

**Inside today  
Gold Award**

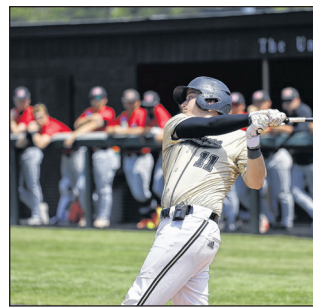
LAUREN COX

Local girl scout helps provide eye screenings to preschoolers. **Lifestyles 1C**



**AND...  
Tribe updates reenrollment process**  
**News 2A**

**In today's paper  
SPORTS:  
Braves earn top-5 win on the diamond**  
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# THE ROBESONIAN

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Saturday, April 25, 2026 • Issue 31, Volume 157

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A Fresh Perspective

Local NEWS

\$1.50

## UNCP to offer agriculture major



Photo courtesy of UNCP

Bryan Sales, left, director of the Biology and Agriculture Program, and UNCP biology student Evan Phillips, center, and Byron Hunt, right, agriculture research technician, review field conditions at UNC Pembroke's ACRES site on Deep Branch Road.

School to grow next generation of agricultural leaders with new degree

**Mark Locklear**  
For The Robesonian

PEMBROKE — Across southeastern North Carolina, the rhythm of farming hasn't changed — seeds in the ground, long days in the field, a season's worth of hope riding on what comes next. What is changing is the future of the industry itself.

Beginning in fall 2026,

UNC Pembroke will offer a new Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, a program designed to prepare students to lead the future of farming while strengthening one of the region's most vital economic engines.

The new major expands UNCP's existing agriculture concentration into a standalone degree, reflecting years of steady growth in agriculture and

animal science on campus and increasing demand for trained professionals across southeastern North Carolina.

Students in the program will combine classroom learning with laboratory work, field experiences and internships, gaining practical experience while studying subjects ranging from crop and soil science to animal health and livestock management.

"Agriculture continues to be a leading industry not only in southeastern North Carolina but across the state," said Jeffrey Beasley, Marion F. Bass Endowed Professor of Agriculture. "It's exciting to see UNCP expand its offerings in a way that connects our students directly to that industry and prepares a local pool

See UNCP | 8A

## Lumberton Housing Authority receives \$2.8M HUD grant

**Chris Stiles**  
The Robesonian

LUMBERTON — The Lumberton Housing Authority recently received a \$2.8 million grant award through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Capital Fund Program which will help the organization to fund renovations across several of its properties, it announced this week.

"The vast majority of those funds will be for some type of revitalization or community improvement, because we want our residents to be living in nice units, something they can be proud of," said Adrian Lowery, executive director of LHA.

Many of the Authority's housing units were built in the 1960s, Low-



Lowery

ery said, and are starting to show their age. This includes "systematic issues" with sewer lines, and as a result, some of the funding will be used to make repairs.

"All of our units are concrete slabs, so we're going to have to go and dig up our piping and replace a lot of our sewer lines," Lowery said.

Those projects also include plans to upgrade electrical and building envelope systems.

Some of the funding will also go towards the demolition of the Hilton Heights development on King Street after damage from hurricanes Matthew, in 2016, and Florence, in 2018.

"Our goal is to, we're

See HUD | 8A

## St. Pauls' fight against flooding

Despite millions for flood mitigation projects, town still has work to do

**Morgan Casey**  
Border Belt Independent

ST. PAULS — Daniel Holloman can rattle off by memory the areas in St. Pauls that flood during heavy rainstorms.

East McRainey Road near Mercer Branch, a tributary of the Lumber River. East Broad Street. The parking lots at St. Pauls Elementary School on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. The pond on Evans Road near the Faith Assembly of God church.

Holloman, the public works director for the Robeson County town, has been responding to high waters for almost three decades. But he says his job has gotten more pressing.

"There's more urgency to deal with it," Holloman said, "because we get bigger and heavier rains than we did 15, 20 years ago."

Storms that dump six or seven inches of water regularly flood parts of town, according to Holloman. The last named storm to hit Robeson County, Tropical Storm Debby, dropped up to eight inches and caused sewer overflows in St. Pauls.



Morgan Casey | Border Belt Independent

Daniel Holloman, the public works director for St. Pauls, shows a photo of past flooding in a drainage area along East McRainey Road.

The county was walloped in 2018 by Hurricane Florence, which brought about 22 inches of rain to Lumberton, according to the National Weather Service in Wilmington. Countless homes and businesses were destroyed, including some of those damaged two years earlier during Hurricane Matthew.

North Carolina wants to help cash-strapped small towns like St. Pauls pay for flood-mitigation projects. The General Assembly established the state Flood Resiliency Blueprint in 2021 and allocated \$96 million three years later for communities along six river basins — including the Lumber River that flows from the Sandhills

into South Carolina. The blueprint includes new flood maps and an online tool that helps officials determine mitigation strategies.

In 2024, St. Pauls began construction on stormwater infrastructure improvements using the \$200,000 it received from the blueprint. It also got more than \$2.4 million from the N.C. Office of Recovery and Resiliency in 2017 to reroute floodwater away from residential areas near Elizabeth and Johnson streets in the southern part of town.

In 2019, the Golden LEAF Foundation, a nonprofit established by the General Assembly, awarded the town about \$429,000 in a since-

completed project to identify and make stormwater improvements along North Wilkinson Drive, Britt Street, and North Sanford Street.

But Holloman said the money hasn't been enough to address all the flooding issues in St. Pauls, home to about 2,000 people in northern Robeson County.

Drainage ditches should be cleared of debris every 10 years so rainwater can flow away from town, he said. And the town's old underground clay pipes should be replaced because they are too small and brittle to handle the increased rain.

"I'm thankful for what we do get," Holloman said, "but there's a lot of stuff

See FLOODING | 8A

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**TODAY'S FORECAST**  
Increasing cloudiness and very warm, High 89, Low 64

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What's your take on today's news? Go to [robsonian.com](http://robsonian.com) and visit us on facebook to share your thoughts.

[f](#) [X](#) [@](#)

## School board hears nutrition survey results

**Victoria Sanderson**  
The Robesonian

LUMBERTON — The Public Schools of Robeson County Board of Education heard a report during Tuesday's monthly meeting on a child nutrition survey that was carried out earlier this year. The survey, which cov-

ered Littlefield Elementary, Fairgrove Elementary, Pembroke Middle School and Purnell Swett High School, found minimal issues with the food offered or the distribution methods.

No issues were found at Littlewood Elementary or Fairgrove Elementary, though Fairgrove received

a minor recommendation to improve its kitchen workflow. Pembroke Middle School received a minor recommendation to move the cashier to a spot where employees could better see the flow of food in and out of the cafeteria.

The only school where an issue was found was

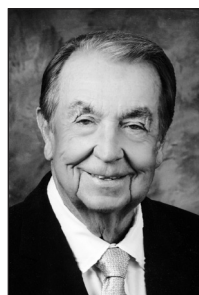
Purnell Swett High School, where some food items were not kept at the correct temperature or were unaccounted for. PSRC Assistant Superintendent Bobby Locklear said the issues were swiftly corrected, were isolated to one school,

See BOARD | 2A

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## OBITUARIES

## DR. WILLIAM ROWELL BURLESON



Dr. William Rowell Burleson, of Lumberton, passed away on April 23, 2026. He was born on June 3, 1938 to Randall and Fannie Burleson in Albemarle, NC.

Rowell graduated from Tabor City High School in 1956. He graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1960 with a BS in Chemistry.

Rowell continued his education and graduated from the University of North Carolina Medical School in 1964. After graduation, he did a one-year internship in general surgery at the University of Florida in Gainesville. After his internship, Rowell enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1966 as a lieutenant and spent a year on the USS Truckee, a fleet oiler, sailing in the Mediterranean Sea serving as the ship's doctor. After returning to the U.S. in 1967, he was based out of the Naval Air Station (NAS) in Jacksonville, Florida, as a general surgeon. In 1968 he was honorably discharged and received the National Defense Service Medal. Rowell then began a four-year medical residency program in urology at the University of Florida. He completed his residency in the spring of 1971, moved to Lumberton, and bought into the Lumberton Urology Clinic medical practice and was a beloved surgeon for 47 years before retiring in 2018 at the age of 81.

Rowell was a pillar of Robeson and surrounding counties. He was adored by his patients and coworkers for his outstanding medical care and compassion, as well as his brilliant mind and skill. During his medical career Rowell served as Chief of Staff at Southeastern Regional Medical Center, President of the Robeson County Medical Society, and served as Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine.

Rowell was also well known for his love and appreciation of the outdoors. He spent every free moment he had enjoying the outdoors, hunting and fishing with his friends, and especially with his five children. He was a very proud member of several hunting clubs, including Round Tree Hunt Club, Rowland Gun Club and East Howellsville Hunting Club. The closest to his heart, however, was The North State Game Club in Council, North Carolina, the 2nd oldest chartered hunting club in North Carolina, where he was a member since 1973. His children and grandchildren hold precious memories of hunting and fishing trips with their dad and "Granddaddy Burleson", with the most special being North States' annual Boys and Girls hunt after Christmas.

Rowell was preceded in death by his parents, Randall and Fannie Burleson, and his sister, Toby Ann Burleson.

Rowell is survived by his wife, Norma Jean Burleson, sons Scott Burleson (Elizabeth), Doug Burleson (Audrey), Jeffrey Burleson, and Lance Burleson (Tiffany); and daughter, Brooke Burleson Boyle (Matt). He was also the proud grandfather to 13 grandchildren.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to the nurses and staff of Liberty Hospice and Wesley Pines Retirement Center for their care and compassion.

Visitation and service will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2026. Visitation will take place from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., with the service starting at 3 p.m. at Chestnut Street Methodist Church, 200 East Eighth Street in Lumberton. A private family burial will follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Dr. Burleson's memory may be made to Wesley Pines Employee Christmas Fund or Chestnut Street Methodist Church.

Online condolences can be made by visiting: [www.FloydMortuary.net](http://www.FloydMortuary.net).

## KENNETH "KENNY" JULIUS POWELL



Mr. Kenneth "Kenny" Julius Powell, age 84, of Lumberton, went to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Thursday, April 23, 2026, surrounded by his children.

Kenny, as he was known by most, spend his life as a top-notch auto body repairman and painter. He worked at Jon-San Chevrolet, Jerry Johnson

Chevrolet, Freeman Motor Company, and he ran his own body shop, P and B Body Shop, for many years. Kenny was passionate about many things, but his love for gamecock roosters and bass fishing with his many friends through the Dixie Bass Masters Fishing Club were at the top of his list.

Kenny was born on Dec. 9, 1941 to the late Willie Junior & Mary Francis Tuton Powell in Columbus County. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Sheryle Haven Jones, and his wife, Mary Levonde Powell.

He is survived by his children: Wendy P. Hodge of Evergreen, and Dean Powell (Terry), Kathy Meares, Kim Miears, and Tom Powell (Sherry), all of Lumberton; his grandchildren: Jenna, TJ, Travis, Judith, Julianna, Chance, and Holly; and two great-grandchildren, Carlee and Laine Kate.

The family will receive friends and loved ones on Monday, April 27, 2026, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Floyd Mortuary & Crematory, Inc., 809 East Fifth Street in Lumberton.

A funeral service will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at 2 p.m. at Mt. Elim Baptist Church, 645 North Creek Road in Orrum, with Rev. James Graham officiating. Burial will follow in the church's cemetery.

Online condolences can be made by visiting: [www.FloydMortuary.net](http://www.FloydMortuary.net).

## JAMES ARTHUR SIMPSON



James Arthur Simpson was born on Nov. 16, 1956, in Lumberton to Rudolph F. Simpson and Margarette D. Simpson. He attended Lumberton High School and began a career in over the road trucking, eventually transitioning to an instructor in a trucking school.

Diabetes limited his life and eventually took both legs but not his vigor and vitality. He loved boating, fishing, camping and hanging out with friends. His resilience to suffering was incredible but eventually diabetes had the upper hand.

He passed on April 9, 2025, at Roanoke Memorial Hospital with his family at his side. Jim was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Shirley Sturdivant. He is survived by his brother, Randy Simpson, along with his sister-in-law, Cynthia Simpson, five nieces, three nephews and their children.

A gathering of friends will be held on the patio at the Lumberton Hampton Inn from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on May 1. Light snacks will be provided. Please contact Randy Simpson for further information: <https://www.facebook.com/randy.simpson.3139>.



## Board

From page 1A

and were not indicative of a systemic issue in the school's food distribution.

The board also approved a list of construction projects recommended by the construction committee. These projects, while approved, will not start immediately; they are added to the existing list of approved projects.

The approved projects are as follows:

- Paving behind Magnolia Elementary School.
- Staff paving at

Parkton Elementary School.

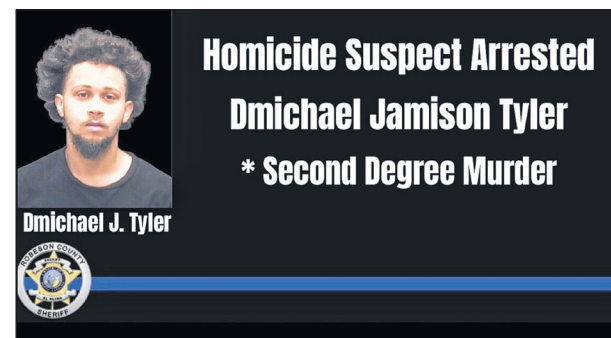
— Resealing and restriping the Red Springs High School parking lot.

— Partial completion of the athletic complex at Red Springs.

Additionally, the board approved the PSRC Additional Teacher Supplement fund, which will give eligible teachers a maximum of \$3,556. The board also approved the purchase of the Cengix security system, which the schools have already been using.

The board's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12.

Contact Victoria Sanderson at [vsanderson@robsonian.com](mailto:vsanderson@robsonian.com).



## Man charged in fatal shooting near Fairmont

Staff report

FAIRMONT — A Fairmont man was arrested and charged with second-degree murder in connection with a homicide that occurred late Wednesday night in the Fairmont area. The incident remains under investigation by the Robeson County Sheriff's Office.

Dmichael J. Tyler, 22, of Fairmont was taken into custody Thursday. He is currently being held at the Robeson County Detention Center without bond.

Wednesday, at approximately 11:10 p.m., deputies responded to the 1600 block of J.W. Road, southwest of Fairmont, in reference to an individual shot. Upon arrival, Deputies located 21-year-old Christian B. Tyler of Fairmont, who was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Dmichael Tyler is the uncle of Christian Tyler, RCSO told The Robesonian.

Anyone with information about the case is asked to contact 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 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."

## Lumbee Tribe cuts enrollment update wait time by bringing updates online

Staff report

PEMBROKE — Beginning this week, the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina will begin accepting enrollment updates online. Lumbee citizens who are updating their enrollment may go into the Tribal portal on the Lumbee Tribe website at [www.lumbee Tribe.com](http://www.lumbee Tribe.com) to complete the process versus coming to the Tribal headquarters in Pembroke.

Tribal Chairman John Lowery has been working with the staff and tribal council for several months to make the new change a reality.

"This initiative reflects our continued commitment to meeting the evolving needs of our community," Lowery said. "By embracing digital tools, we are working to reduce many of the barriers our members have faced, including travel constraints, long wait times, and delays with paperwork."

Tribal citizens can see a step-by-step walk-through of the online process on the Lumbee Tribe website at [www.lumbee Tribe.com](http://www.lumbee Tribe.com).

Lowery said once citizens put in their updated application on the portal, the system will automatically send them an email with their case number which tells them that a representative will be contacting them about picking up their card. Citizens are still required to pick up the card in-person at the Lumbee Tribe Housing Complex. You must bring a valid form of ID for verification at the time of pickup.

Citizens may still update their enrollment in person at the Lumbee Tribe Housing Complex if they choose to do so.

For more information or questions about enrollment, you may reach the enrollment staff at [enrollment@lumbee Tribe.com](mailto:enrollment@lumbee Tribe.com)



## THE ROBESONIAN

Champion Media  
(USPS 467-40)

910-739-4322

Publishes every Wednesday and Saturday  
eEdition and in print.

If you have a newspaper delivery concern  
please call weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Prices are subject to change at any time.

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Contributed photos | Viv Tolson Wayne

Participants in the Good Trouble March, held Saturday near St. Pauls, marched in protest of the PFAS contamination in the area surrounding the Robeson County Landfill.

## ‘Good Trouble March’ protests PFAS contamination near landfill

Chris Stiles  
The Robesonian

ST. PAULS — More than 80 people participated in a “Good Trouble March” last Saturday to protest PFAS contamination in the area surrounding the Robeson County Landfill near St. Pauls.

The event was sponsored by the Lumberton Alumnae Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. It began at the residence of organizer Viv Tolson Wayne, at a location on Britt Road near the landfill entrance, and included a march to the landfill gate and back.

“We gathered together, we said a prayer and a scripture, and we had a few guests and they spoke,” Tolson Wayne said. “Then we gathered up and marched across the road (to the landfill gate).”

St. Pauls Community Action for Progress (CAP), Araminta Ross Legacy Circle and the Robeson County Cooperative for Sustainable Development also supported the event.

“I felt strong about it,” Tolson Wayne said. “I

hope we used our voice and our good trouble chant and singing to get the message across. We hope that they do something; we just want to bring awareness to the landfill issue as much as we can. What we’ve done, we’ve met, we’ve signed petitions, so the march was just one of several things that we’ve done. We’ve gone to commission meetings. ... If they don’t hear us, we’ll continue to make noise, get into some good trouble, and hopefully they’ll hear us soon.”

Tolson Wayne says that Robeson County needs to fix the problems with PFAS contamination around the landfill, including at the Rocco Water Treatment Plant, and should do so by no longer accepting solid waste from other counties at the landfill and by not pursuing a proposed landfill expansion.

“PFAS chemicals have been associated with significant health risks, including cancer, liver damage, thyroid disorders and weakened immune system function,” Tolson Wayne said.



Participants in the Good Trouble March, held Saturday near St. Pauls, march in protest of the PFAS contamination in the area surrounding the Robeson County Landfill.

The Southern Environmental Law Center, in January, filed a letter of intent to file suit against the county for alleged violations of the Clean Water Act and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. Residents have spoken out on the PFAS contamination repeatedly in Robeson County Board of Commissioners meetings for about the last year.

The Rocco facility has

the highest PFAS readings of any water treatment facility in North Carolina, SELC says, and the highest levels of GenX, one type of PFAS chemical, of any facility in the country. The chemicals are also showing up in testing at private wells in the area and in the water within Big Marsh Swamp, SELC says.

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

## Community leaders recognize April as Child Abuse Prevention Month

Staff report

LUMBERTON — Robeson County is proud to join Positive Childhood Alliance North Carolina and communities across the state in recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month 2026. This month, nonprofits, government agencies, educators, policymakers, health care providers, faith communities, and local businesses are coming together to share a common message. Every one of us has a role to play in supporting children and families.

“This year’s Child Abuse Prevention Month theme, ‘Positive Childhoods Start With Us,’ reminds us that everyone has a role in creating the conditions children and families need to thrive,” said Sharon Hirsch, President and CEO of Positive Childhood Alliance North Carolina. “When we all work together to strengthen communities and support all families, we build a stronger future for us all.”

Child Abuse Prevention Month is a call to action — an opportunity for community members to learn, engage, and help build a Robeson County where every family has

the support they need and every child has the chance to reach their full potential.

### Shape Pinwheels take root in Downtown Lumberton

This April, whimsical blue pinwheels — the national symbol of child abuse prevention — have been planted at several locations throughout downtown Lumberton, sparking conversation about what children and families need to thrive.

Robeson County Guardian ad Litem District Administrator Amy Hall and staff, along with District Court Judge Krystle Melvin, coordinated a meaningful planting ceremony at the entrance to the courthouse and hung a commemorative banner on the courthouse steps in recognition of this important cause. Additionally, ROAR — Robeson Overcoming Adversity Through Resilience — hosted a planting near the Exploration Station and Robeson County Partnership for Children in downtown Lumberton.

“We are deeply grateful to our community partners for hosting and supporting these awareness events. A pinwheel

garden is more than a symbol — it is a commitment. Together with our community partners, we stand united in protecting our children, raising awareness, and ensuring every child grows up in a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment,” said District Court Judge Krystle Melvin. “There are currently over 400 children in the custody of our local social services due to abuse, neglect, and/or dependency. It is a real issue, and we need to raise awareness. We also need more foster parents, more Guardian ad Litem volunteers, and more resources to address root causes, such as, substance abuse. So, we also hope that these events help spur people into action.”

### Local organizations strengthening families every day

Two local organizations are on the front lines of supporting children and families in Robeson County year-round:

Guardian ad Litem provides trained volunteer advocates for children involved in the court system for abuse, neglect, and dependency. These advocates ensure

that every child’s voice is heard and their best interests are represented.

ROAR (Robeson Overcoming Adversity Through Resilience) is a coalition of dedicated community stakeholders who meet monthly to learn, collaborate, and raise awareness about ACEs — adverse childhood experiences — and their impact on lifelong health and wellbeing. ROAR focuses on five key protective factors proven to buffer the effects of ACEs and reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect. Robeson County Partnership for Children serves as the backbone agency for coordination and fiscal support.

Child abuse prevention is everyone’s responsibility. Here are meaningful ways to take action:

- Wear blue throughout April to show your support and spark conversations about child abuse prevention
- Volunteer with Guardian Ad Litem and become a voice for a child in need
- Join the ROAR coalition and help build community resilience

- Explore more ways to get involved at positive-childhoodalliancenc.org.

## Fairmont honors town staff

Victoria Sanderson  
The Robesonian

FAIRMONT — Mayor Charles Kemp honored the Town of Fairmont’s administrative staff with plaques for Administrative Professionals Day during Tuesday’s board meeting.

Kemp thanked the members of the board, alongside several other town staff members and the town’s police department, for their dedicated service to the town and their continued efforts to make Fairmont a better place.

Additionally, the board heard a summary of the 2024-2025 fiscal

year audit by Meredith Singletary of S. Preston Douglas & Associates. Singletary said the town’s general fund has decreased slightly, with the unassigned portion at 27.46%, slightly below the target.

The board also approved S. Preston Douglas & Associates to conduct the town’s 2025-2026 audit.

Finally, the board approved the first step of a voluntary annexation of a property off Church Street. The first step allows the board to acknowledge the receipt of the request.

Contact Victoria Sanderson at vsanderson@robesonian.com.

## Lumberton Junior Service League announces academic scholarship

Staff report

LUMBERTON — The Lumberton Junior Service League (LJSL) announced its 2026 Academic Scholarship opportunity, designed to support and empower young women in Robeson County as they pursue higher education.

The scholarship is open to female graduates of Public Schools of Robeson County (PSRC) for the Class of 2026 who demonstrate academic achievement, community involvement, and a commitment to furthering their education.

Eligibility Requirements Include:

- Minimum 3.0 GPA
- Must be a 2026 female graduate of PSRC

- Completion of at least 25 hours of community service
- Acceptance into a two-year or four-year

college or university — Submission of a completed application and essay

The application deadline has been extended to May 1, providing students additional time to apply for this valuable opportunity.

Applications may be submitted to the LJSL Scholarship Committee at P.O. Box 585, Lumberton.

Students are encouraged to contact their school counselor or a member of the Lumberton Junior Service League for more information on how to apply.

The Lumberton Junior Service League remains committed to investing in the future of young women in the community by providing educational support and recognizing those who exemplify leadership, service, and academic excellence.

## 4th annual concert to honor late musicians

Staff report

LUMBERTON — The fourth annual ROB-STOCK charity concert will be held at Carter’s Restaurant, located at the Pinecrest Country Club on Saturday, May 2, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Proceeds from ROB-STOCK IV go to the families of late musicians. Tickets are \$20 at the door.

For the past three years, the annual concert has raised money to provide scholarships for Robeson County high school students pursuing arts-based education at a North Carolina university in honor of Keith Ross, Kent Prevatte and Jamie Scott.

Robeson County Band of Brothers, the organization founded by Brad Davis — a former Lumberton resident, musician and executive director of the organization — is a passion project. After the 2022 passing of Keith Ross, a local guitarist known for his work in many bands since the 1980s, Davis called his high school friends to reunite and hold a concert. This

year Davis and the organization are heading up their fourth installment.

This year’s concert is a tribute to David Smith, a member of Ashes to Ashes. Smith passed away in 2025.

Last year the organization donated proceeds from the event to the family of Jamie Scott, another local musician that passed unexpectedly the previous year. Robeson County Band of Brothers also sponsored 10 senior trips to Carowinds for Lumberton High School students in that same year. ROB-STOCK IV will include performances by Ashes to Ashes, 11:59, Delgado, CODA and DJ Maurice Floyd.

Sponsors for the event include The Robesonian, Carter’s Restaurant, GMC Construction of NC, Cakes, Pastries & More, Trust Mortgage, Olympus Computer Services, Stocker Trading Company, Davis & Son’s Automotive and RDP Graphics.

For information and donations, visit www.facebook.com/robeson-countybandofbrothers.

# Editorial

4A Saturday, April 25, 2026

The Robesonian

## OPINION SHAPER

### The short, fateful legislative session

“Lock up your daughters and horses, the legislature is back in town,” a statement sometimes said in jest. Whether humorous or not it is notice that our lawmakers are back in session. The so-called “short session” has recently become anything but short; some have dragged on until the end of the calendar year.



**Tom Campbell**  
Contributing columnist

Don't get your hopes up this one will be short. The 2025 session was not highly productive and there are many, potentially controversial and explosive issues to consider. And let's not forget that legislative elections will take place Nov. 3. If the session hasn't concluded its work by late August incumbents will want time to go home and campaign. Regardless of when it concludes we predict this session will determine the fate of large numbers of people and issues.

None are perhaps more visible than passing a budget. There are several potential roadblocks standing in its way; none so large as the question of what Phil Berger are we going to experience? Berger has been the primary force in legislative decision-making in recent years, but is now a lame duck, having lost his primary election. Will Berger be more accommodating, wanting to leave office by polishing his legacy so as to be remembered kindly, or will we see the more defiant Berger, insistent on getting his way?

If past is prologue, expect the latter option. It is commonly accepted that our state would likely have passed a budget last year but for Berger's steadfast insistence on issues, most especially on tax cuts. Lawmakers had agreed on cuts in personal income tax rates from 3.9% to 3.4% starting this July and that agreement would have carved off another one-half percent for the year beginning in July 2027, but there was a provision that if conditions warranted, the 2.99% rate would be postponed. A consensus budget forecast has predicted that such a cut would result in a structural deficit of \$2.8 billion for the fiscal year beginning next July. Berger insisted that deficit wouldn't happen and held fast on the further tax cut. The House, the Governor and a host of others believed the forecast accurate and wanted to delay the cut. On session opening House Speaker Destin Hall said that real progress is being made toward getting a budget passed. If so, we might get an insight on the Berger question.

Any budget would have contained pay raises for our teachers and state employees, but there were significant differences between Berger's Senate and the House on how much to increase pay. Teachers and state employees are extremely unhappy... and they vote, as incumbent legislators are aware. There were other points of disagreement, including whether to build another children's hospital. The Senate urged its passage, the House demurred, saying the state already have enough and could use the money elsewhere.

But then there was Trump's Big Beautiful Bill, which took an axe to Medicaid payments to states. Our Department of Health and Human Services says North Carolina's Medicaid account will run out of money in May unless a \$319 million hole is plugged, impacting some 3.1 million residents. On opening day, it was announced an agreement had been reached to fund Medicaid, however unanswered is funding for the coming fiscal year.

The BBB bill also transferred the administration and financial responsibility of SNAP benefits to local counties. They want the estimated \$52 million cost paid by the state. Some legislative leaders say the state doesn't have the money, obviously not true since the state has billions in reserves.

Simultaneously, legislators are considering a constitutional amendment on November's ballot which would restrict how much and how quickly cities and counties could raise property taxes. This amendment might be popular with homeowners, but you can expect full court opposition from cities and counties. Up to 40% of their revenues come from property taxes and these restrictions could put locally elected officials between a rock and hard place. On one hand they face increasing costs for everything; on the other potential restrictions will impact how to pay them.

It is easy to see how these issues will determine the fate of teachers, our schools, education, healthcare and many other services to people. As previously acknowledged lawmakers understand their votes could also impact their own fates come election day. Already, more than 10 of the 170 incumbent legislators won't return come January 2027 because of primary defeats or resignations and there are contested races in many districts. Lawmakers' votes this summer could determine the fate of which political party is in charge come January.

The bottom line is that perhaps more than normal we will watch closely what happens in this short session and encourage you to do the same.

Tom Campbell is a Hall of Fame North Carolina broadcaster and columnist who has covered North Carolina public policy issues since 1965. Contact him at [tomcamp@carolinabroadcasting.com](mailto:tomcamp@carolinabroadcasting.com).



## THEY SAID IT

“A yes vote on this would mean they authorize gaming along with these changes to authorize people to implement. If the people vote yes, it will be gaming; if they vote no, it will be the constitution stays the same and nothing changes, we will not game.”

— *Lumbee Tribal Speaker Alex Baker on the constitutional amendment, which Tribal Council approved on April 16 to advance to a public referendum later this year, which would authorize and regulate gaming in tribal territory*

\*\*\*  
“(My wife and I) get a lot of

praise for taking over the fire station, but honestly, this has been a joint effort. We have had so much support from the community and city, moral support and financial support. We've received donations of fire station paraphernalia from the fire department. Everybody loves that building.”

— *Tommy Vickers on the ribbon-cutting at the historic firehouse in downtown Lumberton after renovations on the building*

\*\*\*  
“This is not just any health and wellness center; it will be a health and wellness center that you all create. It is your vision. We have

experiences in North Carolina, but what we want to build with you is what you need.”

— *Trillium Health Resources CEO Joy Futrell on a \$1 million donation to the Lumbee Tribe to help build a health and wellness center*

\*\*\*

“The younger a child is, the less they can tell you. They can't tell you they can't see well if that's all they've ever known, they don't even know they have a problem.”

— *Lauren Cox, a local girl scout, who organized eye scans for preschoolers for her Gold Award project*

## HIS VIEW

### Ziggy quickly down to five lives

I would like to share a story, my preferred kind, in which I get to play the hero.

It was Saturday and I had just nestled into my recliner with Bud Light No. 1, where my plan was to unwind from an arduous day of sleeping late, watching golf, napping, and then playing golf, when I heard a cat in obvious pain, shrieking repeatedly at the front door. I opened the door to what I knew would be a change of plans, and in sprinted Ziggy, the latest addition to the cat colony, left jaw puffy, and looking toward me for some relief.

Now a bit about Ziggy for those who do not begin their weekends by reading what I have drained from my brain: Ziggy, a female tabby who I would guess is 2 or 3 months old, arrived at my home recently by invitation, having been plucked from sure death at Pinecrest Golf Course. Clearly injured, she was crawling around, looking with no avail for food, water and attention, in danger

of being crushed by an E-Z-Go.

Having decided I could not witness her death, I gave her a lift to my place, dropped her off with some food and water, and found her standing in the exact same spot when I arrived home from work six hours later.

I took her to Dr. David Brooks, a wonderful vet and better human being, and while euthanasia was discussed, he believed Ziggy

had a chance at a good life, and a strong if not complete recovery from what he diagnosed as a previous accident that left her with two broken knees. He was correct, and in the impending weeks, Ziggy has shown progress, now running, jumping, and doing cat-like things, including curiously expanding her territory into The Jungle behind my house.

There, apparently, is where she encountered a copperhead, probably on the move looking to quench a thirst, and

while copperheads once showed themselves frequently at my home, the only snakes I now find are carcasses. By my count, there have been 14 copperheads who regretted

trespassing onto my lawn, the first four dispatched by me, and the most recent 10 by the felines.

It's a symbiotic relationship. But Ziggy, not at full strength but curious as a cat will be, apparently took a

strike to the jaw. I called Dr. Brooks, looking for no more than assurance, but he was at the clinic at 7 p.m. on a Saturday, and Ziggy and I were too 15 minutes later. He agreed with my snakebite theory and thus began Ziggy's four-day stay in a cage and a slow and steady recovery.

In her short life, Ziggy has survived being run over and a copperhead bite. She needs a better name to reflect her desire to live, perhaps Sisyphus.

I know what you are thinking because I gave this story a test run on Facebook, where it was near unanimous that I am a wonderful human being and Heaven bound. But I also lied on Facebook when, tongue deeply in cheek, I said, “Good thing I am rich.”

I am not, nor am I poor, but I am poorer now than a week ago.

I will share only this: Boots, Robeson County's most fabulous and famous feline, arrived at my house almost eight years ago, and while I have not crunched the numbers, I think that Ziggy in a single month has taken over the title of Most Expensive Adoptee.

Knowing what I know now, if I could go back a month to when Ziggy was zigzagging around at Pinecrest CC, looking for a lifeline, I would do the same thing.

What's unclear is what will expire first, my money or Ziggy's lives. By my count she is down to five.

Reach Donnie Douglas by email at [ddouglas521@hotmail.com](mailto:ddouglas521@hotmail.com).



**Donnie Douglas**  
Contributing columnist

SUNDAY SCHOOL

# No vending machine Savior

Have you ever stood in front of a snack machine, watching your purchase get stuck between the glass and that turning mechanism? You look around to make sure no one's watching, then give the machine a slight bump. After a few tries, it escalates to a stronger shove. Before long, you're banging on the glass or rocking it side to side, demanding, "Give me what I paid for!" Sometimes it falls your way. Many times it doesn't.

Here is an honest assessment of so many of us, myself included: we've all been guilty of treating Jesus like a vending machine. We put in the requested amount of prayer, press the button for what we want, and expect it to be dispensed accordingly. We want the marriage fixed, the diagnosis reversed, the job secured, the kid straightened out. And when it doesn't happen on our timeline or in our preferred way, we feel cheated, disappointed, maybe even abandoned.

But here's what we so often forget: Jesus never promised to be a vending machine. He promised to be a Savior. And those are two very different things. A vending machine gives you what you want, when you want it, exactly as you ordered it. A Savior gives you what you actually need, in the way you actually need it, even when it looks nothing like what you asked for.

This reality plays out in one of Jesus' resurrection appearances in the Gospels — the road to Emmaus encounter in Luke 24. In this encounter, two disciples spend an entire afternoon walking with the risen Jesus, having an in-depth theological conversation with Him, and they have absolutely no idea who He is. Not because Jesus is trying to trick them, but because their expectations have blinded them to the reality right in front of them.

In Luke's perspective, this is actually the first post-resurrection appearance of Jesus. You'd think such a momentous occasion would happen at an important place with important people — at the tomb, the Temple or before the gathered disciples. But Jesus doesn't work that way. He appears on a dusty road, a couple of hours' walk outside Jerusalem, to two followers who have never been mentioned before: Cleopas and an unnamed companion. These two disciples are discussing the week's events — a potentially dangerous conversation in a society where talking about someone the Romans considered a political threat could get you executed. Yet they speak openly with this stranger about their hopes that Jesus "was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel." Notice the past tense: "We had hoped." Their hope died on the cross three days earlier.

What's clear from their words is that the redemption they anticipated wasn't spiritual — it was social and political. Like many Jewish people of their time, they expected a deliverer who would free them from the empire's oppression, not so much from the oppression of their sin. With Jesus, they anticipated a change in their personal fortune, a flipping of the script where they would become the authoritative power. But then He died. Worse, He was killed by the very people they expected him to overthrow.

Haven't we all felt that kind of disappointment? We pray fervently for healing or resolution, expecting one specific outcome, only to be left empty-handed. We're told to "just pray about it, and God will reveal himself," but the revelation never comes — at least not in the form we expected. We must be careful about expecting something of Christ when he has plainly told us who and what kind of redeemer He is. Sometimes we miss Jesus not because He's absent, but because of our misplaced expectations and demands.

As these two followers of Jesus continue their estimated seven-mile journey from Jerusalem to Emmaus, the unrecognized Christ would continue to walk and talk with them, but they still fail to recognize him. Finally reaching Emmaus that evening, the travelers convince Jesus to stay for a meal. As they sit down to eat, "He took the bread and blessed it. Then He broke it and gave it to them" (v. 30). That's when it happens. Something about that specific gesture — the way He breaks the bread, the way He blesses it, maybe the scars on his hands — suddenly their eyes are opened. They recognize Him. Then He's gone. Stunned, they realize they'd felt a burning in their hearts while He'd been talking on the journey. They'd felt something but couldn't name it because He didn't look like what they'd been expecting.

Here's what I want you to remember: Just because Jesus doesn't show up the way you expected doesn't mean He's not showing up. You prayed for provision, and instead of a job offer, you got a community that rallied around you. That's Jesus. You prayed for healing, and instead of a cure, you got peace that transcends understanding. That's Jesus. You prayed for clarity, and instead of a detailed roadmap, you got the courage to take the next step. That's Jesus. That's the Lord walking with you, teaching you, revealing Himself — not necessarily in the way you expected, but in the way you actually need. He often shows up in ordinary moments, in overlooked places, to overlooked people. If all you ever do is look for the spectacular, you just might miss the sacred.

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](mailto:joshowens@fbclumbertonnc.org).

CHURCH OF THE WEEK



**Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church**  
 — Pastor: Pastor C.J. Ross  
 — Address: 668 W. McDuffie Crossing Road, St. Pauls  
 — Phone: 910-865-4701  
 — Service schedule: Sunday services, Sunday school, 10 a.m., and worship service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday services, Noonday Prayer, every first Wednesday at noon, C.E. Program, every first Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and Bible Study, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
 — Denomination: Baptist

— Established: 1874  
 — Congregation: 100  
 — Favorite scripture: Luke 12:48

"But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more."

The Church of the Week feature is a free service provided by The Robesonian. If you would like your church featured, contact Editor Chris Stiles at [cstiles@robsonian.com](mailto:cstiles@robsonian.com).

CHURCH CALENDAR

ONGOING

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

**Berea Baptist Church**, at 120 N. Odum St. in Pembroke, holds a regular grief share meeting at 6 p.m. each Wednesday. Griefshare is a 13-week support ministry for those grieving the death of a loved one. To register visit online at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org).

**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. Rev. Charles P. Locklear is the pastor.

**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. This week's "Come Follow Me" lesson is "No Weapon That Is Formed against You Shall Prosper" from Doctrine and Covenants 71-75. Find details at <https://www.churchofjesus-christ.org/>.

**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. Roosevelt Scott is the senior pastor.

**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. Rev. Cycachee Scott is the pastor.

**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. Apostle Marcia Lassiter is the pastor. The phone number is 910-280-0509.

**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. YPCW is at 6 p.m. and Bible Study at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. Dr. Delora A. LeSane is the pastor.

**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. Pastors will be Apostle Michael E. Goings and Overseer Dr. Louise Goings.

**Pentecostal United Holy Church**, 2300 Gavintown Road, Lumberton. Elder Raymond Pearson, and special music by the Men's Choir. Everyone is invited. Bishop Russell Rogers, Pastor. For more information, call 910-734-6173.

**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#). The prayer leader is Sister Shelia Caviness-Branyon. Email a prayer request to [powerinword@aol.com](mailto:powerinword@aol.com).

**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. Rev. S.

Lomax Bryant is the pastor.

**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. The nondenominational church is open to everyone with no appointment needed, the church is sponsored in part by Waccamaw Chapel Food Pantry. Call 910 359 8030 for more information.

**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. Rev. Carl Pevia is the church pastor. For more information call 910-733-2592, 910- 774-0707.

**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.. Sunday School will begin at 10 a.m. followed by Sunday Morning Service at 11 a.m.

**St. Marks Lutheran Church**, 202 West 24th St., Lumberton; 910-739-2329, [stmarksln.org](http://stmarksln.org). Sunday School meets at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays, Worship Service is at 10:30 p.m. Sundays. Fellowship begins at 11:30 a.m.

**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 Rev. Randy Freeman is the pastor.

**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. Dr. Martine Spencer is the president.

For your church event to be included in the Church Calendar, send it to Editor Chris Stiles at [cstiles@robsonian.com](mailto:cstiles@robsonian.com).

**THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE**

My soul is among lions;  
I lie among the sons of men who are set on fire, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

Psalm 57:4

Detail of "Mondnacht" by George Grosz (1916)

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**LUMBERTON**  
North Carolina  
Chamber of Commerce

COMMITTED TO BUSINESS



April  
2026



A PUBLICATION OF THE LUMBERTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# News & Bulletin

## CHAMBER GOLF CLASSIC May 14th at Pine Crest Golf Club



The 32nd Annual Chamber Golf Classic will tee off at Pine Crest Golf Club on Thursday, May 14th. This year's event begins at 11am with a catered lunch by Outback Steakhouse, beverages by Pepsi Bottling Ventures, LLC and Healy Wholesale Company, Inc. Hole-in-one prize is sponsored by Peterson Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram of Lumberton. Captain's choice play begins with a shotgun start at noon. Entry fee is \$75.00 per golfer which includes One Mulligan, One Ladies Tee, and lunch. Also included in the package are the cart, green fees, gift bag and beverages. Suzanne Abbott is this year's Golf Tournament Chair. Suzanne is the owner of Abbott Insurance Services, LLC. The finance committee members are Suzanne Abbott, Crystal Collins, Rose & Alan Avant, Linda Branch, Monica Herring, Erika Nolley and Cindy Kern. We hope to see you there!

### THE LUMBERTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <b>Mark Morse</b> -Chairman-Chick-fil-A                        | <b>Mickey Gregory</b> -Retired                                | <b>Tito Massol</b> -CenterWell Home Health          | <b>Tim Little</b> - Robeson County Partnership for Children |
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| <b>Linda Branch</b> -7th Wave Properties, LLC                  | <b>James Bass</b> -UNCP/GPAC                                  |   |   |

## THE SWEET SPOT BOUTIQUE CUTS THE RIBBBON



A ribbon cutting was held recently at The Sweet Spot Boutique located at 1500 N. Roberts Avenue, Suite A (beside Deal King Service Center) in Lumberton. The owner of the shop is Krystal Blanton. Krystal had a goal to own her own business on day. Guided by Mark Wilkins of The Deal King of Lumberton her dream



became a reality. Krystal graduated from Robeson Community College and attends Lander University with a concentration in business Administration. The Boutique has clothing and accessories and is open Monday-Thursday 10-4 and Friday and Saturday 9-6. Be sure to stop by and shop with her!

## HISTORIC LUMBERTON STATION CUTS THE RIBBBON



Downtown Lumberton welcomed new energy last week as Lumberton Station celebrated its ribbon-cutting. Community members, local leaders, and supporters gathered to mark the transformation of this historic space into a vibrant destination for connection and growth.

Owned and developed by Tommy and Gidget Vickers, the project reflects a strong commitment to preserving Lumberton's character while fueling its future. Adding to the excitement is the upcoming Ladder Company Cafe, a firehouse-inspired café that will bring

artisan sandwiches and fresh lunch options to the heart of downtown.

The event showcased the continued momentum in downtown Lumberton, with Lumberton Station and the Ladder Company Cafe serving as a spark for revitalization, community pride, and new opportunities.

Pictured is Tommy and Gidget Vickers cutting the ribbon along with Chamber Chair Mark Morse, Mayor Bruce Davis, City Manager Wayne Horne, Council members Karen Higley, Melissa Robinson, Alfred Douglas, Owen Thomas, John Carroll, Leroy Rising, and Britt Wilson.

Committed to your business!

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Find us on Facebook #TrendingInRobeson



## 2026 STORIES & SOUNDS

Hear the Stories, Feel the Sound



3PM Sunday, May 3rd @ The Kinship NC 304 N Elm

FREE

**Tonya Holy Elk & Lakota John**

Poetry/Acoustic Guitar










The Robeson County History Museum

Presents

## America 250

1776 -2026

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### Free Event

Saturday, May 2, 2026

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Museum Garden

101 South Elm Street  
Lumberton, NC



## Free Tools For Your Business

LET US HELP YOU GROW!



5/12	Dynamite Marketing On A Firecracker Budget(Online)	6:30pm
5/14	Bookkeeping Made Easy (Online)	6:00pm
5/19	Marketing For Success (Online)	2:00pm
5/26	How To Price Your Product Or Service (Online)	10:00am

For More Information  
Contact Debbie Bruce  
Phone 910-272-3631  
Email [dbruce@robeson.edu](mailto:dbruce@robeson.edu)




### FRIENDS OF MAIN STREET PRESENTS ALIVE AFTER 5 DOWNTOWN LUMBERTON 2026 CONCERT LINEUP:

- **May 14** – The Sand Band
- **May 21** – The Tams
- **May 28** – Band of Oz
- **June 4** – Blackwater Band
- **June 11** – Jim Quick & Coastline

<h4 style="text-align: center;">REASONS TO JOIN THE LUMBERTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE</h4> <p><b>Networking Opportunities</b> This is one of the most important benefits of membership. Networking and new business contacts help your business grow. We hold a number of daytime networking events and our very successful monthly Business After Hours each month offering you an opportunity to introduce yourself and your business to other Chamber members.</p> <p><b>Credibility</b> 69% of consumers believe that chamber membership is a sign of a reputable,</p>	<p>stable business. 70% believe that it demonstrates that you use good business practices. Being a member of the Chamber gives your business credibility.</p> <p><b>Resource Center</b> Experts from our community partners work closely with Chamber members providing help to achieve your business goals.</p> <p><b>Visibility</b> Members are provided with a Chamber plaque to display in their respective business.</p> <p><b>Business Referral Services</b> We get hundreds of on-line searches and</p>	<p>calls each year from individuals asking that we refer a business to fill their needs. We refer only Chamber members.</p> <p><b>Publicity &amp; Exposure</b> Chamber members receive real exposure through our website, Chamber Business Directory, Chamber newsletter and member web links.</p> <p><b>Signature Events Sponsorship</b> You can highlight your business by sponsoring signature programs and events that are open to the community: Leadership Lumberton, Chamber Golf Classic, Lumberton Christmas Parade and the Chamber Annual Chairman's Gala. Additionally, our monthly</p>	<p>networking events provide excellent exposure for the member.</p> <p><b>Public Affairs</b> Get pro-active by joining a committee within the Chamber such as Membership or Ambassadors.</p> <p><b>Quality of Life</b> The Chamber provides the opportunity to "MAKE THINGS HAPPEN" by working together for the betterment of Lumberton and Robeson County.</p> <p>Now is the time to Join Lumberton Area Chamber of Commerce. <b>Call Cindy at 910-739-4750 today.</b> • (910) 671-9722 - Fax • <a href="mailto:lumbertonchamber@bellsouth.net">lumbertonchamber@bellsouth.net</a></p>
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## New Member!

The Sweet Spot Boutique

1500 N. Roberts Avenue,  
Suite A

Lumberton, NC 28358  
**Krystal Blanton**

Phone: 910-734-6009  
[ksthesweetspot@gmail.com](mailto:ksthesweetspot@gmail.com)

WeShine Boutique

2008 N. Pine Street  
Lumberton, NC 28358

Sheree King

Phone: 910-674-8456,  
910-370-0741  
Email: [snm061586@gmail.com](mailto:snm061586@gmail.com)

Byrd's Computer Service, LLC

Ethan Byrd

PO Box 7502  
Lumberton, NC 28359

910-316-1674

Email: [support@byrdscomputerservice.com](mailto:support@byrdscomputerservice.com)

## Sign up today and become a member!

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"God has truly blessed our business, to Him we give all the glory"

## HUD

From page 1A

going through our environmental review process right now for the demolition,” Lowery said. “But our goal, once we get that approved, is to go into a memorandum with the fire department, and give the fire department a period of time for them to be able to do some training, because those are some two-story units.”

Lowery also said that LHA is working to bring some units at Turner Terrace, off of MLK Jr. Drive, that have been “offline” since Matthew, back to inhabitability.

The remainder of the funding will help to remodel and modernize units. LHA recently completed a project to renovate the roofs at some of its units; similar work is planned on others “to make sure these units are good to go another 20 years,” Lowery said.

HUD has engaged in a multi-year commitment to improve the subsidized housing inventory while recognizing the performance and commitment of over 2,700 housing agencies that are committed to quality housing, a press release said. The funds received by the Lumberton Housing Authority are part of a \$3.17 billion national investment for 2026.

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

## UNCP

From page 1A

of educated professionals who can help keep agriculture strong and eventually step into leadership roles.”

Students can tailor their coursework around animals, crops, horticulture or a combination of those areas. The curriculum blends scientific training with hands-on learning, giving students opportunities to work directly with farms, producers and agriculture organizations across the region.

For student Joseph Bruscano, it's those real-world experiences that make the program stand out.

“Getting to work in the field has been the most valuable part of my education,” Bruscano said. “This degree will open real doors for students like me.”

The program was designed in direct response to growing student interest and workforce needs in the agriculture industry.

“We saw real demand from students who wanted deeper training in agriculture and livestock,” said

Nicolas Negrin Periera, assistant professor of animal science. “This degree gives them the scientific foundation and hands-on experience they were asking for.”

Negrin Periera helped develop the animal science core of the program, which includes courses such as Introduction to Animal Science, Animal Nutrition and Animal Physiology of Reproduction. An additional course in Animal Health and Disease is currently in development.

Students will also have opportunities to work alongside faculty on research projects hosted by local producers and regional partners, including N.C. State Cooperative Extension, cattle breeders' associations and researchers at UNC Chapel Hill. From designing experiments to collecting field data, students will gain firsthand experience addressing real agricultural challenges.

“This degree is a significant milestone for our department and a meaningful reflection of who we are as a university,” said Velinda Locklear Worriax, chair of the UNCP biology department. “It honors the deep agricultural roots

of our region while positioning UNCP to play a leading role in shaping the future of agriculture across southeastern North Carolina and the state.

“Agriculture today is not what it was a generation ago,” Worriax said. “We're preparing students to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving industry, equipping them with the knowledge, skills and adaptability they'll need to lead in a changing world.”

Eddie Moore knows that reality well. He and his brother, Luther, have farmed nearly 2,000 acres raising cattle and growing corn, soybeans, oats and hay in Robeson County for almost 40 years, building on lessons they learned growing up on their father's farm.

“Farming will humble you,” Moore said. “You plant, you tend, you harvest — and then you try to make it all add up. That last part can be the hardest. You don't control the weather, you don't always control your yield, and some years it gives more than you ever expected. Other years, it takes.”

Moore said partnerships with UNCP are helping bridge the gap between the field and the class-

room.

“Farmers haven't always done a good job telling our story,” he said. “When students come out here, they see what it really takes. They're learning, and we're learning from them, too. That's a good thing for all of us.”

Within the Biology Department, the new major also strengthens UNCP's growing role as a regional hub for research in sustainable agriculture, pollinator health and community partnerships.

“This degree is a major step forward from our previous offerings,” said Kaitlin Campbell, associate professor and assistant chair of biology. “It allows us to focus on the practical skills students need while immersing them in real-world learning, whether that's in the lab, in the field or working alongside local farms.”

Campbell teaches entomology and pest management, both core courses in the new major, along with an elective in beekeeping. Her classes include service-learning and Indigenous cultures and communities' designations, connecting students with local growers and tribal partners.

Students conduct insect surveys on Native American-owned farms, contribute to a long-term biodiversity study at the Lumbee Tribe Cultural Center and install twig-nesting bee houses across campus to support native pollinators.

Bryan Sales, associate professor and director of the Biology and Agriculture Program, said the new degree creates a clear pathway for students to enter one of North Carolina's most vital industries.

“We're focused on providing affordable, accessible education, especially for first-generation students,” Sales said. “Our program connects students to real-world experiences, and the many opportunities agriculture offers across North Carolina.”

Campbell said many students entering the program already bring deep personal connections to agriculture through their families and communities.

“We're here to help them build on those roots and prepare for the future,” Campbell said.

Mark Locklear is a public communications specialist with UNC Pembroke communications & marketing. Reach him by email at mark.locklear@uncp.edu.

## Flooding

From page 1A

to do.”

St. Pauls has a general-fund budget of about \$6 million this fiscal year, according to Town Administrator Stephanie Dollinger. That includes about \$28,000 from a storm drainage tax the town started to levy in 2023 to pay for flood mitigation projects. Homeowners pay \$20 each year, while businesses pay \$50.

Since the tax has been in place, Holloman said his department aims to spend about \$25,000 a year on clearing ditches

and other efforts, but he went over budget this year by \$11,000.

Property owners in St. Pauls pay about \$1.34 per \$100 valuation in county and town taxes, according to the N.C. Department of Revenue. Raising taxes would likely run some struggling families out of town, Holloman said.

Almost 38% of St. Pauls residents live in poverty, about three times the statewide average. A growing number of families are Hispanic; more than 30% of the town's residents speak Spanish at home, according to the U.S. Census.

“It's just harder for small towns because we have constrained budgets,”

Dollinger said. “Resources are limited.”

### Building a blueprint

St. Pauls mostly relies on state grants for flood mitigation, according to Dollinger. She said the state has been “very helpful” in providing funding, but the process of applying for grants is arduous. She also said the gap between applying for and receiving funding often results in increased construction costs.

“Anytime there's a significant lag in time between getting the money for a project and getting to the point where there's a shovel in the ground, that's when the costs change,” Dollinger said.

It took St. Pauls seven years to begin a stormwater project after getting money from the N.C. Office of Recovery and Resiliency, according to Dollinger and Holloman. Project costs increased by the time construction began, and town officials had to ask the office for an additional \$800,000, Dollinger said. She said that brought the total cost to about \$2.6 million.

The North Carolina Flood Resiliency Blueprint includes the development of action strategies for the Lumber, Cape Fear, Neuse, White Oak, Tar-Pamlico, and French Broad river basins. The state Department of Environmental Quality released a draft strategy for the Neuse River Basin in 2024.

Stuart Brown, blueprint program manager, said his team will deliver drafts for the other basins to the N.C. General Assembly this summer that will include “a list of prioritized projects as well as funding strategies for those projects.”

From there, he said, what lawmakers do “is out of our hands.”

As of January, the blueprint provided over \$34 million for 73 projects in 34 counties, according to NCDEQ's report last month to the General Assembly's Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Environment and Natural Resources.

More than \$12.8 million went to efforts in the Lumber River basin, according to NCDEQ. Most are in Robeson County, and a handful are in Scotland and Columbus counties.

“We know that there is still a lot of flood risk and a lot of outstanding needs in the state,” Brown said. “So we need to be clear-eyed and understand that this is going to need to be a long-term investment and a long-term program.”

### More needs

The town of Red Springs, 20 minutes west



Morgan Casey | Border Belt Independent  
Daniel Holloman, public works director for St. Pauls, has been dealing with flooding issues in town for years.

of St. Pauls, also faces budget constraints as its two grants totalling \$3 million from the N.C. Department of Public Safety will run out at the end of June, according to Town Manager Shanelle Harris.

Red Springs spent most of the money on cleaning debris along Little Raft Swamp, a tributary of the Lumber River that causes a lot of the town's flooding issues, Harris said. She said the money also paid for the town to capture and relocate almost 100 beavers whose dams blocked water flow.

The funding allowed Red Springs to extend its flood mitigation efforts into Rennert, a town of 275 people about six and a half miles away. Once the grant money is gone, Harris said, Red Springs won't have enough to work outside its limits.

“If we're struggling with what we have, imagine how much more difficult it would be for smaller communities,” she said. “Who's doing what for the swamp outside of our incorporated limits? I can't tell you. The town of Rennert, or any of these little smaller areas — Shannon, Lumber Bridge — they're probably struggling to keep up with this issue also.”

About 43% of Red Springs' over 3,000 residents are Black, Census data shows. The median household income in town is \$20,833, compared to \$72,388 statewide.

The town's budget of \$4.44 million this fiscal year isn't enough to cover all of its flood mitigation needs, Harris said.

“The town has identified several areas that experience significant flash flooding or several inches of standing water in as little as four-inch rain events,” she said. “Some of these areas required homes to be rebuilt after Hurricanes Mathew and Florence.”

Harris said the town has a little over \$502,000 in unspent money from the state Department of Public Safety grants. The money will fund the remaining design process for a drainage project on East Third Street, which the county started in 2023 but ran out of money to complete.

Town officials will then look for another grant to build the project, Harris said.

### Federal funding

St. Pauls is also looking to the federal government for additional assistance. Dollinger said the town wants to apply for the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Program, which supports projects aimed at making communities more resilient.

But President Donald Trump suggested eliminating the program in his budget for fiscal year 2027 as part of a proposed 13% decrease in overall HUD funding. Several grants fall under the Community Development Block Grant Program umbrella, including one for disaster recovery that provided \$225 million to Asheville following Hurricane Helene.

It's not the first time funding for flood mitigation and resiliency was threatened in North Carolina. Last year, the Federal Emergency Management Agency said it would cancel \$200 million in flood resiliency funds for North Carolina, including \$11 million for Robeson and Columbus counties.

N.C. Attorney General Jeff Jackson was among 19 state attorneys general who sued the federal government over the canceled money. A federal judge ruled that the government had to reinstate the program and issue the funds. As of last month, FEMA still has not released the money, a spokesperson with the North Carolina Department of Justice told Blue Ridge Public Radio.

Close to home, Holloman said he hopes the St. Pauls Board of Commissioners will approve at least \$90,000 in the town's new budget for an excavator so crews can widen and deepen ditches.

“We're trying to adapt to Mother Nature,” Holloman said, “because you ain't gonna ever beat Mother Nature.”

Morgan Casey covers health care in southeastern North Carolina for The Assembly Network. She is a Report for America corps member and holds a master's degree in investigative journalism from Arizona State University.

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# Sports

The Robesonian

Saturday, April 25, 2026 • Section B



Photos by Jacob Husson | The Robesonian

Purnell Swett's Jayla Graham swings at a pitch during Wednesday's game against Hoke County in Pembroke.

## Rams take down Bucks on senior night

Jacob Husson  
The Robesonian

PEMBROKE — The Purnell Swett softball team celebrated senior night with a 6-4 win over Hoke County Wednesday. As the season nears its end, it's evident these seniors have left a mark on the program that will remain after they leave. Chloe Chavis, Nylah Johnson, Lanna Haggans and Jayla Graham all have a legacy they're leaving behind.

"(The seniors) bring the energy," Purnell Swett coach Amy Lancaster said. "They bring the grit to the team. They just bring it all to us."

The seniors also reflected on what reaching this point means to them.

"It feels great to win on our senior night," Graham said. "This isn't our last game though because we have Lumberton Friday so we want to keep the momentum going."

Hoke County (14-5) got on the board in the

top of the first inning after Annabelle Lee was walked to begin the game, stole second and third base. She came home, thanks to an error during Shaniya McLean's at-bat. That was all the Bucks could muster in the first and Purnell Swett (14-5) couldn't respond in their half of the inning, keeping it 1-0 Bucks.

The Bucks' Erica Knowlton and Mclean both reached base in the top of the second due to errors before Niya Jones hit an RBI single, giving them some breathing room with a 2-0 lead. McKenzie Freeman was then hit by a pitch to load the bases.

As tension began escalating, Hoke County's Victoria Brock drove in two RBIs on a single to make it 4-0, still in the second inning. Luckily for Purnell Swett, a strikeout ended the inning.

The Rams wasted no time getting to work in the bottom of the second inning, as Angel Chavis hit a double and stole



Purnell Swett's Braci Woods throws a pitch during Wednesday's game against Hoke County in Pembroke.

third to open the frame. Nylah Johnson brought her home with an RBI single, making it 4-1.

Still in the second inning, Chloe Chavis reached base with a single before Braci Woods brought a run home on a groundout, cutting their deficit to two. The Rams couldn't score anymore runs that inning and went into the third down 4-2.

Hoke County was kept off the board in the top of the third inning before singles from Kamryn Locklear and Haggans eventually led to a single from Angel Chavis that drove in two runs, tying

Results from Friday's Lumberton-Purnell Swett baseball and softball games were unavailable at press time. For the full story, visit [robsonian.com](http://robsonian.com) or see Wednesday's print edition.

the game at 4-4. That's where the score would remain heading into the fourth inning.

Neither team scored in the fourth inning as the score remained tied. Hoke County failed to score again in the top of the fifth.

The Rams caught fire

See **SOFTBALL** | 2B

## Magnolia tops LJHS for MS boys soccer title



Chris Stiles | The Robesonian

The Magnolia Middle School boys soccer team celebrates with Talin Townsend, bottom, after his goal during Tuesday's Robeson County middle school championship against Lumberton Jr. High in Saddletree.

Chris Stiles  
The Robesonian

SADDLETREE — Magnolia and Lumberton Jr. High played a scoreless battle for the majority of Tuesday's Robeson County middle school boys soccer championship match. But Magnolia struck for two goals late, and the Trojans won 2-0 to claim their first county championship.

"The first half we were very disjointed; I felt like both teams just mucked it up," Magnolia coach

Gary Walters said. "The second half, it felt like our nerves finally calmed down a little bit, we started working the ball a little bit and we found a few openings that we could take advantage of. They're very good. They stayed in front of the ball and just played really good defense on us, so those goals were well-earned. Hard-fought win."

Talin Townsend scored the first goal with about 14 minutes left, a volley

See **TITLE** | 2B

## Prospect wins MS girls soccer championship

Jacob Husson  
The Robesonian

LUMBERTON — The Prospect Wildcats weren't stung by the Littlefield Hornets Tuesday as they won the county middle school soccer championship 2-0. This proved to be a gutsy performance as they overcame a scoreless first half to win the title.

"We played really hard this season and we really deserved it," Prospect's Ronni Chavis said.

"Everybody put hard

work and effort into winning."

After the scoreless first half, Chavis gave Prospect the lead early in the second half with a goal. Rozene Sanderson gave them an insurance goal later to give them the 2-0 win.

Prospect (11-1), the No. 2 seed, won the Robeson County championship in 2022 and lost the title game in 2024. The Wildcats defeated No. 7 St. Pauls and No.

See **CHAMPS** | 2B



Chris Stiles | The Robesonian

Prospect's Inola Goins (4) and Littlefield's Natalie Chavis (3) and Paizlee Oxendine (1) run during the Robeson County middle school championship game Tuesday in Lumberton.

## UNCP baseball slugs way past No. 4 Catawba

Staff report

PEMBROKE — The UNC Pembroke baseball team racked up 16 hits, including six for extra bases, on the way to a 15-10 win over No. 4 Catawba in non-conference action Tuesday evening at Sammy Cox Field.

Landon Lucas and Branton Jernigan each homered for the Braves, while Hayden Davis came off the bench and delivered a three-run blast, as well.

Lucas collected four hits for the fourth time this season, and also chipped in with three RBI. Jernigan and Davis added three RBI apiece for the Black & Gold.

UNCP's Taylor Batten earned his second win and Catawba's Sam Alessi had his first loss of the year.

The Braves (29-16) jumped back ahead 34-33 in the all-time series against the Indians (35-9).

The win marks the seventh-straight full season the Braves have defeated a top-10 ranked opponent.

Catawba struck first in the first inning on a Brandon Crabtree solo homer, while Ty Hubbard added an RBI infield single to make it 2-0.

The Braves answered immediately in the bottom half, as Daniel Stephens singled and trotted home on a Lucas two-run blast to tie the score. Jernigan would follow with a double and move to third on Jackson Crute's single, while Mason Mozeley drove in Jernigan with an RBI fielder's choice to give the Black & Gold a 3-2 lead.

Catawba jumped back ahead in the fourth on RBI singles from Logan Dyer, Sam Hunter, and Jake Dunlap to take a 5-4 lead.

UNCP tied the score in the fifth as Boone Herman led off with a bunt single and eventually came home on Ashton Donathan's RBI single, before Stephens scored Donathan with an RBI double to put the Braves up 6-5.

In the sixth, the Indians reclaimed the lead on RBI doubles from Hunter and Hubbard, with a Dunlap sac fly in between to take an 8-6 lead.

In the Braves' half of the seventh, Donathan walked, Tyler Steele was hit by a pitch, followed by a Stephens walk to load the bases. A Lucas RBI infield single cut it to 8-7, while Jernigan followed with an RBI walk to knot the game at 8-8. Crute gave the Braves the lead with an RBI walk, while Mozeley followed with a sac fly to make it 10-8. Hayden Davis capped off the seven-run inning with a pinch-hit, three-run blast to stretch the lead to 13-8.

After Catawba cut the deficit to 13-10 in the top of the eighth, Jernigan put the game away in the bottom half with a two-run blast to make it 15-10.

Lucas finished with four hits and three RBIs and Jernigan had two hits and three RBIs for the Braves.

Crabtree had four hits and three RBIs and Hunter and Dunlap each had two RBIs for Catawba.

The Black & Gold was in action Friday for Youth Night as the Braves hosted Barton to begin a Conference Carolinas series to close out the regular season. The result was unavailable at press time.

## Converse stuns UNCP softball in conference tournament

Staff report

DUNCAN, S.C. — Converse rattled off 11 hits to knock off the UNC Pembroke softball team in the Conference Carolinas Tournament on Thursday afternoon at Tyger River Park.

Fifth-seeded UNCP was held to just six hits during the game, and No. 12 Converse added a pair of insurance runs in the seventh inning to help the Valkyries to a 5-3 victory.

The matchup was part of the single-elimination play-in round. Converse advances to the double-elimination tournament, while UNCP is eliminated, ending its season.

In the second inning, Charley Swartzel singled down the left-field line for Converse (15-36) and scored on a double from Alexis Felker. The Valkyries put runners on the corners with a single through the left side from Aubree Leonard, but a single down the left field line scored Felker. Kairra Thomas smacked a single to the outfield grass to drive in a run and give Converse a 3-0 lead.

The Braves (33-18) loaded the bases in the fifth as Makayla Etling singled, Cirstin Calloway walked and Alex Serbio reached via an error. Emma Wrenn knocked a single through the left side to drive in a pair of runs and cut the deficit back to 3-2.

Wrenn had two hits and two RBIs for the Braves and Kaitlynn Hunt had a double and an RBI. Summer Bullard (17-9) took the loss for the Braves.

Thomas was 4-for-4 with an RBI and Swartzel had three hits with an RBI for the Valkyries. Gracee Stucki (12-16) was the winning pitcher.

# 3 Robeson tennis teams earn state playoff bids

Staff report

CHAPEL HILL — Three Robeson County high school boys tennis teams earned dual-team state-playoff bids when the North Carolina High School announced brackets on Friday.

Lumberton earned a No. 10 seed in the 7A East Region, and the Pirates will host No. 23 Hillside in the first round.

St. Pauls earned a No. 22 seed in the 5A East Region and will play at No. 11 Havelock in the first round.

Red Springs earned a No. 15 seed in the 4A East Region and will host No. 18 Jordan-Matthews in the first round.

First-round matches will take place Monday. Winners will advance to Wednesday's second round.

## Softball

From page 1B

at the plate in the bottom of the fifth, starting with Locklear hitting a leadoff double, followed by another double from Graham, putting runners on second and third.

Haggans was next up and she brought Locklear home with an RBI double, making it 5-4 Purnell Swett. Later in the inning, Johnson had an RBI double of her own, making it 6-4 Rams, where the score would remain heading into the sixth.

Both teams went down in order in the sixth inning keeping the Rams ahead 6-4. Hoke County went down 1-2-3

again in the top of the seventh inning, giving Purnell Swett the 6-4 win on senior night.

"We lost to Hoke County the first time, so it definitely feels good to come back," Johnson said. "I'm so proud everybody brought their bats to the game."

Purnell Swett hosts Lumberton Friday at 7 p.m.

"When you play Lumberton, you're always looking for a good game. It's a rivalry game, and no matter who's got the best nine on the field, it can be anybody's game. ... I just hope to bring our best, hope they bring their best and I hope it's a good game."

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## Champs

From page 1B

3 Pembroke to reach the title game.

On the other side, obviously Littlefield and their fans are disappointed, but coach Jamie Glotzbach was positive about their season and what's to come.

"My girls fought really hard all season," Glotzbach said. "We were regular season champions and only had one loss but I'm going to be honest with you, my girls were

not as aggressive as I wanted them to be and Prospect really showed they wanted it more than my girls did."

No. 1 seed Littlefield (10-2) beat No. 8 Red Springs and No. 4 Southeastern earlier in the playoffs to reach the final.

With the season at an end and several eighth graders preparing for high school, Prospect, Littlefield and all other middle school soccer teams will look different next season. Time will tell if Prospect will defend its crown or if Littlefield or another



Chris Stiles | The Robesonian

A Prospect player holds the championship trophy following the Robeson County middle school championship game Tuesday in Lumberton.

team will be victors next season.

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## Title

From page 1B

from 15 yards out on the right side that found the top corner of the goal to give top-seeded Magnolia (12-0) a 1-0 lead.

"It was all thanks to (Yoni Reyes)," Townsend said. "Through ball, and then I just felt like I could take the shot and it went in. ... It was good, because it was kind of towards the end where we could win it."

Reyes then gave the Trojans a cushion with a goal from 30 yards out with 11 minutes remaining to make it 2-0.

"I know I'm good from long shots, so I just took my long shot and I made it," Reyes said.

Gio Cabrerra, who Walters called the best goalkeeper in the county, held No. 3 LJHS (8-3-1) scoreless throughout.

"They're better quality than us, their players were able to finish better than us," LJHS coach Brighton Mauharo said. "They've got some physical players, hopefully we'll get them next time. ... I'm very much proud of the boys."

Magnolia won the championship for the first time after losing the title game in 2022 and 2025. Many of the players on this year's



Photos by Chris Stiles | The Robesonian

The Magnolia Middle School boys soccer team celebrates following Tuesday's Robeson County middle school championship in Saddletree.

team returned after that runner-up finish last year, and completed an undefeated season with Tuesday's victory.

"They learned, and this team was undefeated, 12-0, and I've never had a team do that. I don't know quite how to feel about it, other than they don't know how to lose. That's a good thing."

Magnolia defeated No. 8 Orrum and No. 4 St. Pauls in the first two playoff rounds to reach the championship. LJHS beat No. 6 Parkton and No. 2 Pembroke in the first two rounds.

Editor Chris Stiles can be reached at 910-416-5847 or by email at [cstiles@robsonian.com](mailto:cstiles@robsonian.com).



Magnolia's Talin Townsend (11) and Lumberton Jr. High's Erick Ceron (13) battle for possession during Tuesday's Robeson County middle school championship in Saddletree.

## LATE TUESDAY

# Oxendine's pitching powers Rams past Pirates

Jacob Husson  
The Robesonian

LUMBERTON — The Lumberton baseball team continued its slide downhill Tuesday, losing to visiting Purnell Swett for its fifth loss in six games. For Purnell Swett, this was its third win in four games.

"Anytime you play your rival, it's going to be a close game," Purnell Swett coach Edmund Locklear said. "Tonight, Joseden (Oxendine) came out and probably threw his best game of the year. He pitched five scoreless innings, pounded the zone and we had some key hits and they gave us a chance to win the ballgame."

Both teams were held scoreless in the first inning. In the top of the second, the Rams' Conley Jacobs hit a single to open the inning before stealing second and third. After Joseden Oxendine



Photos by Jacob Husson | The Robesonian

Purnell Swett's Wyatt McMillan (13) puts the ball in play during Tuesday's game at Lumberton.

was walked, Christian Locklear drove in a run on a sacrifice fly to give the Rams (11-11, 4-5 Tri-County Conference) a 1-0 lead. Nolan Oxendine followed that with an RBI single, making it 2-0 Rams.

Consecutive flyouts

got the Pirates (5-13, 0-9 TCC) out of that inning without more damage. They still trailed 2-0.

Lumberton was kept off the board in the bottom of the second inning and Purnell Swett couldn't add to its lead in the top of the third, as it remained 2-0.

Lumberton again failed to produce a run when it was the Pirates' turn in the third, while Purnell Swett couldn't produce

anything in its half of the fourth inning, keeping the score 2-0 Rams.

The Pirates went down 1-2-3 in the bottom of the fourth inning before Wyatt McMillan walked for the Rams and was eventually driven in on a sacrifice fly from Seth Brooks, making it 3-0. A series of errors eventually brought Mason Brewer and Conley Jacobs home while Joseden Oxendine was batting, increasing



Purnell Swett's Nolan Oxendine (9) waits at first base alongside Lumberton's Rylee Carter (18) during Tuesday's game at Lumberton.

the Rams' lead to 5-0.

The bottom of the fifth and the top of the sixth saw neither team score. The Pirates promptly loaded the bases in the bottom of the sixth inning as Manny Alba scored when Rodney Jacobs was hit by a pitch. Sam Smith later hit an RBI ground-out, making it 5-2 which the score remained heading into the seventh.

The Rams' Mason Brewer opened the seventh inning with a bang, hitting a triple. Conley Jacobs then got him home with an RBI single. That was all they could do in the inning, but they still increased their lead to 6-2.

The Pirates' Brennan Griffin opened the bottom of the seventh with a single, eventually stealing second and later scoring.

Results from Friday's Lumberton-Purnell Swett baseball and softball games were unavailable at press time. For the full story, see [robsonian.com](http://robsonian.com) or Wednesday's print edition.

Unfortunately for Lumberton, that was all they could pull off as they lost 6-3.

"I just got up there and just threw strikes," said Rams pitcher Joseden Oxendine, who threw 6 2/3 innings, allowing two earned runs on five hits with 11 strikeouts.

Brewer and Jacobs each had two hits and two runs for Purnell Swett and Nolan Oxendine had two hits and one RBI.

Jacob Husson can be reached at 910-816-1977 or by email at [jhusson@robsonian.com](mailto:jhusson@robsonian.com).

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**NORTH CAROLINA**

ROBESON COUNTY  
 26 E 203

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS**

All persons, firms or corporations having claims against Sierra Brayboy, deceased, late of Robeson County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before July 11, 2026, or be barred from any recovery.

All persons indebted to said estate are asked to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 11th day of April, 2026.

Jonathan L Morton, Administrator of the Estate of Sierra Brayboy, Deceased, Huggins, Davis & Associates, LLP  
 P.O. Box 1571  
 Lumberton, NC 28359

4/11 4/18 4/25 5/2 2026

**NORTH CAROLINA**

ROBESON COUNTY  
 26 E 230

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS**

All persons, firms or corporations having claims against June Pittman Edwards, deceased, late of Robeson County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before July 11, 2026, or be barred from any recovery.

All persons indebted to said estate are asked to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 11th day of April, 2026.

Brandon Danford, Administrator of the Estate of June Pittman Edwards, Deceased, c/o Jonathan L. Morton Attorney for the Estate Huggins, Davis & Associates, LLP  
 P.O. Box 1571  
 Lumberton, NC 28359

4/11 4/18 4/25 5/2 2026



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the code of the City of Lumberton of a Public Hearing to be held on **Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** in the City Hall, City Council Chambers, Lumberton, North Carolina, at which time the Board of Adjustment shall consider and act upon Appeals, Interpretations and applications for Variances and Special Use Permits filed with the Board pursuant to Chapter 35 of the Code of the City of Lumberton. In particular, the Board will consider the following request: Davis Ray variance request for a multifamily development to be located at 2109 Griffin St. Further information concerning this request can be received from the Planning and Neighborhood Services Department of the City of Lumberton at (910) 671-3838. On the basis of objections, debates and discussion at the hearing, changes may be made from that which is proposed.  
**Laney Mitchel-McIntosh**  
 City Clerk  
 CN: 4270  
**TO: THE ROBESONIAN**  
**PLEASE PUBLISH: April 18, 2026, and April 25, 2026**

4/18 4/25 2026

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS OF LOIS ROGERS JOHNSON, DECEASED**

Clerk's File 26E000415-770  
 The undersigned having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Lois Rogers Johnson, Deceased, late of Robeson County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate to present them to the attorney listed below on or before July 21, 2026, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment to the Estate at the office of the attorney listed below.  
 April 18, 2026

Jerry Lee Johnson, Executor of the Estate of Lois Rogers Johnson

ROBERT E. PRICE ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE P. O. BOX 630 LUMBERTON, NC 28359 910-739-8172

4/18 4/25 5/2 5/9 2026



**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:**

Roberson County, North Carolina  
 RE: THE ESTATE OF Michael Keith Sweatt- 26E000366-770  
 Having qualified as ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of Michael Keith Sweatt deceased, Roberson County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of July 2026, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 25th day of April, 2026.  
 MATTHEW KEITH SWEATT, ADMINISTRATOR  
 DSR Legal, PLLC  
 PO Box 51596  
 Durham, NC 27717

4/25 5/2 5/9 5/16 2026

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF BONNIE SUE LOCKLEAR DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000213-770**

The undersigned having qualified as Executor, of the estate of BONNIE SUE LOCKLEAR, 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 14th day of JULY 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 11th day of APRIL 2026

JASON FLOYD LOCKLEAR  
 116 TRUDIE LANE  
 PEMBROKE NC 28372

4/11 4/18 4/25 5/2 2026

**PUBLIC NOTICE PURSUANT TO NCGS 160A-267**

The Public is hereby given notice of the decision of the Robeson County Board of Commissioners to give Lieutenant Kevin Hickman retiree from the Sheriff = s Dept (Handgun: Glock Model 22 B Serial Number LN2371) the service revolver he used while serving as an officer in the Robeson County Sheriff = s Department. The resolution of the Board was adopted at the Commissioners Meeting on April 20, 2026

Tammy Freeman Clerk to the Board

4/25 2026

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF FUSHIA MICHELLE HUNT DECEASED FILE NUMBER: 25 E 002205-770**

The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of FUSHIA MICHELLE HUNT, 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 8th day of JULY 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 4th day of APRIL 2026.

CARLA GAIL LOCKLEAR  
 2328 WARD STORE ROAD  
 FAIRMONT NC 28340

4/4 4/11 4/18 4/25 2026

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF GLORIA HUNT TYLER DECEASED FILE NUMBER 26 E 000323-770**

The undersigned having qualified as Executor, of the estate of GLORIA HUNT TYLER, 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 14th day of JULY 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 11th day of APRIL 2026

PEARLINE DENISE JACOBS  
 198 ALBERT CURRIE RD  
 SHANNON NC 28386

4/11 4/18 4/25 5/2 2026

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

DOCKET NO. SP-74195, SUB 0 APPLICATION OF SUNSTONE SOLAR, LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND REGISTRATION AS A NEW CLEAN ENERGY FACILITY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on April 16, 2025, Sunstone Solar, LLC, (Sunstone Solar) filed an application in the above captioned docket seeking a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1(a) for construction of a 10 MWAC solar photovoltaic electric generating facility combined with a 10 MWAC Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) to be located in Robeson County, North Carolina. Sunstone Solar also filed a Registration Statement under Commission Rule R8-66 to register the Facility as a New Clean Energy Facility. The Facility will be located approximately along the west side of Butler Road, south of Iona Church Road, north of Gerald Road, and east of Collville Road in Robeson County, North Carolina. The GPS coordinates for the proposed Facility are 34.509 N and 79.247 W. Sunstone Solar filed an amended Application on February 4, 2026. Sunstone Solar's site layout illustrating the footprint of the facility may change to some degree based on government land use requirements, interconnection requirements, or similar factors. Sunstone Solar plans to sell electricity produced to the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC). Details of the application may be obtained from the Office of the Chief Clerk of the North Carolina Utilities Commission, 430 North Salisbury Street, 5th Floor, Dobbs Building, Raleigh, North Carolina 27603 or 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300 or on the Commission's website at www.ncuc.gov.

If a complaint is received within ten days after the last date of the publication of this notice, the Commission will schedule a public hearing to determine whether a certificate should be awarded, will give reasonable notice of the time and place of the hearing to Sunstone Solar and to each complaining party, and will require Sunstone Solar to publish notice of the hearing in this newspaper. If no complaint is received within the time specified above and if the Commission does not order a hearing upon its own initiative, the Commission will enter an order awarding the certificate sought by Sunstone Solar. Persons desiring to lodge complaints may file statements to that effect with the Commission. Such statements should reference Docket No. SP-74195, Sub 0 and be addressed as follows: Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300. Statements may also be directed to Christopher J. Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300.

4/18 4/25 5/2 5/9 2026

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Notices

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR RE-BIDS**

**BATH RENOVATIONS #6085 FAIRMONT HOUSING AUTHORITY FAIRMONT, NORTH CAROLINA**

Sealed re-bid proposals will be received by the FAIRMONT HOUSING AUTHORITY for CAPITAL FUND PROJECT NC 47-50124 and 50125 until 2:00 PM, THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026, and immediately thereafter publicly opened and read for the furnishing of labor, material and equipment entering into the Modernization of Project NC 47-1. Scope of work includes, but is not limited to, the following items:

1. Bathroom Renovations.
2. All other work as shown on the plans and in the Project Manual.

A Pre-Bid Conference has already been held; attendance was not mandatory. A second Pre-Bid Conference is not planned.

Contractors will be able to make on-site visits with advance notice to Maria Floyd, mfloyd@fairmont-housing.com.

Questions that arise from the Site Visits are to be directed to the Architect at bids@stognerarchitecture.com.

Complete Bid Documents will be open for inspection in the office of Stogner Architecture (Designer); at the Housing Authority Office; or complete Bid Documents will be available for on-line viewing from the offices of Construct Connect www.constructconnect.com; Dodge Data & Analytics http://dodgeprojects.construction.com; The Blue Book www.thebluebook.com; and Construction Journal www.constructionjournal.com.

Complete Bid Documents may be obtained by download from Stogner Architecture, PA. by qualified bidders. For instructions on downloading these documents email bids@stognerarchitecture.com.

Documents may be obtained in printed form from McGee-CADD, 2110 Fort Bragg Road, Suite 100, Fayetteville, NC 28303, Phone (910) 323-9300 and Email mcgee05@mcgee-cadd.com with production costs being paid by the contractor.

All contractors are hereby notified that they must have proper license under the State laws governing their respective trades, whether or not Federal Funding is involved.

Contractors will be responsible to ensure that economic opportunities, to the greatest extent feasible follow Section 3 Requirements 24 CFR Part 135.1 and Section 3 Clause 24 CFR Part 135.38.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities.

Maria Floyd, Executive Director  
 FAIRMONT HOUSING AUTHORITY

Designer: Stogner Architecture, PA  
 615 E. Broad Avenue  
 Rockingham, NC 28379  
 bids@stognerarchitecture.com

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR RE-BIDS**

**200 MORRO STREET BURN UNIT RENOVATION #6297 FAIRMONT HOUSING AUTHORITY FAIRMONT, NORTH CAROLINA**

Sealed re-bid proposals will be received by the FAIRMONT HOUSING AUTHORITY for the BURN UNIT RENOVATION PROJECT until 3:00 PM, TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026, and immediately thereafter publicly opened and read for the Modernization of 200 MORRO STREET, FAIRMONT, NC. Scope of work includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Renovation of One (1) Duplex Building consisting of Two (2) apartments due to extensive damage from fire and water.
2. All other work as shown on the plans, in the Project Manual, and as required by codes.

A Pre-Bid Conference has already been held; attendance was not mandatory. A second Pre-Bid Conference is not planned.

Contractors planning to visit the site shall notify contact Kenny White at (910) 734-3928.

Questions shall be directed to bids@stognerarchitecture.com.

Complete Bid Documents will be open for inspection in the office of Stogner Architecture, PA, Rockingham, North Carolina (Designer); at the Housing Authority Office; or complete Bid Documents will be available for on-line viewing from the offices of Construct Connect www.constructconnect.com; Dodge Data & Analytics http://dodgeprojects.construction.com; The Blue Book www.thebluebook.com; Construction Journal www.constructionjournal.com; Construction Wire www.constructionwire.com; and Plan Hub https://go.planhub.com.

Complete Plans and Project Manual may be obtained by download from Stogner Architecture, PA. by qualified contractors. For instructions, email bids@stognerarchitecture.com.

Printed Documents may be obtained from McGee-Cadd, Fayetteville, NC, (910) 323-9300 or mcgee05@mcgee-cadd.com with production costs being paid by the contractor.

All contractors are hereby notified that they must have proper license under the State laws governing their respective trades, whether or not Federal Funding is involved.

Contractors will be responsible to ensure that economic opportunities, to the greatest extent feasible follow Section 3 Requirements 24 CFR Part 135.1 and Section 3 Clause 24 CFR Part 135.38.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities.

Maria Floyd, Executive Director  
 FAIRMONT HOUSING AUTHORITY

Designer: Stogner Architecture, PA  
 615 E. Broad Avenue  
 Rockingham, NC 28379  
 bids@stognerarchitecture.com

# Matchups set for MS baseball, softball championships

Staff report

LUMBERTON — The Robeson County middle school baseball and softball championships are set for Monday after Wednesday's semifinals.

In baseball, No. 1 Magnolia will host No. 3 Pembroke in the championship game at 5 p.m. Monday. Magnolia reached the final by beating No. 4 Red Springs; Pembroke defeated No. 2 Littlefield.

In softball, No. 1 Pembroke will host No. 2 Littlefield at 4 p.m. Monday. Pembroke topped No. 4 Magnolia in the semifinal, while Littlefield defeated No. 3 Prospect.

# UNCP's Cash Bash set for Thursday

Staff report

PEMBROKE — The UNC Pembroke Athletics Department has announced that single tickets are now available for the 2026 Cash Bash, the Braves Club's premier annual fundraising event supporting student-athlete scholarships.

The event will be held Thursday at Lumbee Guaranty Bank Court, and will begin at 5:30 p.m. Cash Bash brings together supporters of UNCP Athletics for an evening of entertainment, food and beverages, and both live and silent auctions, all in support of Braves student-athletes.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Braves Club Scholarship Fund, which supports more than 450 student-athletes across UNC Pembroke's 16 varsity athletics programs. Contributions through Cash Bash help provide scholarships and resources that allow UNCP student-athletes to compete at a high level while pursuing their academic goals.

Supporters of UNCP Athletics who are unable to attend still have the opportunity to make a meaningful impact by contributing through the event's online giving platform.

To purchase a ticket or make a donation, visit <https://my.onecause.com/event/organizations/sf-0013c00001zuSA6AAM/events/vevt:ba0dc99c-5382-4285-b8cd-2c06dd7c2d56/home/story>.

# RCC baseball comes back to beat Fayetteville Tech

LUMBERTON — The Robeson Community College Diamond Eagles took down the Fayetteville Tech Trojans Wednesday, 8-6. This was due, in large part to an offensive explosion in the seventh inning.

Things didn't start out well for the Diamond Eagles (14-30, 13-22 Region 10), as they allowed four runs through the first two innings and another two in the top of the fourth to trail 6-0.

RCC scored a run in both the bottom of the fourth and fifth innings to make it 6-2. The Eagles' offense came to life in the seventh, as they scored five runs to take a 7-6 lead, before adding an insurance run in the eighth to win 8-6.

The Diamond Eagles' Ayden Wall was critical to the team with two hits, two runs scored and two RBIs. Will Hicks also had a good game with a hit, two runs and an RBI.

RCC hosts Lenoir Community College for a three-game weekend series, which began with a doubleheader on Friday. Results were unavailable at press time.

# Braves' Locklear, Bullard earn All-Conference honors, 2 more earn at-large bids

Staff report

PEMBROKE — Post-season accolades began to trickle in for the UNC Pembroke softball team on Wednesday when Chloe Locklear and Summer Bullard each earned All-Conference honors, while Emma Wrenn and Kaitlynn Hunt both earned at-large All-Conference nods, league officials announced.

The announcement marks the 13th straight season that the Braves have sent at least one representative to an All-Conference team. It is the third All-Conference nod for Locklear, the second for Bullard and the first for Wrenn and Hunt.

A product of Purnell Swett High School, Locklear picked up first-team All-Conference honors after hitting .338 in conference play. A native of Pembroke, Locklear started in all 28 confer-



Locklear Bullard Wrenn Hunt

ence games and drove in 34 runs. The redshirt junior added four doubles and seven homers during conference play, while registering 105 defensive putouts this season.

A native of Pembroke, Bullard earned second-team All-Conference honors posting a 2.43 ERA in conference games this season. The senior went 10-3 in the circle for the Black & Gold while throwing 11 complete games. Bullard threw 89.1 innings in conference action while striking out 71 batters. She held batters to a .243 batting average.

A product of Mint Hill, Wrenn earned a spot on

the at-large All-Conference team after batting .368 in league play. The junior saw action and started in 26 games and finished the conference season with two doubles and three triples. Wrenn was a perfect 4-for-4 on stolen base attempts and drove in seven runs.

An every day starter for the Black & Gold, Hunt hit .356 during conference action and drove in 13 runs. A native of Fuquay-Varina, Hunt finished conference play with six doubles and two home runs, while drawing five walks. The sophomore did not commit one error, turned five double-plays and made

182 putouts.

**Cunningham tabbed CC Player of the Week**

After helping the UNC Pembroke softball team to a sweep over Barton in the regular-season finale over the weekend, Maggie Cunningham has been named as the Conference Carolinas Player of the Week presented by Athletic Solutions, league officials announced Tuesday.

A native of Indiana, Pennsylvania, Cunningham went 5-for-7 from the plate during the doubleheader and drove in five runs. The freshman went 3-for-3 from the plate during the second game of the series with three runs batted in.

Cunningham is batting .330 this season and has driven in 22 runs. She is also a perfect 7-for-7 on stolen base attempts during the year.

# Braves school record falls on day one of CC Outdoor Track Championships

Staff report

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. — UNC Pembroke kicked off the Conference Carolinas Outdoor Championships with a school record Thursday at Doug Shaw Memorial Stadium.

Gary Parker broke the hammer throw school record that had stood since 1999 with a mark of 55.98 meters.

On the women's side, Sofia Skidmore will join Malea Bennewitz in Saturday's 1500-meter final after the pair finished second and third in the prelims at 5:00.68 and

5:00.75, respectively. Comfort Agwu posted a fourth-place finish in the hammer throw with a personal-best mark of 46.36 meters. Janaya Davis-Gainer finished ninth in the women's 200-meter prelims, finishing in 24.99 seconds. Ta'Niyah Glaspie was 24th, finishing in 26.05 seconds.

On the men's side, Kelvin Kibet took second in the 10000-meters with a time of 31:31.55, while Parker took third with his record-breaking mark in



Parker

the hammer throw. Brenton Chapple sits in third place in the decathlon at 3,084 points after winning the long jump (personal-best 6.77 meters), taking third in the 100-meters (personal-best 11.16) and 400-meters (personal-best 54.09), placing fourth in the shot put (personal-best 9.81 meters), and sixth in the high jump. Ed Carney turned in a personal-best 31:48.29 in the 10,000-meters to take third, while Jacobe Jones and Charlie Miller each

made it through the prelims with a 21.70 in the 200 meter and 4:09.72 in the 1500-meters, respectively.

The men's squad sits in a tie for first place with 20 points after day one, while the women are currently tied for sixth with five points.

Friday's action gets underway at 11 a.m. with multi and field events, while track events are slated to begin at 2 p.m.

The top three finishers in each event at the championships are named first, second, and third team All-Conference.

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**LEGALS**

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF HERMAN UPCHURCH JR DECEASED**  
File Number: 26 E 000356-770

**LEGALS**

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF JEFFREY ROSS DECEASED**  
FILE NUMBER: 26 E 000373-770

**LEGALS**

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ROBESON NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF DEBRA BARFIELD RODRIGUEZ DECEASED**  
File Number 25E001587-770

**Yard Sale**

Forest Acres Spring Yard Sale Sat May 2nd  
309 Hood Road  
Lumberton NC 28358  
Join us in Forest Acres for our Community Yard Sale featuring more than 20 homes with sales! Explore and find food vendors, tools, baby gear, clothes, toys and more! See [yardsalesearch.com](http://yardsalesearch.com) for the event map & check out our friends in MidPines on McLeod Road for their sales, too!

**Help Wanted General**

[hr@robeson.edu](mailto:hr@robeson.edu)

**Deadline for applications: April 30, 2026**

**ROBESON COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

Let The Classifieds

Do The FOOTWORK

The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of HERMAN UPCHURCH 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 8th day of JULY 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 4th day of APRIL 2026.

BRITTANY M PARKER  
101 SKIPPER ST  
PROCTORVILLE NC 28375

4/4 4/11 4/18 4/25 2026

The undersigned having qualified as Administrators, of the Estate of JEFFREY ROSS, 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 8th day of JULY 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 4th day of APRIL 2026.

SHANNON ROSS LEVER  
5960 ROSSER PITTMAN RD  
SANFORD NC 27332

4/4 4/11 4/18 4/25 2026

The undersigned having qualified as Administrator, of the estate of Debra Barfield Rodriguez, 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 22nd day of July, 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 18th day of April, 2026.

James M. Ellis  
110 N Dougherty Street  
Black Mountain, NC 28711

Attorney  
James M. Ellis  
110 N Dougherty Street  
Black Mountain, NC 28711  
828.669.7642

4/18 4/25 5/2 5/9 2026

**Help Wanted General**

**Robeson Community College**

**NC Boost Success Coach**

The NC Boost Success Coach assists with program recruitment and provides comprehensive academic, career, and personal support to a caseload of students enrolled in the NC BOOST program. This position plays a pivotal role in promoting student persistence, retention, and graduation through proactive advising, individualized engagement, and holistic support from enrollment to completion.

For a list of qualifications and to apply, visit [www.robeson.edu/hr](http://www.robeson.edu/hr) or contact Human Resources at

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# Lifestyles

The Robesonian

Saturday, April 25, 2026 • Section C

## THE SKINNY Networking in middle age

Metro Creative Connection

By the time a person reaches middle age, he or she has plenty of experience navigating life. Mid-life is a unique stage when people find children are more independent and moving out, work obligations may shift and old social structures no longer may be there. While those in their 40s, 50s and 60s may have mastered successful careers or raising children, skills in maintaining a strong network of friends may not be so robust. Building and strengthening a social network is something middle-aged adults should think about.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says social connection is linked to reduced stress, better sleep, improved well-being, and longevity. Middle-aged individuals can explore these ideas to build a meaningful and engaging social network.

— Emphasize shared passions. Shared passions provide natural ways to meet people. Interests enable friendships to form organically over activities you generally enjoy. Classes and workshops that feature a hobby you like are great places to start meeting new people in a structured and social way.

— Be a regular. Frequent certain “haunts” regularly, such as a park, community center, coffee shop, etc. This way you’ll see the same people again and again and can build a rapport.

— Embrace volunteering. Recent studies have found that volunteering, even for just an hour a week, can lead to slower biological aging, especially among retirees. Volunteering offers physical, social and psychological benefits and connects volunteers with like-minded people.

— Reconnect with old friends. Sometimes it’s not about finding new people, but re-establishing connections with those you already know. Reach out to former coworkers, neighbors or classmates and express your desire to catch up. Social platforms also can reacquaint you with people you may have lost connection with.

After you’ve made the initial connections, it’s key to fuel the burgeoning friendship. Be consistent with interaction, aiming for frequent follow-ups, whether weekly or monthly. People appreciate being listened to, so do your share of active listening as well as sharing your own stories. It’s important to be willing to try new experiences that new friends may suggest. Being a little vulnerable can let others see just who you are and may invite deeper connections.

Taking steps to foster social networks in middle age can enable companionship and foster better overall health.



Contributed photo | Michelle Cox

Lauren Cox, center, with the Lumberton Lions Club during her screening event for preschoolers.

## Local girl scout expands vision screenings to preschoolers

Victoria Sanderson  
The Robesonian

LUMBERTON — Local Girl Scout Lauren Cox has made a long-lasting impact on her community through her Gold Award project.

Cox has been part of the Girl Scout program since she was young, having participated in as many events and camps as the program offers, and has received an award for selling over 10,000 boxes of cookies before moving over to the Juliette program.

The Juliette program, named after Girl Scout founder Juliette Gordon Low, allows girls to participate in Girl Scout events and earn badges on their own time rather than relying on a troop. While there are some drawbacks, such as having to plan a schedule independently rather than simply attending group events, the benefits can far outweigh them.

For example, Cox and many of her friends were beginning to feel stifled by the structure of a scout troop and wanted the freedom to pursue their scouting goals independently.

“It was in high school,” Cox said. “We stopped selling cookies, and we didn’t really want to do the troop thing anymore, but we did still want to do the Gold Award project, so we broke off and did the Juliette.”

High-school-age Girl Scouts can earn the Gold Award by completing a community service project with long-term impact. The projects can be anything the scouts are passionate about and can assist any group.

Scouts earn bronze and silver awards earlier in their scouting careers as well, and with each level, the amount of independent work and the number of hours required to earn the award increase. The bronze

award requires 20 hours of work, the silver 50 and the gold 80.

For her bronze award, Cox worked with the Lumberton Lions Club, an organization dedicated to increasing access to vision screenings and supporting the visually impaired, to host a speaker for its attendees and to organize a carnival for the visually impaired.

“My dad is in the Lumberton Lions Club,” Cox said, “so I partnered with them and did what was called the VIP Carnival, which is Visually Impaired Persons. All the blind people throughout the Lions Club and the community came out, and we had games, cotton candy and popcorn, talking to them and learning more about them.”

For her gold project, Cox decided to build on her previous successes with the Lions Club and reached out to them again, this time to organize an event with

a much longer-lasting impact: expanding the age range for eye scans to include much younger children.

“The younger a child is, the less they can tell you,” Cox said. “They can’t tell you they can’t see well if that’s all they’ve ever known, they don’t even know they have a problem.”

While the county’s second- and fourth-grade students have been receiving regular eye exams for many years, younger students have not received the same treatment, which Cox sought to correct.

“I just felt like somebody should start screening them earlier,” she said. “The earlier you screen, the earlier you catch the disorders.”

Cox arranged a screening event for local preschool-age children, during which her team screened 290 preschoolers and identified 49 children in need of follow-

up care, with a plan in place for each child. The Lions Club also pledged to continue screening preschool-age children for visual impairment.

“I feel really strongly about helping those who can’t help themselves,” Cox said. “They don’t know they can’t see, they need help. That was my main goal with the project, and why I wanted to do it.”

Cox is the only Girl Scout in Robeson County to receive her Gold Award since 2019. To any other girls interested in working toward their Gold award, Cox says to stay confident and keep pushing through the challenges.

“Don’t get discouraged,” she said. “Your project might need corrections two or even three times, but at the end you’ll feel very accomplished and be so glad you did it.”

Contact Victoria Sanderson at vsanderson@robsonian.com.

## A refresher course in cycling safety

Metro Creative Connection

Cycling is a great form of exercise and a wonderful means to enjoying the great outdoors. The organization People for Bikes says a record 112 million Americans rode a bike at least once in 2024. Youth ridership experienced a notable surge, with participation among those between the ages of three and 17 increasing to 56 percent.

While cycling can be an enjoyable activity for all ages, it is not without risk. Thousands of cyclists are injured or killed in the United States every year, says the Cen-

ters for Disease Control and Prevention. Bicycle safety tips cannot remove all of the risk, but they can help a person make smarter choices to avoid injury.

**Helmet**  
Every bike ride should begin by putting on a helmet. The NHTSA says sizing can vary between manufacturers, so it can take time to fit a helmet properly. But a well-fitting helmet is a necessary step to avoid serious head injuries.

**Bike inspection**  
It’s important to inspect a bike prior to

See CYCLING | 2C



Metro Creative Connection

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EDITOR'S NOTE: Send your Community Calendar items to Editor Chris Stiles at [cstiles@robesonian.com](mailto:cstiles@robesonian.com).

**Fall Family Fun Fly-in, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., April 25:** Remote control airplane hobbyists are invited to the Mt. Elim Remote Control Airplane and Boat Club, located at 13799 N.C. Hwy. 72 East in Lumberton, for their semi-annual Fall Family Fun Fly-in fundraiser. The event will feature local area pilots showcasing their flying skills, food and a raffle. For more information, contact Don Valentine at 910-887-5056 or [donpaul.val@gmail.com](mailto:donpaul.val@gmail.com).

**16th Annual Shortest Parade, 10 a.m., April 25:** Welcome once again to the shortest parade! We will have our traditional, always exciting parade, unexpected surprises, BBQ plate fundraiser for the Patrick Pait Memorial Scholarship, local vendors, and farm animals to pet. Bring your family, bring your friends, and come out for a great way to make a memory! It's a unique and fun experience! The parade will be at Jack Pait's Strawberry Farm at 1561 Old Allenton Road in Lumberton.

**Hallucinations Prompted by Reality, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., April 26:** The Red Springs Art Gallery presents the opening of a new exhibition gallery by Henrik Fantazos, a Polish-American artist from Hillsboro NC.

**Cash Bash, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., April 30:** Get ready for an unforgettable evening at the 2026 Cash Bash. Guests will indulge in a delightful array of culinary offerings while enjoying the festive atmosphere, complete with live and silent auctions featuring exclusive items and experiences. Attendees will have the unique opportunity to connect with coaches, student-athletes, and fellow supporters, all while making a significant impact on the future of UNCP Athletics. The event is on the UNCP Campus in the English E. Jones Center.

**Community Outreach Event, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., April 30:** Join with the Main Street Lumberton committee to explore a master plan, hear market study updates and take part in shaping the future of downtown Lumberton. Food will be served, and ALL are welcome. An RSVP would be appreciated to ensure we have enough food for the attendees.

**Wizard of Oz on Ice, 7:30 p.m., April 30:** Experience the enchantment of "The Wizard of OZ" like never before with this all-new dazzling ice show! Watch as world-renowned professional skating champions bring this beloved tale to life on ice, combining breathtaking performances with interactive elements for audiences of all ages. From Dorothy's iconic journey down the Yellow Brick Road to the magical encounters with the Scarecrow, Tin Man, and Cowardly Lion, every moment is filled with mesmerizing choreography and stunning visuals. Don't miss an unforgettable experience that will leave you spellbound!

**Border Belt Horseman Association Event, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., May 2:** The Southeastern NC Agricultural Event Center is hosting the Border Belt Horseman Association Show. Our mission is to bring riders of all ages, skill levels and disciplines together to develop their skillset and love for these animals. We instill a culture of positive reinforcement and the desire to help each and every rider. Negative Coggins is required.

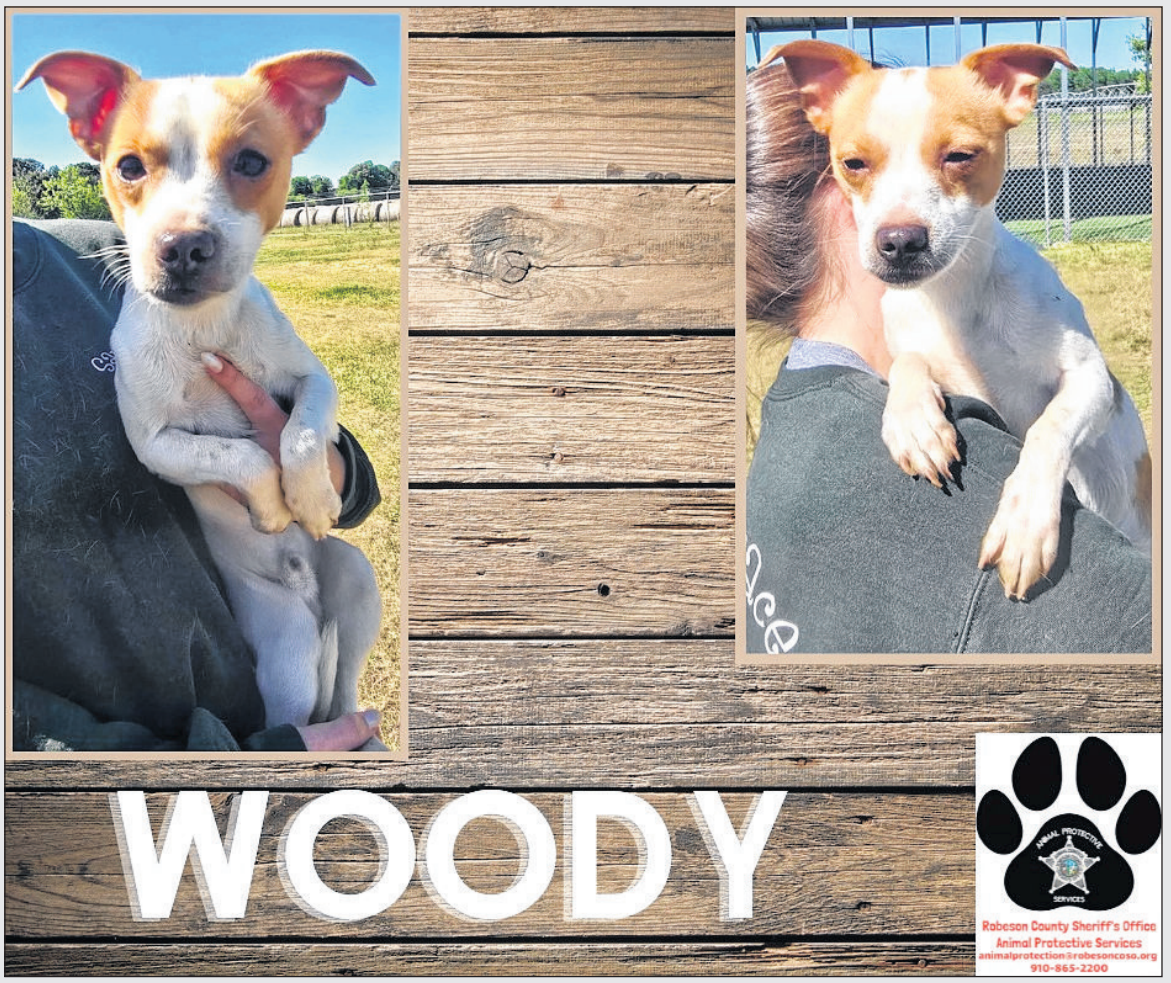
**Robstock IV- Robeson County Band of Brothers, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., May 2:** Robstock IV is presented by the Robeson County Band of Brothers at Lumberton Station 1917. The event honors the late musician David Smith of the band Ashes to Ashes and features performances by them, Eleven Fifty Nine, Delgado, and C.O.A.D. Proceeds support scholarships for Lumberton Senior High School students.

**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.

**Stories & Sounds, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., May 3:** The Kinship NC is the location for a cozy Sunday afternoon in Historic Downtown Lumberton. Wind down with Tonya Holy Elk & Lakota John as they recite poetry and play acoustic guitar. Enjoy the beautiful setting in Kinship, NC.

**Farmer's Market Opening Day, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., May 9:** The 2026 Season of the Robeson County Farmers Market begins! The Market is located downtown on the plaza for opening day. Farmers display the fresh-from-the-field vegetables, eggs, meats and more. Vendors are present, and there is space for more.

PET OF THE WEEK



Woody, an adult male Chihuahua-Mix, is available for rescue or adoption with an approved application. This handsome guy is current on his vaccinations and ready to find his forever home. Apply to adopt Woody on the AnimalsFirst website link located at the top of the Robeson County Animal Shelter's webpage. Visit Woody at the Robeson County Animal Shelter at 255 Landfill Road in St. Pauls or call 910-865-2200.

Photo courtesy of RSCO

FUN HOLIDAYS FOR APRIL 25-MAY 1

**School Bus Drivers Day:** In what is too often a thankless profession, thank a bus driver for what they do during this observance on Tuesday.

**Tell a Story Day:** Short or long, truth or fiction, take this day on Monday to share your favorite story with someone.

**Other fun holidays this week**

Saturday: Astronomy Day, Bob Wills Day, Eeyore's Birthday, Hairstylist Appreciation Day, Independent Bookstore Day, International Sculpture Day, National Crayola Day, National Day of Puppetry, National Mani-Pedi Day, National Plumbers

Day, National Pool Opening Day, National Zucchini Bread Day, Save the Frogs Day, World Penguin Day

Sunday: Alien Day, Hug a Friend Day, National Help a Horse Day, National Pet Parent's Day, National Pretzel Day, Pinhole Photography Day, Remember Your First Kiss Day, Richter Scale Day  
Monday: Babe Ruth Day, Free Feral Cat Spay Day, International Hyena Day, Marine Mammal Rescue Day, Morse Code Day, National Devil Dog Cakes Day, National Prime Rib Day, Woody Woodpecker Day

Tuesday: Clean Comedy Day, Great Poetry Reading

Day, Kiss Your Mate Day, National Blueberry Pie Day, National Superhero Day, Pay It Forward Day

Wednesday: Denim Day, International Dance Day, International Guide Dog Day, National Shrimp Scampi Day, Poem in Your Pocket Day, Viral Video Day, World Wish Day, Zipper Day

Thursday: Bugs Bunny Day, Hairstyle Appreciation Day, Honesty Day, International Jazz Day, National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day, National Animal Advocacy Day, National Bubble Tea Day, National Mr. Potato Head Day, National Oatmeal Cookie Day, National Raisin Day, Thank You Thursday

Friday: May Day, Batman Day, Couple Appreciation Day, Frequent Flyer Day, Global Love Day, International Space Day, Mother Goose Day, National Chocolate Parfait Day, New Homeowners Day, No Pants Day, Phone In Sick Day, Save the Rhino Day, School Lunch Hero Day, School Principals Day, Tuba Day

Week of April 26 to May 2: Go Diaper Free Week, National Auctioneers Week, National Dance Week, National Historic Preservation Week, National Scoop the Poop Week

Source: [holidays-and-observances.com](http://holidays-and-observances.com)

Cycling

From page 1C

riding. The seat should be adjusted to the proper height and locked into place. All parts should be secure and working properly before riding. The National Safety Council also advises cyclists to ensure that tires are inflated properly and that the bike is equipped with reflectors on the rear and front pedals and spokes.

**Be visible**  
It can be difficult to see bike riders, par-

ticularly at night. That is why people should wear bright clothing or reflective items. Whenever possible, riders should ride during the day. If riding at night, flashing lights and reflective clothing are a must.

**Choose the right bike**  
Selecting a bike that fits the rider is key. If it's too big, it can be harder to control. A bicycle shop will have professionals on hand who can guide buyers on bike sizing and help them choose a bike that is appropriate and comfortable.

**Choose bike lanes**

Whenever possible, riders should opt for bike lanes, which improve safety for cyclists.

**Follow road rules**  
Cyclists must follow the same rules of the road as other vehicles. The NSC reminds riders that they should ride in single file in the direction of traffic. Cyclists should use hand signals when turning and exercise considerable caution at intersections. Before entering traffic, stop and look all around for traffic. Stop signs and other signage are not optional; cyclists should heed the

rules of the road to stay safe.

**Ride solo**  
Cyclists should stick to one rider per seat, with both hands on the handlebar. No one should ride on the handlebars or on the frame of the bike.

**Travel light**  
If a rider must carry items, they should carry them in a backpack or strap items to the back of the bike.

The season for cycling is starting to heat up. Riders should review the rules of the road and riding safety tips before pedaling away.

SUDOKU

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

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 spring sports. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 3 = E)

A. 18 21 6 26 3 24  
Clue: Participant

B. 20 3 6 22  
Clue: Group of players

C. 17 7 12 24 3  
Clue: Total points

D. 10 1 2 2 3 24  
Clue: Champion

**WORD SCRAMBLE**

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to sports.

MHTLEE

Answer: Helmet

**GUESS WHO?**

I am a rapper born in Texas on April 22, 1990. My parents were missionaries and we lived in various countries when I was growing up. I learned to speak Arabic before English. I gained fame with Stamp of Approval and became known for my rapid-fire lyrics, perhaps a nod to my stage name.

Answer: Machine Gun Kelly

**WORD SCRAMBLE**

Rearrange the letters in the word to spell something pertaining to New Year's Eve.

TMIHGDI

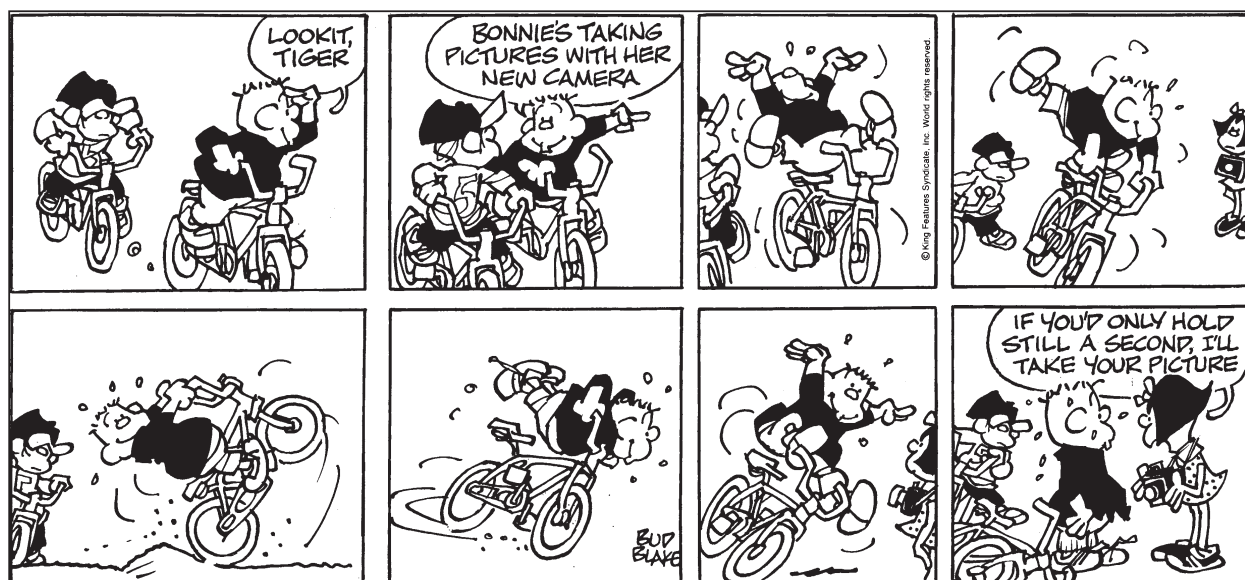
Answer: Midnight

**SUDOKU ANSWER**

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

TIGER

By Bud Blake



FLASH GORDON

By Jim Keefe



GRIN AND BEAR IT

By Wagner



"They don't like the decor of the jury room!"

**FEAR & KNOT**  
By: rj johnson  
DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

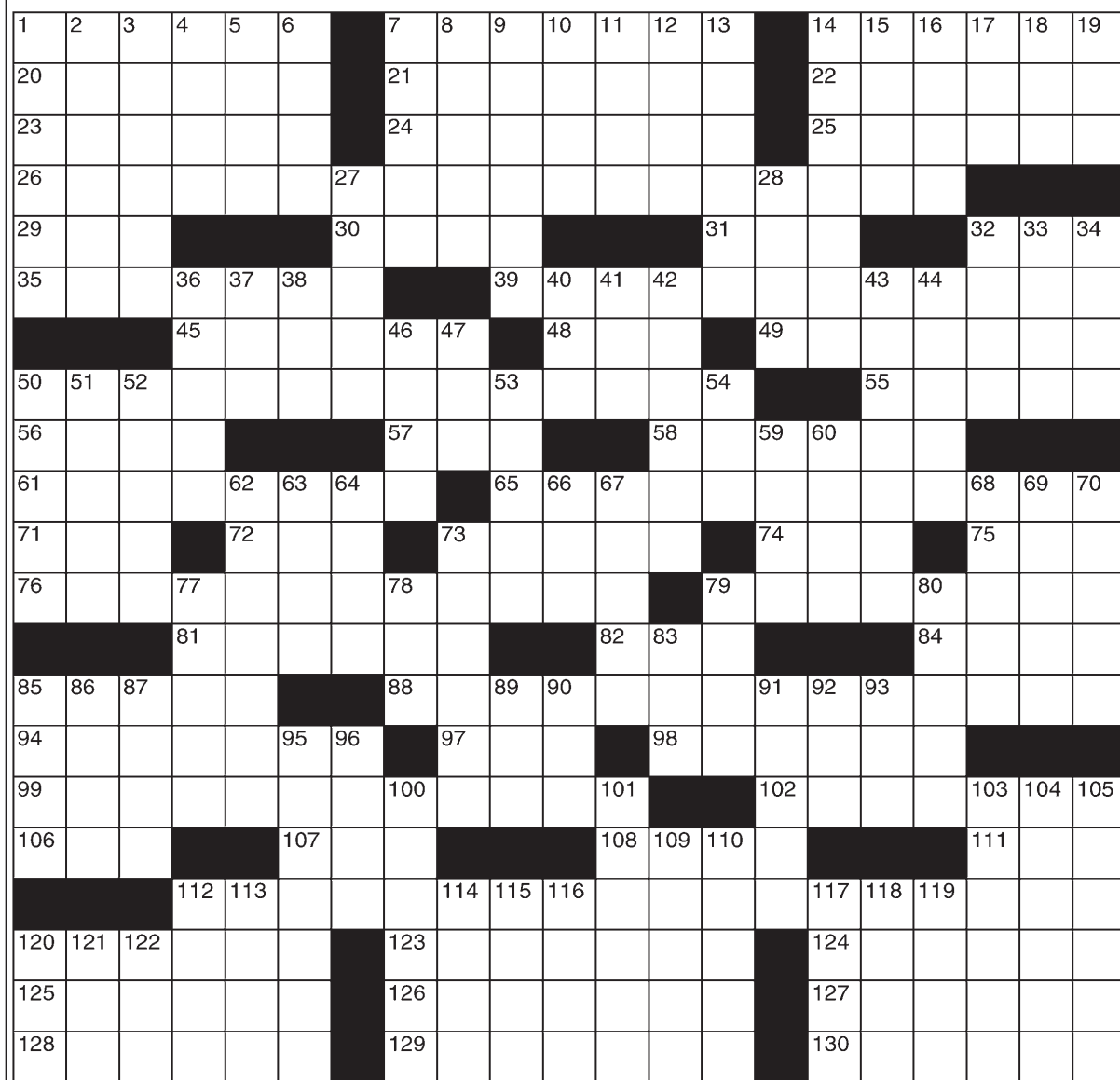
DHI  
EPTCID  
CAGRI  
APCI  
GAPOAD  
♥PSA  
♥PCU  
♥ERMAD  
♥RCA  
♥HADSEC  
ETDIM  
♥APML

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

Super Crossword

GONE GUY

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sturdily built
  - 7 Evergreen-scented cleaning brand
  - 14 Cows' milk deliverers
  - 20 Perjurious way to be caught
  - 21 Transition zone between biomes
  - 22 Go on a trip
  - 23 "... at least"
  - 24 Hundredth of a peseta
  - 25 Cure
  - 26 Managers' evaluations of employees
  - 29 "Rope-a-dope" boxer
  - 30 Gas brand in Ontario
  - 31 "Ltd." cousin
  - 32 Hit the slopes
  - 35 Tries to swat with an open hand
  - 39 2002 film with Jennifer Lopez and Ralph Fiennes
  - 45 "I have it!"
  - 48 Uno plus due
  - 49 Narrow ship passages
  - 50 Regulation of a computer network
  - 55 White wader
  - 56 1/24 of a day
  - 57 Torrid
  - 58 Capital of the Bahamas
  - 61 Try out for the role
  - 65 Realm that began with the reign of Charlemagne
  - 71 Monk's title
  - 72 Crumple (up)
  - 73 Mafia bosses
  - 74 Meadow
  - 75 Denials
  - 76 They were given to Moses on Mount Sinai
  - 79 Most energetic
  - 81 Humiliated
  - 82 Suffix with 52-Down
  - 84 Creamy cheese
  - 85 "May I see —?" (diner's question)
  - 88 "Don't Cry Out Loud" singer
  - 94 Full of subtlety
  - 97 Little kid
  - 98 Plaza Hotel girl of kid-lit
  - 99 They deliver fuel and air from carburetors to cylinders
  - 102 National anthem in Ontario
  - 106 Fleur-de- —
  - 107 "Bad" cholesterol, in brief
  - 108 Worker's pay
  - 111 Bonn article
  - 112 What you have to do before entering seven answers in this puzzle?
  - 120 Actress Hedy
  - 123 Long rants
  - 124 Put new cables in
  - 125 To-do list
  - 126 Illustrious
  - 127 Loves to bits
  - 128 Rises from bed
  - 129 Insists
  - 130 Pastry chefs, e.g.
  - 3 African nation
  - 4 Mushy food
  - 5 St. Pat's isle
  - 6 Doe, e.g.
  - 7 Texas river
  - 8 Frosting tools
  - 9 Sarge, say
  - 10 Un-PC suffix
  - 11 Evening, in French
  - 12 "My treat!"
  - 13 10th-century pope
  - 14 Netherlands province or its capital
  - 15 Doodled, e.g.
  - 16 Stops up
  - 17 Adam's mate
  - 18 Like many wines
  - 19 Like many winks
  - 27 Gala affairs
  - 28 Motels
  - 32 Swizzle
  - 33 Model Moss
  - 34 Pt. of MIT
  - 36 — dish
  - 37 Drag to court
  - 38 Ulna's place
  - 40 \$ dispenser
  - 41 Great anger
  - 42 Alternative to Bob Evans
  - 43 Hiker's guide
  - 44 Touch base after a fly-out
  - 46 Madeline of "Judy Berlin"
  - 47 In history
  - 50 Elevator part
  - 51 "— welcome"
  - 52 Neighbor of Chad
  - 53 Hollywood's Hawke
  - 54 Road goop
  - 59 Only
  - 60 Ooze
  - 62 — Chuck (cheap wine)
  - 63 "— Rock" (1966 hit)
  - 64 Probability
  - 66 Choose (to)
  - 67 Is defeated
  - 68 Nonreactive
  - 69 O'Donnell of TV and film
  - 70 Citrate, e.g.
  - 73 Give formally
  - 77 Tropical plant with bright flowers
  - 78 One paying dues; Abbr.
  - 79 Bell's ring
  - 80 "Peer Gynt" playwright
  - 83 NNW's opposite
  - 85 Dye used in blue jeans
  - 86 City bond, in brief
  - 87 Devours
  - 89 Cyber-giggle
  - 90 "— be my pleasure!"
  - 91 Murmured lovingly
  - 92 Fruit drink brand
  - 93 That, in Chile
  - 95 It might ensnare congers
  - 96 Aeneas' lover, in myth
  - 100 Played like Galway
  - 101 Neighbor of Denmark
  - 103 Think a lot of
  - 104 Closer to one's heart
  - 105 "Gunsmoke" actor James
  - 109 Revise
  - 110 Main ideas
  - 112 Soda holders
  - 113 Pakistani language
  - 114 Part of DST
  - 115 Prune
  - 116 Tennis player Mandlikova
  - 117 Drearily dull
  - 118 Mother of Helen of Troy
  - 119 Furry "Star Wars" critter
  - 120 Fall behind
  - 121 Grow older
  - 122 Ran into



MAGIC MAZE

**WORDS ASSOCIATED WITH VOLCANOES**

ROLHEBXUROLIEBY  
VSQNKDHEBYWTROL  
JGEBCYOWUMRPNKI  
GNDBZRXRAVSNQOM  
KIOTGEUGMCICAYW  
USQILPMSPANNALJ  
HFRETARCTLNEVEC  
AYXUEPSNVDUTATS  
EARTHQUAKESLLNQ  
PESNMOKRBRJOHEF  
ECBHMZYXEAVMUVT

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: MOLTEN ROCK

Ash	Crust	Magma	Rupture
Basalt	Dormant	Mantle	Steam
Caldera	Earthquakes	Molten	Vent
Crater	Eruption	Mountain	

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**GO FIGURE!**

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.

	-	×	= 10
+	+	+	
	+	÷	= 7
-	-	÷	
	+	÷	= 8
=	=	=	
4	1	3	

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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**Today's Solutions**

Answers to the crossword puzzle and the Magic Maze.

**Super Crossword**

Answers to the crossword puzzle.

## UNCHSE to celebrate 'One Great Team' during Patient Experience Week

LUMBERTON — UNC Health Southeastern will join healthcare organizations across the country in celebrating Patient Experience Week from Monday, April 27, through Friday, May 1. The week is a chance to recognize the people and practices that shape what it feels like to receive care at the hospital and clinics.

At UNC Health Southeastern, that approach is known as Carolina Care, a commitment to providing compassionate, skilled, high-quality care so that every patient has the best experience possible. Carolina Care emphasizes that kindness, respect, and clear communication are just as important as medical expertise.

This year's theme, "One Great Team," focuses on how every staff member contributes to a patient's experience, from the moment they walk through the door until they leave. The message



**Jessica Morton**  
UNC Health Southeastern

is simple: every interaction matters. Whether it is a nurse at the bedside, a registration clerk at check-in, a housekeeper in the hallway or a physician in the exam room, each person plays a role in helping patients feel safe, heard, and cared for.

During Patient Experience Week, staff are encouraged to take part in activities that highlight the principles of Carolina Care. This includes warm greetings, friendly smiles, and taking time to listen carefully to patients and families. These small, intentional actions help build trust and create a more healing environment.

Leaders at UNC Health Southeastern are also emphasizing teamwork and communication. Daily check-ins, purposeful rounding on units, and recognizing coworkers for their efforts all help staff support one another so they can better support patients. By sharing successes and solving problems together, the organization works to maintain a culture where both patients and staff feel valued.

The week also serves as a reminder of the importance of accountability and empathy. Staff are encouraged to respond to questions and concerns with professionalism and care, making sure patients feel respected and understood. By listening to feedback and using it to improve, teams show their ongoing commitment to doing better every day.

A key part of Carolina Care is being fully present in the moment with patients and visitors. That means limiting distractions, protecting privacy and making genuine personal connections. These efforts not only improve patient satisfaction, they also reinforce a culture of compassion, dignity and respect.

As Patient Experience Week unfolds, the central idea is clear: exceptional care is a team effort. By living out the values of Carolina Care and working together as One Great Team, the staff at UNC Health Southeastern aim to make a lasting, positive difference in the lives of the people they serve.

For UNC Health Southeastern, Patient Experience Week is more than a celebration, it is a reaffirmation of purpose. Through compassion, collaboration, and commitment, Carolina Care represents the standard of what it truly means to care. The organization considers it a privilege to serve the people of North Carolina and is honored by the trust patients place in them.

Jessica Morton is the patient experience manager for UNC Health Southeastern. In addition to offering services you'd expect from a community healthcare system, UNC Health Southeastern provides several specialized services that are unique to our system and not available anywhere else in the region. To schedule an appointment, call our referral line at 984-974-CARE. To learn more, visit [UNCHealthSE.org](http://UNCHealthSE.org).



Trisha Talton | Coastal Review  
Southern Environmental Law Center attorney Kasey Moraveck speaks at the podium April 14 in Fayetteville during a public hearing on proposed monitoring and minimization rules for industrial dischargers of 1,4-dioxane and the public sewage plants that accept their wastewater.

## Proposed industrial wastewater rules 'completely inadequate', residents say

**Trista Talton**  
Coastal Review, via NC Health News

FAYETTEVILLE — Proposed monitoring and minimization rules for industrial dischargers of 1,4-dioxane and the public sewage plants that accept those facilities' waste fail to protect North Carolinians' drinking water, speakers at an April 14 public hearing said.

All but one of the 13 people who spoke at the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission's hearing at Fayetteville Technical Community College criticized the proposed rules, arguing those rules fall short in reducing the amounts of 1,4-dioxane discharged into people's drinking water sources and lack enforcement.

Those comments mirror ones articulated at the commission's April 9 hearing on the proposed rules in Hickory. A third hearing is scheduled for May 12 in Jamestown.

"The so-called monitoring and minimization rule establishes certain monitoring requirements, but the term minimization is misleading," Fayetteville resident Madison Williams said. "The way the rule is promulgated is in a way that does not require polluters to reduce PFAS or 1,4-dioxane emissions into North Carolina drinking water supplies, and it imposes no consequences, even if those discharges increase. This in effect is a polluter written rule."

The commission is hosting separate public hearings, the first of which was held in Asheville last week, on a similar rule for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS; perfluorooctanoic acid, or PFOA; perfluorooctanesulfonic acid, or PFOS; and GenX, a chemical specific to a manufacturing plant that sits near Cape Fear River in Bladen County.

Under the proposed rules, publicly owned treatment works that receive industrial wastewater, and their manufacturer customers, would be required to monitor for discharges of 1,4-dioxane, an industrial solvent, into rivers, creeks and streams.

Facilities would be required to conduct baseline monitoring every three months for one year. Based on those sampling results, dischargers may be required to conduct additional monitoring.

"If determined to need ongoing sampling the industrial direct discharger will be

required to develop a minimization plan," explained Bridget Shelton with the Division of Water Resources' planning section. "A minimization plan is a strategy to reduce or eliminate pollutants at the source before they are discharged into the environment."

Facilities that "meet certain criteria" may request exceptions or penalties for violations. Facilities that "meet certain criteria" may request exceptions or penalties for violations.

The proposed rules do not set specific discharge limits or penalties for violations.

That fact has drawn sharp criticism from residents, environmental groups and public drinking water providers who have been calling on the state to establish drinking water standards for PFAS and 1,4-dioxane and regulate direct dischargers of those chemicals.

"Over 1 million North Carolina residents consume water from the Cape Fear River, water that is contaminated with 1,4-dioxane, PFAS and other forever chemicals that will continue to proliferate without sufficient regulations at the federal and state levels," said Jonelle Kimbrough, executive director of Fayetteville-based environmental nonprofit Sustainable Sandhills. "The proposed 1,4-dioxane minimization rules seem to be an attempt at regulation but, as written, they essentially do nothing to protect the natural resources or public health of our state and we need protection."

Rob Clark, Cape Fear River Watch's water quality programs manager, said the organization and its more than 1,000 members collectively opposed the proposed rules.

"These rules are completely inadequate when it comes to dealing with PFAS and 1,4-dioxane pollution in the Cape Fear River Basin," he said. "The proposed minimization rules do not set enforceable limits on how much these toxic compounds can be discharged into our waterways. Instead, they rely on polluters to monitor their pollution and submit plans describing how they might reduce that over time. Do we really think that polluters are going to cut into their profits in order to do the right thing and stop discharging these chemicals into our waterways?"

Representatives of downstream public water suppliers said the proposed rules lack a clear objective to significantly

decrease 1,4-dioxane levels in state surface waters.

Fayetteville Public Works Commission's Environmental Programs Manager Rhonda Locklear pointed out that statewide monitoring has identified 1,4-dioxane primarily in the Cape Fear River Basin.

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, "has sampled surface waters in 15 of North Carolina's 17 river basins, confirming that most industrial 1,4-dioxane sources are in the Cape Fear River Basin, where 35% of these samples since 2017 were above non-detect thresholds, almost 10 times the rate in the Neuse River Basin, and nearly 200 times that of the Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin," she said. "The problem areas are well defined, documented, and PWC expects DEQ to set meaningful regulations and reductions in the Cape Fear River Basin."

Cape Fear Public Utility Authority Deputy Executive Director Kevin Morris said that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which classifies 1,4-dioxane as a likely human carcinogen, warns that at even at concentrations of 0.35 parts per billion, long-term exposure to the chemical increases cancer risks to humans and may cause significant kidney and liver impacts.

"Downstream water systems continue to experience periodic spikes in 1,4-dioxane despite having no role in producing or discharging this chemical, which demonstrates the limitations of our current regulatory framework," Morris said.

He highlighted how effluent from Asheboro's wastewater treatment plant has periodically tested for elevated levels of 1,4-dioxane, concentrations of which far exceeded levels associated with long-term health risks.

"These discharges flow into waterways like the Haw and Cape Fear rivers," Morris said. "They're relied upon by downstream drinking water systems, and they require additional monitoring, treatment, adjustments and customer communication. The downstream public ultimately bears the risk from and the cost of managing contamination that they had no part in creating. Voluntary reduction measures are insufficient to ensure consistent outcomes or to protect downstream communities. Utilities can manage only what arrives at

their intake."

As of Wednesday, DEQ had received more than 2,000 public comments and counting on the commission's proposed rules for 1,4-dioxane and PFAS, according to Josh Kastrinsky, DEQ's deputy communications director.

"The comments we've received in writing have by and large reflected the comments we've received in person," he said.

Andrew Mlot, chair of the North Carolina Pretreatment Consortium Inc., a nonprofit that represents more than 180 pretreatment professionals in 64 state-approved pretreatment programs across North Carolina, was the only person Tuesday to speak in support of the proposed rules.

But that organization has "several specific concerns" with the rules as they are currently written, he said.

"The costs to treat 1,4-dioxane at the POTW (publicly owned treatment works) level is staggering. Capital costs alone range from \$10 million to \$1.3 billion, making source control the only practical path forward," he said.

The proposed rules would require public treatment works in Greensboro, Burlington, Asheboro, High Point and Reidsville, which have been conducting monitoring and minimization activities going back to 2015, to start over, Mlot said.

"We ask for an explicit offramp for POTWs that have already completed successful programs. Replace any detection with a workable screening threshold. As currently written, any detection of 1,4-dioxane triggers ongoing monitoring requirements and a full minimization plan. NCPC members do not believe this is workable. We support an alternative screening threshold based on meaningful concentrations or loading levels," he said.

DEQ is accepting written comments through June 15. Comments may be submitted by email to [publiccomments@deq.nc.gov](mailto:publiccomments@deq.nc.gov) with the subject heading "1,4-dioxane minimization, or by mail to Bridget Shelton, DEQ-DWR Planning Section, 1611 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1611.

Coastal Review Online, or CRO, is a daily, not-for-profit, news and feature service covering the N.C. coast. It is produced by the N.C. Coastal Federation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit group dedicated to protecting and preserving the N.C. coast.

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Matthew Rhys in "Widow's Bay"

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Sometimes, the efforts of one determined man are the only thing keeping a community from becoming a ghost town. In the new Apple TV horror-comedy series "Widow's Bay," Mayor Tom Loftis (Matthew Rhys, "The Americans") attempts to entice tourists to his small island town with ghosts of its own. The first three episodes of the 10-episode season will be available to stream on premiere day, Wednesday, Apr. 29.

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# Loftis goals: A cursed town's mayor courts tourism in 'Widow's Bay'

By Sarah Passingham  
TV Media

Sometimes, the efforts of one determined man are the only thing keeping a community from becoming a ghost town. In the new Apple TV horror-comedy series "Widow's Bay," Mayor Tom Loftis (Matthew Rhys, "The Americans") attempts to entice tourists to visit the titular small island town with ghosts of its own. The first three episodes of the series will be available to stream on premiere day, Wednesday, April 29, with the remaining episodes dropping weekly on Wednesdays through June 17, with a special two-episode release on Wednesday, May 27.

Lying just off the coast of New England, the island town of Widow's Bay, lacking in modern amenities, has been struggling. Though he is not well liked or respected much by his fellow community members, Tom is fixated on creating a future for Widow's Bay as a tourist destination for the next generation to inherit. If imagining a bright future for a place with a name like Widow's Bay wasn't hard enough, Tom's town is deficient in basic things like reliable Wi-Fi and cell service, making his dream look that much more impossible.

So, where is the horror part of the horror-comedy? Well, just as Tom's efforts are paying off and vacationers are welcomed to the island, his superstitious constituents are proven right after all — the old wives' tales of the curse that hangs over Widow's Bay turn out to be true. Decades of calm on the island caused Tom to wave off curse concerns, however the arrival of outsiders upsets the balance that kept the peace in Widow's Bay.

Whether the horrors are enough to keep the Widow's Bay population to locals only remains to be seen, but according to the series description from Apple TV, the series



Kate O'Flynn stars in "Widow's Bay"

assured him that the superstitions are charming and "what town doesn't have a checkered past?" Unfortunately, Tom ends his reassurances as they stand in front of a section of the town museum dedicated to the island's history of cannibalism. "I don't think that's right," Tom says in an attempt to smooth over some unsavory town lore. The arrival of tourists on the is-

less peeks into the series. In December, the official premiere date announcement included a quick

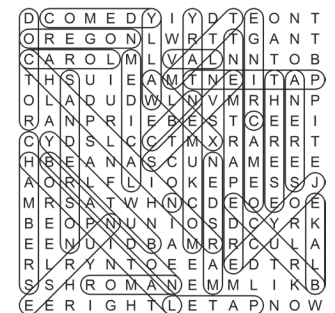
clip of the local bar closing up for the night — a glimpse of a quiet, dark street followed by interior shots of the pub's lights being flicked off one by one, leaving Tom in darkness as he sat alone with his empty tumbler. The official sneak peek, released in early February, follows Tom as he quickly gets up from his kitchen table and follows the sound of sirens wailing. A number of townspeople look out at the coastline at what must have caused the alarm.

Also starring in "Widow's Bay" are Kate O'Flynn ("Everyone Else Burns"), Stephen Root ("Barry"), Kingston Rumi Southwick ("Based On a True Story"), Kevin Carroll ("The Leftovers") and Dale Dickey ("The Lowdown"). Supporting cast includes K Callan ("Knives Out," 2019) and Emmy winner Jeff Hiller ("Somebody Somewhere"). The series was created by "Parks and Recreation" writer Katie Dippold, who serves as showrunner and executive producer. "The Bear" and "Atlanta" producer Hiro Murai executive produced the series and directed five of the show's 10 episodes. Episode directors include Ti West ("MaXXXine," 2024), Sam Donovan ("Sever-

ance") and Andrew DeYoung ("The Chair Company").

If you were hoping for some levity while watching the Netflix supernatural horror series "Midnight Mass" or maybe wanted to spend more time in a world like the one in Sam Raimi's 2026 deserted island horror feature film "Send Help," then "Widow's Bay" might just be for you.

Settle in for some scares and deadpan comedy when "Widow's Bay" premieres Wednesday, April 29. The first three episodes of the 10-episode season will be available to watch on Apple TV on premiere day, with new installments dropping on the streamer every following Wednesday, with a special two-episode release on Wednesday, May 27.



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8	3	1	9	6	5	7	2	4
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# Community Calendar

## Keeping everyone connected!



For complete details...  
[robesonian.com/calendar](http://robesonian.com/calendar)  
[bladenjournal.com/calendar](http://bladenjournal.com/calendar)

### ROBESON COUNTY

#### StoryWalk with DKG - Llama Llama and the Bully Goat

Saturday, April 25, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Sunday, April 26, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Monday, April 27, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Thursday, April 30, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Friday, May 01, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Saturday, May 02, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Sunday, May 03, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Tuesday, May 05, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Wednesday, May 06, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Thursday, May 07, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Friday, May 08, 2026, 8:00am-5:30pm  
 Luther Britt Park  
 671 Branch Street - off 5th Street  
 Lumberton, NC

#### Palmetto to Pines All Breed Dog Show

Saturday, April 25, 2026, 8:00am-5:00pm  
 Sunday, April 26, 2026, 8:00am-5:00pm  
 Southeastern NC Agricultural Events Center  
 1027 Highway 74 East  
 Lumberton, NC

#### Children's Storytime

Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 10:30am-11:00am  
 Friday, May 01, 2026, 10:30am-11:00am  
 Tuesday, May 05, 2026, 10:30am-11:00am  
 Friday, May 08, 2026, 10:30am-11:00am  
 Robeson County Public Library  
 101 N Chestnut St  
 Lumberton, NC

#### Children's Storytime

Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 4:30pm-5:30pm  
 Hector Mac Lean Library  
 106 S Main St

Fairmont, NC

#### Lumberton Ukulele Club

Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 6:00pm-8:00pm  
 Tuesday, May 05, 2026, 6:00pm-8:00pm  
 Trinity Episcopal Church Parish Hall  
 16 Stephens Lane  
 Lumberton, NC

#### Wine Down - IPCA

Thursday, April 30, 2026, 6:00pm-9:00pm  
 Inner Peace Center for the Arts  
 302 North Chestnut Street  
 Lumberton, NC

#### Wizzard of Oz on Ice - GPAC

Thursday, April 30, 2026, 7:30pm - 9:30pm  
 Givens Performing Arts Center - UNCP  
 Campus  
 1 University Drive  
 Pembroke, NC

#### Border Belt Horseman Association Event - SNCAEC

Saturday, May 02, 2026, 9:00am-5:00pm  
 Southeastern North Carolina Agricultural  
 Events Center  
 1027 Hwy 74 East  
 Lumberton, NC

#### Robstock IV- Robeson County Band of Brothers

Saturday, May 02, 2026, 5:00pm-10:00pm  
 Lumberton Station 1917  
 104 South Elm Street  
 Lumberton, NC

#### Children's Storytime

Tuesday, May 05, 2026, 4:30pm-5:30pm  
 Friday, May 08, 2026, 10:30am-11:30am  
 Rowland Public Library

108 E Main St  
 Rowland, NC

#### Children's Storytime

Wednesday, May 06, 2026, 10:30am-11:30am  
 PEMBROKE LIBRARY  
 413 Blaine St  
 Pembroke, NC

#### Music, Rhymes, and Storytime

Thursday, May 07, 2026, 10:30am-11:30am  
 Robeson County Public Library  
 101 N Chestnut St  
 Lumberton, NC

#### Spring Festival Exhibition 2026 - RAG

Thursday, May 07, 2026, 11:00am-4:00pm  
 Robeson Art Guild  
 109 West 9th Street  
 Lumberton, NC

#### Mark McKinney

Thursday, May 07, 2026, 7:00pm  
 Your Pie Pizza  
 5130 Fayetteville Road  
 Lumberton, NC

### BLADEN COUNTY

#### Acme Delco-Riegelwood Fire-Rescue 55th

Annual Banquet  
 Monday, April 27, 2026, 7:30pm  
 ADR Station 1, 100 John Riegel Road,  
 Riegelwood, Elizabethtown, NC

#### 6th Annual May Day Jamboree

Saturday, May 02, 2026, 10:00am  
 Lu Mil Vineyard  
 438 Suggs-Taylor Rd,  
 Elizabethtown, NC

#### Prayer Service

Monday, May 04, 2026, 8:00am  
 Commissioner's Room,  
 Bladen County Courthouse,  
 106 E Broad Street,  
 Elizabethtown, NC

#### Board of Equalization & Review

Monday, May 04, 2026, 5:30pm  
 Tuesday, May 05, 2026, 5:00pm  
 Commissioner's Room,  
 Bladen County Courthouse,  
 106 E Broad Street,  
 Elizabethtown, NC

#### Board of Commissioners' Meeting,

Monday, May 04, 2026, 6:30pm  
 Lower Level,  
 Bladen County Courthouse,  
 106 East Broad Street, Elizabethtown, NC

#### Bladenboro's Spring Fling, Downtown Bladenboro

Saturday, May 09, 2026, 12:00pm  
 Elizabethtown, NC

#### Dinner Celebration

Saturday, May 09, 2026  
 Lu Mil Vineyard  
 438 Suggs-Taylor Rd,  
 Elizabethtown, NC

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# Sports this week

## SATURDAY, APRIL 25

**7:30 am USA Premier League Soccer** Fulham vs. Aston Villa. From Craven Cottage in London. (Live) (2h)

**9:00 am FDSO NASCAR Race Rewind 2024 Talladega:** Geico 500. (1h)

**10:00 am FDSO NASCAR Race Rewind 2025 Talladega:** Jack Link's 500. (1h)

**USA Premier League Soccer** Wolverhampton Wanderers vs. Tottenham Hotspur. From Molineux Stadium in Wolverhampton, West Midlands, England. (Live) (2h)

**12:00 pm ESPN2 College Softball** Clemson at Duke. (Live) (2h)

**1:00 pm WRAL WMBF 2026 The Chevron Championship** Third Round. From Memorial Park in Houston. (Live) (2h)

**WBTW NWSL Soccer** Bay FC at Gotham FC. From Sports Illustrated Stadium in Harrison, N.J. (Live) (2h)

**GOLF PGA Tour Golf Zurich** Classic of New Orleans, Third Round. From TPC Louisiana in Avondale, La. (Live) (2h)

**2:00 pm TNT TRUTV NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)

**2:30 pm ESPN2 College Softball** Georgia at Oklahoma. (Live) (2h)

**3:00 pm WRAL WMBF NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (3h)

**WBTW PGA Tour Golf Zurich** Classic of New Orleans, Third Round. From TPC Louisiana in Avondale, La. (Live) (3h)

**CNBC PGA Tour Champions Golf** Mitsubishi Electric Classic, Second Round. From TPC Sugarloaf in Duluth, Ga. (Live) (3h)

**GOLF 2026 The Chevron Championship** Third Round. From Memorial Park in Houston. (3h)

**4:00 pm WWMB NASCAR O'Reilly Auto Parts Series** NASCAR O'Reilly Auto Parts Series Race at Talladega. From Talladega Superspeedway in Talladega, Ala. (Live) (3h)

**4:30 pm WFXB MLS Soccer** LAFC at Minnesota United FC. From Allianz Field in Saint Paul, Minn. (Live) (2h30)

**5:00 pm ESPN2 College Softball** Texas Tech at Arizona State. (Live) (2h)

**TNT TRUTV NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)

**6:00 pm WRAL WMBF NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**6:30 pm WUVC Fútbol Mexicano** Primera División Pachuca vs. Pumas UNAM. Desde el Estadio Hidalgo, en Pachuca, México. (2h30)

**7:00 pm WFXB MLB Baseball** Chicago Cubs at Los Angeles Dodgers. From Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles. (Live) (3h)

**ESPN United Football League** United Football League. St. Louis Battlehawks at Orlando Storm. From Inter&Co Stadium in Orlando, Fla. (Live) (3h)

**FDSO Fight Sports: Boxing** Chris Billam-Smith vs. Isaac Chamberlain. (2h)

**7:30 pm ESPN2 College Baseball** LSU at Mississippi State. (Live) (3h)

**TBS NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)

**8:30 pm WTVD WPDE NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**9:00 pm WUVC Fútbol Mexicano** Primera División Toluca vs. León. Desde el Estadio Nemesio Díez, en Toluca, Estado de México, México. (2h)

**12:00 pm WRAL WMBF AMA Supercross Championship** Round 15: Philadelphia. From Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia. (2h)

**WTVD WPDE United Football League** United Football League. Columbus Aviators at Houston Gamblers. From Shell Energy Stadium in Houston. (Live) (3h)

**FDSO NASCAR Race Rewind 2025 Talladega:** Jack Link's 500. (1h)

**1:00 pm ESPN NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**ESPN2 College Baseball** Texas at Vanderbilt. (Live) (3h)

**GOLF PGA Tour Golf Zurich** Classic of New Orleans, Final Round. From TPC Louisiana in Avondale, La. (Live) (2h)

**2:00 pm WRAL WMBF 2026 The Chevron Championship** Final Round. From Memorial Park in Houston. (Live) (3h30)

**3:00 pm WTVD WPDE United Football League** United Football League. Louisville Kings at Dallas

**9:00 pm FDSO Fight Sports: Boxing** Chris Billam-Smith vs. Isaac Chamberlain. (2h)

**9:30 pm WRAL WMBF NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**ESPN NHL Hockey** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**10:00 pm TNT TRUTV NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)

**2:00 am GOLF 2026 The Chevron Championship** Final Round. From Memorial Park in Houston. (3h)

## MONDAY, APRIL 27

**3:00 pm USA Premier League Soccer** Manchester United vs. Brentford. From Old Trafford in Trafford, Greater Manchester, England. (Live) (2h)

**7:00 pm ESPN NHL Hockey** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**GOLF Golf 2026 PGA Professional Championship,** Second Round. (Live) (3h)

**8:00 pm WRAL WMBF NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (3h)

**7:40 pm ESPN NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h20)

**8:00 pm WRAL WMBF NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (3h)

**9:30 pm ESPN2 NHL Hockey** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**10:00 pm ESPN NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**TNT TRUTV NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)

**2:00 am FDSO Fight Sports: Boxing** FIGHT SPORTS MEGA Fights: Edwin Rodriguez vs. Jason Escalera. (2h)

**3:00 am GOLF Ladies Euro Tour** Golf Ladies Euro Tour Golf. Investec South African Women's Open, Third Round. (2h)

**5:00 am GOLF Ladies Euro Tour** Golf Ladies Euro Tour Golf. Investec South African Women's Open, Final Round. (2h)

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

**3:00 pm FDSO MLB Baseball** (3h)

**6:00 pm GOLF Golf 2026 PGA Professional Championship,** Final Round. (Live) (3h)

**7:00 pm TNT TRUTV NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)

**7:30 pm ESPN NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**10:00 pm ESPN NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**TNT TRUTV NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)

**1:00 am GOLF Asian Tour Golf** Asian Tour Golf. Singapore Open, Third Round. (2h)

**3:00 am GOLF Asian Tour Golf** Asian Tour Golf. Singapore Open, Final Round. (2h)

## THURSDAY, APRIL 30

**6:00 am GOLF DP World Tour** Golf DP World Tour Golf. Turkish Airlines Open, First Round. (Live) (4h)

**10:00 am GOLF PGA Tour Golf** México Riviera Maya Open, First Round. From El Camaleon Golf Club in Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo, Mexico. (Live) (2h)

**12:00 pm GOLF 2026 Regions Tradition** First Round. From Greystone Golf & Country Club - Founders Course in Birmingham, Ala. (Live) (2h30)

**3:00 pm GOLF PGA Tour Golf** Cadillac Championship, First Round. From Trump National Doral in Miami. (Live) (4h)

**7:00 pm TNT TRUTV NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)

**7:30 pm ESPN NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**TBS NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)

**8:00 pm GOLF PGA Tour Golf** Cadillac Championship, First Round.

From Trump National Doral in Miami. (4h)

**10:00 pm ESPN NBA Basketball** 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, MAY 1

**6:00 am GOLF DP World Tour** Golf DP World Tour Golf. Turkish Airlines Open, Second Round. (Live) (4h)

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

**10:00 am ESPN2 Women's College Beach Volleyball** (Live) (1h)

**GOLF LPGA Tour Golf** México Riviera Maya Open, Second Round. From El Camaleon Golf Club in Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo, Mexico. (Live) (2h)

**11:00 am ESPN2 Women's College Beach Volleyball** (Live) (1h)

**12:00 pm ESPN2 Women's College Beach Volleyball** (Live) (1h)

**GOLF 2026 Regions Tradition** Second Round. From Greystone Golf & Country Club - Founders Course in Birmingham, Ala. (Live) (2h30)

**1:00 pm ESPN2 Women's College Beach Volleyball** (Live) (1h)

**2:00 pm ESPN2 Women's College Beach Volleyball** (Live) (1h)

**3:00 pm ESPN2 Women's College Beach Volleyball** (Live) (1h)

**GOLF PGA Tour Golf** Cadillac Championship, Second Round. From Trump National Doral in Miami. (Live) (4h)

**USA Premier League Soccer** Leeds United vs. Burnley. From Elland Road Stadium in Leeds, England, United Kingdom. (Live) (2h)

**4:00 pm ESPN2 Women's College Beach Volleyball** (Live) (1h)

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

**5:00 pm ESPN2 Women's College Beach Volleyball** (Live) (1h)

**7:00 pm ESPN NHL Hockey** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**7:30 pm ESPN2 NHL Hockey** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**8:00 pm WRAL WMBF Horse Racing** Kentucky Oaks. From Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky. (Live) (1h)

**WFXB United Football League** United Football League. Houston Gamblers at Columbus Aviators. From Historic Crew Stadium in Columbus, Ohio. (Live) (3h)

**9:30 pm ESPN NHL Hockey** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**10:00 pm ESPN2 NHL Hockey** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

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**10:30 pm TBS TRUTV NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)

**11:00 pm WUVC Fútbol Mexicano** Primera División América vs. Atlas. Jornada 17 del Torneo Clausura 2026 de la Liga MX. (2h)

**12:00 am FDSO Fight Sports: Boxing** Chris Billam-Smith vs. Isaac Chamberlain. (2h)

**GOLF DP World Tour Golf** DP World Tour Golf. Volvo China Open, Final Round. From Shanghai Enhance Anting GC in Shanghai. (Live) (5h)

## SUNDAY, APRIL 26

**6:00 am FDSO NASCAR Race Rewind 2024 Talladega:** Geico 500. (1h)

**7:00 am FDSO NASCAR Race Rewind 2025 Talladega:** Jack Link's 500. (1h)

**8:00 am GOLF Ladies Euro Tour** Golf Ladies Euro Tour Golf. Investec South African Women's Open, Final Round. (Live) (2h30)

**11:00 am FDSO NASCAR Race Rewind 2024 Talladega:** Geico 500. (1h)

Renegades. From Toyota Stadium in Frisco, Texas. (Live) (3h)

**WBTW PGA Tour Golf Zurich** Classic of New Orleans, Final Round. From TPC Louisiana in Avondale, La. (Live) (3h)

**WFXB NASCAR Cup Series** Jack Link's 500. From Talladega Superspeedway in Talladega, Ala. (Live) (4h)

**GOLF PGA Tour Champions** Golf Mitsubishi Electric Classic, Final Round. From TPC Sugarloaf in Duluth, Ga. (Live) (3h)

**3:30 pm ESPN NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**4:00 pm ESPN2 College Softball** Alabama at Tennessee. (Live) (2h)

**7:00 pm WRAL WMBF NBA Basketball** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**ESPN NHL Hockey** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**GOLF Golf 2026 PGA Professional Championship,** First Round. (Live) (3h)

**TNT TRUTV NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)

## TUESDAY, APRIL 28

**6:00 am FDSO NASCAR Race Rewind 2025 Texas:** Wurth 400. (1h)

**7:00 pm ESPN2 NHL Hockey** First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) (2h30)

**GOLF Golf 2026 PGA Professional Championship,** Third Round. (Live) (3h)

**TBS MLB Baseball** Detroit Tigers at Atlanta Braves. From Truist Park in Atlanta. (Live) (3h)

**TNT TRUTV NHL Hockey** (Live) (3h)



# Take 5

ill-gotten gains	Lab tube	Asimine	Kind of drive	"Cómo ___?"
				Resource at the heart of the "Dune" series
				Zahn McClarnon series "Dark ___"
				Separately
				Salami choice
				Flower holders?

Use the clues above and beside the grid to fill in the squares.

**Solution on page 19**

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Michael Symon co-hosts "24 in 24: Last Chef Standing"

## Cooking in real time: New chefs compete in Season 3 of '24 in 24'

By Dana Simpson  
TV Media

Time, when it comes to television, can be a tricky thing to convey. A full season of television — whether scripted or unscripted — could be filmed in as little as a few days despite appearing to span months or, in some cases, years. Tyler Perry ("Diary of a Mad Black Woman," 2005) famously filmed "Beauty in Black's" six-episode third season in six days, while his BET+ sitcom "Bruh" reportedly shot 19 episodes in just four days in 2020. Other shows, like Fox's 2001-10 anti-terrorism action series "24" — led by Kiefer Sutherland ("The Lost Boys," 1987) — took eight to 10 days per episode to film, which is especially interesting considering the show's real-time, hour-per-hour storytelling format.

But "24" is no longer the only television series to portray one hour of story during a one-hour episode. Apple TV's "Hijack," Netflix's "Adolescence" and HBO's "The Pitt" have all adopted the fast-paced, realistic model, but what happens when an unscripted competition series decides to adopt the same high-intensity model?

"24 in 24: Last Chef Standing" is a Food Network series that follows "24 talented and fearless chefs taking on 24 challenges over the course of 24 straight hours" (per Food Network). Shot in real time like the handful of trendsetting series mentioned above, "24 in 24: Last Chef Standing" premieres its third season Sunday, April 26, on its home network. New episodes will also stream the next day on HBO Max and Discovery+.

"24 in 24" first premiered, rather fittingly, in 2024, and has been captivating fans of food competition

television ever since. The series is hosted by celebrity chefs Michael Symon ("Iron Chef America") and Esther Choi ("Heat Eaters"), who also welcome a new guest judge each season as 24 high-performing chefs battle for the championship title and a hefty cash prize.

"From strategy and speed to precision and elevation, the challenges are divided into eight shifts that reflect the intensity of a chef's daily life," the Food Network description reads. "The chef who survives all of the unexpected twists and turns while battling fatigue wins \$100,000 — the biggest prize in the show's history."

In Season 3, Symon and Choi welcome California-based chef Jet Tila as guest judge. Given his experience on "Guy's Grocery Games," "Cutthroat Kitchen" and "Iron Chef America," as well as countless hours of kitchen time in his daily off-screen

routine, Tila is the perfect choice to judge the outcome of this season's new set of practical challenges.

"In the season premiere, Michael [Symon] and Esther [Choi] welcome 24 of the country's best chefs, who quickly learn this season is completely different from previous ones," the new season's description on FoodNetwork.com reads. "Competitors will pick challenges in a different way and experience a fresh judging format. If competitors can impress guest judge Jet Tila in the strategy skills round during the first episode, they'll have a chance to continue."

"Over the next 24 hours, the competition tackles different shifts that reflect a real day in the life of an elite chef," the write-up continues. "Upcoming episode themes include speed, resourcefulness, adaptability, teamwork, risk-taking, precision and elevation. The season culminates with a Sunday, May 31, finale, when Michael and Esther are joined by guest judges Alex Guarnaschelli ["Chopped"], Jet [Tila] and Jean-Georges Vongerichten

["Reservations Required"] to determine which chef is victorious and wins \$100,000."

Chefs competing this season include "Chopped" champion and "Hell's Kitchen" finalist Robyn Almodovar; "Top Chef" Season 18 contestant and 2025 James Beard Award semifinalist Avishar Barua; "Cutthroat Kitchen," "Alex vs America" and "Chopped" winner Cris Brown; "Top Chef" Season 18 finalist and 2020 James Beard Award semifinalist Dawn Burrell; Monique Cadavona, aka Mama Guava; Tuk Tuk Snack Shop owner Sam Fore ("Christopher Kimball's Milk Street"); Dallas Mavericks executive chef Lex Grant ("Chopped"); Trust restaurant chef Trimell Hawkins; "Below Deck" luxury private chef Anthony Iracane; "Next Level Chef" Season 4 contestant Maryam Ishtiaq; Arthur & Sons chef Joe Isidori ("Barefoot Contessa"); "Cutthroat Kitchen" host Brian Malarkey; Gedney Kitchen chef Michele Ragussis ("Beat Bobby Flay"); "Iron Chef America" winner and three-time Beard Foun-

ation nominee Viet Pham; "Top Chef" Season 18 finalist and three-time James Beard nominee Shota Nakajima; Maison Ostrow chef and CEO Olivia Ostrow ("Guy's Grocery Games"); "Top Chef" Season 18 contestant and two-time James Beard nominee Maria Mazon; "Next Level Chef" Season 3 finalist Christina Miros; Empellon chef Alex Stupak ("Chopped"); Koko Head Cafe owner Lee Anne Wong ("Top Chef"); "Chopped: Battle Italiano" winner Antonello Zito; "Girl Meets Farm's" Molly Yeh; "Gastronauts" Season 2 winner Ara Zada; and Zac Young ("Beat Bobby Flay"), who was named one of the top 10 pastry chefs in America by Dessert Professional.

Don't miss your chance to experience — as Warner Bros. Discovery head of food content Betsy Ayala calls it — the "intensity and unpredictability" of "life as a chef" when Season 3 of "24 in 24: Last Chef Standing" premieres Sunday, April 26, on Food Network. Episodes stream next day on Discovery+ and HBO Max.



## WEEKDAY DAYTIME, APRIL 27, 2026 TO MAY 1, 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 Untold	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	Let's Make a Deal		The Price Is Right		News	The Young and the Restless		The Bold and	M Th F Beyond/Tu W UEFA Champ. Today		The Perfect Line	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/F Wowsabout	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 ¡Despierta América!						M Th F Dicho/Tu W Duelo de pasiones		Noticiero/M Noticiero	Vecinos / Vecinos	M Th F ¡Siéntese / Tu W 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		In the Heat of the Night		In the Heat of the Night	
A&E	21	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various
AMC	41	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Various	The Three Stooges	F A Few Good Men		The Princess Bride		15 Back to the Future	Tu The Green Mile	F Sneakers	Th Beetlejuice	W:15 The Wizard of Oz	M:45 Beverly Hills Cop	Ferris Bueller's D...	
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	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	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		Squawk on the Street		Money Movers		Halftime Report		The Exchange		Power Lunch		Closing Bell	
CNN	26	CNN News Central		CNN News Central		The Situation Room		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..	M Th South Park	:25 SouthPark/ ..	South Park	South Park	Seinfeld/ South Park	Seinfeld/ South Park	Seinfeld/ Family Guy/..	Seinfeld/ Family Guy/..
CSPAN	56	Washington	Washington	Journal		Public Affairs Events		F:50 Public		Public Affairs Events		F:35 Public		Public Affairs Events		F:25 Public Affairs	
DISC	42	Various		Various		Various		Various		Various	Th How It's Made	Various	Th How It's Made	Various	Th How It's Made	Various	Th How It's Made
DISN	57	Bluey	Bluey/Bluey	Spidey	Iron Man	Bluey	Bluey	Kitties	Mickey	BeddyByes	Disney Ariel	Hey AJ!	Bluey	Robogobo	Bluey	Stitch	Phineas
E!	39	Various		Various		Various		F Two Men		Various	TwoMen	TwoMen	TwoMen	Various	TwoMen	TwoMen	TwoMen
ESPN	31	Get Up		First Take		First Take		The Pat McAfee Show		The Pat McAfee Show		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		NBA Today	
ESPN2	32	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		Get Up/F Volleyball		F College Volleyball		First Take/F Volleyball		F College Volleyball		Various		NFLDraft	Th Podcast
FDSO	38	W Warehouse Games		W F TBA/Th Redfern	Th Great Family	Run It/ Wild Ride	Th Road Trip Angler	Up & Adams/ Sportsman	Th Outdoor Eats	Various	Bobby/ Carolina/ G..	Diggin'/ Cont./ Foul ..	Tu Cont.	M Life/Tu Run It Back	M SBJ: Inside	Various	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	Pioneer	Various	Pioneer	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	F Diners
FREE	18	Thrifting	F Boy/World	The 700 Club		700 Club	Various	Movie/ Jim	W Th Jim	Movie	Movie	M The Smurfs / Tu Mulan		Movie	Movie	Movie	Movie
FX	67	W Spy		Movie		Taken 3/ Iron Man/ X-Men	W Why Him?	Movie	Movie	Movie	Movie	W Free Guy		M Taken 2	Movie	Movie	Movie
GOLF	45	M 5 Clubs/Tu W 5 Clubs	M 5 Clubs/Tu W 5 Clubs	Golf/ Big Swing/ Smylie		5 Clubs/ Vanity/ LPGA Golf	Golf/ PGA Champ./ 5 Clubs	Golf/ PGA Champ./ 5 Clubs	5 Clubs/ Smylie/ Regions	M PGA Golf/W Vanity	M PGA Golf/W Vanity	Golf/ PGA	Range/ Golf	Th F PGA Tour Golf	Th F PGA Tour Golf	Th F PGA Tour Golf	Th F PGA Tour Golf
HALL	62	Reba	Reba	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	Gilmore Girls	Gilmore Girls	Gilmore Girls	Gilmore Girls	Gilmore Girls	Gilmore Girls	Movies	Movies	Movies	Movies
HGTV	65	Various	Th Beach	Various	Th Rock	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	Various	F Zillow
HIST	51	Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various	
LIFE	25	Rizzoli & Isles / F Meet, Marry, Murder		Rizzoli & Isles / F Meet, Marry, Murder		Rizzoli & Isles / F Meet, Marry, Murder		Major Crimes / F Meet, Marry, Murder		Major Crimes / F Meet, Marry, Murder		Major Crimes / F NCIS		Major Crimes / F NCIS		Castle / F NCIS	
LMN	46	Movies		Movies		Movies		Movies		Movies		Movies		Movies		Movies	
MSNBC	43	6:00 Morning Joe		Ana Cabrera Reports		Ana Cabrera Reports		Chris Jansing Reports		Chris Jansing Reports		Katy Tur Reports		Katy Tur Reports		Katy Tur Reports	
MTV	36	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Office	Office	Office	Office	TBA	Ridiculous	TBA	Ridiculous	Various	BigBang
NEWSN	16	Morning in America		NewsNation		NewsNation		NewsNation		NewsNation		NewsNation		NewsNation		NewsNation	
NGEO	70	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Various	W Smuggler	Various	W Smuggler	Various	W Smuggler	Various	W Smuggler	Various	W Smuggler	Various	W Smuggler	Various	W Smuggler
NICK	29	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PeppaPig	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Various	Mr.Crocod	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Movie	SpongeBob	Movie	SpongeBob
NICKJ	71	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Bubble	Blue	Blue	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Rubble	Rubble	Mr. Crocod	PAW Patrol
OXY	171	Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Killer/ Buried/ Dateline	
PARMT	27	Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue	
SYFY	55	7:30 Harry Potter & the Sorcerer's Stone/ Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets		:25 Harry Potter & th...	F Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone	Harry Potter & the Prisoner of Azkaban/ Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets		Harry Potter & the Prisoner of Azkaban/ Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets	Harry Potter & the Prisoner of Azkaban/ Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets	Harry Potter & the Prisoner of Azkaban/ Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets	Harry Potter & the Prisoner of Azkaban/ Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets	Harry Potter & the Prisoner of Azkaban/ Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets	Harry Potter & the Prisoner of Azkaban/ Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets	Tu Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire	Th Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	Th Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	
TBN	68	Jeffress	Joyce M.	Creflo	Hagee	Joel Osteen	Jackson	S. Furtick	Kingdom	Jeffress	Winning	Joyce M.	Better Together	A.Wommack	The 700 Club	The 700 Club	
TBS	24	Sheldon	Sheldon	Sheldon	Sheldon	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
TCM	54	Girl Crazy/ One for th...	Interrupted Melody	:15 The Old Man & the ...	Th :45 Pan-Americana	The Kissing Bandit	F Trial	Out of the Fog	:45 The Girl of the Gold...	:15 Criminal Court	Stage Door/ Gun Alive/ :45 The Breaki...	The Fastest W Criminal Lawyer	The Unsinkable...	Tu :45 You're Only Young	Th :45 The Bordertown	Th :45 The Unfaithful	
TLC	23	Various		F Pregnant		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various		Various	
TNT	28	M-W Charmed / Th F FBI		M-W Charmed / Th F FBI		M-W Cold Case / Th F FBI		M-W Cold Case / Th F FBI		M-W Cold Case / Th F FBI		M-W Cold Case / Th F FBI		Movies		Movies	
TOON	69	Gumball	:35 Looney	:05 Tom-Jerry	Be Cool	Be Cool	Scooby-Doo	Scooby-Doo	Flapjack	Adventure	Summer	Teen/ Teen	Teen/ Teen	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball
TRUTV	40	Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Various	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers
TVLAND	47	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Gunsmoke	Gunsmoke	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/ Chicago/ Chica..		Premier/ Law-SVU/ Chicago		Various	
WE	61	6:00 Paid Programming		Various		F Criminal		Various		F Criminal		Various		F Criminal		Various	

# Stars on screen

## Space journey: Stewart attached to Prime Video's 'The Challenger'

By Michelle Rose  
TV Media

**Space journey:** Actress Kristen Stewart ("Twilight," 2008) has evolved her career beyond her early blockbuster fame by pivoting towards auteur-driven projects and indie films. And now, a TV role could offer yet another lens through which to examine her gravitation toward complex roles.

In the works since June 2024 (according to Variety), "The Challenger" is said to be inspired by the book "The New Guys," by author Meredith Bagby. The limited series was recently greenlit by Prime Video, with Stewart attached as both executive producer and star. In her first regular TV role, she'll be portraying Sally Ride, the first American woman to fly into space.

The official logline is as follows: "The Challenger" tells the gripping story of one of the most defining moments in space history, both the unprecedented events leading up to the tragedy, and the shocking investigation that followed. As the members of the 1986 Rogers Commission interrogate the complex inner workings of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to find what, or who, was responsible for the Challenger's doomed fate, the show explores commission member Sally Ride's (Stewart) personal journey. We follow Sally and the rest of the diverse Astronaut Class of '78, through the ranks of the shuttle program, through initial recruitment and training, professional and personal highs and lows, until Sally's historic glass ceiling moment as she becomes the first American woman in space."

Series creator Maggie Cohn ("The Staircase") will also serve as

showrunner and executive producer alongside several other names, including Kyra Sedgwick ("The Closer") and film producer Valerie Stadler ("Space Oddity," 2022).

Sedgwick, Stadler and Bagby are co-founders of Big Swing Productions, where the project was initially developed before it was taken to Steven Spielberg's ("Jaws," 1975) Amblin. In an interview with Deadline, Sedgwick explained how it all unfolded: "We wanted so much to tell this story as a limited series. Our goal at Big Swing is to tell familiar stories with a new perspective and point of view. I had a relationship with Maggie Cohn, and she fell in love with the book. Valerie had this dream of having Kristen Stewart, and after more than a year of trying to get Kristen this book through back channelling, she read it and she fell in love. Then we thought, what better than to bring in Steven Spielberg to help tell this awe-inspiring story of the astronauts who inspired space travel for a new generation?"

**Stellan acting:** Fresh off his Oscar-nominated performance opposite Elle Fanning ("Predator: Badlands," 2025) in Best Picture nominee "Sentimental Value" (2025), Stellan Skarsgard will next be teaming up with another member of the Fanning family: Elle's sister, Dakota ("Ripley").

Fanning — Dakota, that is — is set to star in and executive produce an upcoming, untitled Apple TV thriller-drama from creator showrunner Alex Cary ("Homeland") and Sony Pictures Television. She'll be playing an undercover Treasury agent in a multibillion-dollar international conglomerate that has "world-changing political and criminal tentacles" (per the logline). But



Kristen Stewart to star in "The Challenger"

Fanning's character feels increasingly conflicted between her mission and her growing belief that her principal target, "the heir apparent to all that corrupt power," is at his core a good man who is worthy of her love.

Skarsgard has signed on to play Brandt, the head of the international conglomerate. As for the heir, that role will be played by Irish actor Daryl McCormack ("Wake Up Dead Man: A Knives Out Mystery," 2025), whose upcoming projects also include Netflix's "Pride and Prejudice" series and Tom Ford's ("A Single Man," 2009) film adaptation of "Cry to Heaven" by Anne Rice. Kari Skogland ("The Handmaid's Tale") has been tapped to direct the untitled Apple TV series.

**Killer unmasked:** Fans of "Dexter: Resurrection," the true identity of The New York Ripper has been revealed — off-screen, anyway.

The character was introduced in the first season but never actually seen. In the finale, Dexter (Michael C. Hall, "Six Feet Under") and Claudette Wallace (Kadia Saraf, "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit") found a file labeled "Don Framt, New York Ripper" in Leon Prater's (Peter Dinklage, "Game of Thrones") vault.

Season 2's logline has, up to this point, remained a well-kept secret, but it appears the former serial killer will figure prominently in its storylines.

According to an official announcement, Framt, who has "found a new way to live into his infamy by continuing to taunt the survivors of his long-ago murder spree," will be a series regular role in Season 2. And he'll be played by Brian Cox, the Emmy and Golden Globe-winning actor best known for his role as media magnate Logan Roy in "Succession."

# TV Search

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BEST of the Best 2024

# ▶ STREAMING THIS WEEK

By Kimberly Tremblay  
TV Media

## WHAT'S NEW ON NETFLIX

**"Man on Fire" - Season 1**  
Even when you try to start over, the past has a way of catching up to you. A soldier seeking a fresh start is forced to reckon with the life he left behind in Season 1 of "Man on Fire," premiering Thursday, April 30, on Netflix. From writer, executive producer and showrunner Kyle Killen ("Halo"), this gripping new thriller reimagines A.J. Quinnell's ("Captain Maruf," 2007) novel with Yahya Abdul-Mateen II ("Aquaman," 2018) starring as John Creasy, a battle-scarred former Special Forces mercenary struggling with relentless PTSD. Desperate for a fresh start, Creasy is pulled back into a life he's long tried to out-run and must balance his need for redemption against a growing storm of threats that refuses to let him walk away. With a compelling ensemble including Alice Braga ("I Am Legend," 2007) as Valeria, Billie Boulet ("A Small Light") as Poe, Scoot McNairy ("Killing Them Softly," 2012) as Henry and Bobby Cannavale ("Ant-Man," 2015) as Paul, this seven-episode series is an intense descent into trauma, survival and redemption.



Yahya Abdul-Mateen II and Bobby Cannavale in "Man on Fire"

## WHAT'S NEW ON PRIME VIDEO

**"The House of the Spirits" - Season 1**  
A sweeping tale of love, conflict and political upheaval unfolds when Season 1 of "The House of the Spirits" premieres Wednesday, April 29, on Prime Video. The eight-episode saga inspired by Isabel Allende's ("Of Love and Shadows," 1994) best-selling novel follows the women of the Trueba family — grandmother Clara (Dolores Fonzi, "Bel-en," 2025), her daughter, Blanca (Fernanda Urrejola, "Cry Macho," 2021), and young Alba (Rochi Hernandez, "Night Sky"), the granddaughter — in conservative South America, telling their stories of hidden romances, deep passions and the toll of a violent revolution. "As the years pass," according to Variety, "the family's secrets and struggles

build to a breaking point, setting the proud, controlling patriarch [Alfonso Herrera, "Ozark"] and his strong-willed granddaughter on opposite sides of a growing divide." With a cast that also includes Nicole Wallace ("My Fault," 2023), Juan Pablo Raba ("Six"), Chiara Parravicini ("The Head of Joaquin Murrieta"), Aline Kuppenheim ("A Fantastic Woman," 2017), Maribel Verdu ("The Flash," 2023) and Pedro Fontaine ("Spider," 2019), Season 1 of "The House of the Spirits" is directed by Francisca Alegria ("The Humming of the Beast," 2021) and Andres Wood ("Mary & Mike").

## WHAT'S NEW ON DISNEY+

**"Songs in Sign Language"**  
Disney+ is bringing music to life in a magical new way with "Songs in

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Sign Language," premiering on the streamer Monday, April 27. This special celebrates National Deaf History Month by reimagining Disney favorites such as "The Next Right Thing" ("Frozen 2," 2019), "We Don't Talk About Bruno" ("Encanto," 2021) and "Beyond" ("Moana 2," 2024) using American Sign Language (ASL). The project is directed by long-time Disney animator and director Hyrum Osmond ("Bolt," 2008), who collaborated with artistic director DJ Kurs ("The Deaf Family," 2008) and the Deaf West Theatre in Los Angeles to bring these Disney classics to life. "This reimagining of Disney Animation musical numbers helps bring down barriers and allows us to connect in a special way with our audiences in the Deaf community," Osmond said in a statement. "Sign language is one of the most beautiful ways of communication on Earth. If ever there was a medium to showcase sign language, it was animation." The special is produced by Heather Blodget ("Zootopia," 2016) and Christina Chen ("Zootopia 2," 2025).

weird, wacky and wild properties that sellers put on the market every day. Throughout the season, Jack explores eccentric homes across the United States, diving into their peculiar histories and meeting the homeowners behind these offbeat properties. However, only one will be crowned the "wildest" of them all during the season finale. "Zillow Gone Wild" is produced by showrunner Brian Gonzalez ("Lil Jon Wants to Do What?"), Cam Frierson ("Treehouse Masters"), Andi Walker Ochoa ("Unknown Serial Killers of America") and Mary Beth Anderson ("Brothers Take on New Orleans") for Pantheon Media Group.

## WHAT'S NEW ON ROKU

**"This First House" - Season 1**  
From the creators of "This Old House" and "Ask This Old House," the first season of "This First House" opens its doors on the highs, lows

and hard-earned lessons of homeownership when it premieres Monday, April 27, on The Roku Channel. This brand-new series explores the realities of buying a first home, where open houses, fixer-uppers and unexpected repairs quickly become part of the journey. Each episode follows millennial and Gen Z first-time buyers as they weigh wish lists against budgets and learn what it takes to turn four walls into a place they can call home. Husband-and-wife team Zack ("Ask This Old House") and Camille Dettmore ("This Old House") guide couples through every step, from navigating mortgage paperwork and closing-day jitters to tackling leaky faucets, dated kitchens and weekend DIY projects. With help from experts in real estate, legal, finance and construction, the families pick up practical skills while building confidence as new homeowners.



Dolores Fonzi in "The House of the Spirits"

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**Hrs: Monday - Friday 7am-5pm**  
**bladenoffroad.com**

# Sudoku

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

260426

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**

**Humane**

Set in a near future where environmental collapse has pushed governments to enforce population control, Charles (Gallagher), the head of the wealthy York family, announces to his four adult children that he and his wife, Dawn (Park), have volunteered for a state-run euthanasia program meant to reduce the population. When his wife panics and flees, government agents still demand a second body to meet the quota. After Charles goes through with the procedure, his children are given a deadline to decide which of them will die instead. What begins as a moral dilemma quickly devolves into chaos. Old grudges and resentments surface as the siblings turn on one another in a desperate fight for survival.

Director: Caitlin Cronenberg. Stars: Jay Baruchel, Emily Hampshire, Sebastian Chacon, Alanna Bale, Sirena Gulamgaus, Uni Park, Enrico Colan-toni, Peter Gallagher. 2024. 94 min. Horror Thriller.

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# Monday Best Bets



Tom Ellis and Nick Gehlfuss in "CIA"

## Antiques Roadshow

**wunu 8:00 pm**

During the latest episode of this long-running series, the appraisers head to Grant's Farm in St. Louis. This time, they look at an Andrew Clemens sand bottle circa 1885, a 1933 Goudey baseball card set and a Joan Miró pencil on paper circa 1965.

## CIA

**wbtw 10:00 pm**

As Season 1 of Dick Wolf's latest police procedural continues, unlikely partners Colin (Tom Ellis) and Bill (Nick Gehlfuss) become more comfortable with working together to the chagrin of those threatening the safety of New York City.

## MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 27, 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
<b>5</b>	WRAL	5	WRAL News at 4PM (N)	WRAL News	News (N)	WRAL News	NBC News	WRAL News	Inside (N)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)						WRAL News	:35 J. Fallon
<b>9</b>	WMBF	9	WMBF News at 4 (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	NBC News	WMBF News	Inside (N)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)						News at 11	:35 J. Fallon
<b>11</b>	WTVD	11	11 Eyewitness News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	World News	Jeopardy!	Wheel (N)	American Idol (L) (N) (CC)				The Rookie (N)		News (N)	:35 J. Kimmel
<b>13</b>	WBTV	13	News 13 First (N) (CC)	News (N)	WBTV News	News (N)	CBS-News	Wheel (N)	Jeopardy!	Neighbor (N) DMV (N) (CC)	FBI "Fidelity" (N) (CC)			CIA "Blood Money" (N)		News (N)	:35 Colbert
<b>15</b>	WPDE	10	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	ABC15 News at 5 (N) (CC)	News (N)	World News	News (N)	ET (N)	American Idol (L) (N) (CC)				The Rookie (N)		News 15 (N)	:35 J. Kimmel
<b>21</b>	WWMB	3	Tribunal	Tribunal	Mauri		Family Feud	Family Feud	Family (N)	Family (N)	Sullivan's Crossing (N)	Wild Cards		National Desk (N)		National Desk (N)	
<b>31</b>	WUNU	12	Farmer	Christina	Horizons (N)	BBC World	PBS News Hour (N) (CC)	State	Best	Antiques Roadshow (N)	American Rev "The Times That Try Men's Souls" (CC)			Amanpour (N)			
<b>40</b>	WUVC	4	El gordo y la flaca (L) (N)	Primer impacto (L) (N)	Noticias (N)	Noticiero (N)	La rosa de Guadalupe (N)	Noticias (N)	Noticiero	La rosa de Guadalupe (N)	Mi verdad oculta (N)	Mi rival (N)		Hermanas, un amor (N)		Noticias 40	:35 Noticiero
<b>43</b>	WFXB	2	JHud Show (N) (CC)	Neighbor	Neighbor	Big Bang	Big Bang	Sheldon	Sheldon	The 1% Club (N) (CC)	The Quiz With Balls (N)			Fox News	:35 Not,News	Mod Fam	Goldbergs
<b>62</b>	WFPX	8	*** Lila & Eve ('15) Jennifer Lopez, Viola Davis.		*** For Colored Girls (2010, Drama) Janet Jackson, Kimberly Elise. (CC)					*** Precious (2009, Drama) Mo'Nique, Gabourey Sidibe.							Movie
<b>A&amp;E</b>	21		Live PD "Episode 37"	Live PD "Episode 39"	Live PD: Greatest Shifts	Live PD "Episode 11"	Live PD "Episode 5"	Live PD "Episode 12" (N)	Live PD "Episode 13" (N)	:05 Live PD "Episode 10"							
<b>AMC</b>	41	2:45	** Beverly Hills Cop	*** Beverly Hills Cop II ('87) Eddie Murphy. (CC)	*** Armageddon (1998, Sci-Fi) Billy Bob Thornton, Bruce Willis.					*** Signs ('02) Mel Gibson. (CC)							
<b>ANPL</b>	64		Finding Bigfoot	Bigfoot "Bigfoot Town"	Bigfoot "The Family That Squatches Together"					Alaskan Bush People (N)	Alaskan Bush People (N)			Alaskan Bush People (N)		Alaskan Bush People	
<b>BET</b>	37	Prince	Prince	Prince	Prince	Neighbor	Neighbor	Neighbor	Neighbor	As. Living	As. Living	As. Living	As. Living	Payne	Payne	Payne	Payne
<b>CMT</b>	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
<b>CNBC</b>	53	Closing Bell (L) (N) (CC)	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)	
<b>CNN</b>	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)								
<b>COMC</b>	34	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	:35 Office	:10 Office	:45 Office	:20 The Office (CC)	:55 Office	The Office	The Office	The Daily Show (N)		
<b>CSPAN</b>	56		Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events
<b>DISC</b>	42		Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband: Seized	Contraband "Bulking Up"	Contraband: Seized (N)	Body Cam (N)	Contraband: Seized					Contraband: Seized		Contraband: Seized	
<b>DISN</b>	57	Big City	Big City	Big City	Bluey (CC)	Bluey (CC)	Big City	Big City	Big City	Phineas	Phineas	Vampirina	Place	Jessie (CC)	Kiff (CC)	Ladybug	Ladybug
<b>E!</b>	39	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men
<b>ESPN</b>	31	NFL Live (L) (N) (CC)	SportCtr (N)	Pardon (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)								
<b>ESPN2</b>	32	NBA Today (N) (CC)	NFL Live (N) (CC)	The Point (L) (N)	NFL Live (CC)	NFL Draft Daily (CC)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)								
<b>FDSO</b>	38	Ringer Gambling Show	FIBA	Run It Back	Up & Adams	Sports (N)	Fight Sports: Boxing	Up & Adams	Cont.	Cont.							
<b>FNC</b>	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) (CC)	Fox News at Night (L) (N)								
<b>FOOD</b>	66	Alex vs. America	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	The Ultimate Baking (N)	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby
<b>FREE</b>	18	3:00 ** Fox & the Hound	*** Lilo & Stitch ('02) Daveigh Chase. (CC)	*** Toy Story ('95) Tom Hanks. (CC)	:55 **** Toy Story 2 ('99) Tom Hanks. (CC)												
<b>FX</b>	67	*** Taken 3 (2014, Action) Forest Whitaker, Liam Neeson. (CC)	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Marton Csokas, Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer 2 ('18, Act) Pedro Pascal, Denzel Washington.													
<b>GOLF</b>	45	1:00 PGA Tour Golf	Golf Today (L) (N) (CC)	Golf 2026 PGA Professional Championship, Second Round (L) (N) (CC)	Golf Central (L) (N) (CC)	PGA (N)	PGA TOUR										
<b>HALL</b>	62	** Love in Design ('18) Danica McKellar. (CC)	** The Perfect Setting ('25) Laci J Mailey. (CC)	** Love, Romance & Chocolate ('19) Lacey Chabert.	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls								
<b>HGTV</b>	65	DreamHome	DreamHome	DreamHome	DreamHome	DreamHome	DreamHome	Rock the Block "The Ninja Position" (N) Tropic (N)	Tropic (N)	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters
<b>HIST</b>	51	History's-Mysteries	History's-Mysteries	History's-Mysteries	History's-Mysteries	History's-Mysteries	History's-Mysteries	History's-Mysteries	History's-Mysteries	:05 History's Greatest (N)	:05 History's-Mysteries						
<b>LIFE</b>	25	Castle (CC)	Castle (CC)	Dr. Pimple Popper (CC)	Dr. Pimple Popper (CC)	Dr. Pimple Popper (CC)	Dr. Pimple Popper (CC)	Dr. Pimple Popper (N)	:05 Dr. Pimple Popper	:05 Dr. Pimple Popper							
<b>LMN</b>	46	** Steel Magnolias ('12) Queen Latifah. (CC)	** With This Ring (2016, Drama) (CC)	** Eric Jerome Dickey's Friends and Lovers Part 1	** Eric Jerome Dickey's Friends and Lovers Part 1												
<b>MSNBC</b>	43	Deadline: White House (L) (N) (CC)	The Beat With (L) (N) (CC)	The Weeknight (L) (N) (CC)	The Rachel (L) (N) (CC)	Last Word (L) (N)	The 11th (L) (N)										
<b>MTV</b>	36	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	Ridiculous
<b>NEWSN</b>	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)								
<b>NGEO</b>	70	Gathering Storm	Gathering Storm	Gathering Storm	Hurricane Katrina	Hurricane Katrina	Hurricane Katrina	Hurricane Katrina	Hurricane Katrina	Hurricane "Shoot to Kill"	Hurricane Katrina						
<b>NICK</b>	29	Patrick Star	SpongeBob	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)
<b>NICKJ</b>	71	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Mr. Crocod	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Mr. Crocod	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Mr. Crocod
<b>OXY</b>	171	Killer Couples	Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples	Snapped: Killer Couples
<b>PARMT</b>	27	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	*** Jack Reacher (2012, Action) Rosamund Pike, Tom Cruise. (CC)	*** Jack Reacher (2012, Action) Rosamund Pike, Tom Cruise. (CC)												
<b>SYFY</b>	55	*** Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix ('07) Daniel Radcliffe.	:55 *** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince ('09) Daniel Radcliffe. (CC)	:15 ** Harry Potter & the Deathly Hallows: Part 1													
<b>TBN</b>	68	Turning	S. Furtick (N)	Harvest (N)	Hagee (N)	New Season	Kirk Today	Allen (N)	Stakelbeck	Praise	Takeaway Kirk	Harvest (N)	Stakelbeck	Praise			
<b>TBS</b>	24	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Foul Play	Foul Play	Big Bang	Big Bang	The Office	The Office
<b>TCM</b>	54	:15 **** The Harvey Girls ('46) Judy Garland.	*** Annie Get Your Gun ('50) Betty Hutton.	*** Man of La Mancha ('72, Mus) Sophia Loren, Peter O'Toole.	*** More Than a Miracle												
<b>TLC</b>	23	Unexpected	Unexpected	90 Day: The Single Life	90 Day: The Single Life	The Single Life (N)	Unexpected (N)	The Single Life (N)	7 Little Johnstons								
<b>TNT</b>	28	2:00 ** Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey	*** Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire ('24) Rebecca Hall.	*** Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom ('18) Chris Pratt.	*** Meg 2: The Trench												
<b>TOON</b>	69	Regular	Regular	Ed, Edd	Ed, Edd	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Rick Morty	Rick Morty
<b>TRUTV</b>	40	*** The Flash (2023, Action) Sasha Calle, Ezra Miller.	*** Jerry Maguire (1996, Romance) Cuba Gooding, Tom Cruise. (CC)	*** Jerry Maguire ('96) Tom Cruise. (CC)													
<b>TVLAND</b>	47	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King
<b>USA</b>	30	3:00 Premier Soccer	Goal Zone	Forensic	Law-SVU "Caretaker"	Law-SVU "Dear Ben"	Law-SVU "Brothel"	Law & Order: SVU	Law-SVU "Missing"	Law-SVU "Blackout"							
<b>WE</b>	61	9-1-1 "Jinx" (CC)	Criminal Minds	Criminal	"The Performer"	Criminal	"Outfoxed"	Criminal Minds	"100"	Criminal	"Slave of Duty"	Criminal	"Retaliation"	Criminal Minds			



# Wednesday Best Bets

## WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 29, 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 (N)	WRAL News (N)	WRAL News (N)	NBC News	WRAL News (N)	Inside (N)	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago "Exit Point" (N)	Chicago "Exit Point" (N)	Chicago "Going Back" (N)	WRAL News (N)	:35 J. Fallon		
9	WMBF	9	WMBF News at 4 (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	NBC News	WMBF News (N)	Inside (N)	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago "Exit Point" (N)	Chicago "Exit Point" (N)	Chicago "Going Back" (N)	News at 11 (N)	:35 J. Fallon		
11	WTVD	11	11 Eyewitness News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	World News	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel (N)	Scrubs (N)	Abbott (N)	The Greatest (N) (CC)	The Greatest (N) (CC)	Shark Tank (N) (CC)	News (N)	:35 J. Kimmel		
13	WBTW	13	News 13 First (N) (CC)	News (N)	WBTW News (N)	News (N)	CBS-News	Wheel (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Survivor (N) (CC)	Survivor (N) (CC)	Survivor (N) (CC)	Survivor (N) (CC)	Culinary Cup (N)	News (N)	:35 Colbert		
15	WPDE	10	Judge Judy (N)	Judge Judy (N)	ABC15 News at 5 (N) (CC)	News (N)	World News	News (N)	ET (N)	Scrubs (N)	Abbott (N)	The Greatest (N) (CC)	The Greatest (N) (CC)	Shark Tank (N) (CC)	News 15 (N)	:35 J. Kimmel		
21	WWMB	3	Tribunal (N)	Tribunal (N)	Mauri (N)	Family Feud (N)	Family Feud (N)	Family (N)	Family (N)	Police 24/7 (N)	Police 24/7 (N)	Police 24/7 "Sorry" (CC)	Police 24/7 "Sorry" (CC)	National Desk (N)	National Desk (N)			
31	WUNU	12	American Rev (N)	Side (N)	BBC World (N)	PBS News Hour (N) (CC)	MotorWeek (N)	Sci NC (CC)	Sci NC (CC)	Nature (N)	Nature (N)	NOVA (N)	NOVA (N)	Shared Pla "Cities" (P) (N)	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)	Papás por siempre (N)	Papás por siempre (N)	Doménica Montero (N)	Doménica Montero (N)	Doménica Montero (N)	Doménica Montero (N)	Monteverde (N)	Noticias 40 (N)			
42	WFXB	2	JHud Show (N) (CC)	Neighbor (N)	Neighbor (N)	Big Bang (N)	Big Bang (N)	Sheldon (N)	Sheldon (N)	MasterChef (N) (CC)	MasterChef (N) (CC)	The Floor (N) (CC)	The Floor (N) (CC)	Fox News (N)	:35 Not,News	Mod Fam (N)	Goldbergs (N)	
62	WFPX	8	Robin Hood (2018, Action)	Jamie Foxx, Taron Egerton. (CC)	Robin Hood (2018, Action)	Jamie Foxx, Taron Egerton. (CC)	Robin Hood (2018, Action)	Jamie Foxx, Taron Egerton. (CC)	Robin Hood (2018, Action)	Jamie Foxx, Taron Egerton. (CC)	Robin Hood (2018, Action)	Jamie Foxx, Taron Egerton. (CC)	Robin Hood (2018, Action)	Jamie Foxx, Taron Egerton. (CC)	Robin Hood (2018, Action)	Jamie Foxx, Taron Egerton. (CC)	Robin Hood (2018, Action)	Jamie Foxx, Taron Egerton. (CC)
A&E	21	Live PD	Live PD	K9 Pa. (N)	K9 Pa. (N)	K9 Pa. (N)	K9 Pa. (N)	K9 PD- Jim (N)	K9 PD- Jim (N)	K9 PD- Jim (N)	K9 PD- Jim (N)	K9 PD- Jim (N)	K9 PD- Jim (N)	Southern Law (N)	K9 PD- Jim (N)	K9 PD- Jim (N)		
AMC	41	Movie	:45	*** The Breakfast Club ('85) Emilio Estevez. (CC)	*** The Breakfast Club ('85) Emilio Estevez. (CC)	*** The Breakfast Club ('85) Emilio Estevez. (CC)	*** The Breakfast Club ('85) Emilio Estevez. (CC)	*** National Treasure (2004, Adventure) Diane Kruger, Nicolas Cage. (CC)	*** National Treasure (2004, Adventure) Diane Kruger, Nicolas Cage. (CC)	*** National Treasure (2004, Adventure) Diane Kruger, Nicolas Cage. (CC)	*** National Treasure (2004, Adventure) Diane Kruger, Nicolas Cage. (CC)	*** National Treasure (2004, Adventure) Diane Kruger, Nicolas Cage. (CC)	*** National Treasure (2004, Adventure) Diane Kruger, Nicolas Cage. (CC)	*** Ferris Bueller's Day Off Matthew Broderick. (CC)	*** Ferris Bueller's Day Off Matthew Broderick. (CC)	*** Ferris Bueller's Day Off Matthew Broderick. (CC)	*** Ferris Bueller's Day Off Matthew Broderick. (CC)	
ANPL	64	River Monsters	River Monsters	River Monsters	River Monsters	River Monsters	River Monsters	Monsters "Demon Fish" (N)	Monsters "Demon Fish" (N)	River Monsters	River Monsters	Monsters "Congo Killer" (N)	Monsters "Congo Killer" (N)	River Monsters	River Monsters	River Monsters	River Monsters	
BET	37	Prince	Prince	Prince	Prince	Neighbor	Neighbor	Hip Hop "Diss & Tell" (N)	Hip Hop (N)	Hip Hop (N)	Hip Hop (N)	Divorced Sistas (N)	Divorced Sistas (N)	The Family Business (N)	Martin (CC)	Martin (CC)	Martin (CC)	
CMT	48	King	King	Mama's (N)	Mama's (N)	Mama's (N)	Mama's (N)	Mama's (N)	Mama's (N)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	
CNBC	53	Closing Bell (L) (N) (CC)	Closing Bell (L) (N) (CC)	Fast Money (L) (N) (CC)	Fast Money (L) (N) (CC)	Mad Money (N) (CC)	Mad Money (N) (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	Shark Tank (CC)	American Greed (N)	American Greed (N)	American Greed (N)	American Greed (N)	
CNN	26	The Arena (L) (N)	Jake Tapper (L) (N) (CC)	Jake Tapper (L) (N) (CC)	Jake Tapper (L) (N) (CC)	Jake Tapper (L) (N) (CC)	Jake Tapper (L) (N) (CC)	E. B. OutFront (L) (N) (CC)	E. B. OutFront (L) (N) (CC)	Cooper 360 (L) (N)	Cooper 360 (L) (N)	The Source With (L) (N)	The Source With (L) (N)	CNN NewsNight (L) (N)	Laura Coates Live (L) (N)	Laura Coates Live (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	Family Guy	Family Guy	
CSPAN	56	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	Public Affairs Events	
DISC	42	Expedition Files	Expedition Files	Expedition Files	Expedition Files	Conspiracies	Conspiracies	Conspiracies	Conspiracies	Conspiracies	Conspiracies	Expedition Files (N) (CC)	Expedition Files (N) (CC)	Conspiracies (N) (CC)	Conspiracies (N) (CC)	Conspiracies (N) (CC)	Conspiracies (N) (CC)	
DISN	57	Big City	Big City	Big City	Bluey (CC)	Bluey (CC)	Bluey (CC)	Big City	Big City	Phineas	Phineas	Vampirina	Place (N)	Jessie (CC)	Kiff (CC)	Ladybug	Ladybug	
E!	39	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	
ESPN	31	NFL Live (L) (N) (CC)	SportCtr (N)	Pardon (N)	SportCtr (N)	NBA Tip-Off (L) (N) (CC)	NBA Tip-Off (L) (N) (CC)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA (L) (N) (CC)	
ESPN2	32	Podcast (CC)	NFL Live (CC)	The Point (N)	The Point (N)	NFL Live (CC)	NFL Live (CC)	NFL Draft	NFL Draft	ESPN Films (CC)	ESPN Films (CC)	ESPN Films (CC)	ESPN Films (CC)	NFL Draft	SportsCenter (L) (N) (CC)	SportsCenter (L) (N) (CC)	SportsCenter (L) (N) (CC)	
FDSO	38	3:00 MLB Baseball	FIBA	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	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) (CC)	Gutfeld! (N) (CC)	Fox News at Night (L) (N)	Fox News at Night (L) (N)	Fox News at Night (L) (N)	Fox News at Night (L) (N)	Fox News at Night (L) (N)	Fox News at Night (L) (N)	Fox News at Night (L) (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	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	FlavorTown Food Fight (N)	FlavorTown Food Fight (N)	FlavorTown Food Fight (N)	FlavorTown Food Fight (N)	FlavorTown Food Fight (N)	FlavorTown Food Fight (N)	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	
FREE	18	2:40 *** Beauty and the Beast ('40) *** The Princess Diaries ('01) Julie Andrews. (CC)	2:40 *** Beauty and the Beast ('40) *** The Princess Diaries ('01) Julie Andrews. (CC)	2:40 *** Beauty and the Beast ('40) *** The Princess Diaries ('01) Julie Andrews. (CC)	2:40 *** Beauty and the Beast ('40) *** The Princess Diaries ('01) Julie Andrews. (CC)	2:40 *** Beauty and the Beast ('40) *** The Princess Diaries ('01) Julie Andrews. (CC)	2:40 *** Beauty and the Beast ('40) *** The Princess Diaries ('01) Julie Andrews. (CC)	2:20 *** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement ('04) Anne Hathaway. (CC)	2:20 *** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement ('04) Anne Hathaway. (CC)	2:20 *** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement ('04) Anne Hathaway. (CC)	2:20 *** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement ('04) Anne Hathaway. (CC)	2:20 *** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement ('04) Anne Hathaway. (CC)	2:20 *** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement ('04) Anne Hathaway. (CC)	2:20 *** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement ('04) Anne Hathaway. (CC)	2:20 *** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement ('04) Anne Hathaway. (CC)	2:20 *** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement ('04) Anne Hathaway. (CC)	2:20 *** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement ('04) Anne Hathaway. (CC)	
FX	67	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 ('17) Zoe Saldana, Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 ('17) Zoe Saldana, Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 ('17) Zoe Saldana, Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 ('17) Zoe Saldana, Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 ('17) Zoe Saldana, Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 ('17) Zoe Saldana, Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 ('17) Zoe Saldana, Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 ('17) Zoe Saldana, Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 ('17) Zoe Saldana, Chris Pratt. (CC)	3:30 *** Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 ('17) Zoe Saldana, Chris Pratt. (CC)	
GOLF	45	Golf Central Special	Golf Today (L) (N) (CC)	Golf 2026 PGA Professional Championship, Final Round (L) (N) (CC)	Golf 2026 PGA Professional Championship, Final Round (L) (N) (CC)	Golf 2026 PGA Professional Championship, Final Round (L) (N) (CC)	Golf 2026 PGA Professional Championship, Final Round (L) (N) (CC)	Golf Central (L) (N) (CC)	Golf Central (L) (N) (CC)	Golf Central (L) (N) (CC)	Golf Central (L) (N) (CC)	Golf Central (L) (N) (CC)	Golf Central (L) (N) (CC)	Golf Central (L) (N) (CC)	Golf Central (L) (N) (CC)	Golf Central (L) (N) (CC)	Golf Central (L) (N) (CC)	
HALL	62	* Love in Store ('20) Alexandra Breckenridge. (CC)	* Love in Store ('20) Alexandra Breckenridge. (CC)	* The Real West ('24) Kimberley Sustad. (CC)	* The Real West ('24) Kimberley Sustad. (CC)	* I'll Be Seeing You ('26) Tyler Hynes. (CC)	* I'll Be Seeing You ('26) Tyler Hynes. (CC)	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	Gold. Girls	
HGTV	65	Love It "Moms at Odds" (N)	Love It or List It (N)	Rock the Block "The Ninja Position" (N)	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	
HIST	51	The UnExplained	The UnExplained	The UnExplained	The UnExplained	The UnExplained	The UnExplained	The UnExplained	The UnExplained	The UnExplained	The UnExplained	The UnExplained	The UnExplained	:05 The UnExplained	:05 The UnExplained	:05 The UnExplained	:05 The UnExplained	
LIFE	25	Castle (CC)	The Rookie (CC)	The Rookie (CC)	The Rookie (CC)	The Rookie (CC)	The Rookie (CC)	The Rookie (CC)	The Rookie (CC)	The Rookie (CC)	The Rookie (CC)	The Rookie (CC)	The Rookie (CC)	:05 The Rookie (CC)	:05 The Rookie (CC)	:05 The Rookie (CC)	:05 The Rookie (CC)	
LMN	46	* Terry McMillan Presents: His, Hers & Ours (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: His, Hers & Ours (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Forever Taye Diggs. (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Forever Taye Diggs. (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted by Love (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted by Love (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted 2 Love (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted 2 Love (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted 2 Love (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted 2 Love (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted 2 Love (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted 2 Love (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted 2 Love (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted 2 Love (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted 2 Love (N)	* Terry McMillan Presents: Tempted 2 Love (N)	
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)	The 11th (L) (N)	The 11th (L) (N)	The 11th (L) (N)	The 11th (L) (N)	The 11th (L) (N)	The 11th (L) (N)	The 11th (L) (N)	The 11th (L) (N)	The 11th (L) (N)	
MTV	36	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	
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)	On Balance (N) (CC)	On Balance (N) (CC)	On Balance (N) (CC)	On Balance (N) (CC)	On Balance (N) (CC)	On Balance (N) (CC)	On Balance (N) (CC)	On Balance (N) (CC)	
NGEO	70	Catch a Smuggler	Catch a Smuggler	Catch a Smuggler	Catch a Smuggler	Catch a Smuggler	Catch a Smuggler	Smuggler "False Bottom" (N)	Smuggler "False Bottom" (N)	Smuggler "High Heels" (N)	Smuggler "High Heels" (N)	Smuggler "High Heels" (N)	Smuggler "High Heels" (N)	To Catch a Smuggler (N)	To Catch a Smuggler (N)	To Catch a Smuggler (N)	To Catch a Smuggler (N)	
NICK	29	Patrick Star	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	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	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	PAW Patrol	Mr. Crocod	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	Peppa Pig	
OXY	171	Dateline: Secrets "The Bathub Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Bathub Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "Horror at the Lake" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "Horror at the Lake" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	Dateline: Secrets "The Blue Blanket Mystery" (CC)	
PARMT	27	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	
SYFY	55	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire ('05, Fantasy) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe. (CC)	*** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire ('05, Fantasy) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe. (CC)	*** Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix ('07) Daniel Radcliffe. (CC)	*** Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix ('07) Daniel Radcliffe. (CC)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	*** Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (N)	
TBN	68	Turning	S. Furtick (N)	Harvest (N)	Hagee (N)	Graham	Kirk Today	Allen (N)	Stakelbeck	Gaither Vocal (N) (CC)	Harvest (N)	M. Youssef	Turning	Stakelbeck	Gaither Vocal (CC)	Gaither Vocal (CC)	Gaither Vocal (CC)	
TBS	24	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (L) (N) (CC)	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (L) (N) (CC)	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (L) (N) (CC)	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (L) (N) (CC)	Foul Play	Foul Play	The Office	The Office	
TCM	54	Movie	*** Count the Hours Teresa Wright. (CC)	*** Trial ('55, Dra) Dorothy McGuire, Glenn Ford. (CC)	*** The Rainmaker ('56) Burt Lancaster. (CC)	*** The Rainmaker ('56) Burt Lancaster. (CC)	*** The Rainmaker ('56) Burt Lancaster. (CC)	*** The Rainmaker ('56) Burt Lancaster. (CC)	*** The Rainmaker ('56) Burt Lancaster. (CC)	*** The Rainmaker ('56) Burt Lancaster. (CC)	*** The Rainmaker ('56) Burt Lancaster. (CC)	*** The Rainmaker ('56) Burt Lancaster. (CC)	*** The Rainmaker ('56) Burt Lancaster. (CC)	:15 *** Miracle in the Rain ('56) Jane Wyman. (CC)	:15 *** Miracle in the Rain ('56) Jane Wyman. (CC)	:15 *** Miracle in the Rain ('56) Jane Wyman. (CC)	:15 *** Miracle in the Rain ('56) Jane Wyman. (CC)	
TLC	23	Dr. Pimple Popper	The Bad Foot Clinic	The Bad Foot Clinic	The Bad Foot Clinic	One Day in My Body	One Day in My Body	One Day in My Body	One Day in My Body	One Day in My Body	One Day in My Body	One Day in My Body	One Day in My Body	The Bad Foot Clinic (N)	The Bad Foot Clinic (N)	The Bad Foot Clinic (N)	The Bad Foot Clinic (N)	
TNT	28	:15 *** Horrible Bosses 2 ('14) Charlie Day, Jason Bateman. (CC)	:15 *** Horrible Bosses 2 ('14) Charlie Day, Jason Bateman. (CC)	NHL Preg. (N)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	
TOON	69	Regular	Regular	Ed, Edd	Ed, Edd	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	
TRUTV	40	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	NHL on TNT	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	NHL Hockey (L) (N) (CC)	
TVLAND	47	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	
USA	30	9-1-1 "Kids Today" (CC)	9-1-1 "Sink or Swim" (CC)	9-1-1 "The Searchers" (CC)	9-1-1 "The Searchers" (CC)	9-1-1 "Triggers" (CC)	9-1-1 "Rage" (CC)	9-1-1 "Monsters" (CC)	9-1-1 "Athena Begins" (CC)	9-1-1 "Malfunction" (CC)	9-1-1 "Malfunction" (CC)	9-1-1 "Malfunction						

# Real talk

## Nature vs. human nature: Can humans live peacefully among carnivorous creatures?

By **Caroline Collacutt**  
TV Media

**Nature vs. human nature:** Experience breathtaking landscapes and immerse yourself in inspiring stories of people and wildlife living in harmony with “Shared Planet” — a docuseries from Canadian network CBC’s “The Nature of Things,” premiering Wednesday, April 29, on PBS.

“In an age of serious environmental challenges, this four-part global series offers a look at an alternative and more hopeful future,” a synopsis given by PBS reads. “The

series spans dozens of countries and features individuals from all walks of life interacting with nature in innovative ways. Each story explores how people and wildlife can thrive together in every ecosystem — from oceans to forests, from megacities to grasslands.”

The series — which aims to celebrate the benefits of coexisting with nature — features “spectacular visuals and unforgettable characters” (per PBS) as it discusses everything from natural touches in urban spaces to the unique strategies used by those who live alongside unexpected creatures. “Shared Planet” asks:

how do we protect our natural world? And how can we more peacefully cohabitate with our animal neighbors?

First, during its premiere episode, “Shared Planet” delves into city living. These human-made spaces often butt up against nature, creating ecotones — overlapping areas between two habitats — that overflow with bustling life, often seeing species spread from one habitat to another.

As the network’s description explains, “‘Cities’ highlights inspiring stories of people reshaping urban life and sharing space with wildlife.



Sankale and Michael Sumare feature in “Shared Planet”

# Extreme Sudoku

				4			B	9	2	0		D		
C	4		6			D			7			5		
			E	9	7		D			B		6		
							C		F		E			
9	E	B	4	C		1	7					3		
		1	5				2			E				
			7		8			1						
	A	D			3		F	7	5	9	1	B		
6		9			8		E				5	1		
		3			0		6		F					
	0			6		1	5			8	7	B	3	
F				A	E			B			D	9		
				7							2		D	0
7				0	F	3	4							
D	C		1			2				B		A	8	
			4	9		5	D		6	E		3	1	C

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**

In Los Angeles, a mountain lion unites a community and becomes the unofficial mascot of the city, while in Kolkata [India], locals clean the urban wetlands, creating an incredible wildlife habitat and supporting thousands of jobs. In New York City, the Billion Oyster Project is restoring reefs to New York Harbor, helping protect the city from dangerous hurricanes. And in futuristic Singapore, urban reforestation efforts have transformed the city, enhancing citizens’ lives and attracting wildlife such as hornbills.”

Later, hear how locals live alongside lions in the open savannahs of Kenya, how Mezcal makers in Mexico utilize bats to improve their agave crops, how coral reefs improve the lives of fish below and humans above and how scientists, nature enthusiasts and lumberjacks alike are currently reshaping the way we live and work in forests.

From an Emmy-winning team including director Jeff Turner (“Island of the Sea Wolves”) and director of photography Justin Maguire (“Our Planet”), “Shared Planet” makes its PBS debut Wednesday, April 29.

**Confessions between couples:** In 2017, Scottish cyclist Tony

Parsons began a solo charity cycle ride after being treated for prostate cancer. After a heroic start, however, the 63-year-old former navy officer never made it home, seemingly disappearing into thin air. For three years, the case of the Vanishing Cyclist remained a mystery — until one woman’s bold decision finally revealed Parsons’ fate.

“Should I Marry a Murderer?” premieres Wednesday, April 29, on Netflix, following the extraordinary story of Dr. Caroline Muirhead, who found herself unexpectedly involved with Parsons’ case.

Only months away from their wedding, Muirhead was approached by her then-fiance, Alexander McKellar, who — overcome by guilt — admitted to accidentally killing Parsons during a hit-and-run. McKellar claimed that he and his brother, Robert, failed to find medical attention in time for Parsons after the collision, and that Parsons quickly died from his injuries. After confessing to his future wife, McKellar then led Muirhead to the spot where Parsons was buried, proving his story to be true.

“Imagine you fall in love with someone who made you feel ac-

cepted, wanted, seen, who made you feel whole and loved and special, and you are just so happy,” Muirhead says in the series’ trailer. “And then they say to you I’ve done a horrible, horrible thing. Something so vile it flips your entire world upside down.

“To remain in love, you have to keep this secret that you know is going to destroy you,” she continues. “But if you reveal it, then you destroy everything. I mean, what would you do?”

For Muirhead, the answer was simple: no matter what, she would make sure Parsons saw the justice he deserved. Thinking fast, Muirhead left a Red Bull can behind at the location, marking the burial spot that she later described in a tip to police.

As it delves into the previously unknown details of Parsons’ curious disappearance, “Should I Marry a Murderer?” recounts Muirhead’s transition from planning a wedding to solving a cold case — one she never expected to be involved with.

One family receives closure while another falls apart in “Should I Marry a Murderer?,” a two-part documentary premiering Wednesday, April 29, on Netflix.





# hollywood Q&A



Moana in a scene from "Moana"

By Adam Thomlison  
TV Media

**Q: The "Moana" song "We Know the Way" features full verses in a language I don't recognize. What language is it?**

A: "We Know the Way," the epic ballad that bookends beloved animated film "Moana" (2016), is actually written in three languages.

Parts of the song are in English, but most of it is divided between two distinct Polynesian languages: Samoan and Tokelauan.

Samoan is a well-known and widely spoken language, but Tokelauan is quite the opposite. Native to Tokelau, an island group north of Samoa, Tokelauan is only spoken by a few thousand people.

One of those people is Opetia Foa'i, the Polynesian folk musician who co-wrote "We Know the Way" and other songs on the "Moana" soundtrack with American film composers Mark Mancina ("Speed," 1994) and Lin-Manuel Miranda ("Hamilton," 2020).

Foa'i said that Tokelauan's obscurity is part of what makes it special, and that it was "preserved because of its isolation."

"It's the reason why I use it," he told Australian Broadcasting Corpo-

ration Pacific in a 2024 interview.

"It's so rhythmic. There's something about it, and it's why I use it in all my songs or most of my songs."

But he's representing more than just Tokelau. His inclusion of more than one Polynesian language in "We Know the Way" represents his own heritage and history — he was born in a Tokelau settlement on the island of Samoa to parents from Tokelau and another island, Tuvalu. In another interview, with the website 200WorldAlbums.com, he said, "I am not a Tokelauan artist, I am not a Samoan artist, I am a Pacific artist, I am the whole region."

**Q: I was sorry to see that "Stuff the British Stole" ended. What's the host, Marc Fennell, doing now?**

A: "Stuff the British Stole," the playfully serious documentary series about historical looting by the British Empire, was an Australian-Canadian co-production that found broader fame afterwards.

That's partly because it was based on an also-popular podcast of the same name. Both were hosted by Australian journalist Marc Fennell ("The Feed").

The bad news is that none of Fennell's subsequent projects have got-

## Screen scramble

VORE OURY DDEA BYOD  
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LHOOPYOLDW  
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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**

ten nearly the same exposure over here — or any exposure, quite frankly.

Since "Stuff the British Stole" ended in 2024, he's already hosted two different shows — "The Secret DNA of Us," a docuseries that uses DNA testing to learn about the history of Australian communities and people, and "Tell Me What You Really Think," a much lower-concept show where he just sits down with everyday people to have raw and occasionally uncomfortable conversations.

Both shows are very much about Australia and its culture, meaning they're less exportable than "Stuff

the British Stole," which held more international interest for uncomfortably obvious reasons.

There's a small glimmer of hope for fans of "Stuff," though. After the series ended, there was talk of turning "Stuff the British Stole" into a big-budget heist drama. But, unfortunately, that was in 2024 and nothing has been heard about the idea since. And since it would be a dramatization, it likely wouldn't have a part for Fennell anyway.

Have a question? Email us at [questions@tvtabloid.com](mailto:questions@tvtabloid.com). Please include your name and town. Personal replies will not be provided.

## Late laughs

### The Late Show With Stephen Colbert

So, we have no sense if the war is ending anytime soon, which is not great because economists are predicting the fallout could last for years. For example, because polyester is made from petrochemicals found in the Gulf, tracksuits could get more expensive. That is war on New Jersey. What is the mafia going to do now? Nobody wants to get dumped in the Meadowlands by guys wearing kaftans.

### The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon

Today [March 19], the White House asked Congress to give them \$200 billion in additional funding for the war in Iran. Yeah, \$200 billion. President Trump heard and was like, "Iran must be getting one hell of a ballroom. That's ballroom money."

### Jimmy Kimmel Live!

We are glad to have you on one of the least productive workdays of the year. The NCAA men's basketball tournament started today [March 19]. Thirty-two teams play today, 32 play tomorrow. They'll whittle that down to 16 and then eight. Then the final four and then the Finals and the winner goes to the White House to hand their trophy over to President Trump.

### Late Night With Seth Meyers

While hosting the Naval Academy football team last week, President Trump said that former White House doctor Congressman Ronny Jackson told him that if he did not eat junk food, he would live to be 200 years old. Wait a minute. He's not 200 years old? Every photo looks like he drank from the wrong chalice in "Indiana Jones."

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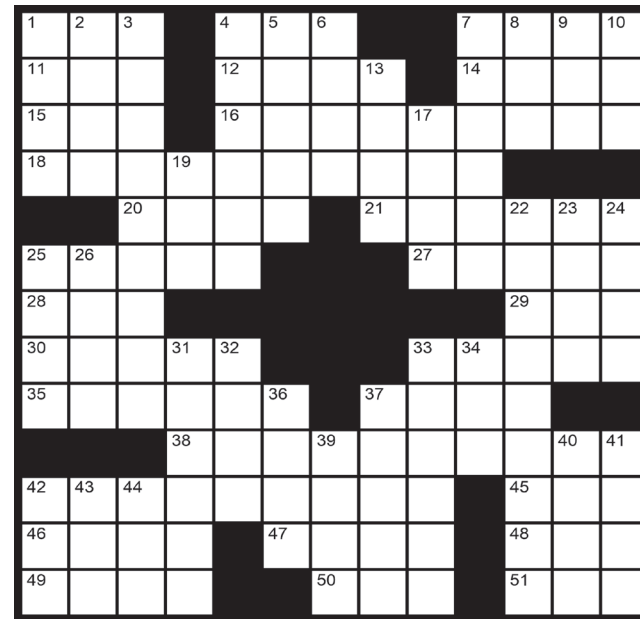
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- Bursitis
- Cartilage Damage
- Weakness in your knees
- Sharp/Shooting Pain
- Muscles Spasms
- Burning

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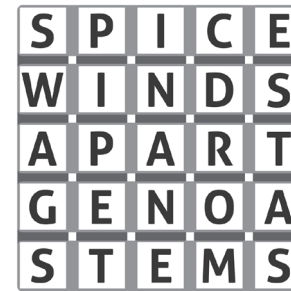
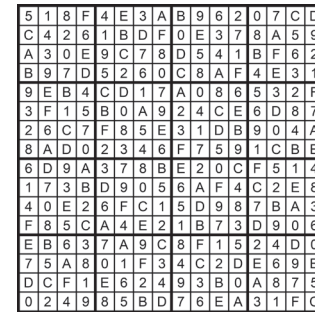
260426 © TV Media

**Across**

1. Off-roader's purchase, for short
4. NBC comedy series, briefly
7. Fitness centers
11. Louis XIV, e.g.
12. Olio
14. Stephen Colbert's realm
15. Flight board abbr.
16. Heiress player on "Falcon Crest"
18. CBS reality series
20. Locks up
21. Drummer on "The Muppet Show"
25. Baseball's Doubleday
27. Baker of song
28. Diagnostic proc.
29. "Get going!"
30. Compote fruit
33. Nuisances
35. Transmission type
37. Goals
38. Tom Selleck series
42. Jon Taffer reality show
45. Party bowlful
46. Indian bread
47. Oz visitor
48. Punk variant
49. Baldwin on "30 Rock"
50. Nine-digit ID
51. Hardened
2. Donna's portrayal on "Beverly Hills 90210"
3. James Drury series, with "The"
4. Generous one
5. Former small iPods
6. Aspiring atty.'s exam
7. Recipe direction
8. \_\_\_-Man (arcade game)
9. Actress MacGraw
10. Cousin of calypso
13. Result of a crack?
17. Dunham of "Girls"
19. Letters after some dates
22. Short tv shows
23. Like \_\_\_ of bricks
24. Parts of a code
25. Clock display switch
26. Town north of Anaheim
31. Document heading
32. Store sign
33. Load up with
34. "\_\_\_, amas, amat ..."
36. Craving
37. Borders
39. Reverberations in Spain
40. Kind of store
41. Good name for a Dalmatian
42. Support system?
43. Part of some e-mail addresses
44. Road sign abbr.

**Down**

1. \_\_\_-American



Answer: SAMARA WEAVING

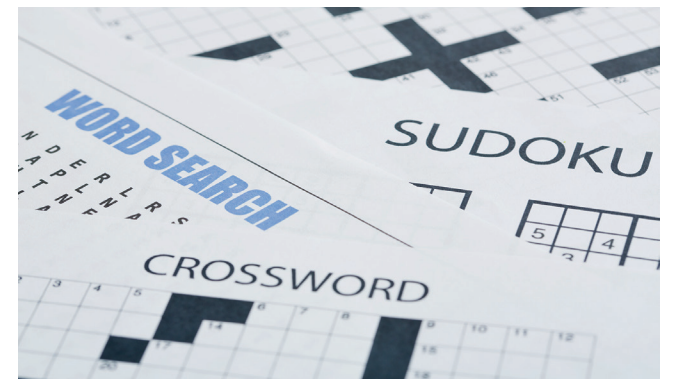
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**Solution on page 2**

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