

# Groton Daily Independent

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## Sutton Bay Lakeside Use Area Closed June 14-18

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Department is announcing that the Sutton Bay Lakeside Use Area will be closed from June 14-18.

"Due to low water conditions, we will be transitioning to our low-water ramp at Sutton Bay. To get in and back out as fast as possible, we will be closing Sutton Bay for five days," said Planning and Development Administrator Adam Kulesa.

Kulesa said that the work at Sutton Bay wasn't unexpected. The department also has a contract in place to bring the low water ramp at Little Bend into service.

"With the low water conditions we knew this work was going to have to be done. We ask our anglers to be patient and we will do the work to get these ramps back in service," Kulesa said.



## **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, June 13, 2021

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

### Monday, June 14, 2021

PEO - outside group 7:30 PM

### Tuesday, June 15, 2021

Bible Study 10:00 AM  
Conde Ad Council 5:00 PM

### Wednesday, June 16, 2021

Community Coffee Hour 9:30 AM  
Groton Ad Council 7:00 PM

### Thursday, June 17, 2021

UMW 1:30 PM

### Saturday, June 19, 2021

Tyler Wadman & Skyler Bonn Wedding

### Sunday, June 20, 2021

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

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Groton

### Sunday, June 13, 2021

9 a.m.: Worship

### Monday, June 14, 2021

6:30am: Bible Study

### Sunday, June 20, 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, June 13, 2021

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

### Sunday, June 20, 2021

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

To submit your monthly or weekly church calendar, email to  
[news@grotonsd.net](mailto:news@grotonsd.net)

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## Big Third Inning Propels Groton Jr. Teeners Win Over Mobridge

Eight runs in the third inning led Groton Jr. Teeners past Mobridge 15-1 on Saturday. Groton Jr. Teeners big bats were led by Teylor Diegel, Karsten Flihs, Jarrett Erdmann, and Gavin Englund, all driving in runs in the inning.

Groton Jr. Teeners got things moving in the first inning. Groton Jr. Teeners scored one run on a stolen base.

Groton Jr. Teeners notched eight runs in the third inning. Groton Jr. Teeners batters contributing to the big inning included Diegel, Flihs, Erdmann, and Englund, all driving in runs in the frame.

Brevin Flihs earned the victory on the pitcher's mound for Groton Jr. Teeners. Flihs allowed two hits and one run over four innings, striking out ten. Englund threw one inning in relief out of the bullpen.

Kellen Pfitzer took the loss for Mobridge. Pfitzer allowed seven hits and eight runs over two and a third innings, striking out three and walking one.

Groton Jr. Teeners tallied one home run on the day. Diegel had a long ball in the fourth inning.

Groton Jr. Teeners tallied 15 hits. Braxton Imrie, Erdmann, Flihs, Nicholas Morris, Englund, Flihs, and Diegel all managed multiple hits for Groton Jr. Teeners. Imrie went 3-for-3 at the plate to lead Groton Jr. Teeners in hits. Groton Jr. Teeners was sure-handed and didn't commit a single error. Flihs made the most plays with 12.

Mobridge tore up the base paths, as two players stole at least two bases. Gavin Favlee led the way with four.

## Groton Jr. Teeners Falls To Selby Despite Strong Offense

Both teams put up a bunch of runs, but Groton Jr. Teeners fell to Selby 10-9 on Saturday.

Groton Jr. Teeners opened up scoring in the first inning, when Braxton Imrie drew a walk, scoring one run.

Selby pulled away for good with seven runs in the third inning. In the third Houston Hauge tripled on a 3-1 count, scoring one run, Keegan Russell singled on the first pitch of the at bat, scoring one run, Peyton Lutz singled on the first pitch of the at bat, scoring two runs, and an error scored one run for Selby.

Gavin Hannan took the win for Selby. The bulldog went five innings, allowing five runs on three hits and striking out ten.

Jarrett Erdmann took the loss for Groton Jr. Teeners. The bulldog went one and one-third innings, allowing three runs on four hits, striking out one and walking one.

Easton Schwartz started the game for Selby. The pitcher allowed four runs on three hits Gavin Englund started the game for Groton Jr. Teeners. The righthander allowed four hits and seven runs over three innings, striking out one

Teylor Diegel led Groton Jr. Teeners with three hits in three at bats.

Russell went 2-for-3 at the plate to lead Selby in hits.

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## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



*...So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.*

HEBREWS 9:28

*Detail of "The Ascension"  
by John Singleton Copley (1775)*

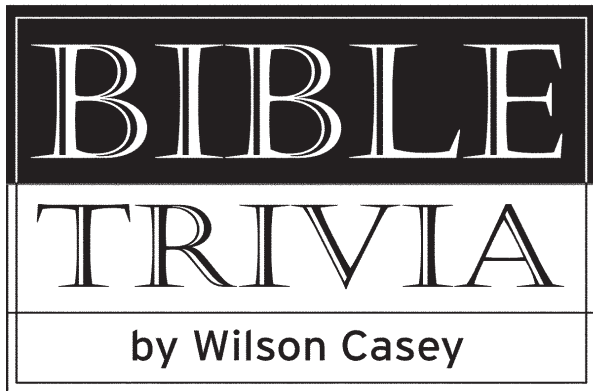
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KRK







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

2. From 2 Samuel, who asked, "How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished?"? *Saul, Simeon, David, Peter*

3. Who said, "I have heard many such things; miserable comforters are ye all"? *Samson, Goliath, Devil, Job*

4. From the Beatitudes, who shall be called the sons of God? *Hungry, Peacemakers, Merciful, Lonely*

5. What Jewish lady became queen of Persia? *Abigail, Sarah, Esther, Ruth*

6. Whose biblical name means "God is judge"? *Titus, Festus, David, Daniel*

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) David; 3) Job; 4) Peacemakers; 5) Esther; 6) Daniel

*"Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.*

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## Creamy Picnic Coleslaw

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Some dishes are just so special that everyone wants to know how it was made. This easy slaw salad is such a recipe. Share this dish at your own risk, but be prepared -- take the recipe with you!

- 1 cup fat-free mayonnaise
- Sugar substitute to equal 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- 1 tablespoon white distilled vinegar
- 1 teaspoon celery seed
- 6 cups finely shredded cabbage


In a large bowl, combine mayonnaise, sugar substitute, mustard, vinegar and celery seed. Add cabbage. Mix well to combine. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes. Gently stir again just before serving. Makes 8 (1/2 cup) servings.

\* Each serving equals: 36 calories, 0g fat, 1g protein, 8g carb., 301mg sodium, 1g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Vegetable.


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Character Profile:  
**Dale Arden**



**AN AIRPLANE IS TORN ASUNDER BY A FREAK METEOR SHOWER!**

THAT FATEFUL FLIGHT BRINGS RAVEN-HAIRED BEAUTY DALE ARDEN INTO THE ARMS OF WORLD-RENOWNED ATHLETE FLASH GORDON.

SINCE THEN THEIR LIVES HAVE BEEN BOUND TOGETHER... FACING ADVENTURES UNDREAMED OF IN THE HOPES OF SAVING A WORLD ON THE BRINK OF DESTRUCTION!




By JIM KEEFE

6-6

**F**FLASH'S SEARCH PARTY EXAMINES THE REMAINS OF THE DOWNED ARBORIAN CRAFT.

THIS IS ONLY PART OF THE SHIP. WHERE'S THE REST OF IT?



KING VULTAN, I'M READING FAINT LIFE SIGNS EMANATING FROM BENEATH US.

LOOK AT THESE SUPPORT BEAMS. THE REST OF THE SHIP MUST HAVE BEEN BURIED BY AN AVALANCHE.

CRACKLE: FLASH, CAN YOU READ ME?

WHAT IS IT, ZARKOV?

THAT STORM FRONT IS MOVING IN FAST. YOU NEED TO TURN AROUND AND HEAD BACK TO BASE CAMP NOW.

NO CAN DO, DOC. WE FOUND THE SHIP AND THERE MAY BE SURVIVORS.

FLASH, YOU WON'T BE ANY HELP TO THEM IF YOU GET CAUGHT IN THE STORM AND GET YOURSELF KILLED!

WE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, DALE. WE CAN WAIT OUT THE STORM IN THE PART OF THE CRAFT THAT'S STILL INTACT. THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY.

DALE...?

ARE YOU STILL THERE...?

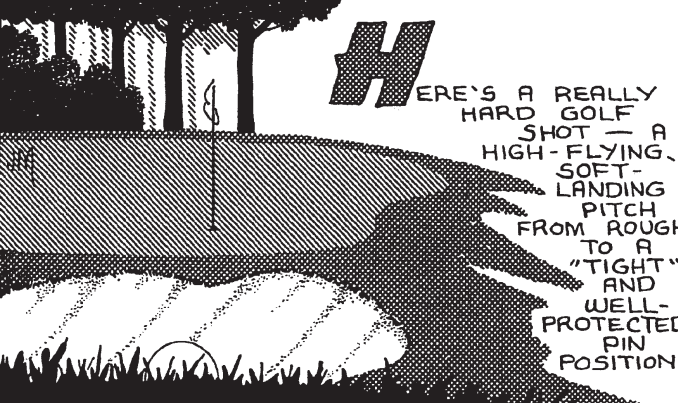
BUT FLASH'S WORDS FALL ON DEAF EARS.

WATCHING THE DARK STORM CLOUDS BILLOW IN, DALE'S HEART SINKS...


...AS SHE REMEMBERS A FATEFUL WARNING GONE UNHEEDED.

TO BE CONT'D ~

## Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



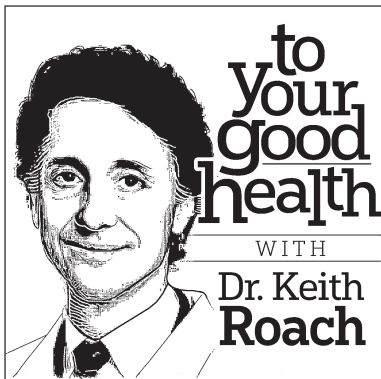
**H**ERE'S A REALLY HARD GOLF SHOT — A HIGH-FLYING, SOFT-LANDING PITCH FROM ROUGH TO A "TIGHT" AND WELL-PROTECTED PIN POSITION.



THE ANSWER IS TO PLAY THESE SHOTS LIKE A SOFT BLAST FROM SAND.

OPENING THE CLUBFACE AT ADDRESS, PICK THE CLUBHEAD UP SHARPLY IN THE BACKSWING, THEN TRY TO SLIDE THE CLUBHEAD UNDERNEATH THE BALL WITH A FIRM, SMOOTH, SLOW SWING.





## Dust Mite Allergy Triggers Cough

---

DEAR DR. ROACH: For months, I have had a persistent cough that I have been unable to get help with. I saw an allergist about three years ago and was told I am allergic to dust mites. I was first referred to a lung doctor where X-rays showed that my cheek sinus drains were completely blocked, and then to an ear, nose and throat doctor, who also confirmed this diagnosis.

This ENT doctor recommended I have surgery to unblock the drains and clear out the sinus area. I understand that sinus drainage can cause coughing and wonder if this would still make me cough. I sometimes cough until I can cough up something, and this seems to stop my cough for a

while. I was using a nasal rinse for a while until about two weeks ago when it caused my nose to bleed. The ENT doctor prescribed antibiotics and oral steroids that did not make any difference. It doesn't seem to make any difference whether I'm home or sitting in the doctor's office, I'm still coughing. What is the best way to deal with dust mite allergy? -- J.S.

ANSWER: There are many causes of chronic cough, but postnasal drip is at the top of the list. Dust mites are indeed a common allergen, and symptoms may include runny nose, watery eyes, sneezing and cough from postnasal drip. Specific treatment for dust mites should include physical barriers, such as covers for pillows and mattresses, and sometimes for other soft surfaces, like furniture cushions, but this is only part of an effective strategy. Removing as many fabrics as possible (draperies, carpets, stuffed children's toys) where dust mites can live is essential. Regular cleaning is necessary, and high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters for vacuuming have been shown to reduce dust mites. A low-humidity environment can be very effective in discouraging dust mites, and cooler air -- especially at night -- can reduce irritation of nasal passages caused by dry air. Many interventions for a prolonged period are necessary to reduce dust mite infestation and the symptoms associated with them.

This is critical, because the issue of the sinuses is probably secondary to ongoing allergic exposure. Fixing your sinuses will not fix your ongoing symptoms. Without control of the allergens, you will continue to have symptoms and may even develop sinus blockages again, no matter how good a job the surgeon does on your sinuses.

\*\*\*

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 90 years old. My husband and I donated blood as often as needed, over 100 times, but last week my doctor said I tested positive for syphilis. I about fell off my chair. I haven't slept for four nights. Have you ever heard of this? -- E.

ANSWER: The screening test for syphilis, called the VDRL or RPR test, is not particularly accurate. About 1-2% of people will have a false positive result. Meaning, the test is positive but they do not have syphilis. There are many possible causes, such as infection and autoimmune disease, like lupus, but some people, particularly older people, will have a positive test for no identifiable reason.

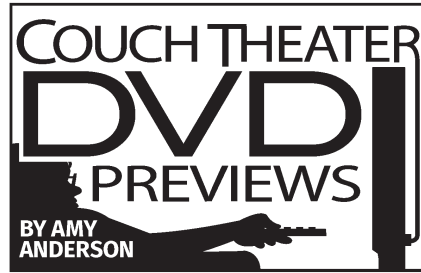
In your case, I am sure it is a false positive, but your doctor may do a more specific test, such as an FTA-ABS, to be 100% sure. You shouldn't let it keep you awake at night.

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



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Humans crave news and entertainment, and there's no better place to get it than your local newspaper. Alongside stories of this and that, you get recipes and notices of sales, puzzles and games, and of course, the comics section. Comic strips have fascinated us since the earliest days of The Yellow Kid, a simple gag panel featuring a bald boy in a yellow nightdress. Who knew? But these artful characters and situations draw us in, and delight and connect us. Here are six comic strips that jumped off the funny pages to the big screen!

**Garfield** — America's favorite lasagna-loving cat enjoys napping and eating while tolerating dim-witted but sweet Odie. In the 2004 movie version, Jon is talked into adopting a dog (Odie) who the local weather anchor plots to steal, forcing Garfield (voiced by Bill Murray) to reluctantly save him. Garfield is CGI, but the rest of the gang is live action, including Breckin Meyer as Jon and Stephen Tobolowsky as the villainous Happy Chapman. My children love this movie and I have seen it 4,000 times.

**Dick Tracy** — Warren Beatty's hard-boiled detective movie featured iconic art direction and faithfulness to the characters and tone of the strip, but it didn't wow audiences at the time — even with Madonna as Breathless Mahoney, the songstress dame who may be a witness against crime boss Big Boy (Al Pacino off his rocker), but who expends a lot of energy trying to tempt Tracy away from Tess, his girlfriend.

**Dennis the Menace** — In the 1993 film version, George Wilson (Walter Matthau) and wife Martha (Joan Plowright) are next-door neighbors who end up as a pinch-hitter babysitters for Dennis — an angelic-looking but trouble-attracting child — when

his parents must go out of town. When Dennis gets taken hostage by a town robber, cranky old George must play the hero.

**Flash Gordon** — An absolute icon of camp, this adventure features a football star (Flash, played by Sam Jones) and a travel agent (Dale, played by Melody Anderson) who escape dodgy Earth conditions and accompany a scientist (Dr. Zarkov, played by Topol) in a spaceship to the planet Mongo. There they battle the evil Ming the Merciless (Max Von Sydow) for the future of Earth itself.



Paramount/Walt Disney

## Robin Williams, Shelley Duvall in "Popeye"

**Popeye** — Robin Williams pipes life and heart into the punch-packing, spinach-eating sailor man, Popeye, as he visits the waterfront town of Sweetwater looking for his dad. There he encounters loveable folk, including soon-to-be-sweetheart Olive Oyl (magnificently played by Shelley Duvall) and an orphaned baby, Swee'Pea.

**Annie** — The comic strip that became a Broadway musical that became a movie (more than once), all down to a little girl who goes full rags to riches when she's plucked from an orphanage (headed by Carol Burnett's Mrs. Hannigan) to spend a week with Daddy Warbucks (Albert Finney) in the midst of the Great Depression.

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1. What does "Una Paloma Blanca" mean?
2. Who released "Sixty Minute Man"?
3. Which band member developed the Starchild persona for KISS performances and sported a star over his right eye?
4. Which artist released "Love Hangover"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "If her Daddy's rich, take her out for a meal, If her Daddy's poor, just do what you feel."

#### Answers

1. That's Spanish for "white dove." Dutch songwriter George Baker says it was about a poor farmer who sits thinking of being a free bird. It was Billboard's No. 1 easy-listening single for 1976.

2. Billy Ward and the Dominoes, in 1951. The song

was banned by radio stations because of its sexual content, but it opened the doors to similar songs when rock and roll took off.

3. Paul Stanley, co-writer for many of the group's songs. The star was chosen after a brief experiment with a bandit mask.

4. Diana Ross, in 1976. The song was used in a bar scene in the film "Looking for Mr. Goodbar."

5. "In the Summertime," by Mungo Jerry in 1970. The record was released as a maxi single, which means it was played at 33 1/3 rpm instead of 45, with two songs on each side.

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Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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

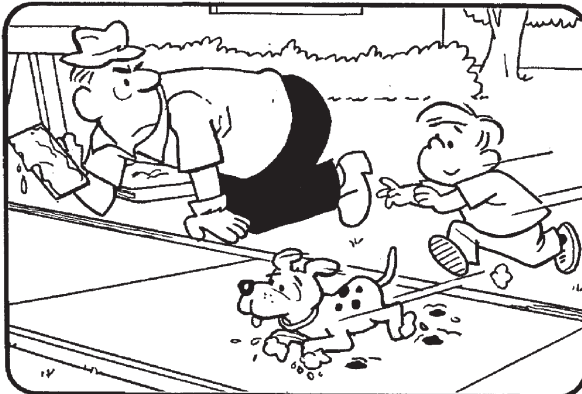


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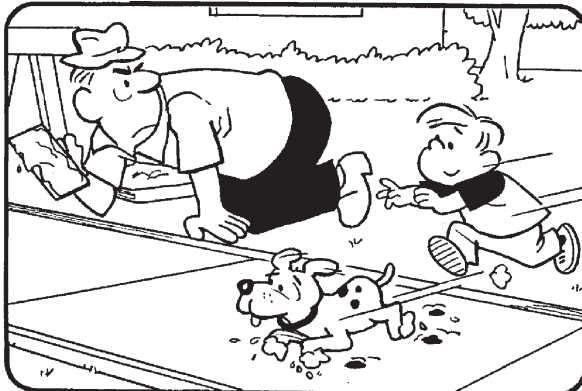
“Rodney refuses to drive your SUV, Daddy. May we use the hybrid?”

### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Collar is different. 2. Spot is missing. 3. Tail is shorter. 4. Glove is removed. 5. Drp is missing. 6. Shirt is different.





- Fill a 2-liter soda bottle with water, then plunge the top upside down into a potted plant for self-watering while you are on vacation. Use smaller bottles for smaller pots.

- Going to the beach for your vacation? Here's a handy hint to take great care of your swimsuit. (They get more expensive all the time!) Pack at least two suits and bring a box of baking soda. Soak the suit for 15 minutes in a baking soda and water solution, then lay flat on a towel. Roll the towel up and wring lightly. Unroll and hang to dry. Rotate suits. — JoAnn

- Help for a sunburn: Take two non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (aspirin, ibuprofen) right away. Soak a cloth in cold milk and drape over the burn until it warms to room temperature. Repeat if necessary and apply a light moisturizer.

- Use your Christmas light timers to set different lights to go on or off at certain times of the day while you are away on vacation. You can even use a timer on a radio, so it comes on sometimes too. The variation will make people think you are home.

- To ease the ache of a brain freeze, simply cup your hands over your mouth and nose. Blow out hot air, and it will recirculate to warm your palate in seconds. Works like a charm.

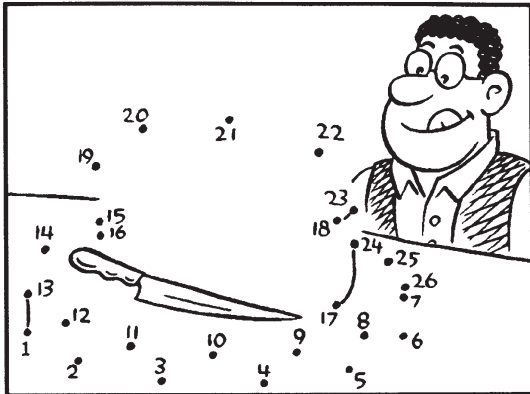
- Always keep a couple bottles of water and a roll of duct tape in your trunk. You never know when you'll need these items, and they seem to be pretty handy when traveling.

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

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**WHAT MOST RESEMBLES HALF A CHEESE?**  
Connect the dots and find out!

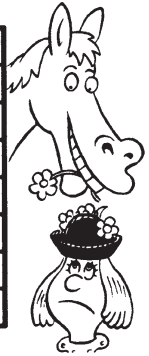
Answer: The other half.

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

TALLYHO, WORD SEARCHERS!

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



Illustrated by David Coulson

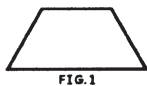


FIG.1

**A BETCHA PUZZLE!** Place an odd-shaped piece of paper (fig. 1) on the table and challenge your friends to cut it into four equal pieces, all the same size and shape. The solution is shown in figure 2.

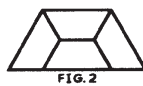


FIG.2

Hidden in the diagram above are names and words associated with horses. They can be found by reading up or down, or side to side. You'll even find them diagonally going up or down. Letters can be used more than once. Listed below are the words you're looking for.

**CHAIN REACTION!** Take the seven letters printed below our diagram and place them in the circles so that eight four-letter words can be read, top to bottom, along the connecting lines. All the words will begin with the letter in the top circle.

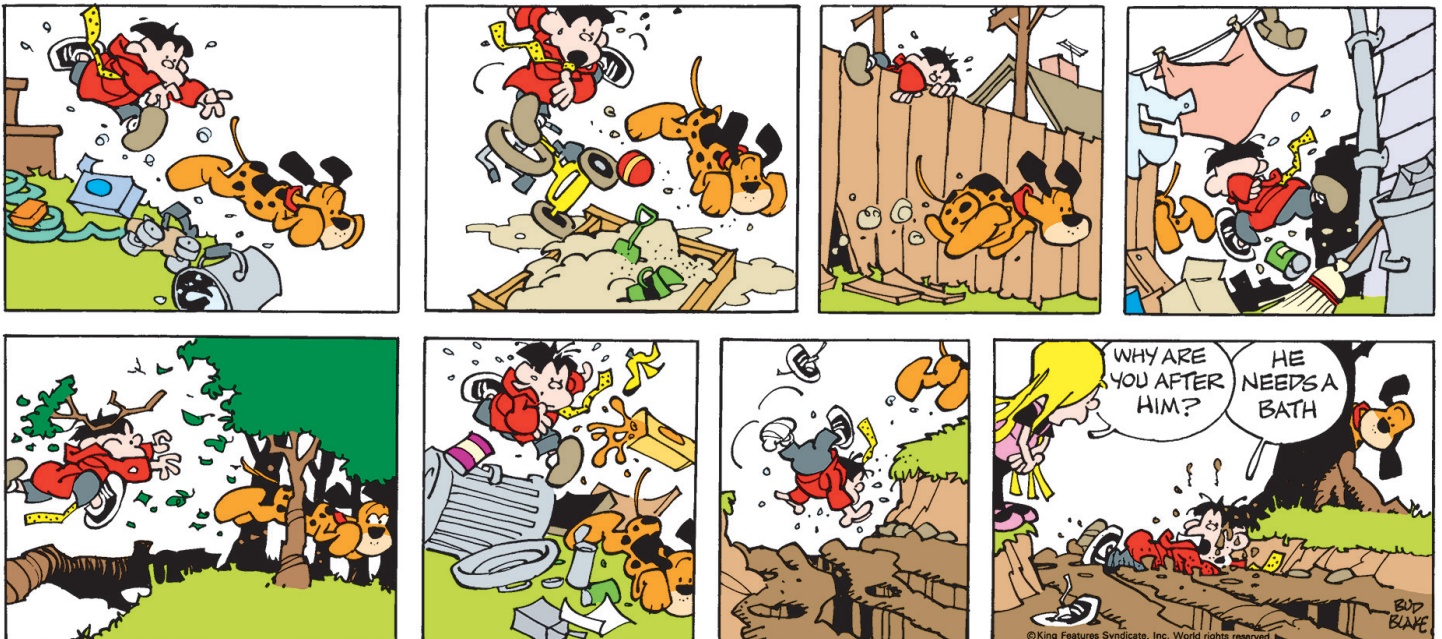


Answers: Top to bottom, left to right: Dams, dame, dare, dart, dirt, dir, dirt, dirl, dine.

- ARABIAN
- BELGIAN
- CARRIAGE
- CIRCUS
- DONKEY
- GAIT
- GRASS
- HARNESS
- ICELANDIC
- MUSTANG
- PASTURE
- PERCHERON
- QUARTER
- SHETLAND
- STALLION
- TROTTER
- WALKING

## TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



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## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Egyptian deity
- 5 Piercing tool
- 8 Probability
- 12 Lion's share
- 13 Hot tub
- 14 Stench
- 15 Unoriginal one
- 16 Home to the Buccaneers
- 18 Pizza topping
- 20 Wine container
- 21 Off-white
- 23 Dict. info
- 24 Spoofs
- 28 Pharmaceutical
- 31 Playwright Levin
- 32 Leg bone
- 34 Mentalist's gift
- 35 Rhett's last word
- 37 Mildew cause
- 39 Scratch
- 41 Valentine flower
- 42 Molds
- 45 Foliage
- 49 Marshmallow toaster
- 51 Carousel, for one
- 52 "I cannot tell —"
- 53 Pair

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

- 54 Aspiring atty.'s exam
- 55 Fork setting
- 56 Still, in verse
- 57 Orange veggies
- DOWN**
- 1 Apple computer
- 2 Former frosh
- 3 "Got it"
- 4 Meryl of film
- 5 Space rock
- 6 New Deal agcy.
- 7 Gentle soul
- 8 Gave a speech
- 9 Owing nothing
- 10 Transaction
- 11 Terrier type
- 17 Group of seals
- 19 Highlander
- 22 Release a deadbolt
- 24 Cover
- 25 Altar constellation
- 26 Abba-inspired hit musical
- 27 Buck
- 29 Constitution letters
- 30 Family docs
- 33 Church section
- 36 Caught some z's
- 38 Almost
- 40 Ump
- 42 "Lion King" villain
- 43 Sainly ring
- 44 Faction
- 46 Travel permit
- 47 Dutch cheese
- 48 Collections
- 50 Regret



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## — King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

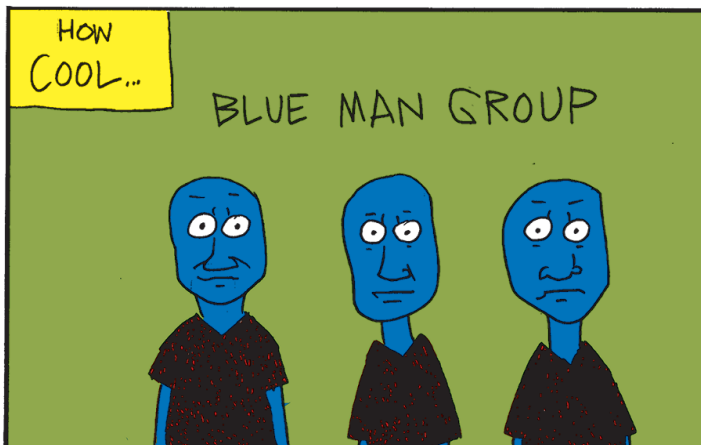
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## LAFF - A - DAY

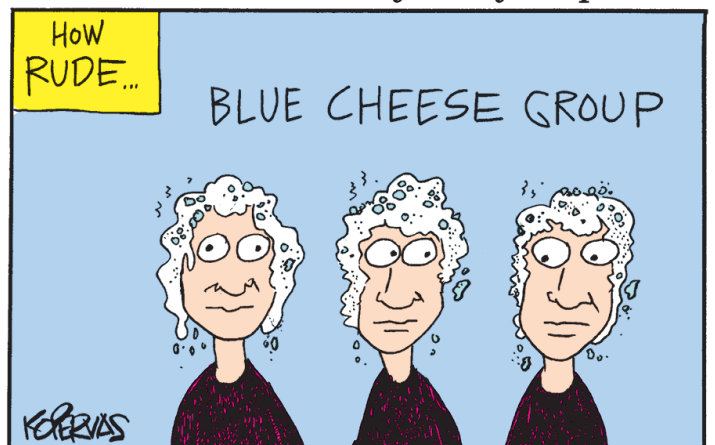


"He used to come and talk to us every day, but we haven't seen or heard from since we elected him to congress!"

## Out on a Limb



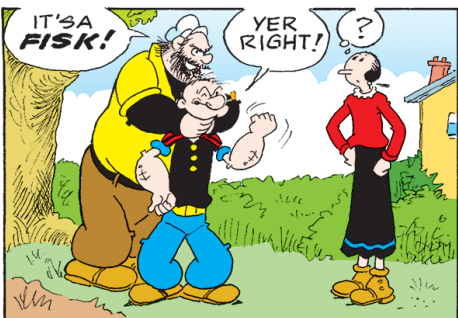
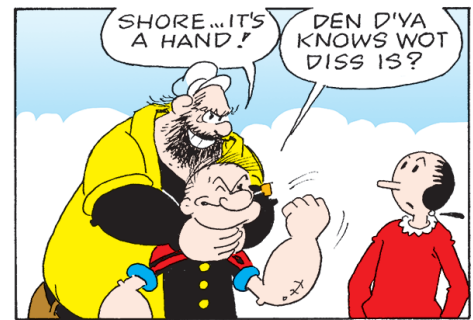
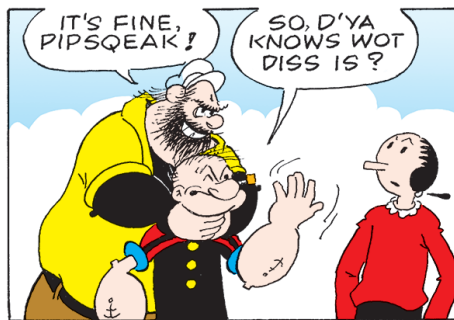
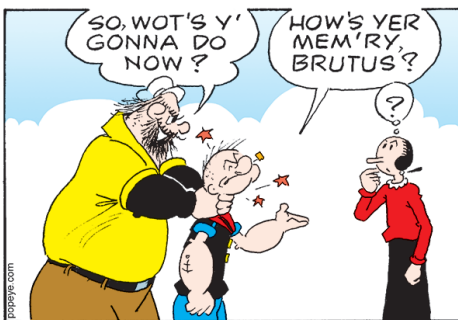
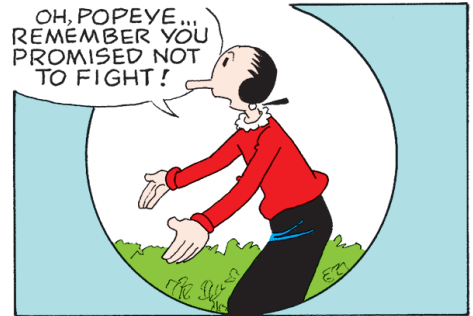
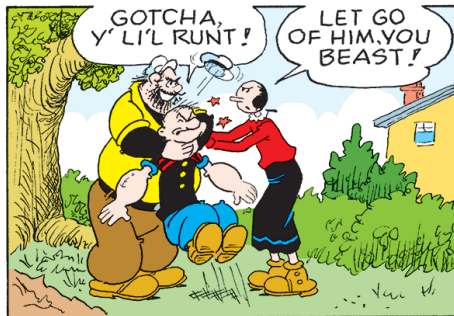
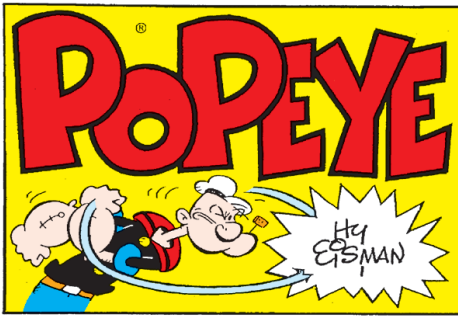
by Gary Kopervas



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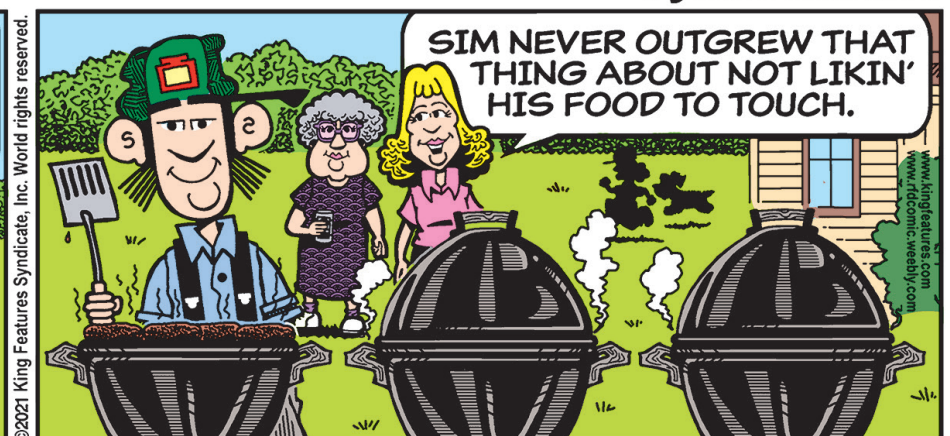
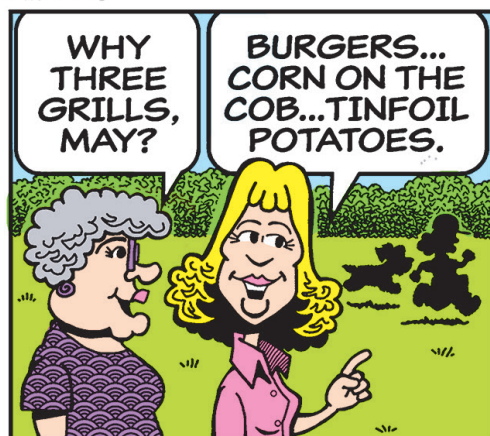
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## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland





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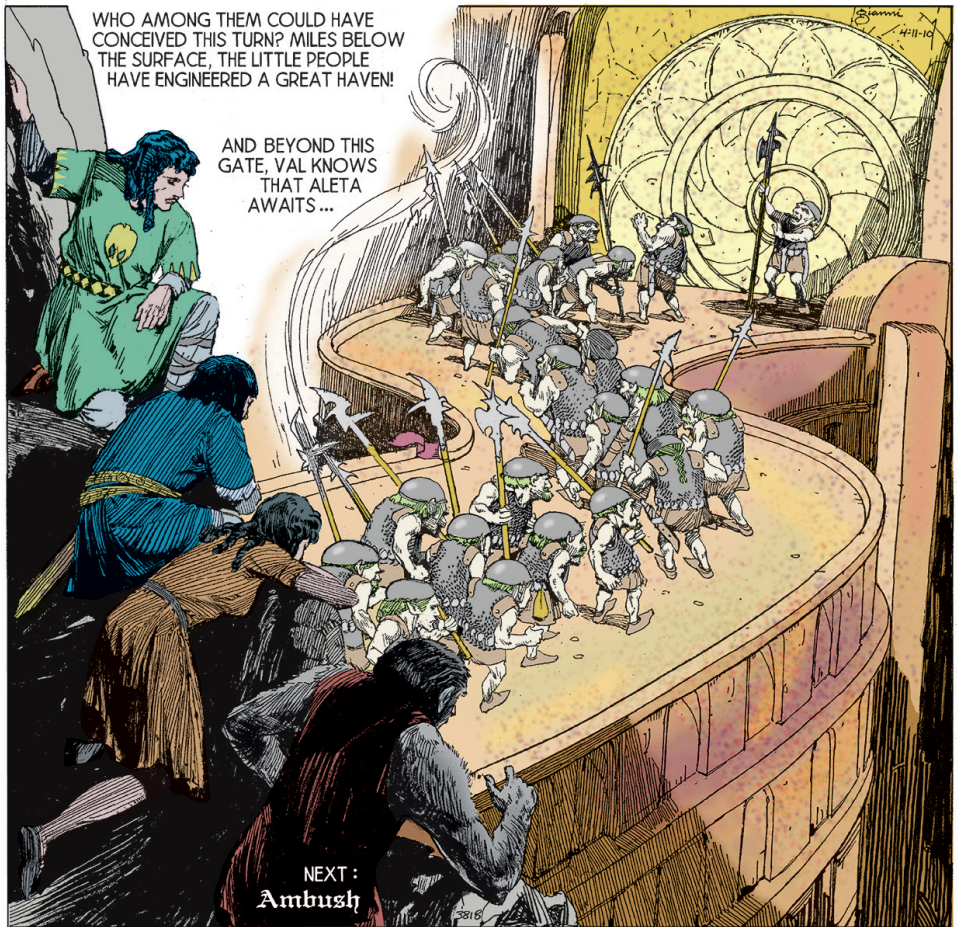
Our Story: "LOOK!" EXCLAIMS VAL, "ALETA'S TRAIL! PRUDENCE, YOU HAVE LED US TRU..." BUT THEN—DISTANT VOICES!



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THE FOUR FRIENDS FIND A HIDDEN VANTAGE POINT, AND WITNESS A BREATHTAKING SPECTACLE.



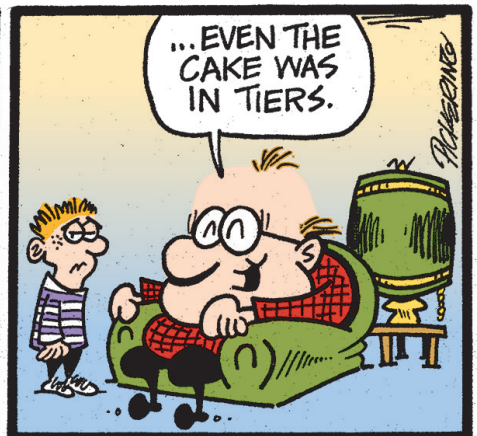
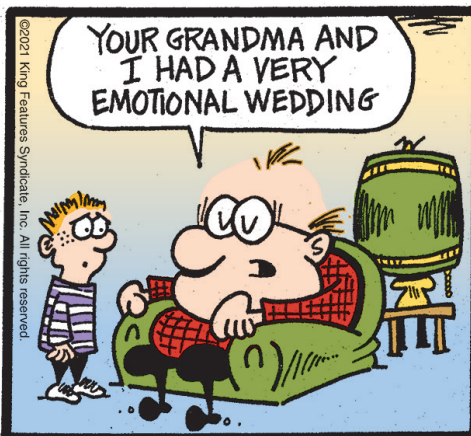
WHO AMONG THEM COULD HAVE CONCEIVED THIS TURN? MILES BELOW THE SURFACE, THE LITTLE PEOPLE HAVE ENGINEERED A GREAT HAVEN!

AND BEYOND THIS GATE, VAL KNOWS THAT ALETA AWAITS...

NEXT : Ambush

## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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PICKERING



## SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

### Are You Ready to Come Out Now?

Warm weather is here, which ideally would coincide with ending the coronavirus restrictions that have kept us isolated for well over a year. Are you ready to come out now?

Many of us aren't, which isn't surprising given the ever-changing facts: It's OK to take your mask off/no, keep wearing your mask. It's time to go out for a restaurant meal/restaurants are still limited in the number of diners they can allow. More than half the population has now been vaccinated/many younger people are refusing the vaccine.

And therein lies the complication in returning all of us to normal life: those who don't want the vaccine.

Imagine my shock when I called the medical practice the day before my annual physical to ask whether all employees had been vaccinated. "No," said the cheerful man who answered the phone. "We're not required to get it."

I brought this up when I saw my doctor. To his credit, he didn't try to lie to me.

Why, inquiring minds wanted to

know, in a medical setting with sick people in and out all day, didn't they require employees, especially the ones who get close enough to breathe on patients, to get the vaccine? Because, the doctor said, if they are required to take the vaccine, too many of them would just quit and the medical practice would have to shut down.

It seems to me that advice from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local governments varies by the day. But we still need to wear masks. We still need to distance ourselves from people, stay out of crowds and avoid poorly ventilated spaces.

To my way of thinking, only one thing has really changed: the weather. It's time to get out and walk, get some sunshine, build leg muscles and admire the neighbors' flowers. Wear a hat.

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1. What member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame Class of 2021 was named general manager of the San Francisco 49ers in 2017?

2. How old was NASCAR driver Morgan Shepherd when he started in the 2014 Camping World RV Sales 301?

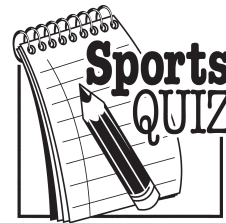
3. Iga Swiatek, 2020 French Open women's singles tennis champion, hails from what country?

4. In 2001, six-time Olympic gold-medalist swimmer Amy Van Dyken married Denver Broncos player Tom Rouen. What position did he play?

5. What sports nutrition center, founded by Victor Conte, became the focal point of a performance-enhancing drug scandal in the early 2000s?

6. Bobby Winkles compiled a 524-173 record and won three national titles as head coach of what college baseball team?

7. What team snapped the Los Ange-



by Ryan A. Berenz

les Lakers' NBA-record 33-game winning streak in January 1972?

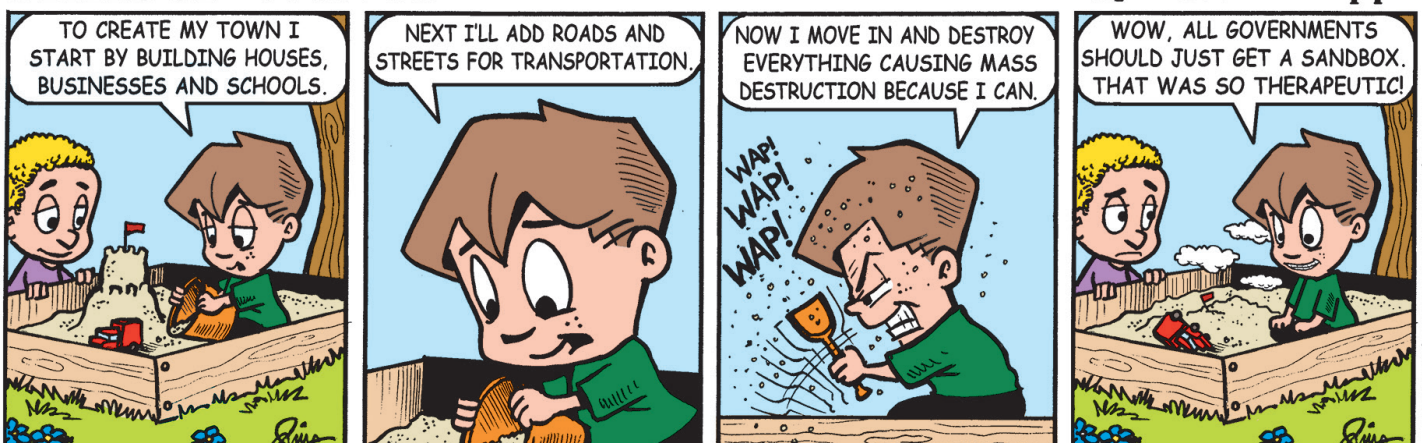
## Answers

1. John Lynch.
2. 72.
3. Poland.
4. Punter.
5. Bay Area Laboratory Co-operative (BALCO).
6. The Arizona State Sun Devils.
7. The Milwaukee Bucks.

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## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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## Is a 3-Legged Dog Worth Adopting?

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** I have an opportunity to adopt a wonderful three-legged, overweight, 4-year-old Shepherd. I'm happy to help him lose the weight, as I already walk 2 to 4 miles almost every day. However, I'm not sure if he can walk those distances. Can he be trained to walk with me that far? Do you think he would be able to swim for exercise? — *Donna P., via email*

**DEAR DONNA:** I've met so many animals that, despite a challenge such as a missing limb or paralysis, are still energetic and participate in every facet of life that they can.

Your potential new family member may be able to train up to walking a couple of miles, eventually. He's young enough, and Shepherds are certainly energetic enough.

His extra weight will make it difficult to manage on three legs. You can best control his weight through a diet prescribed by a veterinarian, rather than relying on exercise alone. Don't just cut calories without guidance, as he will need to eat good-quality food to put on muscle and get strong enough to walk with you.

Swimming, if he is comfortable doing it, can be a great option to keep him exercising while putting much less stress on his joints. Introduce him to this activity gradually, and don't force him into the water. Some dogs leap right in (I'm lookin' at you, Labradors), while others are hesitant.

If you're still on the fence about adopting this wonderful boy, talk to a veterinarian to find out what challenges you will face in getting him to a healthy weight.

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

## Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

\* A green cat was born in Denmark in 1995. Some people believe that high levels of copper in the water pipes nearby may have given his fur a verdigris effect.

\* Edgar Rice Burroughs, creator of the iconic jungle man Tarzan, worked as a pencil-sharpener salesman before trying his hand at fiction. He only started writing at the age of 36 to support his wife and two kids.

\* Boanthropy is a psychological disorder in which patients believe they are a cow.

\* The infamous crocodile jump by James Bond in "Live and Let Die" was performed with real crocs by the only person willing to attempt it -- the owner of the crocodile farm.

\* In early 2015, Mattel released Hello Barbie, an interactive talking doll that didn't just repeat preprogrammed phrases, but could actually hold a two-way conversation. The doll raised major concerns over privacy, however, since the discussions between it and child owners were recorded and sent to third-party vendors. Goodbye, Barbie!

\* Like casinos, your local shopping mall is intentionally designed to make you lose track of time, with clocks and windows removed to prevent views of the outside world, in a type of "scripted disorientation" known as the Gruen Transfer.

\* The original recipe for chocolate contained chili powder instead of sugar.

\* As if it weren't cool enough that your DNA encodes the entire blueprint for your body using a set of just four characters (amino acids), you can treat the outside surface of cotton fabric with concentrated genetic material, as the DNA is also flame retardant: Its molecules are similar to those in other fireproofing substances.

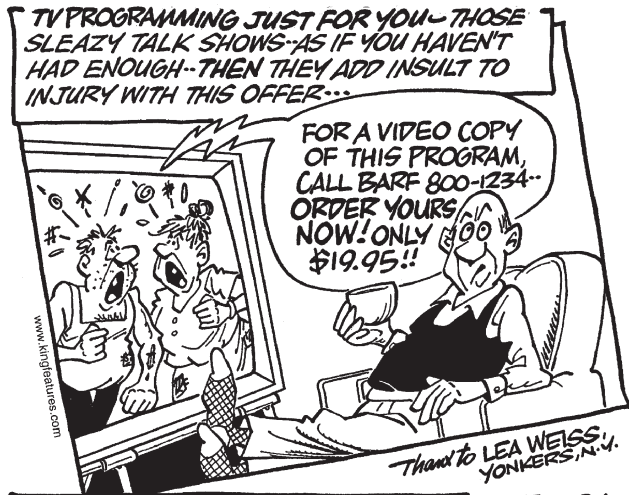
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Thought for the Day: "I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it."  
-- Thomas Jefferson

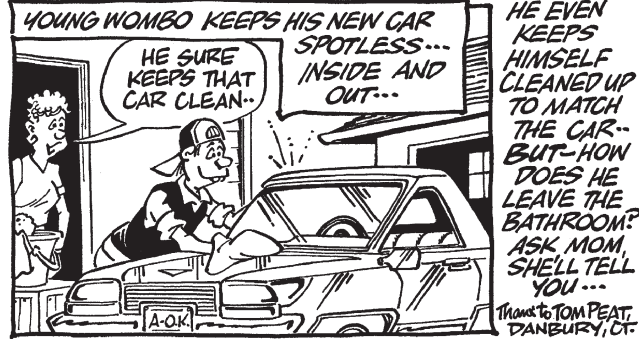
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## THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



## BY AL SCADUTO



### Ashe's Calamint

Also known as "Ash's Savory" or "Ohoopie Wild Basil," the rare *clinopodium ashei* is one of many kinds of mint growing in the wild. It has gray-green foliage and light pink or pale purple blossoms, and can grow as high as 3 feet. It is a threatened species, growing only in a few sandy dunes, low scrub and roadside patches of Florida and Georgia. It is named after William Ashe (1872-1932), a botanist and forester.

- Brenda Weaver

Sources: gakraow.github, flawildflowers.org

## VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

### Blue Water Navy Agent Orange Claims

One of the first lawsuits brought against the Department of Veterans Affairs for benefits for veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange was in 1986. At issue in *Nehmer v. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs* was the fact that the only medical condition acknowledged by the VA was chloracne ... a very serious skin condition caused by exposure to dioxins and dibenzofurans. It's been a very long haul since then to get the VA to acknowledge (and pay for) other damage done by Agent Orange.

The Nehmer Law was created for veterans, spouses, children and parents of any Vietnam veteran who should have received exposure benefits but didn't. Since 1991, the VA has paid out billions of dollars in AO exposure benefits for diabetes, ischemic heart disease, Parkinson's disease, cancers and more, but they've resisted every step of the way.

In November 2020, attorneys went back to court to force the VA to address the exposure suffered by Blue Water Navy veterans who literally drank, breathed and showered in AO while on ships in the harbor. The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 extended the presumption of exposure to include more than aboard-ship service.

Now, thanks again to Nehmer, the VA is required to readjudicate any denied Blue Water claims. The reviews started in April. No new claim is required, and any changes to claims are supposed to be automatic. It applies not only to veterans, but their survivors as well. Still at issue is whether the VA will pay retroactively for denied claims.

To learn more, go online to [congress.gov](http://congress.gov) and search for H.R.299 — Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019. For eligibility specifics, go to [va.gov](http://va.gov) and search for Agent Orange. And if you'd like to know where the class action lawsuit began, look up Beverly Nehmer.

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



## Say No to WOTUS, POTUS

On Monday, I sat down with the South Dakota Corn & South Dakota Soybean Associations in Valley Springs. For over an hour, I heard directly from producers on concerns they have, the challenges of the last four years, as well as the emerging opportunities. From workforce to trade to farm programs, there was a common goal amongst both groups: greater predictability.

Every two to four years, power can shift in Washington – that constant changing of the guard can cause problems for these producers. Farm programs and regulations change, and often, those changes aren't for the better.

This week the Biden Administration's Environmental Protection Agency announced they will be revisiting the Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule dictating which bodies of water are subject to EPA regulation. For those unfamiliar, the Obama-era WOTUS rule granted the federal government regulatory control over any "body" of water on private land. Basically, if there's a dry ditch, ephemeral stream or certain converted farmland, the federal government would have the power to regulate your property.

This rule was confusing and poorly written – it created a lot of uncertainty in farm country. I was proud to work with the Trump Administration to get the WOTUS rule repealed and replaced with a more practical approach. Farmers and ranchers should not need a team of engineers, lawyers, and consultants each time they want to manage their property. We need to protect our waters and be good stewards of our land but regulating ditches and puddles didn't meet that goal.

Under President Trump, the EPA replaced WOTUS with the Navigable Waters Protection Rule – this policy protected our larger navigable waters from pollution rather than placed unnecessary burdens on farmers potholes.

If you've spent much time with farmers and ranchers, you'll know they care about preserving our waters and lands more than most – they are diligent stewards of the land. Why the Biden Administration is set on taking every page from Obama's playbook despite knowing the WOTUS rule was a giant flop is a mystery to me.

It's possible to be environmentally conscious without harming producers – I hope the Biden Administration remembers that as they explore this out of touch WOTUS rule.



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## Where's the Beef?

Do you remember Clara Peller? In 1984 she was the main character in the Wendy's Hamburger Restaurant commercial who famously yelled the phrase... "Where's the beef?" The point of the ad was to highlight the amount of fresh beef used in Wendy's burgers compared to their competitors. Ironically, during the 2020 pandemic, Wendy's rolled out a new version of the ad to highlight the supply chain issues which were impacting the availability of beef in grocery stores. The ad begged another question... Do you know where your beef comes from?

I've often wondered if folks who aren't from cattle country understand the importance of this issue. Regardless of where you live or what you do for a living, this is an issue that should matter to you. Consumers are paying way too much for beef at the grocery store. And if you think the money is going to the producer, you're wrong.

U.S. farm and ranch families work hard every day to produce the best beef in the world. In a recent article on the Successful Farming website Agriculture.com, journalist Chuck Abbott writes... "A decade ago, farmers received 17.6¢ of each \$1 spent on food by Americans. Their share now is barely above 14¢ while processors, retailers, and others in the food chain take a larger share, according to USDA economists, who have tracked the farmer/marketer relationship for a quarter century." This is not fair to South Dakota producers who work day and night to raise healthy cattle.

Current U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack from Iowa is quoted as saying... "For every \$1 spent on food, only 14¢ goes to farmers. Now is the time to transform our food system to create a fairer, more transparent system, so at the end of the day more of that dollar ends up in a farmer's pocket." I couldn't agree more.

The problem in this story is the middleman. Sitting between the producer and the consumer are meat-packing companies. Four large packers, two of which are Brazilian-owned, control almost 85% of the beef processing capacity in the United States and are seemingly able to control prices at their will. Meanwhile, our independent cattle producers - who we rely on to feed the world - can barely make enough to feed their families. We must redouble our efforts to fix this.

Senator Tina Smith from Minnesota and I have launched a bipartisan, nationwide effort to defend our consumers and cattlemen. We led a broad coalition of 26 Members of Congress from across the ideological spectrum in sending a letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland, asking him to examine whether the influence large packers have over the market violates U.S. antitrust laws.

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South Dakota Governor

**Kristi Noem**



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

## South Dakota Strong

South Dakota has the strongest economy in America. In fact, a recent study by Moody's Analytics says that South Dakota is one of only 2 states to be in a stronger economic position than we were before the pandemic. That's no small deal. At a time when other states are still struggling to recover from the devastating shutdowns imposed on them by shortsighted politicians, South Dakota is thriving.

Our unemployment rate of 2.8% – the lowest in America – means that every South Dakotan who wants a job should have little problem finding one. In fact, there are ten job openings available for every South Dakotan currently receiving unemployment. WalletHub took notice of this by declaring that South Dakota is the #1 ranked state in America to find a job right now.

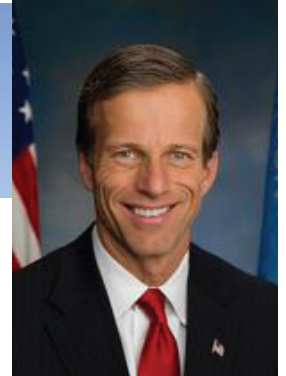
This has led to a tremendous bit of good news: more South Dakota teenagers are joining the workforce than in recent years. This means that our kids will learn the dignity of earning a paycheck. They'll realize life skills that they otherwise may not pick up until years later. This will pay tremendous dividends down the road as our teenagers blossom into adults.

For South Dakota workers who had been looking for the opportunity to start a new career, there is no better time than right now. Folks across the state are in serious need of hard-working employees, and South Dakotans have hard work and determination in spades. If you've been nervous to take that leap, I'd encourage you to seriously consider whether now is the right time to launch a career that can lead to years of success.

Our tourism industry is soaring. Wall Drug broke its single day record for sales this Memorial Day. Our visitation numbers are on pace to break annual records. Visitation to our state parks in particular is far above what it was last year – when we broke the previous record. People are paying attention to South Dakota, and they like what they see.

We have opportunities to continue building on this success. Sioux Falls was just named the #1 city in America for young professionals, and the city will only grow stronger as this economic growth continues. I've always said that South Dakotans have grit. They're strong. And thanks to their hard work, South Dakota's economy is strong, too.

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



## Winning the Long Game

In the era of the 24-hour news cycle and instant gratification, it's important to remember that some good things still take time. On June 9, South Dakota scored a historic, once-in-a-generation win when the U.S. Air Force signed a record of decision to formally designate Ellsworth Air Force Base in Box Elder as Main Operating Base 1—the first home of the B-21 stealth bomber. I couldn't be prouder to welcome this mission in the years ahead and am eager to start the transformation of the base to prepare for the formal training unit and the first operational squadron for the Raider.

The record of decision will set off a flurry of activity at the base over the next several years to build high-end maintenance facilities for the B-21's stealth coating, training and operations buildings, and a secure weapons facility to support the nuclear mission. Hundreds of millions of dollars of military construction will be invested in Ellsworth in anticipation of the mission, which will preserve America's global military reach in the high-end fight, and it will support a projected 7,700 airmen, spouses, and dependents at Ellsworth, with a total end-state increase of 3,147 individuals. We are fortunate the nation has entrusted South Dakota to host this mission.

This consequential decision for the Air Force and the state of South Dakota is all the more momentous when you consider how close we came to not having an Air Force base West River at all. Ellsworth was on the ropes 16 years ago. The base was placed on the Department of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) list just months after I arrived to the Senate in 2005. When the bad news broke that May, I immediately went to work, joined by the community and other elected officials. We dug in, put up a fight, and convinced the BRAC commission that Ellsworth was a vital national security asset and that moving the B-1 fleet from Ellsworth would actually cost money. We also made the case that the U.S. military shouldn't put all its eggs in one basket—that it shouldn't consolidate all of its strategic assets in one location. By August, Ellsworth was removed from the closure list, and it's fair to say we kept our sleeves rolled up ever since, seeking every opportunity to strengthen Ellsworth's role in our national security with the aim of getting this very news.

One of the most transformative steps taken was the decades-long effort to quadruple the local training airspace, the Powder River Training Complex (PRTC). The PRTC is now the largest training air space in the continental United States and can be used for large force exercises that draw combat aircraft from across the country. Advanced aircraft need larger training space, and the PRTC gave us an edge in winning the B-21 mission.

Ellsworth went from imminent closure to now being on the cutting edge of America's national security and strategic deterrence. It's been a team effort, from the local communities in Box Elder and Rapid City, to state partners like the Ellsworth Development Authority, and strong relationships with the base and Air Force leaders. And it couldn't have happened without keeping an unwavering focus on it for 16 years – an almost unthinkable time horizon by today's standards.

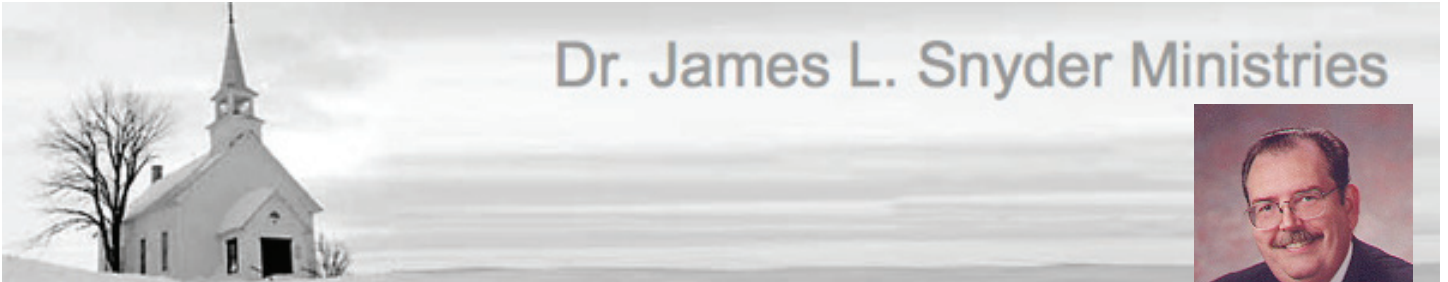
But sometimes you have to play the long game. And in being patient and strategic, we've shared some great wins together: saving the historic Hot Springs VA to preserve regional care for America's veterans; securing a future for the former Homestake gold mine as a state-of-the-art physics lab in Lead; and connecting rural communities across the state with broadband and the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System. And now, cementing Ellsworth Air Force Base's legacy in our national security and South Dakota's economy for decades to come.

I'm grateful to the Air Force for this decision and the hard work by so many to get us to today. I remain steadfast in my support for the mission and the men and women of the 28th Bomb Wing, who have put Ellsworth on the map, and I am thrilled for this B-21 announcement, which will keep it there.



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## Where Do Wrinkles Come From?

Several months ago, I had two cataracts removed from my eyes. How they got there, I don't know. As far as I can remember, they never asked my permission, and furthermore, they never paid rent for being there.

According to the eye doctor, and doctors are never wrong, I now have 20/20 vision. I've never had such vision since I was ten years old.

All I really need now are reading glasses, and my vision is quite good.

That sounds like a good thing on the surface, but every good thing has a little dark corner somewhere hidden.

The good part is that I can see excellently.

The bad part is that I can see excellently.

I didn't quite understand this until just recently it came to full view.

Usually, when I go to the bathroom in the morning to prepare for the day, I don't wear my glasses. Before my cataract surgery, everything was blurry, and I was just accustomed to that. Isn't it funny how you get accustomed to some things and then don't notice them?

Now my vision is so good that when I go into the bathroom in the morning to get ready for the day, I have perfect vision in the mirror.

If that isn't scary, then you haven't looked in my mirror on any given morning. If I didn't know better, I would think it was Frankenstein's grandson.

What shocked me so much was that as I looked at my face to prepare to shave, I noticed some things I never noticed before. Those things were "wrinkles."

I've noticed these things in other people, such as the one who lives in the same house with me. But I've never noticed it on me. But there they were. There they were in all their disgusting glory.

Not only did I have one wrinkle, but for some reason, that wrinkle brought all his family with him. And, to make matters worse, the first wrinkle never asked permission to take up residence on my face.

But there they were, and I was staring at them for the very first time.

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I do not know the real purpose of wrinkles or where in the world they come from or where I can send them.

I do have a relative, which shall remain anonymous, that deals with wrinkles all the time. She has had so much plastic surgery that it's hard to recognize who she really is. She reminds me of Joan Rivers.

I've always played jokes on her. When I saw her, I would look at her face and say, "Is that a new wrinkle on your face?"

I would laugh, and she would laugh, but her laugh wasn't as genuine as my laugh. In a few moments, she would disappear, and I never knew where she went except I suspected she was looking at the new wrinkle in the bathroom mirror.

The next time I saw her, that wrinkle had disappeared.

Have you ever noticed that things always come back on you when you try to pull them on somebody else? I did think about calling her and asking her opinion of what I should do about my wrinkles. I knew if I did, she could not stop laughing, so I'm not going to go in that direction.

But what are wrinkles really for? What is the purpose of a wrinkle? And, where did they come from? And, do I need to wear a mask?

Because of my confusion in this area, I thought I would take the chance of asking the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage about my wrinkles.

Cautiously I approached her and said, "I discovered I have some wrinkles on my face, and I don't know where they came from? Do you know what I could do?"

Obviously, she thought I was joking because I couldn't get her to stop laughing.

When she finally calmed down, she said, "You've had wrinkles for as long as I can remember." Then she began laughing again.

When she quieted down again, she said, "The purpose of wrinkles is to keep track of your age. Every wrinkle represents a certain age in your life." Then she broke down in laughter again. Obviously, this is funny to her.

The next time I was in front of the mirror, I carefully looked at my wrinkles and tried to count them. If what she says is true, I must be 397 years old.

I exited the bathroom with a very sour grimace on my face, and when my wife looked at me, once again, she broke down into hilarious laughter. I'm glad she thinks it's funny!

I'm not sure what to do with my wrinkles, but I'm not going to have plastic surgery.

I need to accept things as they are and not allow something as silly as a wrinkle define who I am. If I do that, I will never come to any kind of reality about myself. I surely am not my wrinkle.

Thinking about this, I was reminded of a verse in the Bible. "Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face" (Psalm 5:8).

My face has more important things to do than fuss over wrinkles. I need to trust the Lord each day to set before my face the way that he wants me to go for his glory.

## Images being painted on new tower



The flag was painted on the new water tower on Saturday which is facing to the northeast. The "Groton Tigers" image was started on the southwest side of the tower on Saturday as well. (Photos by Paul Kosel)



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## EARTHTALK

From the Editors of E - The Environmental Magazine

Dear EarthTalk: What are some quick and easy ways to make my home more comfortable and climate-friendly?

-- Jane B., Tampa, FL

While the coronavirus pandemic has been a serious blight on the world, we've all learned valuable lessons about resource consumption from running around so much less. The lack of commuting has practically emptied the roads, helping temporarily reduce carbon emissions. But all the lockdown time has also made us painfully aware of the shortcomings of our homes. Now may well be an excellent time to make improvements that will benefit not only the environment but also your residential bottom line.

One key place to start is weatherizing. If your home is drafty, you may be consuming as much as 20 percent more energy than you need to keep the inside temperature to your liking.

"One simple way to hunt for indoor leaks is to slowly move an incense stick along floors, windows, doors, vents, and walls, and look for places where the smoke changes direction rather than rising straight up," says Daisy Simmons of Yale Climate Connections. "Jot down the trouble spots, then address them...with either weather-stripping or caulking, depending on the location." Outlets and switches, she adds, are often draft culprits, but can be sealed easily with cheap foam gaskets from the hardware store.

Beyond remediating individual drafts, adding insulation in general (to the walls, floors, ceilings, basements and crawl spaces) can boost household energy efficiency by some 10 percent on average according to the federal government's EnergySTAR program to promote efficient appliances and building systems. Indeed, 90 percent of homes in the U.S. are under-insulated, leaving residents vulnerable to temperature swings (cold snaps, heat waves) not to mention noise, humidity and other external negatives.

Another way to reduce your impact and carbon footprint is to cut back on the amount of garbage your household generates. Zero waste home guru and author Bea Johnson says cutting out landfill-bound trash is all about the discipline to follow five simple rules: Refuse what you don't need (like freebies and junk mail), let go of what you don't use or need in your home (boosting the all-important waste-busting "second-hand market"), reuse, recycle and compost. Her family has been able to reduce their annual landfill-bound waste to a few pieces of plastic and other debris that can fit into a small jar, and saves lots of money along the way. Johnson reports shaving about 40 percent off her overall family budget thanks to going zero waste.

There are tons of other ways to reduce your carbon footprint and overall environmental impact at home. Switch to cold water in the clothes washer and avoid the dryer as much as possible in favor of line-drying. Swap incandescent and even CFL light-bulbs for more efficient LEDs. Get a programmable thermostat that you can set to turn down overnight or when you're not home. Upgrade curtains and blinds to help insulate and keep your home comfortable no matter the weather outside. With so many ways to green up your household and residential lifestyle, the hardest part might just be deciding where to start.

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).



**This is all the landfill-bound trash generated by Bea Johnson's family between 2011 and 2019.** Credit: Zero Waste Home.

# Groton Transit

## FUNDRAISER

**Thursday, June 17, 2021  
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.**

**Due to the heat, the event  
has been moved to the  
Groton Community Center**

*Please join us and help  
support Groton Transit!*

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**Britton**



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County	Total Cases	Recovered Cases	Negative Persons	Deceased Among Cases	Community Spread	% PCR Test Positivity Rate (Weekly)	Variants of Concern
Aurora	475	460	983	15	None	0.0%	0
Beadle	2966	2920	6726	40	Minimal	1.6%	1
Bennett	392	383	1289	9	None	0.0%	0
Bon Homme	1554	1526	2382	28	Minimal	0.0%	0
Brookings	4234	4191	14103	37	Moderate	0.0%	14
Brown	5635	5531	14348	95	Moderate	1.6%	6
Brule	718	708	2140	10	Minimal	0.0%	1
Buffalo	426	413	932	13	None	0.0%	0
Butte	1084	1053	3679	20	Moderate	3.5%	1
Campbell	131	127	294	4	None	0.0%	0
Charles Mix	1383	1359	4477	22	Minimal	1.0%	1
Clark	463	458	1076	5	None	0.0%	2
Clay	1933	1918	6133	15	Minimal	2.3%	2
Codington	4650	4567	11075	83	Minimal	0.7%	5
Corson	483	469	1173	12	Minimal	26.3%	1
Custer	876	860	3062	13	Minimal	8.3%	0
Davison	3246	3174	7623	66	Minimal	1.4%	9
Day	709	680	2013	29	Minimal	0.0%	2
Deuel	531	522	1348	9	Minimal	0.0%	0
Dewey	1476	1446	4196	29	None	0.0%	0
Douglas	456	446	1053	9	None	0.0%	0
Edmunds	514	499	1198	14	None	0.0%	0
Fall River	604	583	3019	16	Minimal	2.2%	2
Faulk	373	360	771	13	None	0.0%	0
Grant	1057	1013	2542	42	Minimal	0.0%	1
Gregory	586	554	1467	30	Minimal	0.0%	0
Haakon	266	256	600	10	Minimal	0.0%	0
Hamlin	800	760	2079	39	Minimal	0.0%	0
Hand	364	357	968	6	None	0.0%	0
Hanson	390	386	819	4	None	0.0%	1
Harding	97	96	216	1	None	0.0%	0
Hughes	2523	2477	7605	41	Minimal	0.0%	4
Hutchinson	918	889	2767	28	None	0.0%	2

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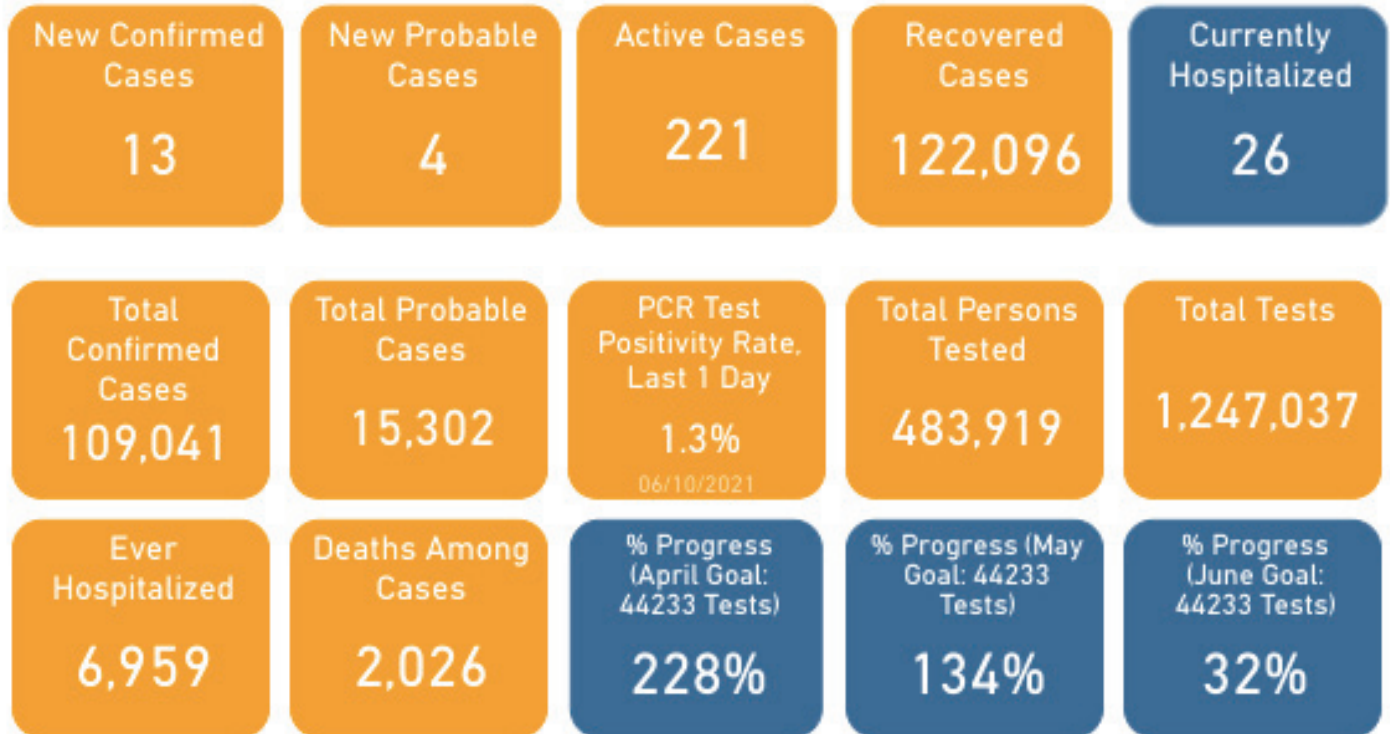
Hyde	141	140	469	1	None	0.0%	0
Jackson	291	277	1005	14	Minimal	6.7%	0
Jerauld	281	265	638	16	Minimal	0.0%	0
Jones	95	94	272	0	None	0.0%	0
Kingsbury	819	801	1939	18	None	0.0%	0
Lake	1388	1361	4003	20	Minimal	4.5%	2
Lawrence	3007	2949	9324	48	Moderate	2.7%	0
Lincoln	8715	8627	23386	78	Moderate	1.4%	9
Lyman	659	647	2092	11	Minimal	4.0%	1
Marshall	375	369	1398	6	Minimal	0.0%	2
McCook	811	786	1937	25	Minimal	0.0%	8
McPherson	247	242	635	4	Minimal	0.0%	1
Meade	2792	2753	8719	31	Moderate	0.6%	0
Mellette	260	258	843	2	None	0.0%	0
Miner	307	296	663	10	Minimal	0.0%	0
Minnehaha	31739	31327	91408	363	Moderate	2.1%	70
Moody	666	645	1986	20	Minimal	4.2%	1
Oglala Lakota	2119	2069	7449	49	Minimal	1.8%	3
Pennington	13873	13624	44075	202	Moderate	3.4%	18
Perkins	359	345	897	14	None	0.0%	0
Potter	391	386	943	4	Minimal	0.0%	0
Roberts	1378	1335	4731	41	Minimal	3.8%	10
Sanborn	345	341	785	3	Minimal	0.0%	0
Spink	846	817	2381	26	Minimal	3.8%	0
Stanley	354	350	1101	2	Minimal	9.1%	0
Sully	145	142	349	3	Minimal	16.7%	0
Todd	1235	1200	4623	33	Minimal	1.1%	0
Tripp	756	739	1680	17	None	0.0%	0
Turner	1181	1123	3088	57	Minimal	5.6%	0
Union	2227	2183	7187	43	Minimal	1.6%	2
Walworth	772	757	2025	15	Minimal	7.1%	0
Yankton	3112	3072	10654	34	Moderate	1.1%	9
Ziebach	344	335	975	9	None	0.0%	0
Unassigned	0	0	1760	0			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	5434	0
10-19 years	14710	0
20-29 years	21967	8
30-39 years	20539	21
40-49 years	17774	43
50-59 years	17346	120
60-69 years	14024	282
70-79 years	7301	469
80+ years	5248	1083

COVID-19 Variant	# of Cases
B.1.1.7	170
B.1.429	15
P.1	3
B.1.351	2
B.1.427	1

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

Race/Ethnicity	# of Cases	% of Cases
White	93401	75%
Native American	14295	11%
Unknown	5602	5%
Hispanic	4735	4%
Black	2857	2%
Other	1752	1%
Asian / Pacific Islander	1701	1%

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## Brown County

New Confirmed Cases

0

New Probable Cases

0

Active Cases

9

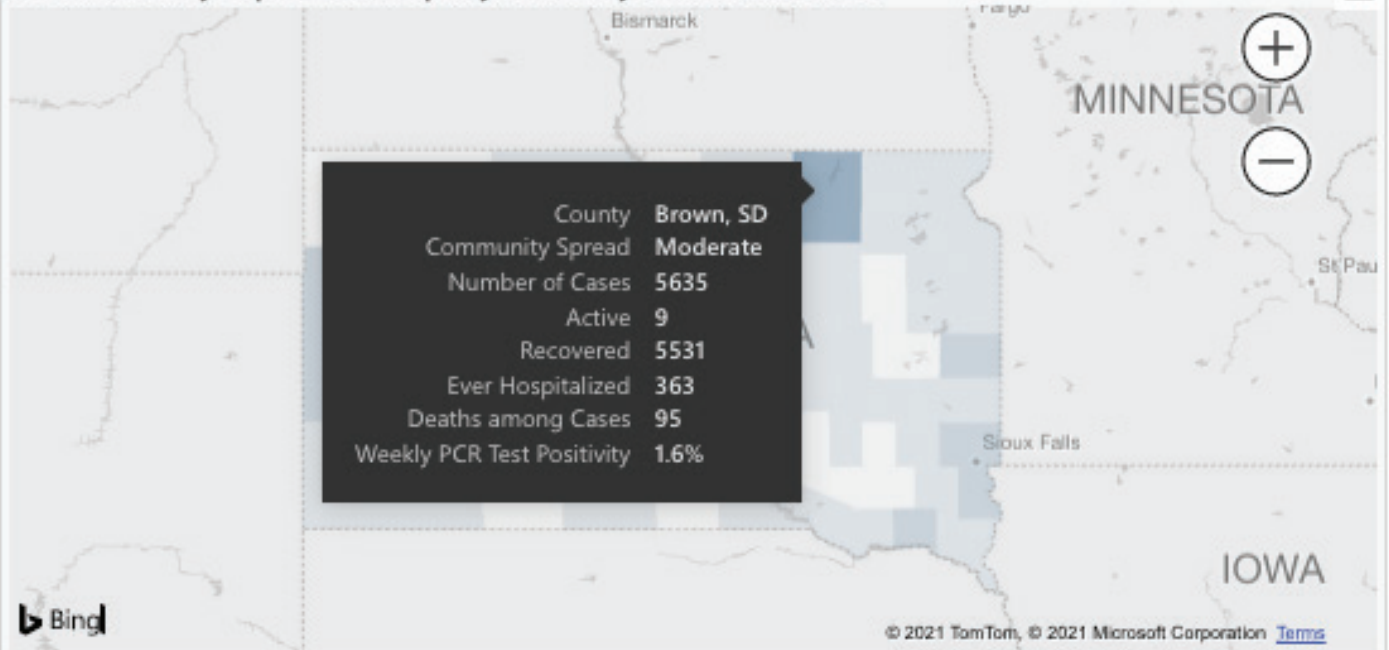
Recovered Cases

5,531

Currently Hospitalized

26

### Community Spread Map by County of Residence



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

Total Confirmed Cases

4,918

Total Probable Cases

717

PCR Test Positivity Rate, Last 1 Day

0.0%

06/10/2021

Total Persons Tested

19,983

Total Tests

62,427

Ever Hospitalized

363

Deaths Among Cases

95

% Progress (April Goal: 44233 Tests)

228%

% Progress (May Goal: 44233 Tests)

134%

% Progress (June Goal: 44233 Tests)

32%

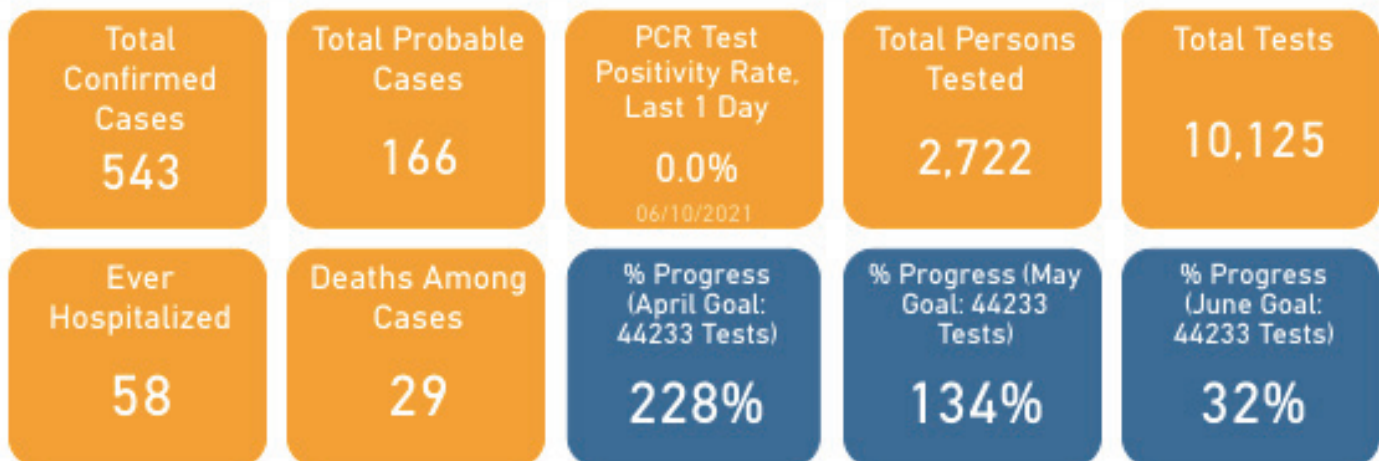
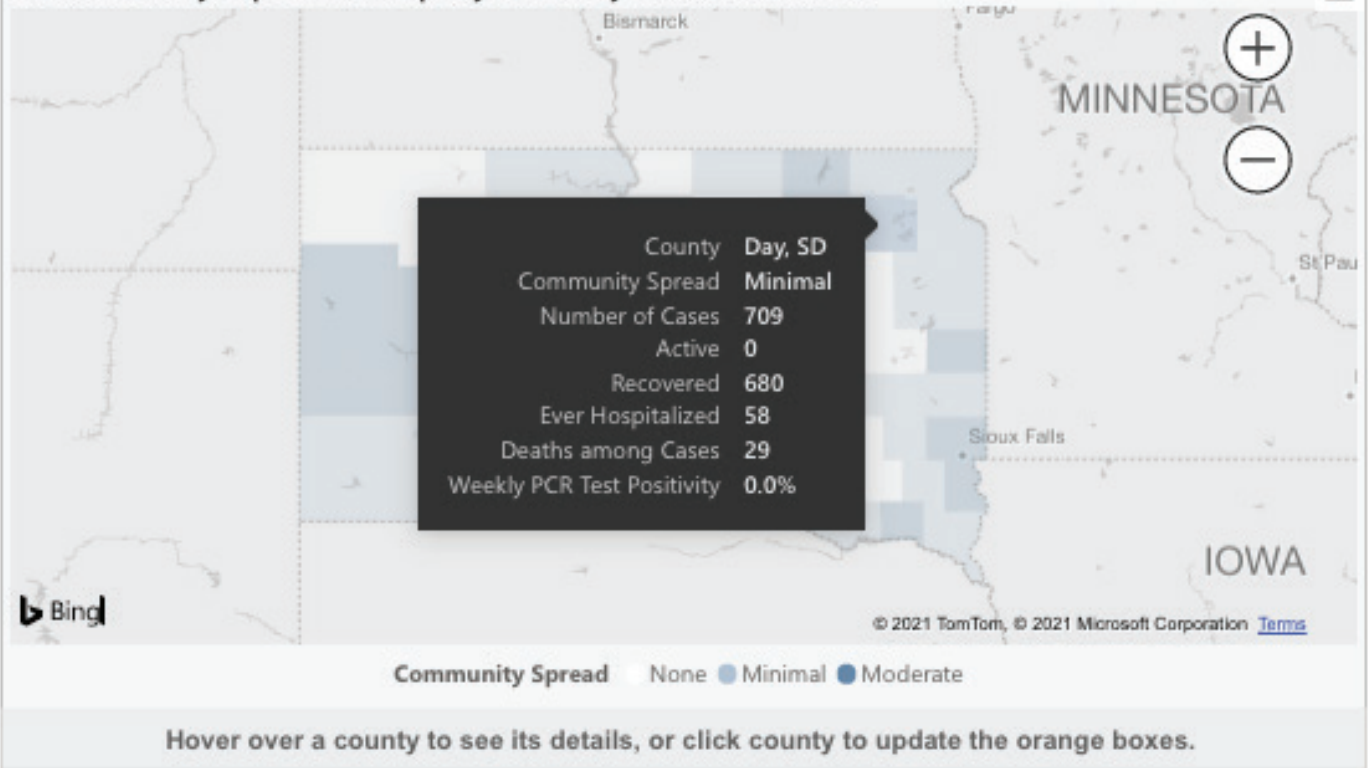
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## Day County



### Community Spread Map by County of Residence





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## Vaccinations

Total Doses Administered\*

672,137

Total Persons Administered a Vaccine\*

359,869

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

56%

Manufacturer	# of Doses
Janssen	21,427
Moderna	292,651
Pfizer	358,059

Doses	# of Recipients
Janssen - Series Complete	21,424
Moderna - 1 dose	9,764
Moderna - Series Complete	141,443
Pfizer - 1 dose	16,453
Pfizer - Series Complete	170,803

Doses	% of Pop.
1 dose	55.82%
Series Complete	50.98%

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

County	# Doses	# Persons (1 dose)	# Persons (2 doses)	Total # Persons
Aurora	2,146	80	1,033	1,113
Beadle	13,907	990	6,458	7,448
Bennett*	810	110	350	460
Bon Homme*	6,133	211	2,961	3,172
Brookings	27,239	2,219	12,510	14,729
Brown	32,727	1,713	15,507	17,220
Brule*	3,306	288	1,509	1,797
Buffalo*	267	109	79	188
Butte	4,937	509	2,214	2,723
Campbell	1,721	61	830	891
Charles Mix*	5,697	599	2,549	3,148
Clark	2,850	242	1,304	1,546
Clay	11,571	1,189	5,191	6,380
Codington*	22,323	1,331	10,495	11,826
Corson*	499	53	223	276
Custer*	5,927	529	2,699	3,228
Davison	17,347	1,039	8,154	9,193
Day*	4,971	333	2,319	2,652
Deuel	3,038	226	1,406	1,632
Dewey*	580	70	255	325
Douglas*	2,228	104	1,062	1,166
Edmunds	2,815	123	1,346	1,469
Fall River*	4,753	347	2,203	2,550
Faulk	2,034	80	977	1,057
Grant*	5,847	239	2,804	3,043
Gregory*	3,048	166	1,441	1,607

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Haakon*	913	45	434	479
Hamlin	3,900	326	1,787	2,113
Hand	2,796	90	1,353	1,443
Hanson	1,219	77	571	648
Harding	296	28	134	162
Hughes*	17,220	805	8,207	9,012
Hutchinson*	6,932	241	3,345	3,586
Hyde*	949	41	454	495
Jackson*	707	53	327	380
Jerauld	1,657	63	797	860
Jones*	1,158	64	547	611
Kingsbury	5,089	369	2,360	2,729
Lake	9,753	952	4,400	5,352
Lawrence	18,162	1,418	8,372	9,790
Lincoln	53,779	2,913	25,431	28,344
Lyman*	2,450	212	1,119	1,331
Marshall*	3,860	234	1,813	2,047
McCook	4,415	457	1,979	2,436
McPherson	557	19	269	288
Meade*	13,185	993	6,096	7,089
Mellette*	85	1	42	43
Miner	1,679	246	716	962
Minnehaha*	177,642	11,358	83,138	94,496
Moody*	3,760	184	1,788	1,972
Oglala Lakota*	405	91	157	248
Pennington*	71,264	6,468	32,397	38,865
Perkins*	1,284	84	600	684
Potter	1,974	72	951	1,023
Roberts*	7,343	626	3,358	3,984
Sanborn	2,048	130	959	1,089
Spink	5,543	225	2,659	2,884
Stanley*	2,588	104	1,242	1,346
Sully	864	32	416	448
Todd*	346	70	138	208
Tripp*	3,467	155	1,656	1,811
Turner	6,527	401	3,063	3,464
Union	7,621	583	3,519	4,102
Walworth*	3,243	295	1,474	1,769
Yankton	21,008	1,236	9,886	11,122
Ziebach*	108	20	44	64
Other	15,620	2,882	6,369	9,251

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**#444 in a series**

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

We're on an overall declining trajectory, but the past three days have showed a concerning uptick in new-case numbers. My guess is that this is holiday weekend effect from the recent Memorial Day weekend and the general relaxation of precautions, as well as the continuing takeover by the B.1.1.7 or Alpha (first identified in the UK) variant which is so highly transmissible. If that's what's going on, I would expect new-case numbers to continue to rise for another several days at least and a following increase in both hospitalizations and deaths in coming weeks. It could get worse yet now that B.1.617.2 or Delta (first identified in India) is in the country; this one has all the hallmarks of a virus even more transmissible than B.1.1.7, possibly more lethal too, although that's still an open question. We have enough unvaccinated people to sustain a continuing outbreak across the country for a long while to come. I don't know that this will happen, but I'm not betting against it.

On June 10, 2020, one year ago today, we passed two million cases with 2,010,600 cases and 113,088 deaths in the US. I wrote for the first time about an unusual sequela of this disease that later came to be known as long covid, the syndrome of lingering or recurring symptoms and disabling fatigue long after the infection is gone. Sadly, I don't think we know much more about how to help people with this condition now than we did back then. A year ago, the neurologic manifestations and sequelae of this infection were starting to become evident too. Schools, barely out for the summer, were already busy trying to figure out how they could reopen safely in the fall. And college campuses were discovering their vulnerability as student-athletes started checking in for summer camps and then getting sick.

A year ago today, Dr. Anthony Fauci, the director of the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases who cut his teeth on the HIV crisis and managed our response to Ebola, told the BIO International Convention that Covid-19 was his "worst nightmare." He explained that he had often described that "worst nightmare" scenario as one that would involve a "brand new respiratory infection that likely jumped from an animal, and had a very high degree of transmissibility." And here we are. I wonder whether he ever regrets not retiring in, say, 2019.

Worldwide, we were over 7.1 million cases and at least 408,000 deaths. As the lull in the US seemed to be ending and Europe had emerged from the worst of the spring, Latin America was facing burgeoning case numbers, the fastest increase in the world.

Months ago, as we were beginning to talk about the possibility we would one day have effective vaccines for Covid-19, we talked about the potential difficulty that we wouldn't have sufficient cases in the world to test vaccines quickly. Guess that's one bullet we dodged—remember what things looked like last summer and fall when the phase 3 trials were on? Plenty of cases. I also explained the basic process for the various phases in clinical trials for vaccines. If you missed that and have wondered from time to time what a phase 1 or phase 2 trial is, you can have a look at my Update #105 posted June 7, 2020, at <https://www.facebook.com/marie.schwabmiller/posts/3661301933886186>.

India's surge is finally fading; their new-case rate is the lowest it's been in two months, at last below 200,000 new cases per day. They're at almost 29 million cases with close to 350,000 deaths. This is a breather, but there are already signs of a third wave right around the corner. Like the rest of us, they're not out of the woods yet.

Vaccination rates are creeping up, more slowly than they did earlier in the year. We now have 13 states which have met the President's goal of having 70 percent of adults who have received at least one dose. These states are Hawaii, Washington, California, New Mexico, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland. Less than a month after the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine was approved for children down to the age of 12, we have over half of the eligible population, more than 140 million people fully vaccinated and 171 million who have received at least one dose of vaccine. There have been 303,923,667 of the 372,100,285 delivered doses administered; our seven-day average is still over one million daily. At the rate we're now delivering doses into arms, we will not meet the goal of having 70 percent of adults vaccinated by July 4. This concerns me deeply: Unvac-



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cinated people are sites for replication, replication gives us mutation, and mutation gives us the possibility (probability?) of future trouble, including for those of us who did the right thing and got vaccinated. That happens, I'll be all judgey—or my loved ones who survive me will. Count on it.

The CDC just reported an update on its website on an ongoing study they've been conducting on the two mRNA vaccines in use here. The HEROES-RECOVER study of 3975 health care workers, first responders, frontline workers, and other essential workers, all people with great risk for occupational exposure to infection, started with the first vaccinations on December 13, 2020, and involves weekly SARS-CoV-2 testing of every participant, quantifying viral load in those who tested positive, and tracking the number of days of viral shedding. Some participants have been vaccinated, and others have not; I do not see numbers of participants in each of these two groups. The last set of preliminary data were announced a couple of months ago; now there are additional data and analysis.

Unsurprisingly, all the news is good. The vaccines reduce the risk of infection by 81 percent in partially vaccinated people and by 91 percent in fully vaccinated people. Further, in those who became infected, the partially or fully vaccinated people were more likely to "have a milder and shorter illness compared to those who were unvaccinated." Those who infected were 60 percent less likely to develop symptoms, and those with symptoms spent fewer days sick. They had 40 percent lower viral loads and detectable virus for six fewer days. We believe this means they are significantly less likely to transmit infection whether symptomatic or not. This provides additional evidence these vaccines really work.

We have a new study out from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center on the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine's effectiveness against variants of the virus. While the paper is slated for publication in the journal *Nature*, it has not yet been peer reviewed or published, which means I was unable to access the paper and am working from a summary here. The research team looked at both antibodies and T-cell immunity. The two variants which have showed the most resistance to our antibodies have been B.1.351 or Beta (first identified in South Africa) and P.1 or Gamma (first identified in Brazil). (For a while, I'm going to need to use the old sciencey name and the new Greek-letter one together until I have the associations firmly made in the old brain.) While neutralizing antibodies were somewhat less effective against these variants, other types of antibodies (binding antibodies and FC functional antibodies) were not affected, nor were cell-mediated (T-cell) responses. T-cell responses were not decreased at all against any of the variants, and this is a very big deal. T-cells, specifically CD8 or killer T cells, destroy virus-infected host cells and clear infection; they are critical in limiting the virus. This is good news because all three vaccines in use in the US are producing robust T-cell responses against these variants. We're still working on demonstrating for sure just which of these kinds of responses are protective and how protective they are as well as how long they're likely to last; but this is looking good.

Moderna announced that its vaccine produced the same response in children 12 and over as it does in adults; they plan to apply for an extension of their emergency use authorization (EUA) to this age group in the next week. That would make another vaccine available to adolescents; the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine has been authorized for them for just over three weeks now. More vaccines are better.

We've talked from time to time about the Novovax vaccine candidate which should be coming up for approval in the relatively new future; the company says it anticipates applying for emergency use authorization (EUA) in the US and similar approval in the UK and Europe in the next couple of months. This one's a protein subunit, which means instead of persuading our cells to make the spike (S) protein so we can have an immune response to it, the vaccine actually includes the S protein premade. That means it needs an adjuvant, an added substance in the vaccine to improve and extend our immune response to it. Because proteins are quite stable at room temperature compared to RNA, this should not have the challenging storage requirements we've seen for the mRNA vaccines.

The Novovax protein subunit is made in the lab by growing the virus in tissue cell cultures, then killing the viruses and purifying the protein from that culture. A Canadian company, Medicago, is making a protein subunit vaccine too, but they're using tobacco plants to grow the protein. They employed recombinant technology to insert the gene for the viral S protein into the tobacco plants, which eliminates the need to

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grow a dangerous virus at all. Additionally, the plants make a lipid shell around a cluster of proteins that presents the S protein on the outer surface of that shell, which is sort of a facsimile of the virus itself—lipid envelope studded with S proteins. Preliminary work indicates this candidate elicits a solid immune response, and the company has begun a 30,000-volunteer study in 11 countries. I'm not sure what the anticipated completion date is on this one, but it has real promise.

Another protein subunit candidate is the one under development by French pharmaceutical company, Sanofi. You may recall that, early on, this candidate had a very disappointing showing, particularly in elderly people; so the company threw in with BioNTech to manufacture their vaccine to extend the supply while it tweaked its own candidate. Turns out the problem was an "incorrect calculation of the dose of vaccine being delivered." Now they're giving a 10-microgram dose rather than a 1 microgram dose, which appears to be producing excellent results. They're enrolling a large efficacy trial now and, with luck, may soon need their production capacity for their own vaccine. That would be a good outcome if we can just persuade people to receive the stuff.

Speaking of which, experts have been having a good look at the South, and there is real cause for concern as summer comes on. We've already discussed states and areas within states that have low vaccine uptake; many of those problem areas are in the South where summer heat is going to be driving folks indoors over the next several months. We have 15 states below 50 percent of adults who have received a dose of vaccine; half of those are in the South: Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, the Carolinas, and Georgia. In Mississippi, barely one-third of adults have received vaccine, and there are smaller areas within this region below 20 percent. Additionally, as testing has fallen by around 85 percent from its peak last winter, we're not very likely to spot any oncoming surge in time to mitigate it.

Now no one expects to see numbers like we were seeing over the winter: It seems likely the vaccinated people out there will blunt whatever surge might occur, but there are areas where you have a whole lot of susceptible people yet and a considerably lower probability anyone's taking reasonable precautions. The expectation is that young people are most vulnerable because they are being vaccinated at the lowest rates and have the most social and professional contacts; they're also the group least likely to take precautions. This should mean hospitals aren't going to be filled to critical levels and death rates won't approach the winter's peaks; but people are likely to die who didn't need to die, and that feels like a tragedy to me.

Another wrinkle in Worryland is this new variant first identified in India, formerly only known as B.1.617.2 and now also known as Delta. We are seeing a concerning uptick in case numbers in the UK, which have more than doubled in the last month, just as this variant becomes more prevalent there—now accounting for 60 percent of their cases. Now they've also reopened recently, so that's going to be responsible for some of this uptick as well, but this variant looks really highly transmissible, even when put up against our currently scary-enough B.1.1.7 (Alpha), the last big thing for transmissibility. The New York Times says, "Britain's experience also suggests that cases may soon rise in the U.S.," citing The Financial Times's John Burn-Murdoch, who put it this way: "What we're seeing in the U.K. is very likely to show up in other Western countries soon."

There isn't any good evidence at the moment that Delta is more lethal or causes more severe disease, although there are some indications of more severe disease in young people in the UK—too soon to know for sure, but it's a concern. It's going to help that our current vaccines appear to be covering the variant nicely once you're fully vaccinated, which likely puts a whole lot of older folks (who have disproportionately been vaccinated) out of its reach; that will probably keep mortality lower unless we learn something awful about this variant that we don't know now. We should note, however, that a single dose of two-dose vaccines appears in the UK to give poor protection, maybe on the order of 15 to 20 percent. It should also be noted that the UK's practice of delaying second doses of two-dose vaccines may leave their population more vulnerable since this variant seems to be more likely to infect folks who have received only one dose—and, of course, no one who's received only the first dose of a two-dose vaccine should consider themselves protected anyhow. Deaths lag new cases by a few weeks, so it's too soon to be sure about how this will play out in mortality statistics. James Naismith of the Rosalind Franklin Institute told the New York Times, "If we don't see anything by June 14, we can exhale." So I guess we'll have something on

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severity and mortality in a week or so.

Given vaccine hesitancy in the US and our lack of precautions by unvaccinated people, I expect we should be watching the UK carefully over the next few weeks. Their present may well be our future. In case you were wondering, as good as our numbers have been looking, this is not over yet. At all.

I typed this last on Monday morning, and right on schedule, we had a report on Tuesday that six percent of cases in the US are now caused by this variant and we also have an uptick of our own, possibly linked to the Memorial Day weekend. Our 14-day new-case average increased Monday for the first time in at least several weeks, and if you check out the latest versions of the heat maps I've been posting for months, you will note that we went from two to six states in the escalating transmission zone overnight Monday night and still had five there on Tuesday and today. We have some bouncing around by states near the margins of these zones, but the steady downward trend has at least been interrupted. It's a concern.

As we appear to be pulling out of this crisis, I've been spending some time thinking about whether we want to get back to "normal" again. You know, normal? Where we were bitterly divided and hollering at one another. Where we were angry and suspicious. Where we dismissed the lives or rights or needs of people who aren't much like us as having less value than those we can easily identify with. I don't really want to go back to that normal. And we do have a choice in the matter.

As I looked back this week, I discovered I've been thinking about that for a while. Here's what I wrote in closing my Update #105 last June 7:

"I was reminded by a friend via social media this morning of a conceptual framework for values that draws from Native American culture and applies very well to this moment in which we find ourselves. One of the values is to give attention to the human need for belonging, to treat others as kin. I think about the old score-keeping convention in card games and such with two columns for toting up points, labeled 'They' and 'We.' As a kid, I was fascinated with those words on the scorecard because it seemed odd to me to consider my sister and my mom as a 'They' to Dad's and my 'We.' And now as an adult, I think we need to overcome our sense that there exists a 'They' and a 'We.' I think we all need to be part of the same 'We'—kin. Because score-keeping only has value if you plan to have winners and losers. That's OK in a card game, but societies are weakened by having losers. We are as strong as the weakest among us; so we need to be spending our time and effort strengthening and supporting the vulnerable to give everyone a chance to succeed.

"The other value is the need for generosity, that is, the need to be generous. You prove your worth to yourself and to society by making a positive contribution to your society—that means to others in it. Great leaders throughout history, those who make their societies stronger, are those who bring others along with them, who contribute to the welfare of the whole. We can't all (and don't all want to) hold formal leadership positions; but we can all lead. We can all look for ways to bring others along with us, contribute to the welfare of the whole.

"Belonging and generosity, both vital to living well in community: We cannot afford to strive for less in this time of crisis. Please step up."

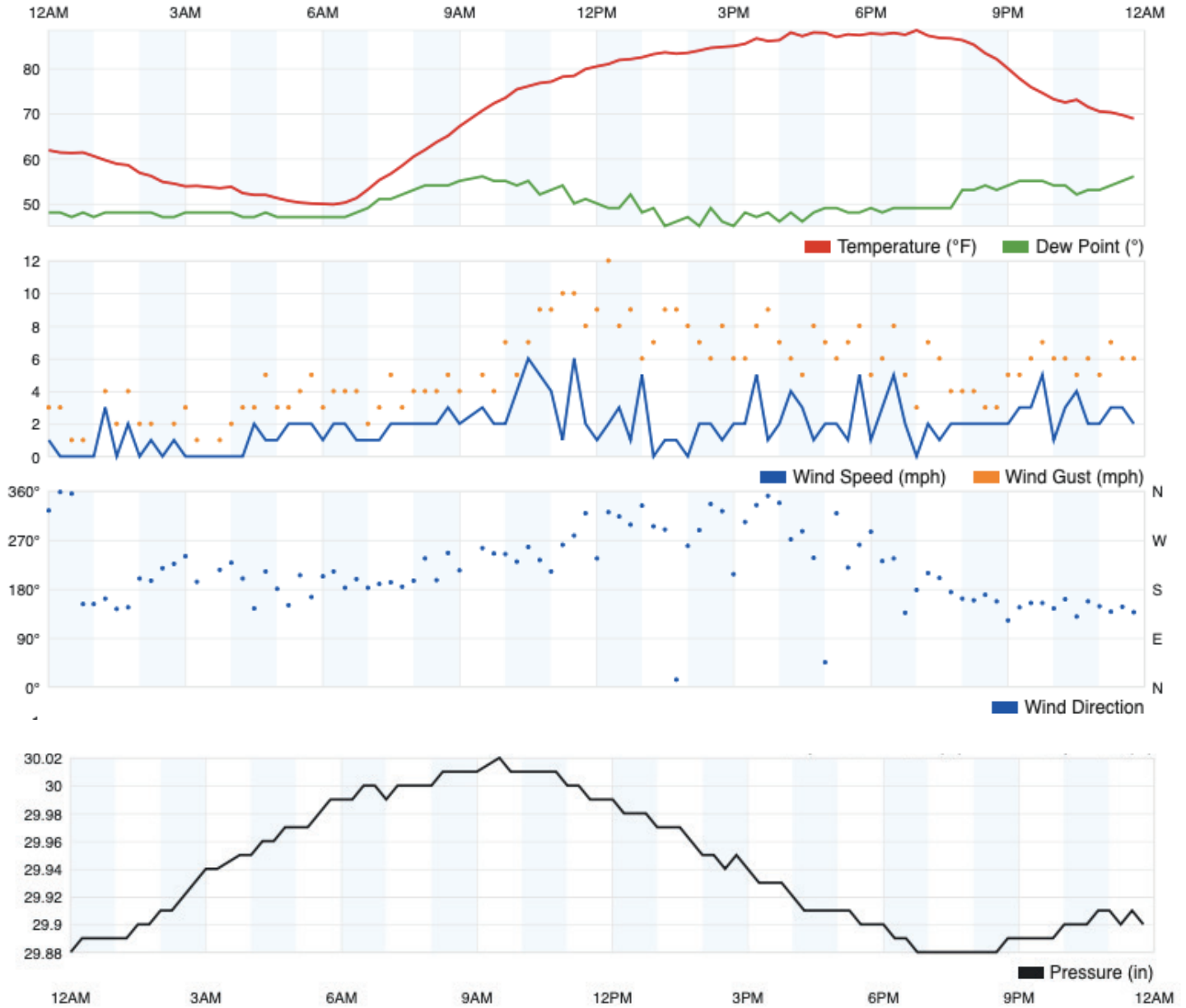
And stay well. We'll talk again.



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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs



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Today



Sunny

High: 89 °F

Tonight



Mostly Clear

Low: 56 °F

Monday



Sunny

High: 89 °F

Monday Night



Mostly Clear

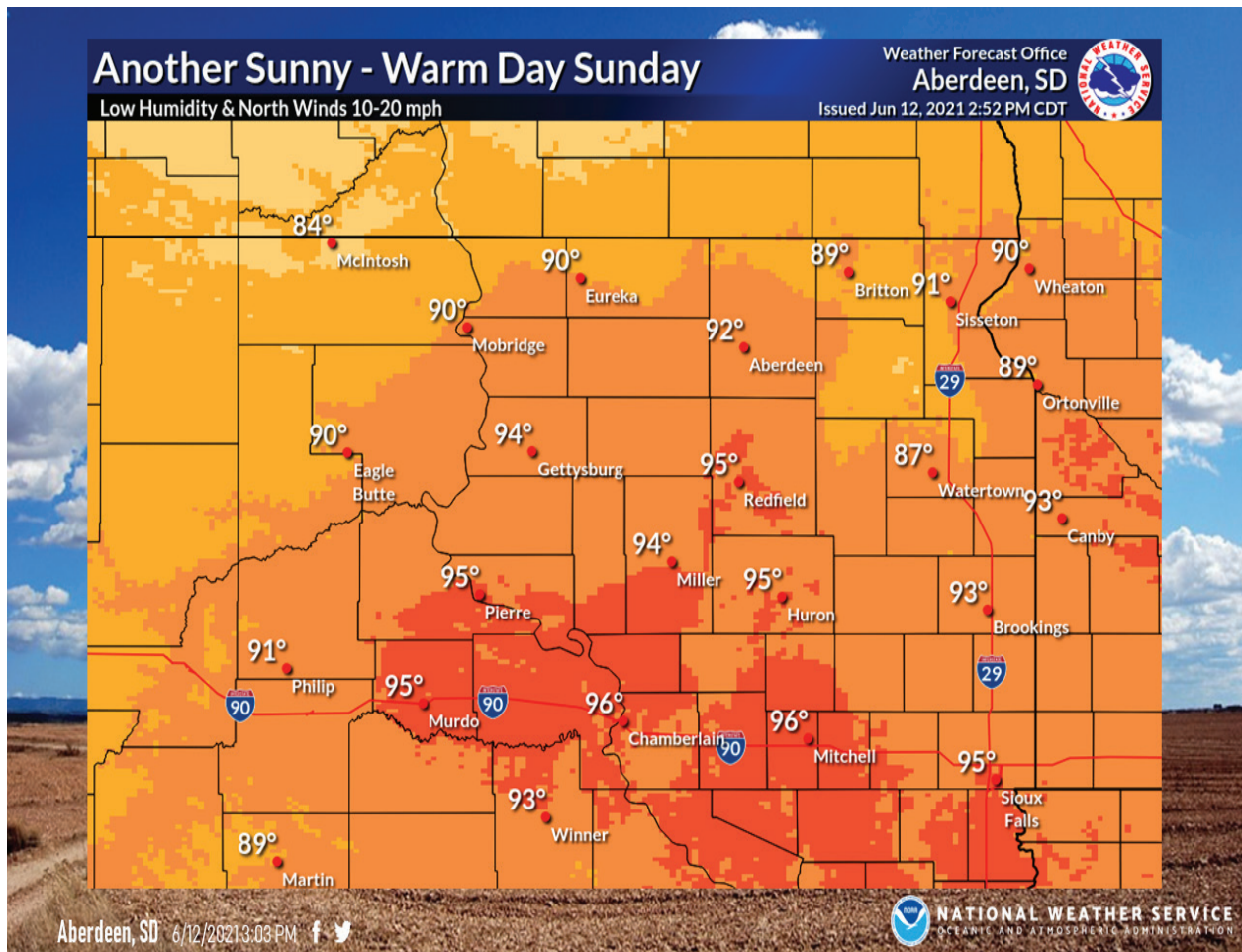
Low: 57 °F

Tuesday



Hot

High: 92 °F



Looks like another in the string of upcoming warm, dry days with a north breeze for Sunday. Temperatures will continue to climb through mid-week.

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## Today in Weather History

June 13, 1943: An estimated F2 tornado moved ENE, destroying a home on the southeastern edge of Highmore in Hyde County. A mother and her five children seeking shelter in the home were injured. Barns and outbuildings were damaged on a dozen farms. This tornado was estimated to be on the ground for about 8 miles and caused about \$10,000 in damage.

June 13, 1991: A small F1 tornado remained on the ground for 4 miles as it moved westerly from 10 miles west of Roscoe to 6 miles west of Roscoe, in Edmunds County. The path of the tornado continued for another 5 miles but was not consistently on the ground. It dissipated one mile west of Roscoe. Although the tornado had a long path, its width was 10 yards and traveled through open fields and cause little to no damage.

1972: Severe weather conditions over the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico begin to converge and form a tropical depression that would become Hurricane Agnes over the next two weeks. This hurricane affected most of the eastern United States with the Northeast being the hardest hit area with heavy rainfall.

1976: A deadly tornado moved across parts of the southwestern Chicago, Illinois suburbs killing three people and injured 23 others. The tornado, with winds over 200 mph moved from Lemont to Downers Grove causing \$13 million in damage when 87 homes were destroyed, and another 90 were damaged. The tornado passed over the Argonne National Laboratory, peeling part of a roof of the building housing a nuclear reactor. The tornadoes movement was somewhat erratic moving southeast to the north and finally turning northwest.

1889 - Forest fires in northern Wisconsin and northeast Minnesota were in the process of destroying millions of dollars of board feet of timber. (David Ludlum)

1907 - The temperature at Tamarack, CA, dipped to 2 degrees above zero, the lowest reading of record for June for the U.S. The high that day was 30 degrees. Tamarack received 42 inches of snow between the 10th and the 13th. On the 13th the snow depth was 130 inches. (The Weather Channel)

1984 - Severe thunderstorms struck Denver deluging the city with five inches of rain, and leaving up to six feet of water in some places. Softball size hail smashed windshields and ripped through metal cars. Snow plows had to be called out. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Fifteen cities in the north central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including International Falls, MN, with a reading of 92 degrees. Mason City IA and Waterloo IA reported record highs of 100 degrees. Thunderstorms in the northeastern U.S. produced golf ball size hail around Hamilton Square NJ, along with high winds which tore the roof off a hospital causing a million dollars damage. Averill Park NY was deluged with 1.64 inches of rain in fifteen minutes. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Afternoon thunderstorms produced severe weather in the Southern and Central Plains Region. Forrest NM was deluged with 5.5 inches of rain in ninety minutes. Temperatures soared into the 90s across much of the eastern half of the nation, including New England. Northern Illinois reported a record twenty straight days of dry weather. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from the Southern Plains Region to the Carolinas during the day and night, and continued to drench parts of Texas and Oklahoma with heavy rain. Oklahoma City reported 13.41 inches of rain for the first thirteen days of the month, and Fort Worth TX reported 29.56 inches for the year, a total more than 13 inches above normal. Severe drought continued to rage across South Texas. (The National Weather Summary)



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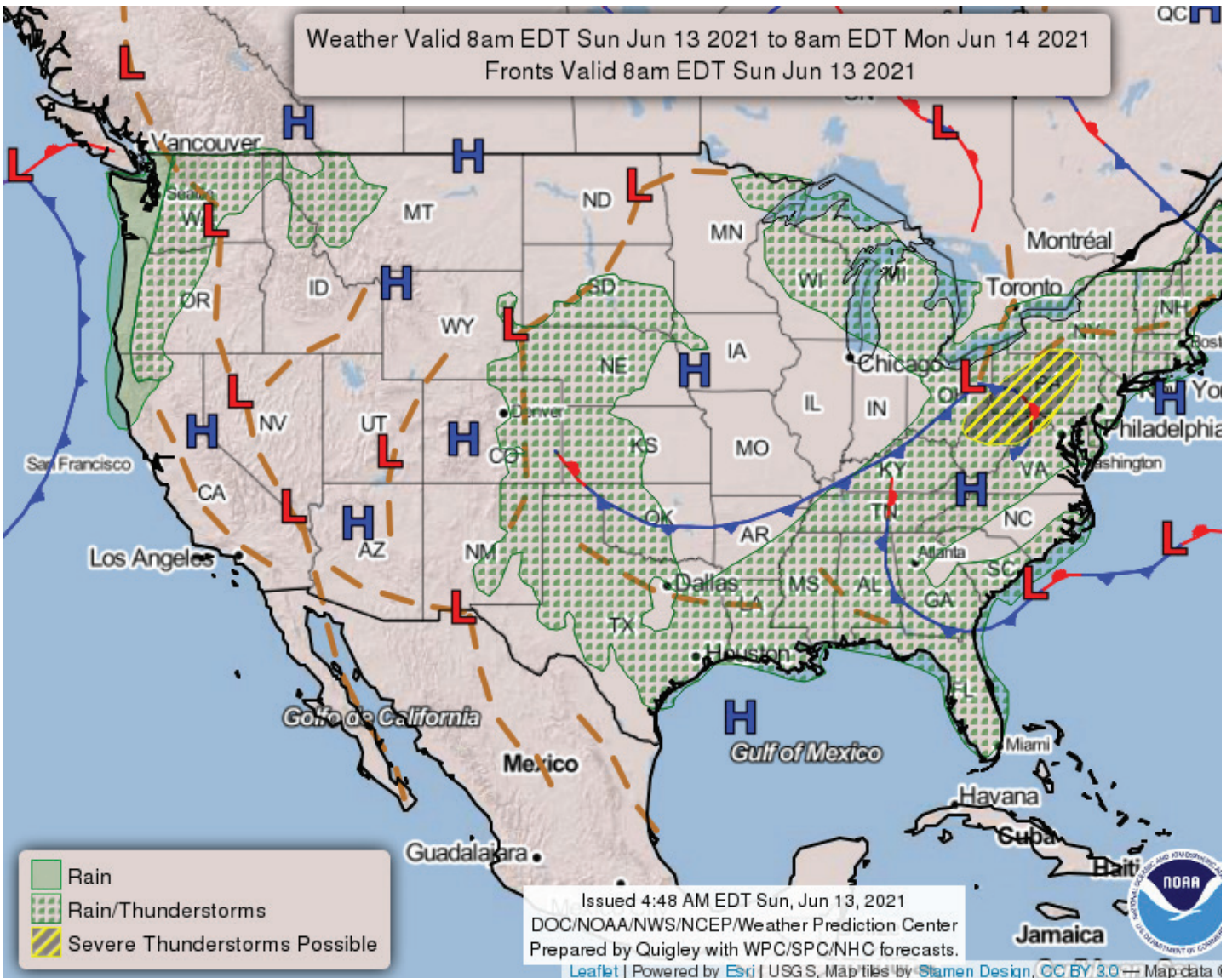
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## Yesterday's Groton Weather

**High Temp: 88.4 °F**  
**Low Temp: 49.8 °F**  
**Wind: 12 mph**  
**Precip: .00**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 102° in 1936**  
**Record Low: 36° in 1942**  
**Average High: 80°F**  
**Average Low: 55°F**  
**Average Precip in June.: 1.40**  
**Precip to date in June.: 0.53**  
**Average Precip to date: 8.65**  
**Precip Year to Date: 4.50**  
**Sunset Tonight: 9:23 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:45 a.m.**



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## THE SATISFIED SOUL

Saint Augustine is well known for his oft quoted saying, "You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in You." His only desire was to know God intimately and worship Him faithfully.

One of God's greatest gifts is the incompleteness we feel and the insecurity we sense until we allow Him to make us complete in Christ. The emptiness we feel and the desire we have for "something more" seems to come with every beat of our hearts.

Often this longing is never realized unless God forces us into a corner or shuts us in a dark room. Recently a friend said, "The best thing that ever happened to me was to be diagnosed with cancer. It stopped me short and made me realize that everything I thought would bring me peace and satisfaction was an illusion. None of my accomplishments mattered any more nor could any of the wealth I accumulated purchase any peace. My cancer made me realize that everything I had could not be exchanged for one simple heart beat or a breath that would extend my life!"

Often it takes a serious illness or other tragedy in life to force us to face the reality of our helplessness, hopeless and emptiness. Many times we think that our "business" in church activities will bring us peace when we face the uncertainties of life. Not so!

When David faced a spiritual collapse he knew exactly what to do and where to go and Who had the solution: "My soul thirsts for You; my body longs for You."

Prayer: How grateful we are, Father that You care for us so much that You programmed our hearts to give us no rest until we rest in You. Thank You! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: My soul thirsts for You; my body longs for You. Psalm 63:1b

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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 **Postponed to Aug. 28th:** 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  
08/28/2021 Lions Club Crazy Golf Fest 9am 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



## 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

05-07-16-23-28

(five, seven, sixteen, twenty-three, twenty-eight)

Estimated jackpot: \$49,000

Lotto America

08-10-23-49-50, Star Ball: 6, ASB: 3

(eight, ten, twenty-three, forty-nine, fifty; Star Ball: six; ASB: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$7.09 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$20 million

Powerball

08-25-34-38-41, Powerball: 10, Power Play: 3

(eight, twenty-five, thirty-four, thirty-eight, forty-one; Powerball: ten; Power Play: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$31 million

### South Dakota college pitcher fitted with new prosthetic arm

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A college baseball player from South Dakota whose prosthetic arm was stolen was fitted with a new replacement limb Friday at a Minneapolis-area hospital.

The Argus Leader reports Augustana's Parker Hanson also presented the Shriners Children's Twin Cities hospital with a \$7,000 check from donations he received while his prosthetic was missing.

The hospital specializes in pediatric orthopedics and gave him a free replacement.

Hanson, a right-handed pitcher, was born without a left hand, but found a way to adapt at a young age so he play his favorite game all the way up through the college level. His prosthetic arm and the attachments were in a backpack that was stolen from his unlocked pickup outside his home last month. His prosthetic was later recovered at a recycling center in Sioux Falls.

The prosthetic was "pretty banged up" and Hanson said it was no longer usable. He was fundraising both for a new prosthetic and to raise money for charity.

### As summit ends, G-7 urged to deliver on vaccines, climate

By JILL LAWLESS, SYLVIA HUI and DANICA KIRKA Associated Press

FALMOUTH, England (AP) — The Group of Seven leaders aim to end their first summit in two years with a punchy set of promises Sunday, including vaccinating the world against coronavirus, making huge corporations pay their fair share of taxes and tackling climate change with a blend of technology and money.

They want to show that international cooperation is back after the upheavals caused by the pandemic and the unpredictability of former U.S. President Donald Trump. And they want to convey that the club of wealthy democracies — Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States — is a better friend to poorer nations than authoritarian rivals such as China.

But it was uncertain how firm the group's commitments will be on coronavirus vaccines, the economy and the environment when the leaders issue their final communique. Also unclear was whether all of the leaders would back the United States' call to chastise China for repressing its Uyghur minority and other abuses.

U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson, the summit's host, wanted the three-day meeting to fly the flag for a

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"Global Britain," his government's initiative to give the mid-sized country outsized influence when it comes to global problem-solving.

Brexit cast a shadow over that goal during the summit on the coast of southwest England. European Union leaders and U.S. President Joe Biden voiced concerns about problems with new U.K.-EU trade rules that have heightened tensions in Northern Ireland.

But overall, the mood has been positive: The leaders smiled for the cameras on the beach at cliff-fringed Carbis Bay, a village and resort that became a traffic-clogged fortress for the meeting. The last G-7 summit was in France in 2019, with last year's event in the United States scuttled by the pandemic.

The leaders mingled with Queen Elizabeth II at a royal reception on their first evening, and were served steak and lobster at a beach barbecue after watching an aeronautic display by the Royal Air Force Red Arrows on their second.

America's allies were visibly relieved to have the U.S. back as an engaged international player after the "America First" policy of the Trump administration.

"The United States is back, and democracies of the world are standing together," Biden said as he arrived in the U.K. on the first foreign trip of his 5-month-old presidency. After the G-7 summit, the president will have tea with the queen on Sunday, attend a NATO summit in Brussels on Monday and hold talks with Russian leader Vladimir Putin in Geneva on Wednesday.

At the G-7, Johnson described Biden as a "breath of fresh air." French President Emmanuel Macron, after speaking one-to-one with Biden, said, "It's great to have a U.S. president part of the club and very willing to cooperate."

The re-energized G-7 made ambitious declarations during their meetings about girls' education, preventing future pandemics and using the finance system to fund green growth. Above all, they vowed to share vaccine doses with less well-off nations that urgently need them. Johnson said the group would pledge at least 1 billion doses, with half of that coming from the United States and 100 million from Britain.

Public health advocates said much more than just doses was needed, including money and logistical help to get shots delivered in poorer countries.

World Health Organization Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus commended the vaccine pledge but said it's not enough. To truly end the pandemic, he said, 11 billion doses are needed to vaccinate at least 70% of the world's population by mid-2022.

"We need more and we need them faster," Tedros said.

Climate change is a key focus of the leaders' final day of talks on Sunday, and the group is expected to announce new financing measures to help poorer countries reduce carbon emissions.

The "Build Back Better for the World" plan will promise to offer financing for infrastructure — "from railways in Africa to wind farms in Asia" — to help speed up the global shift to renewable energy. The plan is a response to China's "belt and road" initiative, which has increased Beijing's influence around the world.

Climate activists and analysts have said filling a \$100 billion annual fund to help poor countries tackle the effects of global warming should be at the top of the G-7's list.

All G-7 countries have pledged to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050, but many environmentalists say that will be too little, too late.

Naturalist David Attenborough, who was to address the leaders by video, warned that humanity is "on the verge of destabilizing the entire planet."

"If that is so, then the decisions we make this decade — in particular the decisions made by the most economically advanced nations — are the most important in human history," Attenborough said.

Max Lawson, head of inequality policy for Oxfam International, welcomed plans to boost investment to help poor countries reduce their carbon footprints. But he said "it doesn't help the poor people that are being hit by climate change right now."

"So, yes, it's probably a good thing but is it enough? Absolutely not," he said.

Large crowds of surfers and kayakers took to the sea in a mass protest Saturday to urge better protections for the world's oceans, while thousands chanted and beat drums as they marched outside the summit's media center in Falmouth.

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"G-7 is all greenwashing," the protesters sang. "We're drowning in promises, now's the time to act."

The leaders' final communique is also expected to formally embrace placing a global minimum tax of at least 15% on large multinational companies to stop corporations from using tax havens to avoid taxes.

The minimum rate was championed by the U.S., and dovetails with the aim of Biden — and Johnson — to focus the summit on ways the democracies can collaborate to build a more inclusive, fair global economy and to compete with rising autocracies like China.

White House officials also said that Biden wants the G-7 leaders to speak in a single voice against the forced labor practices targeting China's Uyghur Muslims and other ethnic minorities. Biden hopes the denunciation will be part of a joint statement Sunday, but some European allies are reluctant to split so forcefully with Beijing.

Non-G-7 nations India, South Korea, Australia and South Africa were invited to attend as guests to bolster the group's support for fellow democracies.

## Eriksen sends 'his greetings' to teammates after collapse

By MATTIAS KARÉN Associated Press

COPENHAGEN (AP) — Christian Eriksen remained in stable condition in a Copenhagen hospital Sunday and "sent his greetings to his teammates" as he recovers from his collapse during a European Championship game, the Danish soccer federation said.

The rest of the Danish team was being given crisis management assistance as they process the incident that happened during Saturday's game against Finland in Copenhagen. Eriksen fell face-forward to the ground late in the first half and needed CPR from medical staff before regaining consciousness.

"This morning we have spoken to Christian Eriksen, who has sent his greetings to his teammates," the Danish federation wrote on Twitter. "His condition is stable, and he continues to be hospitalized for further examination. The team and staff of the national team has received crisis assistance and will continue to be there for each other after yesterday's incident."

The Euro 2020 game was suspended for about 90 minutes after Eriksen's collapse. It eventually resumed and Finland won 1-0.

The Danish team canceled all planned media activities at its base camp on Sunday and also postponed a training session.

The 29-year-old Eriksen was being treated at Rigshospitalet, one of Denmark's top hospitals which is less than a mile away from Parken Stadium, where the game was played.

The Danish federation, known as the DBU, also thanked fans and other teams for their outpouring of support for the Inter Milan midfielder who earned a reputation as one of the world's top playmakers during his seven years in the Premier League at Tottenham.

Denmark coach Kasper Hjulmand said after Saturday's game that the Danish players would be offered any assistance needed as they try to focus on the rest of the tournament.

"We will spend the next few days processing this as best we can," Hjulmand said. "And of course we are surrounded by professional people. ... It's not normal to play such a game and then see one of your friends suffer with a heart issue."

The incident cast an immediate pall on what had been a party-like atmosphere in Copenhagen as Denmark hosted a major tournament game for the first time. The players had been talking about the possibility of repeating the country's upset win at the 1992 European Championship, with Eriksen the centerpiece of the team in his attacking midfield role.

Now the team will have to focus on just getting through the next game against top-ranked Belgium on Thursday in Group B. And Hjulmand praised his players for not being afraid to show their emotions both on the field and in the dressing room.

"It's a traumatic experience," Hjulmand said. "The attitude (when play resumed) was let's go out and try to do what we can. And then we talked about allowing (yourself) to have all these feelings. And it was OK to say no if they weren't able to play. Some of them said that they wanted to try. And I said no mat-



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ter what feelings they had, it was all OK. You had to allow yourself to try to play the game if you felt like it. And you had to dare to show happy emotions. But it was OK to say no. Because some of them they weren't able to, they weren't able to play."

Hjulmand said he had experienced a similar situation during his career as a club coach "where we almost lost someone on the field."

"And now I can see how everyone is reaching out to their families right now and tries FaceTiming them," Hjulmand said during his post-game news conference. "So that's what a situation like this does. It's a tough night."

## Swiss vote on whether to hike taxes to fight climate change

By JAMEY KEATEN Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — Swiss voters are casting ballots in a referendum on a proposed "carbon dioxide law" that would hike fees and taxes on fuels that produce greenhouse gases, as their Alpine country experiences an outsized impact from the fallout of climate change.

The proposal would revise and strengthen an existing law that aims to reduce CO2 emissions by 2030. It's one of several measures facing voters nationwide on Sunday in the latest referendums in Swiss democracy, which gives the public a direct say in policymaking.

Many in Switzerland, home to melting glaciers and high-altitude towns, sense it needs to act fast: The country has faced a rise in temperatures that is twice as fast as the global average, the government says. Greenhouse gases — notably carbon-dioxide — are seen as the primary culprit.

The law, if approved by voters and finalized in parliament, would enact new taxes on CO2-generating fuel and natural gas, as well as on airline tickets, and raise fees on the pump price of gasoline. Exemptions would be given to people who reduce their CO2 emissions.

Such revenues would go into a "climate fund" to support activities like the rollout of electric buses, financing for Swiss firms to innovate climate-friendly technologies, new heating systems and aid for areas vulnerable to the impact of climate change -- like rural areas hit by mudslides.

Polls suggest that most voters back the measure, but the margin narrowed in May. Most Swiss cast ballots by mail, and preliminary results were expected by Sunday afternoon.

Critics say the measure would be ineffective since Switzerland's carbon-dioxide emissions amount to a mere 0.1 percent of the global tally — so the problem is far bigger than what the country alone can combat.

Plus, they say the impact of the measure would cost too much and weigh heavily on a wide array of people, including lower- and middle-income families, drivers, young travelers and both homeowners and renters.

The Swiss government, which backs the proposal, and other supporters insist that the cost of inaction would be even higher, and say the measure could underpin climate-friendly innovations and create more green jobs.

Among other issues on nationwide ballots is a referendum on the government's COVID-19 law, which generated a surge in state spending that critics say was too expensive: A vote against the law could invalidate emergency state support that has already gone out to — and continues to go to — over 100,000 enterprises and more than 1 million people in the country of 8.5 million.

Polls suggest a relatively tight contest over an initiative that aims to improve the quality of drinking water in Switzerland would make it harder for farmers to get state subsidies if they use some types of pesticides and antibiotics.

Voters also appeared set to green-light the government's push to grant police enhanced surveillance powers and take preventative action to help fight terrorism.

## NATO leaders bid symbolic adieu to Afghanistan at summit

By LORNE COOK Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — U.S. President Joe Biden and his NATO counterparts will bid a symbolic farewell to

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Afghanistan on Monday in their last summit before America winds up its longest "forever war" and the U.S. military pulls out for good.

The meeting is bound to renew questions about whether NATO's most ambitious operation ever was worth it.

The 18-year effort cost the United States alone \$2.26 trillion, and the price in lives includes 2,442 American troops and 1,144 personnel among U.S. allies, according to figures from Brown University. NATO does not keep a record of those who die in its operations.

Those casualty figures dwarf Afghan losses, which include more than 47,000 civilians, up to 69,000 members of the national armed forces and police, and over 51,000 opposition fighters.

The military effort followed the 2001 arrival of a U.S.-led coalition that ousted the Taliban for harboring al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden. Few experts argue that it brought long-term stability, meaningful democracy or security.

"At this point, you get the impression that NATO leaders almost want to downplay and leave quietly, rather than making too big a deal of it, and going on to focus on other business," said Erik Brattberg, director of the Europe Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

With the U.S. leading the withdrawal, European allies and Canada want to hear Biden's thinking about how security will be assured at their embassies, along major transport routes and above all at Kabul's airport.

Many wonder whether the Afghan government can survive a resurgent Taliban. Some think Kabul's capitulation is only a matter of time.

"We are currently in intense discussions with our member states, the United States, NATO and the United Nations on the absence of essential security conditions for our continued diplomatic presence. It will be difficult to keep it" in place, European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said.

For now, NATO plans to leave civilian advisers to help build up government institutions. It's unclear who will protect them. The 30-nation alliance is also weighing whether to train Afghan special forces outside the country.

As an organization, NATO will not provide sanctuary for Afghans who worked alongside its forces — routinely risking their lives — although a few individual members will. NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg says it's simply time to leave.

"Afghanistan has come a long way, both when it comes to building strong, capable security forces, but also when it comes to social and economic progress," he told The Associated Press. "At some stage, it has to be the Afghans that take full responsibility for peace and stability in their own country."

Few Afghans share that assessment of their country, which has a 54% poverty rate, runaway crime, rampant corruption and an illicit economy that outstrips the legal economy.

When NATO took charge of international security operations in 2003, Afghanistan was its first major mission outside Europe and North America. The aim was to stabilize the government, build up local security forces and remove a potential base for extremist groups.

Yet 18 years later, security is at its lowest ebb for most Afghans. The capital is rife with criminal gangs, many linked to powerful warlords, and there are routine attacks by an upstart Islamic State.

Quite early into the operations, as combat took its toll on NATO troops, extremists and civilians, a stalemate developed. The Taliban could not be routed from outlying areas, but neither could its fighters seize and hold major cities.

Troop surges made little difference, and it soon became clear that NATO's military training effort was its exit strategy. Only by creating a big army capable of standing on its own feet could the organization wind up its operations.

But the Afghan army was plagued by corruption, desertion and low morale. Experts say it still is, and this remains a major concern as NATO insists on funding the nation's security forces after it's gone.

Donald Trump's unilateral decision to leave by May 1 stunned U.S. allies. It highlighted NATO's weakness: European members and Canada simply cannot sustain major operations without logistical support from their biggest partner.

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Biden's decision to pull U.S. troops out by the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks on New York and Washington changed little, although he did consult allies this time.

James Dobbins, a former Afghan envoy who now works for the RAND Corporation think tank, predicts the exit will mean the loss of government legitimacy.

"The U.S. departure will be seen as a victory for the Taliban and a defeat for the United States," he said in an opinion piece. "The result will be a blow to American credibility, the weakening of deterrence and the value of American reassurance elsewhere."

On Monday, NATO's leaders will reaffirm the strength of their alliance and go back to what they know best: their old nemesis, Russia. Biden will brief his partners before meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Afghan President Ashraf Ghani was not invited to NATO's summit.

"There is little appetite left to continue investing in Afghanistan," Brattberg said. "There is a sense of being fed up in a lot of NATO countries, and now it's just time to pack the bags and get out with little consideration about the consequences that could have on the ground."

## The Latest: Attenborough: G-7 must speed up climate action

By The Associated Press undefined

The Latest on the Group of Seven nations meeting being held in England:

FALMOUTH, England — Group of Seven leaders are talking about climate change on the final day of their summit in England, with naturalist David Attenborough warning they must take urgent action to avoid human-based environmental catastrophe.

All G-7 countries have pledged to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050, but many environmentalists say that will be too late. The leaders also plan to announce new green-financing plans to help poorer countries reduce carbon emissions.

Attenborough, who is due to address the leaders on Sunday by video, said global warming and loss of biodiversity are "beyond doubt," as is the fact that "our societies and nations are unequal."

He said "the question science forces us to address specifically in 2021 is whether as a result of these intertwined facts we are on the verge of destabilizing the entire planet?"

"If that is so, then the decisions we make this decade — in particular the decisions made by the most economically advanced nations — are the most important in human history," Attenborough said in comments released by summit organizers.

FALMOUTH, England — The head of the World Health Organization has welcomed the vaccine-sharing announcements coming out of the Group of Seven summit but says "we need more, and we need them faster."

"The challenge, I said to the G-7 leaders, was that to truly end the pandemic, our goal must be to vaccinate at least 70% of the world's population by the time the G-7 meets again in Germany next year," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters Saturday at the summit in southwest England.

"To do that, we need 11 billion doses," Tedros said, adding that it was "essential" for countries to temporarily waive intellectual property protections for coronavirus vaccines.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, the summit's host, has said the group would pledge at least 1 billion doses, with half that number coming from the United States and 100 million from Britain over the next year.

Tedros reiterated his target of vaccinating 30% of the population of every country by the end of 2021. He said that reaching the goal requires 100 million doses in June and July, and 250 million more by September.

FALMOUTH, England — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and his wife, Carrie, have welcomed leaders from South Korea, Australia and South Africa, as well as the secretary-general of the United Nations, to the Group of Seven summit taking place on the coast of southwestern England.

The leaders elbow-bumped and posed for photos Saturday on a pristine beach in Cornwall.

The G-7 nations are the U.K., the United States, France, Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan. The British



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government said the guest nations were invited to take part in the summit as part of Johnson's "Global Britain" agenda and that the expanded group can help the G-7 "intensify cooperation between the world's democratic and technologically advanced nations."

India was also invited, but its delegation is not attending in person because of the severe coronavirus outbreak in the country.

The leaders, whose 3-day summit is scheduled to end on Sunday, are expected to commit to a new plan, called the "Carbis Bay Declaration," to quash future pandemics within the first 100 days.

**NEWLYN**, England — U.S. first lady Jill Biden met Saturday with members of an organization that teaches surfing to military veterans, first responders and their families.

Biden told members of Bude Surf Veterans that she had a white longboard of her own with a big butterfly on it. She met with them at a picnic table outside a contemporary art gallery overlooking Mount's Bay as President Joe Biden attended the Group of Seven summit in southwest England.

Jill Biden observed that the "water is so calming" and spoke about attending the Invictus Games, an international sporting event for wounded, injured and sick servicemen and women founded by Britain's Prince Harry. She added that she has yet to visit New Zealand and Australia.

**CARBIS BAY**, England — French President Emmanuel Macron says it's good that U.S. President Joe Biden is able to lead through cooperation, adding that the United States is "definitely" back as Europe's partner.

Biden and Macron met Saturday as part of the Group of Seven summit in southwest England, where they and other leaders of the world's wealthy democracies are discussing the coronavirus pandemic, the environment, national security, relations with China and economic issues.

Former U.S. President Donald Trump took an adversarial approach with NATO allies, but Macron said Biden has shown that "leadership is partnership."

The desire for cooperation cuts both ways. Biden described the European Union as "incredibly strong and vibrant," which he said not only helps with tackling economic challenges but also provides a backbone for NATO.

**BERLIN** — German Chancellor Angela Merkel and U.S. President Joe Biden have met on the sidelines of the G-7 summit in England.

A spokesman for the German chancellor tweeted two pictures of the leaders sitting at a table in Carbis Bay on Saturday.

"At noontime on the second day of the G7 summit the chancellor talked to U.S. President Biden in between the work meetings," read the caption accompanying the photos.

Merkel spokesman Steffen Seibert didn't give any details about what the two discussed.

Merkel, who is leaving office later this year, plans to visit Biden in Washington next month. The president invited her to the White House earlier this week.

**FALMOUTH**, England — Hundreds of environmental protesters took to the Cornish seaside Saturday morning in a bid to draw the attention of world leaders and the international media outlets that have descended on southwest England for the G-7 summit.

Some protesters paddled out to sea, while others sunbathed on the beach wearing masks of leaders' faces.

A crowd of surfers, kayakers and swimmers gathered Saturday on a beach in Falmouth for a mass "paddle out protest" organized by the group Surfers Against Sewage, which is campaigning for more action to protect oceans.

U.S. President Joe Biden and fellow leaders from the Group of Seven wealthy democracies are meeting near the town of St. Ives for talks focusing on the pandemic and climate change.

Earlier, activists from Oxfam assembled on Falmouth beach to protest climate change and put on masks

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depicting the leaders attending the G-7 summit.

Max Lawson, Oxfam's head of policy, said activists want the G-7 countries - Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the U.K. and the United States - to commit to bigger reductions in carbon emissions and to financing to help poor countries adapt to the impacts of climate change.

CARBIS BAY, England — The White House says President Joe Biden will hold a solo news conference after meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The two delegations will have a working session and smaller session as part of their meeting on Wednesday in the Swiss city of Geneva. But the White House says it is still finalizing the format of the meeting.

The White House says a news conference with only Biden is the appropriate format to communicate the topics discussed, areas of agreement and sources of significant concern.

FALMOUTH, England — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has held meetings with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron on the sidelines of a G-7 summit, as post-Brexit turbulence strains relations between Britain and the EU.

Johnson also met the bloc's leaders, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President Charles Michel, on Saturday at the Carbis Bay resort where G-7 leaders are gathering.

The two sides are locked in an escalating diplomatic feud over Northern Ireland, the only part of the U.K. that has a land border with the bloc. The EU is angry at British delay in implementing new checks on some goods coming into Northern Ireland from the rest of the U.K., while Britain says the checks are imposing a big burden on businesses and destabilizing Northern Ireland's hard-won peace.

The spat has drawn in U.S. President Joe Biden, concerned about the potential threat to Northern Ireland's peace accord.

The EU is threatening legal action if the U.K. does not fully bring in the checks, which include a ban on chilled meats such as sausages from England, Scotland and Wales going to Northern Ireland from next month.

Britain accuses the bloc of taking a "purist" approach to the rules and urged it to be more flexible in order to avoid what has been dubbed a "sausage war."

FALMOUTH, England — U.S. First Lady Jill Biden and Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, have written a joint article on the importance of early childhood education after their visit to a primary school on the sidelines of the G-7 summit in England.

The two women met for the first time Friday at a school in Cornwall, southwestern England, where they visited 4 and 5-year-olds and spoke with experts on early childhood development.

In their article, published on the CNN website Saturday, they said the disruption of the pandemic has helped people focus on the things that matter most, and they have a joint belief that the future must include a "fundamental shift in how our countries approach the earliest years of life."

"If we care about how children perform at school, how they succeed in their careers when they are older, and about their lifelong mental and physical health, then we have to care about how we are nurturing their brains, their experiences and relationships in the early years before school," they wrote.

They said business leaders, among others, should give more support to the parents and caregivers in their workforces.

"If we want strong economies and strong societies, we need to make sure that those raising and caring for children get the support they need," they added.

Biden is a longtime English teacher who focuses on education, a passion she shares with Kate, a mother of three young children.

## Israel to swear in government, ending Netanyahu's long rule

By JOSEPH KRAUSS Associated Press

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JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel is set to swear in a new government on Sunday that will send Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu into the opposition after a record 12 years in office and a political crisis that sparked four elections in two years.

Naftali Bennett, the head of a small ultranationalist party, will take over as prime minister. But if he wants to keep the job, he will have to maintain an unwieldy coalition of parties from the political right, left and center.

The eight parties, including a small Arab faction that is making history by sitting in the ruling coalition, are united in their opposition to Netanyahu and new elections but agree on little else. They are likely to pursue a modest agenda that seeks to reduce tensions with the Palestinians and maintain good relations with the U.S. without launching any major initiatives.

Netanyahu, who is on trial for corruption, remains the head of the largest party in parliament and is expected to vigorously oppose the new government. If just one faction bolts, it could lose its majority and would be at risk of collapse, giving him an opening to return to power.

The new government is promising a return to normalcy after a tumultuous two years that saw four elections, an 11-day Gaza war last month and a coronavirus outbreak that devastated the economy before it was largely brought under control by a successful vaccination campaign.

The driving force behind the coalition is Yair Lapid, a political centrist who will become prime minister in two years, if the government lasts that long.

Israel's parliament, known as the Knesset, will convene to vote on the new government at 4 p.m. (1300 GMT). It is expected to win a narrow majority of at least 61 votes in the 120-member assembly, after which it will be sworn in. The government plans to hold its first official meeting later this evening.

It's unclear if Netanyahu will attend the ceremony or when he will move out of the official residence. He has lashed out at the new government in apocalyptic terms and accused Bennett of defrauding voters by running as a right-wing stalwart and then partnering with the left.

Netanyahu's supporters have held angry protests outside the homes of rival lawmakers, who say they have received death threats naming their family members. Israel's Shin Bet internal security service issued a rare public warning about the incitement earlier this month, saying it could lead to violence.

Netanyahu has condemned the incitement while noting that he has also been a target.

His place in Israeli history is secure, having served as prime minister for a total of 15 years — more than any other, including the country's founder, David Ben-Gurion.

Netanyahu began his long rule by defying the Obama administration, refusing to freeze settlement construction as it tried unsuccessfully to revive the peace process. Relations with Israel's closest ally grew even rockier when Netanyahu vigorously campaigned against President Barack Obama's emerging nuclear deal with Iran, even denouncing it in an address to the U.S. Congress.

But he suffered few if any consequences from those clashes and was richly rewarded by the Trump administration, which recognized contested Jerusalem as Israel's capital, helped broker normalization agreements with four Arab states and withdrew the U.S. from the Iran deal.

Netanyahu has portrayed himself as a world-class statesman, boasting of his close ties with Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin. He has also cultivated ties with Arab and African countries that long shunned Israel over its policies toward the Palestinians.

But he has gotten a far chillier reception from the Biden administration and is widely seen as having undermined the long tradition of bipartisan support for Israel in the United States.

His reputation as a political magician has also faded at home, where he has become a deeply polarizing figure. Critics say he has long pursued a divide-and-conquer strategy that aggravated rifts in Israeli society between Jews and Arabs and between his close ultra-Orthodox allies and secular Jews.

In November 2019, he was indicted for fraud, breach of trust and accepting bribes. He refused calls to step down, instead lashing out at the media, judiciary and law enforcement, going so far as to accuse his political opponents of orchestrating an attempted coup. Last year, protesters began holding weekly rallies across the country calling on him to resign.



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Netanyahu remains popular among the hard-line nationalists who dominate Israeli politics, but he could soon face a leadership challenge from within his own party. A less polarizing Likud leader would stand a good chance of assembling a coalition that is both farther to the right and more stable than the government that is set to be sworn in.

## **Erdogan and Biden meet at a tense moment for Turkish-US ties**

By SUZAN FRASER Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — President Joe Biden and Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan have known each other for years, but their meeting Monday will be their first as heads of state. And it comes at a particularly tense moment for relations between their two countries.

The list of disagreements is unusually long for the two NATO allies: There's U.S. support for Kurdish fighters in Syria, as well as Turkey's purchase of a Russian weapons system. And in April, Biden infuriated Ankara by declaring that the Ottoman-era mass killing and deportations of Armenians was "genocide."

Previous U.S. presidents had avoided using the term out of concern that it would complicate ties with Turkey, which is fiercely proud of its Ottoman history and insists that those killed in the early 20th century were victims of civil war and unrest.

However, besides blasting the decision in speeches, Erdogan didn't hit back at Washington. The muted response suggests he wants a good relationship with Biden, said Rachel Ellehuus, an analyst at the Washington think tank Center for Strategic and International Studies.

"Not least because he needs that economic relationship with the U.S. and the appearance of a cooperative relationship in order to retain his base, which is very much built on a functioning Turkish economy that is tethered into the West," Ellehuus said.

Erdogan, in power for 18 years as prime minister and then president, has dialed down his anti-Western rhetoric as his government grapples with an economic downturn made worse by the coronavirus pandemic. His ruling AKP party has recently been hit by a series of corruption allegations, including drug trafficking and arms smuggling, made by a fugitive mafia boss who has been releasing tell-all videos on social media, without evidence.

"The most important thing for the Turkish leader at this time is to give a veneer of positive relations with the U.S. in terms of Turkey's image," said Merve Tahiroglu, Turkey Program Coordinator at the Project on Middle East Democracy. "He seems to understand that to get any kind of international investment to Turkey, he will need to project an image of positive relations with the U.S."

Biden has often touted the personal relationships he's developed with world leaders over nearly 50 years as a factor that makes him uniquely equipped to revitalize the reputation of the United States following the presidency of Donald Trump.

In recent days, he's mentioned to aides that he's developed a strong rapport with Erdogan over the years, according to a senior administration official who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss private conversations.

Biden still fondly recalls making a house call to Erdogan in 2011 when he was in Turkey to speak at the Global Entrepreneurs Summit, according to the official. Erdogan did not attend because he was recovering from major surgery, but Biden stopped by to check in on him. Their conversation was supposed to be brief but lasted over two hours.

Still, the relationship has been complicated at times. In 2014, while vice president, Biden apologized to Erdogan after suggesting in a speech that Turkey helped facilitate the rise of the Islamic State militant group by allowing foreign fighters to cross Turkey's border with Syria. During the 2020 presidential campaign, Biden drew ire from Turkish officials after an interview with The New York Times in which he called Erdogan an "autocrat."

Erdogan enjoyed collegial relations with Trump, who didn't give him a hard time about Turkey's human rights record and agreed to withdraw U.S. troops from northern Syria in 2019, paving the way for a Turkish military offensive against Syrian Kurdish fighters who had fought alongside U.S. forces against IS militants.

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Biden was strongly critical of that decision, accusing Trump of selling out U.S. allies.

Erdogan waited several days before congratulating Biden on his election victory as Trump challenged the results. At the same time, Erdogan sent a message to Trump thanking him for his "warm friendship."

After taking office, Biden waited three months before giving Erdogan a call, which was widely seen in Turkey as a snub. The first time they spoke after the election was when Biden called to tell Erdogan about the Armenian "genocide" announcement.

In an interview with Turkish state broadcaster TRT on June 1, Erdogan noted he had cordial relations with previous U.S. presidents, particularly Trump, and that he would ask Biden on the sidelines of the NATO meeting in Brussels "why Turkey-U.S. relations are in such a state of tension."

They are expected to take up Turkey's purchase of the S-400 advanced Russian defense systems that angered Washington and resulted in Ankara being kicked out of the U.S. F-35 fighter aircraft production program, sanctions on senior Turkish defense industry officials, and bans on military export licenses. Washington says the system is a threat to NATO security and insists that sanctions cannot be lifted until Turkey gets rid of the system, which has cost the country \$2.5 billion.

Turkey repeatedly has called for dialogue to resolve the issue. Turkish media reports say Turkey is set to propose the deployment of the S-400s at Incirlik air base, which is home to a U.S. Air Force wing, where they would be watched by U.S. military officials. Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu told reporters the S-400s would be "100% under (Turkish) control" and that no Russian military official would be in Turkey.

Erdogan is also expected to raise the issue of U.S. military support for Syrian Kurdish fighters, who Ankara argues are inextricably linked to a decades-long Kurdish insurgency in Turkey.

National security adviser Jake Sullivan said Biden and Erdogan will discuss Syria and Iran as well as what role Turkey can play on Afghanistan following the U.S. troop withdrawal. Also on the agenda is how Washington and Ankara "deal with some of our significant differences on values and human rights and other issues," Sullivan said.

He said Biden knows Erdogan very well.

"The two men have spent a good amount of time together, and they are both, I think, looking forward to the opportunity to really have a business-like opportunity to review the full breadth of their relationship," Sullivan said.

## Leonard, George help Clippers beat Jazz, cut deficit to 2-1

By JOE REEDY AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Clippers coach Tyronn Lue was looking for a prime performance from both Paul George and Kawhi Leonard. They both delivered Grade A games to get Los Angeles back into its second-round series against Utah.

Leonard scored 34 points and George added 31 in the Clippers' 132-106 victory in Game 3 on Saturday night. It is the second time both have scored at least 30 in the same playoff game, and helped No. 4 seed LA cut top-seeded Utah's series lead to 2-1.

"We know that they are two of the best in the league," Lue said. "Like I said yesterday, I don't go to Mastro's to order the ketchup. I go to order the steak. And tonight, our guys want steak. That's what we need."

George shot only 34.3% from the field in the first two games but was 12 of 24, including 6 of 10 on 3-pointers. He had 13 points in the second quarter, eight during a 13-2 run when LA seized control and took a 57-41 advantage with 2:54 remaining.

"I think I just shot my shots, got the shots I'm most comfortable with and stuck with it," George said.

Leonard scored 24 points in the second half. It is his fourth career postseason game with at least 30 points, 10 rebounds and five assists. Three have come in his two seasons with the Clippers.

The big nights from Leonard and George helped offset another high-scoring game from Donovan Mitchell. The guard led Utah with 30 points, his fifth straight games with at least 30. The last player to do that was Leonard last year in the first round against Dallas.

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"We kind of let them get comfortable. George hit some shots, but we can make it tougher on him and Kawhi," Mitchell said.

Reggie Jackson and Nicolas Batum added 17 points apiece for the Clippers. LA had struggled from the perimeter in the first two games but was 19 of 36 on 3-pointers with many coming on open looks.

"Shots go in or not, our job is to keep being aggressive for ourselves and others," Leonard said. "If Paul has it going, we're going to go to him. If I got it going, it's going to come to me. But if anybody else on the team has it going, we are going to try to get them the next shot as well."

Joe Ingles had 19 points for Utah and Jordan Clarkson added 14. The Jazz were 19 of 44 on 3-pointers, but 17 of 40 inside the arc as the Clippers' zone defense caused problems. Utah committed 16 turnovers, which led to 24 LA points.

"I've said it the last two games as well. Kawhi and PG, they're capable of really making plays and they made plays for other people. There's going to be times where it's tough to stop them from making shots," Utah coach Quin Snyder said. "Some of the breakdowns and the cleaner looks that they get, particularly tonight I thought in transition when we attacked the basket there's got to be urgency to recognize that situation and really get back and show a crowd where they don't have clear lanes to the basket."

## MITCHELL'S NIGHT

Mitchell appeared to tweak his ankle midway through the fourth quarter and did not return to the game. Snyder and Mitchell both said that the game was out of hand by that point.

"I feel like I was able to go back, but no need to risk it down 16, 18 at that point," Mitchell said. "It doesn't make sense to go back out there and possibly tweak it. Just rest and get ready for the next game."

Mitchell missed his first four shots, including a pair of drives to the basket, and didn't make his first basket until there was 7:34 left in the second quarter. He then proceeded to score Utah's next 16 points, which included four 3-pointers.

It was the first time in his last 23 games that Mitchell had gone scoreless in the first quarter.

"We just made an emphasis that he's not going to beat us tonight," said George of Mitchell. "We're going to force everybody else to play and we're just not going to let him walk in shots tonight and get the looks that he wanted early tonight."

## TIP INS

Jazz: Ruby Gobert had 12 points and 10 rebounds. ... Clarkson was assessed a Flagrant-1 foul for slapping Ivica Zubac in the face after a rebound 20 seconds into the second quarter. ... Guard Mike Conley missed his third straight game because of a mild right hamstring strain.

Clippers: LA had lost eight straight playoff games at Staples Center but has won its last two. ... Jackson had five 3-pointers, Batum added four and Luke Kennard had a pair in the second half to keep the lead in double digits.

## Big-winning whippet, Pekingese face off at Westminster show

By JENNIFER PELTZ Associated Press

TARRYTOWN, N.Y. (AP) — The Westminster Kennel Club dog show finals are shaping up to be a clash of canine titans.

One is Bourbon the whippet, the prestigious show's runner-up last year and the winner of the huge American Kennel Club National Championship show in December. Another is Wasabi the Pekingese, the AKC show's 2019 winner and the grandson of Westminster's 2012 best in show.

Both trotted Saturday to slots Sunday's final ring, as did Mathew, a French bulldog that happens to live with Bourbon, and Connor, an old English sheepdog. Three more finalists will be selected Sunday night, when they all vie for best in show.

For Bourbon, the honor comes three months after having her first litter of puppies.

"She's come a long way — as a really unruly puppy, and then a really great show career, and then a mom" that doted on her five pups, said handler Cheslie Pickett Smithey of Sugar Valley, Georgia.

She'll be facing off in the best in show ring against her husband, Justin Smithey, who handles Mathew



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the Frenchie but is one of Bourbon's breeders. As for which dog he'll be rooting for, "when you're a competitive person, you want to win with whatever you're showing," he said.

And Mathew is in it to win it: "He thinks he's very special, and we think he is, too," Smithey said.

As for Wasabi, "he's just a fantastic dog," says handler and breeder David Fitzpatrick of East Berlin, Pennsylvania. "He's got the charisma and the movement and the showmanship that you want to have."

Connor, a son of the 2013 Westminster runner-up, is "a cool dog, happy — he's a goofball," says handler Colton Johnson of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The road to this year's Westminster show passed through a pandemic and a major change of date and venue, moving from New York City to a suburban estate and from February to June so it could be held outdoors.

For one of the nation's best known dog handlers, the road also proved dangerous.

Bill McFadden, who has guided two Westminster winners, was rear-ended and injured while driving a van full of dogs cross-country to the show, his wife and fellow star handler, Taffe McFadden, said Saturday.

He was hospitalized for a time after the crash Tuesday in Laramie, Wyoming, and is now recuperating at home in Acampo, California, she said before showing Bono the Havanese in the semifinal round Saturday night. She said her husband was checking in constantly on the goings-on at the first Westminster he has missed in years.

The van was totaled, but the 10 dogs aboard weren't injured, she said. Messages were left Saturday with local law enforcement agencies about the crash.

Despite the shock and worry, "I'm really glad to be here. I wish my husband was with me," Taffe McFadden said. "It's a highly coveted dog show to be at, and for them to work this hard to make it happen is pretty awesome."

This year marks the first time the show, which dates to 1877, is outside Manhattan. Part of the competition is usually in exhibition buildings on Hudson River piers, and the rest in Madison Square Garden.

Many owners and handlers say they and their dogs relish the fresh air and breathing room of the sprawling Lyndhurst estate in Tarrytown, New York. Still, the outdoor setting came with some challenges, including not having a power and water supply for grooming.

Some participants brought their own — the McFadden team, for instance, was set up in a parking lot with five generators, six 6-gallon jugs of water, a tent and small fenced pens for the dogs to bide time outdoors.

For others, it was more catch-as-catch-can. Janet Atkins and Charles Namey bathed and blow-dried their bearded collie, Moet, at a local pet store Friday, then brushed her and did other final touches Saturday on a table outside their minivan, with plastic sheeting for a canopy.

"You make do with what you can," said Atkins, of Winter Park, Florida.

After flying in from Toronto on Friday evening, Irina Falk was up until 2 a.m. Saturday bathing and drying her Yorkshire terriers Tim Tim and Kenzo, then got up three hours later to get to the show, fix their topknots and try to keep their silky, flowing coats fresh on a humid morning on the Lyndhurst lawn.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, which regularly decries the show as a canine beauty contest, staged a demonstration Saturday on a Tarrytown corner. The group says it's wrong to promote dog breeding when shelter pets need homes.

Being at Westminster is "a bucket-list item" for owner Kami Harris. She never pictured getting involved in dog shows until she got a French bulldog named Jack Jack as a pet, and his breeder suggested showing him. She says going to shows have helped her become more outgoing.

"Ever since COVID hit, I realized how much I loved it and missed it," says Harris, of Oregon City, Oregon. "The friendships that you make, and the people you meet — it's a community."

## In scary scene at Euro 2020, Eriksen collapses on the field

By MATTIAS KAREN Associated Press

COPENHAGEN (AP) — As Christian Eriksen lay unconscious on the field, his pulse slipping away, Denmark team doctor Morten Boesen quickly realized there wasn't a second to lose.

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"He was breathing, and I could feel his pulse. But suddenly that changed," Boesen said Saturday. "And as everyone saw, we started giving him CPR."

The next 10 minutes were among the scariest to ever unfold during a match at soccer's European Championship. Several medics worked frenetically to give Eriksen chest compressions while his teammates choked away tears and formed a circle around the midfielder to shield the scene from public view.

And finally, the eerie silence that had descended around Parken Stadium was replaced with massive cheers. "We managed to get Christian back," Boesen said. "And he spoke to me before he was taken to the hospital."

Eriksen was awake and in stable condition Saturday night after being taken to a Copenhagen hospital, the Danish soccer federation said.

His collapse, which came in the 43rd minute of the match against Finland, led to the game being suspended for about 90 minutes before both teams made the decision to play on. Finland went on to win 1-0 after Joel Pohjanpalo scored in the 60th minute and goalkeeper Lukas Hradecky later saved a penalty.

But in the end, the result seemed merely an afterthought.

"Of course you can't play a game with such feelings," Denmark coach Kasper Hjulmand said. "What we tried to do was incredible. It's incredible that the players managed to go out and try to play the second half."

UEFA said both teams had held an emergency meeting before deciding to continue playing. The players came back out onto the field to a huge ovation as they started warming up for a second time.

Hjulmand said the teams were given the option of finishing the game on Saturday or resuming on Sunday.

"The players couldn't imagine not being able to sleep tonight and then having to get in tomorrow, get on the bus and play a game," Hjulmand said. "Honestly, it was best to get it over with."

Eriksen had just played a short pass when he fell face-forward onto the ground. His teammates immediately gestured for help and medics rushed onto the field.

Eriksen's partner, Sabrina Kvist Jensen, went onto the field and was comforted by Denmark captain Simon Kjaer and goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel.

The Finland players huddled by their bench and eventually walked off the field while the Inter Milan midfielder was still getting treatment, as did the referees.

Eriksen was eventually carried off to a loud ovation, with his teammates walking next to the stretcher.

Inter Milan team physician Piero Volpi told The Associated Press that the Italian club was in contact with the Danish soccer federation.

"We're in contact with the Danish federation, the team manager, the team physician. But we still don't know anything yet," Volpi said. "We heard what UEFA said and we're all happy that he's been stabilized. But that's all we know."

Volpi added that Eriksen never contracted COVID-19, has no medical conditions that he's aware of and has passed every medical exam without problem since joining Inter in January 2020 from Tottenham.

"But we'll talk about that when the time is right," Volpi added of Eriksen's medical history. "Right now, the important thing is that he recovers."

Eriksen is one of Denmark's biggest stars and the incident brought an instant sense of shock to the Parken Stadium, where about 15,000 fans fell into hushed silence. Some supporters could be seen crying and hugging in the stands.

The game was broadcast widely, including on ESPN in the United States, which later responded to online criticism that its telecast lingered too long on the scene before cutting away. ESPN said it didn't have its cameras on the scene and was using a worldwide feed supplied by the Union of European Football Associations.

"Once it was clear the world feed was going to take a more aggressive approach to covering the situation, we should have moved quicker to a static wide shot of the stadium or returned to the studio," ESPN said in a statement.

As the fans in the stadium were waiting for updates, Finland supporters started chanting "Christian! Christian," which was then answered by the Danish fans shouting "Eriksen! Eriksen!"

A huge roar then went up from all supporters when the stadium announcer said Eriksen was "stable

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and awake.”

The incident brought back memories of other soccer players who have collapsed on the field, including Marc-Vivien Foe and Fabrice Muamba. Foe died while playing for Cameroon during the 2003 Confederations Cup in France, while Muamba needed CPR in 2012 when he collapsed in a match between Bolton and Tottenham at White Hart Lane in north London.

Muamba, who fully recovered, wrote “Please God” on Twitter as Eriksen was taken to the hospital.

## **Biden urges G-7 leaders to call out and compete with China**

By JONATHAN LEMIRE, AAMER MADHANI and JILL LAWLESS Associated Press

CARBIS BAY, England (AP) — Leaders of the world’s largest economies unveiled an infrastructure plan Saturday for the developing world to compete with China’s global initiatives, but they were searching for a consensus on how to forcefully to call out Beijing over human rights abuses.

Citing China for its forced labor practices is part of President Joe Biden’s campaign to persuade fellow democratic leaders to present a more unified front to compete economically with Beijing. But while they agreed to work toward competing against China, there was less unity on how adversarial a public position the group should take.

Canada, the United Kingdom and France largely endorsed Biden’s position, while Germany, Italy and the European Union showed more hesitancy during Saturday’s first session of the Group of Seven summit, according to two senior Biden administration officials. The officials who briefed reporters were not authorized to publicly discuss the private meeting and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The communique that summarizes the meeting’s commitments was being written and the contents would not be clear until it was released when the summit ended Sunday. White House officials said late Saturday that they believed that China, in some form, could be called out for “nonmarket policies and human rights abuses.”

In his first summit as president, Biden made a point of carving out one-on-one-time with various leaders, bouncing from French president Emmanuel Macron to German chancellor Angela Merkel to Italian prime minister Mario Draghi as well as Japan’s Yoshihide Suga and Australia’s Scott Morrison, a day after meeting with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson as if to personally try to ward off memories of the chaos that his predecessor would often bring to these gatherings.

Macron told Biden that collaboration was needed on a range of issues and told the American president that “it’s great to have a U.S. president part of the club and very willing to cooperate.” Relations between the allies had become strained during the four years of Donald Trump’s presidency and his “America first” foreign policy.

Merkel, for her part, downplayed differences on China and the Nord Stream 2 pipeline which would transport natural gas from Russia to Germany, bypassing Ukraine.

“The atmosphere is very cooperative, it is characterized by mutual interest,” Merkel said. “There are very good, constructive and very vivid discussions in the sense that one wants to work together.”

White House officials have said Biden wants the leaders of the G-7 nations — the U.S., Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Japan and Italy — to speak in a single voice against forced labor practices targeting China’s Uyghur Muslims and other ethnic minorities. Biden hopes the denunciation will be part of a joint statement to be released Sunday when the summit ends, but some European allies are reluctant to split so forcefully with Beijing.

China had become one of the more compelling subplots of the wealthy nations’ summit, their first since 2019. Last year’s gathering was canceled because of COVID-19, and recovery from the pandemic is dominating this year’s discussions, with leaders expected to commit to sharing at least 1 billion vaccine shots with struggling countries.

The allies also took the first steps in presenting an infrastructure proposal called “Build Back Better for the World,” a name echoing Biden’s campaign slogan. The plan calls for spending hundreds of billions of dollars in collaboration with the private sector while adhering to climate standards and labor practices.



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It's designed to compete with China's trillion-dollar "Belt and Road Initiative," which has launched a network of projects and maritime lanes that snake around large portions of the world, primarily Asia and Africa. Critics say China's projects often create massive debt and expose nations to undue influence by Beijing.

Britain also wants the world's democracies to become less reliant on the Asian economic giant. The U.K. government said Saturday's discussions would tackle "how we can shape the global system to deliver for our people in support of our values," including by diversifying supply chains that currently heavily depend on China.

Not every European power has viewed China in as harsh a light as Biden, who has painted the rivalry with China as the defining competition for the 21st century. But there are some signs that Europe is willing to impose greater scrutiny.

Before Biden took office in January, the European Commission announced it had come to terms with Beijing on a deal meant to provide Europe and China with greater access to each other's markets. The Biden administration had hoped to have consultations on the pact.

But the deal has been put on hold, and the European Union in March announced sanctions targeting four Chinese officials involved with human rights abuses in Xinjiang. Beijing responded with penalties on several members of the European Parliament and other Europeans critical of the Chinese Communist Party.

Biden administration officials see an opportunity to take concrete action to speak out against China's reliance on forced labor as an "affront to human dignity."

While calling out China in the G-7 communique would not create any immediate penalties for Beijing, one senior administration official said the action would send a message that the leaders were serious about defending human rights and working together to eradicate the use of forced labor.

An estimated 1 million people or more — most of them Uyghurs — have been confined in reeducation camps in China's western Xinjiang region in recent years, according to researchers. Chinese authorities have been accused of imposing forced labor, systematic forced birth control, torture and separating children from incarcerated parents.

Beijing rejects allegations that it is committing crimes.

Johnson, the summit host, also welcomed the leaders from "guest nations" South Korea, Australia and South Africa, as well as the head of the United Nations, to the summit to "intensify cooperation between the world's democratic and technologically advanced nations."

The leaders planned to attend a barbecue Saturday night, complete with toasted marshmallows, hot buttered rum and a performance by a sea shanty troupe.

India was also invited but its delegation is not attending in person because of the severe coronavirus outbreak in the country.

Biden ends the trip Wednesday by meeting in Geneva with Russia's Vladimir Putin. The White House announced Saturday that they will not hold a joint news conference afterward, which removes the opportunity for comparisons to the availability that followed Trump and Putin's 2018 Helsinki summit, in which Trump sided with Moscow over his own intelligence agencies. Only Biden will address the news media after the meeting.

Putin, in an interview with NBC News, said the U.S.-Russia relationship had "deteriorated to its lowest point in recent years."

He added that while Trump was a "talented" and "colorful" person, Biden was a "career man" in politics, which has "some advantages, some disadvantages, but there will not be any impulse-based movements" by the U.S. president.

## Rash of mass shootings stirs US fears heading into summer

By KATHLEEN FOODY Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Two people were killed and at least 30 others wounded in mass shootings overnight in three states, authorities said Saturday, stoking concerns that a spike in U.S. gun violence could continue into summer as coronavirus restrictions ease and more people are free to socialize.

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The attacks took place late Friday or early Saturday in the Texas capital of Austin, Chicago and Savannah, Georgia.

In Austin, authorities said they arrested one of two male suspects and were searching for the other after a shooting early Saturday on a crowded pedestrian-only street packed with bars and restaurants. Fourteen people were wounded, including two critically, in the gunfire, which the city's interim police chief said is believed to have started as a dispute between two parties.

No arrests were reported by late Saturday in the two other shootings.

In Chicago, a woman was killed and nine other people were wounded when two men opened fire on a group standing on a sidewalk in the Chatham neighborhood on the city's South Side. The shooters also got away and hadn't been identified by mid-afternoon Saturday.

In the south Georgia city of Savannah, police said one man was killed and seven other people were wounded in a mass shooting Friday evening, police said. Two of the wounded are children — an 18-month-old and a 13-year-old.

Savannah's police chief, Roy Minter, Jr., said the shooting may be linked to an ongoing dispute between two groups, citing reports of gunshots being fired at the same apartment complex earlier in the week.

"It's very disturbing what we're seeing across the country and the level of gun violence that we're seeing across the country," he told reporters Saturday. "It's disturbing and it's senseless."

The attacks come amid an easing of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions in much of the country, including Chicago, which lifted many of its remaining safeguards on Friday. Many hoped that a spike in U.S. shootings and homicides last year was an aberration perhaps caused by pandemic-related stress amid a rise in gun ownership and debate over policing. But those rates are still higher than they were in pre-pandemic times, including in cities that refused to slash police spending following the death of George Floyd and those that made modest cuts.

"There was a hope this might simply be a statistical blip that would start to come down," said Chuck Wexler, executive director of the Police Executive Research Forum. "That hasn't happened. And that's what really makes chiefs worry that we may be entering a new period where we will see a reversal of 20 years of declines in these crimes."

Tracking ups and downs in crime is always complicated, but violent crime commonly increases in the summer months. Weekend evenings and early-morning hours also are common windows for shootings.

Many types of crime did decline in 2020 and have stayed lower this year, suggesting the pandemic and the activism and unrest spurred by the reaction to Floyd's death didn't lead to an overall spike in crime.

According to a database compiled by The Associated Press, USA Today and Northeastern University, only three mass shootings occurred at public places — the lowest total for that category in a decade — out of 19 total mass shootings in 2020.

The database tracks all mass killings including shootings, defined as four or more people dead not including the perpetrator.

According to that definition, there have been 17 mass killings, 16 of those shootings, already this year, said James Alan Fox, a criminologist and professor at Northeastern University.

The Gun Violence Archive, which monitors media and police reports to track gun violence, defines mass shootings as those involving four or more people who were shot, regardless of whether they died. Overall, according to its database, more than 8,700 people have died of gun violence in the U.S. this year.

The GVA also found that mass shootings spiked in 2020 to about 600, which was higher than in any of the previous six years it tracked the statistic. According to this year's count, there have been at least 267 mass shootings in the U.S. so far, including the latest three overnight Friday into Saturday.

"It's worrisome," Fox said. "We have a blend of people beginning to get out and about in public. We have lots of divisiveness. And we have more guns and warm weather. It's a potentially deadly mix."

## 1998 Oregon school shooter: 'tremendous shame and guilt'

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — Kip Kinkel, who killed his parents before going on a shooting rampage at his Oregon

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high school in 1998, killing two classmates and injuring 25 more, has given his first news interview, telling HuffPost he feels "tremendous, tremendous shame and guilt."

Kinkel, now 38, is serving a de facto life sentence at the Oregon State Correctional Institution. He spoke with the news site by phone for about 20 hours over 10 months.

He said he felt guilty not just for what he did as a 15-year-old suffering from then-undiagnosed paranoid schizophrenia, but the effect his crime has had on other juvenile offenders sentenced to life terms: His case has been held up by some of his victims and by others as a reason to oppose juvenile justice reform in the state.

While he has not previously given interviews because he did not want to further traumatize his victims, he said, he also began to feel that his silence was preventing those offenders from getting a second chance.

"I have responsibility for the harm that I caused when I was 15," Kinkel said. "But I also have responsibility for the harm that I am causing now as I'm 38 because of what I did at 15."

Kinkel described how he had been hearing voices since age 12 and how he became obsessed with knives, guns and explosives, believing China was going to invade the U.S. and that the government and the Walt Disney Co. had implanted a microchip in his head.

When he was caught at Thurston High School in Springfield with a stolen handgun he bought from another student on May 19, 1998, "My whole world blew up," he said. "All the feelings of safety and security — of being able to take control over a threat — disappeared."

Facing expulsion, a possible felony charge and an enormous sense of shame, he said, the voices in his head made him believe he had to kill his parents and then return to school to "kill everybody."

He killed his parents the next day, and the day after that he opened fire in the school cafeteria, killing 16-year-old Ben Walker and 17-year-old Mikael Nickolauson and injuring 25 before being subdued by other students.

He pleaded guilty — at the time, he did not want to accept his diagnosis and felt community pressure to resolve the case rather than plead not guilty by reason of insanity. He was sentenced to nearly 112 years after apologizing profusely.

"I feel tremendous, tremendous shame and guilt for what I did," he told HuffPost. "I hate the violence that I'm guilty of."

Kinkel shot Betina Lynn in the back and foot. She told HuffPost the idea of him ever getting out is "literally terrifying." She has permanent nerve damage, a constant reminder of what happened.

"Even now, more than 23 years later, I and many other survivors are still dealing with the fallout," Lynn said. "We are all serving life sentences right alongside him."

Kinkel described how he underwent mental health treatment at the youth prison where he began his sentence and recognized he harmed innocent people, including his parents, whom he loved. He also said he cried when he learned about the 1999 massacre at Columbine High School in Colorado, afraid that he had inspired it.

Kinkel, who has obtained a college degree behind bars, continues to challenge his sentence, which was upheld by the state Supreme Court. In March, his attorneys filed a petition in federal court, arguing that his plea was not voluntary — he had been off his meds for several weeks beforehand — and that his sentence was unconstitutional.

"Sentencing a juvenile to die in prison because they suffer from a mental illness is a violation of the Eighth Amendment," his lawyers wrote.

In 2019, as part of a national effort to re-evaluate tough-on-crime sentences for juveniles, the Oregon Legislature passed a measure to stop automatically referring 15- to 17-year-olds to adult court for certain offenses and to ensure that they weren't sentenced to life in prison without a chance to seek parole. At the time, there were about a dozen people serving life or life-equivalent terms for crimes committed as juveniles.

But critics warned that that the measure could lead to Kinkel's release, and a month later, lawmakers passed another bill to make clear that the measure was not retroactive.

"It doesn't matter if he was 15," Adam Walker, the brother of Kinkel's victim Ben Walker, said in a video



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released at the time. "The victims don't get second chances. Why should the offenders?"

Kinkel said he watched the debate in the prison library.

"It was like, there was hope," Kinkel said. "And then the Legislature ... came back and said, 'No, we are specifically, intentionally, purposely with everything that we have, going to take this away from the kids already in the system.'"

He said he doesn't often consider the possibility of ever being released: "I don't allow myself to spend too much time thinking about that because I think that can actually bring more suffering."

## Police arrest 1 of 2 in Austin mass shooting that wounded 14

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Police have arrested one suspect and are searching for another after a mass shooting on a crowded downtown Austin street left 14 people wounded early Saturday, two of them critically.

The Austin Police Department said in a news release that the U.S. Marshals Lone Star Fugitive Task Force assisted in making the arrest, but it provided no other details other than to say it is continuing to follow up on leads for the suspect still at large.

Interim Police Chief Joseph Chacon said the shooting happened around 1:30 a.m. on a street packed with bars and barricaded off from vehicle traffic. He said investigators believe it began as a dispute between two parties. Chacon said both suspects are male, but declined to disclose details such as whether both fired shots, saying the investigation was ongoing.

"Most of the victims were innocent bystanders, but we're still sorting out all of the victims to see what their involvement is in this case," Chacon said.

The mass shooting — one of at least three in the U.S. overnight — sparked panic along 6th Street, a popular nightlife destination in the city that's home to the University of Texas.

One witness, Matt Perlstein, told KXAN-TV that he was waiting with a friend to enter a bar when gunfire erupted.

"Everything was totally fine," Perlstein said, then gunfire erupted. "We just heard like ... a bunch of gunshots going off. Everyone got on the ground. We couldn't even comprehend what was going on at the time."

Chacon said his officers responded quickly to the area.

"They were able to immediately begin life-saving measures for many of these patients, including applications of tourniquets; applications of chest seals," he said.

Because of the chaos on the barricaded street, police drove six of the wounded to hospitals in their squad cars. Ambulances transported four people and the other four made their own way to hospitals, he said.

Gov. Greg Abbott issued a statement thanking police and other first responders and offering prayers to the victims.

Abbott said the state Department of Public Safety is assisting in the investigation and Chacon said the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms were also assisting.

## Bolsonaro fined for flouting mask order at motorcycle rally

SAO PAULO (AP) — Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro led thousands of motorcyclist supporters through the streets of Sao Paulo on Saturday — and got hit with a fine for failure to wear a mask in violation of local pandemic restrictions.

The conservative president waved to the crowd from his motorcycle and later from atop a sound truck, where helmeted but largely maskless backers cheered and chanted as he insisted that masks were useless for those already vaccinated — an assertion disputed by most public health experts.

Sao Paulo's state government press office said a fine — equivalent to about \$110 — would be imposed for violation of a rule that has required masks in public places since May 2020. According to a survey by local authorities, 12,000 motorcycles participated in the pro-Bolsonaro event.

Bolsonaro's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The procession of motorcyclists wound out of the city and back, arriving at Ibirapuera Park, where the

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president clambered atop a car to defend his denunciation of masks for the vaccinated.

"Whoever is against this proposal is because they don't believe in science, because if they are vaccinated, there is no way the virus can be transmitted," he said.

Vaccines are designed chiefly to protect recipients from getting sick, not necessarily from being infected. While studies show many vaccines reduce viral load, and likely spread, not all varieties have been fully studied.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says, "The risk for SARS-CoV-2 infection in fully vaccinated people cannot be completely eliminated as long as there is continued community transmission of the virus."

Less than 12% of Brazil's population so far has received both doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, according to the Ministry of Health, and many Brazilian experts say masks can only be abandoned after the majority of the population has been vaccinated.

Bolsonaro also was fined for failure to wear a mask during a rally with supporters in May in the north-eastern state of Maranhao. Governors of that state and Sao Paulo have been feuding with Bolsonaro over their restrictive measures to stifle the spread of the coronavirus.

Cristina Melo, 47, a businesswoman in the computer industry, said she and her husband were at the motorcycle rally "because we are patriots."

"And of course we defend our president Bolsonaro," she said.

## Chicago man jumps into Lake Michigan for 365th straight day

By SHAFKAT ANOWAR Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — A Chicago bus driver looking for a way to relieve stress during the coronavirus pandemic jumped into Lake Michigan for a 365th straight day on Saturday.

Dan O'Connor said he started jumping into the lake at Montrose Harbor on the city's North Side last year to relieve stress.

"It was during the pandemic, it was during the protest, it was during an election year. ... So it was somewhere where I could come down here and block all that noise out and kind of be totally present with me in the lake, and find some moments of Zen," said the father of three.

He continued jumping into the lake through the fall before the hard part: Hacking a hole in the ice on the frozen lake that was big enough for him to jump through during the winter. He said when he got home after one such jump, he found about 20 scrapes and cuts on his body.

He was encouraged by the response he got for his undertaking.

"People started asking me what this was benefiting and how they could support — and when I say people, I'm talking strangers online, you know. When I started posting the videos on Twitter and Instagram ... I got more wind in my sails there because people started commenting like, 'This makes my day, it's nice to see this,'" he said.

Saturday was special because it was the culmination of doing it for a full year.

"I just wanted to celebrate just that drive to dive for 365," O'Connor said.

## Biden to name Pulse Nightclub a national memorial

By JOSH BOAK Associated Press

President Joe Biden said on the fifth anniversary of a mass shooting at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida, that he will sign a bill naming the site as a national memorial.

The deadliest attack on the LGBTQ community in U.S. history left 49 people dead and 53 people wounded as "Latin Night" was being celebrated at the club. Biden said in a statement Saturday that he has "stayed in touch with families of the victims and with the survivors who have turned their pain into purpose" and described the club as "hallowed ground."

The president emphasized that the country must do more to reduce gun violence, such as banning as-

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sault weapons and closing loopholes in regulations that enable gun buyers to bypass background checks. Biden said the nation must acknowledge that gun violence has hurt members of the LGBTQ community. "We must drive out hate and inequities that contribute to the epidemic of violence and murder against transgender women — especially transgender women of color," Biden said.

White House advisers Susan Rice and Cedric Richmond hosted a virtual roundtable on Friday with LGBTQ leaders, gun violence survivors and gun control advocates.

Vice President Kamala Harris and her husband, Douglas Emhoff, walked Saturday with the crowd for the Capitol Pride Walk And Rally in Washington.

"We still have so much to do," Harris said.

## Final presidential debate shows Iran's political fissures

By AMIR VAHDAT and JON GAMBRELL Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran held a final presidential debate Saturday that showed the fissures within the Islamic Republic's politics, as hard-liners referred to those seeking ties to the West as "infiltrators" and the race's two other candidates brought up the unrest that surrounded Tehran's disputed 2009 election.

Analysts and state-linked polling put hard-line judiciary chief Ebrahim Raisi as the clear front-runner in Friday's upcoming vote, with the public now largely hostile to the relative moderate President Hassan Rouhani after the collapse of Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers.

But that didn't stop Rouhani's former Central Bank chief Abdolnasser Hemmati from harshly criticizing Raisi, at one point getting up from his chair to hand him a list he described as naming individuals who haven't paid back huge loans from state banks. He again tried to link Raisi to former President Donald Trump, whose decision to unilaterally withdraw America from Iran's nuclear deal has seen the country crushed by sanctions.

"Mr. Raisi, you and your friends have played in Trump's ground with your extremist policies," Hemmati said.

For his part, Raisi called Hemmati's move a stunt and said he'd make sure the government returns to the nuclear deal.

The deal "would not be executed by you, it needs a powerful government to do this," Raisi said.

The election Friday will see voters pick a candidate to replace Rouhani, who is term limited from running again. The vote comes amid tensions with the West as negotiations continue to try and resuscitate the nuclear deal, which saw Iran agree to limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions.

The debate took on the pattern of the previous ones, with hard-liners focusing their criticism on Hemmati as a stand-in for Rouhani. Hard-liner Alireza Zakani went as far to accuse Hemmati of committing a "huge treason" by sharing financial information to the International Monetary Fund. Hard-line former Revolutionary Guard chief Mohsen Rezaei described the Rouhani government as being run by "infiltrators."

Hemmati, who raised eyebrows in recent days after telling The Associated Press in an interview he'd be potentially willing to speak with President Joe Biden, said his government would not view Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates as enemies. He also warned that without deals with the wider world, Iran's economy would see no growth.

"What will happen if the hard-liners have power?" Hemmati asked. "I tell you there is going to be more sanctions with global consensus."

It remains unclear if the debates will affect voters' opinions. The state-linked Iranian Student Polling Agency suggested just 37% of Iranian adults watched the second debate.

There also remains the larger concern about turnout in the election. Officials in the past have pointed to turnout as a sign of popular support for Iran's theocratic government. As of now, ISPA estimates turnout will be around 41% of Iran's over 59 million eligible voters. That would be the lowest percentage since Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution. ISPA polling also puts Raisi as the front-runner with enough of a percentage to avoid a runoff.

But unlike the earlier debates, both Hemmati and an inconspicuous reformist candidate named Mohsen

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Mehralizadeh brought up mass protests that directly challenged the government. Mehralizadeh at one point asked Raisi to intervene with Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei to pardon people still held after nationwide demonstrations in November 2019 over price rises of state-subsidized gasoline.

Those demonstrations ended with one lawmaker suggesting 7,000 people had been arrested. Amnesty International put the death toll from the violence at at least 208, with the rights group saying security forces killed demonstrators. Iran has yet to offer any definitive account of what happened.

Responding later to Mehralizadeh, Raisi said most of those arrested "have been pardoned by the supreme leader, except those who had relations with other countries or had other issues." He offered no figures for those pardoned and those still detained.

The 2019 demonstrations were the deadliest since Iran's 2009 presidential vote that saw hard-line President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad re-elected amid a disputed result that gave rise to the Green Movement protests.

"What happened to our youth during these 12 years that changed their chants from 'Where is my vote?' to 'No way I'm voting?'" Hemmati asked at one point.

## Travel rebound: 2 million people go through US airports

By DAVID KOENIG AP Airlines Writer

DALLAS (AP) — The airline industry's recovery from the pandemic passed a milestone as more than 2 million people streamed through U.S. airport security checkpoints on Friday for the first time since early March 2020.

The Transportation Security Administration announced Saturday that 2.03 million travelers were screened at airport checkpoints on Friday. It was the first time in 15 months that the number of security screenings has surpassed 2 million in a single day.

Airline bookings have been picking up since around February, as more Americans were vaccinated against COVID-19 and — at least within the United States — travel restrictions such as mandatory quarantines began to ease.

The recovery is not complete. Friday's crowds were only 74% of the volume compared to the same day in 2019. However, the 2.03 million figure was 1.5 million more travelers than the same day last year, according to the TSA.

The 2-million mark represents quite a turnaround for the travel industry, which was hammered by the pandemic. There were days in April 2020 when fewer than 100,000 people boarded planes in the U.S., and the CEO of Boeing predicted that at least one major U.S. airline would go bankrupt.

Most of the airlines are still losing money. Southwest eked out a narrow first-quarter profit thanks to its share of \$64 billion in federal pandemic relief to the industry, and others are expected to follow suit later this year.

The fear of large-scale furloughs has lifted. United Airlines, which lost \$7 billion and threatened to furlough 13,000 workers last fall, told employees this week that their jobs are secure even when the federal money runs out in October.

That's because airlines like United are upbeat about salvaging the peak summer vacation season. International travel and business trips are still deeply depressed, but domestic leisure travel is roughly back to pre-pandemic levels, airline officials say.

The airlines are recalling employees from voluntary leave and planning to hire small numbers of pilots and other workers later this year.

Hotel operators say they too have seen bookings improve as vaccination rates rise.

Mike Gathright, a senior vice president at Hilton, said the company's hotels were 93% full over the Memorial Day weekend. He said the company is "very optimistic" about leisure travel over the summer and a pickup in business travel this fall.

"The vaccine distribution, the relaxed travel restrictions, consumer confidence — all of that is driving occupancy and improvement in our business," Gathright said.



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Prior to the pandemic, TSA screened on average 2 million to 2.5 million travelers per day. The lowest screening volume during the pandemic was on April 13, 2020, when just 87,534 individuals were screened at airport security checkpoints.

By the middle of last month, TSA's average daily volume for screenings was approximately 65% of pre-pandemic levels.

As the summer travel season approaches, TSA is advising passengers to arrive at the airport with sufficient time to accommodate increased screening time as traveler volumes are expected to approach and in some cases exceed pre-pandemic levels at certain airports.

## Inspired by Novotna, Krejckikova wins 1st Slam title in Paris

By SAMUEL PETREQUIN AP Sports Writer

PARIS (AP) — Thinking of her late coach the whole time, Barbora Krejckikova went from unseeded player to Grand Slam champion at a French Open full of surprises.

Krejckikova beat 31st-seeded Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-1, 2-6, 6-4 in the final at Roland Garros on Saturday to win the title in just her fifth major tournament as a singles player.

"It's big achievement that nobody really expected," said Krejckikova, a 25-year-old from the Czech Republic who never won a WTA title of any sort until last month. "Not even me."

When it ended with Pavlyuchenkova's backhand landing long on Krejckikova's fourth match point, they met at the net for a hug. Then Krejckikova blew kisses, her eyes squeezed shut, in tribute to her former coach, Jana Novotna, the 1998 Wimbledon champion who died of cancer at age 49 in 2017.

"Pretty much her last words were just enjoy and just try to win a Grand Slam. And, I mean, I know that, from somewhere, she's looking after me," Krejckikova told the crowd at Court Philippe Chatrier, limited to 5,000 because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"All of this that just happened, these two weeks, is pretty much because she is just looking after me from up there," Krejckikova said, lifting her left hand toward the sky. "It was amazing that I had a chance to meet her and that she was such an inspiration for me. I just really miss her. But I hope she's happy right now. I'm extremely happy."

Krejckikova is the third unseeded women's champion since 2017 at Roland Garros. There were zero from 1968 through 2016.

She now will try to become the first woman since Mary Pierce in 2000 to win the French Open singles and doubles titles in the same year. Krejckikova and partner Katerina Siniakova already own two Grand Slam doubles titles and reached Sunday's final of that event.

Pavlyuchenkova, a 29-year-old Russian, was playing in her first Grand Slam final in the 52nd major tournament of her career — the most appearances by a woman before reaching a title match.

"Who could have thought, like, I would be in the final now? I think I'm just going to keep on going the same, zero expectation, just working hard and doing my job," said Pavlyuchenkova, who was treated for a left leg problem late in the second set that she revealed afterward arose during her third-round victory over No. 3 seed Aryna Sabalenka.

"OK, of course," Pavlyuchenkova said, "I believe in myself a little bit more maybe, yes."

Same for Krejckikova, who spoke frankly about feeling overwhelmed by stress before facing 2017 U.S. Open champion Sloane Stephens in the fourth round. Krejckikova worried she wouldn't win a game and was in tears until her sports psychologist talked her through it.

Good thing, too, because Krejckikova beat Stephens 6-2, 6-0. That went alongside wins over No. 5 seed Elina Svitolina and No. 24 Coco Gauff before Krejckikova saved a match point in the semifinals against No. 17 Maria Sakkari.

Now Krejckikova is the sixth consecutive first-time Grand Slam champion to collect the women's championship at Roland Garros, where the red clay can frustrate players by diminishing the effectiveness of speedy serves and by creating odd bounces.

Saturday's matchup was a fitting conclusion to a tournament filled with success for new names, including

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a record six first-time major quarterfinalists.

Naomi Osaka withdrew to take a mental health break. No. 1 Ash Barty, the 2019 champion, retired in the second round with an injured left hip. Simona Halep, the 2018 champion, didn't play at all because of a hurt calf. Serena Williams lost in the fourth round. Defending champion Iga Swiatek lost in the quarterfinals.

Some jitters were apparent in the final's opening game, when Krejčíková double-faulted twice. But she snapped out of it, excelling with her crisp two-handed backhand, net skills honed in doubles and perfect defensive lobs. One curled over Pavlyuchenkova and landed at a corner to help Krejčíková begin a six-game run in the first set.

Pavlyuchenkova went up 5-1 in the second, before she stretched for a backhand, winced and reached for her upper left leg. During a medical timeout, a trainer taped that leg while Pavlyuchenkova was on a towel, a bag of candy within reach.

In the third set, Krejčíková nosed ahead for good at 4-3 by breaking at love with a forehand winner.

Soon enough, she was being handed the Coupe Suzanne Lenglen by 18-time major champion Martina Navratilova and gently rocking the trophy during the Czech national anthem.

Novotna was on Krejčíková's mind.

"We just had a really special bond," Krejčíková said. "She wants me to win. She knows what it means to me, and I know what it would mean to her."

## Winning auction bid to fly in space with Jeff Bezos: \$28M

By MARCIA DUNN AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — An auction for a ride into space next month alongside Jeff Bezos and his brother ended with a winning \$28 million bid Saturday.

The Amazon founder's rocket company, Blue Origin, did not disclose the winner's name following the live online auction. The identity will be revealed in a couple weeks — closer to the brief up-and-down flight from West Texas on July 20, the 52nd anniversary of Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin's moon landing.

It will be the first launch of Blue Origin's New Shepard rocket with people on board, kicking off the company's space tourism business. Fifteen previous test flights of the reusable rocket and capsule since 2015 — short hops lasting about 10 minutes — were all successful.

Saturday's auction followed more than a month of online bidding that reached \$4.8 million by Friday. More than 7,500 people from 159 countries registered to bid, according to Blue Origin. More than 20 bidders — the high rollers — took part in Saturday's auction.

Bezos announced Monday that he and his younger brother, Mark, would be on board New Shepard's first crew flight; the news quickly boosted bidding. The winning amount is being donated to Blue Origin's Club for the Future, an educational effort to promote science and tech among young people.

The completely automated capsule can carry up to six passengers, each with their own big window. Blue Origin's top sales director, Ariane Cornell, said following the auction that the fourth and final seat on the debut crew flight will be announced soon.

Blue Origin has yet to open ticket sales to the public or divulge prices.

## Moscow orders new restrictions as COVID-19 infections soar

By JIM HEINTZ Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Moscow's mayor on Saturday ordered a week off for some workplaces and imposed restrictions on many businesses to fight coronavirus infections that have more than doubled in the past week.

The national coronavirus task force reported 6,701 new confirmed cases in Moscow, compared with 2,936 on June 6. Nationally, the daily tally has spiked by nearly half over the past week, to 13,510.

After several weeks of lockdown as the pandemic spread in the spring of 2020, the Russian capital eased restrictions and did not reimpose any during subsequent case increases. But because of the recent sharp rise, "it is impossible not to react to such a situation," Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin said.

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He ordered enterprises that do not normally work on weekends to remain closed for the next week while continuing to pay employees. Food courts and children's play areas in shopping centers also are to close for a week beginning Sunday, and restaurants and bars must limit their service to takeout from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Earlier in the week, city authorities said enforcement of mask- and glove-wearing requirements on mass transit, in stores and in other public places would be strengthened and that violators could face fines of up to 5,000 rubles (\$70).

Although Russia was the first country to deploy a coronavirus vaccine, its use has been relatively low; many Russians are reluctant to get vaccinated.

President Vladimir Putin on Saturday said 18 million Russians have received the vaccine — about 12% of the population.

For the entire pandemic period, the task force has reported nearly 5.2 million infections in the country of about 146 million people, and 126,000 deaths. However, a report from Russian state statistics agency Rosstat on Friday found more than 144,000 virus-related deaths last year alone.

The statistics agency, unlike the task force, counts fatalities in which coronavirus infection was present or suspected but is not the main cause of death.

The agency's report found about 340,000 more people died in 2020 than in 2019; it did not give details of the causes of the higher year-on-year death toll.

The higher death toll and a lower number of births combined to make an overall population decline of 702,000, about twice the decline in 2019, Rosstat said.

## EU talks up hope of breakthrough at Iran nuclear meetings

By DEREK GATOPOULOS and PHILIPP JENNE Associated Press

VIENNA (AP) — European Union negotiators said international talks that resumed Saturday on the Iran nuclear agreement were on track to revive the deal, which crumbled after the United States withdrew in 2018.

Senior diplomats from China, Germany, France, Russia, and Britain concluded a 90-minute meeting with Iranian representatives at a hotel in the Austrian capital.

"We are making progress, but the negotiations are intense and a number of issues (remain), including on how steps are to be implemented," EU representative Alain Matton told reporters in Vienna.

The United States is not formally part of meetings that launched in Vienna earlier this year. But the administration of President Joe Biden has signaled willingness to rejoin the deal under terms that would broadly see the U.S. scale back sanctions on Tehran and Iran return to abiding by the limits on its nuclear activity contained in the 2015 agreement.

"The EU will continue with the talks with all the participants...and separately with the United States to find ways to get very close to a final agreement in the coming days," Matton said.

Diplomats say complicating factors have included the sequence of the proposed measures, dealing with advances in Iran's nuclear processing capability since the United States withdrew, and the presidential election in Iran next week.

Officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, the 2015 deal provided Iran vital sanctions relief in exchange for a commitment to allow extensive international monitoring as it dismantled much of its nuclear program.

Former President Donald Trump pulled the U.S. out of the deal in 2018, arguing that it handed Tehran too many concessions while failing to curb its aggression in the region and ambitions to build a nuclear weapon. U.S. sanctions that were re-imposed and intensified under Trump tipped Iran into a severe recession and enriching more uranium than permitted under the deal.

Iranian officials have balked at the suggestion that some of the terms agreed to in 2015 would have to be updated, insisting that it would return to nuclear compliance as soon as Washington restored its pre-Trump sanctions policy.

## Aid groups appeal to G-7 for cash to get shots into arms

By DANICA KIRKA Associated Press

FALMOUTH, England (AP) — Rich nations must do more than just donate surplus vaccines if they hope to end the COVID-19 pandemic, according to public health experts and humanitarian groups that are calling for money, increased production and logistical support to help developing countries where the virus is still raging.

The appeal came after U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson said he hoped leaders of the Group of Seven major industrialized nations will agree to provide at least 1 billion vaccine doses for poorer countries. The G-7 leaders, who are holding their annual meeting this weekend in Cornwall, southwest England, continue to debate other forms of aid to get lifesaving vaccine shots into arms.

While almost half of the combined population of the G-7 nations has received at least one dose of vaccine the worldwide figure is less than 13%. In Africa, it's just 2.2%.

Wealthy nations must act quickly not just out of altruism, but to protect their own citizens, because the virus will continue to mutate as long as it is allowed to spread unchecked, resulting in potentially more dangerous variants, said Lily Caprani, head of COVID-19 vaccines advocacy for UNICEF.

"(This) requires political will and urgent action now," Caprani told The Associated Press. "So I think all of us should be urging our leaders to do it, not just because it's the right thing to do, but it's the smart thing to do, and it's the only way out."

Johnson, who is hosting the G-7 summit, and U.S. President Joe Biden opened the meeting by announcing that their countries would donate a total of 600 million vaccine doses over the next year.

But International Monetary Fund economists recently estimated it would cost \$50 billion to vaccinate 60% of the world's population by the middle of next year and that achieving that goal would generate \$9 trillion in additional economic output by 2025.

Those appealing for wealthier nations to do more to make vaccines available worldwide argue it would be a worthwhile investment in human capital.

"If we do this, and everyone's saying it's the deal of the century, about 60% of those resources need to come from wealthy countries in the G-7," said Robert Yates, director of the global health program at Chatham House, a London-based public policy think tank.

Countries like the United States and Britain secured supplies of multiple COVID-19 vaccines while they were still in development, hoping to guarantee shipments of any successful candidates. That left them with enough doses to inoculate their entire populations two or three times over after regulators approved a number of shots.

They are now under pressure to provide shots for low-income countries immediately and not wait until they have vaccinated younger age groups in their own countries. COVID-19 poses the greatest risk to older people and those with underlying health conditions, who account for the vast majority of those who have died from the disease.

Ahead of the G-7 meeting, the IMF, the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the World Trade Organization said the group's top priority should be ending the pandemic and securing the global economic recovery.

"The current approach to COVID-19 vaccination — using limited vaccine supplies to protect low-risk populations in a handful of countries while low- and middle-income economies wait indefinitely for doses — doesn't make sense for anyone," World Bank President David Malpass wrote last month. "A successful global vaccination effort must be equitable."

But vaccines alone aren't enough to complete the task.

Fragile health care systems in low-income countries need equipment, training and logistical support so they can mount the kind of turbocharged mass vaccination programs that have been successful in Europe and North America.

The U.K., for example, turned to its National Health Service for staff and commandeered cathedrals, stadiums and museums as mass vaccination centers. More than 60% of the U.K. population, and almost



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80% of adults, have received at least one dose of vaccine.

While infections, hospitalizations and deaths have all plunged with the success of the vaccination program in Britain, public health officials are still concerned about new variants that may prove more resistant to existing vaccines. The government recently banned most travel from India to slow the spread of the delta variant discovered there.

Epidemiologists say the best way to head off potentially dangerous variants is to vaccinate the most vulnerable people around the world as quickly as possible.

"Talk is cheap, and talk isn't going to get it done," Jeevun Sandher, a former U.K. government economist who is studying inequality at King's College London, said. "A finely worded communique with our ambitions and a commitment to global cooperation is just not going to get it done. We absolutely need to see the checks. Get out those pens and start signing."

Developing nations are also calling on the U.S., Britain and the European Union — where the most widely used vaccines were developed — to relax patent protections and provide technical assistance so they can produce the shots for themselves.

The Biden administration has backed a temporary waiver of patent protections, saying "extraordinary times and circumstances call for extraordinary measures." But the European Commission, the EU's executive arm, has opposed such a move, arguing that government assistance to vaccine makers and voluntary licensing agreements are the best way to increase supply.

A decision on the matter will come from the World Trade Organization.

Activists argue that the technology should be transferred to developing countries so they can produce vaccines and COVID-19 treatments for themselves, reducing their dependence on manufacturing elsewhere.

Daphne Jayasinghe of the International Rescue Committee, noted that the debate is taking place against the backdrop of the U.K. government's decision to cut spending on international aid, "which is deeply affecting health services in countries where they are needed the most.

"The promises to deliver surplus vaccines are certainly welcome., but they must be accompanied by more action," Jayasinghe said. "We'd like to see other G-7 member states making similar commitments to share vaccines, but what needs to go with that is the infrastructure and the health services to deliver those vaccines."

## **Making history: The scramble to document presidents' summits**

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER Associated Press

If President Joe Biden has any private words with Russia's Vladimir Putin at their meeting next week, U.S. interpreters and diplomats will be standing by to document their high-stakes encounter.

It's a decades-old system meant to ensure that senior officials, and ultimately historians, have a record of what American presidents say to international leaders. And it's one that held up — mostly — even under former President Donald Trump, including when he confiscated the notes taken by his American interpreter at a meeting with Putin in 2017.

Trump's determination to keep his talks with the Russian president confidential sparked concerns about what might have occurred in those private meetings, particularly given Trump's cozy relationship with Putin.

Former U.S. officials acknowledge the unusual and concerning nature of Trump's desire for secrecy, which a former official familiar with the matter says also included Trump routinely waving away the usual immediate debriefings by aides after his one-on-ones with world leaders. But in the run-up to Biden's own first session with Putin as president in Geneva, the U.S. official described to The Associated Press the swift steps taken to preserve records of Trump's private talks with Putin.

That included the veteran State Department interpreter for Trump at his hours-long private talk with Putin in Helsinki, Finland, in 2018 alerting senior U.S. officials "instantaneously" after the meeting to concerning details, including that the two men had broached invoking an existing treaty that could have allowed Russians to take part in interrogations of U.S. officials, the former official said.

And at the summit a year earlier in Hamburg, Germany, where Trump seized the interpreter's notes,

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Americans were able to debrief Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, who also jotted down notes, the former official said. Some diplomats and journalists have questioned how thorough the Trump Cabinet secretary's version would have been, however.

When Trump unexpectedly sat down next to Putin and first lady Melania Trump that night at dinner for a long chat, press reports at the time said it appeared no other Americans were within earshot. However, the former official said they were able to build a record of what was said from the first lady's aides, who were sitting next to her.

Trump in one way made it easier for listeners to follow and document his private words with Putin. Appearing dazzled by the pomp and import of the summits, Trump would have to ask interpreters to repeat Putin's comments "half the time," the former official said.

The results were detailed accounts that were shared among top officials and preserved, according to the former official, who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. They ultimately will likely be declassified, like the records of past presidencies.

The former official's account, and accounts from other officials and interpreters, shed light on a critical part of the upcoming Biden-Putin meeting and other presidential summits that normally receives little attention: the crucial work of diplomats, interpreters, aides and others in providing policymakers with a detailed account of what was said — even when a president wishes they didn't.

Presidential historians say it's critical for the functioning of a democratic government.

"I believe very strongly that our protections under the Constitution depend on the transparency of our government. Because it's in the dark spaces, it's in the unlit spaces of government activity that abuses occur, or can occur," said Timothy Naftali, an associate professor at New York University.

Michael McFaul, a former White House official and ambassador to Russia in Barack Obama's administration who served as the official record-taker for Obama's occasional one-on-one "pull-asides" with Russian leaders, described how the routine of capturing and documenting such talks played out for him.

At the close of those presidential conversations, McFaul said he would immediately rush to debrief both Obama and the State Department interpreter, while memories were fresh.

"Sometimes I really had to crowd people out of the way," but "it was super important," McFaul said. "For the U.S. government, that was how they knew what was decided."

Up until the Reagan administration, the same State Department interpreters who translated during the one-on-ones between U.S. presidents and international leaders were charged with preparing the official memoranda of conversations, or memcons, said Dimitry Zarechnak, a retired State Department employee. Zarechnak translated for Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev and others.

At the time, "the practice was always that interpreters would be taking notes to do the interpreting," and then use those notes to prepare the memos, Zarechnak said. It was a "practically verbatim record of what was said."

Those memos as a rule had to be completed the same day, McFaul and Zarechnak said.

After one Reagan summit, when Zarechnak found himself working into the next morning to prepare the memos from a day of interpreting, the U.S. routine expanded, so that a separate note-taker began sitting in on the talks and prepared the official records, he said.

Many decades later, the U.S. government typically declassifies the memcons, as with Reagan's historic talks and folksy stories with the last leader of the Soviet Union.

The former official said Trump was able, however, to evade the record-takers for one kind of conversation: those with leaders who could speak directly to him in English and needed no interpreter.

Trump would leave entirely private his conversations with President Emmanuel Macron, pointing inquiring American officials to the bilingual French leader, the former official recounted.

"Ask Macron," Trump would tell his aides, the former official said.

## UK-EU Brexit spat over N Ireland clouds G7 leaders summit

By JILL LAWLESS Associated Press

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FALMOUTH, England (AP) — Turbulence from the divorce between the U.K. and the European Union provided an unwanted distraction at the Group of Seven summit taking place in southwest England, with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson saying Saturday that post-Brexit agreements will fail if the EU continues to take a “theologically draconian” approach to the rules.

Johnson held meetings with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Emmanuel Macron and the bloc’s top officials on the sidelines of the summit he is hosting. Afterwards, the prime minister claimed the EU was not taking a “sensible or pragmatic” approach to post-Brexit arrangements, and he threatened to use an emergency clause to suspend agreed upon rules if the bloc did not compromise.

Britain and the EU are locked in an escalating diplomatic feud over Northern Ireland, the only part of the U.K. that borders the 27-nation bloc. The EU is angry over the British government’s delay in implementing new checks on some goods coming into Northern Ireland from the rest of the U.K., while Britain says the checks are imposing a big burden on businesses and destabilizing Northern Ireland’s hard-won peace.

U.S. President Joe Biden has gotten drawn into the spat, raising concerns about the potential threat to Northern Ireland’s peace accord.

The new arrangements, designed to keep an open border between Ireland and its northern neighbor, have angered Northern Ireland’s British unionists, who say they weaken ties with the rest of the U.K. Tensions over the new trade rules were a contributing factor to a week of street violence in April, largely in unionist areas of Northern Ireland, that saw youths pelt police with bricks, fireworks and firebombs.

European Commission President Ursula Von der Leyen tweeted after meeting Johnson that Northern Ireland peace was “paramount,” and the binding Brexit agreement protected it.

“We want the best possible relations with the UK. Both sides must implement what we agreed on. There is complete EU unity on this,” she said.

Johnson told Sky News at the summit site in Carbis Bay, Cornwall, that “the treaty we signed, I signed, is perfectly reasonable,” but he added: “I don’t think that the interpretation or application of the protocol (by the EU) is sensible or pragmatic.”

The EU says Britain must fully implement the agreement, known as the Northern Ireland Protocol, that the two sides agreed and ratified. It is threatening legal action if the U.K. does not fully bring in the checks, which include a ban on chilled meats such as sausages from England, Scotland and Wales going to Northern Ireland from next month.

Britain accuses the bloc of taking a rigid approach to the rules and urged it to be more flexible in order to avoid what has been dubbed a “sausage war.” U.K. Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said Saturday that if the EU took a “bloody-minded and purist” approach, Britain would have to act to protect the U.K.’s internal market and ensure that British-produced goods can be sold in every part of the country.

Merkel said she made clear to Johnson at their meeting that nothing could change on the fundamentals of the agreement. But she hinted at compromise, saying that “when it comes to practical questions...one should consider where things can be done better so it helps the citizens of Northern Ireland.”

Johnson said some European leaders seemed not to understand “that the U.K. is a single country, a single territory. I just need to get that into their heads.”

“If the protocol continues to be applied in this way, then we will obviously not hesitate to invoke Article 16,” the British leader said, referring to an emergency brake allowing either side to suspend parts of their agreement. It is intended for use only in extreme situations, but the EU briefly threatened to invoke it in January amid a coronavirus vaccine spat, to stop doses from Ireland crossing the border.

Speaking to Channel 5, Johnson said, “I certainly think that the protocol is capable of being used and interpreted...in a pragmatic way or a theologically draconian way.

“At the moment we are seeing...a lot of unnecessary difficulties,” he said.

Despite the tough talk, Johnson said he was optimistic of reaching a compromise, though British officials say it’s unlikely the issue will be solved during the G-7 summit, which ends Sunday.

**Teachers wary of new laws limiting instruction on race**

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By KIMBERLEE KRUESI and MICHAEL MELIA Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — As middle school teacher Brittany Paschall assembled a lesson plan on the history of the Negro Baseball Leagues, she wondered how she might have to go about it differently next year under a new Tennessee state law that prohibits teaching certain concepts of race and racism.

The unit was about baseball, but more importantly, it was about segregation and racism in America.

"I kept thinking, in light of this bill, if this were next year, how would I teach this to my students?" said Paschall, an English teacher in Nashville. "Do we teach students to ignore tough subjects?"

Laws setting guiderails for classroom instruction on race passed this year in Republican-controlled states have left some teachers worried about how they will be enforced. Particularly in districts with large numbers of people of color, educators say they worry everyday discussions about students' experiences could land teachers in hot water.

In response to a push for culturally responsive teaching that gained steam following last year's police killing of George Floyd, Republican lawmakers and governors have championed legislation to limit the teaching of material that explores how race and racism influence American politics, culture and law. The measures have become law in Tennessee, Idaho and Oklahoma and bills have been introduced in over a dozen other states.

Professional teachers associations and some school boards have blasted the laws as disrespecting teachers' judgment and opening the door to censorship.

"This is an assault on the craft of teaching," said Paschall, who is Black. "It's asking me to show up and ignore parts of my own identity."

The Tennessee law that takes effect July 1 allows the state education commissioner to withhold funds from any school found to be in violation. Among other things, Tennessee's teachers can't instruct that "an individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, is inherently privileged, racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or subconsciously."

The law still permits 'impartial discussion of controversial aspects of history,' but teachers are uncertain how to square that with the main thrust of the legislation, as state officials begin working on finalizing rules on how to implement the new law.

Opposition among teachers is not universal. In a survey by the Tennessee Council for the Social Studies, 64 of 403 members responded with their thoughts on the legislation. While 61% said it would greatly or slightly affect their teaching, 22% said it would likely not or definitely not affect their teaching.

Among the written responses shared anonymously by the council, one of the teachers who said it would not affect their teaching wrote: "Telling students of color they are discriminated against will only serve to make the students feel victimized. This has no place in schools."

The bills in various states limit the teaching of ideas linked to "critical race theory," which seeks to re-frame 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.

In the Oklahoma City school district of Millwood, where over 70% of students are Black, Superintendent Cecilia Robinson-Woods said teachers were confused by the implications of the new law's ban on saying certain people are inherently racist or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.

She said one young Black teacher assigned a project around an issue students want to solve in their community and they came back with topics including gentrification, Jim Crow, mass incarceration and the Tulsa race massacre.

"This is what these kids are thinking about. To say you can't talk about this, it's impossible," Robinson-Woods said.

After the new law passed, the teacher asked the superintendent if the project meant he was teaching critical race theory. She told him students in the district's K-12 schools aren't being taught such concepts.

"What you should be doing is having student led-discussions that are balanced," Robinson-Woods said she told the teacher. "So if kids are interested in learning about Green Book, then yeah, they need to learn about Jim Crow as well."



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"We're not doing anything differently because we don't believe we're teaching critical race theory," she added.

The new law was condemned by school boards in Millwood as well as Oklahoma City, where the board chair, Paula Lewis, said it was a measure in search of a problem because there have been no examples of somebody telling a student they are a white supremacist or an oppressor because of their skin color. Still, she said, teachers are apprehensive about crossing a line.

"In our mind, it really just adds a layer of fear," she said.

Tennessee teachers also are eager to see how the new law is interpreted by state officials.

Bianca Martinez, a sixth-grade English teacher in Memphis, points to the difficult conversations her students brought up last year when the class read "Brown Girl Dreaming," a young adult novel on growing up Black in the 1960s in South Carolina and New York.

"In my lesson plans, I didn't have language that said 'critical race theory,' 'systematic racism,' or 'privilege,'" she said. "But those conversations came up and they're going to continue to happen."

"My question is, how are you going to police that?" Martinez said. "And what does violating the measure mean?"

## As virus cases wane, governors weigh ending emergency orders

By DAVID A. LIEB Associated Press

New coronavirus infections and deaths in the U.S. are down dramatically from earlier highs, though more contagious variants are spreading. Most people are now at least partially vaccinated, yet lingering hesitancy has slowed the pace and even caused some doses to go to waste.

So is the COVID-19 emergency over, or is it continuing?

That's the question facing residents and business owners in many states as governors decide whether to end or extend emergency declarations that have allowed them to restrict public gatherings and businesses, mandate masks, sidestep normal purchasing rules and deploy National Guard troops to help administer vaccines.

In many states, those emergency declarations have been routinely extended by governors every few weeks or months since the pandemic began. But those decisions are getting harder to make — and the extensions harder to justify — as circumstances improve and state lawmakers press to restore a balance of power.

Already, governors, lawmakers or judges have ended emergency declarations in more than a half-dozen states. That includes South Carolina and New Hampshire, where Republican governors halted their emergency orders this past week.

More could join that list soon. About half the states had emergency orders set to expire before the Fourth of July. And over a dozen additional states have open-ended emergency orders, which could be canceled at any time by governors.

Massachusetts has been in an indefinite state of emergency for 15 months. But Gov. Charlie Baker has said that will come to an end Tuesday. He credited the state's high vaccination rate with helping turn the tide in the fight against the coronavirus.

"Unless something odd happens, I would say that it is pretty much over," said Baker, a Republican.

Coronavirus emergencies also could expire Tuesday in Kansas and Vermont.

Top Republican lawmakers in Kansas, whose approval is needed for an extension, have signaled they won't continue an emergency order issued by Democratic Gov. Laura Kelly, though she prefers it remain through August.

Vermont Gov. Phil Scott, a Republican, has said he will end all remaining emergency restrictions once 80% of eligible residents receive at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine — a threshold the state is close to reaching.

In many states, Republicans are leading the push to end emergency declarations, though it's not entirely partisan. Some Democrats also have supported such moves, and some Republican governors have con-

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tinued their emergency declarations. That includes Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, who extended an emergency declaration through July 4.

Hawaii Gov. David Ige, a Democrat, recently renewed his emergency declaration for 60 more days, through Aug. 6. The tourist-dependent state, which imposed quarantines on travelers that effectively shut down the tourism industry, has the nation's lowest per capita COVID-19 case rate since the pandemic began and the highest unemployment rate. While some might cite that as a reason to lift emergency orders, Ige said it is too soon to do so.

"COVID-19 continues to endanger the health, safety, and welfare of the people of Hawaii," Ige wrote while extending his emergency declaration.

In California, Gov. Gavin Newsom is ending most coronavirus restrictions effective Tuesday but is continuing his underlying emergency declaration. Though that might sound confusing to residents, the move allows Newsom to retain his power to suspend state laws, impose new rules and reinstate restrictions if coronavirus cases again spike.

"This disease has not been extinguished. It's not vanished," the Democratic governor said while explaining his ongoing emergency declaration.

That doesn't sit well with legislative Republicans, who are in the minority. In the state Senate, they have tried repeatedly to pass a resolution that would end Newsom's declaration, but can't persuade majority Democrats.

"California's vaccination rate is high and the COVID infection rate continues to decrease," said Republican state Sen. Melissa Melendez. "It is time for the legislature to shake off the impotency the governor has imposed on the legislative branch of government and pass (the resolution)."

Nationally, the public health emergency declared by Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra is scheduled to run until July 20, though another 90-day extension is possible.

Within the past week, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials has received an increased number of inquiries from state officials about the potential consequences of rescinding their emergency declarations, said Andy Baker-White, the association's senior director of health policy.

Much of the federal pandemic aid — including \$350 billion for state and local governments in President Joe Biden's recent relief package and reimbursements for vaccine distributions — could flow to states even if they end their emergency declarations.

But some federal aid could be affected. States are eligible for enhanced federal food aid benefits only if they have a COVID-19 emergency or disaster declaration in place, according to a Congressional Research Service analysis.

For many governors, keeping emergency declarations in place may be less disruptive to the public than rescinding and later re-imposing them if the pandemic worsens, said Dr. Georges Benjamin, executive director of the American Public Health Association.

But for other governors, it might be advantageous to relinquish their emergency powers, he said.

"Quite frankly, in a state where you're worried that people will accuse you of misusing those authorities, if you don't need them, you might want to get rid of them," Benjamin said.

New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy, a Democrat who is up for re-election this year, ended the state's public health emergency earlier this month as part of a deal with Democratic lawmakers, who control the Legislature. He also signed legislation eliminating more than 100 executive orders while retaining just over a dozen, including those placing moratoriums on evictions and utility shutoffs.

Murphy called it a "clear and decisive step on the path toward normalcy," but some Republican lawmakers said it didn't go far enough in limiting his powers.

In Pennsylvania, the Republican-led Legislature voted Thursday to end Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf's emergency declaration — making use of new powers granted to lawmakers under a constitutional amendment approved by voters last month. But the immediate practical effect is limited, because lawmakers also voted to extend hundreds of regulatory waivers granted by Wolf's administration through Sept. 30.

Ending emergency declarations can affect a variety of lower-profile policies, such as relaxed licensing

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requirements in many states that have allowed more medical professionals to return to the workforce.

After Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt, a Republican, ended his emergency declaration May 4, the state stopped updating its online dashboard with the number of available hospital beds and its stockpile of ventilators, masks and other personal protective equipment. Rescinding the emergency order also triggered a 30-day countdown to resume in-person meetings for governmental bodies, and ended the ability of state agencies to hire additional staff and shift resources.

Benjamin, of the public health association, said he expects more states to end their coronavirus emergency orders in coming weeks because of improved infection and vaccination data, as well as public fatigue over long-running precautions.

"There's an emotional or psychological message you're sending that you're saying 'OK, we're no longer in the emergency state,'" he said. "There's an opportunity there to give people a sense of normalcy."

## **GOP governors tie economy to relaxed approach to coronavirus**

By BILL BARROW Associated Press

JEKYLL ISLAND, Ga. (AP) — Republican governors running for reelection have begun trumpeting the party's more hands-off approach to the coronavirus pandemic, trying to flip the script on an issue that helped Democrats win the White House and control of Capitol Hill in 2020.

GOP governors, especially in populous, diverse Sun Belt states, credit a resurgent economy to their resistance to strict public health protocols they frame as shackles. At the same time, Republican challengers are hammering Democratic governors as slow to relax business restrictions, end mask mandates and reopen schools full time. And across the board, Republicans relish swipes at Democratic bastions New York and California, "lockdown states" where unemployment remains higher than the national mark.

The political and economic realities are more complicated than the rhetoric suggests.

States, regardless of partisan control, have benefited from trillions in pandemic aid approved by Congress and vaccines that governors had no role in developing. Yet Republican leaders believe, at least for now, they can capitalize on circumstances that just last November helped deny Republican Donald Trump a second presidential term.

"Choosing to lock down heavy and hard for an extended period of time hasn't proven to help states in the long run," said Joanna Rodriguez of the Republican Governors Association. She said GOP governors "talked to each other throughout the pandemic and talked about what was working. Now we can see the value of that leadership. ... Our governors certainly will run on that record."

But it's not clear that states with tighter lockdowns necessarily fared worse than others. Economists at the UCLA Anderson Forecast in Los Angeles found in a new analysis that among large state economies, those with more pandemic restrictions, including California, generally had less economic contraction in 2020 than states with looser regulations. The researchers argued there was a correlation among stricter protocols, lower COVID-19 infection rates and the gross domestic product.

But that's not the argument coming from Republicans.

Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp recently described his stewardship of a "measured reopening" as the way to "protect lives against COVID-19, but also protect your livelihood and your paycheck." Speaking at the state GOP convention recently, he took swipes at "Joe Biden and the liberals," along with "scientists and doctors that were getting paid to sit in their basement during the pandemic" and urge a shuttered economy.

Kemp emphasized the most recent unemployment data. U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics measured a 4.3% April unemployment rate in Georgia, compared with 6.1% nationally. The U.S. rate fell to 5.8% in May. State-by-state data for May hasn't been released.

Georgia had "the lowest unemployment rate" among the 10 most populous states, even lower, Kemp crowed, than GOP-run Florida and Texas, "and, of course, lower than New York and California," where unemployment measured 8.3% and 8.2%, respectively.

In Florida. Gov. Ron DeSantis celebrated his state's April measure, 4.8%.

"None of that would've been possible had we done lockdown policies ... had we done a lot of the things

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a lot of these other states have done," he told reporters recently. He dismissed a potential general election rival, state Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried, as a "lockdown lobbyist" and insisted she would have closed businesses and schools.

Fried lacks the broad executive authority that DeSantis has had in those arenas, but the governor's swipes nonetheless allowed him to highlight his early push to reopen Florida's restaurants, bars and other hot spots in the state's tourism-heavy economy.

Unemployment figures alone don't favor all Republicans, of course.

In Texas, where the oil industry hasn't rebounded completely from Americans' drop in travel, unemployment was 6.7% in April, higher than nationally. GOP Gov. Greg Abbott is embracing the overall economic uptick anyway. Abbott made his state one of the first to reject extra unemployment insurance aid from Washington on the grounds that "the Texas economy is booming." The \$300-per-person weekly boost will end later this month under Abbott's order. Most Republican-led states have followed suit.

As long as the economy continues to recover, Democratic governors also will run on their leadership through the pandemic, likely arguing that the tight lockdowns and protocols work.

"Any governor is going to talk about how they steered their state through this and got people back to work," said Dave Carney, one of Abbott's top political advisers, while any challenger, he added, must poke holes in the incumbent's narrative.

Paul Maslin, a Democratic pollster who has worked statewide campaigns across the country, said that coming out of an event as all-consuming as a pandemic, those textbook plays come with unknown risks and rewards for both parties.

Republican governors, he noted, are happy to embrace an economy juiced by federal aid, the largest chunk coming this year without any Republican votes in Congress. But the same economy, Maslin noted, is showing signs of inflation, a potential red flag that could ensnare both congressional Democrats and incumbent governors of either party in 2022 if the national mood sours.

Similarly, he said, "what happens to our kids" in the coming school year could become a flashpoint.

Republicans are pushing that case already with attacks against Govs. Laura Kelly, D-Kan., and Gretchen Whitmer, D-Mich., for their earlier position on closing schools. The GOP also is testing the reach of parents' frustration in Virginia, trying to saddle Democratic nominee Terry McAuliffe with outgoing Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam's pandemic policies ahead of the state's election this November.

But Democrats said Kelly, Whitmer and Northam get generally good marks from voters for taking the pandemic seriously. "It's a political mirage," said Jared Leopold, a former top aide at the Democratic Governors Association who worked for one of McAuliffe's primary rivals. "Trying to make people upset in November of 2022 that schools were closed in April or May of 2021 is tough."

The bigger variable on education, Democrats argued, is whether the upcoming school year reveals long-term problems with student achievement, something Maslin said would put any incumbent on the defensive, whatever their COVID-19 actions had been.

Ultimately, Leopold said, "governor's races are more about leadership" because "people are looking for someone who they trust in a crisis."

Leopold and Carney, the Republican adviser to Abbott, agreed that dynamic often benefits governors unless they failed abjectly. They also said there's plenty of time for circumstances to change.

"The key judgment is going to come on how the economy and health situation looks in fall 2022," Leopold said. "This is all just sort of the pre-match tussle."

## **Afghan official: bombs hit 2 minivans in Kabul, 7 dead**

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Separate bombs hit two minivans in a mostly Shiite neighborhood in the Afghan capital Saturday, killing at least seven people and wounding six others, the Interior Ministry said.

The attacks targeted minivans on the same road about 2 kilometers (1.25 miles) apart in a neighborhood in western Kabul, Interior Ministry deputy spokesman Ahmad Zia Zia, said.

It wasn't immediately clear what type of bombs were used and no one immediately claimed responsibility.



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ity for the attacks.

In some west Kabul neighborhoods populated mostly by the minority Hazara ethnic group, just going out for errands can be dangerous. The Islamic State group has carried out similar bombings in the area, including four attacks on four minivans earlier this month that killed at least 18 people.

The first explosion of Saturday's attack killed six people and wounded two and the second explosion in front of Muhammad Ali Jinnah hospital, where a majority of COVID-19 patients are admitted, killed one and wounded four.

The area where the explosions happened is largely populated by Hazaras, who are mostly Shiite Muslims. Shiites are a minority in mostly Sunni Afghanistan, and the local Islamic State affiliate has declared war against them.

Hundreds of Afghans are killed or injured every month in violence connected to the country's constant war. But Hazaras, who make up around 9% of the population of 36 million people, stand alone in being intentionally targeted because of their ethnicity and their religion.

An attack on a Kabul school on May 8 killed nearly 100 people, all of them members of the Hazara ethnic minority and most of them young girls just leaving class.

Violence and chaos continue to escalate in Afghanistan as the U.S. and NATO continue their withdrawal of the remaining 2,500-3,500 American soldiers and 7,000 allied forces. The last of the troops will be gone by Sept. 11 at the latest.

## To curb drug prices, Democrats still seeking a balance

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats are committed to passing legislation this year to curb prescription drug prices, but they're still disagreeing on how to cut costs for patients and taxpayers while preserving profits that lure investors to back potentially promising treatments.

It boils down to finding a balance: How big a stick should Medicare have to negotiate prices with pharmaceutical companies?

With hundreds of billions of dollars in potential savings, the stakes are enormous. Medicare spends upward of \$200 billion a year on prescription drugs, a category that keeps growing as costly new drugs enter the market. An Alzheimer's medication approved this past week comes with a price of \$56,000 a year, for example, and co-payments could skyrocket for patients who use it.

A successful bill would advance a key plank of President Joe Biden's domestic agenda even as Democrats struggle to make progress on other fronts. Allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices consistently wins strong public support in opinion polls.

In the House, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., is steering legislation that imposes a steep tax on drugmakers that refuse to deal with Medicare, while using an average of prices in other economically advanced countries as a reference point for fair rates here. Her bill would limit price increases and allow private health plans to receive Medicare's negotiated rates.

In the Senate, Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden, D-Ore, is also working to craft legislation. His starting point is a less ambitious bipartisan bill from a previous Congress. It would have limited price increases for drugs already on the market, but not initial prices. It would have capped Medicare recipients' out-of-pocket costs for pharmacy drugs, which is in the Pelosi bill.

Wyden said he personally is convinced that "it's long past time to give Medicare the authority to negotiate better prices for prescription drugs." But cajoling enough votes in the Senate is another matter. It's unclear whether Wyden can even count on all the Democrats in the divided chamber or whether any Republicans would sign on.

Progressives such as Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., want to use Medicare's savings to create new benefits for dental, vision and hearing coverage. That would represent an historic expansion of a program that's under a lengthening financial shadow, its giant inpatient trust fund projected to be in the red in 2026.

Democrats are talking privately among themselves and organizing coalitions around different approaches.

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In public, they still sound like they can overcome their differences.

"Democrats are going to pass Medicare prescription drug reform and I'm going to be part of it," Rep. Jake Auchincloss, D-Mass., told The Associated Press. The first-term lawmaker has raised concerns that Pelosi's approach is not a negotiation but a price control system. His voice matters because Auchincloss is helping lead a group of like-minded Democrats, and Pelosi can't afford to lose many votes.

The powerful and deep-pocketed drug industry lobby is closely engaged. Already, ads are stirring fears that government price controls will squelch development of breakthrough treatments.

Stephen Ubl, CEO of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, said the industry wants to see lower out-of-pocket costs for patients, and believes that insurers and companies that manage prescription benefits must be scrutinized as well.

"We would like to see a balanced drug pricing bill emerge from the Congress this year," Ubl told AP in a recent interview. He later added that "our industry understands that there is going to be some pain involved in the process."

But so far the industry has given no indication that it's willing to accept Medicare negotiations or significant curbs to its pricing power.

Health economist Len Nichols, who has advised Democrats in health care policy debates, said there is a logic behind the basic elements of Pelosi's approach.

"You've got to have that reference price that is somewhat objective as a basis for negotiation, and then you have to have a way to compel the drug companies to come to the table," he said. "It's directionally correct."

That said, getting the balance right would be critical.

"We've just experienced an amazing example of incredibly effective innovation," Nichols said, referring to COVID-19 vaccines that have pushed back a deadly pandemic in this country. "Innovation is important, and the structure of any bargaining arrangement has to balance the need for affordability with the need to incentivize innovation."

The industry's success with COVID-19 vaccines comes with a big asterisk: Taxpayers have invested about \$20 billion in research and development, manufacturing, and supply of vaccine candidates. That's according to estimates by the nonpartisan Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, which advocates for reducing federal deficits. Still, the money went to companies that knew what they were doing and they delivered.

Joshua Gordon, director of health policy for the budget group, said there is a clear trade-off between restraining drug prices and reducing incentives for innovation. But that doesn't mean a better balance can't be found.

"Obviously the government creates a market for drugs through patents and (Food and Drug Administration) exclusivity, and there are clearly areas where the companies are taking advantage," he said.

Lawmakers aren't necessarily tied to the approaches now on the table, Gordon added. They could follow the example of Germany, where drugmakers set the initial price of a medication, but then a review process determines if it's worth to keep paying that.

One of Pelosi's top lieutenants said recently that he is open to discussing different approaches, but they have to include negotiating authority for Medicare.

"We can't veer away from the basic idea that the government ... should have the right to negotiate prices," Rep. Frank Pallone, D-N.J., said on a call sponsored by the advocacy group Protect Our Care. "I believe that the Democrats as a whole and some of the Republicans in the Senate will vote for that."

## AMA doctors meet amid vocal backlash over racial equity plan

By LINDSEY TANNER AP Medical Writer

The nation's largest, most influential doctors' group is holding its annual policymaking meeting amid backlash over its most ambitious plan ever — to help dismantle centuries-old racism and bias in all realms of the medical establishment.

The dissenters are a vocal minority of physicians, including some white Southern delegates who accuse

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the American Medical Association of reverse discrimination.

Dr. Gerald Harmon, the group's incoming president, is a 69-year-old white native of rural South Carolina who knows he isn't the most obvious choice to lead the AMA at this pivotal time. But he seems intent on breaking down stereotypes and said pointedly in a phone interview, "This plan is not up for debate."

The six-day meeting that began Friday is being held virtually because of the pandemic. It offers a chance for doctors to adopt policies that spell out how the AMA should implement its health equity plan. But some white doctors say the plan goes too far.

Announced last month, the plan is unusually bold for the historically cautious AMA, acknowledging that racism and white privilege exist in the medical establishment and have contributed to health disparities laid bare during the coronavirus pandemic.

Portions of the plan include the language of critical race theory, referencing the theft of native lands and centuries-old white supremacy. The dissenters took offense and attacked the plan in documents recently leaked online. One leaked draft of a letter intended for AMA executives called portions of the plan "divisive, accusatory and insulting."

"White males are repeatedly characterized as repressive and to some degree responsible for the inequities. This ... implies reverse discrimination," the letter said. It was signed by Dr. Claudette Dalton, a member of the AMA's Southeastern delegation, four other physicians and five state delegations representing 68 AMA delegates.

Dalton said in an email that the draft letter was not sent, but she declined several requests for comment.

Critics argue that the plan should be put up for a vote by delegates, but it reflects existing policies. It was developed by AMA executives and staff based in part on measures adopted at previous policymaking meetings. That includes a declaration last November that racism is a public health threat.

Harmon's effort to knock down stereotypes includes reflecting on his own experiences. He described a recent encounter at a South Carolina hospital with an older Black man stricken with COVID-19 pneumonia. The man was getting better but was not very communicative and offered mostly one-word responses to questions.

The man's name was familiar, so Harmon sat down at the bedside and probed. "What kind of work did you do? 'Mechanic.' 'What kind?' 'Jet engines.'"

With an Air Force background, Harmon shared that he knew about jet engines, and the patient perked up. He had worked at a NASA research center in Virginia where Harmon had once been assigned.

"He was literally a rocket scientist," Harmon said.

Harmon acknowledged the racial stereotype behind his initial impression. He said that's the kind of thinking that the AMA wants to confront. But he also noted that he took time to learn more about the patient and to find common ground — something Black patients say white doctors often don't do.

U.S. physicians, including AMA members, are overwhelmingly white. With roughly 270,000 members, the AMA represents just over a quarter of the nation's doctors.

One measure at this week's meeting would have the group create guidelines to help hospitals, academic medical centers and doctors' offices create and prominently display anti-racist policies that clearly define racist behavior and "microaggressions." Those are sometimes subtle behaviors and actions that can be as damaging as overt racism and bias, including assuming Black patients aren't educated or that women doctors are cleaning staff.

Amid strong evidence that patients fare best when treated by physicians who look like them, another measure asks the AMA to bolster efforts to create a more diverse physician workforce. That would include advocating for programs to encourage interest in medical careers among high school and college students of different races, ethnicities, genders and sexual orientation.

Other proposals on the meeting agenda ask the AMA to promote policies that don't penalize medical students and doctors for wearing natural hairstyles or cultural headwear, and policies against criminalizing transgender treatments.

Voting is scheduled for Monday through Wednesday. Harmon begins his one-year term as president on Tuesday.

The plan comes at a time of racial reckoning and as Black physicians increasingly speak out against racism.

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Dr. Stella Safo, an HIV specialist in New York City, said she never thought the AMA represented people like her — a Black woman whose parents hail from Ghana — until the health equity plan emerged. She organized a letter-writing campaign among doctors to urge AMA leadership to resist pressure against the plan.

“What they do matters for everyone,” Safo said. “We’re all watching. I hope they don’t back down.”

## Today in History

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Sunday, June 13, the 164th day of 2021. There are 201 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 13, 1966, the Supreme Court ruled in *Miranda v. Arizona* that criminal suspects had to be informed of their constitutional right to consult with an attorney and to remain silent.

On this date:

In 1842, Queen Victoria became the first British monarch to ride on a train, traveling from Slough (slow as in cow) Railway Station to Paddington in 25 minutes.

In 1911, the ballet “*Petrushka*,” with music by Igor Stravinsky and choreography by Michel Fokine, was first performed in Paris by the Ballets Russes, with Vaslav Nijinsky in the title role.

In 1927, aviation hero Charles Lindbergh was honored with a ticker-tape parade in New York City.

In 1942, a four-man Nazi sabotage team arrived on Long Island, New York, three days before a second four-man team landed in Florida. (All eight men were arrested after two members of the first group defected.) President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the Office of Strategic Services and the Office of War Information.

In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated Solicitor-General Thurgood Marshall to become the first Black justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1971, The New York Times began publishing excerpts of the Pentagon Papers, a secret study of America's involvement in Vietnam from 1945 to 1967 that had been leaked to the paper by military analyst Daniel Ellsberg.

In 1977, James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., was recaptured following his escape three days earlier from a Tennessee prison.

In 1983, the U.S. space probe Pioneer 10, launched in 1972, became the first spacecraft to leave the solar system as it crossed the orbit of Neptune.

In 1992, Democratic presidential candidate Bill Clinton stirred controversy during an appearance before the Rainbow Coalition by criticizing rap singer Sister Souljah for making remarks that he said were “filled with hatred” toward whites.

In 1996, the 81-day-old Freemen standoff ended as 16 remaining members of the anti-government group surrendered to the FBI and left their Montana ranch.

In 1997, a jury voted unanimously to give Timothy McVeigh the death penalty for his role in the Oklahoma City bombing. The Chicago Bulls captured their fifth NBA championship in seven years with a 90-to-86 victory over the Utah Jazz in game six.

In 2005, a jury in Santa Maria, California, acquitted Michael Jackson of molesting a 13-year-old cancer survivor at his Neverland ranch. The Supreme Court warned prosecutors to use care in striking minorities from juries, siding with Black murder defendants in Texas and California who contended their juries had been unfairly stacked with whites.

Ten years ago: Facing off in New Hampshire, Republican White House hopefuls condemned President Barack Obama's handling of the economy from the opening moments of their first major debate of the 2011-2012 campaign season, and pledged emphatically to repeal his historic year-old health care overhaul.

Five years ago: A day after the Orlando, Florida, nightclub shooting rampage that claimed 49 victims, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton offered drastically different proposals for stemming the threat of ter-



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rorism and gun violence; Trump focused heavily on the nation's immigration system (even though the shooter was U.S. born) and redoubled his call for temporarily banning Muslims from the United States, while Clinton said that as president she would prioritize stopping "lone wolf" attackers and reiterated her call for banning assault weapons.

One year ago: Atlanta's police chief resigned, hours after the fatal police shooting of Rayshard Brooks; protests over the shooting grew turbulent, and the Wendy's restaurant at the scene of the shooting was gutted by flames. As the nation continued to grapple with its racial past, President Donald Trump urged West Point's graduating class to "never forget" the legacy of soldiers before them who fought to "extinguish the evil of slavery"; the remarks came as Trump's relationship with the military was strained over the response to protests after the death of George Floyd. Bar owners in New Orleans began admitting customers for the first time in months, with capacity limited to 25 percent and live music still prohibited. Drugmaker AstraZeneca struck a deal to supply up to 400 million doses of an experimental COVID-19 vaccine to European Union countries.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Bob McGrath is 89. Actor Malcolm McDowell is 78. Former U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is 77. Singer Dennis Locorriere is 72. Actor Richard Thomas is 70. Actor Jonathan Hogan is 70. Actor Stellan Skarsgard is 70. Comedian Tim Allen is 68. North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper is 64. Actor Ally Sheedy is 59. TV anchor Hannah Storm is 59. Rock musician Paul DeLisle (deh-LYL') (Smash Mouth) is 58. Actor Lisa Vidal is 56. Singer David Gray is 53. R&B singer Deniece Pearson (Five Star) is 53. Rock musician Soren Rasted (Aqua) is 52. Actor Jamie Walters is 52. Singer-musician Rivers Cuomo (Weezer) is 51. Country singer Susan Haynes is 49. Actor Steve-O is 47. Country singer Jason Michael Carroll is 43. Actor Ethan Embry is 43. Actor Chris Evans is 40. Actor Sarah Schaub is 38. Singer Raz B is 36. Actor Kat Dennings is 35. Actor Ashley Olsen is 35. Actor Mary-Kate Olsen is 35. DJ/producer Gesaffelstein is 34. Actor Aaron Johnson is 31.