

ESSEX JCT. TODAY

52°

Low 46° · Clouds increase
Thursday: 67°, showers at night

The Morning Courier

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

WORLD SERIES · GAME 5

TONIGHT, 8 P.M.

Brewers lead the Rays 3-1

At Tampa Bay · Fox

VOL. I · NO. 35

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026 · ESSEX JUNCTION, VERMONT

MORNING EDITION · FREE TO JB

DOW	52,378	▲+0.03%	S&P 500	7,723	▲+0.6%	NASDAQ	26,478	▲+1.2%	GOLD	\$4,073	10-YR	4.99%	GAS	\$4.29	WTI	\$99.90
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WORLD SERIES · GAME 4

Rays Win in 12, Stay Alive

Tampa Bay answers a Milwaukee run in the top of the 12th with two in the bottom, beats the Brewers 4-3, and sends the Series to a fifth game

GAME 4 BY THE NUMBERS

3-1

Brewers' Series lead

12

Innings played

4

Hits by Cooper Pratt

0-for-3

Milwaukee with men in scoring position

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

The Brewers will have to wait. Tampa Bay scored twice in the bottom of the 12th inning Tuesday night at Tropicana Field to beat Milwaukee 4-3 and cut the Brewers' World Series lead to 3-1.

Milwaukee had just gone ahead 3-2 on a home run off Rays reliever Ian Seymour in the top of the 12th. Tampa Bay answered right away against Antonio Senzatela and Shane Drohan, who gave up four hits without getting an out. Pinch-hitter Ben Williamson drove in a

run in his only at-bat, and Seymour got the win.

Cooper Pratt was the Brewers' best hitter again: four hits in five at-bats, including a homer and a double, and two runs batted in. David Hamilton also homered. But Milwaukee went 0-for-3 with runners in scoring position and made two errors.

Chandler Simpson had three hits for the Rays, including a run-scoring double. Starters Dustin May and Griffin Jax each allowed two runs, and the bullpens put up zeros from the sixth inning through the 11th.

The teams used 15 pitchers. Milwaukee's Aaron Ashby and Abner Uribe threw more than four scoreless innings.

Game 5 is tonight at 8 on Fox, again in St. Petersburg. Teams up 3-1 usually finish the job, but the 2016 Cubs came back. If the Rays win, the Series goes back to Milwaukee for Game 6 Friday. **Line score and more, Page 3.**

ESSEX JUNCTION FORECAST

52°

Low tonight: 46°

A frosty start in the 20s, then clouds thicken through the afternoon.

CHANCE OF RAIN TODAY

Shows Thursday night

10%

THE WEEK AHEAD

THU

67°

5%

FRI

53°

15%

SAT

46°

5%

SUN

55°

0%

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

FORECASTER'S NOTE

Forecast data: Thursday near 70° in spots before showers move in at night; Halloween sunny and cool.

NHL · TUESDAY

Bruins Fall 2-1 at Carolina

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

Sebastian Aho scored the winner in the third period as the Hurricanes beat Boston 2-1 in Raleigh. Jackson Blake had Carolina's other goal.

Boston's only goal came on the power play, with assists from David Pastrnak and Elias

Lindholm. The Hurricanes outshot the Bruins 30-15, and Boston fell to 9-3-1.

Carolina's goalie needed only 14 saves. The road trip goes on at St. Louis Thursday at 8; the Bruins are home against Chicago Saturday at 1.

Tonight: World Series Game 5, 8 p.m. Page 3.

INSIDE TODAY · IN BRIEF

MARKETS Chips lift the Nasdaq. **P. 2**

VERMONT Record cold this morning? **P. 3**

TRAVEL Charleston, S.C. **P. 6**

WEATHER From 20s to near 70. **P. 7**

SERIAL Chapter 26 is here. **P. 8**

CRIME The Lindbergh case. **P. 11**

WEATHER AROUND THE MAP						Wednesday forecasts · forecast data · "Now" = overnight					
MIDDLEBURY, VT		NOW 26°	HI 52°	LO 26°	RAIN 10%	CHARLOTTE, NC		NOW 47°	HI 73°	LO 47°	RAIN 10%
MT. WASHINGTON, NH		NOW 31°	HI 41°	LO 29°	RAIN 10% summit	WILMINGTON, NC		NOW 56°	HI 76°	LO 58°	RAIN 0%
SNOWSHOE, WV		NOW 46°	HI 59°	LO 44°	RAIN 10%	ST. PETERSBURG, FL		NOW 71°	HI 80°	LO 71°	RAIN 10%
ROSEBURG, OR		NOW 43°	HI 55°	LO 41°	RAIN 35%	FULTON, MO		NOW 54°	HI 80°	LO 53°	RAIN 0%
E. DENNIS, MA · CAPE		NOW 39°	HI 54°	LO 39°	RAIN 10%	HOT SPOT · PHOENIX, AZ		NOW 63°	HI 85°	LO 60°	RAIN 10%

INSIDE TODAY

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

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Markets · World

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Vermont · Sports

4

Bourbon · 5 Funnies · 6 Travel

8

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



MARKETS & MONEY

Tuesday's close · Wednesday, October 28

THE BIG BOARD — TUESDAY, OCT. 27

INDEX / STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	PCT	DAY MOVE
Dow Jones Industrials	52,377.57	+15.99	+0.03%	
S&P 500	7,722.60	+45.83	+0.60%	
Nasdaq Composite	26,477.81	+308.43	+1.18%	
Russell 2000	2,818.87	+32.45	+1.16%	

JB'S WATCHLIST

Nvidia (NVDA)	217.94	+0.90	+0.41%	
Tesla (TSLA)	407.46	+4.04	+1.00%	
Microsoft (MSFT)	531.33	-0.24	-0.05%	

BIG NAMES

Apple (AAPL)	347.10	+0.93	+0.27%	
Amazon (AMZN)	253.10	+1.61	+0.64%	
Alphabet (GOOGL)	320.58	+1.19	+0.37%	
Meta (META)	620.19	-1.64	-0.26%	
JPMorgan (JPM)	335.79	+0.52	+0.15%	

Index closes via CappNotes; stocks and ETFs via MarketAlleys closing tape; rates and commodities via CappNotes.

RATES · ENERGY · METALS

10-yr Treasury	4.995%
still just under 5%	
2-yr Treasury	4.737%
30-yr Treasury	5.309%
Gold	~\$4,073
+0.9%	
Gas, U.S. avg.	\$4.29
AAA regular	
WTI crude	\$99.90
-1.8%, back under \$100	
Brent crude	\$113.88
-1.7%	
Bitcoin	~\$80,600
Fed decision	Today 2 p.m.
~93% odds of a hold	

THE WEEK AHEAD

WED. Fed decision 2 p.m.; Alphabet, Microsoft

THU. PCE inflation; Amazon

FRI. Month-end; jobs report next week

Tuesday: Nasdaq +1.2%, Russell +1.2%, S&P +0.6%, Dow flat · tech +1.7%, energy -2.1%

Index closes via CappNotes

WALL STREET · CHIPS RALLY

Chips Lift the Nasdaq Before the Fed

BY THE COURIER MARKETS DESK · SOURCES: CAPPNOTES, MARKETALLEYS

Chip stocks led a rally Tuesday: the Philadelphia semiconductor index jumped 3.6%, and AMD rose 5.5% on a \$20 billion-plus supply commitment. The Nasdaq gained 1.2%, and the S&P 500 is within about 1.2% of its record.

Boeing fell 10.7% after a bigger quarterly loss, and Xylem lost 14.2% after cutting its forecast. Consumer confidence came in at 91.7, well above forecasts. The Fed announces its rate decision at 2 p.m. today.

Traders see about a 93% chance of a hold today.

STOCKS TO WATCH TODAY

On the Radar

AMD (AMD) — Up 5.5% on a big supply deal.

Boeing (BA) — Down 10.7% after a wider loss.

Xylem (XYL) — Down 14.2%; cut its forecast.

Here (HRI) — Up 22.8%, a top gainer.

Visa (V) — Narrow beat; slipped after hours.

Enphase (ENPH) — Down about 16% after hours.

Alphabet · Microsoft — Report today after the Fed.

Amazon (AMZN) — Reports Thursday; up 0.6%.

Kiniksa (KNSA) — Up 22.2%.

SoFi (SOFI) — Up 13.4%.

Royal Caribbean (RCL) — Higher after raising its forecast.

ETF SCOREBOARD

SPY	S&P 500	769.66	+0.56%
QQQ	Nasdaq-100	721.25	+1.27%
DIA	Dow	523.28	+0.06%
IWM	Small caps	280.18	+1.15%
GLD	Gold	372.28	+1.21%

Best of these: Tech +1.70% Worst: Energy -2.05%

YEAR TO DATE

Nasdaq	+13.9%
Russell 2000	+13.6%
S&P 500	+12.8%
Dow	+9.0%

Through Tuesday; Courier estimates from AP year-start levels.

THE LUMBER DESK

Crude Under \$100

FOR THE JB WOODS DESK

U.S. crude fell 1.8% Tuesday to \$99.90, back under \$100 a barrel. Weather: a frosty start in the 20s, then clouds, near 52°. Thursday's 67° is the outdoor-work day before showers Thursday night.

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 · UKRAINE

U.N. Panel Condemns Russia's Grid Strikes

BY THE COURIER NATION DESK · SOURCE: JUST SECURITY

A United Nations commission of inquiry concluded that Russia's bombing of Ukraine's energy system amounts to a crime against humanity, Just Security reported Tuesday.

The finding comes as Russian strikes hit Kyiv's Southern Bridge and its subway, and as President Volodymyr Zelenskyy says he has waited about a month for U.S. approval to buy more air-defense missiles.

Commissions of inquiry gather evidence but cannot prosecute; their findings can be used by courts such as the International Criminal Court.

Brazil. The Supreme Court ordered Sen. Flávio Bolsonaro's passport seized in a money-laundering investigation; he said he would comply. (Just Security)

Middle East. Egypt's parliament authorized military support for Saudi Arabia against the Houthis, and Iran held talks with Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Pakistan. (Just Security)

Venezuela. Secretary of State Marco Rubio warned that protests alone won't bring democracy, days after María Corina Machado came home. (Just Security)

ELSEWHERE

Nigeria. Gunmen killed 62 people in an attack, and more than 60 died in separate attacks in Ethiopia's Oromia region. (Just Security)

Canada. Talks continue on a U.S.-Canada deal over steel and auto tariffs. (Just Security)

AI. The FTC demanded that Anthropic and OpenAI executives testify in a consumer-harm inquiry. *The Courier is written with help from Claude.*

France. The government will cap first-year high-school classes at 28 students and scrap the Parcoursup college-admissions platform by 2028, after weeks of protests. (Just Security)

Pumps. U.S. regular gas averages \$4.29, AAA says.

VERMONT

Around the Green Mountain State

STATEWIDE · COLD SNAP

Record Cold Possible This Morning

BY THE COURIER VERMONT DESK · SOURCE: WCAX

Vermonters woke to one of the coldest mornings of the fall, with lows forecast in the low 20s for most of the state and upper teens in the coldest valleys. A few spots could set records for the date, WCAX reported.

St. Johnsbury had the best chance: its forecast low of 19° would beat the record of 22° set in 1999. Montpelier's forecast of 21° was close to its record of 19°, also from 1999. Burlington's record for the date is 19°, from 1974; Saranac Lake's is a frigid 2°, from 1903.

Oddly, the mountains were milder than the valleys, in the upper 20s to near 30°. On clear, calm nights, cold air slides downhill and pools in the low spots — a temperature inversion. (More on Page 7.)

It won't last. Clouds thicken today, with highs in the upper 40s and low 50s, and Thursday turns mild, in the low to mid 60s and near 70° in a few places, before showers Thursday night.

Halloween looks sunny and cool, in the 50s, with trick-or-treaters out in the 40s. Clocks fall back an hour Saturday night.

FOLIAGE REPORT

Cold, then mild

Mountains: milder than the valleys this morning — an inversion.

Thursday: near 70° in spots; showers at night.

Gardens: one more frosty morning, then a mild stretch.

Trick-or-treat: sunny Saturday; 40s by evening.

Clocks: fall back Saturday night into Sunday.

Sunset: about 5:46 p.m. now — Sunday, about 4:41.

BURLINGTON · POLICE

Mayor Picks a New Chief

Burlington's mayor has chosen Anthony Geraci, a former police chief in Newburgh, N.Y., to lead the city's police; the City Council votes Nov. 9. Geraci began with the NYPD in 1998 and spent about 15 years in Albany. He led police in Watervliet, N.Y., from 2019 and Newburgh from 2021 to 2024, and was picked from 15 applicants. (Seven Days)

STATEWIDE · COLLEGES

Vermont State Enrollment Up

Vermont State University's new-student count is up more than 11% this fall, against national trends. It has more than 5,000 undergraduates; online enrollment rose about 30%, passing a 1,000-student goal early, and nursing is up 5%. The university was formed in 2023 from Castleton, Northern Vermont University and Vermont Technical College. (WCAX)

AROUND THE STATE

ESSEX JCT. — **A new name at the bar.** After a move to South Burlington fell through, El Gato Cantina has reopened in Essex Junction as El Bar, a sports-focused cantina. (Seven Days)

WASHINGTON — **Where's Vermont?** An Energy Department map posted online appears to leave out

Vermont, labeling the area New Hampshire. Hawaii is missing, too. (WCAX)

STATEWIDE — **\$20 million for roads.** Sen. Peter Welch says Vermont will get \$20 million in federal money to repair roads damaged in the 2023 and 2024 floods in 39 towns. (WCAX)

THE WEEK IN VERMONT

Today Frosty start, clouds later, 52°.

Thu. Mild, 67°; showers at night.

Fri. Showers end early, 53°.

Sat. Sunny Halloween, 46°.

Sun. Sunny, 55°.

Forecast data for Essex Junction; check before you go.

VERMONT BY THE NUMBERS

- 19° St. Johnsbury's forecast low
- 22° Its record for the date (1999)
- 49-43 Scott over Janoo, new State Navigate poll
- 11% More new Vermont State students
- Nov. 9 Council vote on the police chief

SPORTS

Rays win in 12 · Bruins fall at Carolina · Game 5 tonight

WORLD SERIES GAME 4 · TAMPA BAY 4, MILWAUKEE 3 (12)

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	R	H	E
MIL	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	8	2
TB	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	9	1

W: Ian Seymour (1 IP) · L: Shane Drohan (0 IP, 4 H) · Pratt 4-for-5, HR · MIL leads 3-1

WORLD SERIES · GAME 5 TONIGHT

Brewers Try Again

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

Milwaukee gets another chance to clinch its first World Series title tonight at 8 on Fox, again at Tropicana Field.

The Brewers have outscored Tampa Bay 21-11 in the four games, but their bats went quiet late in Game 4: no hits with runners in scoring position.

The Rays need three straight wins. Only six teams have come back from 3-1 down in the World Series, most recently the 2016 Cubs.

Milwaukee won the first two at home, 3-2 and 5-4, then routed the Rays 10-1 in Game 3. Game 4 took 12 innings and 15 pitchers, so both bullpens will be stretched tonight.

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

Fall 2-1 at Carolina

Sebastian Aho's third-period goal beat Boston (9-3-1) in Raleigh; the Hurricanes outshot the Bruins 30-15. Next: at St. Louis Thursday at 8, then home vs. Chicago Saturday at 1 and Vegas Monday at 7.

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 (BUF 63%).

MLB · FULL SCHEDULE (ET)

WS G5 Brewers at Rays, tonight 8:00

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

WS G7* Rays at Brewers, Sat. 8:00

THE BOURBON PAGE

The bottle with the racehorse on top · plus the Brown Derby



BUFFALO TRACE DISTILLERY · FRANKFORT, KY.

Blanton's Single Barrel

PROOF	AGE	STYLE	SINCE	PRICE
93	No statement	Single barrel	1984	~\$65+

Some bottles are worth buying for the cap alone. Blanton's, a single-barrel bourbon bottled at 93 proof, wears a little bronze racehorse and jockey on its stopper — and collectors chase all eight.

Each stopper shows the horse at a different stride and carries one letter. Line up all eight and they spell B-L-A-N-T-O-N-S, with the horse crossing the finish line on the last one. Plenty of bourbon fans keep a row of them on a kitchen windowsill.

It was introduced in 1984 by master distiller Elmer T. Lee, who named it for Col. Albert B. Blanton, the distillery's longtime president. It's widely credited as the first single-barrel bourbon sold to the public.

How to drink it: neat or with a splash of water. Expect orange peel, honey, caramel and a soft spice finish.

Fair warning: it's made at Buffalo Trace (featured here before) and is often allocated. If you see it near list price, grab it.

BOTTLE OF THE WEEK

BOURBON SCIENCE 101

One Barrel, One Bottling

BY THE COURIER SPIRITS DESK

Most bourbons are blends: a master distiller mixes dozens or hundreds of barrels so every bottle tastes the same, year after year.

A **single-barrel** bourbon skips the blending. Each bottling comes from one barrel, so no two are exactly alike. Barrels in a warm top floor of a rickhouse age faster than those near the cool ground floor.

That variety is the fun. Blanton's labels are handwritten with the barrel number, warehouse, rick number and dump date.

Small batch is different: a few select barrels mingled together. There's no legal definition of how small.

Label tip: on Blanton's, look for Warehouse H — the metal-clad rickhouse where its barrels age.

THE SINGLE-BARREL SHELF

One-Barrel Bottles

Blanton's Single Barrel — this week's bottle, 93 proof.

Four Roses Single Barrel — a high-rye pick at 100 proof.

Eagle Rare 10 — a single-barrel 10-year from Buffalo Trace, featured here before.

Henry McKenna 10 BiB — single barrel and bonded, too.

Elijah Craig Barrel Proof — small batch, uncut and hot.

Rule of thumb: single barrel means every bottle is a little different.

Hunting tip: ask the store when its allocated bottles arrive.

THIS WEEK'S POUR

Cocktail Corner

The Brown Derby. Bourbon, grapefruit and honey — a 1930s Hollywood classic.

Stir 1 part honey into 1 part warm water to make honey syrup. Shake 2 oz bourbon, 1 oz fresh grapefruit juice and ½ oz honey syrup hard with ice. Strain into a chilled coupe; add a grapefruit twist.

Vermont twist: swap the honey syrup for maple.

TASTING LAB

Pour two single-barrel bourbons side by side and taste. Same brand, different barrels — you'll find they don't taste quite alike.

Name game: the drink shares its name with a famous hat-shaped L.A. restaurant.

Fresh is best: one pink grapefruit gives enough juice for about four drinks. Bottled juice works in a pinch, but it tastes flat.

THIS WEEK'S POUR PLAN

TONIGHT · WORLD SERIES GAME 5

A Brown Derby — grapefruit for a Florida game.

THURSDAY · THE MILD DAY

Blanton's neat on the porch at 67°.

SATURDAY · HALLOWEEN

Collect the horse stopper; finish the race.

What to sip with what's on

THE BOURBON GLOSSARY

Label terms, decoded

Single barrel — every bottle from one barrel.

Small batch — a few barrels mingled; no legal size.

Allocated — shipped to stores in limited amounts.

Dump date — the day a barrel is emptied for bottling.

Rick — the wooden racks that hold barrels.

Warehouse H — Blanton's metal-clad rickhouse.

Stopper — the cork-and-top that seals a bottle.

Brown Derby — bourbon, grapefruit and honey.

Honey syrup — honey thinned with warm water.

Coupe — a stemmed, shallow cocktail glass.

Twist — a strip of peel squeezed over a drink.

Master distiller — the person in charge of the whiskey.

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

Wednesday, Oct. 28 — Sunday, Nov. 1

ON THE TUBE (ET)

Tonight 8:00 — World Series Game 5, Fox.
Thu. 8:00 — Bruins at St. Louis.
Thu. 8:15 — TNF: Panthers at Packers.
Fri. 8:00 — WS Game 6*, Milwaukee.
Sat. 1:00 — Bruins host Chicago.
Sat. 8:00 — WS Game 7*, Milwaukee.
Sun. 4:25 — Patriots at Dolphins.

AROUND VERMONT

Today 2 p.m. — Fed rate decision.
Thu. — Near 70° in spots, then showers.
Through Nov. 3 — Early voting at your town clerk's office.
Sat. — Trick-or-treat; sunny and cool.
Sun. — Clocks fall back an hour.

WEATHER AT A GLANCE

Wed. — Frosty, then gray, 52°.
Thu. — Springlike, 67°.
Fri. — Drying out, 53°.
Sat. — Bright Halloween, 46°.
Sun. — Sunshine, 55°.
Mon. — Milder, 62°.

GOOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Kindness, critters & comebacks

LYERLY, GA.

A Wrong Turn Saves a Family

A driver named Casey, rerouted by his GPS onto Highway 114, spotted a house on fire and woke James Burke, asleep in his recliner. With Burke's son, he got everyone out. The Burkes have fostered about 500 children; they lost the house and two cars. (Good News Network)

CAMBODIA

Six Dolphin Calves

Six Irrawaddy dolphin calves have been counted on a 75-mile stretch of the Mekong River, where the rare dolphins number about 118. (Good News Network)

NORWAY

Arrows From the Ice

Melting glaciers in the Jotunheimen mountains gave up 48 arrow shafts and heads, 2,000 to 5,000 years old, tipped with slate, bone and even mussel shell. The Secrets of the Ice project, now in its 20th year, has found more than 5,000 artifacts.

(Good News Network)

GERMANY

A Temple to Mars

Archaeologists near Frankfurt uncovered a Roman temple to Mars, about 16 feet across, at the Kapersburg fort village, with inscriptions and fragments of a statue of Victoria, goddess of victory. The temple stood in the civilian village outside a fort on Rome's northern frontier. (Good News Network)

BRITAIN

Museums Stay Free

Britain will keep 14 national museums free for foreign visitors, as they have been since 2001, rejecting a review's idea of charging tourists. (Good News Network)

MOZAMBIQUE

Drones Save Lives

January floods in Marracuene caused no deaths, thanks partly to a program that trained 30 drone experts; 10 are now licensed trainers who teach others. (Good News Network)

THE WEDNESDAY KITCHEN

A SEASONAL RECIPE

Classic Sloppy Joes

Serves 6 · 10 min prep · 25 min

THE FILLING 1½ lb ground beef · 1 onion and 1 green pepper, finely chopped · 2 cloves garlic, minced · 1 cup ketchup; 2 Tbsp tomato paste · 1 Tbsp brown sugar, 1 Tbsp Worcestershire, 1 tsp yellow mustard

ON THE SIDE 6 hamburger buns, toasted · Dill pickle chips · Sliced cheddar (optional) · Coleslaw on the side · Salt and pepper

METHOD

1. Brown the beef in a large skillet over medium-high heat, breaking it up, about 7 minutes. Pour off most of the fat.
2. Add the onion and pepper; cook 5 minutes until soft. Stir in the garlic for 30 seconds.
3. Stir in the ketchup, tomato paste, sugar, Worcestershire, mustard and ½ cup water. Simmer 10 minutes, until thick.
4. Season with salt and pepper. Pile onto toasted buns with pickles and cheese.
5. Leftovers? Spoon the filling over baked potatoes or tortilla chips with shredded cheese.

Courier tip: Toast the buns so they don't go soggy. The filling keeps three days in the fridge and freezes well for a month. Ground beef is up 7% from a year ago; see Page 12.

THE TRAVEL DESK

Destinations, drives & the airport board



Courier illustration: Charleston Harbor at dusk

DESTINATION OF THE WEEK

Charleston, South Carolina

Pastel row houses, church steeples, a fort where the Civil War began — and highs in the upper 70s while Vermont scrapes frost off the windshield

Why go: Founded in 1670, Charleston packs three centuries into a walkable peninsula between the Ashley and Cooper rivers. Late fall is prime time: the summer heat and hurricane season are winding down, the humidity eases, and the forecast this week runs 76° to 78° with little chance of rain. Stroll the Battery seawall at sunset, look up at the steeples that gave the “Holy City” its nickname, and save room for shrimp and grits.

DON'T MISS

- Fort Sumter.** The first shots of the Civil War were fired here on April 12, 1861. The island fort is reached only by the park’s concession boat, from the visitor center at Liberty Square, 340 Concord St.; Fort Moultrie on Sullivan’s Island tells the rest of the harbor’s story.
- Rainbow Row.** A row of pastel 18th-century houses along East Bay Street — the most photographed block in town. Keep walking south to the Battery and White Point Garden.

- Charleston City Market.** Four blocks of stalls where Gullah artisans weave sweetgrass baskets by hand, a craft brought from West Africa and passed down for generations.
- Angel Oak.** On Johns Island, about 25 minutes away, a live oak believed to be several hundred years old spreads its limbs over a city park. Free to visit.

Charleston: sunny, 76° today; 77° Thursday and 78° Friday; low 70s and a few clouds over the weekend, with rain chances rising Monday.
From BTV: connect through a hub to Charleston International (CHS); see Fare Watch. Sources: National Park Service; forecast data.

ROAD TRIP FROM ESSEX JUNCTION

Covered Bridges and Jay Peak

About 160 miles round trip · a full day

- 1 Essex → Jeffersonville.** Route 15 east to Cambridge and Route 108 into Jeffersonville, about 40 minutes.
- 2 Montgomery.** Route 109 north and Route 118 to Montgomery, a town known for its cluster of old covered bridges.
- 3 Jay Peak.** Route 242 over the mountain to the resort; the views of Canada are best before the snow guns start.
- 4 Newport.** Down to Lake Memphremagog for lunch on the water.
- 5 Home.** Route 100 south through Lowell and Eden to Morrisville, then Route 15 west.
- 6 Why Thursday.** Near 70° in spots and dry until evening — the week’s mildest day.

WEEK-AHEAD OUTLOOK

	WED	THU	FRI
Essex Jct., VT	52° 10%	67° 5%	53° 15%
Charleston, SC	76° 0%	77° 5%	78° 10%
Snowshoe, WV	59° 10%	64° 10%	59° 5%
St. Petersburg, FL	80° 10%	83° 15%	83° 15%
Charlotte, NC	73° 10%	74° 5%	80° 5%
Cape Cod, MA	54° 10%	65° 0%	67° 5%
Roseburg, OR	55° 35%	56° 10%	56° 15%
Phoenix, AZ	85° 10%	85° 10%	68° 75%

Highs and rain chances, NWS forecast data, Wednesday 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).
- Seattle:** Snow in the Cascades; a few inches at Snoqualmie Pass tonight (KIRO).
- Phoenix:** Rain likely Friday and Sunday (75%) — expect weather delays at Sky Harbor.
- Tampa Bay:** World Series Game 5 crowds tonight in St. Petersburg.

FARE WATCH · ROUND TRIPS FROM BTV

ROUTE	UNITED	DELTA	AMER.	BEST
Charleston CHS · S.C.	\$325 12/2–12/5	\$332 11/11–11/18	\$325 12/5–12/9	\$142 Breeze 12/11–12/14
Tampa TPA · World Series	\$311 3/27–4/10	\$311 12/5–12/9	\$311 12/5–12/9	\$167 Breeze 12/5–12/9
St. Louis STL · Fulton	\$349 11/10–11/16	\$313 3/30–4/3	\$374 11/7–11/11	\$313 Delta 3/30–4/3
Phoenix PHX · hot spot	\$366 3/9–3/25	\$366 12/11–12/15	\$333 12/8–12/12	\$333 American 12/8–12/12

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

TRAVELER’S TOOLKIT

Before You Go

- Charleston:** Upper 70s by day, upper 50s and 60s at night.
- Fort Sumter:** Book the boat ahead; allow about 2½ hours.
- Walking:** Wear comfortable shoes for the cobblestones.
- 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:** One more icy windshield this morning.
- World Series:** Game 5 tonight in St. Petersburg.
- Time zone:** Charleston is on Eastern time, same as Vermont.

COMING UP

Your Pick Next?

Fare Watch rotates routes daily — today Charleston, Tampa, St. Louis and Phoenix; Wilmington and Asheville return soon, and the list is yours to change. Planning a holiday trip? Book early; the cheapest seats go first. Send your next destination pick, JB.

THE WEATHER DESK

Forecasts, almanac, mountains & Snow Watch 2026–27

THE FORECASTER’S TAKE

Frosty Start, Then a Warm-Up

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

This morning is the coldest of the season so far for many of us: low to mid 20s in most valleys and upper teens in the coldest hollows, while the mountains sit milder in the upper 20s to near 30°. A few record lows are possible, with St. Johnsbury the best bet.

Clouds increase through the day and it turns gray, but the air warms to the upper 40s and low 50s — about 52° in Essex Junction.

Thursday is the standout: southwest winds push highs into the low to mid 60s, near 70° in a few spots, about 67° here. Showers arrive Thursday evening and night and end early Friday, with highs in the upper 50s to low 60s.

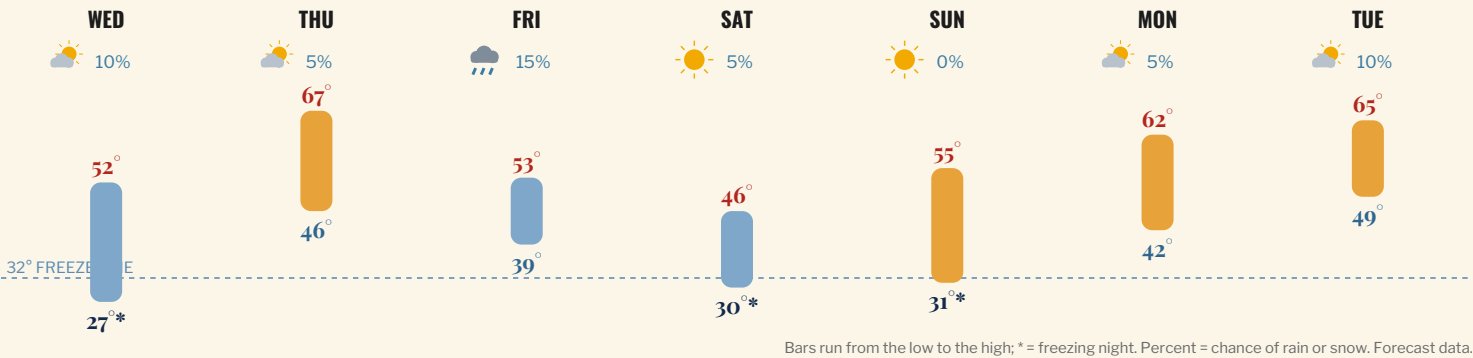
Halloween is sunny and cool, with highs in the 40s and 50s and trick-or-treaters out in the 40s. Clocks fall back an hour Saturday night; Sunday is sunny in the 50s.

ESSEX JCT. ALMANAC

YESTERDAY	High 46° · Low 27°
SUNRISE	7:24 a.m.
SUNSET	5:46 p.m.
DAYLIGHT	10 hr 22 min
CHANGE	-2.8 min vs. yesterday
SINCE JUNE 21	5 hr 10 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

SMUGGLERS' NOTCH Route 108 pass 46° / 27° 10% Halloween high only 36°.	ST. JOHNSBURY Northeast Kingdom 48° / 23° 10% Record watch: 22° from 1999.	RUTLAND Otter Creek valley 53° / 26° 10% 65° Thursday.	BENNINGTON Southwest corner 55° / 28° 10% Warmest: 67° Thursday.	SARANAC LAKE Adirondacks, N.Y. 54° / 25° 20% Record low: 2° in 1903.
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SNOW WATCH 2026–27

4 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

Snow in the Cascades

A winter weather advisory is up for Washington’s Cascades: up to a foot of snow above 4,500 feet near Mount Rainier, 4 to 8 inches in the Methow Valley, and a few inches at Snoqualmie Pass as snow levels drop to 3,000 feet tonight (KIRO).

Out West, Phoenix stays in the mid-80s through Thursday, then rain is likely Friday and Sunday (75%). The Atlantic is quiet: 10 named storms and one hurricane, Isaias, so far; the last, Subtropical Storm Josephine, faded Oct. 22.

SNOWSHOE WATCH

Mild Week on the Mountain

Snowshoe stays too mild for snowmaking this week: highs near 59° today and 64° Thursday, nights in the low to mid 40s, with only a 10% chance of showers on most days.

In New Hampshire, Mount Washington’s summit tops out near 41° today with a low near 29°. Friday brings a 15% chance of snow, and Halloween’s high is only 31° up top.

Daylight: sunset in Essex Junction is about 5:46 p.m. today. After the clocks fall back Saturday night, Sunday’s sunset comes about an hour earlier on the clock — near 4:40 p.m.

WEATHER WORD

Inversion

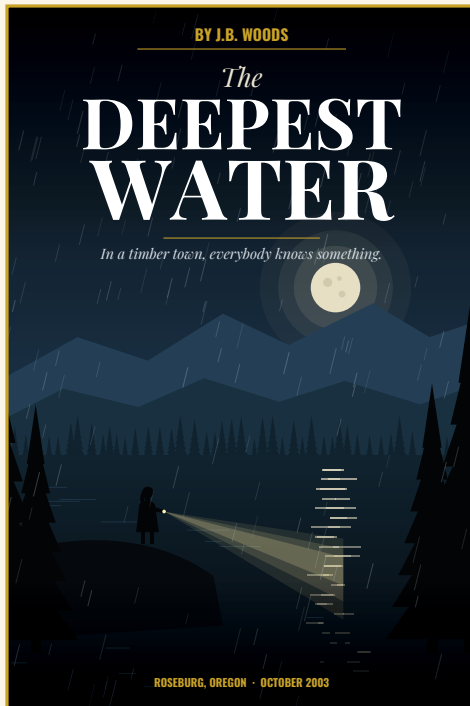
Normally the air gets colder as you climb. On clear, calm nights the ground cools fast, and the heavy cold air drains into the valleys, so it’s warmer on the hillsides than at the bottom — an inversion.

This morning: it’s why many valleys woke up in the teens and low 20s while the mountains sat in the upper 20s to near 30°.

THIS DAY IN WEATHER

Oct. 28, 1991: the Gloucester swordfish boat Andrea Gail made its last radio contact as the storm later called the Perfect Storm took shape; it was lost with all six aboard.

THE DEEPEST WATER

New reader? Tap here to read from Chapter 1 >

CHAPTER 26

65 Alder Brook Road

Roseburg · October 2003

Previously: The print at Gordon Pryce's death site matched the one in Tess's yard, Sheriff Coyle had let the hotel re-rent Room 118, and the desk clerk turned out to be Owen Marsh's cousin.

"Well, I'm sure I fixed it."

THE RADIO CRACKLED as Mason reached the edge of town.

"Agent Mason, it's Walters. Monica in our office just got me Hollis Tate's home address. Sixty-five Alder Brook Road. Did Karen Marsh ever call you back?"

"No," Mason said, with a glance at the silent phone on the seat. "Meet me over there. We'll see if Mr. Tate is cooperative."

"I'll be there in about ten minutes."

* * *

Alder Brook Road wound through a hollow east of town — small houses, woodpiles under blue tarps, a dog barking somewhere out of sight. Number 65 sat behind a sagging split-rail fence, its porch light already on against the dusk.

They pulled in at nearly the same moment. A pickup was backing down the gravel driveway — a blue pickup, like a hundred others in Douglas County.

Mason keyed her radio. "Do they all shop at the same car dealership around here?"

Walters swung the cruiser in behind the truck before it reached the road and hit his lights. The pickup stopped.

They stepped out together. "Excuse me," Mason called. "Are you Hollis Tate?"

A man climbed down: sixties, canvas jacket worn thin at the elbows, the thick hands of someone who fixed things for a living. "Yes," he said. "I am."

"Good evening, sir. I'm Agent Mason with the FBI, and this is Deputy Walters. Do you mind if we ask you a few questions?"

"Not at all."

"We're investigating the situation at the Holiday Inn and the kidnapping of Tess Halloran. I'm sure you're aware of it."

"Yes, ma'am. The whole state's aware of it. Matter of fact, my brother in North Carolina says he saw it on one of the national news stations. Can't recall which one."

"I hear you've worked at the Holiday Inn fifteen years or more. Is that accurate?"

"Coming up on sixteen pretty soon."

"Any idea why Gordon Pryce would have come to the Holiday Inn that night?"

"No, I would not."

"Did you know Gordon? Good friends, or just a name you knew?"

"Bumped into him now and then through the years. Knew him as the owner of Pryce Lumber." Hollis shrugged. "But we weren't friends."

"Ever see him stay at the hotel?"

"Not that I can remember. I believe I've seen him walking the grounds. Some days fishing down on the riverbank in back. But I never saw him walking the inside halls."

Mason let a moment pass. "What can you tell me about Room 118? The back deck door?"

"What do you mean?"

"It looked locked," Walters said. "Looked bolted. But give it a little tug and it opened right up."

"Oh. Yes. Marisol Reyes, our housekeeping supervisor, told me about that during the renovations. So I fixed it."

"Well, it wasn't fixed," Mason said. "How do you think Gordon Pryce walked into 118?"

Hollis looked at the gravel. "Well," he said, "I'm sure I fixed it."

Nobody spoke. Somewhere the dog barked again.

Then, out of nowhere, Hollis said, "I've seen Harlan Voss and Josh Foster walking the halls in the past. Along the riverbank, too. Sometimes fishing with Gordon."

Mason tilted her head. "Why do you mention their names, Mr. Tate?"

"Because I've heard they're missing, too." He put his hands in his jacket pockets. "That's all."

"Thank you for talking with us, sir," Walters said. "If we have more questions, we'll call. Have a good night." He backed the cruiser out, and Mason followed him to the road.

* * *

Half a mile down Alder Brook, Walters keyed the radio. "Now that was strange. Bringing up those three men. Nobody asked him about them."

"Yeah. Something's not quite right there," Mason said. "And Josh Foster? Your sheriff never said that name at the press conference — not missing, not a suspect, nothing." She tapped the wheel. "So how does a hotel maintenance man know to put Josh on the same list as Gordon and Harlan?"

"And a man who's fixed things for sixteen years doesn't say 'I'm *sure* I fixed it,'" Walters said. "He says 'I fixed it.'"

"So you caught that too." Mason was quiet a moment. "Tomorrow we meet my boss and take a ride up to where they found Gordon."

"Then back to the Holiday Inn to go through 118," Walters said. "I'll call tonight and find out when this guest checks out. The minute he's gone, that room gets shut down again. And I want to know who's stayed in it — and whether anybody asked for 118 by number."

"Your sheriff opened that room awfully fast," Mason said. "While Tess was still missing."

"Yes, he did."

"Sounds like a plan, Deputy. See you in the morning."

* * *

Walters made it to the stop sign at the bottom of Alder Brook. Then, on a hunch, he turned around, killed his headlights and rolled back up the hollow.

The blue pickup hadn't gone anywhere. It sat at the end of the driveway, engine off, lights dark. Wherever Hollis Tate had been heading, he'd changed his mind.

And in the front window of the little house, the kitchen light had come on. A man stood there with a telephone pressed to his ear.

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 1–26

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: "No, Tess. Mayonnaise!" Channel 9 breaks the news: Commissioner Harlan Voss is missing. That night an envelope waits on Tess's desk: "Ask them about August 1987."

CHAPTER 11
Behind the Hedge
Tiffany Voss lets Tess in. 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, who swears he was 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
Josh calls Darla at the Idle Hour: "Pryce and Harlan are alive. At least they were —" A gunshot, and the line goes dead.

CHAPTER 18
The Phone Didn't Ring
Coyle detains Darla; Mason says Josh is now a suspect. Darla says Coyle knows more 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
A third 1987 county knife hits Tess's door: STOP DIGGING OR YOU'LL GO FOR A SWIM TOO.

CHAPTER 21
Rubber Gloves and White Wine
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
The riverbank and yard prints don't match; Coyle leaves town. At Gordon's death site, the yard print turns up again. Coyle let 118 be re-rented; clerk Karen Marsh is Owen's cousin.

CHAPTER 26
65 Alder Brook Road
Hollis Tate tells Mason and Walters he fixed 118's deck door and calls Josh "missing." Walters doubles back: Hollis is on the phone.

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, nearly 16 years; 65 Alder Brook Road.

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

White River Junction, Vermont · 1980

Jan Zepka: The Man by the On-Ramp

In June 1980, police found the body of a young man in a wooded area beside the southbound on-ramp to Interstate 91 in White River Junction.

An autopsy found he had been murdered.

Investigators later identified him as Jan Albert Zepka, 25, who had come to Vermont from Connecticut. Police say he had been in touch with his family on June 11, 1980 — the date the state lists for the case.

White River Junction, a village in the town of Hartford, is where Interstates 89 and 91 meet beside the Connecticut River — a crossroads for travelers. Hartford Police and the Vermont State

Police Major Crime Unit took the case.

Police have never said publicly how Zepka died, why he came to Vermont or how he reached the spot where he was found.

Forty-six years later, no one has been charged. State police renewed their appeal on the case’s anniversary in 2019, and it remains on their list of unsolved homicides. Someone who saw a young man near the interstate that June may hold the missing piece.

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit, text VTIPS to 274637, or call 802-244-8727 (case 582-166).

CASE FACTS

NAME
Jan Albert Zepka
AGE
25
FROM
Connecticut
DATE
June 11, 1980
WHERE
I-91 on-ramp, White River Jct.
STATUS
Open, unsolved
CASE NO.
582-166 / 11D302458

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

VERMONT POLICE BLOTTER

PAWLET — Douglas Perkins, 69, died Oct. 21 at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center from injuries in an Oct. 9 head-on crash; he first reported only minor injuries. State police are still investigating. (WCAX)

WILLISTON — Seven clergy members pleaded not guilty to unlawful trespass, charged by the attorney general’s office after police say they blocked a door Sept. 4 at a business park partly leased to Homeland Security. (WCAX)

BURLINGTON — The City Council postponed a vote on a public-safety resolution, WCAX reported.

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit

COURT WATCH

Charleston, Vt. — Katelyn Deslandes, who admitted causing the 2022 Route 105 crash that killed Logan Cota and Taylor Warren, both 18, pleaded guilty to her fifth and sixth parole violations, both involving banned substances. Sentencing comes later. (WCAX)

Washington — A federal judge ruled that former federal prosecutor Maurene Comey was unlawfully fired. (Just Security)

Burlington — The City Council votes Nov. 9 on Anthony Geraci, the mayor’s pick for police chief (see Page 3).

CASE CLOSED · HOW IT WAS CRACKED

The Lindbergh Kidnapping

On March 1, 1932, about 9 p.m., 20-month-old Charles Lindbergh Jr. was taken from his nursery near Hopewell, N.J., from a homemade ladder. A \$50,000 ransom was paid April 2 to a man called “John”; the child was later found dead. The ransom was paid largely in gold certificates whose serial numbers were circulated. On Sept. 15, 1934, a New York gas station attendant jotted down the license plate of a man paying with one. It led to Bruno Richard Hauptmann, arrested Sept. 19 with more than \$13,000 of ransom money in his garage. Wood expert Arthur Koehler matched a ladder rail to his attic floor. He was convicted in Flemington, N.J., in February 1935 and executed in 1936.

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.	
Grim Sleeper	Los Angeles	1985	2010	A familial DNA hit on his son led police to Lonnie Franklin Jr.	
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.	
Christy Mirack	Lancaster, Pa.	1992	2018	Genealogy led to DJ Raymond Rowe; his discarded gum confirmed it.	
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.	
Michella Welch	Tacoma, Wash.	1986	2018	Genealogy and a discarded napkin led to Gary Hartman.	

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

SCAM ALERT

The Fake FTC Phone Call

A caller says he’s with the Federal Trade Commission, maybe reads off a “badge number,” and claims your phone number was tied to a scam overseas. Refuse, and he threatens to cut off your number and hands you to a fake police officer who wants your personal details — and tells you to keep it secret.

Next comes the claim that you’re under arrest, plus a demand for a “security deposit.” **The FTC says** its staff never ask for money, threaten to disconnect your phone, demand secrecy or text a photo ID.

Report it: hang up and file at ReportFraud.ftc.gov.

CRIME TRIVIA

Test Your Detective Skills

After the Lindbergh case, Congress made kidnapping across state lines a federal crime. What is that 1932 law commonly called?

Answer: the Lindbergh Law (Federal Kidnapping Act).

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×
Ground beef	pound	\$6.79	\$6.32	\$4.50	\$1.38	—	—
Cookies, chocolate chip	pound	\$5.15	\$5.15	\$3.98	\$2.46	\$1.62	3.2×
Ice cream	½ gallon	\$5.93	\$6.40	\$4.90	\$2.68	\$1.82	3.2×
Soft drinks	2 liters	\$2.27	\$2.23	\$1.78	—	—	—
Beer, all types	16 oz.	\$1.88	\$1.83	\$1.55	80¢	—	—

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. Beer and soft drinks average all brands and sizes. — = no figure for that year.

AT THE STORE THIS WEEK · USDA GROCERY-AD PRICES

	SIZE	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	VS. LAST WK	VS. YEAR AGO
Envy apples	pound	\$1.35	\$2.99	\$1.74	-55%	-22%
D’Anjou pears	pound	\$1.78	\$1.56	\$1.26	+14%	+41%
Yellow potatoes	24 oz bag	\$2.73	\$4.12	\$3.19	-34%	-14%
Celery	each	\$2.00	\$1.41	\$1.85	+42%	+8%
Avocados	each	\$0.99	\$0.79	\$1.03	+25%	-4%
Yellow onions	3 lb bag	\$3.12	\$3.15	\$3.18	-1%	-2%

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

PRICE OF THE DAY

The Cookie Jar Holds Steady

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

A pound of chocolate chip cookies averaged \$5.15 in September — the same as a year earlier, Bureau of Labor Statistics data show. Five years ago it was \$3.98, so cookies are up about 29% since 2021.

In 1980, a pound cost \$1.62. Ice cream, by contrast, keeps getting cheaper: \$5.93 a half-gallon, still 7% below last year.

Sloppy Joe math: ground beef averaged \$6.79 a pound, up 7% in a year. The 1½ pounds in today’s recipe on Page 5 run about \$10.19, up about 71 cents from a year ago.

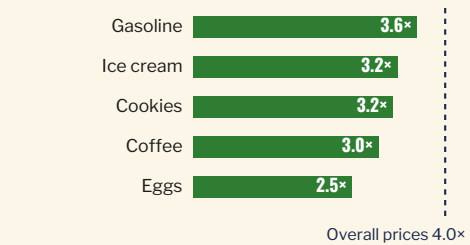
At the store this week: grocery ads cut Envy apples to \$1.35 a pound, from \$2.99 the week before, and 24-ounce bags of yellow potatoes to \$2.73, from \$4.12, the USDA says. Celery went the other way, up to \$2.00 a bunch.

Onions: a 3-pound bag of yellow onions is \$3.12, about where it was a year ago — and the Sloppy Joes need one.

Drinks: a 2-liter of soda averages \$2.27 and a 16-ounce beer \$1.88 — both up about 2% from a year ago.

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

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

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

WORD SEARCH · WORLD SERIES

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

FIND THESE 12 WORDS

- BATTER
BULLPEN
CATCHER
DUGOUT
HOMER
INNING
OUTFIELD
PENNANT
PITCHER
SHORTSTOP
STRIKE
WALKOFF
- Words run across, down, diagonally — and some backward.

THE COURIER QUIZ

Five Questions, No Peeking

1. In what harbor were the first shots of the Civil War fired in 1861?
2. How many innings make up a regulation major-league game?
3. Which planet is named for the Roman god of war?
4. What is the capital of South Carolina?
5. What instrument measures air pressure?

NAME THAT YEAR

Three Clues, One Year

- “Star Wars” opens in theaters.
- Elvis Presley dies at Graceland.
- The Apple II goes on sale.

YESTERDAY’S SUDOKU SOLUTION

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

Solutions run the next day.

THE JUKEBOX

Music history, a record to spin and shows near home

OCTOBER 28 IN MUSIC

This Day in Music

- 1956 — Elvis Presley makes his second “Ed Sullivan Show” appearance.
- 1958 — Buddy Holly’s last major TV spot, on “American Bandstand.”
- 1963 — The Beach Boys release “Be True to Your School.”
- 1977 — Steve Perry plays his first show with Journey.
- 1978 — Nick Gilder’s “Hot Child in the City” hits No. 1.
- 2014 — The Allman Brothers Band plays its final show, at New York’s Beacon Theatre.
- Born today: *Shadows* guitarist Hank Marvin (1941), *Dawn* singer Telma Hopkins (1948) and country star Brad Paisley (1972). *Jerry Lee Lewis* died on this date in 2022.



SPIN THIS

News of the World

Queen · 1977

Queen released *News of the World* 49 years ago today, and two of its songs have been ballpark anthems ever since.

“We Will Rock You” — the stomp-stomp-clap — and “We Are the Champions” are on every stadium playlist. Only one team gets to play the second one this week.

The album climbed to No. 3 on the U.S. chart, and Brian May wrote “We Will Rock You” so crowds could join in, clapping along.

Best with: Game 5 tonight, volume up.

LIVE IN VERMONT

Shows Near Home

- 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

Brad Paisley, born on this date in 1972, hails from which state, whose university plays at Milan Puskar Stadium?

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 **Montgomery:** Patricia June installed the city's first "wind phone" — a disconnected phone where the grieving can talk to loved ones — on East Fourth Street, in memory of her daughter Erica, killed in 2022. (WSFA)

ALASKA **Anchorage:** Alaska Airlines is adding four seasonal nonstops: daily to Tokyo's Narita airport from May 13 on a 737 MAX 8, and to Austin, Dallas and Nashville from June 12. (Alaska's News Source)

ARIZONA **Phoenix:** El Niño and an active eastern Pacific hurricane season are behind Arizona's wet months. The Pacific's storm-energy index hit 242 this year, versus 21 in 2021. (AZFamily)

ARKANSAS **Jonesboro:** The city released a draft 20-year growth plan and master street plan, calling for neighborhood hubs, more biking and walking routes, and green space. (KAIT)

CALIFORNIA **San Luis Obispo:** Boo Boo Records is selling extra tickets to Pinhead Gunpowder's Nov. 8 show at the Fremont Theatre, with Green Day's Billie Joe Armstrong. The first batch sold out in 10 minutes; limit four. (KSBY)

COLORADO **Manitou Springs:** At the 32nd Emma Crawford Coffin Races, the Border Burger Bar team pushed its coffin to victory in 25.6 seconds, beating a UCCS engineering club's 26.3. (KKTU)

CONNECTICUT **New Haven:** The holiday Fantasy of Lights drive-through won't go on this year because of storm damage, a disappointment for families who make it a tradition. (WFSB)

DELAWARE **Bethany Beach:** The town council unanimously raised the yearly ambulance fee from \$60 to \$66 next year, rising to \$70 by 2029, as the fire company's costs climb from \$61,000 to \$81,000. (Delaware Public Media)

FLORIDA **Gainesville area:** More than 400 judo athletes from over 40 countries compete starting today at the Alachua County Sports & Events Center at Celebration Pointe, an official qualifier for the 2028 Olympics. (WCJB)

GEORGIA **Savannah:** The Savannah Leprechauns, the Indoor Football League's newest team, held their first open tryout, drawing 72 athletes from South Carolina, North Carolina, Alabama and Florida. (WTOG)

HAWAII **Waikiki:** Former NFL player turned opera singer Ta'u Pupu'a stars as himself in the short film "The Platform," which had its Hawaii premiere at the Hawaii International Film Festival. (Hawaii News Now)

IDAHO **Twin Falls:** A new 10-year trash contract saves and expands curbside recycling for \$5.79 a month starting Jan. 1, adding mixed paper, newspaper and No. 1 and 2 plastics. Residents backed it 85% in a survey. (KMVT)

ILLINOIS **Statewide:** Illinois Pork Producers' "Pork Power" drive delivered more than 101,000 pounds of pork to eight food banks, matched by Feeding Illinois, with farmers adding 7,000 more pounds. (WAND)

INDIANA **South Bend:** A drawing by John Adams High School student Mateo Pacheco-Aguilar is now a 5-foot mural at the McDonald's on Miami Street. (WNDU)

IOWA **North Liberty:** The Penn Street ramp to southbound I-380 at Exit 4 reopened after closing July 28 — the last long-term closure of the interchange project. (KCRG)

KANSAS **Topeka:** The Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library hosts a Local Author Fair Thursday, 4 to 7 p.m., with more than 20 area writers. (WIBW)

KENTUCKY **Lexington:** Horse-farm tourism has doubled since 2022. With the Breeders' Cup this week, big farms expect a couple of thousand visitors, versus about 200 on a usual week; Visit Horse Country works with 29 farms. (WKYT)

LOUISIANA **Baton Rouge:** Baton Rouge Community College set a fall enrollment record of more than 12,000 students, up 10%, with first-time students up 31% to 3,565. (WAFB)

MAINE **Bangor:** The Bangor Historical Society's Ghostly Bangor walking tours run Friday, 7 to 8:30 p.m., from 159 Union St., with stops at the Thomas A. Hill House and Penobscot Theatre. (WABI)

MARYLAND **Sparrows Point:** Defense firm Anduril plans a \$3.7 billion shipyard with 3,100 direct jobs, building parts for Virginia-class submarines, with operations starting in 2030. (WMAR)

MASSACHUSETTS **Foxborough:** Navy and Notre Dame meet at Gillette Stadium for the first time Saturday at noon, with a fan fest at 8 a.m. and the Brigade of Midshipmen marching in around 11:40. (Boston 25)

MICHIGAN **Lansing:** Friends of Lansing Historic Cemeteries led self-guided tours of Mount Hope Cemetery for National Visit a Cemetery Day, held the last Sunday of October. (WILX)

MINNESOTA **Rochester:** Rochester Public Transit offers free rides to the polls on Election Day, Nov. 3 — just tell the driver — from an hour before polls open until an hour after they close. (KTTC)

MISSISSIPPI **Jackson:** Thousands of young exhibitors are expected at the Mississippi Farm Bureau livestock show, Nov. 20–22 at the State Fairgrounds. Pork alone is nearly a \$50 million industry in the state. (WLBT)

MISSOURI **Springfield:** The Kitchen Inc. opened a new family emergency shelter with 12 apartment-style units, kitchens, laundry, a computer lab and a playground. Families move in early November. (KY3)

MONTANA **Billings:** The historic Babcock Theatre has reopened after a May 2025 ceiling collapse. Art House Billings bought it from the city for \$1; reopening cost about \$1.2 million, the full project \$5 million. (KTVQ)

NEBRASKA **Omaha:** UNO will retire the jersey of Omaha native Jake Guentzel, a 2026 Olympic gold medalist who played for the Mavericks from 2013 to 2016, on Nov. 6 against St. Cloud. (WOWT)

NEVADA **Reno:** Cosmic Baseball, played under blacklights, returns to Greater Nevada Field Oct. 1–2, 2027, with tickets by lottery. This year its 74 sellout games drew more than 750,000 fans. (KOLO)

NEW HAMPSHIRE **Great Bay:** Little Bay Beauties runs the estuary's only floating oyster farm. Its gear raised sales to about 500,000 oysters a year, five times earlier levels, and it wants to add 4.5 acres. (NHPR)

NEW JERSEY **Hoboken:** The Ragamuffin Halloween costume parade steps off Saturday at 2 p.m. on Washington Street between 10th and 11th streets and marches south to Fifth Street. (Patch)

NEW MEXICO **Albuquerque:** The city closed the Joan Jones Community Center haunted house for the season after vandals cracked a window Friday while families were touring — the second attack in a week. (KOB)

NEW YORK **Utica:** Free tours of Old Main — opened in 1843 as the state's first public mental hospital, closed in 1978 — run through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the first since 2018. Register by email. (WKTV)

NORTH CAROLINA **Wilmington:** A year into its Vision Zero plan, the city has studied 85 locations and 14 intersections and given walkers a 3- to 7-second head start at crossings. Goal: no traffic deaths by 2036. (WECT)

NORTH DAKOTA **Bismarck:** The state's new Office of Guardianship and Conservatorship, opened April 1, has received more than 80 referrals; its six-person team oversees guardians who manage others' affairs. (KFYR)

OHIO **Columbus:** The state auditor's office took its website and online accounts offline after a weekend cyberattack from overseas. It says it's not ransomware and no Ohioans' financial data appears at risk. (WOSU)

OKLAHOMA **Tulsa:** Tulsa Animal Services is getting ready to move to a new shelter on East 36th Street North — 8,000 square feet bigger, with meet-and-greet rooms, calmer kennels and generator power. (News On 6)

OREGON **Otis:** The Salmon River Hatchery closed last year, but the fall Chinook keep coming back, so state crews return each October through 2030. They've counted 1,043 salmon this season. (OPB)

PENNSYLVANIA **Statewide:** Gov. Josh Shapiro signed a law banning PFAS "forever chemicals" in firefighting foam: no sales from July 2027 and no use from January 2028, with exceptions for airports and refineries. (WPSU)

RHODE ISLAND **Statewide:** Voters decide Question 2 on Tuesday: \$120 million in bonds to build and redevelop affordable housing, with projects starting in 2028. (NBC 10)

SOUTH CAROLINA **Columbia:** Volunteers and Lowe's workers renovated apartments at Growing Hope's transitional living program for young adults who grew up in foster care. (WIS)

SOUTH DAKOTA **Sioux Falls:** The Levitt at the Falls, known for free outdoor summer concerts, is launching an indoor downtown series, "Levitt Upclose." (Dakota News Now)

TENNESSEE **Nashville:** When clocks fall back Sunday, sunset jumps from about 5:52 p.m. on Halloween to 4:51. The earliest sunset of the year comes Dec. 2, at 4:32. (WSMV)

TEXAS **Statewide:** Nearly 4.5 million Texans voted in the first week of early voting — 23.4% of registered voters, ahead of 2022's pace. Early voting ends Friday. (Texas Tribune)

UTAH **Lake Powell:** The reservoir rose more than 10 feet this month, nearly 9 in one week, after heavy storms and releases from Flaming Gorge. It's at 3,532 feet, 23% full. (KSL)

VERMONT **Winooski:** Yèn Vietnamese Café & Kitchen is set to open soon in Winooski, Seven Days reports. (Seven Days)

VIRGINIA **Charlottesville:** Plans advance for the 24-mile Three Notched Trail from Charlottesville through Crozet toward Afton Mountain. A \$2 million federal grant paid for planning; construction may be five years off. (WDBJ)

WASHINGTON **Cascades:** A winter weather advisory brings up to a foot of snow above 4,500 feet near Mount Rainier and a few inches at Snoqualmie Pass as snow levels drop. (KIRO)

WEST VIRGINIA **Tucker County:** Laurel Fork Farm, a 400-acre operation, was named one of America's top 100 small businesses by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, as a "Champion of Adaptability." (WVPB)

WISCONSIN **Milwaukee:** The Milwaukee Art Museum bet a Monet on the World Series: if the Rays win, its "Waterloo Bridge" goes to St. Petersburg; if the Brewers win, a Monet of Parliament comes to Milwaukee. (WPR)

WYOMING **Yellowstone:** The park's West, South and East entrances close to cars Sunday, Nov. 1. The road from Gardiner to Cooke City through Lamar Valley stays open all year; snowcoach season starts Dec. 15. (Wyoming Public Media)