

# Groton Daily Independent

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“CREATE A SPACE IN YOUR LIFE TO RELAX,  
RE-ENERGIZE, AND RECONNECT WITH  
YOUR SACRED INNER BEING.”  
-MELANIE MOUSHICIAN KOULOOURIS

**MEMORIAL DAY**  
Honoring All Who Served  
\*\*\*\*\*

The Groton American Legion Post #39 will perform Military Honors at the following times and cemeteries:

7:30	Huffton
8:15	James
8:45	Verdon
9:15	Bates/Scotland
10:00	Ferney
11:00	Andover Protestant Cemetery
12:00	Groton

**A program will be held at Groton starting at 12:00 with the speaker being a 1960 Groton graduate Brig. Gen. Ronald W Mielke (ret). After the Groton service a meal will be served at the Legion Post.**

**MEMORIAL DAY**  
Honoring All Who Served  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Coming up on GDILIVE.COM**  
Groton's Memorial Day Program  
Monday, May 31, 2021, Noon  
Groton Union Cemetery  
Will also be broadcast locally on 89.3 FM



**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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## United Methodist Church

Groton and Conde

**Sunday, May 30, 2021**

Conde Worship 9:00 AM  
Groton Worship 11:00 AM

**Tuesday, June 1, 2021**

Bible Study 10:00 AM

**Wednesday, June 2, 2021**

Community Coffee Hour 9:30 AM

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Groton

**Sunday, May 30, 2021**

9 a.m.: Worship with Communion

**Wednesday, June 2, 2021**

5 p.m.: Sarah Circle

**Thursday, June 3, 2021**

2 p.m.: Nigeria Circle

**Sunday, June 6, 2021**

9 a.m.: Worship with Communion

## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton & St. Joseph Catholic

Groton and Turton

**Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturday 4:30pm Groton

Sunday 8:30am Groton & 11:00am Turton

Weekday

Tues 5:00pm Turton, W-F 8:30am Groton

Sat 10am Newman Center

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Each morning before Weekday Mass at 7:15am

Tues 3:45pm Turton

Confessions:

Sat. 3:45-4:15pm & Sun. 7:45am to 8:15am (G)

Sun. 10:30-10:45am (T)

## St. John's Lutheran Church

Groton

**Sunday, May 30, 2021**

8 a.m.: Bible Study  
9 a.m.: St. John's Worship  
11 a.m.: Zion's Worship

**Tuesday, June 1, 2021**

1 p.m.: Ladies Aid LWML

**Sunday, June 6, 2021**

8 a.m.: Bible Study  
Worship with Communion  
9 a.m.: St. John's Worship  
11 a.m.: Zion's Worship

## Heaven Bound Ministries

Pierpont

## Buffalo Lake Lutheran

Rural Eden

**Sunday, May 30:** Worship at Buffalo Lake 10:30 a.m.

**Saturday, June 6:** Worship with Communion at Pierpont, 5:30 p.m.

**Sunday, June 7:** Worship with Communion at Buffalo Lake 10:30 a.m.

**To submit your monthly or weekly church calendar, email to  
news@grotonsd.net**

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## A Help Button Should Go Where You Go!

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### MobileHelp Features:

- Simple one-button operation
- Affordable service
- Amplified 2-way voice communication
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- GPS location detection
- Available Nationwide



### Optional Fall Button™

The automatic fall detect pendant that works **WHERE YOU GO!**

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From  
**\$19.95**  
/month



## THIS MONTH, GET OUR BEST OFFER EVER!

**FREE Equipment to use | FREE Shipping\* | FREE Lockbox!**



\*\$19.95 is the monthly price of subscription to a MobileHelp Classic at home only system. There is a one-time \$49.95 processing fee and \$15 shipping fee required to subscribe to this plan. Equipment may vary as shown. System featured in photo above is the MobileHelp DUO available at an additional monthly cost. Equipment shown is included at no cost while actively subscribing to the service plan but must be returned upon cancellation of the service plan to avoid equipment charges. See terms and conditions for further details. Free ground shipping and free lockbox (\$29.95 value) included with select service plan purchases. This offer is for new customers only and cannot be combined with any other offers. Service availability and access/coverage on the AT&T network is not available everywhere and at all times. Current GPS location may not always be available in every situation. MobileHelp is a registered trademark. Patented technology. MobileHelp is an FDA registered company. Fall Button does not detect 100% of falls. If able, users should always push their help button when they need assistance. Fall Button is not intended to replace a caregiver for users dealing with serious health issues.



# Groton Daily Independent

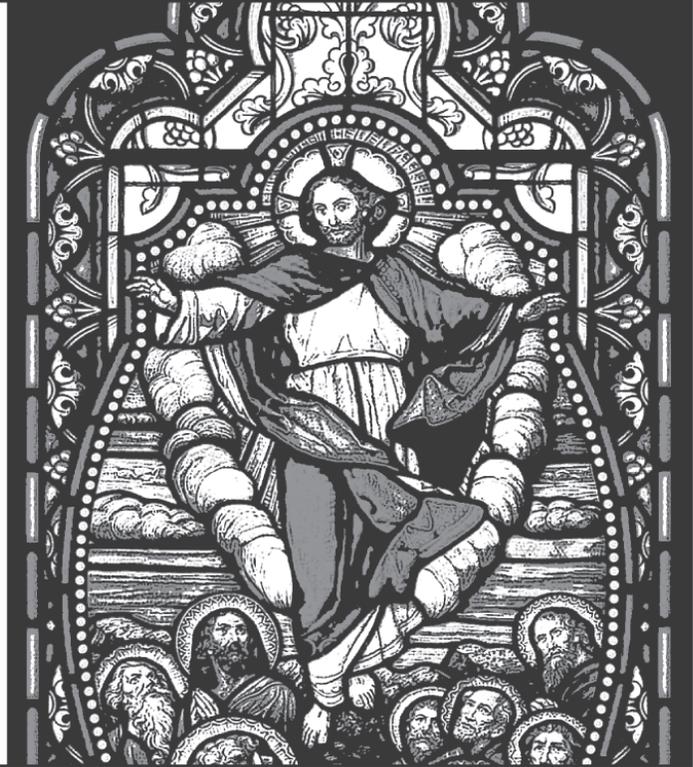
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## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

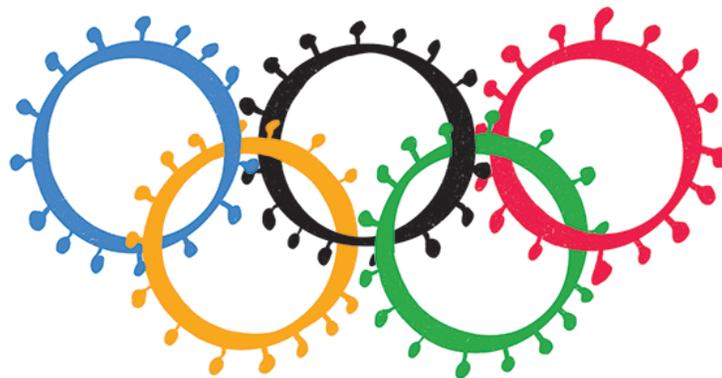
*...The Son of Man will come  
in the glory of His Father  
with His angels, and then  
He will reward each  
according to his works.*

MATTHEW 16:27



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# TOKYO 2021



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

2. How many beasts rising out of the sea did Daniel have a dream about? *4, 7, 13, 20*

3. From Judges 3, who was the left-handed Benjamite that killed Eglon? *Geshem, Agag, Ehud, Joram*

4. In 2 Kings 4, who purified a pot of deadly stew with flour? *Josiah, Elisha, Jehu, Hilkiah*

5. From Judges 1:6, what king had his thumbs and toes cut off? *David, Adoni-Bezek, Josiah, Herod*

6. Whose biblical name means "messenger"? *Aaron, Moses, Samuel, Malachi*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) 4; 3) Ehud; 4) Elisha; 5) Adoni-Bezek; 6) Malachi

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

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## Waldorf Bridal Party Salad

---  
More weddings are performed in June than in any other month. And why not, the flowers are in full bloom, and the weather is warm and sunny. So with everything so ideal, let's toast the bride with a perfectly delightful bridal luncheon -- featuring this recipe.

3 cups (6 small) cored, unpeeled and chopped Red Delicious apples

1 cup seedless green grapes

1/2 cup miniature marshmallows

1/4 cup chopped walnuts

1/3 cup fat-free mayonnaise

3/4 reduced-calorie whipped topping

1. In a large bowl, combine apples, grapes, marshmallows and walnuts. Stir in mayonnaise. Add whipped topping. Mix gently to combine.

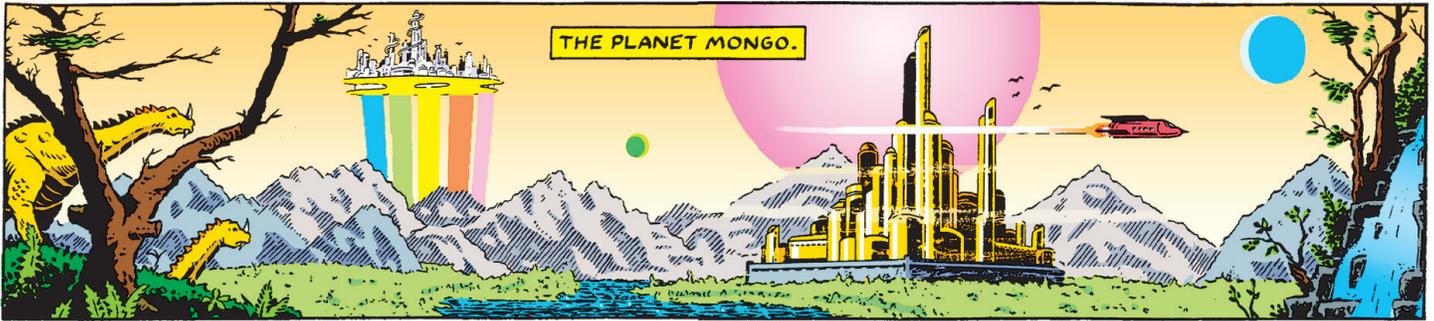
2. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes. Gently stir again just before serving. Serves 8 (1/2 cup each).

\* Each serving equals: 90 calories, 2g fat, 1g protein, 17g carb., 85mg sodium, 1g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Fruit, 1/2 Fat.

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## FLASH GORDON

By JIM KEEFE  
5-23

LANDING ON CHOMOMATHA, FLASH AND HIS CREW TAKE STOCK AFTER BEING ATTACKED BY THE MOUNTAIN'S CARNIVOROUS DENIZENS.

WE LOST TWO MEN TO THOSE BEASTS.

FROM NOW ON WE'LL STICK CLOSE TO THE GROUND TO AVOID DETECTION. ANY CLIMBING AND TENGI WILL BE OUR GUIDE.

WAIT... WHERE IS SHE?

FLASH, LOOK... OUTSIDE!

BUT...HOW COULD SHE HAVE POSSIBLY ACCLIMATED TO THE ALTITUDE SO FAST?

HER RACE MUST HAVE THE SAME PHYSIOLOGY AS THE HAWKMEN. THE QUESTION IS, WHAT IS SHE UP TO?

TENGI, IT'S NOT SAFE OUT HERE. YOU HAVE TO GET BACK TO THE SHIP!

AN OFFERING HAD TO BE MADE, MY KING.

I ASK THE GODDESS OF THE MOUNTAIN'S PERMISSION TO CONTINUE ON OUR QUEST.

WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS FOOLISHNESS. EVERY MOMENT WE WASTE JEOPARDIZES THE MISSION.

LET HER FINISH. OUR SUCCESS IS GOING TO DEPEND ON HER BEING CLEAR-HEADED.

SO, SHE CAN COMPROMISE THE MISSION...JUST AS LONG AS SHE KEEPS REFERRING TO YOU AS HER "KING"?

NOW WAIT A MINU...

THUD

THE GODDESS HAS GIVEN HER ANSWER...

TO BE CONT'D

## Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

ASSESS THE CONSISTENCY OF THE SAND WHEN FIGURING BUNKER PLAYS.

THE MORE POWDERY OR LOOSER THE SAND THE HARDER IT IS TO CONTROL THE BALL'S BEHAVIOR.

I GENERALLY PLAY AGGRESSIVELY FROM FIRM OR WET SAND, BUT AM A LITTLE MORE CAUTIOUS FROM COARSE OR HEAVY STUFF. WHEN THE SAND IS REALLY FINE OR POWDERY, I ALWAYS PLAY VERY CONSERVATIVELY.

YOU SHOULD STRATEGIZE LIKEWISE.



## Patient History More Than Just Medical Facts

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DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 77 years old. When I go to a new doctor, there is always that past history form to fill out. I know to include current medications, including OTC and allergies, but how far back should I go?

Should I include the tonsillectomy when I was in grade school (I don't recall how old I was)? Or the surgery to remove a benign tumor from my right femur in 1955? The miscarriage in 1961? Or that the last of my five children was born over 40 years ago?

I would include the surgery because my right leg is about 3/4 inch shorter than my left. After all these years, it causes a backache after standing too long. -- S.B.

ANSWER: In general, doctors want all the information you can give. However, past medical history tends to become less important as people get older. I agree with you that the surgery on your femur is important: Even now, a leg-length discrepancy may still benefit from being addressed. A small (half the discrepancy or less) adjustment to the shoe of your shorter right leg may help reduce your backache.

If I were your new doctor, it would be important to me to know you had a 40-year-old son (and about the rest of your children), but that would be more to know who you are as a person. I also ask my patients to identify someone in their family who can help make decisions if you are unable to. That should be done formally, through a health care proxy designation, which is complementary to the advance directive that all adults should have.

It's a privilege for me as a primary care doctor to get to know my patients and follow them over years, sometimes many years.

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DEAR DR. ROACH: I've read about a new drug for depression that is supposed to work quickly. Is it safe? -- N.F.

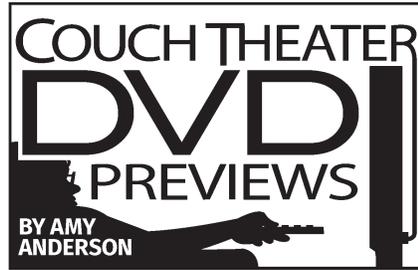
ANSWER: Ketamine, like many biological molecules, has two forms that are mirror images of each other. Esketamine, the more active of the two, has recently been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for treatment of depression, and is the first new class of approved depression medication in years.

It is striking how quickly it works. With the intravenous drug, test subjects found their mood improving within hours, as opposed to the weeks it takes most current drugs to work. With the nasal spray form, the kind just approved by the FDA, benefit began within two hours and persisted throughout eight weeks of follow-up. It is not yet clear how long the effect will last and whether (or more likely, how often) additional doses will be necessary in long-term use. It is approved to be given only in a doctor's office, and only for people who have been resistant to other medications.

There are significant potential harms. Blood pressure goes up after the dose, and people can have sedation and disorganized thinking after treatment. For now, the drug is given only through a restricted distribution system.

I am cautiously optimistic. Depression is a serious disease with treatments that are not as effective as we would like. Any new type of treatment is a source of hope; however, I have seen potential "miracle drugs" turn out to be only moderately useful.

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



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicts another surging storm season for 2021, with a whopping 13-20 named storms and three to five major hurricanes in the Gulf and Atlantic. The hurricane season started officially on June 1, although we've already had a named storm in the Atlantic in May.

Are you making preparations? Along with medicines, canned food, water and flashlights for that inevitable power failure, grab some DVDs to prepare for an internet outage. Need some inspiration? How about 2012's "Alien Tornado" — featuring electrical windstorms and an unusual group of heroes that includes a farmer and a blogger? Or 2010's "Burning Bright," in which a girl and her autistic brother are trapped in their house during a hurricane — with a man-eating tiger that was purchased by their no-good dad! Here are some more mainstream choices:

**Crawl** (R) — Haley (Kay Scodelario) is a small-town Florida girl sitting in the track of a monster hurricane. Under evacuation orders, she finds her dad trapped in the crawlspace of his home. Injured and vulnerable, the rising waters threaten their lives — but that's not even the worst thing. There, in the brackish maelstrom, lurk giant alligators.

**The Perfect Storm** (PG-13) — A tropical storm meets cold front, creating 100-foot waves that pound a fishing boat in the North Atlantic in this terrifying true tale of the Andrea Gail, starring George Clooney and Mark Wahlberg.

**Sharknado** through "The Last Sharknado: It's About Time" (NR) — Whether you indoctrinate with the

original, featuring the City of Angels under siege, or skip with to the sixth and final installment, relax with hero Ian Ziering as Fin Shepard. This tragedy of cheese keeps giving and giving.

**Adrift** (PG-13) — Shailene Woodley and Sam Claflin star in a tale of disaster, resilience and romance on the (literally) high seas. In the path of their yacht sailing from Tahiti to San Diego, a category 5 hurricane develops, which they miraculously survive. Against all odds and adrift in the middle of nowhere, they must survive. It's inspirational nightmare that is based on a true story.



The Asylum/Syfy Films

## Ian Ziering in "Sharknado 4"

**Hours** (PG-13) — Paul Walker plays Nolan, a young father whose wife gives birth to a baby girl just hours before Hurricane Katrina hits New Orleans. The mother dies, the baby is struggling and requires a ventilator as the hospital loses power and staff. Nolan is left alone to fend for his child, keeping her alive by hook or crook. It's surprisingly poignant for a thriller, with Nolan overcoming an endless string of adversities.

**Geostorm** (PG-13) — A series of natural disasters prompt scientists to develop a satellite protection system that basically shuts down bad weather. But things go haywire, as they sometimes do, and satellite designer Jake Lawson (Gerard Butler) is sent through the back door of the space station to figure out what's what.

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1. Name Gloria Estefan's first chart topper with the Miami Sound Machine.

2. Who was the first to release "Didn't I (Blow Your Mind This Time)?"

3. What Grass Roots song was used in the crime film "Jackie Brown"?

4. Where was the first Newport Pop Festival held?

5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Glibby gloop gloopy, Nibby Nabby Noopy, La La La Lo Lo. Sabba Sibby Sabba, Nooby abba Nabba Le Le Lo Lo."

## Answers

1. "Words Get in the Way," off her 1986 "Primitive Love" album. The band later recorded the song in Spanish as "No Me Vuelvo a Enamorar."

2. The Delfonics, in 1969. Others followed later,

including New Kids on the Block in 1986.

3. "Midnight Confessions," in 1997.

4. At the Orange County, California, fairgrounds in 1968. Stunned organizers discovered that over 100,000 tickets had been sold, not the expected 25,000, and quickly moved everything to the parking lot. Food vendors ran out of supplies in the middle of the first day.

5. "Good Morning Starshine," by Oliver, from the musical "Hair," in 1969. Astonishingly enough, the list of artists who have covered the song includes Roger Whittaker and Sarah Brightman.

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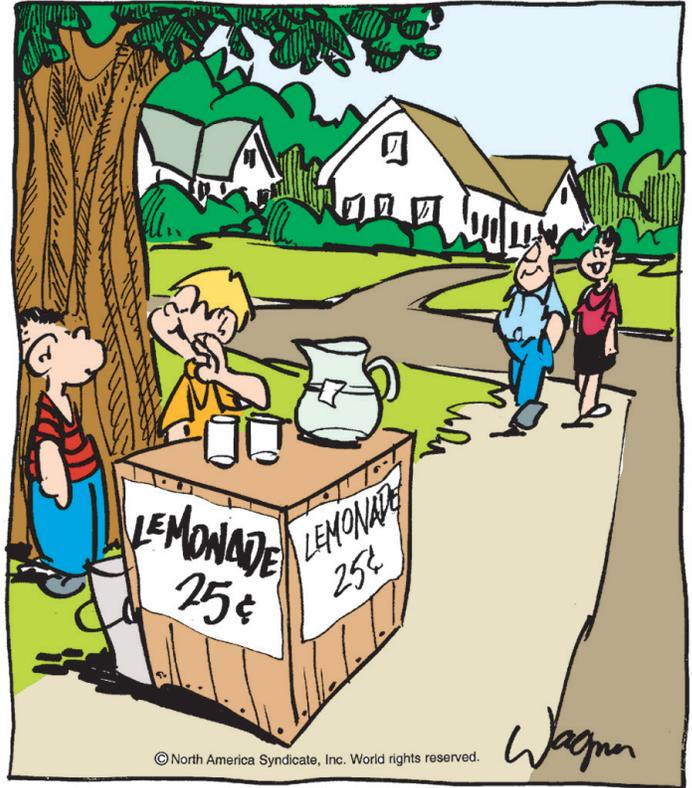
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## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



## GRIN and BEAR IT



"OK ... look cute!"

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Jacket is unzipped. 2. Cap is different. 3. Sign is added. 4. Button is removed. 5. Pocket is different. 6. Ball is added.

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- Add a cinnamon stick or softener sheet to your vacuum bag when you change it. As you clean, you will distribute the good smell throughout your home.

- To ripen a green tomato, wrap it in a sheet of newspaper or place it in a paper bag. It can then be left on the counter for several days to ripen.

- “Need to remove fruit or food coloring stains on your hands or your countertop? White vinegar will clean it off. It’s good for so many things.” — *R.N. in Washington*

- “Instead of baking soda, I use three or four charcoal briquettes in a bowl to control odor and moisture in my refrigerator. I place the briquettes in a shallow dish, then cover the top of

the bowl with a small piece of cheesecloth and secure it with a fat rubber band. The best thing is that I can still use these briquettes on the grill. In the summer, they get changed very regularly.” — *M.L. in Virginia*

- Great ways to remove stuck labels: nail polish remover (NOT for use on plastics), WD-40 oil, soaking in hot water, rubbing alcohol.

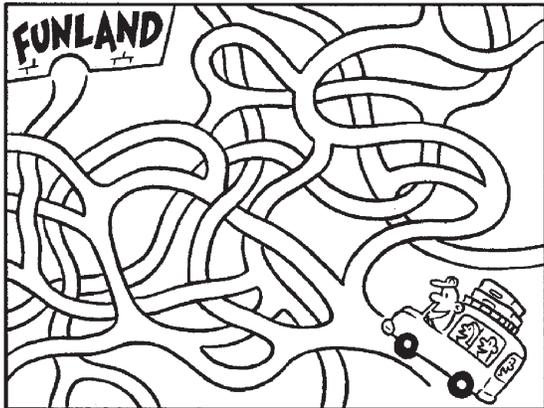
- Have a stained coffee pot, but don’t want to use a harsh chemical cleanser to scrub that stain off? For gritty cleaning power, try using a tablespoon of milk and a tablespoon of salt. The salt gives you scrubbing power, and the milk’s acids help gently dissolve the stains.

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

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**A-MAZE-ING!** See if you can find the route to Funland before it gets dark.

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

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**VACATION FUN!** Our friends have arrived at their destination and can't wait to visit Funland. You

can join in by identifying the FUN-filled words listed. Here are some hints:

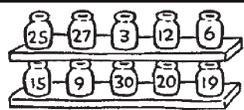
1.	F	U	N			
2.	F	U	N			
3.	F		U	N		
4.	F		U	N		
5.	F			U	N	
6.	F		U		N	
7.	F				U	N
8.	F		U	N		

1. Depressed mood.
2. A fly ball for fielding practice.
3. The animals of a certain region.
4. Fail a test.
5. Show off.
6. Able to write or speak easily.
7. Great wealth.
8. Where metal is melted.

Time limit: 60 seconds.

1. Funk. 2. Fungo. 3. Fauna. 4. Flunk. 5. Flaunt. 6. Fluent. 7. Fortune. 8. Foundry.

**THREE FOR A DOLLAR!** To win, you must knock three bottles off the shelves. But there's a catch: The numbers on these bottles must total 50.



Bottles 6, 19 and 25. Another way: 27, 20 and 3.

**SECRET AGENT!** Since our friends used a travel agent in setting up their trip, we're going to honor the profession with a word square puzzle. The diagram at right has the word AGENT already inserted. You need to find four more five-letter words so that all words used read the same both across and down.

		A		
		G		
A	G	E	N	T
		N		
		T		

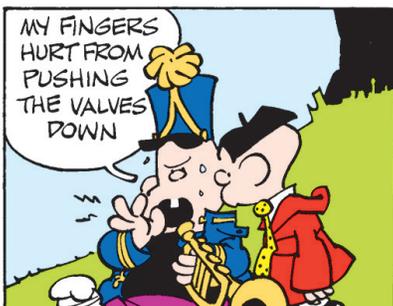
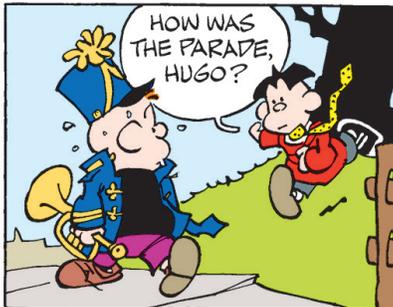
Illustrated by David Coulson

1. Serious play.
2. Characteristic of a king.
3. One that acts for another (AGENT, in place).
4. A minister's house.
5. Change.

1. Drama. 2. Regal. 3. Agent. 4. Manse. 5. Alter.

## TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



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## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Billboards
- 4 Competent
- 8 Pretzel topper
- 12 Fib
- 13 Work hard
- 14 Spiced tea
- 15 In toto
- 17 Frees (of)
- 18 Bug barrier
- 19 "Gosh!"
- 21 Reply (Abbr.)
- 22 Also
- 26 "It's a  
Wonderful  
Life" director
- 29 French article
- 30 "— -haw!"  
(rodeo cry)
- 31 "Hi, sailor!"
- 32 Follower  
(Suff.)

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

- 33 Nota —
- 34 Airline to  
Sweden
- 35 "Today" rival,  
briefly
- 36 Fragrant  
wood
- 37 Typically
- 39 X-ray's cousin
- 40 — -de-France
- 41 Oregon city
- 45 Apple com-  
puter
- 48 Prescription  
phrase
- 50 Opulent
- 51 Attic buildup
- 52 Historic time

- 53 Needing lini-  
ment
- 54 Pro votes
- 55 — de plume

### DOWN

- 1 "Sad to say  
..."
- 2 Platter
- 3 Char
- 4 Goddess of  
wisdom
- 5 Benefits
- 6 Dogpatch  
adjective
- 7 Graceful
- 8 Threaded  
hardware

- 9 Sashimi fish
- 10 Young bloke
- 11 Frank  
McCourt  
memoir
- 16 Tired
- 20 Language  
suffix
- 23 Kept tabs on
- 24 Sultry Horne
- 25 Ogler's look
- 26 Juan's home
- 27 Cries of dis-  
covery
- 28 Stance
- 29 G8 member
- 32 "Let's do  
this!"

- 33 Ecu
- 35 Solidify
- 36 Vinegar bot-  
tles
- 38 French spa  
town
- 39 High-IQ group
- 42 Idyllic place
- 43 Sleuth Wolfe
- 44 Dutch cheese
- 45 Lyricist  
Gershwin
- 46 Karaoke prop,  
for short
- 47 Koeln cry
- 49 Take to court

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## — King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

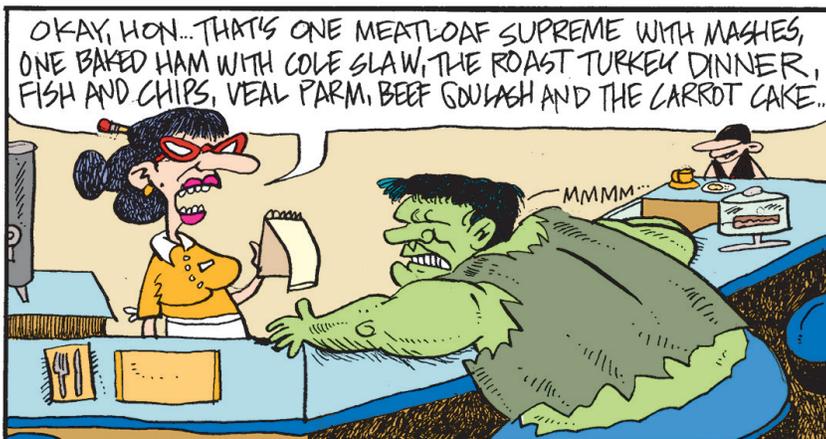
## LAFF - A - DAY



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 "You know, we ought to buy a firetruck before our wives get suspicious."

## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



OKAY, HON... THAT'S ONE MEATLOAF SUPREME WITH MASHES, ONE BAKED HAM WITH COLE SLAW, THE ROAST TURKEY DINNER, FISH AND CHIPS, VEAL PARM, BEEF GOULASH AND THE CARROT CAKE...

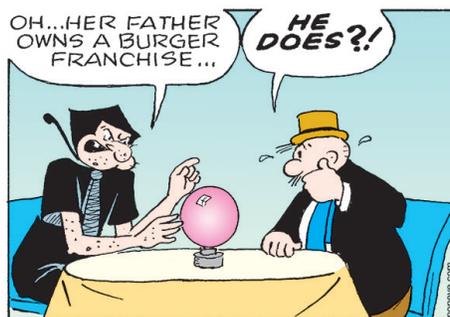
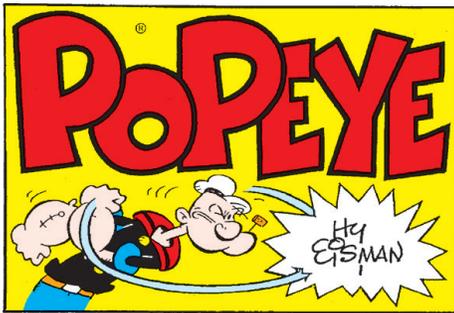
THE INCREDIBLE HULK  
 WAS AN EMOTIONAL EATER

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KOPERVAS

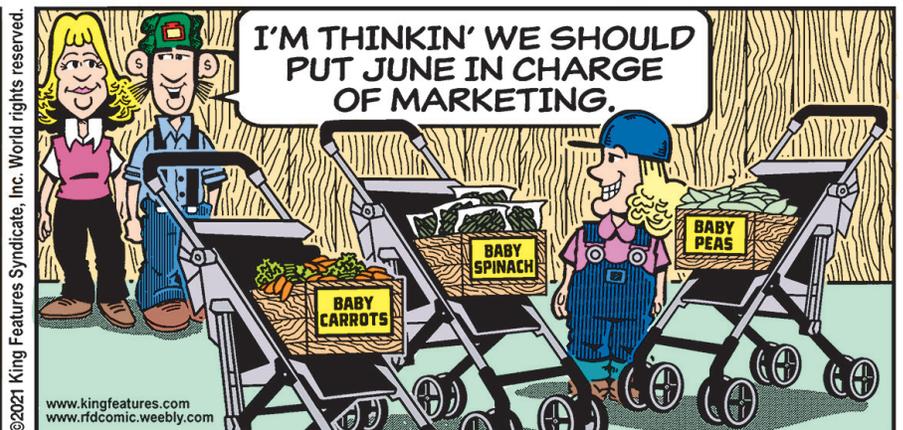
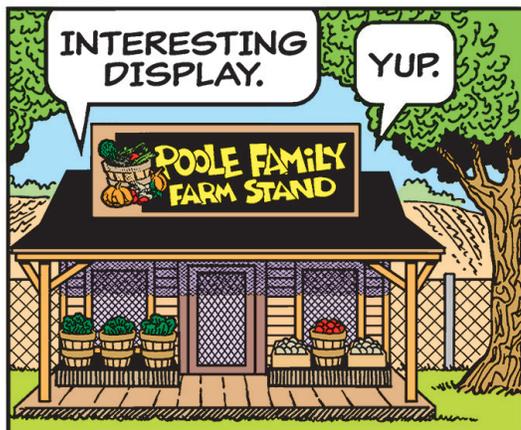
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R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



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Hal Foster's  
**Prince Valiant**  
BY GIANNI AND SCHULTZ

**Our Story:**

PRUDENCE HAS DISCOVERED A LIKELY PATH TOWARD THE SURFACE - A GREAT WIND CHIMNEY. VAL SILENTLY THANKS MERLIN FOR DELIVERING THIS GIRL.



BUT WHAT OF ALETA? SHE AND HER REMAINING HANDMAIDEN ARE SORE PRESSED BY THEIR CAPTORS, AND SADDENED BY THE LOSS OF PRUDENCE.



ALETA IS SURE THAT VAL IS SEARCHING FOR HER. SHE CONTINUES, FURTIVELY, TO MARK THEIR TRAIL WITH TORN CLOTH.



A SURLY GUARD WILL HAVE NO MORE OF ALETA'S DELAYS. EAGER TO BE DONE WITH HIS MISSION, HE TESTILY PRODS HER.



THIS IS TOO MUCH! HER ANGER BOILS OVER...



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... AND THESE DENIZENS OF THE UNDERWORLD FIND THEY HAVE AROUSED A WARRIOR QUEEN!

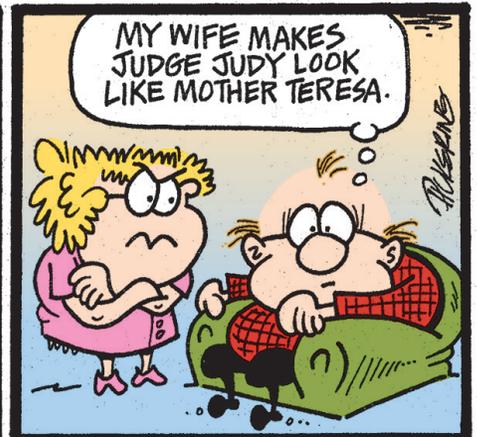
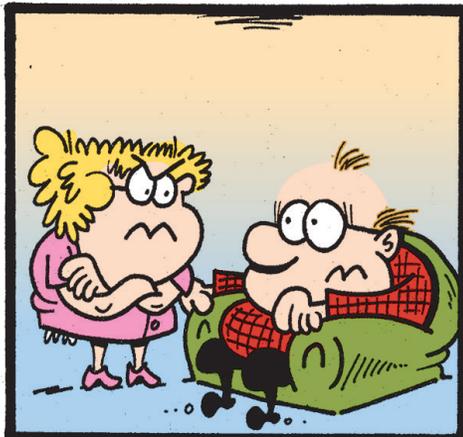


NEXT:

A net gain

## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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PICKERING

## SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

### What You Can Do About Rising Food Prices

According to the Consumer Price Index, food prices from one year ago have gone up 3.3%. It's not going to stop there. Non-food prices are going up as well, as companies struggle to find the raw materials and manpower they need to produce everything else.

Fitness equipment, furniture, lumber, gas, electronics — it's all going up. What we have to be concerned with, however, is our most basic need: food.

Even if you've never felt any urgency before, check into your local food bank. Keep the information handy, just in case you need it later.

Look at store brands. Many are even better than the name brands.

Make every dollar count. Sign up for a grocery store rewards card, if it's available. Use a private throwaway email address, the one you use to sign up for things that might generate too much junk mail. You'll likely get emails about sales with coupons. (At my store, I log in at the checkout and get cash back at the end of each quarter.)

Look to your own vegetable garden or farmers markets as ways to save. If you want to do canning this summer, one heads up: Be certain you can get the jars, lids and rings at the same time. They might be in short supply.

Freezing meals is another option and ensures that food is always available. Double a stew or soup recipe and buy in bulk when it makes sense to.

Shop from a list to the extent you can, knowing that stores can be out of things you want. Consider having breakfast for dinner one night a week, and one meatless dinner. Plan meals around what's on sale each week.

It bears repeating: Find out about your local food bank.

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1. What national team dominated the Fed Cup women's tennis competition from 2011-18, winning six championships during that span?

2. What Utah Jazz player broke the NBA single-season slam dunk record with 306 in 2019?

3. Name the former college football coach who won Alabama's U.S. senate election in 2020.

4. In what sport do the Adelaide Strikers, Hobart Hurricanes and Perth Scorchers of the Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) compete?

5. Nicknamed "The Ginger Assassin," what teenage bowler successfully cleared a 7-10 split at the 2021 U.S. Open semifinals?

6. What National Baseball Hall of Famer — and his various conspiracy theories — was profiled in a 1994 "Philadelphia" magazine article by Pat Jordan?



by Ryan A. Berenz

7. Name the ESPN baseball analyst who also wrote the book "I'm Fascinated by Sacrifice Flies: Inside the Game We All Love."

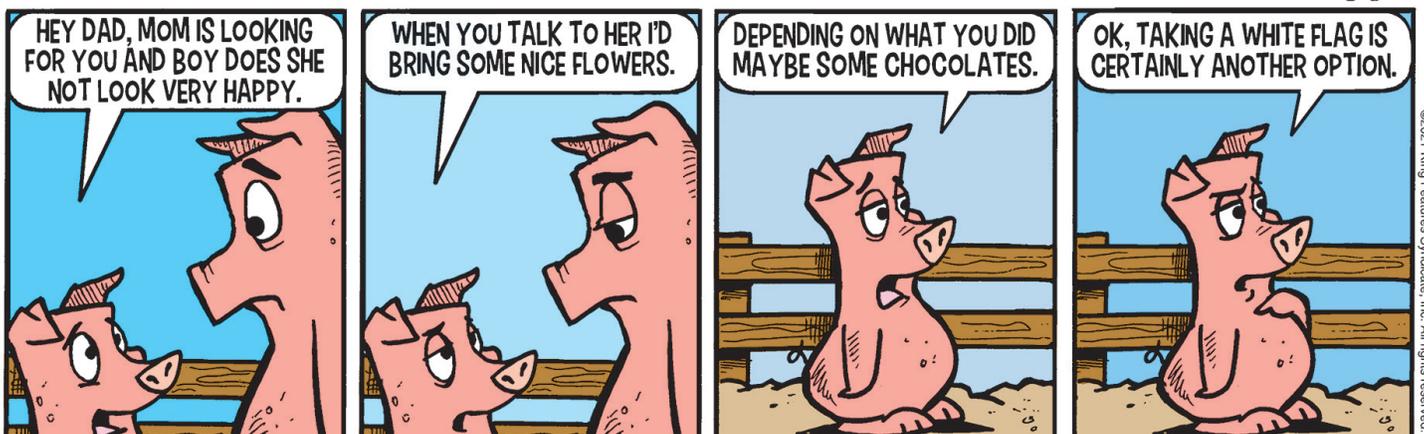
## Answers

1. Czech Republic.
2. Rudy Gobert.
3. Tommy Tuberville.
4. Cricket.
5. Anthony Neuer.
6. Steve Carlton.
7. Tim Kurkjian.

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## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps





## Remembering War Dogs

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** During Memorial Day week, I wanted to bring your readers' attention to the service and sacrifice of the thousands of dogs who went to war with their soldiers. Many did not come home, because they either died during operations or were left behind. Please take a few minutes this week to remember these four-footed warriors — Jim W., Chattanooga

DEAR JIM: Request received! Thank you for calling attention to the sacrifices of military working dogs. The U.S. armed forces has had a military dog program since World War II. These canine warriors help detect mines and improvised explosive devices (IEDs), provide security on bases and much more. Between 2001 and 2013, over 2,600 "war dogs" were

deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq. In that time, at least 92 are known to have died, the majority in combat.

However, in all this time, there was no military-wide tracking system of its injured war dogs. How often were they injured or killed? What were their injuries like? How did they fare after their service? Data that would be helpful in treating other injured war dogs was being lost.

In January, funding was passed for a Military Working Dogs Trauma Registry (for details, go to [www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org) and search for "working dogs, combat injuries"). Veterinarians will be able to consult the registry to learn more about war dog combat injuries and better ways to treat them. Injured war dogs will have a better chance of survival. Retired dogs will be able to get more effective treatment for their wounds.

This legislation is a huge, active step toward truly honoring the sacrifices of military working dogs and can help even more of them come home.

*Send your questions, tips or comments to [ask@pawscorner.com](mailto:ask@pawscorner.com).*

## Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

\* The word hundred is derived from the word "hundrath," which actually means 120 and not 100.

\* New Yorkers went through a bizarre phase of wearing chameleons as living ornaments in 1894. They were fastened to cushions, scarves and women's bodices with tiny chains and collars as little "jeweled playthings," but thankfully the trend was shut down by the SPCA, which banned their sale -- though not until over 10,000 of the creatures were already running loose in the city.

\* The microwave was invented after a researcher

walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.

\* Any photo you've ever seen of the Milky Way from space is either of another galaxy or an artist's rendition, since we're inside the galaxy and can't take an aerial view.

\* Kangaroos hop because their leg structure doesn't permit them to walk independently.

\* A 6-year-old Chinese boy named Ming Ming fell from an eight-story window, only to catch his ears in a metal grate, thereby saving his life.

\* In 2019, the Wendy's fast-food chain released a tabletop board game titled "Feast of Legends." It's played in a similar fashion to Dungeons and Dragons, with Wendy as the Queen and main character.

\* Bananas are a natural source of radioactive isotopes. Just a few can often trigger radiation sensors used at U.S. ports to detect smuggled nuclear material.

\* The Sistine Chapel contains a small side room nicknamed the "Room of Tears." This is where the new Pope is taken after winning the election, to relieve the emotion of that process.

\*\*\*

Thought for the Day: "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." -- John Quincy Adams

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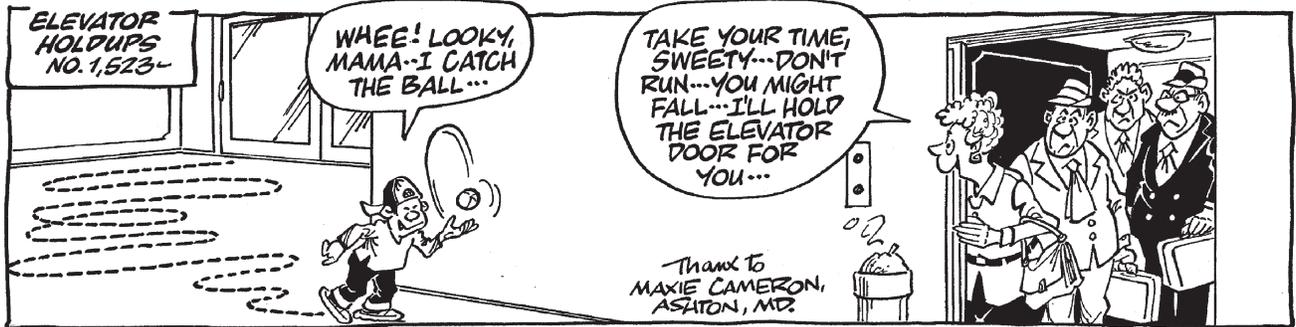
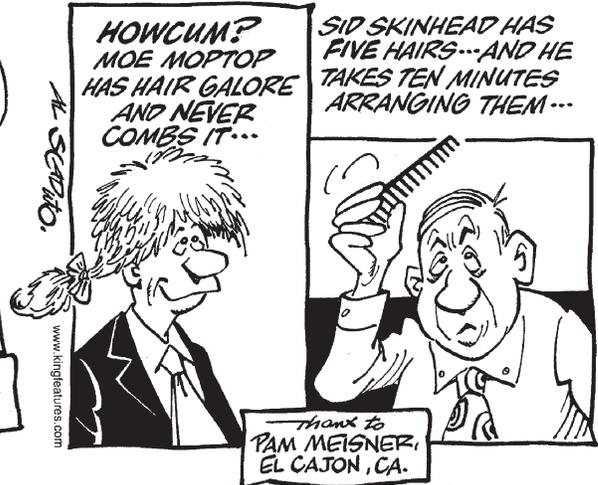
## THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO

KITCHEN SHOCK WAVES—  
EVER HAPPEN  
TO YOU?



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### Begonia Diadema

This showy perennial is a favorite for shady porches and patios, as it likes growing in pots and hanging baskets, and it needs only indirect light. Water and fertilize carefully, and apply them directly to the soil; the leaves and stems may appear discolored if splashed upon, and the plant will decline overall if the soil is soggy or too much fertilizer is applied.

— Brenda Weaver

Sources: [www.greengardeningcookingcuring.com](http://www.greengardeningcookingcuring.com), [garden.org](http://garden.org), [www.begonias.org](http://www.begonias.org)



by Freddy Groves

## Career Retraining

If you've lost your job due to the pandemic, to the extent that you know you need a different career, the Department of Veterans Affairs might be able to help.

The Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program is in place and accepting applications for education and training from veterans who are out of work.

There are a number of qualifications for eligibility: Over age 22 but not older than 66, out of work because of COVID, not eligible for GI Bill or VR&E benefits (or you transferred your GI Bill benefits to family members), not disabled, not in a federal or state jobs program, and not getting unemployment (including CARES ACT benefits).

The education and training offered covers VET TEC (Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses) at the associates degree lev-

el, non-college degree, or certificate level. These courses are accelerated and are in fields such as health care, education, media, engineering and high-tech. The VA, working with the Department of Labor, came up with a list of 208 potential careers that can spring from those high-demand occupations, ranging from electrical and mechanical engineers to web developers and graphic designers to commercial drivers, carpenters and machinists. Plus cost estimators, special-ed teachers and clergy.

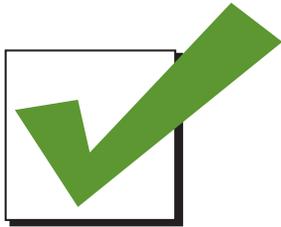
If you're eligible, you can get up to 12 months of tuition and a monthly housing allowance. There is a specific list of schools that have been accepted into the program, although that list is very long.

The caveat: If you're considering this, don't delay. There's a time limit (December 2022), a money limit in funding and a participant limit of 17,250 veterans. Once one of those is reached, no further applications will be accepted.

Call the VA at 888-442-4551 with questions. Or go online to [va.gov](http://va.gov) and put Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP) in the search box for the whole list of potential careers and the schools.

## FINAL EXPENSES

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



## Pack Your Bags

As COVID-19 cases are on the decline and more countries open up for summer travel, Americans are starting to pack their bags and get on the road.

According to TSA, nearly two million people went through airport security on May 23rd – that’s the highest number of air travelers TSA has seen since the start of the pandemic in 2020.

Before you hit the road – or the tarmac – don’t forget a few of the essentials: money, your ID, sunscreen, and if you’re going abroad, your up-to-date passport.

With the shutdown of many federal offices during the pandemic, it wasn’t exactly easy to get a new passport – so be sure to plan ahead. Even if you already have a passport, make sure to double check your expiration date. Some countries even require passports to be at least six months from expiration (check out [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) for specific country travel information). But if for some reason you find yourself in a bind, always remember my office may be able to help.

A few weeks ago, my office received a frantic email from a constituent stuck in Denver on a layover. A South Dakota family was en route to their family vacation to Mexico when they were told by TSA their trip would be a no-go. The reason? Their child’s passport had gone through the wash and was considered “damaged” by TSA.

Thankfully, the constituent service representatives in my offices in Rapid City, Sioux Falls, and Aberdeen are trained to handle rare situations like these. Our office contacted the National Passport Agency in Colorado and we were able to get them a same-day appointment for a new passport. Within two hours, this family had an updated passport and were on their way to their family vacation.

My offices strive to make South Dakotans’ lives easier. Whether you’re gearing up for summer travel, needing assistance with a federal agency like the Social Security Administration, or have concerns with your VA benefits, please don’t hesitate to call our state offices.

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South Dakota Governor

**Kristi Noem**



**South Dakota:** *Under God, the People Rule*

## Remembering the Brave

As Americans, we are so blessed to live in the greatest country ever, but we are sometimes blind to the extent of those blessings. We may not realize just how different life is in other places. We may forget that America is the Land of the Free because of the brave – because of the incredible men and women who laid down their lives in support of the freedoms that make America so special.

Memorial Day is a reminder of their tremendous sacrifice. And it's our opportunity to reflect on why they made that sacrifice in the first place. Many of these men and women died on foreign shores. They gave their lives in nations that weren't free so that our nation can remain free.

It is our duty as a free people to live up to that sacrifice. We should certainly celebrate our freedoms, but we also need to defend them when they are threatened here at home. In recent years, we've seen threats to freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of assembly, our right to keep and bear arms, and so many more. We need to defend our rights and liberties so that our children and grandchildren can continue to enjoy them years from now.

We also need to educate our children and grandchildren on what those freedoms are, how we came to enjoy them in the first place, and why they're so important. We need to tell the stories of the brave Americans who died to make them possible.

Our kids should learn stories like Nathan Hale's, whose last words were, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country." And they should learn why Nathan made that sacrifice; why freedom is a cause worth dying for.

We have the ability to celebrate Memorial Day, to barbecue with our families, and to enjoy our beautiful state because of the sacrifice of so many heroes. As President Calvin Coolidge wisely said, the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives for us "made the cause of America their supreme choice." We thank them for making that choice to serve and for sacrificing in the course of that service.

In South Dakota, as across the country, Memorial Day also marks the kick-off of our busy summer season. This means that we get to share South Dakota's way of life – rooted deeply in our love for freedom – with millions of visitors over the next few months. And this year's visitor season promises to be busier than usual – perhaps our busiest ever.

So enjoy your Memorial Day! Spend time with your loved-ones. And while you do that, take the time to tell a story or two about why we celebrate this important day. It is the very best way that we can thank America's greatest heroes for their sacrifice.

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



## An American Transportation Revolution

From the beginning, the story of the U.S. auto industry has been one of ingenuity, of taking risks and of pushing forward. At the dawn of the twentieth century, most Americans could hardly comprehend the idea of the automobile. Yet twenty years later they had become nearly ubiquitous in American life, thanks to the insistence of entrepreneurs like Henry Ford on making the automobile affordable for the majority of Americans.

Automobiles allowed Americans to capitalize on the economic dynamism of the Roaring Twenties, and they helped Americans move and adapt during the Great Depression. They contributed greatly to the American industrial base and the know-how needed to fight and win the Second World War, and they helped propel the United States to its current status as a preeminent global economic and military power.

Visionary investments like the Interstate Highway System made cars a staple in American economic and cultural life. And cars certainly made it a lot easier to get to and from rural America. In a place like rural South Dakota, with limited public transportation, the automobile – often a pickup or an SUV – is typically the only way we get around.

Today the automobile industry stands on the brink of a new technological revolution, which promises to dramatically transform mobility once again.

Over the past three decades, the internet has transformed our economy and our way of life. And the next generation of the internet – 5G, which is currently being deployed across the nation – will enable a host of new innovations, including a revolution in vehicle technology: automated vehicles, or AVs.

AVs will change the way we move in numerous ways, making the transportation system safer, more efficient, and more accessible. Individuals whose mobility is currently limited – for example, Americans with disabilities – could gain new independence with the deployment of automated vehicles, allowing them to work or visit friends and family safely and easily. Or imagine a farmer in rural South Dakota who can no longer drive to get to town for appointments, prescriptions, or groceries. Access to an AV would provide an opportunity for folks to stay living on their farms as they age, or allow new freedom to those living with a disability.

For automated vehicle technology to advance, it is imperative that the regulatory framework catch up with private-sector innovation. That's why I've spent nearly five years working in a bipartisan manner on a legislative framework to govern the testing and deployment of AVs.

In the Senate, I recently introduced an amendment that I had hoped to be able to offer with bipartisan support. It would have paved the way for expanded testing and deployment of automated vehicles in the United States, under the oversight of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. My amendment, which is supported by the National Federation of the Blind, among other organizations, would have ensured that automated vehicles would not touch pavement without the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's certification that they are at least as safe as a conventional vehicle.

Unfortunately, bipartisan agreement on my proposal collapsed when special interests expressed their opposition. And I'm deeply disappointed that once again Democrats yielded to pressure from special interests against the best interests of our economy and the American people.

Advancing AV technology is not just a vehicle safety issue. It's also an issue of U.S. leadership and global competitiveness.

More than a century ago, when the automobile was invented, there were plenty of skeptics. But America's automobile pioneers didn't let that stop them. They seized the moment and pressed forward and ushered in a transportation revolution. We can do that again today. Or we can cede this moment to nations like China and let the American automobile industry fall permanently behind. I hope we'll choose to seize this moment and pass the legislation we need to usher in another American transportation revolution.

## Medicare has changed. Find out how it can affect you.

Important changes to the federal Medicare program became effective at the beginning of the year. As a result, retirees in your state may be eligible for coverage with new options.

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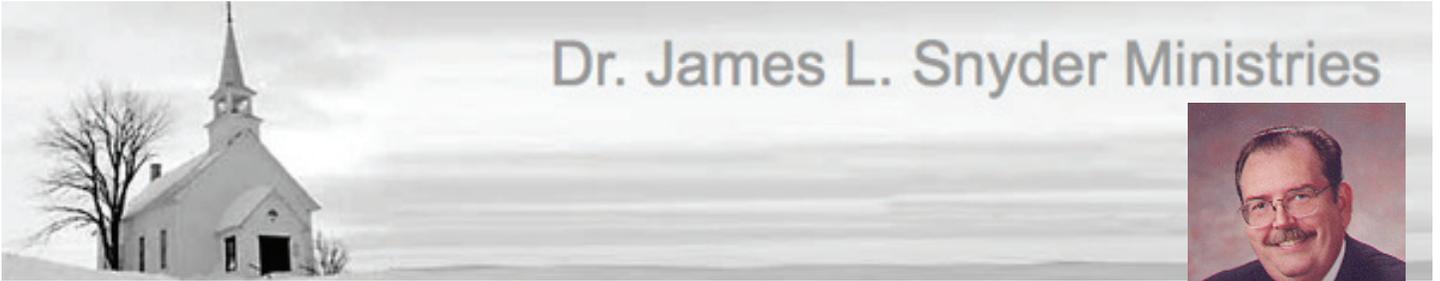
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We are not connected with, nor endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Federal Medicare Program. I understand I have no obligation. This is a solicitation of insurance. A licensed agent/producer may contact you. Policy form number L030, L035, L036, L037, L038, F001, F002 (OK: L0300K, L0350K, L0360K, L0370K, L0380K; TN: L030TN, L035TN, L036TN, L037TN, L038TN, F001TN, F002TN)

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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries



## It's My Tongue I'll Wag It If I Want To

Like everybody else, I have my share of trouble. It's not that I want to get into trouble, but trouble always seems to be somewhere near where I am at the time. I regret that time when I was first introduced to trouble.

Some trouble I can't prevent. It just happens, and no matter what I do, trouble is in the room. I don't think there's anything I can do about that, but I hope the trouble will not be that bad.

I know some people in my family get into trouble on purpose. The grand goal of their life is to get into trouble on a variety of levels. Back in the day, when we had family reunions, this person, which will remain anonymous, did everything he possibly could to make trouble.

Most of the family just ignored him and forgot what he was doing. He wanted to be remembered as the family troublemaker. Actually, he was remembered as the family Goofball.

Another form of trouble is what people bring on intentionally. For some reason, they want to get into trouble, and get a lot of pleasure out of bullying.

I could never understand this bullying mentality. What does anybody get from bullying somebody else? I remember in school, several guys got a lot of fun out of bullying other kids.

That went on until Miss Ammon, the fifth-grade teacher, showed up. She had her way of unbullifying anybody that crossed her path. If she caught you, you were in more trouble than you could handle.

Also, there is the trouble I get in by making a mistake. I didn't mean to do it, but for some reason, I did it, and as everybody knows, there are always consequences. Usually, the consequences aren't worth the trouble.

I've had experience in just about all levels of trouble in one form or another. The steps on the ladder of progress and growth are trouble. If you can handle trouble, you then are progressing in your maturity.

As terrible as all of these things are, one source of trouble outweighs all others. It has taken me a long time to understand the dimensions of this kind of trouble.

What I'm thinking about at this point is my "tongue."

This tongue of mine has been the most significant source of trouble and problems through out my life. As I get older, it seems to get worse.

A preacher friend of mine would talk about one of the older women in his church, and he said, "I often wondered if this woman ever had an unexpressed thought in her life."

I know what he means because I often wondered that about myself.

I have not yet learned that because I'm thinking about something, I do not need to speak it. Thinking doesn't get me in trouble; speaking gets me into deep trouble.

Sometimes when the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is speaking to me, I speak out loud without realizing it. Then comes the infamous, "What did you say?"

Whenever I hear this, I know I'm in some kind of trouble. Either I didn't hear it right, or I did hear it right, and I responded.

As a veteran husband, I should understand that she does not expect an answer whenever she asks a question. All she wants from her husband is a positive shaking of the head and a greasy smile.

I know this, but sometimes I forget. If only I could train my tongue when to speak and when not to speak. There are times when that old tongue of mine will wag and wag, getting me into deep trouble.

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One morning right after breakfast, I was getting ready to leave when my wife said, "When will you be ready to do that job?"

I looked at her quizzically and said, "What job?"

She stared at me for a moment and then said, "You know. What we were talking about last night as we were watching TV."

I had no idea what she was talking about. I could remember watching TV the night before, but I had no idea what the conversation was about.

"You don't mean to tell me you've forgotten already?"

Last night while watching TV, she talked about some projects she had in mind, and I wag my tongue in affirmative action. She assumed I knew what she was talking about and that I had agreed to that plan.

If only my tongue had ears, I might not get into so much trouble.

Now, I need my tongue to wag in a way to get me out of the trouble it got me into while it was wagging the night before.

How many right wags does it take to correct one wrong wag?

It would be wonderful if my tongue were attached somehow to my ears. Or maybe, better yet, to my brain.

As I get older this seems to be more of a problem.

In my dilemma, I thought of a verse of Scripture. "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!" (James 3:5).

Once you say something, it is impossible to unsay it. My tongue has got me into more trouble than all the other things in my life. But there's one thing about my tongue that can compensate for this. I can use my tongue to praise the God who created me.

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## FREE DATE CHANGES ON 2021 TOURS\*

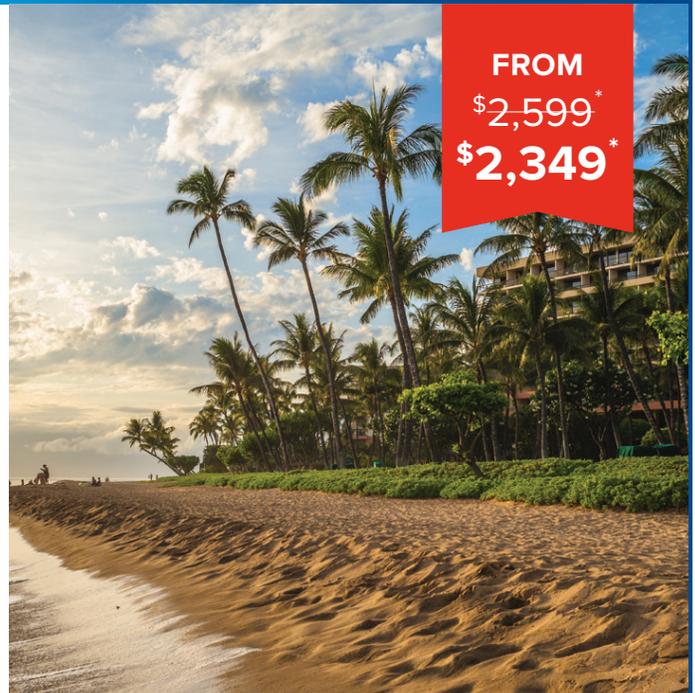


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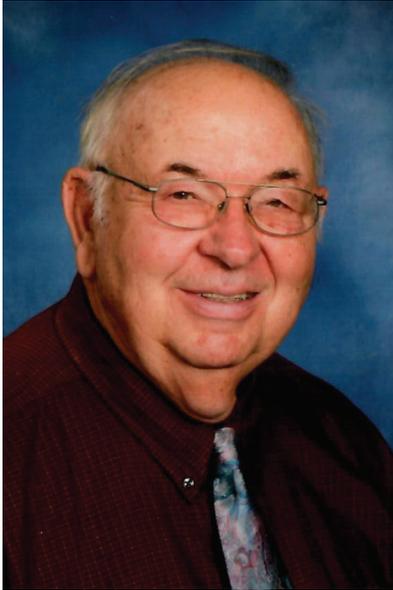
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## The Life of Dale Wolter



Services for Dale Wolter, 80, of Groton will be 10:00 a.m., Thursday, June 3rd at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Groton. Pastor Kari Foss will officiate. Inurnment with military honors will follow in Union Cemetery, Groton under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday at the church from 5-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. Family requests casual dress for the services.

Dale passed away May 27, 2020 at his home in Groton.

Dale DeWayne Wolter was born in Aberdeen on February 2, 1941 to Russell and Cora (Hunstad) Wolter. At the age of 3, he moved with his family to the farm near Groton. He attended school in Groton, where he had been active in FFA. Dale graduated in 1959 and continued his education at Northern State University for three years. In November of 1963, he enlisted in the US Army and served until his honorable discharge in December of 1964. Following, he returned to Groton where he worked construction for several years including work on the 3M and Federal Building. On June 29, 1973, he was united in marriage with Karen (Clopine) Baker. The couple made their home in Groton where Dale farmed with his father. He retired in the fall of 2020.

Dale was a member of the Groton American Legion Post #39, where he served on the Honor Guard for many years. He also belonged to Emmanuel Lutheran Church, the Masonic Lodge and Feather and Fin. He enjoyed playing cards, hunting, fishing and woodworking.

Celebrating his life is his wife, Karen of Groton, his children, Keith (Mayme) Baker of Groton, Collette Baker of San Fransico, CA, Coralea Wolter of Groton, two grandsons, Allen (fiancé Alicia Soberall) and Rayne Baker, his sisters, Aloise (Gene) Brolin of Groton, Anita Kohrer of Bloomington, his chosen family, Ann (Craig) Kolb of Groton and their children, McKensey (Tony) Konold, Brad (Chelsey) Sheridan and his precious lap dog, Ruthie.

Preceding him in death were his parents and his son, Kervin.

Honorary Urnbearers will be his Morning Coffee and Breakfast Crew.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are requested to begin a scholarship.

[www.paetznick-garness.com](http://www.paetznick-garness.com)

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## EARTHTALK

From the Editors of E - The Environmental Magazine

Dear EarthTalk: What are the main contaminants we have to worry about in our drinking water? How can we know if we are being exposed and what can we do about it? -- L. Minto, Bern, NC

Today, most Americans get their water from their sinks or fridge filters, and it travels great distances to get there. On the way, it may pick up chemicals that are harmful to our health if not filtered out properly.

An analysis by the non-profit Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) using 2016 data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) found that some 18 million Americans were living in areas with unsafe levels of lead in the water. In another report, USA Today found that 63 million Americans were exposed to unsafe drinking water from 2007-2017. Water pollution issues were also found to disproportionately plague minority and low-income communities.

Flint, Michigan has been a leading example of U.U. communities facing water pollution. Discolored and highly polluted water was piped into Flint for 18 months during which time residents experienced skin rashes, itchy skin and hair loss. Although complaints were filed by Flint community members, they were dismissed by government officials. Many felt the government's response (or lack thereof) was rooted in prejudice as the majority of Flint's population is black and two of five residents live below the poverty line. Michigan's own Civil Rights Commission called the poor response a "result of systemic racism."

One of the main poisons in Flint's water was lead, which entered the water via corroded plumbing. The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), says that lead exposure is especially harmful to kids, causing brain and nervous system damage, developmental, learning and behavioral issues and hearing loss. In adults, lead can cause high blood pressure, miscarriage, infertility and brain and kidney damage.

Some other common contaminants in drinking water are perfluorooctanesulfonic (PFOS) and perfluorooctane (PFOA), strontium and perchlorate. PFOS and PFOA are persistent man-made chemicals that can seep into groundwater sources and don't break down easily. They've been linked to chronic kidney disease and several forms of cancer. Strontium can weaken bones and stunt bone growth. Florida, Texas and Eastern Wisconsin each have higher than normal percentages of strontium in their water because many reservoirs come from carbonate rock aquifers in these states. Perchlorate disrupts the thyroid's ability to produce hormones. It has also been labeled a "likely human carcinogen" by the EPA. It is estimated that 11 million Americans live in areas with perchlorate concentrations that are higher than what is considered safe in drinking water.

If you'd like to know what's in your drinking water, look online for free local water testing reports, or find a lab that will test your home water supply for between \$20-100. Advocating for clean water to local, state and federal government agencies is also key to maintaining the community's right to clean water.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: [question@earthtalk.org](mailto:question@earthtalk.org).



**Contaminated drinking water is a problem from coast-to-coast, and could be the next big public health crisis facing the United States.** Credit: Pixabay.

# Groton Transit

## FUNDRAISER

**Thursday, June 17, 2021**

**4 p.m. to 7 p.m.**

**Groton Community Transit**

**Downtown Groton**

*Tables will be set up outside*

*as in previous years!*

**We will be offering DRIVE-THRU**

**Service again on the**

**south side of the transit.**

*Please join us and help  
support Groton Transit!*

**FREE WILL OFFERING!**

**\* Food \* Fun \* Door Prizes \***

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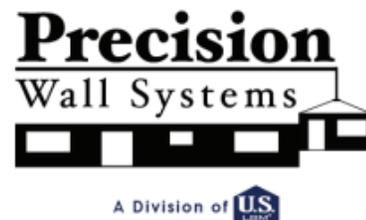


Day shift  
and night  
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**Competitive starting wage  
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Full benefit package!**

**To apply:  
[www.uslbm.com/careers](http://www.uslbm.com/careers) or  
call Diane at 605-448-2929**

**Britton**



## Help Wanted at Groton Area

The Groton Area School District is seeking qualified and motivated individuals for the following position for the 2021-2022 school year.

**Transportation Director.** The Groton Area School District has an opening for the position of Transportation Director. This position is full-time year round with a comprehensive benefits package and salary dependent on education and experience. Criminal background check and pre-employment drug test required. Applicant must hold valid South Dakota Commercial Driver License with School Bus and Passengers endorsements and clean driving record. Interested parties should complete and submit the auxiliary staff application form. Open until filled.

**Elementary Special Education Paraprofessional.** The Groton Area School District is seeking applicants for the position of Special Education Paraprofessional. Starting salary is \$12.10/hour and position includes comprehensive benefits package. Criminal background check required. Interested parties should complete and submit the auxiliary staff application form. Open until filled.

**MS/HS Special Education Paraprofessional.** The Groton Area School District is seeking applicants for the position of Special Education Paraprofessional. Starting salary is \$12.10/hour and position includes comprehensive benefits package. Criminal background check required. Interested parties should complete and submit the auxiliary staff application form. Open until filled.

Applications are available at [www.grotonarea.com](http://www.grotonarea.com) or at the district office – 502 N 2nd Street, Groton.

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County	Total Cases	Recovered Cases	Negative Persons	Deceased Among Cases	Community Spread	% PCR Test Positivity Rate (Weekly)
Aurora	475	459	973	15	Minimal	8.7%
Beadle	2964	2917	6645	40	Minimal	2.7%
Bennett	391	382	1270	9	None	0.0%
Bon Homme	1553	1525	2339	27	Minimal	1.9%
Brookings	4230	4178	13939	37	Moderate	1.0%
Brown	5626	5503	14179	93	Moderate	10.8%
Brule	717	707	2113	10	Minimal	0.0%
Buffalo	426	413	931	13	Minimal	0.0%
Butte	1079	1044	3616	20	Moderate	9.7%
Campbell	131	127	287	4	Minimal	20.0%
Charles Mix	1382	1353	4434	22	Minimal	1.8%
Clark	463	457	1063	5	Minimal	5.6%
Clay	1929	1909	6085	15	Minimal	2.7%
Codington	4648	4558	10940	82	Moderate	1.6%
Corson	480	467	1157	12	Minimal	0.0%
Custer	873	850	2986	12	Substantial	27.5%
Davison	3242	3170	7541	66	Moderate	2.0%
Day	709	679	1995	29	Minimal	5.9%
Deuel	531	519	1341	9	Minimal	6.7%
Dewey	1474	1446	4163	28	Minimal	1.4%
Douglas	455	446	1039	9	None	0.0%
Edmunds	513	499	1177	14	None	0.0%
Fall River	601	581	2949	16	Minimal	2.2%
Faulk	372	358	757	13	Minimal	0.0%
Grant	1057	1009	2520	42	Moderate	2.3%
Gregory	585	551	1442	30	Minimal	5.9%
Haakon	265	254	592	10	Minimal	14.3%
Hamlin	799	759	2042	39	Minimal	0.0%
Hand	364	357	947	6	Minimal	0.0%
Hanson	388	384	810	4	Minimal	0.0%
Harding	97	96	213	1	None	0.0%
Hughes	2520	2467	7527	41	Moderate	3.8%
Hutchinson	920	888	2712	28	Minimal	0.0%

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Hyde	141	140	467	1	None	0.0%
Jackson	291	277	988	14	None	0.0%
Jerauld	280	262	623	16	Minimal	0.0%
Jones	93	93	269	0	None	0.0%
Kingsbury	818	799	1905	18	Minimal	5.0%
Lake	1387	1356	3899	20	Moderate	11.9%
Lawrence	3004	2939	9191	47	Moderate	6.2%
Lincoln	8709	8613	23164	77	Moderate	2.5%
Lyman	658	645	2070	11	Minimal	0.0%
Marshall	375	366	1388	6	Minimal	0.0%
McCook	809	782	1905	25	Minimal	7.4%
McPherson	246	242	628	4	None	0.0%
Meade	2784	2739	8579	31	Moderate	3.5%
Mellette	261	258	825	2	Minimal	0.0%
Miner	306	295	655	10	Minimal	0.0%
Minnehaha	31696	31267	90307	360	Moderate	2.9%
Moody	666	642	1971	20	Minimal	0.0%
Oglala Lakota	2117	2066	7332	49	Minimal	1.1%
Pennington	13831	13571	43561	200	Moderate	4.3%
Perkins	359	345	885	14	Minimal	0.0%
Potter	392	386	928	4	Minimal	0.0%
Roberts	1376	1330	4674	39	Moderate	5.1%
Sanborn	345	342	775	3	Minimal	0.0%
Spink	843	817	2328	26	Minimal	0.0%
Stanley	353	348	1093	2	Minimal	13.6%
Sully	143	139	346	3	Minimal	20.0%
Todd	1234	1199	4555	32	Minimal	1.9%
Tripp	755	738	1668	17	None	2.9%
Turner	1180	1120	3047	57	Minimal	14.3%
Union	2228	2180	7115	43	Moderate	2.9%
Walworth	772	755	1989	15	Minimal	10.8%
Yankton	3107	3063	10575	34	Moderate	5.4%
Ziebach	344	335	951	9	None	0.0%
Unassigned	0	0	1817	0		

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## South Dakota



### AGE GROUP OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

Age Range with Years	# of Cases	# of Deaths Among Cases
0-9 years	5417	0
10-19 years	14682	0
20-29 years	21926	8
30-39 years	20509	20
40-49 years	17758	42
50-59 years	17329	120
60-69 years	14002	279
70-79 years	7294	464
80+ years	5245	1077

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

Race/Ethnicity	# of Cases	% of Cases
White	93243	75%
Native American	14263	11%
Unknown	5635	5%
Hispanic	4713	4%
Black	2845	2%
Other	1767	1%
Asian / Pacific Islander	1696	1%

### VARIANT CASES OF COVID-19 IN SOUTH DAKOTA

COVID-19 Variant	# of Cases
B.1.1.7	156
B.1.429	15
P.1	3
B.1.351	2
B.1.427	1

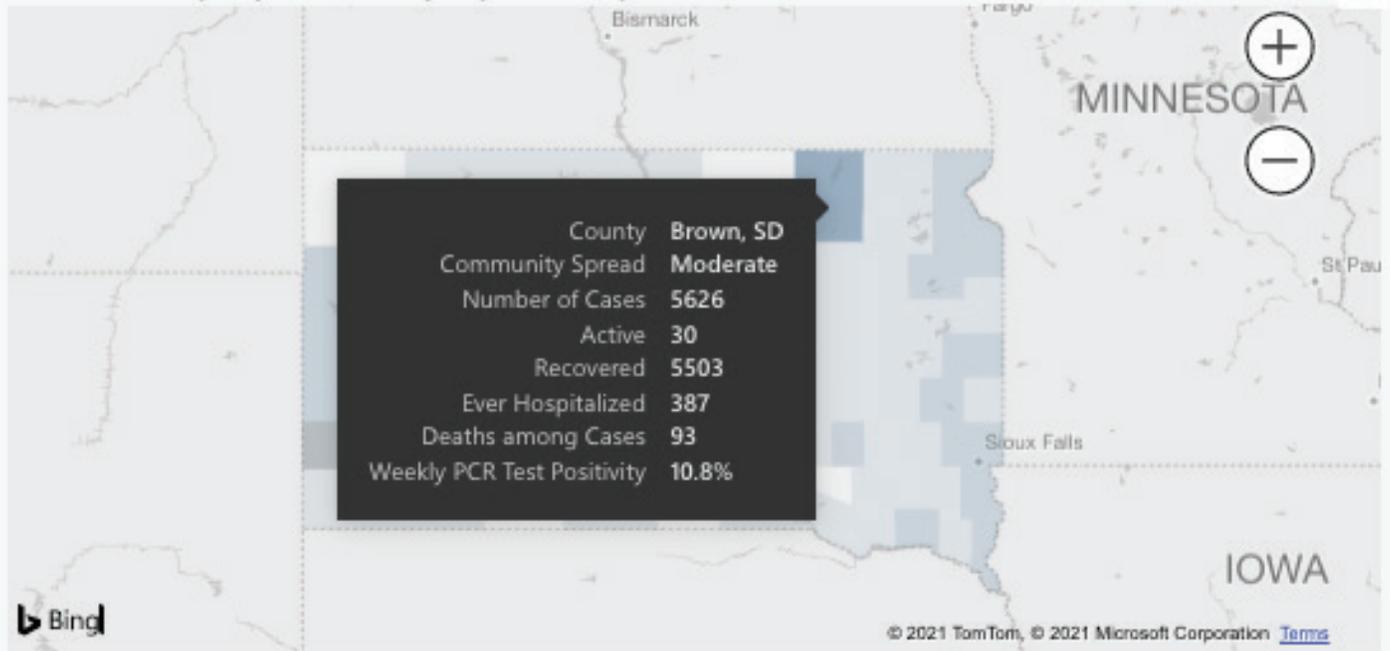
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## Brown County



### Community Spread Map by County of Residence



Community Spread None Minimal Moderate Substantial

Hover over a county to see its details, or click county to update the orange boxes.



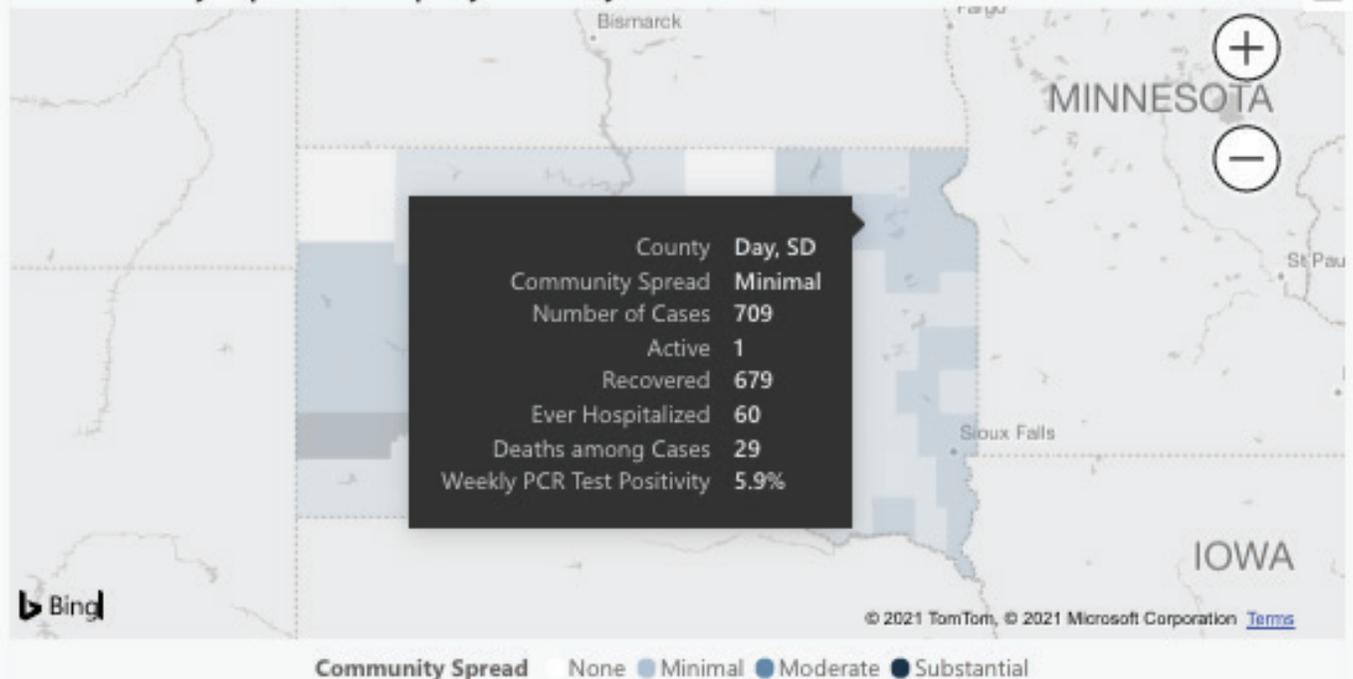
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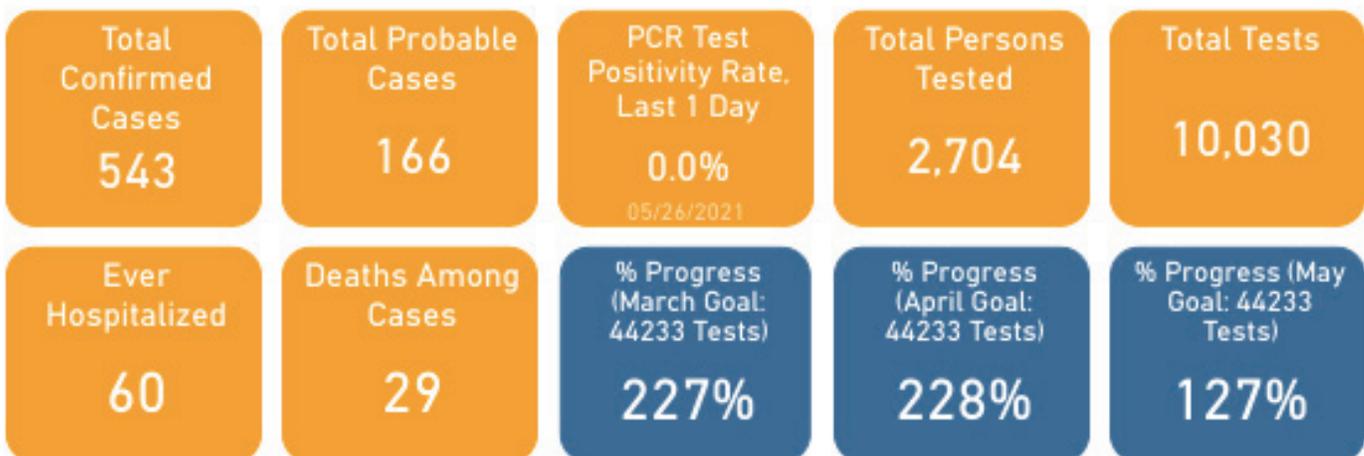
## Day County



### Community Spread Map by County of Residence



Hover over a county to see its details, or click county to update the orange boxes.



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## Vaccinations

Total Doses Administered\*

651,929

Total Persons Administered a Vaccine\*

350,416

Percent of State Population with at least 1 Dose\*\*

54%

Manufacturer	# of Doses
Janssen	20,112
Moderna	287,169
Pfizer	344,648

Doses	# of Recipients
Janssen - Series Complete	20,103
Moderna - 1 dose	11,252
Moderna - Series Complete	137,951
Pfizer - 1 dose	17,703
Pfizer - Series Complete	163,468

Doses	% of Pop.
1 dose	54.32%
Series Complete	49.22%

*Based on 2019 Census Estimate for those aged 12+ years.*

County	# Doses	# Persons (1 dose)	# Persons (2 doses)	Total # Persons
Aurora	2,090	96	997	1,093
Beadle	13,587	1,007	6,289	7,296
Bennett*	785	105	340	445
Bon Homme*	6,041	213	2,914	3,127
Brookings	26,304	2,494	11,903	14,397
Brown	31,971	1,848	15,060	16,908
Brule*	3,093	299	1,397	1,696
Buffalo*	219	93	63	156
Butte	4,798	520	2,139	2,659
Campbell	1,695	61	817	878
Charles Mix*	5,589	595	2,497	3,092
Clark	2,757	305	1,226	1,531
Clay	11,261	1,225	5,017	6,242
Codington*	21,828	1,393	10,215	11,608
Corson*	478	54	212	266
Custer*	5,781	529	2,626	3,155
Davison	16,913	1,024	7,941	8,965
Day*	4,867	339	2,264	2,603
Deuel	2,994	226	1,384	1,610
Dewey*	542	68	237	305
Douglas*	2,200	97	1,051	1,148
Edmunds	2,749	123	1,313	1,436
Fall River*	4,644	326	2,159	2,485
Faulk	1,999	71	964	1,035
Grant*	5,782	237	2,772	3,009
Gregory*	2,999	177	1,411	1,588

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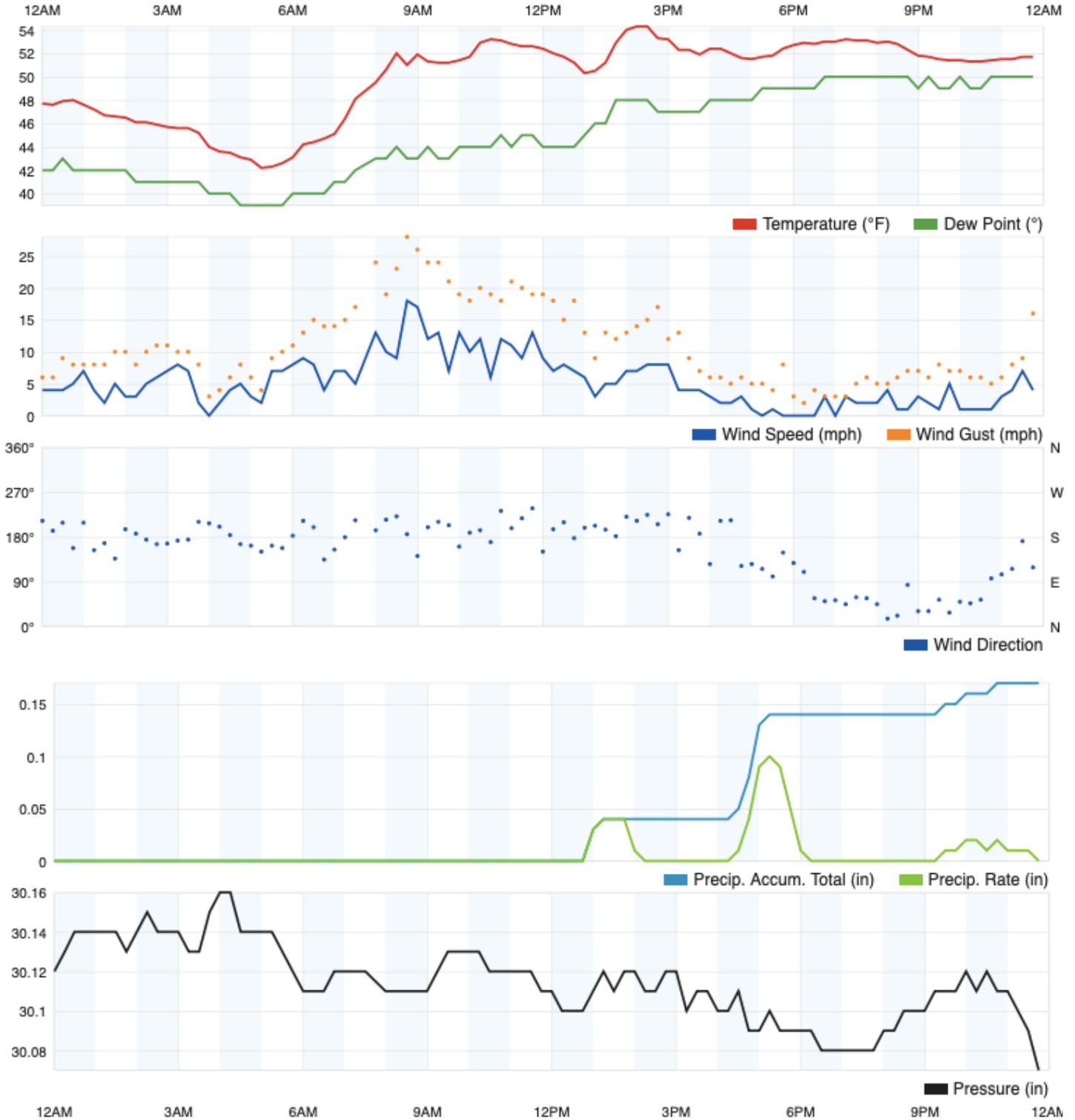
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Haakon*	891	45	423	468
Hamlin	3,806	347	1,729	2,076
Hand	2,759	83	1,338	1,421
Hanson	1,190	68	561	629
Harding	293	31	131	162
Hughes*	16,666	918	7,873	8,791
Hutchinson*	6,810	247	3,281	3,528
Hyde*	923	45	439	484
Jackson*	691	53	319	372
Jerauld	1,632	62	785	847
Jones*	1,128	62	533	595
Kingsbury	5,001	375	2,313	2,688
Lake	9,448	1,041	4,203	5,244
Lawrence	17,715	1,463	8,126	9,589
Lincoln	52,353	3,197	24,571	27,768
Lyman*	1,563	179	692	871
Marshall*	3,803	209	1,797	2,006
McCook	4,329	474	1,927	2,401
McPherson	549	25	262	287
Meade*	12,819	1,052	5,882	6,934
Mellette*	84	2	41	43
Miner	1,638	242	698	940
Minnehaha*	171,652	12,040	79,790	91,830
Moody*	3,668	208	1,730	1,938
Oglala Lakota*	384	84	150	234
Pennington*	69,070	6,352	31,355	37,707
Perkins*	1,257	77	590	667
Potter	1,924	90	917	1,007
Roberts*	7,140	596	3,272	3,868
Sanborn	2,026	141	942	1,083
Spink	5,486	225	2,630	2,855
Stanley*	2,478	122	1,178	1,300
Sully	854	32	411	443
Todd*	314	60	127	187
Tripp*	3,387	177	1,605	1,782
Turner	6,404	400	3,000	3,400
Union	7,495	575	3,459	4,034
Walworth*	3,134	337	1,398	1,735
Yankton	20,310	1,031	9,639	10,670
Ziebach*	100	20	40	60
Other	14,789	2,691	6,048	8,739

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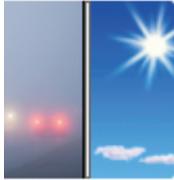
## Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs



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Sunday



Dense Fog  
then Sunny

High: 75 °F

Sunday  
Night



Mostly Clear

Low: 43 °F

Memorial  
Day



Sunny

High: 77 °F

Monday  
Night



Mostly Clear

Low: 48 °F

Tuesday



Mostly Sunny

High: 80 °F



 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
Aberdeen, SD [weather.gov/abr](http://weather.gov/abr) f t

Today      Memorial Day

low to mid **70s**

mid to upper **70s**



Dry with slowly increasing temperatures



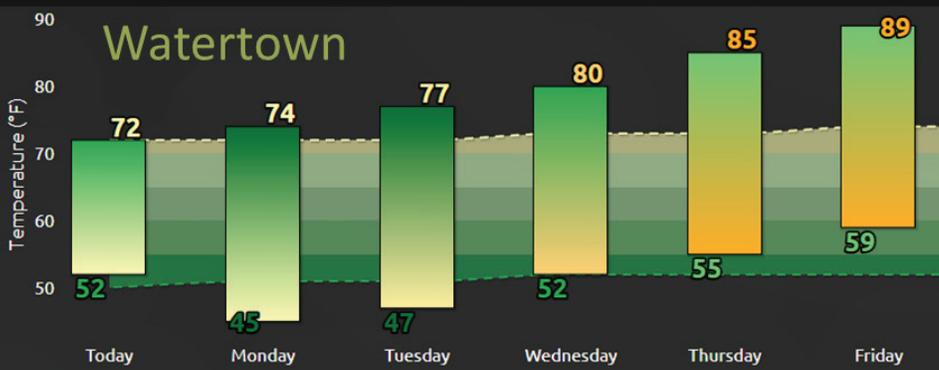
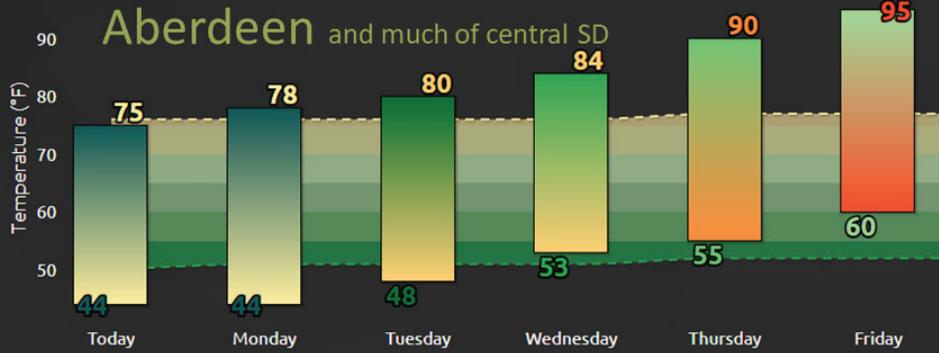
Highs will generally be in the 70s today and Monday.

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## 7 Day Forecast Temperature vs Normal (°F)

— Normal Range ■ Forecast Range



Warming  
Temperatures  
through the  
Week



High temperatures will be steadily warming through the week, with upper 80s and 90s expected Thursday through the upcoming weekend.

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## Today in Weather History

May 30, 1998: An F4 tornado moved through southeast South Dakota, killing six people and injuring another 150. The tornado crossed into McCook County at approximately 7:38 pm, CST and moved through downtown Spencer at about 7:39 pm, CST. The total cost of damage was more than \$18 million with an additional half million in crop damage.

1879: A significant outbreak of severe weather occurred in Kansas and western Missouri. In Kansas, tornadoes killed eighteen persons at Delphos and thirty persons at Irving. Two tornadoes struck the town of Irving within a few minutes time virtually wiping the small Kansas community off the map. The second tornado was perhaps two miles wide and exhibited multiple vortices.

1927: The Kentucky River peaks during a massive flood that killed 89 people and left thousands homeless. Torrential rains caused this unprecedented flood. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

1948 - A railroad bed acting as a dam gave way during a flood along the Columbia River destroying the town of Vanport, OR. The nearly 19,000 residents escaped with little more than the clothes on their backs. (David Ludlum)

1948 - Twenty carloads of glass were needed in Denver, CO, to replace that destroyed by a severe hailstorm. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Unseasonably warm weather prevailed across the eastern U.S. Eighteen cities, from Virginia to Ohio and Michigan, reported record high temperatures for the date. Afternoon highs of 97 degrees at Baltimore, MD, and Washington, DC, and 98 degrees at Newark, NJ, were records for the date. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Memorial Day heralded heavy snow in some of the mountains and higher passes of Wyoming, closing roads in Yellowstone Park. McDonald Pass, MT, was blanketed with eight inches of snow, while the temperature at Miles City, MT, soared to 94 degrees. A "supercell" thunderstorm in west Texas produced baseball size hail in Bailey and Lamb counties, and up to five inches of rain in less than an hour. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from the Upper Mississippi Valley to the Upper Ohio Valley during the day. A powerful (F-4) tornado injured three persons and caused a million dollars damage at New Providence, IA. Baseball size hail was reported at Blue Earth, MN. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Thunderstorms developing along a warm front spawned fourteen tornadoes in northeastern Texas during the late afternoon and evening hours. The thunderstorms also produced baseball size hail near Marshall, wind gusts to 77 mph at Commerce, and up to five inches of rain. Thunderstorms over southwestern Kansas produced up to six inches of rain. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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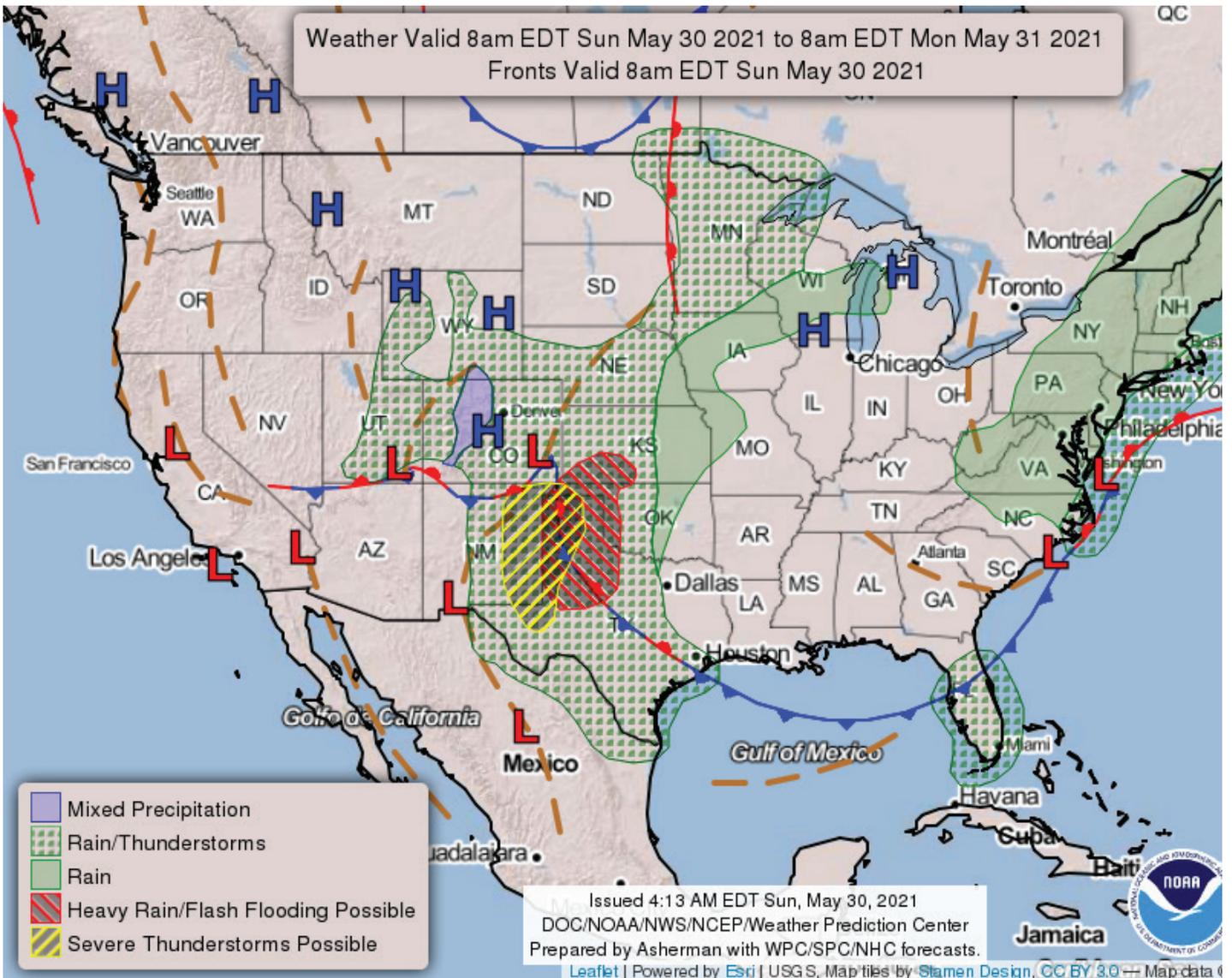
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## Yesterday's Groton Weather

**High Temp: 55 °F at 2:22 PM**  
**Low Temp: 42 °F at 5:17 AM**  
**Wind: 28 mph at 8:40 AM**  
**Precip: .17**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 110° in 1934**  
**Record Low: 27° in 1947**  
**Average High: 76°F**  
**Average Low: 50°F**  
**Average Precip in May.: 3.07**  
**Precip to date in May.: 1.20**  
**Average Precip to date: 7.04**  
**Precip Year to Date: 3.97**  
**Sunset Tonight: 9:14 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:49 a.m.**



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## PURPOSE AND POSSIBILITIES

It began when I bought him his first pair of cowboy boots. He looked at them lovingly and wore them with great pride. Even to bed. After he fell asleep, I would quietly go into his room and remove them gently not wanting to awaken him.

Michael and I "progressed" from the boots to jeans and a plaid shirt. Then a vest. Finally, a cowboy hat. Standing in front of the mirror in his room one day, he declared with pride: "I'm Cowboy Mike." At that moment in his young life, he decided who he was and what he wanted to be: he discovered his destiny by the clothes he wore, and the dreams he had from watching cowboy movies.

Each of us, at one time or another, had a dream about who we wanted to become and what we planned to do with the life that God gave us. We wanted to bring the future into the present with carefully detailed plans and goals. We chose classes and programs of study to help us prepare for occupations that fit into our dreams. We looked forward to accomplishments that would bring us joy and happiness, satisfaction and success. For some life unfolds as planned. For others there were starts and stalls and stops. We worked hard at life.

To make the most of life, however, we must include God in our plans. He knows what is best for us because He gave us life. Writing from a cave one day David finally said, "I cry out to God Most High Who has a plan for me." It is never too late to seek His plan for your life.

Prayer: Lord, may we look to You to discover the plan You have for each of us and make You the center of our life. Only then will we become who You intended us to be and fulfill our destiny. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: I cry out to God Most High, to God, who vindicates me. Psalm 57:2

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## 2021 Community Events

- Cancelled** Legion Post #39 Spring Fundraiser (Sunday closest to St. Patrick's Day, every other year)  
03/27/2021 Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt 10am Sharp at the City Park (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)  
04/10/2021 Dueling Pianos Baseball Fundraiser at the American Legion Post #39 6-11:30pm  
04/24/2021 Firemen's Spring Social at the Fire Station 7pm-12:30am (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)  
04/25/2021 Princess Prom (Sunday after GHS Prom)  
05/01/2021 Lions Club Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales 8am-3pm (1st Saturday in May)  
05/31/2021 Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Services (Memorial Day)  
6/7-9/2021 St. John's Lutheran Church VBS  
06/17/2021 Groton Transit Fundraiser, 4-7 p.m.  
06/18/2021 SDSU Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament at Olive Grove  
06/19/2021 U8 Baseball Tournament  
06/19/2021 Lions Crazy Golf Fest at Olive Grove Golf Course, Noon  
06/26/2021 U10 Baseball Tournament  
06/27/2021 U12 Baseball Tournament  
07/04/2021 Firecracker Golf Tournament at Olive Grove  
07/11/2021 Lions Club Summer Fest/Car Show at the City Park 10am-4pm (Sunday Mid-July)  
07/22/2021 Pro-Am Golf Tournament at Olive Grove Golf Course  
07/30/2021-08/03/2021 State "B" American Legion Baseball Tournament in Groton  
08/06/2021 Wine on Nine at Olive Grove Golf Course  
09/11/2021 Lions Club Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales 8am-3pm (1st Saturday after Labor Day)  
09/12/2021 Sunflower Classic Golf Tournament at Olive Grove  
09/18-19 Groton Fly-In/Drive-In, Groton Municipal Airport  
10/08/2021 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)  
10/09/2021 Pumpkin Fest at the City Park 10am-3pm (Saturday before Columbus Day)  
10/29/2021 Downtown Trick or Treat 4-6pm  
10/31/2021 Groton United Methodist Trunk or Treat (Halloween)  
11/13/2021 Legion Post #39 Turkey Party (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)  
11/25/2021 Community Thanksgiving at the Community Center 11:30am-1pm (Thanksgiving)  
12/11/2021 Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services 9am-Noon

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## News from the Associated Press

### SD Lottery

By The Associated Press undefined

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

Dakota Cash

05-06-09-14-23

(five, six, nine, fourteen, twenty-three)

Estimated jackpot: \$33,000

Lotto America

04-16-18-34-42, Star Ball: 6, ASB: 2

(four, sixteen, eighteen, thirty-four, forty-two; Star Ball: six; ASB: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$6.62 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$34 million

Powerball

11-13-22-27-46, Powerball: 20, Power Play: 2

(eleven, thirteen, twenty-two, twenty-seven, forty-six; Powerball: twenty; Power Play: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$253 million

### Judge orders man accused of child porn held without bond

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A former leader of the Salvation Army in the Black Hills accused of receiving and possessing child pornography is being held without bond until his trial.

A federal magistrate on Friday ordered Javier Moreno, 40, detained during a hearing on Friday, the Rapid City Journal reported.

A trial is set for July 27.

Moreno has pleaded not guilty to federal charges of receiving and possessing child pornography.

Investigators seized 46 electronic items during a search this month at the Salvation Army's Black Hills Camp, officials said. The Salvation Army says it has fired Moreno and is cooperating with the investigation.

Moreno was a captain and the Black Hills Area coordinator and lived at the camp in Rapid City.

Moreno was indicted after law enforcement received a tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, authorities said.

### Judge: Blame in Italy cable car deaths rests with technician

By NICOLE WINFIELD Associated Press

ROME (AP) — The three suspects in Italy's cable car disaster that killed 14 people were allowed to leave prison Sunday after a judge indicated that most of the blame fell on a service technician who intentionally disabled the car's emergency brake because it kept locking spontaneously.

Judge Donatella Banci Buonamici said there wasn't sufficient evidence suggesting the owner of the Mottarone cable car company, Luigi Nerini, or the maintenance chief, Enrico Perocchio, knew the technician had deactivated the brake on several occasions even before the May 23 disaster.

After evaluating the prosecutors' case and their request for continued detention of the three, Buonamici ordered those two freed while allowing the technician, Gabriele Tadini, to leave under house arrest. The three men left the Verbania prison early Sunday, accompanied by their lawyers.

Fourteen people were killed when the lead cable of the Mottarone funicular overlooking Lake Maggiore in northern Italy snapped and the emergency brake failed to prevent the cable car from reeling backward down the support line. The cable car pulled off the line entirely when it hit a support pylon, crashed to

the ground and then rolled down the mountain until it was stopped by a stand of trees.

The lone survivor, 5-year-old Eitan Biran, remains hospitalized but conscious.

It is not known why the cable snapped.

The Italian region of Piedmont observed a minute of silence at noon Sunday, and flags were flying at half-staff to mark the moment one week ago when the disaster struck.

Tadini admitted during questioning that he had left a fork-shaped bracket on the cable car's emergency brake to disable it because it kept locking on its own while the car was in service, said his lawyer Marcello Perillo.

Speaking to reporters outside the Verbania prison, Perillo said Tadini never would have left the bracket in place if he thought the lead cable would snap, as it did.



**A rescuer takes a picture of a clamp that was placed on an emergency brake, as search for evidence continues in the wreckage of a cable car after it collapsed near the summit of the Stresa-Mottarone line in the Piedmont region, northern Italy, Wednesday, May 26, 2021. Police have made three arrests in the cable car disaster that killed 14 people after an investigation showed a clamp, placed on the brake as a patchwork repair effort, prevented the brake from engaging after the lead cable snapped.** (AP Photo/Luca Bruno)

## UK PM Boris Johnson marries fiancée in private ceremony

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and his fiancée Carrie Symonds married Saturday in a small private ceremony in London, his Downing Street office said Sunday.

Johnson's office confirmed reports in the Mail on Sunday and the Sun that the couple wed at the Roman Catholic Westminster Cathedral in front of a small group of friends and family.

"The Prime Minister and Ms. Symonds were married yesterday afternoon in a small ceremony at Westminster Cathedral," Downing Street said. "The couple will celebrate their wedding with family and friends next summer."

The couple have reportedly sent save-the-date cards to family and friends for a celebration on July 30, 2022.

Under current coronavirus restrictions in England, no more than 30 people can attend a wedding.

Johnson, 56, and 33-year-old Symonds, an environmental advocate, announced their engagement in February 2020 and have a son together, 1-year-old Wilfred.

The marriage is Symonds' first and Johnson's third. He has at least five other children from previous relationships.

The last British prime minister to marry in office was Lord Liverpool in 1822.

The reported nuptials come after a tumultuous political week for Johnson, who was accused by former top aide Dominic Cummings on Wednesday of bungling the government's response to the coronavirus and being "unfit for the job."

On Friday, an ethics inquiry found the prime minister acted "unwisely" in renovating his Downing Street apartment without knowing where the money had come from but it cleared him of misconduct.

A member of the opposition Labour Party, Jon Trickett, suggested the wedding was "a good way to bury this week's bad news" on Cummings' testimony and the report on the funding of the Downing Street flat.

## Egypt bets on ancient finds to pull tourism out of pandemic

By SAMY MAGDY Associated Press  
CAIRO (AP) — Workers dig and ferry wheelbarrows laden with sand to open a new shaft at a bustling archaeological site outside of Cairo, while a handful of Egyptian archaeologists supervise from garden chairs. The dig is at the foot of the Step Pyramid of Djoser, arguably the world's oldest pyramid, and is one of many recent excavations that are yielding troves of ancient artifacts from the country's largest archaeological site.

As some European countries reopen to international tourists, Egypt has already been trying for months to attract them to its archaeological sites and museums. Officials are betting that the new ancient discoveries will set it apart on the mid- and post-pandemic tourism market. They need visitors to come back in force to inject cash into the tourism industry, a pillar of the economy.

But like countries elsewhere, Egypt continues to battle the coronavirus, and is struggling to get its people vaccinated. The country has, up until now, received only 5 million vaccines for its population of 100 million people, according to its Health Ministry. In early May, the government announced that 1 million people had been vaccinated, though that number is believed to be higher now.

In the meantime, authorities have kept the publicity machine running, focused on the new discoveries.

In November, archaeologists announced the discovery of at least 100 ancient coffins dating back to the Pharaonic Late Period and Greco-Ptolemaic era, along with 40 gilded statues found 2,500 years after they were first buried. That came a month after the discovery of 57 other coffins at the same site, the necropolis of Saqqara that includes the step pyramid.

"Saqqara is a treasure," said Tourism and Antiquities Minister Khaled el-Anany while announcing the November discovery, estimating that only 1% of what the site contains has been unearthed so far.

"Our problem now is that we don't know how we can possibly wow the world after this," he said.

If they don't, it certainly won't be for lack of trying.

In April, Zahi Hawass, Egypt's best-known archaeologist, announced the discovery of a 3,000-year-old lost city in southern Luxor, complete with mud brick houses, artifacts and tools from pharaonic times. It dates back to Amenhotep III of the 18th dynasty, whose reign (1390–1353 B.C.) is considered a golden era for ancient Egypt.

That discovery was followed by a made-for-TV parade celebrating the transport of 22 of the country's prized royal mummies from central Cairo to their new resting place in a massive facility farther south in



**In this Friday, Dec. 13, 2019, file photo, Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson and his partner Carrie Symonds wave from the steps of number 10 Downing Street in London. U.K. newspapers are reporting that Prime Minister Johnson and his fiancée Symonds married Saturday, May 29, 2021, in a small private ceremony in London. The Mail on Sunday and the Sun said the couple wed at the Roman Catholic Westminster Cathedral in front of a small group of friends and family.** (AP Photo/Matt Dunham, File)

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the capital, the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization.

The Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh is now home to an archaeological museum, as is Cairo's International Airport, both opened in recent months. And officials have also said they still plan to open the massive new Grand Egyptian Museum next to the Giza Pyramids by January, after years of delays. Entrance fees for archaeological sites have been lowered, as has the cost of tourist visas.

The government has for years played up its ancient history as a selling point, as part of a yearslong effort to revive the country's battered tourism industry. It was badly hit during and after the popular uprising that toppled longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak and the ensuing unrest. The coronavirus dealt it a similar blow, just as it was getting back on its feet.

In 2019, foreign tourism's revenue stood at \$13 billion. Egypt received some 13.1 million foreign tourists — reaching pre-2011 levels for the first time. But in 2020, it greeted only 3.5 million foreign tourists, according to the minister el-Anany.

At the newly opened National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, Mahmoud el-Rays, a tour guide, was leading a small group of European tourists at the hall housing the royal mummies.

"2019 was a fantastic year," he said. "But corona reversed everything. It is a massive blow."

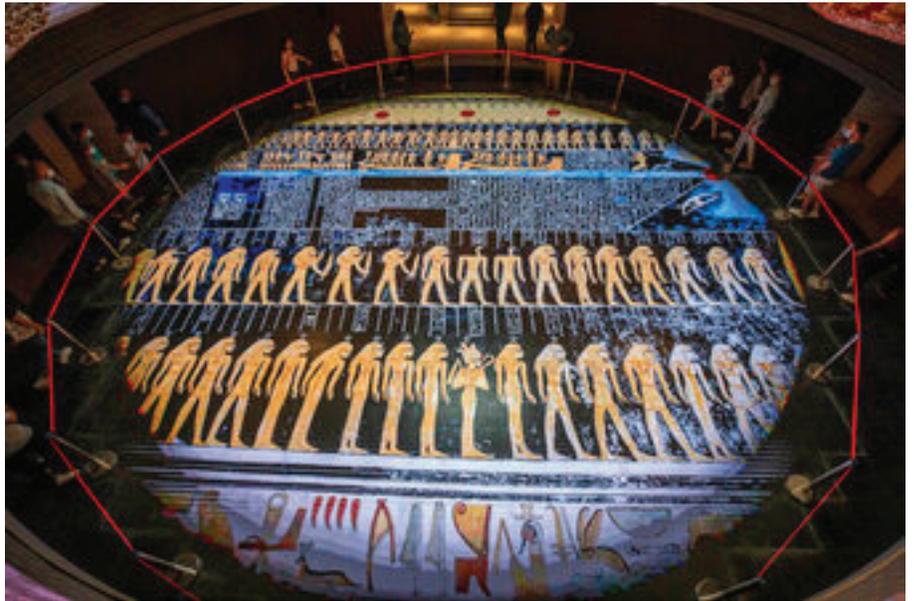
Tourism traffic strengthened in the first months of 2021, el-Anany, the minister, told The Associated Press in a recent interview, though he did not give specific figures. He was optimistic that more would continue to come year-round.

"Egypt is a perfect destination for post-COVID in that our tourism is really an open-air tourism," he said.

But it remains to be seen if the country truly has the virus under control. It has recorded a total of 14,950 deaths from the virus and is still seeing more than a thousand new cases daily. Like other countries, the real numbers are believed to be much higher. In Egypt, though, authorities have arrested doctors and silenced critics who questioned the government's response, so there are fears that information on the true cost of the virus may have been suppressed from the beginning.

Egypt also had a trying experience early on in the pandemic, when it saw a coronavirus outbreak on one of its Nile River cruise boats. It first closed its borders completely until the summer of 2020, but later welcomed tourists back, first to Red-Sea resort towns and now to the heart of the country — Cairo and the Nile River Valley that hosts most of its famous archaeological sites. Visitors still require a negative COVID-19 test result to enter the country.

In a further cause for optimism, Russia said in April that it plans to resume direct flights to Egypt's Red Sea resort towns. Moscow stopped the flights after the local Islamic State affiliate bombed a Russian airliner over the Sinai Peninsula in October 2015, killing all on board.



**FILE - In this April 24, 2021 file photo, people visit the new National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Old Cairo, Saturday, April 24, 2021. As some European countries re-open to international tourists, Egypt has already been trying for months to attract them to its archaeological sites and museums. Officials are betting that the new ancient discoveries will set it apart on the mid- and post-pandemic tourism market** (AP Photo/Nariman El-Mofty, File)

Amanda, a 36-year-old engineer from Austria, returned to Egypt in May. It was her second visit in four years. She visited the Egyptian Museum, the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization and Islamic Cairo, in the capital's historic center.

She had planned to come last year, but the pandemic interfered.

"Once they opened, I came," she said. "It was my dream to see the Pyramids again."

El-Rays, the tour guide, says that while he's seeing tourists starting to come in larger numbers, he knows a full recovery will not happen overnight.

"It will take some time to return to before corona," he said.

## 'Hooked on a Feeling' singer B.J. Thomas dies at 78

By HILLEL ITALIE AP National Writer

B.J. Thomas, the Grammy-winning singer who enjoyed success on the pop, country and gospel charts with such hits as "I Just Can't Help Believing," "Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head" and "Hooked on a Feeling," has died. He was 78.

Thomas, who announced in March that he had been diagnosed with lung cancer, died from complications of the disease Saturday at his home in Arlington, Texas, his publicist Jeremy Westby said in a statement.

A Hugo, Oklahoma-native who grew up in Houston, Billy Joe Thomas broke through in 1966 with a gospel-styled cover of Hank Williams' "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry" and went on to sell millions of records and have dozens of hits across genres. He reached No. 1 with pop, adult contemporary and country listeners in 1976 with "(Hey Won't You Play) Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong Song." The same year, his "Home Where I Belong" became one of the first gospel albums to be certified platinum for selling more than 1 million copies.

Dionne Warwick, who duetted with Thomas, sent out a tweet Saturday with her condolences.

"My sincere condolences to the family of one of my favorite duet partners, BJ Thomas. I will miss him as I know so many others will as well. Rest In Peace my friend," she said.

Thomas' signature recording was "Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head," a No. 1 pop hit and an Oscar winner for best original song as part of the soundtrack to one of the biggest movies of 1969, the irreverent Western "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid." Thomas wasn't the first choice to perform the whimsical ballad composed by Burt Bacharach and Hal David; Ray Stevens turned the songwriters down. But his warm, soulful tenor fit the song's easygoing mood, immortalized on film during the scene when Butch (Paul Newman) shows off his new bicycle to Etta Place (Katharine Ross), the girlfriend of the Sundance Kid (Robert Redford).



**FILE - In this Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2007. file photo, Music artist B.J. Thomas speaks after Gov. Brad Henry, left, presented Thomas with a proclamation at the state Capitol in Oklahoma City. B.J. Thomas, the versatile, Grammy-winning singer who enjoyed success on the pop, country and gospel charts with such hits as "I Just Can't Help Believing," "Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head" and "Hooked On a Feeling," has died, Saturday, May 29, 2021. He was 78.** (Paul B.

Southerland/The Oklahoman via AP, File)

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"Raindrops" has since been heard everywhere from "The Simpsons" to "Forrest Gump" and was voted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 2013. But, at first, not everyone was satisfied. Thomas was recovering from laryngitis while recording the soundtrack version and his vocals are raspier than for the track released on its own. Redford, meanwhile, doubted the song even belonged in "Butch Cassidy."

"When the film was released, I was highly critical — how did the song fit with the film? There was no rain," Redford told USA Today in 2019. "At the time, it seemed like a dumb idea. How wrong I was."

Thomas would later say the phenomenon of "Raindrops" exacerbated an addiction to pills and alcohol which dated back to his teens, when a record producer in Houston suggested he take amphetamines to keep his energy up. He was touring and recording constantly and taking dozens of pills a day. By 1976, while "(Hey Won't You Play) Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong Song" was hitting No. 1, he felt like he was "number 1,000."

"I was at the bottom with my addictions and my problems," he said in 2020 on "The Debby Campbell Goodtime Show." He cited a "spiritual awakening," shared with his wife, Gloria Richardson, with helping him to get clean.

Thomas had few pop hits after the mid-1970s, but he continued to score on the country charts with such No. 1 songs as "Whatever Happened to Old-Fashioned Love" and "New Looks from an Old Lover." In the late 1970s and early '80s, he was also a top gospel and inspirational singer, winning two Dove awards and five Grammys, including a Grammy in 1979 for best gospel performance for "The Lord's Prayer."

Fans of the 1980s sitcom "Growing Pains" heard him as the singer of the show's theme song. He also acted in a handful of movies, including "Jory" and "Jake's Corner" and toured often. Recent recordings included "Living Room Music," featuring cameos from Lyle Lovett, Vince Gill and Richard Marx. He had planned to record in 2020 in Muscle Shoals, Alabama, but the sessions were delayed because of the pandemic.

Thomas married Richardson in 1968, and had three daughters: Paige, Nora and Erin. He and his wife worked on the 1982 memoir "In Tune: Finding How Good Life Can Be." His book "Home Where I Belong" came out in 1978 and was co-authored by Jerry B. Jenkins, later famous for the million-selling "Left Behind" religious novels written with Tim LaHaye.

Besides music, Thomas loved baseball as a kid and started calling himself B.J. because so many Little League teammates also were named Billy Joe. By his teens, he was singing in church and had joined a local rock band, the Triumphs, whom he would stay with into his 20s. He enjoyed Ernest Tubbs, Hank Williams and other country performers his parents liked, but on his own he was inspired by the soul and rhythm and blues singers he heard on the radio or saw on stage, notably Jackie Wilson, whose hit ballad "To Be Loved" Thomas later covered and adopted as a kind of guide to his life.

"I was raised in a fairly dysfunctional situation and I went through years of intense alcoholism and drug addiction so the song was always a touchstone for me. When you open yourself up to drugs and alcohol at such a young age it becomes something you have to deal with the rest of your life," he told the Huffington Post in 2014.

"What a road block and heartbreak and times of failure these addictions have caused me. But I had that little piece of lightning from that song. That's the essence of the whole thing. To love and be loved. And that takes a lifetime to accomplish. It's always been an important part of my emotions."

## Black fear of Tulsa police lingers 100 years after massacre

By CLIFF BRUNT Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — There's been undeniable progress in the relationship between the Tulsa police and the city's Black community in the past 100 years. Then again, it's hard to imagine it could have gotten worse.

Complaints about police bias and a lack of enough minority officers remain. But the police chief is now a Black man from north Tulsa, the area that includes what once was America's wealthiest Black business district.

Back in 1921 — decades before the civil rights movement — even the thought of a Black police chief would have been inconceivable. That year, Greenwood — the Black north Tulsa neighborhood that includes

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the area known as Black Wall Street — was burned to the ground with assistance from the virtually all-white Tulsa Police Department. Sparked by accusations that a 19-year-old Black man had assaulted a 17-year-old white girl in an elevator, the Tulsa Race Massacre left as many as 300 Black people dead and thousands of Black residents displaced. Thirty-five square blocks were torched and damages spiraled into the millions.

Tulsa's police department deputized white mobs and provided them with arms. Numerous reports describe white men with badges setting fires and shooting Black people as part of the Greenwood invasion. According to an Associated Press article from the time, Black people who were driven from their homes by the hundreds shouted, "Don't shoot!" as they rushed through the flames.

After the massacre went largely ignored for decades, awareness has increased in recent years. Police Chief Chuck Jordan stood in Greenwood in 2013 and apologized for the department's role.

"I can't apologize for the actions, inaction or derelictions of those individual officers and their chief," Jordan said. "But as your chief today, I can apologize for our police department. I am sorry and distressed that the Tulsa Police Department did not protect its citizens during the tragic days in 1921."

The appointment of Wendell Franklin to succeed Jordan last year is seen by some as a measure of progress. But Black Tulsans say that's not enough.

"I think it's something that the community needs to see," said Ina Sharon Mitchell, a 70-year-old woman who was raised in north Tulsa. "But how far does that change really go when the doors are closed?"

In a 2018 Gallup-Tulsa Citivoice Index poll designed to measure quality of life issues, only 18% of Black residents said they trust police "a lot," compared to 49% of white residents, and 46% of Black Tulsans said they trust the Police Department "not at all" or "not much," compared to 16% of whites.

According to Tulsa Equality Indicators, produced in a partnership between the city and the Community Service Council, Black juveniles were more than three times more likely to be arrested in 2020 than white youths. Black adults were more than 2.54 times more likely to be arrested than white adults and 2.65 times more likely to experience use of force.

In 2016, then-Tulsa police officer Betty Shelby shot and killed Terence Crutcher, an unarmed Black man. Shelby — a white woman — was acquitted of manslaughter. She was reassigned in the department before resigning. For Black Tulsans who grew up learning what happened in Greenwood, Crutcher's killing brought old pain back to the surface.

"I believe that my brother's killing really unearthed a century of racial tension here in Tulsa, Oklahoma,"



**FILE - In this Saturday, June 20, 2020 file photo, a Tulsa Police officer works near a Black Lives Matter event a few blocks away from the BOK Center before a rally by President Donald Trump in Tulsa, Okla. In a 2018 Gallup-Tulsa Citivoice Index poll designed to measure quality of life issues, only 18% of Black residents said they trust police a lot, compared to 49% of white residents, and 46% of Black Tulsans said they trust the Police Department "not at all" or "not much," compared to 16% of whites. (Mike Simons/Tulsa World via AP, File)**

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said Tiffany Crutcher, Terence Crutcher's twin sister who is also organizing commemoration events for the anniversary of the massacre.

Crutcher said the relationship between Tulsa's police and the community is still strained.

"Here in Tulsa, explicitly and specifically, there's not a really good relationship between law enforcement and the Black community, Black and brown communities," she said. "The relationship isn't good at all. There's no trust there."

Crutcher started the Terence Crutcher Foundation with a goal to bridge the fear and mistrust between Black communities and law enforcement. She is frustrated with the lack of progress in Tulsa and is especially disappointed in Franklin.

"This is someone who doesn't believe — someone who looks like me — that the Tulsa Police Department has a problem with racially biased policing," she said.

"He says the problem doesn't exist. So for me, I don't care what color you are, but if you have a track record in building relationships with the community and doing what's fair in community policing, then I can deal with you. Putting someone in that position that looks like us is just a shallow act of putting lipstick on a pig."

Franklin did not respond to several interview requests. During his tenure, he has said police need better training in dealing with the public. But he also testified before an Oklahoma legislative panel after 2020's nationwide protests over racial bias in policing that recruiting new officers is difficult because of growing anti-law enforcement public sentiment.

"Quite frankly, who would want to come do this job with everything placed upon us," he said.

Greg Robinson, the 31-year-old founding organizer of Demanding a JUSTulsa and Director of Family and Community Ownership at Met Cares Foundation, said there's a lack of transparency from the Tulsa Police Department.

"I think the main problem is there is not a system of citizen oversight or accountability," he said. "I think that's really where we're falling down. It's not that all police are bad because they're not. But everybody in our community isn't a criminal, either. And sometimes, it feels like we get policed like that."

Mitchell said back in the 1950s and 1960s, there were more Black officers, and that fostered the feeling of a partnership. It's different now — in 2019, according to the department's annual report, 8.4% of employees were Black, compared to 15.1% of the city's overall population.

"When I was a child and raised up, most of the police officers looked like me," she said. "They lived in the community, so the relationship of the Police Department and the community was one-on-one. They knew the children. They knew the schools they went to. Now, you don't have that."

Robinson, who also is a board member for the Terence Crutcher Foundation, remains hopeful that change can occur. He believes it ideally would start with outreach from the police and local oversight and inclusion from the Black community. The fact that Franklin is from the neighborhood helps Robinson remain optimistic.

"I hope that through his tenure he can really begin to inject, gauge the community around the changes that we have been advocating for," Robinson said. "So far, it hasn't happened, but certainly, he is somebody who grew up out north. He should understand it. And I would hope that he would be courageous enough to really include us and involve us."

Crutcher has taken her fight beyond Oklahoma. She said some of her recommendations are included in the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act that is under consideration. She said she was in Washington this spring with the family of Floyd, who was killed by police last year in Minneapolis, and relatives of Botham Jean and Eric Garner, who also died at the hands of police, pushing for the bill.

She said her brother told her in their last conversation that he was going to make her proud, and that "God is going to get the glory out of my life."

"I believe that the work that I've done — this righteous fight — the fact that we're at the precipice of some type of change — is living proof of Terence's last statement to me," she said. "But we have so much work to do."

## Texas GOP puts final touches on sweeping voting restrictions

By PAUL J. WEBER and ACACIA CORONADO Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas Republicans dug in Saturday for a final weekend vote on some of the most restrictive new voting laws in the U.S., putting the last touches on a sweeping bill that would eliminate drive-thru voting, empower partisan poll watchers and limit voting on Sundays, when many Black churchgoers head to the polls.

The changes would need to be approved before midnight on Sunday, when the GOP-controlled Legislature wraps up a session dominated by Republicans muscling through staunchly conservative measures pertaining to guns, abortion and how race can be taught in public schools.

But none have drawn backlash like Senate Bill 7, which Republicans packed with a raft of new voting restrictions that would alter how the country's biggest red state conducts elections. Democrats have virtually no path to stop it from passing, thereby putting Republicans on the brink of a major victory in their nationwide campaign to impose new voting restrictions driven by former President Donald Trump's false claims that the 2020 election was stolen from him.

Republican Gov. Greg Abbott has said he will sign the measure, which Democrats have said they would challenge in court.

President Joe Biden released a statement calling the Texas bill's final form "wrong and un-American."

"Today, Texas legislators put forth a bill that joins Georgia and Florida in advancing a state law that attacks the sacred right to vote. It's part of an assault on democracy that we've seen far too often this year — and often disproportionately targeting Black and Brown Americans," Biden said.

The final version of the bill was hashed out behind closed doors by negotiators from the state House and Senate, nearly all of whom were Republicans. They preserved the elimination of 24-hour polling stations and drive-thru voting centers, both of which Harris County, the state's largest Democratic stronghold, introduced last year in an election that saw record turnout.

GOP legislators are also moving to prohibit Sunday voting before 1 p.m., which critics called an attack on what is commonly known as "souls to the polls" — a get-out-the vote campaign used by Black church congregations nationwide. The idea traces back to the civil rights movement. Democratic state Rep. Nicole Collier, chairwoman of the Texas Legislative Black Caucus, said the change is "going to disengage, disenfranchise those who use the souls to the polls opportunity."

Collier was one of three Democrats picked to negotiate the final version, none of whom signed their name to it. She said she saw a draft of the bill around 11 p.m. Friday — which was different than one she had received earlier that day — and was asked for her signature the next morning.



**FILE - In this May 6, 2021 file photo, a group opposing new voter legislation gather outside the House Chamber at the Texas Capitol in Austin, Texas. Texas Republicans dug in Saturday, May 29, for a final weekend vote on some of the most restrictive new voting laws in the U.S., finalizing a sweeping bill that would eliminate drive-thru voting, reduce polling hours and scale back Sunday voting, when many Black churchgoers head to the polls.**(AP Photo/Eric Gay, File)

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Texas is also set to newly empower partisan poll watchers, allowing them more access inside polling places and threatening criminal penalties against elections officials who restrict their movement. Republicans originally proposed giving poll watchers the right to take photos, but that language was removed from the final bill that lawmakers were set to vote on this weekend.

Another new provision could also make it easier to overturn an election in Texas, allowing for a judge to void an outcome if the number of fraudulent votes cast could change the result, regardless of whether it was proved that fraud affected the outcome.

Major corporations, including Texas-based American Airlines and Dell, have warned that the measures could harm democracy and the economic climate. But Republicans shrugged off their objections, and in some cases, ripped business leaders for speaking out.

The top Republican negotiators, state Sen. Bryan Hughes and state Rep. Briscoe Cain, called the bill "one of the most comprehensive and sensible election reform bills" in Texas' history.

"Even as the national media minimizes the importance of election integrity, the Texas Legislature has not bent to headlines or corporate virtue signaling," they said in a joint statement.

Texas already has some of the country's tightest voting restrictions and is regularly cited by nonpartisan groups as a state where it is especially hard to vote. It was one of the few states that did not make it easier to vote by mail during the pandemic.

It is also the last big battleground in Republicans' efforts to tighten voting laws around the country. Florida, Georgia, and Arizona have also approved new voting restrictions in recent months.

Since Trump's defeat, at least 14 states have enacted more restrictive voting laws, according to the New York-based Brennan Center for Justice. It has also counted nearly 400 bills filed this year nationwide that would restrict voting.

Republican lawmakers in Texas have insisted that the changes are not a response to Trump's false claims of widespread fraud but are needed to restore confidence in the voting process. But doubts about the election's outcome have been fanned by some of the state's top GOP leaders, including Attorney General Ken Paxton, who led a failed lawsuit at the U.S. Supreme Court to try to overturn the election.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who chaired Trump's presidential campaign in Texas, offered a \$1 million reward to anyone who could produce evidence of voter fraud. Nonpartisan investigations of previous elections have found that voter fraud is exceedingly rare. State officials from both parties, including in Texas, as well as international observers have also said the 2020 election went well.

## Gavin MacLeod, 'Love Boat' captain, dies at 90

By LYNN ELBER AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Gavin MacLeod, the veteran supporting actor who achieved fame as sardonic TV news writer Murray Slaughter on "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" and stardom playing cheerful Capt. Stubing on "The Love Boat," has died. He was 90.

MacLeod died early Saturday at his home in Palm Desert, California, said Stephanie Steele Zalin, his stepdaughter. She attributed his death to his age, saying he had been well until very recently.

"He had one of the most amazing, fun blasts of a life of anybody I know. He enjoyed every minute of it," Steele Zalin said. "I don't even think in his wildest dreams he dreamt of the life that he ended up having and creating."

She called him the "best, sweetest, purest guy."

Ed Asner, who played opposite MacLeod on "The Mary Tyler Moore Show," said on Twitter that "my heart is broken. Gavin was my brother, my partner in crime (and food) and my comic conspirator."

Known to sitcom fans for his bald head and wide smile, MacLeod toiled in near anonymity for more than a decade, appearing on dozens of TV shows and in several movies before landing the part of Murray in 1970.

He had originally tested for Moore's TV boss, Lou Grant, the role that went to Asner. Realizing he wasn't right for playing the blustery, short-tempered TV newsroom leader, MacLeod asked if he could try instead for the wisecracking TV news writer, his jokes often at the expense of the dimwitted anchorman Ted Baxter.

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"The Mary Tyler Moore Show" was a smash from the start and remains a classic of situation comedies. It produced two spinoffs, "Rhoda" and "Phyllis," starring Valerie Harper and Cloris Leachman, respectively, who had portrayed Mary's neighbors.

It was still top-rated when Moore, who played news producer Mary Richards, decided to end it after seven seasons.

MacLeod moved on to "The Love Boat," a romantic comedy in which guest stars, ranging from Gene Kelly to Janet Jackson, would come aboard for a cruise and fall in love with one another.

Although scorned by critics, the series proved immensely popular, lasting 11 seasons and spinning off several TV movies, including two in which MacLeod remained at the cruise ship's helm. It also resulted in his being hired as a TV pitchman for Princess Cruise Lines.

"The critics hated it. They called it mindless TV, but we became goodwill ambassadors," he told the Los Angeles Times in 2013.

Among his final TV credits were "Touched by An Angel," "JAG" and "The King of Queens."

MacLeod's lighthearted screen persona was in contrast to his private life. In his 2013 memoir, "This Is Your Captain Speaking," MacLeod acknowledged that he had struggled with alcoholism in the 1960s and 1970s. He also wrote that losing his hair at an early age made it hard for him to find work as an actor.

"I went all over town looking for an agent, but no one was interested in representing a young man with a bald head," he wrote. "I knew what I needed to do. I needed to buy myself a hairpiece." A toupee changed his luck "pretty quickly." By middle age, he didn't need the toupee.

In a 2013 interview with The Associated Press, MacLeod frequently invoked the word "grateful" as he reflected on his born-again Christian faith, surviving two heart attacks and his robust life.

"That's a big word in my life. I'm just so grateful I've had another day, another day, another day, and that my kids are doing so well," he said.

MacLeod, whose given name was Allan See, took his first name from a French movie and his last from a drama teacher at New York's Ithaca College who had encouraged him to pursue an acting career.

After college, the native of Mount Kisco, New York, became a supporting player in "A Hatful of Rain" and other Broadway plays, and in such films as "I Want to Live!" and "Operation Petticoat."

He made guest appearances on TV shows throughout the 1960s, including "Hogan's Heroes," "Hawaii Five-O" and "The Dick Van Dyke Show." He also appeared on "McHale's Navy" from 1962 to 1964 as seaman Joseph "Happy" Haines.

One major role he auditioned for: Archie Bunker in "All in the Family." But he quickly realized that the character, immortalized by Carol O'Conner, was wrong for him. "Immediately I thought, 'This is not the script for me. The character is too much of a bigot.' I can't say these things," MacLeod wrote in his memoir.

Other movie credits included "Kelly's Heroes," "The Sand Pebbles" and "The Sword of Ali Baba."



**FILE - In this May 30, 1983 file photo the cast of the television series "The Love Boat," at the Great Wall near Beijing, China. From left to right: Fred Grandy, Ted Lange, Jill Whalen, Gavin MacLeod, Lauren Tewes and Bernie Kopell. Gavin MacLeod has died. His nephew told the trade paper Variety that MacLeod died early Saturday, May 29, 2021. (AP Photo/Liu Heung Shing, File)**

MacLeod had four children with his first wife, Joan Rootvik, whom he divorced in 1972. He was the son of an alcoholic, and his drinking problems helped lead to a second divorce, to actor-dancer Patti Steele. After MacLeod quit drinking, he and Steele remarried in 1985.

Raised Catholic, he credited Steele for their shared born-again faith. The couple hosted a Christian radio show called "Back on Course: A Ministry for Marriages."

Besides his wife, MacLeod's survivors include his children, three stepchildren, 10 grandchildren and his first great-grandchild, who arrived in December, Steele Zalin said.

## More states ease lingering virus rules as vaccine rates rise

By DAVID KLEPPER Associated Press  
PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — Just in time for Memorial Day weekend, more U.S. cities and states are shrugging off lingering COVID-19 restrictions as vaccination rates rise and the number of infections falls.

Massachusetts lifted a mask requirement Saturday, a day after New Jersey dropped its mandate. In New York City and Chicago, officials reopened public beaches, though winds and cool temperatures kept crowds away.

"Welcome back, Chicago," Mayor Lori Lightfoot said in a video announcement. "The lakefront is open."

Chicago's Navy Pier also reopened retail stores and restaurants, carnival rides, and tour boats and cruises after the pandemic forced monthslong closures at the busy tourist destination.

It's one more sign of progress that reflects increasingly positive health data. On Saturday, Illinois' Department of Public Health reported 802 new confirmed and probable infections, the second-lowest one-day total in the last six months.

For businesses nationwide, the improving outlook and long holiday weekend offered a chance to welcome customers back to in-person shopping.

Midtown Scholar Bookstore in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, opened its doors to customers for the first time in nearly 14 months Friday. Masks are still required.

The business had switched to internet orders, sidewalk sales and virtual author events to survive the pandemic.

"We had to get creative, we had to pivot," store manager Alex Brubaker said. "Our readers and our customers have been incredible. It's a rainy weekend, but the bookstore is full."

Minnesota lifted all statewide coronavirus restrictions for bars and restaurants Friday, though local governments can maintain their own social distancing and mask rules.

About 50% of the U.S. population has now received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, according to the latest numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. About 40% of the population



**Natalia Dubom, of Honduras, gets the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine at Miami International Airport, Friday, May 28, 2021, in Miami. The vaccine was offered to all passengers arriving at the airport. Florida's Emergency Management Agency is running the program through Sunday.**

(AP Photo/Marta Lavandier)

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is fully vaccinated.

Vermont boasts the nation's highest vaccination rate, with nearly 70% of its residents having received at least one dose. The governor is expected to drop all pandemic-related restrictions once 80% of Vermont's eligible population has received at least one dose, a milestone the state expects to hit next week.

In neighboring Massachusetts, Gov. Charlie Baker lifted a mask mandate effective Saturday, though face coverings are still required in certain places, including on public transportation. The state also still encourages unvaccinated people to wear masks in indoor or public areas.

CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky threw out the ceremonial first pitch at Fenway Park before the Red Sox played the Miami Marlins on the first day that Massachusetts dropped limits on crowd sizes. Red Sox president Sam Kennedy said about 24,000 tickets were sold.

"It's such a bright moment right now," Walensky told reporters, encouraging people to get vaccinated. "It's been a really long year, and we've seen some really, really dark times. ... I'm thrilled we're back where we are right now."

According to Massachusetts officials, 78% of all adult residents have had at least one vaccine dose.

"New cases have dropped by 94% since they peaked in January," Baker said Friday as he announced the end of the restrictions. "Hospitalizations are down by about 90% since their peak. This progress has made it possible for us to lift all remaining COVID restrictions across the commonwealth."

Virginia relaxed its distancing and capacity restrictions on Friday. President Joe Biden celebrated the progress with a visit to a rock climbing gym in northern Virginia.

Millions of Americans planned to travel over the long weekend, and airports reported some of their highest traffic since the pandemic began.

## How Tulsa massacre spent most of last century unremembered

By DEEPTI HAJELA Associated Press

When the smoke cleared in June 1921, the toll from the massacre in Tulsa, Oklahoma, was catastrophic — scores of lives lost, homes and businesses burned to the ground, a thriving Black community gutted by a white mob.

The nightmare cried out for attention, as something to be investigated and memorialized, with speeches and statues and anniversary commemorations.

But the horror and violence visited upon Tulsa's Black community didn't become part of the American story. Instead, it was pushed down, unremembered and untaught until efforts decades later started bringing it into the light. And even this year, with the 100th anniversary of the massacre being recognized, it's still an unfamiliar history to many — something historians say has broader repercussions.

"The consequences of that is a sort of a lie that we tell ourselves collectively about who we are as a society, who we have been historically, that's set some of these things up as aberrations, as exceptions of what we understand society to be rather than endemic or intrinsic parts of American history," said Joshua Guild, an associate professor of history and African American studies at Princeton University.

Indeed, U.S. history is filled with dark events — often involving racism and racial violence — that haven't been made part of the national fabric. Many involved Black Americans, of which the Tulsa Race Massacre is considered among the most egregious in its absolute destruction, but other racial and ethnic communities have been impacted as well.

Americans not knowing about these events or not recognizing the full scope of the country's conflict-ridden history has impacts that continue to reverberate, Guild said.

"If we don't understand the nature of the harm ... we can't really have a full reckoning with the possibility of any kind of redress," he said.

Manisha Sinha, a professor of American history at the University of Connecticut, agreed.

"It's really important for Americans to learn from the past, because you really cannot even understand some of our current-day political divisions and ideas unless you realize that this conversation over both the nature and the parameters of American democracy is an ongoing and a really long one," she said.

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Terrible events that many Americans don't know about include long-ago history, such as the Snake River attack in Oregon in 1887, where as many as 34 Chinese gold miners were killed, and the 1864 Sand Creek massacre of around 230 Cheyenne and Arapaho people by U.S. soldiers in Colorado. Others are within the lifetimes of many Americans living today, like the 1985 bombing by Philadelphia police of the house that headquartered the Black organization MOVE, killing 11 people.

As odd as it may sound, the mere fact that something happened isn't enough for it to be remembered, said Robin Wagner-Pacifici, a professor teaching sociology at the New School for Social Research, who has written about the MOVE bombing.

"You can never assume, no matter how huge an event may be in terms of its literal impact on numbers of people, that it's going to be framed and recognized and move forward in time, in memory, by future publics or state apparatuses or political forces," she said.

In Oklahoma, the massacre largely wasn't discussed until a commission was formed in 1997 to investigate the violence. For decades, the state's public schools called it the Tulsa race riot, when it was discussed at all. Students now are urged to consider the differences between calling it a "massacre" or a "riot."

How an event is presented can make a difference, Wagner-Pacifici said. That could include whether it's connected to other historical moments and what parts are emphasized or downplayed.

"All sorts of political forces and actors will kind of move in, to try to name it and claim it, in order either to tamp it down in its impact or to elaborate it in its impact," she said.

She pointed to a current example: the deadly Jan. 6 insurrection by a predominantly white mob at the U.S. Capitol. Some Republicans have attempted to minimize or even deny the violence, and on Friday GOP senators blocked the creation of a bipartisan panel to investigate the attack.

In Tulsa, word of unrest that started on May 31, 1921, and ran through the night and the next day made it to news outlets. Front-page stories and accounts from The Associated Press spoke of a "race clash" and "armed conflict." But the aftermath — of a community shattered — was relegated to inside pages at best before being swept under the rug.

In one example, a story weeks later well inside the pages of The New York Times reported in passing that a grand jury in Oklahoma had determined the catastrophe was due to the actions of armed Black people and the white people who got involved were not at fault.

It just shows that remembering is never just actually about remembering, Wagner-Pacifici said.

"It's always motivated," she said. "Who remembers what about the past, who allows a past to be remembered, to be brought back to life and in what ways ... it's absolutely fundamental to who you decide you want to be in the present."



**FILE - In this Thursday, May 27, 2021 file photo, Darius Kirk looks at a mural depicting the Tulsa Race Massacre in the historic Greenwood neighborhood ahead of centennial commemorations of the massacre in Tulsa, Okla. The horror and violence visited upon Tulsa's Black community in 1921 didn't become part of the American story. Instead, it was pushed down, unremembered and untaught until efforts decades later started bringing it into the light.** (AP

Photo/John Locher, File)

## Vietnam finds new virus variant, hybrid of India, UK strains

By HAU DINH Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — Vietnam has discovered a new coronavirus variant that's a hybrid of strains first found in India and the U.K., the Vietnamese health minister said Saturday.

Nguyen Thanh Long said scientists examined the genetic makeup of the virus that had infected some recent patients, and found the new version of the virus. He said lab tests suggested it might spread more easily than other versions of the virus.

Viruses often develop small genetic changes as they reproduce, and new variants of the coronavirus have been seen almost since it was first detected in China in late 2019. The World Health Organization has listed four global "variants of concern" — the two first found in the U.K. and India, plus ones identified in South Africa and Brazil.

Long says the new variant could be responsible for a recent surge in Vietnam, which has spread to 30 of the country's 63 municipalities and provinces.

Vietnam was initially a standout success in battling the virus — in early May, it had recorded just over 3,100 confirmed cases and 35 deaths since the start of the pandemic.

But in the last few weeks, Vietnam has confirmed more than 3,500 new cases and 12 deaths, increasing the country's total death toll to 47.

Most of the new transmissions were found in Bac Ninh and Bac Giang, two provinces dense with industrial zones where hundreds of thousands of people work for major companies including Samsung, Canon and Luxshare, a partner in assembling Apple products. Despite strict health regulations, a company in Bac Giang discovered that one fifth of its 4,800 workers had tested positive for the virus.

In Ho Chi Minh City, the country's largest metropolis and home to 9 million, at least 85 people have tested positive as part of a cluster at a Protestant church, the Health Ministry said. Worshipers sang and chanted while sitting close together without wearing proper masks or taking other precautions.

Vietnam has since ordered a nationwide ban on all religious events. In major cities, authorities have banned large gatherings, closed public parks and non-essential business including in-person restaurants, bars, clubs and spas.

Vietnam so far has vaccinated 1 million people with AstraZeneca shots. Last week, it sealed a deal with Pfizer for 30 million doses, which are scheduled to be delivered in the third and fourth quarters of this year. It is also in talks with Moderna that would give it enough shots to fully vaccinate 80% of its 96 million people.



**FILE - In this Jan. 23, 2021 file photo, a woman wearing face mask looks at her phone in Hanoi, Vietnam. Vietnam says it has discovered a new coronavirus variant that's a hybrid of strains first found in India and the U.K. The Vietnamese health minister made the announcement Saturday, May 29.** (AP Photo/Hau Dinh, File)

## Chinese city locks down neighborhood after virus upsurge

BEIJING (AP) — The southern Chinese city of Guangzhou shut down a neighborhood and ordered its residents to stay home Saturday for door-to-door coronavirus testing following an upsurge in infections that has rattled authorities.

Guangzhou, a business and industrial center of 15 million people north of Hong Kong, has reported 20 new infections over the past week. The number is small compared with India's thousands of daily cases but has alarmed Chinese authorities who believed they had the disease under control.

The spread of infections was "fast and strong," the official Global Times newspaper cited health authorities as saying.

Saturday's order to stay home applied to residents of five streets in Liwan District in the city center.

Outdoor markets, child care centers and entertainment venues were closed. Indoor restaurant dining was prohibited. Grade schools were told to stop in-person classes.

People in parts of four nearby districts were ordered to limit outdoor activity.

The city government earlier ordered testing of hundreds of thousands of residents following the initial infections. The government said some 700,000 people had been tested by Wednesday.

China reports a handful of new cases every day but says almost all are believed to be people who were infected abroad. The mainland's official death toll stands at 4,636 out of 91,061 confirmed cases.

On Saturday, the National Health Commission reported two new locally transmitted cases in Guangzhou and 14 in other parts of the country that it said came from abroad.

Most of the latest infections in Guangzhou are believed to be linked to a 75-year-old woman who was found May 21 to have the variant first identified in India, state media say. Most of the others attended a dinner with her or live together.

That infection spread to the nearby city of Nanshan, where one new confirmed case and two asymptomatic cases were reported Saturday after people from Guangzhou were tested, according to The Global Times.



**A resident gets tested for coronavirus in the Liwan District in Guangzhou in southern China's Guangdong province on Wednesday May 26, 2021. The southern Chinese city of Guangzhou shut down a neighborhood and ordered its residents to stay home Saturday, May 29, for door-to-door coronavirus testing following an upsurge in infections that has rattled authorities.** (AP Photo)

## Advocates in US push new efforts to bring back deportees

By CLAUDIA TORRENS and GISELA SALOMON Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Jesus Lopez says he feels like a stranger in the place he was born.

He's from Guadalajara, Mexico, but his life was in Chicago. After 15 years in the city, he was deported a year ago during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I want to go back because I belong there, that's where I have my friends, my family," said the 25-year-old, once a recipient of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program that gives protections to immigrants

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brought to the U.S. as children.

Lopez, who said he didn't renew his spot in the program because he couldn't afford it, hopes to benefit from new efforts by advocates, groups and attorneys to bring back immigrants they believe were unfairly deported from the United States.

With President Joe Biden in office, one of the new proposals from advocates urges creating a centralized Department of Homeland Security office to consider requests from deported immigrants trying to reunite with their families in the U.S.

"We have deported hundreds of thousands of individuals, and to do that and not even have an effective safety valve to review bad decisions violates due process," said Nayna Gupta, associate director of policy for the National Immigrant Justice Center, the Washington-based nonprofit that proposed the idea.

It's a long shot: White House officials have never publicly mentioned the idea, and it doesn't yet have a supporter in Congress. The campaign, however, shows how immigrant advocacy has become emboldened after four years hardline immigration policies under former President Donald Trump.

It also shows how varied ambitions are among pro-immigrant advocates.

Many are focused instead on immigration bills that have passed the House but appear stalled in the Senate as large numbers of unaccompanied children crossing the border have weakened the White House's position. The measures would give legal status to DACA recipients like Lopez, more farmworkers and others with special protections.

Another bill Biden proposed to offer a path to citizenship for immigrants in the country illegally includes some provisions for a chance for deportees to come back to the U.S. But the Biden administration has not spoken publicly or answered questions about the possibility of regularly considering those requests.

More than 700,000 immigrants have been deported from the U.S. in the last three fiscal years, according to federal data. U.S. law includes ways for deportees to return, but they rarely succeed.

For some deportees, the change of administration offers hope.

Claudio Rojas says he feels better since Trump left office, but he still lives with anxiety and can't sleep some nights in his Buenos Aires home.

"I am not in a detention center, but I feel like I am in jail in my own apartment. I am in Argentina, but I feel I am a foreigner. I can't adapt," said Rojas, a 55-year-old handyman deported in 2019. His wife, two sons and two grandsons are in Florida.

Rojas and his family overstayed a tourist visa. After a decade, he ended up in federal custody after a police stop and got a deportation order. Rojas did not leave, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement detained him again for seven months. He held a widely publicized hunger strike, and two filmmakers made a documentary based on his and others' experiences.

Days before Rojas was to speak at the 2019 Miami Film Festival, he was detained again and deported. The Argentinian has sued and is waiting for a decision from a federal appeals court.



**Jesus Lopez, who was deported from the U.S. in 2020, poses at his family's carpentry workshop in Zapopan, Jalisco state, Mexico, Thursday, May 13, 2021. He's from Guadalajara, Mexico, but his life was in Chicago. After 15 years in the city, he was deported a year ago during the COVID-19 pandemic.** (AP Photo/Refugio Ruiz)

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"I want back the life I lost, all this time that I lost," Rojas said.

The National Immigrant Justice Center says Congress doesn't need to act on their proposal and that creation of a centralized process to review applications could be done through executive action because it is based on existing laws.

The plan asks the government to take into account factors like people who were eligible for legal status and had applied before being deported or those who have compelling circumstances.

The proposal has been shared with White House staff, the group said. It plans to invite Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas to discuss the proposal and include a letter signed by 75 immigrants' rights organizations supporting the plan.

A White House spokesperson referred questions about the proposal to the Department of Homeland Security, which did not immediately respond.

Advocates point to how the government has started reunifying families that the Trump administration separated at the border under its "zero tolerance" policy.

"In the process of doing that, hopefully the various agencies involved recognize that this is something that can be done, that we have processes in place, such as humanitarian parole, to bring people back," said Alina Das, co-director of the Immigrant Rights Clinic at New York University School of Law.

And while efforts to bring back deported veterans have persisted for years, advocates have started a new campaign with that goal, which Biden promised to carry out during his campaign.

In February, three California lawmakers reintroduced a bill to allow certain deported veterans to return.

"If someone deserves a second chance, those are our veterans," Democratic state Rep. Mark Takano said recently.

Besides that effort, DACA might have the most chance of success in Congress.

López, the Mexican immigrant, was 9 when he was brought to the U.S. and became a DACA recipient in 2012. He didn't renew those protections a few years later because of money issues.

He was arrested in 2019 when Iowa police stopped the car he was riding in with friends and found a small amount of marijuana. He ended up in ICE custody and was released nine months later.

Last year, López traveled from Chicago with his two brothers to what he thought was a routine ICE check-in in Iowa. Instead, he was detained and deported.

He said he dreams of going back to Chicago to work construction, live with his family and help his grandmother with errands.

"This new administration gives me the hope of thinking that they see things in a more human way," López said.

## State GOP lawmakers try to limit teaching about race, racism

By BRYAN ANDERSON Associated Press/Report for America

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Teachers and professors in Idaho will be prevented from "indoctrinating" students on race. Oklahoma teachers will be prohibited from saying certain people are inherently racist or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously. Tennessee schools will risk losing state aid if their lessons include particular concepts about race and racism.

Governors and legislatures in Republican-controlled states across the country are moving to define what race-related ideas can be taught in public schools and colleges, a reaction to the nation's racial reckoning after last year's police killing of George Floyd. The measures have been signed into law in at least three states and are being considered in many more.

Educators and education groups are concerned that the proposals will have a chilling effect in the classroom and that students could be given a whitewashed version of the nation's history. Teachers are also worried about possible repercussions if a student or parent complains.

"Once we remove the option of teachers incorporating all parts of history, we're basically silencing the voices of those who already feel oppressed," said Lakeisha Patterson, a third-grade English and social studies teacher who lives in Houston and worries about a bill under consideration in Texas.

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At least 16 states are considering or have signed into law bills that would limit the teaching of certain ideas linked to "critical race theory," which seeks to reframe the narrative of American history. Its proponents argue that federal law has preserved the unequal treatment of people on the basis of race and that the country was founded on the theft of land and labor.

Those states include Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and West Virginia.

The latest state to implement a law is Tennessee, where the governor this past week signed a bill to ban the teaching of critical race theory in schools.

The legislative debate over that bill caused a stir earlier this month when a Republican lawmaker who supports it, state Rep. Justin Lafferty, wrongly declared that the Constitution's original provision designating a slave as three-fifths of a person was adopted for "the purpose of ending slavery." Historians largely agree that the compromise gave slaveholding states more political power.

Some other states have taken steps that fall short of legislative change.

After Utah's Republican governor blocked a vote on a set of similar bills, the GOP-controlled Legislature passed a symbolic resolution recommending that the state review any curriculum that examines the ways in which race and racism influence American politics, culture and the law.

Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp wrote in a letter to state education board members that they should "take immediate steps to ensure that Critical Race Theory and its dangerous ideology do not take root in our state standards or curriculum."

Montana's attorney general issued a binding decision Thursday declaring that certain teachings violate the U.S. and state constitutions and that schools, local governments and public workplaces could lose state funding and be on the hook for damages stemming from lawsuits if they provide critical race theory training or activities.

The National Education Association and the National Council for the Social Studies oppose legislation to limit what ideas can be presented inside a classroom.

"It creates a very chilling atmosphere of distrust, educators not being able to be the professionals they are not only hired to be but are trained to be," said Lawrence Paska, a former middle school social studies teacher in New York and executive director of the council.

Republicans have said concepts suggesting that people are inherently racist or that America was founded on racial oppression are divisive and have no place in the classroom.

Earlier this month, Republicans in the North Carolina House moved to prohibit teachers from promoting seven concepts that critically examine race and racism, including the belief that a person's race or sex de-



**FILE - In this May 19, 2021, file photo, Betty Sawyer joins educators and community activists in protesting Utah lawmakers' plans to pass resolutions encouraging a ban of critical race theory concepts outside of the Capitol in Salt Lake City as both supporters and counterprotesters stand behind her.** (Kristin Murphy/The Deseret News via AP)

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termines their moral character, that people bear responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex, and that they should feel guilty because of those two characteristics.

Rep. John Torbett, a Republican who leads North Carolina's House education committee, said the legislation was intended to promote equality, not rewrite history.

"It ensures equity," Torbett said during a hearing this month. "It ensures that all people in society are equitable. It has no mention of history."

Kimberlé Crenshaw, executive director of the African American Policy Forum, was among those who helped popularize critical race theory in the 1970s and 1980s as a response to what she and others felt was a lack of progress following passage of civil rights legislation in the 1960s.

She said Republicans are twisting the concept to inflame racial tensions and motivate their base of mostly white supporters.

"This is a 2022 strategy to weaponize white insecurity, to mobilize ideas that have been mobilized again and again throughout history, using a concept or set of ideas that they can convince people is the new boogeyman," Crenshaw said.

The boundary between teaching ideas and promoting them has stirred concern among teachers and racial justice scholars.

Uncertainty about that boundary could cause teachers to avoid difficult conversations about American history, said Cheryl Harris, a UCLA Law School professor who teaches a course on critical race theory.

"For anybody who's ever taught in a classroom, the idea is to get the conversation flowing, and you can't do that if you're preoccupied with which side of the line are you going to be on," Harris said. "That is a chilling effect, and that is every bit as offensive to the First Amendment as a direct ban."

Opponents of the North Carolina bill say it's a solution in search of a problem. Tamika Walker Kelly, president of the North Carolina Association of Educators, said the bill's promoters could not point to any school in the state where students were being indoctrinated in certain racial concepts.

That's just one reason the bill faces an uphill climb. The press secretary for Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper said the governor believes instruction should be honest and accurate, and that students need to be taught to think critically.

The legislation also faces skepticism from the Republican leader of the state Senate, where it will be considered next.

"I don't like making it illegal to teach a certain doctrine, as wrong as that doctrine may be, while saying the reason for that ban is freedom of thought," Sen. Phil Berger said in a statement. "That strikes me as a contradiction."

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Associated Press statehouse reporters across the U.S. contributed to this report.

## **The Latest: Germany hunts down possible fraud in virus tests**

By The Associated Press undefined

BERLIN — The German government is following up on media reports that coronavirus test centers across the country have overbilled authorities for the number of tests taken.

Germans are allowed one free "citizen's test" per week to check if they are negative for coronavirus. They can use the result to be able to dine at outside restaurants, go shopping or visit cultural institutions.

In recent weeks, thousands of antigen tests centers for have popped up everywhere in cities and towns in empty store fronts, closed dance clubs or community centers. Several media have reported that test center operators are illegally billing for more tests than they actually take.

German Health Minister Jens Spahn tweeted Saturday that "anybody who uses the pandemic to enrich himself should be ashamed." He noted that prosecutors in the western city of Bochum were investigating some suspected cases of fraud, but said that most providers were doing a professional job.

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MORE ON THE VIRUS OUTBREAK:

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— Just in time to plan summer vacations, Europe sees dramatic drop in coronavirus cases

— More U.S. states ease lingering virus rules as vaccine rates rise

— Vietnam finds new virus variant that is a hybrid of India, UK strains

— Chinese city locks down neighborhood after virus upsurge

Follow more of AP's pandemic coverage at <https://apnews.com/hub/coronavirus-pandemic> and <https://apnews.com/hub/coronavirus-vaccine>

**HERE'S WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING:**  
ALBANY, N.Y. — The latest federal data shows that two-thirds of adults in New York state have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

At the same time, hospitalizations statewide are down to 1,143 patients, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said Saturday. The total is the lowest since Oct. 31.

On the vaccine front, about 46% of 20 million residents are fully vaccinated, according to data as of Friday from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The national average is 40%.

BRUSSELS — Thousands of protesters angry at pandemic-related restrictions marched to European Union headquarters in Brussels and had minor tussles with police over their unauthorized gathering.

The crowd initially assembled in a Brussels park Saturday for a party designed to flout Belgium's COVID-19 rules and a related gathering calling for Europeans to claim back their freedom. Participants then marched to the district of the Belgian capital that houses key EU buildings. Police officers blocked them and dispersed the marchers by early Saturday evening.

Earlier Saturday, about 1,000 health care workers demonstrated at an authorized protest in Brussels to demand more financial support and hospital staff after a coronavirus-dominated year.

SAN FRANCISCO — California residents are celebrating the sunny Memorial Day weekend more upbeat than they have been for any other holiday since the pandemic began, thanks to dramatically lower virus case rates and increasing vaccinations.

About 90% of the state population is in the lower two of four tiers that restrict business operations and other activities. By June 15, California will end the tier system and relax social distancing and masking rules.

Many tourist attractions say they're already swamped. One business owner in wine country says she's had to limit the number of nights her restaurants and bar are open because she can't find enough people to work.

PARIS — Thousands of people packed inside a Paris arena for a concert Saturday as part of a public health experiment to prepare France to host big events again.



**A volunteer places American flags on Boston Common ahead of Memorial Day, Wednesday, May 26, 2021, in Boston. After more than a year of isolation, American veterans are embracing plans for a more traditional Memorial Day. They say wreath-laying ceremonies, barbecues at local vets halls and other familiar events are a welcome chance to reconnect with fellow service members and renew solemn traditions honoring the nation's war dead.** (AP Photo/Josh Reynolds)

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The show at AccorHotels Arena in eastern Paris featured 1980s French rock band Indochine and DJ Etienne de Crecy. But the attention was mostly on the concert-goers.

The Paris public hospital authority helped organize the event to determine whether it's safe to allow 5,000 people wearing masks to dance together in the open pit of an indoor concert without social distancing.

The attendees got to see the show for free but were required to take three virus tests, two before and one after the concert. To further reduce risk, organizers only allowed people 18-45 years old without underlying health conditions to participate.

France's cultural venues were shut for most of the past 14 months as authorities tried to contain persistent infection surges that filled hospitals and were linked to more than 109,000 deaths.

**HANOI** — Vietnam says it has discovered a new coronavirus variant that's a hybrid of strains first found in India and the U.K.

Health Minister Nguyen Thanh Long said Saturday that scientists identified the variant while examining the genetic makeup of the virus that had infected some recent patients. He said lab tests suggested it might spread more easily than other versions of the virus.

Long says the new variant has spread to 30 of Vietnam's 63 municipalities and provinces, and could be responsible for a recent surge in confirmed cases.

The World Health Organization has listed four global "variants of concern" – the ones first found in the U.K., India, South Africa and Brazil.

Vietnam initially stood out in its success battling the virus. As of early May, it had recorded just over 3,100 confirmed cases and 35 deaths. But in the last few weeks, the country has confirmed more than 3,500 new cases and 12 more deaths.

**BOSTON** — It's back to nearly normal in Massachusetts. Gov. Charlie Baker lifted almost all COVID-19 restrictions on Saturday, including a statewide face covering mandate that has been in place during much of the pandemic.

The mandate is being replaced with a mask advisory that echoes recommendations from federal health officials. Unvaccinated individuals still are encouraged to wear masks in public areas, especially indoors.

There are locations where masks will remain required, including on public transportation.

Baker has also said that some businesses may still require customers and visitors to continue wearing masks inside.

Some of the hardest hit businesses have been restaurants, which can now welcome back visitors for indoor dining without restrictions.

Baker will officially lift Massachusetts' pandemic state of emergency on June 15.

**OKLAHOMA CITY** — Oklahoma state agencies are barred from requiring a mask or coronavirus vaccination as a condition of being allowed to enter a state building or office under an executive order signed by Gov. Kevin Stitt.

"It is time to return to normal," Stitt said in a statement after signing the order Friday. "Every Oklahoman must have access to all government services whether or not they choose to be vaccinated or wear a mask."

The order takes effect Tuesday. It was announced after Stitt signed into law a bill prohibiting schools and colleges from adopting mask or vaccination requirements. It, does not apply in medical settings with patients,

Stitt refused to issue a statewide mask mandate but in November required masks inside state buildings, an order he lifted in March.

**LONDON** — The Duchess of Cambridge has received her first dose of COVID-19 vaccine as Britain extends its inoculation program to younger residents.

The 39-year-old wife of Prince William formerly known as Kate Middleton received her shot at London's Science Museum, a mass vaccination center near the couple's home at Kensington Palace, according to a

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photo posted on their Twitter feed.

Kate got her shot Friday, a few weeks after her husband.

"I'm hugely grateful to everyone who is playing a part in the rollout — thank you for everything you are doing," the duchess said in a tweet posted Saturday.

Britain this week extended its COVID-19 vaccination program to everyone over the age of 30. The program has been gradually expanded to progressively younger age groups since it began in early December, and more than 70% of adults have already received at least one dose.

Other members of the royal family, including Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Charles, publicized their vaccine appointments to encourage people to get their shots.

**BEIRUT** — Lebanon's health authorities launched a COVID-19 vaccination "marathon" to speed up inoculations around the country, including areas where turnout has so far been low.

The daylong campaign offered AstraZeneca vaccines at 30 different centers around the country without advance appointments to encourage people over age 30 to show up. Lebanon's capital, Beirut, was not included in the campaign.

As of Saturday afternoon, 7,700 people had been vaccinated in the push.

Photos of lines outside centers north of Beirut showed high turnout for the appointment-less drive, particularly among foreign workers, many of whom had been reluctant or unable to register on the government-operated digital platform.

So far, over 700,000 people have been vaccinated in the country of 6 million. Lebanon has reported 7,700 deaths since February 2020.

**MONTGOMERY, Alabama** — The pace of COVID-19 vaccinations in Alabama has fallen to a level not seen since the earliest days of the immunization campaign even though less than 30% of the state's population is fully vaccinated.

Statistics from the Alabama Department of Public Health showed Friday that the number of people getting shots in recent days was similar to the rate in January, when vaccine supply was still very limited.

Officials are worried that large numbers of people are simply refusing to get shots, meaning the threat of the new coronavirus will remain higher than necessary.

"It's very distressing because we have vaccine and we have it in every corner of Alabama," said Dr. Karen Landers, assistant state health officer.

Several vaccination sites have closed because of the lack of demand, and some areas have considered turning down vaccine shipments.

**ROME** — Coronavirus infections, hospitalizations and deaths are plummeting across Europe, after it led the world in new cases last fall and winter in waves that cost hundreds of thousands of lives, forced more rolling lockdowns and overwhelmed intensive care units.

Now vaccination rates are accelerating across Europe, and with them, the promise of summer vacations on Ibiza, Crete or Corsica. There are hopes for a rebirth of a tourism industry that in Spain and Italy alone accounts for 13% of gross domestic product but was wiped out by the pandemic.

Europe saw the largest decline in new COVID-19 infections and deaths this week compared with any other region, while also reporting about 44% of adults had received at least one dose of vaccine, according to the World Health Organization and European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

Europe's seven-day rolling average for new cases per 100,000 people had been higher than any other region from mid-October through the beginning of December, then from early February through April, according to an Associated Press analysis of data from Johns Hopkins University.

Now no European country is among the top 10 for new cases per 100,000 people.

**MANILA, Philippines** — The Philippines has lifted a ban on the deployment of workers to Saudi Arabia,

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which it imposed after receiving reports that workers were being asked to shoulder COVID-19 test and quarantine costs in the oil-rich kingdom.

Philippine Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III said that after Saudi Arabia formally notified his country Saturday that recruitment agencies and Saudi employers would bear the costs of tests and 10 days of quarantine for Filipinos, he decided to lift the ban.

The ban, which Bello imposed Thursday, prevented more than 400 Filipino workers from boarding their Philippine Airlines flights for Saudi Arabia on Friday. Many were stranded at the Manila airport, with some begging in tears for the government to immediately lift the ban.

**KABUL**, Afghanistan — Afghanistan's Health Ministry announced the shutdown of all public and private universities and schools in the country's 16 provinces, including Kabul, for at least two weeks starting Saturday.

The decision follows a surge in cases. On Friday, 977 people tested positive for COVID-19 and 18 died, most of them in Kabul. Only 3,800 were tested.

Over 600,000 people have received a first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine, the ministry said, without counting the armed forces. The vaccination drive has been put on hold due to shortages and the remaining stocks are reserved for those who got the first shot.

**BEIJING**— China on Saturday reported 16 new confirmed coronavirus cases including two authorities said were believed to have been acquired locally.

The two locally transmitted cases were in Guangdong province in the south, adjacent to Hong Kong, the National Health Commission reported. It said the other infections are believed to have been acquired abroad.

Mainland China's death toll stands at 4,636 out of 91,061 confirmed cases, according to the NHC.

## Today in History

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Sunday, May 30, the 150th day of 2021. There are 215 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 30, 1431, Joan of Arc, condemned as a heretic, was burned at the stake in Rouen (roo-AHN'), France.

On this date:

In 1883, 12 people were trampled to death in a stampede sparked by a rumor that the recently opened Brooklyn Bridge was in danger of collapsing.

In 1922, the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., was dedicated in a ceremony attended by President Warren G. Harding, Chief Justice William Howard Taft and Robert Todd Lincoln.

In 1937, ten people were killed when police fired on steelworkers demonstrating near the Republic Steel plant in South Chicago.

In 1943, during World War II, American troops secured the Aleutian island of Attu from Japanese forces.

In 1971, the American space probe Mariner 9 blasted off from Cape Kennedy on a journey to Mars.

In 1972, three members of the Japanese Red Army opened fire at Lod Airport in Tel Aviv, Israel, killing 26 people. Two attackers died; the third was captured.

In 1989, student protesters in Beijing erected a "Goddess of Democracy" statue in Tiananmen Square (the statue was destroyed in the Chinese government's crackdown).

In 1994, Mormon Church president Ezra Taft Benson died in Salt Lake City at age 94.

In 1996, Britain's Prince Andrew and the former Sarah Ferguson were granted an uncontested decree ending their 10-year marriage.

In 2002, a solemn, wordless ceremony marked the end of the agonizing cleanup at ground zero in New York, 8 1/2 months after 9/11.

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In 2006, the FBI said it had found no trace of Jimmy Hoffa after digging up a suburban Detroit horse farm. In 2015, Vice President Joe Biden's son, former Delaware attorney general Beau Biden, died at age 46 of brain cancer.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama selected Army Gen. Martin Dempsey to be the Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman. Germany announced plans to abandon nuclear power over the next 11 years, outlining an ambitious strategy in the wake of Japan's Fukushima disaster to replace atomic power with renewable energy sources.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama challenged Americans on Memorial Day to fill the silence from those who died serving their country with love and support for families of the fallen, "not just with words but with our actions."

One year ago: Tense protests over the death of George Floyd and other police killings of Black people grew across the country; racially diverse crowds held mostly peaceful demonstrations in dozens of cities, though many later descended into violence, with police cars set ablaze. The National Guard was deployed outside the White House, where crowds taunted law enforcement officers, who fired pepper spray. A fourth day of violence in Los Angeles prompted the mayor to impose a citywide curfew and call in the National Guard. Street protests in New York City over police killings spiraled into the city's worst day of unrest in decades, as fires burned, windows were smashed and confrontations between demonstrators and officers flared. A rocket ship built by Elon Musk's SpaceX took off from Florida's Cape Canaveral to carry two Americans to the International Space Station; it ushered in a new era of commercial space travel.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Ruta Lee is 86. Actor Keir Dullea is 85. Rock musician Lenny Davidson (The Dave Clark Five) is 77. Actor Stephen Tobolowsky is 70. Actor Colm Meaney is 68. Actor Ted McGinley is 63. Actor Ralph Carter is 60. Actor Tonya Pinkins is 59. Country singer Wynonna Judd is 57. Rock musician Tom Morello (Audioslave; Rage Against The Machine) is 57. Actor Mark Sheppard is 57. Movie director Antoine Fuqua is 56. Actor John Ross Bowie is 50. Rock musician Patrick Dahlheimer (Live) is 50. Actor Idina Menzel is 50. Rapper Cee Lo Green is 46. Rapper Remy Ma is 41. Actor Blake Bashoff is 40. Christian rock musician James Smith (Underoath) is 39. Actor Javicia Leslie is 34. Actor Jake Short is 24. Actor Sean Giambrone is 22. Actor Jared Gilmore is 21.

## **News Alert from CNN: 2 killed, at least 20 others injured after shooters fire into a crowd at a Florida club**

Two people were killed and at least 20 others were injured in a shooting early Sunday outside of a billiards club in Hialeah, Florida, according to Miami-Dade police director Alfredo Ramirez III.

A white Nissan Pathfinder pulled up to the location between 12 a.m. and 1 a.m., Ramirez said.

Three people got out with assault weapons and handguns and started firing into the crowd that was gathered for a concert at the venue, he said.