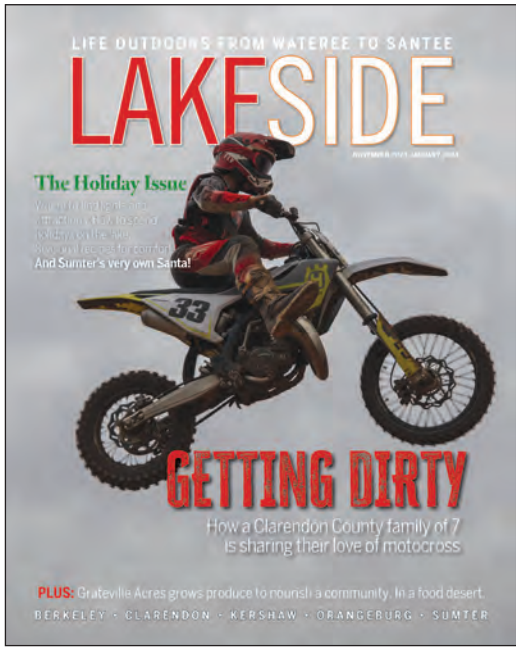


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3 SECTIONS, 22 PAGES | VOL. 129, NO. 21



Our holiday issue of Lakeside
Upcoming holiday events, motocross in Clarendon and more inside

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

Find a scoreboard of local matchups at facebook.com/theitemsports and in Tuesday's paper

DEATHS, B5

Hattie Mae Gregg McCoy
Evelyn Sanders McLeod
Ruth Cain Nelson
Edward Willis Jr.
Derrick Anthony Adger
Mildred Watson Bowman

WEATHER, A12

MUCH COOLER BUT RAINY

Cloudy with a little rain and cooler on Saturday; cloudy and rainy Sunday, too
HIGH 58, LOW 50

INSIDE

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Reflections A6
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A day of celebration



PHOTOS BY ADAM FLASH / THE SUMTER ITEM

After being rained out last year, the annual Sumter Veterans Day parade made a return to downtown Sumter on Friday, Nov. 10. The parade was followed by remarks in front of the courthouse building from keynote speaker Col. Kristoffer R. Smith, commander of the 20th Fighter Wing at Shaw Air Force Base, among others as the community paid tribute to veterans.

Hundreds attend Veterans Day parade and ceremony in downtown Sumter

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

The sunshine and warm temperatures made it a perfect day for a parade, and smiles, service and patriotism were common themes Friday during the Sumter Veterans Day parade and ceremony in the downtown area.

Hundreds of veterans and members of the general public turned out for the festivities, and the Sumter community lived up to its motto of "Uncommon Patriotism" with picture-perfect weather conditions amid the scenes of red, white and blue.

Service is a fundamental value that has shaped our nation and is

the bedrock of our society, said keynote speaker Col. Kristoffer Smith, commander of the 20th Fighter Wing at Shaw Air Force Base.

"Our veterans in particular exemplify the essence of service," he said. "They have displayed unwavering courage, commitment and

SEE VETERANS DAY, PAGE A10

SUMTER VETERANS BY THE NUMBERS

- 13,000+** Total retired veterans living in Sumter County
 - 82** Groups or units that participated in parade
 - 30** Sumter veterans honored at conclusion of ceremony on courthouse steps
 - 1** Female Purple Heart veteran in Sumter County
- Source: Sumter County Veterans Affairs Office



Harry Briggs' signature was one of the first for the Briggs v. Elliott case.

PHOTO PROVIDED



Briggs family petitions to rename Brown v. Board of Education

BY ASHLEY MILLER
ashley@theitem.com

After almost 70 years, a potential renaming of a famous court case could change the way students learn about school desegregation.

On Tuesday, Nov. 7, a petition to the U.S. Supreme Court was filed in order to change the name of Briggs v. Elliott. In the mid-1950s, the desegregation movement began in the Sumterton area with 20 parents fighting against R.W. Elliott, the former president of the school board for Clarendon County, to provide school buses for Black students as schools did for whites, according to the National Park Service's website. Once their petitions failed, they filed a

SEE CASE, PAGE A10

Media lawyer says Clarendon district failed to comply with FOIA law

BY ASHLEY MILLER
ashley@theitem.com

Clarendon County School District failed to comply with the Freedom of Information Act request law, according to a South Carolina Press Association media lawyer.

The Sumter Item requested through FOIA in August 2023 information regarding allegations brought before CCSD board members in July 2023. This was a special called meeting. The information was not received until November 2023.

The Sumter Item created a timeline using emails between Administrative Assistant Kathy Brown and Item reporter Ashley Miller. This timeline was emailed to Brown requesting the information be sent following the FOIA law.

Below is the timeline:
On Aug. 3, 2023, at 3:39 p.m. Miller emailed Freedom of Information Act request that requested "to inspect and/or copy all documents regarding the discrimination, retaliation and harassment allegations that were brought upon the Clarendon County School District, which held a meeting on July 27, 2023, at 9 a.m., about

SEE LAW, PAGE A5

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Clarendon Hall's Head of School Russ Jordan, left, was presented the "Rookie of the Year" Award by SCISA Executive Director Dr. Spencer Jordan on Nov. 9 at the annual head of schools' conference.

PHOTO PROVIDED



Clarendon Hall's Head of School Jordan named SCISA Rookie of the Year

SUBMITTED

Clarendon Hall's Head of School William Russell "Russ" Jordan was named "Rookie of the Year" by the South Carolina Independent School Association at its annual Head of Schools Conference held Thursday, Nov. 9, at Orangeburg Country Club. Jordan joined the Saints family in April 2022 and became head of school on July 1, 2022. He was selected by his peers for the honor.

To qualify for the award, the recipient must have completed his or her first year as a school head at the school in which they serve and must accomplish both quantitative and qualitative benchmarks during the first year of service. Some of Jordan's notable accomplishments during his first year at Clarendon Hall include: completing a \$1 million lower school building project to house grades K-3 through fourth grade, growing enrollment by nearly 100 students, completing the SCISA/Cognia Accreditation, refurbishing the gym to include a new floor and implementing additional curriculum and programs to increase academic standing.

Jordan was presented the award by SCISA Executive Director Dr. Spencer A. Jordan. "Because of his outstanding leadership and dedication to the students of Clarendon Hall and the community he serves, Mr. Russ Jordan is the SCISA Rookie of the Year," said Dr. S. Jordan. "Russ" Jordan was honored to be selected and was quick to praise the Saints staff: "I am blessed to be at Clarendon Hall and have the opportunity to lead such a wonderful, caring staff. This award is a result of a team effort."

Clarendon Hall Board Chairman and CEO L. Travis McIntosh praised Jordan for his hard work. "Mr. Jordan is committed to Clarendon Hall's mission of Academic Excellence in a Christian Environment. When he took

over as head of school, we had several major projects scheduled for the summer of 2022. Mr. Jordan immediately took the lead, and the projects would not have been completed without his literal hands-on work. In addition, he led Clarendon Hall through the Cognia Accreditation process. We are blessed to have Mr. Jordan and his wife, Christi, in our Saints family."

Jordan has a very broad background in education and many years of experience in SCISA as a student, teacher and coach. A 2008 graduate of The Carolina Academy in Lake City, he continued his secondary education at Francis Marion University, earning a bachelor's degree in History as well as a minor in English Writing in 2014. Jordan received a Master's Degree in Education from Clemson University in 2018.

Jordan is formerly of Mayesville and a graduate of Lee Academy in Bishopville. He and his wife live in Turbeville near their parents, brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews. Christi is employed by Prisma Health as a physical therapy assistant. They are active members of First Baptist Church of Lake City.

As one of the most well-established schools in the area, Clarendon Hall has provided superior elementary and secondary education in a non-denominational Christian environment since 1965. Clarendon Hall is an independent co-educational school for kindergarten 3 years old through 12th grade. In addition to being a founding member of the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA), Clarendon Hall is accredited by Cognia/SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools). Clarendon Hall is located at 1140 S. Dukes St. in Summerton. For more information, contact the school office at (803) 485-3550 or visit the website at www.clarendonhall.org.

BizTalk: Sambino's on Alice Drive has new management, offers German and Italian food

BY BRYN EDDY
bryn@theitem.com

When Donna and John Shipman found out that the owners of Sambino's Italian Bistro on Alice Drive were looking to sell back in April, they acted fast.

Now the current owners, the Shipmans have found a balance between cherishing the old and ushering in the new.

They renamed the restaurant, which has been in Sumter for 17 years, to Sambino's European Bistro, and the menu now boasts both Italian and German food.

Donna was a manager and server under the former owners, so she knows the niche the restaurant filled within the city of Sumter and didn't want to compromise that, saying, "If it ain't broke, why fix it?"

She says she's happy to do whatever is needed to keep the restaurant loved by locals, so Sumterites will still see her as well as her husband and son serving food and cleaning tables on top of their new duties as owners.

On the German menu, her favorite item is jägerschnitzel, and on the Italian menu, her favorite is toasted ravioli.

Another aspect of the restaurant that the Shipmans have altered is its



BRYN EDDY / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sambino's European Bistro at 1104 Alice Drive in Sumter is open every day except for Mondays. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays, they are open from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and again from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. And on Saturdays, they are open from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. only. The restaurant is now under new management and added German food to its Italian menu.

look. The location used to be a convenience store a long time ago, so it has floor-to-ceiling windows across the front, and Donna said that sitting at a table in front of those feels a little too vulnerable, so she and her husband decided to make it a bit more cozy and installed what's called café curtains, which cover the bottom portion of the windows.

Currently, they are working on getting their liquor license so they can have a bar, and they are also looking to have some outdoor seating reminiscent of outdoor café seating in Rome.

This location is not to be confused with the Sambino's on Peach Orchard Road near Shaw Air Force Base. Both locations used to be owned by the same family, but now the two are separately owned and operated.

Sambino's European Bistro at 1104 Alice Drive in Sumter is open every day except for Mondays. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays, they are open from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and again from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. And on Saturdays, they are open from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. only.

'Underperforming schools' update before school board on Monday

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

An "underperforming schools" update and operations updates headline Sumter School District's Board of Trustees' upcoming meeting set for Monday.

Monthly financial reports, committee reports and public participation are also listed on the board meeting agenda that was posted on Friday by a district staff member.

Schools that perform poorly on state standardized testing must complete Continuous Improvement Plans to enhance student learning, according to the state Department of Education, and Sumter's school board will receive this year's list of underperforming schools from district administration. Discussion will follow on the various designation categories and improvement

measures.

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

Like all regularly scheduled board meetings on the second Monday of the month, public participation basically leads off the agenda.

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

For those not physically attending, the district broadcasts meetings live on YouTube.

Anyone wanting to attend the meeting virtually can do so via YouTube Sumter School District Board Meeting and the district's Facebook page, [@SumterSCSchools](https://www.facebook.com/SumterSCSchools).

CORRECTION

An article published in the Nov. 9 edition of *The Sumter Item* titled "Clarendon County School District gives up-

dates, announces school is award finalist" stated Tyneshia Eddy made the announcement that Manning Junior High School was a finalist for the Palmetto's Fin-

est award. Eddy did not make the announcement; Superintendent Shawn Johnson made the announcement during the board meeting.

OSTEEN

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Watch this Sumter Today episode at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1j82JrEv6wA>

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Back to the mountains

Westminster is a small town in the northwestern corner of our state. U.S. 76 runs through it. Ginger and I were on our way to a new adventure. After passing through Westminster, we stopped for gas at a country general store in the Longcreek Community. The Blue Ridge Mountains loomed in the distance.

Just down the road we entered the Sumter National Forest and eventually crossed over the Chattooga River into the mountains of Rabun County, Georgia. It was a beautiful drive through miles of hardwood forest decked out in all the colors of fall.

U.S. 76 led us on through Clayton, Georgia, and a section of the Southern Highlands Trail. The road was good, and the mountain views were amazing. Eventually we rolled through Hiawassee, Georgia, and into the town of Blue Ridge, our destination.

Our lodging had a check-in time of 2 p.m., and we were early, so we drove on through town searching for a parking space and a place for a late lunch. The weather was nice, so we sat out on an elevated



Dan Geddings

porch for our meal at a quaint little restaurant. After lunch, we headed to Bear Claw Vineyards. Our lodging was a treehouse at the vineyards. A gravel road led from the highway up through the woods above the vineyards to a beautiful treehouse. It was nestled on the side of a mountain in the woods. The treehouse had easy access up a ramp and a short section of stairs. A big front porch overlooked the vineyards and inside, all the comforts of home. A big tree passed through the floor and out the ceiling.

There was a full kitchen and bath. A couch, chairs and a television. Up a spiral staircase was a loft bedroom with a king-sized bed. The rooms were decorated in a bear motif. We unloaded the car and settled in. We heard music coming from the vineyard below and went out on the porch to listen. A local artist played and sang a variety of songs until the nighttime crept in.

We had noticed the treehouse walls leaned outward and some of the roofs sloped downward. The floor was a little out of level, all of which added to the ambiance of the place. It was unique. That

night we laid in bed and looked out at the stars through the treetops.

The next day we left early to get breakfast and check in for our ride on the Blue Ridge Scenic Railroad. The train followed the Toccoa River out of Blue Ridge to the joined towns of McCaysville, Georgia, and Copperhill, Tennessee, on the state line. A tour guide narrated the points of interest along the river. There was a two-hour layover at McCaysville station. We visited shops in the towns and found a place for lunch across a steel-beamed bridge over the Toccoa River.

On the train ride back to Blue Ridge, we had a better view of the river and the surrounding mountains. The river was very swift with many rapids. Ducks and geese were in the quiet pools and feeder streams to the river. The tour guide said it was not unusual to see deer and turkeys along the way. The train ride was very smooth and pleasant.

Back in Blue Ridge, we took the time to walk around town and visit some of the shops. Ginger wanted to check out the quilt shop and a candle store. I went into a book store and a fly-fishing outfitters place. We met back at the train station and took a walk along the main street to some of the other shops.

We could have stayed another day, but home was calling, and we decided to hit the road that afternoon. It had been a



The Blue Ridge Treehouse at Bear Claw Vineyards where we stayed the night.

long day, and we had a long evening ahead of us, but it was OK. Blue Ridge was a total surprise for us. We had not expect-

ed all the things to see and do there. And the mountains were magnificent. I think we will be back.

New Speaker grasps for funding plan with shutdown rapidly approaching

WASHINGTON (AP) — With just a week left to avert a government shutdown, new House Speaker Mike Johnson is facing his first big test as he tries to win House Republican support for a short-term funding plan — a task that looks increasingly difficult amid stubborn divisions in the party over federal spending.

Federal agencies are making plans for a shutdown that would shutter government services and halt paychecks for millions of federal workers and military troops.

It's a disruption that Johnson — just two weeks into his job running the House — has said he wants to avoid. Yet House lawmakers left Washington for the weekend without a plan in hand after several setbacks. Johnson is still sounding out support among Republicans about what to do and is expected to unveil funding legislation over the weekend, according to Republicans granted anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

The shrinking calendar gives Johnson, a Louisiana Republican who has vaulted from the lower ranks of Republican leadership to the speaker's office, a narrow window to corral an unpredictable GOP conference.

"We're running up against

the clock on Nov. 17, and we're obviously aware of that," Johnson said this week, referring to the date that government funding expires. "But we are going to get the job done."

Hardline conservatives, usually loathe to support temporary spending measures of any sort, had indicated they would give Johnson some leeway to pass legislation, known as a continuing resolution, to give Congress more time to negotiate a long-term agreement. Congress passed a 47-day continuing resolution in October, but the fallout was severe. Kevin McCarthy was booted from the speakership days later, and the House was effectively paralyzed for most of the month while Republicans tried to elect a replacement.

Republicans eventually were unanimous in electing Johnson speaker, but his elevation has hardly eased the dynamic that led to McCarthy's removal — a conference torn on policy as well as how much to spend on federal programs. This week, Republicans had to pull two spending bills from the floor — one to fund transportation and housing programs and the other to fund the Treasury Department, Small Business Administration and other agencies — because they didn't have the votes in their own

party to push them through the House.

"I thought we were going to show the speaker a little bit of grace," said a frustrated Rep. Troy Nehls, R-Texas, as he exited the Capitol Thursday after the last votes of the week. "I think it's looking like we're still confused and we are not united."

Johnson has turned to House Republicans for ideas on how to win support for a continuing resolution. He has floated the obscure idea of a "laddered" approach that would fund some parts of the government until early December and other federal departments until mid-January. He has also raised the idea of a funding package that would last into January.

Meanwhile, lawmakers are still looking for a way to negotiate final passage of aid for Israel in its war with Hamas,

and Johnson has also proposed the formation of a new federal commission focused on slowing increases in the national debt that threaten the government's ability in future years to finance the military and major entitlement programs relied on by seniors and the disabled.

Democrats have made it clear they will not support any funding packages that include policy wins for conservatives. Rep. Hakeem Jeffries of New York, who the Democratic leader in the House, said they would not "pay a single, right-wing ransom demand" as part of a funding resolution.

Democratic lawmakers are also eager to play up the House Republican divisions and to pin any blame for a shutdown squarely on the new speaker and his GOP colleagues.

"They are a divided, divisive, dysfunctional majority," said Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Md. "They

can't get their business done, to the detriment of Americans."

On the other side of the Capitol, the Democratic-held Senate took procedural steps Thursday that would allow it to take up a continuing resolution in time to avoid a partial shutdown. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer said negotiations could evolve in the coming days, but added that a shutdown cannot be avoided without bipartisan cooperation.

"I implore Speaker Johnson and our House Republican colleagues to learn from the fiasco of a month ago: Hard-right proposals, hard-right slashing cuts, hard-right poison pills that have zero support from Democrats will only make a shutdown more likely," Schumer said. "I hope they don't go down that path in the week to come."

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by Clarendon County Council on Monday, December 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Clarendon County Administration Building located at 411 Sunset Drive in Manning, South Carolina regarding the adoption of Ordinance #2023-07 to amend the Clarendon County 2018-2028 Comprehensive Plan, Ordinance #2018-11. Documents related to Ordinance #2023-07 are available for public inspection in the Clarendon County Planning Commission office at 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC 29102, or you may direct inquiries by telephone to 803-435-8672.



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the Sumter ITEM

Clarendon school board will decide on policy updates, salary deductions, district wellness in coming months

BY ASHLEY MILLER
ashley@theitem.com

During the next two months, Clarendon County School District Board of Trustees will hear about two policy updates and will approve or deny them. Office of Personnel Director Laura Fleming presented board members with two policy updates involving salary deductions and district wellness. DKB-R Salary Reductions policy states that a deduction

is required by law, as it's part of a state-authorized insurance program, an agreement-approved charitable or professional organization with the district. The deduction is for a 403(b), 401(k) or 457 supplemental retirement/annuity plan approved by the district. This deduction is part of a supplemental insurance plan with an approved vendor. Fleming said the human resources and finance departments work on this policy together. "There was nothing in place

that really gave specifics of how to vet third-party companies that want to come in and sell," she said. "We get a lot of calls for individual companies that want to come and sell products to our faculty and staff." She said this policy will ensure they can find reputable companies and make sure it's a good use of the human resources department's time. The other policy is a pre-existing policy with some modifications that need to be approved. Policy ADF

District Wellness recognizes student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' well-being, growth, development and readiness to learn. This policy outlines food and beverage availability, nutrition education, physical activity, physical education and community partnerships, as well as professional learning. Fleming said the district is committed to providing a school environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition educa-

tion and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. "In a healthy school environment, students will learn about and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices," she said. This policy ensures students receive well-balanced meals while learning to keep a healthy, nutritional meal available to them. With no further discussion, board members unanimously approved first readings of both policies.

Maple, Eddy chat with Sumter Newcomers Club members



BRYN EDDY / THE SUMTER ITEM



ALAYSHA MAPLE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter Item reporters Alaysha Maple and Bryn Eddy joined the Sumter Newcomers Club on Friday morning for their monthly daytime coffee event. The duo shared the ins and outs about their beat reporting. Maple shared her appreciation for her arts and entertainment and public safety beats, as they have reshaped her outlook on her hometown, making her feel like a newcomer herself. Eddy explained how her local government reporting has made her transition to life in Sumter easier. The casual conversation continued with the members sharing their opinions on coverage in the area and story ideas. Founded 55 years ago in 1968 by Mary Hinson, the Sumter Newcomers Club is open to all residents of Sumter, whether newcomer or native, man or woman, retired or still working. The group plays games, including bunko, canasta, hand and foot canasta, Mexican Train, Phase 10 and much more; gathers for daytime coffee on the second Friday of each month; holds monthly luncheons the fourth Friday of each month; throws holiday-themed events such as a Christmas cookie exchange and casual Christmas drop-in; and hosts an annual anniversary dinner to commemorate their time together.



Honor and tribute for service and sacrifice

Liberty STEAM Charter School Primary Academy students greet veterans from all branches of the military with high-fives and hugs and acknowledge their years of sacrifice and service on Thursday during morning arrival at the campus, 15 School St. Arrival on the campus concluded with a special flag-raising ceremony that included current parents who are active-duty military members.

PHOTOS PROVIDED



LAW FROM PAGE A1

these allegations. Please send over all copies given to board members that have the complaint filed against the school district, the letter that board chair Arthur Moyd sent back to the employee, and the information the employee sent over in regards as evidence to their claims. Also send over any other documents involved in this allegation."

On Aug. 16, 2023, at 4:09 p.m., Brown emailed Miller a response stating the district determined the requested documents may be disclosed.

According to FOIA law section 30-4-30 (C) states: If the request is granted, the record must be furnished or made available for inspection or copying no later than 30 calendar days from the date on which the final determination was provided, unless the records are more than 24 months old, in which case the public body has no later than 35 calendar days from the date on which the final determination was provided.

This would mean the documents should have been provided no later than Sept. 26, 2023. However, *The Sumter Item* was requesting for the fee to be waived, which the district denied.

Therefore, on Oct. 19, 2023, about 11 a.m., Miller drove to the address provided to drop off a check in the amount of \$175 but was informed this was the wrong amount. On Oct. 20, 2023, a *Sumter Item* colleague dropped off the check with the corrected amount with a secretary at Manning Primary School, which was signed by someone with the initials "CW," about 10:30 a.m.

On Oct. 20, 2023, at 12:58 p.m., Miller emailed Brown, informing Brown that Miller received the receipt for the check in the amount of \$200 for the

documents. Miller never received a response.

Miller went on vacation from Oct. 21 to Oct. 29. On Monday, Oct. 30, at 2:26 p.m. Miller emailed Brown, reminding Brown the documents were to be provided by the end of the day because *The Item* provided the district the fee.

The documents are from July 27, 2023, at 9 a.m., meaning they are three months old.

No response was given to the email, but the FOIA documents were received Nov. 6 at 5:05 p.m.

The Item contacted Jay Bender, a retired University of South Carolina professor and media lawyer who represents the South Carolina Press Association, asking if CCSD complied with the FOIA law.

He looked over the timeline and responses given by CCSD and said "the school district's claim that it complied with the law rings hollow when the district seems to have ignored deadlines established in the law."

The Item also asked Bender if the amount charged, \$200, seemed to be reasonable because of the amount of redactions on documents received and the time of 10 hours claimed to have taken to search for, redact and retrieve the documents from July 2023.

"The district's charges for redaction suggest that the task of reviewing the documents was assigned to a very slow reader or the time spent on review was inflated," Bender said. "School districts undermine a district's standing in a community when it delays providing information to the public or otherwise raises barriers to prevent accountability."

In a response letter given with the documents requested through FOIA, the district said it provided the documents in an appropriate amount of time.



PHOTOS BY ADAM FLASH / THE SUMTER ITEM

The Sumter Military Museum will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday in honor of Veterans Day. Admission is free.

Observing Veterans Day: Nov. 11, 2023

Wikipedia Encyclopedia identifies Armistice Day as "... a day commemorated every year on 11 November to mark the armistice signed between the Allies



Sammy Way
REFLECTIONS

of World War I and Germany at Compiegne, France, at 5:45 a.m. for the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front, which would take effect in the morning — at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918." Reflections revisits this opportunity to encourage our readers to celebrate and thank those who have served in our country's armed forces, protecting and guarding the freedoms that we enjoy.

"President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed Armistice Day as a holiday in 1919, and it was through the efforts of WWII veteran Raymond Weeks that the day was proclaimed as a day to honor the service of all military veterans. Our national Veterans Day was initially celebrated in 1947. Congressional Act 52 stat. 351; 5 U.S. Code, Dec. 87a was approved on May 13, 1938, making Nov. 11 in each year a legal holiday. The holiday was intended to be a day dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as 'Armistice Day.' The U.S. Congress would amend this act on June 1, 1954, replacing Armistice with Veterans, and this date has been known as Veterans Day since."

The public is cordially invited to attend a Veterans Day celebration at the Sumter County Military Museum at 129 S. Harvin St. in the James Clyburn Intermodal Transportation building. The display will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 11-12. The display features an extensive collection of military photographs and historic memorabilia. Admission is free.



City gives away seedlings; law mandates students observe Veterans Day

75 YEARS AGO — 1949

April 19 - 26

• Sumter's Chicks and Knoxville's Smokies battled right down to the wire last night before the hometown club scored a run in the last of the eighth to break a 3-3 tie and win the ball game, 4 to 3. Raymond Pate went the distance for the Chicks and had only one bad inning, the fifth, when the visitors touched him for three hits and two runs. Defensive play was sparkling, each club pulling a double play and narrowly missing out on others.

• Chief of Police W.M. Hall delivered an interesting talk on improvements that have been made in Sumter Police Department at the weekly meeting of the Rotary Club. Chief Hall was introduced by Bill Boyle. The speaker, Boyle stated, is a graduate of the National Police Academy, the F.B.I. school of Washington, and before coming to Sumter in 1947 had been connected with the Savannah, Georgia, police department for 16 years, seven years as chief.

• Carolina College of Commerce, "offering complete college-level training in secretarial, accounting, business administration and advertising work," will open in Florence on June 20, it was announced by John Barnes, president of the new school. Barnes was formerly a college accounting instructor and was a cost accountant for General Motors Corp. and for two years was assistant public relations director of Curtiss-Wright Corp.

• James B. Moos, director of Sumter Community Theater, announced that casting for "You Can't Take It With You" will take place at Central School auditorium. The play reading committee unanimously agreed on the three-act comedy by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman and feel that Sumter will enjoy it when the play is presented here the latter part of May.

• The Newberry College Singers, a cappella choir of 55 mixed voices under the direction of Professor Milton Moore, will be in Sumter on April 26 at the Junior High School. The choir has the distinction of being the most widely heard and traveled college choral organization in the South. Before the war, the Singers were heard in many of the large cities along the East Coast from New York City to Miami. Since the war, the choral group has been reorganized and is once again taking its place among the leading college choirs in the country, making appearances throughout the South before large audiences during the concert season.

• Who will be Sumter's "Mother of 1949?" That's the question that's being asked by The Hub Department Store, which is sponsoring the first "Sumter's Mother of 1949" contest. Contest rules call for entries to be submitted in the form of a picture of a mother to The Hub not later than Monday, April 25. Photos should bear the name and address of the mother on the reverse side. Entrants must be residents of Sumter County.

• Able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 35 are required to pay a \$5 street tax each year, City Manager J.A. Raffield reminded today. According to a city ordinance which became effective the first of this year, this tax is payable without penalty during the month of May, although it may be paid at the city office during the remainder of this month. The tax will be in lieu of work on the streets. Certain exemptions are allowed by state law, and such exemptions have been adopted by the city. Public school teachers and preachers are included in this group.

• Sumter was listed today among 81 locations in South Carolina where airports should be constructed or improved on the basis of existing and anticipated demands for air service. The South Carolina listings, prepared by the Civil Aeronautics Administration, are contained in the 1949 national airport program. The plan does not represent an allocation of money. However, the estimated cost of the construction and development for South Carolina outlined in the plan would be \$11,809,000, of which \$4,745,000 would be in federal money and \$6,064,000 in money provided by the sponsor.

• On the occasion of its 47th anniversary, the J.C. Penney Co. of Sumter is presenting the Edmunds High School library with a copy of "Main Street Merchant," a book based upon the life of one of America's foremost merchants, James Cash Penney. Graphically and humanly, this new book tells the inspiring story of J.C. Penney's rise and of the amazing growth of the J.C. Penney Co.

• The office of James D. Blanding, superintendent of District One



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Patriotic music was sung by the St. Anne fourth-grade chorus during a Veterans Day program at the Sumter County Courthouse on Nov. 11, 1998.

schools, has been moved to the junior high school. This step has been taken following the recent passage by the General Assembly of an act consolidating School District No. 1 with School District No. 17. This consolidation does not affect the separate administration of the two systems for the rest of this school year, but it does facilitate the planning of the details of consolidation.

50 YEARS AGO — 1973-74
Dec. 28 - Jan. 3

• Thursday was "Jimmy Burns Day" in Sumter as Burns and his Cary (N.C.) High School Band came to town on its way to the Orange Bowl Parade in Florida. The band stopped off at the home of Burns' parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Burns, and while there gave an impromptu parade around the neighborhood. The band was to perform in the Disney World Parade, Orlando, Florida, as well as the Junior Orange Bowl Parade, Coral Gables, Florida, on Saturday.

• Eight Sumter young people were given awards recently by Wateree Community Actions Inc. for essays they wrote on dental health for the Dental Health Project. Thomas Dawkins, Dental Health Project director, said "the purpose of the contest was to promote and enhance an interest in good dental health." Plaques were awarded to each winner in the four age groups at a luncheon at Big Jim's Restaurant.

• Korn Industries Inc., local manufacturer of bedroom furniture and hardwood lumber, has announced the purchase of the King Veneer Co. of Florence. Korn actually assumed operational control of the new addition Nov. 26, according to a news release. According to W.M. Tisdale, president of Korn Industries, the acquisition "is in keeping with the company's plans for future growth, additional resources and continuous progress."

• The city of Sumter will give out free pine seedlings to the public at the Park Avenue entrance to Memorial Park. Each individual desiring the seedlings will be limited to a maximum of 100 seedlings, according to a spokesman for the city.

• The Golden Age Club on West Hampton Avenue will be closed for a month. According to the spokesman, the energy crisis has curtailed transportation provided by volunteer workers who bring elderly members to the club. "We will be closed at least a month until we can determine how to cope with the energy crisis and provide transportation for our members."

• Charlie L. Baker, commander of Sumter's American Legion Post 15, presented a check for \$1,000 to Dr. L.B. Lamm, director of the Veterans Administration Hospital in Columbia. The money will be placed in the pa-

tients fund to be used to help purchase television sets for the patients at the hospital.

• Sumter High School head football coach William T. (Bill) Noonan announced that he has accepted an invitation by his former boss Steve Satterfield to join the football staff at Wofford. The transfer will take place immediately. Satterfield accepted the Wofford post last Saturday. Noonan played football at Furman University for two years and upon graduation teamed with Satterfield at Wade Hampton High School in Greenville, then the pair moved on to Sumter.

• The barely legible letter said: "Dear Friend, I am sending a note by my cousin. He can't talk well enough to explain my situation as he had a stroke. I am a widow and need some fuel to heat with. I'm not able to walk there because I'm sick." Mrs. W. explained to The Salvation Army that her expenses — food, rent, medicine and doctor bills — have now exceeded her \$85 per month income she receives from welfare. The Fireside Fund furnished 60 gallons of kerosene to her home. The Fireside Fund, sponsored by *The Item* in cooperation with the Department of Social Services and The Salvation Army, allows anyone to help those who are less fortunate than they.

• The Sumter Youth Theater is sponsoring a contest for school-age children to draw the Wizard of Oz in conjunction with a performance of the play "Wizard of Oz." All entries will be hung in the little theater lobby during the run of the play. Entrants may draw, paint or crayon an impression of the wizard and should put their name and school on the back of the work.

25 YEARS AGO — 1998
Nov. 8 - 14

• They sit for hours staking out illegal hunters. They ride the waters of Lake Marion searching for violators of boating laws and to rescue those in trouble. They trail behind police officers as backup in high-speed chases, make drug arrests and capture the occasional alligator that loiters around someone's dock. Six officers with the state Department of Natural Resources must perform these duties — and more — across 599 square miles of land and shoreline in Clarendon County.

• The re-election of two incumbents to the Sumter School District 17 Board of Trustees has shown the community still has faith in the job they're doing, according to the victorious board members and Superintendent Andrena Ray. With the re-election of Kennedy and White — the only two seats that were up for grabs — Kennedy and White say they feel voters still have confidence in the board.

• To most people, Lakewood High

School's football game against Lancaster was nothing more than the end of the regular season for the two teams. For the Gators, though, it was much more. "It was pretty intense around our practices all last week," said Lakewood coach Greg Crolley. "We approached the game as the first round of the playoffs; for us to be in the playoffs, we had to win."

• Twelve-year-old Michael Gregory has seen many pictures of manatees, but like most youngsters, he's never seen a live one. That's going to change in January, when Michael and some of his schoolmates at Bates Middle School head to Florida to see Howie, Amanda, Star, Brutus and Phyllis — their adopted manatees. Since the beginning of the school year, Tammy Schmitt and her seventh-graders have been learning about the huge, funny-looking sea creatures that live mostly around rivers and bays in Florida.

• At the edge of Manchester State Forest, tucked away against a backdrop of dense trees and winding dirt roads, sits Singleton Cemetery. The headstones, some dating back to the 1700s, and the coquina rock wall marking off the old cemetery are crumbled and broken — the result of years of vandalism. But Sumter County Historical Commission, which owns the site, plans to begin prosecuting vandals for grave desecration. Under South Carolina law, this carries a maximum penalty of up to 10 years in jail and a \$2,000 fine.

• Opening tonight at Sumter Gallery of Art is an exhibit by Sumter native Mike Williams, who is showing his oils and acrylics in a series titled "The Swamp, A Contemplative Space." Exhibiting with him is Charles "Cris" Sumpter, showing ceramic pottery complemented with cast bronze accessories and fittings.

• A deal that could bring 80 manufacturing jobs to Sumter County will be on the county council's agenda tonight. The identity of the company is being kept secret until the inducement agreement is finalized, said Steve Rust, president of the Sumter County Development Board. But the ordinance slated for first reading shows the business is located in a multi-county industrial park within the county and is planning to expand its operations.

• A residential care facility that could employ up to 70 people has set its sights on Lee County. Gordon Eckley, chairman of the Public Buildings, Land and Property Committee for Lee County Council, reported that A&R Enterprises of Lake View made a \$400,000 offer for the old hospital building on Church Street. Eckley said the company plans to use part of the building for residential care, which would offer semi-independent living, and part of the building for an adult day care that would be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

• How much do you know about World Wars I and II and the men and women who served in them? What about the Vietnam War or Desert Storm? Probably not enough, state lawmakers decided. That's why they have made it mandatory for schoolchildren across the state to observe Veterans Day. The law, which went into effect this year, is intended to "honor and remember those who have served and help students understand the heritage that's common to all of us," said state Sen. Phil Leventis, D-Sumter.

• The South Carolina state cross country meet was held at Hilton Field, Fort Jackson. What a sight. Five hundred-twelve high school boys and 463 high school girls competing in three races for division championships. With hundreds of colorful uniforms on the starting line, the gun went off and the runners jockeyed for position as they went into the first turn of the two-loop course.

• As veterans across the United States were honored for their service to their country, personnel at Shaw Air Force Base were preparing for deployment to an unspecified location — the result of Saddam Hussein's refusal to allow United Nations weapons inspections. Shortly after noon Wednesday, Shaw received orders from Secretary of Defense William Cohen that additional forces would be deployed to the Gulf region.

• About an hour before Shaw Air Force Base received orders to deploy for possible air strikes against Iraq, a Sumter County legislator and veteran talked to a group of county residents about the sacrifices men and women have made to ensure their freedom. More than 150 people came out to recognize Veterans Day and pay respect to the men and women who risked all for their country.

COVID-19 aid thieves bought fancy cars, a Pokémon card — even a private island

BY RICHARD LARDNER
Associated Press

YANKEETOWN, Fla. — A freshwater spring bubbles amid the mangroves, cabbage palms and red cedars on Sweetheart Island, a two-acre uninhabited patch of paradise about a mile off the coast of this little Gulf Coast town.

Pelicans divebomb nearby into the cool waters of Florida's Withlacoochee Bay, and the open view westward holds the promise of dazzling sunsets.

It may have seemed like an ideal getaway for Florida businessman Patrick Parker Walsh. Instead, he's serving five-and-a-half years in federal prison for stealing nearly \$8 million in federal COVID-19 relief money that he used, in part, to buy Sweetheart Island.

While Walsh's private island ranks among the more unusual purchases by pandemic fraudsters, his crime was not unique. He is one of thousands of thieves who perpetrated the greatest grift in U.S. history. They potentially plundered more than \$280 billion in federal COVID-19 aid; an additional \$123 billion was wasted or misspent.

The loss represents close to 10% of the \$4.3 trillion the U.S. government has disbursed to mitigate the economic devastation wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to an analysis by The Associated Press.

An AP review of hundreds of pandemic fraud cases presents a picture of thieves and scam artists who spent lavishly on houses, luxury watches and diamond jewelry, Lamborghinis and other expensive cars. The stolen aid also paid for long nights at strip clubs, gambling sprees in Las Vegas and bucket-list vacations.

Their crimes were relatively simple: The government's goal was to get cash into the hands of struggling people and businesses with minimal hassle, particularly during the early stages of the COVID-19 crisis. Safeguards to weed out the swindlers were dropped. As Walsh's case and thousands of others have shown, stealing the money was as easy as lying on an application.

The thieves came from all walks of life and all corners of the globe. There was a Tennessee rapper who bragged about the ease of stealing more than \$700,000 in pandemic unemployment insurance on YouTube. A former pizzeria owner and host of a cryptocurrency-themed radio show bought an alpaca farm in Vermont with pilfered aid. And an ex-Nigerian government official who grabbed about half a million dollars in COVID-19 relief benefits was wearing a \$10,000 watch and \$35,000 gold chain when he was arrested.

Nearly 3,200 defendants have been charged with COVID-19 relief fraud, according to the U.S. Justice Department. About \$1.4 billion in stolen pandemic aid has been seized.

Investigators won't catch every crook. The scale and scope of the fraud are too large. Pandemic cases often depend on digital evidence, which is perishable, and the financial trail can go cold over time, said



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Associated Press reporter Richard Lardner kayaks to Sweetheart Island, off the coast of Yankeetown, Florida, on Aug. 5. Patrick Parker Walsh is serving five-and-a-half years in federal prison for stealing nearly \$8 million in federal COVID-19 relief money that he used, in part, to buy the island.

Bob Westbrooks, former executive director of the federal Pandemic Response Accountability Committee.

"The uncomfortable truth is the federal criminal justice system is simply not equipped to fully address the unprecedented volume of pandemic relief fraud cases, large and small, and involving thousands upon thousands of domestic and foreign actors," Westbrooks said.

Top Justice Department officials are undeterred by the enormity of the task. They've created special "strike forces" to hunt down COVID-19 aid thieves and vowed not to give up the chase.

"We'll stay at it for as long as it takes," U.S. Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco said in August.

Konstantinos Zarkadas, a New York doctor deeply in debt, joined the rogues' gallery of COVID-19 fraudsters by falsifying at least 11 separate applications for pandemic aid that netted him almost \$3.8 million, according to prosecutors. He bought Rolex and Cartier wristwatches valued at \$140,000 for himself and family members and made a hefty down payment on a yacht, according to court records.

Zarkadas used about \$3 million to pay off part of an earlier civil judgment against him for breaching a real estate lease. His most brazen move was to send \$80,000 of the looted cash back to the government to settle a federal lawsuit alleging he violated the Controlled Substances Act by dispensing more than 20,000 doses of a weight-loss drug without keeping accurate records, prosecutors said.

The state of New York re-

voked Zarkadas' medical license shortly after he was sentenced to more than four years in prison for swiping the pandemic aid.

The stolen funds financed the high-rolling lifestyle of Lee E. Price III, a Houston resident with prior felony convictions for forgery and robbery. He swindled nearly \$1.7 million by submitting bogus aid applications on behalf of businesses that existed only on paper, according to court records.

Price wasted little time blowing \$14,000 on a Rolex and more than \$233,000 for a flashy white Lamborghini Urus, a luxury SUV that can go from zero to 60 mph in three seconds. He also spent thousands of dollars at the Casanova, a Houston strip club. Price was sentenced to more than nine years in prison.

Vinath Oudomsine of Georgia also created a fake company that he claimed made \$235,000 a year and had 10 employees. A few weeks after Oudomsine applied for the pandemic aid, the government rushed him \$85,000 to keep his non-existent business afloat.

Oudomsine spent nearly \$58,000 on a 1999 Charizard Pokémon card, which depicts a gold dragon-like creature, jaws wide open, poised to attack.

While not as valuable as rare

baseball cards — a mint condition Mickey Mantle card sold for \$12.6 million last year — Pokémon merchandise can command big money as collectors have driven up prices for collectibles issued by the popular franchise.

At Oudomsine's sentencing last year, U.S. District Judge Dudley H. Bowen called Oudomsine's theft "an \$85,000 insult" to a country reeling from the pandemic.

"I feel foolish every time I say it: Pokémon card," Bowen said before sending Oudomsine to prison for three years.

Patrick Walsh's bid to save his aerial advertising businesses started out legitimately but quickly escalated into sizeable fraud.

Walsh operated a small fleet of cigar-shaped blimps that flew corporate logos over crowded venues. In June 2017, one of his blimps crashed and burned on live television at the men's U.S. Open golf tournament, one of the world's premier sporting events.

"I was teeing off, and I looked up and saw it on fire, and I felt sick to my stomach," said professional golfer Jamie Love-mark, according to an Associated Press report. The pilot — the sole passenger — was badly injured but survived, according

to a National Transportation Safety Board investigation.

After the crash, Walsh's clients began to bail, his attorneys wrote in court filings. To stay afloat, he obtained high-interest loans that also allowed him to expand his businesses. By 2019, his companies had sales of \$16 million and had expanded into Latin America and Asian markets.

Then the pandemic hit. "COVID-19 did not slow down business, it killed it," Walsh's attorneys wrote. He panicked.

Between March 2020 and January 2021, Walsh submitted more than 30 fraudulent applications for emergency pandemic aid and received \$7.8 million, according to the Justice Department. Even if Walsh had followed the rules, his companies would have only qualified for a "small subset" of those loans, federal prosecutors alleged.

"His crimes are egregious and the product of greed," prosecutors wrote in court papers. They cited the purchase of Sweetheart Island, undisclosed "luxury goods," oil fields in Texas and a downpayment on a home in tony Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Walsh's attorneys said in a court filing that he wasn't motivated by avarice but desperation. Walsh was under enormous pressure to rescue his businesses and to support his large family, they wrote. He has 11 children.

U.S. District Judge Allen C. Winsor didn't buy the argument. This was not "a single moment of weakness," Winsor said in sentencing Walsh in January to more than five years behind bars.

As part of his plea deal, Walsh agreed to return the \$7.8 million he stole and to sell Sweetheart Island, which was among his first purchases with the stolen federal money, according to the court records.

Prosecutors said Walsh used \$90,000 of those funds to help finance the \$116,000 island purchase. Florida property records show that the island was sold for \$200,000 at the end of June.

Walsh's attorneys said he didn't buy the island as a "tropical paradise for entertainment" but as a real estate opportunity. They did not explain how the businessman would have transformed the isolated isle into a profit center.

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THE SUMTER ITEM



OPINION

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Jacqueline B. Osteen CO-OWNER

Graham Osteen CO-OWNER

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EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

POST AND COURIER

Nov. 8

S.C. can't wait for Justice Department to fix our deadly jails

The two stabbings that occurred inside the Richland County jail the day after the U.S. Justice Department announced an investigation of that facility and its counterpart in Charleston County should serve as a powerful reminder that local and state officials can't wait for the federal government to solve the problems plaguing South Carolina's jails.

We can hope that in time, the review by the department's Civil Rights Division will push Charleston and Richland counties to take actions that they either can't or won't take now to ensure the safety of the people they lock up, most of whom have not been convicted and so must be presumed innocent.

But lives are being endangered every day because of the way county officials are operating our jails — and the way local and state officials use them.

As The Post and Courier's Ema Rose Schumer reports, dozens of county jails across the state are struggling with systemic problems involving the treatment they provide to mentally ill inmates — a service they often contract out to for-profit medical companies — as well as deplorable living conditions for the entire jail population and staff and facilities that are inadequate to provide basic security.

Last year, inspections by the S.C. Corrections Department found problems in every county jail in South Carolina. At least 39 people died in those jails — the highest number since the Justice Department started collecting mortality data in 2000. Detention centers in Charleston, Greenville and Spartanburg counties led the list with six deaths each.

The problems inside our jails are particularly acute for people struggling with mental illness. They need treatment, but because our state is still struggling to change how we respond to them during times of crisis, they run afoul of law enforcement — sometimes for committing crimes that would get anybody locked up, sometimes after feeling cornered and lashing out at police who never should have been asked to intervene or should have backed away.

Then they get funneled into jails that are unprepared to handle them. They get shocked to death by jail staff for re-

fusing to cooperate. They're left to rot in their own feces. They die of dehydration when they aren't given food or water.

Hiring more staff at the jails would go a long way toward solving the problems, but even just providing enough bodies to cover all the staffing needs would cost money that taxpayers are loathe to provide, and hiring people on the cheap can create more problems than it solves.

The obvious solution — reducing the number of people held in the jails — is often beyond the control of the people who run the jails. It's best accomplished by reducing the number of arrests or reducing the number of people held without bail — which has lost any favor it had, as a result of too many of the wrong people being let out on bail — or by reducing court backlogs in order to bring cases to trial more quickly.

But in Charleston and other counties where the sheriffs run the jails, the sheriffs can change how they deal with people who are mentally ill. County officials in Richland and other counties where the sheriff doesn't run the jail can't control the arrest policies of sheriff's offices — and for that matter, no counties can control municipal police departments' arrest policies — but they can control what sorts of alternative programs they put in place to divert people in crisis from their jails. They can also control how urgent they consider the problem, and how quickly they address it.

The Legislature has taken steps to help move our state in this direction; unfortunately, the build-up time is painfully slow. But local officials could coordinate with state officials to pick up the pace. They need to do that. And urgently so.

And the state should be more proactive about intervening when things get out of control at local jails. Although the Department of Public Safety gathers data on jail deaths and the Corrections Department inspects jails, there's nobody empowered to force or really even facilitate changes. Even the Justice Department will only be able to recommend changes — and file a lawsuit if local officials don't make those changes. Lawmakers need to give someone at the state level oversight responsibility and enforcement authority to make changes when jails become death traps for the people being held there awaiting trial. At the same time, they need to identify the common problems throughout our jails that are endangering lives and ultimately making our communities less safe.

Those twin tasks need to be at the top of their to-do list in January. And

it wouldn't hurt to get started on some fact-finding and planning now. Anything the Justice Department comes up with sometime down the road can either be layered on top of whatever the state does or else — we can hope — can be considered moot because of reforms we've already made.

TIMES AND DEMOCRAT

Nov. 4

Different times across the states not the way to go

Daylight-saving time ends Sunday at 2 a.m. South Carolina will "fall back" again in 2023 despite the state's lawmakers approving a change that would end adjusting clocks in the fall.

Since the introduction of modern daylight-saving time as an emergency measure during the 20th century's two world wars, many countries have been adjusting the clock one hour ahead in spring and winding it back by an hour during fall.

"Springing forward" became a way of life in the United States during the energy crises of the 1970s. The idea was daylight-saving time would save energy and reduce reliance on oil imported from unfriendly nations in the Middle East because people returning home from work would not have to turn on their lights until sunset one hour later than standard time.

According to timeanddate.com, advantages include the extra hour of daylight in the afternoon for those who work later hours, exercise in the evenings or need to complete outdoor household chores.

Others have reported that daylight-saving time can be linked to reduced road injuries. A joint Transport Research Laboratory and University College of London study predicted that less people would be killed and injured in road accidents if an hour of daylight was transferred from the morning to the afternoon.

And there are arguments on the idea that daylight-saving time reduces electricity usage and promotes energy efficiency. Some say the extra hour in the afternoon can counter blackouts and other electrical failures that can occur later in the day.

Others say that it influences people to spend more time out of the house, thus decreasing the need for artificial lighting as well as the likelihood of using home electric appliances.

Complaints about daylight-saving time include safety fears in the dark mornings, especially for school children waiting for a bus in some areas. The result of such concerns has been no daylight-saving time in some countries.

And in this country and others, there are those believing life is less complicated without daylight-saving time, thus minimizing confusion and interruption associated with time, including changes to schedules and food preparations.

Farming groups have also been anti-daylight time, saying it has a significant adverse impact on rural families, businesses and communities.

Daylight-saving time's current schedule in the United States was established by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which extended summer time from the second Sunday in March to the first Sunday in November, shrinking standard time to just four months of the year.

But there are moves to change that. South Carolina lawmakers in 2020 approved making daylight-saving time year-round. Other states have done the same.

The problem is the change cannot occur without congressional action. Present federal law allows states to opt out of daylight-saving time but not opt out of standard time.

South Carolina is not giving up. A new S.C. Statehouse bill to make daylight-saving time permanent by having the state Attorney General Alan Wilson submit a waiver request to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation that would not require an act of Congress was introduced in January and referred to the House Judiciary Committee in February.

As seemingly with everything else in the U.S., states are divided on the issue. Some have acted to retain standard time year-round while South Carolina and others are determined to do just the opposite.

A federal standard is needed. Different times in different states pose problems. Consider that a change by South Carolina and not Georgia and/or North Carolina would effectively put the Palmetto State in a different time zone for part of the year.

Changing time twice a year is far less a headache than would be figuring out what time it is in different states based not only on their time zones but whether their elected leaders decide to adopt full-time daylight-saving time year-round.

Unless a national change is made to adopt standard time all year or daylight time year-round, the twice-yearly time change should remain.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

JOIN DUKE ENERGY IN FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER IN SUMTER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

I really love this time of year.

There is a nip in the air, the leaves have changed color, and thoughts are turning to holiday dinner tables surrounded by family and friends.

Unfortunately, not everyone in Sumter has that same access to healthy meals, not every day and certainly not during the holiday season. Every community in our state is home to families who face hunger. The statistics are startling — more than 500,000 of our friends and neighbors lack consistent access to high-quality meals, and 1 in 8 of those are children.

That's why it's important for Duke Energy to support the organizations who do the great work to fight hunger in Sumter and across our state. Our hope is by shining a light on these efforts, these organizations will continue to receive the support they need to help reduce and hopefully one day eliminate hunger in our communities.

On Nov. 1, Duke Energy kicked off a month-long campaign to support organizations in South Carolina that address food insecurities and inequities across the state. Duke Energy's month-long initiative will provide nearly \$400,000 to more than 60 feeding programs leading up to the

Thanksgiving holiday.

Duke Energy employees and retirees will also provide their time and talents volunteering with these and other organizations throughout the month to assist in packing and distributing food boxes, as well as providing sweat equity to other feeding programs in their neighborhoods.

We like to close out our campaign — which now in its third year has contributed more than \$1 million to these efforts — by providing micro-grants to community organizations like Sumter United Ministries. As we wrap up our month-long initiative and head into the holiday season, we hope these grants will help support the great people who work so hard year-round to help keep our neighbors from going hungry.

These organizations do great work in Sumter, but they can't do it alone. I ask you to consider joining our employees and retirees and give back to these or other local food banks or soup kitchens during this time of year. It could be as simple as a couple hours of your time or even a monetary donation, but just know that anything you can contribute will make a difference. To find a community feeding partner near you, search online at SC211.org.

QUINETTA BUTERBAUGH
Duke Energy government and community relations manager



EDITORIAL PAGE POLICIES

EDITORIALS represent the views of the owners of this newspaper.

COLUMNS AND COMMENTARY are the personal opinion of the writer whose byline appears. Columns from readers should be typed, double-spaced and no more than 850 words. Send them to *The Sumter Item*, Opinion Pages, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, S.C. 29151, or email to letters@theitem.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are written by readers of the newspaper. They should be no more than 350 words and sent via e-mail to letters@theitem.com, dropped off at *The Sumter Item* office, 36 W. Liberty St. or mailed to *The Sumter Item*, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, S.C. 29151, along with the full name of the writer, plus an address and telephone number for verification purposes only. Letters that exceed 350 words will be cut accordingly in the print edition, but available in their entirety at www.theitem.com.

VETERANS DAY FROM PAGE A1

sacrifice in the face of great adversity. They have borne the burden of defending our liberties and ensuring our way of life remains intact. Their dedication and resilience serve as a shining example to us all.”

Col. Bill Oden, deputy chief of staff for cybersecurity and intel for the S.C. State Guard, participated in the parade and has spent “46 years in uniform” between the state Guard and U.S. Air Force, he said. Oden retired from Shaw Air Force Base, still lives in Sumter and described Veterans Day as “a day of celebration” as opposed to Memorial Day, which is more a day of mourning for lost service members.

Perhaps the oldest veteran in attendance was 94-year-old Sumter resident Robert James Sigler, who watched the parade from South Main Street and near Sumter Cut Rate Drug Store.

He joined the Army Air Corps

at the age of 18 in 1947. That eventually became the U.S. Air Force, and Sigler served in Korea and Vietnam, he said.

Sigler retired after 28 years of service from Shaw and still lives in the community.

He said it was his first time attending the Veterans Day parade and ceremony, and it brought back memories for him of his service time.

A much younger Sumter veteran is retired U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Brittany Lawson. Her final official day in the military at Shaw was Nov. 1 after 20 years of service.

Lawson is currently the only female Purple Heart medal recipient who lives in Sumter County, according to record keeping. She earned the designation while serving in Afghanistan in December 2019 as part of the U.S. Army’s 101st Airborne Division.



PHOTO PROVIDED

U.S. Air Force veteran Robert James Sigler, 94, watches the Sumter Veterans Day parade on Friday along Main Street in downtown Sumter.



PHOTOS BY ADAM FLASH / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter celebrates military veterans on Friday morning at the annual Veterans Day parade in downtown. The annual ceremony was held after the parade at the Sumter County Courthouse, and 30 veterans were recognized individually for their service.



CASE FROM PAGE A1

suit challenging segregation itself. Briggs v. Elliott was one of the cases that combined to form the basis for Brown v. Board of Education. Harry and Eliza Briggs boldly took the lead as the first individuals to endorse a petition urging Clarendon County schools to provide dedicated bus services for Black students.

Nathaniel Briggs, son of Harry and Eliza, said the South Carolina court case was more devastating than the Topeka, Kansas, case, which is the case that spearheaded Brown v. Board of Education.

“As history is recorded, Briggs v. Elliott was actually the first court case that came before the board of education before the case in Kansas,” Briggs said.

Briggs and a few others involved in the petition, historian Cecil Williams and attorney Thomas Mullikin, think it is a travesty South Carolina’s valor has been misaligned with the famous court cases since the Emancipation Proclamation.

Williams has played a pivotal role alongside Mullikin in leading the campaign to petition the Supreme Court for the renaming of Brown v. Board of Education to Briggs v. Elliott, shedding light on the significance of the South Carolina case.

“That needs to be enlightened that South Carolina deserves its true place in history,” Briggs said.

Briggs said Brown v. Board of Education’s name overrides emphasis on the other families involved in desegregation, including his own.

“Our issues in the deep South, where we’ve always had some issues

pertaining to education,” Briggs said.

He remembered his parents faced both physical and economic intimidation from the community, with some experiencing job loss and homelessness. Churches were targeted, either burned or shot at, forcing some residents to relocate, not just within Clarendon County but outside South Carolina.

Briggs expects some backlash from the public about the petition being filed.

“When you bring to light something that a lot of the country never heard of or think that we are making things up or think we are upsetting a court decision,” Briggs said. “We are saying that South Carolina deserves its rightful place in history.”

Briggs’ main goal with the petition is the case will increase awareness about not only his family’s case, but also the others that formed the Brown

v. Board of Education ruling. Briggs said renaming the case would give South Carolina more credit for its role in the Civil Rights Movement.

Mullikin said at a news conference held Nov. 7 the court only hears 8% of cases brought to it. The court could choose to acknowledge the petition and change the name without hearing the petition and issue a revised opinion, or some but not all of the justices could acknowledge the petition.

Or the court could ignore it altogether, but Briggs will not stop fighting for his family’s legacy and the legacy of others involved in Brown v. Board of Education.

“We hope they will look at this and make an effort to change the world in ways that not to overthrow it but to have equal of all the five cases,” Briggs said.

Parade



Scan for free Parade games!

SELMA & ISAAC: FASHION FORWARD

The actress, who has MS, teams up with designer Isaac Mizrahi to make fashionable clothes accessible to everyone

BY MARA REINSTEIN

"I'm good. I'm doing really well. I really am in a fortunate space." It means a little more when Selma Blair is the one saying these words. The veteran actress, after all, has been through an epic health journey in the past five years. In 2018, she revealed that she had been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, a chronic autoimmune disease of the central nervous system. Three years later, after undergoing an extensive stem-cell transplantation procedure and chemotherapy, Blair announced that her MS was in remission. Today, she talks openly about having Miegie syndrome — which involves involuntary spasms of the tongue, jaw and pharynx and face. It affects the way she speaks, and yet her scrappy and self-deprecating attitude shines through.

"The last couple years," she says, "I grew up a lot. So, I'm having a fascinating time loving and accepting all these things that have come to me. I have a lot of happiness and hope. Now I think about how I can use my platform for being a voice." She quickly jokes, "It's really funny to me because my voice is all over the place!"

Her latest advocacy step is in the style world. Blair, the QVC Brand Ambassador for Accessibility, and her longtime friend, designer Isaac Mizrahi, have teamed up for the accessible fashion collection Isaac Mizrahi Live! x Selma Blair. No ordinary celebrity-endorsed line, it was developed through collaborative efforts with the disability community. The machine-washable clothes — which began exclusively debuting on QVC in early October — include accessible features like easy-open necklines, magnetic closures, stretch fabrics and flat seams. The pants are also available for people in wheelchairs.

"The clothes are very chic and fashionable and, oh my God, changed my game," Blair says. "And I hate saying 'changing my game!'"

Long before the collection, Blair found a way to express herself. After growing up in suburban Southfield, Michigan, Blair — the youngest of four girls — decided at age 22 to eschew Midwest domesticity and head to New York City to pursue a career in the arts. Within the next decade, she appeared in millennial classics such as "Cruel Intentions," "Legally Blonde" and "The Sweetest Thing." Though Blair didn't headline any of them, she made her mark as a fearless comedic talent. "I was like, 'Well, here's the second act of my life,'" she says. "I'm going to be an actress. It was a surprise to me!"

Now, Blair, 51, resides in Los Angeles with her 12-year-old son, Arthur, and service dog, Scout. She frequently travels to New York and QVC headquarters in West Chester, Pennsylvania, and recently headed to Washington, D.C., to honor the legacy of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act. "I'd love to live on a lake in Michigan and have a calm life," she says. "But I'm just too talkative for one state!" On a Thursday morning in October, Blair talked to Parade about the clothing collaboration and her life.

How did the idea of the collection come to you?

I was lucky enough to get a TV show a few years ago, and I really needed that job because I was diagnosed at the same time. The wardrobe people had to help me get dressed because I couldn't pull my pants off. I realized I couldn't do this at home. So, I started



COVER PHOTOGRAPHY BY JONATHAN PUSHNIK / QVC

wearing things with magnetic buttons and getting all this information. I wanted our clothes to have these adaptive features. And they're not meant strictly for people with disabilities or arthritis or poor vision. This is just our way of getting people dressed fast.

Why do you and Isaac fit together so well?

Years ago, I had him make a dress for me, and it was my favorite. I've always loved him. And I wanted every woman to feel as beautiful as I always felt wearing his clothes. He brings something extra, and he's just a great American designer and has such a top-shelf personality. That's why this just seemed like the most auspicious, wonderful thing to happen.

Has fashion always played a major role in your life?

Always. The wardrobe was my costume. I had this actress personality, and fashion was something I could cling to that everyone understood. But my mom would never let me buy really expensive, trendy things. It was, like, one Burberry coat every three years and the rest was my sisters' hand-me-downs. I watched Lisa Bonet on "The Cosby Show" with rips in her clothes and thought I could do that, too.

When was your first big style risk?

In junior high, I dyed my hair blonde. I thought it was pretty. My mother liked it! But the principal had a talk with me because she couldn't believe I would do something so dramatic. It was a horrible time in my life. People were like, "What is wrong with you?" It was such a big deal that I remember thinking, I never want to do that again. Know your audience. I transferred schools because I realized I needed a bigger audience where people wouldn't think I was a freak just because I wanted to look like Grace Kelly.

What did your mom think of you going into acting? It didn't run in the family.

I probably did get it from my mom because she was a judge, so she was always in front of people, and she did command a room. But we didn't have that type of family at all. Acting was

not anything a parent would dream for their child in the Midwest. But once I decided in college [University of Michigan] to go to New York, my mom packed my suitcase that very night and sent me off. I stayed at a Salvation Army in Gramercy Park.

How did the acting struggle prepare you for what was to come later?

I was so naive, but I understood that life wasn't going to be easy. I never felt like I fit in anywhere. Then, after my diagnosis, I became so embraced by people in the MS and the Parkinson's community. My life made more sense — I loved being a voice for other people because no two disabilities are the same. And it's given me such empathy.

How so?

You know, if you see people with noticeable disabilities, it doesn't mean you have to stop and stare on the street. And there should be beautiful ramps everywhere! Have a ramp at the Oscars. The Oscars aren't for the actors — they're for the people at home. If you integrate things into the design of our lives, it opens a mindset, and people become more accepting.

Has the activism given you a renewed purpose?

Sure, I would have loved some type of stardom. But I told people I had MS even though people said not to, because no one wants to feel like they're not capable of getting a job. That's why it's important for me to go to the White House and remind people that we do need legislation for all these things — and need clothes to go to these events!

What was the White House experience like?

My mother was a very Republican judge, and my dad [an attorney] was a Democrat Zionist, but I grew up learning that no matter what, the White House was a sacred place. So, I was very happy to be invited. And when "Hail to the Chief" started playing, it was just so surreal. I had no idea I'd be walking with the president with my service dog and my cane! But it felt incredible to stand before these history-makers and the leaders in the disability community and celebrate our goals. It touched me so much, and

I did not take it lightly.

What's left for you to accomplish?

I'd love to have a collaboration with a company to make a wheelchair.

It sounds like you're in a good place physically and emotionally.

I've really made a turn for the better in the past year. I'm sensitive and tired lately, but excited and hopeful, and feel like I need to uplift people. I wake up each morning with growing stamina. I'm so grateful for it.

ISAAC MIZRAHI ON FASHION FOR EVERYONE

When Isaac Mizrahi started in fashion more than 30 years ago, he brought a singular goal to the worktable: "I've always wanted to reach out to new demographics of people that should have access to clothes," he says. "It's all about democratizing fashion to make it more inclusive."

The gregarious designer, actor, director, host, writer, Project Runway judge and producer — who burst into the mainstream with his hit 1995 documentary "Unzipped" — has checked off that box many times over thanks to his mega-successful partnerships with Target and QVC. But his Isaac Mizrahi Live! x Selma Blair collection for QVC, which combines style with accessibility solutions, is a special highlight.

"This is a growing concern," he says. "I think it's a wonderful thing to make things easier and better for differently abled people to experience selection. This is my chance to help any way I can." He also boasts, "You don't need to sacrifice any kind of style at all. The clothes are incredibly great looking. I'm so shallow, right? I just like great-looking clothes!"

Numbrix
Complete 1 to 81 so the numbers follow a horizontal or vertical path—no diagonals.

59			53			33
		55	39			
	65				27	25
67						
	69				23	
						15
		73	9			
79			1			

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LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Numbrix
November 5, 2023

7	6	23	24	27	28	77	78	79
8	5	22	25	26	29	76	81	80
9	4	21	20	19	30	75	74	73
10	3	2	1	18	31	70	71	72
11	14	15	16	17	32	69	68	67
12	13	36	35	34	33	56	57	66
39	38	37	48	49	54	55	58	65
40	43	44	47	50	53	60	59	64
41	42	45	46	51	52	61	62	63

PUBLIC AGENDA

- HARVIN CLARENDON COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD
Monday, 4:30 p.m., Harvin Clarendon County Library, 215 N. Brooks St., Manning
CLARENDON COUNTY COUNCIL
Monday, 6 p.m., Administration Building, Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning
SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, 6 p.m., 1345 Wilson Hall Road
LEE COUNTY COUNCIL
Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., family courtroom, Lee County Courthouse
LYNCHBURG TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6 p.m., Teen Center, Magnolia Street, Lynchburg
SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6 p.m., Sumter County Council Chambers
SUMMERTON TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6 p.m., town hall, Summerton
MANNING CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., second floor of Manning City Hall, 29 W. Boyce St., Manning
PINEWOOD TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., town hall,

- Pinewood
TURBEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., town hall, Turbeville
MAYESVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 7 p.m., town hall, Mayesville
PAXVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 7 p.m., Paxville Town Hall, 10277 Lewis Road, Paxville
SUMTER CITY-COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Wednesday, 3 p.m., fourth floor, City Council Chambers, Sumter Opera House, 21 N. Main St.
CLARENDON COUNTY FIRST STEPS PARTNERSHIP BOARD
Thursday, 10 a.m., virtual meeting. For more information, contact clarendonfirststeps@gmail.com.
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE
Thursday, 3 p.m., fourth floor, City Council Chambers, Sumter Opera House, 21 N. Main St.
CENTRAL CAROLINA TECHNICAL COLLEGE AREA COMMISSION
Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Building 500, President's Conference Room, Central Carolina Technical College, 506 N. Guignard Drive

WEATHER

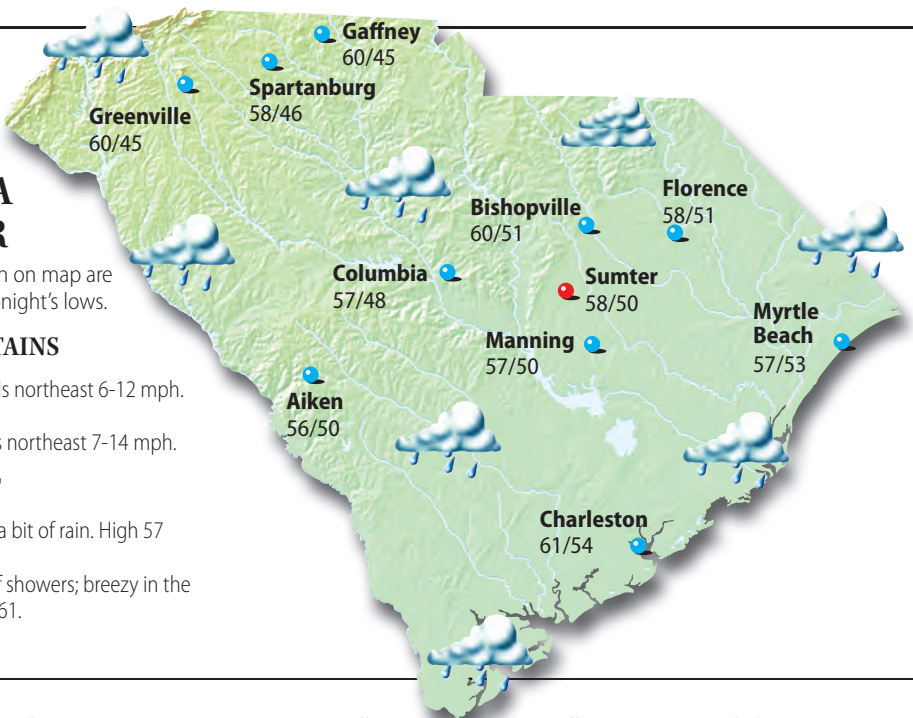
Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2023

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

Table with 6 columns: TODAY, TONIGHT, SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY. Includes weather icons, temperature ranges, and wind directions.

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

Temperatures shown on map are today's highs and tonight's lows.
IN THE MOUNTAINS
Today: Cloudy. Winds northeast 6-12 mph. A bit of rain.
Sunday: Rain. Winds northeast 7-14 mph.
ON THE COAST
Today: Cloudy with a bit of rain. High 57 to 63.
Sunday: A couple of showers; breezy in the morning. High 54 to 61.



LOCAL ALMANAC

Table with 2 columns: Temperature (High, Low, Normal high, Normal low, Record high, Record low) and Precipitation (24 hrs ending 2 p.m. Fri., Month to date, Normal month to date, Year to date, Last year to date, Normal year to date).

LAKE LEVELS

Table with 4 columns: Lake, Full pool, 7 a.m. yest., 24-hr chg. Lists lakes like Murray, Marion, Moultrie, Wateree.

SUN AND MOON

Table with 4 columns: Sunrise, Moonrise, Sunset, Moonset. Includes moon phase icons for Nov. 13, Nov. 20, Nov. 27, Dec. 5.

RIVER STAGES

Table with 4 columns: River, Flood stage, 7 a.m. yest., 24-hr chg. Lists rivers like Black River, Congaree River, Lynchers River, Saluda River, Up. Santee River, Wateree River.

TIDES

Table with 4 columns: High, Low, and their times. Location: AT MYRTLE BEACH.

NATIONAL CITIES

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Sun. Lists cities like Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Orlando, Philadelphia, Phoenix, San Francisco, Wash., DC.

REGIONAL CITIES

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Sun. Lists regional cities like Asheville, Athens, Augusta, Beaufort, Cape Hatteras, Charleston, Charlotte, Clemson, Columbia, Darlington, Elizabeth City, Elizabethtown, Fayetteville, Florence, Gainesville, Gastonia, Goldsboro, Goose Creek, Greensboro, Greenville, Hickory, Hilton Head, Jacksonville, FL, La Grange, Macon, Marietta.

Advertisement for 'We have a NOSE for NEWS' featuring a cartoon dog detective and contact information for The Sumter ITEM.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

FICTION MYSTERY: Yet to be solved by S.N.
ACROSS
1 Stop, as a launch
6 Newspaper's essay page
10 PFC's superior
14 Grape-shaped
19 Wild West Show structure
20 Choir voice
21 Consequently
22 Messing or Winger
23 Start of a quote
27 Annoy repeatedly
28 Boyfriend
29 Andean nation
30 Young hoodlum
31 Tennis great Lendl
32 Consultant's charge
34 Tops with frosting

71 "See ya!"
74 Tennis great Nastase
75 Talks too much
79 Par for the course
80 Bowl over
83 Italy's shape
84 First Obi-Wan portrayer
85 Parts of pants legs
87 Simpsons' taverner
88 Inconclusive result
89 Climate activist Thunberg
90 Canonized femme
91 Part 3 of quote
96 Train component
97 Top of certain scales
98 Person Adam hadn't
99 Tiny tiff
100 Pirate potato
101 Quirky trait
102 Pitch in
104 Target for toning

CROSSWORD puzzle grid with clues and answers.

SATURDAY'S ANSWERS

CROSSWORD and SUDOKU puzzles.

Large crossword puzzle grid.

106 Quiz channel, for short
107 Flag holder
108 Book's ID
109 Gumbo ingredient
111 Scandinvian capital
114 Moon of Pluto
116 End of quote
120 Went wrong
121 Prefix meaning "all"
122 Dull discomfort
123 Doles (out)
124 Certain designer dresses
125 Nickname like Liz
126 Suburb of Phoenix
127 Parakeet food
35 Undercover grp.
37 Sooner St.
39 Numbered rte.
40 Breakfast beverage
41 ___ matter of speaking
42 Stock mkt. numbers
46 Copier powder
47 Designer Kamali
48 Metallic mineral
51 Malodorous
55 Seafood spot
57 Rotunda-topped
58 Sopranos chef
59 Wide renown
60 Set of cymbals
63 Prefix for profit
64 Hive compartment
66 Bard's fairy queen
68 Ring-fitting device
69 WWII sub
70 Looks angry
71 Descriptor for old-time cartoonists' hands
72 Elementary education innovator
73 City near Winston-Salem
76 All eligible voters
77 Took in or let out
78 Dearth
81 Radio designation
82 Animal park
83 Little rascal
86 Amounts of money
88 Genetic material
89 Workout locale
92 Prohibited
93 Screeners' grp.
94 Violin stroke
95 Midday ritual
103 Deeply felt
104 Wharton title character
105 Grassy expanses
106 Black-clad teens
107 Check recipient
110 Gearshift topper
112 Deception
113 Curtain material
115 Garment edges
117 OED VIPs
118 Family nickname
119 Espresso alternative
Czech-born tennis pro IVAN Lendl (31 Across) won 94 singles matches, including eight major tournaments, in his 16-year career. ISBN (108 Across) is short for "International Standard Book Number." CHARON (114 Across), the largest of the five known moons of Pluto, was discovered in 1978.

JUMBLE puzzle: FLASK TAKEN ATTACH INVEST. The hockey game had more penalties than you could - SHAKE A STICK AT

Next Level Athletics expanding opportunities for local athletes



BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com

Rip Ripley's Next Level Athletics just keeps growing. The program, which is aimed at providing local athletes opportunities in myriad sports, wraps up its fall season this weekend, but fall and spring opportunities are right around the corner. Ripley is excited about the chance to find new ways to get Sumter youth involved in sports, regardless of where they go to school. "One of the things that my wife and I have gotten really

passionate about is youth sports," Ripley said. "Part of it is we have five little ones at home running around, so there's a vested interest there, but I think that we do some things really well with our youth sports in Sumter, and there are other areas, like certain sports, where we can continue to improve. Our goal is to try to offer those things."

"We're not really trying to be competitive with other programs, like Sumter Soccer Club; what they're doing with soccer is phenomenal. I have zero interest in being involved with soccer because they crush it. There are some other programs that do a great job with basketball for in-season leagues. What we're trying to

do is offer something for all of Sumter to get behind and say, 'Here are some youth opportunities that I think, in the long run, the high schools in the area see the benefits from seeing these kids playing these sports younger.' And if there's anything else in the Sumter community somebody wants to see, come talk to us. We're all for trying to develop our kids in athletics in any way we can."

This fall, primary sports have been volleyball and flag football, along with running programs for both cross country and track and field. The Little Spikers is aimed at teaching the fundamentals

SEE **NLA**, PAGE B3

Next Level Athletics is providing opportunities for young athletes to learn various sports, including volleyball, flag football, basketball cross country, and track..

PHOTOS PROVIDED



Wilson Hall's Norris signs with Erskine volleyball

BY TIM LEIBLE
tim@theitem.com

For the last three years, Maggie Norris has been integral to the Wilson Hall volleyball team.

As the Lady Barons' primary setter, her job is to keep the offense moving. Norris has been a key reason Wilson Hall has won more than 30 games in each of the last two seasons.

Now she has her sights set on the next level.

Norris signed to continue her volleyball career on Thursday, checking off another major goal she'd set for herself.

"It feels kinda surreal," Norris said of signing. "I've been working towards this moment and been dreaming of it since my freshman year. For it to finally happen, it really puts a cap on my volleyball season."

Wilson Hall head coach Rip Ripley certainly appreciated the chance to have a setter like Norris for the last three seasons. He was thrilled to see her accomplish this dream.

"It's something she's had her sights set on for a while, and she's definitely put in the work," Ripley said. "We ask a lot of the girls who play for us, and the work that comes with that, she's one of the driving

forces behind that. As the setter, I can go in and set the girls all I want to, but it's not as realistic as what they'll see in games. Maggie is obviously much better and does what she does so well. She's super intentional about talking to different girls about coming in for workouts and leading that part of the offseason, which has led to a lot of our success. In addition to that, she's one that's taken to the weight room like a madman. She loves going in there year-round, and she understands the importance of that.

"It's really cool to see that come together."

Norris first connected with Erskine coach Kelly Burdeau at a camp at Wilson Hall. Ripley hosts annual camps that give Wilson Hall athletes a chance to work hands on with college coaches, including Burdeau. Since meeting three years ago, Burdeau stayed in touch, which meant the world to Norris.

"Whenever I was going through the process of emailing as many coaches as possible, she's the one who really reached back and asked when we can meet, when she could watch me play, what our tournament schedule was," Norris said. "She really initiated that, and I could tell that she wanted me in her program."



TIM LEIBLE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Wilson Hall's Maggie Norris, center, is joined by her parents, Joe and Alice, as she signs her letter of intent to play volleyball at Erskine on Thursday.

But the coach wasn't the only thing that drew Norris to Erskine.

"I love that it was so Christian-based and faith-based," Norris said. "Also, it's very small. It's almost like a little Wilson Hall, in a way. That's something that I'm used to. And it's also in state. I promised my mom I wouldn't go out of state, so I had to keep that promise."

Perhaps most importantly, Norris isn't going alone. Fellow Lady Baron senior Rylee Bath will sign with Erskine on Monday, keeping a close friendship together at the next level.

"It's something that a lot of people could never even think of doing, but I'm so lucky that



ADAM FLASH / SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Norris has been a crucial piece of the Lady Barons as the team's setter for the last three years.

SEE **NORRIS**, PAGE B3

GEORGIA STATE @ CLEMSON

CLEMSON (AP) — Georgia Tech (5-4, 4-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) at Clemson (5-4, 2-4), Saturday, 12 p.m. (ABC) Line: Clemson by 14 1/2, according to FanDuel Sportsbook. Series record: Georgia Tech leads 51-35-2

WHAT'S AT STAKE?

Winner goes to a bowl game. That would be a great accomplishment for the Yellow Jackets in year two under coach Brent Key. It would be a consolation prize for the Tigers in this unexpected season of struggle. Clemson was picked to win the ACC title during the summer and must win its last two league games to avoid its first losing conference season since 1998.

KEY MATCHUP

Georgia Tech QB Haynes King vs. Clemson defensive front. King, the Texas A&M transfer, is among the biggest surprises in the ACC. He's third among league passers and has thrown an ACC-best 22 touchdowns. But the Tigers have one of the top lines in the country featuring tackle Tyler Davis and rising freshmen in Peter Woods and T.J. Parker.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Georgia Tech: RB Jamal Haynes has been productive this season, averaging nearly six

yards a carry. He's fifth in the league with 664 yards. Clemson: LB Jeremiah Trotter Jr. had a game-best 11 tackles, a couple of those behind the line of scrimmage, and a pick six off Notre Dame quarterback Sam Hartman a week ago in the Tigers' 31-23 upset of the Fighting Irish.

FACTS & FIGURES

Coach Dabo Swinney became Clemson's all-time leader with his 166th victory last week, beating Notre Dame at the school where he began in midseason 2008. ... Swinney's first game? Georgia Tech at home that season. The Yellow Jackets rallied to win 21-17. ... The Yellow Jackets have lost eight straight to Clemson, last winning in Atlanta in 2014. Their last win in Clemson was Swinney's first game 15 years ago. ... Phil Mafah ran for 186 yards and two touchdowns in the Notre Dame win as injured starter Will Shipley was in concussion protocol from a hard hit at North Carolina State on Oct. 28. Mafah's output was the most yards in a game for the Tigers this season. ... Georgia Tech, expected to struggle this season, has scored 91 points in back-to-back victories over ranked North Carolina and Virginia the past two weeks.

VANDERBILT @ SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA (AP) — Vanderbilt (2-8, 0-6 SEC) at South Carolina (3-6, 1-5), Saturday, noon (SEC Network) Line: South Carolina by 13 1/2, according to FanDuel Sportsbook. Series record: South Carolina leads 28-4

WHAT'S AT STAKE?

South Carolina is fighting for its postseason life while Vanderbilt wants to avoid going winless in the Southeastern Conference. The Gamecocks have to win out if they hope to make third-year coach Shane Beamer 3-for-3 in reaching a bowl at the start of his South Carolina career. The Commodores are trying to avoid a second 0-for-the-SEC in coach Clark Lea's three years.

KEY MATCHUP

South Carolina WR Xavier Legette vs. Vanderbilt pass defense. Legette is second in the SEC with 108 receiving yards a game and second in total yards with 973. He had nine catches for 217 yards and two TDs in a 38-28 win over Jacksonville State last week. Vanderbilt is next-to-last in SEC pass defense and has given up 19 passing TDs, the most in the league.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Vanderbilt: Linebacker Langston Patterson

had a sack, a forced fumble and an interception in a loss to Ole Miss two weeks ago.

South Carolina: QB Spencer Rattler has kept grinding even when things haven't gone well for the Gamecocks. He leads the SEC with 304 pass attempts and keeps throwing despite shoddy protection as South Carolina is tied for last with 37 sacks allowed.

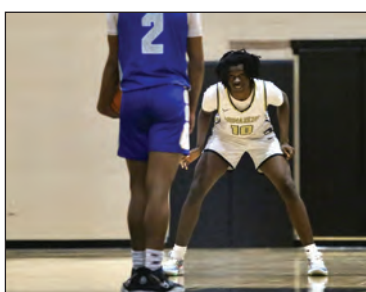
FACTS & FIGURES

South Carolina holds a 14-game win streak over Vanderbilt. The Commodores' last win in the series came in 2007, when the school ended an 0-14 mark against then-Gamecocks coach Steve Spurrier. ... Vanderbilt has at least two wins over every other SEC East team since its last victory against South Carolina. ... Commodores receiver Will Sheppard had four catches for 43 yards in the Auburn loss last week and became the eighth at Vanderbilt to surpass 2,000 career receiving yards. ... The Commodores will have their fifth straight season of two or fewer SEC victories. They are 3-36 in SEC play during that span. ... The Gamecocks are looking for back-to-back victories for the first time since defeating Tennessee and Clemson in November 2022.

Manning basketball hosts Lee Central, Airport for scrimmage



PHOTOS BY NICH PITTS / ITEM CONTRIBUTOR
The Manning and Lee Central basketball teams faced off against each other and Airport for a scrimmage on Thursday.



SEC may see dip in NFL draft after 2 decades of dominance

BY TERESA M. WALKER
Associated Press

Georgia coach Kirby Smart hugged Xavier Truss at the Bulldogs' final home game last season, unsure if the offensive lineman would return for another year.

Truss came back for another season, so Saturday night's home finale against No. 10 Mississippi might not be a clear sign of who won't be back in 2024.

"This class has been great," Smart said. "This group of leaders has been very impactful. I think it speaks for itself what they've been able to accomplish thus far, and they still have goals ahead they want to achieve."

The latest round of mock drafts indicate Smart might have more time to reload after having 34 Bulldogs chosen over the last three NFL drafts. The same goes for the rest of his fellow Southeastern Conference coaches.

One mock draft projects the SEC could have just five players taken in the first round next April. That would be the fewest first-rounders in 15 years for a league that has either led or tied for the most first-round draft picks 12 of the last 13 years. Five would match the SEC teams with at least one player drafted in the first round last April alone.

Josh Heupel, coach of the 14th-ranked Tennessee Volunteers, dismissed mock draft projections with so much football left and the actual NFL draft months away. He expects the SEC will wind up with lots of players selected, just like the last 17 where the league led all conferences. In April, the SEC had 62 players

Alabama offensive lineman JC Latham (65) is among the top SEC players expected to be selected in the 2024 NFL draft.

ASSOCIATED PRESS



drafted, three short of the record the league set in 2022. Of the SEC's 14 members, 13 had at least one player picked.

Why is Heupel so confident in just his third SEC season? Tape he watches every week.

"This league is littered with talent," Heupel said.

The SEC could wind up with nine or fewer players taken in the first round, which would be the seventh time in 15 drafts. Speculation about the SEC's top pick ranges from Alabama edge rusher Dallas Turner, Georgia right tackle Amarius Mims or offensive tackle JC Latham of Alabama.

Another mock draft has Alabama cornerback Kool-Aid McKinstry as the SEC's first pick overall at No. 9.

That's a big drop from No. 1 overall where Alabama quarterback Bryce Young was selected in April by Carolina as the third top pick overall from the SEC in the last four drafts alone.

Georgia tight end Brock Bowers, the 2022 John Mackey Award winner as the nation's top tight end, is projected possibly as high as No. 8. He also could return for his senior season. He is recovering from ankle surgery that has cost him two games and working hard to return as fast as possible.

Yet Bowers, who still leads Georgia with 41 catches for 567 yards and four touchdowns, might see the NFL payoff as the easiest move with two national championship rings already in hand.

Mims has been out since surgery

for the left ankle he sprained Sept. 16 in a win over South Carolina. The right tackle has been practicing for his own return.

"He's much closer to being able to play like he wants to be able to play and go out there and compete," Smart said.

Other SEC players projected as first-round selections range from edge rusher Princely Umanmielen of Florida, LSU quarterback Jayden Daniels and one of his receivers, Malik Nabers, to linebacker Edgerrin Cooper of Texas A&M and cornerback Kamari Lassiter, another player from Georgia.

The reigning back-to-back national champion Bulldogs tied Alabama with 10 players apiece drafted in April. That was the fifth time in six years that either Georgia or Alabama led the country for most draft picks.

McCallan Castles, a 6-foot-5, 252-pound tight end, wanted one final college season to improve his own NFL draft stock. He chose Tennessee, transferring after three seasons at UC Davis.

That decision looks like a likely payoff next April with Castles having his best game last week. He had a team-high four catches for 56 yards and scored his third touchdown this season. Castles said he has improved greatly thanks to Tennessee's support staff, strength coaches and his position coach.

"I took a leap of faith coming here," Castles said. "I didn't know if I was going to get to play or not, so to come in and just be a part of the offense the way I am is amazing."

In a few months, he'll find out just how much playing in the SEC pays off.

Wilson Hall's Maggie Norris, left, and Rylee Bath will play together at Erskine next year. Norris signed with the school on Thursday and Bath will sign on Monday.

TI M LEIBLE / THE SUMTER ITEM



NORRIS

FROM PAGE B1

I have her," Norris said of Bath. "Just to have someone that I know. We're really, really close, so we get to go through a new experience together and a new stage of life and grow together as people and athletes; I can't wait."

Ripley couldn't be more excited to have two of his players continue their careers together.

"It's a really unique experience; you don't get to do that a lot going from high school and getting to go to college and play together, especially at a good program

like Erskine," Ripley said. "I think it's really special for them. A little bit of comfort there, as well, playing together as they have before. As a coach, it's special to see that relationship and the way it's formed and will continue to grow in the next couple of years."

The Lady Barons have left a major impact on Norris, which she won't soon forget.

"I've been in the program for about seven years, and it's not just the sport itself, it's the people in it. That's what makes it so special," Norris said. "I give props to coach Ripley for having the best coaching stand and having such high expectations. The seniors, we always try to

do a really good job of leading and, luckily, the four of us were so close that we were able to lead our team and enjoy our program as much as we could."

Now that she's headed off to experience college volleyball, Norris can't wait to see the jump in competition as she moves to the Conference of the Carolinas.

"I think just the higher level of play," Norris said of what she's excited to see in college. "In SCISA and in club ball, it can be kinda iffy what kind of levels of play you'll play against. There are some teams that are really, really good and some that are not the greatest. I'm ready for the faster play."



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Next Level Athletics' Little Spikers pose for a photo after working with the Wilson Hall volleyball team.

NLA

FROM PAGE B1

of volleyball to kids ages 3-12. There were 48 participants this fall. They were able to learn from the varsity team at Wilson Hall, as well as the USC Sumter program. Ripley is always looking to bring more volleyball hopefuls into the program.

"It was mostly clinic-based, skill development. I've seen leagues just try to throw kids on a team like you would in basketball or baseball, and it just doesn't work like that in volleyball," Ripley said. "We've got the little ones out here with volleyballs so light they're like a balloon, but it's what they need because a regular volleyball is just too heavy for them at that age. It's been really fun to see that development. It's cool to see volleyball in our area as it hopefully continues to grow in the coming years."

After that point, Next Level continues to host a league for middle school volleyball programs, primarily through SCISA schools. That program was a full league of programs from across the Midlands, which culminated with a championship in mid-October.

Flag football is a booming sport across the U.S., and that proved to be true for NLA, as well. It was recently announced that the sport will become part of the Olympics in 2028. Combine that with lower health risks than tackle football, and you have a recipe for success.

"Flag football this year doubled in size. We're up to 115 kids on nine different teams, and we had three different age groups with kids from all over the Sumter area. Almost every elementary school in the area is represented, which is really good," Ripley said of the league, which cuts off at fifth grade. "It's something we look to grow in the coming years. Our vision is to have schools that have a Wilson Hall team or a Thomas Sumter team for this group as we continue to grow it."

"We've had some awesome people that have come along with us and volunteered to coach. Like a lot of rec leagues, we're dependent on volunteer coaching; a lot of dads have stepped up and helped out and have done a great job of pouring into these kids."

A major project for Ripley has been the running program. He's worked with Holly Williamson to build a program that is modeled after one that Williamson and her children took part in when they lived in Columbia, Run Hard. The goal is to have an organization that has individual groups at schools, but they would all come together at times for specialized work, such as training for the throwing events for newcomers.

"We had a group that did it at Alice Drive, a group that did it at Wilson Hall and a community group where a lot of different schools came together and met in the evenings two days a week," Ripley said. "What we're hoping it will grow into is we've created a curriculum that's both character development and endurance training that we are happy to implant in schools. My hope is that schools will



Flag football players face off in the Next Level Athletics league.

have a group of kids that love running, a teacher that can run it, and we'll give them a curriculum, the kids will sign up with the program, and then at the end of the year, we offer a race for all of the Sumter Speed kids that come together.

"The beauty would be that if I'm an Alice Drive kid, I can practice at my school after school twice a week, and I get my training in, and then for track, we'll have throws practices at a certain time where anybody in the program, if you're interested in throwing javelin, you come to that."

The track and cross country program at Next Level, Sumter Speed, will have nine runners take part in the USATF state meet this weekend. Those athletes are Kaylee Lane, Zeke Reese, Bentley Daigle, Emilee Havaich, Micah Quick, Robert Smith, Naomi Jones, Milo Berard and Nysyr Bolden. Next Level will also host a local meet next weekend at Christ Community Church.

In the winter, Next Level will once again host AAU basketball. They hope to add girls into the fold this season if there is enough interest. They've hosted boys programs for the last two seasons. Those run after the high school season wraps up and gives athletes a chance to work on their skills and potentially showcase themselves for college coaches outside of the high school structure.

"It is really important for us, and I think it's because we're high school coaches, that we want AAU to be a tool that can showcase our athletes and get them into tournaments where they can be seen but also develop them for their high school programs," Ripley said. "If we're going to do that, we need to respect the high school programs' time when they have the kids."

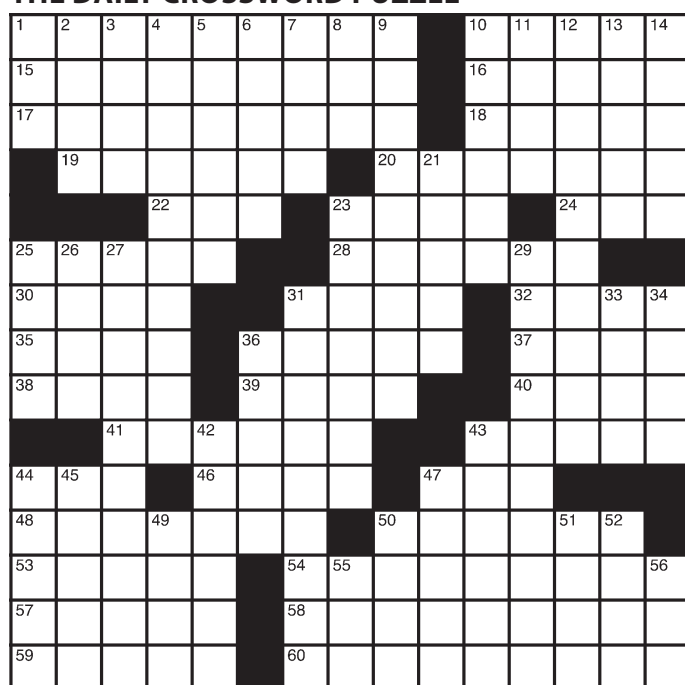
"We've got a lot of good talent in this area, and I feel like if we can keep them together, we can have some really good success and continue to put Sumter on the map in terms of basketball."

Before that league starts, Next Level will host a camp Dec. 19-21, which is aimed at students in grades 1-6. Registration information is available for this camp and all of the different sports NLA provides at nextlevelathletics.com.

Outside of playing sports, Ripley plans to eventually open the door for local athletes to get into officiating.

SATURDAY PUZZLES

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Rich Norris

11/11/23

ACROSS

- 1 Stop for an assessment
- 10 Reverence
- 15 Brown group
- 16 "Mad TV" alum
- 17 Shade named for a river
- 18 Callas title role
- 19 "Aww!"
- 20 Outdoor
- 22 Occasion to eat bánh chù'ng
- 23 2019 Tyler, the Creator album
- 24 Bridge installer's deg.
- 25 Feature of an Oscar statuette
- 28 Rose
- 30 Syrup brand since 1902
- 31 "___ here"
- 32 Gender reveal words
- 35 Singing competition, familiarly
- 36 Dominated, in gaming
- 37 Indian royal
- 38 Handout to the hungry
- 39 Winery discard
- 40 Old ski lift
- 41 Pair with quite a lot of pull
- 43 Type
- 44 Branch
- 46 Pro ___
- 47 Rival
- 48 All smiles, in a Carroll poem
- 50 Soap named for a city
- 53 Yupik craft
- 54 Kitchen counter
- 57 "Their Eyes Were Watching God" protagonist
- 58 Keyboard ornament
- 59 Figure skating leaps
- 60 Word from the Greek for "working together"
- 10 "Let's get toasty" fast-casual chain
- 11 Tend to a pressing task?
- 12 Super Bowl debut of 2008 revived in 2022
- 13 Hardly bold
- 14 Junior and senior
- 21 Mulled (over)
- 23 Rio region
- 25 Take off the top
- 26 13-time All-Star inducted into the Naismith Hall of Fame in 2023
- 27 University northeast of Augusta
- 29 Indian district known for a
- 31 Crew taught by Gabe Kotter
- 33 California classical music festival city
- 34 Story
- 36 Court answers
- 42 Short rides?
- 43 Off-___
- 44 Nigerian capital
- 45 Century 21 rival
- 47 "Lovecraft Country" Emmy winner
- 49 Send
- 50 Campus figure
- 51 French mine
- 52 Court units
- 55 Texter's emphasis
- 56 ___ sleep

DOWN

- 1 Solder element
- 2 Zipcar parent
- 3 Luke's nephew
- 4 Whirlpool alternative
- 5 Proceeded without pause
- 6 "The Goldfinch" Pulitzer winner
- 7 Pointed arch
- 8 Stick on a table
- 9 Contests with numbered balls

Previous Puzzle Solved



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.

SLKAF

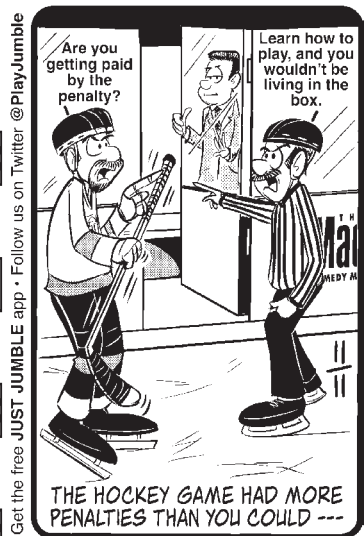
KTNEA

CTATAH

SVNTIE

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Get the free JUST JUMBLE app - Follow us on Twitter: @playjumble



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

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GAFFE ENACT GROUCH IMPAIR
Answer: When he showed his son how to solve math problems, he was — FATHER FIGURING

SUDOKU

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

HOW TO PLAY:

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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

11/11

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THE ANSWERS TO THESE PUZZLES CAN BE FOUND ON TODAY'S DAILY PLANNER PAGE.

Time has come for the Panthers to make changes to staff, starting lineup following 1-8 start

BY STEVE REED
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE — Disappointed. Frustrated. Embarrassed.

Those are the words coaches and players are using to describe the Carolina Panthers' season.

Fans are even more fed up. One fan podcast in the Carolinas is even calling for a "March on Mint" — the street where the team's headquarters are located — this Sunday demanding changes to the organization after the team fell to 1-8 following yet another lackluster performance in a 16-13 loss to the Chicago Bears on Thursday night.

It's not just about this year. The Panthers are now 30-61 since David Tepper, the NFL's second-wealthiest owner, purchased the franchise in 2018. Carolina has not been to the playoffs since 2017, and the aura surrounding the organization is a mixture of anger and apathy.

Panthers head coach Frank Reich said Monday he isn't considering any changes to his staff, but he wouldn't rule out taking back control of offensive play calling after giving it to offensive coordinator Thomas Brown three weeks ago. The Panthers have scored just two offensive touchdowns under Brown in three games.

The time has come for change. Things in Carolina can't get much worse, at least for the offense.

Despite trading up to acquire the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft in Bryce Young, Carolina entered the game 28th in the league in total offense and 27th in scoring. Instead of showing signs of im-



Carolina Panthers quarterback Bryce Young (9) throws under pressure from Chicago Bears defensive end Montez Sweat (98) on Thursday in Chicago.

provement, the Panthers are trending in the wrong direction the last two weeks with no obvious solutions in sight.

Young is 1-7 as a starter, and the Panthers have scored 17 points or less in six of his eight starts.

"We're all frustrated," said Young, summing up the team's situation. "Frustrating situation to be in. It's not who we are, who we want to be. We are what we put on tape, we are what we put on the field, and we have to be better. ... We have to be better. I have to be better first and foremost. I have to be a lot better."

It's not all on Young. He needs help. The rookie needs help from his coaches, who have failed him with unimaginative play designs that have often times

left him running for cover without any checkdown options. He needs help from the offensive line, which can't seem to protect him. He needs help from his wide receivers not named Adam Thielen, who regularly fail to create separation. And he needs help from a running game that has been all but non-existent.

But most of all he needs help from general manager Scott Fitterer, whose job could be in danger after failing to put the right pieces around the team's franchise quarterback.

WHAT'S WORKING

Carolina's defense actually played pretty well against the Bears despite being devastated by injuries and playing without outside linebacker

Brian Burns, inside linebacker Shaq Thompson and cornerbacks Jaycee Horn and C.J. Henderson. They held the Bears out of the end zone until the third quarter when ex-Panthers RB D'Onta Foreman scored on a 4-yard run. They still held the Bears to under 300 yards. But it should be noted that effort came against a team playing without starting QB Justin Fields and RB Khalil Herbert.

WHAT NEEDS HELP

The offensive line continues to struggle, allowing three more sacks by the Bears, which Reich called "too many." Carolina QBs have now been sacked 32 times this season, tied for third-most allowed in the league. This was an offensive line that excelled

at run blocking last season, but is proving to be less adept at pass protection.

STOCK UP

Punt returner Ihmir Smith-Marsette provided the only highlight against the Bears when he returned a punt 79 yards for a touchdown. It was his first career punt return for a touchdown.

STOCK (WAY) DOWN

Miles Sanders signed the biggest contract of any running back on the free agent market this past summer when he got a four-year, \$25.4 million deal. The Panthers are getting absolutely no return on their investment. Sanders is a complete non-factor in the offense and had two carries for minus-5 yards against the Bears.

INJURIES

The Panthers came out of the game without any new injuries. They are hoping to get Burns and Henderson back from concussions in time for their next game against Dallas. It's possible that Horn, who has been out with a hamstring injury since Week 1, might finally return.

KEY NUMBERS

43 — Yards rushing by the Panthers against the Bears.

NEXT STEPS

The Panthers have a few extra days to prepare for their Nov. 19 game against Dallas. On paper that will be a home game for Carolina. But given the apathy and complete disgust engulfing the fanbase, expect Carolina's PSL owners to begin selling their tickets to Cowboys fans. By game time, this could be a 80-20 crowd in favor of the Cowboys at Bank of America Stadium.

Cardinals QB Murray faces Falcons in return

BY DAVID BRANDT
Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — If there was any doubt as to how much Kyler Murray means to the Arizona Cardinals, the past 14 games have eliminated it.

The two-time Pro Bowl selection is expected to return to game action for the first time in roughly 11 months when the Cardinals host the Atlanta Falcons on Sunday. Murray tore the ACL in his right knee on Dec. 12 last season against the New England Patriots.

Counting the game in which Murray was hurt, the Cardinals went 1-13 in his absence.

"In this league, it's very hard to win," Cardinals safety Budda Baker said. "And it's definitely very hard to win without special players on the field, offense and defense. To finally, potentially, have K1 and James Conner back, that's a huge part of our offense and a huge part of our team."

Conner, the team's leading rusher, was activated from injured reserve earlier this week.

The Cardinals (1-8) hit rock bottom last week, losing to the Cleveland Browns 27-0 for their sixth straight setback, gaining just 58 total yards in the process. Rookie Clayton Tune had to start at quarterback after Joshua Dobbs was dealt to the Minnesota Vikings at the trade deadline.

Gannon said that even if Murray returns Sunday, the Cardinals have to perform much better.

"We've got to play clean football in all three phases," first-year coach Jonathan Gannon said. "We've got to do our job on defense and special teams. It doesn't matter who is playing quarterback."

The Falcons (4-5) have lost five of their past seven games, including two winnable games over the past two weeks.

"We're not going to sugarcoat it," Atlanta coach Arthur Smith said. "You can be frustrated. You can be mad. You're going to feel all the emotions by it, but we have to go do something about it. As bad as it feels — nobody's celebrating being 4-5 — but the reality is when you have pressure, after we get these corrections and assess everything, we do still control our own destiny. We have half a season."

SUPPORT FOR RIDDER

Veteran Taylor Heinicke has continued to support second-year quarter-



Atlanta running back Bijan Robinson (7) and the Falcons travel to Arizona to face the Cardinals on Sunday.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

back Desmond Ridder since taking over as the starter.

"Me and Des have talked privately," Heinicke said Wednesday. "I've told him everything he's been doing since he was starting, running the meetings, keep doing. Everything. I think that's going to help him in the long run."

Heinicke said Ridder "has been great, the same Des. It speaks to his character."

One week ago, Heinicke received a late-night text from coach Arthur Smith that he saw Wednesday morning that informed him he would start against the Vikings. This week, Smith told the quarterbacks Monday morning that Heinicke would start against Arizona.

"It's nice to know Monday instead of Wednesday," Heinicke said.

CONNER'S CLOSER

Conner (knee) is back at practice after being activated from injured reserve Wednesday. The veteran was one of the most productive runners in the league before he got hurt against the Cincinnati Bengals on Oct. 9.

It's unclear if Conner will be ready for Sunday's game against the Falcons. The 28-year-old is known his intense practice demeanor, which should give the Cardinals an idea if he's ready.

"That's why he is who he is," Gannon said. "That's why he's a very productive and really good player because of the way he practices and prepares. That trickles down to the team

and that's one of the reasons he's a captain, because of his habits on a daily basis.

"He displays winning behavior day-in-and-day-out. We'll be smart about how we do things with him, but we'll see how he responds."

BIJAN LEFT OUT OF RED ZONE PLAN

The Falcons have scored touchdowns on 14 of 28 red zone possessions. Rookie running back Bijan Robinson, the team's leading rusher, watched from the sideline as Atlanta's offense was kept out of the end zone when taking over at the Minnesota 1 in the second quarter last week. Robinson wasn't used when one of the Falcons' plays was a jet sweep run by tight end Jonnu Smith.

For the season, Robinson has only two carries for 3 yards inside the opponents' 10 as Tyler Allgeier has been the preferred option near the goal line.

Smith said Allgeier "to me, is one of the better short-yardage goal-line backs in the league," but added "at the end of the day, we have to find a way" to score touchdowns in those situations.

IRON MAN STREAK

Falcons LT Jake Matthews will tie a team record for longevity by making his 154th consecutive start Sunday. Matthews, who began his streak in 2014, will tie the team record set by quarterback Matt Ryan from 2009-19. Matthews has the longest active streak in the NFL.

Bears' Eberflus mum on Fields' return timeline

BY ANDREW SELIGMAN
Associated Press

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — Chicago Bears quarterback Justin Fields missed his fourth consecutive game because of a dislocated right thumb.

As for whether he'll be ready to return next week, coach Matt Eberflus wouldn't say.

The Bears (3-7) have a little extra time before their next game after posting a 16-13 win over the Carolina Panthers on Thursday night. Whether their No. 1 quarterback will be ready to go when they visit Detroit wasn't quite clear.

"All the guys that are going through the injury deal right now are going to be working with our guys to get back," Eberflus said Friday. "He's no different than anyone else. No other update than that."

Fields hasn't played since he exited a Week 6 loss to Minnesota. He returned to practice on a limited basis last week and hasn't been through a full one since then.

Fields had two of his best performances as a passer in the two games prior to his injury, throwing for a career-high 335 yards in a loss to Denver and 282 in a win at Washington. But his future remains murky.

The Bears have to decide whether to pick up their fifth-year option for 2025. Drafting a quarterback is also a possibility, particularly if they wind up with the No. 1 pick.

Those odds got a boost with the win over Carolina (1-8). That's because Panthers sent their 2024 first-round along with DJ Moore to Chicago for the No. 1 pick this year. Carolina is tied with Arizona at least until Sunday for the worst record in the league. The Cardinals play Atlanta.

The Bears matched their win total from last season when they finished with a league-worst 3-14 record and set a franchise mark for losses.

Designated hitter hasn't always lived up to its title after 2 full MLB seasons in both leagues

BY DAVID BRANDT
Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — The universal designated hitter has been part of Major League Baseball for two full seasons and, much to the chagrin of some National League traditionalists, the sport has survived and even thrived.

In a somewhat surprising development, though, many teams are struggling to get much production from that spot.

The next generation of big-bopping DHs like David Ortiz, Edgar Martinez and Frank Thomas hasn't materialized, with just three players logging at least 110 games at designated hitter during the 2023 season. That trio includes Angels two-way star Shohei Ohtani, Braves slugger Marcell Ozuna and the Nationals' Joey Meneses.

The general consensus at this week's general managers' meetings in Scottsdale, Arizona, is that filling the position — and getting production from it — is harder than it looks.

The American League has had the DH since 1973, while the National League made the full-time switch in 2022. The NL also used the DH in 2020 during the COVID-19 shortened season.

"Most hitters that you encounter don't like to DH," Mariners general manager Jerry Dipoto said. "It's an acquired taste. Most would prefer to play a position and not just wait to hit every two or three innings. And I get why — you want to stay active, you want to move around, feel like you're part of the game."

Instead of having one dedicated DH for the majority of the season, most



Atlanta's Marcell Ozuna was one of three players to spend at least 110 games as a designated hitter this season.

MLB teams seem content to have several, cycling players through who might need rest or are nursing an injury.

A whopping 13 of MLB's 30 teams received production at DH that was below replacement level. The DH is unique for the widely used WAR (wins above replacement) formula because it starts with a deficit for a player providing no value in the field.

The NL champion Arizona Diamondbacks were one of the teams that struggled at DH, with a minus-1.4 WAR total, according to FanGraphs. The spot produced just a .676 OPS during the 162-game regular season, which was well below the team's over-

all mark of .730.

D-backs GM Mike Hazen agreed he'd like to see more production at DH, but said there are other ways to use the rule that WAR can't completely quantify.

"If you're rotating your fourth outfielder through the DH spot, or one of your primary center fielders through the DH spot to give them a day off, that's what we're using it for now," Hazen said.

"We'll probably still keep doing that because there's value in keeping guys fresh and healthy."

San Francisco Giants president of baseball operations Farhan Zaidi said he would love to have an Ortiz-type

player in the DH slot, but it's hard to find that sort of hitter. Ortiz is considered the gold standard, making the Hall of Fame in 2022 after clubbing 541 homers, including 485 as a DH.

The Giants used 10 designated hitters in 2023.

"I think when you get elite, elite hitters that don't have a home defensively, you're willing to pay the price of not having that spot to rotate guys through," Zaidi said. "But that's a relatively small group of players."

Zaidi's point about roster construction is also important, because teams usually carry just 13 or 14 position players. That doesn't leave much room for a player who's not useful in the field.

"I know for us in development, no matter how good a player is offensively, you're always going to look for a home for them defensively," Zaidi said. "We don't want a player anchored to that spot, certainly early in their career."

There are a few hitters in this year's free-agent class who could be candidates for a full-time DH role. Rhys Hoskins has a homer-hitting track record and is returning from ACL surgery. J.D. Martinez, Jorge Soler and Teoscar Hernández are other examples of power bats with middling defensive value who are looking for a home.

The Milwaukee Brewers are among the teams that could use an upgrade at DH. They were the worst team in baseball with a minus-1.6 WAR at that spot.

"I'm not sure there are a lot of David Ortizes out there," Brewers GM Matt Arnold said. "But we're certainly looking for the next one."

Milwaukee grapples with reality of Counsell leaving for Cubs

BY STEVE MEGARGEE
Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — The first sign of discontent regarding Craig Counsell's decision to leave the Milwaukee Brewers to manage the Chicago Cubs appeared in his hometown at the Little League field that bears his name.

The word "ass" was spray-painted across Counsell's name on the sign outside the ballpark at Whitefish Bay, the Milwaukee suburb where Counsell grew up and still lives. The sign was covered up Tuesday morning, one day after the Cubs landed Counsell with a five-year deal worth over \$40 million.

The Brewers now must try to keep winning in Major League Baseball's smallest market without the manager who led them to their greatest run of sustained success.

"We have a really good thing," Brewers principal owner Mark Attanasio said Monday. "I give Craig credit for helping to build that, and for adding all these coaches, all of whom have stayed. So we're going to look for

a manager who can continue having a terrific clubhouse culture and that can help us keep winning and hopefully get over the hump in the playoffs."

Counsell had been synonymous with Milwaukee baseball as the NL's longest-tenured manager.

His father, John Counsell, was the Brewers' former director of community affairs. Counsell had two stints with the Brewers in a 16-year playing career and became their winningest manager. He took over the Brewers in 2014 and led them to five playoff appearances over the last six seasons.

Counsell told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on Tuesday the opportunity for a new professional challenge and the proximity of Chicago made this opportunity appealing.

"I think as I was going through this process, it became clear that I needed and wanted a new professional challenge," Counsell said. "At the same time, look, I'm grateful to be part of this community. And that's going to continue, hopefully, because it has nothing to do with baseball, that part

of it. I'm looking forward to being part of a new community and hopefully impact our community well, too. But as I went through it, it just became clear that I needed a new challenge."

The fact he went just 90 miles south to the Brewers' biggest rival made his exit doubly painful for fans.

"You know in the first 'Raiders of the Lost Ark' movie where they're digging to find the ark of the covenant and they open this big tomb thing and they look down and Indiana Jones says, 'Snakes? Why did it have to be snakes?' " said Kay Kenealy of Waukesha, Wisconsin, a Brewers partial season ticket holder since 2006. "My initial reaction was, 'Oh my God, the Cubs? Why did it have to be the Cubs?'"

Laura Hemming, a partial season ticket holder since the mid-1990s, said the news "felt like kind of a gut punch."

Counsell's exit represents the latest setback for Wisconsin sports fans the same year that the Green Bay Packers traded four-time MVP quarterback

Aaron Rodgers to the New York Jets, though this move to a division foe was more similar to Packers Hall of Fame quarterback Brett Favre finishing his career with the Minnesota Vikings.

At least in that instance, Favre spent a season with the New York Jets before heading to Minnesota rather than going directly from the Packers to a division rival. Gabe Neitzel, a sports talk show host for 94.5 ESPN FM in Milwaukee, said the Favre comparisons have been coming up on his station.

"Especially with what Brett meant to the Packers, I think the overwhelming majority of people would still lean toward Brett eventually ending up with the Vikings as the biggest betrayal in Wisconsin sports," Neitzel said.

Attanasio said the Brewers offered Counsell a deal that would have made him the highest-paid manager in baseball "both per season and the total package." Attanasio didn't specify terms, but Cleveland's Terry Francona was believed to be the highest-paid manager in MLB this past season with a salary of \$4.5 million.

OBITUARIES

HATTIE MAE GREGG MCCOY

Hattie Mae Gregg McCoy, 89, widow of Oliver McCoy, was born on Dec. 7, 1933, in Sumter, a daughter of the late Hampton and Martha McBride Gregg. She departed this life on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023, at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital in Sumter.

Mrs. McCoy's body will be placed in the church at 11 a.m. for viewing until the hour of services.

Funeral services will be held at noon on Sunday at Bera Seventh-day Adventist Church, 675 S. Lafayette Drive, Sumter, SC 29150 with Pastor Max Gomez officiating.

Interment will follow at Evergreen Memorial Park, Sumter, SC 29150.

The family will receive at the home, 1001 Plowden Mill Road, Sumter, SC 29153.

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

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

EVELYN SANDERS MCLEOD

Evelyn Sanders McLeod, 95,

daughter of the late Edward Sanders and Helen Young-Sanders, was called to eternal rest on the evening of Monday, Nov. 6, 2023, at her home in Rembert, surrounded by family and friends.

She was born on Sept. 26, 1928, in Sumter. Evelyn's faith journey took her from Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church to Mt. Sinai Holiness Temple and then on to New Beginning Outreach Ministry, where she was a faithful member until her passing. In her younger years, Evelyn would even walk to church just to be in the presence of the Lord. Evelyn enjoyed her early morning cup of coffee, cleaning, flowers, gardening, cooking for her family, and good old time gospel music.

She leaves to cherish her memories: two sons, Melvin McLeod (Lisa) and John McLeod (Janet) of Rembert; three daughters, Jessie Hunter, Lula Mae McLeod and Delores Mickens, all of Rembert; a very special granddaughter, Jacinta Alston (Delvin) of Sumter; a very special great-grandson, Jaden Alston of Sumter, who was reared in the home; 17 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives, cousins, nephews, nieces and friends.

In addition to her father and mother, she was preceded

in death by her spouse, Davis McLeod; all seven of her siblings; her son, Francis McLeod; and two daughters, Genell Wheatley and Susan Voss.

Evelyn Sanders McLeod loved and feared the Lord and was the matriarch of her family. She helped rear many of her grandchildren and her presence and sweet spirit will truly be missed by all who knew her.

In accordance with the COVID-19 guideline precautions, the family is requesting face masks and social distancing be observed by relatives and friends during visitation at the home.

The homegoing celebration service will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday at New Beginning Outreach Ministry, 4660 Thomas Sumter Highway, Dalzell. Pastor Edward Sanders is presiding and Pastor Rickey T. Mickens will be the eulogist for the homegoing celebration.

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

RUTH CAIN NELSON

MANNING — Ruth Cain Nelson, 97, widow of Wallace

Nelson, died on Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023, at her residence, 9778 Raccoon Road, Manning.

She was born on May 25, 1926, in the Jordan section of Manning, a daughter of the late Peter Sr. and Estelle Brown Cain.

Beginning Monday, the family will receive friends from 4 to 7 p.m. at her residence.

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

EDWARD WILLIS JR.

Edward Willis Jr., 72, passed away on Friday, Nov. 10, 2023, at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital.

Born on Jan. 21, 1951, in Sumter, he was a son of the late Edward Sr. and Catherine Willis.

The family is requesting face masks and social distancing be observed during visitation at the home, 1968 Forest Drive.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Williams Funeral Home Inc.

DERRICK ANTHONY ADGER

Derrick Anthony Adger, 46, was born on Nov. 26, 1976, in Sumter, a son of Roxena Dukes Adger McFadden and the late Leonard Adger.

He departed this life on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023, at Prisma Health Tuomey Hos-

pital in Sumter.

Public viewing will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. on Sunday at Job's Mortuary.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Monday at Gum Springs Baptist Church, 6973 Summerton Highway, Pinewood, SC 29125 with the Rev. Gerald Richardson officiating and Pastor Ranzy McFadden, eulogist. Interment will follow in Gum Springs Baptist Church Cemetery, Pinewood, SC 29125.

The family will receive friends from 2 to 8 p.m. daily at his mother's home, 2074 McCrays Mill Road, Sumter, SC 29154.

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

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

MILDRED WATSON BOWMAN

Mildred Watson Bowman, 98, widow of Leroy Bowman, departed this life on Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023, in Sumter. She was born on April 18, 1925, in Horry County, a daughter of the late Everett Watson and Rosetta Floyd Watson.

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

the Sumter ITEM CLASSIFIEDS

To Place Your Classified Ads, Please call

803-774-1200

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

11:30 a.m. the day before for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday edition. 11:30 a.m. Friday for the Weekend edition.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

Summons & Notice

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2023CP4303694 COUNTY OF SUMTER Road/Route U. S. Route 521 Shoulder Improvement Project ID No. P037062 Tract 42

South Carolina Department of Transportation Condemnor, VS.

Barbara Jean Alston, Elouise Davis, Clara A. Dennis a/k/a Clara Dennis f/k/a Clara Alston, deceased, Joseph Alston, deceased, Landowner(s), and

Charles Dennis, Kenbonte Dennis, Kimberly Wells, and Dominique Dennis, as their interest may appear, South Carolina Department of Revenue, State Tax Lien, Other Condemnee(s), and

John Doe and Mary Roe, representing all unknown persons having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in or to, or lien on the lands described herein, including all unknown heirs of Clara A. Dennis a/k/a Clara Dennis f/k/a Clara Alston and Joseph Alton, deceased, Unknown Claimant(s).

TO: THE LANDOWNER(S), OTHER CONDEMNEE(S) AND UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED, advised and notified, that pursuant to the South Carolina Eminent Domain Procedures Act, Section 28-2-10, et seq., the within Condemnation Notice and Tender of Payment, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, has been filed with the Clerk of Court for Sumter County. The purpose of this lawsuit is to enable the Condemnor, the South Carolina Department of Transportation, to acquire certain real property for its public purposes, as is more fully stated in the attached Condemnation Notice and Tender of Payment. Responsive pleadings to the Condemnation Notice and Tender of Payment are not necessary.

CONDEMNATION NOTICE AND TENDER OF PAYMENT (JURY TRIAL DEMANDED)

TO: THE LANDOWNER(S) AND OTHER CONDEMNEE(S) AND UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS ABOVE NAMED:

Pursuant to the South Carolina Eminent Domain Procedure Act, Section 28-2-10, et seq., Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, you are hereby notified as follows: 1. The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is the Condemnor herein and seeks to acquire the real property described herein for public purposes.

15. AN ACTION CHALLENGING THE CONDEMNOR'S RIGHT TO ACQUIRE THE PROPERTY AND RIGHTS DESCRIBED HEREIN MUST BE SEPARATE PROCEEDING IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF THIS CONDEMNATION NOTICE, OR THE LANDOWNER(S) WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE WAIVED THE CHALLENGE.

16. THE CONDEMNOR HAS ELECTED NOT TO UTILIZE THE APPRAISAL PANEL PROCEDURE. Therefore, if the tender herein is rejected, the Condemnor shall notify the Clerk of Court and shall demand a trial to determine the amount of just compensation to be paid. A copy of that notice must be served on the Landowner(s). That notice shall state whether the Condemnor demands a trial by jury or by the Court without a jury. The Landowner(s) has the right to demand a trial by jury. The case may not be called for trial before sixty (60) days after the service of that notice, but it may thereafter be given priority for trial over other civil cases. The Clerk of Court shall give the Landowner(s) written notice by mail of the call of the case for trial.

17. THEREFORE, IF THE TENDER HEREIN IS REJECTED, THE LANDOWNER(S) IS ADVISED TO OBTAIN LEGAL COUNSEL AT ONCE, IF NOT ALREADY OBTAINED.

18. In the event the Landowner(s) accepts the amount tendered in this Notice, the attached Agreement and Request for Payment form should be signed and returned to the Condemnor within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this Notice.

J. Calhoun Land, IV BY: Attorney for Condemnor (SCDOT) Land Parker Welch, LLC P. O. Box 138 Manning, SC 29102 Telephone: (803) 435-8894

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2023-CP-43-00939 SUMMONS AND NOTICES (Non-Jury) FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Plaintiff, v. Gayle Geddings Brunson, Defendant(s).

TO THE DEFENDANT(S) ABOVE NAMED: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend by answering the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is hereby served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer on the subscribers at their offices at 3800 Fernandina Road, Suite 110, Columbia, SC 29210, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; except that the

United States of America, if named, shall have sixty (60) days to answer after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

TO MINORS) OVER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE, AND/OR TO MINORS) UNDER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND THE PERSON WITH WHOM THE MINOR(S) RESIDES, AND/OR TO PERSONS UNDER SOME LEGAL DISABILITY: YOU ARE FURTHER SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to apply for the appointment of a guardian ad litem within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by Attorney for Plaintiff.

YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff will move for an Order of Reference or the Court may issue a general Order of Reference of this action to a Master-in-Equity/Special Referee, pursuant to Rule 53 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure.

YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE that under the provisions of S.C. Code Ann. § 29-3-100, effective June 16, 1993, any collateral assignment of rents contained in the referenced Mortgage is perfected and Attorney for Plaintiff hereby gives notice that all rents shall be payable directly to it by delivery to its undersigned attorneys from the date of default. In the alternative, Plaintiff will move before a judge of this Circuit on the 10th day after service hereof, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, for an Order enforcing the assignment of rents, if any, and compelling payment of all rents covered by such assignment directly to the Plaintiff, which motion is to be based upon the original Note and Mortgage herein and the Complaint attached hereto.

NOTICE OF FILING COMPLAINT TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED: YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the original Complaint, Cover Sheet for Civil Actions and Certificate of Exemption from ADR in the above entitled action was filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County on June 15, 2023.

Brock & Scott, PLLC 3800 Fernandina Road, Suite 110 Columbia, SC 29210 Phone (803) 454-3540 Fax (803) 454-3541 Attorneys for Plaintiff

Public Hearing NOTICE OF COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

The Sumter County Council will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Sumter Zoning Ordinance and Map on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Third Floor Council Chambers of the Administration Building (13 East Canal St., Sumter, South Carolina). The following requests are scheduled for consideration:

RZ-23-23, Race Track Rd. (County) A request to rezone 1 parcel of land totaling +/- 78.60-acres from Agricultural Conservation (AC) to Heavy Industrial (HI). The property is located at Race Track Rd. and is represented by Tax Map # 264-00-01-044.

OA-23-01, Solar Projects (County) Request to amend the Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance, specifically, Article 3, Exhibit 5, to add Primary Solar Electric Power Generation (Photovoltaic Solar Energy System) with NAICS 221114, as a Special Exception in the Light Industrial (LI-W), Heavy Industrial (HI), Agricultural Conservation (AC), and Conservation Preservation (CP) zoning districts; add Accessory Solar Electric Power Generation (Photovoltaic Solar Energy Systems) NAICS 221114 as a conditional use in LI-W, HI, AC, and CP zoning districts; amend Article 5.b.1.m to establish conditional use review criteria for accessory photovoltaic energy systems (NAICS 221114), amend Article 5.b.2 to add Primary Photovoltaic Solar Energy Systems (NAICS 221114) to the listing of certain hazardous and/or potentially disruptive land development activities; amend Article 5.b.3 to add specific special exception use review criteria for Primary Photovoltaic Solar Energy Systems (NAICS 221114); and amend Article 10.b.1 to revise the definition of a primary photovoltaic solar energy system.

Documents pertaining to the proposed request(s) are on file in the Office of the Sumter City-County Planning Department and are available to be inspected and studied by interested citizens.

Summons & Notice

United States of America, if named, shall have sixty (60) days to answer after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

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SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL James T. McCain, Jr., Chairman Mary Blanding, Clerk

J. Calhoun Land, IV BY: Attorney for Condemnor (SCDOT) Land Parker Welch, LLC P. O. Box 138 Manning, SC 29102 Telephone: (803) 435-8894

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2023-CP-43-00939 SUMMONS AND NOTICES (Non-Jury) FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE

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United States of America, if named, shall have sixty (60) days to answer after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

TO MINORS) OVER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE, AND/OR TO MINORS) UNDER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND THE PERSON WITH WHOM THE MINOR(S) RESIDES, AND/OR TO PERSONS UNDER SOME LEGAL DISABILITY: YOU ARE FURTHER SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to apply for the appointment of a guardian ad litem within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by Attorney for Plaintiff.

YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff will move for an Order of Reference or the Court may issue a general Order of Reference of this action to a Master-in-Equity/Special Referee, pursuant to Rule 53 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure.

YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE that under the provisions of S.C. Code Ann. § 29-3-100, effective June 16, 1993, any collateral assignment of rents contained in the referenced Mortgage is perfected and Attorney for Plaintiff hereby gives notice that all rents shall be payable directly to it by delivery to its undersigned attorneys from the date of default. In the alternative, Plaintiff will move before a judge of this Circuit on the 10th day after service hereof, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, for an Order enforcing the assignment of rents, if any, and compelling payment of all rents covered by such assignment directly to the Plaintiff, which motion is to be based upon the original Note and Mortgage herein and the Complaint attached hereto.

NOTICE OF FILING COMPLAINT TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED: YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the original Complaint, Cover Sheet for Civil Actions and Certificate of Exemption from ADR in the above entitled action was filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County on June 15, 2023.

Brock & Scott, PLLC 3800 Fernandina Road, Suite 110 Columbia, SC 29210 Phone (803) 454-3540 Fax (803) 454-3541 Attorneys for Plaintiff

Public Hearing NOTICE OF COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

The Sumter County Council will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Sumter Zoning Ordinance and Map on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Third Floor Council Chambers of the Administration Building (13 East Canal St., Sumter, South Carolina). The following requests are scheduled for consideration:

RZ-23-23, Race Track Rd. (County) A request to rezone 1 parcel of land totaling +/- 78.60-acres from Agricultural Conservation (AC) to Heavy Industrial (HI). The property is located at Race Track Rd. and is represented by Tax Map # 264-00-01-044.

OA-23-01, Solar Projects (County) Request to amend the Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance, specifically, Article 3, Exhibit 5, to add Primary Solar Electric Power Generation (Photovoltaic Solar Energy System) with NAICS 221114, as a Special Exception in the Light Industrial (LI-W), Heavy Industrial (HI), Agricultural Conservation (AC), and Conservation Preservation (CP) zoning districts; add Accessory Solar Electric Power Generation (Photovoltaic Solar Energy Systems) NAICS 221114 as a conditional use in LI-W, HI, AC, and CP zoning districts; amend Article 5.b.1.m to establish conditional use review criteria for accessory photovoltaic energy systems (NAICS 221114), amend Article 5.b.2 to add Primary Photovoltaic Solar Energy Systems (NAICS 221114) to the listing of certain hazardous and/or potentially disruptive land development activities; amend Article 5.b.3 to add specific special exception use review criteria for Primary Photovoltaic Solar Energy Systems (NAICS 221114); and amend Article 10.b.1 to revise the definition of a primary photovoltaic solar energy system.

Documents pertaining to the proposed request(s) are on file in the Office of the Sumter City-County Planning Department and are available to be inspected and studied by interested citizens.

SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL James T. McCain, Jr., Chairman Mary Blanding, Clerk

J. Calhoun Land, IV BY: Attorney for Condemnor (SCDOT) Land Parker Welch, LLC P. O. Box 138 Manning, SC 29102 Telephone: (803) 435-8894

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2023-CP-43-00939 SUMMONS AND NOTICES (Non-Jury) FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Plaintiff, v. Gayle Geddings Brunson, Defendant(s).

TO THE DEFENDANT(S) ABOVE NAMED: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend by answering the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is hereby served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer on the subscribers at their offices at 3800 Fernandina Road, Suite 110, Columbia, SC 29210, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; except that the

In Memory



Phillip Rembert Jr. 10/16/42- 11/13/22

It's been a year since you left us. We miss you each and every day. You're gone from our eyes, but never our hearts. Thank you all for praying for us.

God's blessings, Your Wife, Children, & Grands



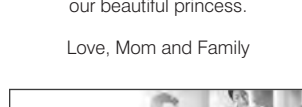
In Loving Memory of Monique 'Lisa' Jackson Feb. 28, 1985 - Nov. 11, 2004

Time will never heal these wounds. It feels like yesterday we lost you. We love and miss you. Sleep in peace, our beautiful princess.

Love, Mom and Family

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MERCHANDISE

Auctions

Sumter County School District Vehicles, Food Service Equip., Wood Working Equip., Lawn Care Equip., & More Saturday, Nov. 18 @ 9:01 AM

Online auction for Dalzell Storage located at 2935 Stamey Livestock Rd Dalzell, SC 29040 to be held on 11/20/23 @ 9AM on www.storageauctions.com

Unit #: B11 Customer Name: Yoleaatta Joe General Description: Plastic storage bins, lamp, vacuum, cookware, oxygen tanks, microwave, totes, washer, dryer, pots, pans, boxes, walkers, pictures, misc. items.

Unit #: B25 Customer Name: Katherine Marie Benton General Description: Elephant decor, storage containers, pictures, furniture, misc. items.

Auctions

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

To satisfy the owner's storage lien, PS Retail Sales, LLC will sell at public lien sale on November 22, 2023, the personal property in the below-listed units, which may include but are not limited to: household and personal items, office and other equipment. The public sale of these items will begin at 09:30 AM and continue until all units are sold.

PUBLIC STORAGE # 25924, 1143 N Guignard Dr, Sumter, SC 29150, (803) 282-9623 Time: 10:30 AM Sale to be held at www.storageauctions.com.

209 - Boyd, Montine; 239 - Lacey, Sonya; 324 - Graham, Rabia; 451 - Cutter, Montana; 461 - McMellion, Teade; 472 - Cassidy, Meagan; 533 - Mcfadden, Charlene; 546 - Frierson, Amanda; 641 - Holland, Alphene; 720 - Jones, David Jermaine

PUBLIC STORAGE # 08604, 1277 Camden Hwy, Sumter, SC 29153, (803) 218-9507 Time: 11:00 AM Sale to be held at www.storageauctions.com.

A044 - Singleton, Latoya; B013 - Bruno, Jesse; B039 - scott, Brandon; B097 - Farmer, Samuel; C008 - Cabbagstalk, Katrina; C015 - Wilson, Mary; C051 - Smith, Lionel; D017 - Chatman, Christie; D023 - Ellerbe, Robert; E030 - Franklin, Emaral; E038 - Green, Linda; E063 - Ludd, Latoya; F015 - Rhodes, Andrika; F018 - Avins, Stacy; F052 - Mack, Rosa; G003 - Hinnant, Joycelyn; G016 - Galloway, Taliyah; G036 - Rogers, David; K014 - smith, Randolph

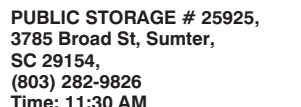
PUBLIC STORAGE # 25925, 3785 Broad St, Sumter, SC 29154, (803) 282-9826 Time: 11:30 AM Sale to be held at www.storageauctions.com.

0109 - Jefferson, Zykeria; 0122 - Bowie, Maryjo; 0128 - Skipper, Kimberly; 0154 - Dennis, Lee Cole; 0209 - Muldrow, Shamara; 0302 - Oliver, Carrie; 0428 - Lucky, Jakayah; 0512 - Davis, Veronica; 0618 - Taylor, Aaron; 0736 - Mcknight, Larrie

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

Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

Nov. 11, 9-1, 2311 Orvis St. Misc items, clothes, furniture, George Foreman grills, etc.



RENTALS

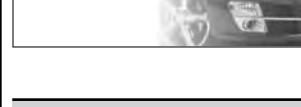
Unfurnished Homes

1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex for rent in Sumter historic district. Cul-de-sac, no thru traffic. \$650 per mo. plus 1 mo. security deposit. 803-236-3476, call after 3pm.

Office Rentals

Downtown upstairs office space available. 20 E. Liberty St, in Hub Zone. \$300-\$450 includes utilities. Call 803-983-3135 for appointment.

TRANSPORTATION

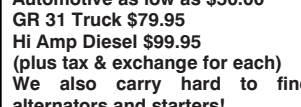


Miscellaneous

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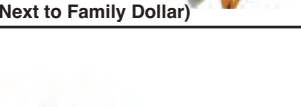
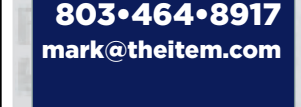
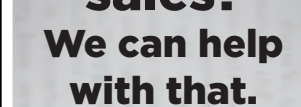
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Tax Map Number 087-00-03-059

7. The SCDOT is vested with the power of eminent domain pursuant to Section 57-5-320 and Section 28-2-60, Code of

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Ads Happy Anniversary, My Love! Robert, it would've been 28 yrs today. I still have so much love in my heart for you & I miss, miss, miss you! Love, Annie Mae Temoney Brailsford

WELCOMING Autumn



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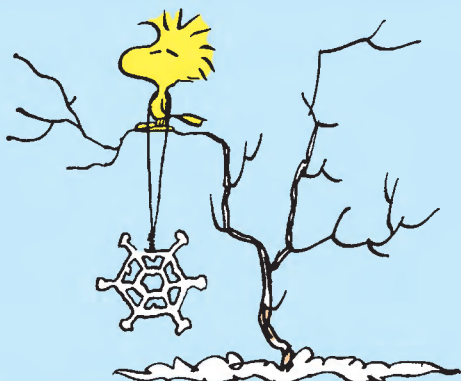
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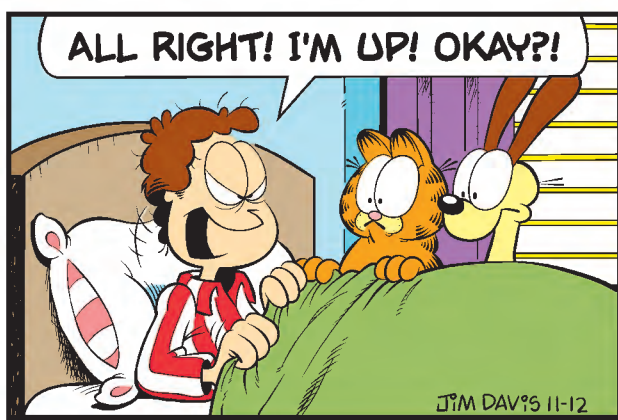
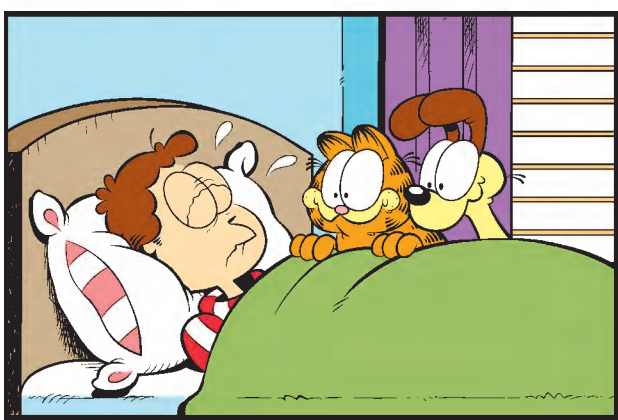
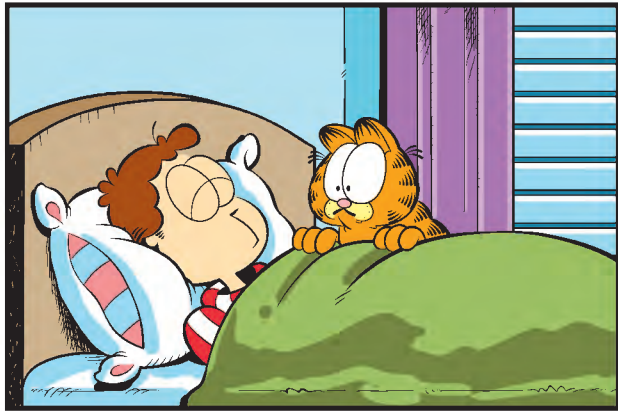


PEANUTS
featuring
"Good ol' Charlie Brown"
by SCHULZ



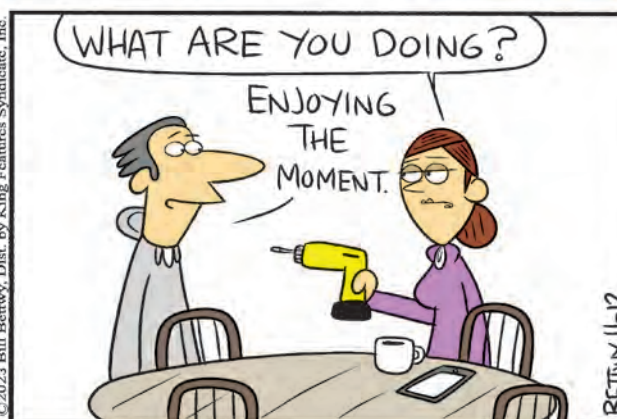
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



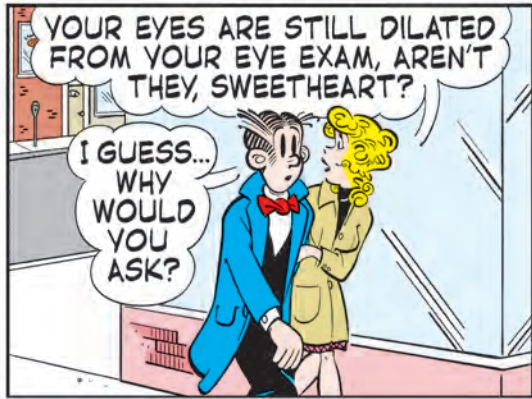
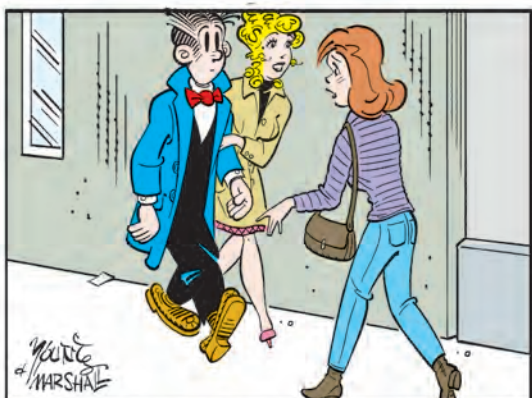
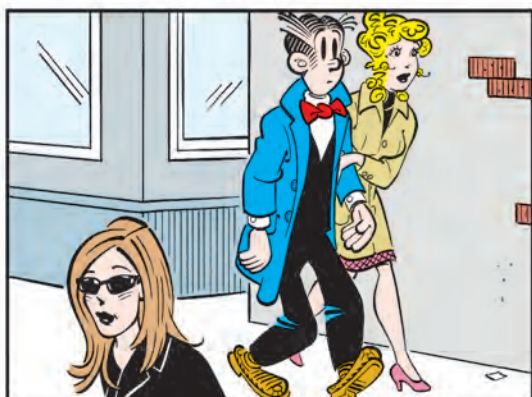
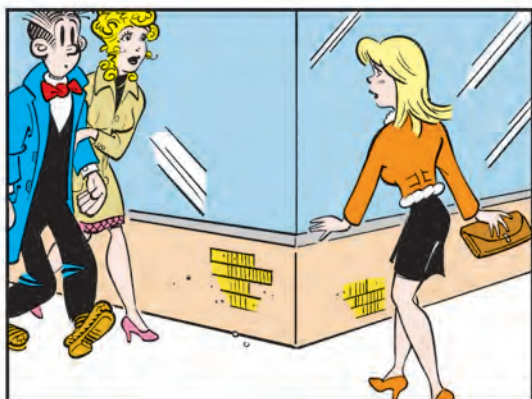
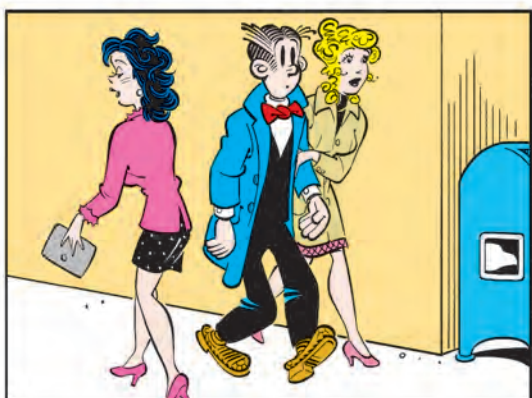
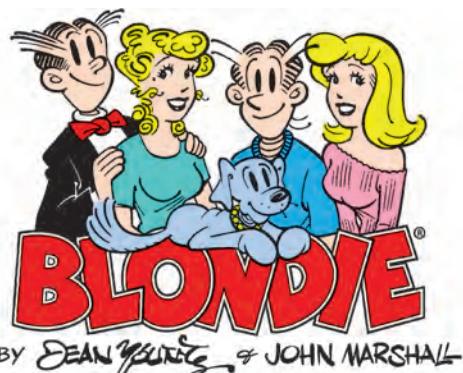
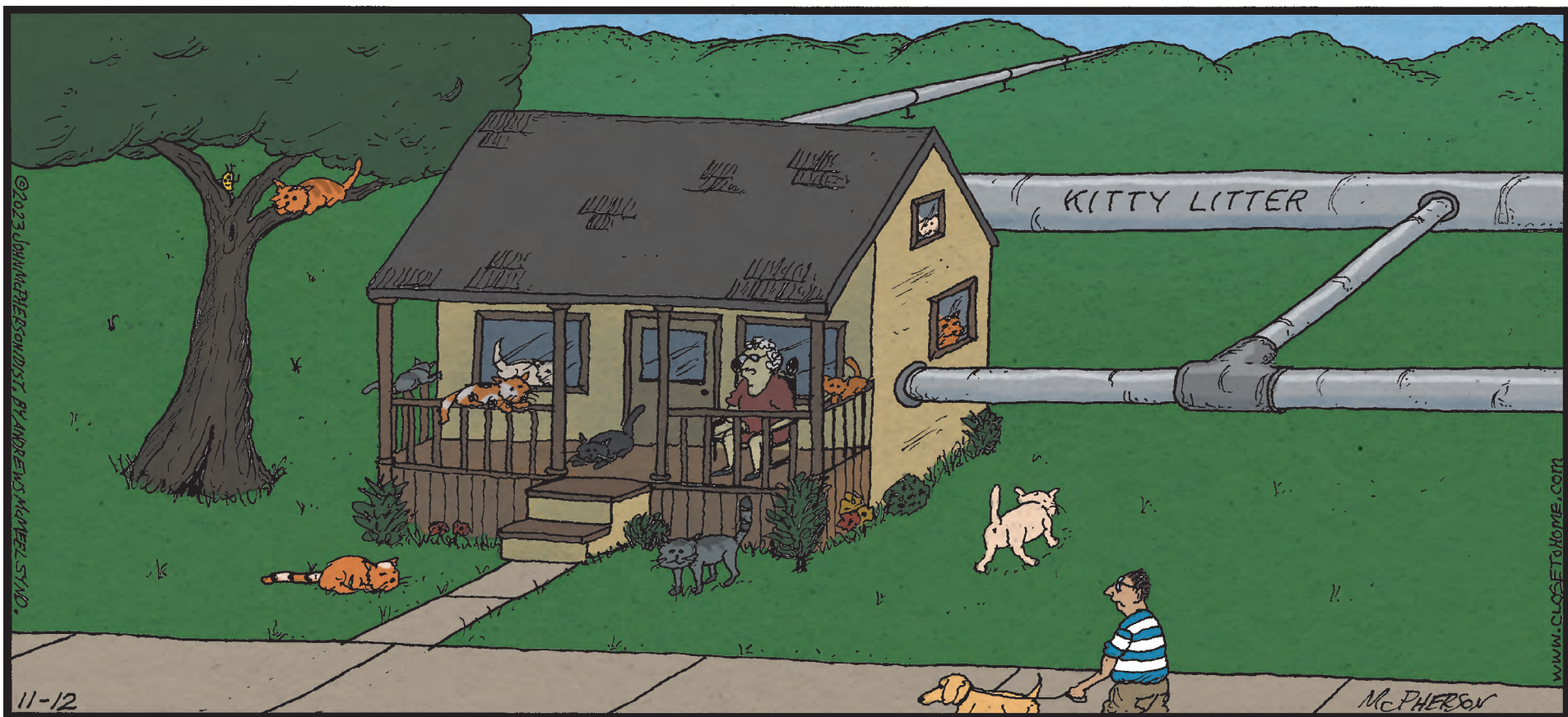
TAKE IT FROM THE TINKERSONS

BY BILL BETTWY



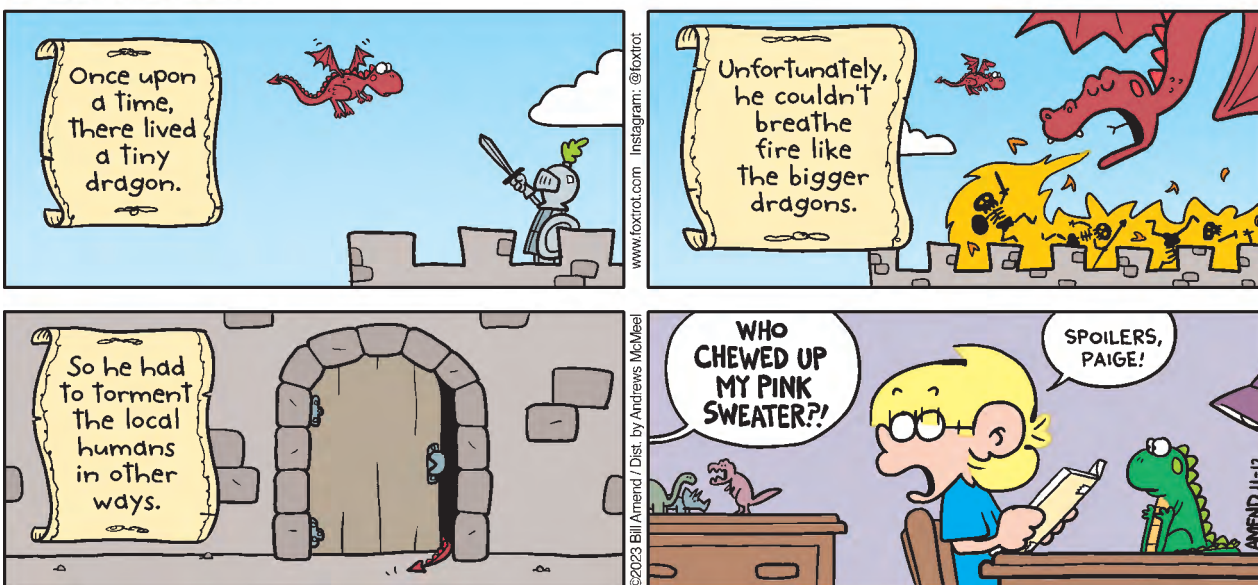
CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON



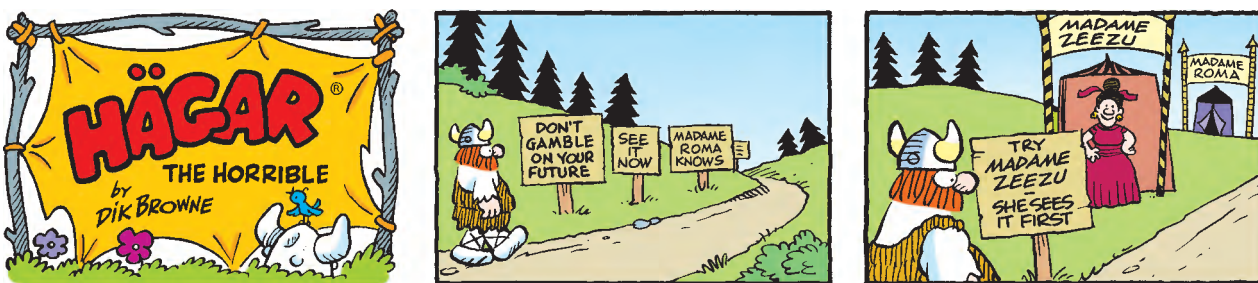
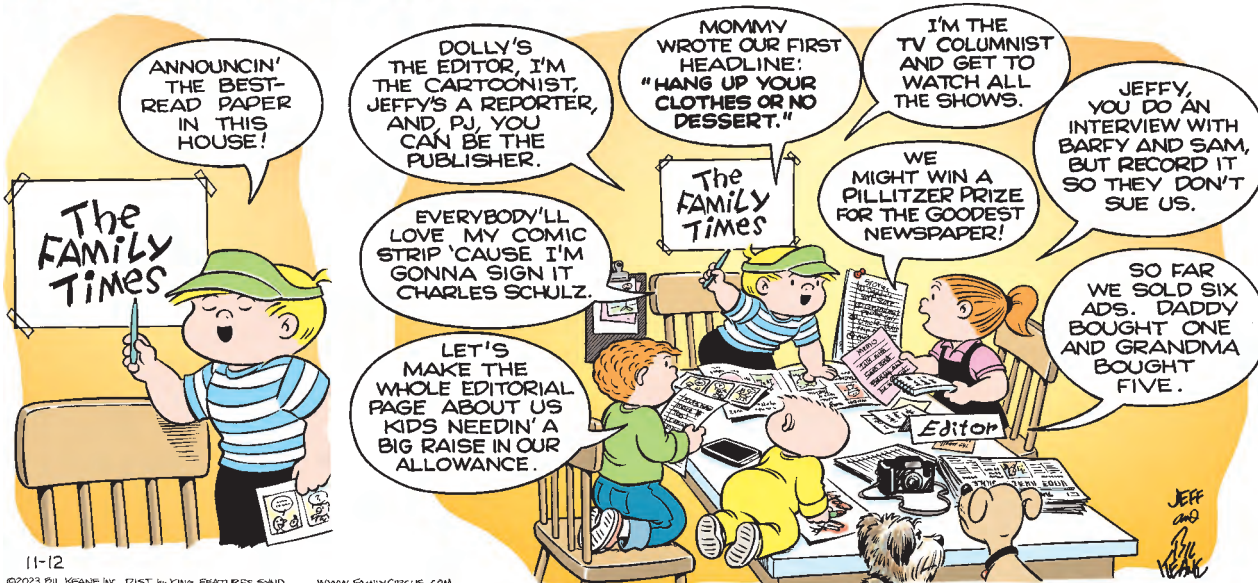
FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



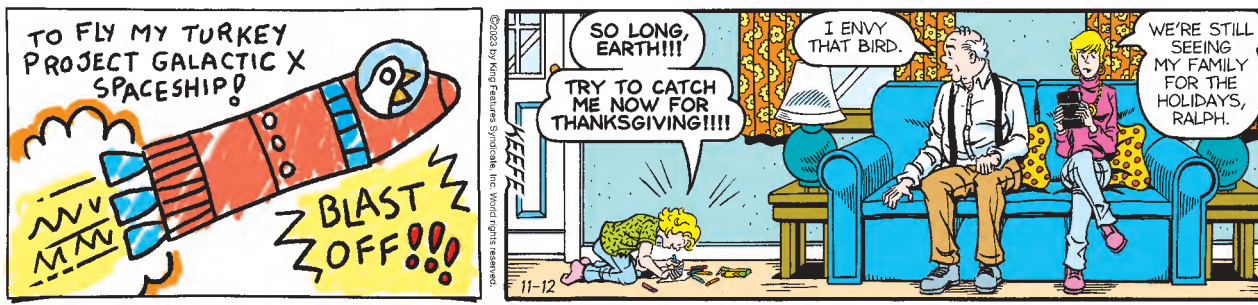
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Phil Keane



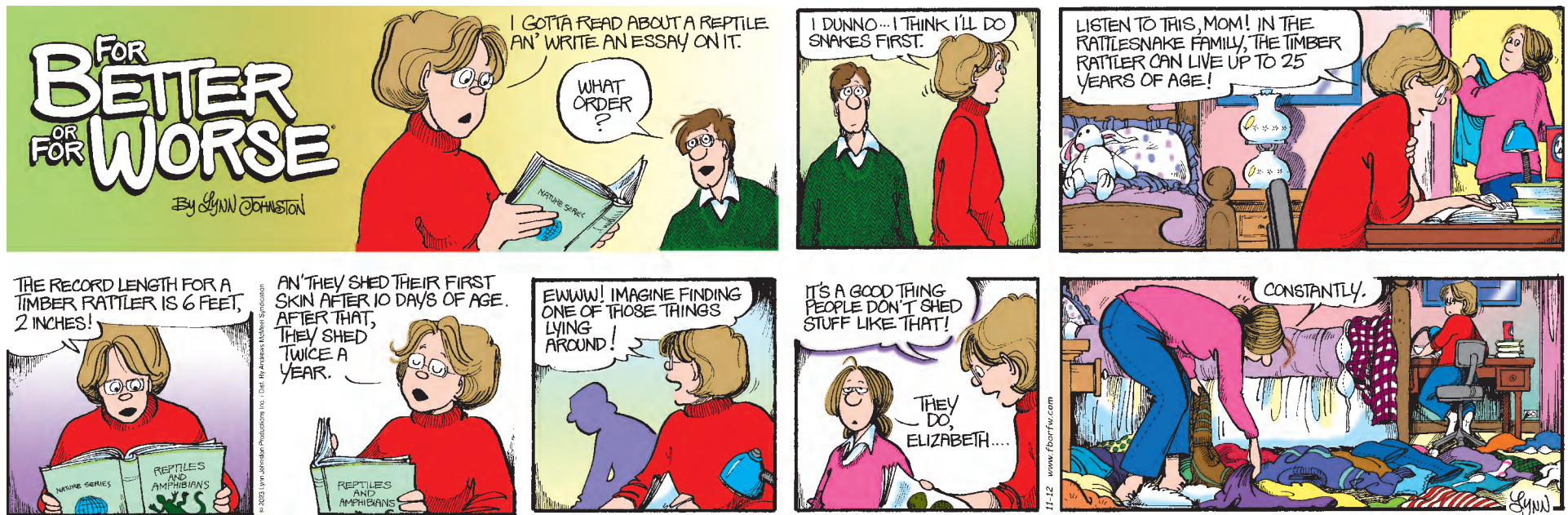
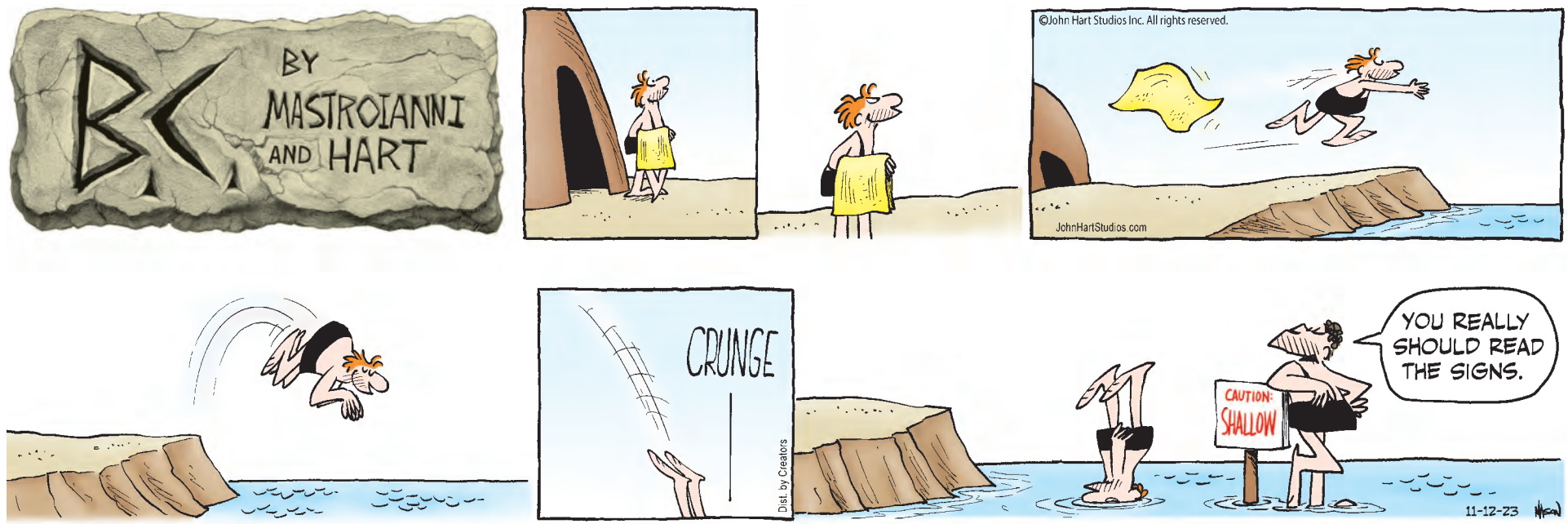
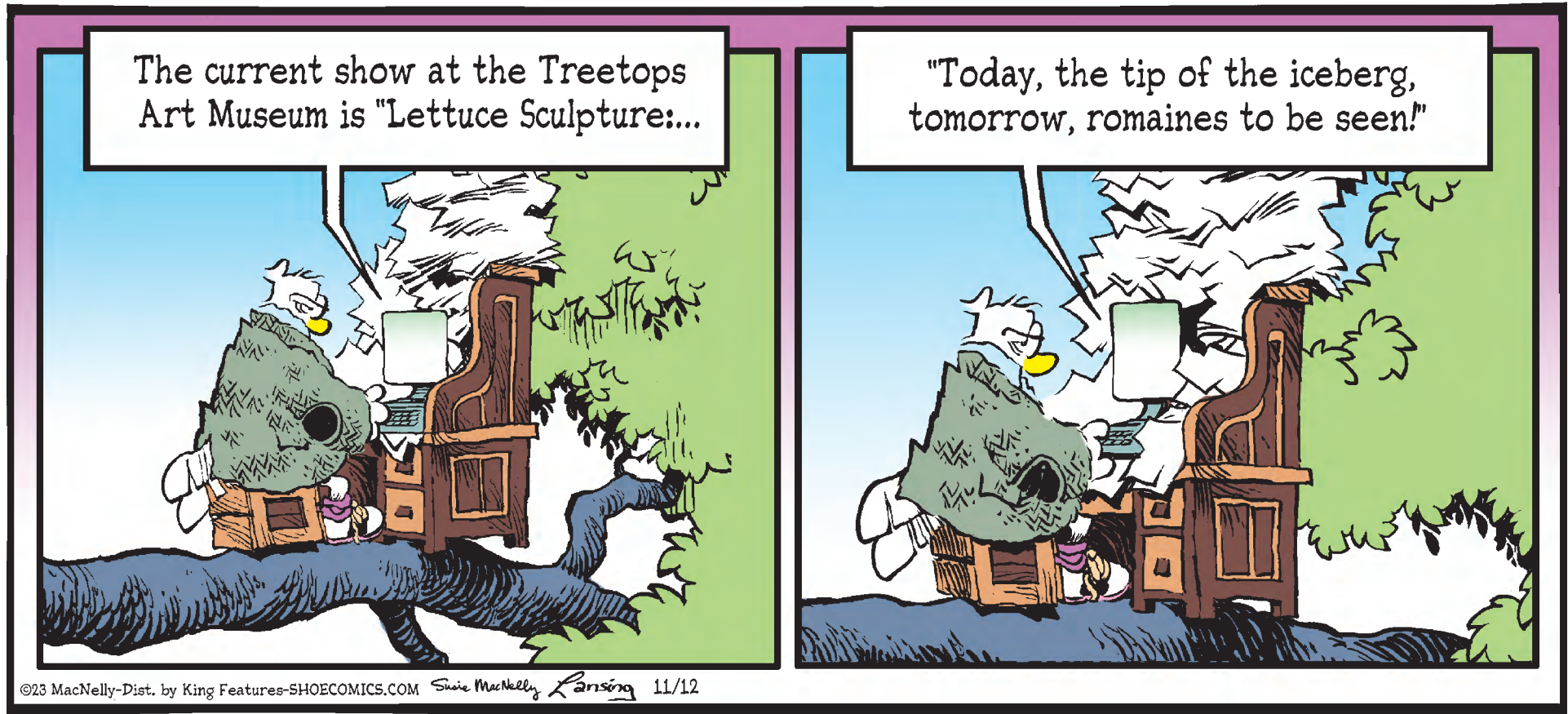
SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE



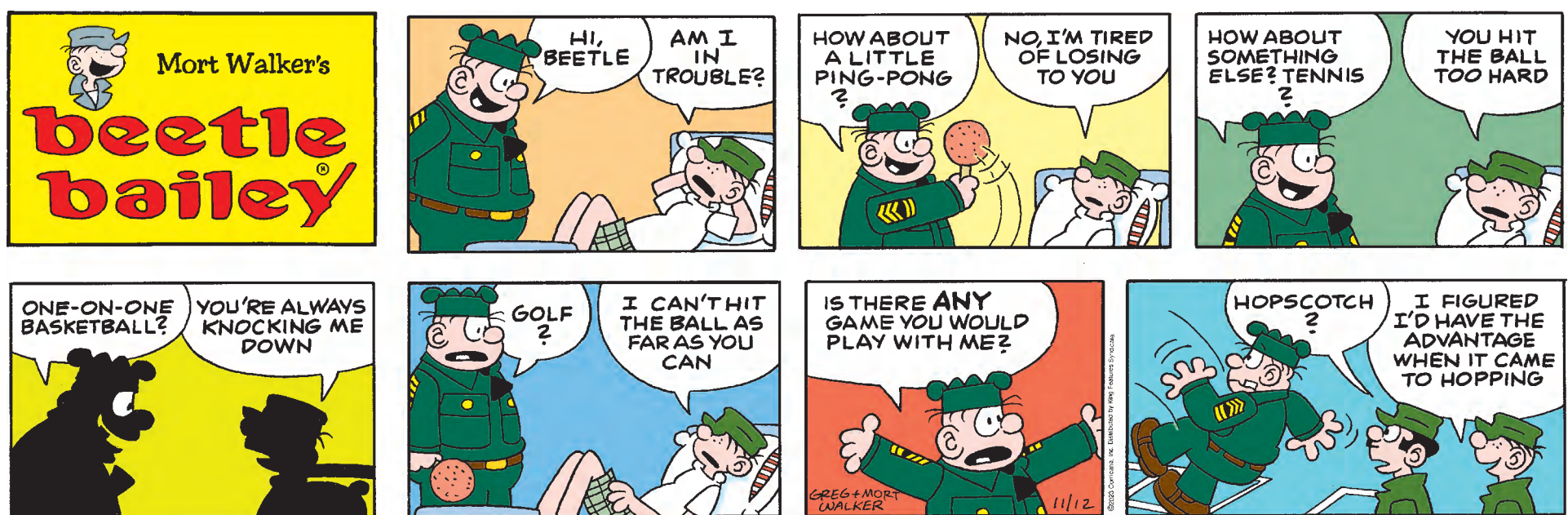
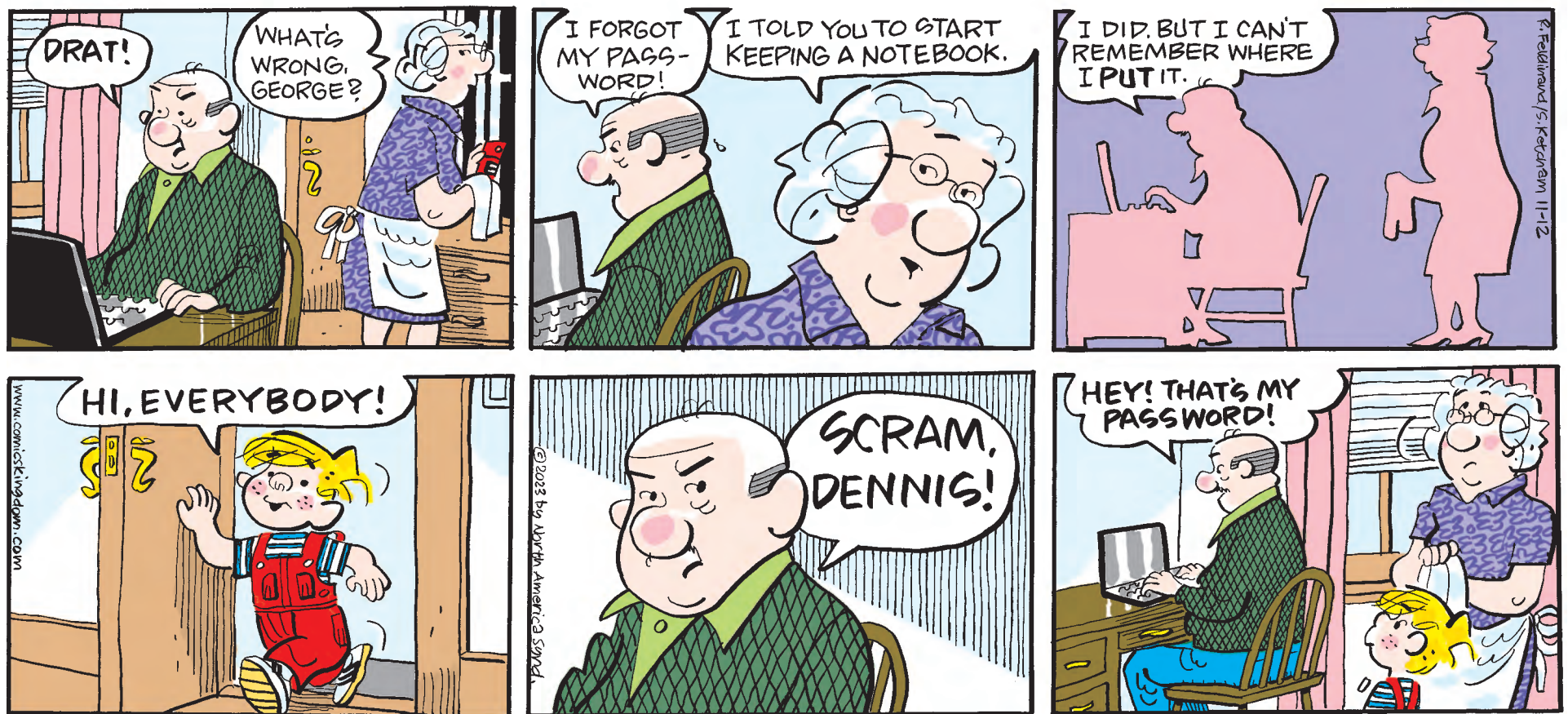
SHOE

BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM





6 Harrison Ford makes another run with "The Fugitive"



7 On the Australian beat: 'NCIS: Sydney' takes on a fresh case



7 Double date: All-new series explores the dating lives of identical twins

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November 11 - November 17, 2023

The Summer Scene

Leaving a 'Legacy': Two generations of Russells join the MonsterVerse

BY JAY BOBBIN

Nothing can stay hidden forever. After spending four movies and countless multimedia projects in the shadows, the secret organization, Monarch, takes center stage in the MonsterVerse's first television production. Premiering Friday, Nov. 17, on Apple TV+, "Monarch: Legacy of Monsters" is the highly anticipated new entry into Legendary's cinematic universe. The 10-part series debuts with two episodes before releasing on a weekly schedule until Jan. 12.

Picking up after the climactic conclusion of 2014's "Godzilla," which devastated San Francisco and revealed the existence of monsters to the world, "Monarch" follows siblings Cate (Anna Sawai, "F9: The Fast Saga," 2021) and Kentaro (Ren Watabe, "461 Days of Bento," 2020) as they uncover their family's connections to the titular organization. Their search leads them to Army officer Lee Shaw — played by both Kurt and Wyatt Russell, of "The Thing" (1982) and "Lodge 49," respectively — whose knowledge threatens Monarch's existence.

In a short teaser trailer released Sept. 8 by Apple, audiences are treated to a few more tidbits about the upcoming series.

It starts with a monologue by William Randa (John Goodman, "The Righteous Gemstones"), who was last seen in

2017's "Kong: Skull Island," on leaving behind a legacy, interwoven with quick shots of all of the series' major characters. This is followed by a voiceover of Shaw exclaiming that "the world is on fire," "the mission was to protect their world and ours" and "if you come with me, you'll know everything" as images of a soldier painting an anti-monster symbol, a mysterious flying monster and a couple holding hands all flash by. What this means exactly is anyone's guess, but speculation points to Monarch straying away from their original mission.

Since the series regularly shifts between multiple points in time, "Monarch" stars both older and younger versions of some characters. The biggest casting is the father-son duo of Kurt and Wyatt Russell — who are front and center in the series' promotional poster — playing the pivotal officer Shaw during the modern-day and 1950s timeline, respectively.

While the two weren't initially factored into the show when co-creators and executive producers Chris Black ("Severance") and Matt Fraction ("Hawkeye") pitched the show, director Matt Shakman ("WandaVision") reveals that "when that element [casting Kurt and Wyatt] came in, which is extraordinary, it took that character, Lee Shaw, and turned it into something

different and moved the story in a different direction." Additionally, Shakman told Collider before the "Monarch" series premiere at New York Comic-Con: "We had this idea that Kurt Russell and Wyatt Russell, who are often ... offered things as father and son, but I don't think they'd ever been offered the same part to play in two different time periods. It just felt like, 'What an amazing idea,' and it's so rare. I mean, two actors who are extraordinary on their own, two actors who bear an uncanny resemblance to each other because they're father and son playing the same part, just felt like an idea that we had to run wholeheartedly at, and they were excited to do it."

Joining the main cast on this collision course with the mysterious organization are Kiersey Clemons ("Dope," 2015) as May, Mari Yamamoto ("Pachinko") as Keiko, Joe Tippett ("The Morning Show") as Tim, Elisa Lasowski ("Versailles") as Duvall and Anders Holm ("Workaholics") as a young William Randa. Christopher Heyerdahl ("Hell on Wheels"), Qyoko Kudo ("The Wolverine," 2013), Shota Tsuji ("Street Fighter: Psychosis," 2021), Josh Collins ("The 100"), Charlie Hewson ("Spinning Out"), David Santana ("Supergirl") and Jasmine Lukuku ("Colony") also star.



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Horoscopes

The luckiest signs this week:
CAPRICORN, AQUARIUS AND PISCES

ARIES
Even if you haven't planned anything, it's not too late to organize a romantic getaway. If you're currently taking a training course, don't lose concentration until it's over. At work, analyze every detail, even if it's difficult and time-consuming.

TAURUS
Your emotions may get the better of you this week. In this situation, it's important to learn to let go and deepen your spiritual knowledge. If you're in a relationship, it's essential to make the time to have fun together now and again.

GEMINI
Don't let impatience get the better of you. Break up the monotony in your relationship by going on new and exciting adventures with your loved one. In your professional life, you'll have the courage to make big decisions.

CANCER
You'll be handling emergencies this week. This will benefit you at work. In love, it's the little touches that express the intensity of the feelings you and your partner have for each other.

LEO
When tensions arise in your relationship, you tend to want to resolve the situation too quickly. At the office or elsewhere, you'll be able to impose respect in chaotic situations, which will give you a measure of pride.

VIRGO
You'll have to be patient with a family member this week. You may already be getting out the Christmas decorations and sprucing up your home. On the other hand, the idea of moving could arise spontaneously.

LIBRA
You'll have to make several trips for work or personal reasons. Express your feelings to resolve a conflict that's dragging on. Avoid being overly critical of your significant other for a simple little mistake.

SCORPIO
If you're in a difficult financial situation, you'll know what to do to get out of it successfully. Don't be shy. Show off your skills to win over the support of your employer.

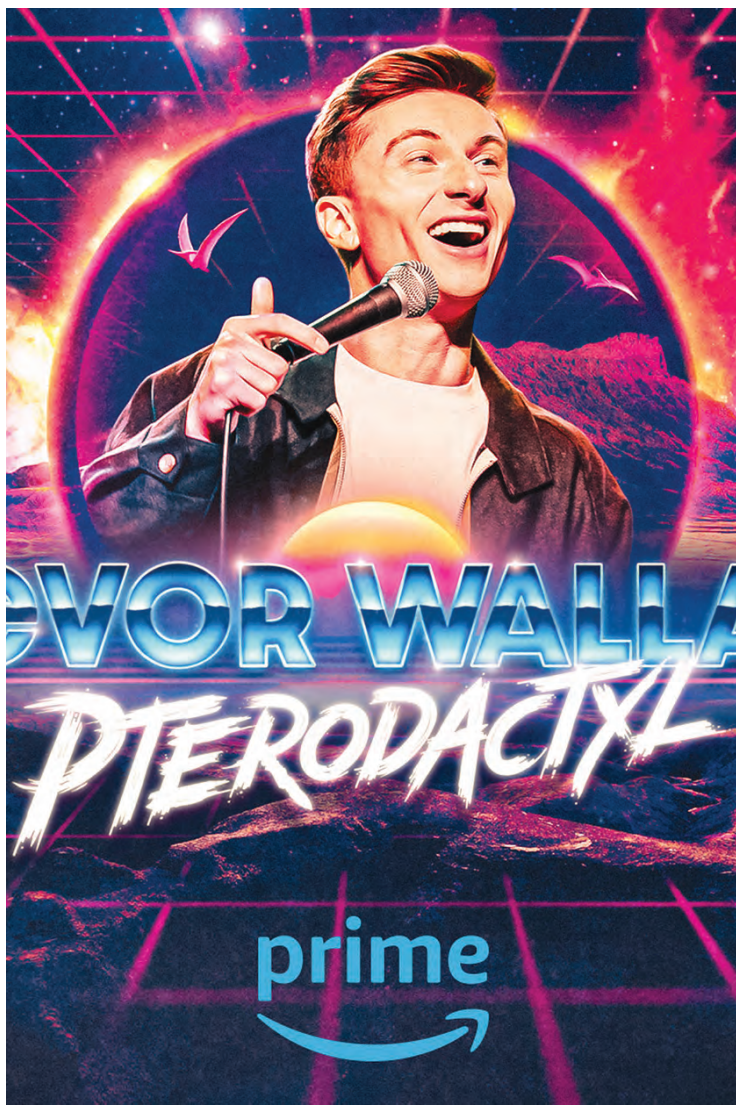
SAGITTARIUS
Your mind may be flooded with ideas this week. You'll start many projects without completing them and suggest many activities to your friends. At work, a certain task will take longer than expected to complete.

CAPRICORN
Excessive stress could bring down your energy. It's essential to get some rest and make changes to your daily routine. You could turn to spiritual practices to relax.

AQUARIUS
Your social life will be particularly active this week. Even if you're craving solitude, someone will bring you out of your shell and put a smile on your face. Rather than pushing back, let yourself be guided by the change.

PISCES
At work, you'll be responsible for organizing an event that brings many people together, such as an important meeting. When you combine business with pleasure, you'll have more fun at work. You'll be more productive in a relaxed environment.

New Streaming Movies & Shows



"Trevor Wallace: Pterodactyl" (Nov. 14)

You know Trevor Wallace from the relatable characters he's unleashed across the internet, which have amassed billions of views. In his first stand-up special, he introduces you to the real-life characters he's come face-to-face with, as Wallace navigates male birth control, smoking oregano, his unique birds-and-the-bees talk, experiencing his first Buc-ee's, the red flags of dating, and the worst thing you could ever order on a date.



"The Lady Bird Diaries" (Nov. 13)

Director Dawn Porter fashions this ABC News Studios documentary from 123 hours of Lady Bird Johnson's personal and revealing audio diary, which she began in 1963, when the assassination of President Kennedy obliged her husband, Lyndon B. Johnson, to take on the "most challenging and demanding job on Earth" as the 36th President of the United States. Lady Bird prove herself a savvy political strategist and propel her conservationist ideas into action, preserving natural resources for the American people.

Word Search

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B S U C C E S S A T K N A R F
E R Y H O R E W O P O K M I L
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A A A I E O F O D Y N A S T Y
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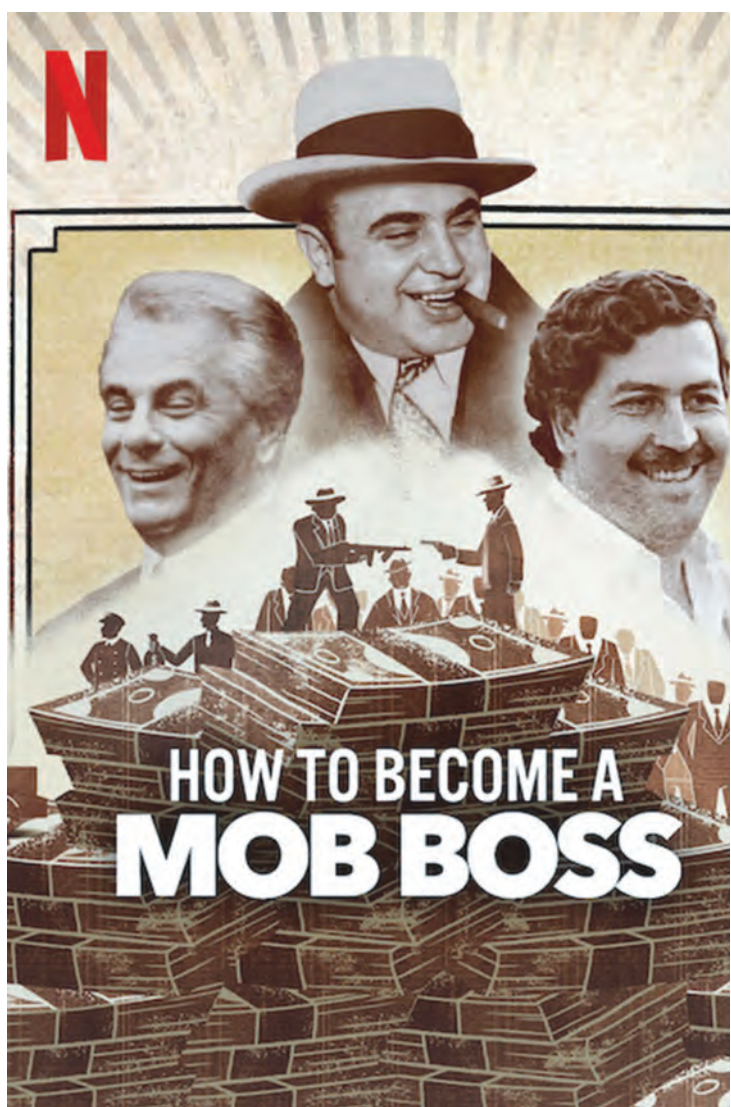
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Mickey Mouse invites preschoolers to laugh and play along as he talks about everyday topics; featuring silly games and challenges. Some of the episodes include helping kids learn how to: prepare for bed, identifying shapes, making music, and what to prepare when packing for school.



Q&A: Matt LeBlanc

BY JAY BOBBIN

Q: I know Matt LeBlanc had a couple of series after "Friends." What has he been doing lately?

A: Not a lot professionally since his CBS sitcom "Man With a Plan" ended in 2020. He famously appeared with his former fellow stars in the 2021 streaming special "Friends: The Reunion," which still can be found on Max, and it's quite touching to watch the embraces and memories shared by him and the other five actors with whom he shared so much time – and success – over the decade-long run of that much-repeated show (which was seen originally on NBC). LeBlanc also was part of a 2021 "Top Gear" special that paid tribute to the late race driver Sabine Schmitz, who appeared often on that BBC series. LeBlanc's presence on that special acknowledged his own presence on "Top Gear" as a presenter on episodes that were spread over four seasons, after his participation as a guest. He was required to be in England to make the show, and he ultimately decided to leave that job and remain largely in the U.S.



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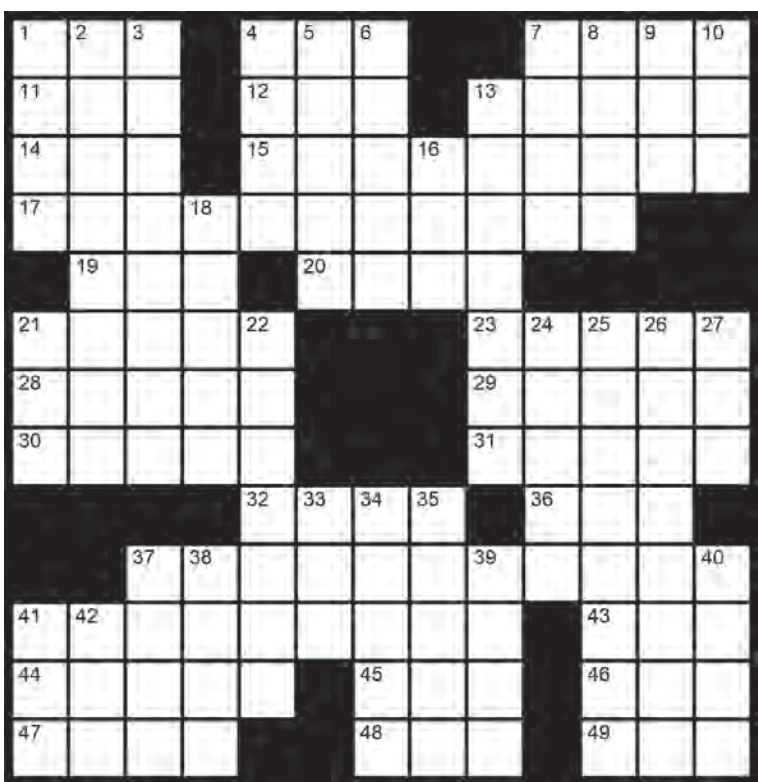
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Across

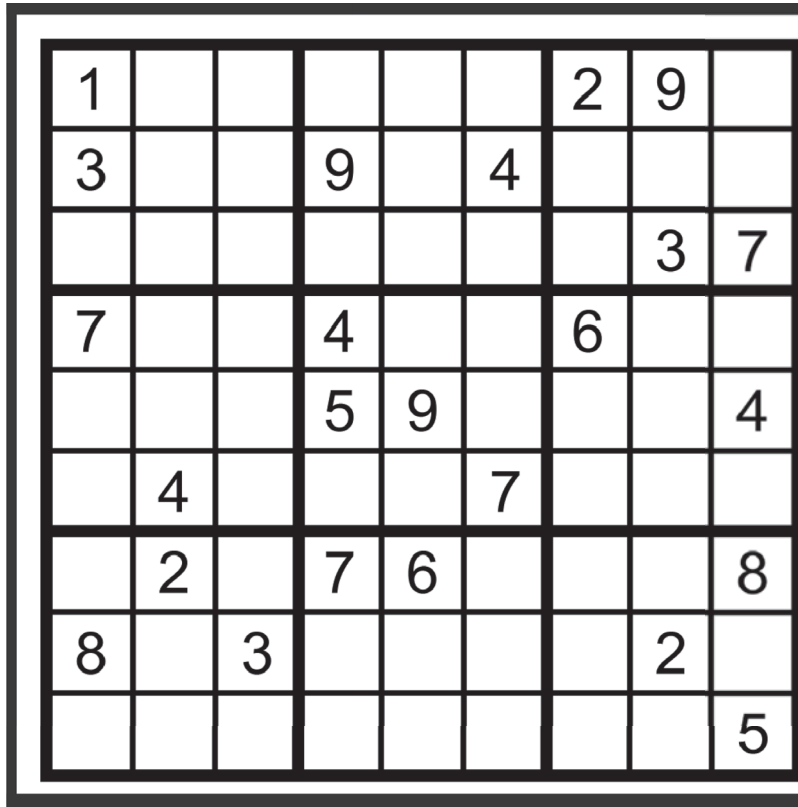
- 1. Jerry lives in one on "Seinfeld," for short
- 4. Sound of support
- 7. Some "Shark Tank" entrepreneurs, for short
- 11. Morse bit
- 12. Had a bite
- 13. Crudup of 17-Across
- 14. Hearty brew
- 15. Mute
- 17. AppleTV+ show starring 13- and 37-Across, and 22-Down
- 19. Farm call
- 20. "Night" author Wiesel
- 21. Musical Apple
- 23. Golden Globe winner
- 28. Russian playwright Chekhov
- 29. Hang
- 30. Martini's partner
- 31. A mile a minute
- 32. Eye affliction
- 36. Biol., e.g.
- 37. Reese of 17-Across
- 41. Abandon abruptly
- 43. ___ lab
- 44. Quinn of "Michael Collins"
- 45. Altar avowel
- 46. Keen perception
- 47. Contacted over X, in a wa
- 48. Finish (up)
- 49. Guileful

Down

- 1. Scott of "Severance"
- 2. Trigger, e.g.
- 3. Jimmy Fallon's backup band
- 4. Sitarist Shankar
- 5. United
- 6. Katherine of "Knocked Up"
- 7. Minderbinder of "Catch-22"



Sudoku



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

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

SOLUTION

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

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Table with columns: MONDAY EVENING, SP=Spectrum, FTC=Farm, DTV=DirectTV, MOVIES, SPORTS, KIDS, NOVEMBER 13, 2023. Rows include channel numbers and program titles like 'WIS News 10 at 6', 'Last Man Standing', 'The Voice', etc.

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Harrison Ford makes another run with "The Fugitive"

BY JAY BOBBIN

If "The Fugitive" isn't the best movie based on a television series, it sure is close.

Not only does director Andrew Davis' 1993 version of the drama — which AMC shows Tuesday, Nov. 14, Wednesday, Nov. 15 and Saturday, Nov. 18 (just ahead of the film's 4K Ultra HD debut on Nov. 21) — hold true to the basics of the original show, it expands on them sensationally, adding significant depth to wrongly accused Dr. Richard Kimble's (Harrison Ford) perilous pursuit of the one-armed man (Andreas Katsulas) who killed his wife (Sela Ward).

David Janssen's demeanor was halting and brooding as TV's Kimble in the 1960s, and possibly in tribute to that, so is Ford's variation on the character ... but the longtime movie superstar has those qualities anyway, and they serve him well as Kimble remains determined to clear himself while desperately trying to evade the federal marshals led by Sam Gerard (Tommy Lee Jones, who rightfully won an Oscar for his quirky combination of dry humor and law-and-order sturdiness).

Chicago makes a fabulous principal setting for the high-stakes cat-and-mouse game, with a sequence set in and around the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade (complete with green-tinted river) particularly effective. That certainly isn't the only impactful action scene offered by "The Fugitive," though, indicated early on as

the prison transport bus carrying Kimble crashes and tumbles onto a train track. And, of course, a train is coming.

Two of the unsung heroes (actually, heroines) of "The Fugitive" are veteran casting directors Amanda Mackey and Cathy Sandrich Gelfond. Whatever its size, every role is cast perfectly, with several performers leaving especially big impressions after really only a moment or two — including Julianne Moore, Nick Searcy and an early-in-her-career Jane Lynch. Jeroen Krabbe and Joe Pantoliano also are on the flawless team of actors here.

Roy Huggins, who created "The Fugitive" for United Artists Television (giving that studio one of its biggest hits) and ABC, was credited as the executive producer of the movie. It surely helps that the film had that very authentic lineage, and it didn't hurt that its makers probably wanted to do the original concept full justice with Huggins still actively connected.

The explanation for the murder that sets "The Fugitive" in motion gets a bit complex in the movie's home stretch, though it sets the stage for one last great battle before the story reaches the same basic resolution it did on TV. That's a truly minor quibble about a movie that proves to be one terrific ride — as well as a solid example of a premise that made a highly successful transition from the small screen to the bigger one.

Best Kennedy dramas

Movies

BY JAY BOBBIN

"Kennedy" (1983, TV): Almost a decade after playing RFK in "The Missiles of October," Martin Sheen credibly portrayed JFK in this miniseries.

"The Kennedys of Massachusetts" (1990, TV): As Joseph and Rose Kennedy, William Petersen and Annette O'Toole led an impressive cast in this miniseries about the entire clan.

"JFK" (1991): Arguably the best-known movie to have John F. Kennedy as its subject, director Oliver Stone's drama also sparked a firestorm with its take on the official account of the assassination.

"Jackie Bouvier Kennedy Onassis" (2000, TV): Of the actresses who have played the former first lady, Joanne Whalley fared particularly well, with Tim Matheson making a fine JFK.

"Thirteen Days" (2000): The Cuban Missile Crisis also was the focus of this drama, with Bruce Greenwood as JFK in a cast led by Kevin Costner as presidential aide Kenneth O'Donnell.

"Bobby" (2006): That's "Bobby" as in Robert F. Kennedy, with writer, director and co-star Emilio Estevez delving into the effects of the assassination on others present at the Los Angeles hotel where it happened.

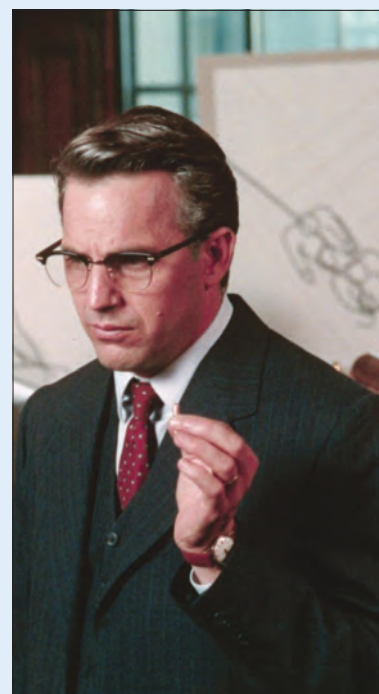
"The Kennedys" (2011, TV): Despite content concerns that saw this miniseries relocate from History to Reelz, the performances by Emmy winner Barry Pepper (as RFK) and nominee Greg Kinnear (as JFK) make it worthwhile.

"Parkland" (2013): The "Bobby"-like drama about events at the Dallas hospital where the November 1963 shooting victims were taken features many familiar faces, from Billy Bob Thornton and Marcia Gay Harden to Paul Giamatti and Colin Hanks (whose father Tom was one of the film's producers).

"Killing Kennedy" (2013, TV): The filmed version of the book co-authored by Bill O'Reilly boasts intriguing work not only by Rob Lowe as JFK, but also by Will Rothhaar as Lee Harvey Oswald.

"11.22.63" (2016, TV): What if the fateful day in question had gone differently? This drama based on a Stephen King book poses the query and speculates about the answer.

"Jackie" (2016): An Oscar nominee for the performance, Natalie Portman is compelling in her portrayal of Jacqueline Kennedy in the immediate aftermath of the JFK assassination.



Santa's (cookie) workshop: Season 7 of 'Christmas Cookie Challenge' pays homage to holiday classics

BY GEORGE DICKIE

It's the season to get baking, and no one knows it better than Food Network. Packed with holiday cheer and tasty treats, an all-new season of "Christmas Cookie Challenge" is now airing on the network.

Hosted by former NFL player, current "Food Network Star" (Season 11), food truck owner and private chef Eddie Jackson, alongside writer, photographer, cookie-making mom and experienced cooking show host, Ree Drummond ("The Pioneer Woman"), this series follows as "confident and daring bakers compete to prove their holiday cookie-making skills," Food Network describes, promising that as four new bakers are introduced each episode, "tough-love judges are on hand to crown the holiday cookie master, [each of whom] will go home with a \$10,000 prize!"

From gingerbread to snickerdoodles to swirly-twirly gumdrops, the series whips up cheer and inspires bakers back at home. The competing cookie makers are tasked with fun challenges, like crafting usable gingerbread puppet theaters, decorating snickerdoodles and even paying homage to classic Christmas films such as "Elf" (2003), starring Will Ferrell.

"Four of the finest cookie makers around get inspired by 'the seven levels of the candy cane forest' and 'the sea of swirly-twirly gumdrops,'" Food Network explains, "[creating] cookies that show the parts of Buddy's journey not featured in the movie. When it's over, one 'cot-

ton-headed ninny muggin' will be sent home for the holidays, while the one who decorates the most fantastical journey will win an advantage for the next round."

"Their magical displays will have to incorporate ingredients from Buddy the Elf's favorite meal: maple syrup, chocolate syrup, candy-coated chocolates, chocolate breakfast pastries or cooked spaghetti," they say, encouraging some interesting flavors.

This current season will also feature an all-star episode, set to air Thursday, Nov. 16, on the network. During this "Champions" episode, Jackson and Drummond welcome eight former "Christmas Cookie Challenge" champions back to the kitchen, asking them to prove who is the best of the best.

"This time, the cookie makers are facing challenges so merrily massive that they'll be put into teams of two. First, the bakers must weave magic as they create Christmas cookie quilts. One team will have the rug pulled out from under them as they're eliminated. ... Then, the three remaining teams construct gigantic stadiums worthy of the finest North Pole games that also incorporate ingredients perfect for watching a snow bowl: eggnog, hot chocolate, apple cider or mulled wine" (per Food Network).

Keep the holidays extra sweet with "Christmas Cookie Challenge," airing new episodes Thursdays on Food Network.





On the Australian beat: 'NCIS: Sydney' takes on a fresh case

BY JAY BOBBIN

It's certainly not uncommon for a successful series to inspire spinoffs, and other countries have gotten in on the act, with one example now helping a U.S. network's fall lineup.

"Law & Order: UK" and "The Amazing Race: Canada" are among the shows that have taken American concepts and applied them to other regions, and another is adapting a theme that already has been hugely successful internationally. "NCIS" has often been labeled "the most popular show in the world," based on its performance around the globe, but that hasn't stopped Australia from coming up with its own version. "NCIS: Sydney" has its CBS premiere Tuesday, Nov. 14, several days after getting its start in its home country.

Though the actors are likely to be as new to most U.S. viewers as the show itself, the premise will be familiar to fans, as another team of Naval Criminal Investigative Service operatives tackles cases involving members of the Navy. Marking the first time the franchise has gone global in such a way, the show may have taken a page from the "NCIS: Hawai'i" playbook by giving the squad a female leader — in this case Michelle Mackey, played by Olivia



Swann ("DC's Legends of Tomorrow"). The ensemble cast also includes Todd Lasance ("The Secrets She Keeps"), Sean Sagar ("Our Girl"), Tuuli Narkle ("Mystery Road: Origin"), Mavournee Hazel ("Neighbours") and William McInnes ("Blue Heelers").

Any show that has "NCIS" in its title should get a respectable sampling, given the proven track record of the dramas that have borne it to date. The original series' next season will be its 21st, and though original star Mark Harmon ("Chicago Hope") has left it (he remains on as an executive producer), the current cast has kept the ratings strong — at least by today's measure of the broadcast TV universe. Sean Murray ("Harts of the West") and Brian Dietzen ("One-Minute Time Machine," 2014) date back to the start of the show, as did the late David McCallum ("The Man from U.N.C.L.E."), with Gary Cole ("The Good Fight") and Katrina Law ("Arrow") among those who have joined relatively recently.

"NCIS: Los Angeles" was the first spinoff, launching in the fall of 2009 and ending last May. Chris O'Donnell ("Scent of a Woman," 1992) and LL Cool J ("Deep Blue Sea," 1999) headed the cast throughout the 14-year run, and though Linda Hunt ("Silverado," 1985) was also a prominent star initially, her team-supervisor character Hetty was reduced to mentions or voiceovers in the show's later stages.

The filmed-on-location "NCIS: New Orleans" came next, starting in 2014 and led by Scott Bakula ("Quantum Leap") for its seven-season tenure. "NCIS: Hawai'i" succeeded the Big Easy-set show almost immediately, since it began in the fall of 2021, several months after the New Orleans-situated version closed up shop. Vanessa Lachey ("Love Is Blind") stars as Special Agent-in-Charge Jane Tennant as the series makes use of the infrastructure in the islands that CBS had set up for the "Hawaii Five-0" reboot. "Five-0" ended the year before production began on "NCIS: Hawai'i," and also made use of the "Magnum P.I." remake, which has since relocated to NBC.

"NCIS: Hawai'i" is slated to have a major remnant of the franchise's Los Angeles series when it returns for its third season, since LL Cool J will continue his role as Sam Hanna on a recurring basis. So, the "NCIS" universe continues, and its expansion to Australia marks a new chapter for it in several ways.

Double date: All-new series explores the dating lives of identical twins



BY GEORGE DICKIE

Double date: When you're born a minute apart and look exactly the same, how different can you be, really? From Amazon Studios and ITV America's ITV Entertainment comes a new dating reality series — a social experiment unlike any other, delving into the dating world of identicals. The Amazon Freevee series "Twin Love" premieres Friday, Nov. 17, on Prime Video.

The series, hosted by professional wrestling duo Brie and Nikki Garcia ("WWE Smackdown!"), formerly the Bella Twins, welcomes a cast full of doubles. Amazon Prime describes: "Ten sets of twins will be split up and placed into two houses of 'identical' casts, where they'll begin a unique and compelling search for love. With double the fun and drama, the series will discover if their inherent similarities extend to their romantic desires."

"When separated from their twin brothers and sisters — some for the first time ever — will they pursue the same identical partners?" Amazon asks. "Or will their choices be dramatically different?" There's only one way to find out.

During this inaugural season, twins include: Whittnay and Brittnay James, who have both been single for over

four years; Sabella and Hanna Radostitz, with matching tattoos for former boyfriends they now regret; Cameron and Ceara McKegney, a pair of opposites who still share in their quick-witted and entertaining personalities; Zoie and Baelee Bogart, twin sisters who have never been apart for more than a day; Morgan and Madison Ramsey, two self-proclaimed tomboys who mind their manners; Seth and Luke Banks, the chatterbox brothers, both golfers from a big family; Jair and Micquel Bernier, two confident and popular, party-going jocks; Matthew and Andrew Beatty, who have lived all over the world, making friends globally with their outgoing personalities; Samir and Samer Akel, twins born in Syria who moved to the United States 10 years ago, now successful restaurateurs; and David and Aaron Cabello, both high school dropouts who started their own business that quickly spread across America.

From executive producers Simon Thomas ("Love Island"), Bernie Schaeffer ("Edge of Alaska"), Kenny Rosen ("Hell's Kitchen") and Jessica Nahmias ("The Marriage Pact"), "Twin Love" premieres Friday, Nov. 17, on Prime Video.

View from the Couch

BY JAY BOBBIN



"THE EQUALIZER 3"

If it was rare for Denzel Washington to do a sequel to one of his earlier movies, it was equally rare for him to do a third chapter. Here, his literally troubleshooting character Robert McCall recovers from a violent mission in an Italian town, where he ultimately comes to the rescue of the citizens when they're threatened by vicious mobsters who want their property. The tale — not connected to Queen Latifah's current "Equalizer" series on CBS — reteams Washington with director Antoine Fuqua, who not only made the earlier "Equalizer" films, but

also guided the actor to an Oscar win for "Training Day." Washington is also reunited with co-star Dakota Fanning, with whom he appeared in "Man on Fire," and who plays a CIA operative alerted by McCall to the covert drug-dealing business of a Sicilian winery. An "Equalizer" prequel movie reportedly is under consideration. *** (R: AS, P, V) (Also on Blu-ray, 4K Ultra HD, Digital and On Demand)

"THE NUN II"

Continuing the "Conjuring" horror franchise, this sequel — which, fairly recently, did good business theatrically — returns Taissa Farmiga, Jonas Bloquet and Bonnie Aarons to their original roles. The slaying of a priest in mid-1950s France brings Sister Irene (Farmiga) into direct contact with supernatural terror again, since her earlier experiences make her a candidate to investigate strange deaths across Europe that evidently have been caused by the demon she confronted before. Storm Reid ("The Last of Us") and Anna Popplewell also star, with Michael Chaves ("The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It") back in the series as the director. Two more "Conjuring" veterans make surprise appearances before the film is over. *** (R: AS, P, V) (Also on Blu-ray, 4K Ultra HD, Digital and On Demand)

"FOR ALL MANKIND: SEASON ONE"

An alternate version of the history of the so-called "space race" is offered by a Blu-ray release of this acclaimed Apple TV+ series, which is just beginning its fourth season on the streaming service and poses what might have happened if Russia had reached the moon first. Other real-life events also are reinvented as the saga follows a group of fictionalized American astronauts and support personnel (with many of the characters based on actual members of NASA) as they try to make up for lost time by intensifying efforts toward a lunar landing by the U.S. — with women and minorities included in the pool of participants. The ensemble cast includes Joel Kinnaman ("The Killing"), Michael Dornan, Sarah Jones, Shantel VanSanten ("FBI"), Jodi Balfour, Sonya Walger and Edi Gathegi. Among the show's creators and producers is noted sci-fi veteran Ronald D. Moore, who had a big hand in the "Battlestar Galactica" reboot. *** (Not rated: AS, P)

"JUSTIFIED: CITY PRIMEVAL — SEASON 1"

In this recent FX sequel series, Timothy Olyphant returns in the further adventures of lawman Raylan Givens 15 years after the original

"Justified" show's plot line ended. The saga adapts more stories by Elmore Leonard and factors Givens into them, with the U.S. marshal living in Miami after his time in Kentucky. A situation that develops in Florida leads him to Detroit and a vicious felon known as the Oklahoma Wildman (played by Boyd Holbrook, previously of "Narcos"), whose lawyer ("King Richard" Oscar nominee Aunjanue Ellis) has her own reasons for wanting to help her client elude the scales of justice. With Olyphant also an executive producer of the show (along with author Leonard's estate), this drama includes Adelaide Clemens, Vondie Curtis-Hall, Marin Ireland, double Tony Award winner Norbert Leo Butz, Ravi Patel and Vivian Olyphant — the star's daughter, who plays Givens' offspring — among additional cast members. *** (Not rated: AS, P, V) (Also on Blu-ray)

"DISNEY LEGACY ANIMATED FILM COLLECTION"

Anyone who ever has loved an animated Disney movie is sure to find something to love in this massive Blu-ray set, which becomes part of the studio's 100th-anniversary celebration by compiling many cartoon classics ... ranging from such enduring standards as "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" and "Cinderella" to such relatively re-

cent offerings as all four "Toy Story" features and "Up." The many other highlights of the collection include "Bambi," "Beauty and the Beast," "Dumbo," "Fantasia," "Finding Nemo," "Frozen," "The Jungle Book," "Lady and the Tramp," "The Lion King," "The Little Mermaid," "One Hundred and One Dalmatians," "Peter Pan," "Monsters, Inc.," "Mulan," "The Nightmare Before Christmas," "The Rescuers," "Sleeping Beauty," "The Sword in the Stone," "Tangled" and "Winnie the Pooh." This is not an inexpensive purchase, but it's guaranteed to keep families entertained throughout the holiday season and well beyond. **** (G or PG, varying by title)

Coming Home Soon
"OPPENHEIMER" (NOV. 21)

"EXPEND4BLES" (NOV. 21)

"THE FUGITIVE" (4K ULTRA HD) (NOV. 21)

"SAW X" (NOV. 21)

"INDIANA JONES AND THE DIAL OF DESTINY" (DEC. 5)

"TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM" (DEC. 12)

AS Adult situations
P Profanity

Family Viewing Ratings
V Violence
N Nudity

GV Graphic Violence

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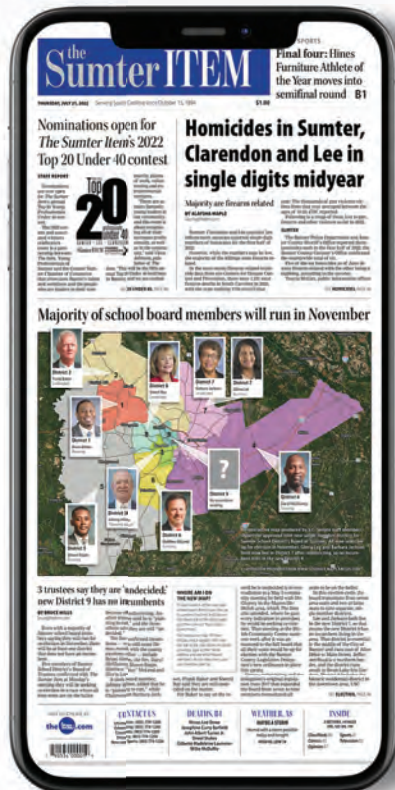
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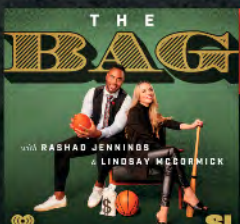
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SPECIAL SUPER BOWL LVI COMMEMORATIVE



COOPER KUPP
The triple crown winner added a Super Bowl MVP trophy.
PHOTOGRAPH BY JIM A. P. COOPER

THE SUPER BOWL
CAME BACK TO L.A.
THE LOMBARDI
IS STAYING

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The Parade Don't Miss List

Here's what's on our radar this week. Go to [PARADE.COM/ENTERTAINMENT](https://www.parade.com/entertainment) for more.

DIY with EMMA STONE

Emma Stone's over-the-top performance in the title role for *Cruella* proved the Oscar-winning actress (for *La La Land*) enjoys going for the laughs. She continues in that vein as Whitney Siegel in the 10-episode comedy *The Curse* (Nov. 12 on Showtime and Paramount+). Whitney and Asher (Nathan Fielder) are newlyweds trying to conceive a child while co-starring in their new home-improvement show when Asher inadvertently triggers a curse. Hijinks ensue. Stone, 35, who was born Emily Jean in Scottsdale, Ariz., created a PowerPoint presentation titled "Project Hollywood" to convince her parents to let her move to California and become an actress—and we're glad she did.



ALSO KNOWN FOR

- Olive in *Easy A* (2010)
- ↑ Skeeter in *The Help* (2011)
- Gwen in *The Amazing Spider-Man* (2012)
- Abigail in *The Favourite* (2018)
- Sam in *Birdman* (2014)
- Hannah in *Crazy, Stupid, Love.* (2011)



She made her Broadway debut as the star of *Cabaret* in 2014, taking over the role of Sally Bowles from Michelle Williams. She called it "the most nerve-racking thing ever."

→ Stone has matching bird tattoos with her mother, a nod to The Beatles' song, "Blackbird."



Ryan Gosling has played her love interest three times—in *La La Land*, *Crazy, Stupid, Love.* and *Gangster Squad*. It could have been four, but they both dropped out of the movie, *Focus*.

→ Her parents owned the Camelback Golf Course in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Stone shares a daughter, Louise Jean, with husband Dave McCary, who is a comedian and writer.

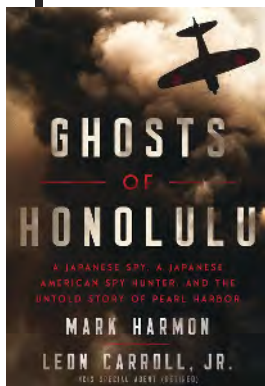


WALTER SCOTT ASKS...

MARK HARMON

In his latest adventure, the *NCIS* star, 72, teams up with former real-life NCIS Special Agent and technical advisor to the TV series, Leon

Carroll Jr. They've cowritten *Ghosts of Honolulu: A Japanese Spy, A Japanese American Spy Hunter, and the Untold Story of Pearl Harbor* (on sale Nov. 14). The true-life spy story follows Douglas Wada, the only Japanese-American agent in naval intelligence, and Takeo Yoshikawa, a Japanese spy sent to Honolulu to gather information on the U.S. fleet in the events leading up to and following the attack on Pearl Harbor. As a reminder, NCIS = Naval Criminal Investigative Service; in early days it was called the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI).



Let's talk about your journey from actor to author. What inspired you to coauthor this with Leon? Before the show, I didn't know anything about NCIS. What I know, I learned over the course of 19 years and working alongside Leon Carroll. If there's any reason to do the book, it's about giving back to a guy like Leon, and also the agency.

And the story and the history are interesting. It's different from the TV show. Obviously, the stakes were remarkably higher [during the time we wrote about] in all cases and in all directions, and nobody knew it. Then these agents never talked about it. They were never asked about it. It was just a job they did quietly, and no one knew. Now part of that history is potentially able to come out.

With the hundreds of possible NCIS stories to tell, why did you pick Pearl Harbor? Was it because of the magni-

tude of it and then the ability to make it feel personal because you could include the real-life story of Douglas Wada? I didn't think in terms of Pearl



Douglas Wada

Harbor being the event historically that it was. What was interesting was Douglas literally being the first...the history of how this opportunity [to be a spy] found him and how he was the right guy at the right time for the right job. The job that he was tagged to do, not only as an interpreter but in some ways interrogating the first prisoner of war of that time from Pearl Harbor, he just was the first. On top of that, he was a Japanese-American individual who basically came up through the Navy.

It was interesting to me, too, that in the process of this

work all of a sudden somebody had a picture of the first ONI office, and it made me smile. Because it's like something you do on a baseball team, you take a team picture, right? These guys are all special secret agents. Right? But they take a team picture.

And in the middle of that team picture, Douglas Wada jumps out at you. Of all the people in this picture, there's rows and rows and rows, and Douglas Wada is diminutive, but you can pick him



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out of a crowd of a hundred. And yet this is the job he did, and no one knew he did it. They never talked about it. To be able to open up that story for people who enjoy the history of where it came from, that feels great to open that door and to be part of that.

I worked with Leon for 20 years, and before Leon, I worked with another agent, and I grew respect over all these years of the real people and what they do, both male and female. It's a really hard job, not for money. It's very costly on your relationships. It's just a story worth telling.

Reading it reminded me of the idea that if you don't learn history, you're doomed to repeat it because of how the agencies were not sharing information. Do you think there are lessons from Pearl Harbor that are still to be learned? History sometimes repeats itself. You find that as part of life. I think at different times, we all think, *What have we learned? What have we gained?* Pearl Harbor as an event, in retrospect, there were all kinds of opportunities to have looked at certain things and said, "Oh, we've got a problem here; let's put some focus on this."

But the story is not about, "Hey, we should have paid more attention when in Pearl Harbor at that time." It's about talking about this agency that did a very quiet job for so many years until a TV show was made about it. That TV show is a very successful show but that's not the story. Giving the real people an opportunity to tell that story matters. That's all. I like history, I like to read, and I like to learn, and I like to try to play characters honestly. To do all that, I like to do my homework. So, in that process I gained more respect for some of these things.



Coauthor Leon Carroll Jr. is a former NCIS special agent and technical advisor to the series.

How did you and Leon divide up the work on the book? We were all pitching in. We've got a great researcher and Leon's very knowledgeable and has great access to the history of the agency. At the same time, talking to people who know not only declassified stuff, but offer the basic access of information that you can't get from jumping on a computer. And then there's a much greater volume of information in general on the agency because of the TV show. Of course, the show's the show; you need to have a dead body every week, otherwise certain actors don't work. That's fine and that's great for the TV show, but that's not the real story. That's what drew me, the fact that there's a story to tell.



With your TV and film background, would you like to see this turned into a limited series? I don't know. I still don't think like that. I just try to do the work at hand well, that's it. Are there more stories to tell? Absolutely. Would we do that if the opportunity came forward? Quite possibly. This is just one of many. This is the first one because it really is what birthed the agency, or what the agency is known as now. At that time, it wasn't known or even bearing the same title.

Are you retired from acting now or might there be projects? No, I never retired. As far as I know, if you're talking about Gibbs, he's living in Alaska. If you're talking about Mark, he's home doing what he always did, which is read things.

Have you grown out your hair from the Leroy Jethro Gibbs haircut? My hair is still pretty short. Not like the high and tight, but still pretty short. I always thought that haircut helped me know who the character was. I was meeting the real people and just remembering certain things that I saw that I wanted to build on. That's what actors do; they steal things from the real.

If there was a special project that came along, would we see you in front of the camera again? I always saw this business as if you're fortunate enough to get work and do work, that it's about having choices. It's about having an opportunity sometimes even to say no. There was a time where I could never say no. And most actors can't. I'm appreciative of having that choice. I don't see myself as retired. If the right thing comes along, I'll probably go to work, and if it doesn't, I have plenty of other things to do. **P**

Harmon with wife Pam Dawber

*Interviews conducted before the SAG/AFTRA strike

The Parade Don't Miss List

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THE CROWN

(PART 1 PREMIERES NOV. 16 AND
PART 2 IS DEC. 14 ON NETFLIX)

Even as the United Kingdom has entered the reign of King Charles, *The Crown* is wrapping up its fictionalized story loosely based on historical events of the British royal family.

Imelda Staunton will return as Queen Elizabeth II in the final season that will deal with events in the monarch's life from 1997 to 2005, including the death of Diana (Elizabeth Debicki) and the vast outpouring of public grief for "the people's princess" that caught the Queen off guard.

Filming on *The Crown* had begun prior to the Queen's death, but her demise brought production to a temporary halt in tribute. Once filming resumed, it was difficult, according to Staunton.

"We carried on with as much dignity and grace as they have always done on *The Crown* but, obviously, there was a very different temperature in the world, in England and even more so on *The Crown*," says the Oscar-nominated actress, 67. "We couldn't do anything differently; I had to carry on, but we were all a wee bit sad."

One aspect of Queen Elizabeth II that Staunton wanted to make sure to capture in her portrayal was the fact that the queen had to be a diplomat at all times. "I don't think she was in any way interested in how she came across, how she looked," Staunton says. "What she wanted to do was the job, which was making people feel that it's an extremely important day for them, for this building, for this whatever she was doing, that she was there and gave people such a feeling of importance, and that she cared enough to do it."



RUSTIN

(IN SELECT THEATERS NOV. 3
AND ON NETFLIX ON NOV. 17)

First came *Selma*, the story of the 1965 Selma to Montgomery voting rights marches led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Now, to mark the 60th anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom comes *Rustin*, told from the point of view of Bayard Rustin (**Colman Domingo**), the architect and unsung hero of the 1963 march.

"When I knew that I was going to be part of this, I felt that I had been given such a tremendous opportunity to shed a light on one of my personal heroes," says Domingo, 53. "I wanted to truly make him as complex and human and interesting as the man himself. He was just really prolific and profound. He also was an accomplished singer and a sportsman. He was pretty unique."

Rustin, which illuminates how, inspired by Gandhi, the activist helped inform the non-violent approach to protest adopted by Dr. King and others, is the first narrative feature to be released by Higher Ground—the production company founded by President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama—which should come as no surprise since it was Obama who posthumously honored Rustin with the Presidential Medal of Freedom on Nov. 20, 2013.

At that time, the president said, "For decades, this great leader, often at Dr. King's side, was denied his rightful place in history because he was openly gay. No medal can change that, but today, we honor Bayard Rustin's memory by taking our place in his march towards true equality, no matter who we are or who we love."

STAR WATCH

EMMA CORRIN and **CLIVE OWEN** co-star in *A Murder at the End of the World*, premiering on Hulu on Nov. 14.



Watch for **PETER DINKLAGE** and **VIOLA DAVIS** in *The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes*, opening in theaters on Nov. 17.



DANIEL RADCLIFFE executive produced this documentary about his stuntman who was paralyzed on the last *Harry Potter* movie. *David Holmes: the Boy Who Lived* is on Max, Nov. 15.



*Interviews conducted before the SAG-AFTRA strike.



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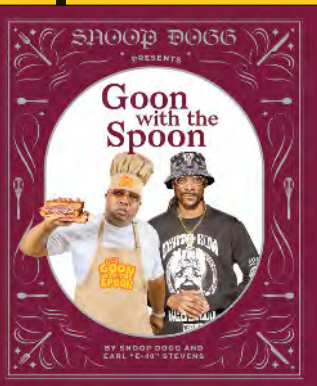
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SNACKIN' WITH SNOOP AND E-40

These two easy snacks, perfect game-day or cocktail nibbles, are a taste of the culinary fun cooked up in the new book *Snoop Dogg Presents Goon With the Spoon* by Snoop Dogg and Earl "E-40" Stevens. The rappers share a love of all things delicious, from Dogg's well-known culinary adventures with Martha Stewart to Stevens' Goon With the Spoon line of sausage and ice cream. —*Alison Ashton*



SHRIMP SALAD

"I love shrimp, and this appetizer gives me a great chance to highlight this little crustacean," Dogg says. "I serve my shrimp salad on crackers at parties, because it's so easy to make but looks beautiful on a serving platter. Gotta shout out my Maryland peeps too: Y'all really snapped with Old Bay Seasoning, and it's essential to get this salad just right."

- 2 Tbsp plus $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp Old Bay Seasoning, divided
- 1 lb 21/25-count shrimp, peeled and deveined
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup mayonnaise
- 1 Tbsp chopped fresh dill, plus additional fronds for garnish
- 2 tsp Dijon mustard
- 2 tsp fresh lemon juice
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp cracked black pepper
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup finely diced celery
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup finely diced red bell pepper
- 1 shallot, finely diced
- Buttery crackers, bagel chips or Melba toasts, for serving

1. In a large saucepan over medium-high, bring 6 cups water and 2 Tbsp Old Bay to a boil. Add shrimp. Simmer, uncovered, 2 minutes or until shrimp are firm and opaque all the way through.
2. Drain shrimp in a colander and transfer to a large bowl of ice water. When shrimp have cooled completely, drain again and pat dry with paper towels. Chop shrimp into $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pieces.
3. In a medium bowl, whisk together mayonnaise, dill, mustard, lemon juice, pepper and remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp Old Bay. Add shrimp, celery, bell pepper and shallot; stir to combine.
4. Transfer to a serving bowl. Garnish with additional dill fronds. Serve on top of crackers. **Serves 4-6.**



CAJUN- SPICED POTATO CHIPS

"There's plenty of good potato chips available at the grocery store, but it never hurts to add your own spice to those fried slices of heaven," says Stevens. "I make this as easy as possible for you—no deep fryer necessary! Just pop the kettle chips in the oven while you make the seasoning, and after the chips have had a few minutes to heat up, hit them with the peppery herb mix."

- 1 (8½-oz) bag plain kettle-cooked potato chips
- 1 Tbsp paprika
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp onion powder
- ½ tsp sugar
- ¼ tsp dried thyme
- ¼ tsp dried basil
- ¼ tsp dried oregano
- ¼ tsp cracked black pepper
- ¼ tsp white pepper
- ¼ tsp cayenne pepper

1. Preheat oven to 275°F. Spread chips in an even layer on a rimmed baking sheet, reserving the bag. Bake 7 minutes or until warm and slightly moist.

2. Meanwhile, in a small bowl, combine paprika and remaining ingredients.

3. Remove baking sheet from oven. Sprinkle warm chips with spice mixture. Carefully scoop chips back into the bag and shake it gently to distribute spices. Pour the seasoned chips into a large bowl. Serve warm or at room temperature. **Serves 6-8.**



SELMA & ISAAC

FASHION
FORWARD





THE ACTRESS,
WHO HAS MS,
TEAMS UP WITH
DESIGNER ISAAC
MIZRAHI TO MAKE
FASHIONABLE
CLOTHES
ACCESSIBLE TO
EVERYONE.

BY MARA REINSTEIN



“I HAVE A LOT
OF HAPPINESS
AND HOPE”

“I’m good. I’m doing really well. I really am in a fortunate space.”

It means a little more when Selma Blair is the one saying these words. The veteran actress, after all, has been through an epic health journey in the past five years. In 2018, she revealed that she had been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, a chronic autoimmune disease of the central nervous system. Three years later, after undergoing an extensive stem-cell transplantation procedure and chemotherapy, Blair announced that her MS was in remission. Today, she talks openly about having Mieve syndrome—which involves involuntary spasms of the tongue, jaw and pharynx and face. It affects the way she speaks, and yet her scrappy and self-deprecating attitude shines through.

“The last couple years,” she says, “I grew up a lot. I became a woman. So, I’m having a fascinating time loving and accepting all these things that have come to me. I have a lot of happiness and hope. Now I think about how I can use my platform for being a voice.” She quickly jokes, “It’s really funny to me because my voice is all over the place!”

Her latest advocacy step is in the style world. Blair, the QVC Brand Ambassador for Accessibility, and her longtime friend, famed designer Isaac Mizrahi, have teamed up for the accessible fashion collection Isaac Mizrahi Live! x Selma Blair. No ordinary celebrity-endorsed line, it was developed through collaborative efforts with the disability community. The machine-washable clothes—which began exclusively debuting on QVC in early October—include accessible features like easy-open necklines, magnetic closures, stretch fabrics and flat seams. The pants are also available in versions for people in wheelchairs.

And true to Blair’s fashion MO, the wardrobe is effortlessly casual and cool: “The clothes are very chic and fashionable and, oh my God, changed my game. And I hate saying ‘changing my game!’”

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COVER AND OPENER BY QVC®/JONATHAN PUSHNIK

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Long before the collection, Blair found a way to express herself. After growing up in suburban Southfield, Michigan, Blair—the youngest of four girls—decided at age 22 to eschew Midwest domesticity and head to New York City to pursue a career in the arts. Within the next decade, she appeared in millennial classics such as *Cruel Intentions*, *Legally Blonde* and *The Sweetest Thing*. Though Blair didn't headline any of them, she made her mark as a fearless comedic talent. "I was like, 'Well, here's the second act of my life,'" she says. "I'm going to be an actress. It was a surprise to me!"

Blair, 51, currently resides in Los Angeles with her 12-year-old son, Arthur, and service dog, Scout. She frequently travels to New York and QVC headquarters in West Chester, Pennsylvania, and even recently headed to Washington, D.C., to meet with President Biden and honor the legacy of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act. "I'd love to live on a lake in Michigan and have a calm life," she says. "But I'm just too talkative for one state!" On a Thursday morning in October, Blair spoke to *Parade* about the collection, and her life.



From top left: *Cruel Intentions* (1999), *Zoe, Duncan, Jack & Jane* (1999-2000), *Legally Blonde* (2001), *The Sweetest Thing* (2002).

How did the idea of the collection come to you?

I was lucky enough to get a TV show a few years ago and I really, really needed that job because I was diagnosed at the same time. The wardrobe people had to help me get dressed because I couldn't move and pull my pants off. I realized I couldn't do this at home. So, I started wearing things with magnetic buttons and getting all this information. I wanted our clothes to have these adaptive features. And they're not meant strictly for people with disabilities or arthritis or poor vision. This is just our way of getting people dressed fast.

Why do you and Isaac Mizrahi fit together so well?

Years ago, I had him make a dress for me, and it was my favorite. I've always loved him. And I wanted every woman to feel as beautiful as I always felt wearing his clothes. He brings something extra and he's just a great American designer and has such a top-shelf personality. That's why this just seemed like the most auspicious, wonderful thing to happen.

Has fashion always played a major role in your life?

Always. I was a very animated child and, in some ways, also very withdrawn. The wardrobe was my costume. So, I had this actress personality and fashion was something I could cling to that everyone understood. But my mom would never let me buy really expensive, trendy things. It was, like, one Burberry coat every three years and the rest was my sisters' hand-me-downs. I watched Lisa Bonet on *The Cosby Show* with rips in her clothes and thought *I could do that, too*.

When was your first big style risk?

I went to a nice Jewish school and in junior high I dyed my hair blonde. I thought it was pretty. My mother liked it! But the principal had a talk with me because she couldn't believe I would do something so dramatic. It was a horrible time in my life. People were like "What is wrong with you?" It was so out of bounds. Like, it was such a big deal that I remember thinking, *I never want to do that again. Know your audience.* I transferred schools because I realized I needed a bigger audience where people wouldn't think I was a freak just because I wanted to look like Grace Kelly.

What did your mom think of you going into acting? It didn't run in the family.

I probably did get it from my mom because she was a judge so she was always in front of people, and she did command a room. But we didn't have that type of family at all. The focus was on education, period. And then a professional life. Acting was not anything a parent would dream for their child in the Midwest. But once I decided in college [University of Michigan] to go to New York, my mom packed my suitcase that very night and sent me off. I stayed at a Salvation Army in Gramercy Park.

continued on page 14



ISAAC MIZHARI ON FASHION FOR EVERYONE

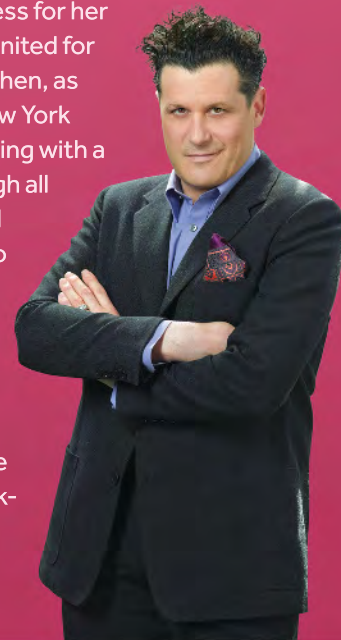
When Isaac Mizrahi started in fashion more than 30 years ago, he brought a singular goal to the worktable: "I've always wanted to reach out to new demographics of people that should have access to clothes," he says. "It's all about democratizing fashion to make it more inclusive."

The gregarious designer, actor, director, host, writer, *Project Runway* judge and producer—who burst into the mainstream with his hit 1995 documentary, *Unzipped*—has checked off that box many times over thanks to his mega-successful partnerships with Target and QVC. But his Isaac Mizrahi Live! x Selma Blair collection for QVC, which combines style with accessibility solutions, is a special highlight.

"This is a growing concern," he says. "I think it's a wonderful thing to make things easier and better for differently abled people to experience selection. This is my chance to help any way I can." He also boasts, "You don't need to sacrifice any kind of style at all. The clothes are incredibly great-looking. I'm so shallow, right? I just like great-looking clothes!"

Best of all? Mizrahi, 62, gets to work with one of his favorites. He and Blair first met when he designed the actress' dress for her premiere of *The Sweetest Thing* in 2002, and reunited for the 2004 Council of Fashion Designer Awards. Then, as he tells it, he was hanging out in a downtown New York City hotel a few years ago and saw her approaching with a walking cane. "I knew she had been going through all these tribulations because of her condition but I couldn't believe that she still managed to look so amazing," he recalls. "She started talking about how difficult her clothes were and how she had all these ideas about making them more useful to her and the differently able communities. One thing led to another."

Because of the collaboration, Mizrahi raves, he now sees his friend on the regular. "Selma is wickedly funny and so fun and a style icon," he says. "I'm inspired just being around her."



"THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS, I GREW UP A LOT"



from page 13

Did the roles come easily to you?

I went on 79 auditions before I got my SAG [Screen Actors Guild] card. Seventy-nine! I wrote it in my journal. There was a big picture of Parker Posey from *Party Girl* in there, too, because she was my inspiration. She was unusual and showed that women can find ways to get out of the [conventional] box.

And yet in your breakout role in *Cruel Intentions*, you played a young teen.

Yeah, I was like 23 when I did it! And everyone just thinks, *Oh my God, I've watched you since you were little.* And I'm like, *You lived in Southfield?!* Because I had a grown-up, educated, formed, totally civilian life until I was the proper age. The only hindrance was my own inability to put down a drink or two. So, I always felt like I was a witness in Hollywood. I mean, I had genuine fandom for [costar] Reese Witherspoon because I had watched her.

What was your pinch-me moment?

I was on a WB show called *Zoe, Duncan, Jack & Jane* [in 1999] and the ads were all over the subways and in Times Square. That was mind-boggling to me.



In October, Selma Blair and her service dog, Scout, joined President Joe Biden at the White House to celebrate the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act

I wish someone from my school would have known what a big deal it was!

How did the acting struggle prepare you for what was to come later?

It prepared me for a lot. I was so naive, but I always had a hardship in my head. I understood that life wasn't going to be easy. I was so reckless in ways because I was terrified of the big world, but I had such a curious, active brain. I never felt like I fit in anywhere. Then, after my diagnosis, I became so embraced by people in the MS and the Parkinson's community. My life made more sense—I loved being a voice for other people because no two disabilities are the same. And it's given me such empathy.

How so?

You know, if you see people with noticeable disabilities, it doesn't mean you have to stop and stare on the street. And there should be beautiful ramps everywhere! Have a ramp at the Oscars. The Oscars aren't for the actors—they're for the people at home. If you integrate things into the design of our lives, it

opens a mindset and people become more accepting.

Is it fair to say that even though you're a successful actress, the activism has given you a renewed purpose?

Sure, I did have those nights where I'd wish, *Whoa I'd love to have more roles.* Of course, I would have loved some type of stardom. But I was not tied to it in that way. I never thought of an Oscar speech in my life. Never crossed my mind. Then I felt like I needed to take that next step in my life and do what feels good. So, I did.

I did come out and tell people I had MS even though people said not to because no woman wants to feel like they're not capable of getting a job. That's why it's important for me to go to the White House and remind people that we do need legislation for all these things—and need clothes to go to these events!

What was the White House experience like for you?

My mother was a very Republican judge and my dad [an attorney] was a Demo-

SELMA SOUNDS OFF

Music in the car? Mixtapes that Matthew Perry made me! We dated a million years ago and we've been friends since 1999. He has good taste in music, and when I'm down, he'll send me good mixtapes. It's a lot of covers and of course Taylor Swift and Lady Gaga, but also a lot of heartbreak songs. Those always uplift me because misery loves company. *

Book on the nightstand? The memoir *The Happiest Man on Earth* [by Eddie Jaku]. I read every book on World War II and the Holocaust because I have an interest and fascination with resilience. We must bear witness to people's tragedies. It comforts and helps me as a signpost so I can grow.

Favorite item in your closet? My mom's Yves Saint Laurent moon and stars dress that she never let me wear. She said she'd leave it to me when she died, and in fact, she did. I wore it in the final scene of my documentary [2021's *Introducing, Selma Blair*].

Last time you asked for an autograph? Maybe a month ago, I was working with Chloe and Halle Bailey. Halle was on the cover of *Cosmo* and I had it in my purse. I was like "Oh my God, will you sign this?" And she did. And we took a picture.

First fashion idols? Debbie Harry and Belinda Carlisle

Favorite thing about growing in Michigan?

Christmas break in warm climates! Then you would come back and see who was the most tan. That's why I still have so much sun damage!

Favorite vacation spot? The Cayman Islands



There's a photo of your dog resting comfortably on the president's feet!

In the past I would have broken down in tears and been like *What do I do?* But I'm a grown-up so I stood there with a microphone and said, "Release!" It was funny. [The President] was charming and handled it beautifully.

What's left for you to accomplish?

Oh my gosh. I want chic. I want room to play. There are things beyond my pay grade but people with disabilities should have ostentatious fun. I'd love to have a collaboration with a company to make a wheelchair. I want to make a kick-ass thing for everyone so we can all get on the same talking page. To have luxury goods coveted by all but especially the disabled community can be a real equalizer.

It sounds like you're in a good place physically and emotionally.

I've really made a turn for the better in the past year. I'm sensitive and tired lately, but excited and hopeful, and feel like I need to uplift people. I wake up each morning with growing stamina. I'm so grateful for it. **P**



crat Zionist, but I grew up learning that no matter what, the White House was a sacred place. So, I was very, very happy to be invited. And when "Hail to the Chief" started playing, it was just so surreal. I had no idea I'd be walking with the president with my service dog and my cane! But it felt incredible to stand before these history-makers and the leaders in the disability community and celebrate our goals. It touched me so much, and I did not take it lightly.

*INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BEFORE MATTHEW PERRY'S PASSING



AMERICA'S FIRST LADIES

"It could be America's second-toughest job," wrote Margaret Truman, daughter of Harry and Bess, about being a First Lady in a 1995 *Parade* cover story. She pointed out that the male politicians who put together the government didn't give a thought to the First Lady's role. Now a new documentary is giving us a peek into one First Lady's life, using her own audio diaries. *The Lady Bird Diaries* (Hulu, Nov. 13) is a revealing look at one of the least understood First Ladies in history. Lady Bird Johnson, in the White House from 1963 to 1969, was quite cognizant of her unusual position: "The President is the one politician who is elected by a vote of the entire nation. A First Lady has been chosen by only one man—the President—and it is highly unlikely that he was thinking about her as First Lady when he proposed!" We dug into the Vault to see how *Parade* covered some of America's First Ladies over the years. —Anne Krueger



■ CHARMER IN THE WHITE HOUSE (1959)

Parade reported that even an upcoming visit from "the unpredictable and boisterous" Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviet Union Premier, wouldn't phase First Lady Mammie Eisenhower, who was known for her smiles, engaging conversation and charm.



■ FIRST LADY FRIENDSHIPS (1965)

On the anniversary of JFK's death, Washington columnist Jack Anderson reported on the bond among the four living First Ladies—Bess, Mamie, Jackie and Lady Bird. They weren't at all alike, but each understood the danger and drama of being married to the President.

■ SHOULD THE FIRST LADY BE PAID? (1968)

That's the question *Parade* asked on the eve of the Presidential election when it wasn't yet known who would be FL—Pat Nixon or Muriel Humphrey. Whatever the outcome, the FL *should* be paid, *Parade* said, for her upcoming "four years of delicate and difficult diplomacy."



■ AN OUTSPOKEN BETTY FORD (1976)

When Betty Ford's press secretary Sheila Weidenfeld booked her on *60 Minutes*, she knew the FL would be outspoken—and she was. When asked, Ford said that she supported abortion, the Equal Rights Amendment and that she wouldn't be surprised if her children had experimented with marijuana.



■ MY LIFE BEGAN WITH RONNIE (1976)

She wasn't the First Lady yet, but Nancy Reagan (whom Ronald Reagan called "Mommy") was practicing. His major job is running for president, she said. Her major job was looking after him.



■ FIRST LADY CAUSES (2011)

In this interview, Michelle Obama and Jill Biden told *Parade* about their combined effort to support military families. Over time, FL's have embraced many causes: Lady Bird was instrumental in the Highway Beautification Act, Barbara Bush promoted literacy and Hillary Clinton initiated the Adoption and Safe Families Act.

Ask Marilyn

| BY MARILYN VOS SAVANT |

Find solutions to Marilyn's puzzles and this week's Numbrix on the next page!



Send questions to
marilyn@parade.com

Numbrix®

Complete 1 to 81 so the numbers follow a horizontal or vertical path—no diagonals.

59			53			33
		55	39			
	65					27
67						25
	69					23
		73	9			
79			1			15

For more Numbrix puzzles, go to
Parade.com/numbrix.



Dear Marilyn,
I've noticed I wear my wireless earbuds almost constantly unless I'm with my friends. In fact, I feel a little disconnected when I'm not wearing them! I even wear them at night because I sleep better with white noise. Is it possible I'm damaging my hearing?—

—Emily Davies, Bronx, New York

It's possible—especially as you feel a bit isolated without them.

In general, hearing damage caused by sound (including sound generated by earbuds) depends on three factors: intensity, pitch and duration. I'm sure you know you should keep the volume as low as possible, right? To make a good decision about volume, ask a few other people to listen to your selection and tell you what they think. If you already have some hearing loss, your own judgment won't be solid. You should also avoid any color of noise (white, brown, pink, etc.) with higher pitches, and try to limit use of your earbuds to shorter periods of time.

Yet the feeling of missing something when you're not wearing earbuds may be simply that you've become accustomed to constant auditory stimulation, and you're no longer comfortable with a calm environment. If that's the case, it makes sense that you would need some low-think sound input at night.

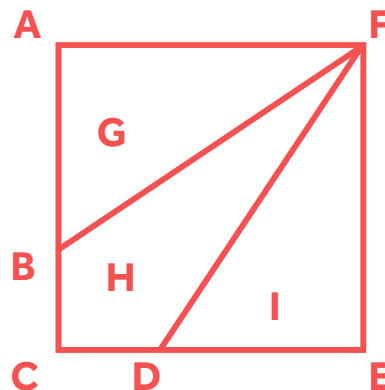
CLASSIC ASK MARILYN

THE AREA PROBLEM

April 6, 2008

The figure at right is a square. Line AB is twice as long as CD. Line BF is the same length as DF. How does area H compare to G and I: 1. H is largest; 2. H is smallest; or 3. All are the same?

—Noah Reinhart, Denver, Colo.



THE WORD SCRAMBLE

Sept. 9, 2001

Can you unscramble these letters to form a statement used by people to assert that wealth is no insurance against discontent?

—Wade Glaser, Hannover, Mass.

AABCEEHIMNNNNOOPPSSTUY

SOLUTIONS

THE AREA PROBLEM

Answer: The areas are all the same size.

THE WORD SCRAMBLE

Answer:

AABCEEHIMNNNNOOPPSSTUYY

= **MONEY CANNOT
BUY HAPPINESS**



Numbrix®

November 12, 2023

59	58	57	54	53	38	37	34	33
60	61	56	55	52	39	36	35	32
63	62	49	50	51	40	29	30	31
64	65	48	43	42	41	28	27	26
67	66	47	44	5	6	21	22	25
68	69	46	45	4	7	20	23	24
81	70	71	72	3	8	19	18	17
80	77	76	73	2	9	12	13	16
79	78	75	74	1	10	11	14	15

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