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- Martell Louis Adams
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NOT QUITE AS HOT

Mostly cloudy with a storm around today; a stray storm is possible tonight
HIGH 85, LOW 68

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USPS halts some mail changes after outcry



SHELBY GOULDING / THE SUMTER ITEM

The Sumter County downtown branch of the United States Postal Service is seen Monday.

New postmaster general says agency 'will deliver the nation's election mail on time'

BY LISA MASCARO and ANTHONY IZAGUIR
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Facing mounting public pressure and a crush of state lawsuits, President Donald Trump's new postmaster general announced Tuesday he is halting some operational changes to mail delivery that critics blamed for widespread delays and warned could disrupt the November election.

Postmaster General Louis DeJoy said he would "suspend" several of his initiatives — including the removal of the distinctive blue mail boxes that prompted an outcry — until after the election "to avoid even the appearance of impact on election mail."

"We will deliver the nation's election mail on time," DeJoy said in a statement.

The abrupt reversal from DeJoy, who is set to testify Friday before the Senate, comes as more than 20 states, from New York to California, announced they would be suing to stop the changes. Several vowed they would press on, keeping a watchful eye on the Postal Service ahead of the election.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi is pushing ahead with Saturday's vote to prevent election-year mail changes and provide emergency

postal funds.

"I don't, frankly, trust the postmaster general," Pelosi said in San Francisco.

The crisis at the Postal Service has erupted as a major election year issue as DeJoy, a Republican donor who took control of the agency in June, has swiftly engineered cuts and operational changes that are disrupting mail delivery operations and raising alarms that Trump is trying to undermine the agency ahead of the election.

At the White House, Trump has flatly denied he is seeking to slow-walk the mail, even as he leveled fresh assaults Tuesday on mail-in voting and universal ballots. More Americans than ever are expected to choose to vote absentee during the coronavirus outbreak.

"You can't have millions and millions of ballots sent all over the place, sent to people that are dead, sent to dogs, cats, sent everywhere," Trump told reporters.

"This isn't games, and you have to get it right," Trump said.

Some of the initiatives DeJoy said he was shelving until after the election had already been announced.

DeJoy said Tuesday he is halting the planned removal of

SEE CHANGES, PAGE A7

Your Voice: Experiences with U.S. Postal Service

Sumter residents shared their concerns about United States Postal Service mail delivery recently with *The Sumter Item*.

"I signed up for the Informed Delivery emails from the USPS. It shows you what is expected to be in your mail for the day. Our mail would show up by 1 p.m. every day, sometimes earlier, but no later. The past few weeks it's been showing up after 5 p.m. or not at all! I know what days I'm supposed to be getting mail and what is supposed to be in the mail. I had a package a couple weeks ago scheduled for delivery, and that night I received an email from Amazon stating that I requested for the package to be held at the post office; I did no such thing. They never tried to deliver it, just blamed it on me as the customer."

— Sabrina Behuniak, Horseshoe Cove

"My father-in-law gets his medication delivered through the mail, and there are times he has not received them. We know the doctor sent them, as they always do. I understand with everything going on things will be different, but mail is extremely important. If someone misses a bill, they could get penalized. If a person misses their medication, that could have a negative impact on their health."

— Jessica McKinley, Blackberry Lane

SEE YOUR VOICE, PAGE A7



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CHASE SMOAK
A large *Gordonia* tree in Sumter was nominated for the South Carolina Champion Trees.

Trees are crowned champions, too

2 friends, colleagues discover potential largest of its species in South Carolina

BY SHELBY GOULDING
shelbie@theitem.com

Some kids grew up wanting to be storm chasers, but two college friends and experts in garden cultivation and management grew up wanting to chase down giant trees.

Champion Trees are the largest of their species according to a standard measuring formula

based on trunk circumference, tree height and average crown spread, and the two friends recently discovered a potential candidate planted right in Sumter.

Phillip Carnley, a horticulturist for Swan Lake-Iris Gardens, came upon a rare, giant Loblolly Bay (*Gordonia lasinathus*) tree that is

SEE CHAMPIONS, PAGE A7



Colleges grapple with coronavirus as students return

BY BRYAN ANDERSON and MICHELLE LIU
The Associated Press / Report for America

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Notre Dame University became the latest college to move classes online because of the coronavirus, after nearly 150 students tested positive. "It is very serious, and we must take serious actions,"

university president the Rev. John Jenkins said in an address to students and staff Tuesday.

Tuesday's action follows the decision by officials of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to switch to remote learning starting today, as the virus makes its mark on colleges — and college towns — across the United States. Some universities are

reconsidering plans to hold in-person classes or implementing new testing regimes. Others are threatening crackdowns on students who get too close with others, in violation of social distancing rules.

The University of Oklahoma is requiring its sororities

IN OUR STATE

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to recruit new members virtually after learning of students attending large social events without taking precautions against the virus.

Notre Dame canceled in-person undergraduate classes for two weeks. Jenkins said he decided against sending students home after consulting

with health care experts. Instead, the university is imposing restrictions on student activity, including limiting access to dormitories to residents and barring students from major gathering places on campus.

UNC-Chapel Hill freshman Mackenzie Holland spent two weeks in her dorm before she

SEE COLLEGES, PAGE A7



SECOND FRONT

Call: (803) 774-1226 | E-mail: pressrelease@theitem.com

Manning pedestrian struck, killed by vehicle

BY SHARRON HALEY
Clarendon contributor

MANNING — A 54-year-old Manning man died early Tuesday after being struck by a vehicle on Silver Road near U.S. 15 shortly after 10 p.m. Monday, according to Clarendon County Coroner Bucky Mock.

“Marvin Rhames died at Prisma Health Richland at 3:50 a.m.,” Mock said. “Rhames died from multiple blunt-force trauma.”

According to Cpl. Matt Southern with the South Carolina Highway Patrol, Rhames was walking south on Silver Road when he was struck by a 2005 Mazda that was traveling south on Silver Road. The driver of the vehicle was wearing a seatbelt and was not injured in the collision, Southern added.

“This collision remains under investigation by the South Carolina Highway Pa-

trol,” Southern said.

This is the second pedestrian fatality in Clarendon County in the past two months.

On July 10, Harvin Watson, 59, of Manning, was riding his bicycle along Moses Dingle Road near Jordan when he was struck by a vehicle and left injured beside the roadway. Watson died less than 90 minutes after he was transported to McLeod Health Clarendon.

No arrests have been made in the hit-and-run fatality.

The SChP is asking for assistance in identifying the driver of the vehicle that struck Watson. The vehicle is thought to have after-market tinted windows with one broken side window. Anyone with information on the vehicle or the driver of the vehicle is asked to call CRIMESTOPPERS at 888-274-6337, SChP at (803) 896-7603 or local authorities. Callers may remain anonymous.

Sandy Hook families: Gun maker trying to wipe out lawsuit with bankruptcy

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — A lawyer for some of the Sandy Hook school shooting victims’ families accused Remington Arms on Tuesday of using its new bankruptcy case to try to wipe out their lawsuit over how the company marketed the rifle used in the massacre.

An attorney for Remington denied the allegation during a phone conference call presided over by a federal bankruptcy court judge in Decatur, Alabama.

Also Tuesday, the judge, Clifton Jessup Jr., denied the families’ request to create a committee — comprised of people who are suing Remington over the use of its products — that would have a say in the bankruptcy proceedings. The judge, however, allowed one lawsuit plaintiff — not the Sandy Hook families — to sit on the main committee of unsecured creditors.

David Elsberg, a lawyer for the families, said Remington is trying to rush an auction of its holdings, leave the families out of the process and has not included their lawsuit or other lawsuits over its products in the new bankruptcy case it filed late last month. He said the bankruptcy case is so new that many

people who may have claims against the company may not even know about the case.

“The families have grave concerns about the speed, the breakneck speed, that the debtors (Remington) are setting up for the sale,” Elsberg said. “There won’t be, there simply can’t be, a full and fair process unless this high-speed train that we’re on slows down.”

Despite the bankruptcy case being filed only last month, Remington — the nation’s oldest gun maker, based in Madison, North Carolina — already is planning to sell off its holdings in a Sept. 17 auction. The company has a plant in Huntsville, Alabama.

It’s the company’s second bankruptcy filing in two years. Remington, weighed down by lawsuits and retail sales restrictions following the Sandy Hook school shooting in 2012, listed assets and liabilities of between \$100 million and \$500 million, and between 1,000 and 5,000 creditors, in its new case.

A gunman using a Bushmaster AR-15-style rifle made by Remington killed 20 children and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, on Dec. 14, 2012.

Convalescent plasma donation drives Fridays at Tuomey outpatient center

BY KAYLA GREEN
kayla@theitem.com

Recovered COVID-19 patients will have the chance to help those still battling the virus every Friday in Sumter for the next few months.

Convalescent plasma collection events will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each week at the Prisma Health Tuomey Outpatient Rehabilitation Services center at 1215 Alice Drive. Whole blood donations also will be collected, and those donors will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies.

People who have recovered from the coronavirus have developed antibodies to the disease, which are proteins the body uses to fight off infections, in their blood. Plasma is the liquid portion of the blood, and donated blood plasma can be made into a serum and given to patients within days. The convalescent plasma can help severely ill COVID-19 patients fight the virus by giving them the antibodies they may not be able to develop themselves.

HOW TO DONATE

To donate convalescent plasma, donors must be at least 14 days symptom-free and will be asked to provide documentation of a positive COVID-19 test result or antibody test. Positive test documentation/results can include the following:

- A copy of the lab results showing a positive test and date for COVID-19; or
- A document from a health



TRACI QUINN, PRISMA HEALTH TUOMEY / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

care provider stating the donor had a positive test for COVID-19 and the date of the test. This document must be on the letterhead or prescription pad of the health care provider and must be signed and dated by the health care provider.

Convalescent plasma drives do not provide COVID-19 diagnostic testing, meaning they don’t test for active infections. Antibody tests do not confirm infection or immunity.

The process take a little more than an hour. That includes completing a questionnaire and a mini-physical, the donation itself (30-45 minutes) and a 15-minute wait period before leaving the facility.

To donate, contact Jill Williamson at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital at (803) 774-8658 or The Blood Connection at (864) 751-1168 to make an appointment.

Rental assistance available with updated eligibility requirements

SUBMITTED

SC Thrive, a nonprofit offering solutions to South Carolinians in need of resources but facing a multitude of barriers to accessing them, offers immediate relief for South Carolina residents still struggling to pay rent during the coronavirus pandemic. The organization is now accepting Rental Assistance Program applications from households that previously collected Pandemic Unemployment Assistance — a change that significantly expands participation eligibility. Designed to provide emergency rental assistance to South Carolinians facing financial hardships because of the ongoing pandemic, the program was previously not available to applicants also receiving the now-expired \$600 weekly PUA benefit. However, the end of the benefit creates a timely opportunity for those previously rendered ineligible, and SC Thrive recommends that interested applicants take advantage. Eligible households could now receive assistance of up to \$1,500 for rent in a one-time, lump-sum payment made directly to property owners or management companies.

Launched in late May in cooperation with the South Carolina State Housing Finance and Development Authority (S.C. Housing), the Rental Assistance Program aims to lessen the economic impacts of the COVID-19 health crisis on state residents by providing funds to renters affected by shutdowns, closures, layoffs, reduced work hours or unpaid leave due to the outbreak. The organization hopes the current transition period between the previous and the next wave of federal support will extend this benefit to more S.C. residents in need of rent money by greatly expanding accessibility to it.

“We recognize that the effects of coronavirus are far reaching, and South Carolinians are still struggling just to pay their rent or trying to hang on until their next paycheck,” said SC Thrive CEO Tricia Richardson. “But we want everyone to know that assistance is available now. This SC Thrive program is here to help South Carolinians stay housed

during this difficult time. We strongly encourage anyone struggling — especially those who were previously denied or who didn’t apply for the program due to this requirement — to apply.”

SC Thrive understands that it can be difficult to send in supporting documentation, especially when many places that offer document scanning and faxing are closed. The organization encourages applicants to seek assistance for submitting documents through landlords, county government offices, employers and community-service organizations that currently allow visitors. Many of these organizations and offices are doing everything they can to help fill in the gaps for their neighbors. Those wishing to submit new applications for the program or simply learn more about it can do so at rent.scthrive.org.

Applicants must meet a number of requirements to qualify for the program, including:

- Applicants must be South Carolina residents;
- Applicants’ household income at the time of application must be at or below 80% of the Area Median Income for the county in which they reside. Income eligibility by county can be found at: <https://bit.ly/2LPONAh>;
- Applicants’ employment/income must have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning March 10, 2020, or later;
- Applicants must be past due on rent;
- The rent assistance payment must bring the rental balance current; and
- The applicant cannot currently receive any subsidized rental assistance.

In addition to the COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program, SC Thrive stands firm in helping South Carolinians in need access available resources in innovative ways. Primary areas of focus at SC Thrive include physical, mental and financial health. The organization also provides a variety of training and technology to other direct-service organizations so that they can more effectively help those in need access the resources available to them. To find out about all of the resources SC Thrive has to offer, visit scthrive.org.

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USC announces free COVID-19 tests; classes start Thursday

COLUMBIA (AP) — The University of South Carolina is joining a handful of universities nationwide to implement saliva tests for COVID-19, as part of its plan to reopen for classes this week.

The tests will be free for students, faculty and staff on the school's Columbia campus, the university said in a news release Tuesday. The tests, which require a single spit sample, are an alternative to nasal swab tests and typically deliver results within 24 hours.

The implementation of the tests comes amid the university's attempt to hold classes, which are set to begin Thursday, in person. Other higher education institutions in the state, including Clemson University and the

College of Charleston, are delaying the start of in-person teaching because of the pandemic.

Elsewhere, schools including Colorado College and the University of Notre Dame have already begun reporting spikes in coronavirus cases this fall. The University of North Carolina announced it will shift to remote learning after identifying multiple clusters of cases among students.

The University of South Carolina is now the only school in the state to receive state certification for the saliva tests and one of a handful of universities nationwide approved for the tests.

The school said West Columbia-based Nephron Pharmaceuticals donated 50,000 sample tubes and a robot

for processing samples.

"If we want to stop the spread of this deadly virus, we have to expand COVID-19 screening where breakouts can occur, such as college campuses, and that is why this partnership with Carolina is so important," Nephron CEO Lou Kennedy said in a news release.

The saliva testing approach could lower the barrier to testing across the state, as no trained personnel, testing sites or personal protective equipment are needed to collect samples, USC School of Medicine professor Helmut Albrecht told state legislators earlier this month. People could provide samples in classrooms and airports, churches and dinner parties and even

at home, Albrecht said.

New COVID-19 cases and deaths have begun to fall in the state during the last month. Public health officials say data from municipalities that have implemented mask orders since the beginning of the summer show the masks have helped slow the spread of the virus.

On Tuesday, health officials announced 940,948 tests have been conducted in the state since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak. The Department of Health and Environmental Control reported 691 new confirmed cases and 47 additional deaths. The state has now totaled 106,574 confirmed cases, and 2,230 South Carolinians have died of COVID-19 so far.

Clemson finds hundreds of unmarked graves of slaves

CLEMSON (AP) — The possible locations of hundreds of unmarked graves have been discovered in a Clemson University cemetery, including those of slaves and Black men whose hard forced labor built the campus long after the Civil War.

The graves are thought to be of those enslaved at John C. Calhoun's Fort Hill Plantation from about 1830 to 1865, as well as sharecroppers and convicts leased from the state to construct campus buildings from 1890 to 1915, the university said in a statement Monday.

Researchers used radar technology to identify the possible locations of at least 215 bodies in Woodland Cemetery, the university graveyard beside the school's football stadium, where Calhoun's family and university employees also are buried.

Researchers had long known that unidentified bodies of African-Americans were buried among the graves of prominent university figures, and previous efforts to locate their graves had been attempted. The new total an-

nounced on Monday includes recently discovered graves beyond a previously identified area, on the south end of what was once Calhoun's plantation, *The Post and Courier* reported.

Lead researcher Paul Anderson said more graves are expected to be uncovered. Testing has revealed more disturbed soil roughly five feet beneath the surface, and they could be identified as burial sites "in the coming weeks and months," Clemson said.

Students sparked a renewed push for recognition of the graves, by raising concerns about the state of the unmarked plots in a fenced-off, littered area, *The Greenville News* said. In March, the university committed to maintaining the graves, and the students said they were designing a memorial for them. The university also plans to share the stories of those buried there in a website.

"We are committed to taking all the critically important actions to enhance these grounds, preserve these grave sites and to ensure the people buried there are properly hon-



Unmarked stones on a hill on the edge of Woodland Cemetery, also known as Cemetery Hill, are seen March 18 near Memorial Stadium at Clemson University in Clemson. Created in the early 20th Century, Woodland Cemetery is a burial ground for prominent Clemson University figures — presidents, professors and football coaches are all buried in the hilltop plot beside Memorial Stadium.

KEN RUINARD / THE INDEPENDENT-MAIL VIA AP

Black lives hardly mattered at all at Clemson until after desegregation," she said. "And the discovery that we made in this burial ground tells me that Black deaths mattered even less. The thing that I found is that Black labor mattered the most on this land."

ored and respected," Smyth McKissick, chairman of the Board of Trustees, said in the statement Monday.

The university, meanwhile, has been under pressure to address the racist legacy of Calhoun and his ties to the school. A former U.S. vice president and supporter of slavery, he once called the practice a "positive good." The university stripped his name from its honors college in June.

Rhondda Robinson Thomas, a Clemson professor who researches African-American literature and history, said

she would be notifying local people whose ancestors may be buried in the cemetery, news outlets reported.

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A sign warns of extreme heat danger at Badwater Basin on Monday in Death Valley National Park, California. Death Valley recorded a scorching 130 degrees Sunday, which if the sensors and other conditions check out would be the hottest Earth has been in more than 89 years and the third warmest ever measured.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Death Valley's 130 degrees may be record if verified

BY SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

California sizzled to a triple-digit temperature so hot that meteorologists need to verify it as a planet-wide high mark.

Death Valley recorded a scorching 130 degrees Sunday, which if the sensors and other conditions check out would be the hottest Earth has been in more than 89 years and the third warmest ever measured.

The temperature, measured at the aptly named Furnace Creek during a blistering heat wave, would be the hottest temperature recorded on Earth in August, said Arizona State University professor Randy Cerveny, who coordinates the World Meteorological Organization's extreme temperature team, which is already investigating the mark.

That 130 is only below the disputed all-time record of 134 degrees at nearly the same spot in 1913 and a 131-degree mark in Tunisia in 1931, but both were in July, traditionally the planet's hottest month.

The relentlessly hot weather conditions at the spot support such an extreme reading, so much of the verification effort will be looking at how the measurement was taken and the sensor itself, Cerveny said. Sunday's temperature would beat marks of 129 recorded three times in recent years, he said. The monitor is an official one that follows world guidelines but still needs to be examined in a process that takes months, he said.

"We are having more extremes than we had in the past," Cerveny said.

The world is "creeping up on (the 134-degree record) year after year. That is something that cannot be denied," Cerveny said Monday. "These

extremes tell us a lot about what will happen in the future."

The western heat wave is due to a "massive dome of high pressure" that keeps roasting the West, and the normal Southwest monsoon that would provide rain and relief is missing, so there has been no cooling, Cerveny said. Phoenix has gone weeks with temperatures not dipping below 90, even at night or early in the morning, he said.

The 130-mark capped a week and an ongoing summer of "very strange" weather, said Deke Arndt, director of the National Weather Service's Center for Weather and Climate and former chairman of the U.S. national weather extremes committee.

On Saturday, a fire tornado formed during a wildfire near Chilcoot, California, worsened by the western heat wave. The fire was "burning so incredibly intense, so there is just so much heat going into it" that air rose in a swirl just like what happens in some thunderstorms, said Dawn Johnson, senior meteorologist at the National Weather Service office in Reno, Nevada. "It almost looks like a bomb went off."

And days before that, a violent straight-wind derecho devastated parts of Iowa, Illinois and Indiana, killing four people and causing billions of dollars in damage. Also, the

Atlantic keeps setting records for earliest hurricanes, with 11 forming before mid-August and the beginning of peak season.

"These kinds of things are certainly consistent with everybody's expectation for what we expect to see more often" with manmade global warming, said Jennifer Francis, a senior scientist at the Woodwell Climate Research Center, formerly Woods Hole Research Center, in Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Death Valley's National Park's 130-degree temperature was recorded at 3:41 p.m. at Furnace Creek near the park's visitor center. It's the same area that holds the world record for highest temperature ever recorded — 134 degrees — set on July 10, 1913, although that record remains in dispute. Arndt said meteorologists have made good cases for and against the record's legitimacy.

With this new temperature, Arndt said his former committee might look yet again at the 1913 record, which Cerveny said is based on peer-reviewed research and is official.

While individual one-day records shouldn't be used to make a case for or against climate change, scientists say the overall context of more extreme weather and higher temperatures shows global warming at work.

Suffrage anniversary commemorations highlight racial divide

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — As the U.S. marks the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, many event organizers, mindful that the 19th Amendment originally benefited mostly white women, have been careful to present it as a commemoration, not a celebration.

The amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified on Aug. 18, 1920, but many women of color were prevented from casting ballots for decades afterward because of poll taxes, literacy tests, overt racism, intimidation and laws that prevented the grandchildren of slaves from voting. Much of that didn't change until the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

From exhibits inside the Arizona Capitol Museum to a gathering on the North Carolina Statehouse lawn, many commemorations, including those that moved online because of the coronavirus pandemic, have highlighted a more nuanced history of the American women's suffrage movement alongside the traditional tributes to well-known suffragists such as Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

The 100th anniversary has arrived during a year of nationwide protests against racial inequality that have forced the United States to once again reckon with its uncomfortable history.

"Like many movements, the stories are complicated, and I think it's important, as we have an opportunity to reflect and to celebrate, that we also are honest about how we didn't meet all of our aspirations," said Rhode Island Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea, a Democrat born and raised in Puerto Rico who has helped to organize her state's suffrage commemoration efforts. "It's important to have these conversations so

we can do a better job of going forward."

The Connecticut Historical Society last month unveiled an online exhibit titled "The Work Must Be Done: Women of Color and the Right to Vote." It highlights Black women from Connecticut who fought for suffrage rights as well as other issues, such as anti-discrimination, anti-lynching, labor reforms and access to education.

"We have really been wanting to make sure we talk about the complicated history of these issues in our country," said Arizona Assistant Secretary of State Allie Bones, whose office came up with a program after working with about 60 community groups across the state, many of which were "very focused on not calling it a celebration, but ... a commemoration."

While their names are not as well-known as the white suffragists, Black women played both prominent and smaller roles in the movement. Members of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, for example, participated in the 1913 suffrage march in Washington, taking great personal risk while not being welcomed by some white suffragists who ultimately insisted the Black women march at the end of the procession, said Cheryl A. Hickmon, national first vice president of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

"They felt that it was their obligation, if you will, even though it was unsafe to march with the other women and show their dissonance and feelings," said Hickmon, whose organization has been working with organizers of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial that's being constructed in southern Fairfax County, Virginia, and includes an overview of the entire movement, including Black suffragists.

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Report: Trump campaign's Russia contacts a 'grave' threat

BY ERIC TUCKER and MARY CLARE JALONICK
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump campaign's interactions with Russian intelligence services during the 2016 presidential election posed a "grave" counterintelligence threat, a Senate panel concluded Tuesday as it detailed in a report how associates of the Republican candidate had regular contact with Russians and expected to benefit from the Kremlin's help.

The report, the fifth and final one from the Republican-led Senate intelligence committee on the Russia investigation, describes how Russia launched an aggressive, wide-ranging effort to interfere in the election on Donald Trump's behalf. It says Trump associates were eager to exploit the Kremlin's aid, particularly by maximizing the impact of the disclosure of Democratic emails that were hacked by Russian military intelligence officers.

The conclusions mark the culmination of a bipartisan probe that spanned more than three years and produced what the committee called "the most comprehensive de-



AP FILE PHOTO

Senate Intelligence Chairman Richard Burr, R-N.C., right, accompanied by Committee Vice Chairman Mark Warner, D-Va., speaks as Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen and former Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson appear before a Senate Intelligence Committee hearing on election security on Capitol Hill in Washington on March 21, 2018.

scription to date of Russia's activities and the threat they posed."

The findings echo to a large degree those of special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation, with the report's unflinching characterization of furtive interactions between Trump associates and Russian operatives contradicting the Republican president's claims that the FBI had no basis to in-

vestigate whether his campaign was conspiring with Russia.

The report was released as two other Senate committees, the Judiciary and Homeland Security panels, conduct their own reviews of the Russia probe with an eye toward uncovering what they say was FBI misconduct during the early days of the investigation. A prosecutor appoint-

ed by Attorney General William Barr, who regards the Russia investigation with skepticism, disclosed his first criminal charge on Friday against a former FBI lawyer who plans to plead guilty to altering a government email.

Among the more striking sections of the nearly 1,000-page report issued Tuesday is the committee's description of the close professional relationship between former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort and Konstantin Kilimnik, whom the committee describes without equivocation as a Russian intelligence officer.

"Taken as a whole, Manafort's high-level access and willingness to share information with individuals closely affiliated with the Russian intelligence services, particularly Kilimnik, represented a grave counterintelligence threat," the report says.

The report notes how Manafort shared internal Trump campaign polling data with Kilimnik and says there is "some evidence" that Kilimnik may have been connected to the Kremlin's operation to hack and leak Democratic emails, though it does not describe that evidence. In addition, the report says that "two pieces of information" raise

the possibility of Manafort's potential connection to those operations, but what follows next in the document is blacked out.

Both men were charged in Mueller's investigation, but neither was accused of any tie to the hacking.

A Manafort lawyer, Kevin Downing, said Tuesday that there is information that was sealed at the request of Mueller's team "that completely refutes whatever the intelligence committee is trying to surmise." He added: "It just looks like complete conjecture."

The report purposely does not come to a final conclusion, as the other reports did, about whether there is enough evidence that Trump's campaign coordinated or colluded with Russia to sway the election to him and away from Democrat Hillary Clinton, leaving its findings open to partisan interpretation.

A group of Republicans on the panel submitted "additional views" to the report saying that it should state more explicitly that Trump's campaign did not coordinate with Russia. But Democrats on the panel submitted their own views, arguing that the report clearly shows such cooperation.

Golden State Killer faces his victims in 1st day of hearings

Convicted murderer will be sentenced to life in prison

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Victim after victim lined up on Tuesday to describe Joseph DeAngelo as a "sick monster," "horrible man" and "subhuman" who stole their innocence and changed their lives during a more than decade-long reign of rape and murder that earned him the nickname of the Golden State Killer.

The daughter of one rape victim gave him an obscene hand gesture and cursed him during the first of four days of hearings in Sacramento County Superior Court before he is formally sen-



DeANGELO

tenced to life in prison on Friday.

Some read statements on behalf of their loved ones who could not testify in person, while others proudly gave their names now that DeAngelo, 74, is heading to prison.

"He and his knife had complete control over me for the next two hours," the daughter of rape survivor Patricia Murphy read from her mother's statement. "He truly is an evil monster with no soul."

Murphy in her own statement raised her middle finger and said DeAngelo "can go straight to hell."

He was a former police officer in California who eluded capture for four decades. The scope of crimes "is simply staggering," prosecutors said in a court summary released Monday: 13 known murders and nearly 50 rapes between 1975 and 1986.

Sixteen of his Sacramento County rape victims began confronting him Tuesday in a courthouse that is otherwise still sealed from the public because of the coronavirus. A similar number planned to tell Sacramento County Superior Court Judge Michael Bowman today and Thursday how DeAngelo's crimes changed their lives.

Pete Schultz told how he "performed horrific acts against our mother while

she was tied and blindfolded." He himself was tied to a bedpost at age 11, while his 7-year-old sister was locked in her room during the attack on Wini Schultz.

DeAngelo in June pleaded guilty to 13 murders and 13 rape-related charges but publicly admitted to dozens more because the statute of limitations for sexual assaults had expired.

Defense attorneys did not respond to requests for comment and did not file a response to prosecutors' outline of the case. All told, DeAngelo admitted to harming 87 victims in 53 separate crime scenes spanning 11 California counties in a plea deal that spares him the death penalty, prosecutors said.

Kid Scoop

GREAT MOMENTS IN WOMEN'S HISTORY

How Women Won the Right to Vote

Replace the missing words on this page:

GOALS APPROVED
DECADES PROTECTING
PROBLEMS VOTE
MARCHED LAST
RIGHT SCHOOL
STEP

Can you imagine a world in which women do not have the right to vote?

How long do you think women in the United States have had the right to vote? 300 years? 200 years? 150 years?

In the United States, women have had that _____ for only 100 years of the 244 years we have been a country. And getting the right to vote took _____ of protesting and writing to lawmakers — who were all men at the time.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE HEADQUARTERS MEN OF OHIO! GIVE THE WOMEN A SQUARE DEAL. Vote For Amendment No. 23 On September 3-1912. COME IN AND LEARN WHY WOMEN DUGHT to Vote.

Meeting for Women's Rights

In 1848, a group of people met in Seneca Falls, NY to talk about the _____ women faced because they didn't have the same rights as men.

At that time, women could not own property, they could not vote and very few could go to _____.

The word **suffrage** means the right to vote in elections. A **suffragist** is a person who fights for suffrage.

This meeting was the first women's rights convention in the United States. At that meeting, men and women signed a document called, "Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions." By signing, these people agreed to the _____ of what was becoming the woman's movement.

For more than 70 years, women and men _____ wrote letters and articles, protested and picketed to get an Amendment to the Constitution which would give women the right to _____. These people were known as **suffragists**.

Victory!

On May 21, 1919, the U.S. House of Representatives finally _____ the **19th Amendment**, also known as the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote. But that was just the first _____. The U.S. Senate and at least three quarters of the states had to approve it before it would become the law of the land.

The United States Senate approved the amendment a week after the House.

On August 18, 1920, Tennessee became the _____ state needed to ratify the 19th Amendment.

One week later, on August 26, the 19th Amendment officially became part of the U.S. Constitution, forever _____ American women's right to vote.

Today, more than 68 million women vote in elections because of the courageous suffragists who never gave up the fight for equality.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

In 1920, exactly 100 years after Susan was born, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed, giving women the right to vote.

While Susan did not live to see women get the right to vote, in 1979 she became the first woman to appear on U.S. money.

Look closely to see which Susan B. Anthony dollar is different.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

AMENDMENT PICKETED SUFFRAGE APPROVED WARRANT ANTHONY VICTORY DECADES RATIFY RIGHT WOMEN LAST VOTE MEN

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

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Women in Leadership

Not only can women vote, but they also hold elected offices. Look through the newspaper for examples of women that are in leadership positions. Research to find out if they were voted into this job or hired.

Standards Link: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Write On!

Energy Saving Tips Send your story to:

What tips do you have for kids on how to save energy?

Deadline: September 13 Published: Week of Oct. 11 Please include your school and grade.

Extra! Extra!

Should kids be able to vote?

Write a letter to the editor of this newspaper sharing your opinion about whether or not kids should be able to vote. Be sure to support your argument with some facts.

Standards Link: Writing applications.

1. Which Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gives women the right to vote?
 16th 19th 21st

2. How many years have American women had the right to vote?
 100 250 500

3. Where did the first women's rights convention take place?
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Coin shortage hits retailers, laundromats, tooth fairy

BY SARAH SKIDMORE SELL
AP Personal Finance Writer

A convenience store chain is offering a free beverage or sandwich in exchange for them. A laundromat owner drove four hours across state lines to get \$8,000 worth. A young girl in Illinois wrote the tooth fairy saying she'll gladly take dollars as a substitute if it helps.

There is a shortage of coins across the U.S., yet another odd side effect of the coronavirus pandemic. Quarters, dimes and nickels aren't circulating as freely as they usually do because many businesses have been closed and consumers aren't out spending as much.

The Federal Reserve announced in June that the supply system for coins had been severely disrupted. The U.S. Mint and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin have urged Americans to use coins or turn them in to banks. As the economy recovers and businesses reopen, the coin supply is expected to normalize.

Meanwhile, retailers large and small have urged shoppers to use cards or exact change whenever possible. Some won't provide change. Grocery giant Kroger Co. is still accepting cash but offers customers the option to load their change onto loyalty cards to use on their next visit or to donate the balance to charity.

Convenience store chain WaWa offered customers a free beverage at some of its stores if people brought in \$5 worth of coins, or a sandwich for \$50 or more. Community State Bank, a regional bank chain in Wisconsin, even offered a \$5 bonus for every \$100 worth of coins that people brought in. They had to suspend it after a week due to overwhelming response.

As the shortage persists, it's become clear that there are still some conundrums that only coins can solve.

"It's at the minimum an inconvenience ... at worst it's a business challenge," said Brian Wallace, CEO of the Coin Laundry Association, a trade group for laundromats.

About 56% of laundromats that serve the public take quarters as the only form of payment. And 89% take quarters as some form of payment, with cards, loyalty programs or mobile payments as an alternative, according to the trade group.

Laundromats rely heavily on coins, in part, because many of their customers are "unbanked" or "underbanked," meaning they mostly or entirely use cash instead



SEAN MCKEAG / THE CITIZENS' VOICE VIA AP

On July 24, The Associated Press reported on stories circulating online incorrectly denying the existence of a coin shortage in the U.S. The shortage is real, says The Federal Reserve, which manages the country's coin inventory. Coins aren't being circulated because businesses are closed and sales are down during the pandemic.

of cards to pay for things.

Daryl Johnson, who owns Giant Wash Laundry — a chain of 11 laundromats in the Minneapolis area — said his company normally buys anywhere from \$4,000 to \$8,000 in quarters a week for its change machines. But after the Fed began rationing distributions of coins, his bank said it might not be able to provide any.

"Obviously we were freaking out a little bit," he said.

Johnson got creative: he offered to buy change from friends and family on Facebook. He put up signs in stores asking customers to bring in their own coins and adjusted his change machines to only accept smaller bills to

limit outflow. He even drove more than four hours to Omaha to buy \$8,000 in quarters from another laundry operator.

"It's that or my businesses close," he said.

Things have stabilized some, both for himself and his bank, in terms of supply.

People who rely on coin-operated laundry machines in laundromats and apartment buildings are struggling as well. Stephanie Sabin of Portland, Oregon, has a washing machine at her apartment complex that only takes quarters. In July, her neighborhood bank was closed for in-person business. The next five locations she tried were either closed or unable to give

her quarters. She's been able to get her laundry done with quarters her family had on hand or that she bought from her boss.

"Desperate times," she said. "You can no longer request rolls of quarters at grocery stores or even get change back if you pay with cash at a food drive-through."

Toll booths, parking meters, vending machines and other spots that were once coin-heavy have largely modernized to accept other forms of payment. But people are finding themselves in need of change for other situations.

Leigh Ann Tognetti of Rio Grande City, Texas, had just started her 5-year-old daughter on an allowance in July:

two quarters for every day she picks up her room.

"It's a lot of quarters to go through in a week," she said. "I had no idea or even crossed my mind that there could be a coin shortage."

To keep good on her promise, she has used change from the vending machine at work and coins mailed to her by a friend. She has also used a stack of dimes or doubles up two days' payments with a dollar bill instead.

"If she would pick up every single day we would have a problem," she said.

For the North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores, a shutdown in March turned into an unexpected opportunity to help offset lost revenue and ended up helping address the coin shortage too.

The aquarium shut down its waterfall and cleared out about 100 gallons of coins that visitors had thrown in over the past 14 years. The coins, which are still being washed and counted, will go toward operating costs.

"We are definitely feeling the pinch," said Danielle Bolton, a spokeswoman for the aquarium. "Every penny counts, literally."

The shortage is even being felt by the young.

Take Jen Vicker, of Bolingbrook, Illinois. Her 10-year-old daughter woke up with a loose tooth recently and worried the tooth fairy wouldn't be able to pay because of the shortage.

So she wrote a note: "Dear tooth fairy, you may already know this but there is a national coin shortage in America. You usually leave me dollar coins, but until this situation is resolved, I would like cash for my teeth. I apologize for the inconvenience."

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CHANGES

FROM PAGE A1

mail-processing machines and blue collection boxes, as well as an initiative to change retail hours at post offices. He also said that no mail processing facilities will be closed and said the agency has not eliminated overtime.

One initiative that DeJoy didn't single out in his announcement was the newly imposed constraints on when mail can go out for delivery — a change that postal workers have said is fueling delays. The statement also did not specify whether the agency would restore mail-sorting machines that have recently been taken offline.

A Postal Service spokesman declined to comment beyond DeJoy's statement.

"What's going on right now is nothing less than a full-on assault by this administration on the U.S. Postal Service, an institution that millions of Americans rely on every single day," said Bob Ferguson, the attorney general in Washington state, at a news conference.

Ferguson and Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro announced they were leading collections of other states in suing to block service changes at the Postal Service,

just as the postmaster was making his own statement Tuesday. Both Shapiro and Ferguson said they would not take DeJoy at his word.

"We need to see binding action to reverse these changes," Shapiro said.

Trump made clear last week that he was blocking \$25 billion emergency aid to the Postal Service, acknowledging he wanted to curtail election mail operations, as well as a Democratic proposal to provide \$3.6 billion in additional election money to the states to help process an expected surge of mail-in ballots.

Key Republicans are now sounding the alarm. In the pivotal swing state of Ohio, Attorney General Dave Yost pleaded with Trump to postpone any needed changes to the Postal Service until after Election Day. GOP Sen. Rob Portman and other Republicans in Ohio's congressional delegation urged DeJoy to "ensure timely and accurate delivery of election-related materials."

Mark Dimondstein, president of the American Postal Workers Union, welcomed DeJoy's decision but said the Postal Service needs COVID-19-related financial relief. "It's time for Congress to deliver," he said.

Pelosi is gaining GOP support for Saturday's vote, according to two Republican

aides granted anonymity to discuss the situation. She is calling lawmakers back to Washington for the "Delivering for America Act," which would prohibit the Postal Service from implementing any changes to operations or level of service it had in place on Jan. 1. The package would include the \$25 billion approved as part of the COVID-19 rescue that is stalled in the Senate.

Democrats held events in cities nationwide, some pressuring Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to resume session. One protest was in Atlanta, where vulnerable GOP Sen. David Perdue faces a tough reelection.

McConnell, though, is unlikely to change the Senate schedule. In Kentucky, he said he viewed the postal legislation as an opportunity to resume talks over a broader COVID-19 relief bill.

"I don't think we'll pass, in the Senate, a postal-only bill," he told the *Courier-Journal* in an interview.

DeJoy, a former supply-chain CEO who took over the Postal Service in June, has sparked nationwide outcry over delays, new prices and cutbacks that could imperil not only the election, but also what some call a lifeline for those receiving mail prescriptions and other goods during the COVID-19 crisis.

YOUR VOICE

FROM PAGE A1

"I am a female combat veteran who served in Afghanistan and uses the VA systems for my health care. Unfortunately, I have been affected by the politics surrounding the postal service. Prior to the changes, I typically would receive my medication in the mail within three business days. On Aug. 4, my high blood pressure medicine was filled at the pharmacy and shipped from the VA shortly thereafter. I did not receive it in the mail until 10 days later. The same for my sleep medication. Thankfully, I had medication to sustain me during that time. It is heart wrenching for those who depend on the mail. I honestly am not sure if the policymakers in D.C. understand the trickle-down effect. We all know that much of the controversy around the mail revolves around mail-in ballots. However, the postal service provides so much more for millions of people. We have to remember that the post office is a government agency and not a business. As an American, we do not want any entity of it in a deficit, but it is not a commercial business designed to generate massive profits, and it's important to remember that. If

improvements are necessary, I'm sure they can be done in a way that to where it is not detrimental to the people!"

— **Jamilla Jenkins**, Haynsworth Street

"I work at Jefferson Barns and Lumber, and we have terrible delivery service here with the mail. Our normal mail lady is nice and tries to help us out, but if it is anyone else, we won't receive our mail, or they will try to say we are closed, but we have set hours every day. One time before, I went to the main post office because Amazon sent me a notification and said that they couldn't deliver my package and that it was being held at the post office to pick up my package there. When I got there and showed the man at the desk my notification, he yelled at me and said that my package wasn't there, and if they didn't leave it, then oh well. I asked him could he please go double check, and he said no that was a waste of his time. I eventually had to get loud with him before he would go check; finally he did and had my package."

— **Teresa Zearfoss**

COLLEGES

FROM PAGE A1

found herself moving back out again on Tuesday, after the university canceled in-person classes for undergraduates when clusters of coronavirus infection surfaced among students.

Holland said she sobbed for an hour after learning the news.

"I kind of expected it, but I'm just kind of disappointed in my classmates and the people that are out partying and stuff because now I can't finish my college experience," Holland said. "I know that we'll be back one day, but it's just sad right now."

In the last few days alone, college students in places including North Carolina, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Vermont, Kansas, Colorado and the Air Force Academy have tested positive, creating a ripple effect that has put hundreds of other students into quarantine or isolation.

The U.S. leads the world in the number of coronavirus cases, with 5.4 million cases reported as of Tuesday, and more than 170,000 confirmed dead, according to data from Johns Hopkins University.

In Chapel Hill, the university on Monday reported a spike in the proportion of its COVID-19 tests coming back positive, prompting the university to move all classes online starting today.

"We had anticipated and planned for COVID cases on our campus this fall," UNC Chancellor Kevin Guskiewicz told faculty members in a Zoom call Monday. "However, seeing the COVID-19 positivity rate rise from 2.8% to 13.6% at Campus Health over the past week is very concerning."

On Tuesday, a smattering of UNC-Chapel Hill students packed up their belongings and headed back home with their families. Oyeronke Popoola, a 17-year-old freshman living near two COVID-19 clusters, was taking a mix of

online and in-person classes. She did not anticipate having to move back to Raleigh with her family just eight days after classes started.

"I was surprised because I thought we were going to be better, but I guess not," Popoola said.

Holland said she wants other colleges to learn from the Chapel Hill students who participated in large, maskless gatherings.

"A lot of kids our age don't understand the result of their actions, and this is kind of showing what can result of that," Holland said.

Students at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville could face punishments as stiff as expulsion if they are "irresponsible" in hosting big parties, if they won't cooperate with COVID-19 contact tracing or if they don't complete forms documenting their self-isolation, the chancellor said Tuesday.

"It's possible that you could be expelled from school, and I will not hesitate to do that if people, our students, are irresponsible," Chancellor Donde Plowman said in a video conference.

Plowman also noted five cases linked to an off-campus party last week.

Today is the first day of classes at the flagship Knoxville campus. School officials have confirmed 75 active COVID-19 cases there, involving 66 students and nine employees. About 6,500 students have moved in on campus, while an additional 30,000-plus live off campus.

The campus currently has 270 people in isolation due to contacts, symptoms or positive tests, including 51 students living on campus, Plowman said.

Some neighbors in college towns are fearful that students could spread the virus outside of campus and overwhelm local health care systems. In Flagstaff, Arizona, Vice Mayor Adam Shimoni said he would like the University of Northern Arizona to cancel in-person classes for the semester.

CHAMPIONS

FROM PAGE A1

expected to be the state's new champion or co-champion of the *Gordonia* species.

"It was kind of a happy accident," Carnley said. "It was just kind of awe inspiring to see one as massive as this one was."

Carnley found the tree in a swampy area off *Gordonia* Drive, which he thought was ironic given the name, on July 22. He said this one was massive in comparison to what he has seen of this species.

Just a week after discovering the giant, Carnley took his friend, Chase Smoak, a horticulturist serving the Clemson University Extension Office covering Sumter, Clarendon and Lee counties, to measure the tree.

An American native, the *Loblolly* Bay reaches an average height of 35-60 feet, according to a plant profile from the University of Florida.

According to the South Carolina Champion Tree database, the current *Loblolly* Bay state Champion Tree is based in Aiken County, measured with a circumference of 68.4 inches, a height of 82 feet and a crown spread of 38 feet.

Carnley and Smoak measured the *Gordonia* in Sumter with a circumference of 88 inches, a height of 81 feet and a crown spread of 33.5 feet. The two immediately realized they found a *Gordonia* that reached Champion Tree status and nominated it immediately.

Sumter's tree could be con-

sidered a co-champion because it is within a 5-point difference of its competitor, according to Smoak, but regardless of its rank, he and Carnley are just glad to have found such an amazing giant.

Smoak said if horticulturists love one thing, it's finding large trees, and to be able to find a potential state or national Champion Tree is even better.

"For somebody to be able to find a Champion Tree in their lifetime alone, that's an accomplishment," Smoak said.

The two friends have known each other since attending Clemson, and they've been pushing each other in their fields since for the horticulture and the fun behind the job, Carnley said. This is one of the aspects that makes horticulture fun for them.

Smoak said the *Gordonia* isn't the first potential Champion Tree in Sumter, though. Not too long ago, someone discovered a *Magnolia* tree that even made the national rank.

"We had a champion *Magnolia* here in Sumter that we lost last year," Smoak said. "In fact, it was the second-largest *Magnolia* in the nation, but it got struck by lightning."

Smoak and Carnley agreed that preserving and protecting large trees is extremely important.

"It's important, to me, to protect these trees for pros-

perity. As the population grows, we see fewer and fewer large native species due to habitat loss and encroachment," Carnley said. "The value of a tree is relative. Each tree has its own benefits, whether it be economical or social or ecological."

Smoak said there are many ways a community can protect big trees like the *Gordonia* they found. It just takes a bit of caring.

"It's kind of the same thing with yourself. You always make sure that your heart is in good health," Smoak said. "The same thing goes for trees."

Smoak said landowners wishing to protect large trees may benefit from installing lightning protection on the tree, correcting soil compaction around the root zone with the use of an air spade and proper pruning of dead and/or structurally compromising limbs, which often requires a professional for larger trees.

A key point with any tree is that you want to keep it as stress-free as possible, Smoak said. Once a tree becomes stressed by factors like bad pruning or compacted root systems, it opens itself up for secondary problems like pest insects or plant diseases.

He said if any landowner wants to help preserve and protect large trees like the *Gordonia* in Sumter, Clemson Extension agents are a free resource to the public.

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To keep pets in homes, animal welfare groups help owners

BY LINDA LOMBARDI

The Associated Press

Early in May, Nydia Bonefont was concerned when her dog wouldn't eat and seemed lethargic. She realized that Papi, a 9-year-old Beagle/Cavalier mix, must have hurt himself — he cried when he was touched. But she was without income to pay for vet care.

"I lost my job a while ago, and then the pandemic started," she says. "I went in March to see the doctor for very bad bronchitis and asthma, and he said that I have to stay home because I was high-risk."

Fortunately, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has a clinic in her Brooklyn, New York, neighborhood where she had taken Papi before. She got him some pain medication and free dog food there, and after a few days he was his old self again, running and playing with her son.

Many pet owners are finding themselves in financial straits during the pandemic. At the same time, there's a growing recognition among animal welfare organizations that to help animals, they need to help struggling pet owners.

"Increasing access to health care and critical resources for pets that are living in poverty is the best way to keep pets out of the shelter," says Matt Bershader, president and CEO of the ASPCA. "If we can provide those services, we can keep animals in a home where they're bonded and loved."

Bershader said the need is rising: "We estimate that another 4.2 million pets will likely enter poverty over the



DUSTIN BROWN / ASPCA VIA AP

Animal welfare organizations such as the ASPCA are increasing their efforts to help people affected financially by the pandemic care for their pets. Seen here is an ASPCA pet food distribution point in the Bronx borough of New York.

next six months as a result of the COVID-19 crisis and the ensuing economic fallout. That's a 21 percent increase in the number of pets living in poverty, bringing that to about 24.4 million pets living in poverty."

Since it was launched in March, the ASPCA's \$5 million COVID-19 Relief & Recovery Initiative has provided \$2 million in grant funding, set up new pet-food distribution centers in cities including Los Angeles, Miami, New York and Asheville, N.C., and helped more than 268,000 dogs, cats and horses nationwide, including distributing about 1,800 tons of food.

"In response to COVID, we put a lot of this work into hyperdrive," says Bershader. "We made grants to about 50 organizations across 30 states to support them as they navigate the crisis."

Another organization offering subsidized veterinary care to low-income pet owners is Mission Animal Hospital, a nonprofit in Minnesota.

Executive Director Dr. Susan Miller says the price of care is a common reason people give when surrendering their pets to shelters and rescues.

"They can't afford it, so they think their only option is to surrender," she says. "I believe that everyone is entitled

to the relationship you can have with a pet, no matter what your finances, because I so strongly believe in what pets bring to our quality of life and our humanity."

Mission opened up their subsidized price program to anyone in need due to the pandemic.

"We're seeing about 200-250 more pets per month due to COVID-related issues — so that would be 10-15 percent more pets per month," she says. "And that number's only been getting larger month after month for the past four months."

Mission also has formed partnerships with organizations that distribute free pet food.

"We never had that before as a resource for our clients, but now we know we really need it," Miller says. "We had a thousand pounds of food delivered a few days ago and it was gone in a little over two days."

Bershader notes that so far most shelters are not seeing an increase in surrendered pets. While they're tracking this carefully — the potential for an eviction crisis is of particular concern — it's not a surprise to him that even when people have to cut back, caring for their pets is a priority.

"We see people go to extraordinary lengths to keep and care for their pets," he says. "I think that speaks to the power of the human-animal bond. They are part of the family."

Bonefont agrees. "I don't even use that word, 'give him up.' I don't even want to put that phrase in my mouth," she says. "He's adorable, he's my baby, he's my companion. I love him so much."

National Zoo awaits birth of pandemic panda cub by 22-year-old Mei

WASHINGTON (AP) — Zookeepers at Washington's National Zoo are on furry black-and-white baby watch after concluding that venerable giant panda matriarch Mei Xiang is pregnant and could give birth this week. It's a welcome bit of good news amid a pandemic that kept the zoo shuttered for months.

"We need this! We totally need this joy," said zoo spokeswoman Pamela Baker-Masson. "We are all in desperate need of these feel-goods."

Although so-called "phantom pregnancies" are common with pandas and other large bears, Baker-Masson

said an ultrasound scan revealed a "really strong-looking, fantastic fetus" that could be delivered this week.

"The image was great. She is absolutely pregnant. But things could still happen, just like in a human pregnancy," Baker-Masson said.

The zoo posted a video from the ultrasound on Instagram. "Keep your paws crossed!" the zoo posted, reporting that the fetus was "kicking and swimming in the amniotic fluid."

The announcement of the pregnancy has already touched off a fresh round of panda-mania for one of the

zoo's feature attractions. Viewership on the zoo's panda-cam (<https://nationalzoo.si.edu/webcams/panda-cam>) has increased 800%.

The zoo reopened on a limited basis July 24, with restrictions in place to keep the crowds down. However, all indoor exhibits, including the extremely popular panda house, have remained closed. Visitors can still view the outdoor panda enclosure, but Mei has mostly been staying indoors, creating a nest out of branches. She can still be viewed on the panda cam.

Panda births are inherently tricky, with stillbirths and miscarriages hap-

pening frequently. There is also a phenomenon called "resorption" whereby the fetus is unexpectedly absorbed back into the mother's body. Baker-Masson said that is rare with a fetus this well-developed.

Another potential complication is the age of the mother. Mei, at 22, would be the oldest giant panda to successfully give birth in the United States. The oldest in the world gave birth in China at age 23.

"Reproductively speaking, she is an older bear," Baker-Masson said. "But she has been a great mother in the past."

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OPINION

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COMMENTARY

Back to academic nonsense

Parents, legislators, taxpayers and others footing the bill for college education might be interested in just what is in store for the upcoming academic year. Since many college classes will be online, there is a chance to witness professors indoctrinating their students in real time. So, there's a chance that some college faculty might change their behavior. To see recent examples of campus nonsense and indoctrination, visit the Campus Reform and College Fix websites.

George Washington University Law Professor Jonathan Turley warned congressional lawmakers that antifa is "winning" and that much of academia, whether wittingly or unwittingly, is complicit in its success. In his testimony before Congress, Turley said: "To antifa, people like me are the personification of the classical liberal view of free speech that perpetuates a system of oppression and abuse. I wish I could say that my view remains strongly implanted in our higher educational institutions. However, you are more likely to find public supporters for restricting free speech than you are to find defenders of free speech principles on many campuses."



Walter Williams

The leftist bias at our colleges and universities has many harmful effects. A University of California, Davis, mathematics professor faced considerable backlash over her opposition to the requirement for "diversity statements" from potential faculty. Those seeking employment at the University of California, San Diego, are required to admit that "barriers" prevent women and minorities from full participation in campus life. At American University, a history professor wrote a book calling for the repeal of the Second Amendment. A Rutgers University professor said, "Watching the Iowa Caucus is a sickening display of the over-representation of whiteness." A Williams College professor has advocated for the inclusion of social justice in math textbooks. Students at Wayne State University are no longer required to take a single math course to graduate; however, they may soon be required to take a diversity course.

Maybe some students will be forced into sharing the vision of Professor Laurie Rubel, a math education professor at Brooklyn College. She says the idea of cultural neutrality in math is a "myth," and that asking whether 2 plus 2 equals 4 "reeks of white supremacist patriarchy." She tweeted, "Y'all must know that the idea that math is objective or neutral IS A MYTH." Math professors and academics at other universities, including Harvard and the University of Illinois, discussed the "Eurocentric" roots of American mathematics. As for me, I would like to see the proof, in any culture, that 2 + 2 is something other than 4.

Rutgers University's English department chairwoman, Rebecca Walkowitz, announced changes to the department's graduate writing program, emphasizing "social justice" and "critical grammar." Leonydus Johnson, a speech-language pathologist and libertarian activist, says Walkowitz's changes make the assumption that minorities cannot understand traditional and grammatically correct English speech and writing, which is "insulting, patronizing, and in itself, extremely racist."

Then there is the nonsense taught on college campuses about white privilege. The idea of white privilege doesn't explain why several historically marginalized groups outperform whites today. For example, Japanese Americans suffered under the Alien Land Law of 1913 and other racist, exclusionary laws legally preventing them from owning land and property in more than a dozen American states until the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952. During World War II, more than 120,000 Japanese Americans were interned. However, by 1959, the income disparity between Japanese Americans and white Americans had almost disappeared. Today, Japanese Americans outperform white Americans by large margins in income statistics, education outcomes and test scores and have much lower incarceration rates.

According to Rav Arora, writing for the *New York Post*, several black immigrant groups such as Nigerians, Trinidadians and Tobagonians, Barbadians and Ghanaians all "have a median household income well above the American average." We are left with the question whether the people handing out "white privilege" made a mistake. The other alternative is that Japanese Americans, Nigerians, Barbadians, Ghanaians and Trinidadians and Tobagonians are really white Americans.

The bottom line is that more Americans need to pay attention to the miseducation of our youth and that miseducation is not limited to higher education.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University.

CANCELED :



8-16 ARJAL/2020

COMMENTARY

The Rock of Ages wants to guide you

All across America we have a group of blood-related people called families. At a time not too long ago, these groups lived relatively close or on the family farm. Family, at one time, always looked out for each other. The larger the family, the more manpower was available to produce crops, etc. On the flip side of that equation, more mouths had to be fed and more bodies clothed. The memories within the life and times of families will always be remembered. Regardless of the size of the family, there was always one person who was the go-to individual for almost everything.

The go-to person in every family was considered to be the "rock" of the family. This person would personify wisdom, knowledge and grit. The rock was the person you sat down with when you lost your direction. They always had the directional compass to get you back on course. The rock of the family would often be a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle or a trusted cousin. This person was not afraid of anything and seemed to have superpowers. Some families

were fortunate to have had several rocks on board. The rock was steady and always willing to share knowledge. These individuals can be traced back for as many generations as we can retrieve them. If there are only three individuals within a family unit, one person somehow automatically assumes the position of the family go-to person. All of us within a family unit provides some type of support from time to time to other members of the group. However, each unit would have that person or persons who carry the family through continuous leadership.

Who is the rock in your family unit? Somehow these gifted, talented people do not have to ask people to seek advice from them. Advice seekers gravitate to them without advertisement. Sometimes, the rock can provide all the answers for those who visit their family counseling office but have difficulties getting his or her immediate family to drink from the well of wisdom.

This person is oftentimes viewed as a leader in the community and is often asked to seek public office to fulfill the need of the people from a political base. We often hear people say, "Leaders are made to lead." I believe, however, that leaders are born to lead. Certain individuals have a special gift to lead others from an idea to tangible solution to the problems that plague a communi-

ty, city, state or nation. We often encounter problems when we try to make those who lack leadership skills and abilities leaders. The rock can lead without even acknowledging he or she is leading the pack.

When King David thought about all of the close calls that he had, like how the Lord delivered him out of the hands of his enemies and out of the hands of Saul, he spoke these songs, "And David spake unto the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD had delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul: And he said, The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence" (2 Samuel 22:1-3). David was able to call the Lord his rock because he confided in him constantly.

The Lord wants us to confide in him. He desires to be our Rock of Ages. Will you let him guide your life today? You can still confide in your family rock, just include the Lord in the decision-making process.

In God We Trust!

Sam Livingston is pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Manning.

COMMENTARY

Lessons for us all as school starts

We all want our children in school, and we all want to be safe. Nobody is quite sure how to make that happen, but we do know the roles of teachers have never been more important. I've learned from many master teachers during my career. Their styles may be wildly different, but the best ones all share some common traits. We'll call this master class in education, but most of these principles apply to all situations, not just the classroom.

HARSH WORDS, GENTLE DELIVERY

Good teachers must have difficult conversations with parents and students. Years of experience has taught them that it's OK for their words to be harsh, as long as the tone and delivery are soft. As long as the intention comes from a place of genuine care, the message can be as direct and detailed as it needs to be. This strategy works in almost all situations, not just the classroom. Mind your tone. Operate from a place of concern. Do that, and everything else falls into place.

QUIT YELLING

Good teachers know how to command a room without raising their voice. You'll never be louder than a group of kids, so don't bother trying. No, the best teachers simply stop and let silence do the work. After a powerful pause, they lower their voice and slow the cadence of their speech. I saw a teacher hold the attention of an entire fifth-grade class while standing in the pitch dark on the

streets of historic Williamsburg, Virginia. A logistical issue caused a delay, and the kids were getting restless. My co-worker gathered all 76 children to her by whispering, "Come here."



Tammy Davis

amazement as she distracted them until we were ready to carry on. In the classroom, on field trips, on social media and in life, wouldn't it be wonderful if we could all quit yelling?

NO SURPRISES

It's OK to send home a bad grade now and again, but the best teachers always reach out to the student and parent first. The "no surprises" philosophy applies across the board. Always give someone a heads up. Never let anyone get broadsided.

CONNECT AND EMPOWER

Early in my teaching career, I had trouble connecting with a student who struggled academically and was awkward and self-conscious. I never called on him in class because I didn't want to put him on the spot. I went to one of my wise colleagues for advice. She taught me the value of setting students up for success, not just giving false praise but truly giving students the chance to show what

they know. "Always look ahead at his work. Find a question that he got right, and call on him for that one. If you can, give him a heads up. Just tap that question so he knows it's his. He'll pick it up quickly enough." Genius. I would scan his work for something, anything, that he could share with others without being embarrassed. He learned that I expected him to do his work, that I believed his work had merit and that he could count on me to always give him a heads up. That simple strategy gave me a way to connect with the child in a way that made him feel smart and safe.

Wouldn't this world be a better place if we could all learn that lesson? At school and in life, what if we all set our friends and family up for success?

The next few weeks will be interesting, no doubt. Face to face, virtual, hybrid models, it seems everything is changing, but the basics of education stay the same. No matter the setting, we could all benefit from these four tried and true philosophies. Mind your tone, and think about your intention. Quit all the yelling. Try to limit surprises. And, look for the good in those around you.

We all feel like there is a giant question mark on our planners. But if we can implement some lessons from the very best teachers, each day might be a little bit better for us all. Fingers crossed.

Tammy Davis is a writer and teacher finding lessons in everyday life. Follow her on Instagram @ tammydavisstories or subscribe to www.tammydavisstories.com.

Flyers come up short of title, fall to Rock Hill 8-2

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

What was an outstanding season for the Sumter Flyers ended in very disappointing fashion.

Sumter, which took an undefeated record into the championship round of the South Carolina American League junior state tournament, lost to Rock Hill 8-2 on Monday at Riley Park in the deciding game.

The Flyers, who lost to Rock Hill 9-2 on Sunday, finished with a 21-2 record.

"I'm so proud of our kids, it's been unbelievable," said Sumter head coach Curtis Johnson. "We ran into a buzz saw right there, and they played better than we did for two games."

Rock Hill lost its first game in the tournament on Thursday, falling to Hartsville Red 17-7. It won four straight games to bring home the title.

The Flyers, who were the visitors on Monday, went down in order in each of the first two in-

nings. Rock Hill, on the other hand, left three runners stranded in scoring position.

In the first, Sumter starting pitcher Clayton Goff retired the first two batters. However, Michael Gibson, who was named the tournament's top offensive player, singled before Ethan Belk walked and Kyle Wimmer was hit by a pitch. Goff got out of the jam by getting Hudson Robinson to line out to second baseman Jackson Brown.

Nick Cain reached on an infield single with one out in the second. Cain stole second before Goff struck out pinch hitter Cole Jordan. Cain moved to third on a balk, but he was left there as Ben Venables flew out.

The Flyers couldn't dodge the bullet in the third inning though as it walked five batters, hit another and Rock Hill mixed in a couple of big hits.

Goff walked Maddox Mobley to open the third and went to a 2-0 count on Gibson before Johnson brought in Clark Kin-

ney. The right-hander finished the walk to Gibson and then gave up an RBI double to Belk to make it 1-0.

Kinney walked Wimmer to load the bases, still with no outs, before Bryce Coulter came on in relief. He walked Robinson to force in a run and hit Gage Gaskins with a pitch to bring in another and make it 3-0. Robinson scored on a wild pitch before tournament most valuable player Venables delivered a 2-run single to make it 6-0.

"We walked too many guys," Johnson said. "We limited their hits (to six after getting 12 on Sunday), and that's what we were trying to do, but we just walked too many guys."

"That's what caused crooked numbers. Our whole goal was to throw strikes and play defense to give us a chance to win, and we didn't throw strikes in that inning."

The Flyers managed to get a



TIM LEIBLE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter's Bryce Coulter delivers a pitch during the Flyers' 8-2 loss to Rock Hill in the championship of the South Carolina American League junior state tournament on Monday at Riley Park.

SEE FLYERS, PAGE B2

Crestwood, Lakewood knock out the kinks after a successful first workout



The Crestwood and Lakewood football teams began summer workouts on Monday.

PHOTOS BY TIM LEIBLE / THE SUMTER ITEM



BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com

The Sumter School District football teams at Sumter, Lakewood and Crestwood had their long awaited first workouts of the summer on Monday. Coaches knew this day was going to come with its share of hiccups as they have an extra layer of protocols this fall due to the coronavirus pandemic, but things went pretty smoothly on Day 1.

"The biggest thing was that I was really proud of the assistant coaches, the players and parents

for everything being kind of last minute as far as us starting to work out, but just being prepared," said Lakewood head coach Larry Cornelius. "I figured there would be a few hiccups here and there, just various issues with all the procedures we have to follow, but I thought it went very well considering the first day of workouts with the COVID situation."

Cornelius said the major hurdle the Gators had to clear was the first thing on their to-do list: checking kids in. Lakewood did a great job of spreading athletes out throughout the campus, but based on the layout of the school, there was going to be a bottleneck at the parking lot as kids did their temperature checks and handed in paperwork.

"One of our hiccups that we're correcting is that we had a little bit of

SEE WORKOUTS, PAGE B2

COVID-19, not championships, hot topic at SEC practices

BY JOHN ZENOR
The Associated Press

Southeastern Conference teams opened preseason camp Monday with the precarious status of the season largely overshadowing even the annual ambitions of Alabama and Georgia.

Questions like how will LSU fare without quarterback Joe Burrow took a backseat to uncertainty. Quarterback battles seem fairly inconsequential with COVID-19 threatening the season — and teams' depth charts.

"The teams that handle this the best and the players that are the safest, those teams are going to win a lot of games," first-year Mississippi coach Lane Kiffin said.

The SEC, winner of 10 football national championships since 2006, is just hoping to have a season and play out the league-only schedule starting Sept. 26. It's an open question of how a national champion will even be crowned, with the PAC-12 and Big Ten opting not to play this fall.

Masks and social distancing are hot topics even with LSU trying to repeat as national champions without its Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback and Alabama

aiming for another national championship run after failing to make the playoffs last season.

Safety protocols have been the norm around football buildings, with frequent testing and temperature checks and a largely bubble-like existence. But now students are returning, creating troublesome scenes on some campuses, including Alabama.

SEC coaches and officials have sounded the alarm in efforts to save the season.

Alabama athletic director Greg Byrne tweeted a photo Sunday showing dozens of people, many not wearing face masks, bunched together waiting to get into a popular bar in Tuscaloosa on the day sororities accepted new members.

"Who wants college sports this fall?? Obviously not these people!!" Byrne said in a tweet, urging people to wear masks.

Likewise, Kiffin addressed the lack of precautions among some people and predicted the number of students testing positive won't be a low one.

"If people think people are doing this well, open your eyes," he said. "Just drive around. This

SEE SEC, PAGE B2

Yanks win 10th straight vs Red Sox, best streak since '53

BY JAKE SEINER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ted Williams was piloting fighter jets in Korea the last time the New York Yankees dominated the Boston Red Sox like this.

Luke Voit homered twice, Aroldis Chapman returned from the COVID-19 injured list to pitch the ninth inning and the Yankees beat the Red Sox 6-3 Monday night for their 10th straight victory in the famed rivalry.

Sumterite Jordan Montgomery played a part in the Yankees' victory as well. The left-hander started on the mound and worked 3 2/3 innings before the game was delayed by rain.

The tarp was rolled out with the Red Sox rallying in the fourth inning. Montgomery had pitched no-hit ball until J.D. Martinez, Xander Bogaerts and Vázquez hit consecutive 2-out



New York Yankees starting pitcher Jordan Montgomery delivers a pitch during the Yankees' 6-3 win over the Boston Red Sox on Monday in New York.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

singles. Vázquez's soft liner bounced off shortstop Gleyber Torres' glove on a tough play in shallow left field, allowing Martinez to score. The grounds crew came out moments later — just before a light drizzle turned into a downpour.

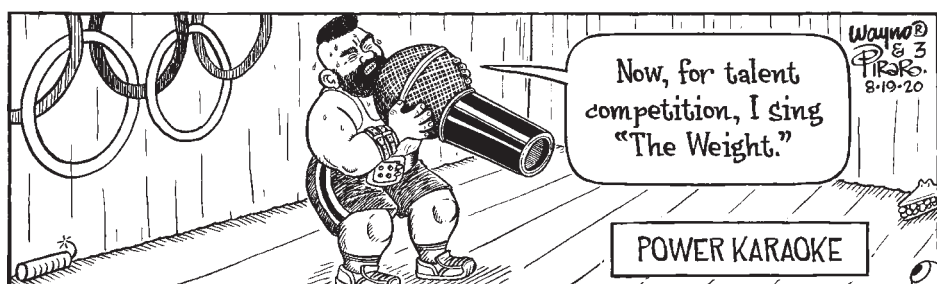
Luis Avilán relieved Montgomery after the delay, walked Michael Chavis to load the bases and struck out Alex Verdugo to end the inning.

Montgomery struck out four and walked

none while allowing the three hits. Montgomery got a no-decision, leaving his win-loss record at 2-1. However, he did drop his earned run average from 5.17 to 4.66. He has worked 19 1/3 innings and has 14 strikeouts against three walks.

New York capped a 4-game sweep and is on its best run against Boston since winning a franchise-record 12 consecutive games in 1952-53 — a stretch when Williams was serving in the Korean War.

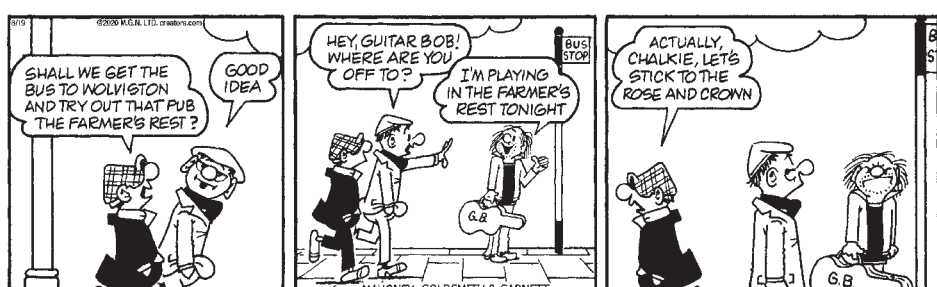
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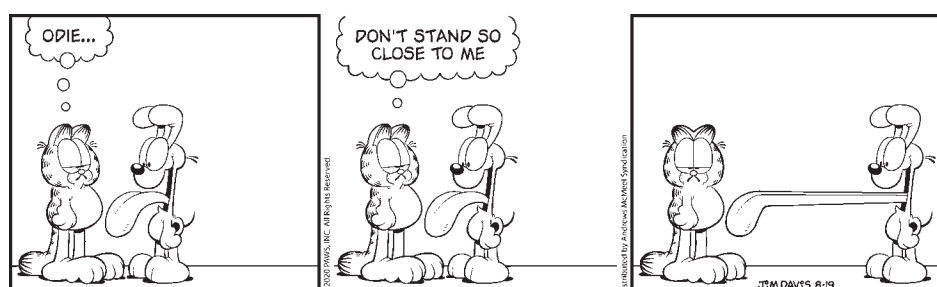
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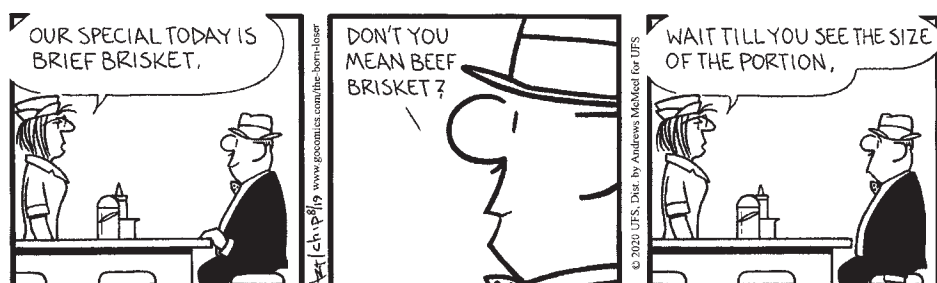
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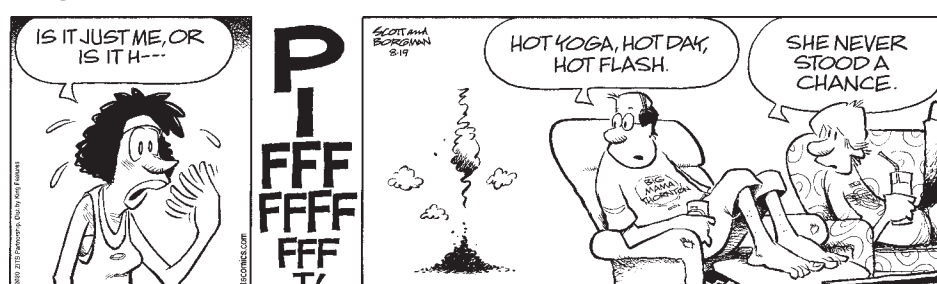
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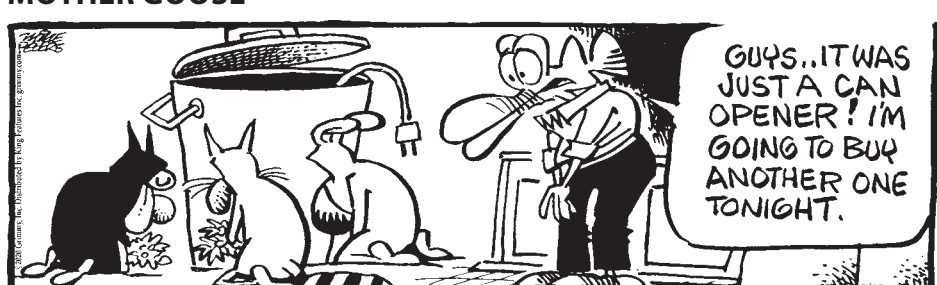
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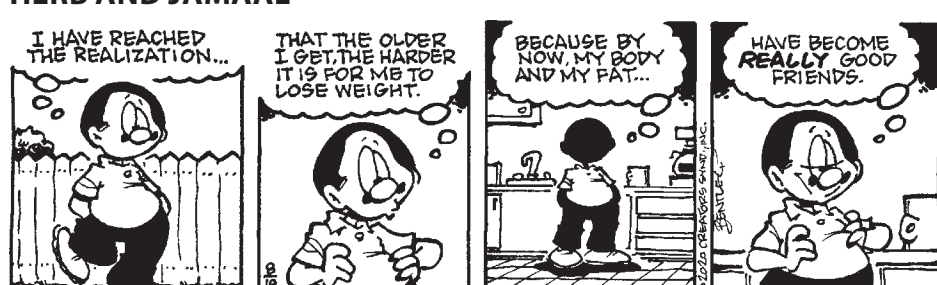
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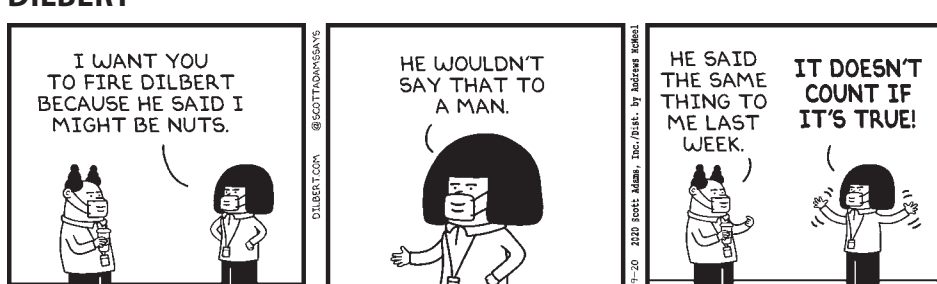
MOTHER GOOSE



HERB AND JAMAAL



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Wife looks for words to heal man hurt by his mother



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — My husband's mother recently told him he no longer matters to her because he is an atheist. His mother is supposedly a Christian, but she rarely acts like one. It has left my husband devastated and feeling more lonely than ever.

DEAR WIFE — I'm glad you asked. Explain to your husband that by emotionally abusing him this way, his mother is attempting to control him. What she said is despicable, and if he is as emotionally dependent on her as you have described, he may need counseling to get past this. The way to deal with her emotional blackmail is to distance yourselves from her fi-

nancially and emotionally, because she is manipulative and toxic.

DEAR ABBY — I have a medical alert service dog. People at the store won't leave him alone to do his job, and I don't know what to do. I don't want to be rude to these people, but my life depends on his alerting. Each time I must shop for groceries, I am very afraid. Advice?

DEAR NO PETTING — You are a nice person. Too nice, in fact. When someone attempts to distract your service animal, TELL the person emphatically to stop immediately because he is on duty, working to ensure your safety, and being distracted could cost you your life. It is the truth.

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JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

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RODWL

NIKEOV

SNAOLM

“ ” THE

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: EJECT MOOSE DRIVEL GYRATE
Answer: Some hot weather in the summer is nice, but only — TO A DEGREE

SUDOKU

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14			15						16				
17			18						19				
20					21			22					
23				24				25					
		26	27					28					
29	30	31			32		33				34	35	
36				37			38			39			
40				41			42			43			
		44						45					
46	47				48	49	50			51	52	53	54
55						56				57			
58					59					60			
61					62						63		
64					65							66	

Nina Sloan and Ross Trudeau 8/19/20

ACROSS

1 Little jerk
4 Human
10 Grand
14 NAACP co-founder
15 Really go for, as an opportunity
16 Spanish boy
17 *Colorful addition to an aquarium
19 In the thick of
20 Down the road
21 13th to beware?:
22 Cropped up
23 Weaver's contraption
24 *Big rig need
26 Modern sweetie
28 Sidewalk stand drinks
29 Hot stuff
33 They roll at the end
36 "Planet Money" network
37 ATM user's need
38 Possess
39 '60s war zone
40 Afternoon break in London
42 Vexes
44 Bareilles of "Waitress"

45 "Star Wars" sequel trilogy heroine
46 *Eco-friendly source of some shellfish
51 GI on the lam
55 Celestial ovine
56 Dictator Amin
57 Where to find Bologna
58 Cake layer
59 Like someone who only has I's for you?
... or an apt description of the answers to starred clues
61 Present
62 Not quite four times
63 Binge-watcher's device
64 Winter glider
65 Shorthand pros
66 Salty expanse

7 Empire State Building topper
8 Desert relief spot
9 To the degree
10 Wolfed (down)
11 Stretch at a wedding?
12 Licorice-like flavoring
13 Prototype
18 Brazilian dance
22 Like firm pasta
24 Number that has a point
25 Far-too-memorable song
27 Hopes (to)
29 "Snowpiercer" network
30 Big swinger
31 Lingerie top
32 ___ of a kind

33 Kernel holder
34 Road goo
35 Texting format, for short
41 Used a stun gun on
43 Hilton competitor
46 Arithmetic, to Brits
47 Archangel who guarded Eden with a fiery sword
48 Making-up precursor
49 Love to bits
50 "Breaking Bad" poison
52 Fends (off)
53 Kalamata
54 Stretchy fiber
57 Model/actress
59 Sci-fi beings
60 Novelist
Umberto

Previous Puzzle Solved

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

