

# Groton Daily Independent

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Last night the Langford Area Lions defeated Groton Area in volleyball action, 3-2. Groton won the first two sets and then Langford rallied to win the last three for the win. Groton Area won the junior varsity match and the 7th grade match.

## This week

Today, the volleyball team will travel to Northwestern. The junior high matches are cancelled. A C match will start at 5 p.m. with the jV at 6 p.m. followed by the varsity match. All three matches will be broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM.

Then on Thursday, a newly scheduled match will have Groton Area traveling to Wilmot with a JV match at 6:15 p.m. followed by the varsity match.

On Saturday, the state cross country meet will be held at Yankton Trails in Rapid City (Isaac Smith is a state qualifier). The ACT Testing will be held at GHS on Saturday.



## **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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**Groton City Council Meeting Agenda  
October 20, 2020 – 7:00pm  
Groton Community Center**

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

- 1. Public Comments - pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1  
(Public Comments will offer the opportunity for anyone not listed on the agenda to speak to the council. Speaking time will be limited to 3 minutes. No action will be taken on questions or items not on the agenda.)**
- 2. Minutes**
- 3. Bills**
- 4. September Finance Report**
- 5. Water Tower Replacement – Schedule B – Maguire Iron Application for Payment Number 3 for \$396,081.90**
- 6. Water Tower Replacement – Schedule B – Maguire Iron request for retainer reduction**
- 7. 2020 Baseball season report**
- 8. FEMA Community Acknowledgment Form Lot 4 Thede's First Addiction**
- 9. Executive session personnel & legal 1-25-2 (1) & (3)**
- 10. Adjournment**



## Junior High Football Team

**Back from left: Jacob Tewksbury, Easton Eckern, Teylor Diegel, Kaden Kampa, Karter Moody, Caden McInerney, Drew Thurston, Payton Mitchell, Gage Sippel, Ryder Johnson, Karsten Jeschke, and Coach Lance Hawkins.**

**Front left: Coach Ryan Scepaniak, Keegen Tracy, Brevin Fliehs, Christian Ehresmann, Kellen Antonsen, Aiden Heathcote, Nick Morris, Gavin Englund, and Landon Smith.**

**Not all are pictured.** (Courtesy photo)

The junior high football team recently completed their season. In 8th grade and combined games they went 4-0 with wins as listed below.

- vs. Sisseton 16-6
- vs. Milbank 14-6
- vs. Redfield 24-16
- vs. Webster 30-14

The 7th grade had one single game on their own, losing to a stout Milbank team 14-0.

Listed below is a complete roster of all 8th and 7th graders that competed this year. They are not all in the picture that was taken after the last game.

This 8th grade bunch went undefeated all throughout junior high. Last year they went 6-0, this year 4-0.

8th grade- Christian Ehresmann, Kaden Kampa, Caden McInerney, Korbin Kucker, Payton Mitchell, Karsten Jeschke, Drew Thurston, Nick Morris, Teylor Diegel, Aiden Heathcote, Kellen Antonsen, Carter Simon, Easten Eckern, Turner Thompson, Brevin Fliehs, and Logan Pearson.

7th grade- Charlie Frost, Landon Smith, Ryder Johnson, Lincoln Krause, Karter Moody, Logan Warrington, Keegen Tracy, Gavin Englund, Gage Sippel, and Jacob Tewksbury.

- Coach Lance Hawkins

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**#239 in a series**

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

This will be another short one—combination of light news day in the world and heavy workday at my house. Monday numbers are supposed to be light; at least, that's been the pattern for some months now. Today doesn't look like a light day, and if this, as is usual for Mondays, turns out to be lighter than the real trend, we're in more trouble than expected. There were 63,700 new cases reported today, a 0.8% increase. That doesn't look like a light day, even compared to recent trends. I'll point out that Sundays run low, and yet yesterday was the second worst Sunday in almost three months; even our light days look dire when placed in perspective. We'll see what tomorrow brings. In the meantime, we're up to 8,252,400 cases reported thus far in this pandemic in the US. We are up to 220,039 deaths. 502 were reported today, a 0.2% increase.

Looking at new-case numbers over the past week or so, Dr. Michael Osterholm, director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota, on "Meet the Press" yesterday said, "the next six to twelve weeks are going to be the darkest of the entire pandemic," warning us that Friday's 70,000+ cases are not as bad as it will get and predicting numbers between now and the holidays "much, much larger than even the 67 to 75,000 cases" we saw at our previous peak. Dr. Scott Gottlieb, former commissioner of the FDA, was on "Face the Nation" yesterday, telling viewers, we are headed into "probably the most difficult phase of this epidemic. I think the next three months are going to be very challenging." This is stacking up to be a very long, cold winter.

Three states show greater than 50% increase in seven-day new-case average: Washington, New Mexico, and Connecticut. Twenty-four states have reported a 10 to 50% increase in seven-day average. These are Nevada, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, Minnesota, Mississippi, Alabama, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, West Virginia, South Carolina, and Florida. Seventeen states recorded new daily highs last week. Hospitalizations are also increased; 42 states have seen 5% increase, and 14 states have seen record hospitalizations. Currently, 36,000 people are hospitalized.

In West Virginia, 13 counties have reported 18 outbreaks associated with church services. I don't think it's anti-religion to point out that in-person church services are a bad idea at this time. Church attendees skew elderly and vulnerable; crowd those folks into a space where they share air, add some singing and praying aloud, and you're asking for funerals. Seems to me it's more anti-religion to turn church services deadly.

The Midwest continues as the epicenter of this new resurgence, showing 45% increase in new case reporting and accounting for over one-third of all new cases in the US for the past week. In those states, Illinois and Wisconsin are adding the most cases, numbers that look like those in much more populous states. Overall numbers are lower in North and South Dakota, but their per capita infections are way out in front of everyone else. From the Midwest, the infection is spreading into the West, and cases are spilling over into Montana, Wyoming, and Utah. New Mexico's new-case numbers have doubled in two weeks. That's not all though; we're seeing resurgence in the South now too. Almost 40% of new cases last week were in this region with Florida and Texas surging again and huge increases in Tennessee and Mississippi. And case counts doubled in the Northeast in the last month. Recognize that numbers were very low in the Northeast to start with, so doubling still leaves them low; but we do not need to see those ticking up again now.

Now everyone expected spikes in the fall, but no one really expected them so soon or to be so sharp. Dr. Peter Hotez, dean for the National Tropical Medicine School at Baylor College of Medicine, says, "It's happening at a rate that is even more rapidly than I might have expected. I predict then we'll soon start seeing the number of deaths go up." We've learned a lot about treatment over the past few months, but there still will be deaths, too many of them. A surge in deaths lagging the current surge in cases is what Dr. Hotez was talking about.

A week ago last Friday night, Emily Puhli stopped in at her favorite restaurant, a little Thai place in Huntly, New Zealand. The place was packed, and there were people lined up waiting for takeout orders—a good thing for a restaurant, especially after the economic hit suffered by all kinds of small businesses in the

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pandemic. After a few minutes, Emily noticed something else: There was no one waiting on all of those customers and no one at the till to accept people's payment, no one to hand out pickup orders.

She soon realized the chef was alone in the place. The staff had a family emergency and needed to leave, so there the chef was, cooking and cooking while trying to take care of customers too, an impossible situation on such a busy night. Some patrons were getting restive; but others of them were realizing what was going on.

And they did what comes naturally, even though I'm guessing this thing rarely happens: One woman who'd been waiting to pay grabbed a piece of paper and started taking orders for the chef. Another one headed to the kitchen to start washing dishes. A worker from the next-door shop agreed to run the till. And they let the chef cook; after all, it was a busy night.

Funny thing happened. Emily wrote on Facebook, "We could easily feel the sense of community all around the place. Frowns turned to smiles and grumpy waiting turned to patiently waiting. What an awesome place to live in."

Now that's what I call customer service. Look for the opportunities in your own life and pitch in. Maybe you'll turn some frown into smiles too. Worth a shot.

Take care, of yourself and others. We'll talk again.

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## Area COVID-19 Cases

	Oct. 7	Oct. 8	Oct. 9	Oct. 10	Oct. 11	Oct. 12	Oct. 13
Minnesota	105,740	106,651	107,922	109,312	110,828	112,268	113,439
Nebraska	48,757	49,396	50,059	50,059	51,144	52,382	52,839
Montana	15,347	16,063	16,677	17,399	18,117	18,702	19,125
Colorado	74,191	74,922	75,785	76,619	77,642	78,461	79,037
Wyoming	5,751	5,866	6,031	6,226	6,338	6,476	6,628
North Dakota	24,364	24,857	25,384	26,040	26,628	27,265	27,737
South Dakota	24,876	25,433	26,441	27,215	27,947	28,564	28,925
United States	7,501,847	7,551,257	7,607,890	7,667,640	7,719,254	7,763,457	7,804,643
US Deaths	210,918	211,844	212,789	213,816	214,379	214,776	215,089
Minnesota	+941	+911	+1271	+1,390	+1,516	+1,440	+1,171
Nebraska	+950	+639	+663	----	+1,085	+1,238	+457
Montana	+500	+716	+614	+722	+818	+585	+423
Colorado	+654	+731	+863	+834	+1,023	+819	+576
Wyoming	+91	+115	+165	+195	+112	+138	+152
North Dakota	+502	+493	+527	+656	+588	+637	+472
South Dakota	+278	+557	+528	+774	+732	+617	+359
United States	+48,018	+49,410	+56,633	+59,750	51,614	+44,203	41,186
US Deaths	+791	+926	+945	+1,027	+563	+397	+313
	Oct. 14	Oct. 15	Oct. 16	Oct. 17	Oct. 18	Oct. 19	Oct. 20
Minnesota	114,574	115,763	117,106	119,145	121,090	122,812	124,439
Nebraska	53,543	54,467	55,428	56,714	57,334	58,068	58,817
Montana	19,611	20,210	20,933	21,595	22,233	22,821	23,390
Colorado	80,085	80,777	81,918	83,230	84,369	85,302	86,374
Wyoming	6,740	6,914	7,089	7,337	7,479	7,673	7,924
North Dakota	28,245	28,947	29,653	30,414	31,261	31,978	32,637
South Dakota	29,339	30,215	31,012	31,805	32,611	33,269	33,836
United States	7,859,365	7,917,223	7,980,899	8,052,978	8,107,404	8,148,368	8,215,578
US Deaths	215,914	216,904	217,717	218,618	219,311	219,668	220,134
218,							
Minnesota	+1,135	+1,189	+1,343	+2,039	+1,945	+1,722	1,627
Nebraska	+704	+924	+961	1,286	+620	+734	+749
Montana	+486	+599	+723	+662	+638	+588	+569
Colorado	+1,048	+692	+1,141	1,312	+1,139	+933	+1,072
Wyoming	+112	+174	+175	+248	+142	+194	+251
North Dakota	+508	+702	+706	+761	+847	+717	+659
South Dakota	+414	+865	+797	+793	+806	+658	+567
United States	+54,722	+57,858	+63,676	+72,079	+54,426	+40,964	+67,210
US Deaths	+825	+990	+813	+901	+693	+357	+466

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## October 19th COVID-19 UPDATE

### Groton Daily Independent from State Health Lab Reports

No new deaths in South Dakota, four more in North Dakota. South Dakota had 567 new positive cases and 191 recovered. Brown County has the fourth highest positive cases in the state for the day, behind Minnehaha, Pennington and Lincoln counties.

#### Brown County:

Total Positive: +32 (1,784) Positivity Rate: 15.5%

Total Tests: +113 (15,941)

Recovered: +8 (1,403)

Active Cases: +24 (377)

Ever Hospitalized: -1 (89)

Deaths: +0 (4)

Percent Recovered: 78.6

#### South Dakota:

Positive: +567 (33,836 total) Positivity Rate: 18.1%

Total Tests: 3,131 (367,540 total)

Hospitalized: +27 (2,146 total). 304 currently hospitalized +4)

Deaths: +0 (323 total)

Recovered: +191 (25,125 total)

Active Cases: +376 (8,388)

Percent Recovered: 74.2%

Staffed Hospital Bed Capacity: 13% Covid, 49% Non-Covid, 38% Available

ICU Bed Capacity: 21% Covid, 39% Non-Covid, 41% Available

Ventilator Capacity: 8% Covid, 19% Non-Covid, 73% 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: +1 positive, +1 recovered (62 active cases)

Beadle (12): +13 positive, +5 recovered (201 active cases)

Bennett (4): +2 positive, +0 recovered (39 active cases)

Bon Homme (1): +7 positive, +5 recovered (192 active cases)

Brookings (2): +24 positive, +8 recovered (333 active cases)

Brown (4): +32 positive, +8 recovered (377 active cases)

Brule (2): +8 positive, +2 recovered (63 active cases)

Buffalo (3): -1 positive, +0 recovered (25 active cases)

Butte (3): +14 positive, +2 recovered (96 active cases)

Campbell: +2 positive, +0 recovered (34 active cases)

Charles Mix: +1 positive, +5 recovered (86 active cases)

Clark: +1 positive, +0 recovered (24 active cases)

Clay (8): +10 positive, +5 recovered (113 active cases)

Codington (10): +21 positive, +3 recovered (277 active cases)

Corson (1): +1 positive, +0 recovered (28 active cases)

Custer (3): +4 positive, +0 recovered (72 active case)

Davison (4): +28 positive, +4 recovered (296 active cases)

Day (1): +6 positive, +6 recovered (30 active cases)

Deuel: +4 positive, +2 recovered (43 active cases)

Dewey: +2 positive, +0 recovered (122 active cases)

Douglas (4): +0 positive, +1 recovered (50 active cases)

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

Fall River (6): +1 positive, +2 recovered (51 active cases)

Faulk (1): +3 positive, +0 recovered (57 active cases)

Grant (2): +5 positive, +1 recovered (82 active cases)

Gregory (8): +4 positive, +1 recovered (35 active cases)

Haakon (1): +1 positive, +0 recovered (31 active case)

Hamlin: +2 positive, +1 recovered (42 active cases)

Hand (1): +0 positive, +1 recovered (20 active cases)

Hanson (1): +1 positive, +0 recovered (20 active cases)

Harding: +1 positive, +1 recovered (27 active cases)

Hughes (5): +12 positive, +6 recovered (136 active

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cases)

Hutchinson (2): +6 positive, +1 recovered (59 active cases)

Hyde: +1 positive, +0 recovered (9 active cases)

Jackson (1): +3 positive, +1 recovered (31 active cases)

Jerauld (6): +1 positive, +0 recovered (20 active cases)

Jones: +0 positive, +0 recovered (7 active cases)

Kingsbury (1): +5 positive, +0 recovered (57 active cases)

Lake (8): +6 positive, +0 recovered (78 active cases)

Lawrence (5): +14 positive, +11 recovered (169 active cases)

Lincoln (14): +51 positive, +17 recovered (601 active cases)

Lyman (4): +0 positive, +0 recovered (18 active cases)

Marshall: +2 positive, +0 recovered (15 active cases)

McCook (1): +4 positive, +1 recovered (57 active cases)

McPherson: +2 positive, +0 recovery (16 active case)

Meade (9): +3 positive, +6 recovered (157 active cases)

Mellette: +0 positive, +0 recovered (11 active cases)

Miner: +5 positive, +0 recovered (58 active cases)

Minnehaha (96): +151 positive, +27 recovered (1846

active cases)

Moody (2): +5 positive, +3 recovered (52 active cases)

Oglala Lakota (5): +16 positive, +2 recovered (256 active cases)

Pennington (44): +37 positive, +22 recovered (804 active cases)

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

Potter: +1 positive, +0 recovered (22 active cases)

Roberts (4): +4 positive, +3 recovered (43 active cases)

Sanborn: +1 positive, +1 recovered (25 active cases)

Spink (1): +0 positive, +1 recovered (61 active cases)

Stanley: +2 positive, +3 recovery (20 active cases)

Sully: +4 positive, +0 recovered (18 active cases)

Todd (5): +3 positive, +4 recovered (109 active cases)

Tripp (1): +4 positive, +6 recovered (48 active cases)

Turner (8): +10 positive, +2 recovered (162 active cases)

Union (10): +4 positive, +1 recovered (173 active cases)

Walworth (1): +4 positive, +6 recovered (89 active cases)

Yankton (5): +7 positive, +2 recovered (168 active cases)

Ziebach (1): +0 positive, +0 recovered (16 active case)

## AGE GROUP OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

Age Range	# of Cases	# of Deaths
0-9 years	1045	0
10-19 years	3755	0
20-29 years	7188	2
30-39 years	5645	7
40-49 years	4652	12
50-59 years	4713	28
60-69 years	3628	47
70-79 years	1850	60
80+ years	1360	167

## SEX OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

Sex	# of Cases	# of Deaths
Female	17778	147
Male	16058	176

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

- 8.9% rolling 14-day positivity
- 662 new positives
- 8,103 susceptible test encounters
- 153 currently hospitalized (+6)
- 5,837 active cases (+185)
- 408 total deaths (+4)



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County	Positive Cases	Recovered Cases	Negative Persons	Deceased	Community Spread	% RT-PCR Test Positivity
Aurora	158	96	687	0	Substantial	21.05%
Beadle	1075	862	3738	12	Substantial	21.38%
Bennett	127	83	899	5	Substantial	23.44%
Bon Homme	317	124	1390	1	Substantial	36.19%
Brookings	1223	888	5841	2	Substantial	22.18%
Brown	1784	1403	8298	4	Substantial	21.21%
Brule	216	151	1359	2	Substantial	26.85%
Buffalo	201	173	809	3	Substantial	27.78%
Butte	235	137	1982	3	Substantial	28.50%
Campbell	70	36	159	0	Substantial	39.39%
Charles Mix	312	226	2862	0	Substantial	10.39%
Clark	71	47	641	0	Substantial	18.42%
Clay	710	589	3079	8	Substantial	20.29%
Codington	1267	980	6105	10	Substantial	21.63%
Corson	134	105	765	1	Substantial	45.95%
Custer	272	195	1594	3	Substantial	30.00%
Davison	732	442	4242	4	Substantial	18.58%
Day	134	103	1164	1	Substantial	19.78%
Deuel	151	108	749	0	Substantial	22.31%
Dewey	268	146	3310	0	Substantial	17.28%
Douglas	148	94	674	4	Substantial	15.09%
Edmunds	123	104	686	1	Moderate	4.53%
Fall River	167	110	1696	6	Substantial	21.60%
Faulk	159	101	516	1	Substantial	28.00%
Grant	262	178	1419	2	Substantial	15.69%
Gregory	180	137	764	8	Substantial	18.10%
Haakon	67	35	409	1	Substantial	9.16%
Hamlin	159	117	1158	0	Substantial	10.55%
Hand	89	68	541	1	Substantial	13.33%
Hanson	65	42	420	1	Moderate	16.42%
Harding	33	6	106	0	Substantial	68.75%
Hughes	739	593	3595	5	Substantial	17.12%
Hutchinson	191	130	1490	2	Substantial	11.15%

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Hyde	33	24	288	0	Moderate	21.05%
Jackson	78	47	718	1	Substantial	19.77%
Jerauld	154	128	371	6	Moderate	10.53%
Jones	27	20	120	0	Moderate	43.75%
Kingsbury	143	85	983	1	Substantial	16.20%
Lake	304	218	1739	8	Substantial	26.32%
Lawrence	676	502	5135	5	Substantial	18.91%
Lincoln	2229	1614	12426	14	Substantial	24.32%
Lyman	210	188	1378	4	Substantial	9.64%
Marshall	59	44	742	0	Moderate	17.78%
McCook	183	125	1049	1	Substantial	10.30%
McPherson	56	40	371	0	Moderate	7.30%
Meade	795	629	4690	9	Substantial	15.69%
Mellette	48	39	551	0	Moderate	16.67%
Miner	114	44	387	0	Substantial	34.78%
Minnehaha	9163	7221	49133	96	Substantial	17.86%
Moody	171	117	1047	2	Substantial	23.15%
Oglala Lakota	584	323	5318	5	Substantial	21.47%
Pennington	3591	2743	22998	44	Substantial	12.98%
Perkins	62	42	438	0	Moderate	19.44%
Potter	84	62	581	0	Substantial	10.26%
Roberts	279	232	3149	4	Substantial	16.87%
Sanborn	74	49	407	0	Substantial	25.64%
Spink	220	158	1620	1	Substantial	11.48%
Stanley	73	53	503	0	Substantial	21.74%
Sully	37	19	158	0	Substantial	38.71%
Todd	314	200	3281	5	Substantial	25.00%
Tripp	236	187	1092	1	Substantial	13.15%
Turner	387	217	1738	8	Substantial	23.53%
Union	660	477	3836	10	Substantial	18.67%
Walworth	245	151	1238	1	Substantial	20.89%
Yankton	630	457	5627	5	Substantial	8.42%
Ziebach	78	61	561	1	Moderate	13.64%
Unassigned	0	0	1794	0		

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## South Dakota

New Total Cases Today	New Confirmed Cases	New Probable Cases
567	564	3
Currently Hospitalized	Active Cases	Recovered Cases
304	8,388	25,125
Total Cases	Total Confirmed Cases	Total Probable Cases
33,836	32,904	932
Ever Hospitalized	Total Persons Tested	Total Tests
2,146	232,450	367,540
Deaths	% Progress (September Goal: 44,233 Tests)	% Progress (October Goal: 44,233 Tests)
323	216%	175%

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## Brown County

New Total Cases Today	New Confirmed Cases	New Probable Cases
32	32	0
Currently Hospitalized	Active Cases	Recovered Cases
19	377	1,403
Total Cases	Total Confirmed Cases	Total Probable Cases
1,784	1,778	6
Ever Hospitalized	Total Persons Tested	Total Tests
89	10,082	15,941
Deaths	% Progress (September Goal: 44,233 Tests)	% Progress (October Goal: 44,233 Tests)
4	216%	175%

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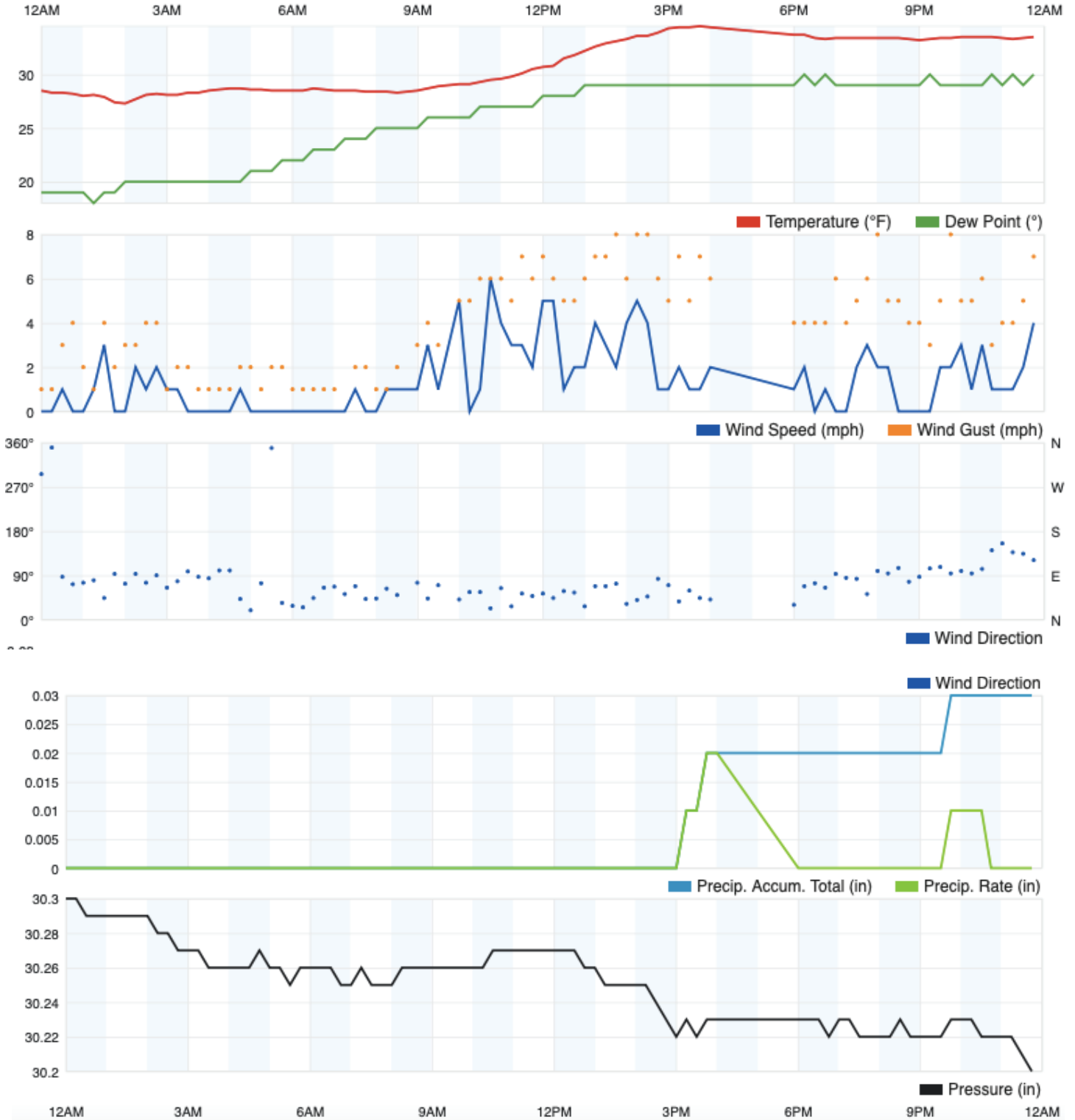
## Day County

New Total Cases Today	New Confirmed Cases	New Probable Cases
6	6	0
Currently Hospitalized	Active Cases	Recovered Cases
0	30	103
Total Cases	Total Confirmed Cases	Total Probable Cases
134	132	2
Ever Hospitalized	Total Persons Tested	Total Tests
16	1,298	2,289
Deaths	% Progress (September Goal: 44,233 Tests)	% Progress (October Goal: 44,233 Tests)
1	216%	175%

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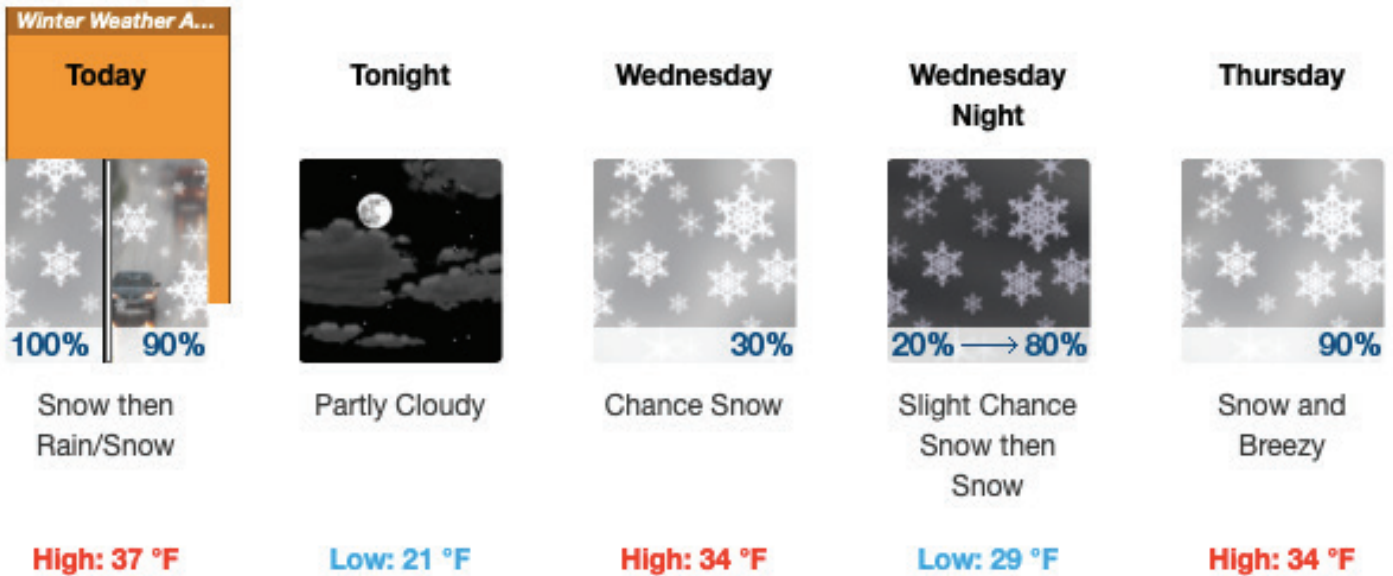
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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs



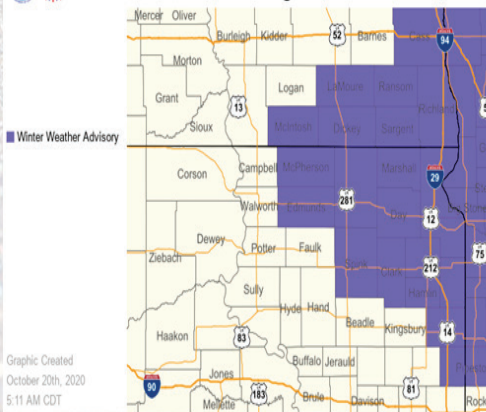
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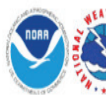
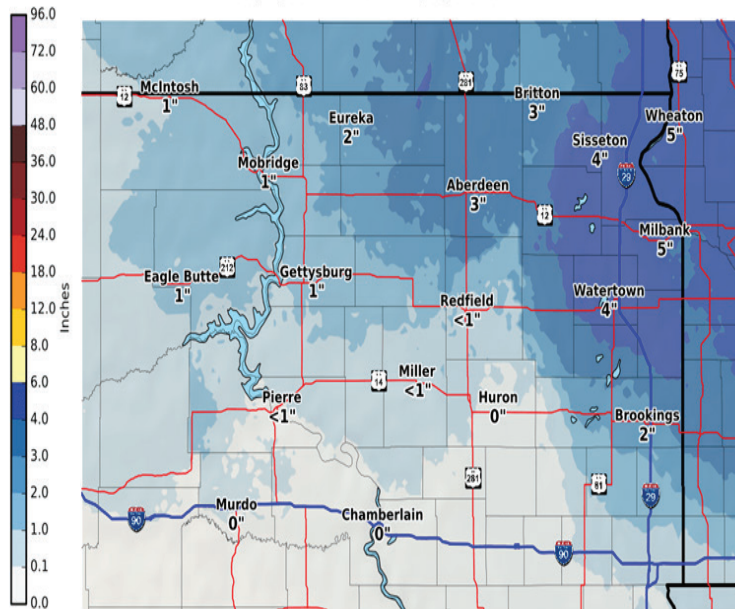
## More October Snowfall Today

### Winter Watches Warnings and Advisories



### Event Total Snowfall

Valid: 10/20/2020 01:00 AM - 10/20/2020 07:00 PM



National Weather Service  
Aberdeen SD  
10/20/2020 03:36 AM CDT

Follow Us:   
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Visit [www.weather.gov/abr](http://www.weather.gov/abr) for a detailed forecast for your specific location Updated: 10/20/2020 5:47 AM CT NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

An upper level low pressure trough will bring snowfall to mainly the northern part of the region today. Snowfall amounts should range from up to an inch along the Missouri River to 5 inches in the Sisseton Hills into west central Minnesota. Highs will range from the mid 30s in the northeast to the lower 50s in the southwest.

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## Today in Weather History

October 20, 1936: Heavy snow across the region brought snowfall totals upwards of 5 inches in New-castle and Sundance with 5.5 inches reported in Dupree and 10 inches in Faith. Aberdeen saw 2 inches, while Moberly had three inches from this event.

1956: While not a record, Esperanza Base in Antarctic warmed to 57.2 degrees on this date. The all-time warmest day at this base occurred on March 24, 2015, when the temperature reached 63.5 degrees. As of now, the 63.5 degrees has not been verified to be the warmest temperature recorded on the continent of Antarctica.

1983: Remnants of Pacific Hurricane Tico caused extensive flooding in central and south central Oklahoma. Oklahoma City set daily rainfall records with 1.45 inch on the 19th, and 6.28 inches on the 20th.

2004: Typhoon Tokage blasting across Japan triggers flash floods that wash away entire hillsides, killing 55 people and leaving at least 24 people missing.

1770 - An exceedingly great storm struck eastern New England causing extensive coastal damage from Massachusetts to Maine, and the highest tide in 47 years. (David Ludlum)

1983 - Remnants of Pacific Hurricane Tico caused extensive flooding in central and south central Oklahoma. Oklahoma City set daily rainfall records with 1.45 inch on the 19th, and 6.28 inches on the 20th. (17th-21st) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Cold arctic air invaded the Upper Midwest, and squalls in the Lake Superior snowbelt produced heavy snow in eastern Ashland County and northern Iron County of Wisconsin. Totals ranged up to 18 inches at Mellen. In the western U.S., the record high of 69 degrees at Seattle WA was their twenty-fifth of the year, their highest number of record highs for any given year. Bakersfield CA reported a record 146 days in a row with daily highs 80 degrees or above. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Unseasonably warm weather continued in the western U.S. In California, afternoon highs of 96 degrees at Redding and Red Bluff were records for the date. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Forty-nine cities reported record low temperatures for the date as readings dipped into the 20s and 30s across much of the south central and southeastern U.S. Lows of 32 degrees at Lake Charles LA and 42 degrees at Lakeland FL were records for October, and Little Rock AR reported their earliest freeze of record. Snow blanketed the higher elevations of Georgia and the Carolinas. Melbourne FL dipped to 47 degrees shortly before midnight to surpass the record low established that morning. Showers and thunderstorms brought heavy rain to parts of the northeastern U.S. Autumn leaves on the ground clogged drains and ditches causing flooding. Up to 4.10 inches of rain soaked southern Vermont in three days. Flood waters washed 600 feet of railroad track, resulting in a train derailment. (The National Weather Summary)(Storm Data)



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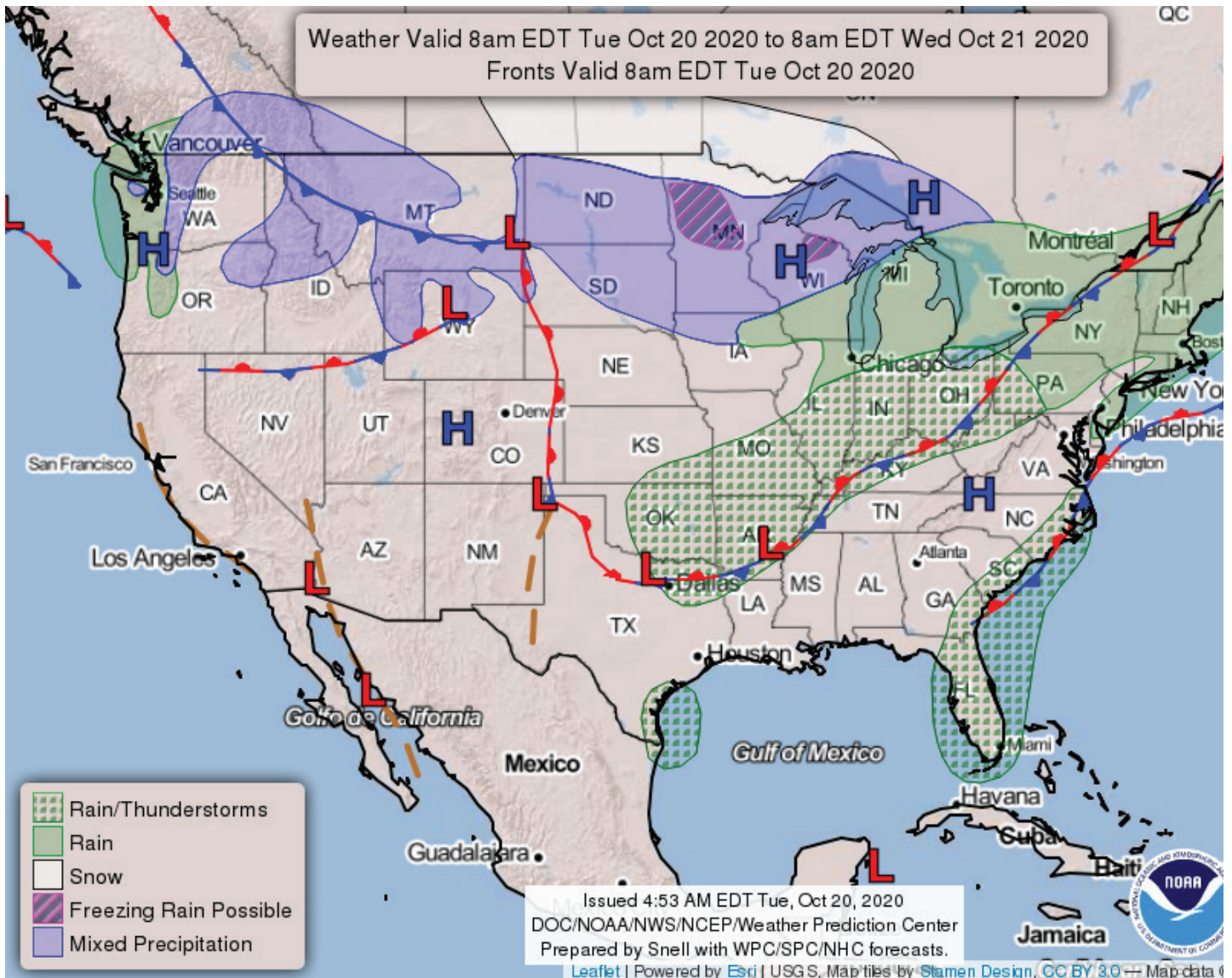
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## Yesterday's Groton Weather

**High Temp: 34.5 °F at 3:45 PM**  
**Low Temp: 27.3 °F at 2:00 AM**  
**Wind: 8 mph at 1:45 PM**  
**Precip: .03**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 87° in 1947**  
**Record Low: 12° in 1930**  
**Average High: 56°F**  
**Average Low: 31°F**  
**Average Precip in Oct.: 1.37**  
**Precip to date in Oct.: 0.03**  
**Average Precip to date: 19.85**  
**Precip Year to Date: 15.31**  
**Sunset Tonight: 6:39 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:59 a.m.**



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## LUNCH BOX RELIGION

In a "Peanuts" comic strip, Linus carefully listened to Lucy as she boasted about her religious zeal. She wanted him to think that she was all about witnessing to others.

"You know, Linus," she bragged, "I could be a terrific evangelist. Do you know the kid that sits behind me in school? I convinced him that my religion was better than his religion!"

"How did you do that?" he asked.

"I hit him with my lunch box until he gave in," she replied.

Jesus said, "Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." Jesus knew that love would work better than being beaten with a lunch box!

Biblical love must never be confused with warm, fuzzy feelings or emotional ups and downs. Biblical love is a love that opens one's lunch box to someone who is hungry and in need of food, even though the lunch box owner would have to do without food. It is a love that causes us to give until we have to do without. It is a love that will, at times, drain us of energy and finances to help those who are victims of poverty through no fault of their own. It is a love that absorbs the hurts of others without complaining or holding back when we think that we are being taken advantage of. It is a love that is "hard to do" because it is a love that comes from God, and we see in His love, a sacrificial, "other's needs come first" kind of love.

Prayer: We see in Your Son, Father, the ultimate definition of love - a love that had or has no limits or draws no lines. Fill our hearts with love like Your Son's. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples. John 13:35

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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

### South Dakota Prep Polls

By The Associated Press \

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Prep Media football polls for the week of Oct. 19 are listed below, ranking the top-five teams in each class. First-place votes received are indicated in parentheses.

#### Class 11AAA

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Sioux Falls Roosevelt	(18)	6-0	90	1	
2. Brandon Valley	-	6-1	71	2	
3. Harrisburg	-	5-2	51	3	
4. Lincoln	- 4-3	37	4		
5. Sioux Falls O'Gorman	-	5-3	21	5	

Others receiving votes: None.

#### Class 11AA

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Yankton (14)	8-0	86	1		
2. Brookings	(4)	8-0	76	2	
3. Pierre	- 5-2	54	3		
4. Sturgis	- 4-4	36	4		
5. Mitchell	- 3-5	14	5		

Others receiving votes: Huron 4.

#### Class 11A

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Tea Area (18)	7-0	90	1		
2. Canton	- 5-2	66	4		
3. West Central	-	5-3	58	5	
4. Dakota Valley	-	5-3	28	2	
5. Dell Rapids	-	5-2	25	3	

Others receiving votes: Madison 2, Milbank 1.

#### Class 11B

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Winner (14)	7-0	86	1		
2. Bridgewater-Emery-Ethan	(4)	8-0	90	2	
3. Sioux Valley	- 7-1	49	3		
4. Mobridge Pollock	-	7-0	27	5	
5. St. Thomas Moore	-	6-1	26	4	

Receiving votes: : Elk Point-Jefferson 3.

#### Class 9AA

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Viborg-Hurley (18)	7-0	90	1		
2. Lemon-McIntosh	-	8-0	70	2	
3. Hamlin	- 8-0	48	3		
4. Platte-Geddes	-	8-0	44	4	
5. Hanson	- 6-2	16	5		

Others receiving votes: Deuel 3.

#### Class 9A

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
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1. Howard (18)	7-0	90	1		
2. Canistota-Freeman	-		7-1	72	2
3. Warner	-	7-0	53	3	
4. Wall	-	7-0	34	4	
5. De Smet	-	6-2	17	5	

Others receiving votes: Philip 2, Chester Area 1, Ipswich-Edmunds Central 1.

Class 9B

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP		
1. Wolsey-Wessington	(18)	6-1	90	1	
2. Langford Area	-	6-2	69	2	
3. Herreid-Selby Area	-	7-1	51	3	
4. Dell Rapids St. Mary	-	4-2	31	4	
5. Kadoka Area	-	7-1	26	RV	

Others receiving votes: Alcester-Hudson 2, Faith 1.✕

## Cold and wind make for tough South Dakota pheasant opener

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — A cool, windy weekend made the opening two days of South Dakota's pheasant season a tough go for most hunters, an official with the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks said.

Many hunters were happy with the number of birds they saw, but it was tough to shoot them in the weather conditions, conservation officer Nick Cochran told the Aberdeen News.

Strong winds don't make for ideal pheasant hunting. Cochran said that didn't stop hunters from enjoying the weekend — spending time with friends and family or working with their dogs in the fields. But he didn't see a lot of hunters out Sunday.

He said it seemed like hunters enjoyed the chance to spend time outside amid the coronavirus pandemic, which has hit South Dakota particularly hard. But limits were hard to come by unless hunters put in some hard work, he said.

A man was struck Saturday with shotgun BBs in the Chelsea area and taken to a hospital, though his injuries weren't severe. Beyond that, Cochran said, there weren't many big problems, though there was some trespassing in the Brown County area.

## South Dakota voter registration up more than 5% since 2016

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's voter registration numbers have increased 5.2% since the last presidential election.

South Dakota had 572,655 active registered voters as of Friday, according to the Secretary of State's office. That's an increase of 28,227 since 2016, the Sioux Falls Argus Leader reported.

"Voter participation is the foundation of our democracy and I encourage every eligible South Dakota resident who is not yet registered to complete the process and ensure your voice is heard," Secretary of State Steve Barnett said ahead of Monday's deadline for registering.

Registered Republicans have increased by 22,921 or 9% compared with 2016. The state had 275,037 registered Republicans, 157,672 Democrats, 136,343 Independents and 2,242 Libertarians as of Friday.

The number of registered South Dakota Democrats continues to fall. The Democrats have seen a 7.6% loss since 2016.

Independents, or those with no political affiliation, saw the biggest rise, percentage-wise, with an almost 15% increase.

Early voting in South Dakota started Sept. 18 and runs through Nov 2.

## Shelter officials say 35 rescued dogs were starving, inbred

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — Shelter officials say 35 dogs rescued near Whitewood last week were starving and inbred.

"They're skinny, they're bloated with worms, they have diarrhea, they were fighting over food to survive," Jennifer McCambridge, senior kennel tech at the Western Hills Humane Society in Spearfish, told the Rapid City Journal.

The Lawrence County Sheriff's Office said Thursday that 24 dogs were seized during a search Tuesday. But McCambridge said 35 dogs were taken before, during and after the main search, including animals that hid or ran away.

The dogs, including numerous dead ones, were found outside and inside a home, trailers and vehicles, Capt. Patrick Johnson said. He said a charging decision was pending.

"We want this guy to go to jail and stay in jail," McCambridge said.

The dogs are of varying ages and mixes of redbone coonhounds and Rottweilers combined with some pit bull, McCambridge said. She said some have disfigured front paws, evidence they'd been breeding with each other. The main issue is rehabilitating their digestive systems, which aren't used to real dog food.

McCambridge said the dogs don't know what to make of people yet, since they aren't used to being around them, and aren't ready to be fostered, adopted or visited. The shelter is accepting donations for their care via its website.

## Driver dies, 2 passengers injured in SUV crash near Rowena

ROWENA, S.D. (AP) — One person has died and two others were injured in a one-vehicle crash near Rowena, east of Sioux Falls in southeastern South Dakota.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol said Monday that an SUV was eastbound on South Dakota Highway 42 on Sunday afternoon when the vehicle left the road and rolled. The driver, a 33-year-old woman, died at the scene.

The two passengers, a 34-year-old man and a 26-year-old woman, were thrown from the vehicle and sustained serious non-life threatening injuries. Both were taken to a Sioux Falls hospital.

Names of the three people involved were not immediately released pending notification of family members.

Authorities say the three were not wearing seat belts. The crash remains under investigation.

## City, groups chip in to help homeless during virus pandemic

By SIANDHARA BONNET Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — About 50 people lined the southeast corner of the Rapid City Skate Park parking lot one afternoon this month waiting for soup from the Hope Center.

One after the other, they said thank you and spoke with the center's volunteers, who greet them by name.

Hope Center Executive Director Melanie Timm said the faith-based nonprofit began feeding what she calls their guests — homeless and non-homeless — in the skate park in August. She said they feed about 80 to 100 people at a time at 1 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

A similar scene plays out almost every day in Rapid City and recently prompted Mayor Steve Allender to hold a press conference to say the city doesn't have enough resources to meet the needs of every homeless person west of the Missouri River and that the growing population is attracted to the city by 11 organizations that feed them.

Once the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March, Timm said the center saw the need to feed and decided to help. She said an overwhelming number of volunteers wanted to help them initially provide food at the center on Kansas City Street in downtown Rapid City.

"We were going to step in, we were going to provide that service," she said. "It's not a line item on our budget, never has been."

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Feeding the homeless also gave the volunteers a first-hand look at a population that struggles, Timm said. "But being outside for four months made homelessness very visible, and homelessness is not pretty," she said. "It's ugly, it's complicated, it's emotional."

Timm said on one day she received a photo of a number of individuals sleeping outside the Hope Center. It was eye opening, she said.

"It really hurts my heart they're sleeping outside on our sidewalk, that they're sleeping outside anywhere," she said. "But for some that's their comfort level. That's what they're used to, that's their choice. They want to be close to the earth, they want to lay outside and watch the stars. They should be able to do that without fear of violence or their things being stolen."

Timm, however, said Mayor Allender was correct when he said in his press conference that the city doesn't have enough resources to help everyone, the Rapid City Journal reported,

"Particularly when you're dealing with people who have mental health issues and they have addiction issues and they've experienced a lot of trauma in their life, it gets very difficult," she said. "To be able to find the right service to meet that person's needs is sometimes challenging."

Mona Herrington with Oyate Kin Chatewastepi, another organization that feeds the homeless in Rapid City, said she couldn't listen to Allender's entire conference.

"He said they're coming from the reservation because we're feeding them, and these people, they've been here, they've all been here," she said. "There's a couple that came and are estranged, but they don't have anywhere to go on the reservation. They haven't been there. They need a place, we need a building."

Allender said providing a building was on a list of demands given to him at an earlier meeting. He said that would only be a short-term solution and homelessness is an "insurmountable problem without an adequate solution."

Oyate Kin Chatewastepi serves meals to the homeless at 5 p.m. on Fridays at the Founders Park bandshell. Herrington said the group feeds between 150 and 200 people per meal now, which has grown from the 30 to 75 served in 2018.

Curtis Touche from the Lower Brule Reservation was following his girlfriend when he moved to Rapid City about 10 years ago. He said she's back on the reservation now, but he has friends here. He also said he knows where to go to find food and other things he needs, which now includes socks since winter is coming.

The downside of homelessness, he said, is that it can be dangerous out there.

"Nights, we've been walking through here all night and you hear gunshots all the time," Touche said. "You hear cop sirens all the time. When you go to sleep, when you fall asleep, it's really appreciable, but when you wake up, it's really hard to go back to sleep around it."

Touche said people wake up early since that's the best time to get something to eat and everyone looks out for each other — like a family.

Majooie Little Eagle said she was homeless and now comes to the Hope Center's feeding to support the others, including her daughter.

"I got my own place," she said, "but I got one daughter that she's got no place to go. So, I get scared for her in the night."

Brendyn Medina, public information officer for the Rapid City Police Department, said the department's Quality of Life Unit has noticed an increase in the number of new homeless people over the past six months.

The unit, he said, make contacts with the homeless and works to form relationships with them. Police Chief Don Hedrick said at the mayor's press conference that the unit has helped get 70 people off the streets since its inception in 2018.

At Allender's press conference on Sept. 30, he said there are about 100 new faces in the homeless population this year, many from nearby reservations. He said they are attracted to free meals served in city parks.

Oglala Sioux President Julian Bear Runner responded to the conference by saying Allender's comments were "racist, ignorant, inflammatory and insensitive."

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Allender said Thursday he's still willing to work toward a solution to help the homeless, but isn't sure if a compromise is possible before winter starts.

After every red Powerade and water bottle was passed out and each bowl filled with soup made by volunteers was served earlier this month, recipients sat together under the shade of a tree.

For Little Eagle, it was having a meal with her daughter. For Touche, it was a meal with friends celebrating his 37th birthday.

"It's not a cake," he said. "Not everything's perfect, but you just have to go with what you have around here."

## South Dakota has reached 100 COVID-19 deaths in October

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota health officials confirmed Sunday that the state has reached the 100 mark in deaths due to complications from COVID-19 in October, with eight new fatalities in the last day.

The update showed 658 positive tests since Saturday, for a total of 33,269 infections since the pandemic began. The death toll stands at 323.

There have been about 978 new cases per 100,000 people in South Dakota over the past two weeks. That ranks second in the country behind North Dakota for new cases per capita, according to The COVID Tracking Project. Over the past two weeks, the rolling average number of daily new cases in South Dakota has increased by 63.5%.

Of the deaths reported Sunday, four people were in their 50s and one was in their 40s.

The number of people being treated in hospitals across the state stands at 300, an increase of five in the last day. Of those patients, 65 are in intensive care units and 30 require the assistance of a ventilator, state data shows.

Minnehaha County, which includes the Sioux Falls metropolitan area, has gone over 9,000 in total number of virus cases. There have been 96 deaths in the county.

## Duterte: Hold me responsible for killings in drug crackdown

By JIM GOMEZ Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The Philippine president has said he accepts responsibility for the thousands of killings committed during police operations in his crackdown on drugs, adding that he was even ready to go to jail.

President Rodrigo Duterte's televised remarks Monday night were typical of his bluster — and tempered by the fact that he has pulled his country out of the International Criminal Court, where a prosecutor is considering complaints related to the leader's bloody campaign.

The remarks were also a clear acknowledgement that Duterte could face a deluge of criminal charges. Nearly 6,000 killings of drug suspects have been reported by police since he took office in mid-2016, but rights watchdogs suspect the death toll is far larger.

"If there's killing there, I'm saying I'm the one ... you can hold me responsible for anything, any death that has occurred in the execution of the drug war," Duterte said.

"If you get killed, it's because I'm enraged by drugs," said the president known for his coarse and boastful rhetoric. "If I serve my country by going to jail, gladly."

He said, however, that drug killings that did not happen during police operations should not be blamed on him, alleging that those may have been committed by gangs.

Duterte has made a crackdown on drugs a centerpiece of his presidency. At the height of the campaign — which has often targeted petty dealers and users along with a handful of the biggest druglords — images of suspects sprawled dead and bloodied in the streets were frequently broadcast in TV news reports and splashed on the front pages of newspapers. Tens of thousands of arrests in the initial years of the crackdown worsened congestion in what were already among the world's most overcrowded jails.

U.N. human rights experts and Western governments led by the United States have raised alarm over



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the killings, enraging Duterte, who once told former U.S. President Barack Obama to "go to hell."

There have been widespread suspicions that police engage in extrajudicial killings in the crackdown, allegations that they and Duterte deny. In 2018, a court convicted three police officers of murdering a 17-year-old student after witnesses and a security video disproved their claim that the suspect was shot after violently resisting, a common reason cited by police officers after drug suspects are killed.

At least two complaints for crimes against humanity and mass murder in connection with Duterte's campaign are being examined by an ICC prosecutor, who will determine whether there is enough evidence to open a full-scale investigation.

When the complaints were made, Duterte withdrew the Philippines from the world tribunal two years ago in a move that human rights groups said was a major setback in the country's battle against impunity. The ICC prosecutor has said the examination into the drug killings would continue despite the Philippine withdrawal.

Duterte reiterated his defiance of the court's probe Monday by asking, when did "drugs become humanity?"

Instead, he framed the drug menace as a national security threat, as he has in the past, comparing it to the communist insurgency that the government has tried to quell for more than a half-century.

"If this is allowed to go on and on and if no decisive action is taken against them, it will endanger the security of the state," said Duterte, a former government prosecutor.

"When you save your country from the perdition of the people like the NPAs and drugs, you are doing a sacred duty," he said, referring to communist New People's Army insurgents.

Police have reported at least 5,856 drug suspects have been killed in raids and more than 256,000 others arrested since the start of the crackdown. Human rights groups have accused authorities of considerably under reporting the deaths.

## UK sets deadline for Manchester to accept virus restrictions

By JILL LAWLESS Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The British government has given the city of Manchester a noon Tuesday deadline to agree to tighter coronavirus measures, as Prime Minister Boris Johnson struggles to impose his plan for localized restrictions on restive regions.

Johnson's government is resisting a recommendation from its scientific advisors to have a short "circuit-breaker" lockdown to curb the spread of coronavirus.

Instead it has adopted a three-tier system for England, with areas classed as medium, high or very high virus risk. In the top tier, pubs have to close and people are barred from mixing with members of other households.

So far only the Liverpool and Lancashire regions of northwest England have been placed in Tier 3, the highest level. Nearby Greater Manchester, with a population of almost 3 million, has been holding out for more support for workers and businesses affected by the restrictions.

"We're trying to respond to a pandemic on the cheap, that's how it feels," said Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham.

Burnham said if Johnson's Conservative government imposed the measures on the city, "we would obviously have to accept that decision, in the end it's the government's prerogative."

"But I would say to them at this point are they sure that that is a wise thing to do?" he told Sky News.

Authorities across the U.K. are imposing new restrictions on business and social interactions as COVID-19 infections rise throughout all age groups, filling hospital beds and intensive care wards. Britain has Europe's deadliest coronavirus outbreak, with more than 43,800 confirmed deaths.

Under the U.K.'s system of devolved government, the regional administrations in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales control health policy in their areas and the U.K. government makes the rules for England.

In Scotland, pubs and other leisure facilities are closed and sports and live events are banned in the biggest cities of Glasgow and Edinburgh, with slightly less stringent restrictions elsewhere.

Northern Ireland has closed schools for two weeks, banned most social gatherings and shut down many

businesses including bars and restaurants for a month.

Wales has gone the furthest, announcing a two-week "firebreak" lockdown starting Friday that will close all non-essential businesses and ban most trips outside the home.

Welsh First Minister Mark Drakeford said he was opting for a short, sharp shock over a longer period of less stringent restrictions.

"The advice to us -- partly because of the impact on people's mental health -- was that if you could keep this period of time as short as you could, that would help to mitigate that impact," Drakeford told the BBC.

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

## UK to infect healthy volunteers to speed up vaccine efforts

By DANICA KIRKA Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — U.K. researchers are preparing to begin a controversial experiment that will infect healthy volunteers with coronavirus to study the disease in hopes of speeding up the development of a vaccine.

The approach, called a challenge study, is risky but proponents say it may produce results faster than standard research, which waits to see if volunteers who have been given an experimental treatment get sick. The government is preparing to invest 33.6 million pounds (\$43.4 million) in the study.

Imperial College London said Tuesday that the study, involving healthy volunteers between 18 and 30, would be conducted in partnership with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust and hVivo, a company that has experience conducting testing.

"Deliberately infecting volunteers with a known human pathogen is never undertaken lightly," said Peter Openshaw, co-investigator on the study. "However, such studies are enormously informative about a disease, even one so well studied as COVID-19."

In the first phase of the study, researchers will aim to determine the smallest level of exposure needed to cause the disease. Researchers will then use the same challenge model to study how potential vaccines work in the body, the body's immune response and potential treatments.

Vaccine Taskforce chair Kate Bingham said the research will improve our understanding of the virus and will help in making decisions about research.

"There is much we can learn in terms of immunity, the length of vaccine protection, and reinfection," she said in a statement.

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

## The Latest: UK gives Manchester deadline to OK tighter rules

By The Associated Press undefined

LONDON — The British government has given the city of Manchester a noon Tuesday deadline to agree to tighter coronavirus measures, as Prime Minister Boris Johnson struggles to impose his plan for localized restrictions on restive regions.

Johnson's government is resisting a recommendation from its scientific advisory committee for a short "circuit-breaker" lockdown to curb the spread of the coronavirus.

Instead it has adopted a three-tier system for England, with areas classed as medium, high and very high risk. In the top tier, pubs have to close and people are barred from mixing with members of other households.

So far only the Liverpool and Lancashire regions of northwest England have been placed in the highest tier. Nearby Greater Manchester, with a population of almost 3 million, has been holding out for more support for workers and businesses affected by the restrictions.

Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham said if the government imposed the measures, "we would

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obviously have to accept that decision ... But I would say to them at this point are they sure that that is a wise thing to do?"

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

- An angry Trump criticizes disease expert Dr. Fauci, the news media and polls that show him trailing rival Biden in key states 2 weeks before Election Day
- U.K. researchers plan to infect healthy volunteers with the virus to speed the development of a vaccine, a move that is risky but could produce faster results
- Argentina is 5th nation to surpass 1 million cases; 3 others in Latin America near the milestone
- Some progress claimed in Washington's negotiations for a new coronavirus relief package, but the same core problems remain
- A World Series like no other opens Tuesday night with Major League Baseball relieved to reach the championship of a pandemic-delayed season

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

HERE'S WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING:

LISBON, Portugal -- Portugal's prime minister is backing down from his plan to make the government's COVID-19 tracing app mandatory.

Prime Minister Antonio Costa said in a television interview that the widely contested move, which was due to be voted on later this week in parliament, required further debate.

Portugal's Stayaway COVID app has been downloaded 2.3 million times -- just over one third of the government's target.

Costa's plan for compulsory use was widely criticized as unworkable. Among other complaints, police said the measure was unenforceable, and legal experts said it was unconstitutional.

Parliament is expected on Friday to make the wearing of face masks mandatory outdoors.

BERLIN — A district in Germany's Alpine southeastern corner is going into a de-facto lockdown Tuesday after reporting well above 200 new cases per 100,000 residents in a week, the highest level in a country that is still in better shape than many others in Europe.

Schools, restaurants and other facilities in the Berchtesgaden district, on the border with Austria, are being closed for 14 days. Hotels there are closed to tourists and residents can only leave their homes for good reason.

Other areas across Germany are considering less onerous new restrictions as infections rise. The national disease control center said the country of 83 million people recorded 6,868 new cases over the past day -- below the record of 7,830 on Saturday but considerably more than a week earlier.

Many of Germany's biggest cities have exceeded the level of 50 new cases per 100,000 residents over a week that is supposed to trigger new local restrictions. As of Tuesday, the entire Ruhr industrial region in western Germany was above that figure.

LONDON — U.K. researchers are preparing to begin a controversial experiment that will infect healthy volunteers with the new coronavirus to study the disease in hopes of speeding up development of a vaccine.

The approach, called a challenge study, is risky but proponents say it may produce results faster than standard research, which waits to see if volunteers who have been given an experimental treatment get sick.

Imperial College London said Tuesday that the study, involving healthy volunteers between the ages of 18 and 30, would be conducted in partnership with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust and hVivo, a company that has experience conducting testing .

Professor Peter Openshaw, co-investigator on the study, says that "deliberately infecting volunteers with a known human pathogen is never undertaken lightly. However, such studies are enormously informative

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about a disease, even one so well studied as COVID-19.”

In the first phase, researchers will aim to determine the smallest level of exposure needed to cause the disease. Researchers will then use the same challenge model to study how potential vaccines work in the body, the bodies immune response and potential treatments.

HELSINKI - The Finnish national carrier Finnair says it will cut 700 jobs - over 10% of its total workforce - by the end of March 2021 due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The airline based at the Helsinki Airport is heavily focused on Europe to Asia flights. It said Tuesday that some 600 of the cuts would be in Finland.

Finnair CEO Topi Manner said the job cuts are “necessary and inevitable. Finnair’s re-build requires us to be competitive when aviation gradually starts to recover. Therefore, in the future, we will have to do many things differently in order to succeed.”

The coronavirus pandemic has forced global airlines to halt most of their flights. Finnair has temporarily laid off a large part of its 6,500 staff and its flight traffic was down 91% in September from the previous year.

PRAGUE — The Czech government is further tightening its restrictive measures in efforts to slow a record surge in coronavirus infections.

Health Minister Roman Prymula says the new restrictions expand mandatory wearing of face masks to outdoor spaces if people are closer than two meters (6.5 feet). Face coverings will be mandatory in cars if the driver and passengers are not members of the same family. The measures will become effective on Wednesday.

The Czech Republic has about 178,000 infections while 1,501 people have died of the virus.

The number of new cases has tripled in the past two weeks, from a seven-day rolling daily average of 23.81 per 100,000 people on Oct. 4 to 75.74 on Sunday.

ISLAMABAD — A Cabinet minister says Pakistan has witnessed a 140% increase in fatalities from COVID-19 in recent weeks due to widespread violations of social distancing rules.

Asad Umar, the planning and development minister who oversees Pakistan’s response to coronavirus, warned on Twitter “We will lose both lives and livelihoods” if people did not adhere to social distancing rules.

His comments Tuesday came shortly after the military-backed Command and Operations Center reported 14 deaths and 625 new cases in the past 24 hours.

Prime Minister Imran Khan had warned on Monday that Pakistan’s big cities could face a second wave of COVID-19 in the coming weeks because of increasing pollution in winter. Pakistan has reported 324,084 cases, including 6,673 COVID-19 deaths.

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — A number of fishing crew who flew into New Zealand on chartered planes have the coronavirus.

Health officials said Tuesday that 11 have tested positive so far and another 14 cases are being investigated.

The crew members have been in quarantine at a Christchurch hotel since they arrived, and tested positive during routine testing, officials said. The news could deal a blow to New Zealand’s efforts to restart its fishing industry, which has struggled to find local workers to crew vessels.

Jeremy Helson, the chief executive of Seafood New Zealand, said all the men tested negative before flying to New Zealand. “While we await to see how many cases there are, the fact that they were all detected in quarantine shows the system is working well,” Helson said.

The origin of the infected crew members wasn’t immediately clear.

New Zealand has managed to stamp out community spread of the virus.

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NEW DELHI — India has added over 46,000 cases of coronavirus infection and 587 deaths in the past 24 hours.

With 7.59 million cases, India's total detected cases is second in the world, behind only the U.S. Although the number of new infections detected daily in the country has been declining in the past month, independent experts have cautioned against laxity.

They pointed out that people not wearing masks or maintaining distance during the upcoming festival season, combined with cold weather, could lead to a surge in cases.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Monday that India is strategizing to immunize its population by using a digital health plan, under which each person gets an identity card containing all health-related information.

LONDON — Ireland's government is putting the country at its highest level of coronavirus restrictions for six weeks in a bid to combat a rise in infections.

Premier Micheal Martin said Monday the measures take effect at midnight Wednesday and run until Dec. 1.

People are being asked to stay at home, with exercise allowed only within a 5-kilometer (3-mile) radius of their home. Only essential stores can open. Restaurants and bars can provide only takeaway service. No social or family gatherings will be allowed in homes or private gardens, but schools will remain open to prioritize education.

Martin urged the country to "pull together" for six weeks so that the virus can be suppressed and people can still enjoy Christmas.

Ireland has seen daily cases rising. It had 1,031 new confirmed cases Sunday and the death toll stands at 1,852.

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California Gov. Gavin Newsom says the state won't allow distribution of coronavirus vaccines until it is reviewed by the state's own panel of experts.

Newsom said Monday that California wants its own independent review no matter who wins the presidential election next month.

The governor named 11 doctors and scientists to review any rollout of vaccines by the federal government or vaccine developers. The board members hail from top California top universities and medical providers, along with state and local public health officials.

Newsom's position pledge raises the possibility that California's 40 million residents might not receive a vaccine as distribution begins in other states.

SALEM, Ore. -- As Oregon's total number of confirmed coronavirus cases since the start of the pandemic nears 40,000, state health officials say face-covering requirements are being expanded.

Currently, Oregonians are required to wear masks at indoor public spaces and outside where they cannot maintain six feet of space between others. Health officials said Monday that they are expanding the guidance to include all private and public workplaces, including classrooms, offices, meeting rooms, colleges, universities, outdoor markets and private career schools.

AUSTIN, Texas -- Health officials in Texas have reported 4,319 COVID-19 hospital patients, the most since Aug. 28.

The state estimated Monday that 82,930 coronavirus cases are active in Texas. That is about a third more than the 64,431 reported a month ago, on Sept. 20.

In Houston, schools in the state's largest school district resumed in-person classes Monday for the first time since campuses doors were closed in March when the coronavirus came to Texas.

TOPEKA, Kansas — A coronavirus outbreak has killed 10 residents in a nursing home in a northwestern Kansas county that already had proportionally the nation's largest increase in cases over two weeks.

The health department in Norton County reported that all 62 residents and an unspecified number of

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employees at the Andbe Home in Norton had tested positive. It said one Andbe Home resident was hospitalized, while the remaining 51 were being treated at the home.

The local health department said residents are being quarantined in their rooms and the home is not allowing outside visitors.

The outbreak at the nursing home came after the state Department of Health and Environment last week reported more than 100 cases at the state's prison in Norton over the two weeks ending Wednesday.

Kansas is seeing an average of more than 700 new coronavirus cases a day, its largest numbers since early March.

## 'Running angry': Trump attacks Dr. Fauci, press and polls

By ZEKE MILLER and JILL COLVIN Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — An angry President Donald Trump has come out swinging against Dr. Anthony Fauci, the press and polls that show him trailing Democrat Joe Biden in key battleground states in a disjointed closing message two weeks before Election Day.

On the third day of a western campaign swing, Trump was facing intense pressure to turn around his campaign, hoping for the type of last-minute surge that gave him a come-from-behind victory four years ago. But his inconsistent message, another rise in coronavirus cases and his attacks on experts like Fauci could undermine his final efforts to appeal to voters outside his most loyal base.

"I'm not running scared," Trump told reporters on Monday before taking off for Tucson, Arizona, for his fifth rally in three days. "I think I'm running angry. I'm running happy, and I'm running very content 'cause I've done a great job."

Trump's aggressive travel comes as he plays defense in states he won four years ago, though the Republican president insisted he was confident as he executed a packed schedule despite the pandemic.

"We're going to win," he told campaign staff on a morning conference call from Las Vegas. He went on to acknowledge that he "wouldn't have told you that maybe two or three weeks ago," referring to the days when he was hospitalized with COVID-19. But he said he felt better now than at any point in 2016. "We're in the best shape we've ever been," he said.

Seeking to shore up the morale of his staff amid growing private concerns that he is running out of time to make up lost ground, Trump blasted his government's own scientific experts as too negative, even as his handling of the pandemic, which has killed more than 220,000 people in the United States, remains a central issue to voters.

"People are tired of hearing Fauci and all these idiots," Trump said of the government's top infectious disease expert. "Every time he goes on television, there's always a bomb. But there's a bigger bomb if you fire him. But Fauci's a disaster."

At a rally in Prescott, Arizona, Trump assailed Biden for pledging to heed the advice of scientific experts, saying dismissively that his rival "wants to listen to Dr. Fauci."

The doctor is both respected and popular, and Trump's rejection of scientific advice on the pandemic has already drawn bipartisan condemnation.

At his rally, Trump also ramped up his attacks on the news media, singling out NBC's Kristen Welker, the moderator of the next presidential debate, as well as CNN for aggressively covering a pandemic that is now infecting tens of thousands of Americans every day.

Fauci, in an interview with CBS's "60 Minutes" that aired Sunday, said he was not surprised that Trump contracted the virus after he held a series of large events with few face coverings.

"I was worried that he was going to get sick when I saw him in a completely precarious situation of crowded, no separation between people, and almost nobody wearing a mask," Fauci said of the president.

Biden was off the campaign trail Monday, but his campaign praised Fauci and criticized Trump for "reckless and negligent leadership" that "threatens to put more lives at risk."

"Trump's closing message in the final days of the 2020 race is to publicly mock Joe Biden for trusting science and to call Dr. Fauci, the leading public health official on COVID-19, a 'disaster' and other public

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health officials 'idiots,'" the campaign said.

Monday's professed confidence in victory stood in contrast to some of Trump's other public comments in recent days reflecting on the prospect that he could lose.

"Could you imagine if I lose my whole life? What am I going to do?" he asked a rally crowd last week in Macon, Georgia. "I'm not going to feel so good. Maybe I'll have to leave the country. I don't know."

Biden, meanwhile, was in Delaware for several days of preparation ahead of Thursday's final presidential debate. His running mate, California Sen. Kamala Harris, returned to the campaign trail after several days in Washington after a close adviser tested positive for the coronavirus.

Late Monday, the nonpartisan Commission on Presidential Debates announced that Trump and Biden will each have his microphone cut off in Thursday's debate while his rival delivers his opening two-minute answer to each of the six debate topics.

The rule changes come three weeks after a chaotic opening faceoff between the two presidential contenders that featured frequent interruptions — most often by Trump. The open discussion portion of the debate will not feature a mute button, but interruptions by either candidate will count toward their time.

The commission has faced pressure from the Trump campaign to avoid changing the rules, while Biden's team was hoping for a more ordered debate. In a statement, the commission said it "had determined that it is appropriate to adopt measures intended to promote adherence to agreed upon rules and inappropriate to make changes to those rules."

Trump's campaign said he would participate in the debate despite his concerns about the new rule.

"I just think it's very unfair," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One as he returned from Arizona. "I will participate, but it's very unfair that they changed the topics and it's very unfair that, again, we have an anchor who's totally biased."

In addition to public polling that indicates Biden has an edge, the former vice president enjoys another considerable advantage: money.

Over the past four months, Biden has raised over \$1 billion, a massive amount of money that has significantly eclipsed Trump's once-overwhelming cash advantage.

That's become apparent in advertising, where Biden and his Democratic allies are on pace to spend twice as much as Trump and the Republicans in the closing days of the race, according to data from the ad tracking firm Kantar/CMAG.

"We have more than sufficient air cover, almost three times as much as 2016," said Trump campaign manager Bill Stepien, who insisted Trump has the advantage with the campaign's field staff and data targeting.

Though Trump has pulled back from advertising in Midwestern states that secured his 2016 win, he's invested heavily elsewhere, including North Carolina, where he is on pace to slightly outspend Biden.

Concerns about a possible loss to Biden that have been spilling into the open in recent days have been percolating behind the scenes at the Trump campaign. Trump himself has alternated between disbelief and anger at the idea that he could lose to a candidate he views as washed up and incompetent, according to three campaign and White House officials not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations.

Trump has directed anger at press coverage but also has vented about his chief of staff, Mark Meadows, whom he blames for mishandling his hospitalization for the virus and COVID-19 relief talks.

He has asked some of his closest advisers if a campaign shakeup was needed, according to the officials. The president was encouraged to hold off on any moves so close to Election Day.

Meanwhile, aides have started privately wondering whether or not Trump's campaign rallies, which have helped define American politics for the last five years, were in their final days.

In recent weeks, meanwhile, some White House staff offices have also tried to rotate in aides who have never flown on Air Force One or have done so infrequently so they can do so before Election Day.

\_\_\_ Miller reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Will Weissert in Wilmington, Delaware, Jonathan Lemire in New York and Brian Slodysko in Washington contributed to this report.

## Protest arrests show regular Americans, not urban antifa

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER, COLLEEN LONG and MICHAEL BALSAMO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The judge was incredulous as a federal prosecutor pushed to keep a 25-year-old man behind bars until his trial on a charge of having a Molotov cocktail at a protest in May.

The judge couldn't understand how the government was arguing that the man — who had never previously been in trouble with the law, wasn't a member of violent groups and lived with his parents in a suburb outside Austin, Texas — was too dangerous to be released.

The prosecutor pressed his case anyway, defending the government's effort to keep the man locked up even as prisons across the U.S. were releasing high-risk inmates because of COVID-19 and prosecutors had been told to consider the risks of incarceration during a pandemic when seeking detention.

The case highlights the no-holds-barred approach the U.S. Department of Justice has taken against protesters involved in civil unrest, determined to focus on federal action and a reluctance to release.

It also underscores how the people being brought up on federal charges rarely fit President Donald Trump's portrayal of them as members of left-wing radical groups.

An Associated Press review of thousands of pages of court documents from the more than 300 federal arrests nationwide shows that many look like people caught up in the moment. Very few of those charged appear to be affiliated with highly organized extremist groups, and many are young suburban adults who are from the very neighborhoods Trump is vowing to protect amid an election year effort to scare white voters from the suburbs into reelecting him.

Not to say there hasn't been violence. Police cars have been set on fire. Officers have been injured and blinded. Windows have been smashed, stores looted, businesses destroyed.

Some of those facing charges undoubtedly share far-left and anti-government views. Far-right protesters also have been arrested and charged. Some defendants have driven to protests from out of state. Some have criminal records and were illegally carrying weapons. Others are accused of using the protests as an opportunity to steal or create havoc.

But many have had no previous run-ins with the law and no apparent ties to antifa, the umbrella term for leftist militant groups that Trump has said he wants to declare a terrorist organization.

Attorney General William Barr has urged his prosecutors to aggressively go after protesters who cause violence and has suggested that rarely used sedition charges could apply. But defense attorneys question why the Department of Justice has taken on some cases they say belong in state court, where defendants typically get much lighter sentences.

"It is highly unusual, and without precedent in recent American history," said Ron Kuby, a longtime attorney who isn't involved in the cases but has represented scores of clients over the years in protest-related incidents. "Almost all of the conduct that's being charged is conduct that, when it occurs, is prosecuted at the state and local level."

In one case in Utah, where a police car was burned, federal prosecutors had to defend why they were bringing arson charges in federal court. They said it was appropriate because the patrol car was used in interstate commerce.

Even though most of the demonstrations have been peaceful, Trump has made "law and order" a major part of his reelection campaign, casting the protests as lawless and violent in mostly Democratic cities he says have done nothing to stymie the mayhem. If the cities refuse to properly clamp down, he says, the federal government has to step in.

"I know about antifa, and I know about the radical left, and I know how violent they are and how vicious they are, and I know how they are burning down cities run by Democrats," Trump said at an NBC town hall.

In dozens of cases, the government has pushed to keep the protesters behind bars while they await their trials amid the COVID-19 pandemic, which has killed more than 220,000 people across the U.S. There have been more than 16,000 positive cases in the federal prison system, according to a tracker compiled by the AP and The Marshall Project.

In some cases, prosecutors have gone so far as appealing judge's orders to release defendants. Pre-trial



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detention generally is reserved only for people who are clearly dangers to the community or a risk of fleeing.

In the Texas case, Magistrate Judge Andrew Austin repeatedly challenged the prosecutor to explain why Cyril Lartigue, who authorities say was caught on camera making a Molotov cocktail, should be behind bars while he awaits his trial. Lartigue, of Cedar Park, described his actions that night as a "flash of stupidity," prosecutors said.

The judge said there are lot of people "who do something stupid that's dangerous that we don't even consider detaining."

"I'm frustrated because I don't think this is a hard case," the judge said. "I have defendants in here with significant criminal histories that the government agrees to release."

"We have no evidence of him — at least that's been given to me — being a radical or a member of a group that advocates violence toward the police or others. We've got no criminal history. ... What evidence is there that he's a danger to society?" the judge asked.

The judge allowed Lartigue to stay out of jail.

While some of the defendants clearly hold radical or anti-government beliefs, prosecutors have provided little evidence of any affiliations they have with organized extremist groups.

In one arrest in Erie, Pennsylvania, community members raised more than \$2,500 to help with bail for a 29-year-old Black man who was arrested after they said white people had come and spray painted a parking lot.

In thousands of pages of court documents, the only apparent mention of antifa is in a Boston case in which authorities said a FBI Gang Task Force member was investigating "suspected ANTIFA activity associated with the protests" when a man fired at him and other officers. Authorities have not claimed that the man accused of firing the shots is a member of antifa.

Others have social media leftist ties; a Seattle man who expressed anarchist beliefs on social media is accused of sending a message through a Portland citizen communication portal threatening to blow up a police precinct.

Several of the defendants are not from the Democratic-led cities that Trump has likened to "war zones" but from the suburbs the president has claimed to have "saved." Of the 93 people arrested on federal criminal charges in Portland, 18 defendants are from out of state, the Justice Department said.

This has contributed to a blame game that has been a subplot throughout the protests. Leaders in Minneapolis and Detroit have decried people from out of state and suburbanites for coming into their cities and causing havoc. Trump in turn has blamed the cities for not doing their part.

"Don't come down to Detroit and tear the city up and then go back home. That's putting another knee on the neck of Black folk because we got to live here," the Rev. Wendell Anthony of the NAACP said in May.

More than 40% of those facing federal charges are white. More than two-thirds are under the age of 30, and most are men. More than a quarter have been charged with arson. More than a dozen are accused of civil disorder, and others are charged with burglary and failing to comply with a federal order. They were arrested in cities across the U.S., from Portland, Oregon, to Minneapolis, Boston and New York.

Attorneys for those facing federal charges either declined to comment or didn't respond to messages from the AP.

Brian Bartels, a 20-year-old suburban Pittsburgh man who is described by prosecutors as a "self-identified left-wing anarchist," was flanked by his parents when he turned himself in to authorities. Bartels, who lives at his parents' house, spray painted an "A" on a police cruiser before jumping on top of it and smashing its windshield during a protest in the city, prosecutors said. He pleaded guilty in September.

One defendant who was arrested during a protest in the central Massachusetts city of Worcester told authorities he was "with the anarchist group." Vincent Eovacious, 18, who is accused of possessing several Molotov cocktails, told authorities that he had been "waiting for an opportunity," according to court documents.

But tucked into the protest-related cases are accusations of far-right extremism and racism as well.

John Malcolm Bareswill, angry that a local Black church held a prayer vigil for George Floyd, called the church and threatened to burn it to the ground, using racial slurs in a phone call overheard by children,

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prosecutors said. Bareswill, 63, of Virginia Beach, faces 10 years in prison after pleading guilty to making a telephonic threat.

Two Missouri militia members who authorities say traveled to Kenosha, Wisconsin, to see Trump's visit in the wake of the police shooting of Jacob Blake were arrested at a hotel in September with a cache of guns, according to court documents. An attorney for one of the men, Michael Karmo, said he is "charged criminally for conduct that many Americans would consider patriotic," as authorities have alleged his motive was to assist overwhelmed law enforcement.

Three of the men arrested are far-right extremists, members of the "Boogaloo" movement plotting to overthrow the government and had been stockpiling military-grade weapons and hunting around for the right public event to unleash violence for weeks before Floyd's death, according to court documents.

After aborting a mission related to reopening businesses in Nevada as the coronavirus pandemic raged, they settled on a Floyd-related protest led by Black Lives Matter. Angry it had not turned violent, they brought carloads of explosives, military-grade weapons, to a meet-up about 2 miles (3.2 kilometers) from the protest site and pumped gasoline into tanks. FBI agents arrested them before they could act, according to a criminal complaint.

FBI Director Christopher Wray recently told a congressional panel that extremists driven by white supremacist or anti-government ideologies have been responsible for most deadly attacks in the U.S. over the past few years. He said that antifa is more of an ideology or a movement than an organization, though the FBI has terrorism investigations of "violent anarchist extremists, any number of whom self identify with the antifa movement."

But the handling of the federal protest cases is vastly different from other recent times of unrest.

"Look at Travon (Martin) verdicts, Eric Garner verdicts," Kuby said, talking about high-profile cases in which Black people were killed but no charges were filed.

"There was a tremendous amount of anger and unrest and activity that was objectively unlawful," he said. "There were objections about law enforcement being militarized, but you didn't see following the quelling of those demonstrations any significant federal law enforcement involvement."

Richer reported from Boston.

## From 'role models' to sex workers: Kenya's child labor rises

By TOM ODULA Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — The teenage girls cannot remember how many men they have had to sleep with in the seven months since COVID-19 closed their schools, or how many of those men used protection.

Painfully, they recall times when they were sexually assaulted and then beaten up when they asked to be paid -- as little as \$1 -- to help feed their families as jobs evaporated during the pandemic.

From their rented room in Kenya's capital, the girls say the risk of getting infected with the coronavirus or HIV does not weigh heavily on them in a time when survival is paramount.

"If you get \$5 in these streets, that is gold," says a 16-year-old, seated on the small bed she shares with the 17-year-old and 18-year-old she calls her "best friends forever." They split the \$20 rent in a building where every room is home to fellow sex workers.

According to UNICEF, the U.N. children's agency, recent gains in the fight against child labor are at risk because of the pandemic. The world could see the first rise in the number of working children since 2000. The U.N. warns that millions of children may be forced into exploitative and hazardous jobs, and school closures exacerbate the problem.

Mary Mugure, a former sex worker, launched Night Nurse to rescue girls who followed her path. She says since schools in Kenya closed in March, up to 1,000 schoolgirls have become sex workers in the three Nairobi neighborhoods she monitors. Most are trying to help their parents with household bills.

The youngest, Mugure says, is 11.

Each of the three girls sharing a room was raised with several siblings by a single mother. They saw

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their mothers' sources of income vanish when Kenya's government clamped down to prevent the spread of the virus.

Two of their mothers had been washing clothes for people who lived near their low-income neighborhood of Dandora. But as soon as the first local virus case was confirmed, nobody wanted them in their homes, the girls say. The third mother was selling potatoes by the roadside, a business that collapsed because of a new curfew.

As eldest children, the girls say they took it upon themselves to help their mothers feed their families.

The girls had been spending their free time as part of a popular dance group, and they were paid for gigs. But when public gatherings were restricted, that income ended.

"Now I can get my mom (\$1.84) every day and that helps her to feed the others," one of the girls says.

Elsewhere in Nairobi, single mother Florence Mumbua and her three children -- ages 7, 10 and 12 -- crack rocks at a quarry in the sweltering heat.

The work is backbreaking and hazardous, but the 34-year-old Mumbua says she was left without a choice after she lost her cleaning job at a private school when pandemic restrictions were imposed.

"I have to work with (the children) because they need to eat and yet I make little money," she says. "When we work as a team, we can make enough money for our lunch, breakfast and dinner."

In Dandora, 15-year-old Dominic Munyoki and 17-year-old Mohamed Nassur rummage through Kenya's largest landfill, scavenging for scrap metal to sell.

Munyoki's mother, Martha Waringa, a 35-year-old single parent who also scavenges, says her son's wages will help pay his seven siblings' school fees when classes resume.

Similarly, Nassur's mother, 45-year-old Ann Mungai, doesn't see anything wrong with her son helping with the family's daily needs.

"When he started working, I realized that it is helpful as he does not sit idle at home or play video games that are not beneficial to him," she says. "But when he goes to work, he earns money that helps us. He also buys clothes such as shirts and shoes for himself."

Phillista Onyango, who leads the Kenya-based African Network for the Protection and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, says with schools closed, parents in low-income neighborhoods prefer to have children work instead of staying home, where they can slide into drug abuse and crime.

Onyango says enforcement of child labor laws has been lax. Kenya's employment act defines a child as someone under 18. It allows employment of children 13 to 16 for part-time and "light work duties." Those who are 16 to 18 can work in industry and construction, though not at night.

According to a U.S. Department of Labor report last year, Kenya has made "moderate advancement" in eliminating the worst forms of child labor, such as sexual exploitation, but there is still work to be done.

Kenya had 85 labor inspectors, probably too few to police a workforce of more than 19 million workers, the report says.

Kenya has started easing restrictions on movement and public gatherings due to the country's relatively low number of confirmed COVID-19 cases, and plans a phased reopening of schools this month. But Onyango says many children who started working when schools closed will not return.

Sub-Saharan Africa already had the world's highest rates of children out of school. Nearly a fifth of children between 6 and 11 -- and more than a third of youth between 12 and 14 -- do not attend, according to UNICEF.

The 16-year-old sex worker and her two friends say they hope they won't be doing this for the rest of their lives, but they think their chances of returning to class are remote.

"Where we come from, we were some sort of role models," the 16-year-old says. "Our neighborhood, if you get to 16 without getting pregnant and still in school, then you have made it. Having avoided pregnancies, we were this close to graduating from high school and making history."

Desmond Tiro and Khaled Kazziha contributed.

## What are the treatment options for COVID-19?

By The Associated Press undefined

What are the treatment options for COVID-19?

There are several, and which one is best depends on how sick someone is.

For example, steroids such as dexamethasone can lower the risk of dying for severely ill patients. But they may do the opposite for those who are only mildly ill.

In the United States, no treatments are specifically approved for COVID-19, but a few have been authorized for emergency use and several more are being considered. A panel of experts convened by the National Institutes of Health updates guidelines as new studies come out.

Here's what's advised for various patients:

-- Not hospitalized or hospitalized but not needing extra oxygen: No specific drugs recommended, and a warning against using steroids.

-- Hospitalized and needing extra oxygen but not a breathing machine: The antiviral drug remdesivir, given through an IV, and in some cases also a steroid.

-- Hospitalized and on a breathing machine: Remdesivir and a steroid.

What about convalescent plasma, an infusion of blood from a COVID-19 survivor that contains antibodies that fight the virus? Not enough is known to recommend for or against it, the guidelines say.

However, enough is known to advise against hydroxychloroquine and certain drugs that affect the immune system -- multiple studies have found them ineffective against the coronavirus.

Aside from drugs, doctors have learned more about ways to treat hospitalized patients, such as putting them on their bellies and other measures that may prevent the need for breathing machines.

The AP is answering your questions about the coronavirus in this series. Submit them at: [FactCheck@AP.org](mailto:FactCheck@AP.org). Read more here:

How can I volunteer for a COVID-19 vaccine study?

Can the coronavirus travel more than 6 feet in the air?

How long could I be contagious before a positive virus test?

## Republicans see bright spot in voter registration push

By NICHOLAS RICCARDI Associated Press

The Republican Party has cut into Democrats' advantage in voter registration tallies across some critical presidential battleground states, a fact they point to as evidence of steady — and overlooked — enthusiasm for President Donald Trump and his party.

Even though Trump trails in national polls and struggles with fundraising with just weeks before Election Day, Republicans see their progress signing up voters in Florida, Pennsylvania, Arizona and other states as a rare bright spot. Democrats appear to have been set back by their decision to curb in-person voter registration drives during much of the pandemic. And in something of a reversal, Republicans are crowing about their success bringing in new voters who could ramp up turnout and deliver the White House to their candidate.

"The best thing for voter registration is enthusiasm for a candidate and the infrastructure," said Nick Trainor, director of battleground strategy for Trump's re-election campaign. "The lack of enthusiasm for Biden coupled with the lack of structure is the reason they're not doing what they did in the past."

In Florida, Republicans netted 146,644 voters over Democrats since the pandemic hit in March, leaving Democrats with their smallest overall lead in party registrations since the state began tracking them in 1972. In Pennsylvania, which Trump won with 44,000 votes in 2016, the GOP added 103,171 more voters since November than Democrats did.

Even in Arizona, where Democrats have steadily been chipping away at the GOP's advantage among registered voters due to a growing number of young Latinos voters, Republicans added 30,000 more voters than Democrats since mid-August.

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Democrats argue that Republican gains are partly illusory: Some of the GOP registrants are former Democratic voters who have been voting for Republicans, but have not updated their registration until now. They also note young voters, who lean heavily Democratic, increasingly register as unaffiliated with either party, which helps pad the GOP's advantage on paper but it might not help on Election Day,

David Bergstein, a spokesman for the Democratic National Committee, said Republicans were "cherry picking" voter registration statistics. Still, he noted: "Democrats are taking nothing for granted and pulling out all the stops to reach every voter we need."

Voters can still sign up to vote in a handful of states and several, including the key battlegrounds of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin, allow voters to sign up to vote on Election Day.

Still, the numbers reflect a broader reality: The coronavirus pandemic hobbled voter registration since it broke out in March, shutting down hubs of voter registration such as street festivals, college campuses and departments of motor vehicles.

Even as society has opened back up since March, registrations are 38% lower than they were during a comparable stretch in 2016, according to a report from the Brennan Center for Justice. Experts note that a registration drop-off of that size disproportionately hurts young, urban and minority voters — voters that tend to lean Democratic.

"Most definitely, the pandemic has impacted Democratic voter registration numbers, especially among core constituencies," said Jonathan Robinson of the Democratic data firm Catalist.

Democrats were starting ahead of Republicans. They've had success registering new voters through much of the Trump administration. Their gains after Trump's election helped lead to their success flipping the House of Representatives in an election with record young voter participation rates — a sign, they argue, that their pre-pandemic work will pay off in November.

Since the outbreak, things have been harder for Democrats and the wide array of nonprofit groups that work to sign up new voters. These organizations have been hesitant to resume face-to-face interactions. The Biden campaign only resumed some this month while Republicans have not been as shy — they began going back into the field this summer.

"They ceded the playing field," Trainor said of Democrats.

In Arizona, online registration efforts don't have the same impact as in person ones, said Alejandra Gomez, co-executive director of the Latino organizing groups Living United for Change in Arizona and the Arizona Center for Empowerment.

"While we were seeing an increased number in online participation, it's still not the same as face-to-face work and being able to have a conversation with a person," Gomez said.

Still, Democrats feel good about their position in the state. Data analyst Sam Almy said that, of the 66,000 voters added to the rolls since August who don't register with either party, half are 35 or younger, a key Democratic demographic.

In Pennsylvania, Republicans have been steadily gaining on Democrats since Trump's election. Democrats in the state acknowledge the president has a striking appeal to many longtime members of their party who may be switching to the GOP. "Donald Trump is a singularly, unique personality," said John Fetterman, the state's Democratic lieutenant governor. Fetterman noted that despite the attrition in registration numbers, Democrats won the state's Senate and gubernatorial races in 2018.

"I'm not really concerned by the voting registration difference," Fetterman said.

In Nevada, where Democrats routinely out-register Republicans in the run-up to elections, the GOP has bested Democrats for at least five months since the pandemic hit. In North Carolina, where a competitive Senate race could determine which party controls the upper chamber, Republican registration has leapt by 51,381 over Democratic since mid-March.

In Florida, Democrat Hillary Clinton lost the state when her party's registration advantage was more than 320,000 in 2016. It's now about half of that. But Democrats note that there's been an even larger increase in new voters who decline to register with either party.

Steve Schale, a veteran Florida Democratic strategist who's complained publicly about his party's failure to keep up with the GOP in registrations, said during a call with reporters Monday that those unaffiliated

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voters are overwhelmingly young and people of color.

"That's probably a pretty good sign," said Schale, who also runs a group supporting Biden.

Associated Press writers Jonathan J. Cooper in Phoenix and Michelle L. Price in Las Vegas contributed to this report.

## Deadline looms, but COVID relief deal may be far off

By ANDREW TAYLOR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Nancy Pelosi reported some progress in advance of a Tuesday deadline for reaching a pre-election deal with President Donald Trump on a new coronavirus relief package, but the same core problems bedeviling the effort remain in place despite optimistic talk from the president and his team.

Pelosi negotiated for nearly an hour Monday with Trump's top emissary, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, and her office said they are continuing to narrow their differences.

"Finally, they have come to the table and we're going to try to get something done," Pelosi said on MSNBC Monday evening. She said the two sides would take stock on Tuesday, which she has staked out as the deadline if a deal is to be reached before the election.

"Let's make a judgment. We may not like this, we may not like that but let's see on balance if we can go forward," Pelosi said.

But with time nearly up for Congress and the White House to deliver aid to Americans before the election, the question remains: If not now, when?

It's a key consideration for Trump, who has talked up the prospect of another package as he asks voters for a second term, and for Democrats hopeful that their nominee, Joe Biden, is on the cusp of winning the White House in November.

"Nancy Pelosi at this moment does not want to do anything that's going to affect the election," Trump said during a campaign swing in Arizona.

The dynamic has created a tricky position for Pelosi, whose tough approach to the talks amid durable GOP opposition to a potential deal of almost \$2 trillion has left all sides staring at the very real potential of the negotiations failing. Pelosi is angling for the best deal she can get — maybe that's now, maybe it's later. It's a risk she's willing to take.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, meanwhile, is pushing ahead with votes this week on GOP measures that stand little chance of advancing.

Trump has upped his offer to \$1.8 trillion or more and insisted Monday that "the Republicans will come along" if a deal is reached. His chief of staff and communications director took to Fox News to offer optimistic takes. But Republicans have spent months talking about a smaller aid package and the top GOP vote-counter, Sen. John Thune, said Monday that "it would be hard" to find the necessary Republican support for passage of any agreement in that range.

Without an agreement at least in principle by Tuesday, Pelosi says it'll be too late to enact anything by Election Day. And if history is any guide, prospects for a deal in the lame-duck session after the election could be dim.

If Trump loses, Congress is likely to stagger through a nonproductive session comparable to the abbreviated session after the decisive 2008 Obama-Biden victory or the 2016 session that punted most of its leftovers to the Trump administration. That scenario would push virus aid into 2021.

"If we delay this until the Biden administration we're talking about three, four, five months. The American people cannot wait," Rep. Max Rose, D-N.Y., a freshman facing a difficult race in Trump-friendly Staten Island, said on CNN. "With each passing day without action the American people will be suffering more."

Pelosi calls the \$1.8 trillion administration offer inadequate, saying that while the overall Trump offer has gone up, the details on a virus testing plan, aid to state and local governments, and tax cuts for the working poor still aren't to her satisfaction.

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At the same time, Trump's GOP allies in the Senate are backing a virus proposal that at \$650 billion or so is only about one-third the size of the measure that Pelosi and Mnuchin are negotiating. But the Senate GOP bill has failed once before, and Trump himself says it's too puny.

A debate slated for Wednesday on the Senate Republican plan promises to bring a hefty dose of posturing and political gamesmanship, but little more. It will follow a procedural tally Tuesday on a stand-alone renewal of bipartisan Paycheck Protection Program business subsidies that could cause Democratic fracturing but isn't likely to succeed.

Pelosi has faced carping from some Democrats for playing hardball at the risk of going home empty-handed, but that criticism has been largely muted since McConnell keeps stiff-arming the negotiations.

"The bigger issue is McConnell," said Rep. Ro Khanna, D-Calif., who raised eyebrows earlier this month in publicly advising Pelosi to endorse Mnuchin's \$1.8 trillion topline. "I mean, the President has said, 'Oh, I can get McConnell on board.' Well, why doesn't he call McConnell and get him on board?" he said on SiriusXM Urban View on Monday.

The last coronavirus relief package, the \$1.8 trillion bipartisan CARES Act, passed in March by an overwhelming margin as the economy went into lockdown amid fear and uncertainty about the virus. Since then, Trump and many of his GOP allies have focused on loosening social and economic restrictions as the key to recovery instead of more taxpayer-funded help.

The moment is challenging for Pelosi as well. For months she has been promising a COVID relief package of more than \$2 trillion stuffed with Obama-era stimulus ideas. Even though the Senate and White House are both in GOP hands — and will be at least into January — she has sharply rebuffed anyone who suggests that Democrats should take a smaller deal now rather than risk going home empty-handed until next year.

"If Congress doesn't act the next administration is going to inherit a real mess," said Harvard economist Jason Furman, a former top Obama adviser. "Economic problems tend to feed on themselves." He is in the Democratic camp that prefers imperfect stimulus now rather than a larger package in four months or so.

## 6 Russian military officers charged in vast hacking campaign

By ERIC TUCKER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department announced charges Monday against Russian intelligence officers in cyberattacks that targeted a French presidential election, the Winter Olympics in South Korea and American businesses. The case implicates the same Kremlin unit that interfered in the 2016 U.S. elections, but is not related to the November vote.

The indictment accuses the six defendants, all said to be current and former officers in the Russian military intelligence agency known as the GRU, of hacks that prosecutors say were aimed at furthering the Kremlin's geopolitical interests and in destabilizing or punishing perceived enemies. All told, the attacks caused billions of dollars in losses and disrupted a broad cross-section of life, including health care in Pennsylvania, a power grid serving hundreds of thousands of customers in Ukraine and a French election that saw the late-stage disclosure of hacked emails.

The seven-count indictment is the most recent in a series of Justice Department prosecutions of Russian hackers, often working on behalf of the government. Past cases have focused on attacks against targets like internet giant Yahoo and the 2016 presidential contest, when Russian hackers from the GRU stole Democratic emails that were released online in the weeks before the election.

The attacks in this case are "some of the most destructive, most costly, most egregious cyber attacks ever known," said Scott Brady, the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, where the 50-page indictment was filed.

"Time and again, Russia has made it clear: They will not abide by accepted norms, and instead, they intend to continue their destructive, destabilizing cyber behavior," said FBI Deputy Director David Bowdich.

The indictment does not charge the defendants in connection with interference in American elections, though the officers are part of the same intelligence unit that prosecutors say interfered in the 2016 U.S.

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election. One of the six charged in the case announced Monday was among the Russian military intelligence officers charged with hacking in special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian election interference.

The timing of the indictment was unrelated to the upcoming election in the U.S., said Assistant Attorney General John Demers. He said that despite ongoing warnings of Russian interference in the election, Americans "should be confident that a vote cast for their candidate will be counted for that candidate."

The hacking targets described in Monday's case are diverse, with the indictment fleshing out details about attacks that in some instances had already received significant attention because of the havoc they had caused.

The indictment accuses the officers, for instance, of hacking into the 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea after Russia was punished by the International Olympic Committee for a vast doping conspiracy. It also says the Tokyo 2020 Olympics were targeted. Those Olympics have been postponed until next year.

The Japanese government's chief Cabinet secretary Katsunobu Kato declined to comment on specifics. "We cannot overlook malicious cyberattacks that could shake the foundation of democracy," he said.

Tokyo 2020 in a statement said "no significant impact has been observed in our operations." It said it has been taking "countermeasures" but declined to disclose them.

Prosecutors say the hackers unleashed a devastating malicious software attack during the opening ceremony in February 2018 that deleted data from thousands of computers related to the event and left them inoperable. Russia then tried to pin blame on North Korea in what prosecutors say was a failed "false flag" attempt.

Another attack was aimed at disrupting the 2017 presidential election in France through hacks that targeted local government entities, campaigns and political parties, including the party of current President Emmanuel Macron.

The controversy known as the "Macron Leaks" involved the leak of over 20,000 emails linked to Macron's campaign in the days before his victory. The involvement of bots raised questions about the possible involvement of Vladimir Putin and the Russian government. The leaks, which gained huge media attention in France, were shared by WikiLeaks and several alt-right activists on Twitter, Facebook and others.

Other attacks targeted international investigators looking into the suspected nerve agent poisoning of former Russian spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter in the United Kingdom, as well as the country of Georgia, where roughly 15,000 websites were defaced.

"In many cases," the indictment says, "the Conspirators replaced website home pages with an image of a former Georgian president, who was known for his efforts to counter Russian influence in Georgia, along with the caption, 'I'll be back.'"

Beyond that, though, the hacks had harmful impacts on quality-of-life for everyday citizens. The attacks in Ukraine, for instance, disrupted the power supply in the middle of winter for hundreds of thousands of customers, officials say.

And the global malware attack known as NotPetya that infected computers across the world harmed the operations of the Heritage Valley Health System, which prosecutors say serves tens of thousands of people in western Pennsylvania. Work stations were locked, hard drives encrypted, laboratory records and other files were inaccessible, and Heritage Valley temporarily lost access to critical computer systems related to medical care.

Robert Lee, a security researcher who helped uncover the malware used in one of the Ukraine hacks, said U.S. and European political leaders should have done more at the time to call out Russia and make clear that attacks on power grids are unacceptable.

But Lee, CEO of security firm Dragos, also welcomed the indictment as an important message before the U.S. presidential election about American officials' resolve to fight back against attacks on elections and civic infrastructure.

"This is a broad signal from U.S. intelligence to say, 'We're watching you and we're willing to burn our resources to burn your resources,'" Lee said. "Leading up to the election, I think that's an important signal to send."



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The six defendants face charges including conspiracy to conduct computer fraud and abuse, wire fraud and aggravated identity theft. None is currently in custody, but the Justice Department in recent years has eagerly charged foreign hackers in absentia in countries including Russia, China and Iran with the goal of creating a message of deterrence.

"No country has weaponized its cyber capabilities as maliciously and irresponsibly as Russia, wantonly causing unprecedented collateral damage to pursue small tactical advantages as fits of spite," said Demers, the Justice Department's top national security official.

Associated Press writers Thomas Adamson in Paris, Matt O'Brien in Providence, Rhode Island, and Graham Dunbar in Geneva, Switzerland, contributed to this report.

Follow Eric Tucker on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/etuckerAP>

## How Trump plowed through \$1 billion, losing cash advantage

By BRIAN SLODYSKO and ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's sprawling political operation has raised well over \$1 billion since he took the White House in 2017 — and set a lot of it on fire.

Trump bought a \$10 million Super Bowl ad when he didn't yet have a challenger. He tapped his political organization to cover exorbitant legal fees related to his impeachment. Aides made flashy displays of their newfound wealth — including a fleet of luxury vehicles purchased by Brad Parscale, his former campaign manager.

Meanwhile, a web of limited liability companies hid more than \$310 million in spending from disclosure, records show.

Now, just two weeks out from the election, some campaign aides privately acknowledge they are facing difficult spending decisions at a time when Democratic nominee Joe Biden has flooded the airwaves with advertising. That has put Trump in the position of needing to do more of his signature rallies as a substitute during the coronavirus pandemic while relying on an unproven theory that he can turn out supporters who are infrequent voters at historic levels.

"They spent their money on unnecessary overhead, lifestyles-of-the-rich-and-famous activity by the campaign staff and vanity ads way too early," said Mike Murphy, a veteran Republican consultant who advised John McCain and Jeb Bush and is an outspoken Trump critic. "You could literally have 10 monkeys with flamethrowers go after the money, and they wouldn't have burned through it as stupidly."

For Trump, it's a familiar, if not welcome, position. In 2016, he was vastly outraised by Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton but still pulled off a come-from-behind win. This time around, though, he was betting on a massive cash advantage to negatively define Biden and to defend his own record.

Trump campaign manager Bill Stepien insisted money was no issue. "We have more than sufficient air cover, almost three times as much as 2016," he told reporters Monday.

Biden, Stepien added, was "putting it all on TV," as he eschewed most door-knocking because of the pandemic, while Trump has roughly 2,000 field staffers across the country knocking on doors and making calls for his campaign.

"Where we have states that are sort of tipping, could go either way," Trump told campaign staffers Monday, "I have an ability to go to those states and rally. Biden has no ability. I go to a rally, we have 25,000 people. He goes to a rally, and he has four people."

The campaign and the Republican National Committee will offer a glimpse of their financial situation Tuesday when they file mandatory monthly campaign finance reports.

Advertising spending figures, however, offer a bleak picture.

While a half-dozen pro-Trump outside groups are coming to the president's aid, Biden and his Democratic allies are on pace to dump \$142 million into ads in the closing days of the campaign, outspending Republicans by more than 2-to-1, according to data from the ad tracking firm CMAG/Kantar.

On Monday, the firm Medium Buying reported Trump was canceling ad buys in Wisconsin; Minnesota,

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which Trump had hoped to flip; and Ohio, which went for Trump in 2016 but now appears to be a tight contest.

It's a reversal from May, when Biden's campaign was strapped for cash and Parscale ominously compared the Trump campaign to a "Death Star" that was about to "start pressing FIRE for the first time."

The ad campaign they unrolled over the next three months cost over \$176 million but did little to dent Biden's lead in public opinion polling.

Trump is now in a position that's virtually unthinkable for an incumbent president, said Travis Ridout, co-director of the Wesleyan Media Project, which tracks advertising spending.

"Advertising obviously isn't everything. But we do think ads matter for a couple percentage points in a presidential race. And it's just not a good sign for the Trump campaign," Ridout said.

A review of expenditures by Trump's campaign, as well as the Republican National Committee, lays bare some of the profligate spending.

Since 2017, more than \$39 million has been paid to firms controlled by Parscale, who was ousted as campaign manager over the summer. An additional \$273.2 million was paid to American Made Media Consultants, a Delaware limited liability company, whose owners are not publicly disclosed.

Campaigns typically reveal in mandatory disclosures who their primary vendors are. But by routing money to Parscale's firms, as well as American Made Media Consultants, Trump satisfied the basic disclosure requirements without detailing the ultimate recipients.

Other questionable expenditures by Trump and the RNC that are included in campaign finance disclosures:

— Nearly \$100,000 spent on copies of Donald Trump Jr.'s book "Triggered," which helped propel it to the top of the New York Times bestsellers list.

— Over \$7.4 million spent at Trump-branded properties since 2017.

— At least \$35.2 million spent on Trump merchandise.

— \$38.7 million in legal and "compliance" fees. In addition to tapping the RNC and his campaign to pay legal costs during his impeachment proceedings, Trump has also relied on his political operation to cover legal costs for some aides.

— At least \$14.1 million spent on the Republican National Convention. The event was supposed to have been held in Charlotte, North Carolina, but Trump relocated it to Jacksonville, Florida, after a dispute with North Carolina's Democratic governor over coronavirus safety measures. The Florida event was ultimately cancelled, as well, with a mostly online convention taking its place.

— \$912,000 spent on ads that ran on the personal Facebook pages of Parscale and Trump spokesperson Katrina Pierson.

— A \$250,000 ad run during Game 7 of the 2019 World Series, which came after Trump was booed by spectators when he attended Game 5.

— At least \$218,000 for Trump surrogates to travel aboard private jets provided by campaign donors.

— \$1.6 million on TV ads in the Washington, D.C., media market, an overwhelmingly Democratic area where Trump has little chance of winning but where he is a regular TV watcher.

Instead of giving more to Trump, some supporters are exploring their options.

Republican megadonor Sheldon Adelson and his wife, Miriam, recently donated \$75 million to Preserve America, a new pro-Trump super political action committee that is not controlled by Trump World political operatives.

One of the reasons the group was founded in August is because there is deep distrust among some GOP donors that the existing pro-Trump organizations would spend the money wisely, according to a Republican strategist with direct knowledge of the matter. The strategist spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive discussions with donors.

Dan Eberhart, who has given over \$190,000 to Trump's election efforts, said many Republican donors are now focused on keeping control of the Senate in GOP hands — not Trump's chances of winning.

"The Senate majority is the most important objective right now," he said. "It's the bulwark against so much bad policy that the Democrats want to do if they sweep the elections."

Associated Press writer Andrew Milligan in New York contributed to this report.

## Large earthquake off Alaska prompts tsunami fears, fleeing

By BECKY BOHRER Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — A magnitude 7.5 earthquake prompted a tsunami warning Monday for a nearly thousand-mile stretch of Alaska's southern coast, with waves over 2 feet at the nearest community as the threat subsided.

The quake was centered near Sand Point, a city of about 900 people off the Alaska Peninsula where wave levels late Monday topped 2 feet (0.61 meters), according to the National Tsunami Warning Center. The warning was downgraded to an advisory just over two hours after the quake hit, and was lifted Monday night.

"It was a pretty good shaker here," said David Adams, co-manager of Marine View Bed and Breakfast in Sand Point. "You could see the water kind of shaking and shimmering during the quake. Our truck was swaying big time."

Adams didn't take any photos or video: "It just kind of happened all of a sudden."

The quake struck in the North Pacific Ocean just before 1 p.m. It was centered about 67 miles (118 kilometers) southeast of Sand Point, according to the Alaska Earthquake Center. The community is about 800 miles (1,288 km) southwest of Anchorage. The quake was recorded at a depth of 19 miles (30 kilometers).

The National Tsunami Warning Center in Palmer, Alaska, said the tsunami warning — and later advisory — was in effect for roughly 950 miles (1,529 kilometers), from 40 miles (64 kilometers) southeast of Homer to Unimak Pass, about 80 miles (129 kilometers) northeast of Unalaska.

The quake was felt widely in communities along the southern coast, including Sand Point, Chignik, Unalaska and the Kenai Peninsula, according to the Alaska Earthquake Center, which said a magnitude 5.2 aftershock was reported 11 minutes later, centered roughly in the same area.

Patrick Mayer, superintendent of the Aleutians East Borough School District, said parents picked up their children from Sand Point School, which also served as an evacuation point. The earthquake was felt to varying degrees at the other four schools in the district, the closest of which is 90 miles away, he said.

Mayer said a school bus was dispatched to a fish processing facility to bring workers to the school since it's on high ground.

The workers were to wear masks to protect against the spread of the coronavirus, he said, in a community where there have been only "limited cases."

Public safety officials in King Cove had urged residents to remain vigilant after the warning was downgraded and to stay off the beach and out of harbors and marinas. Waves by late afternoon in King Cove were less than 2 feet (0.61 meters), according to the National Tsunami Warning Center.

The size of the quake was originally reported to have been a magnitude of 7.4, but was revised to a 7.5, said Paul Caruso, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey. He said an earthquake of this size, in this area, is not a surprise.

"This is an area where the Pacific Plate is subducting underneath the North American Plate. And because of that, the Pacific Plate actually goes underneath the North American Plate, where it melts," Caruso said, noting that's why there are volcanoes in the region. "And so we commonly have large, magnitude 7 earthquakes in that area."

Rita Tungul, front desk assistant at the Grand Aleutian Hotel in Unalaska, said she felt some shaking but it wasn't strong. Her coworker didn't feel the quake at all, she said.

Connie Newton, owner of the Bearfoot Inn, a grocery store, liquor store and small hotel in Cold Bay, said the temblor it felt like someone drove into her building with a truck. Still, nothing fell to the ground and she said she suffered no damage because she earthquake-proofed her stores by installing 2-inch (5-cm) risers around the outside of her shelves.

Associated Press journalists Jennifer Sinco Kelleher, Audrey McAvoy and Caleb Jones in Honolulu and

Mark Thiessen in Anchorage contributed to this report.

## Argentina passes 1 million cases as virus hits Latin America

By NICOLAS DELUCA, ALMUDENA CALATRAVA and CHRISTINE ARMARIO Associated Press USHUAIA, Argentina (AP) — At the edge of Argentina in a city known as “The End of the World,” many thought they might be spared from the worst of the coronavirus pandemic.

Sitting far from the South American nation’s bustling capital, health workers in Ushuaia were initially able to contain a small outbreak among foreigners hoping to catch boats to the Antarctic at the start of the crisis.

But as Argentina passed 1 million virus cases Monday, it is now smaller cities like Ushuaia that are seeing some of the most notable upticks. Doctors have had to quadruple the number of beds for COVID-19 patients over the last month. At least 60% of those tested recently are coming back positive for the virus.

“We were the example of the country,” said Dr. Carlos Guglielmi, director of the Ushuaia Regional Hospital. “Evidently someone arrived with the coronavirus.”

Across Latin America, three other nations are expected to reach the 1 million case milestone in the coming weeks — Colombia, Mexico and Peru. The grim mark comes as Latin America continues to register some of the world’s highest daily case counts. And though some nations have seen important declines, overall there has been little relief, with cases dropping in one municipality only to escalate in another.

The trajectory is showing that the pandemic is likely to leave no corner of Latin America unscathed.

“The second wave is arriving without ever having finished the first,” said Dr. Luis Jorge Hernández, a public health professor at the University of the Andes in Colombia.

Argentina has seen cases spiral despite instituting one of the world’s longest lockdowns. Colombia’s major cities have seen a dip, but smaller areas like the department of Caldas in the coffee region are only now reaching a peak. Peru’s overall numbers have dropped, but officials recently reported 12 regions are spiking back up. Mexico, likewise, has seen a rise in a quarter of all states over the last week.

The result is that rather than a second virus wave like that being seen in Europe, epidemiologists anticipate a more sustained, plateau-like trend.

“Our countries are still getting out of the first wave,” said Dr. Marcos Espinal, director of the Pan American Health Organization’s Department of Communicable Diseases. “A great part of the population remains exposed and community transmission continues.”

The virus’ cruel path through Latin America is a consequence of weak public health systems, social factors like poverty and poor government decisions early on that resulted in flawed or limited testing and little contact tracing. Today the region is home to half the 10 countries with the highest total cases around the globe.

Argentina initially registered low virus case numbers but now has one of the highest rates of new daily infections per capita, according to Our World in Data, a non-profit online scientific publication based at the University of Oxford. It is on par with several European countries that are experiencing a resurgence of the virus.

Dr. Adolfo Rubinstein, a former Argentine health minister, said the nation depended too heavily on lockdowns as its primary means of controlling the virus, failing to purchase enough tests in the initial months of the pandemic.

Where the virus is appearing is also shifting. Initially, up to 90% of the confirmed cases were in metropolitan Buenos Aires. Today, 65% of Argentina’s cases are in its provinces and even faraway places like Ushuaia, authorities said.

“Now it is everywhere in the country,” Rubinstein said.

Dr. Carissa F. Etienne, director of the Americas branch of the World Health Organization, warned recently that the coronavirus is appearing in places that were previously not affected, with high numbers popping up in regions like the English-speaking Caribbean.

“In many countries, the pandemic has also moved to less populated areas,” she said.

That can be seen not just in Argentina but in Colombia as well. The city of Manizales in a region known

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for its coffee farms now registers 440.98 cases per 100,000 residents, far higher than the nationwide average of 284.09 per 100,000, according to the Ministry of Health. Officials say the slower rise in cases allowed them to expand ICU capacity.

"Here we didn't have a peak like in Europe," Hernández said. "We had a plateau."

Throughout the region, testing remains a hurdle. In Peru, officials have relied heavily on antibody tests to identify cases — even though the tests are not designed to make a diagnosis because they can only detect proteins that develop a week or more after infection. Argentina's testing is still far below that of neighboring countries; on Sunday, just 13,890 were tested, compared to 31,988 the same day in Colombia.

The high percentage coming back positive in Argentina suggests the country is still likely missing vast numbers of infections.

Brazil reached 1 million cases in June and now is up to 5.2 million for the pandemic.

"These are huge undercounts of what is really going on in terms of numbers," said Felicia Knaul, director of the Institute for Advanced Study of the Americas at the University of Miami. "We need more consistent mask use — but we have to couple that with testing and tracing — or else the numbers are going to rise tremendously."

In Ushuaia, officials believe truckers carrying in produce from the Buenos Aires region may be responsible for the rise in cases since mid-September. The city famous as a departure point for cruises to the Antarctic had been a model for the nation. Closed off air travel and a halt on tourism left it virus free for months.

But that false sense of comfort may have led people to relax on basic pandemic norms like hand washing and social distancing. The Tierra del Fuego province, which has a population of about 150,000, now has over 8,000 confirmed cases.

In Ushuaia, anxious residents line up in their cars for drive-thru testing. A sports center that had been empty is now set up to take care of patients. One month ago, the regional hospital was treating just seven COVID-19 patients; now it has 28, occupying all of its bed set aside for adults with the illness.

"The failure in Argentina was the low amount of testing," Guglielmi said.

José Bongiovanni, a lawyer in Ushuaia, said a worry that seemed distant now feels close.

"Living at the end of the world was never easy," he said. "It's a lot less easy in a moment like this."

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Associated Press journalist Nicolas Deluca reported this story in Ushuaia, AP writer Almudena Calatrava reported from Buenos Aires, and AP writer Christine Armario reported from Bogota, Colombia.

## Morales party claims win as Bolivia seems to shift back left

By CARLOS VALDEZ Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — Bolivia appeared Monday to be shifting sharply away from the conservative policies of the U.S.-backed interim government that took power last year after leftist President Evo Morales resigned, with the self-exiled leader's party claiming victory in a weekend presidential election.

The leading rival of Morales's handpicked successor, Luis Arce, conceded defeat as did interim President Jeanine Áñez, a bitter foe of Morales.

Officials released no formal, comprehensive quick count of results from Sunday's vote, but two independent surveys of selected polling places gave Arce a lead of roughly 20 percentage points over his closest rival — far more than needed to avoid a runoff.

Áñez asked Arce "to govern with Bolivia and democracy in mind."

Arce, meanwhile, appealed for calm in the bitterly divided nation saying he would seek to form a government of national unity under his Movement Toward Socialism party.

"I think the Bolivian people want to retake the path we were on," Arce declared, surrounded by a small group of supporters, some of them in traditional Andean dress in honor of the country's Indigenous roots.

To win in the first round, a candidate needs more than 50% of the vote, or 40% with a lead of at least 10 percentage points over the second-place candidate. The independent counts, sponsored by the Catholic Church and civic groups, indicated Arce had a little over 50% of the vote and a roughly 20-point advantage

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over centrist former President Carlos Mesa, who acknowledged defeat.

The formal official count showed Arce and Mesa in a close race for much of Monday, but by the night Arce was pulling away. With about 40% of ballots counted, Arce had over 45% and Mesa had about 35%. The early counted votes appeared to be largely from urban areas rather than the rural heartlands that have been the base of support for Morales and his movement. Officials said final results could take days.

Arce, who oversaw a surge in growth and a sharp reduction in poverty as Morales' economy minister for more than a decade, will struggle to reignite that growth. The boom in prices for Bolivia's mineral exports that helped feed that progress has faded, and the new coronavirus has hit impoverished, landlocked Bolivia harder than almost any other country on a per capita basis. Nearly 8,400 of its 11.6 million people have died of COVID-19.

Arce, 57, also faces the challenge of emerging from the long shadow of his former boss, who remains polarizing but whose support enabled the low-key, British-educated economist to mount a strong campaign.

Añez's government tried to overturn many of Morales' policies and wrench the country away from its leftist alliances. Newly installed electoral authorities barred Morales from running in Sunday's election, even for a seat in congress, and he faces prosecution on what are seen as trumped-up charges of terrorism if he returns home.

Morales, who turns 61 this month, said at a news conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on Monday that he plans to return to Bolivia, though he did not say when.

Like Arce, he took a conciliatory tone and called for "a great meeting of reconciliation for reconstruction."

"We are not vengeful," he said.

He declined to say if he would have a role in the government. But few expect the sometimes-irascible politician — Bolivia's first Indigenous president — to sit by idly.

"Arce is not Morales, but the question is, who is going to govern Bolivia facing the approaching crisis," said political science professor Franklin Pareja.

A boyhood llama herder who became prominent leading a coca grower's union, Morales was immensely popular as Bolivia boomed, but support was eroding due to his reluctance to leave power, increasing authoritarian impulses and a series of corruption scandals.

He shrugged aside a public vote that had set term limits, and competed in the October 2019 presidential vote, which he claimed to have narrowly won outright. But a lengthy pause in reporting results fed suspicions of fraud and nationwide protests followed, leading to the deaths of at least 36 people.

When police and military leaders suggested he leave, Morales resigned and fled the country, along with several key aides. Morales called his ouster a coup.

All seats in the 136-member Legislative Assembly also were also being contested Sunday, with results expected to echo the presidential race.

"Bolivia's new executive and legislative leaders will face daunting challenges in a polarized country, ravaged by COVID-19, and hampered by endemically weak institutions," said the Washington Office on Latin America, a Washington-based human rights advocacy organization.

Morales led Bolivia from 2006 until 2019 and was the last survivor of the so-called "pink wave" of leftist leaders that swept into power across South America, including Brazil's Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and Venezuela's Hugo Chavez.

Arce's victory is bound to reenergize Latin America's left, whose anthem of economic justice has broad appeal in a region where poverty is expected to surge to 37% this year, according to the United Nations.

The Trump administration had celebrated Morales' ouster as a watershed moment for democracy in Latin America, but on Monday a State Department spokesman said the U.S. looks forward "to working with whomever the Bolivians elect."

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Associated Press writers Joshua Goodman in Medellin, Colombia, and Paola Flores in La Paz contributed to this report.

## Few fans, masked ump, muted celebrations for World Series

By RONALD BLUM AP Baseball Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — A World Series like no other opens Tuesday night with Clayton Kershaw's Los Angeles Dodgers pursuing redemption, Kevin Kiermaier's Tampa Bay Rays seeking acclaim and Major League Baseball relieved just to reach the championship of the pandemic-delayed season.

Buzz figures to be dampened, with attendance down to about 11,000 in the smallest crowd for a Series game since roughly 1909.

The entire Series will be played on artificial turf for the first time since 1993, at new \$1.2 billion Globe Life Field, home of a Texas Rangers team eliminated on Sept. 20. Traditional postgame victory celebrations are barred. But surroundings are largely irrelevant to the favored Dodgers and under-the-radar Rays.

Los Angeles, baseball's biggest spender, is back in the Series for the third time in four years as it seeks its first title since 1988.

Plate umpire Laz Diaz will be masked — along with the rest of the crew.

"I don't know if you watched Game 7 last night but it sure felt like postseason to me," Dodgers third baseman Justin Turner said Monday, after the Dodgers rallied to beat Atlanta 4-3 at Globe Life for the NL pennant. "The back and forth, the momentum shifts, big plays, big swings, big pitches — that was as much of a playoff feel as I've ever experienced."

Tampa Bay, among the major leagues' poorest draws and lowest-salaried rosters, made it this far only once before and lost to Philadelphia in 2008. Perennially unable to get a new ballpark built, the Rays have said they are exploring splitting future seasons between St. Petersburg, Florida, and Montreal.

While the Rays beat Houston for the AL pennant on Saturday night in San Diego, they had to wait until Monday to travel, allowing the Braves to vacate space in the Dallas at Las Colinas - Four Seasons, where the Dodgers have been bivouacked since before the Division Series started Oct. 6. Los Angeles had an optional early afternoon workout with the stadium roof closed, and the Rays had a full practice in the evening under autumn twilight.

"We'll be able to get out there tonight, get a feel for the surroundings of the field and how the ball bounces," Rays outfielder Austin Meadows said. "I'm excited for there to be fans. It's been a long time coming."

The winner will give its city a 2-1 advantage in major U.S. sports league titles during the novel coronavirus pandemic following championships by the NHL's Tampa Bay Lightning on Sept. 28 and the NBA's Los Angeles Lakers on Oct. 11.

Both teams reflect imprint of Andrew Friedman, the Rays' general manager from 2005-14 and the Dodgers' president of baseball operations since.

"Some of my best friends in life are there," the 43-year-old Friedman said. "We joked when I left the team that we were going to meet up in the World Series one day, and for it actually to happen is surreal."

After attendance dropped from 68.5 million to 0 during the shortest regular season since 1878 and the first two rounds of an expanded postseason also were played without fans, Major League Baseball sold about 28% capacity for the NL Championship Series, which averaged 10,835 for the seven games at 40,518-capacity Globe Life Field. The Rays arrived in Dallas on Monday after playing the AL Division Series and AL Championship Series at empty Petco Park in San Diego.

Still, it was an accomplishment for MLB after a regular season in which 45 games were postponed for COVID-19-related reasons but just two were not made up. Rookie outfielder Randy Arozarena, the Cuban defector who led the Rays' offense with seven homers in the playoffs, missed the first month of the shortened season after contracting COVID-19 and didn't play his first game until Aug. 30.

"I was throwing sim games May, June in Dallas, thinking about, man, are we going to even play this season?" said Kershaw, the Dodgers' Game 1 starter. "Is this going to be a wasted year in everybody's career and things like that? Is this going to be a wasted year for the Dodgers with the team that we have? So yeah, I think to be able to be here now and be four wins away from getting to win a World Series I think is really a testament to a lot of people to be able to make this season happen, a testament to the

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players, even to Major League Baseball that we were able to get to this point. I'm super thankful for that."

Kershaw, a 32-year-old left-hander with three Cy Young Awards and an MVP trophy, is 175-76 in the regular season but 11-12 in the postseason, including 1-2 in the World Series. He has been slowed this month by a recurrence of back spasms.

Tampa Bay starts Tyler Glasnow, a 27-year-old righty whose fastball averages 97.5 mph and who grew up in California admiring Kershaw. It will be the Rays' first game in front of fans since spring training was interrupted on March 12 and close to the end of a lengthy bubble existence.

Glasnow and his teammates are looking forward to the end of the Series, when he can go to a bar or sit at a restaurant.

"Hugging someone or seeing family," he said. "Just being able to be a normal person again."

This will be the first World Series entirely at one ballpark since 1944 between the Cardinals and Browns at Sportsman's Park in St. Louis — and the fourth overall. The Yankees and Giants shared New York's Polo Grounds in 1921 and 1922.

"It's a fast ground," Arozarena said through a translator. "I'm not sure there'll be a lot of homers. There's good pitchers on both sides."

Los Angeles had a \$95.6 million payroll on Aug. 1, according to figures compiled by MLB. Tampa Bay was 28th at \$28.9 million, ahead of only Baltimore and Pittsburgh. The Rays eliminated the Yankees (\$83.7 million) and Houston (\$81.4 million) during the AL playoffs.

"Regardless of payroll, we know we can compete with anybody," Meadows said.

Added Friedman: "Payrolls don't decide the standings and I think we see evidence of that every year."

Tampa Bay is known best for innovative thinking and hard-throwing relievers, referred to by manager Kevin Cash as a "whole damn stable full of guys that throw 98 miles an hour."

"They didn't make it to the World Series on accident," Dodgers star Mookie Betts said. "It's not going to be easy by any means."

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

## High court allows 3-day extension for Pennsylvania ballots

By MARK SHERMAN and MARC LEVY Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court will allow Pennsylvania to count mailed-in ballots received up to three days after the Nov. 3 election, rejecting a Republican plea in the presidential battleground state.

The justices divided 4-4 on Monday, an outcome that upholds a state Supreme Court ruling that required county election officials to receive and count mailed-in ballots that arrive up until Nov. 6, even if they don't have a clear postmark, as long as there is not proof it was mailed after the polls closed.

Republicans, including President Donald Trump's campaign, have opposed such an extension, arguing that it violates federal law that sets Election Day as the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November and that such a decision constitutionally belongs to lawmakers, not the courts.

The state Republican Party chairman, Lawrence Tabas, said the party disagrees with the decision and, noting the 4-4 decision, "it only underscores the importance of having a full Supreme Court as soon as possible."

"To be clear, the Supreme Court decided not to grant a stay — which does not mean the actions of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court would withstand a legal challenge to their judicial overreach should the court hear the case," Tabas said.

Nancy Patton Mills, chairwoman of the Pennsylvania Democratic Party, accused Republicans of trying to sow confusion and disenfranchise eligible voters.

"This is a significant victory for Pennsylvania voters," Mills said in a statement.

The Democratic majority on the state's high court had cited warnings that postal service delays could invalidate huge numbers of ballots and surging demand for mail-in ballots during the coronavirus pandemic to invoke the power, used previously by the state's courts, to extend election deadlines during a disaster



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emergency.

Chief Justice John Roberts joined with the three liberal justices to reject Pennsylvania Republicans' call for the court to block the state court ruling.

Justices Samuel Alito, Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh and Clarence Thomas would have required the state to stop accepting absentee ballots when the polls close on Nov. 3.

There were no opinions accompanying the order, so it is impossible to say what motivated either group of justices. The conservative justices have been reluctant to allow court-ordered changes to voting rules close to an election.

The court also is weighing a similar issue from Wisconsin. But in that case, the ruling being challenged comes from a federal appeals court and it's the Democrats who are asking the justices to step in.

Most states make Election Day the deadline, but 18 states — half of which backed Trump in the 2016 election — have a post-Election Day deadline.

"With nearly a million votes already cast in Pennsylvania, we support the court's decision not to meddle in our already-working system," Pennsylvania's attorney general, Democrat Josh Shapiro, said in a statement.

On a separate track, Republicans in the statehouse have pressed Gov. Tom Wolf, a Democrat, to agree to 11th-hour legislation to eliminate or limit the three days under the court's order.

The case is one of many partisan battles being fought in the state Legislature and the courts, primarily over mail-in voting in Pennsylvania, amid concerns that a presidential election result will hang in limbo for days on a drawn-out vote count in the battleground state.

In Pennsylvania, the state Democratic Party and a liberal group, the Pennsylvania Alliance for Retired Americans, had sought an extension of the Election Day deadline to count mailed ballots.

With about 2.8 million mail-in ballots requested and approximately 900,000 returned, Democratic-registered voters are requesting mail ballots at a nearly 3-to-1 ratio over Republicans.

In its Sept. 17 ruling, the divided state Supreme Court said ballots must be postmarked by the time polls close and be received by county election boards at 5 p.m. on Nov. 6, three days after the Nov. 3 election.

It also said that ballots lacking a clear postmark could be counted unless there was evidence that they were mailed after the polls closed.

## The Latest: Trump plans to debate Biden despite rule changes

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Latest on the 2020 presidential campaign (all times local):  
8:50 p.m.

President Donald Trump plans to attend Thursday's debate with Democratic nominee Joe Biden despite rule changes — opposed by his campaign — that are meant to foster more ordered discussions.

Trump campaign manager Bill Stepien says Trump "is committed to debating Joe Biden regardless of last minute rule changes from the biased commission in their latest attempt to provide advantage to their favored candidate."

The nonpartisan Commission on Presidential Debates announced Monday that the second and final debate between the two candidates will have each nominee muted while the other delivers his two-minute remarks at the outset of each of the six debate topics. The remainder of each 15-minute block will be open discussion, without any muting, the commission said.

The move is meant to prevent a repeat of the inaugural debate three weeks ago when the two candidates, but mostly Trump, interrupted each other repeatedly.

The Biden campaign did not immediately comment on the new rule.

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### HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE:

President Donald Trump held rallies in Arizona after campaigning over the weekend in California and Nevada. His Democratic challenger, Joe Biden, was in Wilmington, Delaware, on Monday.

Read more:

— Some states allow ballots of folks who voted early but die before Election Day.

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- Suburban women are leading a rebellion against Trump.
- Upcoming debate offers Trump a chance to generate momentum.

## HERE'S WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON:

7:50 p.m.

President Donald Trump and Democrat Joe Biden will have their microphones cut off in Thursday's debate while their rival delivers their opening two-minute answer to each of the debate topics.

The 90-minute debate is divided into six 15-minute segments, with each candidate granted two minutes to deliver uninterrupted remarks before proceeding to an open debate. The open discussion portion of the debate will not feature a mute button, but interruptions by either candidate will count toward their time in the second and final debate Thursday.

The nonpartisan Commission on Presidential Debates announced the rule changes Monday, three weeks after a chaotic opening faceoff between the two presidential contenders that featured frequent interruptions — most by Trump.

The commission has faced pressure from the Trump campaign to avoid changing the rules, while Biden's team was hoping for a more ordered debate. In a statement, the commission said it "had determined that it is appropriate to adopt measures intended to promote adherence to agreed upon rules and inappropriate to make changes to those rules."

7:40 p.m.

President Donald Trump is promoting his efforts to combat rising drug prices.

Trump told supporters in Tucson, Arizona, on Monday that for years, people complained about rising drug prices, but nobody did anything until he was in the White House.

He is predicting that drug prices are going to be dropping "like a lot."

Trump has taken actions to reduce patient costs for some drugs, such as insulin, but the steps have been less ambitious than those in a bill from Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., that the House passed last year.

Trump's plan to mail millions of seniors a \$200 prescription savings card has hit legal and budget roadblocks, making it unlikely the government can carry it out before Election Day.

Democratic lawmakers have raised questions about whether the administration has the authority to unilaterally order billions of dollars in Medicare spending for what the Democrats say are political reasons.

5:25 p.m.

President Donald Trump is deploying a new attack line against Joe Biden, saying his Democratic presidential opponent "wants to listen to Dr. Fauci." Biden says that's correct.

Trump made the comment Monday at a campaign rally in Prescott, Arizona, after criticizing Dr. Anthony Fauci during a conference call with campaign staff. Trump told the staff that Fauci is an "idiot" and a "disaster."

Fauci is the nation's top infectious-disease expert and a member of Trump's White House coronavirus task force. The doctor is both respected and popular, and Trump's rejection of scientific advice on the pandemic has already drawn bipartisan condemnation.

Biden's campaign says Trump is using staunch opposition to science as his "closing argument" as Election Day looms. Responding on Twitter to Trump's accusation that Biden wants to listen to Fauci, Biden wrote, "...yes."

Fauci said on a "60 Minutes" episode that aired Sunday that he and his family have been receiving death threats from people angry over coronavirus restrictions.

2:30 p.m.

Joe Biden's campaign says President Donald Trump is using staunch opposition to science as his "closing argument" as Election Day looms.

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During a campaign conference call on Monday, Trump called Dr. Anthony Fauci "a disaster" and other top infectious-disease scientists "idiots." The president blamed them for what he argued was the nation's mismanagement of the coronavirus pandemic.

Biden, the Democratic presidential nominee, did not answer questions on Trump's comments as he left the taping of a television interview in Delaware on Monday.

But his campaign released a statement noting that the pandemic has now killed nearly 220,000 Americans, seen more than 8 million confirmed coronavirus cases nationwide and cost millions of jobs.

"Trump's closing message in the final days of the 2020 race is to publicly mock Joe Biden for trusting science," Biden's campaign said in statement. "Trump is mocking Biden for listening to science. Science. The best tool we have to keep Americans safe, while Trump's reckless and negligent leadership threatens to put more lives at risk."

1:05 p.m.

Joe Biden is taping a television interview, the only thing on his light, pre-debate public schedule this week.

The Democratic nominee's motorcade rolled shortly after noon on Monday from his home in Wilmington, Delaware, to the Queen, a downtown theater where his campaign has built a makeshift studio and stage for its candidate to hold virtual events, as well as some speeches and press conferences in person. Biden was taping an interview with "60 Minutes," which was scheduled to air on CBS next weekend.

Biden's traveling press pool caught a glimpse of him entering the theater, but he did not answer questions.

Biden has nothing else on his public schedule this week except Thursday night's debate in Nashville, Tennessee. His campaign says he plans to use the bulk of the remaining time preparing for the second and final time he is scheduled to face off with President Donald Trump before Election Day on Nov. 3.

12:50 p.m.

Kamala Harris has returned to the campaign trail after a brief absence when people connected with her team tested positive for the coronavirus.

Harris kicked off her return at a car rally in Orlando on Monday to mark the first day of early voting in Florida, a critical swing state. She'll later campaign in Jacksonville.

The Democratic ticket is largely forgoing traditional campaign rallies because of the risk of spreading the virus. But Harris was energized as she bounded onto the outdoor stage in Orlando, dancing and shouting greetings to the crowd as they honked their horns in support.

She largely stuck to the campaign message of outlining President Donald Trump's failures in tackling the pandemic and urging people to cast their ballots early.

She told the crowd: "You will be the first to put our country back on the right track."

Harris halted travel Thursday after her communications director and a member of the flight crew for her travel tested positive for the virus. The campaign said Harris did not need to quarantine under Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, but she paused travel for four days.

She has repeatedly tested negative for the virus.

12:35 p.m.

Melania Trump plans to make her first public appearance since recovering from the coronavirus disease, joining President Donald Trump at a Pennsylvania campaign rally.

It was not immediately clear if the first lady also planned to address Trump supporters in Erie.

Tuesday's rally in Pennsylvania will be the first campaign trail appearance for Mrs. Trump since she spoke briefly at a June 2019 event in Orlando, Florida, where the president launched his reelection effort.

She addressed the Republican National Convention in August from the White House.

Mrs. Trump recently announced that she has recovered from a bout with COVID-19 that included headaches, body aches and fatigue. She also revealed that the couple's 14-year-old son, Barron, had contracted the virus, never had symptoms and has since tested negative.

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Mrs. Trump's spokeswoman says she also plans to attend Thursday's presidential debate in Nashville, Tennessee.

11:45 a.m.

President Donald Trump says people are tired of hearing from Dr. Anthony Fauci "and all these idiots" about the coronavirus.

Trump has made no secret of his growing impatience with Fauci, the nation's leading infectious disease expert.

Speaking Monday to campaign staffers, Trump called Fauci a "disaster" but said he'd create bigger issues for himself if he fired the doctor.

Fauci is head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and is a member of the White House coronavirus task force.

Trump has needled Fauci over his advice on wearing face masks.

Nearly 220,000 Americans have died from the disease the virus causes.

11:20 a.m.

President Donald Trump is bucking up his campaign staffers 15 days from Election Day, amid worrisome public and private polling.

On a conference call Monday, Trump says, "We're going to win. I wouldn't have told you that maybe two or three weeks ago."

Addressing stories about declining morale at his campaign, Trump said he's never been more confident in his chances, "Today is the best single day that I've felt on either campaign."

He added: "We have never been in as strong a position as we are today."

Trump encouraged his staffers to ignore news reports about the state of the race.

## Senate to work through weekend to push Barrett onto court

By LISA MASCARO AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wasting no time, the Senate is on track to confirm Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court by next Monday, charging toward a rare weekend session as Republicans push past procedural steps to install President Donald Trump's pick before Election Day.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said he will begin the process as soon as the Senate Judiciary Committee wraps up its work Thursday. With a 53-47 Republican majority, and just two GOP senators opposed, Trump's nominee is on a glide path to confirmation that will seal a conservative hold on the court for years to come.

McConnell said Monday that Barrett demonstrated over several days of public hearings the "sheer intellectual horsepower that the American people deserve to have on the Supreme Court."

Without the votes to stop Barrett's ascent, Democrats have few options left. They are searching for two more GOP senators to break ranks and halt confirmation, but that seems unlikely. Never before as a court nominee been voted on so close to a presidential election.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer decried what he called the "farcical" process to "jam" through Trump's choice, even as the coronavirus outbreak sidelined GOP senators.

"The Republican majority is running the most hypocritical, most partisan and least legitimate process in the history of Supreme Court confirmations," he said during speech as the Senate opened.

The Senate Judiciary Committee is set to meet Thursday to vote on recommending Barrett's nomination to the full Senate.

By Friday, procedural votes are expected, continuing over the weekend as Republicans push through the steps for a final vote to confirm Barrett as soon as Monday.

The 48-year-old appellate court judge from Indiana delivered few specific answers during several days of public testimony as senators probed her previously outspoken views against abortion, the Affordable

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Care Act and other issues before the court. She declined to say whether she would recuse herself from cases involving the election between Trump and Democrat Joe Biden.

Trump has said he wants the judge seated in time to hear any potential disputes from the Nov. 3 election. He also has said he's looking for a judge who would rule against the Obama-era health care law, which is headed to the court in a case justices are expected to hear Nov. 10.

If confirmed, Barrett would be Trump's third justice on the court. She would fill the vacancy from the late Ruth Bader Ginsberg, the liberal icon, locking in a 6-3 conservative majority on the high court..

## Toobin suspended by the New Yorker, steps away from CNN

By HILLEL ITALIE AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Author-commentator Jeffrey Toobin has been suspended by the New Yorker and is stepping away from his job as CNN's senior legal analyst pending what the cable network is calling a "personal matter."

Vice reported earlier Monday that Toobin had exposed himself during a Zoom meeting with staffers of the New Yorker and WNYC radio. In a statement Monday afternoon, the New Yorker said Toobin had been "suspended while we investigate the matter." It declined further comment. A CNN spokesperson said in a statement that "Jeff Toobin has asked for some time off while he deals with a personal issue, which we have granted."

The 60-year-old Toobin has been a New Yorker writer for more than 20 years and joined CNN in 2002. He is the author of several books, most recently "True Crimes and Misdemeanors: The Investigation of Donald Trump," published in August. His other works include "The Run of His Life: The People v. O. J. Simpson" and "The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court."

AP Media Writer David Bauder contributed to this report.

The headline of this story has been corrected to show that the New Yorker suspended Jeffrey Toobin and he is stepping away from his CNN role for a "personal matter."

## Judge puts Wisconsin capacity limit order back into effect

By SCOTT BAUER Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — A Wisconsin judge on Monday reimposed an order from Gov. Tony Evers' administration limiting the number of people who can gather in bars, restaurants and other indoor venues to 25% of capacity.

The capacity limits order was issued Oct. 6 by Andrea Palm, secretary of the state Department of Health Services, in the face of surging coronavirus cases in Wisconsin. A judge blocked the order on Oct. 14 after it was challenged by the Tavern League of Wisconsin, which argued it amounted to a "de facto closure" order for the bars and restaurants it represents.

But Barron County Judge James Babler on Monday put the capacity limits back into effect. He declined a request from the Tavern League to keep the capacity limit order on hold while the lawsuit is pending and declined to stay his ruling while the Tavern League and others appeal his decision.

"This critically important ruling will help us prevent the spread of this virus by restoring limits on public gatherings," Evers said in a statement, while encouraging people to stay at home, limit gatherings and wear a mask when in public.

Wisconsin last week set new daily records for positive coronavirus cases, deaths and hospitalizations. To date, the state has more than 173,000 positive cases and 1,600 deaths.

In denying the request to put the capacity limits order on hold, the judge said the Tavern League and others fighting the order did not have a reasonable probability of succeeding. He said no one had shown they would be harmed by following the order.

"I merely have the theoretical issue that if they were to comply, they would suffer harm," Babler said. "I

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don't see how anyone has been harmed by the order ... because no one has told me they changed their behavior,"

Attorney Misha Tseytlin, who represented The Mix Up bar in Amery, said it suffered a 50% drop in sales after the order was issued. But the judge said there was no evidence that the loss of customers was due to the order limiting capacity.

"How do I know it's not just general news reports or just word of mouth that 'I shouldn't go anywhere because I don't want to catch COVID?'" the judge said.

The Tavern League, the Sawyer County Tavern League and the Flambeau Forest Inn in the village of Winter brought the lawsuit. They argued that the Flambeau Forest Inn would be forced to limit its capacity to 10 people under the state order, which would include five customers and the five employees needed to operate the restaurant.

Tavern League attorney Josh Johannningmeier said the harm to bars and restaurants from the capacity limits may not be immediately clear.

"Some will fail tomorrow, some will fail on day seven, some will fail on day 20," he said.

Pro-Life Wisconsin and The Mix Up bar joined the lawsuit after it was initially filed. Pro-Life Wisconsin argued that the capacity limits made it impossible for the group to hold fundraisers at bars and restaurants as planned.

The Tavern League of Wisconsin, the powerful lobbying group for the state's 5,000 bars, restaurants and taverns, argued that Palm doesn't have the legal authority to issue the order, which instead should have gone through the Republican-led Legislature's rule-making process. It pointed to a Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling from May undoing Evers' "safer at home" order, which also said that should have been issued as a rule approved by the Legislature.

A GOP-controlled legislative committee met last week to begin the process of creating the rule, which would then allow the Legislature to strike it down.

Colin Hector, an assistant attorney general defending the order, said Wisconsin was in a "terrible place when it comes to COVID-19 right now." He argued that the order was legal and necessary for the long-term good of the state.

"The only way to bring Wisconsin's economy back is to bring this virus under control," Hector said.

While the virus is a threat, efforts to control it must follow the law, the Tavern League's attorney Johannningmeier argued.

Under the order, the number of customers at any indoor venue is limited to 25% of capacity or no more than 10 people for places without an occupancy limit. The order does not apply to colleges, schools, churches, polling locations, political rallies and outdoor venues.

The capacity limits order is set to expire on Nov. 6, but could be renewed.

Republican lawmakers are also suing to end the governor's statewide mask mandate, arguing as the Tavern League has done in this lawsuit that the order exceeded Evers' authority. A judge last week upheld the mask mandate, saying the Legislature has the power to strike it down if it wants to.

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## Heard any Biden jokes? Study of late-night comics finds few

By DAVID BAUDER AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — From the perspective of late-night joke writers, there's really only one person running for president.

A staggering 97% of the jokes Stephen Colbert and Jimmy Fallon told about the candidates in September targeted President Donald Trump, a study released Monday found.

That's 455 jokes about Trump and 14 about Democrat Joe Biden, according to the Center for Media and Public Affairs at George Mason University. That doesn't even count 64 jokes made about Trump's family or administration, the study said.

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"When Trump's onstage, everyone else is blacked out," said Robert Lichter, communication professor at George Mason.

He's been studying late-night humor and politics since 1992. Republicans are usually targeted more than Democrats by the comedy writers, but the difference has never been this stark. The closest was the 2016 campaign, when Trump was the punchline for 78% of the jokes to Hillary Clinton's 22%, the center said.

That's good news if, like Biden, your goal is to essentially make Trump the central issue in the campaign. It may present a real challenge for the comics if Biden defeats Trump in next month's election, however. What will they have to poke fun at?

"I think they will find a way to keep making jokes about Trump, even after he leaves office," Lichter said.

There's precedent for that. In 2001, late-night comedians made former President Bill Clinton the subject of more jokes than his successor, George W. Bush, Lichter said.

## High court to review two cases involving Trump border policy

By JESSICA GRESKO and MARK SHERMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to hear two cases involving Trump administration policies at the U.S.-Mexico border: one about a policy that makes asylum-seekers wait in Mexico for U.S. court hearings and a second about the administration's use of money to fund the border wall.

The justices' decision to hear the cases continues its practice of reviewing lower court rulings that have found President Donald Trump's immigration policies illegal over the past four years.

Most notably, the high court reviewed and ultimately upheld Trump's travel ban on visitors from some largely Muslim countries. In June, the court kept in place legal protections for immigrants who came to the U.S. as children.

The justices will not hear either new case until 2021, and the outcome of the presidential election could make the cases go away, or at least reduce their significance. If Democrat Joe Biden wins the White House, he has pledged to end "Migrant Protection Protocols," which Trump considers a cornerstone policy on immigration.

In the border wall case, much of the money has already been spent and wall constructed. It is unclear what could be done about wall that has already been built if the administration loses, but it could conceivably be torn down. Biden has said he would cease wall construction if elected but would not tear down what was built under Trump's watch.

The court has allowed both policies to continue even after they were held illegal by lower courts, a sign the challengers could face long odds when the justices ultimately decide the cases.

The Trump administration policy known informally as "Remain in Mexico" began in January 2019. It became a key pillar of the administration's response to an unprecedented surge of asylum-seeking families from Central American countries at the border, drawing criticism for having people wait in highly dangerous Mexican cities.

Lower courts found that the policy is probably illegal. But earlier this year the Supreme Court stepped in to allow the policy to remain in effect while a lawsuit challenging it plays out in the courts.

More than 60,000 asylum-seekers were returned to Mexico under the policy. The Justice Department estimated in late February that there were 25,000 people still waiting in Mexico for hearings in U.S. court. Those hearings were suspended because of the coronavirus pandemic.

In a statement after the high court agreed to take the case, Department of Justice spokeswoman Alexa Vance said the administration is pleased the court agreed to hear the case, calling the program "a critical component of our efforts to manage the immigration crisis on our Southern Border."

Judy Rabinovitz, an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, which is challenging the policy, called the policy "illegal and depraved."

"The courts have repeatedly ruled against it, and the Supreme Court should as well," she said in a statement.

The high court also agreed to hear the Trump administration's appeal of a lower court ruling that it im-

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properly diverted money to build portions of the border wall with Mexico.

The high court has previously allowed construction to continue, even after a federal appeals court ruled in June that the administration had illegally sidestepped Congress in transferring \$2.5 billion in Defense Department funds.

Dissenting from a July order that allowed construction to continue, Justice Stephen Breyer wrote that the court's action "I fear, may operate, in effect, as a final judgment."

The case has its origins in the 35-day partial government shutdown that started in December of 2018. Trump ended the shutdown after Congress gave him approximately \$1.4 billion in border wall funding, but that was far less than the \$5.7 billion he was seeking. Trump then declared a national emergency to take cash from other government accounts to use to construct sections of the wall.

At the time, the money Trump identified included \$2.5 billion in Defense Department money, \$3.6 billion from military construction funds and \$600 million from the Treasury Department's asset forfeiture fund.

The case before the Supreme Court involves just the \$2.5 billion in Defense Department funds. The administration has already built 115 of the 129 miles of border wall that is funded by that money. That includes sections in California, Arizona, New Mexico and west Texas.

Associated Press reporter Elliot Spagat contributed to this report from San Diego.

## Report showing gains in bank access overshadowed by COVID

By KEN SWEET AP Business Writer  
CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) —

More Americans than ever obtained a basic bank account in 2019, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. said Monday. But data was gathered before the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic and start of this historic recession.

But the agency noted that the loss of jobs and incomes due to the pandemic in 2020 likely reversed these positive trends.

The FDIC study looks at the unbanked — Americans who do not have a basic checking or savings account — and the reasons why these individuals are outside the traditional bank system. While a small number of Americans choose not to have a bank account due to their distrust of the banking system, most unbanked are in poverty and more likely to be Black and Latino, a remnant of the systemic racism that plagues the financial system.

The FDIC estimates that 5.4% of Americans in 2019 were considered unbanked, a record low for that metric since the report started in 2009, down from 6.5% in 2017 which is when the FDIC looked at the unbanked. That is equal to roughly 7.1 million households, the FDIC said.

The 5.4% figure does not tell the full story, mostly because racial and ethnic minorities are disproportionately more likely to be unbanked. The FDIC study shows only 2.5% of white households are unbanked, while 13.8% of Black households and 12.2% of Hispanic households are considered unbanked. Roughly one out of four households making less than \$15,000 a year do not have a bank account.

The FDIC was unable to give an estimate on how much the COVID pandemic has moved banked Americans into the unbanked, but it almost certain that figure is climbing currently. The Great Recession caused millions of Americans to lose their bank account, and the number of unbanked hit a record high of 8.2% in 2011 in the aftermath of the financial crisis. Further the pandemic has caused job losses mostly for workers who need to be physically present for their jobs — restaurant workers, bartenders, theater workers, those working in retail, etc. Many of these jobs are lower paying and have fewer steady paychecks compared to the typically white-collar office worker now working remotely.

"Taken together, these data suggest that the unbanked rate is likely to rise from its level just before the pandemic," the FDIC said in its report.

The unbanked have significant and costly disadvantages in their everyday lives compared to the banked. Routine payments to landlords, utility companies, or sending money to friends and family often requires using expensive check cashing or money transfer services. Further, being unbanked makes it more difficult



to get quick access to government programs, including the \$1,200 stimulus payments that came earlier this year from the stimulus bill.

## How will the 2020 election affect control of Congress?

By The Associated Press undefined

Q: HOW WILL THE ELECTION AFFECT CONTROL OF CONGRESS?

The makeup of Congress will be determined by the general election, with both parties needing a majority to control the House or Senate.

Democrats seem to have a good chance at winning a Senate majority, while their control of the House is not in serious doubt.

Republicans hold the Senate 53-47. Democrats must gain at least three seats to win control, or four if President Donald Trump is reelected and Vice President Mike Pence can break a tie.

Only one-third of the 100 Senate seats up are for reelection since senators serve six-year terms. This year, 35 Senate seats are up for grabs, and around a dozen GOP-held seats and two Democratic-held seats seem competitive.

In the 435-member House, Democrats are the ones defending the majority. Republicans currently hold 197 House seats and need 218 to win control. There are also four open seats that had been held by Republicans until they resigned and left office earlier this year.

A shift to mail voting is increasing the chances that Americans will not know which party won the White House on election night, Nov. 3., and it could also delay a final call on control of the Senate. But that doesn't mean the results will be fraudulent.

Election officials in some key battleground states have warned that it might take days to count the votes given what they expect will be a surge of ballots sent by mail.

## Pandemic air travel milestone; 1 million passengers screened

By MATT OTT AP Business Writer

SILVER SPRING, Md. (AP) — The number of passengers screened in a single day for flights in the U.S. topped one million for the first time since COVID-19 infections began to spike last March.

The notable milestone, reached Sunday, signifies both the progress made since the darkest days of pandemic for the devastated U.S. airline industry, when fewer than 100,000 people were screened per day in April, and how far it still has to go.

The million plus passengers screened Sunday compares with 2.6 million on the same day last year, or roughly 60% fewer, according to the Transportation Security Administration.

The TSA said that the 6.1 million passengers at U.S. checkpoints the week of Oct. 12 through Oct. 18 was the greatest volume measured since the start of the pandemic.

Vacation plans and business trips were frozen in the spring as millions took shelter. With so little known about the virus, few wanted to board planes or walk through an airport even if they could.

Airlines received \$50 billion in cash and loans from Congress in March on the condition that they held off on layoffs at least through October. Airlines are now warning of mass layoffs while lobbying Congress and the White House for another \$25 billion to pay workers for the next six months.

The point at which Congress can deliver broader coronavirus relief before the November election is slipping away. The gap between what is being sought by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and her Senate Republican rivals and President Donald Trump seems increasingly insurmountable.

Southwest Airlines, which has never laid off employees in its roughly 50-year history, warned this month that it will cut pay for nonunion workers in January and that union workers must also accept less pay or face furloughs next year.

And while passenger numbers are increasing, no one knows if that trend will continue. Infections are spiking in the Midwest and stubbornly holding in place or edging higher in other parts of the country as

colder weather settles in.

## Thai authorities seek to censor coverage of student protests

By GRANT PECK and CHRIS BLAKE Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Thai authorities worked Monday to stem a growing tide of protests calling for the prime minister to resign by threatening to censor news coverage, raiding a publishing house and attempting to block the Telegram messaging app used by demonstrators.

The efforts by Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha's government to drain the student-led protests of support and the ability to organize comes as demonstrations have grown in the capital and spread around the country, despite an emergency decree, which bans public gatherings of more than four people in Bangkok, outlaws news said to affect national security and gives authorities broad power to detain people.

Thousands of mostly young protesters massed in northern Bangkok on Monday evening, as they have in various locations in the capital over the past six days to push their demands, including a controversial call for reform of the monarchy. At one point, they raised their arms in unison and flashed a three-fingered salute, a sign of resistance borrowed from "The Hunger Games" movie series. As night fell, they held their cellphones up, and the points of light dotted the crowd.

Elsewhere, protesters gathered outside a prison where more than a dozen demonstrators were being held.

The protesters charge that Prayuth, an army commander who led a 2014 coup, was returned to power unfairly in last year's general election because laws had been changed to favor a pro-military party. The protesters say a constitution written and passed under military rule is undemocratic.

But their more recent demand for checks and balances on the monarchy has deeply angered conservative Thais — and broken a taboo since the monarchy is considered sacrosanct and tough laws protecting it from insult mean its role is not usually discussed openly. It has also raised the risk of confrontation in a country where calls for political change have a history of being met with military intervention or even violence.

Authorities have used water canons to disperse protesters in recent days and detained some. Several protest leaders who were arrested for trying to stage an overnight rally last week outside the prime minister's office were freed by an appeals court Monday. Protest-related charges are still pending against them.

Authorities are now increasingly turning to censorship to try to clamp down on the demonstrations after protesters heckled a royal motorcade last week in a once unthinkable scene.

With protests continuing, a top official with the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission confirmed reports that the agency had been ordered to block access to the messaging app Telegram. Suthisak Tantayothin said it was talking with internet service providers about doing so, but so far the encrypted messaging app favored by many demonstrators around the world was still available in the country.

Police also searched the office of a publishing house that handles books by Thai and foreign scholars with sometimes controversial perspectives. Same Sky publishing house said police took away copies of three titles that had been sold at a recent book fair in a bundle it called Monarchy Studies, and asked their publisher to come for questioning at their station.

Deputy police spokesman Kissana Phatarachoen also confirmed an order signed by the chief of police that could allow officials to block access to news sites that give what he called "distorted information."

Under existing laws, the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission and the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society are empowered to ban broadcasts and block internet content. Police themselves can also do so under the emergency decree, which went into effect Oct. 15.

Kissana spoke after a leaked copy of the censorship request circulated on social media. The order calls for blocking access to the online sites of Voice TV, The Reporters, The Standard, Prachatai, and Free Youth, and removing their existing content. It also proposes a ban on Voice TV's over-the-air digital broadcasts.

All the outlets have been broadcasting live coverage of the protests. Voice TV and Prachatai are openly sympathetic to the protest movement, and Free Youth is a student protest organization. As of Monday, none had been blocked. At least one local cable TV provider, however, has been censoring international

news broadcasts during their segments on the Thai protests.

The Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand said it was "deeply concerned" by the censorship threat, adding that it "makes the government appear heavy-handed and unresponsive to criticism, and could stir up even more public anger."

"Bona fide journalists should be allowed to report important developments without the threat of bans, suspensions, censorship or prosecution hanging over them," the club said in a statement.

Despite the spread of protests outside the capital, Prayuth, the prime minister, told reporters the state of emergency will remain only in Bangkok for now.

In addition the emergency decree making protests illegal, authorities have also tried in vain to keep people from gathering by selectively shutting down stations on Bangkok's mass transit lines. It has also warned that it will take legal action against those who promote the protests on social media, including by taking photographs there or checking into them on social media apps.

Despite that, protest-related hashtags remain the most used on Twitter.

One of the many student groups involved in organizing the protests, Free Youth, recently said its Facebook account might soon be blocked and asked people to sign up for Telegram. Within about a day, it had 200,000 subscribers on the app.

Prayuth said Monday that the government is open to an extraordinary session of Parliament to seek a solution to the current situation. It was not clear when that might be held.

## Some states allow ballots if voters die before Election Day

By CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — At 90 years old and living through a global pandemic, Hannah Carson knows time may be short. She wasted no time returning her absentee ballot for this year's election.

As soon as it arrived at her senior living community, she filled it out and sent it back to her local election office in Charlotte, North Carolina. If something were to happen and she doesn't make it to Election Day, Carson said she hopes her ballot will remain valid.

"I should think I should count, given all the years I have been here," she said.

In North Carolina, a ballot cast by someone who subsequently dies can be set aside if a challenge is filed before Election Day with the county board of elections.

Questions over whether ballots will count if someone votes early but dies before Election Day are especially pressing this year, amid a coronavirus outbreak that has been especially perilous for older Americans. People 85 years and older represent nearly one in three deaths from COVID-19 in the U.S. As an election looms, the odds against older people who contract the virus are on the minds of the elderly and their family members.

Seventeen states prohibit counting ballots cast by someone who subsequently dies before the election, but 10 states specifically allow it. The law is silent in the rest of the country, according to research by the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Even though a law might require such ballots to be rejected, it's likely that some could still count depending on when the person dies and when election officials find out about the death.

"The law may say that the ballot of a person who dies in that situation can't be counted, but it is a hard law to follow," said Wendy Underhill, head of elections for the National Conference of State Legislatures.

When someone dies close to an election, it takes time for death records to be updated, and there is a narrow window between when a ballot is cast and counted. Colorado in 2016 had between 15 and 20 instances of voters who cast a ballot by mail and then died before Election Day. All were counted.

In Michigan's primary earlier this year, 864 ballots were rejected because the voters died before the election even though they were alive when they filled them out.

The president's son Donald Trump Jr. tweeted a link to a story about the dead voters in Michigan that was later debunked for misrepresenting the issue. With President Trump making unsubstantiated claims of voter fraud, the question of whether ballots will count if early voters die soon after could be a source

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of further conspiracies.

Studies have shown that voter fraud is exceptionally rare. There are numerous safeguards built into the system to ensure that only voters eligible to vote can do so and that they cast only one ballot. Election officials say that when fraud does happen, people are caught and prosecuted.

"There have been umpteen examples of some group claiming a whole bunch of people casting ballots after they died," said Justin Levitt, an election law expert who has studied voter fraud in depth. "These things don't pan out."

In most cases, claims of dead voters are based on poor information or a faulty analysis that fails to account for the many people who share the same name and birthdate, Levitt said.

In an exceptionally small number of cases, there is fraud. Levitt said this typically involves someone wanting to honor the wishes of a loved one who recently died and either knowingly or not commits a crime by filling out that ballot.

An election judge from southern Illinois was charged in 2016 with voter fraud after she filled out a ballot for her late husband because she said he would have wanted Trump to be president.

In California, it's an issue of fairness to count ballots cast by people who then die before Election Day, Secretary of State Alex Padilla said. He said it's just as conceivable that someone who votes early in-person also dies before Election Day, and there is no way to identify and reject that ballot.

"The 'dead voters' is used as a false narrative, a pretext for changes in some states to how they register voters or count ballots when the data shows otherwise," Padilla said.

Wisconsin, which like North Carolina is a presidential battleground this year, is among the states that prohibit a ballot from being counted if the voter dies after submitting it. Every month, the state's election commission receives records of county death certificates, and those records are run against the statewide voter registration system.

Any potential matches are flagged to the local clerk where the voter is registered, and the clerk is responsible for verifying the match by looking to obituaries and other sources before changing the voter's status, said Reid Magney, Wisconsin Election Commission spokesman. But that also has its limits.

"There's no way to check every absentee ballot to make sure the voter hasn't died since it was issued," Magney said.

Iowa's election office also receives death records and processes them as they are received, including on Election Day. If a person dies after requesting or returning an absentee ballot, the ballot is voided and not counted, said Kevin Hall, spokesman for Iowa's secretary of state.

"Voters have to be eligible electors on Election Day," Hall said. "Even though Iowa had 29 days of absentee voting, there is still only one Election Day."

AP's Advance Voting guide brings you the facts about voting early, by mail or absentee from each state: <https://interactives.ap.org/advance-voting-2020/>.

## As virus flares globally, new strategies target hot spots

By JENNIFER PELTZ Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — After entire nations were shut down during the first surge of the coronavirus earlier this year, some countries and U.S. states are trying more targeted measures as cases rise again around the world, especially in Europe and the Americas.

New York's new round of virus shutdowns zeroes in on individual neighborhoods, closing schools and businesses in hot spots measuring just a couple of square miles.

Spanish officials limited travel to and from some parts of Madrid before restrictions were widened throughout the capital and some suburbs.

Italian authorities have sometimes quarantined spots as small as a single building.

While countries including Israel and the Czech Republic have reinstated nationwide closures, other governments hope smaller-scale shutdowns can work this time, in conjunction with testing, contact tracing

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and other initiatives they've now built up.

The concept of containing hot spots isn't new, but it's being tested under new pressures as authorities try to avoid a dreaded resurgence of illness and deaths, this time with economies weakened from earlier lockdowns, populations chafing at the idea of renewed restrictions and some communities complaining of unequal treatment.

Confirmed world coronavirus infections surpassed 40 million, according to a Johns Hopkins University tally early Monday.

Some scientists say a localized approach, if well-tailored and explained to the public, can be a nimble response at a complex point in the pandemic.

"It is pragmatic in appreciation of 'restriction fatigue' ... but it is strategic, allowing for mobilization of substantial resources to where they are needed most," says Dr. Wafaa El-Sadr, who is following New York City's efforts closely and is on some city advisory boards.

Other scientists are warier.

"If we're serious about wiping out COVID in an area, we need coordinated responses across" as wide a swath as possible, says Benjamin Althouse, a research scientist with the Institute for Disease Modeling in Washington state.

In a study that has been posted online but not published in a journal or reviewed by independent experts, Althouse and other scientists found that amid patchwork coronavirus-control measures in the U.S. this spring, some people traveled farther than usual for such activities as worship, suggesting they might have responded to closures by hopscotching to less-restricted areas.

Still, choosing between limited closures and widespread restrictions is "a very, very difficult decision," Althouse notes. "I'm glad I'm not the one making it."

Early in the outbreak, countries tried to quell hot spots from Wuhan, China — where a stringent lockdown was seen as key in squelching transmission in the world's most populous nation — to Italy, where a decision to seal off 10 towns in the northern region of Lombardy evolved within weeks into a nationwide lockdown.

After the virus's first surge, officials fought flare-ups with city-sized closures in recent months in places from Barcelona, Spain, to Melbourne, Australia.

In the English city of Leicester, nonessential shops were shut down and households banned from mixing in late June.

The infection rate fell, dropping from 135 cases per 100,000 to around 25 cases per 100,000 in about two months.

Proponents took that as evidence localized lockdowns work. Skeptics argued that summertime transmission rates were generally low anyway in the United Kingdom, where the official coronavirus death toll of over 43,000 stands as Europe's highest, according to figures compiled by Johns Hopkins University.

With infection levels and deaths rising anew in Britain, scientists have advised officials to implement a national, two-week lockdown. Instead, the government on Monday carved England into three tiers of coronavirus risk, with restrictions ranging accordingly.

"As a general principle, the targeting of measures to specific groups or geographical areas is preferable to one-size-fits-all measures, because they allow us to minimize the damage that social distancing inevitably imposes on society and the economy," said Flavio Toxvaerd, who specializes in economic epidemiology at the University of Cambridge.

The damage doesn't feel so minimal to Steven Goldstein, who had to close his New York City men's hat shop last week.

The 72-year-old business, Bencraft Hatters, is in one of a handful of small areas around the state with new restrictions. Authorities hope they'll avert a wider crisis in a state that beat back the deadliest spike in the U.S. this spring, losing over 33,000 people to date.

Goldstein takes the virus seriously — he said he and his mother both had it early on — and he sees the economic rationale behind trying local restrictions instead of another citywide or statewide shutdown.

But he questions whether the zones are capturing all the trouble spots, and he's rankled that the restrictions are falling on his shop after, he says, he faithfully enforced mask-wearing and other rules.

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"I did my part, and a lot of other people did our part, and yet we're being forced to close," said Goldstein, 53, who tapped into savings to sustain the third-generation business through the earlier shutdown.

In New York's most restricted "red zones," houses of worship can't admit more than 10 people at a time and schools and nonessential businesses have been closed. Those zones are ensconced in small orange and yellow zones with lighter restrictions.

Some researchers, however, say officials need to consider not just where people live, but where else they go. In New York City, people can escape restrictions entirely by taking the subway one or two stops.

"There's room for improvement by taking into account some spillovers across neighborhoods," says John Birge, a University of Chicago Booth School of Business operations research professor. He, colleague Ozan Candogan and Northwestern University graduate student Yiding Feng have been modeling how localized restrictions in New York City could best minimize both infections and economic harm; the research hasn't yet been reviewed by other experts.

If hot spot measures can be strategic, they also have been criticized as unfairly selective.

In Brooklyn, Orthodox Jews have complained their communities are being singled out for criticism. In Madrid, residents of working-class areas under mobility restrictions said authorities were stigmatizing the poor. Restaurant and bar owners in Marseille, France, said the city was unfairly targeted last month for the nation's toughest virus rules at the time. As of Saturday, several French cities, including Paris and Marseille, were subject to restrictions including a 9 p.m. curfew.

When an apartment complex housing mostly Bulgarian migrant farm workers was locked down in late June in the Italian city of Mondragone, the workers protested, and about a dozen broke the quarantine.

Other denizens of Mondragone feared infection would spread and, at one point, surrounded the buildings and jeered at the residents, one of whom tossed down a chair. Eventually, authorities called in the army to maintain the quarantine and keep the peace.

For hot spot shutdowns to work, public health experts say, the message behind the measures is key.

"Lead with: 'Here's a community in need. ... We should be empathetic,'" said Rutgers University epidemiology and biostatistics professor Henry F. Raymond. "It's not a criticism of those people's behaviors. It's just saying, 'These communities might need more attention.'"

Associated Press writers Pan Pylas in London, Nicole Winfield in Rome, Sylvie Corbet in Paris and Aritz Parra in Madrid contributed.

## 'Our house is on fire': Suburban women lead charge vs. Trump

By CLAIRE GALOFARO AP National Writer

TROY, Mich. (AP) — She walks with the determination of a person who believes the very fate of democracy might depend on the next door she knocks on, head down, shoulders forward. She wears nothing fussy, the battle fatigues of her troupe: yoga pants and sneakers. She left her Lincoln Aviator idling in the driveway, the driver door open -- if this house wasn't the one to save the nation, she can move quickly to the next.

For most of her life, until 2016, Lori Goldman had been politically apathetic. Had you offered her \$1 million, she says, she could not have described the branches of government in any depth. She voted, sometimes.

Now every moment she spends not trying to rid America of President Donald Trump feels like wasted time.

"We take nothing for granted," she tells her canvassing partner. "They say Joe Biden is ahead. Nope. We work like Biden is behind 20 points in every state."

Goldman spends every day door knocking for Democrats in Oakland County, Michigan, an affluent Detroit suburb. She feels responsible for the country's future: Trump won Michigan in 2016 by 10,700 votes and that helped usher him into the White House. Goldman believes people like her -- suburban white women -- could deliver the country from another four years of chaos.

For many of those women, the past four years have meant frustration, anger and activism — a political awakening that powered women's marches, the #MeToo movement and the victories of record numbers

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of female candidates in 2018. That energy has helped create the widest gender gap — the political divide between men and women — in recent history. And it has started to show up in early voting as women are casting their ballots earlier than men. In Michigan, women have cast nearly 56% of the early vote so far, and 68% of those were Democrats, according to the voting data firm L2.

That could mean trouble for Trump, not just in Oakland County but also in suburban battlegrounds outside Milwaukee, Philadelphia and Phoenix.

Trump has tried to appeal to “the suburban housewives of America,” as he called them. Embracing fear and deploying dog whistles, he has argued that Black Lives Matter protesters will bring crime, low-income housing will ruin property values, suburbs will be abolished. Campaigning in Pennsylvania last week, he begged: “Suburban women, will you please like me?”

There’s no sign all this is working. Some recent polls show Biden winning support from about 60% of suburban women. In 2016, Democrat Hillary Clinton won 52%, according to an estimate by the Pew Research Center.

Talk to women across suburban Michigan, and you’ll find ample confirmation: the lifelong Republican who says her party has been commandeered by cowards. The Black executive who fears for the safety of her sons. The Democrat who voted for Trump in 2016 but now describes him as “a terrible person.”

Together, they create a powerful political force.

Goldman started her group, Fems for Dems, in early 2016 by sending an email to a few hundred friends that said she planned to help elect the first female president and asked if they’d like to join her. Four years later, their ranks have swelled to nearly 9,000.

There is one thing Goldman gives Trump credit for. He stormed into the White House on pure guts and bombast, unwilling to acknowledge failure, averse to saying sorry. Those are not natural traits for most women who’ve absorbed societal expectations to please and be polite, she says. But she dug deep within herself to find some hint of them.

A married real estate agent with 12-year-old triplets and a 23-year-old daughter, she became simultaneously the stereotype of a suburban woman and its antithesis: She lives in a 6,000-square-foot home with seven bathrooms, and drinks Aperol spritzers. She also peppers almost every sentence with curse words and no longer gives one damn what people think.

“I hate the saying, ‘When they go low, we go high.’ That’s loser talk,” she says. “You can be right all day, but if you’re not winning, what’s the point?”

And it’s worked: She described her coalition to a newspaper once as “a bunch of dumpy, middle-aged housewives,” and a few got mad at her, but far more joined.

But she is terrified that the constant cycle of crises has left many women exhausted and that could stall this leftward lurch. The nation is reeling from a pandemic and protests, the death of a revered Supreme Court justice, the hospitalization of the president, a foiled plot to kidnap Michigan’s governor.

“Our house is on fire,” Goldman says, and so she steers her SUV to the next door on the cul de sac.

Oakland County stretches from the edge of Detroit more than 30 miles, through moneyed subdivisions, quaint small towns and swanky shopping districts, into rural stretches with dirt roads and horse pastures. Goldman has covered nearly every inch of it.

Although Clinton won here in 2016, she won fewer votes than Barack Obama four years earlier, while the third-party vote soared. If Clinton had matched Obama’s total, Oakland County alone might have cut Trump’s margin of victory in Michigan by more than half.

But in 2018, some political scientists described it as the epicenter of a major political shift as women turned on Republicans.

“Women are pragmatic voters,” said Michigan’s Democratic governor, Gretchen Whitmer. “We care about our kids. We care about our parents. We care about economic security. And so candidates who stand up for those values and show that they can be good, decent human beings is something I know resonates. And I think this moment, with this White House, that is more acute than ever.”

Whitmer nearly doubled Clinton’s margin in Oakland County in 2018. That same year, Democrat Elissa

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Slotkin flipped a congressional seat that was under Republican control for almost 20 years.

Some of Slotkin's strongest supporters were Republican women.

Nancy Strole, a longtime elected township clerk in the rural northern part of the county, had not been able to bring herself to vote for Trump. She considers herself an "old-fashioned kind of Republican." She hasn't changed, she said — her party was "hijacked."

"It's not just Trump," she said. "It wouldn't happen unless there are others who acquiesced and were willing to go along with it either by their silence, by their lack of will, by their lack of courage."

When Trump began his presidency by undermining international alliances and routinely denigrating people, she grew frustrated that Republicans did nothing about it.

Strole said she called her congressman, Mike Bishop, and never heard back. Meanwhile, Slotkin, a former CIA analyst, announced her bid against Bishop. Her reason for running jibed with Strole's growing consternation: She had watched Bishop stand by at the White House, smiling, as Republicans worked to gut the Affordable Care Act.

In a lifetime as a Republican, Strole had never volunteered for a congressional campaign. But she knocked on 1,000 doors for Slotkin.

Andrea Moore, by contrast, was raised in a Democratic family. But she voted for Trump because she was fed up with career politicians who seemed interested only in money and power.

"He was an unknown quantity, but now we know," said Moore, 45, who lives in a suburban community in Wayne County.

She can't remember the precise moment she decided she'd made a mistake. It felt like a toxic relationship: You can make excuses for a while, but eventually disgust settles in.

"A million little things," she said — the rapid-fire attacks on people, divisiveness, fear mongering. "They just kind of piled up."

She can't understand how anyone could support Trump after his response to his own bout with COVID-19 — how he flouted masks and held rallies, downplayed the threat, failed to acknowledge that he had access to treatments that others don't, she said. All this when more than 219,000 Americans have died.

Moore, a stay-at-home mom who home-schools her 9-year-old son, doesn't love Biden. But if the choice is between Trump and anyone else, she said, anyone else will do. She hopes the administration will be driven by Kamala Harris — a Black woman, the child of immigrants, young, sharp.

"It's been an old white guy's game for way too long," Moore said.

Trump's pitch to try to reclaim suburban female voters relies on an airbrushed version of America's past. He has warned that "Biden will destroy your neighborhood and your American dream." He revoked an Obama-era housing initiative meant to curtail racial segregation, claiming that property values would diminish, crime would rise and suburbs would "go to hell."

"I think if this were 1950, his message would be perfect," said Karyn Lacy, a sociologist at the University of Michigan. "The problem is it's not 1950."

Trump's description of the suburbs seems to Alison Jones like nostalgia for "a 'Leave it to Beaver' time" when people who look like her could not have lived in her subdivision, where no house costs less than \$1 million.

Now when Jones, a Black woman, sees Trump lawn signs, she wonders: Do her neighbors really want her here?

Suburbs like this were once exclusively white by design: The federal government long underwrote segregationist policies that kept Black families out. Even now, Oakland County remains very white, but not as white as it once was. In 1990, the county was 88% white. By 2019, that dropped to 71.5%.

Jones watched as Trump stood on a debate stage and declined to condemn white supremacy, telling a hate group to "stand back and stand by." She was a child in the South in the 1960s, when schools were integrating, and the message felt very familiar: It's us against them.

She fears for her two sons, maybe even more in this predominantly white community than she would in a city, she said. In 2018, a Black 14-year-old boy got lost not far from where she lives and knocked on



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a door to ask for directions. The white homeowner shot at him.

Jones believes the United States has reached a critical point. Police killings have exposed systemic racism, COVID-19 has disproportionately killed Black people, and they have borne the brunt of the economic fallout, too. "I think 2020 has opened the wounds, pulled back the curtain so we can see what's really here."

An executive at a Fortune 500 company, Jones moved here for the same reason as everybody else: good schools, secure property values, safety.

And like Jones, many women here work outside the home. Households aren't all as they were depicted when Beaver and Wally lived in the fictional town of Mayfield.

Linda Northcraft moved to Oakland County in 1997 for a job as a rector of an Episcopal church, and bought a home with her partner, Ellen Ehrlich.

Some in the congregation left. "Gay priest splits parish," the headline read. Skinheads protested in the parking lot. It was devastating, and some from their old church suggested maybe they should move back to Baltimore.

But they stayed, times changed, and they got married. Ehrlich said "my wife" recently to a stranger and reported back to Northcraft: "They didn't even blink an eye," she said. "It's become normal."

They became active in Democratic politics when Whitmer was running for governor. Before dinner, they pray for people sick from COVID-19, for Biden and Harris and, until recently, for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Ehrlich had been in a "mini state of depression." She's an extrovert and the shutdown to curtail the spread of the coronavirus had left her demoralized. But Ginsburg's death energized her. Without even speaking of it, they both understood the stakes: A stronger conservative majority on the Supreme Court could undo years of expanding protections for civil rights — including their own right to be married.

They sat down the next morning and made campaign donations to every Democrat they could think of.

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Lori Goldman doesn't enjoy knocking on strangers' doors, asking them to vote for Democrats.

She's hungry because she often doesn't take the time to eat. Her knee aches from a replacement surgery six months ago. Often the houses have Trump flags hanging from the porch rails.

"But this is war," she says, and she considers herself a street fighter.

People look at her and make assumptions, she said: a \$2 million house, fancy car, American Express black card that she always loses because she keeps it in her bra. But she grew up in a steel town not far away, one of six kids raised by a single mother, poor, dependent on government cheese.

Most of her family and childhood friends are Trump supporters, so she knows there are many whose minds she won't change.

Like Ally Scully, 27, who hesitantly voted for him in 2016. She believes in traditional small-government Republican ideals like tax cuts and supporting small business. She prayed over her decision and walked into the booth still unsure. Now she thinks he earned her vote again.

"I'm surprised to be saying that because I didn't think he would," she said. "I think it's just his willingness to go out on a limb, even if it was unpopular, that boldness has been remarkable."

She believes he's empowered women in his administration — including his own daughter — and thinks claims of his racism and sexism are overblown by the media. Scully, who now leads the county's young Republican club, acknowledges that many women have fled the GOP under Trump. But she also believes another, quieter contingent is going the other way.

Goldman worries that she's right.

But then again, some things have happened to spur more women to battle Trump.

Earlier this month, her phone started ringing one morning with call after call from women asking to knock on doors with her. The catalyst: Six men were charged with conspiring to kidnap Gov. Whitmer because of her "uncontrolled power."

Whitmer has been a persistent target of right-wing vitriol since she implemented a strict lockdown to try to contain the coronavirus. Thousands of men stormed into the Capitol with guns. Trump egged them on: "Liberate Michigan," he tweeted, dismissing Whitmer as "the woman from Michigan."

Whitmer felt it was her duty to publicly blame Trump. Most women, she said, have been on the receiv-

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ing end of belittling comments.

"I'm at a point in my life where I'm going to take it on every time," she said. "There's no room for it. I don't have time to waste. I have a job to do."

Women approached her at events to thank her, she said. Some said they were Republicans, tired of the divisiveness and determined to make a change.

Goldman heard the same thing. "It's because she's a woman who dared to speak up and so now a bunch of men are going to teach her a lesson," she said. "This is the violent version of mansplaining, and it's happened since Adam and Eve."

So Goldman conjures her Trumpian bluster. Sometimes she stands up in the middle of Starbucks and bellows, "Who here can't take it anymore? Who wants this guy out of office?"

Some fraction of the room will be furious, but that's OK with her, because some fraction will ask how they can help. Fems for Dems swells.

Her group has about 8,900 members. But that's not what Trump would say, so it's not what she does, either.

"Over 9,000," she says. "And growing."

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Associated Press journalists David Eggert, Hannah Fingerhut, Emily Swanson and Angeliki Kastanis contributed to this report.

## 2020 Watch: Debate a chance for Trump to generate momentum

By STEVE PEOPLES AP National Political Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Presidential politics move fast. What we're watching heading into a new week on the 2020 campaign:

Days to general election: 15

Days to next scheduled presidential debate: 3

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### THE NARRATIVE

President Donald Trump is openly contemplating the prospect of losing, while Democratic challenger Joe Biden is warning his supporters against overconfidence as the 2020 presidential election speeds into its closing days.

With more than 22 million votes already cast, Biden's lead in the national polls appears to be as strong as ever. His advantage in some battleground states, including Florida, is narrowing, but he's forced Trump on the defensive in states like Iowa and Georgia that Democrats six months ago didn't seriously expect to win.

While the campaigns appear to be moving in opposite directions on paper, it's a very different feeling on the campaign trail. Trump is drawing huge crowds reminiscent of 2016's final days, and Biden is sticking to his cautious approach with small events focused more on adhering to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's social distancing recommendations than energizing his supporters. He'll get a boost this week as former President Barack Obama hits the road on his behalf.

While there will be plenty of action, this week will center on Thursday's final debate, which may be Trump's last and best chance to change the direction of this election.

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### THE BIG QUESTIONS

Is the debate Trump's last chance to save himself?

We've certainly questioned the significance of debates in the past, but Thursday's faceoff in Nashville represents a huge opportunity for Trump to generate some badly needed momentum. There will be no moment before Election Day in which more persuadable voters are paying attention to the Republican president's message.

Trump cannot afford another bad performance. His angry and aggressive posture that marred the first debate was widely considered a blunder, and it helped Biden extend his polling advantage.

But there is also significant pressure on Biden. Given Trump's persistent questions about the 77-year-old

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former vice president's age and mental health — fair or unfair — Biden cannot afford to have a "senior moment" or anything like it on the biggest political stage of his life.

Will the new COVID-19 surge impact voting?

Two weeks before Election Day, coronavirus infections are surging to their highest levels since July. At least 10 states reported their highest single-day number of infections ever over the weekend, and some health experts are predicting the possibility of 100,000 daily U.S. infections in the near future.

This is bad news for the nation on multiple fronts, and it adds a new layer of uncertainty to an election already plagued by ballot access questions. From a policy and political perspective, this is more evidence of Trump's failure to control the nation's worst health crisis in a century. But given the timing, it also raises real questions about whether voters might alter their behavior to protect themselves.

Early voting numbers have been on pace to shatter records so far. It's unclear to what extent that will continue and whether a surge of mail balloting might add stress to a patchwork elections system already stretched to its limit. Many people are ultimately expecting a massive turnout once all the votes are counted, but pollsters will tell you that's far from guaranteed.

What happened to the Republicans' money?

Whether he wins or loses, Trump's struggle to manage his campaign finances is a major factor shaping the election's final stretch. Over the next two weeks, Trump and his allies focused on the presidential election are being outspent on political advertising \$70.7 million to the Democrats' \$141.3 million, according to the media tracking firm Kantar/CMAG.

That disadvantage for an incumbent has never happened in the modern era. And it's forcing Trump to make painful decisions when he can least afford them.

Facing a cash shortfall, Trump has largely retreated from TV advertising in the Midwest, shifting much of his campaign's advertising investments to states such as Florida, North Carolina, Arizona and Georgia, as well as Pennsylvania.

Is complacency a real concern for Democrats?

There's no doubt that the most passionate partisans in both parties are fervently engaged this fall. There is doubt, however, whether infrequent voters — including young people and African Americans who typically support Democrats — will feel the same urgency to show up given the possibility that Biden could score a blowout victory.

Fears of complacency prompted Biden campaign manager Jen O'Malley Dillon to issue a memo over the weekend reminding would-be supporters of similar dynamics that shaped the final weeks of the 2016 election.

"The reality is that this race is far closer than some of the punditry we're seeing on Twitter and on TV would suggest," O'Malley Dillon wrote. "If we learned anything from 2016, it's that we cannot underestimate Donald Trump or his ability to claw his way back into contention in the final days of a campaign, through whatever smears or underhanded tactics he has at his disposal."

## THE FINAL THOUGHT

We were struck by the dramatically different pace of the Trump and Biden campaigns over the weekend. Trump has always been the more aggressive campaigner, but we expected Biden to pick it up eventually. Not so much.

On Saturday, for example, Biden was down all day. Trump campaigned in Michigan and Wisconsin and finished his day in Nevada. Only two more Saturdays remain before Election Day, in case anyone is counting.

Biden will get some help from Obama this week, and running mate Kamala Harris has an aggressive schedule as well. Biden also has a major advertising advantage, as we mentioned above. But if Biden ultimately loses this election, he may not be able to say he left it all out on the field.

AP's Advance Voting guide brings you the facts about voting early, by mail or absentee from each state: <https://interactives.ap.org/advance-voting-2020/>.

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## Facing terror charges, ETA's last boss apologizes for deaths

By ARITZ PARRA and ANGELA CHARLTON Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — The last known chief of ETA, the now-extinct Basque separatist militant group, was back in court Monday in Paris to face terrorism charges that he deems “absurd” because of his role in ending a conflict that claimed hundreds of lives and terrorized Spain for half a century.

Josu Urrutikoetxea led ETA during one of its bloodiest periods, when its victims included children bombed to death while sleeping in a Zaragoza police compound, where a monument to their stolen lives now stands. In a rare interview after 17 years on the run, he offered an apology, advised other separatist movements against resorting to violence and painted himself as a changed man.

That's a preposterous claim to those who lost loved ones to ETA's violence, which caused around 850 deaths and thousands of injuries and hijacked the Basque and Spanish political debate for decades. Just because he oversaw ETA's end in 2018, they stress, that doesn't erase his past.

A judge at the Paris appeal court on Monday postponed the first of two back-to-back trials to February next year because some of the witnesses couldn't make it to Monday's hearing because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Spanish anti-terrorism investigators have depicted him as a bloodthirsty advocate of violence who only opportunistically pursued negotiations after police crackdowns and a shrinking support base from Basque separatists weakened ETA.

Now 69, diminished by a battle with cancer and facing the prospect of spending the twilight of a life devoted to Basque independence behind bars, the man widely known by his police alias Josu Ternera, or “The Calf,” says he's sorry for the “irreparable damage” caused by ETA violence as it sought to build an independent state straddling the Pyrenees mountains between Spain and France.

But even when he admits regrets, he adds a caveat.

Asked if he would apologize to ETA victims' families, he told The Associated Press: “Of course, (I offer) apologies for something that we can't repair.”

But he insisted Basque's independence movement suffered, too, from violence rooted in the Spanish dictatorship that ended more than four decades ago, and mainly from rogue groups within the Spanish government that in the 1980s tortured and killed nearly 30 ETA members and other militants.

“The Basque country was entering into a black hole” of cultural repression, Urrutikoetxea said, “and we had to do the maximum to pull it out.”

Some of ETA's victims said they want more than apologies; they want him to face justice.

“I don't seek revenge against Josu Ternera,” said Lucía Ruiz, who was 10 when she was injured in the 1987 blast targeting military police barracks in Zaragoza, where she lived with her father, a civil guard. “But this gentleman tried to kill me and I want for him to pay a price for it. It's my right as a Spanish citizen.”

Since his long-awaited arrest last year, Urrutikoetxea has been on a campaign to shed the terrorist label and rebrand himself as a repentant, aging peacemaker.

Amid growing international support, he won conditional release in July pending trial, after lawyers argued his poor health made him vulnerable to contracting coronavirus. He's now staying with a professor friend near Paris' Place de la Republique where he is trying to get a college diploma and is allowed out a few hours a day with an electronic bracelet.

In a petition published Saturday, former Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams, academic social critic Noam Chomsky, separatist Catalan ex-president Carles Puigdemont and more than 250 other intellectuals called for France and Spain to end Urrutikoetxea's “outrageous and intolerable” prosecution.

By putting him on trial, they argue, “France is implicitly criminalizing all negotiators and calling into question all current and future peace processes in the world.”

But across the Pyrenees, those calls are rejected by the vast majority of Spain's political mainstream. Spanish newspaper El Mundo described what it called “an operation to whitewash” him. Survivors of violent attacks and relatives of ETA's victims say the campaign humiliates them.

Ruiz and Spanish authorities believe that Urrutikoetxea, as ETA's leader, either approved or knew about the car that, loaded with dynamite, exploded under her window at the Zaragoza Civil Guard headquarters

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where she lived with her father, mother and sister.

Three ETA assailants were tried and imprisoned as the executors of the attack, which killed 11 people, including six minors, all of them her neighbors or acquaintances.

"He now presents himself as the country's savior," Ruiz said. It will be difficult to prove in court that he orchestrated the attack, she said, because "unfortunately these people don't leave a paper trail. But this gentleman is a murderer, with murder written in capital letters."

Urrutikoetxea denies any role, saying, "They want me to answer for something I had nothing to do with."

His life mirrors the trajectory of ETA, whose initials stand for "Basque Homeland and Freedom" in the Basque language and was created during Gen. Francisco Franco's 1939-1975 dictatorship.

He joined at 17 in 1968, the year of ETA's first deadly attack. Classified as a terrorist organization by the U.S. and several countries, ETA shot to international prominence in the 1970s amid attacks and kidnappings.

ETA's cause was politically and socially divisive inside Spain's Basque society and widely rejected across the rest of Spain. It had some significant support among separatist-minded Basques, but many other Basques were appalled by its tactics and silenced by the terror the group imposed.

Many Spaniards thought that ETA should have disbanded with the return of democracy to Spain after Franco's death in 1975, not continue its violent assault on the state and its citizens. ETA assassinated politicians, policemen and judges but also ordinary people; a car bomb attack in a Barcelona supermarket by ETA in 1987 killed 21 people and injured 45.

Urrutikoetxea led ETA in the late 1980s, was arrested in 1989 and spent the next 11 years behind bars in France and Spain. As ETA's violent methods lost sway, Urrutikoetxea served as a lawmaker in the Basque regional parliament and a negotiator in talks with Spanish envoys to try to end the group's activities.

Indicted for his alleged role in the Zaragoza attack while he was on a parliamentary visit to Switzerland in 2002, he was Spain's most-sought fugitive until his arrest outside a hospital in the French Alps in May 2019.

Ruiz said she dropped her coffee mug the morning her husband broke the news of Urrutikoetxea's arrest. Her phone started ringing and she didn't stop taking calls until late that night.

"At first, it was a tremendous joy thinking that he's no longer on the run," Ruiz said, adding that Urrutikoetxea could have information on more than 300 unresolved ETA killings.

Urrutikoetxea claims he was under quiet French police protection for years.

"You can't say I was living clandestinely," he said. "The French government was aware and was directly involved because they facilitated the possibility for me to travel" to peace talks in Switzerland and Norway, despite being on Interpol's most-wanted list.

France's Justice Ministry and Interior Ministry would not comment on his claims.

ETA gave up its arms in 2017, and Urrutikoetxea read the statement announcing ETA's final dismantling in an audio recording released on May 3, 2018.

"We had to reach the point of the end of confrontation and create the conditions and open the path to peace, whatever it cost ... for the generations to come," including his six grandchildren, he said.

Spanish and French authorities haven't forgotten ETA's past. Spain wants to try him for crimes against humanity, multiple killings and belonging to a terrorist organization.

In the meantime, he was facing justice this week for the first time in decades. Following his arrest, Urrutikoetxea appealed two convictions in absentia for "criminal association with a view to preparing a terrorist act," for which he was sentenced to 15 years total in prison.

A judge on Monday postponed to Feb. 22 and 23 the first case, for alleged attack plots in the 2000s. Another hearing is scheduled for Wednesday on the second case, for attacks in the 2010s.

"This accusation is for actions when I was preparing the ground to work toward a peace process. It's absurd that they want to judge me" for this, he said during the interview with the AP.

His lawyer plans to request a delay in Monday's trial for procedural reasons. Once the French trials end, France has agreed to extradite Urrutikoetxea to Spain, although his defense has appealed.

Despite some support in France for his cause, French President Emmanuel Macron has stressed ETA's "grave crimes," saying that "political reconciliation and renouncing weapons don't erase anything."

Ruiz, a prominent member of Spain's Association for Victims of Terrorism, rejects Urrutikoetxea's ped-

dling of himself as "a man of peace."

"He has never approached us to apologize, and even if he did I doubt I would pardon him. What I do want is to see him taking the stand in court," she said, standing at the site of ETA's attack on the Civil Guard.

Urrutikoetxea says victims are "politicized by the Spanish government," and prefers talking about the future.

"The pain is there, of the families," he said. "What will that remedy? Nothing at all ... you have to be ready to move forward."

For Gaizka Fernández Soldevilla, a historian with the Foundation and Memorial for Terrorism Victims in the Basque region's capital, Vitoria, the efforts to disband ETA should be treated separately from the blood crimes committed under those initials.

Basque society, he said, remains divided: "There is a part that wants to turn the page without having read it, and there is another side that wants to get a lesson for democracy out of it. To draw a conclusion, not to punish ourselves, but to try to heal the wounds and become a more coherent, cohesive society."

That won't happen, Fernández said, "if all that's done is to try to forget."

Aritz Parra reported from Zaragoza, Spain. Nicolas Vaux-Montagny in Lyon, France, and Jeff Schaeffer in Paris, contributed to this report.

## **A desk of their own to ease remote learning for kids in need**

By JESSIE WARDARSKI and PETER ORSI Associated Press

As remote schooling surged during the pandemic, parents across the country realized that many kids didn't have desks at home.

So they got busy building, collecting and donating them, giving hundreds or thousands of students workspaces to call their own and helping them get through long days of virtual learning.

For Mitch Couch in the Central California town of Lemoore, inspiration struck when his 16-year-old daughter and 9-year-old son kept taking over the kitchen table for their remote lessons. He made desks for them, and thought: Why not provide others' children with individual learning areas they could decorate with stickers and paint?

The desks he made were kid-size, simple and inexpensive, fashioned from plywood with a hutch for workbooks and papers. But they did the trick.

"I was like, you know what, I built these desks for like \$20," Couch said. "Maybe I can show other people how to do it. So I made a quick YouTube video" to guide fellow parents in Desk-Making 101.

A grocery store saw it online and offered to provide materials if he would build more. Managers contacted local school officials to help identify those in need. From the initial batch of a couple dozen, plans quickly ramped up to build at least 50 more, and on a recent day he was sawing and sanding with a driveway full of more than a dozen desks.

A single sheet of plywood, 4 feet by 8 feet, yields four desks. By now Couch is so practiced, he can knock one out in just about 15 minutes.

Neighbors stopped by to shake his hand. He's gotten thank-you messages and pictures from parents who said their kids were "doing better and focusing more because they have their own space now."

Like Couch, Marcus Holley of Omaha, Nebraska, started out making desks for his own children. Hardly a carpenter, the father of eight searched online and found a simple design for desks that cost about \$24 to build.

As he began making more for others and the price of wood increased, Holley launched an online fundraiser so the desks could be free to families. Initially a donor ponied up \$1,000, and after a local station ran a story about his initiative, donations reached some \$8,000.

Two friends have helped out a few times, but mostly Holley has been on his own in building the furniture for students, teachers, daycare centers — about 150 desks so far. Requests continued to roll in, with \$5,000 left in the account.

"Just do good and help others and love," Holley said.

In the D.C. suburb of Gaithersburg, Maryland, Jessica Berrellez was already involved in a project with other moms to provide virtual educational materials for kids in low-income families. The logical next step was supplies like headphones and whiteboards — and desks, of course.

Berrellez enlisted her husband, Al, who went to a big-box store to pick up materials, watched some online videos and built a prototype in about an hour at a cost of around \$40. At first they provided all the labor and funding, but soon it was more than two people with full-time jobs could handle.

They started a Facebook group, Desks by Dads, and others weighed in to help tweak and improve the design. Money now comes from donations. And some 60 desk-building volunteers, ranging from retirees to parents whose own kids got desks and are now giving back, have delivered 138 desks to underprivileged kids.

"Our greatest hope was that other people would step in and help," Berrellez said. "And it's happened."

"One Good Thing" is a series that highlights individuals whose actions provide glimmers of joy in hard times — stories of people who find a way to make a difference, no matter how small. Read the collection of stories at <https://apnews.com/hub/one-good-thing>

Associated Press religion coverage receives support from the Lilly Endowment through the Religion News Foundation. The AP is solely responsible for this content.

## Guitars played, partly made by Eddie Van Halen go to auction

By The Associated Press undefined

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Two guitars owned, played and partly designed by the late Eddie Van Halen will be going up for auction.

A 2004 EVH Charvel Art Series electric guitar and a customized electric guitar Van Halen built at his home studio with his guitar tech Matt Bruck and given to a friend in 1991 will be among the items for sale at the event dubbed "Icons & Idols Trilogy: Rock 'N' Roll," starting Dec. 5, Julien's Auctions announced Monday.

Both guitars were hand-stripped by Van Halen in the familiar style of most of his guitars dating back to the first Van Halen album in 1978. Each of the guitars is expected to fetch between \$60,000 and \$80,000.

The guitar legend and Rock and Roll Hall of Famer died of cancer on Oct. 6 at age 65.

The auction was in already in the works at the time.

"As we were preparing for our annual 'Icons & Idols: Rock and Roll' auction lineup, we were stunned to hear the sad news of Eddie Van Halen's passing last week," Julien's Auction's president Darren Julien said in a statement. "We are honored to include at this event two of his iconic guitars from his brilliant and blazing career as one of rock's greatest and most gifted guitar heroes."

The auction also includes a Fender Stratocaster played, and smashed, by Kurt Cobain on Nirvana's 1994 In Utero Tour, and a crystal-studded white glove worn by Michael Jackson on the Jackson brothers' 1984 Victory Tour.

## Glamorous Miami club caught in power struggle over the virus

By KELLI KENNEDY Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — At LIV, one of the most glamorous, star-studded nightclubs in one of the world's biggest party destinations, there's a velvet-roped VIP area, and then there's a secret VIP area. The parties at the club are so legendary they have inspired lyrics from Drake, Kanye West and Rick Ross. High rollers spend up to \$20,000 just for a table.

Today, LIV sits quiet and empty — a casualty not just of the coronavirus outbreak but of a power struggle between state and local government over how to contain the scourge.

On a recent Friday, the sleek black floors and curved silver snakeskin couches were a sad sight in the

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harsh light of day. A bottle of hand sanitizer rested on top of the DJ booth, where back in February a man shelled out \$120,000 just to sit there during a performance by Cardi B.

The puppeteer behind the parties and arguably the king of South Beach's nightlife scene, LIV owner David Grutman, stopped by a few months ago to look at new upholstery, but he mostly stays away from the club at the center of his hospitality empire.

"I cried real tears," the 46-year-old Grutman said of his last visit to the shuttered club and nightlife's seemingly bygone era. "It's really been my lifeblood."

Technically, LIV and Miami's other nightclubs could reopen at 50% capacity under an order issued Sept. 25 by Gov. Ron DeSantis. But Miami leaders have imposed a midnight curfew — a real buzzkill for a scene that doesn't even get started until the a.m. hours — and are restricting loud music so that people don't have to shout and risk spreading the virus through their spittle.

Also, a local mask ordinance requires patrons to keep their faces covered except while eating and drinking — though the governor has barred municipalities from collecting fines for violations.

"We take a more cautious approach here in Miami-Dade," Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez said recently. He warned: "We are still not out of the woods."

While a few small clubs in Miami have reopened, Grutman said that between the curfew and the continued risk of spreading the virus, he has no plans to open LIV or his other nightclub, Story.

"We're going to open it when we can give the right experience," he said. "I'm not into giving half-ass experiences."

Florida has seen more than 15,000 deaths from the pandemic. The Republican governor has been eager to jumpstart the economy, battered by shutdowns and other restrictions that have left hundreds of thousands unemployed in the tourist-dependent state.

Grutman has already been through a revolving door of openings and closings.

In addition to the clubs, he has several restaurants, including one he owns with the singer Pharrell, plus the celeb hangout Komodo. All of them were forced to close back in March by state and local authorities.

In June, the governor gave the go-ahead for restaurants to reopen at limited capacity. With bars still under shutdown orders, people were soon drinking heavily and dancing at Komodo and other late-night restaurants.

"We thought the world was back," Grutman said. "I was naive enough to think that we'd turned the corner."

But he voluntarily closed again after six weeks, as cases skyrocketed and South Florida became one of the nation's COVID-19 hot spots, with as many as 12,000 to 15,000 newly confirmed infections per day. Grutman said he didn't want to contribute to the spread, and he was also seeing a backlash from others in the industry.

"We were allowed to reopen and bars were not, yet people were drinking like crazy at our place, so it was one of those mixed-signal things. It built up a lot of animosity," he said.

On a recent Friday night at Komodo, Grutman dined with the Canadian singer The Weeknd, while former baseball star Alex Rodriguez sat nearby and supermodel Adriana Lima was at another table. Yet mask-wearing was strictly enforced, hand sanitizers were at every table, and the scene shut down promptly at 11 p.m.

Meanwhile, LIV, where stars like Justin Bieber and Jennifer Lopez have been known to give unpaid, impromptu performances, sits forlorn.

Before the pandemic, more than 10,000 partygoers visited each week, and those who couldn't get in hung out at the lobby bar of the Fontainebleau Hotel just to be close to the action.

On big weekends, LIV — pronounced like the woman's name Liv — raked in over \$1 million a night, more than half from champagne and the bling that accompanied the bottle presentations, including confetti cannons, nitrogen smoke plumes and scads of scantily dressed servers.

When the Kansas City Chiefs won the Super Bowl in Miami this year, the team spent the evening hoisting their trophy amid a spray of champagne and confetti on the dance floor at LIV. At a fashion show at LIV in 2009, Victoria's Secret supermodels strutted in their angel wings and barely-there lingerie.



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Grutman has fielded countless calls from DJs begging to be the first when the club reopens. Others have asked to host Zoom parties from LIV, but Grutman just isn't into it.

He is looking into five-minute rapid testing and putting ultraviolet disinfecting lights inside the vents but thinks it's unlikely big club events will be safe without a vaccine.

"Everybody has their own ideas of what's going to happen, second wave, no second wave," he said.

In the meantime, Grutman — the hype man, the energy pumper, the one injecting that party-all-the-time vibe — is missing out on the action, which has shifted to house parties.

"I'd rather be the ringmaster of it," he said.

## World struggles as confirmed COVID-19 cases pass 40 million

By MARIA CHENG AP Medical Writer

LONDON (AP) — The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases across the planet has surpassed 40 million, but experts say that is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the true impact of the pandemic that has upended life and work around the world.

The milestone was hit Monday morning, according to Johns Hopkins University, which collates reports from around the world.

The actual worldwide tally of COVID-19 cases is likely to be far higher, as testing has been uneven or limited, many people have had no symptoms and some governments have concealed the true number of cases. To date, more than 1.1 million confirmed virus deaths have been reported, although experts also believe that number is an undercount.

The U.S., India and Brazil are reporting by far the highest numbers of cases — 8.1 million, 7.5 million and 5.2 million respectively — although the global increase in recent weeks has been driven by a surge in Europe, which has seen over 240,000 confirmed virus deaths in the pandemic so far.

In the U.S., some states are trying more targeted measures as cases continue to rise across the country. New York's new round of virus shutdowns zeroes in on individual neighborhoods, closing schools and businesses in hot spots measuring just a couple of square miles.

As of last week, new cases per day were on the rise in 44 U.S. states, with many of the biggest surges in the Midwest and Great Plains, where resistance to wearing masks and taking other precautions has been running high and the virus has often been seen as just a big-city problem. Deaths per day were climbing in 30 states.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the U.S. government's top infectious-disease expert, said Americans should think hard about whether to hold Thanksgiving gatherings next month.

The World Health Organization said last week that Europe had a reported a record weekly high of nearly 700,000 cases and said the region was responsible for about a third of cases globally. Britain, France, Russia and Spain account for about half of all new cases in the region, and countries like Belgium and the Czech Republic are facing more intense outbreaks now than they did in the spring.

WHO said the new measures being taken across Europe are "absolutely essential" in stopping COVID-19 from overwhelming its hospitals. Those include new requirements on mask-wearing in Italy and Switzerland, closing schools in Northern Ireland and the Czech Republic, closing restaurants and bars in Belgium, implementing a 9 p.m. curfew in France and having targeted limited lockdowns in parts of the U.K.

The agency said several European cities could soon see their intensive care units overwhelmed and warned that governments and citizens should take all necessary measures to slow the spread of the virus, including bolstering testing and contact tracing, wearing face masks and following social distancing measures.

WHO has previously estimated about 1 in 10 of the world's population — about 780 million people — have been infected with COVID-19, more than 20 times the official number of cases. That suggests the vast majority of the world's population is still susceptible to the virus.

Some researchers have argued that allowing COVID-19 to spread in populations that are not obviously vulnerable will help build up herd immunity and is a more realistic way to stop the pandemic instead of the restrictive lockdowns that have proved economically devastating.

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But WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has warned against the belief that herd immunity might be a viable strategy to pursue, saying this kind of protection needs to be achieved by vaccination, not by deliberately exposing people to a potentially fatal disease.

"Allowing a dangerous virus that we don't fully understand to run free is simply unethical," Tedros said last week.

The U.N. health agency said it hopes there might be enough data to determine if any of the COVID-19 vaccines now being tested are effective by the end of the year. But it warned that first-generation vaccines are unlikely to provide complete protection and that it could take at least two years to bring the pandemic under control.

Logistics experts also say that some 3 billion of the world's 7.8 billion people live in areas that lack the infrastructure to refrigerate new vaccines safely, a challenge that is sure to slow down the delivery of vaccines to those areas. This includes most of Central Asia, much of India and southeast Asia, Latin America except for the largest countries, and all but a tiny corner of Africa.

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

## Today in History

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 20, the 294th day of 2020. There are 72 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 20, 1973, in the so-called "Saturday Night Massacre," special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox was dismissed and Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson and Deputy Attorney General William B. French III resigned.

On this date:

In 1803, the U.S. Senate ratified the Louisiana Purchase.

In 1936, Helen Keller's teacher, Anne Sullivan Macy, died in Forest Hills, N.Y., at age 70.

In 1947, the House Un-American Activities Committee opened hearings into alleged Communist influence and infiltration in the U.S. motion picture industry.

In 1967, a jury in Meridian, Mississippi, convicted seven men of violating the civil rights of slain civil rights workers James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner; the seven received prison terms ranging from 3 to 10 years.

In 1976, 78 people were killed when the Norwegian tanker Frosta rammed the commuter ferry George Prince on the Mississippi River near New Orleans.

In 1977, three members of the rock group Lynyrd Skynyrd, including lead singer Ronnie Van Zant, were killed along with three others in the crash of a chartered plane near McComb, Mississippi.

In 1987, 10 people were killed when an Air Force jet crashed into a Ramada Inn hotel near Indianapolis International Airport after the pilot, who was trying to make an emergency landing, ejected safely.

In 1990, three members of the rap group 2 Live Crew were acquitted by a jury in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., of violating obscenity laws with an adults-only concert in nearby Hollywood the previous June.

In 2001, officials announced that anthrax had been discovered in a House postal facility on Capitol Hill.

In 2004, A U.S. Army staff sergeant, Ivan "Chip" Frederick, pleaded guilty to abusing Iraqi detainees at Abu Ghraib prison. (Frederick was sentenced to eight years in prison; he was paroled in 2007.)

In 2011, Moammar Gadhafi, 69, Libya's dictator for 42 years, was killed as revolutionary fighters overwhelmed his hometown of Sirte (SURT) and captured the last major bastion of resistance two months after his regime fell.

In 2018, Saudi Arabia announced that journalist Jamal Khashoggi (jah-MAHL' khahr-SHOHK'-jee) had been killed in Saudi Arabia's consulate in Istanbul; there was immediate international skepticism over the Saudi

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account that Khashoggi had died during a "fistfight."

Ten years ago: Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (ah-muh-DEE'-neh-zahhd) and visiting Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez hailed what they called their strong strategic relationship, saying they were united in efforts to establish a "new world order" that would eliminate Western dominance over global affairs. NPR fired news analyst Juan Williams after he talked about feeling nervous on airline flights with people in Muslim attire during an interview on Fox News Channel. Bob Guccione, 79, founder of Penthouse magazine, died in Plano, Texas.

Five years ago: The United States and Russia signed an agreement to minimize risks of air collisions as they separately carried out airstrikes in Syria. Chinese President Xi Jinping began a much anticipated state visit to Britain, where he was welcomed as an honored guest at Buckingham Palace and Parliament. Former Virginia Sen. Jim Webb said he was dropping out of the Democratic race for president.

One year ago: Voters in Bolivia went to the polls for a presidential election that three-term incumbent Evo Morales would claim to have won. (Morales would resign in November when the police and army withdrew support after weeks of demonstrations over allegations of election fraud.)

Today's Birthdays: Japan's Empress Michiko is 86. Rockabilly singer Wanda Jackson is 83. Former actor Rev. Mother Dolores Hart is 82. Actor William "Rusty" Russ is 70. Actor Melanie Mayron is 68. Retired MLB All-Star Keith Hernandez is 67. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., is 65. Movie director Danny Boyle is 64. Former Labor Secretary Hilda Solis is 63. Actor Viggo Mortensen is 62. Democratic vice presidential nominee Sen. Kamala Harris is 56. Rock musician Jim Sonefeld (Hootie & The Blowfish) is 56. Rock musician David Ryan is 56. Rock musician Doug Eldridge (Oleander) is 53. Journalist Sunny Hostin (TV: "The View") is 52. Political commentator and blogger Michelle Malkin is 50. Actor Kenneth Choi is 49. Rapper Snoop Dogg is 49. Singer Dannii Minogue is 49. Singer Jimi Westbrook (country group Little Big Town) is 49. Country musician Jeff Loberg is 44. Actor/comedian Dan Fogler is 44. Rock musician Jon Natchez (The War on Drugs) is 44. Actor Sam Witwer is 43. Actor John Krasinski is 41. Rock musician Daniel Tichenor (Cage the Elephant) is 41. Actor Katie Featherston is 38. Actor Jennifer Nicole Freeman is 35.