

**Inside today
He's Bad**

RON JEFFERSON

Lumberton's Michael Jackson impersonator wows crowds.
Lifestyles 1C



AND...
Multiple deaths under investigation
News 2A

In today's paper
SPORTS:
Bush to coach Fairmont football
Page 1B



THE ROBESONIAN

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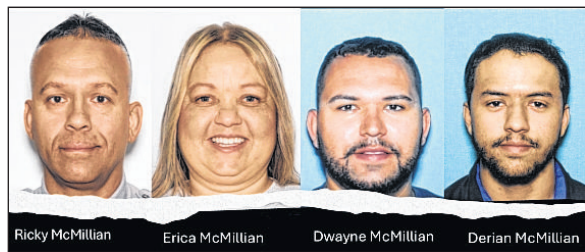
Saturday, March 14, 2026 • Issue 21, Volume 157

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A Fresh Perspective

Local NEWS

\$1.50



U.S. Attorney's Office Eastern District of N.C.

Former RCSO deputy, family plead guilty to wire fraud charges

Ricky McMillan, wife, sons face up to 30 years in prison

Staff report

WILMINGTON — A former Robeson County Sheriff's deputy, his wife, and two adult sons pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud on Thursday after they engaged in a scheme to defraud the Small Business Administration's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) and Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and by submitting false loan applications which resulted in the disbursement of \$542,288 in loan proceeds, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of North Carolina said.

Ricky McMillan, 50, Erica McMillan, 46, Dwayne McMillan, 29, and Derian McMillan, 27, from Pembroke, each face a maximum term of 30 years in prison, and a \$1 million when sentenced later this year. They will also be ordered to pay a forfeiture money judgment of \$542,288.

"Although the COVID loans may have stopped, our government continues to dole out billions in other forms of loans, subsidies, and programs," said U.S. Attorney Ellis Boyle. "This office will continue to hold accountable anyone who defrauds any of our taxpayer funded

programs. This entire family of COVID fraudsters learned this lesson the hard way. Cheaters never win."

According to court documents and other information presented in court, Ricky McMillan and his family members submitted five EIDL and PPP loan applications for four different businesses located in Robeson County. The McMillans and an unnamed co-conspirator made false representations about the number of employees and gross revenues. They also submitted false and fraudulent tax forms and bank statements. Following approval of each loan application, the government disbursed funds into personal accounts controlled by the McMillans.

Ricky McMillan served nearly 22 years with the Robeson County Sheriff's Office, from Dec. 2003 until his retirement on Sept. 1, 2025. He was a sergeant and worked as the head security for the Robeson County Department of Social Services, RCSO says.

Boyle, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, made the announcement after U.S. Magistrate Judge Robert Jones accepted the guilty pleas from the defendants. The FBI and the IRS-Criminal Investigation (CI) investigated the case, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Ethan Ontjes prosecuted the case.

A valiant effort, a historic season



The Fairmont girls basketball team played in the 4A state championship game on Friday in Winston-Salem, the Golden Tornadoes' first title game appearance in program history. Maiden defeated Fairmont 44-39. Pictured, from left, Fairmont's starting lineup of Lyric McNair (00), Aaliyah Duran (3), Jayda Dial (4), Laila Grady (5) and Kimiyah Smith (10) and coach Marcus Thompson line up during pregame introductions. For the full story, see page 1B.

Chris Stiles | The Robesonian

Tommy & Gidget Vickers, pocket park earn Main Street NC recognition



Contributed photo | Sarah Beth Ward
Gidget Vickers, left, and Tommy Vickers, right, moments after being recognized as a Main Street Champion during the N.C. Main Street Awards this week in New Bern.

Chris Stiles
The Robesonian

NEW BERN — Lumberton business owners Tommy and Gidget Vickers were recognized as Main Street Champions, while the Elm Street Pocket Park earned a state award for Best Outdoor Space Improvement, during the North Carolina Main Street Awards held this week in New Bern.

The Vickerses were among 42 Main Street Champions recognized from around the state, but were the first picked for that recognition from Lumberton. They were selected by the local Main Street Lumberton committee, which oversees downtown revitalization in the city.

"We're not doing what we do

for the recognition, we're doing it because we've made this our home and we want to be part of the revitalization and part of what's going on in Lumberton," Gidget Vickers said. "We want to invest in it. Being recognized for that, it's wonderful, but it is, for me, it's very humbling."

The Vickerses moved to Lumberton in March 2023, and opened 219 Elm in July 2023. They have also owned the former fire station at the corner of Second and Elm streets since May 2024 and have worked on restoring the building.

Their business 219 Elm is described by Tommy Vickers as "a very eclectic market including a coffee shop, ladies clothing and

See VICKERS | 8A

Minors charged with threats of mass shooting at Red Springs MS

Staff reports

RED SPRINGS — An investigation into threats made against school staff and students has led to charges being filed against two juveniles.

On Thursday, the Robeson County Sheriff's Office was informed of threats made in a group chat to shoot staff and students at Red Springs Middle School.

An investigation conducted by the Robeson County Sheriff's Office Special Victims Unit

identified two 12-year-old students who made the threats in the group chat. The students have been charged with communicating a threat of mass violence on educational property.

Anyone with information about the case is asked to call the Robeson County Sheriff's Office at 910-671-3100.

"Under our system of justice, every person is presumed to be innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law," a social media post by RCSO said. "The information contained in this post is not

intended to be an expression of opinion regarding guilt. The views and opinions expressed by private citizens who may comment on this post are not adopted by and do not reflect the official policy or position of this law enforcement agency."

"The Sheriff's Office does not issue or determine bond amounts," the post also stated. "This is done through a judicial official, such as a judge or magistrate, as per N.C. General Statute 15A-532. Many factors are considered when determining bond amounts."



TODAY'S FORECAST

Pleasant with plenty of sunshine, High 75, Low 46

A NEWS

Obituaries: 2
Editorial: 4
Church: 5

B SPORTS

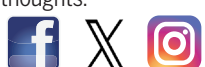
Classifieds: 3, 4

C LIFESTYLES

Comics: 3
Health: 4

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EDITOR'S NOTE

No obituaries were received for this edition of The Robesonian. Find the latest obituaries as they are received at robesonian.com. Obituaries can be submitted to robobits@cmpapers.com.

St. Pauls reappoints Planning Board, ABC Board members

Chris Stiles
The Robesonian

ST. PAULS — The St. Pauls Board of Commissioners voted to reappoint three members each to the town's Planning Board and its ABC Board. The board gave unanimous approval to reappoint Mamie Anderson, Buck Terry and Debbie Inman to the Planning Board. It also approved for Mayor Jerry Weindel, Sandy Cain and Bobby Evans to be reappointed to the ABC Board. In other news, Town Administrator Stephanie Dollinger informed the board that the town will hold a movie night on May 15, with a screening of "Guardians of the Galaxy" at the Farmer's Market at 7 p.m.

Editor Chris Stiles can be reached at 910-416-5847 or by email at cstiles@robesonian.com.



Chris Stiles | The Robesonian

The St. Pauls Board of Commissioners meets Thursday at Town Hall.

CRIME ROUNDUP

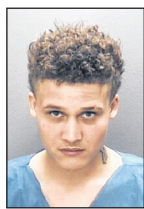
Lumberton man charged with murder after fatal drive-by shooting

Staff report

LUMBERTON — The Lumberton Police Department is continuing to investigate a fatal shooting that occurred in the 2200 block of Musselwhite Circle in Lumberton late Wednesday.

Officers responded to the area after receiving reports of a shooting and located Alexis Locklear, 27, of Musselwhite Circle, who was deceased at the scene from a gunshot wound.

Based on the initial investigation, detectives have determined the incident was a drive-by shooting. Investigators believe the suspect fired multiple rounds toward a group of individuals standing near a vehicle. During the shooting, Locklear was struck by a stray round.



Hunt

As a result of the investigation, Travis D. Hunt Jr., 22, of Lumberton, has been charged with first-degree murder. Hunt is currently being held in the Robeson County Detention Center without bond.

Anyone with information related to this incident is asked to contact Lumberton Police Department Detective David Bullock at 910-374-5263.

Multiple teens charged in shooting death

An investigation into a shooting at a party which resulted in the death of a teenager has led to the arrest of multiple teens.

Investigators with the Robeson County Sheriff's Office Homicide Division have arrested and charged one 15-year-old, two 16-year-olds

and one 17-year-old, all of Red Springs with first-degree murder, felony conspiracy and attempted murder.

The juveniles are being held in the custody of the Cumberland Regional Juvenile Detention Center without bond.

On Sunday, March 8, at approximately 3:10 a.m., Robeson County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a residence the area of Josie Lane and Kitchen Street Road, near Rowland, in reference to an individual shot. Keedon Lewis, 16, of Lumberton was found deceased upon the arrival of the deputies.

Anyone with information about the case is asked to contact Robeson County Sheriff's Office at 910-671-3100.

"Under our system of justice, every person is presumed to be innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law," a social media post by RCSO states. "The information contained in this post is not intended to be an expression of opinion regarding guilt. The views and opinions expressed by private citizens who may comment on this post are not adopted by and do not reflect the official policy or position of this law enforcement agency."

"The Sheriff's Office does not issue or determine bond amounts," the post also said. "This is done through a judicial official, such as a judge or magistrate, as per N.C. General Statute 15A-532. Many factors are considered when determining bond amounts."

LPD investigating fatal shooting of 15-year-old

The Lumberton Police Department is investigating a shooting that occurred early Thursday morn-

ing at a residence located at 600 Warwick Mill Road in Lumberton.

At approximately 12:18 a.m., officers responded to a report of a person who had been shot at the residence. Upon arrival, officers located a 15-year-old male suffering from a gunshot wound to the chest. Family members were providing aid until emergency medical services arrived on scene.

The victim was transported by EMS to a local medical facility for treatment, where he later succumbed to his injuries.

Officers made contact with an 18-year-old male who remained on scene and cooperated with investigators. According to the preliminary investigation, he reported that he was attempting to unload and clear a firearm when the weapon discharged, striking the victim who was seated nearby.

Officers secured the firearm at the scene and collected statements from individuals who were present in the residence at the time of the shooting.

The incident remains under investigation.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Lumberton Police Department Detective Talia Gatlin at 910-671-3845.

RCSO investigating death near Parkton

The Robeson County Sheriff's Office said Friday it was on the scene of a deceased body found in a vehicle located in the area of Dogwood Trails Road outside of Parkton.

RCSO said that more information would be released later.

Tilson named CEO of LRDA after serving as interim

Staff report

PEMBROKE — The Lumbee Regional Development Association (LRDA) announced Thursday that Natascha Wagner Tilson has been officially appointed as its CEO. After Tilson has served as interim CEO, this announcement makes it official — and marks a historic moment for the community, as Tilson is the first woman in LRDA's more than 50-year history to lead the organization.

Tilson's connection to LRDA began at just 12 years old in the Center of

Arts program, where her passion for culture and community first began. In 1993, she was crowned Miss Lumbee and later made history in Washington, D.C. as the eighth National Miss Indian USA, becoming the first Lumbee Woman — and the first woman from an eastern and then-nationally recognized tribe — to earn the national crown. She traveled the country as a cultural ambassador for Native communities.

For more than 30 years, Tilson has



Tilson

served through mentorship, public speaking, pageantry and community leadership. She earned her bachelor's in human services from Wingate University and a master's in social work from UNC Pembroke, and currently holds a Licensed Clinical Social Worker Associate.

Tilson returned to LRDA in 2021 as a ROSS program coordinator and was later promoted to Director of the WIOA Program. Now, in a full-circle moment, she leads the very organization that

helped shape her journey. Under her leadership, initiatives like the People's Table have strengthened community connections and supported local businesses.

Above all, Tilson's story is rooted in love for her community and creating opportunities for others to thrive. She and her husband, Tommy, have been married 28 years and are proud parents to three daughters, Aleah, Alana and Shandi. A native of Robeson County, Tilson resides in Hope Mills.

School board recognizes Lumbee Tribe

Victoria Sanderson
The Robesonian

LUMBERTON — The Public Schools of Robeson County presented the Lumbee Tribe with a framed certificate in honor of the Tribes's recent federal recognition during Monday's meeting.

"What an exciting time for Robeson County,"

PSRC Superintendent Freddie Williamson said. "What an exciting time for the Lumbee Nation, for all people. We recognize people's history, present and future. The school system is excited about our partnership, and is honored to recognize tonight."

Additionally, the board approved the 2026-2027 school year calendar

and heard from one public commenter who expressed concerns over a lack of available bathrooms at the St. Pauls High School softball field.

PSRC also recognized several Students of Excellence from each of its high schools as part of a partnership with local chambers of commerce.

These students included:

- Lumberton High Schools' Laiken Wilcox and Jasmine King
- PSRC Early College High School's Hannah Inman and Fabiola Baeza Navarrete
- Fairmont High School's Jatoya McLean and Dalton Hursey
- Purnell Swett High School's Craig Lowry and Logan Hunt
- Red Springs High School's Gabriella

Locklear and Prudence Muhamba

— St. Pauls High School's James McKoy and Arista Lowery

The board also invited the public to attend the PSRC Career Fair from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on March 21 at Lumberton High School. The event will include on-the-spot hiring for certified and classified positions.

This comes as a report from the N.C. Department of Public Instruction shows that PSRC's teacher attrition rate is lower than the regional rate.

The district also received a clean financial audit report during Tuesday's meeting.

Contact Victoria Sanderson at vsanderson@robesonian.com.

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FROM THE LEGISLATURE

Budd, Warnock introduce bill to reform deployment of federal disaster aid

WASHINGTON — U.S. Sens. Ted Budd (R-N.C.) and Raphael Warnock (R-Ga.) introduced the bipartisan Disaster Recovery Improvement Act last week to establish the Disaster Recovery Improvement Task Force. The interagency task force would take input from local leaders, including county commissioners and governors, to evaluate necessary reforms needed to strengthen federal government programs responsible for providing disaster aid and resources to communities in the wake of major natural disasters, including hurricanes, wildfires, tornadoes and earthquakes.

“For well over a year, I have worked with DHS to unlock FEMA funding for Western North Carolina that has been stuck in longstanding regulatory bottlenecks,” Budd said. “Through that work, I’ve also uncovered additional gaps in our federal disaster response, including programs run by other agencies that have slowed recovery efforts. This cannot continue. Reform is clearly needed to fix these programs which is why Senator Warnock and I have put forth a solution to establish a task force that would bring local, state, and federal officials together to eliminate hurdles holding back the deployment disaster relief,” said Senator Budd.

The Disaster Recovery Improvement Act would establish a task force chaired by a senior official from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); a senior official from the following federal agencies that administer key disaster recovery programs: Small Business Administration, Department of Housing

and Urban Development, Department of Agriculture, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Labor, Department of Transportation, Department of the Treasury, Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, Army Corps of Engineers and the Office of Management and Budget; four state governors; four county commissioners.

It would also identify gaps ignored by federal programs that are vital to recovery efforts by helping federal officials pinpoint where reform is most needed to strengthen recovery programs, and develop recommendations to avoid future delays in deploying disaster relief aid during transitions between presidential administrations.

Harris: ‘Enough is enough: We’ll block the Senate until the SAVE Act passes’

On Wednesday, U.S. Rep. Mark Harris (R-NC8) joined Rep. Keith Self (R-TX3) and Rep. Randy Fine (R-FL6) in penning an op-ed in Fox News, blasting the Senate for stalling the SAVE America Act (Safe-guard American Voter Eligibility) and warning they are prepared to vote no on all Senate legislation until the chamber approves the bill, which would reform voting registration.

Some key quotes from the op-ed include:

“We are prepared to vote no on any Senate legislation until the upper chamber stops dragging its feet and passes the SAVE America Act.”

“Senate Republicans are twiddling their thumbs on feel-good fluff that would make a circus



Harris

clown blush. In the past month alone, they’ve found time to pass a resolution celebrating a Mardi Gras dog parade in the Senate.

The Republican majority can and must do better.”

“Just last week, the House passed Thune’s Tribal Trust Land Homeownership Act — dozens of House conservatives voted no because it’s outrageous that we’re fast-tracking niche bills while election integrity reforms sit stalled in the Senate. If they can’t muster the spine for real issues, why reward their inaction?”

“Trump laid it out simply: He won’t sign any legislation crossing his desk until the SAVE America Act is passed. President Trump understands what the elites in Washington often forget — that our elections are the bedrock of freedom.”

“No more dog parade resolutions. No more niche legislation. Nothing moves until election integrity does. This isn’t brinkmanship; it’s principle.”

“Critics may scream that our strategy is ‘obstructionism,’ but let’s call it what it is: Thune and his crew are the real blockers, slow-walking a wildly popular bill while chasing side quests.”

“Force the showdown — put Democrats on the Senate floor in a full ‘Mr. Smith Goes to Washington’ moment, making them own their stance: ‘Yes, we want noncitizens voting in our elections.’”

“House Republicans, it’s time to lead since our colleagues in the Senate won’t. Block the fluff, pass the SAVE America Act and make elections secure again.”

Items for the “From The Legislature” column come from press material submitted by local, state and federal elected officials.



Budd

N.C. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

More than you ever imagined

LUMBERTON — If you read this column often, you have probably heard the saying North Carolina Cooperative Extension, Robeson County Center, is the best-kept secret around. That’s funny, since our organization exists in every county in North Carolina and on the Eastern Band of Cherokee’s reservation. In Robeson County, our staff helps large and small farmers, commercial and consumer horticulture producers, livestock producers, families and youth through our 4-H program. These programs are often free or at a reduced rate to folks thanks to supporters. As you can see, we have a lot to offer on the surface.

After reading that last sentence you might be asking yourself, “What does she mean by on the surface?” Well, simply said, there is more to our staff than meets the eye. For example, we offer lots of classes and hold certifications that could help and/or enhance your professional and/or personal lives.

Many folks know Mac Malloy is our county extension director and field crops agent. He serves as the direct contact for our farmers who work with row crops. He is also wonderful about scheduling a variety of pesticide classes for folks who hold a pesticide license to recertify easily and get their credits way before they are due.

Taylor Chavis is our livestock agent. With her vast knowledge of all things farm animal she is Beef Quality Assurance (BQA), Pork Quality Assurance (PQA), and FAMACHA certified. What does all that mean? Well, she is able to teach folks how to raise beef and pork using the most current scientific practices to offer best herd management and is able to teach these courses to certify others. With FAMACHA she is teaching folks who raise sheep and goats to recognize the potential parasite infestation in animals early, and allow them to inter-

vene at the appropriate time, which reduces the use of dewormers by 90% and means a healthier product for all.

Mack Johnson is our horticulture agent. He coordinates the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer (EMGV) Program. These volunteers are certified and do a variety of projects throughout the community, support our 4-H youth gardening projects and even have a plant sale coming up around Mother’s Day weekend. This is a grass roots group that is about more than pretty flowers — they are addressing issues and educating others. They

can speak at a variety of functions and educate folks in a variety of areas, from making hypertufa pots to best pest management practices. These folks are highly trained, passionate and amazing.

Last but not least is yours truly. I am certified as an Emily Post Etiquette Instructor and can teach youth and business etiquette. I also am certified as a Real Colors Instructor. Real Colors is a personality instrument that allows teams to communicate more effectively and be more dynamic while it encourages self-awareness and growth. Somehow, I have also embraced my technology geek and teach social media and technology on topics ranging from best practices to marketing and even AI exploration, for both youth and adults.

If you would like to know more about what we do at Cooperative Extension, please reach out to any of us at 910-671-3276 or register for our email updates from our newly designed website at robeson.ces.ncsu.edu. No matter what, please help us become the worst-kept secret around.

For more information, contact Shea Ann DeJarnette, 4-H youth development agent with N.C. Cooperative Extension, Robeson County Center, at 910-671-3276, by email at shea_ann_dejarnette@ncsu.edu, or visit the Extension’s website at <https://robeson.ces.ncsu.edu/>. DeJarnette is also licensed by the Emily Post Institute as a child etiquette teacher.



Shea Ann DeJarnette
N.C. Cooperative Extension

SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!



**NCDOT HOSTING A PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE
A PROPOSAL TO IMPROVE SAFETY ALONG
SECOND STREET FROM MARTIN LUTHER KING
JR. DRIVE TO ROBERTS AVENUE IN LUMBERTON**

STIP PROJECT NO. HO-0014

LUMBERTON - The N.C. Department of Transportation is hosting a public meeting to discuss the proposal to make pedestrian and safety improvements along N.C. 72 (Second Street) from N.C. 41 (Martin Luther King Jr. Drive) to N.C. 211 (Roberts Avenue). The purpose of this meeting is to provide interested citizens with information on the project and gather public input on the proposed design.

Project details and maps can be found on NCDOT’s project input website at publicinput.com/2ndstreet-improvements-robeson. The information will be available at the meeting allowing for one-on-one discussions with NCDOT staff, but there will be no formal presentation.

The meeting will be held from **5 to 7 p.m. on March 26 at East Lumberton Baptist Church, 210 Old Whiteville Road, in Lumberton.**

People may also submit comments by phone at **984-205-6615** project code **11303**, email 2ndstreet-improvements-robeson@publicinput.com, or mail at the address shown below by **April 10, 2026**.

By Mail: Sean Matuszewski, PE
NCDOT Highway Division 6 – Project Engineer
558 Gillespie Street
Fayetteville, NC 28301

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled people who wish to participate in this meeting. Anyone requiring special services should contact Tony Gallagher, Environmental Analysis Unit, at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598, 919-707-6069 or magallagher@ncdot.gov as early as possible so arrangements can be made.

Those who do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior to the meeting by calling 1-800-481-6494.

Aquellas personas no hablan inglés, o tienen limitaciones para leer, hablar o entender inglés, podrían recibir servicios de interpretación si los solicitan antes de la reunión llamando al 1-800-481-6494.

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HIS VIEW

Berger may not be dead, but he is seriously wounded

Who would have thought the most powerful politician in the state would lose his Senate reelection? That he would lose in a district he has represented for 25 years? That his home county would vote against him by almost a two to one margin? Or that, even though an estimated \$10 million dollars was spent by him, his corporate supporters or independent expenditure groups on his behalf, he still lost.

Voters in N.C. Senate District 26 sent a loud message on March 3. The outcome raises interesting points and many questions.



Tom Campbell
Contributing columnist

One clear message is that voters in the district think Phil Berger has stayed too long. He tried (unsuccessfully) to put a gambling casino in his home county. He has held up the approval of a state budget, preventing teachers and state employees from getting pay raises. Berger's was one of the loudest voices in dismantling traditional public education and giving of hundreds of millions of tax dollars to largely wealthy, white kids for private school vouchers. For

years, Berger impeded the approval of Medicaid expansion that gave health insurance benefits to some 600,000 older and lower income residents in the state.

I know the fat lady hasn't sung yet, but she is warming up. As of this writing, there are still a few votes to be counted from military and overseas voters, votes that must be received by March 12. Few believe those votes will change the ultimate outcome and Sheriff Sam Page's lead will hold.

Republicans, who have screamed for years about election integrity, are now going to have to show whether this was all talk or that they believe in the concept. The first test will come on March 25 when the State Board of Elections, a board that Berger led the charge in removing from the control of the governor to one of his favorite cronies, Auditor David Boliek, meets to certify the winner.

Page is demanding that Boliek recuse himself from this election because Boliek campaigned for Berger. Boliek refused, saying that HE isn't counting the votes. That's lame! It is the board Boliek appointed that is going to be asked to certify the outcome and we deserve to know that the state auditor will not have any contact with the board deciding whether to certify the winner. It will test their credibility in whether they name Page the winner — or defer.

The Senator has every right to call for a recount, however, seldom does the outcome change from such recounts, reassurance to the voters of our state that our election officials do their jobs well, honestly and accurately.

If the board surprises us and does certify Page the winner, expect Sen. Berger to challenge the certification, although it is difficult to envision on what grounds. Berger must make a case why the outcome should be overturned.

The court of public opinion has already spoken, but it will surprise no one when lawsuits ensue, similar to the futile efforts of Jefferson Griffin to overturn the Supreme Court election by Alison Riggs. The case will likely go to the N.C. Supreme Court, opening more cans of worms.

Will Justice Phil Berger, Jr., the senator's son, recuse himself from rendering a verdict in the case? If this isn't a blatant conflict of interest, will one ever materialize? And Chief Justice Newby's Supreme Court has been the most politically partisan yet seen; some are already predicting the court's verdict is preordained. The outcome may be months or even a year or more in coming.

Sen. Berger has said he intends to fulfill his current Senate term that ends in January.

Has his power been diminished to the point where he can still control Senate Republicans or has Emperor Berger been sufficiently wounded to have lost control? And how might that impact the upcoming short session of the legislature?

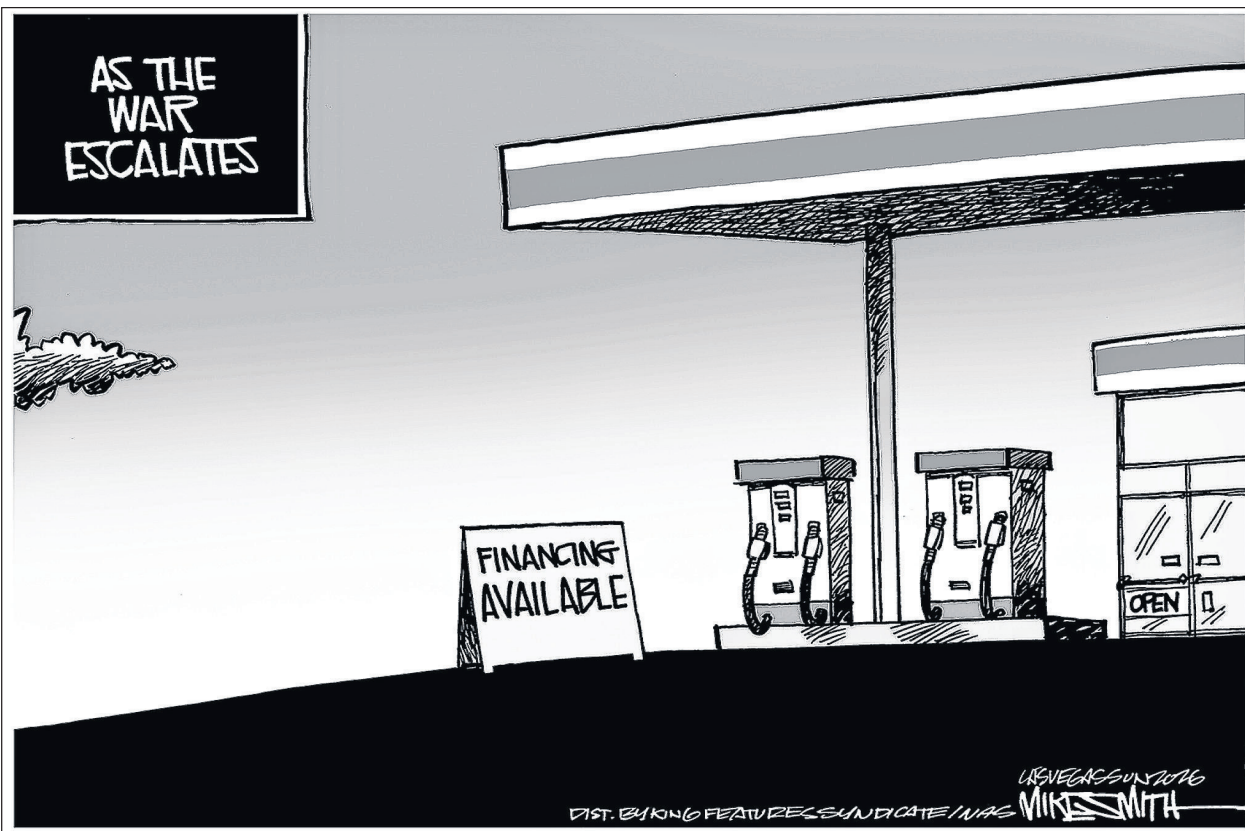
House Speaker Destin Hall, unwilling to bend the knee to Berger's will, is more likely to assert his House caucus' stands on the budget, perhaps further stalling its passage. No Republican legislator needs reminding that the current winds are not favoring Republicans and further delays will only play into the hands of Democrats come November, maybe even to the point of impacting which party controls the House or Senate in Jan. 2027.

Even stalwart Republican must acknowledge that Phil Berger's authority and power have been damaged. We won't know just how much until this drama unfolds further. After a 15-year tight-fisted hold on power, Berger may not be dead, but he is seriously wounded.

This primary election will be remembered for years to come.

BE A ROBESONIAN OPINION SHAPER

If you can express an opinion in 800 words or fewer — once every three months — you probably have what it takes to be a Robesonian Opinion Shaper. Contact Editor Chris Stiles at cstiles@robsonian.com.



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Street, 306B2, Raleigh, NC 27603-5925, 919-715-0875, John.Lowery@ncleg.gov

Rep. Brenden H. Jones, R-Dist. 46 (Robeson, Columbus), 16 W. Jones St., Room 1227, Raleigh, NC 27601-1096, 919-733-5821 or 919-733-5821.

U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C., 310 New Bern Ave. Suite 122, Raleigh, NC 27601, 919-856-4630, or 113 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510, 202-224-6342

U.S. Sen. Ted Budd, R-N.C., B85 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510, (202) 224-3154.

U.S. Rep. Mark Harris, R-N.C., 8th Dist., 126 Cannon House Office Building, 202-225-1976

U.S. Rep. David Rouzer, R-N.C., 7th Dist., 2333 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515, 202-225-2731.

U.S. Pres. Donald Trump, Comments: 202-456-1111, Switchboard: 202-456-1414; Leave a written message: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>. Mailing address: The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20500.

U.S. Capitol Switchboard, 202-224-3121.

White House Switchboard, 202-456-1414.

HIS VIEW

A buddy answers my call

"I'm busting, Jerry, I'm busting."
— George Costanza in "Seinfeld," beaming with joy and pride after getting a job with the New York Yankees.

I was busting on Monday while making the 2 1/2 hour trek back to Lumberton from Rocky Mount, where I had played golf at a hidden gem, Belmont Lakes, a round that was complimentary, enjoyed with great friends, and played under sunny skies and the number of degrees I keep my home, 1-under-par 71 — a trifecta.

Those were the best parts, but the next was that I played decently, missing my age by 10 strokes from the regular men's tees, doing so in my first 18-hole round in several months. My golf these days is like a box of chocolates, I never know what will reveal itself, and there are gaping holes in my game, especially when I am near but not on the green, when I suddenly become Jack Lemmon.

I blame a back that says time for a Bud Light after about 45 swings.

Although I am keenly aware that no golfer wants to suffer hearing about another's round, as I said, I was busting, and I had to let some air out. I texted a buddy, BC, asking, "If you want to hear me brag, give me a call."

A few seconds later, my cell lit up, and I figured I had just been green-lighted to give a shot-by-shot account of my round — and the fault would be his.

But before I share my story, I will share one about BC, which I have been trying for years to find a pretext for wedging into this spot.

BC was a standout athlete at Littlefield High in the mid-1980s, excelling on the football field as the quarterback and baseball field as a pitcher. I was sports editor of The Robesonian at the time, and my staff was Sammy Batten, who would go on to much greater heights.

A few years back, BC, now a buddy, in a group setting after a round of golf, mumbled as he is bent to do something about being robbed of "Athlete of the Week" honors by Sammy and me in the 20th century.

As BC recalled, and I am a bit foggy on the details, he had tossed a couple of no-hitters during the week, batted like .800 with a couple of dingers and a bunch of RBIs, and could not wait to see The Robesonian and his picture.

I might have rounded up on his achievements. "Instead," he said, "there was a picture of SB, who had shot like a friggin' 81 in some golf match."

After I quit laughing, which took a while, I did an autopsy on that Monday morning, explaining to BC that this was less conspiracy and more incompetence, a rush job.

We anointed the AOWs on Mondays, which launched another 80-hour week that would not earn overtime. Mondays, of course, follow the weekend, and Sammy and I were in our mid-20s at the time and trying to get through the morning, make deadline and head to the Holiday Inn for the buffet.

I told BC that I muttered something to Sammy like, "Find me an AOW," and Sammy did a quick review of the previous week's sports sections, saw a photo of SB, and that was that.

Sammy, of course, denies any role.

Plus, I told BC that golf is a lot harder than baseball, and I graduated from Lumberton High, not Littlefield.

Since that day, I have heard that story perhaps a dozen times, but every time, I have been the one telling it.

Now, back to my story.

I spared BC a blow-by-blow account and will you as well, and instead provided the CliffsNotes, deciding that his willingness to call me should be rewarded, not punished. I will say Calvin Peete would have been jealous of my work with the driver that day.

I am pleased that BC manned up as it allowed me the opportunity to correct a 40-year-old injustice, gave me an idea for a column, and filled about 10 minutes of the silence of a solo drive south on Interstate 95.

That, my friends, is what friends are for.

Reach Donnie Douglas by email at ddouglas521@hotmail.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Loving our neighbor: The Great Principle

For the past month, we've been exploring what I've called the "Great Principle" — Jesus' response when a religious expert attempted to trap him by asking which of the 613 laws in Hebrew Scripture was the greatest commandment.



Rev. Joshua K. Owens Contributing columnist

This teaching serves as a fundamental truth that informs our entire belief system — a principle that guides everything we say, do, think, and what motivates us.

Over the past three weeks, we've unpacked the first part of this principle by examining what it means to love God with our heart, soul and mind.

We began with the heart — the center of our desires and motivations in Hebrew thought. Without any concept of the human brain, ancient Israelites understood the heart as where wisdom dwells, where we process emotions, and most importantly, where our affections fuel our decision-making.

We then explored the soul — the Hebrew word nephesh, meaning "throat" and by extension, the whole living person. People don't have a nephesh; they are a nephesh.

Finally, we examined the mind — the Greek word dia-noia, referring to our capacity for understanding, reasoning and discernment. Loving God with our minds means engaging our full intellectual capacity in faith — thinking deeply, asking hard questions, studying thoughtfully — while ensuring our knowledge serves love rather than pride.

Now, having explored how to love God with every dimension of our being, we turn to the second part of Jesus' great principle: loving our neighbor as ourselves. This final tenet reveals how our love for God must inevitably overflow into love for others.

This tenet is where theory meets practice in our daily lives. And if we're honest, loving others is not always easy, is it? What can make loving others difficult? Sometimes it may be because someone has said or done something to hurt us, and so it makes it hard for us to go out of our way to be kind to them in return.

When considering the practical ways to love our neighbors, scripture is full of helpful examples. Jesus pulls this phrase of "loving your neighbor as yourself" from a list of directives to the Israelites in Leviticus 19. There you can find verses that instruct God's people not to steal or deceive others (v.11), defraud or rob from them (v.13), insult those with disabilities (v.14), gossip about others (v.16), fail to attempt to help protect your neighbor (v.16), to respect the elderly (v.32), don't mistreat foreigners/immigrants (v.33) and don't use dishonest means in your business dealings (v.35-36).

The Apostle Paul also emphasized the importance of this law in his letter to the church in Rome. In Romans 13, he writes, "Owe nothing to anyone — except for your obligation to love one another. ... Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law" (Rom. 13:8-10, NLT). Again, we see the persistent theme across scripture that we are expected to love all people if we are to be found faithful in our relationship with God.

To best understand how to effectively love others, we must first grasp what Jesus means by the phrase "as yourself." This may be the most challenging portion because many of us struggle to love ourselves, don't we? We look in the mirror and hear nothing but what the world tells us is important, beautiful or of worth. We punish ourselves for our mistakes, shortcomings or limitations.

The principle Christ gave us for faithfully following God in this life is simple to say, but hard to live out: love God, love all of God's people. However, understanding that this principle is to infiltrate every aspect of our being, from what we think to our motivations, to how we physically show up for others, and how we value ourselves and others, can provide us with the foundation to truly embody it in our living.

Rev. Joshua K. Owens serves as the Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church in historic downtown Lumberton. He can be reached by email at joshowens@fbclumbertonnc.org.

CHURCH OF THE WEEK



Morning Star Community Church — Address: 702 Dunn Road, Lumberton — Pastor: Rev. Roosevelt Scott — Phone: 910-671-0607 — Service schedule: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; First and Third Sunday Evening, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Evening Bible Study & Youth, 7 p.m.

— Established: 1999 — Denomination: Baptist — Congregation: 145 — Favorite Scripture: Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

CHURCH CALENDAR

UPCOMING Friends Day, Trinity Holiness Church, March 15: Trinity Holiness Church, located at 4650 Fayetteville Road in Lumberton, will hold Friends Day on Sunday, March 15. Lunch will be served after the morning worship service.

ONGOING Antioch Presbyterian Church, 6583 Red Springs Road, Red Springs. For more information, call 910-843-4398.

Bethany Christian Fellowship, at 307 S. Jones St. in Pembroke, holds Sunday School at 10 a.m. and Sunday morning worship service at 11 a.m. Bible study is at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Beulah Baptist Church, 6516 Beulah Church Road, Lumberton. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at 4901 Independence Dr., Lumberton. Sacrament Meeting begins at 10 a.m., followed by Priesthood, Relief Society, Young Men/Young Women and Primary classes.

Cornerstone Community Church, at 702 Dunn Road in Lumberton, holds Sunday School at 10 a.m., Sunday worship at 11 a.m., evangelistic service every first and third Sunday at 6 p.m.; and children and youth meet every Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Crown of Life Outreach Ministries, at 114 W. Blue St. Pauls, meets each Sunday for prayer at 10 a.m., Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. and morning worship at 11 a.m. Every Saturday there is prayer at noon. There is Monday

Bible study at 7 p.m. Pastor Kenneth R. McAllister is the church pastor. For information, call 910-316-5712 or 910-774-6376.

Deeper Truth Deliverance Center, at 6154 Wire Grass Road in Orrum, meets for Sunday school 10-11 a.m., and Morning Worship at 11:30 a.m. Bible Study is Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Expanding the Vision of Kingdom Ministries, at 101 Industrial Drive in Fairmont, meets Sunday for Christian Living Class at 10 a.m., and for Morning Worship at 11:30 a.m. Bible Study is held on Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

Greater McKoy's Chapel Inc., at 284 Center Road in Dublin, holds Sunday School at 10 a.m., and morning worship at 11 a.m. Sundays. Pastoral Sundays are second, third and fourth Sundays; and Deacon and Deaconess Day or Ministers and Christian Women's Day are on first Sunday.

Outreach Family Fellowship, 136 Pee Dee Church Road, Dillon. Service begin at 9 a.m. Dress in your casual wear and come worship with us. Dinner will be served after the service.

Pentecostal United Holy Church, 2300 Gavintown Road, Lumberton. Elder Raymond Pearson, and special music by the Men's Choir. Everyone is invited.

Power in Prayer Ministry, a conference line prayer ministry, takes place on Saturday mornings from 6:15 to 6:30 a.m. at any location by phone. Call 605-475-4120 to join in (ID number - 3390591#).

Refuge Christian Center, at 111 S. Railroad St. in Rowland, holds Sunday School at 10 a.m.;

Sunday Worship Service at 11 a.m.; Wednesday Prayer at 6 p.m. and Bible Study at 7 p.m.

Shiloh Tabernacle in Shannon, 10410 Shannon Road, Shannon, sponsors a free meal and free food bank and clothes giveaway including sanitary needs 4-6 p.m. every Thursday.

Smyrna Baptist Church, at 8003 N.C. 211 East, Lumberton, meets for Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., and worship service at 11 a.m. Morning Bible Study is at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays as well as evening service is 7:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Miracle Revival Center at 4657 Daniel McLeod Road, Red Springs, Saturday Morning Prayer will begin at 9 a.m. followed by Seminars at 10 a.m. Saturday afternoon will begin at 1:30 p.m..

St. Marks Lutheran Church, 202 West 24th St., Lumberton; 910-739-2329, stmarksinc.org. Sunday School meets at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays, Worship Service is at 10:30 p.m. Sundays.

Tabernacle Baptist Church, on N.C. 711 in Pembroke, holds Sunday Worship Service at 9:45 a.m.; Sunday School at 11 a.m.; and Wednesday Bible Study, and Children and Youth Night at 7 p.m.

The Fairmont Ministerial Alliance meets every third Saturday of the month at Jonesville Baptist Church at 327 Mill Branch Road, Fairmont. Breakfast is at 8:30 a.m. The meeting starts at 9 a.m. New members are welcome.

For your church event to be included in the Church Calendar, send it to Editor Chris Stiles at cstiles@robsonian.com.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE Submit to God and be at peace with him; in this way prosperity will come to you. Accept instruction from his mouth and lay up his words in your heart. If you return to the Almighty, you will be restored... Job 22: 21-23

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RCC to host second annual Diamond Jubilee Sneaker & Tuxedo Ball

Courtney Jacobs
For The Robesonian

LUMBERTON — Robeson Community College is set to host its second annual Diamond Jubilee Sneaker & Tuxedo Ball, an evening where elegance meets high-energy, all in support of student success.

The signature fundraising event will take place on Saturday, March 28, from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. on the campus of Robeson Community College, located at 5160 Fayetteville Road in Lumberton.

Guests can expect a dynamic night filled with style, entertainment, music and community spirit as supporters come together to benefit RCC's Athletics Program. Proceeds from ticket sales and sponsorships will directly support RCC student-athletes, providing resources and opportunities that help them excel both on and off the field.

This year's gala is proudly presented by Metcon, Inc., a Native American-owned (Lumbee Tribe) construction firm founded in 1999 in Pembroke.

Specializing in general contracting, construction management and design-build services, Metcon is known for its focus on sustainable, high-performance buildings and infrastructure and has built a strong reputation as a leader in higher education and K-12 school construction across the Carolinas.

"As a member of the Economic Development

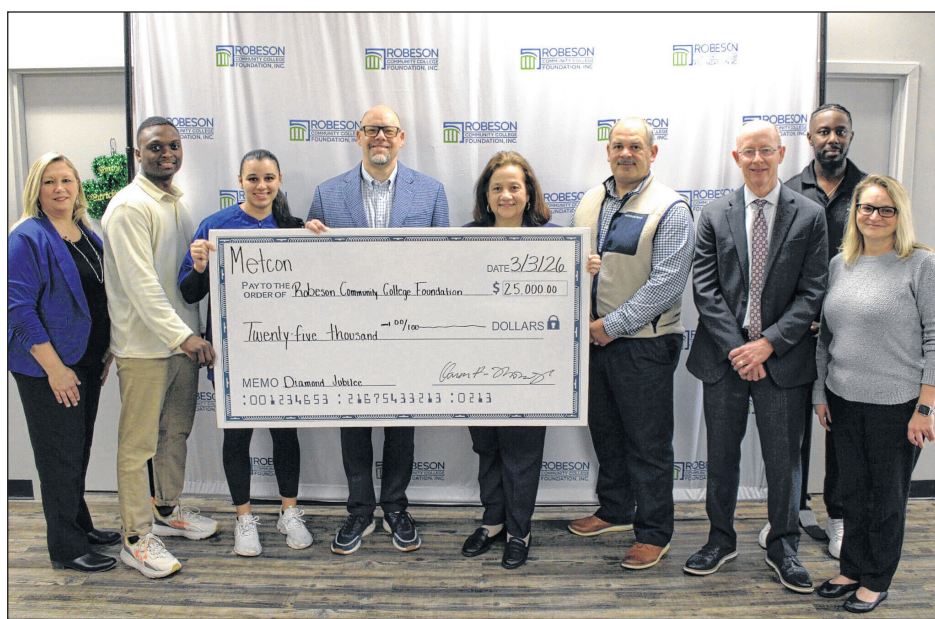


Photo courtesy of RCC
Aaron Thomas from Metcon, fourth from left, presents a check for \$25,000 to the Robeson Community College Foundation for the Diamond Jubilee. He is pictured with RCC President Melissa Singler, center, and other school officials.

Partnership of North Carolina Board of Directors, I believe community colleges are one of the most important drivers of economic development in North Carolina," said Aaron Thomas, president & CEO of Metcon, Inc. "They prepare the workforce that allows business to grow and communities to thrive."

Thomas noted that supporting Robeson Community College aligns closely

with the company's values. "Supporting RCC Athletics aligns closely with Metcon's core values of people, integrity, commitment, and community," Thomas said. "Student-athletes gain more than just time on the field, they develop discipline, teamwork, resilience and leadership while pursuing their education. Those experiences help prepare them not only for graduation, but ultimately for meaningful careers where they can

contribute to their communities and our state's economy."

"We are proud to support Robeson Community College and the important role it plays in building opportunity and strengthening our community," he added.

This year's celebration will also feature live entertainment by Soul Expression. Known for their powerhouse vocals and electrifying stage presence, the band promises an unforgettable performance that will keep guests dancing throughout the evening.

RCC also recognizes the Robeson County Board of Commissioners as the event's Community Champion Sponsor, and A.S. Thomas as a Community Leader Sponsor.

Community members, alumni and supporters are encouraged to mark their calendars and attend this signature celebration. The second annual Diamond Jubilee Sneaker & Tuxedo Ball promises to be a memorable evening in support of a meaningful cause, strengthening RCC Athletics and expanding opportunities for student success.

To purchase tickets and/or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Robeson Community College Foundation at 910-272-3334.

Contact Courtney Jacobs, RCC director of governance and marketing, at 910-272-3231 or cjacobs@robeson.edu.

Fraley named UNCP general counsel and vice chancellor

Staff report

PEMBROKE — Kaye Patel Fraley has been appointed general counsel and vice chancellor for legal, audit, risk and compliance at UNC Pembroke, the university announced Wednesday.

Fraley has served as interim general counsel since Sept. 2025. She joined UNC Pembroke in 2018 and has held several leadership roles within the university's legal and compliance operations, including assistant general counsel, campus investigator, interim director of Title IX and Clery compliance and associate general counsel and Clery compliance coordinator.

With nearly 20 years of legal experience, Fraley will serve as the university's chief legal officer, advising the chancellor, Board of Trustees and senior leadership on legal, regulatory and compliance matters. She will oversee legal affairs and institutional compliance, including Clery reporting, enterprise risk management, internal audit

coordination and athletic departmental compliance. She will also oversee faculty Visa status.

"Kaye brings deep institutional knowledge and legal experience in higher education to this role," said UNCP Chancellor Robin Gary Cummings. "Her understanding of the UNC System and the regulatory environment in which we operate makes her uniquely qualified. She understands both the operational realities of our campus and the broader legal framework that shapes public higher education in North Carolina. As higher education continues to navigate a rapidly evolving legal landscape, her counsel will provide steady guidance and confidence for our university."

As associate general counsel, Fraley has reviewed and negotiated university contracts, advised on employment and academic policy matters and supported compliance with state and federal regulations. As interim director

of Title IX and Clery compliance, she oversaw institutional compliance with Title IX and the Clery Act, including policy development, training and reporting requirements. She has also served as an adjunct professor at UNCP, teaching business law courses.

Fraley chairs the Enterprise Risk Management Committee and serves on multiple campus committees, including the Emergency Operations Committee and Campus Safety Committee.

"During my time at UNCP, I have developed a deep appreciation for our students, faculty, staff and leadership, and for the vital role the university plays in our broader community," Fraley said. "I look forward to continuing to work collaboratively across the institution to strengthen our legal and governance framework, enhance our compliance and risk management practices, and ensure we operate with integrity, transparency and accountability."



Fraley

Prior to joining UNC Pembroke, Fraley was in private practice in South Carolina, representing clients in a variety of legal matters, with a primary focus on Family Law. She also previously served at the University of South Carolina School of Law's Children's Law Center, where she developed and delivered regional and statewide legal trainings on child welfare laws, related court procedures and conducted mandated reporter trainings.

Fraley holds a Juris Doctor from Appalachian School of Law and a Bachelor of Science in political science from Francis Marion University. She also completed a family law practicum at Oxford University's Brasenose College. She is licensed to practice in North Carolina and South Carolina state courts and in the United States District Courts.

Fraley and her husband, Kevin, live in Lumberton and have two daughters, Jiya and Ava.

RCSO holds promotional and swearing-in ceremony

Staff report

LUMBERTON — The Robeson County Sheriff's Office held a promotional ceremony Wednesday, along with the swearing-in of several new employees who will now begin their service to the citizens of Robeson County.

Among the promotions which were recognized in Wednesday's ceremony include:

— Corporal Robert Sampson was promoted to detective in the Major Crimes Division.

— Detective Stephen Hunt was promoted to lieutenant in the Major Crimes Division.

— Captain Terry Sampson was promoted to major and will oversee the entire Criminal Investigations Division.

— Lieutenant Adam Chavis was promoted to captain in the Major Crimes Division.

— Deputy Trent Hammonds was promoted to detective in the Major Crimes Division.

The newest members joining RCSO include:

— Detention Officer Aimee Landry, a certified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), joins the RCSO team and has been assigned to a field training



Photo courtesy of RCSO
The Robeson County Sheriff's Office held a promotional ceremony on Wednesday. Pictured, from left, are Detective Robert Sampson, Lieutenant Stephen Hunt, Major Terry Sampson, Chief Deputy Damien McLean, Captain Adam Chavis and Detective Trent Hammonds.

officer at the Detention Center while awaiting attendance at the Detention Officer Training Academy.

— Deputy Sheriff Jeffrey Lowe Jr. joins RCSO with five years of law enforcement experience from another agency. He has been assigned to a field

training officer and will be assigned to the Civil Division.

— Detention Officer Madison Jones joins RCSO with an associates degree in general education. She has been assigned to a field training officer at the Detention Center while awaiting atten-



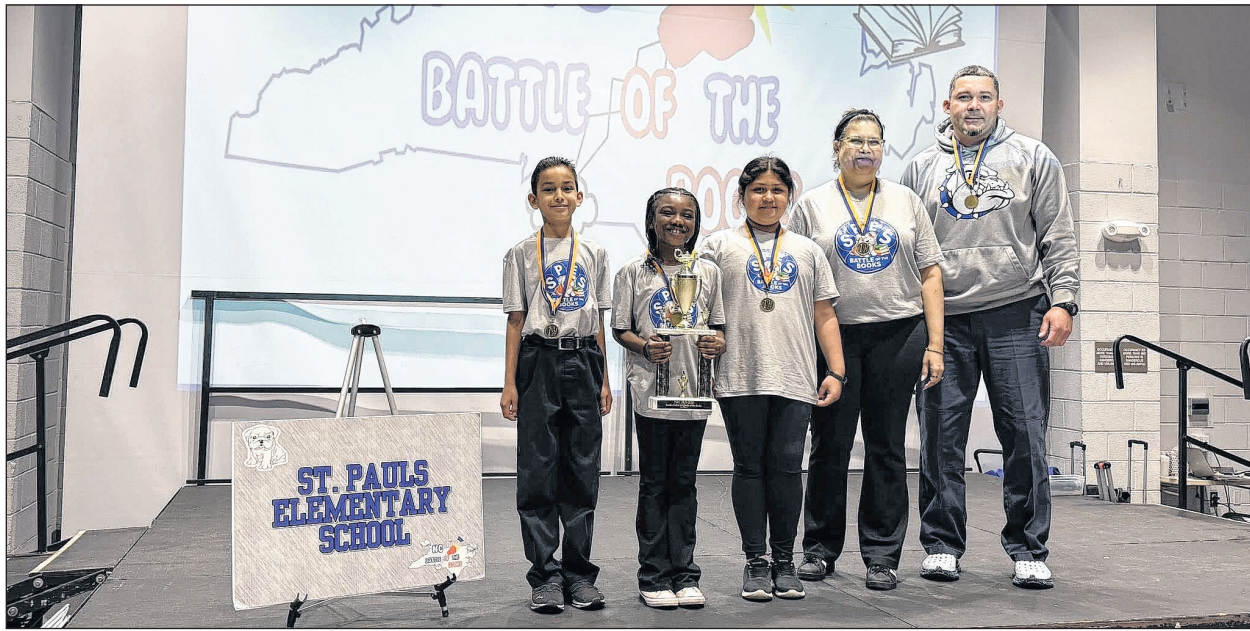
The Robeson County Sheriff's Office held a swearing-in ceremony on Wednesday. Pictured, from left, are Field Training Officers Aimee Landry, Jeffrey Lowe Jr. and Madison Jones.

dance at the Detention Officer Training Academy.

RCSO thanks the family members, friends and colleagues who attended Wednesday's ceremony.

Chief Deputy Damien McLean presided over the ceremony in Sheriff Burnis Wilkins' absence.

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St. Pauls Elementary School's winning Battle of the Books team in the second- and third-grade division.

Photos courtesy of PSRC

UNC System joins U.S. Census Bureau postsecondary employment outcomes initiative

New database helps students and families explore career and earnings outcomes

Staff report

RALEIGH — Students and families increasingly want clear information about the value and return of a college degree. The University of North Carolina System is helping provide those answers.

With support from the North Carolina Department of Commerce, the UNC System has joined the U.S. Census Bureau's Postsecondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO) initiative, an interactive database that provides visibility into earnings and employment outcomes across a wide range of academic programs.

"North Carolina has a growing, dynamic economy, and our public universities offer great pathways to a

fulfilling career," said UNC System President Peter Hans. "This will help students explore their options and find a degree program that matches their interests and ambitions. We are grateful to the North Carolina Department of Commerce for its support."

The decision to join PSEO is part of the UNC System's ongoing effort to demonstrate the value of a UNC System degree to students and families. The interactive tool, hosted on the Census Bureau website, allows users to compare outcomes one, five and 10 years after graduation, including data comparing career outcomes for bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree holders.

PSRC recognizes Battle of the Books winners

Staff report

ROBESON COUNTY — The Public Schools of Robeson County has recognized its Battle of the Books winners at the middle school, elementary school and second- and third-grade levels.

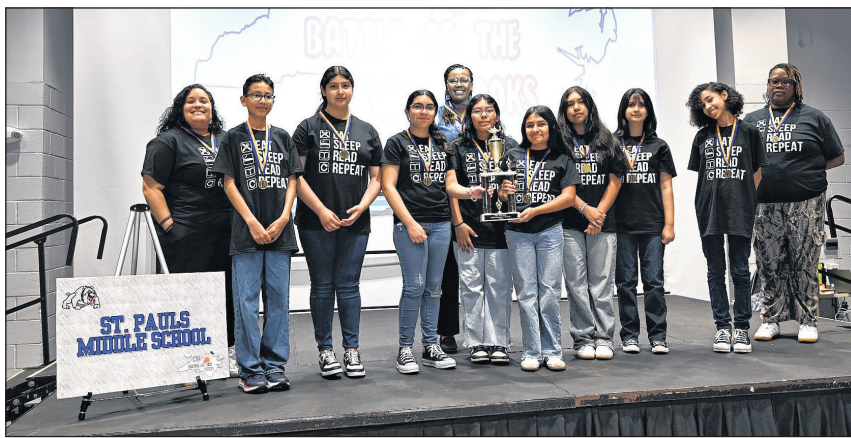
St. Pauls Elementary School won first place in the second- and third-grade division, with Tanglewood Elementary and Piney Grove Elementary getting second and third, respectively.

The elementary-school division went to L. Gilbert Carroll Middle School, with runner-ups Southside Ashpole Elementary and Union Chapel Elementary. L. Gilbert Carroll Middle School will advance to the regional competition on March 31 at Bladen Community College.

The middle-school division first place went to St. Pauls Middle School, with Lumberton Junior High and Fairmont Middle getting second and third. St. Pauls will advance to the regional competition on March 26 at Pinecrest High School in Southern Pines.



The L. Gilbert Carroll Elementary School's winning Battle of the Books team in the elementary school division.



The St. Pauls Middle School's winning Battle of the Books team in the middle school division.

Live Nation, Ticketmaster trial to resume after 7 states join a Justice Department settlement

Larry Neumeister
Associated Press

NEW YORK — More than 30 states will resume their antitrust trial against Live Nation and Ticketmaster on Monday after negotiations this week failed to result in many states joining a tentative settlement reached by the Justice Department.

Lawyers told the judge Friday at a hearing in New York that seven states — Arkansas, Iowa, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Carolina and South Dakota, all of which of Republican attorneys general — were joining the Justice Department in settling with the live music giant.

The other 32 states plan to continue trying to convince a jury that Live Nation Entertainment and its ticketing subsidiary, Ticketmaster, are squelching competition and driving up prices for fans. They say this was done through threats, retaliation and other tactics to control virtually every aspect of the industry, from concert promotion to ticketing.

The companies say they do not monopolize their industry and that artists, sports teams and venues set prices and decide how tickets are sold.

A jury had already begun hearing testimony in the trial when the U.S. Justice Department, which had taken the lead in suing Live Nation, said it had reached a deal with the company that would

save the public money by letting competitors of Live Nation into some ticket markets where they are currently excluded.

Many states criticized the deal, saying the federal government failed to get enough concessions from the company.

Testimony was put on hold for a week for more settlement negotiations, but with no breakthrough in sight, Judge Arun Subramanian said Friday the trial would resume.

The judge also ruled against Live Nation's objection to trial exhibits in which a company employee several years ago tells another worker that the prices Live Nation charges to access the VIP area of a Tampa, Florida, amphitheater are "outrageous," that customers paying the fees "are so stupid" and that "I almost feel bad taking advantage of them" before writing, "BAHAHAHA-HAHA."

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Lumbees recognized during NC American Indian Unity Conference

Tasha Oxendine
Lumbee Tribe

RALEIGH — Lumbee citizens were recognized during the N.C. American Indian Unity Conference community awards. The awards were presented at the annual banquet in Raleigh.

Lumbee Tribal Chairman John Lowery was the keynote speaker at the banquet. Seven of the recipients recognized during the banquet were from the Lumbee family or community.

These included Daphne Strickland, who was recognized with the American Indian Elder of the Year Award; Rev. Gary Deese, Head Lumbee Warrior, and Rocky Sampson, received the Veterans Award; Craig McMillan received the Economic Advancement of Indian People award; Ricky Harris, the former



Rev. Gary Deese, Head Lumbee Warrior and Rocky Sampson, join other veterans from tribes across North Carolina to receive the Veterans Award at the N.C. American Indian Unity Conference community awards.

Lumbee Tribe administrator and former Robeson County manager, received the Distinguished Service to Indian Community award; Stella Hardin received the Distin-

guished American Indian College Student award; and Kerry Bird, President of the National Indian Education Association and Inaugural Director of the N.C. American

Indian Heritage Commission, received the distinguished service to Indian education award (Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, Lumbee). Lowery talked about



Rev. Gary Deese, Head Lumbee Warrior received the Veterans Award.

Lumbee resilience as he discussed Lumbee federal recognition, but he took time to challenge the next generation to prepare themselves to step up to prepare to lead our tribes into the future.

Songwriter and recording artist Charly Lowery was the special entertainment for tonight's event.

Tasha A. Oxendine is the public relations manager for the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina. Contact her at taoxidine@lumbee-tribe.com.

Vickers

From page 1A

antiques."

At the former fire station, a retail establishment is in the works on one side of the building, with a cafe set to open on the other side and office space in the back. The cafe is nearing its opening, with the Vickerses waiting on final permitting and inspection before they do a soft opening.

"The development of downtown Lumberton is a group effort. It is very much a community effort," Tommy Vickers said. "We have done a lot, but we couldn't have done what we've done without the support and the help of just a ton of people in Lumberton and the Lumberton community. Even when you're talking about the fire station renovation, we've had people that have volunteered to help us, we've had

people that have volunteered to make donation, we've had people that have dropped off photos and paraphernalia for the fire station. We own the building, but we feel more like we're caretakers than owners, and it has definitely not been an us thing, it's been a Lumberton thing."

The Vickerses chose to live in Lumberton after moving to the community from Indianapolis. And, simply put, they've come to know Lumberton as home.

"Lumberton gets a bad rap, and Lumberton is a wonderful place," Tommy Vickers said. "It has its challenges, and you name a city, or any town, that doesn't have its challenges, good luck with that. But the people here are wonderful, and it will be my home for the rest of my life. We love it here, the people are great, and it's just been a wonderful experience for us."

The city also won a design award for the Elm Street Pocket Park, the



Lumberton Mayor Bruce Davis, center left, speaks during a ceremony on April 23, 2024 commemorating the naming of the Elm Street Pocket Park and the new sculpture in the park.

development of which was completed in 2023 before a dedication in April 2024. Lumberton was among the 13 communities which earned various awards, presented by the N.C. Department of Commerce.

"This recognition from the North Carolina Main Street program shows that downtown Lumberton is moving forward with real momentum. The Elm Street Pocket Park is more than a single project; it represents a shared belief that our downtown can be vibrant, welcoming, and full of life again," said Sarah Beth Ward, Lumberton's downtown development coordinator. "We are proud of this progress, and we are determined to keep moving forward as we continue revitalizing the heart of our city. When a community commits to its future, small changes lead to big results, and we are just getting started."

The park is located on the 300 block of North Elm Street, between Kinship NC and Elevation Ink, on land donated by Dick and Lenore Taylor in 2021. The park space is approximately 100 feet by 50 feet and includes green space, a mural painted by Scott Nurkin in 2019, and a sculpture titled "Fish of the Lumber River" by Bob Doster that was completed in 2024.

"To get statewide recognition for our Pocket Park and what we're trying to accomplish downtown is very satisfying," said Dencie Lambdin, chair of

the Main Street Lumberton Advisory Board. "Our volunteers, they do (the work) and don't expect recognition, but it's lovely when it comes, and it just shows how keeping your nose to the ground and doing the hard work and gathering a group of people around you to do the work and do it well, the accolades will come."

Lambdin thanked city staff for their collaboration with the volunteers on the Main Street Advisory Board as all parties work to bring continued revitalization to the downtown area.

"Volunteers have grand ideas and want things to happen quickly, and city staff have to keep us in check, rein us in a little bit, but continue to support the work that we're doing, so that we do it well and do it according to city codes, city ordinances, city standards," Lambdin said. "I give them a lot of praise for their patience with us, as we also have patience with city staff because things don't happen as quickly as we want them to."

Nine people from Lumberton attended the Main Street conference.

"Hopefully we're bringing back some good information and some good ideas, and you always come back from those things refreshed and reenergized," Gidget Vickers said.

Editor Chris Stiles can be reached at 910-416-5847 or by email at cstiles@robsonian.com.

UNC HEALTH Southeastern

NAMED TOP PLACE TO WORK

UNC Health Southeastern has been named to **Becker's 165 Top Places to Work in Healthcare List for 2026**. According to Becker's, "These organizations invest deeply in their people, offering robust benefits, meaningful opportunities for professional and personal development, inclusive environments where employees feel valued, mission-driven work, and resources that support true work-life balance."

UNC Health Southeastern's entry reads: "UNC Health Southeastern is guided by a mission centered on exceptional care, safety and compassion, supported by values that emphasize teamwork, accountability and community connection in a rural, family-oriented environment...As the largest employer in its county, UNC Health Southeastern has doubled its minimum salary in five years and fosters a culture rooted in 'friends and family caring for friends and family.'"

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Sports

The Robesonian

Saturday, March 14, 2026 • Section B

NCHSAA 4A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



Fairmont's Lyric McNair (00) takes a shot attempt as Maiden's Raegan Rembert (1) and Havyn Dula (24) defend during Friday's 4A state championship game in Winston-Salem.

Photos by Chris Stiles | The Robesonian

Tornadoes' title-game loss is just the beginning

WINSTON-SALEM — The Fairmont girls basketball team stood at the free-throw line on one end of the court and silently watched as the opponents it had battled so valiantly over the last hour and a half received the reward that it had so desperately wanted. The young ladies listened to the cheers, even visibly reacting when it was announced to the arena that the Maiden Blue Devils were the 4A state champions.



Chris Stiles
Editor

It was clear watching the Golden Tornadoes players that they didn't find this to be enjoyable. And it's understandable — that was the celebration and the trophy that they'd worked so hard for, too.

But — thinking ahead — Fairmont coach Marcus Thompson appreciated what his players were seeing.

"I love the way they let you sit out there and watch the other team get their championship trophy — and hats off to (Maiden), they played so hard," Thompson said. "I think that's motivation enough. Because if they forget about that, they won't work. They need to keep that picture in their head for the next 12 months."

Fairmont lost the NCHSAA 4A state title game on Friday, 44-39, after a hard-fought game against Maiden, which completed an undefeated season.

But while the loss marks the end of the 2025-26 season — one which should and will be forever celebrated in Fairmont — it's also far from the end for this core of Golden Tornadoes.

No, with only one senior and with the majority of the production coming from freshmen and sophomores, this is just the beginning of the story that will be written over the next few years.

That's not to say Friday's result doesn't hurt, or that it shouldn't. Every opportunity to win a state championship must be treated as a once-in-a-lifetime chance,

See LOSS | 5B

Fairmont falls just short

Maiden tops Tornadoes for state title

Jacob Husson
The Robesonian

WINSTON-SALEM — The Fairmont Golden Tornadoes' magical season ended in heartbreak as they fell in the NCHSAA 4A girls basketball championship Friday to the Maiden Blue Devils, 44-39. Both defenses reigned supreme as each team made less than 40% of their shots from the field.

"It's a great season but we fell short," Fairmont coach Marcus Thompson said. "We made mistakes that we shouldn't have made. Not boxing out killed us and rushing shots killed us at the end."

The game was tied at 39-39 with a minute remaining, and Fairmont (27-2) held a lead in the final minutes. Lyric McNair made a free throw with 2:27 to go to give Fairmont a 39-37 lead. Maiden's Havyn Dula made a layup to tie the game with 1:55 remaining. Khiara Culliver made a go-ahead layup for Maiden with 52 seconds remaining, then scored again on a successive possession off a sideline inbound play, with a layup-and-1 to make it

44-39 with 14.9 seconds to go.

Culliver was the undisputed star for Maiden, scoring 21 points with 11 rebounds and two steals. She made 7-of-11 from the field, while making all seven of her free throws, and was named the game's Most Valuable Player. Ava Anderson was also a difference maker with 11 points, five rebounds and a steal.

"We knew they had a big girl and we weren't boxing out, and we knew discipline was a big part of what we had to do, and I feel like we weren't disciplined on the rebounds and boxing out. Boxing out was the key word for this whole game, and we didn't do it," McNair said.

"When they've got a big like that and guards all around, you start asking yourself, how do you defend," Thompson said. "We just sat down and played the best defense that we could, but defense is not over until you get the rebound, and that's what hurt us. We gave up too many second chances."

McNair was Fairmont's biggest standout in the defeat with 18 points, six rebounds,



Fairmont's Laila Grady, left, and Maiden's Ava Anderson (3) battle for possession during Friday's 4A state championship game in Winston-Salem.



Fairmont's Jayda Dial (4) looks to pass as Maiden's Ava Anderson (3) defends during Friday's 4A state championship game in Winston-Salem.

two blocks and a steal. She was named Fairmont's Most Outstanding Player by the NCHSAA.

"As great as she played, there's some

more things that I needed from her tonight," Thompson said. "But Lyric is one of those people I'm not going to have to motivate. She's going to work hard."

That's just her mentality, she's a dog." Amiyah McLean scored eight points with four rebounds and

See STATE | 5B

Bush to coach Fairmont football

Chris Stiles
The Robesonian

FAIRMONT — Reggie Bush has been picked to lead the Fairmont High School football program as its next head coach, joining the Golden Tornadoes after two seasons on the coaching staff at Lumberton.

"(It's the) right time right now; I love the culture they're building over there with Dr. (Anthony) Barton and the AD over there, Marcus Thompson, some great guys that are trying to do some amazing things over there and get some of those things

accomplished," Bush said. "I just feel like me and my team can add to what they're already building down there."

Bush replaces Scott Loosemore, who resigned in January after one season at Fairmont. The Golden Tornadoes went 1-9 last fall.

"Through conversation and through his interview, everything he said and everything he did in the interview screamed leadership," Fairmont athletic director Marcus Thompson said. "And his vision was not generic; I



Bush

feel like a lot of people's vision when they come in interviews can be very generic. His is very outside the box, and his desire to help grow young men really stood out."

Bush coached the wide receivers and defensive backs at Lumberton last season and was the Pirates' JV head coach in 2024. He began coaching in a youth program while he was in the military in Georgia, then coached at the rec level and middle school level before joining the Pirates' staff.

A native of Bainbridge, Georgia, Bush spent 14 years in the military after playing wide receiver and safety at Bainbridge High School.

While Bush becomes the Golden Tornadoes head coach with no head coaching or coordinator experience, Thompson says he's not concerned about Bush's level of experience and is confident he's ready for the job.

"It's a big jump for him, but he's been an assistant and he's been a JV coach. I've been telling people

a long time, somebody's got to give you a shot," Thompson said. "I feel like, and he feels like, he can handle the job. I'm excited, and I can't wait for these young men to meet him. And Dr. Barton is excited about working with him as well."

Bush is a good fit within a renewed emphasis at Fairmont to hire coaches which help to build up their players' character, Thompson said.

"We're trying to get to a point where building people is our first priori-

ty, and we know that if we build people, the winning will come," Thompson said. "We want to build people first, and he fit that mold."

"I believe once you get in there, you invest in the guys and you show them that you care about them, and not just about wins and losses or having a title," Bush said. "If they see that you love them and want the best for them, that's when they'll start buying into the program and start turning things around."

See BUSH | 2B

FROM WEDNESDAY: ROBESON CUP SEMIFINALS

Lady Pirates, Rams advance to Robeson Cup final

Jacob Husson
The Robesonian

RED SPRINGS — The Lumberton Lady Pirates opened the Robeson Cup by raiding the St. Pauls Bulldogs, coming away with a 2-1 victory Wednesday night in the Robeson Cup semifinals.

This gave Lumberton (3-1) three straight wins after its season-opening loss to Richmond. Meanwhile, St. Pauls (0-2) dropped its second straight game to start the year.

“We struggled offensively throughout the whole game,” Lumberton coach Ethan Freeman said. “We had some opportunities. To St. Pauls credit, they were organized defensively and they have a good centre back that was kind of cleaning everything up and keeping them in the game. We were able to break them down late in the game and get the second goal that was the go-ahead.”

Lumberton's Linsi Campos Padilla opened the scoring with 25:45 left in the first half. Then, both offenses went silent for a long time. With 49 seconds left in the game, Natalie Oxendine scored an insurance goal for the Pirates. That proved important, as St. Pauls Ester Flores Segura scored for St. Pauls as time expired.

“It feels great,” Campos

Padilla said. “I mean, the last goal was a lucky goal, but we did it.”

Despite the loss, a strong defensive showing has St. Pauls feeling optimistic.

“I think we did a great job and it was a very exciting game,” St. Pauls coach Camilo Sanchez said. “It was a one-goal difference and the girls did an amazing job. They did what I asked them to do. I know we need to practice some things and we need to get back to our training, but I'm very proud of them.”

The Lady Pirates played on Friday in the next round of the Robeson Cup against Purnell Swett at 7 p.m. at St. Pauls. St. Pauls will host Red Springs in the third-place game at 5 p.m.

Rams win convincingly over Red Devils

The Purnell Swett Lady Rams left no doubt in their 7-1 win over the Red Springs Red Devils, winning to advance in the Robeson Cup.

Purnell Swett has advanced to the championship in all five girls Robeson Cups contested, and Friday will seek its fifth-straight title.

This was the third-straight win for Purnell Swett (4-0-1) following a tie against Jack Britt. For Red Springs (2-3), this was their third loss in the last four games.

“I thought we did bet-

ter in the second half than we did in the first,” Purnell Swett coach Alaric Strickland said. “I thought we came in a little flat in the first half and let them attack us instead of us setting the pace and the tone, but I'm happy with the result and just glad we're moving on.”

Several players were on the stat sheet for Purnell Swett. Johnna Sampson and Sarah Hunt each had two goals in the game. Kiley Locklear, Marley McKinney and Gracie Wilkerson had a goal each.

Wilkerson also had two assists in the match, while Halaya Dial, Jennifer Lopez, Kiley Locklear and Sarah Panameno each had one assist for the Rams.

Jurielys Quinones scored the Red Devils' only goal in the contest.

“I think at the beginning, we came in a little slow, but I feel like as the game went on, we started fighting more and we really started wanting to win and we pulled through,” Purnell Swett's Sarah Hunt said.

The Rams started scoring early, finding the back of the net with 37:09 left in the first half. The Red Devils responded and tied it up with Quinones' goal with 15:27 left in the first half. But the Rams scored three unanswered goals before the half ended.

Purnell Swett opened the second half with a



St. Pauls' Kimberly Ordenez (4) and Lumberton's Sydnea Jones (6) battle for possession during Wednesday's Robeson Cup semifinal in Red Springs.

Results from Friday's Robeson Cup championship game were unavailable at press time. For the full story, visit robsonian.com or see Wednesday's print edition.

goal with 35:40 remaining, increasing its lead to 5-1. The Rams added two more goals with 23:50 and 17:28 remaining, respectively.

Purnell Swett will face Lumberton for the title at 7 p.m. Friday at St. Pauls. Red Springs will face St. Pauls in the third-place game at 5 p.m.

Jacob Husson can be reached at 910-816-1977 or by email at jhusson@robsonian.com



Purnell Swett's Sarah Hunt (4) runs with the ball during Wednesday's Robeson Cup semifinal at Red Springs.

Bush

From page 1B

The school also hopes that Bush will bring stability to the program, as he is its sixth head in the last eight seasons: Kevin Inman was fired after the 2019 season, and was followed by head coaches George Coltharp in the spring 2021 season, Lonnie Cox in the fall 2021 and 2022 seasons, Jeremy Carthen in 2023-24, Loosemore in 2025 and now Bush in 2026.

“I have no doubt that he's going to do a good job, but I hope he stays,” Thompson said. “We asked that question, and that's something that — he plans on sticking around. But I'm human and I know that plans change, but I'm excited that that's his plan to stick around.”

Bush will seek to turn around a Fairmont program that has won two games or less in each of the last six seasons, including a winless campaign in 2024.

“My goals are to get down there where the team guys are that want to build a culture of putting back into these young guys winning, on and off the field,” Bush said. “My goal is to put these guys in the best position to help them succeed in life, to build better men for society and for the community.”

Editor Chris Stiles can be reached at 910-416-5847 or by email at cstiles@robsonian.com.

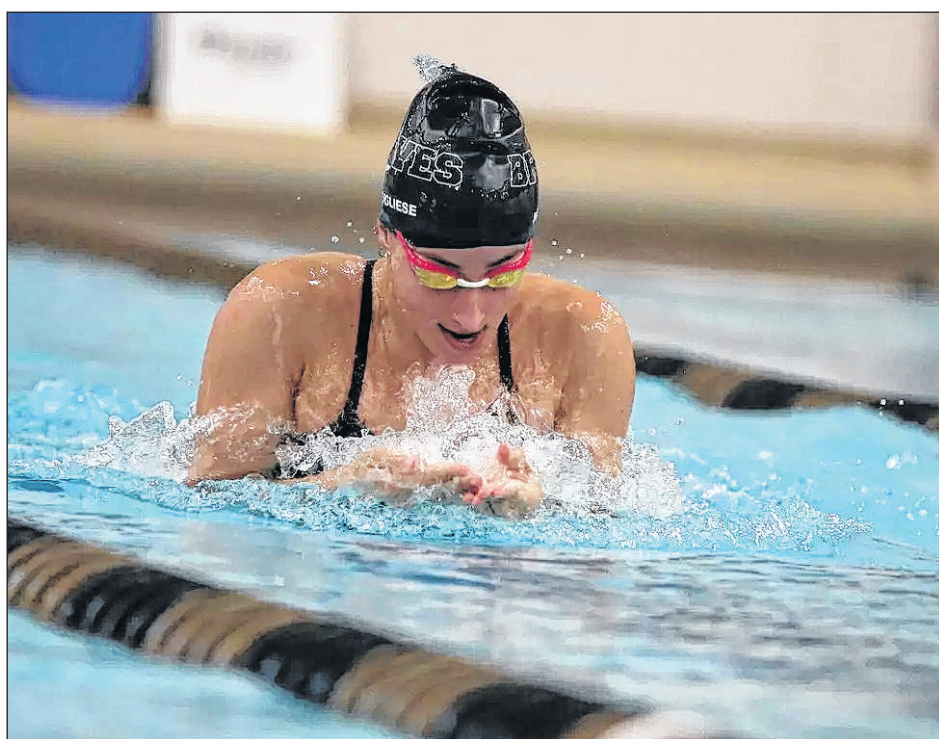
Braves' Pepe Pugliese finishes 21st at NCAA Championships

Staff report

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — UNC Pembroke's Benedetta Pepe Pugliese made her first appearance at the 2026 NCAA Championships on Thursday in the 400-yard individual medley inside the Deaconess Aquatic Center.

Pepe Pugliese placed 21st in the event with a time of 4:28.13.

Pepe Pugliese will be back in action on Saturday for the 200-yard breaststroke. Sofia Pereira will return to action on Friday in the 500-yard freestyle.



UNC Pembroke's Benedetta Pepe Pugliese swims during an event this season.

UNCP Athletics

UNCP men 4th, women 6th in CC outdoor track & field preseason poll

Staff report

PEMBROKE — The UNC Pembroke men's outdoor track and field team was picked fourth, while the women's squad was selected sixth in the Conference Carolinas Preseason Coaches Poll, the league announced Thursday afternoon.

The men's program is coming off a 2024-25 season where it earned a third-place finish at the Conference

Carolinas Outdoor Championships. The Braves earned 147 points, slotting in behind 2025 outdoor conference champion Mount Olive who got 13 first-place votes and 184 points, Converse, who earned one first-place vote and 182 points, and Belmont Abbey, who picked up 163 points. Southern Wesleyan collected 144 points to round out

the top five. The Black & Gold has finished in the top three in its last seven conference championships meets and will look to bring home the title for the first time since winning the Peach Belt Conference Championships in 2017.

After finishing fifth at the 2025 Conference Carolinas Outdoor Championships, the women's program was

slotted in the sixth spot of the preseason poll after earning 123 points. 2025 champion, Mount Olive, took the top spot with 192 points and 13 first place votes, with Converse, earning 170 points and one first-place vote to settle in at second. North Greenville picked up 160 points to check in at third, with Belmont Abbey earning 152 points to take fourth,

and Lees-McRae earning 132 points to round out the top five.

The Braves kicked off its outdoor portion of the schedule March 6-7 at the UNCW Seahawk Invitational, and will be back in action March 19 as they take part in the Alan Connie Shamrock Invitational in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The three-day meet will be held at Doug Shaw Memorial Stadium.

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<p>NORTH CAROLINA</p> <p>ROBESON COUNTY 24 E 674</p> <p>NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS</p> <p>All persons, firms or corporations having claims against Michael Allen Carpenter, deceased, late of Robeson County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 21, 2026, or be barred from any recovery.</p> <p>All persons indebted to said estate are asked to make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This the 21st day of February, 2026.</p> <p>Stacey Ann Grissett, Executrix of the Estate of Michael Allen Carpenter, Deceased, c/o Jonathan L. Morton Attorney for the Estate Huggins, Davis & Associates, LLP P.O. Box 1571 Lumberton, NC 28359</p> <p>2/21 2/28 3/7 3/14 2026</p> <p>NORTH CAROLINA</p> <p>ROBESON COUNTY 25 E 1925</p> <p>NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS</p> <p>All persons, firms or corporations having claims against Joann Cade, deceased, late of Robeson County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 21, 2026, or be barred from any recovery.</p> <p>All persons indebted to said estate are asked to make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This the 21st day of February, 2026.</p> <p>Bridgett Cade, Administratrix of the Estate of Joann Cade, Deceased, c/o Jonathan L. Morton Attorney for the Estate Huggins, Davis & Associates, LLP P.O. Box 1571 Lumberton, NC 28359</p> <p>2/21 2/28 3/7 3/14 2026</p> <p>NOTICE TO CREDITORS</p> <p>Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Deborah Lyn Nichols, late of Robeson County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of said Decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at c/o Grant Law, LLC, at 3440 Toringdon Way, Suite 205, Charlotte, North Carolina 28277, phone 980-265-2570, on or before May 22, 2026, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, and corporations indebted to said Estate should please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This the 21 st day of February 2026.</p> <p>Michael Villiers Administrator of the Estate of Deborah Lyn Nichols</p> <p>2/21 2/28 3/7 3/14 2026</p> <p>LEGAL NOTICE JANE SMILING LOCKLEAR VS DEXTER LOCKLEAR NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION TO: DEXTER LOCKLEAR CASE NO: 26CV000597</p> <p>TAKE NOTICE THAT A PLEADING SEEKING RELIEF against you has been filed in the above-entitled Notice. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: DIVORCE. You are to make defense to such pleadings no later than APRIL 9, 2026 said date being forty (40) days from the Publication of Notice, or from the date the Complaint is required to be filed, whichever is later; and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.</p> <p>This the 28th day of FEBRUAY 2026.</p> <p>Chad W. Hammonds Attorney for Plaintiff 3410 Capuno Rd. Lumberton, NC 28358 Telephone: (910)608-3425 Fax: (910)608-3428</p> <p>2/28 3/7 3/14 2026</p>	<p>LEGALS</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF FURNIE VISA SINGLETARY, JR DECEASED FILE NUMBER 25E001576-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Co-Administrator, of the estate of Furnie Visa Singletary, Jr, deceased, late of Robeson County, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of June, 2026, or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This the 28th day of February, 2026.</p> <p>Annie Singletary 1204 Saxon Avenue Lumberton, NC 28320</p> <p>Co-Administrator Tammy Singletary PO Box 636 Bladenboro, NC 28320</p> <p>Attorney Mr Robert Schaefer 252 Latitude Ln. Suite 102 Lake Wylie, SC 29710 (803) 368 – 4380</p> <p>2/28 3/7 3/14 3/21 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF ADDIE L WILLIAMSON DECEASED FILE NUMBER 25 E 002119-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Executor, of the Estate of ADDIE L WILLIAMSON, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of MAY 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 21st day of FEBRUARY 2026.</p> <p>ALLISON SCOTT 502 NEWGATE ST LUMBERTON NC 28358</p> <p>2/21 2/28 3/7 3/14 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF ALTON CHAVIS DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000181-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Executor, of the Estate of ALTON CHAVIS, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 7th day of MARCH 2026.</p> <p>LYDIA RUTH CHAVIS 1698 BIGGS RD ROWLAND NC 28383</p> <p>3/7 3/14 3/21 3/28 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF ANTHONY LEE JACOBS DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000189-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Executor, of the Estate of ANTHONY LEE JACOBS, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of MAY 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 21st day of FEBRUARY 2026.</p> <p>WHITNEY MORGAN JACOBS 291 TURKEY BRANCH ROAD FAIRMONT NC 28340</p> <p>2/21 2/28 3/7 3/14 2026</p>	<p>LEGALS</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF BARBARA WINCHESTER DECEASED FILE NUMBER 25 E 002124-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of BARBARA WINCHESTER, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 14th day of MARCH 2026.</p> <p>C H R I S T O P H E R WINCHESTER 9841 ROCKFISH RD RAEFORD NC 28376</p> <p>3/14 3/21 3/28 4/4 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF BOBBY DERRICK MOORE DECEASED FILE NUMBER 25 E 001943-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of BOBBY DERRICK MOORE, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 7th day of MARCH 2026.</p> <p>PEGGY WILLIAMS WALTERS 405 JACKSON ST FAIRMONT NC 28340</p> <p>3/14 3/21 3/28 4/4 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF DAVID STEPHEN BAKER DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000114-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of DAVID STEPHEN BAKER, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 7th day of MARCH 2026.</p> <p>DAVID WAYNE BAKER 258 BRITT ROAD SANT PAULS NC 28384</p> <p>3/7 3/14 3/21 3/28 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF DENNIS JAMES SANDERSON DECEASED FILE NUMBER 25 E 002182-770</p> <p>The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Dennis James Sanderson, deceased, late of Robeson County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 17th day of JUNE, 2026, or be barred from their recovery.</p> <p>All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This the 14th day of March, 2026.</p> <p>Diane Jones Sanderson Administrator</p> <p>Brian Brooks Hunt & Brooks Post Office Box 999 Pembroke, N.C. 28372 (910) 521-3413 (910) 521-1027 (fax)</p> <p>3/14 3/21 3/28 4/4 2026</p>	<p>LEGALS</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF DENNIS STEVENS AKA DENNIS L STEVENS AKA DENNIS LAWRENCE STEVENS DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000192-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Executor, of the Estate of DENNIS STEVENS AKA DENNIS L STEVENS AKA DENNIS LAWRENCE STEVENS, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 28th day of FEBRUARY 2026.</p> <p>PENNY S CUMMINGS 350 GEM ROAD LUMBERTON NC 28358</p> <p>2/28 3/7 3/14 3/21 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF DON CHAVIS DECEASED FILE NUMBER 22 E 000860-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of DON CHAVIS, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 7th day of MARCH 2026.</p> <p>LINDA JONES 15001 US HWY 71 NORTH SHANNON NC 28386</p> <p>3/7 3/14 3/21 3/28 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF JAMES RUSSELL ANDERSON DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000007-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Executor, of the Estate of JAMES RUSSELL ANDERSON, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 28th day of FEBRUARY 2026.</p> <p>SHARON ANDERSON DONALD 2699 BUFFALO LAKE RD SANFORD NC 27332</p> <p>2/28 3/7 3/14 3/21 2026</p>	<p>LEGALS</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF JAMES THOMAS BURNS DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000268-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Executor, of the Estate of JAMES THOMAS BURNS, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 14th day of MARCH 2026.</p> <p>GEORGIANNA F PUGH 307 ANNA ST PEMBROKE NC 28372</p> <p>3/14 3/21 3/28 4/4 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF JAMES FRANCIS MCMILLAN DECEASED FILE NUMBER 25 E 002009-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of JAMES FRANCIS MCMILLAN, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 28th day of FEBRUARY 2026.</p> <p>BRITTANIE A BELCH 618 CONNALLY DRIVE HOPE MILLS NC 28348</p> <p>2/28 3/7 3/14 3/21 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF JEANNETTE B. LOCKLEAR DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26E000130-770</p> <p>The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Jeannette B. Locklear, deceased, late of Robeson County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of MAY, 2026, or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This the 21st day of February, 2026.</p> <p>Wilton G. Lewis Jr. Executor Jessica B. Scott Hunt & Brooks Post Office Box 999 Pembroke, N.C. 28372 (910) 521-3413 (910) 521-1027 (fax)</p> <p>2/21 2/28 3/7 3/14 2026</p>	<p>LEGALS</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF JERRY HERSHEL JOLLY DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000206-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of JERRY HERSHEL JOLLY, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 28th day of FEBRUARY 2026.</p> <p>JERRIE JOLLY COLLINS 404 W 24TH ST LUMBERTON NC 28358</p> <p>2/28 3/7 3/14 3/21 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF MARGRETTE JACOBS MURRAY AKA MARGARET JACOBS MURRAY DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000258-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Executor, of the Estate of MARGRETTE JACOBS MURRAY, AKA MARGARET JACOBS MURRAY, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 14th day of MARCH 2026.</p> <p>DWIGHT MITCHELL MURRAY 241 REO DR ROWLAND NC 28383</p> <p>3/14 3/21 3/28 4/4 2026</p> <p>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF MAXINE BLOUNT BELL DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000127-770</p> <p>The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of MAXINE BLOUNT BELL, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.</p> <p>This is the 28th day of FEBRUARY 2026.</p> <p>STEPHANIE PATRICE BLOUNT 2987 CENTERVILL CHURCH RD FAIRMONT NC 28340</p> <p>2/28 3/7 3/14 3/21 2026</p>

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Notices

RE-ADVERTISEMENT OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS for Microsoft Office Licenses

The public will take notice that the Lumber River Council of Governments (hereinafter "LRCOG") of Pembroke, North Carolina is re-advertising for proposals for Microsoft Office Licenses, until March 24, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. Proposals should be addressed to Lumber River Council of Governments, RFP: Microsoft Licenses, 30 CJ Walker Road, Pembroke, NC 28372 and may be hand delivered by the date and time due or sent by mail to the above-referenced address or emailed to yci@lrcog.org and cu@lrcog.org.

Proposals received after the above cited time will be considered a late bid and are not acceptable.

Interested parties may obtain a complete description of the Microsoft Licenses from the LRCOG anytime between Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and Fridays, 8:30 am until 1:00 pm, except holidays. Any contract resulting from a proposals received shall be awarded to the person or entity that submits the best overall proposal as determined by the LRCOG. The fact and w_cdrs to be considered in awarding the contract including the following:

1. Proposal cost;
2. Overall impression of the proposal;
3. Durability and Warranty;
4. Relevant Experience and past performance;
5. Qualification as a Minority or Women-Owned Business.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the LRCOG reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

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Robeson Parks & Rec to host HS Alumni Basketball Tournament

Staff report

LUMBERTON — Robeson County Parks & Recreation will hold its first High School Alumni Tournament this weekend.

Teams of alumni representing Fairmont, Lumberton, Purnell Swett, Red Springs, St. Pauls and South Robeson will play in a double-elimination tournament at Bill Sapp Recreation Center in Lumberton.

Games will begin at 1 p.m. on Saturday and at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

Admission is \$5 for a single day or \$8 for both days; kids 6 and under get in free. Proceeds will benefit Robeson County Special Olympics and the L.I.F.E. Mentoring Program.

Pirates' Hanna, Johnson combine for 4-inning no-hitter

Staff report

LUMBERTON — Ava Hanna and Norah Johnson combined for a four-inning no-hitter Wednesday as the Lumberton softball team earned a 15-0 nonconference win over Whiteville, rebounding from a 6-2 loss at Cape Fear in Tuesday's Tri-County Conference opener.

Hanna pitched three innings in Wednesday's victory and struck out three batters; Johnson pitched one inning with one strikeout.

Lumberton (4-2, 0-1 Tri-County Conference) scored three runs in the first, five in the second, two in the third and five in the fourth, totaling 17 hits.

Hanna also had three hits with two doubles and four RBIs for the Pirates. Charleigh Talton had three hits with a double and three RBIs, Josie Lawson had three hits with a triple and two RBIs, Kinsley Martin had two hits, Johnson had two hits and two RBIs, Jaelyn Hammond had a double with one RBI and Jayla Hunt had a double with three RBIs.

Whiteville is 0-4.

Tuesday, Cape Fear (5-0, 1-0 TCC) scored two runs in the first, three in the second and one in the sixth, while the Pirates scored two in the fourth.

Martin and Hunt had RBI groundouts to account for Lumberton's two runs. Talton doubled, while Olivia McLamb, Hammond, Martin and Hanna also each had one hit.

Addie Davis and McKinley Kolasa each had three hits for the Colts.

Lumberton hosts Gray's Creek on Friday; Cape Fear plays at Purnell Swett.

Bulldogs bite Tornados late, prevail with clutch hitting

Jacob Husson
The Robesonian

FAIRMONT — The St. Pauls Bulldogs had some bite Tuesday, coming back from a 2-0 deficit to defeat the Fairmont Golden Tornados 4-3. Strong pitching was the story for much of the game, but timely hitting helped the Bulldogs (1-2) prevail late.

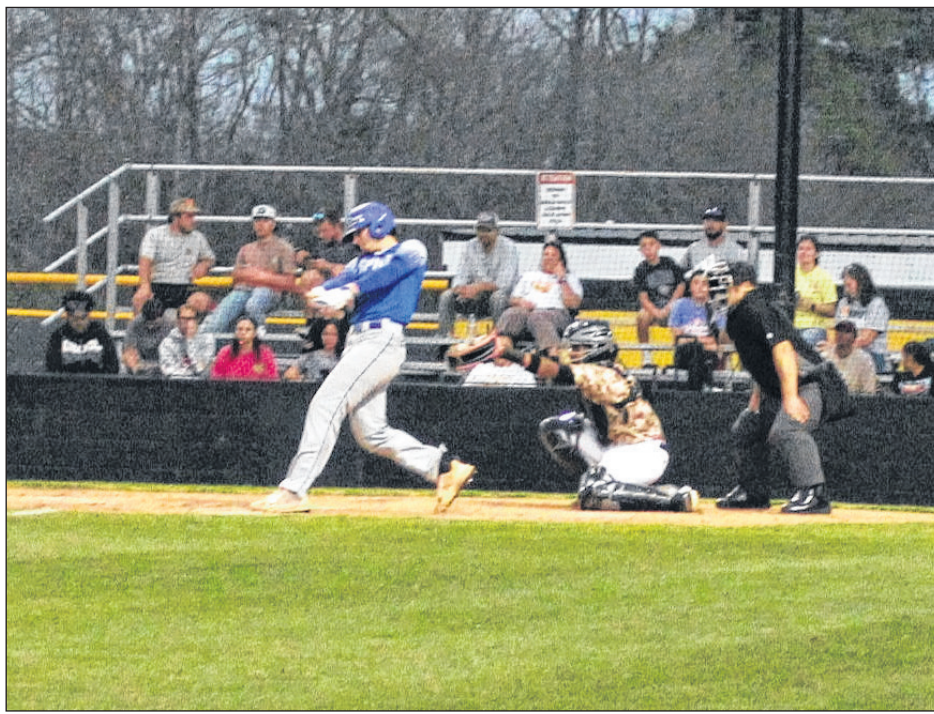
"We made adjustments," St. Pauls coach Timothy Carter said. "We were able to get the guys closer to the plate and Malikah got a good pitch outside and our adjustments got us closer to the plate and we hit the baseball better."

The pitching matchup saw St. Pauls' Cameron McNeill battle Fairmont's Parker Chavis. Despite being on the losing side, Chavis was solid. He surrendered three runs over 6 1/3 innings, but only one run was earned.

In the top of the seventh, multiple walks eventually led to Malikah Locklear coming through with a two-RBI triple. The Bulldogs couldn't bring in anymore runs, but they didn't need to as Fairmont failed to score in the bottom half.

"I had to do what I had to do, go up there and see the ball, put the bat on the ball and help my team," Locklear said.

St. Pauls was held



Jacob Husson | The Robesonian

St. Pauls' Cailen McNeill puts the ball in play during Tuesday's game at Fairmont.

off the scoreboard in the first inning, despite captain Cailen McNeill's single. The base paths were quiet for both sides until Landon Sampson doubled for Fairmont (0-4) in the third. An additional runner got on after the throw to first was dropped. Geru Gaddy followed that up by bunting and advancing the runner. Sampson made it home because of a passed ball. Next, Laettner Locklear was walked. However, a Tanner Hunt flyout, followed by Locklear getting caught stealing ended hopes for that inning. However, the

Golden Tornados now had a 1-0 lead.

Two quick outs led up to a single for St. Pauls Zayin Hunt in the fourth. However, McNeill would be out to end the inning with the Bulldogs still trailing 1-0.

St. Pauls captain Tyler Lavoie was walked to open the top of the sixth, but was caught stealing at second. Later in the inning, there were runners on second and third before Josh Brooks lined out.

A runner came in on an error, making it a 2-2 game going to the bottom of the sixth; Fairmont went down quickly in the

sixth, setting the stage for the seventh.

"That's what's happened the last few games, we've been tied or ahead in the fifth or later and our mistakes compound and we give up a few runs here and there and they end up taking the lead," Fairmont coach A.J. Brooks said. "We're working with a really young team right now. ... We're going to get better, we're really close to being where we want to be."

Jacob Husson can be reached at 910-816-1966 or by email at jhusson@robesonian.com.

Panthers sign Rasheed Walker as one-year stop gap at left tackle

Steve Reed
AP Sports Writer

CHARLOTTE — The Carolina Panthers found a one-year replacement for injured left tackle Ikey Ekwonu on Friday, agreeing to terms with free agent Rasheed Walker from the Green Bay Packers, according to a person familiar with the situation.

The one-year deal is worth \$10 million, according to the person who spoke to The

Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the deal has not been finalized.

The 26-year-old Walker is expected to start this season in place of Ekwonu, the team's No. 6 overall draft pick in 2022 who is expected to miss most, if not all, of the 2026 season after tearing his patellar tendon in Carolina's wild-card loss to the Los Angeles Rams.

The 6-foot-6, 324-pound Walker has played

in 51 games and started 48 over the past three seasons for the Packers.

Walker played in one game in 2022 after being drafted in the seventh round out of Penn State. But, he established himself as a valuable part of the Packers' offensive line beginning in 2023 and has missed just three starts since.

The Panthers were considering signing Ekwonu to a contract extension this offseason,

but the injury has put negotiations on hold.

Carolina has already picked up Ekwonu's fifth-year option, so he is under contract through the 2027 season, meaning they still have time to work out a deal. The Panthers have made it clear they still view Ekwonu, who was raised in Charlotte, as a their long-term option at left tackle and would like to get a long-term deal done at some point.

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LEGALS

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF NEDWARD GADDEY DECEASED FILE NUMBER 25 E 001836-770

LEGALS

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF SANDRA MCMILLAN TAYLOR AKA SANDRA FAYE TAYLOR DECEASED FILE NUMBER 25 E 001879-770

LEGALS

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF TAMMY ROBERTS DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000059-770

LEGALS

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF WILLIE LEE MCKOY DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000184-770

Notices

support health initiatives and other supports for our students. Interested people are encouraged to review Project amendments and comment on our implementation under these Federal Programs. All comments will be considered before submission of the amended Projects to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. The IDEA-Part B Project, the Title II and Title VI Project, and the FP Consolidated Project are open to the public for review and comments during the week of March 17th – 21st in the office of Dr. Christopher Clark, located at Old Main STREAM Academy, 202 S. Odom Street, Pembroke NC 28372. A public meeting will be held on March 25, 2026 at Old Main STREAM Academy at 11:00 a.m. for a discussion regarding these programs.

Rentals

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The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of NEDWARD GADDEY, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of SANDRA MCMILLAN TAYLOR, AKA SANDRA FAYE TAYLOR, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of TAMMY ROBERTS, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of JUNE 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

The undersigned having qualified as Executor, of the Estate of WILLIE LEE MCKOY, deceased, late of ROBESON COUNTY, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of MAY 2026 or be barred from their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This is the 28th day of FEBRUARY 2026.

This is the 14th day of MARCH 2026.

This is the 28th day of FEBRUARY 2026.

This is the 21st day of FEBRUARY 2026.

DANIEL RESHAD ROBERTS
PO BOX 177
710 RED CROSS ST
FAIRMONT NC 28340

TESHIA ROSHELL MCMILLAN
8749 GROUSE RUN LANE
FAYETTEVILLE NC 28314

PETE ROBERTS
1399 S ELIZABETH ST EXT
SAINT PAULS NC 28384

APRIL MCKOY
116 HONEY LANE
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The Fairmont girls basketball team accepts the state runner-up trophy following Friday's 4A state championship game against Maiden in Winston-Salem.

Photos by Chris Stiles | The Robesonian

State

From page 1B

Kaziyah McLean had seven points with four rebounds for Fairmont. Jayda Dial had eight rebounds.

After a strong first quarter defensively for both sides, Maiden led 8-2. Lyric McNair was the only Golden Tornado to score in the first eight minutes.

"The atmosphere just being in a big place, you're not used to it, so it was like, we've got to do this, we've got to do that," McNair said. "But once we settled in, I feel like everybody got to their spots, everybody started doing what they wanted to do."

McNair opened the second quarter with a bucket with 7:42 left in the half. Aaliyah Duran followed with a 3-pointer with 7:02 remaining, pulling Fairmont to within 10-7. After trading multiple baskets, Maiden led 14-11 with five minutes left in the half. Fairmont tied it at 14 with 4:25 left in the half, thanks to a 3-pointer from McNair.

A pair of made baskets gave the Blue Devils an 18-14 lead with 2:55 left in the half, and by halftime, Maiden led 23-19.

Amiyah McLean opened the third quarter with a 3-pointer for Fairmont with 6:50 on the clock, pulling Fairmont within a point at 23-22. Maiden led 26-24 before McNair made two free throws with 3:54 in the period to tie the game. Maiden's Ava Anderson made a free throw with 3:14 left to give the Blue Devils the lead again, then made a layup with 2:16 left in the quarter to make it 29-26. Fairmont made two of the last three third quarter baskets, including a McNair jumper at the quarter buzzer, to trail 31-30 heading into the final eight minutes.

A 3-pointer from Kaziyah McLean tied the score at 33-33 with 6:20 left following a Maiden basket to open the quarter. Another triple, from Laila Grady, gave Fairmont a 36-35 lead with 4:10 left, and a Fairmont basket by Kaziyah McLean, followed by two Maiden free throws, made it 38-37 with 3:09 left before McNair's free throw gave Fairmont its late two-point lead.

"I thought Fairmont did a great job of, they kept just bringing different people," Maiden coach



Fairmont coach Marcus Thompson questions an official's call during Friday's 4A state championship game against Maiden in Winston-Salem.



Fairmont's Kimiyah Smith (10) looks to shoot as Maiden's Willow Bass (5) defends during Friday's 4A state championship game in Winston-Salem.



Fairmont's Amiyah McLean (12) looks to shoot as Maiden's Raegan Rembert (1) defends Friday's 4A state championship game in Winston-Salem.

Steven Hensley said. "They brought all sorts of people on to Ava (Anderson). Their game plan was excellent. We scored (44), and I don't think anybody has held us to (44) all year long. It was an outstanding defensive plan. I think just down the stretch, our girls made some plays, made some shots in big moments, and that was the difference between two

championship teams." While the Golden Tornadoes lost the state championship game, Fairmont made history this season with a school-record 27 wins and its first regional championship. With only one senior, the future looks bright for this team.

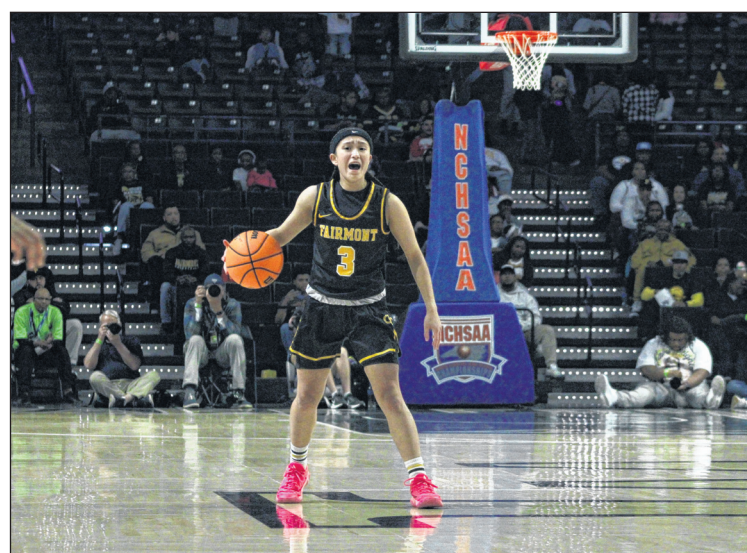
Jacob Husson can be reached at 910-816-1977 or by email at jhusson@robesonian.com.



The Fairmont cheerleading team cheers on the Golden Tornadoes during Friday's 4A state championship game against Maiden in Winston-Salem.



Lyric McNair, center, is honored as Fairmont's Most Outstanding Player following Friday's 4A state championship game against Maiden in Winston-Salem.



Fairmont's Aaliyah Duran dribbles during Friday's 4A state championship game against Maiden in Winston-Salem.



Fairmont fans cheer on the Golden Tornadoes during Friday's 4A state championship game against Maiden in Winston-Salem.



Fairmont's Lyric McNair (00) dribbles as Maiden's Amelia Beal (2) defends during Friday's 4A state championship game in Winston-Salem.

Loss

From page 1B

because there's never a guarantee that a team will make it back to the big one.

But this is a team that will unquestionably have state championship aspirations for the next couple of years. If they do get back to the title game in Winston-Salem, they'll do so with the experience they gained on Friday — and may face a team that isn't acclimated to the stage, the large crowd and the big arena.

"I think we'll be more prepared," said Lyric McNair, who scored 18 points with six rebounds and five assists Friday, earning Fairmont's Most Outstanding Player honors

from the NCHSAA. "It's a big stage, so ... I think there will always be a little bit of nervousness. But I think it's also a matter of just coming and being disciplined, being poised and just playing our game."

This doesn't mean that Fairmont can rest on its laurels and assume a return. As regional champions, they'll be the team in the 4A East with a target on their back next season. More hard work will definitely be needed to have another season like this one.

"Hopefully they'll be ready to work in about two weeks, and we'll be right back at it, trying to get here again next year," Thompson said. "Like I told them in the locker room a while ago, next year's not far away. If we treat it like it's far away, we'll miss our opportunity."

But Thompson believes that

work ethic won't be hard to come by — not with the motivation gained by Friday's result, and not by the type of players he has in his program.

"Lyric is one of those people I'm not going to have to motivate," Thompson said. "She's going to work hard. That's just her mentality, she's a dog. Lyric will be in the gym tomorrow, or she'll go run three miles, something like that."

That was said about McNair, but it seems to apply to the rest of Fairmont's young stars, too.

Thoughts about the future are admittedly a moot point for Jayda Dial, the team's only senior, who saw her only chance for a state championship slip away in the tense final minute of Friday's game. But whatever this program continues to do, she'll be a part of what was built, just as

other recent Fairmont stars like Taniya Simms, Miah and Niah Smith, Paris Bethea, Amyrikal Vaught and others were part of this season's foundation.

Fairmont has built from a winless season in the campaign before Thompson took over to a program-record 27 wins in 2025-26 — and 99 over the last four years. The team has been progressively better in every year of Thompson's tenure. After finishing as state runners-up, there's only one rung of the ladder left to climb.

"Hard work pays off," Thompson said. "It's one thing to inherit good fruit, but when you have to plant that tree and you still get a chance to taste the fruit, it's beautiful, man. I'm excited for what's to come."

But even beautiful fruit is bitter now and then, and Friday was a disappointing end to a

historic season. Asked after Friday's game what the lasting memory from this year's team would be, Thompson said it would be Friday's loss, one of just three suffered by the Golden Tornadoes all season.

"But that's a good thing," Thompson said. "If we don't learn from our losses, we'll continually make errors. You learn from your losses, so that needs to be the lasting memory in order to get over this hump next year."

Indeed, if Fairmont goes on to be that team that another state runner-up is watching celebrate, Friday's setback will become just the first chapter in an epic story.

Editor Chris Stiles can be reached at 910-416-5847 or by email at cstiles@robesonian.com.

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Lifestyles

The Robesonian

Saturday, March 14, 2026 • Section C

THE SKINNY 100 years ago this month

Metro Creative Connection

The month of March has been home to many historical events over the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in March 1926.

— The first volume of the Great Greek Encyclopedia is published on March 1. The encyclopedia would ultimately contain 24 volumes featuring 280,000 articles and 37,000 images, paintings and maps spread out across 23,000 pages.

— After a six-day trial, Anthony Bimba wins an acquittal in a Brockton, Massachusetts, courtroom on March 1. Bimba is the last person in the United States to be charged with the crime of blasphemy.

— Assistant Secretary of War Hanford MacNider formally rejects New York watchmaker Oscar M. Lazarus's offer to design and install a wristwatch on the Statue of Liberty on March 2.

— Zizi Lambrino files a lawsuit against Prince Carol of Romania on March 4. The lawsuit claims Lambrino, who is seeking 10 million francs, was still legally married to the Prince and entitled to financial support for herself and their son, Carol Lambrino.

— The government of French Prime Minister Aristide Briand falls after failing to pass a financial bill on March 6.

— The first wireless trans-Atlantic telephone call is made from New York to London on March 7, which also marks the fiftieth anniversary of the patenting of the telephone by Alexander Graham Bell.

— Bertha Knight Landes becomes the first woman to be elected as mayor of a major American city on March 9. Landes defeats incumbent Edwin J. Brown to become the mayor of Seattle.

— The first issue of the science fiction magazine *Amazing Stories* hits newsstands on March 10.

— Éamon de Valera resigns as the leader of Sinn Féin on March 11. De Valera had proposed a motion for the party to have representation in the bicameral parliament of the Irish Free State and the Parliament of Northern Ireland, but ceded leadership when the measure failed.

— The Savoy Ballroom opens on the famed Lenox Avenue in Harlem on March 12.

— Aviator Alan Cobham completes the first voyage by air from the British

See HISTORY | 2C



Chris Stiles | The Robesonian

Michael Jackson impersonator Ron Jefferson performs at the Rumba on the Lumber on March 7 in Lumberton.

Local Michael Jackson impersonator wows crowds

Victoria Sanderson

The Robesonian

LUMBERTON — For the past few years, Lumberton's local Michael Jackson impersonator, Ron Jefferson, has been lending his skills to local stages and bringing 80's charm to the area with his dancing.

Jefferson found his passion for dance at an early age, though, sadly, it was just after the pop star's passing in 2009, when his mother introduced him to some of her favorite music from her childhood.

"I kind of knew he was a big pop star," Jefferson said, "but I didn't know who he really was until I saw him perform. I'll never forget it. I said to myself, 'I want to learn to dance like him.'"

From that day on, Jefferson began practicing Jackson's iconic dance moves, particularly fascinated by his performance of 'Smooth Criminal' after a family member gifted him a DVD of the performance later that year.

"I wanted to get it to the point that when I hopped out of bed, it was the first thing I was gonna do," Jefferson said, "just start doing the 'Smooth Criminal' choreography like second

nature."

His first public performance of his dance skills was in his ninth-grade year at Lumberton High School's talent show.

"I didn't win," Jefferson said. "I was a little distraught. That same day, I went home and started practicing harder than ever before. I said to myself, 'I'm going to learn every single Michael Jackson choreography I can until I can't learn anymore.'"

In his efforts to improve his overall dance skills, Jefferson threw himself into the vast world of dance, learning several forms, including ballet, hip-hop, and popping. All the while, he dove deeper into the world of Michael Jackson impersonators and started watching professionals to study and refine his own act.

"I still take a lot of the techniques I learned into my Michael Jackson choreography," Jefferson said. "It requires a lot of balance and spinning!"

Though that talent show pushed him to start dancing more seriously, it wasn't until the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting quarantine that Jefferson began thinking more seriously about performing as an



Chris Stiles | The Robesonian

Two fans join Michael Jackson impersonator Ron Jefferson, center, during his performance at the Rumba on the Lumber on March 7 in Lumberton.

impersonator, rather than just practicing in his free time, and he started practicing the makeup to make himself look the part of Michael Jackson.

"The first time I tried it," Jefferson said, "it looked terrible. My brother said I looked like Jack Nicholson as the Joker. I kept practicing and improving, doing more and more shows with the makeup and getting better at it over time. When someone says, 'Oh my gosh, you look just like Michael Jackson,' it's a great compliment because it lets me know that this is really going where I

want it to go."

Jefferson now performs annually at the Rumba on the Lumber alongside any other local bookings he can get while he pursues his bachelor's degree in education at Fayetteville University.

"If I ever got the chance to do Michael Jackson full-time," Jefferson said, "I would. It was my dream to go all around the world performing, but it's hard to start because there are a lot of people right now who are seasoned performers doing it, but I would also love to do in on the side while being a school principal."

Jefferson is set to graduate with his bachelor's degree next year. Currently, he plans to stay in Robeson County to work in its school system before eventually pursuing his master's degree.

"The Lord gave me a gift and a talent that not many others have," Jefferson said, "and the confidence to get up on stage and share that talent with people. I've performed at the Rumba on the Lumber almost five straight years, and it's a blessing to be asked to come back each year."

Contact Victoria Sanderson at vsanderson@robsonian.com.

Tips to extend a car's life expectancy

Metro Creative Connection

Vehicles continue to get more expensive. The automotive experts at Kelley Blue Book indicate the average American car buyer paid \$50,080 for a new vehicle in September 2025, which was the first time the average price for a new car ever topped \$50,000. More drivers are looking for ways to push their current vehicles past the 200,000-mile mark to save money.

According to S&P Global Mobility, the average age of a vehicle on the road hit a record high of 12.8 years in 2025. Although major mechanical failures concern drivers of older vehicles, it's actually much smaller things that can affect vehicle

longevity. There are small actions anyone can take to significantly extend a car's life.

— Use caution on cold starts. When a vehicle sits, oil settles at the bottom of the engine. To help combat damage that can occur, drivers can wait about 30 seconds before shifting into gear, as this will allow the oil pump to circulate the lubricant to the upper valve train and help prevent extra wear on the engine. Modern fuel-injected engines warm up faster and more safely by being driven gently rather than sitting still, so it's not necessary to idle for a long while with the vehicle in the driveway, says Smart Motors Toyota. In fact, long idles actually can strip away oil.

— Treat fluids wisely. According to EngineeringCivil.org, checking and replacing fluids is cheaper than replacing hardware. Recent data suggests that consistent oil changes can add between 50,000 and 100,000 miles to an engine's lifespan. It's important to follow a vehicle's manual for time-based intervals for fluid replacement, rather than just going by mileage.

— Drive faster on occasion. Oil will never get hot enough to evaporate internal condensation for those who primarily drive short distances under 10 miles. Once every few weeks, it's important for drivers to drive at least 20 minutes at highway speeds to help get rid of contaminants.

— Drive smoothly on roads. Aggressive driving will not just burn more gas; such driving also creates heat, which can impact longevity. According to Kia, hard braking generates immense heat that can warp rotors and stress suspension bushings. Likewise, it's key to ease into acceleration. Rapid acceleration forces the transmission to downshift abruptly, increasing wear. Reports from The Zebra, an insurance shopping company, indicate that mindful driving can reduce mechanical strain by up to 30%.

— Fight corrosion. Rust can kill a car before the engine actually fails. People who live in areas where roads are treated with salt in the winter should use a win-

ter car wash that includes an undercarriage spray. Auto Recycling World says road salt can eat through brake lines and fuel lines. In addition, applying a coat of wax twice a year can prevent UV rays and other damage to the clear coat, which protects the metal body from the elements.

— Address engine lights promptly. CarMD says addressing a "check engine" light immediately is 20% cheaper than waiting until the vehicle has a driveability issue. For example, ignoring a \$150 oxygen sensor can eventually destroy a \$1,500 catalytic converter.

Small habits can help prolong the longevity of vehicles and help people save money.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Photo courtesy of GPAC

"Mutts Gone Nuts" will bring high-flying canine comedy to the Givens Performing Arts Center at UNC Pembroke on Sunday.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Send your Community Calendar items to Editor Chris Stiles at cstiles@robsonian.com.

Cruisin' Pembroke Street Festival, noon to 4 p.m., March 14: The Cruisin' Pembroke Street Festival is located in Milton R. Hunt Memorial Park on College Street. There, on display, are custom and Classic Cards, Trucks, Bikes, etc. along with music and entertainment. Craft vendors and food vendors are on site as well. Enjoy this family time!

Mutts Gone Nuts! 3 p.m., March 15: "Mutts Gone Nuts" is a family-friendly performance featuring eight rescued dogs performing a variety of world-class stunts and tricks. The show combines canine athleticism with humor and spectacle, leaving audiences entertained and appreciative of the dogs' talents and the heartwarming stories behind their rescues.

Friends of Main Street Presents Itai White, 3 p.m., March 22: Friends of Main Street Lumberton will host Itai White, local musician, at Happenings on Elm, 605 North Elm Street, Lumberton. This is an event of Stories and Sounds Downtown, funded through the NC Arts Council Grassroots funds coming to the Robeson County Arts Council.

The Peking Acrobats, 7:30 p.m., March 19: The Peking Acrobats presents a dynamic, high-energy performance that showcase the best of Chinese acrobats, combining ancient tradition with modern technology. The show features a variety of acrobatic feats, including contortion, tumbling, juggling, trick cycling, and gymnastics, all accompanied by live traditional Chinese music.

Stories & Sounds, 3 p.m., 4:30 p.m., March 22: Enjoy a Sunday afternoon at Happenings on Elm with Itai White with songs and an acoustic guitar. The atmosphere encourages winding down and relaxing.

Give My Regards to Broadway, 5:30 p.m., March 26: The Robeson County Arts Council and the Carolina Civic Center are excitedly teaming up to present "Give My Regards to Broadway!" Enjoy an evening of Broadway favorites on the theater's Mighty Morton organ, performed by master of the keys Mark Andersen. In support of the Arts in Robeson County, join us for an enchanting evening featuring organ music, exquisite cuisine, a thoughtfully curated silent auction, and a lively theater singalong. Come sing with us, and you get to be the star! Reserved tables for 8 guests are available for purchase. Tickets can be purchased by calling the box office at 910-738-4339, calling Joy at 910-736-4686, or online.

Adult Color & Coffee, March 27, 10 a.m. to noon: The Robeson County Public Library extends a welcome to adults to join an Adult Color and Coffee session at the Lumberton Branch. Just chill, drink coffee and color! Enjoy!

In Ya Faith Ministries Easter Egg Hunt, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., April 4: The In Ya Faith Ministries nonprofit is hosting an easter egg hunt for the children of Robeson County at Cukaberry Farms in Fairmont. Alongside the egg hunt, the event will have live entertainment, food trucks and various local vendors.

Friends of Main Street Presents Tonya Holy Elk, 3 p.m., May 3: Tonya Holy Elk and her son, Lakoda John will share poetry and music on Sunday, May 3, at 3 p.m. at The Kinship NC, 304 North Elm Street, Lumberton. This is an event of Stories and Sounds Downtown, funded through the NC Arts Council Grassroots funds coming to the Robeson County Arts Council.

ONGOING
Children's Storytime — Lumberton, 10:30-11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays, Robeson County Public Library, 101 N. Chestnut St., Lumberton.

Children's Storytime — Pembroke, 10:30-11:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of the month at the Pembroke Library, 413 Blaine St, Pembroke.

Music, Rhymes, and Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month, Robeson County Public Library, 101 N. Chestnut St., Lumberton.

PET OF THE WEEK



Meet Squirrel! He is a 3- or 4-year-old cat. He is shy but friendly and loves to be loved and sleep in his hammock. Squirrel is up for adoption at the Robeson County Humane Society. For more information, contact the Robeson County Humane Society, 3180 West Fifth Street, Lumberton, 910-738-8282.

FUN HOLIDAYS FOR MARCH 14-20

National Pi Day: Fittingly on 3.14 and often celebrated with pie, this holiday celebrates the mathematical constant of the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. Saturday is also the International Day of Mathematics.

Won't You Be My Neighbor Day: Mr. Rogers' 98th birthday on March 20 is recognized with this holiday on a beautiful day in the neighborhood.

Other fun holidays this week

Saturday: Bake a Pie in Solidarity Day, Celebrate Scientists Day, Genius

Day, International Ask a Question Day, International Fanny Pack Day, National Potato Chip Day, Save a Spider Day, Write Your Story Day

Sunday: Academy Awards Ceremony, National Peanut Lovers Day, National Shoe the World Day, True Confessions Day

Monday: Act Happy Day, Freedom of Information Day, Lips Appreciation Day, National Panda Day, No Selfies Day

Tuesday: St. Patrick's Day, Camp Fire Girls Day, Corned Beef and Cabbage Day, National 3-D Day, Sub-

marine Day, Tea for Two Tuesday

Wednesday: Global Recycling Day, Kick Butts Day, National Awkward Moments Day, National Sloppy Joe Day, Oatmeal Cookie Day

Thursday: Absolutely Incredible Kid Day, Certified Nurses Day, International Read to Me Day, Let's Laugh Day, National Backyard Day, National Chocolate Caramel Day, Oranges and Lemons Day, St. Joseph's Day

Friday: First Day of Spring, Bibliomania Day, Bock Beer Day, Dogs in

Yellow Day, Extraterrestrial Abductions Day, Kiss Your Fiance Day, National Preschool Teachers Appreciation Day, Proposal Day, Red Nose Day, Snowman Burning Day, World Day of Theatre for Children and Young People, World Frog Day

Week of March 15-21: American Chocolate Week, Clutter Awareness Week, International Goof Off Week, National Agriculture Week, National Bubble Week, National Procrastination Week

Source: holidays-and-observances.com

History

From page 1C

colony of South Africa to Great Britain on March 13. Cobham lands at Croydon and is welcomed by King George V.

— The cartoon character "Reddy Kilowatt" is introduced in an advertisement for the Alabama Power Company on March 14.

— British driver Henry Segrave reaches a speed of 152.33 miles per hour in Southport, Lancashire, England on March 16, breaking the record for the fastest speed for an automobile.

— Czechoslovakia Prime Minister Antonin Svehla

and his cabinet resign on March 17. The mass resignations occur after Svehla was unable to get parliamentary approval to raise wages for government employees.

— Chinese government troops shoot and kill 47 unarmed protesters on March 18. The tragedy becomes known as the March 18 Massacre. The protesters were speaking out against unequal treaties with foreign powers.

— On March 18, Second Lieutenant of the U.S. Army John Sewell Thompson becomes the first American military officer executed in peacetime. The 25-year-old Thompson was hanged at Fort McKinley in

the Philippines after being convicted of murdering his teenage fiancée.

— The New York Police Department arrests seven members of the Whittemore Gang on March 19. The arrests mark an end to a string of bank and jewelry robberies committed by the gang.

— Kálmán Tihanyi of Hungary receives a patent for the charge-storage television tube on March 20.

— More than 100 people are killed when the Brazilian passenger ship Paes de Carvalho catches fire and sinks in the Amazon River on March 22.

— A manifesto drawn up by Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria in April

1914 is published on March 28, 1926. Franz Ferdinand, who was assassinated in June 1914, had planned to transform the Austro-Hungarian Empire into a nation of self-governing states but was killed before ascending to the throne.

— The U.S. government grants permission to two breweries to make 3.76% alcohol "malt tonic" on March 29. The finished product could be sold at drug stores without prescriptions.

— Despite previous assertions that it would close down the colonial prison on Devil's Island, the French government ships 340 convicts to the island on March 30.

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

PUZZLES & GAMES

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to home improvement. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: Z = E)

A. 6 2 11 1 17 6 7
Clue: Fixes

B. 6 2 9 8 19 1 21 2
Clue: Improve upon

C. 17 9 21 2 6 17 8 6
Clue: Inside

D. 5 2 7 17 10 9
Clue: Scope or scheme

Answers: A: repair; B: renovate; C: interior; D: design

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to home improvement.

OWDWN I

Answer: Window

GUESS WHO?

I am a social media star born in California on March 11, 1980. I earned my Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and went on to work for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. I share science in fun ways on YouTube and have millions of followers.

Answer: Mark Robber

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to roses.

UBETUOQ

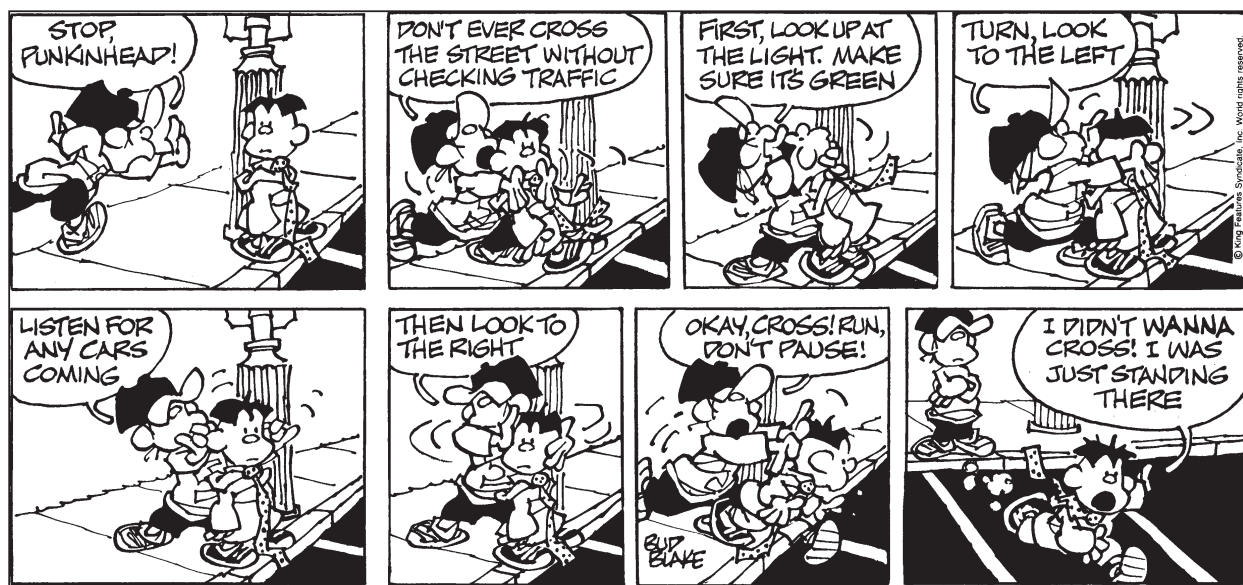
Answer: Bouquet

SUDOKU ANSWER

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

TIGER

By Bud Blake



GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Wagner



FLASH GORDON

By Jim Keefe



"He should be coming out of hibernation any day now."

FEAR KNOT crossword puzzle. Includes a grid and a list of words: ADH, MARDLE, NUTHA, RUFT, ASKWUQ, WFE, UHTR, DWATE, ATM, REESHA, ERMLA, RWDA. Instructions: Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE).

Super Crossword A LITTLE BIT EXTRA

- ACROSS: 1 Part of DJ, 5 Let leave, 12 E-device download, 15 Lobs' paths, 19 Western U.S. gas chain, 20 Radar on an old sitcom, 21 Bargain offered by a prosecutor, 23 Male horse that's the subject of a novel?, 25 Deli meat often on rye, 26 Visiting a website, e.g., 27 Sunshine St., 28 Contributed one's share, 29 Pulitzer-winning biographer Leon, 30 Setting a weekly limit on Mastercard purchases?, 33 401, to Nero, 34 Water, in Paris, 35 Nickel, e.g., 36 Hands, in Havana, 37 James Bond's creator, if he had lived on the island of Ithaca?, 42 German car company, 44 Pulls on, 45 Theta lead-in, 46 Egyptian — (cat breed), 47 Current unit, 50 "This requires a lot of effort", 52 "You're the Top" composer dishing out servings of food?, 58 "You betcha", 60 Persia, now, 61 As a whole, 62 At the post one formerly held?, 70 "Fighting" Big Ten team, 71 Cyber-trash, 72 Pro trained in trauma, 73 Statement after a female jungle cat gains a lot of weight?, 77 Include as a bonus, 83 Bug planter, 84 Busy bug, 85 Weird, 87 Internet investing site, 88 Burkina — actress, 90 Squid ink, for example?, 94 One- (short play), 97 Foot bottom, 98 "Well, I'll be!", 99 Lace up, e.g., 100 The stress of being a trailblazer?, 105 Opposed to, in Westerns, 107 They stagnate during recessions, 108 Old Glory's nation, 109 "Scandal" creator Rhimes, 111 Be physically intimate, 112 Extra things seen eight times in this puzzle?, 115 Fawned over, 116 Blue-eyed cat, 117 — & Chandon (Champagne), 118 Short sleeps, 119 Hosp. areas, 120 Major forgetfulness, 121 Within: Prefix, 1 "The Living Daylights" actress Maryam, 2 Resolved, as difficulties, 3 Angry rebukes, 4 Newswoman Roberts, 5 Fawn over, with "on", 6 401 (k) kin, 7 Government of a nation by its own people, 8 Dancer Agnes de —, 9 Homer epic, 10 — -mo, 11 Wd. in a thesaurus, 12 — Way (old Roman road), 13 Actor Oliver, 14 Actor Joe, 15 Gland near the kidneys, 16 Scan, as data, 17 El — Real (road in California), 18 Hurls, 22 In-house, 24 '75 TV debut, 28 Smug type, 30 Half- — latte, 31 Roll call response, in Paris, 32 Heap, 33 The Mets' — Field, 34 Border crossing documents, 38 "Sorta" suffix, 39 Towing gp., 40 & so forth, 41 Chinese chairman, 42 Boat paddle, 43 "Let's shake hands!", 46 — Carlo, 47 In a little bit, 48 Parcel (out), 49 Egg on, 51 Hwy. felony, 53 R&B singer with the hit "4Ever", 54 Suffix with trick or mock, 55 Faux —, 56 Suffix of pasta names, 57 Siouan tribe, 59 Lay down as fact, 62 Feels lousy, 63 With, 67-Down, mistakes, 64 Stratagem, 65 — Tin Tin, 66 Ethyl ending, 67 See, 63-Down, 68 Singer Cooke, 69 Qty., 74 — -cone, 75 Seoul soldier, 76 Pub. staffers, 78 Blvd., e.g., 79 Meal scrap, 80 Attending to, 81 Emphatic affirmation, 82 Hawaiian goose, 86 Humiliates, 88 Cousins of anises, 89 Iris ring, 90 British actress Diana, 91 British beer, 92 Abode: Abbr., 93 Third letter, 94 Tarzan, e.g., 95 Loud insect, 96 Began, as a hobby, 97 Zooms, 101 Ham it up, 102 Amazon, e.g., 103 Its capital is Khartoum, 104 "I'd like to help", 105 "Eureka!", 106 Singer Eydie, 109 Former New York stadium, 110 In re, 112 Simile middle, 113 Faint, 114 2000-15 CBS drama

MAGIC MAZE • IRISH crossword puzzle. Includes a grid and a list of words: American Charms, Coffee, Dance, Folklore, Gaelic, Luck, Rebellion, Republic, Roots, Sea, Setter, Stew Terrier, Whiskey. Instructions: Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: A SPUD.

GO FIGURE! grid puzzle. Includes a grid with numbers and arithmetic signs. Instructions: The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

Today's Solutions section. Includes solutions for the Fear Knot and Magic Maze puzzles.

Large crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1 through 119. Includes a vertical copyright notice on the right: ©2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

Answers section for the Super Crossword puzzle. Lists the words for each numbered clue.

HEALTH FAQ

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Colorectal cancer screening means searching for colon and rectal tumors in those without symptoms and at risk patients with no history of colon or rectal polyps or cancer. Colon and rectal cancer are the third most common cancers in this country. The fight to defeat colorectal cancer is never ending. It has impacted many lives and families in our community.

During March as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, we raise awareness that this type of cancer is preventable and can reduce mortality.

The American Cancer Society's National Colorectal Cancer goal is to reach colorectal cancer screening rates of 80% and higher in all communities across the nation. Our community has not reached this goal yet and there is a lot of work to be done. More awareness is needed to encourage more patients to get screened, as screening is the best way to achieve this goal.

Who is at risk in our community?

Colorectal cancer affects people of all ages, races, ethnicities, and sexes, it does not always affect them equally.

Age: The older you are the higher your risk. This is the most important risk. However there has been an

increase in colorectal cancer detection at younger age groups known as Early Onset Colorectal Cancer (EOCRC). This has been found in people born from 1960. More cancers are being detected in those between the age 40-50 years.

Sex: Men have higher risk than women.

Race: African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Indians are at higher risks. This makes up a larger percentage of our community.

Family history: Family history of colon cancer or genetic syndromes, i.e. parents, brothers and sisters and children, puts

you at increased to 100% risk.

Lifestyle: Physical inactivity, excessive alcohol use, smoking.

Diseases like obesity, Crohn's disease of colon, ulcerative colitis

Environment: Exposure to synthetic dyes, Red and processed meat, high fructose diet.

What are the symptoms of colorectal cancer?

Early cancers don't show any symptoms. Advanced cancers show up as rectal bleeding, change in bowel habits, weight loss or abdominal pains.

Screening is defined as testing an asymptomatic patient. Early detection of cancer in asymptomatic patients is the best way to reduce mortality of this killer.

Who should get screened?

As already stated, age is the most important risk factor, especially for those ages 45 to 75. Seventy five percent of colon cancer patients don't have a family history of colon cancer.

Why was the starting age changed from 50 years to 45 years in average risk population?

There has been increasing incidence of early-onset colorectal cancer. Ten percent of all new diagnoses of this cancer, with accompanying increase in mortality, has been noted since 1988. It is estimated that 25% of rectal cancers and 10-12% of colon cancers will be diagnosed in persons younger than 50 years of age in the years to come. By 2030, the incidence is projected to be higher. Most times the tumors are advanced, leading to higher risk of morbidity and mortality.

When do you have to get screened earlier than 45 years?

Knowing your immediate family history is very important. If any member of the family ever had a colorectal polyp or cancer before the age of 60, screening should start at 40. If earlier than 45, screening will start 10 years prior to the diagnoses of the immediate family member.

Approximately 25% of patients with early onset colorectal cancer have hereditary syndromes. Genetic studies are always advised on the tumors or blood tests on these patients to assess risk as their immediate relatives may need to be tested for the same genes. These patients may need to be screened in their teenage years or in their 20s.

Delayed diagnoses in younger patients and presentation with advanced disease stages underscore the need for greater awareness of this disease on the part of the general community as well as the healthcare providers

Remember, colorectal cancer is preventable and can be detected early enough to save your life. Don't wait to develop colorectal cancer. Knowing your risk is extremely important! If you are not sure, talk to your medical provider to guide you on when to start screening.

Gastroenterologist Dr. Kwadwo Agyei-Gyamfi is affiliated in private practice with Acme Medical Specialties in Lumberton and is a member of the UNC Health Southeastern Medical Staff.

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

For consults call:
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Dana Iglesias, a family physician and medical director of the UNC Health Chatham Maternity Care Center, and Beverly Carpenter, the unit's manager, stand inside a labor and delivery room. The unit opened in Sept. 2020 with a family physician-led staffing model, restoring maternity care to Chatham County.

Rachel Crumpler | NC Health News

One NC hospital shows a way to restore rural maternity care

Rachel Crumpler
NC Health News

SILER CITY — A clear container of pink, blue and white beads sits on display at the nurses' station of a five-bed rural maternity care unit in Siler City, the Chatham County seat. A label reads: "Legends are born."

A clear container of blue, pink and a few white beads represents all deliveries at the Chatham maternity unit. A label reads: "Legends are born."

As parents are discharged, they drop a bead inside.

As of Feb. 23, 894 beads had accumulated — one for each baby delivered at the UNC Health Chatham Maternity Care Center since it opened in September 2020, along with the few families who experienced a loss.

For Chatham County residents, the ability to give birth in their local community is a relatively new reality. That's a stark contrast from many women in rural North Carolina — and across the country — where maternity care close to home is increasingly out of reach.

Twenty counties in North Carolina are considered maternity care deserts, meaning they have no hospitals or birth centers offering obstetric care and no practicing OB-GYNs, certified nurse midwives, nurse midwives or family physicians delivering babies, according to a 2024 report by March of Dimes. Another 17 counties have low access to maternity care.

The loss of care is driven by years of financial pressure on rural hospitals, workforce shortages and low Medicaid reimbursement rates that make obstetric care difficult to sustain.

Between 2010 and 2022, eight rural hospitals lost maternity services in North Carolina. By the end of that period, 44 percent of rural hospitals in the state lacked obstetric services, compared with 27 percent of urban hospitals, according to a study published in Health Affairs. Closures have continued to occur.

Against this backdrop, UNC Health Chatham is the only rural hospital in North Carolina to restore maternity services — reopening care in a county that had gone nearly 30 years without it.

The unit serves low-risk mothers and newborns and is staffed by family physicians trained in obstetrics and

surgery, along with midwives — a lower-cost model than one centered on OB-GYNs, who cost more to employ and are harder to recruit to rural areas.

Births at the unit have increased each year since it opened, reflecting demand for local maternity care. Hospital leaders expect the center to reach 1,000 cumulative deliveries this year.

The impact has been tangible for providers and families choosing to deliver at the unit. Travel distances for labor and delivery have been cut roughly in half, and clinical outcomes are comparable to low-risk patients going to the larger UNC Health academic medical center in Chapel Hill, according to a study published in January evaluating its first three years in operation.

The unit has also earned national recognition. In its 2026 annual report, U.S. News & World Report named UNC Health Chatham among the best hospitals for maternity care.

Chatham's experience could offer a potential blueprint for other rural hospitals. Facility leadership and researchers point to the unit's staffing model as one approach that could help stabilize obstetric services at hospitals at risk of losing them — or make reopening care more feasible.

"Chatham is a template, but it's not a copy-and-paste template," said Jesus Ruiz, a family physician who has practiced at the Chatham Maternity Care since it opened. "It's proof that a system can work if you have the right workforce, the right institutional commitment and the community trust."

"This shows a way that rural maternity care can be built and sustained."

Putting family physicians at the helm

Chatham Hospital eliminated maternity care in 1991, after struggling to staff the unit and keep it financially viable. At the time, the hospital — not yet part of UNC Health — was delivering about 300 babies a year, said Andy Hannapel, a family physician and chief medical officer at UNC Health Chatham.

Nearly three decades later, when hospital leaders decided to bring maternity care back, they concluded it would have to be done differently to be sustainable.

This time, they put family physicians at the helm of the

unit, not OB-GYNs.

The idea originated in part with Cristy Page, then the chair of the UNC Department of Family Medicine, who is now CEO of UNC Health and dean of the UNC School of Medicine. While family physicians provide obstetric care in many parts of the country, particularly in the West and Midwest, the Chatham model was new to North Carolina: a maternity unit run by family physicians and midwives, with no OB-GYNs on staff.

It remains the only unit in the state structured that way.

Greg Griggs, head of the North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians, said more than 3,000 family physicians practice in the state. About 10 percent — roughly 300 — provide obstetric care, a figure he said has remained relatively flat over the years. Most work alongside OB-GYNs.

Margaret Helton, chair of the family medicine department, led implementation of the staffing model at the Chatham Maternity Care Center. She said family physicians are well-suited to small units with lower delivery volumes because of their versatility.

"Our family doctors at Chatham Hospital can also work on the inpatient side with adult medicine," Helton said. "They just have a broader spectrum of practice, so that makes them more flexible and more cost effective too."

Their salaries are also lower than those of OB-GYNs, meaning delivery volumes don't need to be as high for the unit to be financially viable.

The unit currently averages about 15 to 20 deliveries a month, said Eric Wolak, UNC Health Chatham chief operating officer and chief nursing officer.

Some days pass without a single delivery. On others, several patients arrive within hours. To manage that unpredictability, the unit maintains a fixed staffing ratio: two nurses and one provider — either a midwife or family physician — are always on duty.

Three family physicians at the Chatham Maternity Care Center are trained to provide C-sections and serve as surgical backup for other staff members who don't have that training.

Birth volumes are trending upward, but Wolak said the unit is already operating sustainably.

"We're past that point of doing the numbers," Wolak said. "We know we're going to grow. The focus is on making sure patients get the best care possible."

Griggs said family physicians are well positioned to help address maternity deserts because of where they practice.

"Family physicians are better distributed across the state than any other specialty," Griggs said. "There's a family physician in almost every county, whereas, if you look at OB, pediatrics or other specialties, there are a lot of counties without them."

All family physicians receive obstetrics training during residency, Griggs said, and those who choose to provide maternity care can pursue additional training, including fellowships for C-section training. Outcomes for family physicians delivering babies are positive, he added.

"Innovative models like Chatham, I think, are a really good solution to our maternity crisis in the state," Griggs said.

Measuring what happens when care comes back

A January study published in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health evaluating the center offers early evidence of success, finding low-risk patient outcomes comparable to those at the larger UNC Health hospital in Chapel Hill.

Katie Wouk, a maternal and child health epidemiologist and an associate research scientist at the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation in Chapel Hill, led the study.

She said most research on rural maternity care has focused on closures, finding declines in access and poorer outcomes. Far less attention has been paid to what happens when services are opened or restored.

The reopening in Chatham County offered that opportunity.

Researchers analyzed data from the unit's first three years — 402 births — and found it served predominantly low-income, Hispanic families near their homes.

Rachel Crumpler covers gender health and prison health for NC Health News. She joined NC Health News in June 2022 as a Report for America corps member. Reach her at rcrumpler@northcarolinahealthnews.org.

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Conan O'Brien ("Late Night with Conan O'Brien") returns to host the 98th Academy Awards, airing Sunday, March 15, on ABC. Ryan Coogler's horror film "Sinners" leads the charge this year with a record-breaking 16 nominations, while also setting the record for most Black individuals to ever be nominated for a single film. Other films of note include "One Battle After Another," "Frankenstein," "Marty Supreme" and "Sentimental Value."

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Hollywood stars and 'Sinners': O'Brien returns to host 98th Academy Awards

By Dana Simpson
TV Media

At last year's Academy Awards ceremony, host Conan O'Brien ("Late Night with Conan O'Brien") used his platform to call out the seemingly "self-indulgent and superfluous" nature of awards shows in the face of "wildfires and divisive politics." While highlighting the absurd choice to honor wealthy figures amid global trauma, suffering and pain, O'Brien also drew attention to the reason the Oscars are important, noting that "for almost a century, we have paused every spring to elevate and celebrate an art form that has the power, at its very best, to unite us."

This spring we unite on Sunday, March 15, for the 98th Academy Awards, airing on ABC. Whether you gather with friends for a fancy Oscars party or choose to partake quietly at home, the decision to celebrate cinema and those who create it can be a radical act of love in a world otherwise divided.

Despite O'Brien joking that he would not attend the 98th awards due to plans to "[leave] Hollywood to run a bed and breakfast in Orlando," the comedian and former late-night pundit returns as host, once again bridging the gap between the film industry elite and their audience — some grateful for art that provides levity, others grateful for art that confronts atrocity. (Bonus points to the rare few films that successfully do both.)

Of course, the talk of Tinsel Town this awards season is 2025's "Sinners," the horror film written and directed by Ryan Coogler ("Black Panther," 2018) that set a new academy record with a whopping 16 nominations. For reference, "All About Eve" (1950), "Titanic" (1997) and "La La Land" (2016) were all previously tied for the honor of "most-nominated film," each boasting 14 nods at their respective ceremonies. "Sinners" also set the record for the most Black individuals ever nominated for a single film with 10 nominations.

"Sinners" tells the story of Sammie "Preacher Boy" Moore (played by newcomer Miles Caton), a young sharecropper and blues guitarist in the Mississippi Delta during the 1930s. When Sammie's smooth-talking twin cousins Smoke and Stack (both played by Creed franchise star Michael B. Jordan) return home from a job under Al Capone in



Michael B. Jordan in "Sinners"

Chicago, they open a juke joint where locals can blow off steam after a long day of work in the crushing heat. But when a trio of mysterious strangers shows up outside the venue, Smoke, Stack, Sammie and friends are engaged in a fight against sinister forces.

Set against the backdrop of the Jim Crow south and featuring elements of folk horror, religion, superstition and preternatural evil, "Sinners" places music at the heart of a Black community facing immense oppression and horror in their daily lives.

The film is nominated for all the "major" awards — Best Picture, Best Actor in a Leading Role (Jordan), Best Actress (Wunmi Mosaku, "His House," 2020) and Best Director (Coogler) — but is also being recognized for Best Supporting Actor (Delroy Lindo, "The Good Fight"), Best Screenplay (Coogler), Best Casting (Francine Maisler, "Succession"), Best Cinematography (Autumn Durald Arkapaw, "The Last Showgirl," 2024), Best Film Editing (Michael P. Shawver,

"Fruitvale Station," 2013), Best Costume Design (Ruth E. Carter, "Malcolm X," 1992), Best Original Score (Ludwig Goransson, "Oppenheimer," 2023) and Best Original Song ("I Lied to You"). The film also has team nominations for Best Make-up and Hairstyling, Best Pro-

duction Design, Best Sound and Best Visual Effects.

Hoping to give "Sinners" a run for its money this year is Paul Thomas Anderson's revolution-forward action thriller "One Battle After Another," with 13 nominations. Holding nine nominations apiece are

Guillermo del Toro's "Frankenstein," the table tennis dramedy "Marty Supreme" and the multi-language family drama "Sentimental Value." Chloe Zhao's Shakespeare biopic "Hamnet" is also highly lauded, boasting eight nominations.

Additional multiple-award nominees include "Bugonia," "Train Dreams," "F1," "The Secret Agent," "KPop Demon Hunters," "Blue Moon," "It Was Just an Accident," "Avatar: Fire and Ash" and "Sirat."

As is tradition, Oscar winners from the previous year are tapped to present this year's awards. As of writing, the list of presenters includes Adrien Brody (who won for "The Brutalist"), Mikey Madison (who won for "Anora"), Zoe Saldana (who won for "Emilia Perez") and Kieran Culkin (who won for "A Real Pain").

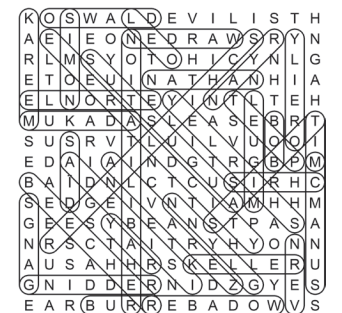
But, for all the performers and filmmakers who will be in LA's Dolby Theatre on March 15, viewers and attendees alike will feel the marked absence of the industry icons no longer with us.

The Academy's 2025 In Memoriam feature will include more than a few Hollywood heavy hitters: Robert Redford ("The Sting," 1973), Gene

Hackman ("Unforgiven," 1992), Diane Keaton ("Annie Hall," 1977), David Lynch ("Eraserhead," 1977) and Rob Reiner ("Stand By Me," 1986), to name a few.

"These people are so larger than life, especially if you've grown up watching them or appreciating their work," O'Brien told New Yorker editor David Remnick in February. "I think it's seven movies that Rob Reiner made, in quick succession, that are classics. Now, if you can make one great movie, that's impressive. ... To make two means that you're one of the greats. To make seven — in, like, a nine-year, 10-year, 11-year period — is insanity."

Don't miss Conan O'Brien returning to host the 98th Academy Awards Sunday, March 15, on ABC.

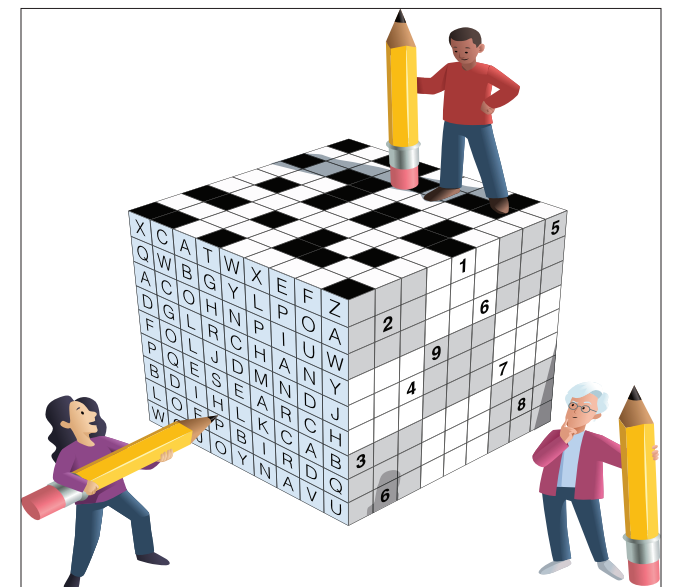


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Community Calendar

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ROBESON COUNTY

StoryWalk with DKG - Llama Llama and the Bully Goat

Sun, Mar 15, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm
 Mon, Mar 16, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm
 Tue, Mar 17, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm
 Wed, Mar 18, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm
 Thu, Mar 19, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm
 Fri, Mar 20, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm
 Sat, Mar 21, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm
 Sun, Mar 22, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm
 Luther Britt Park
 671 Branch Street - off 5th Street
 Lumberton, NC

John P. Williamson Memorial Golf Tournament

Sat, Mar 14, 2026, 12:00pm
 Pine Crest Country Club
 110 Nigel Rd
 Lumberton, NC

JR's Pro Rodeo Stampede - SNCAEC

Sat, Mar 14, 2026, 8:00pm
 Southeastern North Carolina Agricultural Events Center
 1027 Hwy 74 East
 Lumberton, NC

Power of Transformation - RSAS

Sun, Mar 15, 2026, 2:00pm-4:00pm
 Red Springs Artspace
 200 South Main Street
 Red Springs, NC

Mutts Gone Nuts! GPAC

Sun, Mar 15, 2026, 3:00pm
 Givens Performing Arts Center - UNCP Campus

1 University Drive
 Pembroke, NC

Fire and Rescue College - RCC

Mon, Mar 16, 2026, 8:00am-5:00pm
 Tue, Mar 17, 2026, 8:00am-5:00pm
 Wed, Mar 18, 2026, 8:00am-5:00pm
 Thu, Mar 19, 2026, 8:00am-5:00pm
 Fri, Mar 20, 2026, 8:00am-5:00pm
 Sat, Mar 21, 2026, 8:00am-5:00pm
 Sun, Mar 22, 2026, 8:00am-5:00pm
 Robeson Community College
 5160 Fayetteville Road
 Lumberton, NC

Children's Storytime

Tue, Mar 17, 2026, 10:30am-11:00am
 Fri, Mar 20, 2026, 10:30am-11:00am
 Robeson County Public Library
 101 N Chestnut St
 Lumberton, NC

DIY & Unwind - Pembroke

Tue, Mar 17, 2026, 4:00pm-5:30pm
 Lumberton, NC

Children's Storytime

Tue, Mar 17, 2026, 4:30pm-5:30pm
 Mc Millan Memorial Library
 205 E 2nd Ave
 Red Springs, NC

Lumberton Ukulele Club

Tue, Mar 17, 2026, 6:00pm-8:00pm
 Tue, Mar 10, 2026, 6:00pm-8:00pm
 Tue, Mar 24, 2026, 6:00pm-8:00pm
 Trinity Episcopal Church Parish Hall
 16 Stephens Lane
 Lumberton, NC

Bingo Night - 219 Elm

Tue, Mar 17, 2026, 7:00pm-9:30pm
 Tue, Mar 24, 2026, 7:00pm-9:30pm
 219 Elm
 219 Elm Street
 Lumberton, NC

Children's Storytime

Wed, Mar 18, 2026, 10:30am-11:30am
 PEMBROKE LIBRARY
 413 Blaine St
 Pembroke, NC

DIY & Unwind - Red Springs

Wed, Mar 18, 2026, 4:00pm-5:30pm
 Lumberton, NC

Lenten Study and Supper

Wed, Mar 18, 2026, 6:15pm-7:15pm
 Wed, Mar 25, 2026, 6:15pm-7:15pm
 Trinity Episcopal Church Parish Hall
 16 Stephens Lane
 Lumberton, NC

Music, Rhymes, and Storytime

Thu, Mar 19, 2026, 10:30am-11:30am
 Robeson County Public Library
 101 N Chestnut St
 Lumberton, NC

Wine Down - IPCA

Thu, Mar 19, 2026, 6:00pm-9:00pm
 Inner Peace Center for the Arts
 302 North Chestnut Street
 Lumberton, NC

The Peking Acrobats - GPAC

Thu, Mar 19, 2026, 7:30pm
 Givens Performing Arts Center - UNCP Campus

1 University Drive
 Pembroke, NC

Stories & Sounds

Sun, Mar 22, 2026, 3:00pm-4:30pm
 Happenings on Elm
 605 North Elm Street
 Lumberton, NC

Speaker Series - UNCP

Josh Hammonds
 Mon, Mar 23, 2026, 1:00pm-2:00pm
 Givens Performing Arts Center - UNCP Campus
 1 University Drive
 Pembroke, NC

BLADEN COUNTY

5K Wine Run, Lu Mil Vineyard

Sat, Mar 14, 2026, 8:00am
 Lu Mil Vineyard
 438 Suggs-Taylor Rd,
 Elizabethtown, NC

Board of Commissioners' Meeting, Lower Level

Mon, Mar 16, 2026, 6:30pm
 Mon, Apr 06, 2026, 6:30pm
 Mon, Apr 20, 2026, 6:30pm
 Bladen County Courthouse
 106 East Broad Street
 Elizabethtown, NC

The Honorable Judge Giles Clark

Recognition, Portrait Unveiling,
 Tue, Mar 24, 2026, 2:00pm
 Superior Courtroom, Bladen County
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 Elizabethtown, NC

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Sports this week

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

6:00 am FDSO Athletes Unlimited Pro Softball Athletes Unlimited Pro Softball. (2h)

6:25 am CNBC 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Para Cross-Country Skiing: Open Team 4x2.5km Relay. (Live) (35m)

7:00 am ESPN2 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Para Snowboarding: Men's & Women's Banked Slalom, Run 2. (Live) (1h15)

8:00 am ESPN2 Cheerleading National Dance Team Championship: Pom. (1h)

8:15 am CNBC 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Para Alpine Skiing: Women's Slalom, Run 2. (Live) (1h)

9:00 am ESPN2 Cheerleading (30m)

9:30 am ESPN2 Cheerleading National High School Cheerleading Championship: D/II Large Varsity. (30m)

10:00 am ESPN2 Cheerleading National High School Cheerleading Championship: DI. (1h)

10:05 am CNBC 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Wheelchair Curling, Mixed Team Gold Medal Game: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h25)

11:00 am ESPN2 College Basketball America East Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

USA Premier League Soccer West Ham United vs. Manchester City. (Live) (2h)

12:00 pm WRAL WMBF Men's Six Nations Men's Six Nations. Ireland vs. Scotland. (Live) (2h)

WTVD NHL Hockey Boston Bruins at Washington Capitals. (Live) (3h)

WFXB 2026 Bassmaster Classic (Live) (3h)

12:30 pm WPDE NWSL Soccer (Live) (2h30)

1:00 pm WBTW College Basketball Big Ten Tournament, First Semifinal: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

ESPN2 College Basketball MEAC Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

1:30 pm USA Premier League Soccer Sunderland vs. Brighton & Hove Albion. (Live) (2h)

2:00 pm WRAL WMBF 2026 Players Championship Third Round. (Live) (5h)

3:00 pm WTVD NHL Hockey New York Rangers at Minnesota Wild. (Live) (3h)

WPDE NHL Hockey Boston Bruins at Washington Capitals. (Live) (3h)

WFXB MLS Soccer Philadelphia Union at Atlanta United FC. (Live) (2h30)

3:30 pm WBTW College Basketball Big Ten Tournament, Second Semifinal: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

ESPN College Basketball SEC Tournament, Second Semifinal: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

4:00 pm USA Premier League Soccer Arsenal vs. Everton. (Live) (2h)

4:45 pm TRUTV FIBA Basketball (Live) (2h15)

5:30 pm WWMB NASCAR O'Reilly Auto Parts Series The LiUNA! (Live) (2h30)

ESPN2 College Basketball American Conference Tournament, Second Semifinal: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

6:00 pm WBTW College Basketball Mountain West Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

ESPN College Basketball Big 12 Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

6:30 pm WFXB College Basketball Big East Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

8:00 pm WRAL WMBF 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Primetime. (Live) (2h)

ESPN2 College Basketball MAC Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

8:30 pm WTVD WPDE NBA Basketball Denver Nuggets at Los Angeles Lakers. (Live) (2h30)

WUVC Fútbol Mexicano Primera División Toluca vs. Atlas. (2h30)

ESPN College Basketball ACC Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

9:00 pm WFXB 2026 World Baseball Classic Quarterfinal: Teams TBA. (Live) (3h)

10:00 pm ESPN2 College Basketball Big West Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

10:30 pm ESPN NBA Basketball Sacramento Kings at LA Clippers. (Live) (2h30)

11:00 pm WUVC Fútbol Mexicano Primera División Pumas UNAM vs. Cruz Azul. (2h)

FDSO Athletes Unlimited Pro Softball Athletes Unlimited Pro Softball. (2h)

12:00 am ESPN2 College Basketball WAC Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

2:00 am ESPN2 NHL Hockey Boston Bruins at Washington Capitals. (2h)

12:30 pm WFXB IndyCar Racing Java House Grand Prix of Arlington. (Live) (3h)

1:00 pm WRAL WMBF 2026 Players Championship Final Round. (Live) (5h)

WTVD WPDE NBA Basketball Minnesota Timberwolves at Oklahoma City Thunder. (Live) (2h30)

ESPN College Basketball SEC Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

1:30 pm FDSO MLB Baseball (3h)

1:45 pm TRUTV FIBA Basketball (Live) (2h15)

2:00 pm ESPN2 Women's College Basketball MVC Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

3:15 pm ESPN College Basketball American Conference Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

3:30 pm WBTW College Basketball Big Ten Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

WFXB 2026 Bassmaster Classic (Live) (3h)

CNBC 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics 2026 Winter Paralympics Closing Ceremony. (Live) (2h30)

4:00 pm WWMB PBA Bowling Illinois Classic. (Live) (2h)

ESPN2 College Baseball LSU at Vanderbilt. (Live) (3h)

7:30 pm TNT TRUTV NHL Hockey Toronto Maple Leafs at Minnesota Wild. (Live) (3h)

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

10:00 am FDSO Overtime Select Basketball (2h)

4:45 pm TNT FIBA Women's World Cup 2026 Qualifying (Live) (2h15)

6:30 pm ESPN TGL Golf TGL Golf New York Golf Club vs. Los Angeles Golf Club. (Live) (2h30)

TRUTV 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Four: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

7:30 pm TNT NHL Hockey Minnesota Wild at Chicago Blackhawks. (Live) (2h30)

8:00 pm WRAL WMBF NBA Basketball Cleveland Cavaliers at Milwaukee Bucks. (Live) (3h)

WFXB 2026 World Baseball Classic Final: Teams TBA. (Live) (3h)

ESPN2 2026 NIT Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

8:30 pm FDSO MLB Baseball (3h)

9:00 pm ESPN TGL Golf TGL Golf. (Live) (2h)

TRUTV 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Four: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

10:00 pm ESPN2 2026 NIT Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

TNT NHL Hockey Tampa Bay Lightning at Seattle Kraken. (Live) (3h)

2:00 am FDSO Pro Padel League (2h)

11:00 pm ESPN2 2026 NIT Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

2:00 am ESPN2 NBA Basketball Golden State Warriors at Boston Celtics. (2h)

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

8:00 am GOLF Ladies Euro Tour Golf Ladies Euro Tour Golf. Australian Women's Open, Final Round. (2h)

12:00 pm WBTW 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

ESPN2 Men's College Wrestling NCAA Championships: First Round. (Live) (3h30)

12:30 pm TRUTV 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

1:30 pm TNT 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

2:00 pm GOLF PGA Tour Golf Valspar Championship, First Round. (Live) (4h)

TBS 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

2:30 pm WBTW 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

3:00 pm TRUTV 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

3:30 pm ESPN2 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

4:00 pm ESPN 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

TNT 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h45)

USA Premier League Soccer Bournemouth vs. Manchester United. (Live) (2h)

4:30 pm FDSO Athletes Unlimited Pro Lacrosse (2h)

TBS 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h45)

5:30 pm ESPN2 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

6:00 pm ESPN 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

GOLF LPGA Tour Golf Fortinet Founders Cup, First Round. (Live) (3h)

6:45 pm TNT 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

7:00 pm WBTW 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

ESPN2 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Four: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

7:15 pm TBS 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

7:30 pm TRUTV 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

9:00 pm ESPN2 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Four: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

9:15 pm TNT 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

9:30 pm WBTW 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

9:45 pm TBS 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h45)

10:00 pm TRUTV 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

2:00 am FDSO Athletes Unlimited Pro Softball Athletes Unlimited Pro Softball. (2h)

4:00 am FDSO Overtime Select Basketball (2h)

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

6:00 am GOLF LPGA Tour Golf Fortinet Founders Cup, First Round. (3h)

7:00 am FDSO Pro Padel League (2h)

11:30 am ESPN2 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

12:00 pm WBTW 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

ESPN 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

12:30 pm TRUTV 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

1:30 pm ESPN2 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

TNT 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

2:00 pm ESPN 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

GOLF PGA Tour Golf Valspar Championship, Second Round. (Live) (4h)

TBS 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

2:30 pm WBTW 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

3:00 pm TRUTV 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

3:30 pm ESPN2 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

4:00 pm ESPN 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

TNT 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h45)

USA Premier League Soccer Bournemouth vs. Manchester United. (Live) (2h)

4:30 pm FDSO Athletes Unlimited Pro Lacrosse (2h)

TBS 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h45)

5:30 pm ESPN2 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

6:00 pm ESPN 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

GOLF LPGA Tour Golf Fortinet Founders Cup, Second Round. (Live) (3h)

6:45 pm TNT 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

7:00 pm WBTW 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

7:15 pm TBS 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

7:30 pm TRUTV 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

8:00 pm ESPN 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

ESPN2 Men's College Wrestling NCAA Championships: Semifinals. (Live) (3h)

9:15 pm TNT 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h15)

9:30 pm WBTW 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

9:45 pm TBS 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h45)

10:00 pm ESPN 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

GOLF PGA Tour Champions Golf Colguard Classic, First Round. (2h)

TRUTV 2026 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

12:00 am GOLF PGA Tour Golf Valspar Championship, Second Round. (4h)

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MONDAY, MARCH 16

8:00 pm WRAL WMBF NBA Basketball Golden State Warriors at New York Knicks. (Live) (3h)

4:00 am ESPN2 NBA Basketball Minnesota Timberwolves at Oklahoma City Thunder. (2h)

6:00 am FDSO Overtime Select Basketball (2h)

8:00 am FDSO Athletes Unlimited Pro Softball Athletes Unlimited Pro Softball. (2h)

4:00 pm USA Premier League Soccer Brentford vs. Wolverhampton Wanderers. (Live) (2h)

6:00 pm FDSO Overtime Select Basketball (2h)

7:00 pm ESPN NHL Hockey Boston Bruins at New Jersey Devils. (Live) (2h30)

8:00 pm GOLF 2026 Players Championship Final Round. (5h)

8:30 pm FDSO MLB Baseball (3h)

9:30 pm ESPN NHL Hockey Pittsburgh Penguins at Colorado Avalanche. (Live) (2h30)

12:00 am FDSO Pro Padel League (2h)

2:00 am ESPN2 NHL Hockey Boston Bruins at New Jersey Devils. (2h)

4:00 am ESPN2 NHL Hockey Pittsburgh Penguins at Colorado Avalanche. (2h)

FDSO Athletes Unlimited Pro Softball Athletes Unlimited Pro Softball. (2h)

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

6:45 am CNBC 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Para Cross-Country Skiing: Men's & Women's 20km Free, Sitting. (Live) (1h15)

5:15 am CNBC 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Para Alpine Skiing: Men's Slalom, Run 1. (Live) (25m)

5:40 am CNBC 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Para Cross-Country Skiing: Men's & Women's 20km Free, Standing. (Live) (1h05)

6:45 am CNBC 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Para Cross-Country Skiing: Men's & Women's 20km Free, Vision Impaired. (Live) (1h30)

8:00 am FDSO Athletes Unlimited Pro Lacrosse (2h)

8:15 am CNBC 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Para Ice Hockey, Bronze Medal Game: Teams TBA. (Live) (45m)

9:00 am CNBC 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Para Alpine Skiing: Men's Slalom, Run 2. (1h)

10:00 am USA Premier League Soccer Manchester United vs. Aston Villa. (Live) (2h)

11:00 am WRAL WMBF 2026 Milan Cortina Paralympics Para Ice Hockey, Gold Medal Game: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

12:00 pm ESPN2 College Basketball Ivy League Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h)

Take 5

Sword tilts, for short				
Air freshener option				
Buildup of fluid				
Only US president to resign				
Tandoori breads				
"It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" star Howerton				
"Celebrates America" (food series on PBS)				
Voice heard in an Echo?				
Movie star Matt				
Some hospital procedures				

Use the clues above and beside the grid to fill in the squares.

Solution on page 19

© TV Media

Back in black: 'The Immortal Man' returns to Birmingham in long awaited bookend

By Sarah Passingham
TV Media

A legendary Brummie is being called back to a life he literally and figuratively blew up years ago in a much anticipated film continuation of a fan-favorite period drama. Tommy Shelby (Cillian Murphy, "Oppenheimer," 2023) makes his way back home in the new film "Peaky Blinders: The Immortal Man," premiering Friday, March 20, on Netflix.

Lucky fans may be able to catch the film on the big screen early — select cinemas will screen the film starting Friday, March 6.

Set in 1940, two years after the events of the series finale, the film catches up with Tommy living in exile, far from the life of crime that he meticulously burned all evidence of before setting off toward the horizon on horseback.

In the official teaser trailer, Tommy appears to traipse through the now-abandoned Arrow House, contemplating what's to come now that he's landed back at home before donning his signature armored cap and cutting a familiar, intimidating silhouette as he makes his way toward the business at hand. Whether he wanted to fight or not, the war has come for Tommy.

Reprising their roles from the series are Sophie Rundle ("Happy Valley") as Ada Thorne; Ned Dennehy ("A Thousand Blows") as Charlie Strong; Ian Peck ("His Dark Materials") as Charlie's assistant Curly; Packy Lee ("Blue Lights") as Johnny Dogs; and Stephen Graham ("Adolescence") as union convener Hayden Stagg.

Joining the cast of the film in an as-yet-unnamed role is Jay Lycurgo, who appeared alongside Murphy in the 2025 drama film "Steve."

Whether a patron or an employee of the pub, Lycurgo's character helps Tommy make an entrance when he steps into the Garrison in the film's trailer, announcing his arrival for anyone in the establishment with a short memory.

Rebecca Ferguson ("Dune: Part Two," 2024) joins the film's cast as a mysterious new character. Whoever she is, she's fearless if the way she talks to Tommy is any indication. She tells him how it is in the trailer, saying, "You live in a house haunted with ghosts of people who died because of you. You abandoned your kingdom and you abandoned your son."

Recast as Tommy's once long-lost son, Erasmus "Duke" Shelby, is Barry Keoghan ("Saltburn," 2023). Conrad Khan ("The Burning Girls") previously portrayed Duke in the sixth season of the series. Duke first connected with his father in the fi-



Rebecca Ferguson in "Peaky Blinders: The Immortal Man"

nal few episodes of the series, having been born while Tommy was away at war. As Tommy tried to leave his life in the family business behind, Duke stepped in to fill his father's shoes.

Keoghan's Duke is now running the Blinders, taking advantage of the chaos of wartime Birmingham however he can. Like father, like son, the wealthy, influential ruler of the Blinders is yet again being courted by British fascists. Tim Roth ("Last King of the Cross") portrays historical figure John Beckett, a Labour Party politician who became a fascist sympathizer during the lead up to World War II.

Beckett attempts to bring Duke in on a scheme that would be an act of treason and tip the war in Germany's favor. Without his father's sense of duty underlying his desire for ruthless enterprise, the offer sitting in front of Duke seems dangerous for the Blinders and for the country.

The film was written by series

creator Steven Knight, who has been knocking out historic drama series left and right lately, from Netflix's "House of Guinness" to "A Thousand Blows" on Hulu and Disney+. Tom Harper ("Wild Rose," 2018) directed the movie, having also been behind the camera for three episodes of the first season of "Peaky Blinders" back in 2013.

Everyone involved in the project is remaining tight-lipped when it comes to specific details about what to expect from "Peaky Blinders: The Immortal Man," but what we know of history, together with a little tease from the writer, gives fans something to go on.

Birmingham was one of the most heavily bombed cities in the United Kingdom during World War II, targeted because of its vital manufacturing industry. Given that there were also real historical events woven into the events of the original series, combined with the return of Hayden Stagg, it seems likely that

the Shelbys will be at the center of the action yet again.

About the broad strokes of the upcoming film, Knight told Tudum, "The country is at war, and so, of course, are our Peaky Blinders." He added, "It will be an explosive chapter in the 'Peaky Blinders' story. No holds barred. Full-on 'Peaky Blinders' at war."

There is no telling how exile has changed Tommy. The series began with him reeling from his experience digging tunnels and engaging in tense, underground hand-to-hand combat in France during the First World War, resorting to opium to quell PTSD symptoms despite being named a war hero. Always unpredictable, often violent and perpetually a step ahead of his foes, Tommy faces another world war as the so-called immortal man.

Don't miss the premiere of "Peaky Blinders: The Immortal Man" when it drops Friday, March 20, on Netflix.

WEEKDAY DAYTIME, MARCH 16 TO 20, 2026

	TW	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	
WRAL	5	7:00 Today		Today 3rd Hour		Today With Jenna & Sheinelle		The Perfect Line	Family Feud	WRAL News at Noon	WRAL 12:30 Report	NBC News Daily		The Kelly Clarkson Show		Family Feud	Inside Edition	
WMBF	9	7:00 Today		Today 3rd Hour		Today With Jenna & Sheinelle		Grand	Th Legal Access	WMBF News	InvestigateTV+/ Cele..	NBC News Daily / F Atlanta Braves		Aging/ TBA	Inside Edition	Drew Barrymore	Drew Barrymore	
WTVD	11	7:00 Good Morning America		Live with Kelly and Mark		ABC 11 Eyewitness News 10AM		The View		ABC 11 Eyewitness News at Noon		GMA3		Tamron Hall		General Hospital		
WBTW	13	7:00 CBS Mornings		News 13 Now	Living Local Carolina	M Deal/Th F Perfect	Th F Jeopardy!	The Price Is Right		News/ NCAA	M-W The Young and the Restless	M-W The Bold and	M-W Beyond	Th F NCAA	M The Perfect Line	M Jeopardy!		
WPDE	10	7:00 Good Morning America		Live with Kelly and Mark		The 700 Club		The View		Family Feud	Flip Side	GMA3		General Hospital		The Kelly Clarkson Show		
WWMB	3	The National News Desk		National Weat	25 Words or Less	Maury		iCRIME - Vargas	iCRIME - Vargas	Hot Bench	Paid Prog./ Hot Bench	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Cutlers Court	Cutlers Court	The People's Court		
WUNU	12	Lyla in the Loop	Carl the Collector	Daniel Tiger	Phoebe & Jay	Sesame Street	Work It Out Wombats!	Donkey Hodie	Rosie's Rules	Elinor	Alma's Way	Molly of Denali	Xavier Riddle	Various	Various	Various	Sara's/ Old House/ Fit S..	
WUVC	4	7:00 To Be Announced / ¡Despierta América!							M Tu Duelo/W Como dice/Th F Dicho	Noticiero/M Noticiero	Vecinos / Vecinos	Lo que la vida me robó		¡Siéntese quien pueda!		Desiguales		
WFXB	2	7:00 Fox Morning News		Carolina AM		Sherri		Live PD Presents	Live PD Presents	Scrambled Up	News	America/ Autry	Judge Lauren Lake	Mathis Court	Judge Eboni	Judy Justice	Judy Justice	
WFPX	8	Karamo		Couples Court	Couples Court	Couples Court	Paternity Court	Paternity Court	Paternity Court	Family Feud Favorites	Family Feud Favorites	In the Heat of the Night		M Tu In the Heat of the Night	In the Heat of the Night			
A&E	21	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Various	LivePD	Various	LivePD	Various	LivePD	Various	LivePD	Various	Road Wars	
AMC	41	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Various	Various	Tu U.S. Marshals / Th :15 Kingdom of the Crystal Skull		Indiana Jones and the		Independence Day	:45 Indiana Jones & th...	The Fugitive/ Indiana Jo...		W My Cousin Vinny		M Escape Plan / F :15 Raiders of the Lost Ark		
ANPL	64	Crikey! It's the Irwins		Gator Boys		Gator Boys		My Cat From Hell		My Cat From Hell		Pit Bulls and Parolees		Pit Bulls and Parolees		Various		
BET	37	Browns	Browns	Browns	Browns	JamieFoxx	Jamie Foxx	JamieFoxx	Jamie Foxx	JamieFoxx	Jamie Foxx	JamieFoxx	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	Prince	Prince	
CMT	48	CMT Music/ Videos		Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	King	King	King	King	
CNBC	53	6:00 Squawk Box		Squawk on the Street				M Squawk/Money		Halftime Report			The Exchange		Power Lunch		Closing Bell	
CNN	26	CNN News Central		CNN News Central				The Situation Room		Ins. Politics			CNN News Central		CNN News Central		CNN News Central	
COMC	34	South Park	South Park	South Park	SouthPark/ :35 South Pa..	SouthPark/ :10 South Pa..	SouthPark/ :45 South Pa..	SouthPark/ :15 South Pa..	SouthPark/ :50 South Pa..	Tu Th South Park	:25 SouthPark/ ..	South Park	South Park	Seinfeld/ South Park	Seinfeld/ South Park	Seinfeld/ Family Guy/..	Seinfeld/ Family Guy/..	
CSPAN	56	7:00 Washington Journal		Th U.S. House		M F Public Affairs / Tu U.S. House				M U.S. House of Representatives				F Public		Tu W U.S. House/Th Public		
DISC	42	Various		Airplane/ Moonshine/ Mysteries/ Sin City		Various	M Caught!	Various	M Caught!	Various	M Caught	Various	M Caught!	Various	M Caught!/F Gold Rush:	M Th Contraband/Tu Master/W Expedition X		
DISN	57	Bluey	Bluey	Spidey	Iron Man	Bluey	Bluey/ Bluey	Kitties	Mickey	Bluey	Ariel/F Ariel	Hey AJ!	Bluey	Robogobo	Bluey	Kiff	Phineas	
E!	39	Various		Various		Scandals/ Dirty/ Prank		Various	Tu Office	Various	Tu W Office	Dirty/ Office	Tu W Office	Various	Tu W Office	Tu W Office	Tu W Office	
ESPN	31	Get Up		First Take				The Pat McAfee Show / F 2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament				SportsCenter / F NCAA W. Basketball		NBA Today				
ESPN2	32	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		Get Up		F NCAA	F NCAA Bsk.	M-W First Take / Th College Wrestling		F NCAA Bsk.	Domonique/ First Draf/ H..		M NFL Draft	Various		
FDSO	38	Softball/ Life/ Warehouse	Tu FIBA Basketball	Carolina/ TBA/ Redfern	Pulse/Pack/ Adventure	Warehouse/ OT Select/ ..	Th Road Trip Angler	Spotlight/ Sportsman	Focused/ Outdoor	Various	FIBA/ Carolina/ G..	Foul Territory				Various	M F Pulse of the Pack	
FNC	44	FOX and Friends		America's Newsroom				America's Newsroom		The Faulkner Focus		Outnumbered		America Reports		America Reports		The Story
FOOD	66	Various	M Guy's	Various	M Guy's	Various	Various	Various	F Diners	Various	F Diners	Various	F Diners	Various	F Diners	Various	BeatBobby	
FREE	18	Boy/World	Boy/World	F 700 Club/700 Club		700 Club		Movie	Jim	Movie/Tu Jim	Movie	Movie/F Jim	Pretty Woman		Movie	Movie	Movie	
FX	67	Movies	Movies	The Art of Racing in the ...		Movies		F Night at the Museum	Movie	Movie	Movie	Night at the Museum: Ba...		Movie	Movie	W Thor	Movie	
GOLF	45	5 Clubs/ 5 Clubs/ Golf	Golf/ Smylie/ PGA Golf	Various		Th Golf	Various	Th Golf Fix	Various	Th Golf Fix	GolfToday	Th Golf Fix	Golf Today/ Golf/ Golf	Golf Today/ PGA Golf	Tu W Golf Today			
HALL	62	Reba	Reba	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	Gilmore Girls		Gilmore Girls		Gilmore Girls		Movies				
HGTV	65	Various		Various		Various	F Wild Vac.	Various	F Wild Vac.	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	DreamHome	
HIST	51	Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		
LIFE	25	Rizzoli & Isles / F Sleeping With a Killer		Rizzoli & Isles / F Sleeping With a Killer		Rizzoli & Isles / F Sleeping With a Killer		Major Crimes / F Sleeping With a Killer		Major Crimes / F NCIS		Major Crimes / F NCIS		Castle / F NCIS		Castle / F NCIS		
LMN	46	Movies				Movies				Movies				Movies				
MSNBC	43	6:00 Morning Joe				Ana Cabrera Reports				Chris Jansing Reports				Katy Tur Reports				
MTV	36	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	BigBang	BigBang	
NEWSN	16	Morning in America		NewsNation		NewsNation		NewsNation		NewsNation		NewsNation		NewsNation		NewsNation		
NGEO	70	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Various	Discovered	Various	F Discovered	Various	F Discovered	Various	F Discovered	Various	F Discovered	Various	Discovered	Various	Discovered	
NICK	29	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PeppaPig	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Mr.Crocod	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Sonic Prime	SpongeBob	Movie	Various	SpongeBob	
NICKJ	71	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Movie	Bubble	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Movie	Rubble	
OXY	171	Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Snapped/ Barbara/ Plan-Kill		Various		
PARMT	27	Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		
SYFY	55	NCIS: Los Angeles	Leprechaun 3	M NCIS: Los Angeles		The Turning/ Leprechaun...	Leprechaun 2	Th Déjà Vu/F Harry Potter & the Sorcerer's Stone	Harry Potter & the Death...	W Leprechaun		Th Chaos Walking	Leprechaun 4 in Space	Troy/ Harry Potter & th...	M :05 Harry Potter & the Deathly Hallows: Part 2			
TBN	68	Jeffress	Joyce M.	Creflo	Hagee	Joel Osteen	Jackson	S. Furtick	Franklin	Jeffress	Winning	Joyce M.	Better Together	A.Wommack		The 700 Club		
TBS	24	Sheldon	Sheldon	Sheldon	Sheldon	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	M Friends	M Friends	M Friends	
TCM	54	Week-end Marriage	M Alibi Ike	W :15 The Crash	:45 The Rising of t...	Swing Your Lady/ The Desert Song/ :15 Miss Pin...	Tu :15 The Last Hurrah	Earthworm Tractors	On	M :45 Dames / W :45	Shake Hands With the D...	Living on Velvet	M Dancing Sweeties	Th The Lady Refuses	Movies			
TLC	23	Various		Various		M Pregnant		Various		Various		Various		Unexpected/ 90 Day/ Sing..		Various		
TNT	28	M Charmed / Th F FBI		M Charmed / Th F FBI		M Cold Case / Th F FBI		M Cold Case / Th F FBI		M Cold Case / Th F FBI		ColdCase	Th F NCAA	Dune/ Jurassic World: Fall..		The Hobbit: An Unexpect...		
TOON	69	Gumball	:35 Looney	:05 Tom	Scooby-Doo	Scooby-Doo	Scooby	Scooby	Various	Various	Various	Teen/ Teen	Teen/ Teen	Various	Various	Various	Various	
TRUTV	40	Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Jokers	Jokers	Various	Jokers	Various	Movie	
TVLAND	47	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Gunsmoke	Gunsmoke	M Th F Gunsmoke	:55 Gunsmoke/ Gunsmoke	Gunsmoke	Gunsmoke	Gunsmoke	Gunsmoke	Gunsmoke		
USA	30	Various		Law-SVU/ Chicago/ Chica..		Law-SVU/ Chicago/ Chica..		Law-SVU/ Chicago/ Chica..		Law-SVU/ Chicago/ Chica..		Law-SVU/ 9-1-1/ Chicago		Law-SVU/ 9-1-1/ Chicago		Premier/ Law-SVU/ 9-1-1		
WE	61	6:00 Paid Programming		Various		F Criminal		Various		F Criminal		Various	Movie	9-1-1/ S.W.A.T./ NCIS		9-1-1/ S.W.A.T./ NCIS		

Stars on screen

Targeted return: Former '9-1-1' star cast in NBC pilot

By Michelle Rose
TV Media

Targeted return: Months after his "9-1-1" character was unexpectedly killed off, actor Peter Krause has lined up his next big role, which could potentially bring him back to TV.

Krause has booked a lead role in an NBC pilot titled "Protection." He is the first announced member of what is expected to be an ensemble cast.

The would-be series, a drama, tells the story of how a U.S. Marshal's death in the line of duty transforms a "seemingly cut-and-dry case" (per the logline) into a deadly conspiracy, with a family of law enforcement agents suddenly finding themselves targeted by an assassin. The description goes on to specify that, as they're "bridging personal differences and crossing professional boundaries, the Thornhill family must use the expertise from a lifetime of protecting civilians and politicians to protect one another and bring the killer to justice . . . even if it means betraying their sworn code."

Krause will play Mike Thornhill, who, according to the official character description, is a former secret service agent-turned-assistant director of intelligence. He doesn't want his job to end — "he's been the life of the party forever and that attitude has come at a cost."

Should the pilot receive a series order, "Protection" would bring Krause back to the NBC fold, having previously appeared in the network's critically acclaimed drama "Parenthood." The actor, who made his TV debut on Carol Burnett's 1990-91 variety show "Carol and Company," has also starred in "Sports Night" and "Dirty Sexy Money," and, of course, HBO's "Six

Feet Under," for which he was nominated for three Emmys, two Screen Actors Guild Awards and two Golden Globes.

"Protection" hails from creator/writer/executive producer Josh Safran ("Gossip Girl"), who was also the creator and showrunner of ABC's "Quantico." Safran serves as executive producer alongside "Today" co-host Jenna Bush Hager via her Thousand Voices production company, with the project falling under her first-look deal with Universal Studio Group. Bush Hager's producing partner, Ben Spector ("Land of Women"), is also on board as executive producer.

Asking questions: Pilot season is playing out a little differently at Fox, where the network is focusing on a select few contenders instead of commissioning pilots, and has even handed one of them a straight-to-series order.

Coming to Fox sometime in the 2026-27 season, "The Interrogator" is a spy drama series starring, written and executive produced by British actor-comedian Stephen Fry ("QI").

The drama centres on a former MI6 agent, Conrad Henry (played by Fry), and his elite team. According to the logline, when conventional methods fail, only Henry's "quirky charm, superior intellect and mind-bending behavioral maneuvers" can lockpick the minds of the world's most dangerous criminals.

Twelve episodes have been ordered so far. Fry wrote the pilot script, with revisions coming from fellow executive producers Matt Pyken ("Empire") and Bill Harper ("Fire Country"). Another executive producer, Paul McGuigan ("Lucky Number Slevin," 2006), is set to direct.



Peter Krause to star in "Protection"

This isn't Fry's first experience with a Fox production — he previously had a recurring role on "Bones." Seemingly always in demand (as evidenced by his list of acting credits on IMDb), the actor recently appeared in the Netflix comedy "Too Much" and as a contestant on BBC's "The Celebrity Traitors." He'll next be seen in the upcoming film "Frank and Percy," and he is reprising his role as King James III in "Red, White & Royal Wedding," the follow-up to Prime Video's "Red, White & Royal Blue" (2023).

Police pilot: HBO Max has tapped Milo Ventimiglia ("This Is Us") to lead a new cop drama pilot from "Supernatural" showrunner Jeremy Carver, with David Ayer ("Fury," 2014) also on board as director. Hopes are running high that the pilot — which is said to evoke classic police procedurals such as "NYPD Blue" — will find its way on

to the streamer's original drama slate.

Ventimiglia will play Brian "Milk" Milkovich, a natural-born leader looking for a second chance in the place he left behind, according to the official description. Returning to his hometown of Joliet, Illinois, he sets out to rescue the beleaguered local police force while seeking out redemption of his own.

"American Blue" will take audiences inside a gritty and authentic police drama, reflecting the myriad challenges in policing today," said Sarah Aubrey, HBO Max's head of originals, in a statement. "As with 'The Pitt,' our goal of longer seasons will allow viewers to sink deeply into this world across multiple episodes and to return to it on an annual basis. We can't wait for Jeremy Carver's vision for 'American Blue' to come to life with Milo Ventimiglia in the lead role and David Ayer directing our pilot."

TV Search

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BEST of the Best 2024

▶ STREAMING THIS WEEK



Elisabeth Moss and Kerry Washington in "Imperfect Women"

By Kimberly Tremblay
TV Media

WHAT'S NEW ON APPLE TV

"Imperfect Women"

The night the sirens wail, a decades-long friendship fractures beyond repair. From series creator Annie Weisman ("Desperate Housewives") and author Araminta Hall comes the Lesli Linka Glatter ("Pretty Little Liars") directed limited series "Imperfect Women," which makes its Apple TV debut Wednesday, March 18. Starring Elisabeth Moss ("The Handmaid's Tale"), Kerry Washington ("Scandal") and Kate Mara ("House of Cards"), the series centers on three lifelong friends who find their world shattered when one member of their seemingly close-knit group

dies under mysterious circumstances, leaving the two remaining friends under question of what happened on that fateful evening. As the investigation unravels, so does the truth about how well these friends really knew each other.

WHAT'S NEW ON PRIME VIDEO

"Deadloch" - Season 2

A haunting case in Australia's sweltering Top End pulls two mismatched detectives back into danger when "Deadloch" returns Friday, March 20, for Season 2 on Prime Video. Detectives Dulcie Collins (Kate Box, "Wentworth") and Eddie Redcliffe (Madeleine Sami, "Super City") reunite in this new season to investigate the death of Eddie's former policing partner, but their focus

shifts when human remains surface in the remote outpost of Barra Creek, leaving Dulcie and Eddie to solve the case. As they work to identify John Doe, their investigation begins to uncover what someone in this tight-knit community is desperate to keep hidden. Nina Oyama ("You're Skitting Me"), Alicia Gardiner ("Offspring") and Luke Hemsworth ("Westworld") co-star, with series creators Kate McCartney ("The Katering Show") and Kate McLennan ("Bleak: The Web Series") returning as executive producers.

WHAT'S NEW ON HALLMARK+

"Hope Valley: 1874" - Season 1

The early days of Hope Valley, Alber-

ta, come to life when Season 1 of "Hope Valley: 1874" premieres Saturday, March 21, on Hallmark+. Set in 1874, this prequel to "When Calls the Heart" follows Rebecca Clarke (Bethany Joy Lenz, "A Biltmore Christmas," 2023), who leaves Chicago for the Canadian frontier hoping to build a stable future for her young daughter (Mila Morgan, "Home Before Dark"). But when her wagon breaks down, she's forced to rely on the kindness of rancher Tom Moore (Benjamin Ayres, "Saving Hope") and the settlers of a struggling outpost. As Rebecca grows closer to the settlers of Hope Valley, she begins to put down some roots and embrace the possibility of a fresh start. Jill Hennessy ("Madame Web," 2024), Roan Curtis ("Firefly Lane") and Lachlan Quarmby ("Providence Falls") round out the cast, with Season 1 written and executive produced by Alfonso H. Moreno ("When Calls the Heart").

WHAT'S NEW ON BRITBOX

"The Lady"

Starring Mia McKenna-Bruce (seen recently in Netflix's "Agatha Christie's Seven Dials"), BritBox's limited drama series "The Lady" arrives on the streamer Wednesday, March 18, telling the shocking true story of Jane Andrews (McKenna-Bruce), former dresser for Sarah Ferguson (played by Natalie Dormer, "Game of Thrones"), the Duchess of York, who was later convicted of murder. All of Jane's dreams seemed to be coming true. In 1988, she moved from the seaside town of Grimsby to London after landing a coveted role as the Duchess of York's dresser,

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gaining access to the glittering world tied to royalty. But 12 years later, everything came crashing down when Jane killed her boyfriend, Thomas Cressman (Ed Speleers, "You") — a crime that stunned the public and ultimately led to her conviction and life sentence in prison. Also starring Philip Glenister ("After the Flood"), Jack Alldridge ("Death By Lightning"), Stephanie Street ("Breathtaking") and James Anderson ("Holby City"), "The Lady" is written and executive produced by Debbie O'Malley ("Payback").

WHAT'S NEW ON SHUDDER

"1000 Women in Horror" (2025)

The untold story of the women who built horror from the shadows steps into the spotlight when "1000 Women in Horror" lands Friday, March 20, on Shudder. Directed by Canadian filmmaker Donna Davies ("Fanarchy," 2015) with a screenplay by Alexandra Heller-Nicholas ("Pull the Strings: Puppets in Horror," 2025), the documentary traces the impact of women in horror cinema through their groundbreaking work as directors, actors and creators since 1895. Featuring interviews with filmmakers, writers and performers — including Akela Cooper ("American Horror Story"), Mary Harron ("American Psycho," 2000), Sara Risher ("Alone in the Dark," 1982) and Lin Shaye ("Insidious," 2010) — the film highlights pioneers who shaped the genre both in front of and behind the camera. Blending archival clips from classics such as "A Nightmare on Elm Street" (1984) and "Alien" (1979) with modern titles such as "The Babadook" (2014) and "M3GAN" (2022), "1000 Women in Horror" reveals a legacy too long overlooked.



Madeleine Sami and Kate Box in "Deadloch"



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

260315

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.
 Solution on page 2.

new on
Video

The Housemaid

Millie Calloway (Sweeney) is a young woman recently released from prison on parole for manslaughter. Trying to find a stable job, she's hired as a live-in housemaid by the wealthy and enigmatic Winchester family: Nina (Seyfried), her charismatic but volatile husband, Andrew (Sklenar), and their daughter, Cece (Elle). At first, Millie sees the job as a chance to rebuild her life but soon discovers that the Winchesters' perfect exterior hides deeper, darker issues. Nina's erratic behavior and Andrew's charm mask secrets about their marriage and previous tragedies in the household, all while Millie becomes entangled in emotional manipulation, psychological mind games and a complicated relationship with both Nina and Andrew. As disturbing truths unfold, Millie fights to protect herself and gain control of her situation.
 Director: Paul Feig. Stars: Sydney Sweeney, Amanda Seyfried, Brandon Sklenar, Indiana Elle. 2025. 131 min. Thriller.

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WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 18, 2026

	TW	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
5	WRAL	5	WRAL News at 4PM (N)	WRAL News	News (N)	WRAL News	NBC News	WRAL News	The Gamble	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago Fire (N)	Chicago P.D. (N)	WRAL News	:35 J. Fallon			
9	WMBF	9	WMBF News at 4 (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	NBC News	WMBF News	Inside Ed.	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago Fire (N)	Chicago P.D. (N)	News at 11	:35 J. Fallon			
11	WTVD	11	11 Eyewitness News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	World News	Jeopardy!	Wheel (N)	Scrubs (N)	Abbott (N)	The Greatest (N)	Shark Tank (N)	:35 J. Kimmel			
13	WBTW	13	News 13 First (N) (CC)	News (N)	WBTW News	News (N)	CBS-News	Wheel (N)	Jeopardy!	Survivor "Knife to the Heart" (N) (CC)	Culinary Cup (N)	Hollywood	News (N)	:35 Colbert			
15	WPDE	10	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	ABC15 News at 5 (N) (CC)	News (N)	World News	News (N)	ET (N)	Scrubs (N)	Abbott (N)	The Greatest (N)	Shark Tank (N)	News 15 (N)	:35 J. Kimmel		
21	WWMB	3	Tribunal	Tribunal	Maury	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Police 24/7 (N)	Police "She's Breathing"	National Desk (N)	National Desk (N)				
31	WUNU	12	Antiques Roadshow	Side	BBC World	PBS News Hour (N) (CC)	MotorWeek	Sci NC (CC)	Nature	NOVA	Secrets of the Dead	Amanpour (N)					
40	WUVC	4	El gordo y la flaca (L) (N)	Primer impacto (L) (N)	Noticias (N)	Noticiero (N)	La rosa de Guadalupe (N)	Mi verdad oculta (N)	Mi rival (N)	Hermanas, un amor (N)	Noticias 40						
43	WFXB	2	JHud Show (N) (CC)	Neighbor	Neighbor	Big Bang	Big Bang	Sheldon	Sheldon	The Masked Singer (N)	Fear Factor (N)	Fox News	:35 Not,News	Mod Fam	Goldbergs		
62	WFPX	8	3:00 In the Heat of Night	Set Up (2011, Thriller)	Bruce Willis, 50 Cent.	*** Pain & Gain (2013, Action)	Dwayne Johnson, Mark Wahlberg. (CC)	*** Shaft ('19) Samuel L. Jackson. (CC)									
A&E	21	Ozark Law	Ozark Law	Ozark Law	Ozark Law	Ozark Law	Ozark Law	Ozark Law	Ozark Law (N)	Ozark Law (N)	Ozark Law (N)	Ozark Law (N)	:05 Ozark Law				
AMC	41	**** Goodfellas (1990, Crime Story)	Ray Liotta, Robert De Niro. (CC)	*** Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull	:45 **** Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade	Harrison Ford.											
ANPL	64	Scaled	Scaled	Crikey! It's the Irwins	Crikey! It's the Irwins	Crikey! It's the Irwins	Crikey! It's the Irwins	Crikey! It's the Irwins	Crikey! It's the Irwins	Crikey! It's the Irwins	Crikey! It's the Irwins	Crikey! It's the Irwins	Crikey! It's the Irwins				
BET	37	Prince	Prince	Prince	Prince	Neighbor	Neighbor	Neighbor	Neighbor	As. Living	As. Living	Tyler Perry's Sistas	The Coach Vick	Tyler Perry's Sistas			
CMT	48	King	King	Mama's	Mama's	Mama's	Mama's	Mama's	Mama's	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls
CNBC	53	Closing Bell (P) (L) (N)	Fast Money (L) (N) (CC)	Mad Money (N) (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed	American Greed				
CNN	26	The Arena (L) (N)	Jake Tapper (L) (N) (CC)	Jake Tapper (L) (N) (CC)	E. B. OutFront (L) (N) (CC)	Cooper 360 (L) (N)	The Source With (L) (N)	CNN NewsNight (L) (N)	Laura Coates Live (L) (N)								
COMC	34	South Park	South Park	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Daily Show	FamilyGuy
CSPAN	56	3:00 U.S. House Gavel-to-gavel coverage of the U.S. House of Representatives. (L) (N) (CC)								Public Affairs Events	Public affairs events, congressional hearings, speeches, and interviews.						
DISC	42	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Assassination in the Valley of the Kings (N) (CC)	Mysteries of (N)						
DISN	57	Big City	Big City	Bluey (CC)	Bluey (CC)	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Phineas	Phineas	Place	Vampirina	Kiff (CC)	Kiff (CC)	Ladybug	Ladybug
E!	39	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Dirty Rotten Scandals (N)	Dirty Rotten Scandals (N)	Dirty Rotten Scandals (N)	Dirty Rotten Scandals (N)	Dirty Rotten Scandals (N)	Dirty Rotten Scandals (N)
ESPN	31	NFL Live (L) (N) (CC)	SportCtr (N)	Pardon	SportCtr (N)	NBA (N)	NBA Basketball	Golden State Warriors at Boston Celtics (L) (N)	:35 NBA Basketball	Los Angeles Lakers at Houston Rockets (L) (N)							
ESPN2	32	NBA Today (CC)	NFL Live (CC)	Game On: Journey (CC)	NIT Tourn. First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NIT Tourn. First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NIT Tourn. First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NIT Tourn. First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NIT Tourn. First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NIT Tourn. First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NIT Tourn. First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NIT Tourn. First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NIT Tourn. First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)				
FDSO	38	3:00 MLB Baseball	FIBA	To Be Announced	Programming to be announced.												
FNC	44	Will Cain (L) (N)	The Five (L) (N) (CC)	With Bret Baier (L) (N)	Ingraham (L) (N)	Jesse Watters (L) (N) (CC)	Hannity (L) (N) (CC)	Gutfeld! (N)	Fox News at Night (L) (N)								
FOOD	66	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Flavortown Food Fight	Flavortown (N)	Guy's Grocery Games	Grocery "Pizza Masters"								
FREE	18	3:30 **** 27 Dresses ('08) Katherine Heigl. (CC)	*** Sweet Home Alabama ('02) Reese Witherspoon. (CC)	*** The Proposal ('09, Rom) Ryan Reynolds, Sandra Bullock. (CC)	The 700 Club (N) (CC)												
FX	67	3:00 **** Thor Chris Hemsworth.	*** Captain America: The First Avenger ('11) Chris Evans.	*** Captain America: The Winter Soldier ('14) Chris Evans. (CC)	*** Ant-Man												
GOLF	45	Golf Central (N)	Masters Highlights 2002	Golf Central	The Smylie Show (CC)	Vanity Index Podcast	Golf Central	The Smylie Show (CC)	Vanity Index Podcast								
HALL	62	* Notes of Autumn ('23) Ashley Williams. (CC)	* It Was Always You ('21) Erin Krakow. (CC)	* Roadhouse Romance ('21) Lauren Alaina. (CC)	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls								
HGTV	65	DreamHome	DreamHome	DreamHome	DreamHome	Bachelor Mansion "Off the Deep End"	Wild Vac.	Wild Vac.	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters
HIST	51	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Swamp People "Put Up or Shut Up" (N)	:35 Pawn Stars (N)	:35 Pawn Stars (N)	:35 Pawn Stars (N)								
LIFE	25	Castle "Nikki Heat" (CC)	The Rookie "Revelations"	The Rookie "True Crime"	The Rookie "Bad Blood"	The Rookie "Amber" (CC)	The Rookie	:05 The Rookie	:05 The Rookie								
LMN	46	* My Sister's Serial Killer	Boyfriend	* How She Caught a Killer ('23) Sarah Drew.	* Searching for a Serial Killer: Regina Smith Story	* The Serial Killer Seduced Me ('23) Tess Cline.											
MSNBC	43	Deadline: White House (L) (N) (CC)	The Beat With (L) (N) (CC)	The Weeknight (L) (N)	All in With Chr. (L) (N)	The Briefing (L) (N) (CC)	Last Word (L) (N)	The 11th (L) (N)									
MTV	36	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous
NEWSN	16	NewsNation (L) (N) (CC)	NewsNation (L) (N) (CC)	The Hill with Blake (N)	Vargas Report (N) (CC)	Cuomo (N) (CC)	On Balance (N) (CC)	Katie Pavlich (N) (CC)	Jesse Weber Live (N) (CC)								
NGEO	70	To Catch a Smuggler	To Catch a Smuggler	..Smuggler "Party Drugs"	To Catch a Smuggler	Catch.. "Drug Boat Bust"	To Catch a Smuggler (N)	Inside the CIA: (N)	Catch.. "Mama's Meth"								
NICK	29	Patrick Star	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)
NICKJ	71	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Mr. Crocod	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Rubble	Rubble	Rubble	Rubble	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig
OXY	171	Dateline: Secrets	Dateline: Secrets	Dateline: Secrets	Dateline: Secrets	Dateline "The Landing"	Dateline "Unspeakable"	Dateline: Secrets "A Cold December Morning" (CC)									
PARMT	27	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	*** Major League ('89, Com) Charlie Sheen, Tom Berenger. (CC)	*** The School of Rock ('03) Joan Cusack, Jack Black. (CC)	*** Legally Blonde											
SYFY	55	2:30 **** Troy ('04) Brad Pitt.	*** Dejà Vu (2006, Thriller) Val Kilmer, Denzel Washington.	*** Gladiator (2000, History) Joaquin Phoenix, Russell Crowe. (CC)	* Troy												
TBN	68	Jeremiah	S. Furtick	Harvest (N)	Hagee (N)	Graham	Kirk Today	Allen (N)	Stakelbeck	Praise (N)	Harvest (N)	M. Youssef	Jeremiah	Stakelbeck	Praise (N)		
TBS	24	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (N) (CC)	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Mod Fam	
TCM	54	3:30 * 42nd Street	:15 **** Female ('33) Ruth Chatterton.	*** Baby Face Barbara Stanwyck.	*** National Velvet ('44) Mickey Rooney.	:15 **** The Affairs of Dobie Gillis	Movie										
TLC	23	Dr. Pimple Popper	Dr. Pimple Popper	Dr. Pimple Popper	Body Bizarre (N)	Body Bizarre (N)	Body Bizarre (N)	Body Bizarre (N)	Body Bizarre (N)	The Bad Foot Clinic (N)	Body Bizarre						
TNT	28	3:00 **** The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey	Ian McKellen.	NHL on TNT	NHL Hockey	New Jersey Devils at New York Rangers (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey	Dallas Stars at Colorado Avalanche (L) (N) (CC)									
TOON	69	WeBare	WeBare	Dog	Dog	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Rick Morty	Rick Morty
TRUTV	40	3:30 **** Glory Road ('06) Josh Lucas. (P) (CC)	Tip Off (N)	NCAA M. Basketball First Four: Teams TBA (L) (N)	NCAA M. Basketball First Four: Teams TBA (L) (N)												
TVLAND	47	A. Griffith	:35 Griffith	:50 Griffith	:25 Andy Griffith (CC)	Raymond	:35 Raymond	:10 Raymond	:45 Raymond	:20 Everybody Raymond	:55 Raymond	Raymond	King	King			
USA	30	9-1-1 "Animal Instincts"	9-1-1 "Home Invasion"	9-1-1 "Tomorrow" (CC)	9-1-1 "Cursed" (CC)	League One LOVB Atlanta at LOVB Nebraska (L) (N)	*** The Equalizer ('14) Denzel Washington.										
WE	61	NCIS "Detour" (CC)	NCIS "Prime Suspect"	NCIS "Seek" (CC)	NCIS "Squall" (CC)	NCIS "Chasing Ghosts"	NCIS "Berlin" (CC)	NCIS "Revenge" (CC)	NCIS "Double Blind" (CC)								

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Real talk

Property buying pros: 'Property Brothers' return with brand-new house hunting series

By **Caroline Collacutt**
TV Media

Property buying pros: In "Property Brothers," Drew and Jonathan Scott set out to help couples find "fixer-upper" homes to be renovated into something spectacular. Now, the brothers hope to help potential homeowners far and wide, as they detail the gritty and rewarding process of homebuying — from beginning to end — in their new series "Property Brothers: Under Pressure," making its debut Sunday, March 15, on HGTV, and streaming on HBO Max.

"Whether they're weary of the

commitment, in need of a pro to help them make the most informed decisions or grappling with the big-ticket purchase, these homebuyers are searching for expert advice — and that's why Drew and Jonathan are there to help," explains a press release shared on drewandjonathan.com.

In this 14-episode first season, the brothers plan to guide prospective buyers through the ups and downs of finding, purchasing and renovating homes, offering sage advice as they navigate competitive markets, sticker shock, wish lists, financial strains and the never-ending emotional roller coaster of buying a

home. Once a deal is made and the right home is purchased, the brothers stick around to help new homeowners through any renovations they might need, offering smart design solutions and creative fixes that won't break the bank.

In the upcoming series premiere, for example, Drew and Jonathan help AJ and Carin, who lost everything in the devastating Los Angeles fires of 2025. The couple asks for the brothers' help in finding their fresh start, and once they find a winning piece of property, Drew and Jonathan assist AJ and Carin with some much-needed updates — even overhauling the property's detached



Drew and Jonathan Scott of "Property Brothers: Under Pressure"

Extreme Sudoku

		7		0	D		9			C	F				
	3	2	1				4		B						
C			4	7	6				8	D	2				
		8			9		3			5	B	7			
	A	0		F	6	8		2				B			
2	8						7	A	D	4	0				
	B	1	6						3	E		D	4		
	7			5			2	6	0				9		
				6	D			1				8	0	F	9
						C	7			4					
8	4		5					E					A		
	0		E	2	B							3			D
5							3	D		6		C	F		8
4	1					5		9			7				
	E							4	5				2	B	
										A	3				D

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 4x4 box contains the digits 0 through 9 AND the letters A-F.

Solution on page 19

rental unit so it can be used as a source of income in the future. While the process isn't easy, the brothers get the job done.

"We're very honest and up front with clients about how challenging the house hunt can be," Jonathan shares in the aforementioned statement. "We encourage them to see past a home's current state and envision its untapped potential, which can be tough. But when the ideal property pops up, they've got to be ready to make an offer and then trust us to create a design that fits their family's needs."

Drew adds: "It can be hard to find something move-in ready, which is why we look for the diamond in the rough that we can turn into an amazing home with the right renovation."

With both Drew and Jonathan acting as series producers, "Property Brothers: Under Pressure" premieres Sunday, March 15, on HGTV and HBO Max.

RHCP remembers: Before the Red Hot Chili Peppers, there was Tony Flow and the Miraculously Majestic Masters of Mayhem, a band featuring Anthony Kiedis, Flea, Hillel Slovak and Jack Irons, forged in the

hot and electric world of 1980s Los Angeles. But soon, the iconic band found its name and footing, becoming the Chili Peppers we know today.

Relive the early days of the eponymous band through the legacy of late guitarist Slovak, in director Ben Feldman's ("Rich & Shameless") new documentary — "The Rise Of The Red Hot Chili Peppers: Our Brother, Hillel," premiering Friday, March 20, on Netflix.

While Slovak didn't appear on the band's 1984 debut album — aptly called "The Red Hot Chili Peppers," and featuring guitarist Jack Sherman — he returned as a full-fledged member of the band shortly after the album's release, and went on to play on some of the Chili Peppers' most beloved early LPs, including 1985's "Freaky Styley" and 1987's "The Uplift Mofo Party Plan," which featured iconic tracks such as "Fight Like a Brave," "Funky Crime" and "Me and My Friends."

Shortly after the Uplift tour came to an end, however, Slovak lost his battle with addiction and died of an overdose in June 1988. Slovak was first replaced by P-Funk guitarist DeWayne "Blackbyrd" McKnight and then, finally, by John Frusciante — but diehard fans of the Chili Peppers

will never forget the singular sound of Slovak.

According to Variety, Feldman's upcoming documentary will expand further on Slovak's time with the band, featuring interviews with two of the Red Hot Chili Peppers' co-founders, bassist Flea and singer Kiedis, who reflect on their career, their music and "the deep bond they formed playing in high school bands."

"It's a true honor to partner with Netflix to bring 'The Rise of the Red Hot Chili Peppers' to a global audience," says Feldman. "At its heart, this is a deeply relatable story — about the friendships that shape our identities and the lasting power of the bonds forged in adolescence. What's less relatable, of course, is that here those friends went on to create one of the greatest rock bands in history. I'm profoundly grateful to the band and to Hillel's family for their trust and generosity, and to Netflix for helping bring this story to the world stage."

Produced in association with Slovak's brother, James, "The Rise Of The Red Hot Chili Peppers: Our Brother, Hillel," premieres Friday, March 20, on Netflix.

Friday Best Bets

2026 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament

ESPN 12:00 pm

The first round of the NCAA's annual women's basketball tournament gets underway today as 64 teams compete for the chance to make it to the championship game in Phoenix. Which teams will make it to the next round? And whose bracket will remain unscathed?

Three Sailors and a Girl

TCM 6:15 pm

In this movie musical from 1953, three Navy men (Gordon MacRae, Gene Nelson, Jack E. Leonard) are convinced to invest in a new Broadway show. After meeting the production's lead (Jane Powell), they're immediately on board with the idea.



Jane Powell, Sam Levene, Gordon MacRae and Gene Nelson in "Three Sailors and a Girl"

Dateline NBC

WRAL WMBF 9:00 pm

Covering everything from true-crime mysteries, to documentaries, to in-depth investigations, this long-running series joins NBC's top journalists as they offer a comprehensive look at world events, breaking news stories and more. Lester Holt hosts.

Coming to America

AMC 10:30 pm

Prince Akeem (Eddie Murphy) wants for nothing — except for true love. Hoping to escape an arranged marriage, he flees to New York with his sidekick, Semmi (Arsenio Hall), and begins the grueling search to find his queen. James Earl Jones also stars.

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 20, 2026

	TW	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30		
5	WRAL	5	WRAL News at 4PM (N)	WRAL News	News (N)	WRAL News	NBC News	WRAL News	Inside Ed.	Happy's (N)	Stumble (N)	Dateline NBC (N) (CC)				WRAL News	:35 J. Fallon		
9	WMBF	9	WMBF News at 4 (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	NBC News	WMBF News	Inside Ed.	Happy's (N)	Stumble (N)	Dateline NBC (N) (CC)				News at 11	:35 J. Fallon		
11	WTVD	11	11 Eyewitness News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	World News	Jeopardy!	Wheel (N)	Celebrity Jeopardy! (N)	20/20 (N) (CC)				News (N)	:35 J. Kimmel			
13	WBTW	13	2:30 NCAA M. Basketball	News (N)	WBTW News	News (N)	CBS-News	NCAA M. Basketball	Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NCAA M. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)									
15	WPDE	10	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	ABC15 News at 5 (N) (CC)	News (N)	World News	News (N)	ET (N)	Celebrity Jeopardy! (N)	20/20 (N) (CC)				News 15 (N)	:35 J. Kimmel			
21	WWMB	3	Tribunal	Tribunal	Mauri	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Penn & Teller: Fool Us	Remarkable Women (CC)	The National News Desk	The National News Desk						
31	WUNU	12	Energy	Sci NC (CC)	N.C. Wknd	BBC World	PBS News Hour (N) (CC)	Issues	ncImpact	Week (N)	State Lines	The American Revolution (CC)				Amanpour			
40	WUVC	4	El gordo y la flaca (L) (N)	Primer impacto (L) (N)	Noticias (N)	Noticiero (N)	Rosa "Sin culpa alguna"	Mi verdad oculta (N)	Mi rival (N)	Hermanas, un amor (N)	Noticias 40	:35 Noticiero							
43	WFXB	2	JHud Show (CC)	Neighbor	Neighbor	Big Bang	Big Bang	Sheldon	Sheldon	Doc "Fare Well" (CC)	Best Medicine	Fox News	:35 Not,News	Mod Fam	Goldbergs				
62	WFPX	8	3:00 Heat/Night "Pilot"	*** A Low Down Dirty Shame				*** Tower Heist ('11) Ben Stiller. (CC)		*** Life ('99, Com.-Dra) Martin Lawrence, Eddie Murphy. (CC)		*** Set Up							
A&E	21	Alaska State Troopers	Alaska State Troopers		Alaska State Troopers		Alaska State Troopers		Alaska State Troopers		Alaska State Troopers		Troopers "Wildest Calls"		:05	Alaska-Trooper			
AMC	41	3:15 *** Raiders of the Lost Ark	:45 *** Police Academy ('84) Steve Guttenberg. (CC)		*** Trading Places ('83) Eddie Murphy, Dan Aykroyd. (CC)		*** Coming to America												
ANPL	64	Treehouse Masters	Treehouse Masters		Treehouse Masters		Treehouse Masters		Treehouse Masters		Treehouse Masters		Treehouse Masters						
BET	37	Prince	Prince	Prince	Prince	Neighbor	Neighbor	*** Tyler Perry's A Madea Family Funeral ('19, Com)	Cassi Davis, Tyler Perry.	*** Juwan Mann ('02) Miguel A. Núñez.									
CMT	48	King	King	Mama's	Mama's	Mama's	Mama's	Mama's	Mama's	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls		
CNBC	53	Closing Bell (P) (L) (N)	Fast Money (L) (N) (CC)	Mad Money (N) (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)				
CNN	26	The Arena (L) (N)	Jake Tapper (L) (N) (CC)	Jake Tapper (L) (N) (CC)	E. B. OutFront (L) (N) (CC)	Cooper 360 (L) (N)	The Source With (L) (N)	CNN NewsNight (L) (N)	Laura Coates Live (L) (N)										
COMC	34	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	South Park	South Park		
CSPAN	56	2:30 Public Affairs Events		Ceasefire (CC)		Public Affairs Events		Ceasefire (CC)		Public Affairs Events		Ceasefire (CC)		Public Affairs Events					
DISC	42	Gold Rush	Gold Rush		Gold Rush		Gold Rush "Rick's Mess"		Gold Rush (N) (CC)		Gold Rush: (N)		Gold Rush:						
DISN	57	Big City	Big City	Big City	Bluey (CC)	Bluey (CC)	Big City	Big City	Big City	*** Alvin & the Chipmunks: Squeakquel	:40 Kiff (CC)	:05 Kiff (CC)	Kiff (CC)	Ladybug	Ladybug				
E!	39	*** Taken 2 ('12) Maggie Grace, Liam Neeson. (CC)		*** Taken 3 (2014, Action) Forest Whitaker, Liam Neeson. (CC)		*** Knock at the Cabin ('23) Dave Bautista. (P)		*** Cocaine Bear ('23) Keri Russell.											
ESPN	31	NCAA W. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N)		NCAA W. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N)		NCAA W. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N)		NCAA W. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N)		NCAA W. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N)		NCAA W. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N)							
ESPN2	32	3:30 NCAA Bsk. First Round: Teams TBA		NCAA W. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N)		NCAA Men's College Wrestling		NCAA Championships: Semifinals (L) (N) (CC)		SportsCenter (L) (N) (CC)									
FDSO	38	Carolina	Athletes Unlimited Pro Lacrosse	Focused		Warehouse Games		Warehouse Games		Warehouse Games		Pulse/Pack		Duke	Outdoor	Adventure			
FNC	44	Will Cain (L) (N)	The Five (L) (N) (CC)	With Bret Baier (L) (N)		Ingraham (L) (N)		Jesse Watters (L) (N) (CC)		Hannity (L) (N) (CC)		Gutfeld! (N)		Fox News at Night (L) (N)					
FOOD	66	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners		
FREE	18	3:25 *** Cars ('06) Owen Wilson. (CC)		*** Cars 2 ('11) Voices of Larry the Cable Guy, Owen Wilson. (CC)		*** Cars 3 ('17, Ani) Voices of Cristela Alonzo, Owen Wilson. (CC)		*** The 700 Club (N) (CC)											
FX	67	3:30 *** Night at the Museum: Secret of ...		*** Ghostbusters: Afterlife ('21) Carrie Coon. (CC)		*** Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire ('24) Paul Rudd. (CC)		*** Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire											
GOLF	45	2:00 PGA Golf Valspar Championship, Second Round		LPGA Tour Golf Fortinet Founders Cup, Second Round (L) (N) (CC)		Golf Central (N)		PGA Champions Cologuard Classic, First Round (N)											
HALL	62	*** A Ring by Spring ('14) Rachel Boston. (CC)		*** A Christmas Together With You		*** Holiday Hotline ('23) Emily Tennant. (CC)		Gold. Girls		Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls						
HGTV	65	Love It "Basement Blues"		DreamHome DreamHome		DreamHome DreamHome		DreamHome DreamHome		DreamHome DreamHome		Hunters (N)		Hunters	Hunters	Hunters			
HIST	51	UnBelievable		UnBelievable		UnBelievable		UnBelievable		UnBelievable (N)		:05	Proof-There (N)	:05	UnBelievable				
LIFE	25	NCIS "Cracked" (CC)		NCIS "Broken Arrow" (CC)		NCIS "Enemies Foreign"		NCIS "Enemies Domestic"		NCIS "False Witness" (CC)		NCIS "Ships in the Night"		:05	NCIS "Recruited" (CC)	:05	NCIS "Freedom" (CC)		
LMN	46	*** A Young Father's Nightmare ('25) Kate Dailey.		*** The Night She Disappeared ('26) Rachel Sellan.		*** My Daughter Was Taken													
MSNBC	43	Deadline: White House (L) (N) (CC)		The Beat With (L) (N) (CC)		The Weeknight (L) (N)		All in With Chr. (L) (N)		The Briefing (L) (N) (CC)		Last Word (L) (N)		The 11th (L) (N)					
MTV	36	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	RuPaul's Drag Race	RuPaul's Drag Race (N)		Untucked		RuPaul's Drag Race		Movie					
NEWSN	16	NewsNation (L) (N) (CC)		NewsNation (L) (N) (CC)		The Hill with Blake (N)		Vargas Report (N) (CC)		Cuomo (N) (CC)		On Balance (N) (CC)		Katie Pavlich (N) (CC)		Jesse Weber Live (N) (CC)			
NGEO	70	:25 Discovered By		:20 Discovered By		:20 David "Japan"		:10 David "Arctic Circle"		David "SE Asia"		Danger "Railroads" (N)		David		:50	David "SE Asia"	:50	Danger
NICK	29	2:30 *** Sing 2		Boss Baby		Loud House		Wylde Pak		SpongeBob		Friends (CC)		Friends (CC)		Big Bang		Big Bang	
NICKJ	71	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Mr. Crocod	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Rubble	Rubble	Rubble	Rubble	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig		
OXY	171	Snapped "Nancy Gelber"		Snapped "Rebecca Sears"		Snapped "Kathleen Wise"		Buried in the Backyard		Buried in the Backyard		Buried "2000 lb Secret"		Accident "Fatal Vows"		Accident, Suicide			
PARMT	27	Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		*** Road House (1989, Action) Kelly Lynch, Patrick Swayze. (CC)		*** Top Gun: Maverick (2022, Action) Miles Teller, Tom Cruise. (CC)											
SYFY	55	2:30 *** Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets		*** Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban ('04) Daniel Radcliffe. (CC)		*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire ('05) Daniel Radcliffe. (CC)													
TBN	68	Jeremiah	S. Furtick (N)	Harvest (N)	Hagee (N)	Joel Osteen	Kirk Today	Allen (N)	Stakelbeck	Andrea Bocelli: 30 Years of Inspiration (CC)		Andrea Bocelli: 30 Years of Inspiration (CC)							
TBS	24	2:00 NCAA		NCAA M. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)		:15 NCAA M. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)		:45 NCAA M. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)											
TCM	54	3:45 *** Oklahoma! ('55) Gordon MacRae.		:15 *** Three Sailors and a Girl ('53) Jane Powell.		*** Eat Drink Man Woman ('94) Sihung Lung.		:15 *** Knife in the Water Leon Niemczyk.											
TLC	23	90 Day: The Single Life		90 Day Fiancé		90 Day Fiancé		90 Day Fiancé: Before the 90 Days (N)											
TNT	28	NCAA M. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)		:45 NCAA M. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)		:15 NCAA M. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)		TBA											
TOON	69	WeBare	WeBare	Dog	Dog	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Rick Morty	Rick Morty	Primal		
TRUTV	40	3:00 NCAA First Round: Teams TBA (N)		TNT Sports		Dance of Destiny: A (CC)		Tip Off (N)		NCAA M. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)		NCAA M. Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)							
TVLAND	47	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Raymond	:35 Raymond	:10 Raymond	:45 Raymond	:20 Everybody Raymond		:55 Raymond	Raymond	King	King		
USA	30	Soccer Bournemouth vs. Manchester United (L) (N)		Goal Zone		Forensic		Chicago "Better to Lie"		WWE Friday Night SmackDown (CC)									
WE	61	3:30 *** Romancing the Stone Michael Douglas.		*** A Knight's Tale (2001, Action) Mark Addy, Heath Ledger.		Mama June (N)		Bridezillas (N)		Mama June									

hollywood Q&A



Gordon Ramsay stars in "Love's Kitchen"

By Adam Thomlison
TV Media

Q: Has Gordon Ramsay done any acting or is all his screen time in his reality shows?

A: Celebrity chef and famous shouter Gordon Ramsay ("Hell's Kitchen") has certainly appeared on a few things besides reality shows, but it wasn't necessarily acting.

Not because he wasn't good, but because he was still playing himself.

He's been famous in his native U.K. for longer, but when he broke into North America with the U.S. adaptation of "Hell's Kitchen" in 2005, he became a true hot commodity.

That meant being asked to riff on his reality TV persona on sitcoms and in films. This included, of course, an obligatory appearance on "The Simpsons" (in a 2011 episode called "The Food Wife") and a 2017 episode of the sitcom "New Girl."

The most notable example is probably "Love's Kitchen," a 2011 romcom about a London chef (Dougray Scott, "Mission: Impossible II," 2000) opening a restaurant in a quiet village to pursue a lovely food critic (Claire Forlani, "Mystery Men," 1999) there. Ramsay played himself again, but his role was big enough to land his name on the poster.

Your question specifically asks about screen time, which would seem to rule out cartoons. But it's worth mentioning that he's done a fair bit of those — and not just playing himself.

He's done one-off spots on hit series such as "Big Hero 6," "Mickey and the Roadster Racers" and "Phineas and Ferb" over the years.

And, with a bit of a nod to his real-world persona, he lent his voice to the 2017 big-screen feature "Smurfs: The Lost Village," playing Baker Smurf.

Q: I know "Weapons" was sort of a breakout for Julia Garner. What's she doing next?

A: It might be better to say 2025 was a breakout year for Julia Garner (previously of the buzzy drama series "Ozark"), though you might not have recognized her in her other big role.

Yes, she starred as the teacher whose students all disappear in the 2025 sleeper-hit horror film "Weapons," but she also had a central role in one of the biggest films of that year — "The Fantastic Four: First Steps."

She played beloved comic book character the Silver Surfer, but that meant being covered in layers of

Screen scramble

P I M R C T F E E E M W N O
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

I H D P E I F R S N
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

C A B K L O R M I R R
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O H U E S F O S D A C R
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

K C B R K A O E B N M A N O U I T
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Answer: □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Unscramble the letters for each word to reveal five movies and TV shows. Then, rearrange the circled letters to discover the actor who has appeared in all five.

Solution on page 19

makeup and animation, so she wasn't immediately recognizable.

As for what's next, it looks like the much more down-to-Earth miniseries "The Altruists," a true financial crime story about cryptocurrency fraud. Filming wrapped on that late last year, but no release date has been announced yet.

Beyond that it's not clear what Garner will do next — she's attached to a few projects that haven't started production.

One of those stands out from the rest, just for intrigue factor: she's reportedly signed on to play pop legend Madonna in the biopic

"Who's That Girl," which will be directed by Madonna ("Vogue") herself from a script she wrote with superstar screenwriters Diablo Cody ("Juno," 2007) and Erin Cressida Wilson ("The Girl on the Train," 2016).

The latest update on this came quite a long time ago, so there's no way to know when it will actually happen. But with so many big names actively involved, it seems like a lock to happen at some point.

Have a question? Email us at questions@tvtabloid.com. Please include your name and town. Personal replies will not be provided.

Late laughs

The Late Show With Stephen Colbert

We start our Wednesday [Feb. 4] show with more news about the Epstein files, which feels particularly disturbing on hump day. [President] Trump is so eager for all of this to go away. ... But sure, let's talk about something different, something meaningless, you know, something fun like Pokemon. Did you know that Pikachu can only evolve with a Thunderstone and that he is also in the Epstein files? Not as much as Donald Trump is, but still, when it comes to Jeffrey's creepy pals, we got to catch them all.

The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon

Today [Feb. 3], [President] Trump said that he's suing Harvard for \$1 billion in damages. Yeah, but just in case he doesn't get it, he's also suing Cornell as his safety school.

Jimmy Kimmel Live!

We're happy to have you here and thank you for joining us on our home: the American Broadcasting Company. ABC: where we do not have the Olympics. If you're tuning in for the Olympics right now, we don't have them. The only rings you will ever see on this network belong to "The Bachelor" and "The Bachelorette."

Late Night With Seth Meyers

According to a new analysis from The New York Times, the new batch of Epstein files released by the Justice Department on Friday [Jan. 30] contained more than 5,300 references to President Trump. Of course, that doesn't prove anything. I've mentioned him way more than 5,300 times, but he's never been here.

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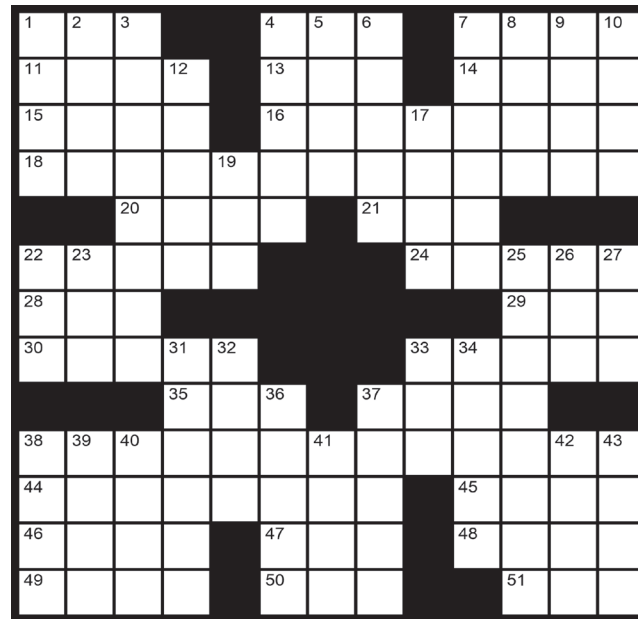
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- Tendonitis
- Bursitis
- Cartilage Damage
- Weakness in your knees
- Sharp/Shooting Pain
- Muscles Spasms
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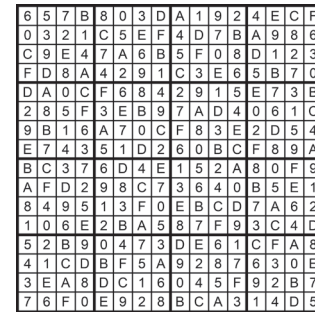
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Across

1. Grinder
4. "China Beach" setting
7. "Minimum" amount
11. Catch-22
13. Mouths, anatomically
14. Harper of "Two and a Half Men"
15. Nasty sort
16. Doctor Who is one
18. Cillian Murphy series
20. Central point
21. Palindromic Dutch city
22. Dummkopfs
24. Leading the division
28. ___ choy
29. Laugh sound
30. Take potshots (at)
33. "I've got something for ya"
35. Dockworkers' org.
37. The hole or the bucket, so to speak
38. John Ritter sitcom
44. Like Bugs, to Elmer
45. Watchdog org.?
46. Double contraction
47. Big screen letters
48. Two semesters
49. Openings
50. Bill ___, the Science Guy
51. Published
2. Desire
3. Christine of "The Good Wife"
4. "We will ___ under-sold!"
5. Seed covering
6. Mrs. Eisenhower
7. Thoreau's pond
8. Hand lotion ingredient
9. "Mr. Mom" (1983) actress Teri
10. Expires
12. Twinings product
17. Prefix with morph
19. QB's gains
22. Workout target
23. "My boy"
25. Show about the Toledo Truth Teller
26. It fits in a lock
27. Historic beginning
31. Game equipment
32. Zeno's home
33. Dot follower
34. Well-known rabbit
36. Guardian of Narnia
37. Big name in games
38. Bud holder
39. "Mary ___ Little Lamb"
40. Reply
41. Fill to excess
42. Sweet 16 org.
43. It's a long story

Down

1. Train station



**G L E N N
 L I D I A
 A L E X A
 D A M O N
 S C A N S**

Answer: K A T E M A R A
 B R O K E B A C K M O U N T A I N
 H O U S E O F C A R D S
 B L A C K M I R R O R
 F R I E N D S H I P
 I M P E R F E C T W O M E N



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