Our newest edition of Lakeside is inside this issue

the Sumter ITEM

SATURDAY-TUESDAY, JULY 12-15, 2025 | Serving South Carolina since October 15, 1894 $2.50

Application process for repairing private roads might be available by the end of this year

BY DEIRDRE CURRIN
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It could be the end of this year when Sumter residents see the first phase of repairing private roads, which will be an application process.

Though it may have just come back into the spotlight recently, the repair of Sumter's private roads has been discussed by many a county council with no solution in sight, but at Sumter County Council's last public works meeting, a preliminary timeline was presented, and it appears residents may be able to send in applications to have their private roads repaired.

First, a road policy ordinance will need to go through three readings to be approved by council. County Administrator Gary Mixon said they are still doing research on changing the current ordinance and that there needs to be a change in its language at least.

Closer to the end of the year, the plan is to have council ready to take public applications. There will be two application phases. The first phase is a simpler, preliminary phase that will

SEE **ROADS,** PAGE A11



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Palmetto Tennis Center, featuring eight new red clay courts, is seen in January.

Sumter serves up its biggest sports tourism event yet in August

Palmetto Tennis Center to host 2nd-highest-tier pro men's tourney; admission is free

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

The City of Sumter will host its most prestigious international sports tourism event to date with a second-highest-tier professional men's tennis tournament coming in August to Palmetto Tennis Center.

The Serve First Open, an Association of Tennis Professionals Challenger 125 Tournament, will hold court at Sumter's world-class tennis complex from Aug. 11-17, according to a Tuesday, July 8, news release from the City of Sumter when the tourney's site location was initially announced.

The ATP Challenger Tour is considered the stepping stone to the main ATP Tour and will bring some of the top-ranked players in the world to compete in the Gamecock City just before the US Open. The US Open is scheduled for Aug. 24 through Sept. 7 in Queens, New York, and the local tournament will serve as "a pivotal warm-up for Grand Slam event contenders" and put Sumter in the global

SEE **TOURNAMENT,** PAGE A11

Clyburn, experts weigh in on proposed cuts to NOAA funding in hurricane research

BY ALAYSHA MAPLE
alaysha@theitem.com

"Climate change is not a hoax, it is a reality … it is a reality we're living with, and it's a reality we must be prepared to confront."

And the first step to doing so, according to U.S. Rep. James Clyburn, representing South Carolina's District 6, is to understand the detriment the cuts to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and its agencies can have on receiving timely and accurate forecasts, the economy and people's lives.

On the morning of July 4, the Guadalupe River rose 26 feet in 45 minutes, leading to devastation and more than 100 deaths across Central Texas.

Five days later on July 9, Clyburn, joined by fellow U.S. Reps. Debbie Wasserman Schultz of Florida's District 25, Lois Frankel of Florida's District 22 and Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick of Florida's

SEE **FORECASTING,** PAGE A11

Liberty STEAM to increase military students given new law

State charter school enrollment preference legislation will impact future school lotteries

BY BRUCE MILLS
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New state charter school military enrollment preference legislation signed into law this spring will increase Liberty STEAM Charter School's annual lottery admission of military children to about one of every four kids, or 25%.

Based on historical data, about 25 military-connected kids are selected each year in Liberty's kindergarten lottery that admits 144 students, and that total will rise to about 40 military children annually, given implementation of the new legislation, according to school Executive Director Trevor Ivey.

Given sibling preferences and other preference groupings in Liberty's lottery admissions, the calculations can get complex, but those figures provide a general summary, he added.

Entering the upcoming school year, Liberty will be a

SEE **MILITARY,** PAGE A11



BRUCE MILLS / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter Liberty STEAM Charter School students study earlier this year in March at the mall campus.

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the Sumter ITEM

SECOND FRONT

E-mail: pressrelease@theitem.com

Crestwood field updates, rezoning attendance lines before school board Monday

Public participation on agenda

BY BRUCE MILLS
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Updates on the Crestwood High School football field/athletic complex and the district's rezoning of schools' attendance lines for implementation in the 2026-27 school year will be before Sumter School District's Board of Trustees on Monday.

An Office of Academics presentation on district-wide academic strategies and attendance plans for the upcoming school year, monthly financial reports and public participation also highlight the agenda, which was posted online on Friday. The meeting is the board's regularly scheduled meeting for the month of July.


WRIGHT

Regarding renovations to Crestwood's football field that have been in the works for more than a year, Superintendent William Wright Jr. informed *The Sumter Item* on Wednesday that the plan is for the stadium to be ready for the team's opening home game on Aug. 22 against rival Manning High.

Wright will also provide the update on the district's rezoning of attendance lines, officially called realignment. On May 19, the trustees voted 5-4 to implement realignment one year from now with the start of the 2026-27 school year. The measure will keep all 24 of the district's schools open, despite declining enrollment for nearly a decade, and balance enrollments across the schools.

At that May meeting, the full board turned down a substitute motion to prioritize first a "bigger picture" master plan involving several factors to include the age of school buildings, consolidations and a capital development program for new schools.

Also, Monday's executive session behind closed doors for the trustees includes the receipt of legal advice from the board's attorney and contractual matters, per the agenda.

On May 2, two days after a special-called meeting on April 30 to discuss legal and personnel matters with its attorney, the full board issued a statement that despite "rumors" in the community it was not trying to terminate Wright. But the statement did say the superintendent did want to resign June 30 in exchange for three years' pay. However, the trustees would not accept his proposal.

Then, at the board's June 23 meeting, trustees conducted an unusual mid-year evaluation of the superintendent during executive session, which lasted two hours.

When the board returned to open session, Chairman Shawn Ragin did not provide a statement on the evaluation.

Monday's meeting will begin at 6 p.m. at the district office, 1345 Wilson Hall Road.

Regarding public participation, any member of the public wanting to make a comment to the board on any topic must arrive before the 6 p.m. start time — as early as 5:30 p.m. — and complete a form to speak.

For those not physically attending, the district continues to broadcast meetings live on YouTube.

Anyone wanting to attend the meeting virtually can do so via YouTube Sumter School District Board Meeting and the district's Facebook page, @SumterSCSchools.

Under-construction BJ's Wholesale granted variance for 40-foot sign

BY DEIRDRE CURRIN
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A larger than usual sign for the still-in-construction BJ's, fire station improvements and a pavilion at USC Sumter were all before Sumter's Board of Zoning Appeals on Wednesday, July 9.

Sumter's permanent sign standards dictate the maximum height of free-standing signs in the General Commercial zoning district is 30 feet. The variance requested for BJ's Wholesale, which will be at 1475 Alice Drive, was a 10-foot increase for an overall sign height of 40 feet.

The applicant, Jay Davis, said the signage would be critical for visibility from the Alice Drive and Broad Street intersection.

During the public comment period for the request, one resident who lives close to the new construction spoke against the variance. She said she was addressing concerns from her and her neighbors about what the board will keep bending to, citing the applicants knew what the sign standards were when they began their sign development.

One person spoke in favor of the request: the installer of the sign who said the extra 10 feet will not be noticeable to residents.

The request was approved by all but one board member.

Initially, the request was for a 50-foot-tall, free-standing sign, but it was removed from the board's June agenda, scaled down and presented at the July meeting.

The fire station at 2041 Stadium Road was approved to construct an addition on the east side of the building and to construct at 600-square-foot storage building on the property's west side behind the station.

The east side addition would house a new fire truck bay. The project will also include the construction of a new parking area to the rear of the building, a new fire truck access to Stadium Road, stormwater improvements and a living quarters addition.

The variance is required for setback standards. The station is on land zoned R-15 where there is a 50-foot setback required for non-residential uses. The station requested a 35-foot setback variance for the storage building and a 44-foot setback variance for the building addition.

Fire Chief Karl Ford said the station was built in 1993 and the fire department has outgrown it. The variance was unanimously passed by the board.

An application by the Mid-Carolina Commission for Higher Education for an outdoor, roofed pavilion on USC Sumter's campus was also approved by the board.

The pavilion will be about 16 feet and has a proposed use of supporting educational activities. It will be on two separate parcels, which are both part of USC Sumter's campus, but were purchased by two agencies at different times, resulting in the need for a variance. A variance was also granted for a distance requirement that ordains whenever more than one principal building is to be on a lot, the buildings must be separated by a horizontal distance that is at least equal to the height of the highest adjacent building.

Musical duo Johnson, Sepulveda represent Sumter well in Sweden

BY ALAYSHA MAPLE
alaysha@theitem.com

Sumter is well-represented in Sweden, thanks to a hometown dynamic duo.

Sonja Sepulveda and Herbert Johnson have spent the summer traveling and performing internationally, representing Sumter and South Carolina during the MidAmerica Productions International concert season in Stockholm and Uppsala, Sweden. Sepulveda is one of several renowned conductors on the tour, while Johnson is a featured soloist and one of 209 voices in the international choir. The pair perform on the international stage every summer, having been to Greece, London and Paris in previous years.

"We just want to remind our community that when we go out and do great things on an international level, we carry them with us," Johnson expressed.

On July 8, Sepulveda directed the Stockholm Concert Orchestra in Kungsholm Church at Bergsgatan on the island of Kungsholm, performing the spiritual "In Dat Great Gittin' Up Mornin'," arranged by Jester Hairston with Johnson as the soloist. The group moved on to Uppsala on July 11 to perform at Uppsala Cathedral two requiems by Rutter and Faure with the British composer John Rutter conducting the Stockholm Concert Orchestra.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Sonja Sepulveda, center, with Herbert Johnson, far right, back row, and Francis Marion University students and professor Fran Coleman pose at Kungsholm Church.



Sonja Sepulveda, bottom center, conducts the Stockholm Concert Orchestra during "In Dat Great Gittin' Up Mornin'" featuring Herbert Johnson as soloist.

Fran Coleman from Francis Marion University in Florence and her students traveled with the two Sumterites to represent the state and country.

The pair will head to Vienna, Austria, next year, June 14-21, 2026, to perform four spirituals by M. Roger Holland II and a concert of spirituals in Salzburg, the home of "The Sound of Music."

Anyone interested in singing with Sepulveda and Johnson can contact DeAnna Lee at *deannalyonslee@gmail.com*.

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SUMTER TODAY

NOW STREAMING

From launching experiments to exploring the world around us — Mad About Science camp-goers dove into STEM learning physics, engineering, biology and chemistry through hands-on fun and interactive discovery. And of course, SLIME!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=buyYDcwzsuQ



UNIVERSITY OF South Carolina SUMTER

Florida Keys sunset…

My cousin invited us to spend the 4th of July at his place in the Florida Keys. Free lodging, good food, good friends and the beauty of the Keys was an offer we could not turn down.

My cousin has a boat, and we went out to the reef to snorkel. I learned two things. First, without my glasses, I really could not see the fish clearly. I could make out a fish with yellow and black stripes and a purple fish. I asked my cousin the names of those fish, and he replied, "The yellow and black striped fish is a yellow and black stripe fish, and the purple one is a purple fish." I worry about him.



The Rev. Dr. Clay Smith

It was the next evening that my cousin suggested we go out on the water to see the sunset. I heard the sunset on the water in the Keys was like nowhere else. We took off about 45 minutes before sunset and got in just the right spot. There was a line of storms about 50 miles off that provided the perfect frame.

The sunset was like nothing I had ever seen. The sun had a soft yellow glow, and as it sank, the sky was painted in shades of purple and pink. Sun rays shot out between the blue clouds (yes, clouds can be blue) as the purple and pink shades deepened.

My cousin had Spotify playing, and as a thousand sparkles of light played across the waves, Louie Armstrong came on, singing, "What a Wonderful World." In case you have forgotten, the second verse is: "I see skies of blue and clouds of white; The bright blessed days, the dark sacred nights; And I think to myself, What a wonderful world." The moment was as sacred as someone singing a hymn.

I had always heard that when the sun hits the horizon, it takes one minute for it to disappear. Not this time. The sun kissed the water and slowly began to sink into the horizon. The soft yellow glow turned into a warm orange that made you feel good to be alive. It seemed like it took the sun five minutes to be enveloped by the sea. Finally, the last sliver disappeared, and the pinks and blues became a rich blanket covering the sky.

My cousin turned to me and said, "And people say there is no God."

Human beings are the only creatures made in the image of God. This means we are the only beings who can appreciate the beauty of the world God has made. Think about it; when you walk your dog at sunset, has your dog ever stopped to admire the beauty of the colors? No. Your dog is only interested in smelling the smells left behind by other animals and reading the mail from other dogs. I have never seen a cow admire the beauty of a majestic live oak or a horse appreciate the flowing waters of a creek.

I have been blessed to see some beautiful places in my life. I've seen the coast of Maine from the water, stood on the rim of the Grand Canyon, canoed through Sparkleberry Swamp, snaked through Mammoth Cave, bathed in the mountain streams of the Mexican desert, walked around Cades Cove in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, been on a safari in South Africa, driven through the mountains with the leaves providing a golden carpet across the road. I have looked up and marveled at the stars on cloudless nights, stood on the concrete steps of the Old House and watched lightning arc across the Florida night, seen the surface of the moon through my childhood telescope. One of the most beautiful sights I have ever seen is the sunrise through the fog across the green grass of the Buckhorn Ranch. Just tonight, on my way to feed cows, I saw a doe with twin speckled fawns. And now, I have seen an amazing sunset in the Keys. In each of these places, each of those times, I felt the presence of God, the grandeur of God.

Because I am made in the image of God (as are you), I can see the beauty God has made. When I consider this, I am amazed that God created a beautiful world just for us to enjoy. Elton Trueblood once prayed in the chapel of Southern Seminary, "Thank God, for all the unnecessary colors."

My friend John Ortberg points out that technology is making us prisoners. We stay inside too much. We need to get out more, see the world God has made, the world he declared to be good. We need to marvel at his grace in creating this sparkling world.

Psalm 19:1 says, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

Listen to the sky. The colors are telling you God is alive.

The Rev. Dr. Clay Smith is the lead pastor of Alice Drive Baptist Church in Sumter. Email him at claysmith@adbc.org.

Trump administration: Head Start will be cut off for immigrants without legal status

BY ANNIE MA
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration will restrict immigrants in the country illegally from enrolling in Head Start, a federally funded preschool program, the Department of Health and Human Services announced Thursday. The move is part of a broad effort to limit access to federal benefits for immigrants who lack legal status.

People in the country illegally are largely ineligible for federal public benefits such as food stamps, student loans and financial aid for higher education. But for decades they have been able to access some community-level programs such as Head Start and community health centers.

HHS said it will reclassify those programs as federal public benefits, excluding immigrants in the country illegally from accessing them. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. said the changes were part of a larger effort to protect American citizens' interests.

"For too long, the government has diverted hardworking Americans' tax dollars to incentivize illegal immigration," Kennedy said in a statement. "Today's action changes that — it restores integrity to federal social programs, enforces the rule of law, and protects vital resources for the American people."

A spokesperson for the Administration for Children and Families, which administers Head Start, said that eligibility will be determined based on the child's immigration status.

Requiring proof of immigration status would likely create fear and confusion among families seeking to enroll their children, said Yasmina Vinci, executive director of the National Head Start Association.

"This decision undermines the fundamental commitment that the country has made to children and disregards decades of evidence that Head Start is essential to our collective future," Vinci said.

The changes are part of a multi-agency announcement rescinding an interpretation of federal law dating to former President Bill Clinton's administration, which had allowed immigrants in the country illegally to access some programs. The Education Department, the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Labor announced similar changes affecting a range of workforce development and adult education programs.

The changes will affect community health centers that immigrants rely on for a wide range of services, said Shelby Gonzales, vice president of immigration policy at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

"People depend on those services to get cancer treatment, to get ongoing maintenance for a variety of different health needs," she said.

Students in the country illegally will no longer be eligible to participate in postsecondary career and technical education programs or adult education programs, the Education Department announced. The department also issued a notice to grant recipients to ensure programs receiving federal money do not provide services to immigrants without legal status.

Education advocates said the decision would harm young people who have grown up in this country. EdTrust Vice President Augustus Mays said the intention appears to be creating fear among immigrant communities.

"Policies like this don't exist in a vacuum," Mays said. "They are rooted in a political agenda that scapegoats immigrants and uses fear to strip rights and resources from the most vulnerable among us."

Head Start was started six decades ago as part of Democratic President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty. It operates in all 50 states, providing preschool, developmental therapy and child care for families who are homeless or are in poverty.

Congaree Land Trust achieves 100,000-acre conservation milestone across central S.C. with protection of Alston Farm in Sumter County

SUBMITTED BY CONGAREE LAND TRUST

COLUMBIA — Congaree Land Trust is proud to announce a significant achievement in its 33-year history: the permanent protection of over 100,000 acres of vital land across central South Carolina. This conservation milestone was officially reached with the recent protection of Alston Farm in Sumter County, adding to a legacy of working to safeguard the region's most cherished natural and working lands.

"This achievement is a result of the extraordinary dedication and hard work of our staff, board and volunteers — those with us now and those whose foundational efforts paved the way," said Trip Chavis, immediate past president of CLT's Board of Directors. "Their instrumental contributions have been vital to CLT's success."

Since its beginnings as a volunteer organization in 1992, CLT has grown into a nationally accredited land trust supported by dedicated members. This remarkable growth underscores a deep commitment to preserving the unique landscapes that define central South Carolina. Throughout its history, CLT has partnered with landowners and public land agencies to conserve over 45,000 acres of wetlands, 34,000 acres of forests and 61,000 acres of prime farmland — a critical commitment in the face of the state's rapid development.

"South Carolina is one of the fastest-growing states in the country, and it is estimated that nearly 200 acres of agricultural and forested land are lost every day," said CLT Executive Director Stuart White. "The urgency of land conservation has never been greater."

CLT recently celebrated this accomplishment at its springtime Game & Garden Soirée, an event honoring the dedicated landowners, key partners and generous supporters whose collective efforts made this milestone possible. However, the celebration comes with a clear and resolute message: The work is far from over.

"With more than two dozen active conservation projects underway, CLT is accelerating efforts to safeguard the working farms, forests, wetlands and open spaces that define our region and sustain its future," White added. "The protection of these 100,000 acres is a testament to what we can achieve together, but it also serves as a powerful call to action for the critical work ahead."

This work is fundamental to ensuring a vibrant future for the state, protecting areas that fuel South Carolina's natural resource-based economy, provide crucial climate resiliency, sustain clean air and water, and ultimately enhance livability for all residents. This landmark achievement strengthens the foundation for conserving the region's irreplaceable natural heritage and the way of life it supports for generations to come. CLT invites the community to learn more about its vital work and how they can contribute to this mission by visiting *www.congareelt.org*.

ABOUT CONGAREE LAND TRUST

The Congaree Land Trust (CLT) is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization committed to conserving the natural and scenic lands of central South Carolina. To date, over 100,000 acres have been conserved, representing 221 individual conservation properties across 15 counties. Conservation easements help protect the natural areas that sustain our state's natural resources, provide clean water and wildlife habitat and define our way of life.

Things you can do to be better prepared for major flooding

BY CALEIGH WELLS
Associated Press



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Residents of Golfair Court paddle through their neighborhood in October 2015 during South Carolina's 1,000-year flood associated with Hurricane Joaquin. Parts of Sumter received 21 inches of rainfall in three days from that storm, according to the National Weather Service and *The Sumter Item's* archives.

Catastrophic floods can be difficult to prepare for. Sometimes evacuation is the right call, but if it's too late, the best bet is to find higher ground nearby. The stakes can be high because a flash flood may give those in its path only minutes or seconds to react.

The right moves depend on the storm and the geography, said James Doss-Gollin, an assistant professor who teaches civil and environmental engineering at Rice University. For example, the advice won't be the same for people who live near a beach and those who live by a river, he said.

"Some places you're worried about the water moving really fast in the river. Some places you're worried about roads getting flooded, but the water might not be moving very fast. So often your local community is going to have the best information," he said.

Regardless of the storm or where it's happening, Richina Bicette-McCain, an emergency physician with Baylor College of Medicine, said preparation is key.

"One of my favorite phrases is if you stay ready, then you don't have to get ready," she said.

BEFORE THE FLOODING STARTS

If you live in the United States, make sure the National Weather Service's automatic weather alerts on your phone are activated. Visit *www.weather.gov/wrn/wea* for additional information.

If you don't have a phone or it's not working, the weather service recommends NOAA Weather Radio, local news coverage and listening for the Emergency Alert System on TV and radio broadcasts. These alerts typically include a few key phrases that indicate how serious the threat is. Here's a quick glossary:

1. Flood watch: Hazardous weather is possible. Be prepared.

2. Flood advisory: Flooding is expected to be inconvenient but not necessarily dangerous. Be aware.

3. Flood warning: Hazardous weather is imminent or already happening. Take action.

4. Flash flood warning: Flooding is imminent or already happening, and the flood is especially sudden or violent. You might only have seconds to find higher ground.

5. Flash flood emergency: There's a severe threat to human life, and catastrophic damage is about to happen or is already happening. This is exceedingly rare, and at this point, officials are typically reporting evacuations and rescues.

Doss-Gollin said before the National Weather Service issues a warning or emergency alert, it's important for people to know where the nearest high places are that will not flood, so evacuees can move quickly if needed.

Bicette-McCain has her go-bag ready and refreshed every hurricane season that includes flashlights, spare batteries, food and water. And she said patients seeking medical care in flood emergencies typically face one of two problems: either they can't use their regular medications or medical devices once the power goes out, or they're dehydrated. So, she said, the most important items to throw in are medications, batteries and lots of drinking water.

"I don't know if you've ever been so thirsty that you're just desperate for a morsel of liquid to drink, but sometimes people get into that situation, and they'll resort to drinking flood water. And if you survive the flood, the implications of drinking flood water may be what does you in," she said.

The National Weather Service, FEMA and American Red Cross all have emergency go-bag recommendations that include personal hygiene items, warm blankets and a whistle to signal for help. Doss-Gollin's go-bag includes diapers and milk for his baby and a weather radio that's designed to pick up radio frequencies from far away in case the power is out or the local tower goes down. "We have one that's hand-crank, which I really like because I'm not going to check the batteries on those every couple of months to make sure that they're working," he said.

> *'Very often the people that die during floods ... are driving across bridges or they're trying to drive through water. The one piece of advice that everyone will give you is don't drive through floodwaters, ever.'*
>
> **JAMES DOSS-GOLLIN**
>
> **Assistant professor who teaches civil and environmental engineering at Rice University**

ONCE THE STORM HAS ARRIVED

Find out what local officials are recommending, and follow their instructions.

If it's time to evacuate, do it before the storm comes. "We see a lot of casualties from people attempting to stay at their home," Bicette-McCain said. "Don't be that person."

Bicette-McCain said it is never a good idea to touch the stormwater because it is impossible to know how contaminated it is. The only exception is if the space you're in is so dangerous that you have to trudge through water to get somewhere safer. In that case, she recommended finding an umbrella or big stick to judge how deep the water is or whether there is debris in front of you. "We're talking very turbulent, very putrid waters that you can't see through," she said.

If it's too late to evacuate, don't. Trying can be fatal. Just 6 inches of moving water can knock a person down, and a foot of moving water can move a car.

"Very often the people that die during floods ... are driving across bridges or they're trying to drive through water," Doss-Gollin said. "The one piece of advice that everyone will give you is don't drive through floodwaters, ever."

The Associated Press' climate and environmental coverage receives financial support from multiple private foundations.

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Wife believes husband's smoking addiction is trigger for her migraines



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: I began experiencing migraines occasionally as a teenager, but in my early 20s, they became a regular occurrence. I tried unsuccessfully for years to identify my triggers, cutting things from my diet and environment before realizing about a year ago that I'm triggered by smoke.

My husband — my best friend and the love of my life — who I've been with since the age of 21, is a smoker. I've attempted to talk to him about it, but he becomes hurt and defensive because he's sensitive about his addiction and isn't sure my "theory" is correct. He has always been careful not to smoke in our home or cars, only outside, but I smell it on his hands and clothing even hours after a cigarette. Further complicating the matter is that he has never had a sense of smell and isn't convinced that an odor lingers on him.

We have a beautiful, affectionate marriage and almost never fight. However, I'm realizing I have a slow-growing resentment that is fed each time he sits next to me or I want to snuggle up with him, only to be hit with a sensation best described as an ice pick to my temple. I'm devastated that this is affecting my nearly perfect image of this wonderful man.

I have thus far been unwilling to nag or demand he stop, as this isn't the type of wife I want to be. He has many amazing qualities, and I feel horrible that my heart is pulling back because of this one thing. Please help with what to do.

HURTING HEAD IN OHIO

DEAR HURTING HEAD: The first thing you should do is discuss your migraines with your doctor to be sure that the smell of tobacco is what is triggering them. If what you think is true, then you and your husband should schedule a consultation with your physician so the DOCTOR can explain it to your wonderful spouse.

There is no denying that cigarette smoke clings to the hair, skin and clothing of a regular smoker long after the last puff. On the positive side, this may be a perfect opportunity for your husband to rid himself of an expensive habit that's potentially dangerous to his health.

DEAR ABBY: My best friend, "Ellie," has a jealousy problem. She wanted to introduce me to another lady, "Mica," who was starting a new craft and looking for help to get started. Ellie gave my phone number to Mica, who contacted me and came to my house for instructions.

I told Ellie that Mica had called and that we'd set up a time for Mica to come over. When Ellie heard that, she got really upset because she wanted to introduce us. Now, if I mention Mica's name, my best friend shuts down. Abby, I'm not sure how to handle jealousy. It's not an emotion I feel. Please help.

GOOD INTENTIONS IN ARKANSAS

DEAR GOOD INTENTIONS: Shuts down? Because you met with Mica without Ellie being present? That seems not only childish but also controlling. "Handle" this by refraining from mentioning Mica's name to Ellie.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

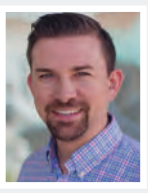


The Sumter Item's All About Sumter annual magazine is the only locally produced guide to Sumter and all of the businesses, people and places that make Sumter County great. The guide will be released in August of 2025.

All About Sumter will be delivered to Sumter-based businesses, available at key locations throughout the Sumter community and reach a digital audience of more than 150,000 through The Sumter Item's email and social platforms. Locally produced, All About Sumter will include an inclusive 'Friends of The Item' business directory, Shaw Air Force Base newcomers information, local features and resources for residents and visitors of Sumter County.

Publish August 30, 2025
Deadline July 29, 2025
the Sumter ITEM
CONTACT A SALES REP TODAY


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Want to have your business listed as part of the Business Directory?
Sign-up through July 5
www.theitem.com/allaboutsumtersignup

Edmunds: What you need to know about rising used car prices

BY JOSH JACQUOT
Edmunds

If you're shopping for a used car this summer, you may have noticed something frustrating: Prices are climbing again. According to the latest Edmunds' Used Car Report, the average transaction price for a 3-year-old used vehicle has reached $30,522. That's up 2.3% from the same time last year and marks the first time since mid-2023 that this number has climbed back over the $30,000 mark.

Many people expected used car prices to cool off as new vehicle production recovered post-pandemic. But as the latest data shows, that's not happening just yet — and shoppers should understand why.

WHAT'S DRIVING USED CAR PRICE INCREASES?

The root cause of today's high used car prices is limited supply. Edmunds found that the average age of trade-in vehicles was 7.6 years during the first quarter of 2025. That's the oldest average age since 2019, meaning fewer "near-new" vehicles — like lease returns or late-model trade-ins — are entering the used market.

With fewer low-mileage recent-model-year vehicles available, shoppers compete for a smaller pool of in-demand inventory. That competition keeps prices high, particularly for popular models.

Tariffs, too, can influence demand for used cars. True, used cars aren't directly subject to tariffs. But higher new-car pricing because of tariffs will undoubtedly force some additional people to consider buying a used car as a more affordable alternative.

SLOWING DOWN IN A TIGHT MARKET

Another sign of the shifting market: The average used vehicle spent 38 days on a dealer's lot before being sold in the first three months of this year. That's the longest time Edmunds has recorded since early 2021.

This slower pace suggests both buyers and sellers are approaching the market cautiously. Dealers may be holding firm on pricing, knowing supply is tight. At the same time, the reduced pace may also indicate that buyers are taking longer to find the right match in a smaller market.

SHOULD YOU BUY NOW OR WAIT?

Deciding whether to buy now or hold off depends on your situation. If you need a vehicle immediately, it still makes sense to shop — but it's important to be realistic. Don't expect dramatic deals or fast-moving price cuts. Instead, look for well-maintained models with strong reliability records, and be open to adjusting your expectations regarding extras and options.

There's a chance more inventory will reach the market later in 2025. Edmunds' data shows that dealers are still short on fresh trade-ins, but that could change as new vehicle production stabilizes and more consumers upgrade their cars. A modest increase in the used supply could help ease pricing pressure.

Still, it's unlikely that prices will return to pre-2020 levels. The industry continues to feel the effects of pandemic-era production cuts, and even a return to more typical production levels won't immediately solve the current imbalance between supply and demand.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO GET THE BEST DEAL

Shoppers can take smart steps to get more value in today's market. For starters, flexibility is key. Expanding your search radius to neighboring regions can open up more options. Considering less popular trims, colors or brands can also help you find better pricing.

Certified preowned vehicles may carry a slight premium, but they often include extended warranties and thorough inspections. That added security can be worth it — especially when prices are high and buyers are more concerned than ever about getting a good value.

It also helps to be informed. Online tools and data can help you track average prices, check vehicle histories and compare models across categories. Knowing what's typical for the car you want gives you a stronger position when it's time to negotiate.

EDMUNDS SAYS

The used car market in 2025 is anything but predictable. Inventory is still recovering from pandemic-era disruptions, and both shoppers and dealers are tightening the purse strings. For buyers, that means patience, planning and flexibility are more important than ever.

If you need to buy now, being open to alternatives to your ideal car may help uncover better value. And if you're able to wait, keeping a close eye on market conditions may give you an edge when inventory improves.

Prisma Health expands robotic surgery system-wide

Investment brings capability to all system hospitals

SUBMITTED BY PRISMA HEALTH



PHOTO PROVIDED BY PRISMA HEALTH
DaVinci 5 robotic-assisted surgery is seen at Richland Hospital.

COLUMBIA — Prisma Health is expanding access to robotic-assisted surgery across all its hospitals, bringing advanced surgical care closer to home for patients throughout South Carolina. As part of this initiative, several hospitals will receive next-generation robotic platforms, while existing systems will be redeployed to expand availability across the state.

The expansion includes the installation of new robotic surgical platforms at four hospitals: Prisma Health Richland Hospital and Baptist Parkridge in Columbia, Oconee Memorial Hospital in Seneca and Laurens County Hospital in Clinton. Existing robotic systems will be redistributed to hospitals that do not yet offer robotic-assisted procedures, ensuring broader access to minimally invasive surgical options.

"This expansion reflects our commitment to ensuring that all patients — regardless of where they live — have access to the latest surgical innovations," said Jennifer Montgomery, Prisma Health CEO for Midlands hospitals. "We're not only investing in state-of-the-art technology at some of our highest-volume sites — we're also increasing access for patients across our health system. This thoughtful approach enables more patients to benefit from minimally invasive techniques, shorter recovery times and excellent outcomes."

The upgrades bring DaVinci 5, the most advanced surgical technology in the world, to two of Prisma Health's busy surgical departments: Richland Hospital and Oconee Memorial Hospital. Additionally, new robotic surgery systems will be added to Baptist Parkridge Hospital and Laurens County Hospital.

The DaVinci 5 systems feature a major advancement in surgical precision: Force Feedback technology. This innovation allows surgeons to sense pressure, tension and resistance while operating — similar to the way they might feel tissue during traditional surgery. Tiny sensors located at the instrument tips transmit force cues back to the surgeon's controls in real time, enhancing visual cues with a more tactile sense of control. Other refinements include improved ergonomics to reduce surgeon fatigue, improved integration with surgical tools and better visual clarity so surgeons can distinguish between subtle colors and layers of tissue in minimally invasive procedures.

"We're excited to be among the first hospitals in the United States to pilot this advancement in surgical technology," said Andrew Schneider, MD, a general surgery specialist at Oconee Memorial Hospital. "In particular, the added dimension of sensory feedback can reduce the force applied to tissue by as much as 43 percent during procedures, potentially improving surgical precision and patient recovery time."

With the addition of these systems, Prisma Health becomes the first health system in both the Midlands and the Upstate to offer next-generation surgical technology. This expansion marks a major step in Prisma Health's ongoing commitment to innovation, access and excellence in surgical care.



AUTOBIOGRAPHY BY CARRIE DINKINS LOYD (1922-2006)

Hi, I would like to tell you about me. My name is Carrie Dinkins Loyd, known by many of you as Carrie, Aunt Carrie, Mom and one other nickname given to me by my late husband Eddie. He affectionately called me Fats. Going beyond my name, I will get to where it all started. I was born in the year 1922 to Willie Dangle Dinkins (1890-1957) and Cornelia Parker Dinkins. I was born in Rembert, SC. (Rafting creek) I am the eldest daughter of fourteen siblings. Since I was the oldest girl, I was often "volunteered" to help with a lot of the chores. I helped Momma (our mother) and Papa (our father) with the younger children. With Momma's guidance I learned to chop cotton, pick cotton, knit, sew, bail hay, and cure tobacco. I handmade most of my clothes. On some weekends I worked outside of the home. I baby sat, cooked, and cleaned for the people that lived in town; they were nice to me.

My recollections of early childhood were that we lived on a farm. They were wonderful years. As a child I enjoyed playing jackstone, hopscotch, jump rope and hide and go seek. We often listened to the radio; country music channels were my favorites. My sisters and I especially enjoyed reciting rhymes, such as Patty-cake. As of today, I still remember most of the lyrics. Our version went something like this "Patty cake-patty-cake, bake me a man, patty cake-patty-cake, put him in the pan, turn him over as quick as you can…." I spent many Sunday evenings with family and friends at the store in Rembert eating ice-cream, drinking beverages, chatting, and daydreaming about the world.

I can recall when the country went into a financial depression. People from our era called it "Hoover time," because Herbert Hoover was president. Yes, we had it hard but thanks to the Lord, Papa found a way to feed and clothe us. We always had plenty to eat, at least one good pair of shoes and an outfit for church. Papa was a sharecropper. We planted a big garden every year. The garden supplied enough food to get us through the winter months. I can remember that a lot of people were hungry, and some had no place to live. I remember many times when Momma and Papa would give people food from the garden to try to help them through those tough times. Momma and Papa always taught us kids how to treat people and would tell us how blessed we were. Because of the way my siblings and I were brought up each and every one of us strives to have a giving hand and an open heart.

My parents were church going folks. They tried to send us to church every Sunday. We would walk and sometimes ride the wagon (buckboard). The family and I were members of Mt. Pisgah Baptist church in Rembert. Since my earlier years, my relationship with God has kept me going and given me strength through-out my life.

I remembered when World War II began in 1941. I heard on the radio the foreigners had bombed Pear Harbor. I did not know where Pear Harbor was, But I understood that there was a war going on and my brother Arthur was drafted and had to go fight in the war. Momma and Papa were really worried about Arthur leaving. Thank God, he made it back safe.

In 1941 I was a young lady and began "courting" as they called it. I met Eddie Loyd. He was a really neat dresser and was driving a T-model Ford. "That was really something" for those times. In 1942 he asked Papa for my hand in marriage. Papa said yes! We got married at the Sumter County courthouse. The following year sadly, my mother died.

After marriage Eddie and I moved to Haygood, SC. We lived there for two years before moving to Sumter County, SC., around 1944. In 1946 we moved to Richmond, Virginia to find work and maybe learn a trade. I worked at Phillip Morris Tobacco, they made cigarettes. Eddie worked at a hotel while learning to be a brick mason. In 1950 we moved back to Sumter. We built our house from the ground up. In 1951 we welcomed our first child, a boy; we named him Edward. In 1953 we were blessed with twins, a boy, and a girl. We named them "Earl" and "Pearl." They currently live in Virginia.

In 2004 I became ill at the age of eighty-two, after an extended hospital stay in Sumter SC, I moved to Virginia Beach, Virginia to be near my family. I try to keep up with the news. I frequently read the papers and watch TV. I see and read about a lot of tragedies, it makes me appreciate even more how blessed I' am and how good God has been to me.

I am very saddened that my husband (1919-1984) and some of my siblings have passed on before me, I find peace knowing that God knows best. God has taught me that all experiences are blessings both pleasant and unpleasant. From the great depression of 1929 to the twin tower bombing in 2001 and the birth of my great grandchild Xavier in 2002. All are moments in which God has allowed me to experience. I am thankful for the many things God has allowed me to see and do. I thank God for everything no matter how little it may seem.

Written by: Carrie Dinkins Loyd
Edited by: Edward Loyd
Date: July 2005

the Sumter ITEM

REFLECTIONS



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS

The John Bossard Britton Bridge opened to the public in 1940 after Sumter residents were concerned about traffic having to cross six lanes of railroad tracks in the area.

John Bossard Britton Bridge connects South Sumter

This issue of Reflections revisits the Sumter community when there was a public outcry for a solution to the hazards associated with crossing several A.C.L. tracks. This massive piece of concrete construction was designed not only to connect Main Street to South Sumter, but also to eliminate a highway hazard that had posed a threat to the people of Sumter for several years. Numerous residents had discussed this issue with state officials; however, Sen. John Bossard Britton would be the one to see a solution through to fruition. The story of the construction of the bridge and its importance to Sumterites was obtained from *The Sumter Item* archives.



Sammy Way
REFLECTIONS



LEFT: Mayor F. B. Creech had just cut the ribbon opening the John Bossard Britton Bridge to traffic when this picture was taken on June 11, 1940. Cutting of the ribbon closed the dedicatory exercises. With Mayor Creech from left are: C. G. Rowland, chairman of the county board of commissioners; Capt. V. E. Towles, assistant construction engineer of the state highway department; and R. B. Hare of Florence, superintendent of the Atlantic Coast Line.



SAMMY WAY / THE SUMTER ITEM



John Bossard Britton



The Gulf station is seen at the foot of the bridge.

In November 1922, "A delegation of Sumter citizens asked Charles H. Moorefield, state highway engineer, to have the improvement of a railroad crossing intersecting the Sumter-Manning highway included in the federal road projects. At a conference, the delegation pointed out that considerable traffic crosses the six-track rails just outside the city of Sumter. The engineer was quoted as assuring his cooperation in securing action."

Work did not proceed at the pace many residents would have liked; it was not until January 1928 that the following article appeared in the *Daily Item*.

"J.W. Barnwell, an engineer of the State Highway Department, who some weeks ago undertook the task of preparing preliminary plans of a proposed bridge over the Atlantic Coast Line tracks at Manning Avenue, on Friday submitted to the Board of Trade and the special committees from the Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs of Sumter blueprint drawings of two alternate plans for a bridge over the tracks in question.

The first plan called for a concrete structure 255 feet in length with approaches running in a straight line with South Main Street from a point starting at the triangle opposite the power house to a point 400 feet south of the railway tracks. This bridge had a starting point near the Will Graham monument (which was moved to the median on Warren Street) and would be 22 feet, six inches from the tracks to the floor of the bridge, with an overall width of 48 feet, of which six feet on each side would be devoted to sidewalks for pedestrians and a 36-foot roadway for vehicular traffic. The second or alternate plan had the same starting point and called for a 330-foot bridge with approaches, starting at a point directly in the center of the triangle and gradually veering to the west to a point across the tracks with two roadways forking, one 44 feet wide with 36-foot space for vehicles to a point some 400 feet from the tracks on South Main Street and the other with a 30-foot roadway turning to a point about the same distance on Manning Avenue." The blueprints as prepared by engineer Barnwell were placed for all to view at the Board of Trade.

On June 11, 1940, the "$180,000 overpass was unveiled for public use for the citizens of the city of Sumter. This impressive structure, dedicated to the late Sen. J.B. Britton, was designed to eliminate the dangerous and rough crossing on the Atlantic Coast Line rails and expedite travel on Highway 15. The bridge which took more than a year to complete was deemed to be one of the 'handsomest' bridges in the state at that time."

"The building of necessary bridges over railway right-of-ways, according to the law, required that the structure be paid for jointly by the railway company and the interested parties, which in this case would be the State Highway Department, county of Sumter and the city of Sumter."

Several speeches by numerous dignitaries followed with Roach Stewart of Lancaster, a former state senator and close friend of the late Sen. Britton, delivering the main address. Following the tributes to Sen. Britton, a beautiful bronze marker was unveiled by Anna Britton, and a ribbon was cut by Mayor F. B. Creech; C. G. Rowland, chairman of the County Board of Commissioners; Capt. V. E. Towles, assistant construction engineer of the State Highway Department; and R. B. Hare of Florence, superintendent of the Atlantic Coast Line. Upon the opening of the new bridge to traffic, "the first car to pass through was a 1940 Chevrolet from the Courtright Chevrolet Co. A luncheon was later held at Cain's Mill for the guests of the city."



Children enjoy camp away from stress of medical appointments



The annual Camp Happy Days returned to Clarendon from June 29 to July 5, allowing children with cancer and their siblings a chance to forget about doctors' appointments and just have fun for a week. Each year, the camp is held at Camp Bob Cooper on the shores of Lake Marion, and this year's theme was CAMPchella. The last large event of the camp was Camp Prom, where the children dressed up and local professionals donated services such as a limo to make the night special. The camp also included fireworks to celebrate the Fourth of July and a talent show, along with other fun recreational activities.

PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL PITTMAN / THE SUMTER ITEM



















Briefs

K&H RESOURCE CENTER HOSTS FREE CLOTHING GIVEAWAY SATURDAY, JULY 12

SUMMERTON — K&H Resource Center, 45 S. Church St., is hosting a Free Clothing Giveaway at 9 a.m. Saturday, July 12.

Provided will be new and slightly used clothing for men, women and children.

TURBEVILLE BACK TO SCHOOL BASH TODAY WITH FREE FOOD, HAIRCUTS

TURBEVILLE — The 3rd-Annual Back to School Bash will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 12, at East Clarendon Middle High School gymnasium.

The bash will include free food, haircuts, activities and much more.

For more information, call LaQuan Barnes at (803) 460-1310.

CLARENDON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGISTRATION OPENS JULY 14

CLARENDON COUNTY — Clarendon County School District opens online and at-school site registration for out-of-district, new and returning students on Monday, July 14.

In-person registration dates and times:

July 14-15 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

July 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July 21 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

July 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Register online by using your provided snap code.

For detailed information, log onto *https://Sil.co/3lepp*.

SPECIAL NEEDS SUMMER YOUTH CAMP

SUMMERTON — The Children's Farm Project is hosting a Special Needs Summer Youth Camp for ages 4-10.

Two sessions will be held for the half-day program. The first session will be held from July 14-17 with the second session from July 28-31.

The admission is based on a sliding-scale fee. Breakfast and lunch will be served.

The activities will include arts and crafts, music and movement, gardening and water play. For more information, call (336) 529-3170.

HISTORIC EBENEZER MISSIONARY BAPTIST HOSTS BLOOD DRIVE

MANNING — Historic Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive from 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday, July 13, at the Manning Elementary School gym, 311 W. Boyce St.

Give blood and receive an exclusive pair of Red Cross x goodr sunglasses, while they last, and a $20 Amazon e-gift card will be emailed to you.

To schedule an appointment, call Margaret Walker at (803) 309-1087 or log onto *www.redcrossblood.org* and enter sponsor code: EbenezerManning.

BACK 2 SCHOOL SUMMERTON TOWN BASH ON JULY 19

SUMMERTON — The 3rd-Annual Back 2 School Summerton Town Bash will be held from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday, July 19, at 1154 4th St. gymnasium.

Sponsored by Summerton Police Department, Interim Police Chief Leshawn Green and the Town of Summerton, the free event is open to the community. Sponsorships and vendors are welcome.

Make donations payable to Town of Summerton. For more information, contact Green at (803) 460-4287, Kathleen L. Gibson at (803) 225-0832 or Annett Smith at (803) 460-6679 or *annett.smith1@gmail.com*.

LIGHTHOUSE GATHERING PRESENTS SHESHINES JULY 25

SUMMERTON — Lighthouse Gathering presents SheShines "Rewriting the Role of A Woman Leader" at 5 p.m. Friday, July 25, at Summerton Cultural Arts Center, 12 S. Church St.

Dr. Tanya A. Alkhaliq will be the facilitator for the event.

Register to attend by logging onto *www.lighthousetis.com/SheShine*s.

FOOD TRUCKS IN THE PARK ON WEDNESDAYS

MANNING — Food Trucks in the Park, sponsored by Clarendon County Recreation Department, will be held every Wednesday through July 30 at J.C. Britton Park, 3057 Raccoon Road.

Truck vendor times will begin at 8 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. The park will be open from sunrise to sunset for your enjoyment.

The vendor fee is $25. For more information, call (803) 473-3543.

Bring a chair, claim a seat under one of the shelters, relax outdoors and enjoy delicious meals from local food trucks.

MANNING FARMERS MARKET OPEN ON SATURDAYS

MANNING — The Manning Farmers Market at the corner of Church and Boyce streets is open each Saturday from 8 a.m. until noon.

The market features a variety of locally and regionally grown fruit and vegetables.

Applications to become a vendor at the market are available at Manning City Hall, 29 W. Boyce St. Vendors will be added as slots become available.

FREE FOOD FOR KIDS ON TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AT HCCL

MANNING — Partners for Change along with the kindnesses of local businesses is sponsoring free food for kids ages 18 and under at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Harvin Clarendon County Library, 215 N. Brooks St.

Make sure to get the kids to HCCL by 1 p.m. to be served. Lunches are only given to children who are present.

Look for the food truck by the picnic tables behind the Archives building. Just follow the sidewalk in front of HCCL to get there.

If you're planning a back-to-school bash or other event, please email your information to Sharron.haley@yahoo.com and it will be included in The Sumter Item's Clarendon Briefs Section on Saturdays.

Pets of the week



Hello there, I'm Hope, a gorgeous senior bully-mix gal (approximately 8 1/2 years) with a heart full of sweetness. I might be a little unsure around new faces, but give me a moment, and I'll warm up to you. I've got great leash skills, perfect for leisurely strolls. I'm friendly and gentle, with a calm energy that other dogs seem to appreciate. I enjoy the company of dogs who share my low-key demeanor. Life in the shelter is OK, but I dream of a home where I can share my golden years with a loving family. Won't you consider giving a senior dog like me a chance? I am spayed and UTD on my vaccinations.

A Second Chance Animal Shelter is participating in Bissell Pet Foundation's Empty The Shelter Adoption Event through July 19. Adoption fees are reduced for each of our available dogs and cats including Hope, left, and Jay, below, plus $25 for microchipping. An approved application is still required. Applications can be found on our website, *www.asecondchanceanimalshelter.com*.



Hello, I'm Jay! I'm a young fellow of about 2 years, full of life, sweetness and love. I've got a playful side that keeps things fun. Some folks might be wary of black cats, but let me assure you, I'm all about spreading joy, not superstition. I get along with my fellow feline friends, and I'm outgoing to boot. If adopted, I promise to fill your life with laughter, warmth and lots of purring. I'm ready to share my love with a family who will cherish me as much as I will them. I am neutered and UTD on my vaccinations.

THE Clarendon Sun CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINE TUESDAY 11AM

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Sale

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CLARENDON
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
CASE NO. 2024-CP-14-00524
NOTICE OF SALE

21st Mortgage Corporation
Plaintiff,
-vs-
Domenick Esmond McFadden; Pamela F. Collins; and the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles
Defendant(s).

BY VIRTUE of a judgment heretofore granted in the case of 21st Mortgage Corporation vs. Domenick Esmond McFadden; Pamela F. Collins; and the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles I, Joseph K. Coffey, Master in Equity, for Clarendon County, will sell on August 4, 2025 at 11:00 am, at the Clarendon County Courthouse, 3 W. Keitt St, Manning, SC 29102, to the highest bidder:

All those certain pieces, parcels, or lots of land, with improve1nents thereon, if any, situate, lying and being in the County of Clarendon, State of South Carolina, containing 1.00 acre, more or less, and being shown on that certain plat by Du Valle W. Elliott, RLS, dated January 5, 1989, recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Clarendon County in Plat Book S-46 at page 15; and also, a lot containing 1.0 acre, more or less, being shown on that certain plat by Du Valle W. Elliott, RLS, dated February 1, 1989, recorded in said office in Plat Book S-46, at Page 16. Pursuant to Section 30-5-250 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, (1976, as amended) reference to said plat is hereby craved for the metes, bounds, courses and/or distances of the property delineated thereon. This property is shown on the maps for Clarendon County as Tax Map Parcel # 246-00-02-038-00.

Notice of Sale

Derivation: This property was conveyed to Domenick Esmond McFadden and Pamela F. Collins by deed of Pamela F. Collins dated August 2, 2022 and recorded on August 2, 2022 in Book 1011 at Page 2171 in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Clarendon County.

TMS #: 246-00-02-038-00 (land)
246-00-02-038-04 (mobile home)
14635 Raccoon Road,
Manning, SC 29102
Mobile Home: 2022 TRU
VIN: CLH046845TNAB

SUBJECT TO CLARENDON COUNTY TAXES

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity at conclusion of the bidding, five (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, the same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of noncompliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at the time of the bid or comply with the other terms or the bid within thirty (30) days, then the Master in Equity may resell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the former highest bidder).

Should the Plaintiff, or one of its representatives, fail to be present at the time of sale, the property is automatically withdrawn from said sale and sold at the next available sales day upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or any Supplemental Order.

That a personal or deficiency judgment being waived, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately.

NOTICE: The foreclosure deed is not a warranty deed. Interested bidders should satisfy themselves as to the quality of title to be conveyed by obtaining an independent title search well before the foreclosure sale date.

The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 10.450%per annum.

B. Lindsay Crawford, III
(SC Bar# 6510)
Theodore von Keller
(SC Bar# 5718)
B. Lindsay Crawford, IV
(SC Bar# 101707)
Jason M. Hunter
(SC Bar# 101501)
Eric H. Nelson
(SC Bar# 104712)
Katharyn L. Sophia
(SC Bar# 105541)
Roman A. Dodd
(SC Bar# 105612)
Crawford & von Keller, LLC
P.O. Box 4216
1640 St. Julian Place (29204)
Columbia, SC 29240
Phone: 803-790-2626
Email: court@crawfordvk.com
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Notice of Sale

Estate Notice Clarendon County

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Clarendon County, the address of which is 411 Sunset Dr. Manning, SC 29102, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Addie Morgan Riffe
#2025ES1400169
Personal Representative:
Delilah Mitchell
4355 Nelson Ferry Rd
Summerton, SC 29148

Estate Notice Clarendon County

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

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Estate: Christopher North Aders
#2025ES1400172
Personal Representative:
Grady North Aders
1274 Tindal Rd.
Pinewood, SC 29125

Ricci Land Welch, Esq.
Attorney at Law
PO Box 138
Manning, SC 29102

Estate: Ethel Mae Brown Marshall
#2025ES1400179
Personal Representative:
Thomas E. Brown
1578 Gov. Richardson Rd.
Summerton, SC 29148

Estate: Deborah Sue Keys McLaughlin
#2025ES1400180
Personal Representative:
Brian Christopher McLaughlin
40090 Beach Dr.
Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Keith Edward McLaughlin
28850 Cranberry Way
Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Estate Notice Clarendon County

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

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Estate: David Thomas Nesbit
#2025ES1400163
Personal Representative:
Brenda D. Nesbit
1458 Delano St.
Manning, SC 29102

Estate: Willie Mae Coard
#2025ES1400177
Personal Representative:
Daryl Kelly
1036 Delaine St.
Summerton, SC 29148

Estate: Mitchell Bruce McPherson
#2025ES1400167
Personal Representative:
Carla McPherson
135 Myers Creek Dr.
Hopkins, SC 29061

YOUR AD HERE



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H.G. Osteen *1870-1955* FOUNDER, THE ITEM
H.D. Osteen *1904-1987* THE ITEM
Margaret W. Osteen *1908-1996* THE ITEM
Hubert D. Osteen Jr. *1936-2020* THE SUMTER ITEM

the Sumter ITEM

OPINION

Jacqueline B. Osteen CO-OWNER
Graham Osteen CO-OWNER
Kyle Osteen CO-OWNER
Jack Osteen CO-OWNER
Vince Johnson PUBLISHER

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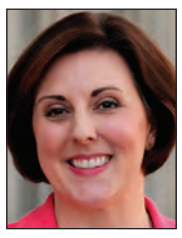
COMMENTARY

Legendary educator Bethune continues to inspire today

On July 10, 1875, a baby girl was born in a tiny cabin in Mayesville, S.C. Her name was Mary. She grew up to be an educational trailblazer whose impact is still evident today.

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune's birth, the S.C. Department of Education is unveiling a special program that will bring the life and legacy of Bethune to South Carolina classrooms. Bethune is the first "Palmetto Pioneer" to be featured on a series of S.C.-themed civics posters that educators can share with students of all ages.

The exciting initiative is part of our department's larger Palmetto Civics Project, our special countdown to the celebration of America's 250th birthday next July 4. We are highlighting the achievements of our state's greatest historical figures and updating our civics standards. We want to ensure that South Carolina schools are focused on training an "informed, educated citizenry," just as our nation's founders intended.



Ellen Weaver

It was an easy decision to feature Mary McLeod Bethune as our inaugural history hero. She was an education entrepreneur who dared to dream of a better future. But she didn't just dream; she acted — often at great personal risk and expense. Yet she persevered because she understood the power of education to change lives and open the world — especially for young African American women who had long been denied.

In 1904, Bethune started a private, faith-based school — which still educates students to this day as Bethune-Cookman University! Yet, she appreciated the need for all kinds of schools. Public. Private. Classical. Faith-based. Workforce-focused.

Bethune cared about the well-being of all students — not just those who preferred her school or its philosophy of education. She enthusiastically celebrated the 1954 landmark decision giving African American students access to public schools and was a champion for those denied learning opportunities.

Throughout her life, Bethune displayed grace and goodwill. For example, in 1930, Bethune accepted an invitation from the president of Rollins College to speak to his students on campus. But that invitation was rejected by the Rollins board, who had never allowed an African American speaker on its platform and refused to break that precedent.

The Rollins president was so embarrassed by the board's decision that he planned to resign. But Bethune urged him to reconsider, telling him that his students needed his leadership more than they needed to hear her speak.

Bethune's grace was rewarded nearly 20 years later, in 1949, when Rollins College invited Bethune to campus to receive an honorary degree. It was, she would later say, one of the most fulfilling days of her life.

Bethune's outstanding character, perseverance and wisdom made her a trusted advisor to several U.S. presidents. In fact, Bethune was such a valued friend and advisor to President Franklin Roosevelt that First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt gave Bethune FDR's cane after his death. Wherever she went for the rest of her life, that cane was there — not because she truly needed it but because she said it gave her "swank."

Here at the S.C. Department of Education, we appreciate Bethune's "swank." We laud her commitment to seeing every child fulfill their God-given potential. And we share her belief in the importance of teaching children to read. Indeed, the mural inside our new building features Bethune's quote, "The whole world opened to me when I learned to read."

So, as schoolchildren anticipate returning to class next month — and as America prepares for its 250th birthday next year — we invite everyone to pause and remember Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, a great American born right here in South Carolina who used her mighty gifts to light our world.

Ellen Weaver is the South Carolina state superintendent of education.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

CITY HAS ABANDONED RESPONSIBILITY FOR PARKWAY MAINTENANCE

Some City of Sumter employees display a negative attitude when communicating with the public. They appear to be in a hurry to return to their imaginary world void of local residents.

E-mails go unanswered. Phone calls go to voicemail. A senior city supervisor, retired in place, does not look you in the face but continuously stares at a blank wall, anxiously awaiting your departure. Phone calls and visits to the city manager's office requesting an appointment go unanswered.

Such has been my experience with the City of Sumter. I have received a better reception and conducted more productive conversation with a mannequin standing in a government hallway dressed in Antarctic gear.

The state of South Carolina grants charters for municipalities, therefore, a request has been made of our local delegation to hold the City of Sumter accountable for performance of its responsibilities.

Maintenance of SCDOT streets with medians within the Sumter city limits continue to be an unresolved issue.

Delbert H. Singleton Jr., S.C. State Fiscal Accountability Authority, assistant executive director and authority secretary, states that this issue is not under their purview.

Could someone please explain to me how the city's point of view evolved from well maintaining these facilities to totally absolving itself of this responsibility? I do not understand when, or why, the City of Sumter abandoned maintenance of these parkways.

In recent years, the city has completely abandoned these parkways and now claims these same parkways are mysteriously no longer their responsibility. The responsibility of these parkways is now somehow solely the responsibility of SCDOT.

I understand that the current reasoning is that the City of Sumter and SCDOT do not have a written agreement, therefore, the responsibility of maintaining SCDOT roads falls on SCDOT.

Meanwhile, the city doesn't appear to communicate or coordinate any issues regarding these facilities with SCDOT.

Today, these streets with median strips can consistently be found filled with yard debris, leaves, tall grass, and household waste.

City employees appear motivated only to have contractors perform catastrophic instead of preventative maintenance.

A staff member from our local legislative delegation recently stated the following in an email dated June 27, 2025:

"Please know that we hear you, and we understand the importance of these community spaces, places where neighbors gather and memories are made. We value your observations and take this matter seriously.

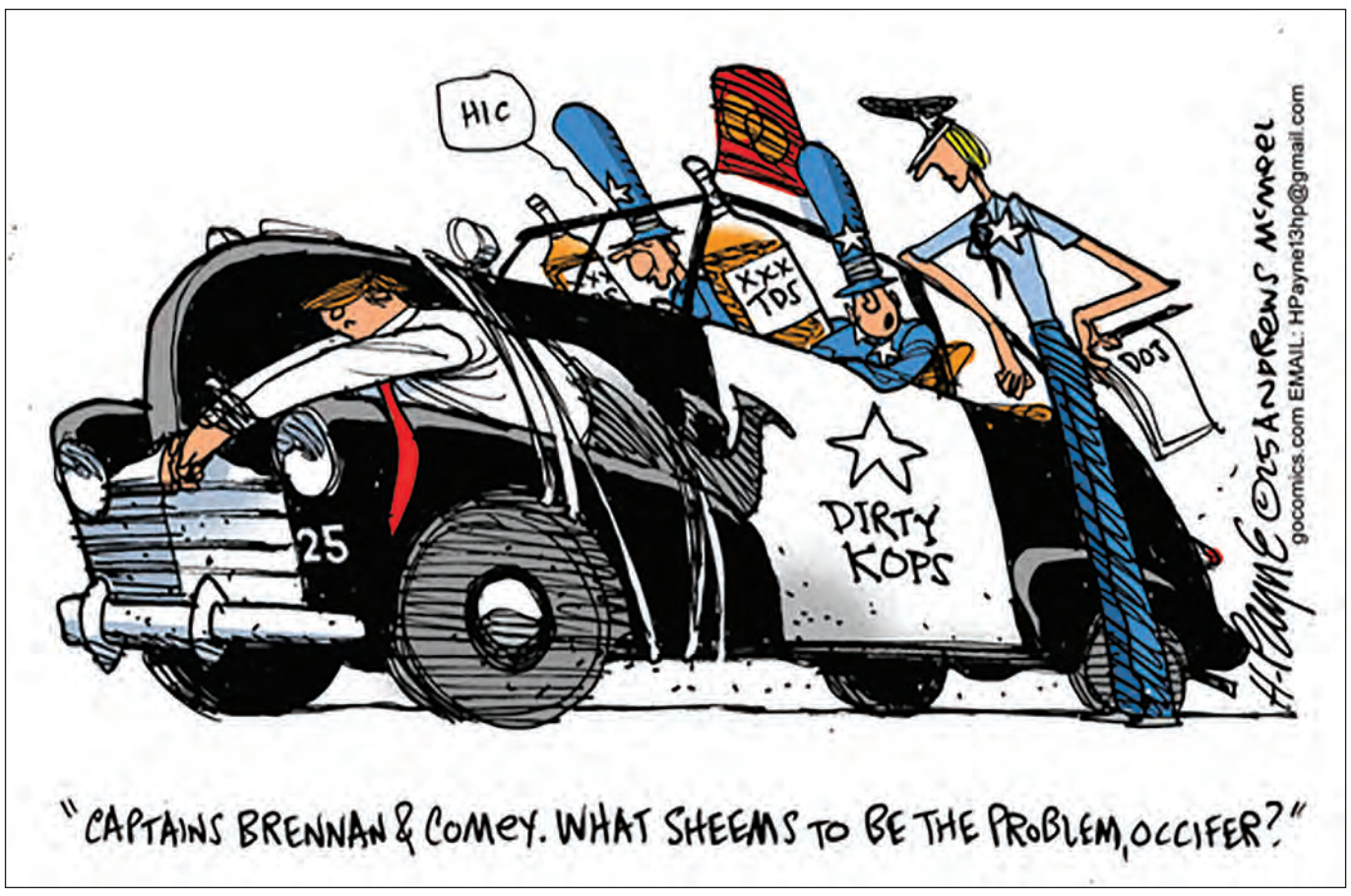
"We will review the current management and maintenance arrangements in collaboration with the relevant city and state departments. Once we've gathered and assessed the necessary information, we will follow up with you."

Form letters are cheap pacifiers. When will local politicians get serious?

Time passes, money gets spent, employees get paid, equipment gets purchased, but work never gets done.

This is an opportunity no one wants to solve.

DAVID PEEPLES
Sumter



COMMENTARY

It turns out, government does valuable things

While all eyes have been on the Capitol Hill maneuvering around the 900-page bill carrying out President Trump's agenda, something interesting has been happening in federal agencies: They've been bringing laid-off workers back. In fact, CNN reported late in June, they've been "scrambl[ing] to fill critical gaps in services left by the Department of Government Efficiency-led effort to shrink the federal workforce."

Not long after that story appeared, *The Washington Post* published another, reporting that DOGE "has lost the power to control the government's process for awarding billions of dollars in federal funds." Instead, individual federal departments and agencies will again be able to post funding opportunities directly to the government website used by organizations and businesses around the country. But that's only after grants for funding things like health workers who care for patients with Alzheimer's disease and efforts to prevent falls by older adults were delayed and, possibly, derailed altogether.

Meanwhile, much of the drama in Congress around the mega-legislation — which will add significantly to the national debt, strip millions of Americans off Medicaid and cut taxes on the wealthy — has flowed from a simple fact: The bill is extremely unpopular.

Taken by itself, any of these storylines would be interesting. But taken together, they point to one conclusion: As Americans, we may not be fond of the federal government, but on the whole we like the services it provides or pays for. We like government that's efficient and on top of its game. We like having an effective military, warnings of approaching hurricanes and an air traffic control system that keeps us safe. We even like the social safety net — because among other things, Medicaid helps keep your neighbors healthy and our hospitals operating, and Social Security and Medicare mean that you don't have to go bankrupt to help your aging parents or grandparents live decent lives.

That CNN story is instructive. As Eric Bradner reported, even though the administration is backtracking, "the rapid rehirings are a warning sign that it has lost more capacities and expertise that could prove critical — and difficult to replace — in the months and years ahead. 'There are time bombs all over the place in the federal government because of this,' said Elaine Kamarck, the director of the Center for Effective Public Management at the Brookings Institution. 'They've wreaked havoc across nearly every agency.'" And so the federal government is trying to regain the capacity it lost on everything from mine safety to preventing childhood lead poisoning to pursuing food safety to responding to bird flu.



Lee Hamilton

There is no question it could work more efficiently, or that you can find instances of waste and abuse. But I'm struck by a quote from a former DOGE staffer who gave an interview to NPR in which he said, "I personally was pretty surprised, actually, at how efficient the government was. This isn't to say that it can't be made more efficient … but these aren't necessarily fraud, waste and abuse."

This country is engaged in an experiment. The bill that the GOP leadership in Congress has muscled through will reduce federal spending on health care by over $1 trillion — most of that coming from Medicaid — and cut up to 12 million people off health insurance over the next decade. These are unprecedented numbers, and those cuts will reverberate throughout our country: in rural hospitals, in community health centers, in neighborhoods where health care workers have been laid off, in spending Medicaid enrollees will now have to devote to their physicians rather than their local stores. And that's before we even get to cuts to food stamps and clean energy or the massive increase in spending on immigration crackdowns.

We can't know what the end result of all this will be. But what we do know is that when you change what the federal government does, you change Americans' lives.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

How U.S. views of immigration have changed since Trump took office, according to Gallup polling

BY LINLEY SANDERS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Just months after President Donald Trump returned to office amid a wave of anti-immigration sentiment, the share of U.S. adults saying immigration is a "good thing" for the country has jumped substantially — including among Republicans, according to new Gallup polling.

About 8 in 10 Americans, 79%, say immigration is "a good thing" for the country today, an increase from 64% a year ago and a high point in the nearly 25-year trend. Only about 2 in 10 U.S. adults say immigration is a bad thing right now, down from 32% last year.

During Democratic President Joe Biden's term in office, negative views of immigration had increased markedly, reaching a high point in the months before Trump, a Republican, took office. The new Gallup data suggests U.S. adults are returning to more pro-immigrant views that could complicate Trump's push for sweeping deportations and other anti-immigration policies. The poll shows decreasing support for the type of mass deportations Trump has championed since before he was elected.

Since taking office, Trump has called on U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to do all in its power to deliver "the single largest Mass Deportation Program in History." His administration has also pushed to limit access to federal benefits for immigrants who lack legal status, sought to revoke the citizenship of immigrants who commit crimes and is working to end birthright citizenship for children born to those without legal status or who are in the country temporarily.

In general, Americans' views of immigration policies have shifted dramatically in the last year, the Gallup polling shows — including among Republicans, who have become much more content with immigration levels since Trump took office but who have also grown more supportive of pathways to citizenship for people in the country illegally.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Immigration advocates protest recent detentions by ICE outside the immigration court in San Antonio, Texas, on Tuesday, July 1.

The broader trend also shows that public opinion is generally much more favorable to immigrants than it was decades ago.

THE VAST MAJORITY OF U.S. ADULTS SAY IMMIGRATION IS GOOD

Americans' more positive view on immigration is driven primarily by a shift among Republicans and independents.

About two-thirds of Republicans now say immigrants are "a good thing" for the country, up from 39% last year. And independents moved from about two-thirds last year to 80% this year.

Democrats have maintained their overwhelmingly positive view of immigration in the last few years.

THE SHARE OF AMERICANS WHO WANT IMMIGRATION DECREASED HAS DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY

In the time since Trump took office, Republicans have become more satisfied with the level of immigration in the country.

The share of Americans who want immigration "decreased" in the United States dropped from 55% to 30%. While fewer Americans now want to decrease the number of people who come to the U.S. from other countries, more want immigration levels kept the same than want higher immigration levels. About 4 in 10 say immigration should be kept at its current level, and only 26% say immigration should be increased.

The poll suggests Republicans' sharp anti-immigrant views highlighted before November's election — which helped return Trump to the White House — have largely faded. The share of Republicans saying immigration should be decreased dropped from a high of 88% to 48% in the last year. Close to 4 in 10 Republicans now say immigration levels should remain the same, and only about 1 in 10 would like an increase.

Much of that Republican movement likely comes from support for the Trump administration's stringent immigration enforcement, but there are also signs in the Gallup polling that Republicans have become more supportive of pathways to citizenship for immigrants in the country illegally and more likely to see benefits from immigration that could be at odds with the Trump administration's priorities.

MORE AMERICANS BACK A PATHWAY TO CITIZENSHIP

Most Americans favor allowing immigrants living in the U.S. illegally the chance to become U.S. citizens if they meet certain requirements over a period of time, the poll shows.

Almost 9 in 10 U.S. adults, 85%, favor a pathway to citizenship for immigrants who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children, and nearly as many say they favor a path to citizenship for all immigrants in the country illegally as long as they meet certain requirements.

That increased support for pathways to citizenship largely comes from Republicans, about 6 in 10 of whom now support that, up from 46% last year. Support was already very high among independents and Democrats.

Support for deporting immigrants in the country illegally has also decreased across the board but less significantly. About 4 in 10 U.S. adults now favor deporting immigrants who are in the country illegally, down from about half a year ago.

Texas officials trying to figure out who's really missing in floods

BY ED WHITE
Associated Press

This week in Texas, estimates put the number of people still missing from the Hill Country floods at more than 170, a daunting figure atop at least 120 deaths confirmed by authorities.

But that missing person tally might not be as precise as it seems.

Confusion and uncertainty can take hold after a shocking disaster and, despite best efforts by local authorities, it can be difficult to pin down how many people reported missing are actually unaccounted for. Some people on a list after California's Camp Fire wildfire in 2018 were later found to be OK the whole time.

The death count in the 2023 Maui fire was 102, far below the 1,100 people initially feared missing.

In Texas, several hundred people were reported missing to officials in Kerr County after the Fourth of July floods, said Freeman Martin, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety. Investigators whittled that number down by Tuesday after learning that some were counted twice and others were found alive.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

A destroyed vehicle sits next to the Guadalupe River on Wednesday, July 9, in Hunt, Texas, after a flash flood swept through the area.

"There's nothing to celebrate about how well we've done this far, but there's a lot of work to be done," Martin said.

Authorities announced a phone number and email address for people to report missing friends or family.

"We need to keep an accurate count, as accurate as possible," Jonathan Lamb of the Kerrville Police Department said in a plea to the public Wednesday. "So if you've reported somebody missing and they've been recovered safely, please let us know."

The flooding sent walls of water through Hill Country in the middle of the night, killing at least 27 campers and counselors at Camp Mystic, a century-old all-girls Christian summer camp along the Guadalupe River. More remain missing from that camp and elsewhere.

The search in 88-degree Fahrenheit heat has been made harder by overturned cars, trees, mud and other debris left in the wake of the ferocious flood.

"We will not stop until every missing person is accounted for," Gov. Greg Abbott said. "Know this also: There very likely could be more added to that list."

In 2017, more than 20 people died in the Tubbs fire in northern California. Sgt. Juan Valencia of the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office recalled that most of the 100 people initially reported missing to his agency were found safe.

Working through a list of names in a disaster is both meticulous and time-consuming work, he said.

"Put yourself in a family member's shoes," Valencia said. "They're concerned about their loved one. Are they really the victim of a disaster or did they maybe lose their cellphone? Basically you start calling temporary shelters, check family, friends. You check social media. That's how we were able to get a lot of those."

And he acknowledged that searching for victims of a water disaster poses distinct challenges.

"Sometimes you find them miles away," Valencia said.

The 2018 Camp Fire in California ended up killing nearly 100 people, though Butte County investigators at one point had the names of more than 3,000 people who were not accounted for in the early days of the disaster, Sheriff Kory Honea said.

"They were published in our local paper, the *Chico Enterprise-Record*. Many people didn't know we were looking for them. That helped us start to whittle that list down," Honea said.

Abbott said Texas authorities were trying to learn more about people who were not registered at a camp or a hotel for the holiday and left no paper or digital trail in the Hill Country region.

He had a firm message for anyone contacting police about a missing person.

"If you make a prank call or provide false information, that's a crime. ... So you better be correct," the governor said.

Everyone is invited to
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Take A Road Trip With Us!
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Showcase Your Talent
Come AND share your talent with us, whatever it is.
It may be singing, Praise dancing, etc..
Saturday, July 19th 12pm - 3:30pm
To register, please call 803-422-6973
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WANT TO GO?

WHAT: Serve First Open (an ATP Challenger 125 Tournament)

WHEN: Monday, Aug. 11, through Sunday, Aug. 17

WHERE: Palmetto Tennis Center, 400 Theatre Drive (in Palmetto Park)

COST: Free admission (no tickets required)

TOURNAMENT

FROM PAGE A1

tennis spotlight, the release said.

"Bringing this tournament to Sumter is more than an honor — it's a game-changer," Mayor David Merchant said. "We are hosting world-class athletes in a world-class facility, and the impact on our local economy, reputation and pride is immeasurable. Sumter is ready. Our team, our community and our city are prepared to deliver an unforgettable experience on the international stage. This is the kind of moment communities work decades for."

Players representing more than 30 countries are expected to participate, and the City of Sumter expects thousands of visitors, coaches and fans to travel here. The tournament will be broadcast live on the Tennis Channel and live streamed online, giving Sumter national and international exposure during the week, according to the release.

Some tournament players competed at Wimbledon last week, according to City of Sumter Communications and Tourism Director Shelley Kile.

Admission will be free, she added, which is rare for a professional men's event.

"This will be one of the only professional men's tournaments where admission is free of charge," Kile said. "It will not be a ticketed event, which is generally standard for these men's tournaments."

According to Kile, Palmetto Tennis Center is prepared to seat 400 people per day at the center's three championship courts.

Food trucks will also be on site, so attendees can grab a meal or drink at the event.

With high visitor totals, the city expects the event to generate significant economic benefits for local hotels, restaurants and small businesses and help solidify Sumter's reputation as a major player in sports tourism.

According to Tennis.com, the ATP Challenger Tour attracts a wide range of players to include "next-generation stars on the rise, the game's grinders and veteran champions sharpening their swords."

The ATP Challenger Tour has 17 tournament events in August, and the only other U.S. venue during the month will be in Chicago, Illinois, and occur one week prior (Aug. 4-10) to the Sumter event, according to the official ATP Tour website.

More information on the upcoming Sumter tennis tournament, including player announcements and match details, will be available soon at *ServeFirstOpen.com*.

FORECASTING

FROM PAGE A1

District 20, listened as hurricane research and forecasting experts spoke about the staffing issues and potential stagnation or decline of hurricane research after significant and proposed cuts to NOAA's funding, including the potential elimination of the agency if President Donald Trump's FY26 budget plan is passed.

NOAA is a U.S. government agency focused on understanding and predicting changes in the Earth's environment, including climate, weather, oceans and coasts. In being a key leader in policies concerning international oceans, fisheries, climate, space and weather, the agency conducts research programs and manages a vast number of vessels, satellites, science centers and labs, all run by seasoned scientists and experts. There are several agencies under NOAA's umbrella, including National Weather Service, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorology Laboratory, National Hurricane Center, National Ocean Service and National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service.

During hurricane season, these services are heavily publicized as they bring forecasts and storm trackers that aid forecasters, local governments, emergency managers and the public in planning for severe weather. On a day-to-day basis, checking the weather on your phone or computer also means interacting with NOAA and its agencies.

In the "One Big Beautiful Bill," or OBBB, signed on July 4, massive reductions to personnel in many of these offices and $200 million cuts to weather forecasting research were included, according to Schultz. The president's proposed FY2026 budget, which has yet to be decided on by the U.S. House of Representatives or Senate, includes closing NOAA.

The general consensus is that many of OBBB's provisions could take effect immediately, while others are phased in over time.

"This means a generational loss for public safety and science, shuttering more than two dozen world-class weather and climate labs that have been proposed, losing 75 years of research history," Schultz expressed.

Cuts to NOAA were first proposed in the FY2025 budget, under the Biden-Harris Administration in October 2024, and, according to Columbia University's Climate School, included a 2.4% decrease in overall funding and significant cuts to NOAA's research and education programs.

Earlier this year, Department of Government Efficiency cut roughly 600 positions at NWS. James Franklin, former branch chief of the Hurricane Specialist Unit at National Hurricane Center, said many were probationary employees or buyouts that triggered early retirement. As a result, some NWS offices have not been able to launch weather balloons twice a day to collect data and NHC has been prevented from traveling to train emergency managers this spring, he explained.

Such cuts have also left research labs, primarily in Florida, with few people with the experience to fly or direct missions on hurricane research aircraft. According to Robert Atlas, an honorary director of NOAA's Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorology Laboratory, the lab's ability to develop new observation systems and advanced hurricane forecast models, improve how observations are assimilated in the models, fly into hurricanes and deploy airborne drones and ocean gliders to improve model predictions and understand and communicate key hurricane processes has been crucial to provide accurate forecasts that can determine the best course of action concerning evacuations and sheltering. These missions, instruments and programs, including the Hurricane Forecasting Improvement Program created with U.S. support in 2009, have allowed AOML to steadily improve forecast guidance. Frank Marks, former director of the Hurricane Research Division of AOML, who has flown in more than 250 missions in his 45 years with the agency, said in less than 15 years, they were able to decrease forecast and tracking wind speed error by 40%.

"Loss of the research expertise in NOAA and its cooperative institutes will make it harder to mitigate the impacts of hazardous weather such as from the landfall of Hurricane Helene last year or that occurred recently in Texas, making them the norm," Marks said. "You will not see anything better."

Atlas added a potential loss or even stagnation of this research could mean a 20-40% decrease in hurricane forecast accuracy, costing the U.S. economy $10 billion during a single hurricane season if only two hurricanes were to make landfall, 20 times larger than the proposed budget cuts.

Hurricane Helene resulted in at least 250 fatalities in the United States, making it the deadliest hurricane to strike the mainland since Hurricane Katrina in 2005, according to the National Hurricane Center. The storm's impact was widespread, creating devastation in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee. Its total cost was $78.7 billion, NOAA reported.

Alongside the staffing concerns and potential loss of decades of research, experts also fear the public losing trust in forecast predictions. If NWS is unable to send up weather balloons or AOML can't conduct research, that could lead to significant holes in data, leading to less confidence of the forecast of this season, Franklin said. There is no telling when those gaps will be crucial, he added.

For counties more inland, using his hometown of Sumter as an example, Clyburn said, "There is absolutely no substitute for the warnings. The only way people can get prepared or prepare themselves to get prepared is for these warnings to be in place. And these warnings are not possible if funding is not there for the experts who are doing the warning."

The Sumter Item reached out to NWS in Columbia for insight on local operations but did not receive a response by press time.

ROADS

FROM PAGE A1

require the signatures of those who live on the road. The second application phase will be more complicated and take place at a different time.

Though the council's timeline is still in its draft phase, a three-month application acceptance period has been proposed by Mixon, and council members are in agreement. In those months, the plan is to advertise in the newspaper and via social media that applications are being taken.

Afterward, council will review the preliminary applications, and staff will do a cost assessment. Some roads may need trees cleared and utility relocations, which will considerably add to the overall price.

After the assessment of applications, those remaining will have two to three months to complete the second phase of their application. The road will have to be transferred to the county, so it is paramount to have clearance from owners of the road, complete with signatures of those with interest in a property including mortgagees.

When a road is accepted to be repaired, a budget amendment will be required to allocate the money necessary.

Mixon said council would like to start repairs to private roads after getting some penny sales tax project roads paved, which should begin in the spring of next year. That way, public works will not be as stretched thin, he said.

Council has been discussing private roads for more than a year now, with the main focus being on emergency services. The fire department, law enforcement and EMS are able to make it down these roads but at a cost of time. Some roads are so narrow and in disrepair that quick-response vehicles must be used instead of ambulances and brush trucks instead of fire trucks. Regardless of what vehicle is traversing these roads, it must drive slowly, and sometimes an extra minute could be a matter of life and death.

Other issues have occurred where residents have been unable to receive packages, some of which contain medicine.

Emergency service accessibility was the No. 1 priority for all members of council, and roads that lack quick access to these services may be prioritized.

Before an official timeline is released, there will need to be a couple more public works meetings. These take place before Sumter County Council's meetings in the county administration conference room on the third floor of the Sumter County Administration Building.

You can find meeting agendas at *https://tinyurl.com/69nvnpbh*. You must scroll past the regular-session agendas to find the various committee agendas at the bottom.



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Liberty STEAM Charter School students recite the pledge of allegiance on the first day of school in 2023 when Liberty's elementary academy campus opened in Sumter Mall.

MILITARY

FROM PAGE A1

K-5 school with 913 students, and 101 are military children. The school recently expanded each grade by six students, from 144 to 150.

Future lotteries will accept 150 students moving forward, Ivey said.

The new charter military enrollment preference law will not impact student enrollment for the upcoming school year.

"It will begin to take effect with the upcoming lottery cycle in the fall and the actual lottery in early December," Ivey said.

The new law states that 10% of total student enrollment in one year can be military-connected kids, but that could be interpreted as accepting 90 military children (of the 913-enrollment total) in the next lottery of 150 new kindergartners, according to Liberty's legal counsel.

The school instead will implement the law as 10% of total vacancies can be military-associated students as part of an "equitable implementation," he added.

"Based on historical patterns, about 25 military children will get in this December on their own based on the sibling preference," Ivey said. "Now, another 15 of the 150 total will get in because of the new military preference legislation."

The school's board of directors formed an ad hoc committee at its June board meeting of three trustees in LaShea Davis, Cammy Chandler and Shafara Douglas to implement the new legislation.

"The board's ad hoc committee has been charged with implementing the newly adopted charter school military enrollment preference legislation in a fair and equitable manner," Ivey said, "that best aligns with Liberty's mission to serve disadvantaged children in our community and is transparent, sustainable and accountable."

By state law, military-connected students in South Carolina public schools are children of active-duty military personnel.

As future school lotteries admit about 25% military children in the lottery total, Liberty's total enrollment will rise incrementally to near 25% military.

Liberty board Chairman Greg Thompson said he is excited about the new law. He has said previously he thinks allowing more military children into the school can help improve Sumter's capture rate of military families associated with Shaw Air Force Base who choose to live here as opposed to Kershaw and Richland counties for public schools in those areas with a better perception than local public schools.



THOMPSON

"Liberty has fought hard for this legislation for two years now, and I want to say a special thank you to Sumter's own Speaker Murrell Smith for his tireless advocacy and support of our school and military families," Thompson said. "Also, a special thanks to House Education Chairlady Shannon Erickson (R-Beaufort) for sponsoring the bill this year, to Senate Education Chairman Greg Hembree (R-Horry) and Subcommittee Chairman Tom Young (R-Aiken) for all of their efforts to get the bill passed and their years of dedication to the children of South Carolina."

Ivey added he believes the new legislation will be a gamechanger for Liberty.

"The law honors the commitment of families who have been with us since the very beginning, supports our hardworking staff and recognizes the unique needs of military families in our community," he said. "We have 101 military children now enrolled at Liberty, and this will allow us to proudly serve even more."

Liberty's board of directors' vision includes a second K-8 school on the western side of Sumter County and near Shaw, in addition to the current K-8 model in the City of Sumter, with both feeding into a technical high school, Ivey said.

At the conclusion of 2028, the city's K-8 school will be at full scale.

PUBLIC AGENDA

CLARENDON COUNTY COUNCIL
Monday, July 14, at 6 p.m., Administration Building, Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning

CITY OF MANNING PLANNING COMMISSION
Monday, July 14, at 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 29 W. Boyce St., Manning

SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, July 15, 6 p.m., 1345 Wilson Hall Road

SUMTER CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 15, at 5:30 p.m., Council Chambers on the fourth floor of Sumter Opera House, 21 N. Main St. (enter through the back parking lot entrance and take elevator to fourth floor)

CLARENDON COUNTY PLANNING & PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 15, at 6:30 p.m., planning commission office, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning

BISHOPVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 15, at 6:30 p.m., Colclough Building

SCEA-R ORGANIZATION
Wednesday, July 23, at 11 a.m. the North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. Contact Ernestine Mickens (803) 840-2156 for further info.

SUMTER CITY-COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Wednesday, July 23, at 3 p.m., fourth floor, Sumter Opera House, Council Chambers

SUMTER COUNTY DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Thursday, July 24, at 7:45 a.m., 10 E. Liberty St.

LEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Thursday, July 24, 6:30 p.m., District Administration Complex Quadplex, 310 Roland St., Bishopville.

SANTEE WATEREE RTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Monday, July 28, at 6 p.m., 129 S. Harvin St. For special accommodations, call (803) 934-0396, extension 103.

CITY OF MANNING BOARD OF APPEALS
Monday, July 28, 6 p.m., 29 W. Boyce St., City Hall Chambers, Manning

SUMTER COUNTY DISABILITIES & SPECIAL NEEDS BOARD

CREATIVE ENVIRONMENTS INC.

INDEPENDENT LIVING INC.

ABILITIES UNLIMITED INC.

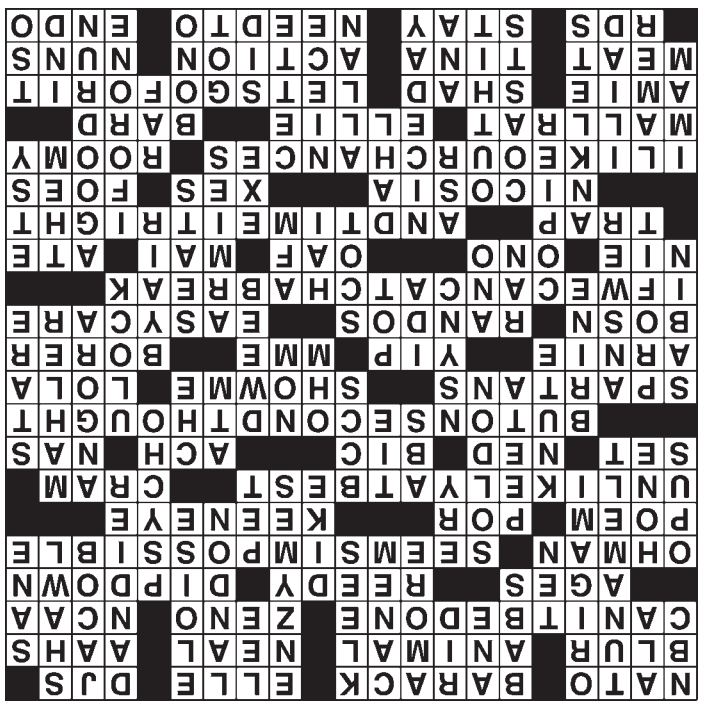
ADAPTIVE LIFESTYLES INC.

MAGNOLIA MANOR INC.

FIRST FLIGHT INC.
Tuesday, July 29, 8 a.m., 750 Electric Drive. Call (803) 778-1669, extension 2537.

SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 29, at 6 p.m., Sumter County Council Chambers

SOLUTION TO THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD



WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2025

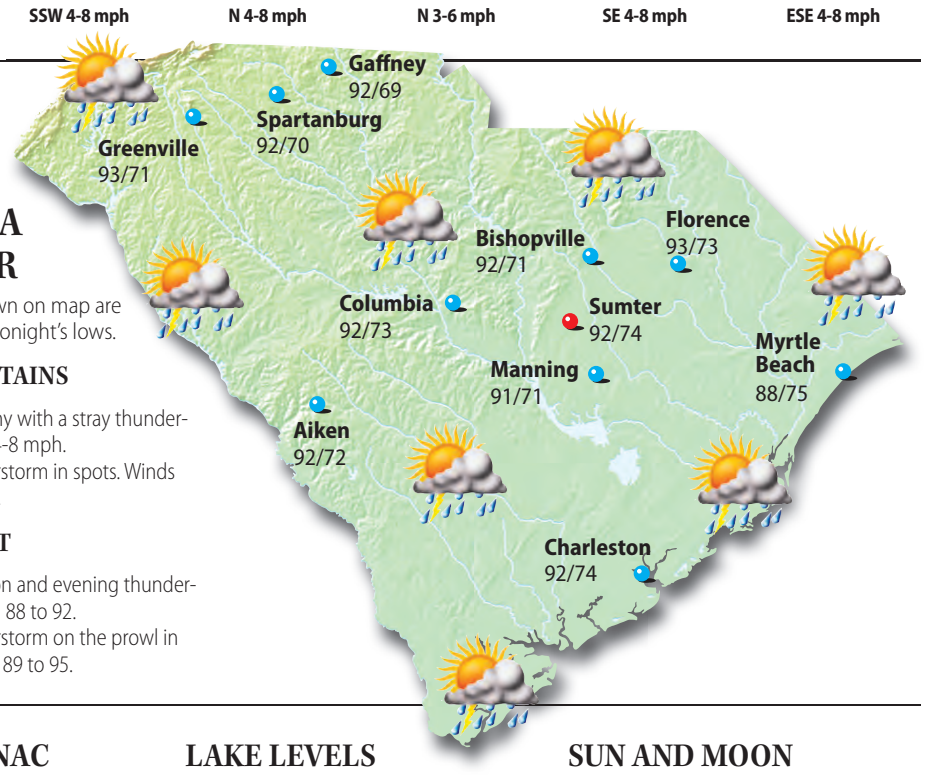
AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

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TODAY	TONIGHT	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
A t-storm around in the p.m.	Humid; a t-storm around early	Humid; a p.m. t-storm in spots	Humid with heavy thunderstorms	A shower and t-storm; humid	Humid; a p.m. t-storm or two
92°	74°	94° / 74°	92° / 74°	87° / 72°	87° / 72°
Chance of rain: 40%	Chance of rain: 40%	Chance of rain: 40%	Chance of rain: 95%	Chance of rain: 90%	Chance of rain: 65%
SW 4-8 mph	SSW 4-8 mph	N 4-8 mph	N 3-6 mph	SE 4-8 mph	ESE 4-8 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

Temperatures shown on map are today's highs and tonight's lows.



IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Mostly sunny with a stray thunderstorm. Winds west 4-8 mph.
Sunday: A thunderstorm in spots. Winds northwest 4-8 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: An afternoon and evening thunderstorm in spots. High 88 to 92.
Sunday: A thunderstorm on the prowl in the afternoon. High 89 to 95.

LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THURSDAY

Temperature

High	89°
Low	72°
Normal high	90°
Normal low	70°
Record high	104° in 1986
Record low	58° in 1961

Precipitation

Thursday	0.10"
Month to date	0.30"
Normal month to date	1.67"
Year to date	17.15"
Last year to date	16.08"
Normal year to date	24.82"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	358.22	+0.05
Marion	76.8	75.62	-0.02
Moultrie	75.5	75.43	+0.04
Wateree	100	97.06	-0.16

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	3.44	+0.37
Congaree River	19	3.24	+0.23
Lynches River	14	3.43	+0.46
Saluda River	14	2.28	+0.04
Up. Santee River	80	N.A.	N.A.
Wateree River	24	9.69	+2.37

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	6:20 a.m.	Sunset	8:35 p.m.
Moonrise	10:14 p.m.	Moonset	7:54 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
July 17	July 24	Aug. 1	Aug 9

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH

	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	10:44 a.m.	2.6	5:35 a.m.	0.1
	11:13 p.m.	3.3	5:25 p.m.	0.0
Sun.	11:27 a.m.	2.7	6:15 a.m.	0.1
	11:53 p.m.	3.2	6:11 p.m.	0.0

NATIONAL CITIES

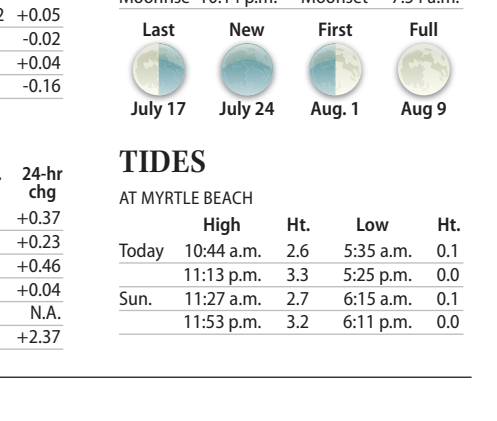
City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	90/75/t	94/74/s
Chicago	86/66/t	85/67/pc
Dallas	91/76/t	88/76/t
Detroit	89/70/t	86/64/t
Houston	92/77/t	93/77/t
Los Angeles	82/62/pc	79/63/pc
New Orleans	91/77/t	93/78/t
New York	85/71/pc	84/71/pc
Orlando	94/75/t	95/74/t
Philadelphia	89/72/t	88/73/pc
Phoenix	109/89/s	110/87/s
San Francisco	70/55/s	70/55/pc
Wash., DC	90/76/t	86/75/t

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Asheville	84/68/t	86/67/t
Athens	92/72/t	96/73/s
Augusta	92/72/t	96/72/s
Beaufort	92/76/t	95/77/t
Cape Hatteras	88/76/t	88/75/t
Charleston	92/74/t	94/77/t
Charlotte	94/73/t	93/73/t
Clemson	92/71/t	93/71/t
Columbia	92/73/t	95/74/t
Darlington	92/72/t	93/72/t
Elizabeth City	89/72/t	86/74/t
Elizabethtown	94/74/t	93/75/t
Fayetteville	93/74/t	93/73/t
Florence	93/73/t	92/72/t
Gainesville	95/73/t	93/73/t
Gastonia	93/69/t	93/71/t
Goldsboro	95/74/t	92/74/t
Goose Creek	92/72/t	94/73/t
Greensboro	91/71/t	89/72/t
Greenville	93/71/t	92/72/t
Hickory	91/71/t	91/70/t
Hilton Head	89/76/t	90/78/t
Jacksonville, FL	94/75/t	94/75/t
La Grange	91/72/t	93/71/s
Macon	90/70/t	95/71/pc
Marietta	90/73/t	92/73/s
Marion	88/67/t	88/67/t
Mt. Pleasant	90/75/t	90/77/t
Myrtle Beach	88/75/t	90/75/t
Orangeburg	90/72/t	94/72/t
Port Royal	90/75/t	94/76/t
Raleigh	97/75/t	96/74/t
Rock Hill	93/70/t	93/71/t
Rockingham	93/73/t	94/71/t
Savannah	92/75/t	93/75/t
Spartanburg	92/70/t	92/70/t
Summerville	92/71/t	93/73/t
Wilmington	92/74/t	89/75/t
Winston-Salem	92/73/t	93/72/t

Weather(W): **s**–sunny, **pc**–partly cloudy, **c**–cloudy, **sh**–showers, **t**–thunderstorms, **r**–rain, **sf**–snow flurries, **sn**–snow, **i**–ice

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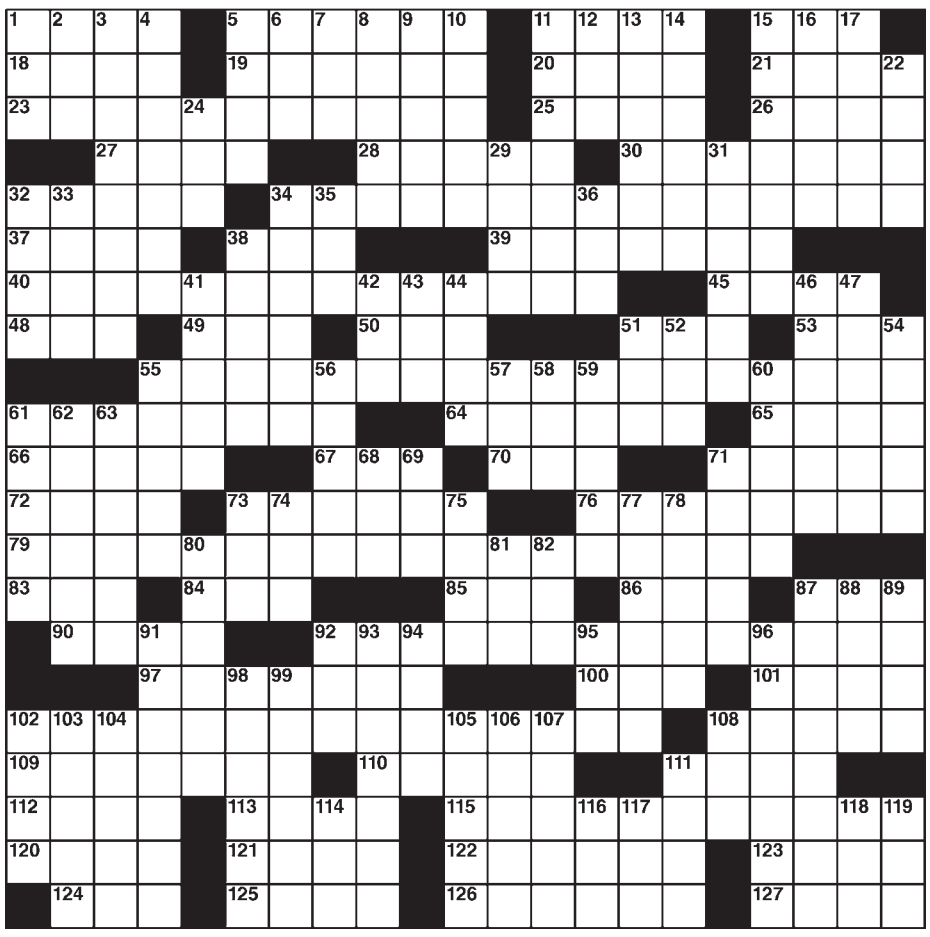


THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

GETTING TO YES: A gradual change of mind
By Winston Emmons

ACROSS
1 US alliance
5 Sasha and Malia's dad
11 French fashion mag
15 FM station employees
18 Become unfocused
19 Twenty Questions category
20 Country singer McCoy
21 Oohs and __
23 A skeptical question
25 Greek Stoic philosopher
26 March Madness org.
27 Many, many years
28 How an oboe sounds
30 Descend a bit
32 Frustration exclamation
34 Initial response to 23-Across
37 Sonnet, for instance
38 "__ favor, señora"
39 Observational ability
40 Slight improvement over 34-Across
45 Study hard
48 Harden, as cement
49 Simpsons neighbor
50 Ballpoint brand
51 German exclamation
53 __ in "Norman"
55 Reconsideration starter of 40-Across
61 Athenians' rivals
64 "I'd like to see it"
65 Nickname for Dolores
66 Golf great's nickname
67 Sharp bark
70 Marseilles Mrs.
71 Cornfield pest
72 Deck officer, briefly
73 Total strangers, lately
76 Selling point of no-iron shirts
79 55-Across continued
83 Never, in Berlin
84 Yoko __
85 Perpetual bumbler
86 __ tai cocktail
87 Had something
90 Ensnare
92 79-Across continued
97 Capital of Cyprus
100 Crosses (out)
101 Antagonists
102 79-Across continued
108 Spacious
109 Young food court regular
110 Kemper of ...Kimmy Schmidt
111 Versifier
112 Gal pal, in Grenoble
113 Caviar fish
115 The ultimate decision
120 Veal or venison
121 Fey or Turner
122 Director's cry
123 Celibate sisters
124 GPS lines
125 Stick around
126 Must
127 "Within" prefix

DOWN
1 SNL broadcaster
2 Menu phrase
3 Grilled sandwich
4 Paper craft
5 Streisand nickname
6 Hydrocarbon suffix
7 Freed (of)
8 Italian affection
9 Cave __ (beware of dog: Lat.)
10 Swiss abstract works
11 Organic food processors
12 Jamie __ Curtis
13 Arrive at, in Monopoly
14 Plaza Hotel girl of fiction
15 More marvelous
16 Old Testament patriarch
17 Shoulder warmer
22 Clearheaded
24 Not quite a dozen
29 Flood barrier
31 Hitchcock masterwork
32 Numbered musical work
33 Improve gradually
34 Convinced about
35 Suffix for green or bean
36 Gerbil or goldfish
38 Hunger Games competitor
41 Football legend Rockne
42 Workout targets
43 Trash bag accessory
44 Secret email inclusions
46 Fine wool
47 Austrian symphonic composer
51 $$$ dispenser
52 Revolutionary Guevara
54 Look unblinkingly
55 Salty water
56 Timberlake's former boy band
57 Electrical measure
58 __ de plume
59 Uncool person
60 Shackle for a bike
61 Salk colleague
62 Monetary gain
63 Get back to
68 It's w. of Montana
69 Poker prize
71 Via plane
73 Operated
74 "I'll take that as __"
75 Graham Bell, by birth
77 Troop groups
78 Tandem twosome
80 Office machine
81 Japanese assent
82 Instrumentalists' org.
87 Broadway producer's goal
88 The others
89 Site for woodworkers' wares
91 Short socks
92 Siri's AI technology
93 What cashiers often wish you
94 Wonka creator
95 Program file suffix
96 Opinion introducer
98 Shorelines
99 Do better than in batting
102 Muslim cleric
103 Debussy sea piece
104 Homeric epic
105 Poe preceder
106 Sibling's daughter
107 This: Fr.
108 UK fliers
111 Irish singer/philanthropist
114 Get __ for effort
116 Science Kid of TV
117 Acquired
118 Ft. Wayne's locale
119 General on Chinese menus



the Sumter ITEM SPORTS

Call: (803) 774-1221 | E-mail: sports@theitem.com

SECTION B

SATURDAY-TUESDAY, JULY 12-15, 2025

Courts2College hosting inaugural Lil' Legends Youth Basketball Camp next week at Manning High School

BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com

Trelle Felder founded Courts2College with the plan to build up local student-athletes on and off the court or field. She sees athletics as an avenue for future success, but not the sole driver of that brighter future, so Courts2College has a strong focus on education alongside finding a great athletic fit for local stars looking to make the jump to college.

Next week, the program will host a camp with those same goals, though she's aiming for a younger demographic.

Courts2College will host its inaugural Lil' Legends Basketball Camp, which is aimed at elementary aged boys and girls. An Alcolu native, Felder is thrilled to host the camp at her alma mater, Manning High School, July 16-18. She's teaming up with fellow MHS alumnus Anthony Thames to lead the camp, while welcoming several former Monarchs to serve as guest speakers and leaders for the event.

"I'm a Class of '88 graduate of Manning High School and it doesn't matter where we are, we want to give back to the community that we grew up in and encourage those kids, showing that they can do anything that they want to do, they can be anybody that they want to be," Felder said. "I believe that is the best age group to target because they're still very young. They're like sponges. They can grab hold of information, and you can steer them and guide them at that age. They're more impressionable, they're eager to learn new things. Being that I'm a strong advocate on academics, I think it's a great time to introduce them to balancing academics and athletics and still be successful at both."

Thames was thrilled to jump at the chance to come back home and feed back into the community that raised him.

"Being a local boy from Manning, graduating from the Class of '81, I've always wanted to bring something sports related back to the community," Thames said. "I've been a coach now for 37 years here in North Carolina, so when Trelle approached me with this, I was more than happy to help."

Felder and Thames are extremely excited about the roster of guest speakers lined up for the camp, which is led by Col. Alexander Conyers. The Class of '83 Manning graduate currently serves as the president of South

SEE **COURTS2COLLEGE,** PAGE B2



NICH PITTS / SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Trelle Felder, the founder and CEO of Courts2College, will host her inaugural Lil' Legends Youth Basketball Camp at Manning High School July 16-18.



PHOTOS BY TIM LEIBLE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter's Lyza Prickelmyer slides into second against Florence Post 1 on Wednesday.

Lady Legends punch ticket to state championship after another offensive explosion

BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com

The Sumter Lady Legends are back in the South Carolina American Legion state championship for the first time since the league's inaugural season in 2021. The Legends punched their tickets on the back of another ridiculous offensive performance, piling up 11 runs in the first inning against Florence on Wednesday en route to a 13-2 victory. Sumter will travel to Columbia College on Monday to face off with Anderson, 2-0 winners over Saluda, for the state title game.

"It's what we hoped for," head coach Glenn Posey said of advancing to the state championship. "We came out three games in a row and batted around. Each of the last three games, if I remember correctly, had two base hits in the first inning. It's hard to beat that kind of start. I'm proud of us for that. We came out ready to play, and that's not always easy to do."

Coaches often ask their teams to be laser focused for games, especially when the stakes rise in the playoffs. With the Lady Legends, relaxation is key. Their pregame routine includes silly games like Moo, Moo, Cow, their spin on Duck, Duck, Goose. They crack jokes in the dugout and spend as much time laughing together as they do strategizing their next at bat. That loose atmosphere was a concern for the Sumter coaches at times, but the results speak for themselves. Sumter carries a perfect record into the championship, as does Anderson, and they've been unstoppable in the opening inning all week long.

'It's just a really neat environment that we have with this team. I've had some good teams over the years, but this is the team with the best chemistry that I've coached.'

GLENN POSEY

Lady Legends head coach



The Lady Legends celebrate a home run by Mandy Wells, right, against Florence Post 1 on Wednesday.

"They're a group of veterans. They love each other; we have a relaxed environment," Posey said. "It's kind of a standing joke with me and Buddy (Truett) because he doesn't like the pregame; he likes it to be a little more regimented and a little less playful. I told him he's going to change Laurence Manning's pregame startup next year.

"We have a good time, and I think that goes a long way. These girls, you can't put a lot of pressure on them because then they put pressure on themselves. They're playing natural, instinctive and reactive, and they're just a good group of girls."

The bond with the Lady Legends is impressive, especially when you consider the fact that they're spread across several high schools in Sumter and Clarendon counties. Sumter High, Wilson Hall, Laurence Manning, Clarendon Hall and Crestwood are all represented on the Lady Legends, but they never let those school ties form walls. Posey recalled a team meal at Waffle House at the beginning of the season where they were split among four tables. The girls took it upon themselves to sit almost exclusively with teammates from different schools because they're friends and Lady Legend teammates first and foremost. That bond feeds into their success.

"I'm not taking any credit for it, but we go get ice cream together, get snow cones together after practices.

SEE **LEGENDS,** PAGE B2



Sumter's Maggie Harrington swings on Wednesday.



PHOTOS BY TIM LEIBLE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter's Maddy Long singles against Florence on Wednesday.



Sumter's Ariana Evans watches a batted ball on Wednesday.



Sumter's Skylar Dymond follows through on a swing on Wednesday.

LEGENDS FROM PAGE B1

We work a lot off the field to have a good chemistry. That's part of it, but they're also sweet girls with sweet families," Posey said. "It's just a really neat environment that we have with this team. I've had some good teams over the years, but this is the team with the best chemistry that I've coached. We'll see if that carries us where we want to get, hopefully so, but I can't say enough about the area coaches, high school and travel ball coaches (who prepared them for this). They're extremely hard workers. They love it, and they're good at it; I'm just lucky enough to be the recipient of their runs they put on the board."

Hitting can certainly be contagious, and it was this week. For three nights in a row, the top of the Sumter lineup batted twice in the first inning. On two occasions, they made it to the No. 6 batter in their second run through the lineup before making the third out of the inning. Lyza Prickelmyer has been the spark plug each time, leading off all three games with a single before coming around to score the first run for the Lady Legends. She reached base twice in the first inning on Wednesday, adding a two-out walk to her leadoff single.

Everyone in the lineup contributed in the first inning. Maggie Harrington reached twice on a walk and a single, as did Maddy Long. Brynli Brewer and Skylar Dymond both singled, while Caroline Welch walked and Ashley Rae Hodge hit a sacrifice fly. Ariana Evans smacked a triple, but the heavy hitter on Wednesday was Mandy Wells, who had a two-run single in her first at bat before launching a two-run shot to centerfield in her second trip to the dish in the first inning.

"She had her best round in the cage that I've seen all season the last two nights," Posey said of his shortstop from Clarendon Hall. "She looks comfortable, and her swing plane is back on track. She looked good; I really felt like it was coming. In her last at bat, I told her a $50 bill says she won't do it a second time, so she went to bat with a smile on her face and turned in a good swing."

All in all, Sumter had eight hits and walked four times in the first inning to grab an 11-0 lead that they would not surrender.

"There's no I in team, as they say," Posey said. "It's just a good environment."

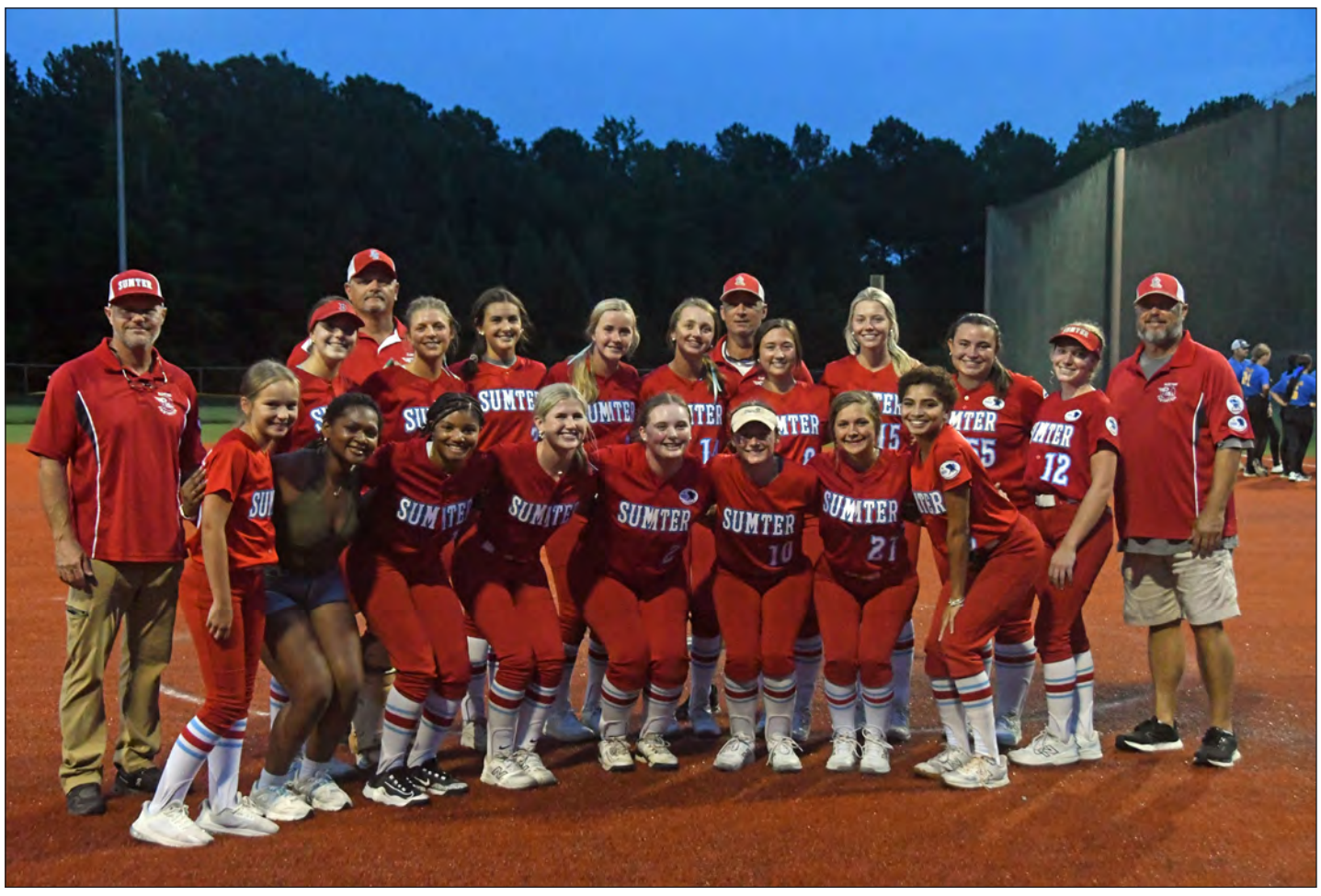
Sumter didn't need to add much offensively for the rest of the night, though an error and a sacrifice fly helped them pile on two more runs on their way to a five-inning victory. Wells led the team with three hits and three RBIs, while Prickelmyer and Evans each added two base knocks. Long also reached base three times with a hit and two walks.

With a comfortable lead, Lillie Ivey and Marsha Kate Skey were able to dominate in the circle. Two errors in the fourth inning allowed Florence to get on the board, but Ivey was able to bounce back from a rough night on Tuesday to deliver four innings of one-hit ball. She walked one and struck out one as her defense went to work behind her. Skey handled the fifth and sent Florence packing in order to seal the victory.

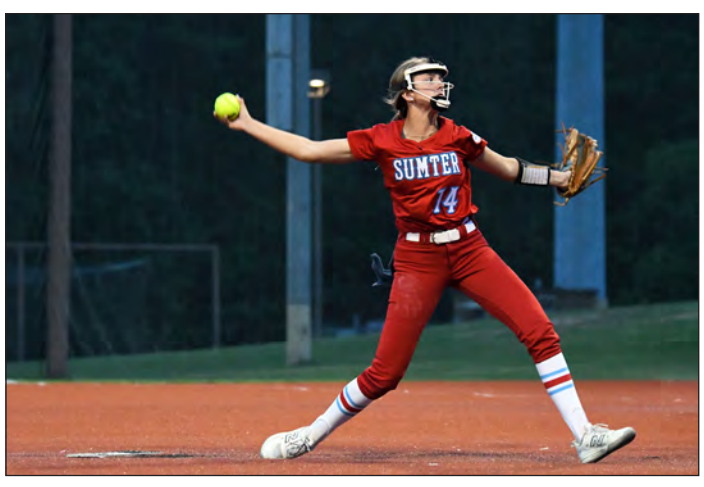
"Lillie wasn't quite what she's been other times this season, but Lillie is still strong even when she's not throwing 100% and getting the ball to move like she wants it to," Posey said of his pitcher who battled heat and humidity throughout the week, which limited their pitch selection. "I have a lot of faith in Lillie, and Marsha Kate is a great young pitcher. Of course, we have three other pitchers we don't talk about a lot that can come in and turn in some innings anytime."

Posey thinks his team will be up for the challenge when they travel to Columbia College to face Anderson on Monday. Some of their players have played All-Star games on that field, but with the turf fields at Patriot Park, the playing surface at Columbia College won't be foreign to the Lady Legends. Perhaps most importantly, Sumter is extremely confident as they face off with Anderson, which is always the first step in finding success on the diamond.

"Some of these teams in the playoffs pushed us a little bit, scored some runs on us and made us work through it," Posey said. "The other night, we had a few errors that could've stressed us, so I feel like we're a little battle-tested, and I think we're going to go in there not overconfident but go in there humble yet confident that we can put up runs."



The Sumter Lady Legends pose after defeating Florence Post 1 to advance to the South Carolina American Legion state championship on Wednesday.



Sumter's Marsha Kate Skey delivers against Florence.



Sumter's Lillie Ivey pitches against Florence on Wednesday.

COURTS2COLLEGE FROM PAGE B1

Carolina State University. Other voices at the camp will be Niyah Brand, the third partner for the event. The Manning native and MHS graduate is the founder and CEO of Never Turn Back Apparel. Corey Thompson is a motivational speaker and health coach who graduated from Manning High. Former Monarchs Johnnie Anderson and Measha Jones, along with Tori Sims, will also be on hand to share knowledge with the younger generation.

"We chose speakers from Manning because all of us can share our experiences with them, so they can see success," Felder said. "Children learn through what they see; they imitate. If we're showing them that you can do it, they can do it. We're success stories and can be a prime example for them.

"One thing we want to emphasize is the ability to be kind. They see a lot of things on TV and want to be like what they see on TV. We're in real life and this is what life is, so we want them to learn teamwork, leadership, sportsmanship, confidence and being well-rounded students."

Thames added, "The part that I like is that we get to touch their spiritual side, also. We're going to open with a devotion. That's one of the most important parts. That's why I'm still in sports. I retired from teaching last year, but sports is my ministry, so the opportunity to plant that seed with those young minds is another great opportunity."

Basketball will still be at the forefront in the camp. Young athletes will learn fundamentals and play games throughout the day, capping off each day with lunch. Spots are still open for the three-day camp. You can reserve a spot at the QR code on the flyer, but they will also take registrations the day of the camp. In-person registration will begin at 8 a.m. before the first day begins at 9 a.m. Felder also welcomes people to sponsor campers and is accepting donations for Courts2College.

"Everyone will get a lot of individualized instruction on the fundamentals of basketball: dribbling, passing, defense, rebounding, shooting," Thames said. "Then we'll take a break, socialize with everyone. The first day we'll have a draft and have some gameplay. We'll have closure with the speaker, we'll have a camper of the day, an individual that stood out amongst everyone. Then they'll leave with a lunch."

The Lil' Legends Youth Camp is made possible through a supportive group of sponsors. Those sponsors include Phi Omega Omega, Clarendon County Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Harvin's Haven in Alcolu, New Hope Counseling Services LLC, Goldsmith Trucking LLC, Partners for Change of the Carolinas, Simpson Hardware, Za'Mani's Dream Basket, Santee Ford, Hands-On Driver Training, IGA and Taco Bell.

With that financial aid, Courts2College is able to help get these campers ready for the school year on the right foot. Each camper will get a bookbag with school supplies, hammering home the importance of their education.

"We want to make sure they're prepared, that they have all the tools they need," Felder said. "Whatever they need to get through the day to make sure they stay on task and stay focused.

"We really appreciate the businesses coming together with the community to make sure these campers get the best experience possible."

Felder and Thames plan for this to be the first of many camps hosted by Courts2College as they look to expand their reach across the tri-county.

"Everything starts from a little acorn before it grows into an oak tree. The vision that Trelle and I have, this is just the acorn," Thames said. "We want this thing to grow until we get these middle school kids involved, get these high school kids involved. I know my vision is to get in these high school kids' ears, especially with all of this NIL (Name, Image and Likeness) stuff now and help them navigate that. We can give them a worldly view and a spiritual view of it and help guide them to make the right decisions because there is a lot of misinformation out there, and I know that information is probably not being disseminated in our area."



GRAPHIC PROVIDED



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Amanda Anisimova celebrates winning her women's singles semifinal match against Aryna Sabalenka at Wimbledon in London on Thursday, July 10, 2025.

Wimbledon set for 8th-consecutive first-time women's champ as Anisimova, Swiatek face off

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
Associated Press

LONDON — Either Amanda Anisimova or Iga Swiatek will leave the All England Club's grass courts as Wimbledon's eighth consecutive first-time women's champion.

Why has there been such a revolving door? Chris Evert has some thoughts about various elements that, as she put it ahead of Saturday's final, "make it difficult to feel completely secure and confident on this elusive surface."

For one, there's the amount of talent in the game — "deeper now than ever," said Evert, a Hall of Famer who won three of her 18 Grand Slam titles at Wimbledon in the 1970s and 1980s and was the runner-up six times during an era when Martina Navratilova won a record nine singles championships there.

Plus, Evert noted, there's a short turnaround after the red clay of the French Open, leaving only two to three weeks to practice and prepare for what she called a "polar opposite" surface. Another contributing factor are the uneven bounces and other adjustments required on grass.

And with no completely dominant figure since Serena Williams retired after the 2022 U.S. Open, there is more room for new faces such as the 13th-seeded Anisimova, a 23-year-old American who will be participating in her first major final against Swiatek, a former No. 1 who won four trophies at Roland-Garros and one at the U.S. Open but hadn't been past the quarterfinals at Wimbledon until now.

"I never even dreamt that it's going to be possible for me to play in the final," said Swiatek, a 24-year-old from Poland who hadn't been in a title match as a professional at any grass-court tournament until three weeks ago, when she was the runner-up at Bad Homburg, Germany. "I thought I experienced everything on the court, " Swiatek said. "But I didn't experience playing well on grass."

Sure did Thursday during her 6-2, 6-0 win against Belinda Bencic in the semifinals.

"Maybe I would have had to play my absolutely best tennis of my life and risk every shot to beat her today, the way she played," Bencic said.

Like Swiatek, Anisimova also was a recent runner-up on the surface, reaching the final at Queen's Club last month.

Her powerful, flat strokes are a natural fit for the turf, and she showed just how good she can be on the stuff during a 6-4, 4-6, 6-4 victory against No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka on Thursday.

"I have to say," Sabalenka said, "that she was more brave."

A sign of Anisimova's skill on grass came three years ago, when she reached the quarterfinals at Wimbledon.

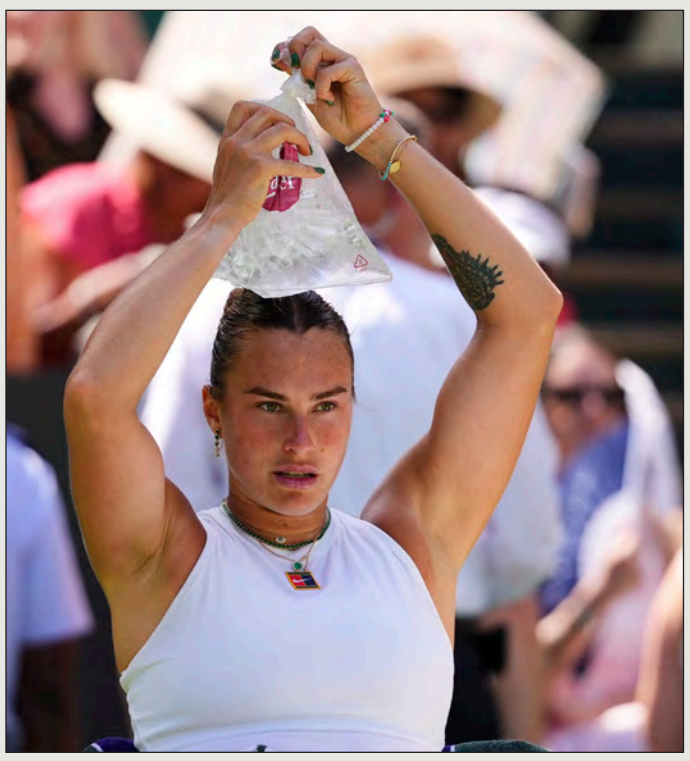
But she hadn't played at the event again until now, because she sat out the tournament during a mental health break to deal with burnout in 2023, then was ranked too low to get in automatically a year ago and lost during the qualifying rounds.

"A lot of people told me that you would never make it to the top again if you take so much time away from the game. That was a little hard to digest, because I did want to come back and still achieve a lot and win a Grand Slam one day," Anisimova said, adding that she is pleased to be "able to prove that you can get back to the top if you prioritize yourself."

Since Williams won her seventh and last Wimbledon championship in 2016 — a repeat performance from a year prior — every woman to hold the trophy was doing so for the first time.

There was Garbiñe Muguruza in 2017, Angelique Kerber in 2018, Simona Halep in 2019 and Ash Barty in 2021 — all of whom are now retired — followed by Elena Rybakina in 2022, Marketa Vondrousova in 2023 and Barbora Krejcikova in 2024 (the tournament was canceled in 2020 because of COVID-19).

Contrast that sort of variety to the much smaller circle of men to win Wimbledon lately: Since 2003, just five have done it — Roger Federer with eight, Novak Djokovic with seven, and Rafael Nadal, Andy Murray and Carlos Alcaraz with a pair apiece.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Aryna Sabalenka uses an icepack to cool during her women's singles semifinal match against Amanda Anisimova at Wimbledon in London on Thursday, July 10, 2025.

Sweltering heat returns to Wimbledon, causes delays

LONDON (AP) — Players and fans felt the impact of high temperatures at Wimbledon when Thursday's semifinal match between top-ranked Aryna Sabalenka and Amanda Anisimova was delayed twice in the first set because of spectators feeling unwell.

The affected fans at Centre Court were seated in the lower level — not shaded — and on both occasions Sabalenka walked over to offer a bottle of water. The first time, she also offered a blue ice pack.

"I feel like London is not ready for this weather. It was super hot," Sabalenka said after losing to Anisimova 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.

The temperature during the first set reached 88 degrees Fahrenheit (31 degrees Celsius).

"I can't even imagine sitting in one place and the sun just constantly hitting on you," Sabalenka said. "You got to be really prepared, stay hydrated. It can happen to everyone."

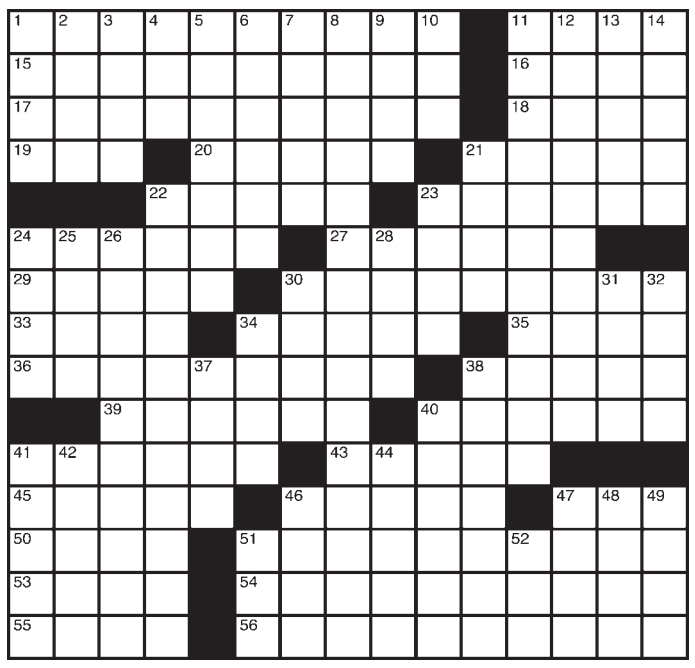
Sabalenka herself used ice packs — placing them on her head — to cool down during changeovers.

She said the delays had no impact on her performance.

"I was able to play my game no matter. Doesn't matter how long the pause was. I just hope they (those fans) feel better," she said.

The grass-court tournament experienced record-breaking Day 1 heat when the temperature rose to 91 degrees Fahrenheit (33 degrees Celsius).

CROSSWORD



Across
1 "Hold on to that one"
11 Periods
15 Have a heart-to-heart exchange?
16 Confident
17 Healthy dessert option
18 "Whatcha waitin' for?"
19 Purple __
20 Magnate
21 Rodeo circuit?
22 Second-largest landlocked country in Africa
23 Jay-Z or Cardi B
24 Glossy fabric
27 German car, informally
29 Hybrid since 1997
30 Sense of achievement
33 Slangy contraction
34 Dockers fabric
35 "Can do!"
36 Weak six-packs?
38 Forum garb
39 Line dance movement
40 Numerous
41 Verbal shrug
43 Secret spots
45 Ancient seafaring people
46 Zest
47 Closest one, briefly
50 Family member
51 Thimmamma Marrimanu in Anantapur, notably
53 Subject of a deal, say
54 Ad hoc groups of specialists
55 Catherine who outlived Henry VIII
56 Some ranch dressing

Down
1 Touch and go
2 Hill of __: historical site associated with the High Kings of Ireland
3 Neglected area
4 Arabic name that means "elevated"
5 Pools
6 Naval rank
7 Fill with joy
8 One way to break the ice?
9 __ Rachel Wood of "Mildred Pierce"
10 Color of diamonds
11 Activities that require exit strategies?
12 Amish rite of passage
13 Got up
14 Caballero title
21 Prize in "A Christmas Story"
22 Supernova remnant
23 APR adjustment
24 Go over
25 Racer Luyendyk known as "The Flying Dutchman"
26 Aunty Entity player in "Mad Max 3"
28 Edmonton CFL team
30 __ butter
31 Primatologist Fossey
32 Creative outlet?
34 Atkins variant
37 Nota __
38 City founded as York in 1793
40 Instruments that date to the Mughal Empire
41 Like some purchases made on a phone
42 Help for a new mother
44 Still
46 Run, e.g.
47 "My guy!"
48 Storm recovery org.
49 Big do
51 J-Hope's K-pop band
52 Carl Lewis's Olympic medal count

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LEDLW

PUOYS

LTIFLE

ENJTUK

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: " ___ - _____ "

SUDOKU

	3			7	5			9
	1				3			4
	8			4		7		
		5				3		
3				5				2
		6				1		
		2		1			9	
8			7				5	
7			5	8			1	

HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

SOLUTIONS

6	1	2	4	8	5	3	9	7
3	5	4	9	2	7	1	6	8
7	9	8	6	1	3	2	5	4
5	7	1	8	3	2	6	4	9
2	6	9	1	5	4	8	7	3
8	4	3	7	6	9	5	2	1
1	3	7	2	4	6	9	8	5
4	2	5	3	9	8	7	1	6
9	8	6	5	7	1	4	3	2

Jumbles: DWELL SOUPY FILLET JUNKET
Answer: The golfer hitting the ball out of bounds so many times in a row was becoming — "TEE-DIOUS"

Sumter Speed gears up for USATF Junior Olympic Nationals after impressive runs at state, regionals

BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com


PHOTO PROVIDED
Young Sumter Speed athletes pose for a photo during a USATF Junior Olympic meet.

Sumter Speed has been busy for the last month, competing at the state and regional level in USATF Junior Olympic meets. All that hard work will pay off on July 21-27, as 13 athletes qualified to compete in nationals at Savannah State University in Savannah, Georgia.

"To have the kids see the success and buy in a little bit more has been really fun," founder and head coach Rip Ripley said.

The success this summer is built on some great carryover from the Sumter Speed after-school programs. Those athletes got a jump start on the summer and found great results. Ripley thinks that will only feed into more success in the future.

"We had over 250 kids involved with our after-school at seven different schools, which is really exciting. We had about 35 to 40 kids stay on for our summer swing," Ripley said. "It's really fun for us to have our kids able to learn this sport at a younger age; that's the goal of Sumter Speed. To have these kids have that success, it's contagious. They see their name in the paper, on the website, see their picture on social media, that stuff spreads, and it's really exciting for them. I know they're really enjoying it out there."

Sumter Speed brought a large group to the state meet in Florence on June 20-22. They had several state champions and even more qualifiers for the regional meet.

In the younger age groups, Jordyn Neal and Violet Smith both crushed the 8U sprints. Neal and Smith finished second and third in the girls 100m dashes with times of 15.76 and 16.26. Neal also took second in the 200m dash with a time of 32.41. Alahni Williams and Jordyn Johnson also finished sixth and eighth in the 8U girls 800m run with times of 3:43.09 and 3:55.15.

Matthew Gaither finished fifth in the 8U boys 200m dash with a time of 35.37, while Ezekiel Reese finished second in the 8U boys 800m run with a time of 3:02.96, second in the 1,500m run with a time of 5:53.59 and sixth in the 400m dash with a time of 1:24.82.

Sumter Speed dominated the distance events for the older boys, as Drew Beard and Abel Ayres finished back to back atop the boys 15-16 1,500m run. Beard won with a time of 4:31.27, while Ayres was .10 seconds behind in second. Aiden Bradford won the 3,000m run in the same age group with a time of 10:11.50.

Taylor Johnson finished fifth in the girls 17-18 100m dash with a time of 13.10.

In the field, Grace Stewart won the girls 13-14 high jump by clearing 1.45m, while T. Johnson finished second in the girls 17-18 high jump by clearing 1.40. Danabella Jackson advanced in the 15-16 girls division. Johnson also finished 10th in the long jump by clearing 3.12m.

Neal finished second in the 8U long jump by leaping 3.06m, while Smith finished seventh by clearing 2.66m. Owens Ripley finished sixth in the 8U girls javelin with a toss of 8.69m. Ashley Carter and Makaela Bolton finished sixth and ninth in the 15-16 girls shot put with throws of 6.03m and 5.36m, while Grace Stewart finished sixth in the triple jump by clearing 8.49m.

Jayceon Dawson won the 8U boys long jump by clearing 2.84m while finishing seventh in the 8U boys javelin with a toss of 11.26m. Colin Kuhlman finished fourth in the 11-12 boys javelin with a toss of 24.66m.

Sumter Speed followed with an impressive showing at the regional meet, which also took place in Florence during the Fourth of July weekend. The timing of the event meant that a few competitors missed out on the chance to qualify for nationals because of the holiday.

Neal and Smith were on fire for the 8U crowd, claiming the top two spots in the 100m dash and long jump, while Neal also won the 200m dash. In the 100m dash, Neal finished in 16.62, while Smith crossed in 17.22. Neal won the 200m dash in 33.47, while Smith took fourth with a time of 36.36. The pair cleared 3.13m and 3.10m, respectively, as Neal claimed the victory in the long jump, while Owens Ripley finished 10th.

Williams finished fourth in the 8U girls 800m dash with a time of 3:42.05, while J. Johnson finished seventh in 4:11.98. Williams also finished seventh in the 8U girls 400m dash with a time of 1:33.00.

Beard won the boys 15-16 1,500m run with a time of 4:34.66, while Reese took second in the 8U race with a time of 6:01.32. Reese also took third in the 800m run with a time of 3:01.83, while Jack Ripley finished ninth in the 11-12 race with a time of 3:20.56. Dawson finished sixth in the 8U 100m dash with a time of 17.19.

D. Jackson was the regional champion in the girls 15-16 high jump by clearing 1.68m, while Stewart finished second in the 13-14 event by clearing 1.40m. Stewart also finished third in the 13-14 triple jump by clearing 8.89m.

Kuhlman finished third in the boys 11-12 javelin with a toss of 28.48m, while Jack Ripley finished 11th. Dawson finished fifth in the 8U boys javelin with a toss of 14.13, while Nora Price finished 10th in the girls 11-12 javelin with a toss of 8.66m. Owens Ripley took fifth in the girls 8U javelin with a throw of 9.60m, while Joy Smith finished ninth and J. Johnson finished 10th.

Dawson won the boys 8U long jump by clearing 3.09m, while Williams Smith finished eighth.

Ripley credits an excellent coaching staff for pushing the Sumter Speed athletes to the next level. One of the fun additions to the coaching staff this summer was Josh Stradford, who ran at USC Sumter this year. Ripley met Stradford last year and helped connect him with the coaches with the Fire Ants. Stradford wanted to return the favor and feed into the young athletes with Sumter Speed.

"He got back in touch with me after their season and said he wanted to give back a little bit and help coach some younger kids," Ripley said. "He's been really good with them out there and does a great job."

Ripley was quick to shout out all of the excellent coaches with Sumter Speed, including Michael Gaither and two coaches who carried over from the after-school program, Madison Cox and his wife, Corey Ripley.

"It was nice to have some continuity with those kids," Ripley said of having after-school coaches involved during the summer. "We've also had some really good parent involvement this year, which is really taking us to the next level."

AMERICAN LEGION ROUNDUP

P-15's outlast Manning-Santee; Sumter Juniors gear up for Socastee in playoffs

STAFF REPORT

The Sumter P-15's hosted Manning-Santee for their final regular season matchup on Tuesday. Pitching ruled the day as Sumter held on for a 3-2 win at Riley Park. The P-15's were originally scheduled to continue a busy week of League 2 games on Thursday, but the game was postponed until Saturday at 2 p.m. due to weather.

Manning-Santee struck first on Tuesday, as Blayne Edwards smacked an RBI double to center in the first inning. Sumter's first two batters reached base in the bottom of the inning, but they were stranded by three consecutive outs. Post 68 added to their lead in the second when Sloan Harper led off with a double, advanced to third on a sacrifice bunt and scored on an RBI single by Kenley Sullivan. They nearly padded out their lead in the third when Riley Jordan hit a two-out single and Harper followed with a double, but they couldn't find a third clutch knock.

Sumter finally got on the board in the bottom of the third when Josh Parsons singled and scored on an error after BJ Balls hit a grounder back to the mound. Balls made it to third on the miscue and eventually scored on an RBI single by Joseph Chapman to tie the game at 2-2.

The P-15's took the lead for good in the fifth. DJ Clark reached on an error before a single by Balls. Clark tried to come home on a grounder to the pitcher but was called out at the plate. After a two-out walk, Balls scored on a wild pitch for the game-winning run. Manning-Santee got the tying run to third in the top of the seventh, but a pair of ground outs sealed the win for Sumter.

Marion Davis earned the win for the P-15's, allowing two runs on eight hits and two walks in six innings of work. He struck out three. Chapman pitched a scoreless seventh for the save. Jaxon Baker was the hard-luck loser for Post 68, as all three runs scored on his watch were unearned. He allowed six hits and two walks, striking out three. Layton Morris pitched a scoreless sixth inning in relief.

Harper and Michael Morris each had two hits to lead Manning-Santee, while Brentston Rembert reached twice on a hit and a walk for Sumter.


PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL PITTMAN / THE SUMTER ITEM
Sumter's Marion Davis delivers against Manning-Santee on Tuesday.


Manning-Santee's Jaxon Baker prepares to pitch against Sumter.

SUMTER JUNIORS HEAD TO ROUND 2 OF PLAYOFFS

The Sumter Junior P-15's advanced to the second round of the South Carolina American Legion AAA postseason with a 4-2 win over Aynor on Tuesday. They'll face Socastee, who swept Marion. The best-of-three second round begins on Monday. The winner of the series will be one of eight teams to advance to Fort Mill for the state tournament.

The Junior P-15's jumped ahead 1-0 in the first and never looked back on Tuesday. Cade Mooneyham led off the game with a single and scored on an error to take the lead. Mac McDaniel then smacked a two-run double in the third with two outs to push the lead to 3-0. Aynor got a run back in the fourth on a bases-loaded balk, but Wyatt Monahan pitched his way out of the jam to keep the score at 3-1. McDaniel added one more RBI single for Sumter's final run. Aynor rallied for a run in the seventh when a batter was hit with the bases loaded, but Brady Ardis got the punchout to close out the 4-2 victory.

Monahan scattered six hits and three walks across six innings of work, striking out 13. Ardis allowed two hits, a walk and a hit batter in one inning, earning the save. Mooneyham, McDaniel and Ardis each had two-hit performances for Sumter in the victory.

MANNING-SANTEE JUNIORS ELIMINATED

The Manning-Santee juniors saw their season come to an end on Tuesday with a 15-0 loss to Florence.

Post 68 managed just one hit in the four-inning loss. Florence scored 15 runs on 13 hits, six walks and three hit batters. Manning-Santee also committed two errors.

Sears gets no-decision as A's topple Braves in extras

BY MARK ANDERSON
Associated Press

WEST SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Tyler Soderstrom opened Thursday night's game with a long home run and closed it with a one-out RBI single to give the Athletics a 5-4 11-inning victory over the Atlanta Braves.

Soderstrom went 3 for 5 with four RBIs, his winning hit plating automatic runner Brent Rooker.

The Braves have lost 11 of 14 games and haven't won a series since they swept the New York Mets in a three-game homestand June 17-19. Atlanta has since lost five series and split one with the Mets.

Soderstrom's 445-foot three-run homer to right field in the first inning gave the A's a 3-0 lead.

Former Wilson Hall star JP Sears, making his 100th career appearance, retired the first 11 Braves batters he faced, five by strikeouts. Back-to-back doubles by Austin Riley and Sean Murphy put the Braves on the scoreboard with two outs in the fourth to end Sears' streak of 15 1/3 scoreless innings, which was the second-longest active one to Detroit's Tarik Skubal (18).

Jurickson Profar then erased the deficit with a two-run homer to left field.

Ozzie Albies of the Braves and the A's Nick Kurtz exchanged homers to send the game into extra innings.

The temperature at first pitch was 99 degrees, the highest for an A's home game since that measurement was tracked daily in 1991. The highest-recorded temperature for an Athletics home game occurred July 27, 1956, when the then-Kansas City A's hosted the New York Yankees in 101-degree heat.

KEY MOMENT

Five A's relievers combined to allow one hit and one run over six innings.

KEY STAT

A's closer Mason Miller struck out Sean Murphy on a pitch in the ninth inning clocked at 104.1 mph. He threw five pitches that were all at least 102.4 mph.

British Open returns to Royal Portrush

BY DOUG FERGUSON
Associated Press



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Royal Portrush is seen during the British Open in Northern Ireland, July 18, 2019. The course will host the storied tournament again July 17-20, 2025.

Rory McIlroy already has everything he wanted from golf.

His dream was to be the best player in the game, which he fulfilled long ago by reaching No. 1 in the world nine times. The tallest mountain took 11 years to climb, and this was truly rarefied air when McIlroy won the Masters in April to complete the career Grand Slam.

So joyous was that moment for McIlroy that he figured anything else he achieved in his career would be gravy.

"That very well could be the highlight of my career," McIlroy said of his Masters green jacket and all that came with it.

There very well could be one more — golf's oldest trophy on McIlroy's home soil. The 153rd edition of the British Open returns to Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland on July 17-20. There might not be a better way for McIlroy to conclude a most unforgettable season.

Unlike the Masters at Augusta National, where he returned every April, chances to win a major on home soil don't come along very often for McIlroy. Irish eyes were on McIlroy in 2019 at Royal Portrush, where he hit his opening tee shot out-of-bounds and saw his spirited rally to make the cut fall just short.

For McIlroy, this is no ordinary British Open.

"If venues in golf matter to you, it maybe puts a little bit more pressure on you," he said.

From the emotional side of it, he thought about Novak Djokovic winning Olympic gold in tennis last year in what he knew would be his final chance. That was about timing. This is location, playing before the largest crowd to see golf on the Emerald Isle, celebrating the sixth and most recent winner of the career Grand Slam, and high hopes for their favorite son in golf.

"You think about it, and you can't pretend that it's not there," McIlroy said. "But when you are on the golf course, you just have to go out there and play as if you're not playing at home, and just play as if it's another golf tournament.

"But yeah, it obviously is a little more," he said. "It has a little more emphasis. There's something extra there."

For most everyone else, the emphasis is on the the last chance of the year to win a major. Scottie Scheffler, still the betting favorite as the No. 1 player in the world, goes after his second major this year and the third leg of the Grand Slam. Defending champion Xander Schauffele is still trying to catch up from a rib injury that kept him out for two months.

The optimism in April going into a full slate of majors has given way to a little more urgency in July knowing there will be nearly nine months before the next chance.

"It depends on how you played in the first three," Justin Thomas said. "Someone like me who hasn't played very well it's like, 'OK, I need to play well to make sure this year isn't a complete dud.' Maybe if you're Scottie or Rory, you'd love to play well but they've won a major this year.'"

It's very different for McIlroy.

Even the four times McIlroy has played the Irish Open in his homeland haven't gone that well — missed cuts at Royal County Down in 2015 and Portstewart in 2017, a tie for 10th at Royal Portrush in 2012 and then a real crusher last year, losing a late lead at Royal County Down to Rasmus Hojgaard.

But this is the Open, and McIlroy has a score to settle from the last one at Royal Portrush. So much hype, so many expectations, and he had a quadruple-bogey 8 on his card after one hole. He shot 79, and nearly recovered until missing a birdie on his last hole for a 65 to miss the cut by a single shot.

The pressure doesn't go away, but Adam Scott senses something different, a comfort that a Masters green jacket brings McIlroy.

"There's no doubt he knows what is hoped for him," Scott said. "Having won the career slam earlier this year, I think he goes in — even with all that expectation — with some freedom and probably a calmness. I imagine he'll have a much more sense of calmness and be able to enjoy it, which would lead to good golf — which is bad for all of us."

This will be a stage like no other across the Irish Sea.

Royal Portrush went 68 years without holding the British Open, and 2019 was such a big success — Shane Lowry of Ireland delivered a sterling performance in rough weather to win by six shots — that it was awarded another Open just six years later.

The R&A said there will be 278,000 spectators for the week, making it the second-largest crowd for an Open behind St. Andrews, which had 290,000 fans in 2022. That's 40,000 more spectators than Royal Portrush had in 2019.

Scheffler is playing the British Open for only the fifth time and he has yet to register much success in links golf, never finishing within five shots of the winner.

"I think one of the things that surprises us is the way turf is over here," Scheffler said. "I played in a lot of wind growing up at home. You grow up in Texas, you play in wind all the time, but the wind affects the ball differently because of the turf. This turf is a little bit spinier than the turf at home. I kind of had to adjust a little bit to take a little bit more spin off the ball, to take more club, take more spin off, just because of the way turf is here."

Schauffele will try to become only the fourth player in the last 50 years to win the claret jug in consecutive years, joining Padraig Harrington (2007-08), Tiger Woods (2005-06) and Tom Watson (1982-83). It's an exclusive list.

Kid's Corner

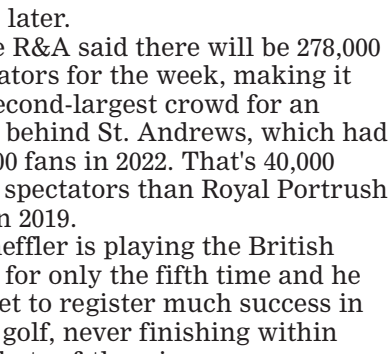
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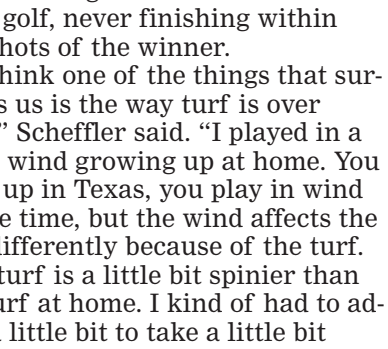
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COMPLETE EACH GRID WITH NUMBERS FROM 1 TO 6, KEEPING IN MIND THAT:
- a number can only appear once per row
- a number can only appear once per column
- a number can only appear once in each box of 6 squares

ANSWER

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Mavericks rookie Flagg draws solid reviews from pro debut

BY W.G. RAMIREZ
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Cooper Flagg may not have been happy with his professional debut on Thursday night in the NBA Summer League, but he still drew some rave reviews after the Dallas Mavericks defeated the Los Angeles Lakers, 87-85.

"Super fun to play with, he's a super unselfish guy," teammate Ryan Nembhard said. "All he wants to do is win. Can guard five positions, can score the ball really well."

Flagg finished with 10 points on 5-for-21 shooting, including 0 for 5 from 3-point range. The rookie also had six rebounds, four assists, three steals and the biggest block of the night.

With 1:10 remaining and the Mavericks trailing by one, Flagg blocked Los Angeles shooting guard DJ Steward, and Nembhard capitalized at the other end with a 3-pointer to give Dallas its 87-85 lead.

"Obviously, it wasn't his night tonight, but the gravity he has out there helps other guys get good looks," Nembhard added. "He's a super talent, and it's been fun to play with him so far."

Mavericks summer league coach Josh Broghamer said considering the team had just four practices to get acclimated with one another before arriving in Las Vegas, he was impressed with the effort in the second half.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dallas Mavericks forward Cooper Flagg (32) drives the ball against Los Angeles Lakers guard DaJaun Gordon (45) during an NBA summer league game on Thursday, July 10, 2025, in Las Vegas.

"Once they played basketball, you saw that ball moving. Cooper making the right decisions, Ryan making our decisions, Jordan Hall, so that was something to me that by second half, those guys all played basketball together," Broghamer said.

Broghamer said he was especially impressed with Flagg's conditioning after seeing how the Lakers picked him up full court defensively, trapped him from the outset, and continued to play him physically.

"I think he just makes the right play over and over again, and shots will fall," Broghamer added. "He makes winning plays, whether it's offense or defense. I think that's as advertised. Whether it's a right pass or defensive possession or scoring the ball, that's what he does."

Flagg, who played 31 minutes and 43 seconds, admitted he was nervous for his first professional game, attributing an entirely different environment from college to pro to his off night. But he also felt comfortable knowing his coaches and teammates had confidence.

Though Flagg said "that might be one of the worst games in my life," Lakers second-year player Bronny James was also complimentary.

"He's a quick, powerful, big," said James, who finished with eight points and spent much of his time defending Flagg. "I watched him in college, an amazing player. He's going to be something special."

March Madness expansion to 72 or 76 teams floated; change could come as soon as next season

BY EDDIE PELLS
Associated Press

The committees for men's and women's Division I basketball met this week to discuss possible expansion of the March Madness tournaments, but made no immediate decisions or recommendations.

"The still viable outcomes include the tournaments remaining at 68 teams or expanding the fields to either 72 or 76 teams in advance of the 2026 or 2027 championships," Dan Gavitt, the NCAA senior vice president of basketball, said in a statement Thursday.

The idea of expanding the tournament picked up steam in the spring when NCAA President Charlie Baker said it could add value and that he'd like to see the issue resolved in the next few months.

He said the NCAA has had "good conversations" with TV partners CBS and Warner Bros., whose deal runs through 2032 at the cost of around $1.1 billion a year. Baker also mentioned increasingly difficult logistics involved with adding teams to what is now known as the "First Four" — a series of four games played on Tuesday and Wednesday of the first week to place four teams into the 64-team bracket.

Though there has been no concrete plan for how expansion would work, speculation has centered on bringing more at-large teams, likely from major conferences, into the 64-team bracket. Such a move that would come at the expense of champions of lower-level conferences.

Currently, two of the First Four games involve 16 seeds — teams that automatically qualify by winning lower-ranked conferences — while two more involve at-large teams often seeded 11 or 12. For instance, in 2021, UCLA made the Final Four as an 11 seed that also played in the First Four.

"I don't accept that that model just continues in the future," Southeastern Conference commissioner Greg Sankey said at league meetings in May.

He used the example of North Carolina State advancing to the Final Four as an 11 seed in 2023 as how bubble teams from big conferences can make long runs in the tournament.

"You could go ask my colleagues in the (automatic qualifier) conferences what should happen, and I'm certain they want that split to continue for life," Sankey said. "But you've got some really, really good teams ... that I think should be moved into the tournament."

Any recommendation for expansion would have to be approved by the NCAA's Division I board, which next meets in August.

Prime Video brings familiar faces, new voices to NBA coverage

BY JOE REEDY
Associated Press

Prime Video will have many familiar faces along with some new voices when it begins its first season of NBA coverage in October.

Kevin Harlan, Ian Eagle and Stan Van Gundy are coming over from TNT while Cassidy Hubbarth is coming from ESPN.

Harlan and Van Gundy were part of TNT's crew for its final NBA game on May 31, when the Indiana Pacers defeated the New York Knicks in Game 6 of the Eastern Conference finals.

Harlan was with TNT since 1996 while Van Gundy returned to being an analyst in 2021 after being fired as New Orleans' coach.

Eagle, who has called Nets games since 1996, began doing national games for TNT in 2010.

Prime Video will not have set announcing pairings or name an "A" or "B" team, but Eagle is likely to be the voice for the top games, including a conference finals series in 2027. He's also been the lead voice for CBS coverage of the men's NCAA Tournament the last two years.

"We're not in a situation where we have like a single game of the week. We have two big games every week and more after the NFL season ends," said Jared Stacy, Prime Video's head of production. "So we're always going to sort of be living in this doubleheader world and we're treating every game like a big game. We like the ability to be flexible and try out different combinations as we go."



EAGLE

Hubbarth not only worked games as a sideline reporter for ESPN, but served as a guest host on the network's NBA studio shows and also hosted the digital series "Hoop Streams."

Prime Video also announced the additions of play-by-play announcers Michael Grady and Eric Collins, analysts Brent Barry and Dell Curry, and Allie Clifton and Kristina Pink as sideline reporters.

Collins and Curry have called Charlotte Hornets games together since 2015. Barry, a former TNT analyst, returns to broadcasting for the first time since 2018 after roles with the San Antonio Spurs and Phoenix Suns.

Grady has been the Minnesota Timberwolves TV voice since 2022. Pink has done sideline reporting for LA Clippers games as well as Fox Sports NFL coverage while Clifton has been part of the Los Angeles Lakers broadcasts since 2018 after being the Cleveland Cavaliers sideline reporter from 2012 through '18.

"I think you see that with a lot of the people we announced today there are familiar voices but we've got front office experience, coaching experience and Hall of Fame playing experience on this roster. I think it's a really good, well-rounded group of people who are excited to build something from the ground up," Stacy said. "I think it's one of the reasons we've been successful on Thursday night is everybody's enjoyed building what 'Thursday Night Football' has become. And I think you're going to see the same kind of passion from this group here."

Prime Video previously announced Taylor Rooks will host studio coverage with Blake Griffin, Dirk Nowitzki and Udonis Haslem as analysts. Steve Nash, Dwyane Wade and Candace Parker will be game and studio analysts.

Prime Video's NBA coverage begins on Oct. 24 with a Friday night doubleheader. The 11-year agreement includes 66 regular-season games, including a doubleheader on Thursday nights after the NFL's regular season is over. It also includes all six NBA Play-In Tournament games, about one-third of the games in the first two rounds of the playoffs and the knockout rounds of the NBA Cup in-season tournament. It will also carry one of the conference finals series for six seasons.

New college sports agency rejecting some athlete NIL deals with donor-backed collectives

BY EDDIE PELLS
Associated Press

The new agency in charge of regulating name, image, likeness deals in college sports sent a letter to schools Thursday saying it had rejected deals between players and donor-backed collectives formed over the past several years to funnel money to athletes or their schools.

Those arrangements hold no "valid business purpose," the memo said, and don't adhere to rules that call for outside NIL deals to be between players and companies that provide goods or services to the general public for profit.

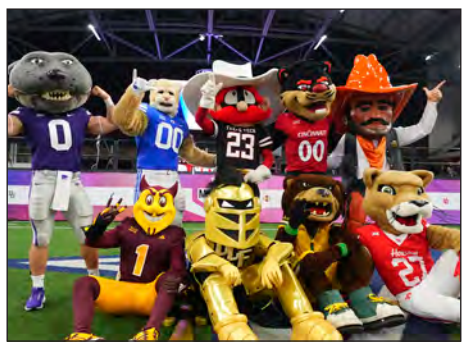
The letter to Division I athletic directors could be the next step in shuttering today's version of the collective, groups that are closely affiliated with schools and that, in the early days of NIL after July 2021, proved the most efficient way for schools to indirectly cut deals with players.

Since then, the landscape has changed yet again with the $2.8 billion House settlement that allows schools to pay the players directly as of July 1.

Already, collectives affiliated with Colorado, Alabama, Notre Dame, Georgia and others have announced they're shutting down. Georgia, Ohio State and Illinois are among those that have announced plans with Learfield, a media and technology company with decades of licensing and other experience across college athletics, to help arrange NIL deals.

Outside deals between athlete and sponsor are still permitted, but any worth $600 or more have to be vetted by a clearinghouse called NIL Go that was established by the new College Sports Commission and is being run by the auditing group Deloitte.

In its letter to the ADs, the CSC said more than 1,500 deals have been cleared since NIL Go launched on June 11, "ranging in value from three figures to seven figures." More than 12,000 athletes and 1,100 institutional users have registered to use the system.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

University mascots pose for photos before the start of day two of Big 12 media days in Frisco, Texas on Wednesday, July 9, 2025.

But the bulk of the letter explained that many deals could not be cleared because they did not conform to an NCAA rule that sets a "valid business purpose" standard for deals to be approved.

The letter explained that if a collective reaches a deal with an athlete to appear on behalf of the collective, which charges an admission fee, the standard is not met because the purpose of the event is to raise money to pay athletes, not to provide goods or services available to the general public for profit.

The same would apply to a deal an athlete makes to sell merchandise to raise money to pay that player because the purpose of "selling merchandise is to raise money to pay that student-athlete and potentially other student-athletes at a particular school or schools, which is not a valid business purpose" according to the NCAA rule.

Sports attorney Darren Heitner, who deals in NIL, said the guidance "could disproportionately burden collectives that are already committed to spending money on players for multiple years to come."

"If a pattern of rejections results from collective deals submitted to Deloitte, it may invite legal scrutiny under antitrust principles," he said.

On a separate track, some college sports leaders, including the NCAA, are seeking a limited form of antitrust protection from Congress.

The letter said a NIL deal could be approved if, for instance, the businesses paying the players had a broader purpose than simply acting as a collective. The letter uses a golf course or apparel company as examples.

"In other words, NIL collectives may act as marketing agencies that match student-athletes with businesses that have a valid business purpose and seek to use the student's NIL to promote their businesses," the letter said.

OLGA TONA WATT CHANDLER

Olga Tona Watt Chandler, 91, of Sumter, entered the presence of our Lord on Monday, July 7, 2025, at 2:15 a.m.


CHANDLER

Tona was born in Sumter on April 23, 1934, to Elwyn Morgan Watt and Pauline Kvaternik Singleton Watt. She was preceded in death by her parents and siblings in the Singleton-Watt family.

Tona graduated from Edmunds High School in 1952 before attending East Carolina Teachers College, going on to teach for over 30 years.

Tona is survived by her loving husband of 69 years, George Patterson Chandler; her devoted children, Joel Chandler (Cheryl), Lyall White (Jimmy) and Kelsey Jones (Carroll); her adoring grandchildren, Lindsay Miller (Ben), Andrew White (Megan), Erin Hughes (Daniel), Alyssa Rogers (Anthony), Jonathan White (Candace), Megan Drummond (David), Tucker Chandler and Chasity Welch (Kian); her beloved great-grandchildren, Henry, Mills, Hattie, Thomas, Audrey, Matthew, Dylan, Ford, Fawn, Bennett, Beau and Murphy; and numerous cherished nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at Lewis Chapel Church, 1510 Plowden Mill Road, on Saturday, Aug. 9, at 4 p.m. with visitation immediately preceding the service at 3 p.m.

Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and Crematorium of Sumter is in charge of the arrangements.

LINDA REGINA GALLOWAY WHITE

Linda Regina Galloway White, 76, wife of Jordan Delaine White and daughter of the late James Galloway and Mary Lois Blanks Galloway, was born on July 16, 1948, in East Arcadia, North Carolina. She departed this life on Monday, July 7, 2025, at her residence.

Family will receive friends at the home, 105 Horseshoe Cove, Sumter, starting Thursday, July 10, 2025, daily from 6 to 8 p.m.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., Sumter, is in charge of arrangements.

ROBERT FREDERICK SMITH

MOREHEAD CITY — Robert Frederick Smith, "Fred", 92, died July 8, 2025, at Pruitt Health - Crystal Coast, following a short illness.

Fred was born on May 8, 1933, in Sumter to Raybon Foster Smith and Sarah Josephine Cooper Smith. His early years were spent in Sumter, until the age of 8 when the family moved to Fayetteville, North Carolina, where Fred attended public schools, graduating from Fayetteville High School (now Terry Sanford High School). He played the clarinet and saxophone in the high school band and in jazz ensembles and provided cartoons for the high school newspaper. His experience growing up during World War II in a military town was something he never forgot.

Fred served in the United States Navy during the Korean Conflict era aboard the aircraft carrier USS Block Island. His posts included (French) Morocco and other naval bases.

He later spent time in Fayetteville and Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Most recently, Fred lived in Carteret County, North Carolina, where he enjoyed being close to the ocean and pursuing his interests in art, history and science.

Survivors include his sister, Sarah Josephine Hester (Jerry); brother, Michael Paul Smith; sister-in-law, Jean Langone Smith; nephews, Jason Smith, Andrew Smith (Robin), Patrick Smith (Angela), Daniel Smith (Natalina Oliverio and Chiara), and Ken Simonds (Marie); great-nieces, Charlie, Mira and Emmy Smith; and great-nephews, Eli Smith and Grant Simonds.

He was predeceased in death by his parents; brother, Alan Smith; and nephew, Stephen Simonds.

At Fred's request, there will be no service.

Arrangements by Munden Funeral Home in Morehead City, North Carolina.

CAROLYN FRANCES PARRISH BLAIR

Carolyn Frances Parrish Blair, age 85, succumbed to lung cancer on Saturday, July 5, 2025. Carolyn was preceded in death by her husband, Maj. Robert Blair of Grandview, Missouri, who went to heaven in 2013. They had been married 50 years!

She is survived by her son, Lt. Col. Robert Blair, retired USAF, and her daughter, Dr. Renee Clifford, a school principal in Greensboro, North Carolina. Her joy was in her seven grandchildren (Matthew, Katie, Grace, Andrew, Joy, Tommy and Tyler) and her four great-grandchildren (Raiden, Anika, Sammy and Enzo).

She was born in Savannah, Georgia, in 1939 to a large family with three brothers and a sister. She and her sister, Jean, attended the school of nursing at St. Joseph's Hospital School. She joined the USAF in 1962 and was stationed at Wilford Hall at Lackland AFB, where she met Bob, who was also in the USAF. She enjoyed reminding him that she outranked him although only by a few months. They were married in December of 1963. After six assignments that took them all over the world, they landed at Shaw AFB, where they joined Harmony Church in 1978. She worked at Belk in the Jasmine Mall for 10 years and then at SAFE Federal Credit Union for 15 years. She delighted in her church family and working in her yard as a Master Gardener.

She and Bob traveled the world on military hops, on cruises and with Pat's Tours and the Sumter Shepherd's Center. Her greatest love was her family. She was loving and giving, and the world will never shine quite as bright for those who knew her now that she has gone on before us.

A memorial service was held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at Harmony Church officiated by Pastor Drew Choate. A private family burial was in Evergreen Memorial Park Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to the Gideons International, Sumter Camp, PO Box 1795, Sumter, SC 29151.

Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and Crematorium of Sumter is in charge of the arrangements.

GLORIA HAMILTON HOBSON

Gloria Hamilton Hobson, 89, widow of James Hobson, died Sunday, July 6, 2025, at NHC Healthcare-Sumter.

Born Nov. 22, 1935, in Silsbee, Texas, she was a daughter of the late Arvie Hamilton and Essie Mae Mullins Hamilton. Mrs. Hobson attended Unity Baptist Church in El Paso, Texas. She retired from the public school system in Texas and from the YWCA.

Survivors include six children, Terrell Lee (Janice), Joyce Lee, Joann Lee, Bruce Lee, Isaiah Lee and Leslie L. Boykin (Alan); nine grandchildren, Tamara Lee, Raynette Lee, Elizabeth Yolanda Curtis, Gloria Curtis, Jonathan Lee, Keith Lee, Alicia Lee, Carl Lee and Sarah Lee; three great-grandchildren, Jeffery Lee, Kierra Lee and Zenyah Lee; two sisters, Seawilla Armstrong and Jewel Howard; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Arvie Hamilton Jr. and Leon Hamilton; and a sister, Nettie Mae Garrett.

Services will be private.

Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and Crematorium of Sumter is in charge of the arrangements.

CHARLES SYLVESTER JAMES

Charles Sylvester James, 78, son of the late Raymond James and Sallie Davis James,


JAMES

was born on April 24, 1947, in Sumter. He departed this life on Sunday, June 29, 2025, at Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston, New Jersey.

Public viewing was held on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, from 2 to 6 p.m. at Job's Mortuary Inc.

Funeral services were held at noon Thursday, July 10, 2025, at Congruity Presbyterian Church, 3750 Congruity Road, Gable, with the Rev. Alonza A. Washington, officiating.

Interment followed in Congruity Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Gable.

Job's Mortuary Inc. 312 S. Main St., Sumter, is in charge of arrangements.

Online memorials may be sent to the family at *jobsmortuaryinc@gmail.com*, or visit us on the web at *www.jobsmortuary.net*.

BRENDA M. BETHUNE

Mrs. Brenda M. Bethune born on Oct. 16, 1937, in Sumter, entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, at Prisma Health Tuomey in Sumter. Mrs. Bethune was the spouse of Mr. John Bethune and the daughter of the late Mr. George Waiters and Ms. Queen Waiters.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by the management of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

FRANK WILLIAM WRIGHT

Mr. Frank William Wright, born on June 19, 1954, in Sumter, entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, July 3, 2025, at his home in Sumter. Mr. Wright was the son of the late Mr. Frankie Wright and Mrs. Allie Mae Williams Wright. Mr. Wright was the brother of Elder Frankie Wilson (Jesse), Mrs. Martha Council (Ralph) and Mrs. Georgette Wright Sanders (Allen).

Graveside services were held at Florence National Cemetery, Florence, on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at 11 a.m.

Funeral arrangements are in the care of the management of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

EDDIE LEE HARVIN

Eddie Lee Harvin, 96, widower of Jessie Mae Washington Harvin and son of the late


HARVIN

Jethro Harvin and Elsie Benjamin Harvin, was born on Jan. 22, 1929, in Sumter County. He departed this life on Saturday, July 5, 2025, in Mayesville.

Public viewing was held on Friday, July 11, 2025, from 2 to 6 p.m. at Job's Mortuary Inc.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, July 12, 2025, at Salem Chapel & Heritage Center, 101 S. Salem Ave., Sumter, with the Rev. Dr. Franklin D. Colclough presiding and Pastor Elijah Washington, eulogist.

Interment will follow in Mt. Sinai Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Mayesville.

Family will receive friends at the home of his daughter, 2065 Avenue B, Mayesville, starting Tuesday, July 8, 2025, from 2 to 8 p.m.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., is in charge of arrangements.

Online memorials may be sent to the family at *jobsmortuaryinc@gmail.com*, or visit us on the web at *www.jobsmortuary.net*.

GRANT GRINNELL JR.

Grant Grinnell Jr., husband of Mary Mathis Grinnell and son of the late Grant Grinnell


GRINNELL

Sr. and Carrie Singleton Grinnell, was born on June 4, 1946, in Sumter County. He departed this life on Sunday, July 6, 2025, at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital, Sumter.

Public viewing was held on Friday, July 11, 2025, from 2 to 6 p.m. at Job's Mortuary Inc.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 12, 2025, at Salem Chapel & Heritage Center, 101 S. Salem Ave., Sumter, with the Rev. Dr. Sammie D. Simmons, officiating.

Interment will follow in Cain Cemetery, Sumter.

Family will receive friends at the home, 938 Jensen Road, Sumter, daily from 3 to 6 p.m.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., Sumter, is in charge of arrangements.

Online memorials may be sent to the family at *jobsmortuaryinc@gmail.com*, or visit us on the web at *www.jobsmortuary.net*.

ESSIE MAE BROCK GAMBLE

MANNING — Essie Mae Brock Gamble, 94, widow of Vicknel Gamble, died Monday July 7, 2025, at her residence. She was born Oct. 12, 1930, in Manning, a daughter of the late Henry and Laura Lemon Brock.


GAMBLE

Public viewing will be held 2 til 6 p.m. Saturday, July 12, 2025, at Hayes F. Samuels Sr., Memorial Chapel, 114 N. Church St., Manning.

Celebration of life will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, July 13, 2025, at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 105 Dinkins St., Manning. Mrs. Gamble will lie in state one hour prior to the time of services. Burial will follow in St. Matthew Cemetery, 261 Kingstree Hwy., Manning.

These services have been entrusted to Samuels Funeral Home LLC of Manning.

ALMA DIGGS ALSTON

Alma Diggs Alston, daughter of the late Gill Levanial Diggs and Rita Dinkins Diggs, was born Aug. 2, 1937, in Rembert, South Carolina. On Sunday, July 6, 2025, Alma departed this earthly life peacefully at home. At an early age, Alma joined Rafting Creek Baptist Church, where she was a dedicated member of the usher board, the Senior Missionary Society, Sunday School Scholar and served on the kitchen staff.

She leaves precious memories to be cherished by her family and friends.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 4520 Leslie Drive, Rembert.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 12, 2025, at Rafting Creek Baptist Church, 3860 Highway 261 North, Rembert, with the Rev. Melvin Mack, pastor.

Burial will follow in Rafting Creek Baptist Church Yard Cemetery.

Services directed by the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

Online messages may be sent to the family at *williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com*. Visit us on the web at *www.WilliamsFuneralHomeInc.com*.

ENGADINE SPANN JOHNSON

Engadine Spann Johnson, 63, husband of Valerie Hargrove Johnson and son of the late Thelma Williams Johnson, was born on June 21, 1962, in Sumter. He departed this life on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at MUSC Medical Center, Charleston.

Family will receive friends at the home, 2760 Bonnell Drive, Sumter, starting Sunday, July 13, 2025, from 4 to 7 p.m. daily.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., Sumter, is in charge of arrangements.

HAROLD GREGG

Harold Gregg, 86, son of the late Willie Gregg and Pearline McCoy Gregg, was born on June 11, 1939, in Sumter. He departed this life on Sunday, July 6, 2025, at his residence.


GREGG

Public viewing will be held on Monday, July 14, 2025, from 2 to 6 p.m. at Job's Mortuary Inc.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at Salem Chapel & Heritage Center, 101 S. Salem Ave., Sumter, with the Rev. Dr. Robert E. Galloway presiding and the Rev. Alvin E. Webb, eulogist.

Interment will follow in Hillside Memorial Park, Sumter.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., is in charge of arrangements.

Online memorials may be sent to the family at *jobsmortuaryinc@gmail.com*, or visit us on the web at *www.jobsmortuary.net*.

CHARLES WAYNE MOORE

MT. PLEASANT — Charles Wayne Moore, 73, husband of Elise Sharp Moore, was born in Sumter on Feb. 22, 1952, and died Friday, July 11, 2025, after a long illness. His parents, who predeceased him, were Charlie and Kay Moore of Sumter.


MOORE

He grew up in Sumter and graduated from Edmunds High School, Class of 1970. A music lover, he was the first lead singer in the Nomads, a local rock and roll band. While in high school he gained early work experience at the Capitol department store. One of his great joys was being on the water, whether it was riding on the Waccamaw River in his Jon boat with his family or putting his Hobie Cat in the water at Pawleys Pier for a day on the ocean. He attended Clemson University and graduated from Baptist College at Charleston with a degree in business administration. He had a long and successful career at Suburban Propane Gas Inc. and early on became manager of the Hartsville, S.C., operation. In addition to those responsibilities, in the late 1980's, he developed and managed the small cylinder department, a new branch of the company. After his career in the gas business, he retired to Columbia, then to Pawleys Island and Mount Pleasant.

He adored his wife, Elise Sharp Moore, to whom he was married for nearly 50 years. The couple have two loving sons, Charles "Chad" Wayne Moore Jr. and Peter Glen Rutherford "Ford" Moore. The light of his life became his young granddaughters, Kat and Lucy Moore, children of Ford Moore and Sarah Mount. During his illness, Wayne was lovingly attended and cared for by his sister and brother Judy Moore of Columbia and Gary Moore of Charlotte, as well as his wife and sons Chad and Ford. In addition to these family members, he will be remembered by his beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws and the friends he leaves behind.

Memorial and graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, July 14, 2025, in Sumter Cemetery with the Rev. Angela Marshall officiating.

Please consider contributions to the Pawleys Island Chapel in his memory, Pawleys Island Chapel C/O Pawleys Island Real Estate Altman Causeway Pawleys Island, SC or to the Georgetown Rice Museum, 633 Front St., Georgetown, SC 29440.

Online condolences may be sent to *www.sumterfunerals.com*.

Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home & Crematory, 221 Broad St., Sumter, is in charge of the arrangements, (803) 775-9386.

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for the Wednesday edition

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for the Saturday edition

We will be happy to change your ad if an error is made; however we are not responsible for errors after the first run day. We shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from the printing or omission of an advertisement. We reserve the right to edit, refuse or cancel any ad at any time.



Beer & Wine License

Notice Of Application
Notice is hereby given that **Broad St Inn** intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license permit that will allow the sale and **ON** premises consumption of **Beer & Wine** at **2510 Broad Street, Sumter, SC 29150**. To object to the issuance of this permit / license, written protest must be postmarked no later than **July 15, 2025**. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information: (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest; (2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied; (3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant); (4) that the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and (5) the name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed. Protests must be submitted online e-mailed to: ABL@dor.sc.gov Attn: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL Section.

Notice Of Application
Notice is hereby given that Lupita's Mexican Kitchen, LLC intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license permit that will allow the sale and ON premises consumption of Beer, Wine, & Liquor at 4408 Broad St, Suite C Sumter, SC 29154. To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than July 29, 2025. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information: (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest; (2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied; (3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant); (4) that the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and (5) the name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed. Protests must be submitted online e-mailed to: ABL@dor.sc.gov Attn: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL Section.

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Notice of Sale

Notice of Sale
C/A No: 2024-CP-43-1972
BY VIRTUE OF A DECREE of the Court of Common Pleas for Sumter County, South Carolina. heretofore issued in the case of Donnie Pridgen vs. Estate of George Fluharty, and Keith Tomlin the undersigned as Master-in-Equity for Sumter County will sell on August 4, 2025 at 12:00 PM at Sumter County Judicial Center at 215 N. Harvin St., Sumter, South Carolina to the highest bidder: Legal Description and Property Address:
All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land lying, situate and being in the Concord Township, County of Sumter, State of South Carolina, designates as Lot No. 11 of Leawood Subdivision, Section No. 1, on that certain plat of Louis W. Tisdale, R.L.S., dated August 8, 1996 and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County in Plat Book 96 at Page 1588, reference to which is craved for the exact metes, boundaries and distances pursuant to authority contained in Section 30-5-250 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976 as amended. This property is known as 362 Mooneyhan Road, Sumter South Carolina.
This being the same property conveyed to George Fluharty by deed of Bessie Powell dated October 11, 2006 and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Sumter County on October 18, 2006 in Book 1049 at Page 1223.

Property address:
362 Mooneyham Road
Sumter, South Carolina 29150
Tax Map No.: 251-12-03-011

TERMS OF SALE: For cash. Interest at the current rate of 5% to be paid on balance of bid from date of sale to date of compliance. The purchaser to pay for papers and stamps, and that the successful bidder or bidders, other than the Plaintiff therein, will, upon the acceptance of his or her bid, deposit with the Master-in-Equity for Sumter County a certified check or cash in the amount equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of bid on said premises at the sale as evidence of good faith in bidding, and subject to any resale of said premises under Order of this Court; and in the event the said purchaser or purchasers fail to comply with the terms of sale within Twenty (20) days, the Master-in-Equity for Sumter County shall f01thwith resell the said property, after the due notice and advertisement, and shall continue to sell the same each subsequent sales day until a purchaser, who shall comply with the terms of sale, shall be obtained, such sales to be made at the risk of the former purchaser. As a personal or deficiency judgment is demanded. the bidding will remain open for a period of thirty (30) days pursuant to the S.C. Code Ann. Section 15-39-720 (1976). Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale. Sold subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.



In Memory



Ty'Shanek Lashia Rubin-Spann
7/12/04 - 4/12/2016
Happy 21st Birthday in Heaven, our Angel we are celebrating this day. Forever loved and missed by your family.



Home Improvements

H.L. Boone, **Contractor:** Remodel, paint, roofs, gutters, drywall, blown ceilings, etc. 803-773-9904

Tree Service

Ricky's Tree Service Tree removal, forestry mulching, stump grinding, Lic & ins, free quote, 803-473-2202 or cell 803-460-8747.





Auctions

Property of the following tenants will be sold to satisfy rental liens ONLINE in accordance with Title 39, Chapter 20, Section 10 through 50 of the South Carolina Lien Statutes. The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding starting July 4th after 10:00 AM EST on WWW.STORAGE TREASURES.COM with pictures attached. The Auction will end on or after July 24th at 10:00 AM. Said property is stored at Storage Rentals of America 4194 Broad St Sumter, SC 29154
Unit # Tenant Name Items
0001 Yasmine Scott Totes, household goods, bed, mattress, vacuum, cube unit, luggage
0047 William Clardy Totes, boxes, nightstand, chairs, lamps, holiday décor, entertainment center, luggage
0094 Boyd Johnson Totes, boxes, chairs, broom, trash can, fishing poles, holiday décor, hand truck.
0216 Rodricka Williams Totes, boxes, couch, dresser, mini fridge, washer & dryer, gaming chair.

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase by cash only. All purchased items are sold as is, where is, and must be removed at the time of sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.



Auctions

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

To satisfy the owner's storage lien, PS Retail Sales, LLC will sell at public lien sale on July 23, 2025, the personal property in the below-listed units, which may include but are not limited to: household and personal items, office and other equipment. The public sale of these items will begin at 10:00 AM and continue until all units are sold.

PUBLIC STORAGE # 25924,
1143 N Guignard Dr, Sumter, SC 29150,
(803) 282-9623
Time: 10:00 AM
Sale to be held at www.storagetreasures.com.
101 - Jenkins, Karen;
208 - Lamb, Kathy;
227 - Clardy, William;
510 - Bristle, Lloyd;
529 - Howard, Monroe;
716 - Pearson, Essence;
737 - Cole, JaNeigah;
745 - Bell, Reed
PUBLIC STORAGE # 08604,
1277 Camden Hwy, Sumter, SC 29153,
(803) 218-9507
Time: 10:20 AM
Sale to be held at www.storagetreasures.com.
A003 - Bowen, Donald;
A027 - Filogene, Junior;
A044 - Tisdale, Latasha;
B042 - DENNIS, ANTOINETTE;
B076 - Corley, Kiara;
E063 - Ludd, Latoya;
F009 - Hall,, Jerry;
F013 - Wright, Shameka;
F035 - Townsend, Tremaine;
F046 - Anderdson-Lesane, Tarell;
I012 - Wilson, Wyndell;
I024 - Cunningham, Carolyn;
K004 - Vargas, Anntoinette E
PUBLIC STORAGE # 25925,
3785 Broad St, Sumter, SC 29154,
(803) 282-9826
Time: 10:40 AM
Sale to be held at www.storagetreasures.com.
0106 - Williford, September;
0317 - Hammack, Jeremy;
0425 - Gordon, Darnell;
0433 - Mitchell, jessica;
0618 - Taylor, Aaron;
0805 - Smith, Latoya

Public sale terms, rules, and regulations will be made available prior to the sale. All sales are subject to cancellation. We reserve the right to refuse any bid. Payment must be in cash or credit card-no checks. Buyers must secure the units with their own personal locks. To claim tax-exempt status, original RESALE certificates for each space purchased is required. By PS Retail Sales, LLC, 701 Western Avenue, Glendale, CA 91201. (818) 244-8080.

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4 lots together in Garden of Gethsemane, lot 229. Graves 1,2,3,4. Want to sell together $9500 OBO. Please contact @ 803-521-3809 or email rpack @jimhudson.com.

Evergreen Cemetery Grave Lots. (4) grave lots located in Acacia section. Lot#176, graves 1-4. Asking price of $7500 and I will absorb the $400 transfer fee if a deal is made. Priced for quick sell. Feel free to contact for any other questions and leave voicemail. 1 (615) 804-6446.



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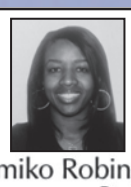
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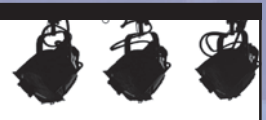


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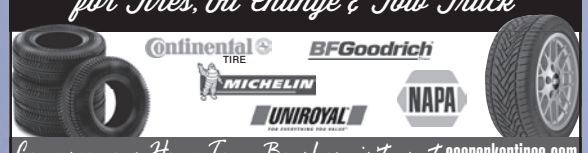
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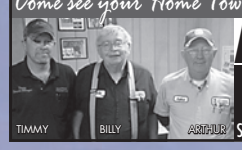
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7 Furry forensics: 'Fursuit' wearing vigilantis save the day in new docuseries

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The Sumter Scene

July 12 - July 18, 2025



Wild and 'Untamed': Limited series sheds light on outdoor dangers

BY DANA SIMPSON

National parks are a hot topic right now in the United States. With the news that more than 1,000 National Parks Service (NPS) employees were laid off in early 2025 during Trump-presidency cutbacks (per AP News), discussions circling public safety, maintenance and park operating hours have been more plentiful and more public than ever before. And while national parks are still a great way to return to nature and feel a part of a larger whole — or even just a wonderful outing for a family picnic — the truth is that American national parks are now less equipped to handle the injuries, missing persons cases and occasional deaths that do inevitably occur on wild, uninhabited land.

According to RandsInjuryLaw.com, a website for Roberts & Spiegel Injury Lawyers in San Luis Obispo, California, Yosemite National Park "has hosted an average of over four million visitors per year since 2013." Noting that there is "no complete data set that tracks fatalities within the park," it is estimated that "on average, there are 12 to 15 deaths per year in Yosemite."

Netflix's new limited series "Untamed," however, focuses on just one.

Premiering Thursday, July 17, on the popular streamer, "Untamed" tells the story of a (fictional) young woman's death in Yosemite National Park. Although deaths in the park are not entirely unheard of, the bulk of them are accidental (slips, falls, drownings) or natural (health-related causes), leading detectives to note the peculiarity of the show's inciting incident. What follows is a trek deep into the woods of Yosemite in search of a killer who has a better grasp of the untamed land than nearly anyone else. Law enforcement's only hope at solving the case lies with Kyle Turner (Eric Bana, "Munich," 2005), an Investigative Services Branch (ISB) agent of the NPS.

Turner "is on the hunt for a killer," says Netflix Tudum about the six-episode drama, "one who knows Yosemite National Park as well as he does; however, the dark secrets lurking in both [Turner] and the park's past may be just as dangerous as the murderer."

The leading ISB agent is not alone in his quest through the rough terrain, however. Turner is joined by budding Los Angeles-born park ranger Naya Vasquez (Lily Santiago, "La Brea"), who is "more accustomed to city life than to the wilds of Yosemite" (per Tudum). New to the wilderness herself and lacking experience in the field due to her youth, Vasquez is somewhat of an audience surrogate, charged with introducing viewers to the dangers and beauty of the California park.

"Everyone thinks of Yosemite as this beautiful place with all the vistas and all the scenery," co-showrunner Mark L. Smith ("The Revenant," 2015) said to Tudum, "but we were trying to touch on the dangers that are just beyond that. I love stripping all the cheats away, stripping [away] all the more modern tools that people can use. It really gets down to the character and what they can find within themselves."

One character in the series who has been very well acquainted with the park throughout his career is Paul Souter. Played by "Jurassic Park" (1993) and "The Twelve" star Sam Neill, Tudum reports that Souter has "been the chief park ranger in Yosemite for half his life," noting that the aging professional has clearly found a rhythm in a job he enjoys. Further described as "a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, and friend to Turner," Souter cuts a sympathetic character in "Untamed."

Rosemarie DeWitt ("Smile 2," 2024) and Wilson Bethel ("Hart of Dixie") also star as Jill Bodwin and Shane Maguire, respectively. While Bodwin's presence as Turner's ex-wife helps to provide some personal background to the lead's otherwise cool and brooding character, Maguire, a former army ranger, supplies added force and protection where necessary, given his military background and penchant for seclusion.



Horoscopes

The luckiest signs this week:
TAURUS, GEMINI AND CANCER

ARIES
You'll have a serious outlook this week, even though you're on vacation. You'll be thinking about work and big projects rather than fully enjoying your time off. Someone close to you may need your support.

TAURUS
Summer is flying by! Make the most of your planned activities. You'll have a packed social calendar, and your good friends will invite you out. You'll have memorable and enjoyable experiences.

GEMINI
Time is precious and you'll have a whirlwind of ideas this week. You'll go on a spontaneous trip and start planning another adventure for later this year. You'll also focus on reaching ambitious personal and professional goals.

CANCER
Whether you're on vacation or not, you'll find the time to treat yourself. Disconnect and recharge in nature. Set aside your worries about work while you're on vacation to reawaken your zest for life.

LEO
You could be hit with intense emotions for various reasons this week. If you're dating, you'll know quickly if the other person is being insincere. Your emotional state influences your vitality. Prioritize finding balance and peace of mind.

VIRGO
You're always busy with work, even during summer. Your keen insights will help you spot opportunities to clinch valuable contracts or partnerships with clients. Try to make time for your partner and family.

LIBRA
Even while on vacation, you'll frequently check in with work via your smartphone. An unexpected work emergency could cut your vacation short. However, your dedication will impress your boss.

SCORPIO
You have an inner passion pushing you to express your individuality. If you're single, you'll be bold and stand out. If you're in a relationship, try breaking up your everyday routine. Your home is a peaceful retreat where you can recharge.

SAGITTARIUS
Despite being on vacation and promising yourself you would relax, you won't be able to disconnect from work. You'll check your messages and complete certain tasks. This will make it hard for you to fully unwind.

CAPRICORN
Vacation is supposed to be relaxing, but you may choose a destination that keeps you active. Instead, you'll enjoy lively evenings filled with deep conversations and philosophical musings, giving free rein to your innermost reflections.

AQUARIUS
You'll go on an adventure to break free from your typical routine or the hustle and bustle of everyday life. You'll explore boutiques and treat yourself, which will lift your spirits. You may also receive a financial surprise, like an unexpected windfall or forgotten cash you find in your pocket.

PISCES
Take the downtime you need before diving back into new activities. If you feel the urge to let go, trust life to guide you. Something will spark your creativity, leading to remarkable artistic inspiration.

New Streaming Movies & Shows

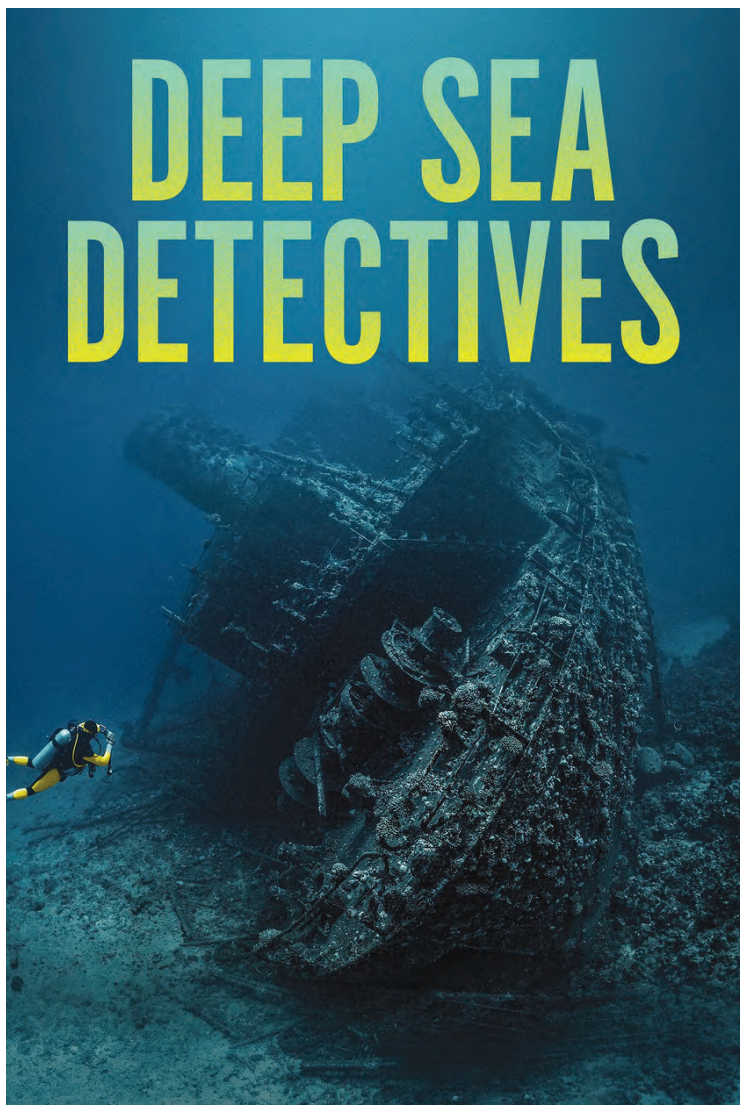
prime video



"The Institute" - Season 1 (July 13)

Adapted from Stephen King's novel of the same name, this new series follows the story of teen genius Luke Ellis (Joe Freeman), who is kidnapped and awakens at The Institute, a facility full of children who all got there the same way he did and who are all possessed of unusual abilities. In a nearby town, haunted former police officer Tim Jamieson (Ben Barnes) has come looking to start a new life, but the peace and quiet won't last, as his story and Luke's are destined to collide.

hulu



"Deep Sea Detectives" - Season 2 (July 13)

In this early 2000s docuseries, follow a new breed of underwater detectives who use 21st century forensics and technology to solve the mysteries behind the dark underwater graves of ships, planes and submarines.

Word Search

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

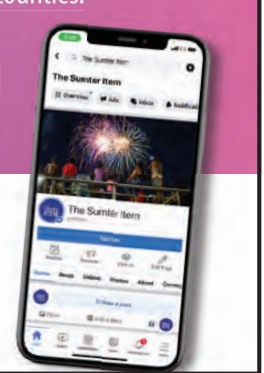
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NETFLIX

Disney+



"Trainwreck: Balloon Boy" (July 15)

On October 15, 2009, a father in Fort Collins Colorado calls 911, claiming that his home-made flying saucer has escaped from the back yard, carrying his six-year-old son inside. This stranger-than-fiction claim is backed up by footage from a news helicopter, which catches up with the balloon and is live-streaming the chase. What starts as a local emergency quickly escalates into a national one, as everyone from the National Guard, to the Sheriff, and Homeland Security, struggles to come up with a plan to safely rescue "Balloon Boy."



"Disneyland Resort P.O.V. Walkthroughs" (July 17)

Join the Disneyland Resort 70th Celebration, with immersive P.O.V experiences that transport you straight through cinematic ride-alongs. In honoring seven decades of ingenuity and storytelling, these iconic Disneyland attractions and experiences are brought to life in a way you've never seen before, including Pirates of the Caribbean, Indiana Jones Adventure, Haunted Mansion, Main Street, U.S.A., Mickey's ToonTown and more.



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Q&A: Taylor Tomlinson

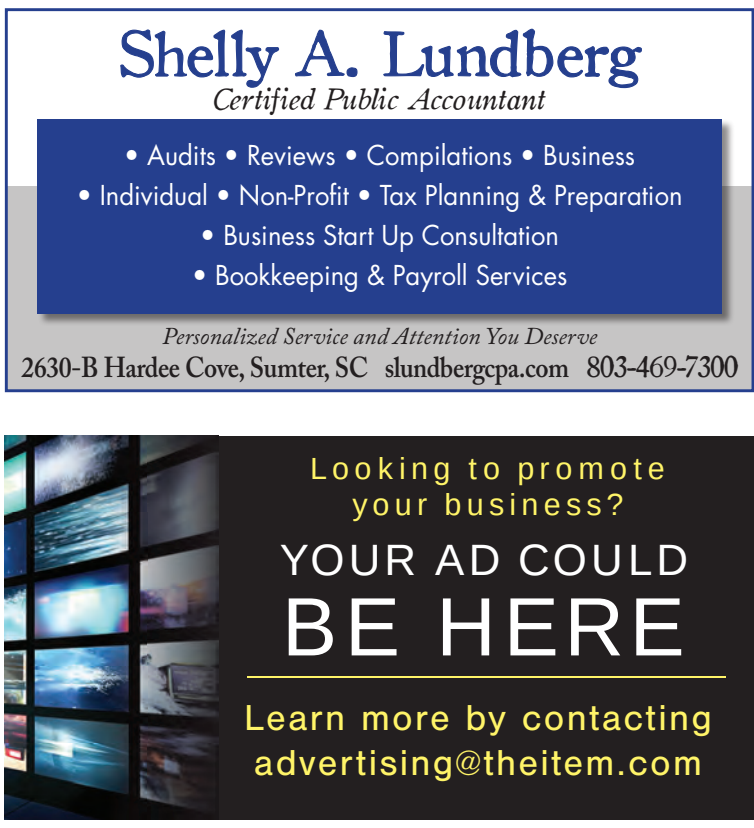
BY JAY BOBBIN

Q: I heard that Taylor Tomlinson made the decision to end "After Midnight." Is that accurate?

A: Well, to phrase it properly, she decided that two seasons of the CBS and Paramount+ program were enough for her ... saying that she wanted to focus her time on stand-up-comedy. "After Midnight" already had been renewed for a third year when Tomlinson made the announcement that she was leaving, but CBS executives opted to discontinue the show upon her departure.

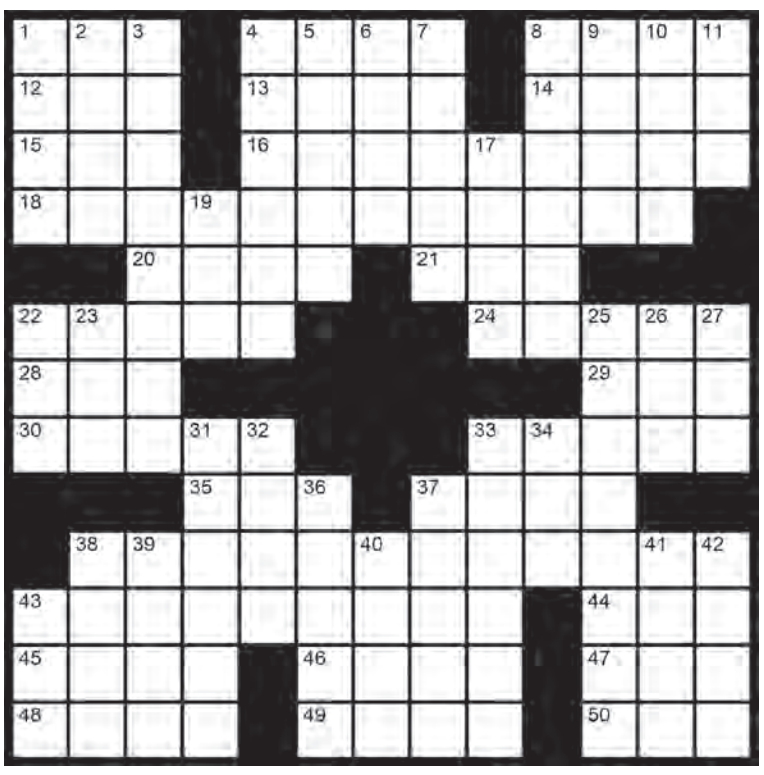
Admittedly, someone else could have been hired to succeed Tomlinson, and she said on her final episode that she had hoped for that. Lisa Gilroy, who had appeared as a panelist on the series earlier, filled in as a guest host toward the end of the run — and she probably would have been a candidate for the job permanently, had the show continued. In fact, the parade of comedians that "After Midnight" had would have offered quite a field for the selection of a replacement host.







Crosswords

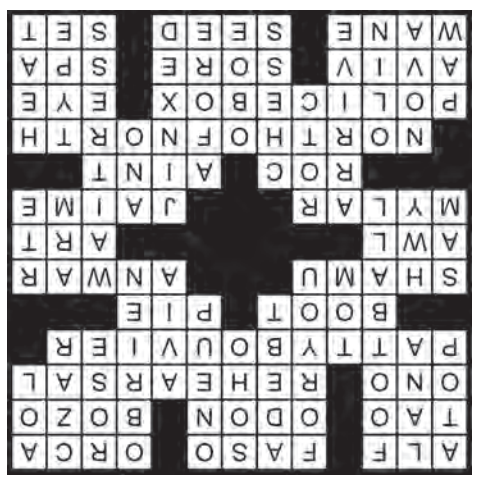


Across

1. '80s sitcom extraterrestrial
4. Burkina ___ (Niger neighbor)
8. Killer whale
12. Confucian ideal
13. Have more than enough
14. Clown of early TV
15. "Walking on Thin Ice" musician
16. Nathan Fielder series, with "The"
18. One of Bart's aunts
20. Worst thing to get on the job
21. Boston cream or Key lime
22. Former star of SeaWorld
24. ___ Sadat
28. Boring tool
29. Bob Ross creation
30. Polyester film trademark
33. "My Name Is Earl's" Pressly
35. Sinbad's transport, once
37. "___ Too Proud to Beg"
38. Anna Lambe series
43. What Doctor Who's TARDIS looks like on the outside
44. Part of CBS's logo
45. Tel ___
46. Hot under the collar
47. Hot tub
48. Fade away
49. Plant's beginning
50. TV ___

Down

1. At the summit of
2. Lang of Smallville
3. "Monday Night ___"
4. "Good __ __!"
5. "Owe _ __ of gratitude"
6. TriBeCa neighbor
7. Outdo
8. Conan of late-night TV
9. "Schitt's Creek" family name
10. Anastasia's father was one
11. Yahoo! competitor
17. Fitness brand
19. ___ Haverford (Aziz Ansari's "Parks and Rec" character)
22. "Cheers" bartender Malone
23. Road-atlas abbr.
25. Alice, in "Alice"
26. Some bandits have one
27. Itinerary abbr.
31. Make it there
32. Campus org.
33. Brought bad luck
34. Pitch _ __-hitter
36. Castle locale
37. Up front
38. ___ Scotia.
39. Ken of "L.A. Doctors"
40. Hautboy
41. Elite or pica
42. Natural riser
43. Handle clumsily



Sudoku

		5					8	
4	3			2			1	
	9				7	4		
1		2						6
			8				5	
3	6						4	7
							7	
		3			9			
5		7	4			6	3	

To complete this puzzle, place the numbers 1-9 in the empty cells, so that every row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold outline) contains all nine digits.

Each number 1-9 may appear only once in each row, column and 3-by-3 box.

SOLUTION

2	7	5	6	1	4	9	8	3
4	3	6	9	2	8	7	1	5
8	9	1	3	5	7	4	6	2
1	5	2	7	4	3	8	9	6
7	4	9	8	6	2	3	5	1
3	6	8	1	9	5	2	4	7
9	1	4	2	3	6	5	7	8
6	8	3	5	7	9	1	2	4
5	2	7	4	8	1	6	3	9

Coming Soon

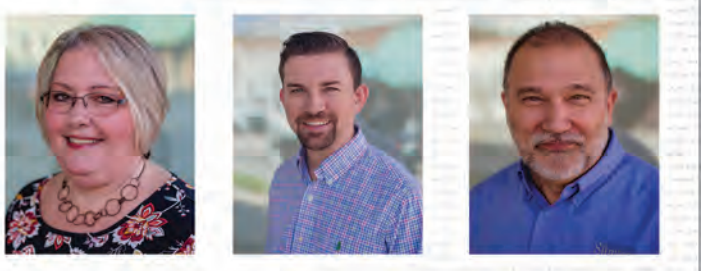


"Justice on Trial" - Season 1 (Prime Video — July 21, Series Premiere)

Judge Judy Sheindlin puts the American justice system on trial in a true crime, high-stakes courtroom drama, as she and her expert legal team recreate the trials from notorious cases where the letter of the law dictates that "justice" doesn't always feel "just." In every episode, Judge Sheindlin plays the lower court judge, while her "Tribunal Justice" judges Tanya Acker, Patricia DiMango and Adam Levy preside over all appeals court cases.

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SUNDAY EVENING — SP=Spectrum FTC=Farm DTV=DirecTV — MOVIES — SPORTS — KIDS — JULY 13, 2025

	SP	FTC	DTV	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
WIS	3	10	10	**WIS News 10 at 6** (N)	**NBC Nightly News** (N)	**American Ninja Warrior** Qualifiers 6 Qualifying rounds conclude; the top 20 athletes advance.				**America's Got Talent** "Auditions 6" Simon's Golden Buzzer becomes one of his favorites ever.				**WIS News 10 at 11** (N)	**Awareness**
WKTC	4	22	63	**Chicago P.D.** "Descent"		**Suits** "Tick Tock"		**Suits** "25th Hour"		**Suits** "To Trouble"		**Suits** "Accounts Payable"		**Suits** "Back on the Map"	
WOLO	5	12	25	**ABC World News** (N)	**Paid Prog.**	**America's Funniest Home Videos**		**America's Funniest Home Videos**		(:05) ★★ **The Sandlot** ('93) Mike Vitar, Patrick Renna, Thomas Guiry.				**News** (N)	**Paid Prog.**
WACH	6	6	57	(3:30) **To Be Announced**		**Secret Service** "Wilson's Secret Sauce"		**The Simpsons**	**Krapopolis** "Ice Week!"	**Animal Control**	**Going Dutch** "Pilot"	**News** (N)	**Pickleball TV**	**Sharyl Attkisson**	**The Big Bang Theory**
NWSN	8	172	307	**NewsNation Now** (N) (Live)		**NewsNation Now** (N) (Live)		**NewsNation Prime** (N) (Live)		**NewsNation Prime** (N) (Live)		**NewsNation Prime** (N) (Live)		**NewsNation Prime**	
WLTX	9	9	19	**News 19 at 6pm** (N)	**CBS Evening News** (N)	**60 Minutes** (N)		**Big Brother** (N)			**Ghosts** "Patience"	**Watson** "Redcoat"		**News 19 at 11pm** (N)	**Face the Nation** (N)
WRJA	11	14		**Sister Boniface Mysteries** "A Beautiful World"		**Hope Street**		**Patience** "My Brother's Keeper" (N)		**Grantchester on Masterpiece** (N)		**Atlantic Crossing** "Empty Promises"		**Austin City Limits** "Robert Glasper; DOMi and JD Beck"	
WZRB	13	18	47	**NCIS** "Saviors"		**NCIS** "Day in Court"		**NCIS** "Blood Brothers"		**NCIS** "Spinning Wheel"		**NCIS** "Deja Vu"		**NCIS** "Decompressed"	
NICK	16	210	299	**SpongeBob SquarePants** "Kreepaway Kamp" (N)		**SpongeBob SquarePants**		**Friends**	**Friends**	**Friends**	**Friends**	**Friends**	**Friends**	**Friends**	**Friends**
TOON	17	203	296	**Burgers**	**Burgers**	**Burgers**	**Burgers**	**Burgers**	**Family Guy**	**Family Guy**	**Family Guy**	**Family Guy**	**Rick Morty**	**Rick Morty**	**Rick Morty**
DISNEY	18	200	290	**Big City Greens**	**Big City Greens**	**Zombies 4: Dawn of the Vampires** ('25) Meg Donnelly, Milo Manheim.			(:35) **Electric Bloom**	**Electric Bloom**	**Phineas and Ferb**	**Phineas and Ferb**	**Phineas and Ferb**	**Place**	**Place** "Nigh is Now!"
FREFRM	20	131	311	(:15) ★★★ **Moana** ('16) Voices of Dwayne Johnson, Rachel House, Auli'i Cravalho.					(:45) **The Little Mermaid** ('23) Voices of Dee Wallace, Sonya Krueger, Steve Guttenberg. A mermaid princess discovers the surface world after making a bargain to become human.						
FDSE	21	47	649	(5:30) **Fight Sports: Boxing** Dina Thorslund vs. Seren Cetin			**Sports Stars of Tomorrow**	**Breaking Par**	**18 Holes** The Grand Resort	**Swing** Kaulig Championship	**Fairways of Life with Matt Adams**		**Facing Waves**	**MLB Baseball** Atlanta Braves at St. Louis Cardinals	
NATGEO	22	113	276	**Sharks vs. the World**		**Cannibal Sharks: Shark vs. Shark**		**Orca vs. Great White**		**Shark Quest: H** "Close Calls" (N)		**Shark Quest: H** "Hot Spots" (N)		**When Sharks Attack** (N)	**When Sharks Attack** (N)
TNT	23	158	245	(3:30) **NASCAR Cup Series**		**NASCAR Nat** (N) (Live)	★★ **Deep Blue Sea** ('99) Saffron Burrows, Samuel L. Jackson, Thomas Jane.				(:35) ★★★ **Uncharted** ('22) Mark Wahlberg, Sophia Taylor Ali, Tom Holland.				
TBS	24	156	247	★★★★ **Ocean's Thirteen** ('07) Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, George Clooney.					**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	★★★★ **The Mask** ('94) Cameron Diaz, Jim Carrey.	
USA	25	132	242	**Law & Order: SVU**		**Law & Order: SVU**		**Law & Order: SVU**		**Law & Order: SVU**		**Law-SVU** "Mirror Effect"		**Law-SVU** "Dead Ball"	
ESPN	26	35	206	**2025 MLB Draft** (N) (Live)						**E60**			**SportsCenter** (N) (Live)		
TRUTV	38	129	246	(3:30) **NASCAR Cup Series**		**NASCAR Nat** (N) (Live)	**2025 FIFA Club World Cup Soccer** Final: Teams TBA From MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. (N) (Live)				**Imp. Jokers** "Kal Penn"	**Impractical Jokers**	★ **A Few Good Men** ('14) Joseph Benjamin, Anthony Mojaro, Kate Henshaw Nuttal.		
SHOPHQ	30		73	**To Be Announced**		**To Be Announced**		**To Be Announced**		**To Be Announced**		**To Be Announced**		**To Be Announced**	
TWC	32	24	362	**Claw** "Shifting Gears"		**Claw** "Storm of the Century"		**Claw** "After the Deluge"		**Prime Suspect: Earth**		**Claw** "Storm of the Century"		**Claw** "After the Deluge"	
CNBC	35	84	355	**Shark Tank**		**Shark Tank**		**Shark Tank**		**Shark Tank**		**Shark Tank**		**Shark Tank**	
FNC	37	90	360	**Weekend** (N) (Live)		**Weekend** (N) (Live)		**Life, Liberty** (N) (Live)		**Sunday Night** (N) (Live)		**One Nation** (N) (Live)		**The Big Weekend Show**	
HGTV	39	112	229	**Love It or List It** "From Childhood to Change"		**Love It or List It** "Too Tight for Family Life?"		**Love It or List It** "No Room to Expand"		**Love It or List It** "A Place to Grow or a Place to Go?"		**House Hunters** (N)	**House Hunters**	**House Hunters**	**House Hunters**
FOOD	40	109	231	**Guy's Grocery Games** "All-Star Double Whammy"		**Guy's Grocery Games** "Discount Dinners"		**BBQ Brawl**		**BBQ Brawl** (N)		**Beat Bobby Flay**	**Beat Bobby Flay**	**Beat Bobby Flay**	**Beat Bobby Flay**
ANPL	41	100	282	**North Woods Law**		**North-Law** "Trail Blazers"		**Yellowstone Wardens** "Hunters in Hot Water" (N)				**Yellowstone Wardens** "Memories to Last a Lifetime"			
DISCV	42	103	278	**Naked and Afraid: Last One Standing** (N)				**Naked and Afraid: Last One Standing** (N)			**Naked and Afraid** "Lost in Translation"			**Marooned With Ed Stafford** "GuangXi Karst"	
TLC	43	157	280	**Match Me Abroad**		**90 Day Fiancé**		**90 Day Fiancé** "Houston, We Have a Problem" (N)				**Match Me Abroad** (N)		**90 Day Fiancé** (N)	
HIST	45	110	269	(2:00) **Modern Marvels** "Food: Chocolate" Adam Richman visits America's oldest candy store.				**Mega-Brands** "Photo Bombs"		**Mega-Brands** "Fight for the Fast Lane" (N)		(:05) **Hazardous History** "Treacherous Travel" (N)		(:05) **Hazardous History** "Very Extreme Sports"	
A&E	46	130	265	**Live PD**	**Live PD**	**Duck Dyn** "Chicken Chaos"		**Duck Dynasty: The Revival**		**Duck Dynasty** (N)		**WWE LFG** (N)			
AMC	48	180	254	★★★★ **The Fifth Element** ('97) Gary Oldman, Ian Holm, Bruce Willis. A New York City cabdriver tries to save 2259 Earth from impact with an onrushing anti-life force.						**Nautilus** "Slippery When Wet" (N)		(:10) **Nautilus** "Slippery When Wet"		(:20) ★★★★ **The Fifth Element** ('97) Bruce Willis.	
TCM	49	186	256	★★★★ **A Woman's Face** ('41) Melvyn Douglas, Conrad Veidt, Joan Crawford.				★★★★ **Fail-Safe** ('64) Walter Matthau, Dan O'Herlihy, Henry Fonda.				★★★ **The Bedford Incident** ('65) Sidney Poitier, Martin Balsam, Richard Widmark.			
LIFE	50	145	252	**Little Girl in the Woods** ('25) Camille Atebe, Caitlin Stryker, Alana Hawley Purvis.				**If I Go Missing** ('24) Hannah Vandenbygaart, Robert Bazzocchi, Emma Elle Paterson. (P)				(:05) **The Girl Who Wasn't Dead** ('24) Emma Tremblay, Kyle Clark, Lyndsy Fonseca.			
HALL	52	183	312	**Unwrapping Christmas: Mia's Prince** ('24) Nathan Witte, Lanette Ware, Kathryn Davis.				**Holidazed** "The Lin Family" (N)		**Holidazed** "The Woods Family" (N)		**One Royal Holiday** ('20) Aaron Tveit, Victoria Clark, Laura Osnes.			
FX	54	154	248	(5:00) ★★★★ **Avengers: Age of Ultron** ('15) Chris Hemsworth, Mark Ruffalo, Robert Downey Jr..				★★★★ **Avengers: Infinity War** ('18) Chris Hemsworth, Josh Brolin, Robert Downey Jr.. Iron Man, Thor and the rest of the Avengers battle their most powerful enemy yet -- the evil Thanos.						**Captain America: Wi...**	
TVLAND	55	161	304	**Two Men**	**Two Men**	**Two Men**	**Two Men**	**Two Men**	**Two Men**	**Two Men**	**Two Men**	**Two Men**	**Two Men**	**Seinfeld**	**Seinfeld**
E!	56	138	236	(4:30) ★★★ **Sing 2** ('21)		★★★★ **Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory** ('71) Gene Wilder.					★★★★ **Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory** ('71) Gene Wilder.				
COMEDY	57	136	249	(4:30) ★ **Step Brothers**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**
SYFY	58	152	244	(3:30) ★★★★ **Cast Away**	★★★★ **Crawl** ('19) Barry Pepper, Morfydd Clark, Kaya Scodelario.				★★★★ **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** ('05) Freddie Highmore, David Kelly, Johnny Depp.					**Revival** "Triage"	
BET	61	162	329	(5:00) ★★★ **Night School** ('18) Tiffany Haddish, Kevin Hart.				★★★★ **Bridesmaids** ('11) Maya Rudolph, Rose Byrne, Kristen Wiig.						(:05) ★★★ **National Security**	
PARMT	64	153	241	**Bar Rescue** "Two Tickets to Paradise Cantina"		**Bar Rescue** "Working to Death"		**Bar Rescue** "I'm a F'n Bar Guy! I'm a F'n Bar Girl!"		**Bar Rescue** "The Airliner Is Grounded"		**Bar Rescue** "Jimmy Meet World"		**Bar Rescue** "Pete's Ruined Tavern" Guests Jason Santos	
LMN	66	185	253	★ **Secret Lives of Housewives** ('22) Justin Berti, Charlie Hitt, Jessica Morris.				★ **Harry & Meghan: A Royal Romance** ('18) Burgess Abernethy, Laura Mitchell, Parisa Fitz-Henley.				★★★ **William & Kate** ('11) Camilla Luddington, Serena Scott Thomas, Ben Cross.			
GOLF	69	52	218	(5:00) **PGA Tour Golf**		**Golf Central** (N) (Live)		**PGA Tour Golf** Genesis Scottish Open, Final Round				**2025 The Amundi Evian Championship** Final Round			
OWN	72	104	279	**20/20 on OWN**		**20/20 on OWN**		**20/20, OWN** "Out of Bounds"		**20/20 on OWN**		**20/20 on OWN**		**20/20 on OWN**	
OXY	76	150	251	**Snapped** "Ina Kenoyer" (N)		**Buried in the Backyard** "The Swedish Connection"				**Snapped** "Ina Kenoyer"		**Snapped** "William Dennis"		**Snapped** "Sahara Fakhir"	
NBATV	308		216	(5:30) **NBA Summer League Basketball**			**NBA Basketball** Miami Heat vs. Cleveland Cavaliers (N)				**NBA Basketball** Milwaukee Bucks vs. LA Clippers (N) (Live)			**GameTime**	
HBO	511	350	501	(:05) **The Gilded Age** "Who Is in Charge Here?"		**The Gilded Age**	(:55) **The Gilded Age** "Love Is Never Easy" George negotiates with the Duke.			**The Gilded Age** (N)		**The Gilded Age**		(:05) **The Gilded Age**	
MAX	531	370	515	(:10) **The Knick** "Do You Remember Moon Flower?"		(:05) **The Knick** "This Is All We Are"		★★★ **X-Men: Apocalypse** ('16) Michael Fassbender, Jennifer Lawrence, James McAvoy.					(:25) ★★★ **Warcraft** ('16) Paula Patton, Ben Foster, Travis Fimmel.		
PARSHO	551	300	545	**Dexter: New Blood** "The Family Business"		**Dexter: New Blood** "Sins of the Father"		**Dexter: Resurrection** "A Beating Heart..." (N)		**Dexter: Resurrection** "Camera Shy" (N)		**The Chi** "Last Respects" (N)		**Dexter: Resurrection** "A Beating Heart..."	
TMC	571	316	553	(5:25) ★★★★ **Inglourious Basterds** ('09) Mélanie Laurent, Christoph Waltz, Brad Pitt.				★★★★ **The Nice Guys** ('16) Ryan Gosling, Angourie Rice, Russell Crowe. (P)				★★★ **The Mexican** ('01) Julia Roberts, James Gandolfini, Brad Pitt.			
STARZ	581	330	525	(5:25) ★★ **When the Bough Breaks** ('16) Morris Chestnut.		(:15) ★★ **The Exorcist: Believer** ('23) Lidya Jewett, Olivia O'Neill, Leslie Odom Jr..				(:10) **BMF** "Bad Religion"		(:05) **BMF** "Bad Religion"		★★★★ **Zombieland** ('09) Woody Harrelson.	

MONDAY EVENING — SP=Spectrum FTC=Farm DTV=DirecTV — MOVIES — SPORTS — KIDS — JULY 14, 2025

	SP	FTC	DTV	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
WIS	3	10	10	**WIS News 10 at 6** (N)	**NBC Nightly News** (N)	**WIS News 10 at 7** (N)	**WIS News** (N)	**American Ninja Warrior** Semifinals 1 The semifinals begin in Las Vegas with a longer course. (N)				**Survival Mode** "Maui Wildfires" (N)		**WIS News 10 at 11** (N)	(:35) **Tonight Show** (N)
WKTC	4	22	63	**Last Man Standing**	**Last Man Standing**	**Neighbor**	**Neighbor**	**Law & Order: Special Victims Unit**		**Law & Order: Special Victims Unit**		**Suits** "Turn"		**Chicago Fire** "Welcome to Crazytown"	
WOLO	5	12	25	**News** (N)	**ABC World News** (N)	**Wheel of Fortune**	**Jeopardy!** (N)	**Bachelor in Paradise** Stars and villains from "The Bachelor" and "The Bachelorette" get another chance to find love. (N)						**News** (N)	(:35) **J. Kimmel** (N)
WACH	6	6	57	**Family Feud**	**Family Feud**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**LEGO Masters** "Is It Brick? 90's Edition" (N)		**The Quiz With Balls** "Battle of the Brains" (N)		**WACH FOX News at 10P** (N) (Live)		**Sports Zone** (N) (Live)	**National** (N) (Live)
NWSN	8	172	307	**The Hill** (N) (Live)		**Elizabeth Vargas Reports** (N) (Live)		**Cuomo** (N) (Live)		**On Balance With Leland Vittert** (N) (Live)		**Banfield** (N) (Live)		**Cuomo**	
WLTX	9	9	19	**News 19 at 6pm** (N)	**CBS Evening News** (N)	**News 19 at 7pm** (N)	**Inside Edition** (N)	**Neighbor**	**Neighbor**	**FBI** "Blkpill"		**FBI: Most Wanted** "68 Seconds"		**News 19 at 11pm** (N)	(:35) **Colbert** (N)
WRJA	11	14		**PBS News Hour** (N)		**Weekends With Yankee**	**Fresh Glass**	**Antiques Roadshow** "Fort Worth Hour 2"		**Her Name Was Grace Kelly**		**POV** "Made in Ethiopia" (N)		**To Be Announced**	**Amanpour** (N)
WZRB	13	18	47	**Criminal Minds** "The Crimson King"		**FBI** "Compromised"		**FBI** "The Armorer's Faith"		**FBI** "Identity Crisis"		**FBI** "A New Dawn"		**FBI** "Partners in Crime"	
NICK	16	210	299	(4:30) ★ **Secret Life of Pets 2**	**SpongeBob SquarePants**	**SpongeBob SquarePants**	**SpongeBob SquarePants**	**Friends**	**Friends**	**Friends**	**Friends**	**Friends** "The One in Barbados"		**Friends**	**Friends**
TOON	17	203	296	**King/Hill**	**Burgers**	**Burgers**	**Burgers**	**Burgers**	**Burgers**	**Family Guy**	**Family Guy**	**Family Guy**	**Family Guy**	**Family Guy**	**Rick Morty**
DISNEY	18	200	290	**Bluey**	**Big City Greens**	**Big City Greens**	**Big City Greens**	**Zombies 4: Dawn of the Vampires** ('25) Meg Donnelly, Milo Manheim.			(:40) **Electric Bloom**	(:05) **Electric Bloom**	**Jessie**	**Jessie**	**Jessie** "Four Broke Kids"
FREFRM	20	131	311	(5:10) ★★★ **National Treasure** ('04) Diane Kruger, Justin Bartha, Nicolas Cage.				(:20) ★★★ **National Treasure: Book of Secrets** ('07) Jon Voight, Harvey Keitel, Nicolas Cage.						**The 700 Club**	
FDSE	21	47	649	**P1 Racing**	**P1 Racing**	**Fight Sports: Boxing**				**Outdoor Eats**	**A Fishing Story**	**Let's Fish Southeast**	**O'Neill Outside**	**Fairways of Life with Matt Adams**	
NATGEO	22	113	276	**Baby Sharks in the City**		**Supersized Sharks**		**Attack of the Red Sea Sharks**		**Shark Attack 360** "Deep Dive: Blood in the Water" (N)		**When Sharks Attack** (N)	**When Sharks Attack** (N)	**Shark Attack Files** "Testing the Limits"	
TNT	23	158	245	(4:00) ★ **Meg 2: Trench**	★★★ **Uncharted** ('22) Mark Wahlberg, Sophia Taylor Ali, Tom Holland.					**The Librarians** "And the Feast of the Vampire" (N)		★★★★ **Ant-Man and The Wasp** ('18) Evangeline Lilly, Michael Douglas, Paul Rudd.			
TBS	24	156	247	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**The Big Bang Theory**	**American Dad!**	**American Dad!**
USA	25	132	242	**Law-SVU** "Disabled"		**Law & Order: SVU**		**Law & Order: SVU**		**Law-SVU** "Lime Chaser"		**Law & Order: SVU**		**Resident** "Soul Providers"	
ESPN	26	35	206	**SportsCenter** (N) (Live)		**Baseball Tonight** (N) (Live)		**2025 Home Run Derby** (N) (Live)				**SportsCenter** (N) (Live)		**SportsCenter** (N) (Live)	
TRUTV	38	129	246	(5:30) **NASCAR Cup Series** Challenge Round 3 - Toyota / Save Mart 350 From Sonoma Raceway in Sonoma, Calif. (N) (Live)						**Paul American** (N)		**Paul American** (N)		★★ **Over the Top** ('87) Sylvester Stallone.	
SHOPHQ	30		73	**To Be Announced**		**To Be Announced**		**To Be Announced**		**To Be Announced**		**To Be Announced**		**To Be Announced**	
TWC	32	24	362	**Weather Unfiltered**		**Weather Unfiltered**		**Weather Unfiltered**		**Weather Unfiltered**		**Prime Suspect: Earth**		**Prime Suspect: Earth**	
CNBC	35	84	355	**Mad Money** (N)		**Shark Tank**		**Shark Tank**		**Shark Tank**		**Shark Tank**		**Shark Tank**	
FNC	37	90	360	**Special Report** (N) (Live)		**Ingraham** (N) (Live)		**Jesse Watters** (N) (Live)		**Hannity** (N) (Live)		**Gutfeld!** (N)		**Fox News at Night** (N) (Live)	
HGTV	39	112	229	**Renovation Aloha** "Biggest Purchase Ever"		**Renovation Aloha** "Junk in Pearl City"		**Beach** "Biking to a Bargain"	**Beachfront Bargain Hunt**	**Beachfront Bargain Hunt**	**Beachfront Bargain Hunt**	**Beachfront Bargain Hunt: Renovation** (N)		**Caribbean Life**	**Caribbean Life**
FOOD	40	109	231	**Beat Bobby Flay**	**Beat Bobby Flay**	**Beat Bobby Flay**	**Beat Bobby Flay**	**Super Mega Cakes** "Ocean Predators"		**Super Mega Cakes** "Classic Cartoons" (N)		**Chopped** "Mizuna Matata"		**Chopped** "Superhero Chefs!"	
ANPL	41	100	282	**Homestead Rescue** "Alligator Aid"				**Homestead Rescue** "Raney Returns: Broken Bridges"				**Homestead Rescue** "Brown Bear-anoia"			
DISCV	42	103	278	**Contraband: Seized at the Border** "No Secrets Allowed"		**Contraband: Seized** "Does Your Wife Know?"		**Contraband: Seized** "Going Nowhere Fast"		**Contraband: Seized at the Airport** "What a Trip"		**Contraband: Seized at the Airport** "Joint Custody"		**Contraband: Seized at the Airport** "Catch 'Em All"	
TLC	43	157	280	**Virgins** "Stealing Home"		**90 Day: Hunt for Love**		**90 Day: Hunt for Love** (N)		**Virgins** "Grand Slam" (N)		**90 Day: Hunt for Love** (N)		**Match Me Abroad**	
HIST	45	110	269	**History's Greatest Mysteries** "Jack the Ripper"		**History's-Mysteries** "The Valentine's Day Massacre"		**History's-Mysteries** "Secrets of the Copper Scroll"		**History's-Mysteries** "The Killing of Bugsy Siegel" (N)		(:05) **Life After People** "Water World" (N) (SP)		(:05) **History's Greatest Mysteries**	
A&E	46	130	265	**Live PD**	**Live PD**	**Live PD**	**Live PD**	**Live PD**	**Live PD**	**Live PD** (N)	**Live PD** (N)	**Live PD: Rewind** (N)		(:05) **Live PD**	(:35) **Live PD**
AMC	48	180	254	(5:00) ★★★ **Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End** ('07) Orlando Bloom, Keira Knightley, Johnny Depp.						(:45) ★★★ **Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides** ('11) Penélope Cruz, Ian McShane, Johnny Depp.					**Ghostbusters**
TCM	49	186	256	(5:30) ★★★ **Strangers May Kiss** ('31) Robert Montgomery, Neil Hamilton, Norma Shearer.		**MGM Parade**		★★★ **Tiger Shark** ('32) Zita Johann, Richard Arlen, Edward G. Robinson.			★★★ **Underwater!** ('55) Gilbert Roland, Richard Egan, Jane Russell.			(:15) ★★ **Killer Shark** ('50) Roddy McDowall.	
LIFE	50	145	252	**Castle** "Under the Gun"		**Dr. Pimple Popper** "Psoria-Sisters"		**Dr. Pimple Popper** "Buffalo Hump Bump"		**Dr. Pimple Popper** "My Head Laid An Egg" (N)		(:05) **The 6000 Lb Diaries With Dr. Now** "Nefi" (N)		(:05) **Dr. Pimple Popper** "Nurse Bumpy Head"	
HALL	52	183	312	★ **Christmas in Notting Hill** ('23) William Moseley, Joelle Rae, Sarah Ramos.				**Christmas** "Docking Around the Christmas Tree" (N)		★ **Holiday Touchdown: A Chiefs Love Story** ('24) Tyler Hynes, Mary Beth McDonough, Hunter King.				★ **It's Christmas, Eve** ('18) Tyler Hynes, LeAnn Rimes.	
FX	54	154	248	(5:30) ★★★ **The Day After Tomorrow** ('04) Jake Gyllenhaal, Ian Holm, Dennis Quaid.				★★★★ **Free Guy** ('21) Jodie Comer, Joe Keery, Ryan Reynolds.					★★★★ **Free Guy** ('21) Jodie Comer, Joe Keery, Ryan Reynolds.		
TVLAND	55	161	304	**Andy Griffith**	**Andy Griffith**	**Raymond**	**Raymond**	**Raymond**	**Raymond**	**Raymond**	**Raymond**	**Raymond**	**Raymond**	**King**	**King**
E!	56	138	236	(5:00) ★★★ **Overboard** ('87) Goldie Hawn.			★★★ **Overboard** ('87) Kurt Russell, Edward Herrmann, Goldie Hawn.					**Botched Presents**		**E! News** (N)	★ **Marry Me**
COMEDY	57	136	249	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Office**	**The Daily Show** (N)	
SYFY	58	152	244	(5:00) ★★★ **Jaws 2** ('78) Lorraine Gary, Murray Hamilton, Roy Scheider.			★★ **Jaws 3-D** ('83) Bess Armstrong, Simon MacCorkindale, Dennis Quaid.				★★★ **Jaws 2** ('78) Lorraine Gary, Murray Hamilton, Roy Scheider. Tourist town and police chief (Roy Scheider) dread huge white shark at beach.				
BET	61	162	329	★★★★ **Lethal Weapon 3** ('92) Danny Glover, Joe Pesci, Mel Gibson.						**Celebrity Family Feud**		**Celebrity Family Feud**		**Celebrity Family Feud**	
PARMT	64	153	241	**Two and a Half Men**	**Two and a Half Men**	**Two and a Half Men**	**Two and a Half Men**	★★★★ **The Godfather** ('72) Al Pacino, James Caan, Marlon Brando. Crime boss Vito Corleone and his sons rule their New York empire with mafia justice.							
LMN	66	185	253	★ **Nightmare PTA Moms** ('22) Jonathan Stoddard, Alissa Filoramo, Brianna Cohen.				★ **Deadly Girls Night Out** ('21) Rene Ashton, James Hyde, Gina Vitori.				★ **Hall Pass Nightmare** ('22) Matt Magnusson, Gib Gerard, Andrea Bowen.			
GOLF	69	52	218	(4:00) **PGA Tour Golf**		**Live From The Open**								**PGA TOUR**	**PGA TOUR**
OWN	72	104	279	**20/20 on OWN**		**20/20, OWN** "The Hustlers"		**20/20 on OWN**		**20/20 on OWN**		**20/20 on OWN**		**20/20 on OWN**	
OXY	76	150	251	**Snapped** "Jennifer Morrisey"		**Snapped** "Stephanie Olson"		**Snapped** "Kristen Durgan"		**Snapped** "Tracie Miles"		**Snapped** "Helen Frazier"		**Snapped** "Betty Neumar"	
NBATV	308		216	(4:30) **Basketb..**		**NBA Basketball** Charlotte Hornets vs. Dallas Mavericks (N)			**NBA Basketball** Utah Jazz vs. San Antonio Spurs (N) (Live)				**NBA Summer League Basketball**		
HBO	511	350	501	★★★★ **A Private War** ('18) Jamie Dornan, Tom Hollander, Rosamund Pike.			(:55) **The Gilded Age**			(:55) ★★ **This Means War** ('12) Chris Pine, Tom Hardy, Reese Witherspoon.				(:35) ★★★ **Valentine's Day** ('10) Kathy Bates, Jessica Biel, Jessica Alba.	
MAX	531	370	515	(5:40) ★★★★ **The Martian** ('15) Jessica Chastain, Kristen Wiig, Matt Damon.				★★★ **Gifted** ('17) Mckenna Grace, Lindsay Duncan, Chris Evans.			(:40) ★★★★ **St. Vincent** ('14) Melissa McCarthy, Naomi Watts, Bill Murray.				(:25) ★★★ **The Boss** ('16)
PARSHO	551	300	545	(5:25) ★★★★ **Gladiator** Joaquin Phoenix, Connie Nielsen, Russell Crowe.				**Dexter: Resurrection** "A Beating Heart..."		**Dexter: Resurrection** "Camera Shy"		**The Chi** "Last Respects"		**Dexter: Resurrection** "A Beating Heart..."	
TMC	571	316	553	(5:10) ★★★★★ **Once Upon a Time in the West** ('68) Claudia Cardinale, Charles Bronson, Henry Fonda.				★★★ **Rules of Engagement** Samuel L. Jackson, Guy Pearce, Tommy Lee Jones. (P)				(:10) ★★★ **Uncommon Valor** ('83) Robert Stack, Fred Ward, Gene Hackman.			
STARZ	581	330	525	(4:50) ★ **Whole Nine Yards**	★★ **Borderlands** ('24) Kevin Hart, Jack Black, Cate Blanchett.			(:15) **BMF** "Bad Religion"		(:10) ★★★ **Resident Evil: Welcome to Raccoon City** ('21) Hannah John-Kamen, Robbie Amell, Kaya Scodelario.				**BMF** "Bad Religion"	





Reporters and politicians are in a 'State of Play'

BY JAY BOBBIN

Though it plays somewhat fast and loose with the business of journalism, "State of Play" is a compelling drama.

Adapted, condensed and quite Americanized from a limited British television series, the 2009 drama — being shown by Cinemax on Monday, July 14 and Thursday, July 17 — benefits from a very strong cast led by Russell Crowe as a veteran Washington, D.C., newspaper reporter who takes a personal interest in the story of a politician (Ben Affleck) who's a longtime friend. An aide to the married congressman dies under mysterious circumstances, and when he admits to having had an affair with her, the plot does indeed thicken.

The rough-around-the-edges journalist advises his friend on how to handle the matter while also investigating the situation professionally, a duality that worries the reporter's senior editor (Helen Mirren), who wants a clearly sourced story that will sell papers and satisfy the new publishers. To that end, she also assigns a blogger (Rachel McAdams) to look into the death, a move that irritates Crowe's character ... until he and the blog writer make a pact to work together.

While its plot becomes dense with detail, also factoring in the reporter's past with the politician's wife (Robin Wright) and an oily publicist's (Jason Bateman) role in the situation, "State of Play" holds interest through the sheer presence of its performers. Also on hand are Jeff Daniels as another congressman who tries to keep his hands clean, and Harry Lennix as a police detective who knows all too well how Crowe's alter ego operates.

Actual reporters are likely to shake their heads at some of the actions their on-screen surrogates take in "State of Play," ranging from withholding information from cops, to entering a private hospital room to questioning a shooting victim while doctors are tending to him. That being said, the actors' commitment to their roles goes a long way here. It may not be until the final credits roll — after an entire newsroom staff has stopped to watch a peer type an article — that a viewer stops and thinks, "Hey, wait a minute."

Directed by Kevin Macdonald ("The Last King of Scotland"), "State of Play" also considers the challenges that have been faced by those in journalism, though some of that content is now a bit dated 16 years later. Still, conglomerates continue to acquire and put their own stamps on publications, and print reporters vie with online counterparts for attention and resources.

"State of Play" isn't without its flaws, but it also has much to recommend, including its reminder of the nobility and value of dedicated reporting and those who practice it.

Best AUDREY HEPBURN MOVIES

BY JAY BOBBIN







"Roman Holiday" (1953): Though she had done several pictures earlier, Hepburn's first major showcase — her first of several teamings with director William Wyler — brought her an Oscar for best actress as an AWOL princess escorted through Rome by a reporter (Gregory Peck). Filmed on location, the picture is Turner Classic Movies' "Summer Romance" attraction on Sunday, July 13.

"Sabrina" (1954): Director and co-screenwriter Billy Wilder's comedy casts Hepburn in the title role of a chauffeur's daughter who complicates life for her father's employers, wealthy brothers (Humphrey Bogart, William Holden).

"War and Peace" (1956): This epic staging of Leo Tolstoy's novel about love and power in early 19th-century Russia cast Hepburn opposite her then-husband, Mel Ferrer, as well as Henry Fonda.

"Funny Face" (1957): Hepburn is delightful in director Stanley Donen's musical-comedy, playing a bookstore operator whose shop becomes the setting for a fashion photographer's (Fred Astaire) shoot.

"Breakfast at Tiffany's" (1961): The role of socialite Holly Golightly became a milestone for Hepburn in this Blake Edwards-directed adaptation of a Truman Capote novella. The Henry Mancini score introduced the song "Moon River," which Hepburn performs.

"Charade" (1963): A blueprint for romantic comedy-thrillers was set by director Donen's film about a widow (Hepburn) pursued by various people — including one played by Cary Grant — for knowledge of her late husband's dealings.

"My Fair Lady" (1964): Julie Andrews plays Eliza Doolittle on Broadway, but Hepburn assumed the role for this classic Lerner and Loewe musical on film ... with Andrews winning the best actress Oscar for its year (for "Mary Poppins"). Rex Harrison took the best actor honor for reprising his stage part as Professor Henry Higgins.

"How to Steal a Million" (1966): Working with director Wyler again, Hepburn plays the daughter of an art forger (Hugh Griffith) who tries to keep him out of trouble, with help from a thief (Peter O'Toole).

"Two for the Road" (1967): Hepburn and Albert Finney are marvelous as a maritally wavering couple who embark on a road trip through Europe. Director Donen's comedy-drama gave Jacqueline Bisset an early screen role.

"Wait Until Dark" (1967): This tense adaptation of a stage play stars Hepburn as a blind woman targeted by several criminals (Alan Arkin, Richard Crenna, Jack Weston) out to retrieve a heroin-stuffed doll that has been handed off to her husband (Efrem Zimbalist Jr.).

"Robin and Marian" (1976): Hepburn (returning to film work after almost a decade) and Sean Connery are wonderful as an older Maid Marian and Robin Hood in director Richard Lester's adventure-drama.







From the ashes: A vigilante killer rises again in 'Dexter: Resurrection'

BY SARAH PASSINGHAM

A new, old life begins for one once-dead forensic analyst-turned-small town sporting goods store clerk with a dark secret. After his life in New York state as Jim Lindsay unraveled, the past has come back to haunt Dexter Morgan (Michael C. Hall, "Six Feet Under") in "Dexter: Resurrection." The first two episodes of the series are available to stream now on Paramount+ with the Showtime plan, with their broadcast network debut taking place Sunday, July 13, on Paramount+ with Showtime.

In the series, Dexter makes a narrow escape from the events of "Dexter: New Blood" and sets off towards New York City, in part to try to reach his son, Harrison (Jack Alcott, "The Good Lord Bird"). Having been tipped off that Dexter is still alive and that he is likely to have been responsible for the Bay Harbour Butcher murders in Miami years ago, Angel Batista (David Zayas, "The Bear"), now captain of homicide of the Miami Metro Police, heads north to confront his former colleague.

"Dexter: Resurrection" also stars Ntare Guma Mbaho Mwine ("The Lincoln Lawyer") as rideshare driver Blessing Kamara; Kadia Saraf ("The Better Sister") as Det. Claudette Wallace; Dominic Fumusa ("Nurse Jackie") as Det. Melvin Oliva; and Emilia Suarez ("Up Here") as Harrison's friend Elsa Rivera. Also back from the dead in guest roles to revive characters from the original series are John Lithgow ("The Old Man") as Arthur Mitchell, the Trinity Killer; Jimmy Smits ("Obi-Wan Kenobi") as Miguel Prado, the assistant district attorney with a dark secret; and Erik King ("The Good Fight") as Det. James Doakes, long thought to be the Bay Harbour Butcher.



This installment of the Dexter franchise boasts some exciting guest stars who may or may not entice Dexter's dark passenger into action. Neil Patrick Harris ("Uncoupled") is Lowell; David Dastmalchian ("Oppenheimer," 2023) is Gareth; Eric Stonestreet ("American Auto") is Al; and Krysten Ritter ("Orphan Black: Echoes") is Mia.

Dexter Morgan's resurrection comes after he faked his death in the finale of the original "Dexter," then was revealed to have been living low as Jim in "Dexter: New Blood." In Iron Lake, New York, Dexter had been living like a man in recovery as Jim, honoring the routine of daily life that kept his deepest desires at bay. A tense moment forced him to live, once again, by the code he thought he could suppress, sending his new life into a spiral.

The unexpected arrival of Harrison, the expectations of fatherhood that came with him and Dexter's own crimes scratching the surface of long-buried secrets in Iron Lake combined in an explosive finale. Father and son, both plagued by murderous tendencies, dramatically part ways — Harrison in hopes of living a different, better life than Dexter.

Resuscitating their relationship is central to "Dexter: Resurrection," Hall told Vanity Fair in April. "Harrison revealed himself to be, and remains, an all-the-more potent connection to Dexter's tiny sense of humanity. He craves it, in spite of himself, so it's a major bolt of thread running through his interior life and the life of the season."

Furry forensics: 'Fursuit' wearing vigilantis save the day in new docuseries



BY CAROLINE COLLACUTT

A welcoming and inclusive community faces its darkness, uncovering a horrific pattern of abuse taking place within, during "The Furry Detectives: Unmasking a Monster," an all-new docuseries making its debut Thursday, July 17, on Sundance TV, Sundance Now and AMC+.

From director Theo Love ("Eat the Rich: The GameStop Saga"), this four-part docuseries exposes the dark and brutal underbelly of a seemingly harmless community known as Furries. Composed of people who are interested in anthropomorphic animals — animals that possess human-like characteristics, including the ability to talk or walk on two legs — and, for some, in wearing elaborate, full-bodied animal costumes called fursuits, the Furry community is often a safe haven for people of all ages, races, religions, sexes and genders, offering a sense of anonymity and equality to those within. As with all communities, however, not all members arrive with the same good intentions.

Enter: the Zoosadists.

Known as the 2018 "Furry Zoosadist Leaks," this spectacle saw Furry community members — described by Sundance TV as "dedicated vigilantes" — working alongside police to expose, per the network, "a horrifying conspiracy of animal abuse lurking beneath the Fandom's playful exterior," when it became apparent that certain members of the local Furry community had been sharing sadistic and graphic videos of animal abuse and torture online. This group of fursuit-wearing vigilantes, dubbed "The Furvengers," utilized the help of the Pennsylvania police to then eradicate these abusive members from their community.

"The series follows the pack of dedicated vigilantes who teamed up to bring down the monsters behind the masks," Sundance TV explains in a press release regarding the series. "Navigating the line between amateur sleuthing and official police investigation, the Furry Detectives exposed a ring of animal abusers, fought for victims and defended their community from the evil within."

From Jigsaw Productions, in association with Razan Ghalayini ("Full Frontal with Samantha Bee"), Julia Lindau ("VICE News: The Battle Over Psychedelic Therapy's Future," 2022), Richard Perello ("The Dark Money Game") and Taylor Rogers ("Operation Undercover"), "The Furry Detectives: Unmasking a Monster" premieres Thursday, July 17, on Sundance TV, Sundance Now and AMC+.

View from the Couch

Family Viewing Ratings
AS Adult situations **V** Violence **GV** Graphic Violence
P Profanity **N** Nudity

BY JAY BOBBIN



"SHANE"

One of the most iconic of all Westerns, this 1953 classic from director George Stevens makes its 4K Ultra HD debut. Alan Ladd has the title role as a drifter whose dangerous past comes in handy for the rancher (Van Helfin) who hires him, since the newcomer's gunfighting skills prove useful against the threatening forces of a land-grabbing cattle baron (Emile Meyer). The rancher's young son (Brandon de Wilde) develops a case of hero worship toward Shane, to the concern of the boy's mother (Jean Arthur). Certain elements of the film, particularly the final scene, became famous enough for them to be borrowed or parodied many times. An Oscar winner for its cinematography, the drama – based on a Jack Schaefer novel – also features such genre reliables as Jack Palance, Ben Johnson and Edgar Buchanan. **** (Not rated: V) Blu-ray)

"FURY"

Now getting 4K Ultra HD Steelbook treatment, writer-director David Ayer's intense World War II drama casts Brad Pitt – also an executive producer here — as the leader of an Allied brigade taking major risks on a mission to defeat German troops decisively in the European theater as the battle nears its end. His literal vessel for attempting that is a Sherman tank, and he and his platoon have concerns about a rookie soldier (Logan Lerman) who has been assigned to join them just as they're about to begin their dangerous task. The 2014 film also features Shia LaBeouf, Michael Pena, Jon Bernthal, Jason Isaacs and Scott Eastwood (Clint's son); the main cast members underwent four months of training before production began. *** (R: AS, P, V) (Also on DVD and Blu-ray)

"MASTERPIECE MYSTERY!: GRANTCHESTER — THE COMPLETE TENTH SEASON"

While its run continues on PBS, the latest round of the British mystery series comes to DVD, enabling early purchasers to see several episodes before they're televised. Set in 1962, the stories begin with a strange death at Easter time, putting police detective Geordie (Robson Green) and minister Alphy (Rishi Nair) on the case. Alphy is grateful to have the investigation to focus on, since he can shift his attention from a personal matter that is making him feel unsettled. Other tales involve the murder of a rock star and crimes at a university and a home for orphans. Christie Russell-Brown joins the cast as a librarian who develops ties to Alphy. *** (Not rated: AS, V)

"THE ADVENTURES OF ANTOINE DOINEL"

A character who literally grew up over the course of several films by celebrated director Francois Truffaut has his entire screen arc traced in this new Criterion Collection set of the related films, available on Blu-ray and 4K Ultra HD. The movie that launched Antoine's journey, "The 400 Blows" (1959), is a particular classic renowned as a major part of the "New Wave" movement in French cinema; portrayed by Jean-Pierre Leaud, Antoine is introduced as a youngster who engages in truancy and small-time crime, and ultimately is sent to reform school. Antoine's story – depicting him as something of a rascal in romance — continued in the features "Stolen Kisses" (1968), "Bed and Board" (1970) and "Love on the Run" (1979), as well as the short subject "Antoine and Colette." (1962). Claude Jade portrays Antoine's wife in the later films. **** (Unrated, R and PG, varying by the title: AS, P)

"THE ASSASSINATION BUREAU"

Getting a Blu-ray reissue, this 1969 comedy-adventure is notable for being released in the same year when stars Diana Rigg ("The Avengers") and Telly Savalas would reunite later in the James Bond entry "On Her Majesty's Secret Service." Rigg plays an Edwardian-era journalism hopeful who discovers the existence of the title organization, which commits murders for a fee. She matches wits with its chief (Oliver Reed) when he is set up to be eliminated by his peers, unless he succeeds in targeting them first. Savalas portrays another superior in the lethal bureau; also prominent in the cast are Curt Jurgens, who had his own James Bond stint (in "The Spy Who Loved Me"), and Philippe Noiret. The film is based on a novel co-written by Jack London, of "The Call of the Wild" fame. *** (PG: AS, V) (Also on DVD)

"NEXT STOP, CHRISTMAS"

It truly is Christmas in July with a new "6-Movie Collection" of Hallmark-produced titles including this fantasy-heavy 2021 tale, featuring Lyndsy Fonseca ("Nikita") as a woman who wants to be on her own for the holiday season. It doesn't quite work out that way, since the commuter train she normally takes transports her not only to her hometown, but back in time to 2011, giving her chances for do-overs with her loved ones. The cast reunites earlier "Back to the Future" co-stars Lea Thompson and Christopher Lloyd. The other titles in the set are "Christmas Comes Twice" (2020, with Tamera Mowry-Housley), "Christmas on My Mind" (2019, Ashley Greene), "A Kiss Before Christmas" (2021, Teri Hatcher), "Take Me Back for Christmas" (2023, Vanessa Lengies) and "Where Are You, Christmas?" (2023, also a fantasy with Lyndsy Fonseca). *** (Not rated: AS) Cameron Hawley's novel. **** (Not rated: AS) (Also on DVD)

Coming Home Soon

"FINAL DESTINATION BLOODLINES" (JULY 22)

"CARNAL KNOWLEDGE" (CRITERION COLLECTION) (JULY 22)

"MADAGASCAR" (4K ULTRA HD) (JULY 22)

"RUST" (JULY 22)

"ACE VENTURA: PET DETECTIVE" (4K ULTRA HD/ BLU-RAY) (JULY 29)

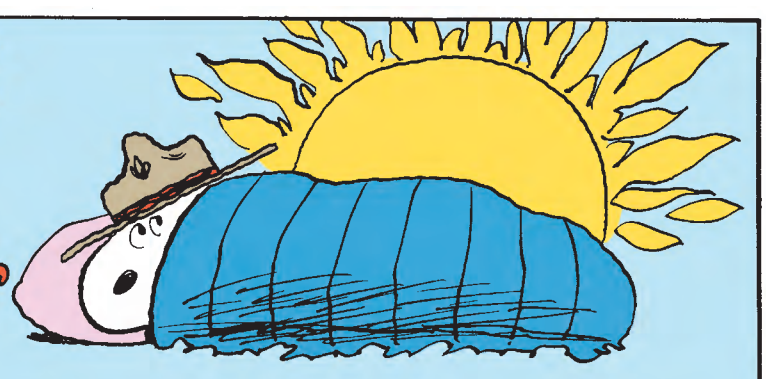
SUNDAY
July 13, 2025

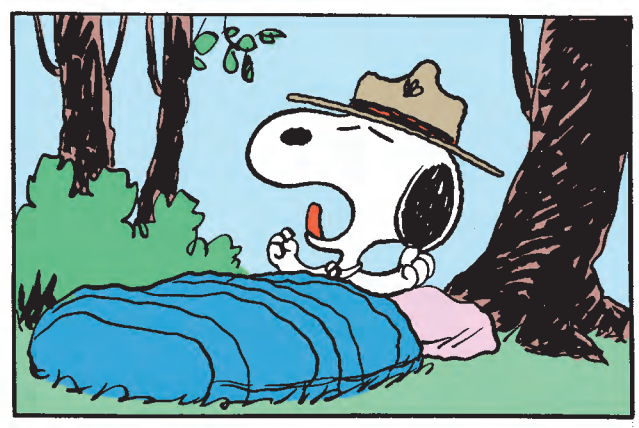
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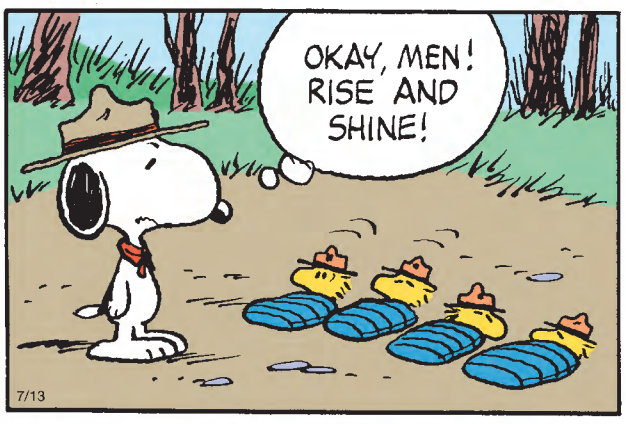
PEANUTS

featuring "Good ol' CharlieBrown"

by SCHULZ

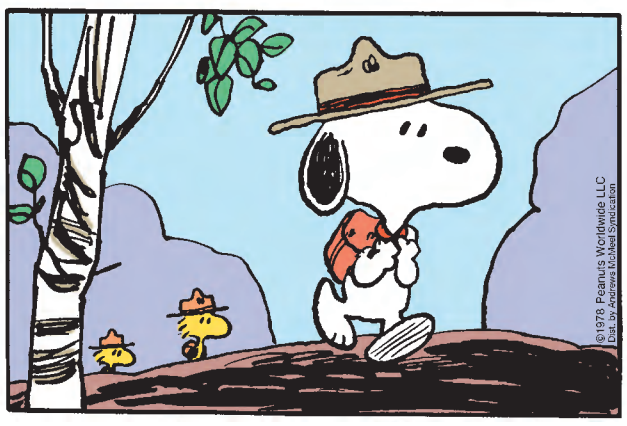


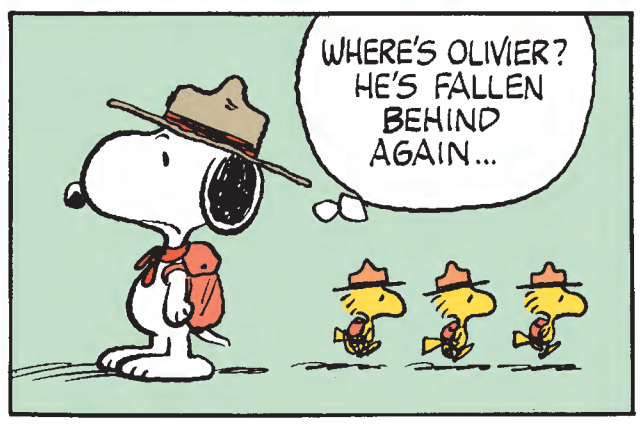










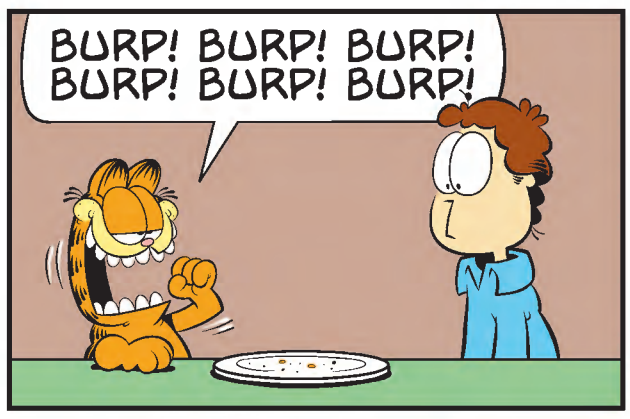


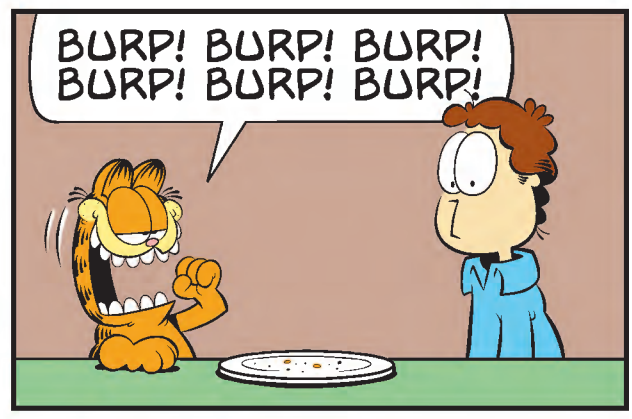


GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS

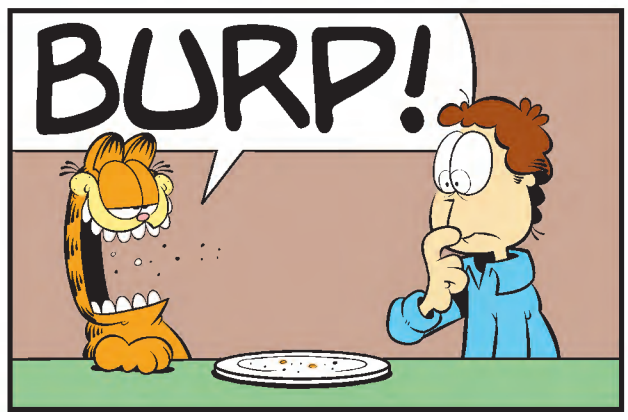


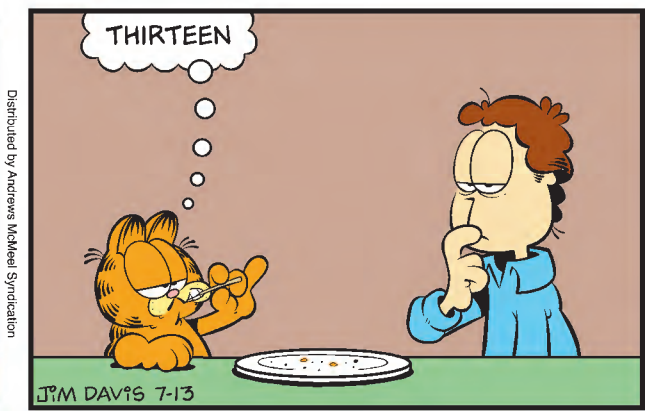




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TAKE IT FROM THE TINKERSONS

BY BILL BETTWY













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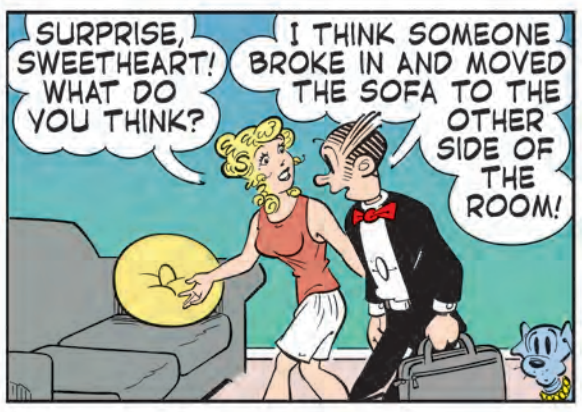
CLOSE TO HOME

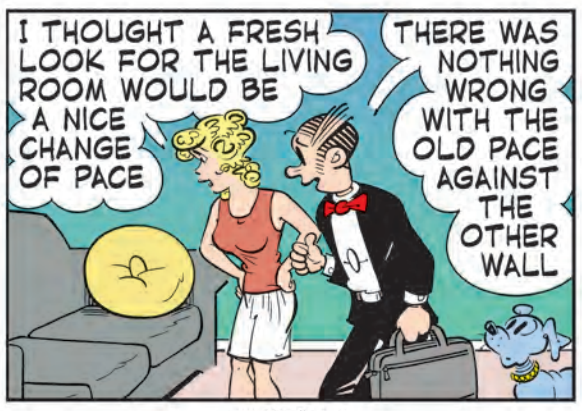
BY JOHN McPHERSON



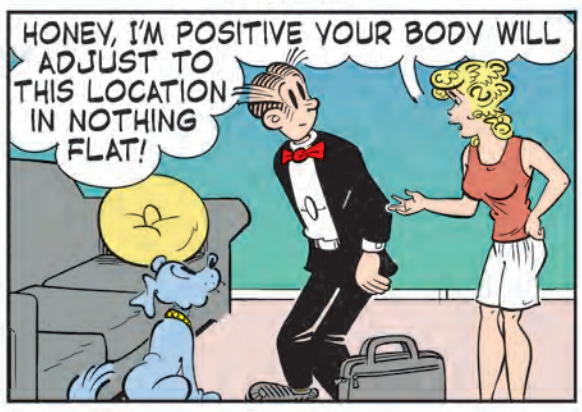
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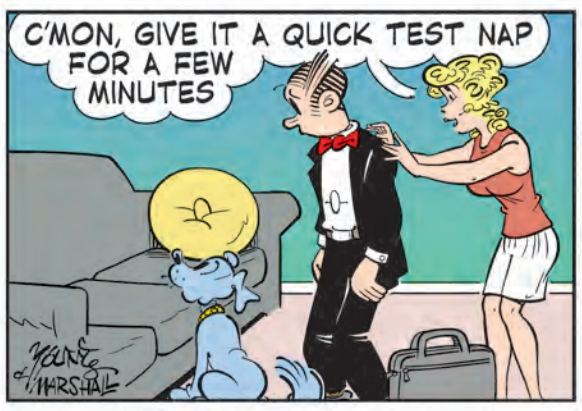
BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL



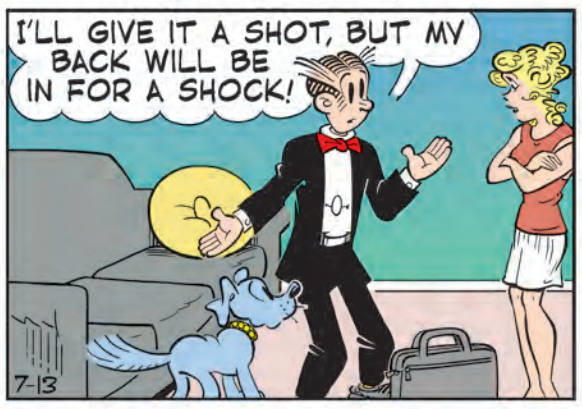


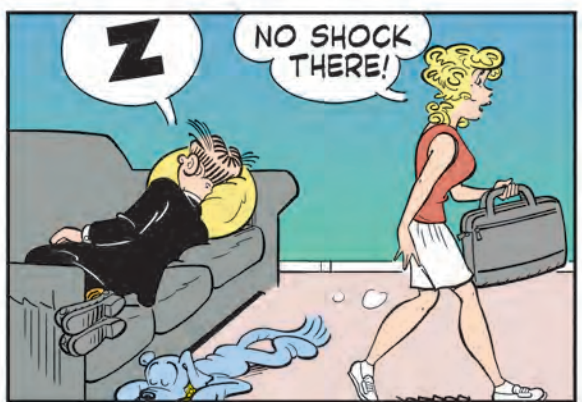
www.blondie.com





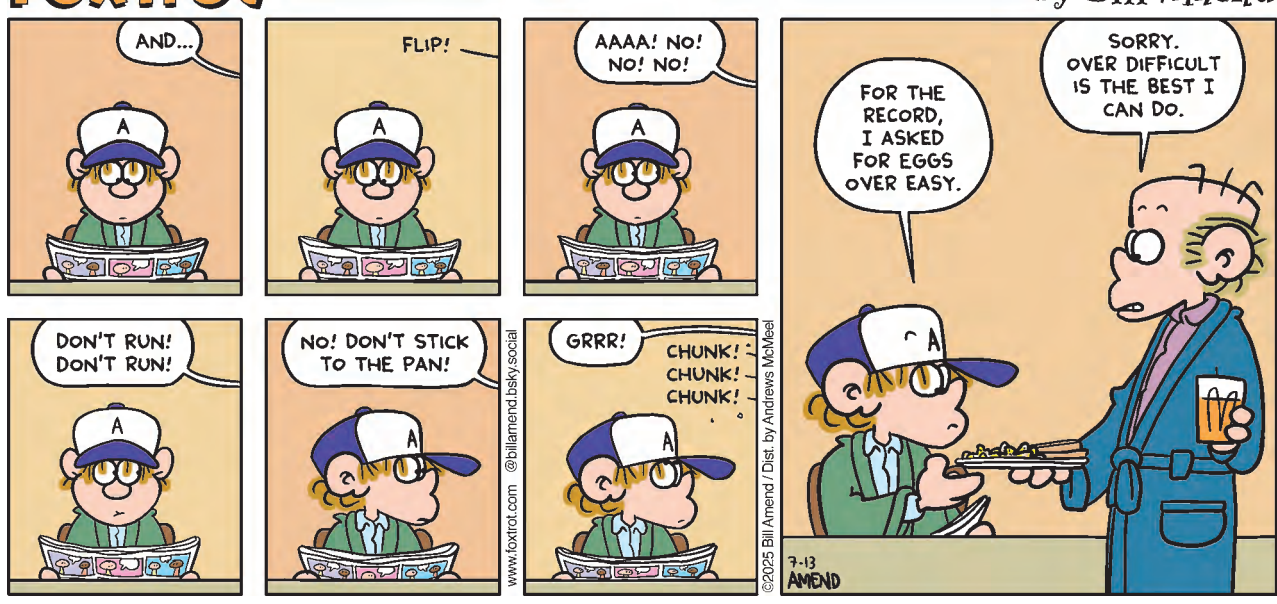
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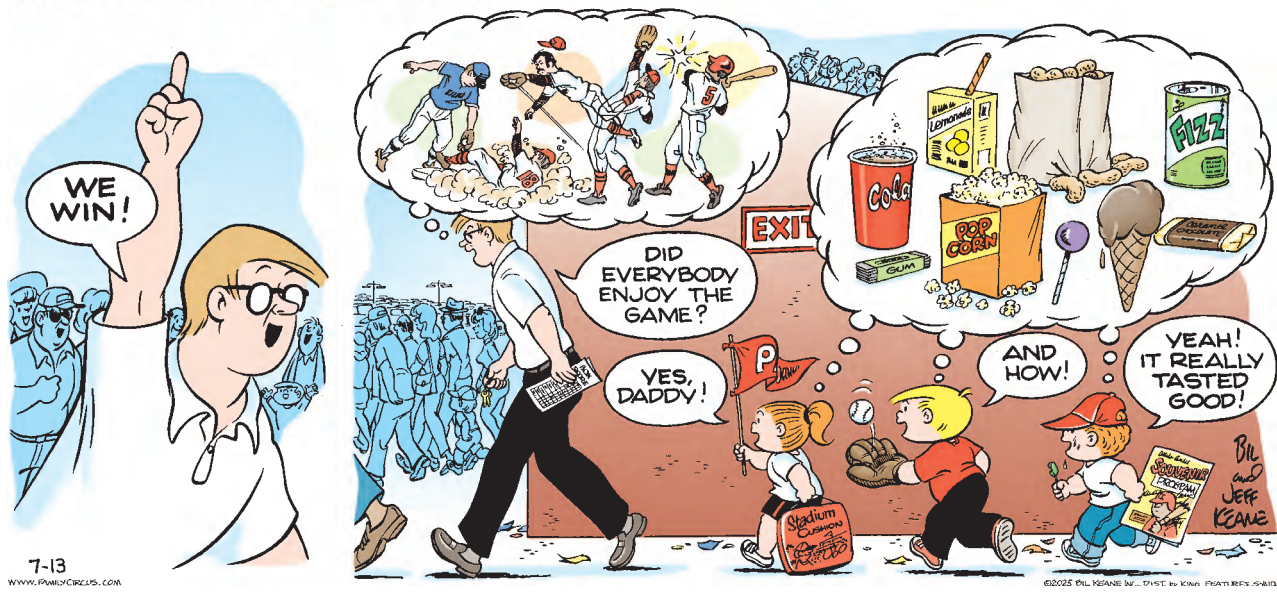
FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



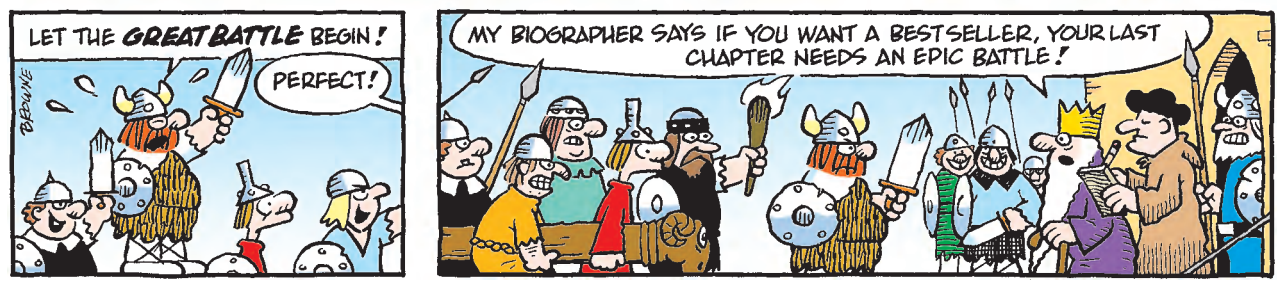
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HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE

by Dik Browne

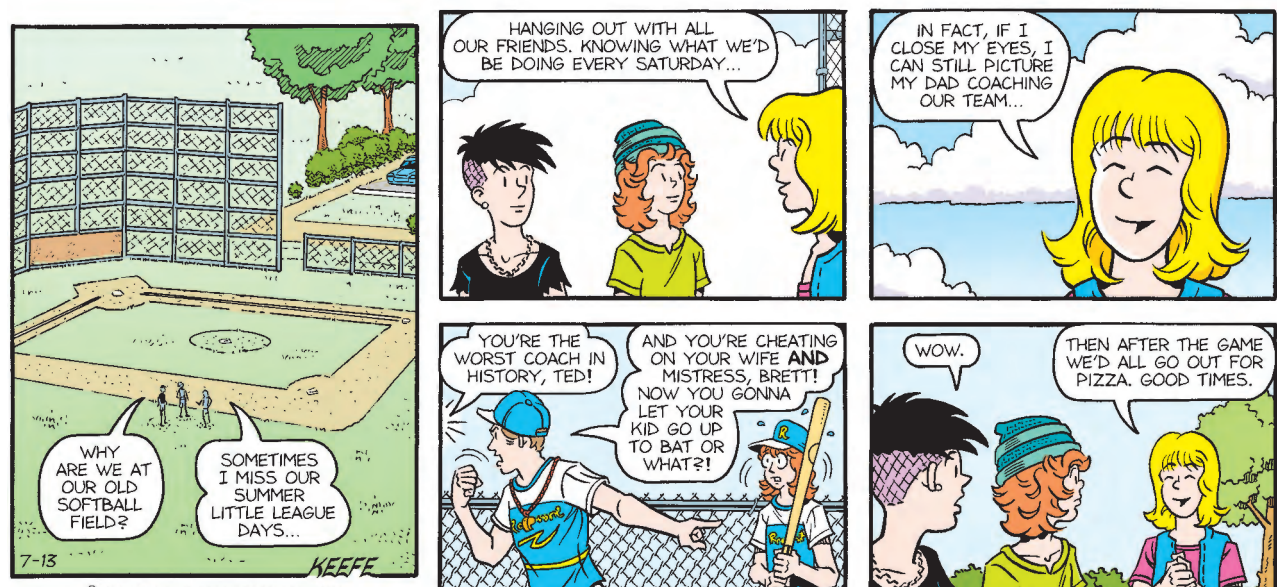






SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE

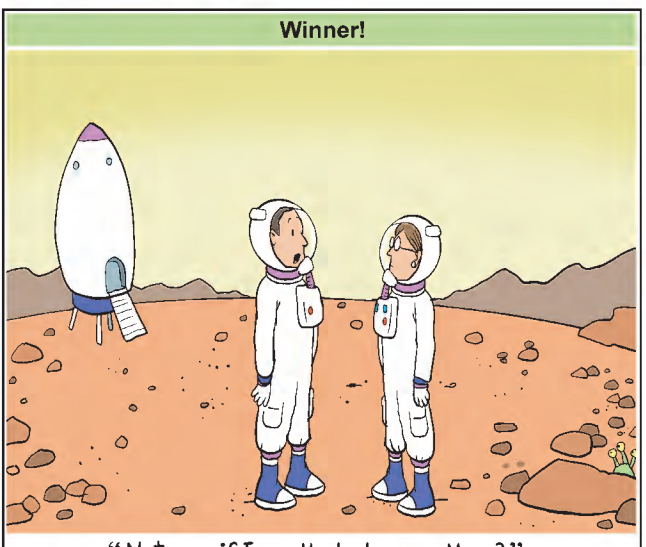


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CAPTION IT!

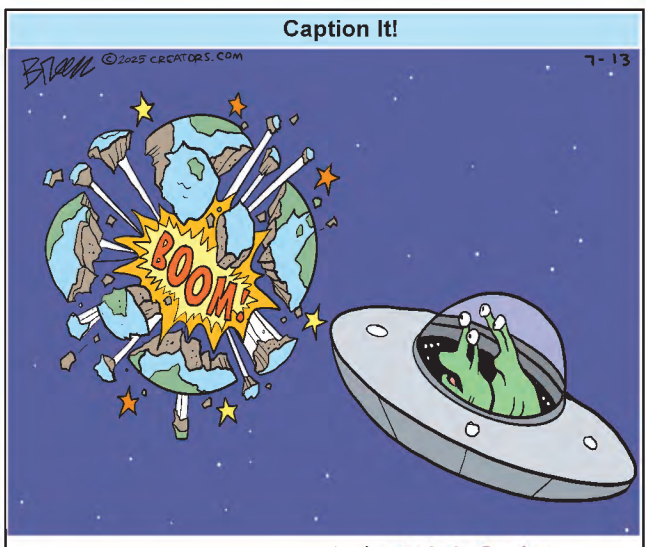
by Steve Breen

Winner!



"Not even if I was the last man on Mars?"
—Diane Kerivan, Groveland, MA

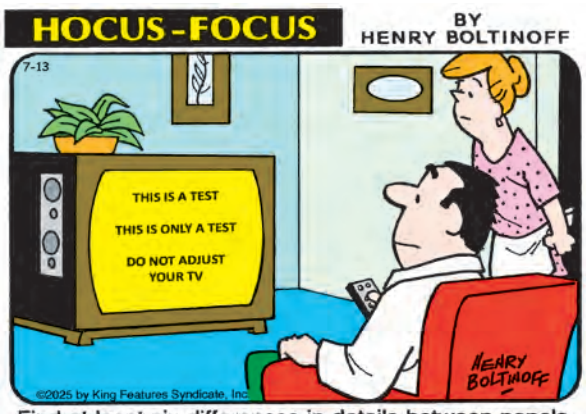
Caption It!



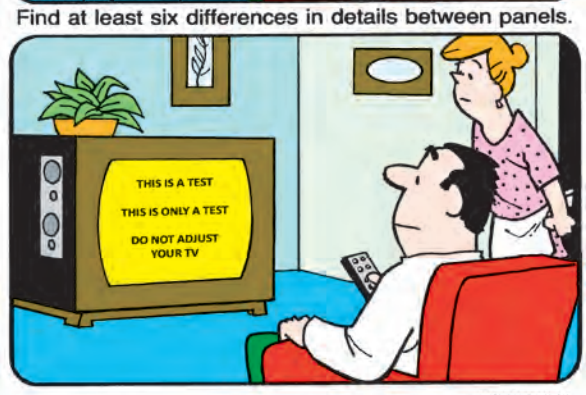
Email submissions along with your name and town to captionitcartoon@gmail.com.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

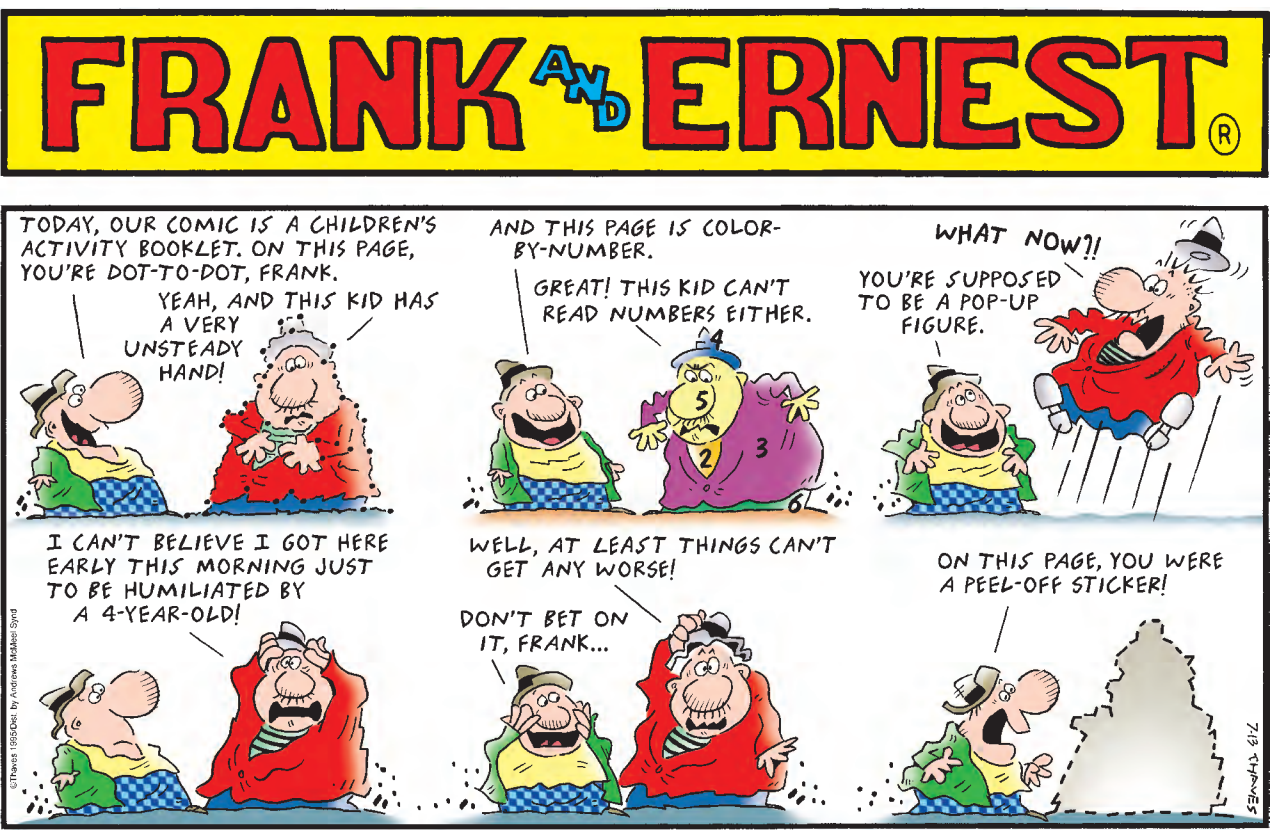


Find at least six differences in details between panels.



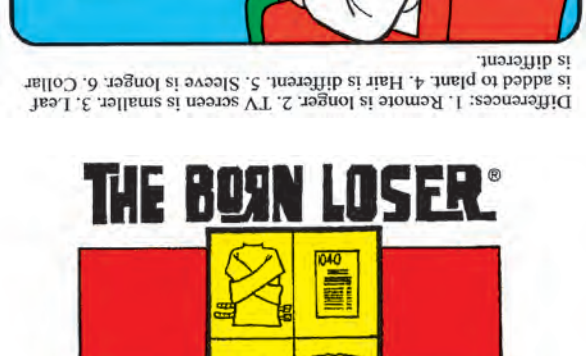
Differences: 1. Remote is longer. 2. TV screen is smaller. 3. Leaf is added to plant. 4. Hair is different. 5. Sleeve is longer. 6. Collar is different.

FRANK AND ERNEST®



THE BORN LOSER®

by Art & Chip Sansom



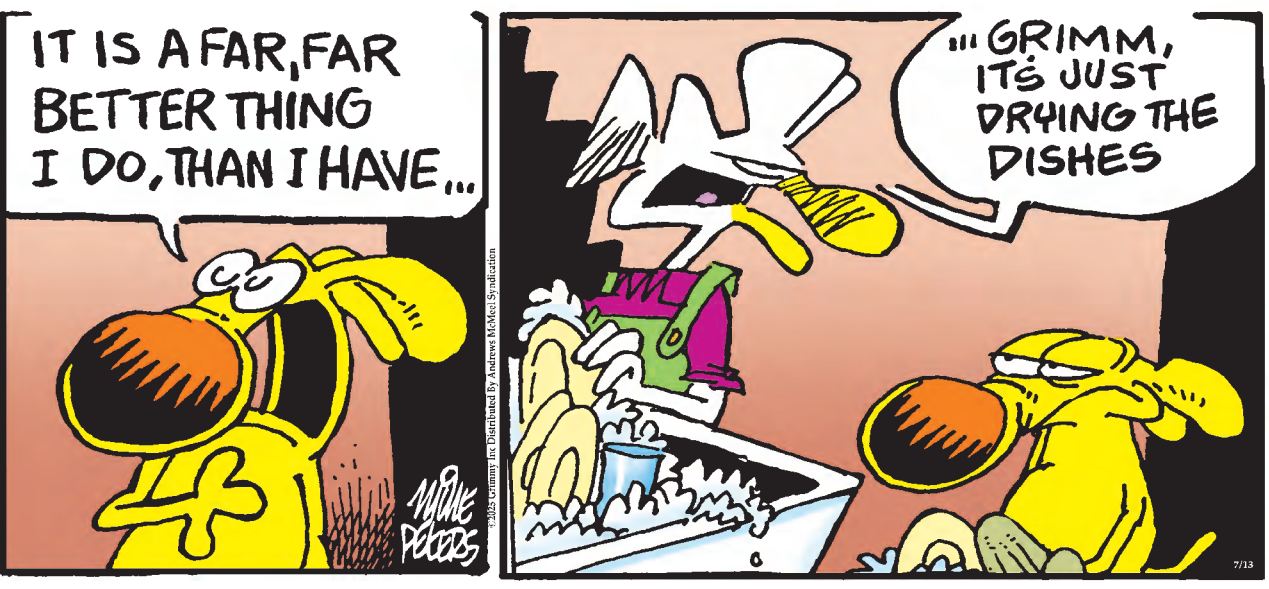






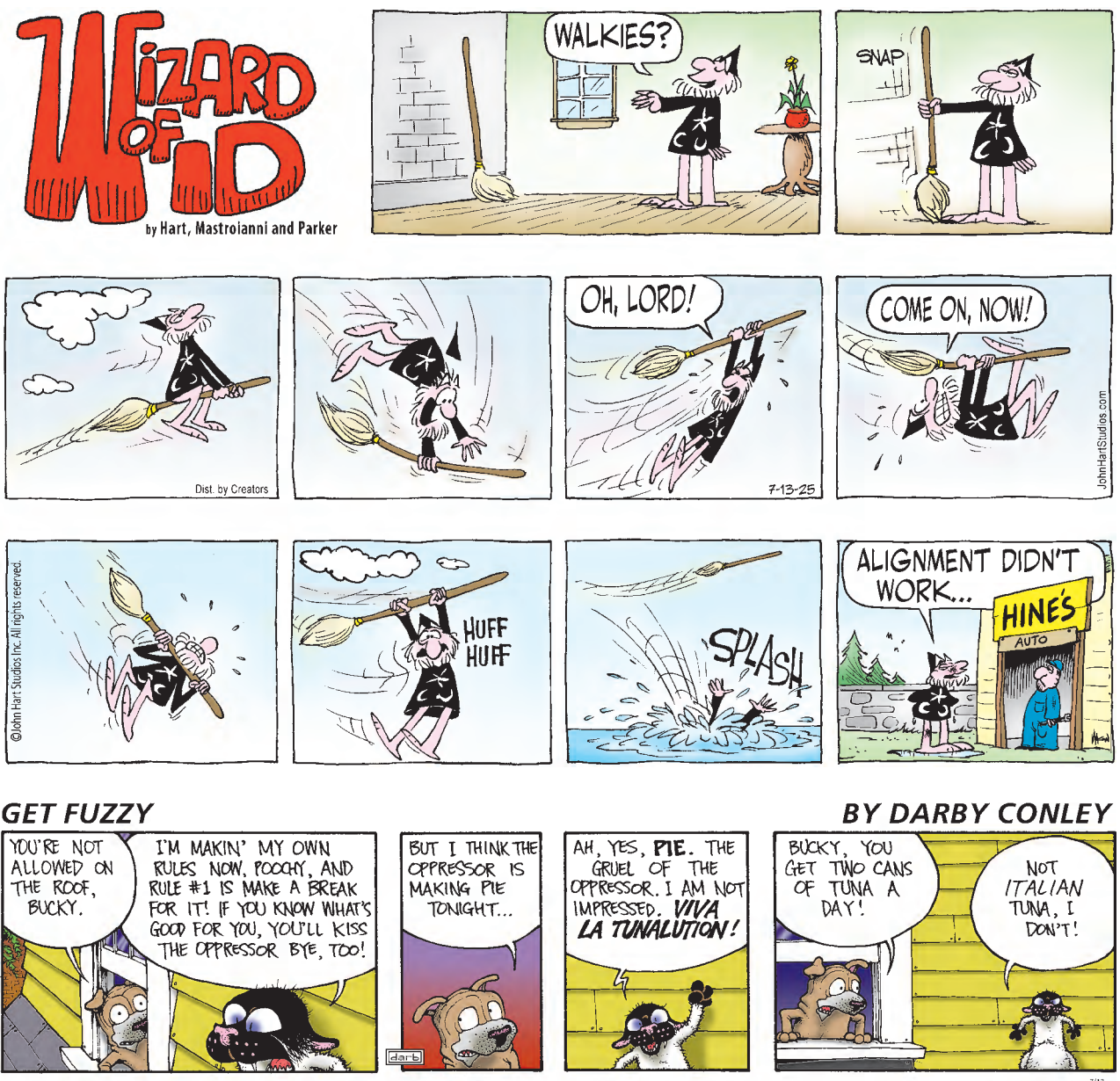
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS



WIZARD OF ID

by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker

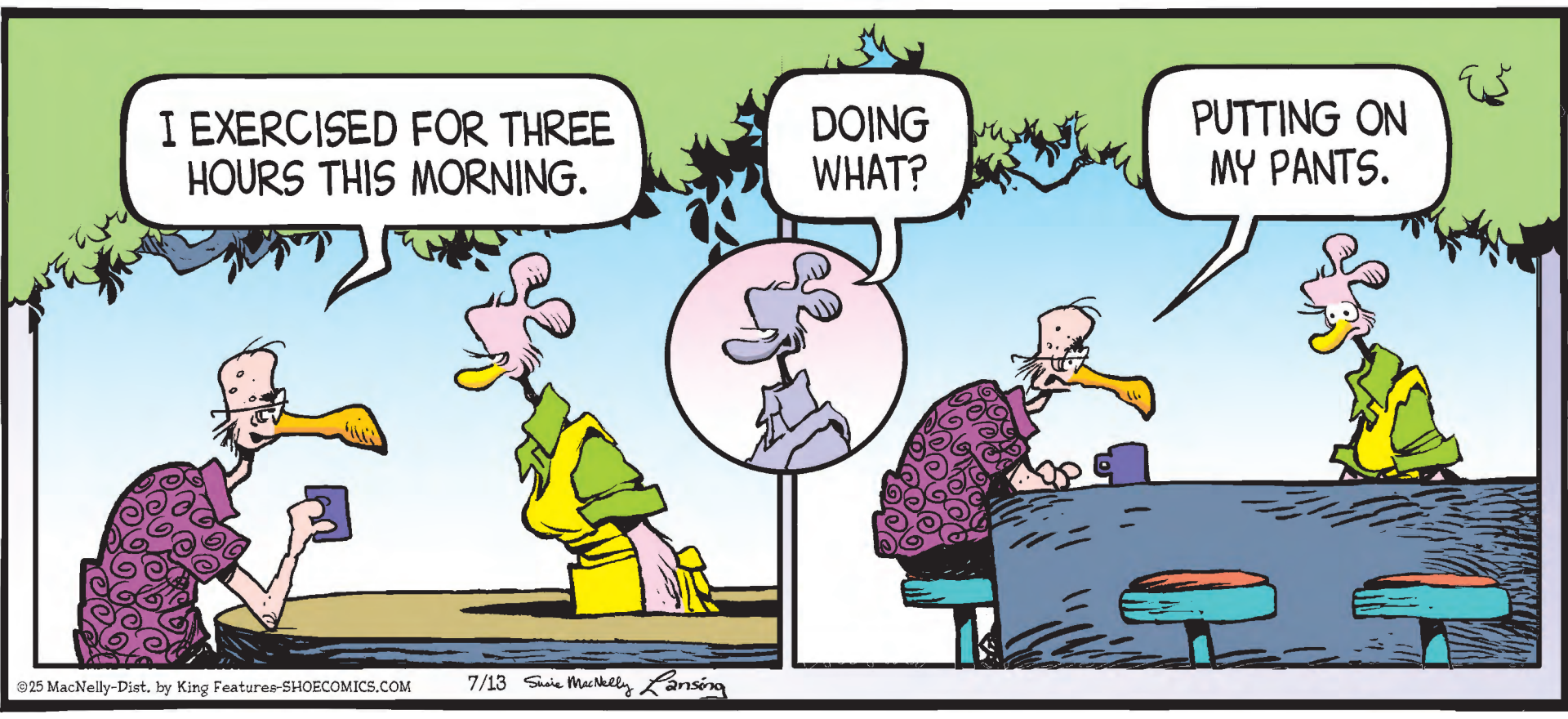


GET FUZZY

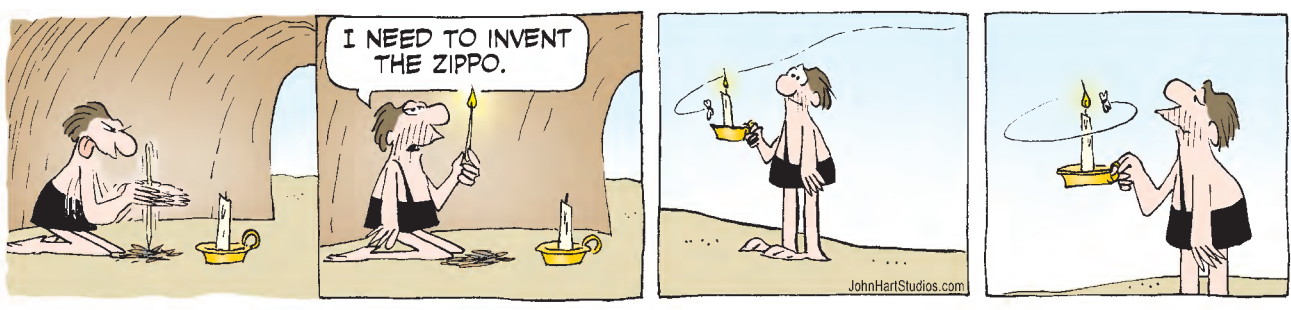
BY DARBY CONLEY

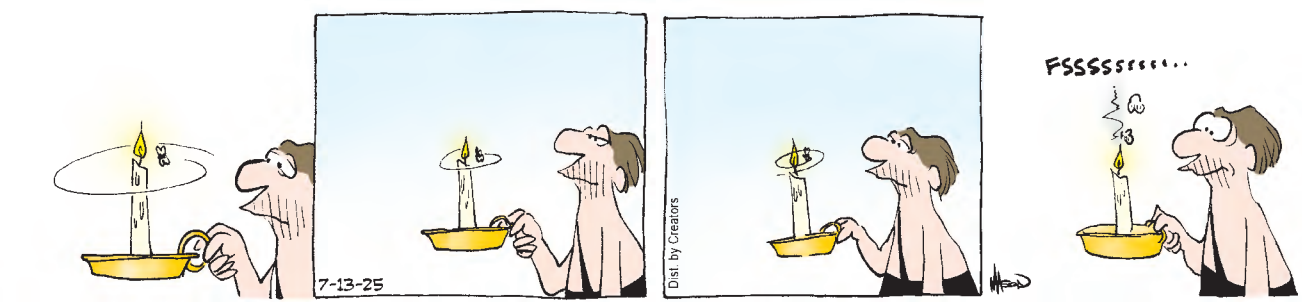
SHOE

BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY





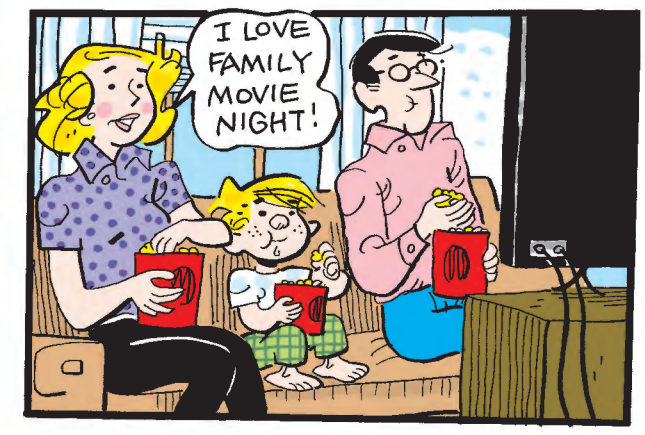


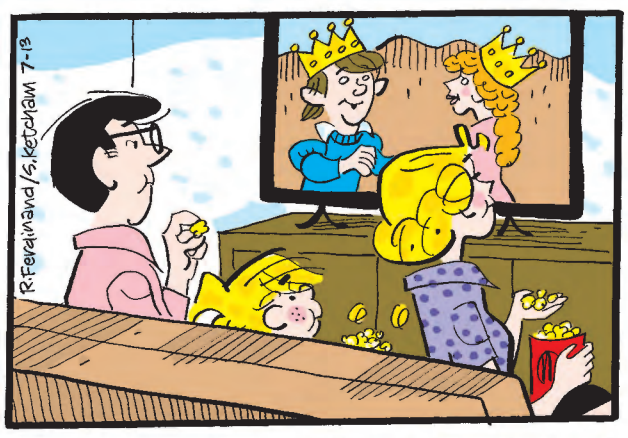


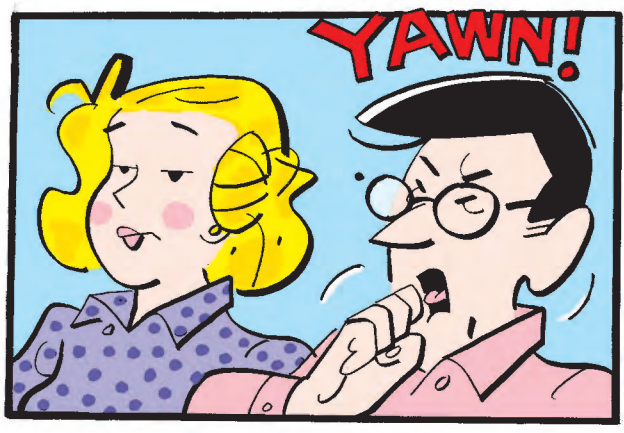


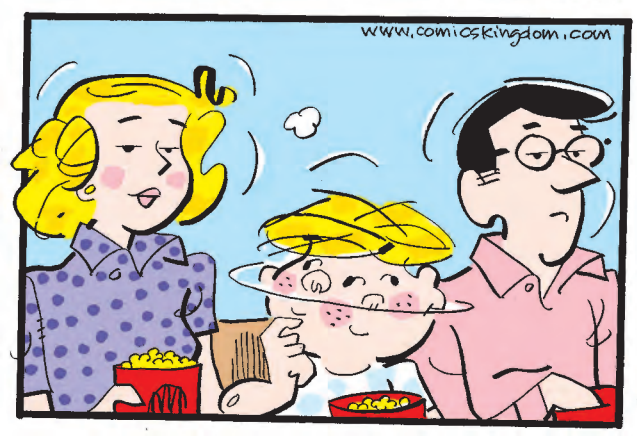
DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

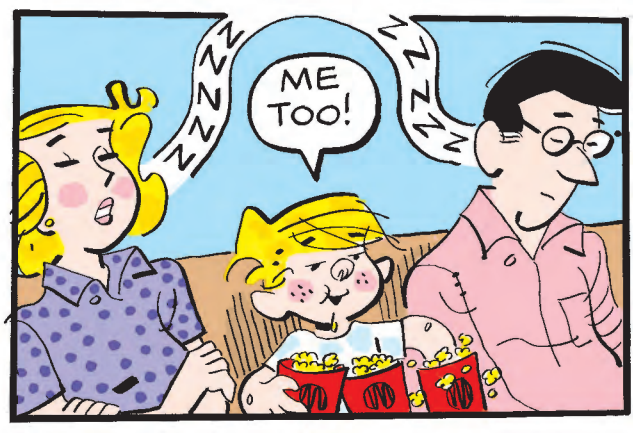


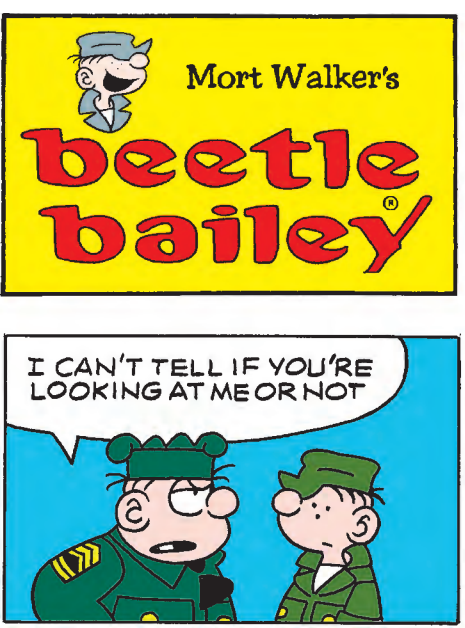






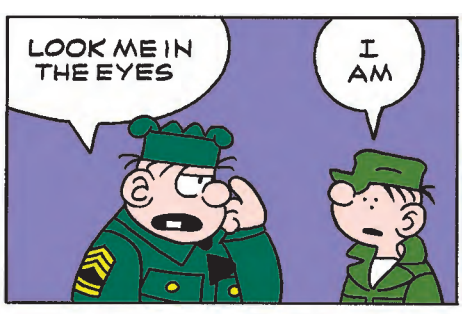


















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