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The Daily Mail

WEEKEND

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Pandemic forces EMS to adapt

By Ted Remsnyder
Columbia-Greene Media

CATSKILL — The pandemic has forced many businesses and government agencies to adapt their way of working, and Greene County Emergency Medical Services has not been immune to change over the last two years.

During a presentation on June 1 at the Greene County Legislature's Health Services Committee meeting, Greene Emergency Medical Services President Mark Evans explained

the changes the agency has undergone since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020.

A major component of that shift was the assistance that Greene EMS provided the county in administering COVID vaccinations.

"The pandemic has changed EMS forever," Evans said. "We're kind of in a new era of paramedicine. Back when the vaccines became available in January 2021, I got a call from (Greene County Administrator)

Shaun Groden and he said, 'Can your paramedics help?' I said, 'Absolutely.' We had eight paramedics who went through and received specialized training, which they didn't really need because the injection was something they already knew how to do, but the requirements were that they had to have training on it. So they got trained and worked in conjunction with public health. I think they were at every single (vaccination) pod that was done throughout the county."

Evans added that at last count, the Greene EMS paramedics had assisted in administering over 17,000 COVID vaccinations in the county.

According to Evans, another major change for the EMS agency over the past two years has been the implementation of telemedicine, which could provide substantial cost savings to the county moving forward.

"Nobody knew what telemedicine was before the pandemic, now everybody knows



FILE PHOTO

Greene County EMS has implemented changes since the start of the pandemic, including the introduction of telemedicine.

See EMS A12

By Bill Williams
Columbia-Greene Media

ALBANY — The union that represents New York State corrections officers is blasting the New York State Legislature for ending its session without addressing the significant rise in violence in the state's correctional facilities since the implementation of the HALT Act, said Michael Powers, president of New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association.

The Humane Alternatives for Long Term Solitary Confinement Act, which severely limits, or in some cases, eliminates the ability to place incarcerated individuals in Special Housing Units separated from the general population, was implemented in all state-run correctional facilities on April 1, said James Miller, director of public relations at NYSCOPBA.

"Not only did members of the New York State Legislature repeatedly fail to pass NYSCOPBA-sponsored legislation which would commission a prison violence study prior to HALT's enactment, but the Democratic Majority

Union blasts state lawmakers on prison violence

Front entrance of Coxsackie Correctional Facility.

FILE PHOTO

See VIOLENCE A12



Contractor accused of defrauding Greene clients

By Bill Williams
Columbia-Greene Media

PITTSFIELD — A contractor from Massachusetts is accused of stealing more than \$400,000 from potential clients in five states including Columbia and Greene counties, according to Berkshire County District Attorney Andrea Harrington.

Fred Lewis Senter Jr., 40, of Pittsfield, was indicted by a grand jury on 30 counts of larceny for theft in amounts of \$1,200, 12 counts of larceny over \$1,200 from persons over the age of 60, four counts of larceny under \$1,200, one count of operating as an unlicensed home improvement contractor and a charge of

being a common and notorious thief, Harrington said.

"Mr. Senter is accused of contracting and accepting payments from more than 40 victims across five different states to build steel structures with no intent of completing the work," Harrington said.

The crimes were committed between February of 2020 and September of 2021.

Senter acquired the work, as owner of Northern Steel Building and Structure, LLC. He dissolved the business in June of 2021 but allegedly continued to collect deposits, Harrington said.

Senter's company was dissolved by court order on June

See CONTRACTOR A12



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Berkshire County District Attorney Andrea Harrington speaks online about the indictment of a local contractor on Thursday.



FILE PHOTO

Some Columbia County residents were victims of a contracting scam, that a Pittsfield man was charged with on Thursday.

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On the web

www.HudsonValley360.com



Weather

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| TODAY | TONIGHT | SUN |
|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mostly sunny and beautiful | Clear to partly cloudy | Nice with sunny intervals |
| HIGH 80 | LOW 47 | 75 |
| | | 56 |

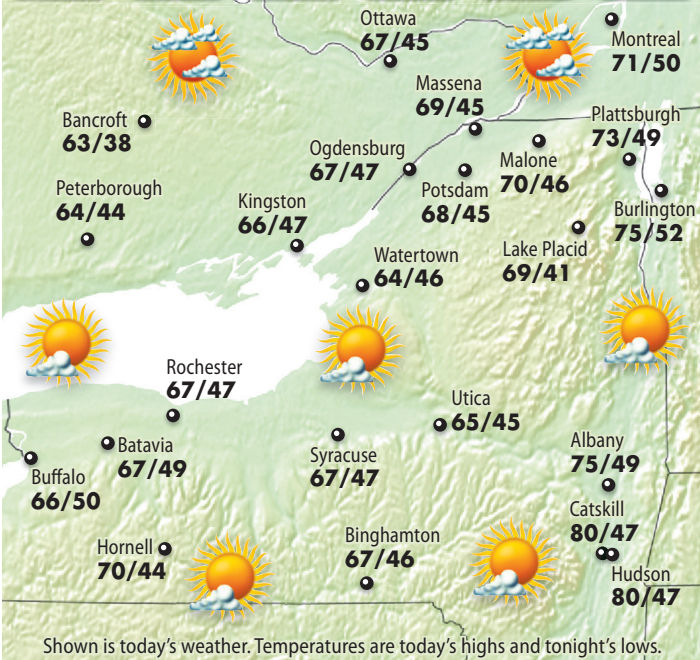


INSIDE TODAY!

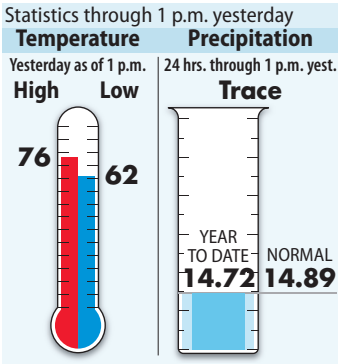
Weather

FORECAST FOR HUDSON/CATSKILL

| TODAY | TONIGHT | SUN | MON | TUE | WED |
|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| | | | | | |
| Mostly sunny and beautiful | Clear to partly cloudy | Nice with sunny intervals | Considerable cloudiness | T-storms possible | Mostly sunny and warmer |
| HIGH | LOW | 75 | 79 | 73 | 81 |
| 80 | 47 | 56 | 59 | 62 | 57 |



ALMANAC

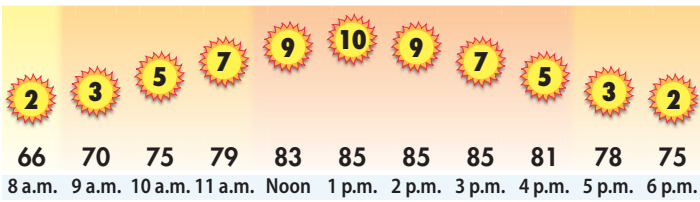


SUN AND MOON

| | Today | Sun. |
|----------|------------|------------|
| Sunrise | 5:21 a.m. | 5:20 a.m. |
| Sunset | 8:27 p.m. | 8:28 p.m. |
| Moonrise | 9:27 a.m. | 10:31 a.m. |
| Moonset | 12:13 a.m. | 12:45 a.m. |

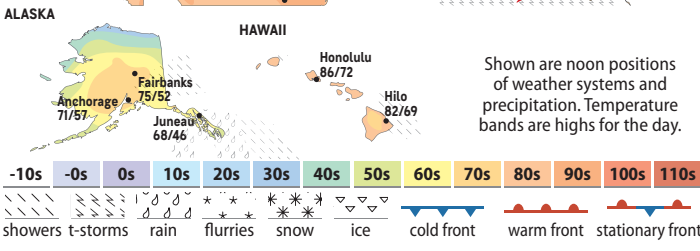
| Moon Phases | First | Full | Last | New |
|-------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Jun 7 | Jun 14 | Jun 20 | Jun 28 |

CONDITIONS TODAY



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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



NATIONAL CITIES

| City | Today | | Sun. | | City | Today | | Sun. | |
|----------------|-------|----|-------|----|----------------|--------|----|--------|----|
| | Hi/Lo | W | Hi/Lo | W | | Hi/Lo | W | Hi/Lo | W |
| Albuquerque | 89/63 | s | 89/64 | s | Little Rock | 84/63 | pc | 85/68 | pc |
| Anchorage | 71/57 | s | 71/51 | s | Los Angeles | 76/59 | pc | 76/62 | pc |
| Atlanta | 86/67 | s | 85/68 | pc | Miami | 84/78 | r | 91/78 | t |
| Atlantic City | 75/64 | s | 70/62 | pc | Milwaukee | 66/56 | c | 66/57 | t |
| Baltimore | 84/60 | s | 80/60 | pc | Minneapolis | 71/54 | c | 73/55 | pc |
| Billings | 72/54 | c | 70/50 | c | Nashville | 86/61 | s | 87/69 | pc |
| Birmingham | 88/68 | s | 86/71 | s | New Orleans | 90/76 | s | 90/74 | t |
| Boise | 65/55 | sh | 70/51 | sh | New York City | 81/58 | s | 77/62 | s |
| Boston | 72/56 | pc | 73/57 | pc | Norfolk | 80/64 | pc | 78/66 | pc |
| Charleston, SC | 81/68 | t | 82/69 | pc | Oklahoma City | 78/65 | pc | 84/69 | c |
| Charleston, WV | 80/52 | s | 84/61 | pc | Omaha | 81/63 | t | 80/61 | r |
| Charlotte | 83/62 | pc | 83/61 | s | Orlando | 82/74 | r | 89/73 | t |
| Cheyenne | 77/52 | t | 75/52 | t | Philadelphia | 84/59 | s | 80/61 | pc |
| Chicago | 71/59 | c | 79/62 | t | Phoenix | 102/77 | s | 102/79 | pc |
| Cincinnati | 79/57 | s | 82/64 | pc | Pittsburgh | 73/50 | s | 78/59 | pc |
| Cleveland | 70/56 | pc | 79/63 | c | Portland | 65/50 | pc | 71/51 | pc |
| Columbus, OH | 77/56 | s | 81/63 | pc | Portland | 65/59 | r | 66/54 | r |
| Dallas | 86/69 | pc | 94/74 | s | Providence | 77/55 | pc | 75/55 | pc |
| Denver | 82/56 | pc | 81/56 | c | Raleigh | 85/60 | pc | 83/58 | pc |
| Des Moines | 77/61 | t | 77/62 | sh | Richmond | 84/59 | s | 83/60 | pc |
| Detroit | 73/57 | pc | 74/61 | pc | Sacramento | 78/61 | c | 79/54 | c |
| Hartford | 81/51 | s | 76/56 | pc | St. Louis | 84/65 | pc | 86/69 | pc |
| Honolulu | 86/72 | pc | 86/73 | pc | Salt Lake City | 86/60 | pc | 80/60 | pc |
| Houston | 92/74 | t | 96/75 | pc | San Francisco | 71/61 | c | 71/54 | r |
| Indianapolis | 80/59 | s | 83/63 | c | Savannah | 85/69 | t | 83/70 | t |
| Kansas City | 80/65 | t | 81/67 | c | Seattle | 65/55 | c | 65/50 | r |
| Knoxville | 83/61 | s | 84/65 | pc | Tampa | 88/76 | r | 91/77 | t |
| Las Vegas | 94/73 | pc | 97/75 | pc | Washington, DC | 85/62 | s | 80/63 | pc |

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

Federal judges resist 'mandatory' training on workplace disputes

Ann E. Marimow
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — At least two federal judges in D.C. have resisted attending workplace-conduct training scheduled in response to courthouse concerns about how the judiciary handles allegations of misconduct, according to an internal court email.

Leaders of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and the U.S. District Court announced the training sessions this spring after employees detailed accusations of bullying, gender discrimination and racial insensitivity in a confidential workplace survey.

In an all-courthouse email sent to about 400 people last week, Circuit Judge David B. Sentelle said he and a colleague, Circuit Judge A. Raymond Randolph, would not participate in the training, which court leaders had described as mandatory "for everyone."

"Like Judge Randolph," Sentelle wrote in the brief message reviewed by The Washington Post, "[I] do not intend to attend this 'mandatory' session."

Sentelle was responding to a reminder from the court's workplace relations coordinator asking employees to register for a 45-minute online session, which includes a review of the court's employee dispute resolution process known as EDR. The subject of the email was "Mandatory 2022 EDR Plan Training for Everyone," and the message described the session as "mandatory," written in bold, underlined text.

Sentelle, who joined the D.C. Circuit in 1987, declined to comment on his initial refusal to participate. Randolph, appointed in 1990, did not respond to messages seeking comment.



Judges on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit gather for a portrait presentation in the ceremonial courtroom in May 2022.

In the days since he sent the email, Sentelle has decided to attend the training, according to a court official who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal court operations. Sentelle did not mean to reply-all, the person said. He also did not object to the substance of the training, the official said, but to the characterization that it was mandatory for judges. Since 2019, courts across the country have been required to conduct annual training, but the judiciary leaders who adopted that policy did not require judges to attend.

It was not immediately known whether Randolph would also attend one of the remaining sessions this month.

Chief Judges Sri Srinivasan of the D.C. Circuit and Beryl A. Howell of the U.S. District Court announced the training in late April as one of two concrete steps in response to employee feedback in the workplace survey. The judges said the sessions would cover "resources to address workplace conduct."

"We are committed to ensuring that this courthouse is

a workplace where we all treat one another, and the members of the public we serve, with dignity and respect," the judges wrote in an April 21 email.

The survey, a copy of which was obtained by The Post, details allegations of misconduct by courthouse staff to file formal complaints against their supervisors. Most survey respondents described the courthouse as a positive work environment and said they had not personally experienced or witnessed wrongful conduct. But some employees also cited fears of retaliation and said they did not believe that the judiciary's system for workplace accountability would resolve their concerns.

Leaders of federal courthouses throughout the country have worked to overhaul the system for handling workplace misconduct in the years since Judge Alex Kozinski of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in California stepped down after allegations of sexual harassment from women he supervised. U.S. Chief Justice John Roberts, who oversees the federal judiciary,

has resisted intervention by Congress on the matter, and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts has opposed proposed legislation that would extend anti-discrimination rights to the court system's more than 30,000 employees.

After The Post published a report about the survey's findings last month, the House Judiciary Committee requested a copy of the D.C. Circuit workplace survey. Srinivasan, the chief judge, asked Sentelle, a former chief judge and former prosecutor, to lead an investigation into the leak of the document.

Judges representing the courts' administrative office told lawmakers at a March oversight hearing about steps the judiciary has taken to improve workplace protections and to increase reporting options. A March report from the judiciary's workplace conduct committee notes a "dramatic increase in training related to workplace conduct" and says that judges and other court leaders are "actively engaged in training and leading by example through their personal commitment to maintaining an exemplary workplace."

The report recommends tracking and ensuring trainings completed by all employees, including judges. Training efforts could be "strengthened," the report says, "if courts and employing offices ensured that all their employees not only have access to but also complete EDR training on an annual basis."

Nancy Gertner, a retired federal judge in Massachusetts who teaches at Harvard Law School, said the apparent resistance to training from the federal appeals court judges in D.C. "sends a troubling message."

Job growth in U.S. tops estimates, signaling optimism on economy

Olivia Rockeman
Bloomberg

U.S. employers hired at a robust pace in May while wage gains held firm, suggesting the economy continues to power forward as the Federal Reserve raises interest rates at a steep pace to tame red-hot inflation.

Nonfarm payrolls increased 390,000 last month after a revised 436,000 gain in April, a Labor Department report showed Friday. The unemployment rate held at 3.6%, and the labor force participation rate crept higher.

The median estimate in a Bloomberg survey of economists called for a 318,000 advance in payrolls and for the unemployment rate to fall to 3.5%.

The report suggests that employers had success filling open positions in the month. While Fed policymakers are seen pressing on with more interest-rate hikes, greater labor participation may eventually help to further restrain wage growth that's feeding inflationary pressures.

Average hourly earnings rose a less-than-forecast 0.3% from April. They were up 5.2% from a year earlier, a slowdown from 5.5% in the prior month.

The dollar and Treasury yields jumped after the report. Traders were pricing in about 200 basis points of additional rate hikes over the next five Fed meetings.

The Fed has adopted a more aggressive monetary policy stance in an effort to curb decades-high inflation, and has indicated that it will raise rates by a half point in both June and July. While those efforts are



A server cleans a table at a restaurant in Clemson, S.C., on Sept. 19, 2020.

likely to ease price pressures, they also risk eventually leading to softer demand for labor, particularly in interest-rate sensitive sectors like housing and construction.

The figures may provide some comfort to President Joe Biden and Democrats as they face a difficult challenge defending their thin congressional majorities in the November midterm elections. Even so, rapid price gains have far outweighed plentiful jobs in polls of Americans that have shown unhappiness with the economy and disapproval of Biden's performance.

Biden is scheduled to speak later Friday morning about the jobs report.

At the same, overall job growth is expected to slow in the coming months as the labor market reaches pre-pandemic employment levels and the unemployment rate holds at

a historically low level. That means monthly payrolls gains of a half million or more, as experienced over the last two years, are likely over for the U.S..

Job growth in May was led by steady hiring in leisure and hospitality, business services, and education and health care.

Leisure and hospitality added 84,000 jobs in May, most of which were in accommodation and food services.

Employment in business and professional services rose 75,000 and payrolls increased by 74,000 in education and health care.

HUDSON RIVER TIDES

Low Tide: 12:33 a.m. 0.98 feet
High Tide: 6:22 a.m. 3.97 feet
Low Tide: 1:33 p.m. 0.66 feet
High Tide: 7:41 p.m. 3.29 feet

Construction employment registered a 36,000 increase, the most in three months. Still, payrolls in the industry are at risk of cooling eventually against a backdrop of higher mortgage rates that have been slowing demand for housing.

The labor force participation rate -- the share of the population that is working or looking for work -- rose to 62.3%, and the rate for workers ages 25-54 climbed to a pandemic-high of 82.6%.

Overall participation has been slow to recover to pre-pandemic levels after many Americans left their workforce for good during the pandemic, in part due to child care challenges and early retirement.

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CALENDAR

EDITOR'S NOTE: Most events and meetings are cancelled or have been moved online due to the virus outbreak. Please call ahead to confirm.

Saturday, June 4

■ Cocksackie Village Clean-Up Day 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Monday, June 6

■ Athens Town Board 7 p.m. Athens Volunteer Firehouse, 39 Third St., Athens 518-945-1052 Changes will be on the Town of Athens web page

■ Cocksackie Village Workshop Meeting 6 p.m. Village Hall, 119 Mansion St., Cocksackie 518-731-2718

■ Cocksackie Village Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing and meeting 6 p.m. Cocksackie-Athens High School Auditorium, 24 Sunset Blvd., Cocksackie

■ Greene County Board of Electrical Examiners 1 p.m. Greene County Office Building, 411 Main St., 4th Floor, Room 469, Catskill

Tuesday, June 7

■ Catskill Town Board with public hearing cable franchise 6:30 p.m. Town Hall, 439 Main St., Catskill 518-943-2141

■ Durham Town Board workshop meeting 7:30 p.m. Town Hall, 7309 Route 81, East Durham

Wednesday, June 8

■ Athens Town Zoning Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Athens Town Hall, 2 First St., Athens

■ Athens Village Board 6:30 p.m. Athens Fire Department, 39 Third St., Athens Consult the village website for updates the day of the meeting

■ Catskill Village Board of Trustees 6:30 p.m. Robert C. Antonelli Senior Center, 15 Academy St., Catskill 518-943-3830

■ Greene County Legislature solid waste and transfer operations workshop 6 p.m. Greene County Office Building, 411 Main St., Catskill

■ Jewett Town Board 7 p.m. Jewett Municipal Building, 3547 County Route 23C, Jewett

Thursday, June 9

■ Greene County Legislature finance audit 4 p.m.

Monday, June 13

■ Ashland Town Board 7:30 p.m. Town Hall, 12094 Route 23, Ashland

■ Catskill Village Planning Board 6:30 p.m. Robert C. Antonelli Senior Center, 15 Academy St., Catskill 518-943-3830

■ Greene County Legislature county services; public works; economic development and tourism; Gov. Ops.; finance; Rep. and Dem. caucus 6 p.m. Greene County Office Building, 411 Main St., Catskill

Tuesday, June 14

■ Catskill Town Planning Board 6:30 p.m. Town Hall, 439 Main St., Catskill 518-943-2141

■ Cocksackie Village Historic Preservation Committee 6 p.m. Village Hall, 119 Mansion St., Cocksackie 518-731-2718

Wednesday, June 15

■ Catskill Central School District Board of Education regular business 6:30 p.m. CHS Library, CHS Library, 341 West Main St., Catskill 518-943-2300

C-GCC offers free Class B license training

By Ted Remsnyder
Columbia-Greene Media

GREENPORT — Columbia-Greene Community College is partnering with the Columbia-Greene Workforce NY Career Center to offer free Commercial Driver's License Class B Training certification courses for students who qualify for financial assistance.

The classes begin Saturday and consist of 92 hours of classroom training and 27 hours of road training over the course of the weekend sessions.

According to Chris Nardone, Director of the Columbia-Greene Workforce NY, a necessity in the marketplace made the courses a natural idea.

"One of the major reasons was because of the shortage of bus drivers," Nardone said of the origin of the classes. "That's what kind of started the discussion. There's a real need in our area for commercial drivers. We have a lot of



FILE PHOTO

The Columbia-Greene Workforce NY Career Center and Columbia-Greene Community College have teamed up to offer commercial Driver's License Class B Training certification courses.

transportation and logistics companies in the area. Also the county DOTs need plow drivers and salt truck drivers. There's been no training available in our area forever."

The program was put together by Columbia-Greene Workforce NY Career Center in conjunction with the college.

A dozen students have signed up for the course, with

more applicants placed on a waiting list due to the high demand for the classes.

"We are funding people who are financially eligible, who meet our eligibility requirements," Jeanette O'Neil, assistant director of Columbia-Greene Workforce NY, said. "The classes cost us money, they're just not costing our customers money if they meet our eligibility for grant

funding."

Nardone said the funding for the program is provided by federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funding through the state Department of Labor.

The Columbia-Greene Workforce NY director said for the next round of the training the career center would reach out to Columbia and Greene counties about potentially assisting with the funding of the initiative.

"I'm sure if we recognized ahead of time how much demand there really was for it in the county, I'm sure the counties would gladly chip in," Nardone said on Friday. "The cost is substantial training 12 to 15 people."

The Class B training does not pertain to school bus drivers, a position that requires additional certification. Class B licenses are required for drivers who pilot a vehicle that weighs more than 26,000 pounds or carries 24 or more passengers.

"In February, the federal government changed the regulation, and now everyone who wants to get a CDL license has to go through a certified training provider," Nardone said. "You can't get those hours anymore on the job like you used to. So we thought it was important to bring training to the area, so businesses could fill some of these positions and also we could kind of skill people up so they can make a better wage."

Nardone said the organization is planning to offer another round of training in the fall.

"It's been very popular," he said. "We had reached out to some businesses who we know are in need of drivers and had given them the opportunity if they had some employees who were interested in a CDL-B that we could help skill up to fill some of those positions that they had. Then we went out to the general public and it's been really popular."

Launch of online Empire State Trail trip planning feature announced

ALBANY — In celebration of National Trails Day, a new "Trip Planning" feature is now available on empiretrail.ny.gov, the official website for the Empire State Trail. The site provides information about trail routes, parking, nearby attractions, and a variety of overnight accommodations available along or near the Empire State Trail route, including hotels, inns, bed & breakfasts, resorts and campgrounds. National Trails Day, the first Saturday of each June, celebrates America's trail systems and their supporters and volunteers.

"The Empire State Trail is a wonderful pathway through our state's scenic beauty and extraordinary history. Whether you want to plan a day-trip or an epic long-distance adventure, there are a wealth of places to see and enjoy along the way," State Parks Commissioner Erik Kulleseid said. "The updated website is a great tool for visitors to plan the ideal trip, and will help bolster New York's regional tourism strategies."

In addition to providing a wide range of lodging options within five miles of the trail, the new trip planning features include downloadable GPS routes and other resources such as access to maps and guidebooks.

The Empire State Trail is the longest statewide multi-use trail in the country spanning 750 miles from Buffalo to Albany, and from New York City through the Hudson and Champlain Valleys to Canada. Officially opened in December 2020, the Empire State Trail welcomes bicyclists and walkers of all ages and abilities to experience the Empire State's urban centers, village main streets, rural communities, diverse history, and remarkable natural resources. The Empire State Trail runs through more than two dozen counties and hundreds of New York communities. The Empire State Trail is traveled by more than 8 million users each year.

New York State Canal Corporation Director Brian U. Stratton said, "Following much of the original Erie and Champlain Canal's towpaths, the Empire State Trail is a tremendous recreational asset that offers New Yorkers and visitors alike the ability to experience the very best our state has to offer — charming communities and bucolic landscapes that are packed with endless opportunities for adventure. I applaud Governor Hochul for enhancing the Empire State Trail website with features that highlight local amenities and tools that allow users

to plan ahead while they prepare to explore on and off the trail."

Hudson River Valley Greenway Executive Director Scott Keller said, "Overnight visitors contribute significantly more to the local economy than day visitors. Having specific overnight accommodation information available directly on the Empire State Trail website will encourage more overnight visitation."

Empire State Development Vice President and Executive Director of Tourism Ross D. Levi said, "Under Governor Hochul's leadership, New York continues to develop new ways to engage travelers and support the state's tourism economy. The Empire State Trail offers residents and visitors alike the opportunity to hike and bike across New York State, while exploring the state's diverse and unique communities. The Trail website's new trip planning feature makes it easier to turn a day trip into a getaway, allowing travelers to come be a part of all the wonder of an I LOVE NY vacation."

Robert Provost, President & CEO of the NYS Tourism Industry Association, said "The Empire State Trail has the potential to transform New York State into America's #1 destination for

bikers, hikers, pedalers and paddlers. It offers more quality of life, economic development and marketing possibilities to more communities than any other single tourism asset in New York State. Creating itineraries and assisting residents and visitors in navigating the Empire State Trail will help us begin to realize those potentials and possibilities. Thank you, Governor Hochul, Commissioner Kulleseid and the entire team at the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation!"

In addition, State Parks announced several projects to rehabilitate key trail segments in the Mohawk Valley and Capital Region will be complete later in June.

A \$710,000 rehabilitation of a 3-mile trail section from Alexander Street in the City of Cohoes, running northwest to Route 9 in the Town of Colonie. State Parks installed a new asphalt surface on the 20-year-old trail, and upgraded safety fencing, signage, and road crossings. This segment is part of the Erie Canalway Trail, and is also designated the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail.

A \$1.2 million project to rehabilitate a 2.5-mile section of the trail from Flint Avenue in the City of Little Falls east to Herkimer Home

State Historic Site, in Herkimer County. The project removed the trail's 20-year-old asphalt and stone-dust surface, widened the original 5-foot-wide trail to a more standard 10-foot width, installed new fully accessible connections, installed drainage improvements to prevent erosion, and made safety improvements - including new fencing and signage. The trail segment is also part of the Erie Canalway Trail.

A \$275,000 project to resurface a 5-mile section of the Erie Canalway Trail, from Herkimer Home State Historic Site east to the Montgomery County line at Mindenville. The project replaced the trail's loose gravel surface with a stone dust surface suitable for bicycling.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees more than 250 parks, historic sites, recreational trails, golf courses, boat launches and more, which are visited by more than 78 million people annually. For more information on any of these recreation areas, visit www.parks.ny.gov, download the free NY State Parks Explorer mobile app or call 518.474.0456. Also, connect on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

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Mary Dempsey
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OUR VIEW

County needs good mobile health care

Greene County Emergency Medical Services employees — that is, its paramedics — have not received a pay raise in more than five years. The agency is asking the Greene County Legislature for a 14.9% increase in its annual budget in 2023 as a way of giving paramedics a \$3 per hour salary increase. Lawmakers ought to take the request seriously.

Addressing the Legislature's Health Services Committee on Wednesday, Greene Emergency Medical Services President Mark Evans said the group was making a \$2,273,000 budget request for 2023, up \$294,000 over last year's approved \$1,979,000 agency budget. Evans said rising fuel prices, increased liability insurance and mandatory training fees are the driving factors behind the requested budget increase.

Evans added that Greene County EMS wants to stay

competitive in salaries offered to its crew. The agency offers \$23.25 in starting pay, while EMS workers in Greenport in Columbia County receive \$26.31 per hour and paramedics in Albany County make \$29.38 per hour. Evans said Greene County EMS is seeking to raise its paramedic pay \$3 per hour in 2023 to achieve parity and will likely ask for an additional pay boost in 2024. Salaries for Greene County paramedics are well behind those of their neighbors and catching up will take at least the next two years.

Greene is a county without a hospital. Thirty years ago, Greene County Memorial Hospital shut down. If you live in a county that doesn't have a hospital, you need to have the next best thing, and that is a good ambulance system. The problems facing Greene County's municipal ambulance corps and Greene EMS are shared

by units nationwide. Greene County is not alone.

Greene County's paramedics went above and beyond the call of duty when the coronavirus pandemic hit in 2020. Suddenly, they were strangers in a strange new land, answering calls wearing cumbersome new protective gear and risking exposure to a virus we knew little about at the time. The changes stamped by COVID were indelible and today those changes betray the strain the pandemic wrought on the mobile health care system.

Greene County EMS is operating in a new world, a world of fierce competition to attract trained and skilled medical technicians. Greene County EMS made it through the COVID crisis risking infection every time they went out on a call. The Legislature should fully assess the EMS situation and fairly compensate its paramedics.

ANOTHER VIEW

Gun violence is a solvable public health crisis

Dallas Morning News Editorial
The Dallas Morning News

As the murdered children of Uvalde are laid to rest this week, our nation needs to muster the courage and political will to treat rising gun violence and mass shootings as an acute public health crisis.

When auto accidents claimed a large number of lives, government and industry dollars funded research to make cars safer, leading to seat belts, airbags and other now standard safety features. Public health studies that linked smoking to cancer, lung disease and other health risks changed smoking habits. Subsequent legal action held tobacco companies responsible for having hidden the health risks associated with their products.

The Second Amendment protects gun ownership in America. The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the individual right to own guns in the Heller decision. In that same ruling, Justice Antonin Scalia also noted that "like most rights, the right secured by the Second Amendment is not unlimited" and that "the right was not a right to

keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose."

Federal dollars are slowly returning to gun violence research after more than two decades on the sidelines due to fears that scientific study would lead to gun control. But gun violence research is funded at about \$63 per life lost, making it the second-most-neglected major cause of death, according to a 2017 estimate in the Journal of the American Medical Association. While mass shootings at schools rightly spotlight the need for school security, more young people have died from gun violence of all kinds than car crashes, which are second, and drug overdoses, which are third.

But as a nation, we need to know more about gun violence. A research letter in the New England Journal of Medicine concluded that firearm-related deaths increased 13% between 2019 and 2020, with the biggest jump — a stunning 30% — occurring among those under 19 years of age. And of the 45,222 deaths from gun violence in 2020, roughly 10% were children and teenagers.

But here's the shocker. Roughly 65% of gun deaths among adults were suicides and 30% were homicides. However, among teens and younger Americans, those percentages are roughly flipped, the statistics show.

The nation needs to increase mental health investments and pass sensible gun safety regulations at the federal and state levels. Public support exists for background checks, age limits on weapons purchases, red flag laws and mandatory training for firearm owners. Most of all, the nation has to break the cycle of violence, and a more rigorous examination of gun deaths and injuries as a public health crisis will allow researchers to better determine how to prevent such deaths.

Families and communities wracked by gun violence are forever broken, and the rest of us share their grief and fear that a gunman could mete out carnage on our families and friends. As a society, we must not allow this carnage to persist.

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Now is no time to go tentative on military aid for Ukraine

WASHINGTON POST



GEORGE F. WILL

"If you start to take Vienna, take Vienna" — Napoleon, reportedly

WASHINGTON — A prolific maker of widows, orphans and history, Napoleon was a war savant who understood the perils of tentativeness. As U.S. and allied weapons — including information — are wielded by Ukraine against a Russia that aspires to be rampant in its region, the military and diplomatic dangers of hesitancy are mounting.

The annual World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, earns some of the derision it receives ("Where billionaires tell millionaires what the middle class is thinking"), but occasionally it puts a world leader in a useful spotlight, hence on the spot. On May 26, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz told the forum: The world "experienced a thunderbolt" when Russia invaded Ukraine. This will "end Germany and Europe's dependence on energy imports from Russia": "We cannot allow Putin to win his war," so we must "make it clear to Putin that there will be no victor's peace."

Another German, Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission, says Ukraine "must win" because it is "one of us." She thereby supplied the answer to the foolish question of whether Ukraine — geographically, the largest nation located entirely in Europe — belongs in the European Union.

Scholz's thunderous words included: "We have an unequivocal message for our allies: You can rely on Germany!" And: "For the first time ever, Germany is supplying arms to a war zone — including heavy weapons." Words are, however, unable to enable Ukraine to defeat Russia's patent aim of piecemeal dismemberment of it. The Wall Street Journal reports that Germany has not sent tanks to Ukraine, has not yet sent to Poland and the Czech Republic the promised weapons to replace the tanks those nations (from Poland, more than 240 Soviet-designed

expenditure of its blood are enormous. After visiting Kyiv, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said on May 1 that the United States is "with Ukraine until victory is won." Victory should have two elements.

One is that combat ends with Russia diminished — more militarily vulnerable, economically ramshackle and internationally disdained than it was when its aggression began. This has been achieved, but the achievement must be preserved by a second element:

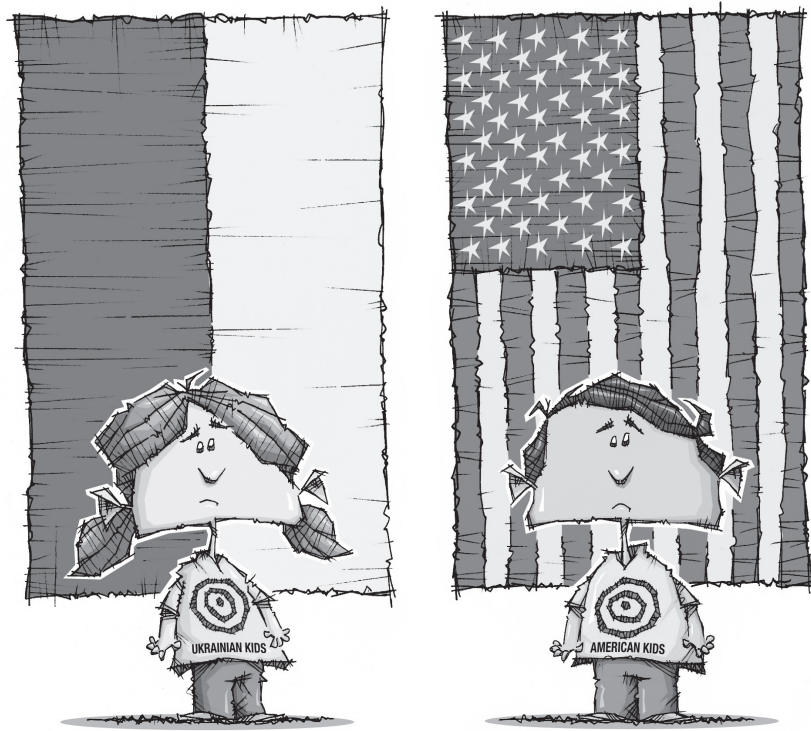
Never mind war reparations; war-crime prosecutions; the return of Ukrainian territory previously annexed by Russia, such as Crimea; or even the end of Russian mischief in Ukrainian regions with large Russian-speaking populations. What matters in preventing Scholz's "victor's peace" is restoration of the (albeit untidy) geographic status quo of Feb. 24.

Putin wanted to restore his nation's swagger. Russia now limps into a shrunken future as a moral pariah, its stumbling military in the shadow of an enlarged NATO. Gideon Rachman of the Financial Times reports U.S. estimates that Russia has lost about 1,000 tanks, that shortages of components have forced two tank manufacturers to halt production and that Russia's semiconductor shortage is so severe they are "using computer chips from dishwashers and refrigerators in military equipment." This is the time to increase Ukraine's sting.

The United States' adversaries in Afghanistan said: You have the wristwatches, but we have the time. Barbarians like Putin often believe that societies defined by brute stamina can prevail against societies that are more sophisticated than implacable. Ukraine's supporters should avoid the temptation — the military folly — of tentativeness.

George Will's email address is georgewill@washpost.com

Tim Ullrich
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WHAT SOME VICTIMS OF ATROCITIES HAVE LOOKED LIKE THIS YEAR

The Daily Mail welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must contain a full name, full address and a daytime telephone number. Names will be published, but phone numbers will not be divulged.

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"I can't say that I was always very happy. I'd hoped for something else out of life."

OTTILIE BAADER

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Protecting our pollinators

By Bob Beyfuss
For Columbia-Greene Media

Yesterday, late afternoon, I sat outside and watched the “Flight of the Bumblebees” in real life. Actually they were carpenter bees, but still a type of bumblebee. Today, I watched a You Tube video of the musical composition by Nikolai Rimsky Korsakov, written in 1900 with the same title. It was pretty obvious that he had watched the same, seemingly manic, spectacle himself. In recent years the population of bumblebees has grown dramatically as the presence of “feral” honeybees has dropped just as dramatically. We don’t know exactly why wild honeybee populations have declined so dramatically, but if they are being replaced by bumblebees, that is OK with me.

Although carpenter bees don’t make honey like their European cousins, they are actually much better pollinators than honey bees for many native and cultivated garden plants, including blueberries, tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, raspberries, strawberries, melons and cranberries. They are the only known pollinator of potatoes worldwide. Some greenhouse vegetable operations use them for this purpose exclusively. The carpenter bees also drill some perfectly round holes in the fascia boards of my shed, which is not such a good thing, but I have decided to put up with it. They are also rather gentle, despite their constant buzzing in my face as I worked. I was on a ladder putting up a section of aluminum gutter to collect rain water from my shed roof and as I did so, I covered up a couple of their holes with the gutter and despite my banging away with a hammer and sealing off their nest entrance, none of the half dozen bumblebees attacked me. Try banging on a honeybee hive with a hammer and see what happens.

GARDENING TIPS



BOB BEYFUSS

For years, we have been told that if it were not for honeybees, we would all starve due to lack of pollination of our food crops. This is not true, since most of our major food crops, i.e. corn, wheat, rice and soybeans are either wind or self-pollinated and need no insect help at all. It is true that honeybees are extremely important pollinators and are capable of pollinating about 1/3 of all our food crops, but the only crop that relies on them exclusively for pollination are almonds. About 80% of the world’s almonds are grown in California and they rely completely upon honey bees. I like almonds very much, but could certainly live without them if they went away.

Pollination is defined as the transfer of pollen from the male organ of a flower, (anther) to the female organ (pistil), enabling fertilization and subsequent seed or fruit development. This may be accomplished by wind, or by third parties; insects with hairy bodies generally. Pollen adheres to these hairy bodies and since the male and female flower parts are usually, but not always, within the same flower, the transfer is pretty efficient. Although birds, bats and other creatures are capable of pollination, the vast majority is accomplished by various types of insects, including several different kinds of bees, but also butterflies, moths, beetles, wasps and flies. Honeybees represent a tiny fraction of the approximately 3,600 species of bees

in the US and Canada alone. Most bee species, about 90% of them, are “solitary” which means they don’t make communal nests.

Bumblebees are very efficient pollinators, since they are capable of flying and foraging at much cooler temperatures and lower light levels than other insects. Their “buzzing” activity also improves pollen accumulation and transfer with the vibration they create.

Most wasps and hornets are also excellent pollinators, except for the smooth bodied ones, with no hairs, i.e yellow jackets. They are important predators of many insect pests though and most don’t deserve the bad reputation that some of them have for stinging. Whether beneficial or not, I draw the line at tolerating yellow jackets or bald faced hornets close to where I happen to be. I will continue to kill them and prevent them from nesting, since the risk to my health outweighs the need to protect them for their ecological services.

Many species of beetles are also pollinators that have been on the job for at least the last 150 million years or so. One out of every four living organisms that have ever been described on this planet, from fungi and bacteria, to mammals and birds is a species of beetle. They pollinate many ancient species of plants, from magnolias to water lilies.

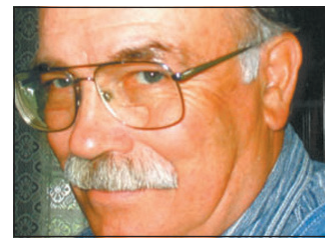
So, if you have heard about how important it is for us to protect and preserve all sorts of pollinators, as is currently in vogue, consider allowing some bumblebees to drill a few holes in your shed fascia boards and enjoy watching them dance. Then, watch the “Flight of the Bumblebee” on You Tube. I bet you will be humming the melody for the rest of the day.

Reach Bob and his carpenter bees at rlb14@cornell.edu.

Breaking the bank to pay for gas just to mow the lawn

By Dick Brooks
For Columbia-Greene Media

WHITTLING AWAY



DICK BROOKS

All the warm humid weather and the occasional torrential downpour has my lawn thinking that somehow it’s found itself in a tropical rain forest and it’s trying its best to show that it deserves this special treatment. The grass grows at least a foot a day and I have flowering plants that are eight feet high. If my lawn tractor had a tongue, it’d be hanging out. I start mowing at dawn and stop when I topple off the seat after dark.

I wouldn’t mind so much but as a result of all this fun, I keep running out of gas. Actually it’s a good thing since it’s the only time the tractor gets to cool off. Making a run to the gas station is no longer the simple act it used to be and takes longer than it did which gives the grass a head start that it doesn’t really need.

I go to the area of the garage where I keep the gas can, key in my password for the security system, unlock the two dead bolt locks, unchain the can and plunk it in the back of Casper, the friendly Kia, and head for the gas station. I stop at the bank first to close out an account or two and stuff the cash in a duffle bag I keep in the car for just such an occasion and drive to the gas station where I am checked by the armed security guards before being allowed to approach the pumps. While I’m filling the five gallon can, a Loomis Fargo truck pulls in with another delivery of gasoline.

This annoys me, it was

Wells Fargo for more than 100 years and Loomis Fargo just doesn’t seem right, I mean, can you picture a young Ron Howard lisping out, “Oh, the Loomis Fargo Wagon is a-coming--” in the movie version of “The Music Man.” Anyway, it leaves, I drag my bag of cash inside and pay for the gas I bought. For the price of just the gas, I used to be able to hire a stalwart teenager to mow the lawn and she used her own mower and didn’t charge for the gas she used.

I guess we just have to grin and bear it although I’m working on a design for a lawn mower that runs on grass clippings. I know it sounds silly, but if I can get it to work, think of the money the gas companies would pay me to keep it off the market. There should be something the gas companies could do to take the sting out of purchasing their product or at least create a diversion to take our mind off the cost of the stuff.

It just hit me like a flash! They could bring back Green Stamps! You used to get one for every dime you spent, you

stuck them in little books and when you had 40 or 50 books full, you could exchange them for useful things like pot holders and plastic lawn ornaments. They made you look forward to spending your money because you felt that you had gotten something in return, families set goals, “Only fifteen more books and we can get that genuine faux wood shelf for the bathroom!” They occupied the children, I spent hours trying to get my tongue unstuck from the roof of my mouth and finally acquired a liking for the taste of the glue they used. With the cost of gas and groceries today, they’d add up really quickly, you’d have thousands of books in no time and would be trading them in for vacation homes, 747s and Cadillacs. They would have to switch to a low caloric glue though so that they didn’t contribute to the rampant childhood obesity problem but that shouldn’t be a problem. By the time I had started to work out the details, I had arrived back home. I parked Casper, the friendly Kia on the highway and hacked my way through the grass with a machete I had in the trunk and started the tractor. I’ll think more on the subject during the winter.

Thought for the week — “How young can you die of old age?” — Steven Wright

Until next week, may you and yours be happy and well.

Reach Dick Brooks at whittle12124@yahoo.com.

DEC and partners announce grand opening of new visitor interpretive center in Lake George Battlefield Park

LAKE GEORGE — The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announced the opening of the new Lake George Visitor Interpretive Center (VIC) at 75 Fort George Road in Lake George. The new facility will enhance the visitor experience at DEC’s Lake George Battlefield Park and also serve as the new headquarters for the Lake George Park Commission.

“DEC and our partners at the Lake George Battlefield Park Alliance are dedicated to preserving the beauty and history of Lake George through interpretive work and public education,” DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos said. “The VIC will provide park visitors with a welcoming and inclusive space that guides them on a historical journey through artifacts and interpretive displays. Bringing DEC, the Lake George Battlefield Park Alliance, and the Lake George Park Commission under one roof demonstrates the close partnerships working together to improve visitor education, recreation, and conservation in this environmentally unique and historic region of New York.”

Ken Parker, Chairman of the Lake George Park Commission said, “Following four years of planning, design and construction, the Lake George Park Commission is extremely proud to call this

beautiful new building its home. This new multi-use, environmentally friendly facility - shared with the Lake George Battlefield Park Alliance - stands in honor of the incredibly rich history of the region, and as a focal point to continue the important protections of Lake George for future generations.”

Lyn Hohmann, former President of the Lake George Battlefield Park Alliance, said, “From the time this area started being set aside as a public park in 1898, there has been a desire to have a visitors center to provide an overview of its history. The LGBP Alliance is proud to have delivered on that dream with funding from several foundations, members and the community and support from DEC, Lake George Park Commission, and the New York State Museum.”

Visitors can tour the Lake George Battlefield Park, which contains the site of the Battle of Lake George (1755). The site was a fortified camp during the siege of Fort William Henry (1757) and a major military camp throughout the French and Indian War (1754-1763). The site also housed a hospital and supply base during the American Revolution (1775-1783). The ruins of an unfinished fort, now called Fort George, and numerous other buildings and fortifications can be found throughout the

site. Many monuments commemorate and explain the role the site played in American (and Canadian) history.

The announcement corresponds with a ribbon cutting and open house held to officially open the VIC to the public. DEC’s construction on the new building began in June 2020, and is part of the 2018 Amendment to the 1981 Lake George Beach and Battlefield Park Unit Management Plan. It was funded with \$1.1 million from the State’s Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). Among the many environmental victories in the enacted 2022-23 State Budget, Governor Kathy Hochul and legislative leaders increased the EPF to \$400 million, the highest level of funding in the program’s history. The EPF supports climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts, improves agricultural resources to promote sustainable agriculture, protects water sources, advances conservation efforts, and provides recreational opportunities for New Yorkers.

For more information about Lake George Battlefield Park, visit DEC’s Lake George Battlefield Day Use Area webpage or the Lake George Battlefield Park Alliance webpage. To learn more about the Lake George Park Commission, visit the Lake George Park Commission website.

DEC announces start of 2022 ‘NYHABS’ online notification and reporting system for harmful algal blooms

ALBANY — The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and New York State Department of Health (DOH) reminded New Yorkers to learn about and be aware of harmful algal blooms, or “HABs,” as the 2022 HABs notification season starts. With resources such as the online HABs map and reporting system, New York is a national leader in supporting initiatives to swiftly and effectively respond to HABs across the state.

“We encourage New Yorkers to be on the lookout for HABs and report any sightings to DEC,” said DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos. “DEC and DOH experts will continue to work closely with local partners to investigate HABs, make significant investments to prevent excess nutrients and other contaminants from affecting water quality, and monitor potential threats to the health or recreational use of waterbodies.”

“As we enter the warmer months, New Yorkers should be aware that the primary exposure to harmful algae blooms is through recreational contact. New York State beaches close swim areas when any suspicious blooms are sighted and New York State public drinking water supplies have effective protocols and treatment for HABs and toxins,” said New York State Health Commissioner Dr. Mary T. Bassett. “It’s easy to avoid risks by staying away from any discolored waters, blooms and scums and recreating in areas

where the water is clear. People should always rinse off if they have had contact with a bloom and immediately seek veterinarian care if noticing any symptoms in your pets if they consumed bloom material or had contact with blooms.”

The New York Harmful Algal Bloom System, “NYHABS,” reporting system became active today and allows both the public and trained citizens to send reports of HABs to DEC electronically via a simple, user- and mobile phone-friendly form. These reports, once evaluated by DEC and DOH, are posted to the NYHABS page. The system features an interactive map of current and archived bloom locations to help keep New Yorkers informed.

HABs have been monitored closely across New York State since 2012. To address HABs, DEC works with DOH, the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and other State and local partners in leading the most comprehensive HABs monitoring and reporting program in the nation. Hundreds of waterbodies are monitored annually by DEC, DOH, State Parks, academic institutions, and volunteer monitoring partnerships. Additional public health protections are provided by DOH oversight of regulated beaches and public water systems.

When it comes to HABs, DEC encourages New Yorkers to “KNOW IT, AVOID IT, REPORT IT.” KNOW IT – HABs vary in appearance from scattered green dots in the

water, to long, linear green streaks, pea soup or spilled green paint, to blue-green or white coloration. AVOID IT – People, pets, and livestock should avoid contact with water that is discolored or has algal scums on the surface. REPORT IT – If members of the public suspect a HAB, report it through the NYHABS online reporting form available on DEC’s website. Symptoms or health concerns related to HABs should be reported to DOH at harmfulalgae@health.ny.gov.

While the exact cause of HABs is not fully understood, HABs usually occur in waters high in phosphorus and/or nitrogen. New York State has many programs and activities to reduce phosphorus and nitrogen from entering the water from surrounding lands, including stormwater permitting programs, funding for water quality improvement projects, and a nutrient law that restricts the use of phosphorus lawn fertilizer. DEC also continues to evaluate HAB mitigation technology and strategies.

For more information about HABs, including bloom notifications, which are updated daily through fall, visit DEC’s Harmful Algal Blooms web page. The HABs Program Guide, which includes information and links to resources regarding bloom prevention, management, and control, can also be downloaded from the DEC website. Click here for DOH’s public health information.

Find us at: HudsonValley360.com

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Jim Tribe

May 18, 2022

Jim Tribe, Artist and owner of Temple Contracting, Inc., died peacefully at his home in Ancramdale, NY on May 18, 2022.

Jim was the beloved life partner of Ruane Miller and beloved brother to Shirley Peck and husband Jon; uncle to Timothy and Andrew Peck and families and stepfather to Rian and Andrea Bogle and families. He was much loved and valued by all.

Jim was the son of Harlowe Oliver and Arlene Edwards Tribe and grew up in Endwell, NY. He lived and worked in New York City and the Hudson Valley. As in all his endeavors he worked with dedication, expertise, and a high degree of creativity in his painting and drawing throughout his life, never stopping even through illness.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to Doctors without Borders or the A.C.L.U. or Conservation organization of your choice. To share a memory of Jim or to offer condolences for the family please visit www.peckandpeck.net.

NASA awards contracts to build new spacesuits

By Christian Davenport
The Washington Post

NASA wants new spacesuits to replace the old bulky ones that its astronauts have been wearing for more than 40 years whenever they venture outside into the vacuum of space — suits that not only protect the astronauts but also provide more mobility and can be used for spacewalks and on the surface of the moon.

On Wednesday, NASA reached a key milestone in a sometimes tortured journey to produce such a suit, announcing contracts for design and production with two companies, Axiom Space and a team led by Collins Aerospace.

In total, the contracts could be worth a total of \$3.5 billion through 2034, NASA said. The suits should be ready for testing on the space station within a few years.

"History will be made with these suits," Vanessa Wyche, the director of NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, said during a news conference Wednesday.

"When we get to the moon, we will have our first person of color and our first woman that will be wearers and users of these suits in space."

Last year, NASA's Office of Inspector General issued a withering report on NASA's problems in its efforts to design new spacesuits, saying they would delay its return to the lunar surface.

The space agency had spent 14 years working on next-generation suits, the report found. In 2016, NASA consolidated two suit designs into a single program but had already spent \$200 million.

The report noted that the spacesuits aboard the International Space Station "have exceeded their design life by more than 25 years, necessitating costly maintenance to ensure astronaut safety."

NASA last designed a new spacesuit 40 years ago.

On Wednesday, Dina Contella, NASA's space station operations integration manager, said the existing suits have "been the workhorse for the agency for 40 years"

and have been worn on 169 spacewalks. She added that "the spacesuit technology, though, of course, at 40 years is now aging, and so we'd like to try new future technologies."

The current suits also don't fit all body types. In 2019, NASA astronaut Anne McClain canceled going on what would have been the first all-female spacewalk outside the space station after deciding that the spacesuit was too large for her.

That touched off a wave of criticism that NASA wasn't accommodating its female astronauts in a program that had long been dominated by men.

The new suits should be able to fit a broad array of body types, from women in the fifth percentile for size as well as men in the 95th percentile, NASA said.

By choosing a pair of private companies to build the suits, NASA is again relying on a growing commercial space sector that has played an increasingly significant role in human exploration.

Private companies such as SpaceX now fly cargo and crews to the space station. Axiom Space, which is based in Houston, is also working to build a commercial space station that would eventually replace the International Space Station.

"We have a number of customers that already would like to do a spacewalk, and we had planned to build a suit as part of our program," said Mike Suffredini, Axiom's president and CEO. "And so it's fantastic to have a partnership where we can benefit from the years of experience that NASA has."

Collins said it, too, wants its next-generation suit to be more modern than its predecessors.

The suits should not "feel like a spacecraft but feel like a ruggedized set of extreme sport outerwear," said Dan Burbank, a senior technical fellow at Collins Aerospace and a former NASA astronaut. "That should be the goal."

Barry Sussman, Washington Post editor who oversaw Watergate reporting, dies at 87

By Emily Langer
The Washington Post

Barry Sussman, the Washington Post editor who directly oversaw the Watergate investigation by reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, providing invaluable - if at times unheralded - contributions to the news coverage that helped force President Richard Nixon from office, died June 1 at his home in Rockville, Md. He was 87.

The cause was an apparent gastrointestinal bleed, said his daughter Shari Sussman Golob.

In Hollywood and in the public eye, newspapering is often imagined as a solitary undertaking, the work of shabbily dressed reporters hunched over their keyboards with telephones cradled between shoulder and ear, barricaded in by notepads and papers piled high atop their desks.

In truth, journalism is a far more collective enterprise, with crucial roles played by people whose names do not appear below headlines in the space known in newspaper jargon as the byline. One such person, and perhaps the chief example in The Post's unraveling of the Watergate affair, was Sussman.

A Brooklynite, Sussman began his journalism career scribbling film reviews in the darkened movie houses of New York and came to Washington by way of Appalachia, where he landed his first full-time newspaper job in his late 20s at the Bristol Herald Courier on the Virginia-Tennessee border.

Rapaciously curious, and with a savant-like recall of detail, he rose in just over a year to become the newspaper's managing editor. The Post hired him in 1965 as a suburban editor on the Metropolitan desk.

By Saturday, June 17, 1972, when five burglars wearing business suits broke into the Democratic national headquarters at the Watergate complex in Washington, Sussman was The Post's city editor, in charge of 40 to 45 reporters and editors responsible for coverage of D.C.

One standout Metro reporter was 29-year-old Woodward. A button-down former Navy lieutenant, he had been with The Post only nine months but had already distinguished himself with his inexhaustible work ethic and investigative zeal, although not with his literary flair. Sussman took Woodward on as a protegee and personal friend, journalist and Watergate scholar Alicia C. Shepard reported, helping him improve his writing "at a time when colleagues joked that for Woodward, English was a second language" and teaching him "how to take his hard-earned facts and massage them into readable stories."

The morning of the Watergate break-in, Sussman immediately phoned Woodward at home and called him into the newsroom. The more renegade Bernstein, 11 months younger than Woodward but with more than a decade of additional experience, sensed intrigue in the Watergate burglary and wanted in on the action. While other editors at The Post had grown exasperated by Bernstein's more trying habits - he was allergic to deadlines and once rented a car on The Post's dime, parked it in a garage and forgot about it - Sussman recognized his value as both a reporter and a writer and argued successfully to keep him on the Watergate story.

Paired by Sussman, Woodward and Bernstein — known collectively as Woodstein — became the most famous reporters in American journalism with their incremental and inexorable revelations of the political sabotage, corruption and coverup that began with the Watergate break-in, sent numerous Nixon associates to prison and ultimately precipitated Nixon's resignation on Aug. 9, 1974. During their reporting, Sussman was detailed to serve as special Watergate editor.

"If you look at the reporting, it wasn't just stringing together



Undated photo of Barry Sussman.

facts," Bernstein said in an interview. "It wasn't just the knocking on doors. It was also ... an intellectual process, and he had his finger on that in a way that none of the [other editors] did."

The Post's Watergate coverage received the 1973 Pulitzer Prize for public service, the highest honor in journalism, and was dramatized in "All the President's Men," the 1976 movie directed by Alan J. Pakula. Robert Redford played Woodward, convening by night in a parking garage with his highly placed source called Deep Throat. Dustin Hoffman played the shaggy-haired Bernstein. Sussman was omitted entirely.

In her 2007 book "Woodward and Bernstein: Life in the Shadow of Watergate," Shepard wrote that the filmmakers excised Sussman "for dramatic reasons." The story already had three editors - executive editor Ben Bradlee, portrayed in an Oscar-winning turn by Jason Robards; managing editor Howard Simons, whose real-life role the movie diminished, played by Martin Balsam; and Metropolitan editor Harry M. Rosenfeld, played by Jack Warden.

If Sussman was deemed superfluous for the movie — a decision that deeply wounded him, according to Shepard's reporting — he was by all accounts the opposite in the actual events that inspired it.

"Barry was essential for The Post's Watergate" coverage, said former executive editor Leonard Downie Jr., who worked as an editor on the Watergate investigation, "just as essential as Bob and Carl."

Journalist David Halberstam, writing in his 1979 book about American media, "The Powers That Be," described Sussman as "the perfect working editor at exactly the right level."

"Almost from the start, before anyone else at The Post," Halberstam wrote, Sussman "saw Watergate as a larger story, saw that individual events were part of a larger pattern, the result of hidden decisions from somewhere in the top of government which sent smaller men to run dirty errands."

Woodward and Bernstein, for their part, described Sussman as "Talmudic" in his mastery of the most arcane details of the Watergate affair and "Socratic" in his ability to elicit leads from them through his insightful questioning.

"More than any other editor at The Post, or Bernstein and Woodward, Sussman became a walking compendium of Watergate knowledge, a reference source to be summoned when even the library failed," the two reporters wrote in "All the President's Men," their 1974 book upon which the movie was based.

"On deadline, he would pump these facts into a story in a constant infusion, working up a body of significant information to support what otherwise seemed like the weakest of revelations. In Sussman's mind, everything fitted. Watergate was a puzzle and he was a collector of the pieces."

The book "All the President's Men" reportedly contributed to a rift that opened between Sussman and the two reporters he had supported through the most difficult days of the

Watergate investigation, when an error in their reporting involving grand jury testimony invited questions about their credibility, and when Nixon was privately threatening "damnable, damnable" consequences for The Post in retaliation for its coverage.

Sussman had hoped to co-author the account of Watergate with Woodward and Bernstein, Shepard wrote, but the reporters ultimately moved forward alone with "All the President's Men," which became a bestseller. Shepard quoted Woodward as saying that "it was a reporter's story to tell, not an editor's," and that Sussman's "role is fully laid out in the book."

By the time the book was published, Shepard wrote, Sussman had stopped speaking to Woodward and Bernstein. According to Sussman, they were "wrong often on detail" in the book and had a tendency to "sentimentalize" the Watergate story.

Sussman wrote his own book about Watergate, "The Great Cover-Up" (1974), which broadcast journalist Brit Hume, writing in the New York Times, praised as establishing "with clarity the compelling case for Nixon's complicity in the Watergate coverup."

Decades later, when Shepard called Sussman to inquire about his two former colleagues, he replied, "I don't have anything good to say about either one of them."

Reached after Sussman's death, Woodward said in an interview that "Barry was one of the great imaginative, aggressive editors at The Washington Post during Watergate. We all owe him a debt of gratitude, particularly Carl Bernstein and myself."

Barry Sussman was born in Brooklyn on July 10, 1934. His mother, an immigrant from what was then the Russian Empire, was a homemaker. His father, who was born in the United States, was a civil servant.

Sussman graduated in 1956 from Brooklyn College, where he received a bachelor's degree in English and history, and where he was an editor and columnist on a school newspaper.

His first job post-college was at a New York advertising agency. He hated the work but reveled in moonlighting as a movie reviewer. He placed an ad in the trade publication Editor and Publisher - "freelance writer seeks first newspaper job" - and got one at the Bristol Herald Courier, more than 500 miles and a universe away from New York.

In Bristol, he met his future wife, Peggy Earhart, whom he married in 1962. Survivors include his wife, of Rockville; two daughters, Seena Sussman Gudelsky, also of Rockville, and Shari Sussman Golob of Potomac, Md.; and four grandchildren.

At The Post, Sussman became a favorite among his reporters. One of them, John Hanrahan, who went on to become executive director of the Fund for Investigative Journalism, described Sussman in an interview as "by far the best editor I ever had on any newspaper or any project I was ever involved with."

"He was wonderful to work with on deadline," another, Lawrence Meyer, recalled. "When there were holes in the story, he would send you back to fill them and manage to do everything without any kind of rancor."

Sussman had long cultivated an interest in public opinion. After Watergate, he became The Post's first in-house pollster, helping to found the Washington Post-ABC News poll.

"If presidential elections are the heart of the political process in this country," he once wrote, "political polls have become the chief instrument through which that heart's beat is measured."

Sussman penned a column on polling for The Washington Post National Weekly edition as well as a book on the subject,

"What Americans Really Think and Why Our Politicians Pay No Attention" (1988).

His other books included "Maverick: A Life in Politics" (1995) written with Lowell Weicker Jr., the Republican turned independent Connecticut congressman, senator and governor who had served on the Senate Watergate Committee.

In 1987, Sussman was hired by United Press International as managing editor for national news; he resigned within months in opposition to large-scale staff cuts at the troubled news agency.

He later ran a private survey research firm, was a consultant to newspapers in Spain, Portugal and Latin America and served as editor of the Nieman Watchdog Project at Harvard University. As the internet upended the newspaper business model and hollowed out newsrooms across the United States, he cited the lack of overarching editors as "the single greatest failing of newspaper investigations these days."

"There's no cohesion in the reporting," he told Investigative Power, an online history of investigative journalism. It seemed, he said, that when new scandals arose, "there's not an editor who is told '[this] is your story,' the way I was told Watergate was my story, and you're going to get to the bottom of it."

Decades after Watergate, Sussman was sometimes called on to speak about Nixon's undoing and the ongoing role of a free press in a democracy. All those years later — the 50th anniversary of the Watergate break-in will fall just weeks after his death — Sussman, ever the attentive editor, still had command of the most granular details of the investigation he had overseen, and had at his fingertips the names of all the president's men.

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Church Briefs

Please send all Church news to editorial@thedaily.com; or mail to Attention Church News, Register-Star/The Daily Mail, 364 Warren St., Unit 1, Hudson, NY 12534. For information, call 315-661-2940.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL CELEBRATION

ALBANY — Charismatic Renewal Celebration 2022, Pentecost, celebrated June 5 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 125 Eagle St., Albany, Rev. Martin Fisher, presiding. Prayer and praise with music by Joyful Heart at 4:30 p.m. Mass at 5 p.m. followed by healing prayer. This is the 46th year of celebration.

CHICKEN BARBECUE

ATHENS — The First Reformed Church, 18 North Church St., Athens, will serve a Frese's Chicken Barbecue noon-1 p.m. June 5, take out only. The cost is \$15. Tickets need to be purchased by May 28 and they may be purchased from any Church member or by calling 518-945-1801 to leave a message.

ROAST PORK DINNER

COEYMANS HOLLOW — Trinity United Methodist Church, 1313 Route 143, Coeymans Hollow, will serve a roast pork dinner 4-6 p.m. June 8, take out only. The menu includes roast pork, dressing, potatoes, gravy, vegetable, applesauce, roll and pie. Adults, \$14; children, \$56.

FOOD PANTRY

STOTTVILLE — The Church of St. Joseph, 2824 Atlantic Ave., Stottville, will hold the next monthly food pantry 3-5 p.m. June 10.

GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP

CAIRO — Resurrection Lutheran Church, 186 Main St. Cairo, will be hosting a GriefShare support group beginning June 14. GriefShare is a Christian-based weekly seminar and support group for people who are grieving the death of someone close to them. It's a place to be around people who understand what

you are feeling. At GriefShare, you'll learn valuable information about recovering from your grief and renewing your hope for the future. This is video and conversation based group and is facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Victor Nelson. The group meets 4-5 p.m. Tuesdays beginning June 14. Register online at WWW.RLC.LIFE/GRIEFSHARE or call the church at 518-622-3286. There is no cost and the program is open to all with loss.

SUMMERTAG SALE

STUYVESANT — St. John's Lutheran Church, 159 Route 26A, Stuyvesant, will hold the annual Summer Tag Sale 9 a.m.-2 p.m. July 8 and July 9, inside and outside. As always the tables will be full with a wide variety of items for you to choose from. We will not be serving lunch and no food sale. Due to the high numbers of COVIDS in the county we are asking that you please wear a mask inside.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF ATHENS

ATHENS — First Reformed Church of Athens, 18 North Church St., Athens, worships at 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month. Senior Choir rehearsal is at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday. We ask that you be vaccinated if you would like to join us. Hudson River Bells will resume rehearsals in the Fall. For information, call the church at 518-945-1801.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF COXSACKIE

COXSACKIE — The First Reformed Church of Coxsackie, 285 Mansion St., Coxsackie, worships at 9:30 a.m. Sunday. All are welcome. Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month. Sunday School is available during the worship service time. Free Food Fridays provide a meal for anyone at 6 p.m. on the third Friday of each month; www.firstreformecoxsackie.com.

LIVING FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH

MAPLECREST — Living Faith Community Church, 54 Route 56, Maplecrest, welcomes locals and visitors to worship together at 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Adult Bible Study meets before service at 9:30 a.m. Fellowship meal follows service on the second Sunday of each month. For information, call 518-734-4275.

SOUP KITCHEN OPEN

CATSKILL — The Camp Grace Inc. Soup Kitchen, located at the First Reformed Church of Catskill, 310 Main St., Catskill, is open noon-1 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. For information, call Director Lamont Taylor at 518-249-7009.

EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

STUYVESANT FALLS — Emanuel Lutheran Church is located at the junction of US Route 9 and County Route 46 in Stuyvesant Falls. Church services are at 8:30 a.m. Sunday and all are welcome and invited.

ST. MARK'S SECOND EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

HUDSON — St. Mark's Second Evangelical Lutheran Church, 8 Storm Ave., Hudson, worships 9:30 a.m. Sunday. Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of every month with Pastor Stan Webster. Child care is offered during the service and Sunday school after the service ends. Easter Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For information, call the Church office at 518-828-9514.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

STUYVESANT — St. John's Lutheran Church, 159 Route 26A, Stuyvesant, has in-person and live online worship services at 10:15 a.m. Sunday. Sunday School is at 9 a.m. for children 3 and older. Face masks are optional if you are more comfortable wearing one, please do so. Social distancing is still in effect. The live broadcasts are on www.facebook.com/St-Johns-Lutheran.

TRI COUNTY LUTHERAN PARISH

VALATIE — The following is the worship schedule for the Tri County Lutheran Parish. Visit TCLParish.org website for weekly Zoom worship schedule and link.

Columbia County: Emanuel Lutheran Church, 506 County Road 46, Stuyvesant Falls, worships at 8:30 a.m. Sunday. Christ Our Emmanuel, 19 Park Row, Chatham, 9:30 a.m. Sunday. St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 1010 Kinderhook St., Valatie, worships at 10:30 a.m. Sunday with Sunday School also at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. Emanuel/St. John's Lutheran Church, 20 South Sixth St., Hudson, worships at 11 a.m. Sunday.

Greene County: Zion Lutheran Church, 102 North Washington St., Athens, worships at 9 a.m. Sunday.

Rensselaer County: Trinity Lutheran Church, 68 Green Ave., Castleton, worships at 9 a.m. Sunday. St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 751 County Route 7, East Schodack, worships at 11 a.m. Sunday.

LUTHERAN PARISH OF SOUTHERN COLUMBIA COUNTY

GERMANTOWN — Lutheran Parish of Southern Columbia County has updated its worship schedule. In-person worship has resumed by prayerful discernment of the Church Councils. St. John's in Manorton, Elizaville, 9 a.m. June and August; Christ Church in Viewmont, Germantown, 9 a.m. July; St. Thomas in Churchtown at 11 a.m. Communion celebrated on first Sundays and Holy Days.

CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL

HUDSON — Christ Church Episcopal, 431 Union St., Hudson, worships at 9 a.m. Sundays in person and online. Masks are optional. Live broadcast on Facebook.com/ChristChurchEpiscopalHudson, or christchurchepiscopalHUDSON.org. Midweek Eucharist at 12:15 p.m. Wednesdays in the church, join us for a quiet and uplifting service with anointing

and prayers. Office hours and Emergency Food Shelf 9 a.m.-noon weekdays. For information, call 518-828-1329 or email christchurch1802@gmail.com.

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

KINDERHOOK — St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 8 Sylvester St., Kinderhook, Holy Communion in person at 8 and 10 a.m. Sundays. Face masks and distancing required regardless of vaccination status. For information and news, www.saintpaulskinderhook.org/ or follow us on Facebook. Subscribe to our newsletter: <http://eepurl.com/cG4YSv>; 518-758-6271 or saintpaulskinderhook@gmail.com. Office open 1:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday and by appointment.

KINDERHOOK REFORMED CHURCH

KINDERHOOK — The Kinderhook Reformed Church, 21 Broad St., Kinderhook, will have in person and live online Sunday worship include Sunday 8:45 a.m. prayer group 1; 9:30 a.m. worship and youth Sunday school; 10:30 a.m. coffee hour; and 11 a.m. prayer group 2. Weekly Bible studies available. Live broadcast on <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCTUNikeMHshkf-mqHM-NxCw> or www.facebook.com/KinderhookReformedChurch. For information, call 518-758-6401 or kinderhookreformedchurch.com.

CLAVERACK REFORMED DUTCH CHURCH

CLAVERACK — The Reformed Dutch Church, 88 Route 9H, Claverack, worships at 9:30 a.m. Sundays in the sanctuary. For information, call 518-851-3811.

GHEENT REFORMED CHURCH

WEST GHEENT — The Ghent Reformed Church, 1039 County Route 22, West Ghent, worships at 9 a.m. Sundays. Sunday School begins at 10:15 a.m. Sunday for pre-school to middle school aged children. Coffee follows worship.

REFORMED CHURCH OF GERMANTOWN/MT. PLEASANT REFORMED CHURCH

GERMANTOWN — The congregations of the Reformed Church of Germantown, 20 Church Ave., Germantown and the Mt. Pleasant Reformed Church, 33 Church Road, Hudson will be observing Pentecost Sunday on June 5. Holy Communion will be observed. The Germantown congregation meets at 9 a.m. and the service at Mt. Pleasant begins at 10:30 a.m. A weekly Bible Study on the book of Revelation meets at the Germantown Church Office at 7 p.m. Wednesdays.

ST. JOHN'S REFORMED CHURCH

RED HOOK — St. John's Reformed Church, 126 Old Post Road North, Red Hook, worships at 10 a.m. Sundays in person and via Zoom. Worship services can be viewed after the service on YouTube.com at "St. John's in Red Hook." Social distancing and hand sanitizing encouraged. Masks are not required. Children are dismissed to Sunday School after the Children's Message. Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of the month. All are welcome. Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. in the fellowship hall. For more information, call the Church Office at 845-758-1184, email office@stjohnsreformed.org, check out St. John's website www.stjohnsreformed.org or follow us on Facebook.

GRACE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

RHINEBECK — Grace Bible Fellowship Church, 6959 Route 9, Rhinebeck, worships at 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. Sunday School for all ages meets at 9:30 a.m. Women's bible study and Grace Bible Institute meets at 7 p.m. Mondays. Mid-week prayer meeting is at 7 p.m. Wednesdays. For information, call 845-876-6923 or cdcfirone@aol.com.

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Weekday Mass: Wednesday 8 a.m.

Also Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8-8:30 a.m. Mon & Tues

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BRIEFS

We want to hear from you. To send information to be included in Briefs, email to editorial@thedaily.com; or mail to Briefs: The Daily Mail, Unit 1, 364 Warren St., Hudson, NY 12534. For information, call 315-661-2490.

JUNE 4

GREENVILLE — The annual Plant and Flea Market sale sponsored by The Clematis Garden Club, will be held 9 a.m.-noon June 4 at GNH Parking Lot, Greenville. A large selection of easy to grow perennials, shrubs, annuals, vegetables, herbs, beautiful potted containers and houseplants are offered at reasonable prices. Also some antiques, crafts and collectibles will be available. Club members will happily answer garden questions, so come shop for bargains early before sold out and sale will be held rain or shine. For information, call Jean Horn at 518-966-4260.

JUNE 5

ATHENS — The First Reformed Church, 18 North Church St., Athens, will serve a Freese's Chicken Barbecue noon-1 p.m. June 5, take out only. The cost is \$15. Tickets need to be purchased by May 28 and they may be purchased from any Church member or by calling 518-945-1801 to leave a message.

JUNE 7

CATSKILL — The Greene County Women's League Cancer Patient Aid (GCWL) will meet at noon June 7 at Creekside, 160 West Main St., Catskill. Greene County Women's League (G.C.W.L.) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization whose mission is to provide Greene County Cancer patients (men, women & children) with assistance in paying medical expenses resulting from the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. 100% of donations are committed to patient care. For information, call 518-819-1249, visit GCWL at www.greenecountywomensleague.com.

JUNE 8

HYDE PARK — The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum presents

"MARY CHURCHILL'S WAR: A Conversation with Emma Soames and Erik Larson" at 2 p.m. June 8. Churchill granddaughter Emma Soames, editor of **MARY CHURCHILL'S WAR: THE WARTIME DIARIES OF CHURCHILL'S YOUNGEST DAUGHTER**, will speak with bestselling author Erik Larson about her mother's wartime diaries and will be available for a book signing following the program. Copies of the book may be purchased in the New Deal Store. The event will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home (local health metrics permitting) and streamed live to the official FDR Library YouTube, Twitter and Facebook accounts. This is a free public event, but registration is required for in-person attendance. Visit fdrlibrary.org to register.

COEYMANS HOLLOW — Trinity United Methodist Church, 1313 Route 143, Coeymans Hollow, will serve a roast pork dinner 4-6 p.m. June 8, take out only. The menu includes roast pork, dressing, potatoes, gravy, vegetable, applesauce, roll and pie. Adults, \$14; children, \$5.

ALBANY — Upper Hudson Peace Action presents Dr. Lawrence Wittner speaking on "How the Peace Movement Can Work More Effectively to End the War in Ukraine" 7-8:30 p.m. June 8 via Zoom. Dr. Lawrence Wittner is Professor of History Emeritus at SUNY/Albany and an award-winning author of numerous books on peace movements and foreign policy. His hundreds of articles on international issues have appeared in journals, magazines, and newspapers around the world. If you would like to register for this free talk and question and answer session, email moon-jn@gmail.com.

JUNE 9

CASTLETON — The Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services will meet at 6 p.m. June 9 in-person in the Administrative

Building Conference Center. This meeting will allow virtual attendance for any public and administrators wishing to join via the Zoom link provided on the Questar III Board webpage at <https://www.questar.org/about/board-of-education/meeting-agendas-minutes/>.

JUNE 10

DELMAR — Q.U.I.L.L.T. Inc. will meet at 9:45 a.m. June 10 at the Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., Delmar and via Zoom. The general meeting will be followed by "Things with Wings" Quilt Challenge and UFO (Unfinished Objects) Challenge. Q.U.I.L.L.T. Inc. is a not-for-profit guild of quilters interested in learning about the art of making quilts. Members live in the Capital Region and surrounding communities. All levels of quilters are welcome.

JUNE 11

CATSKILL — The Catskill Yard Sale will be held starting at 9 a.m. June 11. The community can check the face book page for a list of addresses, items for sale and more.

GREENVILLE — Greenville's Veterans Park Gazebo will be buzzing 9:30-11:30 a.m. June 11 as the Greenville Rotary hosts a family education event, "The Buzz About Bees." Guests will be able to learn about the importance of bees and other pollinators to our environment, and ways to protect pollinating insects and garden to help them. There will be displays by a beekeeper, honey for sale, gardening education and plant sales, and interactive activities such as making a "seed ball" for your garden and kids creating a mural about their favorite foods and the plants that need to be pollinated to create them. All activities are free and appropriate for children and adults. For information, contact the Greenville Rotary Club at greenwillenrotaryclub@gmail.com.

COXSACKIE — Breezy Lawn Farm will host their grand opening noon-7 p.m. June 11 at 1700 Farm to Market Road, Coxsackie. "Hooves for Hope"

will include program demonstrations, vendors, raffles, pony rides and more. A barbecue sponsored by Sodexo Live at Windham will be served, \$12. A grand opening ride will be held at noon. There will be live music by Peaceful Country from 5-7 p.m. For information, call 518-291-7607.

CAIRO — The Friends of the Cairo Library are sponsoring a Nickel Social June 11 at the new Town Community Building, 7485 Route 32, Cairo. Doors open at 1 p.m.; drawings begin at 2 p.m.

JUNE 12

CATSKILL — The Catskill Elks Lodge, 45 North Jefferson Ave., Catskill, will hold a Flag Day Ceremony at 11 a.m. June 12. RSVP requested by June 7. Call Debbi at 518-610-1301.

JUNE 14

CAIRO — Resurrection Lutheran Church, 186 Main St. Cairo, will be hosting a GriefShare support group beginning June 14. GriefShare is a Christian-based weekly seminar and support group for people who are grieving the death of someone close to them. It's a place to be around people who understand what you are feeling. At GriefShare, you'll learn valuable information about recovering from your grief and renewing your hope for the future. This is video and conversation based group and is facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Victor Nelson. The group meets 4-5 p.m. Tuesdays beginning June 14. Register online at WWW.RLC.LIFE/GRIEFSHARE or call the church at 518-622-3286. There is no cost and the program is open to all with loss.

HALFMOON — The local group of The Society of American Magicians (SAM), Assembly 24, will meet at 5:30 p.m. June 14 at the Halfmoon Diner, 231 Grooms Road, Halfmoon. The Assembly meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at The Halfmoon Diner.

JUNE 16

SAND LAKE — Cornell Cooperative Extension of

Rensselaer County will hold its annual "Rensselaer County Garden Tour" 4-8 p.m. June 16. This drive-it-yourself tour will feature eight gardens in the West Sand Lake and Averill Park neighborhoods. Gardens this year include shade and sun perennials, raised bed vegetables, poolside gardens, arbors and pathways, backyard orchards and fruit plants. Everyone will enjoy seeing the gardens and learning from their owners, and will take home dozens of inspirational ideas. Maps will be on sale for \$10 per person or \$30 per car (3 or more people) and can be purchased from 4-7 p.m. the day of the tour at the West Sand Lake Elementary School, 24 Meeler Rd, West Sand Lake. The tour will be held rain or shine. Proceeds will benefit the Rensselaer County Master Gardener program. For information, contact Cornell Cooperative Extension at (518) 272-4210 or dhc3@cornell.edu.

JUNE 18

HUDSON — The FASNY of Firefighting will be hosting Big Truck Day at the Museum 10:30 a.m.-noon June 18 at the Museum, 117 Harry Howard Ave., Hudson. Admission is free for the in-person event and reservations are not required. Learn all about big trucks and even sit in the truck cabs. Firetrucks, a garbage truck, a street cleaner, a school bus and many more vehicles will be visiting the Museum for the day, so come check out all the BIG truck action. When you complete your BIG truck tour, try your hand at the BIG truck prize punch game. All activities are free and will be outdoors (rain or shine). Free admission to the Museum will also be offered to all who attend this special event. For information, visit www.fasny-firemuseum.com or call 518-822-1875.

JUNE 19

CATSKILL — The Catskill Elks Lodge, 45 North Jefferson St., Catskill, will serve a Father's Day Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. June 19. Dads and children under 6, free; all others, \$9. Reservations must be made by June 15 by calling

Debbi at 518-610-1301.

JUNE 25

ALBANY — Capital District Genealogical Society will meet at 1 p.m. June 25 via Zoom. Registration is free and will open to the public on June 16. See www.CapitalDistrictGenealogicalSociety.org or www.CapitalDistrictGenealogicalSociety.org under meetings and events. There is a 100-person limit. Skip Duett presents that After the Revolutionary War, there was a shift away from the earlier land transfer approaches. The Holland Land Company, Oliver Phelps, Nathaniel Gorham, Sir William Pulteney, William Constable and many others operated land companies in the post-war period. Understanding how and where these companies functioned opens a treasure trove of records the prudent New York researcher will not want to miss.

JUNE 30

CAIRO — The Cairo Public Library, 15 Railroad Ave., Cairo, will host a graphic novel reading club for grades 3 through 7 at 10:30 a.m. Thursdays beginning June 30. Call 518-622-9864 to register.

COXSACKIE — The United Methodist Church, 103 Mansion St., Coxsackie, will be hosting a chicken barbecue catered by Freese's Catering 4-6:30 p.m. June 30, take out only. Menu includes half chicken, baked potato, corn, cole slaw, roll, butter and cookies. Tickets are \$15. Tickets must be purchased by June 23 and are available from any church member or by calling 518-428-9600 or 518-731-9600. Pick up at Lafayette Avenue Parking Lot.

AUG. 6

HUNTER — The Hunter Fire Company block party will be held 3-10 p.m. Aug. 6 at the Fire House, 17 Bridge St., Hunter. There will be food, drinks, prizes, live music, games, mechanical bull, dunk tank and more. DJ Frankieokie 3-6 p.m. GRP Songbirds sing Doo Wop 6-7 p.m. and the Lost Cowboys Band perform 7-10 p.m.



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Governor Hochul launches new season of free 'On the Canals' excursions along the New York State Canal System

ALBANY — Governor Kathy Hochul announced the launch of a new season of free "On the Canals" excursions along the New York State Canal system. Now in its third year, this free recreational program, sponsored by the New York Power Authority and New York State Canal Corporation, offers unique opportunities to experience the waterways of the Canal system and the adjoining Empire State Trail. This summer's "On the Canals" excursions include kayaking, cycling, cruising, painting, birding, and accessible activities such as adaptive paddling and biking.

"I am thrilled this free program is returning for a third season and can think of no better way to spend the summer than 'On the Canals,' as these recreational activities bring New Yorkers and tourists alike to our waterways and trails and help support our local economies," Governor Hochul said. "As a frequent boater on the Canal and having kayaked and cycled during the first two seasons of 'On the Canals,' I know firsthand how spectacular these recreational opportunities are. I look forward to this new season offering unique experiences that allow for families and individuals of all abilities to enjoy our historic Canal system."

This season's "On the Canals" program builds upon the successful first two seasons by expanding the types of activities offered, increasing participation by offering more outings over a longer period, and growing the number of locations across the Canal system where excursions are held. "On the Canals" will also be on hand at various festivals this year, with adaptive equipment available to try out. Itineraries this season include:

- Paddle/Pedal in Brockport with adaptive equipment available
- Bike Safety Rodeo and Repair Workshops in Buffalo
- Black Rock Historic Bike Tour in Buffalo
- Hydrobike & Kayak the Canal Aqueduct in Medina
- Fish & Kayak at Medina Falls & Glenwood Lake in Medina
- Kids Paddlesports on the Canal in Oswego
- Introduction to Kayaking & Stand-Up Paddleboarding in Oswego
- Sunset Paddling and Urban Paddle in Oswego

Montezuma Wetlands: In Search of the Bald Eagle in Montezuma

Painting Alongside the Canal (En Plein Air) in Amsterdam and other canalside locations

STEAM Workshops for Kids & Teens in Schuylerville and Utica

Bike & Boat Cruises in Schuylerville

Cycling Tours in Schuylerville and surrounding areas

Guided Kayak Tours in Buffalo, North Tonawanda, Waterloo and Macedon

Historic Boat Tours in Schuylerville, Herkimer, Buffalo and on Seneca Lake

Youth Kayak & Water Safety in Macedon

Intro to Cycling & Bike Maintenance in Schuylerville

Paddle/Pedal in Halfmoon

New York Power Authority Interim President & CEO Justin E. Driscoll said, "The 'On the Canals' excursions program is an innovative use for New York's Canal system, and one that has enticed travelers to visit and experience it for what it really is - scenic water and trailways steeped in rich history offering boundless opportunities for exploration and recreation. I am grateful to Governor Hochul for continuing to invest in our canals and I am certain that these excursions will continue to make New York's Canal system a force for economic growth and recreation."

New York State Canal Corporation Director Brian U. Stratton said, "I am incredibly proud to join Governor Hochul and our colleagues at the New York Power Authority as we officially launch this year's 'On the Canals' summer excursions with new offerings that make this program more accessible than ever. Our Canal system is a fundamental part of our state's history and should be enjoyed to its fullest capacity by all New Yorkers and visitors who come looking for education, adventure, and fun, and I encourage everyone of all ages and skill levels to spend their summer experiencing New York's most iconic waterways and trails 'On the Canals.'"

Those interested in learning more about the "On the Canals" program or to sign-up for an excursion may do so by visiting the "On the Canals" website. Additional excursions will be launched

throughout the year.

Initially piloted in the summer of 2020 as "NY Canal Staycations," the "On the Canals" program has expanded as a year-round recreation initiative in New York State after participation nearly tripled in 2021.

"On the Canals" is funded through the New York Power Authority and Canal Corporation's Reimagine the Canals initiative - a \$300 million effort to revitalize the Canal system as a tourism and recreation destination while simultaneously boosting economic development and improving the resiliency of canalside communities.

The New York State Canal system, which provides unique and unparalleled experiences, officially opened this year for its 198th consecutive season of navigation in May.

Olana seeking volunteers for the 2022 season

HUDSON — Frederic Church's Olana is seeking passionate volunteers to engage with visitors inside Olana's Main House and outdoors in the historic landscape.

If you love nature, art, history, and Frederic Church's Olana, volunteering is the perfect way to give back to our community and get involved.

Volunteering with The Olana Partnership at Olana State Historic Site provides a great way to immerse yourself in one of the Hudson Valley's most unique cultural treasures and interact with visitors who are looking to learn more about Olana and artist Frederic Church.

There are many opportunities to volunteer depending on your interest and availability.

Volunteers welcome visitors and provide basic information, answer

questions about Olana and the local community, assist with public educational programs, special events, administrative tasks, and share the history of the rich collections and exhibitions.

"Olana is one of those institutions that is both invitingly cozy, approachable, and informal, while having the heart, ambition and status of a big-league nonprofit," said Karen Gerstel, an Olana volunteer.

"It is so rewarding to be a part of preserving and sharing a pivotal part of America's history, and the staff always makes my small contributions of time feel appreciated. As a bonus, many of Olana's events throughout the year are open to all volunteers. There was so much I learned! I will be returning for another year."

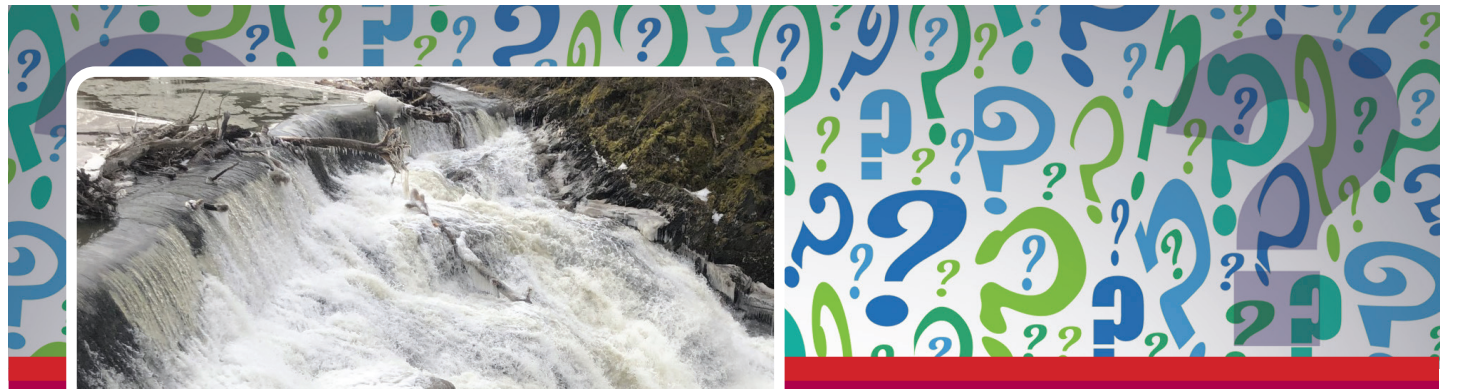
In return for your time, Olana volunteers enjoy free landscape tours, discounts

in the Olana Museum Store, invitations to lectures, volunteer field trips and more. Join the movement and meet other volunteers who enjoy learning and sharing their love of Olana and the region.

All volunteers will participate in a training program to familiarize themselves with Olana State Historic Site, New York State Parks, The Olana Partnership, and the history of Frederic Church and his family.

The Olana Partnership will work with you to ensure that your volunteering interests are met based on your availability.

For information about joining the Olana family, contact Lauren Miller, Development Associate—Membership & Volunteers, The Olana Partnership, at (518) 751-6857 or email lmiller@olana.org.



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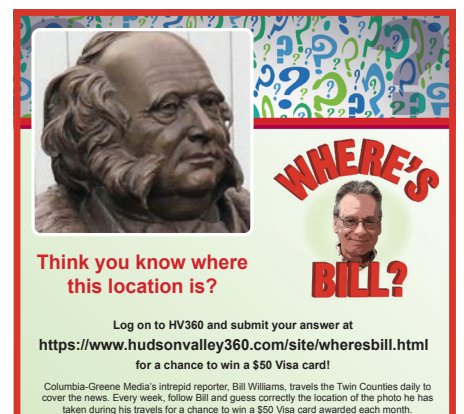
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DEC reminds visitors to focus on safety as summer hiking season begins

ALBANY — New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos reminded visitors to New York's outdoor spaces to focus on safety before they head out to their outdoor adventures in the state's wild and beautiful destinations. Ahead of this summer's recreational season, DEC continues to advance actions to promote public safety and improve visitor experience.

"Recreating safely and responsibly starts with planning ahead before visiting the Adirondacks, Catskills, and any of New York's wild places," Commissioner Seggos said. "Preparing for potential dangers and changing weather conditions and knowing your limits before hiking into the back country can mean the difference between life and death. To protect yourself and others, I'm encouraging outdoor adventurers to make plan ahead and make smart decisions to prevent accidents before they occur."

Visitation to State Forest Preserve lands is typically highest during the summer months. In partnership with State agencies, local municipalities, and private entities, DEC is working to protect public safety, improve the visitor experience during the busy season, and safeguard sensitive ecosystems. Using recommendations outlined by the High Peaks Strategic Planning Advisory Group (HPAG) and Catskills Strategic Planning Advisory Group (CAG), as well as input from local and community partners and outdoors enthusiasts, New York State continues to implement new strategies and adaptively manage the ongoing safety and resource needs of both Forest Preserve regions. For more information, go to <https://www.dec.ny.gov/press/125418.html> and <https://www.dec.ny.gov/>

[press/125363.html](https://www.dec.ny.gov/press/125363.html)

BE PREPARED

Wear proper gear and attire, including sturdy, comfortable boots.

Moisture-wicking synthetic fabrics that keep your skin dry and help regulate your body temperature in both cold and warm weather - avoid cotton as it holds moisture; Layered clothing is recommended even for summer hikes; Light-colored clothing, which will make it easier to see ticks

Waterproof, sturdy, and comfortable shoes or boots (no flip-flops); A watch or other time-keeping device; Trekking poles will reduce leg fatigue and joint pain; and Snowshoes and traction devices in the winter.

Hikers and others heading outdoors should always let someone know where they are going, when they plan to return, and should provide updates if there are any changes to the plan. Anyone heading out needs to be realistic about their fitness and skill level and not overestimate their abilities or underestimate the weather conditions.

10 HIKING ESSENTIALS

Carry these essentials in a day pack on all hikes for a safe and enjoyable experience.

NAVIGATION

Map

Compass

GPS system

Extra batteries

INSULATION/RAIN GEAR

Waterproof/windproof jacket

Hat

Gloves

Thermal undergarments (pack extra)

Wool socks (pack extra)

Goggles - Winter

Face mask - Winter

LIGHT

Headlamp

Flashlight

Lanterns

Extra batteries

FIRST AID SUPPLIES

Use a pre-made kit or build your own

EMERGENCY KIT

Whistle

Signal mirror

Duct tape

Pocket knife/multi-tool, etc.

Bright colored cloth

FIRE

Matches in waterproof container

Lighter

Fire starters

NUTRITION

Choose high protein and high calorie items

Pack extra food

WATER

Pack at least 2 liters per person

Carry more than you think you will need

Water filtration or purifying system

SUN and INSECT PROTECTION

Sunglasses

Sunscreen

Hat

Bug Repellent

Bug Net

EMERGENCY SHELTER

Tent

Space Blanket

Tarp

Those planning a trip should consider going with at least one other person. Hiking alone can be dangerous. Also monitor trail conditions before your arrival and during your hike. Trail condition resources include: Adirondacks area; Catskills area; Finger Lakes area. These and many more hiking safety tips are on the DEC's Hike Smart website.

New Yorkers are encouraged to Love Our New York Lands all year by practicing Leave No Trace principles and by recreating safely, sustainably, and hiking in suitable conditions based on weather and experience level. For more information: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/119881.html>.

EXPLAINING THE AMERICAN FLAG



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

American Legion Posts Athens Post 187, Catskill Post 110 and Coxsackie Post 166, under the direction of Athens Commander Gordon Mosher gave an explanation of the American flag on May 31. Karin Kerun read the meaning of each fold and George Greiner explained the History of Taps, to the Coxsackie-Athens Junior High School. Sam Mozzillo, a student at the school, played Taps. Pictured from the left are Marc Dinkerlaker, Jim Stalker and Tom Andreassen.

Find us at: [HudsonValley360.com](https://www.hudsonvalley360.com)

The Bronck Museum summer events kick off June 12

COXSACKIE — The Bronck Museum, 90 Co Hwy 42, Coxsackie, kicks off the summer events on June 12 with the "Help Me I'm Falling" fundraiser dedicated to the stabilization of the small brick kitchen dependency built c 1800 and one of the most important buildings on the Bronck Museum grounds. July brings summer weather and the first musical event of the season "Songs of the Sixties." On July 12, visitors are encouraged to pull on their old bell bottoms or maybe cinch themselves into a dress that could catch the eye of the dashing Rhett Butler and join Lex Grey and the Urban Pioneers for a program of popular music from the 1860s and the 1960s. As summer days become sultry and the full corn moon raises over the ancient Bronck farmstead in the cool twilight on the evening of Aug. 13 visitors will be welcomed to step back in time to enjoy an evening social gathering of the sort once common in rural America. There will be live music, homemade desserts and lots of moon lore all offered "By the Light of the Silvery Moon, of course."

The Bronck Museum is at its busiest from mid-September until mid-November. On Sept. 18, GCHS President Bob Hallock, will be offering a program that answers the question how did the "Queen's Highway Become the King's Highway" and then become a part of the governmentally

established public road system in colonial America. The Bronck Museum holds the highlight of the fall season on Oct. 2. The Heritage Craft Fair, now the Heritage Craft, Food and Beverage Fair will be better than ever this year with the addition of craft brewers, distillers and vintners and a wider variety of heritage foods and produce. On the weekend of Nov. 11-13 as the first cold winds of the coming winter rattle the dry oak leaves that have settled around the ancient buildings of the farmstead the Bronck Museum offers the final special event of the 2022 museum season. The aptly named "Chilly Willy Winter's Eve

Tours." Attendees will join a costumed guide through the chilly interiors of the Bronck homes decorated to celebrate the nearly forgotten holidays of Martinmas, St. Nicholas Day and St. Lucia Day.

We hope you will join us for some of these special events or if you haven't taken a regularly scheduled guided tour of Bronck Museum, the 2022 Bronck Museum which opens on May 28 will be a great time to visit.

For additional information about the Bronck Museum and all its events or to schedule a tour check out the website at www.gchistory.org.

2022 OldSongs Festival

John McCutcheon • John Doyle & Mick McAuley • Hubby Jenkins
Sheila Kay Adams with Donna Ray Norton & Melanie Rice Penland
Windborne • Beppe Gambetta • The Vox Hunters • Roy Book Binder
Bourque Emissaires • E.T.E. • Jim Lloyd & Addie Levy • Reggie Harris
Joe Jencks • Dennis Stroughmatt & L'Esprit Creole • Matthew Byrne
Sam Gleaves & Deborah Payne • Bethany Yarrow • Copley Street
Magpie with Rolly Brown • Joseph & James Bruchac • Scott Ainslie
Sally Rogers • Howie Bursen • Claudia Schmidt • Ustad Shafaat Khan
Andy Cohen • Great Gambian Griots • Heard • John Kirk & Trish Miller
Cloud Ten • Petrichord • Jamcrackers • John Roberts • Stefan Amidon
George Wilson & Selma Kaplan • Colleen Cleveland • Chris Koldewey
John Dickson • Jake Thomas • Ron Gordon • Fern Bradley • Ted Crane
The Great Groove Band • Roger the Jester • and more!

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Emergency pet supply kits

By Charlene Marchand
For Columbia-Greene Media

Continuing from our last column with more important items to fill your emergency pet supply kits with: Other supplies (consider including):

Comfort items (such as bedding, toys, or pet treats); Latex gloves (for handling waste); A hot water bottle or other heating source in cold weather (for birds or reptiles); A spray bottle for misting in hot weather; Cage liner and perch (for birds); A blanket or sheet to cover cages; Exercise equipment (for small animals, such as hamsters or ferrets); A soaking bowl (for reptiles);

Important information and records (definitely include): Feeding schedule and dietary instructions, including any food your pet should not eat; A recent photo of you with your pet (in case you become separated); A description of your pet (include species, breed, size, age, gender, coloring, special markings, etc.); A copy of your pet's medical records, including vaccination dates; A copy of adoption or purchase records; An emergency release form for your pet's backup caregiver; Contact information for you, your pet's veterinarian, and a friend or relative that lives out of town; A list of places where your pet can stay in an emergency (see above); Microchip information, if applicable.

A first aid kit. Ask your pet's veterinarian about what to include. He or she may recommend: An animal first-aid book; Saline solution; Hydrogen peroxide; Antiseptic wipes; Cotton swabs; Antibiotic cream; Cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape, and scissors; Flea and tick medication; Latex gloves.

To maintain your emergency supply kit, make sure you rotate food and water supply regularly (about every two months) to keep supplies fresh. Replace



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bo is a 4 year old Domestic Shorthair tabby who was transferred to us from another shelter. He is incredibly sweet but would do best in a quiet home. Bo enjoys lounging around the cat room but loves to play on his terms. If you're looking for a friendly companion, stop by the shelter to meet with Bo today!

medication that is past its expiration date. Keep food, medication, and papers in airtight, waterproof containers. Also, store the kit in a cool, dry place.

Get your pet microchipped. Ask your pet's veterinarian about implanting this grain-sized computer chip under your pet's skin. Most animal clinics and shelters have scanners that can read the chip for a special number. If your pet gets lost and turned in to one of these facilities, the number can be used to find you in an animal database.

Any form of identification should include your pet's name and the current contact

information for you and an out-of-town friend or relative. Consider putting all of this information on your pet's collar tags, leg or neckband, and cage or carrier (using permanent ink).

To learn more about emergency planning for your pet, contact your pet's veterinarian or your local humane society.

Feel free to call us with any questions at 518-828-6044 or visit www.cghs.org.

Charlene Marchand is the Chairperson of the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA Board of Directors. She may be contacted at cghsaaron@gmail.com.

David Woodton of St. Catherine's Center for Children receives Purcell Excellence Award

ALBANY — David Woodton was nominated by his peers at St. Catherine's Center for Children to receive the Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies (COFCCA)'s Jim Purcell Excellence Award, and chosen among only 10 awardees from agencies across the state. The Purcell Excellence Award is given to staff of COFCCA member agencies who demonstrate excellence in their jobs, providing foster care, adoption, family preservation, and juvenile justice in New York. Jim Purcell, the award's namesake, opened the ceremony by solidifying how life changing it can be for children to realize 'that a stable adult really cares about them.'

The awardees were lauded by Assembly Member Andrew Hevisi and Senator Jabari Brisport for being stars of their organizations. David was chosen by the Purcell Excellence Award committee for his unwavering commitment to the children in his care, as Unit Supervisor of Group Homes, and dedication supporting a positive agency culture.

Woodton was presented with his award on May 13 during a COFCCA-hosted virtual ceremony. Excerpts from his nomination letter were read aloud by Katharine Briar-Lawson, the Dean Emeritus from SUNY University at Albany's School of Social Welfare, which included examples of David going above and beyond to ensure the children in his care know they are important and safe.

'...David immediately drove from his home at a late



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pictured from the left are Mark Mandeville, David Woodton, Frank Pindiak, Kerri Harrington and Wilford LeForestier in the back.

hour to support his team with a child who needed his care...

During the holidays when a large donation of children's bicycles arrived, David was the first person up on the truck unloading them during a downpour of freezing rain... David integrates all of himself into helping the Group Home kids participate in activities at all times of the day and year, ensuring they are successfully engaged. He has led hundreds of activities and spent countless hours planning and participating in hikes, fieldtrips, outings, and games with them...

A watch party was hosted for Woodton and his colleagues by his supervisor Mark Mandeville, Director of Residence, and Dr. Kerri Harrington, Associate Executive Director of Residential and Education.

After being recognized, Frank Pindiak, Executive Director of St. Catherine's Center for Children, presented Woodton with his award letter and certificate. Purcell Excellence awardees also

receive \$500.

"David's commitment to caring for the children dealing with the effects of abuse, trauma, and neglect living in our group homes, has established him as a role model for all St. Catherine's Center for Children staff to aspire to and follow," says Pindiak of David's commitment to St. Catherine's.

Woodton's colleagues across the Agency define him as someone who is dedicated, nurturing, and selfless.

"His calm demeanor, expertise, and guidance help the leadership team daily. I can't think of any one more deserving," says Jaclyn Yusko, Chief Operating Officer, who served on the St. Catherine's nominating committee.

Staff continuously echo praises about the positive impact David makes on their lives.

"David will provide a helping hand whenever called to do so. He is often the first one on site and the last one to leave," adds Harrington.

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Former Trump aide Navarro indicted for defying Jan. 6 subpoenas

Chris Strohm
Bloomberg News

Former White House trade adviser Peter Navarro was indicted for defying subpoenas by the congressional committee investigating the Capitol riot, giving the panel fresh ammunition as it probes the post-election acts of Donald Trump and his allies.

Navarro "is charged with one contempt count involving his refusal to appear for a deposition and another involving his refusal to produce documents, despite a subpoena from the House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol," the Justice Department said in a

statement Friday.

In a lawsuit filed Tuesday in US District Court in Washington, Navarro asserted that the nine-member House committee is not properly authorized or constituted and therefore that its legislative acts, including the committee subpoena he defied, are invalid. He called the subpoena

from the federal grand jury the legal "fruit of the poisonous tree."

Navarro didn't immediately return requests for comment on the indictment.

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Violence

From A1

of both the New York State Assembly and New York State Senate refused to allow Republican-introduced legislation to repeal the HALT Act to move forward in either chamber," Powers said.

According to numbers reported by the New York State Department of Correction and Community Supervision, since April 1, overall violence in state correctional facilities has risen more than 35%. Inmate-on-staff violence has increased approximately 35%, while inmate-on-inmate violence has climbed 36%, Miller said.

According to the data, the single-week high of inmate-on-staff assaults was set during the week ending May 22, when 40 staff members were



Michael Powers, president of New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association, speaking at a recent press conference.

assaulted, Miller said.

Additionally, the single-week high of inmate-on-inmate assaults was set during the week ending April 24, when 37 inmates were

assaulted by other incarcerated individuals, Miller said.

Within the past two weeks, there have been numerous disturbing, unprovoked incidents of violence in state-run

correctional facilities that have resulted in injuries to a dozen officers, Miller said.

NYSCOPBA listed the facility with the most amount of violence recently as Elmira Correctional Facility, Wende Correctional Facility, Clinton Correctional Facility, Marcy Correctional Facility, Attica Correctional Facility and Great Meadow Correctional Facility.

"What is it going to take for the Democratic majority in both houses of the New York State Legislature to address how the HALT Act has made prisons more dangerous? A prison uprising? Someone getting killed?" Powers said.

In May of 2021, NYSCOPBA filed a federal lawsuit against New York State to overturn HALT, arguing that the new law violates its members' civil rights. That lawsuit is still pending in court.

Contractor

From A1

30, 2021.

One of the victims was the Richmond Fire Department, which paid Senter a deposit of \$52,967 to construct a new steel building. Senter allegedly provided the blueprints and trusses for the project, but never completed the

work or refunded the deposit, Harrington said.

Richmond Fire Department, which is located a few miles across the Columbia County line from New Lebanon, frequently responds to mutual-aid fire calls in northern Columbia County.

"These indictments demonstrate my office and law enforcement's commitment to holding those who take advantage of others accountable," Harrington said.

The five states that officials said Senter scammed people, businesses and a church are Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New Hampshire and New York.

The investigation began with Pittsfield police and at the same time state police detectives attached to the district attorney's office began their probe, Harrington said.

Senter pleaded not guilty

to all charges Thursday in Berkshire Superior Court.

Judge Maureen Hogan ordered Senter held on \$25,000 bail.

The investigation remains ongoing, and police are looking for other victims. Harrington asked that any other potential victims contact local police or state police detectives in her office.

The number for the Berkshire District Attorney's Office is 413-443-5951.

EMS

From A1

what telemedicine is," Evans said. "Most of you may have had a doctor's visit with your iPhone. You saw an image of your doctor and you talked to your doctor. Before the pandemic, I never heard of that being done anyplace. Now it's kind of commonplace. We're kind of going back to the doctor's office, but there's still a lot of telemedicine being done."

Evans explained that in some circumstances, medics can arrive at the scene of a patient in distress and after evaluating them can offer to connect them to a doctor through a telemedicine call if their condition meets the criteria for a virtual call.

"At that point the medic will make contact with the agency and they'll set up a telemedicine call," Evans said. "The medic will get on their tablet and they'll bring up the doctor on the video. It's the same doctors that they see in the emergency room."

If the doctor recommends that the patient doesn't require a trip to the hospital, the doctor can then contact the patient's physician or send in a prescription for the patient.

"Now the ambulance goes back in service and the medic truck goes back in service and Mrs. Smith stays at home and there's a prescription on the way and an understanding that she needs to call her doctor later that day or the next," Evans said. "The important thing is that now, you've just prevented an ambulance transport from Hunter to Catskill, or even to Albany."

Greene County Legislator Edward Bloomer, R-Athens, said he hopes telemedicine will be a cost saver for the agency.

"Whenever an ambulance picks somebody up and transports them to a facility, that

ambulance is out of service until they get back," Bloomer said Thursday. "This may be a temporary situation due to COVID, but sometimes you may have an hour ride from Hunter to Columbia Memorial or Albany Med, but you may have an hour or two wait in their parking lot. All of that time, that ambulance and that crew with their medication and that high-tech life-saving equipment, is out of service. So I think this would be a tremendous money-saver."

Evans said telemedicine could have multiple financial benefits to the EMS agency.

"This is the trend, this is where paramedicine is going," he told the Legislature. "We're very happy to have this program and we think it's only going to get better as the medics get better at evaluating the folks under the criteria they have. Here's the really cool part about it — if we've not taken somebody to the hospital and that insurance company does not have to pay several thousand dollars for an emergency room visit, that insurance company recognizes that savings. If that ambulance service is signed up for the program, they can turn around and bill \$450 for that response. And what did they do? They went from the ambulance station to the patient's home and back to the ambulance station."

In his presentation to the Legislature, Evans said the EMS crew currently has an average response time of nine minutes and three seconds to answer calls in the valley region of the county, with a 9:58 response time for the mountaintop area. The team's average response time is 9:29.

"That's amazing for a rural county," Evans said. "For a rural county it's amazing to have anything under 10 minutes. It shows that the medic truck in Prattsville is having an impact on response times."

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H.S. BASEBALL:

Chatham rolls to regional victory over Ticonderoga

Tim Martin
 Columbia-Greene Media

BOLTON LANDING — Tyler Kneller and Tate Van Alstyne combined to throw a no-hitter and Matt Thorsen blasted a home run and drove in three runs as Chatham defeated Ticonderoga, 14-3, in Thursday's Class C state regional semifinal in Bolton Landing.

Kneller threw five innings, striking out 10, walking seven and allowing three runs (1 earned). Van Alstyne finished up, pitching one perfect inning.

Section VII champion Ticonderoga took a 1-0 lead in the first and held onto it until Chatham (24-1) erupted for four in the third. The Sentinels answered with two in the bottom of the third, but the Panthers plated six in the fifth and four more in the sixth to wrap up the victory and a berth in the regional final.

Kneller helped his own cause with a double, two singles and two RBI. Van Alstyne added a triple and single with two RBI, Cam Horton had a double and single with three RBI, Mike Pierro doubled and drove in two runs, Vinnie Marasco singled and Kyle

Jackson drove in a run.

"It was a great game to be a part of," Chatham coach Scott Steltz said. "The atmosphere that our fans and community created from the moment we left the school had an impact on our play. Our kids came out and handled some adversity early. Tyler battled through the first three innings on the mound.

"We started getting the bats going and then it became contagious up and down the lineup. The entire offense contributed with competitive at-bats and line drives all over the field.

"As has been the case all year, our guys rallied and fed off each other throughout the middle and late innings. I've been saying it all year, but we are blessed with a very deep team in many aspects who always look to pick each other up.

"We are looking forward to representing Section II on Saturday up in Saratoga."

Chatham advances to the regional final and will play Section 10 champion Norwood-Norfolk on Saturday at 3 p.m. at East Side Rec in Saratoga.



Matt Fortunato/Columbia-Greene Media

Ichabod Crane's Morgan Ormerod puts the bat on the ball during Thursday's state Class B regional softball semifinal against Peru at Luther Forest Athletic Fields.

H.S. SOFTBALL:

Riders cruise past Nighthawks to reach regional final

Matt Fortunato
 Columbia-Greene Media

MALTA — The Ichabod Crane Riders varsity softball team earned another shutout victory Thursday evening, defeating the Peru Nighthawks,

12-0, in six innings.

With the win, the Riders will move on to the New York State Class B Regional Final and face the undefeated Canton Golden Bears (19-0) in Potsdam on Saturday.

Kari Graziano pitched a four-hit shutout, and struck out ten Nighthawks batters over her six innings of work. Ava Heffner led the Riders' at the dish, going 4-for-4 with two RBIs and three runs

scored. Emma Scheitinger and Makayla Walsh also drove in two runs each behind three total hits between them, and Scheitinger crossed the plate

See RIDERS B4

Celtics stun Warriors in NBA Finals opener with fourth-quarter flurry



Kyle Terada/USA TODAY

Boston Celtics forward Jayson Tatum (0) dribbles the ball while defended by Golden State Warriors forward Andrew Wiggins (22) during the second half in game one of the 2022 NBA Finals at Chase Center on Thursday.

Ben Golliver
 The Washington Post

SAN FRANCISCO — The Boston Celtics and Golden State Warriors arrived at the NBA Finals with the league's two best defenses - and good reasons to believe they might need some time to get up to full speed. Boston's core group would inevitably face some nerves during its first time on the championship stage, and rust lingered as a concern for Golden State, which hadn't played in a full week.

Instead, Thursday's Game 1 opened with a bang and never slowed down. Both teams started hot from outside in a free-flowing, back-and-forth contest that was the aesthetic opposite of Boston's grinding Eastern Conference finals against the Miami Heat. If the game was an exchange of haymakers, the Celtics' 120-108 comeback victory at Chase Center included a devastating

final blow - a 40-16 advantage in the fourth quarter that dealt the Warriors their first home loss in 10 games this postseason. Remarkably, Boston's 24-point margin in the final period tied the record for the most lopsided quarter in Finals history.

"The message at the start of the fourth was that we've been here before," Celtics forward Jayson Tatum said. "We know what it takes to overcome a deficit like that. It wasn't time to hang your head or be done. It was time to figure it out."

Golden State's Stephen Curry set the pace early by making an NBA Finals-record six three-pointers in the first quarter, but nine different players combined to hit 20 three-pointers in the first half. This was a good old-fashioned shootout: By night's end, the two teams had combined to hit 40 three-pointers, with Boston shooting a blistering

21 for 41 from beyond the arc.

"You never go in conceding [outside] shots," said Warriors Coach Steve Kerr, whose team fell to 21-3 in Game 1s since he arrived in San Francisco. "You have a scouting report on each player. It felt to me like we didn't close out very well in the first half, and that let [the Celtics] get going."

Celtics Coach Ime Udoka noted Wednesday that his team, which has won a pair of Game 7s in these playoffs, tended not to get "caught up in the moment." Those words proved prophetic as the Celtics erased a 10-point deficit in the second quarter to take a lead into halftime and dug out of a 15-point third-quarter hole to regain the lead midway through the final period.

While Boston hadn't conceded more than 15 three-pointers in a game during

See CELTICS B4

Jacob deGrom doesn't travel with Mets on road trip

Deesha Thosar
 New York Daily News

LOS ANGELES — In a change of publicly stated plans, Jacob deGrom is continuing his rehab back in New York rather than with the Mets on their tour of Southern California.

DeGrom (right scapula stress reaction) did not join the Mets for their 10-game, 11-day road trip against the Dodgers, Padres and Angels that began on Thursday. On May 27, Mets manager Buck Showalter had said definitively that deGrom was going to travel with the team. A week later, the skipper indicated deGrom will hang back in New York for the entirety of their trip.

"He's in New York," Showalter said Thursday at Dodger Stadium. "Just felt like it was better that he worked there. They're equipped to handle what his needs are. Obviously Jake is a priority for those guys back there. He'll stay back and get his work done there for the time being." Earlier last month, Mets pitching coach



Reinhold Matay/USA TODAY

New York Mets starting pitcher Jacob deGrom (48) throws a pitch in the first inning during spring training against the St. Louis Cardinals at Clover Park on March 27.

Jeremy Hefner said he would like to be around deGrom, supervising him, as his rehab ramped up to mound-work and bullpens. But on Thursday, Showalter indicated the Mets staff already has enough on its plate managing a 26-man roster, plus a three-man taxi squad, during their long west coast trip.

The Mets ace, who is on the 60-day injured list, is still throwing off flat ground at Citi Field. He has yet to throw off the mound, and Showalter said it's possible he will do so while the team and Hefner are away from Queens. After getting on a mound and throwing bullpens, the next step for deGrom will be throwing live batting practice. Afterwards, the final hurdle will be ramping up his pitch count in rehab outings. That last step does not appear to be particularly close.

"The right decision is, it's better for him to get his work done there," Showalter said. "Just a

See METS B4

ML Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE

| East | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|------|------|
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| NY Yankees | 36 | 15 | .706 | — |
| Toronto | 30 | 20 | .600 | 5.5 |
| Tampa Bay | 30 | 21 | .588 | 6.0 |
| Boston | 24 | 27 | .471 | 12.0 |
| Baltimore | 22 | 31 | .415 | 15.0 |
| Central | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Minnesota | 30 | 23 | .566 | — |
| Cleveland | 22 | 24 | .478 | 4.5 |
| Chi. White Sox | 23 | 26 | .469 | 5.0 |
| Detroit | 21 | 30 | .412 | 8.0 |
| Kansas City | 16 | 33 | .327 | 12.0 |
| West | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Houston | 33 | 18 | .647 | — |
| LA Angels | 27 | 25 | .519 | 6.5 |
| Texas | 24 | 26 | .480 | 8.5 |
| Seattle | 22 | 29 | .431 | 11.0 |
| Oakland | 20 | 33 | .377 | 14.0 |

Wednesday's games
 Cleveland 4, Kansas City 0
 Houston 5, Oakland 4
 Baltimore 9, Seattle 2
 LA Angels at NY Yankees, PPD
 Toronto 7, Chi. White Sox 3
 Detroit 5, Minnesota 0
 Tampa Bay 4, Texas 3, 11 innings

Thursday's games
 NY Yankees 6, LA Angels 1
 Detroit 3, Minnesota 2
 Tampa Bay 3, Texas 1
 Toronto 8, Chi. White Sox 3
 Seattle 7, Baltimore 6, 10 innings
 NY Yankees 2, LA Angels 1

Friday's games
 Cleveland (Bieber 2-3) at Baltimore (Zimmermann 2-3), 7:05 p.m.
 Detroit (Rodriguez 0-0) at NY Yankees (Cole 4-1), 7:05 p.m.
 Minnesota (Gonzalez 0-0) at Toronto (Kikuchi 2-1), 7:07 p.m.
 Chi. White Sox (Velasquez 2-3) at Tampa Bay (McClanahan 5-2), 7:10 p.m.
 Seattle (Gilbert 5-2) at Texas (Dunning 1-3), 8:05 p.m.
 Houston (Urquidy 4-2) at Kansas City (Singer 2-0), 8:10 p.m.
 Boston (Eovaldi 2-2) at Oakland (Kaprielian 0-2), 9:40 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

| East | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|------|------|
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| NY Mets | 35 | 17 | .673 | — |
| Atlanta | 24 | 27 | .471 | 10.5 |
| Philadelphia | 22 | 29 | .431 | 12.5 |
| Miami | 21 | 28 | .429 | 12.5 |
| Washington | 18 | 35 | .340 | 17.5 |
| Central | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| Milwaukee | 33 | 20 | .623 | — |
| St. Louis | 29 | 22 | .569 | 3.0 |
| Pittsburgh | 22 | 27 | .449 | 9.0 |
| Chi. Cubs | 22 | 29 | .431 | 10.0 |
| Cincinnati | 18 | 32 | .360 | 13.5 |
| West | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct | GB |
| LA Dodgers | 33 | 17 | .680 | — |
| San Diego | 30 | 21 | .588 | 3.5 |
| San Francisco | 27 | 23 | .540 | 6.0 |
| Arizona | 25 | 27 | .481 | 9.0 |
| Colorado | 23 | 27 | .460 | 10.0 |

Wednesday's games
 NY Mets 5, Washington 0
 St. Louis 5, San Diego 2
 Miami 14, Colorado 1
 Atlanta 6, Arizona 0
 Philadelphia 6, San Francisco 5
 Colorado 13, Miami 12, 10 innings
 Chi. Cubs 4, Milwaukee 3, 10 innings
 Pittsburgh 8, LA Dodgers 4

Thursday's games
 Miami 3, San Francisco 0
 Cincinnati 8, Washington 1
 Milwaukee 5, San Diego 4
 Chi. Cubs 7, St. Louis 5
 Atlanta at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
 NY Mets at LA Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

Friday's games
 St. Louis (Mikolas 3-3) at Chi. Cubs (Stroman 2-4), 2:20 p.m.
 San Francisco (Cobb 3-2) at Miami (Hernandez 2-5), 6:40 p.m.
 Washington (Gray 5-4) at Cincinnati (Minor 0-0), 6:40 p.m.
 Arizona (Kelly 3-3) at Pittsburgh (Brubaker 0-4), 7:05 p.m.
 San Diego (Musgrove 5-0) at Milwaukee (Burnes 3-2), 8:10 p.m.
 Atlanta (Fried 5-2) at Colorado (Kuhl 4-2), 8:40 p.m.
 NY Mets (Bassitt 4-2) at LA Dodgers (Anderson 6-0), 10:10 p.m.

Interleague
Wednesday's game
 Boston 7, Cincinnati 1

Friday's game
 LA Angels (Silsbeth 1-1) at Philadelphia (Eflin 1-4), 7:05 p.m.

Pro basketball

NBA FINALS

(Best-of-7)
x-if necessary
Boston 1, Golden State 0
 Thursday: Boston 102, Golden State 108
 Sunday: Boston at Golden State, 8 p.m., ABC
 Wednesday, June 8: Golden State at Boston, 9 p.m., ABC
 Friday, June 10: Golden State at Boston, 9 p.m., ABC
 x-Monday, June 13: Boston at Golden State, 9 p.m., ABC
 x-Thursday, June 16: Golden State at Boston, 9 p.m., ABC
 x-Sunday, June 19: Boston at Golden State, 8 p.m., ABC

WNBA

Friday's games
 New York at Washington, 7 p.m.
 Chicago at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
 Connecticut at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
 Dallas at Seattle, 10 p.m.

Pro hockey

STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE FINALS
(Best-of-7)
(x-if necessary)
Tuesday
 Colorado 8, Edmonton 6

Wednesday
 N.Y. Rangers 6, Tampa Bay 2, N.Y. Rangers leads series 1-0

Thursday
 Colorado 4, Edmonton 0, Colorado leads series 2-0

Friday
 Tampa Bay at N.Y. Rangers, 8 p.m.

Saturday
 Colorado at Edmonton, 8 p.m.

Sunday
 N.Y. Rangers at Tampa Bay, 3 p.m.

Golf

PGA TOUR

The Memorial Tournament presented by Workday
 Dublin, Ohio
 Purse: \$12,000,000
Muirfield Village Golf Club
 (par 72, 7,533 yards)
First Round

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Mackenzie Hughes | 32-35-67(-5) |
| Kyung-hoon Lee | 31-36-67(-5) |
| Luke List | 33-34-67(-4) |
| Davis Riley | 36-31-67(-5) |
| Cameron Smith | 34-33-67(-5) |
| Cameron Young | 36-31-67(-5) |
| Wyndham Clark | 32-36-68(-4) |
| Denny McCarthy | 34-34-68(-4) |
| Sahithi Theegala | 36-32-68(-4) |
| Will Zalatoris | 36-32-68(-4) |

LPGA
U.S. Women's Open Presented by ProMedica
 Southern Pines, N.C.
 Purse: \$10,000,000
Pine Needles Lodge & GC
 (par 71, 6,610 yards)
First Round

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Mina Harigae | 30-34-64(-7) |
| Ingrid Lindblad | 30-35-65(-6) |
| Minjee Lee | 33-34-67(-4) |
| Anna Nordqvist | 36-31-67(-4) |
| Ryann O'Toole | 33-34-67(-4) |
| Ally Ewing | 31-37-68(-3) |
| Lexi Thompson | 35-34-68(-3) |
| Mattilda Castren | 33-35-69(-2) |
| Allisen Corpuz | 33-36-69(-2) |
| Moriya Jutanugarn | 33-36-69(-2) |
| Sai Young Kim | 34-35-69(-2) |
| Jim Young Ko | 34-35-69(-2) |
| Bronte Law | 33-36-69(-2) |
| Amie Olson | 34-35-69(-2) |
| Ann Park | 34-35-69(-2) |
| Sung Hyun Park | 34-35-69(-2) |
| Madelene Sagstrom | 33-36-69(-2) |

Yankees sweep day-night twin bill with Angels

Kristie Ackert
 New York Daily News

NEW YORK — They may be the Bronx Bombers, but Thursday the Yankees put on a showcase of starting pitching. After Nestor Cortes threw seven scoreless in the Yankees' afternoon 6-1 win over the Angels, Jameson Taillon took a perfect game into the eighth inning of the Yankees' 2-1 win in the nightcap at Yankee Stadium.

The Yankees (36-15) swept the doubleheader and the series from the Angels (27-25), who have now lost eight in a row. The Yankees have won seven of their last nine games and regained the best record in baseball.

Anthony Rizzo hit a pinch-hit, two-run single with the bases loaded in the bottom of the eighth inning and Clay Holmes survived a shaky ninth to give the Yankees the come-from-behind win in the nightcap. In the first game, the Yankees lived up to their Bombers' nickname with four home runs, including a leadoff homer from Matt Carpenter, a major league-leading 19th from Aaron Judge, a 10th on the season for Gleyber Torres (who had nine all of last year) and a tack-on for DJ LeMahieu. But, the foundation for the Yankees' recent hot stretch has been outstanding starting pitching and they got that Thursday.

Yankees starters have now thrown at least six innings in a season-high seven straight games. Through the first 50 games of the season, the Yankees' starters--thanks to Cortes and Taillon -- had the best



Sarah Stier/Getty Images

New York Yankees players celebrate after the final out in a 2-1 win in the second game of a doubleheader against the Los Angeles Angels at Yankee Stadium on Thursday. (Sarah Stier/Getty Images/TNS)

combined ERA (2.71) in the American League.

Taillon flirted with history through seven innings Thursday night, but finished with just an impressive line of eight innings allowing only one run on two hits. He struck out five. His second-inning strikeout of Brandon Marsh was the 600th of his career.

Jared Walsh's sharp groundball up the middle kicked off the glove of a diving Isiah Kiner-Falefa to lead off the eighth inning with a double that ended Taillon's bid for a perfect game. Advancing to third on Marsh's groundout to first, Walsh scored the first run of the game on Kurt Suzuki's line

drive to left that fell in front of Miguel Andujar.

After seeing Taillon this season, it wasn't a surprise to see him dominate the Angels lineup, which has been scuffling throughout this three-game series. Taillon had not allowed more than three earned runs in his first nine starts and not more than two earned runs in eight of them. He had walked no more than one batter in each of those previous nine starts.

Maybe it was surprising that Taillon was even in this situation this season. The 30-year old has been through Tommy John surgery not once in his career, but twice. He battled

testicular cancer. At the end of last season, his first back from his second elbow reconstruction and first with the Yankees, Taillon suffered a torn ankle ligament. The Yankees weren't even sure he'd be back from October surgery by this time.

But Taillon has overcome all that and become a stronger, better pitcher through the years. Cortes outdueled Angels star Shohei Ohtani in the first game of the double-header, a 6-1 win for the Yankees that had the Angels two-way star chased off the mound with five runs charged to him after just three innings. The Angels got better pitching from Reid Detmers in the nightcap. The

lefty held the Yankees scoreless, scattering five hits and three walks, over 4 1/3 innings of work.

In the early game, Cortes tossed seven scoreless, scattering five hits and two walks. He struck out seven and lowered his ERA to 1.50. He got 12 swings and misses, six with his cutter and another eight called strikes with it. Cortes had 12 called strikes on his four-seam fastball.

Opponents are hitting just .176 (38 for 215) against him this season. He has allowed three earned runs or less in his last 19 starts, the second-longest such streak in franchise history.

"It's a special start to the season. It's fun to watch him compete. He goes out with a lot of conviction in his plan of attack and what he wants to do and he and the catcher (are) on the same page," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "Even today, he wasn't necessarily as dominant as his last start. They made it a little tough on him. He had a pretty high pitch count there in the first few innings. They had some traffic against them. He walked a couple guys, gave up some hits. But when he needs to make a pitch he does. He's got a lot of things going for him. He's got weapons but he's got that Nestor-savvy out there and it serves him well in whatever situation he's in." (C)2022 New York Daily News. Visit at nydailynews.com. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

MLB roundup:

Dodgers blank Mets in pitcher's duel

Field Level Media

Mookie Betts and Justin Turner drove in runs to help Tony Gonsolin get the better end of a pitchers' duel as Los Angeles beat visiting New York, 2-0, on Thursday.

Gonsolin (6-0) lowered his National League-best ERA to 1.59. The right-hander gave up two hits over six scoreless innings, with a walk and five strikeouts. Craig Kimbrel earned his 11th save with a perfect ninth.

Taijuan Walker (3-1) allowed two runs on seven hits over 5 2/3 innings, with one walk and two strikeouts.

Tigers 3, Twins 2

Daz Cameron blasted a go-ahead, two-run home run and host Detroit won its third straight game over Minnesota.

Eric Haase smacked a one-out single off Emilio Pagan (1-2) in the eighth inning before Cameron drilled a 1-0 cutter over the left-center-field wall for his first homer of the year. Alex Lange (3-1) picked up the victory with one inning of scoreless relief, and Gregory Soto notched his 10th save by recording the last three outs.

Nick Gordon had two hits, a run scored and an RBI for Minnesota, which had been shut out the previous two games.

Rays 3, Rangers 1

Tampa Bay has struggled to score recently, but Corey Kluber didn't require much support against Texas in Arlington as the Rays salvaged a four-game series split after dropping the first two games.

The last time Kluber (2-2) faced the Rangers in Arlington -- on May 19, 2021 -- he threw a no-hitter for the New York Yankees. On Thursday, the right-hander gave up one run in six innings, with four strikeouts.

Rangers starter Taylor Hearn (3-4) ran up a high pitch count and was replaced after four innings. The left-hander was charged with three runs on six hits and was finished after 89



Gary A. Vasquez/USA TODAY

New York Mets manager Buck Showalter (11) following a pitching change against the Los Angeles Dodgers during the sixth inning at Dodger Stadium on Thursday.

itches. Marcus Semien homered for Texas.

Blue Jays 8, White Sox 3

Santiago Espinal had three hits and three RBIs, Teoscar Hernandez homered and Toronto defeated visiting Chicago for an eighth straight win.

Blue Jays right-hander Alek Manoah (6-1) allowed three runs, six hits and one walk while striking out five in 7 2/3 innings. White Sox right-hander Johnny Cueto (0-2) allowed four runs (three earned) and seven hits and struck out five in six innings.

Chicago scored three runs in the eighth, but Toronto responded with four runs in the bottom of the inning. Teoscar Hernandez led off with a ground-rule double against Reynaldo Lopez. Alejandro Kirk walked and Cavan Biggio hit an RBI double.

After Matt Chapman was hit by a pitch, Aaron Bummer replaced Lopez and got two outs before allowing Santiago Espinal's two-run single. Jimmy Lambert then gave up Bo Bichette's RBI single.

Reds 8, Nationals 1

Joey Votto and Kyle Farmer belted three-run

home runs and rookie Graham Ashcraft allowed just one run over seven innings as Cincinnati beat visiting Washington in the opener of a four-game series.

Matt Reynolds also connected for his first home run in the majors in over five years. Four batters had two hits apiece for the Reds, who opened their eight-game homestand with a win and have won six of eight.

Ashcraft (2-0) continued his impressive rookie season. The right-hander extended his scoreless streak to 12 2/3 innings before allowing a home run in the seventh against Josh Bell. The homer ended Washington's scoreless drought at 27 innings, but the Nationals have lost their last four games by a combined 36-6 score.

Marlins 3, Giants 0

Sandy Alcantara pitched seven scoreless innings, leading host Miami over San Francisco in the opener of a four-game series.

Alcantara (6-2) allowed just three hits -- one double and two singles -- and a pair of walks, striking out eight and throwing 111 pitches.

He has won four straight starts, throwing at least 100 pitches in each, and he lowered his ERA to 1.81. Jacob Stallings, Jesus Aguilar and Miguel Rojas had RBIs for Miami.

Giants starter Alex Wood (3-5) took the loss, allowing four hits, two walks and two runs in 5 1/3 innings. He struck out five.

Cubs 7, Cardinals 5

Willson Contreras, Frank Schwindel and Ian Happ homered as Chicago beat visiting St. Louis in the opener of a five-game, four-day series.

Schwindel went 3-for-4 with two RBIs for the Cubs, who won their third straight game. Keegan Thompson (6-0) allowed three runs on five hits over 5 1/3 innings. He walked three and struck out three.

Paul Goldschmidt extended his hitting streak to 24 games for St. Louis, which trailed 7-3 with one out in the ninth before Mychal Givens yielded Harrison Bader's two-run homer.

Brewers 5, Padres 4

Andrew McCutchen snapped an 0-for-32 skid with a walk-off single as

Milwaukee rallied with four runs in the ninth inning against visiting San Diego.

The Brewers rallied against Taylor Rogers (0-3). Keston Hiura singled, and Rogers hit Kolten Wong and Victor Caratini with pitches to load the bases. Jace Peterson followed with a bases-clearing triple to tie it 4-4. Nabil Crismatt took over for Rogers, and McCutchen lined the game-winning single to center.

The Padres, who lost their fourth straight game, wasted a strong start by Sean Manaea, who allowed one run on five hits in six innings. He struck out eight and walked two.

Braves 13, Rockies 6

Travis d'Arnaud hit two home runs, including a grand slam, and drove in a career-high six runs to help Atlanta defeat Colorado in Denver. d'Arnaud went 3-for-5 and scored three times.

The Braves recorded 18 hits, with six players getting multiple hits. Austin Riley tallied three hits and extended his hitting streak to 11 games, and rookie Michael Harris II had a career-high three hits.

The Rockies had 13 hits, four of them from Charlie Blackmon and two from Connor Joe, who also walked twice and extended his on-base streak to 29 games. Brendan Rodgers (20 games) and Jose Iglesias (13 games) extended hitting streaks.

Mariners 7, Orioles 6 (10)

Abraham Toro's run-scoring triple in the 10th inning held up as the winning hit, leading Seattle past host Baltimore.

Diego Castillo (2-0) pitched two perfect innings for the victory. Luis Torrens and Jesse Winker both went 3-for-5 for the Mariners.

Cedric Mullins and Austin Hays each had two hits and two RBIs for the Orioles. Jorge Lopez (3-3) took the loss, going 2 1/3 innings and allowing one unearned run.

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Riders

From B1

crossed the plate once herself.

Graziano started the game off with a strikeout, but then got into some trouble after allowing a single and hitting a batter. She dug in her cleats on the mound though and got a second strikeout and a pop up to Clare Knapp over at first base to end the inning.

Abby Milazzo led off the bottom half with a base hit to left field. Carolina Williams dropped down a bunt next, and an error by the Nighthawks allowed Milazzo to get to third and Williams to second. Scheithinger got the Riders on the board with an RBI groundout and then Knapp made it 2-0 with a run-scoring groundout of her own.

Graziano had a far less challenging inning in the top of the second, and she struck out the side to put Peru down in order quickly. Graziano stepped into the box to lead off the bottom of the second and poked one just over third base and into left field for a base hit. Emma Heartquist was then hit by a pitch, and the Riders had two on with nobody out.

Morgan Ormerod got to the plate next and slapped an RBI single that made it 3-0 for Ichabod Crane. After a pop out by Milazzo and a groundout by Williams, Scheithinger brought another two runs home with a hard ground ball through the legs of the Nighthawks' shortstop and the Riders led 5-0 after two.

Graziano got her sixth strikeout to begin the third, and after a walk and a pop out to second, she notched her seventh to end the inning. Heffner started the Riders' third with a triple to right-center that rolled almost all the way to the wall. Then Walsh roped a double to left field to bring Heffner around to score and it was now 6-0 for the Riders.

After a leadoff double for the Nighthawks in the fourth, Graziano got her eighth punchout and a fly out that was not deep enough to advance the runner as the throw came in immediately.

The next hitter slapped a base hit up the middle to Milazzo in center field who



Matt Fortunato/Columbia-Greene Media
Ichabod Crane's Makayla Walsh waits on pitch during Thursday's state Class B regional softball semifinal against Peru at Luther Forest Athletic Fields.

fielded it cleanly and fired home in time to nail the runner at the plate on a close play and preserve the shutout.

Milazzo found herself on the opposite end of a similar play in the bottom half. Scheithinger hit one back up the middle and the throw came home as Milazzo had no choice but to slide into the catcher who was blocking the plate. Milazzo collided with the catcher very close to the plate but did beat the throw to make it 7-0 for the Riders.

Heffner came back up and sent a pitch back up the middle as well for a two run single to put them up 9-0. Graziano hit a fly ball to right that fell in and out of the outfielder's glove to score one and make it 10-0. Heartquist hit an RBI double to right field to bring the lead to 11-0.

Ahead into the top of the sixth, Graziano notched her tenth strikeout of the outing for out number one. After a pop out to short and a two out single for Peru they got the third out on a soft liner to Knapp at first base.

Knapp popped out to shortstop for out number one in the bottom half, and Heffner followed that with a single into center field. She advanced to second on a wild pitch and then to third base on an overthrow. Walsh was up next and the game ending run was only 90 feet away. Walsh laced a double into deep left to score Heffner and the Ichabod Crane Riders defeated the Peru Nighthawks



Matt Fortunato/Columbia-Greene Media
Ichabod Crane pitcher Kari Graziano goes into her windup during Thursday's state Class B regional softball semifinal against Peru at Luther Forest Athletic Fields.



Matt Fortunato/Columbia-Greene Media
Ichabod Crane's Ava Heffner lays off a high pitch during Thursday's state Class B regional softball semifinal against Peru at Luther Forest Athletic Fields.



Matt Fortunato/Columbia-Greene Media
Ichabod Crane shortstop Emma Scheithinger throws to first base during Thursday's state Class B regional softball semifinal against Peru at Luther Forest Athletic Fields.



Matt Fortunato/Columbia-Greene Media
Ichabod Crane's Abby Milazzo watches the action from third base during Thursday's state Class B regional softball semifinal against Peru at Luther Forest Athletic Fields.



Matt Fortunato/Columbia-Greene Media
Ichabod Crane players meet at the mound before the start of an inning during Thursday's state Class B regional softball semifinal against Peru at Luther Forest Athletic Fields.

12-0 via a six inning mercy rule to remain unbeaten.

The Riders will take their talents to Potsdam this weekend to play the Canton

Golden Bears in the regional

finals as they look to return to the NYS Final Four the following weekend.

Celtics

From B1

this run to the Finals, it didn't flinch when Golden State made 19. No matter how hard Curry, who finished with a game-high 34 points and seven three-pointers, tried to put away the Celtics, they responded with answers of their own from beyond the arc. Boston's nine three-pointers in the final period tied the Finals record for any quarter.

"It was the way we were moving the ball," Al Horford said. "We were just setting them up and knocking them down."

In the key momentum-swinging stretch of the fourth, Derrick White and Horford combined to hit three-pointers on three consecutive possessions to put Boston in front. Horford, who helped keep Boston's postseason alive with 30 points in a Game 4 win over the Milwaukee Bucks in the second round, was sensational in the first Finals game of his 15-year NBA career.

The veteran big man finished with a team-high 26 points and six three-pointers, helping overcome a quiet night for Jayson Tatum, who finished with 12 points on 3-for-17 shooting but added 13 assists, including four in the decisive fourth quarter. Indeed, many of the Celtics' three-point looks were open by design, as the Warriors keyed on Tatum and dared his teammates to beat them. As a team, Boston registered



Kyle Terada/USA TODAY
Boston Celtics guard Jaylen Brown (7) celebrates with forward Al Horford (42) after defeating the Golden State Warriors in game one of the 2022 NBA Finals at Chase Center on Thursday.

33 assists, its highest total of this postseason run.

"I love [Tatum's] growth and progression," Udoka said. "Where he's still guarding on the defensive end, still getting others involved, not pouting about his shots, and trying to play through some mistakes and the [Warriors'] physicality with him."

Boston's poise down the stretch left Chase Center, which seemed to be anticipating another comfortable victory, in stunned silence. Golden State has made a habit of sealing wins with strong third-quarter pushes, and it came out of halftime with a 21-8 run that eventually swelled to a 15-point lead. But as Curry went to the bench to

start the fourth, the Celtics scored the first nine points of the final period and never looked back.

"This is our first time [in the Finals] for all of us," Celtics guard Payton Pritchard said. "There's a little bit of jitters. We want to take care of the third quarter better. But resilient - that's been the word for this year - and I think it showed tonight."

When the dust settled, Boston's blistering fourth quarter wrenched away home-court advantage. Jaylen Brown finished with 24 points, seven rebounds and five assists for Boston, while Derrick White added 21 points off the bench. Celtics improved to an impressive 9-2 on the road

in the playoffs, and they will have a chance to seize a 2-0 series lead Sunday.

For the Warriors, who have long been accustomed to overwhelming opponents with their shooting flurries, it was a rare reversal. They now must regroup knowing that they squandered a top-shelf performance from Curry, couldn't capitalize on Tatum's struggles and completely lost containment against the battle-tested Celtics during the closing stretch.

"We pretty much dominated the game for the first 41, 42 minutes," Warriors forward Draymond Green said. "We'll be fine. It's not a hit to the confidence at all. Not one bit."

Mets

From B1

a lot better equipped and the things that are going on that he needs to get done." Rehabbing mets

Taylor Megill (right biceps tendinitis) is working his way back to the rotation after throwing a live batting practice on Tuesday at Citi Field. He is scheduled for a normal work day on Friday, after which the Mets are looking forward to learning how he's feeling following the added workload and returning to a routine. If Megill's arm feels good on Saturday, he will receive the green light for a rehab start, likely with nearby High-A Brooklyn.

Max Scherzer (moderate-high grade oblique strain) is also progressing with his rehab as expected, according to Showalter. Though the skipper refrained from going into detail on his exact rehab schedule, which is taking place in Florida, Showalter did crack some jokes about Scherzer's widely-known competitive attitude.

"He's doing fine. Who knows what he's doing away from the field," Showalter said. "He's probably had four or five sides by now. He's probably got the whole neighborhood hitting off of him."

Officially, Showalter

said Scherzer's rehab is, "Where it's supposed to be. Right in the timeline where those things usually run."

James McCann (left hamstring surgery) is not hitting yet, but he is scheduled to begin doing so in the coming days. McCann got the stitches out of his hand earlier this week, which was the last hurdle holding him back from getting back in the cage, or at the very least, hitting off the tee. Road trippin'

The Mets entered their 10-game Southern California road trip on Thursday with some pretty powerful numbers away from Citi Field.

They are 16-9 on the road this year, and their .640 road winning percentage is third-best in the majors, as well as second-best in the National League. The Mets have been holding their own away from home in a major improvement from last season. In 2021, the Mets did not record their 16th win on the road until June 19, which was their 36th road game. In addition, the Mets' .265 road batting average ranks second in MLB, while their .334 OBP ranks third.

"I don't get into the litmus test," Mets manager Buck Showalter said of the challenge of their current road trip. "It's a competitive situation every night. A long way from home tonight. It's a really good team and we'll compete."

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At the NBA Finals, the Lakers are viewed as winners after landing coach Darvin Ham

Dan Woike
Los Angeles Times

SAN FRANCISCO — More than a decade ago, the Lakers handed Mike Brown the keys to their organization and he made a decision that will help shape its future.

Looking for an ex-player to join his staff, Brown thought about the people he had worked with -- players who were tough, who were smart, who were loyal and who would work.

It didn't take long for him to think about Darvin Ham.

And when he found out Ham had just ended his playing career and was coaching minor league basketball in Albuquerque, N.M., he knew he had his guy.

"The cherry on the top," Brown told The Los Angeles Times. "This dude, he must really like basketball."

Brown first worked with Ham when both were essentially rookies, Ham was a first-year player and Brown was sort of a do-it-all staffer with the Nuggets. It was less than a full season before Ham was dealt, but the two men forged a bond that led to Brown adding Ham to his Lakers staff in 2011.

Ham agreed to be the next coach of the Lakers, and no one is under any illusions about the challenges he'll face in Los Angeles. Coaching, according to almost everyone in the NBA, was hardly the Lakers' biggest issue a year ago.

But Ham's supporters, like Brown, think he's the right fit for the moment.

"Don't like the hire," Brown deadpanned, saying that he expected Ham's presence in L.A. to make it harder on him now that he's the future head coach of the Kings.

Here at the NBA Finals, where Brown is finishing his tenure as an assistant on Steve Kerr's staff, the people who know Ham best



Acting head coach Darvin Ham of the Milwaukee Bucks reacts during the second half of the game against the Charlotte Hornets at Spectrum Center on Jan. 8 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Jared C. Tilton/Getty Images

are universally praising the Lakers' decision to hire him to be their next coach.

Draymond Green, who like Ham grew up in Saginaw, Mich., and starred at Saginaw High, said the Lakers are in for an infusion of grit that's a universal characteristic among people from their hometown.

"I think he's going to bring a toughness, a blue-collar mentality just because that's how he's built. That's how he's raised. You have to be that way from Saginaw," Green told The Times. "I think it'll be a different toughness that they haven't seen. And he's going to command and require a different respect level that they haven't really had. ... And I think that will bode well for that team."

Green said Ham was a hero to him growing up, working his way from the back end of his high school bench into an NCAA Tournament legend (for shattering a backboard), NBA player

and NBA champion.

"Growing up, could see that -- 'that's Darv, in the NBA' -- and you want that," Green said. "That's your dream, too. And to see him come back and be able to touch him, to go to his camps. It was like, 'Yo, I could possibly do that one day.'"

Brown said he sees similarities between Green and Ham, their toughness and willingness to do the work while also projecting intelligence and the ability to connect with people.

Brown saw it first-handed with the Lakers, where Ham quickly forged a bond with Andrew Bynum.

Boston's Al Horford experienced that too, playing in Atlanta for Mike Budenholzer with Ham on staff.

"We really got after it," Horford said of Ham. "He really challenged me to be better on the defensive end. Really challenged me to just be a better player in general."

"Darvin is about as good a guy as you're going to see, a big competitor. Extreme competitor. The Lakers are really lucky to have a guy like him. He's the kind of guy that you want."

As the Lakers try to plot their path back to the Finals stage, Ham's biggest fans are firm believers he was the best fit for the organization.

They universally praise his work, approach and communication while almost always highlighting Ham's toughness.

"Everyone is like, 'He's a rookie head coach, going in there to work for the Lakers with all those veterans,' but don't get it twisted," Brown said. "I would like to see who would be the first to challenge Darvin or roll his eyes because he will stand his ground. And he will make sure his point gets across and gets across within an authority situation like that may need."

Syracuse forward Jimmy Boeheim ready for anything after Knicks workout

Stefan Bondy
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — Jimmy Boeheim is tabling his Ivy League degree and future in finance for his dream of professional basketball.

That dream brought him Thursday to Tarrytown, where Boeheim, the son of legendary Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim, worked out for the Knicks at their practice facility with a group of five other draft-eligible prospects.

Boeheim, who played last season for his father after graduating from Cornell, will likely go undrafted later this month. But he's willing to play in the G League or overseas.

It's less stable but probably more exciting than the paths of his Cornell classmates.

"A lot of them are in the City doing stuff in finance. It's good for them," he said. "Right now I'm hoping I don't have to use my degree for a while. I'm just enjoying this game, seeing how far it'll take me."

Jimmy, 24, a 6-foot-8 forward, is viewed as the lesser prospect of the Boeheim brothers, with Buddy, the younger sibling by 18 months, projected as a possible second-round pick because of a top-level 3-point shot.

The brothers were key contributors to Syracuse's 16-17 season, which ended controversially for Buddy because he was suspended for the final game after hitting a Florida State player in the stomach.

Buddy previously worked out for the Knicks, according to college basketball reporter Adam Zagoria, and Jimmy said Thursday his game has benefited from practicing with his brother.

"He's a great shooter, for sure," Jimmy said. "That's been an area of focus to build on my shot. I've come a long way and it feels great right now. So it's about continuing getting more consistent."

It's great when you can shoot with one of the best shooters in the country every day in my brother."

Jimmy was forced to take a year off from basketball because the Ivy League shut-down its entire season of 2021-22 amid the pandemic. He then graduated from Cornell with a finance degree and transferred to Syracuse for his final year of eligibility, averaging 13.4 points over 33 games while proving capable of producing in a major conference.

He also had to learn a new name for his father.

"It was a little adjustment. I never really knew what to call him — Dad, coach," Boeheim said. "It was weird to call him coach after calling him dad for so long. But it was awesome the moments we got to spend with one another."

Jimmy Boeheim had worked out for a few NBA teams before Thursday but acknowledged a special affinity for the Knicks because they're somewhat of a local team and Carmelo Anthony is an Orange legend.

Jim Boeheim, the Syracuse coach, is also close with Knicks coach Tom Thibodeau and both were assistants on the gold medal U.S. team at the 2016 Olympics.

So Thursday was an opportunity for Jimmy to impress in a 3-on-3 setting, and we'll see if it leads to draft consideration or, more likely, a G League invite.

"I love basketball more than I ever have right now. I'm so into it, there's no way I can give it up right now," he said. "Whatever basketball throws at me — G League, NBA, overseas — whatever it may be, I'm ready and will attack it with all I got and continue to have fun and love the game."

If nothing works out, Boeheim can always return to NYC on Wall Street.



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In French Open finalists Coco Gauff, Iga Swiatek, women's tennis future

Liz Clarke
The Washington Post

PARIS — When Coco Gauff was a child, her father told her, "You can change the world with your racket."

Now 18 and a recent high school graduate, Gauff took a major step in her rise to the elite ranks of tennis Thursday at Roland Garros by advancing to her first Grand Slam final with a 6-3, 6-1 victory over Martina Trevisan of Italy at the French Open.

Afterward, as is custom among victors as they walk off court, Gauff autographed the TV camera lens, writing "Peace" and "End Gun Violence," signing "Coco" alongside a drawing of a heart.

Asked about her statement during the news conference that followed, Gauff recalled her father's words years ago.

"He didn't mean [change the world] by just playing tennis," Gauff said. "He meant speaking out on issues like this."

Gauff, who has been tapped for greatness since she won the French Open's girls' championship at age 14, has reached the Grand Slam events' final without conceding a set through six matches.

Her reward is a meeting with world No. 1 Iga Swiatek of Poland, the 2020 French Open champion, who clinched her spot in the final with a 6-2, 6-1 rout of Daria Kasatkina earlier in the day.

It was Swiatek's 34th consecutive victory, and it capsulated all that makes her such a formidable opponent -- the variety of her tactics; the powerful forehand, which calls to mind the heavy wallops of her idol,

Rafael Nadal; her speed and agility, particularly on the tricky red clay of Roland Garros; and her unrelenting attack.

Gauff lost to Swiatek, 21, in their two previous meetings and is fully aware of Saturday's challenge.

"She's on a streak right now obviously, and I think going in I have nothing to lose," Gauff said. "I think that going in, I'm just going to play free and play my best tennis. I think in a Grand Slam final anything can happen."

Women's tennis is in a period of transition.

Serena Williams, its greatest champion, with a record 23 Grand Slam titles, hasn't competed since suffering a leg injury in a first-round loss at Wimbledon last year. At 40, she has not announced a timetable for her return.

Top-ranked Ashleigh Barty abruptly retired in March, at 25, just weeks after winning her third Grand Slam title.

On Wednesday, French Open tournament director Amélie Mauresmo, herself a former No. 1, said that women's tennis wasn't as appealing as men's in defending her decision to feature a men's match on nine of the event's 10 night sessions.

Yet through the excellence of their play and their embrace of the pressure that comes with world-class competition, Gauff and Swiatek have given the French Open a tennis promoters' dream championship matchup.

At 18 and 21, they represent the present and, quite likely, the game's future -- young women with big games, boatloads of



Adam Pretty/Getty Images

Coco Gauff celebrates match point against Martina Trevisan of Italy during the Women's Singles Semi Final on Day 12 at Roland Garros on Thursday in Paris, France.

confidence, and a perspective that extends beyond the court.

"I feel like a lot of times we're put in a box that people always say, 'Oh, sports and politics should stay separate' and all this," Gauff said, asked about her decision to publicly address issues she feels are important.

"I say, 'Yes.' But also at the same time, I'm a human first before I'm a tennis player . . . So of course I'm going to care about [gun violence] and speak out about these issues."

While tennis has been her profession since she signed her first endorsement deal at 14,

Gauff is mindful of the privilege her sport provides -- not simply a chance to compete but a platform to address issues such as racial justice and social justice.

She has thought deeply about gun violence since Florida's Parkland shootings; She had friends at the school.

"I think I was maybe 14 or 13 when that happened, and still nothing has changed," Gauff said. "Now, especially being 18, I've really been trying to educate myself around certain situations, because now I have the right to vote, and I want to use that wisely."

Gauff is the youngest French Open finalist since Belgium's Kim Clijsters, in 2001, and her love of clay is among the qualities that distinguish her from other rising players and fellow Americans, in particular.

Gauff boasts a terrific blend of skills that translate well to the surface, where nimble footwork, timing and patience matter more than power. She is a quick and agile mover, able to transition from offense and defense on a dime. She's also patient and smart, able to stay in rallies until the opportune moment comes to unleash the booming forehand that is her strength.

Thursday's match against the Trevisan was tricky, with six breaks of serve in the opening set.

They traded service breaks and gripes early in the first set.

Trevisan's strengths, at 5-foot-3, are passion and guile rather than power. And early in the match, her loud grunts troubled Gauff, who raised the issue with the chair umpire.

It wasn't the volume that was problematic, Gauff later explained, but the duration, spanning three syllables ("uh-ah-AHH!"), which meant she was still grunting when Gauff hit the ball.

Soon after, Trevisan questioned a line call -- the first of many such questions from both players -- and it made for an erratic first set, with five consecutive breaks of serve.

But as the match wore on, Gauff elevated her play, minimizing errors and wisely choosing the openings for winners.

Swiatek's semifinal victory was more efficient.

She established her superiority over the 20th-ranked Russian and never eased up, waging an unrelenting attack as if racing against a clock.

Since taking over the No. 1 ranking from Barty in April, Swiatek has reflected on the platform she has earned and how to use it wisely.

One statement she continues to make is in support of Ukraine, which borders her native Poland, and Ukrainians fighting the Russian invasion. That is the meaning behind the Ukrainian flag, in the form of a pin, that she wears on her cap during matches.

"I know that many players played with ribbons at the beginning of the war, [when] all the fuss was a little bit more loud," Swiatek recently said when asked about her pin. "I realized that some of them took them off, which is for me pretty weird because there is still war. There are people still suffering. I'm going to wear it until the situation is going to get better."

Trailblazers Bubba Wallace, David Steward on the Illinois 300, diversity in NASCAR

Stu Durando
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

The relationship started with a sponsorship, the type of big financial commitment every NASCAR driver needs to keep running in the Cup series, the top level of the country's biggest form of racing.

Yet, underlying the standard business deal involving St. Louis businessman David Steward and Bubba Wallace in 2018 was a dynamic that would create a force for change.

Steward founded and owns World Wide Technology, the largest Black-owned company in the country. Wallace is the lone Black driver in the Cup series.

Since their first meeting, some well-publicized and lesser-known events have helped alter NASCAR. Their relationship will reach a crossroads Sunday when Wallace drives in the Enjoy Illinois 300 at World Wide Technology Raceway, where Steward purchased naming rights a year after joining forces with Wallace.

"Dave wanted to do big things in NASCAR, and he saw me with the Richard Petty team and wanted to be part of it and stepped up in a big way," Wallace said. "It's a relationship that was fun and still is because I saw

how passionate he was about diversity and inclusion and how he incorporated that into his workplace."

WWT no longer sponsors Wallace's team, but together and separately they have aided a movement, whether it be the banning of the Confederate flag by NASCAR, implementing diversity programs or embracing Pride month on social media this week.

At a time when the sponsorship of Wallace was ongoing and the naming rights deal freshly inked, Steward was invited in 2019 to be the keynote speaker at the sports diversity and inclusion symposium in Daytona Beach, Fla. That's where his impact on NASCAR began to explode.

"That period was during the whole issue of the Confederate flag being removed," Steward said this week. "We were intimately involved with Bubba at the time. We were on the periphery and having discussions with NASCAR about diversity and what was important to us -- a welcoming environment for all folks to racing."

The sequence of events is not likely a coincidence.

After the sponsorship started, WWT and the track entered their naming right agreement

a year later. Steward headlined the diversity and inclusion symposium, which included officials from all sports, the same year. The Confederate flag was banned in 2020.

Then in September 2021, WWTR was awarded a Cup race. "I did not go into our initial conversation thinking it would directly lead to a NASCAR Cup race," track owner Curtis Francois said. "There's no doubt (Steward) was a big piece of the St. Louis story."

It was after these connections had been formed that Wallace became immersed -- albeit through no doing of his own -- in an incident in which a rope tied into a noose was found hanging on the door of his garage at Talladega Superspeedway in June 2020.

The matter was investigated as a possible hate crime, but it was later ruled not to be because the garage pull had been in place for months. Nevertheless, Wallace took issue with the tying of a rope into a noose.

"I definitely gained a few less fans, which is fine," he said. "It's just a big misunderstanding for a lot of people. We're this far down the road that I don't want to help them understand. They can be who they want to be and that's fine. You choose how

you want to be portrayed as a person. It's your destiny. I live my life the best way I can, and if people don't like it, that's not my problem."

Behind the scenes, Francois and Steward, who also is part of the ownership group of the St. Louis Blues, were trying to position the track to get a coveted Cup series race. It's something Wallace said he heard from Steward from the beginning of their friendship.

Besides giving the keynote speech at the symposium, Steward spent time talking to some top people in NASCAR, including the France family that founded the organization. Francois said when Steward offered to help in any way, it was a turning point.

"I was there to serve them in any way and to have a voice in the sport that was

conspicuously absent," Steward said. "That's in every sport but especially in NASCAR. There are resources in the diverse community and future fan base that have been unrealized to date."

David Steward II also immersed himself in aspects of NASCAR with his company creating a project to make films, a TV series and digital content based on the life of Wendell Scott, NASCAR's first Black driver.

Having a businessman who is one of 15 Black billionaires in the world, according to Forbes, on board became a powerful statement. The elder Steward was front and center at last year's announcement that the track bearing his business's name would host a Cup race.

"David Steward has a tremendous passion for racing, philanthropy and driving inclusion,"

Phelps said. "When you couple that with his track record of leadership driving change, he is an incredible ambassador to welcome new audiences to NASCAR."

NASCAR took that to another level this week when it posted a celebration of Pride month on Twitter. The message drew a mix of support and condemnation in the form of thousands of responses.

Wallace embraced the message as another step in the right direction.

"Things are definitely trending upwards, and that's the only way it could go," he said. "Seeing the possibilities for new people coming in is really special. It's something small, but NASCAR putting out the Pride month post is something special. A few years ago, that wouldn't even have been a discussion."

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Columbia County Legal Notice
Public Notice
Town of Copake
Help Wanted - Town of Copake - Full Time Truck Driver/Heavy Equipment Operator/Mechanic Must have class B CDL license and submit to pre-employment & random drug and alcohol tests. Experience in road maintenance, snow plowing and mechanics a significant advantage. Applications are available for download on the Town Website <http://townofcopake.org>
Please call Highway Superintendent Bill Gregory at (518) 325-4222 with any questions. Position will be filled when suitable.

Want to quickly clear out some of your old stuff?
For your convenience, use the form at www.hudsonvalley360.com/site/forms/online_services/classified_ad_for_quick_submission.

Additionally, you can email classified@hvt.net or call 315-782-0400.

Small Hollow Construction LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 3/29/2022. Cty: Columbia. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 138 Stockport Rd., Hudson, NY 12534. General Purpose

UniquelyOursUg LLC Art of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/13/2022. Office: COLUMBIA County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC. KEVIN HILBERT 153 COUNTRY ROUTE 6 GERMANTOWN, NY 12526 . Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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IQE CREATIVE LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 3/12/20. Office in Columbia Co. SSNY design. Agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to The LLC 486 Brooklyn Ave Brooklyn NY 11225. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Kirks Mobile Repair LLC. Filed 2/14/22. Cty: Columbia. SSNY desig. for process & shall mail 3528 Co. Rt 7, Hillsdale, NY 12529. Purp: any lawful.

Columbia County Legal Notice
ADMINISTRATION CITATION File No. 2021-280

SURROGATE'S COURT-COLUMBIA COUNTY CITATION
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
By the Grace of God Free and Independent

TO: "JOHN DOE" and "MARY ROE", said names being fictitious, the true names of said persons being unknown to petitioner, intended to be the heirs at law and distributees of VACLAV HRDLICKA, deceased, the names and domiciles and/or places of residence of all said distributees being unknown and which cannot, after due diligence, be ascertained, and if any of such distributees be dead, then all of the distributees, executors, administrators, devisees and legatees of such deceased distributees and all persons who by purchase, inheritance or otherwise, have or claim to have an interest in these proceedings as heirs at law or distributees of VACLAV HRDLICKA, deceased, and other persons, if any there be, and whose names and addresses are unknown to petitioner, and also to persons who are or make any claim whatsoever as executors or administrators of any interest in these proceedings derived through, or from any and all of the above-named persons or their distributees, devisees, and legatees, and which persons, if any there be, their names and domicile addresses, after due diligence, are unknown to petitioner.

A petition having been filed by American Mortgage Partners Management LLC as attorney-in- fact for Wilmington Savings Fund Society FSB, as Owner Trustee of the Residential Credit Opportunities Trust VI-A, having an address of 3020 Old Ranch Parkway, Suite 180 (PO Box 2741), Seal Beach, California 90740

YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Columbia County, 401 Union Street, Hudson, New York, on August 22, 2022, at 9:15 a.m., why a decree should not be made in the Estate of VACLAV HRDLICKA, lately domiciled at Zelee No. 155, Tabor, Czech Republic, granting Limited Letters of Administration upon the estate of the decedent to PAUL J. KEELER, in his capacity as Columbia County Treasurer, or to such other person as may be entitled thereto.

(State any further relief requested): That bond be dispensed with and that the authority of the representative be limited as follows: to receive service of process on behalf of the Estate of Vaclav Hrdlicka relative to the mortgage foreclosure action to foreclose the mortgage in the amount of \$229,445.00 dated November 20, 2009, and recorded November 25, 2009, in Book 673, Page 1465 on real property located at 711 Taghkanic-Churchtown Road, Craryville, Columbia County, New York.

HON. RICHARD M. KOWEEK, Surrogate
Dated, Attested and Sealed Chief Clerk- Kimberly A. Jorgensen
May 31, 2022

Name of Attorney for Petitioner: Virginia C. Grapensteter, Esq. Friedman Vartolo, LLP
Tel No. 212-471-5100
Address: 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, NY 10004
Email: vgrapensteter@friedmanvartolo.com

NOTE: THIS CITATION IS SERVED UPON YOU AS REQUIRED BY LAW. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO APPEAR. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR IT WILL BE ASSUMED YOU DO NOT OBJECT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED. YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY APPEAR FOR YOU. IF YOU WISH TO OBJECT TO THIS MATTER, CONTACT YOUR ATTORNEY OR THE SURROGATE'S COURT CHIEF CLERK.

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Announcements

610 Announcements



CENTRAL HUDSON GAS & ELECTRIC CORPORATION

ELECTRIC AND GAS RATES EFFECTIVE 7/1/2022

Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation filed revisions to its electric and gas rate schedules on November 29, 2021. The revisions implement rate changes approved by the Public Service Commission which will be phased in over three years, the second set of which will become effective July 1, 2022. The Company's rate schedules are available at the Company's website (www.centralhudson.com).

ELECTRIC CHANGES

Monthly Electric Rates:

S.C. No. 1 - Residential
Customer Charge \$19.50
Energy Delivery Charge per kWh \$0.09889

S.C. No. 2 - General Non-Demand Metered
Customer Charge \$30.50
Energy Delivery Charge per kWh \$0.06536

Demand Metered - Primary
Customer Charge \$450.00
Energy Delivery Charge per kWh \$0.00138

Demand Delivery Charge per kW \$9.50
Demand Metered - Secondary
Customer Charge \$110.00
Energy Delivery Charge per kWh \$0.00445
Demand Delivery Charge per kW \$12.29

S.C. No. 3 - Large Power Primary
Customer Charge \$2,350.00
Demand Delivery Charge
Basic Demand per kW \$12.07
Reactive Demand per Rkva \$0.83

S.C. No. 6 - Time of Use Residential
Customer Charge \$22.50
Energy Delivery Charge per kWh
On-Peak \$0.13082
Off-Peak \$0.04361

S.C. No. 6 - Time of Use Residential (5 Hour On-Peak)
Customer Charge \$22.50
Energy Delivery Charge per kWh
On-Peak \$0.10917
Off-Peak \$0.09478

S.C. No. 9 - Unmetered Traffic Signals
Charge per Signal Face \$4.04

S.C. No. 13 - Large Power Substation & Transmission
Customer Charge
Substation \$6,600.00
Transmission \$10,100.00
Demand Delivery Charge
Basic Demand per kW
Substation \$10.03
Transmission \$5.98
Reactive Demand per Rkva \$0.83

In addition, effective July 1, 2022 Merchant Function Charges, the rates for various fixtures and/or services provided under Service Classification Nos. 5 - Area Lighting and 8 - Street Lighting, as well as the rates for standby service provided under Service Classification No. 14 shall also be revised.

Effective July 1, 2022, an Electric Bill Credit (EBC) will return \$9.5 million to customers.

NATURAL GAS CHANGES

Monthly Gas Rates:

Effective July 1, 2022, the gas rate design for Service Classification Nos. 1, 2, 6, 12 &

13 reflects the second year of a planned five-year phase-out of gas declining block rates. A page on the Company's website devoted to the gas rate structure change is available at the following link:

(www.CentralHudson.com/GasRateStructure).

S.C. Nos. 1 & 12 - Residential
200 cubic feet or less \$24.25
Next 4,800 cubic feet \$1.3890*
Additional \$0.8113*

S.C. Nos. 2, 6 & 13 - Commercial/Industrial
200 cubic feet or less \$39.00
Next 9,800 cubic feet \$0.6185*
Next 490,000 cubic feet \$0.5106*
Additional \$0.4265*
*(Rates per 100 cubic feet)

S.C. No. 11 - Transmission
100,000 cubic feet or less \$4,500.00
Additional \$0.0182*
Mcf per MDQ \$8.93

S.C. No. 11 - Distribution
100,000 cubic feet or less \$1,800.00
Additional \$0.0391*
Mcf per MDQ \$20.68

S.C. No. 11 - Distribution Large Mains
100,000 cubic feet or less \$7,300.00
Additional \$0.0256*
Mcf per MDQ \$14.99
*(Rates per 100 cubic feet)

S.C. No. 11 - Electric Generation
Customer Charge \$1,900.00
Mcf per MDQ \$14.06

In addition, effective July 1, 2022, Merchant Function Charges will be revised.

Effective July 1, 2022, a Gas Bill Credit (GBC) will return \$3.2 million to customers.

CENTRAL HUDSON GAS & ELECTRIC CORPORATION

Greene County Legal Notice

Public Hearing scheduled: Monday, June 6, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the Coxsackie-Athens High School Auditorium, 24 Sunset Boulevard, Coxsackie, NY 12051. For attendance via Zoom, meeting details will be posted on the Village's Facebook and website pages ahead of time. Held by: The Village of Coxsackie Zoning Board of Appeals. For: The subject of the Public Hearing will be for receiving public comment on the Variance Application filed by Todd R. Wolford for property located at 27 Lafayette Avenue, bearing Tax Map Number 56.15-2-33, per proposal below. Proposal: Obtaining a variance for the building of a new garage at 27 Lafayette Avenue. Mr. Wolford is looking for area clearance between the building and property line use. The existing driveway is from Prospect Street to the south. Mr. Wolford's desire is to build 10 feet from the east property line for efficient use of existing property layout. This location is zoned Medium Density Residential-2. Details of the site plan can be discussed by contacting Sal Bevilacqua, Zoning Board Chairperson, at (518) 731-2718. This Public Hearing is required to provide additional information and receive public comment on the proposed action to be taken by the Zoning Board regarding this transaction.

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Employment

415 General Help

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435 Professional & Technical

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THE TOWN of Jewett Highway Department is accepting applications for full time employment. Good benefits. Additional requirements/ benefit information available when picking up application. Applications may be obtained at the Town of Jewett Town Clerks office Monday thru Thursday between 10:30am and 2:30pm.

Town of Copake Seeks Administrative Assistant
Part-time Salary commensurate with experience.
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Position is eligible for NYS Retirement System.
Letters of interest and resumes should be mailed to Town Clerk Lynn Connolly at Copake Town Hall, 230 Mountain View Road, Copake NY 12516, or emailed to: copaketownclerk@townofcopake.org. All applications must be received by noon on Thursday, June 30, 2022.

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610 Announcements

Public Notice
Request for Bid for Diesel Fuel and Ultra Low Sulfur Heating Oil
The Board of Education of the Germantown Central School District invites sealed bids to provide an annual contract for "Diesel Fuel and Ultra Low Sulfur Heating Oil". Bid must be submitted in clearly labeled envelope to Germantown Central School District, 123 Main St, Germantown, New York, 12526 Attn: Holly Sanford, Business Administrator by 2 p.m., Monday, June 13, 2022. Bids must be completed in full and include all requested documentation
A copy of the Request for Bid, certifications, general information and conditions, and specifications may be obtained from the District Business Office at 123 Main St, Germantown, New York, 12526 or by email at rvanalstynegermantowncsd.org. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and/or all Bids and to waive any informalities discovered within.
Holly Sanford
Business Administrator
Benjamin Bragg
Superintendent of Schools

Public Notice
Request for Proposal for Boiler, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Service & Maintenance
The Board of Education of the Germantown Central School District invites sealed proposals to provide an annual contract for "Boiler, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Service & Maintenance". Proposal must be submitted in clearly labeled envelope to Germantown Central School District, 123 Main St, Germantown, New York, 12526 Attn: Holly Sanford, Business Administrator by 2 p.m., Monday, June 13, 2022. Proposals must be completed in full and include all requested documentation
A copy of the Request for Proposal, certifications, general information and conditions, and specifications may be obtained from the District Business Office at 123 Main St, Germantown, New York, 12526 or by email at rvanalstynegermantowncsd.org. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and/or all Proposals and to waive any informalities discovered within.
Holly Sanford
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Superintendent of Schools

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E L R M R H I T I W U H R U I , C F J D I P C P P X I
Y C O I P R O I R B F W S P X C P R X C M I P W
H I P R P T W ." — S R H H R C O X A L P

Previous Solution: "My theory is that the most important thing is to be happy, enjoy what you are doing and be fresh mentally." — Rafael Nadal

TODAY'S CLUE: 8 sjenba N

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Texas shouldn't host the NCAA's Final Fours until it fixes its gun laws

John Feinstein
The Washington Post
If the NCAA had any moral standards, it would move the Men's and Women's Final Fours - one scheduled for Houston, one slated for Dallas - out of Texas next year. It would move all of its other championships from the state, too. And it would vow not to return until Texas reforms its gun laws.
This is a moment to put the usual excuse-making aside and do something that affects more than the wallets of NCAA members. Decisive action - demanding legislation that might help prevent tragedies like the one in Uvalde - could get the attention of Republican Gov. Greg Abbott, the state legislature and the corporations (notably hotels) that would stand to lose millions of dollars if the Final Fours were taken away. At the least, it would send a message about what the organization stands for.
There is precedent and evidence that the NCAA can leverage the impact of its events to protest political action - or inaction - and play a role in bringing about meaningful change. In

2001, when lawmakers in South Carolina refused to remove the Confederate flag from the state Capitol grounds, the NCAA announced it would not place any pre-scheduled events in the state until the flag was removed. In 2015, the flag was finally taken down and the NCAA began scheduling events there again.
One of the first NCAA events held in the state after that victory was a 2017 men's basketball regional. That event was held in Greenville after the NCAA pulled it out of Greensboro, N.C., in response to an anti-LGBT measure passed by the state legislature that required people to use public restrooms corresponding to the gender on their birth certificates. Pressure from the NCAA and the NBA - which moved its All-Star Game out of Charlotte - led to the repeal of the law in 2017.
As it did in North Carolina and South Carolina, the NCAA should remove all pre-scheduled championships clearly would have the most economic impact. Sadly, it won't happen. The NCAA has crawled back

into its cocoon.
Dan Gavitt, the NCAA's senior vice president for basketball, told me the organization's basketball committees don't have the power to move previously scheduled events, which could only be done by the board of governors, a 21-member group chaired at the moment by Georgetown President John DeGioia.
So I tried to get in touch with DeGioia - first through the NCAA and then through Georgetown. Trying to get in touch with President Joe Biden might have been easier - not to mention more productive. But in a statement - clearly written by mid-level NCAA drones but apparently authorized by DeGioia - the group made its intentions clear.
"At this time the NCAA and its member schools do not plan to move any NCAA championships based on a state's gun control laws" was the key sentence among the three in the statement. The other two called the shootings "tragic."
Way to take a stance.
While I never got a response to my request to interview

DeGioia, I did get a statement with his name on it: "The NCAA board of governors has indeed addressed important issues in the past, but any action to block states from hosting championships based on the state's gun laws require the most careful engagement with the membership. The board of governors would only take such a step following widespread discussion across all three NCAA divisions." Translation: We aren't messing with the gun activists.
In truth, relocating the Final Fours would not be that difficult, especially if the NCAA - for once - moved quickly and decisively. There are 21 states that require a background check or a permit to purchase a handgun, according to Everytown for Gun Safety. Hold your events there, even if it means (gasp!) having to play a Final Four or two in an actual basketball arena instead of in a dome. Yes, that would cost the NCAA some money, but it makes so much from its television deals that it could take the hit - in the name of making an important, if symbolic, point.
Additionally, states that don't insist on background checks or

laws that at least put common-sense restrictions on the kinds of guns that can be bought need not apply for future NCAA events until they also pursue reform. For the record, I'm fine with muskets - the gun of choice when the Second Amendment was ratified 231 years ago.
How do you decide what qualifies as meaningful gun legislation or gun-control laws? Appoint an independent committee to set minimum acceptable standards. There's nothing the NCAA loves more than creating committees - and this one, at least, would have important work to do: making clear that gun violence has gone too far and that attention needs to be paid to potential solutions.
Unlike politicians, no one from the NCAA has to run against NRA-funded candidates or worry about being targeted by gun advocates. In fact, this could be a chance for the NCAA to regain some moral sway. After spending millions in legal fees to fight uselessly against name, image and likeness reform, this is a worthy cause.
What's more important:

Continuing to fight for the scam that is "amateurism" in college athletics or taking a stand that might help save lives?
Go ahead and say "But what about?" from now until the Final Fours begin. No rule change or new law is going to be perfect, no advocacy effort will be without complications, and no policy will solve every problem. The easiest thing for the NCAA to do is to hide under DeGioia's rock - as it is clearly planning to do - and say, "It is not our place to tell states what their gun laws should be."
Why not?
If you can tell states what kind of LGBT laws you think they should have, or to take down a flag that brings back memories of the days when slavery ruled the South, you can tell states: "You need more gun control. We want to do anything we can to keep Uvalde - or Buffalo or Newtown or Columbine or Parkland - from happening again."
The NCAA rarely makes a headline for the right reasons. This is a chance to do that.

LIV Golf's money shouldn't speak louder than morals

Jim Souhan
StarTribune

MINNEAPOLIS—We are under no obligation to call sporting events or venues what their corporate overlords name them.

The Minnesota Gophers football stadium is "The Bank."

The Metrodome was always "The Dome."

Williams Arena is, was and shall ever be "The Barn."

So when we refer to "The LIV Golf Invitational Series," we should just call it "Death Golf."

LIV Golf is a Saudi Arabian production, backed by the country's government, designed to bribe the world's best golfers, making it a threat to the PGA Tour. Outside of the Olympics, this is the world's foremost attempt at "sportswashing," when a nation launders its image via supposedly endearing competition.

Saudi Arabia would like you to forget its history of human rights abuses, and that Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi was murdered and

dismembered at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul in 2018.

The first event in the LIV series will be held at the Centurion Golf Club in London next weekend. The series will not directly compete -- this year -- with Minnesota's 3M Open, which is scheduled for July 21-24 at the TPC Twin Cities, but it could compete with the 3M in future years, and it could provide competition this year as players decide where and when they want to compete.

After a series of denials and obfuscations, PGA Tour star Dustin Johnson has signed on, joining Louis Oosthuizen, Sergio Garcia, Kevin Na, Charl Schwartzel, Martin Kaymer, Graeme McDowell, Ian Poulter and Lee Westwood.

The PGA Tour has issued warnings that members who participate in LIV Golf tournaments will face stiff penalties, but it hasn't specified those penalties.

Longtime golf writer Jason Sobel, now with the Action



Glyn Kirk/AFP/Getty Images

Branding for the forthcoming LIV Golf event, is pictured during a media day for the event, at The Centurion Club in St. Albans, north of London on May 11.

Network, compared LIV Golf to the Ice Capades for figure skaters: a sports tour that isn't about competition so much as celebrity and entertainment.

LIV Golf will offer massive purses and guarantees. That's why it's so attractive to golfers, and such an ugly concept for discerning fans.

What's unique about the PGA Tour, among American professional sports, is that players must perform to earn a living, and keep their Tour card, and qualify for the majors. There are no guaranteed contracts.

LIV offers guarantees. Its events will begin with \$25 million purses, with \$20 million

going to individual golfers and another \$5 million to teams. There will be 48 players at each event, organized into 12 teams.

Players will not have to make the cut and the last-place golfer earns \$120,000. There are also credible rumors about LIV offering massive bonuses to amateurs willing to turn pro on their circuit.

At the U.S. Open, Tiger Woods offered a viewpoint you'd like to believe most great competitors share. "I understand different viewpoints, but I believe in legacies," he said in May. "I believe in major championships. I believe in big events, comparisons to historical figures in the past. There's plenty of money out here. The Tour is growing. But you have to go out there and earn it."

If you are a middling pro, or an amateur, or an older golfer who no longer believes he can win a major, the LIV money might be intoxicating. Rory McIlroy acknowledged the lure even while saying he isn't interested.

"So someone that isn't guaranteed their Tour card next year, another entity comes along and says, 'We'll guarantee you this amount for three years, plus you're playing for a ton more prize money, and you're playing less events, you can spend more time with your family,'" McIlroy said this week. "I mean, whenever you sit down and look at some of those things, you know, it's very appealing to some of those guys that are in that position."

LIV Golf CEO Greg Norman, asked about the Khashoggi murder during an event in London on Wednesday to promote the new league, actually said, "We all make mistakes."

LIV Golf is likely to last because of those kinds of rationalizations and virtually unlimited money.

I'd rather watch the Ice Capades.

Annika Sorenstam isn't going to win this U.S. Women's Open ... and she's fine with that

Scott Fowler
The Charlotte Observer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — At 51, Annika Sorenstam was roughly twice the age of the average golfer at the U.S. Women's Open on Thursday.

Of course, Sorenstam isn't your average golfer. She's arguably the GOAT of women's golf, famous enough to be known by her first name only around the golf world.

But of course a golf ball doesn't know who's hitting it, and so while Sorenstam's name recognition was off the charts in the first round Thursday and she was cheered loudly at every hole, her score was pedestrian. Sorenstam shot a 3-over-par 74 at Pine Needles, meaning that she will be in danger of missing the cut Friday if she doesn't shoot around even par.

Still, she had fun playing, she said, while thinking about a whole different set of problems than she had when she won the Women's Open in 1995, 1996 and 2006.

"Now it's like I worry about my husband and I worry about the kids," Sorenstam said, speaking of her son, Will, and daughter, Ava. "You know, 'Are they drinking? Do they have enough sunblock?' And then it's like, 'OK, now you have to hit a hybrid (club).' ... So yeah, sometimes I get a little distracted. There were a few holes where I was like, 'Where did Will go, you know? Is he climbing a tree somewhere? But then I saw him on 18. So it's nice.'"

In the meantime, Sorenstam's playing partner was blitzing the course. Ingrid Lindblad, a 22-year-old amateur who

currently goes to LSU, shot a 6-under 65 in the first round. Like Sorenstam, Lindblad is from Sweden, and like all golfers from that country she knows Sorenstam's record very well.

"When I saw I was playing with her, I was like in shock," Lindblad said.

Lindblad didn't let it affect her, though, besting Sorenstam by nine strokes on the day -- out-driving her and out-putting her. Sorenstam, who once shot 59 in a competitive round and has won 10 major titles, left the grind of weekly competitive golf in 2008 to start a family and a new life. She won a greater percentage of the time on the women's tour than Tiger Woods or Jack Nicklaus did on the men's.

Sorenstam won the U.S. Open at Pine Needles in 1996,

and was asked Thursday what it felt like to play the same course in the same tournament 26 years later.

"I'm a lot more content in my life," Sorenstam said. "My playing days are over. I'm not here to create a new career or start something new and make a mark for myself. I'm more here to enjoy what I've done and enjoy being invited to come here and play and share it with my loved ones."

Sorenstam isn't going to win this tournament, but she's not a purely ceremonial golfer, either. She got that invitation by winning the U.S. Women's Senior Open in 2021 by an astounding eight shots.

Some of her talent has rubbed off on her family, too. Her 11-year-old son Will McGee

made his first hole-in-one on a par-3 course at Pinehurst this week, a fact initially reported by Sorenstam's husband and Will's father, Mike McGee (who manages her business enterprises and often caddies for her, too).

"We called him 'Ace' last night," Sorenstam said of her son. "That was his nickname. And every time we said that, he lit up."

That's Sorenstam's life now, and she's happy with it. She's no longer chasing tournaments; she's chasing kids, and playing some golf when she can. It sounded like what she's liking most about this week is letting her kids watch her play in the biggest tournament in women's golf.

Lindblad, meanwhile, will play with Sorenstam again

Friday and seems to have a real shot at the record \$1.8 million first prize for this tournament. The problem? As a declared amateur, even if Lindblad won the tournament, she couldn't accept the money. She would have had to declare herself a pro first, but she had already planned to spend another year in college before going pro.

Sorenstam made decisions like that long ago. Now she's in her twilight years for competitive golf and said she's fine with that. She said she can't find the higher gear she used to, but that's OK.

"There's nowhere else to go," Sorenstam said, and then she went right back to where she wanted to be anyway, to her family.



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Daughter feels powerless to help her aging father

Dear Abby,
My dad, who is nearing 80, has been married to my stepmom, "Ruth," for nearly 35 years. She has always been temperamental and controlling to a degree, but during the last few years it has become abundantly clear that she's emotionally abusive to my dad.

Twenty years ago, I moved to another coast, and although Dad wanted to visit, the decision was always up to Ruth, so they never did. However, when it comes to her immediate family, Dad is required to attend every event. During COVID I moved just a few states away, and that's when I got the full picture. Ruth took away Dad's cellphone and sold his car, so he is virtually stuck. He's an artist, and she never "allowed" him to get a studio.

The list is long, sad and frustrating. He forbids me to confront her, but it is giving me daily stress because I love my dad and I fear her control is something he has grown accustomed to. Any advice?

Distressed Daughter In The South

As repugnant as the situation may be to you, I do not think you should try to reduce your stress by creating more for your father. He has forbidden you from confronting his wife about her hypercontrolling behavior, and you should respect his wishes. You don't have to like it. But this is what your father has been willing to accept for the last 35 years. He and only he could have put a stop to it or left her if he had really wanted to.

Dear Abby,
I'm a college student who broke up with my

Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you are quick to understand even the most difficult of concepts, and quite adept, too, at instructing others in the ins-and-outs and subtleties of those same concepts. Most of your learning is hands-on, and though you may be something of a reader, you much prefer the excitement and involvement of experience to the dry monotony of written instruction. Your instincts are keen, and you know very well how to approach people in a way that makes the most of your connection.

You have a good deal of charm and charisma, and others feel at ease around you, whether they know you well or have just met you. Indeed, you are often at your best with people who are relative newcomers to your circle, because you and they can spend time learning about each other simultaneously, and keep assumptions and prejudices from limiting the potential of a new relationship.

Also born on this date are: Angelina Jolie, actress; Russell Brand, actor; Noah Wyle, actor; Bruce Dern, actor; El DeBarge, singer; Dennis Weaver, actor; Parker Stevenson, actor; Scott Wolf, actor.

To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — The more you feel you have to prove today, the more likely you'll be to make unforced errors. Remain calm and do things by the book.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You may clash with someone whose expectations are dramatically different from your own. Who is in the right? You know what's possible!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You can get things

long-term high school boyfriend a few months ago. He was a cheating dirtbag, so I moved on quickly. I have been enjoying the single life, but now find myself in a bit of a love triangle.

"Derek" is blond and short, and loves to go to the gym. He's kind and attentive, and he seems to care very much for me. He invited me to his formal dance, but I turned him down because I didn't know him very well. He didn't take anyone else even though he had plenty of time to find a date. My friend at the

dance said he didn't even talk to another girl, so I know he's very loyal already.

The other contender, "Shay," is taller and has dark hair. He has kind, blue eyes and a shy personality, although with me he really opens up and talks. He always checks in to see how I'm doing when I've had a rough day. In the simplest terms, he puts up with my nonsense. He has seen me at some of my worst moments and still showed compassion.

I'm genuinely torn between these two and don't know how to choose because I don't want to lose either of them. What do I do?

Boy Crazy In Iowa

I have good news. Because nowhere in your letter did you mention that either of these young men have asked you for an exclusive relationship, you do not "have" to make a difficult choice. Some people like both chocolate AND vanilla ice cream. I suggest you be honest with them and enjoy seeing them both until the answer to your question becomes obvious. (Feel free to write me again if you meet a handsome redhead.)

done without attracting any attention to yourself, but is that what you want today? An audience can give you pleasure.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Others are doing things that seem quite interesting to you — but once you get a closer look, you'll understand why you're not participating.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — You and a friend have something to work out today, and until you do, you'll find that you're often at cross-purposes. Sit down and talk.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Treat yourself to a rare pleasure today and you'll feel much better about what you have to do tomorrow. Give-and-take is a good thing!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You may receive an unusual offer today, and you'll find yourself giving it serious consideration, despite it being all but impossible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Give another a little of what you have plenty of today and you may start something that can make a difference to your entire community.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — You're in the clear and able to do much without so much as a single objection — though someone may be keeping a suspicious eye on you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — You want someone else to make the decisions today, as you're in the mood to sit back and enjoy what comes — but some effort is likely required!

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You may have to gather your things and get on the road sooner than you had expected — but this benefits someone close to you in need.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Show others what's possible and they're likely to do more than follow in your footsteps. You may start a whole new creative movement.

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Goren bridge

WITH BOB JONES

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q 1 - Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A 6 3 2 ♢ A J 8 5 3 ♣ 8 6 ♠ A 9

You open 1H and partner responds 1NT. Assuming you play that as forcing, what call would you make?

Q 2 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ 10 9 ♢ A Q 7 ♣ A 7 6 4 ♠ K Q J 7

| SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1NT | Pass | 2♣* | Pass |
| 2♦ | Pass | 3NT | Pass |
| ? | | | |

*Transfer to hearts

What call would you make?

Q 3 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ K Q 9 ♢ 10 9 8 7 5 4 ♣ 6 ♠ 10 9 7

| NORTH | EAST | SOUTH | WEST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1♦ | 2♣ | Pass | 3♠ |
| Dbl | Pass | ? | |

What call would you make?

Q 4 - Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A 10 2 ♢ A K J 8 ♣ Q 8 7 6 3 ♠ A

| SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1♦ | 3♠ | Pass | Pass |
| Dbl | Pass | 3♥ | Pass |
| ? | | | |

What call would you make?

Q 5 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ Q J 10 7 6 4 2 ♢ 10 5 3 ♣ 7 ♠ J 4

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1NT | 2♠* | Pass | ? |
| | | | |

*Clubs and a higher-ranking suit

What call would you make?

Q 6 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ Q 8 7 5 4 ♢ A 8 6 5 ♣ Q 7 ♠ Q 8

| NORTH | EAST | SOUTH | WEST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1♦ | Dbl | 1♠ | Pass |
| 2♠ | Pass | ? | |

What call would you make?

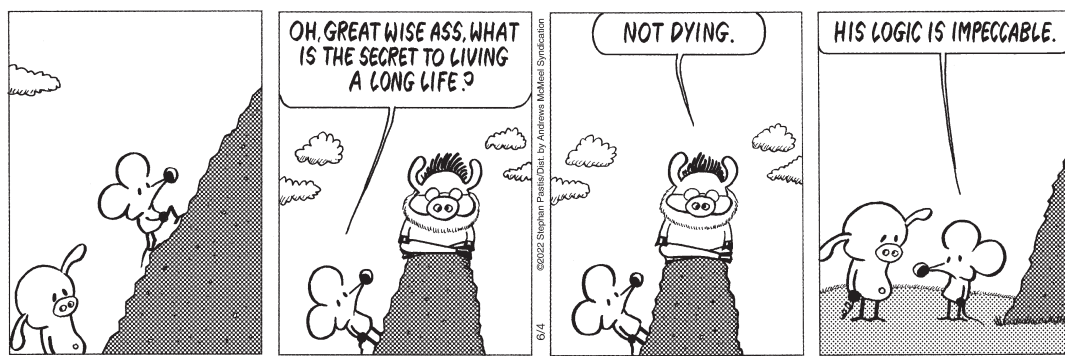
Look for answers on Tuesday.

(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this newspaper or to Tribune Content Agency, LLC., 16650 Westgrove Dr., Suite 175, Addison, TX 75001. E-mail: tcaditors@tribpub.com)

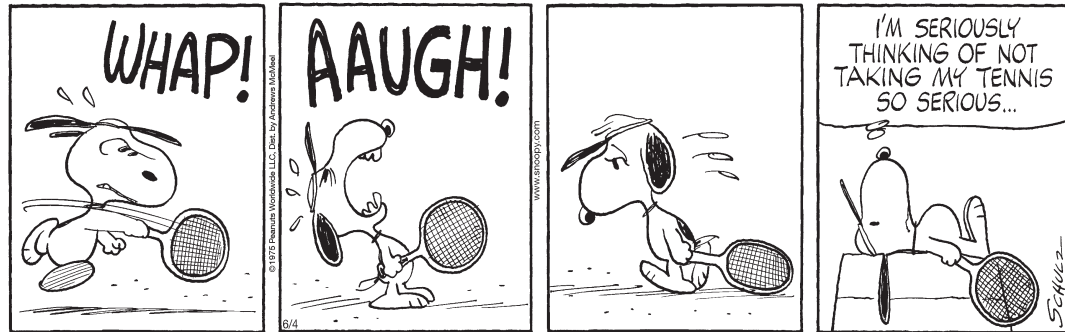
Pickles



Pearls Before Swine



Classic Peanuts



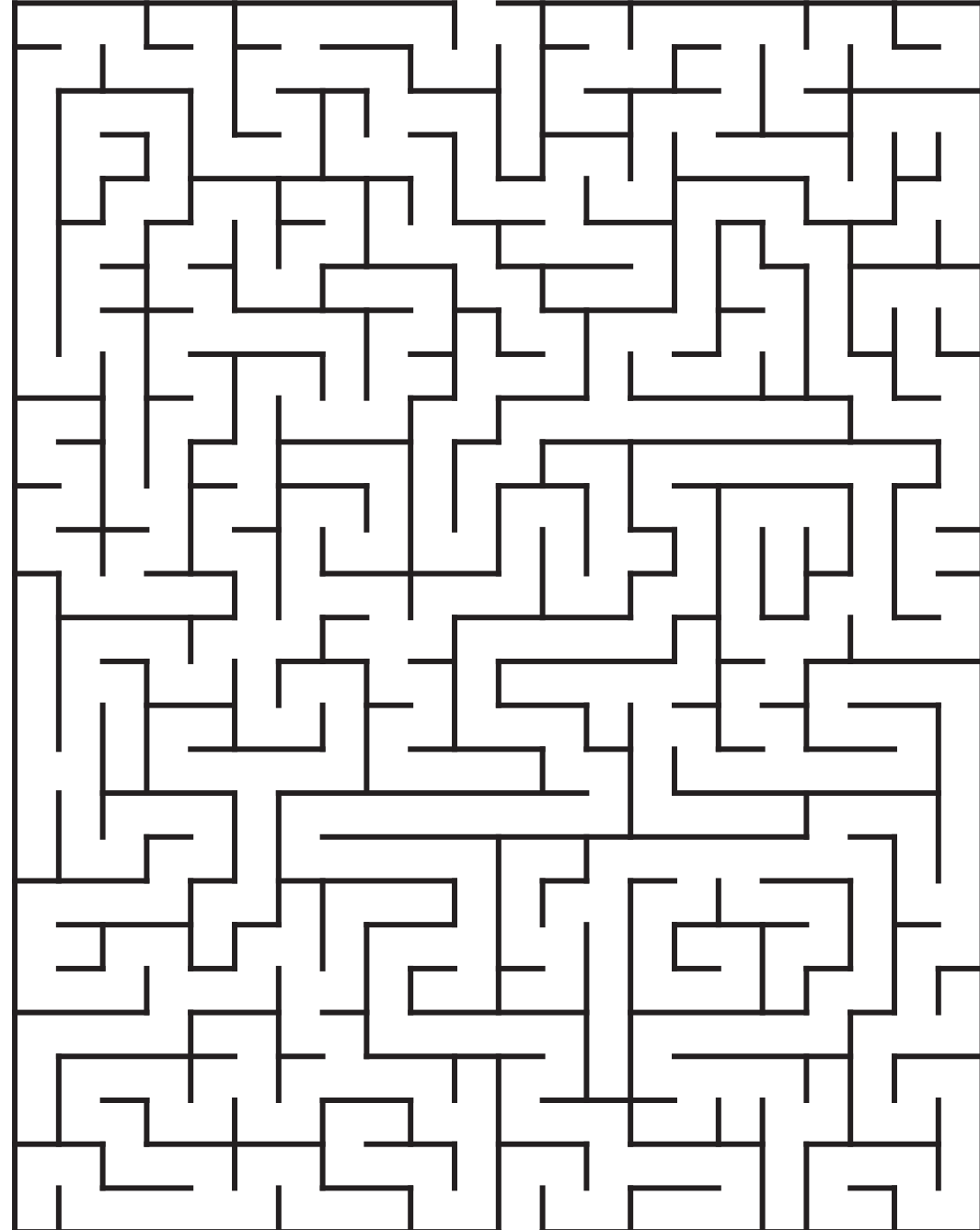
Garfield



Dark Side of the Horse



Daily Maze



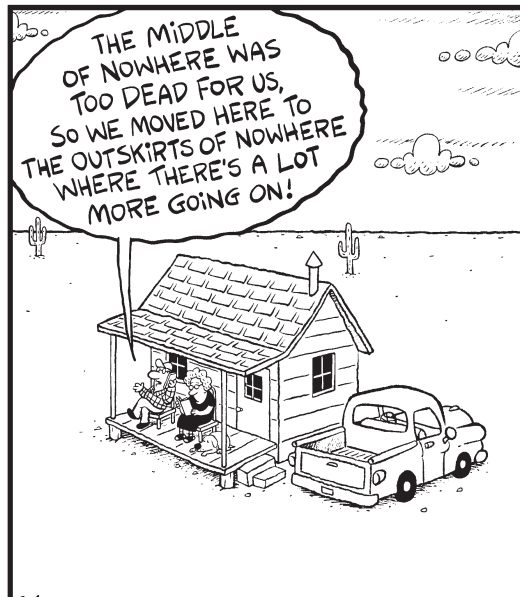
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Close to Home



"What's in YOUR wallet?! Get it? Like those ads on TV! Ha! What's in YOUR wallet!..."

Free Range

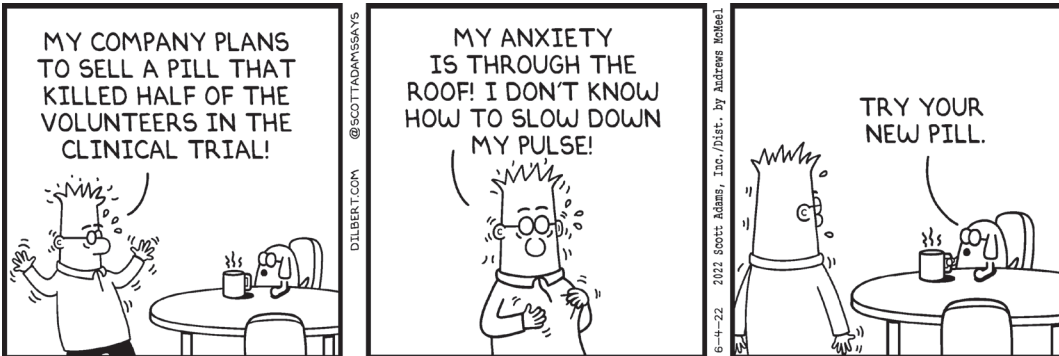


THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE WAS TOO DEAD FOR US, SO WE MOVED HERE TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF NOWHERE WHERE THERE'S A LOT MORE GOING ON!

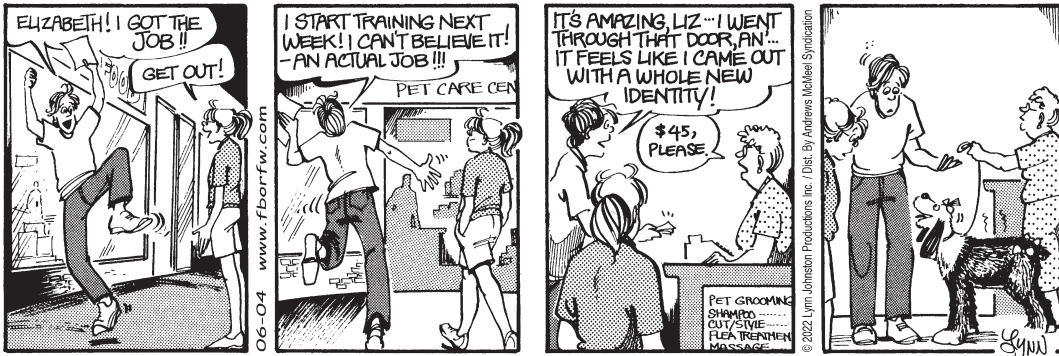
Get Fuzzy



Dilbert

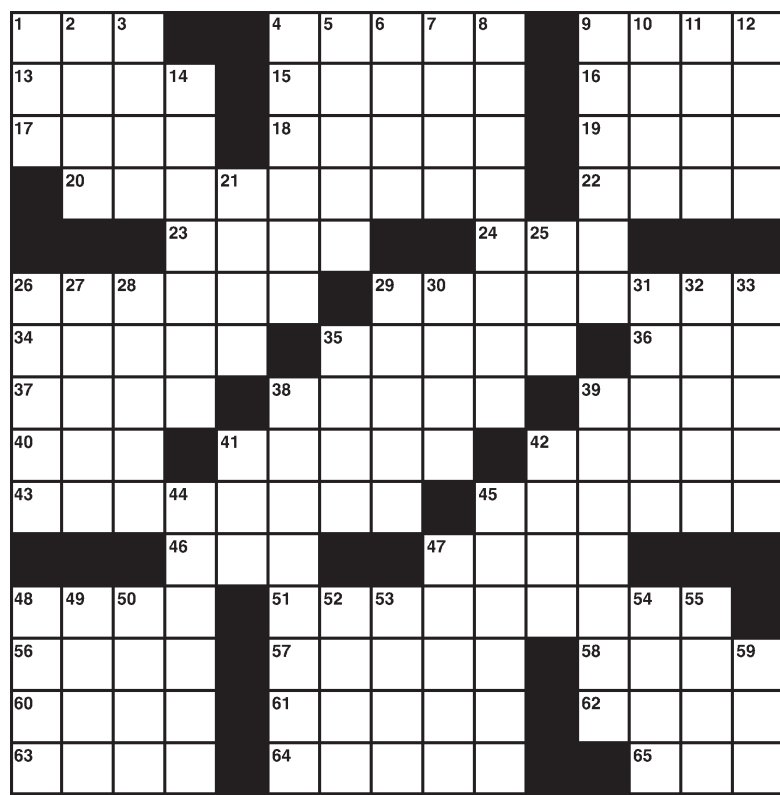


For Better or For Worse



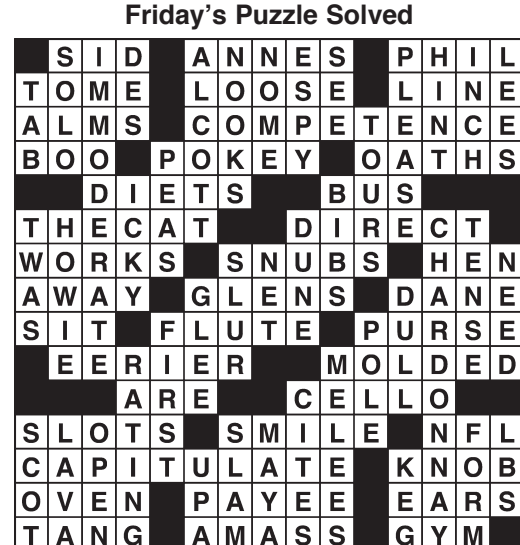
Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- ER personnel
 - Caffè ___; Starbucks order
 - Injure with a dagger
 - Uniquely shaped fruit
 - Calendar page
 - Opening
 - Gender
 - Distributed cards
 - Deceptive ploy
 - Four-sided figure
 - ___ deficiency; anemia cause, often
 - Brimless caps
 - Dashed
 - Stand up to
 - Neglecting, as one's duty
 - Dangerous fish
 - Get an "F"
 - "Not a moment ___ soon!"
 - Black-and-white drivers
 - "Nothing ___!"; adamant refusal
 - Impartial
 - Name for a Spanish girl
 - Mustangs & Broncos
 - Untrue
 - Very determined
 - Dirty
 - Give a nickname to
 - Serving two purposes
 - Celebration
 - Breath-taking
 - Potato chips brand
 - Pass out
 - Actor Robert De ___
 - Rubs the wrong way
 - Stomach woe
 - Chew like a beaver
 - "Guilty" or "Not guilty"
 - Suspicious
 - Suffix for Nepal or Japan



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 6/4/22

- DOWN**
- 45 or 78, for a record
 - Close at hand
 - Business transaction
 - Butterfly or Bovary
 - Unlocks
 - Rugged cliff
 - TV's "___ Street Blues"
 - Revising
 - Psychologist
 - ___ de France; bike race
 - Additionally
 - "I've ___ Working on the Railroad"
 - Episcopal clergymen
 - Chore
 - Boat made of gopher wood
 - Wilde or Hammerstein
 - Texter's need
 - Dads
 - Playground incline
 - Attila's men
 - Know-___; wisecrack
 - Racket
 - Injured by a bull
 - ___ Worth, TX
 - Uncertain
 - Opposite of succeeding
 - Respiratory bug
 - Barn baby
 - Ukrainian seaport
 - Hot and humid
 - Eater
 - ___ out; go ballistic
 - British peer
 - Small child
 - Actor Alan ___ Jr.
 - Sushi food
 - Three threes
 - Mardi ___
 - Be in the red



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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level 1 2 3 4

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

Solution to Friday's puzzle 6/4/22

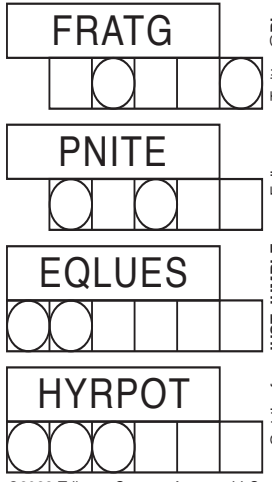
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 2 |
| 8 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 9 |
| 6 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 5 |
| 2 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 7 |
| 7 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| 3 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 4 |
| 1 | 2 | 6 | 3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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk

JUMBLE

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

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



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Answer here:



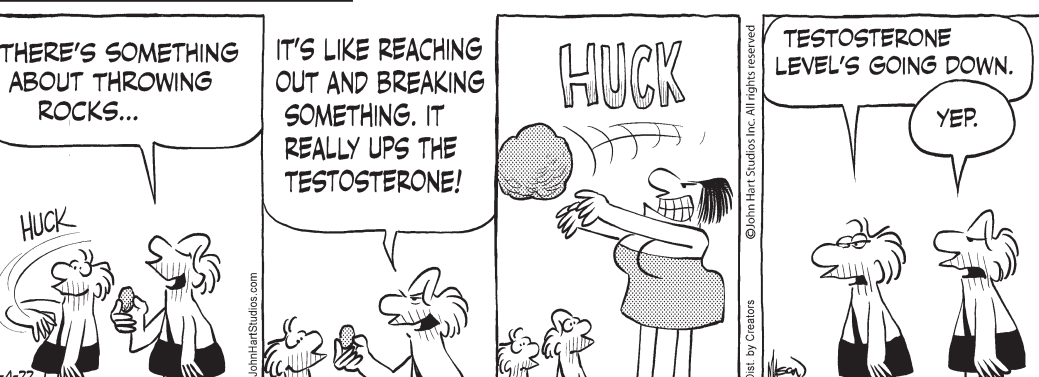
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answers Tuesday
Yesterday's Jumbles: MODEM FAUNA QUAINT DROOPY
Answer: When the giant Asian bears fought over the last of the bamboo, it was -- "PANDA-MONIUM"

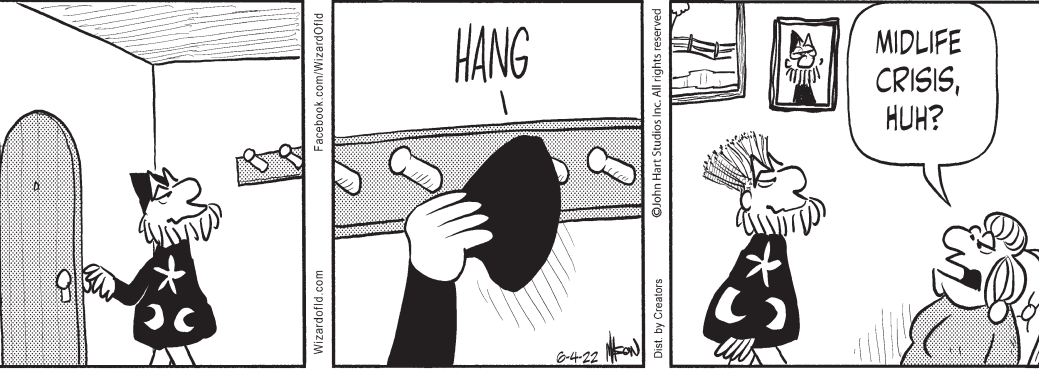
Heart of the City



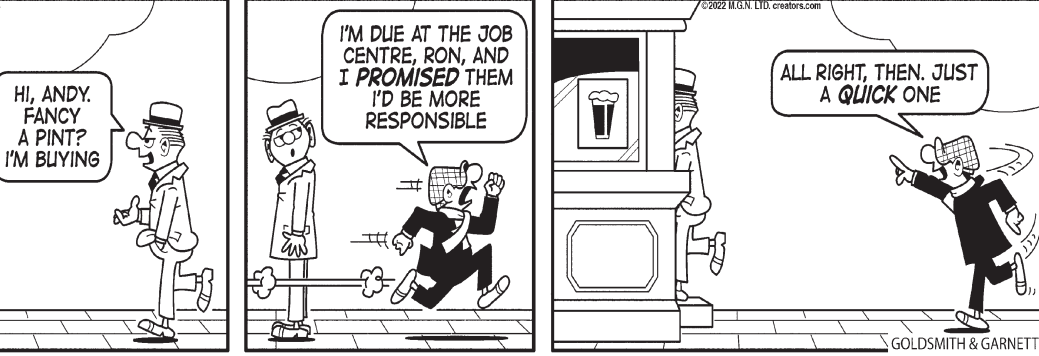
B.C.



Wizard of Id



Andy Capp



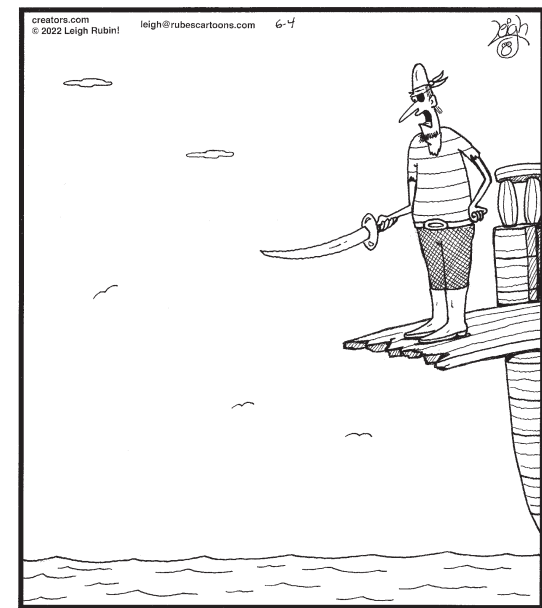
Bound & Gagged



Non Sequitur



Rubes



... all you need to know for the upcoming week and beyond ...

R-E-L-A-X

Sneak peak goes from calm to chaos in 8 minutes

First seven episodes of 'Stranger Things' Season 4 are out on Netflix

By **KAI GRADY**
Los Angeles Times

One week ahead of the long-awaited, highly anticipated fourth season of "Stranger Things," Netflix released the first 8 minutes of Season 4, Episode 1.

The extended preview (which actually runs 8 minutes, 47 seconds) throws us right back into the heart of Hawkins, Ind., by way of a flashback scene set six years prior to the events of Season 3. The clip promises a fateful, eerie and gripping return to form for the fan-favorite series.

"Stranger Things" Season 4 is nine episodes broken up into two volumes: The first batch — episodes 1-7 — hit Netflix on May 27, and the remaining two episodes will drop July 1.

“Seven years ago, we planned out the complete story arc for 'Stranger Things.' At the time, we predicted the story would last four to five seasons. It proved too large to tell in four, but — as you'll soon see for yourselves — we are now hurtling toward our finale.”

MATT AND ROSS DUFFER
Series creators

Netflix and series creators Matt and Ross Duffer (aka the Duffer brothers) are definitely making up for lost time with the two-part penultimate season. This season differs significantly from previous installments in overall length and episodic runtimes.

The new season is said to be “over 5 hours longer than any previous season,” according to a press release. Additionally, the last three episodes clock in at 1 hour and 38 minutes, 1 hour and 25 minutes, and close to 2.5 hours, respectively.

Three of the first four episodes are at least 75 minutes long, per a New York Times profile of the Duffer brothers. For context, the longest episode runtime up until this point — for the Season 3 finale — has been 76 minutes.

The decision to split the season came earlier this year in a stylized announcement from the showrunners, who also revealed that the Netflix tentpole had been renewed for its fifth and final season.

“Seven years ago, we planned out the complete story arc for 'Stranger Things.' At the time, we predicted the story would last four to five seasons. It proved too large to tell in four, but — as you'll soon see for yourselves — we are now hurtling toward our finale,” the Duffer brothers said at the time. “Season 4 will be the penultimate season; season 5 will be the last.”

In less exciting news, the sci-fi hit suffered an unfortunate blow after images from an official “Stranger Things”-inspired Monopoly board game leaked and began making the rounds online. According to the Hollywood Reporter, the Duffer brothers hadn't been consulted about the game and had a “total meltdown” upon learning that critical plot points had been spoiled.



Tom Cruise revisits his 1986 hit in “Top Gun: Maverick,” a sequel that sees his Maverick character over 30 years later.
Paramount Pictures/TNS

RETURN TO THE DANGER ZONE

Tom Cruise shows the next-generation aviators how to fly in 'Top Gun: Maverick'

By **MICHAEL PHILLIPS**
Chicago Tribune

It couldn't outmaneuver the pandemic enemy that delayed its release for two years, but “Top Gun: Maverick” can't lose, really.

It's a pretty good time, and often a pretty good movie for the nervous blur we're in right now. It's cozy. And it'll be catnip for those eager to watch Tom Cruise flash That Look. “It's the only one I've got,” he says, twice, to on-screen cohorts who are not international movie stars.

What is That Look? It's the half-smile of insubordination when a superior officer (Ed Harris or Jon Hamm this time) busts test pilot and congenial speed-needer Capt. Pete “Maverick” Mitchell's chops, ineffectively.

It's The Look that goes with an eternally boyish voice and demeanor. It's

'TOP GUN: MAVERICK'

3 stars (out of 4)
MPAA rating: PG-13 (for sequences of intense action and some strong language)
RUNNING TIME: 2:17
HOW TO WATCH:
Opened in theaters May 27

those sidelong hesitation glances, right next door to early-career Warren Beatty's. And it's the only look that could possibly correlate to lines barked in Maverick's direction from the 1986 “Top Gun,” the worst/best being: “Son, your ego is writing checks your body can't cash.”

Jim Cash and Jack Epps Jr. wrote the first one, ripping off every aviation picture they could pop into their VCRs. Half of “Top Gun: Maverick” is

a callback to the '86 original, which was not my kind of summer blockbuster, but it's a free country.

The other half of director Joseph Kosinski's 36-years-later sequel goes in other, reluctantly progressive directions, in a mellower blockbuster key. Now, I want to be clear here. The script of “Top Gun: Maverick” does a surprising amount to keep the movie airborne, even as its dialogue in between bang-up aerial sequences is just as corny and flavorless as the original's. (The “Maverick” screenwriters are Ehren Kruger, Eric Warren Singer and Christopher McQuarrie.) The results effectively shore up and polish the monument to Tom Cruise that is Tom Cruise. And the sequel's star-preservation directive writes checks

See **TOP C2**



From left, Jay Ellis as “Payback,” Monica Barbaro as “Phoenix” and Danny Ramirez as “Fanboy” in “Top Gun: Maverick.”
Scott Garfield/Paramount Pictures/TNS



“Stranger Things” is back for Season 4. From left, Caleb McLaughlin stars as Lucas Sinclair, Gaten Matarazzo stars as Dustin Henderson and Sadie Sink stars as Max Mayfield. Netflix/TNS

Bob Odenkirk winds down his journey on 'Better Call Saul'

Actor looks back at his time as Jimmy McGill, uh, Saul Goodman, no, Gene Takavic

By **GLENN WHIPP**
Los Angeles Times

Bob Odenkirk doesn't remember anything about his heart attack last summer — not the CPR, not the three defibrillator zaps that brought him back to life and nothing from the eight days he spent recuperating at Albuquerque Presbyterian Hospital. Even the week after he went home is sketchy. He vaguely recalls his wife, Naomi, and adult kids, Nate and Erin, being with him and time spent with his "Better Call Saul" co-stars (and Albuquerque roommates) Rhea Seehorn and Patrick Fabian.

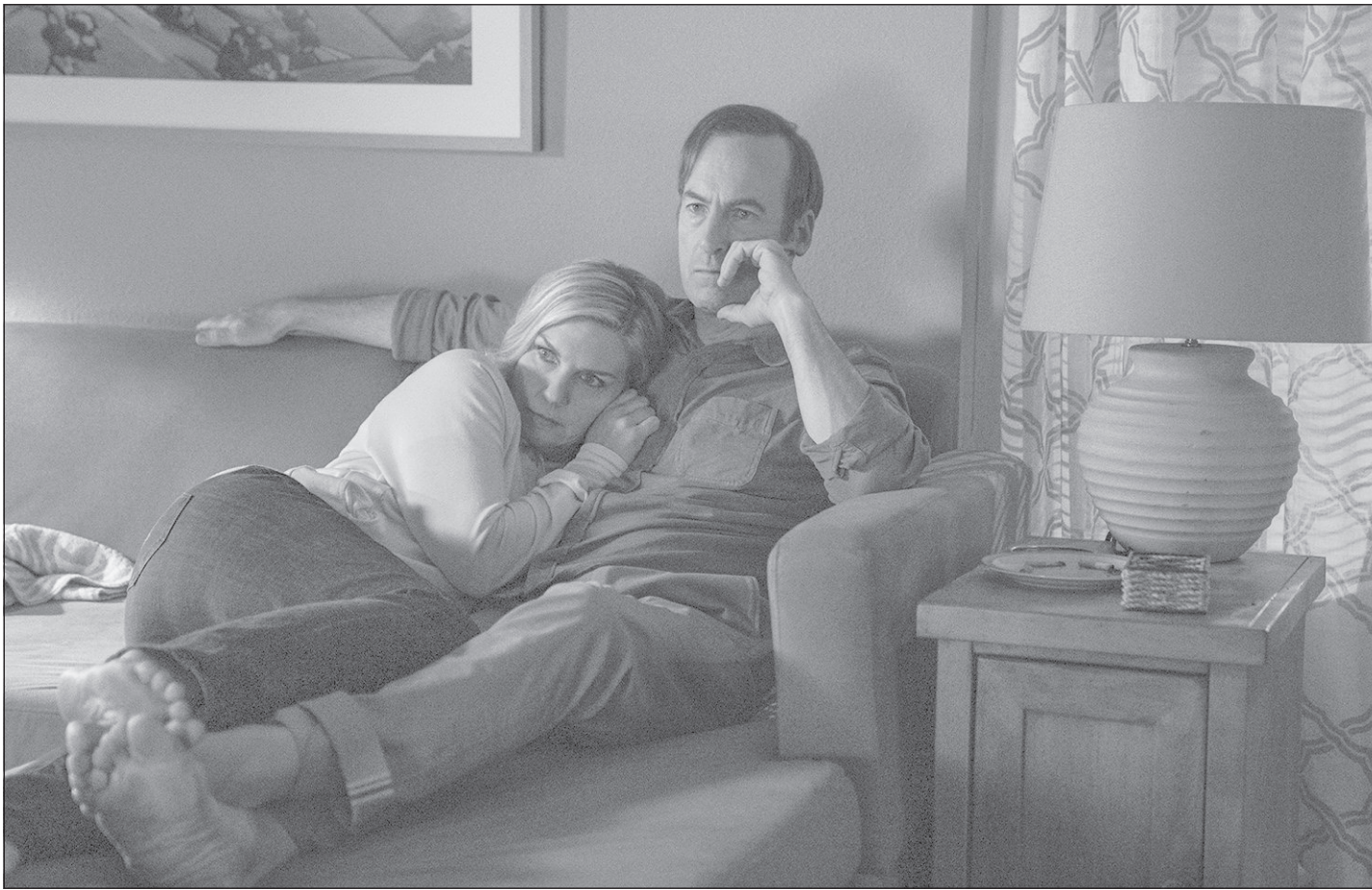
But that's it. No white light moment? I ask him. No encounters with St. Peter or a dearly departed pet?

"No," Odenkirk answers. It's a hot day, the Santa Ana winds are blowing and we're sitting indoors at a poolside restaurant at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, sipping mojitos, far removed from the day Odenkirk collapsed on the set of "Better Call Saul." I express a little disappointment that Odenkirk cannot offer me reassurance about an afterlife.

"You're disappointed? I'm disappointed," Odenkirk says. "I wanted to have that tale to tell. I wanted to tell you which of my relatives was first in line to greet me. I wanted to see Abraham Lincoln playing chess with Elvis Presley and get in on that game. I think Lincoln's probably going to win. But only after Presley throws the board across the room and knocks Lincoln's hat off."

Odenkirk, 59, chuckles. But just a little. He thinks about his near-death experience often and, yes, on one level, he feels a bit cheated. If his heart is going to stop and he's going to turn bluish-gray because he isn't breathing and if they have to put the paddles on him to jump-start his pulse, he would have liked just one grand, existential moment of awareness and maybe a couple answers about what's next. Instead, he just got a big blank space.

Of course, that's not all he



Rhea Seehorn, left, as Kim Wexler and Bob Odenkirk as Jimmy McGill in "Better Call Saul." Greg Lewis/AMC/Sony Pictures Television/TNS

got. Odenkirk also received a monumental outpouring of love from complete strangers on social media — platforms he calls "this horrible thing that has degraded us" — and that he remembers. Odenkirk still can't wrap his head around the kindness directed his way. He's not a warm-and-fuzzy guy. His comedy career — Chicago club stages, writing for "Saturday Night Live," creating and performing "Mr. Show" with David Cross, all chronicled in his excellent memoir "Comedy Comedy Drama" — has been predicated on the idea that the best humor comes from a place of anger. And that people are stupid. And that life is dumb.

And sure, audiences do treasure Saul Goodman, the fast-talking attorney who provided "Breaking Bad" with moments of comic relief and turned into a cautionary tale and tragic antihero on "Better Call Saul," now in its final run of episodes.

"But Saul's not a good guy," Odenkirk says. "He's very selfish. So I don't think it's that."

This ignites a good-natured debate — it won't be our last — about how "Better Call Saul" made us feel something deeper about Odenkirk's

character, introduced as Jimmy McGill, a man of many talents, one of which is scamming. He's a scamp looking for approval, foolishly, it turns out, from his older brother, memorably played by Michael McKean. And when that relationship turns sour (to put it mildly), it fuels frustrations and resentments that Jimmy can't leave behind.

Anyway, we feel something for the guy — and for the actor who has played him for a decade.

"I'll allow that," Odenkirk says. "But I don't think it explains that outpouring of warmth. I think that came from COVID, which freaked everyone out and led to this feeling of 'Can we just not have more bad things happen to us for a little while?' And then, you know, I'm not a movie star. I'm just a guy who acts and works hard. I think people see me and think, 'If I was an actor and had a great bit of luck, I'd be like him. He's not a flashy guy. He's not even particularly gifted. He just shows up and goes to work.' People can relate to that. And maybe that provoked a certain amount of empathy."

Odenkirk isn't pushing false humility. He likes to analyze

things — his memoir could be used as a textbook for understanding sketch comedy — and this is his genuine take on why the world joined hands last summer and wished him well. I think he's wrong, but his reasoning is completely in character.

"Bob, being who he is, is always grappling with the subtext going through his head," says his co-star and friend Seehorn. "Like, when he was writing the book, he had to wrap his mind around, 'Well, who am I to be writing a bio?' And I would tell him time and time again that he has this breadth of work and expertise in comedy and a million funny stories and he's a great writer and has taken risks and tried things and they haven't always worked out, but he keeps trying. That's interesting. Who wouldn't want to read about that?" She pauses. "It took some convincing."

The book, which Odenkirk wrote over the course of a few years ("Oh, my gosh, the cursing you would hear from upstairs," roommate Seehorn says, laughing. "I just thought he was going to light so many reams of paper on fire on a weekly basis"), ended up

containing a fair amount of advice, along the lines of "if I can do it, so can you." Odenkirk doesn't consider himself some wise old sage ("old, maybe," he says), but he does think people can learn things over the course of time and even change. That belief has been at the heart of the many arguments he's had over the years with "Saul" creators Peter Gould and Vince Gilligan.

"My pitch to them is always: Sometimes people learn the right lessons from challenges and trauma," Odenkirk says.

The first five seasons of the series have opened with a flash-forward of Saul, now going by the alias of Gene Takavic, living in Omaha, Nebraska, managing a shopping center Cinnabon and living a bleak, empty, low-key life. The last time we see Gene, he believes he's been made and needs to change his identity and disappear again. And then he seems to see something and changes his mind.

"He's looking back on his whole life and asking himself, 'Do I react the way that my instinct tells me, the same instinct that has landed me in a f— mall in Omaha, making cinnamon rolls? Do I keep



Bob Odenkirk is ending his role as the lead character in "Better Call Saul," which is winding up its sixth season. Amy Sussman/Getty Images/TNS

following that gut?' He's still Jimmy McGill. He's still Saul Goodman. I promise you that. But in his growth, he's asking himself, 'Really? Is this all worth it?' And you see in that moment that he can't hold that s— in any longer. He needs to be himself."

We've spent the good part of an hour dancing around what's to come in the show's remaining episodes. Odenkirk can't tell me, and I don't want to know. But without getting into specifics, it would seem that Odenkirk may have finally won his long-standing argument with the series' writers, allowing Saul to step past his resentments.

"You know, I've had my bitterness and frustrations, but whenever I see that at play, especially in a choice I'm going to make, I say, 'That's bull—.' That is not a way to move forward," Odenkirk says. "And with Saul, I've always told Peter and Vince that sometimes people learn the right lessons and not the most selfish, resentful lesson from a bad thing that's happened to them. They become bigger and more gracious and not smaller and ground-down."

"This is not a spoiler, what I'm saying here," Odenkirk adds. "It's weird, because it sounds like maybe I'm pitching that Saul becomes this goodhearted, generous, caring person. I can't tell you where he ends up, but it's not like he has some revelation of humanity. I think he gets to ..." Odenkirk pauses. "I think I've said all I can say. But I like where his journey ends. And I think you'll like it too."

Top

From C1

the public will almost certainly cash.

The old "Top Gun" opened with a screenful of words about "the lost art of aerial combat," and the U.S. Navy's elite Fighter Weapons School at the Naval Air Station Miramar in San Diego. "Maverick" opens with the same phrase, only the art of aerial combat is really lost now, in the age of drone warfare.

Capt. Mitchell, who lives alone in the desert with his beloved Kawasaki motorcycle, is called to a new and time-sensitive duty by his old cohort Iceman (Val Kilmer — more on him later), now a U.S. Pacific Fleet commander. Maverick has three weeks to train a group of new Top Gun aces to destroy a uranium enrichment plant in an unspecified but assuredly Slavic location. One of the trainees is Bradley "Rooster" Bradshaw (Miles Teller), the grudge-laden son of Maverick's late radar intercept officer, Goose, played by Anthony Edwards back when.

And that's it. Quite simple. Jennifer Connelly takes the new role of barkeeper Penny, an old flame of Maverick's, now a single mother. It's nice to see Cruise and Connelly share scenes relying wholly on how they look against desert vistas or in Tony Scott-style telephoto close-up. At one point, after the most discreet sex scene in screen history, they share some pillow talk we see but don't hear (it's a montage), and you find yourself imagining what the actors are actually saying. "So, what were

you doing when I was filming 'All the Right Moves'?"

A lot of "Top Gun: Maverick" works that way; it's a time machine, an '80s karaoke act (naturally, Penny's bar is filled with Bowie's "Let's Dance"), and a familiar fable of making amends and restoring your confidence through eliminating the enemy. I lost track of how many insults Maverick endures from the young folk. Pops. Relic. Old Man. Fossil. Cruise may look a week and a half older than he did in '86, but this movie has all the intergenerational friction it can get.

How are the other new Top Gunners? All well played, all dully written. There's Hangman (Glen Powell), the swaggering Iceman equivalent, giddy with self-regard. And there's a woman! That's right, a woman! Monica Barbaro's Phoenix doesn't have much to do besides pushups and steely resolve in reaction shot mode, but she's an asset. There is, however, a side effect that comes from the addition of some Black and minority performers here. Once too often they're just another awestruck rooting section for Maverick's heroics. Your enjoyment of "Top Gun: Maverick" depends on other things besides dimensional characters. The first one didn't have them or need them. Why should this one?

The flying scenes, to my untrained eye, are far more impressive and enveloping (and better edited, by a mile) than the '86 s. This is where director Kosinski and his collaborators have made the clearest jump up from the first movie. Some of the surface techniques are deployed on the groundwork, too. I haven't seen so many



Tom Cruise as Capt. Pete "Maverick" Mitchell, Miles Teller as Lt. Bradley "Rooster" Bradshaw, Monica Barbaro as "Phoenix" and Glen Powell as "Hangman" in "Top Gun: Maverick." Scott Garfield/Paramount Pictures/TNS

slow dissolves from one shot to another in years, and they have a way of intensifying Maverick's isolation when he's down, martyred, humbled, just before Cruise is up, up and away again. "The fastest man alive," one admiring Naval officer coos in an early sequence, when Maverick breaks the Mach 10 barrier just because.

Homoerotic team building? Glad you asked: Instead of gleaming shirtless beach volleyball, we have sunset shirtless beach football, only this time, after a while, Maverick sits on the sidelines,

watching his charges with a wistful smile. The key line in "Top Gun: Maverick" is "Don't think up there. Just do. You think up there, you're dead." Maverick repeats that axiom to the surly Rooster, whom Teller makes more interesting than written.

Speaking of which: The scene that truly cuts through all the shiny, entertaining fraudulence brings together Cruise and Kilmer's Adm. Kazansky. It's a meeting of two sorts of actors, and two sorts of movie stars. Kilmer's well-known health challenges make the particulars of

Iceman's cancerous condition all the more affecting. Their big scene could've stunk up the joint with phony feeling, but somehow it doesn't work out that way. As Maverick and Iceman revisit their old days and warily eye the future that may not belong to them, the cardboard almost imperceptibly turns to flesh, and the movie becomes more than a lesson in crafty sequel-making. The interplay between Cruise, whose fame, like so many huge stars, outstripped his versatility and ability to surprise, and Kilmer, whose success never matched his

talent, plays out in a dimensional way. Even the musical score backs off and lets them act.

The best of the movie takes its cue from this scene. The victory, in the end, is a foregone conclusion, but it's silly-rousing enough to satisfy younger and older audiences alike. It may help to have hated the original, but I liked this one, even though it's not so very different from the first. Thirty-six years from now, we'll probably be watching Cruise teaching a new cadre of flying aces. Only the planet will have changed.

Food

A simple congee recipe for the beloved, adaptable rice porridge



Congee. Rey Lopez/Washington Post

By G. DANIELA GALARZA
Washington Post

Pierced by winding rivers and dotted with ponds and lakes, the Jiangnan region in China's lower Yangtze area is famously the home of Shanghai, the country's biggest city. But Jiangnan is just as well-known for its verdant land and fruitful waters.

"The first time I heard Jiangnan referred to as *yu mi zhi xiang* — the 'Land of Fish and Rice' — was as my family and I sped along a small road by Taihu, 'Lake Tai,' with a beautiful golden field of rice swaying gently with the breeze on one side," writes Betty Liu in her gorgeous cookbook, "My Shanghai: Recipes and Stories From a City on the Water."

Among the many recipes in the book, almost half feature rice in some form. There are pumpkin rice cakes with red bean paste, rice-encrusted pork ribs steamed in lotus leaves, sticky rice rolls filled with black sesame seeds, and many others. But one of the simplest rice recipes is for *zhou* or *xi fan* — often called by its Anglicized name, congee.

A simple rice porridge, in its most basic iteration, it's a combination of rice and water in a ratio of about 1 part rice and anywhere from 6 to 12 parts water. The rice is boiled and simmered until the grains release all of their starch, thickening the water as they fall apart.

Known as *juk* or *jook* in Korea, *babur* in Indonesia, *lugaw* in the Philippines, *teochew* in Singapore and dozens of other names around the world, there are also an endless variety of ways to make it. "You can make it with plain water or any kind of stock ... you can vary its flavor with spices, dried roots, other grains, vegetables," Liu tells me by phone from Boston, where she's completing a surgical residency. Congee can be eaten plain, but it's almost always topped with a few savory tidbits before serving.

Her congee recipe is meant to be a base that home cooks can play around with, adding or subtracting liquid to achieve their ideal texture, augmenting with other grains or vegetables for flavor, and finally topping with a variety of proteins and pickled, preserved or fresh vegetables.

In her book, Liu suggests topping your congee with pickled vegetables, a thousand-year egg, salted duck

"I think some people think Chinese food is intimidating. But like any home cooking, there are no real rules with congee. It's your kitchen, it's your rules!"

BETTY LIU
Cookbook author

CONGEE

Congee, also known as *jook*, *báizhou*, *xifan*, *okayu*, *babur* and other names around the world, is the simplest of rice porridges, and an incredibly easy and comforting base to a variety of meals. Traditionally served for breakfast in China, think of this recipe, adapted from author Betty Liu's "My Shanghai," as a guide. Use more or less broth or water for a looser or denser porridge, add flavorings directly in with the rice or stir them in after it's done cooking. Then top the porridge with whatever you have on hand: pickled mustard greens, kimchi or other vegetables; hard-boiled or preserved eggs; chile-marinated tofu or shrimp; green garlic pesto; sautéed mushrooms; poached chicken or leftover turkey.

To make this recipe faster, plan ahead: Rinse the rice briefly in cool water, drain it and then freeze in a resealable bag. Once frozen, the water coating the grains will help them break down more quickly. Boil the frozen rice for just 20 minutes, instead of the full hour, to achieve the same porridge-like texture.

Active time: 5 mins; Total time: 1 hour
4 servings
Storage Notes: Leftover congee may be refrigerated for up to 1 week.

Where to Buy: Dried lily bulbs, dried mung beans, pickled mustard greens, thousand-year eggs and chile-fermented tofu can be found at Asian markets or online.

8 cups water, chicken stock, mushroom stock or vegetable stock, plus more as needed
¾ cup short- or medium-grain white rice
For the optional additions

1 dried lily bulb
2 tablespoons dried mung beans, soaked in water overnight
For the suggested optional toppings
Pickled mustard greens or other pickles
Thousand-year egg or other hard-boiled egg
Chile-fermented or other tofu
Soy sauce
Scallions

In a large pot over high heat, bring the water or stock to a boil. Add the rice, as well as either or both of the optional additions, and bring back to a boil.

Reduce the heat to low, cover and simmer, stirring periodically to prevent the rice from sticking, until the rice grains have "blossomed," or opened up and started to split, and the congee has a thick, porridge-like consistency, about 45 minutes. Add more broth or water, if you want a looser congee. If you want it thicker, uncover and cook longer.

Serve with your choice of toppings, stirred into the congee to flavor it, or added on top, to be eaten between spoonfuls of porridge.

Nutrition: Per serving (1 ½ cups congee; excluding toppings). Calories: 128; Total Fat: 0 g; Saturated Fat: 0 g; Cholesterol: 0 mg; Sodium: 2 mg; Carbohydrates: 28 g; Dietary Fiber: 1 g; Sugars: 0 g; Protein: 2 g.

This analysis is an estimate based on available ingredients and this preparation. It should not substitute for a dietitian's or nutritionist's advice. Adapted from "My Shanghai" by Betty Liu (Harper Design, 2021).

egg or chile-fermented tofu. But the possibilities are unlimited. "When I was a kid, we would each have our bowl of congee, and then a little dish of fermented bean curd. We'd take a spoonful of congee and then use our chopsticks to pick off some of the fermented bean curd," Liu says. Today, she loves it with a drizzle of soy sauce and pickled mustard greens or kimchi.

"But you can use whatever you like or have on hand. Leftover duck

or leftover Thanksgiving turkey are always good in cooler months," Liu says, also noting that you could rehydrate dried mushrooms, use that liquid to cook the congee, and saute the mushrooms to serve on top.

For a springtime congee, she suggests sautéed or pickled green garlic or ramps — blitzed into a pesto or blistered in a hot pan — fresh peas, herbs and a squeeze of lemon juice.

In the summer, corn is ideal on congee, either simply steamed kernels or

a puree of fresh corn, swirled into each bowl. Quartered cherry tomatoes and hard-boiled eggs? Fried eggplant and zucchini? Tiny, just-cooked shrimp? Yes, yes and yes.

"Growing up, congee was never served the same way," Liu says. "One message I want to get across is that I think some people think Chinese food is intimidating. But like any home cooking, there are no real rules with congee. It's your kitchen, it's your rules!"

Bring the flavors of Mexico into your kitchen

'Mi Cocina' by Rick Martinez will show you how

By ANNE VALDESPINO
Orange County Register

He had traveled in Mexico before, but this time, Rick Martinez was on a mission. The New York Times contributor and former Bon Appetit senior food editor, took a trip back in 2019 with a serious purpose: to research his new cookbook "Mi Cocina: Recipes and Rapture from My Kitchen in Mexico."

He found himself there when the pandemic broke out, and at that time the U.S. had more cases. So he decided not to return to his home in New York, thinking the move would be temporary — instead it was life-changing.

He traveled 20,000 miles, covering all 32 states and 156 cities, and the more he explored, the more enchanted he became with the country's culture and cuisine. Now the native Texan calls Mazatlan home. That's where he lives in a house near the beach with his sidekick, a chocolate lab he named Choco.

Dedicated to Mexico, his cookbook is filled with more than 100 recipes and dazzling on-location color

See MEXICO C8



Dish full of flavor and spice

This shrimp stew has roots in the island nation Mauritius

By GRETCHEN MCKAY
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

No matter where they hail from, part of the appeal of skillet dishes is the fact they get dinner on the table in no time, usually with just a handful of ingredients.

This spicy shrimp dish has roots that reach all the way to the island nation of Mauritius, east of Madagascar. A tasty blend of European, African, Chinese and Indian influences, Mauritius cuisine features a lot of fresh seafood. Much of it is enlivened with rich spices like ginger, garlic and thyme, and chile also is a key player.

After a quick sear in the pan, shrimp is softly poached in a mildly spicy Creole tomato sauce made from fresh tomatoes flavored with minced ginger, garlic, onion and cilantro stems. It's served with even more cilantro — you have to be a fan — and a sprinkle of green scallions.

The recipe calls for extra-large shrimp, but I used colossal (15 per pound) because it was on sale. For more bite, season the shrimp with a little more cayenne, or add a pinch or two to the tomato sauce. Serve with steamed white rice.

See SHRIMP C8

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Books & authors

Why modern conspiracy theories have been so contagious

New book explores Sandy Hook, Alex Jones and our American psyche

By **CHRISTOPHER BORRELLI**
Chicago Tribune

In late April, one week before a trial began that would decide how much Alex Jones should pay the families of first-graders murdered in the 2012 massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary in Connecticut, the conspiracy theorist filed a motion in federal bankruptcy court. Jones, at the helm of a multi-million dollar right-wing media echo chamber, sought relief from the financial reckoning that was surely coming. Having spread lies that the shooting was a government fabrication and these grieving families (and even their dead children) were actually paid actors, having subsequently lost defamation suits filed by parents of 10 victims, Jones asked the court to approve a settlement fund of \$10 million, to be paid to those families. Meaning, if successful, he would dictate their settlement, and likely never face those families.

He never has.

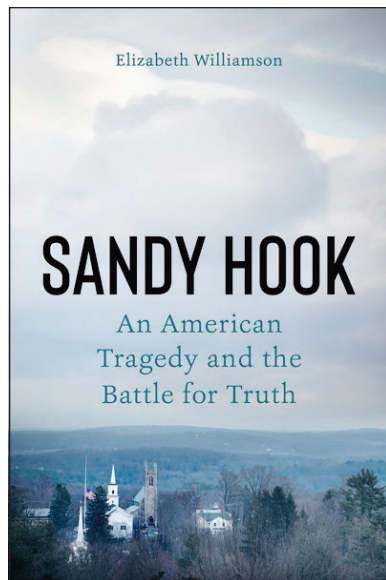
When Elizabeth Williamson first heard about the bankruptcy plea (which has yet to be decided), she thought back to when she interviewed Jones for her new book, "Sandy Hook: An American Tragedy and the Battle for Truth," (without question the best thing I have read this year so far). A Chicago native and New York Times feature writer, she begins with an excruciating tick-tock of the shooting, then spirals outward, in ever-encompassing events, laying the groundwork for QAnon, Pizzagate, the Jan. 6 insurrection and the end of a shared American narrative.

But the meat of the book is a series of extraordinary portraits of online trolls who created a vast community centered on the lie that Sandy Hook was a hoax and its victims the actual perpetrators. Naturally, this brought Williamson to Texas, and the front door of Alex Jones and InfoWars.

She told me: "The incredible lengths he seems to be going through to delay jury trials and monetary damages, it resonated with me. He rarely confronts the targets of his falsehoods. (When they met), he didn't get in my face or bark two inches from my eyes. He was leveling accusations against me and (the Times), from as far away as he could get in a conference room. He was seeking corners of the room. He was not used to this. After all that litigation, he has not faced those families, and that is what's coming."

Williamson, who worked for years at the Beverly Area Planning Association and whose family moved around the Southwest Side, was a freelancer and stringer for the Chicago Tribune in Russia. She is also a former member of the New York Times Editorial Board, and now covers politics and the Sandy Hook fallout (among other topics) from the Washington Bureau. We spoke by phone recently. The following is a shorter version of a longer conversation, condensed for clarity and length.

Q: There's a scene in your book, just after the shooting, in which one of the parents is answering press questions and clearly nervous and sort of smiling through pain — which is



immediately seized on by online theorists as evidence that the massacre didn't happen. Is that the exact moment when this started?

A: Actually, go back. It starts the day of the shooting, on Alex Jones' broadcast. Within hours of the shooting, listeners were calling and pleading with him: "Tell us this was a false flag, tell us this was a government pretext for confiscating firearms." There are two guys in Chicago, Dan Friesen and Jordan Holmes, whose podcast ("Knowledge Fight") would eventually pull apart that initial broadcast, and what happens is that Jones slowly starts to come around to the conspiracy. When he realizes 20 first-graders were killed, he understands, as did many Americans on the right and left of the gun debate, that this will be a watershed moment and lead to a big battle over gun policy. Which came to pass.

Q: The story gets so big that I wondered if you had planned on a different book.

A: I did, yes. In the middle of 2018, when I first learned that the families of two Sandy Hook victims were suing Alex Jones, I thought it would be an interesting test of whether the First Amendment, as conspiracy theorists and Alex Jones claim, protects falsehoods spread online by millions of people that then result in years of torment and threats to vulnerable individuals. In this case, the Sandy Hook families. But when I was talking to Leonard Pozner — the father of Noah Pozner, the youngest victim — he convinced me, and then I learned for myself, that Sandy Hook was really a foundational story of how false narratives and disinformation gained traction in America. You can trace a through-line from Sandy Hook to Pizzagate, QAnon, the violence on Jan. 6, 2021. I became interested in how this happened and what it means for the rest of us. Also, who are the people who embraced these theories despite a mountain of evidence to the contrary? The families thought at first if they just ignored it ... except Lenny, who would not ignore this. Because the same thing spread to every high-profile mass shooting after Sandy Hook, and that was new. (The families) watched these same crazy claims latch on to all these other shootings and they said they need to raise the alarm: This isn't going away.

Q: Tell me about those who spread the conspiracy. Were they cherry-picking evidence? Only acknowledging facts that suited a narrative already decided on?

A: All of that, which is why social media played a crucial role. Conspiracy theorists have always

been with us, but tended to be isolated — your uncle in Mount Greenwood who tells you theories at the family reunion or the guy on the "L" with Xeroxed sheets about JFK. Social media allows those individuals to find each other. They became a self-reinforcing group. They meet online, they talk, they cherry-pick published reports, police reports, the pile of documents that show this shooting happened. They look for what they call anomalies, then praise each other as they present new ripples in the plot.

Q: Which is why it's so hard to have a conversation with people who believe this.

A: Right, because the first thing they say is, How do you know it's not true? The biggest thing, though, is they don't want to give up their community. Which is why I spent so much time with Kelly Watt, that woman in the book from Tulsa who owns a cleaning business. She told me she always wanted to be a first-grade teacher. Which is stunning since she spent years tormenting the parents of first-graders. She didn't finish college. There was a disappointment there, and she started embracing theories early on. In the '90s, she was convinced that liberals in the Department of Education were indoctrinating Tulsa public school children to turn them into compliant liberals. Which sounds like the Critical Race Theory debate now. And she used a lot of the same tactics that she deployed against Sandy Hook officials in Newtown, Conn. — a barrage of phone calls, turning up at school board meetings, demanding information, trying to raise an alarm, building crates of 'research' in her attic. In the meantime, her family was falling apart.

Q: Some of these people are isolated from their own families.

A: Yes. I learned so much from the daughter of Kelly Watt, who is smart, together, successful. She doesn't see a heck of a lot of her mom and says Sandy Hook turned her from a Tulsa cleaning lady into a citizen journalist, a researcher, someone being tapped by Ph.D.s to write a chapter for a book called "Nobody Died at Sandy Hook." It's a social status she never had and was extremely reluctant to give up. As her daughter said, there's a narcissism there. She sees herself holding superior knowledge. She's smug and wants to persuade you and win over someone from the mainstream media.

Another one, Wolfgang Halbig, raised more than \$100,000 to secure public documents and bolster his theory that none of this ever happened. He made more than two dozen trips to Newtown, he tormented families on their phones, he turned up at their houses. And he got income out of this. And he had been a school safety official in his younger days. He wanted to be a safety consultant in retirement, so he even actually approached Newtown and said that he wanted to help them and be paid for that and when no one responded, he turned into this unbelievable troll, committed to proving false theories.

Q: How did you approach them?

A: What I found was that, in almost all of these individuals, there is a kind of evangelism. They want to persuade you of their point of

view. What I found was that, in almost all of these individuals, there is a kind of evangelism. They want to persuade you of their point of view. A lot of these people also became content providers for Alex Jones. A number of them also had some kind of trauma in their background."

ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON
Author

view. A lot of these people also became content providers for Alex Jones. A number of them also had some kind of trauma in their background. Kelly Watt, even while she was involved with looking into Sandy Hook, her son was in the hospital and later diagnosed with colon cancer. And even then she would still not get off the phone with me. They want to recruit you.

Q: Superior knowledge is useless unless you share it.

A: Exactly. Or unless you can school somebody. There's a woman in Berkeley I talked to who kept saying if she worked at The New York Times, "here's what I would be investigating, here's what I would ask those families." Did I know how the families "have doxxed" her? Which was rich coming from a retired University of Nevada professor who has made it her retirement occupation to dox every family touched by this massacre.

Q: How do they respond to glaring inconsistencies in their theories? They're obsessed, for instance, that portable toilets arrived a little too quickly to the school parking lot once it was obvious there would be days and days of work ahead. This told them that the shooting was planned between Newtown and the Feds.

A: Remember, this shooting happened barely a month after Obama was reelected, and Newtown did not vote for Obama. They voted for Romney. Yet somehow, this hyper-democratic New England town seamlessly cooperated with a president they didn't support. How do people respond when you point things like that out? Sometimes with smugness. But often with a kind of scramble for the next thread to pull. Again, Kelly Watt, her big question was: OK, who cleaned up the school? She sent that to Wolfgang, who then filed extremely graphic public-record requests, saying there had to have been skull fragments, brain tissues, 50-60 gallons of blood — who cleaned it up? If you look at records released by the state police, they escorted a company called Clean Harbors into the school. (The police) counted how many containers of material were brought out and where it went, what happened to it. They swore the individuals (who cleaned) to secrecy. They forbid cameras or recording devices while the job was being done. I called Clean Harbors, which confirmed they cleaned the school. The report was in the public records, which were released without any FOIA

request. When I confronted (Kelly Watt) with that, she said, "Well, Clean Harbors doesn't do that kind of work." So I said absolutely they do. They also cleaned up after 9/11. She said, "I haven't seen that." I said it's there for you to see and if this has been your theory for many years, why didn't you look? And so she replied: "OK, where are the receipts?" There's always another question.

Q: When parents began fighting back, why do they go first after copyright infringements?

A: That was the ingenious tool in Lenny's kit. (Leonard Pozner) had tried to join a Sandy Hook hoax Facebook group and use the records of his son's life and death to answer questions, entertain theories, treat them with respect and maybe if they still didn't believe, at least it might get them to stop going to the memorial websites and maligning parents in the comment sections. But no. He tried to appeal to social media companies and couldn't get them to answer an email. Then he realized you could nail (hoaxers) for using the images of their loved ones from families' Facebook pages and memorial websites. These hoaxers would often lift images from these places, then put those images in their YouTube videos and websites — and that material belonged to those families. So social media companies were required by law to take those down, and because these companies are loath to run afoul of copyright law, rather than say "Hey, take out that image," they would just nuke the entire YouTube channel or pull the plug on the website.

Q: Which makes conspiracy theorists furious.

A: Well, exactly. It didn't matter what you call them. But the thing they really can't stand is having to take their material down, which is what helps them raise money and give them online notoriety. And Lenny was getting stuff taken down by the thousands. At the same time, it also earned him the enmity of these people. Then the threats intensified.

Q: You end the book on a positive note, saying the parents won. But the story also suggests Pandora's box is open. So what have they, or anyone, really won?

A: There is an emotional aspect and a practical aspect. On the practical side, (misinformation) is now a front and center topic of conversation. In Congress, on the right and left, it's one of the few areas they can agree on, that this is beginning to threaten our democracy and the way we do business as a nation. The fact that Alex Jones has not spread more lies on Sandy Hook, the fact that every time his name is mentioned now, you can expect there to be a mention of Sandy Hook, that's important.

But there's another thing. In the days after Noah's death, Lenny looked for something that smelled like his son. Similarly, Noah's scent online, if you will, if Lenny didn't fight now, lies would come to the top when you searched Sandy Hook, and stories of the victims would get obliterated by those lies and then Noah's legacy would disappear, just like his scent. That drove Lenny. He has to keep the memory of his son pure, and I think that's how many of these families see it. Their story is sacred, and they won't allow it to be lost.

Here are the bestsellers for the week that ended Saturday, May 14, compiled from data from independent and chain bookstores, book wholesalers and independent distributors nationwide, powered by NPD BookScan

HARDCOVER FICTION

1. **22 Seconds.** Patterson/Paetro. Little, Brown
2. **The Summer Place.** Jennifer Weiner. Atria
3. **Dream Town.** David Baldacci. Grand Central
4. **Run, Rose, Run.** Parton/Patterson. Little, Brown
5. **The Lioness.** Chris Bohjalian. Doubleday
6. **Book of Night.** Holly Black. Tor
7. **The Ravaged.** Norman Reedus. Blackstone
8. **The Homewreckers.** Mary Kay Andrews. St.

Martin's

9. **The Paris Apartment.** Lucy Foley. Morrow
10. **Star Wars: Brotherhood.** Mike Chen. Del Rey

HARDCOVER NONFICTION

1. **Killing the Killers.** O'Reilly/Dugard. St. Martin's
2. **Finding Me.** Viola Davis. HarperOne
3. **The Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak.** Shannon Bream. Broadside
4. **A Sacred Oath.** Mark T. Esper. Morrow

MASS MARKET

1. **Better Off Dead.** Child/Child. Dell

Publisher's Weekly best-sellers

5. **Atlas of the Heart.** Brene Brown. Random House
6. **Just Tyrus.** Tyrus. Post Hill
7. **Build.** Tony Fadell. Harper Business
8. **Half Baked Harvest Every Day.** Tieghan Gerard. Clarkson Potter
9. **The Palace Papers.** Tina Brown. Crown
10. **This Will Not Pass.** Martin/Burns. Simon & Schuster

2. **Country Born.** Linda Lael Miller. HQN
3. **Nine Lives.** Danielle Steel. Dell
4. **Immortal Rising.** Lynsay Sands. Avon
5. **Shadow Fire.** Christine Feehan. Berkley
6. **The Devil's Crossing.** Johnstone/Johnstone. Pinnacle
7. **Montana.** Debbie Macomber. Mira
8. **The Shadow.** Patterson/Sitts. Grand Central
9. **Hideaway.** Nora Roberts. St. Martin's
10. **The Saboteurs.** Cussler/Du Brul. Putnam

TRADE PAPERBACK

1. **Book Lovers.** Emily Henry. Berkley
2. **Verity.** Colleen Hoover. Grand Central
3. **Death Note Short Stories.** Ohba/Obata. Viz
4. **Solo Leveling, Vol. 4.** Chugong. Yen
5. **Reminders of Him.** Colleen Hoover. Montlake
6. **People We Meet on Vacation.** Emily Henry. Berkley
7. **My Dress-Up Darling.** 5 Shinichi Fukuda. Square Enix Manga
8. **Death of the Black Widow.** Patterson/Barker. Grand Central
9. **The Love Hypothesis.** Ali Hazelwood. Berkley
10. **The Dictionary of Lost Words.** Pip Williams. Ballantine

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How the pandemic has changed hotel breakfasts

About a third of all hotels offer guests complimentary morning meals

By **CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT**
Washington Post

Hotel breakfasts aren't what they used to be. The pandemic has changed them, sometimes making them better, sometimes making them more expensive and sometimes making them vanish. And as many travelers are about to discover this summer, the changes may be permanent.

I've seen hotel buffets where everything is wrapped in plastic, including the fruit. Others where you aren't allowed to touch anything. (Only the servers will assist you.) In some hotels, they only serve a la carte breakfasts, and the staff is still getting used to it, so breakfast takes more than an hour.

"Before the pandemic, brands were going crazy and expanding breakfasts with more and more items in select-service hotels," says Vimal Patel, president of QHotels, a hotel management company. "There were more than 40 items on the menu, and it was becoming a financial burden to hotels."

These days, many hotel breakfast menus have been downsized or replaced with grab-and-go items. In a time when many hotels are short-staffed and struggling to make their numbers, these options are more sustainable, Patel says.

About one-third of all U.S. hotels (35%) offer complimentary breakfast, according to hotel researcher Randy Greencorn, who maintains a website that tracks hotel fees. Slightly fewer (31%) charge for breakfast. The rest offer no on-site breakfast options.

The Historic Smithton Inn in Ephrata, Pa., doubled down on the first meal of the day after the pandemic started. Owner Rebecca Gallagher bought new serving pieces to deliver the hotel's omelets and French toast to guests' rooms on request, and at no additional charge.

Others took the opportunity revamp their offerings. The Conrad New York Downtown removed its breakfast buffet and switched to an a la carte menu that includes healthier options, according to Juan Gonzalez Izquierdo, the hotel manager. "We've placed a big focus on using local



These days, many hotel breakfast menus have been downsized or replaced with grab-and-go items. In a time when many hotels are short-staffed and struggling to make their numbers, these options are more sustainable. Pexels

ingredients from area vendors," he says.

Many chain hotels also revised their breakfast menus during the pandemic. At IHG Hotels & Resorts, several brands took a hard look at breakfast. Some things were nonnegotiable. The Holiday Inn Express brand kept its pancake and cinnamon roll station, for example.

"But given the changing nature of guest preferences, we added new options guests want," says Stephanie Atiase, vice president of marketing and global brand management for Holiday Inn Express. Her hotels revamped their breakfast menus to include healthier items such as Greek yogurt, fresh fruit and oatmeal.

Similarly, Marriott unveiled a new hot breakfast program across its Residence Inn, SpringHill Suites, Fairfield and TownePlace Suites brands last fall. The refreshed breakfast features warm offerings such as spinach and cheese crustless quiche; sausage, egg and cheese on a whole-wheat bagel; or a jalapeño cheddar soufflé. Marriott also added fresh fruit and gluten-free options.

The changes vary by hotel. Jill Fischbarg, a travel consultant with Ovation Travel Group, says some eliminated breakfast buffets, while others modified them. At the Four Seasons Taormina in Italy, the breakfast buffet was "extensive," but only servers could plate your food, she says. "I much preferred it to an open buffet."

Hotel breakfasts are changing in other ways, too. Chris Michaels, who lives outside Chicago and edits the budgeting website

Frugal Reality, says the Hilton properties he's stayed in used to provide breakfast vouchers for his entire party. But that perk was discontinued during the pandemic. As a Hilton Honors member, he's still entitled to a complimentary breakfast, but now the rest of his party must pay.

With that change, guests are better off booking the hotel's breakfast package, which covers all the guests for an additional \$10 per night per person, Michaels says.

Hilton recently changed its breakfast offerings, allowing loyalty program members plus one additional guest registered to the same room to receive a \$10 to \$25 credit per night, depending on the brand and location.

Michaels isn't the only one noticing changes. I've seen them, too. In the United States, they include things such as a relatively minimalist breakfast (but surprisingly flavorful coffee) at the AmericInn by Wyndham Fairfield and the more decadent meals at the Fairmont Century Plaza, where you shouldn't miss the avocado toast on sourdough with lime, pickled Fresno chiles and jammy egg. And abroad, they include simple buffets at the Holiday Inn Express Lisbon and over-the-top spreads at the Address Sky View in Dubai. The only thing these meals have in common — besides being breakfast — is the hand sanitizer stations at the entrance.

Of course, it's not only menus that have changed. Nicholas Massimilian, director of food and beverage at the Lake House on Canandaigua, recommends calling ahead to find out the hotel restaurant's hours and menu offerings.

"One survival tactic of the food and beverage world has been adjusting hours of operation to manage the demand and our staffing structure," he says. "It's important for visitors to know our hours before showing up at 11 a.m. to find out breakfast is no longer being served."

If you're a frequent hotel guest and you want a sure thing for breakfast, there's only one solution: Bring your own. Oatmeal and dried fruit have become a staple while I'm traveling (just add hot water). When I'm faced with an underwhelming hotel breakfast, I just ask for a bowl and enjoy the most important meal of the day in the privacy of my room.



Shrimp rougaille is spicy with chiles and fragrant with ginger.
Gretchen McKay/Pittsburgh Post-Gazette/TNS

Shrimp

From **C3**

SHRIMP ROUGAILLE
PG tested

½ teaspoon cayenne pepper, divided, or more to taste
Kosher salt and ground black pepper
1 ½ pounds extra-large shrimp, peeled, deveined and patted dry
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1 tablespoon finely minced fresh ginger
2 medium garlic cloves, minced
½ teaspoon dried thyme
4 scallions, whites minced, greens sliced on the diagonal, reserved separately
1 bunch cilantro, stems minced, leaves roughly chopped, reserved separately
1 pound ripe tomatoes, cored and chopped
Cooked rice, for serving

In small bowl, stir together ¼ teaspoon cayenne and ½ teaspoon salt. Season the shrimp on both sides with the mixture.

In a 12-inch skillet over medium-high heat, heat oil until shimmering. Add half of the shrimp in a single layer and cook without stirring until golden on the bottom, 45

to 60 seconds. Using a slotted spoon, transfer to plate. Brown the remaining shrimp in the oil remaining in the pan, then transfer to the plate with the first batch.

To the oil remaining in the skillet, add ginger, garlic, thyme, scallion whites, cilantro stems, remaining ½ teaspoon cayenne, ¼ teaspoon salt and ½ teaspoon black pepper. Cook over medium, stirring often, until fragrant, about 1 minute.

Add tomatoes and 1 cup water. Bring to a simmer, scraping up any browned bits, then cook, stirring occasionally and adjusting the heat as needed to maintain steady but gentle simmer, until the sauce is slightly thickened, about 5 minutes.

Add shrimp and accumulated juices. Cook, stirring, until the shrimp are opaque throughout, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove the pan from the heat and stir in cilantro leaves. Taste and season with salt and pepper.

Transfer to a serving dish and sprinkle with scallion greens. Serve over cooked rice. Serves 4.

"Milk Street: The World in a Skillet" by Christopher Kimball (Voracious, April 2022, \$35)

Mexico

From **C3**

photography. It's been lauded by Time magazine, Food & Wine, Eater, Food52, Salon and Thrillist.

It's also a heartfelt memoir. Martinez grew up in Austin and during his elementary school days, students and teachers offered him charity he didn't need, like school lunches and a fund drive to buy him a coat. They didn't know he did not grow up speaking Spanish, that his family owned lake property or that he lived in a house with a swimming pool.

His mother, who died just months after seeing her son graduate from culinary school, was his inspiration and the reason he cooks. She had an uncanny sense of smell and never had to taste-test her recipes. She made tamales with him but also cooked for the family from her Betty Crocker book.

So when Martinez writes about Mexican food, it's from an American's perspective, but one who continually seeks connections to the cuisine that speaks to his soul. The recipes bear this out with familiar and exotic flavors, and they're tailored for the home cook.

We caught up with him to find out more about his background and to get his take on one of our nation's most popular ethnic cuisines.

Q: I love that this book is personal. Even as a Bon Appetit subscriber, I wasn't aware that you were Tejano. I'm from San Antonio, so I really relate to your backstory. Now that you've been living in Mexico, your Spanish must be fantastic.

A: It's much better, but actually when I started the trip, I didn't know Spanish and that was definitely a deficit. But as I wrote in the book, that was a choice that my parents made because of where we grew up, and what it was like in Texas at that time.

Q: Totally understand. My father felt the same way. Was it important to let readers know, especially if they're not sure about taking a deep dive into Mexican cuisine, that you're making this journey with them?

A: Yeah. I feel like most Americans love Mexican food and I think the majority of them are only really aware of a few dishes, right? The dishes that people make most and order most are enchiladas, tacos, burritos and nachos. That's just the tip of the iceberg. There's so much more to Mexican cuisine and I felt the only way to successfully convey that was to actually go on the journey myself.

Q: What else was on your mind?

A: I wrote this book proposal in 2019. Trump was in office, immigration was a big issue and it still is. It's politicized. At

the time, whenever you heard about Mexico, it was about the border, a crisis. It was kids in cages, it was people trying to illegally cross the border. I wanted to change that conversation. I wanted to present it in a positive light and show the beauty of the country and of the people.

Q: This is more than a cookbook. The intros are longer, more informative. You've written these mini essays that are really thought provoking.

A: The story that I told in this book came out of everything that happened with George Floyd and all of the things that followed, and it made me contemplate my own position and what I had been doing in my own job and everything that I had gone through. I tried very hard not to come across as angry or as anything other than I just wanted to tell the story. If you want to just cook the recipes, then you should be able to do that. But if you want to know a little bit more about me and what it was like growing up Hispanic in Texas and working in the food media as a professional, you have access to that story as well.

Q: Did you find that you thought a little bit differently than you might have if you had just jetted back to the U.S. to write it up?

A: Oh yeah. That probably was the biggest change for me is self acceptance. I don't want to speak for everybody, but I feel like a lot of people of color, a lot of Latinos, you exist in a world where you want to hold onto your heritage

and your culture and you want to celebrate those aspects of your life. But there are times, at least for me, that I felt like I didn't necessarily have to hide it, but I knew that in order to play the game, in order to get the promotion, in order to get the story, in order to get my book contract, I had to write a certain way. Or I had to position it so that it was appealing to a White audience or a White editor or a White boss. Once I actually did start to question it, I made the decision, I'm not gonna do this anymore.

Q: And it all worked out?

A: That was what really changed my life and my outlook. I decided to live in Mexico because it felt comfortable to me. For the first time in my life I wasn't the only brown person in the room. I wasn't the only Mexican American in the bar or in the conference room or in the boss's office. And I felt something that I'd never felt before.

Q: Well, you made a big leap. When I interviewed Molly Baz, we talked about how you guys you were at Bon Appetit during a golden time. Why did you leave?

A: When Sohla (El-Waylly) stood up and said, "I'm not getting paid fairly." That took a lot of courage. And I thanked her for that. And then, I was like, why am I accepting this? Honestly, I was making \$350 per video and the next person up that had a contract — and we know this because we had all shared this information when we started negotiating our contracts — was a White person making \$1,000...we negotiated for months and we couldn't get a deal that was even close to that. ... And I was like, you know what? I am worth more than that. I'm not going to beg to be on your YouTube channel. So, goodbye.

Q: You really make Mexico come alive in this book.

A: It is so vibrant and so bright and colorful and beautiful. I wanted you to pick up the book and feel what I feel when I'm in Mexico, all of that positive energy, all of those bright colors, all of that beautiful food.

Q: To me it's as sophisticated as French cuisine, but you graduated from the French Culinary Institute, what's your take?

A: It's a complex cuisine. Take mole for example. When I started this journey and I met with a lot of people and I watched a lot of people make mole and there were just steps that I did not understand. I was like, I don't know why you're doing this because it's a lot of trouble ... There are a lot of techniques, like the refrying, it's not just for beans.

Q: How does it work?

A: You blend up tomatoes, onions, garlic, chilies. And then you pour it into hot oil ... So you're going to make a mess on your stove. Let's be honest. I can see when you do it with beans, you are actually frying and you are getting caramelization, but if you're throwing liquid into fat, you've gotta burn off all that water before you can actually produce any caramelization.

Q: Does it make a big difference?

A: It really does. There's something about the rapid heating of those vegetables, chilies and the spices that adds this other depth of flavor. You just can't make a good mole without doing these steps.

Q: The recipes are delicious: citrus carne asada, buttery esquites, aromatic beans with epazote and guacamole with lots of fresh jalapenos. I liked that you give readers choices. You don't say make this exactly this way. When I interviewed Josef Centeno, he said Tex-Mex food shouldn't be marginalized because it's not

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JUMBLE

Answer:
GLANCE SHRIMP ANYHOW
DIVERT SCENIC PASTRY

After they cleaned up when Michelangelo was done painting the ceiling, it was a —
"PRISTINE" CHAPEL