

# Groton Daily Independent

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June 19 - FATHER'S DAY

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m., SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.

Amateur game at Redfield has been cancelled

June 20 - JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY

Senior Menu: Goulash, green beans, apple crisp, whole wheat bread.

1 p.m.: Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center

Ladies Invitational Golf Tourney at Olive Grove

5:30 p.m.: Legion at Northville, 1 game

7 p.m.: Jr. Legion at Northville, 1 game

5:30 p.m.: U12 hosts Britton, Nelson Field, DH

5:30 p.m.: U10 at Britton, DH (B/W)

5:30 p.m.: U8 at Britton, DH (R/W)

6 p.m.: U8 SB hosts Doland, 1 game

7 p.m.: U10 SB hosts Doland, 1 game

5 p.m.: T-Ball Gold hosts Doland

June 21

Elementary Library Open 9-11 (Reading time 10 a.m.)

Senior Menu: Hot Turkey combination, mashed potatoes with gravy, 7-layer salad, apple sauce, cookie.

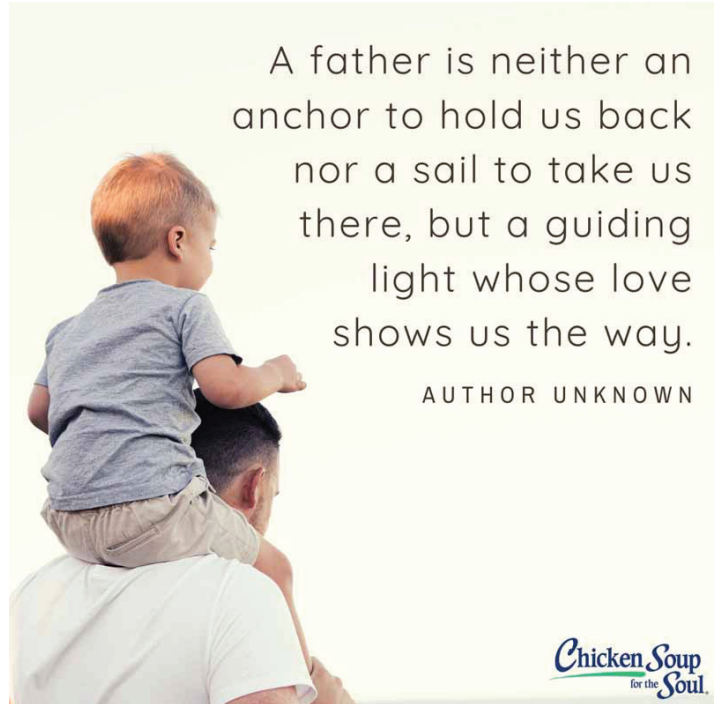
5:30 p.m.: U12 vs. Jacobson in Aberdeen, north complex, DH

**Groton Daily Independent**  
**PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445**  
**Paul's Cell/Text: 605-397-7460**

**OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton**  
The recycling trailer is located west of the city shop. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

A father is neither an anchor to hold us back nor a sail to take us there, but a guiding light whose love shows us the way.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN



Chicken Soup  
for the Soul

5:30 p.m.: U10 hosts Flash, DH (R/B)

6 p.m.: U12 SB hosts Warner, DH

June 22

Senior Menu: Ham, sweet potatoes, peas, acini depepi fruit salad, whole wheat bread

5:30 p.m.: Jr. Teeners at Britton, DH

10 a.m.: Little Free Library reading time (south Methodist Church)

5:30 p.m.: U10 hosts Hannigan, DH (R/W)

5:30 p.m.: U8 hosts Hannigan, DH (B/W)

June 23

Senior Menu: Honey glazed chicken, parsley buttered potatoes, mixed vegetables, ambrosia salad, whole wheat bread.

10 a.m.: Reading Time at Wage Memorial Library

5:00 p.m.: Legion hosts Lake Norden, 1 game

7 p.m.: Jr. Legion hosts Lake Norden, 1 game

5:30 p.m.: Jr. Teeners at Warner, DH

7:30 p.m.: U12 at Doland, 1 game

6:30 p.m.: U10 at Doland, 1 game (R/W)

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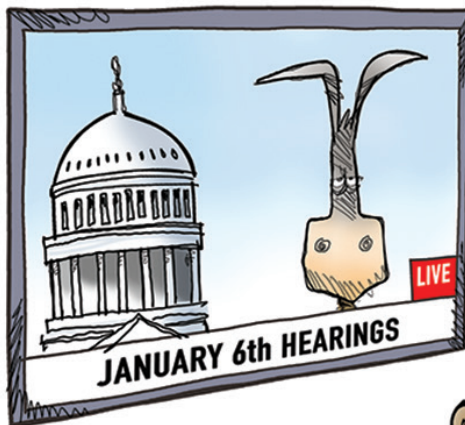
## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



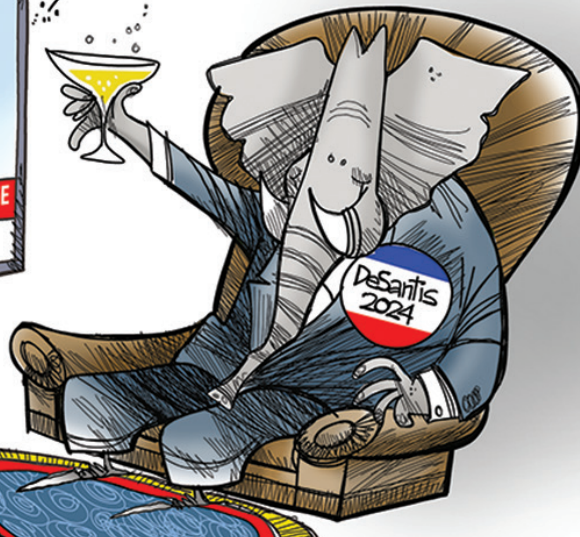
*Do not wear yourself out to get rich;  
do not trust your own cleverness.  
Cast but a glance at riches,  
and they are gone, for they will  
surely sprout wings and fly off  
to the sky like an eagle.*

Proverbs 23: 4, 5

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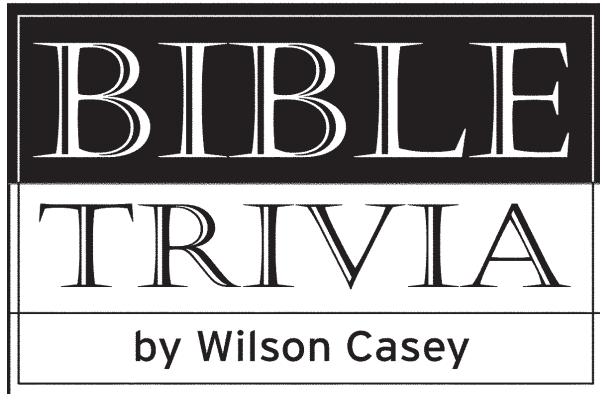


THIS IS JUST THE FIRST  
STEP TO BAR TRUMP  
FROM RUNNING FOR PUBLIC  
OFFICE EVER AGAIN!



KIRK

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email: Waltersnkirk54@gmail.com



by Healthy Exchanges  
**Summer Peach Salad**

1. Is the book of Syria in the Old Testament, New Testament or neither?
2. Which Psalm sets man's normal lifespan of threescore and ten? *1, 17, 23, 90*
3. From Genesis 7, how many years did Noah live after the flood? *1, 50, 100, 350*
4. How many books of the Bible (KJV) begin with the letter "H"? *0, 2, 4, 6*
5. What does the shield represent in the "armor of God"? *Courage, Faith, Gallows, Doves*
6. In John 6:35, Jesus said, "I am the ... of life."? *Light, Wine, Giver, Bread*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) 90:10; 3) 350; 4) 4 (Hosea, Habakkuk, Haggai, Hebrews); 5) Faith; 6) Bread

*Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscriber site at [www.patreon.com/triviaguy](http://www.patreon.com/triviaguy).*

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Nothing says summer quite like a juicy fresh peach! Stir that peach into a delectable creamy salad, and you're speaking heavenly wonders. Serve this to family or friends and just wait to hear the compliments for the cook!

- 3 cups (3 medium-sized) peeled and chopped fresh peaches
- 1 tablespoon diet lemon-lime soda
- 1 (4-serving) package sugar-free lemon gelatin
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 cup reduced-calorie whipped topping
- 1 cup seedless green grapes, halved

1. Place 1 cup of sliced peaches and soda in a blender container. Cover and process on CHOP for 30 seconds or until smooth. In a large bowl, combine dry gelatin and boiling water. Mix well to dissolve gelatin. Stir in blended peaches. Refrigerate for at least 15 minutes.

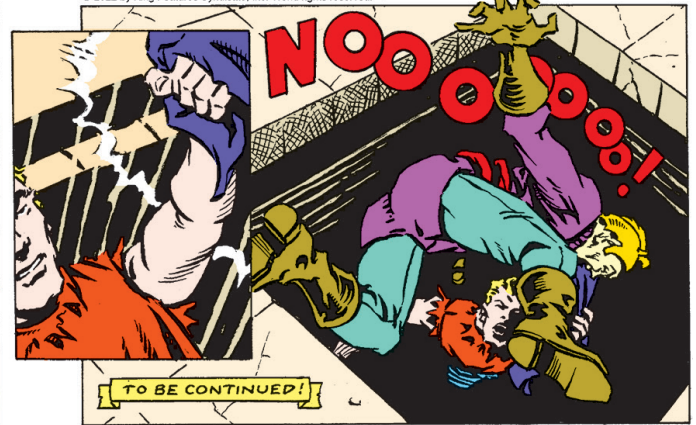
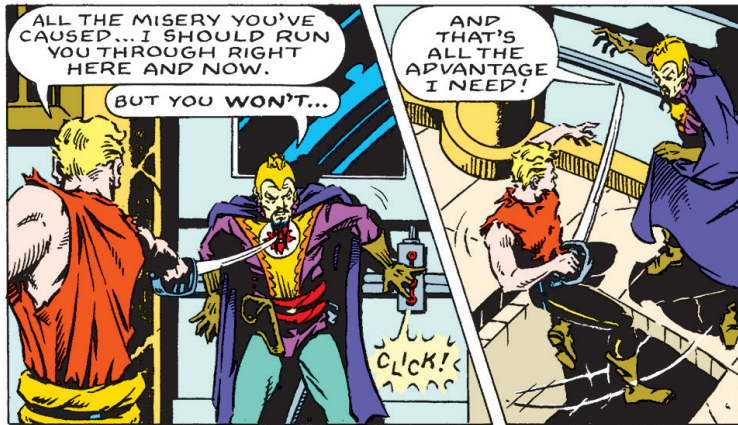
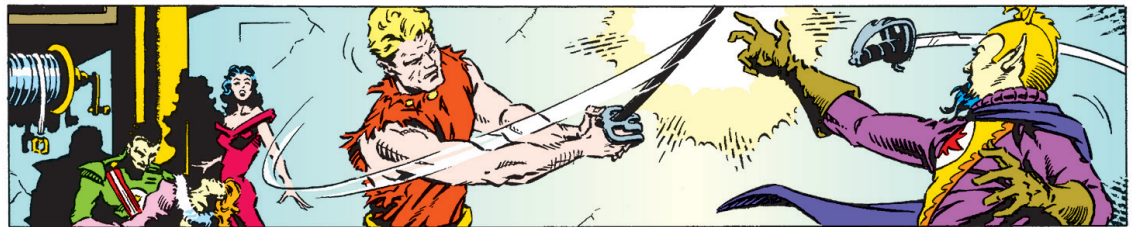
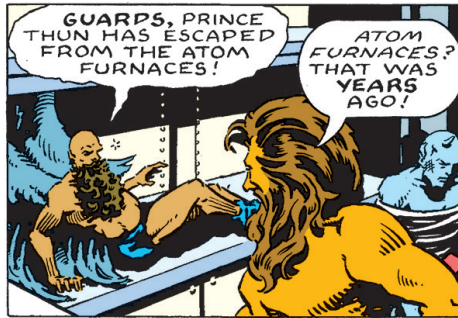
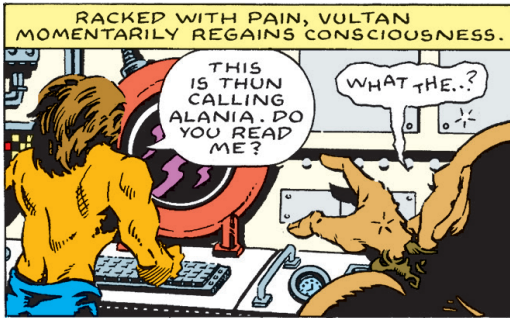
2. Fold in whipped topping. Add remaining 2 cups chopped peaches and grape halves. Mix gently just to combine. Pour mixture into an 8-by-8-inch dish. Refrigerate until firm, about 3 hours. Cut into 8 servings.

\* Each serving equals: 61 calories, 1g fat, 1g protein, 12g carb., 3mg sodium, 1g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Fruit.

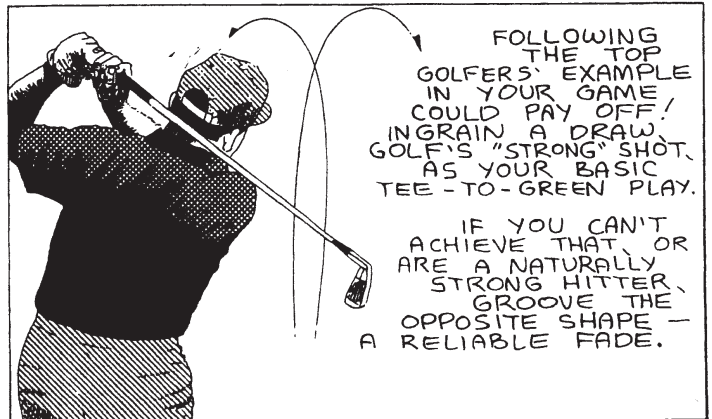
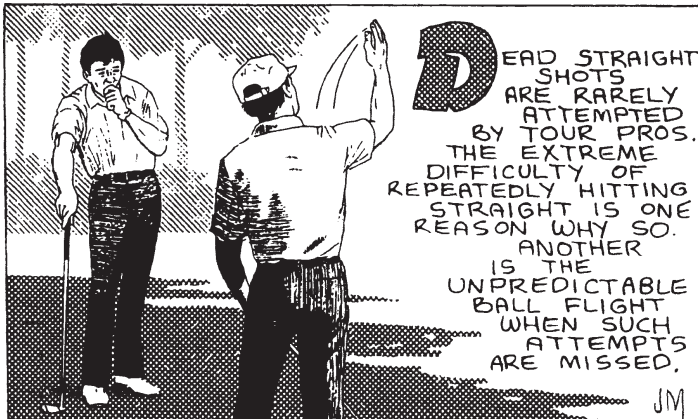
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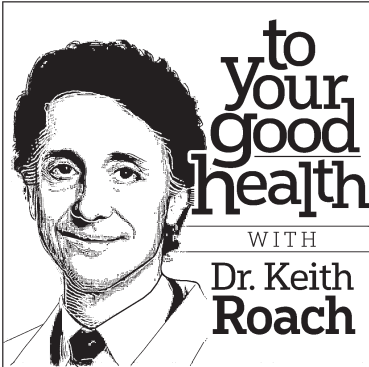
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## Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



## Chest CT Can't Replace Screening Mammogram



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DEAR DR. ROACH: I am due to have a mammogram in July, but around the same time I am supposed to have a chest CT as a follow-up to my chondrosarcoma cancer. I have a CT every other year, and an X-ray on the opposite years of both my affected arm and my lungs. Does a chest CT have the potential of showing a similar finding as a mammogram? I would just as soon not have to expose myself to so much radiation all in one month. I'm 66. There is a history of postmenopausal breast cancer in my family, in my mother's mother. -- T.M.H.

ANSWER: A mammogram is an X-ray that is designed specifically to look for abnormalities in breast tissue. Mammograms have been extensively studied and proven to reduce mortality in women between the ages of 50-74 (outside these ages, there remains extreme controversy).

CT scans are X-rays taken from many angles and then reconstructed in a computer to provide a look at many slices of the part of the body being looked at. A CT scanner can be set to emphasize bones or soft tissue, and work is ongoing now with CT scans designed specifically for breast abnormalities. The CT scan you get as follow-up to your chondrosarcoma (a rare cancer of cartilage) is designed to look in lung tissue for abnormalities and has not been evaluated as a means of screening for breast cancer, although I do know that some may be found anecdotally.

The CT scans you get as a part of your cancer follow-up are not an adequate substitute for ongoing mammography, which is particularly important in your case due to a family history. I do understand the concern about radiation, but a mammogram has very little radiation -- approximately the same you would get from naturally occurring radiation sources in seven weeks of walking around.

\*\*\*

DEAR DR. ROACH: I read a news report that vasectomy increases risk of prostate cancer. Should men avoid this procedure due to concern for prostate cancer? -- T.S.V.

ANSWER: Several studies have looked at this possibility, and the results are conflicting. A 2014 study of about 50,000 U.S. men showed an increase of about 15% in the risk of fatal prostate cancer, but a 2016 study of 360,000 U.S. men showed no increase in risk. In June 2019, a study of over 2 million Danish men showed a 15% increase in overall prostate cancer risk. To put the risk in perspective, about 500 men would need to have a vasectomy for one additional man to get prostate cancer, in the Danish study. It is not clear that the vasectomy caused the prostate cancer.

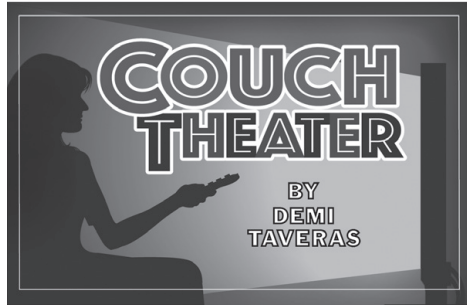
It is possible that there is something about men who choose vasectomy that puts them at higher risk to begin with; however, the authors were unable to find a known risk factor to support that possibility.

Even if vasectomy does lead to an increased risk of prostate cancer, it still has similar or lower overall risk than other forms of birth control, and is a good choice for a man who is absolutely sure he does not want to father any more children, as a vasectomy should be considered permanent. Attempting reversal is possible, but there is no guarantee of success.

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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**Keanu Reeves in "The Matrix Resurrections"**

Photo HBO Max

"The Matrix Resurrections" (R) -- The fourth installment of "The Matrix" film franchise is available once again on streaming for those who missed its original premiere in December. "Resurrections" takes place 60 years after the last film, following the beloved duo of Neo (Keanu Reeves) and Trinity (Carrie-Anne Moss), whose memories, since their resurrections, have been suppressed. Outside of the Matrix, Bugs, captain of a hovercraft called the Mnemosyne, recognizes Neo in his suppressed form and is able to extract him from the Matrix's grip, awakening his true memories and identity. Now, with the help of Bugs and her crew, Neo can help to free Trinity and once again overcome the mind-bending Matrix. Overall, this installment maintains the essence of the previous films while adding interesting new characters and plotlines, but it also has a lot of lighthearted, comedic moments that, at times, feel quite Marvel-esque. (HBO Max)

"Eternals" (PG-13) -- Speaking of Marvel-esque! As the 26th film in the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), "Eternals" takes place in Phase Four of the MCU, after the Avengers succeeded in bringing back the missing half of the population that Thanos snapped away. Because of the population's return, the energy on Earth brought on an apocalyptic astronomical event called the emergence. The only ones with knowledge of it are 10 superheroes, the Eternals, who were brought to Earth in 5,000 B.C. to ensure that the emergence happens. After so many years on Earth that fostered a great love for humankind, the Eternals as a team now face great inner conflict about doing what's right versus doing what they were told. Hopefully, they'll prevail in time to save our planet! (Disney+)

"Windfall" (R) -- This Netflix thriller features a cast of three characters who are never named, just described by their general roles: CEO, Wife and Nobody. Easy enough. CEO and Wife enter their vacation home and quickly discover a robber (Nobody), who holds CEO and Wife hostage until he receives \$500,000 in cash. A battle of mind games between the three characters commences, until it's impossible to guess who will actually make it out alive. Director Charlie McDowell's witty trio includes his own wife, Lily Collins, as well as actors Jason Segel (Nobody) and Jesse Plemons (CEO). (Netflix)

"Good Luck to You, Leo Grande" (R) -- Nancy Stokes (Emma Thompson) is a middle-aged widow who finally feels ready to take the leap and kickstart her love life, so she decides to hire a young sex worker named Leo Grande (Daryl McCormack) to assist her. Nancy makes it clear to Leo beforehand that her late husband didn't really take her pleasure into account during their marriage, so this is the time for her to ... take advantage and figure herself out. Described as a comedy-drama, this sex-positive film is a bit of an eccentric watch, but Thompson and McCormack are both so charming that you can't go wrong. Now streaming on Hulu.

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## FLASH BACK POP, ROCK & SOUL TRIVIA BY MICK HARPER

1. Which artist was the first to release "Turn on Your Love Light"?
2. Who wrote and released "Come Softly to Me"?
3. Why did John Mellencamp briefly change his last name to Cougar?
4. Which group started as Chubby and the Turnpikes?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "I'll never let you see the way my broken heart is hurting me, I've got my pride and I know how to hide, all the sorrow and pain."

### Answers

1. Bobby "Blue" Bland, in 1961. His version was followed by covers from Van Morrison and the Grateful Dead.
2. The Fleetwoods, in 1959. Legend says the song was recorded at home, with no musical accompaniment except the jingling of car keys. Instruments were added later in the studio. (Listen: You can hear the car keys.)
3. "Cougar" was pushed on him by a promoter who said the German sounding "Mellencamp" would be a hard sell.
4. Tavares.
5. "Crying in the Rain," by the Everly Brothers, in 1962. Astonishingly enough, the song only made it to No. 6 on the U.S. charts. Numerous others released covers over the years, including Peter and Gordon, Art Garfunkel and Slade. The only place it ever topped the chart was Norway.

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## Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



## GRIN and BEAR IT Wagner

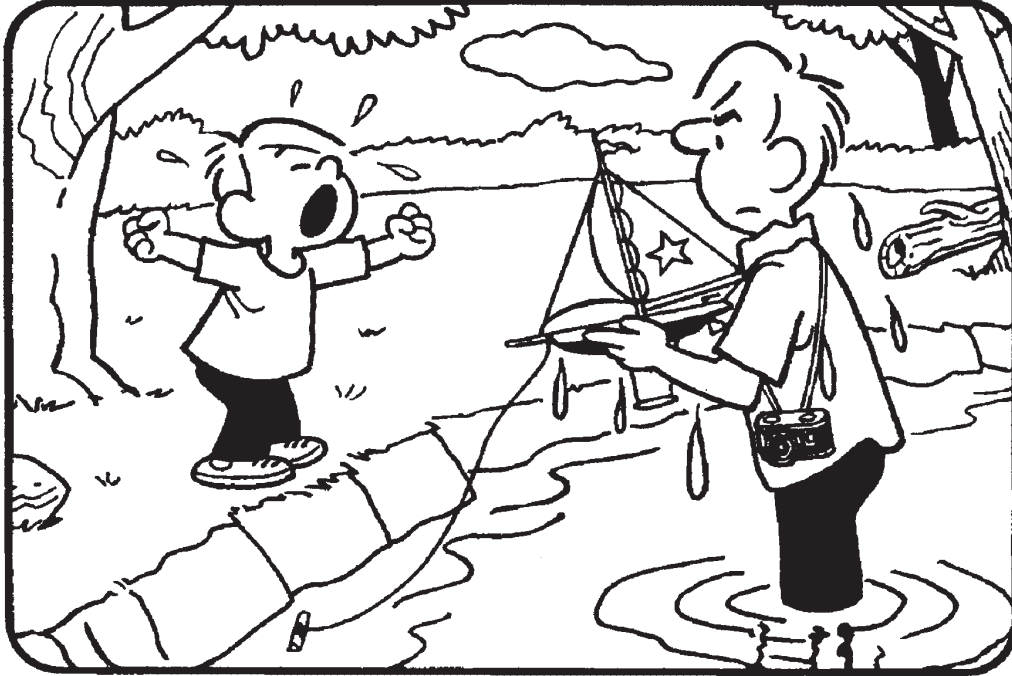


"Fortunately, it was only money."

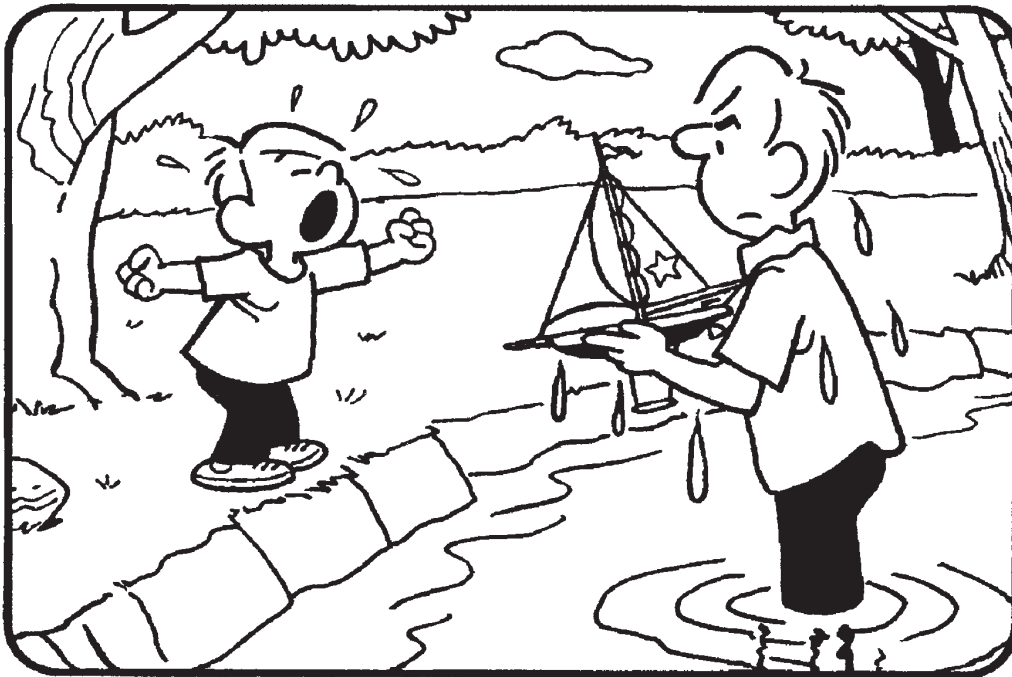
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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is moved. 2. Boat string is missing. 3. Cloud is different. 4. Sail is different. 5. Camera is missing. 6. Log is missing.



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\* Keep your crisper drawer clean by lining with fresh newspaper. It will absorb smells and liquid, and can be easily replaced.

\* If it's garage sale time, try this trick: Wrap a picture frame tightly with tulle. Then you can hang earrings from the tulle. Maybe someone will think it's so cute that you'll sell the frame, too!

\* When your cut-up fruit is about to expire and you don't think you'll be able to eat it in time, just freeze it for smoothies. Lay it out in a single layer and pop it in the freezer. When it's frozen, you can put it in a zipper-top baggie for easy storage.

\* "Do you have a lot of coffee mugs? Maybe it's time to show them off! My granny has so many coffee

mugs from trips and that she got as gifts. My daddy put up five long shelves on one wall of her kitchen. They are the perfect place to line up and display all the mugs, and each one has a story, which is fun to hear." -- F.E. in North Carolina

\* "I have three girls and one bathroom, so there's no way anyone gets 'ready' in front of the bathroom mirror. Instead, all the girls have a hanging shoe rack on the back of their door for makeup and hair supplies, and a mirror on the wall." -- P.W. in Oregon

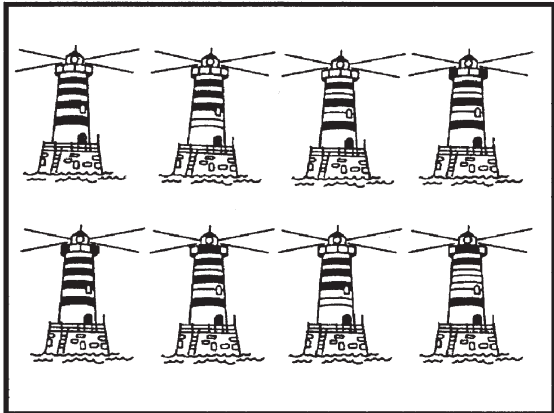
\* Stubborn stains in the toilet? Try dropping in a few denture tablets before going to bed, then scrub and flush in the morning

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

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**ON THE BEAM!** Two of these eight lighthouses appear to be twins. Which two is for you to decide by studying details.

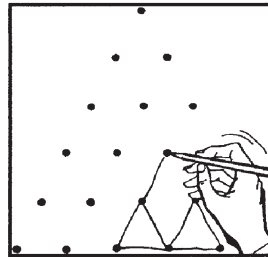
**HUE DUNIT!** Find a hidden color among letters of each sentence: 1. His store dropped prices. 2. We will vote the B row next. 3. Sometimes the mayor angers pals. 4. Cola venders vie for trade.

1. Red. 2. Brown. 3. Orange. 4. Lavender.

**BOXING MATCH!** There is a classic game called Boxes in which two or more opponents connect adjacent dots with lines to see who can complete the most squares. Here is a variation involving triangles (see right).

Object is to see who can complete (and initial) the most triangles of varying sizes. Set your own point score rules.

Larger dot frameworks result in longer games, match. Flip a coin to see who goes first.



## Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman



### SUM MEASURING-UP OVER PENTAGON

"AT WHAT angle do you figure sides of a pentagon meet?" asked helicopter pilot Bill.

"Well, a pentagon is a five-sided polygon," replied co-pilot Joe. "A 'regular' pentagon has equal angles and equal sides. Sum of the interior angles is the number of sides minus two, times two right angles. Divide by five and you have the individual angle."

"Hey, how about translating that into numbers," laughed Bill. "What is the angle of a side?"

Question: What angle of a 'regular' pentagon's side did co-pilot Joe describe?

How quickly can you answer?

One hundred and eight degrees. (5 sides minus 2 equals 3; 3 times 180 equals 540; 540 divided by 5 is 108.)

## TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



BUD BLAKE

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## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 "Dream on!"
- 5 Clothing protector
- 8 Greet
- 12 Well-read folks
- 14 Celestial bear
- 15 Beatles drummer before Ringo Starr
- 16 Algeria's neighbor
- 17 Occupation, for short
- 18 Straw hat
- 20 Young horses
- 23 Printer's blue
- 24 New York canal
- 25 Talkers' marathon
- 28 Bankroll
- 29 North African capital
- 30 Josh
- 32 Doctor's order
- 34 Trellis climber
- 35 Missing
- 36 Mature, as fruit
- 37 Small porches
- 40 Spelldown
- 41 Ms. Brockovich
- 42 Oater setting
- 47 "— Lang Syne"
- 48 Pokey

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			

- 49 Disarray
- 50 Toronto's prov.
- 51 Artist Bonheur
- 9 "I smell —!"
- 10 Cruise stop
- 11 Hideaway
- 13 Baseball stats
- 19 Lummoxes
- 20 Hardly any
- 21 Verbal
- 22 Opera set in Egypt
- 23 Is able to, old-style
- 25 "Recognize my voice?"
- 26 Omit
- 27 Fork prong
- 29 Sporty car roof
- 31 Lion's home
- 33 Light-headed folks?
- 34 TV audience member
- 36 Some wines
- 37 Line of fashion?
- 38 Verifiable
- 39 Monet's supply
- 40 Inky stain
- 43 Charged bit
- 44 Id counterpart
- 45 "Mayday!"
- 46 Former Delta rival

### DOWN

- 1 Swiss peak
- 2 "Sprechen — Deutsch?"
- 3 Addams cousin
- 4 Weak
- 5 Folk singer Joan
- 6 TGIF part
- 7 Gradually
- 8 Compassionate

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## — King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

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

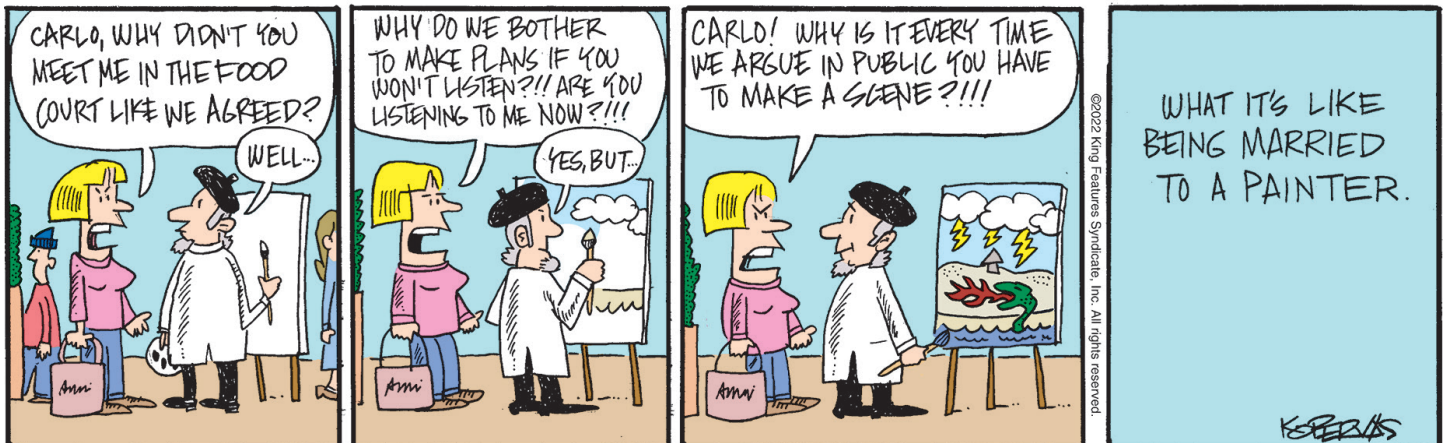
## LAFF - A - DAY



"I couldn't possibly have been speeding, officer — I'm on my way to see the DENTIST!"

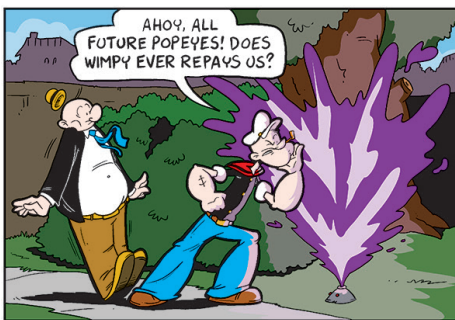
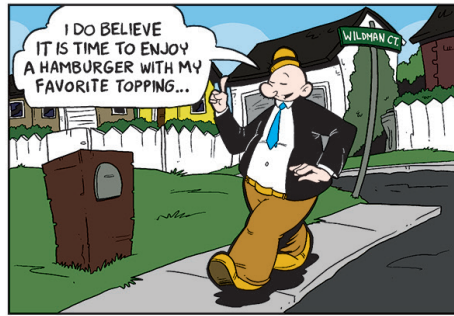
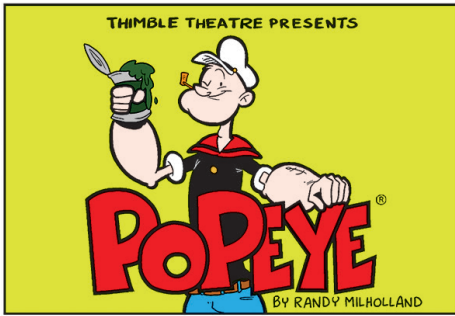
## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



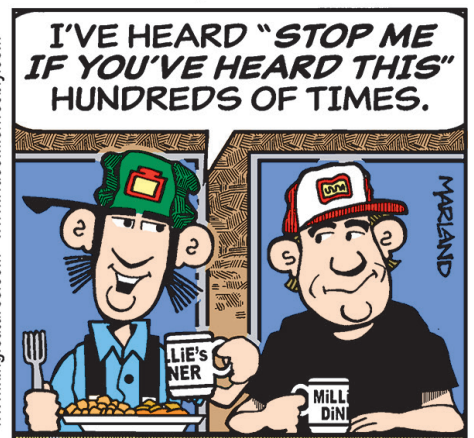
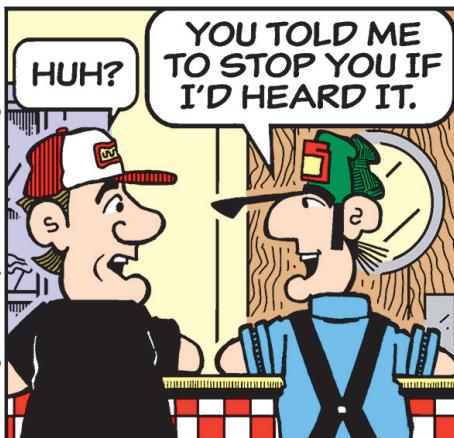
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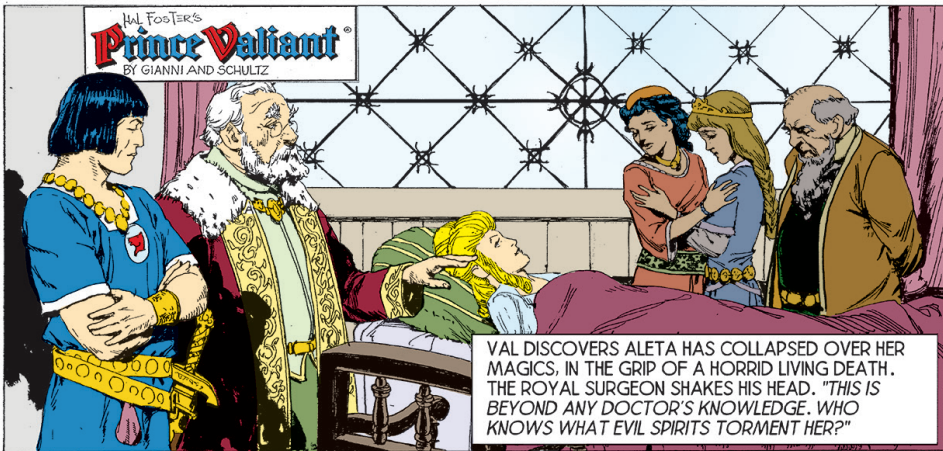
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



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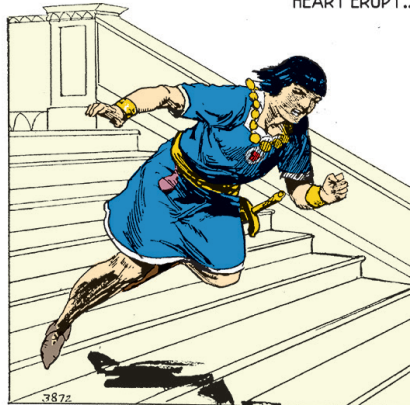
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RELENTLESSLY, HE SEARCHES CAMELOT'S HALLS UNTIL HE FINDS THAT HATED INDIVIDUAL.



ONLY THEN DOES THE MURDER IN HIS HEART ERUPT...

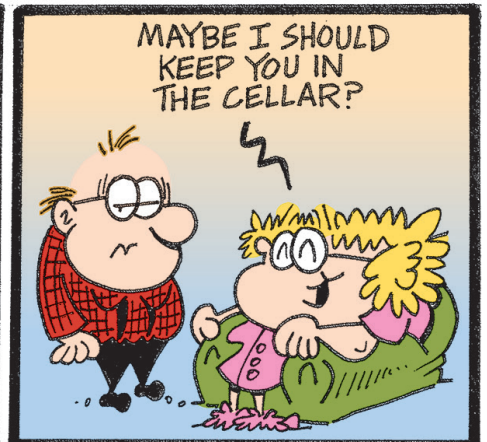
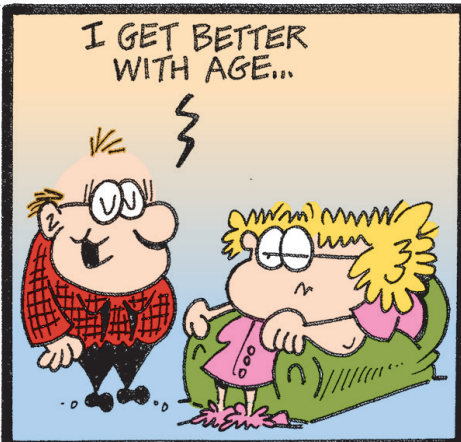


... AND HE LEAPS LIKE A TIGER, CLAMPING POWERFUL FINGERS OVER THE THROAT OF SIR DRACO!



## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



## SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

### Here's How I Saved on Prescription Drugs

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The price of prescription drugs has, like everything else, inched up. In some cases, the cost has made a massive, sudden jump, and it comes as a shock when you check out at the pharmacy. But there are ways around this horrible surprise.

I recently discovered a way to save a lot of money (\$80 on a 90-day prescription) by doing two things: I changed pharmacies, and I started using GoodRx. Here's how:

Go to the GoodRx website ([goodrx.com](http://goodrx.com)) and put in your ZIP code so that all the local pharmacies show up. Enter the name of the drug you take, as well as the dose and number of pills. See what each pharmacy charges using GoodRx. They will vary widely.

Boy, did I get a shock. It took me all of two minutes to call a new pharmacy and ask them to have the prescription transferred.

Then I printed out the GoodRx coupon showing the pharmacy name, the drug and dose, the price and so on. I took that to the pharmacy and voila! Eighty dollars saved.

Here are a few other ideas if GoodRx isn't going to work for you:

- Ask your doctor if a generic would be just as good, or if another drug would work just as well.
- Find out if you qualify for the Extra Help program to pay for your drugs by calling Social Security at 1-800-772-1213, or read the information at [www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10508.pdf](http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10508.pdf).
- See if you qualify for the Pharmaceutical Assistance Program. ([www.medicare.gov/plan-compare/#/pharmaceutical-assistance-program](http://www.medicare.gov/plan-compare/#/pharmaceutical-assistance-program))
- Get a different Medicare drug plan more in line with the drugs you take ([www.medicare.gov/plan-compare](http://www.medicare.gov/plan-compare)).

One note: You can't use GoodRx along with a deductible from Medicare or Medicaid, but you can use it instead of those. Beware whether you'll reach your annual deductible if you don't use a Medicare drug plan or if you're in the doughnut hole (cover gap) already.

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1. Name the driver for Team Penske who won IndyCar Series season championships in 2017 and '19.

2. Who compiled a 3-10 record with the 1976 New York Jets in his only season as an NFL head coach?

3. On Sept. 14, 2008, Chicago Cubs pitcher Carlos Zambrano threw a no-hitter in Milwaukee's Miller Park against what team? (Hint: It wasn't the Brewers.)

4. What American snowboarder won Olympic gold medals in the women's halfpipe event at the 2018 PyeongChang and 2022 Beijing Winter Games?

5. Massachusetts hunters Charles Davis and William Foster are credited with developing what shooting sport in the 1920s?

6. On June 4, 1974, what promotion resulted in riots in the ninth inning and a forfeiture for Cleveland's Major League Baseball team?

7. Name the Basketball Hall of Famer who was selected first overall by the Houston Rockets in the 1983 NBA Draft and was named NBA Rookie of the Year in 1984.



by Ryan A. Berenz

## Answers

1. Josef Newgarden.

2. Lou Holtz.

3. The Houston Astros, who were relocated due to Hurricane Ike.

4. Chloe Kim.

5. Skeet shooting.

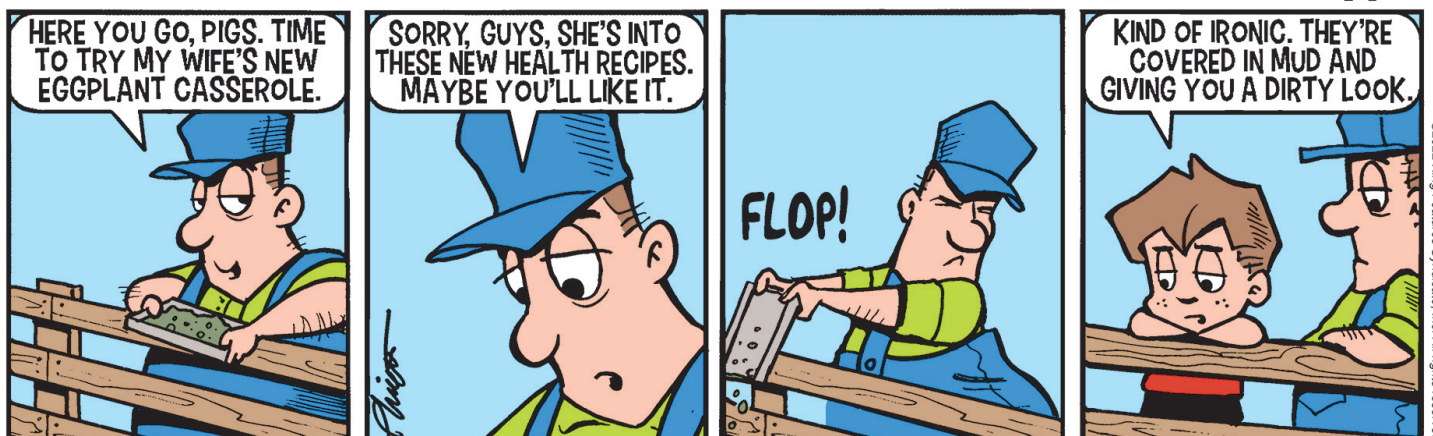
6. Ten Cent Beer Night.

7. Ralph Sampson.

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## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps







## Fourth of July Fireworks Can Traumatize Pets

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DEAR PAW'S CORNER: Please remind your readers that the noise and flash of fireworks can traumatize pets! Last year, my son and his partner took their dog "Bliss" to a Fourth of July festival. Someone set off a string of firecrackers a few feet from the booth they were visiting. Bliss bolted and pulled her leash out of my son's hand. She ran straight out into the road. Luckily, the cars all stopped, and one of the drivers caught her. Afterward she remained very anxious. Bliss now takes medication to stay calm, and it's difficult to take her to unfamiliar places. Please urge people not to set off fireworks; go to a professional display and leave the pets at home.

-- Judith in Lake City, Florida

DEAR JUDITH: You told them, and I thank you! I'm very sorry to hear that Bliss was traumatized, and I hope your son is able, through medication and training, to improve her confidence.

Bliss' parents didn't do anything wrong in taking her to the festival, but their experience shows how others' irresponsibility can have consequences for pets, and that owners have to be alert and ready to handle potential problems.

The Fourth of July can be a trying day for pets. Crowded parties and loud fireworks can really stress them out. Large fireworks displays are no different than big thunderstorms to most pets, and should be treated as such.

If fireworks will be within earshot of your home this holiday, prepare a safe area for your pet to shelter where the noise will not bother it as badly. If a ThunderShirt works for your dog (or cat), use it. Don't bring pets to fireworks displays, and if you're setting off backyard fireworks, put your pets inside.

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

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## Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

\* Bugs Bunny's relaxed manner of eating carrots was inspired by a scene from the movie "It Happened One Night," in which Clark Gable crunches on the vegetable while chatting with Claudette Colbert.

\* Caligynophobia, also known as Venustraphobia, is the fear of beautiful women.

\* Pale skin was such a big fad in the 1700s that some French women even drew over their veins in blue pencil to accentuate their ethereal look.

\* The first guidebook for Stonehenge, published

in 1823, claimed the formation was one of the few ancient structures that survived the Old Testament flood.

\* On average, less than 18 minutes of a baseball game is actual action.

\* While many people are attracted by the promise of greener pastures, more than 100,000 are ready for those of a redder hue -- they've applied for a one-way trip to Mars as part of The Mars One project.

\* Vampire squid, which live in Monterey Bay, get their name not from drinking blood (they live on plankton), but their intelligence: They've been known to create complex geometrical patterns on the ocean floor.

\* The New York City Ballet has an annual shoe budget of \$780,000! Dancers go through 500-800 pairs of pointe shoes just while performing "The Nutcracker" over a period of six weeks, and use even more pairs in two weeks performing "Swan Lake."

\* Singer Billie Holiday babysat actor/comedian Billy Crystal, even taking him to his first movie.

\* Researchers at California State University discovered that the self-control needed to suppress the urge to urinate can produce a more convincing liar, something known as the inhibitory spillover effect.

\*\*\*

Thought for the Day: "The compact between writing and walking is almost as old as literature -- a walk is only a step away from a story, and every path tells." -- Robert Macfarlane

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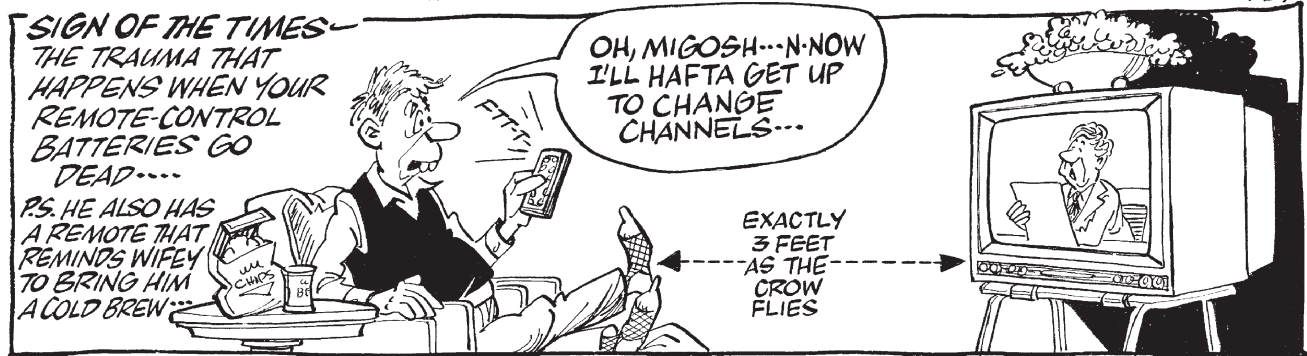
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## THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

GENERATION GAP-  
ATTIRE, THAT IS...



## BY AL SCADUTO



## Summer solstice

In the Northern Hemisphere, summer solstice is too late to plant many vegetables; harvest is just around the corner for tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, and melons. Spring-planted annuals are blooming and perennials are coming into their own. However, some vegetables are at their best when harvested in fall. Depending on your climate, you may still be able to plant swiss chard, turnips, collards, radishes, arugula and spinach where they get morning sunlight but are protected from intense afternoon sun. - Brenda Weaver

Sources: [www.almanac.com](http://www.almanac.com), [www.gardeningknowhow.com](http://www.gardeningknowhow.com)

## Step Up to Help Your Fellow Vets



by Freddy Groves

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What are you doing this summer? If you have spare hours or days, consider stepping up to help your fellow veterans. Stand Downs are a good place to start.

Stand Downs were started in California in 1988 by two veterans who saw the great need for services to homeless veterans. Over the years, the number of events and the veterans served has grown to include help from government agencies, veteran service organizations, groups and individual volunteers all across the county. The need is so great that many locations see hundreds of veterans lined up outside the door before they even open on the first day.

The list of help provided at each Stand Down can depend on the location and the length of the event (usually one to three days), but typically includes health screenings, clothing, showers and haircuts, food, legal advice, dental and eye-care services, mental health counseling, substance treatment referral, employment help, benefits counseling (both Department of Veterans Affairs and others, such as Social Security), housing referral and more.

The schedule of Stand Downs in 2022, whether you need services or want to help, can be seen at [www.va.gov/homeless/events.asp](http://www.va.gov/homeless/events.asp). Keep an eye on that page because new events can be added at any time. Another page to watch is the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans ([nchv.org/current-stand-downs](http://nchv.org/current-stand-downs)).

Or you can call your local VA medical facility and ask what's scheduled for your area. Best bet is to call them anyway and ask if the event is still planned due to COVID playing havoc with scheduling.

Ask about transportation, if you need it or can offer it. Sometimes an event will send a vehicle around to pick up veterans who have no other way to get to their local Stand Down.

If you're a veteran in crisis (either homeless or about to be) and can't wait for a Stand Down, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans: 1-877-424-3838.

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## Wishing Well®

6	4	6	8	4	7	5	8	6	5	2	5	6
Y	S	O	Y	E	V	L	O	U	I	N	F	W
5	8	6	3	5	8	6	7	5	3	2	4	5
E	U	I	A	I	A	L	I	S	N	O	C	E
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R	N	T	E	A	E	U	R	R	L	L	G	I
4	7	8	6	7	6	8	4	3	5	2	5	2
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7	5	4	3	6	5	8	3	8	4	5	3	4
I	H	T	L	A	E	D	I	A	Y	D	F	I
8	3	7	8	4	3	8	3	7	2	3	8	7
U	E	S	N	S	B	T	E	Y	N	G	E	O
8	3	4	6	4	7	4	7	3	7	4	3	4
D	I	Y	R	O	U	U	R	N	S	R	S	S

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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1. TELEVISION: Which TV show is set at UC-Sunnydale?
2. FOOD & DRINK: What is an affogato?
3. MOVIES: Which famous movie features a character named Almira Gulch?
4. HISTORY: Which U.S. state was the first to legalize marijuana for medicinal use?
5. ENTERTAINERS: What rapper/songwriter's real name is Calvin Cordozar Broadus Jr.?
6. SCIENCE: What part of the brain controls hunger?
7. GEOGRAPHY: The Gulf of Cadiz lies off the coasts of which two countries?
8. LITERATURE: Who are the best friends of Nancy Drew in the mystery series?
9. LANGUAGE: The archaic term "grippe" was used to describe what common ailment?
10. ASTRONOMY: What kind of star is the sun in our solar system?

### Answers

1. "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"
2. Italian dessert of coffee and ice cream
3. "The Wizard of Oz"
4. California, 1996
5. Snoop Dogg
6. Hypothalamus
7. Portugal and Spain
8. Bess and George
9. Influenza
10. Yellow dwarf

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## Pastor Yeadon installed at St. John's/Zion Lutheran Parish

by Dorene Nelson

On June 5, 2022, Pastor Jeremy Yeadon was installed as the new minister at St. John's Lutheran Church, Groton, and at Zion Lutheran Church, Andover. He and his family recently moved here from Indiana.

Pastor Yeadon, a second career pastor, worked for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and in various factory jobs before he decided to return to school. "These factory jobs taught me the value of hard work and what a hard-earned dollar means," Pastor admitted.

"When I returned to college, I had every intention of becoming an elementary school teacher," he explained. "This experience quickly taught me that those elementary teachers are truly saints! There was not enough money or medication to keep me in a room with small children for eight hours day!"

"This led to my new major as a history teacher," Yeadon smiled. "However, God wasn't done with me yet! A week before I graduated with my education degree in history, I felt a call, a pull, and ended up at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana!"

"To be honest about this sudden switch in my career path, I had actually thought about becoming a pastor when I was a kid," he stated. "I never acted on that calling until I was older and felt it more clearly."

"My first job as a Lutheran pastor was in Wabash, IN, where I served for six years," Pastor said. "Following that I was a minister at St. Peter's in Brownstown, IN, for the next 5 years, and, of course, now I'm here in Groton."

"I've been a pastor for eleven years and am looking forward to meeting the members of my two congregations as well as other local individuals," Yeadon said.

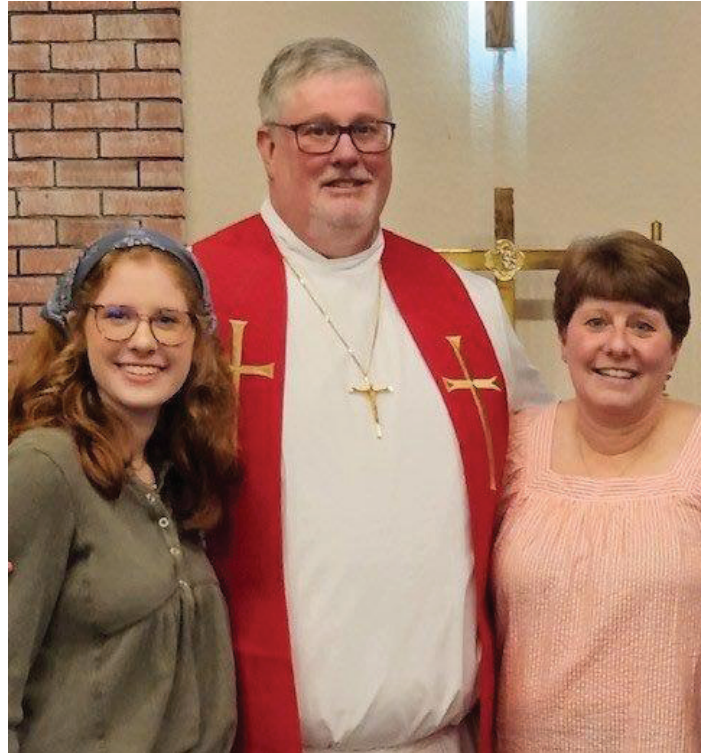
"Indiana is my home state with my extended family still living there," he explained. "In North Judson High School, I played many sports and also had the opportunity to coach my own children in various sports."

"We enjoy the outdoors, hunting, fishing, and relaxing around the campfire in the evenings," Yeadon listed. "We are looking forward to this new experience: small town living in South Dakota!"

"I am eager to discover all of the great pheasant hunting available close to my new home," he smiled. "I've received many inquires about the pheasant wrap on the tailgate of my pickup, but many people here were surprised to find out that I did pheasant hunting in Indiana too!"

"My wife Diane was the Human Life Enrichment Coordinator in a Lutheran Life Communities facility where one can start in senior living, advance to assisted living and on to complete nursing home care," Pastor listed.

Pastor and his wife Diane have two adult sons, Owen and Seth, and a teenage daughter Abby who will be a sophomore in Groton Area High School next fall.



Pastor Yeadon is pictured with his daughter, Abby, and his wife, Diane. (Photo by Dorene Nelson)

South Dakota Governor

## Kristi Noem



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

### In Honor of All Fathers

**By: Larry Rhoden**

Family is important. President Ronald Reagan once said, "if the family goes, so goes our civilization."

While our society has changed greatly since President Reagan spoke these words, kids still need a father in their lives. There is more than one path to fatherhood. There's one I would like to highlight this Father's Day weekend: Foster Fathers.

Last year, Governor Noem created a new initiative called: Stronger Families Together and set a goal of enrolling 300 new foster families every year for five years. The Stronger Families initiative was successful in reaching its goal in our first year, and I am proud to be a part of it.

I want to thank all the families who have stepped up to provide this support for children and families in crisis. As the Bible says, "Iron sharpens iron." Foster families do this by providing additional support and encouragement to the parents of the children they are fostering. They provide a safe, loving home for kids to live in while their birth parents work through their struggles. Sometimes, foster families become that forever home for the kids they help.

Whether you're a dad, a stepdad, a foster dad, an adopted dad, or even just a father figure in a child's life, you are providing something that our children cannot buy. You are a protector, a mentor, a disciplinarian, a source of comfort, and whenever called upon, a friendly ear to listen. Their tiny feet find their way through the world by following your footsteps.

My wife Sandy and I have worked hard as parents, raising our kids to be strong and successful. They are taking those lessons now and applying them to their own families. Just this week, Sandy and I were blessed with our sixth grandchild – a baby girl. There's nothing more amazing than the day you get promoted to grandpa.

My father was my hero when I was growing up. If on the day I die, my children have half as much respect and admiration for me as I did for my father, I will consider life a success. For those new fathers who may be short on experience, here are a few quotes from inspiring Americans on what it means to be a father:

"My father used to say that it's never too late to do anything you want to do. And he said, "You never know what you can accomplish until you try." — Michael Jordan

"The greatest tribute a boy can give to his father is to say, "When I grow up, I want to be just like my dad." — Billy Graham

Happy Father's Day to all the dads out there. May God bless you and your families.

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## Helping South Dakotans Deliver

By Sen. John Thune and Rep. Dusty Johnson

Record-high inflation and supply chain bottlenecks are driving up prices and hitting South Dakota's economy particularly hard. While it's true that supply chain issues and the reopening of economies after COVID shutdowns contributed somewhat to inflationary pressures, a big reason for our current inflation crisis is too much spending on Democrat priorities in Washington. Unfortunately, there is no easy fix for the inflation crisis, but, in addition to stopping wasteful and unnecessary spending, there are actions we can take to lessen the blow.

For more than a year now, foreign-flagged ocean carriers have been playing games with American agriculture exports. Businesses from Strider Bikes in Rapid City to Valley Queen Cheese in Milbank have been experiencing port delays, equipment access issues, and declined bookings for months. These delays have a significantly negative impact on our state's economy. Last year, more than 2 million pounds of South Dakota lactose was sold and ready to ship, but it sat for months in Valley Queen's warehouse waiting for an empty container to become available. On top of that, the National Milk Producers Federation estimates that export supply chain challenges cost the U.S. dairy sector nearly \$1 billion in the first six months of 2021.

South Dakota farmers and ranchers feed and fuel the world, and consumers and businesses look to them for in-demand agricultural goods. American manufacturers support many of the essential parts and products that fill our homes, businesses, and store shelves. In the last two years, agricultural exporters lost at least 22 percent of foreign sales, yet carriers continue to report record profits, bringing in two-or-three-times the revenue they predicted. Many ag exporters in the state have also been dealing with increased costs to ship goods overseas and the effects of shipping container delays and cancellations. South Dakota businesses – especially small businesses, which have fewer resources to fight supply chain problems – are also struggling to meet the demands of their customers.

After unanimously passing in the U.S. Senate, our bipartisan, bicameral Ocean Shipping Reform Act made its way through the U.S. House of Representatives where it recently passed with strong, bipartisan support. With the help of U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and U.S. Rep. John Garamendi (D-Calif.), our critical legislation that will help ease supply chain pressures, particularly at our nation's ports, is now the law of the land.

The Ocean Shipping Reform Act is the strongest fix to our maritime laws in a generation. The legislation will strengthen the authority of the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) by providing it with new tools to help level the playing field for American exporters and counteract anticompetitive behavior. The bill will also help FMC more efficiently resolve disputes between ocean carriers and shippers, while also taking actions at the U.S. Department of Transportation to alleviate strain across the supply chain.

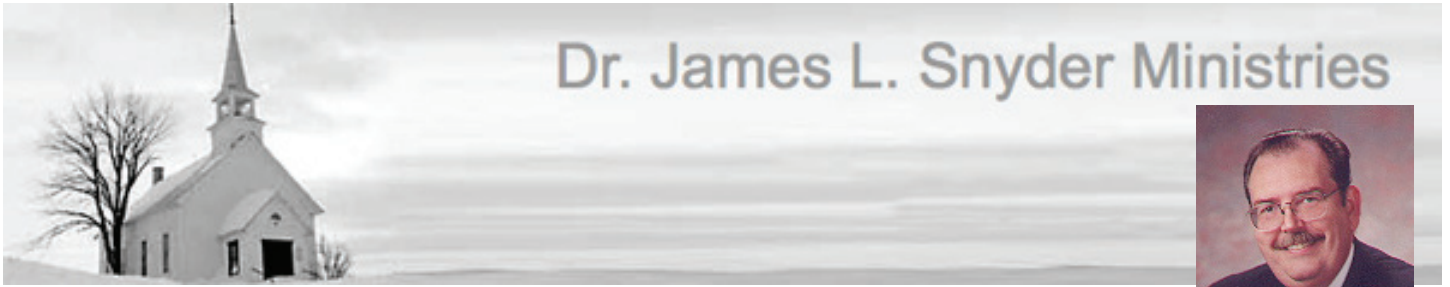
Our legislation will help ease supply chain pressures by addressing unfair ocean carrier practices, speeding up the resolution of disputes over carrier fees, and improving the movement of goods at our nation's ports. It won't solve our nation's inflation crisis, but it should help make life easier for U.S. exporters, importers, and consumers alike. Our bill isn't a silver bullet, but help is on the way.

Finding common ground in Washington is no easy feat, and we are grateful that the House and Senate came to an agreement on these important reforms to our nation's shipping laws. The Ocean Shipping Reform Act proves that Congress can still do big things in a bipartisan way. We are proud to show that South Dakotans know how to work across the aisle and deliver meaningful results for our country at a time when we need it the most.



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## What the World Needs Today Are Fathers

There is much talk today about what's wrong with our society. That list is pretty long, but the most important cause of problems in our culture today is the lack of fathers. So many children grow up without a father in the home. How tragic.

I was fortunate enough to know my father. My father passed away a little over 12 years ago. I remember many things he taught me or at least tried to teach me. One of the most significant things was when I became a teenager, he said, "Son, just because you get a girl pregnant doesn't mean you're a father."

I didn't quite understand what he was talking about at the time. Years later, I understood what he was talking about.

My father taught me a lot, and most of the things had to do with money. He was very close to his money. Often, he would tell me, "Son, don't pay somebody to do something you can do yourself."

I understand that, but I also understand that, at times, it backfired on him. There were times when he was trying to fix something and made such a mess that he had to hire somebody to fix it, which cost him about three times as much as if we would've hired the person in the first place. He never talked too much about that, but I noticed it several times and probably more times than I noticed.

About a year before he died, he gave me his ring. He told me this ring was worth thousands of dollars and wanted me to have it. I was rather happy, but I'm the kind of person that does not like to wear money out in public.

After my father passed away, I took the ring and had it appraised. If this ring is worth thousands of dollars, I was not going to wear it; I would rather have the money and put it in the bank.

After appraising the ring, the person said that at most, it was worth \$100. That was far short of my father's evaluation. Why he believed it was worth thousands of dollars is beyond me. Maybe he was just trying to impress me. I still wear that ring and think of my father.

My parents would come down to Florida as snowbirds every year and stayed not far from where I lived. For the last week of my father's life, I was with him, and most of the time, he was in a coma state. He was in bed and unresponsive.

Then, much to everybody's surprise, he woke up one day as though nothing was wrong with him. He had energy, got up and dressed, and friends came to visit him.

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One of the things my father did was talk to me, "Son, I don't want to stay here in Florida. I want to get ready and go back to Pennsylvania. Can you drive me back tomorrow?"

We had a long discussion about this, and I cheerfully said, "Oh, dad, of course, I'd be happy to drive you home tomorrow."

One of his friends overheard our conversation. Towards the end of the day, he took me out to the garage and had a rather straightforward conversation with me.

"Do you know how serious your father is? Do you know that he could never last that trip home?"

He then proceeded to tell me that as a son, I needed to be more considerate of my father's health. I should never jeopardize his health, and I should never agree to take him home. That was too dangerous, according to my father's friend.

When he was done ranting about all this and quieted down, I explained what was going on.

"I know how sick my father is," I said as seriously as possible. "I know that my father will not last more than a couple of days, and I do not want my last conversation with my father to be a vicious argument. Whatever he wants now, I am willing to go along with."

My father's friend looked at me and said, "I'm so sorry. I never thought of it like that." Pausing for a few moments, he said, "You are absolutely right to make your father happy in the last moments of his life. You are a good son."

We conversed for a few more moments, and then he went in to say goodbye to my father and went home.

The rest of that night, my father and I talked about how we would travel back home to Pennsylvania tomorrow. Whatever he said, I enthusiastically agreed, and we had a wonderful conversation.

The next day my father went back into that coma, and the following day he passed away.

I was so glad I had that conversation with my father before he passed away. A good son is a result of a good father. Although my father was not perfect, I learned a lot of life lessons from him and I'm only now beginning to appreciate all that he taught me.

Thinking about this I was reminded of a very special verse of Scripture. "The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice, And he who sires [gives birth] a wise son will be glad in him" (Proverbs 23:24).

My goal in life is to be a reflection of my father to my children and grandchildren and all the people around me.

## EARTHTALK ™



**Your pet's poo and pee might be polluting the local environment more than what's coming out of tailpipes and smokestacks.** Credit: Alotrobo, Pexels.com.

Dear EarthTalk: Does all the pet waste American dogs and cats leave behind outside have an effect (positively or negatively) on the environment?

-- Mary C., Seattle, WA

Dog and cat waste may seem harmless, but the reality is that your pet's poop can be very problematic for ecosystems where it accumulates. Think of an ecosystem as a closed box. Within that closed box is everything that makes up an ecosystem: the dirt, the bugs, the animals, the plants, the microbes, and all the different chemicals necessary for the functioning of each of the organisms that call this "box" home. Some organisms prefer some chemicals in abundance; others do not. As such, a homeostasis of sorts develops over time that eventually balances the populations of each organism in the box.

As these organisms eat one another, they absorb nutrients and excrete waste that is essentially a product of the organism they ate, derived from the very same chemicals that organism was made of. So, in effect, there is never an addition or subtraction of anything to that box. The same chemicals are being used over and over. However, if you were to add waste that was derived from an outside source to that box (ecosystem), say a dog-food factory where the ingredients (and therefore the chemicals) are chosen in abundance to provide the best possible diet, then you would be upsetting the balance of that ecosystem.

The chemicals found in pet feces that are the most problematic are nitrogen and phosphorus, which in overabundance can cause certain organisms to thrive, and others to falter. Algae blooms, for example, thrive when nitrogen and phosphorous levels are high. These blooms can spread very quickly across waterways, sucking the oxygen from aquatic ecosystems and suffocating the wildlife found therein.

According to an article by the British Ecological Study, the average dog excretes 11 kg of nitrogen and 5 kg of phosphorus per hectare. Livescience.com estimates that there are some 83 million dogs in America alone, producing 10.6 million tons of feces each year. With numbers like these, it's easy to see the significant influence this amount of waste can have on the chemical balance of natural ecosystems.

That being said, pet waste is an issue of extreme importance not only for Earth's ecosystems, but for our own health as well. According to the Clean Water Campaign of Atlanta, Georgia, pet waste can contain up to 23 million fecal coliform bacteria per gram, the kind that causes serious intestinal illnesses and kidney disorders. To make the issue worse, Livescience also states that the microbiota of certain American watersheds (20-30 percent) and airways (10-50 per cent) consists of dog feces- derived bacteria.

So, what are we supposed to do with all this poop? Throwing it in the trash unfortunately just moves the problem to another location. Our best option would be to naturally compost it, but if your options are limited, flushing it down the toilet to be processed at a sewage treatment facility is considered the most convenient and greenest option today.

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## South Dakota COVID-19 Report

New Confirmed and Probable Cases

972

Active Cases

2,546  
+373

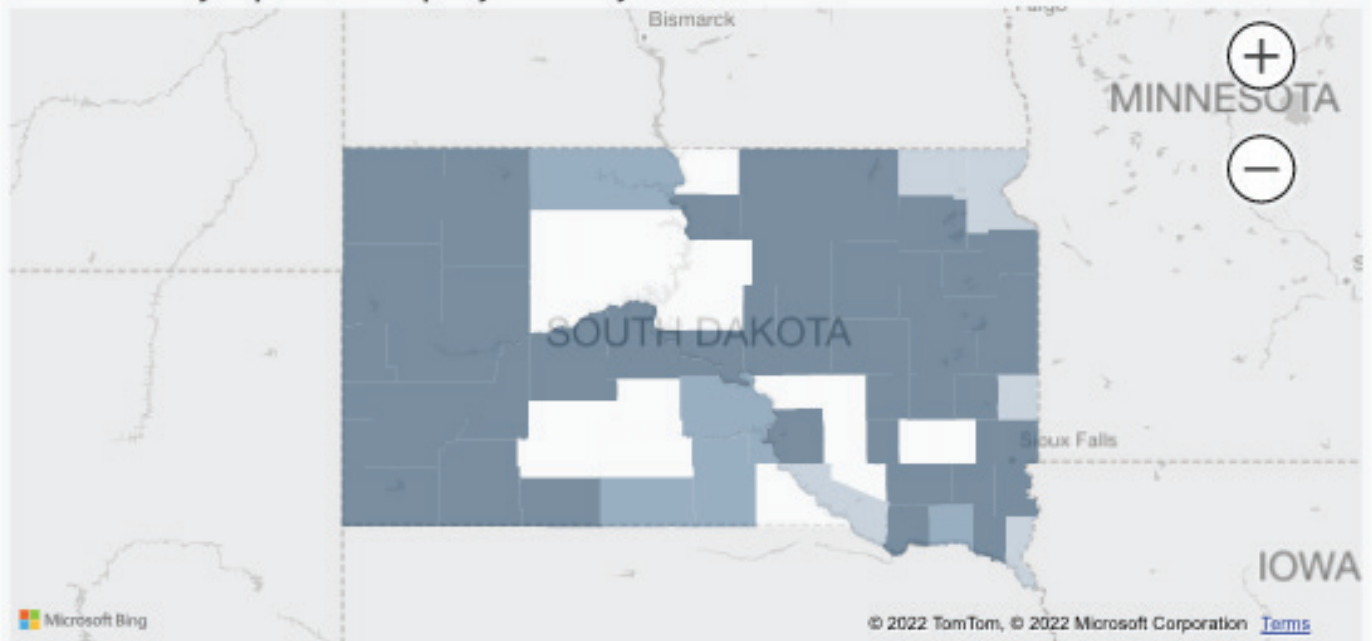
Recovered Cases

236,821

Currently Hospitalized

52

### Community Spread Map by County of Residence



Community Spread Low Moderate Substantial High

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

More information on U.S COVID-19 Community levels can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

Total Confirmed and Probable Cases

242,298

Total Tests

2,212,467

Deaths Among Cases

2,931

Ever Hospitalized

10,944

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

73%

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## Brown County COVID-19 Report

New Confirmed and Probable Cases

28

Active Cases

69  
+6

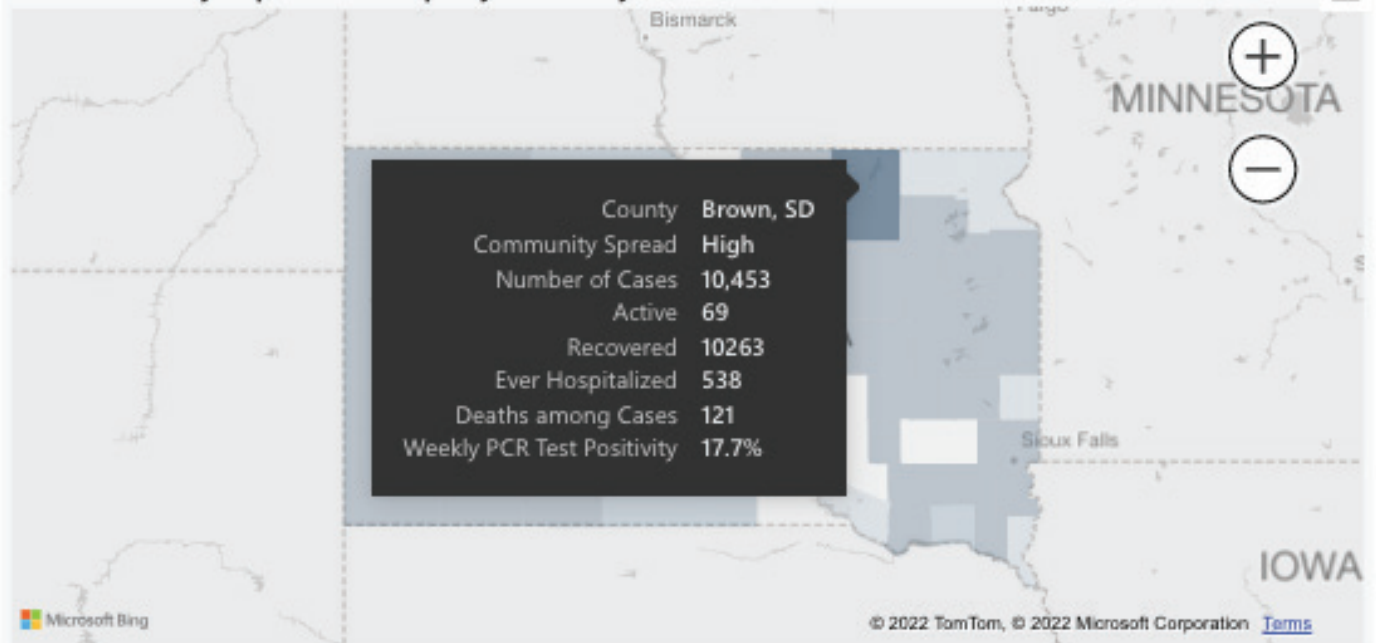
Recovered Cases

10,263

Currently Hospitalized

52

### Community Spread Map by County of Residence



Community Spread Low Moderate Substantial High

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

More information on U.S COVID-19 Community levels can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

Total Confirmed and Probable Cases

10,453

Total Tests

105,764

Deaths Among Cases

121

Ever Hospitalized

538

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

73%

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## Day County COVID-19 Report

New Confirmed and Probable Cases

8

Active Cases

11  
+6

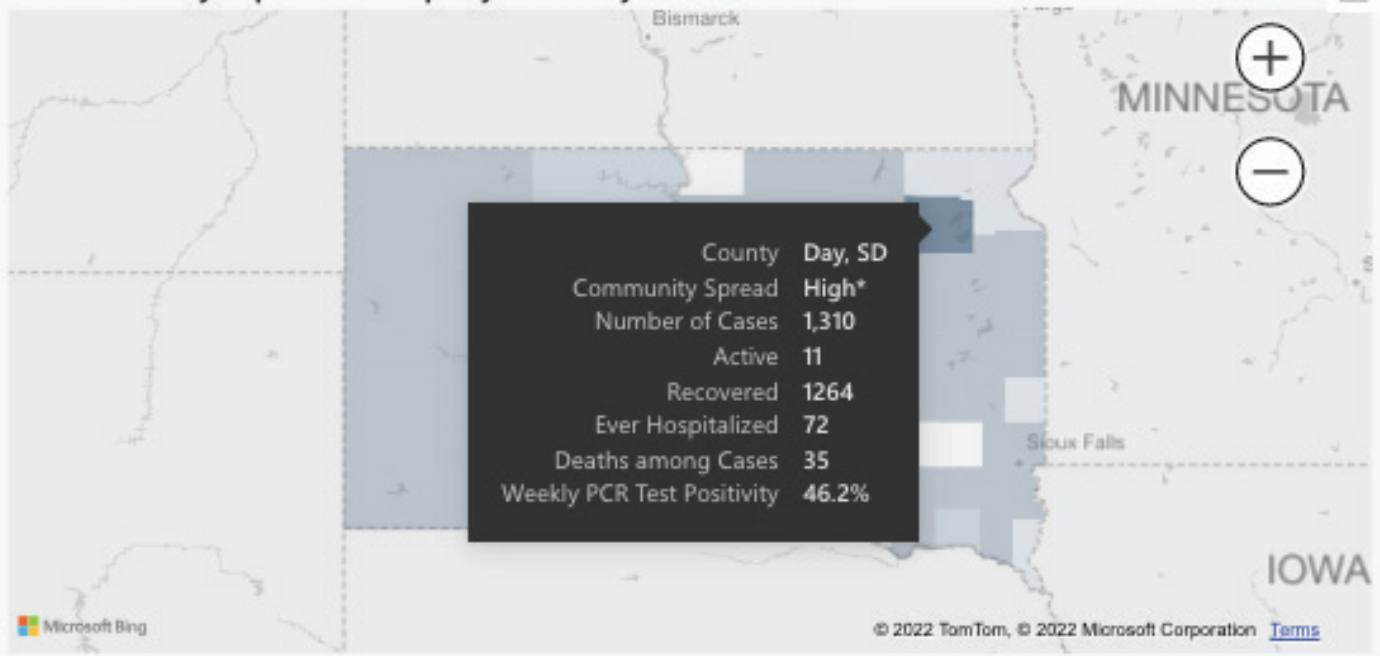
Recovered Cases

1,264

Currently Hospitalized

52

### Community Spread Map by County of Residence



Community Spread Low Moderate Substantial High

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

More information on U.S COVID-19 Community levels can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

Total Confirmed and Probable Cases

1,310

Total Tests

17,217

Deaths Among Cases

35

Ever Hospitalized

72

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

73%

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Ever Hospitalized

10,944

03/07/2020 - 06/13/2022

Currently Hospitalized

52

+3

## VARIANT CASES OF COVID-19 IN SOUTH DAKOTA

COVID-19 Variant	# of Cases	# of Cases - Last 3 Months
Delta (B.1.617.2 & AY lineages)	1,720	151
Omicron (B.1.1.529 & BA lineages)	1,166	232
Alpha (B.1.1.7)	176	3
Omicron (BA.2)	34	33
Gamma (P.1)	4	1
Beta (B.1.351)	2	2

## SEX OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

Sex	# of Cases	# of Hospitalizations	# of Deaths Among Cases
Male	113,996	5,696	1,599
Female	128,302	5,248	1,332

## AGE GROUP OF SOUTH DAKOTA COVID-19 CASES

Age Range with Years	# of Cases	# of Hospitalizations	# of Deaths Among Cases
0-9 years	16,224	146	3
10-19 years	29,090	173	2
20-29 years	42,368	586	14
30-39 years	40,979	819	52
40-49 years	33,834	964	88
50-59 years	31,090	1,481	226
60-69 years	25,895	2,228	476
70-79 years	13,765	2,320	685
80+ years	9,053	2,227	1,385

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

Race/Ethnicity	# of Cases	# of Hospitalizations	# of Deaths
Asian / Pacific Islander	3,349	109	20
Black	5,953	204	22
Hispanic	10,392	350	39
Native American	30,661	1,907	444
Other	2,017	59	13
Unknown	4,685	71	18
White	185,241	8,244	2,375

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## #540 in a series - Covid-19 Update: by Marie Miller

It's been a long while since we last talked. I've been away from home, staying in a place with no Internet service and very spotty cellular network coverage as well, so I've been largely unable to keep up with developments. Tonight I have a connection for a while and there's important news, so I'll do a brief post with that news and keep trying over the next few days to see what more I can accomplish.

It's been over a week since we last talked, and things have not improved in that time. That downturn I had thought I saw has evaporated, and we're holding pretty steady at a seven-day average over 100,000 new cases a day, which is not really great news. Today's average is 101,631, and the pandemic total is 86,097,698, which means we've blown past 85 million and 86 million since my last Update. The history since the first of the year is below. Hospitalizations continue to increase slowly. Today we're back over 30,000 with a seven-day average of 30,325, and deaths are back up over 300 at a seven-day average of 315 and a pandemic total of 1,009,846. Overall, things are not improving.

January 19 – 68 million – 1 day  
January 20 – 69 million – 1 day  
January 21 – 70 million – 1 day  
January 24 – 71 million – 3 days  
January 25 – 72 million – 1 day  
January 27 – 73 million – 2 days  
January 29 – 74 million – 1 day  
February 1 – 75 million – 3 days  
February 4 – 76 million – 3 days  
February 9 – 77 million – 5 days  
February 16 – 78 million – 7 days  
March 3 – 79 million – 15 days  
March 31 – 80 million – 28 days  
April 27 – 81 million – 27 days  
May 11 – 82 million – 14 days  
May 20 – 83 million – 9 days  
May 31 – 84 million – 11 days  
June 8 – 85 million – 8 days  
June 17 – 86 million – 9 days

Now for the news: The FDA's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) held its scheduled meeting on Wednesday to discuss the Moderna application for emergency use authorization (EUA) for its vaccine in those 17 and under as well as the Pfizer/BioNTech application for EUA for its vaccine in those from 6 months to 4 or 5 years. In 21-0 votes on both applications for the youngest children, the Committee recommended EUA, which means they found the benefit of the vaccine in this age group outweighs the risk. Neither vaccine raised safety signals, and both were described as "well-tolerated." Today the FDA director signed off on both. It looks very much as though there will soon be around 17 million children under the age of 5 newly eligible for vaccine.

In the 6-month to 5-year age group, the Moderna vaccine is given as 25 micrograms, one-fourth the adult dose, in two shots four weeks apart. A third dose given at least one month after the second one, was also authorized for children with immunologic deficiencies that increase their risk of serious illness. The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine is given at one-tenth the adult dose to children 6 months to 4 years as 3 doses, the first two doses three weeks apart and the third one eight weeks after the second. There is talk that Moderna will also need to include a third dose before the strongest protection against Omicron and its subvariants is achieved; the company is conducting trials for that third dose now and expects to have data yet this summer.

The Moderna application for children aged 6 through 17 was also approved by the FDA director today. These will be at 50 micrograms, one-half the adult dose, also in a primary series of two doses to those 6 to 11 and two administrations of the adult dose of 100 micrograms for those 12 to 17. The Pfizer/BioNTech



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vaccine has been authorized for those 5 years and over since November. This decision provides a second vaccine for these very young children.

The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is in the middle of a two-day meeting scheduled for today and tomorrow and is expected to issue its recommendation for use of the vaccines this weekend. After that, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, director of the CDC, will make her decision. At a Senate hearing yesterday, she cited the fact that pediatric deaths from Covid-19 have been higher than those from influenza, and so it seems unlikely she will demur. It is expected the vaccines will be available to young children Tuesday.

Moderna has studies underway in infants from 3 to 5 months; Pfizer/BioNTech are planning, but haven't finalized those plans to study infants under 6 months. Vaccinating very young infants has its own set of challenges, including the possibility a new one may interfere with the effectiveness of those already scheduled, so I'm not sure what to expect here. I guess we'll see. While severe illness is not common in children, long-Covid has been an issue for them with particular effects on brain development, a critical issue in the very young which is being studied now. Additionally, CDC figures show over 400 children younger than 5 have died from Covid-19 so far in this pandemic. That's not many, but when you consider nearly every death going forward will have been preventable, it's far, far too many.

I expect uptake in this 6-month to 4 or 5 age group to be very dismal, particularly since so very many children have been infected, most of them with the Omicron variant. Many parents consider their children to be well-enough protected if they've been infected. The concern here is that Omicron does not appear to provide lasting immunity to itself or other variants; and so I also expect babies and children to continue to die from Covid-19. Even one preventable child death seems like a tragedy to me, but I still do not foresee many parents opting to vaccinate their children. One of the VRBPAC members, Dr. Art Reingold, told CNN that, even though children's risk of death is small, we already vaccinate children against many diseases which carry low risk. He said, "I would point out that we as a country continue to give a large number of vaccines to children where the risk of the child dying or being hospitalized of those diseases are pretty close to zero," diseases like polio and measles. It has been difficult for me to understand why you would refuse a vaccine that has been demonstrated to be safe for a child whose risk of serious outcomes from an infection is far higher than the risk from vaccination. Protecting children, after all, has long been simply what we do.

The Kaiser Family Foundation has been monitoring vaccine uptake since the first vaccine EUAs were issued, and in May, the survey showed only 18 percent of parents of children under 5 said they would get their child vaccinated as soon as a vaccine was available. For the record, here are the fully-vaccinated rates for other age groups in the US according to the CDC:

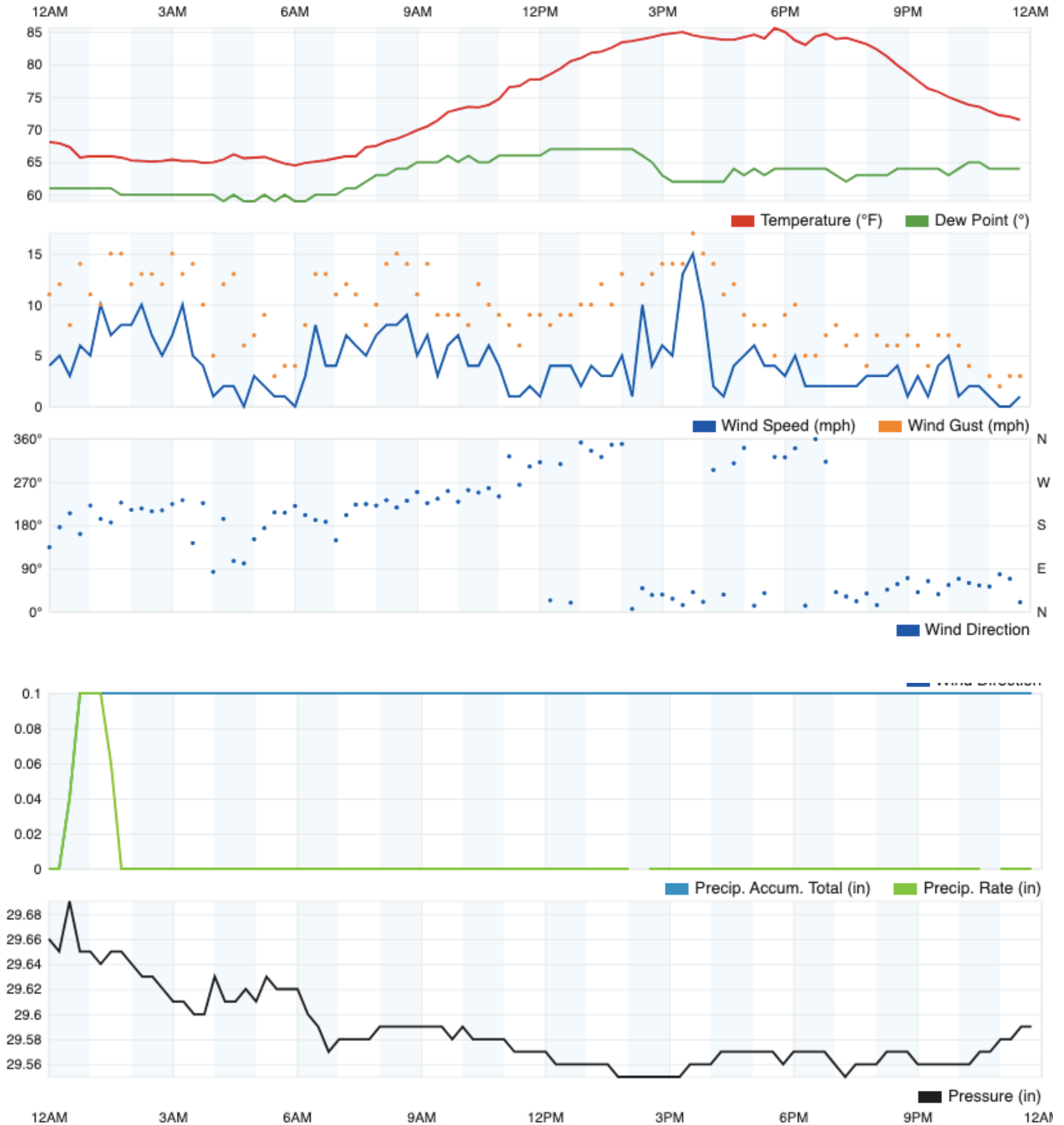
5 to 11: 29%  
12 to 17: 60%  
18 to 24: 64%  
25 to 39: 67%  
40 to 49: 75%  
50 to 64: 82%  
65 to 74: 94%  
75 and over: 88%

And that's it for tonight. I'll catch up any other news as I can. Be well, and we'll talk again.

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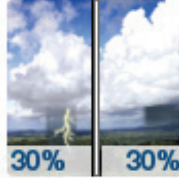
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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs



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Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
				
20%	30% → 60%	30%	50%	30%   30%
Slight Chance T-storms	Severe Thunderstorms	Severe Thunderstorms	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms then Chance Showers
High: 84 °F	Low: 68 °F	High: 88 °F	Low: 67 °F	High: 79 °F

## Hot and Humid Conditions Continue

Current Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

Excessive Heat Warning  
Heat Advisory

Graphic Created June 19th, 2022 4:00 AM CDT

	6/19 Sun								6/20 Mon								Maximum
	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm			
Aberdeen	87	88	99	109	111	111	97	87	84	84	95	101	101	100	111		
Britton	89	87	96	103	104	104	94	88	86	84	92	99	98	96	104		
Eagle Butte	77	76	87	95	96	95	84	74	69	70	78	84	85	82	96		
Eureka	75	82	94	101	103	101	88	78	72	73	85	90	91	88	103		
Gettysburg	77	81	91	101	102	100	87	77	73	71	82	89	90	86	102		
Kennebec	82	83	95	102	104	102	91	84	76	77	88	95	96	91	104		
McIntosh	73	76	89	95	95	93	86	74	68	67	77	85	84	81	95		
Milbank	79	88	99	105	108	106	94	91	88	87	97	104	104	101	108		
Miller	79	83	95	104	106	104	92	84	81	79	91	95	98	96	106		
Mobridge	79	81	93	102	102	101	88	77	72	74	86	90	91	88	102		
Murdo	84	81	90	98	100	97	86	76	71	71	84	89	90	86	100		
Pierre	84	83	94	102	104	102	90	82	74	74	84	93	94	89	104		
Redfield	86	87	97	105	108	105	94	88	83	84	95	100	101	100	108		
Sisseton	88	92	100	108	111	109	96	89	86	86	96	102	103	100	111		
Watertown	78	83	92	102	103	99	92	87	83	84	92	99	99	95	103		
Webster	79	79	91	99	101	99	89	84	83	79	89	95	96	94	101		
Wheaton	79	87	98	106	107	105	95	89	85	89	97	103	102	101	107		

\*\*Table values in °F  
\*\*\*Created: 3 am CDT Sun 6/19/2022  
\*\*\*\*Values are maximums over the period beginning at the time shown.

Updated: 6/19/2022 4:03 AM Central

Hot and humid conditions will continue across the area again today. Highs will range from 95 to 104 degrees this afternoon, with heat indices of 100 to around 110 degrees.

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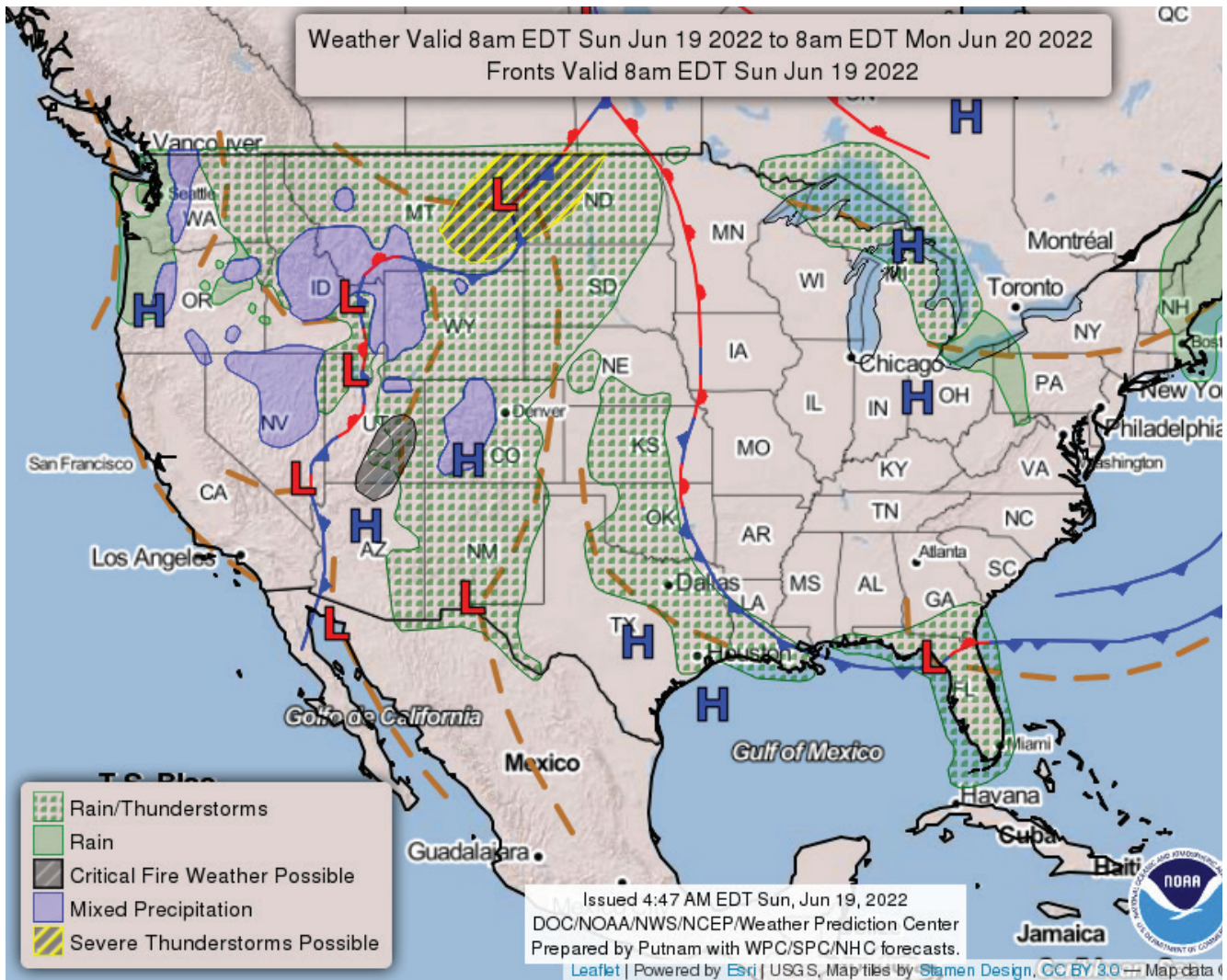
## Yesterday's Groton Weather

**High Temp: 98 °F at 5:09 PM**  
**Low Temp: 71 °F at 12:42 AM**  
**Wind: 35 mph at 5:30 PM**  
**Precip: 0.00**

Day length: 15 hours, 44 minutes

## Today's Info

Record High: 108 in 1933  
Record Low: 38 in 1948  
Average High: 81°F  
Average Low: 56°F  
Average Precip in June.: 2.29  
Precip to date in June.: 0.10  
Average Precip to date: 9.54  
Precip Year to Date: 11.26  
Sunset Tonight: 9:25:55 PM  
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:41:54 AM



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## Today in Weather History

June 19, 1894: A tornado moved NNE, passing 12 miles northwest of Bowdle, ending in extreme south-eastern Campbell County. A child was killed, and the mother and four other children were severely injured. A man was killed in another home, and his wife was injured. Fourteen homes were damaged or destroyed. Clothes were said to be torn to shreds and scattered for miles. This tornado was estimated to be an F3.

June 19, 1931: A tornado moved east from just south of St. Lawrence, passing south of Wessington. Buildings were destroyed on eight farms. Two farms were said to be wiped out, house and all. A woman was injured as she tried to rescue chickens. Cattle, horses, and over 100 hogs were killed. This tornado had an estimated strength of an F3.

June 19, 2013: Slow moving thunderstorms brought some large hail along with very heavy rains and flash flooding to parts of northeast South Dakota. One thunderstorm produced quarter hail and winds over 50 mph, which caused significant damage to a bean field along with damaging the siding of the house south of Wilmot in Roberts County. Several roads in Wilmot had water running over them for several hours. Over three inches of rain caused water to go over a part of Highway 123 south of Wilmot. The heavy rain of three to four inches brought many flooded roads in and around Veblen in Marshall County.

1794: A violent tornado commenced west of the Hudson River in New York. The tornado traveled through Poughkeepsie then crossed the border into Connecticut where it went through the towns of New Milford, Waterbury, North Haven, and Branford. It then continued into Long Island Sound. The tornado did extensive damage, and the funnel was reported by one observer to look like the "aurora borealis."

1835 - A tornado tore through the center of New Brunswick NJ killing five persons and scattering debris as far as Manhattan Island. The tornado provided the first opportunity for scientists to study firsthand the track of such a storm. (David Ludlum)

1938 - A cloudburst near Custer Creek, MT, (near Miles City) caused a train wreck killing forty-eight persons. An estimated four to seven inches of rain deluged the head of the creek that evening, and water flowing through the creek weakened the bridge. As a result, a locomotive and seven passenger cars plunged into the swollen creek. One car, a tourist sleeper, was completely submerged. (David Ludlum)

1972 - Hurricane Agnes moved onshore near Cape San Blas FL with wind gusts to 80 mph, and exited Maine on the 26th. There were 117 deaths, mainly due to flooding from North Carolina to New York State, and total damage was estimated at more than three billion dollars. Up to 19 inches of rain deluged western Schuylkill County PA. The rains of Hurricane Agnes resulted in one of the greatest natural disasters in U.S. history. Agnes caused more damage than all other tropical cyclones in the previous six years combined (which included Celia and Camille). (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - It was a warm June day, with plenty of thunderstorms east of the Rockies. Lightning knocked out power at Throckmorton, TX, and ignited an oil tank battery. A woman in Knox City TX was struck by lightning while in her car, and a man was struck by lightning near his home in Manatee County FL. Strong thunderstorm winds overturned several outhouses near Bixby OK, but no injuries were reported. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Temperatures soared above 100 degrees in the central U.S. for Father's Day. Fifteen cities reported record high temperatures for the date. Severe thunderstorms in Minnesota and Wisconsin produced softball size hail near River Falls WI, and wind gusts to 80 mph at Menomonie WI. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Fourteen cities reported record high temperatures for the date as searing heat spread from the southwestern deserts into the High Plains Region. Record highs included 98 degrees at Billings, MT, 107 degrees at Valentine, NE, and 112 degrees at Tucson, AZ. (The National Weather Summary)

2004: Annette Island, Alaska set an all-time record high temperature of 93 degrees. Since record keeping began in 1941, Annette Island has seen 90-degree temperatures four times.

2006 - Up to 11 inches of rain fell in the Houston, Texas area, causing widespread flash flooding. The Houston Fire Department rescued more than 500 people from flood waters, but no serious injuries or fatalities were reported.

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## Lasting Impressions

One dreadful day, many years ago, a large sailboat capsized on Lake Michigan. It was near the shore, and the lifeguard on duty, Edward Spencer, jumped into the lake and rescued all seventeen people who were on board. Finally, he fell exhausted on the shore and was taken to a hospital to recover. As he was carried into the emergency room, he kept asking, "Did I do my best?"

Years later, Dr. R.A. Torrey, an evangelist, was telling this story in a revival in Los Angeles. Suddenly, a man electrified the audience. He stood up and shouted, "Dr. Torrey, Edward Spencer is here."

Shaken, Dr. Torrey asked, "Would you please come to the platform?" Slowly, the white-haired Spencer made his way to the platform as the people applauded wildly.

Dr. Torrey looked at him with grateful eyes and asked, "Is there anything that stands out in your mind in the saving of those seventeen people?"

"Only one thing, Dr. Torrey," he replied. "Of the seventeen, not one of them thanked me."

"Ingratitude is the mother of every vice," is a famous French saying. And the Spanish add, "The earth produces nothing worse than an ungrateful man."

Why is it so difficult to say, "Thanks?" Is it pride? Is it self-centeredness - the attitude that I don't need you or anyone else? Is it because we are weak and want to appear strong? Is it a false impression of our own value?

How interesting that the last verse of the Psalms reads, "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."

Prayer: Lord, give us an alert mind to recognize the many gifts we receive each day. Give us grateful hearts. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Today's Bible Verse: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Psalm 150:6

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## 2022 Community Events

- 01/30/2022 84th Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)  
01/30/2022 Groton Robotics Pancake Feed, 10am – 1pm, Groton Community Center, 109 N 3rd St, Groton,  
04/07/2022 Groton CDE  
04/09/2022 Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt 10am Sharp at the City Park (Saturday a week before Easter)  
04/09/2022 Dueling Pianos Baseball Fundraiser at the Legion Post #39 6-11:30pm  
04/23/2022 Firemen's Spring Social at the Fire Station 7pm-12:30am (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)  
04/24/2022 Princess Prom 4:30-8pm (Sunday after GHS Prom)  
05/07/2022 Lions Club Spring Citywide Rummage Sales 8am-3pm (1st Saturday in May)  
St John's Lutheran Church VBS 9-11am  
05/30/2022 Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Services (Memorial Day)  
Transit Fundraiser at the Community Center 4-7pm (Thursday Mid-June)  
06/17/2022 SDSU Alumni & Friends Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 12pm Start  
06/18/2022 Groton Triathlon  
-6/20/2022 Ladies Invitational at Olive Grove Golf Course 9am Registration 10am Start  
07/04/2022 Firecracker Couples Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 9am Registration, 10am Start  
(4th of July)  
07/10/2022 Lions Club Summer Fest/Car Show at the City Park 9am-4pm (Sunday Mid-July)  
Legion Auxiliary #39 Salad Buffet & Dessert Bar 11am-1pm at the Groton Legion  
Baseball Tourney  
07/21/2022 Pro Am Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course  
Ferney Open Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 9am Start  
How can we... "Love Groton"? United Methodist Church 9:30am  
Moonlight Swim at the Swimming Pool 9-11pm for 9th grade to age 20  
Golf Fundraiser Lunch at Olive Grove Golf Course 11a-1pm  
08/05/2022 Wine on Nine at Olive Grove Golf Course 6pm  
08/12/2022 GHS Basketball Golf Tournament  
United Methodist Church VBS 5-8pm  
Groton Firemen Summer Splash Day 4-5pm GHS Parking Lot  
09/10/2022 Lions Club Fall Citywide Rummage Sale 8am-3pm (1st Saturday after Labor Day)  
6th Annual Doggie Day at the Swimming Pool 3:30-5pm  
09/11/2022 Couples Sunflower Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 12pm  
Groton Airport Fly-In/Drive-In, Groton Municipal Airport  
10/01/2022 Pumpkin Fest at the City Park 10am-3pm  
10/07/2022 Lake Region Marching Band Festival 10am  
10/31/2022 Downtown Trick or Treat 4-6pm (working day on or closest to Halloween)  
10/31/2022 United Methodist Church Trunk or Treat 5:30-7pm  
11/12/2022 Legion Post #39 Turkey Party 6:30pm (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)  
11/24/2022 Community Thanksgiving at the Community Center 11:30am-1pm (Thanksgiving)  
12/03/2022 Tour of Homes & Holiday Party at Olive Grove Golf Course  
Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services 9am-12pm  
01/29/2023 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)

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## The Groton Independent Printed & Mailed Weekly Edition

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## News from the Associated Press

### SD Lottery

By The Associated Press undefined

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

Dakota Cash

04-15-25-30-31

(four, fifteen, twenty-five, thirty, thirty-one)

Estimated jackpot: \$75,000

Lotto America

26-28-32-46-48, Star Ball: 1, ASB: 3

(twenty-six, twenty-eight, thirty-two, forty-six, forty-eight; Star Ball: one; ASB: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$15,930,000

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: 290,000,000

Powerball

10-19-40-45-58, Powerball: 25, Power Play: 2

(ten, nineteen, forty, forty-five, fifty-eight; Powerball: twenty-five; Power Play: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$296,000,000

### Apple workers vote to unionize at Maryland store

TOWSON, Md. (AP) — Apple store employees in a Baltimore suburb voted to unionize by a nearly 2-to-1 margin Saturday, a union said, joining a growing push across U.S. retail, service and tech industries to organize for greater workplace protections.

The Apple retail workers in Towson, Maryland, voted 65-33 to seek entry into the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, the union's announcement said. The vote could not immediately be confirmed with the National Labor Relations Board, which would have to certify the outcome. An NLRB spokesperson referred initial queries about the vote to the board's regional office, which was closed late Saturday.

Apple declined to comment on Saturday's development, company spokesperson Josh Lipton told The Associated Press by phone.

Union organizing in a variety of fields has gained momentum recently after decades of decline in U.S. union membership. Organizers have worked to establish unions at companies including Amazon, Starbucks, Google parent company Alphabet and outdoors retailer REI.

The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers and the Apple employees who wanted to join said they sent Apple CEO Tim Cook notice last month that they were seeking to form a union. The statement said their driving motivation was to seek "rights we do not currently have." It added that the workers recently organized in the Coalition of Organized Retail Employees, or CORE.

"I applaud the courage displayed by CORE members at the Apple store in Towson for achieving this historic victory," said IAM International President Robert Martinez Jr. in the statement. "They made a huge sacrifice for thousands of Apple employees across the nation who had all eyes on this election."

Martinez called on Apple to respect the election results and to let the unionizing employees fast-track efforts to secure a contract at the Towson location.

It remained unclear what steps would follow the vote in Towson. Labor experts say it's common for employers to drag out the bargaining process in an effort to take the momentum out of union campaigns.

The IAM bills itself as one of the largest and most diverse industrial trade unions in North America, representing approximately 600,000 active and retired members in the aerospace, defense, airlines, railroad, transit, healthcare, automotive, and other industries.

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The Apple store unionization comes against a backdrop of other labor organizing nationwide — some of them rebuffed.

Amazon workers at a warehouse in New York City voted to unionize in April, the first successful U.S. organizing effort in the retail giant's history. However, workers at another Amazon warehouse on Staten Island overwhelmingly rejected a union bid last month. Meanwhile, Starbucks workers at dozens of U.S. stores have voted to unionize in recent months, after two of the coffee chain's stores in Buffalo, New York, voted to unionize late last year.

Many unionization efforts have been led by young workers in their 20s and even in their teens. A group of Google engineers and other workers formed the Alphabet Workers Union last year, which represents around 800 Google employees and is run by five people who are under 35.

## French voters elect parliamentarians, in test for Macron

By THOMAS ADAMSON Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — French voters are going to the polls in the final round of key parliamentary elections that will demonstrate how much legroom President Emmanuel Macron's party will be given to implement his ambitious domestic agenda.

In last week's first vote, the left, under firebrand Jean-Luc Melenchon, made a surprisingly strong showing, sending jitters through Macron's allies.

They fear that a strong showing from Melenchon's coalition on Sunday could turn Macron into a shackled second term leader, one who spends his time bargaining with politicians and with major limits placed on his ability to rule.

Elections are being held nationwide to select the 577 members of the National Assembly, the most powerful branch of France's Parliament.

Though Macron's centrist alliance is projected to win the most seats, observers predict that it could fall short of maintaining his majority — the golden number of 289 seats. In this case, a new coalition composed of the hard left, the Socialists and the Greens may be forged, one which could make Macron's political maneuvering harder since the lower house of parliament is key to voting in laws.

Macron made a powerfully choreographed plea to voters earlier this week from the tarmac ahead of a trip to Romania and Ukraine, warning that an inconclusive election, or hung parliament, would put the nation in danger.

"In these troubled times, the choice you'll make this Sunday is more crucial than ever," he said Tuesday, with the presidential plane waiting starkly in the background ahead of a visit to French troops stationed near Ukraine. "Nothing would be worse than adding French disorder to the world's disorder," he said.

Following Macron's reelection in May, his centrist coalition has been aiming for a parliamentary majority that would enable the president to implement his campaign promises, which include tax cuts and raising France's retirement age from 62 to 65. There's still hope for his camp: Polling agencies estimated that Macron's centrists could ultimately win from 255 to over 300 seats, while the leftist coalition led by Melenchon could win more than 200 seats.

Yet many acknowledge a less than desirable outcome for Macron's party thus far.

"The disappointment was clear on the night of the first round for the presidential party leaders. Clearly, they want to have a new momentum now on the way to the second round," said Martin Quencez, political analyst at The German Marshall Fund of the United States.

If Macron fails to get a majority, it will not simply affect France's domestic politics, it could have ramifications across Europe. Analysts predict that the French leader will have to spend the rest of his term focusing more on his domestic agenda rather than his foreign policy. It could spell the end of President Macron the continental statesman.

If he loses his majority, "he would need to be more involved in domestic politics in the next five years than he was previously, so we could expect him to have less political capital to invest at the European level or international level... This may have an impact for European politics as a whole in European affairs,"

Quencez said.

## Avalanche rout Lightning 7-0 to take 2-0 lead in Cup Final

By STEPHEN WHYNO AP Hockey Writer

DENVER (AP) — Cale Makar barely broke a smile after scoring his second goal and Colorado's seventh of the night. He fist-bumped Mikko Rantanen to thank him for the pass and skated to the bench.

He and the Avalanche are calm, confident and rolling. They're now two wins from dethroning the two-time defending champions.

Looking like by far the better team, the Avalanche overwhelmed the Tampa Bay Lightning 7-0 in Game 2 of the Stanley Cup Final on Saturday night to take a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven series.

Coach Jared Bednar called it "as close to perfect of a game as you can get from your players."

"I feel like we played to our identity to a 'T' tonight," Makar said. "We had some good goals and stuff like that. ... It was a little bit of a weird one tonight. Obviously, we're getting opportunities but guys were able to able to capitalize, so that's good part."

Valeri Nichushkin scored his seventh and eighth goals of the playoffs and continued to be the best player on the ice in the final, Game 1 overtime hero Andre Burakovsky beat Andrei Vasilevskiy again and even defensive defenseman Josh Manson and 35-year-old grinder Darren Helm got in on the fun with a goal apiece. Makar, who didn't even have a shot on goal in Game 1, scored twice in the third period, inciting chants of "We want the Cup!" from a fired up crowd.

"They're playing at an elite level right now — give them credit. We are not," Lightning coach Jon Cooper said. "They're two good teams. They're just playing a much higher level right now than we are."

Rarely have the Lightning been completely outclassed during this run of postseason success, but they also hadn't faced an opponent like the Avalanche, who forced them into one uncharacteristic mistake after another. Colorado was dominant in every facet of the game to move two victories away from its first title since 2001 and the first by this core led by Nathan MacKinnon.

The Avalanche go to Tampa for Game 3 on Monday night up in the series despite no goals in the series from MacKinnon, who at times has played like a man possessed in an effort to finally break through and hoist the Cup. They still became just the third team in NHL history to score three-plus goals in the first period of Games 1 and 2 in the final.

"We played a pretty good game," Helm said. "We just played a full 60-minute game."

The dominant performance started by pouncing on an early mistake by typically reliable Lightning defenseman Erik Cernak when he bobbled the puck at the blue line on one of the game's first shifts. It was all Avalanche after that.

Their aggressive forecheck led them to draw a penalty on veteran Ryan McDonagh, score on the ensuing power play when Burakovsky fed Nichushkin for his first of the night. It wasn't his last, and Colorado poured it on with six of the game's first seven shots and complete territorial domination with much of the game played in the Tampa Bay end.

With Vasilevskiy — whose play was the key to the Lightning's incredible ability to bounce back after a loss in the playoffs — looking shaky and even dropping his head after letting Makar beat him clean on one of many 2-on-1 rushes, the Avalanche made the most of all their offensive zone time. The highest-scoring team this postseason put on a clinic against the team that has played more hockey than anyone else over the past two years.

That may finally be taking its toll, and it's exacerbated by the blazing speed with which the Avalanche play. They again not only outskated the Lightning but used quick feet to force errors that turned into goals.

"We came out with a purpose," said forward Andrew Cogliano, who returned after missing Game 1 with a right finger injury. "We got to our game, we skated from the drop of the puck and we just didn't let up."

Tampa Bay fell to 18-2 after a loss since the start of the first round in 2020. The streak of 18 in a row ended in the Eastern Conference final against the New York Rangers when the Lightning fell behind 2-0 before roaring back, though it's hard to see Colorado falling into the same trap.

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The way the Lightning lost this one — by far their biggest blowout loss during this run — came as a surprise to just about everyone.

"Am I shocked that we lost 7-zip?" Lightning captain Steven Stamkos said. "I mean, I don't think we saw that coming."

Even if players brush off the concept of momentum from game to game during a playoff series, their romp over the champs combined with a 7-0 road record should fill the Avalanche with confidence. But they might again need to dip into their pool of depth because of injuries.

After getting Andrew Cogliano back from missing the season opener with a right finger injury, the Avalanche lost Burakovsky again in the second period. Burakovsky blocked a shot in the first game in the West final and has been playing through pain since. Bednar said he would be re-evaluated ahead of Game 2.

Colorado is inflicting plenty of pain on Tampa Bay, which resorted to some rough stuff after falling behind. Of course, even MacKinnon was throwing hits in the third period despite the game being well in hand.

Darcy Kuemper was barely tested in net for Colorado, picking up the shutout with 17 saves.

"He was just rock solid," Manson said. "He was exactly what we needed to be."

## Yellowstone National Park to partly reopen after floods

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Yellowstone National Park will partially reopen at 8 a.m. Wednesday, after catastrophic flooding destroyed bridges and roads and drove out thousands of tourists.

The Park Service announced Saturday that visitors will once again be allowed on the park's southern loop under a temporary license plate system designed to manage the crowds: Those with even-numbered plates and motorcycle groups will be allowed on even-numbered days, and those with odd-numbered or vanity plates on odd-numbered days.

Commercial tours and visitors with proof of overnight reservations at hotels, campgrounds or in the backcountry will be allowed in whatever their plate number.

Visitors had been flocking to Yellowstone during its 150th anniversary celebration. The southern loop provides access to Old Faithful, the rainbow-colored Grand Prismatic Spring, and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone and its majestic waterfall. It can be accessed from the park's south, east and west entrances.

"It is impossible to reopen only one loop in the summer without implementing some type of system to manage visitation," Yellowstone Superintendent Cam Sholly said in a news release. "My thanks to our gateway partners and others for helping us work out an acceptable temporary solution for the south loop while we continue our efforts to reopen the north loop."

The north loop is expected to remain closed through the summer, if not longer. Officials say it could take it could take years and cost more than \$1 billion to repair the damage in the environmentally sensitive landscape.

## Zalatoris, Fitzpatrick survive beast of Open to share lead

By DOUG FERGUSON AP Golf Writer

BROOKLINE, Mass. (AP) — Eight players spent time atop the leaderboard, all of them getting kicked around — some worse than others — on a U.S. Open course that felt every bit like the toughest test in golf on a cool, windy afternoon at The Country Club.

Saturday was a classic U.S. Open, all about survival, a highlight reel of golf carnage.

Will Zalatoris and Matt Fitzpatrick kept the damage to a bare minimum, giving them another crack at a major championship that is 18 holes away and feels so much longer.

Zalatoris, who lost in a playoff at the PGA Championship last month at Southern Hills, made only one bogey — a staggering feat on a beast of a Brookline course — for a 3-under 67.

"Felt like I shot a 61," Zalatoris said. "Whenever I made a mistake I was able to get away with it or pull off something miraculous."

Fitzpatrick played in the final group at the PGA Championship. Now the 27-year-old from England is on familiar turf at The Country Club, where he won the U.S. Amateur in 2013. He was equally steady and ran

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off three birdies over his last five holes for a 68.

Most telling: They didn't make any double bogeys.

That's what knocked defending U.S. Open champion Jon Rahm out of the lead on the final hole. The Spaniard thought he had seen it all — including a shot he played back-handed from the base of a tree on the eighth hole — until he took three swipes from sand in two bunkers.

Rahm's first shot from a fairway bunker hit the lip and nearly rolled into his footprint. His next shot found a plugged lie in a greenside bunker, and two putts later he had a 71 and went from one ahead to one behind.

Rahm wasn't upset with his swing on the final hole. If anything, he said it was getting dark and he didn't notice his ball sitting down in the sand. The USGA sent the last group off at 3:45 p.m. to maximize television exposure. And maybe he tried to take on too much.

Either way, he was in no mood to look anywhere but ahead.

"I have 18 holes, and I'm only one shot back," he said. "That's the important thing."

Zalatoris and Fitzpatrick were at 4-under 206, the same score of the 54-hole lead when the U.S. Open was last at The Country Club in 1988.

It's not like Rahm had full rights to the lead. This Saturday at Brookline was so wild that Rahm was the last of eight players who had at least a share of the lead at some point. Three of them didn't even finish among the top 10, including two-time major champion Collin Morikawa.

Morikawa, who shared the 36-hole lead with Joel Dahmen, had double bogeys on the seventh and 13th holes, and might have had a third after a chunked wedge on No. 4 except that he made a 25-foot putt for bogey. He finished with a 77.

Masters champion Scottie Scheffler was not immune. The world's No. 1 player looked to be pulling away when he holed a wedge from some 80 yards for eagle on the par-5 eighth.

He was at 6 under and cruising until his wedge to a back pin on the 141-yard 11th hole bounced hard over the green and into deep rough. He took two to the green and two puts later was no longer leading. And it only got worse as three straight bogeys followed and he shot 71 to end up two strokes behind.

"After that," he said of his double bogey, "I didn't really play that bad. I just made three bogeys in a row. I didn't do anything that bad. It's just U.S. Open. Things happen like that, and they happen quickly."

Seven of the top 12 players going into Saturday made at least one double bogey.

Rory McIlroy was not on that list. His was more of a slow bleed, mostly from a putter that wasn't behaving. He made one birdie in his round of 73.

All that, and this U.S. Open was far from settled.

"It was one of the toughest days on a golf course I've had in a long time," McIlroy said. "I just needed to grind it out, and I did on the back nine. To play that back nine at even par today was a really good effort, I thought. Just kept myself in the tournament. That's all I was trying to do. Just keep hanging around."

Twenty-three players were under par going into the third round. Only nine remain with 18 holes remaining, all of them separated by three shots.

That includes a local star — maybe not the Francis Ouimet variety, but Keegan Bradley is big enough in Beantown that he heard his name chanted loudly and proudly as he marched up toward the 18th green. A former PGA champion, he called it "probably the highlight of my whole entire life."

He gave them reason to cheer. Three over through seven holes, Bradley answered with passion and birdies, five of them over his last 11 holes for a 69.

He was two shots behind with Adam Hadwin (70) and Scheffler. McIlroy was three back along with Sam Burns (71) and Dahmen, who didn't make a birdie in his round of 74 but stayed in the game because he didn't have any big blunders.

The average score was 73.5 and only seven players broke par. Denny McCarthy made the cut on the number at 3-over par. He finished his 68 before the leaders even arrived at the course. By the end of the day, he was tied for 11th, five shots behind.

The U.S. Open played every bit like one.

"I knew it was going to be hard," Dahmen said. "I didn't know it was going to be that hard."

## **Brazil: police arrest 3rd suspect in Amazon shooting deaths**

By DÉBORA ÁLVARES Associated Press

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) — Brazil's federal police said Saturday that a third suspect in the deaths of British journalist Dom Phillips and Indigenous expert Bruno Pereira has been arrested. The pair, whose remains were found after they went missing almost two weeks ago, were shot to death, according to an autopsy.

Phillips was shot in the chest and Pereira was shot in the head and the abdomen, police said in a statement. It said the autopsy indicated the use of a "firearm with typical hunting ammunition."

Police said the third suspect, Jefferson da Silva Lima, known as Pelado da Dinha, turned himself at the police station in Atalaia do Norte in the Amazon.

Police said the suspect will be referred to a custody hearing.

Two other men are already in prison for alleged involvement in the killings: Amarildo Oliveira, known as Pelado, and his brother, Oseney de Oliveira, known as Dos Santos.

Phillips and Pereira were last seen June 5 on their boat on the Itaquai river, near the entrance of the Javari Valley Indigenous Territory, which borders Peru and Colombia.

On Friday, federal police said that human remains found in Brazil's remote Amazon have been identified as belonging to Phillips, 57.

Additional remains found at the site near the city of Atalaia do Norte were confirmed to belong to Indigenous expert Pereira, 41, according to the police statement on Saturday.

The remains were found on Wednesday, after fisherman Pelado confessed to killing the pair, and took police to the place where he would have buried the bodies. He told officers that he used a firearm to commit the crime.

The remains had arrived in the capital city of Brasilia on Thursday for forensic examinations.

The area where Phillips and Pereira went missing has seen violent conflicts between fishermen, poachers, and government agents.

## **Russia frees captive medic who filmed Mariupol's horror**

By VASILISA STEPANENKO and LORI HINNANT Associated Press

TALLINN, Estonia (AP) — A celebrated Ukrainian medic whose footage was smuggled out of the besieged city of Mariupol by an Associated Press team was freed by Russian forces on Friday, three months after she was taken captive on the streets of the city.

Yuliia Paievskia is known in Ukraine as Taira, a nickname she chose in the World of Warcraft video game. Using a body camera, she recorded 256 gigabytes of her team's efforts over two weeks to save the wounded, including both Russian and Ukrainian soldiers.

She transferred the clips to an Associated Press team, the last international journalists in the Ukrainian city of Mariupol, one of whom fled with it embedded in a tampon on March 15. Taira and a colleague were taken prisoner by Russian forces on March 16, the same day a Russian airstrike hit a theater in the city center, killing around 600 people, according to an Associated Press investigation.

"It was such a great sense of relief. Those sound like such ordinary words, and I don't even know what to say," her husband, Vadim Puzanov, told The Associated Press late Friday, breathing deeply to contain his emotion. Puzanov said he spoke by phone with Taira, who was en route to a Kyiv hospital, and feared for her health.

Initially the family had kept quiet, hoping negotiations would take their course. But The Associated Press spoke with him before releasing the smuggled videos, which ultimately had millions of viewers around the world, including on some of the biggest networks in Europe and the United States. Puzanov expressed gratitude for the coverage, which showed Taira was trying to save Russian soldiers as well as Ukrainian civilians.

In a short video posted Saturday on Telegram, Taira thanked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy

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for his efforts to get her released. Addressing Ukrainians still held by Russia, with a catch in her voice, she said: "I know that everything will work out and we will all be home as I am now."

Zelenskyy had announced Taira's release in a national address.

"I'm grateful to everyone who worked for this result. Taira is already home. We will keep working to free everyone," he said.

Hundreds of prominent Ukrainians have been kidnapped or captured, including local officials, journalists, activists and human rights defenders.

Russia portrayed Taira as working for the nationalist Azov Regiment, in line with Moscow's narrative that it is attempting to "denazify" Ukraine. But the AP found no such evidence, and friends and colleagues said she had no links to Azov, which made a last stand in a Mariupol steel plant before hundreds of its fighters were captured or killed.

The footage itself is a visceral testament to her efforts to save the wounded on both sides.

A clip recorded on March 10 shows two Russian soldiers taken roughly out of an ambulance by a Ukrainian soldier. One is in a wheelchair. The other is on his knees, hands bound behind his back, with an obvious leg injury. Their eyes are covered by winter hats, and they wear white armbands.

A Ukrainian soldier curses at one of them. "Calm down, calm down," Taira tells him.

A woman asks her, "Are you going to treat the Russians?"

"They will not be as kind to us," she replies. "But I couldn't do otherwise. They are prisoners of war."

Taira was a member of the Ukraine Invictus Games for military veterans, where she was set to compete in archery and swimming. Invictus said she was a military medic from 2018 to 2020 but had since been demobilized.

She received the body camera in 2021 to film for a Netflix documentary series on inspirational figures being produced by Britain's Prince Harry, who founded the Invictus Games. But when Russian forces invaded, she used it to shoot scenes of injured civilians and soldiers instead.

## US opens COVID vaccine to little kids, shots begin next week

By MIKE STOBBE AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. on Saturday opened COVID-19 vaccines to infants, toddlers and preschoolers.

The shots will become available next week, expanding the nation's vaccination campaign to children as young as 6 months.

Advisers to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended the vaccines for the littlest children, and the final signoff came hours later from Dr. Rochelle Walensky, the agency's director.

"We know millions of parents and caregivers are eager to get their young children vaccinated, and with today's decision, they can," Walensky said in a statement.

While the Food and Drug Administration approves vaccines, it's the CDC that decides who should get them.

The shots offer young children protection from hospitalization, death and possible long-term complications that are still not clearly understood, the CDC's advisory panel said.

The government has already been gearing up for the vaccine expansion, with millions of doses ordered for distribution to doctors, hospitals and community health clinics around the country.

Roughly 18 million kids will be eligible, but it remains to be seen how many will ultimately get the vaccines. Less than a third of children ages 5 to 11 have done so since vaccination opened up to them last November.

Here are some things to know:

**WHAT KINDS ARE AVAILABLE?**

Two brands — Pfizer and Moderna — got the green light Friday from the FDA and Saturday from the CDC. The vaccines use the same technology but are being offered at different dose sizes and number of shots for the youngest kids.

Pfizer's vaccine is for children 6 months to 4 years old. The dose is one-tenth of the adult dose, and three shots are needed. The first two are given three weeks apart, and the last at least two months later.

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Moderna's is two shots, each a quarter of its adult dose, given about four weeks apart for kids 6 months through 5 years old. The FDA also approved a third dose, at least a month after the second shot, for children with immune conditions that make them more vulnerable to serious illness.

## HOW WELL DO THEY WORK?

In studies, vaccinated youngsters developed levels of virus-fighting antibodies as strong as young adults, suggesting that the kid-size doses protect against coronavirus infections.

However, exactly how well they work is hard to pin down, especially when it comes to the Pfizer vaccine.

Two doses of Moderna appeared to be only about 40% effective at preventing milder infections at a time when the omicron variant was causing most COVID-19 illnesses. Pfizer presented study information suggesting the company saw 80% with its three shots. But the Pfizer data was so limited — and based on such a small number of cases — that experts and federal officials say they don't feel there is a reliable estimate yet.

## SHOULD MY LITTLE ONE BE VACCINATED?

Yes, according to the CDC. While COVID-19 has been the most dangerous for older adults, younger people, including children, can also get very sick.

Hospitalizations surged during the omicron wave. Since the start of the pandemic, about 480 children under age 5 are counted among the nation's more than 1 million COVID-19 deaths, according to federal data.

"It is worth vaccinating even though the number of deaths are relatively rare, because these deaths are preventable through vaccination," said Dr. Matthew Daley, a Kaiser Permanente Colorado researcher who sits on the CDC's advisory committee.

In a statement Saturday, President Joe Biden urged parents to get them for their young children as soon as possible.

## WHICH VACCINE SHOULD MY CHILD GET?

Either one, said Dr. Peter Marks, the FDA's vaccine chief.

"Whatever vaccine your health care provider, pediatrician has, that's what I would give my child," Marks said Friday.

The doses haven't been tested against each other, so experts say there's no way to tell if one is better.

One consideration: It takes roughly three months to complete the Pfizer three-shot series, but just one month for Moderna's two shots. So families eager to get children protected quickly might want Moderna.

## WHO'S GIVING THE SHOTS?

Pediatricians, other primary care physicians and children's hospitals are planning to provide the vaccines. Limited drugstores will offer them for at least some of the under-5 group.

U.S. officials expect most shots to take place at pediatricians' offices. Many parents may be more comfortable getting the vaccine for their kids at their regular doctor, White House COVID-19 coordinator Dr. Ashish Jha said. He predicted the pace of vaccination will be far slower than it was for older populations.

"We're going to see vaccinations ramp up over weeks and even potentially over a couple of months," Jha said.

## CAN CHILDREN GET OTHER VACCINES AT THE SAME TIME?

It's common for little kids to get more than one vaccine during a doctor's visit.

In studies of the Moderna and Pfizer shots in infants and toddlers, other vaccinations were not given at the same time so there is no data on potential side effects when that happens.

But problems have not been identified in older children or adults when COVID-19 shots and other vaccinations were given together, and the CDC is advising that it's safe for younger children as well.

## WHAT IF MY CHILD RECENTLY HAD COVID-19?

About three-quarters of children of all ages are estimated to have been infected at some point. For older ages, the CDC has recommended vaccination anyway to lower the chances of reinfection.

Experts have noted re-infections among previously infected people and say the highest levels of protection occur in those who were both vaccinated and previously infected.

The CDC has said people may consider waiting about three months after an infection to be vaccinated.



## In Ukraine, funeral for activist killed and mourned in war

By JOHN LEICESTER Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Poppies, the blood-red flowers that cover the battlefields of Europe's two world wars, were lain in mourning Saturday on the coffin of yet another dead soldier, this one killed in yet another European war, in Ukraine.

The hundreds of mourners for Roman Ratushnyi, 24, included friends who had protested with him during months of demonstrations that toppled Ukraine's pro-Russia leader in 2014 and who, like him, took up arms when Moscow launched its full-scale invasion of its neighbor this February.

The arc of his shortened life symbolized that of Ukraine's post-independence generations that are sacrificing their best years in the cause of freedom. First, with defiance and dozens of lives against brutal riot police during Ukraine's Maidan protests of 2013-2014 and now with weapons and even more lives against Russian President Vladimir Putin's troops.

"Heroes never die!" friends, family and admirers shouted in Ukrainian as Ratushnyi's coffin was loaded aboard a hearse on a square in the Ukrainian capital now decorated with destroyed Russian tanks and vehicles. Their charred hulks contrasted with the shiny gold domes of an adjacent cathedral where priests had earlier sung prayers for Ratushnyi, who was well-known in Kyiv for his civic and environmental activism.

From the square, the mourners then walked in a long silent column behind his coffin to Maidan Nezalezhnosti, or Independence Square. The vast plaza in central Kyiv gave its name to the three months of protests that overthrew then President Viktor Yanukovich in 2014 and which helped fuel the political and patriotic awakening of Ukrainians born after independence in 1991.

Ratushnyi had "a heart full of love for Ukraine," said Misha Reva, who traveled overnight in his soldier's uniform from front lines in the east to say goodbye to the friend he met for the first time on Maidan, in the midst of the protests. Ratushnyi was then just 16; Reva was in his early 20s. It was Ratushnyi who introduced Reva to the woman who is now his wife, also on the square.

While the funeral was underway in central Kyiv, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy made a trip south to visit troops and hospital workers in the Mykolaiv and Odesa regions along the Black Sea. He handed out awards to dozens of people at every stop, shaking their hands and thanking them again and again for their service.

Among the troops he met were many women, dressed in camouflage and bulletproof vests. At a hospital in Odesa, he awarded the rank of major general to the woman who commands the Ukrainian army's medical forces.

"War is on the front line where our soldiers are, our army. But you also are on the front line, protecting our lives, helping wounded soldiers, helping the civilians who turn to you every day," Zelenskyy told the assembled civilian and military medical staff in Odesa. "We are proud that we have such doctors in our country."

He also met with regional leaders in Mykolaiv and Odesa and went with them to see buildings that had been destroyed in Russian attacks that took the lives of many civilians.

In other developments Saturday, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson expressed concerns "that a bit of Ukraine fatigue is starting to set in around the world" and said Ukraine must be supported in trying to roll back the Russian invasion to "make sure the Ukrainians are not encouraged to go for a bad peace, something that simply wouldn't endure."

"It would be a catastrophe if Putin won. He'd love nothing more than to say, 'Let's freeze this conflict, let's have a cease-fire,'" Johnson said. "For him that would be a tremendous victory. You'd have a situation in which Putin was able to consolidate his gains and then to launch another attack."

Johnson spoke on his return from a surprise trip Friday to Kyiv where he met with Zelenskyy to offer continued aid and military training.

Western-supplied heavy weapons are reaching front lines, although not in quantities that Ukrainian officials say would be needed to push back Russian forces to positions they occupied before the invasion or beyond. The Associated Press was granted rare access Saturday to the firing of U.S.-supplied M777

howitzers on Russian positions in Ukraine's eastern Donbas region. The powerful artillery pieces are helping Ukrainian forces reply in kind to Russian batteries that have been pounding towns and villages to rubble.

In Kyiv, the bells of St. Michael's cathedral tolled as four soldiers carried Ratushnyi's coffin to the memorial service Saturday morning, held outdoors in the church's sunlit courtyard. Poppies and a traditional loaf of bread were placed on the coffin covered with Ukraine's blue and yellow flag.

During the Maidan protests, where riot police used batons and eventually bullets with deadly abandon, Ratushnyi and Reva had taken shelter together for one night inside the cathedral grounds, the friend recalled. "He was such a solid and big personality," Reva said. "It's a great loss for Ukraine."

The friends then signed up to fight on the very first day of the Russian invasion on Feb. 24. After taking part in the defense of Kyiv in the assault's opening weeks, Ratushnyi then joined an army brigade, doing military intelligence work, Reva said. Reva said he's been fighting of late in positions away from where Ratushnyi was killed. Reva, 33, said two soldiers were killed and 15 wounded Thursday where he's been stationed.

"People get killed every day on the front line," he said.

Ratushnyi was killed on June 9 around the town of Izyum on the war's eastern front, according to the environmental campaign group that he led in Kyiv. He fought for the preservation from development of a wooded park where people ski in winter.

"He was a symbol, a symbol of a new Ukraine, of freedom and a new generation that wants to fight for its rights," said Serhli Sasyn, 21.

The "best people are dying now."

## Herschel Walker says he 'never denied' having 4 children

By JILL COLVIN Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Georgia Republican Senate candidate Herschel Walker said Saturday that he "never denied" the existence of children he hadn't publicly disclosed before, telling conservative Christians that his kids "knew the truth."

Speaking before a friendly audience at the Faith and Freedom Coalition's annual "Road to Majority" conference, Walker said the revelations about his children had only emboldened his campaign.

"Well, first of all, they knew the truth. You know, I've never denied any of my kids and I love them more than I love anything," he said. "And they didn't do anything, which just makes me want to fight harder because I'm tired of people misleading the American people. I'm tired of people misleading my family."

Walker's comments came after The Daily Beast reported that the former football star has four children, including two sons and a daughter whom he had never discussed publicly. Walker has repeatedly criticized absentee fathers over the years and has called on Black men in particular to play an active role in the children's lives, holding up his relationship with his older son, Christian Walker, as an example.

Walker, who was interviewed on stage in Nashville, Tennessee, by coalition chair Ralph Reed, said he "knew what I signed up for when I got into this and they don't realize that."

"No weapon formed against me should ever prosper," he said prompting loud applause and cheers.

Walker will face Democratic Sen. Raphael Warnock in the November general election, with the contest helping to determine which party will control the Senate, now split 50-50, next year.

Walker, who has been endorsed by top Republicans including former President Donald Trump and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, has faced serious allegations throughout his campaign, including that he threatened his ex-wife's life and spread numerous falsehoods.

That includes having dramatically inflated his record as a businessman, overstated his role in a for-profit program that is alleged to have preyed on veterans while defrauding the government and his claim that he graduated at the top of his class from the University of Georgia. He didn't graduate, as the Atlanta Journal-Constitution first reported.

## Buttigieg: US may act against airlines on consumers' behalf

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By DAVID KOENIG AP Airlines Writer

The day after Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg met with airline leaders to quiz them about widespread flight disruptions, his own flight was canceled and he wound up driving from Washington to New York.

"That is happening to a lot of people, and that is exactly why we are paying close attention here to what can be done and how to make sure that the airlines are delivering," Buttigieg told The Associated Press in an interview Saturday.

Buttigieg said he is pushing the airlines to stress-test their summer schedules to ensure they can operate all their planned flights with the employees they have, and to add customer-service workers. That could put pressure on airlines to make additional cuts in their summer schedules.

Buttigieg said his department could take enforcement actions against airlines that fail to live up to consumer-protection standards. But first, he said, he wants to see whether there are major flight disruptions over the July Fourth holiday weekend and the rest of the summer.

Enforcement actions can result in fines, although they tend to be small. Air Canada agreed to pay a \$2 million fine last year over slow refunds.

During Thursday's virtual meeting, airline executives described steps they are taking to avoid a repeat of the Memorial Day weekend, when about 2,800 flights were canceled. "Now we're going to see how those steps measure up," Buttigieg said.

Travel is back. On Friday, more than 2.4 million people passed through security checkpoints at U.S. airports, coming within about 12,500 of breaking the pandemic-era high recorded on the Sunday after Thanksgiving last year.

The record surely would have been broken had airlines not canceled 1,400 flights, many of them because thunderstorms hit parts of the East Coast. A day earlier, airlines scrubbed more than 1,700 flights, according to tracking service FlightAware.

Weather is always a wild card when it comes to flying in summer, but airlines have also acknowledged staffing shortages as travel roared back faster than expected from pandemic lows. Airlines are scrambling to hire pilots and other workers to replace employees whom they encouraged to quit after the pandemic hit.

It takes months to hire and train a pilot to meet federal safety standards, but the Transportation Department sees no reason the airlines cannot immediately add customer-service representatives to help passengers rebook if their flight is canceled.

The government has its own staffing challenges.

Shortages at the Federal Aviation Administration, part of Buttigieg's department, have contributed to flight delays in Florida. The FAA promises to increase staffing there. The Transportation Security Administration, an agency within the Department of Homeland Security, has created a roving force of 1,000 screeners who can be dispatched to airports where checkpoint lines get too long.

## **Brazil Indigenous expert was 'bigger target' in recent years**

By MAURICIO SAVARESE and FABIANO MAISONNAVE Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP) — Before disappearing in Brazil's Amazon rainforest, Bruno Pereira was laying the groundwork for a mammoth undertaking: a 350-kilometer (217-mile) trail marking the southwestern border of the Javari Valley Indigenous territory, an area the size of Portugal.

The purpose of the trail is to prevent cattle farmers from encroaching on Javari territory — and it was just the latest effort by Pereira to help Indigenous people protect their natural resources and traditional lifestyles.

While Pereira had long pursued these goals as an expert at the Brazilian Indigenous affairs agency, known as FUNAI, he worked in recent years as a consultant to the Javari Valley's Indigenous organization. That's because after Jair Bolsonaro became Brazil's president in 2019, FUNAI began taking a more hands-off approach toward protecting Indigenous land and people — and the government unapologetically promoted development over environmental protection.

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Deeply frustrated, Pereira left the agency and embarked on a more independent -- and dangerous -- path. He was last seen alive on June 5 on a boat in the Itaquai river, along with British freelance journalist Dom Phillips, near an area bordering Peru and Colombia. On Wednesday, a fisherman confessed to killing Pereira, 41, and Phillips, 57, and took police to a site where human remains were recovered; they have since been identified as the two men.

Pereira spoke several times with The Associated Press over the past 18 months, and he talked about his decision to leave FUNAI, which he felt had become a hindrance to his work. After Bolsonaro came to power, the agency was stacked with loyalists and people who lacked experience in Indigenous affairs, he said.

"There's no use in me being there as long as these policemen and army generals are calling the shots," he said by phone in November. "I can't do my work under them."

As a technical consultant for the Javari Valley's association of Indigenous people, or Univaja, Pereira helped the group develop a surveillance program to reduce illegal fishing and hunting in a remote region belonging to 6,300 people from seven different ethnic groups, many of whom have had little to no contact with the outside world. He and three other non-Indigenous people trained Indigenous patrollers to use drones and other technology to spot illegal activity, photograph it and submit evidence to authorities.

"When it came to helping the Indigenous peoples, he did everything he could," said Jader Marubo, former president of Univaja. "He gave his life for us."

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Like Pereira, Ricardo Rao was an Indigenous expert at FUNAI who, in 2019, prepared a dossier detailing illegal logging in Indigenous lands of Maranhao state. But fearful of being so outspoken under the new regime, he fled to Norway.

"I asked Norway for asylum, because I knew the men I was accusing would have access to my name and would kill me, just like what happened with Bruno," Rao said.

Bolsonaro has repeatedly advocated tapping the vast riches of Indigenous lands, particularly their mineral resources, and integrating Indigenous people into society. He has pledged not to grant any further Indigenous land protections, and in April said he would defy a Supreme Court decision, if necessary. Those positions directly opposed Pereira's hopes for the Javari Valley.

Before taking leave, Pereira was removed as head of FUNAI's division for isolated and recently contacted tribes. That move came shortly after he commanded an operation that expelled hundreds of illegal gold prospectors from an Indigenous territory in Roraima state. His position was soon filled by a former Evangelical missionary with an anthropology background. The choice generated outcry because some missionary groups have openly tried to contact and convert tribes, whose voluntary isolation is protected by Brazilian law.

Key colleagues of Pereira's at FUNAI either followed his lead and took leave, or were shuffled to bureaucratic positions far from the demarcation of protected lands, according to a recent report from the Institute of Socioeconomic Studies think tank and the nonprofit Associated Indigenists, which includes current and former FUNAI staff.

"Of FUNAI's 39 regional coordination offices, only two are headed by FUNAI staffers," the report says. "Seventeen military men, three policemen, two federal policemen and six professionals with no prior connection with public administration have been named" under Bolsonaro.

The 173-page report published Monday says many of the agency's experts have been fired, unfairly investigated or discredited by its leaders while trying to protect Indigenous people.

In response to AP questions about the report's allegations, FUNAI said in an emailed statement that it operates "with strict obedience to current legislation" and doesn't persecute its officers.

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On the day they went missing, Pereira and Phillips slept at an outpost at the entrance of the main clandestine route into the territory, without passing by the Indigenous agency's permanent base at its entrance, locals told the AP.

Two Indigenous patrollers told the AP the pair had been transporting mobile phones from the surveil-

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lance project with photos of places where illegal fishermen had been. Authorities have said that an illicit fishing network is a focus of the police investigation into the killings. Police said in a statement Saturday that Pereira's death was caused by three gunshot wounds, two to the abdomen and one to the head, with ammunition typical of hunting.

Pereira wasn't the first person connected with FUNAI to be killed in the region. In 2019, an active FUNAI agent, Maxciel Pereira dos Santos, was shot to death as he drove his motorcycle through the city of Tabatinga. He had been threatened for his work against illegal fishermen before he was gunned down. That crime remains unsolved.

Pereira's killing will not stop the Javari territory's border demarcation project from moving ahead, said Manoel Chorimpa, an Univaja member involved in the project. And in another sign that Pereira's work will endure, Indigenous patrollers' surveillance efforts have begun leading to the investigation, arrest and prosecution of law-breakers.

Before his career at FUNAI, Pereira worked as a journalist. But his passion for Indigenous affairs and languages — he spoke four — led him to switch careers. His anthropologist wife, Beatriz Matos, encouraged him in his work, even though it meant long stretches away from their home in Atalaia do Norte, and their children. More recently, they were living in Brazil's capital, Brasilia.

The Indigenous people of the region have mourned Pereira as a partner, and an old photo widely shared on social media in recent days shows a group of them gathered behind Pereira, shirtless, as he shows them something on his laptop. A child leans gently onto his shoulder.

In a statement on Thursday, FUNAI mourned Pereira's death and praised his work: "The public servant leaves an enormous legacy for the isolated Indigenous people's protection. He became one of the country's top specialists in this issue and worked with highest commitment."

Before the bodies were found, however, FUNAI had issued a statement implying Pereira violated procedure by overstaying his authorization inside the Javari territory. It prompted FUNAI's rank-and-file to strike, claiming that the agency had libeled Pereira and demanding its president be fired. A court on Thursday ordered FUNAI to retract its statement that is "incompatible with the reality of the facts" and cease discrediting Pereira.

Rubens Valente, a journalist who has covered the Amazon for decades, said Pereira's work became inherently riskier once he felt it necessary to work independently.

"Fish thieves saw Bruno as a fragile person, without the status and power that FUNAI gave him in the region where he was FUNAI coordinator for five years," Valente said. "When the criminals noticed Bruno was weak, he became an even bigger target."

## Yellowstone flooding rebuild could take years, cost billions

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST and BRIAN MELLELY Associated Press

Created in 1872 as the United States was recovering from the Civil War, Yellowstone was the first of the national parks that came to be referred to as America's best idea. Now, the home to gushing geysers, thundering waterfalls and some of the country's most plentiful and diverse wildlife is facing its biggest challenge in decades.

Floodwaters this week wiped out numerous bridges, washed out miles of roads and closed the park as it approached peak tourist season during its 150th anniversary celebration. Nearby communities were swamped and hundreds of homes flooded as the Yellowstone River and its tributaries raged.

The scope of the damage is still being tallied by Yellowstone officials, but based on other national park disasters, it could take years and cost upwards of \$1 billion to rebuild in an environmentally sensitive landscape where construction season only runs from the spring thaw until the first snowfall.

Based on what park officials have revealed and Associated Press images and video taken from a helicopter, the greatest damage seemed to be to roads, particularly on the highway connecting the park's north entrance in Gardiner, Montana, to the park's offices in Mammoth Hot Springs. Large sections of the road were undercut and washed away as the Gardner River jumped its banks. Perhaps hundreds of footbridges

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on trails may have been damaged or destroyed.

"This is not going to be an easy rebuild," Superintendent Cam Sholly said early in the week as he highlighted photos of massive gaps of roadway in the steep canyon. "I don't think it's going to be smart to invest potentially, you know, tens of millions of dollars, or however much it is, into repairing a road that may be subject to seeing a similar flooding event in the future."

Re-establishing a human imprint in a national park is always a delicate operation, especially as a changing climate makes natural disasters more likely. Increasingly intense wildfires are occurring, including one last year that destroyed bridges, cabins and other infrastructure in Lassen Volcanic National Park in Northern California.

Flooding has already done extensive damage in other parks and is a threat to virtually all the more-than 400 national parks, a report by The Rocky Mountain Climate Organization found in 2009.

Mount Rainier National Park in Washington state closed for six months after the worst flooding in its history in 2006. Damage to roads, trails, campgrounds and buildings was estimated at \$36 million.

Yosemite Valley in California's Yosemite National Park has flooded several times, but suffered its worst damage 25 years ago when heavy downpours on top of a large snowpack — a scenario similar to the Yellowstone flood — submerged campgrounds, flooded hotel rooms, washed out bridges and sections of road, and knocked out power and sewer lines. The park was closed for more than two months.

Congress allocated \$178 million in emergency funds — a massive sum for park infrastructure at the time — and additional funding eventually surpassed \$250 million, according to a 2013 report.

But the rebuilding effort once estimated to last four to five years dragged out for 15, due in part to environmental lawsuits over a protected river corridor and a long bureaucratic planning and review process.

It's not clear if Yellowstone would face the same obstacles, though reconstructing the road that runs near Mammoth Hot Springs, where steaming water bubbles up over an otherworldly series of stone terraces, presents a challenge.

It's created by a unique natural formation of underground tubes and vents that push the hot water to the surface, and would be just one of many natural wonders crews would have to be careful not to disturb, said Brett Hartl, government affairs director at the Center for Biological Diversity.

Along with the formation itself, there are also microbes and insects that thrive in the environment found almost nowhere else. And the park will need to avoid damaging any archaeological or cultural artifacts in the area with a rich Native American history.

"They'll have to look at all the resources the park is designed to protect, and try to do this project as carefully as possible, but they're also going to try to go fairly quickly," Hartl said.

Having to reroute the roadway that hugged the Gardner River could be an opportunity to better protect the waterway and the fish and other species that thrive there from oil and other microscopic pollution that comes from passing vehicles, Hartl said.

"The river will be healthier for it," he said.

The Yosemite flood was seen by the park as an opportunity to rethink its planning and not necessarily rebuild in the same places, said Frank Dean, president and chief executive of the Yosemite Conservancy and a former park ranger.

Some facilities were relocated outside the flood plain and some campgrounds that had been submerged in the flood were never restored. At Yosemite Lodge, cabins that had been slated for removal in the 1980s were swamped and had to be removed.

"The flood took them all out like a precision strike," Dean said. "I'm not going to say it's a good thing, but providence came in and made the decision for them."

Yellowstone's recovery comes as a rapidly growing number of people line up to visit the country's national parks, even as a backlog of deferred maintenance budget grows into tens of billions of dollars. The park was already due for funding from the Great American Outdoors Act, a 2020 law passed by Congress that authorizes nearly \$3 billion for maintenance and other projects on public lands.

Now it will need another infusion of money for more pressing repairs that Emily Douce, director of operations and park funding at National Parks Conservation Association, estimated could hit at least \$1 billion.

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The southern half of the park is expected to reopen next week, allowing visitors to flock to Old Faithful, the rainbow colored Grand Prismatic Spring, and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone and its majestic waterfall.

But the flood-damaged northern end may not reopen this year, depriving visitors from seeing Tower Fall and Lamar Valley, one of the best places in the world to see wolves and grizzly bears. Some days during the high season, an animal sighting can lead to thousands of people parked on the side of the road hoping to catch a glimpse.

Whether some of these areas are reopened will depend on how quickly washed-out roads can be repaired, downed trees can be removed and mudslides cleared.

Maintaining the approximately 466 miles (750 kilometers) of roadway throughout the park is a major job. Much of the roadway originally was designed for stagecoaches, said Kristen Brengel, senior vice-president of public affairs for the National Parks Conservation Association.

"Part of the effort of the last couple of decades has been to stabilize the road to make it safe for heavier vehicles to travel on it," she said.

Located at a high elevation where snow and cold weather is not uncommon eight months of the year and there are many tiny earthquakes, road surfaces don't last as long and road crews have a short window to complete projects. One recently completed road job created closures for about two years.

"I think it'll probably be several years before the park is totally back to normal," Hartl said.

## Floods in India, Bangladesh leave millions homeless, 18 dead

By JULHAS ALAM and WASBIR HUSSAIN Associated Press

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Army troops were called in to rescue thousands of people stranded by massive floods that have ravaged northeastern India and Bangladesh, leaving millions of homes underwater and severing transport links, authorities said Saturday.

In India's Assam state, at least nine people were killed in the floods and 2 million saw their homes submerged, according to the state disaster management agency. Lightning strikes in parts of neighboring Bangladesh have left at least nine dead since Friday.

Both countries have asked their militaries for help as more flooding looms with rains expected to continue over the weekend.

In Sylhet in northeastern Bangladesh, on the banks of the Surma River, children sat on a window of an inundated house while other family members gathered on a bed inside their flooded home, some wondering how to make it through the ordeal.

"How can we eat (in this condition)?" said Anjuman Ara Begum, standing in the water inside her kitchen. "We are living on muri (puffed rice) and chira (flattened rice) and other things given by people. What else can we do? We can't cook."

Flights at Osmani International Airport in Sylhet were suspended for three days as floodwaters almost reached the runway, according to Hafiz Ahmed, the airport manager. The Sylhet Sunamganj highway also was flooded but motorbikes were moving along.

Water levels in all major rivers across the country were rising, according to the flood forecasting and warning center in Dhaka, the capital. The country has about 130 rivers.

The center said the flood situation is likely to deteriorate in the worst-hit Sunamganj and Sylhet districts in the northeastern region as well as in Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Nilphamari and Rangpur districts in northern Bangladesh.

The Brahmaputra, one of Asia's largest rivers, breached its mud embankments, inundating 3,000 villages and croplands in 28 of Assam's 33 districts across the border in India.

"We expect moderate to heavy rainfall in several parts of Assam till Sunday. The volume of rainfall has been unprecedented," said Sanjay O'Neil, an official at the meteorological station in Gauhati, Assam's capital.

Several train services were canceled in India amid the incessant downpour over the past five days. In southern Assam's Haflong town, the railway station was underwater and flooded rivers deposited mud

and silt along the rail tracks.

India's army has been mobilized to assist disaster response agencies in rescuing stranded people and providing food and other essentials. Soldiers used speedboats and inflatable rafts to navigate through submerged areas.

Last month, a pre-monsoon flash flood, triggered by a rush of water from upstream in India's northeastern states, hit Bangladesh's northern and northeastern regions, destroying crops and damaging homes and roads. The country was just starting to recover when fresh rains flooded the same areas again this week.

Bangladesh, a nation of 160 million people, is low-lying and faces threats from natural disasters such as floods and cyclones, made worse by climate change. According to the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, about 17% of people in Bangladesh would need to be relocated over the next decade or so if global warming persists at the present rate.

## Efforts spotlight slave who inspired beach name, local tale

By PHILIP MARCELO Associated Press

BEVERLY, Mass. (AP) — An enslaved Black man, the tall tale he inspired and the beach that now bears his name are the focus of new efforts to recognize the role of slavery along Massachusetts' picturesque North Shore.

As the story goes, Robin Mingo was promised freedom by his white master if the tide ever receded enough for him to walk out onto a rocky outcropping off what is now known as Mingo Beach. Depending on the telling, Mingo either completed the challenge and was emancipated, drowned tragically or lived out his days in bondage without ever seeing the rare tidal event.

"It shows how much power slave owners had over their slaves," said Katerina Pintone, a 19-year-old rising sophomore at Endicott College, where Mingo Beach is located. "That one man could have this much control over another man's life."

This past semester, Pintone and other Endicott students researched the local legend as part of a public history course and suggested ways to memorialize Mingo and his namesake beach. Their ideas ranged from a heritage trail to a smartphone app and even a boat tour highlighting Mingo's story and the popular tourist region's slave ties.

Professor Elizabeth Matelski, who taught the course, is also doing research for a book on Mingo and working with other historians on a project mapping North Shore locations like Mingo Beach that are historically significant to people of color. Meanwhile Endicott, a private coed school, says it's in discussions with city officials to formally register the beach as a historic landmark.

Matelski hopes the efforts spark broader discussions about the often overlooked role of slavery in New England.

"Most people who walk by that particular stretch of beach have absolutely no idea about this history," she said.

Abby Battis, an associate director at Historic Beverly, the city's historical society, agreed. Battis said she never heard Mingo's story growing up in the seaside city, which is often overshadowed by its more famous neighbors — Salem, site of the infamous witch trials, and Gloucester, the historic fishing port.

"We need to stop telling the old, dead white guy stories," she said. "There's so much more to Beverly's history."

The historical society is doing its part to create a fuller picture of the city's role in slavery, Battis added. The organization launched a virtual exhibit in 2019 featuring the stories of those enslaved in Beverly, a coastal city about 25 miles (40 kilometers) north of Boston that dates to the 1600s.

Mingo is not among those highlighted in "Set at Liberty," but the society has identified at least 100 enslaved people and more than 200 local ships involved in the slave trade as part of its ongoing work.

It's a "common myth" that slavery either never existed or was inherently different in New England than other places, says Beth Bower, a local historian on the board of Historic Beverly.

Historical records show New Englanders clearly imported enslaved Africans for all the tasks that made



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the young colony possible, from farming and fishing to building ships, she said.

And while history credits Massachusetts with being among the first states to abolish slavery in 1783, there is growing evidence that slavery persisted in the state into the early 1800s before gradually disappearing, Bower said.

President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, but it took more than two years for Black slaves in Galveston, Texas to receive word of their freedom. That day, June 19, 1865, is now known as Juneteenth, which is being celebrated as an official federal holiday for the first time Sunday.

Matelski said she first heard of Mingo's tale in the summer of 2020, during the height of the protests that followed the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

A Michigan native, she said she was immediately struck by the story's potential to speak to the present as the nation reckons with its racist past.

Mingo's tale is all the more significant considering he was married to a free Indigenous woman, and his enslaver descended from the original founders of Beverly, Matelski said.

"It's so deeply rooted in Beverly history and in the New England experience," she said. "There's just a lot of different threads happening there."

Part of Matelski's focus going forward will be separating myth from fact.

In the most popular telling, for example, Mingo achieves his feat and earns his emancipation, only to die later that year.

But local records suggest the real-life Mingo lived into his 80s, was baptized, raised a daughter and even acquired land in town before dying in 1748.

Matelski believes the Mingo legend has its roots in the stories abolitionists popularized in order to underscore the "casual cruelty" of the slave industry they fiercely opposed.

Such slave narratives typically centered on the harsh reality of southern plantation life and the extraordinary perils some slaves endured to escape to freedom, making Mingo's tale a uniquely New England take on the genre, she said.

"What we know right now is a puzzle piece," Matelski said. "As a historian, you're like a cold case detective, trying to create as complete a picture as you can of this really important story that hasn't been told."

## At Westminster dog show, new focus on veterinarians' welfare

By JENNIFER PELTZ Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The dogs get the spotlight, but the upcoming Westminster Kennel Club show is also illuminating a human issue: veterinarians' mental health.

In conjunction with a first-time Veterinarian of the Year award that will be presented on the show's final day Wednesday, the club is giving \$10,000 to a charity focused on veterinary professionals' psychological welfare.

It's new emotional territory for the 145-year-old event at a point when the coronavirus pandemic, and a changing culture, have bared the internal struggles of people from schoolchildren to health care workers to college athletes and professional sports stars.

For veterinarians, too, the pandemic added new strains — wrung-out clients, soaring caseloads and more — and amplified longstanding ones.

"We love what we do, and there's a certain mystique about working with animals — a lot of people think we play with puppies all day long. But there's a lot behind this," said American Veterinary Medicine Association President José Arce of San Juan, Puerto Rico. He hopes Westminster's award will educate people about vets' wellbeing.

The show began with an agility competition Saturday and continues Monday through Wednesday, with the best in show prize awarded live on Fox Sports' FS1 channel Wednesday night. For the first time, some action will also appear on the Spanish-language FOX Deportes.

Nearly 3,500 canines — the most since the 1970s — are expected at the historic Lyndhurst estate in Tarrytown, New York, show co-chairman David Haddock said. The 200-plus breeds and varieties include

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two newcomers, the mudi and the Russian toy.

It's the second year in a row that pandemic concerns shifted the United States' most storied dog show to its June date and suburban outdoor venue, rather than New York City's Madison Square Garden in winter.

Westminster has given scholarships to veterinary students since 1987, but the new award recognizes a practicing vet. Inaugural winner Dr. Joseph Rossi has treated many show dogs at North Penn Animal Hospital in Lansdale, Pennsylvania, and his and his wife's Norwich terrier Dolores won the breed at Westminster in 2020.

Co-sponsored by pet insurer Trupanion, the honor comes with a contribution to MightyVet, which offers mentors, courses and other support on topics including work-life balance, handling tough conversations with clients and looking for signs that colleagues might be in serious distress.

"We want to make sure that our animals are taken care of, but to do that, we need to make sure that our vets are taken care of," Westminster spokesperson Gail Miller Bisher said.

Concerns and research about burnout, depression and suicidality among veterinarians have percolated for decades in the field.

But the issue got wider attention after a 2019 study in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medicine Association showed that a higher proportion of deaths due to suicide among U.S. veterinarians than in the general population. Various other occupations have above-average suicide rates, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

As in human medicine, veterinarians feel the strain of handling emergencies, caring for the sick — and, often, starting out a career with six-figure student debt.

Veterinary doctors, however, also confront the responsibility of advising pet owners about euthanasia and carrying it out.

There are emotionally painful, ethically trying moments when people can't let go of a suffering pet — or, conversely, can't afford treatment that could be life-saving. (Some charities and veterinary facilities provide financial help.) Even when euthanasia isn't under discussion, there are the challenges of communicating with anguished pet owners and coming to terms with cases that don't go as hoped.

"As the veterinarian, it hits us hard," Rossi said. "We love animals, and that's why we do this."

In an average week, several veterinarians or other staffers seek out one-on-one guidance for a problem — job-related or not — from veterinary social worker Judith Harbour, who also works with pet owners at the Schwarzman Animal Medical Center in New York.

Veterinarians need to be able to move from crisis to crisis at AMC, which treats more than 50,000 animals a year and has a 24-7 emergency room and highly specialized care.

"But then there needs to be a time when the difficult experiences are dealt with," says Harbour. She aims to help vets and other staffers talk through those experiences "in a productive way that's not just a venting session."

She advises them to focus on their inner motivations and values, be kind to themselves and remember that many situations don't have perfect solutions.

The American Veterinary Medicine Association also offers help, ranging from free suicide prevention training to a "workplace wellbeing certificate" program that engages entire veterinary practices in learning about such subjects as giving feedback, navigating conflict and fostering diversity and inclusion.

The pet-owning public has a role to play, too, Arce says.

"We understand how passionate people are about their pets and the health of their pets, but treating your veterinarian roughly because you're under stress, because your pet is ill, is not the way to go," he said.

"We're trying to help you with everything we can."

## Biden's optimism collides with mounting political challenges

By WILL WEISSERT and ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats are going to hold onto the House after November's midterm elections. They will pick up as many as four seats in the Senate, expanding their majority and overcoming internal

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dissent that has helped stifle their agenda.

As the challenges confronting President Joe Biden intensify, his predictions of a rosy political future for the Democratic Party are growing bolder. The assessments, delivered in speeches, fundraisers and conversations with friends and allies, seem at odds with a country that he acknowledged this past week was "really, really down," burdened by a pandemic, surging gas prices and spiking inflation.

Biden's hopeful outlook is in line with a sense of optimism that has coursed through his nearly five-decade career and was at the center of his 2020 presidential campaign, which he said was built around restoring the "soul of America." In a lengthy Oval Office interview with The Associated Press on Thursday, Biden said part of his job as president is to "be confident."

While presidents often try to emphasize the positive, there is a risk in this moment that Biden contributes to a dissonance between Washington and people across the country who are confronting genuine and growing economic pain.

Few of Biden's closest political advisers are as bullish about the party's prospects as the president. In interviews with a half-dozen people in and close to the White House, there is a broad sense that Democrats will lose control of Congress, and that many of the party's leading candidates in down-ballot races and contests for governor will be defeated in an election Biden himself can do little to help.

The seeming disconnect between Biden's view and the political reality has some in the party worried the White House has not fully grasped just how bad this election year may be for Democrats.

"I don't expect any president to go out and say, 'You know what, 'We're going to lose the next election,'" said Will Marshall, president and founder of the Progressive Policy Institute, which is in regular contact with the White House's policy team. What might serve Biden well instead, Marshall said, would be "a sober sense of, 'Look, we're probably in for a rough night in November, and our strategy should be to remind the country what's at stake.'"

The White House is hardly ignoring the problem.

Jen O'Malley Dillon, Biden's 2020 campaign manager who now serves as one of his deputy chiefs of staff, runs the political team from the West Wing along with Emmy Ruiz, a longtime Texas-based Democratic political consultant.

O'Malley Dillon coordinates strategy among the White House, the Democratic National Committee and an array of outside party groups. Cedric Richmond, a former Louisiana congressman who co-chaired Biden's 2020 campaign and was one of his closest White House advisers, left for a job with the DNC in April.

"We understand that, you cannot govern if you can't win," Richmond said in an interview. "We are treating it with that sense of urgency."

Returning to the White House is veteran strategist Anita Dunn. Biden turned to her during an especially low political moment in February 2020, giving her broad control of his then-cash strapped presidential campaign as it appeared on the brink of collapse after a disastrous fourth-place showing in the Iowa caucus.

But where White House officials last year harbored hopes that voters could be convinced of Biden's accomplishments and reverse their dismal outlook on the national direction, aides now acknowledge that such an uphill battle is no longer worth fighting. Instead, they have pushed the president to be more open about his own frustrations — particularly on inflation — to show voters that he shares their concerns, and to cast Republicans and their policies as obstacles to addressing these issues.

In public, Biden has betrayed few concerns about his party's fortunes this fall, opting instead for relentlessly positivity.

"I think there are at least four seats that are up for grabs that we could pick up in the Senate," the president told a recent gathering of donors in Maryland. "And we're going to keep the House."

Biden meant Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, with potential longer shots in North Carolina or Florida possibly representing No. 4. Aides say the president is simply seeking to fire up his base with such predictions. But one laughed when asked if it was possible that Democrats could pick up four Senate seats.

The party's chances of maintaining House control may be bleaker.

Biden has traveled more since last fall, promoting a \$1 trillion public works package that became law

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in November, including visiting competitive territory in Minnesota, Virginia, Wisconsin, Michigan and New Hampshire. During a trip to Democratic Rep. Cindy Axne's Iowa swing district, the president declared, "My name is Joe Biden. I work for Congresswoman Axne."

Bernie Sanders, the 80-year-old Vermont senator who was the last challenger eliminated in 2020, has not ruled running should Biden not seek reelection. That has revived questions about whether Biden, 79, might opt not to run — speculation that has persisted despite the White House political operation gearing up for the midterms and beyond.

The more immediate question of Biden's midterm appeal could be even trickier. He campaigned for Democrat Terry McAuliffe in Virginia last November, after winning the state easily in 2020. McAuliffe lost by 2 percentage points, a potentially bad omen for the 16 governorships Democrats are defending this fall.

"We know there are going to be national headwinds, there always are," Stacey Abrams, the Democratic candidate for governor in Georgia, said recently. But she insisted she would be happy to campaign with Biden or top members of his administration.

But Democrat Beto O'Rourke, running for governor in Texas, told reporters, "I'm not interested in any national politician — anyone outside of Texas — coming into this state to help decide the outcome of this race."

Biden's overall approval rating hit a new low of 39% last month. Even among his own party, just 33% of respondents said the country is headed in the right direction, down from 49% in April. The president's approval rating among Democrats stood at 73%, falling sharply from last year.

## Biden's optimism collides with mounting political challenges

By WILL WEISSERT and ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats are going to hold onto the House after November's midterm elections. They will pick up as many as four seats in the Senate, expanding their majority and overcoming internal dissent that has helped stifle their agenda.

As the challenges confronting President Joe Biden intensify, his predictions of a rosy political future for the Democratic Party are growing bolder. The assessments, delivered in speeches, fundraisers and conversations with friends and allies, seem at odds with a country that he acknowledged this week was "really, really down," burdened by a pandemic, surging gas prices and spiking inflation.

Biden's hopeful outlook tracks with a sense of optimism that has coursed through his nearly five-decade career and was at the center of his 2020 presidential campaign, which he said was built around restoring the "soul of America." In a lengthy Oval Office interview with The Associated Press on Thursday, Biden said part of his job as president is to "be confident."

"Because I am confident," he said. "We are better positioned than any country in the world to own the second quarter of the 21st century. That's not hyperbole. That's a fact."

While presidents often try to emphasize the positive, there is a risk in this moment that Biden contributes to a dissonance between Washington and people across the country who are confronting genuine and growing economic pain.

Few of Biden's closest political advisers are as bullish about the party's prospects as the president. In interviews with a half-dozen people in and close to the White House, there is a broad sense that Democrats will lose control of Congress and that many of the party's leading candidates in down-ballot races and contests for governor will be defeated, with Biden unable to offer much help.

The seeming disconnect between Biden's view and the political reality has some in the party worried the White House has not fully grasped just how bad this election year may be for Democrats.

"I don't expect any president to go out and say, 'You know what, 'We're going to lose the next election,'" said Will Marshall, president and founder of the Progressive Policy Institute, which is in regular contact with the White House's policy team. What might serve Biden well instead, Marshall said, would be "a sober sense of, 'Look, we're probably in for a rough night in November and our strategy should be to remind the country what's at stake.'"

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The White House is hardly ignoring the problem.

After years in which Democrats have operated in political silos, there is a greater focus on marshaling resources. Jen O'Malley Dillon, Biden's 2020 campaign manager who now serves as one of his deputy chiefs of staff, runs the political team from the West Wing along with Emmy Ruiz, a longtime Texas-based Democratic political consultant.

O'Malley Dillon coordinates strategy among the White House, the Democratic National Committee and an array of outside party groups. Cedric Richmond, a former Louisiana congressman who co-chaired Biden's 2020 campaign and was one of his closest White House advisers, left for a job with the DNC in April. He characterized the move as underscoring the administration's full grasp of the importance of the midterms.

"We understand that you cannot govern if you can't win," Richmond said in an interview. "We are treating it with that sense of urgency."

The president's political message is being honed by Mike Donilon, a longtime Biden aide who is a protector of Biden's public image, and veteran party strategist Anita Dunn, who is returning to the White House for a second stint.

Richmond praised Dunn's political instincts and said he believes she will team with O'Malley Dillon, White House chief of staff Ron Klain and others to promote messaging that many in their own party may underestimate.

"If I had a penny for every time Democrats counted Joe Biden or Kamala Harris out, I'd be independently wealthy," Richmond said.

Biden turned to Dunn during an especially low political moment in February 2020, giving her broad control of his then-cash strapped presidential campaign as it appeared on the brink of collapse after a disastrous fourth-place showing in the Iowa caucus.

Barely a week later, Biden left New Hampshire before its primary polls had even closed, ultimately finishing fifth. But he took second in Nevada, won South Carolina handily and saw the Democratic establishment rally around him at breakneck speed in mere days after that. O'Malley Dillon then joined the campaign and oversaw Biden's general election victory.

A similar reversal of political fortune may be necessary now.

But where White House officials last year harbored hopes that voters could be convinced of Biden's accomplishments and reverse their dismal outlook on the national direction, aides now acknowledge that such an uphill battle is no longer worth fighting. Instead, they have pushed the president to be more open about his own frustrations — particularly on inflation — to show voters that he shares their concerns and to cast Republicans and their policies as obstacles to addressing these issues.

Though he has increasingly expressed anger about inflation, Biden has publicly betrayed few concerns about his party's fortunes this fall, opting instead for relentlessly positivity.

"I think there are at least four seats that are up for grabs that we could pick up in the Senate," the president told a recent gathering of donors in Maryland. "And we're going to keep the House."

Biden meant Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, with potential longer shots in North Carolina or Florida possibly representing No. 4. Some aides admit that assessment is too optimistic. They say the president is simply seeking to fire up his base with such predictions. One openly laughed when asked if it was possible that Democrats could pick up four Senate seats.

The party's chances of maintaining House control may be bleaker. Still, Tim Persico, executive director of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, which is charged with defending the party's narrow majority, said Biden remains an asset.

"We love when the president is speaking to the country," Persico said. "There'll always be frustrations. I totally get that. But I think he's his own best messenger."

Biden has traveled more since last fall, promoting a \$1 trillion public works package that became law in November, including visiting competitive territory in Minnesota, Virginia, Wisconsin, Michigan and New Hampshire. During a trip to Democratic Rep. Cindy Axne's Iowa swing district, the president declared, "My name is Joe Biden. I work for Congresswoman Axne."

But Bernie Sanders, the last challenger eliminated as Biden clinched the 2020 Democratic presidential

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nomination, is making his own Iowa trip this weekend to rally striking workers at construction and agriculture equipment plants.

The 80-year-old Vermont senator has not ruled out a third presidential bid in 2024 should Biden not seek reelection. That has revived questions about whether Biden, 79, might opt not to run — speculation that has persisted despite the White House political operation gearing up for the midterms and beyond.

"I do think a lot of folks in the Democratic Party, rightfully, are concerned about what's going to happen in 2024. That doesn't have to be mal intent," said Linn County Supervisor Stacey Walker, whose district includes Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and who was a high-profile Sanders supporter during the last campaign. "I think folks are putting the question to the Democratic Party, 'Is Joe Biden going to run again? Is he not going to run again?'"

Walker noted that other Democrats who could seek the White House in 2024 if Biden does not, including Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, joined Sanders in signing a letter supporting 1,000-plus plant workers who have been striking for better pay and benefits for more than a month.

"It is responsible, I think, for those folks within the Democratic Party, who have the profile, who have the infrastructure, to make sure it's all still in good working condition should they have to dust off the playbook," Walker said.

Asked if Biden was running again in 2024, White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said the president has responded to such queries repeatedly and "his answer has been pretty simple, which is, yes, he's running for reelection."

The more immediate question of Biden's midterm appeal could be even trickier. He campaigned for Democrat Terry McAuliffe in Virginia last November, after winning the state easily in 2020. McAuliffe lost by 2 percentage points, a potentially bad omen for the 16 governorships Democrats are defending this fall.

"We know there are going to be national headwinds, there always are," Stacey Abrams, the Democratic candidate for governor in Georgia, said recently. But she insisted she would be happy to campaign with Biden or top members of his administration: "I welcome anyone willing to lift Georgia up, to come to Georgia and help me get it done."

That was a departure from Democrat Beto O'Rourke, running for governor in Texas, who told reporters, "I'm not interested in any national politician — anyone outside of Texas — coming into this state to help decide the outcome of this race."

Biden political advisers say a possible Supreme Court ruling overturning the landmark Roe v. Wade decision, as well as recent mass shootings spurring renewed debate over gun violence, could give Democrats two issues that could energize voters. But they also acknowledge that one or both might help party candidates clinch already close races — not remake the political landscape nationwide.

In the meantime, Biden's overall approval rating hit a new low of 39% last month. Even among his own party, just 33% of respondents said the country is headed in the right direction, down from 49% in April. The president's approval rating among Democrats stood at 73%, falling sharply from last year, when Biden's Democratic approval rating never slipped below 82%.

White House political advisers are already playing down the possibility that some of the party's most vulnerable candidates may carve out identities distinct from the president's. As a former senator, Biden understands such maneuvers, they say.

The White House also notes that the president and his party are in far better shape now than before the 2010 midterms, when a tea party wave saw Republicans win back Congress. Since taking office, Biden's political team has invested significantly in the DNC and state parties, and all sides are cooperating.

The DNC says it has never been larger, with 450 staff members on state party payrolls, or sported a more robust ground operation. It also raised \$213 million so far, a midterm record. But DNC Chair Jaime Harrison nonetheless appeared to be trying to head off concerns donors' contributions might be going to waste, saying, "We're not promoting it all over the place."

"When you're in the Super Bowl, do you think the coach puts all their plays up on Twitter, and says, 'Here's what we're going to run?'" Harrison said at a Los Angeles fundraiser with Biden last weekend. "No. We don't put all of our stuff out there."

He said the group is building out an operation "to make sure that, when those close elections happen November, we win them."

## Housing market slows retreat from rising seas, bigger storms

By BEN FINLEY Associated Press

Chuck and Terry Nowiski lived in their country-style farmhouse with a wrap-around porch for 36 years before it flooded. After hurricanes Matthew and Florence, they said "yes" to the state's offer to buy their place and tear it down.

Nearly three years later, they're still waiting for the money. What's worse, they say it's for the home's value before the storms hit in 2016 and 2018. Now they worry they won't be able to buy the house they want with the federal disaster dollars they'll get.

"It would be pennies compared to what the market is," said Terry Nowiski of the couple's house outside the town of Linden, about 15 miles (25 kilometers) north of Fayetteville, North Carolina. "I've watched housing prices in the last year go from the upper \$200,000s to \$350,000 to \$450,000."

Hot real estate markets have made some homeowners wary of participating in voluntary flood buyout programs, impacting efforts to move people away from flooding from rising seas, intensifying hurricanes and more frequent storms.

Flood buyout programs typically purchase flood-prone homes, raze them and turn the property into green space. That can help prevent deaths and health problems associated with flooding, such as mold-related respiratory issues and emotional trauma.

Buyouts also are considered cheaper for taxpayers compared to repairing and rebuilding flooded houses — sometimes multiple times — with government payouts and federal flood insurance.

The programs are run by local and state governments that often use grants from federal agencies. The Federal Emergency Management Agency says it's provided almost \$3.5 billion to help communities acquire nearly 50,000 properties in the last three decades.

"This is basically the tool that we have right now to help people move somewhere safer," said Anna Weber, a senior policy analyst with the Natural Resources Defense Council. "And so it should work as well as it possibly can."

But some cities have seen waning interest in voluntary programs in the wake of rising home prices. Some states are even offering extra money to persuade people to move out of harm's way.

People who take buyouts usually want to relocate to similar homes on higher ground in the same community. But some worry that buyout dollars won't be enough. Others reject them because private buyers' offers were too good to turn down. The houses stayed occupied — and at risk.

And while experts say housing markets are cooling off with rising interest rates, the challenge of finding affordable homes is likely to get worse.

"Replacement housing will only get more expensive because rising waters often means more competition for less housing," said Jesse M. Keenan, a real estate professor at Tulane University's School of Architecture. "Nothing will be easy. Nothing will be cheap."

Concerns about finding affordable homes outside flood-prone areas aren't new, said Miyuki Hino, a professor at the University of North Carolina's Department of City and Regional Planning.

Programs have traditionally struggled to help everyone relocate to similar housing, particularly those with lower incomes. Inflated housing prices have shined a greater spotlight on the limitations.

"In general, they weren't designed from the start with the idea of, 'How does this household end up in a better place in the end?'" Hino said. "The focus has been on removing the buildings from the flood plain."

Buyout offers can be based on a home's fair-market value as well as its pre-storm worth. The latter generally stems from the assumption that a home is worth less because it's been damaged. But rising home prices complicated that assumption, while magnifying concerns about the often yearslong wait for FEMA dollars.

FEMA Press Secretary Jeremy Edwards said in a statement the process can be lengthy, in part, because

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the agency must determine that a buyout is cost-effective and complies with environmental and historic preservation requirements.

Edwards also said that FEMA now allows for an increased payment of up to \$31,000 to assist homeowners in their search for comparable housing.

Democratic U.S. Reps. Sean Casten of Illinois and Earl Blumenauer of Oregon introduced legislation last month that's designed to shorten wait times and offer more assistance.

"The science makes crystal clear that this climate-driven devastation will only get worse and more costly," Casten said.

Meanwhile, the Nowiskis are waiting to know how much money they'll get for the buyout they agreed to in 2019.

Retired and in their mid-60s, they want to stay local without taking out a mortgage. Their daughter is nearby, and so is their nonprofit ministry to help troubled boys.

They're now considering selling to a "house flipper" or just staying in their home, which is near a tributary of the Cape Fear River.

North Carolina Emergency Management, which handles the buyout program where the Nowiskis live, said in an email that a state fund provides up to \$50,000 to help people find similar homes when federal grants aren't enough.

Keith Acree, an agency spokesperson, acknowledged that buyouts through federal programs can be a long process.

"Homeowners that want to get out of a property quickly will often pursue other methods, if they have the means," he said.

Other states are also offering money on top of federal disaster dollars. In response to rising home prices, the South Carolina Office of Resilience teamed up with coastal Horry County to create a "market adjustment incentive" in February, said Ran Reinhard, the office's mitigation director.

The incentive ranges from \$10,000 to \$50,000 on top of the pre-storm home value offered by the buyout program. It appears to be making a difference.

Twenty-seven offers have been made, and 21 homeowners have signed on so far.

"We wanted to make it so a homeowner could remain a homeowner and in their community," Reinhard said.

But in some areas, the housing market has been so competitive that private buyers have out-bid the government — even when it offers fair-market value.

North Carolina's Mecklenburg County, which includes the city of Charlotte, is one such place. It created its own self-funded program to move people away from the Catawba River and other waterways that can overflow from heavy rains.

Rising home prices aren't making it easy. For example, the appraised buyout value of one Charlotte home rose from around \$250,000 in 2020 to about \$325,000 in late 2021. The property was then purchased by a private buyer for what county officials believe was as much as \$100,000 over asking price.

"I would tell you probably it's twice as hard to get to the closing table on flood plain buyouts," said Dave Canaan, the county's director of storm water services before leaving the position in early June.

In Chesapeake, Virginia, no one participated in the buyout program last year, said Robb Braidwood, coordinator of emergency management.

Many older homes were built along the Elizabeth River and tributaries that swell from heavy rains and storms that push water in from the Chesapeake Bay.

There's a fading sense of urgency because the last major flood was in 2016, Braidwood said. Another problem is the wait times for FEMA money and the limits of its grants. Increased home prices are also likely to blame.

"We do this once a year where we call out to everybody that floods," Braidwood said. "And we just hear crickets back."

Joseph Noble, whose North Carolina home sits near a tributary of the Neuse River, rejected a FEMA-funded buyout offer after it flooded twice in 2016.



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He said the money wasn't enough to buy a similar home nearby — and that was before prices heated up in the small city of Kinston, about 80 miles (130 kilometers) southeast of Raleigh.

He worries about what kind of buyout offer he'd get if he floods this year.

"All it takes is one good hurricane that goes our way," Noble said.

## Today in History: June 19, Senate approves Civil Rights Act

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Sunday, June 19, the 170th day of 2022. There are 195 days left in the year. This is Juneteenth. (The federal holiday will be observed on Monday, June 20.) This is Father's Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 19, 1964, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was approved by the U.S. Senate, 73-27, after surviving a lengthy filibuster.

On this date:

In 1775, George Washington was commissioned by the Continental Congress as commander in chief of the Continental Army.

In 1865, Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War was over, and that all remaining slaves in Texas were free — an event celebrated to this day as "Juneteenth."

In 1910, the first-ever Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane, Washington. (The idea for the observance is credited to Sonora Louise Smart Dodd.)

In 1911, Pennsylvania became the first state to establish a motion picture censorship board.

In 1917, during World War I, King George V ordered the British royal family to dispense with German titles and surnames; the family took the name "Windsor."

In 1934, the Federal Communications Commission was created; it replaced the Federal Radio Commission.

In 1944, during World War II, the two-day Battle of the Philippine Sea began, resulting in a decisive victory for the Americans over the Japanese.

In 1953, Julius Rosenberg, 35, and his wife, Ethel, 37, convicted of conspiring to pass U.S. atomic secrets to the Soviet Union, were executed at Sing Sing Prison in Ossining, New York.

In 1975, former Chicago organized crime boss Sam Giancana was shot to death in the basement of his home in Oak Park, Illinois; the killing has never been solved.

In 1986, University of Maryland basketball star Len Bias, the first draft pick of the Boston Celtics, suffered a fatal cocaine-induced seizure.

In 1987, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Louisiana law requiring any public school teaching the theory of evolution to teach creation science as well.

In 2014, Rep. Kevin McCarthy of California won election as House majority leader as Republicans shuffled their leadership in the wake of Rep. Eric Cantor's primary defeat in Virginia.

Ten years ago: WikiLeaks chief Julian Assange took refuge at Ecuador's Embassy in London, seeking to avoid extradition to Sweden, where he faced questioning about alleged sex crimes. (Sweden dropped its inquiry in May 2017; Assange remains in custody in Britain, where a judge has approved a U.S. request to extradite him so he can stand trial on espionage charges.)

Five years ago: Otto Warmbier (WARM'-beer), a 22-year-old American college student released by North Korea in a coma after more than a year in captivity, died in a Cincinnati hospital.

One year ago: Eight children in a van from a youth home for abused or neglected children were killed in a multi-vehicle crash on a wet interstate in Alabama; they were among the 13 killed in the state as a tropical depression caused flash floods and tornadoes that destroyed dozens of homes.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Gena (JEH'-nuh) Rowlands is 92. Hall of Fame race car driver Shirley Muldowney is 82. Singer Elaine "Spanky" McFarlane (Spanky and Our Gang) is 80. Nobel peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi (soo chee) is 77. Author Sir Salman Rushdie is 75. Actor Phylicia Rashad is 74. Rock singer Ann Wilson (Heart) is 72. Musician Larry Dunn is 69. Actor Kathleen Turner is 68. Country singer Doug Stone is 66. Singer Mark "Marty" DeBarge is 63. Singer-dancer-choreographer Paula Abdul is 60. Actor Andy Lauer is

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59. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson is 58. Rock singer-musician Brian Vander Ark (Verve Pipe) is 58. Actor Samuel West is 56. Actor Mia Sara is 55. TV personality Lara Spencer is 53. Rock musician Brian "Head" Welch is 52. Actor Jean Dujardin is 50. Actor Robin Tunney is 50. Actor Bumper Robinson is 48. Actor Poppy Montgomery is 47. Alt-country singer-musician Scott Avett (AY'-veht) (The Avett Brothers) is 46. Actor Ryan Hurst is 46. Actor Zoe Saldana is 44. Former NBA star Dirk Nowitzki is 44. Actor Neil Brown Jr. is 42. Actor Lauren Lee Smith is 42. Rapper Macklemore (Macklemore and Ryan Lewis) is 40. Actor Paul Dano is 38. New York Mets pitcher Jacob DeGrom is 34. Actor Giacomo Gianniotti is 33. Actor Chuku Modu (TV: "The Good Doctor") is 32. Actor Atticus Shaffer is 24.