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OBITUARIES

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Skipper, Jean

WVU
Provost set to retire in Sept.

Kreider to serve as interim once Reed steps aside

WVU Today

After three decades of service to West Virginia University, Maryanne Reed has chosen to retire from her role as provost and vice president for academic affairs at the end of September. She will continue to offer her leadership and expertise through the end of the calendar year when she retires from the university.



Maryanne Reed

"I have loved my time at WVU and appreciate the many opportunities afforded me," Reed said. "It's time for me to begin a new chapter in my life in which I'm able to spend more time with family and friends. I will forever carry WVU in my heart and wish nothing but the best for this institution and our people."

Beginning in October, Reed will continue to report to the Office of the President, helping with the provost transition and closing out projects in the Provost's Office related to student success, retention and land-grant outreach.

"Maryanne Reed has brought her unique brand of energy and a sense of purpose to every facet of her career here at West Virginia University," President Gordon Gee said. "When Maryanne told me of her plans to retire, I knew it would be great loss for the university, but I am supportive of her

SEE PROVOST, A-2

ELECTION 2024

Biden opens debate with verbal missteps, Trump pushes falsehoods

Associated Press

ATLANTA — A raspy President Joe Biden delivered rambling answers Thursday in the opening moments of his debate with his Republican rival, Donald Trump, who countered Biden's criticism with energy and at times by leaning into falsehoods about the economy and illegal immigration.

The debate came at a pivotal juncture in their unpopular presidential rematch, as Biden, the 81-year-old Democratic incumbent, entered the debate with the chance to reassure voters that he's capable of guiding the U.S. through a host of challenges as he moved to sharpen the choice voters will face in November.

Trump, 78, had the opening to try to move past his felony conviction in New York and convince an audience of tens of millions that he is temperamentally suited to return to the Oval Office.

Biden began the night with a raspy voice and a halting delivery as he tried to defend his economic record and criticize Trump. Biden appeared to lose his train of thought while giving one answer, drifting from an answer on tax policy to health policy, at one point using the word "COVID," and then saying, "excuse me, with, dealing with," and he trailed off again.

"Look, we finally beat Medicare," Biden said, as his time ran

out on his answer.

Trump picked right up on it, saying, "That's right, he did beat Medicaid, he beat it to death. And he's destroying Medicare."

Trump falsely suggested Biden was weakening the social service program because of migrants coming into the country illegally.

Trump and Biden entered the night facing stiff headwinds,

SEE DEBATE, A-2

'Best part of the worst day'



Ron Rittenhouse/The Dominion Post photos

At Krepps Park Thursday to meet the Pauley family are Mon EMS crew left to right: Elliot Lilly, EMT; Chrisiel Feathers paramedic; Savannah Wolfe, paramedic; Tyler Greenberg, EMT; Lifeguards: Zach Ribas and Alyssa Guerry; the Pauley family: Braxton, Morgan, Jason, Jackson and Elizabeth; EMT Capt. Ian Lympany; Morgantown Fire: Bryan Davis, Andrew Waxman, Jayson Nicewarner and Klint Connery.

Pauley family meets those who saved Jackson's life

BY ERIN CLEAVENGER
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Saturday, June 8, was a day the Pauley family of Morgantown will likely never forget — and a day first responders hope to remember.

A sunny day at Krepps Pool, quickly took a scary turn when 11-year-old Jackson Pauley experienced a seizure and nearly drowned.

Thanks to the quick actions of BOPARC lifeguards and response from Morgantown Fire Department and Monongalia EMS, the Pauley family remains whole.

On Thursday morning at Krepps Park, Jackson and the Pauley family got a chance to reunite with all of the heroes who saved his life that day — and he got to officially meet them.

Jackson offered few words, but his family expressed their gratitude.

"We are forever grateful," father Jason Pauley said to his son's rescuers. "Nothing will ever truly show how we feel, and this has been obviously life-changing for us, but it's a traumatic event that ended in a wonderful story, so we're very pleased."

Pauley said the lifeguards, EMT's and firefighters are never recognized enough for what they do.

"You did what you're trained to do, and you did it with punctuality," he said. "In addition to that, just the overwhelming support of everyone being

SEE PAULEY, A-2



The Pauley family — from left, Morgan, Braxton, Jason, Elizabeth and Jackson — at Krepps Park, where they met several of those involved in saving Jackson when he had a seizure at the pool earlier this month.

LEGISLATURE

WVU preps for campus carry

New state law goes into effect Monday

BY DAVID BEARD

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Campus Carry takes effect statewide on Monday. At WVU, Dean of Students Corey Farris talked with the press on Thursday about preparations at Morgantown and the two regional campuses.

"We're pretty much ready," he said. "We've been communicating since springtime the changes that are coming up." They've been getting the word out to current students, to new ones at orientation, and will have more info to offer when students come back for the fall semester.

"There isn't one magic way to get everybody the information, so we'll just do it in multiple different ways," he said.

Campus Carry comes as a result of the Campus Self Defense Act, passed as SB 10 in 2023, which sets the parameters for people with concealed handgun permits to carry a concealed pistol or revolver on public college and university campuses and includes directives for weapons storage, and exceptions where the schools may still prohibit weapons.

WVU's Board of Governors adopted a rule implementing SB 10 in April. It applies to WVU, WVU Institute of Technology and WVU Potomac State College, and covers all university campuses, including HSC Charleston, HSC Martinsburg, School of Nursing Bridgeport Campus, and areas of the campus and buildings under the university's custodial possession but does not include areas rented, leased, or under an exclusive agreement for the full-time occupancy and use of a private entity.

The rule, in conformity with the law, spells out 12 exceptions

SEE LAW, A-7

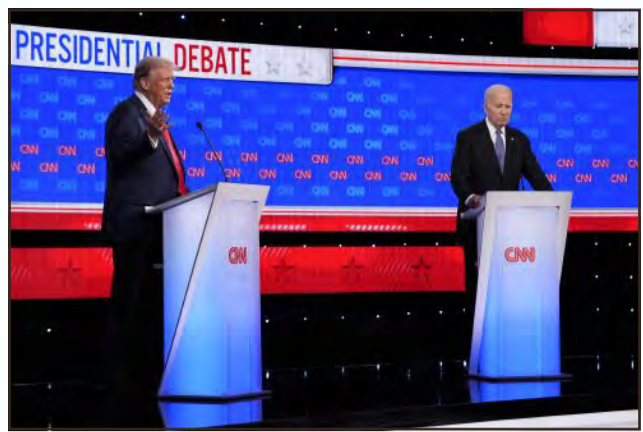


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AP photo

President Joe Biden (right) listens as Republican presidential candidate former President Donald Trump speaks during a presidential debate hosted by CNN, Thursday in Atlanta.

DEBATE

FROM PAGE A-1

including a public weary of the tumult of partisan politics and broadly dissatisfied with both, according to polling.

The personal animus quickly came to the surface. Biden got personal in evoking his son, Beau, who served in Iraq before dying of brain cancer. The president criticized Trump for reportedly calling Americans killed in battle “suckers and losers.” Biden told Trump, “My son was not a loser; was not a sucker. You’re the sucker. You’re the loser.”

Trump said he never said that and slammed Biden for the chaotic withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan.

Biden, pressed to defend rising inflation since he took office, pinned it on the situation he inherited from Trump amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Biden said that when Trump left office, “things were in chaos.” Trump disagreed, declaring that during his term in the White House, “Everything was rocking good.”

By the time Trump left office, America was still grappling with the pandemic and during his final hours in office, the death

toll eclipsed 400,000. The virus continued to ravage the country and the death toll hit 1 million over a year later.

Trump repeatedly insisted that the three conservative justices he appointed to the Supreme Court helped overturn the landmark Roe v. Wade decision and returned the issue of abortion restrictions to individual states, which is what “everybody wanted.” Biden countered that abortion access was settled for 50 years and that Trump was making it harder for women in large swaths of the country to get access to basic health care.

At one point, Trump defended his record on foreign policy and blamed Biden for the conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza, suggesting the conflicts broke out when the aggressors felt free to attack because they perceived Biden as weak.

Trump has promised sweeping plans to remake the U.S. government if he returns to the White House and Biden argues that his opponent would pose an existential threat to the nation’s democracy.

Thursday’s broadcast on CNN, moderated by anchors Jake Tapper and Dana Bash, marked the earliest general election debate in history.

INTERSTATE CRASH



An 18-wheeler and four passenger vehicles traveling west on I-68 Thursday collided at exit 10, Cheat Lake. The tractor-trailer reportedly lost control and hit the other vehicles. One person was pinned in a car for a short time, but all motorists got out without serious injuries. Monongalia County Sheriff’s Department, volunteer firefighters and Mon EMS responded. The interstate was closed for about two hours.

Ron Rittenhouse/The Dominion Post photos

PAULEY

FROM PAGE A-1

here today means a lot to us. Thank all of you, from the bottom of our hearts.”

Getting to officially meet Jackson after saving his life provided some closure for the first responders as well.

“I think this team is really excited to be the best part of your worst day and we get to celebrate that today,” said Forest Weyen, Monongalia EMS director. “We don’t get opportunities like this to celebrate such a fantastic outcome.”

Weyen said he thinks the positive outcome was, in part, due to having a system in place that worked as it should.

“It started off with the true heroes, the folks at BOPARC,” he said of the lifeguards on duty that day. “The training and expertise that they had to recognize what was going on.”

“Morgantown Fire and Mon EMS, the collaborative partnership and the way we come together to serve the community is fantastic and it really goes to show that when all these things come

together, when systems work, and all the pieces that are there fall into place, really good things happen. I think that’s really amazing, and we need to celebrate that.”

Paramedic Savannah Wolfe, who was one of the Mon EMS responders the day of Jackson’s incident, said despite facing difficult situations like this, their training often takes over.

“Oftentimes we fall back on what we’re taught,” she said, “so I think just a lot of good training from this entire group, our whole agency and Morgantown Fire.”

All of that training really pays off when they know the ending is a happy one.

“I think it’s moments like this that keep us motivated to go back to work each day,” said Capt. Ian Lympany of Mon EMS. “We go call to call every day and oftentimes we don’t get to see what the patient’s outcome is — we focus on transfer and care to the hospital then get the next call and keep going. So, it motivates us to come back when we see outcomes like this.”

The Morgantown firefighters who responded that day were also relieved to hear of Jackson’s recovery.

“It’s a great feeling to have this type of outcome,” said Lt. Jayson Nicewarner of MFD. “A lot of times we don’t have an outcome like this, so a positive outcome is great for us.”

Nicewarner said firefighters often respond to medical emergencies alongside Mon EMS.

“We’re all first responders. Maybe 15-20 of us are EMTs and we have two or three paramedics in the department,” he said. “So, we’re very active with EMS and it’s fortunate we can be the first ones on scene sometimes and make a difference in that way.”

Nicewarner said it was really the BOPARC lifeguards who saved the day.

“We’re doing our job and we’re doing what we’re trained to do, but in my eyes the real heroes in this situation were the lifeguards, they fell back on their training and their CPR — they’re the ones that made a huge difference.”

The lifeguards involved

in Jackson’s rescue didn’t wish to comment but said while it was a scary situation, they are doing well.

A press release from BOPARC said the incident “brought our community together in an incredible show of strength and support.”

“Our heartfelt thanks go out to the EMS crews, firefighters, Morgantown Police Department officers, BOPARC lifeguards, nurses, doctors and others who assisted that day and/or provided words of encouragement since. This event has truly shown the remarkable spirit of the greater Morgantown community.”

BOPARC thanked the Pauley family, WVU Medicine, WVU Football, Ellie Mental Health, the City of Morgantown, MFD, and members of the community “for your recognition of our amazing group of young adult lifeguards who provided an exemplary response and execution of training that helped save a life.”

PROVOST

FROM PAGE A-1

decision. Her commitment to students, caring for colleagues and innovative spirit have been evident from her earliest days as a faculty member to her years as provost and vice president for academic affairs where she has cultivated a talented team committed to serving the WVU System as we plan for the future.”

Current Vice Provost Paul Kreider will step into an interim provost role effective Oct. 1, while also continuing to lead WVU Potomac State College until a new permanent campus president is in place, anticipated by Jan. 1, 2025.

Kreider joined the university as dean of the WVU College of Creative Arts in

July 2011, became associate provost for undergraduate education in 2017 and was named vice provost in 2019. A seasoned administrator and innovative academic leader, he was named interim campus president of Potomac State College in March 2024.

Additionally, Senior Associate Provost Mark Gavin will become vice provost and assume his new role and duties beginning Oct. 1.

Prior to joining the Office of the Provost in 2018, Gavin served as a faculty member and associate dean for graduate programs, research and executive education in the WVU John Chambers College of Business and Economics. As senior associate provost, Gavin currently oversees academic budgets, facilities and strategic ini-

tiatives for the Office of the Provost. His portfolio as vice provost will include these areas plus additional responsibilities. The university does not plan to fill the vacated senior associate provost position.

Reed joined the university in 1993 as a faculty member in the WVU Reed College of Media and was later named dean. Under Reed’s tenure as dean, the College of Media experienced record enrollment in its graduate and undergraduate programs. She also led major curriculum innovations and programmatic changes at the College of Media, as well as the development of a new state-of-the-art Media Innovation Center in the Evansdale Crossing building. Widely respected as a higher education administrator, Reed was tapped to lead the

largest WVU college, the WVU Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, as interim dean from 2015-16.

She returned to the College of Media in 2016 and was appointed provost and vice president for academic affairs in spring of 2019. While serving the university as its chief academic officer, Reed led through the global COVID-19 pandemic and an evolution of the academic enterprise. Under her direction, the office created a number of student success initiatives, including the Maier Foundation-funded completion grants, the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation-funded REACH program and the campus’ move to professional advising.

The search for a permanent provost will begin after a new university president is selected.

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MON COUNTY

Exit 155 work now \$110 million, Chaplin Hill improvements not included

BY BEN CONLEY

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In 2019, the state of West Virginia said it was committing \$66 million to reconfigure I-79 Exit 155.

Working with the county and developer WestRidge, the state said the new interchange would be constructed in a divergent diamond configuration with a west-bound flyover and new bridges over Chaplin Hill Road.

In February, it was announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation had awarded

\$54.3 million for, according to the DOT's project description, a lot of the same work.

Fortunate, as it's now expected to be in the \$110 million range.

For that money, the county will get the project described above, with the addition of a side-walk/multipurpose path between The Gateway and the rail-trail on the far side of the Star City Bridge. There's talk of a potential roundabout to be located somewhere between The Gateway and Hoy Redi-Mix — but that remains to be seen.

What definitely won't be included in the project is improvements to Chaplin Hill Road out to Mylan Park. Including that would bump the cost up to about \$180 million.

Exit 155 was a topic of conversation Thursday for the Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board.

Last month, the board tabled a request from the WVDOH to alter the project's listing on the MPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to indicate a funding

change. Specifically, it would replace \$59.4 million in state dollars with federal dollars for the project.

Policy board members feared that was an indication the state was looking to pull its original commitment.

Not so, said Sean Sikora.

Sikora, MPO Director Bill Austin and board members Ron Justice, Russ Rogerson, Joe Statler and Steve Blinco recently sat down with DOH officials to discuss the long-awaited interchange upgrade.

The group returned with a rec-

ommendation to approve the state's request, which the board followed.

"We've got assurances that our project is moving forward, and this actually helps the state," Sikora said.

Beyond the money, a positive consequence of the federal grant is that it comes with a deadline for substantial completion in the fall of 2028.

Not a lot of time when you consider this project has already been in discussion for nearly

SEE EXIT 155, A-4

'Steel Magnolias'



Photo courtesy of Jared Tadlock

Stars of West Virginia Public Theatre's 'Steel Magnolias' rehearse a scene.

WVPT brings the crowd favorite to Morgantown stage

BY ALISE CHAFFINS

DPNews@DominionPost.com

In 1987, "Steel Magnolias" debuted Off-Broadway. It had success, and in 1989, it was adapted into a film with an all-star cast. Thirty-five years later, it is still a favorite for many.

This weekend, West Virginia Public Theatre brings the story back to its roots with a performance of the play under the direction of Jane Jones.

"Steel Magnolias" runs through Sunday at the Canady Creative Arts Center. Tickets can be purchased at the box office, or they can be ordered online at <https://wvpublictheatre.org/>.

Jones comes to WVPT from Seattle, where she works at the Book-It Repertory Theatre. Originally from Virginia, she is happy to be back in Appalachia and to be working on this play.

"When Jerry said he wanted me to join them here at West Virginia Public Theatre to direct this, I watched the film. Then the next day, I read the script, and I was like, oh, thank goodness. It's only the women that come to Truvy's Salon."

Jones said she wanted to draw from the spirit of the film without

copying it.

"The movie was just so big and with so many stars in it, but I thought the really beautiful thing about it was the sisterhood," she said. "We all know when you go to your salon, if you have the same hair stylist for 17 years, they know everything about you, you pretty much know everything about them. I mean, it's such a personal, intimate thing for somebody to be in charge of how you perceive yourself in the world."

The story follows six women who have been friends for years, focusing on the mother-daughter duo of Shelby and M'Lynn. Shelby has diabetes, which makes pregnancy dangerous for her. But as she marries and time goes by, she wants children. In one scene, Shelby has a hypoglycemic seizure on stage. The Dominion Post spoke with Amanda McGovern, who plays Shelby, about tackling such a scene.

"It is a very physical thing," McGovern said. "And that's really interesting to figure out because when I first got the role, immediately I was like, 'OK, I need to learn about diabetes and what this moment is and really what's happening.' Because in the script it doesn't specify what it is. So that was a lot of research on my part. And luckily, we so that was a lot of stuff before the process started. Then we were so lucky to have a person come in from the diabetes education center, and she talked to us. She has diabetes

herself, and she was very open to sharing her experience."

Emily Smaniotto, coordinator of the WVU Medicine Diabetes Education Center, was that woman.

"Those who are familiar with the movie know that a young woman has diabetes and faces many complications associated with the disease," she explained. "I was able to work with the cast of the show to help educate them on diabetes, especially hypoglycemia, during one of their rehearsals. The cast wanted to give viewers the most authentic show possible, and we were happy to assist with education and guidance."

The Center will have materials on diabetes available at the show.

Because this is a story that takes place in a salon, hairstyles are also incredibly important. Costume designer Trace Swisher shared some of the unique challenges of making this work on stage.

"When it comes from like the hair washing, that was such an interesting experience."

He and the director had lots of back and forth on the wigs.

"It was this debate between me and Jane of whether or not we should put M'Lynn in a wig. But the actress playing M'Lynn has this gorgeous hair already and we just didn't want to take that away. So that was one of the biggest hurdles that we kind of got to problem-solve together — was

SEE STEEL, A-4

EDUCATION

Summer Avalanche (the school kind) is on its way

BY JIM BISSETT

JBissett@DominionPost.com

The musical intricacies of clawhammer banjo.

Minecraft, as it applies to life-lessons in empathy, science and more.

An interactive history of the Summer Olympic Games.

This isn't your granddad's summer school.

"Summer Avalanche," that is.

The learning enrichment camps that are staple of vacation programming for Monongalia County Schools commence Monday and run through July 25 at every elementary and middle school in the district.

And the above is just of slice of the learning-pebbles coming down for this one.

As Susan Taylor, a former classroom teacher and reading specialist who oversees the Avalanche for the district likes to say, there's a little bit — of a whole lot of something — for everyone.

Elementary age youngsters have been schooled in the rudiments of money management in past sessions.

Older students have partaken of the video-as-literature clinics, which have taught writing and critical-thinking skills in fun, accessible ways.

COVID-19 was the catalyst.

Mon's district initially funded it with a \$1.4 million outlay from the federal Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund.

That item on the ledger was designed to knock away intellectual-blocking boulders that wound up where they were by the attrition of months of remote learning, which was followed by sporadic in-person attendance, as the contagion waxed and waned.

Students were in the distance-learning track, then they weren't.

They were in their school buildings, then they weren't.

And when classmates or teachers were handed positive diagnoses of the contagion, everyone was sent back home ... again.

In March 2020, when it

SEE SCHOOL, A-4

COMMUNITY

Empty Bowls awards \$105K to 25 area nonprofits

DPNews@DominionPost.com

Empty Bowls Monongalia announced that a total of \$105,000 in grant funds were awarded to 25 local nonprofits.

The recipient agencies partner with Empty Bowls to fight food insecurity throughout Monongalia County. Their services include food pantries, weekend backpack programs for school age children and meal programs for families and individuals in need.

The agencies awarded funds this year are Avery United Methodist Church Snack Pack Program, Bartlett Housing Solutions, Canyon Food Pantry, Catholic Charities, Christian Help Food Pantry, Clay-Battelle Area Family Services, Community Kitchen, Covenant Church Food Pantry, First Presbyterian Church, Friendship Community in Recovery,

Goshen Baptist Church Snack Pack Program, Morgantown Area Meals on Wheels, Native American Community Center, Pantry Plus More, The Rack — WVU Food Pantry, The Rainbow House, RDVIC, Rock Forge Food Pantry, The Salvation Army, Sarah's Table, Scott's Run Settlement House, Shack Neighborhood House, Starting Points Food Pantry, St. Ursula's Food Pantry and Woodland United Methodist Church Snack Pack Program.

"We are honored to partner with these agencies and are so grateful for each of them and their continued efforts to feed our hungry. They are doing such important work for our community and are a vital part in fighting food insecurity in Monongalia County," said Jasmine Smithbauer, interim executive director of Empty Bowls Monongalia.

COMMENTARY

Summer camp season can mean sickness — in this case, strep

THE FIRST SUMMER TIME ILLNESS HAS HIT OUR HOUSE. With my oldest child being in summer camp, I was wondering how long it would take before she caught a bug. Well, it finally happened and she came home with strep throat.



ANN BURNS

My daughter is turning 6 this year and I don't recall her ever having strep throat before so I wasn't exactly sure what I was looking out for. The giveaway was her telling me her throat hurt and then hearing one of her summer camp coaches say that someone was out sick with strep throat that same week.

So of course I took to Google to find out the difference between a sore throat and strep throat. What I found online was that a sore throat is normally accompanied by other cold-like symptoms such as a cough, sneezing, or runny nose. My daughter didn't have any of that. She did, however, have a slight fever, right below 100 degrees.

With that little bit of information, I decided to take her to the pediatrician to get tested. Her test came back positive for strep and she was prescribed some antibiotics. Along with the medication, I went back to Google

to find any home remedies to help with her discomfort. I found a few great options that I thought I'd share.

The first is to gargle salt water. I remember doing this as a kid when I was sick, but I didn't realize until I looked into it why it was meant to help. When you gargle 1/2 teaspoon of salt in an 8-ounce glass of warm water it loosens mucus, decreases inflammation, reduces pain and has antibacterial properties. So, I thought that was an easy thing to try to reduce any pain.

The second thing I read was to stick with soft food. I would not have thought about this, but it makes sense that crunchy, sour, spicy and salty foods can irritate a sore throat. So, sticking to foods like applesauce, yogurt, mashed potatoes, etc. is a good idea. What I noticed specifically with my daughter was that she didn't have much of an

appetite. So, making sure she stayed hydrated was key, as was giving her small meals and snacks that she could eat with ease.

The third thing we found to do with strep throat was to throw away the toothbrush she had been using. Now, that may be common knowledge to some of you, but I would not have thought to do that. The pediatrician said after the second full day of antibiotics to go ahead and get a new toothbrush. Dentists online don't say this is necessary, but for my peace of mind I went ahead and got rid of the old one.

Other than those few tips, we did the normal things like extra rest and lots of extra cuddles. According to our pediatrician, it's good to catch the infection early and it will normally resolve itself in a few days with the aid of antibiotics.

So, if your little one has a sore throat, but no other cold symptoms, consider getting them checked out for strep throat.

ANN BURNS is a Morgantown native, raising two young children with her husband, Drake. She writes weekly columns for The Dominion Post. Contact her at Columns@DominionPost.com.

THE THIRD THING WE FOUND TO DO WITH STREP THROAT WAS TO THROW AWAY THE TOOTHBRUSH SHE HAD BEEN USING. NOW, THAT MAY BE COMMON KNOWLEDGE TO SOME OF YOU, BUT I WOULD NOT HAVE THOUGHT TO DO THAT. THE PEDIATRICIAN SAID AFTER THE SECOND FULL DAY OF ANTIBIOTICS TO GO AHEAD AND GET A NEW TOOTHBRUSH.

HEALTH CARE

Intestinal repair helps trauma patient return home

WVU Medicine

Surgeons at WVU Medicine helped a man get back to his life and family after a motor vehicle accident.

The patient was traveling with others in Maryland when he was in an accident that left him with a traumatic brain injury and internal abdominal injuries. He was airlifted to WVU Medicine J.W. Ruby Memorial Hospital for treatment.

"When he arrived here, he had multiple life-threatening injuries and was in profound shock (from the blood loss)," Dr. Allison Wilson, executive chair of the WVU Critical Care and Trauma Institute, said. "Our priority was to stop the bleeding in his abdomen and get him to the operating room to manage his head injury."

His intestines were separated from the abdominal trauma, and, over a series of surgeries, surgeons were able to reattach them.

Because he had been in such profound shock, Wilson said, he had an increased likelihood of complications, such as infection and poor healing.

"That degree of injury depletes the body's nutrition and immune system," Wilson said. "When that happens, we can control the infections and leakage by letting the wound come to the surface and remain open to prevent drainage into the abdomen. At that point, it is best to let the patient's body recover and heal before performing more procedures."

According to Wilson, it is common for patients to need to wait eight months to a year for the scar tissue from injuries and surgery to soften so surgeons can perform a complete repair without causing additional damage. During that time, the abdomen is left open, and the patient receives total parenteral nutrition intravenously because consuming food can cause additional intestinal leakage, creating a higher risk of further infection.

When WVU Cancer Institute surgical oncologist Dr. Guilherme Costa joined WVU Medicine in September 2023, he learned of the patient's case and coordinated with his doctors to perform the surgical repair of the intestine.

Drawing on the techniques he learned as a transplant surgeon, Costa closed the open portion of the patient's intestine, allowing the abdomen to be closed and the patient to begin reintroducing foods.

"The trauma surgeons did exactly what they needed to do to increase his chances of survival," Costa said. "The priority was the head injury, ensuring he would survive long enough to have a chance at recovery. Once that was resolved and the patient was ready, we were able to close his intestine and abdomen, restoring his ability not only to eat, but to heal effectively."

After a month of recovery, including physical therapy and the slow reintroduction of food, the patient was discharged to recover at home with his family and young daughter.

"I'm very grateful to the nurses and doctors here," the patient said. "They've treated me like family and made sure I have everything I need to go home."

For more information on WVU Medicine, visit WVUMedicine.org.

EXIT 155

FROM PAGE A-3

eight years at this point.

"The grant has some tight deadlines we need to meet. It's going to take 12-15 months just to get the contract between state highway and feds approved, so we're right up against some deadlines

where we have to get things in place. We don't have a lot of time to fool around," Sikora said.

"Considering the pace this project has moved over the past seven years ... I would say it's lightning pace based on the last couple weeks."

In other news from Thursday's meeting,

Austin said the DOH's work on Beechurst Avenue is expected to be complete in a month or so.

"There may still be some punch list items and a little bit of additional impact, but the overall goal and anticipation is that project will be completed by the end of July," he said.

SCHOOL

FROM PAGE A-3

became clear West Virginia wasn't going to get a pass on the pandemic, Gov. Jim Justice ordered all public schools closed — for what was then the duration.

The name, "Avalanche," is an ironic misnomer, of sorts. On purpose.

In the physical world, an avalanche causes things to slip and come crashing down.

However, the Mon Schools' version, as Deputy Superintendent Donna Talerico is wont to say, does the opposite.

This avalanche, she said, allows students to keep climbing during a time of the year when they might otherwise lose intellectual footholds on what they learned, simply by being away from the classroom.

Lunch is also provided at every school for participating students.

Visit <https://boe.mono.k12.wv.us/> for a detailed look at course offerings and daily menus.

STEEL

FROM PAGE A-3

how we washed M'Lynn's hair on stage, which you'll find out when you come. It's part of the theater magic, you know."

The women in the salon are supposed to be long-time friends, so creating closeness in the cast was important to Jones.

"We have an actress from Seattle. An actress from New York City. Two actresses from Brooklyn and then two Morgantown actresses. And so when we first came together, the first week I asked all of the actresses to bring a personal story from their lives of women who have touched them — something that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. So we sat in a circle, and we spent hours sharing stories of our lives.

"By the end of the third day of rehearsal, the women had these personal stories."

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EDITORIAL ENCORE

A reflection on LGBTQ+ people's place in history

EDITOR'S NOTE: This editorial has been adapted from one that originally published June 2, 2023.

When you're constantly struggling, it can be hard to see how far you've come.

Such as it is with the progress made by the LGBTQ+ community. Every push forward has been met with resistance, and some fights were harder and lasted longer than others. And it seems like every step that has been taken forward is about to be shoved two steps back.

But as Pride Month comes to a close, we want to take a moment to celebrate how far the LGBTQ+ community and its allies have come since the first Pride march on June 28, 1970 — the one-year anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising.

The Stonewall Uprising was five days of protests in support of LGBTQ+ rights — sparked after multiple raids on a popular LGBTQ+ hangout, the Stonewall Inn — led by transgender women of color. It gave birth to a new, more organized movement to advance LGBTQ+ rights.

Headway has been slow — “homosexual acts” weren't decriminalized until 2003 and same-sex marriage wasn't made legal until 2015 — but it's gaining steam. As evidenced by the increasing remonstrations, “We didn't have all this LGB, plus, plus, plus whatever's back in my day!”

Actually, we did. It just wasn't safe for them to exist in public, so they hid the truth of themselves. They were the spinster aunts and bachelor uncles who cohabitated with “dear friends” of the same sex. They were the maiden sisters who never seemed interested in marriage or children and the playboy brothers who never did settle down. They were the people who were never quite content in their marriages, even if they had grown to care for their spouse. They were the neighbor down the street labeled “eccentric” or “quirky” because their clothing choices and behaviors didn't quite match what society expected of their gender presentation. They were the residents of asylums and homes for the mentally ill, or prisoners in our jails, because someone discovered what society forced them to keep secret.

Lesbian, gay, transgender and nonbinary people have existed for thousands of years: We see them in love poetry of Sappho, whose island home of Lesbos gave us the word “lesbian”; the Galli priests of ancient Greece and Rome, who opted for castration and dressed in women's clothes; the recorded same-sex relationships of prominent figures such as the Roman Emperor Hadrian and the Chinese Emperor Ai; the god-blessed “third gender” in Mesopotamia and the “two-spirit” of Native American cultures.

For thousands of years, LGBTQ people not only lived openly in society, but they thrived. Somewhere along the way, we lost that. Homosexual and gender-nonconforming people were relegated to the shadows and punished if they dared step into the light — people like writer Oscar Wilde and mathematician Alan Turing.

How much progress we've made toward making it safe for people to exist as their true selves, though there is still work to be done.

Happy Pride Month to everyone in the LGBTQ+ community — to the ones who are out and proud and the ones not quite ready to reveal themselves. History shows there is a place for you in this world, no matter what anyone else says.

More women must travel for abortion

WHEN MIAMI RECENTLY EXPERIENCED CATASTROPHIC RAINFALL THAT GROUNDED FLIGHTS FOR DAYS, STAFF AT THE WOMEN'S EMERGENCY NETWORK, AN ABORTION FUND THAT SERVES FLORIDA, SCRAMBLED TO HELP CLIENTS GET IN AND OUT OF THE STATE.

One woman, who had flown to Virginia for an abortion, was panicked because she didn't have child care coverage for an extra day, says WEF's executive director Kamila Przytula. She had to get home.

The nonprofit eventually got her on a plane to Orlando, then arranged for a ride. But the story illustrates the lunacy of requiring women to travel for health care.

Such stories have become too common in the two years since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade and replaced it with the Dobbs decision, a change that erected impossibly high barriers to abortion access for millions of women.

In that time, a network of doctors, abortion funds, volunteers, researchers, lawyers and donors, have, against all odds, connected women with abortion providers. Their colossal efforts prevented a collapse in the number of abortions in the U.S. in the first post-Dobbs year.

But a state-by-state patchwork of abortion access is not a sustainable model for public health.

For women affected by new state bans, the challenges to getting an abortion are mind boggling. Abortion funds provide support, like transportation and child care costs, but also step in when the unexpected happens. Sometimes that's a natural disaster. It can also mean a patient arriving at a clinic with a medical complication that requires getting her to a hospital for help.

All of this costs money. A lot of money. The Chicago Abortion Fund, the largest such fund in the Midwest, has spent nearly \$7 million in direct service costs over the last two years. Before Dobbs, it was supporting about 200 pregnant women each year; today, it's now helping some 200 to 300 each week, says CAF Executive

Director Megan Jeyifo, an effort that has required significantly expanding its staff and cadre of volunteers.

Each new ban makes it more expensive to clear those unnecessary hurdles. Before Florida's ban, which hurt access across the South, WEF was providing about \$300 in practical support to abortion seekers. In May, that average was closer to \$800, a figure echoed by another fund in the region, ARC-Southeast.

Nevertheless, most abortion funds will tell you that when a pregnant person calls asking for financial help, whether that's to pay for the procedure or to travel to an appointment, their answer in the last two years has been an unequivocal yes. Yes, we can provide a plane ticket or gas money for your 11-hour drive to a clinic. Yes, we have a voucher for your food and hotel or a ride from the airport or bus station. Yes, we can help you find and pay for child care during your visit.

As the costs rise, callers may start to hear a different answer.

And while certain moments, like a new ban passing or a viral news story of a woman nearly losing her life after being denied care, inspire a flood of donations, that's not enough. “That is not going to sustain the movement,” says Oriaku Njoku, executive director of the National Network of Abortion Funds. “We need deep, long-term investment.”

What could fix this problem? Of course, the best solution would be to codify reproductive freedom in the U.S. That would mean passing laws that go beyond the protections offered by Roe, which never went far enough to ensure access to care. (There's a reason abortion

funds existed well before Dobbs — the biggest have been helping women for decades.)

Nationwide reproductive health care access is crucial to countering the country's shameful rates of infant and maternal mortality, which early data suggests are already worsening due to abortion bans.

But even if a federal right to abortion was restored tomorrow, it would take time to rebuild the health care infrastructure in states with restrictions. Many clinics have already shuttered, and some providers have moved away.

So for now, it's critical to provide transformational funding to the interconnected teams getting women to care. The states that have proclaimed themselves havens for reproductive justice can play a role by putting up public funds. And more philanthropists should be asking what they can do to provide stability to this network — and how to do it in a way that puts trust in the folks working in the trenches. Given the constantly evolving legal landscape and complexity of individual cases, that might mean writing a big check without strings attached. Maybe it means helping funds to, as the Chicago Abortion Fund just did, hire staff that focus on fundraising.

This grassroots network is at once impressively resilient and, given what's at stake, far too fragile. The people who keep it going share an intense dedication to ensuring women can get the care they need, and with as much dignity and as little trauma as possible. But the magnitude of the challenge in front of them keeps growing.

When I asked leaders of abortion funds whether, two years in, they've been able to maintain their optimism, several were brought to tears. That emotion comes not from hopelessness, but from the deep pride in what they've accomplished. But it's also tinged with fury over how much easier it ought to be.

LISA JARVIS is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering biotech, health care and the pharmaceutical industry.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No letters to the editor will be published the weekend of June 30.

Babydog, Cass Gilbert and the State Capitol

BABYDOG IS NOW PERMANENTLY ENSHRINED in West Virginia's history and architecture.

The image of Gov. Jim Justice's beloved English bulldog appears, surprisingly, in one of the murals recently unveiled in the upper rotunda of the West Virginia State Capitol. Babydog is seated among individuals depicting dance, music and art with Seneca Rocks in the background.

It appears to have been a decision by State Department of Arts, Culture and History Secretary Randall Reid-Smith to include the dog's image in one of the panels. The governor told a reporter Monday he was not aware of it until he saw the mural for the first time last week.

I'm still trying to sort out what to make of this.

From a purist standpoint, Babydog does not belong there.



HOPPY KERCHEVAL

Reid-Smith said during last week's dedication of the murals that the intention of Capitol building architect Cass Gilbert was for the murals “to be historical and allegorical.”

Babydog is neither. She is a beloved pet, but also a political prop that Justice has used successfully to enhance his own popularity. The State Capitol does not belong to Justice or any other politician; it is the people's house, and it will be as long as there is a government.

The temporary occupants of the building have an obligation to maintain its structural and aesthetic integrity for future generations. That includes keeping any changes in line with Gilbert's original design.

When I first saw a picture of the mural with Babydog, I cringed. No, it was not as bad as Justice's 2022 State of the State address when he flashed the dog's rear to the camera, and more specifically to Bette Midler who had made a disparaging remark about the state. But it felt inappropriate.

However, now when I look at the mural my first reaction is to laugh. Babydog seems like she belongs there, perfectly comfortable with all that is going on around her, much like her behavior when she is sitting beside the governor at public events.

That is typical of the breed. The American Kennel Club describes English bulldogs as, “Kind but courageous, friendly, but dignified.” That loose skin on the head, pushed in nose and hanging jowls make the animal look like either they are smiling or sad. Either way, we are inclined to anthropomorphize them.

Babydog, like all good pets, makes us happy. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, “Studies show that dogs can reduce stress, anxiety and depression, ease loneliness, encourage exercise and improve your all around health.”

Babydog and Justice may not check the box on exercise, but she clearly brings joy to those around her. And in West Virginia, we can always use a little more joy.

I imagine future tours of our popular Capitol Building where

the guide tells visitors about how the governor's dog became a beloved pet of the state, and even a symbol of the massive vaccine effort during the pandemic — Do It for Babydog!

“Now,” the guide will ask the tourists, can you find Babydog in one of the murals?”

That would be a memorable part of the tour.

However, we also must try to imagine what Gilbert would think. He was one of our country's great architects, and it is a deep source of pride that he built our Capitol. A profile of Gilbert in Architectural Digest described him as “formal, stuffy, ambitious, loyal, conservative in the extreme and more than a little prissy.”

Something tells me Mr. Gilbert would not approve, but then again, he was not exposed to the charms of Babydog.

HOPPY KERCHEVAL is a MetroNews anchor and the longtime host of “Talkline.” Contact him at hoppy.kercheval@wvradio.com.

BY STEPHAN PASTIS

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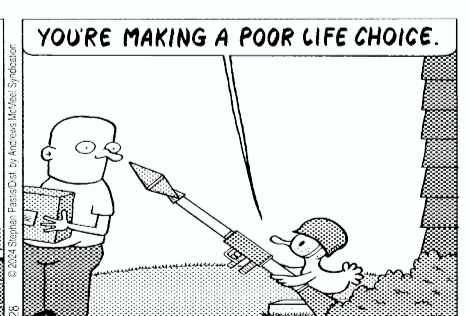
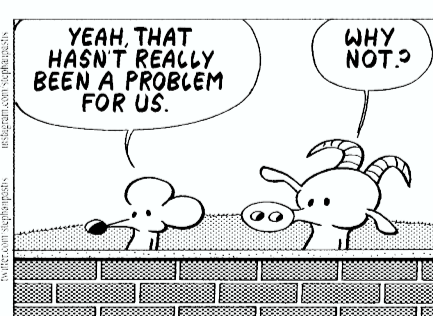
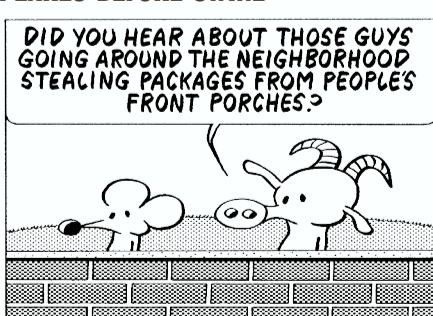
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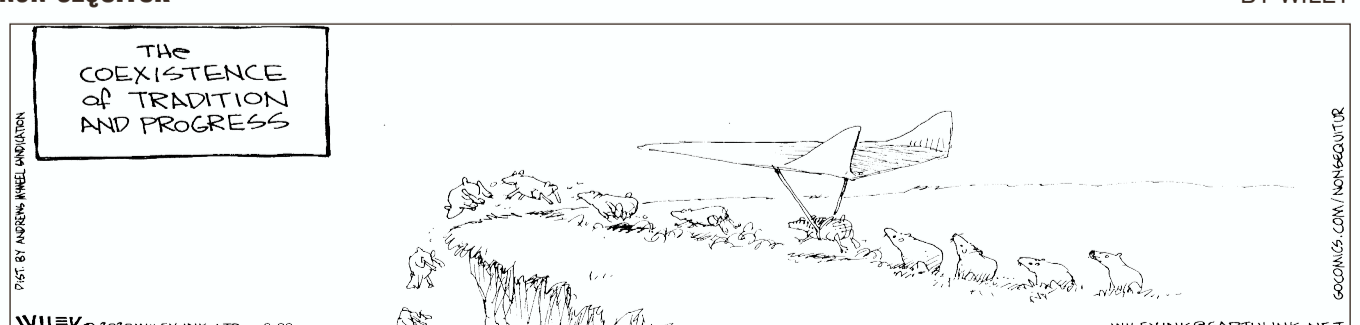
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PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



NON SEQUITUR





The Mini Page

Next Week:
The Republican
Convention

Issue 26, 2024

Founded by Betty Debnam

The Bayou State



photo by Pedro Szekely

Louisiana, our 31st-largest state, is bordered by Arkansas, Texas, Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico. It is known for the Mardi Gras celebration in New Orleans, the Mississippi River, its wetlands and seafood. More than 4.6 million people live in the state.

Robert de LaSalle, a French explorer, claimed the land drained by the Mississippi River for France in 1682, naming it "Louisiane" after King Louis XIV.

The state was a part of the Louisiana Purchase, western territory the U.S. bought from France in 1803 for \$15 million.



The Louisiana Purchase is shown in white.

French history is still strong there today, and French is the main language spoken in some regions of the state. More than 4.5% of the population speaks French.

Baton Rouge is Louisiana's capital. Its name means "red stick" in French. The capitol building is 450 feet high, the tallest capitol in the nation.

Working in Louisiana

Louisiana is a top producer in the U.S. of salt, natural gas and petroleum. It is also a leader in crawfish, shrimp and oyster production. The top crop is soybeans.

Sugar is an important crop. The Domino Sugar refinery near New Orleans is the

largest in the country.

Tourism is important to the economy of Louisiana, bringing in about \$16.8 billion annually to the state.

Living in Louisiana

The Bayou State has vibrant cities, prairies, woodlands and rivers. ("Bayou" comes from a Choctaw word meaning "river.") The Mississippi River, which continues to the Gulf of Mexico, was a major path of transportation until modern times. Today, the river is still used for moving manufactured and agricultural goods north and south.

New Orleans is the state's largest city and one of the busiest ports in the world. Its nicknames include "The Big Easy" and the "Cradle of Jazz."

Mardi Gras is French for "Fat Tuesday."



Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans.

It is a celebration filled with parades and balls. It attracts many visitors. Mardi Gras begins each year on the day before Ash Wednesday.

Sports

The New Orleans Saints of the National Football League and the New Orleans Pelicans of the National Basketball Association draw many fans. The city has hosted the Super Bowl 10 times. It is scheduled to be played there again in 2025.

Mini Fact:

The French Quarter in New Orleans is full of historic buildings, restaurants and jazz clubs.

Famous Louisianans

• Actor and filmmaker **Tyler Perry** was born in New Orleans. He is famous for the films he has written about the character Madea, an older Black woman. He's also written books and plays.

• **Louis Armstrong** was a famous jazz cornet and trumpet player, singer and entertainer.



Louis Armstrong

Armstrong was born in New Orleans on Aug. 4, 1901. He died in 1971.

Armstrong moved to Chicago in 1922 and recorded his first solo in 1923. In 1926, he popularized a form of rhythmic singing without words called "scat singing." That was when he switched from playing the cornet to the trumpet.

• Former professional football quarterbacks **Peyton** and **Eli Manning** were born in New Orleans. Peyton played for the Indianapolis Colts and the Denver Broncos. Eli played for the New York Giants.

Along with their dad and brother Cooper, the Mannings run a five-day camp every summer to help offensive players improve their skills.

Resources



On the Web:

- bit.ly/MPLouisiana

At the library:

- "Hello, My Name Is Louisiana Purchase O'Leary" by Jonathan Hickman
- "Boudreaux the Louisiana Mosquiteaux" by Stacy Bearden

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of Louisiana are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ARMSTRONG, BATON ROUGE, BAYOU, FRENCH, GULF, JAZZ, LOUISIANA, MANNING, NEW ORLEANS, PERRY, PORT, PURCHASE, QUARTER, RIVER, SEAFOOD, SUPER BOWL, TOURISM, WETLANDS.

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

Cook's Corner

Fried Shrimp Po-Boys

You'll need:

- 2 (8-ounce) packages frozen fried popcorn shrimp
- 1 loaf french bread

"Po-boys" are a popular type of sandwich in Louisiana. They can be made with any type of meat or fish.

- 4 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1 tomato, sliced
- 4 lettuce leaves



What to do:

1. Cook shrimp in oven according to package directions.
2. Slice bread lengthwise and cut four pieces for sandwiches.
3. Divide 1 tablespoon of mayonnaise between the two sides of each sandwich.
4. Layer each with 1/4 of the shrimp, tomato slices and a lettuce leaf.
5. Fold and eat! Makes 4 po-boys.

* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.



1. what a tree is made of (4) _____
2. striped horselike animal (5) _____
3. area under a house (6) _____
4. female child (8) _____
5. faithful (5) _____
6. symptom of a cold (5) _____
7. where sick people get help (8) _____

LOY	CEL	DA	OD
ZEB	COU	HOS	AL
TER	WO	GH	RA
LAR	PIT	UGH	AL

Answers: wood, zebra, cellar, cough, loyal, daughter, cough, hospital.

Mini Jokes



Lily: What's the quickest way to make soup taste really bad?

Lance: Change the U to an A, and you'll have soap!

Eco Note



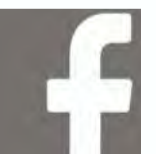
Argentina's typically abundant corn crop is being ravaged by an invasion of leafhopper bugs, which are infesting fields that were once too cool for them to thrive. With climate change bringing less winter frost to curb their numbers and regular summertime heat waves for them to feed in, leafhopper populations in Argentina are now at 10 times the average level, according to agriculture experts. The hungry bugs are currently being found about 1,000 miles south of their traditional habitats.

adapted with permission from Earthweek.com

For later:

Look in your newspaper for articles that mention Louisiana.

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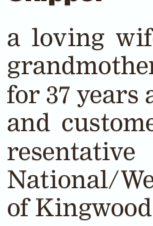
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OBITUARIES

Jean Skipper

Jean P. Skipper, 85, of Sarasota, Fla., formally of Kingwood, passed away peacefully at home with family by her side on June 19, 2024.

She was born March 12, 1939, in Lead Mine, Tucker County, a daughter of the late Ronald and Nina (Shaffer) Parsons.



Jean Skipper

She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She worked for 37 years as a bank teller and customer service representative for Albright National/WesBanco Bank of Kingwood.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Carlton Skipper; son, Brent Skipper and wife, Lesley, of Perryville, Md.; daughter,

Carla Rodman and husband, Jack, of Sarasota, Fla.; five grandchildren, Brandon Skipper and wife, Michelle, of Georgetown, S.C., Katie Opps and husband, Bryce Opps, of Sarasota, Fla., John Rodman IV, of St. Petersburg, Fla., Brady Skipper, of Port Deposit, Md., and Alex Rodman, of Tampa, Fla.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Ronald Parsons Jr. and John Parsons.

She was a devout Christian, loved her savior and enjoyed talking to others about the Lord.

To honor her wishes, cremation arrangements have been entrusted to Toale Brothers Funeral home in Sarasota, Fla. Celebration of Life arrangements may be made at a later time in West Virginia.

LAW

FROM PAGE A-1

where “deadly weapons and dangerous objects” will remain prohibited. They include sole-occupancy offices if the occupant designates the office as such; events with a capacity of 1,000 or more people at Puskar Stadium, the Coliseum and Clay Theatre; WVU daycares; areas used by WVU Police or other law enforcement; and in on-campus residence halls (except common areas such as lounges, dining areas and study areas).

Farris fielded a variety of questions about Campus Carry, including how they will manage compliance.

“We believe people will follow the rules and the laws,” he said. Concealed carry means no one is supposed to see someone carrying. “So if we do, we will deal with that, depending on the circumstance. ... As long as we educate them, we’re expecting this to go smoothly.”

Several other states have some form of Campus Carry, and Farris said he and his team, WVU Police and members of the Campus Safety Steering Group have been talking with institutions in those states.

“We’re learning from them and have learned best practices from them.”

One of the questions raised in the many hours of debate on the issue in 2023 and in prior years was the potential for an increase in violence. He said that other universities have said they’ve no correlation, no increase in violent incidents.

They told him, he said, that WVU is in its hardest period — interpreting the law and explaining it to the community. Give it a few months to a year and it will be non-issue, they told him.

Concerns were also raised about increased strains on student mental health. Farris said, “It is not a significant issue at this point.” And it hasn’t been an issue across the country. But they will still keep monitoring it here.

The press conversation took place in front of the weapon storage locker in Brooke Tower. Under the Campus Self Defense Act, students and employees may carry their concealed weapons in residential hall common areas and among employees with valid concealed carry permits whose job responsibilities require them to be in residence halls.

The law requires WVU

to provide a secure location for the storage of a pistol or revolver in at least two on-campus residence halls on the Morgantown Campus and at least one at the Beckley and Keyser campuses.

The lockers are in Brooke on the Evansdale Campus and Summit Hall Room 107 on the Downtown Campus. Qualifying students may request a storage locker by visiting myhousing.wvu.edu and following the Campus Carry link in the menu at the top. The cost to reserve a locker is \$140.

Brooke Tower’s secure room contains 60 lockers situated along one wall. The room is accessed via the student’s key card and the locker via a combination lock. Security cameras keep the room monitored and the walls are lined with ballistic panels to contain an accidental shot.

Farris said that so far, there have been four locker requests for the Morgantown Campus, one at Beckley and none at Keyser.

The lockers are only for students living in the residence halls, per the law. Other people who enter a prohibited area will have to store their gun securely before entering — in their car, for example.

Resident assistants will arrive late July, early August and will go through training with WVU Police and student conduct staff on how to manage Campus Carry in the halls.

A full list of FAQs — frequently asked questions — about Campus Carry can be found at <https://safety.wvu.edu/campus-carry/faq>.

Preparing for Campus Carry was not inexpensive. As previously reported, the estimated cost was about \$1 million across the whole WVU system for initial startup.

The Ruby Hospital campus, with Ruby, Children’s, the POC and Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute, are not part of the WVU campus and are not subject to the Campus Self Defense Act.

As the school year progresses, Farris said, they will keep their eye on how Campus Carry unfolds. “We will constantly review.” They will make sure they’ve prepared the campus, that they have enough info out, and will share new or different information as needed.

There will be a training module available for students, he said, but there’s been no decision to require it at this point since only those with permits may carry on campus.

PHOTO FRIDAY



Submitted photo

This gray fox took a pause from his dinner long enough for Yvonne Nieman of Cheat Lake to capture this photo. The photo was taken Wednesday in Cheat Lake, at Nieman’s home. To submit a shot for Photo Friday, send a high-resolution digital image to DPNews@dominionpost.com. Include your name and information about the photo, including where and when it was taken.

ENVIRONMENT

Supreme Court blocks enforcement of EPA’s ‘good neighbor’ rule on downwind pollution

BY MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Environmental Protection Agency will not be able to enforce a key rule limiting air pollution in nearly a dozen states while separate legal challenges proceed around the country, under a Supreme Court decision Thursday.

The EPA’s “good neighbor” rule is intended to restrict smokestack emissions from power plants and other sources that burden downwind areas with smog-causing pollution.

Three energy-producing states — Ohio, Indiana and West Virginia — challenged the rule, along with the steel industry and other groups, calling it costly and ineffective. The rule is on hold in a dozen other states because of the court challenges.

The Supreme Court put the rule on hold while legal challenges continue,

the conservative-led court’s latest blow to federal regulations.

West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey on Thursday said the U.S. Supreme Court made the correct decision in granting a stay of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s ozone Good Neighbor federal implementation plan.

“The country’s power grid is already stressed as it is, and now this administration is attempting to add more regulation that’s going to stress the grid even more,” Attorney General Morrisey said. “This decision by the Supreme Court is correct but the EPA will keep trying to legislate and bypass Congress’s authority—and it has been settled by the Supreme Court: the EPA must regulate within the express boundaries of the statute that Congress passed.”

The high court, with a 6-3 conservative majority,

has increasingly reined in the powers of federal agencies, including the EPA, in recent years. The justices have restricted EPA’s authority to fight air and water pollution, including a landmark 2022 ruling that limited EPA’s authority to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from power plants that contribute to global warming. The court also shot down a vaccine mandate and blocked Democratic President Joe Biden’s student loan forgiveness program.

The court is also weighing whether to overturn its 40-year-old Chevron decision, which has been the basis for upholding a wide range of regulations on public health, workplace safety and consumer protections.

What is the ‘good neighbor’ rule?

The EPA adopted the rule as a way to protect downwind states that

receive unwanted air pollution from other states. Besides the potential health impacts from out-of-state pollution, many states face their own federal deadlines to ensure clean air.

States that contribute to ground-level ozone, or smog, must submit plans ensuring that coal-fired power plants and other industrial sites do not add significantly to air pollution in other states. In cases where a state has not submitted a “good neighbor” plan — or where EPA disapproves a state plan — a federal plan is supposed to ensure downwind states are protected.

THREE ENERGY-PRODUCING STATES — OHIO, INDIANA AND WEST VIRGINIA — CHALLENGED THE RULE,

STATE

Businesses must file annual reports by Sunday deadline

DPNews@DominionPost.com

West Virginia Secretary of State Mac Warner issued a final notice to business owners reminding them to file their Annual Report by the statutory deadline of June 30.

Businesses that miss the Sunday deadline will be flagged in the state’s database as out of compliance. Late filers will be assessed a \$50 late fee as required by state law.

Almost 99% of all annual reports are filed online. Online filings can take less than five minutes at the state’s One Stop Business Portal found at [Business4.wv.gov](https://business4.wv.gov). Guest filing is available for business owners who prefer not to establish an online account.

The fee to file an annual report is \$25. Warner encourages business owners to be wary of third-party solicitations that charge as much as \$375 to file the report on behalf of the business. A third party is not required to file.

For assistance, call the Secretary of State’s Office during regular business hours at 304-558-8000 to speak to a WVSOS business specialist, or use SOLO, the new virtual assistant, accessible from the bottom right corner of sos.wv.gov.

Additionally, the One Stop Business Center in Charleston, as well as remote business hubs in Clarksburg and Martinsburg are available for walk-in customers.

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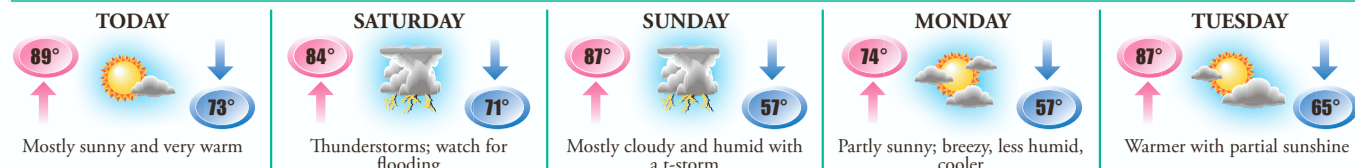
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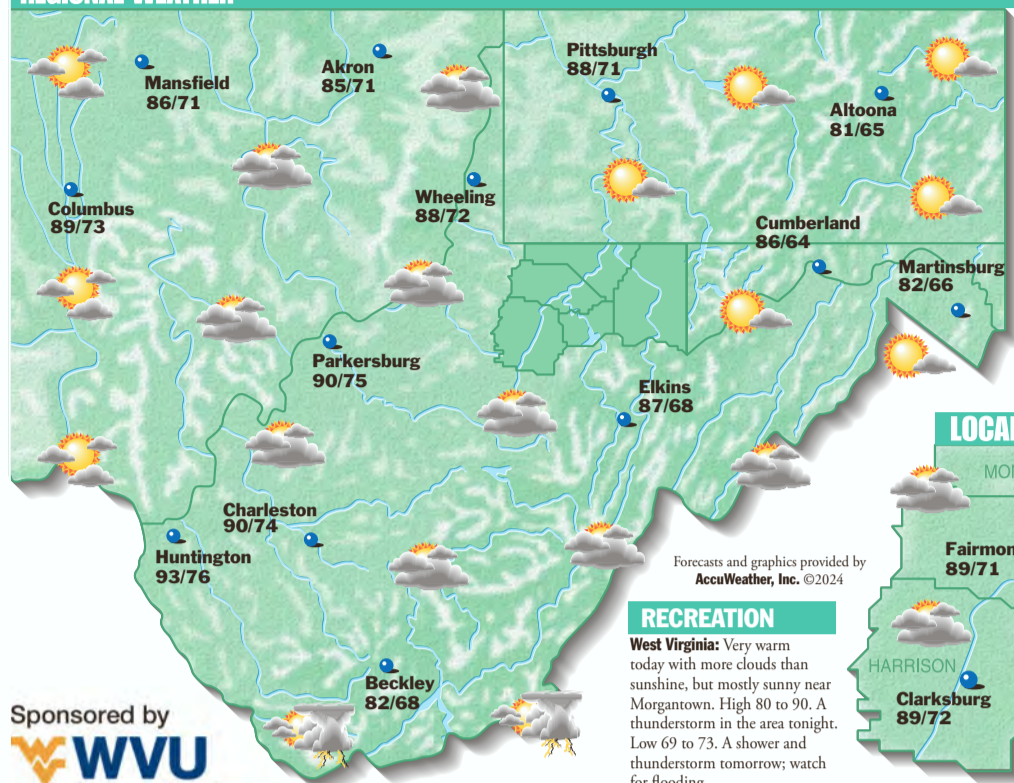
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FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR MORGANTOWN



REGIONAL WEATHER



ALMANAC

Morgantown through 4 p.m. Thursday
Temperature
 High/low: 82°/64°
 Normal high/low: 83°/61°
 Record high: 94° in 1969
 Record low: 43° in 1927
Precipitation
 24 hrs ending 4 p.m., Thursday: 0.28"
 Month to date: 3.86"
 Year to date: 27.58"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today: 5:55 a.m.
 Sunset today: 8:52 p.m.
 Moonrise today: 12:54 a.m.
 Moonset today: 1:14 p.m.

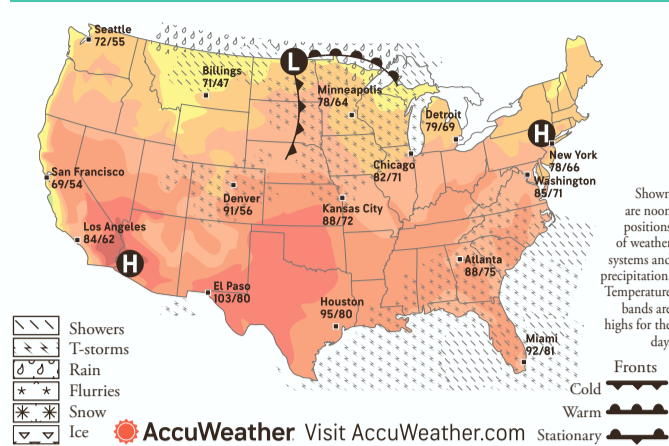
UV INDEX

Highest today: 11
 The ultraviolet index is a guide to exposure to the sun. The higher the UV Index number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Fri. HI/Lo/W	Sat. HI/Lo/W
Beckley, WV	82/68/t	81/71/t
Charleston, WV	90/74/c	89/73/t
Columbus, OH	89/73/pc	87/71/t
Cumberland, MD	86/64/s	85/70/t
Fairmont, WV	89/71/c	84/71/t
Grafton, WV	89/71/c	85/70/t
Huntington, WV	93/76/pc	89/73/t
Kingwood, WV	88/70/c	85/69/t
Pittsburgh, PA	88/71/s	84/69/t
Wheeling, WV	88/72/c	82/70/t

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



POLLEN

Grasses: N.A. Weeds: N.A.
 Trees: N.A. Molds: N.A.
 Source: WV University

SOLAR TABLES

Five-day forecast indicates peak feeding times for fish and game.

LAKE AND RIVERS

Lake	7 a.m. Yest.	24-hour Change
Cheat Lake	868.54	+0.12
Deep Creek, MD	2460.42	-0.01
Jennings Randolph	1458.64	-0.39
Stonewall Jackson	1071.24	-0.05
Tygart	1087.48	-0.45
Youghiogheny	1435.29	-0.19

ALMANAC

Associated Press

Today is Friday, June 28, the 180th day of 2024. There are 186 days left in the year.

Highlight:

In 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his wife, Sophie, were shot to death in Sarajevo by Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip, an act that sparked World War I.

On this date:

In 1838, Britain's Queen Victoria was crowned in Westminster Abbey.

In 1919, the Treaty of Versailles was signed in France, ending the First World War.

In 1939, Pan American Airways began regular trans-Atlantic air service with a flight that departed New York for Marseilles, France.

In 1950, North Korean forces captured Seoul, the capital of South Korea.

In 2000, seven months after he was cast adrift in the Florida Straits, Elian Gonzalez was returned to his native Cuba.

In 2017, a man armed with a shotgun attacked a newspaper in Annapolis, Md., killing four journalists and a staffer before police stormed the building and arrested him; authorities said Jarrod Ramos had a long-running grudge against the newspaper for its reporting of a harassment case against him. (Ramos was convicted and was given more than five life terms without the possibility of parole.)

Today's birthdays:

Comedian-movie director Mel Brooks is 98. Actor Kathy Bates is 76. Football Hall of Famer John Elway is 64.

Adult daughter cuts off contact with family members

DEAR ABBY: My older daughter, "Brianna," age 42, does not want anything to do with me or her brother and sister-in-law. She keeps me from my granddaughter, who is 17.



JEANNE PHILLIPS

I have been divorced since the '90s and remarried for 25 years. My first husband was a cheater. I tried very hard to save my first marriage. We got back together six months later, but he walked out again.

been leaving, she knows she has a grandmother who loves her. The ball will be in her court as to whether to make contact with you. (I hope she will.)

When I remarried, Brianna wasn't happy. I have another daughter, age 24, with my current husband. Brianna wants nothing to do with any of us.

If, however, she doesn't do that, you are going to have to turn your eyes forward and let her and your daughter live their lives, while you concentrate on what is healthy for YOU.

I wrote her and said I was sorry for the divorce. She has never mentioned anything about my letter. I have to leave gifts to my granddaughter at the front door.

If you need interaction with younger people, volunteer some time where it will make a difference. If your interests lie elsewhere, devote some of your extra time and effort in that direction. Your pain may lessen if you give yourself less time to dwell on it.

This hurts so bad. Everyone says let them go. I love them so much. What do you think? — **ESTRANGED MOM IN NEW JERSEY**

DEAR MOM: I think your granddaughter will be 18 very soon, and an adult. If her mother hasn't diverted those gifts you have

JEANNE PHILLIPS writes "Dear Abby" under the pseudonym Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

TV LISTINGS

6/28/24	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30										
BROADCAST CHANNELS	2 KDKA	4 WTAE	5 WDTV	7 WTRF	9 WTOV	11 WPXI	12 WBOY	13 WQED	22 WCVB	24 WNPB	46 WVFX	53 WPGH										
CABLE CHANNELS	A&E	AMC	AT&TSP	BET	CNN	DISC	DISN	ESPN	ESPN2	FOOD	FNC	FREE	HIST	LIFE	NEWSN	NICK	PARMT	TNT	TVLAND	USA	WE	WTBS
MOVIE CHANNELS	HBO	MAX	SHOW	TMC																		

Why you need dental insurance in retirement.

Many Americans are fortunate to have dental coverage for their entire working life, through employer-provided benefits. When those benefits end with retirement, paying dental bills out-of-pocket can come as a shock, leading people to put off or even go without care.

Simply put — without dental insurance, there may be an **important gap** in your healthcare coverage.

Medicare doesn't pay for dental care.¹ As good as Medicare is, it was never meant to cover everything. If you want protection, you need to purchase individual insurance.

Early detection can prevent small problems from becoming expensive ones. The best way to avoid large dental bills is preventive care. Experts recommend checkups twice a year.

Previous dental work can wear out. Your odds of having a dental problem only go up as you age.²

Treatment is expensive — especially the services people over 50 often need. Unexpected bills, like \$190 for a filling, or \$1,213 for a crown³ can be a real burden, especially if you're on a fixed income.

When you're comparing plans ...

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- Look for coverage with no deductibles.
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COLLEGE WRESTLING

University High state champion Brock Kehler commits to WVU

BY MICHAEL GRIFFITH
Sports@DominionPost.com

University High School senior wrestler Brock Kehler announced his commitment to WVU on Thursday, pledging to continue his career at home for the Mountaineers.

Kehler, who had offers from multiple Division-I programs, cites the program being built by head coach Tim Flynn and company as a major factor in his decision.

“Coach Flynn and his staff are great coaches that care for their wrestlers,” Brock said. “They train hard every day and treat you

as a person, not just a wrestler. They’ve done a great job recruiting for the future, and I think that will show next season and beyond.”

Kehler says the positive culture around the program is something he has noticed for many years.

“I’ve gotten to know the coaches at WVU for a long time, and the team already has that family feel to it,” he said. “I took my time with the recruiting process to really enjoy the experience with all the amazing schools and programs I was able to visit.”

One thing that deeply res-

onates with Brock about joining the Mountaineer wrestling program is his commitment to his hometown team. He is eager to contribute to the growth of the team, fostering a sense of community and local pride.

“I love having family and friends being close and being able to come watch me wrestle,” Kehler said. “It’s always been a goal of mine to wrestle at the college level, and watching that unfold is so exciting to watch.”

Kehler’s high school wrestling journey has been nothing short of remarkable. Last season, he

SEE KEHLER, B-2



William Wotring/The Dominion Post

University High senior Brock Kehler has committed to WVU for wrestling.

BIGGER THAN EVER



William Wotring/The Dominion Post

West Virginia Mountaineers head coach Neal Brown in Duke’s Mayo Bowl earlier this season.

College Football Playoff expansion gives more teams more opportunities

BY CODY NESPOR
CNespor@DominionPost.com

Since its inception, the College Football Playoff has been a who’s who of the sport’s most elite programs.

Over the 10 years of the four-team playoff, Alabama leads all teams with eight appearances. Clemson is second with six, Oklahoma has four and Georgia and Michigan have made it three times each. Only 15 teams total have ever made an appearance.

Nearly that many will make the playoff this season as the NCAA expanded the field to 12 teams beginning in 2024.

It’s a welcome change for every team in the tier below the blue bloods, the good-but-not-greats who were turned away at the door in years past.

“I think all the discussion on the playoff, what I don’t think there’s been enough talk about is just access,” WVU head coach Neal Brown said in an interview with the Dominion Post last week. “And so as the Big 12 changes, we have access.”

The Big 12 did well in the playoff the last 10 years. The conference made six appearances — Oklahoma four times and TCU and Texas once each — right in line with the ACC’s seven, ahead of the Pac-12 (three) and below the SEC (12) and Big 10 (nine).

That was the old Big 12, however, and the new Big 12 likely would not have done as well in the old format.

The Big 12 has had more parity and has been less top-heavy than the SEC or the Big 10 in the playoff era. With only four teams

getting in, going undefeated was almost a prerequisite. Just ask TCU and Baylor, who were both left out with one loss each in 2014.

With 12 teams and automatic bids for the four power conference champions, the Big 12’s competitiveness no longer works against it.

“You have real access, and I don’t use the word parity, I think we’re gonna have the most competitive league,” Brown said. “What I mean by that is you could make a strong argument for probably up to eight teams that have a real chance to win the Big 12 this year at the start of the season. And we’re the only league where the bottom four teams have an opportunity to beat the top four teams. So I just think from week to week, everybody’s going to have a chance to win and that’s not the case (in every league).”

SEE EXPANSION, B-2

COLLEGE SPORTS

Big 12 announces hoops opponents

WVU’s DeVries details less wiggle room in scheduling

BY JUSTIN JACKSON
JJackson@DominionPost.com

It was the part of Darian DeVries’ welcoming gift basket that was tucked down underneath all the good stuff, so to speak.

On the top was the fan base, the Power Five Conference, the facilities, the NIL funding and the likes.

Then underneath all of that was an oh-by-the-way that came with WVU’s scheduling.

The Big 12 men’s coaches voted last year to add two more league games to what was already a grind of a league schedule.

And WVU was already committed to playing in The Battle for Atlantis (in the Bahamas) during Thanksgiving, which could potentially give the Mountaineers an early look at Big 12 newcomer Arizona, as well as Big 12 defector Oklahoma.

Or maybe there will be a date against a powerhouse name such as Gonzaga or Indiana.

“It was like, welcome to Morgantown, here’s your tournament,” DeVries said.

The Big 12 made part of its hoops schedule official Thursday, naming the home and away opponents for each of the 16 men’s and women’s teams, but the dates of those games have yet to be released.

The WVU men, trying to rebound from a 23-loss season a year ago, will play BYU, Cincinnati, Utah and TCU both at home and on the road.

WVU will see Arizona, Arizona State, UCF, Iowa State and Oklahoma State at home.

The road-only games are against Baylor, Colorado, Kansas, Kansas State, Texas Tech.

The WVU women’s schedule looks slightly different, as the women’s coaches voted to remain at 18 league games even after con-

SEE BIG 12, B-2

CONNECT

SPORTS EDITOR: **Cody Nespor** 304-291-9410

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MLB

Judge and Harper to start in All-Star Game



AP photo

New York Yankees' Aaron Judge runs the bases after hitting a two-run home run during the first inning of a baseball game against the Atlanta Braves, June 22, 2024, in New York.

Associated Press

NEW YORK — New York Yankees outfielder Aaron Judge and Philadelphia Phillies first baseman Bryce Harper were elected Thursday to start in the July 16 All-Star Game at Globe Life Field in Arlington, Texas.

Judge led the major leagues with 3,425,309 votes in the first round of fan balloting and was picked for his sixth American League start in seven All-Star Games, though he missed last year because of a sprained right big toe. He also was the leading vote-getter during the first phase in 2022.

Harper topped the NL and was second in the big leagues with 3,277,920 votes. He was chosen for his eighth All-Star Game, seventh as a starter. His previous All-Star appearances came as an outfielder and designated hitter.

The pair were selected under rules that began in 2022 and give starting spots to the top vote-getter in each league in the first phase of online voting, which began June 5 and ended Thursday. Two final-

ists at every other position advanced to the second phase, which runs from noon EDT on Sunday to noon EDT on June 30. Votes from the first phase do not carry over.

An individual can vote once per 24-hour period. Remaining starters will be announced on June 30. Pitchers and reserves will be revealed on July 7.

Six players each from the Baltimore Orioles and Philadelphia Phillies advanced to the second phase.

In the final days of the initial voting, Philadelphia's Kyle Schwarber overtook Atlanta's Marcell Ozuna for the second spot among NL designated hitters behind Los Angeles Dodgers star Shohei Ohtani.

Baltimore's Ryan O'Hearn moved ahead of Yankees slugger Giancarlo Stanton for second among designated hitters in the AL behind Houston's Yordan Alvarez. O'Hearn had been fourth, also trailing Cleveland's David Fry.

AL FINALISTS:

Catcher: Salvador Perez, Adley Rutschman
First Base: Vladimir Guerrero Jr., Ryan Mountcastle
Second Base: Jose Altuve, Marcus Semien
Third Base: José Ramirez, Jordan Westburg
Shortstop: Gunnar Henderson, Bobby Witt Jr.
Outfield: Steven Kwan, Anthony Santander, Juan Soto, Kyle Tucker
Designated Hitter: Yordan Alvarez, Ryan O'Hearn

NL FINALISTS:

Catcher: William Contreras, J.T. Realmuto
Second Base: Luis Arraez, Ketel Marte
Third Base: Alec Bohm, Manny Machado
Shortstop: Mookie Betts, Trea Turner
Outfield: Nick Castellanos, Teoscar Hernández, Brandon Marsh, Jurickson Profar, Fernando Tatis Jr., Christian Yelich
Designated Hitter: Shohei Ohtani, Kyle Schwarber

PRO BASKETBALL

Bronny James, the son of LeBron James, taken by Lakers with 55th pick in NBA draft

Associated Press

It was the dream that LeBron James first floated a few years ago, the notion of playing in the NBA alongside one of his sons.

And it's a step closer to reality now.

Bronny James — the oldest son of the NBA's all-time scoring leader and four-time champion — was drafted Thursday by the Los Angeles Lakers, the team that his father has played for since 2018. Bronny James was taken with the No. 55 overall pick, deep in the second round and with only three picks remaining in this year's draft.

"Beyond blessed," Bronny James wrote in an Instagram post.

Adding further intrigue to the move: LeBron James can become a free agent next week, which means he could choose to leave the Lakers and sign elsewhere.

"In the history of the NBA, there's never been a father and a son that have shared an NBA basketball court and that feels like something that could be magical," Lakers general manager Rob Pelinka said. "We know, and have to respect of course, that LeBron has a decision on his opt-out ... but if it worked out that he was on our team next season, NBA history could be made. And NBA history should be made in a Lakers uniform."

The draft move doesn't guarantee that father and son will actually play in a game together, nor does it even guarantee that Bronny James will be on the Lakers' roster next season. But it certainly raises the possibility that it could happen in what would be an NBA first — a father-son on-court duo in the league simultaneously as players. There have been about 100 instances in NBA history of players joining the league after their fathers played, but those always came at least five years after the father's career ended.

But LeBron James' incredible longevity — he'll match Vince Carter for the longest career as an NBA player ever this coming season, which will be his 22nd in the league — makes the father-son duo possible.

"With the 55th pick in the 2024 NBA draft, the Los



AP file photo

Southern California's Bronny James (6) brings the ball up the court during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game against Washington in the first round of the Pac-12 tournament March 13, 2024, in Las Vegas.

Angeles Lakers select Bronny James from the University of Southern California," NBA deputy commissioner Mark Tatum said in announcing the pick, making the moment official for the 19-year-old, who was born just before the start of his father's second NBA season.

It's possible that Bronny James' debut in a Lakers uniform could be July 12 in Las Vegas, in the franchise's summer league opener against the Houston Rockets.

Bronny James is a guard, one who was listed at 6-foot-4 on Southern California's roster but measured at 6 feet, 11 1/2 inches at the draft combine. That would make him one of the shortest players in the NBA, but his athleticism and defensive ability helped give him this opportunity.

"Bronny is, first and foremost, a person of high character," Pelinka said. "And second, he is a young man that works incredibly hard. Those are the qualities we look for in drafting players and adding to our developmental corps at the Lakers."

There will be cries of nepotism, cries that the Lakers did this only because of who LeBron James is. But Pelinka insisted that the Lakers will have a plan for Bronny James' development, that the organization sees his potential and that he per-

sonally has been impressed with the character Bronny James showed while growing up.

Pelinka and the Lakers staff, including newly hired coach J.J. Redick, made the call to Klutch Sports CEO Rich Paul before the pick was made and were able to speak with Bronny James moments before the selection was officially official.

"Coach Redick and I were able to welcome him to the Lakers family and let him know that this moment was happening mostly because of the work he's put into the game and because of the character young man that he is," Pelinka said. "That was what was expressed to him on the phone call."

Bronny James played one year of college basketball at USC and averaged 4.8 points, 2.8 rebounds and 2.1 assists per game last season. He played in 25 games, missing the start of the season after needing a procedure last year to fix what was diagnosed as a congenital heart defect, which was found after he went into cardiac arrest during a summer workout.

A panel of doctors cleared Bronny James for NBA play last month.

Nike, the shoe giant that LeBron James has had a business relationship with through the entirety of his NBA career, wasted no time in congratulating

Bronny James by releasing a new ad — "The journey continues. Welcome to the big stage, Bronny," the company wrote.

Day 2 of the draft saw 24 other players get taken before Bronny James, though none of them — not even close, really — got the attention that the No. 55 selection received, for obvious reasons.

The 55th pick rarely turns out to be a player who captures a slew of attention. The best 55th pick in NBA history would be current Miami Heat guard Patty Mills, selected in 2009 and someone who has scored 7,893 points in his 15-season career.

Some other notable No. 55 picks include Marc Iavaroni, Mark Blount, Kenny Gattison and E'Twaun Moore. There's never been a No. 55 pick that was an NBA All-Star, an All-NBA player, an All-Rookie team player or an All-Defensive team pick.

Last season's No. 55 pick, Isaiah Wong, scored exactly two points for Indiana as a rookie. Add up every No. 55 pick ever, and their NBA career scoring total is 28,364 points — more than 12,000 points less than LeBron James has scored in his career.

"The biggest moments in sports happen with the Lakers," Pelinka said. "That's how we're built and we're excited to see this story unfold."

WNBA

The Wings beat the Lynx to snap an 11-game losing streak

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Arike Ogunbowale had 23 points, five 3-pointers and nine assists, veteran guard Odyssey Sims added 18 points in her season debut and the Dallas Wings snapped an 11-game losing streak with a 94-88 victory over the Minnesota Lynx on Thursday.

Dallas (4-13) won for the first time since May 26. Minnesota (13-4) was coming off a 94-89 victory over the New York Liberty on Tuesday for its first Commissioner's Cup championship.

Dallas trailed 45-30 with 3:22 left in the second quarter before scoring the next 15 points, spanning the halftime break, to tie it at 45-all early in the third. Monique Billings made a basket with 1:34 left in the third to give the Wings their first lead, 68-67, since it was 2-1.

Minnesota pulled within

three points with a minute remaining in the fourth, but Jacy Sheldon answered with a wide open 3-pointer at the other end to cap the scoring.

Sims, who signed a hardship contract on Tuesday, scored nine of her points in the fourth, including two driving layups in the final 3:10.

Teaira McCowan had 17 points and 12 rebounds, and Billings finished with 14 points for Dallas. Ogunbowale reached the 20-point mark for the 14th time this season. Sims finished 8 of 12 from the field to help the Wings record their most bench points this season with 36.

Napheesa Collier scored 29 points and grabbed 11 rebounds for Minnesota. Bridget Carleton added 17 points, Alanna Smith had 15 and Kayla McBride 11. The Lynx did not have a turnover in the first half before finishing with 13.

Get local news and sports in The Dominion Post or online at DominionPost.com

TENNIS

Wimbledon 2024: Carlos Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner, Iga Swiatek and Coco Gauff are taking over tennis

Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — There is a real shift happening at the top of tennis, a youth movement that long seemed inevitable but never actually arrived until now.

As the sport's attention shifts to the grass of Wimbledon, where play begins Monday, Carlos Alcaraz, Jannik Sinner, Iga Swiatek and Coco Gauff are the players whose names are on everyone's lips.

Alcaraz is the defending men's champion and owner of three Grand Slam titles at the age of 21 after his triumph at the French Open. Sinner, 22, is the top-seeded man at Wimbledon and won the Australian Open in January. Swiatek, 23, is the top-seeded woman and just earned her fourth championship at Roland Garros and fifth major overall. Gauff, the youngest of the bunch at 20, is ranked a career-best No. 2, has reached at least the semifinals at the past three Slam tournaments and won her first such trophy at last

year's U.S. Open.

While Swiatek has entrenched herself at No. 1 in the women's game, and is now 11-1 against Gauff, neither has been past the quarterfinals at Wimbledon, and there is a much more closely contested and intriguing rivalry developing between Alcaraz and Sinner (Alcaraz leads 5-4 after winning their semifinal at the French Open in five sets). Then there's this: For so long, people wondered when the men's game would evolve from the extended dominance of Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic, owners of a combined 66 majors, and that trio would cede space to others.

That time, it seems, is now — and Alcaraz and Sinner are beginning to separate themselves from the rest.

"These two guys will win many, many Grand Slams. How many? That's the question. Of course, they will be the best for 10 years, I imagine — Alcaraz and Sinner. I have no doubt about it,"



AP file photo

Carlos Alcaraz, of Spain, left, talks with Jannik Sinner, of Italy, after defeating him in a semifinal match at the BNP Paribas Open tennis tournament, March 16, 2024, in Indian Wells, Calif. Alcaraz is the defending champion and Sinner is the top-seeded man at Wimbledon, where play begins on Monday, July 1.

said Richard Gasquet, a three-time major semifinalist, including twice at Wimbledon. "They will be the future of the game. ... The new generation is coming."

Gasquet, a 38-year-old Frenchman who got to No. 7 in the rankings, knows all

too well the difficulties of being a professional tennis player during the era of the so-called Big Three of men's tennis. The opponents in his three losses in Grand Slam semifinals? Federer, Nadal and Djokovic, once each.

But Federer, now 42,

played the last match of his 20-Slam-trophy career in 2021. Nadal, 38, lost in the first round at the French Open — where he claimed 14 of his 22 major championships — and then opted to miss Wimbledon so he could focus on preparing for the Paris Olympics that start in late July; he has dealt with a string of injuries that included a hip operation last year.

And Djokovic? The owner of a men's-record 24 Grand Slam titles needed to pull out of the French Open before the quarterfinals after tearing the meniscus in his right knee and having surgery. As of Thursday, he still was gauging whether his knee had healed enough for him to compete at the All England Club, where his streak of four consecutive trophies ended last year in a five-set loss to Alcaraz in the final.

Sinner was eliminated by Djokovic at Wimbledon each of the past two years, in the 2022 quarterfinals and 2023 semifinals. But Sinner won their two most

recent matchups, at last year's Davis Cup Finals and in this year's Australian Open semifinals.

Both Alcaraz and Sinner excel at court coverage and big hitting. Both bring excitement, too, whether it's Alcaraz's creative shot-making or Sinner's all-out dives along the way to his first career grass-court title at Halle, Germany, in June, a rare instance of a man winning his first tournament after making his debut at No. 1.

"No one has ever played like Alcaraz. No chance. And Sinner? The same thing," said Mats Wilander, a seven-time Slam champ in the 1980s. "They're like, 'Whoa! What and where did they come from?'"

Alcaraz and Sinner realize they are well-positioned to take over.

They're also aware that they've only just started down a path to possible greatness.

"We have to see what we do from now on," Sinner said, "(and) do it year after year after year after year."

PRO BASKETBALL

Victor Wembanyama 'can't wait' for a France-USA showdown

Associated Press

PARIS — Victor Wembanyama plays against the top names in the game with the San Antonio Spurs in the NBA. He can't wait to do the same for France at the Paris Olympics.

The NBA Rookie of the Year was asked Thursday about the potential for a France-USA final and possibly battling against LeBron James and Stephen Curry for the gold medal in his home city.

"I can't wait to face them, it will be a very interesting matchup," Wembanyama said at a news conference in Paris. "As a basketball player, it's also a dream to play against Team USA and even against all those players, all those legends."

The U.S. beat France 87-82 in the final at the Tokyo Games three years ago.

This time, though, France has Wembanyama, who at 20 years old is making his Olympic debut. He's the biggest star of the French team and at the center of attention, both on and off the court.

"I believe it's the biggest competition for an athlete. But I'm going to approach it like everything else in my life: a

sporting pleasure," Wembanyama said.

For France coach Vincent Collet, it's a sporting pleasure to have both Wembanyama and fellow NBA star Rudy Gobert, the four-time Defensive Player of the Year, disrupting opposing offenses.

"If we want to reach our dream, we will have to display exceptional defense," said Collet, who will be assisted by the newly appointed Cleveland Cavaliers head coach Kenny Atkinson.

France, which has never won an Olympic gold medal in basketball, was set to hold its first full practice on Friday in Paris. They have six warmup games in July.

The players will miss the opening ceremony of the Olympics on July 26 because France is scheduled to play its first game the following day in Lille, 220 kilometers (136 miles) north of Paris, where the group stage for the 12-team tournament will take place.

France doesn't know its first opponent yet — it will be the winner of the last qualifying tournament next week. The host nation then plays Japan and reigning world champion Germany in Group B.

COLLEGE SPORTS

The first legal objection to the \$2.8B NCAA antitrust settlement plan comes from Houston Christian

Associated Press

A small Texas university has gone to court to object to the \$2.77 billion settlement proposal that would erase a set of antitrust claims against the NCAA and the nation's largest conferences and clear the way for schools to begin steering millions of dollars directly to athletes as soon as fall 2025.

Houston Christian filed its motion in federal court in California, arguing the settlement would divert funds from academics and marginalized and underserved populations as well as putting big-money college sports the over the needs of non-athlete students. The school contends its interests were not represented during settlement talks despite being an NCAA member.

Officials at smaller schools across the NCAA noted they were not consulted or informed about settlement details before they were announced last month and have said the financial impacts for them could be dire. The court filing by Houston Christian is first known official objection to the proposal, which will need approval from U.S. District Court Judge Claudia Wilken to take effect.

Tyler Boyd, Houston Christian's general counsel, said there could be more objections on the way.

"I think for other people that look into this case, it's going to raise an issue of fiduciary responsibility," Boyd said this week. "And whenever there's a fiduciary responsibility issue raised, that goes to the core mission of the university, and are we living out the core mission of the university?"

The plan is intended to settle a host of federal antitrust claims and also



AP photo

In this April 25, 2018, file photo, the NCAA headquarters is shown in Indianapolis. Houston Christian University's U.S. district court case might be just the beginning of the challenges the NCAA and the major conferences will face as they sort out how their schools will be able to potentially pay athletes.

clears the way for schools to share revenue with athletes, a dramatic step that all but ends the NCAA's longstanding amateurism model.

The defendants in the case included the Atlantic Coast, Big Ten, Bit 12, Pac-12 and Southeastern conferences but also the NCAA, whose vast membership includes 1,100 schools that have athletic departments of varying sizes and budgets to match.

The NCAA will cover 41% of the \$2.77 billion total — largely by lowering its annual payments to its member schools over 10 years — while the ACC, Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-12 and SEC will cover 24%. The next five largest college football conferences (American Athletic, Mid-American, Conference USA, Mountain West and Sun Belt) will

cover 10%.

The remaining quarter of the total will be covered by non-football conferences in Division I and by conferences that compete in the second tier of D-I football, the Championship Subdivision. Houston Christian is a member of the latter group, competing in the Southland Conference that has 10 schools and some 4,200 athletes.

"Even now, without the proposed settlement, NCAA member institutions annually lose untold millions of dollars by participating in Division I sports. Only a select few ever generate enough revenue from athletics to cover their expenses," the school said in its motion to intervene — formally take part — in the case. "The proposed settlement institutionalizes the diversion of money that would otherwise inure to the member institutions for the core mission of education and research, by requiring them to pay damages for athletes' name, image, and

likeness and establishing a continuing formula for doing so on a go-forward basis."

HCU said 95% of its approximately 2,500 students receive financial aid. Boyd said Houston Christian believes someone has to look out for smaller schools with limited resources.

"I think it's certainly unprecedented, and this is uncharted territory," he said. "And the reason for the intervention is really just to have our voice be heard during these unprecedented times."

Boyd said he wouldn't be surprised to see other challenges from smaller schools or others looking to join Houston Christian's fight. He said the case is not anti-athlete, but rather is in favor of supporting regular students.

"Those institutions are going to have to look at this case," he said. "And it's certainly up to them if they would want to get involved with our intervention."

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GOLF

Akshay Bhatia shoots 64 in Detroit to take 1st-round lead at Rocket Mortgage Classic

Associated Press

DETROIT — Akshay Bhatia closed strong enough in the opening round of the Rocket Mortgage Classic that he surged atop the leaderboard, and yet he knows no lead is safe at the Detroit Golf Club.

Bhatia chipped in for eagle from 83 feet on the 17th hole and ended with a birdie for an 8-under 64 Thursday, giving him a one-shot cushion that isn't comfortable.

"It's always nice to finish like that," he said. "This tournament's always kind of a birdie fest, so birdies and eagles help a lot."

Tony Finau set the tournament record, winning at 26 under two years ago, and Rickie Fowler needed to win in a playoff last year when 24 under wasn't good enough through 72 holes.

The 22-year-old Bhatia, the Texas Open winner in April for his second PGA Tour title, was 6 under over his last six holes in the first round. He tied for fifth last week in Connecticut, where he was in the final group that was disrupted by climate protesters storming the 18th green.

Taylor Montgomery and Michael Kim were a stroke back.

Montgomery had a 6-under 30 on his front nine and added one more birdie on the back in a bogey-free round. He was pleasantly surprised by his performance, playing for the first time since withdrawing from the Byron Nelson in early May due to injured shoulders.

"I was more nervous today than I have been on the golf course in forever just because I felt so unprepared," Montgomery said, adding he had played just four times in two months.

Fowler shot 66, closing with three straight birdies much to the delight of the tournament's sponsor that pays him to be a brand



AP photo

Akshay Bhatia hits off the fourth tee during the first round of the Rocket Mortgage Classic golf tournament at Detroit Country Club, Thursday, in Detroit.

ambassador.

"There's always that little extra pressure partly from being a partner with Rocket and being the defending champion here," Fowler said.

Will Zalatoris, Aaron Rai, Eric Cole and Matti Schmid also were at 66.

Cameron Young and Neal Shipley, making his PGA Tour debut, were another shot back.

The 23-year-old Shipley, who was the low amateur at the Masters and U.S. Open, was 2 over after eight holes, then played the final 10 in 7 under. He eagled the par-4 first and had five five straight birdies on Nos. 4-8.

The event includes just 10 of the world's top 50 players, with Bhatia ranked 31st.

Tom Kim, the highest-ranked player in the field at No. 16, lost in a playoff to Scottie Scheffler last week and may have shown signs of fatigue in his ninth consecutive tournament.

Kim shot a 73 and will have to bounce back with a strong round to make the cut on a short course with receptive greens that is ripe for birdies.

A pair of notable amateurs played on the PGA Tour for the first time.

Luke Clanton, who set a Florida State record with a scoring average of 69.3, has a shot to make it to the weekend after an opening 69.

Miles Russell is talented enough to earn a sponsor exemption after becoming the youngest player in Korn Ferry Tour history to make a cut. At 15, though, he's not old enough to drive the courtesy car provided by the tournament and technically isn't permitted to enter the men's locker room at Detroit Golf Club.

The baby-faced Russell looks his age, saying he's "probably" 5-foot-7 and weighs "maybe" 120 pounds, but his game is mature.

Russell calmed his nerves well enough to hit his first drive 305 yards to the middle of the fairway, but his approach from 119 yards landed in a greenside bunker to set up a bogey.

He went on to make some par-saving putts before carding his first birdie on his 12th hole only to give strokes back with a double bogey three holes later.

"Should have been nervous all day," he said after shooting a 74. "It was a good day, settled in nicely."

PRO HOCKEY

Colorado's MacKinnon wins Hart and Lindsay awards as the NHL's top player

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Colorado Avalanche center Nathan MacKinnon was the big winner at Thursday's NHL awards show, taking home the Hart Memorial Trophy as the league's MVP and the Ted Lindsay Award as the league's most outstanding player as decided by the NHL Players Association.

Three other major awards were handed out earlier Thursday.

Chicago Blackhawks center Connor Bedard was selected as the league's top rookie, winning the Calder Memorial Trophy. Connor Hellebuyck of the Winnipeg Jets won the Vezina Trophy as the top goalie, and Quinn Hughes of the Vancouver Canucks was named winner of the James Norris Memorial Trophy as the top defenseman.

MacKinnon had a career-high 140 points this season to win both awards for the first time. He opened the season with a 35-game point streak at home, second all-time only to Wayne Gretzky.

MacKinnon finished the season with 54 goals and 89 assists.

He beat out Nikita Kucherov of the Tampa Bay Lightning and Connor McDavid of the Edmonton Oilers for the Hart and Kucherov and Auston Matthews of the Toronto Maple Leafs for the Lindsay.

Bedard, one of the most-hyped prospects in recent years, was last year's No. 1 overall draft pick by the



AP photo

Connor Hellebuyck arrives for hockey's NHL Awards, Thursday, in Las Vegas.

Blackhawks and led all rookies with 61 points. He also was first with 22 goals and his 39 assists tied for the lead as well.

Brock Faber of the Minnesota Wild and Luke Hughes of the New Jersey Devils were the other contenders.

Hellebuyck, who also won the Vezina in 2020, allowed 2.39 goals were per game, had a .921 save percentage and recorded five shutouts. Sergei Bobrovsky of the Florida Panthers and Thatcher Demko of the Vancouver Canucks were the other finalists.

Hughes, won the Norris Trophy for the first time, led all defenseman with 92 points and 75 assists. He also scored 17 goals.

Roman Josi of the Nashville Predators and

Cale Makar of the Avalanche were the other contenders.

Awards announced earlier include:

■ Florida Panthers captain Aleksander Barkov won the Selke Trophy as the top defensive forward for the second time in four years.

■ Carolina Hurricanes defenseman Jacob Slavin won the Lady Byng Memorial Trophy, awarded for sportsmanship and gentlemanly conduct. He also won it in 2021.

■ Rick Tocchet received the Jack Adams Award as the NHL's coach of the year. He led the Vancouver Canucks to the Pacific Division title.

■ Dallas Stars GM Jim Nill was named the Jim Gregory General Manager of the Year Award winner.

Tell us about your team

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Plant-based milks make great substitute for cow's milk

DEAR DOCTORS: You recently mentioned you steer your patients away from cow's milk. Could you please explain? I

Dear Reader: We have been shifting to a plant-forward approach in all areas of nutrition in our own practices. This is due to the growing awareness of the environmental impacts of dairy and meat production, and also the range of potential health issues associated with both of those food groups. When it comes to cow's milk, it can cause digestive problems, including gas, bloating, stomach pain and diarrhea. Cow's milk is also linked to an increased likelihood of developing acne, as well as flares of some inflammatory skin conditions, such as eczema.

The digestive issues related to cow's milk are caused by an inability to properly digest lactose, the sugar molecule that occurs naturally in the milk of mammals. Known as lactose intolerance, or lactose malabsorption, it is estimated to affect more than 65% of adults.

Another factor in the discussion of dairy products is saturated fat, which is present in vary-



DRS. ELIZABETH KO & EVE GLAZIER

ing amounts in skim, low-fat and whole milks.

And this brings us back to plant-based milks. Today, virtually all major food stores offer a wide selection of plant-based milks made from almonds, oats, cashews, macadamia nuts, coconut and our old friend, the soybean. These forms of milk are typically lower in calories than dairy milk, and they do not contain saturated fat. The trade-off is that they are also lower in protein, calcium and potassium than cow's milk. Some also contain added sugars, flavorings, emulsifiers and other additives. That makes it important to carefully read the ingredients label, as well as the nutritional information, before settling on a product.

Friday, June 28, 2024

Put your emotions aside and get down to business. You may not like change, but it will pay off and help you improve your situation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — A positive change is approaching. Use your imagination and put energy and discipline behind your thoughts.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Unnecessary change will set you back. Look for opportunities that offer knowledge and growth. Use your skills, energy and attitude to get ahead.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Live and learn. Embrace your day with enthusiasm and engage in meaningful events. Make personal gain and romance your priorities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Taking time to think will help you gain perspective regarding what's possible. Don't follow someone heading in a different direction.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Put stress and aggravation behind you. Learn from experience and avoid people, conversations or pastimes that cost you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — You should create an opportunity rather than sit back and wait for things to come to you.



EUGENIA LAST

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Consider where your money goes. Evaluate your relationships with others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Separate yourself from drama and anyone trying to take control. Look for opportunities.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Put a smile on your face and proceed down the path that encourages peace of mind. Seek out like-minded people.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You don't have to be trendy to fit in or broaden your awareness or position. Focus on putting the best team together.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Talk to experts, and you'll discover a unique approach to turning your plans into something tangible. Be creative, take a unique path and seek out helpful people. Romance is on the rise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Use common sense and concentrate on your responsibilities. Let your actions speak for you; your inner voice will help you discover how to reach your expectations.

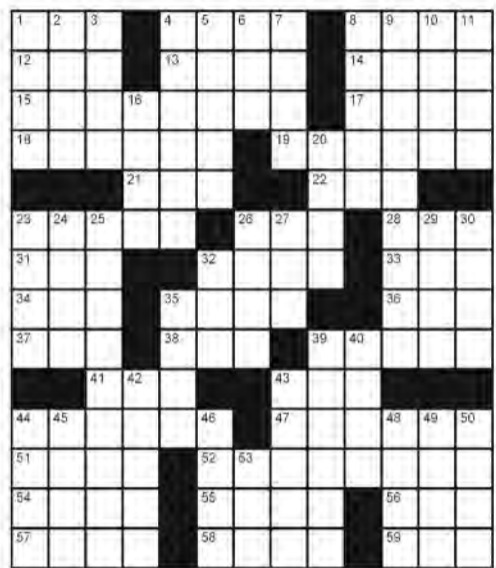
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Buddy
 - 4 Skin
 - 8 Rude look
 - 12 Paved rd.
 - 13 Gothic arch
 - 14 Regarding (2 wds.)
 - 15 Magician
 - 17 Long river in Africa
 - 18 Tolerate
 - 19 Pushed a little
 - 21 After deductions
 - 22 "Casablanca" pianist
 - 23 Equine
 - 26 Vehicle for schoolchildren
 - 28 Leatherworking tool
 - 31 Too easygoing
 - 32 "Roseanne" star
 - 33 To boot
 - 34 Play part

- 35 Killer in Genesis
- 36 Free electron
- 37 Hill
- 38 Bowler
- 39 Reunion attendee
- 41 Letter after zeta
- 43 Dined
- 44 Prisoner
- 47 Defeated ones
- 51 Make turbid
- 52 Nonsense
- 54 Ponder
- 55 Eastern queen
- 56 Mine's output
- 57 Tiny creatures
- 58 — Minor
- 59 Gloomy

- DOWN**
- 1 Tempo
 - 2 Shakespeare's river
 - 3 Allow to use

Answer to Previous Puzzle



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CURTIS



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SCRABBLE GRAMS

Directions: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition.

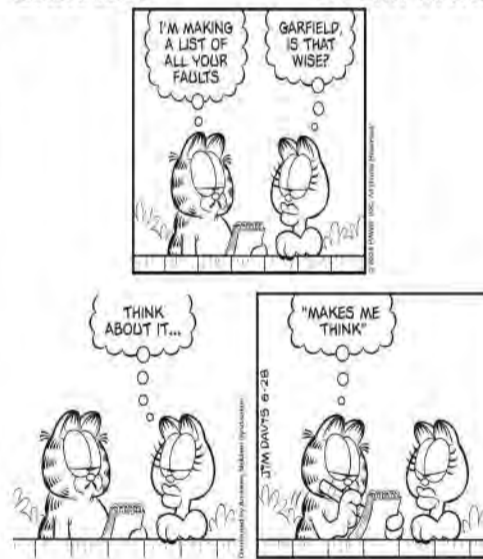
For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scogram@gmail.com

A	I	P	R	H	S	W	Triple Word Score	RACK 1
E	O	O	Y	N	T	P	RACK 2	
E	E	O	Y	T	N	K	2nd Letter Double	RACK 3
A	E	L	R	X	T	D	RACK 4	

PAR SCORE 150-180
BEST SCORE 236
FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

Solutions — B-6

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