

SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

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A rockhound to open crystal storefront

By Skye Melcher

Crystals shine and glitter from a new storefront in down Sedalia as a military couple gets ready to open its doors.

Amy and Nate Hanson, of Knob Noster, first began selling crystals online six months ago and after seeing success, they decided to open a storefront called Silver Fang Crystal.

Amy said she has been collecting crystals since she was 8 years old. She followed her grandfather's steps as he was always looking for treasures in Maine.

"I had never really been into a crystal store until I was 8 years old and we went to Coos Canyon," Amy said. "And they do tourmaline, they do gold panning and all that stuff there. They had a crystal store in there and I was mesmerized by it."

Her grandfather told her she could pick any crystal in the store. Of course, Amy went for the huge cathedral, a large crystal or geode cluster, so her grandfather redirected her to smaller crystals.

"I still have my first amethyst," Amy said. "It was just a little cluster he bought me at Coos Canyon back in the day."

Her grandfather told her when she was older she could get herself a cathedral. That was Amy's first purchase when she received her first bonus from a job.

It is now displayed in the storefront. "It got to the point where I was buying so many crystals that my husband was like 'All right, we need to put the stop on it,'" Amy said.

Amy has a business degree, so it made sense for her family to start a business and her love for crystals played into that.

The reason for opening in Sedalia was so the Hansons wouldn't compete with the crystal store in Warrensburg and there were no open spaces in Knob Noster.

Amy organized the store in color coordination, putting a rainbow of crystals on the wall shelves and then light and dark crystals on shelves in the middle. She also has cases of larger geodes and clusters with large crystals shaped like things like skulls, hearts and aliens.

"I've got all kinds of stones from all over the world," Amy said. "I have a wholesaler in Pakistan, so I have a lot of Pakistani materials, I have Brazilian materials. I work with China and Madagascar."

Amy has a variety of raw and polished crystals, different animal carvings, straight geodes and man-made crystals. There is a certain number of man-made stones that people will use for metaphysical purposes.

Amy said she loves when crystals can find their forever homes and customers are drawn to something different.



Silver Fang Crystal owners Amy and Nate Hanson along with their daughter Alice stand in front of the custom sign made for their business. Silver Fang Crystal is set to possibly open in late January or early February.

"I love to see different people's vibe, they always have their own crystal vibe..." Amy said. "So when they pick out their crystals, it kind of creates a vibe, so I call it the crystal vibe. I love finding out what someone's crystal vibe is."

Once Amy figures out someone's crystal vibe, she is able to pick out different crystals she knows that person would like.

She has information cards placed with each crystal with the name of it, what it will do for someone and when it

can be used. Amy said she hopes customers will have the experience she had growing up: they would know her, know her situation and know she will treat them right. She wants to get to know the customers the store will have come through its door.

Prices of crystals in the store range from \$1 to \$2,000. The range is based on the type and size. Amy will also offer incense, candles, wax melts and jewelry. "My mom actually makes the candles, so it's like our

own Silver Fang Candles, they all have crystals in them," Amy said.

Her mom can make custom candles for customers. If a customer wants a custom candle, they can speak with Amy once the store is open and she can take orders.

"She does wax melts also and they have a little crystal in them," Amy said. "It's something cool and different"

Amy has been in talks with the owner of Crystal Catalyst so she can possibly carry her jewelry at the store

one day. Amy and her husband hope to have Silver Fang Crystal open by late January or early February.

Silver Fang Crystal is at 309 S. Ohio Ave. The hours will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, contact Amy through the Silver Fang Crystal Facebook page or on Instagram, @silver_fang_crystals. See OPEN | A6

Katy Trail one of 10 Best recreational trails

By Chris Howell

USA TODAY has once again nominated Katy Trail State Park in Missouri as the "Best Recreational Trail" in the nation.

Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe went on social media Thursday to request people vote for the Katy for USA TODAY's 10Best.

Tisha Holden is the Division Information Officer with Missouri State Parks and is watching the results of the poll daily with nervous anticipation.

"USA TODAY actually sends us an email and lets us know so we can publicize it to our fans at the Katy and get them to vote and encourage them to use our trail and make it number one," she said



The Katy Trail runs directly through Sedalia passing the Katy Depot, seen Friday. The state trail is vying for the top spot on USA TODAY's 10Best Recreational Trails ranking.

Friday. "Currently we're number one, but that could change depending on who all votes."

This isn't the first year for the USA TODAY 10Best listings, but it is the first time the Katy has been ranked No. 1. Holden said the high marks show what a great job the

State has done building and maintaining the trail.

"We really like it, we're really proud of it," Holden said. "Last year, we were in the same competition, and we came in No. 2, so hopefully this year, we'll make it all the way to No. 1."

See TRAIL | A6

PCAD begins STARS program for children

By Faith Bemiss

The Pettis County Ambulance District is introducing a Special Needs Tracking & Awareness Response System, or STARS, that will improve emergency care for children with complex medical issues.

PCAD EMT Chris Thompson is coordinating the program and spoke to the Democrat on Friday. He noted the STARS program has been ongoing for many years in St. Louis out of Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. Information provided by PCAD noted children with special health care needs represent the most rapidly growing "subset of pediatric patients, consisting of more than 17% of children in Missouri and 14% in

Illinois." "They have a lot of participation in that area in St. Louis and Illinois," Thompson said. "And it's kind of spread out to Central Missouri a little bit. It's something we've just started at PCAD in the last couple of weeks."

Thompson said the program is internet-based software.

"And when we get paged out to somebody with special needs or special care needs and any situation we're not accustomed to, first we meet up with the patient (and) the mother and father and the family," he explained. "And we try to figure out what their special needs are, what meds they take, (and) what to do in emergency situations..."

"That allows us to fill out a database, into our com-

puter, to where we can look at patient information and say, 'OK, this is what we're supposed to do to help them,' he added. "Maybe they have a trach or are breathing through a tube."

Thompson said PCAD is "officially signed in and ready to go" with the program.

"We can see STARS from all over the state," he explained. "If they are signed up and, say, they come to the (Missouri State) Fair, and they fall and get hurt, we can look that person up already."

Since child patients with special health needs would need to go to a specialty hospital in an emergency, Thompson has been working with Children's Mercy in Kansas City to be involved with the program.

See PCAD | A6



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OBITUARIES

Frances G. McRoy

Frances G. McRoy, 86, of Sedalia, MO, passed away Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at Bothwell Regional Health Center in Sedalia. She was born on January 12, 1937, in Jackson, MI, the daughter of Irving Charles Rifkin and Melva Catherine (Hall) Rifkin, who preceded her in death.



Management, Marketing, and Visual Merchandising. She was a member of the Sedalia Country Club where she enjoyed playing golf, cards, and Mahjongg. She enjoyed traveling with her husband, Larry, and spending their winters in Florida with her sisters.

On August 4, 1956, in Jackson, MI, she was united in marriage to Larry Richard McRoy, who preceded her in death on June 5, 2018.

Frances is survived by two children, Rick McRoy (Luci) of Sedalia, and Cathy Coble (Steve) of Sedalia; four grandchildren, Chad McRoy, Chase McRoy, Jessica Coble, and Lindsey Coble; a great-grandson, Cruz McRoy; and a sister, Marilyn Barnstead of Holt, MI.

Frances was a 1955 graduate of Jackson High School, Jackson, MI. In 1969, she and Larry moved their family to Sedalia. She and Larry started Sedalia Computer Services until selling the business to their son, Rick. Frances then returned to school to further her education and was a 1973 graduate of State Fair Community College and a 1977 graduate of Central Missouri State University. She and Larry then purchased the Alibi Inn in 1987 and worked there until their retirement.

In addition to her husband and parents, Frances was preceded in death by a sister, Felista Amburgey.

Frances was also an Instructor at State Fair Community College for over 20 years. She taught Business

There will be a private family-only entombment of cremains held at a later date at Memorial Park Cemetery, Sedalia.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial gifts be sent to the State Fair Community College Foundation directed to the McRoy Family Endowed Scholarship Fund or to a charity of the donor's choice, in the care of Rea Funeral Chapel, Sedalia.

Janice G. Merk

Janice G. Merk, 74 of Sedalia, MO, passed away on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at University Hospital in Columbia, MO.



and a daughter, Shannon Hagedorn (Travis) of Sedalia.

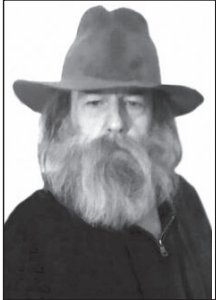
Survivors include her husband, Donald Merk of the home,

There will be no formal services held at this time.

Cremation arrangements are in the care of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Timothy Ryan Proctor

Timothy Ryan Proctor, 72, of Sedalia, MO, passed away on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at Bothwell Regional Health Center in Sedalia. He was born on May 26, 1950, in St. Louis, MO, the son of Dr. Donald C., Janet Proctor, and Mary F. Hauldren.



three great-grandchildren, Adaline, Dakota II, and Wesley; six siblings, Stephen Proctor, Anne King (Steve), Julia Whaley (Kim), Matthew Proctor, Benjamin Proctor (Jen), and Mary Elizabeth Proctor; 13 nieces and nephews, and 24 great-nieces and nephews. He was cared for by his former wife, Rose, and her husband, Kent Park.

Timothy attended SFCC and CMSU. His chosen profession was as a carpenter. He also enjoyed metal detecting, Civil War history, and playing the banjo and guitar. He lived life on his terms and did his own thing. He was even writing a memoir titled "Bosco Davis." He was an intelligent, hard-working artist with a great sense of humor. He will be dearly missed.

Besides his mother and father, Timothy is preceded in death by his brothers, Thomas Hardy Proctor and Michael Crane Proctor, and two great-grandchildren.

Timothy is survived by his step-mother, Janet Proctor; his two sons, Sebastian "Chad" Proctor (Lori) and Timothy Micajah Proctor; four grandchildren, Dakota, Tanner, Mariah, and Annabell;

A celebration of life with family and friends will be held at a later date.

Honorary bearers will be Kirk Ulmer, Kent Park, Tony Barbour, Shawn Webb, Matt L. Proctor, and Cole Proctor.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sedalia Animal Shelter, in care of Rea Funeral Chapel.

DEATH NOTICE

Thomason

Floyd Thomason Jr., 90, of Green Ridge, died Friday, Jan. 20, 2023, at Cedarhurst of

Sedalia. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 30, 2023, at Rea Funeral Chapel

in Sedalia. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral chapel. Burial will be at

Memorial Park Cemetery in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

FUNERALS

Smith, Dallas Smith Jr.

10 a.m. Saturday at Crown Hill Cemetery in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of McLaughlin Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

Alexander, Shirley Ann

11 a.m. Saturday at the First United Methodist Church Celebration Center

in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

Cunningham, Marvin Lester

2 p.m. Saturday at Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

Hunt, John Dee

Noon Sunday at Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Orear, Errell Thomas William Jr.

3:30 p.m. Sunday at Broadway Presbyterian in Sedalia.

Floyd Thomason Jr.

11 a.m. Monday at Rea Funeral Chapel. Arrangements are under the direc-

tion of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Schade, Ella Sue

Noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28 at Emerald Bowling Lanes in Eugene, Oregon.

Means, Mary Jo (Vilmer)

11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 22 at Sierra View Chapel in Carmichael, California. Arrangements are under the direction of Neptune Society of Northern California.

POLICE REPORTS

This list is a sampling of crime in Sedalia and the surrounding area. Information is taken from official police reports, which do not necessarily contain statements from all parties involved in each case.

Sedalia Police Department Arrests

Jan. 16

11:35 a.m.: Braden Avery Williams, 23, of the 3800 block of Southgate Circle, was arrested after officers were dispatched to the 1600 block of East Broadway Boulevard for a report of a driver chasing another driver. Information was gathered and Williams was later identified with the assistance of the Pettis County Sheriff's Office. He was arrested for harassment to frighten or disturb another person.

Jan. 18

6:34 p.m.: Ashley Nicole Meyrose, 39, of the 2300 block of West Main Street, was issued a summons after officers responded to the 1300 block of East 11th Street for a disturbance. Meyrose had fled the scene, but officers conducted an investigation and were able to identify her. She was issued a citation for destruction of non-city property.

Jan. 19

11:48 a.m.: Suzanna B. Donovan, 63, of the 400 block of East Howard Street, was arrested after

officers were dispatched in reference to a domestic disturbance. Donovan was transported to the Pettis County Jail and placed on a 24-hour hold pending state charges of third-degree domestic assault.

10:59 p.m.: Nickie E. Smith, 37, of the 1300 block of South Park Avenue, was arrested after officers responded to a disturbance. The victim stated a female, Smith, attempted to get her dog to attack her. Officers made contact with the suspect, who spit on an officer during the arrest.

Smith was charged with harassment to frighten or disturb another person and two counts of fourth-degree assault, one on a peace officer.

Incidents

Jan. 4

3:30 p.m.: A search warrant of a vehicle performed Dec. 23 found a debit card not belonging to the owner. The card owner was contacted at the jail and confirmed the suspect should not have been in possession of the debit card. Charges of stealing are being submitted. No arrest was made due to the suspect already being in the Pettis County Jail on other charges.

Jan. 14

12:17 a.m.: Officers responded to the 1600 block of East Broadway Boulevard for a report of counterfeit money being

passed. The suspect fled the scene before the officers arrived. An investigation is being conducted.

Jan. 16

3:48 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to a business in the 3800 block of South Limit Avenue to investigate a reported theft that had just occurred. The complaint stated a suspect entered the store with another individual and attempted to leave with \$15 in plumbing materials. The suspects then left in a burgundy pickup. They have yet to be identified.

Jan. 19

1:10 p.m.: An officer met a victim in the police department lobby who stated earlier in the day, someone known to him asked him to break a \$100 bill. The victim gave the suspect change for the note but later learned it was counterfeit. The suspect has not been contacted at this time.

7:17 p.m.: An officer responded to the 800 block of East 13th Street in reference to property damage. The caller stated someone known to them damaged their tire. Two suspects have been identified.

11:34 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to the 1300 block of South Park Avenue in reference to property damage. The caller said when he returned home from work, he found both his TVs

destroyed. He believed another occupant of the residence damaged the property. No arrests have been made, but a request for a charge of property damage has been submitted to the prosecutor.

Pettis County Sheriff's Office Arrests

Jan. 19

11:49 a.m.: Philip Larby, of O'Fallon, was arrested and booked on a 24-hour hold at the Pettis County Jail after deputies found him slumped over the wheel of a vehicle near Highway HH and Highway 65. Jail personnel found a baggie of methamphetamine in his personal effects, leading to an additional charge of introducing drugs to a jail facility.

Incidents

Jan. 19

8:03 a.m.: Deputies took a report of theft in the 33000 block of Highway E in Green Ridge.

Missouri State Highway Patrol Arrests

Jan. 20

2:27 a.m.: Steven D. Cooper, 39, of Warrensburg, was arrested in Johnson County for driving while intoxicated and failure to affix his license properly. He was transported to the Warrensburg Police Department and released.

Compiled by Chris Howell.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Boy Scouts to host chili supper

Boy Scout Troop No. 54 will host a chili supper from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3 at the First United Methodist Church Celebration Center, 1701 W. 32nd St.

The Scouts will serve a choice of chili, vegetable beef soup, hot dog or chili dog with Scout cobbler and a drink. Curbside

delivery is available. The cost is \$8.

Quilt of Valor Sew Day slated for Feb 4

United We Sew Group No. 80781 will join the Quilt of Valor Foundation National Sew Day on Feb. 4. Those who wish to help sew may meet from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4 at First Christian Church, 200 S. Limit Ave.

For many years, the

local United We Sew has gathered to make Quilts of Valor on the first Saturday of February. Member groups, other groups who support the cause, quilt industry supporters, and individuals throughout the U.S. will meet, sew, have fun and make Quilts of Valor.

Those who wish to sew may call Jeannie Braswell at 660-281-

4950. This is to ensure there are enough tables for everyone. Those who don't wish to sew may contribute or participate. They can provide lunch or come and visit and learn about the Quilt of Valor Foundation from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. They may also donate good-quality fabric. The labor cost of the project equals the members' "loving hands."

STATE BRIEFS

Police: 4 injured at shooting near Kansas City funeral home

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Police are investigating a shooting Friday near a Kansas City funeral

home that left four people injured, one of them critically.

The shooting was reported about 11:30 a.m. at the Elite Funeral Chapel in south Kansas City.

Police spokeswoman Leslie Foreman said one shooting victim was inside the funeral home, one was in a laundromat

next door and a third was found in the parking lot of the funeral home.

Two of the shooting victims were hospitalized in stable condition and one was in critical condition.

A fourth person suffered minor injuries, possibly from being hit by glass.

Foreman said a funeral was being held at the time but it is unclear what led to the shooting.

A preliminary investigation indicated none of the people who were shot were employees of the funeral home, she said.

She said investigators have no suspects in custody.

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SACRED HEART SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The following students were named to the Sacred Heart School honor roll for the second quarter of the 2022-23 school year.

A Honor Roll

Fourth Grade: Layla Isabel Bautista, Angelo Caraballo, Hannah Engles, KJay Mahalovich, Elsie May, Emery Paul, Rowyn Reed, Derek Anders, Jackson Lada, Allan Lopez, Hadley Reid, Jase Hinshaw, Graisen Wilson.

Fifth Grade: Catherine Alvarado-Ruiz, Sophia Perez, Hunter Engles, Matias Urbina Morelos, Ava Figge, Athan Crumm, Aiden Hardin Peed.

Sixth Grade: Aspen Carl, Abram May, Ruby Schulze, Josh Lucchesi, Braden Byerly, Zachary Anderson, Christian Almazan, Eric Sorrell, Cooper Hladik, Jinella Lemeshko, Samuel Diller, Kennedy Owen, Mason McMullin, Keaton Sanders, Avery Dillon.

Seventh Grade: Mason Trelow, Maggie Van Leer, Cash Conardy, Eri Steeves, Aedan Brennan, R.J. Hladik, Colt Conardy.

Eighth Grade: Emily Alvarado-Ruiz, Paisley Carl, Lauren Diller, Olivia Dillon, Jacob Velando.

Ninth Grade: Cassidy Bentch, Mary Butner, Max Van Leer, James Russell, Jaden Twenter, Delaney Grose, Emilee Jackson, Bailee Vogel, Logan Howell, Anthony Sierra, Austin

Perez, Jesus Alvarez, Thomas Jenkins.

10th Grade: Sophie Anderson, Paige Diller, Laysha Lopez, Sarah Hill, Sophia Carney, Alondra Leon.

11th Grade: Shea Smith, Samantha Altena, Mariah Van Leer, Ellie Coruna, Jackson Manning, Reuben Smith, Carter Rice, Spencer Aeschbacher, Faithlynn Parks, Margarita (Margo) Karpenchuk, Megan Aonzo, Ximena Lopez, Connor Rice, Luke Jenkins, Emily Hesse.

12th Grade: Abby Tippie, Cade Brown, Stevie Belles, Jordan Hill, Mariana Restrepo, Kate Carney, Miguel Alejo, Caitlin Carrico, Tanner Damlo, Abby Arnold, Laura Granados, Jaden Velando, Emma Siron.

B Honor Roll

Fourth Grade: Antonio Koerich, Charlotte Tippi, Raleigh Brown, Reed McMullin, Noah Borchers, Christopher Hernandez-Luna.

Fifth Grade: Isabella Hernandez, Liam Bain, Piper Howell, Easton Grose, Madelyn Jeffries, Hunter Grose, Kaidyn Ellis Angeles-Ellis, Sarah Kehl.

Sixth Grade: Easton Reid, Tayen Whited, Madison Hill, Frannie Morris, Sofia Guevara-Rodriguez, Cole Chappell, Allie Offineer, Ireland Weller, Jonah Page, Johnhenry Cordia, Sophia Hesse, Colby Thomas, Sophia Sauser, Wyatt Guier.

Seventh Grade: Margaret Knox, Bayler Cromley, Filip Perets, Carson Bentch, Anna Carney, Carolina Rivera-Montoya, Sidnee City, Addie Figge, Diego Lopez, Izaiah Cervantes, Jaxon Twenter, Gracyn Grass, Litzzy Ortiz, Mariah Armstrong, Keylen Hernandez, Scarlett Sassmann, Ava Judd.

Eighth Grade: Kingston Castanedo, Owen Borchers, Kieran Cahill, Sasha Kiyevets, Tyler Twenter, Jace Cordia, Kyler Downing, Juan Arroyo, Rylie Schlarb, Kynslee Prewitt, Katherine Kehl.

Ninth Grade: Ebrinn Cahill, Jared Owens, Camila Ponce, Nicole Estrada, Andrea Granados, Olivia Jones.

10th Grade: Riley Bradley, Skylor Gano, Conner Brown, Zander Jackson, Grant Goodwin, Avery Epple, Joshua Pacheco, Jocelyn Arista Hernandez, Kaleb Schaffer, Daniil Perets, Nathan Lemeshkog.

11th Grade: George Bain IV, Vladimir Lopez, George Perez III, Gavin Caldwell, Lexi Owens, Brooke Epple, Bryan Tienda, Andres Vane-gas, Tommy Mertes, Triston Byerly.

12th Grade: Alexis Chappell, Eli Smeltzer, Michael Marquez, Kadiatu Kargbo, Osvaldo Martinez-Garcia, Christian Martinez, Zoe Martin, Carson Bell, Eric Mercado.

Google axes 12,000 jobs as layoffs spread across tech sector

By Kelvin Chan
Associated Press

LONDON — Google is laying off 12,000 workers, or about 6% of its workforce, becoming the latest tech company to trim staff as the economic boom that the industry rode during the COVID-19 pandemic ebbs.

Google CEO Sundar Pichai, who also leads its parent company Alphabet, informed staff Friday at the Silicon Valley giant about the cuts in an email that was also posted on the company's news blog.

It is the company's biggest-ever round of layoffs and adds to tens of thousands of other job losses recently announced by Microsoft, Amazon, Facebook parent Meta and other tech companies as they tighten their belts amid a darkening outlook for the industry. Just this month, there have been at least 48,000 job cuts announced by major companies in the sector.

“Over the past two years we’ve seen periods of dramatic growth,” Pichai wrote. “To match and fuel that growth, we hired for a different economic reality than the one we face today.”

He said the layoffs reflect a “rigorous review” carried out by Google of its operations.

The jobs being eliminated “cut across Alphabet, product areas, functions, levels and regions,” Pichai said. He said he was “deeply sorry” for the layoffs.

Regulatory filings illustrate how Google's workforce swelled during the pandemic, ballooning to nearly 187,000 people by late last year from 119,000 at the end of 2019.

Pichai said that Google, founded nearly a quarter of a century ago, was “bound to go

through difficult economic cycles.”

“These are important moments to sharpen our focus, reengineer our cost base, and direct our talent and capital to our highest priorities,” he wrote. He called out the company's investments in artificial intelligence as an area of opportunity.

There will be job cuts in the U.S. and in other unspecified countries, according to Pichai's letter.

Tech companies that “not long ago were the darlings of the stock market” have been forced to freeze hiring and cut jobs in preparation for an economic downturn, said a note from Victoria Scholar, an analyst with U.K.-based Interactive Investor.

“Digital spending is suffering, and ad revenues are falling with it,” she wrote.

Just this week, Microsoft announced 10,000 job cuts, or nearly 5% of its workforce. Amazon said this month it is cutting 18,000 jobs, although that's a fraction of its 1.5 million strong workforce, while business software maker Salesforce is laying off about 8,000 employees, or 10% of the total.

Last fall Facebook parent Meta announced it would shed 11,000 positions, or 13% of its workers. Elon Musk slashed jobs at Twitter after he acquired the social media company last fall.

Those job cuts are hitting smaller players as well. U.K.-based cybersecurity firm Sophos laid off 450 employees, or 10% of its global workforce. Cryptocurrency trading platform Coinbase cut 20% of its workforce, about 950 jobs, in its second round of layoffs in less than a year.

Employment in the U.S. has been resilient despite signs of a slow-

ing economy, and there were another 223,000 jobs added in December. Yet the tech sector grew exceptionally fast over the last several years due to increased demand as employees began to work remotely.

CEOs of a number of companies have taken blame for growing too fast, yet those same companies, even after the latest round of job cuts, remain much larger than they were before the economic boom from the pandemic began.

“I take full responsibility for the decisions that led us here,” Pichai wrote.

While the tech layoffs are “shocking numbers,” their effect on tech industry employment is “nowhere near as bad as what it seems,” said John Blevins, an adjunct professor at Cornell University's business school.

“These workers who were laid off will readily get new jobs,” most likely at smaller tech companies, Blevins said. “They’re coming with high credentials from these big firms. That knowledge will be transferred and will actually work to everyone's benefit.”

In their layoff announcements, both Pichai and Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella emphasized the importance of capitalizing on their advances in artificial intelligence technology, reflecting renewed competition between the tech giants sparked by Microsoft's growing partnership with the San Francisco startup OpenAI.

Shares of Alphabet Inc., based in Mountain View, California, rose more than 4% Friday.

—
AP Technology Writers Matt O'Brien and Michael Liedtke contributed to this report.

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

Mid-Missouri Artists to Feature Sharing of Work in Progress

All interested persons are welcome to participate in the 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, meeting of Mid-Missouri Artists in MultiC of the Warrensburg Community Center.

MMA was organized to serve artists in Henry, Lafayette, Johnson, and Pettis counties with members from several other counties and four states as well. Artists, photographers, and persons who just enjoy the arts are encouraged to consider

membership.

The Gallery of Art and Design at the University of Central Missouri will be present to discuss plans for the gallery. Those present will select a 2023 Art Challenge. The 2022 Challenge was “critters,” and work from that challenge will be displayed in the Community Center during March and April. Those attending the meeting are encouraged to bring a work in progress or something they would like a critique on for group suggestions and advice. Suggestions for 2023 programs

and activities will also be discussed.

Several MMA members are displaying work in galleries and shows: Brett Butler has work displayed at Bothwell Regional Health Center in Sedalia through April 14, Mike and Barb Byrne both have works included in a Buttonwood Exhibit, “The Art of Discovery,” in the Kansas City area, and Gary Cadwallader’s “The Art of Gary Cadwallader” fills the show area at the Liberty Center in Sedalia through Feb. 28.

UCM Magazine earns 2022 Best of CASE District Award

WARRENSBURG — UCM Magazine, a biannual publication with a print distribution to 25,000 University of Central Missouri alumni and supporters, is being recognized with a 2022 Best of District award by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). A representative of the UCM Alumni Foundation will accept the award during the CASE District VI Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado, Feb. 5-7.

The UCM Alumni Foundation works in cooperation with the university's Office of Integrated Marketing and Communications (IMC) to produce the publication. It was judged by a panel of communications professionals against entries from public and private four-year institutions of higher education in the Midwest region, comprising Missouri, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. UCM Magazine and publications from two other institutions were selected as Best of CASE District VI Award winners in the category for alumni/general interest magazines printed twice a year.

While the award recognizes the quality of the publication among other colleges and universities in the eight-state Midwest district, its impact extends much further. Changes within the awards program placed district awards within CASE's global competition. Instead

of choosing many winners at the district level (one Grand Gold and multiple Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards), as has been previously done, the top three scores in the global competition that did not receive global recognition are now recognized as Best of District winners.

The Best of CASE District VI Award showcases the passion of staff members whose work exemplifies the best of the advancement profession in their district or region, and serves as an inspiration for all advancement professionals. The same kind of passion also is reflected among university faculty, staff, students and, particularly, alumni who are featured in UCM Magazine.

“It is our privilege to reflect in UCM Magazine the talent, diversity and service-oriented spirit of our alumni community,” said Kathy Strickland, the magazine's executive editor. “Every graduate of the University of Central Missouri has a story to tell, and these stories are all connected by a common thread dating back 150 years to the founding of our institution. It is our hope that the magazine and this latest award invoke a sense of nostalgia and pride in what UCM students, faculty and alumni have accomplished and continue to achieve in service to our world.”

Strickland said two issues of UCM Magazine, Fall 2020 and Fall 2021, were submitted for judging. They provided examples of what readers

have come to expect from the publication, including content such as the Alumni Foundation Annual Report, stories about Distinguished Alumni Award recipients, and many other articles featuring interesting people, initiatives and accomplishments that are UCM focused.

Judges scored nominations in five areas: content, writing, and editing; overall concept and creativity; design and layout; audience engagement; and use of resources (budget, people and time) and return on investment. Judges also considered special circumstances/overcoming adversity and the quality and clarity of nomination and supporting materials.

Strickland noted that UCM Magazine is “always created with the reader in mind.” This drives content decisions that strive to represent all sides of a story through interviews with current students, faculty/staff members and alumni who present diverse perspectives.

“The magazine as a whole seeks to invoke nostalgia, fond memories and pride in the reputation current and future accolades bring to the institution and to the value of the hard-earned degrees of our alumni audience,” Strickland stated.

To view the magazine, visit ucmfoundation.org/magazine.

Release courtesy of the University of Central Missouri.

St. Louis man freed from prison after murder case dismissed

ST. LOUIS — A St. Louis man who spent six years in jail on a murder conviction was freed after prosecutors dismissed the case against him, less than a month after a judge had thrown out his conviction.

Lamont Cambell, 28, walked out of the St. Louis City Justice Center on Thursday, shortly after prosecutors dismissed murder and armed criminal action charges in the July 17, 2011, shooting death of 29-year-old Lenny J. Gregory III, who was the son of a retired police officer.

Cambell was 17 when Gregory was killed while sitting in his car in south St. Louis. After jurors in his first trial could not reach a unanimous verdict, he was convicted in 2016 in a second trial and sentenced to life in prison with the eligibility for parole in 30 years.

Cambell had always maintained his innocence and appealed his conviction in 2019.

In December, St. Louis Circuit Judge Timothy Boyer overturned Cambell's conviction, ruling that he had ineffective counsel and that prosecutors did not disclose the lead investigator in the case was having an affair with one of the witnesses who identified Cambell as the shooter.

A hearing was set for

Thursday to schedule a new trial date but the St. Louis Circuit Attorney's office instead dismissed the charges and said the investigation into Gregory's killing would begin again, The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

“I'm just happy to be out,” Cambell said as he walked out of jail.

Police have never found the weapon used to kill Gregory, or any physical evidence to link Cambell to the case.

Gregory's relatives ex-

pressed frustration with the developments, saying they had little contact with the prosecutor's office and were “blindsided” by Thursday's proceedings.

“We didn't have a chance to talk to the prosecutor to tell him how we felt,” said Gregory's aunt, Christine Tierney. “We want justice for Lenny, and we do want the correct person in prison. We just feel it would be an injustice to the family to let (Cambell) out.”

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CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

Living with survivor's guilt

This week, my sarcoma friend Amy passed away. I had just written about her, in my Christmas column on hope. She and I were diagnosed at the same time in 2017. While we had little in common other than our shared disease, we had an online friendship built on comparing notes and anxieties, encouraging and reassuring each other through the hard times. Amy was spunky and tenacious. She battled back against her illness with true grit and a smile. If she was ever afraid, she didn't show it. She survived the better part of five years with multiple lung metastases, underwent several chemo regimens, and offered herself up for clinical trials with the hopeful curiosity of a true scientist. I will miss her very much.

Her death is the end of an age for me. She was the last of my "cancer friends" still living, a small group of women that got their diagnoses in close proximity to my own. I am now alone in my survivorship. I am grateful, but I am grieving. And lonely. And bewildered. And truth be told, guilty. Why am I here instead of the sweet Mormon mother of special needs sons? Or the patriotic veteran's wife? Or Amy, the beautiful, outspoken activist? Nobody has the answer. It is a deep mystery, forbidden to ponder if you want to keep your sanity. Who lives and who dies? Even asking the question is like looking into the abyss.

I wrote this column in 2020 after the deaths of my other close cancer friends. I'd like to reprint it, and I hope you'll entertain the ramble. Please remember your own survivor friends with your prayer and attention. Sometimes, survivorship can be a lonely and confusing place.

"I was writing an upbeat, hopeful column this week. Really, I was. But right in the middle of it, I found out my friend Susie, a fellow synovial sarcoma survivor, died of her disease. Susie's death comes just two weeks on the heels of the loss of my best 'cancer friend,' Becky. Both of them were wives and mothers, energetic, upbeat and faithful women, brave and determined until the end, laughing in the face of an enemy they knew they could not beat. I am heartbroken.

I am going to tell you a story.

Once upon a time, there was a man named Harry (not his real name). Harry was charming. Handsome. Athletic. Sensitive. Hardworking. Gentle with his young nieces.

Barely a grown man, Harry was drafted into World War II, the European Theater. He fought in France, Germany and Austria in the winter of 1944-45, adjacent to the Battle



Liz Schleicher
Contributing Columnist

of the Bulge, but not technically part of it. Harry had several close calls and near-death experiences. He saw many of his fellows fall in front of him, including one of the best friends he had made, who was cut down by machine gun fire. In Harry's company, 28 men lost their lives between October and April, most of them in the span of just a few winter months. In the end, Harry was one of only 44 men in his company of 215 to make it through unscathed.

Harry, the lucky survivor, was never the same. He was broken on the inside, and those wounds rippled through history, causing cracks that are still visible today.

Harry was my grandfather.

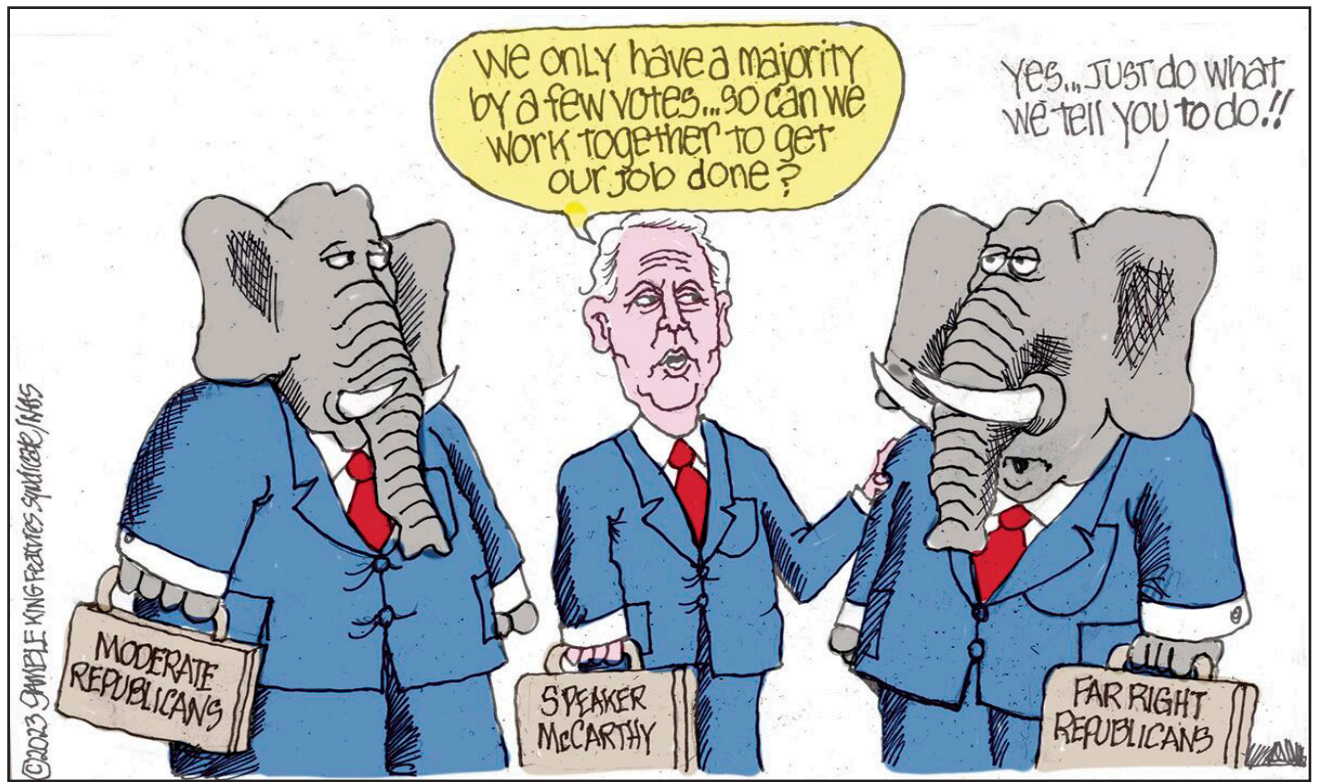
Every time I watch a cancer friend charge again and again into the fray of chemo and clinical trials, I think of Harry. Every time one of my valiant friends dies too soon, I remember him. Now, I am left still standing while most of the friends I started treatment with are deceased. I can't help but think of Harry boarding the ship that would take him home. Alive. Alone.

This story doesn't have a hopeful ending. No neatly tied bow. No satisfying answers. Maybe it doesn't even have a point. Who can make any sense of who lives and who dies but God alone? Try it, and you'll go crazy. You'll be consumed with confusion and anger and despair. It's best just to put your head down and move forward.

Or maybe it's the rambling storytelling itself that brings the answer with it. Maybe it's as author C.S. Lewis said, that 'The complaint was the answer. To have heard myself making it was to be answered....

When the time comes to you at which you will be forced at last to utter the speech which has lain at the center of your soul for years, which you have, all that time, idiot-like, been saying over and over, you'll not talk about the joy of words. I saw well why the gods do not speak to us openly ... Till that word can be dug out of us, why should they hear the babble that we think we mean? How can they meet us face to face till we have faces?"

Liz Schleicher lives in Green Ridge and is a wife, stay-at-home mother, writer and rare cancer survivor.



CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

Distinguishing one case from another

Part of practicing law is explaining in laymen's terms what the law is or what it requires. This is often not an easy task. Lots of people think they know what the law is – or what it should be – and their analysis usually concludes with the law benefiting them in their quest, which isn't always the case. Most lawsuits begin with a disagreement of some sort, which the law is supposed to straighten out. Rarely, however, does a case follow the law's requirements exactly. There are usually some bumps in the road, or inconvenient facts, or claims by each party that can make the outcome of the case blurry, especially to a litigant who has generally unrealistic expectations.

For instance, a common refrain in a divorce is, "I don't understand! My (choose a relative or friend here) got divorced last year, and she said that I'd get a lot more than what you're saying!" Then I must explain that all cases are different, and this case is not the same as the client's (choose the relative or friend again) case. This usually produces this response: "But what about (here, again, fill in the blank)?"

"What about" means that my job has just been made more difficult. The client is unwilling to acknowledge that this case is different from the other one, regardless of what I say. Maybe the difference is small. Maybe it is huge. But distinguishing cases from one another is what lawyers do. This is why I am frustrated with the classified documents brouhaha. The cases we are hearing about now – classified documents being found at Mar-a-Lago, and classified documents being found in President Biden's former office and at his home – are different from each other in more ways than they are similar. Those who stand with Donald Trump are saying, "Well, what about Biden's taking classified documents?" While it's quite clear that President Biden had some classified documents in his possession after he left office as Vice President, the similarities in the cases pretty much fade away after that.



Deborah Mitchell
Contributing Columnist

ing to acknowledge that this case is different from the other one, regardless of what I say. Maybe the difference is small. Maybe it is huge. But distinguishing cases from one another is what lawyers do.

Next, the National Archives, which under the Presidential Records Act of 1978 must retain all Presidential papers and documents, requested that Trump return the documents he took. He refused. On the Biden side, when the papers were discovered, they were immediately returned to the National Archives.

Next, Trump returned some documents, but lied, saying he was returning all of them, but retained at least 100 classified documents and others as well. Biden has returned all documents that have been found – without

Here is how I distinguish these cases:

First, President Trump, as he left office, took hundreds of classified documents with him, knowing that they were classified, and knowing that he was taking them, and knowing that he wasn't supposed to take them. The public knew nothing about this for about 18 months, while the National Archives tried to wheedle the former President into returning them. On the Biden side, we don't yet know how the documents, about 20 in all, were placed in his former office or his home, but we found out about those documents within two months of their discovery.

Next, the National Archives, which under the Presidential Records Act of 1978 must retain all Presidential papers and documents, requested that Trump return the documents he took. He refused. On the Biden side, when the papers were discovered, they were immediately returned to the National Archives.

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being asked.

Finally, the FBI requested and received a search warrant to try to find all the documents still located at Mar-a-Lago. They executed the search warrant and – surprise! – found more documents, including some marked classified. The FBI has not requested a search warrant for Biden's home or office because Biden hasn't tried to retain any of the documents in his possession. His aides and lawyers continue to look for any documents that may have been placed in Biden's home or office.

The differences in the cases are clear. One person deliberately took documents, including classified documents, knowing that he wasn't supposed to take them, refused to give them back, lied about having them, claimed that they were his, and posted on social media about a "witch hunt" when more documents were found by law enforcement after his assurance that he had no more.

One person discovered documents, including some classified documents, and returned them to the rightful owner as soon as they were discovered.

What about . . . ? There is none.

Deborah Mitchell is a Sedalia attorney.

CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

What does 'hometown' summon up?

I don't know what got me thinking about hometowns; maybe it was a phone call from an old girlfriend telling me about her visit to Poplar Bluff and meeting up with members of her high school crowd.

There's no fixed definition of a hometown. American dictionaries tend to define it as "the city or town where one was born or grew up, or the place of one's principal residence."

The British have a more restrictive view, limiting a hometown to "the town or city that a person is from, especially the one in which they were born and lived while they were young."

I like the Brits' take. There's something about a hometown that's intimately connected with your youth, where you grew up. For me, that was Poplar Bluff, where I was born and lived for 22 years. Those mem-



Doug Kneibert
Contributing Columnist

ories are firmly etched in my mind, and I often summon them up when I'm in a reflective mood:

It's a bright, sunny Saturday morning no school! When I get off the bus in front of the Woolworth store in search of a new cap pistol. Newberry's across the street is my source for model planes and comics. The busy downtown is swelled by farm families, come to town to buy stuff (with the old man maybe slipping into the Busy Bee Tavern for

a quick one).

Life in Poplar Bluff was simpler then, and moved at a slower pace. There was time to do things: for businessmen to shoot the bull over coffee at Belknap's Drug Store, to rehash the Cardinals game, to go fishing, to relax with the Daily American Republic before dinner. There was even time to do nothing.

The Jewel and Criterion Theaters, where my pals and I took in two double-features, including serials, on Saturdays, are gone, as is much of downtown Poplar Bluff. But in my memories, it's all still there.

If I've made my hometown sound a little too idyllic, it wasn't. There were also sorrows, an essential ingredient in hometown provides in introducing us to life.

While Poplar Bluff has a strong claim as my hometown, so does

Sedalia, where I've lived for 55 years. It might fall short on nostalgia but makes up for it by being where I bought my first house, where my wife and I raised three kids, and where we made many friends. And, oh yes, where I edited a newspaper.

So, borrowing from both definitions, I lay claim to two hometowns, one for the early years and the other for the latter ones.

There was a time when everyone had a hometown, and many people spent their entire lives there. But those days are long gone, considering that Americans move nearly a dozen times in their lives. Sadly, that leaves little room for a true hometown.

They don't know what they're missing.

Doug Kneibert is a former editor of the Sedalia Democrat.

March for Life eyes Congress for post-Roe abortion limits

By Ashraf Khalil and Calvin Woodward
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A half century after Roe v. Wade, March for Life supporters on Friday celebrated the Supreme Court's dismantling of that constitutional right to abortion and heralded the political struggle set loose by the court's decision. President Joe Biden pledged to do all in his limited power to restore core abortion rights. The first March for Life since the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in June came with a new focus. Instead of concentrating their attention on the court, the marchers vowed to push for action from the building directly across the street: the U.S. Capitol.

Congress, movement leaders say, must be warned against making any attempt to curtail the multiple anti-abortion laws imposed last year in a dozen states.

Tens of thousands spread across a section of the National Mall for speeches, the Capitol Building in sight, then marched.

"For nearly 50 years, you have marched to proclaim the fundamental dignity of women, of their children and of life itself," Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch, whose office argued the case that overturned Roe v. Wade, told the crowd. "But this year is different."

Indeed, with the constitutional victory behind them and lawmakers now the ones to be persuaded, marchers took a new route along the western face of the Capitol, to their usual destination between that complex and the court.

"I am the post-Roe generation," read one sign. "Excommunicate Pro-Choice Catholics," said another. Banners proclaimed "Love Them Both," meaning mother and child.

Tammy Milligan came dressed as "patriot Wonder Woman" and stood out in the crowd. She said she never thought Roe v. Wade would be overruled in her lifetime, but the fight doesn't stop there. "We want it to be unthinkable for a woman to have an abortion," she said.

In a counter-protest outside the court building, 15 or so activists in favor of abortion rights held signs of their own: "Bans off our Bodies," "Mind your own uterus." They chanted, "Our bodies do not need advice from priests."

They were easily out-

numbered and surrounded by March for Lifers, but interactions were civil and police did not separate the two camps.

Biden offered his counterpoint in a proclamation recognizing Sunday — Jan. 22 — as the 50th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. "Never before has the Court taken away a right so fundamental to Americans," his statement said. "In doing so, it put the health and lives of women across this Nation at risk."

He said he would continue to use his executive authority in any way he can to preserve abortion protections while urging Congress to enshrine such rights in law.

The crowd appeared smaller than in past years but bore multiple hallmarks of previous marches in the enthusiasm of the gathering, the large numbers of young people from Catholic schools around the country and plenty of banners representing different churches and religious orders.

"The struggle has changed," said Marion Landry, 68, who came from North Carolina with her husband, Arthur, 91, for the sixth time. "In some ways you don't have that central focus anymore. Now it's back to the states."

Mike Miller, 59, who came from Boston, has attended at least 15 such marches over the years. "There's still a lot of work to do," he said. "This is only one step and in the next step, education becomes the biggest thing."

From the stage, in a move to show that the anti-abortion movement crosses political parties and racial groups, Treneé McGee, a Black Democratic state representative from Connecticut, addressed the crowd.

"I stand in place of the pro-life Black women across the globe who are suffering in silence," she said. The crowd roared.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy offered support in a statement pledging that the new Republican majority will stand with abortion-rights opponents.

"While others raise their voices in rage and hatred, you march with prayers, goodwill, fellowship, compassion, and devotion in defense of the most defenseless in this country," McCarthy said.

Jeanne Mancini, president of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund, said the march is "a somber reminder of the millions of lives lost



People participate in the March for Life rally Friday, Jan. 20, 2023, in Washington. PHOTO BY PATRICK SEMANSKY | AP PHOTO

to abortion in the past 50 years, but also a celebration of how far we have come and where we as a movement need to focus our effort as we enter this new era in our quest to protect life."

Some movement leaders also hope to plant seeds in Congress for a potential federal abortion restriction down the line. Marjorie Dannenfelser, president of SBA Pro-Life America, said she envisions an eventual "federal minimum standard" cut-off line such as 13 weeks of pregnancy after which abortion would not be permitted in any state. Dannenfelser's scenario would still leave individual states free to impose their own, stricter measures, including a total ban.

That last ambition is an admitted longshot since even if it passes the newly Republican-controlled House, it would most likely fail in the Democratic-held Senate.

"We know it's not going to happen this session, but this is the beginning," Dannenfelser said. "It's (Congress') responsibility to listen to the will of the people."

In the absence of Roe v. Wade's federal protections, abortion rights have become a state-by-state patchwork.

Since June, near-total bans on abortion have been implemented in Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee,

Texas and West Virginia. Legal challenges are pending against several of those bans.

Elective abortions also are unavailable in Wisconsin, due to legal uncertainties faced by abortion clinics, and in North Dakota, where the lone clinic relocated to Minnesota.

Bans passed by lawmakers in Ohio, Indiana and Wyoming have been blocked by state courts while legal challenges are pending. And in South Carolina, the state Supreme Court on Jan. 5 struck down a ban on abortion after six weeks, ruling the restriction violates a state constitutional right to privacy.

But other states have witnessed unexpected

pushback on the issue. Voters in Kansas and Kentucky rejected constitutional amendments that would have declared there is no right to abortion; Michigan voters approved an amendment enshrining the right to abortion in the state constitution.

Biden's administration has limited options after the court decision. Vice President Kamala Harris is to give a speech in Florida on Sunday to emphasize on the 50th anniversary that abortion rights remain a focus for the administration.

AP video journalist Mike Pesoli contributed to this report. Staff writer David Crary contributed from New York City.

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Trail

From Page A1

And Holden encouraged anyone who has enjoyed the miles and miles of peaceful solitude the Katy provides to vote before the poll closes Feb. 6.

"We encourage everyone who's used the trail to go online," Holden said. "You can vote once per day, and we encourage everyone to go make Katy No. 1."

After casting your vote, you can see the current rankings of a trail built in Missouri to be enjoyed by all.

"We have 240 miles of the Katy Trail for anyone to use," Holden said. "You can bring your bike, your horse, your buddy, anyone with you on the Katy Trail and take advantage of it"

Jill White is the site manager with the Sedalia Heritage Foundation, which oversees the Katy Depot, and sees the impact the Katy Trail has on Sedalia.

"The Katy speaks to the future with the trail, but it's also speaking to our heritage in Sedalia as far as the railroads," she said. "If you ride through Sedalia, you're riding through our history."

The community is now traversed by the Katy Trail, which was founded on the very tracks that founded Sedalia. A trail White said deserves to be No. 1.

"It keeps being in there," White said. "I don't think it has been No. 1 yet, but it's a beautiful trail. Right in the heart of the country, we get folks from all over; east, west, north, south, we get them from outside of the United States, they all enjoy it"

The Katy Trail is competing with nine other trails, including the Ann and Roy Butler Hike-and-Bike trail in Austin, Texas, the B-Line Trail in Bloomington, Indiana, the C&O Canal Towpath in Washington, D.C., and the Little Miami Scenic Trail in Cincinnati, Ohio.

People from Sedalia may be partial to the Katy Trail, but the grandeur of the path is hard to deny.

"You get a sweep of geography," White said. "You get rolling grasslands and prairie. Then you get the hills and the bluffs and the Missouri River. It's just wonderful."

Vote for the Katy Trail at 10best.com/awards/travel/best-recreational-trail. For more information on the Katy Trail, visit mostateparks.com/park/katy-trail-state-park.

Chris Howell can be reached at 660-530-0146.

PCAD

From Page A1

Thompson said the program would help PCAD to respond and help the patient in a faster and more efficient life-saving manner. For example, when a patient signs up for the STARS program, the paperwork is sent to a doctor at Cardinal Glennon. He signs off on it, noting the care plan is correct for the patient. Then the child's pediatrician or doctor and PCAD Medical Director Dr. David Gustafson also sign off on the care plan. "This is going to be patient-specific protocol," Thompson noted. "So, we know that this child gets a certain dose of medicine for this problem. This is where you can find it; this is the exact information."

"You can look it up online," he continued. "(The patient) is assigned a number when they get signed up through STARS. So, we can look them

up by their number, their address, (and) their name if we need to"

He said when one calls 911 and identifies the child's STAR number, dispatch can communicate with PCAD.

"Dispatch will have the ability to send us a text message to our phone with that information on it," he said. "Or tell us, 'it's STAR No. 248 (for example); you'll have to log in."

Thompson, Division Chief of Training Justin Cross, and EMS Assistant Chief Roy Pennington will go to the homes to meet STARS patients and their families.

"So, we know who they are before an emergency happens," he said. "And actually, get to work with them and hopefully keep them healthy. So, we're taking a proactive stance as well as anything that occurs in an emergency."

Information provided by PCAD explained the ultimate goal of STARS is to have pertinent, up-to-date information

about each STARS child in the hands of first responders before they arrive at the child's home and for community hospitals to be equipped with the knowledge to care for these special children safely. The program ultimately helps decrease anxiety for caregivers as well as the children and potentially prevents unnecessary hospitalizations, reducing overall health care costs.

PCAD is looking to enroll more children in STARS. Residents who live in Pettis County or the Windsor Ambulance District and have a child who might qualify are encouraged to get in touch with PCAD. Becoming a STAR in Pettis County will involve regular visits to one's home and allow for specialized training for EMS staff. For more information, contact Thompson at 660-829-0777 or cthompson@pcad.us.

Faith Bemiss can be reached at 660-530-0289 or on Twitter @flbemiss.



The shelf on the wall at Silver Fang is covered in crystals that range from green to blue. All the wall shelf crystals are organized in the colors of a rainbow. PHOTOS BY SKYE MELCHER | DEMOCRAT



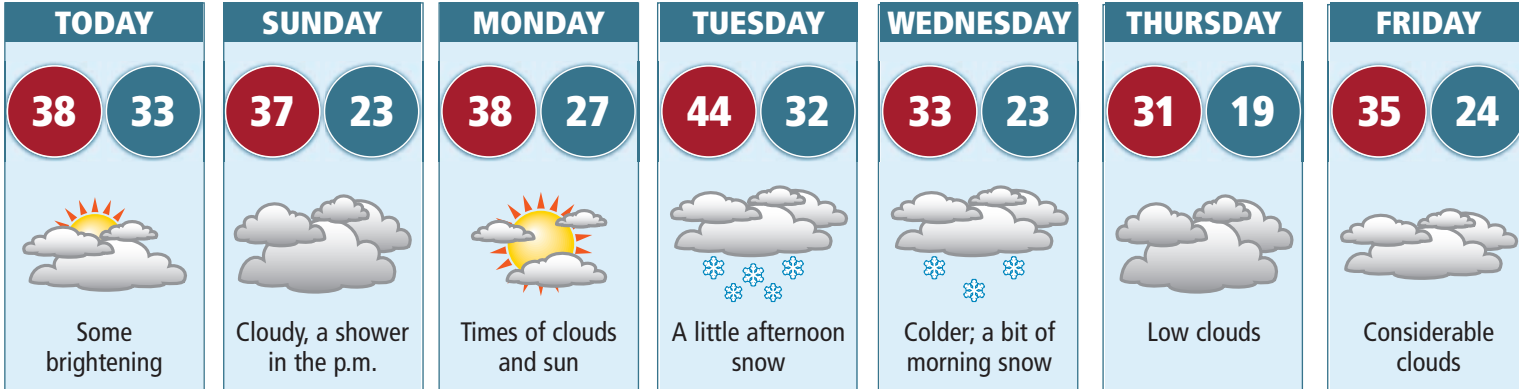
The shop also sells Silver Fang Crystal candles made by Amy Hanson's mother.

Find past news, sports & Classifieds on our website. Check out our E-Editions! SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

THE WEATHER

AccuWeather | Go to AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST



SUN AND MOON

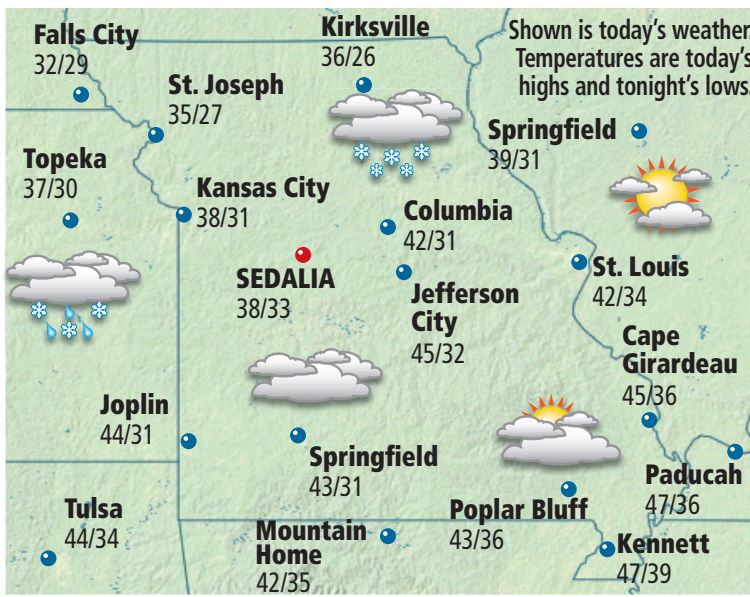
Table with sunrise/sunset times and moon phases (New, First, Full, Last) for Jan 21, 28, Feb 5, 13.

WEATHER HISTORY

In 1994, Jan. 21 set a new record low of 21 below zero in Scranton, Pa. The next year, however, temperatures remained continuously above freezing for 10 days and nights, a new January record.

ALMANAC

Almanac data for Sedalia Regional Airport Thursday, including temperatures, precipitation, heating degree days, and river levels.



BRANSON High: 42. Low: 36. A thick cloud cover today. A bit of snow and rain at times with little or no accumulation tonight. A shower in the area tomorrow morning.

KANSAS CITY High: 38. Low: 31. Today: considerable cloudiness with a bit of snow and rain at times with little or no accumulation. A little snow at times tonight.

ST. LOUIS High: 42. Low: 34. Increasing cloudiness today. A bit of snow and rain at times tonight, accumulating up to an inch. A bit of snow and rain at times tomorrow.

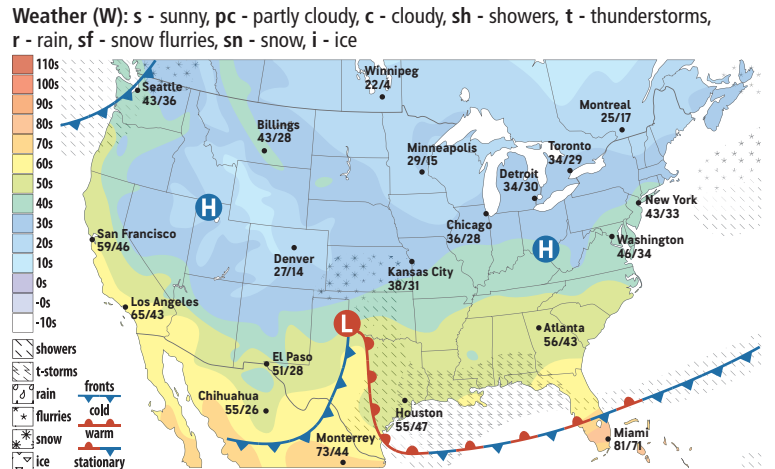
NEW YORK CITY High: 43. Low: 33. Partial sunshine today. Increasing amounts of clouds tonight. Rain tomorrow; snow could briefly mix in at the onset of precipitation.

LOS ANGELES High: 65. Low: 43. Plenty of sunshine today. A starlit sky and chilly tonight. Mostly sunny tomorrow. Monday: plenty of sun. Tuesday: plenty of sun.

NATIONAL WEATHER

Table with Today and Sunday Hi/Lo/W for major cities like Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, etc.

Table with Today and Sunday Hi/Lo/W for major cities like Milwaukee, Nashville, New Orleans, etc.



Summary: A storm will spread snow from southern Colorado to Kansas and northern Missouri as rain and thunderstorms develop closer to the Gulf coast today. Rain and mountain snow will push into the Northwest.

Advertisement for The Homes Tour.com featuring a truck and a house, with contact info for Mark Poehl.

Defense chiefs fail to resolve dispute on tanks for Ukraine

By Lolita C. Baldor and Tara Copp

Associated Press

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Ukraine will have to wait longer to find out if it will get advanced German-made battle tanks.

A dispute over sending the tanks from Western allies to help Ukraine against Russia's invasion played out both in public and private on Friday, as more than 50 defense leaders meeting in Germany failed to hammer out an agreement — stalled by Berlin's hesitation.

Failure to reach agreement on what has become an urgent request from Ukrainian leaders largely overshadowed commitments from a number of nations — including the U.S. — to send billions of dollars in equipment and weapons to the war effort.

While U.S. and NATO leaders denied any dissension in the ranks and praised Germany for its widespread weapons and training contributions to Ukraine, a smaller group of leaders met privately with the Germans to try to find common ground. They were unable to forge a consensus on sending the German-made Leopard tanks.

Polish Defense Minister Mariusz Blaszczak said Friday that 15 countries that have the Leopards discussed the issue but no decisions were made. He called the meeting a “good discussion among allies” and said the matter would be discussed again at future talks.

Germany would need to agree for the tanks to be given to Ukraine, which is not a member of NATO. Despite pleas from Ukrainian officials, Germany has so far resisted mounting pressure to quickly supply Leopard 2 tanks to Kyiv, or at least clear the way for other countries, such as Poland, to deliver them from their own stocks.

Asked at the close of the Friday meeting whether Germany was “doing enough,” U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin responded, “Yes, but we can all do more.”



Ukrainian Minister of Defense Oleksii Reznikov, left, gestures as he talks to Secretary General of NATO, Jens Stoltenberg, right, prior to the meeting of the 'Ukraine Defense Contact Group' at Ramstein Air Base in Ramstein, Germany, Friday, Jan. 20, 2023. Defense leaders are gathering at Ramstein Air Base in Germany Friday to hammer out future military aid to Ukraine, amid ongoing dissent over who will provide the battle tanks that Ukrainian leaders say they desperately need.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL PROBST | AP PHOTO

“They are a reliable ally and they've been that way for for a very, very long time,” he said. “And I truly believe that they'll continue to be a reliable ally going forward.”

Austin also downplayed the immediate importance of tanks, noting that the U.S. Stryker combat vehicles and Bradley armored vehicles that are being sent would give Ukraine new capabilities in the war. “This isn't really about one single platform,” he said.

The defense leaders heard an impassioned plea for more military aid from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Speaking via video link, he told the gathering that “terror does not allow for discussion.” He said “the war started by Russia does not allow delays.”

Germany acknowledged there had been no resolution. But, speaking to reporters outside the conference hall, Defense Minister Boris Pistorius said, “We will make our decisions as soon as possible.”

He said he had ordered the ministry to look into Germany's tank stocks so he can be prepared for a

possible green light and be able to “act immediately.” Pistorius added that Germany will “balance all the pros and contras before we decide things like that. ... I am very sure that there will be a decision in the short term but ... I don't know how the decision will look.”

The issue, however, has grown increasingly complicated.

The U.S. has resisted providing its own M1 Abrams tanks to Ukraine, citing extensive and complex maintenance and logistical challenges with the high-tech vehicles. Washington believes it would be more productive to send German Leopards since many allies have them and Ukrainian troops would need less training than on the more difficult Abrams.

U.S. and German officials have given mixed signals about whether the U.S. and German decisions are linked.

A U.S. official familiar with White House thinking said Germany has expressed hesitance to providing its tanks unless the U.S. sends Abrams. The official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity

to discuss private Biden administration deliberations, added that there was some bewilderment in the administration over the German position, since Britain, another NATO ally, has already agreed to provide Challenger 2 tanks.

Steffen Hebestreit, a spokesman for the German government, denied that Berlin has demanded that the U.S. supply Abrams tanks alongside any shipment of Leopards.

Meanwhile, a Kremlin spokesman said deployment of Western tanks would trigger “unambiguously negative” consequences.

“All these tanks will require both maintenance and repairs, and so on, so (sending them) will add to Ukraine's problems, but will not change anything with regard to the Russian side achieving its goals,” spokesman Dmitry Peskov said at a media briefing.

Austin and U.S. Army Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, laid out the latest massive package of aid the U.S. is sending, which totals \$2.5 billion and includes Stryker armored

vehicles for the first time. It also will provide eight air defense systems, 350 Humvees, 53 Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles, more than 100,000 rounds of artillery ammunition and rockets, and missiles for the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System.

Other pledges announced ahead of the Ramstein meeting included S-60 anti-aircraft guns from Poland with 70,000 rounds of ammunition, additional Stinger air-defense systems and two M-17 helicopters from Latvia, and two Russian-made Mi-8 helicopters and dozens of L-70 anti-aircraft guns with ammunition from Lithuania.

Germany's Pistorius, who took office Thursday, said that opinions among allies were mixed on the tank issue, and added that “the impression that has occasionally arisen that there is a united coalition and Germany is standing in the way is wrong.”

Milley told reporters traveling with him this week that new U.S. training of Ukrainian troops, combined with an array of

new weapons and armored vehicles, will be key to helping the country's forces take back territory that has been captured by Russia in the nearly 11-month-old war.

The influx of new weapons, tanks and armored carriers comes as Ukraine faces intense combat in the country's east around the city of Bakhmut and the nearby salt mining town of Soledar. The battles are expected to intensify in the spring.

Milley said Friday that the number of Russian dead and wounded is now “significantly over” 100,000 people, a figure he gave in November.

“This is a very, very bloody war and there's significant casualties on both sides,” he said. “Soon or later, this is going to have to get to a negotiating table at some point in order to bring this to a conclusion.”

Associated Press writers Joanna Kozłowska in London, Geir Moulson in Berlin and Nomaan Merchant and Aamer Madhani in Washington contributed to this report. Copp reported from Washington.

Supreme Court: Justices interviewed as part of leak probe

By Jessica Gresko and Mark Sherman

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Eight months, 126 formal interviews and a 23-page report later, the Supreme Court said it has failed to discover who leaked a draft of the court's opinion overturning abortion rights.

The report released by the court Thursday is the apparent culmination of an investigation ordered by Chief Justice John Roberts a day after the May leak of the draft to Politico. Notably the report did not indicate whether the justices themselves had been questioned. On Friday, seemingly in response to widespread questions from the media and legal community, the head of the investigation added in a statement that the court's nine justices had been interviewed as part of the probe and that nothing implicated them.

The leak touched off protests at justices' homes and raised concerns about their security. And it came more than a month before the final opinion by Justice

Samuel Alito was released and the court formally announced it was overturning Roe v. Wade.

The report also offers a window into the court's internal processes. It acknowledges that the coronavirus pandemic, which expanded the ability of people to work from home, “as well as gaps in the Court's security policies, created an environment where it was too easy to remove sensitive information from the building and the Court's IT networks.” The report recommends changes so that it's harder for a leak to happen in the future.

Some questions and answers about the report:

IF THE INVESTIGATION DIDN'T FIND THE LEAKER, WHAT DID IT FIND?

Lax security and loose lips. Too many people have access to certain sensitive information, the report concluded, and the court's policies on information security are outdated. The court can't actively track, for example, who is handling and accessing highly sensitive information.

Beyond that, some people

interviewed by federal investigators called in to help with the probe acknowledged they didn't scrupulously follow the court's confidentiality policies. In some cases, employees acknowledged “telling their spouses about the draft opinion or vote count,” the report said.

The leak doesn't appear to have been the result of a hack, but the report said investigators could not rule out that the opinion was inadvertently disclosed, “for example, by being left in a public space either inside or outside the building.”

HOW THOROUGH WAS THE INVESTIGATION?

Investigators conducted 126 formal interviews of 97 employees. They looked into connections between employees and reporters, including those at Politico. They looked at call logs of personal phones. They looked at printer logs. They even did a fingerprint analysis of “an item relevant to the investigation.”

Every person who was interviewed signed a sworn statement that they were not the source of the leak. Lying

about that could violate a federal law on false statements.

After all that, former Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff, himself a onetime federal judge, was asked to assess the investigation. Chertoff described the investigation as “thorough” in a statement issued through the court.

The court did not respond to reporters' questions Thursday about whether the justices were interviewed. On Friday, the day after the report was released, Supreme Court Marshal Gail Curley who headed the investigation, said in a statement that she also spoke with each of the justices, who cooperated in the investigation. “I followed up on all credible leads, none of which implicated the Justices or their spouses,” she wrote. She said she didn't believe it was necessary to ask the justices to sign sworn affidavits as others did.

WHAT WILL CHANGE AS A RESULT?

It seems clear the court will tighten its procedures, maybe upgrade equipment and likely do more training

of personnel in response to the leak. But what it has done already or will do in the future, the court isn't saying. Investigators made a list of recommendations, but those weren't attached to the public version of the report to guard against “potential bad actors.”

WHAT ABOUT SPECULATION OF WHO IT WAS?

After the leak, speculation swirled in Washington about who the source could be. Conservatives pointed fingers at the liberal side of the court, speculating that the leaker was someone upset about the outcome. Liberals suggested it could be someone on the conservative side of the court who wanted to ensure a wavering member of the five-justice majority didn't switch sides.

On social media, there was speculation that various law clerks could be the leaker because of their personal backgrounds, including connections to Politico and past writing. The report acknowledged investigators were watching.

“Investigators also assessed the wide array of

public speculation, mostly on social media, about any individual who may have disclosed the document. Several law clerks were named in various posts. In their inquiries, the investigators found nothing to substantiate any of the social media allegations regarding the disclosure,” the report said.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The report says investigators aren't quite done, but it suggests that any active investigation is winding down. “Investigators continue to review and process some electronic data that has been collected and a few other inquiries remain pending,” they said. “To the extent that additional investigation yields new evidence or leads, the investigators will pursue them.”

The final paragraph of the report said, “In time, continued investigation and analysis may produce additional leads that could identify the source of the disclosure.”

Judge fines Trump, lawyer for 'frivolous' Clinton lawsuit

By Jill Colvin

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A Florida judge sanctioned former President Donald Trump and one of his attorneys, ordering them to pay nearly \$1 million for filing what he said was a bogus lawsuit against Trump's 2016 rival Hillary Clinton and others.

In a blistering filing on Thursday, U.S. District Judge Donald M. Middlebrooks accused Trump of a "pattern of abuse of the courts" for filing frivolous lawsuits for political purposes, which he said "undermines the rule of law" and "amounts to obstruction of justice."

"Here, we are confronted with a lawsuit that should never have been filed, which was completely frivolous, both factually and legally, and which was brought in bad faith for an improper purpose," he wrote.

Citing Trump's recent legal action against the Pulitzer Prize board, New York's attorney general, big tech companies and CNN, he described Trump as "a prolific and sophisticated litigant" who uses the courts "to seek revenge on political adversaries."

"He is the mastermind of strategic abuse of the judicial process," he wrote.

The ruling required Trump and his attorney, Alina Habba,

to pay nearly \$938,000 to the defendants in the case.

A spokesman for Trump and Habba did not immediately respond to requests for comment late Thursday.

Middlebrooks in September dismissed the suit Trump had filed against Clinton, former top FBI officials and the Democratic Party, rejecting the former president's claims that they and others conspired to sink his winning presidential campaign by alleging ties to Russia.

The lawsuit had named as defendants Clinton and some of her top advisers, as well as former FBI Director James Comey and other FBI officials

involved in the investigation into whether Trump's 2016 presidential campaign had coordinated with Russia to sway the outcome of the election.

He said then the suit contained "glaring structural deficiencies" and that many of the "characterizations of events are implausible."

In the wake of the sanctions, Trump on Friday withdrew his lawsuit against New York Attorney General Letitia James. The case, in federal court in Florida, had also been before Middlebrooks.

Trump sued James in November in response to her lawsuit alleging he and his company mislead banks and

others about the value of assets in a practice she dubbed "The art of the steal."

Trump, a Republican, also sought to prevent James, a Democrat, from having any oversight over the family trust that controls his company. His 35-page complaint reshaped some claims from his previously dismissed lawsuit against James in federal court in New York, irritating Middlebrooks, who wrote in a December order: "This litigation has all the telltale signs of being both vexatious and frivolous."

— *Associated Press writer Michael R. Sisak contributed to this report.*

Flavored cannabis marketing is criticized for targeting kids

By Bobby Caina Calvan

Associated Press

NEW YORK — When New York's first licensed recreational marijuana outlet opened last month, the chief of the state's Office of Cannabis Management, Chris Alexander, proudly hoisted a tin of watermelon-flavored gummies above the crowd.

Outside the Manhattan shop, he displayed another purchase — a jar containing dried flowers of a cannabis strain called Banana Runtz, which some aficionados say has overtones of "fresh, fruity banana and sour candy."

Inside the store run by the nonprofit Housing Works, shelves brimmed with vape cartridges suggesting flavors of pineapple, grapefruit and cereal milk, written in rainbow bubble letter print.

For decades, health advocates have chided the tobacco industry for marketing harmful nicotine products to children, resulting in more cities and states, like New York, outlawing flavored tobacco products, including e-cigarettes.

Now as cannabis shops proliferate across the country, the same concerns are growing over the packaging and marketing of flavored cannabis that critics say

could entice children to partake of products labeled "mad mango," "loud lemon" and "peach dream."

"We should learn from the nicotine space, and I certainly would advocate that we should place similar concern on cannabis products in terms of their appealability to youth," said Katherine Keyes, a professor of epidemiology at Columbia University who has written extensively about the rise in marijuana use among young people.

"If you go through a cannabis dispensary right now," she said, "it's almost absurd how youth-oriented a lot of the packaging and the products are."

Keyes added that public health policymakers — and researchers like her — are trying to catch up with an industry and marketplace that is rapidly expanding and evolving.

New York, which legalized recreational marijuana in March 2021, forbids marketing and advertising that "is designed in any way to appeal to children or other minors."

But New York's state Office of Cannabis Management has yet to officially adopt rules on labeling, packaging and advertising that could ban cartoons and neon

colors, as well as prohibit depictions of food, candy, soda, drinks, cookies or cereal on packaging — all of which, the agency suggests, could attract people under 21.

"Consumers need to be aware — parents need to be aware — if they see products that look like other products that are commonly marketed to kids, that's an illicit market product," said Lyla Hunt, OCM's deputy director of public health and campaigns.

Hunt recently saw a cannabis product calling itself "Stony Patch Kids" that she said looked like the popular candy "Sour Patch Kids."

Similar products are being sold by the dozens of illegal pot dispensaries that operate out in the open and that officials worry are selling unsafe products. Once packaging and marketing standards are established, the illicit marketplace will likely not comply, experts say.

State officials hope that products bought at licensed dispensaries will help.

"We can regulate until we're blue in the face. But the truth is, it's a partnership between a compliant industry, strong regulations that are robust in their protections for youth and then with parents, too," Hunt said.

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul announced Thursday the upcoming opening of the state's second legal dispensary, which will be located in Manhattan's West Village. The new venture — called "Smacked" — will open as a pop-up next week before opening a permanent location.

Under state law, a minor in possession of marijuana would face a civil penalty of not more than \$50. Licensed cannabis retailers who sell to minors face fines and the loss of their licenses, but no jail time.

Science has long established the addictive nature of nicotine and the health maladies associated with smoking tobacco, including cancer and emphysema.

Less settled are the health repercussions from vaping, particularly among children whose bodies and internal organs have yet to fully develop.

While smoking tobacco cigarettes has fallen among teens and young adults, the use of e-cigarettes and vapes has risen.

A handful of states — California, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island — have bans on most flavored tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and vapes. An increasing

number of cities, including New York City, also have similar bans.

But those rules need to be broadened to include marijuana, said Linda Richter with the Partnership to End Addiction, who says the issue has yet to be widely addressed.

"There is more scrutiny on the tobacco industry, and very, very little in terms of rules, regulations, scrutiny, limitations when it comes to the cannabis industry," she said.

Because of the relative infancy of the legalized industry, she added, states have yet to coalesce rules on a single national standard. States often look to the federal government to set those standards, but marijuana remains illegal on the federal level.

"That's a real issue where you don't have the weight of the federal government in terms of standards of packaging and marketing," to set parameters to avoid appealing marketing to young people, Richter said.

Anti-smoking groups, including the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, have long railed against the tobacco industry for its marketing, such as using cartoon characters to help market their products. In more recent years, they've campaigned against fla-

vored nicotine products, including those in vaping form.

But thus far, such groups have not put the marijuana industry in its crosshairs.

A study released earlier this month documented the steep rise in poisonings among young children, especially toddlers, who accidentally ate marijuana-laced treats.

The uptick in cases coincides with the rise in the number of states allowing the use of marijuana for medicine or recreation. Medical use of cannabis is currently allowed in 37 U.S. states, while 21 states allow recreational use.

"When you're talking about strawberry-cheesecake, or mango, or cookies-and-cream flavors, it's very difficult to argue that those are for older adults," said Dr. Pamela Ling, the director for the Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education at the University of California in San Francisco.

"Folks who consider themselves to be more like cannabis aficionados," she said, "would say that smoking a flavored cannabis product is like putting ketchup on your steak."

Tax the rich? Liberals renew push for state wealth taxes

By Susan Haigh

Associated Press

Supporters of taxes on the very rich contend that people are emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic with a bigger appetite for what they're calling "tax justice."

Bills announced Thursday in California, New York, Illinois, Hawaii, Maryland, Minnesota, Washington and Connecticut vary in their approaches to hiking taxes, but all revolve around the idea that the richest Americans need to pay more.

All of the proposals face questionable prospects. Similar legislation has died in state legislatures and Congress. But the new push shows that the political left isn't ready to give up on the populist argument that government can and should be used as a tool for redistributing wealth.

"Under the pandemic, while people struggled to put food on the table, we saw billionaires double their wealth," said California Assembly Member Alex Lee, a Democrat.

The Tax Foundation, a conservative-leaning policy organization, called wealth taxes — which levy taxes not just on new income, but on a person's total assets — "economically destructive."

It also said in a statement that such taxes create "perverse incentives" for the rich to avoid taxes, including simply moving to states with a lower tax

burden.

"Very few taxpayers would remit wealth taxes — but many more would pay the price," the group said in a statement. Progressive Democrats, however, argue they are not seeing wealthy taxpayers leaving their states due to higher taxes.

California already taxes the wealthy more than most states. The top 1% of earners account for about half of the state's income tax collections. But this week, Lee proposed a "wealth tax," similar to one promoted for years by U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, a Massachusetts Democrat.

It would impose an annual tax of 1.5% on assets of more than \$1 billion and 1% on assets of \$50 million or more. The new tax on wealth, not annual income, would affect an estimated 23,000 "ultra-millionaire" and 160 billionaire households, or the top 0.1% of California households, Lee said.

In Connecticut, progressive lawmakers are proposing more traditional hikes: a higher tax rate on capital gains earnings for wealthy taxpayers and higher personal income tax rates for millionaires.

"We need to ensure that the wealthiest in our state truly pay what they owe and not expect working families across our state to continue to subsidize their share," said state Rep. Kate Farrar, a deputy majority leader in the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives.

One obstacle to such proposals is that some states where the idea might be popular are currently running budget surpluses, meaning there is little pressure to raise revenue.

Connecticut is expected to end its fiscal year with a \$3 billion surplus. Hawaii is projecting a budget surplus of \$1.9 billion going into the new legislative session.

But Hawaii state Rep. Jeanne Kapela, a Democrat, said a proposal there to increase the state's capital gains tax is more about economic equity than raising money.

"If you look at our tax code now, it's really the definition of economic inequality," Kapela said.

The lowest-paid workers in many states often see a far bigger percentage of their income go to pay taxes every year than the very rich, particularly in states that don't have a graduated income tax.

Voters in Massachusetts, which had a flat income tax, approved an amendment to the state constitution in November that sets a higher rate for those earning more than \$1 million a year.

Despite optimism expressed by liberal lawmakers that 2023 could be the year, many of these proposals face an uphill battle, even in blue states with Democratic governors.

"This 'tax the rich' has been around before and it's present again. And quite frankly, it never got traction before and I seriously doubt there's an appe-

tite for it now," said Gary Rose, professor of political science at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut.

A lot of people, he said, don't resent the rich as much as some progressive Democrats.

"I think if you polled the American people, a lot of people want to get rich themselves and it's part of, if you will, the American Dream," Rose said. "We've never really had in this country a tremendous appetite for taxing the rich because getting rich ... is really part of who we are and what separates this country from many Democratic socialist countries."

A wealth tax bill in California never even got a public hearing last year. Gov. Gavin Newsom, a Democrat who was just elected to a second term in a landslide, has actively campaigned against efforts to increase taxes on the rich.

His opposition helped sink a 2022 ballot initiative that would have raised taxes on the rich to pay for electric vehicle charging stations and wildfire prevention.

In Connecticut, Democratic Gov. Ned Lamont, a multimillionaire, says he wants to focus his second term on reducing taxes rather than raising them.

— *Associated Press Writer Audrey McAvoy in Honolulu, Hawaii and Adam Beam in Sacramento, Calif. contributed to this report.*

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Bosnian war survivors share survival tips with Ukraine

By Sabina Niksic
Associated Press

GORAZDE, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Residents of eastern Bosnia's city of Gorazde do not need imaginations to understand the suffering of Ukraine's people. Three decades ago, they endured more than three years of extreme hardship as Bosnian Serbs pummeled their city with rockets and artillery from the surrounding hills.

The long siege during Bosnia's 1992-95 interethnic war cut off Gorazde from access to electricity, food, medicine and the outside world. The people there found creative ways to keep lights on and heating working, survival tips they now are sharing with civilians plunged into darkness and cold by Russia's relentless missile and drone attacks on Ukraine's power grid.

Edin Culov, the Gorazde region's governor, said

friends and acquaintances who work for the European Union's mission to Bosnia, in Sarajevo, contacted him late last year seeking information for a humanitarian effort to provide Ukrainians with an alternative source of electricity.

They specifically wanted any "drawings, photographs, video recordings or anything else" about the "miniature power plants" used in Gorazde back in the 1990s. The plants consisted of home-built paddlewheels mounted on wooden platforms with electrical generators. Locals set them up around a bridge in the Drina River, where barrels and ropes kept them afloat.

Each "plant" had a main supply cable running from its generator to the bridge, from where smaller cables carried the power to buildings. Depending on the volume of water under the span, the contraptions produced enough electricity for

Gorazde's straining hospital and for residents living close enough to the river to keep one light bulb on, listen to the radio and occasionally watch television.

A small group of mechanical engineers and electricians who honed their skills in the city's prewar manufacturing industry, which produced everything from weapons to textiles, built the first prototype. Their clever, but simple design allowed DIYers to create the mini plants from engines, alternators, condensers and scrap material scavenged from Gorazde's bombed out factories, vehicles and homes.

Paddlewheels quickly bloomed on the river. Siege survivors credit the contraptions with helping the city hold out and become the only enclave in eastern Bosnia never to be captured by Serb forces. After the war ended, the equipment was removed and dismantled.

In response to the EU request all these years later, Culov said the city collected everything it could find and he went on the radio in Bosnia to solicit surviving documents and memories. The information was delivered to the EU mission in Bosnia, which has shared it with Ukraine, he said.

"I guess they will use the material we provided to develop a few test models and then, if it proves feasible, start mass producing (the miniature) power plants" for distribution around the country, Culov explained.

Among those who responded to Culov's appeal for information were two surviving members of the original development team.

Aziz Lepenica, who had taught engineering at the city's technical high school until suffering a stroke a couple of years ago, offered to return to show students how to prepare proper design drawings and technical

calculations for Ukraine.

During Bosnia's war, "We made no drawings. We had no time for that," Lepenica said. "We made all calculations and construction plans in our heads."

During his teaching years, Lepenica helped his students construct a replica of the homegrown power plants. It was placed on the riverbank, next to Gorazde's central bridge, in 2016 to serve as a monument to the days when, as Lepenica put it, "life was unbearable, but our morale was high."

"It would mean a lot to us if it turns out we can help the people (of Ukraine) who are being deprived of electricity as we were," Lepenica said.

Murat Heto, another one of the inventors, also helped prepare documentation for Ukraine.

"With everything we have been through, one would need to be made of wood not to empathize with

(Ukrainians)," the retired electrician said, recalling how the lights powered by the miniature power plants developed by his team "made the world of difference" in wartime Gorazde.

Some 7,000 civilians were killed or severely wounded in the city. Residents often went out only at night to avoid unrelenting sniper and artillery attacks. An influx of refugees from surrounding areas nearly doubled the population to 70,000.

While the refusal of Serb forces to allow U.N. aid convoys into Gorazde kept food and medicine in short supply, the power plants were a "symbol of our resolve to resist, to not give in," Heto said.

"I wish to God it had not happened to us nor to Ukraine, but when people are pushed into a corner and faced with a threat of extermination, everything becomes possible," he said.

NOT REAL NEWS: A look at what didn't happen this week

By The Associated Press

A roundup of some of the most popular but completely untrue stories and visuals of the week. None of these are legit, even though they were shared widely on social media. The Associated Press checked them out. Here are the facts:

Temperature graph misrepresented to deny climate change

CLAIM: A graph from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration displaying land and ocean temperatures over the last eight years shows that the Earth has been cooling, not warming, proving that global warming from carbon emissions is a hoax.

THE FACTS: A small portion of the graph showing only the period from 2015 and 2022 has been taken out of context to make the incorrect claim.

The larger graph from which it was isolated displays temperature trends over more than 140 years, showing a dramatic upward trend. Social media users misrepresented the graph to support the erroneous claim that global temperatures are falling rather than rising, meaning global warming is "a hoax." The graph being shared online appears to show a slight downward trend, with a note saying the overall temperature decreased 0.11 degrees Celsius during the 2015-2022 period.

"The 8-year temperature time series shows the

annual global mean surface temperatures for the most recent eight years," said Jeffrey Hicke, a professor at the University of Idaho's Department of Earth and Spatial Sciences. "It is accurate as shown, but is misleading."

That's because while the last eight years trended slightly downward, this small period of time was greatly impacted by natural El Niño and La Niña cycles, experts explained. Zooming in on just this period does not discredit the overall upward trend of global temperatures over the past century. The full NOAA graph, which displays temperature trends from 1880 to 2022, shows a dramatic rise in global average temperatures. Hicke said the graph in its full context is "much more appropriate for assessing the influence of human activities on climate."

NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information said in a statement that although the climate is warming, it is also subject to natural variability as it is impacted by weather events such as El Niños and La Niñas. El Niños bring unusually warm temperatures across the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean, while La Niñas bring unusually cool temperatures. During El Niños, global temperatures tend to be warmer than in years when La Niñas were present.

In its statement, NOAA said that 2015-2016 experienced a strong El Niño, which helped boost global temperatures to record highs. But since then, about

three La Niñas have helped slightly cool global temperatures. "The selected timeframe from 2016-2022 can create the appearance of a cooling trend," the agency said, adding, "this is why when computing trends we use timescales of at least 10 years."

John Knox, a professor at the University of Georgia's Geography Department who studies the dynamics of weather and climate, said the claim in the tweet "is a classic example of cherry-picking the end points of a time series to seemingly prove a false point." "It's a very short period of time, which reduces the statistical significance of claims of a trend," he wrote in an email, adding, "The rising temperature trend over the decades is obvious."

— Associated Press writer Sophia Tulp in New York contributed this report.

Harvard med school class isn't about 'trans infants'

CLAIM: A class at Harvard Medical School trains students to treat transgender infants.

THE FACTS: The course is a 12-month-long elective about health care for LGBTQ patients. Only one day focuses on infants and it does not cover their gender identity or sexual orientation, the class's professor told The Associated Press.

In recent days, conservative websites and online commentators have distorted the content of the class, as social media users point to it as an extreme example

of gender-affirming health care.

"Harvard is teaching medical students about transgender infants," wrote one Twitter user, whose post had gained almost 10,000 likes as of Tuesday. But these claims misrepresent what the class actually teaches about infants.

The course — titled "Caring for Patients with Diverse Sexual Orientations, Gender Identities, and Sex Development" — teaches only about the physical development of babies who are born intersex, according to Dr. Alex Keuroghlian, the associate professor who teaches the class.

The term intersex describes people born with reproductive organs, hormones or other traits that don't fit typical definitions of male or female. These conditions may or may not be noticeable at birth, explained Dr. Arlene Baratz, who is the medical and research affairs coordinator for the intersex advocacy group InterConnect. A transgender person is someone whose gender identity — whether they feel like a girl, boy, neither or both — differs from the gender they were assigned at birth. The term transgender is not synonymous with intersex.

Parents and families of intersex children "have questions about health implications of these physical variations," Keuroghlian told the AP. "Medical students need to know how to provide this care."

As part of the course, students also study how to care

for non-infant patients and focus on disciplines such as psychiatry, endocrinology, dermatology and infectious disease.

Physical differences in an intersex infant's genitals "can be obvious in a newborn and usually triggers a cascade of medical attention including an evaluation to discover the underlying cause," Baratz said in an email. Sean Saifa Wall, a co-founder of the Intersex Justice Project, said that an infant's physical sex characteristics are apparent long before they have a sense of what gender is, or which gender they feel like. He said conservative critics were "purposefully conflating" the two.

Older children who experience gender dysphoria — feelings of distress about their assigned gender — may seek out transition-related health care to relieve those feelings once they've reached puberty. But surgeries and hormones are not given to young children or infants for this purpose, despite some misleading rhetoric.

CNN didn't publish story linking Damar Hamlin collapse to vaccine

CLAIM: Image shows that CNN published a Jan. 11 headline reading, "Doctor of Damar Hamlin confirms Cardiac Arrest was due to the 4th Booster Vaccine."

THE FACTS: The screenshot was manipulated to add the fabricated headline, a CNN spokesperson confirmed. The actual headline reported on the release of

the Buffalo Bills safety from a hospital.

Social media posts are spreading the manipulated image amid unsupported claims that Hamlin's cardiac arrest was caused by a COVID-19 vaccine.

"Doctor of Damar Hamlin confirms Cardiac Arrest was due to the 4th Booster Vaccine," the purported headline shows. The image shows a story published at 1:37 p.m. Eastern time on Jan. 11. Other social media posts without the image similarly alleged that CNN reported such information.

But a search of CNN's website shows the screenshot was manipulated to change the headline on a different story. The real headline — published at that time, by the same reporters, using the same photo of Hamlin — actually reads: "Damar Hamlin discharged after spending more than a week hospitalized due to cardiac arrest." CNN spokesperson Emily Kuhn also confirmed in an email to The Associated Press that the screenshot was fabricated and that CNN did not publish the headline in question.

Social media users previously shared a screenshot of a tweet from a dubious account, in which someone claimed to be a doctor and purported that the Bills player received a COVID-19 booster on Dec. 26, days before he collapsed during a Jan. 2 game in Cincinnati. That account is no longer active and there is no evidence that the individual was a doctor for Hamlin.

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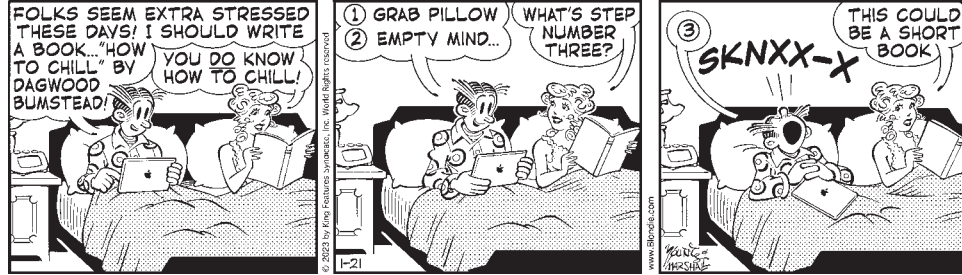
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DEMOCRAT**

BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



BEETLE BAILEY

BY GREG WALKER, BRIAN WALKER AND NEAL WALKER



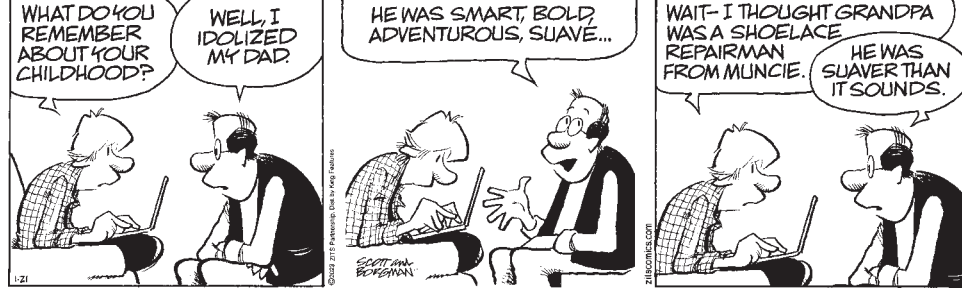
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

BY CHRIS BROWNE



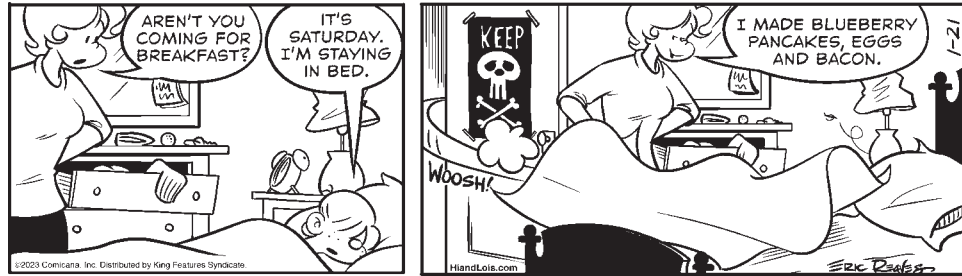
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



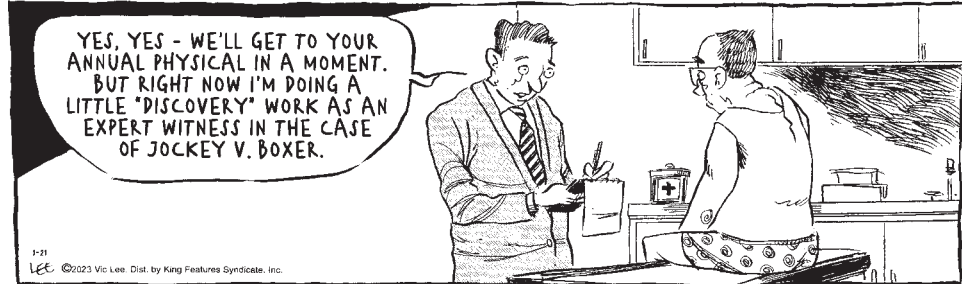
HI AND LOIS

WRITTEN BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER; DRAWN BY CHANCE BROWNE



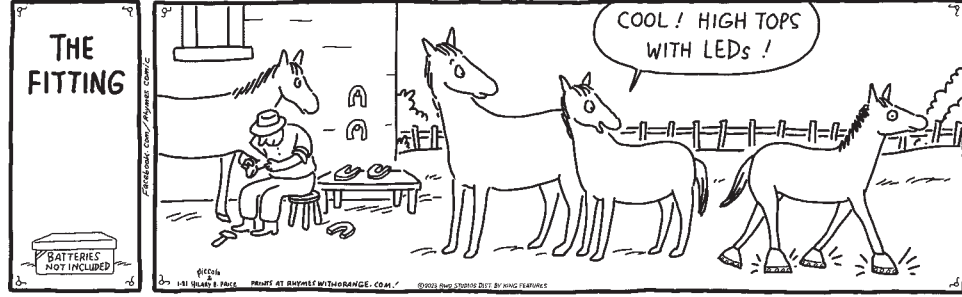
PARDON MY PLANET

BY VIC LEE



RHYMES WITH ORANGE

BY HILARY PRICE



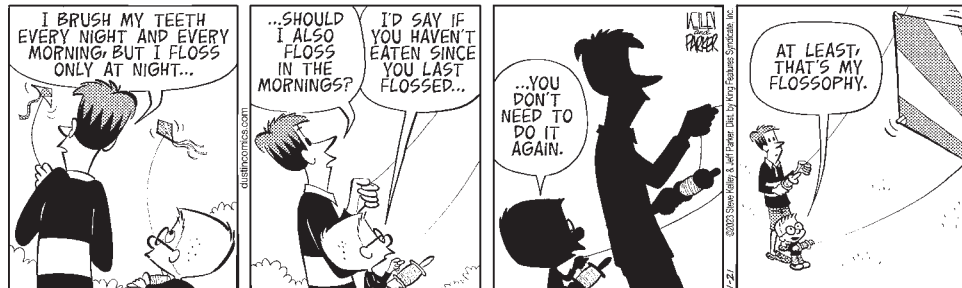
THE BRILLIANT MIND OF EDISON LEE

BY JOHN HAMBROCK



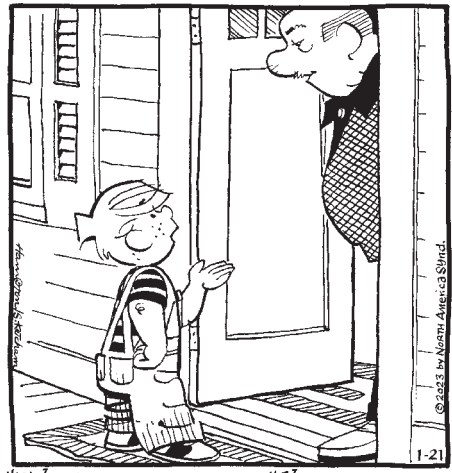
DUSTIN

BY STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



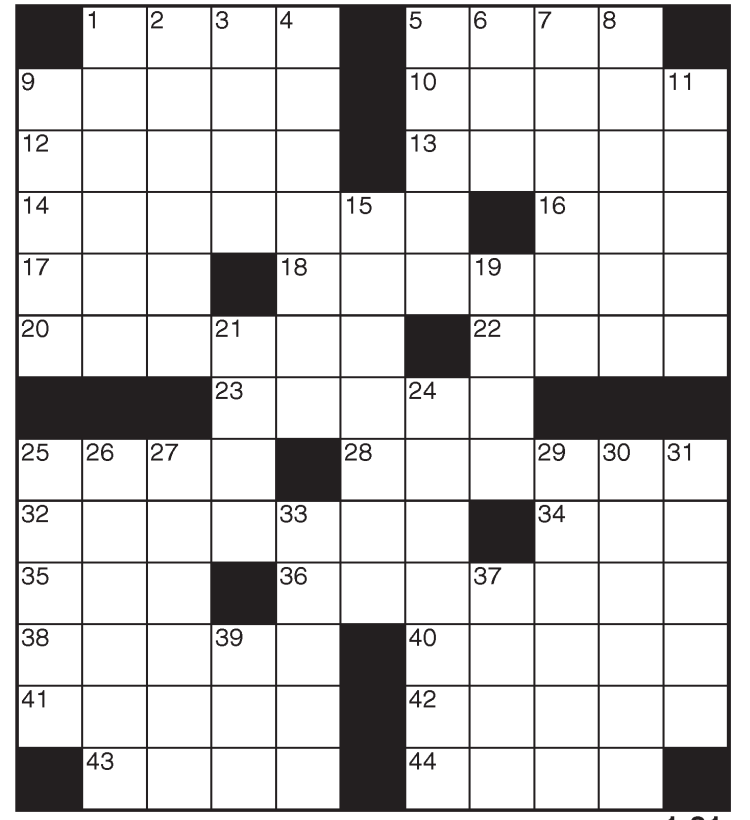
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Rugged home rock
 - 5 Captain of fiction
 - 9 Espresso layer
 - 10 Isaac's mother
 - 12 Jacket part
 - 13 Intent look
 - 14 Greed
 - 16 Butter unit
 - 17 Month in Marseilles
 - 18 Wooden grid
 - 20 "Silkwood" star
 - 22 Stately trees
 - 23 French landscape painter
 - 25 Choir voice
 - 28 Words on a November sticker
 - 32 Ornamental molding
 - 34 Chopping tool
 - 35 CBS series with spinoffs
 - 36 Waiter's job
 - 38 Foe
- DOWN**
- 1 Neck-wear
 - 2 Fix
 - 3 From the U.S.
 - 4 Telescope pioneer
 - 5 Useful skill
 - 6 Bowler, e.g.
 - 7 Mideast area
 - 8 Malia's dad
 - 9 Smackers fodder
 - 11 Toast start
 - 15 Whim island
 - 19 Visitor to Oz
 - 21 Bus. sch. course
 - 24 Like type that doesn't fit
 - 25 Capital of Ghana
 - 26 Behind
 - 27 Quiz show
 - 29 Asian island
 - 30 Too much
 - 31 Plow pioneer
 - 33 Resort spots
 - 37 Designer Wang
 - 39 Pharaoh's symbol



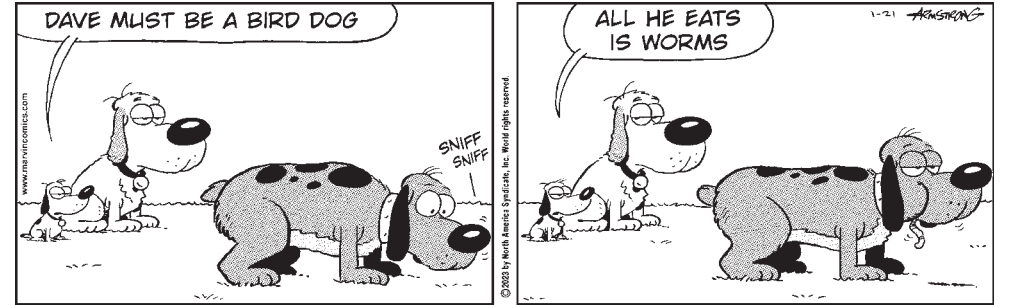
Yesterday's answer



1-21

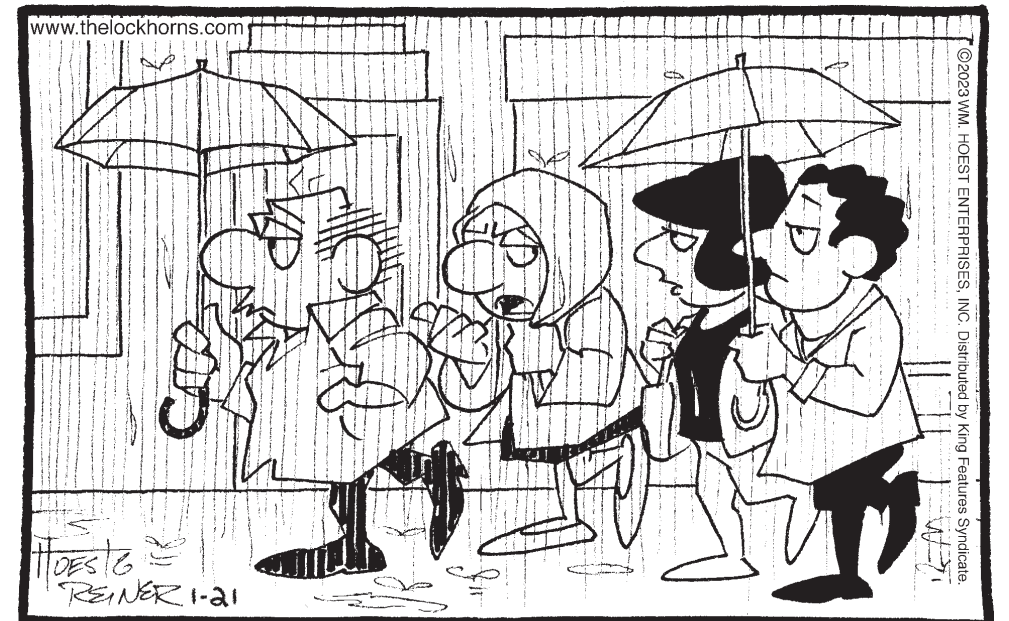
MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG



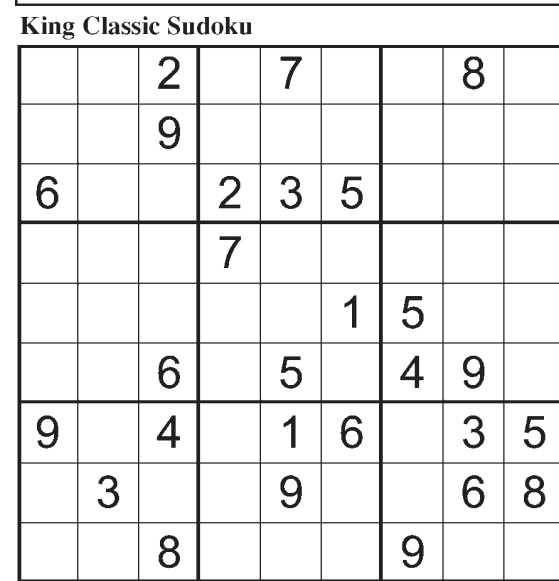
THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST & JOHN REINER

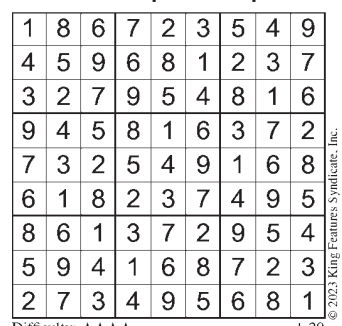


SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

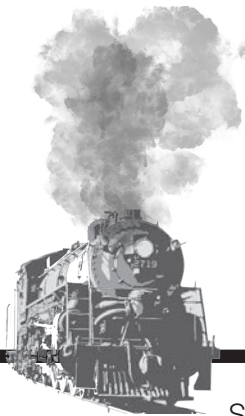


Answer to previous puzzle



Difficulty: ★★ ★★

1-21



Pulido close to return as SKC begins preseason



Sporting Kansas City's Alan Pulido speaks during MLS soccer media day in San Jose, Calif., Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023.

PHOTO BY JEFF CHIU | AP PHOTO

By Bryan Everson
bryane@sedaliademocrat.com

Club record signing Alan Pulido is approaching his return to action as Sporting Kansas City plays the first of its preseason scrimmages Saturday. Pulido, set to turn 32 in March, joined Sporting for a fee of \$9.5 million from Mexico's Chivas Guadalajara prior to the 2020 MLS Season and was a New-comer of the Year Award finalist. Injury, though, has derailed that investment, as Pulido missed the entire 2022 campaign following a knee injury suffered with his country.

"Obviously, he was incredibly missed last year," Sporting KC manager Peter Vermes said when speaking to the media Friday afternoon. "I've said this many times, a healthy Alan Pulido is for sure one of the best forwards in our league. It's unfortunate he's been a little bit unlucky when it comes to injury...but

the great thing is that he's worked incredibly hard. I've watched him all year, he's still working trying to get back to the best version of himself."

Whereas his absence left a hole that can't be understated to start the year, the club is in a more advantageous position for 2023 as his injury prompted the club to add reinforcements up front. Willy Agada, 23, scored eight goals and added two assists in just a dozen matches after arriving from four years playing in Israel.

There's no rush in bringing Pulido up to speed with some cover front and center, though it appears he may return sometime in March.

"Alan is doing a lot of stuff with the ball, more individual stuff," Vermes said. "His injury, his knee is great...it's the rest of the body. You don't want to pull a hamstring or a quad. [He and Gadi Kinda] need to build a solid foundation of fitness to springboard off that."

See PULIDO | A14

Pederson, Reid face off again as Jags visit KC for playoffs

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Doug Pederson got to know Andy Reid as a backup quarterback in Green Bay, then as his starter in Philadelphia, before coaching under him with the Eagles and helping him build the Kansas City Chiefs into the juggernaut they are today.

"How many years is that?" asked Pederson, who is just a couple weeks shy of his 55th birthday. "That's a lot of years. That's 28 years, almost 30 years. So that's 30 years of my professional life that I've been influenced by him."

Not surprisingly, the Jaguars coach learned a bit about offense — Reid is one of the game's masterminds. He also learned how to run practices, develop talent, relate to players. But most importantly last week, he learned how to handle adversity, and that came in handy when Jacksonville faced a 27-0 hole in the wild-card round against the Char-



Kansas City Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce (87) leaps over Denver Broncos cornerback Damarri Mathis after catching a pass during the first half of an NFL football game Sunday, Jan. 1, 2023, in Kansas City, Mo.

PHOTO BY ED ZURGA | AP PHOTO

gers.

With preternatural calm, and an incredible second-half performance by quarterback Trevor Lawrence, Pederson's

Jaguars rallied for a 31-30 victory and a date with Reid's Chiefs in the divisional round Saturday in Kansas City.

See PLAYOFFS | 14A

Analysis: History says favorite to fall in NFL Divisional Round

By Bryan Everson
bryane@sedaliademocrat.com

Quarterback play is easy to lean on in evaluating NFL playoff matchups, and there are still plenty of big names left, particularly for favorites.

What about strong arms and good decisions, though?

History says that the Philadelphia Eagles or Kansas City Chiefs are going to struggle, even if they come out chalk on Saturday.

According to Action Network, just one in the last eight seasons have No. 1 seeds covered the point spread in the Divisional Round, and only twice since 2003. Currently, the Chiefs are favored by 8.5 points over the Jacksonville Jaguars, and the Eagles are 7.5 point favorites on the New York Giants.

The Chiefs are currently odds-on favorites to win the Super Bowl at -300, and the eye test from Super Wild Card Weekend — the scoring was super, as all over totals would have hit if another point was scored in Buccaneers-Cowboys



Philadelphia Eagles running back Kenneth Gainwell (14) takes a hit from New York Giants linebacker Micah McFadden (41) while running with the ball during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023, in Philadelphia.

PHOTO BY MATT ROURKE | AP PHOTO

— that the path for Patrick Mahomes and Co. looks better after the opening round.

Josh Allen? Shaky decision making. The Bengals? Lost their left tackle, and now they have to go on the road and face a team that's wielding an emotional spirit bomb in Damar Hamlin, expected to be present for Sunday's game.

As for the Jags, for all the talk about Trevor Lawrence and his undefeated record on Saturdays, Jacksonville's biggest wins have come at home, and Patrick Mahomes is yet to lose in the

Divisional Round.

The Chiefs' gunslinger had to figure out shell defenses that limited over-the-top, explosive plays last season, and the yards per completion numbers say that Buffalo has done that, too, even if Allen has become the ultimate boom-or-bust QB — he makes just a few more big-time throws as turnover-worthy ones, and has fumbled seven times in 2022. But the metrics also show that Joe Burrow and the Bengals are way down in yards per completion from 2021.

See NFL | A15

Twins trade batting champ Arraez to Marlins for Pablo López

By Dave Campbell
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — The Twins traded reigning AL batting champion Luis Arraez to the Miami Marlins on Friday for a three-player package featuring starting pitcher Pablo López.

The 25-year-old Arraez had a breakout season for Minnesota last year, making his first All-Star team while batting a league-best .316 and denying Aaron Judge a Triple Crown. The Yankees star led the AL in home runs and RBIs and finished five points behind Arraez in batting average.

López should bolster an already deep Twins rotation,

albeit one that's absent a true ace. He'll slot in with Sonny Gray, Tyler Mahle, Kenta Maeda, Joe Ryan and perhaps Bailey Ober. This has been an eventful month for the Twins, having re-signed shortstop Carlos Correa.

"I'm really excited about coming to this team, the leaders they have in the clubhouse and the players they have to support each other," López said on a video interview with reporters. "It's a mentality that really motivates me too. I ask and expect more of myself when it comes to my performance and the ways I can help out the team."

Arraez is a multi-positional player who spent most

of his time at first base for the Twins last year, starting 61 games there, 34 at designated hitter and 31 at second base. He has also played extensively at third base and left field.

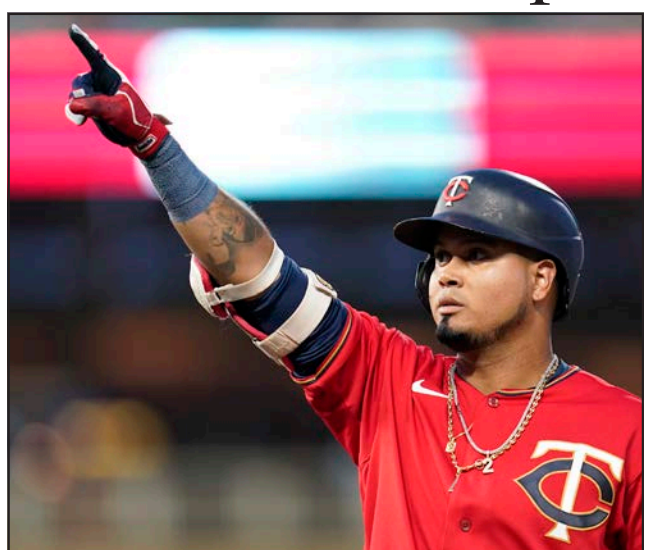
The Twins also received two prospects from the Marlins: infielder Jose Salas and outfielder Byron Chourio. The 19-year-old Salas, who finished last season with Miami's high Class A affiliate, was picked as the organization's fifth-best prospect in the most recent MLB Pipeline rankings. The 17-year-old Chourio, also a native of Venezuela, played in the Dominican Summer League last season after signing with the Marlins

organization in June.

Arraez will give the Marlins three years of contract control. This is his first year of salary arbitration eligibility. He was the only Twins player who didn't settle at the deadline last week, asking for \$6.1 million in 2023 while the team offered \$5 million.

The native of Venezuela became a fan favorite for his persistence and patience at the plate, as tough of an out as there has been in baseball in recent years with only 131 strikeouts in 1,569 career plate appearances. He has only 14 home runs over four seasons, but his career on-base percentage is .374.

See TWINS | 15A



Minnesota Twins' Luis Arraez points to the dugout after hitting a single against the Kansas City Royals during the second inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2022, in Minneapolis. On Friday, Jan. 20, 2023, the Twins traded reigning AL batting champion Arraez to the Miami Marlins for a three-player package featuring starting pitcher Pablo López.

FILE PHOTO BY ABBIE PARR | AP PHOTO

Juventus hit with 15-point penalty for false accounting

By Andrew Dampf

AP Sports Writer

ROME — Juventus was hit with a massive 15-point penalty for false accounting Friday following an appeal hearing at the Italian soccer federation.

The punishment could eliminate the club's chances of playing in Europe next season. Juventus was third in Serie A and the penalty drops the Bianconeri into the bottom half of the standings, 25 points behind leader Napoli and 12 points from the Champions League places.

Also, former Juventus president Andrea Agnelli and

former club CEO Maurizio Arribabene were each banned for two years from soccer activities and more bans were handed out for nine other members of Juve's staff or former board, which resigned en masse in November following an investigation by Turin public prosecutors into alleged false bookkeeping.

The longest ban of 2 ½ years was handed out to former Juventus sporting director and current Tottenham managing director Fabio Paratici, while former Juventus player turned board member Pavel Nedved was given eight months.

The bans prohibit those

individuals from engaging in soccer activities in Italy, "with the request that the ban be extended to UEFA and FIFA activities."

Juventus has denied wrongdoing and was initially cleared by the sports court in April. But an appeal was made after the federation collected papers from the Turin prosecutors.

Juventus can appeal the decision to Italy's highest sports court within the Italian Olympic Committee.

Federation prosecutor Giuseppe Chiné had requested a nine-point penalty for Juventus earlier Friday.

The penalty comes 17 years

after the "Calciopoli" refereeing scandal that saw Juventus, a record 36-time Italian champion, demoted to Serie B and stripped of two Serie A titles.

Fines were requested for eight other clubs: Sampdoria, Pro Vercelli, Genoa, Parma, Pisa, Empoli, Pescara and Novara. But all eight other clubs were cleared.

Juventus was already eliminated from the Champions League in a horrible start to this season, which also saw it win only two of its opening nine Serie A matches. But the club had bounced back to climb into the top four.

Juventus could face further

penalties from UEFA, which also opened an inquiry into the club's finances after the Turin prosecutor's office requested indictments for Agnelli and 10 other former board members as well as the club itself.

At the start of the pandemic, Juventus said 23 players agreed to reduce their salary for four months to help the club through the crisis. But prosecutors claim the players gave up only one month's salary.

Turin prosecutors have also apparently discovered more alleged secret payments to former player Cristiano Ronaldo that were not reported by Juventus.

SPORTS CALENDAR

Saturday

ON TAP

COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL

7:30 p.m. Three Rivers Community College at State Fair Community College

COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

5:30 p.m. Three Rivers Community College at State Fair Community College

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

Tipton at Bishop LaBlond

ON AIR

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN)

11 a.m. ESPN — Miami at Duke

ESPN2 — Mississippi at Arkansas

ESPNU — UCF at South Florida

FS1 — Georgetown at Xavier

11:30 a.m. USA — Dayton at George Washington

Noon CBS — TCU at Kansas

SECN — Vanderbilt at Georgia

12:30 p.m. CBSSN — Navy at Army

1 p.m. ABC — UCLA at Arizona

ESPN — Texas A&M at Kentucky

ESPN2 — Texas Tech at Kansas St.

ESPNU — Virginia at Wake Forest

FOX — Iowa at Ohio St.

FS1 — DePaul at Providence

1:15 p.m. BTN — Nebraska at Penn St.

1:30 p.m. USA — La Salle at Saint Louis

2 p.m. ACCN — Florida St. at Pittsburgh

2:30 p.m. SECN — Auburn at South Carolina

3 p.m. CBSSN — Marquette at Seton Hall

ESPN — Tennessee at LSU

ESPN2 — Baylor at Oklahoma

FS1 — Colorado St. at Wyoming

4 p.m. ACCN — NC State at North Carolina

5 p.m. CBSSN — UNLV at Fresno St.

ESPN — Texas at West Virginia

ESPN2 — Virginia Tech at Clemson

ESPNU — Indiana St. at Murray St.

SECN — Alabama at Missouri

7 p.m. CBSSN — BYU at San Francisco

ESPNU — Tulane at Tulsa

PAC-12N — Washington at Utah

7:30 p.m. SECN — Florida at Mississippi St.

9 p.m. CBSSN — San Diego St. at Air Force

ESPNU — Southern Cal at Arizona St.

10 p.m. FS1 — Oregon at Stanford

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN)

10 a.m. CBSSN — Navy at Army

COLLEGE GYMNASTICS (WOMEN)

4 p.m. PAC-12N — UCLA at Washington

COLLEGE ICE HOCKEY (MEN)

7 p.m. BTN — Michigan at Minnesota

COLLEGE TRACK AND FIELD

3:30 p.m. BTN — Simmons-Harvey Invitational: From Ann Arbor, Mich.

COLLEGE WRESTLING

3 p.m. ESPNU — NC State at Virginia Tech

GOLF

11 a.m. GOLF — LPGA Tour: The Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament Of Champions, Third Round, Lake Nona

Golf Course, Orlando, Fla.

2 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour: The American Express, Third Round, PGA WEST Private Clubhouse, La Quinta, Calif.

6 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour Champions: The Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, Final Round, Hualalai GC, Kaupulehu, Hawaii

1 a.m. (Sunday) GOLF — DP World Tour: The Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship, Final Round, Yas Links, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

HORSE RACING

1:30 p.m. FS2 — NYRA: America's Day at the Races

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

7 p.m. ABC — UFC 283 Prelims: Undercard Bouts, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

ESPN — UFC 283 Prelims: Undercard Bouts, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

NFL FOOTBALL

3:30 p.m. NBC — AFC Divisional Round Playoff: Jacksonville at Kansas City

7 p.m. FOX — NFC Divisional Round Playoff: NY Giants at Philadelphia

NHL HOCKEY

11:30 a.m. NHLN — Anaheim at Buffalo

6 p.m. NHLN — Toronto at Montreal

SOCCER (MEN)

9 a.m. USA — Premier League: Everton at West Ham United

10:50 a.m. FS2 — The French Cup: Ajaccio at Toulouse, Round of 32

11:30 a.m. NBC — Premier League: Newcastle United at Crystal Palace

SOCCER (WOMEN)

5:25 a.m. CBSSN — FASL: Aston Villa at Manchester City

TENNIS

6 a.m. ESPN2 — ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Third Round, Melbourne, Australia (Taped)

7 p.m. ESPN2 — ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Round of 16, Melbourne, Australia

WINTER WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES

8:30 a.m. ESPNU — FISU World University Games: Men's Ice Hockey — Semifinal 1, Lake Placid, N.Y.

Sunday

ON AIR

AUTO RACING

Midnight

CNBC — Monster Energy AMA Supercross Championship: Round 3, San Diego (Taped)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN)

11 a.m. CBS — Michigan St. at Indiana

FOX — Butler at UConn

Noon BTN — Minnesota at Michigan

ESPN2 — Memphis at Cincinnati

FS1 — Maryland at Purdue

2 p.m. ESPN — Temple at Houston

PAC-12N — Oregon St. at California

3 p.m. ESPNU — Furman at Wofford

5 p.m. ESPNU — Washington St. at Colorado

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN)

11 a.m. ACCN — Syracuse at Duke

CBSSN — Davidson at Duquesne

ESPNU — UMass at Dayton

Noon ABC — NC State at Louisville

SECN — Kentucky at Mississippi St.

1 p.m. ACCN — Virginia at Notre Dame

ESPNU — UCF at South Florida

2 p.m. ESPN2 — Arkansas at South Carolina

FS1 — Seton Hall at Marquette

SECN — Georgia at Texas A&M

3 p.m. ACCN — Georgia Tech at North Carolina

4 p.m. BTN — Wisconsin at Penn St.

ESPN2 — Texas at Baylor

PAC-12N — Colorado at Stanford

SECN — Mississippi at Auburn

6 p.m. PAC-12N — Utah at California

COLLEGE GYMNASTICS (WOMEN)

6 p.m. BTN — Michigan at Michigan St.

7 p.m. ESPN — Utah at Oklahoma

COLLEGE WRESTLING

2 p.m. BTN — Iowa at Wisconsin

GOLF

1 p.m. NBC — LPGA Tour: The Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament Of Champions, Final Round, Lake Nona Golf Course, Orlando, Fla.

2 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour: The American Express, Final Round, PGA WEST Private Clubhouse, La Quinta, Calif.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL (BOYS)

7 p.m. ESPNU — NIBC Series: Christ The King (N.Y.) vs. Archbishop Stepinac (N.Y.), Queens, N.Y.

HORSE RACING

1:30 p.m. FS2 — NYRA: America's Day at the Races

NBA BASKETBALL

7:30 p.m. NBA TV — Brooklyn at Golden State

NBA G-LEAGUE BASKETBALL

2 p.m. NBA TV — College Park at Fort Wayne

NFL FOOTBALL

2 p.m. CBS — AFC Divisional Round Playoff: Cincinnati at Buffalo

5:30 p.m. FOX — NFC Divisional Round Playoff: Dallas at San Francisco

NHL HOCKEY

1 p.m. NHLN — Pittsburgh at New Jersey

6 p.m. NHLN — Los Angeles at Chicago

RODEO

7 p.m. CBSSN — PBR: The Gwinnett Chute Out, Championship Round, Duluth, Ga.

RUGBY

2 p.m. CNBC — HSBC: World Rugby Sevens Series, Hamilton, New Zealand (Taped)

SKIING

4 p.m. NBC — FIS: Alpine Skiing World Cup, Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy (Taped)

SOCCER (MEN)

8 a.m. USA — Premier League: Wolverhampton at Manchester City

10:30 a.m. NBC — Premier League: Manchester United at Arsenal

11:20 a.m. FS2 — The French Cup: Pau at Lille, Round of 32

1:45 p.m. CBSSN — Serie A: Atalanta at Juventus

TENNIS

9 a.m. ESPN2 — ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Round of 16, Melbourne, Australia (Taped)

6 p.m. ESPN2 — ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Round of 16, Melbourne, Australia

WINTER WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES

4 p.m. ESPN — FISU World University Games: Men's Ice Hockey — Gold-Medal Game, Lake Placid, N.Y.

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Bothwell
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660.547.3915

HOROSCOPES

By Georgia Nicols

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or important decisions from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. EST today (7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Capricorn to Aquarius. The New Moon is at 3:53 p.m. EST (12:53 p.m. PST).

Happy Birthday for Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023:

You are charismatic. You are enthusiastic, upbeat and friendly with others. You are also a benevolent and caring person who commits yourself to a cause. This year is slower-paced. It's your chance to rejuvenate yourself, as well as be helpful to others. Expect to focus on relationships.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ This is a wonderful day to socialize with friends, groups and organizations. It's also an excellent day to think of future goals, and also to think about what your friends mean to you. What kind of friend are you? Tonight: Socialize!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ The New Moon occurs at the top of your chart today. This is the only time all year when this can happen. Therefore, this is the best day for you to think about your life direction in general. Are you headed where you want to go? Tonight: Impress people.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ This is the perfect day to think about future travel plans and how you can expand your world. What do you want to learn through travel, education or talking to people from different backgrounds? What adventures do you want to experience? Tonight: Explore!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Today's New Moon is a wonderful opportunity to think about how you can improve your relationship to your debt, as well as the relationship you have to shared property and anything that you own jointly with others. Today is the day to see solutions. Tonight: Be generous.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Today the only New Moon opposite your sign all year is taking place, which is a wonderful opportunity for you to see how you can improve your closest relationships and partnerships. Ideas? How can you be as good for your partner as he or she is for you? Tonight: Schmooze with others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Each New Moon is an opportunity to make resolutions. Today's New Moon is your chance to think about how you can improve your job and any work that you do. How can you make your work more enriching and rewarding? Also, how can you improve your health? Tonight: Work with others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ It's important to have a good balance between work and play, especially in our work-oriented society. Do you give yourself enough time to play? What about playing with children? Do you value your creative talents and find time to express them? Think about this. Tonight: Play!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Today's New Moon is the perfect chance to think about how to improve your home. Also, what can you do to improve your relationships with family members? Any step in the right direction that is an improvement is a definite value. Tonight: Entertain.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Clear communication is important, especially because we human beings are such gregarious creatures. We need to see each other, and we need to be seen. We also need to communicate with each other. Are you a clear communicator? Think about it on this New Moon day. Tonight: Fun conversations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ You're not casual about money. You like a good value, and you hate waste. You can be frugal, but you can also be extravagant when you want to be, especially when buying something important to you. Today's New Moon urges you to think about how you spend your money. Tonight: Money ideas!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ The New Moon today is the only New Moon in your sign all year. Take a realistic look in the mirror to see what you think of the image that you create in your world. Can you improve it? Can you make a better first impression? Tonight: You run the meeting!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ This is an excellent day to think about your spiritual, mystical and inner values. It's perfectly appropriate to withdraw from the busyness of things around you so you have quiet time to think about your world. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

BORN TODAY

Actor Luke Grimes (1984), actress Geena Davis (1956), business magnate, philanthropist Paul Allen (1953)



New York Yankees' Aroldis Chapman pitches during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022, in Milwaukee. PHOTO BY AARON GASH | AP PHOTO

AP source: Royals, Chapman agree on \$3.75M deal for 2023

By Dave Skretta Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Kansas City Royals and Aroldis Chapman have agreed to a \$3.75 million, one-year contract, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press on Thursday. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal is pending a successful physical for the seven-time All-Star. Chapman was once

among baseball's most dynamic pitchers, known for consistently throwing 100 mph or more. But the left-hander, who will be 35 on opening day, is coming off the worst season of his 13-year career, going 4-4 with a 4.46 ERA for the Yankees in 2022 while raising questions about his dedication to his team. Chapman spent time on the injured list with Achilles tendinitis in May, and then lost the closer job to Clay Holmes. He was on the IL again in August

for a leg infection following a tattoo, and then was kept off New York's roster for the AL Division Series after missing a mandatory team workout and drawing the ire of manager Aaron Boone. At his best, Chapman has been a dynamic closer, making his most recent All-Star team just two years ago. And the Royals hope that new manager Matt Quatraro, along with a rebuilt coaching staff now guiding their pitchers, will be able to help

Chapman rediscover the form that helped him save at least 30 games in eight different seasons. He is 44-35 with a 2.48 ERA and 315 saves during his career with the Yankees, Reds and Cubs. The Royals have been desperate for help in the bullpen, where they were fourth-worst in the majors with a 4.66 ERA last season. Their biggest free-agent acquisition thus far had been Ryan Yarbrough, who can start or work in long relief.

Florida releases QB Rashada from scholarship to end breakup

By Mark Long Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Highly touted high school quarterback Jaden Rashada is moving on from Florida, a breakup that was weeks in the making and cost the Gators one of their most prized recruits. Florida officially granted Rashada a release from his National Letter of Intent on Friday, three days after he requested to be let go.

Rashada's decision came after the Gator Collective — an independent fundraising group that's loosely tied to the university and pays student-athletes for use of their name, image and likeness — failed to honor a four-year deal worth more than \$13 million, according to a person familiar with the situation. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because neither side acknowledged the split publicly. The high-profile case will, at the very least, prompt changes at Florida. It also could lead to a lawsuit and potentially an NCAA investigation.

WHAT HAPPENED? Rashada switched his verbal commitment from Miami to Florida on Nov. 10. Rashada, his representatives and the Gator Collective had presumably agreed to terms on a lucrative NIL deal at the time of his flip. One of Florida's top boosters, millionaire businessman Hugh Hathcock, tweeted "Tomorrow will be a Great Day Gator Fans!!!" the night before Rashada's announcement. The following day, less than five hours before Rashada publicly announced his flip, Hathcock tweeted "All Good!!! Just a little longer!!!"

The deal fell apart less



Pittsburg quarterback Jaden Rashada (5) is pressured by Liberty's Grant Buckley (72) during the second quarter of the 2022 CIF State Football Championship Division 1-A game at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo, Calif., on Dec. 10, 2022. Florida has granted Rashada a release from his national letter of intent. It comes three days after he requested to be let go because the Gator Collective failed to honor a four-year name, image and likeness deal worth more than \$13 million. PHOTO BY JOSE CARLOS FAJARDO | BAY AREA NEWS GROUP VIA AP

than a month later. The Athletic reported that Gator Collective CEO Eddie Rojas sent a termination letter to Rashada and his reps on Dec. 7. It's unclear why the deal crumbled, but a source with knowledge of the negotiations told the AP that not all of the financial backers were aware that the signed deal had increased from roughly \$5 million over four years to more than \$13 million.

WHO IS RASHADA? Rashada is a five-star QB prospect from Pittsburg, California, who is ranked 29th overall by 247Sports in the 2023 recruiting class. His father, Harlen Rashada, played defensive back at Arizona State (1992-94). The 6-foot-4, 185-pound junior Rashada threw for 5,275 yards at Pittsburg last season, with 59 touchdowns and 18

interceptions. His initial decision to come to Florida was considered a boon for first-year Gators coach Billy Napier, and Rashada was expected to compete with Wisconsin transfer Graham Mertz for the starting job at Florida, which has now lost five scholarship quarterbacks in the past 10 months. Starter Anthony Richardson left early to enter the NFL draft, backup Jalen Kitna was dismissed following his arrest on child pornography charges, and Emory Jones and Carlos Del Rio-Wilson transferred last spring. Florida also had its eye on Tulane's Michael Pratt and Wake Forest's Sam Hartman, but Pratt ended up back at Tulane and Hartman landed at Notre Dame. The Gators also missed out on former LSU quarterback Walker Howard, who is transferring to Mississippi despite a lengthy relationship with Napier. **WHAT'S NEXT?** Rashada is free to enroll elsewhere without

having to enter the transfer portal. He already has been linked to Arizona State and Washington. What remains to be seen is whether Rashada sues the Gator Collective, along with possibly the athletic department and the university, in hopes of getting at least part of the \$13 million he was promised. He could conceivably ask for more if he believes his reputation was damaged. The Gators still could use help at the all-important QB position with just three scholarship quarterbacks: Mertz, Miller and redshirt freshman Max Brown. The bigger question: How will Rashada's failed recruitment affect future prospects? **WHAT'S THE POTENTIAL FALLOUT?** Florida already plans to encourage its collectives to make changes, with one potential one being a merger between the Gator Collective and the more exclusive Gator Guard. Personnel moves within the collective also are expected.

2-time Daytona 500 winner Kenseth set to enter Hall of Fame

By Steve Reed
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Two-time Daytona 500 champion Matt Kenseth and three others will be inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame on Friday night.

The 50-year-old Kenseth, who drove 18 full seasons on the NASCAR circuit before retiring in 2020 with 39 Cup victories and 20 poles, highlights a class that also includes longtime driver Hershel McGriff and crew chief Kirk Shelmerdine. Mike Helton will be inducted as the Landmark Award winner for outstanding contributions to the sport.

Kenseth ranks 21st on NASCAR's career wins list. He won all of the sport's biggest races including the Daytona 500 in 2009 and 2012, the Coca-Cola 600, the Southern 500 and the All-Star race.

Kenseth captured the 2003 Cup Series championship behind a dominating season in which he led the points standings for the final 32 weeks of the season. He made the NASCAR playoffs in 13 of 14 seasons and finished runner-up twice. He also won

29 Xfinity Series races.

Shelmerdine was the crew chief and front tire change for four of Dale Earnhardt's seven championships. Only two crew chiefs have more premier series titles than Shelmerdine: class of 2012 inductee Dale Inman with eight and Chad Knaus, who will be eligible for Hall of Fame consideration in 2024, who has seven.

McGriff, 94, competed on race tracks for 68 years. From 1954 until 2018, he participated in 271 races in the NASCAR K&N Pro Series West (now ARCA Menards West Series), winning 34 races and posting 100 top-five finishes. He captured the series championship in 1986 at 58 years old and finished second in points in 1985 and 1987.

The four were selected to the Hall of Fame last May.

Kenseth was a driver who earned the respect of his contemporaries, including Jimmie Johnson and Kevin Harvick.

Johnson, a seven-time Cup champion, said some of his fiercest battles on the racetrack have been with Kenseth.

"There was always just



Matt Kenseth celebrates after winning the NASCAR Daytona 500 Sprint Cup series auto race at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla., early Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2012. Two-time Daytona 500 champion Matt Kenseth and three others will be inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame on Friday night, Jan. 20, 2023.

FILE PHOTO BY JOHN RAOUX | AP PHOTO

a deep level of trust that we're going to give 100%, not step over the line, not clean each other out," Johnson said. "... As a competitor, he was one of the few that I knew we'd race hard but we wouldn't cross the line." Johnson said the two

forged a friendship away from the track riding bicycles.

"I absolutely call him a friend," Johnson said. "His family, his kids are close, like we've really become friends and I am so thankful for it."

Harvick also described Kenseth as a fair driver, but added that he is "that sneaky guy that would dump you."

"If you did him wrong, he was going to give back exactly what he got," Harvick said. "As you look back at Matt, he was one

of the rare few that would always just figure it out and find his way to the front by the time that the race was over. He's a great hardcore good racer and I always respected him."

AP Motorsports Writer Jenna Fryer contributed to this report

Pulido

From Page A11

The return of Kinda, a midfielder and one of the team's other two Designated Players along with winger Johnny Russell, who also missed all of last season after knee surgery, bodes well for SKC, who are readying to play a number of closed-door scrimmages in Arizona, where the team began its one-month stay to start preseason training on Jan. 9.

FEELING FIT

Speaking on conditioning and the upcoming friendlies, Vermes said the club

will play just 60 minutes on Saturday.

"We're going to probably get most of our guys 30 minutes a piece and nothing more than that," said Vermes. "This is truly an opportunity for us to build our game fitness."

"We're trying to take parts of our game, and hopefully when we're playing for those 30 minutes we're seeing those things whether we have the ball or don't have the ball. When you go into preseason, you have a plan for what you want to do, but once you start playing games you realize you have to spend more time on this or that to get the guys feeling

more comfortable to be playing that way."

"I do believe our team has a pretty good foundation for fitness at the moment."

REMEMBERING WALKES

Vermes began Friday's session talking about 25-year-old Charlotte FC defender Anton Walkes, who passed away this week following a boating accident.

"To his family, to Charlotte FC and all their fans, from Sporting Kansas City, our entire organization, from our city and fans, we send our condolences, our thoughts and prayers," Vermes said. "I can't imagine the difficult time going on right

now with the family, and we want them to know we're a small group in regards to soccer, football, around the world, and when something like this happens it affects all of us. It makes you think about a lot of different things. Our hearts go out to their family."

LEAGUES CUP

Early Friday, the 15 groups were unveiled for this year's inaugural MLS/Liga MX Leagues Cup, a midseason tournament that

will include all 47 clubs from both leagues.

Divided into groups based on four regions, Sporting was drawn into a Central region group with FC Cincinnati, as well as Pulido's former club, Guadalajara.

"[Chivas is] probably one of the most recognizable clubs in Mexico with great history," Vermes said. "We have a relationship with them based on [how] we've gotten a couple players from

them over the years. And then we haven't played in the new stadium in Cincinnati yet, and it works out well that it's close proximity to them as well."

On facing Chivas, Pulido added, "I'm very excited and happy to play my former team. I have lots of love for my former club."

Vermes said he likes the aspect that MLS is pausing league play for the competition and that Sporting plans on taking it "very seriously."

Playoffs

From Page A11

"We never waver. He never wavers," Jaguars line-backer Josh Allen explained. "Even when things happen, his approach never changes. It's, 'Let's move on to the next one with a sense the urgency.' That's the biggest takeaway."

Given his background, that shouldn't be a surprise.

"The coaches I've played for were all very level-headed," Pederson said this week. "Never got too high, never got too low. Yeah, they can get emotional, but never really coached that way. Stayed level-headed."

One of those coaches, of course, will be on the opposite sideline Saturday.

"He played, obviously, and he knows the kind of coach he liked and didn't like," Reid said of his protégé. "Within his own personality, he presents things in a friendly manner, yet he's demanding of the guys. And I think that's a positive."

Pederson and Reid have matched wits plenty of times since going their separate ways, including earlier this season, when the Chiefs rolled to a 27-17 victory over the Jaguars at Arrowhead Stadium.

At the time, the Chiefs were barreling toward the No. 1 seed in the AFC, which ultimately gave them last week off, and the talented-but-rebuilding Jaguars were still trying to find their footing under their new coach.

Much has changed in the last two months. The Chiefs may not have lost since Dec. 4, but neither have the Jaguars, whose third-largest comeback in playoff history last week gives them plenty of swagger heading into the rematch.

"That's the biggest difference, that they might have more confidence because they're winning," Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes said. "They're a talented team. I knew that the first time we played them. They made a few mistakes here and there and that's why we got the win the first time."

"But we know we're going to get their best." **DIVISIONAL DOMINANCE**

Mahomes has never lost in four starts in the divisional round, beating Indianapolis, Houston, Cleveland and Buffalo. All those games were played at Arrowhead Stadium, including last year's thriller against the Bills, when the teams combined for 25 points over the final 2 minutes of regulation before Kansas City won 42-36 in overtime.

SATURDAY STREAKERS

Lawrence's Saturday success will be put to the test in Kansas City. The Jaguars quarterback is 37-0 on that day, a winning streak that spans his time at Cartersville High School, Clemson and the last two weekends in Jacksonville.

"Honestly, kind of a coincidence," Lawrence said, "that I've had Saturday games on all three levels."

Turns out Pederson is pretty good on Saturday, too. He's 3-0 as the head coach in Philadelphia and Jacksonville.

I CAN'T HEAR YOU

Lawrence unwittingly provided some bulletin-board material Tuesday, though not for the Chiefs so much as their fans, who in 2014 set mark recognized by the Guinness World Records for "loudest crowd roar" of 142.2 decibels during a win over the Patriots.

"I can't imagine it will be much louder than our fans were here on Saturday," Lawrence said.

Pederson knows better: "Nothing prepares you for (Arrowhead Stadium)," he said. "I can turn the noise here as loud as I want, and it's not going to make an impact. But it's loud for them. It's loud for their defense. And we both have to play in it, obviously. It's a great atmosphere, and these fans are passionate about the Chiefs, obviously, and it's the loudest for a reason."

SECRET WEAPON

Most of the Jaguars defense will be focused on tight end Travis Kelce, and for good reason: He caught 110 passes this season, one off Tyreek Hill's club record. That's the approach other teams have taken, too. But seldom-used running back Jerick McKinnon has taken advantage of it, getting loose for TD passes in each of the past six games.

That's pretty good production for a 30-year-old journeyman making less than \$1.3 million on a one-year deal.

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NFL assistants balance playoff prep with job interviews

By Josh Dubow
AP Pro Football Writer

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — DeMeco Ryans' day as San Francisco defensive coordinator started with meetings and then went to the practice field as he focused on implementing a defense to slow down Dak Prescott and the Dallas Cowboys.

Then instead of relaxing or diving into more film at night ahead of a key playoff showdown Sunday, Ryans shifted gears and went into job interview mode with an in-person meeting with the Denver Broncos about their head coaching job.

"With everything you do as a coach, you're trying to crunch a lot of things in," he said at his weekly news conference Thursday in between practice and his interview.

"You're trying to dissect a lot of information in a certain amount of time. So time management is a very crucial thing to have. I know I keep the main thing, the main thing, and the main thing this week is the Cowboys."

Ryans is one of several assistants still alive in the playoffs dealing with the delicate balance of preparing for the most important games of their careers with the most important job interviews.

Among the other assistants, who have interviewed or been requested for interviews for head coaching jobs are Cowboys coordinators Dan Quinn and Kellen Moore; Giants coordinators Mike Kafka and Wink Martindale; Eagles coordinators Shane Steichen and Jonathan Gannon; Buffalo offensive coordinator Ken

Dorsey; and Kansas City offensive coordinator Eric Bieniemy.

The NFL tweaked the rules this year, allowing for assistants who were in the wild-card round to do interviews the week of the divisional round in hopes that qualified candidates on teams that make long postseason runs don't miss out on getting coveted head coaching jobs.

Many of the head coaches still alive dealt with similar challenges before getting their jobs. Giants coach Brian Daboll said it wasn't difficult to block out other job opportunities while coaching a team trying to reach the Super Bowl after going through it last year as Bills offensive coordinator.

"You work extremely hard to get to this spot," Daboll said. "All the work you put in in the off-season, the training camps, regular season games, and now the first playoff game, as a professional, that's where all of your attention is."

After interviewing with the Broncos on Thursday night, Ryans was set to meet with the Texans on Friday. He also is expected to interview with the Carolina and Arizona during this process as he seeks his first head coaching job.

His Dallas counterpart, Quinn, is scheduled to interview Friday with Denver. Quinn interviewed with the Broncos last year before they hired Nathaniel Hackett, who was fired before the end of his first season.

Quinn said offseason preparation for interviews is important in helping keep the focus on his team's upcoming game.

"I interviewed during



San Francisco 49ers defensive coordinator DeMeco Ryans before an NFL football game against the Arizona Cardinals in Santa Clara, Calif., Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023. The Carolina Panthers have requested permission to interview San Francisco 49ers defensive coordinator DeMeco Ryans and New England Patriots linebackers coach Jerod Mayo bringing the number of known candidates for the team's head coaching vacancy to 10, according to a person familiar with the situation. The person spoke to The Associated Press on Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023, on condition of anonymity because the team does not make its coaching search public. PHOTO BY GODOFREDO A. VÁSQUEZ | AP PHOTO

the playoffs years ago during my time in Seattle," said Quinn, who was hired by Atlanta in 2015 and led the Falcons to the Super Bowl in his second season. "That experience helped me make sure, 'Hey, your process had better be straight and organized as you're going.'"

"Back in the spring and summer, I had planned for us to be in the playoffs, so I planned for these conversations if I was fortunate enough to have them. I didn't want to have to do anything differently."

Ryans' boss Kyle Shanahan went through a similar process six years ago when he interviewed with San Francisco while going on a Super Bowl run as offensive coordinator in Atlanta. Shanahan's

former offensive coordinator, Mike McDaniell, went through the job search last postseason and got hired by Miami, while former defensive coordinator Robert Saleh interviewed for head coaching jobs during the 2019 playoffs but didn't get hired until a year later.

Shanahan is confident Ryans can balance the two tasks.

"When you just set the time aside for that, it's a lot for DeMeco to kind of prepare for it, but I think he is prepared for it," Shanahan said. "When you're done with those, you go right back to the most important thing at hand then and that's us finding a way to win this Sunday."

The process is a bit easier for coaches on teams

that had the bye last week like the Eagles and Chiefs. Those their assistants were able to get interviews done before this week, with Steichen, Gannon and Bieniemy able to take advantage of that opportunity.

"Just focused on the Giants right now," Steichen said this week. "That's it."

Some assistants preferred to wait before starting the interview process with Kafka and Martindale of the Giants choosing to wait until after Saturday's game against Philadelphia to begin meeting with teams for potential head coaching jobs.

Martindale handled it the same way three years ago when he was defensive coordinator in Baltimore and ended up interviewing with Giants owner John

Mara for the job that ultimately went to Joe Judge.

"It's an honor when they put a slip in because I think it's harder to get a head coaching job in this league than being in the Senate," Martindale said. "It's an honor, but we're not interviewing this week. When I came here as a Giant, it wasn't a stepping stone for me. It was a destination. ... Honestly, I've been locked in on Philly. We're not interviewing this week. I think that when the time comes, if there's still time when we can do it, I'd love to sit down and talk with them."

AP Pro Football Writers Dennis Waszak Jr. and Schuyler Dixon and AP Sports Writer Dan Gelston contributed to this report.

NFL

From Page A11

None of the teams remaining in the AFC are ball-control types. The Chiefs, along with the Bills and Jags, all rank top-12 in seconds per play -- about three seconds less than the bottom-ranked Niners. These are the types that have plagued KC. Tennessee, the only team aside from the Bengals or Bills to beat the Chiefs this season, ranked 30th in seconds per play.

The Niners, bottom of that category, face the Cowboys on Sunday, but with a rookie Brock Purdy at the league's most crucial position -- no QB has led his team to a Super Bowl victory, led alone an appearance -- a Cowboys win can't be considered an upset.

That leaves the Eagles, who host the Giants in Saturday's other Divisional game. And while Philly decimated New York 48-22 when the two teams met on Dec. 11, that rematch on Jan. 8 decided by just six points was more indicative of what the rubber match might look like.

From an Eagles' perspective, the health of arguably the team's two most important players is

a real question mark. Just how much of a bruising can Jalen Hurts, who carries it an average of 11 times per contest, take? Right tackle Lane Johnson didn't allow a sack or a hit all season, but missed the final two weeks of the season and likely isn't back to 100% health.

For the Giants, running behind the best left tackle in the league this year, Andrew Thomas, Saquon Barkley looks fresh again after appearing to lose a step from his resurgent showing in the first half of the year, and the talent around him, including quarterback Daniel Jones, is peaking. Jones is a dual-threat that doesn't cave and force throws when the play breaks down -- he's registered just one interception in the last seven games.

Everything could go relatively chalk and the favored seeds -- all four teams represent the top quartet in DVOA -- might go through, but one of the No. 1s is more likely to be shown the exit, and the last month tends to point toward the Eagles. But Kansas City hasn't exactly blown the doors off in late-season wins, either. Even if the Chiefs dance on at home against Cincy, or to Atlanta, it's more probable in a nail-biter.

Twins

From Page A11

Twins fans who are old enough might also have winced when the club traded reigning AL batting champion Rod Carew after the 1978 season, albeit with far different circumstances.

"Anytime you have a player that's well liked in the environment, who you know is going to go work and do it every day which we got to see with Luis, it makes it harder," Twins president of baseball operations Derek Falvey said. "Wed love

to have Luis and Pablo on our team, but to get something as impactful as what Pablo brings to our team, you have to give something impactful."

The 26-year-old López had a 3.75 ERA in 32 starts last season. He threw a career-high 180 innings. Over the last two seasons, he had 289 strikeouts in 282 2/3 innings.

Maeda, Gray, Mahle and Ryan were all acquired in recent trades, too, and whether minor-leaguers or major-leaguers the Twins have had to part with several valuable players to get them.

"I don't care where they come from. We need really good starters and we need really good pitchers," Falvey said. "The goal here is to continue to deepen your starting rotation and pitching staff however we can do it."

Falvey listed Ober sixth when he mentioned the group in a video interview. He said the Twins have discussed a six-man rotation but weren't "ready to stamp that yet." Injuries ravaged the rotation last year, so chances are the Twins will need more than six starters over the course of 2023.

The deal makes sense for Miami, which has a

strong pitching rotation highlighted by NL Cy Young Award winner Sandy Alcantara, and newly acquired right-hander Johnny Cueto. The Marlins struggled at the plate last season, though, batting .230 in 2022, and had been looking to add another hitter to their lineup after signing former Philadelphia infielder Jean Segura.

Arraez will add a much-needed bat, especially after Miami dealt shortstop Miguel Rojas to the Dodgers.

AP Sports Writer Alanis Thames contributed to this report.

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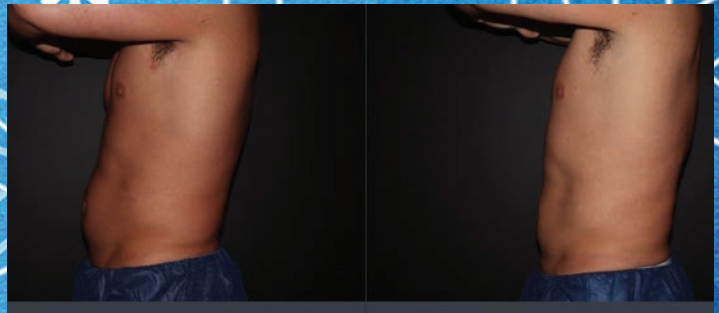
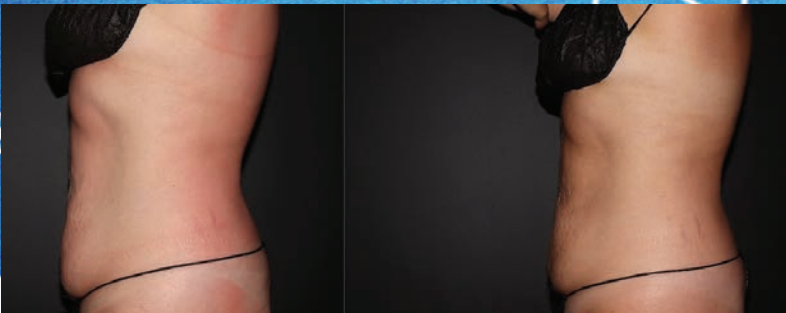
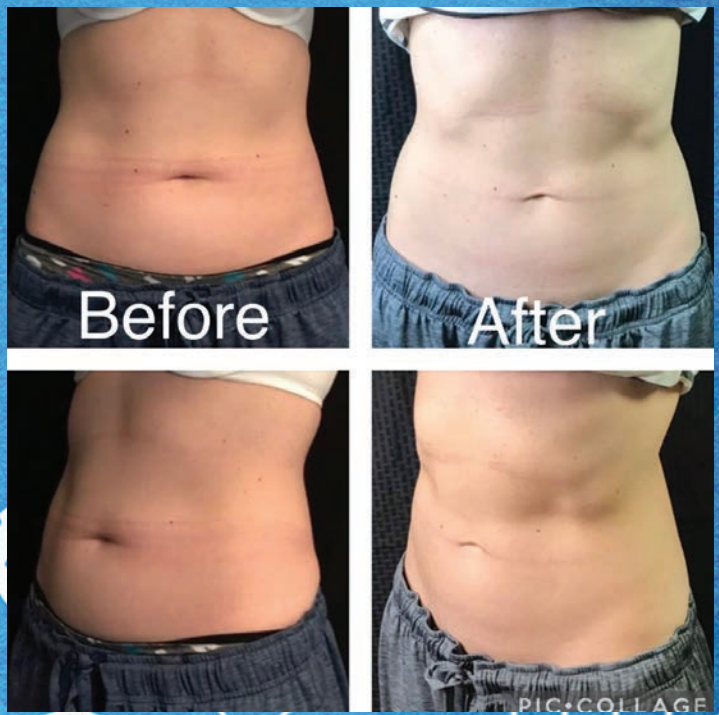
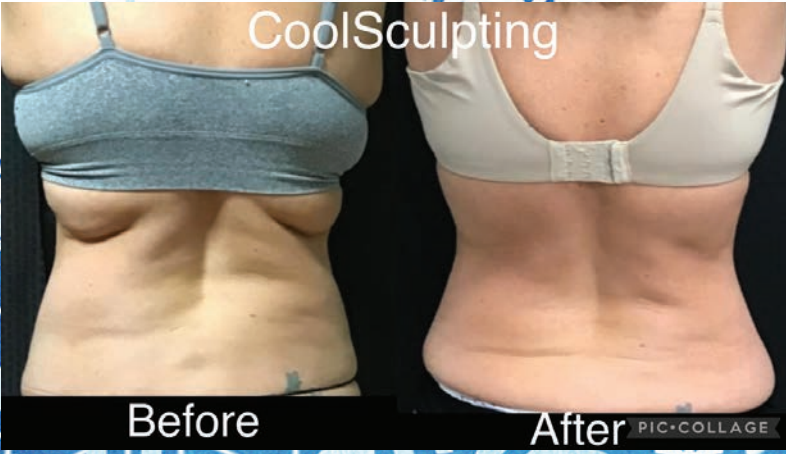
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Becky Pestka
Nurse,
Esthetician



Stephanie Gleason
LPN, Laser Specialist



Heather Smith
RN, Injector

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Encountering new opportunities for learning, growth

In my first column of the new year, I wrote that I had a lot of learning experiences in 2022, ranging from how to style my naturally curly hair to embracing new perspectives. It seems that theme is already carrying over into 2023.



Nicole Cooke
Democrat Editor

This week, the Sedalia and Warrensburg newsrooms started using a new web-based content management system. We're lucky enough to have designers on the Warrensburg team who have been using it for months with other Phillips Media papers. However, our Sedalia designers were unfamiliar with it, so they've been in the same boat as the rest of us as we figured out a new workflow process.

Unfortunately, it caused a few problems for our print editions this week and we blew past our press deadline Monday night, but every night since has seen improvements. We've shared tips and tricks as we figure them out ourselves, and we've been communicating more than ever with our design team to find the most efficient way to use the new system. We haven't perfected it yet, but I think we're well on our way.

I'm not usually one who advocates for change for the sake of change, but this new system has prompted me to take a hard look at our operations. It has made me rethink how we handle some newsroom tasks, things we've been doing the same way for years. Just like last year when our press operations moved and deadlines changed, I've had another opportunity to either complain about growing pains or adapt for the better. I probably started with complaints, but I've tried to make the most of this learning experience.

On Friday, Publisher Jim Perry, Office Manager Nikki Monsees and I spoke about the Democrat and the local newspaper industry at the Pettis County Pachyderm Club meeting. I've spoken to civic groups and students at every level numerous times during my career. I always appreciate the opportunity to share what I do as a local journalist and how we operate the Democrat and Star-Journal. And it allows readers and community members to put a face to the by-line they read every week.

This week's presentation was no different than the others I've given: the three of us offered insights, some broad and some detailed, into our business operations and we left some time to take questions.

I also love to answer questions about the Democrat and Star-Journal. Whether in person, via email or by phone, I'm happy to explain why and how we do things in our offices. And I'm always surprised when the other person is surprised that I was willing to take a few minutes to do so. Surely I can't be the only department manager in Sedalia and Warrensburg willing to take a customer phone call and have a conversation, but sometimes I get the feeling that might be the case. I've even offered over the phone a few times to continue our discussion over a cup of coffee. Not one person in five years of working in the editor's office has taken me up on my offer; they think I'm being sarcastic when I'm truly being sincere.

Continued on B4

'Old dogs and old people need love too'

By Faith Bemiss
fbemiss@sedaliademocrat.com

Rescue dog Otis inspires others

Left alone on a parking lot in a rainstorm in 2019, the aged dog Otis never thought he'd find a home. But as luck would have it, a couple picked him up, and although they could not keep him, Otis soon found a forever home at Halsey Homestead in Osceola.

Beth and Larry Halsey said they would never have an indoor dog, but Beth changed her mind four years ago. As she searched for the perfect dog, she and Larry found Otis, then eight years old, on Facebook. After seeing the aged dog, Beth Halsey said Larry commented, "Old dogs and old people need love too." So to Otis, Beth and Larry became Nana and Papa, and he settled into life at the homestead.

Halsey began to post on Facebook about Otis' adventures, and his followers began to urge her to write a book. She did. The book, "My Forever Homestead Home: A Rescue Dog's Story," is written from Otis' point of view and was published in December 2022.

The book is a first for Halsey, 70, and she said, laughing, she "doesn't even like to write." Halsey designed the book to be "a picture storybook for people of all ages."

"The posts on Facebook, the intent was to either make people smile or hopefully do something positive," she noted. "Because there's so much negativity out there."

Beth, who lived in Warrensburg for 45 years before retiring, added they had never allowed pets in the house.

"We'd never had a dog in the house before," she said. "Our pets had always been outside. That's what my husband preferred. So, when we retired and moved to where we live now, we built a house that was more pet-friendly."

"So, I wanted to adopt a dog that could live in the house," she continued. "And my husband finally said OK. Anyway, through Facebook, we ended up finding Otis."

A week after adopting Otis, she posted about how he was doing.

"Then it dawned on me, he'd been a housedog," she said. "He knew what he was doing, we'd had never had a housedog, and we didn't know what (we were doing)."

"So, instead of us training him, he was training us on



Beth (Nana) and Larry (Papa) Halsey, of Osceola, sit with their rescue dog Otis. After writing about Otis' adventures on Facebook, Beth published a book about him, "My Forever Homestead Home: A Rescue Dog's Story," on Dec. 11, 2022. The book is told from Otis' point-of-view.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BETH HALSEY

how to be housedog people," she continued. "So, I put it out there, and it got likes, and smiles, and positive comments."

Afterward, Halsey began to post for Otis along with photos of his activities, and the posts received positive comments and likes.

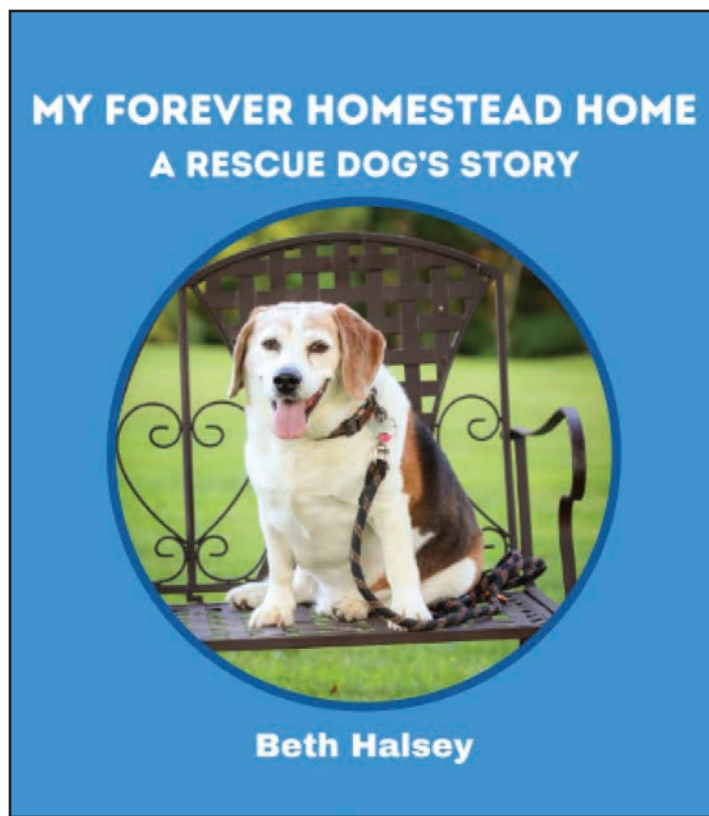
"It took off from there," she said. "And from there, if I wasn't putting something out about Otis once a week, at least, I was getting phone calls, and text messages, and emails wanting to know, 'how is Otis?'"

"My husband and I would go out and meet people, and instead of them saying, 'how are you?' They would say, 'hi, how is Otis?'" she added. "And so, it grew and grew and grew."

Finally, Hasley's neighbor suggested she take the Otis posts and create a book.

"And I'm not a writer at all," she added. "And I thought, 'that's sweet, but no, that's not going to happen.'"

"Then more and more people kept saying, 'you really need to write a book; we love Otis. He makes us smile,'" she continued. "And



"My Forever Homestead Home: A Rescue Dog's Story," filled with photos and adventures of Otis, is available on Amazon.

so, it finally dawned on me. I'd had enough people saying this that there really might be something to it."

By chance, Halsey ran into a lady, Janet Adams, whom she hadn't seen in 50 years, and found the woman was an author and an illustrator. Halsey presented the idea for the book to her friend, who said people love pets and noted it was a great idea.

"I had no idea about how to go about publishing or putting a book together," she said. "So, I finished writing it, and she gave me Dr. Rebecca Spencer's name."

Spencer has a Christian academy and a faith-based publishing company. Halsey decided to publish the book through Spencer's company.

Once the book was published, she announced it on Facebook and noted it was selling well. The book, now on Amazon, takes the reader on Otis' adventures on the homestead. Halsey

noted Otis is a "real sweet guy."

"He is about as easy-going puppy as you can find," she said. "He likes it when I read his book to him. He's just full of love; he likes people. He just has a fun kind of personality."

Halsey also has a paw print stamp so Otis can autograph his books.

"I put out a little post that said he authorized me to use his autograph stamp," she added with a smile.

Writing the book has been a learning experience for Halsey. She and her husband hope the book encourages others to adopt older pets and older people to follow their dreams, such as writing a book.

"You're never too old to try something new," she added. "Sometimes you just need to open yourself up to something you'd never, ever thought about. And sometimes, that can turn out to be the very best thing ever."

See DOG | B4



Beth Halsey and Otis take a moment to relax in the family's living room at the Halsey Homestead in Osceola.

POPULAR BOOKS

Boonslick Regional Library Fiction

“Eden’s Children,” by V.C. Andrews.
 “VAMPS: Fresh Blood,” by Nicole Arend.
 “Blue Moon Haven,” by Janet Dailey.
 “Death of the Emerald Isle,” by Jessica Fletcher.
 “Botherless Night,” by V.V. Ganeshanathan.
 “Code 6,” by James Grippando.
 “American Afterlife,” by Pedro Hoffmeister.
 “The Last Hero,” by Linden A. Lewis.
 “Night Wherever We Go,” by Tracey Rose Peyton.
 “The Bandit Queens,

by Parini Shroff.
Nonfiction
 “Living in the Light: Yoga for Self-Realization,” by Deepak Chopra.
 “Power Failure: The Rise and Fall of an American Icon,” by William D. Cohan.
 “Code Name Blue Wren: The True Story of America’s Most Dangerous Female Spy — and the Sister She Betrayed,” by Jim Popkin.
 “Raw Deal: Hidden Corruption, Corporate Greed, and the Fight for the Future of Meat,” by Cloe Sorvino.
 “Queens of the Age of Chivalry,” by Alison Weir.

NEW BOOKS

Sedalia Public Library Fiction

“The House at the End of the World,” by Dean Koontz (suspense).
 “The Cabinet of Dr. Leng,” by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child (suspense).
 “The Three Lives of Alix St. Pierre,” by Natasha Lester (historical fiction).
 “In the Upper Country,” by Kai Thomas (fiction).

“Emily Wilde’s Encyclopaedia of Faeries,” by Heather Fawcett (fantasy).
 “The Backup Plan,” by Jill Shalvis (fiction).
 “Honeymoons Can Be Hazardous,” by Amanda Flower (mystery).
Nonfiction
 “Simply Korean,” by Aaron Huh (nonfiction).
 “The Commanders,” by Lloyd Clark (nonfiction).
 “Queens of the Age of Chivalry,” by Alison

BRL2GO SCHEDULE

Boonslick Regional Library Monday

9 a.m.: Cole Camp R-I School.
 9:15 to 11:45 a.m.: Cole Camp City Park.
 Noon: Cole Camp Senior Center.
 1:30 p.m.: Lincoln Community Care.
 1:45 to 3:45 p.m.: Lincoln City Park.

9:30 a.m.: Boonville Hartmann Village.
 9:40 a.m.: Riverdale Care Center.
 9:45 a.m. to noon: Boonville Walmart.
 1:30 to 4 p.m.: Lone Elm.
Friday
 9 to 11:45 a.m.: Brooking Park Village.
 1:15 to 4 p.m.: Otterville.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Pettis County Recorder of Deeds Barbara Clevenger recently issued marriage licenses to:
 Mark Allan Stevens, 51, and Julia Ann Lefevers, 48, both of Sedalia;
 Justyn Devon Cox, 24, and Courtney Ann

Strahl, 23, both of Junction City, Kansas;
 Avery Makane Stebbins, 26, of Sedalia, and Chloe Renee Andresen, 20, of Marshall;
 Derek Scott Harden, 48, and Anissa Marie Book, 46, both of Sedalia.

DIVORCES

These people were recently granted divorces in Pettis County Circuit Court:
 Vladimir Kyvyrzhik and Oxana Krasavina;
 Olivia J. Willing and Walter E. Willing;

Billie J. Comfort and John A. Comfort;
 Stacey Gertz and Michael Gertz;
 Zachery D. Johnson and Brooke L. Johnson.

SCHUMAKER BIRTHDAY

Bonnie Schumaker will observe her 92nd birthday Jan. 22. She was born Jan. 22, 1931. Bonnie was married to the late James “Salty” Schumaker, of Sedalia. Before retiring, she was a librarian at Smith-Cotton High School. He hobbies include playing cards and

she was involved in a lunch group with friends. Bonnie has two children, James Schumaker, of Sedalia, and Stanley Schumaker, of Greeley, Colorado. Birthday cards may be sent to Bonnie at the Sylvia G. Thompson Residence Center, 3333 W. 10th St., Sedalia, Mo. 65301.

CLUB NOTES

Toastmasters

Bill Claycomb, a Pettis County historian and author, recently spoke at MidMo Toastmasters Club on the subject, “A Missouri Farm Boy in 1960 Chicago.”

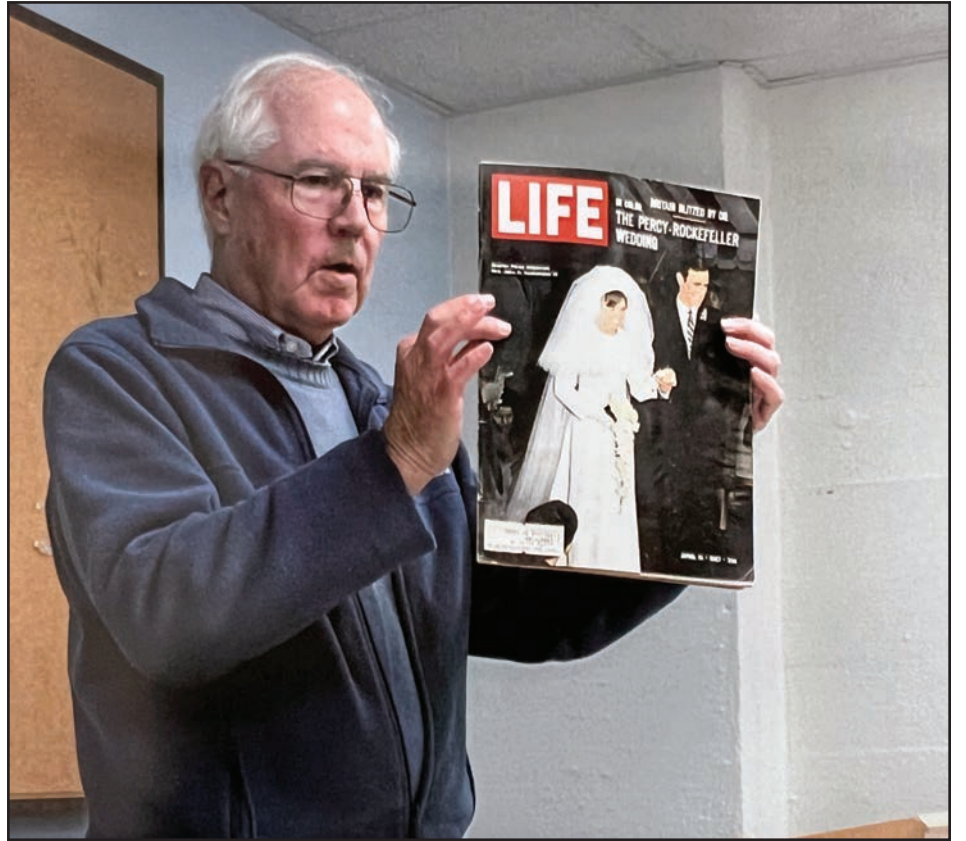
He recalled his April 1967 excitement of witnessing the just-married couple, Sharon Percy and Jay Rockefeller IV, stepping out of the University of Chicago Chapel. Claycomb was then a resident at the nearby Del Prado Hotel in Chicago while serving in the United States Army.

Grow and Glow Garden Club FGCM

The January meeting of the Grow and Glow Garden Club FGCM was hosted at the Fortuna Baptist Church. The meeting was preceded by an optional member lunch at Bobbio’s Eatery in Tipton.

Twenty-one members and guest Tina Ash were present at the church. Nancy Byars led the group on a tour of the facility to plan for the April 14 Spring District Meeting.

Decisions were made regarding the menu for the lunch meal and the breakfast treats prior to the morning meeting. The group broke into committees to do additional planning after receiving the 2016 district meeting breakdown of income



Bill Claycomb showed the Toastmasters a copy of “Life” magazine, with the Percy-Rockefeller wedding cover. He said he purchased the magazine at a Sedalia flea market 40 years after witnessing the much-publicized Chicago event.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SEDALIA TOASTMASTERS

and expenses and Central District rules. A selection of sizes and colors of T-shirts were viewed to determine a uniform color and which size to order for the Spring Meeting. Aqua shirts with white lettering were selected.

Yearbooks for 2023, prepared by Debbie Ellis-Harper, were examined, and appreciation was expressed for the attractive, useful publication.

Grapevine pruning at the historic Maclay Home was discussed, and the decision was made that the vines

needed to grow this coming year.

Club President Linda Dahl thanked Linda and Jim Reid, Gay Nau, and Ellis-Harper for taking down the club’s Christmas display in Tipton City Park. She also expressed appreciation to the Reids for providing storage for the decorations.

Birthdays honored in January: Nicki Kelley, Janet Mulcahy, and Cathy Price.

The members were reminded to bring non-perishable foods for the Morgan Coun-

ty Food Pantry to the Feb. 21 meeting. This meeting will be at the Tipton United Methodist Church and Alice Longfellow will give a PowerPoint presentation on Gardens of Ireland. The optional pre-meeting member lunch’s location will be announced later. Kendra Johnson will provide the Price James Memorial Library floral arrangement.

If interested in becoming a member of the garden club, call 660-433-2366 for more information.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels is a nonprofit organization that delivers meals to seniors, the homebound and handicapped citizens of Sedalia. The food is prepared by Superior Vendall and is delivered by volun-

teers. Meals cost \$4. For more information on receiving meals or becoming a volunteer, call 660-826-5039.

Meals will be delivered by St. Vincent de Paul Church.

Monday: Chick-

en and noodles, green beans, applesauce and milk.

Tuesday: Meatloaf, posh potatoes, tomato and cucumber salad, cookie and milk.

Wednesday: Pulled pork on bun, cottage cheese,

potato chips, banana and milk.

Thursday: Ham and beans, cornbread, Cole slaw, tropical fruit and milk.

Friday: Pork fritter on bun, macaroni salad, baked beans, orange and milk.

Prosecutors seek justice in Baldwin case, regardless of fame

By **MORGAN LEE**
 Associated Press

SANTA FE, N.M. — Alec Baldwin faces two types of manslaughter charges in a reckoning on gun safety and the film industry, with two potential standards for proof and possible sanctions of up to five years in prison.

Prosecutors have vowed to file those charges before February against the 64-year-old actor and weapons specialist Hannah Gutierrez-Reed, in the fatal shooting of a cinematographer on the set of the Western movie “Rust” in October 2021.

Santa Fe District Attorney Mary Carmack-Altwies says the case is about equal justice under the law and accountability in the death of Halyna Hutchins, regardless of the fame or fortune of those involved.

She says the Ukrainian-born cinematographer’s death while rehearsing a scene was tragic — and preventable.

Baldwin and Gutierrez-Reed maintain their innocence and have vowed to fight the charges, which were announced Thursday. Here is a look at the case:

THE CHARGES

One charge of involuntary manslaughter will require proof of negligence. It’s punishable by up to 18 months in jail and a \$5,000

fine under New Mexico law.

The second manslaughter charge is for reckless disregard of safety “without due caution and circumspection.” It carries a higher threshold of wrongdoing and includes a “firearm enhancement” that could result in a mandatory five years in prison because the offense was committed with a gun.

Prosecutors say a jury may ultimately decide which definition of manslaughter to pursue. But first a judge will have 60 days to weigh whether there is sufficient evidence to proceed.

Santa Fe District Defender Julie Ball says initial evidence of probable cause is typically weighed in favor of prosecutors, using a lower burden of proof than later at trial.

Involuntary manslaughter can involve a killing that happens while a defendant is doing something that is lawful but dangerous.

THE DEFENSE AND THE PROSECUTION

Baldwin has said he had no reason to believe there was a live bullet in the gun he discharged.

That defense is complicated by his role as both lead actor and co-producer on “Rust.” State workplace safety regulators have fined Rust Movie Productions based on a string of safety failures, including testi-

mony that production managers took limited or no action to address two misfires of blank ammunition on the set prior to the shooting.

Defense attorneys also maintain the innocence of Gutierrez-Reed, the daughter of veteran sharpshooter and film consultant Thell Reed. Gutierrez-Reed was hired at age 24, with limited prior experience on a handful of films, to supervise weapons, ammunition and training on “Rust.”

Carmack-Altwies says a movie set armorer has the responsibility to ensure ammunition and guns are handled safely and has the authority to a halt rehearsals or filming at any time when concerns arise.

The district attorney alleges that Gutierrez-Reed without noticing somehow loaded a bullet into the gun that killed Hutchins and should have noticed the difference between a live and a dummy round.

Dummy rounds typically rattle when shaken — the sound of a BB inside — and have a dimpled base or other possible markings. Blanks contain a charge but have no slug or bullet at the tip.

At the same time, New Mexico workplace safety regulators say “Rust” managers limited Gutierrez-Reed’s ability to require safety and weapons training

for people including Baldwin, and that a request for more training was rebuffed. Rust Movie Productions disputes the findings and sanctions.

THE REHEARSAL

The fatal shot was fired at a ranch on the outskirts of Santa Fe shortly after a lunch break, as Baldwin gathered inside a clapboard chapel with a dozen cast and crew members — the director, a scriptwriter, lighting and sound technicians, a safety coordinator and Hutchins — to rehearse a scene in which Baldwin draws a pistol from across his waist.

Law enforcement interviews indicate that Gutierrez-Reed remained outside.

Authorities say Baldwin was pointing the gun at Hutchins when he fired it, striking her in the chest and hitting director Joel Souza in the shoulder.

No movie cameras were filming at the time, but lapel camera video from law enforcement officers shows a chaotic aftermath as Hutchins slips in and out of consciousness and an evacuation helicopter arrives, to no avail.

The assistant director who handed Baldwin the gun, David Halls, has agreed to plead guilty to negligent use of a deadly weapon. It’s unclear if he has agreed to testify in court.

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Pregnancy Help Center

Free confidential pregnancy test **Free pregnancy information & help**
Alternatives to abortion **Speakers available**

Hours Tuesday-Friday 12:30 – 4:30 • Other hours by appointment
 1810 W 11th ST, Sedalia, MO • **660-826-9060** • **1-800-550-4900**
 www.birthright.org *We Care About You* 662616cb

Community Calendar JANUARY

To have your event or meeting listed or changed, send details to fbemiss@sedaliademocrat.com or call 660-826-1000 ext. 1481.

SUNDAY

Each day: AA meets at 417 E. Pettis St.
Noon and 7 p.m.: Alcoholics Anonymous 12x12 Non-smoking group, Sunday through Saturday; at 417 W. Pettis St., sedalia12x12aa@gmail.com.
1:30 p.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.
7 p.m.: Narcotics Anonymous Because We Care and 7:30 p.m. Wednesday; First Christian Church, 200 S. Limit Ave.

MONDAY

Each day: AA meets at 417 W. Pettis St.
10 a.m.: Show-Me Mad Tatters, University Extension Office Conference Room, 1012A Thompson Blvd.
11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.
Noon: Sedalia Rotary

Club, Best Western State Fair Inn, 3120 S. Limit Ave.
1:45 p.m.: TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter 0102 Sedalia meets at the Boonslick Regional Library, 219 W. Third St., in the lower level meeting room. All are welcome to attend. The first meeting is always free. Call 660-525-4142.
6 p.m.: Cornerstone Celebrate Recovery. A Bible-based 12-step program for Hurts, Habits and Hangups; Cornerstone Baptist Church, 660-827-4833.
6 p.m.: DeFeet.org has a general meeting open to the public at First Christian Church, located at 200 S. Limit Ave., in Sedalia. For more information, contact info@defeet.org, visit www.defeet.org, or message via the Facebook page.
6 p.m.: Smithton Senior Citizens Group Pitch and Pool, Smithton Senior Center on Washington Street.
6:30 p.m.: Bingo at VFV Post 2591, 121 S. Ohio Ave. Bonanza blackout starts at 6 p.m.

6:30 p.m.: Mid-Missouri Photo Club for all photo enthusiasts, St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cole Camp.
6:30 p.m.: Show Me Sound, Sweet Adelines International, are meeting in-person rehearsals at Wesley United Methodist Church basement, 1322 West Broadway Blvd. All women who like to sing are welcome. For more information, call 660-851-2205.
7 p.m.: Al Anon at 417 W. Pettis. For more information, call 660-473-0855.
7 p.m.: Father Tony Kraff Assembly of Knights of Columbus, Knights Hall, 1708 Elm Hills Blvd.
7 p.m.: No meeting in January — Pettis County Historical Society, 228 Dundee Ave.
7 p.m.: Sedalia Chorale Rehearsal, rehearsal room 67 in the Stauffacher Center at State Fair Community College.
7 p.m.: West Central Missouri Genealogical Society, Culp Building at the Johnson County Historical Society on Main Street, in Warrensburg.

TUESDAY

Each day: AA meets at 417 E. Pettis St.
8 a.m.: Central MO

Business Builders (BNI), at Heckart Family Center, 903 S. Ohio Ave.
11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.
Noon: Flat Creek Family and Community Club, for luncheon. Call 660-827-0591 for location information.
Noon: Sedalia Optimist Club, in Room C at the Heckart Community Center, 1800 W. Third St.
12:30 to 4:30 p.m.: Birthright Pregnancy Center, 1810 W. 11th St., Tuesday through Friday; and other hours by appointment. The office number is 660-826-9060.
6 p.m.: NarAnon meetings at LifePointe Church, 2921 W. Broadway Blvd.
6 p.m.: Sedalia Runners Club-Track at Smith-Cotton Track.
7 p.m.: Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA) is a 12-step fellowship of men and women at the First United Methodist Church Celebration Center, 1701 W. 32nd St.; for more information, call Barbara at 660-827-6522.
7 p.m.: Mozarkite Society of Lincoln Inc., Rock, Gem and Mineral Club, First Christian Church, 200 S. Limit Ave. Use southeast entrance; visitors are welcome.

7 p.m.: Women of the Moose, at the lodge, 119 Winchester Dr.
7:30 p.m.: Sedalia Chapter 57, Order of the Eastern Star, Masonic Temple, 601 W. Broadway Blvd.

WEDNESDAY

Each day: AA meets at 417 E. Pettis St.
10 a.m.: TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter 958, First Baptist Church, 200 E. Sixth St. First visit is free; 816-916-6237.
11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.
Noon: Sedalia Lions Club, Heckart Community Center, 1800 W. Third St.
5:30 p.m.: Amigos de Cristo, Teen Mom Classes at 3003 W. 11th St., 660-826-2788.

THURSDAY

Each day: AA meets at 417 E. Pettis St.
11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.
Noon: Kiwanis of Sedalia, at Lamy's, 108 Pacific St.
1 p.m.: Sedalia Duplicate Bridge Club at First Christian Church, 200 S. Limit Ave.
6 p.m.: Women in Crisis Group, call 660-827-5555 for location.

6:30 p.m.: Sedalia Cadet Squadron Civil Air Patrol, Civil Air Patrol building, U.S. Highway 50.
6:30 p.m.: Sedalia Landlords Inc., Community of Christ Church, 2000 S. Ingram Ave.
7 p.m.: Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 4286, Lincoln.
7 p.m.: Sedalia Bible Academy, Boonslick Regional Library, 219 W. Third St., Sedalia. For more information, call 660-826-9988. It is free and open to the public.

FRIDAY

Each day: AA meets at 417 E. Pettis St.
11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.
Noon: Pettis County Pachyderms, Room C at the Heckart Community Center.

SATURDAY

Each day: AA meets at 417 E. Pettis St.
7 a.m.: Sedalia Runners Club-Group Run every Saturday at Clarendon and Katy Trail.
11:30 a.m.: Open Door Soup Kitchen, 417 W. Pettis St. Call 660-827-1613.
2 p.m.: Warsaw Cruisers at Cow Pattie's Restaurant, 604 W. Main St.

AI tools can create new images, but who is the real artist?

By Matt O'Brien and Arijeta Lajka
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Countless artists have taken inspiration from “The Starry Night” since Vincent Van Gogh painted the swirling scene in 1889.
Now artificial intelligence systems are doing the same, training themselves on a vast collection of digitized artworks to produce new images you can conjure in seconds from a smartphone app.
The images generated by tools such as DALL-E, Midjourney and Stable Diffusion can be weird and otherworldly but also increasingly realistic and customizable — ask for a “peacock owl in the style of Van Gogh” and they can churn out something that might look similar to what you imagined.
But while Van Gogh and other long-dead master painters aren't complaining, some living artists and photographers are starting to fight back against the AI software companies creating images derived from their works.
Two new lawsuits — one this week from the Seattle-based photography giant Getty Images — take aim at popular image-generating services for allegedly copying and processing millions of copyright-protected images without a license.

Getty said it has begun legal proceedings in the High Court of Justice in London against Stability AI — the maker of Stable Diffusion — for infringing intellectual property rights to benefit the London-based startup's commercial interests.
Another lawsuit in a U.S. federal court in San Francisco describes AI image-generators as “21st-century collage tools that violate the rights of millions of artists.” The lawsuit, filed on Jan. 13 by three working artists on behalf of others like them, also names Stability AI as a defendant, along with San Francisco-based image-generator startup

Midjourney, and the online gallery DeviantArt.
The lawsuit alleges that AI-generated images “compete in the marketplace with the original images. Until now, when a purchaser seeks a new image ‘in the style’ of a given artist, they must pay to commission or license an original image from that artist.”
Companies that provide image-generating services typically charge users a fee. After a free trial of Midjourney through the chatting app Discord, for instance, users must buy a subscription that starts at \$10 per month or up to \$600 a year for corporate memberships. The startup OpenAI also charges for use of its DALL-E image generator, and StabilityAI offers a paid service called DreamStudio.
Stability AI said in a statement that “Anyone that believes that this isn't fair use does not understand the technology and misunderstands the law.”
In a December interview with The Associated Press, before the lawsuits were filed, Midjourney CEO David Holz described his image-making service as “kind of like a search engine” pulling in a wide swath of images from across the internet. He compared copyright concerns about the technology with how such laws have adapted to human creativity.
“Can a person look at somebody else's picture and learn from it and make a similar picture?” Holz said. “Obviously, it's allowed for people and if it wasn't, then it would destroy the whole professional art industry, probably the nonprofessional industry too. To the extent that AIs are learning like people, it's sort of the same thing and if the images come out differently then it seems like it's fine.”
The copyright disputes mark the beginning of a backlash against a new generation of impressive tools — some of them introduced just last year — that can generate new



Visitors look at artist Refik Anadol's “Unsupervised” exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art, Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2023, in New York. The new AI-generated installation is meant to be a thought-provoking interpretation of the New York City museum's prestigious collection. PHOTO BY JOHN MINCHILLO | AP PHOTO

visual media, readable text and computer code on command.
They also raise broader concerns about the propensity of AI tools to amplify misinformation or cause other harm. For AI image generators, that includes the creation of nonconsensual sexual imagery.
Some systems produce photorealistic images that can be impossible to trace, making it difficult to tell the difference between what's real and what's AI. And while some have safeguards in place to block offensive or harmful content, experts fear it's only a matter of time until people utilize these tools to spread disinformation and further erode public trust.
“Once we lose this capability of telling what's real and what's fake, everything will suddenly become fake because you lose confidence of anything and everything,” said Wael Abd-Almageed, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Southern California.
As a test, the AP submitted a text prompt on Stable Diffusion featuring the keywords “Ukraine war” and “Getty Images.”

The tool created photo-like images of soldiers in combat with warped faces and hands, pointing and carrying guns. Some of the images also featured the Getty watermark, but with garbled text.
AI can also get things wrong, like feet and fingers or details on ears that can sometimes give away that they're not real, but there's no set pattern to look out for. Those visual clues can also be edited. On Midjourney, users often post on the Discord chat asking for advice on how to fix distorted faces and hands.
With some generated images traveling on social networks and potentially going viral, they can be challenging to debunk since they can't be traced back to a specific tool or data source, according to Chirag Shah, a professor at the Information School at the University of Washington, who uses these tools for research.
“You could make some guesses if you have enough experience working with these tools,” Shah said. “But beyond that, there is no easy or scientific way to really do this.”
For all the backlash, there are many people who embrace the new AI tools and the creativity they

unleash. Some use them as a hobby to create intricate landscapes, portraits and art; others to brainstorm marketing materials, video game scenery or other ideas related to their professions.
There's plenty of room for fear, but “what can else can we do with them?” asked the artist Refik Anadol this week at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, where he displayed an exhibit of climate-themed work created by training AI models on a trove of publicly available images of coral.
At the Museum of Modern Art in New York, Anadol designed “Unsupervised,” which draws from artworks in the museum's prestigious collection — including “The Starry Night” — and feeds them into a digital installation generating animations of mesmerizing colors and shapes in the museum lobby.
The installation is “constantly changing, evolving and dreaming 138,000 old artworks at MoMA's archive,” Anadol said. “From Van Gogh to Picasso to Kandinsky, incredible, inspiring artists who defined and pioneered different techniques exist in this

artwork, in this AI dream world.”
Anadol, who builds his own AI models, said in an interview that he prefers to look at the bright side of the technology. But he hopes future commercial applications can be fine-tuned so artists can more easily opt out.
“I totally hear and agree that certain artists or creators are very uncomfortable about their work being used,” he said.
For painter Erin Hanson, whose impressionist landscapes are so popular and easy to find online that she has seen their influence in AI-produced visuals, the concern is not about her own prolific output, which makes \$3 million a year.
She does, however, worry about the art community as a whole.
“The original artist needs to be acknowledged in some way or compensated,” Hanson said. “That's what copyright laws are all about. And if artists aren't acknowledged, then it's going to make it hard for artists to make a living in the future.”
—
O'Brien reported from Providence, Rhode Island.

Dog

From Page B1

(Otis) is a funny, old, lovable dog, but I think those are the best kind," she continued. "He's added so much to our life. He's given us an

additional reason to get up and get going every morning."

Beth Halsey will host a meet-and-greet for her book from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, at the Warsaw Senior Center, Harbor Village, 17571 N. Dam

Access Road in Warsaw. Follow Otis on the Beth Halsey Facebook page. "My Forever Home: A Rescue Dog's Story" may be purchased on Amazon.

Faith Bemiss can be reached at 660-530-0289 or on Twitter @flbemiss.



Dressed for Christmas, rescue dog Otis and Larry Halsey pose for a holiday photo. PHOTOS COURTESY OF BETH HALSEY



One of Otis's favorite places to sleep is the closet. He also loves to sleep in the shower, behind the curtain, and surprises people as they enter the bathroom.



Otis rides shotgun with Larry Halsey or Papa. The pair also goes on "patrol" for walks in the woods each day.

Cooke Column

Continued From Page B1

It's possible that the answer I provide isn't what they were hoping for, or they disagree with the thought process I used to come to my conclusion. If I'm lucky, they agree with me. There is always a person who calls just to complain and will never be satisfied with anything you tell them. But most of the time, the other person leaves the conversation with a better understanding than before.

And so on Friday, we answered questions about circulation numbers, unique webpage views, how we select the Associated Press articles we publish, and if we'll ever bring back our weekend color comics (I'm sad to report the answer is "probably not.>").

After the presentation, a few people stuck around to ask further questions or offer suggestions and I talked to as many as time would allow. One person asked about the issues we've had with the sudoku and crossword answers on our daily comics page. I explained the

situation and the steps we've taken to correct the problem moving forward. Another asked why we no longer publish a particular item in the Living section. I said the organization responsible for the information was no longer sending it to our newsroom but that we'd be happy to start publishing it again if we received it.

And in a matter of minutes, both people learned something new. All because they took the time to ask.

The lesson here? That contrary to popular belief, if you ask your community newspaper editor a question, she'll probably give you an answer. And instead of being in the dark, you're now a little wiser after gaining a new piece of information.

So I hope this year is full of even more learning experiences for me as I continue to grow, but I also hope to provide a few learning opportunities for other people. We all have something we can learn from each other.

China keeping 1 hour daily limit on kids' online games

By Zen Soo

AP Technology Writer

HONG KONG — As the week-long Lunar New Year holidays in China draw near with promises of feasts and red envelopes stuffed with cash, children have another thing to look forward to — one extra hour of online games each day.

Only one hour.

For years, Chinese authorities have sought to control how much time kids can spend playing games online, to fight "internet addiction." They've claimed success in curbing the problem but are taking no chances.

In 2019, authorities restricted minors to playing 90 minutes a day on weekdays and banned them from playing between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. In 2021, they issued even harsher restrictions: Minors are allowed to play online games for only an hour a day and only on Fridays, weekends and public holidays. Game approvals were halted for eight months.

The Jan. 21-27 Lunar New Year holiday, China's biggest festival, will give them four extra days for online gaming.

Many parents have lauded the restrictions, even as their children threw tantrums. Social media and games companies set up or strengthened "youth mode" settings on their apps meant to protect minors. They include features that limit use, control payments and display age-appropriate content. For some popular games, real-name registration and even facial recognition gateways have been implemented to prevent workarounds.

In November — more than a year after the stricter game controls were introduced — a government-affiliated industry group, Game Industry Group Committee, issued a report declared the gaming addiction problem among minors was "basically resolved," even as the three-hour weekly limit for Friday, Saturday and Sunday stayed in place.

Overall, the Game Industry Group's report said, more than 75% of minors in China played online games for less than three hours a week and

most parents expressed satisfaction with the new restrictions.

A report by games market intelligence firm Niko Partners in September found that the number of youth gamers declined to 82.6 million in 2022 from its peak of 122 million in 2020 as a direct result of China's regulations.

Beijing resident Zhong Feifei said her 11-year-old daughter has spent less time on games since the restrictions came into effect. "My daughter gave up playing online games during the prohibited time."

Zhang has encouraged her daughter to play with other children or spend time on other activities.

"Even during the public holidays, she doesn't spend too much time gaming anymore because she has found something else to do, such as playing with our dog or other toys," she said.

The Game Industry Group's report said the "biggest loophole" in the gaming restrictions was parents who help their kids bypass the controls. The harsh restrictions have also spawned an underground market where minors can buy "cracked" games that are unregulated, or rent adult game accounts.

Zhong enjoys playing online games, too, but said she avoids doing so when with her child, leaving the house to play to try to set a good example.

Parents are the most important factor when it comes to curbing gaming addiction, said Tao Ran, director of the Adolescent Psychological Development Base in Beijing, which specializes in treating the problem.

Tao's estimates the restrictions and "youth mode" settings on apps have helped counter addiction to online gaming among younger children, who may not know how to find workarounds. Kids in middle school or high school tend to be more resourceful and often find ways to beat restrictions. That might mean convincing their parents to let them use their accounts, or figuring out passcodes to turn off "youth mode."

With so many people trapped at home during the pandemic, kids were

spending huge amounts online, noted Tao.

"The pandemic has contributed to more internet addiction, I haven't seen a reduction in the number of minors that are sent to our center to curb addiction each month," said Tao, whose center treats an average of 20 kids with severe internet addiction each month.

"For many of these children with gaming addictions, we find that their parents play games often," said Tao. "So these children, they look at their parents and think that it's okay to spend lots of time gaming, since their parents do it too."

With the crackdown easing, regulators have resumed approving new games.

In February, NetEase, the country's second-biggest games firm, was awarded a license for Fantasy Life, a role-playing simulation game by Nintendo. However, the company's partnership with Activision Blizzard is set to end by Jan. 23, which will see the withdrawal of hit titles such as Overwatch and World of Warcraft from the Chinese market until Blizzard finds a new domestic partner to publish its games.

December brought green lights for the first batch of imported games in 18 months — with China's biggest games firm, Tencent, receiving approvals for Riot Games' tactical shooter game Valorant and the multi-player online battle arena game Pokémon Unite.

Not all parents agree with the government's heavy-handed approach. Huang Yan, mother of a 12-year-old daughter and 7-year-old son in Beijing, said online gaming can foster teamwork and help children make friends.

"I'm not against minors gaining access to the internet, games or social media, as this is an overall trend and it's impossible to stop them," she said. "It's better to let them face these activities and intervene appropriately if they are unable to control themselves, and steer them toward other interests."

AP news assistant Yu Bing in Beijing contributed to this report.

Sundance celebrates the ‘magic’ of being back in-person

By Lindsey Bahr

AP Film Writer

PARK CITY, Utah — The Sundance Film Festival met the moment by going virtual for the past two years because of the coronavirus pandemic. But on Thursday, there was a palpable sense of relief from the festival's leadership team at being in-person again.

Sundance Institute CEO Joana Vicente, director of programming Kim Yutani, senior programmer John Nein and incoming Sundance Film Festival director Eugene Hernandez gathered Thursday afternoon in Park City, Utah, to discuss what's to come. Just outside, on a snowy Main Street, finishing touches were being put on storefronts and restaurants that sponsors have taken over for the week.

“It feels so good to be back in person,” Vicente said. “There's nothing like the magic of being together in Park City.”

Yutani also announced the last-minute addition of “Justice,” a documentary from filmmaker Doug Liman about allegations against Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh, that will debut Friday.

“It was a powerful documentary that we felt was important to add,” Yutani said. “We saw it, like, yesterday.”

Eleven films have their world premieres Thursday night, including the documentary “Little Richard: I Am Everything” and the Frankenstein-inspired psychological horror “birth/rebirth,” about a morgue technician who reanimates a little girl. Also on Thursday, “Shayda,” about an Iranian mother and her 6-year-old daughter who go to a women's shelter in Australia, “The Longest Goodbye,” a documentary about a NASA psychologist preparing Mars-bound astronauts for social isolation, the Daisy



Pedestrians take photos of the marquee of the Egyptian Theatre before the 2023 Sundance Film Festival, Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2023, in Park City, Utah. The annual independent film festival runs from Jan. 19-29. PHOTO BY CHRIS PIZZELLO | AP PHOTO

Ridley film “Sometimes I Think About Dying” and “Kim’s Video,” a documentary about a hunt for a lost video collection of 55,000 movies.

Programmers watched 16,000 films to determine this year’s slate of 111 films and say that there is something for everyone. Biographical documentaries, films about world issues and diasporic filmmaking are especially popular this year.

Nein said that he expects audiences to be buzzing about the performances of both known stars like Jonathan Majors, in “Magazine Dreams,” Cynthia Erivo, in “Drift,” and Eugenio Derbez in “Radical” and newcomers like Lío Mehli in “Mutt” and Priya Kansara in “Polite Society.”

The Sundance Institute is also hosting a dinner Thursday night honoring filmmaker Luca Guadagnino, Ryan Coogler, Nik-

yatu Jusu and W. Kamau Bell. There will also be a fundraising component to support the Institute’s work. Vicente said that it has been a challenging few years for the Institute, financially.

Sundance is not just a festival, after all. The non-profit institute, founded by Robert Redford in 1981, provides year-round support to emerging filmmakers with labs, fellowships and mentorship.

“The festival is this amazing platform to celebrate and share with audiences,” Vicente said. “But really, as Robert Redford says, the engine, the most important work we do happens year-round.”

Filmmaker Sophie Barthes, whose film “The Pod Generation” is among the opening night selections, attributes her career to the Sundance Institute. Her first short film debuted at the festival almost 20 years

ago, marking the beginning of a relationship that continues to this day. Over the years, she participated in the director’s lab, the composers’ lab and the writers’ lab. It’s also where she debuted her first feature, “Cold Souls,” with Paul Giamatti, in 2009.

“I wouldn’t be here without Sundance,” Barthes said in a recent interview. “They helped my career so much. I had like 50 advisers, the best of the best in the industry. It was like a film school on steroids. For filmmakers it’s the best thing that can happen to you because once you enter the family, they help and support you.”

Her film “The Pod Generation” is a futuristic satire about a New York couple (played by Emilia Clarke and Chiwetel Ejiofor) who use an “artificial womb” to get pregnant. She wanted to explore not-so-far-off advancements

like artificial gestation and AI therapy and poke at ideas like detachment parenting.

“It’s a satire about the fact that we’ve lost so many of our instincts because of this modern life, we’re trying to reinvent the wheel and it becomes very comical,” Barthes said. “I think it’s very funny to explore the psychology of parents, especially in New York.”

She hopes the film raises a debate about our relationship to technology. It will also be part of the “beyond film” conversations taking place in Park City outside of the cinemas throughout the week. Subjects range from how to cross-over from television to film, with “Flight Attendant” director Susanna Fogel whose “Cat Person” is premiering at the festival, to representation, with Randall Park and Marlee Matlin. There will be conversations

about making your first feature and even burnout, with Majors, food writer Ruth Reichl and graphic novelist Adrian Tomine. Many of the sponsors, from Acura to Adobe, are also hosting timely conversations as well about climate change in movies, reclaiming trans narratives, building inclusive productions and even getting into Sundance.

The festival has continued to evolve over the past few years. Though in-person was the priority, they also committed to a hybrid format. This year some 80 films will be available to watch online for ticketholders. The digital package, Vicente said, sold out very quickly.

“The last two years have been successful, but there’s nothing that can replace the in-person experience of watching films on the big screen,” Yutani said.

The Sundance Film Festival runs through Jan. 29.

Lunar New Year tourism hopes fizzle as Chinese stay home

By Tian McLeod Ji, Elaine Kurtenbach and Kanis Leung

Associated Press

BANGKOK — A hoped-for boom in Chinese tourism in Asia over next week’s Lunar New Year holidays looks set to be more of a blip as most travelers opt to stay inside China if they go anywhere.

From the beaches of Bali to Hokkaido’s powdery ski slopes, the hordes of Chinese often seen in pre-COVID days will still be missing, tour operators say.

It’s a bitter disappointment for many businesses that had been hoping lean pandemic times were over after Beijing relaxed restrictions on travel and stopped requiring weeks-long quarantines. Still, bookings for overseas travel have skyrocketed, suggesting it’s only a matter of time until the industry recovers.

“I think the tourists will return around the end of February or early March at the earliest,” said Sisdivachr Cheewarattaporn, president of the Thai Travel Agents Association, noting that many Chinese lack passports, flights are limited

and tour operators are still gearing up to handle group travel.

COVID-19 risks are another big factor as outbreaks persist following the policy about-face in China, he said in an interview. “People are possibly not ready, or just getting ready.”

For now, the Chinese territories of Macao and Hong Kong appear to be the most favored destinations.

Just days before Sunday’s start of the Lunar New Year, iconic tourist spots in the former Portuguese colony, like historic Senado Square and the Ruins of St. Paul’s, were packed. Gambling floors at two major casinos were largely full, with groups of Chinese visitors sitting around the craps tables.

“I’m so busy every day and don’t have time to rest,” said souvenir shop owner Lee Hong-soi. He said sales had recovered to about 70%-80% of the pre-pandemic days from nearly nothing just weeks ago.

Kathy Lin was visiting from Shanghai, partly because it was easy to get a visa but also because she was concerned about risks of catching COVID-19. “I don’t dare

to travel overseas yet,” she said as she and a friend took photos near the ruins, originally the 17th century Church of Mater Dei.

That worry is keeping many would-be vacation goers at home even after China relaxed “zero COVID” restrictions that sought to isolate all cases with mass testing and onerous quarantines.

“The elderly in my family have not been infected, and I don’t want to take any risks. There’s also the possibility of being infected again by other variants,” said Zheng Xiaoli, 44, an elevator company employee in southern China’s Guangzhou. Africa was on her bucket list before the pandemic, but despite yearning to travel overseas, she said, “There are still uncertainties, so I will exercise restraint.”

Cong Yitao, an auditor living in Beijing, wasn’t worried about catching the virus since his whole family has already had COVID-19. But he was put off by testing restrictions and other limits imposed by some countries, including the U.S., Japan, South Korea and Australia, after China loosened its pandemic precautions.

“It looks like many countries don’t welcome us,” said Cong, who instead was planning to head for a subtropical destination in China, like Hainan island or Xishuangbanna, to enjoy some warm weather.

According to Trip.com, a major travel services company, overseas travel bookings for the Jan. 21-27 Lunar New Year holidays were up more than five-fold. But that was up from almost nothing the year before, when China’s borders were closed to most travelers.

Reservations for travel to Southeast Asia were up 10-fold, with Thailand a top choice, followed by Singapore, Malaysia, Cambodia and Indonesia.

Travel to other favorite places, like the tropical resort island of Bali and Australia, has been constrained by a lack of flights. But that is changing, with new flights being added daily.

“You will see an increase, certainly, compared with last year, when China was still closed, but I don’t think you will see a huge surge of outbound travelers to different destinations within Asia-Pacific, let alone Europe or the Americas,” said

Haiyan Song, a professor of international tourism at Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Tourism Australia forecasts that spending by international travelers will surpass pre-pandemic levels within a year’s time. Before the disruptions of COVID-19, Chinese accounted for almost one-third of tourist spending, nearly \$9 billion.

Bangkok’s Suvarnabhumi Airport has increased staffing to cope with more than 140,000 arrivals a day during the Lunar New Year rush, though only individual Chinese travelers will be coming for now — group tours from China have yet to resume.

As a brilliant orange sun set behind ancient Wat Arun, beside Bangkok’s Chao Phraya river, a Shanghai man who would give only his surname, Zhang, posed with a companion in colorful traditional silken Thai costumes.

“It’s very cold in China, and Thailand has summer weather,” said Zhang, adding that he knew many people who had booked tickets to get away from his hometown’s cold, damp weather.

Still, for many Chinese, the allure of world travel has been eclipsed, for now, by a desire to head to their hometowns and catch up with their families, nearly three years exactly since the first major coronavirus outbreak struck in the central city of Wuhan in one of the biggest catastrophes of modern times.

Isabelle Wang, a finance worker in Beijing, has traveled to Europe, the Middle East and parts of Asia. After three years of a slower-paced life during the pandemic, her priority is to be reunited with her family in Shuangrao, a city in south-central China.

“There’s still a lot of time remaining in our lifetimes, and there will certainly be opportunities to go abroad later when we want to,” she said.

Leung reported from Hong Kong and Macao. News Assistant Caroline Chen in Beijing and Associated Press journalists Rod McGuirk in Canberra, Tassanee Vejpongsa and Chalida Ekvitthaya-vechnukul in Bangkok, and Edna Tarigan in Jakarta, Indonesia, contributed to this report.

Snoop Dogg, Gloria Estefan, Sade make it to Songwriters Hall

By Mark Kennedy
AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK — Snoop Dogg, Gloria Estefan, Sade, Jeff Lynne, Glen Ballard, Teddy Riley and Liz Rose have been chosen to join the Songwriters Hall of Fame, a class that includes the writers of such varied hits as “Man In the Mirror,” “Drop It Like It’s Hot” and “Rhythm Is Gonna Get You.”

The seven songwriters from the class of 2023 will be inducted at a gala June 15 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City.

Snoop Dogg, whose hits include “Drop It Like It’s Hot” and “Gin & Juice,” will be joining such rappers as Missy Elliott and Jay-Z in the hall. Estefan is credited for popularizing Latin rhythms with such crossover smashes as “Rhythm Is Gonna Get You” and “Let’s Get Loud.”

The inductees include soul-jazz vocalist Sade, whose 1980s soft rock hits include “Smooth Operator” and “The Sweetest Taboo,” and Lynne, of ELO, who penned “Mr. Blue Sky” and “Evil Woman.”

“I’m very excited about this honor. Songwriting has always been my passion. This means so much to me,” Lynne tweeted Wednesday. Estefan took to Instagram to thank “all the incredible fans that, by listening to my music, have made it possible for me to receive this incredible honor!”

Ballard helped write Alanis Morissette’s monster 1995 album “Jagged Little Pill” and was involved in the recording and writing of several Michael Jackson albums,

including “Thriller,” “Bad” and “Dangerous.”

Riley, the singer, songwriter and producer, is credited with creating New Jack Swing and its top anthems like Bobby Brown’s “My Prerogative” and Keith Sweat’s “I Want Her.” Rose co-wrote many songs with Taylor Swift, including “You Belong with Me,” “Teardrops on My Guitar” and “White Horse.”

The 2023 class “represents not just iconic songs but also diversity and unity across genres, ethnicity and gender, songwriters who have enriched our lives and, in their time, literally transformed music and the lives of billions of listeners all over the world,” said Nile Rodgers, the hall’s chair.

Eligible voting members late last year turned in ballots with their choices of three nominees from the songwriter category and three from the performing-songwriter category.

Some of the 2023 nominees who will have to wait include The Doobie Brothers, R.E.M., Heart, Blondie, Bryan Adams, Patti Smith and Steve Winwood.

The Songwriters Hall of Fame was established in 1969 to honor those creating the popular music. A songwriter with a notable catalog of songs qualifies for induction 20 years after the first commercial release of a song.

Some already in the hall include Carole King, Paul Simon, Billy Joel, Jon Bon Jovi and Richie Sambora, Elton John and Bernie Taupin, Brian Wilson, James Taylor, Bruce Springsteen, Tom Petty, Lionel Richie, Bill Withers, Neil Diamond, and Phil Collins.

Meg Medina is new ambassador for young people’s literature

NEW YORK — Novelist Meg Medina is the new National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature, a selection made by the Library of Congress.

Medina, a Cuban American whose books include the acclaimed middle grade novel “Merci Suárez Changes Gears,” is the eighth National Ambassador. Medina, the first Hispanic ambassador, succeeds Jason Reynolds and will serve two years. She hopes to build relationships between families and libraries and host “book talks” with kids around the country.

“It’s an enormous honor to advocate for the reading and writing lives of our nation’s children and families,” Medina said in a statement Wednesday. “I realize the responsibility is critical but with the fine examples of previous ambassadors to guide me, I am

eager to get started on my vision for this important work. More than anything, I want to make reading and story-sharing something that happens beyond classroom and library walls.”

Medina will formally begin as ambassador next week, when she is inaugurated by Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden.

“Meg’s warmth and openness, coupled with her long-running commitment to young readers, libraries and librarians, is extraordinary,” Hayden said in a statement. “I look forward to the ways she will invite young people — especially Spanish and bilingual speakers — to share their favorite books and stories.”

Previous ambassadors also include Jacqueline Woodson, Walter Dean Myers and Katherine Paterson.



Robin Frohardt, creator of the Plastic Bag Store, holds plastic bag roses at the art installation, Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023 in Ann Arbor, Mich. The Plastic Bag Store is a custom-built public art installation and film experience designed to encourage visitors to think more about the enduring impact of single-use plastics. The store features shelves stocked with items such as meat, toiletries and cakes — all made from single-use plastics taken from streets and garbage dumps. PHOTO BY CARLOS OSORIO | AP PHOTO

Plastic as art? Entire grocery store created from discards

By Mike Householder
Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — A grocery store featuring thousands of faux food items made entirely from discarded plastic bags opened Tuesday to the public, an artist’s non-edible creation calling attention to the dangers of plastic waste.

The Plastic Bag Store is a custom-built public art installation and film experience designed to encourage visitors to think more about the enduring impact of single-use plastics.

The store in Ann Arbor, Michigan, features shelves stocked with items such as meat, eggs and cakes, all made from single-use plastics taken from streets and garbage dumps.

The store at times during the day will be transformed into a stage for a series of short films in which puppetry and handmade sets are used to tell a story of the dangers of plastic waste and the consequences

for future generations.

As the show’s tagline puts it: “Part installation. Part film. All bags.”

Plastic bags are created by fossil fuels and often end up as waste in landfills and oceans.

Americans toss out 100 billion plastic bags per year, according to Worldwatch Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based environmental research organization.

Theater and film director Robin Frohardt is the driving creative force behind the Plastic Bag Store.

“I got the idea many years ago after watching someone bag and double-bag and triple-bag my groceries,” Frohardt said Tuesday. “I just was sort of struck by how ridiculous how much packaging is involved in our everyday lives.

“And it just seemed so absurd. I just thought, ‘Maybe I could make a project that’s even more absurd.’”

The store’s shelves are lined with items whose names are intended to mimic real-life products such as “Yucky Shards” (Lucky Charms),

“Bitz of Plastic Crap” (Ritz Crackers), “Bagemite” (Vegemite) and “Filthydelphia roll” (Philadelphia roll).

One product Frohardt didn’t have to alter was baguettes, “because it was already in the name,” she said with a laugh.

The Plastic Bag Store, which runs through Feb. 5, is presented via a partnership between the University of Michigan Museum of Art, University Musical Society, University of Michigan Arts Initiative and Graham Sustainability Institute.

Tickets are \$30 for general admission. Student tickets cost \$12.

The show premiered in Times Square in 2020. It since has made stops in Los Angeles; Chicago; Austin, Texas; and Adelaide, Australia.

“I hope that we can continue to tour this project and bring it to different communities,” said Frohardt, who is based in New York. “My dream would be that this project becomes irrelevant.

“But it probably won’t be.”

Brooke Shields examines her life, fame in doc ‘Pretty Baby’

By Lindsey Bahr
AP Film Writer

PARK CITY, Utah — Brooke Shields reveals that she was the victim of a sexual assault in a new documentary about her life that premiered Friday afternoon at the Sundance Film Festival. She doesn’t name the man who she said raped her, but she described the circumstances: It took place soon after she graduated college with someone she knew professionally and had met for dinner to discuss work. The assault happened when she went to his hotel room to call a cab.

“I didn’t fight that much. I just absolutely froze,” she says in the film. “I thought my one ‘no’ should have been enough.” Later, when she told her friend, security specialist Gavin de Becker, about what happened, he said, “That’s rape.” At the time she wasn’t ready to believe it.

It is just one of many revelations in “Pretty Baby,” a nuanced look at Shields’ life up until now including her rise to fame, her complicated relationship with her mother Teri Shields, who was an alcoholic, and how the media, from the entertainment industry to the journalists interviewing her, com-

modified her sexualiza-

tion at a young age while shaming her at the same time. The film will be on Hulu later this year. Directed by Lana Wilson, the documentary takes its name from Louis Malle’s 1978 film “Pretty Baby,” a drama about a young sex worker, played by an 11-year-old Shields, in New Orleans in 1917. In the film, written by Polly Platt, she kisses a 29-year-old Keith Carradine and also appears nude.

It wasn’t the first, nor would it be the last time she was sexualized by the media. At 15 she shot “Blue Lagoon,” then came “Endless Love.” Both had sex and nudity. And then there were those Calvin Klein denim ads. When she was 16 and a global star, a family friend and photographer tried to sell nude photos he took of her when she was only 9. Her mother sued. They went to court. The photographer won.

Shields, who has written two memoirs, has been approached about documentaries before and always said no. But now 57, with a kid going off to college, the encouragement of her friend Ali Wentworth and a generally good feeling about where she is in life after years of therapy, Shields felt the time was right.

As Wilson said, “She

was ready to go there,” including speaking about her time at Princeton, her friendship with Michael Jackson, her turbulent relationship with Andre Agassi and the time her old “Endless Love” co-star Tom Cruise went on a publicity tour to criticize her use of antidepressants for post-partum depression. He’d later apologize.

Wilson was fresh off the Taylor Swift documentary “Miss Americana” when she got a call from her agent asking if she wanted to meet Shields about the potential project.

“I wasn’t certain at first because I had just come off another project about a celebrity,” Wilson said. “But I was curious at the same time.”

After the meeting, Shields handed her a hard drive. It was an archive of clips and interviews she’d done over decades that her mother had assembled. There was over 1,000 hours of material, organized by year. Wilson started opening up random files: There’s Shields at the Reagan White House, there she is dancing with 12 poodles on “Circus of the Stars,” or in a prairie dress singing about loving men. Then she got to the “Pretty Baby” press tour.

“She’s sitting there with a series of male talk show

hosts being complimented on her beauty and her body and her sensuality, but at the same time being criticized for being an exhibitionist, for going too far, for appearing in what some said was child pornography,” Wilson said. “I started to think about Brooke at age 12 in that situation and about how all girls start to form their own identity. How can you form your identity in a society that defines you exclusively by your status as a sexual object? It’s something a lot of women and girls navigate privately and Brooke was having to do it in public.”

The Associated Press does not typically name victims of sexual assault, unless they come forward publicly.

It’s a story that is neither new in Hollywood, nor is it ancient history. Wilson pointed to Shirley Temple, Jodie Foster, Penelope Cruz, Natalie Portman and Kirsten Dunst as some of the many examples of actors who were sexualized to various degrees in early roles.

One of Shields’ biggest concerns in starting the project was that her late mother would be vilified all over again. But Wilson saw something new in looking back, something she thought was worth exploring.

Get the whole story. SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

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Pettis County

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2422 Killian Dr Reed Center Sedalia
Thurs-Sat 26th-28th 8-4:30
No early sales. Last day no reasonable offer refused
 Furniture, household items, glassware, linens, pictures, grand father clock, small appliances, electric dryer, purses, shoes, lamps,

Legal Notice

IN THE 18TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
 Judge or Division: R PAUL BEARD
 Case Number: 22PT-PR00244
 CARROLL E CHANCELLOR, Deceased.
Notice of Letters Testamentary Granted (Supervised Administration)
 To All Persons Interested in the Estate of CARROLL E CHANCELLOR, Decedent:
 On 1-5-2023, the last will of the decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individual was appointed personal representative of the estate of CARROLL E CHANCELLOR, decedent by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri. The name and business address of the personal representative is: LARRY CHANCELLOR, 11944 HWY TT, WARSAW, MO 65355.
 The personal representative's



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Annual Snowflake Garage Sale
Saturday, January 28th · 8 am to 2 pm
Benson Convention Center
1008 E Sedalia Ave. Clinton MO.
We have 43 vendors!
For questions or help please call 660-885-2181
 Sponsored by Clinton Parks & Recreation

Legal Notice

West 16th Street Sedalia, Mo 65301
 All interested parties should attend this Pre-Bid Conference. Copies of the Bid Documents may be obtained from KC Blueprint & Planroom, www.kcblueprint.com, 816-527-0900, beginning at 10:00 a.m. on January 16, 2023.
 2x-1/21, 25, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI CIVIL DIVISION
 IN RE: FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. ONE OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
 JANICE KLENKE, et al., Petitioners.
 Case No. 23PT-CC00007
NOTICE OF HEARING TO APPROVE PETITION FOR ANNEXATION OF REAL PROPERTY INTO THE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. ONE OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that an action has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri, by petition, the object and general nature of which is to annex certain real property into the Fire Protection District No. One of Pettis County, Missouri. Said real property was under the former protection of the Houstonia Rural Fire Association and is legally described as:
 THOSE PARTS OF SECTIONS 24, 25 AND 36 OF TOWNSHIP 48 NORTH, RANGE 23 WEST, AND THOSE PARTS OF SECTIONS 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 AND 36 OF TOWNSHIP 48 NORTH, RANGE 22 WEST, AND THOSE PARTS OF SECTIONS 1 AND 12 OF TOWNSHIP 47 NORTH, RANGE 23 WEST, AND THOSE PARTS OF SECTIONS 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 20 AND 21 OF TOWNSHIP 47 NORTH, RANGE 22 WEST, ALL FORMERLY PART OF THE HOUSTONIA FIRE DISTRICT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI.

The Fire Protection District No. One of Pettis County, Missouri received an Initiative Petition signed by ninety-one (91) certified voters representing more than twenty-five percent (25.0%) of the persons who voted in the last gubernatorial election and who reside in the area to be annexed.
 The Fire Protection District No. One of Pettis County, Missouri has subsequently adopted a Resolution approving the annexation of said real property and has filed a Petition herein seeking to approve the annexation of said real property, subject to the election

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- Missouri RN license required

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Bothwell
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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of
Mid-Missouri Energy, LLC
 will be held
Saturday
January 28, 2023

Registration: 1:00 p.m.
 Meeting: 2:00 p.m.
 Location: Carrollton High School
 300 E. 9th St
 Carrollton, Mo.

All MME members are urged to attend



ROUTE BUS DRIVERS

The La Monte R-IV School District is now accepting applications for the positions of Route Bus Drivers and extra trips for the 2022-2023 school year.

For more information, call the office of the Superintendent at (660) 347-5439 or Apply in person at 301 S. Washington, La Monte, MO.

The La Monte R-IV School District does not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, ethnicity, disability, sex orientation or perceived sex orientation.

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Legal Notice

provided in section 321.301 RSMo. Petitioner's attorney is: James P. Buckley BUCKLEY & BUCKLEY 121 E. 4th Street Sedalia, MO 65301 T: 660.826.7373

Legal Notice

\$3,231.60 1993 Ford Pickup 1FTEF14N7PLA09335 \$200 1971 High Boat Trailer VIN37237 \$100.00 Tract of land in Pettis County, Missouri totaling value of \$116,830.00

Legal Notice

Administration Granted (Independent Administration) To All Persons Interested in the Estate of SASHA M SKAGGS, Decedent: On 1-5-2023, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of SASHA M SKAGGS, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri.

Legal Notice

permissible by law. Such six-month period and such two-month period do not extend the limitation period that would bar claims one year after the decedent's death, as provided in Section 473.444, RSMo, or any other applicable limitation periods.

BOONVILLE LIVESTOCK SALES Owned & Operated by Jones Brothers 660-815-9090 Jones Brother Livestock Auction Marshall, Missouri Boonville, Missouri

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI PROBATE DIVISION ESTATE OF RONALD DEAN PLUMLEE, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 23PT-PR00004 NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE 18TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI Judge or Division: PROBATE Case Number: 22PT-PR00246 SASHA M SKAGGS, Deceased.

Hertz LAND AUCTION 325.49 Acres, M/L - Saline Co., MO In 3 Parcels Located 1 Mile North of Marshall, MO

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Photo of your home

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