**SPORTS:** P-15's look for fresh start heading into playoffs **B1**

the Sumter ITEM

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**An eVAC Magnetics employee holds magnets being tested at the facility in Sumter on Nov. 17, 2025.**

# VAC, eVAC acquisition will create integrated rare earth magnet platform

**BY BRUCE MILLS**
bruce@theitem.com

In a move to create an integrated domestic business model from raw material to the finished product for rare earth magnets, a U.S.-based critical minerals company has acquired a growing local manufacturer's parent firm.

In a June 23 announcement, Energy Fuels acquired leading advanced magnetics company VAC and its subsidiaries

SEE **ENERGY FUELS,** PAGE A9

# *Park honoring longtime Sumter Mayor McElveen officially opens*

On Thursday morning, City of Sumter officials, community members, families and friends officially opened Joe McElveen Park, honoring Sumter's longtime major. "As mayor for more than two decades, Joe McElveen championed parks, recreation, downtown revitalization and countless projects that continue to improve the quality of life in our city today. His dedication to public service and his love for Sumter left a lasting legacy that will be enjoyed for years to come," the city posted on its Facebook page. "Thank you to everyone who joined us on Broad Street as we celebrated this special milestone and officially welcomed Joe McElveen Park to our community. We look forward to seeing families, friends, and visitors enjoy this beautiful new park for many years to come." McElveen served as Sumter's mayor for 20 years, on Sumter City Council and in the S.C. House of Representatives and retired from the mayor's seat in 2020. The park is just off the Broad Street entrance to Prisma Health Shot Pouch Greenway.

PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL PITTMAN / THE SUMTER ITEM




PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL PITTMAN / THE SUMTER ITEM

**S.C. Speaker of the House Rep. Murrell Smith, R-Sumter, speaks during the grand opening of Joe McElveen Park on Thursday morning. Community members gathered at the park and green space on Broad Street for a ribbon cutting, officially opening the space. See more photos on A9.**



**Joe McElveen, longtime former City of Sumter mayor for whom the park is named, speaks during the opening ceremony for the park.**



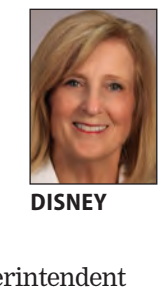
# McLeod, Disney say fellow Sumter School District board trustees need to let Gary be superintendent

## Both board members supported district leader's first budget

**BY BRUCE MILLS**
bruce@theitem.com

While two of Sumter school board's leaders expressed concern and did not support the new superintendent's first budget, two other trustees say they think Gerald Gary is leading the district on the right path.

Board members Bonnie Disney and Matthew "Mac" McLeod spoke recently after a board majority approved the new budget and said Gary is addressing core academic needs with hiring some top-level leaders in district office positions. Both also think if the board will stay out of his way, the district will be successful.



DISNEY



McLEOD

According to McLeod, the superintendent needs to have the authority to hire the staff he thinks is needed and he trusts, and "he does not need to be micromanaged in any way."

In Sumter School District's new $176.6 million budget for fiscal 2026-27, Gary requested six new district office positions, plus a partial new post with the reclassification of the former executive director of operations to a chief operations officer. The COO position is an upgrade in pay to the former role.

The six new posts include a deputy superintendent, director of secondary education,

SEE **BUDGET,** PAGE A9

**INSIDE**

New Sumter school board meeting format changes begin Monday **A2**

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**George Washington Maple**
**Sue Triplett Towery**
**Farincee Ann James**
**Lakevia Durant**
**Rosa White**
**Retired Sgt. Maj. Johnnie A. Gore Jr.**
**Donald Francis Henry Jr.**
**Frances Wilson McLeod**
**Joe Louis Anderson**
**Nichole Alaine Eron Cribb**

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the Sumter ITEM

# SECOND FRONT

**E-mail:** pressrelease@theitem.com

## New Sumter school board meeting format changes begin Monday

### Executive session moves to 6 p.m.; regular meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

**BY BRUCE MILLS**
bruce@theitem.com

At the request of new Superintendent Gerald Gary, Sumter school board recently agreed by a unanimous vote to make board meeting calendar adjustments for efficiency purposes, and those changes will begin with Monday's meeting.

The meeting format changes for the new fiscal year, which begins now and runs through June 2027, include maintaining the first regularly scheduled monthly board meeting generally held on the second Monday but reserving the second scheduled monthly board meeting on the fourth Monday solely for committee meetings.

Therefore, going forward at least for the next year, the trustees will just have one regular monthly board meeting. Historically, the full board has had only one monthly meeting during the holiday months – April, November and December – and also in July because of the summer break on the school calendar.

In one other meeting format modification that will be noticeable Monday, the full board's executive session behind closed doors will move to the start of the meeting at 6 p.m. and the open session for the public will begin about 7 p.m.

Public participation will remain as an agenda item at the first regularly scheduled meeting as has traditionally been the case. The public's opportunity to speak via public participation will basically begin after the full board takes required action items from the executive session.

So, the time slot for any member of the public wanting to make a comment to the board and completing a necessary form to speak will shift to between 6:30 to just before the 7 p.m. start time for the open session, according to a district spokeswoman.

Gary said his purpose for the changes, which were discussed in May, was during an average month there are so many board-related meetings it is difficult for district office staff just to get their necessary work done to assist schools properly in their various functional areas. Instead, he found that staff was spending too much time just planning for the board meetings.

"The purpose of the proposed adjustments is to make sure we are intentional about our meetings, and we think the modifications will fit the job we are trying to do," he said.

Gary told *The Sumter Item* recently that if the full board does not get everything done in the hour-long executive session, the board will vote to return to executive session when the regular meeting has ended.

When he discussed the proposed modifications to the full board, Gary added that if ever a special-called meeting of the board was necessary that would still occur.

On Monday, items before the board after public participation include a bus transportation update, code of conduct updates, a district project manager update and financial reports, according to the agenda that was posted Friday by a district staff member.

Monday's meeting will be at the district office, 1345 Wilson Hall Road.

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.

## Rep. Clyburn backs bill for multi-site historic national park to honor Rosenwald Schools

### Tri-county schools among over 500 funded by 'America's first social philanthropist'

**BY ALAYSHA MAPLE**
alaysha@theitem.com

South Carolina Rep. Jim Clyburn is one of three who introduced a federal bill to establish a multi-site National Historical Park to honor Julius Rosenwald and his contributions to African American education.

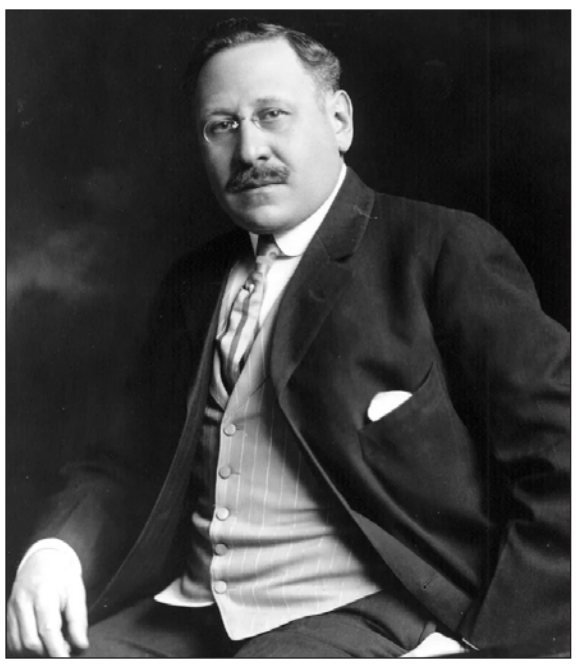
The bill, titled Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park Act, was filed in May by Rep. Clyburn (D-SC) along with Reps. Danny K. Davis (D-IL) and Steve Cohen (D-TN).

If passed, the bill would establish a multi-site National Historical Park to honor Rosenwald's philanthropy and partnership with African American communities. It would also preserve Rosenwald Schools that still stand across the American South and create a National Park Service network connecting remaining sites nationwide.

The three ambassador sites include St. George Rosenwald School in St. George, S.C., San Domingo School in Sharptown, Maryland, and Woodville Rosenwald School in Gloucester County, Virginia. A headquarters and visitor center will also be established in Chicago, Illinois, to enlighten visitors on the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, how Rosenwald Schools significantly improved African American education in the South and helped make the United States a more democratic society.

Rosenwald is often referred to as "America's first social philanthropist." As the son of German-Jewish immigrants, he helped build Chicago-based Sears, Roebuck and Co. into a retail powerhouse. He then used his fortune to expand opportunities for others.

In partnership with educator and activist Booker T. Washington, he funded the Rosenwald school building program. Between 1917 and 1932, the two men built more than 5,000 schools across 15 states for about 600,000 Black students in rural areas, according to the National Park Service. These schools were often the first for Black communities and helped improve education across the southern region.



**Julius Rosenwald, considered "America's first social philanthropist," along with activist and educator Booker T. Washington, used his wealth to build 5,000 schools across 15 states in the South, including 500 in South Carolina.**

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JULIUS ROSENWALD AND ROSENWALD SCHOOLS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK CAMPAIGN

"It is fitting and proper to honor Julius Rosenwald for his enduring legacy of opportunity, education, and community. I am proud to support a historic national park that bears the name of this man who has impacted so many lives," said Clyburn in a statement. "Julius Rosenwald helped establish and develop thousands of schools for Black children across the segregated South in the early 20th century. Documenting and preserving African Americans' rich history and enduring struggle for freedom and liberty are essential in our pursuit of a more perfect Union. Rosenwald's legacy and contributions will tell the story of struggle and perseverance for years to come."

#### ROSENWALD FUNDED CONSTRUCTION AND EXPANSION OF SEVERAL TRI-COUNTY SCHOOLS

Nearly 500 buildings were constructed in South Carolina. At a time when state support for educating African American children was inadequate, Rosenwald Schools played a critical role in educating South Carolina's children. Of those, 44 remain standing, according to the state's Rosenwald Schools Trail Study.

Sumter, Clarendon and Lee counties received Rosenwald money to build schools that offered African American children a place to learn.

According to state Department of Archives and History's Rosenwald Schools database, between 1920 and 1930, the following schools in each county received Rosenwald money:

**Sumter**
– Bracey School – $800
– Catchall and John Spann School - $800
– Chandler School - $500
– Green School - $1,500
– High Hill School - $700
– Providence School - $800
– Rafting Creek - $900
– St. John School - $1,500
– Statesburg School - $800
– Stone Hill School - $1,500
– Savage-Glover School - $1,500

According to *The Item* archives, Savage-Glover was built in 1924–25 to serve elementary grades in response to the growing student population at Lincoln High School. After Savage-Glover was established, Lincoln transitioned to serving as a high school only.
– Winn School - $1,000
– Wolf Bay School - $500

**Clarendon**
– Manning County Training School - $1,400
– Mt. Zion School - $700
– St. Mark School - $700

**Lee**
– Coopers Mill School - $1,100

The schools also received money from local Black and white communities as well as donation of the land the structures were built on. After U.S. Supreme Court ruled that separating schools by race is unconstitutional in 1954, years went by before schools in the South fully integrated, and the Brown v. Board of Education decision led to Rosenwald Schools being closed. Preservation efforts by communities and alumni have picked up through the years, turning schools that are still standing into community spaces or museums.

## CORRECTIONS

In the Wednesday, July 8, edition a front page story on Sumter school board passing its new budget a quote from vice Chairman Brian Alston on A11 should have been written as "It's not that I am against the positions, I am just unsettled when it comes to sustainability and looking at avenues to move that vision forward."

In the same story, the total projected cost for the new district office positions was listed as $870,902, and for clarity it should have been written that the total included both salaries and benefits.

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SUMTER TODAY

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**Students ages 9 to 14 got an up-close look at careers in law enforcement during the Youth in Blue Summer Camp at USC Sumter. Co-hosted by Sumter County Sheriff's Office, City of Sumter Police Department and South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED), the weeklong camp introduced participants to a variety of areas within criminal justice. Campers explored tactical operations, SWAT, aviation, K-9 units, forensics and more through hands-on activities and demonstrations. The program was one of several summer camps hosted by USC Sumter this year.**




UNIVERSITY OF South Carolina SUMTER

# Digital overload and mental health: It's OK to unplug

Smartphones, tablets, computers and smartwatches have made it easier than ever to stay connected. We can answer emails, catch up on the news, scroll through social media and communicate with friends and family, all within minutes. While technology offers many benefits, constant digital connection also comes with a cost. For many people, the brain never truly gets a chance to rest.

Digital overload occurs when the constant stream of information, notifications and screen time begins to affect our mental and emotional well-being.



**Missy Corrigan**

The result can be increased stress, anxiety, poor sleep and difficulty concentrating.

The average person checks their phone dozens of times each day. Every notification, text or social media update pulls our attention away from the present moment and asks our brain to quickly shift focus. Over time, this constant switching can become mentally exhausting.

According to the American Psychological Association, frequent digital interruptions and excessive screen time are associated with increased stress, reduced attention span and higher levels of anxiety. Constant connectivity can also create the feeling that we must always be available, making it difficult to truly relax.

One of the biggest victims of digital overload is sleep. Many people scroll through their phones right before bed, believing it helps them unwind. In reality, the opposite is often true. The National Sleep Foundation reports that the blue light emitted from electronic devices can interfere with the body's production of melatonin, the hormone that helps regulate sleep.

Poor sleep can then contribute to fatigue, irritability, reduced productivity and increased stress the following day. Technology allows us to stay in touch, but it cannot fully replace face-to-face conversations and meaningful relationships.

Research from the U.S. Surgeon General has highlighted the importance of genuine social connection for emotional and physical health. Ironically, spending more time online can sometimes leave us feeling less connected. Taking intentional breaks from screens creates opportunities to be present with family, enjoy nature, exercise, read or simply sit quietly with your thoughts.

Technology itself is not the problem. The goal is not to eliminate it, but to use it intentionally instead of allowing it to control our attention. Creating healthy boundaries with devices can improve focus, reduce stress and strengthen relationships. Try some of these tips to reduce digital overload:

– Schedule screen-free times each day, especially during meals.

– Turn off non-essential notifications.

– Avoid screens for 30–60 minutes before bedtime.

– Replace scrolling with a walk, reading a book or conversation.

– Set app time limits if you find yourself mindlessly scrolling.

– Keep phones out of the bedroom or charge them away from your bed.

– Prioritize face-to-face conversations whenever possible.

Technology is a valuable tool, but it should serve us, not control us. By setting healthy boundaries and taking regular breaks from our screens, we give our minds the opportunity to rest, recharge and reconnect with what matters most.

*Missy Corrigan is the chief executive officer of the YMCA of Sumter. You can email her at mcorrigan@ymcasumter.org.*

# Former Lee County church treasurer stole more than $400K, SLED says

**BY ALAYSHA MAPLE**
alaysha@theitem.com

South Carolina Law Enforcement Division charged a former Mechanicsville United Methodist Church treasurer after she admitted to stealing more than $400,000 from church accounts.

On Monday, July 6, Latrise Latrell Seward, 54, was charged with breach of trust with fraudulent intent valued at $10,000 or more, according to SLED.

Lee County Sheriff's Office requested the SLED investigation.

According to an arrest warrant, between January 2018 and August 2025, Seward used her access to the church's bank accounts to make unauthorized personal purchases totaling about $402,655.45. She admitted to making the unauthorized purchases during an interview with law enforcement.

Seward was taken to Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center.



ALAYSHA MAPLE / THE SUMTER ITEM

**New homeowner Lateia Robinson and her son, Kanaan, celebrate the dedication of her new home on July 9 after two years and 400 hours of sweat equity as part of Habitat for Humanity's Homeowner Program.**

# Habitat home opens new chapter for Sumter mother and son

**BY ALAYSHA MAPLE**
alaysha@theitem.com

Joshua 24:15 reads, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

And as Evangelist Glenda Miller recited it during Habitat for Humanity's 131st House Dedication on July 9, its significance lingered long after she said "Amen." It reflected the faith, perseverance and commitment that carried Lateia Robinson and her son, Kanaan, through a two-year journey to a place along Habitat Drive they could finally call home.

Robinson originally reached out to Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Theresa White in 2023, inquiring about its homeowner program and what it would take to be considered. That two-hour phone conversation — and White's warm voice and encouraging insight — stuck with Robinson long after the call ended. It wouldn't be until February 2024 that she submitted her application.

"I remember the day that she walked into our application orientation. She had her Walmart vest on [and said], 'I'm on my lunch.' She was no nonsense," White reminisced, sharing a smile with Robinson.

The next step would be a waiting game: the approval of the application. Time passed, and when the news finally came, Robinson didn't expect the outcome.

"I couldn't believe it," she said in reference to the phone call from White, sharing the news. "I said, 'I got picked?' I was in the back of Walmart parking lot. I jumped out of the car and said, 'You picked me?'"

She signed her homeowner agreement in June 2024, and from there, she hit the ground running. Once approved, Habitat requires all applicants to complete financial readiness courses, volunteer and put in 300 hours of sweat equity toward building their home as well as their neighbors' homes. White, who smiled proudly, shared that Robinson completed all courses, volunteered at Habitat events and completed over 400 hours of sweat equity toward construction.

"I knew right then what kind of person, what her character is and what kind of homeowner she is going to be as part of this program," White expressed.

The experience proved beneficial to Robinson, teaching her new skills and giving her confidence in what she's capable of. Along with her home, she worked on two other new builds in Habitat's subdivision and two recycled homes that were sold back to Habitat.

"One [moment] that sticks in my mind is the last house that we completed, she drilled the hole for the peep hole. She made sure it was not too high, not too low, made sure it was straight," White shared. "She's fearless. She'd probably build a house all by herself, having been hands-on with every aspect of a home build between all of the work that she has done."

Robinson agreed, crediting the guidance from construction supervisor Randy Wells for her newfound confidence in building.

La'Tonya Blanding, with Eaton Corporation, who was the signature sponsor for the home build, expressed to Robinson that her willingness to show up, to volunteer, to put in the time and the effort in both her future and her community is testament to her determination.

"Seeing the fulfillment, the enjoyment and the overall excitement of being a homeowner, I am proud of you," Blanding expressed. "I am proud that I can go back to our corporate leaders and say we had another good one in the program."

Jennifer Saucier, vice president of Habitat's Board of Directors, shared the same sentiment as she recalled the days spent seeing Robinson working toward this achievement.

"We love that you have stepped in, took it step by step, worked your way to walking through this door. This is what it's about — you and that precious little boy. We are so proud of you," she shared. "From the board, we sit there, we make decisions, but the No. 1 thing we think about is how those decisions are going to affect our community and those in our community. You are a huge part of our community."

As Robinson looked out among the small crowd of people gathered to celebrate her and Kanaan's accomplishment, her gratitude was palpable. From their time spent helping her build to caring for her son while she worked to build their future, she beamed with pride at the village of family and community surrounding her.

"I would like to thank everybody, from the volunteers, all the sponsors, my family," Robinson named. "I really appreciate everybody. I can't say thank you enough."

# 20th Fighter Wing welcomes new command team



U.S. Air Force Col. Kevin D. Hicok, 20th Fighter Wing outgoing commander, delivers his farewell address to the Shaw Air Force Base community during the 2026 20th FW change-of-command ceremony at Shaw AFB on July 2. Hicok relinquished the 20th FW guidon following a five-year assignment to the wing, during which he served in both the deputy commander and commander positions.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. MAX J. DAIGLE

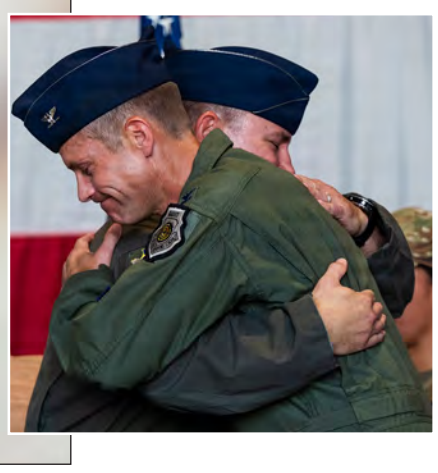


U.S. Air Force Col. Hugh E. Walker III, 20th Fighter Wing incoming commander, delivers his inaugural address as the wing commander to the Shaw Air Force Base community during the 2026 20th FW change-of-command ceremony. Walker, a career F-16 Fighting Falcon fighter pilot, previously served as the wing's deputy commander from 2024 to 2026, which included a period in which he served as the wing's acting commander.



**LEFT:** U.S. Air Force Col. Hugh E. Walker III, 20th Fighter Wing incoming commander, renders his first salute to the wing as its commander during the 2026 20th FW change-of-command ceremony.

**BELOW:** U.S. Air Force Col. Kevin D. Hicok, front, 20th Fighter Wing outgoing commander, and Col. Hugh E. Walker III, 20th FW incoming commander, embrace during the ceremony on July 2. Hicok and Walker had previously served together as the 20th FW's commander and deputy commander, respectively, from 2024 to 2026.





U.S. Air Force Col. Kevin D. Hicok, right, 20th Fighter Wing outgoing commander, and retired Chief Master Sgt. Christopher D. Griste, who last served as the 20th FW command chief, relinquish the wing's guidon to Maj. Gen. Steven G. Behmer, 15th Air Force commander, during the 2026 20th FW change-of-command ceremony at Shaw Air Force Base on July 2. Hicok and Griste's passing of the guidon symbolized their relinquishment of their leadership of the 20th FW.



U.S. Air Force Col. Hugh E. Walker III, right, 20th Fighter Wing incoming commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Jarrod W. Getz, 20th FW command chief, assume the wing's guidon from Maj. Gen. Steven G. Behmer, 15th Air Force commander, during the 2026 20th FW change-of-command ceremony at Shaw Air Force Base on July 2. Walker and Getz's assumption of the guidon symbolized their assumption of their leadership of the 20th FW.



Chief Master Sgt. Jarrod W. Getz, 20th Fighter Wing command chief, bears the wing's guidon during the 2026 20th FW change-of-command ceremony at Shaw Air Force Base on July 2. Getz entered the Air Force in 2001 and has served in a variety of Security Forces defender roles, including Deployed Aircraft Ground Response Element (DAGRE) and contingency response positions.

**RIGHT:** From left, U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Steven G. Behmer, 15th Air Force commander, Col. Kevin D. Hicok, 20th Fighter Wing outgoing commander, and Col. Hugh E. Walker III, 20th FW incoming commander, applaud during the 2026 20th FW change-of-command ceremony.



**BELOW:** Members of the Shaw Air Force Base community watch the F-16 Viper Demonstration Team conduct a practice routine following the 2026 20th Fighter Wing change-of-command ceremony at Shaw AFB on July 2.



U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Steven G. Behmer, left, 15th Air Force commander, presents the Legion of Merit award to Col. Kevin D. Hicok, 20th Fighter Wing outgoing commander, during the 2026 20th FW change-of-command ceremony at Shaw Air Force Base. Hicok received the award for his accomplishments during his command tenure, including his leadership of the wing's largest deployment in over 30 years in 2025.






U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Chad Pledger, an F-16 Fighting Falcon fighter aircraft crew chief assigned to the 55th Fighter Generation Squadron, dedicates an F-16 to Col. Hugh E. Walker III, 20th Fighter Wing incoming commander, during the 2026 20th FW change-of-command ceremony. The rededication symbolizes Walker's assumption of responsibility for the wing's F-16 mission.

# Local creatives help Sumter's Troop 2243 highlight the impact of Girl Scouts through the decades

**BY ALAYSHA MAPLE**
alaysha@theitem.com



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Sumter's Girl Scout Troop 2243 at First Presbyterian Church hosted its 5th Annual Day Camp.

Each year, the weeklong camp is offered for free to the Girl Scouts and a very low fee for local girls interested in attending, according to Girl Scout Troop 2243 Coordinator Robin Thames. Girls can also apply for a scholarship to cover the cost of the camp, Thames said.

According to Thames, each day of camp began with the raising of the American flag and ended with taking the flag down. The girls learned songs, made crafts and visited South Carolina ETV to learn about taping a show.

But the big culmination of this year's camp was putting on a production.

This year's focus was the fine arts, and a few Sumter creatives lent a helping hand. Libby Singleton of Miss Libby's School of Dance and Gymnastics taught the girls dance, an experience that proved to be memorable, as it was a first time for some of the girls.

Kendall Jones from Liberty STEAM Charter School also taught the girls about theater, including techniques to help them memorize lines, make expressions and breathing exercises. Local art teacher Renee Norton also assisted the girls in painting backdrops, landscapes and nature for their production.

After the weeklong camp, the girls got to showcase what they learned on Saturday, June 27. The production was called "The Time Traveler," which was co-written by the cadettes and choreographed by Singleton. The play showed what Girl Scouts have done across decades, from the 1950s to today.

Parents or guardians interested in signing up girls, grades kindergarten through 12th grade, for Girl Scouts can contact Thames at (803) 972-3207.







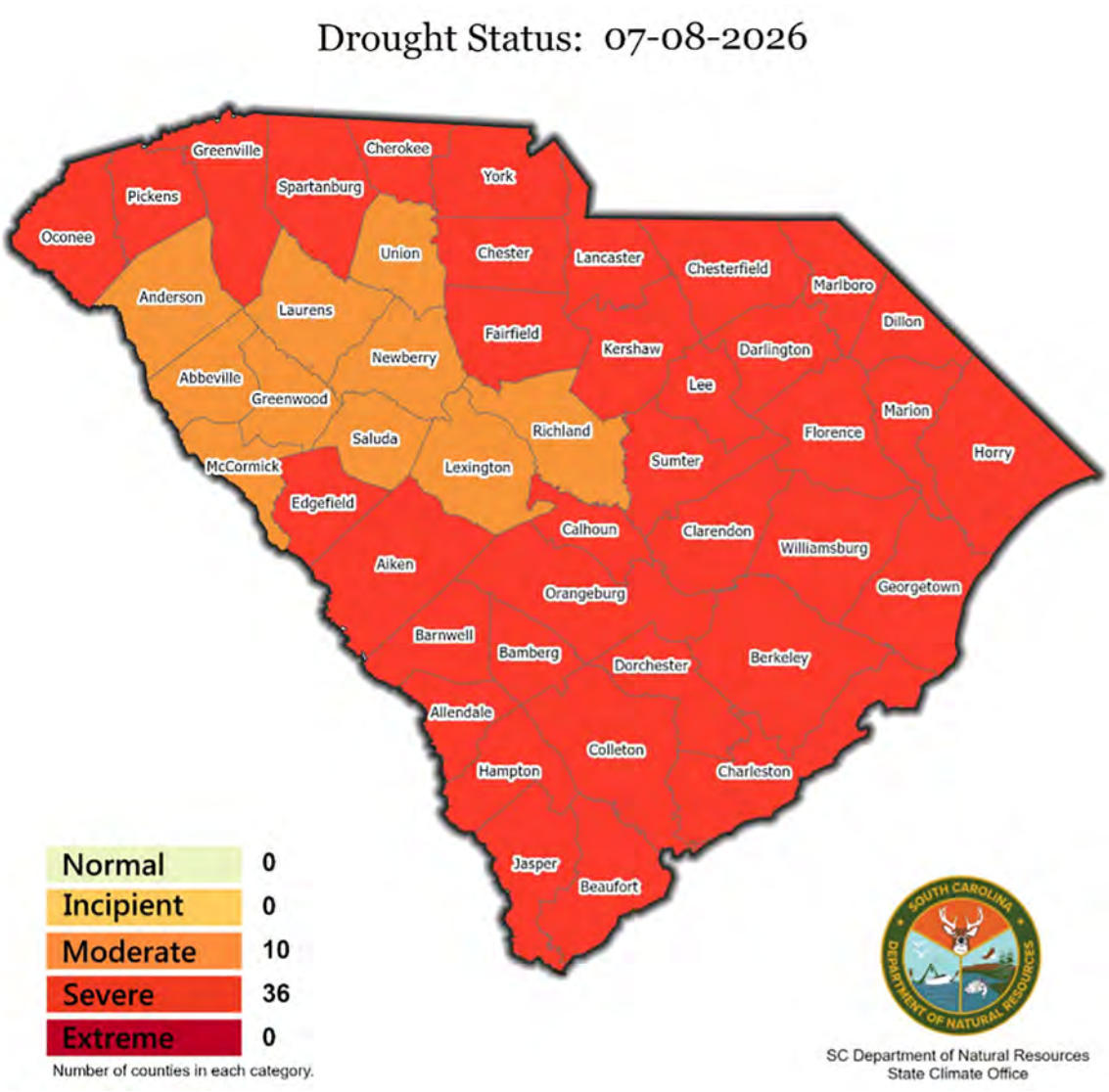
# Drought continues statewide; tri-county in severe status

**BY SCDNR**

The South Carolina Drought Response Committee met on July 8 to evaluate drought conditions statewide. The DRC is the state's major drought decision-making entity and determines drought severity as defined by the S.C. Drought Response Act to protect the state's natural resources. The act establishes four levels of drought: incipient, moderate, severe and extreme. For more information about the DRC and the SC Drought Response Program, visit scdrought.com.

The committee reviewed whether any counties should be upgraded to the fourth and highest level, extreme drought, with 35 counties already at the third-highest level.

After closely reviewing drought indicators and impact reports, the committee decided that conditions had not reached the level of extreme drought in any county. The DRC maintained moderate drought status for 10 counties (Abbeville, Anderson, Greenwood, Laurens, Lexington, McCormick, Newberry, Richland, Saluda and Union), upgraded Edgefield from moderate drought to severe drought conditions and kept all other counties in severe drought status. No locations in South Carolina have reached extreme drought status since February 2009. However, there are concerns parts of South Carolina may reach the extreme drought status this summer with the persistent pattern of below-normal rainfall and extreme heat.




Statewide rainfall has been below normal for eight out of the past 10 months. Rainfall deficits, since Jan. 1, have exceeded 12 inches in some locations. The only months with normal to above-normal rainfall, since August 2025, were October 2025 and May 2026. A few isolated locations received normal to above-normal rainfall since June 1, but the rainfall range has been highly variable, even within individual counties. For example, the range of precipitation within Horry County has been up to 10 inches. A CoCoRaHS station in Murrells Inlet recorded 11.53 inches since June 1; meanwhile, another CoCoRaHS station only received 1.83 inches. Summer rainfall is highly variable, unlike precipitation in other seasons. Summer thunderstorms can produce heavy rain in isolated areas, while nearby sees little to no rainfall. Recently, above-normal temperatures have exacerbated the drought, especially for agriculture.

According to S.C. Department of Agriculture, with the spotty rainfall over the past month, agriculture has maintained at status quo for some crops in some areas. However, dryland crops are desperately behind, as well as irrigated acres across the state. This is putting major strains on depleted surface and groundwater storage. Forages and hay are behind as a whole. We are grateful for recent spotty rainfall, but with recent and upcoming 100-degree temperatures, agriculture is desperately needing more water to get back to normal.

The committee reviewed condition monitoring reports showing that many livestock producers are dealing with sparse hay yields, some at just 30% of normal, forcing them to dig into their winter feed supplies months ahead of schedule. Other reports clearly showed crops stressed and struggling. Many farm irrigation ponds and wells are being pushed to the limit at record low levels. The long-running drought presents another challenge to South Carolina's farmers who have been facing many other obstacles.

According to the S.C. Department of Environmental Services, streamflow and groundwater conditions remain below normal to well below normal across the state and support maintaining the current drought status for all counties with the exception of Edgefield County. There are reports of some private wells going dry, with 18 to 20 wells going dry in Hampton County over the past week. As of July 2, 15 water systems are implementing mandatory water restrictions, and 40 water systems are requesting voluntary water conservation. All water systems across the state are encouraged to review their Drought Management Plans and Ordinances and implement as needed.

Both the S.C. Department of Natural Resources and the S.C. Department of Environmental Services stress to the public and water suppliers that voluntary water conservation can help mitigate or delay mandatory water restrictions. Acting early can help prevent even tougher restrictions in the weeks ahead if the drought persists or intensifies throughout the hotter months. By reducing non-essential use early in a drought, communities lower overall demand and preserve storage.

Much of South Carolina's Coastal and Pee Dee regions, extending from the North Carolina state line to the Georgia state line, continue to experience worsening drought conditions. Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) values across these areas indicate increasingly dry soils and forest fuels, making wildfires easier to ignite and more difficult to contain.

While scattered showers have provided temporary relief in some locations, rainfall has been inconsistent and has not been sufficient to reverse the overall drying trend. As vegetation continues to cure and organic soils lose moisture, the potential for fast-moving wildfires remains elevated across the Coastal and Pee Dee regions.

The South Carolina Forestry Commission urges residents to use extreme caution with any outdoor burning or activities that could produce sparks. Even small fires can escape quickly under current conditions. Residents should closely monitor local weather conditions, follow all burning regulations and report wildfires immediately by calling 911.

The S.C. Drought Response Committee will continue to closely monitor conditions and will reconvene on Aug. 6.

the Sumter ITEM REFLECTIONS



Julia Lester Dillon was supervisor of the city's parks for many years in Sumter.



The entrance to Memorial Park

# Julia Lester Dillon helped beautify Sumter

Reflections revisits the life of Julia Lester Dillon, who in 1920 was called upon by Sumter to build a Memorial Park. The residents of Sumter wanted to honor those men from the county who had lost their lives in World War I. Her commission was to construct a park on property bought by the city. The land consisted of six-and-a-half acres in the residential section of the city at Hampton and Park avenues. The data and photos used to prepare this paper were obtained from *The Item* archives, with the writings of Cassie Nicholes and Julia Lester Dillon consulted.



**Sammy Way**
REFLECTIONS



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS

Children used to swim each afternoon in the wading pool at Memorial Park on Hampton Avenue, seen here on July 17, 1946. The pool was open each day from 3:30 to 5 p.m. under the supervision of Anna DuBose and Betty DuBose of the city recreation department.




The plaque recently placed in the park by the City of Sumter



Sumter's Memorial Park was designed by Julia Lester Dillon.

It was also reported in *The Item* that Dillon "served as superintendent of trees and parks in Sumter from 1920 to 1948." During this time, she planned and planted Memorial Park, developed Anne Park, Loring Place, Warren Park, and Eastwood Park. She supervised tree trimmings and sprayed and treated for pests in shrubs and trees in these areas.

Dillon was chosen to construct Memorial Park, and two men were employed to help her. Each day she could be seen headed for the park in her little one-seat car with her small dog beside her. There were no idle hours and soon the park began to take form. The park became a haven for birds, and an attractive bird bath gave them water and a place where they could refresh themselves.

The site where the park was to be constructed once housed the home of the Blandings and later the Bowmans, two of Sumter County's leading families. These homes which were moved and resettled on Hampton Street are still in existence following a degree of renovation. History notes that many stately trees already stood on this site.

Near the main entrance on Hampton Avenue once stood a pergola with roses climbing and covering the columns and lattice work. Here the May Queen was crowned each year, and the Maypole dance was one of the exciting forms of entertainment. Swings are still in evidence and are placed in one area for the children's enjoyment. A large playground has been added to meet the needs of the many children who visit the park.

The grass fields where children once played "Farmers in the Dell" and "Blind Man's Bluff" and various acrobatic stunts were performed, with prizes awarded, still remain. One of the most remembered activities held each year was the Trolley Car parade which claimed the attention of the whole town and is no longer held. Near the back of the park on a flower-lined walk from the main entrance was the band stand where on Friday nights band concerts were once conducted by L. C. Moise or Mr. Girard. During the daytime hours, Dillon once taught those who were interested how to knit, crochet and embroider and make dinner napkins, potholders and other articles. She was an expert in several kinds of hand work.

The park has undergone a recent renovation, and activities including "Art in the Park" are held annually. The residents of Sumter enjoy the beauty and serenity of time spent in this beautiful part of our city. Dillon loved children and they loved her dearly, thus followed her rules to the letter, even counting the number of pansies they were allowed to pick. As she once stated, "Memorial Park represents the development of an idea."

Dillon was born in Warren County, Georgia, on March 9, 1871, and died March 24, 1959, at the age of 88. Funeral services were held in the Magnolia Cemetery, Augusta, Georgia.

# Life in the Palmetto State: Victory, the birth of a nation!

Well, the smoke has cleared from all the spectacular firework displays that we saw across the country for the Fourth of July celebration. The 250th birthday of this great nation was truly a magnificent time in our country's history.

All the hamburgers and hot dogs have been eaten, and all that's left is the cleanup.



Lee Reaves

The patriotic revelers have all packed up and gone about their way with a sense of pride and fulfillment knowing that our sovereign nation is still the best country on God's green earth.

Although I stayed in and didn't participate in any of the festivities, my heart was filled to overflowing with a spirit of freedom that can only be brought on by the waving of Old Glory and what she stands for.

As one might imagine, a lot of things have happened in our 250-year history since our birth, but we have lived through them.

The signing of the Declaration of Independence was just the first step in the infancy of this nation.

After our declaring our independence from the throne, there was still over eight years of fierce fighting in the 13 colonies ending in September 1783 when the Treaty of Paris was signed.

Oh, we suffered mighty losses in this campaign, but our resolve and resiliency never faltered, for we had had enough and England certainly underestimated us.

Just think, when Washington led a group of half-starved and half-clothed (frozen) men across the Delaware River and surprised the Hessian mercenaries that Christmas night, they were defeated soundly. That was a tremendous boost for the morale of the men fighting in the North. Some say that victory helped turn the tide on the war.

True, there would be much more fighting, but that victory at Trenton and later at Princeton reignited the revolutionary spirit inside the men fighting for our freedom.

Now that was in the North, but in the South, there was a different kind of fighting going on.

A guerrilla style of warfare was being played out in bloody fashion by a general nicknamed "Swamp Fox."

Yes, our own Gen. Francis Marion, a South Carolina native, was taking it to the British and winning handily.




Gen. Francis Marion was a South Carolina native.

The British were not accustomed to the "now you see 'em, now you don't" style of fighting.

The British attacks were led by fife and drum, and they would engage the enemy in firing lines fortified by musket and bayonet.

You see, Charleston harbor was the port of choice for the king's army since they had captured it in May of 1780.

The British used Charleston as a strategic port for their war effort.

Supplies would be brought from Britain and be offloaded onto the wharfs and then onto the British wagon trains headed for Camden. These supplies would be for the farther dispersal deeper inland of the goods needed to support the British troops, however, most of the time they never made it. The cagey Swamp Fox and his ragtag militia were constantly attacking them on their way to their British destinations.

The Swamp Fox never fought a battle, only skirmishes, and was very successful at it.

You see, he learned his cunning when he fought in the French and Indian War and Anglo-Cherokee War.

He studied the Cherokee in the way they used the terrain, hid in the woods and launched surprise attacks.

He used these combat battle tactics to his advantage in this war and kept the British at bay consistently.

Gen. Marion never had over 50 or 60 men total at any one time, but this war-savvy general used them to the fullest.

In any battle, he always had the upper hand because of his element of surprise and the perpetual bewilderment of his foe.

While we were outnumbered, outgunned and lacking the bare essentials needed to fight this huge army from across the sea, we had something those redcoats didn't have and never would, ownership of land, and that was sacred. Our countrymen intended to protect it at all costs. No one, person or government, was going to take it without a fight, and fight they did.

Our Americans have suffered, bled and died for this right of ownership, and we were not going to let a tyrant thousands of miles away take it without a fight.

So Oct. 19, 1781, British Gen. Lord Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown and agreed to lay down their arms and cease the fighting.

Even though the surrender came in 1781, the constitution didn't take effect until March 1789.

In my mind, the reason why the United States has been so successful in its 250 years is due to the fact the framers and signees were inspired by God to formulate this document and institute into law that which we live by every day.

However, this mantra to live by is no better than the paper it's written on if we don't give it the respect that it demands.

God has blessed us with a great nation, and I believe he wants to see us succeed, but we as Americans are the only ones that can accomplish that.

So when we won the Revolutionary War, that was only one step toward freedom. Continued freedom is in front of us, but if we let dissent and division creep in, we are doomed to fail.

Wake up, America, and look at what we have. It can be taken away so easily if we don't have a common thread of patriotism.

There's an old adage that says if you have an eight-horse team and one is pulling in a different direction it stymies the other seven, and I see that happening here.

Yes, victory led to the birth of the nation, but victory is no better than the next obstacle it faces.

The key to a great nation, just like the Americans of old saw it, is resolve and resilience, not dissent and division.

God, continue to bless America *please*!

*Lee Reaves Jr. is president of Clarendon County Historical Society.*

## Briefs

To add your event to the Clarendon Briefs, please email *pressrelease@theitem.com* with Clarendon Briefs in the subject line.

### BRIGGS DELAINE PEARSON FOUNDATION END OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION

SUMMERTON — Join the Briggs DeLaine Pearson Foundation's End of the Year Celebration from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 11, at 9355 Alex Harvin Highway. Students will be honored, and there will be fun-filled events, door prizes, food and community fellowship.

### SPAGHETTI DINNER AND GAME NIGHT FUNDRAISER

SUMMERTON — Summerton Methodist Church, 1107 Felton St., will hold its Spaghetti Dinner and Game Night Fundraiser from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, July 18. Eating begins at 5:30 (eat in or take out); games begin at 6:30 p.m. There will be a bake sale and cake raffles. All proceeds benefit the youth. Tickets are $10 each and include spaghetti and a bread stick.

### ZUMBA IN THE ZION

MANNING — Inspire Me will hold Zumba in The Zion every Saturday in July from 7 to 8 a.m. at Walker Gamble Park.

### EBENEZER BACK TO SCHOOL COMMUNITY FRESH START REVIVAL

MANNING — Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church will hold its Back to School Community Fresh Start Revival at 6 p.m. Friday, July 24, at 105 Dinkins St. Come join in worship, prayer, encouragement, fellowship, and of course, free school supplies.

### BACK 2 SCHOOL SUMMER TOWN BASH

SUMMERTON — The Town of Summerton will hold its free fourth-annual Back 2 School Summer Town Bash from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 25, at the gym, 1154 4th St. This event will have free hotdogs, chicken, nachos and cheese, assorted chips and school supplies. Music will be provided by DJ Soldier Boy. Ultimate Gamers Mobile Gaming Trailer will be on site. Door prizes will be awarded. For more information, call Mayor Keith Bowman at (803) 720-4095, Kathleen L. Gibson with K&H Resource Center at (803) 225-0832 or Annett Smith at (803) 460-6679, email Annett at *Annett.Smith1@gmail.com*.

### JORDAN COMMUNITY COOKOUT

MANNING — The Jordan Community Cookout will be held from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, at Jordan Community Center Park, S.C. 260. Parking will be at Union Cypress AME Church, 8247 S.C. 260. Proceeds benefit the Jordan Community Center Project. There will be a hot dog / sausage station including chili, potato chips and drink; fish fry station including french fries, coleslaw, dinner roll and drink; BBQ station including coleslaw and water; and boiled peanuts. There will also be an ice cream truck and a bounce house. Please wear your May Fest T-shirts and bring lawn chairs. For information, contact *coretta@jordancommujnity.com*.

# The Clarendon Sun CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINE TUESDAY 11AM

## LEGAL NOTICES

### Summons & Notice

STATE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CLARENDON
IN THE COURT
OF COMMON PLEAS
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
2026-CP-14-00169
SUMMONS
(Action to Quiet Tax Title and Confirmation of Title in Plaintiff)
(Non-Jury)

Shakindan Singleton,
Plaintiff,
vs.
Matt Evans as Treasurer of Clarendon County, Vicki Ramos, Tommy Grubbs, Brian Grubbs, Gerald Grubbs, defaulting tax payers, their heirs and assigns, and also all other firms and
corporations entitled to claim under, by and through Vicki Ramos, Tommy Grubbs, Brian Grubbs, Gerald Grubbs and all other persons or entities unknown claiming any right, title, interest, estate in or lien upon the real
estate described herein, and also any unknown adults being as a class designated as John Doe, and also any unknown infants or persons under disability being as a class designated as Richard Roe.
Defendants.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer
to the said Complaint on the Plaintiff or Patrick M. Killen, Esquire, at his office located at
8 Law Range, Sumter, South Carolina, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

NOTICE OF FILING
YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Summons and Complaint were filed with the Clerk of Court for Clarendon County, South Carolina on March 19, 2026. John
S. Keffer, Esquire, whose address is 10 Law Range, Sumter, SC 29150, has been named
Guardian ad Litem Nisi to represent any unknown minors and persons under disability
who have or may claim an interest in the subject-property.

KILLEN LAW FIRM, LLC
s/Patrick M. Killen
Patrick M. Killen
Attorney for the Plaintiff
8 Law Range
Sumter, South Carolina 29150
(803) 774-5031
(803) 774-5028 (Fax)
patrick@killenlawfirm.com
Sumter, South Carolina
March 18, 2026

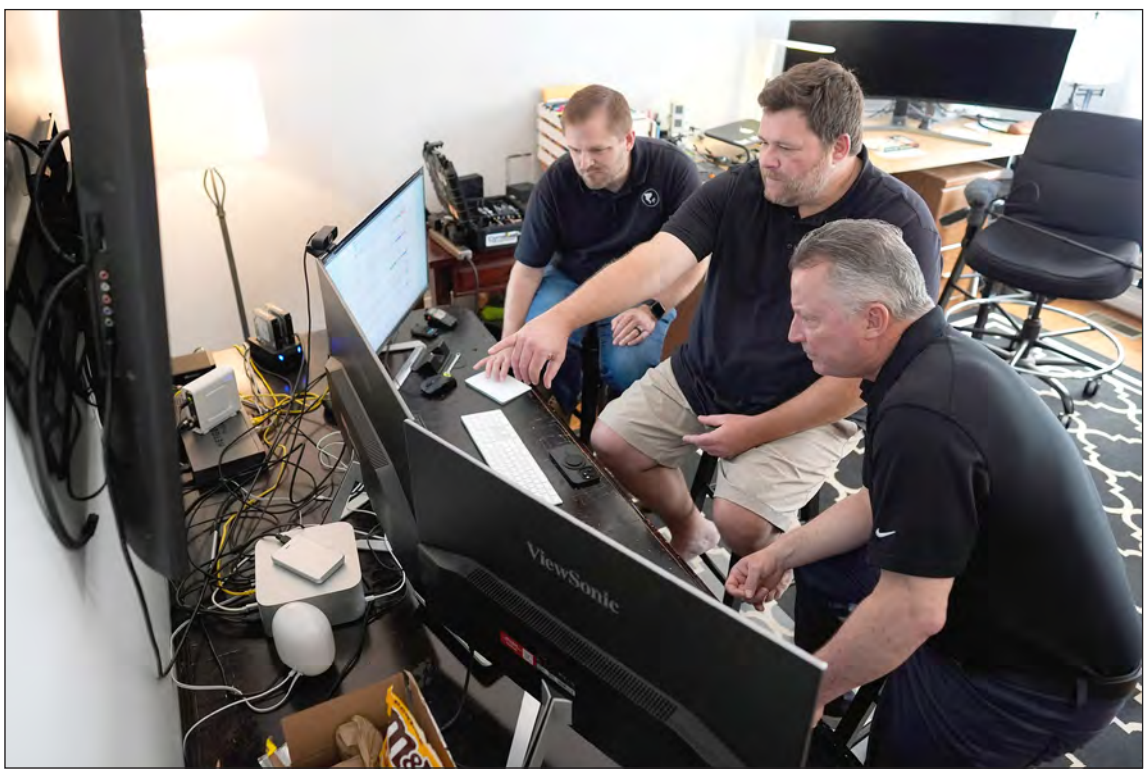
### Notice of Sale

NOTICE OF SALE 2026-CP-14-00022
BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc. against The Personal Representative, if any, whose name is unknown, of the Estate of Denny Junior Pugh; Evelyn M. Pugh aka Evelyn McCray Pugh, and any other Heirs-at-Law or Devisees of Denny Junior Pugh, Deceased, their heirs, Personal Representatives, Administrators, Successors and Assigns, and all other persons entitled to claim through them; all unknown persons with any right, title or interest in the real estate described herein; also any persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as John Doe; and any unknown minors or persons under a disability being a class designated as Richard Roe, I, the undersigned Master in Equity for Clarendon County, will sell on August 3, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., or on another date, thereafter as approved by the Court, at the County Courthouse in Manning, South Carolina, to the highest bidder, the following described property, to-wit: All that certain piece, parcel or tract of land together with the buildings and improvements thereon, if any, lying, being and situate in the County of Clarendon, State of South Carolina, containing 1.60 acres, more or less, shown on that certain plat by Robert G. Mathis, PLS, dated January 14, 1998 and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Clarendon County in Plat Book S-53 at Page 163. 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. Also includes a mobile/manufactured home, a 2020 TRUT VIN: CLH043055TNAB This being the same property conveyed to Denny Junior Pugh and Evelyn M. Pugh as Joint Tenants with Rights of Survivorship by deed of Paul B. Burke, Sr., dated March 19, 2009 and recorded on April 1, 2009 in Deed Book 729 at Page 116. Thereafter, upon information and belief, Denny Junior Pugh passed on February 16, 2024 leaving the Property to Evelyn M. Pugh by right of surivorship deed. TMS No. 124-00-01-011-00 and 124-00-01-011-02 (MH) Property Address: 6488 Silver Road, Manning, SC 29102 TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity at conclusion of the bidding, five per cent (5%) of said bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, 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 successful bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at time of bid or comply with the other terms of the bid within twenty (20) days, then the Master in Equity may resell the property on the same terms and conditions (at the risk of the said defaulting 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. The successful bidder will be required to pay for documentary stamps on the Deed and interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to the date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 9.8000%. THIS SALE IS SUBJECT TO ASSESSMENTS, COUNTY TAXES, EXISTING EASEMENTS, EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD, AND OTHER SENIOR ENCUMBRANCES. No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will conclude at the fall of the gavel on the date of the sale. 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. Riley Pope & Laney, LLC Post Office Box 11412 Columbia, SC 29211 (803) 799-9993 Attorneys for Plaintiff 8066

### Notice of Sale

NOTICE OF SALE 2026-CP-14-00211
BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc. against Thomas Canty aka Thomas Clifton Canty, I, the undersigned Master in Equity for Clarendon County, will sell on August 3, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., or on another date, thereafter as approved by the Court, at the County Courthouse in Manning, South Carolina, to the highest bidder, the following described property, to-wit: All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, lying, being and situate in School District Number 2 of the County of Clarendon, State of South Carolina, containing 0.69 acre, more or less, according to the plat hereinafter referred to, and bounding and measuring as follows: On the Northeast by lands of Rosa Canty and measuring thereon 277.92 feet; on the Southeast by lands of Rosa Canty and measuring thereon 85.41 feet; on the Southwest by lands of Rosa Canty and measuring thereon 279.19 feet; on the Northwest by South Carolina Highway S-14-365 and measuring thereon 130.79 feet. For a more particular description of said lot, reference may be had to a plat made by Robert G. Mathis Land Surveying, dated May 17, 1999 and recorded as a part of that certain deed recorded May 20, 1999 in the Clerk of Court's Office for Clarendon County in Deed Book 375 at Page 203. Also includes a mobile/manufactured home, a 2025 SNRG VIN: SGI027977TNAC This being the same property conveyed to Thomas Canty by deed of Rosa Canty dated May 20, 1999 and recorded on May 20, 1999 in Deed Book A0375 at Page 203. TMS No. 086-00-03-035-00 and 086-00-03-035-04 (MH) Property Address: 1530 Brown Road, Manning, SC 29102 TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity at conclusion of the bidding, five per cent (5%) of said bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, 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 successful bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at time of bid or comply with the other terms of the bid within twenty (20) days, then the Master in Equity may resell the property on the same terms and conditions (at the risk of the said defaulting 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. The successful bidder will be required to pay for documentary stamps on the Deed and interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to the date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 12.5400%. THIS SALE IS SUBJECT TO ASSESSMENTS, COUNTY TAXES, EXISTING EASEMENTS, EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD, AND OTHER SENIOR ENCUMBRANCES. No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will conclude at the fall of the gavel on the date of the sale. 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. Riley Pope & Laney, LLC Post Office Box 11412 Columbia, SC 29211 (803) 799-9993 Attorneys for Plaintiff 8068





ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Andrew Leeper, left, Will Minkoff and Tom Johnstone, right, of Nashville Severe Weather, look over weather data Monday, April 20, in Nashville, Tennessee.**

# Prepared, not scared

## Dedicated volunteers in Nashville relay calm, straight-talk info during storms

**BY TRAVIS LOLLER**
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tennessee — Anyone who has watched an episode of "9-1-1: Nashville" could be forgiven for thinking the city is constantly beset by tornadoes that turn outdoor concerts into scenes of carnage and blow scooter-riding tourists onto the tops of water towers.

That may be a TV exaggeration, but tornadoes and other dangerous storms do hit the city regularly. When they do, many people here turn to Nashville Severe Weather.

This group of dedicated volunteers can be found on social media, calmly explaining the storm movement, advising when to take cover and giving the "all clear." The coverage by Will Minkoff, Andrew Leeper and Tom Johnstone draws tens of thousands of viewers who interact with them in real time. It's a service that evokes the early promise of the internet, before the rise of the influencer.

This is happening at a time when many people no longer watch local news and weather reports. Yet Kevin Trowbridge, who teaches strategic communication at Belmont University in Nashville, says an informal survey of his students found many are tuning in to Nashville Severe Weather.

"The millennials and Gen Z — and teaching college students, I know this all too well — their source of information is that handheld device," he says. "It's not turning on a TV. And it's not even looking at a traditional media outlet's online presence. It's finding sources that provide them quick information when they need it."

### THEY ARE 'PREPARED, NOT SCARED'

The rise of Nashville Severe Weather is a modern case study in multiple areas — a shifting tornado alley, a changing climate, the prevalence of social media and the value of instantaneous, hyperlocal information that can save the day or save lives.

The initiative has evolved over more than a decade from its origins as a Twitter feed and blog. Today, volunteers livestream on their YouTube channel whenever Nashville or surrounding counties face severe weather. Because Leeper, Minkoff and Johnstone all live here, they are facing the same threats as their audience.

"There's something about Nash Severe Weather that's different from the hobbyist enthusiast," Trowbridge says. "I think that's why people are following them. That's why they are trusting them. That's why they're tuning in and turning to them. ... It is authentic and real."

Leeper, a church pastor, has a soothing voice and a sign on a shelf behind him that reads "prepared not scared." He has had to leave the stream to wake up his family and hunker down in their safe space. He did so calmly, modeling the behavior of his motto. After the threat passed, he rejoined the stream.

Katherine Moffat, who works as the executive director of the Tennessee Academy of Physician Assistants, says local TV weather can be "a little over-the-top" when storms are threatening. Nashville Severe Weather, she says, is different.

"They're a little more calm and telling it to you straight," she says. "They don't get people overly excited."

### TORNADO ALLEY HAS SHIFTED

The need for their service has never been greater. "Tornado Alley" has been shifting from the Midwest plains to states farther east, says Johnstone, a meteorologist who joined the group last year after 33 years with the National Weather Service.

"The mid-South, especially down through Alabama, Mississippi and into Tennessee and western Kentucky, has been where tornadoes have been most frequent ... and people have been dying in the highest numbers," he says.

Michelle Stewart gets all her weather information via push notifications from Nashville Severe Weather on her phone. It's a service she found invaluable during an ice storm that left much of the city without power or internet service for days.

"They are very informative about, not just what to expect, but how to be prepared, and just giving everybody the lay of the land without it being too science-y. You know, it kind of feels like you're talking to your neighbor," says Stewart, a project manager at a health care research company. "They are so calming to me during those live events."

Brett Withers, a former Nashville city councilman who saw two people die in his district during a 2020 tornado that killed 24 people in Tennessee, calls Nashville Severe Weather a "godsend."

"We have so many people moving to Nashville, and they might move from places where tornadoes are rare, if they ever happen," he says.

### LOW PRODUCTION VALUE WITH A 'VOLUNTEER HEART'

The popularity of Nashville Severe Weather defies much of the logic about how to build an audience on social media. There's nothing fancy or highly produced about their livestreams. They don't try to play up danger or excitement. They certainly don't try to chase down tornadoes or run around outside in hurricane-force winds.

Their streams are visually dominated by weather radar. Minkoff, Leeper and Johnstone, sometimes joined by other volunteers, each stream from their own homes and appear in little boxes at the bottom or side of the screen. Graphics, when they have them at all, look like they could have been drawn by a 5-year-old.

Take the beloved "Dry Air Monster," a stick figure with an huge head and chomping Godzilla jaws.

Nashville Severe Weather co-founder David Drobny drew this to explain how dry air could "eat" snow that was headed toward Nashville. In a Southern town that usually sees snow on the ground only a few days each year, many people look forward to it as a mini-vacation. The monster's motto is "No Snow for You."

### ITS HYPERLOCAL FOCUS STAYS GROUNDED

Their hyperlocal focus allows Nashville Severe Weather to fill a niche left open by the local TV meteorologists who have to report on dozens of counties.

"One of the things that Nash Severe can do that even the TV stations have trouble doing is really bring it down to intersection level, school level, church level to let people know where the danger and the threat is," Johnstone says.

Their coverage is a two-way street. Audience members provide photos and video showing on-the-ground conditions and comment in the chat. Nashville Severe Weather shares that information with the National Weather Service and TV meteorologists. They also try to answer people's questions as they stream.

Leeper remembers a day when schoolchildren were sent home because of a tornado threat. When one child commented in the chat about being home alone, his heart sank.

"We just stopped what we were saying on the stream, and I said, 'Hey. It dawns on me that we've got a bunch of kiddos at home that are maybe by themselves. Hey. Here's what you do'," Leeper recalls. "I love those moments where we can just sort of put everything else aside to talk to the people who are listening, in whatever situation they're in."

It's moments like that that help them stay grounded.

In 2023, a tornado killed a mother and young child here who lived in a trailer. Leeper didn't know them, but he attended the visitation.

"It just creates a whole other emotion when you walk into a funeral visitation for hurting families when it's a weather event that you covered," he says. "It's not all action and adventure. It really affects people's lives forever."

# Wife who married young has often heard she missed out

**DEAR ABBY:** I married when I was 20 and my husband was 32. I grew up with a conservative view of marriage, so in a sense, I believed marrying early would grant me the most freedom as a woman. We have been married for five years and have a child.

Over the years, many people have offered unsolicited advice about how I "missed out on my 20s," or how our age gap is "disturbing." I have done my best to brush off these comments, but as I've grown and my views about life have evolved, these negative sentiments are becoming constant background voices in my head.

Our marriage has been generally good except for the expected stressors that come with being parents and other unforeseen struggles. There is also a big disconnect in our intimate life, and I wonder if it is due to our age gap. I don't know if we are in love or if my view on feeling in love has been romanticized by TV show depictions. My husband is kind, and he has given me the space to become the person I am today.

My question is: How do I deal with these nagging thoughts that I have missed out on life as a single woman? Am I being ungrateful for the kind and loyal husband I have, or is it OK to explore the possibility of returning to a single life and eventually, maybe, finding love again?

*DREAMING OF POSSIBILITIES*



**Dear Abby**
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

**DEAR DREAMING:** Have you expressed these thoughts to your husband? If he's as kind as you say, he should be willing to show you the romance you feel you've missed out on. I don't recommend looking for adventure outside the marriage until the two of you have made a sincere effort to satisfy these urges together. If you're not sure where to start, a licensed couples counselor may be of help.

**DEAR ABBY:** I work as a sports reporter, and I have been in an on-and-off relationship with my co-worker. We are both out gay men, but I am struggling to figure out how to take our relationship to the next level. We both enjoy going on cute dates at local sporting events and always get excited when the team puts us on the KissCam. What can I do to convince him that I am boyfriend material and even future husband material?

*LOOKING AHEAD IN INDIANA*

**DEAR LOOKING:** Because you and your co-worker have been dating consistently and kissing on camera, many people in your community may already assume you are a couple. It seems the time has come for a conversation with him about your relationship and whether he thinks there might be a future for the two of you. Even if his answer is no, it is important for you to know if the feelings are mutual. Tell him teams do better than individual players, and you hope that by speaking up you won't strike out.

*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. What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 446, Kings Mills, OH 45034-0446. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*



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## ENERGY FUELS

FROM PAGE A1

to include Sumter-based eVAC Magnetics for $1.9 billion, and a managing partner with a private equity firm involved in the merger discussed the deal's ramifications recently with *The Sumter Item*.

Managing partner Troy Thacker of Ara Partners, a major investor in VAC and eVAC in recent years, said the acquisition complements both businesses and "will create the first integrated Western rare earth platform from the mine to the finished product."

As a private equity firm, Ara invests in businesses that are reshoring manufacturing across the U.S. and Europe with a focus on technology and critical minerals that provide ways to lower overall detrimental environmental effects and decarbonize the economy, Thacker said.

His firm began investing in German-based VAC in 2023, partly to bring the technology to make magnetics back to the U.S., and Ara also made a substantial investment alongside the U.S. government to build eVAC's state-of-the-art facility on U.S. 521 South in Sumter County.

According to Thacker, Energy Fuels has mines and processes the raw materials — such as ore — that are then made into metal and finally converted into magnets.

eVAC conducts the last step in the process with the magnet production.

The key element regarding Energy Fuels is that it is U.S. based and "strengthens the supply chain in non-Chinese sources for the magnets," he added.

"In the industry, better than 90% of the processing, of the metal making and the magnet making is done in China today," Thacker said.

"So it's critical to have dedicated resources that are non-Chinese, and then the ability to process them in a U.S. processing plant. Ultimately the goal of both of our companies is to build metal-making facilities and then the magnet making that we have already built there in Sumter. So, it's a long-range goal to fully integrate that supply chain for the benefit of the U.S. customer base."

eVAC's current employee count is about 130 workers, and the goal is to reach 300 within five years and ultimately move to three shifts.

"We are still heavily in the training and production ramp-up process," he added. "So having the employees trained to go to a multishift operation is currently squarely on the agenda."

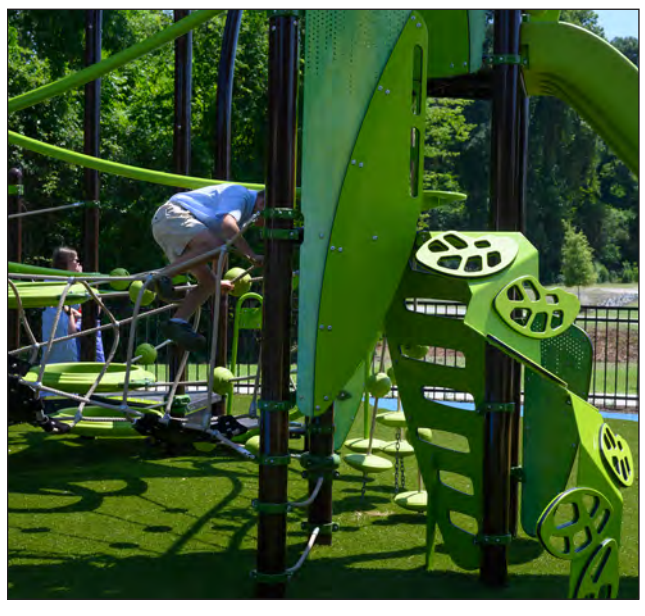
"But there is a lot of technology transfer from the German operation that we have been implanting to make sure people are trained in what is an art. Frankly, the magnet industry left the U.S. some 25 to 30 years ago. So, it takes a long time to train people to make such a specialized item."

The Sumter plant has initially served the automobile and defense industries but will expand to other industries in the future, Thacker added.

# *Park, green space officially opens*







PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL PITTMAN / THE SUMTER ITEM

**People gather at the new Joe McElveen Park and green space on Broad Street for a ribbon cutting, officially opening the space in Sumter on Thursday, July 9.**

## BUDGET

FROM PAGE A1

district marketing coordinator, procurement manager, safety director and district athletic director.

The total estimated cost for all the additions is $870,902 to include salaries and benefits.

Gary said the new administrators will help current school-level instructional staff "through coaching, professional development, supervision and holding people accountable" to improve academics. The new district leaders will also help teachers to address students' increasing social and emotional needs. Additionally — in combination with the new marketing coordinator — he said the new district administrators will help to retain and attract teachers and students and address a 20%-plus decline in enrollment in the last decade.

There were about 30 school-level position cuts that included a few instructional staff in the new budget, but all those jobs had been "budgeted vacancies" for years — due to the student losses — that moved forward in ensuing budgets, according to district Chief Financial Officer Shatika Spearman.

In his remarks to *The Sumter Item*, McLeod also described the role of a school board from his perspective.

"The public's right and job is to elect the board," he said. "The board's job is to hire the superintendent. It is the superintendent's job to run the district to the best of his ability. If we are not going to allow him to do what he believes is best to do, then we are not doing our job.

"We can't hold him accountable if we are not going to let him to either succeed or fail — that is on him. Again, we have got to let him do what he thinks is best. We can't hold him accountable if we stop him in casting his visionary efforts."

McLeod added he has been impressed so far with Gary, who took the helm on April 1.

"I feel, if everyone will stay out of his way and let him do what he believes he needs to do, then our district will be successful."

In the May and June budgeting process, Gary also called for a "line by line" review of budget items in the future to consider what is needed and what is not in the ever-changing world of K-12 public education.

Regarding Gary addressing the district enrollment drop, Sumter's last two superintendents since 2019 never publicly discussed efforts and actions to remedy the enrollment losses, which have a direct impact on state funding appropriations. The district's official enrollment last school year was 12,731, which is down 3,780 students — or 22.9% — from 16,511 during the 2015-16 school year, according to official state Department of Education data.

After both voting to approve the new budget at first reading in May, board Chairman Shawn Ragin and Vice Chair Brian Alston changed their votes at second and final reading in late June, saying they ultimately could not support the new district administrator positions given the enrollment losses.

Ragin abstained on the new budget vote at second reading on June 22, while Alston voted against it. The chairman and vice chair were the only two trustees to change their votes after first reading.

The new budget took effect on July 1, which was the first day of fiscal 2027 for the district.

In the board's top two leadership positions for about 1.5 years and since the November 2024 election, Ragin and Alston have never asked district administration for an official enrollment presentation to address possible solutions.

After second-reading approval, Ragin did not return phone calls from *The Item* and responded by email.

In a July 1 email, he said he found it "contradictory to add these [top-level] positions while simultaneously considering cuts to school staff."

When the newspaper responded the following day that the school-level cuts were "budget vacancies" that had moved forward over time, he declined to offer a specific response and said in his opinion it was not productive to continue revisiting the budget vote issue.

### DEEPER INTO THE NEW BUDGET

Projected expenditures in the fiscal '27 budget outweigh projected revenues by $6.4 million and would require the district to dip into its fund balance, or reserves, by that amount if all the expenditures come to fruition.

However, Gary said multiple times in May and June that the district's projected budget should be considered as a "worst-case scenario."

"This is how we fund the worst-case scenario," he said at first reading. "And the past couple of years, I don't think we have ever reached worst-case scenario, and that's the goal this year."

In last year's budgeting process, the district projected it would need to use at least $2 million in reserves to balance the budget, but Spearman said recently she now expects the district to have about a $1.5 million surplus when the final independent audit is completed.

That scenario has played out a few times in recent years, and Sumter has ended nine consecutive fiscal years with surpluses to drive up its reserves total.

The district's fund balance total as of its last official audit — for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 — was $63.9 million, which is well above state Department of Education requirements and best practice ranges recommended by the Government Finance Officers Association.

**FINAL READING TO APPROVE FISCAL 2027 BUDGET**

**Yes:** Matthew "Mac" McLeod, Bonnie Disney, Tarah Johnson, Gloria Lee

**No:** Brian Alston*

**Abstain:** Shawn Ragin*, Phil Leventis

**Not present at vote:** Brittany English

**Motion passed:** 4-1, with 2 abstentions

** Indicates board member changed their vote from first reading. Alston voted Yes at first reading. Ragin also voted Yes.*

### DISNEY'S PERSPECTIVE

The Area 9 trustee Bonnie Disney was a life-long educator and said her focus is always on academic achievement for every district student. She added the district cabinet additions have that same focus on achievement.

"I think that needs to be a major push in the way we look at our school district's needs," Disney told *The Item*.

"I know we have the potential to become one of the best school districts in the state. We just need to put our focus there and have people with expertise to push us in that direction, and I believe that is why we need to support Gary's budget and ensure we have people who can help us achieve our academic goals.

"We have a healthy fund balance, so we don't need to try to skimp on the academic areas for our students. And these new people are not going to come for free. You have to pay people appropriately for their skills and knowledge."

Disney added she thinks the district is going to attract families to attend the local schools and grow enrollment over time.

"Look at the arts programs that we have," she said. "And then when we have improvements in academics, I think people are going to say, 'That is where I want my child to go.'

"I think when our achievement levels start rising significantly, families are going to see that we have the total package of what a school district needs to be. And I think our superintendent is leading us in that direction, and the cabinet that he has chosen is going to move us forward."

She also agreed with McLeod that the full board needs to allow Gary to act in his appropriate role and then success will come.

"I am finding at times that some of our board members want to try to make the decisions, instead of letting the superintendent make the decision," Disney added.

"I think it is inappropriate for a board member to make the superintendent's decisions. They need to get out of the way and let him make the decisions. I believe that we are on the right path currently, and he knows what to do to make us successful."

In a unanimous vote, Sumter school board chose Gary as its new district superintendent on March 9, and he officially began on April 1.

A Sumter native, Gary returned home for the district's leadership position. He previously was an administrator in Irmo-based Lexington-Richland School District Five, one of the higher-achieving districts in the state.

During Gary's tenure there, the South Carolina Association of School Administrators twice named him the state's principal of the year — once at the middle-school level and another time at the high-school level.

# PUBLIC AGENDA

**SANTEE-LYNCHES REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Monday, July 13, 6 p.m., Central Carolina Technical College, 506 N. Guignard Drive, Building M400, Room 401

**SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Monday, July 13, 7 p.m., 1345 Wilson Hall Road

**CLARENDON COUNTY COUNCIL**

Monday, July 13, at 6 p.m., Administration Building, Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning

**LEE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Tuesday, July 14, at 9:30 a.m., Family Court Room or the Main Court Room, located on the second floor of the Courthouse.

**SUMTER COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Tuesday, July 14, at 5 p.m., main library

**LYNCHBURG TOWN COUNCIL**

Tuesday, July 14, at 6 p.m., 106 Main St., Lynchburg

**SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL**

Tuesday, July 14, at 6 p.m., Sumter County Council Chambers

**SUMMERTON TOWN COUNCIL**

Tuesday, July 14, at 6 p.m., Summerton Town Hall, 10 Main St., Summerton

**MANNING CITY COUNCIL**

Tuesday, July 14, at 6 p.m., Manning City Hall, Council Chambers on second floor, 29 W. Boyce St. at 6 pm. If you are planning on attending please use the Mill Street entrance.

**PINEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL**

Tuesday, July 14, at 6:30 p.m., town hall, Pinewood

**TURBEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**

Tuesday, July 14, at 6:30 p.m., Council Chamber of Town Hall, 1400 Main St., Turbeville

**MAYESVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**

Tuesday, July 14, at 6:30 p.m., Senior Center,10 Pringle St., Mayesville

**PAXVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**

Tuesday, July 14, 7 p.m., Paxville Town Hall, 10277 Lewis Road, Paxville

**CENTRAL CAROLINA TECHNICAL COLLEGE AREA COMMISSION**

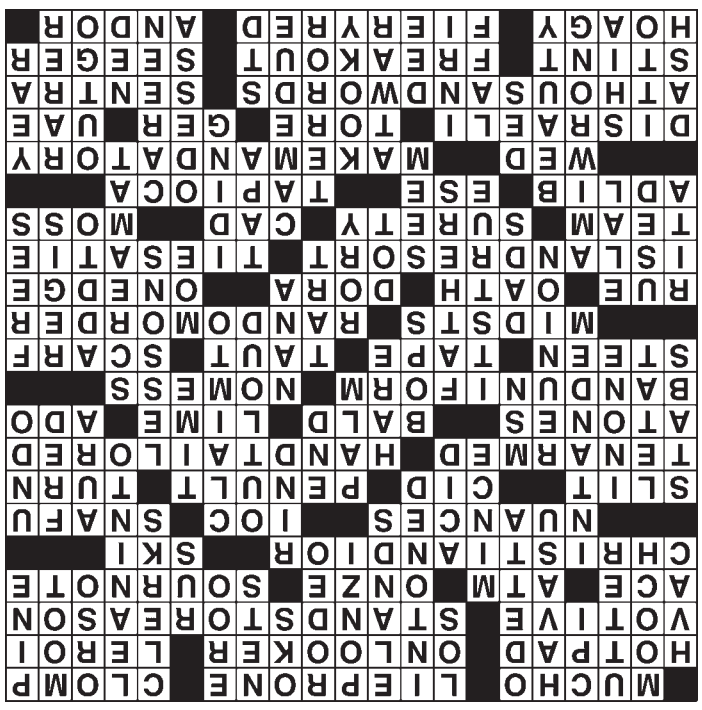
Thursday, July 16, at 5:30 p.m. in the President's Conference Room (M555), Building M500 (Main Campus)

# AROUND TOWN

**The Salvation Army Red Shield Youth Center needs supplies** to keep its programs strong — snacks, drinks, art and STEM materials and more! Shop our Amazon or Walmart registry at *https://tinyurl.com/382mf899* or *https://tinyurl.com/8h3tc9er*. Prefer to give locally? Donations can be dropped off at the Youth Center (Salvation Army, 16 Kendrick St., Sumter). The kids especially enjoy Doritos, cookies and fruit punch. Every gift — big or small — helps the children learn, play and thrive. Questions? Call (803) 775-9336.

**Sumter Newcomers Club is a social group open to ALL Sumter residents** — this includes men and women of all ages, retired or still working. The club offers card and other games, book club and social events. Monthly coffee socials with a guest speaker are held the second Friday of each month from Sept to May at 10 a.m. at the South Hope Center at 1125 S. Lafayette Drive. Refreshments are provided. Please email *sumternewcomers@yahoo.com* for more information.

# SOLUTION TO THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD



# WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2026

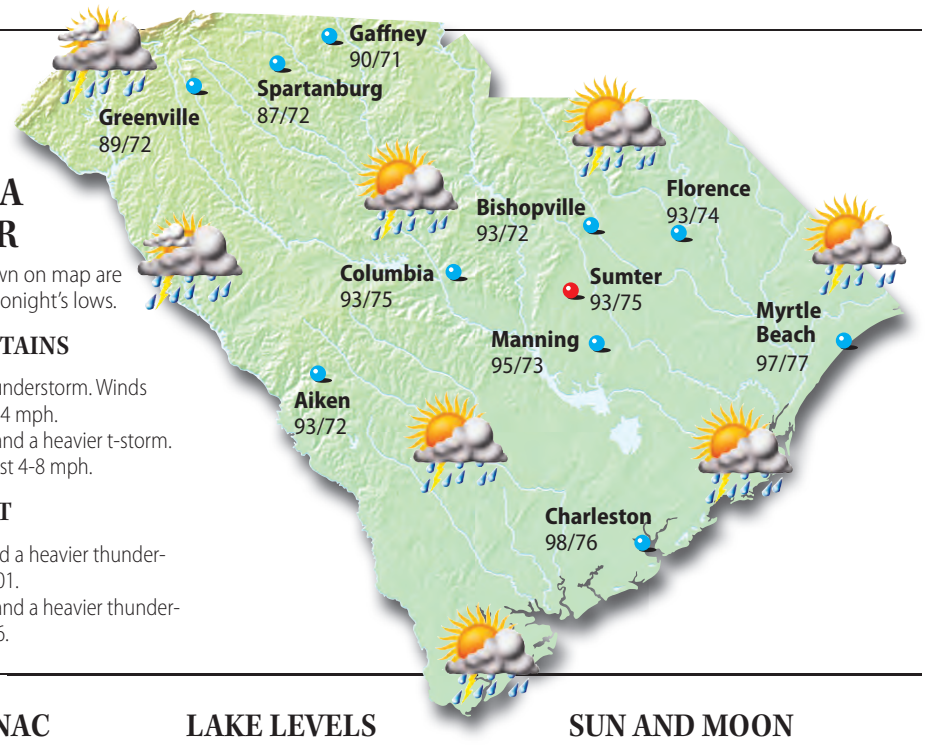
## AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

AccuWeather We Save Lives Get the AccuWeather app

| TODAY | TONIGHT | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Showers and a heavier t-storm | Humid; a stray evening t-storm | Showers and a heavier t-storm | A stray t-storm; not as warm | A couple of morning showers | Mostly sunny |
| 93° | 75° | 91° / 72° | 81° / 69° | 86° / 71° | 90° / 73° |
| Chance of rain: 85% | Chance of rain: 55% | Chance of rain: 95% | Chance of rain: 55% | Chance of rain: 60% | Chance of rain: 5% |
| WSW 7-14 mph | W 4-8 mph | NNW 4-8 mph | NE 6-12 mph | NE 6-12 mph | N 3-6 mph |

## TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

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




### IN THE MOUNTAINS

**Today:** A heavy thunderstorm. Winds west-southwest 7-14 mph.
**Sunday:** Showers and a heavier t-storm. Winds east-southeast 4-8 mph.

### ON THE COAST

**Today:** Showers and a heavier thunderstorm. High 94 to 101.
**Sunday:** Showers and a heavier thunderstorm. High 87 to 96.

## LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THURSDAY

**Temperature**

| | |
|---|---|
| High | 99° |
| Low | 79° |
| Normal high | 90° |
| Normal low | 70° |
| Record high | 105° in 1986 |
| Record low | 58° in 1979 |

**Precipitation**

| | |
|---|---|
| Thursday | 0.00" |
| Month to date | 0.42" |
| Normal month to date | 1.48" |
| Year to date | 14.01" |
| Last year to date | 17.15" |
| Normal year to date | 24.63" |

## LAKE LEVELS

| Lake | Full pool | 7 a.m. yest. | 24-hr chg |
|---|---|---|---|
| Murray | 360 | 357.16 | -0.02 |
| Marion | 76.8 | 74.37 | +0.04 |
| Moultrie | 75.5 | 74.21 | -0.01 |
| Wateree | 100 | 97.88 | -0.03 |

## RIVER STAGES

| River | Flood stage | 7 a.m. yest. | 24-hr chg |
|---|---|---|---|
| Black River | 12 | 1.64 | -0.02 |
| Congaree River | 19 | 2.60 | -0.15 |
| Lynches River | 14 | 1.40 | -0.02 |
| Saluda River | 14 | 1.68 | -0.29 |
| Up. Santee River | 80 | N.A. | N.A. |
| Wateree River | 24 | 5.62 | +0.06 |

## SUN AND MOON

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sunrise | 6:19 a.m. | Sunset | 8:35 p.m. |
| Moonrise | 2:56 a.m. | Moonset | 6:13 p.m. |

| New | First | Full | Last |
|---|---|---|---|
| July 14 | July 21 | July 29 | Aug 5 |

## TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH

| | High | Ht. | Low | Ht. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:26 a.m. | 2.6 | 1:23 a.m. | 0.3 |
| | 7:11 p.m. | 3.5 | 1:18 p.m. | -0.4 |
| Sun. | 7:33 a.m. | 2.7 | 2:25 a.m. | 0.1 |
| | 8:13 p.m. | 3.6 | 2:19 p.m. | -0.5 |

## NATIONAL CITIES

| City | Today Hi/Lo/W | Sun. Hi/Lo/W |
|---|---|---|
| Atlanta | 91/73/t | 88/73/t |
| Chicago | 84/68/s | 88/69/s |
| Dallas | 99/80/pc | 95/75/t |
| Detroit | 86/63/pc | 85/65/s |
| Houston | 92/77/t | 91/79/t |
| Los Angeles | 82/65/pc | 83/67/pc |
| New Orleans | 91/79/t | 90/78/t |
| New York | 81/67/t | 83/68/s |
| Orlando | 97/76/t | 94/77/t |
| Philadelphia | 83/69/t | 88/69/pc |
| Phoenix | 109/89/pc | 108/89/pc |
| San Francisco | 71/57/pc | 74/57/pc |
| Wash., DC | 86/72/t | 85/69/pc |

## REGIONAL CITIES

| City | Today Hi/Lo/W | Sun. Hi/Lo/W |
|---|---|---|
| Asheville | 84/69/t | 78/67/t |
| Athens | 89/71/t | 90/71/t |
| Augusta | 95/72/t | 92/71/t |
| Beaufort | 101/78/t | 96/76/t |
| Cape Hatteras | 88/76/t | 84/75/sh |
| Charleston | 98/76/t | 95/74/t |
| Charlotte | 92/73/t | 85/70/t |
| Clemson | 89/72/t | 86/70/t |
| Columbia | 93/75/t | 89/72/t |
| Darlington | 93/73/t | 87/70/t |
| Elizabeth City | 87/74/t | 82/72/sh |
| Elizabethtown | 95/74/t | 85/69/t |
| Fayetteville | 95/74/t | 85/69/t |
| Florence | 93/74/t | 92/70/t |
| Gainesville | 97/75/t | 95/75/t |
| Gastonia | 92/72/t | 81/70/t |
| Goldsboro | 95/74/t | 83/69/t |
| Goose Creek | 99/76/t | 95/74/t |
| Greensboro | 89/71/t | 78/69/t |
| Greenville | 89/72/t | 84/70/t |
| Hickory | 90/71/t | 82/68/t |
| Hilton Head | 95/80/t | 93/75/t |
| Jacksonville, FL | 97/76/t | 96/75/t |
| La Grange | 91/71/t | 86/70/t |
| Macon | 94/72/t | 89/72/t |
| Marietta | 88/71/t | 86/72/t |
| Marion | 89/70/t | 78/66/t |
| Mt. Pleasant | 98/79/t | 94/76/t |
| Myrtle Beach | 97/77/t | 88/73/t |
| Orangeburg | 94/74/t | 93/71/t |
| Port Royal | 100/78/t | 94/73/t |
| Raleigh | 93/74/t | 81/70/t |
| Rock Hill | 90/72/t | 84/70/t |
| Rockingham | 93/74/t | 84/70/t |
| Savannah | 100/77/t | 94/73/t |
| Spartanburg | 87/72/t | 85/68/t |
| Summerville | 98/75/t | 94/72/t |
| Wilmington | 98/75/t | 87/70/t |
| Winston-Salem | 89/72/t | 80/70/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

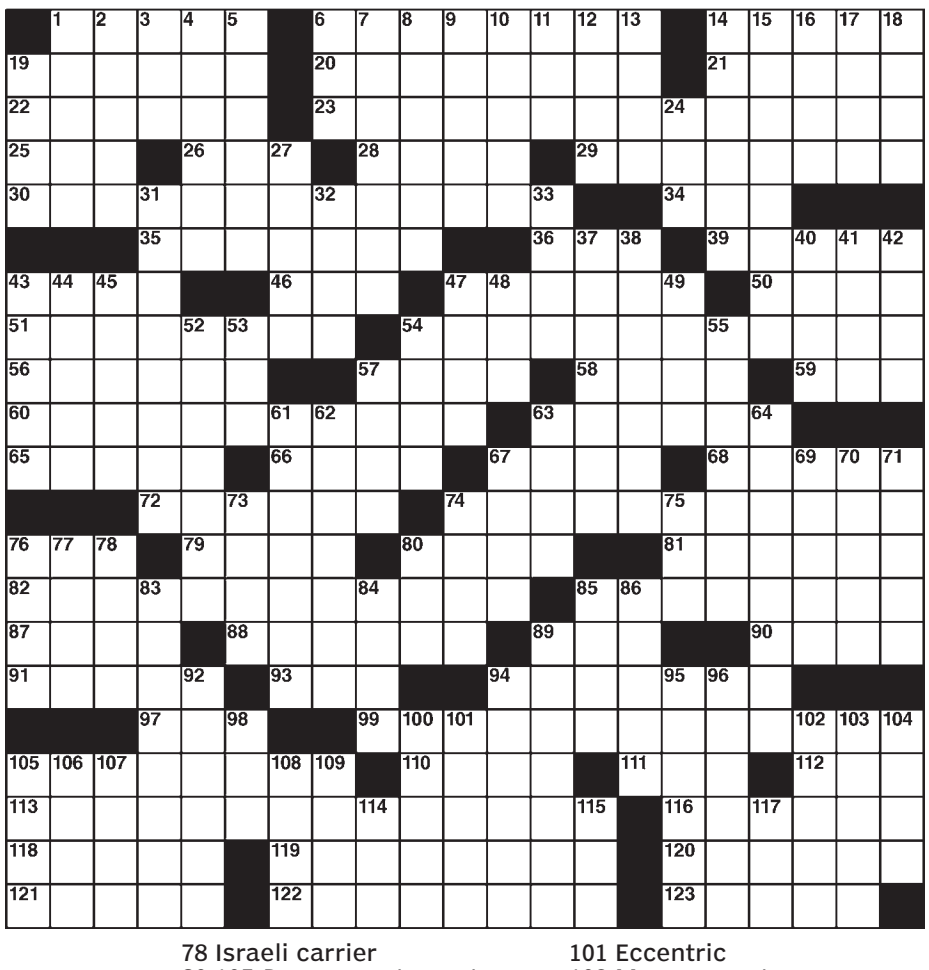
**CHOICE WORDS: Explained at 123-Across**
**by Billie Truitt**

**ACROSS**

1 A lot, in Lima
6 Recline face-up
14 Walk heavily
19 Trivet kin
20 Witness
21 Title for un monarque
22 Prayer candle
23 Seems sensible
25 Expert
26 Airport convenience
28 Eleven, in Lourdes
29 Choral clinker
30 French couturier
34 Biathlon need
35 Subtle distinctions
36 2028 L.A. Games group
39 Major mess
43 Buttonhole, e.g.
46 Spanish hero El __
47 Next-to-last syllable
50 Chance to play
51 Squidlike
54 Bespoke. as a suit
56 Shows remorse
57 Treadless
58 Sherbet flavor
59 Needless fuss
60 Marching musician's outfit
63 Ad's "easy to clean"
65 Rembrandt contemporary
66 Gift-wrapper's need
67 Stretched tight
68 Snowman accessory
72 Central positions
74 Result of good shuffling
76 Regret
79 Pledge in court
80 Kid-vid explorer
81 High-strung
82 Aruba or Tahiti
85 What businessmen must often do
87 Squad
88 Loan guarantor
89 Unmannerly guy
90 Subdued green
91 Improvise orally
93 Jargon suffix
94 Baby food dessert
97 Got hitched
99 Require
105 Victorian prime minister
110 Shredded, with "up"
111 Neth. neighbor
112 Former OPEC state
113 Pictures' proverbial worth
116 Nissan sedan
118 Tour of duty
119 Panic
120 Pete of folk music
121 Composer Carmichael
122 Stop sign shade
123 What the eight longest answers share

**DOWN**

1 Scrounger
2 Come out with
3 Cost-of-living no.
4 Lake __ City, AZ
5 Single-named folk singer
6 Part of UCLA
7 Chanted
8 Spiral-horned antelopes
9 Infamous investment fraudster
10 Bull-riding venue
11 Gives approval for
12 Mosquito stoppers
13 Suffix for smack
14 Store staff
15 Embrace, as inconvenience
16 Approximately
17 Not worth discussing
18 Knotty wood
19 Climate control, for short
24 Toys __ (store chain)
27 Cut up finely
31 Side by side
32 Battery fluid
33 Orange exterior
37 Audibly
38 Lay __ (assert ownership of)
40 Eerie ambience
41 Stone Age toon
42 Annul
43 Wild guesses
44 Unleash upon
45 Hole __ (golfer's dream)
47 Tropical tree
48 Goal
49 "Pencils down!"
52 Family gathering
53 Yahoo! rival
54 Also-ran of fable
55 Learning experiences
57 Knocks on the noggin
61 "No kidding!"
62 June honorees
63 Granny
64 Bawl out
67 Pucker-inducing
69 Expand on
70 Philbin of TV
71 Sets loose
73 June honorees
74 Golfer McIlroy
75 Homer's bartender
76 Tequila cocktail, for short
77 Pre-owned
78 Israeli carrier
80 105-Down counterpart
83 "Do you doubt me?"
84 Appear to be
85 Spanish appetizer
86 Picking from a lineup
89 Was now payable
92 Aesthete's appreciation
94 Big brat
95 Black Sea port
96 Lurch
98 __ Moines, IA
100 Doing battle
101 Eccentric
102 Money spent
103 Harder to find
104 Number on class rings
105 Telegraphy symbol
106 "So what's __ you?"
107 Branch of Islam
108 Guffaw, informally
109 Cross inscription
114 Low grade
115 Norm: Abbr.
117 Homer's neighbor



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SECTION B

SATURDAY-TUESDAY, JULY 11-14, 2026

# Lady Legends prepare for playoffs with sights set on first state title

**BY TIM LEIBLE**
tim@theitem.com



TIM LEIBLE / SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

**The Sumter Lady Legends, pictured between games against Dalzell on Thursday, July 2, will begin their playoff journey on Monday against Dalzell at Patriot Park.**

The Sumter Lady Legends have been a staple program of South Carolina American Legion softball since its inception in 2021. They played for the league's first state championship and were in the final game again last summer but are still hunting for their first state title. Post 15 is looking to change that over the next couple of weeks.

Sumter begins their playoff journey on Monday when they host another local squad, the Dalzell Lady Jets. If they keep winning, they would play three games in as many days to earn a chance to play for the state title at Columbia College on July 20.

In years past, Sumter was a younger team fighting to compete with some extremely experienced teams. While they only have a handful of players in their final year of eligibility, this year's team is full of girls who have played a ton of softball. They also have the last group of players who have played for the team since the inaugural season. They plan to use that experience to their advantage.

"It's our goal every year, but we also know that the two times we made it to the state championship in the past, we were undefeated going into tween the 18 girls that started against us in those two state championships, 15 of them were college players. This year, we're one of those teams closer to that number. We don't bring quite as many college players to the starting lineup, but we're definitely brought a wealth of knowledge back this summer. But the players who are still at the high school level are familiar with high-stakes competition. Laurence Manning won three consecutive state titles and is well-represented on this team. Clarendon Hall had a similar ately before LMA's current three-peat. Sumter High played for consecutive SCHSL 5A-DI lower state championships, too. Everyone on this roster has played high-stakes softball, and they won't back

SEE **LADY LEGENDS,** PAGE B4



ABIGAIL PITTMAN / SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

**Sumter's Justin Pendergrass, seen pitching against West Columbia on Wednesday, July 1, and the P-15's are looking for a fresh start after losing four games to close the regular season.**

# Sumter P-15's look for fresh start heading into playoffs after clinging to League 2 title

**BY TIM LEIBLE**
tim@theitem.com



DANA DELAVAN / SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

**Sumter's Joseph Chapman, right, has been an important leader for head coach Tee DuBose, left, and the rest of the P-15's despite being sidelined by an injury throughout the summer.**

The Sumter P-15's are league champions for the first time since 2023, but Post 15 isn't sprinting into the postseason with a wave of momentum on their backs.

Sumter won League 2 by the narrowest of margins. Despite making a spirited comeback against Richland on Thursday, the P-15's dropped their fourth consecutive game by a final score of 10-9 after committing five errors and walking 10 batters, while also outhitting Post 215 13-5. Richland jumped into a tie with Sumter for the top spot, but Post 15 was able to cling to the league title because they've outscored Richland by three runs on the season. They now await their playoff matchup, as best-of-three series to open the postseason begin on Wednesday.

"Here's the thing about the playoffs: It's a fresh, brand-new slate. That's what I'm telling the players; everything you have done to this point does not matter at all," head coach Tee DuBose said. "We completed our first goal of the season, which is to win the region. OK, check mark. Now, we move on to the playoffs and the next stage, which means we have to make it to state. Every goal that we've wanted to accomplish this season, we have done. That's how I see it, as of now. It doesn't matter that we lost four in a row; we won the region. I'm proud of our team for that. We haven't done that since 2023, and we have a great team, so we're going to move forward as if we've won 10 in a row, because it doesn't matter if we've won 10 in a row or lost four in a row. In the playoffs, we're still a one-seed."

The four-game skid started last week with an 11-6 loss to Camden. Sumter then closed out the regular season with a game against each of the three teams in League 2, falling 8-3 to Lexington on Monday before a 4-3 loss to West Columbia on Tuesday. Sumter outhit West Cola 8-2 but committed costly errors that led to four unearned runs allowed for ace Marion Davis. He walked just one batter, gave up two hits and struck out eight in six innings on the bump. Post 15 loaded the bases in the seventh but couldn't find the last big hit to finish off the comeback.

The final game of the regular season may have been the most wild. The P-15's fell in an immediate 6-2 hole, as Wyatt Monahan failed to finish the second inning. He was charged with six

SEE **P-15'S,** PAGE B4

# Sumter Juniors advance to state tourney with sweep of Horry

**STAFF REPORT**

The Sumter Junior P-15's punched their tickets to the South Carolina American Legion state tournament on Thursday with a blowout win over Horry, completing a two-game sweep in their best of three series. Sumter will get to stay at home as they begin their journey in the state tournament at Riley Park, which begins on Monday.

The junior squad from Post 15 had an excellent regular season, going 11-2 overall and 10-2 in league play but needed to win a matchup with Aynor to earn a chance to face Horry in a best-of-three series because they finished second in the league behind 11-1 Florence.

The matchup with Aynor was more tense than either of their games against Horry, as Sumter pulled out a 2-1 win on Monday. Aiden Fitzgerald and Brady Ardis combined to allow an unearned run in the victory. Fitzgerald earned the win with four shutout innings, allowing three hits while striking out eight. Ardis gave up one unearned run on an error in the first inning and finished the night allowing just one hit while striking out three.

The Junior P-15's got on the board when Drake Price hit a single, which brought Koy Wright home on an error. Easton Donlon then hit a sacrifice fly in the fifth to lift Sumter to a 2-1 win. Price led the team with two hits as Sumter finished with five on the night.

Post 15 then beat Horry 7-2 on the road on Wednesday. Landen Olson, Brayden Taylor and Ardis each had two hits, with Olson and Taylor each adding an RBI. Peyton Osteen had a hit and drove in two runs. Sumter finished with seven runs on nine hits and four walks. Aiden Hunnicut earned the win, giving up two runs on three hits and four walks across five innings of work. He struck out seven. Brantley Adams tossed two scoreless frames in relief to finish the win, striking out five without allowing a hit, though he walked five.

The Junior P-15's then brought the brooms out on Thursday with a blowout 14-0 win. Ardis pitched all five innings of the romp, allowing just two hits while striking out five. Price, Cody Schultz and Donlon each drove in two runs, while Ardis, Bennett Barkley

SEE **JUNIOR P-15'S,** PAGE B4

# Mbappé leads France past Morocco 2-0 in World Cup quarters

**BY KYLE HIGHTOWER**
Associated Press



ASSOCIATED PRESS

**France's Kylian Mbappé celebrates after France defeated Morocco during the World Cup quarterfinal in Foxborough, Massachusetts, on Thursday, July 9.**

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Kylian Mbappé spread his arms out wide and spun around after scoring his eighth goal of this year's World Cup. He later gave the jubilant France fans dotted around the stadium a wave when he left the game because of an injury scare.

Les Bleus, with a star striker who said he's fine despite a right ankle issue, are headed back to the semifinals for the third straight World Cup tournament.

Mbappé had a goal and an assist after missing a first-half penalty kick, Ousmane Dembélé also scored and two-time champion France beat Morocco 2-0 Thursday in the quarterfinals.

"There's only one way to relax, and that's by winning. Until we've done that, we don't let up," Mbappé said. "We're in the semifinals and we're very happy, but there's still a long way to go."

Mbappé's goal in the 60th minute was the 20th of his World Cup career and came in his 20th match at the tournament, moving him one behind Argentina captain Lionel Messi. Dembélé scored his fifth goal of the tournament in the 66th.

Mbappé went down to the ground in the 76th minute, about 13 minutes after being hit hard by a Moroccan defender, and was taken off for a substitute a minute later. He was then shown sitting on the bench with an ice pack on his right ankle.

After the match and with both shoes on, Mbappé ran and jumped in celebration with his teammates.

"I took a knock to the ankle, but I'm fine," Mbappé said. "At that point, JP (Jean-Philippe Mateta) was in better shape than I was to play the final minutes."

France will face either Spain or Belgium in the semifinals in Dallas on Tuesday.

France beat Morocco by the same score in the semifinals of the 2022 tournament in Qatar when the Atlas Lions became the first African team to make it that far. France now remains on track to become only the third nation to play in the final of three consecutive World Cups.

"It is a confirmation of how we've played so far," said France coach Didier Deschamps, who added there is a reason for his team's success in recent World Cups.

"Having great players. Excellent players. My credit goes to the players. But maybe I do my job well," he said. "The only truth is the one on the pitch."

Mbappé got his goal with a perfectly placed shot just inside the far post after Morocco failed to clear the ball. He received the ball just outside the area, took a couple steps forward and then sent his shot sailing into the net. He extended both arms and ran to the sideline to celebrate with his teammates.

France's second goal came after Mbappé took a pass and tapped it back for Dembélé. Mbappé kept running forward and took defenders with him, opening space for Dembélé's shot.

Dembélé said he wasn't surprised with how Mbappé stepped up after his penalty miss in the first half.

"He's our captain and he has an incredible mentality," Dembélé said. "We're expecting even more goals from him."

France held a 21-4 advantage in shots on goal and 8-1 edge in shots on target for the game.

"We are very disappointed. We wanted to go on," Morocco coach Mohamed Ouahbi said. "When we had ball possession, our transitions were not great and we had to run a little more. Their players were in their comfort zone."

Mbappé also had the first shot on goal of the game, just missing wide right in the fourth minute. Then, in the 25th, he was running up the left side when he was chopped down in the box by Morocco defender Noussair Mazraoui. Referee Facundo Tello quickly pointed to the penalty spot.

Mbappé lined up waiting for his attempt but was held up by a lengthy video review. He was finally cleared to shoot in the 28th minute, but after a hesitation, Mbappé's shot toward the right corner was corralled by goalkeeper Yassine Bounou, who guessed the direction of the shot correctly.

Deschamps said the long review also included a review for another foul.

Mbappé made his only other penalty attempt at this year's World Cup in France's 1-0 victory over Paraguay in the round of 16.

Still, France was by far the more active team offensively in the first half, holding a 13-1 advantage in shots on goal.

Morocco's best opportunity came just before the halftime whistle when Achraf Hakimi sent a free kick from just outside the box past the right post.

France now has a chance to emulate Brazil and West Germany in reaching three straight World Cup finals.

"We realize that what lies ahead is even tougher than what we've been through," Mbappé said, "but we're ready to face anything."

# Gauff 'panicked' on match-point miss in drama-filled Wimbledon semifinal loss

**BY ANDREW DAMPF**
Associated Press



ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Coco Gauff reacts after losing a point against Karolina Muchova in their semifinal women's singles match at Wimbledon in London on Thursday, July 9.**

LONDON — Coco Gauff had just the shot she was looking for.

Seven years after her breakthrough at Wimbledon, the American player was on the verge of reaching her first final at the All England Club.

All she needed to do was execute what appeared to be a manageable put-away on her first match point.

The thing is, it's never that simple in a Grand Slam semifinal, especially toward the end of a decisive super tiebreaker on Centre Court — the sport's most hallowed venue.

Gauff fluffed a forehand drop-shot attempt into the net and her opponent Karolina Muchova went on to see out a drama-filled tiebreaker to win 6-2, 1-6, 7-6 (10) on Thursday.

On the match point, Gauff hit a well-placed serve down the T on the ad court and Muchova's weak forehand return bounced before the service line — right in Gauff's attack zone. But Muchova's shot had some topspin on it and kicked up higher than Gauff was anticipating.

"The bounce kind of caught me off guard," Gauff said. "I just panicked a little bit."

After the miss, Gauff ran her non-hitting hand over her face and practiced a full-swing forehand that perhaps she would have preferred in hindsight.

"People who don't watch tennis are going to be like, 'Why did you do that?" Gauff said. "At the end of the day, that's the choice I made. Was it the right one in that moment? Maybe not. But then also, if I make it, everyone's going to say how clutch of a shot that was.

"That's just tennis. You lose some points off margins."

### A 'ROLLER COASTER' FOR MUCHOVA

Muchova also lost a match point before she came out on top when Gauff hit a forehand into the net.

"It was such a big fight," Muchova said. "It was a roller coaster."

Muchova will meet Linda Noskova in an all-Czech final on Saturday after Noskova beat Marta Kostyuk of Ukraine 6-4, 6-4.

Clearly flustered after her miss, Gauff called for a ball to serve again before she realized it was time to change ends since it was 9-9.

"I'm going to think about it tonight," Gauff said.

"I look at Roger (Federer, in the 2019 final) lost match points here, Jannik (Sinner) obviously at Roland Garros (in last year's final). Every great champion has this happen in their career," Gauff added. "Maybe this is something I need to be on their level."

Tracy Austin suggested on the BBC that Gauff looked like "she changed her mind three times as to where to hit that ball."

But Gauff said, "Honestly, I didn't change my mind too much. I feel like if I had to do it over, I probably would have gone for a slice forehand down the line.

"It's a learning experience," Gauff added. "I know I can do better and improve on that, and going with a higher-margin shot in a pressure moment, for sure."

### DIVING LIKE BORIS BECKER

On the point after Gauff's miss, Muchova produced a lob winner to set up her first match point, which she lost when she slipped to the grass and a passing shot from Gauff sailed by her.

But Muchova quickly set up another match point and produced a series of shots to the corners. Gauff, on the full run, reached the last ball but her forehand response landed in the net and Muchova covered her hands in disbelief.

"You're up and down in 10 seconds. You have a match point, then match point down. It's no time to think, but very nerve-wracking," Muchova said. "I'm really kind of shaking and trying to sink it in."

Earlier in the tiebreaker, Muchova produced a diving forehand volley winner at full stretch that brought back memories of the way three-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker used to play. She ended up face down on the grass, her racket lying next to her, as the crowd roared.

There will be a third Czech champion in four years after Marketa Vondrousova in 2023 and Barbora Krejcikova in 2024.

### GAUFF'S WIMBLEDON HISTORY

For Gauff, it was still her most successful Wimbledon. Previously, the seventh-ranked American had gone only as far as the fourth round three times – including as a 15-year-old in 2019 in her Grand Slam debut.

Gauff had had won six of her seven previous matches against Muchova.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Serena Williams celebrates winning a point against Maya Joint of Australia in their first round women's singles match at Wimbledon in London on Tuesday, June 30, 2026.**

# After Knicks, Taylor Swift, World Cup, is Serena Williams at US Open next in Summer of New York?

**BY ANDREW DAMPF**
Associated Press

LONDON — Serena Williams could be up next in the Summer of New York.

After the Knicks' first NBA championship in more than 50 years, Taylor Swift's wedding at Madison Square Garden and the World Cup final to be played just across the Hudson River, it looks like another circus is coming to town.

To the Flushing Meadows section of Queens, to be precise.

All indications point to the 44-year-old Williams playing the U.S. Open next month for the first time in four years.

"Her intention is to keep playing; the U.S. Open as well," Rennae Stubbs, one of Williams' coaches, said at Wimbledon on Tuesday — a week after Williams lost in her first singles match since 2022.

Williams injured her right knee midway through a three-set loss to Maya Joint at the All England Club and withdrew from a doubles match with older sister Venus on Saturday.

Williams shared an Instagram update over the weekend that included images of four syringes filled with fluid drained from her knee.

"As long as physically she can go — and I'm hoping in a few weeks that's the case — to get her back on the court and hitting balls," Stubbs said.

Main draw singles play at the U.S. Open starts Aug. 30.

"All I can say," Serena said after her loss, "is stay tuned to a city near you."

### 'IT WILL BE HUGE'

James Blake, the Yonkers, New York, native who reached the U.S. Open quarterfinals twice, knows just what Williams will bring to the tournament.

"It will be huge and it's deserved because she's the greatest of all time on the women's side — and an American," Blake said of the 23-time Grand Slam champion. "She's an idol for so many young girls."

Blake is now the Miami Open tournament director and a tennis commentator for ESPN.

"She's been through this for the last 20 years so she knows what a circus it will be and she's willing to put herself through that," Blake told The Associated Press. "That shows how much she loves the game and she loves the competition."

Added doubles great Bob Bryan: "Serena is a legend. Everyone wants to see her on the court again. It's a great story."

Williams practiced at Bryan's club in Florida earlier this year.

"She wasn't giving away too much information but she was getting 12 rackets strung. ... So we knew she was serious," Bryan said. "Hopefully she gets healthy and can make a run this summer. She's going to win again for sure. She's a champion."

### WARMUP TOURNAMENTS

Williams played only two doubles matches — but no singles — before Wimbledon. Expect her to play more singles before the U.S. Open.

If she desires, Williams should have no problem obtaining wild-card invitations from tournament organizers at U.S. Open warmups in Toronto and Cincinnati, Ohio.

"I know that for her, trying to play certainly something before the U.S. Open will be something she would like to do," Stubbs said.

# Ohio judge grants preliminary injunction for men's, women's hoops players suing NCAA for eligibility

CINCINNATI (AP) — An Ohio judge has granted a preliminary injunction for 24 men's and women's college basketball players suing the NCAA for eligibility, claiming the new age-based model unfairly shuts them out of further competition.

Judge Christopher Wagner said Thursday the NCAA eligibility rules have been applied to 2022 high school graduates in an arbitrary and capricious manner, adding the plaintiffs would suffer "irreparable injury" without an injunction.

"We hope the NCAA reconsiders its position and allows all other similarly situated athletes from the high school class of 2022 to compete for remaining roster spots in all sports," attorney Ryan Downton said.

Wagner's ruling allows the athletes in the lawsuit an opportunity to enter the transfer portal. He scheduled a conference for Aug. 4 to prepare for a trial.

"While we will seek to overturn this ruling, it is now apparent that Congress must act swiftly to restore stability, uniformity, and fair competition in college athletics," the NCAA said in a statement.

The Protect College Sports Act has moved forward with Senate committee approval in June. However, the Big Ten and Southeastern conferences oppose the bill designed to stabilize college sports and are seeking revisions.

Downton has filed similar lawsuits against the NCAA on behalf of nearly 30 men's and women's basketball players.

The lawsuit in Cincinnati was filed shortly after the NCAA Division I Cabinet approved a monumental change in eligibility rules last month.

"When each plaintiff completed their fourth season of competition during the 2025-26 academic year, they had every reason to know it was the end of the line and time to make way for the next generation of college athletes," the NCAA wrote in a filing.




AP FILE PHOTO

**NCAA signage is seen outside the headquarters in Indianapolis on March 12, 2020.**

The plaintiffs are seeking to be eligible to play a fifth year during the upcoming season, representing athletes who graduated from high school in 2022 and began their college sports careers that autumn and never redshirted.

"Each plaintiff was harmed each time he or she competed in a basketball game against a fifth or sixth-year player without being offered the same opportunity to compete in a fifth season themselves," Downtown wrote in a filing.

The NCAA now allows athletes five seasons of competition over a five-year period that begins with their full-time enrollment or the academic year following their 19th birthday, whichever occurs first.

The move will all but eliminate waivers or redshirt years for extended eligibility except for religious missions, pregnancy or active-duty military service. Extensions will no longer be considered for athletes who are injured.

Athletes whose eligibility expired by spring 2026 under the traditional model — four years of competition over five years — will not be allowed a fifth year of competition under the new rules that go into effect this fall.

The Division I Cabinet has said in a statement posted on X that it was aware of legal action challenging its decision and that "we do not intend to change course."

Three basketball players, including Xavier forward Filip Borovicanin of Serbia, and three coaches, including Xavier coach Richard Pitino, along with an agent testified at a hearing in Cincinnati earlier this month, while the NCAA did not call any witnesses.

Wagner appeared to be critical of the NCAA in his written ruling, saying the governing body resembles "a highly profitable professional sports league," more than its argument of being a voluntary association.

"The court finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that plaintiffs will suffer irreparable injury if the preliminary injunction is not granted," Wagner said.

The NCAA said the decision was wrong.

"We will immediately seek all avenues for reversal, including a stay of the court's order pending appeal," the NCAA said. "The court disregarded over a century of precedent and substituted its own judgment, on a limited factual record, for the collective expertise of the nation's leading higher education institutions."

# NCAA sends letter of inquiry to Cincinnati about Sorsby, according to reports

**BY ASSOCIATED PRESS**

The NCAA wants to know what the University of Cincinnati knew about former quarterback Brendan Sorsby and his gambling issues during his two seasons with the program.

According to reports by multiple media outlets, the NCAA has sent an official letter of inquiry to the school regarding Sorsby, who was ruled permanently ineligible by the NCAA in April after he placed thousands of impermissible sports bets over the past four years.

Sorsby spent two seasons each at Indiana and Cincinnati before transferring to reigning Big 12 champion Texas Tech in January, and his ineligibility ruling touched off an unprecedented legal battle that Sorsby ultimately dropped.

While Sorsby won't play and plans to enter next year's NFL draft, coach Joey McGuire said this week that he still expects the quarterback to make occasional trips to Lubbock and will have access to the school's athletic facilities.

Cincinnati coach Scott Satterfield, who was Sorsby's coach during his two seasons with the Bearcats, declined to comment on reports about the letter of inquiry at Wednesday's Big 12 Media Days in Frisco, Texas.

Yahoo Sports was first to disclose the existence of the letter and ESPN also reported that Cincinnati had received it, with both citing anonymous sources. Sending a letter of inquiry is a standard procedural step in which the NCAA notifies a school of plans to examine an issue, though it doesn't automatically equate to the existence of a rules violation.

A Cincinnati spokesperson declined to say if the school had received an inquiry from the NCAA.

"We have had continuous conversations with the NCAA since the initial reports related to impermissible sports wagering began," the spokesperson said in a statement to The Associated Press. "As we have stated before, we do not believe any athletics official or staff member was aware of any impermissible sports wagering."




AP FILE PHOTO

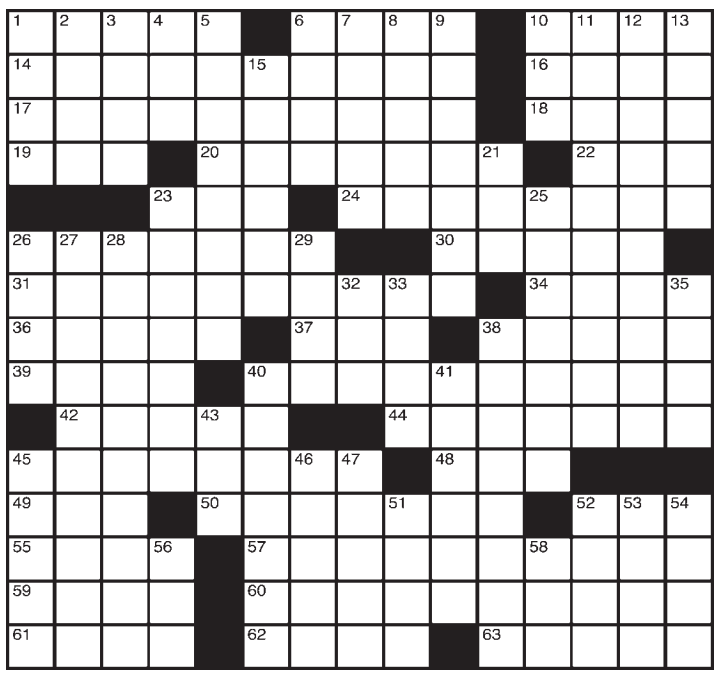
**Former Cincinnati quarterback Brendan Sorsby (2) walks off the field after a game against Baylor on Oct. 25, 2025, in Cincinnati.**

NCAA spokeswoman Meghan Durham Wright said Wednesday that the organization doesn't comment on pending or potential investigations.

The NCAA declared Sorsby ineligible for making bets worth at least $90,000 during his college career.

Sorsby made at least 40 bets on Indiana while he was a freshman there in 2022, but none of those bets came on games he played in. He acknowledged placing at least 165 impermissible bets on college and professional sports totaling at least $38,000 in 2024, including three wagers on Cincinnati men's basketball made on a FanDuel account he shared with a friend. He provided more than $60,000 to the friend to deposit in the shared account between December 2023 and June 2025.

## CROSSWORD



**Across**
1 Bernardine Evaristo's "Girl, Woman, ___"
6 Selfish kinds
10 "Get lost!"
14 "Fingers crossed!"
16 Not one ___
17 Where classes proceed on a case-by-case basis
18 "Oh, fudge"
19 Strong showing from 2012 to 2022, for short?
20 Hole up
22 Hissed admonishment
23 Aired
24 Southern brew
26 Revenue metric
30 Matters of course?
31 Area most people can't stand to be in
34 Handy accessory?
36 Cares for
37 Foofaraw
38 Island west of Maui
39 "Smooth Operator" singer
40 Ding, maybe
42 Exams that begin with a Chemical and Physical Foundations section, for short
44 Ends up behind
45 Fried Mexican dishes
48 "Yellowstone" star Bentley
49 Todos ___ días: every day, in Spanish
50 Rep who is also the parent of a child star, perhaps
52 ___ Fridays
55 Lincoln, e.g.
57 Major annoyances
59 Puerto Rico, por ejemplo
60 Defend aggressively
61 Convene
62 Solidifies
63 Creates a cozy home

**Down**
1 Works in a museum
2 Comparison word
3 React to a riot, maybe
4 Short releases
5 Pool areas?
6 Under the ___
7 Missouri River people
8 Play dirty
9 "What are you gonna do about it?"
10 Title for David Attenborough
11 Areas affected by current events
12 Initially
13 Gospel singer Cobbs
15 Lights up
21 Top choice
23 Short end of the stick
25 Traditional Christmas fare for some Latinos
26 Panto units
27 Three-story abode in Barbie pink
28 Structure affected by current events
29 Musubi meat
32 Statute mandating curb cuts, for short
33 Feature of type 4 hair
35 Bandleader Puente
38 Pocket-size pointer
40 Field for a competitive Valorant player
41 Former mill town in the Boston metro area
43 Belly
45 Progressive request
46 Subject for Elena Ferrante
47 "Stop beating around the bush!"
51 Concerns for some orthodontists
52 Connections
53 Minor annoyance
54 Belief systems
56 ___ latte
58 Put away

## JUMBLE

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

MGAEI

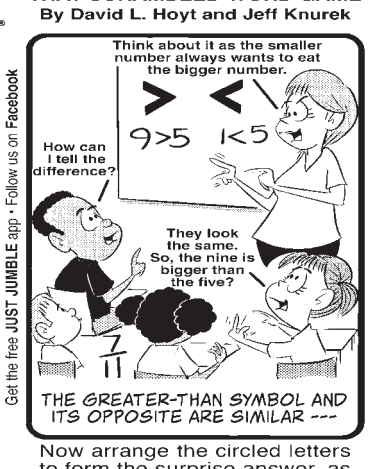
SFOSL

EUBRRG

SLAOPT

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




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

Ans. here: ( ) ( ) ( )

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TOTAL DWARF WINDOW PERSON
Answer: The spelling bee contestant became champion by spelling — "WON" LAST WORD

## SUDOKU

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

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

## SOLUTIONS



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

Jumbles: IMAGE FLOSS BURGER POSTAL
Answer: The greater-than symbol and its opposite are similar — MORE OR LESS



Sumter's Marsha Kate Skey leads the Lady Legends with a .571 batting average and hasn't allowed an earned run in the circle all summer.

TIM LEIBLE / SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS



Sumter's Lillie Ivey has been a key player for the Lady Legends in the circle and at the plate. She's one of the team's three aces while hitting .529 at the dish.

## LADY LEGENDS FROM PAGE B1

down from the moment in front of them.

"We're very fortunate, and I'm very proud to be a coach that has contributed in some small way for them being prepared for this level," Posey said. "We may not win it, at the end of the day, but I'm proud that we've gotten to a place where we feel like we have a chance to be back this year and being prepared to bring it home."

In their previous two runs to the state championship game, the Lady Legends were perfect in the regular season. This summer, they fell twice to Camden in games started by Mackenzie Melton. The first was a season-opening 2-0 loss before a narrow 5-4 loss on June 25. While an undefeated regular season is nice, Posey thinks his team was able to learn from each of those losses as they gear up for the postseason.

"It tells us that we can't overlook anyone, especially a team we've lost to twice," Posey said.

Sumter's offense has been on another level this summer. As a team, they're hitting a ridiculous .461. They have eight players batting over .500 heading into the postseason. Lyza Prickelmyer is hitting .545 with an on base percentage of .633. Evans is hitting .533 while leading the team in at bats, while Wells is hitting .542. Marsha Kate Skey and Lily Wellborn lead the team with a .571 average. Posey led this team from the beginning of the league because of his experience as a hitting coach in Sumter, so the Lady Legends have never been shy on offense. This year is no exception.

"If they can't hit, it's my fault," Posey quipped. "This is another season sporting an almost .500 batting average for the year, so I'm really proud of these girls. I'm not surprised by any of it. We had one or two players that got out to slow starts, but they're hitting well now."

Their pitching staff has been equally impressive. Sumter has one of the deepest rotations in the league. Skey hasn't allowed an earned run in 13 innings, while Yount is pitching to a .538 ERA and Lillie Ivey has a 2.69 ERA with the same inning count. With Kendall Tanner, Caroline Welch and Brynli Brewer behind that trio, Sumter's depth can be a true weapon in the playoffs.

"Any coach with any coaching savvy whatsoever could coach this group; they made it easy," Posey said of his pitching staff. "With these seven-inning games (in the playoffs), it's a little different mindset; I can be more 'We have to win this game' focused, rather than mixing it up and see where the chips fall. If we have a pitcher who isn't feeling it, the curveballs aren't biting, they're all good hitters, so it's a simple position change and we'll get someone else in there. We'll warm up three pitchers if not more before the start of these games."



Sumter's Calli Yount has been spectacular for the Lady Legends this summer, pitching to an ERA of .538.



Sumter's Ariana Evans leads the team with 16 hits this summer, four of which went for extra bases. She's also scored a team-high 16 runs and has stolen five bases.



Sumter's Mandy Wells is hitting .542 this summer and is tied for the team lead with 12 RBIs.

## P-15'S FROM PAGE B1

runs, though only three were earned, after giving up three hits and two walks. Brode Stanfield then came in and immediately walked two batters and hit another before Hudson Harris came in for the final out of the inning. Harris pitched 1 2/3 innings, allowing one earned run on three walks and a hit.

Sumter's offense woke up in the third with three runs, as Gavin Rivers was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded, Justin Pendergrass hit an RBI single and Larry Johnson drew a bases-loaded walk. Sumter had two hits, two walks and two hit batters in the inning. After each team scored in the fourth, Post 15 jumped in front with three runs in the fifth. Sumter loaded the bases when Matt McKinnon was hit by a pitch and both Pendergrass and Bodie Bowden added singles. Cade Mooneyham was then hit by another pitch before BJ Balls hit a two-run single to center to give the P-15's their first lead of the night.

Unfortunately, that lead was short-lived, as Richland scored three runs in the sixth to take the lead for good. Pendergrass hit the leadoff batter before an errant throw brought in the first run of the inning. After an infield single, another error and a sacrifice fly put Richland in front 10-8 before Cory Bailey stopped the bleeding with the final two outs.

Sumter got one run back in the top of the seventh with an RBI single by Bailey, but two runners were left stranded as a lineout ended the game.

Pendergrass led Sumter with three hits, while Bailey had two hits, drove in two runs and scored twice. Connor Carter and Bowden each had two hits, while Balls had a knock, a walk and two RBIs. Rivers also drove in a pair.

Despite the loss, DuBose was proud of the way his team battled back, especially because the comeback helped them maintain their advantage in the first tiebreaker.

"When we went down 7-0 against Lexington, I felt like it was a totally different feeling. It was, 'We lost and we're not going to come back.' At Richland, it was, 'I'm changing the way that we're playing, and we're going to go attack right now and claw back,'" DuBose said. "I was really happy to see that, because teams that can't handle adversity, they're going to lose in the playoffs because every game has adversity in the playoffs. You're not going to find a game that's not going to be close in the playoffs a majority of the time because all of these teams are good. We know, we've played some of these teams that are at the top of these leagues, so we know the competition we'll be against. I'm excited with the fact that we were able to battle back against Richland, because that means we're ready to rock and roll for the playoffs other than the errors. If we stop giving up errors and walks, we will win every game."

As Sumter gears up for the playoffs, DuBose hopes a clean slate helps the team shift its mindset. He felt like they may have gotten a little too comfortable after getting out to a great start in league play, opening the door for some careless mistakes.

"I think it's something mental going on," DuBose said. "I never like to have players thinking that they're the best in the world. When people tell you that you're good, what are you going to do? You're probably going to slack off; you're probably going to not play to the best of your ability because you think you're better than everybody else. I've had many conversations with them talking about how we all have to be accountable for our own actions; we can't blame anyone else for losing. We can't say that we're the best team in the world, we have to go out and play like we're the best team in the world; we can't have everything come to us just because we're the Sumter P-15's."

The P-15's have some great senior leadership with college players like Balls, Pendergrass and Bailey, plus a large group of recent high school graduates that DuBose hopes will help his team snap this losing streak as the playoffs begin next week.

"I've had a few players come up to me saying that it's their last year, they want to go out with a bang," DuBose said. "I think Joe Chapman has been one of the biggest leaders, even though he's been hurt a majority of the season. He's working on hitting now to potentially be able to come back for the playoffs, but he's kinda brought the team together during these losses more than anything. He's been a huge leader, along with BJ. Both of them have been the vocal leaders of the clubhouse, then you have Marion and Gavin and Juice (Pendergrass), and they're a little more quiet, but they set the example and they do what they're supposed to do every day. I'm looking forward to them sharing more about how we're all in this together and how we need to stick together as a team. We're not going to attack each other just because we're losing and things like that; we're going to grow stronger together through adversity."

Sumter will have the benefit of home cooking for nearly the entire length of their run in the postseason. They're still waiting to see their first-round matchup in the playoffs, but as a league champion, they'll have home field advantage for two of the three games. If they make it through that best-of-three series, the state tournament is at Riley Park on July 20-26. Post 15 is glad to have the comforts of home in the postseason, but DuBose doesn't want his team to feel too much pressure to make sure they earn a spot in the state tournament. He just wants them to go out and play P-15 baseball.

"I've told them to have tunnel vision and to just control what you can control," DuBose said. "If you're thinking about the extra stuff, you won't be as focused on that next pitch. We have to block out the outside and focus on the most important thing, and that's what we're doing now on this one play. If we do that and wake up, then we'll be in a great position at Riley Park. Us being at Riley Park is great because we enjoy the field, we like being in the locker room, we have a little locker room routine we do that gets us fired up and ready to rock and roll out there on the field. I love Riley Park; I think it's the best American Legion park in the state, and I think it rivals a lot of other college stadiums.

"I'm just excited for all of the Sumter people to come and watch us in that state tournament, because we're going to focus and we're going to do what we have to do to make it there; I'm confident about that."




ABIGAIL PITTMAN / SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

The Sumter Junior P-15's earned the chance to play in the South Carolina American Legion state tournament at home at Riley Park next week after playoff wins against Aynor and Horry.

## JUNIOR P-15'S FROM PAGE B1

and Osteen each added an RBI. Wright led the team with two hits, including a double. Sumter scored 14 runs on just six hits, as they drew eight walks and were hit by pitches twice. Horry also committed three errors.

Seeding for the SCALB Junior state tournament will be announced this weekend.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

**New York Yankees outfielder Aaron Judge watches from the dugout during a game against the Tampa Bay Rays on Monday, July 6, 2026, in St. Petersburg, Florida.**

# Yankees 3-time AL MVP Judge will have his injured rib reimaged during All-Star break

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Aaron Judge will have his injured rib tested during the All-Star break and the New York Yankees are hopeful the results show the three-time AL MVP is healing.

Judge has not played since May 31 and went on the injured list June 5 with a stress fracture of his right rib after a CT scan, an MRI and a meeting with a specialist.

"I don't think we want to put him at risk of coming back while still injured," Yankees general manager Brian Cashman told reporters on Thursday. "He should be asymptomatic before we turn him loose. If he's asymptomatic and not feeling anything and (medical images) are showing healing, then it's probably appropriate to get him going again. But we don't want to, because the schedule is what it is, put him in a position where we're putting him in jeopardy where it somehow gets worse."

The Yankees were 14-19 without Judge entering their series finale against the AL-East leading Tampa Bay Rays.

Cashman said the injury has restricted Judge's ability to work out his upper body because he can't put stress on his rib cage. The new images will give a better understanding of where he stands in his rehab process.

Cashman said slugger Giancarlo Stanton, who hasn't played since April 24 because of a right calf injury, injured the calf again, setting back his return. Cashman said the injury was a new strain to the calf. Stanton has resumed running.

Infielder George Lombard Jr., the Yankees' top prospect, is hitting and throwing again after spraining two fingers on his left hand last month. He's expected to resume playing in the minors around the All-Star break.

Right-hander Carlos Lagrange, another top prospect, will not throw for six weeks after suffering a right capsule strain. The team was getting Lagrange ready for a relief role before the injury.

# Verlander plans to retire after this season, capping a career with 3 Cy Young Awards

**BY LARRY LAGE**
Associated Press

DETROIT — Justin Verlander plans to call it a career later this year.

The three-time Cy Young Award winner, two-time World Series champion and 2011 AL MVP will retire after this season with the Detroit Tigers.

Verlander made the announcement on Wednesday, shortly after he was added as a Legend Pick to the American League All-Star roster.

"While I'm fully committed to giving my team everything I have for the rest of this season, I've decided this will be my last," Verlander shared on social media. "It's fitting that I get to finish where it all started — with the Detroit Tigers, the organization that drafted me and gave me my first opportunity."



AP FILE PHOTO

**Detroit Tigers pitcher Justin Verlander works against the Arizona Diamondbacks during the first inning of an opening-day baseball game on March 30, 2026, in Phoenix.**

## OLDEST PLAYER IN THE MAJORS

The 43-year-old Verlander is the oldest player in Major League Baseball. He signed a $13 million, one-year contract to rejoin the Tigers in February.

Verlander allowed five runs in 3 2/3 innings during a 9-6 road loss at Arizona on March 30.

That was his only start this year.

"It's time for the next chapter," Verlander said. "But first, I'm excited to finish this season the only way I know how — with everything I've got."

## INJURIES THIS SEASON

Verlander went on the injured list with hip inflammation early in the season and when the right-hander was nearing a return last month, he pulled a hamstring during a bullpen session.

"It just felt like I was plugging holes in a boat," Verlander said at Wednesday's news conference. "When you kind of put everything together and consider everything, I've been kind of trending toward this decision for quite a while."

He was scheduled to pitch in June and make what would have been his first start with the Tigers at Comerica Park since August 30, 2017 — the day before he was traded to the Astros.

He still intends to make that start, and is scheduled to throw a bullpen before Thursday's game against the Athletics.

"I do want to focus on playing the rest of the season," he said. "I think there will be a time to really sit here and reminisce and focus more on the actual retirement. Right now, my focus is still to get out there and be the best version of myself I can be for this team. We are playing great baseball right now, and things are going well, and we're trending in the right direction.

"I'm champing at the bit to be part of it."

## CY YOUNG WINNER, WORLD SERIES CHAMPION

Verlander went 183-115 from 2005 to 2017 with the Tigers. He won the American League Rookie of the Year award in 2006 and both the AL MVP and Cy Young Award in 2011. He helped Detroit reach the World Series in 2006 and 2012 along with four straight division titles from 2011 to 2014.

Verlander was the 2017 ALCS MVP in Houston and helped the Astros win the World Series that year and was a key player for them when they won another title in 2022. He won his second and third Cy Young Award in 2019 and 2022.

"I've been fortunate to play with and against incredible players, for outstanding organizations, and compete in front of fans who deeply appreciate the game," Verlander said.

## ALL-STAR GAME TRIBUTE

While he will not play in the All-Star Game, MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred said Verlander will be at the game in Philadelphia on Tuesday and will be honored during the festivities.

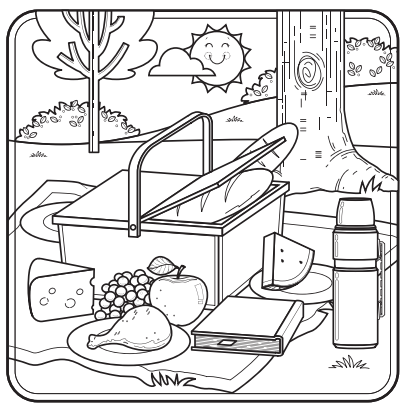
"The opportunity to attend once again is something I'll cherish and it will be an incredibly special moment for me and my family," said Verlander, who is married to model Kate Upton and has two children.

# Kid's Corner




## Creative Coloring

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



## Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the individual words to reveal letters for the phrase.

NKTEBAL _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (1 2 3)

SFROK _ _ _ _ _ (4 5)

KCIEOO _ _ _ _ _ _ (6 7)

DNREIN _ _ _ _ _ _ (8)

_ _ _ _ _ H _ _ _ _ _ _ (4 5 7 3 8 6 7 6 2 3 1)

P _ _ _ _ _ (7 6 1 7 6)

Answers: blanket, forks, cookie, dinner; Fried chicken picnic

## Food FACT

These types of foods are easiest for picnics because you do not need utensils to eat them.

Answer: Finger foods

## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

JUL 10

**1212:** A severe fire in London burns most of the city to the ground.

**1850:** Millard Fillmore is sworn in as U.S. President a day after Zachary Taylor's death.

**1962:** Telstar, the world's first communications satellite, is launched.

## NEW WORD

**COOLER**

an insulated container that keeps food and drink cold







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# Clark debate rages on with WNBA on the clock to answer questions about physical play

**BY MICHAEL MAROT**
Associated Press



Indiana Fever guard Caitlin Clark (22) drives on Atlanta Dream guard Te-Hina Paopao (2) in the first half of their matchup in Indianapolis on June 18, 2026.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Conversations about whether Caitlin Clark is getting officiated fairly in the WNBA can be polarizing as fans, players, coaches, pundits and even lawmakers have opinions about whether the league needs to take some action about the physical play.

Congress is looking for answers by July 24.

"Millions of casual fans now tune in to watch her play," 11 members of the House Republican Study Committee wrote in a letter sent to WNBA Commissioner Cathy Englebert. "Unfortunately, what they too often witness is not simply aggressive competition, but repeated acts of physical hostility and violence. Clark has been hip-checked, poked in the eye and struck in the throat during games.

"These incidents go far beyond routine physical play, yet the WNBA and its officiating have too often failed to address these unacceptable incidents and hold players accountable."

It's the latest chapter in the Clark saga about whether league officials must do more to protect one of the WNBA's top players from unnecessarily aggressive physical contact.

The letter was sent two weeks after Phoenix Mercury forward Alyssa Thomas made contact with her fist to Clark's throat in a June 24 game. Thomas was not called for a foul on the play during the game, but the league subsequently upgraded the play to a flagrant foul and suspended her one game for "recklessly making contact with her fist."

League officials have not yet issued a statement in response to the letter.

Thomas has called the play a "complete accident," adding that she has received death threats since the incident. Clark and her coach, Stephanie White, an ardent defender of Clark, have condemned threats levied at Thomas.

## WHERE CLARK STANDS AMONG HER WNBA PEERS

The 24-year-old Iowa alum has helped increase WNBA ticket sales and driven women's basketball television ratings to unprecedented heights with her play.

However, many conversations around her tap into a variety of combustible hot-button topics, including race, officiating, money and politics. Clark has largely managed to thrive, but can't completely escape the noise.

"I think sometimes people think I'm a robot. I'm not a robot," she said. "It can be really frustrating to me at times. I'm 24 years old trying to navigate a lot. I've been in this world for four years now — and you would never change any of it — but there are times that it is hard. And there are times when it affects me a little bit more than I do put on. I think it's important that people remember that part of it, too."

Lawmakers also suggested in their letter that government agencies such as the Department of Justice should investigate if discrimination or retaliation are creating a hostile work environment in the WNBA.

Fever officials said in a statement that neither Clark nor team officials have been in contact with the Congressional group and that they were unaware of the letter before its release.

"We have been clear in our public comments and in our ongoing dialogue with the league about the priority of player safety," the statement read. "Our players and our fans know where we stand on those issues, and we will continue to stick up for our team and a standard of excellence across the league."

Clark is one of the league's most popular players, but she's also one of the most polarizing — even amongst her peers.

Fans made her the No. 2 vote-getter for next week's All-Star Game while Clark's fellow players ranked her 11th among league guards — something three-time WNBA champ and Hall of Famer Candace Parker took exception with.

"If you're sitting down and putting Caitlin Clark as the 11th best guard ... y'all need to go to a therapist and figure out what childhood issues you have," Parker wrote on social media.

## WHAT MAKES CLARK SO POLARIZING

Clark instantly became the face of the league from the moment she was drafted first overall in 2024, before ever playing a pro game and even though she had not won an NCAA championship.

To accommodate her rampant fan base, opponents moved games from home arenas to larger venues which generated more revenue. And Fever games quickly became a regular feature on national television even after Indiana missed the playoffs from 2016-23.

Clark supporters say her immediate notoriety created resentment among WNBA veterans and has led to the hard fouls that cross the line.

Opponents counter that because of Clark's ability to shoot the ball and beat opponents with her ball-handling, players defending her try to be as physical as a referee will allow to slow her down.

Following the game on June 24, Fever coach Stephanie White angrily expressed players had crossed the line multiple times and highlighted two no-calls. The 6-foot, 157-pound Clark eventually left in the second half with a back injury that kept her out of the next two games.

Clark returned to action Wednesday night but was not expected to play Thursday night at Phoenix as a precaution.

The subject of race also has been injected into the Clark debate. White and Clark are both white; Thomas is Black.

"Because the bandwagon and the fandom became so obsessed with the whole thing, it turned into a cause," said UConn coach Geno Auriemma, who has won a record 12 NCAA women's basketball championships. Clark, he added, "became the reason why white players get beat up in the WNBA and she became the reason why Black players don't get the endorsements and don't get the adulation that white players get."

The coach noted that, "Not every foul is a good foul. Not every foul's a bad foul, but there are fouls that are flagrant — but that's all they are."

## WHAT ROLE CLARK PLAYS IN DEBATE

Clark has repeatedly attempted to downplay the noise surrounding her.

But she also has played a part in this ongoing storyline, showing her passion by throwing her arms in the air when she's unhappy with calls, exaggerating contact as a tactic to draw fouls and critiquing refs when she doesn't get one.

Clark is also among the leading trash-talkers in the WNBA. When she gets the better of an opponent, she isn't shy about letting them know about it. Clark is averaging a career-high 20.5 points per game while ranking second in the league in assists with 7.9 — trailing only Thomas (8.3).

Part of Clark's appeal is her antagonistic style.

However, there can be a price to pay: She has drawn five technical fouls this season, the most recent coming June 22 against Phoenix when she started clapping after a heated exchange with Mercury forward and former Fever teammate DeWanna Bonner, who also is Black. Booner and Thomas are engaged.

Players receive a one-game suspension when they reach eight technicals and Clark told reporters in that postgame news conference someone should pick a date for her suspension if clapping results in a technical foul.

All-Star center Aliyah Boston, who wants to ensure Clark stays on the court, said on her "Post Moves" podcast that she told her teammate: "We're done. We're done clapping. There's no more claps. There's nothing else to clap about."

It's more likely, though, that Clark and her fans will continue clapping — and her critics will keep clapping back.

# Raptors, Clippers put trade for Leonard on hold, pending end of NBA investigation

**BY TIM REYNOLDS**
Associated Press



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kyle Lowry, right, speaks with Kawhi Leonard after a press conference in which Lowry signed a one-day contract to retire as a Toronto Raptor in Toronto on Tuesday, July 7, 2026.

Kawhi Leonard's trade to the Toronto Raptors is on hold pending the outcome of the NBA's investigation into whether the Los Angeles Clippers circumvented salary cap rules, the teams announced Thursday.

It does not necessarily mean that the trade is off. The Raptors said they still want Leonard, and the Clippers, in a statement sent to multiple outlets including The Associated Press, again insisted that they are not guilty of any wrongdoing related to an endorsement contract between Leonard and a now-bankrupt California-based digital bank that touted itself as environmentally friendly.

But the probe, as detailed by the terms of the collective bargaining agreement, could lead to penalties that include a substantial fine, the loss of draft capital — and, potentially, even the voiding of a player contract — if the league finds there was a deliberate circumvention of cap rules.

"The NBA league office informed us that as a result of the ongoing investigation involving the Clippers, we would assume the risk of any potential outcome of the investigation impacting Kawhi," the Raptors said. "In light of this, we will wait until the league's investigation is complete."

There is no timetable for the conclusion of the NBA's probe, which is being performed by outside counsel — Wachtell Lipton, a New York-based firm. Commissioner Adam Silver said in recent weeks that he'd like to see a conclusion.

"My instruction to them is we can't be investigating forever. At some point you have to wrap it up," Silver said last month at the NBA Finals. "But at the same time, the most important thing is that we get it right."

Through a spokesman, the NBA said Thursday that it doesn't "have a specific timeline for the conclusion of the investigation but expect the firm to finalize its work in the coming weeks"

The NBA opened an investigation back in September into whether a $28 million endorsement contract between Leonard and Aspiration Fund Adviser LLC — a company that filed for bankruptcy in 2025 — broke league rules, following a report by journalist Pablo Torre. Last month, Aspiration co-founder Joseph Sanberg was sentenced to 14 years in federal prison after pleading guilty to defrauding investors and lenders of at least $248 million.

"At the heart of this investigation are Joe Sanberg and Aspiration," the Clippers said Thursday in a statement. "We did not funnel money to Kawhi Leonard through Aspiration. Like many sophisticated investors, financial institutions, and business partners, we were victims of a fraud initiated by Sanberg, who has been convicted and sentenced to 14 years in prison.

"We recognize the uncertainty this has created and the impact it has had on our team, our fans, the Raptors organization, their fans, and the players whose futures remain affected while this process continues. We remain confident that, when the facts are evaluated fairly and thoroughly, the NBA will confirm exactly what we have said from the beginning: We have not done what we are accused of doing."

For its part, Toronto reaffirmed that it still wants to acquire Leonard.

"The Raptors remain eager to bring Kawhi back to Toronto and look forward to a swift resolution for our players, our organization, and our fans," the Raptors said.

# Family number 10 now belongs to Tim Hardaway Jr. in Miami; he calls it a superpower

**BY TIM REYNOLDS**
Associated Press

MIAMI — Tim Hardaway Jr. would always follow the same routine in his 15 visits to Miami as an opponent. Walk into the arena, take a look into the rafters, gaze at one specific banner.

"Hardaway 10" sways, commemorating his father's time with the Heat and the jersey they retired in Tim Hardaway Sr.'s honor.

"Coming here when I was an opponent, I felt like it gave me a superpower," Hardaway Jr. said.

It's his jersey now.

The Heat formally introduced part of the family on Wednesday, with the 34-year-old Hardaway getting his welcome-back-to-Miami news conference — and getting handed a No. 10 Heat jersey, only this one with "Jr." after the family surname on the back.

"This is really bizarre," said Heat President Pat Riley, who coached the elder Hardaway in Miami.

The younger Hardaway used to run around the Heat practice floor as a kid while his dad played games, or hang out in the family room partaking in video games. As Hardaway Jr. got older, Riley would ask someone on the staff to put him through workouts on the practice court.

That staffer was Erik Spoelstra, now the Heat head coach.

"I think things are going to be a little bit more serious now than before," Hardaway said. "But I mean, I'm very comfortable and confident to be able to go up there and talk to coach anytime I need some guidance or assistance on anything. I feel like he's a great person in order to do that."

Miami entered the offseason with a slew of wishes and needs. It wanted a superstar; it landed one by getting Giannis Antetokounmpo (and, like the rest of the league, is waiting to hear where former Heat star LeBron James wants to play this coming season). It also wanted to find shooting and durability; Hardaway is coming off a season where he had career-bests in 3-pointers made (224) and 3-point percentage (nearly 41%), and he's played in 236 of a possible 246 regular-season games over the last three seasons.



HARDAWAY JR.

His role in Miami, whether as a starter or off the bench, will be simple: Make life easier for Antetokounmpo and Heat center Bam Adebayo.

"Once the call came, I think it was kind of a no-brainer," Hardaway said. "It's the right fit, not only for this franchise, but for me personally — especially when you have two guys out there that definitely need spacing for them to go out there and operate and do what they do best. My job here, it's just to make their life easy and that's to knock down shots."

And he gets to come home to do all that. Born and raised in Miami, the Heat will be his sixth NBA team — in the city he still calls home.

"I've been praying for this day," Hardaway said. "I've always wanted this day to come, ever since I was a kid."

# U.S. star Pulisic fractured his leg in World Cup loss to Belgium

**BY RONALD BLUM**
Associated Press

U.S. star Christian Pulisic fractured his right leg during the Americans' World Cup loss to Belgium and will be sidelined for several weeks.

Pulisic has a bone bruise and a microfracture of his tibia and fibula, the U.S. Soccer Federation said Thursday. The diagnosis was made after an X-ray and MRI on Tuesday.

He would not have been able to play during the remainder of the tournament had the U.S. advanced.

Pulisic is expected to resume training before AC Milan's Serie A opener at Torino on Aug. 23.

Pulisic hit a leg of Belgium captain Youri Tielemans while attempting a shot in the 52nd minute of Monday's 4-1 round-of-16 loss at Seattle. He remained in the game but was hobbling and Sebastian Berhalter replaced him in the 59th minute.

Pulisic failed to score in the World Cup, missing one of the Americans' five matches because of a calf injury and leaving two other games early. He has 30 goals in 90 international appearances.

Pulisic, who turns 28 in September, is entering his fourth season with Milan.

# OBITUARIES

## JOSEPH ERNEST LOGAN JR.

MOREHEAD, North Carolina — Joseph "Joey" Ernest Logan Jr., 87, passed away peacefully on Saturday, July 4, 2026.


LOGAN

Joe was born in Sumter, South Carolina, on March 6, 1939. He graduated from Edmunds High School in Sumter in 1957 and from the University of South Carolina in 1961. He worked in Sumter for a short while after graduation, then was with Price Waterhouse & Co. in Atlanta where he met and married Anne Chambers in 1967. Joe was lured to the coast of North Carolina by his friend and fraternity brother Joe Harley of New Bern, and they opened a Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet in Havelock, N.C., in 1968. Joe subsequently opened a second location in Morehead City, N.C., where he resided.

Joe never met a stranger, making many friends everywhere he lived. His sharp sense of humor never turned off: Joe was always ready with a story with a humorous twist, even if he were the object of the joke. His impressive memory never forgot a detail or a good joke, which he thoroughly enjoyed telling. And telling. And telling. A good joke never wears out was his philosophy.

Joe worked for a CPA firm in Myrtle Beach for a few years to complete his work experience to earn his CPA. While working there, he built a beach house at Crescent Beach (now N. Myrtle Beach) and stayed there during tax time each year. He became friends with his Realtor, participating in many late-night card games with the Realtor group.

Joe mentioned that their business would be much better if they could figure out how to get people to come to the beach in the wintertime, and the result was the first public golf course on the Grand Strand. That started a tsunami of golf courses!

Joe was a generous person. Many people were recipients of Joe's charitable nature, especially those who needed it the most. Most of his generosity was anonymous: He was not doing it for the recognition, but because it was the right thing to do. He believed in giving people a hand up, not a handout. Recipients of his philanthropy include the Carteret County Habitat for Humanity and the Carteret County Community College among many others. Through his will, he will also support the Sumter County Habitat for Humanity.

Joe was preceded by his father Joseph E. Logan Sr., his mother Myrtis Baker Logan, his sister Agnes Logan and his wife, Anne. He is survived by his brother Gordon of Georgetown, Texas. He will be missed by all whom he touched.

Family and friends are welcome to submit online condolences at *www.mundenfuneralhome.net*.

Arrangements by Munden Funeral Home, Morehead City, N.C.

## GEORGE WASHINGTON MAPLE

George Washington Maple, 82, husband of Virginia Singleton Maple and son of the late Thomas Pringle and Vermell Singleton Jones, was born on Feb. 22, 1944, in Sumter. He departed this life on Monday, July 6, 2026, at Prisma Health Richland Hospital, Columbia, S.C.


MAPLE

Public viewing was held on Friday, July 10, 2026, from 2 to 6 p.m.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, July 11, 2026, at Salem Chapel & Heritage Center, 101 S. Salem Ave., Sumter, with Apostle Dr. Dorothy P. Maple, officiating.

Interment will follow in Community Church of Praise Memorial Gardens, Sumter.

Family will be receiving friends at, 935 N. St. Pauls Church Road, Sumter, daily from 3 to 7 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*.

## SUE TRIPLETT TOWERY

Sue Triplett Towery, born May 12, 1944, wife of Dr. Michael S. Towery, went to our Lord on Saturday, July 4, 2026, at Covenant Place, Sumter, South Carolina.


TOWERY

She was born a coal miner's daughter in Asco, West Virginia, to the late Juney Turner Triplett and Necy King Triplett. She was raised in Davey, W.V., and later moved to Roanoke, Virginia, where she finished high school. She continued her education in Richmond at Medical College of Virginia, now part of VCU, where she obtained a degree in nursing. It is there she met her husband of over 60 years while he was attending dental school. After finishing, they moved to Sumter, where she worked as a nurse at then Tuomey Hospital for several years before "retiring" to raise her two sons. As a Christian woman, she truly lived a life of service. She dedicated her life to her church, family and community.

Sue was a member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, where she was member of the UMW. She served numerous organizations over the years, but most notably, she was a past member of the Sumter Jr. Welfare League, former member of the board of the Sumter Gallery of Art, former member of the board of the S.C. Department of Mental Health, and finally the American Red Cross. Here she served at the local, state and national levels for 34 years. She received every award available to a Red Cross volunteer but the one that stands out is also their highest honor, the Clara Barton Award, named for the organization's founder. She loved to cook and bake. She was especially well known for her holiday rum cakes. She enjoyed walks around the neighborhood socializing with neighbors, spending weekends at the family lake house on Lake Marion and later at the family creek house at Edisto. Here she loved going for long boat rides with her grandkids to observe wildlife, especially dolphins. Along with being an accomplished bridge player, she was also an avid reader.

Surviving are her husband; two sons, Lance Triplett Towery (Colleen) and Shane McCurry Towery; four grandchildren, Grace T. McAvoy (Daniel), Michael B. Towery, Saylor D. Towery and Samet "Sam" J. Towery; three step-grandchildren, Allison N. Robinson (Josh), Jennifer E. Bardon (Brad) and Nicholas (Stacy) B. Wissner; as well as three generations of nieces and nephews.

She was youngest and last surviving child of 12 siblings. Brothers Alfred, Johnny and Tommy. Sisters Margaret, Betty, Dora, Mable, Gladys, Frances (Peachy), Brenda and Eleanor (Chick).

Memorial services will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, July 12, 2026, in the Chapel of the Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home with Rev. David Day officiating.

The family will receive friends from 2 to 3 p.m. one hour prior to the service.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 4600 Park Rd. Charlotte, NC 28209, or to the American Red Cross- Sumter Chapter- 209 Miller Rd. Sumter, SC 29150.

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.

Elmore Hill McCreight
Funeral Home and Crematory

## FARINCEE ANN JAMES

Farincee Ann James, daughter of the late Charles Merritt and Evanna Merritt, was born on Jan. 3, 1953, in Manhattan (Harlem), New York. She entered eternal rest on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at her residence in Sumter, South Carolina. She received most of her education from New York City public schools and later enrolled in Liberty University to pursue a bachelor's degree before her health started to decline.

Memorial services were held at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 9, 2026, at Victory Praise Worship Center of Sumter, 841 N. Main St., Sumter, with Apostle P. F. Chambers, officiating.

Services directed by the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter. Online memorial messages may be sent to the family at *williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com*. Visit us on the web at *www.WilliamsFuneralHomeInc.com*.

## LAKEVIA DURANT

Lakevia Durant, 34, died Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at MUSC Medical Center, Charleston, South Carolina. Born Sept. 3, 1991, in Sumter, South Carolina. she was the daughter of Larry Durant and Barbara Shaw.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 103 Middle St., Sumter.

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

## ROSA WHITE

Rosa White, 80, died Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at her residence. Born Sept. 24, 1945, in Sumter, South Carolina, she was the daughter of the late Robert Lee Plowden and Gladys Gibson Plowden.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 831 Webb St., Sumter.

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

## JOHNNIE A. GORE JR.

Retired Sgt. Maj. (SGM) Johnnie A. Gore Jr., affectionately known as "Artis," peacefully entered eternal rest on Monday, July 6, 2026, at the age of 82. He was born on Nov. 12, 1943, in St. Charles, South Carolina, to the late Johnnie Gore Sr. and Jannie Wilson Gore.


GORE

A proud graduate of Mt. Pleasant High School, Class of 1962, Johnnie honorably served his country for 26 years in the United States Army, earning and retiring with the distinguished rank of sergeant major. He was also a faithful member of Unionville AME Church, where he served on several committees, and a dedicated trustee of VFW Post 10813 in Sumter.

Johnnie will be remembered as a man of unwavering integrity, loyalty and quiet strength. Above all, he was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, uncle, cousin and friend whose wisdom, kindness and steadfast love left a lasting impression on all who knew him.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his beloved wife, Joan Porter Gore; his children, Stacey Gore of Columbia, S.C., Ozeda "Chantae" (John) Robinson, Johnnie (Crystal) Gore III, Jerrell Gore, Alexcia Gore Smoot, all of Sumter, and Michelle Shannon of Charlotte, N.C.; his grandchildren, to include Jayceon Smoot of the home; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family and many dear friends.

Celebration of Life services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, July 11, 2026, at Unionville AME Church, 1330 Swimming Pen Road, with the Rev. Jerome McCray, pastor.

Burial will follow in Fort Jackson National Cemetery, 4170 Percival Road, Columbia, at 10 a.m. Monday, July 13, 2026.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 101 Vining St., Sumter.

Services directed by the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter, South Carolina. Online messages may be sent to the family at *williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com*. Visit us on the web at *www.williamsfuneralhomeinc.com*.

## DONALD FRANCIS HENRY JR.

Donald Francis Henry Jr., 81, beloved husband of Laura Egnozzi Henry, died Monday, July 6, 2026, at his home surrounded by his loving family.


HENRY

Born Feb. 16, 1945, in Athens, Louisiana, he was a son of the late Donald F. Henry Sr. and Mary Lynn Atkins Henry.

Don was a gifted athlete whose remarkable abilities became evident at an early age. He graduated from Athens High School, where his legendary talent on the basketball court earned him the rare distinction of having two of his jersey numbers retired. His athletic abilities earned him scholarships in both basketball and baseball to Centenary College, where he excelled as a student athlete and graduated with a bachelor's degree in business.

Don's exceptional talent did not go unnoticed. His abilities caught the attention of professional scouts, resulting in official offers from both the Cleveland Indians and the Chicago White Sox. Although he had the opportunity to pursue a career in professional sports, Don ultimately chose a different path. For him, family came first, and he chose to build a life centered around the people he loved most. He went on to enjoy a successful professional career before retiring several years ago.

As impressive as Don's athletic accomplishments were, those who knew him best understood that his greatest legacy was not found in records, retired numbers or professional opportunities. It was found in the life he built, the family he loved and the relationships he treasured.

Don shared 48 years of marriage with his loving and devoted wife, Laura. Their life together was built on love, companionship, commitment and the many memories they created through the years. He was deeply devoted to his family and took great pride in his children and grandchildren. To those closest to him, Don was much more than an accomplished athlete and successful businessman — he was a beloved husband, brother, father, grandfather and friend whose presence will be deeply missed.

Survivors include his wife, Laura; his dear sister, Lynnette Valentine; his children and their spouses, Debra and Michael Williams, M.D., Meredith and D.W. Youngblood, Alex Henry, Sean and Jill Lynch, and Lauren Henry; and his cherished grandchildren, Brennan, Tess, Hunner, Lanndan, Brendan, Josh, Jamie and Jackie.

Memorial services will be held at a later date in Athens, Louisiana.

Memorials in Don's name may be made to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 6704, Hagerstown, MD 21741 or online at donate.cancer.org.

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

Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home & Crematory, 221 Broad St., Sumter, is assisting the family with final arrangements, (803) 775-9386.

Elmore Hill McCreight
Funeral Home and Crematory

## FRANCES WILSON MCLEOD

Frances Wilson McLeod, daughter of the late Robert Wilson and Elsie Henry Wilson, was born June 8, 1928, in Lee County, South Carolina. She departed this earthly life on Monday, June 29, 2026, at the age of 98, in the comfort of her home.

His precious memories will be cherished by her children, family and a host of other relatives and friends.

Celebration of life services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 11, 2026, at New Zion AME Church, 78 Elliott Highway, Bishopville, with the Rev. Dr. Harold Conyers, pastor.

Burial will follow in New Zion AME Church Cemetery.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 151 Poinsett Drive, Sumter.

Services directed by the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter. Online memorial messages may be sent to the family at *williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com*. Visit us on the web at *www.WilliamsFuneralHomeInc.com*.

## JOE LOUIS ANDERSON

Joe Louis Anderson, 60, son of the late Jimmy Budden and Hattie Mae Anderson King, was born on March 6, 1966, in Sumter, South Carolina. He departed this life on Monday, July 6, 2026, at Prisma Health Richland Hospital, Columbia.

Family will be receiving friends at the home, 50 Carrol Drive, Sumter, daily from 3 to 7 p.m.

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

## NICHOLE ALAINE ERON CRIBB

Nichole Alaine Eron Cribb, 42, died Tuesday, July 7, 2026, in Summerville, South Carolina.


CRIBB

Born June 6, 1984, she was the daughter of Paul Joseph Eron and Cheryl Gober Eron.

Survivors in addition to her parents include one daughter, Hannah Britton; her maternal grandmother, Monica K. Gober; and a number of aunts, uncles, cousins and other extended family.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, July 12, 2026, in the Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Richard Harris officiating.

The family will receive friends from 2 to 3 p.m. Sunday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the home of her father, 210 Thomas Drive.

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

the Sumter ITEM CLASSIFIEDS

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## CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

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for the Wednesday edition

11:00 a.m. Friday
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.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### Beer & Wine License

**Notice Of Application**

Notice is hereby given that **Khodiyar One SC LLC** intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license permit that will allow the sale and **OFF** premises consumption of **BEER & WINE at 4580 Florence HWY, Mayesville SC 29104** to object to the issuance of this permit / license, written protest must be postmarked no later than **July 28, 2026** . 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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## MERCHANDISE

### Auctions

**Notice of Public Sale**
**Storage Rentals**
**of America**
**In accordance with the South Carolina Self-Service Storage Facilities Act, Storage Rentals of America will be conducting a public auction to satisfy the Owner's lien for the following units. Property contained within the unit(s) will be sold to the highest bidder via an online auction at *www.storagetreasures.com. Online bidding will begin on July 13th 2026 at 10 AM and will end on July 23rd 2026 at 10 AM, at which time a high bidder will be determined. Storage Rentals of America reserves the right to set minimum bids and to refuse bids. Please refer to www.storagetreasures.com for all other terms and conditions governing the bidding and auction process.**

**2830 N Main St, Columbia, SC, 29201**
**E05-Kimberly Perkins-Toys, Suitcase, Clothes**
**F29-Georgia Leon-Boxes, Bags, Lamp, Baseball bat, Bedframe, Shelf**
**G19-Kenneth Spellman-bike, rug, broom, mattresses, table, grill, couch. recliner**
**G67-JD Daskalakis-Bags, Golf clubs, Walking Pad, Lacrosse sticks, Boxes**
**H37-Regina McDaniel-Side Table, Chair, Keyboard, File cabinet**
**Q13-Ebony Pondexter-Bed Frame Box Spring**
**R1220-Dwain Potter-Boxes, Totes, Cart, Wooded Wheelchair**
**R60-Takhira Williams-bedframe, speaker, kids toys, box spring, air fryer, Chairs, Bags, Boxes**
**S01-Destynii Harris-Clothes, Totes, Triple Crockpot**

**1339 Garner Ln, Columbia, SC, 29210**
**0027-ELISHA ENGELBRECHT-BOXES, CHAIRS, TABLE, BOX FAN, MASSSAGE TABLE, EVENT TABLE**
**0049-SIERRA HOLMES-BOXES, TOTES, FOLDING TABLE, COT FRAME, KIDS TOYS, CLOTHES TOTE BAG WITH CLOTHES**
**0135-KELLEE GRIFFIS-BOXES, DRESSER, KITCHEN TABLE AND CHAIRS, BOOKSHELF, BABY GATE, CAR RIM, LUGGAGE, 3 AUTOMOBILE SEATS, SMALL DOOR**
**0142-NYKOLOS PETERSON-BOXES, TOTES, SOFA, TABLE CHAIRS, BOX SPRING, BED FRAME, TV, VACUUM, WASHER, DRYER, IRON BOARD**
**0199-SHERRI LOUISE CUNNINGHAM-TOTES, BED FRAME, BAR STOOLS, DRESSER, LUGGAGE, COOLER, REFRIGERATOR**
**0237-PATRICIA TAMMY RENEE PEPPER-TOTES, BAGS, LUGGAGE, TROPHY, CLOTHES, LUNCH COOLER**
**0243-BOBBY TINDALL-WEED EATER, BLOWER, LADDER, TOOL BAG, DRYER, FAN, PAINT SUPPLIES**

**901 Columbiana Dr, Irmo, SC, 29063**
**0066- ARRIANA JUAREZ- MISC ITEMS, BOXES, DRESSER, MICROWAVE, HEADBOARD**
**0091- JOEL NELSON- BOXES, MATTRESS, AC'S GENERATOR, ELECTRIC HEATER, BAGS, XMAS DECOR, COOLER**
**0164- JOEL NELSON- BOXES, TOTES, TOOLS, RACKS OF SHOES, SHELVES, WHEELCHAIR, BAGS, BUILDING MATERIAL, SPORTING EQUIPMENT, SIGNS**
**0173- ROSEMARY JONES- BOXES, PICTURES, TOTES**
**0185—SANDRIKA CARSWELL-BAGS, SHOES, MISC ITEMS**
**0325- SHAQUITA CLARK- TABLES, DRESSERS, CHAIRS, KID ITEMS, CRATES, WASHER AND DRYER, TOASTER OVEN**
**0327- NATASHA WILSON- BOXES, TOTES, BEDFRAME, SHELVES, MATTRESS, KID ITEMS, BAGS, BEDDING**

**4194 Broad St, Sumter, SC, 29154**
**0060-Sarah Cornell: Boxes, totes, furniture, miscellaneous appliances, baby stroller, dolly, horse saddle, bags of clothing, children's toys.**
**0248- Breanna Wilson- Boxes, totes, furniture, sofa, white organizer, folding chairs, electronics, 32' TV, appliances, washer and dryer, children's toys, bags of clothing, baby stroller, baby items**

**1073 Lake Murray Blvd, Irmo, SC, 29063**
**C37- FRANCENE FRIDAY- BOXES, TOTES, SMALL DRAWER, BIKE, WALL PICS, HELMET**
**D22- KEVIN MEETZE- BOXES, TOTES, MISC FURNITURE, CRATES, TV, BACKPACK, PORTABLE AC/HEAT, BEDDING, SPORTING GOODS**
**E26- JUAQUAN SMITH- BOXES, TOTES, TOOLS, MATTRESS, BOXSPRING, SHOEBOXES, DRAWER, SAFE, HOSES, WALL ART**
**F12- ASHAY BLAKELY- BOXES, TOTES, FURNITURE, DOLLY, WASHER & DRYER, FAN, DECOR**

**320 Amicks Ferry Rd, Chapin, SC, 29036**
**A125-Ayleah Cook-BABY TUB, CLOTHES, SHOES, STROLLER WALL ART, BOXES, PURSE CRIB, MATTRESS, BABY SWINGS, SUITCASE, TV, APPLIANCE AND TOTES.**
**O10011-Erica Cook-LAUNDRY BASKETS, DUFFLE BAG, BOXES, TOTES, TOYS, tv, CLOTHES BIKES AND TOOL.**
**O10047-Kim Griffin-LADDERS, LUMBER, TOOLS, CAMPER COVER, CHAIRS AND DRILL PRESS**

**2619 Broad St, Camden, SC, 29020**
**A086B-BARRY BRAZELL-SHOES, TOOL BAG, TOOLS, WAGON, TOTE, BAGS**
**C031S-LARRY ATKINS-BOX TV, ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, TABLE, CHAIR, BOXES**
**C051S-LATOYA KIND-CLOTHES, COUCH, BAGS, SHOES**
**C087S-ALICIA COOK-TV, TOTES, WALL ART, BOXES, WEEDEATER**
**C141S-CRIM DARRELL-BOXES, BAGS, TOASTER OVEN**
**DG20-KAILEIGH DAVIS-MATTRESS, BOXSPRING, HEADBOARD, MICROWAVE, BAGS, CHAIRS, DRAWERS**
**DG11-APRIL DUNHAM-CHRISTMAS TREE, BOXES, BAGS, CLOTHES**
**D10U-TAKESA LAMESHA CLARK-WASHER, DRYER, BOXES, BAGS, JACKET**
**O065B-JENNIFER MCWHIRT-BOXES, BAGS, MIRROR, WALLART, CABINET**

**1864 Dutch Fork Rd, Irmo, SC, 29063**
**D035- Helenna Patterson- Shelving, Mattress, Washer, Dryer, Electric Fireplace, Couch, Clothes, Bedframe, Headboard, Sectional**

**1025 Rauch-Metz, Irmo, SC, 29063**
**A1112- Mark Baatz- Candelabras, End Tables, Entertainment Center, Totes, Couch, Bedding, Wall Art, Headboard, China Cabinet, Display Case**
**A2164- Brenda Daniels- Boxes, Household Goods, Couches, Leaf Blower, Wall Art, Grill & Smoker, Lamps, Kids Electric Car, Ladder, House Décor, Totes, Luggage, Wicker Sofa, Headboard, Chair, Tools**
**A3124- Kaylyn Lowrey- Boxes, Totes, MusicEquipment, Shoes, Dresser, Amps, Wall Art, Luggage, Wagon, Mirror, Dining Room Server, Sound System, Cooler**
**A3172- Mark Baatz- Boxes, Curtains, Guitar Case, Small Mattress, Totes, Lamp, Chairs, Piano, Clothes, Leaf Blower, Baseball**

L037

### Auctions

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

**To satisfy the owner's storage lien, PS Retail Sales, LLC will sell at public lien sale on July 22, 2026, 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.**
**106 - Chisholm, Jermel;**
**137 - Champagne, Quadasha;**
**203 - Lane-Owens, Myasia;**
**217 - Absher, Tina;**
**424 - Johnson, Sylandra;**
**452 - Sumpter, Dasha;**
**458 - Dixon, Phyllis;**
**510 - Bristle, Lloyd;**
**542 - Chukes, Janean;**
**561 - Cobbins, Jhamylin;**
**565 - Newell, Shayla;**
**634 - Brand, Antwaine;**
**646 - Clark, Jameshia**

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 08604,**
**1277 Camden Hwy,**
**Sumter, SC 29153,**
**(803) 218-9507**
**Time: 10:20 AM**
**Sale to be held at**
**www.storagetreasures.com.**
**B006 - Walder, Kobe;**
**B024 - Bradley, Vanga;**
**B092 - Wactor, India;**
**B094 - Dean, Nichole;**
**E028 - Hodge, Eva;**
**E063 - Ludd, Latoya;**
**F004 - steplight, Janiya;**
**F035 - Townsend, Tremaine;**
**G008 - Cooper, Ella**

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 25925,**
**3785 Broad St,**
**Sumter, SC 29154,**
**(803) 282-9826**
**Time: 10:40 AM**
**Sale to be held at**
**www.storagetreasures.com.**
**0102 - Holston, Jharius;**
**0212 - Ramsey, Yulanda;**
**0308 - Mckenzie, Lakeisha Michelle;**
**0311 - Durant, Dorothea;**
**0440 - Haight, Sara;**
**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.**

### Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

**YARD SALE:**
**936 Tristan St. Sumter.,**
Sat July 11th 8am-12 noon. Furniture, electronics, household items, misc.

**GARAGE GIVEAWAY**
**Lighthouse Baptist Church**
**1130 North St Paul's Church Rd**
**Sumter SC**
**Saturday,**
**July 11th, 8am-12pm**

### For Sale or Trade

**For sale:**
**2 cemetery spaces in the Veteran's Garden at Evergreen Cemetery Park, Sumter, SC**
**Seller will pay transfer fee. $1600**
**Please contact 803-316-7433**

## EMPLOYMENT

### Help Wanted Part-Time

**Seeking caregiver in Dalzell area to come 4-5 hours in the morning 3 days a week. Contact 803-295-6865 if interested.**

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## RENTALS

### Unfurnished Homes

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6 'Jaws' puts summertime bite into AMC



7 The end zone: 'All American' wraps up with eighth season



7 'Dancing With the Stars: The Next Pro'

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# Back in the swing: Ferrell, Shannon star in golf comedy 'The Hawk'

**BY DANA SIMPSON**

The Professional Golfers' Association (or PGA, as it is more commonly known) has made the news several times this year for changes to the PGA Tour's eligibility criteria and game rules. According to Golf.com, these changes come on the heels of "new investment, new leadership, new schedules" and changes to field sizes, but one change golf fans likely never saw coming was the PGA Tour's involvement in a new series on Netflix.

Yes, in addition to implementing "five new model local rules" and one protocol modification (per Golf.com) as of the Sony Open in Hawaii this past January, the PGA Tour is a partner in "The Hawk," a new 10-episode comedy series from writer, producer and star Will Ferrell ("Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy," 2004). "The Hawk" premieres Thursday, July 16, on Netflix.

The series follows fictional professional golfer Lonnie "The Hawk" Hawkins (Ferrell), who is struggling to maintain relevance in a game he once mastered. Back in 2004, Lonnie was a golfing legend, but a lot has changed in the world of professional sports — and in his personal life — since his time at the top of the leaderboard.

"Lonnie Hawkins ... struggles on the back nine of his career to recapture his magic," reads the series descriptions per Netflix's Tudum press site. "His body says retire, but his heart says he's not done yet. His ex-wife and his son Lance, golf's new golden boy, know he's through. But with one more major to win to complete golf's Grand Slam, Lonnie refuses to believe he's anything other than one stroke away from the greatest comeback in golf history."

Joining Ferrell in "The Hawk" is his "Saturday Night Live" co-star Molly Shannon, a well-established and popular comedian who is no doubt familiar to fans of Ferrell's other work. Shannon has starred alongside Ferrell in 11 known projects to date, including "A Night at the Roxbury," (1998), "Superstar" (1999), "The Spoils of Babylon," the aforementioned 2006 film "Talladega Nights" and a 2024 documentary titled "Will & Harper."

In "The Hawk," Shannon portrays Hawkins' foul-mouthed estranged wife Stacy, who happens to be one of many trying to be supportive while ultimately urging Hawkins to retire and enjoy the downtime he has earned. Stacy is also a proud mother to her and Hawkins' adult son, Lance (Jimmy Tatro, "Home Economics"), who is a burgeoning professional golfer in his own right.

Katelyn Tarver ("Ballers") stars in the series as Natalie, a social media influencer and Lance's fiancee, while "The Mindy Project" and "Chelsea Lately" comedian Fortune Feimster stars as Hawkins' new caddy, Sam.

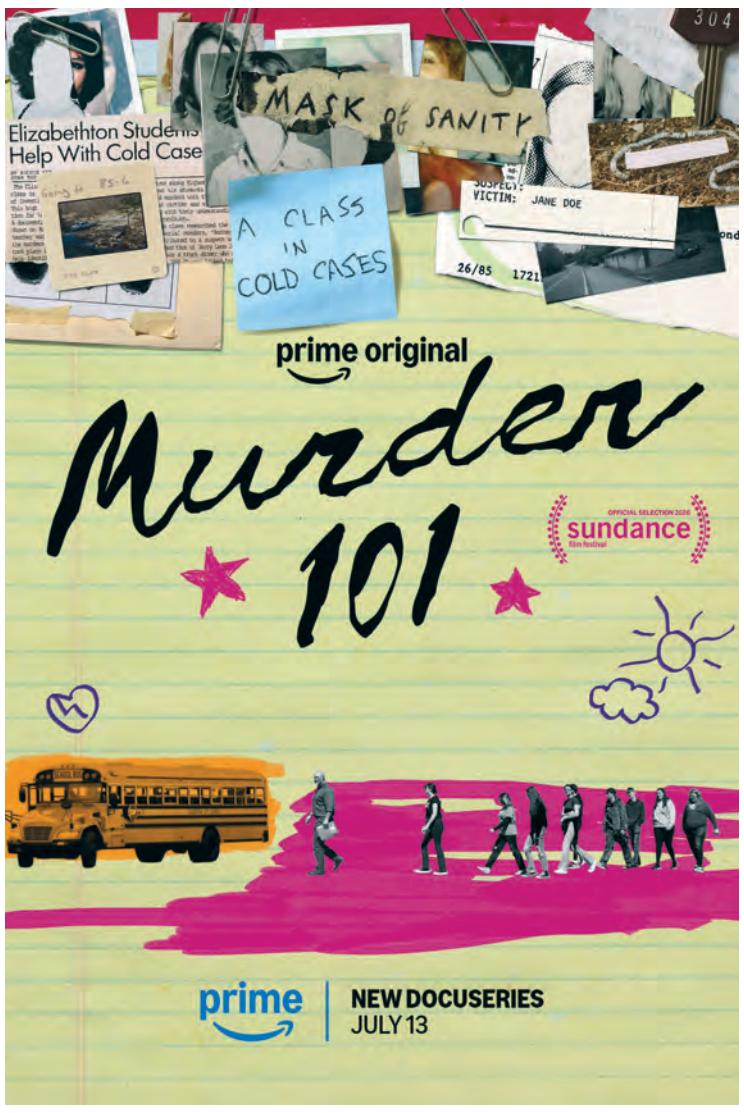
"Of course," reads the Tudum article, "there are still old rivals left to vanquish: Golden Fisk [Luke Wilson, 'Legally Blonde,' 2001], the pro golfer who's beaten Lonnie twice; PGA Tour board member Anton [Chris Parnell, 'Rick and Morty']; even Stacy's new beau, Radford [David Hornsby, 'Mythic Quest']. No one ever said this would be easy."

"The Hawk" is created by Ferrell, who executive produces with Jessica Elbaum ("Booksmart," 2019) and Alix Taylor ("P2," 2007) for Gloria Sanchez Productions.

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# New Streaming Movies & Shows

prime video




## "Murder 101" - Season 1 (July 13)

It started as a simple classroom project. But when students of Elizabethton High School discovered new leads in a local cold case, their classroom project quickly sparked a real-life investigation. Led by their teacher, Alex Campbell, these diligent students connected long-overlooked clues and brought fresh attention to victims of the Redhead Murders.

hulu




## "Rabbit Hole" - Season 1 (July 13)

Thirty-six influential online creators from platforms like YouTube, TikTok, Instagram and Twitch — including Josh Peck, Topper Guild, Zhong, Mackenzie Turner, Matthew Beem and Jesser — appear in this brand-new series, a "first-of-its-kind variety show for the digital generation" (per Hulu) that sees its ensemble cast taking part in epic collabs, unpredictable challenges and more.

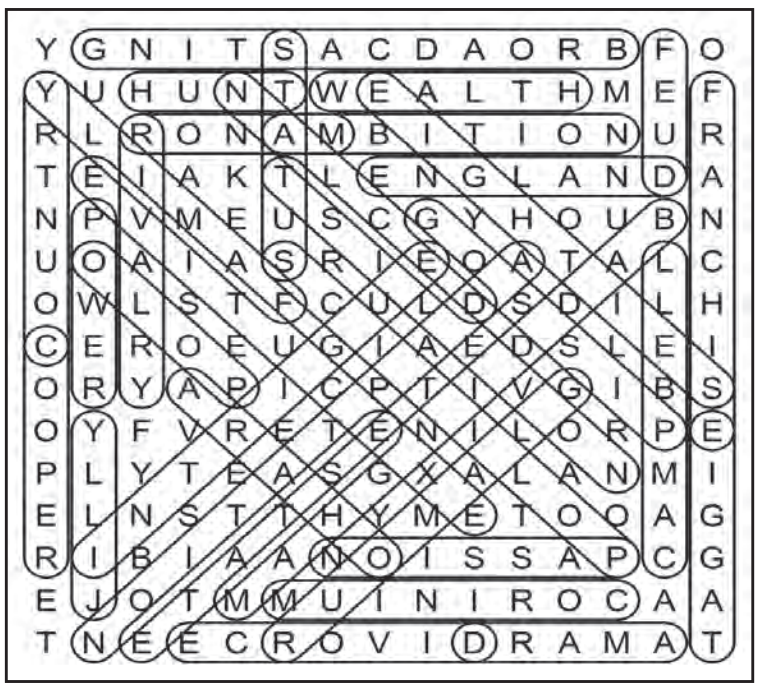
# Word Search

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

**Rivals**

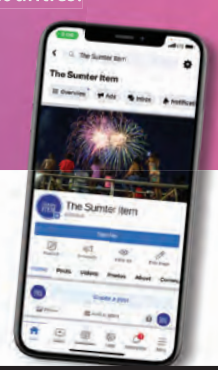
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COOPER
CORINIUM
COUNTRY
DECLAN
DIVORCE
DRAMA
EIGHTIES
ENGLAND
ESTATE
EXECUTIVE
FAMILY
FEUD
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## NETFLIX




### "The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes" (July 14)

Decades before the events of the original "Hunger Games" tetralogy, Coriolanus Snow (Tom Blyth) seeks to restore his family name by mentoring Lucy Gray Baird (Rachel Zegler) in the upcoming 10th Hunger Games. Things get complicated when Coriolanus finds himself falling for the enigmatic girl from District 12.

## Disney+




### "Marvel's Spidey and His Amazing Friends" - Season 5 (July 14)

Whether it's underwater, the ice cold Arctic, an erupting volcano or even outer space, Spidey and his friends are always there to save the day. This latest season introduces "Rescue-Webs," which allow Team Spidey to tackle even more daring missions alongside friends like Rocket, Groot, Mr. Fantastic and Silk.



# Q&A: Clint Eastwood

BY JAY BOBBIN

**Q: I've been seeing frequent TV showings of the Westerns that Clint Eastwood made overseas and that made him a superstar. Was he still doing the series "Rawhide" at the time he did those?**

A: For the first two of the three movies, yes. What's ironic is that "A Fistful of Dollars" (1964) originally was offered to his fellow CBS "Rawhide" star Eric Fleming, who turned it down. Another actor who rejected it was Richard Harrison, who reportedly was the one who recommended Eastwood to director Sergio Leone, and the rest is history. After several years of playing "Rawhide's" Rowdy Yates as an earnest good guy, Eastwood embraced the chance to play the darker shadings of The Man With No Name in the Leone pictures.

"A Fistful of Dollars" was enormously successful in Italy before it branched out internationally, prompting the sequel "For a Few Dollars More" (1965), though Eastwood initially hesitated to make it because he hadn't seen "Fistful" yet. The audience responded well to the latter film at a screening of a copy that was sent for Eastwood to view, convincing him to agree to the first "Fistful" follow-up.

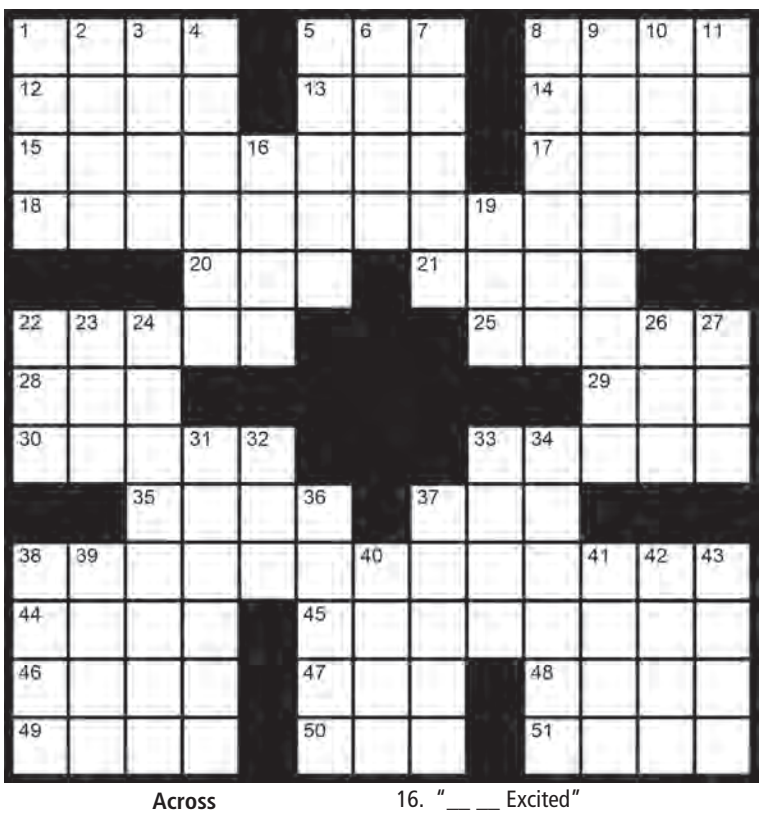
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# Crosswords



**Across**

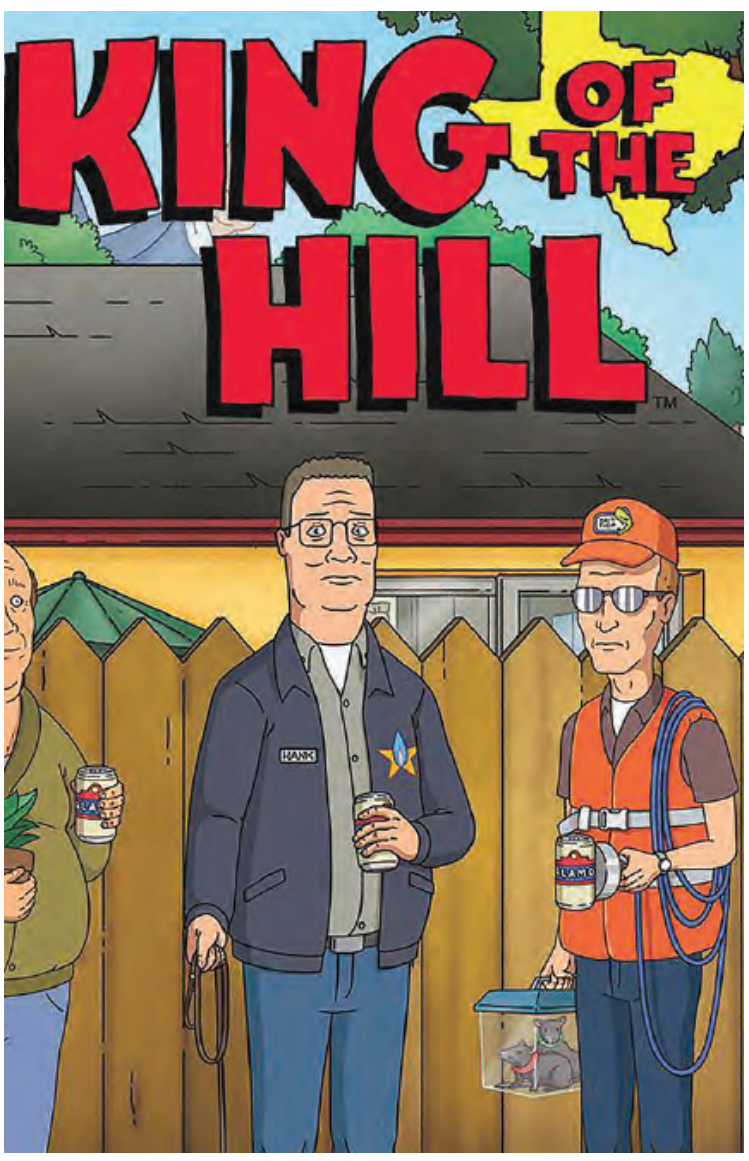
1. Stable color
5. "China Beach" setting
8. Box
12. Stamp of approval
13. Rope-a-dope boxer
14. Judd Hirsch series
15. Show with Mandy Moore
17. War god
18. Dystopian story that takes place in Gilead, with "The"
20. Soundless communication: Abbr.
21. Sanctioned
22. "Thong Song" rapper
25. F.D.R. and J.F.K., e.g.
28. Ruckus
29. Take a load off
30. Neighborhood
33. Take a nap, say
35. Many a homecoming attendee
37. "Well, lookee here!"
38. Thomas Middleditch series
44. Mice catchers
45. Fans of Conan O'Brien, colloquially
46. Losing proposition?
47. Olive byproduct
48. Declare
49. "No ifs, ___ ..."
50. "The Pitt" extras: Abbr.
51. Blab

**Down**

1. Buzzi of "Laugh-In"
2. Dept. of Labor division
3. Deuce follower
4. Big tech exchange
5. Twangy, as a voice
6. To him in Toulouse
7. Botch
8. New York's ___ Island
9. Sterling K. Brown series
10. Skating jump
11. Acclivity
16. "__ __ Excited" (Pointer Sisters hit)
19. Schuss, e.g.
22. Erie Canal mule
23. Wedding words
24. "My _ __ Life"
26. Standoff
27. "The Racer's Edge"
31. Elite party invitees
32. Enterprise captain Jean-___ Picard
33. Deception
34. Feline gif
36. Drive
37. Tracks
38. Scotch's partner
39. Declaration of victory
40. Rhineland negative
41. Zero
42. Environmental sci.
43. Cry of pain



# Coming Soon




**"King of the Hill" - Season 15 (Hulu — July 20, Season Premiere)**

Hank and Peggy Hill continue to explore new retirement hobbies as their Rainey Street neighbors Dale, Boomhauer and Bill keep them occupied in a new season of animated sitcom "King of the Hill." Navigating a tricky job market, Bobby tries to make it on his own as an entrepreneur while an old friendship enters new territory when he and Connie go Instagram official.

# Sudoku

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

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**

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

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## SUNDAY EVENING

SP=Spectrum FTC=Farm DTV=DirecTV — MOVIES — SPORTS — KIDS — JULY 12, 2026

| | 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** Western Regional Finals Cutdown (N) | | | **WNBA** (N) (Live) | **WNBA** Indiana Fever at Las Vegas Aces From Michelob ULTRA Arena in Las Vegas. (N) (Live) | | | | **WIS News 10 at 11** | **Awareness** |
| WKTC | 4 | 22 | 63 | **Chicago P.D.** "Trouble Dolls" | | **Suits** "Toe to Toe" | | **Suits** "Privilege" | | **Suits** "Hitting Home" | | **Suits** "Mea Culpa" | | **Suits** "Uninvited Guests" | |
| WOLO | 5 | 12 | 25 | **ABC World News** (N) | **Queen City Country** | **America's Funniest Home Videos** (N) | | **Funniest Home Videos** | (:35) ✪★★★ **What About Bob?** ('91) Richard Dreyfuss, Julie Hagerty, Bill Murray. | | | | | **News** (N) | **Paid Prog.** |
| WACH | 6 | 6 | 57 | (5:00) ✪★★ **The Karate Kid Part III** ('89) Ralph Macchio. | | **The 1% Club** "The 1% Smack Down" | | **The Simpsons** | **Animal Control** | **Universal Basic Guys** | **Grimsburg** "Mo11y" | **News** (N) (Live) | **She's in the Game** | **Sharyl Attkisson** | **The Big Bang Theory** |
| NWSN | 8 | 172 | 307 | **NewsNation Live** (N) (Live) | | **NewsNation Live** (N) (Live) | | **NewsNation Prime** (N) (Live) | | **NewsNation Prime** (N) (Live) | | **NewsNation Prime** (N) (Live) | | **NewsNation Prime** (N) (Live) | |
| WLTX | 9 | 9 | 19 | **News 19 at 6pm** (N) | **CBS Evening News** (N) | **60 Minutes** (N) | | **Big Brother** (N) | | | **Georgie & M.** | **Marshals** "Family Business" | | **News 19 at 11pm** | **Face the Nation** (N) |
| WRJA | 11 | 14 | | **The Chelsea Detective** "Mrs Romano: Part 1" | | **Shakespeare and Hathaway -- Private Investigators** | | **Patience** "The Runes" (N) | | **Grantchester on Masterpiece** (N) | | **Downton Abbey on Masterpiece** | | **Murder in the Mountains** "Redemption" | |
| WZRB | 13 | 18 | 47 | **NCIS** "Neverland" | | **NCIS** "Stop the Bleeding" | | **NCIS** "Personal Day" | | **NCIS** "Incognito" | | **NCIS** "Double Trouble" | | **NCIS** "Lockdown" | |
| NICK | 16 | 210 | 299 | **SpongeBob SquarePants** | **SpongeBob SquarePants** | **Friends** | **Friends** | **Friends** | **Friends** | **Friends** | **Friends** | **The Big Bang Theory** | **The Big Bang Theory** | **The Big Bang Theory** | **The Big Bang Theory** |
| TOON | 17 | 203 | 296 | **Burgers** | **Burgers** | **Burgers** | **Family Guy** | **Family Guy** "Blue Harvest" | | **Family Guy** | **Family Guy** | **Family Guy** | **Rick Morty** | **Rick Morty** | **Rick Morty** |
| DISNEY | 18 | 200 | 290 | **Big City Greens** | (:25) **Big City/** (:50) **Toy Story** | ✪★★★★ **Ratatouille** ('07) Voices of Ian Holm, Lou Romano, Patton Oswalt. A French rat longs to become a chef. | | | | **Dragon Striker** | **Dragon Striker** "Fifth Banner, The" | | | **Ladybug** "Yaksi Gozen" | **Ladybug** "Grendiaper" |
| FREFRM | 20 | 131 | 311 | (4:45) ✪★★★★ **Up** ('09) Ed Asner. | | (:55) ✪★★★★★ **Finding Nemo** ('03) Voices of Ellen DeGeneres, Alexander Gould, Albert Brooks. | | | | | (:25) ✪★★★★ **Finding Dory** ('16) Voices of Albert Brooks, Ed O'Neill, Ellen DeGeneres. | | | | ✪ **Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile** |
| FDSE | 21 | 47 | 649 | **3Ice Draft Special** (N) | | **Fight Sports MMA** Amanda Lino vs. Manon Fiorot | | **United Fight Alliance** UFA 484 | | **Fight Sports: Boxing** Marcos Rene Maidana vs. Erik Morales | | | | **3Ice Draft Special** | |
| NATGEO | 22 | 113 | 276 | **Counting Jaws** | | **The Croc That Ate Jaws: Ancient Enemies** | | **Jaws Invasion** | | **Jaws @ 50: The Definitive Inside Story** | | | | **Sharks Gone Viral** | |
| TNT | 23 | 158 | 245 | **NASCAR Nation Pre-Race** (N) | | **NASCAR Cup Series** Quaker State 400 From EchoPark Speedway in Hampton, Ga. (N) (Live) | | | | | | | **NASCAR Nat** (N) | **Imp. Jokers** "Vac Attack" | **Jokers** "Let's Get Crackin'" |
| 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** | **The Big Bang Theory** | **The Big Bang Theory** |
| USA | 25 | 132 | 242 | **Law & Order: SVU** | | **Law-SVU** "Jumped In" | | **Law-SVU** "Soldier Up" | | **Law-SVU** "Blood Out" | | **Law-SVU** "Cornered" | | **Law-SVU** "Shock Collar" | |
| ESPN | 26 | 35 | 206 | **ESPN Doc.** | **Countdown** | **WNBA Basketball** Chicago Sky at Dallas Wings (N) (Live) | | | | **Basketball** San Antonio Spurs vs. Milwaukee Bucks (N) | | | | **SportsCenter** (N) (Live) | |
| TRUTV | 38 | 129 | 246 | **NASCAR Nation Pre-Race** (N) (Live) | | **NASCAR Cup Series** Quaker State 400 From EchoPark Speedway in Hampton, Ga. (N) (Live) | | | | | | | **NASCAR Nat** (N) (Live) | **Imp. Jokers** "Panty Raid" | **Imp. Jokers** "Out of TP" |
| SHOPHQ | 30 | | 73 | (3:00) **Channel No** | | **Channel No Longer Available** | | | | | | | | **Channel No** | |
| TWC | 32 | 24 | 362 | **Could You Survive?** | | **Could You Survive?** | | **Heavy** "Skyway Thru Hell" | | **Heavy Rescue: 401** | | **Heavy Rescue: 401** | | **Backroad Truckers** | |
| 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 With** (N) (Live) | | **Life, Liberty & Levin** | |
| HGTV | 39 | 112 | 229 | **Renovation Aloha** "Squatter Shutdown" | | **Renovation Aloha** "The Cockroach House" | | **Renovation Island** "Anchors Aweigh" (N) (SF) | | **Love It or List It** "Moms at Odds" | | **House Hunters** (N) | **House Hunters** | **House Hunters** | **House Hunters** |
| FOOD | 40 | 109 | 231 | **Beat Bobby Flay** | **Beat Bobby Flay** | **Beat Bobby** "Say What?!" | **Beat Bobby Flay** | **100 Cooks** "18 Cooks Survive" | | **100 Cooks** "The Last 14" (N) | | **Food Network's Top 10** "Noodles" | | **Food Network's Top 10** "Sweets" | |
| ANPL | 41 | 100 | 282 | **Yellowstone Wardens** | | **Yellowstone Wardens** | | **Yellowstone Wardens** "Memories to Last a Lifetime" | | | | **Yellowstone Wardens** "Hunters in Hot Water" | | | |
| DISCV | 42 | 103 | 278 | **Naked and Afraid: Global Showdown** "Sharp Spears, Broken Spirits" (N) | | | | **Naked and Afraid: Global Showdown** "Smoking the Competition" (N) | | | | **In the Eye of the Storm** "Monster in Michigan" (N) | | **In the Eye of the Storm: Chasers** "Spin City" | |
| TLC | 43 | 157 | 280 | **90 Day Fiancé** (N) | | **90 Day Fiancé** (N) | | **90 Day Fiancé** "I'm Questioning Everything" (N) | | | | **90 Day Diaries** (N) | | **Jay & Pamela** | |
| HIST | 45 | 110 | 269 | **Hazardous History** "Hell On Wheels" | | **Hazardous History** "Very Extreme Sports" | | **Hazardous History** "Young & the Reckless" | | **Hazardous History** "Insane Inventions" (N) | | (:05) **Built America** "Let's Get Cracker-ing" (N) | | (:05) **The Food That Built America** "Spilling the Tea" | |
| A&E | 46 | 130 | 265 | **WWE's** | **WWE's** | **WWE's** | **WWE's** | **WWE's** | **WWE's** | **WWE's** | **WWE's** | **WWE LFG** (N) | | (:05) **WWE's** | (:35) **WWE's** |
| AMC | 48 | 180 | 254 | (4:00) ✪ **Back to the Future P...** | ✪★★★★ **Back to the Future** ('85) Christopher Lloyd, Crispin Glover, Michael J. Fox. | | | | | **The Vampire Lestat** "Montreal" (N) | | (:15) **The Vampire Lestat** "Montreal" | | | ✪ **Breakfast Club** |
| TCM | 49 | 186 | 256 | ✪★★★★★ **In Which We Serve** ('42) John Mills, Bernard Miles, Noel Coward. | | | | ✪★★★★★ **Rear Window** ('54) Grace Kelly, Wendell Corey, James Stewart. | | | | ✪★★★ **High Society** ('56) Grace Kelly, Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby. | | | |
| LIFE | 50 | 145 | 252 | ✪ **The Wife Who Knew Too Much** ('25) Tiffany Montgomery, Matthew Pohlkamp, Nicole Unger. | | | | ✪ **Someone's Always Watching** ('26) Mike Markoff, Ella Frazee. (P) | | | | (:05) ✪ **Terror Comes Knocking: The Marcela Borges Story** ('25) Johnathan Sousa, Dascha Polanco. | | | |
| HALL | 52 | 183 | 312 | ✪ **O Little Christmas Market** ('26) Stephen Huszar, Katherine Barrell. | | | | ✪ **Following Yonder Star** ('24) John Brotherton, Isla Verot, Brooke D'Orsay. | | | | ✪ **Once Upon a Christmas Miracle** ('18) Brett Dalton, Lolita Davidovich, Aimee Teegarden. | | | |
| FX | 54 | 154 | 248 | (5:00) ✪★★★★ **Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2** ('17) Zoe Saldaña, Bradley Cooper, Chris Pratt. | | | | ✪★★★★ **Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3** ('23) Zoe Saldaña, Dave Bautista, Chris Pratt. Peter Quill must rally his team to defend the universe and protect one of their own. | | | | | | ✪★★ **Bad Boys** ('95) | |
| TVLAND | 55 | 161 | 304 | **Raymond** | **Raymond** | **Raymond** | (:35) **Raymond** | (:10) **Raymond** | (:45) **Raymond** | (:20) **Everybody Raymond** | | (:55) **Raymond** | **Raymond** | **Seinfeld** | **Seinfeld** |
| E! | 56 | 138 | 236 | (5:30) ✪★★★★ **Ocean's Eleven** ('01) George Clooney. | | | | ✪★★★★ **Ocean's Twelve** ('04) Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, George Clooney. | | | | | | ✪★★★★ **Ocean's Thirteen** | |
| COMEDY | 57 | 136 | 249 | **Seinfeld** | **Seinfeld** | **Seinfeld** | **Seinfeld** | **Seinfeld** | **Seinfeld** | **Family Guy** | **Family Guy** | **Family Guy** | **Family Guy** | **Family Guy** | **South Park** |
| SYFY | 58 | 152 | 244 | (5:30) ✪★★ **Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom** ('18) Bryce Dallas Howard, Jeff Goldblum, Chris Pratt. | | | | | ✪★★ **Red** ('10) Morgan Freeman, John Malkovich, Bruce Willis. | | | | | ✪★★ **Red 2** ('13) John Malkovich, Bruce Willis. | |
| BET | 61 | 162 | 329 | (4:00) ✪ **Coming to America** | | **Celebrity Family Feud** | | **Celebrity Family Feud** | | **Celebrity Family Feud** | | (:10) **Celebrity Family Feud** | | (:20) **Celebrity Family Feud** | |
| PARMT | 64 | 153 | 241 | **Bar Rescue** "Horseshoe Bend It Like "Bar Rescue"" | | **Bar Rescue** "Long Island Mess" | | **Bar Rescue** "The World Famous Raw Chicken Wings" | | **Bar Rescue** "One Man Brand" | | **Bar Rescue** "Alley Cat-astrophe" | | **Bar Rescue** "Hair of the Big Dog" | |
| LMN | 66 | 185 | 253 | ✪ **The Lies We Bury** ('25) Doug Noble, Brian Childers, Kyla Nova. A young lawyer uncovers murder and corruption. | | | | ✪ **The Past Is Never Buried** ('26) Ulisses Gonsalves, Allison Bailey, Bonnie Jean Tyer. | | | | ✪ **Where Pretty Girls Die** ('25) Dillon Peyerk, Kylie Delre, Kim Sandwich. | | | |
| GOLF | 69 | 52 | 218 | (4:00) **PGA Tour Golf** | | **Golf Central** (N) (Live) | | **PGA Tour Golf** Genesis Scottish Open, Final Round | | | | **2026 The Amundi Evian Championship** Final Round | | | |
| OWN | 72 | 104 | 279 | **Evidence** "It's About Danni" | | **48 Hours: Hard Evidence** | | **48 Hours: Hard Evid.** (N) | | **48 Hours: Hard Evid.** (N) | | **48 Hours: Hard Evidence** | | **Evidence** "Fatal First Date" | |
| OXY | 76 | 150 | 251 | **Snapped: Killer Couples** (N) | | **The Killer Among Us** (N) | | **Real Murders** "Officer Down" | | **Snapped: Killer Couples** | | **The Killer Among Us** | | **The Killer Among Us** | |
| NBATV | 308 | | 216 | (5:00) **WNBA Shot** June | | **NBA Playback: Summer League** | | | **Playback** 2026: Detroit Pistons at Oklahoma City Thunder | | | | **WNBA Playback** | | |
| HBO | 511 | 350 | 501 | (5:45) **House Dg** | (:55) **House of the Dragon** "Queen's Landing" | | | (:55) **House of the Dragon** | | **House of the Dragon** (N) | | (:05) **House of the Dragon** | | (:10) **House of the Dragon** | |
| MAX | 531 | 370 | 515 | (5:20) ✪★★ **Elevation** | (:55) ✪★★ **Green Lantern** ('11) Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard, Ryan Reynolds. | | | | (:45) ✪★★★ **Shazam!** ('19) Mark Strong, Asher Angel, Zachary Levi. | | | | | ✪★★ **Shazam! Fury of the Gods** ('23) Zachary Levi. | |
| PARSHO | 551 | 300 | 545 | (:15) ✪★ **Expend4bles** ('23) Sylvester Stallone, Andy Garcia, Jason Statham. | | | | **The Chi** | | **The Chi** (N) | | ✪★★ **The Expendables** ('10) Jason Statham, Jet Li, Sylvester Stallone. | | | (:45) **The Chi** |
| TMC | 571 | 316 | 553 | (:05) ✪ **The Infernal Machine** ('22) Alice Eve, Jeremy Davies, Guy Pearce. | | | | ✪ **Old Guy** ('24) Lucy Liu, Cooper Hoffman, Christoph Waltz. | | | (:35) ✪ **Guns Up** ('25) Christina Ricci, Luis Guzmán, Kevin James. | | | (:10) ✪ **Run & Gun** ('21) Brad William Henke, Ben Milliken. | |
| STARZ | 581 | 330 | 525 | (5:45) **The Listeners** | ✪★★★ **Mo' Money** ('92) Marlon Wayans, Stacey Dash, Damon Wayans. | | | **Power Book III** | (:55) **The Listeners** "Episode 5" | | (:40) **Power Book III: Raising Kanan** | | (:35) **The Listeners** | (:25) **Power Book III: Raising Kanan** | |

## MONDAY EVENING

SP=Spectrum FTC=Farm DTV=DirecTV — MOVIES — SPORTS — KIDS — JULY 13, 2026

| | 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) | **St. Denis Medical** | **Reggie Dinkins** | **American Ninja Warrior** Eastern Regional Finals (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** | | **Modern Family** | **Modern Fam.** "Airport 2010" | **Suits** "Faith" | |
| WOLO | 5 | 12 | 25 | **News** (N) | **ABC World News** (N) | **Wheel of Fortune** | **Jeopardy!** (N) | **Dancing With the Stars: The Next Pro** (N) (P) | | **R.J. Decker** "Pilot" | | **R.J. Decker** "Twenty Pounds of Clem in a Ten-Pound Bag" | | **News** (N) | (:35) **J. Kimmel** (N) |
| WACH | 6 | 6 | 57 | **Family Feud** | **Family Feud** | **The Big Bang Theory** | **The Big Bang Theory** | **The 1% Club** "Singles Night" (N) | | **The Quiz With Balls** (N) | | **News** (N) (Live) | (:35) **WACH Fox** (N) (Live) | **The National News Desk** (N) (Live) | |
| NWSN | 8 | 172 | 307 | **The Hill with Blake Burman** (N) | | **Elizabeth Vargas Reports** (N) | | **Cuomo** (N) | | **On Balance With Leland Vittert** (N) | | **Katie Pavlich Tonight** (N) | | **Jesse Weber Live** (N) | |
| WLTX | 9 | 9 | 19 | **News 19 at 6pm** (N) | **CBS Evening News** (N) | **News 19 at 7pm** (N) | **Inside Edition** (N) | **Neighbor** | **Neighbor** | **FBI** "Boy Scout" | | **CIA** "Fatal Defect" | | **News 19 at 11pm** (N) | (:35) **Comics** (N) |
| WRJA | 11 | 14 | | **PBS News Hour** (N) | | **Travels With Darley** | **Weekends With Yankee** | **Antiques Roadshow** "Living History Farms Hour 2" | | **Diana's Decades** | | **Independent Lens** "Flood" (N) | | | **Amanpour** (N) |
| WZRB | 13 | 18 | 47 | **Blue Bloods** "Unbearable Loss" | | **Chicago P.D.** "Seven Indictments" | | **Chicago P.D.** "Favor, Affection, Malice or Ill-Will" | | **Chicago P.D.** "Emotional Proximity" | | **Chicago P.D.** "Remember the Devil" | | **Chicago P.D.** "Little Bit of Light" | |
| NICK | 16 | 210 | 299 | **SpongeBob SquarePants** | **SpongeBob SquarePants** | **Friends** | **Friends** | **Friends** | **Friends** | **Friends** | **Friends** | **Big Bang** "Pilot" | **The Big Bang Theory** | **The Big Bang Theory** | **The Big Bang Theory** |
| TOON | 17 | 203 | 296 | **Burgers** | **Burgers** | **Burgers** | **Burgers** | **Burgers** | **Family Guy** | **Family Guy** | **Family Guy** | **Family Guy** | **Family Guy** | **Rick Morty** | **Rick Morty** |
| DISNEY | 18 | 200 | 290 | (:55) ✪ **Descendants** ('15) Kristin Chenoweth, Sarah Jeffery, Dove Cameron. | | | | ✪ **Descendants 2** ('17) Cameron Boyce, Sofia Carson, Dove Cameron. When the pressure to be perfect gets to be too much for Mal, she returns to the Isle of the Lost. | | | | | | **Ladybug** "The Ruler" | **Ladybug** "Noe" |
| FREFRM | 20 | 131 | 311 | (5:00) ✪★★★★ **Tarzan** ('99) Tony Goldwyn. | | ✪★★★★★ **Toy Story** ('95) Voices of Tim Allen, Don Rickles, Tom Hanks. Toys come to life when people are absent. | | | | (:55) ✪★★★★★ **Toy Story 2** ('99) Voices of Tim Allen, Joan Cusack, Tom Hanks. Toys rescue Woody from a collector. | | | | **The 700 Club** | |
| FDSE | 21 | 47 | 649 | **Diggin' Deep** George Brett, Part 2 | | **Diggin' Deep** Dansby Swanson | | **Coaches Corner** World Cup Semifinals Preview (N) | | **Fight Sports: Boxing** Yuriorkis Gamboa vs. Marcus Ramirez (N) | | | | **Coaches Corner** World Cup Semifinals Preview | |
| NATGEO | 22 | 113 | 276 | **Sharks vs. Dolphins: Bahamas Battleground** | | **Attack of the Samurai Sharks** | | **Attack of the Red Sea Sharks** | | **Legend of Troy: The** "The Schliemann Legacy" (N) | | **Legend of Troy: The** "The Lost Age of Heroes" (N) | | **Shark Beach With Chris Hemsworth** | |
| TNT | 23 | 158 | 245 | (4:00) ✪★★★★ **Dune: Part Two** ('24) Zendaya, Rebecca Ferguson, Timothée Chalamet. | | | ✪★★★ **Man of Steel** ('13) Amy Adams, Michael Shannon, Henry Cavill. | | | | | (:15) ✪★★ **Joker: Folie à Deux** ('24) Lady Gaga, Brendan Gleeson, Joaquin Phoenix. | | | |
| 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** | **The Office** | **The Office** |
| USA | 25 | 132 | 242 | **Law & Order: SVU** | | **WNBA Basketball** Los Angeles Sparks at Atlanta Dream (N) (Live) | | | | | **Everything** | **Law-SVU** "Next Chapter" | | **Law-SVU** "Chasing Theo" | |
| ESPN | 26 | 35 | 206 | **SportsCenter** (N) (Live) | | **Basketball** Dallas Mavericks vs. Memphis Grizzlies (N) | | | | **NBA Basketball** Chicago Bulls vs. Utah Jazz (N) (Live) | | | | **SportsCenter** (N) (Live) | |
| TRUTV | 38 | 129 | 246 | **Jokers** "Sorry for Your Loss" | **Impractical Jokers** | ✪★★★ **Semi-Pro** ('08) Woody Harrelson, André Benjamin, Will Ferrell. | | | | ✪★★★ **Semi-Pro** ('08) Woody Harrelson, André Benjamin, Will Ferrell. | | | | **Wipeout** "Betting Battle" | |
| SHOPHQ | 30 | | 73 | (3:00) **Channel No** | | **Channel No Longer Available** | | | | | | | | **Channel No** | |
| TWC | 32 | 24 | 362 | **Weather Unfiltered** | | **Weather Unfiltered** | | **Weather Unfiltered** | | **Weather Unfiltered** | | **Top Ten Weather Wonders** | | **Top Ten Record Setters** | |
| CNBC | 35 | 84 | 355 | **Mad Money** (N) | | **Shark Tank** | | **Shark Tank** | | **Shark Tank** | | **Shark Tank** | | **Shark Tank** | |
| FNC | 37 | 90 | 360 | **With Bret Baier** (N) (Live) | | **Ingraham** (N) (Live) | | **Jesse Watters** (N) (Live) | | **Hannity** (N) (Live) | | **Gutfeld!** (N) | | **Fox News at Night** (N) (Live) | |
| HGTV | 39 | 112 | 229 | **House Hunters** | **House Hunters** | **House Hunters** | **House Hunters** | **Battle on the Beach** "Scrollstopping Spaces" | | **Battle on the Beach** "The Final Battle" (N) (SF) | | | **Crashers** "Kitchen Size Matters" (N) | | **House Hunters** |
| FOOD | 40 | 109 | 231 | **Beat Bobby Flay** | **Beat Bobby Flay** | **Beat Bobby Flay** | **Beat Bobby Flay** | **Beat Bobby Flay** | **Beat Bobby** "Filipino-GO!" | **Pitmasters** "Pit Kings: Up All Night" (N) | | | **Beat Bobby Flay** | **Beat Bobby Flay** | **Beat Bobby Flay** |
| ANPL | 41 | 100 | 282 | **Flying Wild Alaska** | | **Flying Wld** "Life or Death" | | **Flying Wld** "Indian Summer" | | **Flying Wld** "Tundra Taxis" | | **Flying Wld** "Greenhorn Ben" | | **Flying Wld** "Blow It Up" | |
| DISCV | 42 | 103 | 278 | **120 Hours Behind Bars** "Virginia Beach Correctional" | | **120 Hours Behind Bars** "Clayton County, Georgia" | | **Contraband: Seized at the Border** (N) | | **120 Hours Be.** "Clay County Detention Center" (N) (SP) | | **120 Hours Behind Bars** "Leake County Jail" | | **120 Hours Be.** "Caddo Parish Correctional Center" | |
| TLC | 43 | 157 | 280 | **90 Day: The Last Resort** | | **90 Day** "Fall on Your Sword" | | **90 Day: The Last Resort** (N) | | **Little Singles** (N) | | **90 Day: The Last Resort** (N) | | **90 Day Diaries** | |
| HIST | 45 | 110 | 269 | **World War II With Tom Hanks** "Overlord" | | **World War II With Tom Hanks** "Long Road to Tokyo" | | **World War II With Tom Hanks** "Home Front" (N) | | **World War II With Tom Hanks** "Resistance" (N) | | (:05) **History's Greatest** "Rocket Science" (N) | | **World War II With Tom Hanks** "Long Road to Tokyo" | |
| A&E | 46 | 130 | 265 | **Live PD: Great.** "Episode 40" | | **Live PD: Great.** "Episode 49" | | **Live PD: Great.** "Episode 8" | | **Live PD** "Episode 26" (N) | | **Late Night Law** (N) | | (:05) **Live PD** "Episode 25" | |
| AMC | 48 | 180 | 254 | (4:45) ✪★★★★ **War of the Worlds** ('05) Tom Cruise. | | **The Shawshank Redemption** ('94) Morgan Freeman, Bob Gunton, Tim Robbins. An innocent man goes to a Maine penitentiary for life in 1947. | | | | | | **The Green Mile** ('99) David Morse, Michael Clarke Duncan, Tom Hanks. | | | |
| TCM | 49 | 186 | 256 | (5:15) ✪★★★★ **Auntie Mame** ('58) Forrest Tucker, Coral Browne, Rosalind Russell. | | | | ✪★★★★ **Carnal Knowledge** ('71) Art Garfunkel, Ann-Margret, Jack Nicholson. | | | (:45) ✪★★★ **A Star Is Born** ('76) Kris Kristofferson, Gary Busey, Barbra Streisand. | | | | |
| LIFE | 50 | 145 | 252 | **Dr. Pimple Popper** "Retraining the Brain" | | **Dr. Pimple Popper** "Two Derms Are Better Than One" | | **Dr. Pimple Popper** "Painless Lee & Fearless Townley" | | **Dr. Pimple Popper** "Cleared for Surgery!" (N) | | (:05) **Dr. Pimple Popper** "A Bronx Bump" | | (:05) **Dr. Pimple Popper** "It's All in the Hips" | |
| HALL | 52 | 183 | 312 | ✪ **Christmas Under the Stars** ('19) Autumn Reeser, Clarke Peters, Jesse Metcalfe. | | | | ✪ **A Glenbrooke Christmas** ('20) Antonio Cupo, Lisa MacFadden, Autumn Reeser. | | | | **Golden Girls** "The Auction" | **Golden Girls** "Blind Date" | **The Golden Girls** | **The Golden Girls** |
| FX | 54 | 154 | 248 | (4:30) ✪★★★ **Bad Boys II** ('03) Will Smith, Jordi Mollà, Martin Lawrence. | | | ✪★★★★ **Independence Day** ('96) Bill Pullman, Jeff Goldblum, Will Smith. A select group of survivors makes a last-ditch stand against an alien invasion. | | | | | | ✪★★ **Independence Day: Resurgence** ('16) Jeff Goldblum, Liam Hemsworth. | | |
| TVLAND | 55 | 161 | 304 | **Andy Griffith** | **Andy Griffith** | **Raymond** | **Raymond** | **Raymond** | **Raymond** | **Raymond** | **Raymond** | **Raymond** | **Raymond** | **King** | **King** |
| E! | 56 | 138 | 236 | **Two Men** | **Two Men** | **Two Men** | **Two Men** | **Two Men** | **Two Men** | **Two Men** | **Two Men** | **Two Men** | **Two Men** | **Two Men** | **Two Men** |
| COMEDY | 57 | 136 | 249 | **The Office** | **The Office** | **The Office** | (:35) **The Office** | (:10) **The Office** | (:45) **The Office** | (:20) **The Office** | | (:55) **The Office** | **The Office** | **The Daily Show** (N) | |
| SYFY | 58 | 152 | 244 | (5:30) ✪★★★ **Red 2** ('13) John Malkovich, Mary-Louise Parker, Bruce Willis. | | | | ✪★★★ **Violent Night** ('22) John Leguizamo, Beverly D'Angelo, David Harbour. | | | | | ✪★★★ **The Green Hornet** ('11) Jay Chou, Cameron Diaz, Seth Rogen. | | |
| BET | 61 | 162 | 329 | **Celebrity Family Feud** | | **Celebrity Family Feud** | | **BIG3 Basketball** | | | | **Martin** | **Martin** | **Martin** | **Martin** |
| PARMT | 64 | 153 | 241 | ✪★★★★ **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone** ('01) Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Daniel Radcliffe. Harry Potter discovers that he is a wizard after he is invited to study at Hogwarts. (P) | | | | | | | ✪★★★★ **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets** ('02) Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Daniel Radcliffe. (P) | | | | |
| LMN | 66 | 185 | 253 | ✪ **Wife Stalker** ('25) Trai Byers, Alayna Bernard, Keshia Knight Pulliam. | | | | ✪ **Abducted by My Teacher: The Elizabeth Thomas Story** ('23) Summer H. Howell, Gino Anania, Michael Fishman. | | | | ✪ **Killer Fortune Teller** ('24) Natalie Daniels, Sarah Murphree, Jonathan Stoddard. | | | |
| GOLF | 69 | 52 | 218 | (4:00) **PGA Tour Golf** | | **Live From The Open** | | | | | | | | **PGA** (N) | **PGA TOUR** |
| OWN | 72 | 104 | 279 | **Funniest Home Videos** | | **Funniest Home Videos** | | **Funniest Home Videos** | | **Funniest Home Videos** | | **Funniest Home Videos** | | **Funniest Home Videos** | |
| OXY | 76 | 150 | 251 | **Snapped: Killer Couples** | | **Snapped: Killer Couples** | | **Snapped: Killer Couples** | | **Real Murders** "Officer Down" | | **Snapped** | | **Snapped** | |
| NBATV | 308 | | 216 | (5:00) **Game of the Day** | | **NBA Basketball** | | | | | **Center Court** | | **NBA Basketball** | | |
| HBO | 511 | 350 | 501 | (5:25) **Man Burn** | (:25) ✪★★★ **Undertone** ('25) Adam DiMarco, Michèle Duquet, Nina Kiri. | | | **House of the Dragon** | | (:05) **Life, Larry and** | (:45) ✪★★★ **"Wuthering Heights"** ('26) Jacob Elordi, Hong Chau, Margot Robbie. | | | | |
| MAX | 531 | 370 | 515 | (5:55) ✪★★★ **Joker: Folie à Deux** ('24) Lady Gaga, Brendan Gleeson, Joaquin Phoenix. | | | | (:10) ✪★★★★ **The Shape of Water** ('17) Michael Shannon, Richard Jenkins, Sally Hawkins. | | | | (:15) ✪★★★★ **The Lobster** ('15) Rachel Weisz, Jessica Barden, Colin Farrell. | | | |
| PARSHO | 551 | 300 | 545 | (4:45) ✪★★★★ **Primal Fear** ('96) Richard Gere. | | ✪★★★ **Kiss the Girls** ('97) Ashley Judd, Cary Elwes, Morgan Freeman. | | | | **The Chi** | | ✪★★★ **Molly's Game** ('17) Idris Elba, Michael Cera, Jessica Chastain. | | | |
| TMC | 571 | 316 | 553 | ✪★★★★ **Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom** ('84) Kate Capshaw, Ke Huy Quan, Harrison Ford. | | | | ✪★★★★ **Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade** ('89) Sean Connery, Denholm Elliott, Harrison Ford. | | | | (:10) ✪★★★ **Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull** ('08) Cate Blanchett, Shia LaBeouf, Harrison Ford. | | | |
| STARZ | 581 | 330 | 525 | (5:10) ✪★★★ **Morning Glory** ('10) Rachel McAdams. | | ✪★★★★ **The Best Man** ('99) Nia Long, Morris Chestnut, Taye Diggs. A wedding reunites two almost-lovers from college. | | | | (:05) **Power Book III: Raising Kanan** | | **Listeners** "Episode 5" | (:45) **Power Book III: Raising Kanan** | (:40) ✪ **Don't Be a Menace to ...** | |





# ‘Jaws’ puts summertime bite into AMC

**BY JAY BOBBIN**

For many viewers, it wouldn’t be summer without a viewing of 1975’s “Jaws,” but it’s one of the screen’s ultimate thrillers at any time of year.

The adaptation of Peter Benchley’s best seller that really put then-neophyte director Steven Spielberg on the map works its wiles on AMC this Saturday, July 19, with the channel also showing the picture’s three sequels during the month. Much celebrating was done on the occasion of the film’s 50th anniversary last year, and the power of “Jaws” remains intact, with Spielberg and his allies having overcome production hurdles (bad weather, mechanical flaws, etc.) that are now legendary — to the degree that they inspired a stage play, “The Shark Is Broken.”

That creature, or a reasonable facsimile thereof, is very effectively in action in the actual movie. A Great White begins striking human targets near the New England vacation haven called Amity Island, prompting the water-fearing police chief (played by Roy Scheider) to seek help in determining exactly what is causing the deaths and how to stop it. Richard Dreyfuss brings his famously brash persona to the part of the shark expert who has high-tech means at his disposal, but a crusty veteran shark hunter (Robert Shaw) is content to reply to his harpoons and expertise as he joins the other two to pursue their quarry at sea.

“Jaws” is pretty much a perfect project of its type, and Spielberg has earned such praise for so many ventures over the past half-century, it’s easy to discount the brilliance of the relative simplicity with which he tells this story. Flashes of humor offset the fear at key moments, setting up the audience for the kinds of shocks that literally cause people to jump out of their seats ... and we wouldn’t be surprised if that still happens at home during TV showings of “Jaws.”

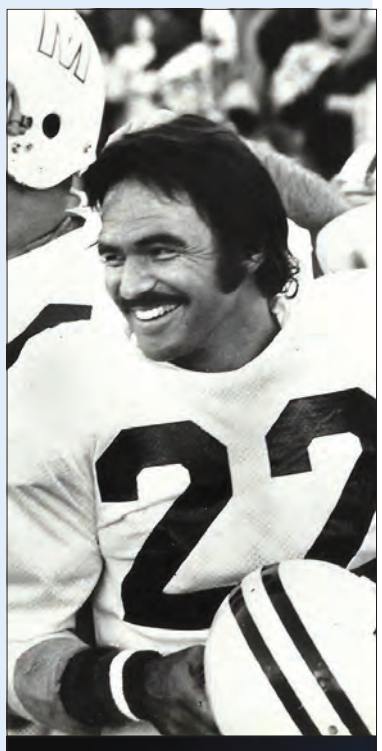
Scheider, Dreyfuss and Shaw make an ideal trio, with their differing personalities alternately clashing and meshing as the shark hunt gets more complicated. Shaw is marvelously intense as his character Quint recalls a wartime tragedy in which some of his military-boat comrades met their fates through terrors from the deep. The early teamwork of Scheider and Dreyfuss sparks some hugely memorable scenes, one involving an attacked boat that ultimately yields one of the biggest scares not only in this movie, but in film history in general.

John Williams’s colossally memorable score earned “Jaws” one of its three Oscars, with the others going to the film editing and the sound. Additional cast members include Lorraine Gary as the policeman’s wife, Murray Hamilton as the town’s profit-minded mayor, and author Benchley is seen briefly as a TV reporter walking the beach where would-be swimmers understandably have definite worry about going in the water.

At 51 years old, “Jaws” continues to deliver the goods when it comes to solid suspense and thorough entertainment, and it’s most welcome for yet another summer run.

# BEST TV FOOTBALL MOVIES

**BY JAY BOBBIN**







**“Inside the NFL” (HBO, 1977-2008; Showtime, 2008-21; Paramount+, 2021-23; The CW, 2023-25; X, 2025-present):** As informational shows about football go, this one has had quite a history, with notable hosts ranging from Len Dawson, Cris Collinsworth and Dan Marino to Bob Costas, James Brown and Greg Gumbel highlighting and analyzing recent games.

**“Semi-Tough” (ABC, 1980):** Based on the Dan Jenkins novel and the subsequent 1977 movie, this comedy largely was notable for giving David Hasselhoff a primetime starring role before “Knight Rider,” with Bruce McGill (“Rizzoli & Isles”) as his teammate and pal.

**“Coach” (ABC, 1989-97):** Craig T. Nelson was a Primetime Emmy Award winner as Hayden Fox, a college football coach who tried to apply his experience from having led an NFL expansion team to his school duties. Jerry Van Dyke and Bill Fagerbakke played his assistants, while Hayden’s personal life was explored through his relationships with his daughter (Clare Carey) and his TV-newscaster girlfriend (Shelley Fabares). Tim Conway also won an Emmy for the show in a guest role.

**“Friday Night Lights” (NBC, 2006-08; The 101 Network, 2008-11):** If television series about football is the subject, this drama — based on a H.G. “Buzz” Bissinger’s book that also inspired a 2004 movie — is the immediate “go-to” for many people. Kyle Chandler earned a Primetime Emmy as a high school coach who struggled to balance his life with his wife (Connie Britton) and daughter (Aimee Teegarden) with his dedication to his players. Stars also included Taylor Kitsch, Gaius Charles, Jesse Plemons, Zach Gilford, Minka Kelly, Adrianne Palicki, Scott Porter, Matt Lauria and then-future Oscar winner Michael B. Jordan. A recent reunion of cast members at the ATX TV Festival drew a lot of attention.

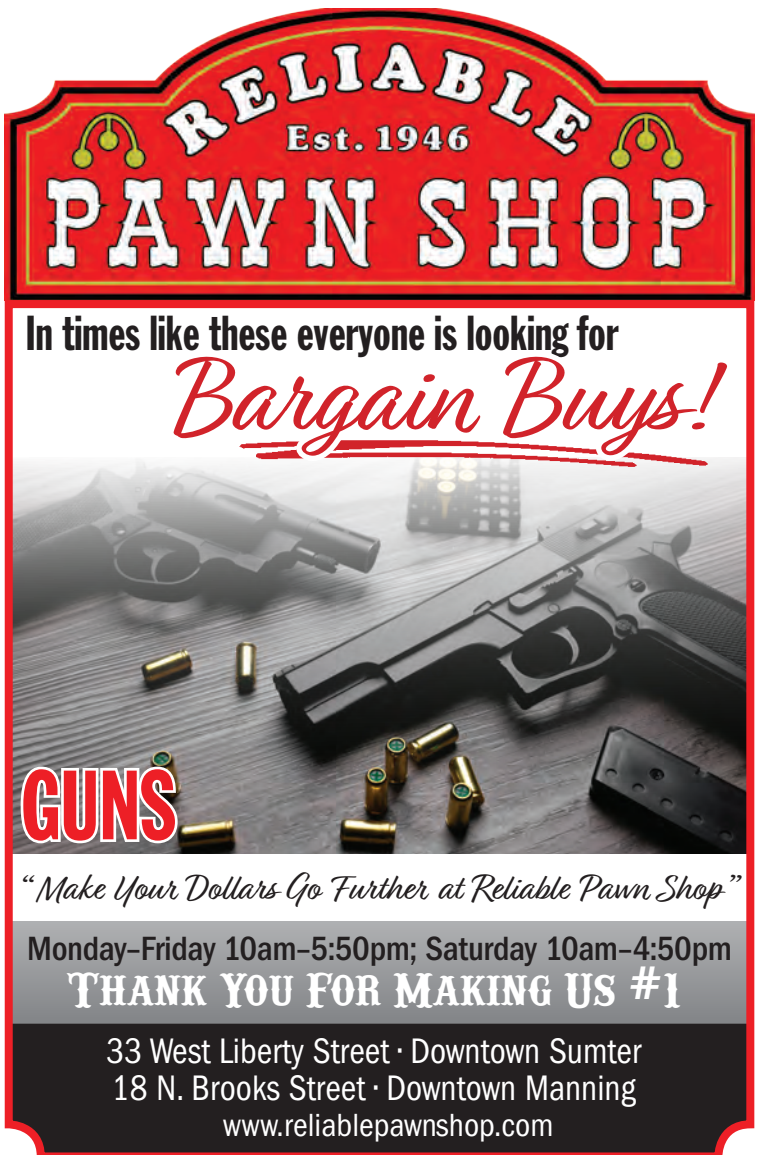
**“Blue Mountain State” (Spike, 2010-11):** Some of the hierarchies at actual universities might not have been thrilled with this comedy’s risque depiction of student athletes and their activities, but the show has been popular via streaming. Darin Brooks, Alan Ritchson, Sam Jones III and NFL veteran Ed Marinaro are in the cast.

**“All American” (CW, 2018-present):** Returning for its eighth and final season Monday, July 13, this drama has followed the saga of an athlete (portrayed by former cast regular Daniel Ezra) in straddling two worlds by using his gridiron skills, struggling to reconcile his inner-city roots with the more privileged atmosphere he was introduced into. Inspired by the life of former NFL player Spencer Paysinger, the show also features Michael Evans Behling, Greta Onieogou, Bre-Z, Osy Ikhile, Alexis Chikaeze, Nathaniel Logan McIntyre, Antonio J. Bell, Kareem Grimes and Lauryn Hardy.

**“Chad Powers” (Hulu, 2025-present):** Slated to return for its second season later this year, this comedy casts Glen Powell as a shamed college quarterback who masquerades under the title alias to play for another school. Football-veteran siblings Eli Manning and Peyton Manning are among Powell’s fellow executive producers.









# The end zone: 'All American' wraps up with eighth season

**BY SARAH PASSINGHAM**

Baseball is America's pastime and FIFA fervour is in full swing, but no other sport brings out fan-demonium quite like the gridiron. The legendary Friday night lights of high school football fields have nurtured generations of professional-level talent. With the high stakes of each game's outcome, not to mention the possibility of making a play that could write one's own ticket to the big leagues weighing on young athletes' shoulders, the level of drama in the world of high school football is sky-high.

The final chapter of high school football drama "All American" unfolds, beginning with a special two-hour premiere on Monday, July 13, on The CW. A one-hour special, "All American: The Final Season Special," celebrates the series that's already surpassed the 100 episode milestone, is immediately followed by the season premiere.

The show's eighth season will be its last; its 13 episodes detail a single week in the lives of the beloved cast of characters that make up the Beverly and Crenshaw crew.

From The CW, the upcoming season spans "a week that will have them wondering if everything they've been through over the course of their lives has prepared them for this moment. A week that will ultimately reunite old with the new, friend with enemy, and alter the course of each of their futures forever."



Starring in "All American" are Michael Evans Behling ("The Queen's Jewels," 2025) as Jordan Baker; Greta Onieogou ("Heartland") as Layla Keating; Bre-Z ("Empire") as Tamia "Coop" Cooper; Osy Ikhile ("Citadel") as Cassius Jeremy, Nathaniel Logan McIntyre ("The Equalizer") as Kingston "KJ" Jeremy and more.

College recruitment is the center of everyone's world, whether it is affecting Jordan's coaching duties at South Crenshaw High or KJ's laser-focused vision on becoming an NFL quarterback. Only a small fraction of high school football players make it pro and with that self-imposed pressure, KJ is at a boiling point when he confronts his father Cassius in the official trailer.

While Jordan is in charge of the South Crenshaw High program, Cassius is a coach at Beverly Hills High. After an unexpected introduction at school, KJ wants answers, telling Cassius, "pretty sure I just met your replacement."

This final season focuses on what "All American" has always been about, "football, family and friendship," per The CW. Olivia (Samantha Logan, "13 Reasons Why"), heavily pregnant with twins, puts one of those pillars into perspective in the trailer for the upcoming season.

As the characters of "All American" face their futures, Olivia reassures Layla, "family is fear and joy tied together." Logan returns as Olivia in guest actor capacity this season, as does Daniel Ezra ("The Running Man," 2025) as Spencer James. The love story of Spencer and Olivia was a throughline of the series, with the happy couple tying the knot, packing up and moving across the country after Spencer signed with the fictional NFL team, the New York Bobcats.

Showrunner and executive producer Nkechi Okoro Carroll ("Found") reflected on the experience of creating the final season of "All American" with the cast and crew of the show in a statement, thanking the viewers for their loyalty to the drama though its entire run (and a spinoff series, "All American: Homecoming," which aired for three seasons from 2022 to 2024).

Carroll said, "what we realized was that, just like when your kids grow up and finally leave home, this wasn't goodbye ... it was a tear-filled 'I'll see you soon.' So, to our fans who have rocked with us faithfully for over a hundred episodes, we hope you enjoy this final season as much as we enjoyed making it."

# Waltz to win: 'Dancing With the Stars: The Next Pro' asks: Who will bring their boogie shoes to Season 35?



**BY CAROLINE COLLACUTT**

The Dancing With the Stars franchise expands with "Dancing With the Stars: The Next Pro," making its debut Monday, July 13, on ABC.

Hosted by Robert Irwin ("I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!") — the Australian conservationist, zookeeper, wildlife photographer and television presenter who recently won our hearts, and the Len Goodman Mirrorball Trophy, as the Season 34 winner of "Dancing With the Stars" — this addition to the DWTS franchise flips the show's usual format on its head.

Now, before cheering on celebrities as they foxtrot and tango alongside their professional counterparts, audiences will be offered the opportunity to cheer on their favorite pros, too, watching along as 12 talented, up-and-coming dancers take part in a grueling audition process, living side-by-side as they battle for a coveted, life-changing spot as a performer on "Dancing With the Stars."

"For the first time in 'Dancing With the Stars' history, the greatest dancers will compete for a spot as the next pro," Irwin explained, excitedly announcing his continued partnership with the DWTS franchise.

Season 1's impressive contestants — hailing from series such as "The Next Step," "World of Dance" and BBC's "Strictly Come Dancing" — include Adele Zaikman, AJ Pritchard, Allen Genkin, Benjamin Castro, Briar Nolet, Jake Monreal, Natalie Jolley, Nina Mayster, Selena Hamilton, Stephani Sosa and Tristen Sanders. The dancers in question will be diligently judged by the "Queen of Latin" Shirley Ballas and her son, three-time "DWTS" winner Mark Ballas, along with a rotating slate of guest judges, such as "DWTS" alums Derek Hough and Britt Stewart.

The winner of "Dancing With the Stars: The Next Pro" will join "Summer House" star Ciara Miller, "Love Island" and "Traitors" alum Maura Higgins and Savannah Bananas player Jackson Olson in competing in Season 35 of "Dancing With the Stars," set to premiere this fall.

"If you've watched ['Dancing With the Stars'], you know our creative team is brilliant," teases Ballas. "I always say there's not a lot that shocks me anymore after doing the show for 21 seasons. But somehow, they keep coming up with these amazing creative ideas. They keep finding ways to shock me."

Produced by BBC Studios — with Hough, Ryan O'Dowd ("Weakest Link"), Alex Cross ("Got to Get Out"), Conrad Green ("Crime Scene Kitchen"), Jenny Groom ("Funny AF with Kevin Hart") and Krystal Whitney ("Life Below Zero: First Alaskans") acting as executive producers — "Dancing With the Stars: The Next Pro" premieres Monday, July 13, on ABC.

# View from the Couch

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

**BY JAY BOBBIN**



## "MICHAEL"

Much of the story of music icon Michael Jackson is covered in this biographical drama from director Antoine Fuqua ("Training Day," 2001) and screenwriter John Logan ("Gladiator," 2000), an enormous box-office hit though it received some criticism for omitting some aspects of the subject's life ... but a sequel is being developed. Jackson's real-life nephew Jaafar Jackson portrays him in older years here, as Michael launches a solo career apart from his brothers, with whom he initially found fame in the group known as The Jackson 5. Their father Joseph (played by Colman Domingo) poses problems with his desire to be in control of his children's pursuits and fortunes, with recording executives Berry Gordy (Larenz Tate), Walter Yetnikoff (Mike Myers) and Quincy Jones (Kendrick Sampson) particular champions for Michael. Juliano Valdi plays the younger Michael in a cast that also includes Nia Long, Miles Teller, Laura Harrier and Deon Cole. Of course, the soundtrack is loaded with hit songs such as "Billie Jean," "Beat It," "Thriller," "Wanna Be Startin' Somethin'," "Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough," "Never Can Say Goodbye," "I'll Be There," "I Want You Back" and "ABC." *** (PG-13: AS, P, V) (Also on Blu-ray, 4K Ultra HD and Digital)

## "LEE CRONIN'S THE MUMMY"

Told in many screen versions, a classic horror tale gets yet another one as director-screenwriter Lee Cronin's ("Evil Dead Rise," 2023) mythology-heavy take casts Jack Reynor ("Midsommar," 2019) as a television reporter who undertakes an extensive search for his daughter, kidnapped by an Egyptian woman (Hayat Kamille) with a connection to seemingly supernatural forces. The girl finally is recovered years later (and is played at that stage by Natalie Grace), but what she experienced during her absence causes peril for the rest of her family, with the effects of her having been a captive of demons being manifested in potentially lethal ways. Laia Costa, May Calamawy and Veronica Falcon also are in the cast. *** (R: AS, P, GV) (Also on Blu-ray, 4K Ultra HD and Digital)

## "NORMAL"

Bob Odenkirk ("Better Call Saul") is the co-writer as well as the star of this humor-infused but considerably violent action tale, casting him as the new interim sheriff of the title Minnesota town, where he quickly gets a crime to investigate as an attempted bank robbery goes quite awry. The situation reveals that town leaders including the mayor (played by Henry Winkler) are in cahoots with a crime syndicate, prompting the lawman to join forces with the crooks (Reena Jolly, Brendan Fletcher) — making himself a target of the Yakuza members who oversee the local corruption. The picture reunites Odenkirk with "Nobody" (2021) screenwriter Derek Kolstad, so fans of that film shouldn't be surprised to see its tone echoed here; Lena Headey also is featured. *** (R: AS, P, GV) (Also on Blu-ray and Digital)

## "I SWEAR"

The true story of John Davidson, a Scottish man afflicted with Tourette syndrome, is recounted in director-screenwriter Kirk Jones's 2025 drama that features "Game of Thrones" alum Robert Aramayo — who won a BAFTA Award for his performance — as the adult incarnation of Davidson, who has prompted a variety of reactions from the condition, which involves swearing that he can't control. His mother (played by Shirley Henderson) stands by him resolutely, as does a nurse (Maxine Peake) who takes huge measures to care for him as he is widely misunderstood by others. Davidson also has been the subject of several documentaries, a particularly noted one being 1989's "John's Not Mad." DVD extra: "making-of" documentary. *** (R: AS, P, V) (Also on Blu-ray)

## "ALICE DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE"

Ellen Burstyn won an Oscar for Best Actress for director Martin Scorsese's beautifully performed 1974 drama, newly getting Criterion Collection treatment on Blu-ray and 4K Ultra HD. The basis for the long-running CBS sitcom "Alice," the film casts Burstyn as a newly widowed woman sidetracked while on her way to California with her son (Alfred Lutter), eventually getting work as a waitress at an Arizona diner. She becomes friendly with co-workers Flo and Vera (Diane Ladd, who later played a different role on the "Alice" series, and Valerie Curtin) and finds new romance with a rancher (Kris Kristofferson). Vic Tayback originated the part of diner owner Mel, which he reprised on the TV show, here. Special features include an audio commentary with Scorsese, Burstyn and several of the other actors. **** (PG: AS, P)

## "DESTINATION MOON"

Though films about lunar journeys to the moon have been around since the very early days of movies, this 1950 science-fiction classic — from fantasy-specialist producer George Pal ("The Time Machine," 1960) that won an Oscar for its special effects, and is now on Blu-ray in a newly restored version — takes a group of visionaries from private industry on an intergalactic journey that they organize themselves, since the U.S. government hesitates to support them. The cast includes John Archer, Warner Anderson, Tom Powers and Dick Wesson; among the special features is a new documentary on the making of the picture, noting Chesley Bonestell's then-essential matte paintings that contributed greatly to the illusion of being on the moon. Also offered on the disc is the similarly themed but more fantastical 1951 feature "Flight to Mars," starring Cameron Mitchell and Arthur Franz. *** (Not rated)

# Coming Home Soon

**"ANYONE BUT YOU" (4K ULTRA HD) (JULY 21)**

**"FALLING DOWN" (BLU-RAY/4K ULTRA HD) (JULY 21)**

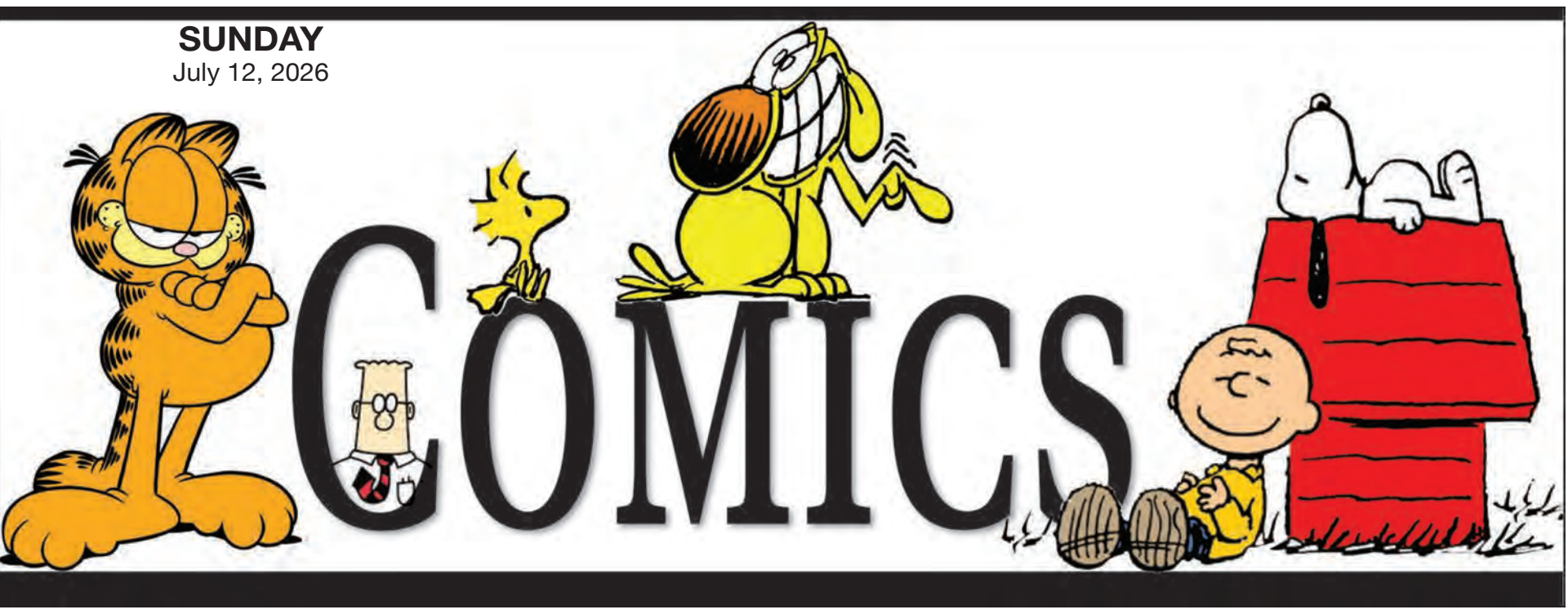
**"THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA 2" (JULY 28)**

**"I LOVE LUCY: THE COMPLETE SERIES — 75TH ANNIVERSARY" (BLU-RAY) (JULY 28)**

**"KILL BILL: THE WHOLE BLOODY AFFAIR" (VHS/BLU-RAY/4K ULTRA HD) (JULY 28)**

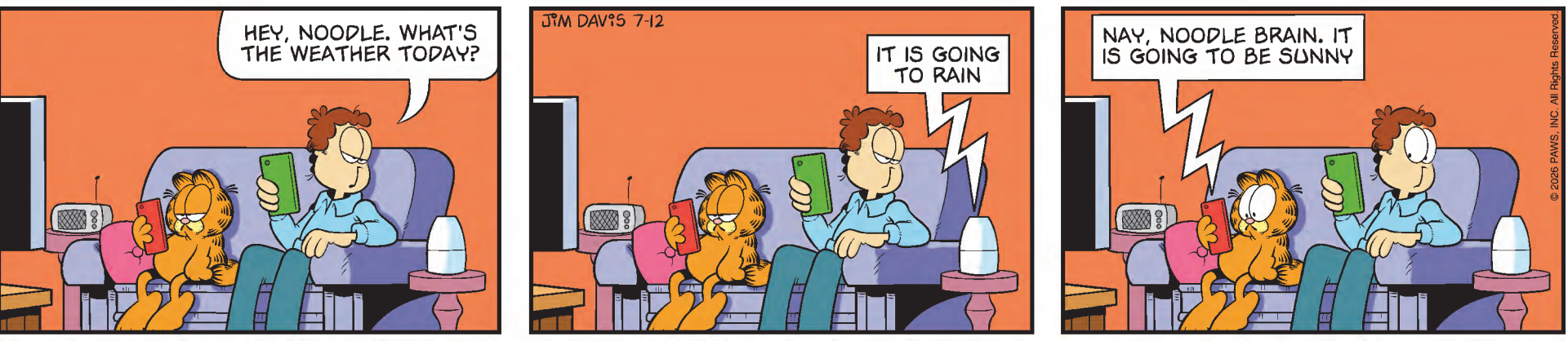
**SUNDAY**
July 12, 2026

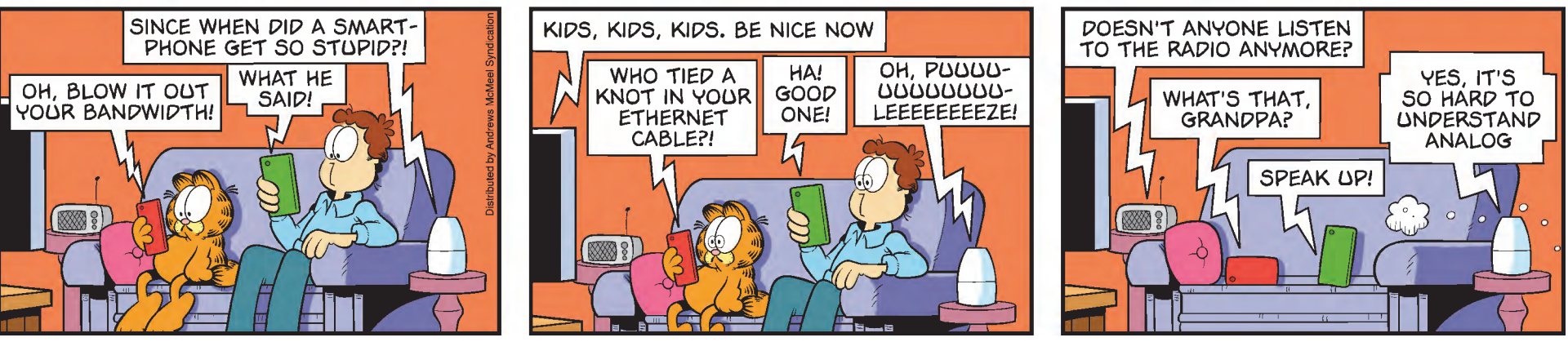
# COMICS




## GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



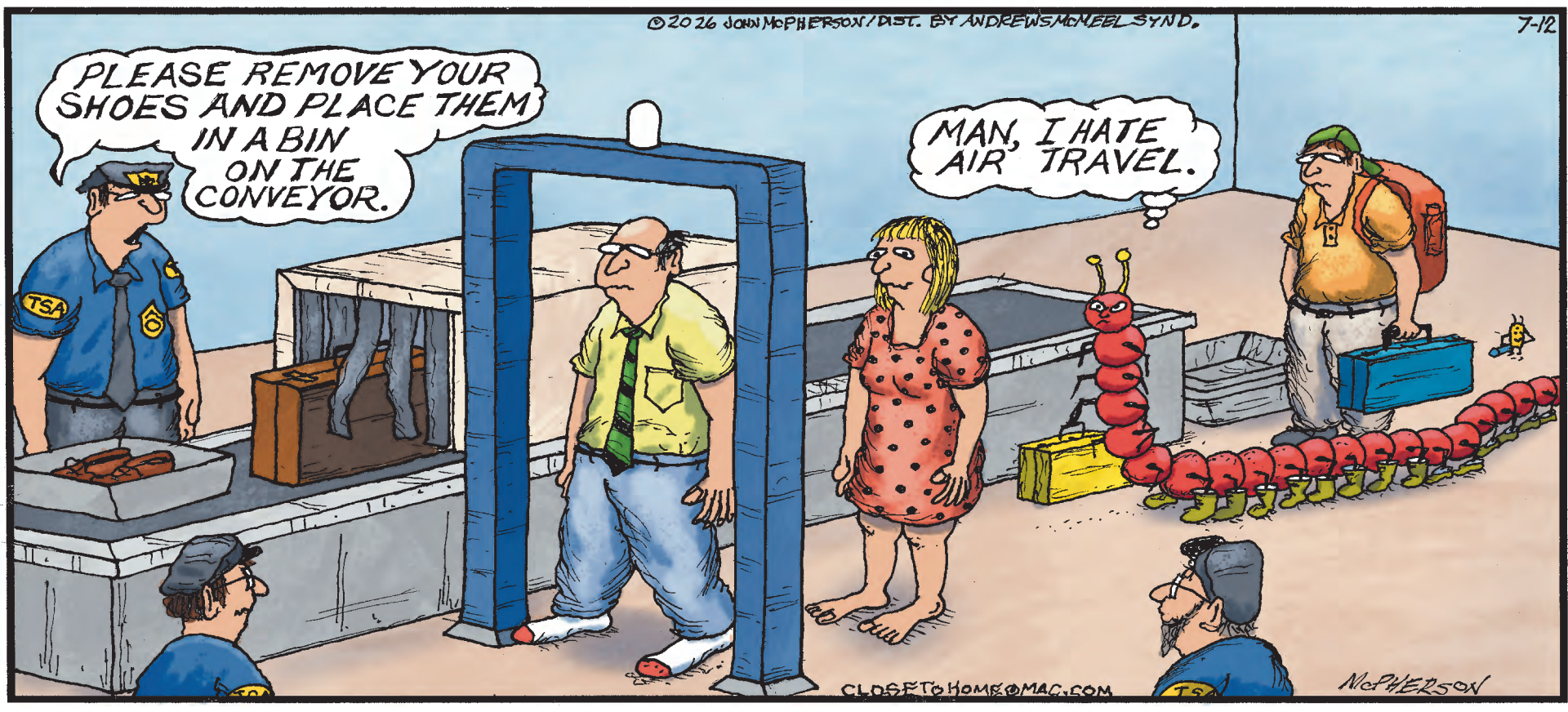




## TAKE IT FROM THE TINKERSONS

BY BILL BETTWY



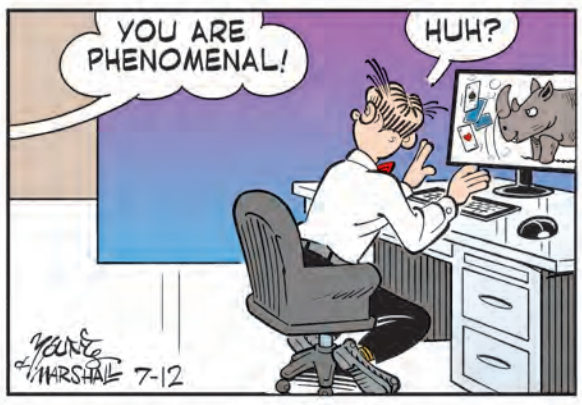
## CLOSE TO HOME BY JOHN McPHERSON



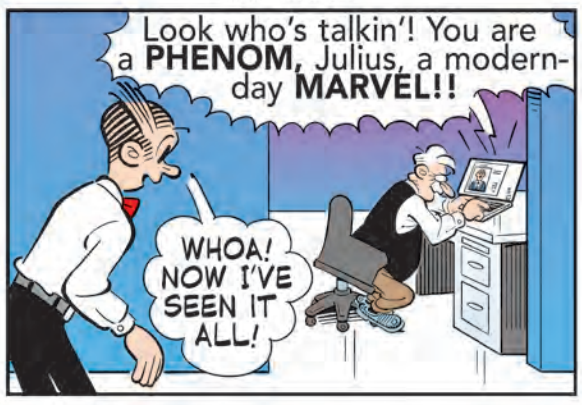

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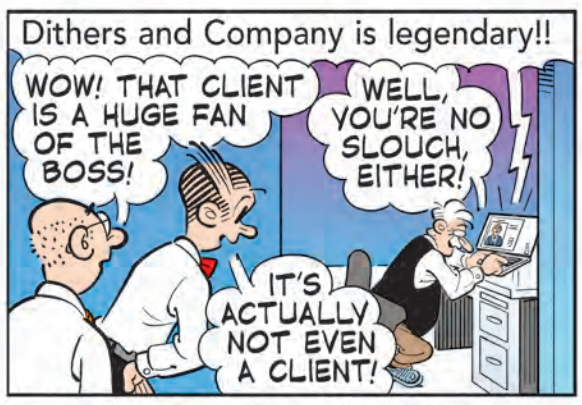
BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL




www.blondie.com



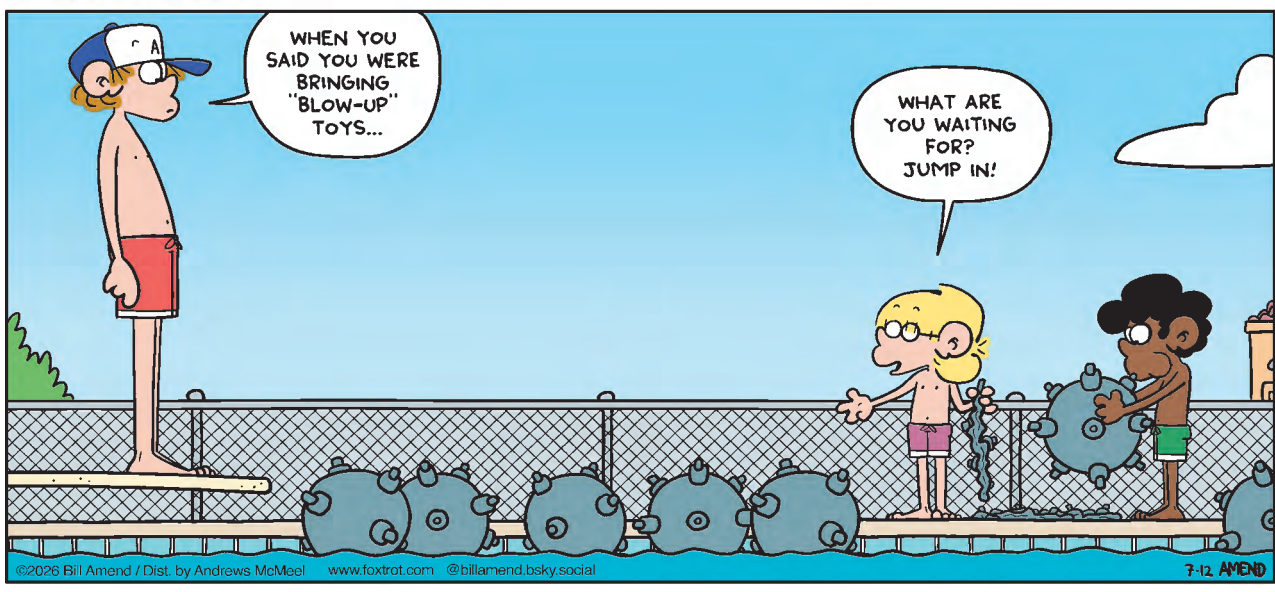

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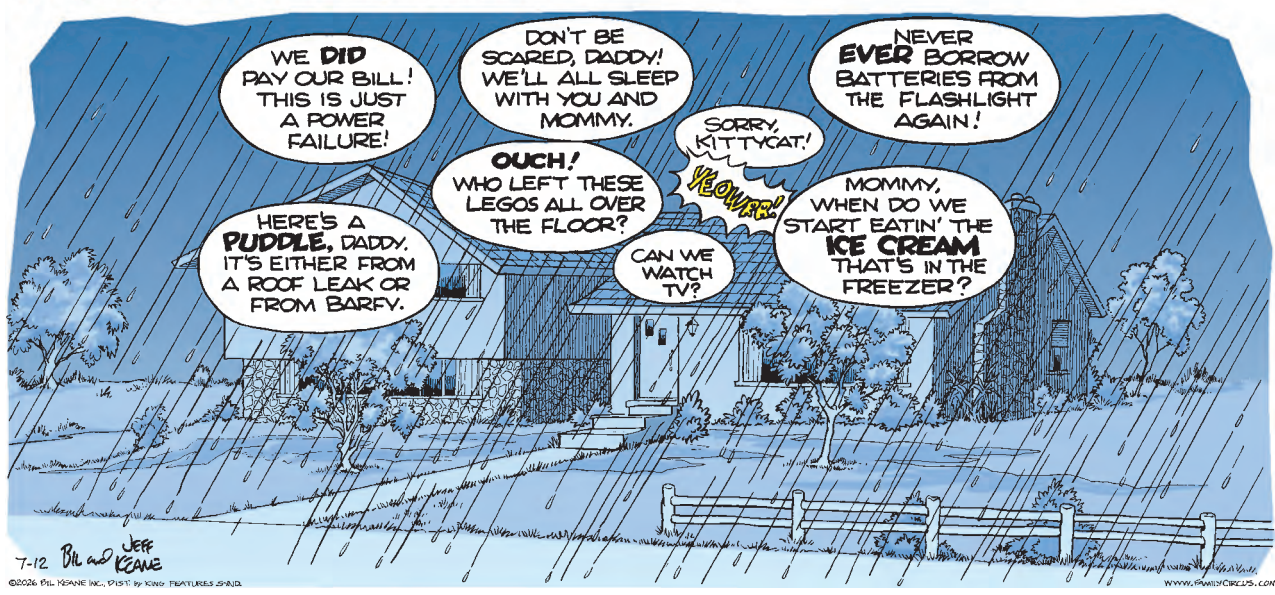


## FoxTrot by Bill Amend



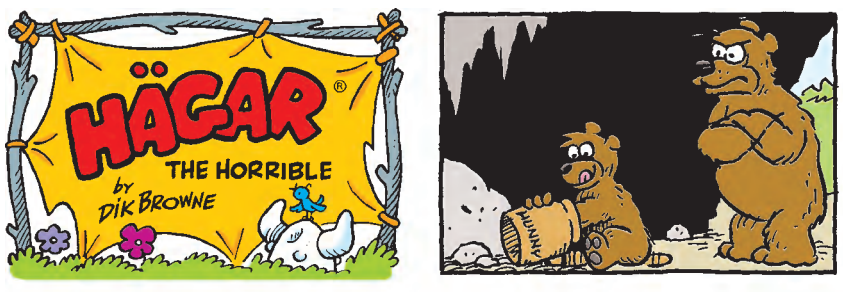

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS®

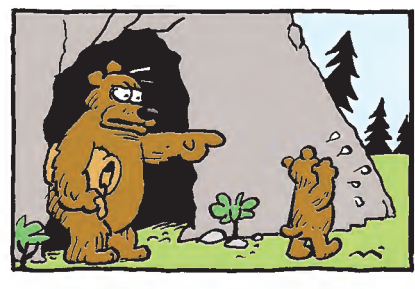
By Bil Keane



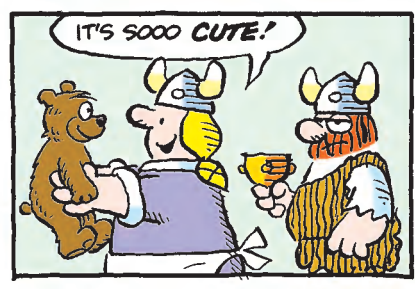

## HÄGAR® THE HORRIBLE

by DIK BROWNE



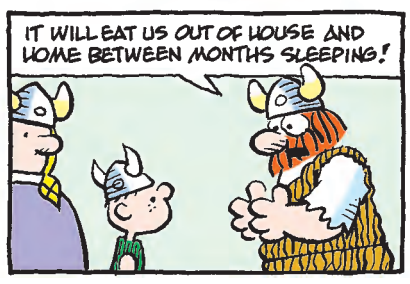







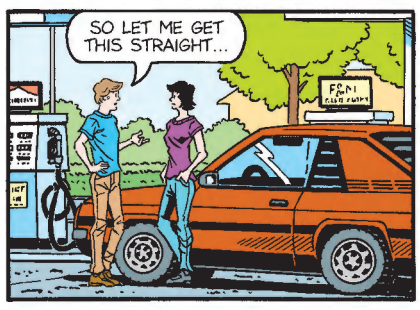


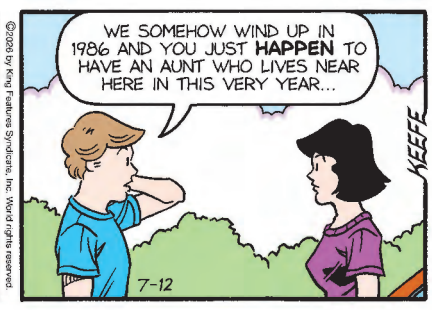






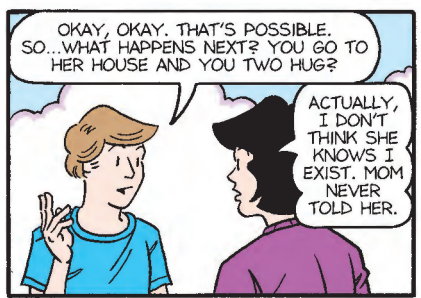
## SALLY FORTH BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE

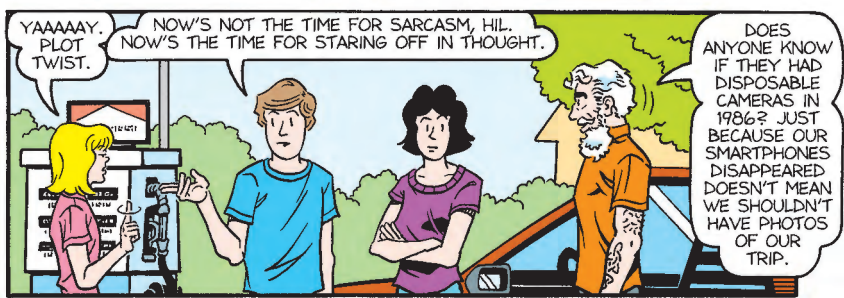






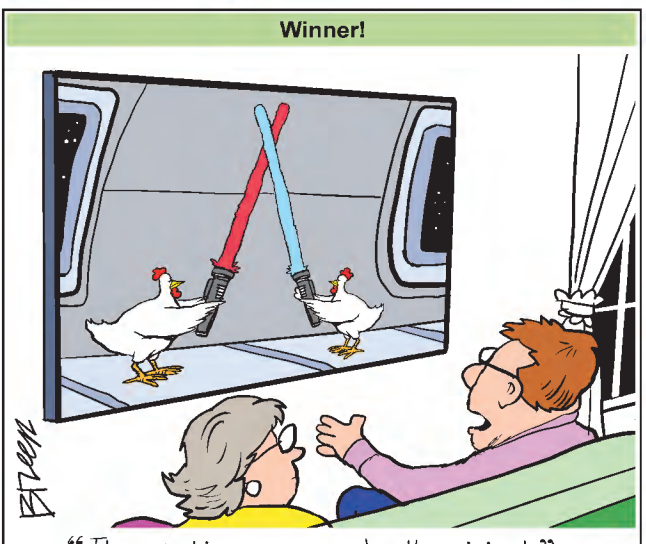


# CAPTION IT!

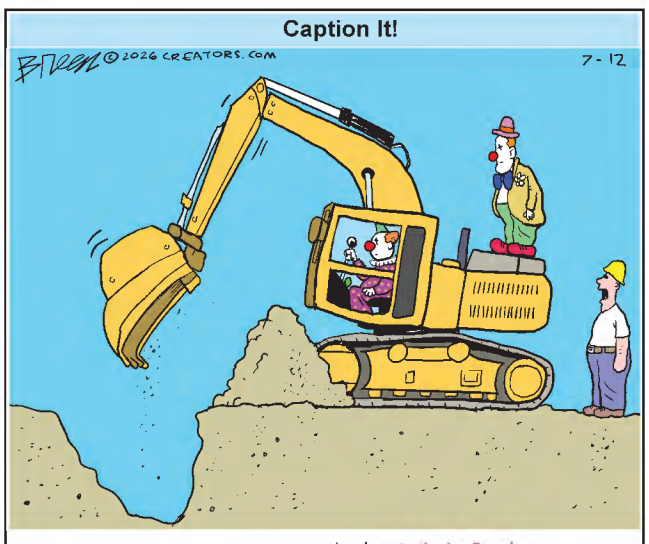
by Steve Breen

## Winner!



"The sequel is never as good as the original."
—Brian Kolbe, West Deer, PA

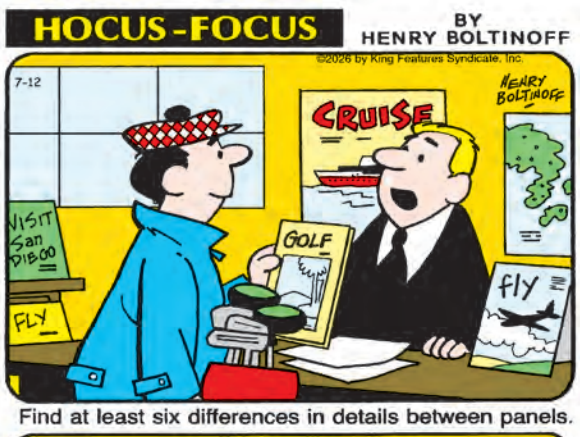
## Caption It!




Email submissions along with your name and town to captionitcartoon@gmail.com.

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

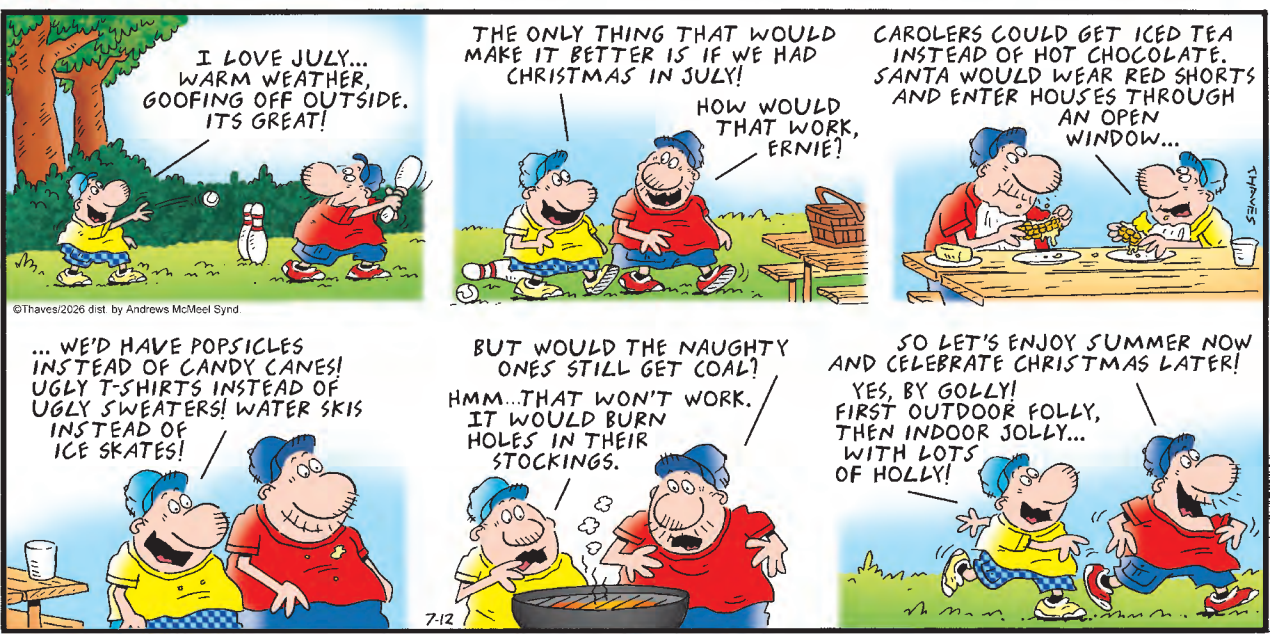



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



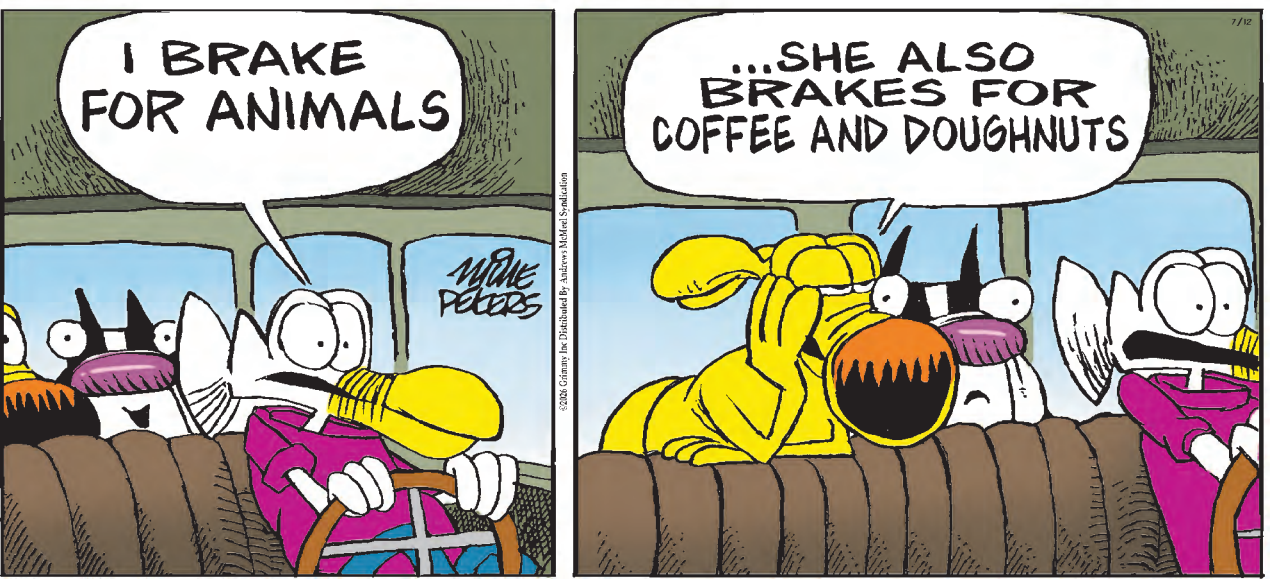

Differences: 1. Golf brochure is larger. 2. Window is not as wide. 3. Paper is missing from counter. 4. Ship is smaller. 5. Airplane is larger. 6. Thumb is showing.

# FRANK AND ERNEST®



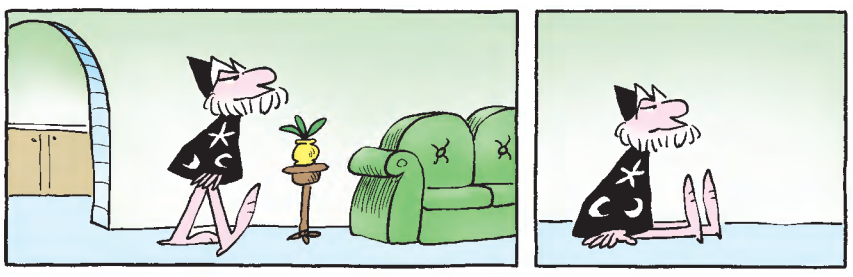

## MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

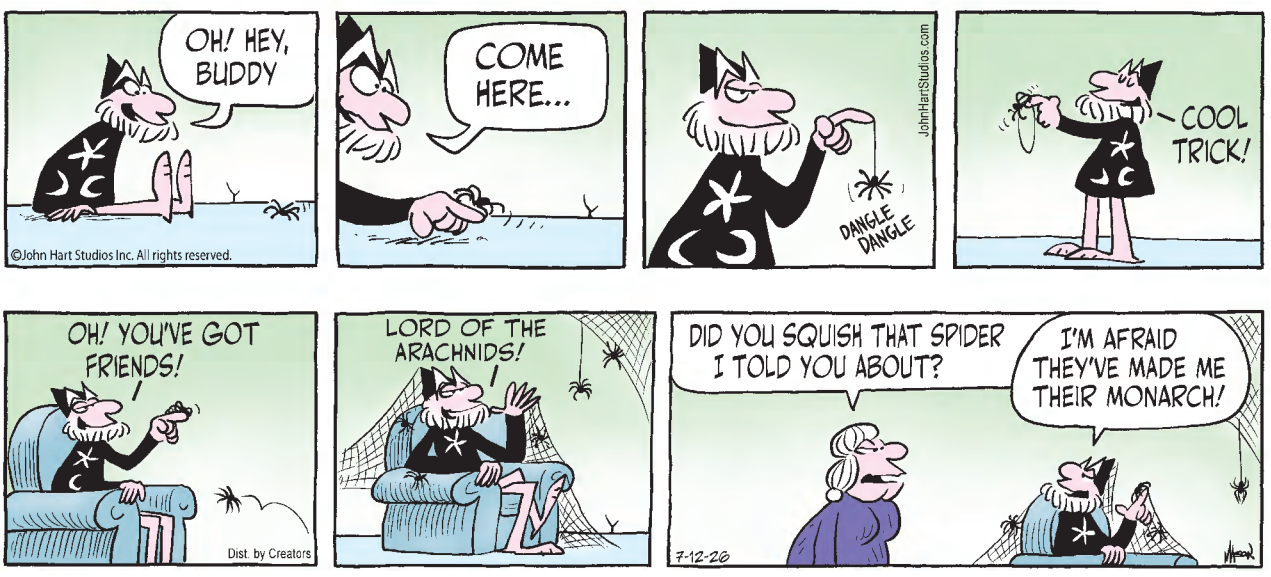
BY MIKE PETERS




# Wizard of Id

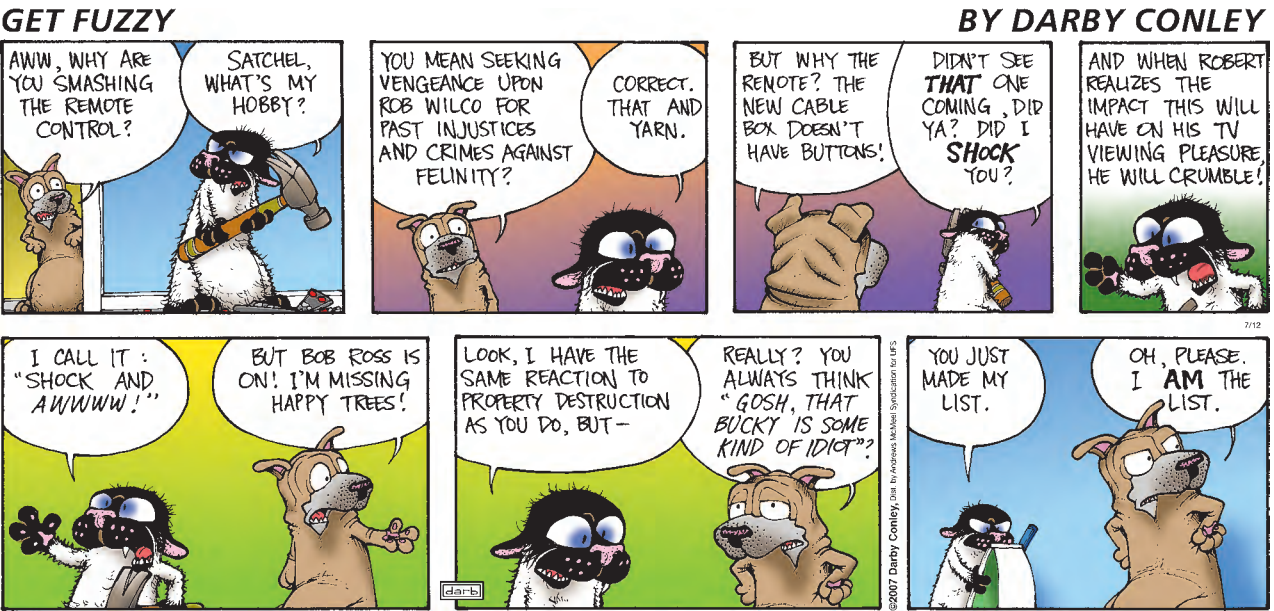
by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker






## GET FUZZY

BY DARBY CONLEY



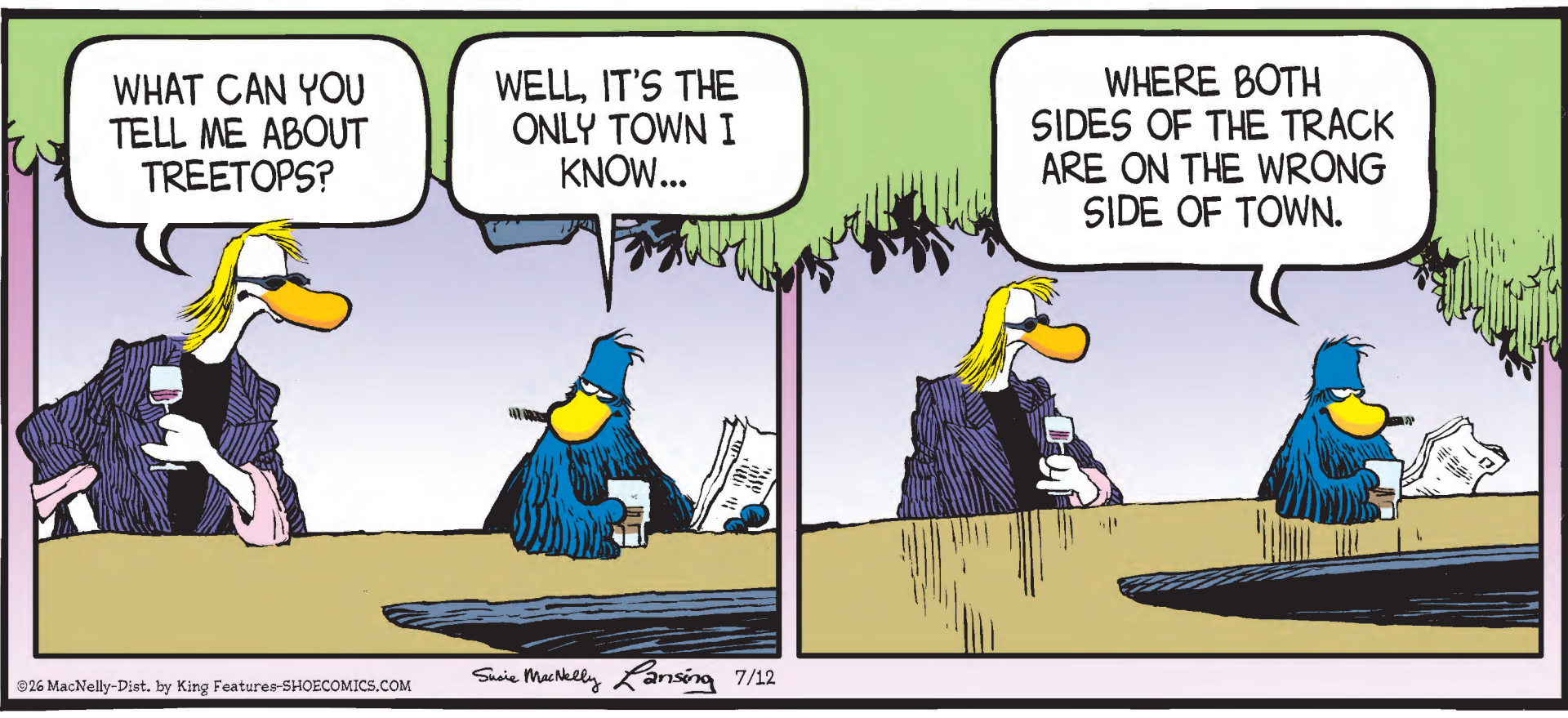

# THE BORN LOSER®

by Art & Chip Sansom



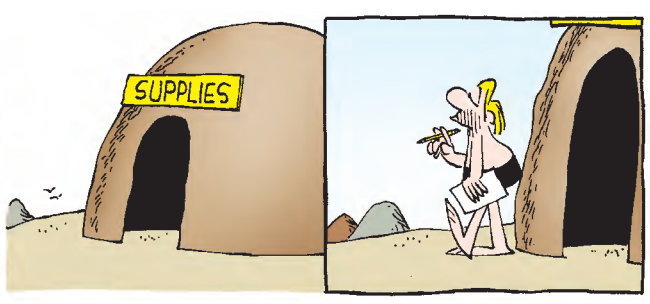
## SHOE

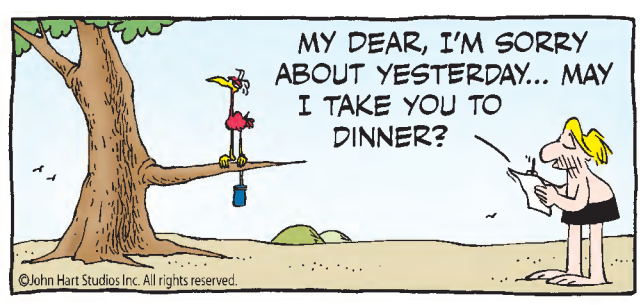
BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY

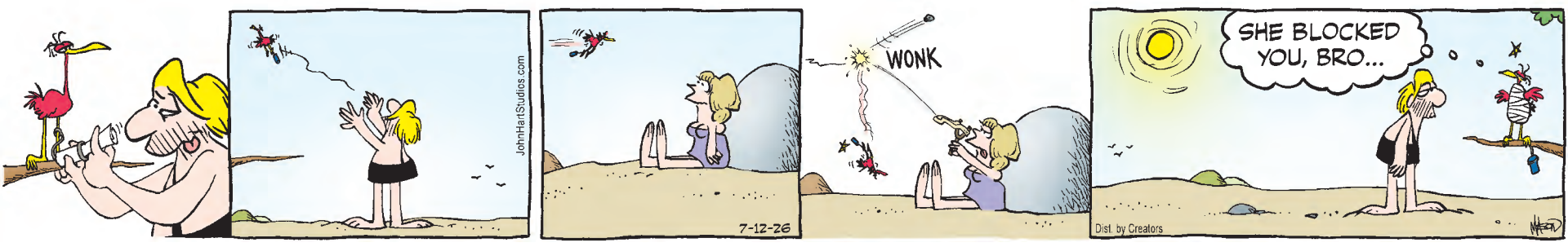








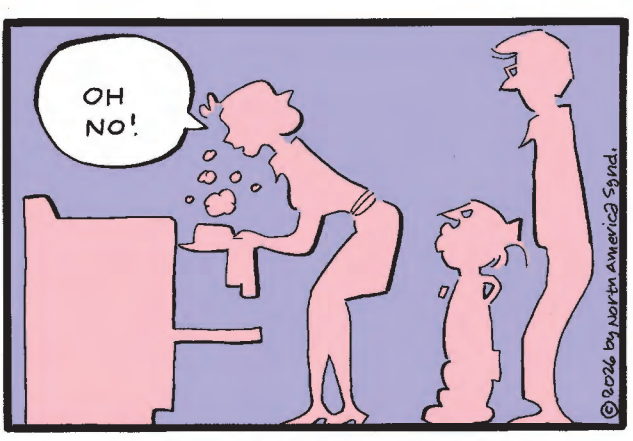



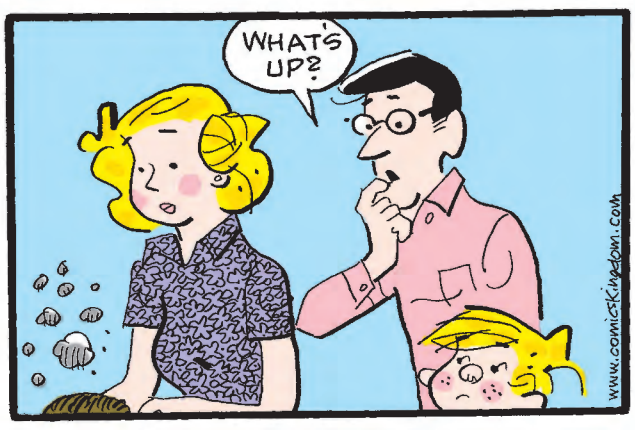


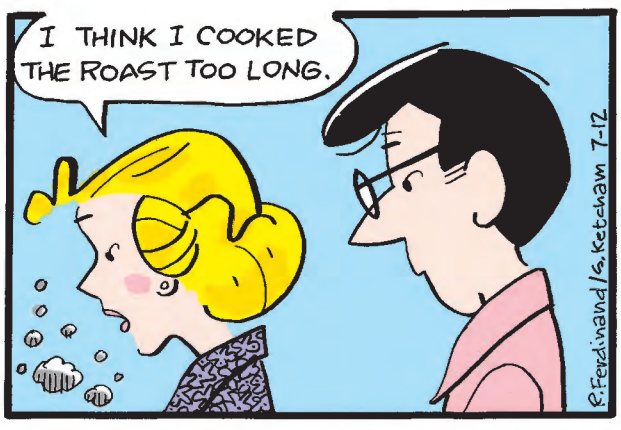


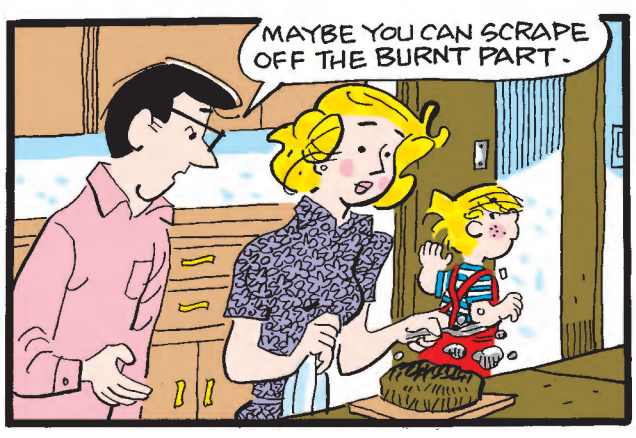
## DENNIS THE MENACE

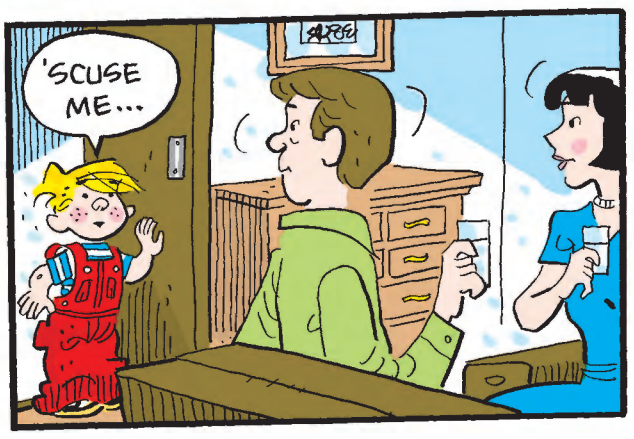
BY HANK KETCHAM

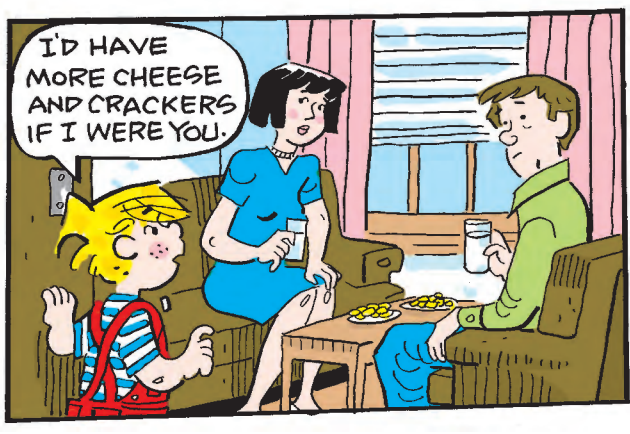


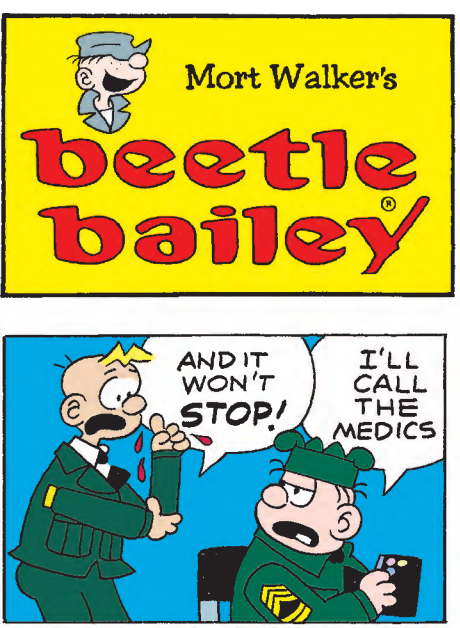



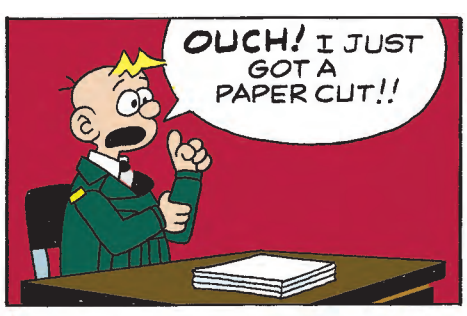



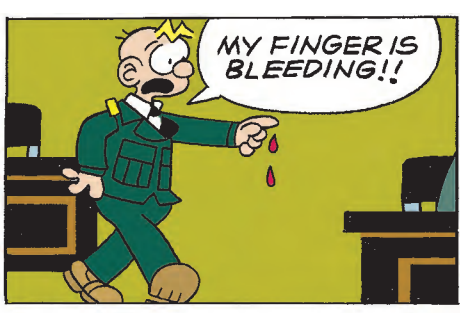





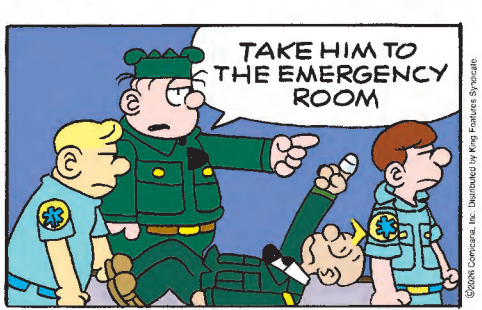













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