been making nature documentaries since the 1950s and helped underscore the global threat posed by plastic waste in his 2017 series "Blue Planet II."

William is second in line to the British throne after his father, Prince Charles, and George is third in line.

## Fighting erupts between Armenia, Azerbaijan in disputed area

By AVET DEMOURIAN Associated Press

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP) — Fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan broke out Sunday around the separatist region of Nagorno-Karabakh and the Armenian Defense Ministry said two Azerbaijani helicopters were shot down.

Ministry spokeswoman Shushan Stepanyan also said Armenian forces hit three Azerbaijani tanks. There was no immediate word on casualties.

Nagorno-Karabakh is an ethnic Armenian enclave within Azerbaijan that has been out of Azerbaijan's control since the end of a war in 1994. Both sides have heavy military presence along a demilitarized zone separating the region from the rest of Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan's defense ministry denied the claim that its helicopters and tanks had been hit. But President Ilham Aliyev said in a televised address to the nation that "there are losses among the Azerbaijani forces and the civilian population as a result of the Armenian bombardment."

Stepanyan said the fighting Sunday began with an Azerbaijani attack, but Azerbaijan said the Armenian side attacked and that Azerbaijan launched a counteroffensive.

The news was harshly received in Turkey, a close ally of Azerbaijan.

Turkey's ruling party spokesman Omer Celik tweeted: "We vehemently condemn Armenia's attack on Azerbaijan. Armenia has once again committed a provocation, ignoring law." He promised Turkey would stand by Azerbaijan and said, "Armenia is playing with fire and endangering regional peace."

Turkish presidential spokesman Ibrahim Kalin also took to Twitter to condemn Armenia. "Armenia has violated the ceasefire by attacking civilian settlements ... the international community must immediately say stop to this dangerous provocation."

Mostly mountainous Nagorno-Karabakh — a region some 4,400 square kilometers (1,700 square miles) or about the size of the U.S. state of Delaware — lies 50 kilometers (30 miles) from the Armenian border. Local soldiers backed by Armenia also occupy some Azerbaijani territory outside the region.

International efforts to settle the conflict have stalled and fighting sporadically breaks out. In July, one of the most severe outbreaks of fighting in years left 16 people from both sides dead.

—  
Jim Heintz in Moscow and Zeynep Bilginsoy in Istanbul contributed to this story.

## Some Breonna Taylor protesters out past curfew, fires set

By DYLAN LOVAN Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A diverse crowd of hundreds marched in Louisville's streets chanting "Black Lives Matter" on Saturday night, the fourth night of protests after a grand jury declined to charge officers in the fatal shooting of Breonna Taylor.

People in the crowd also chanted "No justice, no peace" as cars honked along a busy downtown artery in this Kentucky city that has seen more than 120 days of demonstrations over the death of the 26-year-old Black woman in a police raid gone wrong.

A few police cars followed behind, with officers telling protesters to stay on the sidewalk and out of the street before the march ended. Many briefly ended up back at a downtown square that has been a focal point of protests.

But as a 9 p.m. curfew time approached, a police loudspeaker announced that anyone who remained in the park would be arrested for a curfew violation. The square emptied out as people departed, many dispersing though one group headed to a nearby church where protesters had found refuge on previous nights.

As a crowd gathered outside the First Unitarian Church late Saturday, fires were set in a street nearby after 11 p.m. Police said fireworks burned a car, and windows had been broken at Spalding University and Presentation Academy buildings close by.

Some demonstrators were seen with makeshift shields made of plywood. Others took shelter inside the



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church, which closed its doors around midnight.

About 100 people remained inside the church into the early hours of Monday, Jud Hendrix, executive director of Interfaith Paths to Peace, told WDRB-TV around 1 a.m. Hendrix said he was working with police to determine if people could leave the church to go home without being arrested.

"People inside the church were asked to remain there while police were conducting the investigation and securing the area," the police department said in a tweet, sharing aerial and ground video of the fires that were set, windows that were broken and graffiti that had been spray painted.

As of the 2:20 a.m. tweet, 28 people had been arrested, the police department said.

A previous protest on Friday night was peaceful though police arrested 22 people for curfew violations. A police spokesman said some also were charged with failure to disperse.

Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer had urged continued peaceful protests in an appearance at a news conference Saturday evening.

"I'm mindful that many in our community are hurting and angry about the decisions announced this week," Fischer said. The mayor said he supports protesters' First Amendment rights to protest though "we just ask you to do that peacefully please."

Taylor was shot multiple times March 13 after her boyfriend fired at officers who had entered her home during a narcotics raid by white officers, authorities said. Taylor's boyfriend said he didn't know who was coming in and fired in self-defense, wounding one officer.

On Wednesday, Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron announced a grand jury indicted one officer on wanton endangerment charges, saying he fired gunshots into a neighboring home during the raid that didn't strike anyone. That officer has been fired.

Cameron said the other officers were not charged with Taylor's killing because they acted to protect themselves.

Taylor's mother, Tamika Palmer, visited a downtown park on Friday with family and her lawyers, and called on Kentucky officials to release all body camera footage, police files and the transcripts of the grand jury proceedings. Palmer said in a statement read by a family member that she felt the criminal justice system had failed her. Palmer marched at the head of Friday's protest march.

The grand jury's ruling weighed heavily on protesters like Amber Brown. A central figure in the downtown demonstrations, Brown said she was angry.

"It feels like we went backward," she said Friday night. "I think people are still in shock and we're not sure how to move forward."

Brown criticized the police crackdown in the downtown area that has been in effect since early in the week.

"People are afraid to exercise their First Amendment right," she said. "Since when does protest have a curfew? Since when does freedom and civil rights have a curfew?"

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Associated Press writer Claire Galofaro contributed to this report from Louisville.

## France vows to protect its Jewish community after stabbing

PARIS (AP) — France's interior minister promised Sunday to protect France's Jewish community from extremists after a double stabbing in Paris blamed on Islamic terrorism.

Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin visited a synagogue Sunday ahead of the evening start of Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement, and said more than 7,000 police and soldiers are protecting Jewish services this weekend. France has Europe's largest Jewish community.

"I came to assure ... members of France's Jewish community of the protection of the state," Darmanin told reporters. "Because we know that Jews are particularly targeted by Islamist attacks and we should obviously protect them."

Darmanin defended authorities' handling of a double stabbing Friday outside the former offices of the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, saying intelligence services have prevented 32 potential terrorist at-

tacks over the past three years.

Coordinated Islamic extremist attacks on Charlie Hebdo's Paris newsroom and a kosher supermarket in January 2015 killed 17 people, and Friday's stabbing came as the trial into those attacks is under way.

The suspected assailant in Friday's attack told investigators that he was targeting Charlie Hebdo after it recently republished caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad, according to a judicial official. Two people were wounded and several suspects are in custody.

One suspect arrested after Friday's stabbing was later released — and his lawyer says that he had tried to stop the assailant and should be considered a hero instead.

Lawyer Lucie Simon told France-Info that her client, a 33-year-old French resident from Algeria identified only as Youssef, chased the attacker. Simon said the assailant threatened Youssef with a kitchen cleaver, so Youssef fled and told police — who promptly arrested him.

## Morocco faces down COVID spread with tough rules

By TARIK EL BARAKAH Associated Press

RABAT, Morocco (AP) — With air and sea borders closed for months and eight cities barring people from entering or leaving, Morocco has been pulling out the stops to stanch the spread of coronavirus.

Still, the kingdom on the Atlantic coast, a magnet for tourists in better times, has registered more than 110,000 positive cases since March and has a death toll of 2,041 — the highest among its North African neighbors.

Morocco first decreed lockdown measures on March 20, but has been gradually easing restrictions. A recent upsurge in infections, however, has forced targeted measures.

Marrakech, a major tourist destination, is at a standstill, while police checks are part of the scenery in hard-hit Casablanca, the country's economic powerhouse. Police are out in the markets, streets, drug-dealers' haunts and closed-off beaches, with military vehicles occasionally rolling by. They are a nonsense signal for citizens to respect the country's strict orders to contain the virus.

In the northern city of Tangiers, military vehicles were deployed last month to help enforce measures there. Movement between the city and others was stopped, as it was in Casablanca, barring exceptional authorizations.

In Casablanca, tough measures to keep people from leaving town are in place. Police at blockades focus on taxis, buses, freight trucks and private ambulances, vehicles known to be used by those trying to sneak out of town, said Karim El Idrani, commander of the Al Fida police district.

In Rabat, the political capital and site of the main palace of King Mohamed VI, police are posted at entrances and exits — although the city is not closed. Still, occupants of vehicles venturing into town are asked to show proof of residency, or provide authorization if traveling in from elsewhere, especially closed-off cities, or risk fines.

The director of epidemiology at the Health Ministry, Mohamed Lyoubi, conceded during a webinar that he expects the situation to worsen over winter as the flu season overlaps with the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Many hospitals and test sites for the coronavirus are expected to reach capacity," Lyoubi said. "The situation will also affect the ability of health authorities to carry out case investigations and ensure contact follow-up and monitoring of patients treated at home."

Morocco's testing program is increasingly overwhelmed. Long lines for testing are now common outside hospitals and laboratories in Moroccan cities.

With a rise in cases, hospitals have been struggling to keep up with the growing influx of patients, and some intensive care units are reaching full capacity. Last month, health workers staged a protest outside Ibn Zohr Hospital in Marrakech to demand better working conditions. Photos showing COVID-19 patients lining the corridors of the overcrowded hospital, with some lying on the floor, caused an uproar on social media.

Medical professionals held similar protests elsewhere, claiming that some health facilities are understaffed and lack protective equipment for workers. The Health Ministry has sought to remedy the situation by

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setting up field hospitals.

The rise in cases has come as a blow to Morocco, which had been phasing out lockdown measures. On July 19, it began a third phase of gradually lifting its lockdown and foreign business visitors were allowed to enter the kingdom starting Sept. 10.

But Casablanca doubled down after its infection rate began climbing. The city hosts 42% of the daily reported cases, 40% of the serious cases and 38% of the deaths recorded at the national level, according to Health Minister Khalid Ait Taleb. To counter the surge, schools were forced to close again, with the adoption of remote education. Markets, cafes, shops and restaurants were ordered to close early. The city enacted a curfew between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. Police set up roadblocks and patrols to enforce compliance.

The Moroccan monarch said last month that "if figures continue to increase, the COVID-19 Scientific Committee may recommend another (full) lockdown, perhaps with even tighter restrictions."

Abdeljalil Bounhar in Casablanca contributed to this report.

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

## Late night protest in Portland, Oregon, declared unlawful

By GILLIAN FLACCUS and SALLY HO Associated Press

PORTLAND (AP) — Law enforcement declared an unlawful assembly late Saturday, forcing protesters from downtown Portland, Oregon, and making several arrests, just hours after demonstrations earlier in the day ended without many reports of violence.

Hundreds of people were gathered downtown in Oregon's largest city when the unlawful assembly was announced just before midnight by the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office.

Images showed protesters crowded in and around a park near the Mark O. Hatfield United States Courthouse — the same courthouse that had been the scene of nightly unrest over the summer. A protester was seen burning an American flag.

Earlier, protesters had shot fireworks at police. Video posted by KOIN-TV showed officers warn that protesters who hurl projectiles will be subject to arrest.

Several arrests were made, according to reporters at the scene, but a specific number was not immediately available.

The unrest came just hours after a right-wing rally and counterprotesters largely dispersed without serious violence. Although, police were investigating an assault after one person who was documenting the event was pushed to the ground and kicked in the face.

Separately, police said a criminal citation was issued after officials confiscated firearms, paintball guns, baseball bats and shields from a pick-up truck that was initially stopped for having obscured license plates as it left the rally.

Oregon State Police Superintendent Travis Hampton and Multnomah County Sheriff Mike Reese praised the minimal violence in a joint statement late Saturday.

"Our Unified Command worked well to prevent violence before it started," Hampton said in the statement. "Law enforcement officers performed a number of traffic stops and took weapons off the streets."

"On Saturday, Oregonians denounced hate, racism and violence," Reese stated, adding that, "the Unified Command was able to help keep the peace."

Several hundred people, dozens of them wearing militarized body armor, gathered to support President Donald Trump and his "law and order" reelection campaign Saturday afternoon. The attendance was far fewer than the 10,000 organizers had expected after tensions boiled over nationwide following the decision not to charge officers in Louisville, Kentucky, for killing Breonna Taylor.

Organized by the Proud Boys, a group that has been designated as a hate group by the Southern Poverty

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Law Center, the rally was described as a free speech event to support Trump and police and condemn anti-fascists and "violent gangs of rioting felons" in the streets.

Local and state elected officials condemned the event and rushed to shore up law enforcement ranks as left-wing groups organized several rallies to oppose the Proud Boys' message. About 1,000 counter-protesters gathered at another park.

The events began at noon and were largely dispersed by 3 p.m.

The rally came as Portland has seen nearly nightly protests since the police killing of George Floyd in late May.

Associated Press photographer John Locher contributed to this report. He reported from Seattle.

## Leaders to UN: If virus doesn't kill us, climate change will

By CARA ANNA Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — In a year of cataclysm, some world leaders at this week's annual United Nations meeting are taking the long view, warning: If COVID-19 doesn't kill us, climate change will.

With Siberia seeing its warmest temperature on record this year and enormous chunks of ice caps in Greenland and Canada sliding into the sea, countries are acutely aware there's no vaccine for global warming.

"We are already seeing a version of environmental Armageddon," Fiji's Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama said, citing wildfires in the western U.S. and noting that the Greenland ice chunk was larger than a number of island nations.

This was meant to be the year "we took back our planet," he said. Instead, the coronavirus has diverted resources and attention from what could have been the marquee issue at this U.N. gathering. Meanwhile, the U.N. global climate summit has been postponed to late 2021.

That hasn't stopped countries, from slowly sinking island nations to parched African ones, from speaking out.

"In another 75 years, many ... members may no longer hold seats at the United Nations if the world continues on its present course," the Alliance of Small Island States and the Least Developed Countries Group said.

The main goal of the 2015 Paris climate accord is to limit the rise in global temperatures to 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial times, but scientists say the world is on track to soar past that. A new study found that if the world warms another 0.9 degrees Celsius (1.6 degrees Fahrenheit), the West Antarctic ice sheet will reach a point of irreversible melting. It has enough water to raise global sea levels by 5 meters (16 feet).

The Pacific island nation of Palau hasn't had a single COVID-19 infection, but President Tommy E. Remengesau Jr. warns it's the rising seas that will bring the country down.

"The momentary drop in (carbon) emissions this year cannot be allowed to generate any complacency about global progress," he said, referring to the sparkling skies that followed lockdowns to slow the spread of the virus around the world. Pollution has crept back up as restrictions ease.

World powers cannot shirk their financial commitments to fighting climate change during the pandemic, Remengesau said, even as economies are battered.

But few pledges have emerged at the U.N. gathering, aside from China's announcement that it aims to have carbon dioxide emissions peak before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060.

The pandemic has muted the U.N. meeting, with world leaders speaking not from the podium in New York but via video from home. That has sapped the urgency of diplomacy and left nations wondering just how many people are listening.

Amid concerns that the world is distracted, it was perhaps no surprise that the student-led movement Fridays for Future returned to the streets this week for the first major demonstrations for climate action in months.

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Still, island nations have seized on the unusual circumstances to show off what's at stake.

The prime minister of Tuvalu, Kausea Natano, delivered his U.N. speech with a vista of turquoise waters and swaying fronds behind him that instantly fired the imaginations of house-bound viewers.

But the prime minister quickly shattered any dreams. While Tuvalu is free of the coronavirus, the pandemic struck as the island nation was recovering from a pair of tropical cyclones — storms that scientists say are likely to become wetter as the planet warms.

Tuvalu's highest point is just a few meters (yards) above sea level. The pandemic's effect on the movement of goods exposed food insecurity as local agriculture becomes more difficult with rising sea levels, Natano said.

"While COVID-19 is our immediate crisis, climate change remains the single greatest threat to the livelihoods, security and well-being of the Pacific and its peoples in the long run," the prime minister said.

From the Marshall Islands, also free of COVID-19, President David Kabua used the virus's example to plead for more help now.

"Change relies on protecting the most vulnerable, because those on the frontline — whether healthcare workers battling the pandemic or small island nations sounding the alarm on climate change — are critical to the survival of us all," he said.

"Small island and atoll nations like mine do not have time for paper promises," Kabua added.

Urgent pleas also came from Africa, which contributes least to global warming but stands to suffer from it the most.

"In favoring solutions based on the respect for nature, we're also preserving the health of our peoples," said President Issoufou Mahamadou of Niger, part of the Sahel region south of the Sahara desert where temperature increases are expected to be 1.5 times higher than the world average.

"Our global home that was teeming with millions of species of God-given creatures, both great and small, is slowly dying," said Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta, who last year noted that his country was the only one in Africa to reach the goal of making renewable energy 75% of its energy mix.

He added: "Our world is yearning for us to stop its ruin."

AP Science Writer Seth Borenstein contributed to this report.

## After a year of drama, the Lakers reach NBA Finals anyway

By TIM REYNOLDS AP Basketball Writer

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP) — Here's a list of just some of the things the Los Angeles Lakers have gone through in the last 12 months: playing through a politically charged situation in China during the preseason and more massive fallout after returning home, the death of Kobe Bryant in a helicopter crash, a pandemic and four-plus-month suspension of play, the season being moved to a bubble 2,500 miles from their homes, the ongoing battle against racial inequality in this country and emotions fraying to the point where giving up was considered.

And here they are.

After all that drama, all that angst, all those challenges, the NBA Finals await.

A most unpredictable season has a very predictable finalist. LeBron James, the once-perennial Beast of the East, is now the Best in the West. James and the Lakers are the Western Conference champions, the team's best player now set to go to the finals for the 10th time — the first nine of those coming during his Eastern Conference stints with Cleveland and Miami — and his team set to hit the title series for the first time in 10 years, when Bryant won his fifth and final championship.

"Every time you put on purple and gold, you think about his legacy," James said. "You think about him and what he meant to this franchise for 20-plus years. What he stood for, both on the floor and off the floor. What he demanded out of his teammates, what he demanded out of himself. We have some similarities in that sense."

The Lakers clinched that finals berth Saturday night, ousting Denver in Game 5 of the West finals, the

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game just happening to be 365 days removed from the team's first media session to start this season. Yes, that means this season is now stretching into a second year for the Lakers.

Get four more wins, and a season filled with anguish will have the sweetest possible finish.

"This is what I came here for," James said.

James is making his ninth finals trip in the last 10 seasons; the lone exception in that stretch was last year when the Lakers didn't make the playoffs. Anthony Davis is going to the title round for the first time. So is Frank Vogel for the first time as a head coach, after having three excellent chances with Indiana in 2012, 2013 and 2014 thwarted by James and the Heat in each of those seasons.

James has often said that he's been motivated by doubters who said he couldn't lead the Lakers back to the NBA mountaintop. Vogel has seen how that motivation drove him all season.

"So much respect for him and love for him," Vogel said. "He's empowered this whole group with just buying into the plan that we had with how we wanted to play this year and getting the whole group to buy in."

The NBA Finals will have a made-for-TV matchup, no matter what happens in the remaining one or two games of the East finals.

Miami leads Boston 3-2 in that series; if the Heat advance, it'll be James vs. the franchise that helped him win his first two rings during the famed "Big 3" era there from 2011 through 2014, and Heat President Pat Riley going up against an organization that started him on his path toward becoming one of the best winners in the history of the game when he guided the "Showtime" Lakers to four titles in his first seven seasons running the show.

If the Celtics advance, the finals will be the two most storied clubs in NBA history — the 17-time champion Celtics vs. the 16-time champion Lakers, going head-to-head in the title series for the 13th time. And as the confetti fell late Saturday night, James confessed he looked ahead to what's next.

"Boston had a few moments in my head," James said. "Miami had a few moments in my head as well, on how challenging that's going to be, whoever wins that next series."

This season has gone on for so long, with so many twists and turns, that it's easy to forget that this is still the first run for all these Lakers being together. Vogel is in his first season as the team's coach. Davis and James were teammates this season for the first time. Just about the entire roster was overhauled last summer, which is technically two summers ago now, but still "last summer" in the NBA parlance.

They made this season look easy at times. It was anything but, and James knows the next four wins will be the toughest to get.

"The job is not done," James said.

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

## Asia Today: Melbourne eases lockdown, schools, work resume

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Australia's second-largest city, Melbourne, has further eased lockdown restrictions imposed after a surge in coronavirus cases, allowing most children to return to school from next month and sending more than 125,000 people back to work.

Melbourne and surrounding parts of rural Victoria state were placed under strict "Level 4" lockdowns on Aug. 2, shuttering schools and non-essential businesses, imposing a nighttime curfew and prohibiting public gatherings.

The restrictions were scheduled to be eased Sunday if the rolling 14-day average of new infections was between 30 and 50 cases. With 12 new infections reported Saturday and 16 Sunday, the 14-day average has dropped to 22.1.

That allowed Victoria state Premier Daniel Andrews to confirm the 9 p.m.- 5 a.m. curfew will be lifted from 5 a.m. Monday, though residents still cannot travel more than 5 kilometers (3.1 miles) from home. Public gatherings of up to five people from a maximum of two households will be allowed.

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A further easing could take place on Oct. 19 if the average falls below five new cases per day. Masks remain mandatory.

Andrews said there are 399 active cases in Victoria, the first time that number has fallen below 400 since June 30.

"It's one measure among many of the amazing performance of the Victorian community — staying apart but sticking together, making sure that we defeat this second wave," Andrews said.

— In other developments:

— Prime Minister Scott Morrison says the Australian budget, to be delivered Oct. 6, will be a "titanic effort" to return the country to economic growth amid the coronavirus pandemic. Morrison told reporters Sunday that the budget will be the "most unprecedented investment in Australia's future." Australia's gross domestic product shrank 7% in the quarter from April to June, the largest contraction since record-keeping began in 1959. That followed a 0.3% decline in the first quarter, meaning Australia was technically in recession for the first time in 30 years. Even before the coronavirus, the economy was affected by massive bushfires in January that hit small businesses, which depend on tourism. Business shutdowns forced by the pandemic cost almost 1 million jobs and resulted in a major reduction in household spending despite Morrison's government providing almost \$200 billion Australian dollars (\$140.5 billion) in economic stimulus. Morrison said the upcoming budget "will be a titanic effort that we're involved in to ensure that this country can get back on the growth path that we want to be on. That means we're going to have to do some very heavy lifting in this budget and that comes at a significant cost." Treasurer Josh Frydenberg, who will deliver the budget speech, on Thursday provided a downbeat economic outlook. Frydenberg said the economy likely will be 6% smaller by mid-2021 than forecast at the end of last year.

— India has registered 88,600 new confirmed coronavirus cases in the past 24 hours in a declining trend with recoveries exceeding daily infections. The Health Ministry on Sunday also reported additional 1,124 deaths for a total of 94,503. The average of new cases has fallen by around 7,000 daily in the past week after reaching a record number of 97,894 on Sept. 16. Still, India is expected to become the pandemic's worst-hit country within weeks, surpassing the United States, where more than 7 million people have been infected. Sunday's surge has raised the country's virus tally to over 5.9 million. India, however, also has the highest number of recovered patients in the world, according to Johns Hopkins University. Its recovery rate stands at about 82%. Health experts have cautioned about two major events next month: the legislative election in Bihar state, with nearly 72 million people eligible to vote, and a major religious festival season that includes huge congregations.

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

## James, Lakers beat Nuggets in Game 5 to reach NBA Finals

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP) — LeBron James wore out the path to the NBA Finals in the Eastern Conference, making annual trips out of Miami and Cleveland.

Now he's the best in the West.

And for the first time in a decade, so are the Los Angeles Lakers.

James punctuated his 27th postseason triple-double with a big fourth quarter, powering the Lakers to a 117-107 victory over the Denver Nuggets on Saturday night to win the Western Conference finals in five games.

James finished with 38 points, 16 rebounds and 10 assists to become the fourth player to reach 10 NBA Finals. It took him two seasons to make it with the Lakers, after falling short of the playoffs in an injury-plagued first season following eight consecutive trips with Miami and Cleveland.

"For me personally the job is not done," James said.

"For us as a franchise, I'm extremely proud to be a part of this franchise getting back to where it be-

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longs and that's playing for championships and competing for championships, representing the Western Conference this year in the championships. So, this is what I came here for."

The Lakers will face either Miami or Boston in their 32nd NBA Finals appearance, most in league history. They haven't played for the title since beating the Celtics in 2010 for the last of their 16 championships and hadn't even made the postseason in the last six seasons.

Anthony Davis added 27 points and will end his first season with Los Angeles by playing in his first NBA Finals.

"We battled through a lot this year starting with the beginning of the season and we know the job's not done," Davis said during a trophy presentation in a mostly empty arena at Disney World, instead of in front of their fans at Staples Center. "It's a great feeling but we've got four more to win."

Nikola Jokic and Jerami Grant each scored 20 points for the Nuggets, who had fought off elimination six times before the Lakers finally put them away. Jamal Murray added 19 points and eight assists but the star guard struggled with foot pain and lacked his usual explosiveness.

The Nuggets had come back from 3-1 down in the first two rounds before being finally ousted a month since they would have departed the bubble had they lost the first time they faced elimination, in Game 5 against Utah on Aug. 25.

"It's not the end goal but to make it as far and surprise as many people as we did, it's a good feeling," Murray said. "So, try to come back next year and try to come back stronger."

Denver fell far behind one more time but James wouldn't allow another comeback. He scored 16 points in the fourth quarter.

"I don't know if I've ever witnessed a guy take over a game the way he did in the fourth quarter tonight in person," Lakers coach Frank Vogel said.

Denver coach Michael Malone noted the difference in experience between his young team and James, who tied Kareem Abdul-Jabbar for third all-time with his 10 finals appearances.

"We were playing against a guy who this is routine for him and so we take some solace in that," Malone said, "and my challenge to our group is that we'll be back."

Only Celtics Hall of Famers Bill Russell, with 12, and Sam Jones with 11 have reached more NBA Finals than James.

The lead was up to 72-56 four minutes into the third with Murray hobbling, but the Nuggets — who were down 15 in the third quarter of Game 5 against Utah and 16 at the same point of Game 5 against the Clippers — put together a comeback fueled largely by Grant. They came all the way back to tie at 84 on Murray's free throws, before Davis made a 3-pointer with a second to go.

James made consecutive baskets while getting fouled early in the fourth, pushing a two-point lead to 95-88. When Denver made one last push to cut it to four, James set up Danny Green for a 3-pointer for his 10th assist, then made a jumper himself to extend it to 108-99.

Murray said he was battling a bruised foot that didn't improve when he changed sneakers.

TIP-INS

**Nuggets:** The Nuggets became the 16th team in NBA history to lose 10 games in a single postseason. The record is 11, shared by four teams, most recently the 2009 Orlando Magic. They also became the second team to play at least 19 games in a single playoff and finish with a record below .500; they were 9-10, as were the Washington Bullets in the 1979 postseason.

**Lakers:** The Lakers have wrapped up all three series in five games. ... Vogel said Davis was bothered by just some minor soreness after rolling his left ankle in the fourth quarter of Game 4.

END OF THE ROAD

Game 5 came on Malone's 82nd day in the bubble after arriving July 7. He thinks the time showed that the Nuggets are headed in the right direction and hoped it would last few weeks longer.

"But when I think about this whole experience, as crazy as it sounds — and it's been hard being away from family — being with the players and staff and the front office, everyone that's here, has made this a lot easier than I imagine it could be otherwise," Malone said.



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## SEASONS CHANGE

NBA teams usually start training camp near the end of September and Vogel said it was strange to be playing conference finals games, which usually happen near the end of May.

"Very much so, especially because we are in Florida and it's 90 degrees every day, still," he said. "Somebody told me that it's fall the other day and I didn't really believe them. It's very unusual to be playing playoff basketball in the fall in 90-degree weather."

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

## Her words: Amy Coney Barrett on faith, precedent, abortion

By The Associated Press undefined

Some notable quotes from Supreme Court nominee Amy Coney Barrett, a former Notre Dame law professor and current judge on the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. President Donald Trump on Saturday announced he was nominating Barrett to fill the seat vacated by the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

### ON JUDICIAL NOMINEES

"However cagey a justice may be at the nomination stage, her approach to the Constitution becomes evident in the opinions she writes. ... It would be difficult for a modern justice to avoid revealing her position on whether the original public meaning of the Constitution controls its interpretation." — 2013 article in the Texas Law Review.

"We shouldn't be putting people on the court that share our policy preferences. We should be putting people on the court who want to apply the Constitution." — 2016 speech at Jacksonville University's Public Policy Institute.

### ON ABORTION

"If anything, the public response to controversial cases like Roe (v. Wade) reflects public rejection of the proposition that (precedent) can declare a permanent victor in a divisive constitutional struggle rather than desire that precedent remain forever unchanging. Court watchers embrace the possibility of overruling, even if they may want it to be the exception rather than the rule." — 2013 article in the Texas Law Review, citing Roe v. Wade, the 1973 landmark ruling that recognized a woman's right to abortion.

"I think it is very unlikely at this point that the court is going to overturn (Roe v. Wade). ... The fundamental element, that the woman has a right to choose abortion, will probably stand." — 2013 lecture at Notre Dame on the 40th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade ruling.

"I don't think abortion or the right to abortion would change. I think some of the restrictions would change ... The question is how much freedom the court is willing to let states have in regulating abortion." — 2016 remarks on how a conservative Supreme Court could alter current law on abortion, saying it wasn't likely to try and overturn Roe v. Wade. She said the questions the high court would be willing to address would be states' restrictions on abortions, including how abortion clinics operate.

### ON FAITH AND POLITICS

"(Catholic judges) are obliged by oath, professional commitment, and the demands of citizenship to enforce the death penalty. They are also obliged to adhere to their church's teaching on moral matters." — 1998 article co-written by Barrett in the Marquette Law Review on how some Catholic judges would feel torn on certain legal questions because of the teachings of their faith.

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"If you're asking whether I take my faith seriously and I'm a faithful Catholic — I am, although I would stress that my personal church affiliation or my religious belief would not bear in the discharge of my duties as a judge." — Confirmation hearing in 2017 before the Senate Judiciary Committee considering her nomination to be a 7th Circuit appeals judge, after Sen. Dick Durbin asked her if she was orthodox Catholic.

"Never. It's never appropriate for a judge to impose that judge's personal convictions, whether they derive from faith or anywhere else on the law." — 2017 confirmation hearing.

"I totally reject and I have rejected throughout my entire career the proposition that, as you say, the end justifies the means or that a judge should decide cases based on a desire to reach a certain outcome." — 2017 confirmation hearing.

"I would decide cases according to rule of law, beginning to end, and in the rare circumstance that might ever arise — I can't imagine one sitting here now — where I felt that I had some conscientious objection to the law, I would recuse. I would never impose my own personal convictions upon the law. — 2017 confirmation hearing.

"I can't think of any cases or category of cases in which I would feel obliged to recuse on the grounds of conscience." — 2017 confirmation hearing.

"A judge may never subvert the law or twist it in any way to match the judge's convictions from whatever source they derive." — 2017 confirmation hearing.

## ON PRECEDENT

"In the Supreme Court, (adhering to precedent) is a soft rule; the Court describes it as one of policy rather than as an 'inexorable command.'" — 2013 article in the Texas Law Review.

"Leaving room for new majorities to overrule old ones allows changed membership to change what the Court says the Constitution means." — Texas Law Review.

"If the Court's opinions change with its membership, public confidence in the Court as an institution might decline. Its members might be seen as partisan rather than impartial and case law as fueled by power rather than reason." — Texas Law Review.

A justice must "think carefully about whether she is sure enough about her rationale for overruling to pay the cost of upsetting institutional investment in the prior approach. If she is not sure enough, the preference for continuity trumps." — Texas Law Review.

"Institutional features of Supreme Court practice permit all Justices to let some sleeping dogs lie, and so far as we are aware, no one has ever argued that a Justice is duty-bound to wake them up." — 2017 article co-written by Barrett in the University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law, arguing there often are pragmatic reasons not to attempt to overturn precedents even if a justice is convinced they were wrongly decided.

## How it happened: From law professor to high court in 4 years

By ZEKE MILLER, COLLEEN LONG and MICHAEL BALSAMO Associated Press  
WASHINGTON (AP) — Four years ago, Amy Coney Barrett was a little-known law professor in Indiana. Within weeks, she is likely to be the newest associate justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

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Barrett's fast-track rise, set to drive the nation's highest court to the right for a generation or longer, is the fulfillment of a decadeslong effort by conservatives to remake the federal bench that kicked into high gear after President Donald Trump was elected. For Trump, whose 2016 victory was bolstered by white evangelicals' reluctant support of his candidacy tied to his promise to fill the seat vacated by the death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia with a conservative, the latest nomination brings his first term full circle.

Even before Ruth Bader Ginsburg's death, Trump was campaigning for reelection in 2020 on his record of confirming more than 200 federal judges during his first term, fulfilling a generational aim of conservative legal activists.

"Today's nomination is the capstone of a more than four-year process where the president seized upon the issue, stayed focused, and called attention to a small bench of very talented people who he could put on the Supreme Court," said Leonard Leo, of the conservative Federalist Society.

The following account is based on information from five people familiar with the process and the president's thinking who were not authorized to speak publicly about the details.

Within weeks of Trump's victory in 2016, incoming White House counsel Don McGahn, Leo and a handful of other attorneys set about drawing up lists of potential nominees for more than 100 federal judicial vacancies. First among them was the Supreme Court vacancy created by the death of Scalia, but they also dug deeper.

Barrett, then a law professor at Notre Dame, was not well known in political circles in Indiana and almost unheard of nationally. But she found herself on the list of potential picks for the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in large part thanks to McGahn. A fellow Notre Dame alum, McGahn knew Barrett from conservative legal circles, like Leo's influential Federalist Society, and talked her up to the Indiana congressional delegation.

Barrett faced a bruising nomination battle for the appellate seat in 2017 that caught the attention of Trump, who was impressed with her ability to keep her cool under critical questioning by Democratic senators, including a grilling by Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California regarding her Catholic faith.

"I think in your case, professor, when you read your speeches, the conclusion one draws is that the dogma lives loudly within you," Feinstein said. "And that's of concern when you come to big issues that large numbers of people have fought for, for years in this country."

Barrett's was the only confirmation hearing for an appellate judge that McGahn sat through in person on Capitol Hill, and the only investiture he attended when she took her seat on the 7th Circuit. After Barrett was confirmed on a party-line vote, some White House lawyers made coffee mugs with the phrase: "The dogma lives loudly within you."

Months later, in the fall of 2017, Trump set about updating his list of potential nominees to the Supreme Court. Five names were presented to him in an Oval Office meeting with McGahn and Leo. Among the names: Barrett and Brett Kavanaugh. McGahn unveiled the list weeks later at a Federalist Society conference in Washington.

The following year, after Justice Anthony Kennedy retired, Barrett found herself on the short list, undergoing a White House vetting and a 25-minute interview with Trump.

But some conservatives were concerned about her sparse record, worried she'd end up like other potentially conservative justices who veered in a more moderate direction, a trap they fell into with Justice David Souter. Still, Trump saw something he liked, and allies like Scalia's widow, Maureen, and Fox News host Sean Hannity spoke highly of her. Trump and McGahn set about elevating Barrett's profile for the next opening on the high court -- with Trump telling some aides he was "saving" her for Ginsburg's seat.

Meanwhile, Barrett was making a name for herself on the 7th Circuit on conservative hot-button issues. She twice wanted decisions to be thrown out and reheard by the full appeals court that had blocked laws enacted by abortion-rights opponents. Oftentimes, the full panel comes to a different conclusion.

Last year, after a three-judge panel blocked an Indiana law that would make it harder for a minor to have an abortion without her parents being notified, Barrett voted to have the case reheard by the full court.

In a dissent in the 2019 gun-rights case of *Kanter v. Barr*, Barrett argued that a conviction for a nonvio-

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lent felony — in this case, mail fraud — shouldn't automatically disqualify someone from owning a gun. Barrett wrote a unanimous three-judge panel decision in 2019 making it easier for men alleged to have committed sexual assaults on campus to challenge the proceedings against them.

This summer, when Trump announced he wanted to update the Supreme Court list once again in hopes of motivating conservative voters, Barrett was on the top. And that's where she stayed.

Barrett, in some ways, was the standard by which Trump judged other women for the list, including Florida's Barbara Lagoa and North Carolina's Allison Rushing. Their names made the list, but they weren't threatening to bump Barrett from the top, the people said.

After Ginsburg's death, Trump quickly turned his focus to Barrett and never truly looked elsewhere.

Conservative outside groups, aware of Trump's interest in Barrett from the Kennedy replacement, were already on board, offering public statements of support even before Trump had made a final determination.

In the end, Barrett was the only candidate Trump interviewed in person for Ginsburg's seat. And on Saturday evening, he formally announced his choice at a Rose Garden ceremony that included a military band and a display of American flags hanging between the columns of the White House colonnade.

"Today it is my honor to nominate one of our nation's most brilliant and gifted legal minds to the Supreme Court," Trump said of Barrett, calling her "a woman of unapparelled achievement, towering intellect, sterling credentials and unyielding loyalty to the Constitution."

Barrett, for her part, thanked the president as she introduced herself to the country. "I am truly humbled by the prospect of serving on the Supreme Court," she said.

## Trump caps judiciary remake with choice of Barrett for court

By ZEKE MILLER, LISA MASCARO and MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has nominated Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court, capping a dramatic reshaping of the federal judiciary that will resonate for a generation and that he hopes will provide a needed boost to his reelection effort.

Barrett, a former clerk to the late Justice Antonin Scalia, said Saturday that she was "truly humbled" by the nomination and quickly aligned herself with Scalia's conservative approach to the law, saying his "judicial philosophy is mine, too."

Barrett, 48, was joined in the Rose Garden by her husband and seven children. If confirmed by the Senate, she would fill the seat vacated by liberal icon Ruth Bader Ginsburg. It would be the sharpest ideological swing since Clarence Thomas replaced Justice Thurgood Marshall nearly three decades ago.

She would be the sixth justice on the nine-member court to be appointed by a Republican president, and the third of Trump's first term in office.

Trump hailed Barrett as "a woman of remarkable intellect and character," saying he had studied her record closely before making the pick.

Republican senators are lining up for a swift confirmation of Barrett ahead of the Nov. 3 election, as they aim to lock in conservative gains in the federal judiciary before a potential transition of power. Trump, meanwhile, is hoping the nomination will galvanize his supporters as he looks to fend off Democrat Joe Biden.

For Trump, whose 2016 victory hinged in large part on reluctant support from white evangelicals on the promise of filling Scalia's seat with a conservative, the latest nomination in some ways brings his first term full circle. Even before Ginsburg's death, Trump was running on having confirmed in excess of 200 federal judges, fulfilling a generational aim of conservative legal activists.

Trump joked that the confirmation process ahead "should be easy" and "extremely noncontroversial," though it is likely to be anything but. No court nominee has been considered so close to a presidential election before, with early voting already underway. He encouraged legislators to take up her nomination swiftly and asked Democrats to "refrain from personal and partisan attacks."

In 2016, Republicans blocked Obama's nomination of Merrick Garland to the Supreme Court to fill the election-year vacancy, saying voters should have a say in the lifetime appointment. Senate Republicans

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say they will move ahead this time, arguing the circumstances are different now that the White House and Senate are controlled by the same party.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said the Senate will vote "in the weeks ahead" on Barrett's confirmation. Barrett is expected to make her first appearance Tuesday on Capitol Hill, where she will meet with McConnell; Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, the chair of the Judiciary Committee; and others. Hearings are set to begin Oct. 12, and Graham said he hoped to have Barrett's nomination out of the committee by Oct. 26.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi warned that a vote to confirm Barrett to the high court would be a vote to strike down the Affordable Care Act. Schumer added that the president was once again putting "Americans' healthcare in the crosshairs" even while the coronavirus pandemic rages.

Biden took that route of criticism, as well, framing Trump's choice as another move in Republicans' effort to scrap the 2010 health care law passed by his former boss, President Barack Obama. The court is expected to take up a case against it this fall.

The set design at the Rose Garden, with large American flags hung between the colonnades, appeared to be modeled on the way the White House was decorated when President Bill Clinton nominated Ginsburg in 1993.

Barrett, recognizing that flags were still lowered in recognition of Ginsburg's death, said she would be "mindful of who came before me." Although they have different judicial philosophies, Barrett praised Ginsburg as a trailblazer for women and for her friendship with Scalia, saying, "She has won the admiration of women across the country and indeed all across the world."

Within hours of Ginsburg's death, Trump made clear he would nominate a woman for the seat. Barrett was the early favorite and the only one to meet with Trump.

Barrett has been a judge since 2017, when Trump nominated her to the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. But as a longtime University of Notre Dame law professor, she had already established herself as a reliable conservative in the mold of Scalia, for whom she clerked in the late 1990s.

She would be the only justice on the current court not to have received her law degree from an Ivy League school. The eight current justices all attended either Harvard or Yale.

The staunch conservative had become known to Trump in large part after her bitter 2017 appeals court confirmation included allegations that Democrats were attacking her Catholic faith. The president also interviewed her in 2018 for the vacancy created by the retirement of Justice Anthony Kennedy, but Trump ultimately chose Brett Kavanaugh.

Trump and his political allies are itching for another fight over Barrett's faith, seeing it as a political windfall that would backfire on Democrats. Catholic voters in Pennsylvania, in particular, are viewed as a pivotal demographic in the swing state that Biden, also Catholic, is trying to recapture.

While Democrats appear powerless to stop Barrett's confirmation in the GOP-controlled Senate, they are seeking to use the process to weaken Trump's reelection chances.

Barrett's nomination could become a reckoning over abortion, an issue that has divided many Americans so bitterly for almost half a century. The idea of overturning or gutting *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark 1973 decision that legalized abortion, has animated activists in both parties for decades. Now, with the seemingly decisive shift in the court's ideological makeup, Democrats hope their voters will turn out in droves because of their frustration with the Barrett pick.

"Justice Ginsburg must be turning over in her grave up in heaven, to see that the person they chose seems to be intent on undoing all the things that Ginsburg did," Schumer said.

Trump has also increasingly embraced the high court — on which he will have had an outsize hand in reshaping — as an insurance policy in a close election.

"We don't have to do it before, but I think this will be done before the election," Trump told reporters Saturday. "I think it'll send a great signal to a lot of people."

Increases in mail, absentee and early voting brought about by the coronavirus pandemic have already led

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to a flurry of election litigation, and both Trump and Biden have assembled armies of lawyers to continue the fight once vote-counting begins. Trump has been open about tying his push to name a third justice to the court to a potentially drawn-out court fight to determine who will be sworn in on Jan. 20, 2021.

"I think this will end up in the Supreme Court," Trump said Wednesday of the election. "And I think it's very important that we have nine justices."

No Democratic senators are expected to vote to confirm Barrett before the election, even though some did support her in 2017.

Two Democrats still serving in the Senate who voted to confirm Barrett in 2017, Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia and Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, now say it's too close to the election to consider her nomination.

Meanwhile, outside conservative groups are planning to spend more than \$25 million to support Trump and his nominee. The Judicial Crisis Network has organized a coalition that includes American First Policies, the Susan B. Anthony List, the Club for Growth and the group Catholic Vote to help confirm Barrett. The Republican National Committee has launched a \$10 million digital campaign of its own, in conjunction with Trump's reelection campaign.

## The Latest: Graham: Court vote could be week before election

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Latest on the nomination of Amy Coney Barrett to the U.S. Supreme Court (all times local):

9:50 p.m.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Lindsey Graham says he hopes his committee will approve Amy Coney Barrett's nomination to the Supreme Court by the week of Oct. 26, setting up a final confirmation vote on the Senate floor one week before the Nov. 3 presidential election.

Trump nominated Barrett on Saturday to replace the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Graham said after Trump's announcement that his committee will hold four days of confirmation hearings the week of Oct. 12, and it would likely take another week to approve the nomination, under committee rules.

Graham said on Fox News' "Justice with Judge Jeanine": "Hopefully we'll come to the floor around the 26th, and that will be up to (Senate Majority Leader) Mitch McConnell."

Graham said Barrett had called him and the top Democrat on the committee, California Sen. Dianne Feinstein. Graham said he and Barrett had a "pleasant conversation," and he congratulated her.

Graham says, "She's just a complete superstar when it comes to the law, and elections do have consequences."

8:30 p.m.

Chants of "fill that seat" erupted as President Donald Trump opened his first campaign rally after nominating Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Trump told several thousand supporters at the event at an airport hangar in Middletown, Pennsylvania, that the federal appeals court judge is a "brilliant legal mind."

He also turned the celebration of Barrett -- his third Supreme Court nominee -- into a jab at Democratic rival Joe Biden.

Trump told the packed and largely mask-free crowd that one of Barrett's professors had praised her as the best student he'd ever had, then added: "That's a little better than Biden, wouldn't you say?"

The president chose the conservative Barrett to succeed Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who led the court's liberal wing until her death on Sept. 18.

7:35 p.m.

President Donald Trump says he thinks Judge Amy Coney Barrett will be confirmed to the Supreme Court before Election Day on Nov. 3.

Trump told reporters as he left the White House for a rally in Pennsylvania Saturday evening that "it's going to go fast" and argued it would be difficult for Democrats to take issue with his pick as he praised

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her credentials.

He says, "I think this will be done before the election," and said that would "send a great signal to a lot of people."

Trump's comments came not long after a Rose Garden ceremony to formally announced his pick to fill the seat left vacant when Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg died of cancer last week

Trump also said that he had not discussed the issue of abortion rights with Barrett, claiming that would not be "appropriate to discuss."

But he said on the topic that, "They're going to have to make a decision and that's going to be for the judges do."

7:20 p.m.

Sen. Kamala Harris says she'll oppose Amy Coney Barrett's nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court. Harris is a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee tasked with vetting the nominee and the Democratic vice presidential candidate.

"It would be travesty to replace (Ginsburg) with a justice who is being selected to undo her legacy and erase everything she did for our country," Harris said in a statement through her Senate office.

Harris and Joe Biden have focused on what a shift in the court's ideological makeup would mean for the Affordable Care Act. The high court is set to hear a case aimed at striking down the law shortly after the election. Harris said she opposes Barrett because of both Republican efforts to overturn the health law and to role back abortion rights.

6:30 p.m.

No Democratic senators are expected to vote to confirm Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court ahead of the Nov. 3 election, even though some did support her in 2017 for the federal appeals court.

Two Democrats still serving in the Senate who voted to confirm Barrett in 2017, Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia and Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, now say it's too close to the election to consider her nomination. Republicans control the Senate 53-47, so Barrett could still be confirmed without Democratic support.

Kaine said voting is already underway in his and other states. "Rushing a confirmation vote before the American people have weighed in would be reckless," he said in a statement.

Said Manchin, "I cannot support a process that risks further division of the American people at a time when we desperately need to come together." He said he would not vote to support Barrett or any nominee before Nov. 3.

In 2016, Republicans said it was too close to the election to confirm President Barack Obama's pick to replace Antonin Scalia on the Supreme Court. Scalia died 237 days before the election. Ruth Bader Ginsburg, whom Barrett would be replacing, died 46 days before the election.

6:20 p.m.

Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden is responding to Amy Coney Barrett's nomination to the Supreme Court by calling for the Senate not to act until after the presidential election.

But in a lengthy written statement Saturday, Biden's only explicit criticism of President Donald Trump's nominee turned on health care.

Biden framed Trump's choice as another move in Republicans' effort to scrap the 2010 health care law passed by his old boss, President Barack Obama.

"She has a written track record of disagreeing with the U.S. Supreme Court's decision upholding the Affordable Care Act," Biden said in a written statement. "She critiqued Chief Justice John Roberts' majority opinion upholding the law in 2012."

6:15 p.m.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi are warning that a vote to confirm Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court is a vote to strike down the Affordable Care Act.

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Schumer said Saturday that President Donald Trump is once again putting "Americans' healthcare in the crosshairs" even while the coronavirus pandemic rages.

Pelosi said all the protections offered with the Affordable Care Act, including its ban on insurers denying coverage to those with preexisting conditions and the ability for young adults to remain on parents' plans, "will be gone."

The Supreme Court is expected to take up the Trump-backed case challenging the health care law in November.

The Democratic leaders warn that with Barrett, the court will almost surely tip rightward and could strike down the law.

6:10 p.m.

The Senate Judiciary Committee will hold confirmation hearings for Judge Amy Coney Barrett, President Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee, the week of Oct. 12. That's according to three people familiar with the schedule.

The panel plans to start the hearing with opening statements on Monday, Oct. 12, and continue with two days of questioning. The hearings are scheduled to end on Thursday, Oct. 15 with statements from outside groups.

The people spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the schedule before it is officially announced.

The hearings will come less than a month from the Nov. 3 presidential election. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has not yet said whether the Senate will vote to confirm Barrett before the election, but Republicans are privately aiming for a late October confirmation vote.

Barrett would replace Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who died Sept. 18.

— AP writer Mary Clare Jalonick

6 p.m.

President Donald Trump's pick to the U.S. Supreme Court says she is "mindful" she would be taking the seat vacated by the death of departed liberal icon, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Speaking moments after President Donald Trump nominated her to the high court during a Rose Garden news conference Saturday, Amy Coney Barrett promptly mentioned Ginsburg and said she was "mindful of who came before" her.

Barrett is a polar opposite of Ginsburg when it comes to judicial philosophy. Barrett hailed conservative icon, former Justice Antonin Scalia, as her mentor.

But she called Ginsburg a justice of "enormous talent and consequence." And she praised Ginsburg as a trailblazer for women's rights, saying she "not only broke glass ceilings, she smashed them.

She also lauded Ginsburg for being able to disagree with colleagues on principles but "without rancor."

5:45 p.m.

Supreme Court nominee Amy Coney Barrett says her judicial philosophy is the same as that of her mentor, Justice Antonin Scalia.

Barrett was a clerk for Scalia, who died in 2016.

Barrett said Saturday as President Donald Trump nominated her to the country's highest court that Scalia's "judicial philosophy is mine, too."

"Judges must apply the law as written. Judges are not policy makers," she said.

Scalia was a proponent of originalism, the method of constitutional interpretation that looks to the meaning of words and concepts as they were understood by the Founding Fathers.

5:25 p.m.

President Donald Trump has called Amy Coney Barrett a "woman of unparalleled achievement" as he announces her nomination to the Supreme Court.



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Trump said Saturday that she is one of the nation's "brilliant and gifted legal minds." And he called her "very eminently qualified for the job."

Barrett is his third nomination to the high court after Justice Neil Gorsuch and Justice Brett Kavanaugh. Barrett would replace Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who died earlier this month. Trump called Ginsburg a "legal giant and a pioneer for women."

Barrett, a judge on the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and a devout Roman Catholic, has been hailed by religious conservatives and others on the right as an ideological heir to conservative icon Antonin Scalia, the late Supreme Court justice for whom she clerked.

But liberals say her legal views are too heavily influenced by her religious beliefs and fear her ascent to the nation's highest court could lead to a scaling back of hard-fought abortion rights.

5:20 p.m.

President Donald Trump says Amy Coney Barrett would be the first mother of school-age children to serve on the Supreme Court.

The president introduced Barrett in the White House Rose Garden on Saturday as his nominee to take the place of the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who died last week.

Barrett is 48 and has seven children, including two adopted from Haiti and a son with Down syndrome. She would be the fifth woman to serve on the high court.

Her husband, Jesse, and her children are at the White House for Saturday's ceremony.

5:15 p.m.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell says the Senate will vote "in the weeks ahead" on President Donald Trump's nomination of Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court.

The Republican leader said Saturday that Trump "could not have made a better decision" in nominating the appellate court judge.

McConnell says he looks forward to meeting Barrett next week.

Barrett would replace the late liberal Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the court. She died of cancer on Sept. 18.

Barrett, a judge on the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and a devout Roman Catholic, has been hailed by religious conservatives and others on the right as an ideological heir to conservative icon Antonin Scalia, the late Supreme Court justice for whom she clerked. But liberals say her legal views are too heavily influenced by her religious beliefs and fear her ascent to the nation's highest court could lead to a scaling back of hard-fought abortion rights.

5:05 p.m.

President Donald Trump has nominated Amy Coney Barrett to fill the Supreme Court seat vacated by the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Trump announced the news Saturday. The selection is likely to energize the president's base weeks before Election Day.

Barrett, a judge on the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and a devout Roman Catholic, has been hailed by religious conservatives and others on the right as an ideological heir to conservative icon Antonin Scalia, the late Supreme Court justice for whom she clerked. But liberals say her legal views are too heavily influenced by her religious beliefs and fear her ascent to the nation's highest court could lead to a scaling back of hard-fought abortion rights.

Barrett was considered to be a finalist in 2018 before Trump nominated Justice Brett Kavanaugh for the seat vacated when Justice Anthony Kennedy retired.

At just 48, Barrett would be the youngest justice, and her tenure could last for decades.

4:05 p.m.

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An airplane believed to be carrying likely Supreme Court nominee Amy Coney Barrett and her family has arrived at Joint Base Andrews.

Barrett is expected to be nominated to the U.S. Supreme Court on Saturday evening by President Donald Trump. The plane left from South Bend, Indiana, where Barrett and her family live.

The seat was made vacant by the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg last week at the age of 87.

Barrett is a justice on the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. She was previously a law professor at Notre Dame and has been hailed as the heir to the late conservative Justice Antonin Scalia.

She met with Trump at the White House earlier this week.

## Portland, Oregon, largely peaceful after right-wing rally

By GILLIAN FLACCUS and SALLY HO Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Police say a right-wing rally and counter-protests in Portland, Oregon, have largely dispersed without serious violence Saturday, though they are investigating an assault after one person who was documenting the event was pushed to the ground and kicked in the face.

Separately, police said a criminal citation was issued after officials confiscated firearms, paintball guns, baseball bats and shields from a pick-up truck that was initially stopped for having obscured license plates as it left the rally.

Several hundred people, dozens of them wearing militarized body armor, gathered to support President Donald Trump and his "law and order" reelection campaign Saturday afternoon. The attendance was far fewer than the 10,000 organizers had expected after tensions boiled over nationwide following the decision not to charge officers in Louisville, Kentucky, for killing Breonna Taylor.

Organized by the Proud Boys, a group that has been designated as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center, the rally was described as a free speech event to support Trump and police and condemn anti-fascists, "domestic terrorism" and "violent gangs of rioting felons" in the streets.

Local and state elected officials forcefully condemned the event and rushed to shore up law enforcement ranks as left-wing groups organized several rallies to oppose the Proud Boys' message. About 1,000 counter-protesters gathered at another park.

The events began at noon and were largely dispersed by 3 p.m. The Oregon Department of Transportation shut down the interstate highway for a brief time to help control the crowd and flow of traffic.

"The purpose of this closure was to clear some people out of the area who wanted to leave and to keep competing groups separate," said Chris Liedle, a spokesman with the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, in updates posted on Twitter, as the city had braced for the threat of violence with multiple rallies in the area.

Police also said they arrested three people, including a man suspected of driving under the influence and a woman for an outstanding arrest warrant, Liedle said.

Dozens began to show up two hours before the right-wing rally, some packed into the beds of pickup trucks. Many were wearing militarized body armor, including helmets and protective vests. Many flew American flags or black flags bearing the logo of the Three Percenters, another far-right group and some wore Make America Great Again hats.

TJ Detweiler, who works in construction and plumbing, said at the rally that he wanted to end domestic terrorism in the U.S.

"I would like to see people stop the looting and rioting and enjoy the country for what rights we have," Detweiler said.

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown on Friday said she was sending state troopers to help the Portland police and was creating a unified command structure among city, regional and state law enforcement — a tactic that essentially circumvents a city ban on the use of tear gas as a crowd-control measure. The state police said a "massive influx" of troopers would be in Portland by Saturday morning.

"This is a critical moment. We have seen what happens when armed vigilantes take matters into their own hands. We've seen it in Charlottesville, we've seen it in Kenosha and, unfortunately, we have seen

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it in Portland," she said, referencing deaths in Virginia, Wisconsin and Oregon during clashes between those on the right and left of the political spectrum.

"The Proud Boys and Patriot Prayer groups have come time and time again looking for a fight, and the results are always tragic," said Brown, a Democrat. "Let me be perfectly clear, we will not tolerate any type of violence this weekend."

The Proud Boys are self-described "Western chauvinists." They have held multiple events in Portland since Trump's election alongside other right-wing groups such as Patriot Prayer that often end in violent clashes with left-wing counter-demonstrators.

Last month, Aaron "Jay" Danielson, a Trump supporter and Patriot Prayer follower, was shot and killed after vehicles in a pro-Trump car caravan diverted into downtown Portland and crossed paths with left-wing activists. The suspect in the shooting, a self-described anti-fascist, was killed the following week by law enforcement as they tried to arrest him in Washington state.

The Proud Boys mentioned Danielson in their permit application, as well as Kyle Rittenhouse, the 17-year-old charged in the shooting deaths of two Black Lives Matter protesters in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Some attending Saturday's rally carried signs that said "Free Kyle Now."

Rittenhouse's attorneys have said he was acting in self-defense. The Proud Boys raised the specter of a vigilante response to the actions of a "mob" in a permit application filed with the city this week.

"Portland leadership is unwilling to stop the violence," the Proud Boys wrote in the application. "They have been blinded by their hatred of our President and will not allow outside help stopping the violence."

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler said the city and its police force did not need or want help from "paramilitaries or vigilante groups."

Police leadership canceled all scheduled days off for officers Saturday and were primarily focused on keeping dueling groups of protesters separated.

Deputy Chief Chris Davis acknowledged that Oregon is an open-carry state for firearms. But on Friday, he reminded those attending the rally and counter-demonstrations that under Portland law, it's illegal to carry a loaded firearm in public without an Oregon concealed handgun permit.

"We ask that you come peacefully and engage in your free speech peacefully," Police Chief Chuck Lovell said Friday. "It's OK for us to disagree about things. But at the end of the day, doing so peacefully, letting people exercise their rights safely is very important. So that's my ask the folks who are attending."

The rally came as Portland approached its fifth month of almost nightly protests against racial injustice and police brutality.

Demonstrators want the city to take millions from the police budget and reallocate it to support the Black community. Some also are angry with the mayor — who is also the police commissioner — for allowing police to use tear gas until recently and for what they call overly aggressive police tactics. Wheeler has also refused to cede control of the police bureau to a Black city councilwoman with a decades-long resume of activism around police reform.

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Ho reported from Seattle. Associated Press reporter Sara Cline in Salem, Oregon, contributed to this report.

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Follow Gillian Flaccus on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/gflaccus>

## Trump taps 'eminently qualified' Barrett for Supreme Court

By ZEKE MILLER, LISA MASCARO and MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump nominated Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court on Saturday, capping a dramatic reshaping of the federal judiciary that will resonate for a generation and that he hopes will provide a needed boost to his reelection effort.

Barrett, a former clerk to the late Justice Antonin Scalia, said she was "truly humbled" by the nomination and quickly aligned herself with Scalia's conservative approach to the law, saying his "judicial philosophy

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is mine, too.”

Barrett, 48, was joined in the Rose Garden by her husband and seven children. If confirmed by the Senate, she would fill the seat vacated by liberal icon Ruth Bader Ginsburg. It would be the sharpest ideological swing since Clarence Thomas replaced Justice Thurgood Marshall nearly three decades ago.

She would be the sixth justice on the nine-member court to be appointed by a Republican president, and the third of Trump's first term in office.

Trump hailed Barrett as “a woman of remarkable intellect and character,” saying he had studied her record closely before making the pick.

Republican senators are lining up for a swift confirmation of Barrett ahead of the Nov. 3 election, as they aim to lock in conservative gains in the federal judiciary before a potential transition of power. Trump, meanwhile, is hoping the nomination will galvanize his supporters as he looks to fend off Democrat Joe Biden.

For Trump, whose 2016 victory hinged in large part on reluctant support from white evangelicals on the promise of filling Scalia's seat with a conservative, the latest nomination in some ways brings his first term full circle. Even before Ginsburg's death, Trump was running on having confirmed in excess of 200 federal judges, fulfilling a generational aim of conservative legal activists.

Trump joked that the confirmation process ahead “should be easy” and “extremely noncontroversial,” though it is likely to be anything but. No court nominee has been considered so close to a presidential election before, with early voting already underway. He encouraged legislators to take up her nomination swiftly and asked Democrats to “refrain from personal and partisan attacks.”

In 2016, Republicans blocked Obama's nomination of Merrick Garland to the Supreme Court to fill the election-year vacancy, saying voters should have a say in the lifetime appointment. Senate Republicans say they will move ahead this time, arguing the circumstances are different now that the White House and Senate are controlled by the same party.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said the Senate will vote “in the weeks ahead” on Barrett's confirmation. Barrett is expected to make her first appearance Tuesday on Capitol Hill, where she will meet with McConnell; Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, the chair of the Judiciary Committee; and others. Hearings are set to begin Oct. 12, and Graham said he hoped to have Barrett's nomination out of the committee by Oct. 26.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi warned that a vote to confirm Barrett to the high court would be a vote to strike down the Affordable Care Act. Schumer added that the president was once again putting “Americans' healthcare in the crosshairs” even while the coronavirus pandemic rages.

Biden took that route of criticism, as well, framing Trump's choice as another move in Republicans' effort to scrap the 2010 health care law passed by his former boss, President Barack Obama. The court is expected to take up a case against it this fall.

The set design at the Rose Garden, with large American flags hung between the colonnades, appeared to be modeled on the way the White House was decorated when President Bill Clinton nominated Ginsburg in 1993.

Barrett, recognizing that flags were still lowered in recognition of Ginsburg's death, said she would be “mindful of who came before me.” Although they have different judicial philosophies, Barrett praised Ginsburg as a trailblazer for women and for her friendship with Scalia, saying, “She has won the admiration of women across the country and indeed all across the world.”

Within hours of Ginsburg's death, Trump made clear he would nominate a woman for the seat. Barrett was the early favorite and the only one to meet with Trump.

Barrett has been a judge since 2017, when Trump nominated her to the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. But as a longtime University of Notre Dame law professor, she had already established herself as a reliable conservative in the mold of Scalia, for whom she clerked in the late 1990s.

She would be the only justice on the current court not to have received her law degree from an Ivy

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League school. The eight current justices all attended either Harvard or Yale.

The staunch conservative had become known to Trump in large part after her bitter 2017 appeals court confirmation included allegations that Democrats were attacking her Catholic faith. The president also interviewed her in 2018 for the vacancy created by the retirement of Justice Anthony Kennedy, but Trump ultimately chose Brett Kavanaugh.

Trump and his political allies are itching for another fight over Barrett's faith, seeing it as a political windfall that would backfire on Democrats. Catholic voters in Pennsylvania, in particular, are viewed as a pivotal demographic in the swing state that Biden, also Catholic, is trying to recapture.

While Democrats appear powerless to stop Barrett's confirmation in the GOP-controlled Senate, they are seeking to use the process to weaken Trump's reelection chances.

Barrett's nomination could become a reckoning over abortion, an issue that has divided many Americans so bitterly for almost half a century. The idea of overturning or gutting *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark 1973 decision that legalized abortion, has animated activists in both parties for decades. Now, with the seemingly decisive shift in the court's ideological makeup, Democrats hope their voters will turn out in droves because of their frustration with the Barrett pick.

"Justice Ginsburg must be turning over in her grave up in heaven, to see that the person they chose seems to be intent on undoing all the things that Ginsburg did," Schumer said.

Trump has also increasingly embraced the high court — on which he will have had an outsize hand in reshaping — as an insurance policy in a close election.

"We don't have to do it before, but I think this will be done before the election," Trump told reporters Saturday. "I think it'll send a great signal to a lot of people."

Increases in mail, absentee and early voting brought about by the coronavirus pandemic have already led to a flurry of election litigation, and both Trump and Biden have assembled armies of lawyers to continue the fight once vote-counting begins. Trump has been open about tying his push to name a third justice to the court to a potentially drawn-out court fight to determine who will be sworn in on Jan. 20, 2021.

"I think this will end up in the Supreme Court," Trump said Wednesday of the election. "And I think it's very important that we have nine justices."

No Democratic senators are expected to vote to confirm Barrett before the election, even though some did support her in 2017.

Two Democrats still serving in the Senate who voted to confirm Barrett in 2017, Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia and Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, now say it's too close to the election to consider her nomination.

Meanwhile, outside conservative groups are planning to spend more than \$25 million to support Trump and his nominee. The Judicial Crisis Network has organized a coalition that includes American First Policies, the Susan B. Anthony List, the Club for Growth and the group Catholic Vote to help confirm Barrett. The Republican National Committee has launched a \$10 million digital campaign of its own, in conjunction with Trump's reelection campaign.

## **Amy Coney Barrett, Supreme Court nominee, is Scalia's heir**

By MICHAEL TARM AP Legal Affairs Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Although Amy Coney Barrett is the president's choice to replace Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, she is more aptly described as heir to another departed Supreme Court justice: conservative hero Antonin Scalia.

Like Scalia, for whom she once clerked, she is a committed Roman Catholic and a devotee of his favored interpretation of the Constitution known as originalism. Those qualifications delight many on the right but dismay liberals who fear her votes could result in the chipping away of some laws, especially the *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion.

President Donald Trump nominated the 48-year-old federal court appellate judge from South Bend, Indiana, at a Rose Garden press conference Saturday.

In remarks moments after Trump named her, with her husband and their seven children looking on, Barrett paid homage to Ginsburg.

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"I will be mindful of who came before me," she said, citing Ginsburg's career as a trailblazer for women's rights. "She not only broke glass ceilings; she smashed them."

But Barrett also highlighted how she is, in her approach to the law, a polar opposite to Ginsburg.

She said of Scalia: "His judicial philosophy is mine, too."

Her nomination sets Barrett on the path to help conservatives hold sway over the court for decades. It's as sure to energize the president's base as it is to galvanize his foes heading to Election Day. Senate Republican leaders have said they have the votes to confirm her this year, likely before November's election.

Beyond the election, Barrett's elevation could bring a national reckoning over abortion, an issue that has bitterly divided many Americans for almost half a century. The idea of overturning or gutting Roe v. Wade, the landmark 1973 decision, has been an animating political issue exploited by both sides.

Her writings and speeches show a commitment to originalism, a concept that involves justices endeavoring to decipher original meanings of texts in assessing whether someone's rights have been violated. Many liberals say that approach is too rigid and doesn't allow the Constitution's consequences to adjust to changing times.

On abortion, questions have arisen about Barrett's involvement in organizations that vigorously oppose it. But she has not said publicly she would, if given the chance, seek to scale back rights affirmed by the high court.

Barrett has been a federal judge since 2017, when Trump nominated her to the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. But as a longtime University of Notre Dame law professor, she had already established herself as a reliable conservative in Scalia's mold.

She gained a reputation as a Scalia clerk in the late 1990s as bright and adept at picking apart poorly reasoned arguments. Ara Lovitt, who clerked with her, recalled at her investiture ceremony for the 7th Circuit that Scalia had high praise for her.

"Isn't Amy great," Lovitt remembers Scalia saying.

On Saturday, Barrett also referenced the close friendship between Ginsburg and fellow opera lover Scalia, saying Ginsburg showed that justices can disagree on principles "without rancor in person."

Before becoming a judge, Barrett discussed how court precedents provide welcome stability in the law. But she seemed to leave the door open to the possibility of reversing ones about which there remained sharp disagreement.

"Once a precedent is deeply rooted," a 2017 article in the University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law, which Barrett co-wrote, said, "the Court is no longer required to deal with the question of the precedent's correctness." But it added: "None of this is to say that a Justice cannot attempt to overturn long-established precedent. While institutional features may hinder that effort, a Justice is free to try."

Barrett and her husband, Jesse Barrett, a former federal prosecutor, both graduated from Notre Dame Law School. Their seven children include two adopted from Haiti and one with special needs.

Trump said Saturday that Barrett would be the first female justice to serve with small children. Looking at her kids in the front row, the president said: "Thank you for sharing your mom."

Barrett would be the only justice on the current court not to have received her law degree from an Ivy League school. The eight current justices all attended either Harvard or Yale.

If she is confirmed, six of the nine justices will be Catholic.

How her religious beliefs might guide her legal views became a focus for some Democrats during bruising confirmation hearings after Barrett's 7th Circuit nomination. That prompted Republicans to accuse Democrats of seeking to impose a religious test on Barrett's fitness for the job.

At Notre Dame, where Barrett began teaching at 30, she often invoked God in articles and speeches. In a 2006 address, she encouraged graduating law students to see their careers as a means to "building the kingdom of God."

She was considered a finalist in 2018 for the high court before Trump nominated Brett Kavanaugh for the seat that opened when Justice Anthony Kennedy retired. Even some conservatives worried her sparse judicial record made it too hard to predict how she might rule, concerned she could end up like other seemingly conservatives who wound up more moderate.

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Three years on, her record now includes around 100 opinions and dissents, in which she often illustrated Scalia's influence by delving deep into historical minutiae to glean the meaning of original texts.

In a 2019 dissent in a gun-rights case, Barrett argued a person convicted of a nonviolent felony shouldn't be automatically barred from owning a gun. All but a few pages of her 37-page dissent were devoted to the history of gun laws in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Barrett twice joined dissenting opinions asking for abortion-related decisions to be thrown out and reheard by the full court. Last year, after a three-judge panel blocked an Indiana law that would make it harder for minors to have an abortion without her parents being notified, Barrett voted to have the case reheard by the full court.

Barrett's financial disclosures show ties to a number of conservative groups. She and her husband have investments worth between \$845,000 and \$2.8 million, according to her 2019 financial disclosure report. Judges report the value of their investments in ranges. Their money is invested mostly in mutual funds.

When she was nominated to the appeals court in 2017, Barrett reported assets of just over \$2 million, including her home in Indiana worth nearly \$425,000, and a mortgage with a balance of \$175,000.

In the two previous years, Barrett received \$4,200 in two equal payments from Alliance Defending Freedom, a conservative Christian law firm, her financial report shows. In 2018 and 2019, she participated in 10 events sponsored by the Federalist Society, which paid for her transportation, meals and lodging in several cities.

Barrett was raised in New Orleans and was the eldest child of a Shell Oil Co. lawyer. She earned her undergraduate degree in English literature in 1994 at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee.

She also clerked for Laurence Silberman for a year at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Between clerkships and entering academia, she worked from 1999 to 2001 at a law firm in Washington, Miller, Cassidy, Larroca & Lewin.

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Associated Press writers Mark Sherman in Washington and Ryan J. Foley in Iowa City, Iowa, contributed to this report.

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Follow Michael Tarm on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/mtarm>

## The U.S. reckoning on race, seen through other nations' eyes

By AYA BATRAWY Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — It's not only in the United States where protests against racial injustice are part of the national conversation. A handful of America's critics have taken note too, using recent months' demonstrations and graphic images of police violence to denounce the country at the United Nations' gathering of world leaders this year.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani invoked the killing of George Floyd, the Black American man who died after a white police officer in Minneapolis pressed his knee against his neck even as he repeatedly said he could not breathe. Floyd's death, caught on video, set off nationwide protests in support of Black lives.

Rouhani said the scene was "reminiscent" of Iran's own experience in its quest for freedom and liberation from domination, and that Iran instantly recognized "the feet kneeling on the neck as the feet of arrogance on the neck of independent nations."

Similarly, Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem said U.S. sanctions were "an inhumane attempt to suffocate Syrians, just like George Floyd and others were cruelly suffocated in the United States."

Cuba and Venezuela also took jabs at the U.S., making specific references to the protests during words delivered to the U.N. General Assembly.

While the tactic of criticizing the United States for its racial tensions and policies toward Black Americans is decades old, it comes as historians and experts on democracy warn that under President Donald Trump, American moral authority and stature around the world has waned.

"When the United States falters, it ripples across the world. And the United States has long faltered in

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regard to its racial policy and upholding its promise of equality," said Rachel Kleinfeld, a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace whose research focuses on democracy and governance.

"In the past, when we've faltered, we've tried to do better," she said. "I think what's different now is that people fear that those ideals and values are possibly slipping."

In his remarks to world leaders at the all-virtual U.N. meeting this week, Trump touted what he called his administration's achievements in advancing religious liberty, opportunity for women and protecting unborn children.

"America will always be a leader in human rights," Trump said. He made no reference to the protests roiling multiple cities as Americans prepare to vote in November's presidential election.

In contrast, Barack Obama spoke directly about America's own "own racial and ethnic tensions" during his U.N. General Assembly remarks in 2014, saying he knew the world took notice of Ferguson, Missouri, where the shooting of an unarmed Black 18-year-old by a police officer set off protests.

America's critics will be quick to point out "that at times we too have failed to live up to our ideals," he said at the time. "But we welcome the scrutiny of the world — because what you see in America is a country that has steadily worked to address our problems, to make our union more perfect."

Though Trump made no mention of the struggle for racial equality in his speech, others did. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said "we aren't going far enough to eliminate systemic injustice, whether it's a question of racism against Black or Indigenous people, homophobia or sexism." The small island chain of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines proclaimed "that Black Lives Matter" and said the case for reparatory justice remains strong.

As the Republican nominee in 2016, Trump seemed to acknowledge that when it came to civil liberties, the U.S. "has a lot of problems" that impact America's ability to promote democracy abroad. "I think it's very hard for us to get involved in other countries when we don't know what we are doing and we can't see straight in our own country," Trump told The New York Times that July.

That argument echoes the one the Soviet Union levied against the U.S. during the Cold War, particularly in the civil rights era of the late 1950s and early 1960s under Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy. Soviet media often portrayed the protests and sit-ins as evidence that racism was systemic of capitalism.

According to a State Department memo in 1963, written just months after Martin Luther King Jr. was arrested in Birmingham, Alabama, Soviet broadcasters portrayed U.S. policies toward Black citizens as "indicative of its policy toward colored peoples throughout the world."

Karl Jacoby, a professor of American history and co-director of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race at Columbia University in New York, said that the U.S. moved to end segregation and push forth the Civil Rights Act as it competed for influence with the Soviet Union in part because "it was untenable to try to be the leader of the democratic world and be undemocratic at home."

"This is really a very old pattern — that the United States finds itself very vulnerable on the international stage because of the hypocrisy of its stated ideals and the actual reality of the treatment of a lot of its citizens," he said.

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel leveraged that vulnerability when he referred to U.S. "imperialism" and the "irrational and unsustainable production and consumption system of capitalism" in his speech at the U.N. General Assembly this week. He said the U.S. was facing "an abundance of practically uncontrolled expressions of hatred, racism, police brutality and irregularities in the election system."

And Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro, not recognized by Washington as his nation's legitimate leader, blasted U.S. "arrogance." He said the Trump administration's current path will lead to isolation and condemnation, including from U.S. citizens "who have taken to the streets to protest against racism, against police brutality, against abuse."

Iran, Venezuela and Cuba are all under U.S. sanctions, which have tightened under President Trump. The three nations also restrict protests and free speech within their own borders, sometimes harshly:

— Last year, Iranian security forces last year killed at least 300 in anti-government protests and sup-



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pressed media coverage, according to Amnesty International.

— Venezuela is in the midst of one of the world's worst refugee crises and a third of the country faces hunger. A U.N. Human Rights Council has accused Maduro's government of crimes, including torture and killings. The U.S. and nearly 60 other nations have called on him to step down.

— In Cuba, there have been dramatic openings in past years, but it remains a one-party communist state where dissent is punishable.

Thomas Carothers, author of "Democracies Divided: The Global Challenge of Political Polarization," said that it becomes harder for the United States to be an effective promoter of democracy abroad when U.S. democracy falls short of its own standards.

"Unquestionably, President Trump has less interest in supporting democracy abroad than any other president in recent American history," said Carothers, who is senior vice president for studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Kleinfeld says the world as a whole is facing a problem of governance.

"Democracies may not always be doing well, and the United States is certainly not doing well," she said. "But there is a chance in democracies that they can do better. They can at least elect their leaders and try to do better."

Follow Dubai-based Associated Press journalist Aya Batrawy on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/ayaelb>.

## If Barrett joins, Supreme Court would have six Catholics

By DAVID CRARY AP National Writer

Roman Catholics account for a bit more than 20% of the U.S. population, yet they are on track to hold six of the Supreme Court's nine seats now that President Donald Trump has nominated Amy Coney Barrett to fill its vacancy.

It's a striking development given that the high court, for most of its history, was almost entirely populated by white male Protestants. Catholic academics and political analysts offer several explanations for the turnaround – related to Catholics' educational traditions, their interest in the law, and – in the case of Catholic conservatives – an outlook that has appealed to recent Republican presidents filling judicial vacancies.

Barrett, a favorite of conservative activists for her views on abortion and other issues, will likely be an ideological opposite of liberal icon Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the Jewish justice whose recent death created the vacancy.

Margaret McGuinness, a professor of religion at La Salle University in Philadelphia, noted that Sonia Sotomayor is the only current Catholic justice appointed by a Democrat. The others — Chief Justice John Roberts, Samuel Alito, Clarence Thomas and Brett Kavanaugh and likely Barrett — were appointed by Republicans.

"They were appointed because they were conservative, not because they were Catholic," said McGuinness. She said Republicans sought nominees who'd be part of an effort to overturn the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, which established a nationwide right to abortion.

Catholics also are well-represented in Congress — holding just over 30% of the seats. Yet there's still been only one Catholic president, John F. Kennedy. Trump's Democratic rival, Joe Biden, would be the second if he wins.

Charles Camosy, a professor of theological and social ethics at Fordham University, suggested that education was a factor in the high proportion of Catholic justices.

"For many decades in the United States, Catholic schools were a much better option for serious students than were public schools, and in many cases still are," he said. "It is possible that this accounts for a disproportionate number of Catholics getting into very good colleges and then into very good law schools."

Camosy also observed that the Catholic population in the U.S. "is wildly, almost impossibly diverse."

"Catholics find themselves on the far left, on the far right, and everywhere else," he said. "No one

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should worry that Catholics on the Supreme Court will all agree with each other about matters of legal interpretation.”

He cited Sotomayor, with liberal views, and Thomas, a staunch conservative, as examples.

Roger Taney was the first Catholic to serve on the court when he became chief justice in 1836. He subsequently became infamous for authoring the Dred Scott decision in 1857 that upheld the institution of slavery and ruled that African Americans could not be U.S. citizens.

There was a so-called Catholic seat on the court for several decades in the 20th century. But until the late 1980s, no more than two Catholic justices had ever served together.

Seven of the eight Republican appointees since 1986 have been Catholic or, like Neil Gorsuch, were raised Catholic. Gorsuch now attends a Protestant church; his Catholic mother, the late Anne Gorsuch Burford, was a militantly anti-abortion legislator in Colorado before joining the Reagan administration in 1981 to head the Environmental Protection Agency.

There has been a majority of Catholic justices on the Supreme Court since Alito joined in 2006.

Sotomayor is the only Democratic nominee in that period who is Catholic. The other three -- Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer and Elena Kagan -- have been Jewish.

John Gehring, Catholic program director at the Washington-based clergy network Faith in Public Life, said Catholics are major players in the conservative legal movement who invest in law schools and in well-funded networks that often serve as pipelines to high-profile judicial appointments.

“The Catholic intellectual tradition has produced giants of liberal thought as well, but in recent decades the right has done a better job building institutions that nurture pathways to power,” Gehring said via email.

“The problem is not how many justices are Catholic,” he added. “The cause for alarm is the court’s ideological lurch to the right, and what that means for health care, voting rights and other moral issues at stake in this election.”

Thomas Groome, a professor of theology and religious education at Boston College, suggested the high percentage of Catholic justices was coincidental.

“I don’t think there’s any scheme or plot to bring Catholics to the Supreme Court,” he said. “Catholics are now mainstream in the life of American culture, and they have the resources to get the kind of education and opportunities that are needed if one is going to rise that high.”

Referring to the high court’s six conservatives, Groome said he preferred the term “traditionalist” and expressed his wish that they would not overturn the health care plan implemented by President Barack Obama.

“If they are Catholic in the tradition of Pope Francis or Jesus of Nazareth, the last thing in the world they should do is vote against the Affordable Care Act,” he said.

In 2017, in Senate hearings on her nomination to a federal appeals court, Barrett underwent some aggressive questioning about whether her Catholic faith would cloud her legal judgments.

Catholic League president Bill Donohue, who seeks to combat perceived anti-Catholic bias, says similar questioning is unlikely this time around.

“That’s because those who made those remarks paid a heavy price for doing so,” he wrote on his group’s website.

Sara Hutchinson Ratcliffe, acting president of Catholics for Choice, said she remained concerned.

“As Catholics, certainly our faith helps us to form our conscience and our ideas and how we live our faith,” she said. “But our religious beliefs should never be a substitute for impartial jurisprudence.”

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Associated Press writers Mark Sherman and Gary Fields contributed to this report.

## **GOP invests \$10M in boosting Trump with Barrett confirmation**

By ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Republican National Committee is putting Amy Coney Barrett’s Supreme Court confirmation fight front and center with voters just weeks before Election Day.

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The confirmation battle will be featured in a new \$10 million RNC digital ad campaign to encourage battleground state voters to return vote-by-mail ballots or go to the polls. The national party, in concert with President Donald Trump's campaign, is planning local events and protests across the country to support Barrett's confirmation as well.

The party is also incorporating Barrett's nomination into its scripts that staffers and volunteers use when calling or knocking on voters' doors, with a focus on social conservative Catholic and evangelical voters — particularly in swing states like Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Florida.

Filling the vacancy created by the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has been an unexpected political opportunity for Trump, who won the White House in 2016 in large part because conservatives were animated around filling the seat opened by the death of Justice Antonin Scalia.

The RNC on Saturday unveiled a website, ConfirmBarrett.com, to allow supporters to contact lawmakers to urge them to put Barrett on the court. It also anticipates trying to fundraise off the confirmation fight, including Democratic vice president nominee Kamala Harris' position on the Senate Judiciary committee.

"With a full-throttled effort from now until President Trump's nominee is confirmed, our teams will expose Democrats' partisanship, aggressively promote the qualifications of Judge Barrett, and use this issue to galvanize voters to the polls in November," said RNC Chair Ronna McDaniel.

## Thousands march in Washington to pray and show Trump support

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thousands of people packed the National Mall in downtown Washington on Saturday to pray and show their support for President Donald Trump.

The march, which stretched from the Lincoln Memorial to the U.S. Capitol, was held just hours before Trump was set to announce he was nominating a conservative judge for the Supreme Court.

Few in the crowd wore masks. Some sported red caps with the words "Let's Make America Godly Again," a play on Trump's signature MAGA caps.

Vice President Mike Pence, speaking from the steps of the memorial, said he came to extend Trump's "greetings and gratitude" and asked them to pray for the new Supreme Court nominee.

The march was organized by the Rev. Franklin Graham, a prominent conservative evangelical and Trump supporter. Many in the crowd appeared to be students of Liberty University in Virginia.

## How Trump, Biden are preparing for first presidential debate

By STEVE PEOPLES and ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ahead of the first debate-stage matchup between President Donald Trump and his Democratic challenger Joe Biden, each campaign is promising a stark contrast in policy, personality and preparation.

Trump has decided to skip any formal preparation. And while Biden's team believes the significance of the debate may be exaggerated, the Democratic nominee has been aggressively preparing to take on the president.

Biden's campaign has been holding mock debate sessions featuring Bob Bauer, a senior Biden adviser and former White House general counsel, playing the role of Trump, according to a person with direct knowledge of the preparations who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal strategy. Bauer has not actually donned a Trump costume in line with Trump stand-ins from previous years, but he is representing his style and expected strategy.

"I'm sure the president will throw everything he can at (Biden). My guess is that they're preparing for that -- bombarding him with insults and weird digressions," said Jay Carney, a former aide to Biden and President Barack Obama.

"I think it's an important moment — I think it's really important for President Trump, because the direction of this election has been pretty stable for a long time now, and he needs to shake it up as any candidate would who's behind," Carney added. "The question is, can that work?"

Trump and Biden are scheduled to meet on the debate stage for the first time Tuesday night at Case

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Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio. The 90-minute event moderated by Fox News host Chris Wallace is the first of three scheduled presidential debates. Vice President Mike Pence and California Sen. Kamala Harris, Biden's running mate, will also debate in October.

For some, the debates represent the most important moments in the 2020 campaign's closing days, a rare opportunity for millions of voters to compare the candidates' policies and personalities side-by-side on prime-time television. Trump has been trailing Biden in the polls for the entire year, a reality that gives the president an urgent incentive to change the direction of the contest on national television if he can.

Others, including those close to Biden's campaign, do not expect the debates to fundamentally change the race no matter what happens, given voters' daily struggles with the pandemic and the economy. They also point to high-profile debates in past elections thought to be game-changing moments at the time but that ultimately had little lasting effect.

Those with knowledge of Biden's preparations suggest he will not take the fight to Trump if he can avoid it. But on Saturday, at least, he was on the attack when he discussed his strategy on MSNBC.

"I'm prepared to go out and make my case as to why I think he's failed and why I think the answers I have to proceed will help the American people, the American economy and make us safer internationally," Biden said, arguing that Trump won't persuade voters with broadsides because "the people know the president is a liar."

He also compared Trump to Adolf Hitler's propaganda minister, Joseph Goebbels, saying, "He's sort of like Goebbels. You say the lie long enough, keep repeating, repeating, repeating, it becomes common knowledge."

Biden said he doesn't expect Trump to articulate a detailed vision for a second term.

"He doesn't know how to debate the facts, because he's not that smart," Biden continued. "He doesn't know that many facts. He doesn't know much about foreign policy. He doesn't know much about domestic policy. He doesn't know much about the detail."

While Biden has said he will try to be a fact checker of sorts on stage, the Democrat is being advised to avoid direct confrontations and instead redirect the conversation to more familiar campaign themes of unity and issues that matter most to voters: the economy, health care and the pandemic.

"Arguing over facts, litigating whether what he's saying is accurate, that is not winning to Biden," said Jen Psaki, a former Obama aide who is close to Biden's team. "This is an opportunity to speak directly to the American people. His objective should be to speak directly to them, but not be pulled in by Trump. That is hard."

Trump has not been doing any formal preparation, according to aides and allies who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss private conversations.

No set has been constructed and aides refused to say whether anyone is playing Biden. Trump, instead, has maintained that the best preparation is doing his day job — particularly his frequent and often contentious interactions with reporters. White House aides also scheduled an ABC town hall earlier this month to expose Trump to real voter questions for the first time in months in preparation for the second debate.

Privately some aides and allies are worried that Trump's lack of formal preparation will lead him to fall into the same hubris trap as other incumbents in their first general election debate. Obama, for example, famously struggled in his first matchup against Mitt Romney in 2012.

But other Trump backers are confident that the president is ready to handle any tough questions or pushback from Biden.

"The debates matter," said Lara Trump, a senior adviser to the campaign and the president's daughter-in-law. "Donald Trump certainly did a great job on the debates (in 2016) and I think this will be no different."

Lara Trump also seemed to simultaneously raise and lower expectations for Biden.

"Joe Biden spent a lot of time in his basement to study up. He's been in this game for 47 years. I assume he'll do okay," she said. "Quite frankly, the bar has been lowered so much for Joe Biden that if he stays awake for the whole thing it's like maybe he won."

The mixed messages were in line with those of Trump's allies who spent much of the year raising ques-

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tions about Biden's physical and mental strength, while in recent days trying to cast him as a strong and experienced debater facing a relative neophyte in Trump.

A former reality show star, the president is keenly aware of the power and pitfalls of live television. Aides say he is acutely mindful of the power of "moments" to define how a debate is perceived and that he intends to make his share of them happen.

It remains to be seen how aggressively Trump attacks Biden. He has warned apocalyptically about the consequences of a Biden victory and is never one to shy away from a fight. He is also an avowed "counterpuncher" and will surely respond to any attacks by Biden in kind.

Terry McAuliffe, the former Virginia governor and onetime national Democratic chairman, said Biden must fashion a succinct, debate-stage version of his message since the spring: draw a straight line from Trump's personal deficiencies to his handling of the pandemic, its economic fallout, the national reckoning on race and then explain why a Biden presidency would be different.

"Trump's just looking for a Hail Mary here," McAuliffe said. "He knows he's in trouble."

Peoples reported from New York. Associated Press writer Bill Barrow in Atlanta contributed to this report.

## US colleges struggle to salvage semester amid outbreaks

By TODD RICHMOND and HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Colleges across the country are struggling to salvage the fall semester amid skyrocketing coronavirus cases, entire dorm complexes and frat houses under quarantine, and flaring tensions with local community leaders over the spread of the disease.

Many major universities are determined to forge ahead despite warning signs, as evidenced by the expanding slate of college football games occurring Saturday. The football-obsessed SEC begins its season with fans in stadiums. Several teams in other leagues have had to postpone games because of outbreaks among players and staff.

Institutions across the nation saw spikes of thousands of cases days after opening their doors in the last month, driven by students socializing with little or no social distancing. School and community leaders have tried to rein in the virus by closing bars, suspending students, adding mask requirements, and toggling between in-person and online instruction as case numbers rise and fall.

Tension over the outbreaks is starting to boil over in college towns.

Faculty members from at least two universities have held no-confidence votes in recent weeks against their top leaders, in part over reopening decisions. Government leaders want the University of Wisconsin-Madison to send its students home. Republican Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, alarmed by what he sees as draconian rules on college campuses, said he is drawing up a "bill of rights" for college students.

In Rhode Island, Gov. Gina Raimondo, a Democrat, this week blamed outbreaks at two colleges for a surge of virus cases that boosted the state's infection rate high enough to put it on the list of places whose residents are required to quarantine when traveling to New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison had seen more than 2,800 confirmed cases in students as of Friday. The school shut down in-person instruction for two weeks, locked down two of its largest dorms, and imposed quarantines on more than a dozen sorority and fraternity houses. The school lifted the dorm lockdown just this week.

Dane County Executive Joe Parisi has demanded the university sent all its students home for the rest of the academic year.

"(The virus) was under control until the university came back," Parisi said.

Chancellor Rebecca Blank has fired back, saying tens of thousands of students with off-campus housing would still come to the city. She accused Parisi of failing to enforce capacity restrictions in bars and off-campus parties.

"You can't simply wish (students) away, nor should you," Blank said in a statement directed at Parisi.

Amid the fighting, thousands of students around the country have been quarantined in dorm rooms.

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At Kansas State University, more than 2,200 students have been placed in quarantine or isolation since class began. Student Emily Howard was isolated in what students have dubbed "COVID jail" after she and her dorm roommate tested positive for the virus on Sept. 4, just three weeks after arriving on campus.

"Now you walk around campus (and) pretty much everyone says they've had it," Howard said. "Now we don't really care as much because we know we had the antibodies."

Bryan Fisher, a UW-Madison freshman quarantined in the dorms, said students were allowed to leave only to get food from the dining hall, and they were given only 30 minutes to make each trip. He said he spent his time studying and watching movies.

"We were pretty much stuck in here," Fisher said. "It's been pretty hard to meet new people. Everyone's expectations of college aren't what they were."

The University of Connecticut on Friday placed a third dormitory under medical quarantine. More than 150 students have tested positive.

The University of Missouri has had more than 1,500 confirmed cases among students since classes began. The school plans to limit the crowd at Saturday's home football opener against Alabama to no more than 11,700 fans, leaving the stands about 80% empty.

Florida State on Friday decided to require that students test negative for the virus a week before a football game before being allowed to attend and must wear masks in the stands. Seminoles coach Mike Norvell tested positive for the virus last week.

Despite the attempts at mitigation, student cases have sent local county infection numbers soaring. Schools' decisions to push on with the semester have frustrated some faculty and local community leaders.

Faculty members at Appalachian State in August approved a no-confidence vote against Chancellor Sheri Everts over university finances, morale and reopening plans. Everts has said she has received support from the school's Board of Trustees.

The University of Michigan faculty took a no-confidence vote against President Mark Schlissel earlier this month. Faculty felt Schlissel's administration hasn't been transparent about reopening decisions and hasn't released any modeling gauging the health risks. Graduate students went on strike Sept. 8 to protest reopening. Schlissel has acknowledged that trust in his leadership had slipped, but the university's governing board expressed support him this week.

"Colleges and universities are ... under immense pressure to remain open," said Chris Mariscano, director of the College Crisis Initiative, a research project at Davidson College tracking the effects of the virus on higher education. "When the president of the United States starts tweeting (about staying open), you understand just how much politics is playing a role here and institutional survival is playing a role here."

University officials across the country say they hope to bolster testing and contact tracing as the semester continues. But Mariscano said universities should expect college students to act like college students.

At Kansas State, Howard was not especially concerned about the virus and didn't mind the "COVID Jail," where students got free laundry service and their own bedrooms.

"I personally am not too worried about it, and everyone I have talked to is not that worried about it," she said. "I think it is more like, you are going to get it. It's just a matter of when."

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Hollingsworth reported from Mission, Kansas. Associated Press writer Mike Melia contributed from Hartford, Connecticut.

## Scores arrested in protest against Belarus' president

By YURAS KARMANAU Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Hundreds of women calling for the authoritarian president to step down protested in Belarus' capital on Saturday, continuing the large demonstrations that have rocked the country since early August.

Police blocked off the center of Minsk and arrested more than 80 demonstrators, according to the Viasna human rights organization. Some of those arrested were chased down by police in building courtyards

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where they were trying to take refuge, Viasna said.

Protests, by far the largest and most persistent in Belarus since independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, began Aug. 9 after an election that officials said gave President Alexander Lukashenko a sixth term in office.

Opponents and some poll workers say the results, in which Lukashenko was tallied with 80% support, were manipulated.

Despite wide-scale detentions of demonstrators and the arrest of many prominent opposition figures, the protests haven't shown signs of abating. Lukashenko further angered opponents this week by taking the oath of office for a new term in an unexpected ceremony.

Protesters on Saturday carried placards denouncing him as "the secret president."

Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, Lukashenko's main election opponent who went into exile in Lithuania after the vote, praised the female demonstrators and derided the police in a statement.

"What about the men themselves, who, hiding their faces, use force against women? Is it possible to live peacefully with such men?" she said.

The election and Lukashenko's defiance of the protesters have come under strong criticism from the West, and Tsikhanouskaya this month urged the United Nations to send monitors to Belarus. The country's foreign minister will address the U.N. General Assembly later Saturday.

A large protest is expected on Sunday, typically the day that sees the biggest demonstrations attracting crowds estimated at up to 200,000.

Lukashenko, a former collective farm manager, has been in office since 1994. During that time he has repressed opposition and independent news media and kept most of the country's economy under Soviet-style state control.

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This story has been corrected to show that it will be the Belarusian foreign minister who speaks to the U.N. General Assembly, not Lukashenko.

## In Breonna Taylor's name: Devastation and a search for hope

By CLAIRE GALOFARO and AARON MORRISON Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Chea Woolfolk searched the crowd until she found the face of the woman she'd come to regard as a second mother. And then she watched the tears roll down Rose Henderson's cheeks.

Looking into Mama Rose's eyes, Woolfolk could see that her heart was breaking.

This formidable woman looked off balance, like she might topple. Mama Rose has been the matriarch of "Injustice Square," a block downtown that protesters, many of them Black women, have occupied for 120 days.

They have been tear gassed by police together, arrested, threatened online, shot with pepper bullets. They lost jobs and friends and homes to show up every day because they had hope: that there would be justice for Breonna Taylor, the 26-year-old emergency medical technician shot and killed by police when they burst into her house in the middle of the night in a botched raid. And that in pursuing justice for Taylor, America would signal that their lives and the lives of other Black women have value.

Now they were standing in the square, listening together as the Commonwealth of Kentucky announced no charges would be filed against officers for Taylor's death.

"That broke me," Mama Rose cried, and that agony rippled across the country, as protesters took to the streets for days to say Taylor's name, and to display rage, despair, powerlessness, exhaustion.

"It was like sitting at a funeral, it was a collective feeling like someone died, and everyone was grieving," said Woolfolk, a 45-year-old radio personality who documented the movement from its early days.

She didn't expect then that she would be back every day for four months, and that she would come to refer to the protesters as "us." That she'd be enveloped in what would become a family.

"It was probably one of the heaviest moments I've ever felt in my life," Woolfolk said.

Beyond Louisville, the decision reverberated widely across Black America. For months, Taylor's name

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has been a rallying cry for activists who hoped Black women and their deaths at the hands of police would finally receive the same attention given to cases concerning the extrajudicial killing of Black men.

And to some degree, that has happened. Famed musicians, actors, athletes and politicians said her name and called for the arrests of the officers involved in the raid that killed Taylor.

Then, on Wednesday, the grand jury decision came down to charge one officer with three counts of wanton endangerment for firing wildly into the apartment building. But the charges were for endangering Taylor's neighbors. No one was charged in connection with Taylor's death.

There followed the kind of coast-to-coast protests not seen since the start of summer, along with a rising sense of doom and despair. On social media, some noted that the decision came 65 years to the day after an all-white jury acquitted white men of murdering Emmett Till, a Black teen from Chicago who was lynched in Mississippi in 1955 after he was said to have whistled at a white woman.

"I am completely mortified that our criminal justice system has failed Breonna Taylor, her family and friends, and frankly, it has failed our country," said Patrisse Cullors, co-creator of Black Lives Matter and executive director of its network of BLM chapters.

The grand jury's decision was "just another reminder of how the system doesn't value Black life," said Zellie Thomas, a BLM organizer in Paterson, New Jersey, who led a vigil Thursday night, in the aftermath of the announcement.

"Breonna got featured on covers of magazines, she got TV specials, she got streets named after her," he said. "But she didn't get justice. All these things seem nice, but it's nothing compared to justice."

For the Rev. Starsky Wilson, the grand jury's failure to indict in Taylor's death was all too familiar. He was a co-chair of the Ferguson Commission, which recommended wide-ranging policy reforms after the 2014 police shooting death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri. The announcement that the officer who killed Brown would not be indicted sparked an uprising by residents in the majority Black city.

Wilson, incoming president of the Children's Defense Fund, said the system "was never designed to give people the kind of care or sense of accountability that people are looking for."

The Taylor case "is a watershed moment for the Black Lives Matter movement," said Alvin Tillery Jr., an associate professor of political science at Northwestern University. "The activists are going to have to supplement their disruptive protests with political organizing and voting if they are going to change the environment in Kentucky."

Some Louisville activists say their goals remain unchanged. They want the immediate firing and revocation of the pensions of the officers involved in the raid that killed Taylor (one of whom has been fired already), defunding or divesting from the Louisville Metropolitan Police Department and creating independent civilian oversight of police.

But to the stalwarts in the Louisville square, Taylor is much more than a rallying point. Even if they never met her, they feel that they've known her deeply, that she could have been any one of them.

"It's reiterating to me that my life does not matter, that I'm unsafe," said Millicent Cahoon, a therapist who started a counseling network for the movement.

For months, protesters came to her describing panic attacks and nightmares; they couldn't eat or sleep. Some don't know how to process their experience and what it means about their city and their world. "How do I tell my kids?" they wonder.

Now, she worries fatigue and hopelessness could settle in. Her group is offering free therapy to any protester who is struggling.

"You get tired of fighting after a while," she said. "We want to make sure hope stays alive, so we can keep going."

The night the decision was announced, Rose Henderson was tending to the memorial to Taylor: a portrait that stands nearly 8 feet tall, circled by signs, paintings and flowers that others have left in tribute. This is her space. She orders her fellow protesters to be peaceful and to take care of themselves so they can keep up the fight: Pull up your mask, she tells them, drink more water.

But around her, people were angry. Some set small fires, and threw plastic bottles at police. About a



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mile away, two police officers were shot and wounded, and that, too, broke Henderson's heart. She felt like she'd lost control.

Lines of officers in riot gear descended on the square, and a loudspeaker ordered everyone to disperse, threatening to use chemical agents if they stayed.

So she left.

She and Woolfolk both cried themselves to sleep, and cried again when they awakened the next morning.

Though Henderson had barely missed a day at the square, Woolfolk worried she might not come back right away; it had been a hard day.

But then Mama Rose walked in, arranged the memorial just right, scolded people to pull up their masks and drink more water.

Woolfolk asked her if she was OK.

"No, I'm not," Henderson said, "but I'm going to keep going."

Morrison, who reported from New York, is a member of AP's Race and Ethnicity team. Follow him on Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/aaronlmorrison>. Galofaro is a National Writer based in Louisville. Follow her on Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/claireregafaro>.

## Alps surprised by early snowfall, Swiss town sees new record

BERLIN (AP) — Parts of Switzerland, Austria and Germany were surprised by unseasonably early snowfall overnight, after a sharp drop in temperatures and heavy precipitation.

The Swiss meteorological agency said Saturday that the town of Montana, in the southern canton (state) of Valais, experienced 25 centimeters (almost 10 inches) of snowfall — a new record for this time of year.

Authorities were out in force across mountainous regions in the two Alpine nations to clear roads blocked by snow and ice.

In parts of Austria, snowfall was recorded as low as 550 meters (1,805 feet) above sea level.

## In leaders' UN videos, the backgrounds tell stories, too

By JENNIFER PELTZ Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Chinese President Xi Jinping urged the world to "reject attempts to build blocks to keep others out" as an image of his country's storied Great Wall hung behind him. Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte used photos and videos to illustrate what he was talking about. Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison shared his policy views — and his scenic view of Sydney Harbor.

If the annual U.N. General Assembly meeting of national leaders is always a window on the world, this year the window is opening directly onto their desks, presidential palaces and homelands.

Staying home because of the coronavirus pandemic, they are speaking by video, adding a new layer of imagemaking to the messages and personas they seek to project.

"They have to be authentic, they have to be believable, and this is even more of a challenge virtually. But it need not be, if you're able to think about how to use your background creatively," says Steven D. Cohen, a Johns Hopkins University business communication professor who has coached politicians.

"They can use what happens in the frame to complement those messages, to break through the glass of the computer and connect through stories, through visions," he says.

The General Assembly hall's podium has provided decades of presidents, prime ministers and monarchs with a coveted portrait of statesmanship — and a setting conducive to it. While it's no secret that many speeches are aimed largely at domestic audiences, sideline encounters and the prospect of live reactions from the international community can be "a factor for nudging people into what multilateral diplomacy is all about: finding common cause," said Richard Ponzio, a former U.S. State Department and U.N. official and now a fellow at the Stimson Center, a foreign policy think tank.

Many leaders lamented that they can't convene in person this year.

"Thankfully, we can make optimal use of modern technology," said Suriname's new president, Chan

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Santokhi, one of several speakers whose videos featured introductory music.

Others enhanced their presentations with subtitles or even cable-news-style chyrons, like "HOW WE CAN BUILD A BETTER FUTURE FOR ALL" and "WE MUST LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND" to underscore key messages from eSwatini's prime minister, Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini. Duterte overlaid parts of his speech with relevant photos and videos of coronavirus test centers, storms and more, going well beyond the maps and pictures that leaders occasionally hold up at the assembly podium.

Without the hall, some speakers opted for a more approachable posture. Pope Francis, for example, eschewed a podium to stand close to the camera in a bookcase-lined room, as though speaking to a visitor.

Many leaders sat at desks, sometimes giving the world a glimpse of personal photos, stacks of books and other presumably carefully curated workaday items, including a coffee cup for Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador.

Speaking from a desk connotes being "friendly, conversational, trying to connect with people," said Jim Bennett, executive director of the Virtual Meetings and Events Association, an event planners' clearinghouse. But desks — especially large ones — also can signal authority.

Morrison chose an even more conversational setting: a sunny spot overlooking the city's famous harbor and opera house, with boats passing in the background. Morrison, who has complained in the past about international institutions bossing countries around, called the virus a reminder of the importance of multinational cooperation, though he added that international institutions need to be "accountable to the sovereign states that form them."

Fiji's prime minister, Frank Bainimarama, had a crowd in the background of his speech for a special session on the U.N.'s 75th anniversary. After his remarks highlighting Fiji's role in peacekeeping missions and ocean preservation efforts, he and the spectators gave the U.N. a birthday cheer.

To be sure, many leaders spoke the traditional visual language of political speechmaking, flanked by flags with TV-friendly plain backdrops. Many others appeared in well-appointed offices and ceremonial rooms that could provide plenty of fodder for the decor-ranking that took flight online this spring as the pandemic forced TV commentators and other public figures to work from home. Kausea Natano, the prime minister of the Pacific island nation of Tuvalu, gave the global audience a picture of its tropical shore.

For heads of state, of course, a backdrop often speaks to more than individual taste.

Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis spoke against a panorama of the Acropolis and the Parthenon. The prime minister of Mauritius, Pravind Jugnauth, seized on the chance to mark his country's claim in a territorial dispute, appearing in front of a map that showed the British-controlled Chagos Islands as part of Mauritius while discussing the countries' long-running disagreement over the archipelago.

Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro spoke before a large portrait of 19th-century South American independence leader Simón Bolívar and invoked him while lashing out at the United States, which doesn't recognize Maduro as Venezuela's president. U.S. President Donald Trump, for his part, used the White House diplomatic reception room to film an uncommonly brief address focused on criticizing China.

Palau's president, for one, used his video to send a more up-close-and-personal message in his final U.N. speech after serving as the Pacific island nation's leader for 16 of the last 20 years.

With some points of pride in the background — a U.N. environmental award and baseball and basketball trophies from teams on which he played — and a bright pink polo shirt instead of the dark suits he wore to the assembly rostrum over the years, Tommy E. Remengesau Jr. reflected on what the group has and hasn't tackled since he first addressed it in the wake of the Sept. 11 terror attacks in 2001.

"My message then was one of unity," he said, and "this call remains apt today."

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Associated Press writer Cara Anna in Johannesburg contributed to this report. Follow New York-based AP reporter Jennifer Peltz on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/JennPeltz>

## It's 'now or never' for ex-Trump aides weighing speaking out

By JILL COLVIN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Elizabeth Neumann wrestled with the decision for weeks. She worried about the

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backlash, the impact it would have on her career, potential threats to her family.

But the former Department of Homeland Security official, who had resigned in April, reached a breaking point after President Donald Trump deployed Homeland Security agents to Portland, exacerbating tensions there. She decided it was worth the risk to speak out against Trump, whom she had come to view as a threat to the country.

"Enough is enough," said Neumann, the former assistant secretary of counterterrorism and threat prevention. "People need to understand how dangerous a moment we are in."

There are plenty of others weighing the same decision.

With just weeks left before the Nov. 3 election, now is the moment of truth for current and former Trump administration officials debating whether they, too, should step forward and join the chorus of Republican voices trying to persuade on-the-fence voters to help deny Trump a second term.

"It's now or never," said Miles Taylor, former chief of staff at DHS, who has been working to recruit others to join the effort. In interviews, Taylor has accused Trump of routinely asking aides to break the law, using his former agency for explicitly political purposes, and wanting to maim and shoot migrants trying to cross the southern border.

"Those who witnessed the president's unfitness for office up close have a moral obligation to share their assessment with the electorate," said Taylor, who launched the group REPAIR — The Republican Political Alliance for Integrity and Reform — to bring together concerned former officials.

A related group, Republican Voters Against Trump, has compiled nearly 1,000 video testimonials from Republicans across the country who want Trump out. Strategic director Sarah Longwell said her goal was to provide a "permission structure" to help wavering Republicans feel comfortable opposing Trump.

The effort, she said, grew out of research on "soft" Trump voters.

"While these voters disliked Trump intensely, they didn't trust the media, they didn't trust Democrats, they didn't trust the leaks," she said. "Who's a credible messenger? It was people like them."

Other prominent "formers" have spoken out independently — or are considering it.

Former national security adviser John Bolton wrote a scathing book in which he said Trump "saw conspiracies behind rocks, and remained stunningly uninformed" on how to run the government. Former Defense Secretary Jim Mattis broke a self-imposed vow of silence in June with an op-ed slamming Trump's response to racial justice protests. He and former director of national intelligence Dan Coats also were quoted extensively in a new book by journalist Bob Woodward calling Trump dangerous and unfit for office.

But Mattis and Coats, like former White House chief of staff John Kelly and former national security adviser H.R. McMaster, have refrained from more explicit condemnations, often citing a "duty of silence" or a long tradition of military officials staying out of politics, according to people who've spoken with them.

Efforts to draw them out are ongoing. While former Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen appears disinclined to step forward, there are hopes that former Secretary of State Rex Tillerson might be persuaded to comment and that Coats might be urged to say more. And Kelly, a retired four-star general, is said to be on the fence and torn about the decision.

"I think that he loves his country and he wants to do what's best for the country," said Neumann, who served as Kelly's deputy chief of staff at DHS and is hopeful he'll speak out, even as others don't think it will happen.

Officials like Kelly, with long careers and hefty pensions, would seem to have less to lose by doing so than more junior staffers like Olivia Troye, a former counterterrorism adviser to Vice President Mike Pence who last week joined the campaign against Trump and said she'd be voting for Biden.

In a video and interviews, Troye has accused Trump of mishandling the coronavirus and being more concerned about his reelection prospects than saving lives. The White House punched back with an aggressive attack campaign aimed at discrediting her through a barrage of statements, interviews and denunciations from the lectern in the White House briefing room.

"These are not profiles in courage, but these are profiles in cowardice," White House press secretary Kayleigh McEnany said of Troye and Taylor, dismissing them as part of a "fringe club of, quote, 'Never

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Trumpers' who are desperate for relevancy."

Taylor said it was clear the White House was "coming after" those who speak out as a warning to others who are considering doing likewise.

"The White House knows if they show this is a very costly thing to do they will scare people from going forward," he said.

He added that while more people are still considering coming forward, the White House tactics have worked to some extent — dissuading one senior official who had been on the cusp of speaking out.

Rick Wilson, a longtime Republican strategist who co-founded the anti-Trump Lincoln Project, stressed that time is running out.

"There will be a cottage industry when Trump is out of office of people who say, 'Oh, I fought from the inside, I fought the good fight, I kept so many bad things from happening.'" he said. "It doesn't matter. There's only one moment in time where it matters. And that's now."

For Neumann, who describes herself as a conservative Christian and voted for Trump in 2016, the considerations were deeply personal, including what it might mean for her career in a city that puts a premium on loyalty.

"This is a town based on relationships," she said. "And what we have done is, you know, usually not done in this town. Usually you stab people in the back and do it quietly. You do it as an anonymous source. You don't actually put your name to it."

Neumann is still out of work and notes that many companies fear making hires that might seem political. But she still said she's been pleasantly surprised by the response overall.

"It was more positive than I expected," she said, adding, "No serious threats, haven't had to call the police or anything, so that's good."

Anthony Scaramucci, who turned against the president last year after a short stint as White House communications director, has also been in discussions with those on the fence and is using every channel he can find to spread his message, including a new anti-Trump documentary.

"We have to keep the pressure on, and so for me it's a multimedia approach. It's radio, it's podcasts, it's Twitter, it's television and it's movies," he said. "As a citizen all I've tried to do is provide a surgeon general's warning. ... This guy is a threat to the institutions of democracy, and I worked for him and I think it's important to send a signal to other people," he said, that it's OK to speak out.

## Q&A: How to handle technology issues with online school

By TALİ ARBEL AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Across the U.S., the pandemic has forced students to attend virtual school to prevent spread of the coronavirus. But the more we rely on technology, the bigger the consequences when gadgets or internet service let us down.

Technology being technology, all sorts of things can go wrong. Your internet service may be inadequate for all-day videoconferencing or simply overstressed. Hardware and software can be confusing, can break, and sometimes just fails to work. There can be unanticipated consequences from turning on a new video camera in your home for school lessons.

Here are answers to some common questions from parents now forced to manage their kids' virtual educations.

Q: We don't have a computer/enough computers/fast enough internet service for online school. What do we do?

A: This affects millions of people, and there are no perfect solutions.

It's possible to use smartphones as hotspots for computers, but that's an imperfect solution at best. Not all plans let you run hotspots off your phone, and if you can, you probably face data caps -- which makes it impractical for all-day online school.

Some cable companies are offering low-cost service for eligible families, although those programs are typically limited to areas the companies already serve, often provide only minimum broadband speeds

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and frequently aren't available to former customers who owe the cable company money.

Schools may provide internet hotspots or free internet at home for families without good service. Get in touch with the district or talk to a teacher about how to get help from your schools. They may also be able to send computers or tablets to kids, although there's a shortage of education-style computers at the moment.

Q: Our service slows way down when several people do video calls at the same time. Are there simple ways to fix that?

A: Talk to your internet service provider. It may be time to update your modem or router, and some offer Wi-Fi extenders to improve the network. ISPs can also try repositioning your existing equipment to improve the range and strength of Wi-Fi connections.

Other options include "mesh" style Wi-Fi networks that let you position several base stations around a large house, giving you a stronger signal most everywhere. If necessary, it may be time to pay up for higher-speed service.

You can also try talking to teachers and co-workers to reschedule calls to go easier on the network. Turning off your own camera during video calls can help, too. Sometimes teachers can record lessons and send them to kids to watch later if live streaming isn't possible.

Q: Virtual-school programs and computers can be hard to figure out. Gadgets break. Then what?

A: Some districts have set up tech-support phone lines or live chats to help students and parents. Chicago Public Schools, for example, has phone help available in English and Spanish and a website where you can open a ticket for help. But there may not be much schools can do if there's an issue with your own computer or the cable company.

Q: My kids are anxious about seeing themselves on camera and get frustrated in constant video meetings. What can I do?

A: Keeping video cameras on is one way teachers try to ensure kids are paying attention and not beaming out to play video games, but not all kids react well. Discuss any anxieties with teachers to work out solutions -- for instance, your kid might not need to keep their head in frame at all times. If a child definitely needs to be on screen, practice being on video calls with family members, said David Anderson, a clinical psychologist at the Child Mind Institute. Exposure to the scary situation helps children get used to it.

Another option: Services like Zoom let you remove your own image from your screen while keeping your camera on. Zoom explains how to do that online.

Kids frustrated by having to sit in front of a computer all day and missing their friends may act out, sighing loudly or disobeying the rules, Anderson said. Instead of issuing punishments, try to come up with coping plans -- offer breaks and activities they enjoy in return for participating in virtual school. For older children and teens, give them room to do the activities they love independently. "Remind them what they're working toward and what they can look forward to," Anderson said. "Build up coping thoughts for kid to get through the rougher part of the day."

Q: How do I hide the contents of my house from my kids' teachers and classmates?

A: Many video services let you choose a virtual background -- the Rocky Mountains, a field of flowers, the Death Star -- that obscures everything but the person on the screen. Sometimes you can also just blur the actual background. Otherwise, situate your kids in a neutral space you all feel comfortable showing to the world -- maybe somewhere they'll sit with their backs to a wall -- and have them wear headphones to limit both distracting noises and the possibility that unrelated family conversations might broadcast into the virtual classroom.

## Today in History

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Sept. 27, the 271st day of 2020. There are 95 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

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On September 27, 1964, the government publicly released the report of the Warren Commission, which concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald had acted alone in assassinating President John F. Kennedy.

On this date:

In 1779, John Adams was named by Congress to negotiate the Revolutionary War's peace terms with Britain.

In 1825, the first locomotive to haul a passenger train was operated by George Stephenson in England.

In 1917, French sculptor and painter Edgar Degas died in Paris at age 83.

In 1939, Warsaw, Poland, surrendered after weeks of resistance to invading forces from Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union during World War II.

In 1956, Olympic track and field gold medalist and Hall of Fame golfer Babe Didrikson Zaharias died in Galveston, Texas, at age 45.

In 1979, Congress gave its final approval to forming the U.S. Department of Education.

In 1991, President George H.W. Bush announced in a nationally broadcast address that he was eliminating all U.S. battlefield nuclear weapons, and called on the Soviet Union to match the gesture. The Senate Judiciary Committee deadlocked, 7-7, on the nomination of Clarence Thomas to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1994, more than 350 Republican congressional candidates gathered on the steps of the U.S. Capitol to sign the "Contract with America," a 10-point platform they pledged to enact if voters sent a GOP majority to the House.

In 1996, in Afghanistan, the Taliban, a band of former seminary students, drove the government of President Burhanuddin Rabbani out of Kabul, captured the capital and executed former leader Najibullah.

In 1999, Sen. John McCain of Arizona officially opened his campaign for the 2000 Republican presidential nomination, the same day former Vice President Dan Quayle dropped his White House bid.

In 2004, NBC announced that "Tonight Show" host Jay Leno would be succeeded by "Late Night" host Conan O'Brien in 2009 (however, O'Brien's stint on "The Tonight Show" lasted just over seven months).

In 2016, scientists announced the first baby born from a controversial new technique that combined DNA from three people — the mother, the father and an egg donor. (The goal was to prevent the child from inheriting a fatal genetic disease from his mother.)

Ten years ago: Southwest Airlines announced the \$1.4 billion purchase of AirTran. Temperatures reached 113 degrees in downtown Los Angeles, the highest in records kept since 1877.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama committed the U.S. to a new blueprint to eliminate poverty and hunger around the world as he addressed a global summit at the United Nations. Pope Francis urged hundreds of thousands of faithful gathered in Philadelphia for the biggest event of his U.S. visit to be open to the "miracles of love," closing out a six-day trip with a message of hope for families and consolation for victims of child sexual abuse.

One year ago: House Democrats took their first concrete steps in the impeachment investigation of President Donald Trump, issuing subpoenas demanding documents from Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and scheduling depositions for other State Department officials. A federal judge blocked new Trump administration rules that would allow the government to keep immigrant children in detention facilities with their parents indefinitely.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Kathleen Nolan is 87. Actor Claude Jarman Jr. is 86. Author Barbara Howar is 86. World Golf Hall of Famer Kathy Whitworth is 81. Singer-musician Randy Bachman (Bachman-Turner Overdrive) is 77. Rock singer Meat Loaf is 73. Actor Liz Torres is 73. Actor A Martinez is 72. Baseball Hall of Famer Mike Schmidt is 71. Actor Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa is 70. Actor/opera singer Anthony Laciura is 69. Singer Shaun Cassidy is 62. Comedian Marc Maron is 57. Rock singer Stephan (STEE'-fan) Jenkins (Third Eye Blind) is 56. Former Democratic National Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz is 54. Actor Patrick Muldoon is 52. Singer Mark Calderon is 50. Actor Amanda Detmer is 49. Actor Gwyneth Paltrow is 48. Rock singer Brad Arnold (3 Doors Down) is 42. Christian rock musician Grant Brandell (Underoath) is 39. Actor Anna Camp is 38. Rapper Lil' Wayne is 38. Singer Avril Lavigne (AV'-rihl la-VEEN') is 36. Bluegrass singer/musician Sierra Hull is 29. Actor Sam Lerner is 28. Actor Ames McNamara is 13.