

ESSEX JCT. TODAY



46°

Low 28° · Sunny and cold
Wednesday: 53°, frosty start

The Morning Courier

"Markets, Mountains, Box Scores & Bourbon — Delivered Before the Coffee Cools"

WORLD SERIES · GAME 4

TONIGHT, 8 P.M.

Brewers lead the Rays 3-0

One win from a title · Fox

VOL. I · NO. 34

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2026 · ESSEX JUNCTION, VERMONT

MORNING EDITION · FREE TO JB

DOW 52,362 ▲+0.3% S&P 500 7,677 ▲+0.7% NASDAQ 26,169 ▲+0.8% GOLD \$4,036 10-YR 4.98% GAS \$4.29 WTI \$102

WORLD SERIES · GAME 3

Brewers Rout Rays, 10-1

An eight-run fifth chases Freddy Peralta, Robert Gasser allows one hit in six innings, and Milwaukee is one win from its first championship

GAME 3 BY THE NUMBERS

3-0

Brewers' Series lead

8

Runs in the fifth

16

Milwaukee hits

3

Tampa Bay hits

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

Milwaukee pounded out 16 hits and beat Tampa Bay 10-1 Monday night at Tropicana Field to take a 3-0 lead in the World Series. The Brewers can win their first title tonight.

Freddy Peralta, who spent eight seasons in Milwaukee before joining the Rays, faced his old team and couldn't get out of the fifth, giving up seven hits and five runs. Milwaukee led 2-0 after three innings, then broke it open with eight runs in the fifth.

Left-hander Robert Gasser was nearly untouchable: six scoreless innings, one hit, three strikeouts, on just 75 pitches. Antonio Senzatela added two hitless innings, and Brandon Woodruff gave up the Rays' only run in the ninth.

Jackson Chourio had four hits and scored twice. William Contreras and Brice Turang had three hits apiece, and Turang and Cooper Pratt drove in two runs each. Tampa Bay managed three hits; Yandy Díaz had two of them.

Milwaukee's only other World Series came in 1982, when the Brewers lost to St. Louis in seven games. This time they won the first two at home, including a 5-4 Game 2, before flying to Florida.

No team has ever come back from 0-3 in the World Series. Game 4 is tonight at 8 on Fox, with SportRadar giving Milwaukee a 56% chance to finish it. **Line score and more, Page 3.**

ESSEX JUNCTION FORECAST



46°

Low tonight: 28°

Sunshine, but the coldest day of the week; a hard frost tonight.



CHANCE OF RAIN TODAY

Showers Thursday night

5%

THE WEEK AHEAD

WED



53°

10%

THU



67°

0%

FRI



56°

15%

SAT



49°

5%

Blue = chance of rain. NWS forecast data, Tuesday a.m.

FORECASTER'S NOTE

Forecast data: lows in the teens and 20s around the state by Wednesday morning; Halloween looks sunny and dry.

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

Cowboys Run Over the Eagles, 38-21

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

Dak Prescott threw three touchdown passes — two to CeeDee Lamb and one to George Pickens — and Dallas ran for 204 yards in Philadelphia.

The Eagles went ahead 21-20 in the third quarter, but Lamb's second touchdown and a

Prescott two-point run made it 28-21, and Dallas never looked back. Brandon Aubrey kicked three field goals, one from 55 yards.

Saquon Barkley ran for a touchdown for the Eagles, who fell to 2-5; Dallas is 3-4. Next up: Panthers at Packers Thursday night.

Tonight: World Series Game 4 and Bruins at Carolina. **Page 3.**

INSIDE TODAY · IN BRIEF

MARKETS Anthropic files to go public. **P. 2**

VERMONT A Burlington brewpub closes. **P. 3**

TRAVEL Asheville and the Blue Ridge. **P. 6**

WEATHER Teens and 20s tonight. **P. 7**

SERIAL Chapter 25 is here. **P. 8**

CRIME How the Unabomber was caught. **P. 11**

WEATHER AROUND THE MAP

Tuesday forecasts · forecast data · "Now" = overnight

MIDDLEBURY, VT



NOW 34° HI 48° LO 28° RAIN 5%

MT. WASHINGTON, NH



NOW 24° HI 35° LO 22° RAIN 0% summit

SNOWSHOE, WV



NOW 42° HI 64° LO 42° RAIN 0%

ROSEBURG, OR



NOW 49° HI 54° LO 42° RAIN 75%

E. DENNIS, MA · CAPE



NOW 53° HI 51° LO 39° RAIN 0%

CHARLOTTE, NC



NOW 43° HI 74° LO 43° RAIN 5%

WILMINGTON, NC



NOW 48° HI 76° LO 47° RAIN 5%

ST. PETERSBURG, FL



NOW 69° HI 81° LO 69° RAIN 15%

FULTON, MO



NOW 52° HI 72° LO 52° RAIN 10%

HOT SPOT · PHOENIX, AZ



NOW 62° HI 85° LO 58° RAIN 0%

INSIDE TODAY

SUBSCRIBE FREE · Scan with your phone camera, then just hit Send

2

Markets · World

3

Vermont · Sports

4

Bourbon · 5 Funnies · 6 Travel

8

Serial · 11 Crime · 12 Prices · 13-14 Fun



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MARKETS & MONEY

Monday's close · Tuesday, October 27

THE BIG BOARD — MONDAY, OCT. 26

INDEX / STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	PCT	DAY MOVE
Dow Jones Industrials	52,361.58	+146.42	+0.28%	
S&P 500	7,676.77	+53.09	+0.70%	
Nasdaq Composite	26,169.38	+214.04	+0.82%	
Russell 2000	2,786.42	+10.53	+0.38%	
JB'S WATCHLIST				
Nvidia (NVDA)	216.00	+5.04	+2.39%	
Palantir (PLTR)	198.84	+2.09	+1.06%	
Microsoft (MSFT)	532.60	+8.08	+1.54%	
BIG NAMES				
Apple (AAPL)	343.91	-3.83	-1.10%	
Amazon (AMZN)	249.09	+1.09	+0.44%	
Alphabet (GOOGL)	316.80	-3.39	-1.06%	
Meta (META)	630.56	-12.08	-1.88%	
Tesla (TSLA)	391.62	+19.39	+5.21%	
JPMorgan (JPM)	334.04	+2.45	+0.74%	
Goldman Sachs (GS)	893.28	+17.60	+2.01%	

Index closes via AP; stocks and ETFs via StockAnalysis.com; 10-yr and gold via Yahoo Finance.

RATES · ENERGY · METALS

10-yr Treasury	4.98%
down about 2 bp, under 5%	
Gold	~\$4,036
+0.7%	
VIX (fear gauge)	18.3
down about 6%	
Gas, U.S. avg.	\$4.29
AAA regular, flat for the day	
WTI crude	~\$102
December contract, -1.1%	
Bitcoin	~\$80,100
-0.7%	
Dow record	54,349
Aug. 5; Dow is 3.7% below	
Durable goods	Today 8:30
September orders	
Fed meeting	Tue.-Wed.
~90% odds of a hold	

THE WEEK AHEAD

TUE. Fed meets; Visa; durable goods

WED. Rate call; Alphabet, Microsoft

THU. PCE inflation; Amazon

Monday: Nasdaq +0.8%, S&P +0.7%, Russell +0.4%, Dow +0.3% · tech +1.7%; Brazil's stocks fell

Index closes via AP

WALL STREET · AI'S BIG FILING

Anthropic Files to Go Public

BY THE COURIER MARKETS DESK · SOURCES: AP, SEOUL ECONOMIC DAILY

Anthropic, maker of the Claude AI models, filed Monday to list on the Nasdaq as “ANT,” possibly next month. Investors have floated a value of \$1.5 trillion to \$1.75 trillion. Its first-half revenue was \$16.3 billion; its net loss, \$80.7 billion, was mostly non-cash accounting, the company has said.

Tech led stocks higher: Tesla +5.2%, Nvidia +2.4%. *The Courier is written with help from Claude.*

STOCKS TO WATCH TODAY

On the Radar

Tesla (TSLA) — Up 5.2% to \$391.62, the day’s big mover.

Cisco (CSCO) — Up 3.5%, best in the Dow.

Verizon (VZ) — Down 3.5%, worst in the Dow.

Merek (MRK) — Down 3.2%.

Meta (META) — Down 1.9% more, to \$630.56.

Visa (V) — Reports after today’s close.

Alphabet · Microsoft — Report Wednesday with the Fed.

Amazon (AMZN) — Reports Thursday; up 0.4% Monday.

ETF SCOREBOARD

SPY	S&P 500	765.37	+0.71%
QQQ	Nasdaq-100	712.20	+1.11%
DIA	Dow	522.97	+0.31%
IWM	Small caps	276.99	+0.45%
GLD	Gold	367.82	+0.33%
XLE	Energy	69.64	+0.45%
XLK	Tech	186.32	+1.69%
XLF	Financials	56.02	+0.21%
Best of these: Tech +1.69% Worst: Verizon -3.5%			

YEAR TO DATE

Nasdaq	+12.6%
Russell 2000	+12.3%
S&P 500	+12.1%
Dow	+8.9%
Through Monday; AP year-to-date figures.	

THE LUMBER DESK

Crude Eases to \$102

FOR THE JB WOODS DESK

U.S. crude slipped about 1% Monday to roughly \$102 a barrel. Weather: sunny and cold today, about 46°, with a hard frost tonight — keep glue and finishes in the heated shop. Thursday’s 67° is the day for outdoor work.

HOUSING STARTS · SEPT.

1.22M

-5.2% from Aug.

-7.4% from a year ago

Permits 140M

Single-family 859K

Census Bureau, seasonally adjusted annual rate · next report Nov. 18

NATION & WORLD

Washington, the courts & beyond

WORLD · VENEZUELA

Machado Comes Home

BY THE COURIER NATION DESK · SOURCE: WORLD

Venezuelan opposition leader María Corina Machado returned home after months in exile and is pressing for a new presidential election. Supporters greeted her at a church in Barquisimeto.

Venezuela is still led by Delcy Rodríguez, Nicolás Maduro’s former vice president, with U.S. backing; U.S. forces captured Maduro in January. U.S. officials say the country needs trusted election officials and courts before a vote, and many Venezuelans want one next year.

President Trump said he hadn’t known about her return but hoped she would be “safe.”

Brazil. Brazilian stocks tumbled Monday after President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva’s come-from-behind re-election, AP reported. (AP)

France. Police arrested more than 1,300 people Saturday as protests over schools and living costs turned to looting — up from about 1,000 the weekend before. Thousands also marched in Italy, Spain, Portugal and Albania. (WORLD)

ELSEWHERE

Kenya. At least 22 people died when a bus carrying mourners home from a pastor’s funeral hit a truck on the Nairobi–Mombasa highway Sunday; a crash on the same road killed 17 three weeks ago. (WORLD)

Iran. President Trump said a decision on Iran is nearing. (Euronews)

Midterms. With about a week to go, Trump campaigned in Michigan for Mike Rogers, and Barack Obama for Abdul El-Sayed, in a tight Senate race. (WORLD)

Pumps. U.S. regular gas averages \$4.29, AAA says — unchanged from Monday.

VERMONT

Around the Green Mountain State

BURLINGTON · LAST CALL

Vermont Pub & Brewery to Close

BY THE COURIER VERMONT DESK · SOURCE: WCAX

The Vermont Pub & Brewery, the state’s oldest craft brewery, will close after almost 38 years. Its last full day of service is Saturday, Nov. 14, WCAX reports.

The owners announced the news on Instagram Monday, saying they have struggled since 2020 to get back to a sustainable level of business. “We just don’t have the resources to hold out any longer for that day to come,” they wrote.

The brewpub opened in 1988 at the corner of College and St. Paul streets. This summer it told

WCAX that foot traffic was down 20% from a year earlier.

Downtown Burlington businesses have reported fewer visitors and frustration over crime, open drug use and homelessness. For longtime regulars, there are about two and a half weeks left to raise a last pint.

The brewpub was founded by the late Greg Noonan, a homebrewing author who helped change state law so brewpubs could open in Vermont — the start of a craft-beer boom that made the state famous.

STATEWIDE · RAIL

All Aboard: Amtrak Riders Up 40%

Amtrak counted 131,000 boardings and arrivals in Vermont last fiscal year, about 40% above pre-pandemic levels. The Ethan Allen Express, which reached Burlington in 2022 — the city’s first passenger service in almost 70 years — takes about 7½ hours to New York. Riders cite cost and reliability. (WCAX)

AROUND THE STATE

HINESBURG — A smart woodstove lamp. Neil Shah’s Oru woodstove monitor glows amber when the fire’s right and pulses red if it overheats. About \$209. (Seven Days)

BRATTLEBORO — A new station. Brattleboro has opened a new downtown Amtrak station, and

STATEWIDE · ELECTION

AI Ads Arrive — Obvious Fakes

AI-made political ads are spreading in Vermont races, but so far they’re cartoonish parodies, not convincing deepfakes, Seven Days reports. Vermont’s new law curbs deceptive deepfakes but exempts satire; a federal judge blocked the attorney general’s probe of one video. (Seven Days)

Vermont is in line for nearly \$4 million in federal money for its Amtrak fleet. (WCAX)

BURLINGTON — Rice offer raised. Backers raised their offer for Rice Memorial High, hoping for court approval of the sale. (VTDigger)

FOLIAGE REPORT

Frosty, then mild

Mountains: summits stay below freezing much of today.

Lake Champlain: mild water keeps the shore a bit warmer tonight.

Gardens: tonight’s frost is the big one — drain hoses.

Trick-or-treat: sunny and dry Saturday, 40s by evening.

Clocks: fall back Saturday night into Sunday.

Sunset: about 5:45 p.m. now — after Sunday, about 4:45.

THE WEEK IN VERMONT

Today Sunny and cold, 46°.

Wed. Frosty start, clouds later, 53°.

Thu. Mild, 67°; showers at night.

Fri. Early showers, then clouds, 56°.

Sat. Sunny Halloween, 49°.

Forecast data for Essex Junction; check before you go.

VERMONT BY THE NUMBERS

1988 Year the Vermont Pub & Brewery opened

Nov. 14 Its last full day

131,000 Amtrak trips in Vermont last year

40% Above pre-pandemic ridership

220+ AI political ads tracked nationally

SPORTS

Brewers one win away · Cowboys rout Eagles · Bruins at Carolina tonight

WORLD SERIES GAME 3 · MILWAUKEE 10, TAMPA BAY 1

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
MIL	0	0	2	0	8	0	0	0	0	10	16	0
TB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	1

W: Robert Gasser (6 IP, 1 H, 0 R) · L: Freddy Peralta (4⅔ IP, 5 R) · Chourio 4-for-5 · MIL leads 3–0

WORLD SERIES · GAME 4 TONIGHT

Milwaukee Can Finish It

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

The Brewers can clinch the first World Series title in franchise history tonight at 8 on Fox at Tropicana Field. SportRadar gives them a 56% chance to win Game 4.

Milwaukee’s bats woke up in Game 3 with 16 hits; Chourio, Contreras and Turang combined for 10. The Rays managed three hits.

Only one team has ever rallied from 0–3 in a best-of-seven baseball series: the 2004 Red Sox, against the Yankees in the ALCS.

If the Rays win, Game 5 is Wednesday in St. Petersburg; Games 6 and 7, if needed, are Friday and Saturday in Milwaukee.

NFL WEEK 8 · FINAL

	Final
PIT 16, NO 10	F
MIN 16, IND 10	F
MIA 28, NYJ 25	F
CIN 35, BAL 13	F
CLE 27, TEN 24	F
TB 43, CAR 13	F
ATL 29, SF 20	F
NYG 27, HOU 21	F
DEN 30, ARI 16	F
LA 35, LV 21	F
DET 20, GB 17	F
SEA 20, KC 3	SNF F
DAL 38, PHI 21	MNF F
CAR at GB	Thu 8:15 GB 64%

Scores and win chances via SportRadar.

AFC EAST STANDINGS

TEAM	W-L	GB
Buffalo	5-1	—
New England	4-3	1½
NY Jets	2-5	3½
Miami	2-5	3½

Via SportRadar. Patriots at Miami Sunday, 4:25 p.m.

NHL · BRUINS CORNER

At Carolina Tonight

Boston (9–2–1) opens a road trip at Carolina tonight at 8; SportRadar makes the Hurricanes a 63% favorite. Then it’s St. Louis Thursday and home vs. Chicago Saturday at 1.

NFL · THIS WEEK

What’s Next

Thu.: Panthers at Packers, 8:15 (GB 64%).

Sun.: Patriots at Dolphins, 4:25; Bills host Ravens at 1.

MLB · FULL SCHEDULE (ET)

WS G4 Brewers at Rays, tonight 8:00

WS G5* Brewers at Rays, Wed. 8:00

WS G6* Rays at Brewers, Fri. 8:00

THE BOURBON PAGE

A bonded bargain from Bardstown · plus the Whiskey Sour



BARTON 1792 DISTILLERY · BARDSTOWN, KY.

Very Old Barton Bottled-in-Bond

PROOF 100	AGE 4+ yrs	STYLE Bonded	MAKER Sazerac	PRICE ~\$20
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Every bourbon lover needs an everyday bottle, and this is one of the best deals on the shelf: a bottled-in-bond bourbon, 100 proof and at least four years old, for about \$20.

It's made at the Barton 1792 Distillery in Bardstown, Ky. Sazerac owns it — the same company as Buffalo Trace, featured here before.

How to drink it: neat, on a rock, or in a Whiskey Sour, where 100 proof stands up to the lemon. Expect caramel,

vanilla, a little spice from the rye and toasted oak.

A regional favorite, it's easiest to find near Kentucky; in New England, grab it when you see it.

Why bonded? The label guarantees one distillery, one season, four years in a federally supervised warehouse and exactly 100 proof — a lot of promise for the price.

BOTTLE OF THE WEEK

BOURBON SCIENCE 101

The Law That Fixed Whiskey

BY THE COURIER SPIRITS DESK

In the 1800s, plenty of “whiskey” was neutral spirit colored with tobacco juice or caramel. Honest distillers wanted a way to prove theirs was the real thing.

The answer was the Bottled-in-Bond Act of 1897, backed by distiller E.H. Taylor Jr. and Treasury Secretary John G. Carlisle. It was one of America’s first consumer-protection laws.

Bonded whiskey had to come from one distillery in one season, age at least four years under government watch and be bottled at 100 proof. The label must name the distillery.

Label tip: look for “Bottled in Bond” or “Bonded” and a DSP number — the distillery’s federal ID.

THE BONDED SHELF

Bonded Bottles We’ve Poured

Very Old Barton BiB — this week’s bottle, about \$20.

Old Grand-Dad Bonded — a high-rye bonded classic, featured here before.

Henry McKenna 10 BiB — bonded with a 10-year age statement.

Heaven Hill 7-Year BiB — seven years old, still 100 proof.

Old Forester 1897 — named for the year the bonded law passed.

Rule of thumb: bonded means 100 proof, every time.

Hunting tip: it’s often on the bottom shelf — look down, not up.

THIS WEEK’S POUR

Cocktail Corner

The Whiskey Sour. Bright, tart and easy to make at home.

Shake 2 oz bourbon, ¾ oz fresh lemon juice and ¾ oz simple syrup hard with ice for about 15 seconds. Strain over fresh ice in a rocks glass; add a cherry and an orange slice.

Vermont twist: swap the syrup for ½ oz maple syrup.

TASTING LAB

Make two sours side by side — one with an 80-proof bourbon, one with Very Old Barton. The bonded one keeps its whiskey flavor through the lemon.

Foam option: shake in an egg white first, without ice, for a silky top.

THIS WEEK’S POUR PLAN

TONIGHT · WORLD SERIES GAME 4

A Whiskey Sour — the Brewers are one win away.

THURSDAY · THE MILD DAY

Very Old Barton neat on the porch at 67°.

What to sip with what’s on

SATURDAY · HALLOWEEN

Sours for the grown-ups after the candy runs out.

THE BOURBON GLOSSARY

Label terms, decoded

Bottled in Bond — one distillery, one season, 4+ years, 100 proof.

Bonded warehouse — aging under federal supervision.

DSP number — a distillery’s federal ID on the label.

Bardstown — Kentucky’s self-styled Bourbon Capital.

Mash bill — the recipe of grains in the whiskey.

High rye — a mash bill with extra rye for spice.

Whiskey Sour — whiskey, lemon and sugar, shaken.

Simple syrup — equal parts sugar and water, dissolved.

Dry shake — shaking without ice, often for egg white.

Rocks glass — a short, heavy tumbler.

On a rock — over one large ice cube.

Bottom shelf — where the bargains often hide.

Proof — twice the alcohol percentage.

Straight — aged at least two years.

Finish — the flavor that lingers after a sip.

Rickhouse — the warehouse where barrels age.

Angel’s share — whiskey lost to evaporation.

Neat — straight from the bottle, no ice.

THE FUNNY PAGES

JB's Morning Strip — original art by JB, fresh lines daily



Characters and artwork © JB. Today's dialogue: The Courier.

THE WEEK-AHEAD PLANNER

Tuesday, Oct. 27 — Sunday, Nov. 1

ON THE TUBE (ET)

Tonight 8:00 — World Series Game 4, Fox.
Tonight 8:00 — Bruins at Carolina.
Wed. 2:00 — Fed rate decision.
Wed. 8:00 — WS Game 5*, Fox.
Thu. 8:00 — Bruins at St. Louis.
Thu. 8:15 — TNF: Panthers at Packers.
Fri. 8:00 — WS Game 6*, Milwaukee.

AROUND VERMONT

Tonight — Hard frost — lows in the teens and 20s.
Thu. — The mild one: 67° in Essex.
Through Nov. 3 — Early voting at your town clerk's office.
Sat. — Trick-or-treat night; sunny, 49°.
Sun. — Clocks fall back an hour.

WEATHER AT A GLANCE

Tue. — Bright and chilly, 46°.
Wed. — Icy start, 53°.
Thu. — Balmy, 67°.
Fri. — Damp start, 56°.
Sat. — Crisp Halloween, 49°.
Sun. — Sunny, 57°.

GOOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Kindness, critters & comebacks

BORNEO

53 Orangutans Saved

Rescuers with the nonprofit YIARI have pulled 53 orangutans — including mothers with babies — from forest fires since August, and released some into Gunung Palung National Park. (Good News Network)

FRONT ROYAL, VA.

Five Cheetah Cubs

A cheetah named Zura gave birth to five cubs on Oct. 5 at the Smithsonian's Conservation Biology Institute, and a live den camera lets anyone watch them grow. Only about 7,000 cheetahs remain in the wild. (Good News Network)

SYRIA

A Church Reopens

The fifth-century Saint Simeon church complex near Aleppo reopened Oct. 2 after 14 years shut by war, a 2016 airstrike and a 2023 earthquake. Crews cleared landmines and shored up the ruins, where Simeon lived atop a pillar for 37 years. (Good News Network)

BRAZIL

A Shorter Workweek

Brazil's Senate voted 75-1 for a constitutional amendment ending the traditional six-day workweek. Full-time hours fall from 44 to 42, then to 40 a year later — the first change to legal working hours since 1988. (Good News Network)

UNITED STATES

Record Clean Power

A Financial Times analysis expects a record 45 gigawatts of new clean-energy capacity to come online in the U.S. this year. (Positive News)

NORWAY

Kids Offline

Norway pledged to shield children from harmful content ahead of a planned social-media ban for under-16s that would make tech firms check ages. It also wants camera smart glasses banned in most public places. (Positive News)

THE TUESDAY KITCHEN

A SEASONAL RECIPE

Cheesy Chicken and Rice Bake

Serves 4 · 15 min prep · 1 hour

THE BAKE 1½ lb boneless chicken breasts, cubed · 1 cup long-grain rice, uncooked · 2½ cups chicken broth · 1 onion, chopped; 2 cups broccoli florets · 1 tsp garlic powder, 1 tsp salt, ½ tsp pepper

THE TOPPING 1½ cups shredded sharp cheddar · 2 Tbsp butter, melted · ½ cup breadcrumbs · 4 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled · Chopped parsley

METHOD

1. Heat oven to 375°. Butter a 9-by-13-inch baking dish and spread the rice and onion in it.
2. Pour in the hot broth, add the chicken and seasonings, stir, cover tightly with foil and bake 40 minutes.
3. Stir in the broccoli and 1 cup of the cheddar. Toss the breadcrumbs with the butter.
4. Top with the rest of the cheese, the crumbs and bacon; bake uncovered 15 minutes until golden. Rest 5 minutes.

Courier tip: Keep the foil tight — the steam cooks the rice. Butter and bacon cost less than a year ago; see Page 12.

THE TRAVEL DESK

Destinations, drives & the airport board



Courier illustration: the Blue Ridge Parkway in fall

DESTINATION OF THE WEEK

Asheville, North Carolina

Two years after Hurricane Helene, the mountain city is back in business — the Blue Ridge Parkway is nearly all open, artists have returned to the River Arts District, and the leaves are putting on a show

Why go: Helene’s floods tore through western North Carolina in September 2024, and visitors stayed away while Asheville rebuilt. Now nearly all of the Blue Ridge Parkway is open again, the River Arts District is humming, and fall color runs down through some 5,000 feet of elevation and more than 100 kinds of trees. Downtown, the Art Deco City Hall and the 1929 Grove Arcade are a short walk apart, with galleries, bookshops and brewpubs between them. This week: sunny, near 70°.

DON'T MISS

Biltmore Estate. George Vanderbilt’s 250-room French Renaissance chateau opened in 1895 and is still the largest privately owned home in America. Allow a full day for the house, gardens and winery.

The Blue Ridge Parkway. The Park Service says 458 of 469 miles are open; the Folk Art Center sits at milepost 382, right in Asheville. The last Helene repairs, mileposts 344 to 355, should reopen by the end of 2026.

River Arts District. Hundreds of studios lined the French Broad River before the flood. More than half the artists have returned, and the Marquee, home to some 350 vendors, reopened after being fully submerged.

Chimney Rock. The state park, about 25 miles southeast, reopened in 2025 after rebuilding; reserve tickets ahead. The village below is still recovering.

Asheville: sunny and 72° today, 66° Wednesday and low 70s Thursday–Friday; a few showers possible Sunday.
From BTV: fly to Asheville Regional (AVL), with a new terminal, via Charlotte or another hub; see Fare Watch. Sources: National Park Service; Explore Asheville; forecast data.

ROAD TRIP FROM ESSEX JUNCTION

Lake Willoughby and St. Johnsbury

About 180 miles round trip · a full day

1 Essex → Hardwick. Route 15 east through Morrisville, about 1½ hours.

2 Lake Willoughby. Route 16 to Westmore, where the lake sits between cliffs of Mount Pisgah and Mount Hor.

3 Burke Mountain. Swing south through East Burke for views over the Kingdom.

4 St. Johnsbury. The Fairbanks Museum — home of Eye on the Sky, the weather forecast in our Weather Desk.

5 Home. I-91 south and I-89 north via Montpelier.

6 Why Thursday. 67° and dry until evening — the week’s mildest day.

	TUE	WED	THU
Essex Jct., VT	46° 5%	53° 10%	67° 0%
Asheville, NC	72° 0%	66° 10%	71° 5%
Snowshoe, WV	64° 0%	59° 10%	64° 10%
St. Petersburg, FL	81° 15%	80° 20%	82° 15%
Charlotte, NC	74° 5%	70° 10%	74° 10%
Cape Cod, MA	51° 0%	54° 10%	65° 0%
Roseburg, OR	54° 75%	55° 30%	55° 10%
Phoenix, AZ	85° 0%	84° 10%	85° 10%

Highs and rain chances, NWS forecast data, Tuesday a.m.

AIRPORT BOARD · DELAYS & CANCELLATIONS

Today’s U.S. totals: Not available at press time. For scale: U.S. flights averaged about 5,600 delays and 340 cancellations a day last year (FlightAware via CNN).

Phoenix: Rain is likely Friday through Sunday (75% Friday) — expect weather delays at Sky Harbor.

Tampa Bay: World Series crowds tonight, and Wednesday if needed.

Four Corners: Floods closed U.S. 160 near Pagosa Springs, Colo. (AP).

FARE WATCH · ROUND TRIPS FROM BTV

ROUTE	UNITED	DELTA	AMER.	BEST
Wilmington ILM · Cape Fear	\$504 1/9–1/11	\$359 12/8–12/12	\$359 12/2–12/9	\$359 AA/Delta 12/2–12/9
Asheville AVL	\$399 1/30–2/3	—	\$319 10/29–11/2	\$319 American 10/29–11/2
Eugene EUG · Roseburg	\$479 11/5–11/9	—	\$1018 11/7–11/11	\$479 United 11/5–11/9
Medford MFR · Roseburg	\$620 1/7–1/11	\$827 1/4–1/14	\$642 1/5–1/12	\$620 United 1/7–1/11

Lowest round-trip fares found by KAYAK users in the last 72 hours, from KAYAK route pages checked Tuesday morning — not live quotes; all connect. Red marks the cheapest of the big three; “—” means none listed. Fares change; check before booking.

TRAVELER’S TOOLKIT

Before You Go

Asheville: Low 70s by day, low 40s at night — bring layers.

Parkway: Check nps.gov/blri for closures before you drive.

Biltmore: Book timed house tickets online in advance.

Gas: U.S. regular averages \$4.29, AAA says.

Fare Watch: Fares are what travelers found, not guarantees.

Clocks: Daylight saving time ends Sunday, Nov. 1.

Halloween: Trick-or-treaters on the roads Saturday evening.

Frost: Scrape windshields Wednesday morning — leave early.

World Series: Game 4 tonight in St. Petersburg.

Time zone: Asheville is on Eastern time, same as Vermont.

COMING UP

Your Pick Next?

Fare Watch rotates routes daily — today Wilmington, Asheville, Eugene and Medford; St. Louis and Tampa return soon, and the list is yours to change. Send your next destination pick, JB.

THE WEATHER DESK

Forecasts, almanac, mountains & Snow Watch 2026–27

THE FORECASTER’S TAKE

Coldest Day, Then a Warm Thursday

BY THE COURIER WEATHER DESK · SOURCE: FORECAST DATA · WCAX · COURIER WEATHER DESK

Sunshine returns today, but so does the chill: Essex Junction tops out near 46°, with mostly 40s statewide and low to mid 50s possible in southern Vermont.

Tonight is one of the coldest nights so far this fall. Clear skies and light wind let temperatures drop to the teens in the colder valleys and the 20s elsewhere — about 28° in Essex by Wednesday morning.

Clouds build Wednesday afternoon with a high near 53°. Thursday is the warm one, mid-60s, before a few showers move through Thursday night. Friday’s rain ends early, and highs reach the upper 50s.

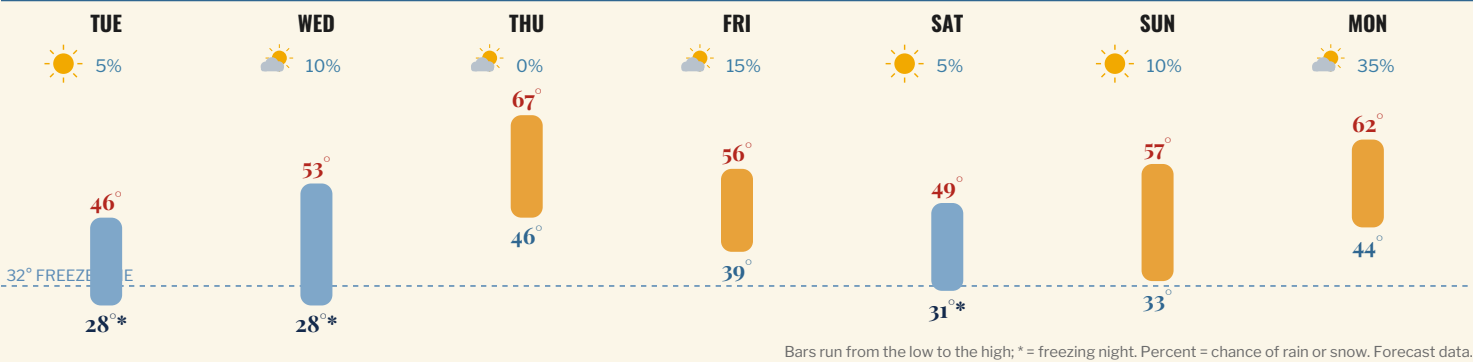
Halloween looks great: sunshine, highs in the upper 40s to 50s, and trick-or-treaters walking in the 40s. Clocks fall back Saturday night.

ESSEX JCT. ALMANAC

YESTERDAY	High 58° · Low 32°
SUNRISE	7:23 a.m.
SUNSET	5:48 p.m.
DAYLIGHT	10 hr 24 min
CHANGE	-2.8 min vs. yesterday
SINCE JUNE 21	5 hr 7 min less light
MOON	Waning gibbous

Sun & moon computed for Essex Jct.; temps from forecast data.

ESSEX JUNCTION · THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS



MOUNTAINS, VALLEYS & THE PLACES WE WATCH

STOWE

Route 100 valley

44° / 25°

0%

Valley chill: 25° tonight.

NEWPORT

Lake Memphremagog

44° / 25°

0%

Border cold; 49° Wednesday.

MONTPELIER

The capital

47° / 25°

0%

Hard frost, then 51°.

PLATTSBURGH

Across the lake, N.Y.

46° / 28°

5%

Lake air keeps it milder.

WHITEFACE

Adirondacks, N.Y.

42° / 24°

0%

Only 42° today.

SNOW WATCH 2026–27

5 DAYS UNTIL TRACKING BEGINS · NOV. 1

Season totals in inches, Nov. 1 – Apr. 1

ESSEX JCT.

0.0"

Burlington (BTV)

MIDDLEBURY

0.0"

Addison County

STOWE

0.0"

Mt. Mansfield

SNOWSHOE, WV

0.0"

Highland House · Rimfire

SEVERE & NATIONAL

Floods in the Four Corners

Heavy rain last Wednesday through Friday — more than 5 inches in spots — flooded the Four Corners. The San Juan River at Pagosa Springs, Colo., ran more than 2 feet above last year’s so-called 100-year flood; a couple hundred people needed rescue, some from rooftops, AP reported. More storms are due from Thursday.

Phoenix stays in the mid-80s through Thursday, then rain is likely Friday through Sunday. The Atlantic is quiet: 10 named storms and one hurricane, Isaias, so far this season.

SNOWSHOE WATCH

Four Weeks to Opening Day

Snowshoe projects a Nov. 25 opening, OnTheSnow lists — and all 257 skiable acres have snowmaking. This week isn’t snowmaking weather: highs in the upper 50s to mid-60s, nights in the 40s.

Closer to home, Mount Washington’s summit stays near 35° today with a low around 22°, and below freezing again Halloween.

Sky tonight: the nearly full waning moon sits beside the Pleiades, with the planet Uranus a bit below — binoculars help in the moonlight. Wednesday at 7:15 p.m., bright Vega stands high in the west. (Fairbanks Museum)

WEATHER WORD

Radiational Cooling

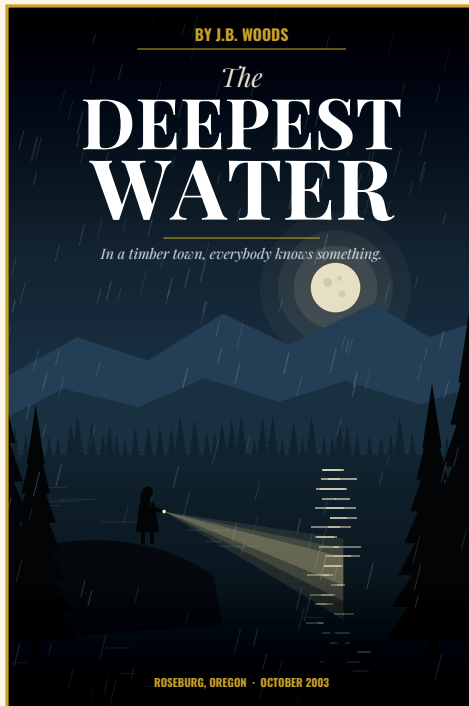
On clear, calm nights, the ground gives off the day’s heat to space with no clouds to hold it in, so temperatures drop fast — fastest in valleys, where cold air drains and pools.

Tonight: it’s why the hollows can reach the teens while hilltops and the lakeshore stay in the 20s. Cover tender plants or bring them in.

THIS DAY IN WEATHER

Oct. 27, 1962: an early storm buried northern Maine under 7 to 16 inches of snow; Worcester, Mass., set a record with 4.7 inches.

THE DEEPEST WATER

New reader? Tap here to read from Chapter 1 >

CHAPTER 25

Under the Lab Lights

Roseburg · October 2003

Previously: Sheriff Coyle told a stunned crowd that Gordon Pryce — alive only the night before — had been found stabbed to death off Little River Road.

“I thought they matched. Under the lab lights, they don’t.”

THE CROWD WAS still drifting off the lawn when Christine Mason followed Sheriff Coyle and Deputy Walters into Coyle’s office and shut the door behind her.

“Two things,” she said. “First, the shoe prints. The one from the riverbank behind Room 118 and the one from Tess Halloran’s yard.” She shook her head. “I thought they matched. Under the lab lights, they don’t.”

“Second. My boss, Agent Myers, is sending more agents to Roseburg — people and equipment. They’ll be here tomorrow.”

Coyle’s face went red. “Does he think we can’t handle this?”

“Obviously not, Sheriff. Look around you.” Mason didn’t raise her voice. She didn’t need to. “Nothing is being accomplished in this investigation. We have dead men and missing men, and not one name on your radar as a suspect. This town is in a panic, and it should be.” She let that sit, then softened just a little. “Remember, Sheriff. We’re a team.”

Coyle stood and took his hat from the rack. “I’ll be out of town the next couple of days. A prior commitment.” He looked at Walters, then at Mason. “The minute you find any evidence at all — anything — I expect a call.”

“You’ll get one, Sheriff,” Walters said. The door closed behind Coyle, and Mason stared at it for a long moment.

* * *

“All right,” she said. “Let’s take a ride out to where Gordon was found and see what we can see. Then I want another look at that Holiday Inn and some pressure on the staff. Something has been going on in that place for years. Things

hidden there. People brought there. For what?”

She began to pace. “And what was Gordon looking for in Room 118? He didn’t need a place to hide — he had a bunker in the woods. He didn’t know Tess was spending the night. So what the hell was he doing there, Walters?”

“The night Tess vanished, I asked Heather for a list of every employee and the day each one started,” Mason went on. “One name stood out. Hollis Tate, maintenance supervisor. Fifteen years on the job. Somebody rigged that deck door twice — fresh scratches, a new strike plate. That takes keys and tools. If anybody has seen things in that hotel, it’s him. The question is how much.”

“Tomorrow the team finds Gordon’s bunker and takes it apart. Until then, nobody goes near that area.”

“Already done,” Walters said. “Cruisers are blocking every road in. Jackson County and Lane County both sent teams.”

“That’s great,” Mason said, and picked up her keys.

* * *

They took both cars out Highway 138 and up Little River Road. Deputies in Jackson County and Lane County uniforms waved them through the roadblock.

At the end of a rough spur, yellow tape ran from alder to alder where Walters’ team had found the body that morning. “We still haven’t found his bunker,” Walters said. “It’s out here somewhere, and I guarantee my team finds it. Whatever’s inside should tell us plenty.”

Mason wasn’t listening. She was looking at the ground, a few feet off the trail, where the dirt turned soft near the water.

“Well,” she said quietly. “Isn’t that interesting.”

“That print.” She crouched beside it. “I’ve been studying both of my casts. The one from Tess’s yard has a tread pattern I’ve never seen in twenty years of this work. Not once.” She pointed. “That’s the same damn print. The same damn, unique print.”

Walters felt the back of his neck go cold. Whoever had driven a knife into Tess Halloran’s

front door had stood right here, where Gordon Pryce died.

“Let’s get it cast,” Mason said. “We’ll leave the rest for tomorrow’s team.” When the cast had hardened, they wrapped it like something breakable and headed back to the cars.

* * *

Halfway down Little River Road, Mason dialed the Holiday Inn.

“Good afternoon. This is FBI Agent Christine Mason. May I speak to Heather, please?”

“I’m sorry, Heather’s off this week,” a woman said. “This is Karen Marsh. I’d be happy to help you, Agent Mason.”

“I’ll be stopping by to look through Room 118. The room you’ve blocked off.”

A pause. “I’m sorry, Agent Mason. There’s a guest staying in that room.”

“What? You people were told not to rent that room. It is an active crime scene. We have more work to do in there.”

“I’m really sorry,” Karen said. “Sheriff Coyle called here yesterday morning. He said he was done with it, and it was all right to start booking it again.”

Yesterday morning, Mason gripped the wheel. Yesterday morning, Tess Halloran had still been missing.

“Is Hollis Tate working today?”

“No, ma’am. Hollis is off until Monday.”

“Then I’ll need his home address.”

Another pause, longer this time. “I’ll have to call you back with that.”

“Do that,” Mason said. She hung up and called Walters in the cruiser behind her — the guest in 118, Coyle’s phone call, Hollis off until Monday. Then she stopped.

“Wait. Do you know someone by the name of Karen Marsh?”

“Sure,” Walters said. “That’s Owen Marsh’s cousin. Why?”

Mason looked at the road unwinding toward Roseburg in the dusk.

“Because she works at the Holiday Inn.”

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 1–25

Published chapters only — no spoilers. Updated every edition. By J.B. Woods · Roseburg, Oregon · October 2003

October 2003. Roseburg is a timber town still sore from the mill closures of the '90s. When its most prominent mill owner vanishes, a reporter who came home to start over finds a town where everybody knows something, and nobody is saying it.

CHAPTER 1
Lights On Till Eleven
Editor Walt Brenner hands Tess Halloran the story: Gordon Pryce, owner of the shuttered Pryce Lumber mill, left the Elks Lodge Friday and never came home. Then a car turns up on Highway 138.

CHAPTER 2
Whoever Left It There
A deputy turns Tess away from Pryce's Lincoln, its wheels turned neatly toward the river. At dawn Sheriff Coyle admits the wallet was on the seat with \$200. Whoever left that car wanted it found.

CHAPTER 3
The Sister at the Bar
At the Idle Hour, Big Dave says Gordon was scared all summer and points Tess to "Tic Tac." His sister Darla: her brother told Coyle what he saw Friday night.

CHAPTER 4
Forty Dollars a Plate
Over dinner at Brix Grill, PI friends Teresa and Kally of Eye Spy identify Tic Tac in unison: "Oh, Josh Foster?" But Josh had called Eye Spy asking what it costs to run a license plate.

CHAPTER 5
If I End Up in the River
Trent Pryce says he was home watching the game with his mother. At Abby's, Josh says he saw the Lincoln heading up the canyon with a dark pickup behind it, no lights. As he leaves, a dark pickup follows.

CHAPTER 6
Patient as the Rain
Old neighbor Buck tips Tess to Gordon's hidden fishing hole at Cavitt Creek. That night Darla calls: Josh never showed, and his truck and gear are gone.

CHAPTER 7
The Third Time Today
Back at the Idle Hour, police come looking for Josh. A dark pickup with no lights roars past; the chase fails. Darla: that's the third time today.

CHAPTER 8
Your Case, Not Ours
The dark pickup was seen at the Holiday Inn by the river. A beagle finds a stag-handled knife engraved DOUGLAS COUNTY ROADS · 1987. Coyle logs it as found property, then calls a number twice.

CHAPTER 9
Up Little River
At Gordon's fishing spot, Eye Spy finds an old tackle box with "G.P." carved in the lid — and a torn mayonnaise packet sitting on top. Tess: "Don't tell anyone you found it. Bring it to me."

CHAPTER 10
August 1987
Kally delivers the tackle box to the Ledger: "No, Tess. Mayonnaise!" Channel 9 breaks the news: Commissioner Harlan Voss is missing; his wife, Tiffany, pleads on TV. That night an envelope waits on her desk: "Ask them about August 1987."

CHAPTER 11
Behind the Hedge
Tiffany Voss lets Tess into a plain, dusty house. Sunday evening Harlan took a call from Josh Foster, came out scared, said "Don't wait up" and drove off. Walters calls: Harlan's wallet turned up at the Rice Hill truck stop. "Harlan never goes north."

CHAPTER 12
The Tin in the Gravel
FBI profiler Christine Mason arrives. Harlan's wallet turns up in Rice Hill with cash receipts. Mason: somebody wants us looking north. Tipped off, Tess finds Josh's dented mint tin behind the Ranch Motel.

CHAPTER 13
The Brass Key
Josh's tin holds Tic Tacs and a brass key stamped "1987." Tess gives both to Mason. Darla breaks down: Josh knew things that put him in danger. At Del's diner, Del says Owen Marsh is out of prison and asking about Harlan Voss.

CHAPTER 14
The Twin Knife
At Seven Feathers, Tess runs into Owen Marsh, the boy she once babysat. He swears he was at the Screw and Brew in Cannon Beach the weekend Pryce vanished. A housekeeper finds a bloody knife in an ottoman in Holiday Inn Room 118. The guest two doors down: Marsh.

CHAPTER 15
The Door That Wasn't Locked
Room 118's deck door is rigged to look locked. Owen, who loves 118, drives off in a dark blue pickup. Tess sends Eye Spy to the Screw and Brew.

CHAPTER 16
The Screw and Brew
At the Screw and Brew in Cannon Beach, Eye Spy learns Freddy, the chef and Owen's alibi, was stabbed to death last night.

CHAPTER 17
Alive a Minute Ago
Owen checked out of the Holiday Inn the night the knife turned up. At the Idle Hour, Josh calls Darla in a whisper: "Pryce and Harlan are alive. At least they were —" A gunshot, and the line goes dead.

CHAPTER 18
The Phone Didn't Ring
At the Idle Hour, Coyle detains Darla; Mason says Josh is now a suspect. Darla tells Coyle he probably has more to do with the disappearances than anyone.

CHAPTER 19
Room 118
At City Hall, Coyle never names Josh. A dark pickup races past; Darla spots a figure in black: "Josh!" Tess books Room 118.

CHAPTER 20
Not a One-Glass Night
Home alone, Tess hears a thud at the door: a third DOUGLAS COUNTY ROADS · 1987 knife, with a note — STOP DIGGING OR YOU'LL GO FOR A SWIM TOO.

CHAPTER 21
Rubber Gloves and White Wine
Mason casts a shoe print from Tess's lawn. Tess checks into Room 118, Eye Spy next door. At 3:08 a.m. someone stands at the foot of her bed. "It's you!"

CHAPTER 22
Pale as Chalk
Room 118 is empty, its deck door open, a motorboat far off. Tess is gone. Kally suspects a hotel insider. Mason casts a riverside shoe print.

CHAPTER 23
Count to a Hundred
Gordon Pryce is alive. He takes Tess to a hidden shelter: he is hunted, and goods were once smuggled in mill lumber. At dusk he leaves her near Rice Hill.

CHAPTER 24
Focus, Tess
Tess tells Coyle, Walters and Mason that Pryce is alive. At the next day's press conference, Coyle announces Pryce has been found stabbed to death.

CHAPTER 25
Under the Lab Lights
Mason: the riverbank and yard prints don't match after all. FBI help is coming; Coyle leaves town. At Gordon's death site, the yard print turns up again. Coyle let Room 118 be re-rented while Tess was missing; the clerk is Karen Marsh, Owen's cousin.

OPEN QUESTIONS

• Who killed Gordon Pryce — and who knew where he was hiding?

• What does the brass key stamped 1987 open — and why did Josh have it?

• Three matching knives — river, Room 118, Tess's door. Whose are they?

• Who killed Freddy — and where did Owen go when he checked out Friday?

• Josh says Pryce and Voss were alive. Where — and what was that gunshot?

• Why is Coyle so eager to blame Josh — and whose side is Mason on?

• Who left the notes — and what happened in August 1987?

• What was hidden in the mill's lumber — and who is hunting Pryce?

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

Who's Who in Roseburg

Published chapters only — no spoilers. Updated every edition. By J.B. Woods · Roseburg, Oregon · October 2003

THE LEDGER

Tess Halloran — Our lead, 34. Reporter at the Umpqua Ledger. Grew up in Winston, laid off from a Portland daily, came home. Daughter of the late Frank Halloran, a faller at Pryce Lumber.

Walt Brenner — Ledger editor. Gruff and protective; keeps stories tight in the conference room until they're ready.

Gloria Bordiam — New staff reporter and newsroom busybody. Tells Tess what to eat — and orders it for her.

THE MISSING

Gordon Pryce — Owner of the closed Pryce Lumber mill. Faked his disappearance and hid in the woods; found stabbed to death.

Josh “Tic Tac” Foster — Idle Hour regular (40s, Mariners cap, rattles a mint box). Saw the dark pickup tailing the Lincoln, got part of a plate, vanished. Called Darla (Ch. 17); a gunshot. Now a suspect.

Harlan Voss — Douglas County commissioner. Left home Sunday about 6 p.m. after a call from Josh Foster; his wallet turned up at the Rice Hill truck stop on I-5.

THE PRYCE HOUSEHOLD

Trent Pryce — Gordon’s son, 35, running for county commission. Says he was home all night watching the game with his mother.

Evelyn Pryce — Gordon’s wife. Watches silently in a gray cardigan.

Martin Kessler — The family’s Eugene lawyer. Shuts down interviews.

THE VOSS HOUSEHOLD

Tiffany Voss — Harlan’s wife of 18 years, about 20 years younger; nobody knows her real name. Flashy in public, a plain brown house at home. Josh was kind to her when she was new in town.

THE LAW

Sheriff Ray Coyle — Douglas County sheriff. Stonewalls Tess, downplayed Josh’s statement, keeps the river knife quiet — and didn’t ask for the FBI.

Deputy Cal Walters — 28. The only lawman who seems to care. Quietly feeds Mason and Tess what he finds.

Christine Mason — FBI profiler, about 50. Takes no guff from Coyle. Holds Josh’s tin and the key.

Officer Ron & partner — Roseburg police. Want Josh about a break-in at Umpqua Gold & Coin; lose the pickup in a chase.

FRIENDS & ALLIES

Teresa Juniper — Eye Spy Investigations co-owner, Tess’s friend since high school. Tea drinker; has an office cat in Klamath Falls.

Kallysta “Kally” Hawthorn — Eye Spy co-owner, self-declared germaphobe, transplanted from back East. Found the “G.P.” tackle box.

Big Dave — Shift supervisor at the veneer plant south of town; knew Tess’s father. Her Idle Hour escort.

Buck — Tess’s old Winston neighbor (red suspenders, calls her “Tessie”). Worked for Gordon fifteen years.

Del — Runs the diner in Glide on Hwy 138; drove log trucks thirty years. Marionberry pie and advice. Keeps a faded snapshot of his “niece” by the register.

Flo — Waitress at Del’s for as long as Tess can remember. Pink uniform, pencil behind her ear: “Sit anywhere, hon.”

THE IDLE HOUR CROWD

Darla Foster — Josh’s protective older sister; raised him. Tends bar part-time and is thawing toward Tess.

Herb & Rocky — Herb, in a fishing vest, waltzes with Rocky, a googly-eyed pet rock.

The owners — Brothers who flip coins to decide who pays for drinks.

TOWNSFOLK & WITNESSES

Earl Haskins — Graveyard-shift cabinet-shop worker who tipped police about the pickup.

Heather — Holiday Inn front-desk clerk; doesn’t notice trucks. Called Walters about Room 118.

Marisol Reyes — Holiday Inn housekeeper who found the Room 118 knife.

Hollis Tate — Holiday Inn maintenance chief, 15 years; off till Monday.

Karen Marsh — Holiday Inn desk clerk; Owen Marsh’s cousin.

Lorraine Pettibone & Moose — Retired teacher and her beagle, who found the engraved knife.

Janet Marsh — Local woman whose funeral Tess covered three weeks before the story opens.

Owen Marsh — Janet’s son, about 28; 6-foot-5. Tess babysat him. In and out of prison since 18. Says he was in Cannon Beach the Pryce weekend; stayed two doors from Room 118. Drives a dark blue pickup.

Freddy — Smoker chef at the Screw and Brew in Cannon Beach; met Owen in prison. Found stabbed to death in an alley (Ch. 16).

Sally — Screw and Brew waitress who breaks the news.

The Ranch Motel clerk — Kind, tired, reading glasses on a chain. Remembers a man paying cash Sunday night; didn’t see him leave.

THE EVIDENCE LOCKER

The Lincoln — Gordon’s car, wheels turned neatly toward the river, wallet on the seat with \$200.

The knife — Stag-handled, engraved DOUGLAS COUNTY ROADS · 1987. Found in the shallows; Coyle had it logged as found property.

The tackle box — Silt-filled, “G.P.” carved in the lid, a torn mayonnaise packet on top. Locked up by Eye Spy.

The note — Unstamped, on Tess’s desk: “Ask them about August 1987.”

Harlan’s wallet — Tossed in a Rice Hill truck-stop trash can, \$41 inside, plus cash receipts from the K&R Drive-In (Sunday, 9:12 p.m.) and the Ranch Motel.

The mint tin — Dented, in a puddle in the tire ruts behind the Ranch Motel. Josh’s — still holding his Tic Tacs. Now with the FBI.

The brass key — Small, worn, stamped “1987,” found under the mints. Now with the FBI.

Room 118’s back door — Looks locked but opens with a tug; the strike plate was tampered with. A private way in from the river deck.

The second knife — In an ottoman in Holiday Inn Room 118: stag handle, dried blood, same 1987 engraving. The river knife’s twin.

KEY TIMES

Gordon Pryce: Friday night: leaves the Elks Lodge · about 10 p.m.: calls home to take a drive “up the river” · about 10:30: Josh sees the Lincoln heading up the canyon, a dark pickup behind it with no lights · next morning: the wallet is still on the seat.

Harlan Voss: Sunday, about 6 p.m.: leaves home after a call from Josh · Sunday night: cash at the K&R and the Ranch Motel · Tuesday: the wallet turns up at Rice Hill · Wednesday: the FBI arrives.

KEY PLACES

Roseburg · Glide · Hwy 138 pullout near Toketee Falls · Idle Hour Tavern · Umpqua Ledger · Brix Grill · Abby’s Pizza · Fred Meyer · Holiday Inn on the South Umpqua · Cavitt Creek & Little River · the Voss house on the hill · Rice Hill, 25 miles north on I-5: the truck stop, the K&R Drive-In and the Ranch Motel · Carlos, Winston · Seven Feathers Casino, Canyonville · the Screw and Brew, Cannon Beach

THE CRIME DESK

Cold cases · Blotter · Court watch · Top 20 · Scams · Trivia

GOLD CASE FILE

Northfield, Vermont · 2001

Randy White: A Grave by Berlin Pond Road

Elwyn Randall “Randy” White, 40, lived in a second-floor apartment on North Seminary Street in Barre. He had no car and was known to walk everywhere.

He was last heard from on Aug. 12, 2001, and was reported missing to Barre City police.

In May 2002, a turkey hunter followed a strong odor in the woods near Berlin Pond Road in Northfield and found a shallow grave. It was Randy White.

Police ruled his death a homicide but never said how he died. “We can’t really reveal that because it would seriously compromise the investigation,” Washington County State’s Attorney Terry

Trono said then.

Police believe he was killed when he vanished. He was 5-foot-10, with black shoulder-length hair.

He was known to police in the Barre City area. No one has been charged, and the Vermont State Police Major Crime Unit still lists the case as open. Anyone who saw him in August 2001 may hold the missing piece.

To share information, use the anonymous tip form at vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit, text VTIPS to 274637, or call the Vermont State Police at 802-244-8727, and mention case number 02A301107.

CASE FACTS

NAME
Elwyn “Randy” White

AGE
40

LAST SEEN
Aug. 12, 2001

FOUND
May 2002

WHERE
Berlin Pond Rd., Northfield

STATUS
Open, unsolved

CASE NO.
02A301107

vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit (anonymous)
Text VTIPS to 274637 · VSP 802-244-8727

VERMONT POLICE BLOTTER

BURLINGTON — Police used two drones to search the Winooski River and wetlands near the Ethan Allen Homestead for Chris Harper, 38, missing since Nov. 15, 2024. His family, on its 10th or 11th search, offers a \$5,000 reward. (WCAX)

BURLINGTON — Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak has picked a new police chief, VTDigger reports.

STATEWIDE — Officials are raising concerns about “heated” confrontations between voters and town clerks before Election Day. (VTDigger)

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit

COURT WATCH

Rockingham — Florida doctor Jozsef Piri, charged with second-degree murder in the 2019 Route 103 shooting of delivery driver Roberto Fonseca-Rivera, 44, won’t be tried until March 2027. He is free on \$250,000 bail. (WCAX)

Washington — Former FBI Director James Comey has been charged by the Justice Department for a third time. (WCAX/CNN)

Federal court — A California couple who processed more than \$50,000 to move lion teeth, a tiger pelt and a rhino horn got three years’ probation and \$10,000 fines each. (WCAX/DOJ)

CASE CLOSED · HOW IT WAS CRACKED

The Unabomber

From 1978 to 1995, a bomber mailed or planted 16 devices that killed three people and injured nearly two dozen. The FBI’s UNABOM task force — for university and airline bombings — grew to more than 150 investigators. In 1995 the bomber demanded publication of his 35,000-word manifesto, and the FBI director and attorney general agreed, hoping a reader would recognize it. One did: David Kaczynski saw his brother Ted’s ideas and phrasing and handed over old letters. Language experts matched the writing. Agents arrested Ted Kaczynski on April 3, 1996, at his cabin near Lincoln, Mont., finding bomb parts and a live bomb. He pleaded guilty in 1998, was sentenced to life without parole and died in prison in 2023.

SOLVED AFTER DECADES					Cold cases cracked by DNA
VICTIM / CASE	WHERE	CRIME	SOLVED	HOW DNA CRACKED IT	
Rita Curran	Burlington, Vt.	1971	2023	Cigarette-butt DNA and genealogy named her neighbor, William DeRoos, who died in 1986.	
Sherri Rasmussen	Los Angeles	1986	2009	Saliva from a bite mark matched LAPD detective Stephanie Lazarus.	
Carla Walker	Fort Worth, Tex.	1974	2020	Genealogy named Glen McCurley; he was convicted in 2021.	
Cook & Van Cuylenborg	Washington	1987	2018	Genealogy led to William Talbott II, convicted in 2019.	
April Tinsley	Fort Wayne, Ind.	1988	2018	Genealogy led to John D. Miller, who pleaded guilty.	
Sarah Yarborough	Federal Way, Wash.	1991	2022	Genealogy led to Patrick Nicholas, convicted in 2023.	
Angie Dodge	Idaho Falls	1996	2019	Genealogy named Brian Dripps and helped free Christopher Tapp.	
Green River	Washington	1982	2001	A 1987 saliva sample, retested, matched Gary Ridgway.	
BTK	Wichita, Kan.	1974	2005	A floppy disk led to Dennis Rader; family DNA confirmed it.	
Linda O’Keefe	Newport Beach, Calif.	1973	2019	Genealogy named James Neal, who died before trial.	

Genetic genealogy compares crime-scene DNA with public family-tree databases to find relatives, then builds the family tree.

SCAM ALERT

The Fake Delivery Text

Holiday shopping is starting, and so are texts saying a package “couldn’t be delivered” — click a link to reschedule or pay a small redelivery fee. The link steals your card number or login.

Protect yourself: don’t click. Check tracking only in the shipper’s own app or website, using the number from your order. UPS, FedEx and the Postal Service don’t charge fees by text.

Report it: forward the text to 7726 (SPAM), then delete it.

CRIME TRIVIA

Test Your Detective Skills

In what year did the FBI publish its first “Ten Most Wanted Fugitives” list?

Answer: 1950.

THE PRICE CHECK

What things cost — today, a year ago, five years ago, 1995 and 1980

ITEM	UNIT	TODAY Sept. 2026	1 YR AGO Sept. 2025	5 YRS AGO Sept. 2021	1995 Sept. 1995	1980 Sept. 1980	SINCE 1980 times the price
● Gasoline, regular	gallon	\$4.48	\$3.34	\$3.27	\$1.15	\$1.26	3.6×
● Eggs, Grade A large	dozen	\$2.27	\$3.49	\$1.83	96¢	90¢	2.5×
● Milk, whole*	gallon	\$4.11	\$4.13	\$3.58	\$2.46	\$1.06	—
● Coffee, ground	pound	\$9.33	\$9.14	\$4.73	\$4.00	\$3.16	3.0×
Butter, stick†	pound	\$3.96	\$4.79	\$3.57	\$1.60	\$1.94	2.0×
Bacon, sliced	pound	\$6.76	\$7.29	\$7.22	\$2.04	\$1.62	4.2×
Cheddar cheese	pound	\$6.13	\$6.05	\$5.39	\$3.35	—	—
Chicken legs, bone-in	pound	\$1.74	\$1.80	\$1.72	\$1.20	\$1.16	1.5×
Rice, long grain	pound	\$1.12	\$1.06	80¢	52¢	52¢	2.2×

Green dot = daily regular. Bureau of Labor Statistics average retail prices, U.S. city average, via FRED; September 2026 data, released Oct. 14. *1980 milk is a half-gallon price. †1980 and 1995 butter from the older BLS series. — = no September figure published.

AT THE STORE THIS WEEK · USDA GROCERY-AD PRICES

	SIZE	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	VS. LAST WK	VS. YEAR AGO
Gala apples	pound	\$1.14	\$1.32	\$1.60	-14%	-29%
Cosmic Crisp apples	pound	\$1.54	\$1.94	\$1.65	-21%	-7%
Red seedless grapes	pound	\$2.30	\$2.23	\$2.12	+3%	+8%
Navel oranges	each	\$1.19	\$1.44	\$1.34	-17%	-11%
Broccoli crowns	pound	\$1.86	\$2.39	\$2.04	-22%	-9%
Butternut squash	pound	\$1.08	\$1.04	\$1.05	+4%	+3%

National average advertised prices, USDA National Retail Report – Specialty Crops, released Oct. 23. Updated Fridays.

PRICE OF THE DAY

Butter Melts 17%

BY THE COURIER PRICE DESK · SOURCE: BLS VIA FRED, USDA, AP

A pound of stick butter averaged \$3.96 in September, down 17% from \$4.79 a year earlier, Bureau of Labor Statistics data show. Bacon fell 7%, to \$6.76 a pound.

Not everything in the casserole got cheaper: cheddar rose about 1%, to \$6.13 a pound. Bone-in chicken legs slipped 3%, to \$1.74, and long-grain rice is up 5%.

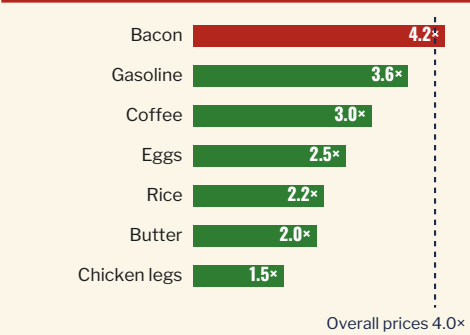
At the store this week: grocery ads cut broccoli 22%, to \$1.86 a pound, and Cosmic Crisp apples 21%, to \$1.54, the USDA says. Gala apples fell to \$1.14.

Check the register: the Federal Trade Commission and 20 states have sued Dollar General, saying it charged shoppers more at checkout than its shelf and ad prices. The company didn't immediately comment. (AP via WCAX)

Supper math: a pound of butter plus a pound of bacon costs about \$1.36 less than a year ago — good news for today's chicken-and-rice bake on Page 5.

Tomorrow: new items rotate in. Got one you want checked? Tell JB.

SINCE 1980 VS. INFLATION



Red bars rose faster than prices overall since September 1980; green bars rose slower.

THE COURIER BASKET

Today	\$20.19
1 year ago	\$20.09
5 years ago	\$13.42

One each of the daily regulars (gas, eggs, milk, coffee).

WHAT \$1 WAS WORTH

\$4.01	today buys what \$1 bought in 1980
\$2.20	today buys what \$1 bought in 1995
\$1.23	today buys what \$1 bought in 2021
\$1.04	today buys what \$1 bought in 2025

What \$1 from each year buys in today's money (CPI-U, Sept. 2026).

HOURS OF WORK

Today	2.8 hrs
1 year ago	2.8 hrs
5 years ago	1.9 hrs

Time at the \$7.25 federal minimum wage to buy the Courier Basket.

PUZZLES & GAMES

Grab a pencil and your coffee

THE DAILY SUDOKU

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

Fill every row, column and 3×3 box with 1–9.

WORD SEARCH · WEATHER WATCH

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

FIND THESE 12 WORDS

- BAROMETER
- BLIZZARD
- CUMULUS
- DRIZZLE
- FORECAST
- FREEZE
- FROST
- HUMIDITY
- RAINBOW
- SLEET
- THUNDER
- TORNADO

Words run across, down, diagonally — and some backward.

THE COURIER QUIZ

Five Questions, No Peeking

- 1. Which river runs through Asheville, N.C.?
- 2. How many wins does a team need to take the World Series?
- 3. What is the largest planet in our solar system?
- 4. What is the capital of New Hampshire?
- 5. Whose portrait is on the U.S. \$5 bill?

NAME THAT YEAR

Three Clues, One Year

- “Saturday Night Live” premieres.
- “Jaws” makes beaches scary.
- Microsoft is founded.

YESTERDAY’S SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

Solutions run the next day.

THE JUKEBOX

Music history, a record to spin and shows near home

OCTOBER 27 IN MUSIC

This Day in Music

- 1957 — Buddy Holly and the Crickets release “Oh, Boy!”
- 1964 — The Supremes release “Come See About Me.”
- 1977 — The Sex Pistols release “Never Mind the Bollocks.”
- 1979 — All nine Led Zeppelin albums are on the Billboard 200.
- 1982 — Prince releases “1999,” his first Top 10 album.
- 1983 — Bob Dylan releases “Infidels,” co-produced by Mark Knopfler.

Born today: pianist Floyd Cramer (1933), E Street Band bassist Garry Tallent (1949) and Duran Duran singer Simon Le Bon (1958).



SPIN THIS

Story of the Ghost

Phish · 1998

Vermont’s own Phish, the band that formed at UVM in 1983, released *The Story of the Ghost* 28 years ago today.

It grew out of the band’s funky late-’90s jams, and songs like “Birds of a Feather” and “Ghost” became concert staples. R.E.M.’s *Up* came out the same day.

Best with: a hot cider on a frosty Burlington evening.

LIVE IN VERMONT

Shows Near Home

- Tue. Oct. 27 · Allison Russell, Higher Ground
- Tue. Nov. 3 · Clutch, Higher Ground
- Sat. Nov. 14 · Phillip Phillips, Higher Ground
- Wed. Nov. 18 · John Scofield, Flynn, Burlington
- Mon. Nov. 30 · Bonobo, Higher Ground

Listings via Songkick; check venues for tickets.

MUSIC TRIVIA

Simon Le Bon, born on this date in 1958, sang “Hungry Like the Wolf” with which band?

ACROSS THE USA

*A light look at news from every state**Compiled by the Courier from local TV stations, newspapers and websites over the past few weeks; sources in parentheses.*

ALABAMA Wetumpka: The Wetumpka Zombie Experience is a guided nighttime paintball adventure: visitors head into the dark woods, paintball guns in hand, to fend off live “zombies.” It runs on fall weekends. (WSFA)

ALASKA Anchorage: Fish and Game says moose are raiding Halloween pumpkins and getting tangled in decorations. Too much pumpkin can cause bloat, which can kill a moose, so officials ask people to toss pumpkins right after Halloween. (Alaska’s News Source)

ARIZONA Phoenix: The Phoenix Zoo’s Spooky Safari runs Oct. 28–30, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., with trick-or-treating, face painting and a costume parade every hour. Tickets are \$18; kids 2 and under get in free. (AZFamily)

ARKANSAS Jonesboro: Rice growers and the city launch the first Grain and Gather Festival on Main Street Nov. 6, with rice dishes and a rice-brat contest, leading up to Arkansas State’s “Rice Bowl” game with ULM. (KAIT)

CALIFORNIA Morro Bay: Costumed paddlers in wetsuits launched kayaks and paddleboards from Coleman Park for the Witches and Warlocks Paddle on Morro Bay, one of the Central Coast’s favorite Halloween traditions. (KSBY)

COLORADO Statewide: Wildlife crashes on Colorado roads climbed from 2,296 in 2021 to 3,904 last year, the State Patrol says. October through December is peak season as deer and elk migrate and mate, so slow down at dawn and dusk. (KKTU)

CONNECTICUT South Windsor: Foster Family Farm, worked since 1790, celebrated National Pumpkin Day Monday with Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz. The farm is open daily 10 to 6, plus Friday and Saturday evenings. (WFSB)

DELAWARE Statewide: Delaware’s unemployment rate dipped to 4.6% in September, its sixth straight monthly decline, while the national rate rose to 4.2%. About 23,400 Delawareans are out of work, down from 26,700. (Delaware Public Media)

FLORIDA Melrose: Costumed paddlers took to Lake Santa Fe for the Witches Paddle, raising money for Christmas gifts for families in need, the fire department and a music scholarship. Dexter the mini donkey starred at the farm festival. (WCJB)

GEORGIA Clio: Effingham County cuts the ribbon on the revamped Clio Community Park on Halloween morning, 10 to noon: a new playground, a renovated baseball field and a new basketball court. Kids may come in costume. (WTOG)

HAWAII Honolulu: Families got an early start on Halloween at the Honolulu Zoo’s Octo-bear Festival, with treats, entertainment and beer for the grown-ups — all raising money for the Malayan sun bear conservation. (Hawaii News Now)

IDAHO Carey: Forterra is testing self-driving military vehicles in open country near Carey. The company surveyed nearly 60 sites before choosing Idaho for its access, workers and varied weather; one operator can run several vehicles. (KMVT)

ILLINOIS Decatur: Baby TALK, the Decatur nonprofit that supports young children and their parents through home visits and early education, marked its 40th anniversary with a fundraiser and remarks from founder Claudia Quigg. (WAND)

INDIANA South Bend: The Indiana Dinosaur Museum’s second Oktoberfest brought stein-holding contests, caramel apples, live music and wagon rides through Continental Divide Park for all ages. (WNDU)

IOWA Dubuque: Jennifer Edwards and Mark Williams turned their “Dead Man’s Curve Cemetery” Halloween display into a donation drive, collecting socks, coats, supplies and cash for Dubuque’s homeless. (KCRG)

KANSAS Topeka: Topeka South Rotary held its 14th annual Pumpkin Run at Felker Park on Saturday, with a trunk-or-treat for costumed kids afterward. (WIBW)

KENTUCKY Lexington: Now the Breeders’ Cup is days away: the races at Keeneland, Oct. 30–31, could bring about \$100 million to central Kentucky. The Breeders’ Cup Festival runs all week. (WKYT)

LOUISIANA Baton Rouge: Baton Rouge parishes have set Halloween trick-or-treat hours, and a motorcycle club, the Stone Cold Knights, hosts “Trunk a Treat at the Dungeon” Wednesday, 6 to 8 p.m., on Airline Highway. (WAFB)

MAINE Bangor: The Cole Land Transportation Museum throws its fourth annual family Halloween party today, 4 to 7 p.m. Volunteers hand out candy among the decorated trucks and trains; admission is free. (WABI)

MARYLAND Baltimore: Fell’s Point Fun Festival turned 60 this month. The free street fair began in the 1960s as a fundraiser to fight a highway planned through the waterfront neighborhood — and the neighborhood won. (WMAR)

MASSACHUSETTS Wellesley: Nearly 400 people joined Shriners Children’s Boston’s seventh Haunted Walk at the Garden at Elm Bank. Over seven years, the walk has raised more than \$3 million for children’s burn and reconstructive care. (Boston 25 News)

MICHIGAN Mason: Jack-O-Lanterns Unleashed fills the Ingham County Fairgrounds with more than 5,000 hand-carved pumpkins along a half-mile path of about 30 scenes, plus glow-in-the-dark mini golf and a pumpkin smash room. (WILX)

MINNESOTA Rochester: Hundreds came to the city’s third Snow Summit at the Public Works center. Kids climbed into plows and shoveled fake snow while crews explained salt and winter street work. Next one: Oct. 23, 2027. (KTTC)

MISSISSIPPI Jackson: The Craftsmen’s Guild of Mississippi’s Chimneyville Arts Festival turns 50 this year, Nov. 13–14, with a preview party Nov. 12. (WLBT)

MISSOURI Springfield: The FiveFest Film Festival screened short films with a strict rule: five minutes or less. Organizer Jeff Clinkinbeard runs the festival, which celebrates local filmmakers. (KY3)

MONTANA Billings: The first Billings Horror Con drew hundreds of fans and 45 vendors to MetraPark. Organizer Fred Moormeier pulled it together in about four months, and planning for next year has begun. (KTVQ)

NEBRASKA Omaha: Omaha’s Benson neighborhood throws Halloween Massive, a two-night block party Oct. 30–31 with artists, vendors and a costume contest. (WOWT)

NEVADA Stateline: Bally’s Lake Tahoe hosts its 47th Freaker’s Ball on Halloween night, with a \$15,000 costume contest — \$7,500 to the winner — plus a contortionist and DJs. It’s 21 and older; tickets are \$64.99. (KOLO)

NEW HAMPSHIRE Laconia: Mischa’s Little Stars lets kids 3 to 11 try hockey for free. The Mischa Fay Foundation pays for the ice time in memory of Mischa Fay, a 17-year-old New England Wolves player who died in 2023. (NHPR)

NEW JERSEY Westfield: Reese’s picked Westfield’s East Dudley Avenue from 150 nominees as the “trick or treatiest street in America.” The street throws a Halloween party from 3 to 8 p.m., with road closures. (Patch)

NEW MEXICO Albuquerque: Balloonist Jonathan Trappe launched a movie-style “Up” cluster of 94 helium balloons at this month’s Balloon Fiesta and drifted west into Arizona. (KOB)

NEW YORK Utica: The Utica Zoo held its 40th Spooktacular Harvest Festival, with trick-or-treating among the animals. One rule: no inflatable costumes. (WKTV)

NORTH CAROLINA Wilmington: The 80th N.C. Azalea Festival, April 7–11, will feature Shaquille O’Neal as DJ Diesel on April 8 and the Avett Brothers on April 9. Tickets go on sale Nov. 9 at noon. (WECT)

NORTH DAKOTA Bismarck: More than 900 kids and parents came to Harlow’s School Bus Service’s trunk-or-treat, featuring two haunted buses and a bus slide. One first-year driver dressed as a Vikings fan. (KFYR)

OHIO Dayton: The Dayton Holiday Festival’s Grande Illumination moves to Friday, Dec. 4, with the tree lighting at 6:30 p.m. on Courthouse Square. The parade is out, replaced by indoor events at The Dayton Arcade. (WHIO)

OKLAHOMA Honobia: The Honobia Bigfoot Festival brought campfire storytelling, live music, vendors and a kids’ area to Christ’s 40 Acres in the Kiamichi country, with campers rain or shine. (KXII)

OREGON Medford: Medford’s city Trunk-or-Treat is Thursday at City Hall. New Fire Station 15 opened this month on Roberts Road, and police headquarters marks 10 years with an open house Nov. 12. (KDRV)

PENNSYLVANIA Johnstown: About 150 people joined downtown’s 11th zombie crawl, and Central Park’s boneyard light show, now in its ninth year, glows nightly from 6:30 to 9 p.m. through Halloween. (WJAC)

RHODE ISLAND Warren: Ron Wallace of Greene grew a 3,156-pound pumpkin, weighed at Frerich Farm. Reports say it topped the previous world record by nearly 300 pounds. (NBC 10)

SOUTH CAROLINA Camden: The Southern Gothic Festival celebrated the South’s eerie side — literature, folklore, true crime, horror and music — at venues around Camden, organized with the Kershaw County Library. (WIS)

SOUTH DAKOTA Sioux Falls: Spirit Halloween shoppers can add \$1 or more at checkout for Avera Children’s Hospital, through the Spirit of Children program, which helps kids who spend Halloween in the hospital. (Dakota News Now)

TENNESSEE Sevierville: The Apple Barn turned 50 with an expanded Apple Fest — bluegrass, cider tours and pony rides — drawing more than 10,000 visitors. The first trees went in in 1976. (WVLT)

TEXAS Clifton: Clifton’s 25th Fall Fest filled historic downtown with a new Kid Zone, live music, a car show, a cornhole tournament and a library book sale, all free. (KWTX)

UTAH Salt Lake City: No trick: the Utes play on Halloween afternoon at Cincinnati, kicking off at 1:45 p.m. Mountain time — the first meeting ever between the schools. (KSL)

VERMONT South Burlington: Beta Technologies has spent about \$22.6 million on at least 13 properties near the airport — “Betaville” — and plans about 1,000 more employees by mid-2027. Its backlog: 1,001 aircraft. (Seven Days)

VIRGINIA Blacksburg: An app-guided Halloween scavenger hunt sends players around downtown Blacksburg to solve riddles, hear local ghost tales and snap photos at landmarks. Tickets start near \$13. (WDBJ)

WASHINGTON Spokane: The Spo-Candy Crawl returns Halloween, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.: kids hunt for 10 Halloween scenes downtown, solve a riddle sheet and trade it for treats at Rotary Fountain Plaza. (KXLY)

WEST VIRGINIA Wayne County: The C-K Autumnfest parade kicked off a week of fall events with floats and marching bands. Autumnfest runs through Halloween night, including the Pumpkin House. (WSAZ)

WISCONSIN Cottage Grove: The Big Gay Spooky Market brought more than 60 local vendors, drag performers and free trick-or-treating to the Wisconsin Rugby Complex on Sunday. (WMTV)

WYOMING Parkman: The Kerns family hosts a “bring your own horse” block party at their Double Rafter Ranch, where neighbors from miles around share a potluck and kids try barrel racing and mutton busting. (Cowboy State Daily)