ESSEX JCT. TODAY
23°
High 37° · Gray, dry Thanksgiving
Rain tonight; wind early Friday

The Morning Courier

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

MACY'S PARADE
SAT.
Moved to Saturday, 8:30 a.m.
First weather delay in 100 years

VOL. I · NO. 64 · FREE TO JB · THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2026 · THANKSGIVING · ESSEX JCT., VT · SUNRISE 7:03 A.M. · SUNSET 4:16 P.M.

DOW 50,183 ▲+0.33% · **S&P 500** 7,183 ▼−0.25% · **NVDA** −3.9% · **ANT*** $82.79 ▲+1.1% · **GDP** 4.3% Q3 · **GAS** $3.59

NATION · THE THANKSGIVING STORM

A Nor'easter Postpones the Parade

For the first time in its 100-year history, weather moves Macy's parade — as New York and New Jersey declare emergencies.

BY THE NUMBERS

100	Years of Macy's parades
65	MPH gusts possible in NYC
1–4"	Rain along the coast
8:30	Sat. parade start

BY THE COURIER NATIONAL DESK · SOURCES: CBS NEW YORK, ABC NEWS, ACCUWEATHER, 6ABC

Macy's postponed its 100th Thanksgiving Day Parade to Saturday at 8:30 a.m. — the first time weather has ever moved it. The parade was suspended during World War II, and wind grounded the balloons in 1971, but it had never been rescheduled. "The safety of our participants and spectators is our top priority," Macy's said. (CBS New York, ABC News)

Mayor Zohran Mamdani warned of gusts up to 65 mph and possible flash flooding, and Gov. Kathy Hochul declared a state of emergency for New York City, Long Island and Westchester. New Jersey declared a statewide emergency. AccuWeather expects 1 to 4 inches of rain, coastal flooding that could approach records around New York and Long Island, and power outages that could last days. (CBS New York, AccuWeather)

Philadelphia grounded its parade balloons for the first time since 2019, and airlines issued East Coast travel waivers. The storm exits Friday, leaving a mostly dry weekend for the heaviest travel days. (6abc, AccuWeather)

ESSEX JUNCTION FORECAST

23°
Low tonight: 36°

Cloudy and dry all day.
Rain arrives this evening. High 37°.

RAIN TODAY 10% | SNOW TODAY 0%
Rain tonight; icy above 1,500 ft

THE WEEK AHEAD

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
42°	42°	49°	45°
R 45% S 0%	R 25% S 0%	R 10% S 0%	R 65% S 0%

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

FORECASTER'S NOTE

We called 40° Wednesday; Burlington hit 41°. A win: 16–9.

VERMONT · WEATHER

First Alert: Gusts to 60 Overnight

BY THE COURIER WEATHER DESK · SOURCE: WCAX

Thanksgiving stays dry. Rain reaches southern Vermont about 7 p.m. and the north by 8 or 9, with a light glaze possible above 1,500 feet. Late tonight into early Friday, gusts of 40 to 60 mph are possible on the western slopes — worst along Route 7 in Rutland and Bennington counties, and around Huntington and Underhill. Scattered outages are possible.

INSIDE TODAY · IN BRIEF

MARKETS	A wild day ends near even.	2
VERMONT	Gusts to 60 overnight.	3
SPORTS	Three games on Thanksgiving.	3
SERIAL	Happy Thanksgiving from the cast.	8
CRIME	On This Day in Crime.	12
STARS	Tonight's sky.	15

WEATHER AROUND THE MAP

Thursday forecasts · forecast data · "Now" = overnight

	Now	Hi	Lo	Rain	Snow
MIDDLEBURY, VT	22°	37°	22°	10%	
MT. WASHINGTON, NH	27°	31°	25°	10%	10%
SNOWSHOE, WV	37°	39°	29°	99%	
ROSEBURG, OR	56°	54°	51°	65%	
E. DENNIS, MA · CAPE	43°	57°	44°	55%	
CHARLOTTE, NC	48°	53°	40°	79%	
WILMINGTON, NC	66°	66°	47°	32%	
ST. PETERSBURG, FL	61°	70°	63°	15%	
FULTON, MO	33°	36°	32°	83%	83%
MIAMI, FL	72°	78°	63°	0%	



THE DEEPEST WATER · A COURIER SERIAL
Chapter 44 is coming. Today on Page 8: a Thanksgiving photo from the cast.

INSIDE TODAY

2 Markets · World
3 Vermont · Sports
4 Bourbon · 5 Funnies · 6 Standings
8 Serial · 12 Crime · 13 Snow · 14–15 Fun

SUBSCRIBE FREE
Scan with your phone camera, then hit Send › Share it with a friend

MARKETS & MONEY

A 1,100-point comeback · GDP 4.3% · Markets closed today · Close at 1 p.m. Friday · Thursday, November 26

WEDNESDAY'S CLOSES

INDEX / STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	PCT
Dow Jones Industrials	50,182.95	+165.06	+0.33%
S&P 500	7,182.78	−18.00	−0.25%
Nasdaq Composite	23,585.80	−147.14	−0.62%
Russell 2000	2,704.06	+19.06	+0.71%
JB'S WATCHLIST			
Nvidia (NVDA)	149.30	−6.06	−3.90%
Palantir (PLTR)	154.22	−6.93	−4.30%
Microsoft (MSFT)	490.18	−5.95	−1.20%
BIG NAMES			
Anthropic (ANT)*	82.79	+0.90	+1.10%

Closes via Reuters, AP, Yahoo Finance; PLTR and MSFT computed from reported % moves. *Written with help from Claude, made l

RATES · ENERGY · METALS

VIX +7.3%	28.29
10-yr Treasury −5 bp	4.85%
WTI crude +2.0%	$83.68
Gold Wed.	$3,534.70
Bitcoin Wed.	~$60,100
Dec. rate hike odds CME	~98%
Q3 GDP est. 3.5%	4.3%
Core PCE est. 3.2%	3.3% y/y
Jobless claims est. 200K	189K

HOLIDAY WEEK **THU.** Markets closed **FRI.** Stocks close at 1 p.m. **DEC. 1** Huang, House panel (closed) **DEC. 3** Huang, Senate Banking

"It doesn't look like the Santa Claus Rally is in store for us this year." — Chris Zaccarelli, Northlight (AP)

Reuters, AP, Fortune, CME FedWatch, Yahoo Finance, AAA

MARKETS · WEDNESDAY

Down 1,100, Then Up: A Wild Day Before the Holiday

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

The Dow fell more than 1,100 points early on A.I. selling and new tariff plans, then closed up 164. The Nasdaq, down 4.6% at its worst, finished off 0.6%. Stocks turned on reports of a classified briefing about the Huang affair. Nvidia fell 3.9%.

"The broad selloffs tend to kind of throw the baby out with the bathwater," said Oliver Pursche of Wealthspire. GDP grew 4.3% in the third quarter.

STOCKS TO WATCH TODAY

On the Radar

Nvidia (NVDA) — —3.9% to $149.30. S&P; put its AA rating on watch for a possible downgrade.

Palantir (PLTR) — About —4.3%, near $154 (computed).

Microsoft (MSFT) — About —1.2%, near $490 (computed).

AMD — —1.75% to $406.03 — after being down nearly 10%.

Anthropic (ANT)* — $82.79, +1.1% — still a hair under its $83 IPO price.

Deere (DE) — Missed on earnings, beat on sales; stock +4.4%.

WEDNESDAY'S MOVERS

HPQ	HP Inc.	+11.50%
DE	Deere	+4.40%
ORCL	Oracle	−5.10%
NTNX	Nutanix	−15.20%
AMBA	Ambarella	−19.80%

Best of these: HP +11.5% Worst: Ambarella −19.8%

YEAR TO DATE

Russell 2000	+9.1%
S&P 500	+5.1%
Dow	+4.3%
Nasdaq	+1.3%

Approx., through Wednesday.

GAS PRICES

Regular, per gallon

AAA · Nov. 25 · down 70¢ in a month · NC $2.95

NATIONAL	VERMONT	HIGHEST	LOWEST
$3.59	$3.88	$5.58	$2.93
U.S. average	state average	Hawaii	Indiana

NATION & WORLD

Washington, the courts & beyond

WORLD · IRAN

Tehran Turns Up the Threats

BY THE COURIER WORLD DESK · SOURCE: IRAN INTERNATIONAL

Iran escalated its warnings to the U.S., Israel and Gulf Arab states Wednesday, threatening "new military capabilities" and demanding compensation from neighbors it accuses of helping attack it. Mohsen Rezaei said Tehran would break the U.S. blockade, calling American plans "delusional and futile."

But no Iranian tanker convoy has moved, Iran's own state news agency said. Kpler, the shipping-data firm, says Iran has no new crude exports at all, and its oil revenue could dry up by mid-December. No new U.S. or Israeli strike was reported. (Iran International)

ELSEWHERE

Miami. A FedEx cargo jet ran off a runway at Miami International Wednesday night, leaving one runway open during the holiday rush. No one was hurt; the FAA is investigating. (thetraveler.org)

White House. This year's turkeys, Freedom and Feathers, came from Deans Gap Farm in West Virginia. (whitehouse.gov)

Philadelphia. The city's Thanksgiving parade grounded its balloons for the first time since 2019. (6abc)

VERMONT

Around the Green Mountain State

WEATHER · FIRST ALERT

A Dry Holiday, Then Wind and Rain

BY THE COURIER VERMONT DESK · SOURCE: WCAX

Thanksgiving dinner is safe: Vermont stays dry through the afternoon after a cold start in the teens and low 20s. Rain moves in from the south this evening — about 7 p.m. south of Route 4, 8 or 9 p.m. farther north — with a light glaze of freezing rain possible above 1,500 feet, so driveways and mountain roads could be slick.

Late tonight into early Friday, gusts of 40 to 60 mph are possible on the western slopes, worst along the Route 7 corridor in Rutland and Bennington counties. Lincoln, Goshen, Huntington, Underhill and parts of the Northeast Kingdom could see strong gusts too. Rain totals of half an inch to 1¼ inches through Saturday will help the drought. Sunday turns dry and mild, upper 40s to low 50s.

GAS PRICES

Down Nearly 50 Cents in a Month

Vermont's average for regular fell to $3.87 before the holiday, down from $4.35 a month ago — but still about 29 cents above the national average, AAA says. Rutland driver Lou Diangelo was surprised prices fell with no change in "the Iran situation." (WCAX)

BARRE

An Interim Mayor

The Barre City Council appointed Steve Mackenzie interim mayor after the death of Mayor Thom Lauzon. (WCAX)

AROUND THE STATE

BURLINGTON — Lights on Friday. The Santa Parade leaves City Hall at noon Friday, and the 30-foot Church Street tree lights at 6 p.m. — "rain, shine, or snow." (Church Street Marketplace)

BURLINGTON — Skate the waterfront. The new synthetic-ice rink at Main Street Landing opens Dec. 4. (Seven Days)

SHELBURNE — Vineyard for sale. Shelburne Vineyard's 13 acres and wine business are listed at $1.9 million. (Seven Days)

FOLIAGE REPORT

Dry dinner, wet night

Wednesday: Burlington 41°; we called 40°.
Record: 16–9 — a win.
Snow: still 0.0" in Burlington.
Today: cloudy and dry, 37°.
Tonight: rain arrives, icy up high.
Early Fri.: gusts 40–60 mph west slopes.
Friday: showers, mid 40s.
Sunday: dry, near 50°.

THE WEEK IN VERMONT

Today Cloudy, dry, 37°.
Tonight Rain, wind.
Fri. Showers, 42–45°.
Sat. Showery, 42°.
Sun. Dry, mild, 49°.

Forecast data for Essex Junction; check before you go.

VERMONT BY THE NUMBERS

241	Rams rushing yards
21	Points for Jose Alvarado
39–17	Knicks' 4th quarter
16–9	Beat the Forecaster
3	NFL games today

SPORTS

Rams run past Green Bay · Jets top Bruins · Three games today

RAMS 26, PACKERS 13 · WEDNESDAY NIGHT · SOFI STADIUM

TEAM	1	2	3	4	F
GB	3	10	0	0	13
LA	6	7	7	6	26

LA: 47 rushes, 241 yards; McManus 4-for-4 FG; ball for 40:40 · Love 17-29, 198 yds, 1 TD, 2 INT

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

The Rams Grind It Out

BY THE COURIER SPORTS DESK · SOURCE: SPORTRADAR

Tied 13–13 at the half, Los Angeles ran 47 times for 241 yards and shut Green Bay out after halftime. Kyren Williams and Blake Corum ran for touchdowns and Brandon McManus kicked four field goals. Jordan Love threw two interceptions. (SportRadar)

The Rams are 7–4; the Packers fall to 6–5.

NFL · THANKSGIVING

Patriots at Chargers Sunday

GB at LA	13–26	F
CHI at DET	Thu. 1	
PHI at DAL	Thu. 4:30	
KC at BUF	Thu. 8:20	
DEN at PIT	Fri. 3	
NE at LAC	Sun. 4:05	
NYJ at MIA	Sun. 1	
WAS at ARI	Sun. 4:25	
LV at CLE	Sun. 8:20	

Win probabilities via SportRadar. Times are Eastern Standard Time.

AFC EAST STANDINGS

TEAM	W-L	GB
Buffalo	9-1	—
New England	5-5	4
NY Jets	3-8	6½
Miami	1-9	8

Via SportRadar. Patriots at Chargers Sun., Nov. 29, 4:05.

NHL · BRUINS CORNER

Jets 4, Bruins 2

Morgan Geekie scored on the power play, but Morgan Barron had Winnipeg's winner. Toronto visits Friday at 1. Knicks 121, Cavaliers 102 — Jose Alvarado scored 21. (SportRadar)

TODAY'S FOOTBALL

A Thanksgiving Triple

Today: Bears at Lions 1:00; Eagles at Cowboys 4:30; Chiefs at Bills 8:20.

Friday: Broncos at Steelers, 3:00.

TODAY ON TV (ET)

NFL Bears at Lions, 1:00
NFL Eagles at Cowboys, 4:30
NFL Chiefs at Bills, 8:20

THE BOURBON & WINE PAGE

Frank August Case Study 08 · An Oregon Pinot for the turkey · sweet potatoes with bourbon and maple



BOURBON OF THE WEEK

FRANK AUGUST · KENTUCKY

Case Study 08: Winter Wheated Reserve

PROOF	AGE	MASH	PRICE
108.8	8 yrs	Wheated	~$135

Winter barrels only: Frank August went back to barrels first set aside for Case Study 05 and kept only whiskey distilled in the winter months, then gave it extra time in the wood. (Breaking Bourbon)

Eight by eight: eight batches, each drawn from eight hand-picked casks. It's a wheated bourbon; the exact recipe isn't disclosed. (Breaking Bourbon)

How it tastes: crème brûlée, chocolate and apricot; then brown-sugar butter and spice, with dark caramel, maple and toasted almond on the finish. (Breaking Bourbon)



WINE OF THE WEEK

ZEPHYR WELLS · WILLAMETTE VALLEY, ORE.

"Lowlight" Pinot Noir 2024

GRAPE	REGION	VINTAGE	PRICE
Pinot Noir	Willamette	2024	~$26

On the Thanksgiving list: VinePair rated it 94 and named it one of its 30 best wines for Thanksgiving: "Bright acidity, juicy red fruit, minerals; good slightly chilled." (VinePair)

How it tastes: ripe cherry with a mineral finish — juicy and bright, made from destemmed fruit with a gentle touch. (VinePair)

Serve it: slightly chilled, alongside the turkey and everything on the table. (VinePair)

TODAY'S RECIPE

Made to go with a glass

Sweet Potatoes With Bourbon and Maple

Serves 8 to 10 · about 1½ hours

THE SAUCE

- 1½ cups strong hot coffee
- 9 Tbsp maple syrup (Vermont's, of course)
- 3 Tbsp dark brown sugar; ½ tsp espresso powder
- ⅓ cup bourbon; 2 Tbsp butter

THE POTATOES

- 5 lb sweet potatoes, peeled, in 3-inch pieces
- 7 Tbsp butter, melted; 3 Tbsp olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- ½ cup chopped smoked almonds

METHOD

1. Boil the coffee, maple syrup, brown sugar and espresso powder until reduced by half, 6–7 minutes.
2. Off the heat, stir in the bourbon and 2 Tbsp butter. Simmer until thick enough to coat a spoon, 40–45 minutes.
3. Heat the oven to 425°F. Toss the potatoes with the melted butter and oil; season.
4. Roast on two sheet pans, turning often, until tender and crisp at the edges, 30–35 minutes.
5. Spoon the warm sauce over the potatoes, scatter the almonds and pass the rest of the sauce.

Courier tip: From Victoria Granof, Bon Appétit (via CBS News). The sauce keeps two days in the fridge.

POUR WITH IT · BOURBON

Case Study 08: crème brûlée and maple meet the bourbon-maple glaze. (Courier pick)

POUR WITH IT · WINE

"Lowlight" Pinot: bright cherry fruit for turkey, potatoes and all. (Courier pick)

THIS WEEK'S POUR

Cocktail Corner

Henry Clay's Mint Julep. Bruise fresh mint in a silver cup, then remove the leaves. Half-fill with cracked ice, pour a jigger of aged bourbon over it, and add sugar stirred into cold water. Garnish with mint sprigs. (Smithsonian)

The story: The Kentucky statesman wrote down his own julep recipe, calling for "mellow bourbon, aged in oaken barrels" and sugar water "as smooth as some rare Egyptian oil." (Smithsonian)

BOURBON & WINE NEWS

Pursuit Retires Its Mellwood Line

Pursuit Spirits of Louisville, started by the Bourbon Pursuit podcast hosts, is ending its Mellwood Legacy Collection, which revived labels from the old Mellwood Distillery on its site. "This wasn't our story to tell," co-founder Kenny Coleman said. The brand rights pass to Cream of Kentucky on Jan. 1. (Breaking Bourbon, Nov. 24)

History: Mellwood was founded in 1865; its later president, Rudolph Balke, helped pass the Bottled-in-Bond Act of 1897.

THIS WEEK'S POUR PLAN

What to sip with what's on

THANKSGIVING
Lowlight Pinot with dinner.

AFTER DINNER
Case Study 08, neat.

TONIGHT 8:20
A julep for Chiefs–Bills.

THE CELLAR & RICKHOUSE GLOSSARY

Nine wine words, nine bourbon words

Pinot Noir — thin-skinned red grape.
Willamette — Oregon's Pinot valley.
Destemmed — stems removed before fermenting.
Acidity — the bright, mouthwatering bite.
Mineral — a stony, flinty note.
Light-bodied — a lighter weight on the tongue.
Chill — Pinot tastes best near 60°F.
Value pick — great wine for the price.
Vintage — the year the grapes grew.
Wheated — wheat instead of rye.
Case study — Frank August's series name.
Batch — a group of barrels.
Barrel proof — bottled at cask strength.
Sourced — distilled elsewhere.
Julep — bourbon, mint, sugar, ice.
Bottled in Bond — 1897 quality law.
Mellwood — old Louisville distillery.
Cracked ice — ice broken into chips.

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)

1:00 — Bears at Lions.
4:30 — Eagles at Cowboys.
8:20 — Chiefs at Bills.
Fri. 1 — Leafs at Bruins.
Fri. 3 — Broncos at Steelers.
Sat. 8:30 a.m. — Macy's parade.

AROUND VERMONT

Thu.–Fri. — Essex Jct. offices closed.
Fri. noon — Santa Parade, Burlington.
Fri. 6 p.m. — Church St. tree lighting.
Sat. 7:30 — Chin Ho!, Higher Ground.
Sat.–Sun. — World Cup, Killington.

WEATHER AT A GLANCE

Thu. — Cloudy, dry, 37°.
Thu. night — Rain, icy up high.
Early Fri. — Gusts 40–60 west slopes.
Fri. — Showers, mid 40s.
Sat. — Showery, 42°.
Sun. — Dry, near 50°.

GOOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Kindness, critters & comebacks

COLCHESTER

Thanksgiving Away From Home

St. Michael's College held its annual Thanksgiving meal for students whose homes are too far away to visit for the holiday. (WCAX)

MONTPELIER

A Rutland Family's Gift

The Vermont Statehouse holiday tree has arrived — donated by the Delpha family of Rutland. (WCAX)

VERMONT

A Song of Thanks

Musician Rafael Gross talked with WCAX about gratitude in everyday life during Thanksgiving week — and shared a new song. (WCAX)

COLLEYVILLE, TEXAS

"One Was Not Enough"

An auto-shop couple fixes up donated cars and gives them to neighbors in need. Barbara Farison, three years without a car, got the keys to an Acura: "This is the biggest blessing." They've given away eight this year. (Good News Network)

MONGOLIA

Roman Glass on the Steppe

Archaeologists excavated the largest tomb of the Xiongnu nomads ever found in Mongolia — 413 artifacts, including a whole lacquered chariot and pieces of a Roman glass cup that traveled the Silk Road. (Good News Network)

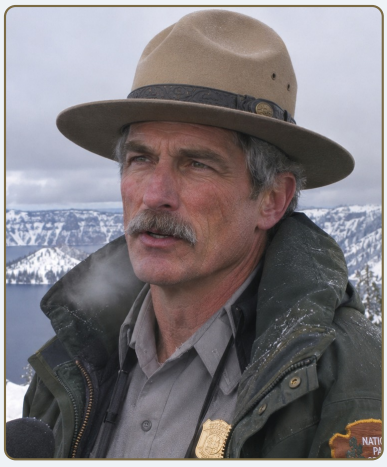
BURLINGTON

Christmas Tree Map

Seven Days built an interactive map to help Vermonters find places to cut or buy a Christmas tree this season. (Seven Days)

MEET THE CAST

The Deepest Water



Ranger Montgomery Smith

National Park Service ranger · Crater Lake

"Nobody's supposed to go over that rim."
— Chapter 31

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

SPORTS & STANDINGS

Every team in the NFL, NHL and NBA

NFL through Wednesday · NHL and NBA through Wednesday · 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
Ottawa	26	16	7	3	35
Tampa Bay	24	15	7	2	32
Montreal	26	14	8	4	32
Boston	24	15	8	1	31
Florida	25	14	8	3	31
Buffalo	25	11	10	4	26
Detroit	24	9	12	3	21
Toronto	26	9	14	3	21

METROPOLITAN	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Carolina	25	19	3	3	41
New Jersey	25	17	8	0	34
N.Y. Islanders	24	12	7	5	29
N.Y. Rangers	24	13	10	1	27
Philadelphia	27	9	12	6	24
Washington	22	11	11	0	22
Columbus	23	9	13	1	19
Pittsburgh	24	7	15	2	16

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Minnesota	27	18	4	5	41
Dallas	24	15	7	2	32
Colorado	24	14	7	3	31
Nashville	24	13	6	5	31
Winnipeg	26	13	9	4	30
St. Louis	25	13	9	3	29
Utah	26	13	10	3	29
Chicago	25	9	14	2	20

PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS
Edmonton	27	17	6	4	38
Vegas	26	15	6	5	35
Anaheim	26	12	13	1	25
Calgary	26	11	13	2	24
San Jose	27	11	14	2	24
Seattle	22	11	10	1	23
Los Angeles	22	8	12	2	18
Vancouver	27	6	20	1	13

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	15	4	.789	—
Boston	12	6	.667	2.5
New York	12	6	.667	2.5
Toronto	6	11	.353	8
Brooklyn	4	13	.235	10

CENTRAL · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Detroit	11	6	.647	—
Cleveland	9	10	.474	3
Chicago	6	12	.333	5.5
Indiana	6	12	.333	5.5
Milwaukee	2	17	.105	10

SOUTHEAST · EAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Atlanta	11	6	.647	—
Miami	10	7	.588	1
Orlando	7	10	.412	4
Washington	7	12	.368	5
Charlotte	4	13	.235	7

NORTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Minnesota	14	5	.737	—
Portland	12	6	.667	1.5
Denver	10	6	.625	2.5
Oklahoma City	10	9	.526	4
Utah	3	16	.158	11

PACIFIC · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	15	3	.833	—
Golden State	10	8	.556	5
Phoenix	9	8	.529	5.5
LA Clippers	4	13	.235	10.5
Sacramento	2	16	.111	13

SOUTHWEST · WEST	W	L	PCT	GB
San Antonio	15	4	.789	—
Houston	14	5	.737	1
Memphis	14	5	.737	1
Dallas	11	7	.611	3.5
New Orleans	5	14	.263	10

NEW ENGLAND WATCH

Where our teams stand

Patriots (5–5) Off for Thanksgiving; at the Chargers (1–9) Sunday at 4:05. Tommy DeVito is in line to start while Drake Maye recovers from an ankle injury.

Bills (9–1) Host Kansas City (8–2) tonight at 8:20 — the AFC's top two teams.

Bruins (15–8–1) Lost 4–2 to Winnipeg Wednesday. Toronto visits Black Friday at 1.

Celtics (12–6) Home to Atlanta Friday at 8. The Knicks (12–6) beat Cleveland to pull even in the Atlantic.

THE WEATHER DESK

Forecasts, almanac, mountains & Snow Watch 2026–27

THE FORECASTER'S TAKE

Back in the Win Column for Thanksgiving

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

We called 40° Wednesday; Burlington reached 41°. Within two degrees — a win, and the end of a three-game slide. Beat the Forecaster is 16–9. Today's call: 37°.

A gray, dry Thanksgiving: clouds all day, about 37°. Rain arrives tonight and Friday turns raw and windy near 42°.

Saturday stays damp and mild near 42°; Sunday is the pick of the weekend near 49°. More rain likely Monday.

ESSEX JCT. ALMANAC

YESTERDAY	High 41° · Low 21°
SUNRISE	7:03 a.m.
SUNSET	4:16 p.m.
DAYLIGHT	9 hr 12 min
CHANGE	-1.8 min vs. yesterday
SINCE JUNE 21	6 hr 19 min less light
MOON	Waning gibbous

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

ESSEX JUNCTION · THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS

TODAY	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
37° / 23°	42° / 36°	42° / 37°	49° / 37°	45° / 33°	40° / 29°	43° / 29°
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
FREEZE					FREEZE	FREEZE
RAIN 10%	RAIN 45%	RAIN 25%	RAIN 10%	RAIN 65%	RAIN 5%	RAIN 10%
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
37° / 20° · 10%
Friday: 41°, 30% rain.

JAY PEAK — Orleans County
36° / 22° · 10%
Opens Saturday; 33° then.

KILLINGTON — Rutland County
33° / 25° · 10%
75% wet Friday.

ST. ALBANS — Franklin County
37° / 23° · 10%
Rain Friday, 41°.

WHITE RIVER JCT. — Windsor County
35° / 22° · 10%
45% rain Friday.

SNOW WATCH 2026–27

Day 26

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

A Soggy Holiday Down the Coast

New York has a 97% chance of heavy rain for Thanksgiving and the parade, with a high near 52°; Cape Cod gets heavy rain too. Charlotte is wet, and snow is falling in central Missouri.

Roseburg, Ore., stays mild and rainy — 54° today and 57° Friday, with 65% and 75% rain chances.

BEAT THE FORECASTER

We Called It

Wednesday: we said 40°; Burlington hit 41° (1° warmer). Within 2° counts as a win.

Season record: 16–9 (64%)

Recent: Sat 59/61 W · Sun 57/61 L · Mon 55/59 L · Tue 36/40 L · Wed 40/41 W

Today's call: 37° in Essex Junction. Check back tomorrow.

WEATHER WORD

Pressure Gradient

"The amount of pressure change occurring over a given distance." The tighter the lines on the map, the harder the wind — the engine behind Friday's gusts. (NWS)

THIS WEEK IN WEATHER

Nov. 27, 1997: Gusts near 40 mph wrecked the Macy's parade. The wind shredded a Flying Fish balloon, and at Central Park West the Cat in the Hat knocked over a lamppost into the crowd, hurting four. "We lost an ear at Columbus Circle and the head in the theater district," one handler said. (AP)

THE DEEPEST WATER *New reader? Tap here to read from Chapter 1 ›*



Happy Thanksgiving from the cast of The Deepest Water · image by J.B. Woods

CHAPTER 44

Chapter Still Being Written

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

WHERE WE LEFT OFF · CHAPTER 43: NOT WORTH THE CONVERSATION

Hollis Tate sat up all night: he had named no names, and someone had swapped the logs. Sunday morning Myers saw the FBI photos of Coyle knocking on the logs and guessed they were hollow; Mason recognized Hollis in the cruiser. Myers ordered silence toward Coyle and a team on Hollis starting Monday morning. Sunday night the same low voice told someone that Hollis was talking — and pointed to an envelope with a photo of him climbing into the sheriff's car. Monday, Hollis never came to work. Coyle sent Walters on a welfare check without saying why. The blue pickup sat in the yard, the porch light burned in daylight, and no one answered the door.

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

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

THE DEEPEST WATER · READER'S GUIDE

The Story So Far · Chapters 1–27

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 28–43 (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 took a sudden vacation to Cannon Beach, and Gloria told Tess. Agent Mason found him at the Screw and Brew; a call from Myers died in thick fog with only "Tic Tac" coming through. That night she watched Walters leave in a car driven by a man she couldn't see. Bartender Tammy Stevens said Freddy Dunn had always watched his back — and had written down his pastrami recipe, as if he knew his time was coming.

CHAPTER 38

Over His Shoulder

An anonymous caller claimed Tic Tac had been seen at a Medford speakeasy. In Cannon Beach, someone had torn apart Freddy Dunn's empty house; his sister, Samantha, found it. Freddy cut through the alley where he died every night. Manager Sally Lindgren said his two friends were Owen and Tic Tac, who came in once after Freddy died. Walters didn't answer Mason's call, and she drove back to Roseburg.

CHAPTER 39

Eighty-Seven

A hiker on a closed trail found a body on a ledge at Crater Lake. It was Harlan Voss, stabbed eighty-seven times, and the FBI put Myers and Mason in charge; Trent Pryce was missing. Tess heard first from a source at the medical examiner's office. At the news conference she asked whether Owen and Karen Marsh were suspects — "Next question," Myers said. Walt shouted, "That's my girl!" Coyle and Walters watched without expression.

CHAPTER 40

More Than Lumber

Back in Roseburg, Tess found Agents Myers and Mason waiting at the Ledger, with Walt sitting in. Myers scolded her for naming Owen and Karen Marsh on TV, then laid out the FBI's theory: a ring of locals had shipped goods out of the closed Pryce mill, and now they were killing each other off. An anonymous caller had told the FBI the trucks kept rolling after 1991; Sheriff Coyle vouched for an endless inventory nobody inspected. Mason said someone is fixated on 1987. Tess finally told them Pryce's words: a hotel source for Room 118, money owed, "more than lumber... things hidden in the loads." When she said the story would run Monday, both agents shouted: "NO, TESS!" Walt said nothing.

CHAPTER 41

Nowhere but My Desk

That night, with the newsroom empty, Walt called Tess into his office and ordered her to hold the Pryce story: write it, but it goes nowhere except his desk. Deputy Walters cut his vacation short. Mason called him to ask about the friend she saw him with in Cannon Beach; he said it was an old friend and changed the subject to the weather. Myers and Mason told Sheriff Coyle the FBI was putting together a team to go through Pryce Lumber in a few days. Coyle said the inventory was long gone and that Trent Pryce had really run the place for three years. When Myers asked how he was involved, Coyle threw them out. Outside, Myers ordered his team to start watching the mill that night.

CHAPTER 42

Knock on Wood

Near midnight Saturday, an anonymous caller told hotel maintenance man Hollis Tate to come clean "before you take the rap on everything." Hollis called Sheriff Coyle, who picked him up at 1:30 a.m. Hollis said the mill's logs were hollowed out to hide things, and he feared he was the fall guy. At 2:03, with an FBI camera watching unseen, Coyle climbed a loaded truck and knocked — all solid. The logs were fresh-cut on a truck that hadn't moved in a year: someone had swapped the load. Coyle said nothing and drove Hollis home.

CHAPTER 43

Not Worth the Conversation

Hollis sat up all night: he had named no names, and someone had swapped the logs. Sunday morning at the Roseburg police department, Myers saw Coyle on the log truck and guessed the logs were hollow; Mason recognized Hollis in the cruiser. Myers ordered silence toward Coyle and a team on Hollis from Monday morning. Sunday night the same voice told someone Hollis was talking, pointing to an envelope with a photo of him getting into the sheriff's car. Monday, Hollis never came to work; Walters found his pickup in the yard, the porch light on — and no answer.

THE CASE BOARD

Where things stand through Chapter 43

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 — missing; Coyle says he has run Pryce Lumber for three years.

PERSONS OF INTEREST

Owen & Karen Marsh — prints in the stolen car. FBI: "Next question."

Sheriff Coyle — vouched for the mill; threw out the FBI; heard Hollis confess, told no one.

Hollis Tate — told Coyle the logs were hollow. Now missing; truck still home.

THE CLUES

Four 1987 county knives.

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

"Ask them about August 1987." Harlan: 87 wounds.

Pryce: "more than lumber."

A swapped load: fresh logs on a dead truck.

OPEN QUESTIONS

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

What was hidden in the loads — and what are "they" looking for?

Where are Tic Tac and Trent?

Who called Hollis — and who got the envelope?

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

Duxbury, Vermont · 1977

Wendall Emslie: The Island in the Winooski

Wendall Emslie, 63, was found shot to death on a small island in the Winooski River along River Road in Duxbury.

He had also been robbed.

The Vermont State Police Major Crime Unit carries the case as an unsolved homicide: "This case remains under investigation."

Duxbury sits along the Winooski between Waterbury and Middlesex, about half an hour from Essex Junction.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the state police. (Vermont State Police)

CASE FACTS

NAME
Wendall Emslie
AGE
63
WHERE
Duxbury, Vt.
YEAR
1977
CASE
07A301451
STATUS
Unsolved
TIPS
802-244-8727

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

VERMONT POLICE BLOTTER

GRAND ISLE — Troopers serving a search warrant on Ferry Road Tuesday recovered farm equipment reported stolen in 2018. A 44-year-old Grand Isle man was cited for possessing stolen property. (VSP St. Albans)

MONTPELIER — A 23-year-old Montpelier woman stopped on Berlin Street shortly after midnight Wednesday was charged with DUI refusal. (VSP Berlin)

SUTTON — A fire involving hazardous materials on Route 5 blocked a lane Wednesday night; the road reopened after midnight. (VSP)

Tips: vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit

COURT WATCH

Grand Isle — The Grand Isle man cited for the stolen farm equipment is due in court Jan. 7. (VSP)

Washington County — The Montpelier DUI-refusal case is set for Dec. 10 in Superior Court. (VSP)

CASE CLOSED · HOW IT WAS CRACKED

SON OF SAM

For more than a year a gunman with a .44-caliber revolver terrorized New York City, killing six young people and taunting police in letters signed "Son of Sam." The break came from a Brooklyn witness who remembered officers writing parking tickets on her street the night of the last shooting. Detectives searched the tickets and found the car of David Berkowitz, 24, of Yonkers. He was arrested Aug. 10, 1977, and pleaded guilty. (History.com)

ON THIS DAY IN CRIME HISTORY

November 26

1983 — **The Brink's-Mat Gold**
Six armed, hooded men, let in by a security guard, raided a warehouse near London's Heathrow Airport and took 75 boxes of gold worth £26 million. Only 11 bars were ever recovered.

2000 — **537 Votes**
Florida's secretary of state, Katherine Harris, certified George W. Bush the winner in Florida by 537 votes. Al Gore refused to concede and went to court.

2001 — **The Fortress Uprising**
A prisoner revolt raged at the Qala-i-Jangi fortress in Afghanistan, a day after CIA officer Johnny Micheal Spann became the first American killed in combat there.

2008 — **Mumbai Under Siege**
Ten gunmen from a Pakistan-based group attacked a train station, hotels, a café and a Jewish center in Mumbai. The siege lasted until Nov. 29; more than 160 people were killed.

SCAM ALERT

'Amazon Charged Your Card'

Vermont's Consumer Assistance Program warns of calls, emails and texts claiming Amazon or other stores charged your card a large sum. The caller wants your card numbers and remote access to your computer. Also watch for "ghost" shopping sites in social-media ads that never ship, and fake customer-service numbers at the top of search results. (Vermont AG CAP; InvestigateTV)

Tips: keep a log of your orders; pay by credit card; handle problems only through the store's own app or website; search the company's name plus "scam" before buying.

CRIME TRIVIA

Test Your Detective Skills

Who was the first person convicted of a crime with DNA evidence?

Sources: World History Encyclopedia, CBC, Daily Princetonian, CIA, Spiceview.

Nov. 13, 1987. Soon after, Tommie Lee Andrews of Florida became the first American convicted on DNA. (Guinness World Records)

THE SNOW DESK

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

Day 26 OF 152

Totals through Wednesday, Nov. 25

NOV · DEC · JAN · FEB · MAR · APR 1

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S. · LAST 24 HOURS

7.4" · Rockwood 6.9 NNW, CO

ESSEX JCT.

LAST 24 HRS	SEASON
0.0"	0.0"

Official: Burlington airport (BTV)
Normal to date: 4.0" · 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	4.0	−4.0	0.0
Boston	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	−0.4	0
Portland, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	−1.5	0.0
Caribou, Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.8	−7.8	0.0
Concord, N.H.	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	−1.6	0.0
Albany, N.Y.	0.0	0.3	0.3	1.7	−1.4	0.0
Syracuse, N.Y.	0.0	0.5	0.5	7.0	−6.5	0.0
Buffalo, N.Y.	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	−5.6	0.0
New York City	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	−0.3	0.0
Erie, Pa.	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.2	−7.2	0.0
Detroit	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	−1.3	0.0
Chicago	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	−1.2	0.0
Minneapolis	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.1	−5.1	0.0
Denver	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0
Salt Lake City	0.0	0.7	0.7	5.3	−4.6	0.0
Anchorage, Alaska	0.0	9.2	9.2	10.1	−0.9	6.0

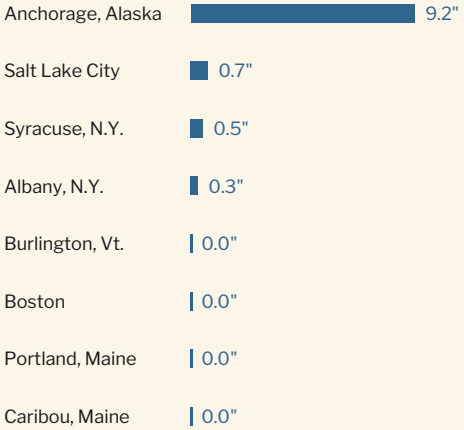
NWS Daily Climate Reports. Season and normal count from Nov. 1. T = trace. Depth = snow on the ground, inches.

MOST SNOW IN THE U.S.

Biggest 24-hour totals reported to the NWS

1	Rockwood 6.9 NNW, CO Elev. 8976 ft	7.4"
2	Ouray .23 NNW, CO Elev. 7733 ft	5.8"
3	Ouray, CO Elev. 7736 ft	5.8"
4	Ouray 2.1 NNW, CO Elev. 7635 ft	5.5"
5	Durango 4.2 SE, CO Elev. 6801 ft	4.0"
6	Chama 1.0 N, NM Elev. 7910 ft	4.0"
7	Ridgway 5.3 NNW, CO Elev. 7828 ft	3.8"

SEASON LEADERS · CITIES



SNOWSHOE MOUNTAIN REPORT

Open for the season

Now: Light rain and 37° before dawn.

Thanksgiving: Rain nearly certain (99%), high 39°.

Black Friday: Colder, 30°, snow showers possible.

Saturday: Partly cloudy, 39°.

Sunday: 47° with rain likely.

Monday: Back to 33° with flurries.

SNOW NOTES

Day 26 — still zero. Burlington reached 41° Wednesday with a low of 21°. Normal season snow by now is about 4"; we have 0.0" (NWS).

Too mild for the mountains. Friday's rain and wind come with temperatures in the upper 30s to low 40s — little if any snow on the summits (WCAX).

Next chance: Monday's system brings a 75% chance of precipitation to Stowe and Jay Peak, with snow possible up high.

Openings: Bromley and Smugglers' Notch Friday; Jay Peak Saturday; Bolton Valley Dec. 5 (resorts).

PUZZLES & GAMES

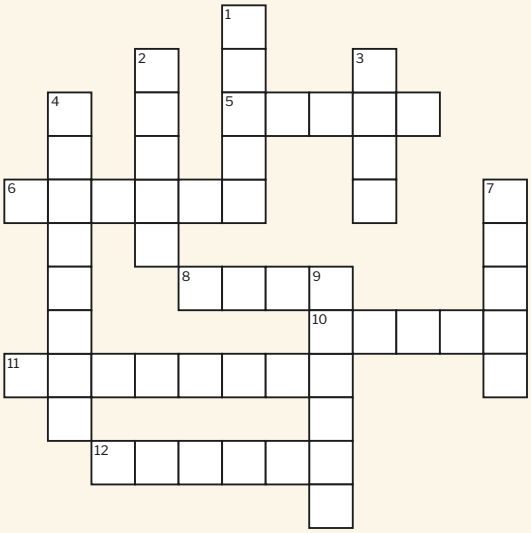
Grab a pencil and your coffee

THE DAILY SUDOKU

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

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD · A THANKSGIVING CROSSWORD



ACROSS

5 Today's Oregon red (5)
6 Macy's event moved to Saturday (6)
8 They ran for 241 yards (4)
10 Arlo's restaurant (5)
11 Pressure ___, the wind's engine (8)
12 ___ Soul, 1965 Beatles album (6)

DOWN

1 Syrup in the sweet-potato glaze (5)
2 Clapton's band that said goodbye in 1968 (5)
3 What Brink's-Mat robbers took (4)
4 Freedom's fellow turkey (8)
7 Henry Clay's mint drink (5)
9 Tonight's evening planet (6)

WORD SEARCH · THANKSGIVING DINNER

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

FIND 12 WORDS

CRANBERRY
FOOTBALL
GRAVY
LEFTOVERS
NAPKIN
PARADE
PIE
PUMPKIN
STUFFING
THANKS
TURKEY
YAMS

Across, down, diagonal — some backward.

THE COURIER QUIZ

Five Questions

1. Why was the Macy's parade postponed?

2. How many rushing yards did the Rams have?

3. Who scored 21 for the Knicks?

4. What did Q3 GDP grow?

5. Where is today's wine from?

NAME THAT YEAR

Three Clues

- "We Are the World" is recorded in one night.
- Live Aid plays London and Philadelphia.
- Coca-Cola launches "New Coke."

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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 26 BIRTHDAYS

This Day in Music

1944 — Jean Terrell of the Supremes — 82.
1945 — John McVie of Fleetwood Mac — 81.
1962 — Linda Davis, country singer — 64.
1976 — Joe Nichols, country singer — 50.
1981 — Natasha Bedingfield, singer — 45.

Also today: on Nov. 26, 1968, Cream — Eric Clapton, Jack Bruce and Ginger Baker — played its farewell concert at London's Royal Albert Hall, closing with "Sunshine of Your Love." (uDiscover Music)



SPIN THIS

Rubber Soul

The Beatles · released Dec. 3, 1965 (UK)

Advance orders topped 500,000, and it reached No. 1 on Christmas Day, staying nine weeks.

The first Beatles album with songs by every member, no cover songs — and no band name on the front cover. (The Beatles Bible)

Best with: a julep, Henry Clay's way.

LIVE IN VERMONT

Shows Near Home

Sat. Nov. 28 · Chin Ho! reunion, The Eyetraps, Higher Ground

Fri. Nov. 27 · Santa Parade & tree lighting, Church Street

Fri. Jan. 22 · Amythyst Kiah, Higher Ground

June 2027 · Jazz Fest, curated by Terri Lyne Carrington, Burlington

Listings via Songkick; check venues for tickets.

MUSIC TRIVIA

What 1965 Thanksgiving Day misdeed inspired an 18-minute song radio still plays every Thanksgiving?

ANSWERS — Quiz: 1. A powerful coastal storm — wind and rain. 2. 241. 3. Jose Alvarado. 4. 4.3%. 5. Oregon's Willamette Valley. Name That Year: 1985. Music trivia: Littering. Arlo Guthrie and a friend dumped trash from Alice Brock's home in Stockbridge, Mass., paid a $25 fine — and wrote "Alice's Restaurant." (Smithsonian) **Yesterday's crossword:** 1A PECAN · 3A URANUS · 7A WALTZ · 9A BOLTON · 11A MERLOT · 12A LIBERTY · 2D CRUSTA · 4D SUTTON · 5D DOWNSLOPE · 6D TATUM · 8D GODDARD · 10D FLOYD

THE STARS

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

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

★ ARIES — Mar. 21 – Apr. 19

Let someone else carve today. Your job is to keep the conversation lively and the plates full.

LUCKY NUMBER 11 **COLOR** CRANBERRY

★ TAURUS — Apr. 20 – May 20

Seconds are allowed. So is the nap that follows. Enjoy the slow afternoon.

LUCKY NUMBER 4 **COLOR** BUTTER YELLOW

★ GEMINI — May 21 – June 20

A relative's old story gets a new ending when you ask the right question.

LUCKY NUMBER 23 **COLOR** SKY BLUE

★ CANCER — June 21 – July 22

Home is full and warm. Take a quiet moment to look around the table and soak it in.

LUCKY NUMBER 16 **COLOR** PEARL

★ LEO — July 23 – Aug. 22

You're the life of the party — save a little energy for the cleanup crew.

LUCKY NUMBER 1 **COLOR** PUMPKIN

★ VIRGO — Aug. 23 – Sept. 22

The gravy may not be perfect. Nobody will notice but you. Let it go.

LUCKY NUMBER 28 **COLOR** SAGE

★ LIBRA — Sept. 23 – Oct. 22

Seat the talkers apart and the quiet ones together. Your table plan is genius.

LUCKY NUMBER 9 **COLOR** BLUSH

★ SCORPIO — Oct. 23 – Nov. 21

A deep conversation after dessert clears the air. Listen more than you speak.

LUCKY NUMBER 13 **COLOR** BURGUNDY

★ SAGITTARIUS — Nov. 22 – Dec. 21

Football, a walk, then pie — the perfect order. Start a new family tradition.

LUCKY NUMBER 20 **COLOR** ROYAL BLUE

★ CAPRICORN — Dec. 22 – Jan. 19

Put the phone away. The Black Friday deals can wait until tomorrow.

LUCKY NUMBER 6 **COLOR** CHARCOAL

★ AQUARIUS — Jan. 20 – Feb. 18

An unexpected guest brings the best laugh of the day. Pull up another chair.

LUCKY NUMBER 30 **COLOR** TURQUOISE

★ PISCES — Feb. 19 – Mar. 20

Gratitude comes easily today. Say thank you out loud to someone who needs to hear it.

LUCKY NUMBER 15 **COLOR** SEAFOAM

TONIGHT'S SKY

Sun, moon and what to look for over Essex Junction

SUNRISE	**7:03 a.m.**
SUNSET	**4:16 p.m.**
DAYLIGHT	**9 hr 12 min**
CHANGE	**-1.8 min vs. yesterday**
MOON	**Waning gibbous**

Times for Essex Junction, Vt.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

The moon: a waning gibbous two days past Tuesday's supermoon, about 91% lit, rising in the east-northeast in the early evening near Castor in Gemini. (When the Curves Line Up, Farmers' Almanac)

Saturn is the evening planet, in the southeast about an hour after sunset. A small telescope shows its rings and its big moon, Titan. (Farmers' Almanac)

Friday dawn: Mars sits 1.8° from Regulus with Jupiter close by — all three fit in one binocular view. Venus shines in the southeast near Spica. (When the Curves Line Up)

Clouds: tonight's rain and wind will likely hide it all. No meteor shower is active this week; the Geminids peak in December. (Farmers' Almanac)