

OP-ED
Thomas Knapp
• Page 5A

The Albany HERALD

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Still a Ram
ASU signs Worth star
• Page 9A

$1.50 ©2026 GTLN Vol. CXXXIIII, No. 66 **WEEKEND** SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2026

The boy who drove the bus and helped build a school system

By Kathryn Crockett
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LEESBURG — In April 1943, a 15-year-old ninth-grader climbed behind the wheel of a Lee County school bus because the district's only bus driver had quit.

There was no commercial driver's license. In fact, there was no license at all.

The superintendent simply asked whether the teenager knew how to drive.

"Yes, sir," the young man replied.

He drove the route each morning, attended classes during the day and continued driving until he graduated from Leesburg High School in 1945. His starting salary was $35 a month.

It is the kind of story that sounds almost impossible today.

"I'd been driving tractors and trucks around here," Robert A. Clay Jr. would later recall, a skill common among farm children of his generation.

Lee County has not hired any 15-year-old bus drivers in recent memory, but the story shared by Dr. Robert "Bob-by" Clay offers perhaps the best introduction to the life of a man who spent decades helping build what would become one of Georgia's most respected public school systems.

Clay died May 6 at age 98, leaving behind a legacy of service, leadership and community stewardship that spanned much of the county's modern history. His passing comes at a moment when Lee County finds itself engaged in passionate debates about schools, taxes, budgets, leadership and the future of public education.

Yet Clay's death also invites a broader question: How did Lee County become Lee County?

The answer is not found in a single superintendent, school board, election or controversy. It is found in people like Clay.

Born in 1928 and raised during the Great Depression on Clay Spring Farms, Clay grew up in a Lee County that looked very different from the one residents know today. His father died when he

See **CLAY**, 2A



Staff Photo: Carlton Fletcher
Debris from a homeless encampment off Stuart Avenue in Albany fills a large dump truck.

Property owner removes debris from northwest Albany 'homeless encampment'

By Carlton Fletcher
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ALBANY – How about a little good news for a change?

City of Albany officials were happy to share a positive development a little more than a week after being alerted to a heaping trash mound that had developed around a homeless encampment in woods behind the Northwest Library branch just off Stuart Avenue and a little more than a block away from Deerfield-Windsor's Upper School to the east and the Albany Mall to the west.

Two large dump trucks, one of them filled to the top with trash, and heavy equipment were in a newly cleared path in woods off Stuart over the last few days, removing a mess that officials said was the result of homeless individuals seeking shelter out of the public eye.

"We have determined that this qualified as a homeless encampment," City Manager Terrell Jacobs said. "These folks like to be in areas where there is lots of overgrowth, areas where they can't be easily seen."

City officials were initially unsure of what action

See **DEBRIS**, 2A



Staff Photo: Kathryn Crockett
Cast members perform a scene from Theatre Albany's production of "The Color Purple" during dress rehearsal. The musical, directed by Ta'Varis Wilson, opens June 6 at Theatre Albany and features a cast of performers from across southwest Georgia. Opening weekend is sold out, with tickets remaining for performances June 12-14.

POWERFUL PERFORMANCES DRIVE THEATRE ALBANY'S 'The Color Purple'

By Kathryn Crockett
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ALBANY — Before the curtain rises, before a single note is sung and before Celie utters her first words, there is already a story unfolding inside Theatre Albany.

From the street, strands of purple ribbon wind around the white columns of the historic theater, hinting at the story waiting beyond its doors. Inside the foyer, a carefully curated slideshow flickers across a large screen, cycling through the faces of the cast. Some are seasoned performers. Others are stepping onto a stage for the very first time. Teachers stand alongside former students. Parents perform beside their children. People who worship in different churches, work different jobs and come from different corners of southwest Georgia gather beneath the same lights to tell the same story.

For a moment, the divisions that often define public life — race, politics, income, age and background — seem less important than the shared act of creation.

For director and Theatre Albany Board member Ta'Varis Wilson, that may be the most important story being told.

"These are people you see at church, at football games or in the grocery store," Wilson said. "They're all on the same stage together. Some went to high school together. Some

See **PURPLE**, 2A

Periodical — Mail Label

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Special Logo
The Dougherty County Commission has approved a contract with the Flint Riverkeeper and Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful for a program that will place two trash traps in county waterways.

Dougherty Commission OKs agreements for trash traps, Radium Springs Grant effort

By Alan Mauldin
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ALBANY – The Flint Riverkeeper and partners are looking to trap the trash before it makes its way into the Flint River and adds to the pollution that can harm wildlife and spoil the appearance of the waterway.

The Dougherty County Commission approved on Monday a contract with the Flint Riverkeeper and Keep Albany-Dougherty Beautiful for the program that will place two trash traps in county waterways. Under the agreement, the county will have no financial obligations.

The initial placement of the traps will be located off Hillsman Avenue in the Radium Springs area and on the Marine Canal.

The devices use booms to guide trash into a collection basket where it can be captured and emptied after a rainstorm. The removed trash

See **TRASH**, 2A

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From 1A

PURPLE

went to college together. We even have families performing together."

Wilson said several cast members are appearing in their first Theatre Albany production, while others are sharing the stage with people who once taught them in elementary school.

"Those lines are being blended together, and it's just beautiful," he said.

The production's nearly 30-member cast includes performers from Albany, Tifton, Moultrie and surrounding communities. Some drove to the theater nearly every day during the show's intensive six-week rehearsal schedule.

"We have members of our cast who are driving from Moultrie and Tifton every day," Wilson said. "It's something about this story that makes them come to rehearsal every day. They want to tell this story."

That commitment speaks not only to the enduring power of Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel but also to the remarkable talent assembled on Theatre Albany's stage.

When auditions concluded earlier this spring, Wilson found himself expanding the cast beyond what he initially envisioned.

"There was so much wonderful talent," he said. "They should share the stage."

Many are first-time performers. Others are experienced actors. Together, they form an ensemble capable of carrying one of the most celebrated and challenging works in modern American literature.

More than 40 years after its publication, "The Color Purple" continues to challenge audiences, spark debate and ask difficult questions about race, gender, poverty, education and human dignity.

"We want to embrace the full community," Wilson said. "It's a story that transcends location. It's about love."

In a city where conversations often focus on struggling schools, economic uncertainty, population loss, political division and concerns about public safety, Wilson sees something different happening inside Albany's oldest cultural institution.

He sees people coming together.

That idea sits at the heart of "The Color Purple." Long before scholars coined the term "intersectionality," Walker's novel explored how race, gender, poverty and education overlap to shape a person's life. Celie's journey is not defined by a single hardship but by the cumulative weight of many barriers.

Walker centered a voice that American literature had often ignored: a poor, rural black woman whose experiences were rarely considered worthy of public attention. The novel, published in 1982, became a literary landmark when Walker became the first African American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction the following year. Yet its success was accompanied by controversy.

Critics challenged its depictions of domestic violence, sexuality and religion. Some black scholars argued that its portrayal of black men reinforced harmful stereotypes. School districts across the country removed it from libraries or attempted to ban it from classrooms.

Yet the controversy itself reveals why the work remains important. Celie is not simply black. She is not simply female. She is not simply poor.

She exists at the intersection of race, gender, class, education and geography, experiencing each of those realities simultaneously. The obstacles she faces cannot be neatly separated because they compound one another.

For Wilson, one of the story's most enduring themes is the connection between literacy and empowerment.

"What's fascinating about 'The Color Purple' is that it exists in so many forms," he said. "It started as a book, then became a film and later a Broadway musical. I love how it demonstrates the different ways literacy can be accessed."

Wilson points to Celie's evolving ability to read and understand the letters from her sister Nettie as one of the story's defining moments.

"You see that reflected in Celie's story," the director said. "She initially struggles with reading, but eventually learns through the letters from her sister. The power of literacy and what it can do for individuals and communities is incredible."

For Wilson, those themes are less academic than personal.

Originally from Augusta, he earned a degree in speech and theater from Albany State University before pursuing graduate studies and building a professional acting career throughout the Southeast. He worked in Virginia, Atlanta and Columbus before returning to Albany, where he now serves as a professor of theater at Albany State.

"When I came back, I wanted to do more community outreach, both for myself and for my students," he said.

That decision reflects one of the central ideas embedded within Walker's novel. Education is not merely a pathway out. It can also be a pathway back.

The same literacy that empowers Celie to discover her own voice becomes, in Wilson's life, a means of investing in the next generation. Knowledge acquired elsewhere can be brought home. Experience gained elsewhere can strengthen local communities.

The connection between education, storytelling and civic engagement is woven throughout Theatre Albany itself.

Founded in 1932, the organization is one of Albany's longest-standing cultural institutions. Since 1964, it has operated from the historic Davis House, providing a space where people from different backgrounds can gather around a shared story.

Wilson joined the board in 2019, just before the COVID-19 pandemic. While many community theaters across the country struggled financially, Theatre Albany continued operating.

"It was rough," Wilson said. "But we made it through, and we've been growing ever since."

The production also arrives during a period of loss for the theater community.

Wilson noted that Theatre Albany recently unexpectedly lost a cast member, as well as long-time supporters and former board presidents Randy Henry and Nancy McClendon.

"This show does mean a lot because it gives us hope and triumph," Wilson said. "The triumph of what hope is and what love is."

The lesson, he believes, remains as relevant today as it was four decades ago.

"Depending on where you are in life, it can feel as though your worth is being determined by so many outside factors," Wilson said. "When you're content in the love within yourself and how you navigate the world, it's OK. It's OK."

In a city wrestling with questions about where it is headed, Theatre Albany's production of "The Color Purple" offers a reminder of what can happen when people choose to build something together rather than argue over what divides them.

And in a city that sometimes struggles to imagine its future, hope may be the most important thing the talented cast of Theatre Albany brings to the stage.

Opening weekend performances for the production are sold out. Tickets remain available for performances June 1.

From 1A

TRASH

is sorted, bagged, and all recyclables are separated for disposal and collection.

"This project is entirely funded by Georgia Rivers and a donor," Henry Jackson, the Riverkeeper's director of outreach and development, said.

A $99,000 grant will pay for the purchase, installation and first year of operating costs for the two traps. After the first year, maintenance is expected to cost about $15,000 to $20,000 annuallyt.

The traps will float on the water and catch contaminants, including single-use food and drink containers and plastics that make up a large proportion of trash tossed in waterways, Jackson said. Because they float above the water, the traps do not impede the movement of water life in the streams.

Each trap can hold several hundred pounds of debris.

"The trick is to check them every time it rains one-half inch or more," Jackson said. "We want to make sure they're cleaned out within 48 hours of a rain event.

"We have been promised additional assistance in future years. If these are successful, we will be looking at adding locations."

Under the agreement, the Riverkeeper will maintain and operate the trash traps and report when trash and recyclables are ready for pickup, as well as other responsibilities.

KADB will be responsible for providing a designated contact for the Riverkeeper to notify when trash and recyclables are bagged and ready for pickup and disposal, within 24 hours of notification.

Under the agreement, the city and county will provide right of entry and access to project sites for maintenance and installation and also provide 96 hours of advance notice before mowing crews are scheduled to work around the traps to allow for securing traps to prevent damage.

In other action involving water-related matters, the commission approved the expenditure of $146,000 for architectural and engineering consulting services needed to prepare a Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program grant proposal for the county's Radium Springs Gardens area.

Commissioners also approved spending $4,500 for grant-writing services for the filing of the Radium Springs grant with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

From 1A

DEBRIS

might be taken to clear up the massive garbage heap that included a half-dozen or so grocery carts, several of them filled with trash. The debris eventually spilled out of the woods, leading to passersby alerting city officials.

Albany Police Department Chief Michael Persley said the problem was that the property is privately owned, leaving the onus of cleanup on the owner. Jacobs said the property owner, when alerted by Code Enforcement officials, agreed to clean up the mess.

"If it were on city property, we would have jumped right on it," Persley said after alerting Code Enforcement of the encampment. "But after looking up that property, I saw that it was on private property."

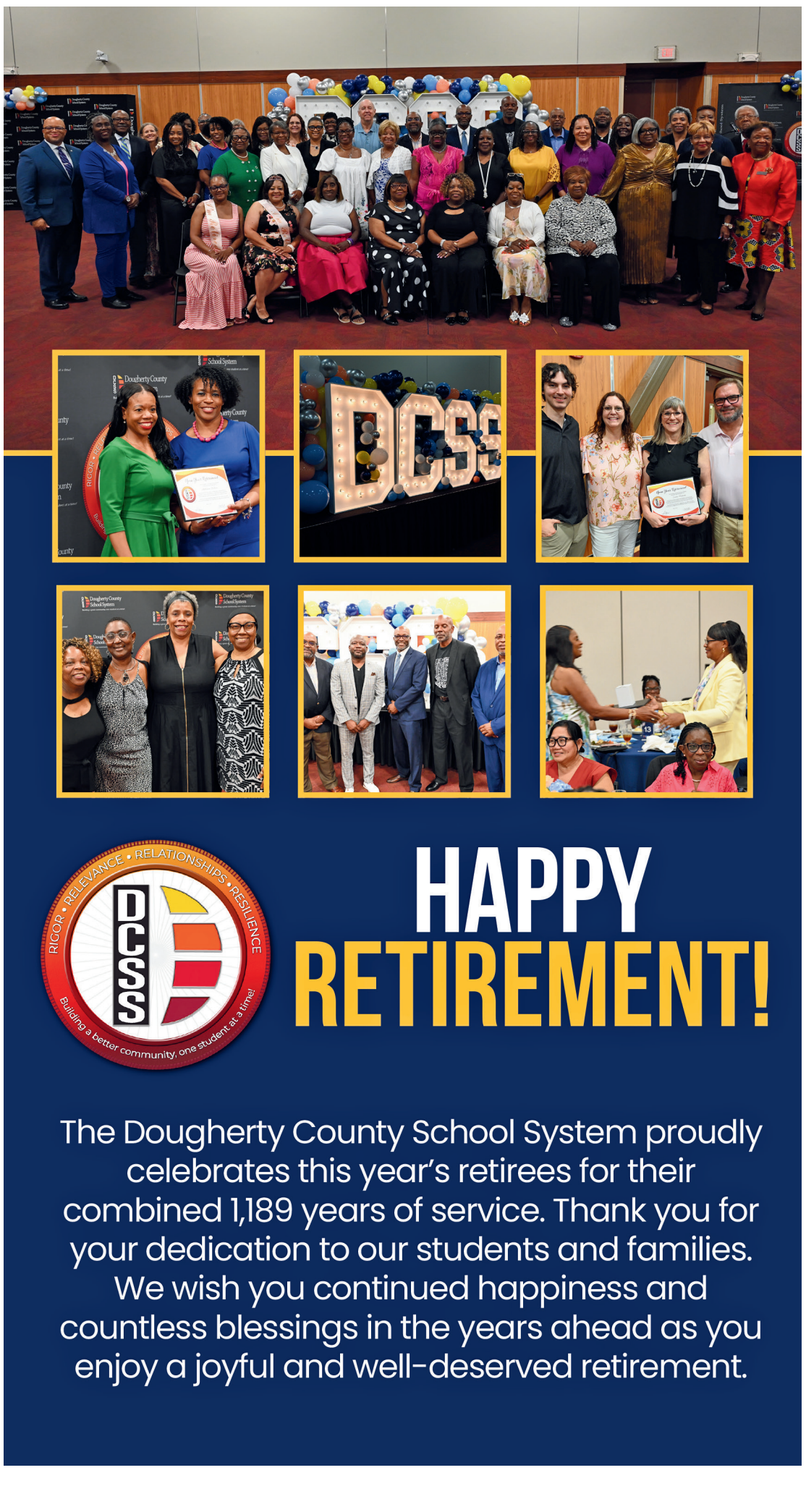
Jacobs said the property owner "did the right thing" and had a crew remove the debris from the property.

"At the bequest of Code Enforcement, the property owner had the trash cleaned up," the city manager said. "In this case, the owner had the ability to do so. There are some cases in which the property owner does not do the right thing; that's when the city must put a lien on the property and clean it up for them.

"This property owner took care of their responsibility. All is well."

Jacobs added that with homelessness now "one of the biggest issues across the country," the city has created a "Community Cares" department, headed by Debra Wiley, who the city manager says is "seeking grants to help with issues like this."

"We've had that department up and running for about a year now," he said. "You hardly hear about it, but they've had a lot of successes with issues like this."



From 1A

CLAY

was 13, leaving his mother to raise four children while preserving the family farm.

Despite those hardships, every one of the Clay children attended college.

Years later, Clay often spoke less about adversity than opportunity. He remembered swimming in Chokee Creek, hunting, fishing and working alongside family members on the farm. Those experiences instilled values that would define the rest of his life: hard work, thrift, personal responsibility and service to others.

After earning a finance degree from the University of Georgia, Clay returned home to farm. At age 24, he was appointed to the Lee County Board of Education. Twelve years later, encouraged by community leaders and a retiring superintendent, he returned to college, earned the credentials necessary for educational leadership and successfully sought the superintendent's office himself.

He took office in 1965.

Few periods in American education were more challenging. Federal desegregation orders were reshaping public schools across the South. Communities grappled with racial tensions, political divisions and uncertainty about the future. Educational expectations were changing rapidly, and school leaders often found themselves navigating social issues far beyond the classroom.



Robert Clay

Under Clay's leadership, Lee County navigated integration, expanded educational opportunities, welcomed students with disabilities into public schools and began participating in federal Title I programs. Enrollment grew dramatically. Academic offerings expanded. The foundation was laid for the reputation that continues to draw families to Lee County today.

The timing was significant. Lee County's transformation from a largely rural farming community into one of Georgia's fastest-growing counties was still in its early stages. As families increasingly chose to settle in the county, the quality of its schools became one of its defining strengths. The relationship between community growth and educational excellence reinforced itself over decades, helping create the Lee County known today.

Asked years later about building one of Georgia's strongest school systems, Clay characteristically declined to take much credit.

"Well, I had a lot of good help and a lot of good community support," he said. "And it takes both."

The remark reveals something important about both the man and the era he represented.

Modern discussions about education often focus on individual leaders. Success or failure becomes attached to a superintendent, school board, principal or elected official.

Clay saw things differently. He understood schools as community projects.

The Lee County system he inherited was not wealthy. It was not large. It was not nationally recognized. Yet it

See **CLAY**, 11A

Daily Horoscopes

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Choose friends that you connect with, whose energy doesn't drain yours, and who are sincere and whole. Leave the fragmented, controlling, arrogant, delulu folks to ride in the next car.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your own instincts could serve you better now than taking direction from someone on a power trip, or who just doesn't understand the situation. Finances should stabilize and build up.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you don't dream your own life, someone else will. Find your truest path. Connecting with kindred souls who experience life in similar ways can allow for deep self-acceptance. If they're not local, find them online.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Cooperation could be hard to piece together now, it's hard to sail a ship with a bunch of individuals instead of a trained and harmonious crew. Fund your outer accomplishments with inner growth.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A heartfelt approach will likely fly better than trying to impress—stick with solid truths. An emphasis on friendships, group associations, and networking could be felt for another two weeks or so.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll probably get more done on your own, without interference, however well-meaning. It's a good time to continue to focus on career growth, starting over, getting out there, or on a new side gig.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You might hit the dating scene and quickly bounce off again if you don't make any soul connection this time around. Don't diminish the importance of your position as a teacher and role model.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Ground into your safest base, wherever and whatever that may be. When you're centered on your foundation, centered in yourself, you aren't easily tipped over; it takes hurricane-force winds to even mess up your hair.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may want to get something said now before stars sink next week. A focus on partnership could last another couple of weeks, whether on who is with you or on someone you may hope to meet.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Assess what you hear carefully—it could come from false confidence, a desire to mislead, or from deep wisdom. Better to sit with it and wait for the next card instead of jumping in quickly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't make a major purchase or financial decision now, truth could be too entangled with fiction to discern the right move. The day you buy something absolutely impacts its reliability, durability, and your satisfaction.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You might be able to get through layers of your ego and your wishful thinking and get down to the bedrock of raw truth if you spend time in meditation today. Time spent close to home could be deeply nurturing.

IF TODAY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: The first months of 2026 brought most of the challenges you are likely to face for the whole year, expect things to lighten up somewhat from this point. June could be a month for masterminding your life, communication is also highlighted. July could bring a new opportunity or improved cash flow from an existing source. July could also bring clear and deep insights into your destiny and the path from here to there. You should also see the Universe at work, protecting your life in some way. Don't let anxiety take over thoughts at this time. Late July could see extreme feelings come to light, don't act under this influence, let it pass. Another influence to avoid comes in early August, the impulse toward something that could bite you back if you succumb. Late August could bring a happy windfall.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1844 - The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) is founded in London, England

1859 - Queensland, Australia is established as a separate colony from New South Wales and June 6th is known as Queensland Day. (See our Holidays in Australia page)

1889 - The Great Seattle Fire destroys all of downtown Seattle, around 25 downtown blocks

1932 - The Revenue Act of 1932 is enacted and creates the first gas tax in the United States, with a rate of 1 cent per gallon

1933 - The first drive-in-theater opens in Camden, New Jersey

1934 - U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs the Securities Act or 1933 into law and establishes the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

1944 - Operation Neptune, D-Day commences with 150K Allied troops landing on the beaches of Normandy in France in World War II

1944 - Alaska Airlines starts operations

1968 - Senator Robert Kennedy dies from gunshot wounds inflicted the previous night

1971 - A midair collision btween Air West Flight 706 and Navy Phantom jet near Duarte, California claims 50 lives

1982 - The Lebanon War begins when 30,000 Israeli troops invade Lebanon to drive out the PLO

2005 - The United States Supreme Court in Gonzales v. Raich upholds a federal law banning cannabis, including medical marijuana

CALENDAR OF OBSERVANCES

- Bonza Bottler Day
- D-Day Invasion Anniversary
- Drawing Day or Pencil Day
- Drive in Movie Day
- National Applesauce Cake Day
- National Black Bear Day
- National Bubbly Day
- National Cheer Coach Day
- National Eyewear Day
- National Family Recreation Day
- National Gardening Exercise Day
- National Higher Education Day
- National Hunger Awareness Day
- National Huntington's Disease Awareness Day
- National Play Outside Day
- National Trails Day
- National Yo-Yo Day
- Turtle Races Day

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I don't know anything about music. In my line you don't have to."

Elvis Presley,
singer (1935-1977)

CORRECTION

This newspaper is committed to publishing fair and accurate information. Errors should be brought to the attention of Editor Carlton Fletcher at (229) 888-9300. Corrections or clarifications will appear in this space.

Weather Forecast

Today	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
88°	89°	89°	84°	87°	86°	92°
65°	67°	70°	71°	71°	71°	71°

Daily Bridge Club

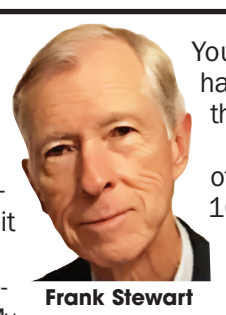
Simple Saturday

By Frank Stewart
Tribune Content Agency

Simple Saturday columns focus on basic technique and logical thinking.

A friend told me ruefully that his short-term memory isn't as good as it used to be.

"And I'll tell you something else," he said: "My short-term memory isn't what it used to be."



Frank Stewart

	NORTH ♠ A Q J 9 5 ♡ Q 4 ◇ Q 10 5 ♣ 10 6 2	
WEST ♠ 8 4 ♡ J 9 7 2 ◇ A 8 3 ♣ A Q 8 3		EAST ♠ 7 6 2 ♡ 10 8 5 ◇ J 7 6 2 ♣ K 7 4
	SOUTH ♠ K 10 3 ♡ A K 6 3 ◇ K 9 4 ♣ J 9 5	

South	West	North	East
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	All Pass		

Opening lead – ♡ 2

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To defend well, you must remember the bidding, watch the play and use clues to guide you. Against today's 3NT, you lead the deuce of hearts; dummy's queen wins. At Trick Two, dummy leads a diamond: seven, king, ace.

What next?

BEST SUIT

South's 1NT showed a balanced, minimum hand. He has the A-K of hearts and king of diamonds. Who has the king of spades? If South had x-x-x or 10-x, he would be attacking dummy's best suit, not diamonds.

You can infer that South has the king; he can run the suit when he is ready.

If South has the king of clubs, he has at least 16 points, too many for his bid (and 3NT would be unbeatable). Shift to the three of clubs. When East has K-7-4, you take four clubs to sink the contract.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: S 8 4 H J 9 7 2 D A 8 3 C A Q 8 3. Neither side vulnerable. Your partner opens one spade, and the next player bids two diamonds. What do you say?

ANSWER: A bid of 2NT would show about 11 points, balanced, with a diamond trick, but that call is undesirable with A-8-3. Better is a negative double, showing enough values to act, with a heart suit plus club length or spade tolerance. Discuss negative doubles with your partner.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

Advice Columnist

Injury prompts rude questions

By Eric Thomas
Tribune Content Agency

Dear Eric: Last year I fell and fractured my wrist and was in quite a bit of pain while healing. Then again, this summer, I fell even harder and broke the same wrist and my forearm along with a fracture of the other arm. Yes, I guess I'm clumsy. I'm in my 50s and in decent shape so I'm not frail but it was taking a mental toll on me for months afterward.

Several days after my second fall, my wife and I were in a store waiting in a fairly long line for a register to open. One of the clerks at the counter loudly spoke out in my general direction and laughingly asked, "so, we all are dying to know what you did to your arm!" I've never met this person before being in this line nor did I think they even had time to discuss my predicament among themselves to support her statement.

I was very self-conscious about it and, maybe wrongly, sternly replied back, "I don't feel like discussing it". The cashier then closed her register down, walked away from the counter and left the sales floor as if I had insulted her. My wife thought I had been rude to say what I said but I disagreed.

Several days later, I thought maybe my wife was correct (aren't they always?) so I went back to the store and asked a woman working there for the manager as I wanted to apologize to the clerk who I wronged. I explained I was having a very stressful time dealing with the fall. This woman, then turned and similarly walked away from me without saying a word. It took me a minute to realize IT WAS THE SAME WOMAN!

My question then is, was I being rude?

– Befuddled and Injured



Eric Thomas

Dear Befuddled: It's possible that your tone was brusque but it's not rude to tell people, politely, to mind their business when it comes to your body. She may have thought she was making fun small talk, but you communicated, clearly, that this was not a subject about which you were interested in making small talk. That's more than fair. It's up to her to hear you, respect your boundaries and deal with whatever feelings she has about it. You didn't owe her an explanation about your injury and the fact that she was disinterested in accepting your apology suggests that she wasn't the right audience for it anyway.

Dear Eric: My 90-year-old mother-in-law has been in cognitive decline for a while. In December, her physical state went downhill quickly, and it fell to me to find her an assisted living facility so she can have 24/7 care. I found it was no easy task.

I have been filling out paperwork for two months trying to get her medical assistance because the facility is $8,500 each month. During this time, I found that the normally excellent Medicare she has yearly been advised to sign up for has changed. Some slick salesperson sold her another plan, and she was cut off from rehab care.

Her medical bills now total more than $16,000, and her monthly prescriptions run $386. My husband and I have wiped out our liquid savings of $60,000 helping to support her for the past nine years.

We don't want to touch our retirement savings because we will face penalties and taxes. And we'd like to retire next year ourselves because we are 67. Yet now we face the fact that we will need to continue our teaching jobs and most likely each get a second job to cover what we can for her.

As a slap in the face, I found out she met someone on the internet, and she spent her savings of $42,000 sending him money in a scam. And it wasn't a real person, just a scammer in a foreign country. I have pent-up anger and resentment that we won't be able to retire and live our lives because of her. Please talk some sense into me.

– Angry DIL

Dear DIL: Before you touch your retirement, take a step back and talk to a financial adviser and an attorney if you haven't already. Obviously, the situation as it stands is not sustainable. You need someone on the outside to help you work through other options.

First, you'll want to make sure you're doing everything to ensure a stable future for yourselves.

Secondly, if you're not already your mother-in-law's financial power of attorney, make that change, then talk to a professional about her financial situation, her debt, and its impact on her estate.

These conversations could open up new avenues for you, or, at the very least, help you navigate your mother-in-law's medical and financial journey without getting completely wiped out.

Send questions to R. Eric Thomas at eric@askingeric.com or P.O. Box 22474, Philadelphia, PA 19110. Follow him on Instagram and sign up for his weekly newsletter at rericthomas.com.

SQUAWKBOX

squawkbox@albanyherald.com

Fifty bucks says our city and county commissions nominate at least a few police chief candidates that are grossly unqualified and either cousins of or fellow church members of Lorenzo, Gloria, Victor or Clinton Johnson. These people couldn't care less about public safety. They only care about themselves.

It would be real interesting to know how much campaign contributions (legal bribes) the red light vendor is giving to each commissioner.

Fletcher, how can you talk about country music and not mention homeboys Luke Bryan and Cole Swindel?

My pride flag has stars and stripes on it and represents a country that tolerates some of this BS.

There's a silent majority of Americans who stand by our great president and support him in everything he does. We know he's going to turn things around and make our country great again. We have all the faith in the world.

Coach Smart is making over $13 million a year, and at the SEC meetings this week he complained about the cost of UGA athletics today. Maybe he could start the ball rolling with a 50% pay cut. Any way you look at it, when total college expenses increase, so does tuition.

Since Trump has become President I have used my credit card more and more.

The photo on The Albany Herald's website says it all: Heard and Gaines grinning, no doubt, over some plot they have to come up with another way to rake in taxpayer money.

All you Always Trumpers must have a hard time looking in the mirror after the continuing crap that your man keeps feeding this country. As one official said: "If Trump wasn't president, he'd be in jail." This perverted low-life makes Richard Nixon look like an altar boy.

The Jan. 6 rioters, many of them criminals before and after that date, were pardoned by the cretin in the White House, allowing them to continue their criminal activities after their seditious actions, spurred by the loser they worship. And now he wants to give them millions of dollars for ... well, just being cretins like he is. This man has got to go.

How about that picture of the coroner's truck at the recent murder at Family Dollar on North Slappey? I think he has added more lights, up the sides of the running board, on the fenders, on the tail gates, etc. I noticed a tonneau cover that cost into the thousands. Full-size truck that is not needed, cost taxpayers a bundle. A small Ford truck without all the bells and whistles could have saved taxpayers $50,000. All the decorations for no reason except someone wanting to look important.

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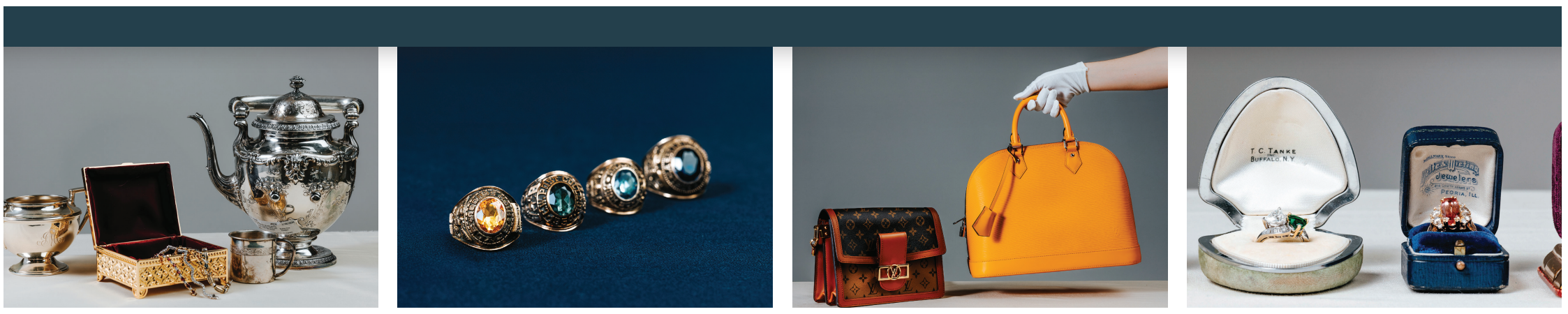
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SATURDAY SQUAWKBOX

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I laughed at first when Trump's cult blamed all of his issues, especially the economic ones, on Biden. That they're still doing it after Trump's proved to be a disaster of a president just shows how gullible -- and stupid -- they are.

I'm old enough to remember Richard Nixon and the Watergate scandal and how we thought "our long national nightmare" was over when Nixon, the most corrupt president in history, resigned. Good times. The Man Without a Family

Why are all of my loud-mouthed Trump friends not bragging about Trump now?

President Trump should tell all illegals that he will make them national citizens if they vote Republican. Then we will see how fast the Democrats want them removed out of the U.S.

What's happening with the brewery? The city promised it would re-open 30-60 days after the commission's vote to bring in Socius Beer Collective. Well, it's been two months since that vote, and it doesn't look like any progress has been made. Come on, city leaders. Get it together.

I was recently at my place in the north Georgia mountains and needed several things done while I was there. I posted on local Facebook looking for someone to trim trees. I got 67 responses. Posted for pressure washing. Got 78 responses. The people in north Georgia still work instead of receiving handouts like south Georgia residents. I'm looking forward to moving to north Georgia. I will not have to pay school taxes along with being surrounded by great people.

Man, I can't say how disappointed I am every night when I check online and see that that amazing "virtual civil rights tour" is not up yet, though promised by the man who got paid $190,000 of mine and your tax dollars to create this gem. I bet he's spent it ... but not on this visionary tour. Swindled again? No surprise around here.

"Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain" ... "Amos Moses" ... "Angel From Montgomery" (the great John Prine!) ..."Coal Miner's Daughter" ... "D.I.V.O.R.C.E." ... "Hello Darlin'" ... I could go on.

If you still believe Donald Trump is America's "savior," you might be ... a complete idiot.

When it comes to little men with big mouths, you can't outdo Heard and Dukes.

The Dems don't lack leaders, they lack leadership. Instead of saying how much they hate Trump, they need to tell the voters what they are proposing to make their lives better.

COLUMNIST ■ THOMAS KNAPP:

Randy Fine vs. 'dual loyalty': Pot, kettle, black

"Some men," an old saying has it, "are sent to Washington because their hometowns want them somewhere else."

Although Melbourne Beach, Fla., isn't U.S. Rep. Randy Fine's hometown — he was born in Arizona, raised in Kentucky, and subsequently managed to wear out his welcome in Massachusetts, Nevada and Michigan before landing there — I have to think the remark explains his career in the state legislature and now Congress. He's a generally unpleasant character with lots of stupid and bigoted ideas. Not the kind of guy you want wandering around getting into fights with the tourists during Bike Week at Daytona Beach.

Last October, Fine introduced the "Disqualifying Dual Loyalty Act of 2025," which would mandate that "[n]o person, without regard to whether that person is a United States national, may be elected to the office of Representative or Senator if that person is a national of any country other than the United States."

Not a terrible idea, you might say, but it's got one technical problem and one PR problem.



KNAPP

The technical problem: The U.S. Constitution specifies the qualifications for election to Congress, which do not include a prohibition on "dual citizens," and Congress doesn't get to change those qualifications through legislation. It would take a constitutional amendment — requiring approval by 2/3 of both houses of Congress and ratification by 3/4 of state legislatures — to do that.

In other words, Fine's bill is just public virtue signaling. It's gone approximately nowhere, apparently dead in the Committee on House Administration, which is better — or at least less tedious — than it possibly getting passed by the House, passed by the Senate, signed by the president ... and thrown out by the US Supreme Court at its first challenge because it's clearly, unambiguously, and irrefutably unconstitutional.

The PR problem is Randy Fine. He loves to talk about his bill, all the time and everywhere, especially on social media.

Sample recent tweet: "You cannot serve two masters. My bill makes it simple: Only Americans. Full allegiance to the United States and the United States alone. No more dual loyalty in Congress."

Unfortunately for the PR angle, Fine spends a great deal of time and effort publicly demonstrating his own loyalty — not to the U.S., and not to his constituents, but to a foreign power.

In the state legislature, Fine successfully pushed legislation requiring businesses which contract with the state to demonstrate their loyalty ... not to the state of Florida, but to the state of Israel.

In 2023, Fine arranged to have messages inscribed on Israeli shells to be fired into Gaza: "Regards from Randy Fine."

Right before his election to Congress, Fine confided to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency he'd been considering a move anyway — and not to Washington: "He had been fully prepared to move his family to Israel in the event Kamala Harris had won the presidential election, he says."

Since his election to the House, Fine's agenda has remained clear: The Israeli regime must receive everything it demands from Americans, without question or objection, and the Israeli regime must never, under any circumstances, be held to any behavioral standard as a condition of receiving whatever it demands.

Can you see the problem there?

The only respect in which the "dual loyalty" Fine loves to grandstand on isn't a problem for Fine. His own loyalty clearly isn't "dual." It's not to America, Florida, his constituents or the Constitution he swore an oath to. It's to the state of Israel.

A state that he readily can, and probably should, claim citizenship with and move to. All sane Americans and Floridians very much want him somewhere else.

Thomas L. Knapp is director and senior news analyst at the William Lloyd Garrison Center for Libertarian Advocacy Journalism (thegarrisoncenter.org).

COLUMNIST ■ MICHAEL FERGUSON II

Beyond division: Rural Georgia wins when family comes first

Editor's note: Second in a two-part series.

In any honest conversation about Georgia politics, race, region, gender and identity matter. They shape our history, our opportunities, our voting habits and the way communities decide who they trust.

But there is another truth that deserves equal attention: Across rural Georgia, families of every ethnicity are often gathered around the same kind of kitchen table, facing many of the same pressures. A black mother in Albany, a white father in Worth County, a Hispanic small-business owner in Tifton, a farmer in Mitchell County, a teacher in Thomasville, a veteran in Moultrie, and a young couple trying to buy their first home in southwest Georgia may not share the same history. They may not attend the same church, support the same candidates or view every issue through the same lens.

But when the utility bill is too high, the hospital is too far away, the school system is struggling, groceries cost too much, roads need repair, and young people are leaving home because opportunity lives somewhere else, the pain begins to sound familiar.

That is where rural Georgia has an opportunity to lead.

The next chapter of politics in our region cannot be built on division alone. It cannot be built on racial suspicion, party labels, gender resentment or candidates who only appear when votes are needed. It must be built around the family and the kitchen table, because the kitchen table is where politics becomes real.

At the kitchen table, people are not speaking in campaign slogans. They are deciding which bill gets paid first. They are wondering whether their child can afford to stay close to home or must move away to build a future. They are caring for aging parents, searching for doctors, stretching paychecks, trying to find childcare, and praying the car makes it one more week.

That is not simply a black issue. It is not simply a white issue. It is not simply a Democratic or Republican issue. It is a rural Georgia issue.

That does not mean we ignore the unique struggles different communities face. Black families still carry the weight of historical discrimination and unequal access. White working-class families have watched industries disappear, farms consolidate and small towns hollow out. Hispanic families contribute greatly to agriculture, construction, service industries and small business while often navigating language barriers, immigration concerns, and limited access to services.



FERGUSON

Our stories are not identical. But many of our burdens overlap. That is where common ground begins. The goal is not to erase difference. The goal is to find common cause without denying reality.

When rural Georgia puts family first, the conversation changes. We stop asking who gets power and begin asking what power will do for the people. Will it bring jobs that pay enough to support a household? Will it protect local hospitals and expand access to health care? Will it improve public schools, technical education, and work force training? Will it support farmers, small businesses and entrepreneurs? Will it give young men and women a reason to stay? Will it make communities safer? Will it treat addiction, mental health, and poverty as problems to solve rather than people to shame? Will it honor seniors, veterans, working parents and children?

These are the questions that can unite rural Georgia if leaders are serious enough to ask them. A family-centered agenda does not belong to one political party. Conservatives often speak of family values, but family values must include affordable housing, health care access, good schools, safe communities and wages that allow people to live with dignity.

Rural Georgia needs both moral language and practical solutions. We need leaders who can sit in a church fellowship hall, a farm office, a barber shop, a beauty salon, a school gym, a union meeting, or a county commission room and say the same thing with honesty: Our people need a future.

That future must be bigger than symbolic victories. Representation matters. History matters. But representation without results becomes frustrating.

The people are not asking for perfection. They are asking for seriousness. In rural Georgia, seriousness means focusing on the issues that determine whether families can survive and grow. Broadband must be treated like infrastructure, not luxury. Transportation must be understood as economic policy. Child care must be seen as workforce development. Hospitals and clinics must be recognized not only as health institutions, but as anchors of local survival.

This also requires rebuilding the relationship between generations. Older rural Georgians remember when community was not optional. Neighbors checked on each other. Churches served as safety nets. Schools were points of pride. Local businesses knew their customers by name. Families stretched limited resources, but they often did it together.

Younger rural Georgians are not rejecting those values. Many are simply asking whether those values can still produce a real future. They want opportunity, not lectures. They want ownership, not just employment. They want safe communities, not empty promises.

That is where rural Georgia can rediscover its strength.

A black farmer and a white farmer may have different histories with land, credit and government policy, but both understand the pressure of keeping land productive. A black father and a white father may have different experiences with law enforcement, but both want their sons to come home safe. A Hispanic mother and a black grandmother may speak different first languages, but both understand the fear of a child being left behind in school.

Rural Georgia cannot afford to let national division destroy local possibility. We do not have the luxury of hating each other while our children leave, hospitals close, schools struggle and economies remain too dependent on decisions made somewhere else. We do not have to agree on everything to work together on what keeps families alive. That is the discipline rural leadership now requires.

The path forward is not pretending history does not matter, because history is real. It is not identity politics alone, because bills are real. It is not party loyalty alone, because families are real. The path forward is a family-first, kitchen-table agenda rooted in respect, honesty and results.

Such an agenda would say clearly: If a policy strengthens the family, improves the school, protects the worker, supports the farmer, grows the small business, cares for the sick, prepares the child, honors the elder, and gives young people a reason to stay, then it deserves serious consideration no matter whose party proposes it.

That does not mean abandoning conviction. It means refusing to let conviction become blindness. Rural Georgia's future will not be saved by Atlanta alone, Washington alone, or any single political party alone. It will be strengthened when local people decide that the family must once again become the center of public life.

When the family is central, politics becomes less about performance and more about responsibility. When kitchen-table issues take center stage, candidates must answer real questions. And when rural communities of all ethnicities recognize their shared interests, division loses some of its power.

That is not weakness. That is wisdom.

And in a region that has given so much to Georgia's history, culture, agriculture, labor, faith, and politics, wisdom may be the one resource we cannot afford to waste.

Michael Ferguson II is an Albany Herald columnist, a community activist and a veteran.

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Georgia Trust for LOCAL NEWS

TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

"Wait on the Lord: Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord."
Psalms 27:14

COLUMNIST ■ CARLTON FLETCHER

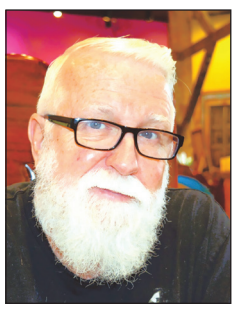
The future of America literally hangs in the balance

We dare not leave him to his own devices, his half-witted fans will get out of control. ... I see blood and destruction, our elimination because of one man.

-- From "Jesus Christ Superstar"

I find myself thinking in dramatic terms, maybe even overly dramatic, when I think about the condition of America as it nears its 250th birthday.

I don't want my passion and complete mistrust of the current administration to cloud these words as i try and come to some kind of way to describe the fear I have that our country is headed toward cataclysmic circumstances if our elected leaders do not man up and stop the tyranny of our charismatic president, his inept cabinet and the a$$-kissers in Congress who blindly follow him.



FLETCHER

There have been historic instances of more horrifying eras in our country and, indeed, in the world. Before the civil rights movement, black Americans – many of them descendents of slaves who were sold by their own people and brought to this country to work for mostly cruel individuals who "bought" them -- were denied all rights and dignities upon which America was supposedly founded.

The Israeli people were held in bondage by Egyptians in Biblical times, and history is rife with whole countries and tribes being used as slave labor by stronger, conquering nations.

And, of course, there is the most inhumane barbarism in the world's history: the attempted eradication of Jews by Hitler and his Nazi army in what became known -- rightfully so -- as the Holocaust. Read up on the atrocities perpetrated by these inhuman monsters, and it will invade your dreams at night.

So, no, we are not at a point where America must deal with a complete takeover by someone who would remake the country in his own warped image. But I can't help but feel we're edging ever closer, as our president has basically taken advantage of a feckless, gutless Congress, a complicit Supreme Court and a sycophantic – but ever-shrinking – percentage of the population to run amok with the very Constitution that has sustained America throughout its existence.

I've heard the sickening response "Our president is doing exactly what we voted for him to do" so many times, I quit wondering at the capacity for ignorance long ago. Did these people vote for the president to:

– Start an illegal war without Congressional authorization that has driven the cost of fuel so high many people can't afford to drive to work?

– Utilize the complicity of a supposed apolitical Supreme Court to gain free reign to act in any way he pleases without concern of reprisal?

– Create policies that have led to a tripling of the price of groceries and then lie about his actions, saying "the price of groceries is down," leaving his gullible followers to agree, even as they too pay outrageous prices to feed their families?

– Lie brazenly on so many occasions there's no need to count because most of the words coming out of his mouth have become lies?

– Tell reporters that he "doesn't care" about the much higher cost of living because his one goal is to stop Iran from building a nuclear bomb, even after declaring on several occasions that that country's capability to do so has been thwarted?

– Seek $1.8 billion of taxpayer money to pay off criminals who were part of the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol, claiming they were "targeted," never mind their treasonous acts?

– Pardon the insurrectionists and other criminals – several of whom paid millions for the opportunity – and set them loose on society to commit murder, child molestation, theft, assault and other criminal acts?

– Tear down national landmarks and push to have them, and other national treasures, renamed for himself, even though such action is against the law?

– Continue to support incompetent cabinet members – Hegseth, Patel, Vance – who have joined him in his quest to remake parts of the country in their images?

– Work, openly and behind the scenes, to corrupt the free elections in the country so that only people who think the way he does can win future elections?

The list goes on and on.

When America elected Trump, many were dissatisfied with the country's direction at the time. They sought change ... and boy did they get it. Instead of questionable government action, though, they traded incompetence for even more of the same, with a huge helping of corruption on the side.

So, no, we don't know how the reign of terror that Donald Trump has wrought will eventually end up costing this country. But if he's not stopped soon – by those cowards in Congress or the shameful Supreme Court – we very well could be the last generation of free Americans for some time to come.

And if you voted for this man to do all this, you share the blame and the shame.

COLUMNIST ■ DAVID CARROLL

State of the Column address

My fellow Americans. In recent months, you've been enlightened by political leaders, real and imagined, who have delivered the State of the Union, the State of the County, and the aptly named State of the State. When a governor recites that one, he or she should be greeted by Kenny Rogers' classic hit, "I Just Dropped In To See What Condition My Condition Is In."



NAME

Since I have no domain over which to declare anything stately, I will forego my biannual inbox cleaning and instead preside over a State of the Column address. I will use actual questions from actual readers and proceed forthwith from my imaginary podium.

You sir, with the checkered shirt. "Thank you, David. Congratulations on being America's slowest-rising columnist. You have written some nice things about former Sen. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee. He has published a new book that is getting national attention. What do you think?"

I should be finished reading it soon. I have requested an interview with Alexander, but considering the national media outlets are first in line, that could take a while. I have interviewed him often during the past 40 years, and he has always been cordial. The big news from the book seems to be that he is "standing up to President Trump," which he didn't always do when he was in the Senate. I feel bad for Alexander, who is in political no-man's land. The Trump party faithful don't like him because he's not "MAGA enough," and the Democrats don't like him because he wasn't as anti-Trump as they would have liked. That doesn't leave a lot of political real estate in today's America. Now, you, the lady with the pearls.

"Thank you, David. Speaking of Trump, do you have anything to say about the recent cancellation of Stephen Colbert, and the ongoing threats from the White House to cancel Jimmy Kimmel, and perhaps others who criticize the president?"

When David Letterman retired, I believed Stephen Colbert would be an excellent choice to replace him on "The Late Show," and he proved me right. Colbert is among our best comedians, broadcasters, and human beings. He has been open about his faith and the tragic life events that have shaped him. His joyous relationship with his wife, Evie, is an inspiration. I do not worry about his future because his fans will follow him wherever he goes. I am saddened that 200 staffers lost their jobs. I mourn the loss of the historic Ed Sullivan Theater, which he transformed into a true gem. I hope it will not be the latest landmark destined for the wrecking ball.

As far as the threats of censorship and cancellation from the FCC and the celebrations by political leaders when opposing voices are silenced, that is a concern. My advice for those politicians: If you behave in a dignified manner, tell the truth, and act like a role model, those comedians will have to find something else to joke about, won't they? OK, who's next? Yes, you, with the purple tie.

"You media people are always writing about high gas prices and inflation. Don't you have anything positive to say?"

Thank you for asking. Yes, I do. I just paid extremely high prices for a pound of ground beef, but I also paid only 55 cents a pound for bananas, as I have for decades now. I still don't know why bananas are inflation-proof, but to the banana growers, I say thank you. A grateful nation salutes you.

I have time for one more question. The pregnant lady in the front row. What's that? Oh, my bad. Anyway, what's your question?

"You're usually rather positive and optimistic in your writing. Have you seen anything lately that has caused you some concern?"

Not much, except for that warning label on my new washer that says, "Do not put pets in washing machine." And the big letters on the Pop-Tarts box: "Please remove Pop-Tart from foil before heating in toaster." Or when I see election commercials. Or even worse, when I see the election results. Other than that, the State of the Column is good! See you next week.

COLUMNIST ■ WILL THAULT

American identity crisis?

On this day, 82-years ago, 160,000 young Americans, Britons, and Canadians crossed the English Channel toward the beaches of Normandy, France, knowing that many of them wouldn't survive the invasion. What they did know, however, was exactly who they were and what they were fighting for.

As we prepare to celebrate America's 250th birthday, it begs the question if we as a people still share the same certainty that those soldiers held tightly to so long ago?

Over the past several years in this space, I've explored pieces of the answer to that question: The Mayflower Compact, the Founding Fathers' faith, FDR's Four Freedoms, the sacrifice of the Greatest Generation. All chapters from the same American story.

With D-Day and our nation's 250th birthday upon us, it's time to review the whole book.

Many of the men who waded ashore at Omaha and Utah beaches were the sons and grandsons of immigrants – Italians, Irish, Poles, Jews, Czechs – who had come to our shores with little more than the clothes on their backs, hungering for something the Old World had denied them. They left behind the social systems, religious persecutions and ethnic hatreds of Europe in search of becoming something new. An American.

Three years before D-Day, President Franklin Roosevelt clearly defined what it meant to

be an American against the backdrop of a world gone mad with war. He called them Four Freedoms that were worth defending everywhere on earth: freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear.

That inheritance was first conceived on Nov. 11, 1620 in the cramped cabin of a small ship anchored off Cape Cod. Forty-one men signed the Mayflower Compact, pledging to govern themselves by "just and equal laws" for "the general good."

America's first idea wasn't freedom from each other, it was freedom "with" each other.

One hundred fifty-six years later, that seed became the Declaration of Independence, our true birthday. The reason we don't mark our birth from the dates of the Articles of Confederation or the Constitution of 1787 is because those two documents answered the question of "how" America would govern itself, while the Declaration answered the only question that mattered: "why" America had the right to exist.

Thomas Jefferson summed it all up with the self-evident truth that all men are created equal – endowed not by a king but by their Creator with the rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

John Adams cautioned against the fragility of these ideals bound by the laws written into the Constitution. He said, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

He was talking about a self-governance that'd require something in return from the people who held it. That "something" had a name. In 1908, Jewish immigrant playwright Israel Zangwill opened *The Melting Pot* on Broadway. His hero proclaimed, "America is God's crucible, the great melting pot where all the races of Europe are melting and reforming ...into the crucible with you all. God is making the American."

With that, at the Washington premiere, President Theodore Roosevelt leaned from his box and shouted, "That's a great play, Mr. Zangwill." Roosevelt later wrote that the play would always be "among the very strong and real influences upon my thought and my life."

"The Melting Pot" was Zangwill's way of describing an immigrant's dream of a new identity. America didn't ask where you came from; it only asked what you were willing to become.

The men who stormed Normandy were the living proof. Their dogtags may have read Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, with surnames like Kowalski, Santini, Goldberg or O'Brian, but on that beach, they were one thing above all else. American.

That clarity is what makes our present moment so striking – and so concerning. America's deepest sin – slavery and its long shadow – stands as permanent evidence that the ideals of the Declaration were dishonored from the beginning for millions. Yet the story of American progress expanded the promise of 1776 to those it originally excluded.

While expanding the circle, though, the danger lies in abandoning its center. Today, the melting pot has been replaced by the "salad bowl" – identity defined not by what we share in common but by what makes us different. Skin color, ethnicity, national origin, religious heritage, and political affiliation – the very categories immigrants sought to escape, have become the primary lens through which we are now asked to view ourselves and each other. Instead of celebrating our unity in diversity, we use our differences as a cudgel to crush the beliefs of those who don't think as we do.

Jefferson's "All Men Are Created Equal" has quietly morphed into something the Founders wouldn't recognize: all men are created "separate but equal," a phrase this country spent a century fighting to bury.

Those famous Americans who came before us, saw the real risk to our unity wouldn't come from threats abroad, but within. Lincoln warned well before the War Between the States, if America falls, "it must spring up amongst us. It cannot come from abroad." In George Washington's Farewell Address, he said, "The alternate domination of one faction over another, sharpened by the spirit of revenge natural to party dissension ...is itself a frightful despotism."

The men who fell on D-Day didn't place faction above nation. They "were" the nation – every last one, whatever their name, beliefs or from whatever country their grandparents had fled. They knew what it meant to be American because they had been taught it, lived it, and, on June 6, 1944, many died for it.

So the question that carries us from today to Independence Day is the same one they answered without hesitation on Normandy beach: Do we still know who we are?

Will Thault is a retired businessman who spent much of his career in southwest Georgia before retiring to Alabama.



Extension internship a bridge between academia, research

By Vivek Bist
Special to The Albany Herald

ALBANY -- Dougherty County Extension/4-H has welcomed Dipendra Chauhan as its new summer intern in Dougherty County. Chauhan is a graduate student in agricultural and applied economics at the University of Georgia's Athens Campus.

Chauhan is assisting in delivering agricultural and natural resources (ANR) extension education programs to the local farming and gardening communities. He will support the county ANR Extension Agent in administering several applied research trials on local farms. He is also visiting local farms and home gardens regularly to provide on-site consultation services to the landowners, crop and livestock producers, and gardeners.

While Chauhan's focus is on agricultural and natural resources programs, he also will participate in 4-H youth development programs like 4/H club meetings and summer camps, and Family & Consumer Science workshops on food preservation. To graduate from the internship program, Chauhan will complete a final project on a specific local issue that he will present at the graduation conference.

The internship program will expand the capacity of the county extension office to serve its clients by connecting the college student with the real-world challenges faced by the local farming communities.

During his internship, Chauhan is assisting in carrying out the pecan scab fungicide research trial at two pecan orchards in Albany. This research trial aims to test the sensitivity of pecan scab pathogens to seven different commercially available fungicides. This research trial involves selecting the pecan nut terminals of pecan scab-susceptible varieties, spraying the terminals with the fungicides using hand sprayers every two weeks throughout the summer, and finally collecting the scab incidence and severity data at the end of July.



Special Photo: UGA Extension

Dougherty County Extension Coordinator Vivek Bist, left, and summer intern Dipendra Chauhan set up a Prionus root borer insect trap in a pecan orchard in Albany.

In addition to this research, Chauhan also is taking the lead in collecting weekly data from a prionus root borer pheromone testing research project set up in a local pecan orchard. He is also actively involved in various other on-farm projects such as pecan nut casebearer damage surveys, cotton varietal trials, Asian citrus psyllid monitoring in local citrus orchards, southern corn rust and tar spot of corn leaf sample surveys, among others.

Chauhan also will help the SOWEGA Master Gardeners to host a series of summer vegetable production workshops for home and community gardens in Albany. By the end of this summer, his short stay in Albany will have a tremendous impact on the local farming and gardening communities.

The UGA Extension Summer Internship Program is based on the principles of "learning by doing," as undergraduate and graduate students put their classroom skills to work on real-world projects. It is an excellent experiential learning opportunity for college students to contribute to the research and extension education programs that meet the local needs. It is also a great avenue for the students to explore a career in extension by working alongside experienced county extension agents.

The interns aim to gain practical real-world experience before they join the workforce. The 12-week full-time summer internship program integrates academia, research and extension missions of the land-grant university to serve Georgia residents and communities.

Vivek Bist is County Extension Coordinator for UGA Dougherty County Extension/4-H.



File Photo

Albany police are seeking 10 persons of interest in a fatal shooting.

Albany Police Department investigating fatal shooting on North Slappey Boulevard

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY – The Albany Police Department is seeking 10 individuals for questioning in connection with the slaying of an Albany man who was fatally shot in a parking lot on North Slappey Boulevard.

Brandon Jones, 21, was pronounced dead at the scene in the 1000 block of the roadway at 8:35 p.m., Dougherty County Coroner Michael Fowler said. Jones was shot in the head while in the back seat of a car at the location.

"There were multiple gunshots to the right side of the car," Fowler said.

Police responded to the area at about 8:15 p.m.

The individuals sought by the Albany Police Department are Christian Brown, Johnny Cauley, Jacarlon George, Kavon Johnson, Lamarquis Jones, Larry Lane Jr., Curtis Leverett, Jordyn Noel, Christopher Sumbry Jr. and Kemerian West, who was initially identified as "OG Scott."

Photos of some of those sought are available at the police department's Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=albany%20ga%20police%20department.

Police ask that anyone with information about the incident or whereabouts of the 10 individuals to call (229) 431-2100 or Albany Area Crime Stoppers at (229) 436-TIPS (8477).

CWC Alliance brings substance-abuse training to southwest Georgia

By Alan Mauldin
alan.mauldin@albanyherald.com

ALBANY – A training course held recently for mental health workers and volunteers was designed to help them be more effective in working with the community.

"Awareness of the strength in collaborating with other leaders in southwest Georgia, the importance of being able to regulate one's nervous system so we can help others overcome drug addiction and mental health crises in the community" is what Angel Patterson, president and southwest Georgia advocate for NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Albany, said she got out of the training session held all day at the Phoebe East facility.

The training was offered by the CWC (Christian Wolf Crusade) Alliance and was funded through payments made to the state through opioid case settlements.

The sessions used the community resiliency modality and reinforced the four pillars of NAMI: awareness, education, support and advocacy, Patterson said.

"They use hands-on group empowerment ... putting (it) to use training adults and youths to be mentors to others who are being (affected) by addiction."

Atlanta-baded CWC has led a number of training sessions as part of its mission, providing training on wellness, coping strategies, and opioid and fentanyl education, Phylicia Hancle, youth program director for the alliance, said. So far CWC has trained more than 130 individuals through the sessions. Another Albany-based organization, Connect the Dots, also participated.

"We train youths and young adults across the state on substance-use prevention," she said. "It's been incredible to partner with NAMI Albany. Through this training, they will become youth prevention mentors. We've also created a community plan that they will (implement) within 30 days after training."

On June 23, Phoebe Putney Health System and Aspire Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Services of Albany will present a luncheon session open to individuals in the community interested in learning about mental health and behavioral health issues.

The session will be held from noon-1:30 p.m. at the Northwest Library Event Center on Dawson Road.

"It's open to any and everybody wanting to learn more about supporting the community with behavioral health and the resources that are available," Patterson said.



Staff Photo: Alan Mauldin

Members of NAMI Albany and Connect the Dots participate in a recent training session facilitated by the Christian Wolf Crusade Alliance. The training, funded through money received by the state of Georgia through opioid settlements, was targeted at substance-use prevention.

Authority Brands relocates HQ, creates 390 jobs in Cobb County

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ATLANTA – Authority Brands, a portfolio of well-known home-service brands, will establish its new headquarters -- known as the Franchisee Success Center -- in Cobb County, creating 390 new jobs and investing $13 million over the next several years.

"We're proud that Authority Brands has chosen to relocate to the No. 1 state for business, where our pro-jobs approach and strong workforce help companies succeed," Gov. Brian Kemp said in a news release. "They join a growing list of companies that choose the Peach State to start and grow their businesses, and we look forward to the success they'll find here."

Authority Brands is a leading home services franchisor with 15 brands operating in more than 2,700 territories and served by more than 1,000 franchise owners. The company's portfolio spans essential residential services, including electrical, plumbing, HVAC, pool, house cleaning, lawn care, pest control, in-home caregivers, and junk removal, as well as other brands that support homeowners nationwide, from the roofline to the property line.

"Georgia is where Authority Brands' next chapter begins," company CEO Jay Caiafa said. "Metro Atlanta gives us access to exceptional talent, a business environment built for growth, and a community that understands what it means to build something. More than geography, this is a statement about how seriously we take our obligation to the franchise owners who've bet on our brands.

"We're building an organization that can scale intelligently, invest in the right capabilities, and deliver the kind of support our franchisees deserve. Metro Atlanta is the perfect foundation for that."

Authority Brands' new 48,000-square-foot Franchisee Success Center will be located at 200 Galleria Parkway in Cobb County. The majority of roles will be concentrated in operations, IT, finance and marketing. Interested individuals can learn more at www.authoritybrands.com.

"Authority Brands' new Franchisee Success Center adds to the incredible momentum we are seeing across Cobb County, our region and state," Cobb Chamber president and CEO Sharon Mason said. "From headquarters operations to advanced industries, our community offers the skilled workforce, quality of life, infrastructure, and collaborative business environment that companies like Authority Brands need to succeed.

"We are proud to be part of their next chapter and excited about the impact this investment will have on our community."

Assistant Director of Statewide Projects John Soper represented the Georgia Department of Economic Development on this competitive project in partnership with Select Cobb, the Metro Atlanta Chamber, the University System of Georgia, and Georgia Power.

"Seeing Authority Brands grow from just six employees to more than 300 in Georgia is a powerful testament to the strength of our business environment and Georgia's ability to attract and grow corporate headquarters and operations," GDEcD Commissioner Pat Wilson said. "Companies choose Georgia because they can access world-class talent, unmatched connectivity, and strong partnerships that support long-term success.

"By staying closely connected to our business community, we help companies access the resources they need to continue growing and creating opportunity. Congratulations to our partners in Cobb County on this latest headquarters announcement."

Nevada man pleads guilty to rigging bids for Air Force projects

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY – A former employee of a shelving and storage distributor has pleaded guilty to two felonies for conspiring to rig bids and defraud the U.S. Department of Defense. As the defendant admitted in open court, his crimes related to the sale of shelving and storage products to the U.S. Air Force to service multiple healthcare and operations facilities.

According to the information and plea agreement filed in the Middle District of Georgia, Scott G. Srodes, 65, of Las Vegas and his co-conspirators submitted collusive bids for multiple projects at healthcare facilities at Air Force Base Moody in Valdosta and for aircraft maintenance facilities at Air Force Base Nellis in Las Vegas.

Srodes and his co-conspirators exchanged pricing information prior to submitting them, at times instructing each other exactly what price to quote for certain projects. The projects, which had a total value of more than $1.8 million, were funded through the Defense Logistics Agency's Facilities Maintenance, Repair, and Operations Program. "America's warfighters deserve the best healthcare, and bid-rigging that distorts healthcare procurement deprives them of free and fair competition," acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General Daniel W. Glad of the Justice Department's Antitrust Division, said. "The Antitrust Division's Procurement Collusion Strike Force and its partners will continue to hold accountable those whose schemes increase healthcare-related costs in the United States."

The maximum penalty for a conspiracy to rig bids in violation of the Sherman Act for an individual is 10 years in prison and a $1 million criminal fine. The maximum penalty for conspiracy to defraud the United States is five years in prison and a $250,000 criminal fine.

ATTENTION DOUGHERTY COUNTY DEMOCRATS!

The Dougherty County Democratic Committee will hold an election for two State Committee Members to represent Dougherty County at meetings of the Democratic Party of Georgia.

If you are interested in serving in this important leadership role and helping shape the future of our party at the state level.

Election Date: June 18, 2026, 6:00PM

Location: Dougherty County Democratic Committee Monthly Meeting, NW Library, 2507 Dawson Road, Albany, GA 31707
Attendance Required

Please Note: Candidates and interested members must be present at the June meeting to be considered for election.

State Committee Members serve as a vital link between local Democrats and the state party, helping to advance Democratic values, strengthen voter engagement, and represent the interests of Dougherty County Democrats throughout Georgia.

Georgia gas tax suspension lifted; prices up by 33 cents a gallon

By Maya Homan
By Maya Homan

ATLANTA – Georgia's gas tax returned Wednesday after a 2 1/2-month hiatus, causing gas prices to rise by roughly 33 cents per gallon.

Gov. Brian Kemp first signed off on a six-day suspension of the tax in March in response to rising gas prices stemming from the U.S.-Israeli war in Iran. In May, he extended the suspension for two more weeks, citing Memorial Day travel that was likely to drive gas prices up even further.

But with the holiday weekend in the rearview mirror — and oil prices holding relatively steady — Kemp said he will allow the suspension to expire for now.

"The state also keeps a financial eye toward any unexpected needs in the future," Kemp Press Secretary Carter Chapman said in a statement.

Gas prices nationwide averaged about $4.29 Tuesday — marginally lower than last month's $4.43 average, according to AAA. Georgia's average gas price Tuesday was $3.80 per gallon, slightly down from last month's average of $3.83.

At Tuesday's price, it would cost the average Georgian $57 to fill a 15-gallon tank. If the average price rose by 33 cents, that gallon of regular would set you back $4.13, and a fill-up would cost $61.95.

Some residents are feeling squeezed by higher prices. James Smith, a supply coordinator for Emory Healthcare, said his family has cut back on vacations and other forms of travel as a result of high costs.

"It's not only just gas prices, you've got rising property taxes, you've got grocery bills that have gone up substantially," he said. "It's troubling, because as of right now, I feel like our government doesn't care about the American people."

Rising oil prices have also negated any savings that may have come from suspending the gas tax, he said, adding that the government needs to go further to address affordability issues for everyday people.

"They've got to come up with other ways to help Georgians," he said.

Former Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms, the Democratic nominee for governor, has also criticized the move. In a statement, she called for Kemp to extend the suspension, and urged her opponents on the Republican side to join her.

"Georgia leaders should continue to extend the gas tax suspension to provide working families with relief from these spiking costs," she said. "Georgians are paying the price for Donald Trump's Iran war, and they need leaders who will take every action possible to lower the price of gas."

Health care executive Rick Jackson, one of the Republican candidates for governor, said he supports extending the gas tax suspension, according to campaign spokesperson Mike Schrimpf.

Lt. Gov. Burt Jones, who is also running for governor on the Republican side, did not respond to a request for comment.

Under Georgia's Constitution, revenue generated by the gas tax is used to build and maintain roads and bridges around the state.

Kemp previously suspended the fuel tax in 2024 due to Hurricane Helene, and in 2023 after declaring a state of emergency due to high levels of inflation under then-President Biden.



Special Photo: Georgia Recorder
Georgia's gas tax returned Wednesday after a 2 1/2-month hiatus, causing gas prices to rise by roughly 33 cents per gallon.



File Photo
AT&T officials held a ribbon-cutting ceremony in January in Albany with local and state officials. The event was held to celebrate the company's investment over five years of more than $17 billion in the state.

AT&T touts benefits of $18.2 billion investment in Georgia

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY – AT&T's $18.2 billion investment in Georgia is enhancing the features and services the company will be able to provide in the future, including expanded access to fiber, building tomorrow's networks and boosting 5G coverage.

The company's FirstNet also is connecting first responders in nearly 640 communities and rolled out Band 14 to more than 2,400 sites across the state, providing public safety organizations with a dedicated network for emergency response.

"Georgia is proud to be the No. 1 state for business, and continued investments like this from partners like AT&T help us keep that coveted ranking," Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp said of the enhancements. "This latest contribution will further strengthen our communities by supporting economic development and public safety, as well as expanding opportunity in rural parts of our state. I'm grateful to AT&T for helping even more Georgians prosper."

The expansion in the state includes expanding fiber coverage to more than 7.5 million strand miles, making it available to more than 2 million customer locations in more than 155 Georgia communities.

AT&T is also ramping up performance of its 5G network in high-traffic areas like airports, stadiums and venues, including Mercedes-Benz Stadium, State Farm Arena and Truist Park. In addition, 5G is being expanded across the state in communities including Dalton, Evans, LaGrange, Rincon, Toccoa and Thomasville to increase access.

Another initiative is working with AST SpaceMobile to offer a full suite of broadband connectivity; voice, data and test in remote, off-grid locations, and a satellite that may in time support video services.

The company also has launched AT&T Internet Air, a fixed wireless home internet service delivered over the 5G network, providing an all-in-one device that powers strong Wi-Fi coverage to homes and businesses.

"Georgia's strong, pro-business environment continues to create opportunities for meaningful investment and innovation," Riley Blount, president of AT&T Georgia, said. "At AT&T, we are proud to provide the modern communications networks that connect communities, support economic growth and help businesses of all sizes thrive.

"Our investment also strengthens the critical infrastructure first responders rely on every day to keep Georgians safe. We are proud to invest in Georgia and work alongside leaders across the state to support continued growth and success."

Colquitt Regional awards $76,000 in scholarships and grants

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

MOULTRIE – Colquitt Regional Health System recently awarded $76,000 in healthcare scholarships and teacher partnership grants during its annual Colquitt Regional Medical Foundation Scholarship Luncheon, recognizing outstanding students, employees, and educators dedicated to advancing healthcare and education in south Georgia.

Held at the Ameris Bank Medical Education Center, this year's luncheon celebrated 25 scholarship recipients and 10 teacher grant recipients.

"We look forward to this event each year because it reflects an investment in the future of healthcare and education in our community," Colquitt Regional Health System President and CEO Jim Matney said. "Whether supporting students pursuing careers in healthcare, employees continuing their education, or teachers inspiring the next generation, these scholarships and grants help strengthen the future workforce of our region."

Each year, the Hospital Authority of Colquitt County awards a $5,000 Trustee Scholarship for Healthcare Studies in honor of an individual whose service has made a lasting impact on healthcare in the community.

The 2026 Hospital Authority Trustee Scholarship for Healthcare Studies was awarded to Ashley Strange, a Colquitt County native who completed her core studies at Georgia Southern University, where she will begin the nursing program this fall.

The Hospital Authority – PCOM South Georgia Scholarship, established in 2021 to support a south Georgia native enrolled at PCOM South Georgia, was awarded to Mauricio Soto Abrego, who is from Douglas and is a fourth-year medical student. Abrego said he plans to specialize in either OB/GYN or Family Medicine and hopes to practice in a rural community.

The Colquitt Regional Medical Foundation awarded several donor-funded scholarships to employees and students pursuing advanced education in healthcare fields.

The Diane and Jim Lowry Scholarship, valued at $5,000, was awarded to Erin Coots, a registered nurse in the Edwards Cancer Center who is pursuing a master of science degree in Nursing at Valdosta State University with plans to become a nurse practitioner.

In addition, the Lowry family continued its support of local students through the Diane and Jim Lowry Colquitt County High School Scholarship and the Lowry ROTC Scholarship, each valued at $1,000. Recipients recognized this year included Anna Kate Hightower, Jayden Taylor, Ret Turner and Britton David Marshall, a graduating ROTC student.

The Jane and Sam Perry Scholarship, established by the Brooks Sheldon family, was presented to Leslie Walden, a Colquitt Regional employee working in the laboratory who is pursuing a master's degree in Medical Laboratory Science at PCOM South Georgia.

The Anne and Monty Carlton Family Scholarship, established in memory of Anne Carlton to support employee education, was awarded to Laigan Powell, an Emergency Department employee pursuing a Family Nurse Practitioner degree from Valdosta State University.

The Doris Spry and Laverne Nash Scholarship, established by Debbie and Dr. Robert Brown, was awarded to two recipients this year. Magdaleno Hernandez Coronado, who is attending Wiregrass Georgia Technical College to become a Licensed Practical Nurse, and Baylee Curles, who is studying Diagnostic Medical Sonography at Albany State University, each received $5,000 scholarships.

The Kate Jeter Scholarship, funded by Jimmy and the late Rosalind Jeter in memory of their daughter, Kate Majors Jeter, awarded $2,000 scholarships to six graduating seniors from Colquitt County High School: Anabelle Brooks, Kynlee Haskin, Willis McCranie, Norah McGill, Kamry Paulk and David Melendez. Since its inception in 2000, the scholarship has supported more than 120 local students.

Six students were selected to receive the Colquitt Regional Employee Committee Scholarship, which supports employees or dependents of employees continuing their education. This year's recipients included Emily Bailey, Jeremy Blalock, Laila Bryant, Kynlee Haskin, Hayden Hunter and Sadie Saunders, each receiving a $1,500 scholarship.

The Rev. J.E. Moak Memorial Scholarship, funded by the Colquitt Regional Volunteers and the family of the late Rev. J.E. Moak was awarded to Jaylah Dunbar and Kynlee Haskin. Both students plan to pursue careers in healthcare, with Dunbar attending Mercer University for nursing and Haskin pursuing studies in audiology or physical therapy at Georgia Southern University.

In addition to scholarships, Colquitt Regional awarded 10 Teacher Partnership Grants totaling $13,000 to local math and science educators to support innovative classroom projects that promote hands-on learning and interest in healthcare-related fields.

This year's teacher grant recipients included Jessica Smith (Colquitt County High School), Flor Ileana Gallardo (C.A. Gray Jr. High School), Mariesha McCray (Willie J. Williams Middle School), Mary Anderson (J.M. Odom Elementary School), Brittany Beck (Norman Park Elementary School), Cynthia Harbort (Vereen School), Alexis Giddens (R.B. Wright Elementary School), Jennifer McCant (Sunset Elementary School), Jennifer Partain (Stringfellow Elementary School), and Erin Ricks (Hamilton Elementary School).

"Supporting education has long been a priority for Colquitt Regional," Foundation Chair Lisa Perry said. "These scholarships and grants represent more than financial assistance — they are an investment in the people who will shape the future of healthcare and education in our community."



Special Photos
Colquitt Regional Health System recently awarded $76,000 in healthcare scholarships and teacher partnership grants during its annual Colquitt Regional Medical Foundation Scholarship Luncheon.

Burt Jones squares off with absent Rick Jackson in GOP debate

By Ty Tagami
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The final Republican gubernatorial primary debate revealed more about Lt. Gov. Burt Jones than it did about billionaire Rick Jackson, as the latter declined to attend.

Or maybe it revealed a lot about Jackson, Jones said, speaking next to an empty lectern in a Georgia Public Broadcasting studio in Atlanta.

"You show up if you want to show people that you actually care," Jones said.

Jackson declined to attend the debate sponsored by the Atlanta Press Club on Monday ahead of the June 16 primary runoff. Instead, he hosted a campaign event in Kennesaw with U.S. Sen. Rick Scott, a Florida Republican.

Jones fielded questions about election law, abortion and tax credits.

He characterized the state's $30 million-a-year tax credits to various companies as "corporate welfare," but he did not specify which he would eliminate. As governor, he said he would cut those that do not produce enough jobs. has been a good investment.

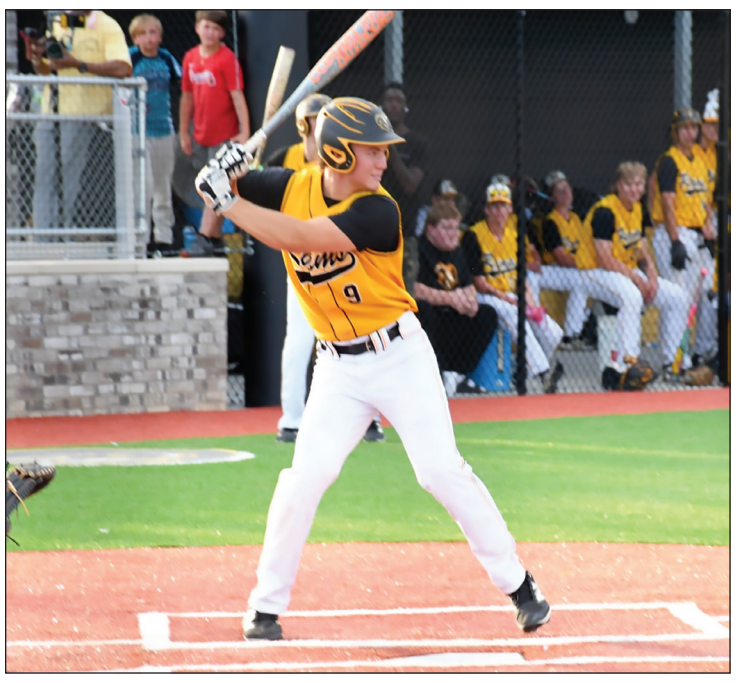
He said he still supports Georgia's ban on abortion when a fetal heartbeat can be detected, which he voted for when he was a senator.

And he supports Gov. Brian Kemp's decision to call a special legislative session on June 17, the day after the runoff, to redraw district lines. Kemp's decision came after a ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court in April that invalidated a new majority-black legislative district in Louisiana. Black lawmakers contend Republicans want to maintain their grip on power by redrawing lines in a way that dilutes the impact of black voters.

He also supported the new state law that forced five Democratic-leaning counties in metro Atlanta to hold nonpartisan elections for offices such as district attorney and county commissioner starting in 2028.

Jones said he opposes a similar state mandate on Georgia's other 154 counties, saying it should be up to local delegations whether they want such offices to be partisan or nonpartisan.

"Probably the reason why he's not here now is he doesn't have the answers for these questions," Jones said. "It just shows a man's character when he won't show up and take questions and Q-and-A from journalists."



Staff Photo: Joe Whitfield

Worth County star Avery Kilcrease has committed to play baseball at Albany State University after helping lead the Rams to the first state Final Four appearance in school history. Kilcrease led Georgia with 153 strikeouts while posting an 11-3 record and 1.09 ERA, and he also hit .437 with 10 home runs.

Georgia's strikeout leader commits to Albany State

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor

SYLVESTER — Few baseball players in Georgia enjoyed a season quite like Avery Kilcrease.

The Worth County graduate led the state in strikeouts, ranked among the nation's leaders on the mound, blasted 10 home runs from the leadoff spot and helped guide the Rams to the first Final Four appearance in school history.

Now, he'll take those talents to Albany State University after committing to continue his baseball career with the Golden Rams.

Kilcrease chose Albany State over numerous other collegiate opportunities, giving Golden Rams coach Scot Hemmings one of the most accomplished players in Southwest Georgia.

"Albany State is getting a good one and he will make the Golden Rams better," Worth County coach Will Smith said. "Avery is ready now and can make a difference right away. I think he chose Albany State because he will have the ability to pitch and also play other positions or be the designated hitter."

Kilcrease was the driving force behind one of the best seasons in Worth County baseball history.

The Rams finished 28-10, captured a region championship, and advanced to the Class A Division I Final Four for the first time. Throughout the season, Kilcrease delivered both at the plate and on the mound.

As a pitcher, he compiled an 11-3 record with a sparkling 1.09 ERA and 153 strikeouts. His strikeout total led the state of Georgia and ranked seventh nationally.

When he wasn't overpowering hitters from the mound, Kilcrease was punishing opposing pitchers.

Batting in the leadoff spot, he hit .437 with 10 home runs, nine doubles and 34 RBIs. His rare combination of power and production made him one of the state's most dangerous two-way players.

Smith believes that versatility is one of the reasons Kilcrease will thrive at the next level.

While many college recruits are limited to one role, Kilcrease has shown the ability to impact games in multiple ways. Whether on the mound, in the field or at the plate, he consistently found ways to help the Rams win.

Those contributions helped Worth County put together a season that will be remembered for years in Sylvester. The Rams reached heights never before achieved by the program, and Kilcrease was at the center of nearly every major accomplishment.

Now, the next chapter begins just a short drive down the road in Albany.

Avery is the son of Brent Kilcrease and Allison Kilcrease.

Calhoun County sweeps SGA in summer basketball

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor

EDISON — Summer basketball is less about the scoreboard and more about laying the foundation for the season ahead.

If Tuesday's summer opener is any indication, Calhoun County's basketball teams are off to a strong start.

The Cougars swept a doubleheader from Southwest Georgia Academy, with the boys winning 77-23 and the girls posting a 54-30 victory. More importantly for the coaches involved, the games provided an opportunity to evaluate players, install systems and begin building confidence for the months ahead.

"It was a good opportunity for us to try to get back into the flow," Calhoun County boys coach Marcus Shaw said. "I was satisfied with our effort. I felt that the guys got after it at times. We have to clean up some things, which is expected at the beginning of summer, but overall, I was pleased with the effort."

The boys' game showcased the style Shaw wants his team to play.

Calhoun County opened with relentless full-court pressure, creating turnovers and converting them into easy baskets. The Cougars jumped out to an 18-6 lead after one quarter and never allowed the Warriors to settle into an offensive rhythm.

Every Southwest Georgia Academy mistake seemed to turn into another scoring opportunity for the Cougars, whose depth and speed proved difficult to match. Calhoun County stretched its lead to 37-10 by halftime and carried a commanding 65-14 advantage into the fourth quarter before backing off its pressure defense.

With the game no longer in doubt, the Warriors found more success offensively in the final period, knocking down several 3-pointers before Calhoun County closed out the 77-23 victory.

The girls' game followed a different script.

Neither team could find much offense early as both squads struggled to get the ball inside and settled for perimeter shots. Points were hard to come by until Keambria Logan connected on a 3-pointer late in the opening quarter, helping the Lady Cougars take a 9-1 lead.

Calhoun County gradually found its footing and built a 23-10 halftime advantage before pulling away for the 54-30 win.

For first-year Lady Cougars coach Quenten Taylor, the performance was encouraging considering his team had only one day of practice before taking the floor.

"With just one day of practice, I was very pleased with how the girls played," Taylor said. "We've still got a lot of work to do, but I could see them starting to pick up our program a little today. Their confidence grew as the game carried on."

Taylor said building that confidence is one of his primary goals during the summer.

"My big push for this summer is for them to gain confidence," he said. "That will be a key to us being successful."



Staff Photo: Joe Whitfield

Calhoun County Eric Worthy Jr. lays up two points during Wednesday's game against Southwest Georgia. Worthy hit the first three-pointer of the game and helped the Cougars jump out to a big lead as Calhoun won 77-23.

Southwest Georgia Academy coach Amy Tucker entered the day facing a different challenge.

The Warriors were missing several players who are currently competing with the school's softball program, which has won back-to-back state championships.

"We kind of just threw this thing together," Tucker said. "I don't have a lot of my girls because they are playing softball. When your team is the two-time defending state softball champions, that is kind of a priority in the summer."

As a result, the Warriors relied heavily on eighth- and ninth-grade players, gaining valuable experience against an older and deeper Calhoun County squad.

Despite the losses, Tucker found positives to build upon.

"I did like the way we played defense today," she said. "But I do need them to get more offensively aggressive and not be afraid to shoot the ball."

That's the nature of June basketball.



Special Photo: Imagn Images

Atlanta Falcons wide receiver Drake London has signed a franchise-record four-year contract extension worth up to $141 million, including $100 million guaranteed.

Falcons lock up London with $141 million deal

Field Level Media

The Atlanta Falcons and wide receiver Drake London agreed to a four-year contract extension worth $141 million and $100 million guaranteed, ESPN reported Tuesday, citing London's agent.

London's new deal gives him an average annual value of $35.25 million, the third-highest mark among wide receivers behind only Seattle's Jaxon Smith-Njigba ($42.15 million) and Cincinnati's Ja'Marr Chase ($40.25 million) and the highest average per year in franchise history, according to ESPN. Smith-Njigba signed his extension with the Super Bowl champion Seahawks earlier this offseason.

The Falcons made London the eighth overall pick of the 2022 NFL Draft, and he had an immediate impact as a starter. He led the Falcons in receiving yards in each of his first three seasons before tight end Kyle Pitts beat him by just nine yards in 2025, with London playing five fewer games.

In 62 career games (60 starts), London, 24, has hauled in 309 receptions for 3,961 yards and 22 touchdowns for Atlanta. His best season was in 2024, when he played all 17 games and finished with career highs of 100 catches, 1,271 yards and nine TDs.

He'll play the 2026 season on his fifth-year rookie option, worth $16.82 million. The extension then takes him through the 2030 campaign.

Atlanta enters a new era this year with Kevin Stefanski as head coach and franchise legend and former quarterback Matt Ryan in a newly created role as president of football. Tua Tagovailoa was brought in to compete with Michael Penix Jr. for the starting quarterback job.

Albany State drops women's soccer; adds indoor track

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY — Albany State University will discontinue its women's soccer program and add men's and women's indoor track and field beginning with the 2026-27 academic year as part of what university officials are calling a strategic realignment of its athletics department.

The move, approved by the University System of Georgia, follows what Albany State described as a comprehensive review of its athletic offerings, with university leaders citing conference alignment, resource management and long-term sustainability as key factors in the decision.

The change will leave Albany State sponsoring 12 varsity sports, including five men's programs and seven women's programs, all competing in the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC).

University President Dr. Robert Scott said the decision was made with the future of the athletic department in mind.

"This decision reflects our commitment to aligning resources in a way that best supports the long-term success of our student-athletes and the continued growth of Albany State University," Scott said. "While these decisions are never easy, they are necessary to ensure we are positioned to compete and thrive in an evolving collegiate athletics landscape."

Women's soccer will be eliminated after the upcoming academic year, while indoor track and field will be added for both men and women.

Athletic Director Dr. Kristene Kelly acknowledged the difficulty of ending a program but said the move will strengthen the department's overall structure.

"This was a difficult but necessary decision as we continue to align our programs and move the department forward," Kelly said. "Our priority now is supporting our women's soccer student-athletes through this transition while continuing to build a stronger foundation for sustained success."

According to Albany State officials, women's soccer faced challenges involving conference affiliation, scheduling and long-term sustainability. The university noted that all athletic programs were evaluated before the final decision was reached.

The addition of indoor track and field will complement Albany State's existing outdoor track and cross-country programs while creating additional participation opportunities for student-athletes.

University officials stressed that the decision will not affect Albany State's membership in the SIAC or its NCAA sport sponsorship requirements.

Albany State said scholarship support for women's soccer student-athletes who choose to remain enrolled at the university will continue through the 2026-27 academic year in accordance with NCAA, University System of Georgia and institutional guidelines.

Athletics department officials also pledged to assist players who wish to transfer by providing support throughout the NCAA transfer process and helping them explore available opportunities.

Men's sports at Albany State beginning in 2026-27 will include football, basketball, baseball, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field.

Women's sports will include basketball, volleyball, softball, tennis, cross country, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field.

The university said individual meetings and additional resources will be made available to affected student-athletes to help ensure a smooth transition as the changes take effect.

Special logo

Dubon, Albies power Braves past Blue Jays, 7-3

Field Level Media

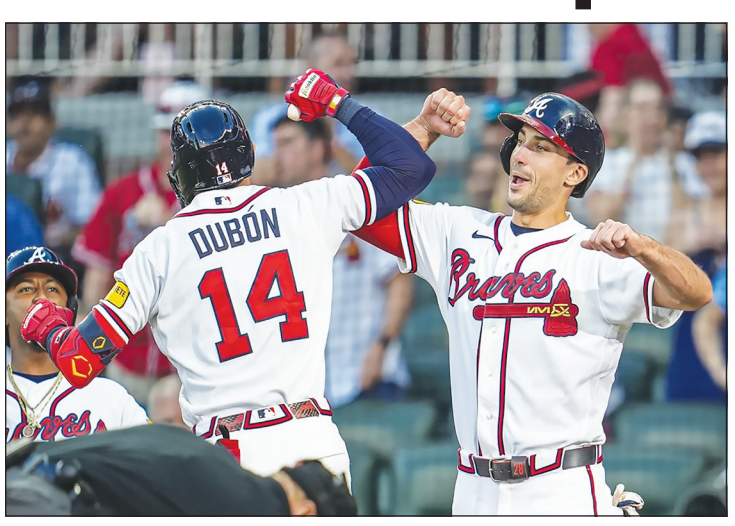
The Atlanta Braves got a pair of three-run homers from Mauricio Dubon and Ozzie Albies and rolled to a 7-3 win over visiting Toronto on Wednesday, handing the Blue Jays their fourth straight loss.

Dubon went deep in the third inning against starter Patrick Corbin, his fourth home run. Albies hit his 10th homer in the seventh inning against reliever Adam Macko.

The Braves have won six of their last eight games and improved to 19-7 against left-handed starters. The win improved Atlanta's record to 17-2-1 in series.

Atlanta starter Grant Holmes (4-2) shook off a shaky start and allowed two runs on five hits and two walks. Holmes struck out four, including Brandon Valenzuela with runners on the corner to end a threat in the fourth inning.

Dylan Lee pitched a scoreless seventh and Robert Suarez worked a scoreless eighth. Tyler Kinley struck out two but allowed a solo homer to Valenzuela, his fifth, in the ninth inning.



Special Photo: Dale Zanine, Imagn Images

Atlanta's Mauricio Dubon celebrates with first baseman Matt Olson after Dubon smacked a three-run homer to help the Braves beat the Blue Jays 7-3 Wednesday night in Atlanta.

Corbin (2-2) pitched five innings and allowed four runs on six hits and two walks, striking out one. It was the most runs Corbin has allowed since his first start on April 10, as he absorbed his 12th straight loss to the Braves, a streak dating back to Sept. 6, 2019.

The first three batters reached base for Toronto, but the Jays produced only one run when Jesus Sanchez grounded into a double play.

The Braves evened the score with a run in the second inning. Eli White singled, stole second base and scored on Ha-Seong Kim's RBI single.

Toronto regained the lead in the third on a solo homer by Nathan Lukes, his first. He earlier singled to extend his hitting streak to a career-long 10 games.

Atlanta rallied with two outs to score three times in the third. Matt Olson singled, Albies doubled and Dubon hit a three-run homer into the Braves' bullpen in right field.

The Braves put it away in the seventh. Dominic Smith walked and Olson singled to set up Albies' homer to left field.

Knicks rally late to steal Game 1 from Spurs

Field Level Media

SAN ANTONIO — Five-plus minutes through the third quarter of Game 1 of the NBA Finals on Wednesday, the New York Knicks' 11-game winning streak was in major jeopardy.

The Knicks missed nine of their first 10 shots in the early part of the period. They trailed the San Antonio Spurs by 14 points and were floundering.

Then something crazy happened. The Knicks found new life from an unlikely source: the Spurs.

New York rallied to tie the game by the end of the period, gave up the lead briefly late in the fourth and then pulled away late for a 105-95 win.

San Antonio missed eight of its 12 shots and committed two turnovers in the final 5:57 of the third quarter.

The Spurs recovered in the fourth, and a 9-0 run put them up 95-94 after a pair of free throws by Victor Wembanyama with 2:16 remaining.

The rest of the game belonged to New York, with plenty of help from the Spurs. San Antonio fumbled away its chances in the final minutes. Wembanyama lost the ball out of bounds on a reckless drive into the lane. He and De'Aaron Fox missed shots, and Fox also committed a turnover.

"There were a few times it felt like we didn't have an appropriate offensive possession in terms of trying to be greedy for our best shot, using spacing and passing, because that's how we play," Spurs coach Mitch Johnson said.

San Antonio looked gassed in the final five minutes while the Knicks were the team making the plays. Was that disparity due to the fact that the Spurs were just two days removed from winning a grueling seven-game series against the defending champion Oklahoma City Thunder while the Knicks had eight days of rest after sweeping the Cleveland Cavaliers in the Eastern Conference finals?

Johnson and his players refused to use the "fatigue" card.

"I'm sure guys got tired at times, but I didn't feel like anyone's performance was based on fatigue," Johnson said. "We just need to be sharper and execute better and continue to work the game and not fight it at times and play the right way."

Spurs reserve guard Dylan Harper, who had 16 points and eight rebounds, said the game was "like a track meet."

Harper added, "I think the energy was high — like everyone was just getting up and down. I feel like both teams were fatigued."

Jalen Brunson, who carried the Knicks with 30 points, was quick to say there was no letdown from the Spurs in the fourth quarter.

"(The win) was a mixture of us playing good defense and us obviously getting a little lucky," Brunson said. "But San Antonio comes ready to play more than any other team that we've faced, and we have the utmost respect for them. We know we have to be ready for Game 2. We just found a way to make plays within the game tonight."

Knicks coach Mike Brown credited his squad with adapting during the game and continuing to bring energy.

"These guys are resilient, man," Brown said. "They get better as the game goes along. They really try to pay attention to the details that we are throwing at them. They try to bring energy and multiple efforts, and that's what we needed tonight."

The Spurs don't have much time to fix the things that ailed them down the stretch heading into Game 2 on Friday, but their superstar hasn't lost confidence.

"Obviously, we've been down in a series before," said Wembanyama, referring to San Antonio losing Game 1 of the Western Conference semifinals against the Minnesota Timberwolves. "But I'm not kicking myself about anything really. I'm not worried (in) the slightest.

"When we play bad, when I play bad, is when we shoot ourselves in the foot. This is why I'm not worried. We're going to be so much better. I'm going to be so much better."



Special Photo: Geoff Burke-Imagn Images

New York's Jalen Brunson fights through San Antonio's defense during Game 1 of the NBA Finals on Wednesday in San Antonio. Brunson scored 30 points as the Knicks rallied for a 105-95 victory.

James captures second Atlanta Open title

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

Kennesaw, Ga.- Luke James secured his second Yamaha Atlanta Open presented by Audi Atlanta victory in three years at Pinetree Country Club on Tuesday. James, the 2024 champion and PGA Professional at Jennings Mill Country Club, defeated Adam Cooper in a playoff on the par-5 18th hole to become the 14th player to win the tournament more than once.

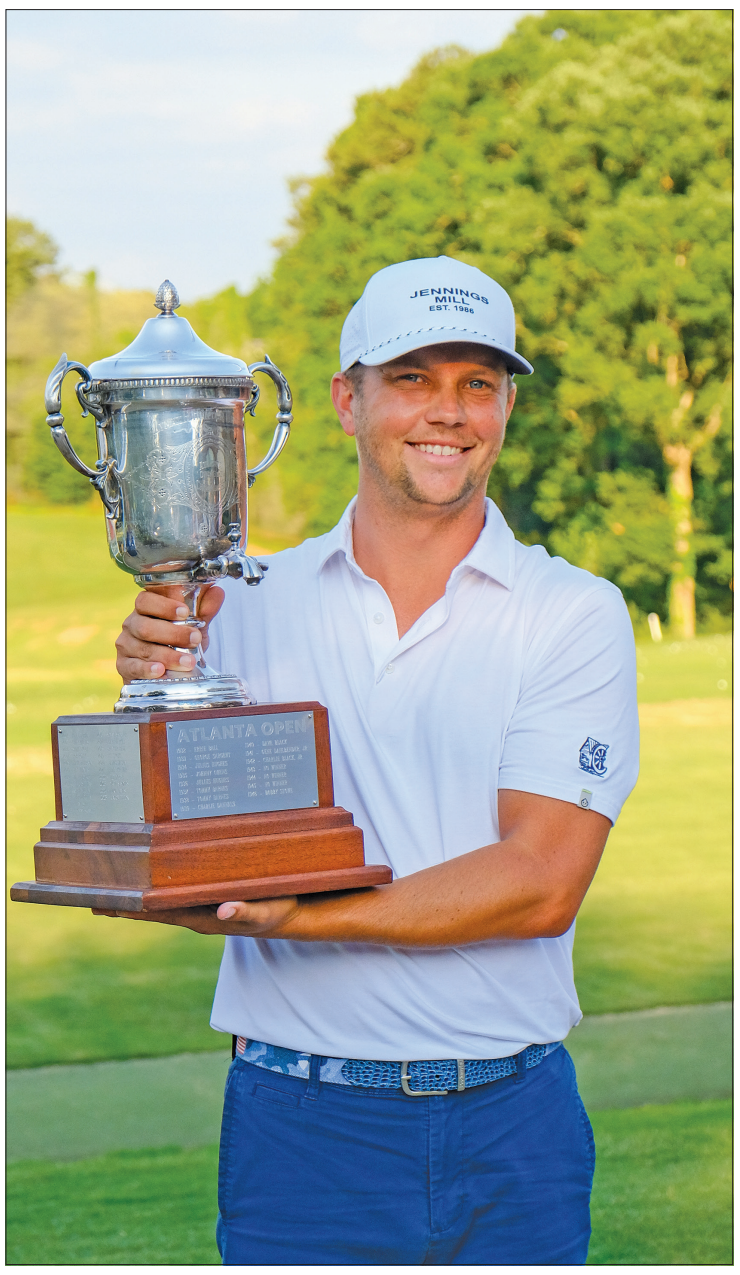
James and Cooper, who battled each other in a six-hole playoff in the 2024 Yamaha Atlanta Open at The Standard Club, once again needed more than 36-holes to determine a winner after each finishing the competition at 5-under-par 139. Both players shot 72-67, surging to the top of the leaderboard on day two after finishing Monday tied for 15th place.

Despite an even score after day one, James holed 12 birdies total in the tournament and sunk seven on Tuesday. The champion carried his hot play into the playoff with a birdie four to defeat Cooper on hole 18. James credited the identical 2024 scenario for preparing him for another high-pressure playoff.

"I've been in this position before. I have a lot of experience, which was definitely beneficial for me to do that. But yeah, I just grinded and kept my composure," he said.

After a disappointing T-39 and 5-over-par finish at last year's Yamaha Atlanta Open, James relishes his return to championship glory.

"Oh man, I feel great. It feels good to be back in the winner's circle," said James.



Special photo: Submitted

Luke James shows off the Yamaha Atlanta Open championship trophy after defeating Adam Cooper in a playoff Tuesday at Pinetree Country Club in Kennesaw. The victory was James' second Yamaha Atlanta Open title in the last three years.

Despite past days of rainy weather, Pinetree offered impeccable conditions for the tournament's two-day contest. Pinetree Country Club Director of Golf and Georgia PGA At-Large Director Tyler Johnson expressed his club's delight in hosting one of Georgia's oldest golf tournaments.

"We've been really honored to host this 92nd version of the Atlanta Open. I know our members have been excited about this for months," he said.

The 2026 Yamaha Atlanta Open marked Yamaha's 30th year as title sponsor of the event, with its first sponsorship beginning in 1997. Richard Warren, Southeastern District Sales Manager at Yamaha Golf Car Company, described how meaningful the company's relationship with this tournament and the Georgia PGA has been.

"We're just very honored and privileged to be the title sponsor - not only that, but the relationships that we have. I really want to thank the Georgia PGA section. We have a special relationship as well, and it's a really exciting time of the year," he said.

Tony's Take: Braves rolling, questions remain

By Tony Duckworth
tonyduckworthsr@gmail.com

40. It's no secret that Atlanta Braves fans have been spoiled for decades. Multiple World Series titles, an outrageous amount of Division titles, and regular appearances in the postseason. I remember hearing the whining and complaints during last season's forgettable season, and when the pre-season injuries began piling up, fans wondered if the 2026 season would be a bust as well.

ESPN's Buster Olney stated over the weekend that the NL East Division race is over, and that the Braves are too talented to be caught this season. When Buster made this bold prediction, Philadelphia and Washington trailed Atlanta by 9.5 games. Olney defended his comments on 680 the Fan based on the talent of the roster, win pace, team depth, and surging stars like Jr, Olsen, and the II. Keep in mind, 102 regular-season games are remaining. As a former coach, I feel this is an absurd prediction, but fortunately, it will have little to do with what happens for the remainder of the season. Weiss and company need to keep their heads down and ignore the media and fanfare, knowing the Big Mo can flip quickly.

The Braves have made history 60 games into the season. Entering 2026, only four teams have won 40 or more games in the history of Major League Baseball, 60 games to start a season.

1927 New York Yankees: 47-13 | 1984 Detroit Tigers: 46-14 |

2001 Seattle Mariners: 44-16 | 2023 Texas Rangers: 40-20.

The Braves started this season at 40 wins against 20 losses.

According to Facebook - MLB, 3 of the previous four teams went on to win the World Series. The 1984 Tigers, 2001 Mariners, and the 1927 Yankees won the title.

October baseball is about starting pitching. Specifically, power starting pitching. While the Braves' starting lineup has outperformed expectations with help on the way, I'm not confident this starting staff can deliver the goods in the Fall Classic. Sale is the best option, but he hasn't pitched in the postseason since his arrival due to an injury. Strider continues to be a work in progress to lock in as #2. He is trending the right way, but it is too early to tell. The other cast members don't give me confidence heading deep into the playoffs.

Given great pitching beats great hitting, GM Alex needs to make a move and bring in a power starting arm before the trade deadline to take advantage of this record-breaking season.

Regardless, the Braves are rolling, and for now - let's keep chopping.

$$$. It will never change. FANatics will save, cut back on expenses, and yes, even buy tickets on credit to support their favorite team(s). Whether you are a pro or college sports fan, let's be real: ticket prices are becoming unaffordable, and they are outpacing average year-to-year wage increases.

The average American is feeling the pinch in everyday expenses as the cost of living has increased by 25% since 2020, according to bankrate.com. I will steer clear of pointing out how the current and past POTUS administrations have led to the outrageous prices and inflation hangover we are currently feeling. To put things in perspective, bankrate.com reports that a basket of goods and services that cost $1,000 in 2020 now costs $1,243.

I asked Grok (AI) to compare football ticket prices at the University of Georgia in 1996, 2006, 2016, and 2026. As you can imagine, pre-NIL and the facilities arms race, ticket prices were reasonable. UGA average single game ticket prices were: $25 ~ 1996 | $50 ~ 2006 | $80 ~ 2016 | $100+ ~ 2026. Tickets on the secondary market for a single game will range from $150 - $260 per ticket today. That's an "average" secondary ticket price.

Think about the crowd scenes during SEC games and how you rarely see families of four enjoying CFB. According to Grok, a day trip to Athens from Albany would cost between $780 – $2,000+ for a family of four.

Budget-friendly day (weaker opponent, efficient car, modest spending): $800–$1,200

Typical/mid-range (average opponent, secondary market tickets): $1,300–$1,700

Premium (rivalry game + higher spending): $1,800–$2,500+

The cost estimates above include gas, meals, parking, tickets, and concessions.

Consider Grok's advice when I asked for a comparison to the same trip within five hours of Albany to attend a Savannah Bananas game. Grok stated: "A Savannah Bananas game would cost roughly 40–60% less than a UGA football day trip for your family of four, while delivering high entertainment value. It's a much lighter financial hit, especially in a time when families are feeling inflation pressures."

For a more economical CFB gameday experience, consider attending a game at Albany State (D-II), Georgia Southern (D-I), or Macon's Mercer University (FCS / I-AA).

One thing is certain: we will continue to see packed stadiums at most P4 conferences and quality non-conference games. After all, we do live in Football America.

Follow Tony Duckworth on the X platform at @tonyduckworthsr or email him at tonduckworthsr@gmail.com. Duckworth is a native of Macon and is the President and CEO of the Albany Area YMCA.

EARTHWEEK

Diary of a Changing World

By Steve Newman

Mosquito Learning

As summer warmth brings the familiar buzz of mosquitoes back to parks, gardens and neighborhoods across the Northern Hemisphere, scientists have uncovered a surprising reminder that even tiny insects can adapt in unexpected ways.

A laboratory study found that *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes could learn to associate the scent of DEET, the most widely used insect repellent, with the reward of a blood meal and later become attracted to the smell.

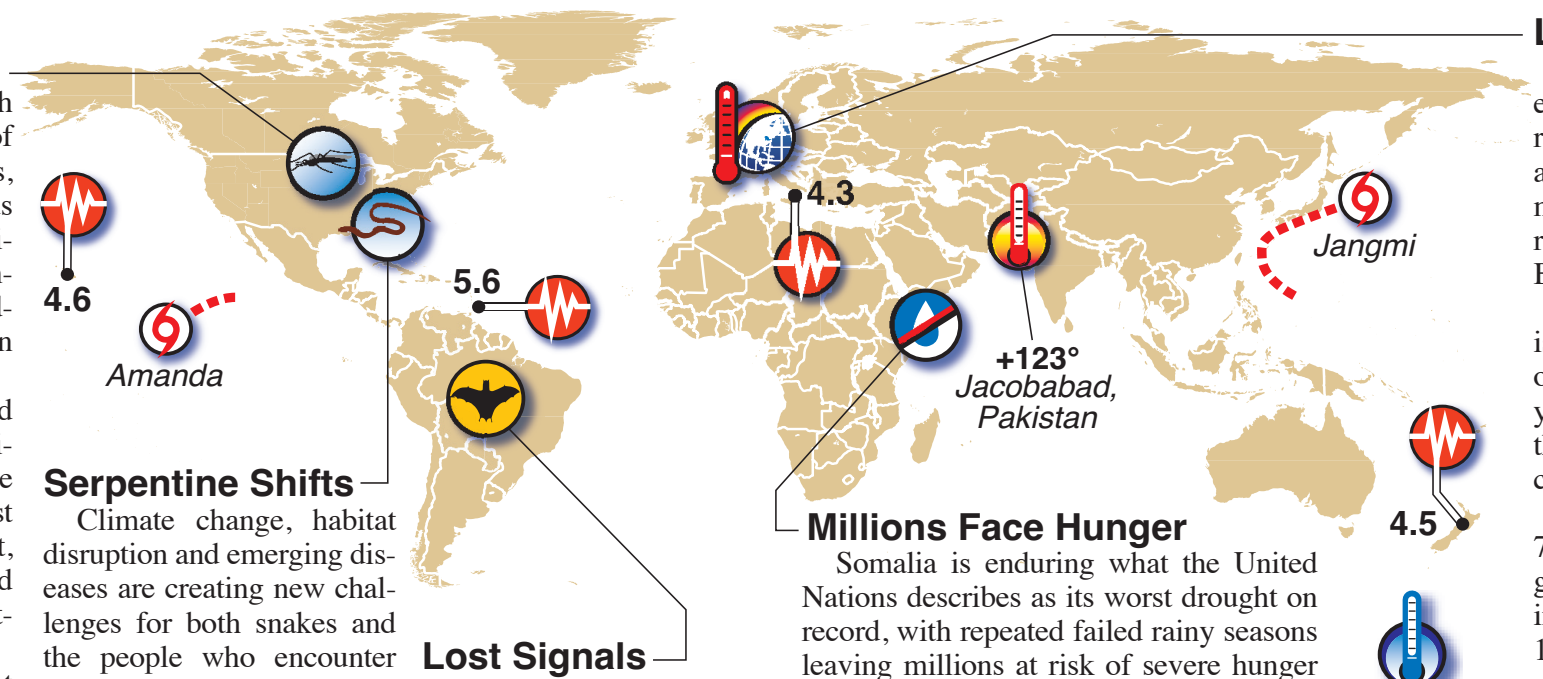
That doesn't mean that bug sprays have stopped working, but it suggests that mosquito behavior is more flexible and intelligent than previously understood.

The findings may help develop better defenses against these biting insects, which spread diseases to millions.

Earthquakes

Much of southern Italy was shaken by a deep temblor just off Calabria's Tyrrhenian coast.

• Earth movements were also felt in central New Zealand, islands of the southeastern Caribbean Sea and Hawaii's Kona coast.



Serpentine Shifts

Climate change, habitat disruption and emerging diseases are creating new challenges for both snakes and the people who encounter them, according to two recent studies.

Researchers led by the World Health Organization found that warming temperatures are driving some venomous snakes into new regions, potentially raising the risk of snakebites for people in parts of Africa, Asia, Europe and North America.

At the same time, scientists studying wild snakes in the southeastern United States found that fungal, bacterial and parasitic infections are becoming increasingly common, with some rattlesnake species particularly vulnerable to serious illness.

Lost Signals

An invisible form of pollution generated by radio transmissions, broadcasting signals and other electronic technologies common in modern cities may be disrupting the navigational abilities of migrating bats.

Researchers writing in the journal *Science* say that even brief exposure to weak electromagnetic noise caused bats to lose their sense of direction, sending them in random directions.

The findings add to growing evidence that electromagnetic noise can interfere with animals that rely on Earth's magnetic field for navigation.

Millions Face Hunger

Somalia is enduring what the United Nations describes as its worst drought on record, with repeated failed rainy seasons leaving millions at risk of severe hunger and widespread livestock losses.

Nearly 6 million people are experiencing critical food shortages, including about 2 million living in emergency conditions, while 1.8 million children are expected to require treatment for acute malnutrition this year.

International agencies warn that parts of southern Somalia could slip into famine if rains fail again and humanitarian aid remains inadequate.



Mosquitos can learn to be attracted to the most common insect repellent rather than being repelled by it, according to a study. Photo: CDC

Looming Extremes

Global temperatures are expected to remain at or near record levels through 2030, according to a new assessment by the World Meteorological Organization and Britain's Met Office.

Scientists estimate there is an 86% chance that at least one year during the next five years will surpass 2024 as the warmest year ever recorded.

The report also finds a 75% chance that average global temperatures during 2026-2030 will exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 F) above pre-industrial levels, a key benchmark in the Paris climate agreement.

Researchers say a developing El Niño could help push temperatures to even higher records by 2027.

Typhoon Season

Tropical Storm Jangmi swept across much of Japan, bringing torrential rain, flooding and strong winds from Okinawa to the Tokyo region.

At least 23 people were injured and dozens of homes were damaged by the storm.

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earthweek.substack.com

From 2A

CLAY

possessed something difficult to measure through budgets, rankings or test scores: a broad consensus that education mattered.

Teachers, parents, business owners, farmers, civic organizations and elected officials did not always agree. But they generally agreed that the success of the school system was tied to the success of the county itself.

That shared belief helped transform Lee County.

Over the decades, strong schools became one of the county's defining assets. Families moved there because of them. Businesses considered them when investing. Property values and population growth were influenced by a reputation built steadily over generations rather than election cycles.

The challenges facing schools today, however, differ from those Clay confronted.

Parents balance increasing pressures on family life. Social media amplifies disagreements in real time. Questions about taxes, transparency, accountability and spending generate intense public scrutiny. Civil discourse often feels harder to maintain than it once did.

Recent debates surrounding school finances, taxes and leadership have exposed genuine divisions within the community. Yet viewed through the lens of Clay's life, another reality becomes clear.

Despite the disagreements, most stakeholders continue to want the same things. Parents want quality education. Taxpayers want responsible stewardship. Teachers want support. Students want opportunities.

The debate is often over methods rather than goals.

Perhaps that is why Clay remained optimistic about education long after his retirement. Even in his 80s, he continued serving on the Board of Education, reading multiple newspapers each day, following public affairs and maintaining a keen interest in the future of schools.

One theme surfaced repeatedly in his reflections. The importance of trust. Asked what trait a leader could not afford to be without, Clay answered simply "In education, they certainly have to have the trust of the people."

Trust, however, is not built by leaders alone. It is also built by communities. That may be one reason Clay's generation produced so many civic leaders. They served on boards, attended meetings, volunteered, supported schools and accepted responsibility for outcomes. Participation was a part of citizenship, not just an optional extra. Leadership was about stewardship, not visibility.

What Lee County loses with the passing of Robert Clay is much more significant than institutional memory. It loses a living connection to the generation that transformed a small rural school system into one of Georgia's most admired districts.

Today, Clay's legacy is not found in buildings, budgets or administrative titles. It is found in the belief that schools succeed when communities view them not as someone else's responsibility, but as their own.

The boy who drove a school bus at 15 years old understood that long before he became superintendent.

Nearly a century later, that lesson remains as relevant as ever.

Obituary announcements

Mr. Robert Bruce Jones

Mr. Robert Bruce Jones, 68, of Columbus died Wednesday May 13, 2026 at Piedmont Midtown in Columbus, GA.

A graveside service will be held Sunday June 7, 2026 at Riverside Cemetery. Rev. Ronnie Kinsaul will be officiating.

Born in Albany, GA December 20, 1957 he was the son of William Jones and Minnie Lou Jones. Mr. Jones worked at the Albany Herald early in life and continued his career as a print press operator until he became disabled.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his son Brian Jones and spouse David Zitnik; his brothers and sisters Billy Jones and his wife Deana; Martha Davis and her husband Jack; Edgar Jones; Patricia Radke; Faye Grote; 14 nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to the Anchorage or any addiction treatment centers or a charity of choice.



John H Maddox Jr

John Henry Maddox, Jr., age 80, passed away peacefully on May 30, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family.

Born on July 8, 1945, John lived a life defined by hard work, service, integrity, and devotion to his family and community. He graduated from Worth County High School and attended the University of Georgia, where he furthered his education and developed lifelong friendships and experiences that shaped his future.

John began his career working in his family's furniture business, where he learned the values of dedication, customer service, and entrepreneurship. He later enjoyed a successful career as a pharmaceutical representative with Hoechst Roussel Pharmaceuticals, from which he retired after many years of distinguished service.

Throughout his life, John was deeply involved in his community. He served in numerous leadership and civic roles, including as a City Councilman and an active member of the Georgia Jaycees. He was respected as a businessman, community leader, and friend who was always willing to lend a helping hand and offer thoughtful guidance.

John was also a devoted fan of the Georgia Bulldogs. A lifelong supporter of his beloved Bulldogs, he rarely missed a game and proudly cheered for Georgia through every season. Whether attending games, watching from home, or discussing the team's latest accomplishments with family and friends, his passion for Georgia athletics was evident to all who knew him. His love for the Bulldogs brought him great joy and became one of the many things that made him so memorable.

John was preceded in death by his beloved son, John Henry Maddox III; his mother, Myrtle Stanley Maddox; his father, John Henry Maddox, Sr. (Sylvester); his sister, Johnnie Hatcher of Jacksonville, Florida; and his sister, Perry Jean Oliver of Ashburn, Georgia.

He is survived by his loving daughter, Kim Hyman, and her husband, Chip Hyman; his cherished grandchildren, Chandler Hyman and his wife, Lexi, Emily Hyman, Zoe Maddox, and Poppy Maddox; and his daughter-in-law, Rachel Maddox. He also leaves behind numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends who will forever treasure his memory.

John will be remembered for his warm smile, generous spirit, quick wit, and unwavering commitment to those he loved. He took great pride in his family and found joy in watching his children and grandchildren grow and succeed. His life was a testament to service, perseverance, and the importance of community.

Though he will be greatly missed, his family finds comfort in the countless memories he leaves behind and in the lasting impact he made on the lives of those fortunate enough to know him.

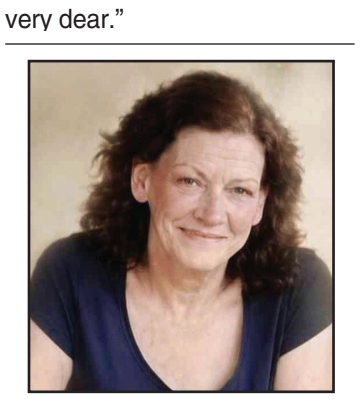
A celebration of John's life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests that memorial contributions be made to the American Heart Association in John's memory.

John Henry Maddox, Jr. will be deeply missed, lovingly remembered, and forever held in the hearts of his family and friends.

"Those we love don't go away; they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near.

Still loved, still missed, and very dear."



Elizabeth Anna Temples (Ellis)

Elizabeth Temples, 67, of Albany, GA, passed away June 1, 2026. Elizabeth was a devoted mother, grandmother, mother-in-law, and woman of strong faith. She lived her life guided by love, kindness, and her belief in God, finding comfort in the promise of eternal life. Her family takes peace in knowing she has entered Heaven and is reunited with loved ones who went before her. She was preceded in death by her mother, Elizabeth Ellis; her brothers, Thomas Ellis and Lamar Ellis; her grandson, Jordan Harden; and the love of her life, Ricky Harden. She is survived by her sons, Jimmy Harden Jr. (Heather), Jeremy Temples (Chelsie), and Jamie Temples; her grandchildren, Jimmy Harden III, Jacob Harden, and Bellamy Temples; and her brother, Bobby Ellis. Condolences may be expressed online at www.mckoon.com. McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

ANTHONY JONES RE-ELECTED TO DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT 6 WITH OVERWHELMING VICTORY



ALBANY, GA — Dougherty County District 6 Commissioner Anthony Jones won re-election in the May 19, 2026, Democratic Primary in commanding fashion, receiving 1,342 votes, or 80.6% of the vote, defeating challenger Willie Martin, who received 322 votes (19.4%).

Jones' victory margin of 61.2 percentage points is believed to be one of the largest — and possibly the largest — margin of victory in a contested Dougherty County Commission primary race in modern county history based on publicly available election records.

"I am humbled and deeply grateful for the overwhelming support from the citizens of District 6," said Jones. "This victory was not just about me — it was about the people of our community believing in steady leadership, accessibility, accountability, and continuing progress for Dougherty County."

Jones thanked supporters, volunteers, family members, church leaders, neighborhood residents, senior citizens, business owners, and voters throughout District 6 for their encouragement and support during the campaign.

"Now the campaign is over, and the work continues," Jones said. "I remain committed to serving every citizen of District 6 and all of Dougherty County with integrity, transparency, and dedication."

Official election results from the Georgia Secretary of State show: • Anthony Jones — 1,342 votes (80.6%) • Willie Martin — 322 votes (19.4%)

WHY EXTERIOR UPGRADES ARE A SMART INVESTMENT FOR HOMEOWNERS

(Feature Impact) Owning a home brings a strong sense of pride, responsibility and value, leading many homeowners to constantly look for the best ways to protect and enhance their investments. While some improvements simply look good, others deliver real long-term value. Projects that enhance curb appeal do both, boosting pride of ownership today and perceived value tomorrow.

Exterior upgrades rank among the highest-return improvements in the latest Zonda 2025 Cost vs. Value Report, underscoring why investing in a house's facade is one of the smartest decisions a homeowner can make.

That impact goes beyond mere appearance. Strong curb appeal signals quality, care and proper maintenance. Flat, uniform exteriors tend to blend in while a well-designed exterior suggests a well-maintained interior, helping increase buyer confidence and reinforcing the home's market value.

"Today's homeowners and buyers are placing greater emphasis on exterior design that feels intentional and well-crafted," said Sarah Lograsso, director of marketing and product management, roofing and stone at Westlake Royal Building Products. "Incorporating materials that add depth and visual interest can make a meaningful difference in both curb appeal and perceived value."

With National Homeowners Month serving as the perfect time to evaluate your property, these exterior upgrades can help enhance curb appeal while delivering a strong return on investment:

Install a New Garage Door

Often taking up a large portion of a home's exterior footprint, a modern garage door can drastically change the overall look. It's one of the highest-return exterior upgrades, delivering a 267.7% ROI while also improving energy efficiency, enhancing security and supporting modern technology integration.

Add Stone Veneer

Manufactured stone veneer is one of the most effective ways to elevate curb appeal, adding texture, depth and a high-end architectural feel. Applied to entryways, columns or lower facades, it can help break up flat exterior surfaces and create visual interest, which are details that stand out in any neighborhood. This upgrade delivers a strong return with a 207.9% ROI.

Engineered to withstand weather while maintaining its appearance, options from Westlake Royal Stone Solutions, including Eldorado Stone, Cultured Stone and Dutch Quality Stone, make it easy to achieve a natural, upscale look across a range of home styles.



Photo courtesy of Westlake Royal Building Products

Replace the Front Door

A steel entry door upgrade is a small change that delivers outsized returns with a 216.4% ROI. This focal point improvement enhances security and improves insulation, helping reduce overall energy costs for the household.

Refresh the Siding

Siding plays a major role in defining a home's overall look and perceived value, making it one of the most impactful exterior upgrades. Beyond improving durability and energy efficiency, updated siding introduces new color, texture and dimension that can completely transform a facade.

Fiber cement and vinyl siding replacements both rank among the top exterior improvements for ROI, offering strong returns alongside long-term performance benefits. Options like the V-Groove profile from Celect Siding provide a refined finish while delivering added resistance against water, dirt and mildew. Available in a range of colors and styles, it's designed to complement both modern and traditional homes.

Upgrade Entertaining Space

Outdoor living spaces continue to grow in popularity, and a refreshed porch or deck can significantly boost a home's appeal. While returns vary, wood and composite deck replacements remain strong investments, adding functional square footage for entertaining and relaxing, perfect for celebrating homeownership during the summer months.

Creating strong curb appeal comes down to choosing exterior elements that work together to enhance both design and value. When these details are considered holistically, they can meaningfully elevate a home's overall presence and long-term appeal.

For more inspiration on how to bring those ideas to life, visit westlakeroyalbuildingproducts.com.



Photo courtesy of Westlake Royal Building Products

GOING BEYOND AESTHETICS:
7 home design trends for 2026

(Feature Impact) Heading into a new year, home design is once again evolving. Homeowners are blending comfort, personality, sustainability and connections to the outside world this year. More than just aesthetics, these trends are warm, intentional and rooted in real life.

Whether you're refreshing a room or planning a full-blown makeover, consider these ideas for inspiration that feels both timeless and fresh.



Photo courtesy of Shutterstock

Warm, Earthy Palettes

This year, say goodbye to whites and cool grays. Instead, cozy earth tones like clay, sage, caramel and rich neutrals create a grounded, inviting atmosphere. Refresh walls or cabinetry with these earthy hues or try color-drenching - using a single hue in varying tones across walls, trim and ceilings - for a bold new vibe that feels both timeless and modern.

Flowing, Curved Shapes

As homes trend more toward feeling lived-in rather than staged, hard edges and rigid forms are taking a backseat. In 2026, curves are everywhere: soft archways, rounded furniture and curved statement pieces - think circular mirrors or oversized armchairs - create fluid, comforting spaces.

Natural Materials and Textures

Designs this year celebrate materials that age beautifully, like natural stone, reclaimed wood and textiles that tell a story. Consider woven pillows and throws, handmade pottery, textured walls and wood with visible grain to enrich rooms with sensory detail and an artisanal feel.

Personalized Nostalgia

Blend vintage finds with contemporary art to create a space that's truly your own. That means vintage finds, heirloom pieces and decor that evokes memory - even quilted textiles or classic checkered tiles - styled in fresh, modern ways to add warmth and individuality.

Attention to Statement Details

Small details are getting big attention this year. Swapping out basic cabinet hardware and lighting fixtures for artisanal, tactile metals can help elevate kitchen cabinets or bathroom vanities, turning them into design statements.

Flexible, Multifunctional Spaces

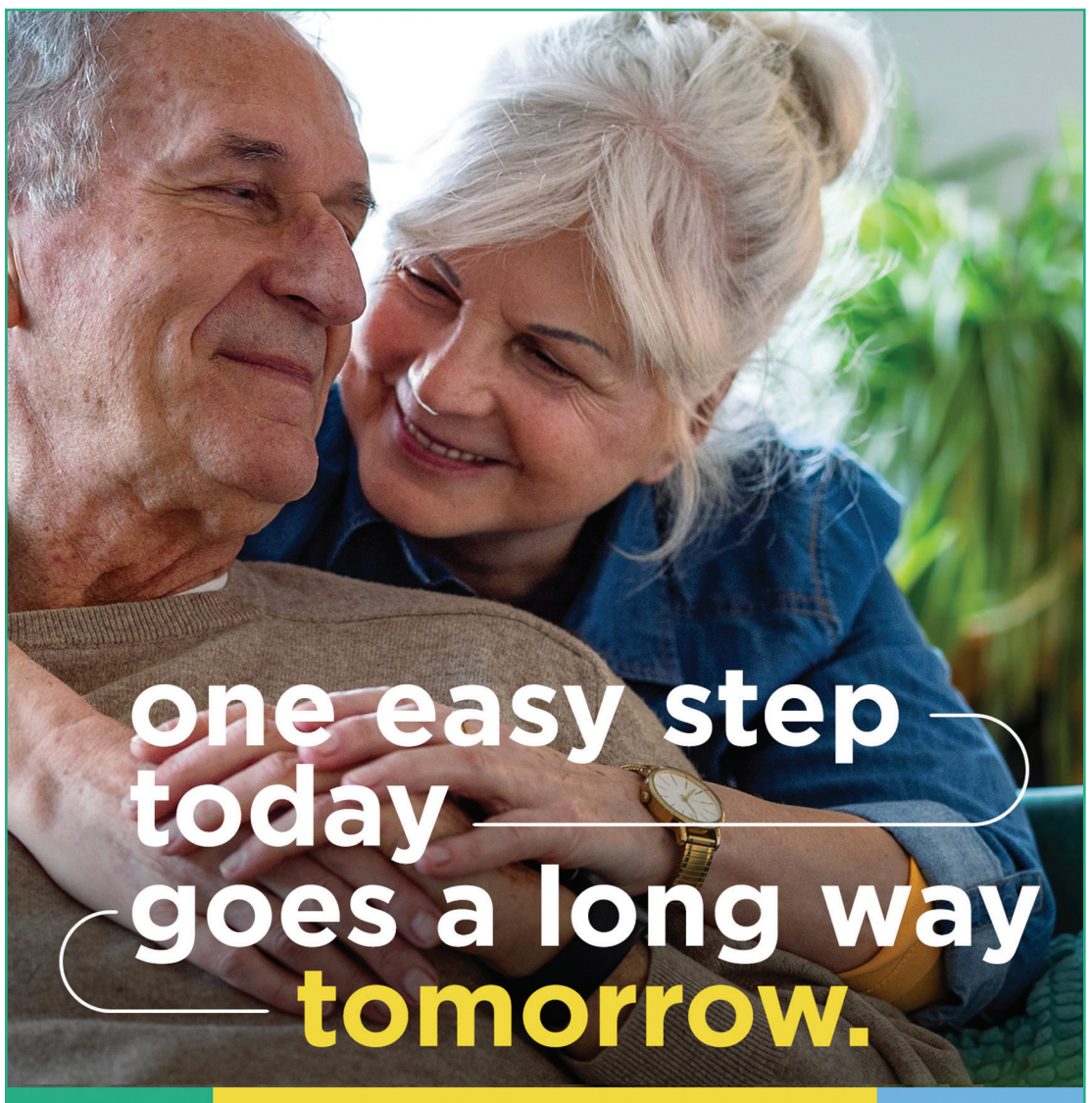
With hybrid work and lifestyle blending continuing into 2026, rooms should be designed to serve multiple purposes. Reading nooks can double as workstations. Living rooms effortlessly transition from day to night. Adaptable furniture, hidden storage and smart layouts help make multifunctional spaces feel intentional and uncluttered.

Outdoor-Inspired Interiors

The connection to nature grows stronger inside homes with greenery, natural light and materials that echo the outdoors. From indoor-outdoor flow to plant-rich spaces that feel alive and tranquil, biophilic design promotes calm, comfort and connection.

Visit eLivingtoday.com to find more design inspiration to make your home more personal and grounded in comfort.

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Southwest Georgia Outdoors

albanyherald.com/outdoors

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FISHING & HUNTING SEASON DATES

Red Snapper (Coastal/Federal):

July 1, 2026, to August 31

Shrimp (Cast Netting):

Reopens July 15

Alligator:

Aug. 15 (sunset) – Oct. 6 (sunrise)



Special Photo: Kimberly Stalvey

Kimberly Stalvey. Horse Camp.



Special Photo: Kimberly Stalvey

Horse campers.



'HORSE CAMP' TEACHES INTRODUCTORY EQUESTRIAN SKILLS TO ADULTS

By Tom Seegmueller
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY– According to John Wayne, "Courage is being scared to death but saddling up anyway."

Wayne may have been making the statement figuratively. Kimberly Stalvey, a local equestrian, has taken the challenge literally offering an opportunity for adults interested in learning about horses and riding.

While a number of stables in southwest Georgia offer children an introduction to the world of horses and equestrian sports, the options for adults have been limited. The adult riding introduction camp offered by Stalvey is aimed at changing that. Her "Horse Camp" for adults not only teaches prospective equestrians how to ride, it also teaches them basic safety and the barn skills associated with horse care.

"I limit the experience to six people, pairing two people to a horse," Stalvey said. "First, they groom and learn about basic barn safety and being around horses. They then learn how to saddle up before splitting up into two groups. The first group goes to the arena with their personal instructor and rides for about 30 minutes. Riders learn how to get on and off their horse safely and basic riding skills. I teach a lot about safety.

The other three campers have lectures associated with safety, handling horses and other skills. Then we swap out. After that 30-minute session they unsaddle the horses and groom them before putting them away."

This hands-on experience is followed by a social hour during which campers have the opportunity to enjoy snacks from a charcuterie board and sip a cold drink while they discuss issues related to riding and the responsibilities associated with horse ownership.

"If they want to continue with lessons, I have a program that they can participate in," Stalvey said.. "With their own instructor, they can advance at their own pace. We don't push anybody to do anything they are uncomfortable with or that is unsafe. If they don't want to get on the horse that's O.K.

"I teach a dressage-based program. I always tell people it's a lower case "d" in the dressage because we don't show and aren't doing the Olympic dressage."

However, like any sport, a solid foundation starting with basic skills is the way bad habits can be avoided.

"I have a lot of obstacles in the arena, and we play with those a lot," Stalvey said. "We focus a lot on safety and managing the horse."

Stalvey teaches a skills-based program in which everyone starting lessons gets a book that breaks down various equestrian skill sets. When they master skills, they check them off and proceed through level-up ceremonies marking their progress.

"We don't go to very many horse shows; we want people to enjoy being around horses and not think of it as a job," Stalvey said.

However, she is quick to point out that she teaches people how to own their own horse, how to properly feed and groom them as well as other skills necessary for horse ownership.

This seasons for camping sessions are scheduled for the last two Fridays in June.

Winston Churchill once said, "No hour of life is wasted that is spent in the saddle." That being the case, the $50 per session fee sounds like money well-spent for anyone interested in riding a horse for the first time or increasing their equestrian skills.

For more information, contact Stalvey at Flying S Horsemanship on Facebook or call (229) 344-1624.



Staff Photo: Tom Seegmueler

The art of getting 'unstuck'

By Tom Seegmueller
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY– Recent drought-breaking rains in the region have been a godsend for farmers as well as tow truck operators.

For outdoors enthusiasts driving in the region, the threat of getting stuck proves the axiom, "It's not a matter of if,.it's just a matter of when."

Therefore, the complementary skill sets relating to avoidance and extraction are necessary to successfully travel the region when vehicle leaves pavement. Drivers in southwest Georgia learn early that you don't have to go "off-roading" to get stuck. Any dirt road will do. They also soon learn that the threat goes beyond the infamous red clay found in the region, a region renowned for its biodiversity that offers a broad spectrum of soil types.

The unique geology of the Coastal Plain, with it's humid climate and varied topography, results in soils that include sand ridges, peat bogs and the alluvial soils found in the Flint River basin. Many of these soils provide superb drivability when dry but can quickly transform into unpredictable quagmires with even a small amount of rainfall.

Moderate or heavy accumulations of rain can create impassable conditions for most, if not all, vehicles. Situational awareness, commonsense, traction, ground clearance, speed, technique and preparation have as much or more to do with driving success than horsepower and tire size.

Situational awareness is critically important when traveling any off-road route. It's worth noting that just because a vehicle made it through some bad spots once, doesn't mean the driver didn't use up his or her allocation of divine intervention. Time, weather and traffic can dramatically alter any route, from firebreaks to county-maintained dirt roads.

It is important to understand the ability and limits of the vehicle one is driving to understand what hazards it can safely navigate. While commonsense is often elusive, a few moments of reflection can often help avoid many risks associated with backroad travels. When the route gets questionable, a driver might want to take a moment to consider the necessity of continuing forward. If the answer is yes, the driver might take an additional moment to determine if there is another route that offers a better means of reaching his or her destination. If the answer to that question is negative, it's time to

seriously consider whether a vehicle is up to the challenge.

A driver who is determined to proceed might want to take a moment to consider options. If the end still seems to justify the means, go for it with due caution. However, if the main reason a driver feels confident is the fact that he or she has all-wheel or four-wheel drive, the driver needs to realize this alone does not prevent a vehicle from getting stuck. It is often merely a factor in how stuck the driver gets.

All-wheel drive is designed primarily for driving on pavement, providing stability and offering added traction in slippery conditions including rain, snow or light mud. It operates without driver input. These systems have the ability to adjust power between the front and rear wheels, providing power to the wheels with the best traction.

Although AWD may provide power to all four wheels, the tires must have adequate grip to provide usable traction. Most tires on AWD vehicles have light-duty tread, which is generally unsuited for off-road conditions. They are, however, far more capable than two-wheel drive vehicles when the pavement ends.

Four-wheel drive vehicles provide more consistent power to all four wheels, locking them so that they spin at the same speed. Most 4WD systems offer the added benefit of a lower gear range to help further reduce tire spin. These systems are generally constructed of heavier materials and can transfer more power to all wheels. However, the down side is that they have to be manually engaged by locking levers or buttons.

The system is designed for loose surfaces like mud or gravel and must be taken out of 4WD mode when returning to hard surface roads.

When driving off paved surfaces and things start to look sketchy, it's best to take a few minutes and prepare for the worst before it occurs. The first step is to at least shift into 4WD high range before it is needed. The more a driver can do to control tire spin and direction of travel, the better off the driver is going to be.

Tires are a critical component of off-road driving. Two critical factors related to tire traction are tread and tire pressure. Tire tread consists of the blocks and gaps in the tires. Tires come in three variations: all-terrain (A/T), mud-terrain (M/T), and rugged-terrain (R/T).

Although M/T tires perform well in muddy conditions, their aggressive tread design and softer rubber compounds produce higher road noise and come without treadwear warranties. On the other hand, A/T tires provide dependable road performance, lower levels of road noise while offering moderate off-road capability. R/T tires bridge the gap between A/T and M/T performance. They offer a more aggressive lug pattern than A/T, yet many manufacturers offer mileage or tire wear warranties, making them a good choice for weekend warriors.

Regardless of warranty issues, another critical factor to consider when it comes to tread wear is the reality that the tires bought two years ago no longer provide the traction they did when they were purchased. A mud grip that's past its prime may not be any better than a street tire.

Tire pressure is a critical variable that can be controlled by the off-road driver when necessary. When the going gets tough, the second thing to consider after locking into 4WD is lowering the pressure in the tires. While tires perform best on hard surfaces with pressures ranging from 30 to 38 PSI, lower pressures will improve off-road traction, providing a wider flexible footprint.

Off-road enthusiasts will frequently run tire pressures between 15 and 20 pounds in sandy or muddy soils. However, at lower pressure tires may cause sidewall pinch or the tire bead may come off the wheel. Tires mounted on standard rims should never go lower than 15 pounds of pressure to avoid de-beading.

Heavier vehicles will need higher PSIs. Twenty PSI is the recommended starting point for most vehicles.

While lowering tire pressure may prevent a driver from getting stuck, these lower pressures are not safe at highway speeds. A word of caution is in order: Be sure to invest in a pump that is not only capable of reinflating four almost flat tires but can do so in a timely manner. Otherwise getting stuck might have been a better option.

Before lowering tire pressure and charging forward, it is advisable to take a hike to scout out the trail ahead and evaluate a vehicle's ability to go forward. If possible, use a walking stick or cut a sturdy limb to gauge the depth of the water and mud hazards. When it comes to mud, viscosity is as critical a factor as the depth of the mud. This is particularly true if a vehicle does not have proper tires.

A vehicle does not have to sink up to the doors to become stuck. A slick clay road can be worse than trying to drive on an iced over road after just a shower of rain.

Once a driver is committed to going forward, has locked into four-wheel drive and lowered tire pressure, he should try to move forward at a moderate, steady pace. When possible, select a lower-range gear to maximize torque and avoid wheel spin. Avoid ruts, sudden braking, and sharp turns. If there is adequate clearance, use the tracks of vehicles that have previously succeeded getting through. At all costs do not voluntarily come to a stop unless there is danger. Once stopped, it is often impossible to regain any momentum.

For those who do get stuck, traction boards, a come-along, or winches are options for solo recovery. If they fail, the unfortunate driver better hope for cell coverage to make the call of shame. It's also time to decide whether an original destination is still reasonable.

Bill Stanfill of UGA and Miami Dolphins fame was an avid outdoorsman and had a winch that he could mount in the receiver hitch at the back of his truck. When asked about the then unusual set-up he replied, "If I'm this stuck here, why do I want to see if it's any worse ahead?" Once again, common sense can prevail.

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Miscellaneous

Employer: Phoebe Physician Group, Inc.
Position: Pediatric Hospitalist Physician
Location: Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia
Duties: As a pediatric hospitalist physician, employee will diagnose and treat medical conditions, diseases and injuries of internal organ systems in pediatric hospital inpatients who do not require surgical intervention. Employee will also order and interpret laboratory tests. Treatment consists of long-term, comprehensive care. Employee will provide medical care consistent with internal medicine.
Minimum Requirements: Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) from an accredited medical school in the U.S. (or foreign equivalent). Must have an active or pending Georgia medical license; must have passed all parts of the U.S. Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE); must have certification by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG). Completion of a 3 year U.S. residency in pediatrics. Must be board eligible in pediatrics.
Resume to: Jenny Sledge, jsledge@phoebehealth.com

MERCHANDISE

Garage Sale

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE, Sat., June 6, 8am until 5 pm. 3115 Savannah Lane, Albany, GA 31721. Everything from A to Z. Beautiful pictures, home decor, electric tools/hand tools, tool boxes, ladies shoes, men's clothes, ladies clothes, beautiful floor rugs, bar kitchen table.

Good Things to Eat

BLUEBERRIES U-Pick $10 We Pick $20 per gal. 2730 Leary Rd, Albany Mon-Sat 7am-7pm. May 30–July 4 FMI 229-869-1409 Barry

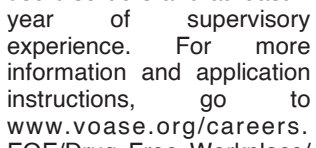
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Full-Time

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The Millennium Center – Cuthbert, GA

Women's Recovery & Substance Use Services Director

Program Director needed for managing the daily operations of a substance use treatment program in Cuthbert, GA. Minimum requirements include a Bachelor's Degree in a related field and CAC Level II (or Master's + CAC Level I), 5+ years working with individuals with substance use disorders and at least 1 year of supervisory experience. For more information and application instructions, go to www.voase.org/careers. EOE/Drug Free Workplace/ E-Verify.



Albany Legals

Construction/ Service Bids

A-553
INVITATION TO BID
Security Guard Services
BID REF. #26-060
Sealed bids will be received by the City of Albany, Procurement Division, 222 Pine Avenue, Suite 260, Albany, Georgia, 31701, until 2:30 PM, on July 1, 2026. Bid documents can be obtained from the Procurement Division, the Georgia Procurement Registry, and at www.albanyga.gov. For additional information, contact Joshua Williams, Procurement Manager, at jswilliams@albanyga.gov.
\by\ Michael Eaton, Chief Financial Officer
June 6, 2026

A-532
The Dougherty County School System Logistical Services Dept, 601 Flint Ave., ALBANY, GA 31701, will receive sealed Bids/Proposals for 017- PUR-2027, ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY SPECIALIST JUNE 17, 2026 @ 1:30 PM.
Bid documents may be obtained from our website at www.docoschools.org. Minority business enterprises are encouraged to submit bids.
By: Sharonda Thompson, Director of Logistical Services
June 6, 2026

A-513
The Dougherty County School System Logistical Services Department, located at 601 Flint Ave., Albany, GA 31701, will receive sealed Bids/Proposals for 016-SNS-2027 for Fresh Produce for School Nutrition Program on June 16, 2026 @ 11:30 AM.
Bid documents may be obtained from our website at www.docoschools.org. Minority business enterprises are encouraged to submit bids.
By: Sharonda Thompson, Director of Logistical Services
June 6, 2026

A-531
The Dougherty County School System Logistical Services Dept, 601 Flint Ave., ALBANY, GA 31701, will receive sealed Bids/Proposals for 012-SNS- 2027, FOOD SAFETY AND SANITATION PROGRAM, JUNE 17, 2026 @ 11:15 AM.
Bid documents may be obtained from our website at www.docoschools.org. Minority business enterprises are encouraged to submit bids.
By: Sharonda Thompson, Director of Logistical Services
June 6, 2026

A-512
The Dougherty County School System Logistical Services Department, located at 601 Flint Ave., Albany, GA 31701, will receive sealed Bids/Proposals for 014-SNS-2027 for Grease Trap Maintenance on June 18, 2026 @ 11:00 AM.
Bid documents may be obtained from our website at www.docoschools.org. Minority business enterprises are encouraged to submit bids.
By: Sharonda Thompson, Director of Logistical Services
June 6, 2026

A-501
The Dougherty County School System Logistical Services Department, located at 601 Flint Ave., Albany, GA 31701, will receive sealed Bids/Proposals for 018-PUR-2027 for Special Education Teachers and Special Education Paraprofessionals on June 16, 2026 @ 11:00 AM.
Bid documents may be obtained from our website at www.docoschools.org. Minority business enterprises are encouraged to submit bids.
By: Sharonda Thompson, Director of Logistical Services
June 6, 2026

A-511
The Dougherty County School System Logistical Services Department, located at 601 Flint Ave., Albany, GA 31701, will receive sealed Bids/Proposals for 022-PUR-2026 for Office Furniture on June 16, 2026 @ 11:45 AM.
Bid documents may be obtained from our website at www.docoschools.org. Minority business enterprises are encouraged to submit bids.
By: Sharonda Thompson, Director of Logistical Services
June 6, 2026

A-510
The Dougherty County School System Logistical Services Department, located at 601 Flint Ave., Albany, GA 31701, will receive sealed Bids/Proposals for 008-PUR-2027 for Specialized School Nursing Services on June 17, 2026 @ 11:30 AM.
Bid documents may be obtained from our website at www.docoschools.org. Minority business enterprises are encouraged to submit bids.
By: Sharonda Thompson, Director of Logistical Services
June 6, 2026

Debtors & Creditors

A-382
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
IN RE: ESTATE OF Ganiyu Titilayo Oladunjoye, DECEASED
All creditors of the estate of Ganiyu Titilayo Oladunjoye, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Busurat K. Oladunjoye, Administrator of
Ganiyu Titilayo Oladunjoye, deceased
3907 Edith Drive
Albany, GA 31721
May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 2026

A-493
NOTICE TO DEBTORS & CREDITORS
All creditors of the estate of LOUIE LAMB, SR., late of Dougherty County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to us.
This 18th day of May, 2026
Louie Lamb, Jr.
Executor of the Estate of
Louie Lamb, Sr., deceased
c/o David W. Orlowski
1604 W. Third Avenue
Albany, GA 31707
May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 2026

A-486
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA,
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
All creditors of the Estate of Roger L. Drake., Sr. deceased, late
of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands
to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate
are required to make immediate payment to us.
This 13th day of May, 2026.
Christopher Drake and Ray D. Drake,
Successor Co-Executors of the Estate of Roger L. Drake
1701 Lowell Ln.
Albany, GA 31707
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 2026

A-485
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA,
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
All creditors of the Estate of Annette Harris Bullard deceased, late
of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands
to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate
are required to make immediate payment to us.
This 13th day of May, 2026.
Charita Bullard,
Executrix of the Estate of Annette Harris Bullard
2368 Hannon Hill Dr.
Tallahassee, FL 32309
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 2026

A-504
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA,
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
All creditors of the Estate of ROBERT WAYNE SKAGGS deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to us.
This 23rd day of May, 2026.
Michael C. Hall,
Administrator of the Estate of Robert Wayne Skaggs P.O. Drawer 70639
Albany, Georgia 31708-0639
Hall & Williamson, P.C.
May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 2026

A-481
NOTICE
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
NOTICE is hereby given to all creditors of the Estate of Lucy Hoffman Miller, late of said county, deceased, to render an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law. All persons indebted to the Estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 12th day of May, 2026.
Stephanie Miller Kosloske, Executor
Kirbo & Kirbo, P.C.
P. O. Box 70519
Albany, GA 31708-0519
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 2026

A-546
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF GILBERT G. WARD, DECEASED
All creditors of the estate of Gilbert G. Ward, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Executor of the Estate of Gilbert G. Ward.
This 2nd day of June, 2026.
Shawndra Everett, Executor of the Gilbert G. Ward, Estate
113 SE Rosewood Drive
Albany, Georgia 31705
or
MOORE, CLARKE, DuVALL & RODGERS, P.C.
2829 Old Dawson Road
Post Office Drawer 71727
Albany, Georgia 31708-1727
(229) 888-3338
June 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026

A-491
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF RANDY MICHAEL HENRY, DECEASED
All creditors of the estate of Randy Michael Henry, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Co- Executor's of the Estate of Randy Michael Henry
This 15th day of May, 2026.
Amanda Sue Moore, Co-Executor of the Randy Michael Henry Estate
PO Box 324
Tuscarawas, Ohio 44682
or
Brandi Michelle Henry, Co-Executor of the Randy Michael Henry Estate
PO Box 66
Sale City, Georgia 31784
or
Joshua Carl Henry, Co-Executor of the Randy Michael Henry Estate
15 Covey Cave Drive
Dawson, Georgia 39842
or
MOORE, CLARKE, DuVALL & RODGERS, P.C.
2829 Old Dawson Road
Post Office Drawer 71727
Albany, Georgia 31708-1727 (229) 888-3338
May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 2026

Debtors & Creditors

A-515
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
NOTICE is hereby given to all debtors and creditors of the Estate of Marian Whaley Arnold of said county, deceased, to render an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law. All persons indebted to the estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This the 26th day of May, 2026.
John Stephen Arnold, Executor of the
Estate of Marian Whaley Arnold
c/o William D. Moorhead III
314 W. Residence Ave
Albany, GA 31701
June 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026

A-550
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
NOTICE is hereby given to all debtors and creditors of the Estate of Reuben William Schroeder of said county, deceased, to render an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law. All persons indebted to the estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 3rd day of June 2026.
Mary Lucille Schroeder, Executor of the
Estate of Reuben William Schroeder
c/o William D. Moorhead III
314 W. Residence Ave.
Albany, GA 31701
June 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026

A-541
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
NOTICE is hereby given to all debtors and creditors of the Estate of Frank Gerald Story of said county, deceased, to render an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law. All persons indebted to the estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 1st day of June, 2026.
Paula K. Higginbotham, Executor of the
Estate of Frank Gerald Story
c/o William D. Moorhead III, Esq.
314 W. Residence Ave
Albany, GA 31701
June 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026

A-498
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
NOTICE is hereby given to all debtors and creditors of the Estate of Kenderson Hill of said county, deceased, to render an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law. All persons indebted to the estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 19th day of May, 2026.
Tango Hill, Executor of the
Estate of Kenderson Hill
c/o William D. Moorhead III, Esq.
314 W. Residence Ave.
Albany, GA 31701
May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 2026

A-514
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
NOTICE is hereby given to all debtors and creditors of the Estate of Bebe Annice Watson of said county, deceased, to render an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law. All persons indebted to the estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 26th day of May 2026.
Bandi Watson Nason, Administrator of the Estate of Bebe Annice Watson
c/o S. Tanner Lowe, Esq.
314 W. Residence Ave.
Albany, GA 31701
May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 2026

A-496
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
All creditors of the estate of SUSIE LYNNETTE JORDAN MULLINS, deceased, late of said State and County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Executor.
This 19th day of May, 2026.
To be published: Four consecutive Saturdays
Julie Hamby, as Executor of the Estate of Susie Lynnette Jordan Mullins, deceased c/o Perry & Walters, LLP
Post Office Box 71209
Albany, Georgia 31708
May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 2026

A-528
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
State of Georgia,
County of DOUGHERTY
Estate No. 2026-ES-090
All creditors of the Estate of Paul David Boyd, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrator.
Joshua Cummingham
Administrator of the Estate of Paul David Boyd
c/o Christopher A. Flowers.
504 N. Jefferson Street
Albany, GA 31701
June 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026

Divorces

A-477
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
HERLINDA CARRETO DIAZ, Petitioner
VS.
MIGUEL ESCOBAR CABRERA, Respondent.
CIVIL ACTION FILE NO.: SUCV2025001281
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
To: Miguel Escobar Cabrera Guatemala
By Order for Service by Publication dated **22nd** day of **April, 2026**. You are hereby notified that on the 22nd day of December 2025, the Petitioner filed suit against you for Divorce.
You are required to file with the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, and to serve upon the Petitioner Herlinda Carreto Diaz at this address: 211 Pine Bluff RD Lot 72, Albany, GA 31705, and answer to the Petition for Divorce within sixty (60) days of the date of the first publication of notice.
Witness the Honorable **Denise Marshall** , Judge of this Court.
This **22nd** day of **April, 2026**.
Phyllis N Johnson
Clerk, Superior Court of Dougherty County
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 2026

Name Changes

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
Dougherty COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
In re the name change of:
Catlina Leon Loud
Civil Action File No. 26SUCV443-2
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
I, Catlina Leon Loud, filed a petition in the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia on the 11th day of May, 2026 to change my name from Catlina Leon Loud to Leon Catlin Loud. Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed.
Signed this 11 day of May, 2026.
Catlina Loud, Petitioner
1409 Greenbrier Court
Albany, GA 31705
229-815-6959
May 16, 23, 30 & June 6, 2026

A-476
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
Dougherty COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
In re the Name Change of the Child(ren)
Ty'Leyn Kior Hamilton., Minor child(ren)
Civil Action File No. 26CV354-2
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
I, Shakiera L Hammond, filed this petition to the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia on the 10th day of April, 2026, to change the name(s) of the minor child(ren) as follows:
Current Name of Child: Ty'Leyn Kior Hamilton
Date of Birth: 12-11-25
Proposed New Name: Ty'Leyn Kior Hammond
Any interested or affected party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within thirty days as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 19-12-1(f)(2) and (3).
This 10th day of April, 2026.
Shakiera L. Hammond
Petitioner pro se
2519 Crescent Drive
Albany, GA 31705
229-583-5813
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 2026

A-489
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, STATE OF GEORGIA, In Re: the name change of the child, THIAGO ELIAM VAIL DIAZ, a minor child, Civil Action File No.: SUCV2026000375 VJ. NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF MINOR CHILD. Brenda Aracely Vail Diaz and Rudy Anselmo Che Xol, filed this Petition in the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, on the 23rd day of June, 2026, to change the name of the minor child as follows: Current Name of Child: THIAGO ELIAM VAIL DIAZ, Year of birth: 2025; Proposed New Name: THIAGO ELIAM CHE VAIL. Any interested or affected party has the right to appear and file objections within thirty days as set forth in O.C.G.A. §18-12-1(f)(2) and (3). This 14th day of May, 2026. Brenda Aracely Vail Diaz and Rudy Anselmo Che Xol, Petitioners.
By Kimberly D. Lamb
Brimberry Kaplan & Brimberry, P.C.
P. O. Box 1805
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 436-0537
May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 2026

Probate Court Administration

A-517
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: JOAN DORN TEDESCO
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-126
Christopher Lee Tedesco has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **JOAN DORN TEDESCO,** Deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before **June 22, 2026.**
All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102
May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 2026

Probate Court Administration

A-536
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: KATHY JEAN HAMRICK
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-149
John Clark has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **KATHY JEAN HAMRICK**, Deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before **June 29, 2026.**
All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102
June 6,13, 20, 27, 2026

A-459
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: MARTHA MARIE THOMPSON
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-156
Michael Wayne Thompson has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **MARTHA MARIE THOMPSON**, Deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before **June 8, 2026.**
All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 2026

A-535
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: LARRY HUNT
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-191
TO: GWENDOLYN W. BRASWELL AND TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Bobbi Porto has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of LARRY HUNT, Deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before **June 29, 2026.**
All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 2026

A-538
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: STELLA PETE
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-193
Reve Pete has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **STELLA PETE**, Deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before **June 29, 2026.**
All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702

Probate Court Administration

(229) 431-2102
June 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026

A-500
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: BARBARA TURNER
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-180
Sharmille "Nichole" Edmonson has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **BARBARA TURNER**, Deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before June 22, 2026.
All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102
May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 2026

A-448
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: KEITHRICK DONELL WILLIAMS
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-065
Crystal N. Williams has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **KEITHRICK DONELL WILLIAMS,** Deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before **June 8, 2026.**
All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 2026

Probate Court Guardianship

A-516
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
CASE NAME: RAYSHON KENNORRIS FOSTER
ESTATE NO: 2026-GM-070
IN RE: Petition for Temporary Guardianship of a Minor
TO: ANY POSSIBLE FATHER OF THE MINOR and ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES
You are hereby notified that Rosemary Foster Igles filed a Petition seeking to be appointed temporary guardian of the above-named Minor. All objections to the Petition to the appointment of a temporary guardian or the appointment of the Petitioner as temporary guardian, must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and be filed with this Court no later than fourteen (14) days after this notice is mailed, or ten (10) days after this notice is personally served upon you, or ten (10) days after the second publication of this notice if you were served by publication.
All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or Georgia probate court clerk and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact Probate Court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If no objection is filed, the Petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Probate Judge
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102
May 30, June 6, 2026

Probate Court Misc.

A-460
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF ROBBIE ANN HORNE, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 2026-ES-163
PETITION BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR WAIVER OF BOND AND/OR GRANT OF CERTAIN POWERS
NOTICE
Leonard E. Horne, III, has petitioned for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or for the grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261 in regard to the above estate. All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before **June 8, 2026.**
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary

Probate Court Misc.

public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge of the Probate Court
Dougherty County Probate Court
225 Pine Ave, Suite 123
Albany, GA 31702
229-431-2102
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 2026

Probate Court 12 mth Support

A-458
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: RONALD B. BURKE
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-166
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The Petition of **Wylean M. Burke** for a year's support from the estate of **RONALD B. BURKE,** Deceased, for Decedent's surviving spouse having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any, on or before **June 8, 2026,** why said petition should not be granted.

All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All pleading/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102
May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 2026

Public Sales/ Auctions

A-554
ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

You are hereby notified, in accordance with OCGA 40-11-19 (a) (2), that each of the below referenced vehicles are subject to a lien and a petition may be filed in court to foreclose a lien for all amounts owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. Vehicles are currently located at: A1 Wrecker Service
The vehicles subject to liens as stated above are identified as:

Make: Dodge
Model: Avenger
Year: 2013
Vin #: 1C3CDZAB1DN725383
Tag: NONE
State: GA

Make: Toyota
Model: RAV4
Year: 2004
Vin #:JTEHD20V940008050
Tag: NONE
State:

Anyone with an ownership interest in any of these vehicles should contact the following business immediately:
A1 Wrecker
213 7th Ave
Albany, GA 31701
Phone: (229)-436-3990
June 6, 13, 2026

A-551
NOTICE OF SALE

Family Heirloom Storage of Albany
431 S. Mock Rd
Albany GA 31705
Personal property consisting of sofas, TV's, clothes, boxes, household goods and other personal property used in home, office or garage will be sold or otherwise disposed of at public sale on the date & time indicated below to satisfy Owners Lien for rent & fees due in accordance with Georgia Statutes: Self-Storage Act, All items or spaces may not be available for sale. Credit cards only for all purchases & tax resale certificates required, if applicable. OWNER RETAINS THE RIGHT TO BID

A006 D. Bright
B024 E. Echols
B025 W. Shively
B032 E. Echols
C004 C. Coleman
C014 T. Kelly-Kerce
F003 K. Windom
G002 E. Mitchell
G005 M. Parker
G010 E. Goodwin
G029 D. McFarland
H003 K. Lafrenz
H018 T. Shorts
H019 S. Beach
H020 M. Wright
H037 T. Green
I002 J. Green
I019 W. Johnson
I025 S. Jones
I034 R. Allen
J002 M. Milledge
J006 M. Milledge
J019 E. Moore
J022 M. McConnell
J028 D. McFarland
J034 M. McConnell
K035 E. West
L001 G. Wynn
L013 L. Milledge
M027 M. McConnell
N005 A. Williams

Auction will be held at www.bid13.com and will end on or after 11:00AM on 06/22/2026
June 6, 13, 2026

A-542
Auction Date: June 24, 2026
Hickory Grove Storage
1159 Hwy 82 W
Leesburg, GA 31763
The following units at Hickory Grove Storage will be sold to the highest bidder on June 24, 2026 at 10:00am. The auction will be whole bin absolute sale. Buyers will have until Saturday June 27, 2026 at 5:00 pm to remove all property.
Units must be left in broom clean condition.

Unit # 1177
Name: Victoria Whitlow
Items: Household items

Unit # 6015
Name: Victoria Whitlow
Items: Household items

Public Sales/ Auctions

Unit # 6028
Name: Victoria Whitlow
Items: Household items
June 6, 13, 2026

A-547
You are hereby notified, in accordance with OCGA 40-11-19 (a) (2), that each of the below-referenced vehicles are subject to a lien and a petition may be filed in court to foreclose a lien for all amounts owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The vehicles are currently located at Hook Em Towing and Wrecker Service – 204 Poplar Street Albany, Ga 31707.The vehicles subject to liens as stated above are identified as:

Vehicle Make: KIA
Year: 2017
Model: CADENZA
Vehicle ID#: KNALC4J12H5093859
Vehicle License #: SLE2672
State: GA

Vehicle Make: KIA
Year: 2012
Model: FORTE
Vehicle ID#: KNAFU4A29C5487905
Vehicle License #: 4414TX
State SC

Vehicle Make: NISSAN
Year: 2011
Model: MAXIMA
Vehicle ID#: 1N4AA5AP1BC826678
Vehicle License #: AAE1NK
State GA

Vehicle Make: TOYOTA
Year: 2005
Model: CAMRY US LE
Vehicle ID#: 4T1BE32K15U989769
Vehicle License #: DDI3059
State GA

Vehicle Make: FORD
Year: 2014
Model: FUSION
vehicle ID#: 3FA6P0K94ER293268
Vehicle License #: SFN4578
State GA

Vehicle Make: FORD
Year: 2014
Model: FUSION
Vehicle ID#: 3FA6P0K9XER119110
Vehicle License #: CQD7960
State GA

Vehicle Make: CHEVROLET
Year: 2015
Model: MALIBU
Vehicle ID#: 1G11C5SL0FF312821
Vehicle License #: SKL1838
State GA

Anyone with an ownership interest in any of these vehicles should contact the following business immediately:
Business Name: Hook Em Towing and Wrecker Service Address: 204 Poplar Street Albany, Ga 31707
Telephone #: 229-496-2011
June 6, 13, 2026

A-548
ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE PETITION ADVERTISEMENT

You are hereby notified, in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 40-11-19.1, that petitions were filed in the Magistrate Court of County to foreclose liens against the vehicles listed below for all amounts owed. If a lien is foreclosed, the Court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The present location of the vehicles is: Hook Em Towing and Wrecker Service – 204 Poplar Street Albany, Ga 31707. Anyone with an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: _June 22, 2026. Answer forms may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerk's office located at: 225 Pine Ave – Albany, Ga 31701
Forms may also be obtained online at www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com.

Vehicle DESCRIPTION: GATOR 50-S3 EXPRESS (BLACK MOPED)
Year: UNKN
Vehicle ID#: L2BB9NCCXRB201384

Vehicle License #: UNKN
State UNKN
Magistrate Court Case No: 2026-149AV

Vehicle Make: NISSAN
Year: 2011
Model: MAXIMA
Vehicle ID#: 1N4AA5AP1BC826678
Vehicle License #: AAE1NK
State GA Magistrate Court Case No: 2026-132AV

Anyone with an ownership interest in any of these vehicles should contact the following business immediately:
Business Name: Hook Em Towing and Wrecker Service Address: 204 Poplar Street Albany, Ga 31707
Telephone #: 229-496-2011
June 6, 13, 2026

A-404
Public Auction
Location:
Royal Storage
2801 Palmyra Road
Albany, GA 31707
229-446-2038
Date & Time:
Tuesday, June16, 2026
Bids due by 12:00 PM Sharp
Auction by Sealed Bid Only
Viewing:
Monday, June 15, 2026
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

117 Lonnie Green: Boxes, kids battery car, tools, tires & misc.

324 Ann Hicks: Boxes, furniture, cooler, chest & misc. 329 Ann Hicks: Boxes, dolly, totes & misc.

331 Janet Jediny: Furniture, refrigerator, exercise bike, boxes & misc.

740 Baily Earnest: Mattress, boxspring, chair, appliance & misc.
May 30, June 6, 13, 2026

A-508
Miles towing & recovery
Abandon motor vehicle advertisement notice

Vehicle make- GMC
Model - Acadia Year 2017
Vin-16KKOTLS7HZ227936
License # V3702 V
State- NY

Your are here by notified in accordance with ooga 40-11-19.1(b) (2) that the above referenced vehicle are subject to a lien and a petition has been filed in court to foreclose a lien for all amounts owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The vehicle is currently located at 313 n Jefferson Street Albany ga 31701. Anyone with an ownership interest in this vehicle should contact the following business immediately at miles towing & recovery at 313 n Jefferson street Albany ga 31701, or call at 229-431-2949 thanks.
May 30, June 6, 2026

A-509
Paint Pro Towing,LLC
2804 Wilmar Lane
Albany,Ga.31707
Wednesday, June 10,2026
10:00-2:00

1.) 2019 Hyundai Tucson
Case # 2026-94AV
Vin # KM8J23A49KU914983

2.) 2005 Subaru Forester
Case # 2026-93AV
Vin # JF1SG67685H74397
May 30, June 6, 2026

A-533
ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE:

You are hereby, in accordance with OCGA 40-11-19 (A) 2, that petitions were filed in the Magistrate Court of Dougherty County to foreclose liens for all amounts owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The vehicle is currently located at: Strums Elite Towing & Recovery, 2800 Phillips Drive Albany Ga 31721. Anyone with an ownership interest in this vehicle should contact the business above.

VIN: 2CNDL13F876071216
Year: 2007
Make: CHEV
Model: Equinox*

Vin: 1G1BL52WXTR156554
Year: 1996
Make: CHEV
Model: Caprice Classic*

Vin: KMHCT4AE5HU197429
Year:2017
Make: Hyundai
Model: Accent *

Vin: 1GNEC13Z25R249973
Year: 2005
Make: CHEV
Model: Tahoe*
Trim: Z71*
June 6, 13, 2026

A-502
PUBLIC AUTO AUCTION
6-15-2026 9:00 AM
LOCATION: Strums Elite Towing & Recovery 2800 Phillips Dr
ALBANY, GA 31721
229-319-5924

IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.C.G.A. SECTION 40-11-02, FIFTY-FOUR (54) ABANDONED, WRECKED AND STOLEN VEHICLES ARE TO BE AUCTIONED TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER. TERMS OF PAYMENT: CASH, CASHIERS CHECK OR PERSONAL CHECK WITH LETTER OF CREDIT FROM YOUR BANK.
7% CAR PREMIUM CHARGE ON EACH PURCHASE.
ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE:
You are hereby, in accordance with OCGA 40-11-19 (A) 2, that petitions were filed in the Magistrate Court of Dougherty County to foreclose liens for all amounts owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The vehicle is currently located at: Strums Elite Towing & Recovery, 2800 Phillips Drive Albany Ga 31721. Anyone with an ownership interest in this vehicle should contact the business above.

Year: 2025
Vehicle: Freightliner
Model:Cascadia
Vin: 3AKJHHDR1SSVZ3791

Year: 2015
Vehicle: Jeep
Model:Cherokee
Vin: 1C4PJMCB4FW687862

Year: 2021
Vehicle: MATERIAL HANDLING OF GEORGIA
Model:Car Carrier 20'
Vin:4M9BU2021MA152780
Type: Trailer

Year: 2022
Vehicle: Hyundai
Model: Translead
Vin: 3H3V532K0NJ345447

Year:2022
Vehicle:Kia
Model:K5
Vin: 5XXG64J22NG164635

Year:2018
Vehicle:Chevrolet
Model: Equinox
Vin: 2GNAXJEV5J6270870

Year:2011
Vehicle:Chevrolet
Model:Impala
Vin: 2G1WB5EK5B1141996

Year:2015
Vehicle:GMC
Model:YukonXL
Vin:1GKS1HKC3FR293381

Year:2008
Vehicle:Audi
Model:A4
Vin: WAUAF78E88A045945

Year:2010
Vehicle:FORD
Model:F350
Vin:1FTWW3DR4AEA79499
May 30, June 6, 2026

A-540
LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Notice is hereby given that Tony's Towing & Wrecker Service, Albany, Georgia, pursuant to O.C.G.A. 40-11-2, will sell at public auction the following abandoned motor vehicles for towing, storage, and related charges.
Sale Date: June 23,2026
Sale Time: 10:00 A.M
Sale Location: Tony's Towing & Wrecker Service,
1541 E Broad Ave Albany, Ga 31705
229-405-3930
Vehicles:

[2016] [CHRY] [200] VIN #[1C3CCCAB1GN101152]

[2012] [DODGE] [CHARGER] VIN #[2C3CDXHGOCH185974]

[2015] [CHEV] [CRUIZE] VIN #[1G1PE5SB4F7207480]

2012 CHEY 200
VIN #1C3CCBAB2CN1313393

2013 KIA OPTIMA
VIN # 5XXGM4A71DG153707

2005 Chevy Silverado
VIN #2GCEK19B15134595

The vehicles will be sold AS IS to the highest bidder. Tony's Towing & Wrecker Service reserves
the right to reject any and all bids.
June 6, 13, 2026

Foreclosures

A-537
MAGISTRATE COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA
Case No: 2026-96 AV
912 318 4037
Rusty Moore Body Shop
288 MacDonald Lane
Tifton, GA 31794
rustymoorebodyshop@gmail.com,
Plaintiff
vs.
Vikero Kegler
1608 W. Highland Avenue
Albany, GA 31707
Vehicle Owner
Motor Vehicle Description:
2007 Honda Accord
Blue 4 door
1HGCM56497A008533
PETITION FOR ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE LIEN FORECLOSURE

NOW COMES PETITIONER, a towing or storage facility, repair facility salvage dealer, and files this petition to foreclose on the above-referenced abandoned motor vehicle.
Date vehicle was left at repair facility: 11/1/2025
Date information was requested from Department of Revenue or authorized entity (copy of owner information attached): 1/12/2026
Date and method of first notice was mailed: 1/21/2026.
The accrued fees allowed under OCGA § 40-11-19, as set forth below, have not been paid.
PETITIONER PRAYS that the lien be foreclosed and an order be issued to allow for public sale of the vehicle to satisfy a lien for the following amounts:
Removal (Towing) Fee: $0.00
Storage: (At $50.00 per day for 10 days) $100.00
Future Storage Fee: $50.00 per day from date of filing this action through 25
Repair Fees (if applicable, with invoice attached): $ 3000.00
Cost of Obtaining Owner Information: $2.00
Notification/Advertising Fees: $10.48
TOTAL: $3112.48
PETITIONER ALSO PRAYS for prejudgment interest at the rate of 4% per annum from which the OCGA § 40-11-19 notification was received, 15% attorney's fees (if applicable), and all costs of court.
Sworn to and Subscribed before me
This 23rd day of March, 2026.
KMerks
Notary Public or Clerk
My Commission Expires:
Alexis MacDonald
Plaintiff/Attorney for Plaintiff
SUMMONS
YOU MUST FILE AN ANSWER TO THIS CLAIM NO LATER THAN TEN (10) DAYS FROM RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE USING THE STANDARDIZED ANSWER FORM PROVIDED. FAILURE TO FILE A TIMELY ANSWER WILL RESULT IN FORECLOSURE OF THE LIEN AND A COURT ORDER AUTHORIZING DISPOSITION OF THE VEHICLE PURSUANT TO OCGA 40-11-19.2.
June 6, 13, 2026

A-520
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
SHONNA COLLEY JOSEY, TAX DIRECTOR OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, P.O. BOX 1827, ALBANY, GA 31702
229-431-2130, Petitioner,
vs.
LOT 7, ROLLING ACRES SUBDIVISION, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, 2912 LEARY ROAD, ALBANY, GEORGIA, EDWARD EUGENE DAVIS AND ANNELLE STRAWDER DAVIS, OR THEIR ESTATE AND ANY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE HEIRS AT LAW, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, WHOMSOEVER, WHOSE NAMES AND/OR ADDRESSES ARE KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, Respondents.
CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER SUCV2026000476
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR IN REM FORECLOSURE

To Whom It May Concern, and to those Respondents named above:
Take notice pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 48-4-78(f), that Shonna Colley Josey, solely in her capacity as the Tax Director for Dougherty County, Georgia filed the above-styled petition on May 22, 2026, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Albany, Georgia, seeking authority to conduct an in rem foreclose for failure of the payment of ad valorem taxes due for the years 2021 through 2025 in the amount of $16,699.84 (amount includes principal amount of taxes owed and any accrued interest and penalties as of March 20, 2026) for real property located at the address identified above. The applicable parcel identification number is 00311/00001/003.

A legal description of the property which is the subject of the action is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and by this reference incorporated herein.
This 27th day of May, 2026.
PAGE, SCRANTOM, SPROUSE, TUCKER & FORD, P.C.
By:S/Stephen G. Gunby
Stephen G. Gunby
Ga. Bar No.: 315212
Attorneys for Dougherty County Tax Director
P.O. Box 1199
1111 Bay Avenue, Third Floor
Columbus, Georgia 31901
(706) 243-5630
sgunby@pagescrantom.com
EXHIBIT "A"

All of Lot Seven (7) of Rolling Acres Subdivision as shown by a map or plat recorded in Plat Book Two (2), Page One Hundred Thirty-two (132) in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia. Said subdivision being a part of Land Lot Two Hundred Seventy-eight (278) of the Second Land District of Dougherty County, Georgia.
Together with all rights, title, and interest running with the above-described property but not taxed under a separate tax reference number as delineated on the tax maps of the petitioner for the year(s) for the taxes being foreclosed.
May 30, June 6, 2026

A-525
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
SHONNA COLLEY JOSEY, TAX DIRECTOR OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, P.O. BOX 1827, ALBANY, GA 31702, 229-431-2130, Petitioner,
vs.
LOT 10, BLOCK 10, RAGSDALE-ODOM ADDITION, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, 418 HOLLOWAY AVENUE, ALBANY, GEORGIA, SAMUEL THORNTON, OR HIS ESTATE AND ANY OF HIS RESPECTIVE HEIRS AT LAW, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, WHOMSOEVER, WHOSE NAMES AND/OR ADDRESSES ARE KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, Respondents.
CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER SUCV2026000478
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR IN REM FORECLOSURE

To Whom It May Concern, and to those Respondents named above:
Take notice pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 48-4-78(f), that Shonna Colley Josey, solely in her capacity as the Tax Director for Dougherty County, Georgia filed the above-styled petition on May 22, 2026, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Albany, Georgia, seeking authority to conduct an in rem foreclose for failure of the payment of ad valorem taxes due for the years 2021 through 2025 in the amount of $14,884.24 (amount includes principal amount of taxes owed and any accrued interest and penalties as of March 20, 2026) for real property located at the address identified above. The applicable parcel identification number is 00311/00001/004.

A legal description of the property which is the subject of the action is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and by this reference incorporated herein.
This 27th day of May, 2026.
PAGE, SCRANTOM, SPROUSE, TUCKER & FORD, P.C.
By:S/Stephen G. Gunby
Stephen G. Gunby
Ga. Bar No.: 315212
Attorneys for Dougherty County Tax Director
P.O. Box 1199
1111 Bay Avenue, Third Floor
Columbus, Georgia 31901
(706) 243-5630
sgunby@pagescrantom.com
EXHIBIT "A"

All of Lot 10, Block 10, Ragsdale-Odom Addition to the City of Albany, as per may or plat of said subdivision recorded in Deed Book 15, Page 344 and 345 in the Office of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia. This property is known as 418 Holloway Avenue according to the present system of numbering in the City of Albany, Georgia.
Together with all rights, title, and interest running with the above-described property but not taxed under a separate tax reference number as delineated on the tax maps of the petitioner for the year(s) for the taxes being foreclosed.
May 30, June 6, 2026

Foreclosures

RESPECTIVE HEIRS AT LAW, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, WHOMSOEVER, WHOSE NAMES AND/OR ADDRESSES ARE KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, Respondents.
CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER SUCV2026000481
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR IN REM FORECLOSURE

To Whom It May Concern, and to those Respondents named above:
Take notice pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 48-4-78(f), that Shonna Colley Josey, solely in her capacity as the Tax Director for Dougherty County, Georgia filed the above-styled petition on May 22, 2026, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Albany, Georgia, seeking authority to conduct an in rem foreclose for failure of the payment of ad valorem taxes due for the years 2022 through 2025 in the amount of $756.11 (amount includes principal amount of taxes owed and any accrued interest and penalties as of April 21, 2026) for real property located at the address identified above. The applicable parcel identification number is 00001/00017/029.

A legal description of the property which is the subject of the action is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and by this reference incorporated herein.
This 27th day of May, 2026.
PAGE, SCRANTOM, SPROUSE, TUCKER & FORD, P.C.
By: S/Stephen G. Gunby
Stephen G. Gunby
Ga. Bar No.: 315212
Attorneys for Dougherty County Tax Director
P.O. Box 1199
1111 Bay Avenue, Third Floor
Columbus, Georgia 31901
(706) 243-5630
sgunby@pagescrantom.com
EXHIBIT "A"

All of Lot 10, Block 10, Ragsdale-Odom Addition to the City of Albany, as per may or plat of said subdivision recorded in Deed Book 15, Page 344 and 345 in the Office of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia. This property is known as 418 Holloway Avenue according to the present system of numbering in the City of Albany, Georgia.
Together with all rights, title, and interest running with the above-described property but not taxed under a separate tax reference number as delineated on the tax maps of the petitioner for the year(s) for the taxes being foreclosed.
May 30, June 6, 2026

A-521
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
SHONNA COLLEY JOSEY, TAX DIRECTOR OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, P.O. BOX 1827, ALBANY, GA 31702
229-431-2130, Petitioner,
vs.
LOT 8, ROLLING ACRES SUBDIVISION, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, 2914 LEARY ROAD, ALBANY, GEORGIA, EDWARD EUGENE DAVIS AND ANNELLE STRAWDER DAVIS, OR THEIR ESTATE AND ANY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE HEIRS AT LAW, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, WHOMSOEVER, WHOSE NAMES AND/OR ADDRESSES ARE KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, Respondents.
CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER SUCV2026000477
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR IN REM FORECLOSURE

To Whom It May Concern, and to those Respondents named above:
Take notice pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 48-4-78(f), that Shonna Colley Josey, solely in her capacity as the Tax Director for Dougherty County, Georgia filed the above-styled petition on May 22, 2026, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Albany, Georgia, seeking authority to conduct an in rem foreclose for failure of the payment of ad valorem taxes due for the years 2021 through 2025 in the amount of $14,884.24 (amount includes principal amount of taxes owed and any accrued interest and penalties as of March 20, 2026) for real property located at the address identified above. The applicable parcel identification number is 00311/00001/004.

A legal description of the property which is the subject of the action is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and by this reference incorporated herein.
This 27th day of May, 2026.
PAGE, SCRANTOM, SPROUSE, TUCKER & FORD, P.C.
By:S/Stephen G. Gunby
Stephen G. Gunby
Ga. Bar No.: 315212
Attorneys for Dougherty County Tax Director
P.O. Box 1199
1111 Bay Avenue, Third Floor
Columbus, Georgia 31901
(706) 243-5630
sgunby@pagescrantom.com
EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County of Dougherty, State of Georgia, and being all of Lot #8 of ROLLING ACRES SUBDIVISION, according to a plat of same recorded in Plat Book (2), Page (132) in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia and being part of Land Lot (278) in the Second Land District of Dougherty County, Georgia.
Together with all rights, title, and interest running with the above-described property but not taxed under a separate tax reference number as delineated on the tax maps of the petitioner for the year(s) for the taxes being foreclosed.
May 30, June 6, 2026

A-522
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
SHONNA COLLEY JOSEY, TAX DIRECTOR OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, P.O. BOX 1827, ALBANY, GA 31702
229-431-2130, Petitioner,
vs.
LOT 9, ROLLING ACRES SUBDIVISION, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, 2916 LEARY ROAD, ALBANY, GEORGIA, EDWARD EUGENE DAVIS AND ANNELLE STRAWDER DAVIS, OR THEIR ESTATE AND ANY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE HEIRS AT LAW, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, WHOMSOEVER, WHOSE NAMES AND/OR ADDRESSES ARE KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, Respondents.
CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER SUCV2026000480
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR IN REM FORECLOSURE

To Whom It May Concern, and to those Respondents named above:
Take notice pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 48-4-78(f), that Shonna Colley Josey, solely in her capacity as the Tax Director for Dougherty County, Georgia filed the above-styled petition on May 22, 2026, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Albany, Georgia, seeking authority to conduct an in rem foreclose for failure of the payment of ad valorem taxes due for the years 2021 through 2025 in the amount of $1,095.15 (amount includes principal amount of taxes owed and any accrued interest and penalties as of March 20, 2026) for real property located at the address identified above. The applicable parcel identification number is 0000I/00018/025.

A legal description of the property which is the subject of the action is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and by this reference incorporated herein.
This 27th day of May, 2026.
PAGE, SCRANTOM, SPROUSE, TUCKER & FORD, P.C.
By: S/Stephen G. Gunby
Stephen G. Gunby
Ga. Bar No.: 315212
Attorneys for Dougherty County Tax Director
P.O. Box 1199
1111 Bay Avenue, Third Floor
Columbus, Georgia 31901
(706) 243-5630
sgunby@pagescrantom.com
EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Dougherty County, Georgia and more particularly described as all of Lot 9 of Rolling Acres Subdivision, according to a Plat of said Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 132. And being a part of Land Lot 278 in the 2nd Land District of Dougherty County, Georgia.
Together with all rights, title, and interest running with the above-described property but not taxed under a separate tax reference number as delineated on the tax maps of the petitioner for the year(s) for the taxes being foreclosed.
May 30, June 6, 2026

A-523
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
SHONNA COLLEY JOSEY, TAX DIRECTOR OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, P.O. BOX 1827, ALBANY, GA 31702
229-431-2130, Petitioner,
vs.
LOT 62, WHISPERING PINES SUBDIVISON, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, 1400 WHISPERING PINES ROAD, ALBANY, GEORGIA, GREENLEO DEVELOPMENT, LLC, HORACE W. MUSGROVE AND MARK COHEN, OR THEIR ESTATE AND ANY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE HEIRS AT LAW, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, WHOMSOEVER, WHOSE NAMES AND/OR ADDRESSES ARE KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, Respondents.
CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER SUCV2026000479
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR IN REM FORECLOSURE

To Whom It May Concern, and to those Respondents named above:
Take notice pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 48-4-78(f), that Shonna Colley Josey, solely in her capacity as the Tax Director for Dougherty County, Georgia filed the above-styled petition on May 22, 2026, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Albany, Georgia, seeking authority to conduct an in rem foreclose for failure of the payment of ad valorem taxes due for the years 2023 through 2025 in the amount of $1,427.23 (amount includes principal amount of taxes owed and any accrued interest and penalties as of April 21, 2026) for real property located at the address identified above. The applicable parcel identification number is 0000N/00027/066.

A legal description of the property which is the subject of the action is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and by this reference incorporated herein.
This 27th day of May, 2026.
PAGE, SCRANTOM, SPROUSE, TUCKER & FORD, P.C.
By: S/Stephen G. Gunby
Stephen G. Gunby
Ga. Bar No.: 315212
Attorneys for Dougherty County Tax Director
P.O. Box 1199
1111 Bay Avenue, Third Floor
Columbus, Georgia 31901
(706) 243-5630
sgunby@pagescrantom.com
EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Dougherty County, Georgia and being more particularly described as a part of Lan Lot 371 of the First District of said County, and more particularly described as all of Lot 62 of Whispering Pines Subdivision, according to a map or plat of said subdivision recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 262 in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia.
Together with all rights, title, and interest running with the above-described property but not taxed under a separate tax reference number as delineated on the tax maps of the petitioner for the year(s) for the taxes being foreclosed.
May 30, June 6, 2026

A-524
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
SHONNA COLLEY JOSEY, TAX DIRECTOR OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, P.O. BOX 1827, ALBANY, GA 31702, 229-431-2130, Petitioner,
vs.
LOT 11, BLOCK 11, RAGSDALE ADDITION, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, 422 DORSETT AVNUE, ALBANY, GEORGIA, CHARLIE BROWN, SR, OR HIS ESTATE AND ANY OF HIS RESPECTIVE HEIRS AT LAW, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, WHOMSOEVER, WHOSE NAMES AND/OR ADDRESSES ARE KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, Respondents.
CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER SUCV2026000480
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR IN REM FORECLOSURE

To Whom It May Concern, and to those Respondents named above:
Take notice pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 48-4-78(f), that Shonna Colley Josey, solely in her capacity as the Tax Director for Dougherty County, Georgia filed the above-styled petition on May 22, 2026, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Albany, Georgia, seeking authority to conduct an in rem foreclose for failure of the payment of ad valorem taxes due for the years 2023 through 2025 in the amount of $480.30 (amount includes principal amount of taxes owed and any accrued interest and penalties as of April 21, 2026) for real property located at the address identified above. The applicable parcel identification number is 00146/00001/008

A legal description of the property which is the subject of the action is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and by this reference incorporated herein.
This 27th day of May, 2026.
PAGE, SCRANTOM, SPROUSE, TUCKER & FORD, P.C.
By: S/Stephen G. Gunby
Stephen G. Gunby
Ga. Bar No.: 315212
Attorneys for Dougherty County Tax Director
P.O. Box 1199
1111 Bay Avenue, Third Floor
Columbus, Georgia 31901
(706) 243-5630
sgunby@pagescrantom.com
EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 94 of the First Land District of Dougherty County, Georgia and being more particularly described as all of Lot 9 according to a map or plat of survey entitled "Plat Property of Mrs. Frances Wellman" dated January 26, 1959 and recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 28 in the Dougherty County, Georgia Superior Court Clerk's Office.
Together with all rights, title, and interest running with the above-described property but not taxed under a separate tax reference number as delineated on the tax maps of the petitioner for the year(s) for the taxes being foreclosed.
May 30, June 6, 2026

A-519
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
SHONNA COLLEY JOSEY, TAX DIRECTOR OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, P.O. BOX 1827, ALBANY, GA 31702, 229-431-2130, Petitioner,
vs.
PART OF CITY LOT93, BLOCK 23, CITY OF ALBANY, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, 619 PINE AVENUE, ALBANY, GEORGIA, THOMAS JAMES MARSHALL, JR., OR HIS ESTATE AND ANY OF HIS RESPECTIVE HEIRS AT LAW, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, WHOMSOEVER, WHOSE NAMES AND/OR ADDRESSES ARE KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, Respondents.
CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER: SUCV2026000475
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR IN REM FORECLOSURE

To Whom It May Concern, and to those Respondents named above:
Take notice pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 48-4-78(f), that Shonna Colley Josey, solely in her capacity as the Tax Director for Dougherty County, Georgia filed the above-styled petition on May 22, 2026, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Albany, Georgia, seeking authority to conduct an in rem foreclose for failure of the payment of ad valorem taxes due for the years 2023 through 2025 in the amount of $3,486.32 (amount includes principal amount of taxes owed and any accrued interest and penalties as of

Foreclosures

March 20, 2026, for real property located at the address identified above. The applicable parcel identification number is 0000D/00039/010.

A legal description of the property which is the subject of the action is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and by this reference incorporated herein.

This 27th day of May, 2026.

PAGE, SCRANTOM, SPROUSE, TUCKER & FORD, P.C.
By:S/Stephen G. Gunby
Stephen G. Gunby
Ga. Bar No.: 315212
Attorneys for Dougherty County Tax Director

P.O. Box 1199
1111 Bay Avenue, Third Floor
Columbus, Georgia 31901
(706) 243-5630
sgunby@pagescrantom.com

EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being IN THE CITY OF ALBANY, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA,

And being a part of City Lot 93, in Block 23, more particularly described is follows: COMMENCING at the northeast corner of Davis Street and Pine Avenue and go thence east along the north side of Pine Avenue a distance of 321.4 feet to the point of beginning, from this point of beginning continue east along the north right of way line of Pine Avenue a distance of 49.3 feet; from this point go north with an interior angle of 89° 42' a distance of 134 feet; go thence in a westerly direction parallel to Pine Avenue a distance of 46.5 feet to a point; go thence in a southerly direction, parallel to the east line a distance of 30 feet to a point; go thence in a westerly direction, parallel to Pine Avenue a distance of 2.8 feet; go thence in a southerly direction, parallel to the east line a distance of 104 feet to the side of Pine Avenue and point of beginning.

Together with all rights, title, and interest running with the above-described property but not taxed under a separate tax reference number as delineated on the tax maps of the petitioner for the year(s) for the taxes being foreclosed.

May 30, June 6, 2026

A-526
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
SHONNA COLLEY JOSEY, TAX DIRECTOR OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, P.O. BOX 1827, ALBANY, GA 31702, 229-431-2130, Petitioner,
vs.
LOT 10, COACHMAN PARK ADDITION, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, 511 LOUIS AVENUE, ALBANY, GEORGIA, JESSE E. GADSON, OR HIS ESTATE AND ANY OF HIS RESPECTIVE HEIRS AT LAW, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, WHOMSOEVER, WHOSE NAMES AND/OR ADDRESSES ARE KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, Respondents.
CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER SUCV2026000483
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR IN REM FORECLOSURE

To Whom It May Concern, and to those Respondents named above:

Take notice pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 48-4-78(f), that Shonna Colley Josey, solely in her capacity as the Tax Director for Dougherty County, Georgia filed the above-styled petition on May 22, 2026, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Albany, Georgia, seeking authority to conduct an in rem foreclose for failure of the payment of ad valorem taxes due for the years 1992 through 2025 in the amount of $9,056.76 (amount includes principal amount of taxes owed and any accrued interest and penalties as of April 21, 2026) for real property located at the address identified above. The applicable parcel identification number is 0000I/00033/010.

A legal description of the property which is the subject of the action is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and by this reference incorporated herein.

This 27th day of May, 2026.

PAGE, SCRANTOM, SPROUSE, TUCKER & FORD, P.C.
By: S/Stephen G. Gunby
Stephen G. Gunby
Ga. Bar No.: 315212
Attorneys for Dougherty County Tax Director

P.O. Box 1199
1111 Bay Avenue, Third Floor
Columbus, Georgia 31901
(706) 243-5630
sgunby@pagescrantom.com

EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the City of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia, and being all of Lot 10 of Coachman Park Addition, according to plat recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 52, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia.

Together with all rights, title, and interest running with the above-described property but not taxed under a separate tax reference number as delineated on the tax maps of the petitioner for the year(s) for the taxes being foreclosed.

May 30, June 6, 2026

A-539
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT TO REDEEM
GEORGIA, CALHOUN COUNTY

All persons having of record in the county in which the land is located any right, title or interest in or lien upon the following described property, yo-wit: All and only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel E010 007, lying and being in the 4th Land District, City of Edison, Calhoun County, Georgia, being City Lot 124, described in Deed Book 178, Page 29, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 101 First Avenue.

TAKE NOTICE THAT: The right to redeem the hereinabóve described property will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 15 day of July, 2026.

The tax deed to which this notice relates is dated the 5th day of November, 2024 and is recorded in the office of Clerk of Superior Court of Calhoun County, Georgia in Deed Book 230, Page 668.

The property may be redeemed at any time before the 15 day of July 2026 by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law at the following address: Donnell Bryant, 315 Summerset Loop, Blakely, GA 39823 Please be governed accordingly.

Donnell Bryant

June 6, 13, 20, 27, 2026

Calhoun Co. Legals

A-497
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CALHOUN COUNT
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE ESTATE OF DEANNA DIANNE PIETRAS, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 2026P24
NOTICE TO HEIRS

TO: ALL HEIRS AND INTERESTED PARTIES OF THE ESTATE OF DEANNA DIANNE PIETRAS, DECEASED

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in the Probate Court of Calhoun County, Georgia, seeking to Probate Will in Solemn Form and for Letters of Administration with Will Annexed seeking administration of the above estate. All heirs at law of the said decedent are hereby required to show cause, if any they have, or before the 26th day of June, 2026, why said petition should not be granted.

All-heirs are further notified to make themselves known to the Court and to file any objections in writing within the time prescribed by law.

This 19th day of May, 2026.

LARRY MELVIN KING II, Petitioner
c/o G. Keith Murphy, Attorney for Petitioner.
185 East Broad Street Norman Park, Georgia 31771
706-897-5168
Probate Judge of Calhoun County, Georgia
P. 0. Box 87 Morgan, Georgia 39866

May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 2026

A-503
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CALHOUN COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF Willie Frank Shedrick, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 2026P21
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

To whom it may concern: DAVY SHEDRICK has petitioned for DAVY SHEDRICK to be appointed administrator of the estate of WILLIE FRANK SHEDRICK deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before June 15, 2026.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Annie Doris Holder
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Annie Doris Holder
Calhoun County Probate Judge
31 Court Square, Suite A
P.O. Box 69
Morgan, GA 39866
229-849-2115

May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 2026



Local Journalism
Protects Our Communities

7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 had a good time (7)	
2 creatures (6)	
3 chockablock (7)	
4 like North African mole-rats (5)	
5 filmmaker Nolan (11)	
6 Louvre landmark (7)	
7 exoskeleton component (6)	

PA RIS CR ED MED
NGS ER TIN TO ID
PH RAM KED AM BEI
NA CHI RTI PY CH

Thursday's Answers: 1. INDEED 2. HAND 3. JACOB 4. PLUNDERING 5. BELLYFUL 6. WYETH 7. QUERULOUS 6/5

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7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 gives one's blessing (8)	
2 pitifully bad (6)	
3 fashionable celebs (10)	
4 Hump Day, perhaps (7)	
5 raw appetizer (8)	
6 city of southern England (10)	
7 divided into two lobes (5)	

RA APP DW MAL DIT
ES EEK ES FID TI
ROV STER WIN MI GLI
CHE DIS CRU TTE BI

Friday's Answers: 1. PARTIED 2. BEINGS 3. CRAMMED 4. NAKED 5. CHRISTOPHER 6. PYRAMID 7. CHITIN 6/6

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CELEBRITY CIPHER
by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"QJE PRI YKVJEC KMO QJE IRGG QJEFCRGY, 'JY WJEFCR T CZJEGO HR YKVJEC ... T RKFMRO TI KGG!' HEI QJE OTOM'I. QJE SECI PJI GEWLQ." — PRJFPR WGJJMRQ

Previous Solution: "Every creative act is inherently risky. The key is to create an environment where risk is encouraged." — Alex Hirsch

TODAY'S CLUE: S equals C

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CELEBRITY CIPHER
by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

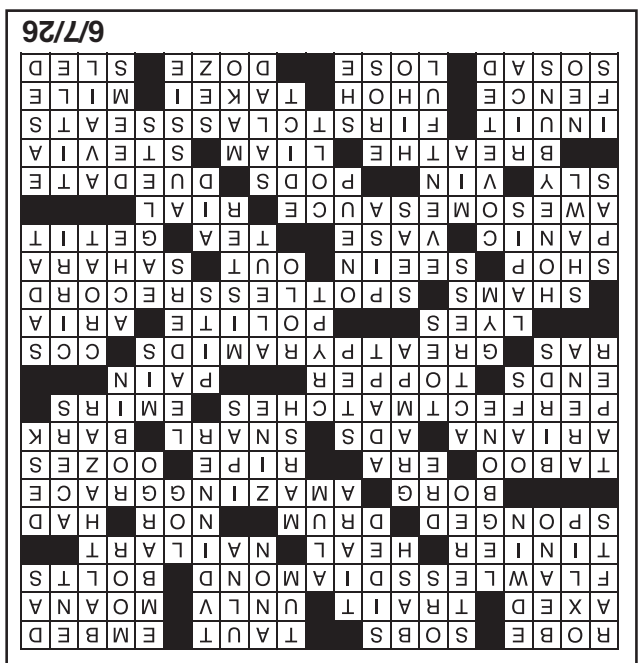
"IGCO FDAIAPG XP GNA ESEAPG CI EBQN CI FSIIXKRA CPL BPLADIGCPL GNXPZI CDA PSG ZSXPZ GS ZS CQQSDLXPZ GS FRCP." — LAEX RSMCGS

Previous Solution: "You get famous and you tell yourself, 'Of course I should be famous ... I earned it all!' But you didn't. You just got lucky." — George Clooney

TODAY'S CLUE: E equals A

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6/7/26



ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

Contact-Free
News Delivery
to keep you connected from home

Release Date: Saturday, June 6, 2026

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

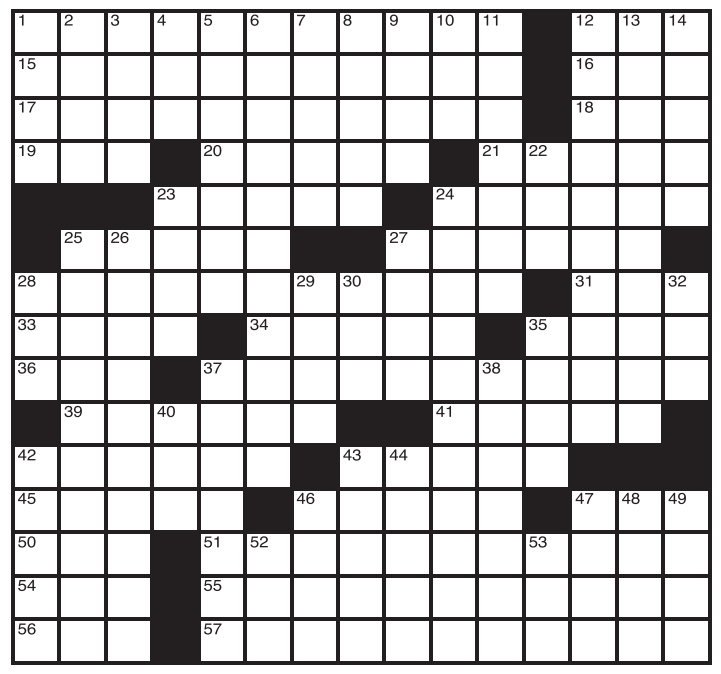
ACROSS
1 App on the half shell
12 Promos
15 Online scale with a green splat icon
16 __ culpa
17 Number that should never be shared
18 Chic bag monogram
19 __ ed
20 Bean in frijoles de la olla
21 Calculator brand
23 Shapes into a wreath, say
24 Luray feature
25 Trampoline sound
27 Pride event
28 Maker of Sinatra Select whiskey
31 Galoot
33 After-lunch sandwich
34 __ compression: information technology method
35 Door opening?
36 Schedule abbr.
37 Comedic interludes on some 47-Across albums
39 Moonstruck
41 Wee bit
42 Dress rack label
43 Cinq moins deux
45 Amino __
46 Models whose names typically started with 9
47 GloRilla genre
50 Pea body?
51 Birth years for some of Gen Z
54 Equal
55 Agreed-upon next steps
56 Berlioz's "__ Troyens"
57 Simple way to start the day

DOWN
1 R&D execs
2 Unique
3 Black Card co.
4 Welcome site?
5 Fixed allowance
6 Really starting to shine
7 Revise
8 Splinter groups
9 "__, am America": Hughes
10 Kelly who narrates Peter Carey's "True History of the Kelly Gang"
11 Entities that carry rock and roll
12 Comedian who voices Princess Carolyn in "BoJack Horseman"
13 Unplanned shortcut
14 Business where employees often get snippy?
22 Hannah's "Hacks" role
23 Sweet rice cake from the Philippines
24 Group of Caribbean islands?
25 Hot pink aesthetic
26 Changing sea levels?
27 Mexican bar tender
28 Wee bit
29 "Nice try"
30 Somewhat
32 Some indie releases
35 MMA calls
37 Place for grilling or roasting
38 Resort wear
40 Top
42 __ bull
43 "Nonnas" actress Shire
44 Lustrous synthetic
46 Chica's title: Abbr.
47 Cassowary kin
48 Spots for checks and balances?
49 Whisper before "Pass it on!"
52 Serena slam?
53 Classic Pontiac

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE:

T	S	A	O	T	D	N	A	A	E	T	■	S	E	L
S	M	E	T	I	N	O	I	T	C	A	■	E	R	A
S	T	H	G	U	A	L	R	A	E	■	D	O	P	
A	P	R	■	S	B	A	S	■	S	D	I	C	A	
P	E	T	I	T	E	■	T	R	O	I	S	■		
	I	N	L	O	V	E	■		S	K	O	S	H	
S	T	I	K	S	P	O	H	P	I	H	■	A	B	T
P	A	R	T	■	Y	S	S	O	L	O	■	E	R	O
E	P	A	■	E	L	I	N	A	D	K	O	C	A	J
	E	D	A	R	P	■	■	■	G	N	I	O	B	
N	R	E	V	A	C	■	S	D	N	E	B			
O	I	S	A	C	O	■	O	T	N	I	P	■	S	
L	E	M	E	R	■	O	C	O	E	D	C	Y	S	O
T	O	M	A	T	O	M	E	T	E	R	■	M	E	A
C	L	A	M	S	C	A	S	I	N	O	■	A	D	S

06/06/26



By August Miller
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06/06/26

RELEASE DATE—Sunday, June 7, 2026

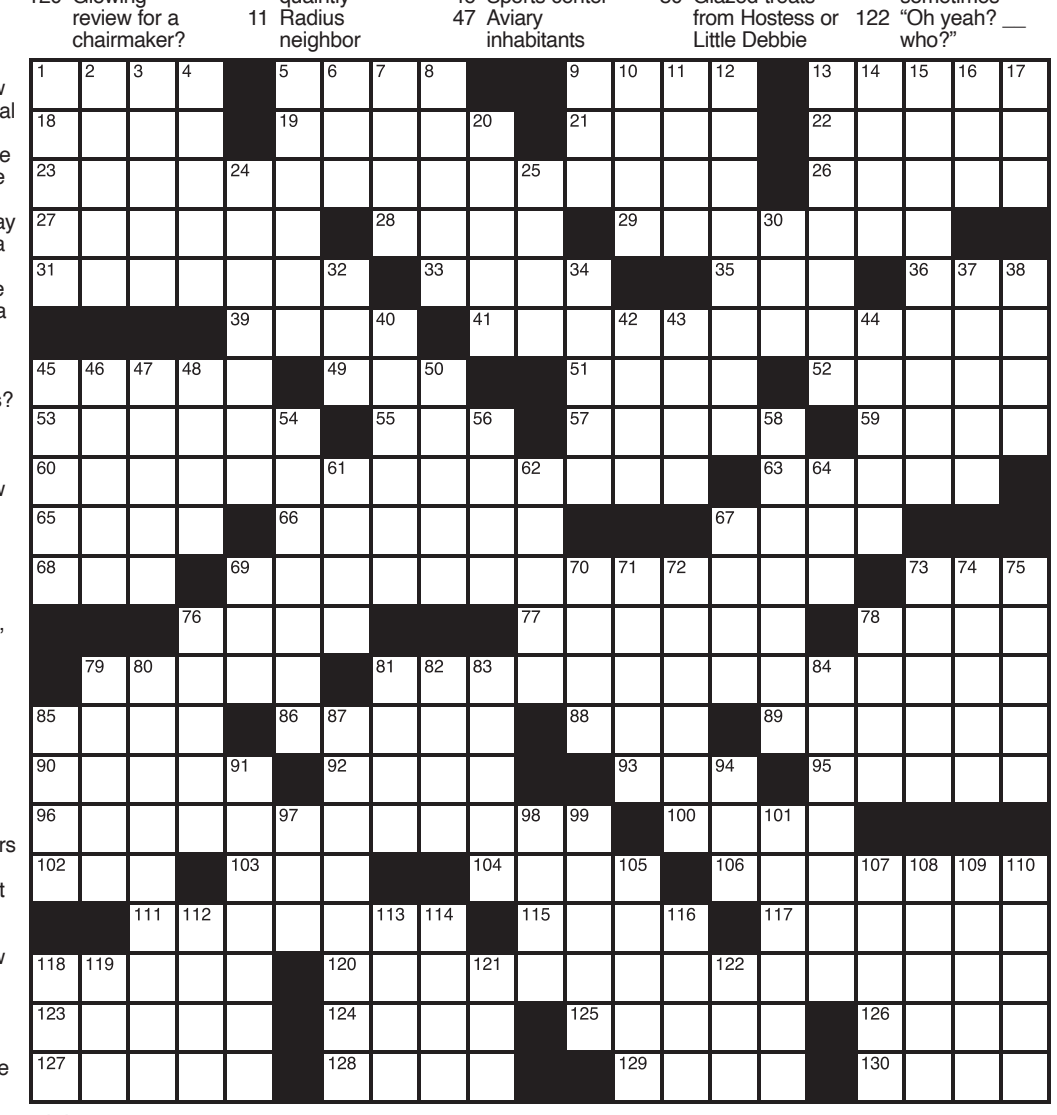
Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

"FIVE STARS" BY RICKY J. SIROIS

ACROSS
1 Boxer's attire
5 Cries and cries
9 Stretched to the limit
13 Implant
18 Took a hatchet to
19 Freckles, e.g.
21 Sch. in Sin City
22 Disney film with the song "Shiny"
23 Glowing review for a groundskeeper's work?
26 Nickname for the NFL's Chargers
27 Like modern microchips vis-à-vis those of the past
28 "Physician, __ thyself"
29 Digital painting?
31 Mooched
33 Oil barrel
35 Repeated word in the unofficial USPS motto
36 Owned
39 Tennis great Björn
41 Glowing review for a preprandial prayer?
45 Hasbro's "game of unspeakable fun"
49 Stretch that may be named for a music genre
51 Ready to serve
52 Moves like lava
53 Grande of "Wicked: For Good"
55 Show stoppers?
57 Tangle
59 Chocolate confection
60 Glowing review for a wrestling team?
63 Arab rulers
65 Odds and __
66 Star on a Christmas tree, often
67 French bread
68 Dorm VIPs
69 Glowing review for a cheerleading squad?
73 Loops in via email
76 Caustic cleaners
77 Far from rude
78 Solo at the Met
79 Decorative pillow covers
81 Glowing review for a purchase from a vintage music store?
85 Garage
86 Welcome at the door
88 Result of a foul bunt with two strikes
89 World's largest subtropical desert
90 Become overwhelmed
92 Bouquet holder
93 Rooibos, for one
95 "Does that make sense?"
96 Glowing review for a bootlegger?
100 Money in Oman
102 Tricksy
103 Coq au __
104 Nespresso inserts
106 Library receipt info
111 "Just be calm ... "
115 Younger Gallagher brother
117 Sugar substitute
118 Indigenous people of Nunavut
120 Glowing review for a chairmaker?
123 Metaphorical spot for the undecided
124 "This can't be good ... "
125 George of the original "Star Trek"
126 Highway sign unit
127 "What a pity"
128 Ditch
129 Nod off
130 Vehicle pulled by huskies

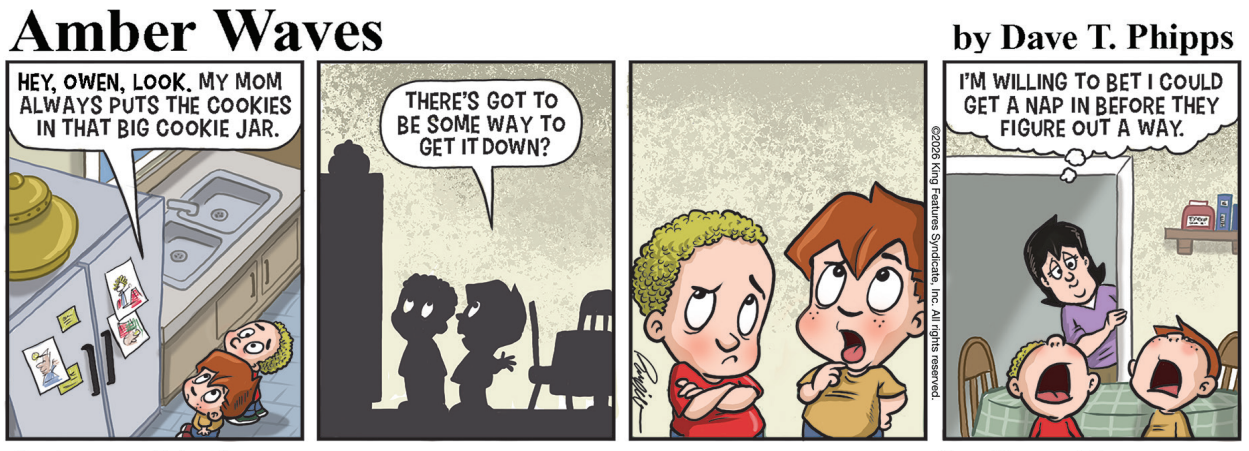
DOWN
1 Simple flotation devices
2 Primrose variety
3 Digestive aid brand
4 Gold medal hurdler Moses
5 Playing both sides?
6 Med. theaters
7 Wingding
8 Stood (with)
9 Tot's belly
10 By and by, quaintly
11 Radius neighbor
12 Heat-and-serve option
13 Targeted trade ban
14 Tie up to a pier
15 One of the Magi
16 Sinus specialist, briefly
17 Court figs.
20 Prom queen's headgear
24 Femur, for one
25 Last year's sr.
30 Run-of-the-mill object?
32 Famous "Dr." from Compton
34 Wetland
37 Some Taiwanese laptops
38 Home office need
40 Pop's pop
42 Fan pub
43 Some high-ABV brews
44 Williams of "Good Will Hunting"
45 Narrow
46 Sports center
47 Aviary inhabitants
48 Lummoxes
50 Take from page to screen
54 Word on some Oscars
56 One foot forward
58 Chairs
61 Turning points for ballerinas?
62 Underground vault
64 Start to behave?
67 Avocado centers
69 Press room?
70 Candy wrapped in gold foil
71 Language from which "Alaska" is derived
72 Houseplant sprayer
73 Zagreb resident
74 Wispy clouds
75 Nobel Peace Prize honoree Anwar
76 __ lazuli
78 Yearn (for)
79 Wrapped garment
80 Glazed treats from Hostess or Little Debbie
81 Vast expanses
82 Fibonacci's birthplace
83 Get the better of
84 Aerie newborns
85 Pampering places
87 Action-packed
91 Highly sought-after
94 Succor
97 "Mamma __!"
98 Young horse
99 Order from on high
101 Bluey, for one
105 Light meal
107 Regards
108 Be of use to
109 Library receipt info
110 Simplified
112 Costa __
113 Chipper greeting
114 Greek god of love
116 Fast shark
118 Stipulations
119 Prefix with classical
121 Her partner, sometimes
122 "Oh yeah? __ who?"



6/7/26
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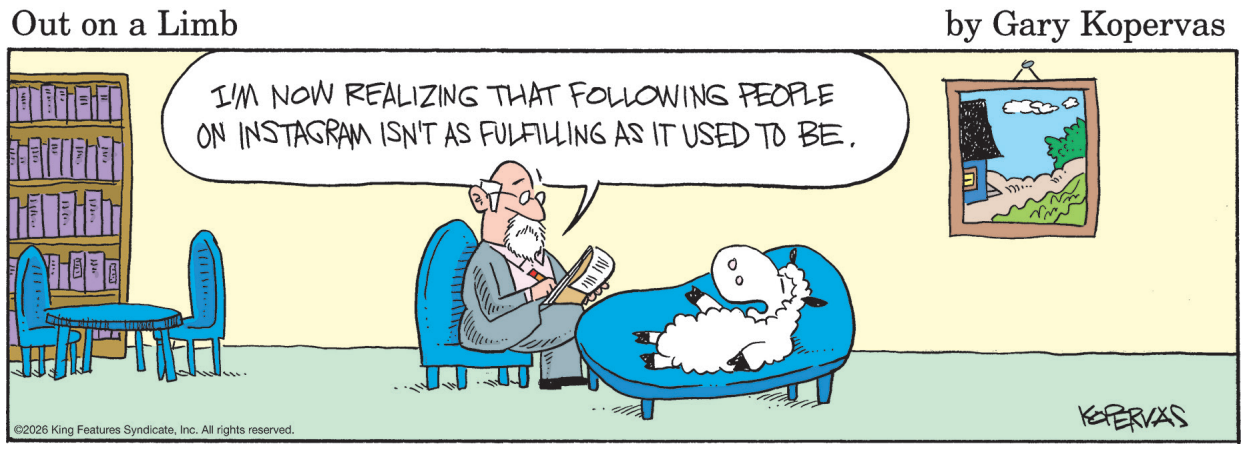
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



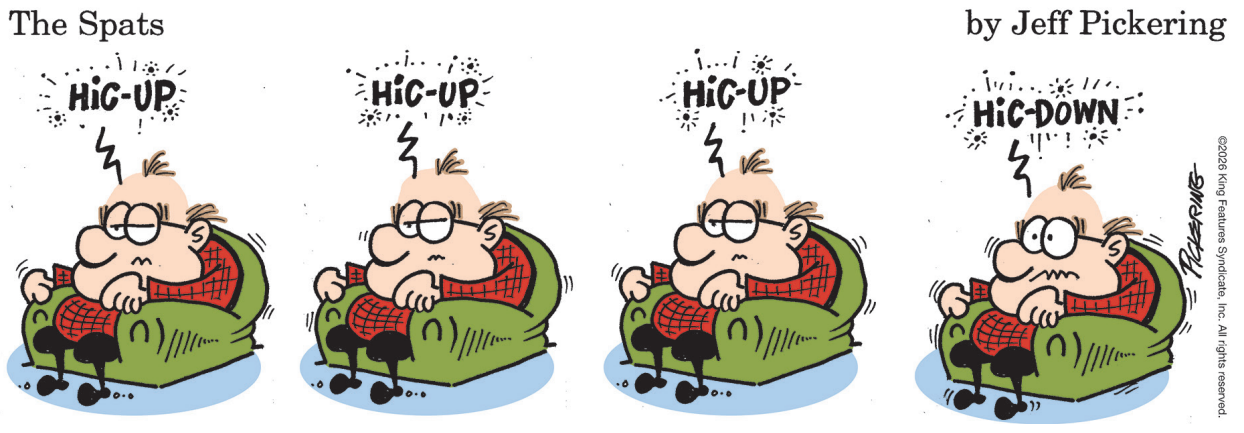
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



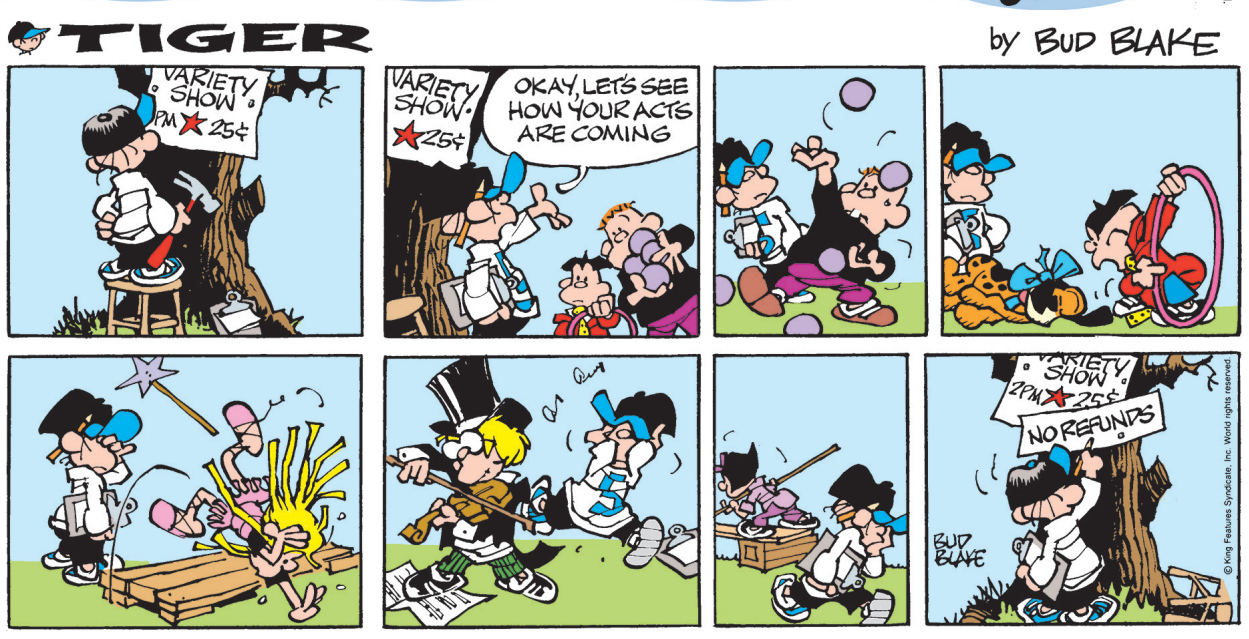
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



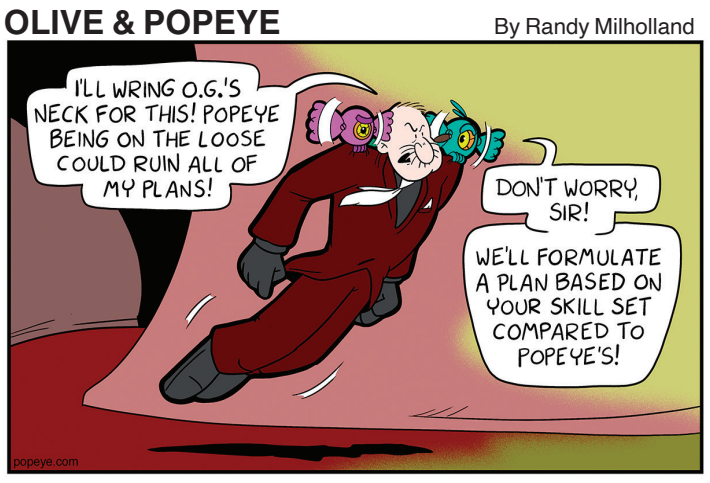
TIGER

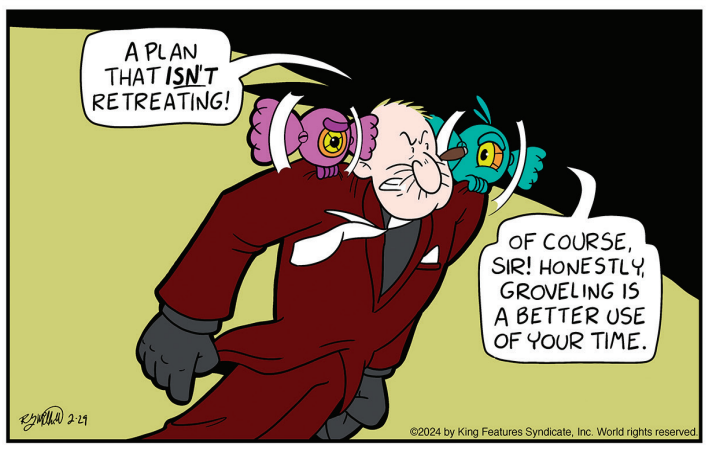
by BUD BLAKE



OLIVE & POPEYE

By Randy Milholland





HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Candle is taller. 2. Arm is resting on table. 3. Back of chair is different. 4. Dial on stove is moved. 5. Light is shorter. 6. Hair is different.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **V** equals **C**

SNWRAQRKO VWNWRJ

VHTORPTPTC VGETAK KGRXWB

JPAW KIRJJ KPTCJW-IRKOWB

KRPJSHROK: QNEPO KJHHXK.

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SCRAMBLERS

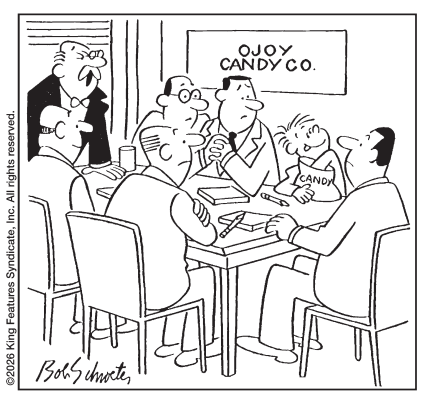
Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Current **MORNED** ___ ☐ ☐ ___ ___ ___

Warning **VACATE** ___ ☐ ☐ ___ ___ ___

Crazy **NICAM** ___ ___ ___ ☐ ___

Continue **MESURE** ☐ ___ ☐ ___ ___ ___

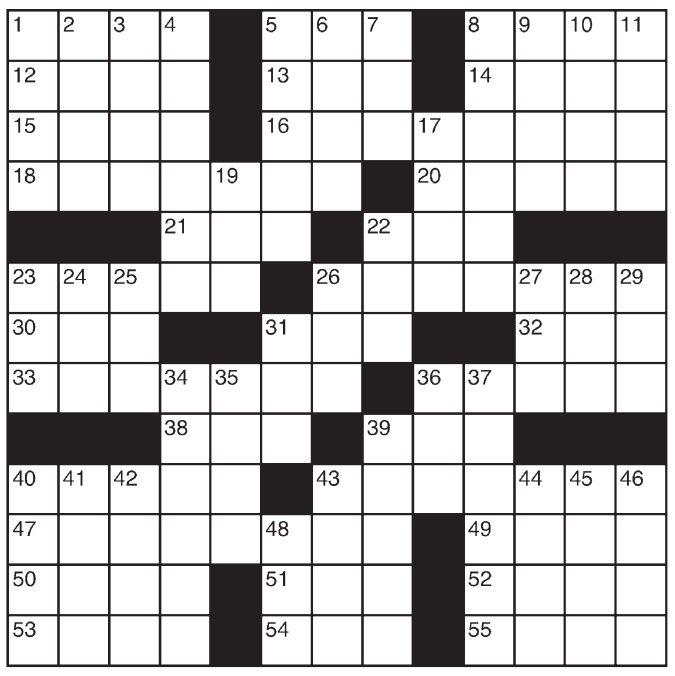


"And now for the reaction from our market _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ !"

TODAY'S WORD

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

King Crossword



ACROSS

1 Idle of Monty Python
5 Homer's lament
8 Grate
12 Sprint
13 Geological period
14 Intro studio class
15 Met melody
16 Knee cartilage
18 Cough drop flavor
20 Valerie Harper sitcom
21 Light brown
22 Fluffy neckpiece
23 Streep of "The Post"
26 Patching up
30 Lab eggs
31 Witty one
32 Wrigley product
33 Proteges
36 Accra's country
38 Stein filler
39 Zadora of "Hairspray"
40 Huge success
43 H.L. — (The Sage of Baltimore)
47 Cites
49 Comic actor Danny
50 Oklahoma tribe
51 Nonsense
52 French 101 verb
53 Military VIPs
54 GI's address
55 Marsh plant

DOWN

1 Dutch cheese
2 Exceptional
3 "The doctor —"
4 Talkative
5 Fiend
6 Pitcher Hershiser
7 Solo in space
8 Actress Phylicia
9 With the bow, musically
10 Poker type
11 Galileo's birthplace
17 Pressing need
19 Actor Linden
22 Plead
23 Soccer —
24 Prior night
25 Campaigned
26 More, to Manuel
27 Polish tennis star Swiatek
28 Convent head
29 "Today" rival, briefly
31 Pint-sized
34 Flavors
35 K thru 12
36 Tom Collins liquor
37 Website invader
39 Green sauce
40 Urban haze
41 Apportion
42 Shortly
43 L-Q bridge
44 Designer Spade
45 Literary Jane
46 Must have
48 British singer Rita

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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FiveSpot™

Home entertainment

P	O	R	C	H

Outdoor gathering place

"Lofty assemblage"?

African megafauna, briefly

Fab percussionist

Squeeze the water out

Glenn Miller genre

Solve each row by replacing one letter from the answer above or below and scrambling to make a new word. When complete, the top and bottom words will have no letters in common.

FiveSpot is a trademark of Michael McLinden
See more at www.sproutspuzzle.com 02642

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: What are the names of the three girls in the animated series "Powerpuff Girls"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Which ocean lies between Australia and Africa?
3. MATH: What is the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals MMXXVI?
4. MUSIC: Who won Best New Artist at the 2026 Grammys?
5. U.S. STATES: Which state is an archipelago?
6. MOVIES: Which classic movie has the tagline, "From the moment they met it was murder"?
7. GAMES: How many basketball players can be on the court at the same time?
8. SCIENCE: What is the heliosphere?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is vexillology?
10. HISTORY: Who was the only English king to be executed for treason?

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SCRAMBLERS
solution
1. Modern; 2. Caveat
3. Manic; 4. Resume
ADVISOR
Today's Word

CryptoQuip
answer
Breakfast cereal containing chunks shaped like small single-masted sailboats: Fruit Sloops.

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

FiveSpot™ Solution

P	O	R	C	H
C	H	O	I	R
O	N	I	H	R
R	I	N	G	O
W	R	I	N	G
S	N	I	W	G

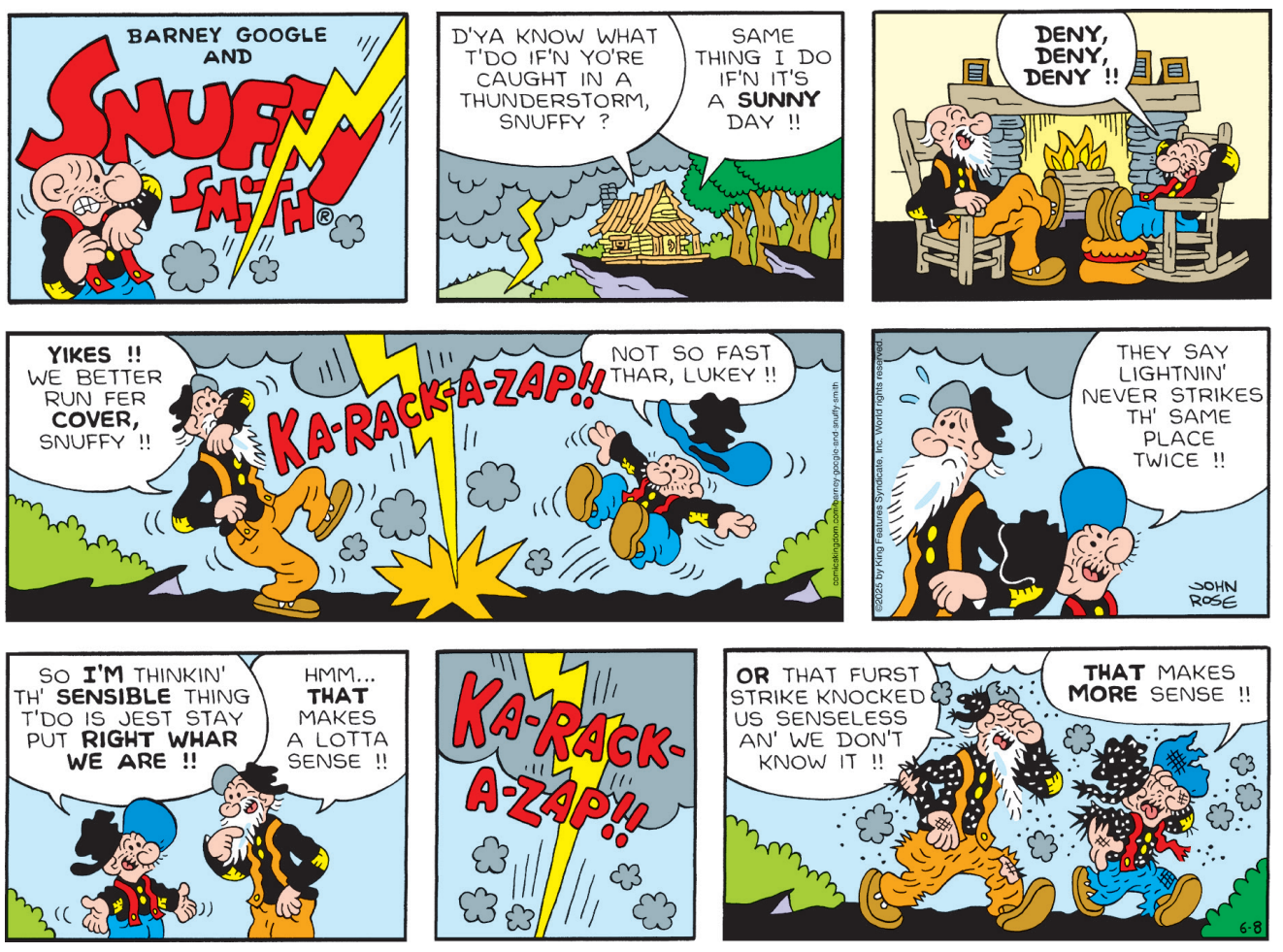
King Crossword
Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

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

Trivia Answers
1. Blossom, Buttercup and Bubbles
2. Indian Ocean
3. 2,026
4. Olivia Dean
5. Hawaii
6. "Double Indemnity"
7. 10, five from each team
8. The Sun's solar winds and magnetic fields create a protective bubble around our solar system
9. The study of flags
10. Charles I in 1649

TV - What to watch





"We're saving a fortune at the gym!"

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top 10 movies

1. **Star Wars: The Mandalorian and Grogu**
(PG-13) Pedro Pascal, Brendan Wayne
2. **Obsession**
(R) Michael Johnston, Inde Navarrette
3. **Michael**
(PG-13) Jaafar Jackson, Nia Long
4. **The Devil Wears Prada 2**
(PG-13) Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway
5. **The Sheep Detectives**
(PG) Hugh Jackman, Brett Goldstein
6. **Passenger**
(R) Jacob Scipio, Lou Llobell
7. **Mortal Kombat II**
(R) Adeline Rudolph, Karl Urban
8. **I Love Boosters**
(R) Keke Palmer, LaKeith Stanfield
9. **The Super Mario Galaxy Movie**
(PG) Brie Larson, Virginia Dare Jelenic
10. **Project Hail Mary**
(PG-13) Ryan Gosling, Sandra Hüller

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What to watch
SATURDAY

June 6, 2026

All times Eastern. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

Tennis: French Open: Women's Singles Final
TNT & truTV, 9 a.m. Live
The two women's singles finalists duel for the Suzanne-Lenglen cup on the red clay court of Roland-Garros in Paris.

Racing: Belmont Stakes
FOX, 4 p.m. Live
The $2 million Belmont Stakes, the final Triple Crown jewel, is run at Saratoga Race Course in New York. It's the final year of the race's temporary move to Saratoga due to construction at Belmont Park.

MLB Baseball
FOX, 7:30 p.m. Live
Regional MLB action on FOX offers either the Cleveland Guardians at the Texas Rangers or the Boston Red Sox at the N.Y. Yankees.

Wild Spring
BBC America, 8 p.m. ■ New Series
In this four-part series, the arrival of spring is synonymous with new life, and if there is one drive the entire animal kingdom shares, it's to reproduce. They live to bear the next generation, to pass on their genetic makeup, to ensure the survival of the species.

The Greek Aisle
Hallmark Channel, 8 p.m. ■ Original Film
When Georgia (Nikki DeLoach) travels to the Greek island of Corfu to finalize an inheritance, she unexpectedly discovers that marrying her handsome co-inheritor (Apostolis Totsikas) is the only way to meet the requirements.


'Thou Shall Not Commit Adultery'

LIFETIME

Love and Marriage: Huntsville
OWN, 8 p.m.
It's coming down to "destiny or divorce" as the cast unites in Los Angeles with Carlos for the reunion show. Kimmi and Maurice discuss marriage dealbreakers. Ken and Tricia address relationship rumors. Destiny and Tisha confront their fractured friendship. Kimmi and Nell face off.

Thou Shall Not Commit Adultery
Lifetime, 8 p.m. ■ Original Film
Grammy Award-winning gospel artist Erica Campbell, who got her start in the duo Mary Mary, stars along with singer and *A Different World* alum Jasmine Guy in Lifetime's newest drama. The film follows a renowned Christian feminist icon and bestselling author who finds her world turned upside down when she becomes the target of a blackmail scheme. Confronted with damning evidence of her extramarital affair, she must navigate the treacherous waters of public scrutiny while fighting to salvage her marriage, career and the trust of her devoted followers – ultimately facing an impossible choice.

House Hunters
HGTV, 10 p.m.
In tonight's new episode, "Ghosts of Hollywood," a buyer has lived below his means in a Los Angeles apartment for decades, and now at 60, he's ready to live large and he wants a grand home in the Hollywood Hills. His kids, however, are worried and caution against going too big at his age.

CATCH A CLASSIC

Author! Author!
MOVIES!, 10:35 p.m.
There's a certain nostalgic charm in revisiting this bittersweet comedy-drama anchored by a warmly frazzled performance from Al Pacino – as it's a departure from his more intense roles. Here Pacino stars as a playwright who finds his life falling apart. One of his plays is being rewritten, his wife is leaving him and abandoning her children from her previous marriages, and his girlfriend wants to move in with him. Could things get any worse?


TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE


'Big Fat Liar'

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

Summer Rental (1985, Comedy) John Candy, Richard Crenna **POP, 6 p.m.**

Airplane! (1980, Comedy) Robert Hays, Julie Hagerty **MGM, 6:30 p.m.**

Despicable Me 3 (2017, Children) Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig **NICK, 7 p.m.**

Hercules (1997, Children) Tate Donovan, Josh Keaton **Disney, 7 p.m.**

Tangled (2010, Children) Mandy Moore, Zachary Levi **Freeform, 7:45 p.m.**

Big Fat Liar (2002, Children) Frankie Muniz, Paul Giamatti **VH1, 8 p.m.**

Pillion (2025, Romance) Alexander Skarsgård, Harry Melling **HBO, 8 p.m.**

Misery (1990, Horror) James Caan, Kathy Bates **BBC America, 9:10 p.m.**

Coming to America (1988, Comedy) Eddie Murphy, Arsenio Hall **BET, 10 p.m.**

Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire (2024, Comedy) Paul Rudd, Carrie Coon **FX, 10:30 p.m.**

The House Bunny (2008, Comedy) Anna Faris, Colin Hanks **VH1, 10:30 p.m.**

Edward Scissorhands (1990, Fantasy) Johnny Depp, Winona Ryder **SYFY, 11 p.m.**

Midway (2019, War) Ed Skrein, Patrick Wilson **Sundance, 11:15 p.m.**

From the editors of TV Weekly and tvinsider.com



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What to watch

SUNDAY

June 7, 2026

All times Eastern. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

Collector's Call

MeTV, 6:30 p.m.

Chicago collector AJ Weir deserves top honors when it comes to his incredible sports collection. First, there are the shoes. Jordans, that is, autographed by Michael Jordan himself. Then there are the one-of-one items, like the signed drawing of Babe Ruth and the Cubs lineup card from the 2016 World Series, not to mention the jackets Weir makes for the NBA and other sports leagues. Host Lisa Whelchel checks out his collection and brings along sneaker expert Errick Spencer.

The 79th Annual Tony Awards

CBS, 8 p.m. Live

New York City's legendary Radio City Music Hall brings the biggest stars of the stage for the awards ceremony honoring the best from the 2025-26 theater season. Pop music icon and activist Pink hosts this year's show. Top nominated productions include revivals *Ragtime*, *Oedipus*, *Cats: The Jellicle Ball*, *Arthur Miller's Death of a Salesman* and *Richard O'Brien's The Rocky Horror Show*, and new musicals *The Lost Boys*, *Schmigadoon!*, *Titaníque* and *Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York)*.



'The Vampire Lestat'

SOPHIE GIRAUD, AMC

The Vampire Lestat

AMC, 9 p.m. ■ Season Premiere

In the upcoming rock 'n' roll-centric season of *Interview With the Vampire*, now with a new name, the Vampire Lestat (the wildly gifted Sam Reid) goes on an electric, multicity tour while being haunted by "muses" from his wild and rebellious past. As his band's popularity and star power rises, so does Lestat's influence over vampires and humans alike, leaving others to contend with Lestat's power in the face of the Great Conversion, an unnatural surge in the vampire population.

This Land

CNN, 9 p.m. ■ New Series

Timed to commemorate the country's 250th anniversary, *This Land* explores how the United States expanded from a fragile experiment along the Atlantic coast into a nation spanning an entire continent, revealing extraordinary sacrifices and untold personal accounts that dramatically reframe the story. The series airs with two episodes weekly. Tonight's installments look at the Louisiana Purchase and the Westward expansion to California.

Best of the World With Antoni Porowski

Nat Geo, 9 p.m. ■ New Series

Two back-to-back episodes of this beautiful four-part series air tonight, where Antoni Porowski (*No Taste Like Home*, *Queer Eye*) takes viewers on an inspiring journey of Mexico City and then Paris, showing us the ultimate places to go, stay, eat and explore.

100 Cooks

Food Network, 9 p.m. ■ New Series

Terry Crews hosts as 100 of America's elite home cooks enter the stadium kitchen arena where they will be challenged to the most unpredictable, professional-chef-level cooking competition ever. In the end, 99 chefs will be eliminated, and one talented home cook will prove they are the best of the best with a chance to win up to $250,000.

Couples Therapy

Showtime, 10 p.m. ■ Season Finale

Therapist Dr. Orna Guralnik deftly guides the couples through the minefield of honest confrontation with each other and with themselves in the Season 5 finale.

CATCH A CLASSIC

Stories by Edith Wharton

TCM, beginning at 8 p.m.

Edith Wharton had insider knowledge of New York's upper-class society during the Gilded Age, which served as inspiration for her novels. She was the first woman awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, which she received in 1921 for her timeless book *The Age of Innocence*. That novel was adapted by Martin Scorsese in 1993, with Daniel Day-Lewis starring as wealthy lawyer Newland Archer, who is engaged to May Welland (Winona Ryder). Cracks start to form when May's cousin, the Countess Ellen Olenska (Michelle Pfeiffer), makes Newland question everything he thought he knew about love during Ellen's visit. **The Age of Innocence (pictured)** was nominated for five Oscars, taking home the win for Best Costume Design. The night continues with **The Old Maid** (1939), based on Zoë Akins' 1935 Pulitzer Prize-winning play, which originated from Wharton's novella *The Old Maid: The Fifties*. Bette Davis plays Charlotte, who sneaks away with her cousin Delia's (Miriam Hopkins) former fiancé, Clem (George Brent) — a decision that changes their lives forever.



COLUMBIA PICTURES

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever'

MARVEL STUDIOS

Edward Scissorhands (1990, Fantasy) Johnny Depp, Winona Ryder **SYFY, 6:30 p.m.**

Predator (1987, Science fiction) Arnold Schwarzenegger, Carl Weathers **IFC, 6:30 p.m.**

A Complete Unknown (2024, Biography) Timothée Chalamet, Edward Norton **HBO, 6:35 p.m.**

Beetlejuice (1988, Comedy) Michael Keaton, Alec Baldwin **Sundance, 7 p.m.**

Black Panther: Wakanda Forever (2022, Action) Letitia Wright, Angela Bassett **FX, 7 p.m.**

The Greek Aisle (2026, Romance) Apostolis Totsikas, Nikki DeLoach **Hallmark, 7 p.m.**

Tempted (2025, Suspense) Samantha Neyland Trumbo, Dominique Toney **Lifetime, 8 p.m.**

The Sandlot (1993, Children) Thomas Guiry, Mike Vitar **CW, 8 p.m.**

Spider-Man: Homecoming (2017, Action) Tom Holland, Michael Keaton **SYFY, 9 p.m.**

Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings (2021, Action) Simu Liu, Awkwafina **FX, 10:30 p.m.**

The Lost Boys (1987, Horror) Jason Patric, Corey Haim **BBC America, 10:45 p.m.**

The Martian (2015, Science fiction) Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain **MGM, 10:55 p.m.**

From the editors of TV Weekly and tvinsider.com

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What to watch

MONDAY

June 8, 2026

All times Eastern. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

Sullivan's Crossing

The CW, 8 p.m.

In the new episode "Let It Go," the rift between Cal (Chad Michael Murray) and Maggie (Morgan Kohan) widens as Liam (Marcus Rosner) decides he's staying at the Crossing.

The 1% Club

FOX, 8 p.m.

A legendary lineup of former *1% Club* contenders returns for another attempt to win up to $100,000 in the new episode "A Second Chance at $100k." Joel McHale hosts.

World War II With Tom Hanks

History, 8 p.m.

In the new episode "Guadalcanal," the Empire of Japan continues its surge of conquest throughout Asia. Japan's armies seem unstoppable, but an Allied invasion force largely made up of U.S. Marines captures key territory in the Solomon Islands. Then, in "Darkness Falls," antisemitic policies escalate from persecution to widespread genocide in Adolf Hitler's Nazi Germany.



'Crashers'

HGTV

The Quiz With Balls

FOX, 9 p.m.

It's Team USA fans vs. Team England supporters in the trivia game playing to stay dry and go for the $100,000 grand prize in the new episode "Soccer Showdown."

American Ninja Warrior

NBC, 9 p.m. ■ Season Premiere

The country's elite athletes come to conquer the world's most challenging obstacle courses in Season 18. Hosts Matt Iseman, Akbar Gbajabiamila and Zuri Hall are back to call the action in Las Vegas. This season includes a new round featuring three athletes simultaneously racing in a supersized three-lane course called the Tripleheader. The national finals will follow an action-packed, all-racing format with the winner taking home the $250,000 grand prize.

Crashers

HGTV, 10 p.m. ■ New Series

HGTV will reboot the hit *Crashers* franchise with a high-energy, ambush-style renovation series where unsuspecting homeowners get the surprise of a lifetime with a free, 72-hour renovation of a lackluster space of their choosing. New Kids on the Block singer and restoration expert Jonathan Knight hosts. Before the work begins, however, the homeowners must agree to three rules: The renovation starts immediately; they have no say in the design; and they must vacate their home for the full three days.

CATCH A CLASSIC

Star of the Month: Marilyn Monroe

TCM, beginning at 8 p.m.

TCM continues to honor the legendary Marilyn Monroe as Star of the Month beginning with 1952's **Clash by Night (pictured).** Monroe was credited above the title for *Clash by Night*, but she was still the fourth actor listed in this supporting role before her breakout 1953 year. But there was no shame in playing second fiddle to the great Barbara Stanwyck, who leads this melodramatic soap opera as a fallen woman torn between staying with her devoted lunk of a fisherman husband and leaving him for his much hotter, more passionate best pal. Monroe plays a fish cannery worker and the girlfriend of Stanwyck's brother in a more settled relationship that contrasts with Stanwyck's turbulent passions. Immediately following is **Don't Bother to Knock** (1952), where Monroe plays an unstable babysitter wreaking havoc on those around her by physically threatening the child she cares for. The night continues with the legendary **The Asphalt Jungle** (1950) and concludes with **Right Cross** (1950).



RKO RADIO PICTURES

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



'Freaky'

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Wuthering Heights (2026, Romance) Margot Robbie, Jacob Elordi **HBO, 6:40 p.m.**

Casino (1995, Crime drama) Robert De Niro, Sharon Stone **Encore, 6:55 p.m.**

ZOMBIES (2018, Adventure) Milo Manheim, Meg Donnelly **Disney, 7 p.m.**

Man of Steel (2013, Action) Henry Cavill, Amy Adams **TNT, 7:45 p.m.**

Right in Front of Me (2021, Romance) Janel Parrish, Marco Grazzini **Hallmark, 8 p.m.**

The Boy With My Son's Face (2026, Suspense) Italia Ricci, Luke Camilleri **LMN, 8 p.m.**

The Equalizer 2 (2018, Action) Denzel Washington, Pedro Pascal **AMC, 8:15 p.m.**

Ralph Breaks the Internet (2018, Children) John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman **Freeform, 8:30 p.m.**

Tommy Boy (1995, Comedy) Chris Farley, David Spade **Paramount, 8:30 p.m.**

Beverly Hills Cop II (1987, Action) Eddie Murphy, Judge Reinhold **BBC America, 9 p.m.**

My Husband's Other Face (2024, Suspense) Brooke Burfitt, Braxton Angle **LMN, 10 p.m.**

Freaky (2020, Horror) Vince Vaughn, Kathryn Newton **SYFY, 10:30 p.m.**

From the editors of TV Weekly and tvinsider.com

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The Albany HERALD
ALBANYHERALD.COM

Weekend Comics

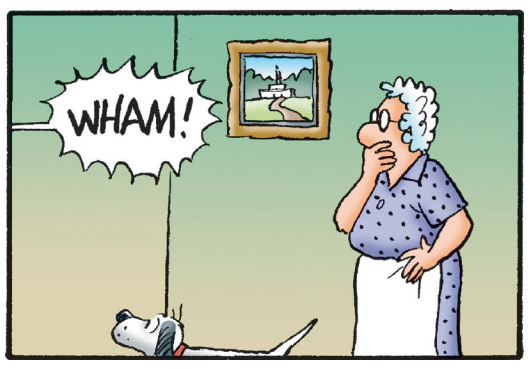
JUNE 6-7, 2026

PICKLES

by BRIAN CRANE







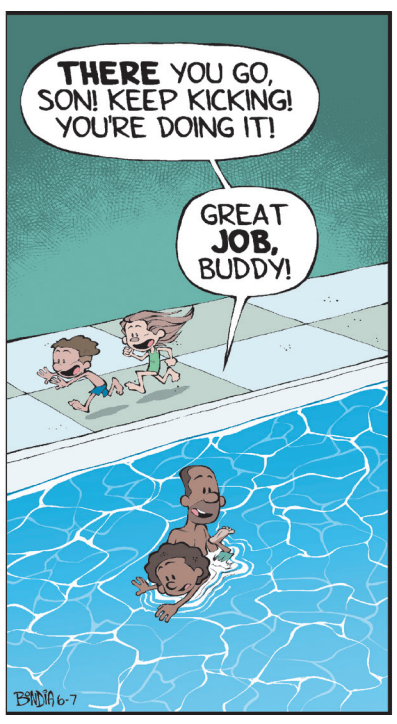




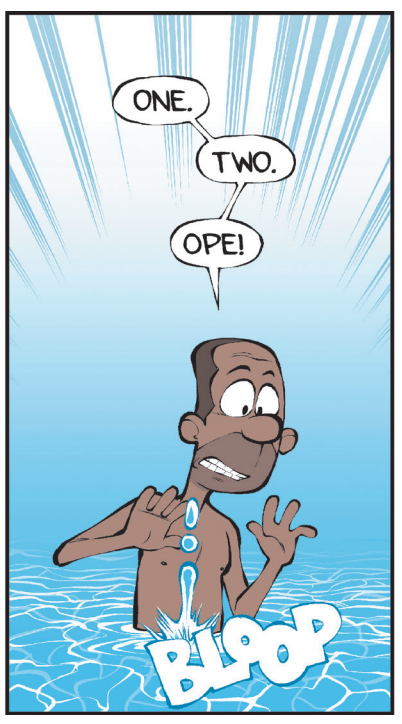


Crabgrass

by TAUHID BONDIA



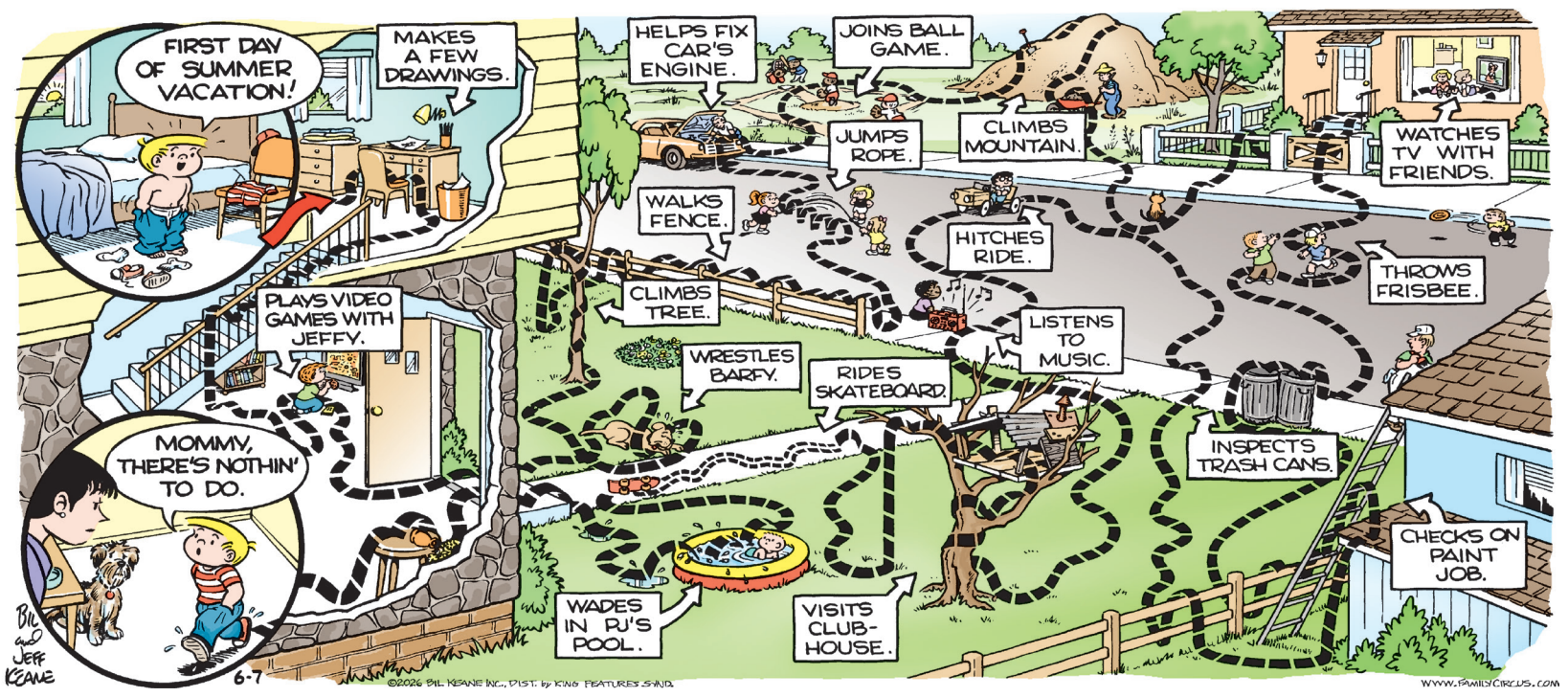






The FAMILY CIRCUS

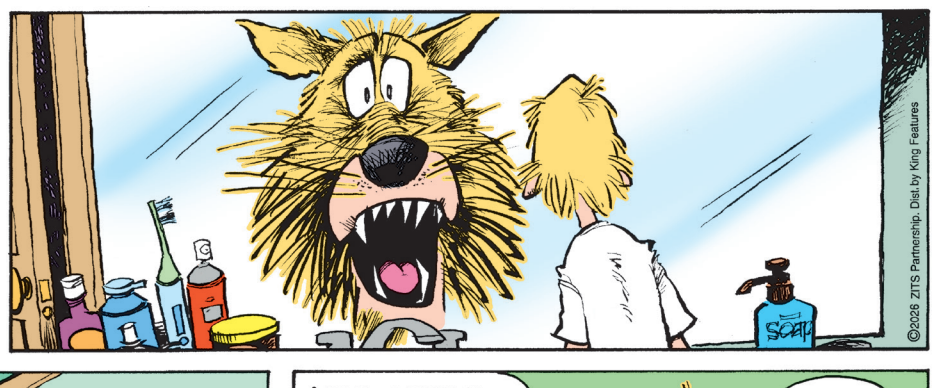
By BIL KEANE



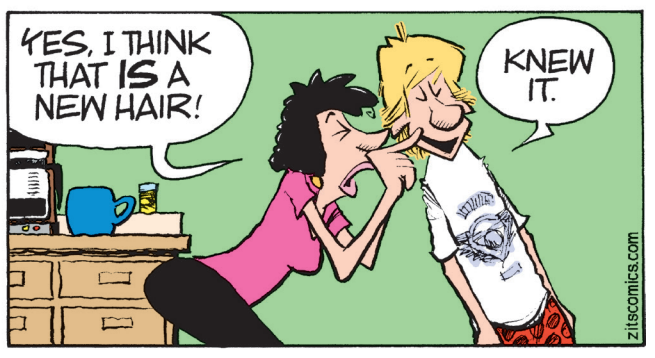
ZITS

by JERRY SCOTT and JIM BORGMAN



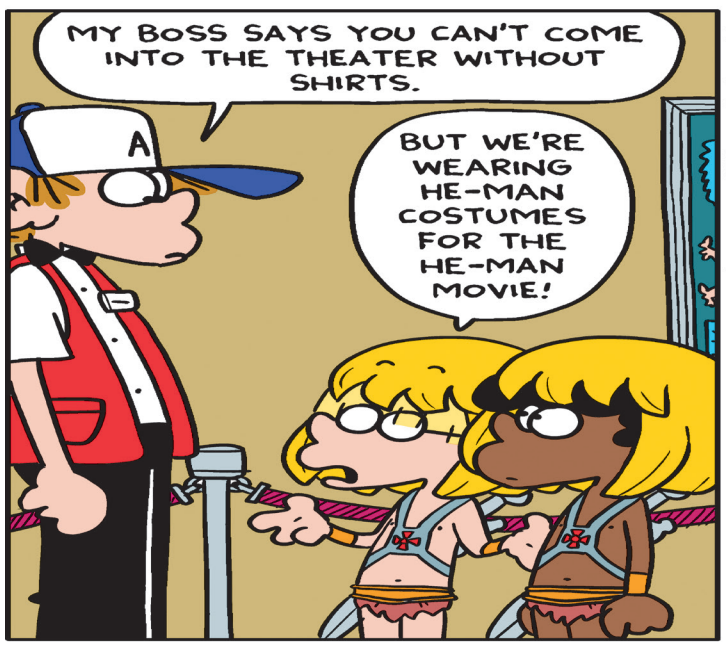




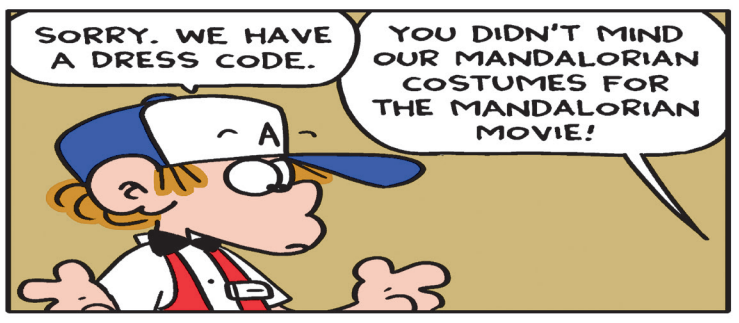


FoxTrot

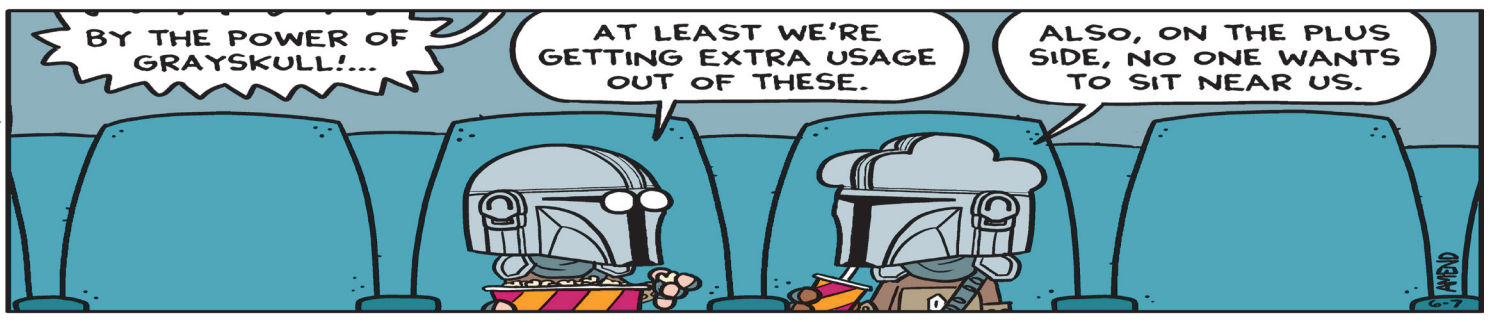
by Bill Amend



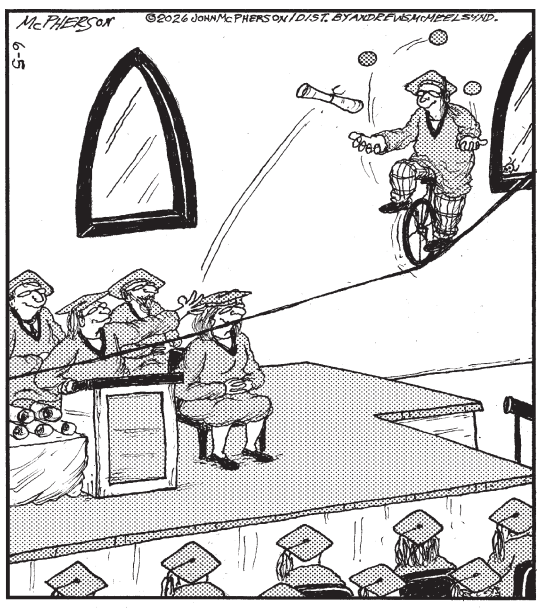
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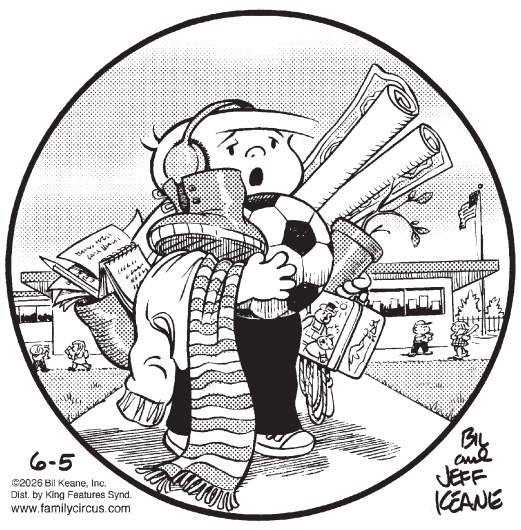


CLOSE TO HOME John McPherson



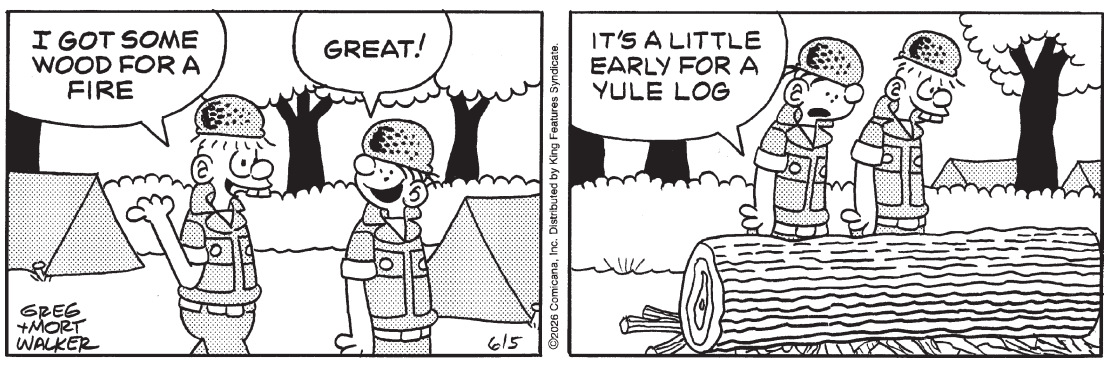
At the Ringling Brothers College 2026 Graduation Ceremony.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS Bil Keane

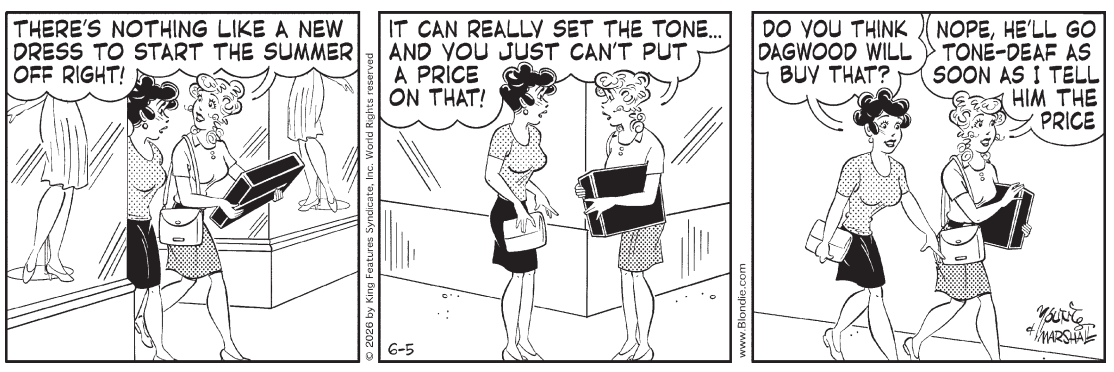


"Next year I'm gonna ask Mommy to pick me up on the last day of school."

BEETLE BAILEY Mort & Greg Walker



BLONDIE Dean Young & John Marshall



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

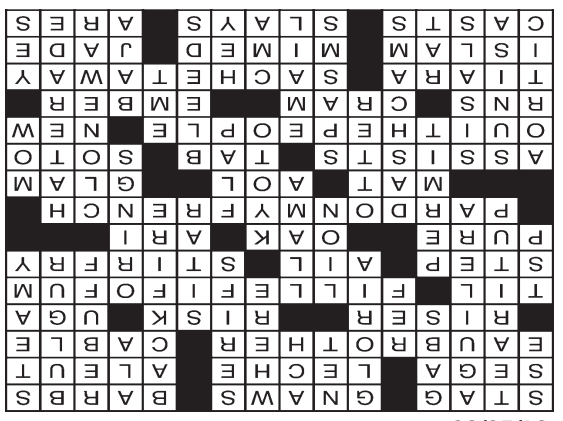
ACROSS

1 Antlered animal
5 Chews like a beaver
10 Verbal digs
15 Super Monkey Ball company
16 Dulce de __
17 Native Alaskan
18 "You can't be serious!"
20 Undersea data carrier
21 Flight segment
22 Chance
24 Bulldogs sch.
25 Up to, informally
26 Chant from a giant
30 Flight segment
32 Be sick
33 Wok dish
34 Untainted
35 Barrel wood
37 Cal. neighbor
38 "Please excuse the bad language," and what can be said about 18-, 26-, 55-, and 65-Across
44 Pilates surface
45 56-Down pioneer
46 Glitz and __
48 Lends a hand
52 Indent key
54 __ ayam: Indonesian chicken noodle soup
55 First words of the Constitution
58 Novel
59 Patient care pros
60 Quick study?
61 Glowing coal
63 Pageant topper
65 "RuPaul's Drag Race" catchphrase
69 Religion with a call to prayer five times a day
70 Let one's actions speak for themselves
71 Imperial gem of ancient China
72 Flings
73 Kills it on the runway
74 Mars counterpart

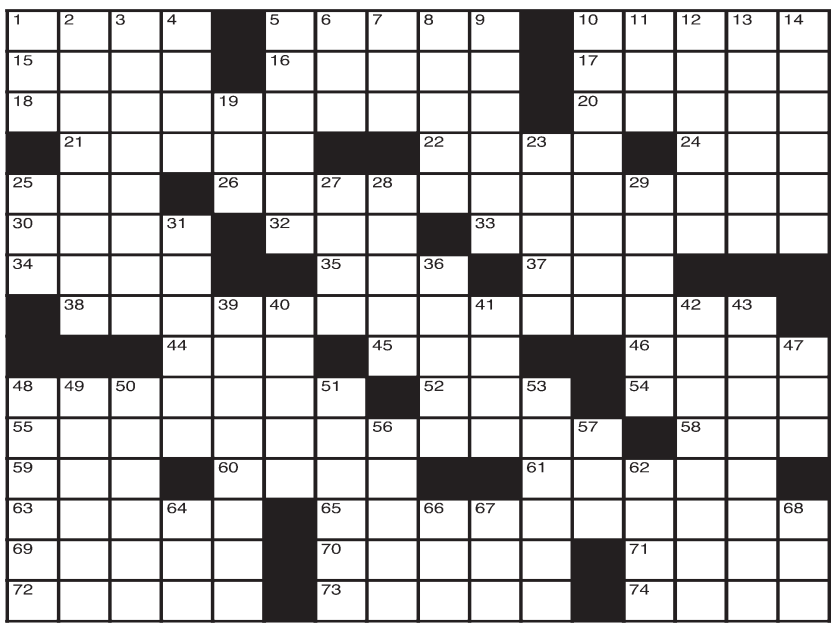
DOWN

1 GPS heading
2 Go wild on the dance floor
3 Christina of "Burlesque"
4 Talks and talks
5 "I Will Survive" singer Gaynor
6 Catch
7 German cry
8 "__ were we?"
9 Ornamental lines
10 Go the wrong way?
11 Gulf st.
12 Brush off
13 Tabbouleh grain
14 Like some "Heated Rivalry" scenes
19 "What game are you watching!?" target
23 Raga instrument
25 Baking soda amt.
27 Pride member
28 Quechua pack animal
29 Rubber gaskets
31 Allow
36 Capital in Honshu's Kansai region
39 Producers of road movies?
40 Abalone eater
41 To-do
42 Backdrop of an animated series in a Lucasfilm franchise
43 Harsh negativity, in slang
47 Take the field?
48 Like some heart valves
49 Gymnast Lee who won the Best Comeback Athlete ESPY Award in 2025
50 Natural rug fibers
51 Little jerks
53 Runs, in a way
56 Username, often
57 CPR expert
62 Cal. neighbor, informally
64 "I smell a __!"
66 Nashville honor, for short
67 "Psst!"
68 "You rang?"

TODAY'S SOLUTION:



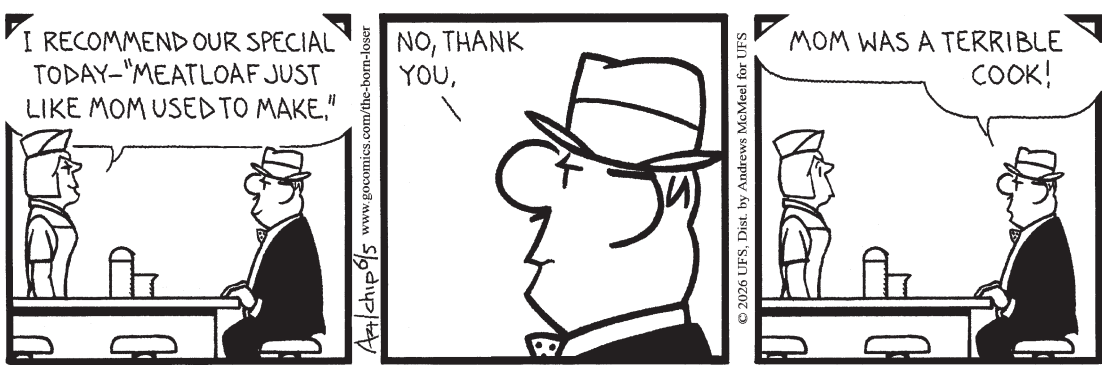
06/05/26



By Jess Rucks & Andrew Kingsley
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06/05/26

THE BORN LOSER Art & Chip Sansom



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE Chris Browne



ZITS Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



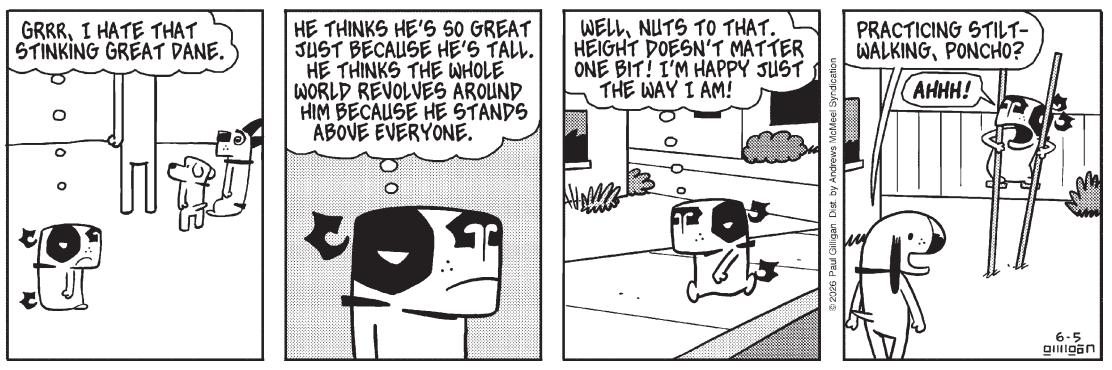
PEANUTS Charles M. Schulz



GARFIELD Jim Davis



POOCH CAFE Paul Gilligan



PICKLES Brian Crane



WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

LIMERICKS — **Solution: 7 letters**

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

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Classic, Comical, Couple, Creative, Figurative, Five, Imagination, Language, Laugh, Learn, Lines, Lyric, Meter, Music, Nonsense, Nursery, Opening, Phrase, Picture, Poem, Poet, Punchline, Recite, Repeat, Rhyme, Scheme, Sentence, Short, Silly, Song, Stanza, Structure, Surprise, Syllables, Terms, Themes, Title, Tune, Twist, Verse, Whimsical, Words

TODAY'S ANSWER: Playful

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

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

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WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

PRINCIPAL COLLISION

Whatzit ©2026 Paul Sellers

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

TODAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION:

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

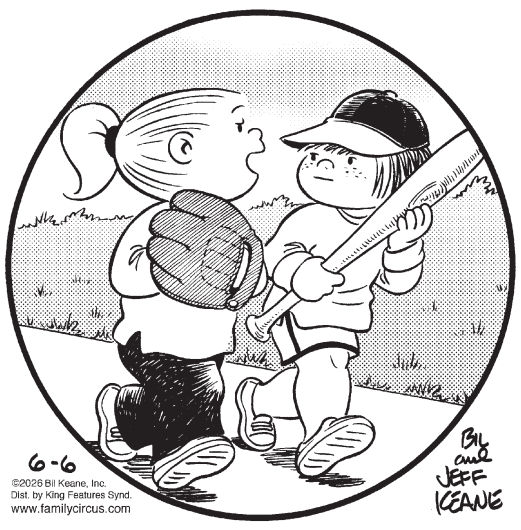
TODAY'S WHATZIT SOLUTION: Head-on collision

CLOSE TO HOME John McPherson



"Geesh! She said in her profile that she loves a man in a uniform but apparently not."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS Bil Keane

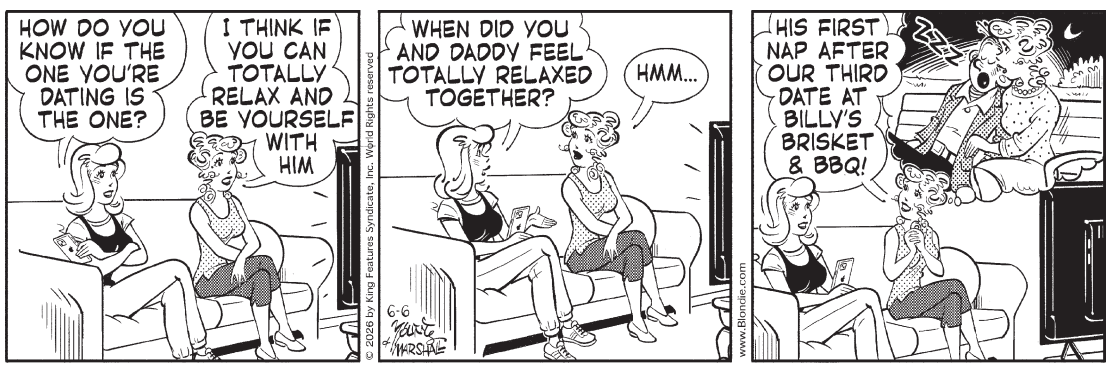


"I wanna be a pitcher. You get a little hill all for yourself."

BEETLE BAILEY Mort & Greg Walker



BLONDIE Dean Young & John Marshall



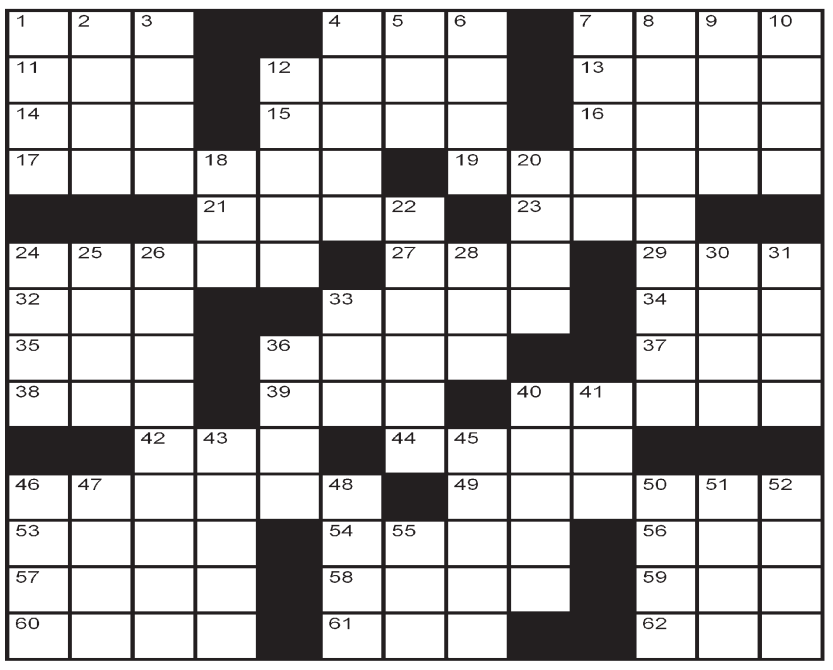
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Carton
4 "The Princess and the —"
7 Six-sided solid
11 Slippery —
12 Voting group
13 Freshly
14 Cakes and —
15 Eject
16 Muse count
17 Haphazard
19 Goes quickly
21 Particular
23 Pullet
24 Soiled
27 Unclose, poetically
29 Chore
32 Cuba libre ingredient
33 Brag
34 Exist
35 Deadly snake
36 Shocked sound
37 Soup container
38 Spelling contest
39 Be indebted
40 Common sprain site
42 Take
44 Crazy
46 Spain's capital city
49 "Teenage — Ninja Turtles"
53 Hodgepodge
54 Aid in crime
56 Animal hair
57 Does wrong
58 Ire
59 Commotion
60 Wise
61 Historic time
62 Soak, as flax

DOWN

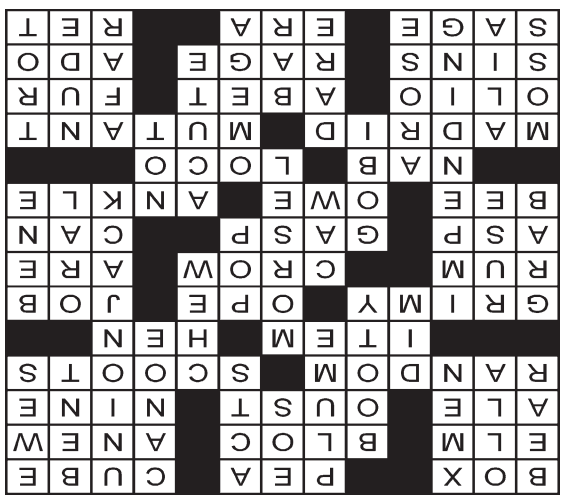
1 Grizzly —
2 — podrida
3 Superhero team (Hyph.)
4 Feather
5 Dawn goddess
6 Play parts
7 Dugout
8 British flag (2 wds.)
9 Crooked
10 Fleecy animals
12 Plunder
18 Shadowy
20 Masticate
22 Tasty bit to eat
24 Seize
25 Stratagem
26 About to occur
28 Fizzy drink
30 Spoken
31 Nota —
33 Corvine cry
36 Desert in Asia
40 Sharp
41 "— a chance!"
43 Developed
45 Last letter
46 Peat —
47 Inter —
48 Challenge
50 At a distance
51 Unclothed
52 Horse's gait
55 Tavern



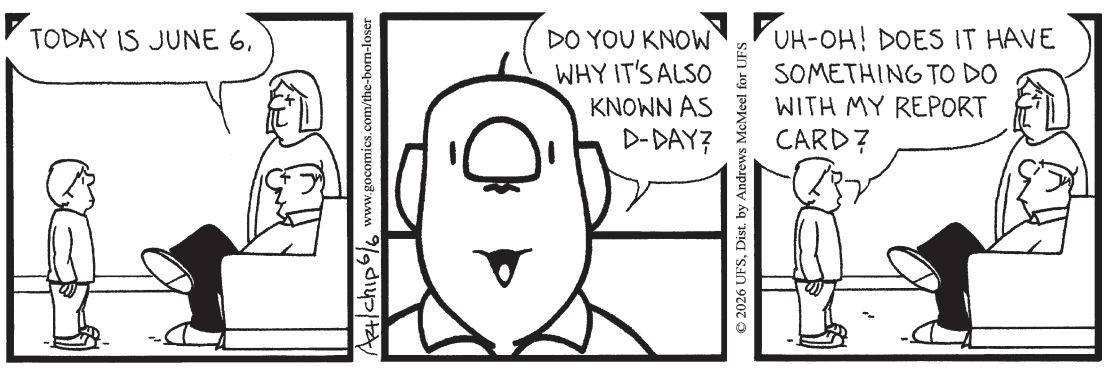
6-6

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TODAY'S SOLUTION:



THE BORN LOSER Art & Chip Sansom



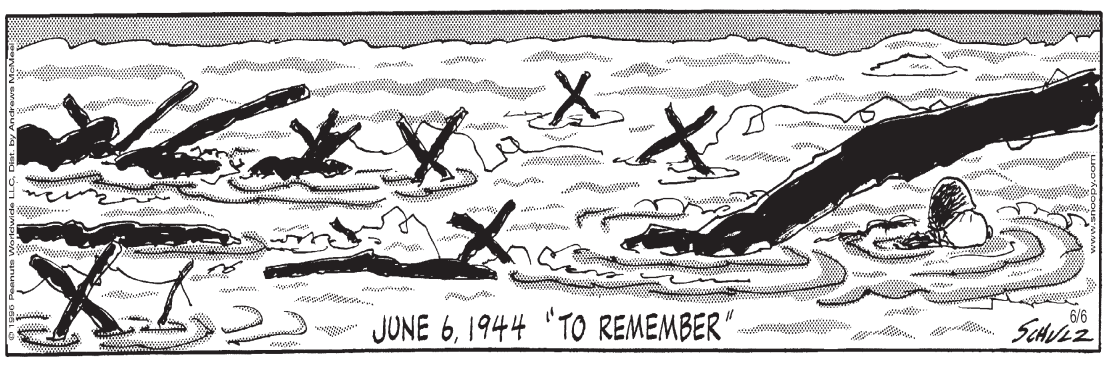
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE Chris Browne



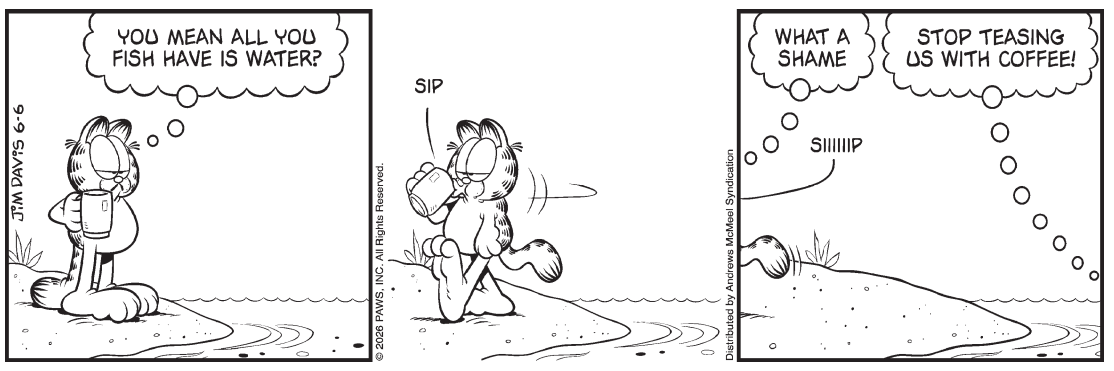
ZITS Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



PEANUTS Charles M. Schulz



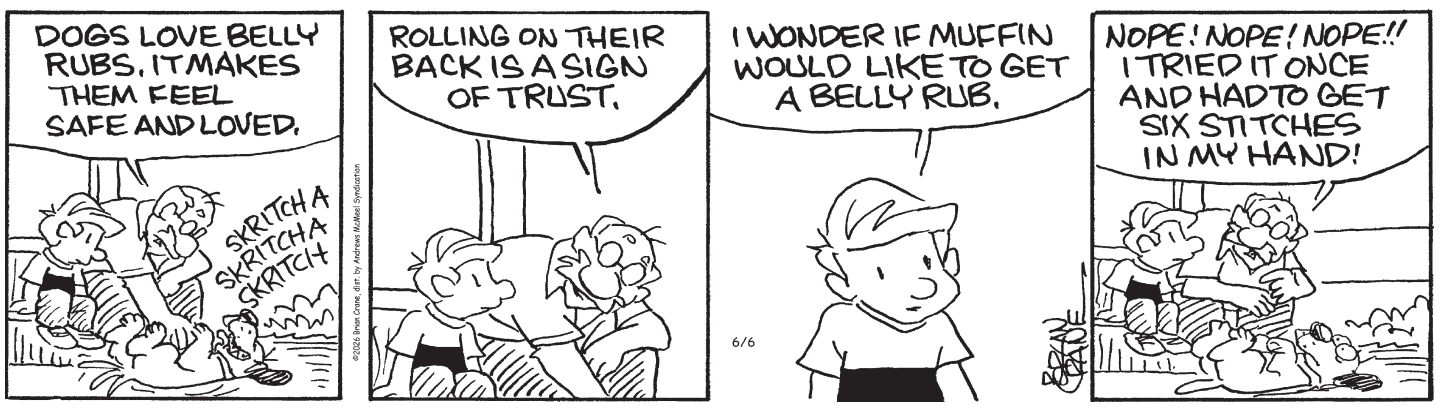
GARFIELD Jim Davis



POOCH CAFE Paul Gilligan



PICKLES Brian Crane



WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

PIZZA PARTIES — **Solution: 5 letters**

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

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Anchovies, Backyard, Birthday, Cheese, Crust, Delicious, Delivery, Dough, Friends, Hawaiian, Homemade, Italian, Marinara, Meat, Menu, Movie, Mushrooms, Napkin, Olives, Oven, Panzerotti, Patio, Pepperoni, Pickup, Plate, Recipe, Restaurant, Sauce, Sausage, Share, Sleepover, Slice, Spicy, Takeout, Tasty, Tomato, Toss, Tray, Vegetables, Yeast

TODAY'S ANSWER: Order

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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

TODAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION:

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

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

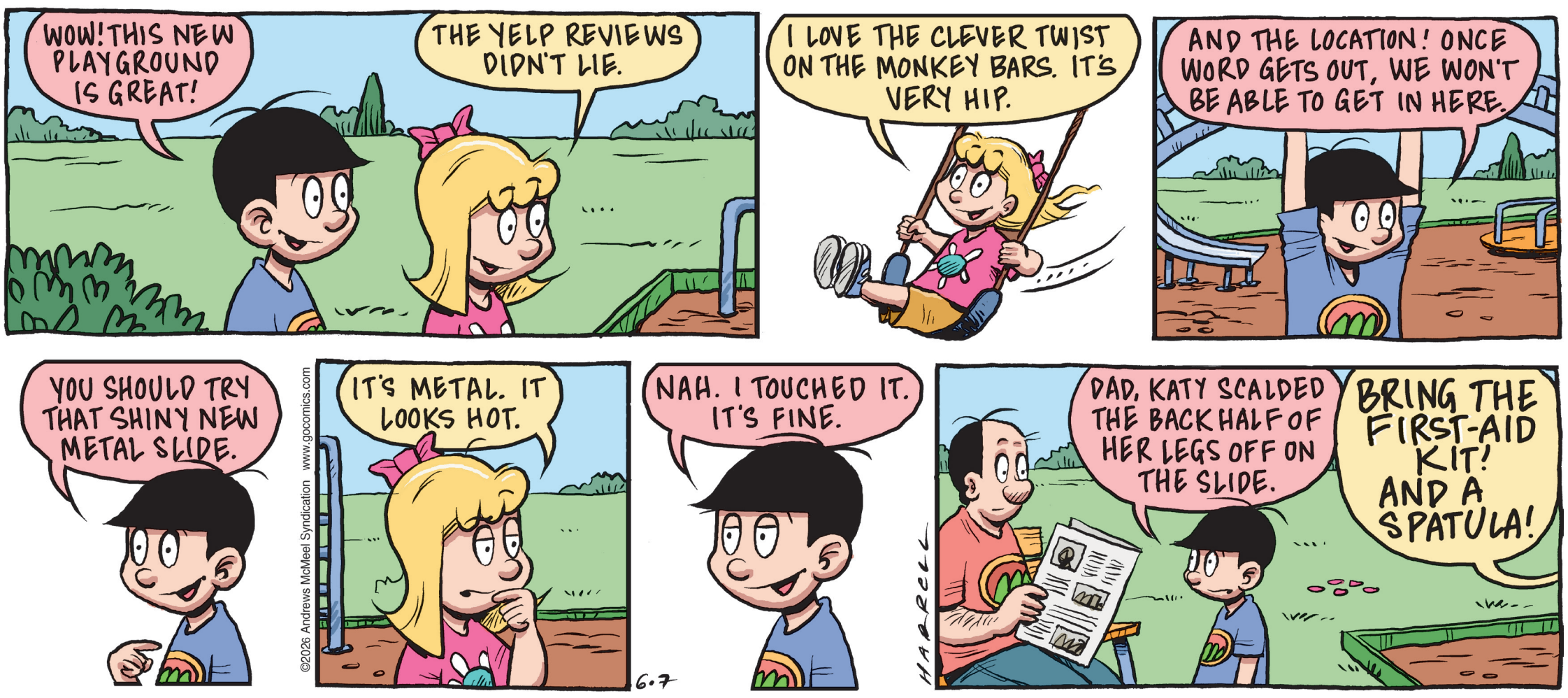
LEFT COLD

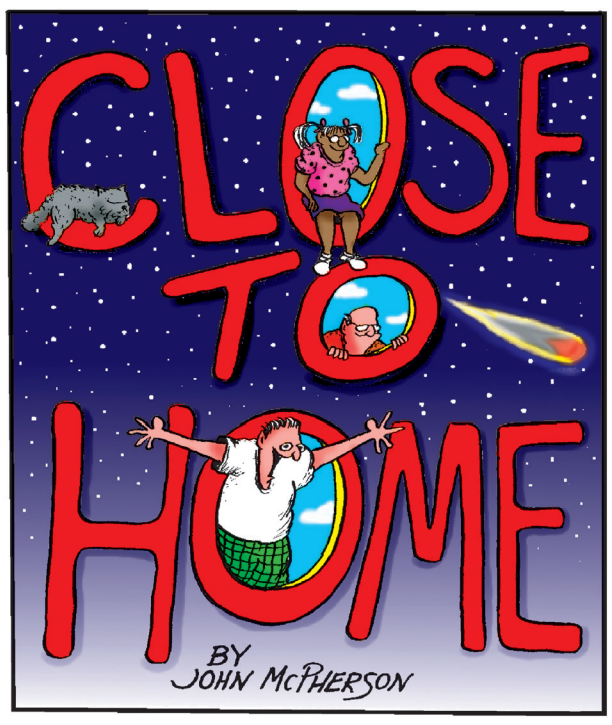
Whatzit ©2026 Paul Sellers

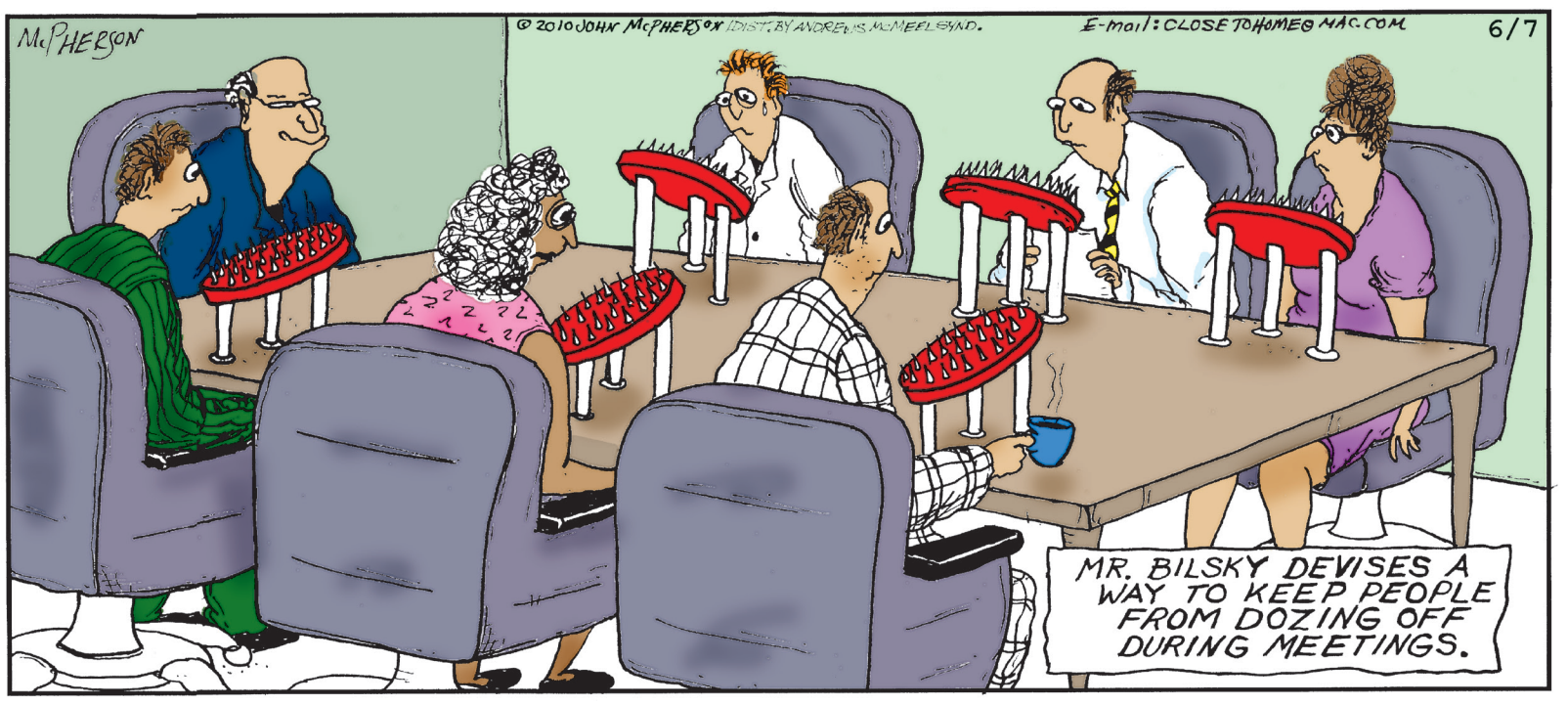
TODAY'S WHATZIT SOLUTION: Left out in the cold

ADAM@HOME

BY ROB HARRELL

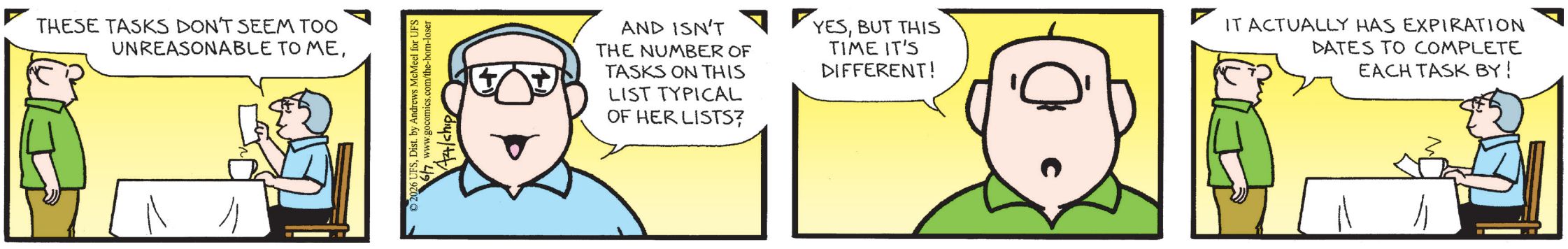


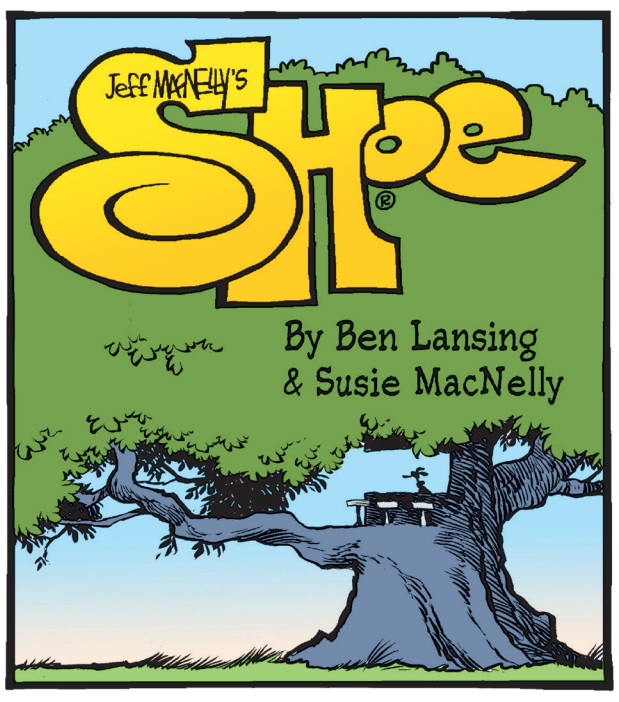


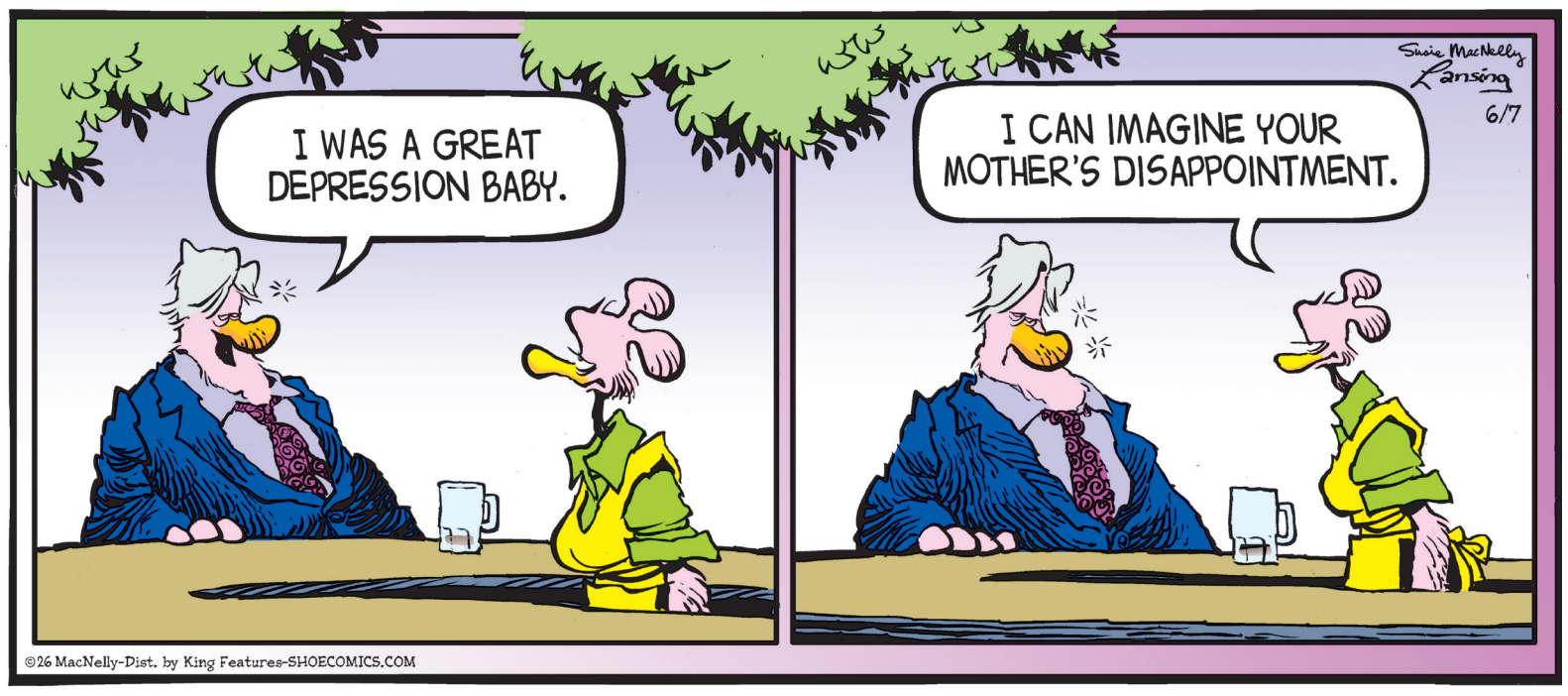


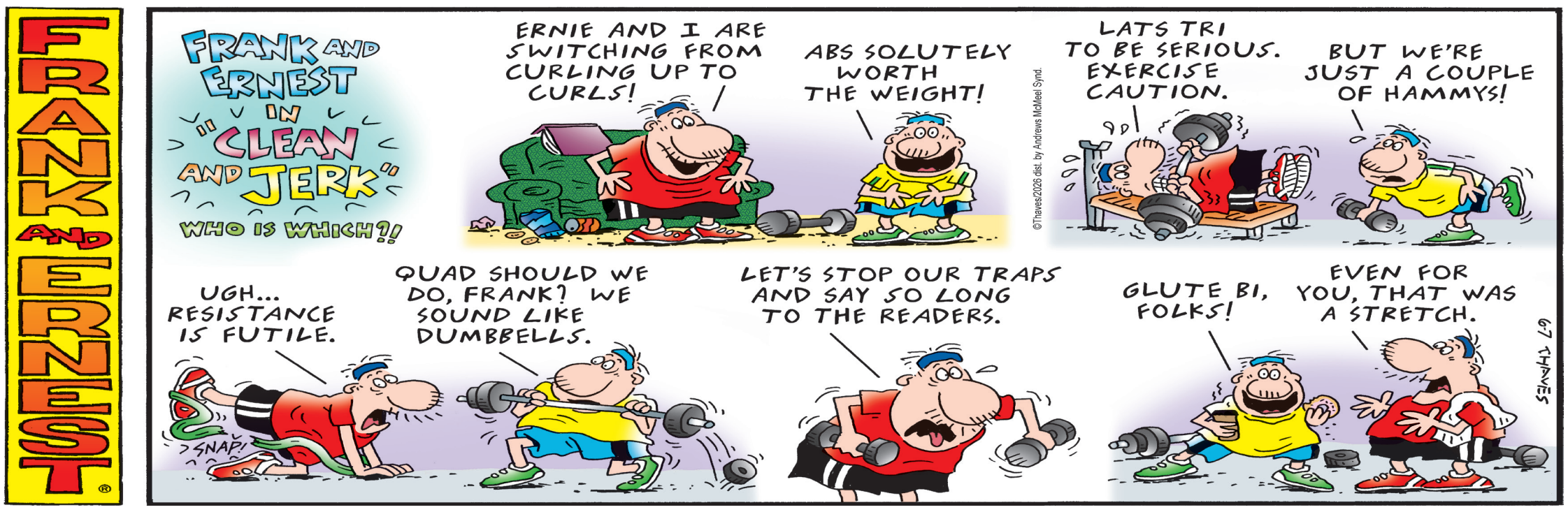






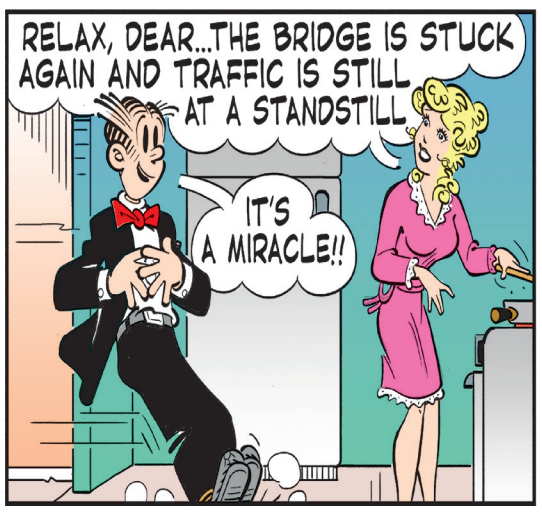


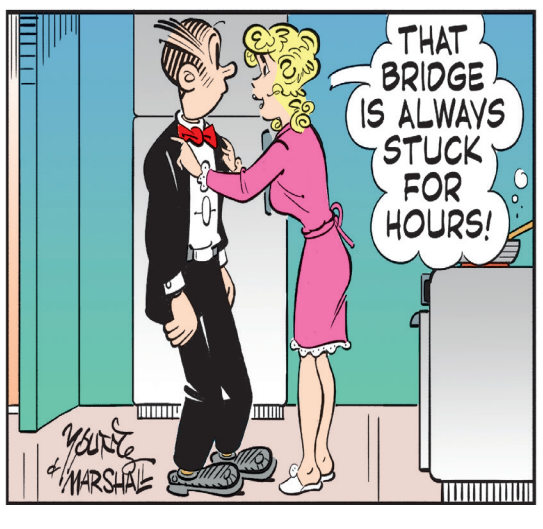




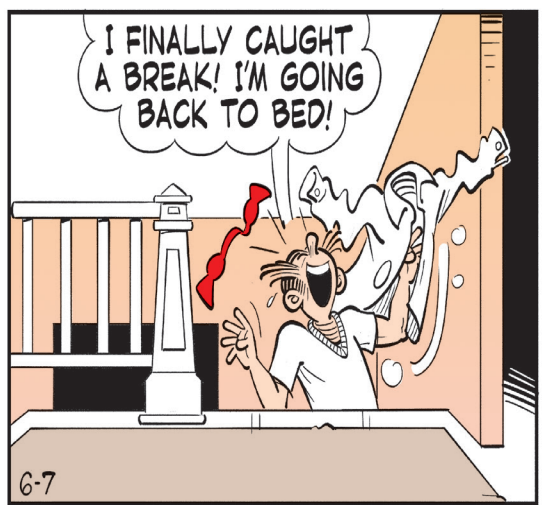
BLONDIE

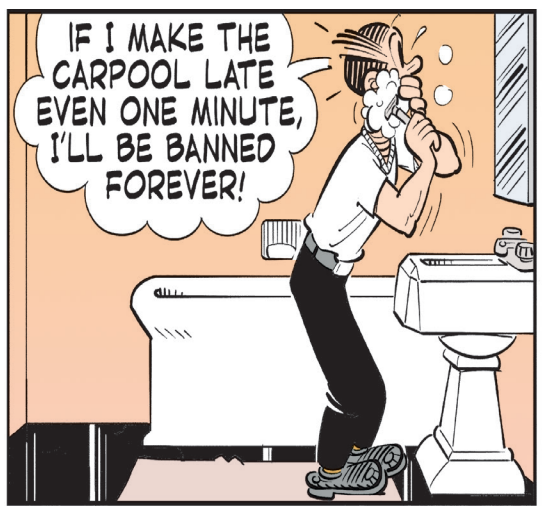
BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

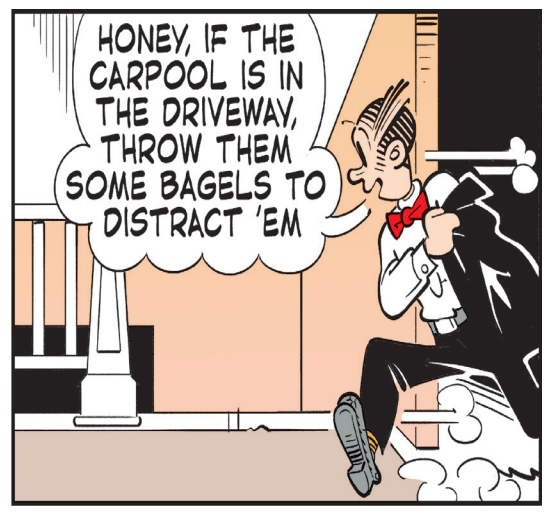


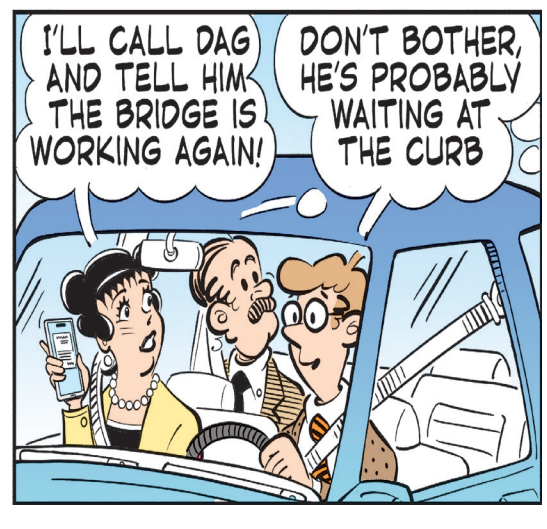


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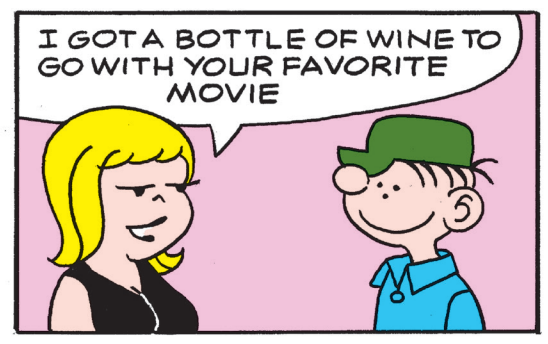


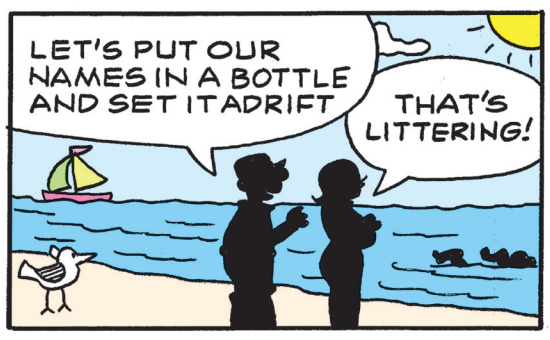


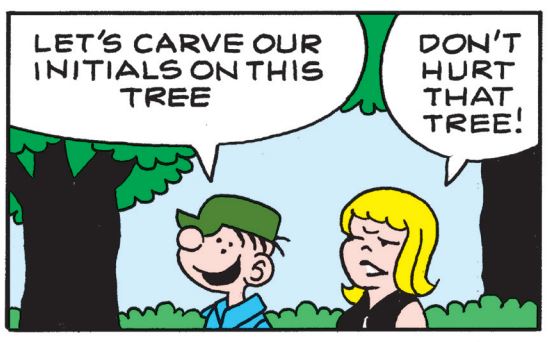


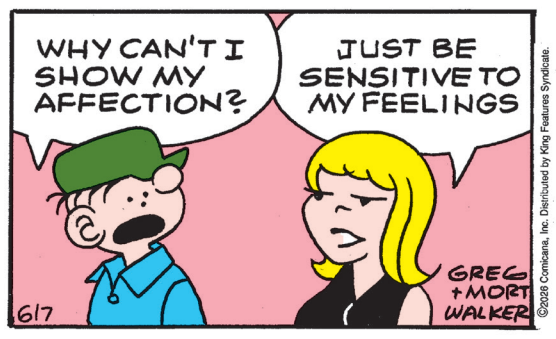
Mort Walker's beetle bailey®



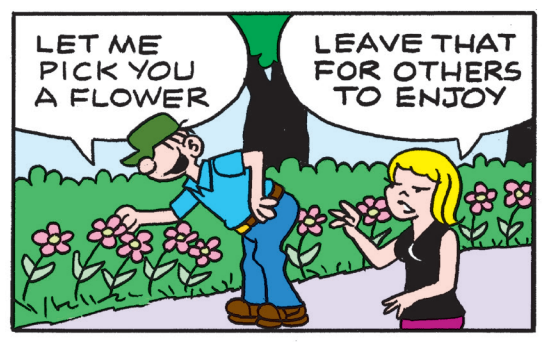








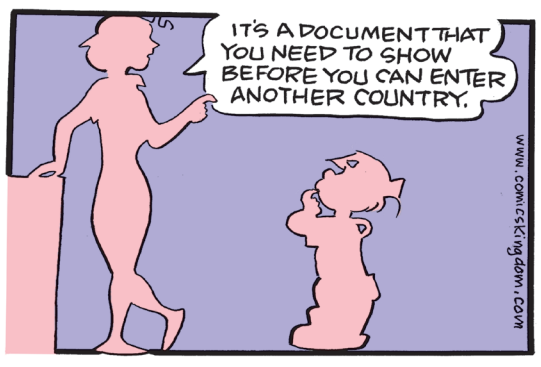
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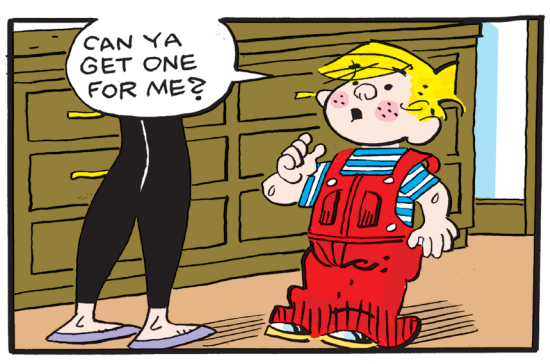


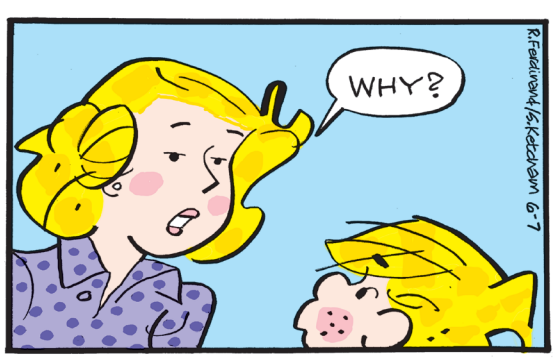


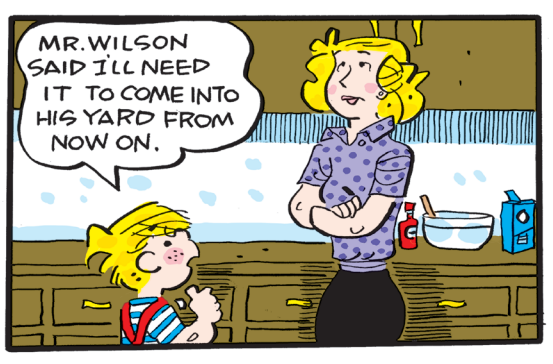
Hank Ketcham's Dennis the Menace

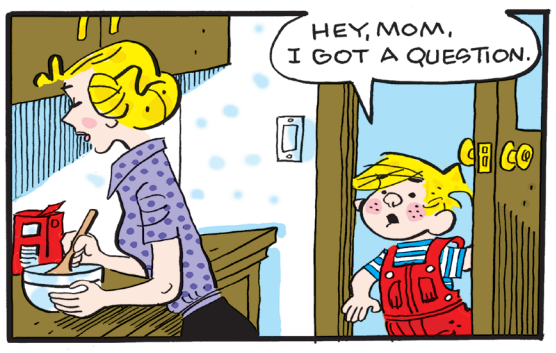
BORDERLINE

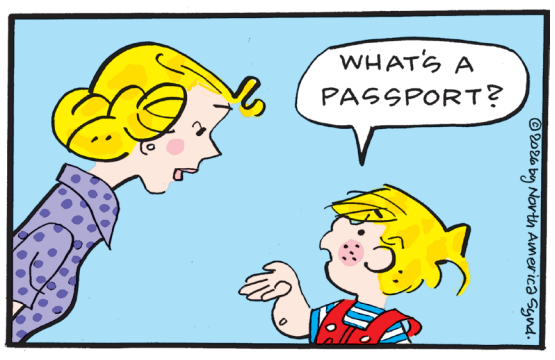






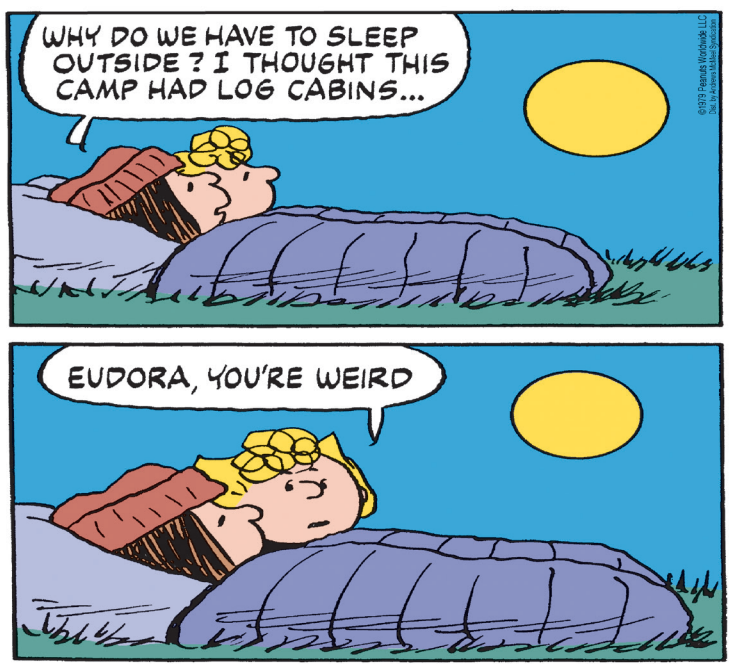


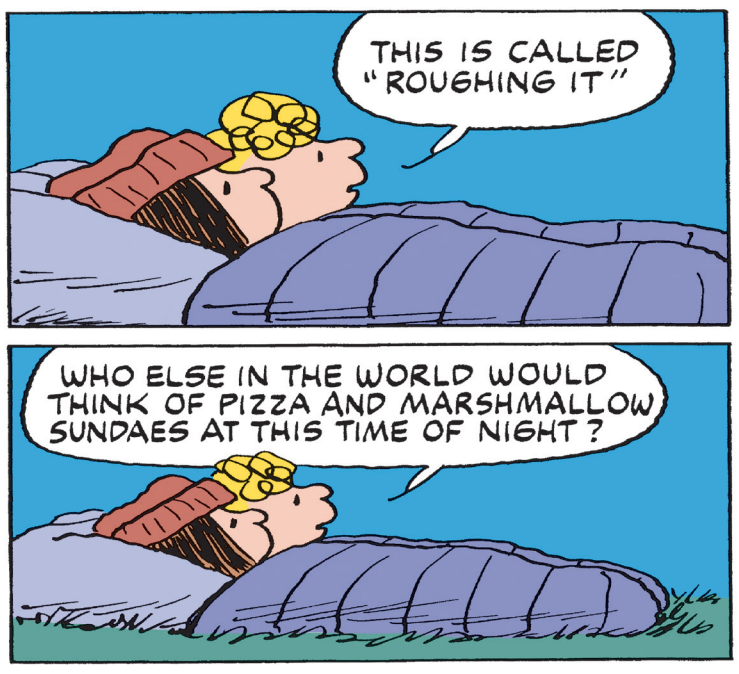


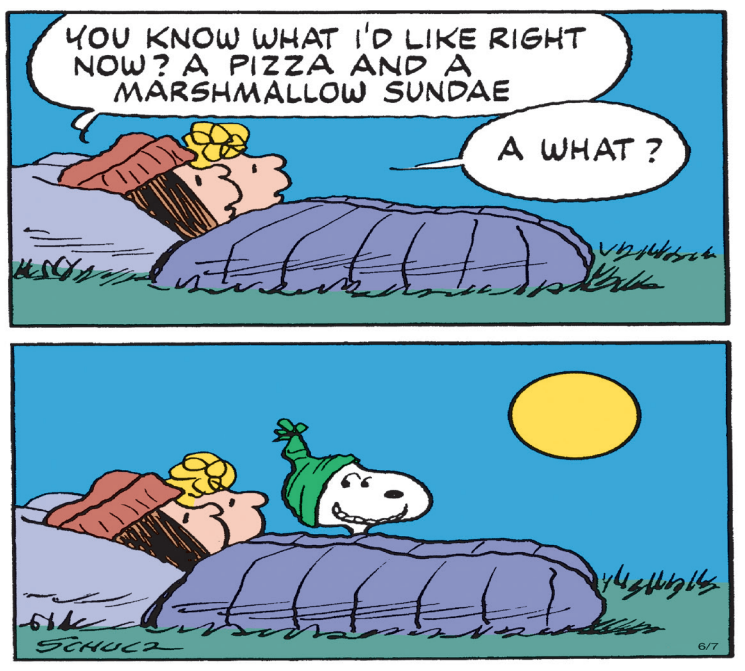


CLASSIC PEANUTS

BY CHARLES SCHULZ







PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEPHAN PASTIS

