ESSEX JCT. TODAY
61°
Low 36° · Sunny and warm
Near 59° Saturday

The Morning Courier

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

THANKSGIVING
6 DAYS
Turkey, then maybe snow
A coastal storm is possible

VOL. I · NO. 58 · FREE TO JB | FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2026 · ESSEX JCT., VT | SUNRISE 6:55 A.M. · SUNSET 4:20 P.M.

DOW 49,097 ▼ −2.19% ◆ **S&P 500** 7,176 ▼ −2.02% ◆ **NVDA** $145.98 ▼ −3.30% ◆ **PLTR** $153.68 ▼ −1.91% ◆ **MSFT** $498.30 ▼ −1.78% ◆ **GAS** $3.72

WORLD · AFTER SHENZHEN

Big Words, Little Detail

The U.S., China and Russia sign a joint declaration on nuclear risk — with nothing on Ukraine. Trump calls the summit "a 12."

BY THE NUMBERS

1½	Hours the three leaders met together
0	Mentions of Ukraine in the declaration
12	Trump's score, "on a scale of zero to 10"
Noon	Trump's news conference today

BY THE COURIER WORLD DESK · SOURCES: CBS NEWS, FOX NEWS, TIME

The first summit of the United States, China and Russia ended Thursday in Shenzhen with a joint declaration. The three leaders pledged a dialogue on reducing nuclear risks, backed reform of the U.N. Security Council, promised more oil and fuel supplies and said the International Criminal Court "should not abuse their powers." It made no mention of Ukraine. CBS News said the meeting appeared "to achieve little."

"I think it was a 12," President Trump told NBC. "On a scale of zero to 10, I think it was a 12." Of Vladimir Putin, he said, "He's my friend," and "now, he wants to make a deal, and hopefully Zelensky does, too." Putin said Ukraine and Europe were "not yet ready" to compromise.

In Poland, Prime Minister Donald Tusk answered: "God, protect us from such friends." Trump landed at Joint Base Andrews at 8:01 p.m. Thursday and holds a news conference at noon today.

Meanwhile, European leaders meeting with Ukraine's President Zelensky in Berlin won a seat at the next round of U.S.-led peace talks. "Should peace negotiations take place, we will be involved," said Germany's Chancellor Friedrich Merz. (TIME)

ESSEX JUNCTION FORECAST

47°
Low tonight: 36°

Mostly sunny and unusually warm.
Light wind. High 61°.

RAIN TODAY 0% | SNOW TODAY 0%
Mild weekend; much colder Tuesday

THE WEEK AHEAD

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
59°	56°	57°	34°
R 0% S 0%	R 30% S 0%	R 15% S 0%	R 15% S 15%

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

FORECASTER'S NOTE

We called 58° Thursday; Burlington hit 59°. Beat the Forecaster: 13–6.

HEALTH · MEASLES

U.S. Loses Its Measles Status

BY THE COURIER NATION DESK · SOURCES: ABC NEWS, VTDIGGER

After 26 years, the United States has lost its measles "elimination" status, the Pan American Health Organization announced. The CDC counts 5,412 cases and 10 deaths this year. "The measles elimination designation is not what protects Americans. Vaccination does," said CDC Director Dr. Erica Schwartz.

Vermont has had fewer than five cases, in Orleans County. "It feels tragic to me. This should never have happened," said Health Commissioner Dr. Rick Hildebrant.

INSIDE TODAY · IN BRIEF

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VERMONT	Police system: FBI notified.	3
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WEATHER AROUND THE MAP

Friday forecasts · forecast data · "Now" = overnight

	NOW	HI	LO	RAIN	SNOW
MIDDLEBURY, VT	44°	62°	34°	0%	
MT. WASHINGTON, NH	39°	46°	37°	0%	0%
SNOWSHOE, WV	41°	60°	41°	10%	
ROSEBURG, OR	39°	48°	34°	10%	
E. DENNIS, MA · CAPE	48°	62°	46°	10%	
CHARLOTTE, NC	42°	70°	42°	10%	
WILMINGTON, NC	58°	71°	57°	44%	
ST. PETERSBURG, FL	70°	73°	70°	20%	
FULTON, MO	48°	72°	47°	0%	
HOT SPOT · MIAMI, FL	72°	81°	72°	20%	



THE DEEPEST WATER · A COURIER SERIAL
New today: Chapter 40, "More Than Lumber." Pages 8–8A.

INSIDE TODAY

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MARKETS & MONEY

Before the bell · Dow sinks 1,101 below 50,000 · Anthropic closes up 17% in its debut · Friday, November 20*

THURSDAY'S CLOSES · FRIDAY FUTURES BELOW

INDEX / STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	PCT	DAY MOVE
Dow Jones Industrials	49,097.06	−1,099.30	−2.19%	
S&P 500	7,175.83	−147.94	−2.02%	
Nasdaq Composite	23,879.20	−549.65	−2.25%	
Russell 2000	2,654.67	−59.72	−2.20%	
JB'S WATCHLIST				
Nvidia (NVDA)	145.98	−4.98	−3.30%	
Palantir (PLTR)	153.68	−2.99	−1.91%	
Microsoft (MSFT)	498.30	−9.03	−1.78%	
BIG NAMES				
Anthropic (ANT)*	97.17	+14.17	+17.07%	

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

RATES · ENERGY · METALS

S&P futures 4 a.m.	−0.6%
Nasdaq-100 fut. 4 a.m.	−1.1%
10-yr Treasury Thu.	5.04%
VIX fear gauge	28.56
WTI crude Thu.	$83.21
Gold Thu.	$3,660
Taiex Fri.	−6.2%
Nikkei Fri.	−5.1%
Kospi Fri.	−5.2%

THE WEEK AHEAD **TODAY** Michigan sentiment (final) **TUE.** Consumer confidence; Dell, HP, Best Buy **WED.** PCE, GDP, Beige Book **THU.–FRI.** Closed Thanksgiving; 1 p.m

Thursday: jobless claims 203,000; the Philadelphia Fed factory index fell to 6.3 from 20.9; Fed-hike odds for December near 96% (CME). Reuters, AP, CNBC, CME FedWatch, Yahoo Finance

BEFORE THE BELL

The Dow Breaks Below 50,000

BY THE COURIER MARKETS DESK · SOURCES: REUTERS, AP, CNBC

The Dow fell 1,101 points Thursday, its first close below 50,000 since June, and the S&P; 500 lost 2% for its sixth straight loss. Only 37 S&P; stocks rose; 446 fell. The Nasdaq had been up as much as 2% early before AMD tumbled on a short seller's report and Nvidia slid again.

Anthropic* opened at $111.50 in its Nasdaq debut — 34% above its $83 IPO price — but faded to close at $97.17, up 17%. Walmart beat estimates and raised its outlook, yet slipped 1%. Asia sold off hard overnight: Taiwan —6.2%, its worst week since 1991.

STOCKS TO WATCH TODAY

On the Radar

Nvidia (NVDA) — $145.98, —3.3%; a sixth straight loss.

Palantir (PLTR) — $153.68, —1.9%.

Microsoft (MSFT) — $498.30, —1.8%; below $500.

AMD — $489.19, —7.7% on a short seller's report.

Walmart — Beat, raised guidance; stock —1%.

Anthropic (ANT)* — $97.17 at the close; high near $115.

THURSDAY'S BIG MOVERS

PANW	Palo Alto Networks	+6.42%
OKTA	Okta	+5.75%
AMD	AMD	−7.72%
TWLO	Twilio	−8.75%
WSM	Williams-Sonoma	−15.16%

Best of these: Anthropic +17% Worst: Williams-Sonoma −15%

YEAR TO DATE

Russell 2000	+7.1%
S&P 500	+5.0%
Nasdaq	+2.6%
Dow	+2.1%

Approx., through Thursday.

GAS PRICES

Regular, per gallon

AAA · Nov. 19 · diesel $5.93

NATIONAL	VERMONT	HIGHEST	LOWEST
$3.72	$4.02	$5.60	$3.06
U.S. average	state average	Hawaii	North Carolina

NATION & WORLD

Washington, the courts & beyond

WORLD · MIDDLE EAST

Trump on Iran: "Finish It Off — Soon"

BY THE COURIER WORLD DESK · SOURCES: GULF NEWS, ARAB NEWS

Back from Asia, President Trump said of the war with Iran: "I'm going to finish it off — soon. One way or the other, we'll finish it off." He added, "They want to make a deal, but I want a deal that can be lasting." Oil moving through the Strait of Hormuz is down to about 8.5 million barrels a day, roughly half its prewar level (Kpler).

A blast damaged Riyadh's 80-story Public Investment Fund Tower; the Saudi-led coalition said it had countered a Houthi missile threat. A tanker was hit off Oman; its crew is safe.

ELSEWHERE

Kuwait. Gulf states' council chief holds Iran "responsible for this escalation" after drones targeted a Kuwaiti air base. (Arab News)

Yemen. The Saudi-led coalition says it struck 60 Houthi targets in Sanaa and three other provinces. (Arab News)

Philippines. Officials say the trade deal Trump announced in Manila has not been signed. (KOMO/Sinclair)

VERMONT

Around the Green Mountain State

STATEWIDE · PUBLIC SAFETY

FBI Notified in Police System Outage

BY THE COURIER VERMONT DESK · SOURCES: MYNBC5, WCAX

Valcour, the dispatch and records system nearly every Vermont police agency uses, was still offline Thursday night, and state officials say the FBI has been notified of the security incident. There is no date for its return. "It is not going to come back online until we have the investigation complete, as well as the remediation in place," said Andrea DeLaBruere of the Agency of Digital Services.

Gov. Phil Scott said, "I'm not a conspiracy theorist, but there's just too many points of coincidence to make this a coincidence." 911 still works, and officers can check plates by radio. (mynbc5)

KILLINGTON · WORLD CUP

The Races Are On

Killington passed its international ski federation snow check Thursday, so the women's World Cup races go ahead Thanksgiving weekend. "We are the only ski resort open on the East Coast," said Killington's Amy Laramie. "To have this World Cup come visit next week is huge for us," said Gov. Scott. (WCAX)

STATEWIDE · HUNGER

Food Shelves Busier

Partners of the Vermont Foodbank report an average 30% jump in visits over the past year; more than 70,000 people use the network each month. (VTDigger)

AROUND THE STATE

ESSEX JCT. — Toy Swap Saturday. Free toys for the taking, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Brownell Library, 6 Lincoln St. Today is the last day to drop off clean, gently used toys. (Brownell Library)

WILLISTON — Sticky roads. A truck leaked about 200 gallons of soybean oil on I-89 near the Richmond exit and on Route 2; VTrans says drivers reported "stickiness" on their cars. (WCAX)

WILLISTON — Chocolate vote. Lake Champlain Chocolates factory workers voted 20–12 against joining the Teamsters. (VTDigger)

FOLIAGE REPORT — *Last weekend, wintry Thanksgiving?*

Thursday: Burlington 59°; we called 58°.
Record: three straight — 13–6.
Snow: still 0.0" in Burlington.
Today: sunny, 61°.
Saturday: sunny, 59°.
Sun.–Mon.: a few showers.
Tue.–Wed.: highs in the 30s.
Turkey Day: storm possible.

THE WEEK IN VERMONT

Today Sunny, 61°.
Tonight Clear, 36°.
Sat. Sunny, 59°.
Sun. Clouds, showers late, 56°.
Mon. Showers, 57°.

Forecast data for Essex Junction; check before you go.

VERMONT BY THE NUMBERS

26–3	Texans over Colts
3	Stroud TD passes
11.5	Will Anderson's NFL-best sacks
13–6	Beat the Forecaster
6	Days to Thanksgiving

SPORTS

Texans rout the Colts · Bruins host Washington Saturday · Celtics at Sacramento

TEXANS 26, COLTS 3 · HOUSTON, THURSDAY

TEAM	1	2	3	4	F
IND	3	0	0	0	3
HOU	7	10	9	0	26

Stroud TD passes to Collins (42), Boutte (24), Klein (13) · Anderson safety · Fairbairn FG

THURSDAY NIGHT

Houston Smothers Indianapolis

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

C.J. Stroud completed 21 of 27 passes for 194 yards and three touchdowns, and Houston's defense held the Colts to 167 yards and 1 of 11 on third down. Will Anderson Jr. sacked Daniel Jones in the end zone for a safety — his NFL-best 11.5th sack. "We need our best right now. The time is now," Stroud said. Houston is 4–6; Indianapolis falls to 3–8. (NFL.com, Yahoo/AFP)

Patriots: no new word on Drake Maye's ankle during the bye. New England is at the Chargers Nov. 29.

NFL · WEEK 12

Patriots on bye · all times ET

IND 3, HOU 26	Final
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

Bruins Host the Capitals

Boston (14–7–1) hosts Washington Saturday at 7. The Capitals have lost two straight, 6–3 to Buffalo Thursday and 5–2 at Tampa Bay Tuesday. The Celtics (11–4) play at Sacramento Saturday at 10; the Kings are 1–13 and on the second night of back-to-back games. (SportRadar)

AROUND THE LEAGUES

Canadiens Win at Carolina

NHL: Canadiens 2, Hurricanes 1; Sabres 6, Capitals 3.

TONIGHT ON TV (ET)

NBA Rockets at Nuggets, 10:00
NBA Kings at Lakers, 10:00
NBA Magic at Nets, 7:30

THE BOURBON & WINE PAGE

Wild Turkey 101 · Catena Malbec · skirt steak with chimichurri for a Friday night



BOURBON OF THE WEEK

WILD TURKEY · LAWRENCEBURG, KY.

Wild Turkey 101

PROOF	AGE	MASH	PRICE
101	6–8 yrs	75% corn	~$25

The name: around 1940, an Austin Nichols executive, Thomas McCarthy, brought warehouse samples on a wild-turkey hunt. His friends kept asking for more of that "wild turkey bourbon," and the company started bottling it under the name in 1942. (The Whiskey Wash)

How it tastes: "popcorn and toasty oak with buttery toffee, vanilla and faint orange zest," then "a spicy kick of rye." (Difford's Guide)

The Russells: Jimmy Russell became master distiller in 1967; his son Eddie now works beside him. (The Whiskey Wash)



WINE OF THE WEEK

CATENA ZAPATA · MENDOZA, ARGENTINA

Catena Malbec

GRAPE	REGION	VINEYARDS	PRICE
Malbec	Mendoza	to 4,921 ft	~$22

High-mountain wine: grapes from four vineyards between about 2,800 and 4,900 feet up in the Andes foothills, aged 14 months in French oak. First vintage: 1994. (Winebow)

How it tastes: "ripe red and dark fruits" with "delicate violet and lavender notes," then blueberries and blackberries. (Winebow)

Critic's take: "A juicy malbec that shows lots of fruit." (James Suckling)

TODAY'S RECIPE

Made to go with a glass

Skirt Steak with Chimichurri

Serves 4 · 20 minutes, plus resting the sauce

THE CHIMICHURRI

- 1 cup parsley leaves, packed
- 1 tbsp oregano leaves (optional)
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- Red pepper flakes, to taste
- ¼ cup red wine vinegar
- ½ tsp salt; ½ cup olive oil

THE STEAK

- 1.4 lb skirt, flank or flat iron steak
- Salt and pepper
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil

METHOD

1. Pulse everything but the olive oil until the parsley is finely chopped, not puréed. Stir in the oil; let stand at least an hour.

2. Take the steak out of the fridge 30 minutes before cooking.

3. Heat the oil in a heavy skillet over high heat until it just smokes. Season the steak well.

4. For a steak about ⅘ inch thick: about 2 minutes a side for medium-rare, 2½ for medium.

5. Rest 5–10 minutes under foil, slice thin against the grain and spoon on the chimichurri.

Courier tip: Adapted from RecipeTin Eats. Make the chimichurri Thursday night — it's better the next day.

POUR WITH IT · BOURBON

Wild Turkey 101: its rye spice and char stand up to a hot-seared steak. (Courier pick)

POUR WITH IT · WINE

Catena: Winebow pairs it with grilled steak; steak and chimichurri are Argentina's classic match for Malbec.

THIS WEEK'S POUR

Cocktail Corner

The Whiskey Sour. Shake 2 oz bourbon, ¾ oz fresh lemon juice and 1 tsp superfine sugar hard with ice. Strain over fresh ice in a rocks glass; add a lemon twist and a cherry if you like.

The story: Sours were first printed in Jerry Thomas's 1862 bartender's guide; the earliest known "whisky sour" by name is in an 1870 Wisconsin newspaper. (Difford's Guide, Whisky Advocate)

BOURBON & WINE NEWS

Blue Run Releases "Texas Butterfly"

Blue Run Spirits of Georgetown, Ky., released a limited Blueprint Series Kentucky straight bourbon at 105 proof with a Texas-flag butterfly medallion. "Texas has a sense of identity that people carry with them wherever they go," said general manager Paul Doran. (Fred Minnick, Nov. 18)

Also: Jack Daniel's opened its 16th Operation Ride Home, which pays for junior enlisted troops to get home for the holidays.

THIS WEEK'S POUR PLAN

What to sip with what's on

TONIGHT · FRIDAY
Steak, chimichurri and the Malbec.

SATURDAY 7 P.M.
A Whiskey Sour for Bruins–Caps.

THANKSGIVING
Wild Turkey for the turkey, naturally.

THE CELLAR & RICKHOUSE GLOSSARY

Nine wine words, nine bourbon words

Malbec — Argentina's signature red grape.
Mendoza — Argentina's wine heartland.
Altitude — cool nights, fresh acidity.
French oak — barrels that add spice, vanilla.
Barrique — a 225-liter wine barrel.
Tannin — the drying grip in red wine.
Vintage — the year the grapes grew.
Violet — a floral note in Malbec.
Chimichurri — parsley-garlic-vinegar sauce.
101 — Wild Turkey's proof, 50.5% ABV.
No age statement — age isn't printed on the label.
Mash bill — the grain recipe.
Char — the burned barrel inside.
Master distiller — the one who keeps the taste.
Sour — spirit, citrus, sugar.
Superfine sugar — dissolves fast in cold drinks.
Twist — a strip of citrus peel.
Rocks glass — a short, heavy tumbler.

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)

Today noon — Trump news conference.
Tonight 10 — Rockets at Nuggets.
Tonight 10 — Kings at Lakers.
Sat. 7 — Bruins vs. Capitals.
Sat. 10 — Celtics at Kings.
Sun. 1 — Dolphins at Bills.

AROUND VERMONT

Today — Last day to donate toys.
Sat. 9–4 — Toy Swap, Brownell.
Sun. 9–noon — Lauzon celebration, Barre.
Thanksgiving wknd. — Killington World Cup.
Nov. 28 — Lara Cwass Band, Foam.

WEATHER AT A GLANCE

Fri. — Sunny, 61°.
Sat. — Sunny, 59°.
Sun. — Showers late, 56°.
Mon. — Showers, 57°.
Tue. — Colder, 34°.
Thu. — Snow chance, 36°.

GOOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Kindness, critters & comebacks

MORRISTOWN

A Roadside Arrival

Emma Machia arrived two weeks early — so fast that Morristown paramedics delivered her before the family could reach the hospital. Mother and baby are healthy. "It was very sudden from when her water broke to when the baby came," said her father, Tyler. (WCAX)

WILMINGTON, N.Y.

A Basset Hound Raises the Alarm

When Becky the basset hound turned up alone at Whiteface's base lodge at night, staff called police; rangers found her missing 69-year-old owner the next morning. "The dog definitely, I think, contributed to him being saved so quickly," said Forest Ranger Charlie Foutch. (WCAX)

MANCHESTER, N.H.

A Cat High Above I-293

Firefighters used a ladder truck to rescue a stray cat stuck on the back of a highway sign. Police say "the cat appears to be doing well." (Boston 25)

WHITEHALL, MICH.

Grandpa's Tow Truck Comes Home

An Army veteran selling the truck a man's late grandfather built drove it 5½ hours and gave it to him. "This truck belongs to this family," said Robert Allor. (WZZM via Sunny Skyz)

RIVIERA BEACH, FLA.

A Dad Beats the Train

Nico Edwards ran out of his shoes to pull an elderly man off the tracks ahead of a Brightline train. "That's somebody's grandfather," he said. (Sunny Skyz)

SCOTLAND

Beavers Back at Loch Ness

A family of six beavers was released near Loch Ness, where beavers had been gone for about 500 years; at least 15 more families are planned. (Positive News)

MEET THE CAST

The Deepest Water



Gloria Bordiam

Reporter, the Umpqua Ledger

"You'll want the taco salad."
— Chapter 10

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

SPORTS & STANDINGS

Every team in the NFL, NHL and NBA

NFL through Thursday night · NHL and NBA through Thursday · 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	22	15	5	2	32
Montreal	23	14	5	4	32
Ottawa	23	14	6	3	31
Boston	22	14	7	1	29
Florida	23	12	8	3	27
Buffalo	22	9	9	4	22
Detroit	22	8	11	3	19
Toronto	24	8	13	3	19

METROPOLITAN	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Carolina	22	16	3	3	35
New Jersey	22	15	7	0	30
N.Y. Rangers	22	13	8	1	27
N.Y. Islanders	21	10	6	5	25
Philadelphia	25	8	11	6	22
Washington	20	10	10	0	20
Columbus	20	8	12	0	16
Pittsburgh	21	7	12	2	16

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Minnesota	24	17	3	4	38
Dallas	22	14	6	2	30
Colorado	23	13	7	3	29
Nashville	22	11	6	5	27
Utah	23	11	9	3	25
Winnipeg	23	11	9	3	25
St. Louis	22	11	9	2	24
Chicago	22	6	14	2	14

PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Edmonton	24	17	4	3	37
Vegas	24	13	6	5	31
Anaheim	23	11	11	1	23
San Jose	24	10	12	2	22
Seattle	19	10	8	1	21
Calgary	23	10	12	1	21
Los Angeles	20	7	11	2	16
Vancouver	24	5	18	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	13	3	.812	—
Boston	11	4	.733	1.5
New York	9	6	.600	3.5
Toronto	5	10	.333	7.5
Brooklyn	3	11	.214	9

CENTRAL · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Detroit	10	4	.714	—
Cleveland	8	8	.500	3
Indiana	5	10	.333	5.5
Chicago	4	10	.286	6
Milwaukee	1	15	.062	10

SOUTHEAST · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	9	6	.600	—
Atlanta	9	6	.600	—
Orlando	6	8	.429	2.5
Washington	5	11	.312	4.5
Charlotte	4	10	.286	4.5

NORTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Minnesota	11	5	.688	—
Portland	10	5	.667	0.5
Denver	8	5	.615	1.5
Oklahoma City	9	6	.600	1.5
Utah	3	13	.188	8

PACIFIC · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	13	3	.812	—
Golden State	8	8	.500	5
Phoenix	7	7	.500	5
LA Clippers	4	10	.286	8
Sacramento	1	13	.071	11

SOUTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
San Antonio	13	3	.812	—
Houston	12	4	.750	1
Memphis	12	4	.750	1
Dallas	8	7	.533	4.5
New Orleans	5	11	.312	8

NEW ENGLAND WATCH

Where our teams stand

Bruins (14–7–1) Off since Wednesday's 4–1 win at Detroit. Washington visits Saturday at 7.

Celtics (11–4) Second in the East behind Philadelphia (13–3). At Sacramento (1–13) Saturday, 10 p.m.

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

Thursday night Texans 26, Colts 3 in Houston. Indianapolis falls to 3–8; Houston improves to 4–6.

THE WEATHER DESK

Forecasts, almanac, mountains & Snow Watch 2026–27

THE FORECASTER'S TAKE

Three Straight — Then the Cold Comes

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

We called 58° Thursday; Burlington hit 59°, inside our two-degree window. That's three wins in a row, and Beat the Forecaster climbs to 13–6. Today's call: 61°.

Today is the warm peak — near 61°, about 16 degrees above normal. Saturday stays dry near 59°; showers move in Sunday (30%), and Monday is still mild near 57°.

Then the bottom drops out: highs near 34° Tuesday, lows near 22°. The Thanksgiving snow chance is down to about 45% in our forecast, with highs in the mid-30s. Stay tuned.

ESSEX JCT. ALMANAC

YESTERDAY	High 59° · Low 29°
SUNRISE	6:55 a.m.
SUNSET	4:20 p.m.
DAYLIGHT	9 hr 24 min
CHANGE	-2.1 min vs. yesterday
SINCE JUNE 21	6 hr 8 min less light
MOON	Waxing gibbous

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

ESSEX JUNCTION · THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS

TODAY	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
61° / 36°	59° / 36°	56° / 47°	57° / 33°	34° / 22°	37° / 22°	36° / 29°
HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW	HIGH / LOW
				FREEZE	FREEZE	FREEZE
RAIN 0%	RAIN 0%	RAIN 30%	RAIN 15%	RAIN 15%	RAIN 10%	RAIN 45%
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
58° / 33° · 0%
Mid-30s by Tuesday.

RUTLAND — Rutland County
60° / 34° · 0%
Showers Sunday.

MONTPELIER — Washington County
57° / 32° · 0%
Lows near 20° next week.

BURKE — Caledonia County
55° / 30° · 0%
Snowmaking cold Tuesday.

PLATTSBURGH — Clinton County, N.Y.
59° / 35° · 0%
Thanksgiving snow chance ~45%.

SNOW WATCH 2026–27

Day 20

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

Wet Weekend in the Carolinas

Rain chances reach 70% Saturday and Sunday in Wilmington, N.C.; Miami gets a soaking Saturday (75%) and Charlotte (55%) too.

Fulton, Mo., hits 72° Saturday before a Sunday front drops highs into the 40s. Roseburg, Ore., turns wet by Tuesday and Wednesday (75–85%).

BEAT THE FORECASTER

We Called It

Thursday: we said 58°; Burlington hit 59° (1° warmer). Within 2° counts as a win.

Season record: 13–6 (68%)

Recent: Sun 42/45 L · Mon 44/46 W · Tue 53/53 W · Wed 59/59 W · Thu 58/59 W

Today's call: 61° in Essex Junction. Check back tomorrow.

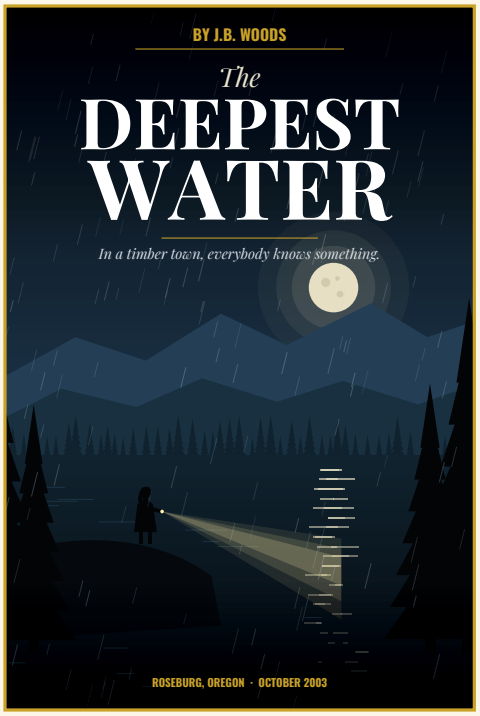
WEATHER WORD

Wind Chill

"The wind chill temperature is how cold people and animals feel when outside," says the National Weather Service. At 0° with a 15 mph wind, it feels like −19°. (NWS)

THIS WEEK IN WEATHER

Nov. 26–29, 1921: The Great Ice Storm. After Thanksgiving, more than 75 hours of freezing rain and sleet glazed a band from Rhode Island through Worcester into New Hampshire. Ice 2 inches thick coated wires. A witness called it "the worst that has been known in this section." (Blue Hill Observatory)



CHAPTER 40

More Than Lumber

Klamath Falls · Roseburg · November 2003

Previously: Harlan Voss was found at Crater Lake, stabbed eighty-seven times. At the FBI news conference, Tess asked whether Owen and Karen Marsh were suspects. Myers: "Next question."

> *"We shipped more than lumber out of that mill."*

IT WAS AFTER nine when the three of them finally checked in at the Running Y Ranch. Kally and Teresa took the room at the end of the hall. Tess climbed the stairs to hers, dropped her bag on the bed without turning on the lamp and called the *Ledger*.

Walt picked up on the first ring. He was still at his desk. Of course he was.

"Well, Halloran," he said. Then, after a moment: "That's my girl."

Tess stayed standing, staring at the blank wall across from the bed. Walt Brenner had never said anything like that to her in her life.

"Everybody around you was staring at you like you had two heads," he went on. "Half of them didn't know who Owen Marsh was. You were on top of it. You got the message out there, Tess."

"Myers looked like he wanted to throw me in the lake."

"Good," said Walt. "Get some sleep."

* * *

In the morning Kally and Teresa decided they were going to the Eye Spy office in Roseburg. Tess drove them back over Highway 140 to Medford, where their car had been sitting since the afternoon before. They threw in enough clothes for a few nights and followed her north on I-5.

Tess didn't go home. She went straight to the *Ledger*.

Gloria Bordiam met her at the door. "The FBI is in the conference room," she whispered. "Both of them. They've been there since eight. They brought their own coffee."

Agent Myers was standing at the window. Agent Mason was sitting at the end of the table with her hands folded. Walt came in behind Tess and started to back out again, but Myers stopped him.

"Stay, Mr. Brenner," he said. "Sit down. You need to hear how serious this is." Walt shut the door and took the chair at the head of the table.

Myers didn't sit down.

"This is unbelievable, Tess," he said. "You put their names out there when you knew we were looking for them. Owen and Karen Marsh can hide even deeper now, and they may never come out until we dig them out. And you have put yourself in real danger. You've been told that before. But this is the point where people are getting killed."

Tess opened her mouth. He held up a hand.

"We don't know yet exactly what we're dealing with, but we will get to the bottom of it. We believe it's a whole ring of people right here in Roseburg — more than one, two or three — shipping goods out of the old Pryce lumber mill. Somewhere along the way they started fighting among themselves. Somebody didn't get what they were owed, or somebody is still hiding some of it. And now they're killing each other off."

Tess heard Gordon Pryce's voice in the dark of the bunker as clearly as if he were standing in the room. *We shipped more than lumber out of that mill.*

"How did you know that?" she blurted.

The room went quiet. Myers looked at Mason. Then he looked back at Tess, and his voice dropped.

"The bigger question, Tess," he said, "is why didn't you tell us what you knew?"

She didn't answer. Myers pulled out a chair at last and sat down across from her.

"All right. I'll go first," he said. "The bureau knew the mill was shipping long after it closed. We got a phone call — anonymous, a man who wouldn't give his name. And believe it or not, it came from a pay phone at the Holiday Inn right here in Roseburg."

The Holiday Inn. Tess thought of Room 118 and said nothing.

"The doors shut in 1991," Myers went on. "Everybody was let go. But the caller said the trucks were still rolling up and down I-5 as if nothing had changed — and they were. That's when the alarm went up. But every time our people asked questions, there was an explanation, and the explanation came from the sheriff's office. From Ray Coyle himself."

"You talked to Coyle?"

"Not me. The bureau. By telephone. Nobody from our office ever met him back then." Myers turned his coffee cup slowly on the table. "Coyle told us the mill had a huge inventory to sell off — floor to ceiling, it would take years to move. Nobody ever went in to look. We took his word for it. And somehow that inventory never seemed to run out."

"And then?"

"And then it stopped. Just like that. The trucks quit, and everything went quiet." He looked at her. "They did a good job of hiding what needed hiding. Back then they were a step ahead of us. Now people are dying, and somebody is still looking for something."

"So what happens now?"

"Now we pay a visit to the old Pryce mill and tear the place apart. But not yet. First we watch it. We send a team, we set up shop and we see what comes and goes, if anything does. Who knows? Maybe people we never expected will show back up at that mill." He tapped the table once. "And none of that leaves this room."

* * *

Mason hadn't said a word. Now she leaned forward.

"Tess, there's something else, and it stays between the four of us," she said. "We're seeing a pattern. A method. Somebody is very fixated on 1987 — the knives, the notes, the key. Eighty-seven wounds. The mill closed in 1991, so what 1987 means, we don't know yet. But we will. And I can't tell you if we're dealing with one person or five."

She waited a moment.

"So I'll ask you plainly. What did Gordon Pryce tell you?"

Tess looked down at the table.

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 40 · CONTINUED

More Than Lumber

Klamath Falls · Roseburg · November 2003

"You're holding something back," Mason said quietly. "Remember, we're the good guys. We want to keep you safe, and everybody else. Someone out there wants something badly, and they want the rest of us to butt out. They don't care who has to disappear and take a plunge in the Deepest Water. No place is safe — not Cannon Beach, not Roseburg, not Crater Lake. If they want you, you will be found. One person or twenty, whoever they are, they are willing to kill for it."

For a long moment the only sound was the newsroom on the other side of the door.

Then Tess told them.

"He had a source at the hotel," she said. "He said, 'Somebody at that hotel always told me when 118 was empty. That was the deal. Last night my source failed me.' He never said who."

Mason's eyes flicked to Myers and back.

"He said ever since the mill closed, people have been angry. 'And money is owed. A lot of it.'" Tess swallowed. "And he said, 'We shipped more than lumber out of that mill. Things hidden in the loads.'"

"What things?" Myers asked.

"He wouldn't tell me. I don't remember much more than that. I was scared to death. All I could think about was getting out of there. I didn't believe he was ever going to let me go." Her voice wavered, and she steadied it. "Even after I was out, I was afraid for my life. When they found him dead, I knew I should have told you. But he said one more thing. 'The people on the other end are very dangerous.' I believed him."

Myers let out a long breath. "You should have called us first," he said. Then, more quietly: "But you just told us we're on the right track."

Tess sat back. For weeks she had carried those words around like a stone in her pocket. She had been too scared to write a line of them, even knowing it was the biggest story to come out of Oregon in a decade.

She wasn't scared now. She was angry.

"I'm a journalist," she said. "I have an obligation to tell people what Gordon Pryce told me while he was holding me in the woods. People in this town deserve to know what was rolling down I-5 past their houses for years." She stood up. "It runs first thing Monday morning."

Myers and Mason came out of their chairs at the same moment.

"NO, TESS!"

At the head of the table, Walt Brenner didn't say a word.

> *"NO, TESS!"*



At the Ledger, Agents Myers and Mason lay it out for Tess — with Walt Brenner sitting in. Scene from Chapter 40 · image by J.B. Woods

WATCHING WITHOUT BEING SEEN

No warrant to watch: agents can watch a building from a public road or a neighbor's lot (with permission) without a warrant.

A warrant to go in: searching inside takes a search warrant signed by a judge, based on probable cause — the Fourth Amendment.

Shifts and logs: teams rotate around the clock and write down every car, plate and person that comes and goes.

In 2003: that meant unmarked cars, long camera lenses, camcorders — and a lot of cold coffee.

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

End of Chapter 40 · Chapter 41 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 28–40 (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.

CHAPTER 40

More Than Lumber

Back in Roseburg on Friday, Tess found Agents Myers and Mason waiting at the Ledger, and Myers had Walt sit in. Myers scolded Tess for naming Owen and Karen Marsh on TV, then laid out the FBI's theory: a ring of local people had been shipping goods out of the old Pryce mill, and now they were killing each other off. When Tess blurted, "How did you know that?" Myers asked why she hadn't told them what she knew. He came clean: after the mill closed in 1991, an anonymous caller from a pay phone at the Holiday Inn told the FBI the trucks were still rolling. Sheriff Coyle vouched for a floor-to-ceiling inventory nobody ever inspected — until the trucks suddenly stopped. The FBI will watch the mill before going in. Mason said someone is fixated on 1987. Then Tess told them what Gordon Pryce said in the bunker: a hotel source who told him when Room 118 was empty, money owed, "more than lumber… things hidden in the loads." When she said the story would run Monday, Myers and Mason shouted together: "NO, TESS!" Walt said nothing.

THE CASE BOARD

Where things stand through Chapter 40

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; vouched for the closed mill in the '90s.

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.
- Pryce: "more than lumber… things hidden in the loads."

OPEN QUESTIONS

- Who killed Gordon, Freddy and Harlan — the same hand?
- Who tore apart Freddy's empty house?
- What was hidden in the loads — and 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

Rochester, Vermont · 2001

Dean Webster: 25 Years Without an Answer

In mid-November 2001, Dean Webster, 28, was found shot to death outside the home he was building on secluded Sky Hollow Road in Rochester. A friend found him.

He had been expected to meet his sister on the evening of Nov. 15. It was rifle season, but investigators have said the weapon was not a typical hunting gun.

The medical examiner ruled his death a homicide. Twenty-five years later, no suspect or motive has been made public.

Investigators believe he probably saw whoever killed him. The Vermont State Police still want to hear from anyone who knew him or was near Sky Hollow Road that week.

Tips: Major Crime Unit, 802-244-8727 (case 01C203276); vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit (anonymous); or text VTIPS to 274637. (Vermont State Police, Crime Solvers Central)

CASE FACTS

NAME
Dean Webster
AGE
28
FOUND
Nov. 2001
WHERE
Rochester
CASE
01C203276
STATUS
Unsolved
TIPS
802-244-8727

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

VERMONT POLICE BLOTTER

WESTMINSTER — Michael O'Connor, 58, of East Haven, Conn., is charged with felony eluding after police say he kept driving on I-91 south past a tire-deflation device. (VSP)

WILLISTON · SO. BURLINGTON — PUBLIC ALERT: Police seek Shawn Burnett, 34, wanted in connection with vehicle thefts; possibly in a green Subaru Outback, Vt. plate HRT 129. Don't approach — call 911. (VSP)

BERKSHIRE — A burglar broke into the Route 105 Valero station overnight Wednesday, then came back hours later for cigarettes. (WCAX)

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit

COURT WATCH

Burlington — A woman charged with attempted murder in Monday's attack on a caseworker outside the Chittenden County Courthouse may never stand trial: she had already been found incompetent. "Somebody cannot be prosecuted who is not competent to stand trial," said State's Attorney Sarah George. (WCAX)

Los Angeles — Thirteen men are charged with stealing more than $22 million in sneakers, tools and other goods by disabling freight trains from the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. "The scale of the theft is staggering," said prosecutor Bill Essayli. (AP)

CASE CLOSED · HOW IT WAS CRACKED

LINDBERGH

On March 1, 1932, someone took aviator Charles Lindbergh's 20-month-old son from his second-floor nursery in New Jersey. The family paid $50,000 in gold certificates, but the child's body was found that May. For two years investigators tracked the ransom bills. In September 1934 a gas station attendant wrote a customer's license plate on a gold certificate; it led to Bronx carpenter Bruno Richard Hauptmann. Police found $13,750 of the ransom in his garage, and a rail of the kidnap ladder matched a board in his attic. He was convicted in 1935 and executed in 1936. (FBI, History.com)

ON THIS DAY IN CRIME HISTORY

November 20

1945 — The Nuremberg Trial Opens
An international military tribunal began trying 22 leaders of Nazi Germany for war crimes and crimes against humanity in Nuremberg, Germany.

1980 — The "Gang of Four" on Trial
In Beijing, the trial began for Mao Zedong's widow, Jiang Qing, and others blamed for the abuses of China's Cultural Revolution.

2003 — Phil Spector Charged
The record producer was charged with murder in the shooting death of actress Lana Clarkson at his California home. He was convicted in 2009 and died in prison in 2021.

2013 — Joseph Paul Franklin Executed
Missouri executed the white supremacist serial killer, convicted of a 1977 sniper killing outside a St. Louis-area synagogue.

Sources: AP Today in History, Christian Science Monitor, History.com, Deseret News.

SCAM ALERT

Scammers Target Veterans' Benefits

The FTC warns of phone numbers one digit off from real VA hotlines, ads for fake "veterans grant" programs and postcards for a "Veterans Savings Program" that doesn't exist. (FTC, Nov. 16)

Red flags: anyone asking you to pay for help with a VA claim, or for your Social Security or bank numbers.

Protect yourself: apply only at VA.gov or a VA office, double-check numbers before you dial, and remember an accredited representative "will never charge you to file a VA benefits claim."

CRIME TRIVIA

Test Your Detective Skills

In 1910 Lyon, France, gave a criminologist an attic crime lab. His rule: "every contact leaves a trace." Who was he?

Answer: Edmond Locard. (Amusing Planet)

THE SNOW DESK

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

Day 20 OF 152

Totals through Thursday, Nov. 19

NOV · DEC · JAN · FEB · MAR · APR 1

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S. · LAST 24 HOURS

42.0" · John F Kennedy Intl Arpt

ESSEX JCT.

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
0.0"	0.0"

Official: Burlington airport (BTV)
Normal to date: 2.5" · 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"	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	2.5	−2.5	0.0
Boston	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	−0.2	0
Portland, Maine					report not available	
Caribou, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	−5.0	0.0
Concord, N.H.					report not available	
Albany, N.Y.	0.0	0.3	0.3	1.0	−0.7	0.0
Syracuse, N.Y.	0.0	0.3	0.3	4.3	−4.0	0.0
Buffalo, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	−3.6	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	4.7	−4.7	0.0
Detroit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	−0.8	0.0
Chicago	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	−0.6	0
Minneapolis	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	−3.5	0.0
Denver	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0
Salt Lake City	0.0	0.7	0.7	3.5	−2.8	0.0
Anchorage, Alaska					report not available	

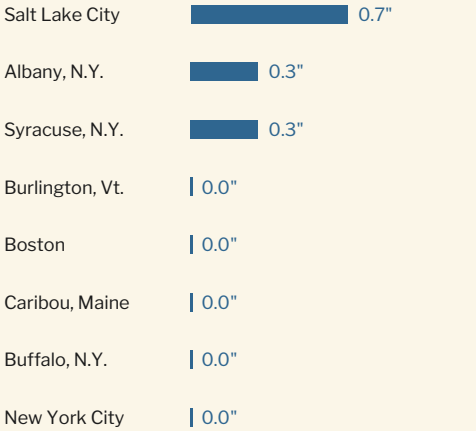
NWS Daily Climate Reports. Season and normal count from Nov. 1. T = trace. Depth = snow on the ground, inches.

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S.

Biggest 24-hour totals reported to the NWS

1	John F Kennedy Intl Arpt Elev. 39 ft	42.0"
2	Silver Lk Brighton, UT Elev. 8770 ft	11.5"
3	Crater Lake National Park Hq, OR Elev. 6499 ft	11.2"
4	Alta, UT Elev. 8684 ft	9.0"
5	Cut Bank 0.3 NNW, MT Elev. 3753 ft	9.0"
6	Heber City 10.1 ESE, UT Elev. 8314 ft	7.0"
7	Bynum 4 SSE, MT Elev. 4039 ft	6.1"
8	Great Falls 16 St S, MT Elev. 3442 ft	5.9"
9	Sugar City 1.9 S, ID Elev. 4885 ft	5.9"

SEASON LEADERS · CITIES



SNOWSHOE MOUNTAIN REPORT

Opening day in 5 days — Wed., Nov. 25 (target, weather permitting)

Now: Clear and 41° this morning.

Today: Mild, 60°.

Sunday: Rain likely (55%), 53°.

Monday: Cooler: 48°, low near 27°.

Tuesday: High 36°, low 24° — snowmaking cold.

Opening day: Wednesday, Nov. 25: high 33°, 55% chance of precipitation.

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

SNOW NOTES

Day 20 — still zero. Burlington reached 59° Thursday; no snow has been measured there this season. Normal by now: 2.8" (NWS).

Thanksgiving watch. Our forecast now gives Essex Junction about a 45% chance of snow on Thanksgiving Day, highs in the mid-30s.

The cold arrives Tuesday. Highs drop from the upper 50s Monday to about 34° Tuesday, lows near 22° — real snowmaking weather for the mountains.

Mt. Washington: Highs near 20° Tuesday, with a 75% snow chance Thanksgiving Day.

PUZZLES & GAMES

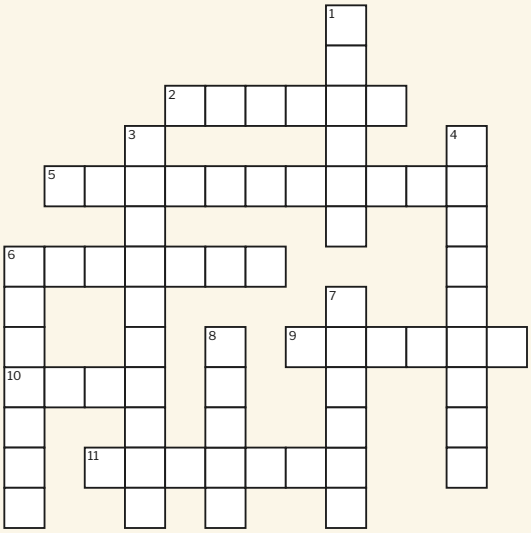
Grab a pencil and your coffee

THE DAILY SUDOKU

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

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD · MALBEC & THE WILD TURKEY



ACROSS

2 "Every contact leaves a trace" (6)
5 Parsley-garlic steak sauce (11)
6 Argentine wine region (7)
9 Argentina's red grape (6)
10 Whiskey ___ (4)
11 Rochester cold case, 2001 (7)

DOWN

1 Texans QB, three TDs (6)
3 Kentucky bourbon at 101 proof (10)
4 Aviator whose son was kidnapped in 1932 (9)
6 Disease the U.S. no longer counts as eliminated (7)
7 Planet near the moon tonight (6)
8 Eagles guitarist, 79 today (5)

WORD SEARCH · WILD TURKEY TERRITORY

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

FIND 12 WORDS

BARREL
BOURBON
CHAR
CORN
KENTUCKY
MASH
OAK
PROOF
RICKHOUSE
RYE
SOUR
STILL

Across, down, diagonal — some backward.

THE COURIER QUIZ

Five Questions

1. How did Trump rate the Shenzhen summit?

2. Where did the Dow close Thursday?

3. Who won Thursday Night Football?

4. What status did the U.S. lose this week?

5. Where are the women's World Cup ski races?

NAME THAT YEAR

Three Clues

- The Salk polio vaccine is approved.
- Disneyland opens in July.
- Rosa Parks keeps her seat.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU



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 20 BIRTHDAYS

This Day in Music

1942 — Norman Greenbaum ("Spirit in the Sky") — 84.

1947 — Joe Walsh of the Eagles — 79.

1965 — Mike D of the Beastie Boys — 61.

1975 — Dierks Bentley — 51.

1977 — Josh Turner — 49.

Also today: in 1973, Keith Moon collapsed onstage and a 19-year-old fan, Scot Halpin, finished the Who's show on drums.



SPIN THIS

There's a Riot Goin' On

Sly & the Family Stone · November 20, 1971

Fifty-five years ago today, Sly & the Family Stone released its darkest, murkiest record.

Sly Stone made much of it alone — in a Sausalito studio, in his Bel-Air loft and in a Winnebago fitted with gear — over a Maestro Rhythm King drum machine. "Family Affair" spent three weeks at No. 1, the first No. 1 hit made with a drum machine. (Albumism)

Best with: a Whiskey Sour.

LIVE IN VERMONT

Shows Near Home

Sat. Nov. 21 · Eliza Edens, Foam Brewers
Fri. Dec. 4 · The Power of Tower, Foam Brewers
Sun. Dec. 6 · Tall Heights, Higher Ground
Fri. Dec. 11 · Dead Sessions, Higher Ground

Listings via Songkick; check venues for tickets.

MUSIC TRIVIA

Fifty-five years ago today, a soul singer-producer scored his only No. 1 pop hit with a movie theme that won an Oscar and a Grammy. Name him and the song.

ANSWERS — Quiz: 1. "A 12," on a scale of zero to 10. 2. Below 50,000 — 49,097. 3. Texans 26, Colts 3. 4. Measles elimination. 5. Killington, Thanksgiving weekend. Name That Year: 1955. Music trivia: Isaac Hayes, "Theme From Shaft." **Yesterday's crossword:** 6A ELIJAHCRAIG · 9A NOUVEAU · 11A HENLEY · 12A JEFFRIES · 1D PUTIN · 2D MANHATTAN · 3D QUETA · 4D SWAYMAN · 5D YUCETICH · 7D GAMAY · 8D DUBOEUF · 10D BYRDS

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

Friday energy suits you. Finish the week by clearing one task you've dodged, then make weekend plans that involve fresh air. A friend's idea is better than it sounds.

LUCKY NUMBER 33 **COLOR SCARLET**

★ TAURUS — Apr. 20 – May 20

Slow down and enjoy the good stuff — a long lunch, a warm sweater, a familiar song. Someone appreciates your steadiness more than they say.

LUCKY NUMBER 14 **COLOR OLIVE**

★ GEMINI — May 21 – June 20

Your curiosity leads somewhere fun. Ask the question everyone else is too shy to ask. An old photo or letter brings back a happy memory.

LUCKY NUMBER 21 **COLOR CANARY**

★ CANCER — June 21 – July 22

Plans for the holiday table start to come together. Delegate a dish or two; you don't have to do it all. A kind word comes back to you.

LUCKY NUMBER 4 **COLOR CREAM**

★ LEO — July 23 – Aug. 22

You light up a room today without trying. Use that warmth to welcome someone new. Save a little time this evening just for yourself.

LUCKY NUMBER 19 **COLOR SUNFLOWER**

★ VIRGO — Aug. 23 – Sept. 22

A well-made list saves your weekend. Check it twice, then put it down and relax. Someone needs your practical help, and you're glad to give it.

LUCKY NUMBER 26 **COLOR SAGE**

★ LIBRA — Sept. 23 – Oct. 22

Harmony is the theme. Smooth over a small misunderstanding with a phone call instead of a text. Treat yourself to something beautiful.

LUCKY NUMBER 17 **COLOR BLUSH**

★ SCORPIO — Oct. 23 – Nov. 21

Only two days left in your birthday season — make them count. Do one thing that feels like a reward. A quiet conversation turns into a good one.

LUCKY NUMBER 8 **COLOR GARNET**

★ SAGITTARIUS — Nov. 22 – Dec. 21

Your season begins Sunday, and you can feel it coming. Say yes to an adventure, even a short drive somewhere new. Laughter follows you around.

LUCKY NUMBER 39 **COLOR INDIGO**

★ CAPRICORN — Dec. 22 – Jan. 19

The week's hard work is done; let yourself coast a little. A plan you made months ago starts paying off. Share the credit generously.

LUCKY NUMBER 28 **COLOR GRAPHITE**

★ AQUARIUS — Jan. 20 – Feb. 18

An unusual idea gets a warm welcome. Gather a few friends and try something different this weekend. A message brings welcome news.

LUCKY NUMBER 7 **COLOR TEAL**

★ PISCES — Feb. 19 – Mar. 20

Your intuition is sharp today. Trust the gentle nudge to reach out to someone you've missed. Music lifts your mood tonight.

LUCKY NUMBER 11 **COLOR SEAFOAM**

TONIGHT'S SKY

Sun, moon and what to look for over Essex Junction

SUNRISE	**6:55 a.m.**
SUNSET	**4:20 p.m.**
DAYLIGHT	**9 hr 24 min**
CHANGE	**-2.1 min vs. yesterday**
MOON	**Waxing gibbous**

Times for Essex Junction, Vt.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Moon and Saturn tonight. An hour after sunset the moon, 83% lit, sits high in the east-southeast with Saturn just to its lower right — under 6° apart, close enough to share a binocular view. (When the Curves Line Up)

Before dawn: Mercury is near its best morning showing; look low in the east-southeast 45 minutes before sunrise. (Farmers' Almanac)

Saturday before dawn: Jupiter high in the south with Mars nearby, Venus in the southeast and Mercury low in the east. (Space.com)

Coming up: the full Beaver Moon, a supermoon, is full Tuesday, Nov. 24, at 9:53 a.m.; watch it rise Monday and Tuesday evenings. (Space.com)