

NATION

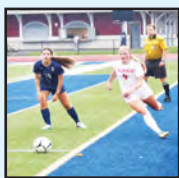
Newspapers have angered readers after not endorsing a presidential candidate.



Page 3

SPORTS

A rematch of the Cincy and Tully girls soccer teams will decide who goes to the finals.



Page 9

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Cortland Standard

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CORTLAND, N.Y.

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Last bit of Main Street work delayed until spring 2025

**From Staff Reports**  
Main Street in Cortland will keep its one-way traffic pattern between Groton Avenue and Tompkins Street until the spring because the city has delayed the final paving, Mayor Scott Steve announced Tuesday.  
“The community has endured the disruption for nearly three years. Unfortunately we are run-

ning out of time this season to ensure the final finishes meet our expectations,” Steve said in a release.  
Two-way traffic will begin next year. In the meantime, temporary striping will be installed to keep one-way traffic and pull-in parking.  
While the coming cold weather has delayed the street re-pav-

ing, crews will continue to install sidewalks and pavers. Landscaping and planting will continue, too. “Cortland will be celebrating its 125th anniversary as a city in 2025 and it makes sense to officially unveil our new Main Street and reinvigorated downtown as part of that celebration,” Steve said.  
The \$12 million project was

announced in 2017, funded in part with \$5 million from a \$10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative from the state. It’s primary purpose was to replace century-old water and sewer mains, but also added new storm sewers, and fiber optic access. On the way, the street will be reconfigured to accommodate two-way traffic, more

than a half-century after it was converted to one-way traffic in 1967.  
While the Main Street project is delayed, similar work on Groton Avenue is ahead of schedule, Steve said. Crews plan to finish final grading this week with base paving between Homer Avenue and Main Street beginning next week.

Renzi gives \$1M to support latest Guthrie campus

**From Staff Reports**  
A Cortlandville man has promised \$1 million to support Guthrie’s new health campus under construction on West Road in Cortland, the health group announced Thursday.  
Nicholas Renzi’s donation will be matched, dollar for dollar, by the Cortland Memorial Foundation.  
“The driving force for my gift is to help make Guthrie Cortland Medical Center and its affiliated offices be the best they can be, providing complete and easily accessible health care services without the need to travel out of town,” Renzi said in a release. “It is a privilege and personal pleasure that my late wife Agnes and I have been able to support many worthy organizations through the Nicholas and Agnes Renzi Charitable Fund.”  
Renzi, a retired Pall Trinity Micro Division president, likewise donated \$1 million in 2021 to help establish the Renzi Cancer Center at Guthrie Cortland Medical Center in honor



Renzi

of his wife Agnes Renzi, who died in 2020.  
“We’re not sure anyone can match Nick Renzi’s generosity, but we are confident this incredible community will step up to match his pledge,” said Sheila Ossit, Cortland Memorial Foundation director. “We are a compassionate community that never misses a chance to do right by our family, friends and neighbors. Together, I am confident we will not just meet, but exceed this challenge because every dollar donated translates to exceptional health care for our loved ones.”  
The new health campus is opening with the same goal of providing convenient care on a number of fronts, close to home. Half of the new 32,000 square foot building will house laboratory and imaging services, as well as Guthrie Cortland’s existing primary care team, with additional providers joining the group to help meet

See RENZI, page 4



Todd R. McAdam/Managing Editor

The smell of burned wood and melted vinyl lingers in the air at the Bardmore Terrace apartments in Cortland, a week after a fire forced the tenants from the building.

A week after fire, tenant still seeks new housing

Man escapes with only shorts and T-shirt

**By DOUG SCHNEIDER**  
**Staff Reporter**  
dschneider@cortlandstandard.com  
The pounding on the door woke David Beach about 3 a.m. Oct. 23. Someone was yelling: “Fire, fire, fire, fire fire!”  
Moments later, Beach stood outside his apartment at Bardmore Terrace on Park Street in Cortland, wearing nothing but a T-shirt and shorts. He had helped his roommate, Vanessa Skordalellis, out of the third-floor apartment, but she had fallen from a ladder firefighters had set against the building.  
She was being taken away in an

ambulance, and he had a raging cough from the smoke inhalation that required four bottles of oxygen.  
“I was taking in smoke,” Beach said. “But I saved her life. I got out of there in nothing but my shorts and a T-shirt.”  
Firefighters had arrived to find Beach and his neighbors escaping the upper apartments; other apartments had already been evacuated, Fire Chief Wayne Friedman said last week. The department issued an “all hands” alert to bring in off-duty personnel, then a second alarm. In all 35 firefighters from Cortland, Cortlandville and Homer were at the scene, with firefighters from McGraw and Virgil on standby for other calls.  
“Any fire in an apartment building, at that time of night, has the potential to be very catastrophic”

Friedman said.  
A week later, Skordalellis is still hospitalized in a Syracuse facility, Beach said, with broken vertebrae and possible shoulder injuries. “She’s still in pretty rough shape.”  
He could be doing better, himself. His clothes were destroyed and he’s a big guy wearing a size 5X. The kitchen utensils, a microwave, a dinette set and coffee table — all gone.  
City firefighters have placed a sign on the front door of the building saying it’s unsafe for human habitation and a week later, one can still smell the charred wood and melted vinyl outside. The structure needs to be repaired and to pass an inspection.  
Beach said he believes the blaze was caused by an exothermic

See FIRE, page 4



Image provided by Guthrie

An artist’s rendering of the latest Guthrie facility on West Road in Cortland. Nicholas Renzi of Cortlandville has donated \$1 million for the facility.

Cortland Coalition for Long-Term Care marks 40 years

Find out more

For information on long-term care or disability services, call NY Connects of Cortland County at 800-342-9871 or 607-756-3485.

**By LILY BYRNE**  
**Staff Reporter**

lbyrne@cortlandstandard.com

The Cortland County Coalition for Long-Term Care has done more than just fill care gaps in the community. It caused organizations to work together that hadn’t before.  
The Cortland County Coalition for Long-Term Care has just celebrated its 40th anniversary. It started when organizations including the county’s Office For

Aging, Department of Social Services and Health Department had conversations on care gaps for aging, said William Lane, a founding member of the coalition.  
In 1980, Lane finished a postdoctoral fellowship in Philadelphia, where he studied the problems of placing Medicaid patients in nursing homes. He moved to Cortland and became director of the SUNY Cortland gerontology program, and wanted to get himself and his students involved in local aging services.  
“That was one of the major problems that we were facing in Cortland when I arrived,” Lane said. “On any given day, there would be upwards of 30 people in Cortland Memorial Hospital awaiting nursing home placement.”  
There weren’t enough long-term care

beds, so they would occupy hospital beds, which would force scheduling changes and delay surgeries, he said.  
“It was an immense problem,” Lane said. “It was more than just a shortage of nursing home beds, it was really a shortage of long-term care, which is what we call home and community-based services.”  
Since the coalition has been established, members brought the New York State Long-Term Home Health Care Program to the county, which allows people who are nursing home-eligible to receive services in their own home, Lane said.  
Caitlin Portzline, president of the coalition, has worked as an aide and social worker, and runs the Portzline Day Program on North West Street in Homer —

where people with Alzheimer’s and dementia can go during the day for activities and the occasional therapy pet visit.  
While working at a Cortland nursing home, she would discharge people as soon as possible, she said.  
“I set up their services as quickly as I could to make sure they have all of the support in the community,” Portzline said. “That they could go home and be independent, and not be in a facility. That’s a huge passion of mine; if they have independence and they’re capable, then why are they here?”  
There was also no adult daycare, no hospice services and very limited adult home services before the coalition,  
See HEALTHCARE, page 4

INDEX

Living .....	7	Editorials.....	5
Bridge .....	8	Horoscope.....	6
Classified .....	8	Lottery.....	2
Comics.....	6	Sports.....	9
Crossword .....	6	Sports.....	10
Deaths .....	2	Sudoku.....	6

WEATHER



Mostly sunny  
**Tomorrow’s Weather:**  
High near 73  
SW wind 5 to 11 mph  
More on page 2

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# US newspaper non-endorsements fit a trend

But the readers aren't happy

By DAVID BAUDER  
AP Media Writer

The number of newspapers endorsing a candidate for president has dwindled with the industry's financial troubles the past two decades, in part because owners reason that it makes no sense to alienate some subscribers by taking a clear stand in a politically polarizing time.

Yet in the past week, The Washington Post and Los Angeles Times have angered readers for precisely the opposite reason: by choosing not to select a favored candidate.

The fallout from both decisions continued Monday, with Post owner Jeff Bezos taking the unusual step of publicly defending the move in the columns of his own paper. Three members of the Post's editorial board resigned their positions and some journalists pleaded with readers to not express their disapproval by canceling subscriptions. Many thousands have already done so.

Bezos, in a note to readers, said it was a principled stand to ditch endorsements. People essentially don't care and see it as a sign of bias, he said. His comments appeared hours after NPR reported that more than 200,000 people had canceled their Washington Post subscriptions.

If NPR's report is true, that would be a startling blow to an outlet that lost money and shed staff despite having more than 2.5 million subscribers last year. A Post spokeswoman would not comment on the report.

SUBSCRIBERS  
FALLING AWAY

The Times has acknowledged losing thousands of subscri-



People walk by the One Franklin Square Building, home of The Washington Post newspaper, in downtown Washington, Feb. 21, 2019.

AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais, File

ers due to its own decision. Both newspapers had reportedly prepared editorials supporting Democrat Kamala Harris. Instead, at the behest of Bezos and Patrick Soon-Shiong at the Times, they decided not to endorse. Post publisher Will Lewis called it "a statement in support of our readers' ability to make up their own minds."

By announcing their decisions within two weeks of Election Day, however, the newspapers left themselves vulnerable to criticism that their publishers were trying not to anger Republican Donald Trump if voters returned him to power. "It looked like they were not making a principled decision," said John Woolley, co-director of the American Presidency Project at the University of California-Santa Barbara.

Retired Post editor Martin Baron, on social media, said the decision showed "disturbing spine-

lessness at an institution famed for courage" and that Trump would see it as a further invitation to intimidate Bezos.

**A LONG HISTORY**

Back in the 1800s, newspapers were sharply partisan in both their news pages and editorials. Even when a trend toward unbiased news reports took hold in the 1900s, editorial pages remained opinionated and the two functions were kept separate.

As recently as 2008, 92 of the nation's 100 largest newspapers endorsed either Democrat Barack Obama or Republican John McCain for president. But by 2020, only 54 made a choice between Trump and Joe Biden, according to the presidency project. Figuring there were even fewer this year, Woolley said they aren't even planning to count.

The Tampa Bay Times told its

readers this week that it was concentrating its editorial endorsements on local races where it can be more helpful. "We cannot think of a single reader who has told the editorial board over the past election cycle that they needed our help deciding on how to vote for president. Not one," the paper wrote in an unsigned story.

Studies found readers paid endorsements little heed and, in a digital world, many didn't understand the distinction between straight news stories and advocacy-driven editorials. In many cases, chain ownership took the decision out of the hands of local editors. At a time the news business is struggling, they didn't want to give any readers an excuse to leave.

"They really don't want to rattle or piss off the people who are not going to like their endorsement," said Rick Edmonds, media busi-

ness analyst at the Poynter Institute, a journalism think tank. "The solution is just not to do them."

That hasn't seemed to fly at newspapers in two large metropolitan areas with liberal populations. The Post, under Baron's leadership during the Trump administration, saw its circulation spike with aggressive political coverage that frequently angered the former president.

**DECISION DREW IRE**

Besides Baron, the decision was denounced by Watergate era reporting legends Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein. Columnists Robert Kagan and Michele Norris said they were quitting the newspaper in protest. Three of the nine members of the Post's editorial board said they were leaving that role. Out West, a Los Angeles Times editorial writer, Karin Klein, wrote in the Hollywood Reporter that she was quitting the newspaper. Klein said that while Soon-Shiong had the right to impose his will on editorial policy, by making the non-endorsement so late in the campaign he was effectively expressing the opposite of the neutrality he claimed to seek.

Indeed, timing was the one regret Bezos expressed. "I wish we had made the change earlier than we did, in a moment further from the election and the emotions around it," he wrote. "That was inadequate planning, and not some intentional strategy."

In an article about the continuing fallout on the Post's website Monday, more than 2,000 people left comments, many of them saying they were leaving. Even former GOP congresswoman Liz Cheney said she was canceling.

"From what I've seen in recent days, the paper is hearing its subscribers very clearly," Post media critic Erik Wemple said during an online chat Monday.

## Biden: \$3B awarded to reduce carbon emissions at ports

By MATTHEW DALY  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration is awarding nearly \$3 billion to boost climate-friendly equipment and infrastructure at ports across the country, including Baltimore, where a bridge collapse killed six construction workers in March and disrupted East Coast shipping routes for months.

President Joe Biden visited the city's main port Tuesday to announce the grants, which officials say will improve and electrify port infrastructure at 55 sites nationwide while supporting an estimated 40,000 union jobs, reducing pollution and combating the climate crisis. The presidential visit, a week before Election Day, was intended to highlight efforts by Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris to promote clean energy while protecting and creating jobs.

The Port of Baltimore is a major hub for the import and export of motor vehicles and farm equipment. More than 20,000 workers support daily port operations, including unionized longshoremen.

Grants being announced Tuesday included \$147 million for the Maryland Port Administration. The funds

will support over 2,000 jobs by enabling the purchase and installation of cargo-handling equipment and trucks to transition the port into a zero-greenhouse-gas-emission facility. The Maryland port is among 55 ports across 27 states and territories that will receive nearly \$3 billion through the Clean Ports Program administered by the Environmental Protection Agency. Ports receiving money include the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the Detroit-Wayne County Port Authority, the ports of Savannah and Brunswick, Georgia, as well as Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Oakland, California.

The grants are funded by Biden's landmark climate law approved in 2022, the largest investment in clean energy in U.S. history.

The grant announcements, which follow \$31 million in federal funds to rehabilitate a section of Baltimore's Dundalk Marine Terminal, come a week after the owner and manager of the cargo ship that caused the deadly bridge collapse agreed to pay more than \$102 million in cleanup costs to settle a lawsuit brought by the U.S. Justice Department.



AP Photo/Ben Curtis

President Joe Biden speaks at a reception in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Monday.

## Trump ally Bannon is released after serving 4 months in prison

For contempt of Congress

By DAVE COLLINS  
Associated Press

Longtime Donald Trump ally Steve Bannon was released from prison early Tuesday, after serving a four-month sentence for defying a subpoena in the congressional investigation into the U.S. Capitol attack on Jan. 6, 2021.

Bannon left the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury, Connecticut, according to Kristie Breshears, a spokesperson for the federal Bureau of Prisons. He planned to hold a news conference later in the day in Manhattan to discuss his time behind bars.

Bannon also returned to his podcast and online show Tuesday morning, saying he was focused on helping Trump win the presidential election. He bashed Democrats and their agenda, asserting that former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi sent him to prison to silence his voice — despite a jury having convicted him and a judge having sentenced him.

"The four months in federal prison not only didn't break me, it empowered me," Bannon said. "I am more energized and more focused than I've ever been in my entire life."

Bannon, 70, reported to the prison July 1 after the Supreme Court rejected his bid to delay the prison sentence while he appeals his conviction.

A jury found Bannon guilty in



Steven Hirsch/New York Post via AP, Pool

Steve Bannon appears in court in New York, Jan. 12, 2023.

2022 of two counts of contempt of Congress: one for refusing to sit for a deposition with the Jan. 6 House Committee and a second for refusing to provide documents related to his involvement in Trump's efforts to overturn his loss to Joe Biden in the 2020 presidential race.

When he began serving his sentence in July, Bannon called himself a "political prisoner."

"I am proud of going to prison," he said at the time, adding that he was standing up to Attorney General Merrick Garland and a "corrupt" Justice Department.

Trump, a Republican, is seeking

to regain the presidency in next week's election against Democratic Vice President Kamala Harris.

A federal appeals court panel upheld Bannon's convictions in May. Bannon is now asking the full appeals court to hear his case. His legal team had argued that the congressional subpoena was invalid because Trump had asserted executive privilege. Prosecutors, though, say Bannon had left the White House years before and Trump had never invoked executive privilege in front of the committee.

Bannon faces additional criminal charges in New York state court.

## Several brush fires created smoky conditions in parts of eastern Mass.

BOSTON (AP) — Residents in parts of eastern Massachusetts woke to the acrid smell of smoke Monday as firefighters worked to extinguish several brush fires.

The National Weather Service said on the social platform X that smoke was trapped near the ground during the morning due to a "surface inversion," which traps cooler air below warmer air. The smoke had largely dispersed by later in the day.

There have been 18 active brush fires reported statewide in the past 24 hours, the state Department of

Fire Services said in a statement Monday.

A woman died in an outdoor fire at an encampment in Millbury on Saturday.

Weather conditions statewide place all Massachusetts communities at elevated risk of brush fires. State fire officials said dry leaves, dead vegetation, and other fuels are extremely receptive to ignition.

"The dry, sunny, breezy weather is great for recreation, but it also means that any outdoor fire will spread quickly and become very difficult to manage," State Fire

Marshal Jon Davine said. "We're seeing preventable fires growing to dangerous sizes and drawing numerous resources, locally and regionally."

Fire officials reminded residents that open burning is prohibited statewide through January and in many communities year-round. They also urged residents to avoid outdoor cooking and heating and to use caution when using power equipment like lawnmowers and leaf blowers. The engines can become hot enough to ignite dry leaves and grass.







Our Opinion

It’s scary out there — be safe on Halloween

As you get older, Halloween just isn’t that scary, anymore. Skeleton decorations, no matter how tall they are, don’t give us the creeps. Spooky sound effects just sound like noise. Even the scariest classic horror movies no longer give us the heebie-jeebies. And unless you’re a Hollywood makeup artist, your costume probably won’t frighten us, either.

But we do know a scary story that still puts the “Eek!” back in Halloween: According to the National Safety Council, children are more than twice as likely to be hit and killed by a car on Halloween compared to any other day of the year. Most pedestrian fatalities on Halloween occur after 6 p.m. and outside of marked crosswalks.

We aren’t really concerned about candy that’s been poisoned

or tampered with (that almost never happens). But vehicle-pedestrian accidents are a very real danger. After all, many costumes are dark, making trick-or-treaters even harder to see at night. Additionally, masks and hoods and hats can obstruct the trick-or-treaters’ vision.

Also, too many adults get wrapped up in their own partying and make horrible choices — in 2021, the New York State Police arrested 138 people for driving while intoxicated and investigated more than 600 vehicle collisions over Halloween weekend.

It’s no wonder many people opt instead to take their ghosts, goblins and ghouls to “trunk-or-treat” events in traffic-free areas during daytime hours. Still, it’s hard to beat the allure of going house-to-house in the dark on Halloween itself, checking out

the jack-o-lanterns, the spooky decorations and the occasional surprise scare. And because everyone is out trick-or-treating, the kids think their neighborhoods are some sort of consequence-free Halloween paradise. Running on sugar and adrenaline, they may feel free to run from house to house across lawns, across sidewalks, or across the street itself.

So it all falls on parents to help their children stay safe on Halloween, and on motorists to be especially careful as they navigate neighborhoods full of super heroes on a sugar high.

Trick-or-treaters need to be seen — use reflective tape on costumes and treat buckets to improve visibility. Wear disguises that don’t obstruct vision and avoid face masks. Carry a flashlight and be cautious of tripping

in long costumes.

Parents should talk to their children about obeying the usual rules: Stay on the sidewalks; look both ways before crossing the street; be aware of surroundings. When possible, adults should accompany their children — especially when they’re young. If there are responsible older siblings who will join the trick-or-treating, they should also be well aware of the dangers, and also keep a close eye on their younger brothers or sisters.

Meanwhile, if you’re behind the wheel, drive slowly and be on the lookout for creatures that can come out of nowhere. Turn your headlights on earlier in the day. Don’t hesitate to use your horn if you’re concerned that trick-or-treaters don’t see you. And don’t drink and drive.

If you’re staying indoors and

giving out candy, make sure there’s generous lighting outside of your home — both to keep vandals away and to provide safe passage to party guests and trick-or-treaters. Keep walkways and stairs clear of debris.

Halloween is part of the quintessential American childhood, and a great exercise in creative costuming and learning the relative merits of different varieties of candy (please address any unwanted Three Musketeers or Mounds bars to: Editorial Board, Cortland Standard, PO Box 5548, Cortland. No candy corn, please). It should be a mix of fun and a little scary. But a tragic accident is just plain scary.

We urge you, no matter what you’re dressed as, to be safe Thursday evening.

Your Opinion

Vote Riley for tax fairness

To the Editor:

Are you concerned about government spending and the national debt? Congressman Marc Molinaro (R-Catskill) favors tax cuts for billionaires, and letting the taxes they owe go uncollected.

Trump’s tax cuts of 2017 resulted in rich corporations, such as Amazon and Chevron, paying no federal taxes from 2018 forward, and even getting tax rebates that could be applied to taxes they owed from other years!

These tax cuts added to our na-

tional debt.

In addition, the IRS has been hindered from doing its normal job of collecting unpaid taxes, because congressional Republicans routinely cut back IRS appropriations.

Molinaro stated that he “found savings by cutting wasteful programs, like the one to hire more IRS tax agents.” On March 22, while voting the FY2024 Appropriations Bill, he voted to “re-scind \$10.2 billion from Biden’s effort to hire thousands of new

IRS tax agents.”

Hiring more tax agents is “wasteful?” No, we desperately need more tax collectors to go after our wealthiest tax cheats.

Reducing IRS collections only adds to the “fiscal cliff” we are facing, according to the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget.

In contrast to Molinaro, Josh Riley will promote responsible tax policies in Congress.

**Joel Rabinowitz  
Groton**

Molinaro: Deport criminal immigrants

To the Editor:

I am 100% behind the plan to deport criminal illegal immigrants.

It doesn’t have to be complicated: if you have a criminal record and you’re here illegally, you should be deported and banned from re-entering the country. These people have no place in America, and yet, Homeland Security estimates there are tens of thousands of thieves, rapists and murderers living among us.

My opponent, DC lawyer Josh

Riley, doesn’t care — he has spent most of his career working to throw our borders wide open. He argued for the very policy that allowed all these violent criminals into our country. Riley sued 32 times to dismantle border security laws and refuses to support the deportation of criminal illegal immigrants, putting our communities at risk. On top of that, he’s backing plans that give taxpayer-funded perks like credit cards, housing and Social Security to illegal immigrants, including crim-

inals. It’s infuriating.

I won’t back down. I’m committed to defending upstate New Yorkers from violent criminals, no matter where they come from. It’s time to take our country back, restore law and order, and stop playing politics with people’s safety. I stand with Upstate New Yorkers — not the criminals.

**Rep. Marc Molinaro  
Catskill  
(Republican candidate  
for NY-19)**

McGrath would uphold Constitution

To the Editor:

In response to a recent letter criticizing Elizabeth McGrath’s statement that the Constitution and its framers are flawed:

The video referenced is a deceptive, propaganda piece by the far-right group Project Veritas which produces conspiracy theory-ridden, deceptively edited, propaganda undercover videos that work to discredit individuals, groups and the media. Falling for such tactics only fuels misinformation. YouTube is not a reliable information source.

Constitutional scholars would agree with McGrath’s view. Nearly half of the Constitution’s framers, including James Madison, owned slaves, and women back then were regarded as property. These facts are undeniable. Our democracy has evolved, leading to the Bill of Rights and amendments that protect the rights of *all* citizens, not just a privileged few.

McGrath’s comments reflect an understanding that the Constitution is a living document, designed to adapt as society progresses. Unlike Donald Trump,

Project 2025, and other far-right extremists, like Marc Molinaro and Brandon Williams, whose extreme agenda seeks to dismantle the very protections and freedoms the Constitution guarantees and whose agenda undermines these principles, McGrath has sworn to uphold the Constitution and preserve justice. This commitment makes her the clear choice for District Attorney in Cortland County.

**Jean Rightmire  
Marathon**

McGrath would protect children

To the Editor:

Crimes committed against children are an abject and intolerable affront to public safety. The perpetrators who target and victimize these most vulnerable members of society do so with utter contempt for the families, homes and childhoods they destroy. Law enforcement who diligently investigate such crimes and, most importantly, the brave victims who come forward are owed the utmost duty from the district attorney to carefully and compassionately seek justice.

Elizabeth McGrath has proven herself a fierce advocate for children. As chief assistant district attorney of Cortland County, McGrath secured innumerable convictions on offenses against children, including the most heinous case in recent memory — the murder of a toddler. In her current position, McGrath exclusively represents children, and speaks for them with intelligence, tenacity and humanity.

As the saying goes, justice delayed is justice denied. And there are few greater injustices than

when the voice of a child victim is silenced because of case mismanagement and neglect.

This community — and especially its children — needs and deserves a district attorney who dedicates the time and resources necessary to support victims and ensure just outcomes. Cortland County — and especially its children — needs and deserves Elizabeth McGrath as District Attorney.

**Madeline Weiss  
Ithaca**

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Letters

The *Cortland Standard* welcomes letters from readers for publication on this page. All letters submitted must be signed by the writer and include the writer’s home address and daytime telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and content. Letters are limited to 300 words in length. Letters endorsing or opposing the election of candidates for public office are limited to 200 words. Thank-you notes will not be accepted.

Adaptation: Pastor Niemöller’s nazi-Germany experience

To the Editor:

“First they came for the Communists  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Communist

Then they came for the Socialists  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a Socialist

Then they came for the trade unionists  
And I did not speak out  
Because I was not a trade unionist

They came for females  
Outlawing control of their own bodies  
*I did not speak out*

They came for LGBTQAI2+ people  
Feeding disinformation and hate about LGBTQAI2+ people  
*I did not speak out*  
Because I refused to understand

They came for the physically and mentally challenged  
*I did not speak out*  
Because I was not physically or mentally challenged — at the moment

They came for all non-Christians  
*I did not speak out*  
Because I claimed to be “Christian”

They came for all they labeled Black, Brown, and immigrant (in US history, forgetting that only Native Americans are not immigrants)  
Feeding disinformation and hate about “others”  
*I did not speak out*  
Because I claimed to be “true American”

Then they came for me  
And there was no one left  
To speak out for me.  
*Vote blue – your life depends on it.*

**Mary Frances Stuck  
Homer**

Too many questions about Prop 1

To the Editor:

Why is there so much contention about Prop 1? Unfortunately, there were no public hearings or deliberations about its content. Because its language is ambiguous, we can’t accurately predict its outcomes.

New York state constitutional lawyer Bobbie Anne Cox asserts that Prop 1 is a “Trojan horse” because its “super broad language” opens the door to a number of unforeseen and undesirable consequences.

Those consequences could include: (1) allowing illegal immigrants to receive the right to vote in addition to medical, housing and financial support; (2) severely limiting parents’ authority by allowing minors to make medical decisions on gen-

der identity and sex reassignment without parental consent; (3) giving men who transgender-identify as females the right to compete in women’s sports and share their facilities; and (4) codifying abortion in the state constitution, even though the language of Prop 1 does not actually include the word abortion.

We deserve a clear, accurate, and transparent description of what Prop 1’s ramifications would be and opportunities to debate these issues.

As it stands, Prop 1 asks us to trust elusive language that could lead us blindly into a disaster of inestimable proportions for New York’s state constitution. Vote NO on Prop 1.

**Marthe Seales  
Homer**

Good Old Days

October 30, 1974

An open house in the new Physical Education-Recreation (PER) Center is being scheduled as part of the building’s dedication ceremonies Nov. 1-2 at State University College at Cortland.

October 30, 1999

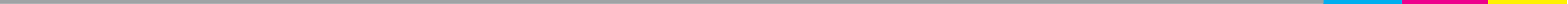
FABIUS — With the soccer stakes much higher, Homer Central boys were able to elevate their game here Friday night.

Senior striker John DelVecchio collected three goals as the top seeded Trojans earned a spot in the Section 3 Class B-1 finals with a resounding 4-0 victory over a gritty New Hartford adversary.

October 30, 2014

Five local water quality projects received a total of about \$1 million of \$39.5 million the state awarded through its Water Quality Improvement program, the governor’s office announced late Tuesday.

One-hundred-and-thirty-four local and regional projects across the state shared in the funding. Projects in Central New York received \$7.3 million in funding.





GARFIELD

AROOOOOOO!

AND JUST WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?

YOU HAVE HOMEWORK, YOUNG MAN!

IT'S TOUGH BEING A TEENAGE WEREWOLF

WHIIINE

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MUTTS

BZZZZZ

TRICK OR TREAT

DOG KISSES DON'T COUNT!

MUTTS.COM

10-30

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TIGER

I ALMOST CAUGHT A FISH YESTERDAY

I ALMOST CAUGHT TWO FISH!

10-30

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BEETLE BAILEY

IF YOU COULD PICK ANY RESTAURANT TO GO TO TONIGHT, WHAT WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

"LE FOUQUET'S" ON THE CHAMPS-ÉLYSÉES IN PARIS

WOULD YOU SETTLE FOR "IN-N-OUT BURGER"?

WITH YOU, YES

10/30

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GREG MORT WALKER

HI AND LOIS

A GUY CAME IN THE OFFICE TODAY LOOKING FOR A HOUSE TO FLIP.

HE MUST BE A SUPERHERO.

10-30

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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

I NEED A QUICK BEARD TRIM, VIDAR!

SORRY, BUT MY CHAIRS ARE TAKEN, HAGAR!

YOU NEED TO FIND ME A CHAIR!

WOULD YOU LIKE A LOLLIPOP?

10-30

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BABY BLUES

HAMMIE, IF I DIDN'T LET YOU WEAR THE COSTUME TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY OR TUESDAY, WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'D LET YOU WEAR IT TODAY?

YOUR MOTHERLY KINDNESS?

YOU'RE LOOKING AT ONE JADED SECOND GRADER.

©2024 PAPER PHASE

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ZITS

SPIRIT WORLD, WE CALL ON YOU TO SEND US THE GHOST OF ONE PARTICULAR SOUL...

"SQUEAKERS, COME FORTH!"

YOUR HAMSTER FROM GRADE SCHOOL?

I MISS THE LITTLE GUY.

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Speedy

6 Grow paler

10 Bear-bearing tree

11 Cans

12 Castle of dance

13 Some exams

14 Carmaker Ransom

15 Halloween costume choice

16 Word of denial

17 Ready to go

18 Jazz horn

19 Royal staffs

22 Designer Spade

23 Matured

26 Ghosts

29 Computer key letters

32 Misery

33 Hightailed it

34 Halloween costume choice

36 "Veni, vidi, —"

37 Spring sign

38 Keep busy

39 Hardly wordy

40 Usher's place

DOWN

1 Descendants

2 Halloween costume choice

3 Summer cooler

4 Stadium group

5 Low digit

6 Unwavering

7 Saudi natives

8 Writer Ephron

9 English county

11 Track event

15 Last letter

17 Gradual

20 Score apts.

21 Corp.'s superior

24 Most spooky

25 Halloween costume choice

27 Long, long time

28 Hidden shooter

29 Banded quartz

30 Sophia of "Two Women"

31 Car in a Beach Boys song

35 Reduced amount

36 Clock numeral

38 Prof's helpers: Abbr.

Yesterday's answer

10-30

Sudoku

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

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

7 4

5 8 3 6 1 4

1 9

4

8 3

6 9

6

8

5 1

8

7

4

9

8

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

ANSWER:

Cryptoquote

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-30 CRYPTOQUOTE

H ' G G V P K Y F S X N H Z R

U G X W J F B S Z P B S A D X J S X

O X N J S N W K G K N . — F S O Z S V O X A

X O O X D V

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE ONLY THING THAT REALLY SCARES ME ABOUT HALLOWEEN IS RUNNING OUT OF CANDY. — MELANIE WHITE

Astrological Forecast

By Magi Helena

Thursday, October 31, 2024

ARIES (March 21-April 19): There are times to play and times to keep grinding away to finish your tasks or address obligations. Confusing business and pleasure could cause some setbacks. Consider using your people skills to keep things running smoothly.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Yesterday was different than today. Other differences may appear tomorrow. You might accept change or fight it, but change will still occur. Your ability to deal with new conditions could determine how well you thrive in the future.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Sometimes the hardest part of an apology is bringing up the subject. You might make things right if you stop avoiding the person and have a real

conversation. Once you start talking, mending fences could be easier than you thought.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Relationships could become challenging especially if you begin something new or become fixated upon stirring things up. It may be wise to postpone upcoming start dates and projects and to discuss your plans with those you trust.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Understanding the difference between needs and wants is important, but it doesn't mean you should disregard wants. Consider transforming your wants into ambitious goals and when the right moment comes, you'll be ready for it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Spooky Halloween happenings might be on your social calendar. You may need to deal with the fallout from someone's resentment you don't remember. Rather than dancing around the issue it may be time to get everything out

in the open.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Choose to turn the other cheek. Anger and forgiveness are two sides of the same coin, and you have the power to choose. Manage your reactions and emotions to authority figures and your inner circle to avoid unnecessary conflicts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may benefit from listening to what others have to say. Creative thinking could lead you in the right direction as you choose priorities. Learn to accept that some things must fall to secondary or lower positions as priorities shift.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Appreciate what you have and make the most of it. Fairness and cooperation are more important than being right. A partner or loved one might offer sensible and useful guidance about a financial issue that's bothering you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Focus on where you're headed rather than

rushing in without a plan. You might need to navigate the complexities of your current relationships. Always act with love to prevent making a stressful or volatile situation worse.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You have good prospects, and exciting opportunities are coming your way. However, you may feel trapped if you do not have the resources to make a change. Make sure you're prepared for a transition when the right situation arises.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your subconscious is more aware than you think. While your conscious mind gathers facts, your deeper self may rise above distractions to obtain the answers you need. Listen to your intuition when making key decisions.

IF OCTOBER 31 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Your desire to make money or profit at any cost could end up costing you some moments of happiness.



Thanksgiving Superbowl: Make soup ahead to save space

By TODD R. McADAM  
Managing Editor  
tmcadam@cortlandstandard.com

The challenge with cooking for Thanksgiving ahead of time isn't the cooking part, it's the storage. Just ask the spouse.

The refrigerator (She still grumbles that it's too big) gets full. Coolers in the garage are overloaded and one must make sure the garage stays at 40 degrees or below. You don't want this meal just hanging around on the counter or the only thing your guests will be thankful for is having 911 on speed dial and an emergency room that knows how to treat salmonella, campylobacter and clostridium perfringens.

This is where the soup comes in. Once you've made it, transfer it to appropriate-sized freezer containers and let them be soup-sicles, for weeks if necessary.

My favorites for the big day are carrot soup and pumpkin soup. They're both creamy and decadent, yet really simple. The pumpkin soup, in particular, features a lot of spices you'd normally find in pumpkin pie, but savory instead of sweet. And a

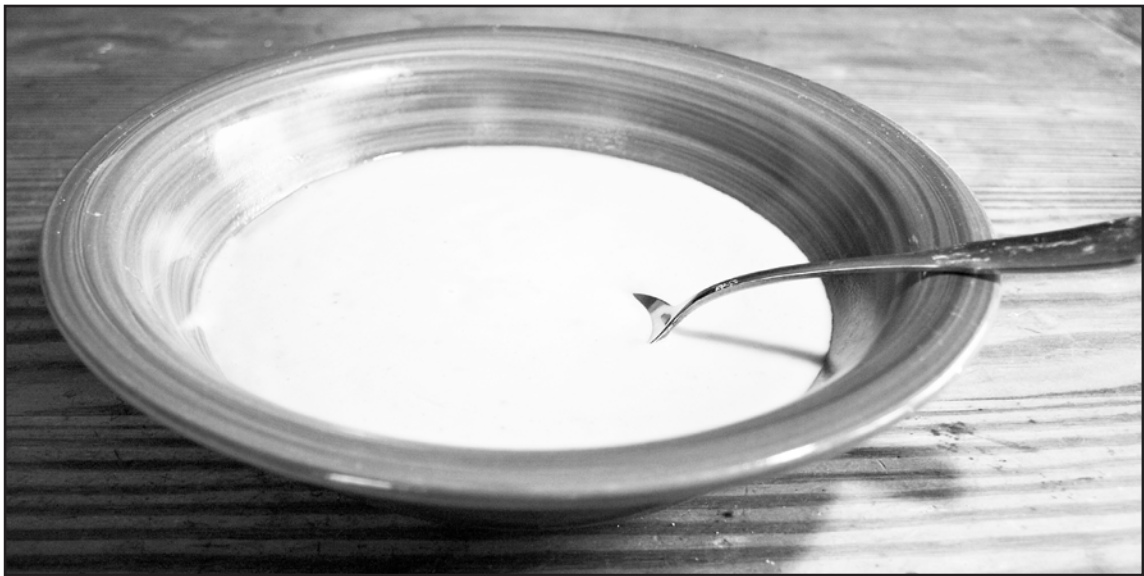


Photo provided by Todd R. McAdam

Carrot or pumpkin soup is a great do-ahead dish for Thanksgiving. They freeze well and can be re-heated easily.

soup course adds a touch of elegance to a meal.

By the way, if you don't have pumpkin, butternut squash is a good substitute. In fact, much of the canned pumpkin you find in the store is actually butternut squash; they're virtually impossible to distinguish from one another.

You can freeze either at two points. I prefer to cook all the ingredients, then add the cream at the end, so I would freeze the soup before I add the cream, then simply add the cream when I'm re-heating it. (The fat in the cream will pick up whatever fla-

vors are lingering inside your freezer.) But if it's not going to be in the freezer too long, you can freeze the finished soup, too.

**PUMPKIN SOUP**  
2 Tbs. olive oil  
4 cloves garlic, minced  
2 tsp. grated fresh ginger  
4 cups chicken broth or stock  
1/2 cup apple cider  
2 cups roasted pumpkin  
1 large, starchy potato, peeled and cubed  
1/2 cup maple syrup  
2 bay leaves  
1 tsp. dried thyme  
1/8 tsp. crushed hot pepper

1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon  
1/4 tsp. ground clove  
1/2 cup half-and-half or whipping cream  
1/2 tsp. vanilla

Heat oil over medium heat. Add the garlic and ginger; sauté until tender. Add the pumpkin and potato and sauté until they caramelize slightly.

Add the chicken broth, cider and spices; simmer until vegetables are tender, about 40 minutes. Add maple syrup, and re-season to taste. Continue simmering 20 minutes.

Pour soup into a food proces-

sor. Remove bay leaves, add cream and vanilla and puree until smooth.

**Play with it:** Instead of the maple syrup, add a bit of apple sauce. A couple of tablespoons of yogurt instead of some of the cream will give it some tang, and of course you can use whatever spices you like. Rosemary and sage are popular variants.

**CARROT SOUP**  
2 pounds carrots, washed and diced  
1 large potato, peeled and diced  
3 cloves garlic, sliced  
4 cups chicken stock  
1 cup heavy cream  
1 bay leaf  
1 Tbs. coriander, ground  
1 tsp. white pepper  
Salt to taste  
2 Tbs. butter

Melt butter in a Dutch oven. Saute carrots until sugars begin to caramelize. Add garlic and potato and sauté 1 minute longer.

Add broth, bay leaf and coriander. Simmer 40 minutes to an hour, until carrots are soft. Remove bay. Puree the mixture. Return to pot. Add cream, white pepper and salt and re-season.

**Play with it:** Turmeric and cardamom both play well with carrots. In fact, any number of Indian of southern Asian spices, such as a masala blend, would go well with carrots.



Gretchen McKay/Pittsburgh Post-Gazette/TNS

Maple leaf cookies stuffed with maple cream offer a favorite fall flavor.

People will fall for these tasty, homemade maple leaf cookies

**Gretchen's Table**

By GRETCHEN MCKAY  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (TNS)

Did you ever go on a trip and eat something so amazing that you became obsessed?

That's me with those utterly delicious maple leaf-shaped cookies stuffed with maple cream and sold in Canada.

Known for their delicate shape and sweet maple flavor, these whimsical cookies can be found just about everywhere once you cross the Peace Bridge from New York. And believe me, one box is not enough if you've got a sweet tooth.

What makes these sandwich cookies special is that they feature real maple syrup — not just in the creamy middle but also in the crispy cookie that holds it all together. Plus, the shape just screams "AUTUMN."

Sure, you can find knock-offs in larger grocery stores and chains like Trader Joe's this time of year, when everyone goes gaga for seasonal fall flavors like pumpkin spice and maple. But they're just not the same, in my opinion. So I made it my mission this year to recreate them at home.

This recipe is the third I tried, and I'm happy to declare it's a winner. That said, its preparation is a little fussy in that you have to roll out and freeze the cookie dough between sheets of parchment before cutting it into the maple shapes. I tried to skip that step and let's just say it wasn't success-

ful. But if you're patient, and remember to dip your cookie cutter into flour before pressing and cutting, the results are really lovely.

I used a 2-inch plastic leaf plunger cutter I found on Amazon to emboss the cookies with a dainty leaf design, but you could use any shape you like. The filling can be made with maple butter, but I substituted a buttercream made with maple syrup, butter and confectioners' sugar.

These are tiny, bite-sized cookies, but that only makes them easier to pop into your mouth again and again and again.

Leftovers (ha!) can be stored in an airtight container at room temperature for up to four days.

**MAPLE LEAF SANDWICH COOKIES**  
**For cookie dough**  
2 sticks unsalted butter, removed from fridge 30 minutes before baking  
1/2 cup confectioners' sugar  
1/4 tsp. maple extract  
2 cups all-purpose flour  
**For maple buttercream**  
1 cup unsalted butter, softened to room temperature  
3 cups confectioners' sugar  
1 tsp. vanilla extract  
2 Tbs. pure maple syrup

Make cookies: Using a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, beat butter until light and fluffy, about 5 minutes. Add icing sugar and beat for 3 more minutes.

Beat in maple extract. Add flour and salt and mix just until dry ingredients are incorporated.

Turn dough out onto lightly floured surface and knead gently for 1 minute.

Divide dough in half. Working

with one piece at a time, roll the dough 1/4 inch thick between 2 sheets of parchment paper. Leaving the dough sandwiched between the parchment layers, stack on a baking sheet and freeze until firm, 15-20 minutes.

Adjust the oven racks to the upper and lower middle positions and preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper.

Remove 1 dough sheet from the freezer; place on work surface. Peel off top parchment sheet and gently lay it back in place. Flip the dough over; peel off and discard second parchment layer.

Using a 2-inch maple leaf cutter, cut out cookies. Transfer shapes to prepared baking sheets using a wide metal spatula, spacing them 3/4 inches apart. Set scraps aside.

Repeat with remaining sheet of dough until baking sheets are full.

Bake cookies until light brown, about 13-15 minutes. Let cool 5 minutes on sheet. Transfer cookies to rack; cool.

Gently reroll dough scraps between 2 sheets of parchment, chill and cut out more cookies. Transfer to cookie sheets and bake as above.

While cookies are cooling, make maple filling.

In a medium bowl, combine butter, confectioners' sugar and vanilla and maple syrup. With a hand mixer or a standing mixer, mix on low for about 15 seconds and then on medium for an additional 30 seconds or until smooth.

Frost or pipe buttercream evenly onto half of the cookies, and top each frosted cookie with the remaining cookies.

Makes 4 dozen bite-sized cookies.

Oishii strawberries: Are they worth it?

**Column**

By ZAREEN SYED  
Chicago Tribune (TNS)

CHICAGO — There isn't a more perpetually disappointing fruit than a grocery store strawberry. And it's truly hard not to get catfished by strawberries because even the most sour ones look beautiful on the outside.

In the U.S., where many strawberries are picked before they're fully ripe so they can withstand transportation and are typically shipped before they reach full sweetness, consumers don't have much in terms of an alternative, making it easier to accept the vicious cycle of buying a carton of Driscoll's, eating a few and then thinking of what to do with the rest as they collect fuzz a mere three days later.

Hiroki Koga, co-founder and CEO of New Jersey-based Oishii, hopes his vertical farming company with Japanese roots will show American consumers what a first-rate strawberry tastes like.

"Our berries last longer, they're fresher, they're pesticide free, but most importantly, they contain two to three times more sweetness compared to your traditional berries," Koga said over the phone.

Koga's team has been busy promoting the "Koyo Berries" for Oishii's recent Chicagoland rollout. Oishii has been creeping into the American market slowly since 2018, starting with New York City.

While Oishii's strawberries are grown in New Jersey, the vertical farm mimics the optimal growing environment of the Japanese Alps: soft rain, mild heat, warm light and buzzing bees.

The Koyo, available at select Whole Foods, is \$10 for a 4-ounce package that holds about eight strawberries. The

even pricier Omakase berries are not yet for sale retail in Chicago, but have dropped from \$50 to \$12 a tray, Koga said.

**WE TRIED THE KOYO BERRIES**

I buy at least three cartons of strawberries a month — usually Driscoll's or whatever's on sale at Jewel, because I have a 1-year-old and no one loves strawberries more than babies love strawberries. So I was extra curious to try Oishii's Koyo Berries and compare them with the strawberries sitting in my fridge.

That first bite was immediately better than any strawberry I've had, with the only exception being the strawberries I tasted when we visited Japan in April. Produce and fruit in Japan are immaculate and something I miss often, so while eight strawberries for \$10 is expensive and a bit out of touch with reality, it isn't a gimmick.

The berries are marketed more as an experience than just a fruit. A postcard that comes with the box suggests how best to enjoy them. Refrigerate until ready to eat, but rest the berries at room temperature for 10 to 15 minutes before tasting. "Breathe in the bright fragrance," the card says. "Allow the aroma to fill the room." Lastly, "close your eyes, take a bite."

I didn't close my eyes, but I did take a sniff. Smelled a bit like strawberry candy.

Would I pay \$10 for eight strawberries? If I saw them at Whole Foods having no prior knowledge of the backstory, I probably would not. But having talked at length with Koga about the unmatched quality of the strawberries given their Japanese origin, I definitely would buy again, just maybe not at the volume of which I buy regular ones.



Antonio Perez/Chicago Tribune/TNS

Pictured are Japanese Koyo berries at Whole Foods Market in Chicago's Lincoln Park neighborhood on Oct. 11.



# Vinyl thrives at 75-year-old United Record Pressing

By JONATHAN MATTISE  
Associated Press  
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — During the six decades since United Record Pressing stamped out the Beatles’ first U.S. single, the country’s oldest vinyl record maker has survived 8-tracks, cassettes, CDs, Napster, iPods and streaming services. Now, the Nashville-based company has rebounded so dramatically that some of its equipment and technology has been retrofitted to keep pace with an ever-growing demand for old-school vinyl.

The 75-year-old company has adjusted its business from filling jukeboxes to helping DJs spin and stocking shelves despite a pandemic. On shelves in its warehouse are master versions by Johnny Cash, Kanye West and The Black Crowes.

When Mark Michaels bought the company in 2007, vinyl was fading — its 38 employees mostly made singles for rap artists, often promos for clubs. Michaels wanted a hands-on chance to build a business and thought he could keep this one steady, but not grow it substantially. It also came with a rich history as the



AP Photo/George Walker IV  
A master plate is seen at United Record Pressing, July 11, in Nashville, Tennessee.

first record pressing plant in the South, including an apartment atop the factory that housed Black artists and music executives during segregation. “You walked into this building and you just felt 50, 60 years of history and just the importance of

what it stood for,” said Michaels, the company’s CEO and chair. “And yeah, you you get choked up, you get gooseflesh just experiencing that.” Today, United Record Pressing runs a newer factory six times bigger than what Michaels

bought, with about 125 employees who make up to 80,000 records a day. A variety of factors have boosted vinyl in recent years, from independent artists insisting on vinyl albums to big box retailers getting on board again. In 2023, U.S. revenues from vinyl records grew 10% to \$1.4 billion, the 17th-straight year of growth, according to the Recording Industry Association of America. Records accounted for 71% of revenues from non-digital music formats, and for the second time since 1987, vinyl outpaced CDs in total sold. United Record Pressing underwent its own evolution. The initial pressing plant was formed in 1949 by Nashville label Bullet Records. In the 1950s, it changed to Southern Plastics Inc. and focused on 7-inch singles preferred by jukebox makers. In the early 1960s, the company was pressing more than 1 million records per month. It signed a deal to produce singles for Motown Records and moved to a bigger facility that included the apartment that hosted The Supremes, Smokey Robinson

and others — and which became known as the “Motown Suite.” In 1963, it pressed the Beatles’ first U.S. single, “Please Please Me.” Then in the 1970s, a restructuring turned the company into United Record Pressing. During the 1980s, records dwindled to a niche market. DJs still needed records for their turntables. Rap and hip-hop artists used them for “scratching.” But CDs had overtaken them. By the late 2000s, indie artists were insisting on releasing vinyl records. By 2015, records were broadly embraced again, but there were few manufacturers, and they were relying on presses from the 1960s and 1970s and a limited number of specialists who could operate them, Michaels said. Demand increased again during the coronavirus pandemic. “It’s art,” Michaels said of vinyl records. “Artists and fans, they want something tactile to hold on to and engage with. It’s easy to stream music, and streaming music is a wonderful way to discover new music. But you know, at the end of the day, it’s kind of sonic wallpaper.”

## Contract Bridge

### A double-barreled endplay

South dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ K 6 5 2  
♥ Q J 7  
♦ A Q J 8  
♣ 6 5  
**WEST**  
♠ Q 10 9 8 3  
♥ 9 5  
♦ 7  
♣ K Q 10 8 4  
**EAST**  
♠ 7  
♥ 10 8 6 3 2  
♦ 6 4 2  
♣ J 9 7 3  
**SOUTH**  
♠ A J 4  
♥ A K 4  
♦ K 10 9 5 3  
♣ A 2

The bidding:  
South 1♦ West 1♠ North 3♦ East Pass  
6♦  
\*forcing to game  
Opening lead — king of clubs.  
The goal of an elimination play is to create a situation where, when declarer puts one of the opponents on lead, any return will cost the defense a trick. Here is a typical case.  
Let’s say you get to six diamonds on the bidding shown and West leads the king of clubs. At first blush, making the slam seems to depend on a spade finesse, which is

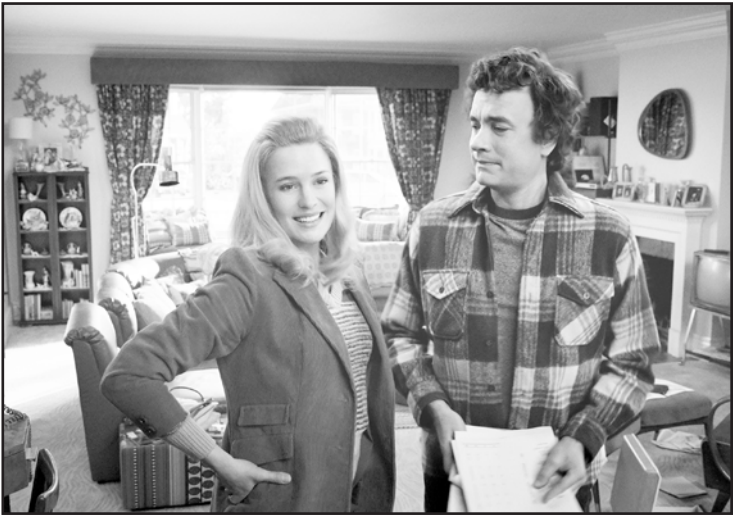
far from a rosy prospect considering West’s one-spade overcall. But when you study the hand more closely, you realize that you have an excellent chance to bring the contract home by means of an elimination play.  
Accordingly, you win the club with the ace, draw three rounds of trump and cash the A-K-Q of hearts. Cashing the hearts is in keeping with the standard procedure of removing all the cards with which the opponents might later exit safely. (If you surrendered the lead before cashing the hearts, the opponents could exit with one at no cost to themselves.)  
Next, you make the key play of cashing the king of spades. You do this in order to extract East’s probable singleton in that suit. Having completed these preliminaries, you then lead a club from dummy, not caring at all which opponent wins the trick.  
In the actual case, if East wins the club, he must return a heart or a club, allowing you to discard the jack of spades as you ruff in dummy. And if West wins the club, he must either yield a ruff-and-discard or lead a spade into your A-J. Whichever he chooses, the slam is home.

Tomorrow: Two heads are better than one.  
©2024 King Features Syndicate Inc.

# Unmoving camera and de-aging tech make ‘Here’ painful to watch

## Movie review

By MARK KENNEDY  
AP Entertainment Writer  
Robert Zemeckis’ latest movie is insanely ambitious, starting with the dinosaurs and ending in present day with the Roomba. But it’s fixed on just one spot. “Here” reunites Zemeckis, screenwriter Eric Roth and actors Tom Hanks and Robin Wright. This time, they’re not telling the larger-than-life story of a man moving through time — they’re telling the centuries-old story of a living room and all the different people who lived there. In this living room, we see a wedding, a death, a birth, a marriage tested, a funeral, lots of vacuuming, many birthdays, Christmases and Thanksgivings, some sex, adults getting drunk and Jazzercise. Zemeckis puts the camera at a fixed angle for the movie’s entire 105-minute duration with-



Sony Pictures via AP  
This image released by Sony Pictures Entertainment shows Tom Hanks, right, and Robin Wright in a scene from “Here.”

out moving, like testing an audience on how long they’ll watch old security camera footage. Zemeckis is a filmmaker known for incorporating the latest in technology and this time it’s de-aging as a visual effect, basically turning 68-year-old Hanks into what he looked like

while filming “Splash.” It’s a lot of work, clumsy often, and Zemeckis has gotten lost in the uncanny valley. Overall, “Here” fails to connect all these centuries of human experiences, other than to celebrate the human experience in all its triumph and sadness.

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► MOVING SALES  
► TELEPHONE TOLL - CALLS  
► WANTED TO RENT  
► HOUSE CLEANING  
► NO TELEPHONE - LISTING  
► SUBLETTING  
► APARTMENT-SHARING  
▲ ★ ▲ ★ ▲

HELP WANTED

**Case Aide #89262-010**  
**Salary:**  
\$18.4165-23.3107/hr (2024 Rate)  
\$18.9690-24.0100/hr (2025 Rate)  
**Examination Date:**  
01-18-2025  
**Last Filing Date:**  
12-18-24 by 4:30 p.m.  
Send CIVIL SERVICE applications to Cortland County Personnel Civil Service, 60 Central Ave., Cortland, NY 13045. Applications must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the last filing date.  
EOE

IF YOU can't find that unusual item, ask for it with a classified ad.

HELP WANTED

Cincinnatus Central School  
**Varsity Boys Volleyball Coach**  
Winter 24-25 Season  
Salary: \$5,890 for the season.  
Please submit an application to:  
Cincinnatus Central School  
Carrie Temple  
2809 Cincinnatus Road  
Cincinnatus, NY 13040  
Fax: 607-863-4109  
ctemple@cc.cnyric.org

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## High School Girls Soccer



Paul Cifonelli/sports editor

Cincinnatus' Jelsie Stafford, right, watches after playing a ball around a Skaneateles defender earlier this year. Stafford is one of many key returners as Cincinnatus looks to make its third straight sectional final.

# Cincy, Tully to rematch with finals trip on the line

By PAUL CIFONELLI  
Sports Editor

pcifonelli@cortlandstandard.com

The No. 1 Cincinnatus girls soccer team is looking to make it to a third consecutive sectional final, but No. 4 Tully stands in its way in the Section III Class C semifinals. The Lions and Black Knights will play for the second time this season at 5:30 p.m. today at Fayetteville-Manlius High School.

Cincinnatus won the initial encounter 6-1 at Tully on Oct. 3. Cassia Schuyler went for four goals and an assist for the Lions in the win, but Tully's Wren Lawton scored the only goal of the second half. That was the second of three goals Cincinnatus has allowed all season.

The Lions are 18-0 and have won 16 times by three or more goals, but the Black Knights took some things away from the first game that they believe will make them more successful.

"We can't let them get past our defense," Maddy Lund said. "We need to show aggression. We have that aggression, we just need to show it this time."

"I think we struggled coming out hard to start," Anna Lund added. "In the second half we came out harder, but we needed to put out that energy in the first half."

For as good as Cincinnatus has been, head coach Lisa Sustad feels her girls have gotten better since Oct. 3. She thinks a lot of that is due to the continued acclimation of a few new players, notably Makayla Mills in back.

"We have a couple new girls on the team in new positions and we were switching positions around quite a bit," Sustad said. "Now that we have an idea of the

<b>UPCOMING SCHEDULE</b>
<b>FOOTBALL</b>
No. 3 Cortland at No. 2 Jamesville-Dewitt, 6:30 p.m. Thursday
No. 6 Homer at No. 3 Carthage, 7 p.m. Friday
<b>BOYS SOCCER</b>
No. 3 Marathon at No. 2 Southern Cayuga, 3:30 p.m. today
No. 2 Tully vs. No. 3 Manlius Pebble Hill, 7:30 p.m. today at Fayetteville-Manlius H.S.
<b>GIRLS SOCCER</b>
No. 1 Cincinnatus vs. No. 5 Tully, 5:30 p.m. today at Fayetteville-Manlius H.S.
<b>GIRLS VOLLEYBALL</b>
No. 6 Skaneateles at No. 3 Homer, 5 p.m. today

changes and where to move the girls. I feel they're getting more comfortable working with each other."

Tully head coach Ashley Brunelle scheduled the regular season game with Cincinnatus hoping to see them again this late in the postseason. Now that it's here, she is happy that game happened.

"We needed to see them," Brunelle said. "We needed to see how we matched up against them. There are a lot of positives we took away from that game, even in a loss. For us, we get another shot at it. We're going to look different this time when we match up with them."

Despite the lopsided score the first time around, Cincinnatus is not taking this lightly. The Lions are laser-focused on their goal of a third consecutive sectional title.

"The best thing for us is to go in and play like normal and

not underestimate them because we're going to be playing on turf," sophomore Jocelyn Turshman said. "It's a totally different setting with higher intensity."

Sophomore Jelsie Stafford has a lot of confidence in her team and just thinks they need to play their game to come out victorious.

"As long as we don't come in overly confident, overly cocky or overly nervous, we'll win," Stafford said.

Tully is hoping to catch Cincinnatus by surprise. The Black Knights have shown a new level of confidence the last few weeks and are riding high heading into their first sectional semifinal as a group.

"I think they're going to assume that they have us this game and that they're going to beat us," Gabby Flatt said. "We're going to show up and prove to them why we're here and that we deserve to be here."

Brunelle knows Cincinnatus is very strong and feels being internally focused is the best way to go about it.

"We've got to be able to control the things we can control," Brunelle said. "We're going to be as prepared as we can to match up against them. When it comes down to it, we're going to need to make sure we come out ready to go with lots of energy and be ready to compete that whole time. We've got to be able to deal with the ebbs and flows of the game."

The winner will face the winner of No. 3 Bishop Ludden and No. 7 Westmoreland. That game is taking place at 5:30 p.m. today at V-V-S High School. The sectional final is at 6 p.m. Saturday at SUNY Cortland.

## High School Boys Soccer

# Tully plays MPH for third time with biggest stakes yet

By PAUL CIFONELLI  
Sports Editor

pcifonelli@cortlandstandard.com

After a 2-0 win at home over Manlius Pebble Hill on Sept. 11, Tully head coach Bill Donald said he knew those two teams would square off two more times. Once was already on the schedule, but Donald has proven to be prophetic as the No. 2 Tully boys soccer team will take on No. 3 MPH in the Section III Class C semifinals at 7:30 p.m. today at Fayetteville-Manlius High School.

The Trojans won the second matchup on their own home field 3-0 on Oct. 8. This time, the game will be played on a neutral, turf field, which senior midfielder Connor Bastedo feels favors his Black Knights.

"I think we're a different team on turf," Bastedo said. "Our speed shows more, Ryan shows more. The touch on the foot is way better and way different."

Tully started its season 10-1 and lost four of five to end the regular season. Some of that can be attributed to some key injuries, with star forward Julian Shay's nagging hamstring being the most notable.

The Black Knights have bounced back to win their two sectional games by a combined score of 11-1. The players attribute that to a more positive and fun-loving mentality.

"The mentality thing is a big reason of why we're starting to play well," senior goalkeeper Oscar Breitza said. "We're more focused on the positive things and the fast pace during the game."

Both teams have gone through ups and downs this season and have come out the back end a different team. Donald feels the biggest difference between the first two games is his team's health, and he hopes that can revert back to how it was for the first game.

"Game 1 we were total-

ly healthy and everything was good," Donald said. "Game 2 we weren't very healthy. Playing on their field was big. They're very good on their home field. The third game is a neutral site, so a neutral feeling."

MPH is led by Nick, Sam and Andy Lurvey. Nick Lurvey has 20 goals and eight assists on the season, Sam Lurvey has contributed 11 goals and seven helpers and Andy Lurvey has eight goals and five assists. Both Owen Hay and Liam Allen have seen decent time in goal this season and have saved 84% and 89.4% of the shots they've faced, respectively.

Tully is led by the two-headed monster up top of Ryan Rauber and Shay. Rauber has 20 goals and nine assists, Shay has 11 goals and five assists in limited time this year and Bastedo has followed them up with eight goals and four assists. Danny Byrne and Andy Polak also head a strong back line in front of Breitza.

Tully knows finishing off opportunities will be what wins or loses the game. Rauber feels they can do that and move to a second straight sectional final.

"The few times we played MPH we got a lot of chances, we just couldn't finish on that day," Rauber said. "I do think we can get a lot of chances against their defense and it'll go pretty well."

"We can't let them play the ball long," Rauber added. "We know their center back likes to just boot the ball 50 yards. We're on the smaller side on defense, so if we put pressure on the ball I think they'll crumble."

No. 1 Bishop Ludden and No. 4 Fabius-Pompey play in the other semifinal at 7:30 p.m. today at V-V-S High School. The final will be at 7:15 p.m. Tuesday at V-V-S.



Paul Cifonelli/sports editor

Tully's Ryan Rauber, center, lines up a free kick earlier this season against Manlius Pebble Hill. Rauber will lead Tully into the Section III Class C semifinals against one of its biggest league rivals.

## Major League Baseball

# Ohtani's rural hometown honors its superstar son

By STEPHEN WADE  
AP Sports Writer

OSHU CITY, Japan — Shohei Ohtani's hometown in northern Japan is a rural place, famous for its high-quality Maesawa beef, its history of making traditional ironware and the intense green hills and mountains that surround it.

Japanese call such places "inaka" — roughly translated as the "countryside." No glitz, quiet streets and up north — cold winters.

It's only 300 miles from Tokyo, but it seems further away.

These days, Oshu City is most famous for Ohtani himself, and the intense pride local people

show for one of the game's greatest ever players. He started in the local Little League with the Mizusawa Pirates, played for Hanamaki Higashi High School — a route that led him to the World Series. His Los Angeles Dodgers lead the New York Yankees 3-0, and fans here will be tuned in when LA tries to clinch the title early

Wednesday morning local time.

The town honors Ohtani at every turn. And to experience it, start first with hairdresser Hironobu Kanno's salon called "Seems."

The waiting room is a museum dedicated to Ohtani with about 300 artifacts hung, stacked and squeezed into every corner. Even more items are in storage.

There are signed Dodgers and Angels jerseys, dozen of autographed baseballs, bats, shoes, caps, gloves, bobbleheads, photos of Ohtani and his wife Mamiko Tanaka, shirts emblazoned with images of his dog Decopin (Decoy in English), stuffed animals,

See OHTANI, page 10

## Women's College Basketball

# Women's basketball hopes to build off last year's success

By DOUG FEINBERG  
AP Basketball Writer

Dawn Staley and South Carolina ran through last season undefeated on the way to the school's third national championship. With a lot of that squad back, there is good reason to think the Gamecocks could repeat.

Standing in their way could be a healthy UConn led by Paige Bueckers or JuJu Watkins and USC, which added some stellar transfers to help out the sensational sophomore. Those two preseason All-Americans hope to pick up the momentum from last season that was spearheaded

by Caitlin Clark and Angel Reese and led to record ratings and attendance for the NCAA Tournament.

"I know we lost some great ones in Angel and Caitlin, but we gained so much more," Staley said. "We gained so much more talent, skill set and marketability.

I'm really looking forward to it. I'm glad it's happened during a time in which I can attest to it, I can share with other people who are just now tuning in."

There are a host of other teams including Texas, UCLA and Notre Dame that also could challenge for the title. UConn was the last

team to win back-to-back championships, winning four straight titles from 2013-16. South Carolina hopes to buck that trend and get to Tampa for the Final Four in April.

Staley's squad, which is No. 1 in the preseason AP poll, is going

See YEAR, page 10



National Football League

Bills are building a physical identity by showing strength in the trenches

By JOHN WAWROW  
AP Sports Writer

ORCHARD PARK — After praising the loud and rowdy Buffalo fans for making the trip to the Pacific Northwest, and eventually drowning out the Seahawks’ “12s,” Bills coach Sean McDermott immediately got to the meat of the matter.

“Winning the line of scrimmage, that’s where it starts every week,” McDermott said in opening his postgame news conference following a 31-10 win at Seattle on Sunday.

For all the credit rightfully being directed toward Josh Allen for his fifth multi-touchdown outing of the season, and helping the Bills (6-2) open a 3-1/2 game lead atop the AFC East, it’s time to give the linemen their due.

This was a victory secured in the trenches in an outing where Buffalo demoralized the Seahawks to the point of infighting, with Seattle defensive end Jarran Reed exchanging blows with linebacker Derick Hall on the field and sideline.

Buffalo limited the Seahawks to 32 yards rushing, including a measly 1 in the first half.

And the tone was set midway through the second quarter when the Bills dug in after Allen’s first interception of the season was returned to the Buffalo 7. The se-



Seahawks linebacker Ernest Jones IV has his helmet come off as Bills running back James Cook scores a touchdown Sunday, in Seattle.

AP Photo/John Froschauer

ries ended with two stops at the 1, capped by the interior defense anticipating the snap, which led to center Connor Smith tripping up quarterback Geno Smith for a 6-yard loss on fourth down.

On offense, Buffalo’s linemen held up in allowing one sack against a Seahawks defense that

entered the weekend tied for seventh in the NFL with 20. And they paved the way for the Bills gaining 164 yards rushing and 29 first downs — both season highs.

The Bills were so physical, rookie receiver Keon Coleman got into the spirit by blocking

cornerback Josh Jobe into Buffalo’s bench, with both getting flagged for unnecessary roughness.

“Man, I think that was a big point for us,” defensive tackle Eli Ankou said of witnessing Coleman going to extremes in finishing his block.

Jets off to 2-6 start because of mistakes and lack of execution by talented roster

By DENNIS WASZAK Jr.  
AP Pro Football Writer

When D.J. Reed looks at the New York Jets’ record through their first eight games, the cornerback thinks there’s no way they should be sitting at 2-6.

Not even close.

“It’s painful because we’re losing by four points, a field goal, two points, one point,” Reed said Monday. “It’s like we’re just coming up right short. I feel like we’re finding ways to lose because we have a talented roster.”

On paper, yes. But a season that started with expectations of making a long run through the playoffs with Aaron Rodgers leading the way has been derailed.

The Jets are at a low point after losing 25-22 to the New England Patriots on Sunday — a game in which they held the lead until the closing minute.



AP Photo/Michael Dwyer

Jets interim head coach Jeff Ulbrich, right, looks up toward the scoreboard in the second half of a game against the Patriots, Sunday, in Foxborough, Massachusetts.

“It just seems like in a crucial moment,” tight end Tyler Conklin said, “we seem to make mis-

takes that you can’t make when you want to win football games in this league.”

And New York’s defense, considered a strength of the team entering the season, failed to finish off what Reed said “should’ve been a win.”

Instead, it was the latest debacle in what is now a five-game losing streak — with four of the defeats by one score — that has the Jets and their fans wondering if it can get any worse.

“I know this season is probably crazy watching this because I know, like, the talent of this team, it doesn’t make sense,” Reed said. “So I know that’s how the fans feel, most certainly.

“I know that they’re probably flabbergasted.”

Owner Woody Johnson sensed things weren’t going in the right direction when he stunningly fired Robert Saleh as coach on Oct. 8 and replaced him with defensive coordinator Jeff Ulbrich as the interim. The Jets are 0-3 since.

Soccer

Spaniards Rodri and Aitana win Ballon d’Or award as Real Madrid snubs event

By JEROME PUGMIRE  
AP Sports Writer

PARIS — Spanish midfielders Rodri and Aitana Bonmati won the men’s and women’s Ballon d’Or award on Monday as the world’s best soccer players, while Real Madrid snubbed the star-studded ceremony in Paris in apparent protest.

The 28-year-old Rodri won the prestigious award for the first time after helping Manchester City win the Premier League and being a key player in Spain’s European Championship triumph.

He succeeded eight-time winner Lionel Messi of Argentina and beat Real Madrid’s Vinicius Junior into second place, a result which greatly displeased the Spanish club. Madrid and its players stayed away from the ceremony, then vented their feelings on social media.

Rodri showed his emotion when his name was read out by former winner George Weah, putting his hands over his face.

“Incredible night for me,” said Rodri, who is out for the season after injuring his ACL last

month and arrived on crutches to the ceremony. “One of my key things is I always try to improve every game.”

Known as a hard-working and unselfish player despite his abilities, Rodri was quick to deflect praise onto others.

“I just want to say thank you again to the people who recognize my value in the game,” he said. “When I was a kid I never thought of winning the Ballon d’Or, but in the last years I’ve been playing the highest level.”

The 26-year-old Aitanare-

tained her award after helping Barcelona win the Spanish league, the Spanish cup and the Champions League. Bonmati joined Barca teammate Alexia Putellas in winning two titles since the women’s trophy was first awarded in 2018. She beat her teammates Caroline Graham Hansen of Norway and Salma Paralluelo of Spain as Barcelona completed a 1-2-3.

“It’s a pleasure to be here again,” said Bonmati, who received the award from Oscar winner Natalie Portman.



A. Bonmati



R. Bonmati

OHTANI

continued from page 9

pillows and life-size cutouts of the superstar.

Kanno said many fans come to town on a kind of “pilgrimage,” and his shop is often part of that.

“My customers and those who come to visit Ohtani’s hometown really enjoy seeing the collection, and I think it is a very effective way for them to feel closer to Ohtani,” he said.

The collecting began innocently when Kanno attended a baseball game on May 23, 2013 — the first professional game in

which Ohtani batted and pitched. This was for Japan’s Hokkaido Nippon-Ham Fighters, and Kanno came back with a ball signed by Ohtani.

“When I put the ball with Ohtani’s autograph in my salon, the customers were very happy to see it,” Kanno said. “So I started to collect goods little by little.”

The rest is history. He said his most treasured item is a cap signed by Japanese players who defeated the United States in the final of last year’s World Baseball Classic in Miami. Kanno confessed that the cost of Ohtani

goods keeps rising. He suggested he’d spent about 10 million yen — perhaps \$100,000 — on Ohtani merchandise over a decade, and guessed the value might be five or six times as much. He said he’d never met Ohtani nor his mother and father — Toru and Kayako — and the superstar has never seen the collection. He said eventually, he’d like to see it in a real museum and added he wasn’t in it for financial gain. Head across town to the city hall if you need more Ohtani memorabilia. One corner is loaded with photos of

Ohtani, newspaper clips and pennants reminding that he won the American League MVP in 2023 and 2021. He’s the favorite to be the National League MVP this season.

The centerpiece of the city hall collection is a replica of Ohtani’s right hand. The golden hand allows you to grasp it and watch a video with Ohtani showing how the replica was made.

Keigo Kishino and his wife Chiaki said they traveled in one day from the western city of Osaka — by plane and train — just to shake the hand.

YEAR

continued from page 9

for its third national title in four years. The Gamecocks completed the sport’s first undefeated season at 38-0 since UConn completed a perfect run to the championship in 2016. South Carolina’s main loss from last season was 6-foot-7 centerpiece Kamilla Cardoso, the team’s top scorer and rebounder.

The Gamecocks are also missing junior Ashlyn Watkins, a 6-3 defender who led the SEC with 91 blocked shots. She was suspended from the program following her arrest on Aug. 31 for assault and kidnapping.

The season gets underway on Nov. 4 with a pair of games in Paris. Last season, the Gamecocks routed Notre Dame in the French capital. This year there’s a doubleheader with No. 3 USC playing No. 20 Ole Miss and No. 17 Louisville facing No. 5 UCLA.

REALIGNMENT

There have been major power shifts in conference affiliation, with Texas and Oklahoma now in the SEC while USC and UCLA are in the Big Ten. With South Carolina, LSU and now Texas and Oklahoma, the SEC has four of the top 10 teams in the preseason poll.

ACL RECOVERY

UConn, Texas and Notre Dame all have key players who missed at least parts of last season to recover from ACL injuries. Azzi Fudd of the Huskies, Rori Harmon of the Longhorns and Olivia Miles of the Irish all have been cleared to return.

They are three of the top players in the country when healthy and provide their teams with leadership at guard.

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	6	2	0	.750	230	146
Miami	2	5	0	.286	97	157
N.Y. Jets	2	6	0	.250	150	170
New England	2	6	0	.250	124	197
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	6	2	0	.750	188	179
Indianapolis	4	4	0	.500	175	172
Jacksonville	2	6	0	.250	172	224
Tennessee	1	6	0	.143	120	196
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	6	2	0	.750	187	119
Baltimore	5	3	0	.625	242	209
Cincinnati	3	5	0	.375	195	203
Cleveland	2	6	0	.250	138	186
West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	7	0	0	1.000	173	123
Denver	5	3	0	.625	173	120
L.A. Chargers	4	3	0	.571	132	91
Las Vegas	2	6	0	.250	144	210
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	6	2	0	.750	236	167
Philadelphia	5	2	0	.714	171	132
Dallas	3	4	0	.429	150	198
N.Y. Giants	2	6	0	.250	117	175
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Atlanta	5	3	0	.625	194	195
Tampa Bay	4	4	0	.500	235	213
New Orleans	2	6	0	.250	185	206
Carolina	1	7	0	.125	124	271
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Detroit	6	1	0	.857	234	134
Green Bay	6	2	0	.750	216	170
Minnesota	5	2	0	.714	188	137
Chicago	4	3	0	.571	163	191
West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Arizona	4	4	0	.500	178	205
San Francisco	4	4	0	.500	210	182
Seattle	4	4	0	.500	190	195
L.A. Rams	3	4	0	.429	144	174

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	11	7	3	1	15	38	35
New Jersey	12	6	4	2	14	44	39
N.Y. Rangers	8	6	1	1	13	34	16
Carolina	8	6	2	0	12	27	19
Tampa Bay	9	6	3	0	12	34	26
Toronto	10	5	4	1	11	32	32
Washington	7	5	2	0	10	26	21
Buffalo	10	4	5	1	9	32	36
Columbus	8	4	3	1	9	33	25
Detroit	9	4	4	1	9	25	28
Montreal	9	4	4	1	9	27	33
Boston	9	4	4	1	9	27	32
Ottawa	8	4	4	0	8	30	30
N.Y. Islanders	8	3	3	2	8	21	24
Pittsburgh	10	3	6	1	7	30	43
Philadelphia	9	2	6	1	5	27	40
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Winnipeg	9	8	1	0	16	40	22
Vegas	10	7	2	1	15	47	28
Dallas	9	7	2	0	14	29	17
Minnesota	8	5	1	2	12	29	21
Los Angeles	9	5	2	2	12	28	29
Vancouver	8	4	1	3	11	27	25
Calgary	9	5	3	1	11	29	29
St. Louis	9	5	4	0	10	26	26
Colorado	10	5	5	0	10	36	41
Utah	10	4	4	2	10	29	37
Seattle	9	4	4	1	9	28	28
Edmonton	10	4	5	1	9	22	35
Anaheim	8	3	4	1	7	18	24
Nashville	9	3	5	1	7	23	31
Chicago	10	3	6	1	7	27	33
San Jose	10	1	7	2	4	23	43





AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall  
Jake Klocke, of PowerPollen, prepares a pollen applicator, Aug. 22, near Ames, Iowa.

# What will autonomous tech mean for crops and workers?

By MELINA WALLING, Associated Press and AYURELLA HORN-MULLER, Grist Associated Press  
HOMESTEAD, Fla. — Jeremy Ford hates wasting water. As a mist of rain sprinkled the fields around him in Homestead, Florida, Ford bemoaned how expensive it had been running a fossil fuel-powered irrigation system on his five-acre farm — and how bad it was for the planet.

Earlier this month, Ford installed an automated underground system that uses a solar-powered pump to periodically saturate the roots of his crops, saving “thousands of gallons of water.” Although they may be more costly up front, he sees such climate-friendly investments as a necessary expense — and more affordable than expanding his workforce of two.

It’s “much more efficient,” said Ford. “We’ve tried to figure out ‘How do we do it?’ with the least amount of adding labor.”

A growing number of companies are bringing automation to agriculture. It could ease the sector’s deepening labor shortage, help farmers manage costs, and protect workers from extreme heat.

Automation could also improve yields by bringing greater accuracy to planting, harvesting, and farm management, potentially mitigating some of the challenges of growing food in an ever-warmer world.

But many small farmers and producers across the country aren’t convinced.

Barriers to adoption go beyond steep price tags to questions about whether the tools can do the jobs nearly as well as the workers they’d replace. Some of those same workers wonder what this trend might mean for them, and whether machines will lead to exploitation.

## HOW AUTONOMOUS IS FARM AUTOMATION?

On some farms, driverless tractors churn through acres of corn, soybeans, lettuce and more. Such equipment is expensive, and requires mastering new tools, but row crops are fairly easy to automate. Harvesting small, non-uniform and easily damaged fruits like blackberries, or big citruses that take a bit of strength and dexterity to pull off a tree, would be much harder.

That doesn’t deter scientists like Xin Zhang, a biological and agricultural engineer at Mississippi State University. Working with a team at Georgia Institute of Technology, she wants to apply some of the automation techniques surgeons use, and the object recognition power of advanced cameras and computers, to create robotic berry-picking arms that can pluck the fruits without creating a sticky, purple mess.

The scientists have collaborated with farmers for field trials, but Zhang isn’t sure when

the machine might be ready for consumers. Although robotic harvesting is not widespread, a smattering of products have hit the market, and can be seen working from Washington’s orchards to Florida’s produce farms.

“I feel like this is the future,” Zhang said.

But where she sees promise, others see problems.

Frank James, executive director of grassroots agriculture group Dakota Rural Action, grew up on a cattle and crop farm in northeastern South Dakota. His family once employed a handful of farmhands, but has had to cut back due, in part, to the lack of available labor. Much of the work is now done by his brother and sister-in-law, while his 80-year-old father occasionally pitches in.

They swear by tractor autosteering, an automated system that communicates with a satellite to help keep the machine on track. But it can’t identify the moisture levels in the fields which can hamstring tools or cause the tractor to get stuck, and requires human oversight to work as it should.

The technology also complicates maintenance. For these reasons, he doubts automation will become the “absolute” future of farm work.

“You build a relationship with the land, with the animals, with the place that you’re producing it. And we’re moving away from that,” said James.

## LABOR WOES

Tim Bucher grew up on a farm in Northern California and has worked in agriculture since he was 16. Dealing with weather issues like drought has always been a fact of life for him, but climate change has brought new challenges as temperatures regularly hit triple digits and blankets of smoke ruin entire vineyards.

The toll of climate change compounded by labor challenges inspired him to combine his farming experience with his Silicon Valley engineering and startup background to found Agtonomy in 2021. It works with equipment manufacturers like Doosan Bobcat to make automated tractors and other tools. Since pilot programs started in 2022, Bucher says the company has been “inundated” with customers, mainly vineyard and orchard growers in California and Washington.

Those who follow the sector say farmers, often skeptical of new technology, will consider automation if it will make their business more profitable and their lives easier.

Will Brigham, a dairy and maple farmer in Vermont, sees such tools as solutions to the nation’s agricultural workforce shortage.

“A lot of farmers are struggling with labor,” he said, citing the “high competition” with jobs where “you don’t have to deal with weather.”

Since 2021, Brigham’s family

farm has been using Farmblox, an AI-powered farm monitoring and management system that helps them get ahead of issues like leaks in tubing used in maple production.

Six months ago, he joined the company as a senior sales engineer to help other farmers embrace technology like it.

## WORKERS WORRY ABOUT LOSING JOBS

Detasseling corn used to be a rite of passage for some young people in the Midwest. Teenagers would wade through seas of corn removing tassels — the bit that looks like a yellow feather duster at the top of each stalk — to prevent unwanted pollination.

Extreme heat, drought and intense rainfall have made this labor-intensive task even harder. And it’s now more often done by migrant farmworkers who sometimes put in 20-hour days to keep up. That’s why Jason Cope, co-founder of farm tech company PowerPollen, thinks it’s essential to mechanize arduous tasks like detasseling. His team created a tool a tractor can use to collect the pollen from male plants without having to remove the tassel. It can then be saved for future crops.

“We can account for climate change by timing pollen perfectly as it’s delivered,” he said. “And it takes a lot of that labor that’s hard to come by out of the equation.”

Erik Nicholson, who previously worked as a farm labor organizer and now runs Semillero de Ideas, a nonprofit focused on farmworkers and technology, said he has heard from farm workers concerned about losing work to automation.

Some have also expressed worry about the safety of working alongside autonomous machines but are hesitant to raise issues because they fear losing their jobs. He’d like to see the companies building these machines, and the farm owners using them, put people first.

Luis Jimenez, a New York dairy worker, agrees. He described one farm using technology to monitor cows for sicknesses. Those kinds of tools can sometimes identify infections sooner than a dairy worker or veterinarian.

They also help workers know how the cows are doing, Jimenez said, speaking in Spanish. But they can reduce the number of people needed on farms and put extra pressure on the workers who remain, he said. That pressure is heightened by increasingly automated technology like video cameras used to monitor workers’ productivity.

Automation can be “a tactic, like a strategy, for bosses, so people are afraid and won’t demand their rights,” said Jimenez, who advocates for immigrant farmworkers with the grassroots organization Alianza Agrícola. Robots, after all, “are machines that don’t ask for anything,” he added. “We don’t want to be replaced by machines.”

## LEGALS

### TOWN OF WILLET PUBLIC NOTICE Legal Notice Town of Willet

Please take notice that in accordance with Local Law One for the year 1995, the Town prohibits the parking of vehicles on all highways within the Town of Willet between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. from November 1, 2024 to May 1, 2025.

All violators will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of said local law.

Dated: October 30, 2024  
Town of Willet Supervisor  
Alvin Doty Jr.

### CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of WEE Acres, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/03/2024. Office location: Cortland County, SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to SSNY: 2543 Health Camp Road, Homer, New York 13077. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

### VILLAGE OF MARATHON BID NOTICE

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Marathon, Marathon NY will receive sealed bids until 2:00 p.m. November 18, 2024, at the Village Office 18 Tannery St., Marathon N.Y. 13803 or mailed to Village of Marathon PO Box 519 Marathon, NY 13803 for the following:

2025 Reg. Cab Ford F350 4X4 with dual rear wheels (Cab and Chassis)

All bids pursuant to this notice will be opened and read at the Village Office at 4:00 p.m. on November 18, 2024.

The Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Marathon reserves the right to reject any or all bids offered.

Laura Padbury  
Village of Marathon  
Clerk/Treasurer

### CORTLAND COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed bids will be received as set forth in instructions to bidders until 10:30 A.M. on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at the NYSDOT, Office of Contract Management, 50 Wolf Rd, 1st Floor, Suite 1CM, Albany, NY 12232 and will be publicly opened and read. Bids may also be submitted via the internet using [www.bids.com](http://www.bids.com). A certified cashier's check payable to the NYSDOT for the sum specified in the proposal or a bid bond, form CONR 391, representing 5% of the bid total, must accompany each bid. NYSDOT reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Electronic documents and Amendments are posted to [www.dot.ny.gov/doing-business/opportunities/const-notices](http://www.dot.ny.gov/doing-business/opportunities/const-notices). The Contractor is responsible for ensuring that all Amendments are incorporated into its bid. To receive notification of Amendments via e-mail you must submit a request to be placed on the Planholders List at [www.dot.ny.gov/doing-business/opportunities/const-planholder](http://www.dot.ny.gov/doing-business/opportunities/const-planholder). Amendments may have been issued prior to your placement on the Planholders list. NYS Finance Law restricts communication with NYSDOT on procurements and contact can only be made with designated persons. Contact with non-designated persons or other involved Agencies will be considered a serious matter and may result in disqualification. Contact Robert Kitchen (518)457-2124. Contracts with 0% Goals are generally single operation contracts, where subcontracting is not expected, and may present direct bidding opportunities for Small Business Firms, including, but not limited to D/M/WBE's and SDVOBs.

The New York State Department of Transportation, in accordance with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation and Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, Title IV Program and Related Statutes, as amended, issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all who respond to a written Department solicitation, request for proposal or invitation for bid that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability/handicap and income status in consideration for an award.

Please call (518)457-2124 if a reasonable accommodation is needed to participate in the letting.

Region 03: New York State Department of Transportation  
333 E. Washington St., State Office Bldg., Syracuse, NY, 13202  
**D265366, PIN 3GSE24, Cayuga, Clinton, Cortland, Franklin, Jefferson, Lewis, Onondaga, Oswego, Seneca, St. Lawrence, Tompkins Cos., REGIONAL GEOTECHNICAL EXPLORATION - REQUIREMENTS.** Various Routes, Various Locations., Bid Deposit: 5% of Bid (~ \$75,000.00), Goals: MBE: 5.00%, WBE: 10.00%, SDVOB: 6.00%

### TOWN OF TAYLOR NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET HEARING

LEGAL NOTICE  
FOR THE YEAR 2025  
NOTICE is hereby given that the preliminary budget for the Year 2025 of the Town of Taylor, Cortland County, New York has been completed and filed in the Office of the Town Clerk located at 3304 State Route 26 in said Town, where it is available for inspection by any interested persons by appointment; and NOTICE is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Taylor will hold a Public Hearing on said Budget at The Taylor Town Hall, 3304 State Route 26 in the Town of Taylor, New York on the 12th day of November 2024 at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular meeting of the Town Board which will also take place at the Taylor Town Hall beginning at 7:00 p.m. At such Hearing any person may be heard in favor of or against said preliminary budget as filed, or for or against any item or items therein contained.  
NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN PURSUANT TO Section 108 of the Town Law that the following are proposed yearly salaries:

Supervisor - \$4,120.00  
Director Of Finance - \$5,020.00  
Councilman (4) - \$3,670.00  
Highway Superintendent - \$53,090.00  
Town Justice - \$4,970.00  
Town Clerk - \$6,260.00  
Tax Collector - \$1,870.00

Town Clerk/Tax Collector  
Town of Taylor  
(607) 863-3008

### CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY  
Notice of Formation of GSJ Medicine PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 08/02/2024. Office location: Cortland County, SSNY designated as agent of Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to GSJ Medicine PLLC: 100 Iron Pier Drive, Apt. 318, Syracuse, NY 13204.

### TOWN OF CORTLANDVILLE LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN BOARD MEETING NOTICE  
NOVEMBER 6, 2024 – 5:00 P.M.  
VILLAGE OF MCGRAW  
COMMUNITY BUILDING

Please take notice that the Cortlandville Town Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. will be held at the McGraw Community Building located at 15 Clinton Street in the Village of McGraw, New York. The agenda for the meeting will be posted to the Town's public document portal and may be accessed by visiting the Town's website, [cortlandville.org](http://cortlandville.org). The Town Board encourages and invites the public to attend the open meeting.

By order of the Town Board of the Town of Cortlandville.

Dated: September 19, 2024

Kristin Rocco-Petrella, RMC  
Town Clerk  
Town of Cortlandville

### TOWN OF CORTLANDVILLE LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON  
PRELIMINARY BUDGET  
FOR THE YEAR 2025

NOTICE is hereby given that the preliminary budget for the Year 2025 of the Town of Cortlandville, Cortland County, New York has been completed and filed in the Office of the Town Clerk located at 3577 Terrace Road in said Town, where it is available for inspection by any interested person during office hours and is also available on the Town's website: [cortlandville.org](http://cortlandville.org); and

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Cortlandville, will meet and review said preliminary budget and hold a Public Hearing thereon at the McGraw Community Building located at 15 Clinton Street in the Village of McGraw, (Town of Cortlandville), New York on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024 at 5:00 p.m. and that at such Hearing any person may be heard in favor of or against said preliminary budget as filed, or for or against any item or items therein contained; and

NOTICE is hereby given that said preliminary budget proposes the amount of \$105,555.00 be raised by benefit tax on benefited properties in the Town Water Improvement District and \$266,955.00 to be raised by benefit tax on benefited properties in the Town Sewer Improvement District; and

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN PURSUANT TO Section 108 of the Town Law the following are the proposed yearly salaries for elected officials of the Town of Cortlandville:

Supervisor \$27,185.26  
Budget Officer \$28,342.08  
Councilman (4) – each \$13,830.94  
Highway Superintendent \$94,510.83  
Town Clerk/Collector \$64,142.35

Dated: October 24, 2024

Kristin Rocco-Petrella, RMC  
Town Clerk/Collector  
Town of Cortlandville  
3577 Terrace Road  
Cortland, New York 13045

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# Ga. law could make voting more difficult for homeless people

By **ROBBIE SEQUEIRA**  
**Stateline.org**  
(TNS)

Civil rights groups say new Georgia voting rules have made it too easy to challenge the eligibility of people living in nursing homes, college dormitories and military facilities, and will make it more difficult for homeless people to register to vote.

The new rules are included in a broader law, signed by Republican Gov. Brian Kemp in May, that makes it easier for U.S. citizens to challenge somebody’s eligibility to vote.

The law says there is probable cause to challenge a person’s voting eligibility if that person lives at a “nonresidential address” — a category that might include shelters, nursing homes, dorms and other places that show up as “nonresidential” under local zoning laws, according to critics. The provision took effect in July, so it can be used to challenge people’s eligibility to vote in the upcoming election.

The law also states that in order to register, homeless people without a permanent address must collect election-related mail at the registrar’s office in the county where they live. Other Georgians are allowed to receive election-related mail wherever they choose. That provision takes effect in January, so it won’t have an effect on eligibility to vote in the upcoming election.

Last month, the Georgia State Conference of the NAACP and Georgia Coalition for the People’s Agenda Inc., a voting rights coalition, filed a lawsuit against the state, arguing that the two provisions violate the voting rights of Georgians who are homeless or housing insecure.

Homeless people face significant barriers to voting — many of them lack photo identification, for example — but most states have rules designed to make it possible for people without permanent addresses to register to vote and cast ballots. Critics say the new Georgia rules would have the opposite effect and worry that other states might duplicate them.

Ryan Snow, an attorney with the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, said it’s critical to challenge the housing provisions “before other states adopt similar ideas, which could lead to a widespread assault on the voting rights of housing-insecure and vulnerable populations.”

“Elections lack integrity when eligible voters are disenfranchised,” said Snow, who is among the attorneys representing the plaintiffs. “This isn’t about voter fraud — it’s about preventing the ‘wrong’ type of voter from participating.”

In a news release, the committee asserted that the mailing address requirement would affect more than 10,000 Georgia voters — more than half of them Black people and nearly a third of them victims of domestic violence.

But Georgia Republican state Sen. Max Burns, who sponsored the law, called it “a testament to our commitment to restoring faith in Georgia’s elections” in a statement he issued when Kemp signed it.

In a March hearing, Burns argued that the rules designating the local registrar’s office, typically located in the county courthouse, as the mailing address for

unhoused people would ensure their participation in the electoral process.

Republicans in the Georgia Senate declined a request to comment on the new rules.

## A FOCAL POINT

Georgia, which once again is poised to play a decisive role in determining who will occupy the White House, has become a focal point for election law changes aimed at reshaping the voting process ahead of Nov. 5.

A 2021 law gave Georgia residents less time to ask for mail-in ballots and added new ID requirements. It reduced the number of drop boxes and barred election officials and nonprofits from sending unsolicited mail-in ballot applications to voters.

The law also gave the State Election Board more power to determine the makeup of local election panels.

More than 63,000 Georgians have had their eligibility challenged since the law Kemp signed this year took effect in July, according to an analysis by The Associated Press that included all of the new rules for challenging eligibility that have taken effect, not just the one regarding people living at nonresidential addresses. In 2023 and the first half of 2024, before the law went into effect, about 18,000 voters were challenged, according to the analysis. However, fewer than 800 voters have been removed from the rolls since July, the news organization found.

## HOMELESSNESS AND VOTING

A person is not required to have a home to vote. In all states, a person must have a mailing address to receive voting information by mail, but it does not have to be a fixed home address. Many states allow homeless voters to list a shelter, a religious center, a post office box or the address of a friend or relative who lives nearby. Some states allow people to list a description of the place where they live — such as a park or intersection — as a home address, though not as a mailing address.

A new Utah law, for example, allows homeless people to use parks and intersections as addresses to vote. Colorado’s voter registration form allows people experiencing homelessness to list a common location where they sleep. Iowa’s registration form instructs voters without a permanent, established address to “describe where you reside.” And Ohio allows people without a fixed permanent address to list “shelter or other location” as a residence.

But numerous barriers make it nearly impossible for unhoused individuals to regularly participate in elections. Some states don’t require ID to register to vote, but most do require that you bring identification to vote in person, and many homeless people don’t have ID.

“We’ve had experiences where voters come in and say, ‘I’m homeless, and the only address I can use is a UPS store in a shopping center, because I live in my car in the parking lot,’” said Zach Manifold, the elections supervisor for Gwinnett County, Georgia. Manifold said it’s unclear how the new rule on homeless people will work out, “but the uncertainty it brings is concerning.”



AP Photo/Evan Vucci, File

Neal Blair, of Augusta, Georgia, wears a hoodie reading “Black Lives Matter” as he stands on the lawn of the Capitol building during a rally to mark the 20th anniversary of the Million Man March, on Capitol Hill, on Oct. 10, 2015, in Washington.

# 10 years of racial justice activism transformed American politics

## But landmark reforms remain elusive

By **MATT BROWN**  
**Associated Press**

WASHINGTON — Cori Bush went from helping to lead an informal movement for racial justice to winning two terms as a congresswoman from Missouri, with an office decorated with photographs of families who lost loved ones to police violence. One is of Michael Brown.

Brown’s death 10 years ago in Ferguson, Missouri, was a defining moment for America’s racial justice movement. It cast a global spotlight on longtime demands for reforms to systems subjecting millions of people to everything from economic discrimination to murder.

Activists like Bush went from proclaiming “Black Lives Matter” to running for seats in statehouses, city halls, prosecutors’ offices and Congress — and winning. Local legislation has been passed to do everything from dismantling prisons and jails and reforming schools to eliminating hair discrimination.

At least 30 states and Washington, D.C., have enacted laws meant to curb abusive conduct since 2020, according to the Brennan Center for Justice. While the last decade of racial justice activism transformed politics, landmark reforms remain elusive, more than three dozen activists, elected officials and political operatives told The Associated Press.

“As we look at the strides we’ve made, it ebbs and flows,” said Bush, a longtime community organizer and pastor before becoming a Democratic representative. “We’re still dealing with militarized policing in communities. We’re still dealing with the police shootings.”

## A DECADE OF ACHIEVEMENTS

As the new generation of Black activists wielding cellphones rewrote the national conversation on policing, questions of public

safety and racial justice pushed into the center of American politics. Police body cameras are widespread. Tactics including chokeholds have been outlawed.

Ferguson prompted a change in how communities tackle police reform and misconduct, said Svante Myrick, who was the youngest-ever mayor of Ithaca, New York, from 2011 to 2021 before becoming president for People for the American Way, a progressive advocacy group.

At least 150 reforms passed in localities and states.

“I know that someone’s life was saved, that there was an officer, that there was an encounter where a police officer could have made a different decision had there not been 400 days of protest during the Ferguson uprising,” Bush said. “Maybe the world was waking up to the fact that it can’t just be an outside strategy, there has to be an inside strategy as well.”

An example is Tishaura Jones, the first Black woman to lead St. Louis, who’s worked to end the city’s “arrest and incarcerate” model of policing and emphasize social service programs to help neighborhoods with high crime rates.

A new generation of leaders is putting that pattern into play nationwide.

“I’m someone that entered politics through the Black Lives Matter movement after years of witnessing unfair killings against Black and brown people,” said Chi Ossé, a 26-year-old member of the New York City Council.

He used social media to organize protests after white Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin murdered George Floyd, who was Black, in 2020, sparking a new and massive wave of protests. “It’s resulted in me having a different type of leadership style within my own community than prior City Council members who have represented this district.”

## THERE’S WORK TO BE DONE

Lawmakers in Washington were wary of the Black Lives Matter movement at first.

In 2015, then-presidential can-

didate Hillary Clinton told three Black Lives Matter activists they should focus on changing laws instead of hearts. A 2016 memo from the Democratic Party’s House campaign arm told politicians to limit the number of Black Lives Matter activists at public events, or meet privately.

Ferguson marked a new phase. For perhaps the first time, a visible mass protest movement for justice for a single victim was born organically — not convened by clergy members or centered in the church — and often linked by mobile phones and sustained by hip-hop.

Brown’s death and the treatment of Black Lives Matter protesters also led many Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders to an internal reckoning. Organizations and individuals of all ages were galvanized to get off the sidelines.

“We’ve had gains,” Bush said. “I wanted to bring the movement into the House of Representatives, and I feel that I’ve been able to do that.”

## A MOVEMENT MEETS A POLITICAL SHIFT

By 2015, Ferguson activists were welcomed into the White House to work on the Obama administration’s Task Force for 21st Century Policing.

While Donald Trump embraced some criminal justice reforms like the First Step Act, he remained opposed to racial justice activists throughout his administration. The movement was met with scorn on the right. In 2016, the then-Republican presidential nominee called Black Lives Matter “divisive” and blamed President Barack Obama for worsening race relations nationwide.

Trump was president during the racial justice protests that emerged in the summer of 2020 following Floyd’s killing. During protests, he posted, “When the looting starts, the shooting starts.” He signed an executive order encouraging better police practices but that was criticized for failing to acknowledge what some consider systemic racial bias in policing.



Elijah Nouvelage/AFP/Getty Images/TNS

A man holds a sign while leaning against the base of a statue of Martin Luther King Jr. at Morehouse College on Oct. 19, in Atlanta.

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