ESSEX JCT. TODAY
59°
Low 37° · Clouds, then mild
Upper 50s to 60° through Saturday

The Morning Courier

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

VOYAGER 1
1 LIGHT-DAY
From Earth as of 5:16 a.m.
Launched 1977 · 16 billion miles out

VOL. I · NO. 56 · FREE TO JB | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2026 · ESSEX JCT., VT | SUNRISE 6:53 A.M. · SUNSET 4:21 P.M.

DOW 50,759 ▼ −1.64% · **S&P 500** 7,341 ▼ −1.03% · **NVDA** $155.46 ▼ −0.44% · **PLTR** $156.56 ▼ −2.39% · **MSFT** $506.24 ▼ −2.27% · **GAS** $3.75

WORLD · TRUMP IN ASIA

Xi Greets Trump on the Tarmac

From Manila to Shenzhen, ahead of Thursday's first meeting of Trump, Xi and Putin together.

BY THE NUMBERS

3	Leaders at Thursday's table
2027	Quad's first joint patrol-plane drill
12.5%	Extra U.S. tariff on Philippine goods
4	Quad nations: U.S., Japan, India, Australia

BY THE COURIER WORLD DESK · SOURCES: THE STANDARD (HONG KONG), BLOOMBERG, ABC NEWS, FOX NEWS, KOREA HERALD

Chinese leader Xi Jinping met President Trump on the airport tarmac in Shenzhen on Wednesday — a handshake, a hug, a child with flowers and both anthems — a rare gesture that echoed Trump greeting Xi at the airport during his U.S. visit in September. Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in Shenzhen earlier in the day.

In Manila, the Quad nations agreed their maritime patrol aircraft will join an exercise in 2027, "for the first time in a Quad context." Trump issued a trade statement with Thailand and lunched with President Marcos, calling a Philippine trade deal "the biggest trade deal we've ever made by far," though Manila's ambassador said nothing has been signed.

Thursday brings APEC, Trump's trade meeting with Xi and then the three-way meeting with Putin; officials have said they expect no arms agreement. Asked whether Kim Jong Un might come, Trump said, "He would like to, yeah. We'll see what happens."

ESSEX JUNCTION FORECAST

36°
Low tonight: 37°

Morning clouds, then a mild afternoon. Light wind. High 59°.

RAIN TODAY 10% | SNOW TODAY 0%
Upper 50s to low 60s through Saturday (WCAX)

THE WEEK AHEAD

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
58°	60°	59°	58°
R 5% S 0%	R 10% S 0%	R 0% S 0%	R 75% S 0%

R = rain, S = snow chance. Forecast data, Wednesday a.m.

FORECASTER'S NOTE

We called 53° Tuesday; Burlington hit 53° exactly. Beat the Forecaster: 11–6.

POLITICS · ALASKA

AP Calls Alaska Senate Race for Peltola

BY THE COURIER NATION DESK · SOURCES: AP, NPR, CBS NEWS

As of 10:29 p.m. ET Tuesday, the Associated Press called Alaska's U.S. Senate race for Democrat Mary Peltola over Republican Sen. Dan Sullivan; AP's count then showed her with 50.1% to his 45.8%, with an estimated 99% counted. Numbers may have changed since. She will be the first Alaska Native senator.

"Alaskans have voted for change," Peltola said. Sullivan has not conceded; a spokesman said "Alaskans deserve a complete and accurate count."

INSIDE TODAY · IN BRIEF

MARKETS	Nvidia beats; no Huang return.	2
VERMONT	Killington opens to all.	3
SPORTS	Kings blank the Bruins.	3
SERIAL	Chapter 39 is here.	8
NEW	The Stars: horoscopes.	15
USA	Across the USA.	16

WEATHER AROUND THE MAP

Wednesday forecasts · forecast data · "Now" = overnight

	NOW	HI	LO	RAIN	SNOW
MIDDLEBURY, VT	36°	59°	35°	10%	
MT. WASHINGTON, NH	31°	43°	33°	10%	10%
SNOWSHOE, WV	37°	59°	37°	0%	
ROSEBURG, OR	46°	50°	37°	35%	
E. DENNIS, MA · CAPE	44°	61°	44°	5%	
CHARLOTTE, NC	34°	64°	34°	0%	
WILMINGTON, NC	42°	69°	42°	0%	
ST. PETERSBURG, FL	67°	73°	67°	70%	
FULTON, MO	39°	65°	36°	10%	
HOT SPOT · MIAMI, FL	75°	75°	72°	90%	



THE DEEPEST WATER · A COURIER SERIAL
New today: Chapter 39, "Eighty-Seven." Two pages: 8 and 8A.

INSIDE TODAY
2 Markets · World
3 Vermont · Sports
4 Bourbon · 5 Funnies · 6 Standings
8 Serial + 8A · 12 Crime · 13 Snow · 14–16 Fun

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MARKETS & MONEY

Before the bell · Nvidia beats; the board says no to Huang · Anthropic prices tonight · Wednesday, November 18*

TUESDAY'S CLOSES · WEDNESDAY FUTURES BELOW

INDEX / STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	PCT	DAY MOVE
Dow Jones Industrials	50,759.42	−846.33	−1.64%	
S&P 500	7,340.53	−76.39	−1.03%	
Nasdaq Composite	24,328.38	−181.37	−0.74%	
Russell 2000	2,701.87	−41.15	−1.50%	
JB'S WATCHLIST				
Nvidia (NVDA)	155.46	−0.69	−0.44%	
Palantir (PLTR)	156.56	−3.83	−2.39%	
Microsoft (MSFT)	506.24	−11.76	−2.27%	
BIG NAMES				
AMD (AMD)	503.41	−0.86	−0.17%	

Closes via AP, Motley Fool; futures ~4 a.m. ET. *Written with help from Claude, made by Anthropic.

RATES · ENERGY · METALS

Dow futures 4 a.m.	+0.25%
S&P futures 4 a.m.	+0.50%
Nasdaq-100 fut. 4 a.m.	+0.86%
NVDA premarket +3.9%	$161.47
10-yr Treasury Wed.	~5.10%
Brent crude Wed.	~$92
WTI crude Wed.	~$84
Gold 14-mo. low	~$3,775
VIX Tue.	25.46

THE WEEK AHEAD **TODAY** Housing starts 8:30; Target, Lowe's, TJX; Fed minutes 2 p.m. **TONIGHT** Anthropic* IPO prices **THU.** Walmart; claims; ANT trades

Tuesday: Dow −849, software slid (Salesforce −9.5%, Intuit −7.2%) · retail sales +0.2% · builders' index 25, lowest since 2012 — AP, Yahoo Finance, CNBC, NAHB

BEFORE THE BELL

Nvidia Beats — and Its Board Says No to Huang

BY THE COURIER MARKETS DESK · SOURCES: KIPLINGER, YAHOO FINANCE, CNBC, AP

Nvidia's first report since Jensen Huang resigned topped forecasts: revenue of $115.8 billion against about $109 billion expected, and $2.68 a share against $2.47. It guided to about $130 billion next quarter and announced a $150 billion buyback. The stock was up about 4% before dawn.

Board chair Harvey Jones said the board "does not intend to reinstate Jensen as CEO." Interim chief Colette Kress: "From a business perspective, it's business as usual."

STOCKS TO WATCH TODAY

On the Radar

Nvidia (NVDA) — $155.46, —0.4%; ~$161 premarket after the beat.

Palantir (PLTR) — $156.56, —2.4%.

Microsoft (MSFT) — $506.24, —2.3%; software stocks sank.

Home Depot — Beat; names CFO Richard McPhail CEO. Stock —2.5%.

Disney — Beat; dividend up 33%. Stock —1.5%.

Anthropic IPO* — CNBC: likely above the $70–$78 range; prices tonight.

OVERNIGHT AROUND THE WORLD

KOSPI	South Korea	+1.99%
N225	Japan (Nikkei)	+0.28%
TWSE	Taiwan	+0.26%
HSI	Hong Kong	−0.90%
STOXX	Europe (STOXX 600)	+0.00%

Best of these: Kospi +2.0% Worst: Hang Seng −0.9%

YEAR TO DATE

Russell 2000	+9.0%
S&P 500	+7.3%
Dow	+5.6%
Nasdaq	+4.6%

Approx., through Tuesday.

GAS PRICES

Regular, per gallon

AAA, Nov. 18 (states Nov. 17) · down 3¢ in a day, 19¢ in a week; 67¢ above a year ago

NATIONAL	VERMONT	HIGHEST	LOWEST
$3.75	$4.06	$5.60	$3.09
U.S. average	state average	Hawaii	North Carolina

NATION & WORLD

Washington, the courts & beyond

NATION · AIR TRAVEL

Senators Balk at Duffy's $50 Billion

BY THE COURIER NATION DESK · SOURCES: CBS NEWS, YAHOO NEWS, NEWSMAX

Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy got a cool reception from Senate Republicans at lunch Tuesday, the same day the administration formally asked for $50.1 billion to rebuild air traffic control after Friday's nationwide ground stop. "We're not gonna do a blank check," said Sen. Shelley Moore Capito. "We're not going to give him $50 billion," said Sen. John Kennedy.

"I'll take what I can get," Duffy said. The FAA has paused further router installations; its early finding shows no sign of a cyberattack. No hearing has been scheduled; all 13 Commerce Committee Democrats sent a letter demanding answers.

ELSEWHERE

Crimea. Ukraine says it collapsed a road span of the Kerch Bridge to Crimea; Russia said rail service resumed Tuesday. "The bridge will be restored," said Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov. (AP)

Mongolia. President Ukhnaa Khurelsukh announced his resignation amid corruption accusations, which he denies; parliament must approve it. (Reuters)

Bahrain. Bahrain said it intercepted Iranian drones aimed at a U.S. radar site — the third such attack in days. No one was hurt. (Reuters)

VERMONT

Around the Green Mountain State

KILLINGTON · SKI SEASON

Lifts Open to All Today

BY THE COURIER VERMONT DESK · SOURCES: KILLINGTON MOUNTAIN REPORT, BOSTON.COM, SKI VERMONT

After Tuesday's passholder day, Killington opens to everyone at 9 a.m. The K-1 Gondola runs until 3 p.m. and the North Ridge Quad until 3:30, serving Rime, Reason and Upper East Fall — three of 155 trails — plus Reason Park. There's no beginner terrain yet, and the resort warns cover may thin later in the day.

Who's next: Stowe, Okemo and Mount Snow are aiming for Saturday, Nov. 21; Stratton Nov. 25; Jay Peak Nov. 26; Smugglers' Notch, Bolton Valley and Bromley Nov. 27. Sugarbush has postponed its opening. All dates are tentative. (Ski Vermont)

BARRE · CITY COUNCIL

Barre Waits to Name a Mayor

With a rose and a veil at Thom Lauzon's nameplate, the council put off choosing his successor until a special meeting next week; Councilor Michael Deering is serving as temporary deputy mayor. "The respectful thing to do is take some time," said Councilor Amanda Gustin. (mynbc5)

DEER SEASON · STATEWIDE

A First in 39 Years

This rifle season is the first since 1987 to allow antlerless deer, with 12,050 lottery permits; the state expects about 3,000 does taken. The season runs through Nov. 29. (Valley News)

AROUND THE STATE

ESSEX JCT. — Toy Swap Saturday. Pick out "new-to-you" toys free at Brownell Library, Saturday, Nov. 21. (City of Essex Junction)

SCHOOLS — Smaller insurance bump. Vermont public schools expect their lowest health-insurance increase in years — "only a small relief," VTDigger reports.

BORDER — Fewer Canadians. Canadian spending in Vermont has plummeted as cross-border tourism fell 28% in 2025. (VTDigger)

FOLIAGE REPORT

Mild through Saturday

Tuesday: Burlington 53°; we called 53°.
Record: a bull's-eye — 11–6.
Snow: still 0.0" in Burlington.
Today: mild, 59°.
Friday: warmest, near 60°.
Sunday–Monday: rain likely.
Monday: mountain snow showers.
Sunset: 4:21 p.m.

THE WEEK IN VERMONT

Today Mild, 59°.
Tonight Cloudy, 38°.
Thu. Sunny, 58°.
Fri. Warmest, 60°.
Sat. Sunny, 59°.

Forecast data for Essex Junction; check before you go.

VERMONT BY THE NUMBERS

0–3	Bruins vs. Kings
13–7–1	Bruins' record
29	Kuemper's saves
11–3	Celtics, at Denver tonight
11–6	Beat the Forecaster

SPORTS

Kings blank Bruins · Maye update · Silver Sluggers · Celtics at Denver tonight

KINGS 3, BRUINS 0 · TD GARDEN, TUESDAY

TEAM	1	2	3	F
LA	1	1	1	3
BOS	0	0	0	0

Goals: Zuccarello, Lee, Gustafsson (empty net) · Kuemper 29 saves, 40th career shutout · DiPietro 19 saves

BRUINS

Kuemper Shuts Out Boston

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

Mats Zuccarello scored late in the first period and Andre Lee late in the second, and Darcy Kuemper stopped all 29 shots. Boston has lost three straight for the first time this season. "We got more and more frustrated and made some mental mistakes," said coach Marco Sturm. The Bruins are at Detroit tonight, 7:30. (NHL.com)

Patriots: Still no official word on Drake Maye's ankle; Mike Vrabel said, "I wouldn't imagine him being available when we come out of the bye." Tommy DeVito starts Nov. 29 at the Chargers. (AP, WBUR)

NFL · WEEK 12

Patriots on bye · all times ET

IND at HOU	Thu. 8:15
MIA at BUF	Sun. 1:00
BAL at CAR	Sun. 1:00
PIT at PHI	Sun. 1:00
TB at DET	Sun. 1:00
NYJ at LAC	Sun. 4:05
LV at DEN	Sun. 4:25
MIN at SF	SNF
CIN at WAS	MNF

Win probabilities via SportRadar. Times are Eastern Standard Time.

AFC EAST STANDINGS

TEAM	W-L	GB
Buffalo	8-1	—
New England	5-5	3½
NY Jets	2-8	6½
Miami	1-8	7

Via SportRadar. Patriots off this week; next: at Chargers, Sun. Nov. 29.

NHL · BRUINS CORNER

Celtics Head West

Idle Tuesday, Boston (11–3) opens a four-game trip at Denver tonight, 9:30, then plays at Sacramento Saturday and Golden State Sunday. (ESPN)

AROUND THE DIAMONDS & FIELDS

Awards & Rankings

Silver Slugger: New Red Sox Jake Bauers won NL utility (as a Brewer).

CFP top 4: Georgia, Utah, Alabama, UCLA.

TONIGHT ON TV (ET)

NHL Bruins at Red Wings, 7:30
NBA Celtics at Nuggets, 9:30
NCAA UVM at Yale, 7:00

THE BOURBON & WINE PAGE

Four Roses Small Batch · Guigal Côtes du Rhône · bourbon-braised beef and mushrooms



BOURBON OF THE WEEK

FOUR ROSES DISTILLERY · LAWRENCEBURG, KY.

Four Roses Small Batch

PROOF	AGE	RECIPES	PRICE
90	6–7 yrs	4 of 10	~$35

Four Roses makes 10 bourbon "recipes" from two mash bills and five yeast strains; Small Batch blends four of them. (Breaking Bourbon)

How it tastes: the distillery says "rich fruits with hints of sweet oak & caramel," then ripe red berries and dried spice, with a "soft, smooth & pleasantly long" finish.

A comeback story: for decades Seagram sold Four Roses straight bourbon only overseas — it was a top seller in Spain and Japan. Kirin bought the distillery in 2001 and brought the bourbon home. (Difford's Guide)



WINE OF THE WEEK

E. GUIGAL · AMPUIS, FRANCE

Guigal Côtes du Rhône Rouge

GRAPES	ABV	STYLE	PRICE
Syrah-led	14.5%	full red	~$18–21

Founded in 1946 by Etienne Guigal and still family-run, the house is in Ampuis, in the northern Rhône. This red is 50% Syrah, 40% Grenache and 10% Mourvèdre — unusually Syrah-heavy for the region. (Vintus, 67 Wine)

How it tastes: blackberry, black plum, pepper and wild herbs, with a hint of cocoa and "velvety tannins." (67 Wine)

The 2022 vintage: the hottest, driest Rhône season since 1950, with small yields. Grapes come from about 80 growers. (Vintus)

TODAY'S RECIPE

Made to go with a glass

Bourbon-Braised Beef & Mushrooms

Serves 4 · 30 min hands-on, 2½ hours total

THE BEEF

- 2 lb boneless chuck, 1½-inch cubes
- 1 tsp salt, ½ tsp pepper
- 2 tbsp flour, 2 tbsp olive oil
- ¼ cup bourbon
- 1 cup dry red wine
- 1½ cups beef broth

THE VEGETABLES

- 1 large onion, chopped
- 2 carrots, thick slices
- 8 oz cremini mushrooms
- 3 garlic cloves, 1 tbsp tomato paste
- 3 thyme sprigs, 1 bay leaf
- 1 tbsp butter, parsley

METHOD

1. Heat the oven to 325°F. Pat the beef dry, season and toss with the flour.

2. Brown the beef in the oil in a Dutch oven, in two batches, 6–8 minutes each; set aside.

3. Over medium, cook the onion, carrots and mushrooms until browned, about 8 minutes; stir in garlic and tomato paste for 1 minute.

4. Off the heat, add the bourbon; return to the heat and scrape up the browned bits. Add wine, broth, herbs and the beef; bring to a simmer.

5. Cover and braise in the oven 2 hours, until fork-tender. Stir in the butter, top with parsley, and serve over mashed potatoes or noodles.

Courier tip: Even better made a day ahead: chill overnight, lift off the fat and reheat gently.

POUR WITH IT · BOURBON

Four Roses: red-berry, caramel and spice notes echo the bourbon in the pan. (Courier pick)

POUR WITH IT · WINE

Guigal: the importer suggests it with "charcuterie and braises"; pepper and herbs meet the thyme and mushrooms. (Vintus)

THIS WEEK'S POUR

Cocktail Corner

The Boulevardier. Stir 1½ oz bourbon, ¾ oz sweet vermouth and ¾ oz Campari with ice; strain over a large cube. Garnish with an orange twist.

The story: First printed in Harry MacElhone's 1927 "Barflies and Cocktails," credited to Erskine Gwynne, founder of a Paris magazine for American expatriates called The Boulevardier. (Difford's Guide, Whisky Advocate)

BOURBON & WINE NEWS

Maker's Mark Gets a New Look

Maker's Mark unveiled a refreshed brand identity Nov. 17, built around its red wax, with lettering inspired by co-founder Margie Samuels' handwriting. It rolls out worldwide through 2027. (Fred Minnick)

Tomorrow: Beaujolais Nouveau Day.

THIS WEEK'S POUR PLAN

What to sip with what's on

TONIGHT · BRUINS 7:30

Beef in the oven by 5.

TONIGHT · CELTICS 9:30

A Boulevardier for the West.

THURSDAY, NOV. 19

Beaujolais Nouveau Day.

THE CELLAR & RICKHOUSE GLOSSARY

Nine wine words, nine bourbon words

Côtes du Rhône — France's broad Rhône Valley appellation.
Syrah — dark, peppery red grape.
Grenache — juicy, red-fruited grape.
Mourvèdre — dark, earthy blending grape.
Foudre — a very large oak cask.
Garrigue — wild herbs of southern France.
Tannin — the drying grip in red wine.
Vintage — the year the grapes grew.
Négociant — buys grapes from growers.
Small batch — a blend of select barrels.
Mash bill — the grain recipe.
High-rye — more rye, more spice.
Yeast strain — shapes fruit and spice notes.
Rickhouse — a barrel warehouse.
Straight bourbon — 2+ years, nothing added.
Campari — bitter red Italian aperitif.
Sweet vermouth — spiced, fortified wine.
Expressed twist — peel oils sprayed over the glass.

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. 9 – Sunday, Nov. 15

ON THE TUBE (ET)

Tonight 7:30 — Bruins at Detroit.
Tonight 9:30 — Celtics at Denver.
Tonight 7 — UVM men at Yale.
Today 2 p.m. — Fed minutes.
Tonight — Anthropic* IPO prices.
Thu. — Trump–Xi–Putin, Shenzhen.

AROUND VERMONT

Today 9 a.m. — Killington opens to all.
Thu. — Beaujolais Nouveau Day.
Fri. 7:30 — The Last Waltz, Flynn.
Sat. — Stowe aims to open.
Sat. — Toy Swap, Brownell.

WEATHER AT A GLANCE

Wed. — Mild, 59°.
Thu. — Sunny, 58°.
Fri. — Warmest, 60°.
Sat. — Sunny, 59°.
Sun. — Rain likely.
Mon. — Showers, 51°.

GOOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Kindness, critters & comebacks

CALIFORNIA

A Sea-Turtle First

Olive ridley sea turtles nested on the U.S. West Coast for the first time on record. The eggs hatched at the Aquarium of the Pacific, and the babies were released on Orange County beaches. (Good News Network)

KANSAS

Algeria Says Thank You

Lawrence, Kan., hosted Algeria's World Cup team in June. This month Algeria flew a delegation of Kansans — including the mayor — to Algiers for a royal welcome. (Good News Network, The Guardian)

OMAHA

Buffett's Thanksgiving Gift

Warren Buffett gave about $5.5 billion to four family foundations. "Much of my good fortune has come in the form of people who were kind to me and expected nothing in return," he wrote. (Good News Network)

THE BRONX

Quieter, Cleaner Buses

A family bus company switched to 45 electric school buses — New York's largest such fleet — for about 800 children in a neighborhood with high asthma rates. (Good News Network)

ATLANTA

King's 'Dream' on View

The only known handwritten draft of the "I Have a Dream" speech went on public display for the first time this week. "The past will protect the future," said Martin Luther King III. (WABE)

NEW JERSEY

CPR Class Pays Off

Two days after learning CPR, teenager Ariana Leonardis used it to revive a 3-week-old baby. (Good Good Good, NBC Philadelphia)

MEET THE CAST

The Deepest Water



Josh "Tic Tac" Foster

Idle Hour regular

"If I end up in the river, tell Darla I wasn't all talk."
— Chapter 5

A new face every day · catch up on Pages 9–11

SPORTS & STANDINGS

Every team in the NFL, NHL and NBA

NFL through Monday night · NHL and NBA through Tuesday · via SportRadar

Highlighted: the Patriots, Bruins and Celtics

NFL · DIVISION STANDINGS

AFC EAST	W	L	T	PCT
Buffalo	8	1	0	.889
New England	5	5	0	.500
N.Y. Jets	2	8	0	.200
Miami	1	8	0	.111

AFC NORTH	W	L	T	PCT
Cincinnati	7	2	0	.778
Pittsburgh	6	3	0	.667
Cleveland	6	4	0	.600
Baltimore	4	6	0	.400

AFC SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT
Jacksonville	7	2	0	.778
Houston	3	6	0	.333
Indianapolis	3	7	0	.300
Tennessee	1	8	0	.111

AFC WEST	W	L	T	PCT
Kansas City	7	2	0	.778
Denver	7	2	0	.778
Las Vegas	4	6	0	.400
L.A. Chargers	1	8	0	.111

NFC EAST	W	L	T	PCT
N.Y. Giants	5	3	1	.611
Dallas	4	6	0	.400
Washington	3	5	1	.389
Philadelphia	2	7	0	.222

NFC NORTH	W	L	T	PCT
Detroit	7	2	0	.778
Minnesota	7	2	0	.778
Chicago	7	2	0	.778
Green Bay	6	4	0	.600

NFC SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT
Carolina	4	5	0	.444
Tampa Bay	3	6	0	.333
New Orleans	3	6	0	.333
Atlanta	3	7	0	.300

NFC WEST	W	L	T	PCT
San Francisco	8	1	0	.889
L.A. Rams	6	4	0	.600
Seattle	6	4	0	.600
Arizona	3	7	0	.300

NHL · DIVISION STANDINGS

ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Tampa Bay	21	14	5	2	30
Ottawa	22	14	6	2	30
Montreal	21	12	5	4	28
Boston	21	13	7	1	27
Florida	23	12	8	3	27
Buffalo	21	8	9	4	20
Detroit	21	8	10	3	19
Toronto	23	8	13	2	18

METROPOLITAN	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Carolina	21	16	3	2	34
New Jersey	21	15	6	0	30
N.Y. Rangers	22	13	8	1	27
N.Y. Islanders	20	10	6	4	24
Washington	19	10	9	0	20
Philadelphia	24	7	11	6	20
Pittsburgh	20	7	11	2	16
Columbus	19	7	12	0	14

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Minnesota	23	16	3	4	36
Dallas	21	13	6	2	28
Colorado	21	12	6	3	27
Nashville	22	11	6	5	27
Utah	22	10	9	3	23
Winnipeg	22	10	9	3	23
St. Louis	21	10	9	2	22
Chicago	21	6	13	2	14

PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Edmonton	23	17	3	3	37
Vegas	23	13	6	4	30
Anaheim	22	11	10	1	23
San Jose	24	10	12	2	22
Calgary	22	10	11	1	21
Seattle	18	9	8	1	19
Los Angeles	19	6	11	2	14
Vancouver	23	5	17	1	11

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	12	3	.800	—
Boston	11	3	.786	0.5
New York	8	6	.571	3.5
Toronto	5	9	.357	6.5
Brooklyn	3	10	.231	8

CENTRAL · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Detroit	9	4	.692	—
Cleveland	8	7	.533	2
Indiana	5	9	.357	4.5
Chicago	3	10	.231	6
Milwaukee	1	13	.071	8.5

SOUTHEAST · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	8	6	.571	—
Atlanta	8	6	.571	—
Orlando	6	7	.462	1.5
Charlotte	4	10	.286	4
Washington	4	11	.267	4.5

NORTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Minnesota	11	4	.733	—
Portland	9	5	.643	1.5
Oklahoma City	9	5	.643	1.5
Denver	7	5	.583	2.5
Utah	2	13	.133	9

PACIFIC · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	13	2	.867	—
Golden State	8	6	.571	4.5
Phoenix	6	7	.462	6
LA Clippers	4	9	.308	8
Sacramento	1	12	.077	11

SOUTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
San Antonio	12	3	.800	—
Houston	11	4	.733	1
Memphis	10	4	.714	1.5
Dallas	7	7	.500	4.5
New Orleans	5	10	.333	7

NEW ENGLAND WATCH

Where our teams stand

Bruins (13–7–1) Fourth in the Atlantic after three straight losses, including Tuesday's 3–0 shutout by Los Angeles. At Detroit tonight, 7:30.

Celtics (11–3) Second in the East, half a game behind Philadelphia. At Denver tonight, 9:30.

Patriots (5–5) Second in the AFC East, 3½ games behind Buffalo. Bye this week; at the Chargers Sun., Nov. 29.

Around the NHL Edmonton (17–3–3) leads the league with 37 points; Minnesota has 36. Vancouver (5–17–1) has the fewest.

THE WEATHER DESK

Forecasts, almanac, mountains & Snow Watch 2026–27

THE FORECASTER'S TAKE

Right on the Nose

BY THE COURIER WEATHER DESK · SOURCE: FORECAST DATA · BURLINGTON CLIMATE REPORT (NWS)

We called 53° Tuesday, and Burlington hit exactly 53°. A bull's-eye — Beat the Forecaster improves to 11–6. Today's call: 59°.

Clouds this morning, then a mild afternoon near 59° in Essex Junction. Thursday through Saturday stay in the upper 50s to about 60° — roughly 13 degrees above normal — and dry.

Rain is likely Sunday and Monday (75%). Then winter arrives: highs in the mid-30s next Tuesday and Wednesday, with lows in the low 20s and the first snow chances of Thanksgiving week.

ESSEX JCT. ALMANAC

YESTERDAY	High 53° · Low 26°
SUNRISE	6:53 a.m.
SUNSET	4:21 p.m.
DAYLIGHT	9 hr 28 min
CHANGE	–2.2 min vs. yesterday
SINCE JUNE 21	6 hr 3 min less light
MOON	First quarter

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

ESSEX JUNCTION · THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS

TODAY	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
59° / 37°	58° / 38°	60° / 37°	59° / 38°	58° / 44°	51° / 33°	35° / 24°
HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW
						FREEZE
RAIN 10%	RAIN 5%	RAIN 10%	RAIN 0%	RAIN 75%	RAIN 75%	RAIN 15%
SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%	SNOW 0%

High in red, low in blue · FREEZE = low at or below 32° · bars show the chance of rain and of snow. Forecast data.

MOUNTAINS, VALLEYS & THE PLACES WE WATCH

STOWE — Lamoille County
55° / 33° · 10%
Highs near 30° next Tuesday.

EAST BURKE — Caledonia County
53° / 30° · 10%
Lows near 19° next week.

RUTLAND — Rutland County
56° / 29° · 10%
Near 59° Friday.

KILLINGTON — Rutland County
51° / 37° · 10%
Snowmaking cold by Tuesday.

NEWPORT — Orleans County
56° / 33° · 10%
Dry through Sunday.

SNOW WATCH 2026–27

Day 18

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

ESSEX JCT.	MIDDLEBURY	STOWE	SNOWSHOE, WV
0.0"	0.0"	4.0"	1.7"
Burlington (BTV)	Addison County	Mt. Mansfield	Highland House · Rimfire

SEVERE & NATIONAL

Soggy South Florida

Miami has a 90% chance of rain today but still tops out near 75°; St. Petersburg runs 70%. Wilmington, N.C., warms to 73° Friday.

Fulton, Mo., reaches 70° Friday, then a cold front Sunday brings rain and drops highs into the 40s. Roseburg, Ore., stays cool and showery, near 50°.

BEAT THE FORECASTER

We Called It

Tuesday: we said 53°; Burlington hit 53° (right on). Within 2° counts as a win.

Season record: 11–6 (65%)

Recent: Fri 38/39 W · Sat 39/39 W · Sun 42/45 L · Mon 44/46 W · Tue 53/53 W

Today's call: 59° in Essex Junction. Check back tomorrow.

WEATHER WORD

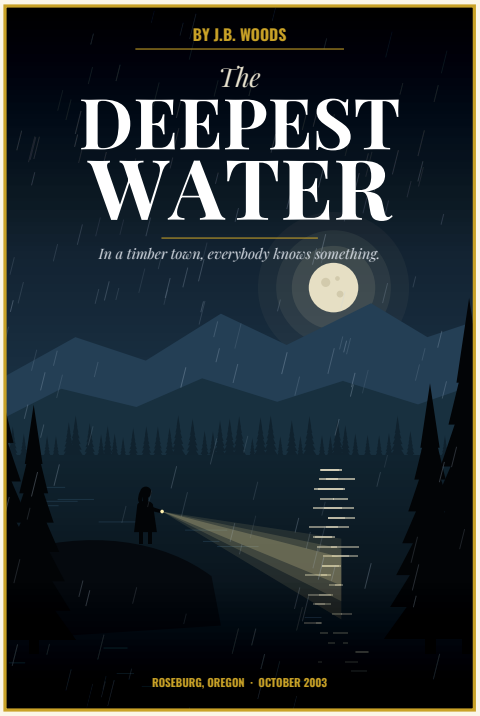
Black Ice

A thin, nearly clear coat of ice on roads — hard to see because the dark pavement shows through. Bridges and overpasses ice first. (NWS)

Not yet: lows stay above freezing in Essex Junction until next week.

THIS WEEK IN WEATHER

Nov. 24, 1950: The Great Appalachian Storm began over Thanksgiving week. Pittsburgh got 30.5 inches of snow, Mount Washington gusted to 160 mph, and about 160 people died — the costliest storm on record to that time. (NWS)



CHAPTER 39

Eighty-Seven

Roseburg · Crater Lake · November 2003

Previously: In Cannon Beach, Sally Lindgren told Agent Mason that Freddy Dunn's friend was Tic Tac. Mason drove through the night to tell Myers.

> *"Eighty-seven."*

ON THURSDAY MORNING the television on top of the filing cabinet at the *Umpqua Ledger* was tuned, as usual, to nothing in particular. Then a red banner slid across the screen — BREAKING NEWS — and the picture cut to a Klamath Falls anchor standing in front of a map of Crater Lake.

"A hiker on one of Crater Lake's closed trails this morning — a place where he'd normally be in hot water himself — spotted a body at the shoreline, caught on a rock ledge just above the water," the anchor said. "Park Ranger Montgomery Smith spoke with us about an hour ago."

The picture changed to the ranger in his green jacket, snow piled behind him and his breath showing.

"A hiker came up to notify me that he believed there was a deceased man on one of the large rocks near the base of the lake," Smith said. "I went down with him to see what he was seeing. Once we confirmed it, I followed protocol and notified the FBI, and we were able to bring the body up. The FBI has taken over the investigation. Based on our findings, we are treating this as a homicide."

He looked straight into the camera. "The FBI will give an update tonight at seven. Right now we don't believe there is any threat to the community. This is an isolated event."

"We'll bring you that news conference live tonight," the anchor said. "Now, back to the weather."

Walt Brenner was standing in his office doorway with his coffee. Tess was standing at her desk with her coat already half on.

"We should have had that," Walt said.

"We will tonight," said Tess.

* * *

Christine Mason had gotten back to Roseburg at nearly midnight and had told Dan Myers everything — the speakeasy tip, Freddy Dunn's torn-up house, Sally Lindgren and Tic Tac. She had slept four hours. Now her phone was ringing again.

"Well, Christine," Myers said, "we're still waiting on confirmation of who the hell they pulled out of Crater Lake. But I just got word from the medical examiner." He stopped. "The victim was stabbed eighty-seven times. The M.E. counted them twice. Eighty-seven."

There was a long pause on the line.

"Talk about anger," Mason said finally. "Any positive ID?"

"Hold on. I have a call coming in." The line went quiet, then Myers was back, and his voice was different. "They've matched the dental records, and the family has been notified. It's Harlan Voss."

Neither of them said anything for a moment.

"Are we sure?" Mason asked.

"They're sure." She heard him pick up his keys. "The bureau has put us in charge — the whole operation reports to you and me. I'm heading to the lake. I'll give the press conference when I get there. Meet me."

* * *

Two deputies knocked on the side door of the Voss house a little after one. Tiffany opened it herself. There was no one else in the house — no Trent standing guard in the kitchen, no lawyer on the phone. Trent Pryce hadn't been back since the night before the knife hit that door. He wasn't answering his phone, and nobody seemed to know where he had gone.

Tiffany listened to everything the deputies said. Then she thanked them, closed the door and sat down on the floor of the hallway with her back against it.

* * *

By then Tess was on I-5 heading south. She called Eye Spy from the road.

"Do you two want to ride along?" she asked Kally. "I'll swing through Medford and pick you up. And can you book us rooms at the Running Y? Everything closer is going to be packed with press and police."

"Already on it," said Kally.

Somewhere on Highway 140, climbing out of the Rogue Valley with Kally and Teresa in the car, Tess's cell phone rang. The number was one she hadn't seen in a long time — someone she had known in Portland, back when they both worked downtown, someone who now worked in the medical examiner's office in Klamath Falls.

"You didn't hear this from me," the voice said. "It's Harlan Voss. Dental records confirmed it this afternoon."

Tess gripped the wheel. Teresa, in the passenger seat, turned to look at her.

"There's more. He was stabbed eighty-seven times."

"Eighty-seven," Tess repeated.

"Eighty-seven. I have to go." The line went dead.

Tess drove for a full mile without speaking. Kally leaned forward from the back seat. "Tess? What is it?"

Eighty-seven. The knife in the river, engraved 1987. The knife in the ottoman. The knife in her own front door. *Ask them about August 1987.* The key in Josh Foster's tin, stamped with the same year.

"It's Harlan," she said quietly. "And somebody just signed it."

* * *

They reached Rim Village in the last gray light of the afternoon. Tess left Kally and Teresa in the warm car and walked to the stone wall above the lake, where a tall ranger in a flat hat was talking with a man in a dark overcoat.

The ranger was Montgomery Smith. He looked at her for a second, then nodded — he remembered the reporter from the day the two hikers went over the rim.

The man in the overcoat was Dan Myers.

"Down there," Smith was saying, pointing with his whole hand toward the far shore below Wizard

A work of fiction: characters and events are invented; places are real. · *Catch up: Reader's Guide, Pages 9–11.*

Continued on Page 8A ›

CHAPTER 39 · CONTINUED

Eighty-Seven

Roseburg · Crater Lake · November 2003

Island. “On the rocks, right at the waterline. Another week and the ice would have had him. We might not have found him until spring.”

Myers turned his head and saw Tess standing there with her notebook.

“Ms. Halloran,” he said. “Seven o’clock. Like everybody else.”

* * *

At seven o’clock the lights went up outside the park’s headquarters, a few miles below the rim. Snow banks lined the parking lot. Reporters from Klamath Falls, Medford, Eugene and Portland stood shoulder to shoulder, stamping their feet in the cold.

Agent Myers stepped up to the microphones with Agent Mason beside him.

“Earlier today, the body of a man was recovered from the shore of Crater Lake,” he said. “He has been identified as Harlan Voss of Roseburg. This is a homicide. If anyone knows anything about this crime — anything at all — contact us immediately. Any information could be helpful.” He looked out over the crowd. “Questions?”

Tess raised her hand.

“Tess Halloran, *Umpqua Ledger*. Are you treating Owen Marsh and Karen Marsh as suspects in this murder?”

The crowd went quiet. Cameras swung toward her. Half the reporters were looking at each other — *who? What is she talking about?*

Myers stared at Tess for a long, cold moment. Beside him, Mason didn’t move at all.

“Next question,” Myers said. “We have no suspects at this time, which is why we are asking for help from anyone who might have seen or heard anything.”

* * *

Back in Roseburg, Walt Brenner was alone at his desk with the little office television turned all the way up. When he heard Tess’s voice, he set down his coffee. When he heard her question, he got the biggest smile anyone at the *Ledger* had seen on his face in twenty years.

“That’s my girl!” he shouted at the empty newsroom.

Gloria Bordiam came running in from the hallway. “Are you all right, sir?”

“Yes, I’m fine,” said Walt, still smiling. “Close the door.”

* * *

Across town, Sheriff Ray Coyle sat in his office with his boots up on the desk, watching the same news conference on the small black-and-white television that sat on a stand he had built with his own hands. When Tess asked her question, he looked up at the screen. His face showed nothing at all.

And hundreds of miles away, in a room in Cannon Beach, a Portland station carried the same pictures — the snow banks, the lights, the agents at the microphones. Deputy Cal Walters sat on the edge of the bed and watched every second of it.

His face showed nothing either.

> *“That’s my girl!”*



At the rim, Ranger Smith shows Agent Myers where Harlan Voss was found — with Tess listening in. Scene from Chapter 39 · image by J.B. Woods

WHO INVESTIGATES A DEATH IN A NATIONAL PARK?

Federal ground: national parks are federal land, so the FBI usually leads a homicide investigation there instead of the county sheriff.

Rangers are officers too: many park rangers are commissioned law-enforcement officers. They secure the scene and work alongside the FBI.

The body: the county medical examiner takes charge, and the autopsy may be done by the state medical examiner’s office.

Who is it? In 2003, comparing dental X-rays with a dentist’s records was the fastest sure way to identify someone. DNA could take weeks.

A work of fiction: characters and events are invented; places are real. · *Catch up: Reader’s Guide, Pages 9–11.*

End of Chapter 39 · Chapter 40 coming soon

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 1–27

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."

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?"

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 28–39 (continued)

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

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.

CHAPTER 33

Above the Fold

At the Rogue Regency, clerk Kyle told Kally and Teresa the woman who asked for Room 118 called from a pay phone, a man talking beside her — and she didn't sound old. A back-door lock had been busted. Mason and Myers quietly began checking the sheriff's boots. Walt ordered Tess to write; her story, "Harlan Voss Spotted Near Crater Lake," was the talk of the town. Then Seven Feathers called Walters: the cameras had caught something.

CHAPTER 34

Who Came for the Wallet

Myers pulled the team off Room 118. At Seven Feathers, security chief Kevin Chase showed the tape: the wheelchair was placed so the retiree had to stop, a man from the bushes took his car in 30 seconds, and the "elderly" woman stood up and walked off — clearly in disguise. The boot prints turned out to match standard-issue Danners worn by deputies from Medford to Portland. At the Rice Hill truck stop, Mason learned Sheriff Coyle had picked up Harlan's wallet himself and asked if anything else had been left behind. At the Ranch Motel, the registration card was signed "H. VOSS" in careful block letters.

CHAPTER 35

Not His Hand

At the Voss house, Trent Pryce tried to send Mason to the family lawyer, but Tiffany came down and said the H. VOSS card was not Harlan's writing — and Harlan never left his wallet anywhere. Mason scolded Tess for her Crater Lake story and warned her to be careful. Kally and Teresa told Tess that Karen Marsh had arrests in Rutland, Vermont. Myers' lab matched the wheelchair prints to Karen. Then Deputy Walters called Myers alone: a back-side Seven Feathers camera showed the driver of the stolen car. It was Harlan Voss.

CHAPTER 36

Every Hand in That Car

The FBI went over the stolen Toyota in a Roseburg police garage and found a plain Crater Lake tourist map — and the fingerprints of both Owen and Karen Marsh. Karen skipped work and vanished; Myers put out an alert for her, and Owen couldn't be found either. Walters quietly told Tess that Harlan Voss had been driving, and Walt ordered the story onto Monday's front page. That night a stranger called Tiffany Voss: get them what they're looking for, or Harlan dies, and she's next. Then a 1987 county knife hit her door. Tess and Kally reminded the FBI about Freddy's murder, and Myers sent Mason to Cannon Beach to look for Owen.

CHAPTER 37

Where the Rock Should Be

Deputy Walters turned in a last-minute vacation slip, and Gloria Bordiam, at the sheriff's office to drop off a found handbag, heard where he was going: Cannon Beach, Haystack Rock and the Screw and Brew. She told Tess right away. The next afternoon Agent Mason walked into the Screw and Brew and found Walters on a stool. Myers called with one bar of service; all she caught was something like "Tic Tac" before the call died in a heavy fog that hid Haystack Rock completely. She checked into the Waves and left Myers messages. That night she watched Walters leave the Screw and Brew in a car driven by a man she couldn't see. Night bartender Tammy Stevens told her Freddy Dunn had always watched his back, as if someone was out to get him — and had written down his pastrami recipe step by step, almost as if he knew his time was coming.

CHAPTER 38

Over His Shoulder

Myers called Mason at the Waves: an anonymous, slurring caller claimed Josh "Tic Tac" Foster had been seen drinking alone at a speakeasy club in Medford; Medford police would check. Mason mentioned that Walters was in Cannon Beach on vacation. The Cannon Beach police had no breakthrough on Freddy Dunn's murder, but the night before, someone had torn apart Freddy's empty house — walls opened, closets gutted, nothing stolen. His sister, Samantha Dunn, found it. Mason walked the alley where Freddy died and learned he cut through it every night. At the Screw and Brew, manager Sally Lindgren said Freddy was always looking over his shoulder, loved his sister, and had two friends: Owen, and one he called Tic Tac, who came in once shortly after Freddy died and hasn't been seen since. Walters didn't answer Mason's call, and she drove back to Roseburg to tell Myers.

CHAPTER 39

Eighty-Seven

On Thursday morning a hiker on a closed trail spotted a body on a rock ledge at the Crater Lake shoreline. Ranger Montgomery Smith brought the FBI in and called it a homicide. Myers told Mason the victim had been stabbed eighty-seven times; dental records confirmed it was Harlan Voss, and the bureau put Myers and Mason in charge. Deputies told Tiffany, who was alone — Trent Pryce had been gone since the night before the knife hit her door. Driving to the lake with Kally and Teresa, Tess got a call from an old Portland acquaintance at the Klamath Falls medical examiner's office: it was Harlan, stabbed eighty-seven times. Tess connected the number to the 1987 knives and key. At Rim Village, Smith showed Myers where the body lay; Myers told Tess, "Seven o'clock. Like everybody else." At the news conference Tess asked whether Owen and Karen Marsh were suspects. Myers said, "Next question," and that there were no suspects. Back in Roseburg, Walt shouted, "That's my girl!" Sheriff Coyle and Deputy Walters, in Cannon Beach, watched without expression.

THE CASE BOARD

Where things stand through Chapter 39

THE DEAD

Gordon Pryce — lumber baron. Found stabbed off Little River Road with a 1987 county knife (Ch. 24).

Freddy Dunn — Owen's prison friend and alibi. Stabbed in a Cannon Beach alley (Ch. 16, 38).

Harlan Voss — found on the Crater Lake shore, stabbed 87 times (Ch. 39).

MISSING · ON THE RUN

Josh "Tic Tac" Foster — gone since October; a tipster puts him at a Medford speakeasy.

Owen Marsh — can't be found.

Karen Marsh — skipped work; FBI alert out.

Trent Pryce — gone since the night before the knife hit Tiffany's door.

PERSONS OF INTEREST

Owen & Karen Marsh — prints in the stolen car. Tess asked the FBI if they're suspects: "Next question."

Sheriff Coyle — picked up Harlan's wallet himself.

THE CLUES

Four knives engraved DOUGLAS COUNTY ROADS · 1987.

A key stamped 1987; a box gone from Room 118's wall.

"Ask them about August 1987."

Harlan: 87 stab wounds.

OPEN QUESTIONS

Who killed Gordon, Freddy and Harlan — the same hand?

Who tore apart Freddy's empty house?

What are "they" looking for?

Where are Tic Tac and Trent?

What happened in August 1987?

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 · This day in history · Scams · Trivia

COLD CASE FILE

Pownal, Vermont · 1995

Edward Reynolds: Dead Before the Fire

Early on the morning of April 27, 1995, a fire was discovered at the Maple Grove Road home of Edward Reynolds, 62, who lived alone in Pownal. He was found dead inside.

An autopsy showed he had died before the fire started, and that the fire played no part in his death.

Investigators believe he likely died two days earlier, on April 25, and that the fire rekindled on the morning of the 27th.

No one has ever been charged. The Vermont State Police still want to hear from anyone who knew him or saw anything that week.

Tips: Major Crime Unit, 802-244-8727 (case 95C300732); vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit (anonymous); or text VTIPS to 274637. (Vermont State Police)

CASE FACTS

NAME
Edward Reynolds
AGE
62
DIED
About April 25, 1995
WHERE
Pownal
CASE
95C300732
STATUS
Unsolved
TIPS
802-244-8727

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

VERMONT POLICE BLOTTER

BURLINGTON — Refga Laku, 30, faces charges including attempted murder after police say she attacked her caseworker outside the Chittenden County Courthouse Monday afternoon. (WCAX)

BRATTLEBORO — A Connecticut man faces terrorism charges after authorities say he called police threatening Brattleboro Elementary School; area schools locked down and no one was hurt. (WCAX)

BRISTOL — Clifton Laplant, 54, of Starksboro was cited for violating release conditions, giving false information and driving with a criminally suspended license. (Vermont State Police)

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit

COURT WATCH

Plymouth, Mass. — A judge set March 29, 2027, for the retrial of Lindsay Clancy, charged in the deaths of her three children in Duxbury; her first trial ended in a mistrial. (AP)

Vt. Criminal Justice Council — Voted unanimously to permanently revoke the police certification of a former Rutland County deputy who shared a racist video. "This was overt racism," the council's prosecutor said. (VTDigger)

CASE CLOSED · HOW IT WAS CRACKED

BRINK'S, 1950

On Jan. 17, 1950, seven men in peacoats, chauffeur's caps and Halloween masks slipped into the Brink's armored-car headquarters in Boston's North End, tied up five employees and walked out with about $1.2 million in cash and $1.5 million more in checks and securities. The FBI chased thousands of leads for six years. The break came in January 1956, when gang member Joseph "Specs" O'Keefe — bitter over his share and having survived an attempt on his life — confessed. Days before the statute of limitations ran out, 11 men were indicted; eight were convicted. Most of the cash was never found. (FBI, Smithsonian)

ON THIS DAY IN CRIME HISTORY

November 18

1910 — **London's "Black Friday"**
More than 300 suffragettes marched from Caxton Hall toward Parliament. Police fought them for six hours; 115 women and four men were arrested. The charges were dropped the next day.

1991 — **Two Hostages Go Free**
Kidnappers in Lebanon released Anglican envoy Terry Waite and American educator Thomas Sutherland. Waite had been held nearly five years; Sutherland more than six.

2005 — **Robert Blake Found Liable**
Eight months after a criminal jury acquitted him of murder, a civil jury found the actor liable in the 2001 death of his wife, Bonny Lee Bakley, and ordered $30 million paid to her children.

2021 — **Malcolm X Convictions Thrown Out**
A New York judge vacated the 1966 convictions of Muhammad Aziz and the late Khalil Islam in Malcolm X's killing, saying the case "cries out for fundamental justice."

Sources: UK National Archives, AP Today in History.

SCAM ALERT

Holiday Travel Scams

The Better Business Bureau warns that travel and timeshare scams jump around the holidays — fake airline tickets, timeshare "resale" offers and slick AI-made travel ads. In one Texas region, losses rose 375% last holiday season. (BBB via KXXV)

Red flags: rock-bottom prices; requests to pay by wire, crypto or gift card; links in unexpected texts or emails.

Protect yourself: check the company's BBB profile and complaints first, and book through sites you type in yourself. Report at BBB.org/ScamTracker.

CRIME TRIVIA

Test Your Detective Skills

In 1987 an English killer was caught after he talked a co-worker into giving a blood sample in his place. Which scientist's new technique cracked the case?

Answer: Sir Alec Jeffreys — DNA fingerprinting. (Simply Forensic)

THE SNOW DESK

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

Day 18 OF 152

Totals through Tuesday, Nov. 17

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S. · LAST 24 HOURS

10.0" · Alyeska Weather Mid, AK

NOV | DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR 1

ESSEX JCT.

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
0.0"	0.0"

Official: Burlington airport (BTV)
Normal to date: 2.1" · Depth: 0"

MIDDLEBURY

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
—	0.0"

Nearest observer reports
No report = no observer reading that day

STOWE

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
—	4.0"

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

SNOWSHOE, WV

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
0.0"	1.7"

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	2.1	−2.1	0.0
Boston	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	−0.2	0
Portland, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	−0.7	0.0
Caribou, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	−4.3	0.0
Concord, N.H.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	−0.8	0.0
Albany, N.Y.	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.8	−0.5	0.0
Syracuse, N.Y.	0.0	0.3	0.3	3.6	−3.3	0.0
Buffalo, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	−3.0	0.0
New York City	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	−0.2	0.0
Erie, Pa.	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	−4.0	0.0
Detroit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	−0.6	0.0
Chicago	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	−0.5	0.0
Minneapolis	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	−3.0	0.0
Denver	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0
Salt Lake City	0.7	0.7	0.7	2.9	−2.2	0.0
Anchorage, Alaska	0.0	5.5	5.5	6.3	−0.8	5.0

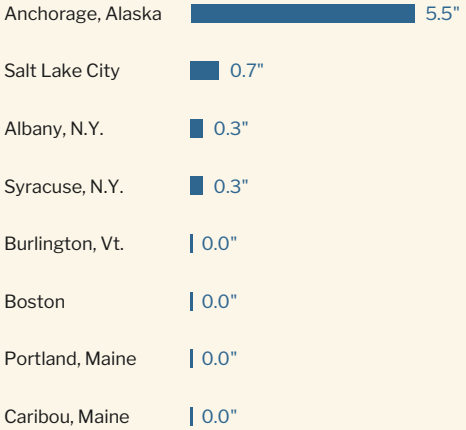
NWS Daily Climate Reports. Season and normal count from Nov. 1. T = trace. Depth = snow on the ground, inches.

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S.

Biggest 24-hour totals reported to the NWS

1	Alyeska Weather Mid, AK Elev. 1644 ft	10.0"
2	Anchorage Upper Dearmoun, AK Elev. 1289 ft	6.0"
3	Anchorage, AK Elev. 128 ft	5.5"
4	Sterling 6 SW, AK Elev. 299 ft	5.5"
5	Alyeska Base, AK Elev. 371 ft	4.0"
6	Anchorage 4.7 SSW, AK Elev. 112 ft	3.6"
7	Kenai River At Kenai Keys, AK Elev. 194 ft	3.5"
8	Crater Lake National Park Hq, OR Elev. 6499 ft	3.0"
9	Davis., WV Elev. 3727 ft	2.3"
10	Sleetmute 1.4 SSE, AK Elev. 203 ft	2.2"

SEASON LEADERS · CITIES



SNOWSHOE MOUNTAIN REPORT

Opening day in 7 days — Wed., Nov. 25 (target, weather permitting)

Now: Clear and 37° this morning.

Today: Sunny, 59°.

Thursday: Near 61° — the warmest day.

Sunday: Rain likely (75%), 53°.

Monday: Colder: high 46°, low near 30°.

Snowmaking: Lows in the upper 20s Monday through Wednesday; snow possible Nov. 25 (55%).

Countdown: Seven days to the Nov. 25 opening target.

SNOW NOTES

Day 18 — still zero. Burlington reached 53° Tuesday; no snow has been measured there this season. Stowe's season total stands at 4.0" (WCAX).

Killington opens to all. Lifts open to the public at 9 a.m. today after Tuesday's passholder day.

Mild through Saturday. Upper 50s to 60° in Essex Junction; Stowe and East Burke in the mid-50s.

Then winter returns. After rain Sunday and Monday, highs fall to about 30° in the mountains next Tuesday, with lows in the upper teens — snowmaking weather.

PUZZLES & GAMES

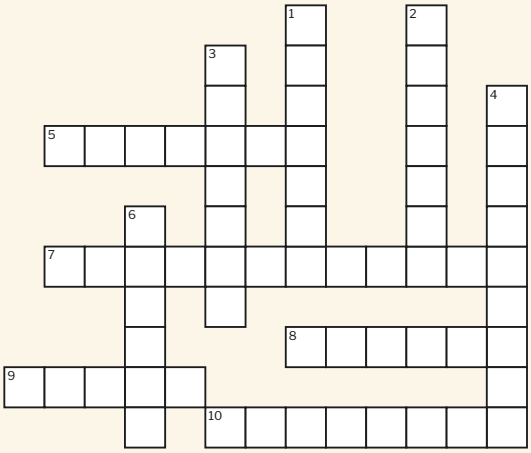
Grab a pencil and your coffee

THE DAILY SUDOKU

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

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD · FOUR ROSES & VOYAGER



ACROSS

5 Metallica's Kirk, 64 today (7)
7 Bourbon, vermouth, Campari (12)
8 1950 Boston robbery (6)
9 Peppery Rhône grape (5)
10 DNA fingerprinting pioneer (8)

DOWN

1 Alaska's senator-elect (7)
2 Bitter red aperitif (7)
3 Kings goalie, 29 saves (7)
4 Lawrenceburg's Small Batch (9)
6 Ampuis wine house (6)

WORD SEARCH · THE TWELVE SIGNS

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

FIND 12 WORDS

AQUARIUS
ARIES
CANCER
CAPRICORN
GEMINI
LEO
LIBRA
PISCES
SAGITTARIUS
SCORPIO
TAURUS
VIRGO

Across, down, diagonal — some backward.

THE COURIER QUIZ

Five Questions

1. Who met President Trump on the airport tarmac in Shenzhen?

2. How far from Earth is Voyager 1 this morning?

3. What revenue did Nvidia report?

4. Who shut out the Bruins Tuesday?

5. What are the three ingredients in a Boulevardier?

NAME THAT YEAR

Three Clues

- Apollo 12 lands in the Ocean of Storms.
- Half a million people on a farm in Bethel, N.Y.
- Big Bird debuts on PBS.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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 18 BIRTHDAYS

This Day in Music

1950 — Graham Parker — 76.

1960 — Kim Wilde — 66.

1962 — Kirk Hammett of Metallica — 64.

1965 — Tim DeLaughter of the Polyphonic Spree — 61.

1977 — Fabolous — 49.

Also today: in 1993, Nirvana taped "MTV Unplugged" in New York — in a single take.



SPIN THIS

Achtung Baby

U2 · November 1991

Thirty-five years old this week. Begun at Berlin's Hansa studios and finished in Dublin with Daniel Lanois and Brian Eno, it traded U2's earnest '80s sound for distortion and irony.

"The Fly" entered the British chart at No. 1, and the album gave us "Mysterious Ways" and "One." (uDiscover Music)

Best with: a Boulevardier.

LIVE IN VERMONT

Shows Near Home

Fri. Nov. 20 · The Last Waltz Revisited, The Flynn

Sat. Nov. 28 · The Eyetraps, Higher Ground

Sat. Dec. 19 · The Four Horsemen, Higher Ground

Thu. Dec. 31 · Start Making Sense, Higher Ground

Listings via Songkick; check venues for tickets.

MUSIC TRIVIA

On Nov. 18, 1987, a country-rock act called the Dalton Brothers opened a Los Angeles show. Who were they really?

ANSWERS — Quiz: 1. Chinese leader Xi Jinping. 2. One light-day — about 16 billion miles. 3. $115.8 billion. 4. Darcy Kuemper and the Kings, 3–0. 5. Bourbon, sweet vermouth, Campari. Name That Year: 1969. Music trivia: U2 — opening for themselves in disguise. **Yesterday's crossword:** 1A LAUZON · 6A ORFILA · 8A KILLINGTON · 9A ANTWERP · 10A WHEATED · 1D LOOSEN · 2D GAUDIO · 3D MANILA · 4D ROUTER · 5D PATTINSON · 7D FANCYFREE

THE STARS

Your daily horoscope · written by the Courier, just for fun

Born today? You're a Scorpio — and today's readings are for entertainment only.

★ ARIES — Mar. 21 – Apr. 19

You'll want to charge ahead on a project today, and for once the timing is on your side. Say yes to the first good idea, then let someone else handle the fine print.

LUCKY NUMBER 9 **COLOR** BRICK RED

★ TAURUS — Apr. 20 – May 20

A comfortable routine pays off. Spend a little on something that will last, not something that will be gone by Friday. A quiet evening at home is exactly right.

LUCKY NUMBER 24 **COLOR** FOREST GREEN

★ GEMINI — May 21 – June 20

Your phone may not stop buzzing, and most of it is good news. Answer the call you've been putting off; it's shorter and friendlier than you expect.

LUCKY NUMBER 5 **COLOR** SKY BLUE

★ CANCER — June 21 – July 22

Family is on your mind. A small kindness — a note, a pot of soup, a ride somewhere — means more than you'll ever hear about. Let someone return the favor.

LUCKY NUMBER 31 **COLOR** SILVER

★ LEO — July 23 – Aug. 22

People are watching, so give them a show worth watching. Lead with generosity and the spotlight finds you anyway. Save some energy for tonight.

LUCKY NUMBER 1 **COLOR** GOLD

★ VIRGO — Aug. 23 – Sept. 22

You'll spot the one detail everyone else missed. Fix it kindly, without a lecture, and you'll win an ally. Clear one cluttered drawer before bed.

LUCKY NUMBER 16 **COLOR** NAVY

★ LIBRA — Sept. 23 – Oct. 22

Two choices look equally good, so stop weighing them and pick one. Either way, you come out ahead. A friend wants your opinion — give it honestly.

LUCKY NUMBER 7 **COLOR** ROSE

★ SCORPIO — Oct. 23 – Nov. 21

Birthday season suits you. Trust your gut on a money matter, but sleep on it before you sign anything. Someone has a secret worth keeping.

LUCKY NUMBER 13 **COLOR** BURGUNDY

★ SAGITTARIUS — Nov. 22 – Dec. 21

Your birthday season starts Saturday, and the itch to travel is back. Plan the trip, even if you can't take it yet. A long walk clears your head.

LUCKY NUMBER 42 **COLOR** PURPLE

★ CAPRICORN — Dec. 22 – Jan. 19

Steady work earns quiet respect today. Don't wait for praise; it's coming, just later than you'd like. Treat yourself to something well made.

LUCKY NUMBER 10 **COLOR** CHARCOAL

★ AQUARIUS — Jan. 20 – Feb. 18

An odd idea turns out to be a smart one. Share it with someone who can help it grow. Leave room in the evening for something unplanned.

LUCKY NUMBER 11 **COLOR** TURQUOISE

★ PISCES — Feb. 19 – Mar. 20

Your imagination is running at full speed. Write it down before it slips away. Someone close to you needs a good listener more than advice.

LUCKY NUMBER 22 **COLOR** SEA GREEN

TONIGHT'S SKY

Sun, moon and what to look for over Essex Junction

SUNRISE	**6:53 a.m.**
SUNSET	**4:21 p.m.**
DAYLIGHT	**9 hr 28 min**
CHANGE	**-2.2 min vs. yesterday**
MOON	**First quarter**

Times for Essex Junction, Vt.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Leonid meteors. The Leonid meteor shower peaked Tuesday evening, and a few stragglers keep flying for several more nights. Look after the moon sets, from about midnight until dawn, when skies are darkest. Expect up to about 15 an hour under ideal dark skies — fewer near town lights. They seem to come from the constellation Leo, high in the east before dawn. (Star Walk, EarthSky)

The moon is just past first quarter and growing toward full, so it lights up the evening sky and sets around midnight.

Before sunrise: Star Walk says a lineup of planets — Mercury, Venus, Mars and Jupiter — is visible low in the east through Nov. 22.

Tip: give your eyes 20 minutes to adjust to the dark, and leave the phone in your pocket. Dress warm — clear nights are cold ones.

ACROSS THE USA

A light look at news from every state

Compiled by the Courier from local TV stations, newspapers and public radio over the past few days; sources in parentheses. Today: 33 states — more next Sunday.

ALABAMA Huntsville: City leaders cut the ribbon at 2 p.m. today on a new Ditto Landing event center built for concerts, large events and weddings. (WAFF 48)

ALASKA Anchorage: In what the station called an unprecedented signing, three South Anchorage High wrestlers from the same class committed to NCAA Division I programs. (Alaska's News Source)

ARIZONA Glendale: Mattel Adventure Park is now "Mattel City," with plans for two hotels, 800-plus rooms and rides based on Masters of the Universe and Polly Pocket. (Arizona's Family)

ARKANSAS Jonesboro: Jonesboro Kindergarten Center students brought their teddy bears to a "teddy bear clinic" at NEACTC to get used to doctor visits. (KAIT Region 8 News)

CALIFORNIA Creston: Creston Manor, a ranch of nearly 600 acres once owned by Alex Trebek, goes to auction Dec. 16 after failing to sell at about $6.45 million. (KCRA 3)

COLORADO Grand Junction: Mesa County Libraries' 19th annual Culture Fest drew hundreds to explore world traditions, including Ukrainian culture shared by a Grand Junction native. (KKCO 11 News)

CONNECTICUT Niantic: More than 150 decorated buoys are on display at Scheer Park for the Buoys by the Bay holiday fundraiser. (WFSB Channel 3)

DELAWARE Rehoboth Beach: Rising construction costs have trimmed the One Rehoboth Avenue hotel plan: no underground garage, no pool and 12 fewer rooms. (WDEL)

FLORIDA Cedar Key: Paddlers made the inaugural trip on Cedar Key's new Historic Trestle Paddling Trail, celebrated with a ribbon-cutting. (WCJB TV20)

GEORGIA Albany: "Motorcycle Marvin" Thomas is collecting bicycles to give to kids in his "Christmas on Wheels" giveaway. (WALB)

HAWAII Waikiki: A surprise Tuesday fireworks show, funded by a Japanese company to mark a sister-city tie, startled the South Shore. Some thought it was thunder. (Hawaii News Now)

IDAHO Boise: Boise unveiled two designs to restore Lowell Pool, which opened in 1953 and has been closed since 2020. The project is estimated at $9.4 million. (KBOI 2)

ILLINOIS Decatur: Eisenhower High School's band will play at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, the attack's 85th anniversary, after more than a year of fundraising. (WAND)

INDIANA Indianapolis: Castle High School's Marching Knights took first place in Class AAA at the 2026 Grand National Championships. (14 News (WFIE))

IOWA Keota: A 12-year-old Keota boy recovering from cardiac arrest is the Hawkeyes' Kid Captain as Iowa travels to Illinois on Saturday. (KCRG)

KANSAS Syracuse: A rare piebald black bear, whose genetic condition gives it an unusual coat, was spotted in a field near Syracuse in western Kansas. (KWCH 12)

KENTUCKY Bowling Green: SKYPAC is hosting five free events through Dec. 20, including two concerts, a tree lighting, an art exhibit and a film. (WBKO)

LOUISIANA Shreveport: "Fifty Decembers," a 45-minute documentary on the Independence Bowl's 50 years, debuts Thursday at 6 p.m. at the Robinson Film Center. (KSLA 12)

MAINE Ogunquit: The family behind the Omelette Factory sued the town in federal court over $1,700 in fines for two 6-foot tin rooster statues in their yard. (WGME 13)

MARYLAND Cambridge: The Tolley Theater, "dark for decades," may get a second act: a group wants to buy it and restore it as a performing arts center. (WBOC 16)

MASSACHUSETTS Springfield: "A Christmas Story" actor Zack Ward joined fans for trivia, a Q&A; and photos at the Basketball Hall of Fame. (Western Mass News)

MICHIGAN Marquette: Northern Michigan University undergraduates got just three minutes each to present their research to judges and an audience at the first Wildcat Research Day. (WLUC TV6)

MINNESOTA Duluth: Two Blue Angels pilots flew into Duluth in an F/A-18 Hornet to scout for the team's June 26-27 shows at the 2027 Duluth Airshow. (Northern News Now)

MISSISSIPPI Hattiesburg: An artist is repainting the animal figures on the Hattiesburg Zoo's historic carousel. (WDAM 7)

MISSOURI Sikeston: The Light Up Sikeston Christmas light display opens Nov. 28 for its seventh season. (KFVS12)

MONTANA Bozeman: Montana visits Montana State Saturday for the Brawl of the Wild, with the Great Divide Trophy and a share of the Big Sky title on the line. (NBC Montana)

NEBRASKA Lincoln: The property spaces for a Lincoln-themed Monopoly board were unveiled after months of work. (10/11 NOW)

NEVADA Reno: Reno held a meeting on the future of the historic Lear Theater, vacant for over a decade. The city, which bought it in 2023, will seek proposals in spring 2027. (KOLO 8)

NEW HAMPSHIRE Manchester: A cat was rescued from a highway sign over I-293 in Manchester. (WMUR 9)

NEW YORK Lake Placid: A new report says Lake Placid's Olympic venues generate $484 million, crediting them with major tourism revenue. (WCAX)

SOUTH CAROLINA Beaufort: During Alzheimer's awareness month, Memory Matters is urging Beaufort County families to watch for warning signs and seek early evaluations. (WTOC 11)

TEXAS Kilgore: Kilgore College made TIME magazine's first list of the nation's top community colleges, which recognizes 250 schools. (KSLA 12)

VERMONT Bennington: Bennington police rescued a skunk that got stuck in a storm drain. (WCAX)