ESSEX JCT. TODAY
48°
Low 40° · Showers, mainly late
Sunday: cloudy, 49°

The Morning Courier

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

UVM FIELD HOCKEY
CHAMPIONS
America East title
Won in a shootout · Page 3

VOL. I · NO. 45 · FREE TO JB · SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026 · ESSEX JUNCTION, VERMONT · SUNRISE 6:38 A.M. · SUNSET 4:33 P.M.

DOW 51,286 ▼ -0.46% · S&P 500 7,377 ▲ +0.31% · NASDAQ 24,579 ▲ +1.09% · NVDA $186.64 ▲ +2.78% · PLTR $160.38 ▲ +3.48% · MSFT $530.61 ▼ -0.99% · 10-YR 4.86%

THE ECONOMY · OCTOBER JOBS

Hiring Jumps: 165,000 Jobs

Employers added far more workers than any forecaster expected, unemployment dipped to 4.1% and pay rose 3.1% — likely keeping a December rate hike on the table

THE JOBS REPORT BY THE NUMBERS

+165K	Jobs added in October
4.1%	Unemployment rate
+84K	Upward revisions, Aug.–Sept.
+3.1%	Hourly pay, past year

BY THE COURIER MARKETS DESK · SOURCES: BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, AP, BLOOMBERG, CNBC

U.S. employers added 165,000 jobs in October, the Labor Department said Friday — more than double the roughly 60,000 economists expected, and above every forecast in Bloomberg's survey. The unemployment rate slipped to 4.1% from 4.2%.

Earlier months were revised up by 84,000: September to 60,000 and August to 186,000. Professional and business services added 70,000 jobs, health care about 42,000 and manufacturing 19,000; leisure and hospitality lost 13,000 and construction 3,000.

Average hourly pay rose 0.4% to $38.00, up 3.1% from a year ago. San Francisco Fed President Mary Daly said, "My expectation is we're going to have to tighten policy further," and traders raised the odds of a Dec. 9 rate hike.

Consumers perked up too: the University of Michigan's sentiment index rose to 51.0, its best since August. Stocks were mixed Friday, but the S&P 500 lost 2.7% for the week, its worst week since April 2025. October inflation figures come Tuesday. Page 2.

ESSEX JUNCTION FORECAST

48°
Low tonight: 40°

Cloudy and raw; showers likely by late day and tonight.

CHANCE OF RAIN TODAY 45%
Steadiest rain tonight into early Sunday

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUN	MON	TUE	WED
49°	49°	49°	49°
15%	30%	30%	15%

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

FORECASTER'S NOTE

Burlington reached 67° Friday; we called 64°, so Beat the Forecaster is 3–3. Highs stay near 49° into midweek. Sunset 4:33 p.m.

NBA · FRIDAY NIGHT

Tatum's 34 Bury Charlotte

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCES: AP, ESPN

Boston 119, Charlotte 80. Jayson Tatum scored 34 with 9 assists, and the Celtics (7–2) hit 24 threes and led 40–20 after one quarter.

Next: at Milwaukee Sunday at 8.

Derrick White added 18; Boston led by 46. **Standings, Page 6.**

ON THIS DATE 1916
Jeannette Rankin of Montana became the first woman elected to Congress — four years before the 19th Amendment.

INSIDE TODAY · IN BRIEF

MARKETS	Mixed close, rough week.	2
VERMONT	UVM field hockey champs.	3
SPORTS	Every standing.	6
WEATHER	3–3 vs. the forecaster.	7
SERIAL	Chapter 33 is coming.	8
CRIME	A Vermont cold case.	12

WEATHER AROUND THE MAP

Saturday forecasts · forecast data · "Now" = overnight

MIDDLEBURY, VT	NOW 49°	HI 49°	LO 40°	RAIN 45%	
MT. WASHINGTON, NH	NOW 43°	HI 44°	LO 29°	RAIN 35%	summit
SNOWSHOE, WV	NOW 33°	HI 35°	LO 32°	RAIN 20%	
ROSEBURG, OR	NOW 46°	HI 68°	LO 42°	RAIN 10%	
E. DENNIS, MA · CAPE	NOW 60°	HI 61°	LO 48°	RAIN 78%	
CHARLOTTE, NC	NOW 51°	HI 67°	LO 41°	RAIN 0%	
WILMINGTON, NC	NOW 56°	HI 71°	LO 45°	RAIN 10%	
ST. PETERSBURG, FL	NOW 74°	HI 80°	LO 67°	RAIN 0%	
FULTON, MO	NOW 32°	HI 52°	LO 32°	RAIN 10%	
HOT SPOT · McALLEN, TX	NOW 69°	HI 80°	LO 69°	RAIN 65%	



THE DEEPEST WATER · A COURIER SERIAL
Chapter 33 is coming. Catch up on Chapters 1–32 in the Reader's Guide.

INSIDE TODAY

2 Markets · World
3 Vermont · Sports
4 Bourbon · 5 Funnies · 6 Standings
8 Serial · 12 Crime · 13 Snow · 14 Games

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MARKETS & MONEY

Friday's closes · the hot jobs report · Saturday, November 7

THE BIG BOARD — FRIDAY, NOV. 6

INDEX / STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	PCT
Dow Jones Industrials	51,285.73	−237.33	−0.46%
S&P 500	7,376.86	+23.13	+0.31%
Nasdaq Composite	24,579.42	+264.43	+1.09%
Russell 2000	2,754.11	+24.22	+0.89%
JB'S WATCHLIST			
Nvidia (NVDA)	186.64	+5.04	+2.78%
Palantir (PLTR)	160.38	+5.39	+3.48%
Microsoft (MSFT)	530.61	−5.32	−0.99%
BIG NAMES			
AMD (AMD)	449.05	+44.65	+11.04%

Closes via AP, CappNotes and The Wall Street Republic. Bars scaled to percent change.

RATES · ENERGY · METALS

10-yr Treasury +2 bp	4.86%
2-yr Treasury +5 bp	4.51%
Gold −0.8%	~$4,081
Silver −0.5%	~$51.6
WTI crude −0.2%	~$90.37
Brent crude −0.5%	~$97.79
Bitcoin flat	~$75,940
VIX −9.0%	25.64
Sentiment vs. 48 est.	51.0

NEXT WEEK **TUE.** October consumer prices (CPI) **WED.** Veterans Day: bond market closed **FRI.** Producer prices; Cisco reports Thu.

The week: Dow −0.9%, S&P −2.7%, Nasdaq −3.4%, Russell −2.1% · Fed hike odds for Dec. 9 rose after the jobs report

Weekly changes via AP

THE WEEK ON WALL STREET

A Bounce, Then Rate Worries

BY THE COURIER MARKETS DESK · SOURCES: AP, CAPPNOTES, BLOOMBERG, TAPEBOARD

Tech stocks clawed back part of Thursday's rout: the Nasdaq rose 1.1%, Nvidia 2.8% and Palantir 3.5%, ending an eight-day losing streak. But the hot jobs report pushed yields up, and the Dow slipped 237 points.

Microsoft fell 1% after Bloomberg reported it is winding down a deal to rent AI computing from Oracle. Consumer sentiment rose to 51.0, the best since August.

For the week, the S&P; lost 2.7% and the Nasdaq 3.4%. Next up: October inflation (CPI) Tuesday.

STOCKS TO WATCH TODAY

On the Radar

Nvidia (NVDA) — Up 2.8% to $186.64, a partial bounce after Thursday's 9% drop.

Palantir (PLTR) — Up 3.5% to $160.38, ending an eight-session losing streak.

Microsoft (MSFT) — Down 1% to $530.61 on the Oracle cloud report.

Airbnb — Up 11.7% on its beat and a $12 billion buyback.

DraftKings — Down 21% after cutting its forecast.

Humana — Up about 5%; it narrowed its loss and raised its outlook.

Charter — Down about 5% after losing 233,000 internet customers.

BIG MOVERS

ABNB	Airbnb	+11.67%
AMD	AMD	+11.04%
NET	Cloudflare	+9.91%
MRNA	Moderna	+5.27%
TEAM	Atlassian	−16.15%
AXON	Axon	−18.18%
DKNG	DraftKings	−21.30%

Best of these: Airbnb +11.7% Worst: DraftKings −21%

YEAR TO DATE

Russell 2000	+11.0%
S&P 500	+7.8%
Dow	+6.7%
Nasdaq	+5.8%

Through Friday, via AP. Week: S&P −2.7%, its worst since April 2025.

THE LUMBER DESK

Builders Still Shed Jobs

FOR THE JB WOODS DESK

Construction lost 3,000 jobs in October even as hiring jumped elsewhere. The 10-year yield edged up to 4.86%, keeping mortgage rates high, while crude held near $90.

HOUSING STARTS · SEPT.

1.22M

−5.2% from Aug.
−7.4% from a year ago

Permits 1.40M
Single-family 859K

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

NATION & WORLD

Washington, the courts & beyond

THE MIDTERMS · DAY FOUR

Colom's Lead Grows to 2,574

BY THE COURIER NATION DESK · SOURCES: AP, WTVA, WABI, KCTV5, BLOOMBERG

Democrat Scott Colom led Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith by 2,574 votes Friday evening, 49.1% to 48.8% with about 97% counted, per AP figures. The race is not called. Mississippi officials estimate 12,000 to 20,000 affidavit ballots remain; ID and mail deadlines are Tuesday, and certification is due Nov. 13.

Alaska is unchanged: Mary Peltola leads Sen. Dan Sullivan by fewer than 700 votes, with no new count until Tuesday. In Kansas, Democrat Cindy Holscher's lead for governor grew to just over 7,000; AP has not called it.

Rep. Thomas Massie (R-Ky.) told Bloomberg he will file impeachment articles against Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth when the House returns; President Trump says Hegseth has done a "fantastic job." House Republicans pick a leader Tuesday: Steve Scalise or Jim Jordan.

Across Lake Champlain, AP called New York's 21st District for Republican Anthony Constantino, who will succeed Rep. Elise Stefanik. (WCAX)

Also: U.S. measles cases passed 5,000 this year, the most since 1991, the CDC reported. (Al Jazeera)

ELSEWHERE

Paraguay. The Senate removed President Santiago Peña, 44–0 with one abstention, over a digital bank's collapse; he is under house arrest, and Pedro Alliana was sworn in. (Al Jazeera)

Iran. President Trump confirmed "minor strikes" on air defenses on Qeshm Island, the first since Election Day; Iran said it downed a U.S. drone. (AP)

Ukraine. Russian ballistic missiles hit Kyiv early Saturday, injuring two, days before U.S.-led talks open in Abu Dhabi Tuesday. (Al Jazeera)

Israel. President Isaac Herzog will name a candidate to form a government Sunday; Gadi Eisenkot drew 67 endorsements to Benjamin Netanyahu's 46. (Al Jazeera)

VERMONT

Around the Green Mountain State

ESSEX JUNCTION · STATEWIDE

Warehouse Strike Thins Grocery Shelves

BY THE COURIER VERMONT DESK · SOURCE: VTDIGGER

About 255 Teamsters walked off the job Monday at the Pembroke, N.H., warehouse of grocery distributor Associated Grocers of New England, and some Vermont stores are feeling it: reduced stock and late deliveries, said Matt Cota of the Vermont Retail and Grocers Association.

The company runs nine Vermont stores — in Essex Junction, Jericho, Londonderry, Newport, Richmond, Shelburne, Stowe, Waterbury and Woodstock — and supplies many independent markets. Members of Teamsters Local 633 voted 98% to strike.

The main dispute is a proposed switch from the workers' pension plan to a 401(k) with no company match; health insurance and wages are also at issue. Talks began in June. The union says the company "refused to come into the room and negotiate."

The strike has no announced end; shoppers may see thinner shelves on some items until it does.

Also: Porter Medical Center nurses ratified a three-year deal. (VTDigger)

ORLEANS · BEECHER FALLS

Investor Ousts Ethan Allen's Board

Shareholders voted off three of five directors, including longtime chief Farooq Kathwari, in a campaign by investor Doug Bergeron. The company, founded in Vermont in 1932, employs over 300 at plants in Orleans and Beecher Falls. "There will be nothing but growth here," Bergeron said. (VTDigger)

BURLINGTON

Traverse Runs for Mayor

City Council President Ben Traverse, a Democrat from Ward 5, announced Friday in Battery Park that he is running for mayor in March. He and Progressive Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak have clashed over public safety. (WCAX)

AROUND THE STATE

ESSEX JCT. — Grower's license back? A judge ruled Jason Struthers' backyard cannabis grow may continue; the City Council reviews his license Nov. 12. (VTDigger)

WILLISTON — Third time's the charm. Voters approved the library expansion; groundbreaking is expected in 2028. (Williston Observer)

GORHAM, N.H. — Wild River Fire. Remapped at 856 acres and 20% contained; some trails closed, no homes threatened. (U.S. Forest Service, WCAX)

FOLIAGE REPORT

Gray, damp and seasonable

Friday: Burlington hit 67°; we called 64°.
Record: Beat the Forecaster is 3–3.
Today: cloudy, showers late, 48°.
Tonight: steadiest rain; summit snow possible.
Sunset: 4:33 p.m.
The week: highs near 49° through Wednesday.
Mt. Washington: 65% chance of snow Sunday.
Snow so far: none; normal by now is 0.8 inch.

THE WEEK IN VERMONT

Today Cloudy, showers late, 48°.
Tonight Rain, 40°.
Sun. Cloudy, 49°.
Mon. Chance of showers, 49°.
Tue. Chance of showers, 49°.

Forecast data for Essex Junction; check before you go.

VERMONT BY THE NUMBERS

255	Striking warehouse workers
9	Vermont stores it runs
300+	Ethan Allen jobs in Vt.
856	Acres, Wild River Fire
67°	Burlington, Friday

SPORTS

Celtics rout Charlotte · UVM field hockey wins the title · Catamounts take a shootout at BC

NBA · BOSTON 119, CHARLOTTE 80

TEAM	1	2	3	4	PTS	3P%	AST
BOS	40	30	26	23	119	54.5	33
CHA	20	19	18	23	80	22.0	18

Tatum 34 pts, 9 ast · White 18 · Pritchard 12 · BOS 24-44 from three · CHA: Reid 14

UVM FIELD HOCKEY

America East Champions

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

No. 5 seed Vermont beat No. 3 UAlbany in a shootout, 6–5, after a 2–2 tie through two overtimes Friday in Albany — its second conference title in three seasons. Anyia Woods and Jaime Lewis scored in the second quarter; freshman Emily Enden won it on a spin move.

Addie DelOrefice was named Most Outstanding Player. The NCAA selection show is Sunday at 10 p.m. (WCAX, Burlington Free Press)

NFL · WEEK 10

Results and win chances

JAX 33, BAL 10	TNF	F
CIN at ATL	Sun. 9:30	CIN 61%
DAL at IND	Sun. 1:00	DAL 67%
LA at WAS	Sun. 1:00	LA 67%
NYJ at KC	Sun. 1:00	KC 82%
DET at MIA	Sun. 1:00	DET 73%
DEN at CAR	Sun. 1:00	DEN 58%
NYG at PHI	Sun. 1:00	NYG 61%
CLE at NO	Sun. 1:00	NO 59%
HOU at LAC	Sun. 4:05	HOU 70%
LV at SF	Sun. 4:25	SF 81%
GB at NE	Sun. 4:25	
ARI at SEA	Sun. 4:25	
TB at CHI	SNF 8:20	
BUF at MIN	MNF 8:15	

Win probabilities via SportRadar. Times are Eastern Standard Time.

AFC EAST STANDINGS

TEAM	W-L	GB
Buffalo	6-1	—
New England	5-3	1½
NY Jets	2-6	4½
Miami	1-6	5

Via SportRadar. Patriots host Green Bay Sunday, 4:25 p.m.

NHL · BRUINS CORNER

Panthers Sunday at 1

No update on rookie James Hagens, cross-checked in the back Thursday; Matt Poitras (broken nose) could return. Florida (9–5–2) plays at Washington today first. (The Hockey News)

UVM · THIS WEEK

Catamounts Win Again

Men's hockey: Tied BC 4–4, won shootout.

Field hockey: NCAA show Sunday 10 p.m.

THIS WEEKEND ON TV (ET)

NHL Panthers at Bruins, Sun. 1:00
NFL Packers at Patriots, Sun. 4:25
NBA Celtics at Bucks, Sun. 8:00

THE BOURBON PAGE

Thirty years after the Heaven Hill fire · plus a New Orleans brunch punch



BOTTLE OF THE WEEK

HEAVEN HILL · LOUISVILLE & BARDSTOWN, KY.

Elijah Craig Toasted Barrel

PROOF	AGE	MASH	BARRELS	PRICE
94	NAS	78/10/12	Two	~$50–60

Aged Elijah Craig Small Batch goes into a second new barrel whose staves were air-dried 18 months, **toasted** and only flash-charred. Mash bill: 78% corn, 10% rye, 12% barley. Launched 2020.

How it tastes: Breaking Bourbon found "toasted marshmallows, rich caramel, vanilla, and baking spices" on the nose, then graham cracker and chocolate. Bourbon Banter said the palate "clashed." Try a pour first.

30 years ago today: on Nov. 7, 1996, fire destroyed Heaven Hill's Bardstown distillery and about 90,000 barrels; burning whiskey ran downhill "like lava." No one was hurt. Rivals distilled for Heaven Hill until it bought Louisville's Bernheim Distillery in 1999. (Whiskey Wash)

The preacher: the Rev. Elijah Craig, jailed in Virginia for preaching, founded Georgetown, Ky. The "Father of Bourbon" title is legend. (Encyclopedia Virginia)

BOURBON 101

Why Barrels Are Set on Fire

BY THE COURIER SPIRITS DESK

By law, bourbon ages in **new, charred oak**. Coopers burn the inside of each barrel with an open flame, by the clock:

No. 1, about 15 seconds · **No. 2**, 30 · **No. 3**, 35, the most common · **No. 4**, about 55 — the "alligator char," cracked and scaly. Wild Turkey uses No. 4. (VinePair)

What fire does: heat caramelizes wood sugars (caramel, toffee), turns lignin into vanillin (vanilla), and leaves charcoal that filters out harsh notes.

Toast vs. char: toasting heats slower and deeper without burning the surface, coaxing softer, sweeter flavors — the idea behind today's bottle.

BOURBON NEWS

Sweet Wheat, Full Strength

Barton 1792 is rolling out 1792 Wheated Full Proof this month — 125 proof, the same strength it went into the barrel — at $39.99 a half-bottle in five states (not Vermont). "Sweet Wheat has built a passionate following," said master distiller Ross Cornelissen. (The Whiskey Wash)

Not oak at all: Four Roses will sell an experimental bourbon finished in Japanese chestnut wood, 104 proof, at its Kentucky visitor centers from Nov. 20. (VinePair)

The fire's legacy: Heaven Hill still holds some 1.7 million barrels in about 60 warehouses.

Shopping tip: a toasted "finish" is extra time in a second barrel — not a different whiskey.

THIS WEEK'S POUR

Cocktail Corner

Bourbon Milk Punch. Shake 2 oz bourbon, 2 oz whole milk, 2 oz heavy cream, ¾–1 oz simple syrup and ¼ tsp vanilla hard with ice, about 20 seconds. Strain over ice; grate nutmeg on top.

The story: milk punch dates to 17th-century Britain, and Ben Franklin wrote out a recipe in 1763. The creamy version became a New Orleans brunch "eye-opener." (Difford's; 2foodtrippers)

TASTING LAB

Think eggnog's lighter, egg-free cousin — a holiday preview.
Lighter: skip the cream and use 4 oz whole milk.

THIS WEEK'S POUR PLAN

What to sip with what's on

TONIGHT · RAIN ON THE WINDOW
Elijah Craig Toasted neat, with the rain coming in.

SUNDAY · BRUINS AT 1
A Bourbon Milk Punch for a brunch-time puck drop.

SUNDAY · PACKERS AT PATRIOTS
Toasted over one big cube at kickoff, 4:25.

THE BOURBON GLOSSARY

Label terms, decoded

Char — the burned inner layer of a barrel.
Alligator char — No. 4, cracked and scaly.
Toast — slow, gentle heating without burning.
Cooperage — a barrel-making shop.
Stave — one of a barrel's curved planks.
Vanillin — oak's vanilla compound.
Finishing — extra time in a second barrel.
Rickhouse — a barrel warehouse.
Mash bill — the grain recipe; 51%+ corn.
Full proof — bottled at barrel-entry strength.
Wheater — wheat in place of rye.
NAS — no age statement on the label.
Milk punch — spirit, milk, sugar, nutmeg.
Eye-opener — a New Orleans morning drink.
Proof — twice the alcohol percentage.
Neat — straight from the bottle, no ice.
Allocated — sent to stores in small amounts.
Straight — at least two years old, no additives.

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

Monday, Nov. 2 – Sunday, Nov. 8

ON THE TUBE (ET)

Today 7:00 — Canadiens at Maple Leafs.
Sun. 1:00 — Panthers at Bruins.
Sun. 4:25 — Packers at Patriots.
Sun. 8:00 — Celtics at Milwaukee.
Sun. 10:00 — Field hockey NCAA selection show.
Mon. 8:15 — Bills at Vikings.

AROUND VERMONT

Mon. — Congress returns.
Tue. — October inflation report.
Wed. — Veterans Day.
Nov. 12 — Essex Jct. council on the cannabis grow.
Daily — Crossword & word search, Page 14.

WEATHER AT A GLANCE

Sat. — Showers late, 48°.
Sun. — Cloudy, 49°.
Mon. — Showers, 49°.
Tue. — Showers, 49°.
Wed. — Cloudy, 49°.
Thu. — Colder, 42°.

GOOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Kindness, critters & comebacks

HINESBURG

A Geothermal Neighborhood

Vermont Gas is building the state's first community-scale geothermal heat system at Riggs Meadows, 44 affordable homes with Champlain Housing Trust. "We literally use the same pipes under the ground," CEO Neale Lunderville said. (Good News Network, Vermont Public)

ENGLAND

Attenborough's Appeal Wins

Britain's Wildlife Trusts completed the £30 million purchase of the 9,400-acre Rothbury Estate in Northumberland, home to curlews and red squirrels, with donors from 50-plus countries. (Good News Network, ITV)

INDONESIA

A 'Lost' Primate Lives

The Bangka slow loris — one of the only venomous primates, unrecorded by scientists since the 1930s — turned up alive: a rescue center has released 86 back into the wild. (Reuters)

NEW YORK

Ninety, and Finished

Marty Granoff, 90, finished the New York City Marathon in 8 hours 26 minutes with his son and grandson. His shirt: "If you can read this, you are losing to a 90-year-old man." (NY1)

BRAZIL

A Paycheck Returned

Pedro Moro found a young father's entire month's pay in a town square, then went store to store for security video until he found the owner. (Good News Network)

BARBADOS

No More Mother-to-Baby HIV

The World Health Organization certified that Barbados has eliminated mother-to-child transmission of HIV; 98% of pregnant women were tested. (Positive News, PAHO)

THE SATURDAY KITCHEN

A SEASONAL RECIPE

Chicken Paprikash

Serves 6–8 · about 1 hour 10 minutes

THE CHICKEN 8 bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs · 1½ tbsp olive oil + 1½ tbsp butter · 2 medium onions, finely diced · 3 cloves garlic, minced · Buttered egg noodles, to serve · Chopped parsley

THE PAPRIKA SAUCE 4 tbsp sweet Hungarian paprika · ½ cup tomato sauce · 1½ tsp salt, ½ tsp pepper, pinch cayenne · 2 cups chicken broth · 3 tbsp flour · ¾ cup sour cream + ¼ cup heavy cream

METHOD

1. Season the chicken; brown it skin-side down in the oil and butter, 4–5 minutes. Set aside.

2. Soften the onions in the drippings; add garlic, then tomato sauce, paprika and spices. Stir in the broth.

3. Return the chicken, cover and simmer about 45 minutes, to 165°F. Lift out the chicken.

4. Whisk the flour, sour cream and cream into a paste; whisk it into the sauce and simmer until thick.

5. Return the chicken to heat through. Serve over noodles with parsley.

Courier tip: Use full-fat sour cream at room temperature, or it can curdle. (Recipe: Belly Full)

SPORTS & STANDINGS

Every team in the NFL, NHL and NBA

NFL through Week 9 + Thursday · NHL and NBA through Friday night · via SportRadar

Highlighted: the Patriots, Bruins and Celtics

NFL · DIVISION STANDINGS

AFC EAST	W	L	T	PCT
Buffalo	6	1	0	.857
New England	5	3	0	.625
N.Y. Jets	2	6	0	.250
Miami	1	6	0	.143

AFC NORTH	W	L	T	PCT
Pittsburgh	6	2	0	.750
Cincinnati	5	2	0	.714
Cleveland	5	3	0	.625
Baltimore	4	5	0	.444

AFC SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT
Jacksonville	6	2	0	.750
Houston	2	5	0	.286
Indianapolis	2	6	0	.250
Tennessee	1	7	0	.125

AFC WEST	W	L	T	PCT
Denver	6	2	0	.750
Kansas City	5	2	0	.714
Las Vegas	4	4	0	.500
L.A. Chargers	0	7	0	.000

NFC EAST	W	L	T	PCT
N.Y. Giants	4	2	0	.667
Dallas	3	5	0	.375
Washington	2	4	0	.333
Philadelphia	2	6	0	.250

NFC NORTH	W	L	T	PCT
Minnesota	6	1	0	.857
Chicago	6	2	0	.750
Detroit	5	2	0	.714
Green Bay	5	3	0	.625

NFC SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT
Carolina	3	4	0	.429
Tampa Bay	3	5	0	.375
Atlanta	3	5	0	.375
New Orleans	2	5	0	.286

NFC WEST	W	L	T	PCT
San Francisco	6	1	0	.857
Seattle	4	4	0	.500
L.A. Rams	4	4	0	.500
Arizona	3	5	0	.375

NHL · DIVISION STANDINGS

ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Boston	17	12	4	1	25
Montreal	16	10	3	3	23
Tampa Bay	15	10	3	2	22
Ottawa	17	10	6	1	21
Florida	16	9	5	2	20
Buffalo	16	8	5	3	19
Toronto	17	8	7	2	18
Detroit	17	7	7	3	17

METROPOLITAN	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Carolina	18	13	3	2	28
New Jersey	16	11	5	0	22
N.Y. Rangers	17	9	7	1	19
Washington	14	8	6	0	16
N.Y. Islanders	15	7	6	2	16
Columbus	15	7	8	0	14
Pittsburgh	16	5	9	2	12
Philadelphia	18	4	10	4	12

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Minnesota	18	12	3	3	27
Utah	17	10	6	1	21
Dallas	16	9	5	2	20
Colorado	17	9	6	2	20
Nashville	16	7	4	5	19
St. Louis	16	7	7	2	16
Winnipeg	17	6	8	3	15
Chicago	17	4	12	1	9

PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Edmonton	17	11	3	3	25
Vegas	18	11	5	2	24
Seattle	15	9	5	1	19
Anaheim	17	9	7	1	19
Calgary	17	7	9	1	15
San Jose	18	7	10	1	15
Los Angeles	14	5	7	2	12
Vancouver	18	3	14	1	7

Atlantic and Metropolitan: Eastern Conference · Central and Pacific: Western · PTS = 2 per win, 1 per overtime or shootout loss

NBA · DIVISION STANDINGS

ATLANTIC · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Philadelphia	8	2	.800	—
Boston	7	2	.778	0.5
Toronto	5	4	.556	2.5
New York	4	4	.500	3
Brooklyn	2	6	.250	5

CENTRAL · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Detroit	6	2	.750	—
Cleveland	5	4	.556	1.5
Indiana	3	6	.333	3.5
Chicago	1	7	.125	5
Milwaukee	1	8	.111	5.5

SOUTHEAST · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Atlanta	6	4	.600	—
Washington	4	5	.444	1.5
Miami	3	6	.333	2.5
Charlotte	3	7	.300	3
Orlando	2	6	.250	3

NORTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Oklahoma City	7	2	.778	—
Portland	6	2	.750	0.5
Minnesota	7	3	.700	0.5
Denver	4	3	.571	2
Utah	1	8	.111	6

PACIFIC · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	8	2	.800	—
Golden State	6	3	.667	1.5
Phoenix	2	5	.286	4.5
LA Clippers	1	7	.125	6
Sacramento	1	8	.111	6.5

SOUTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Houston	7	2	.778	—
San Antonio	7	2	.778	—
Memphis	6	3	.667	1
Dallas	5	4	.556	2
New Orleans	4	5	.444	3

NEW ENGLAND WATCH

Where our teams stand

Celtics (7–2) Routed Charlotte 119–80 Friday behind Jayson Tatum's 34; a half game behind Philadelphia (8–2) in the Atlantic. At Milwaukee (1–8) Sunday at 8.

Bruins (12–4–1) First in the Atlantic with 25 points. Florida (9–5–2) visits Sunday at 1 — the Panthers play at Washington this afternoon first.

Patriots (5–3) Green Bay (5–3) visits Sunday at 4:25. Buffalo (6–1) plays at Minnesota (6–1) Monday night.

Around the East Buffalo's Sabres beat Columbus 5–2 Friday and jumped to sixth in the Atlantic; Montreal is at Toronto tonight.

THE WEATHER DESK

Forecasts, almanac, mountains & Snow Watch 2026–27

THE FORECASTER'S TAKE

A Miss by Three, and the Gray Settles In

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

We called 64° for Friday; Burlington reached 67°, 17 above normal. Three degrees off is a loss, so Beat the Forecaster slips to 3–3.

Today turns raw: clouds, a high near 48° and a 45% chance of showers, mostly late. NWS Burlington expects the steadiest rain tonight into early Sunday, with wet snow possible on the higher summits.

Then a long, flat stretch: highs of 49° Sunday through Wednesday, with lows near 40°.

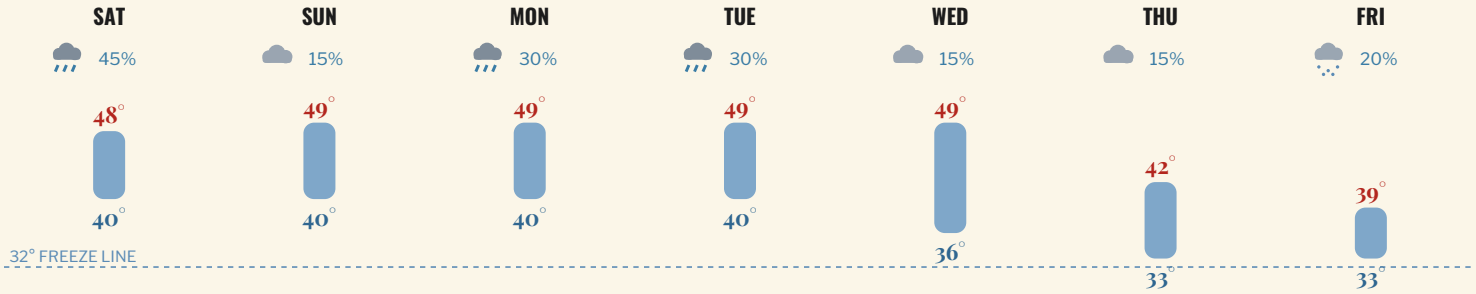
Colder air arrives late in the week: 42° Thursday and 39° Friday, with lows of 33° and the first small chance of valley flakes.

ESSEX JCT. ALMANAC

YESTERDAY	High 67° · Low 49°
SUNRISE	6:38 a.m.
SUNSET	4:33 p.m.
DAYLIGHT	9 hr 55 min
CHANGE	–2.6 min vs. yesterday
SINCE JUNE 21	5 hr 37 min less light
MOON	Waning crescent

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

ESSEX JUNCTION · THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS



Bars run from the low to the high; * = freezing night. Percent = chance of rain or snow. Forecast data.

MOUNTAINS, VALLEYS & THE PLACES WE WATCH

MONTPELIER — Washington County
54° / 38° · 70%
Showers likely today (70%).

BENNINGTON — Bennington County
52° / 42° · 75%
Wettest spot today (75%).

SMUGGLERS' NOTCH — Lamoille County
48° / 34° · 45%
Snow chances from Tuesday.

LAKE PLACID — Adirondacks, N.Y.
47° / 36° · 65%
35° next Thursday, low 28°.

BURKE MTN. — Northeast Kingdom
53° / 36° · 55%
Snow possible Tue.–Wed.

SNOW WATCH 2026–27

Day 7

Season totals, Nov. 1 – Apr. 1 · The Snow Desk, Page 13

ESSEX JCT.	MIDDLEBURY	STOWE	SNOWSHOE, WV
0.0"	0.0"	0.0"	0.0"
Burlington (BTV)	Addison County	Mt. Mansfield	Highland House · Rimfire

SEVERE & NATIONAL

Frosty Midwest, Soggy Valley

Fulton, Mo., woke up at 32° this morning, then warms to 52°. Deep South Texas stays wet: McAllen has a 65% chance of rain today and 85% Sunday.

Snowshoe, W.Va., hovers near freezing today at 35°. Florida is the bright spot: sunny and 80° in St. Petersburg.

BEAT THE FORECASTER

Nature Wins This One

Friday: we said 64°; Burlington hit 67° (3° warmer). More than 2° off counts as a loss.

Season record: 3–3 (50%)

Recent: Mon 65/68 L · Tue 60/65 L · Wed 73/73 W · Thu 68/68 W · Fri 64/67 L

Today's call: 48° in Essex Junction. Check back tomorrow.

WEATHER WORD

Closed Low

A low with a distinct center of circulation, usually high aloft, that is partly or fully cut off from the main west-to-east flow — so it moves slowly (NWS).

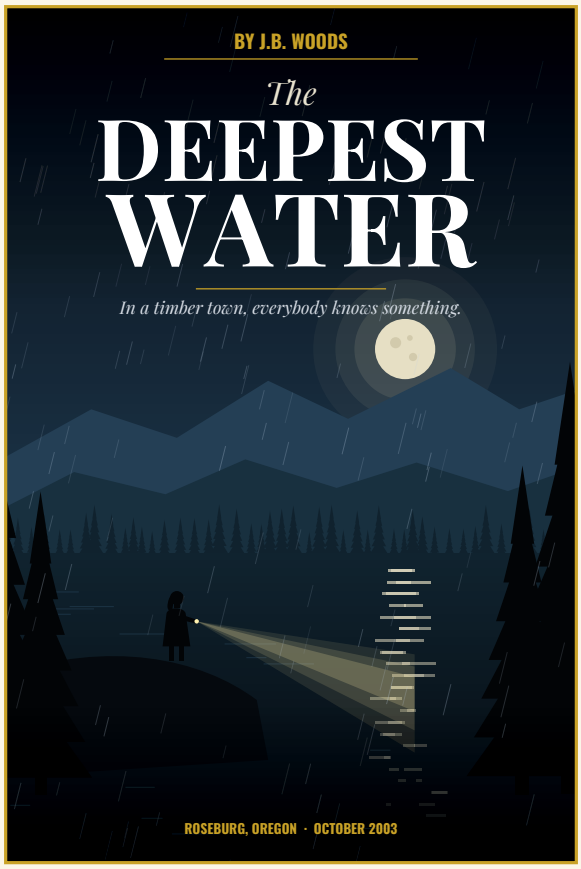
This week: NWS Burlington is watching a "significant closed low" over the Mid-Atlantic late in the week.

THIS DAY IN WEATHER

Nov. 7, 1940: In a wind of about 40 mph, Washington's Tacoma Narrows Bridge — "Galloping Gertie" — twisted apart and fell into Puget Sound. No person died. (HistoryLink)

THE DEEPEST WATER

New reader? Tap here to read from Chapter 1 ›



CHAPTER 33

Chapter Still Being Written

The author is still at work. The story picks up again soon.

WHERE WE LEFT OFF · CHAPTER 32: BY REQUEST

Tess drove the note straight to Roseburg. At checkout, the clerk said a woman had called asking for Room 118 in Tess's name. The stolen car's owner lost it at Seven Feathers, helping a woman in a wheelchair. In his office, Sheriff Coyle had his boots up on the desk — and Myers and Mason saw the tread.

CATCH UP ON THE WHOLE STORY — THE READER'S GUIDE IS ON PAGES 9 TO 11

A work of fiction: characters and events are invented; places are real. · The Deepest Water returns soon.

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 1–17

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

On a rainy Monday night at the Umpqua Ledger, editor Walt Brenner put Tess Halloran on a quiet story: Gordon Pryce, owner of the shuttered Pryce Lumber mill, left the Elks Lodge Friday and never got home. Then the police scanner crackled: a dark Lincoln, abandoned on Highway 138, keys in it.

CHAPTER 2

Whoever Left It There

At a pullout past Glide near Toketee Falls, a deputy turned Tess away from Pryce's Lincoln, its door open and wheels turned neatly toward the river. After pie at Del's Riverside Diner, she was on Sheriff Ray Coyle's porch at seven. The wallet held $200, he said. Whoever left the car wanted it found.

CHAPTER 3

The Sister at the Bar

Del told Tess nobody stops at that pullout by accident. At the Idle Hour, Big Dave said Gordon had been scared all summer and pointed her to "Tic Tac." A woman drank Tess's whiskey and told her to leave him alone. She was his sister — and her brother had told Coyle what he saw Friday night.

CHAPTER 4

Forty Dollars a Plate

Coyle still wasn't talking, and the Pryces had hired a Eugene lawyer. Over dinner at Brix Grill, PI friends Kally and Teresa of Eye Spy named Tic Tac in unison: "Oh, Josh Foster?" Outside, Kally added that Josh had called their office Monday asking what it costs to run a license plate.

CHAPTER 5

If I End Up in the River

Trent Pryce said he was home watching the game with his mother. At Abby's Pizza, Josh Foster told Tess he saw Pryce's Lincoln heading up the canyon Friday with a dark pickup behind it, no lights, and got part of a plate. As he walked away, a dark pickup idling at the curb pulled out and followed.

CHAPTER 6

Patient as the Rain

At Fred Meyer, Tess ran into old neighbor Buck, who had worked for Gordon and tipped her to his hidden fishing hole at Cavitt Creek and Little River. She asked Eye Spy to search it. At home, a message from Darla Foster: Josh never showed, his truck and gear were gone. Where was her brother?

CHAPTER 7

The Third Time Today

With Big Dave beside her, Tess went back to the Idle Hour on Friday, where Darla blamed her for Josh's disappearance. Roseburg police came looking for Josh over a coin-shop break-in. Then a dark pickup roared past with no lights, and the cruiser lost it. Darla said it was the third time today.

CHAPTER 8

Your Case, Not Ours

Deputy Cal Walters got a tip that the dark pickup had been parked at the Holiday Inn by the river. A dog walker then brought in a stag-handled knife found below the decks, engraved DOUGLAS COUNTY ROADS · 1987. Coyle had it logged as found property, then dialed a number twice. Nobody answered.

CHAPTER 9

Up Little River

Kally and Teresa searched Cavitt Creek and Little River. At a hidden pool off a gravel spur, Kally found a rusted tackle box with "G.P." carved in the lid — and a torn mayonnaise packet sitting on top of the silt. They called Tess. "Don't tell anyone else you found it," she said. "Bring it to me."

CHAPTER 10

August 1987

Kally delivered the tackle box to the Ledger — "No, Tess. Mayonnaise!" — and it went back to Eye Spy under lock. Channel 9 reported Commissioner Harlan Voss missing since Sunday, his wife Tiffany pleading for him to come home. At six, a typed note waited on Tess's desk: "Ask them about August 1987."

CHAPTER 11

Behind the Hedge

Tiffany Voss let Tess into the plain, dusty house behind the hedge. Sunday evening, she said, Harlan took a call from Josh Foster, said "Don't wait up" and left, scared. Then Walters phoned: Harlan's wallet had turned up at a truck stop on I-5 at Rice Hill. Harlan never goes north, Tiffany said.

CHAPTER 12

The Tin in the Gravel

FBI profiler Christine Mason arrived and faced down Coyle. Harlan's wallet held cash receipts from the K&R Drive-In and the Ranch Motel; somebody wanted them looking north, she said. An anonymous caller sent Tess to Rice Hill, where she found Josh's dented mint tin behind the motel.

CHAPTER 13

The Brass Key

Inside the tin was a brass key stamped 1987. Tess gave it to Mason at Carlos in Winston. At the Idle Hour, Darla broke down: Josh had said Gordon and Harlan were in danger. Next morning at Del's, Del told Tess that Owen Marsh was out of prison, back in town and asking around about Harlan Voss.

CHAPTER 14

The Twin Knife

On a day off at Seven Feathers in Canyonville, Tess pulled old neighbor Owen Marsh out of a fight with casino security. He said he spent the Pryce weekend at the Screw and Brew in Cannon Beach. At the Holiday Inn, Marisol Reyes found a second 1987 knife in Room 118. The guest two doors down: Marsh.

CHAPTER 15

The Door That Wasn't Locked

Walters found that 118's deck door looked locked but wasn't. Owen Marsh said he liked that room, then drove off in a dark blue pickup. Coyle ordered the knife brought to him. Walters called Tess from a pay phone, and she sent Kally and Teresa to Cannon Beach to visit the Screw and Brew.

CHAPTER 16

The Screw and Brew

Kally and Teresa drove I-5 to the coast, stopping at rest areas and plotting how to bring up Owen Marsh with Freddy, the Screw and Brew's pastrami cook. But the sign said no pastrami today. Waitress Sally whispered why: Freddy had been found stabbed to death in an alley the night before.

CHAPTER 17

Alive a Minute Ago

Kally phoned Tess with the news. Heather said Owen had checked out of the Holiday Inn three days earlier. That night at the Idle Hour, Josh whispered to Darla by phone that Pryce and Harlan were alive — then came a gunshot and silence. Darla called Tess: "My brother's alive. Or he was a minute ago."

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 18–32 (continued)

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

CHAPTER 18

The Phone Didn't Ring

Tess hurried to the Idle Hour and called Mason, who arrived with Walters and Coyle. Coyle detained Darla for questioning; Josh was now a suspect, to be named armed and dangerous at a press conference in the morning. Darla told them to arrest her or get out. They left, and the phone never rang again.

CHAPTER 19

Room 118

At City Hall, Coyle said there were no suspects and never named Josh. Buck heckled him. A dark pickup flashed through an intersection, and a figure in black slipped away from behind a maple as Darla cried, "Josh!" Coyle took no questions. Tess phoned the Holiday Inn and reserved Room 118.

CHAPTER 20

Not a One-Glass Night

Home on Pine Street with wine, cheese and the late news, Tess traded thoughts with Teresa by phone, then dozed. After ten, a heavy thud hit her front door. Nobody was there — only a third 1987 knife driven into the wood, with a pencil note: "STOP DIGGING OR YOU'LL GO FOR A SWIM TOO."

CHAPTER 21

Rubber Gloves and White Wine

Walters bagged the knife, and Mason cast a shoe print in Tess's yard. Next day Tess checked into Room 118, with Kally and Teresa next door in 116. After white wine, chips and Kally's own bedsheets, Tess bolted the deck door and slept. At 3:08 a figure stood at the foot of her bed. "It's you!"

CHAPTER 22

Pale as Chalk

Kally and Teresa heard the scream and got Heather's master key, but 118 was empty, the deck door open. Tess was gone. Police, Coyle, Walters and Mason arrived as a motorboat droned downriver. At dawn Mason cast a fresh shoe print below the deck, almost sure it matched the one from Tess's yard.

CHAPTER 23

Count to a Hundred

Hooded and tied, Tess was taken by boat and truck to a hillside log bunker, stocked with mayonnaise packets. Her captor said his hotel source had failed him, that he was hunted, and that the mill shipped more than lumber. At dusk he left her by I-5 near Rice Hill. She said his name: Gordon Pryce.

CHAPTER 24

Focus, Tess

From Rice Hill, Tess called Eye Spy, then told Coyle that Gordon Pryce was alive, probably near his Little River fishing hole. Coyle sent Walters to search at first light and called a press conference to name Pryce armed and dangerous. Instead he announced Pryce had been found stabbed to death.

CHAPTER 25

Under the Lab Lights

Mason told Coyle the two shoe casts didn't match after all and more agents were coming; Coyle left town. Near where Pryce died, she found a print matching the cast from Tess's yard. Karen Marsh at the Holiday Inn said Coyle had let 118 be rented again. Karen, Walters said, is Owen Marsh's cousin.

CHAPTER 26

65 Alder Brook Road

Mason and Walters questioned maintenance man Hollis Tate at 65 Alder Brook Road. He was "sure" he fixed 118's deck door, and he named Harlan Voss and Josh Foster as missing without being asked. Doubling back, lights off, Walters found Tate's pickup parked and Tate at his window on the phone.

CHAPTER 27

Behind the Boulders

FBI agent Dan Myers arrived, and the lab matched the creek print to the one from Tess's yard. Guided by Tess, agents found Pryce's bunker behind mossy boulders, swept bare except for a pile of mayonnaise packets. Walters called Coyle from Glide. The sheriff asked: "Was there anything left inside?"

CHAPTER 28

Something in the Wall

Marisol Reyes told Myers and Mason that Josh Foster, on the renovation crew, found a heavy metal box inside 118's wall. Karen Marsh admitted Tiffany Voss had requested 118 the night before. Coyle returned, and Myers sealed the room. Next stop: Mrs. Voss — and the agents still had to find Tic Tac.

CHAPTER 29

The Silent Partner

Driving up the hill, Mason bet Myers a slice of Abby's that the brass 1987 key from Josh's mint tin opens the safe from Room 118. Tiffany Voss said Harlan told her to retrieve a hidden compartment in 118's closet if he vanished; she found nothing. Harlan, she said, was Gordon's silent partner.

CHAPTER 30

Road Trip to the Running Y

The FBI found nothing in Room 118 and set up secret surveillance from across the river. On Highway 140 at dusk, in the first flurries, a blue car raced past and Tess swore the driver was Harlan Voss. Mason told her Harlan was Gordon's silent partner; Walters found the car was stolen.

CHAPTER 31

Over the Rim

The stolen blue car turned up abandoned at Crater Lake. At the rim, Ranger Montgomery Smith spotted two hikers below the rim, where no one is allowed: Owen and Karen Marsh. That night Tess's room at the Rogue Regency was 118. By morning, a note on the old typewriter read: 1987.

CHAPTER 32

By Request

Tess drove the note straight to Roseburg. At checkout, the clerk said a woman had called asking for Room 118 in Tess's name. The stolen car's owner lost it at Seven Feathers, helping a woman in a wheelchair. In his office, Sheriff Coyle had his boots up on the desk — and Myers and Mason saw the tread.

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; vanished. Called Darla (Ch. 17); a gunshot. Worked the hotel renovation.

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; nobody knows her real name. Flashy in public, plain at home. Says Harlan was Gordon's silent partner.

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.

Dan Myers — Mason's FBI boss, late 50s, triathlete. All business; unimpressed by Coyle.

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 — Hotel housekeeper; found the 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. Climbed out of the Crater Lake caldera with Owen (Ch. 31).

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.

Montgomery Smith — Crater Lake park ranger; caught Owen and Karen below the rim (Ch. 31).

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."

The second note — Under Rogue Regency Room 118's door, same typewriter: "1987 — You were standing in the right place today." Now with the FBI.

The request call — A woman phoned the Rogue Regency as "Tess" and asked for Room 118 (Ch. 32).

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

COLD CASE FILE

Sudbury & Goshen, Vermont · 2015

Denise Hart: A Burned Car and a Long Silence

On Jan. 25, 2015, Denise Hart, 24, of Hartford, Conn., left a friend's home in Sudbury, where she had been staying. She never returned, the Vermont State Police say. The next day, the car she had been driving was found burned out in Cornwall; police said there was a "strong indication of foul play."

Hart was a young mother studying to become a parole officer, with ties to Rutland and Addison counties. Her father said she was so tough the family called her "Muhammad Ali" — and that she must have known her killer.

On Dec. 22, 2015, hikers found her remains along Gap Road in Goshen. Her death was ruled a homicide. In 2018, ABC22/Fox44 reported she had been shot, and the lead detective said investigators had persons of interest but needed the public's help. No one has been charged.

Detectives followed leads to New York and Connecticut. (ABC22/Fox44)

"To me, her case is on the back burner," her mother, Dedre Robinson, said then. "I'll never know, and that's unfair."

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit, text VTIPS to 274637, or call 802-244-8727. Case 15C100632.

CASE FACTS

NAME
Denise Hart
AGE
24
MISSING
Jan. 25, 2015
FOUND
Dec. 22, 2015, Goshen
RULING
Homicide
STATUS
Unsolved
AGENCY
VSP Major Crime Unit

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

VERMONT POLICE BLOTTER

WARDSBORO — Troopers are investigating possible reckless endangerment after a bullet was found in a window of a home on Fornuto Road Wednesday afternoon. Police say it may have been fired from a long distance; anyone with information should call the Westminster barracks. (Vermont State Police, WCAX)

IRASBURG — Trevor Royer, 33, of Irasburg was cited for aggravated assault after an alleged incident at a Route 14 work site Thursday afternoon; the alleged victim is a 29-year-old Newport man. (Vermont State Police)

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit

COURT WATCH

Washington State — A federal judge barred the Justice Department from ordering officials to set aside the ballots of 405 people it alleged were noncitizens, saying rule-following voters shouldn't lose their votes to a list that may include citizens. (Washington State Standard)

New York — A state appeals panel heard President Trump's bid to overturn his 34-count hush-money conviction; his lawyers argued prosecutors misused federal election law. (ABC News)

Brooklyn — Former FBI agent Andrew Reyes pleaded not guilty to federal charges that he struck a pedestrian with his FBI car, left him on a bench and drove off. (Sinclair)

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.
April Tinsley	Fort Wayne, Ind.	1988	2018	Genealogy and DNA from John D. Miller's trash; he confessed.
Sherri Rasmussen	Los Angeles	1986	2009	DNA from a bite mark led to LAPD detective Stephanie Lazarus.
Bear Brook	Allenstown, N.H.	1985	2017	Genealogy tied the bodies found in barrels to Terry Rasmussen.
"Buckskin Girl"	Near Troy, Ohio	1981	2018	Genealogy named her Marcia King; her killer is still unknown.
Carla Walker	Fort Worth, Texas	1974	2020	New DNA tests on her clothing led to Glen McCurley; he pleaded guilty.
Golden State Killer	California	1974	2018	Genealogy led to Joseph DeAngelo, a former police officer.
Angie Dodge	Idaho Falls	1996	2019	Genealogy named Brian Dripps and helped free Christopher Tapp.
"J.N. Chandler"	Eastlake, Ohio	1978	2018	Identity solved: genealogy showed the man was Robert Nichols of Indiana.
Lisa Ziegert	Agawam, Mass.	1992	2018	Retested DNA led to Gary Schara's arrest.

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

CASE CLOSED · HOW IT WAS CRACKED

THE BRINK'S JOB

On Jan. 17, 1950, seven masked men slipped into the Brink's armored-car office in Boston's North End, tied up five workers and left in about 20 minutes with $1.2 million in cash and more than $1.5 million in checks — then the biggest robbery in U.S. history. For six years the FBI had little more than rope, tape and a chauffeur's cap. In January 1956, gang member Joseph "Specs" O'Keefe, angry that his partners wouldn't help him, confessed. A grand jury indicted 11 men days before the statute of limitations ran out, and in October 1956 eight were convicted. More than $1 million was never found. (FBI, Smithsonian)

SCAM ALERT

"Pension Poachers" and Veterans

Before Veterans Day: a smooth "planner" promises an older veteran or widow a VA pension — for an upfront fee, or by moving savings into a trust or annuity to "qualify." Victims can lose savings and even face VA trouble. (VA Inspector General)

Protect yourself: only VA-accredited people may help with claims, and veterans service officers do it free. Search "accredited representative" at va.gov.

Report it: vaoig.gov or Vermont's Consumer Assistance Program, 800-649-2424.

CRIME TRIVIA

Test Your Detective Skills

After misjudging a Civil War officer's time of death by more than a century, what famous research site did Bill Bass build?

Answer: The "Body Farm," University of Tennessee.

THE SNOW DESK

Season tracking Nov. 1 – Apr. 1 · all totals in inches

Day 7 OF 152

Totals through Friday, Nov. 6

NOV · DEC · JAN · FEB · MAR · APR 1

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S. · LAST 24 HOURS

8.9" · Buena Vista 4.0 WNW, CO

ESSEX JCT.

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
0.0"	0.0"

Official: Burlington airport (BTV)
Normal to date: 0.5" · Depth: 0"

MIDDLEBURY

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
—	0.0"

Nearest observer reports
No report = no observer reading that day

STOWE

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
—	0.0"

Mt. Mansfield / Stowe observers
No report = no observer reading that day

SNOWSHOE, WV

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
0.0"	0.0"

Snowshoe observer (4,780 ft)
No report = no observer reading that day

THE CITY SNOW BOARD · OFFICIAL NWS TOTALS

CITY	LAST 24 HRS	MONTH	SEASON	NORMAL	+/-	DEPTH
Burlington, Vt.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	−0.5	0.0
Boston	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Portland, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	−0.2	0.0
Caribou, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	−1.2	0.0
Concord, N.H.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	−0.2	0.0
Albany, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	−0.2	0.0
Syracuse, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	−0.8	0.0
Buffalo, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	−0.7	0.0
New York City	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	−0.1	0.0
Erie, Pa.	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	−1.0	0.0
Detroit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	−0.1	0.0
Chicago	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	−0.1	0.0
Minneapolis	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	−0.8	0
Denver	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0
Salt Lake City					report not available	
Anchorage, Alaska	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	−2.0	0.0

NWS Daily Climate Reports. Season and normal count from Nov. 1. T = trace. Depth = snow on the ground, inches.

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S.

Biggest 24-hour totals reported to the NWS

1	Buena Vista 4.0 WNW, CO Elev. 8842 ft	8.9"
2	Taylor River Below Taylor Park Res Elev. 9219 ft	6.8"
3	Nathrop 1.9 WSW, CO Elev. 7949 ft	6.5"
4	Westcliffe 8.4 WNW, CO Elev. 8402 ft	6.0"
5	Leadville 6.3 S, CO Elev. 9692 ft	6.0"
6	Westcliffe 8.7 ENE, CO Elev. 8707 ft	5.9"
7	Leadville 3.8 SSE, CO Elev. 10085 ft	5.9"
8	Cotopaxi 4.8 SSE, CO Elev. 7484 ft	5.5"
9	Woody Creek 1.4 SE, CO Elev. 7615 ft	5.5"
10	Buena Vista 0.6 WNW, CO Elev. 8074 ft	5.0"

SEASON LEADERS · CITIES

Burlington, Vt.	0.0"
Boston	0.0"
Portland, Maine	0.0"
Caribou, Maine	0.0"
Concord, N.H.	0.0"
Albany, N.Y.	0.0"
Syracuse, N.Y.	0.0"
Buffalo, N.Y.	0.0"

SNOWSHOE MOUNTAIN REPORT

Opening day in 18 days — Wed., Nov. 25 (target, weather permitting)

Today: Raw: 35°, low 32°, a 20% chance of snow showers.

Sun.–Wed.: A mild stretch: 50°, 46°, 56°, 54°.

Next Thursday: A front: 42° with a 55% chance of rain or snow, low 29°.

Next Friday: High 30°, low 25°, a 35% chance of snow.

Next Saturday: High 28°, low 25° — the coldest day yet.

Snowmaking: Thursday night through Saturday is the first multi-day window in the mid-20s.

Countdown: Eighteen days to the Nov. 25 opening target and the new Shavers Center.

SNOW NOTES

Day 7 — week one, no snow. Burlington hasn't measured a flake this season. Normal through Friday is 0.8 inch, so we're running a little behind — not unusual for early November.

Summit snow Sunday. Mount Washington's forecast high Sunday is 32° with a 65% chance of snow, and it stays at or below freezing all week. The first real white cap of the season is likely up there.

Smugglers' Notch. Highs drop to the low 40s from Sunday, the forecast switches to snow by Tuesday, and next Thursday and Friday stay in the mid-30s with lows of 28°.

Valley watch. Essex Junction gets 39° next Friday and 41° next Saturday, with lows of 33–35° and small snow chances (20–25%). Flakes in the air are possible; accumulation is not in the forecast.

PUZZLES & GAMES

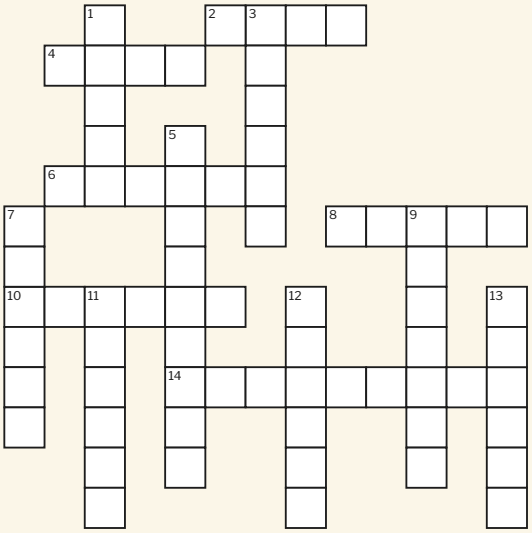
Grab a pencil and your coffee

THE DAILY SUDOKU

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

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD · FIRE & RAIN



ACROSS

2 Burned layer inside a barrel (4)
4 Mitchell, born Nov. 7, 1943 (4)
6 Rothbury ___, bought for wildlife (6)
8 Celtic who scored 34 Friday (5)
10 First woman in Congress, 1916 (6)
14 No. 4 barrel char nickname (9)

DOWN

1 Venomous primate found alive (5)
3 ___ Hill, burned out Nov. 7, 1996 (6)
5 Saturday Kitchen's chicken dish (9)
7 Galloping ___, Tacoma bridge (6)
9 This week's Elijah Craig style (7)
11 Grated atop a milk punch (6)
12 Boston robbery of 1950 (6)
13 N.H. town near the Wild River Fire (6)

WORD SEARCH · RAINY SATURDAY

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

FIND 12 WORDS

CLOUDS
DOWNPOUR
GALOSHES
GUTTER
HOODIE
MIST
PATTER
PUDDLE
RAINCOAT
SHOWERS
SOGGY
UMBRELLA

Across, down, diagonal — some backward.

THE COURIER QUIZ

Five Questions

1. About how many barrels burned in Heaven Hill's 1996 fire?

2. What reptile names the heaviest common barrel char, No. 4?

3. What nickname did the 1940 Tacoma Narrows Bridge carry?

4. Which Police drummer brings a talk show to Stowe Nov. 15?

5. Which Nov. 7 birthday girl wrote "Both Sides Now"?

NAME THAT YEAR

Three Clues

• Bill Gates and Paul Allen found Microsoft.

• Jimmy Hoffa vanishes near Detroit.

• Saturday Night Live debuts on NBC.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

Yesterday's sudoku. Crossword answers are upside down at the bottom of the page.

THE JUKEBOX

Music history, a record to spin and shows near home

NOVEMBER 7 BIRTHDAYS

This Day in Music

1922 — Al Hirt, New Orleans trumpeter ("Java").

1938 — Dee Clark, R&B; singer ("Raindrops").

1942 — Johnny Rivers ("Secret Agent Man") — 84.

1943 — Joni Mitchell, Fort Macleod, Alberta — 83.

1996 — Lorde ("Royals") — 30.

Also on this day: in 1981, Hall & Oates' "Private Eyes" hit No. 1.



SPIN THIS

Aerial

Kate Bush · 2005

Released 21 years ago today, it ended a 12-year silence — her first double album, recorded on and off from 1996.

Disc one holds "King of the Mountain" and "π," where she sings pi to dozens of decimal places; disc two follows a summer day to the next dawn, threaded with birdsong. (Wikipedia, LA Times)

Best with: an Elijah Craig Toasted and the rain on the window.

LIVE IN VERMONT

Shows Near Home

Sat. Nov. 7 · Willi Carlisle, Higher Ground

Wed. Nov. 11 · Sleep, Higher Ground

Sun. Nov. 15 · Stewart Copeland talk, Spruce Peak, Stowe

Thu. Nov. 19 · Charlie Parr, Higher Ground

Listings via Songkick; check venues for tickets.

MUSIC TRIVIA

Joni Mitchell wrote "Woodstock," the festival's anthem. Why wasn't she there?

ANSWERS — Quiz: 1. About 90,000. 2. The alligator. 3. "Galloping Gertie." 4. Stewart Copeland. 5. Joni Mitchell. Name That Year: 1975. Music trivia: Her manager kept her booking on The Dick Cavett Show; she wrote it watching TV coverage. **Yesterday's crossword:** 1A CLARET · 4A HURON · 7A TAYLOR · 8A TERNS · 9A METESKY · 13A CORRECTION · 2D LINCOLN · 3D PEPPERS · 5D SOUSA · 6D ARSENIC · 10D ZACHA · 11D FREY · 12D BOND