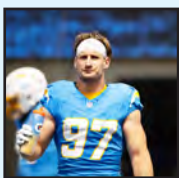


WORLD
Officials in Europe say that U.S. arms deliveries to Ukraine have resumed.



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SPORTS
The Bills have turned to Joey Bosa of the Chargers to fill their pass-rush needs.



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Last Edition

2025 daily No. 51

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025

Cortland Standard

www.cortlandstandard.com

Cortland Standard

CORTLAND, N.Y.

\$1.50
newsstand

A note from the publisher

This is the last edition of the *Cortland Standard*.

The presses have been silent since August, when we shifted our printing to a facility in Oswego. At the time, I had hoped that cost-saving measure would give us some wiggle room. Unfortunately, despite the hard work and dedication of my talented colleagues, we cannot go any further.

We still had some opportunities in front of us. Many newspapers have found success hosting community events, and that was my plan, too. The editors and journalists just figured out a process to produce more video for our website. The advertising account executives were making sales. The customer service reps were smiling. It's spring, the sun is shining...

Even now, I desperately want this to work. But I know it can't. Our print readership continues to decline, and our digital subscriptions have grown too slowly to make up the difference. Advertisers increasingly want to focus their marketing efforts online, at much lower prices. The cost of essential software goes up every year. The cost of fuel is up. The cost of newsprint is up. I can't afford to pay my people what they're worth. I can't afford to publish this newspaper any more.

It was a difficult decision for the owners. This is, after all, a family business — ever since my great-great grandfather, William H. Clark, purchased the Cortland Standard and Journal in 1876. My family loves this newspaper, and this community. They will miss reading the *Cortland Standard* every day, too. I'm grateful for their support, patience and generosity as the company struggled.

I'm fortunate to have worked alongside giants. Journalists, press operators, advertising salespeople, customer service, composers, graphic designers, photographers, technicians ... I've learned so much, and I've tried to live up to the examples they've set. The only reason we've made it as long as we have is because of the dedication and professionalism of my colleagues. I hate to part ways with them, but I know they will continue to future success, and contribute meaningfully wherever they land.

Most importantly, thank you. Your trust in and patronage of the *Cortland Standard* has always been our most valuable asset. Subscribers and advertisers put food on our families' tables, and kept the roofs over our heads. Generations of families have made their homes in the greater Cortland area, and contributed to the fabric of the community, because of your purchase of a subscription or an ad.

It has been my honor to serve you. This my hometown, and I love it here. I hope the news and information we've provided have helped you make your life better, or improve your neighborhood. I hope we've made our community better by telling its stories. I'm so very proud to have had a part in the *Cortland Standard's* nearly 158 years of history. Thank you.

Respectfully,
Evan C. Geibel

Goodbye Cortland, and Godspeed

Cortland Standard ceases publication after 157 years

From Staff Reports

This is the last edition of the *Cortland Standard* you will ever read.

The family-owned newspaper will cease publication, a casualty of declining readership and increasing costs and an expected 25% tariff on newsprint. It was the second-oldest family-owned newspaper in New York, but one of the five oldest family-owned newspapers in America.

"I hoped this day would never come," said Publisher and Editor Evan C. Geibel. "I'm so very grateful to my colleagues and the community for what they've done for me, my family and each other."

The Cortland Standard Printing Co. will file for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection. After that, all business and legal decisions will be the purview of a court-appointed trustee.

The final 17 employees have packed up their offices, filed their final stories. The closure is not the first of a declining news industry, nor will it be the last.

"A free press is a cru-



Todd R. McAdam/Managing Editor
After more than 157 years, the *Cortland Standard* will cease publication. Today's is the last edition.

cial part of our democracy — so important that it was enshrined in the First Amendment of the Constitution," reports Close Up Foundation, a nonprofit, nonpartisan, civic education organization. "Once a staple of

information, newspapers have been steadily declining and disappearing for decades. There are nearly 6,000 newspapers that publish in the United States and, on average, two shut down every week."

The *Cortland Standard's* first edition was peeled off a flatbed press on June 25, 1867. It featured a recipe for spring peas, a profile of Civil War generals, a plea against smoking (nearly a century before the

Surgeon General got involved) and a poem — "An Ode to Otter Creek."

William H. Clark acquired the *Cortland Standard* in 1876 and his family has owned it ever since. Geibel is the fifth generation to sit in the corner office. Clark erected the building at 110 Main St., in 1883, where the company has been ever since.

In the ensuing decades, the newspaper reported on the Spanish-American War and the sinking of the Titanic. It told of the start — and the end — of the War to End All Wars, and the war after that. And the one after that, and after that, and after that. It told of the panicked days following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 and the mobilization to stop fascism even in Cortland, where the Courthouse dome was painted to prevent glare guiding enemy bombers.

It detailed the Cold War, the war in Vietnam, endless decades of county fairs, weddings,

See STANDARD,
page 4

Retailers doubt consumers will give up natural gas

By HAILEA POTTER
Local Editor

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With nine months until most new construction in New York must be all-electric — no natural gas — contractors and heating specialists say they lack guidance on the regulations and dislike limiting options for rural living.

The State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council voted Feb. 28 to recommend major updates to the state's building code. The draft updates include rules to make most new buildings all-electric starting in 2026 in line with the "All-Electric Buildings Act," passed in 2023. The laws will be enacted in phases and fully implemented by 2029.

"Since buildings alone account for 32% of greenhouse gas emissions in New York, they need to be part of our response to the climate crisis," the New York Assembly website states.

CONSUMER CHOICE

Bob Rozzoni — owner of Holy Smoke Stove Fireplace Chimney in Dryden — said the regulations "absolutely" limit consumer choice.

"I don't think that's going to last very long because so many people need the convenience of gas stoves," Rozzoni said. "Electric stoves definitely don't work as well, if you're a chef or a serious cook, you know there's a huge difference."



Hailea Potter/Local Editor

Gas appliances, such as the ones sold at Papa Bears Stoves in Marathon, will soon be banned in new construction under New York law.

"If you have an electric system and you lose power ... you're going to freeze your butt off," Rozzoni said, adding older people may struggle with the heavy lifting required to fuel wood or pellet stoves.

Hunter Reynolds — the manager of Papa Bears Stoves in Marathon — also highly doubts people will be willing to give up on natural gas.

"We get way more [interest in] natural gas than we do electric, especially just like for heating purposes, electric doesn't really have the same effect and it's a lot more expensive," Reynolds said.

"I can't tell you how many electric heat units I've ripped

out of houses and replaced with natural gas or propane units," said Jeff Fredrickson, owner of Crown Construction in Dryden.

However, the Assembly website states: "Gas furnaces also require electricity, leaving them equally vulnerable compared to heat pumps; additionally, gas-powered generators are still permitted under New York's law."

However, Jamie Yaman, principal broker for Yaman Real Estate, says when it comes to buying a house, the heating source is far down on the list of priorities.

See GAS, page 4

TC3 gets NY grant for adult learners

By LILY BYRNE
Staff Reporter

lbyrne@cortlandstandard.com

Going back to school as an adult has its challenges, both financially and mentally. A \$50,000 grant from the state aims to make this transition easier at TC3.

Tompkins Cortland Community College will use the funding to recruit adult learners, ages 25 and older, and to continue supporting their current adult learners.

TC3 currently has about 800 adult learners, said Vice President of Enrollment Management Rob Palmieri, and plans to enroll and re-enroll more.

"I've been looking through our database, and have found 15,000 former students who have left us without earning a degree here or anywhere else," Palmieri said. "We're gonna spend time engaging with them to give them options, because we have so many options now with microcredentials, certificates and various programs that lead to well-paying jobs."

The college also has a new policy for prior learning assessment, where students can receive college credit for work or military experience, Palmieri said.

TC3 also has the Pathways scholarship, which provides \$7,000 to adult learners. This was

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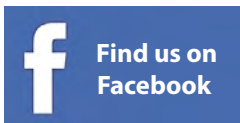
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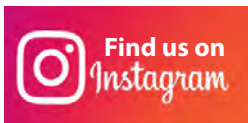


Partly sunny
Tomorrow's Weather:
High near 58
Calm wind
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ONLINE

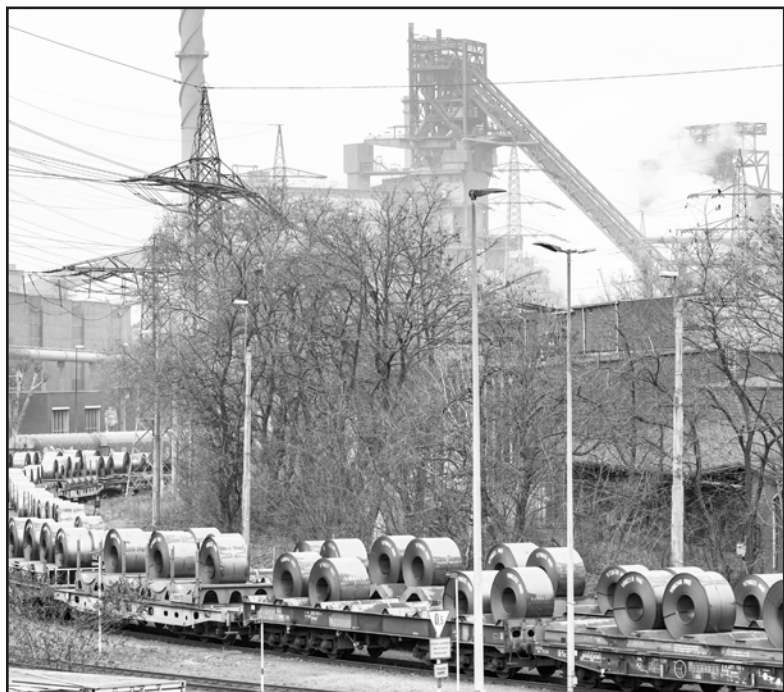


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AP Photo/Martin Meissner, File

Steel on coil cars are seen ahead of transport in Duisburg, Germany, Feb. 4.

Canada, EU retaliate against Trump’s steel and aluminum tariffs

By LORNE COOK, DAVID McHUGH and ROB GILLIES
Associated Press

BRUSSELS — Major trade partners swiftly hit back at President Donald Trump’s increased tariffs on aluminum and steel imports, imposing stiff new taxes on U.S. products from textiles and water heaters to beef and bourbon.

Canada, the largest steel supplier to the U.S., said Wednesday it will place 25% reciprocal tariffs on steel products and also raise taxes on a host of items: tools, computers and servers, display monitors, sports equipment, and cast-iron products.

Across the Atlantic, the European Union will raise tariffs on American beef, poultry, motorcycles, bourbon, peanut butter and jeans.

Combined, the new tariffs will cost companies billions of dollars, and further escalate the uncertainty in two of the world’s major trade partnerships. Companies will either take the losses and earn fewer profits, or, more likely, pass costs along to consumers in the form of higher prices.

Prices will go up, in Europe and the United States, and jobs are at stake, said European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen.

“We deeply regret this measure. Tariffs are taxes. They are bad for business, and even worse for consumers,” von der Leyen said.

The EU duties aim for pressure points in the U.S. while minimizing additional damage to Europe. EU officials have made clear that the tariffs — taxes on imports — are aimed at products made in Republican-held states, such as beef and poultry from Kansas and Nebraska and wood products from Alabama and Georgia. The tariffs will also hit blue states such as Illinois, the No. 1 U.S. producer of soybeans, which are also on the list.

Spirits producers have become collateral damage in the dispute over steel and aluminum. The EU move “is deeply disappointing and will severely undercut the successful efforts to rebuild U.S. spirits exports in EU countries,” said Chris Swonger, head of the Distilled Spirits Council. The EU is a major destination for U.S. whiskey, with exports surging 60% in the past three years after an earlier set of tariffs was suspended.

COULD AN AGREEMENT PREVENT INCREASES?

Von der Leyen said in a statement that the EU “will always remain open to negotiation.”

Canada’s incoming Prime Minister Mark Carney said Wednesday he’s ready to meet with Trump if he shows “respect for Canadian sovereignty” and is willing to take “a common approach, a much more comprehensive approach for trade.”

Carney, who will be sworn in in the coming days, said workers in both countries will be better off when “the greatest economic and security partnership in the world is renewed, relaunched. That is possible.”

“We firmly believe that in a

world fraught with geopolitical and economic uncertainties, it is not in our common interest to burden our economies with tariffs,” he said.

The American Chamber of Commerce to the EU said the U.S. tariffs and EU countermeasures “will only harm jobs, prosperity and security on both sides of the Atlantic.” “The two sides must de-escalate and find a negotiated outcome urgently,” the chamber said Wednesday.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

Trump slapped similar tariffs on EU steel and aluminum during his first term in office, which enraged European and other allies. The EU also imposed countermeasures in retaliation at the time, raising tariffs on U.S.-made motorcycles, bourbon, peanut butter and jeans, among other items.

This time, the EU action will involve two steps. First on April 1, the commission will reimpose taxes that were in effect from 2018 and 2020, but which were suspended under the Biden administration. Then on April 13 come the additional duties targeting \$19.6 billion in U.S. exports to the bloc.

EU Trade Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič traveled to Washington last month in an effort to head off the tariffs, meeting with U.S. Commerce Secretary

Howard Lutnick and other top trade officials.

He said on Wednesday that it became clear during the trip “that the EU is not the problem.”

“I argued to avoid the unnecessary burden of measures and countermeasures, but you need a partner for that. You need both hands to clap,” Šefčovič told reporters at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France.

Canada is imposing, as of 12:01 a.m. today 25% reciprocal tariffs on steel products worth \$8.7 billion and aluminum products worth \$2 billion as well as additional imported U.S. goods worth \$9.9 billion for a total of US\$20.6 billion.

The list of additional products affected by counter-tariffs includes tools, computers and servers, display monitors, water heaters, sport equipment, and cast-iron products.

These tariffs are in addition to Canada’s 25% counter tariffs on \$20.8 billion of imports from the U.S. that were put in place on March 4 in response to other Trump tariffs that he’s delayed by a month.

EUROPEAN STEEL COMPANIES BRACE

The EU could lose up to 3.7 million tons of steel exports, according to the European steel association Eurofer. The U.S. is the second-biggest export market for EU steel producers, representing 16% of the total EU steel exports.

The EU estimates that annual trade volume between both sides stands at about \$1.5 trillion, representing around 30% of global trade. While the bloc has a substantial export surplus in goods, it says that is partly offset by the U.S. surplus in the trade of services.

US arms flow to Ukraine again as the Kremlin mulls ceasefire

By SAMYA KULLAB and HANNA ARHIROVA
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — U.S. arms deliveries to Ukraine resumed Wednesday, officials said, a day after the Trump administration lifted its suspension of military aid for Kyiv in its fight against Russia’s invasion, and officials awaited the Kremlin’s response to a proposed 30-day ceasefire endorsed by Ukraine.

Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said it’s important not to “get ahead” of the question of responding to the ceasefire, which was proposed by Washington. He told reporters that Moscow is awaiting “detailed information” from the U.S. and suggested that Russia must get that before it can take a position. The Kremlin has previously opposed anything short of a permanent end to the conflict and has not accepted any concessions.

U.S. President Donald Trump wants to end the three-year war and pressured Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to enter talks. The suspension of U.S. assistance happened days after Zelenskyy and Trump argued about the conflict in a tense White House meeting. The administration’s decision to resume military aid after talks Tuesday with senior Ukrainian officials in Saudi Arabia marked a sharp shift in its stance.

Trump said “it’s up to Russia now” as his administration presses Moscow to agree to the ceasefire.

“And hopefully we can get a ceasefire from Russia,” Trump said Wednesday in an extended exchange with reporters during an Oval Office meeting with Micheál Martin, the prime minister of Ireland. “And if we do, I think that would be 80% of the way to getting this horrible bloodbath” ended.

The U.S. president again made veiled threats of hitting Russia with new sanctions.



AP Photo/Roman Chop

Soldiers of Ukraine’s 5th brigade hold a poster thanking the U.S. for support at the front line near Toretsk, Donetsk region, Ukraine, Tuesday.

“We can, but I hope it’s not going to be necessary,” Trump said.

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who led the American delegation to Saudi Arabia, where Ukraine consented to the U.S. ceasefire proposal, said Washington will pursue “multiple points of contacts” with Russia to see if President Vladimir Putin is ready to negotiate an end to the war. He declined to give details or say what steps might be taken if Putin refuses to engage.

The U.S. hopes to see Russia stop attacks on Ukraine within the next few days as a first step, Rubio said at a refueling stop Wednesday in Shannon, Ireland, on his way to talks in Canada with other Group of Seven leading industrialized nations.

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt told Fox News that national security adviser Mike Waltz spoke Wednesday with his Russian counterpart.

She also confirmed that Trump’s special envoy, Steve Witkoff, will head to Moscow for talks with Russian officials. She did not say with whom Witkoff planned to meet. A person familiar with the matter said Witkoff

is expected to meet with Putin later his week. The person was not authorized to comment publicly and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

TIME TO PREPARE FOR WAR’S END

Zelenskyy said the 30-day ceasefire would allow the sides “to fully prepare a step-by-step plan for ending the war, including security guarantees for Ukraine.”

Technical questions over how to effectively monitor a truce along the roughly 600-mile front line, where small but deadly drones are common, are “very important,” Zelenskyy told reporters Wednesday in Kyiv.

Arms deliveries to Ukraine have already resumed through a Polish logistics center, the foreign ministers of Ukraine and Poland announced Wednesday. The deliveries go through a NATO and U.S. hub in the eastern Polish city of Rzeszow that’s has been used to ferry Western weapons into neighboring Ukraine about 45 miles away.

The American military help is vital for Ukraine’s shorthanded and weary army.

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email: indivisiblecortlandcounty@gmail.com

TC3 —

continued from page 1

crucial to Jon Majka, who recently graduated from TC3’s graphic design program, 20 years after he failed out twice.

“It’s like closing one half of a story, and opening a brand new one,” Majka. “I had my life planned out, and I thought I knew exactly what I was going to do and who I was planning to be for the next 20 years, and when that started to change, it felt like the earth was shaking beneath my feet.”

After being on academic probation at TC3 right after high school, he learned a trade, setting up alarm systems. He always had a passion for art, and now works as an artist and graphic designer.

“I’m forging my own path in a much much different way than I ever thought I would be,” Majka said.

“We’re trying to meet the needs of our adult learners in our community,” Palmieri said. “We appreciate the opportunity to do it, and it fits into our plans we’ve been working towards anyway, so it’s good to have some additional funds to help our students.”

The funding will arrive this month, and must be spent by July. It was part of \$1.1 million given to community colleges statewide, so they could implement plans that give adult learners educational opportunities, a news release from Gov. Kathy Hochul’s office says.

“Working with SUNY, we are tackling the barriers that stand in the way of New Yorkers accessing these potentially transformational educational pathways,” Hochul said.

In Majka’s experience, it was more difficult to make friends with classmates as an adult learner, he said.

“The age gap thing felt awkward,” he said. “I still had friends, but I was more friends with my professors than I was with my classmates. Once I got past the ‘Wow, I’m the old guy in the room,’ that was the biggest mental thing.”

“One of the things we’re working on is identifying an individualized space for the adult learners,” Palmieri said. “Somewhere where they can relax, socialize with peers, have access to various technologies, and study independently or in groups.”

Some of the money will be spent on keyboards compatible with phones, so students without a laptop can use their phone for assignments, he said. Funds will also go towards the Adult Learner Peer Mentor program.

“It helps students with onboarding,” Palmieri said. “When we have someone come back to school, we want them to be able to talk to other adult learners as well, and show that support up front.”

STANDARD

continued from page 1

business announcements and the growth of a community. The *Cortland Standard* is actually older than the city of Cortland, itself. The city was incorporated in 1900, although it had been settled in 1791 and became a village in 1853.

When Martin Luther King Jr. came to Cortland, a reporter was there, as it was when Olympian Jesse Owens visited. It reported, in 1967, the first efforts to convert Main Street to one-way traffic, and 55 years later, the efforts to convert it back to two-way traffic. It missed the first reports of man landing on the moon, because the newspaper never published on Sundays.

Still, those archives of a community’s history remain in the building, where editions were bound in volumes kept on the building’s third floor, then archived via microfiche and later digitized.

In 2017, as Geibel took control of the company, the *Cortland Standard* declared this mission statement:

“We will seek the truth.
“We will pursue news of value to our readers and our community

Playing It Forward show to honor musicians and help music programs

By LILY BYRNE
Staff Reporter

lbyrne@cortlandstandard.com

Musicians in high school will perform in conjunction with musicians with decades of experience at a new music fundraiser.

Playing It Forward, a concert to honor musicians and to raise money for music programs in several schools, will be March 29 at the Center for the Arts of Homer.

Colleen Kattau, whose songs and performances are often inspired by current events and social issues, has played the concert for decades, and will again this year.

“In other civilized cultures, music is a priority, without question,” Kattau said. “Here, unfortunately it’s just very money-oriented, and there’s an ignorance about the importance of music to our brain development. We are musical beings.”

The concert was inspired by the Phil Clarke Memorial Concert, played in 1988, raising money first for Cortland Memorial Regional Medical Center and eventually the Cortland Youth Bureau.

The concert was named for Clarke after his death in 1997. However, while the organizers of the Playing It Forward show consider their show a continuation of the Phil Clarke Memorial

If you go

WHAT: Playing it Forward
WHEN: March 29, noon to 9:30 p.m.
WHERE: Center for the Arts of Homer, 72 S. Main St. in Homer
COST: By donation
To donate, go to center4art.org/playing-it-forward-march-29/.

The lineup

Noon - 12:40 p.m. — The Right Brothers
12:50-1:30 p.m. — Annie Ol’ Thyme
1:40-2 p.m. — Stormy High School Band
2:10-2:30 p.m. — Elastic Mon-

keys — High School Band
2:40-3 p.m. — Rascetta — High School Band
3:10-3:30 p.m. — Cortland Modern Band — High School Band
3:40-4:20 p.m. — Colleen Kattau and friend
4:30-5:10 p.m. — David Graybeard Band
5:20-5:40 p.m. — The Out of Tuners
5:50-6:30 p.m. — Rocky Bottom Trio
6:40-7 p.m. — Jim VanDeuson
7:10-7:50 p.m. — Second Spring
8:00-8:20 p.m. — Don VanDeuson
8:30-9:10 p.m. — Yayle Hues

Concert, Rosie Rosenthal, creator of the Phil Clarke Memorial Concert, said he plans to bring back the show eventually, and continue raising money for the Cortland Youth Bureau.

“It’s something new,” Rosenthal said of Playing It Forward.

The last Phil Clarke Memorial Concert was in February 2020 at Bru 64, with Tanglewood headlining. Since then, three of the band’s six members have died, said Carol Guingo Clarke, one of the concert’s organizers.

“There’s been some tragedies in the music industry that hit us close to home,” Clarke said.

The proceeds will go toward Homer, Cortland, and St. Mary’s

schools’ music programs. Four bands will perform from Cortland Modern Band — a Cortland High School program where students form their own bands and learn to perform.

The students’ participation in this event is a great way for them to see and meet the community’s accomplished musicians, said Jon Keefner, teacher of Cortland Modern Band.

“Our music program has been expanding for quite a while now, and soon, we’re going to have a particularly large boost in ensemble numbers in the next year or two,” Keefner said. “There is always a place for every student in our program, but right now, we

don’t have enough instruments to accommodate the incoming numbers.”

The program has more than 80 members. All proceeds donated to the school will go to purchasing more instruments, he said.

“In schools, the first things to get cut are the arts and music, and to me, that’s a travesty,” Kattau said. “There are so many people who are just making ends meet, so supporting families by letting them get an instrument ... it’s important to the functioning of a decent society.”

“They’re teaching the kids not only to set up music, but also do sound and lights and book music, so if it’s something they want to get into, at least they’ll have some experience on paper,” said Paul Semeraro, one of the concert organizers. “We just wanted to support that.”

The Playing It Forward show will be at Rose Hall next year, and rotate between Rose Hall and the Center for the Arts of Homer.

“There are a lot of musicians from the Cortland area, and there still are,” Carol Clarke said. “One of the big ones was Ronnie Dio, so I think reviving it for kids, for the students, is really important, because they’re the next generation of musicians that might make it big.”

New York lawmakers back \$450M for new ER at Syracuse’s Upstate

By DOUGLASS DOWTY
syracuse.com (TNS)

ALBANY — State lawmakers have thrown their support behind Upstate Medical University’s request for \$450 million in this year’s budget to replace its outdated, dangerously overcrowded emergency room.

The proposals from the state Senate and Assembly come after Gov. Kathy Hochul set aside only \$200 million for the project in her proposed budget in January.

On a recent trip to Syracuse, the governor toured the Upstate ER and left the door open to negotiate Upstate’s amount. The state Senate and Assem-

bly are expected to pass their proposed budgets, including Upstate’s full funding request, this week. The two legislative branches will then work with the governor’s office to craft the final state budget, which is due April 1.

Central New York’s bi-partisan delegation sent a letter to Hochul in December asking her to put \$450 million into the budget. That led to her opening offer of \$200 million.

It’s unknown how much a new ER would actually cost. A proposed annex to house the new facility would also include an expanded burn unit and more operating rooms.



N. Scott Trimble | syracuse.com

The state Senate and Assembly are expected to pass their proposed budgets, including Upstate’s full \$540 million funding request.

GAS

continued from page 1

“There are way more impactful things that happen over the course of the year that would affect buyer sentiment more than how they’re heating or cooling their house,” Yaman said.

YOUR WALLET

Existing homes are unaffected by the law, and exemptions are made for car washes, food establishments, laundromats and manufacturing facilities.

Waivers can be issued in places where the electric grid can’t handle this in-

creased demand.

Gas and construction trade groups have filed suit to block the regulations, and disagreement continues on what effect the new rules will have on the consumer. Fredrickson says the switch to electric will “absolutely” make things more expensive

“I’ve run into a few people in Cortland that want it, but I’d say more so [Cortland clients are] looking more at the cost,” Fredrickson said. “Because of the cost, they might just remodel what they have.”

The New York State Assembly website calls this

claim a “myth,” saying all-electric buildings will not be more expensive and they “can save homeowners nearly \$1,000 a year on heating.”

However, that claim is based on a study from sustainability advocate Rocky Mountain Institute, citing only data about heating homes in New York City, but not rural parts of the state.

Yaman thinks if there is an increase in prices it will probably be nominal in relation to the cost of maintaining a home annually.

“There are times when fuel drops, propane drops, fuel increases in costs, or

propane increases in costs, it’s never a static environment but often times these are cleaner and [more] cost-efficient options running electric, heating or cooling systems,” Yaman said. “They might be more costly up front but it’s likely that the consumer is going to look at the long term picture.”

STATE GUIDANCE

However, 2026 is too soon, Rozzoni and Reynolds said. Rozzoni noted the state hasn’t provided retailers with any details or guidance.

“I personally think it should be pushed back,”

Fredrickson said. “I think it’s definitely going to hurt the trades, I mean regulation always hurts, it slows things down generally speaking.”

Reynolds suggests a few more years. “We’re small so we don’t have a ton of stock, but the people who do stock it, they need to at least be given a chance to sell through what they have,” Reynolds said.

Reynolds says gas stoves account for 25% to 30% of sales and worries about the effect this could have on the company. “It certainly wouldn’t help us any,” Reynolds said.

Here’s what the loss means to you

From Staff Reports

Losing a newspaper means the greater Cortland area becomes a news desert, joining 54 million Americans who lack reliable access to local news, according to a report by the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.

More than 3,200 newspapers have closed since 2005, the researchers note in a report late last fall, nearly a third of all the newspapers in America.

Beyond the lost jobs — nearly 270,000 news jobs lost between 2005 and 2023 across the nation and now 17 more in Cortland — the community loses something else:

Better-informed voters:

Joshua P. Darr, Matthew P. Hitt, and Johanna L. Dunaway — researchers at Louisiana State University, Colorado State University and Texas A&M University — compared ballots in communities where a local newspaper closed between 2009 and 2012 with communi-

ties where local newspapers remained. They found that voters in communities without a local newspaper were likely to vote the party line, whereas other voters were more likely to split the ticket, voting for both Republicans and Democrats.

That’s not because voters without a local newspaper were necessarily less-well informed, the researchers said, according to a summary by the Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard University. It’s because of the way local media frame their coverage compared with national media.

Money in the form of higher taxes:

According to researchers at the University of Notre Dame and the University of Illinois at Chicago, a community without a local newspaper spends more. Long-term borrowing costs for local governments without a newspaper and its reporters to second-guess them and perform the whole public watchdog function pay up to 11 basis points more than without a newspaper.

It comes, the researchers told Citylab, an online publication of the Atlantic Monthly Group, because nobody is there to make sure politicians do the job right.

“We wanted to show that, if you look at the municipal bond market, you can actually see the financial consequences that have to be borne by local citizens as a result of newspaper closures,” Chang Lee of University of Illinois told Citylab.

The researchers studied 204 counties whose local news coverage dropped to two or fewer daily newspapers between 1996 and 2015 — think Syracuse, for example. Within three years of a paper’s closure, the cost of issuing a bond increased 5.5 basis points, and 6.4 basis points in the secondary market. That’s about a 1% increase.

An avenue to economic development:

Local news is supported by advertising, which encourages regional economic growth by helping businesses reach consumers, reports the Hussman School of Journalism and Media at the University of North Carolina.

GOP lawmakers file bills that would charge women with homicide for seeking abortions

By ANNA CLAIRE VOLLERS
Stateline.org (TNS)

As state legislative sessions grind on, conservative lawmakers have filed a new batch of bills that would grant legal rights to fetuses and fertilized embryos.

Lawmakers in at least eight states — Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Texas — have considered bills to go even further, to punish women who seek abortions.

Most of these states have already banned abortion. But new criminalization bills would allow women to face homicide charges for obtaining abortions.

The bills would classify an embryo or fetus as an “unborn” or “preborn child” who can be a victim of homicide. Many of the bills would repeal parts of state laws that explicitly exempt women from being punished for seeking abortions.

“If we truly believe in the equal humanity of the preborn, then our laws must uphold that truth in



Bryan Dozier/Middle East Images/AFP/Getty Images/TNS
Demonstrators march to the Supreme Court for the 52nd annual March For Life in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 24.

practice,” Idaho state Sen. Brandon Shippy, a Republican, told fellow lawmakers while introducing his bill in February.

The bill would allow women who seek abortions to be prosecuted under the state’s homicide laws.

for comment.

Most lawmakers, including Shippy, admit this type of legislation is a long shot. His bill is sitting in an Idaho Senate committee, although the chamber’s Republican leaders have indicated they wouldn’t move it forward. But similar bills are still pending in five other states — Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, South Carolina and Texas.

Meanwhile, conservative lawmakers in several states are introducing less punitive bills that are structured around the same legal concept: fetal personhood.

A longtime cornerstone of the anti-abortion movement, fetal personhood is the idea that a fetus, embryo or fertilized egg has the same legal rights as a newborn. If the law considers fetuses to be people, then abortion should legally be considered murder.

But experts and reproductive rights advocates have long warned of the legal chaos that could result from fetal personhood laws, with potential implications extending

far beyond abortion.

“In some ways it’s a hornet’s nest,” said Rebecca Kluchin, a history professor at California State University, Sacramento, whose research has focused on fetal personhood efforts. “If you establish fetal personhood, it raises all of these questions. Do you recognize a fetus on your taxes? How do you calculate the census? What do you do about miscarriages? What about alimony? It is really messy.”

And this year, less than two months after voters approved a state constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to abortion, a Republican legislator introduced a fetal personhood bill that would put the question on the ballot again in 2026.

If the bill is approved by two-thirds of the state legislature, the question would ask Montanans whether they support amending the state constitution to grant full rights to all people “at any stage of development, beginning at the state of fertilization or conception.”

Opinion

opinion@cortlandstandard.com
Cortland Standard

Our Opinion

Spring ahead

Like much of the rest of the country, we suspect, we have mixed feelings about daylight saving time. Although the enervating gloom in which we awoke this morning was a poor start to the week, we remembered that it’s only temporary, and we can look forward to an extra measure of daylight in the evenings.

Daylight saving time, the seasonal adjustment to our clocks, began at 2 a.m. Sunday and will end at the same time on Nov. 2. The thinking behind DST is that most people are more active in the afternoons and evenings than in the morning, and that an extra hour of daylight at night would be helpful. Originally suggested (in jest) by the late-rising Benjamin Franklin, daylight saving time was first adopted during World War I as a wartime energy saving

measure. After farmers lobbied against the clock change, daylight saving time was abandoned until WWII, and it has intermittently been a part of American life ever since — depending on where you live, at least, as adoption has varied. Arizona, Hawaii and Puerto Rico don’t recognize DST.

We have yet to meet an ardent supporter of daylight saving time, and there appears to be more people opposed than in favor of it. Every couple of years, a bill passes one house of Congress or the other, but promptly disappears before any action is taken. It was briefly rolled back in the 1970s, but it didn’t last very long. We suspect politicians don’t want to repeat the past.

There are valid arguments against the practice. Even the old canard that daylight saving time saves energy is less-than-cer-

tain — a 2008 paper found that daylight saving time actually increased energy costs in Indiana by \$9 million a year.

Our bodies are programmed to follow patterns of sleep and wakefulness that are determined, in large part, by the cycles of light and dark. Upsetting that cycle throws off our bodies, which don’t care what the clock says.

Studies have shown that American workers lose, on average, about 40 minutes of sleep due to the clock change, and such widespread sleep deprivation has very real effects. A study in the Journal of Applied Psychology found that there will likely be an uptick in workplace injuries today due to that sleep loss. Fatigue could also have a deleterious effect on workplace productivity, which has costs, as well. There is also an uptick in traffic accidents on

the Monday immediately following the clock change, with an increase of up to 6 percent for the week following the change, studies have shown.

One employee who stopped by our office this morning reflected on his young daughter’s loss of sleep and the potential negative effects it might have on her behavior in school. If that’s part of a larger pattern, we don’t envy teachers’ predicament today. Meanwhile, more children are waiting for the bus or walking to school in gloomy half-light, which could be dangerous with all those tired drivers on the road. Additionally, children are found to perform better in school later in the morning, and shifting the day an hour earlier certainly won’t help their tired brains absorb new information.

While we can’t endorse some New England lawmakers’ push

to move their states from Eastern Standard Time to the hour-earlier Atlantic Time — they’d be out-of-synch with the rest of the Eastern seaboard, which would generate numerous problems — we think that, as a country, we should have a serious discussion about doing away with daylight saving time. It would simply make things simpler, and perhaps a little safer, as well. However, we don’t think that’s very likely to happen, as it would be a very large change, and people don’t always like change, do they?

We can think of one benefit of the daylight saving time switch — it’s an excellent biannual reminder to check batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms. Please remember to check and replace batteries in those devices as needed, if you haven’t already.

Your Opinion

Health insurance is a boondoggle

To the Editor:

Imagine being told by your doctor that you need to be evaluated for a stroke at the Guthrie Cortland Medical Center emergency room. The hospital is in your insurance network. You pay the copay on the way out. A month or so later, you receive a bill for an enormous dollar amount from the neurologist that the ER doctor

assigned to evaluate you because, surprise, the in-network emergency room uses a neurologist who is out of network.

Imagine a few years later, your college-aged son who has insurance through NYSDOH, comes home very ill. He can’t see his regular doctor so he goes to Cayuga Medical Center urgent care close by which is an in-network

facility. A month or so later, you receive a bill for two lab tests performed on-site with results available on-site because the “lab” is considered out of network. You also receive an enormous bill from the doctor who was assigned to you by the in-network urgent care because the doctor also does not take your insurance.

How in the world of health-

care can a patient who goes to an emergency room or an urgent care center that is IN NETWORK then be denied benefits because the doctor and lab tests at the urgent care are out of network? How can a hospital or medical facility claim to be in network then provide a doctor and lab work that is out of network?

What has happened to our med-

ical facilities? How can our state allow this? How are insurance companies getting away with this? Should a person going to the emergency room or urgent care be expected to vet every single test and ask every provider if they take their insurance? Something has to change!

**Theresa Foster
Homer**

Bravery?

To the Editor:

The track meet opened with the national anthem. It sickened me how our country changed since Trump’s return to office. From abandoning our allies to impounding our budgetary commitments, the administration shatters our world standing while

weakening programs that made us strong. It rushes at us.

The examples are myriad. Geneva Health Files (<https://bsky.app/profile/genevahealthfiles.bsky.social>) assembled a list in the article “The Curated Primer.” Whether the topic is global health, international diplomacy,

immigration, Congressional budget plans or the rule of law, lists spring up daily.

They describe the damage by this administration. Little did I know that recently while cheering our young athletes that our President and Vice President were bullying Ukrainian President Zel-

enskyy. For three years Ukraine has been a bastion against Russian aggression, and they favored Russian aggression. Their traitorous display laid waste decades of building international alliances. Suddenly our flag symbolized our nation as a simpering batch of cowards sacrificing our coun-

try for wealth and power. I fear that these young, smart, strong athletes will be drawn into the fray. We risk our millennials, the strength of our nation. Freedom and bravery do not look like this.

**Nancy E. McCool
Cortland**

County faces jail inevitability

To the Editor:

Whitney Meeker’s recent letter about redundant “jail studies” was spot on. Sheriff Lee Price formed a volunteer committee of retired criminal justice professionals, a civil engineer, a criminal justice professor with broad field experience in community-based corrections and retired military officer with a background in procurement and facilities management in 2005. After an exhaustive year-long study, the committee submitted its report to the full Legislature in 2006. The report was summarily tabled and shortly thereafter the Legislature commissioned another study for \$35,000. A year later THEIR report arrived at the same conclusions as the “free one”: The existing jail is too small, the structure cannot

be expanded, and a newer and much larger facility needs to be constructed. The Legislature then concluded that the cost was unaffordable and dropped the issue. Several things have happened in the years since then. While closing prisons the state has eliminated the per-diem paid for housing state inmates in county jails and nearly zeroed out reimbursement for mandated probation and other alternatives, leaving the counties to cover those costs. This will inevitably have implications for how the county prioritizes spending and distributes revenues. With the current crisis brought about by the State Correctional Officers’ strike and new prison closings, “inevitable” is likely soon.

**Jim Cunningham
Cortland**

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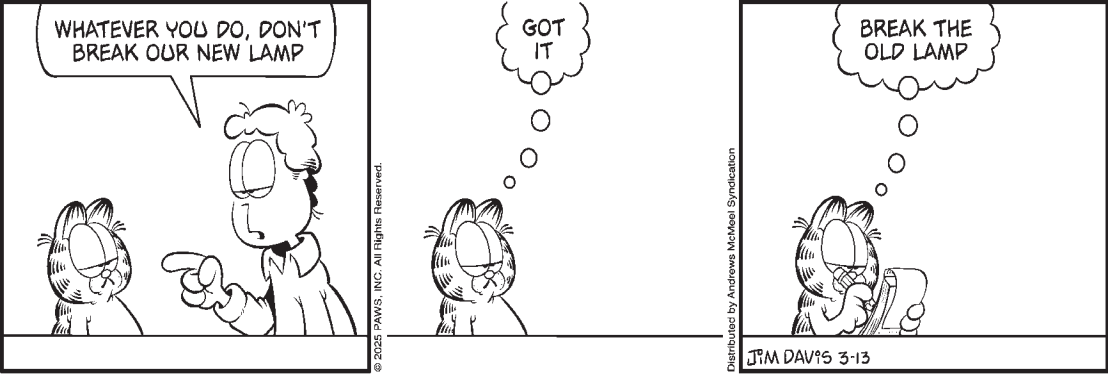
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Letters

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.

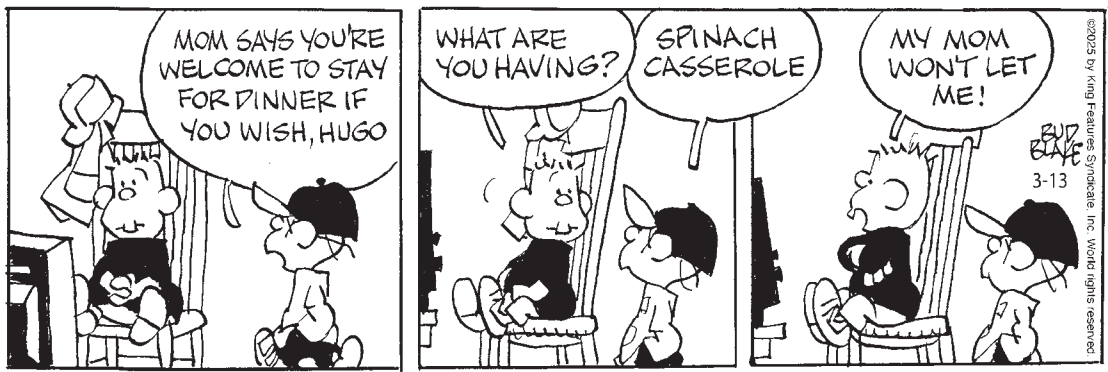
GARFIELD



MUTTS



TIGER



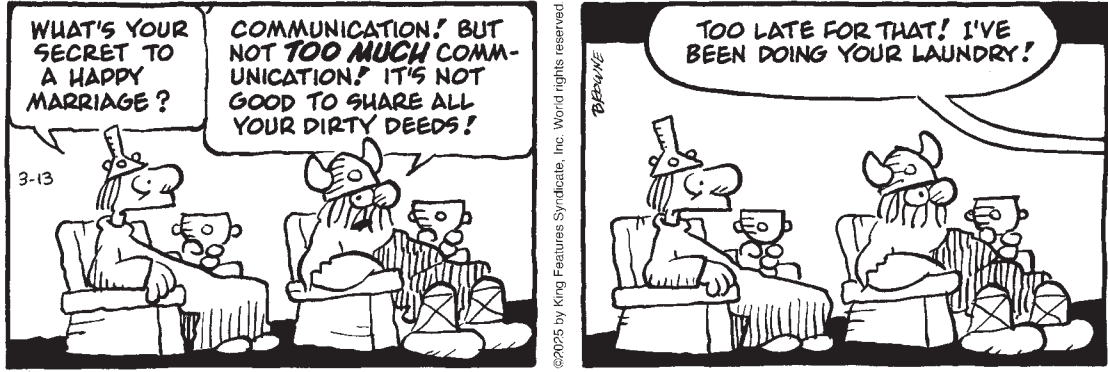
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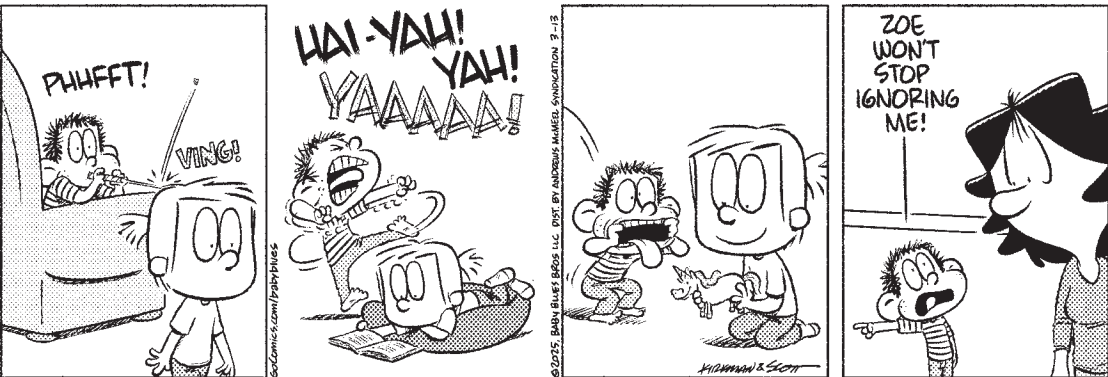
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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



BABY BLUES



ZITS

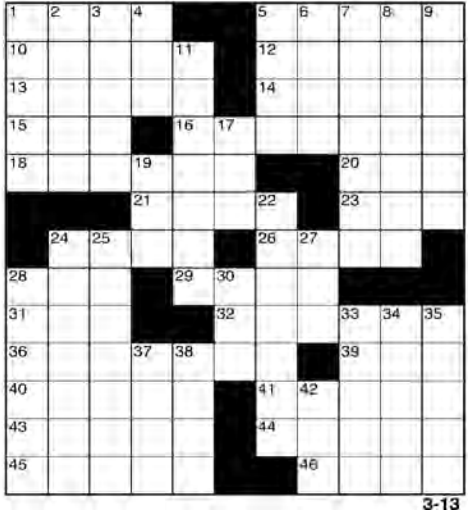


CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
1 Singer Bareilles
5 Big and clumsy
10 Refrain bit
12 Slow, in scores
13 Trout's place
14 Passion
15 Purpose
16 Refer to
18 Trusted teacher
20 Sports drink suffix
21 Swift steed
23 Bolt's partner
24 Script unit
26 Memo letters
28 Compact, e.g.
29 Trick
31 Ab — (from the beginning)
32 Threat
36 Hanukkah symbol
39 Indulgent
40 Valiant
41 Pol's concern
43 Brat's opposite
44 Oven feature
45 Minute
46 Tag info

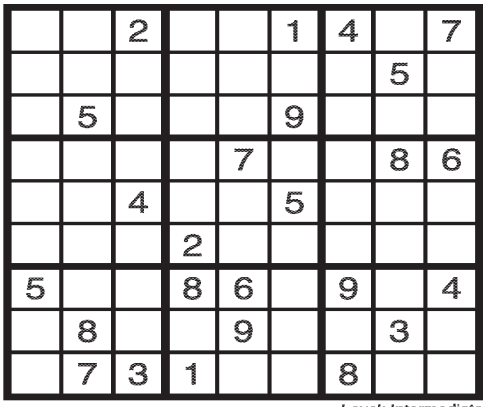
DOWN
1 Play a banjo
2 Get up
3 "Never-more" sayer
4 Hearty brew
5 Arkin of "Argo"
6 Sassy
7 Hoosier's home
8 Got to one's feet
9 Wasp's cousin
11 Maker of weapons
17 Pitching stat
19 Suede shade
22 Batter's goal
24 Shirley's pal
25 Tool-making time
27 Capitol Bldg. worker
28 Fight-ing
30 Thurman of film
33 San Antonio sight
34 Pet store buys
35 Bring to bear
37 Kitchen fixture
38 Depend
42 Amp plug-in

Yesterday's answer



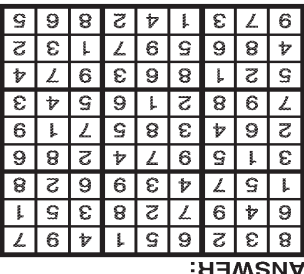
Sudoku

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!

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.

3-13 CRYPTOQUOTE
YCJZETO KCOETL VYCGC HYC

VIFTA VJL BJAC: — JZEXC

VJZRCG
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WORDS WITHOUT ACTIONS ARE THE ASSASSINS OF IDEALISM. — HERBERT HOOVER

Astrological Forecast

By Magi Helena

Friday, March 14, 2025

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Your responsibilities might temporarily dominate your life. Being straightforward about your goals could bring about significant changes. Be aware that these changes might affect you in unforeseen ways and push you towards your goals.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may wish for smooth sailing in your career or relationships. Once money and love are solved, then you might feel more free. A desire to make major changes or to experiment with something new and different could propel you forward.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Opportunities may arise unexpectedly this weekend. Sharpen your mind, and you might see how a casual piece of advice could lead to

greater opportunities.
CANCER (June 21-July 22): Listen to someone else's point of view and it may bring about a change of perspective that reveals fascinating alternatives.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Old habits may be tough to shake but it's not impossible. If you've been pushing yourself relentlessly, slowing down might be challenging. Consider adopting new routines that refresh your spirit and incorporate them into your daily rounds.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Aim for the future you want. Collaboration could be within reach, so don't hesitate to ask for help or advice. You may be inspired by others who are doing great things. Those who act with integrity may receive the greatest recognition.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You might find comfort listening to those you respect and trust. Filter out the noise by ignoring

random opinions, much like you'd switch off an irrelevant channel. Seeking advice on project-related issues could trigger your imagination.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may benefit from adjusting your attitude. You might not be able to alter your life's circumstances, but you can change how you approach them. Concentrate on building long-term security rather than dwelling on temporary setbacks.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your vision of the future might be spot on. Today could bring a chance to discuss an idea with someone close or to brainstorm solutions to problems with your partner. Together, you may be able to identify potential pitfalls and flaws.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Loved ones may challenge your patience. You could be tempted to make changes that have the power to alter your destiny

or revitalize your beliefs. You may find the admiration and support you truly need just when you need it.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Major changes might not be necessary at the moment. However, if adjustments are needed to boost your savings, you could have solid advice to lean on. Consider taking time to reassess what you currently have and plan for enhancements.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may shift your focus towards bigger and better prospects that might promise an enriched future. Tackle issues with a rational mindset rather than allowing yourself to be overwhelmed by emotional triggers and the resulting distress.
IF MARCH 14 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You may be filled with ambition and also dedication to a high level of ethics and efficiency throughout the next two to three weeks.



Jeff J Mitchell/Getty Images/TNS

Liv Mullen from the National Museum of Scotland poses with a Dalek ahead of the exhibition “Doctor Who Worlds of Wonder” on July 21, 2022, in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Comic-Con Museum to unveil ‘Doctor Who’ exhibit in US

By PAMELA KRAGEN
The San Diego Union-Tribune (TNS)

SAN DIEGO — San Diego fans of the long-running BBC sci-fi series “Doctor Who” can step inside the TARDIS, get face-to-face with a Dalek and see various versions of the Sonic Screwdriver when the touring exhibition “Doctor Who Worlds of Wonder: Where Science Meets Fiction” makes its U.S. premiere Saturday at the Comic-Con Museum in Balboa Park.

For the uninitiated, “Doctor Who” is a long-running sci-fi TV series that debuted on England’s BBC in 1963. It aired continuously until 1989, then took a yearslong break until it was rebooted in 2005. Originally designed as a children’s show, it has been adopted by legions of fans of all ages from around the world.

The show is the story of a time-traveling alien from the defunct planet Gallifrey. The self-proclaimed Doctor travels the universe back and forth through time exploring and healing planets and peoples — always with a companion or two and a wand-like Sonic Screwdriver at her side. The Doctor’s many outer space nemeses have included the thimble-shaped Daleks, the steel robot Cyber-Men, the ominous stone Weeping Angels and The Master, a fellow survivor of Gallifrey with evil intentions.

Perhaps the most iconic prop from the series is the spaceship

‘Doctor Who Worlds of Wonder: Where Science Meets Fiction’

When: Opens Saturday, March 15, in an open-ended run. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursdays-Tuesdays

Where: Comic-Con Museum, 2131 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park, San Diego

Tickets: \$30, adults 18 and up; \$20, seniors (65+), students (13-17) and military; \$12, children 6-12; children 5 and under are free.

Online: comic-con.org/museum

the doctor has used since the early 1960s. To park it on a London street without raising suspicion, the Doctor disguised the ship as a 1960s-era blue wooden police telephone booth that both officers and the public could use to call the nearest police station.

Even though the blue call boxes disappeared from London streets many decades ago, the exterior design hasn’t changed for the TARDIS, which is short for Time and Relative Dimension in Space.

And just as the TARDIS on the TV series was magically bigger on the inside, museum visitors can enter a large time-travel themed room through the TARDIS doors at the exhibition.

Ever since the first actor cast to play the Doctor was replaced in 1964 due to failing health, series producers have kept the show alive by periodically killing off

the doctor, who magically regenerates after death into a new body. The most recent Doctor was played by Ncuti Gatwa, the 15th actor to play the role. The series’ most popular Doctors from the past 20 years are David Tennant and Matt Smith, whose careers exploded as a result of the show.

The “Doctor Who Worlds of Wonder” exhibit features an extensive array of original props and sets from the show, as well as behind-the-scenes resource materials from what is now the world’s longest-running sci-fi show. Besides exhibit displays, there are interactive digital displays and kiosks where fans can learn about the Doctor’s adventures. There are also screens where visitors can learn about the real-life science that the show’s writers incorporate into the show, including the concept of time travel, artificial intelligence, DNA manipulation and cloning.

“We are delighted to be working with BBC Studios and Sarner International to bring this fascinating exhibition that merges the worlds of science, fiction, and the popular arts through such a celebrated show,” said Comic-Con Museum Executive Director Rita Vandergaw. “This is the first time it will ever be shown in the country, and we can’t wait for fans to experience it.”

The exhibition was launched in 2022 in Liverpool, England, and has since visited Scotland and New Zealand.

Notebook

Dry County Welders come to Rose Hall

The Dry County Welders will appear on stage March 21 at Rose Hall on Church Street in Cortland.

The five-piece rock band will also appear with Upstate Central.

Dry County Welders formed in 2024, created in a friendship

between singer-guitarist Clint Bush and drummer Dennis DeRado. Matt Lucey on bass, Brandon King on lead guitar and Dustin Wright, a singer and keyboardist, fill the band.

Bush is the songwriter in a sound that includes rock, Americana, alt-country and funk.

Doors open at 6 p.m. The show begins at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$10 in advance, available at <https://tinyurl.com/3v6wk3yp>.

Calendar

Here’s a sampling of what’s going on in the greater Cortland area.

MUSIC

March 15: James McMurtry, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

March 21: Dry County Welders, 7:30 p.m., Rose Hall, 19 Church St., Cortland.

March 27: Maggie Baugh, Entertainers Heart, 7 p.m., Rose Hall, Church Street, Cortland.

March 29: Playing It Forward: Honoring Past Musicians, noon to 9 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

April 3: Popa Chubby, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

April 5: Cayuga Chamber Orchestra, 7 p.m., Rose Hall, Cortland.

April 6: CNY Songbirds — The Music of Motown, 4 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

April 11: Eilen Jewell, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

April 11: Jackson Stokes, 7 p.m., Rose Hall, Cortland.

April 13: The Yardbirds, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

April 14: Buckethead, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

April 18: EXTC: Terry Chambers and Friends, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

April 19: Jethro Tull’s Martin Barre: Tull Tales Unplugged, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

April 23: The Aristocrats, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

April 25: The Lightfoot Band, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

May 1: Blackmore’s Night, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

THEATER

March 13: Westerns with the Chief, The Shootist, 6 to 9:30 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

March 21-22: The Sound of Murder, 6:30 p.m., Cortland Repertory Theatre, 24 Port Watson St., Cortland.

April 4-5: Anything Goes, 7:30 p.m. Dowd Fine Arts,

SUNY Cortland.

April 6: Anything Goes, 2 p.m., Dowd Fine Arts, SUNY Cortland.

April 9: Garrison Keillor Tonight, 8 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

April 12-13: Gutenberg! The Musical!, 2 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

April 11-12: Anything Goes, 7:30 p.m., Dowd Fine Arts, SUNY Cortland.

April 13: Anything Goes, 2 p.m., Dowd Fine Arts, SUNY Cortland.

April 26: Revue of the Nerds, 7:30 p.m., Cortland Repertory Theatre, Port Watson Street, Cortland. For audience 18 and up.

FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES

March 22: Maple Sugarin’ Day, 9 a.m., Lime Hollow Nature Center, Cortlandville.

April 5-6: CNY Maple Festival, downtown Marathon.

April 12: Take your Picture with the Easter Bunny, 11 a.m., 1890 House Museum, 37 Tompkins St., Cortland.

May 3: Corn Ducky 5K and Youth Waddle, 9 to 11 a.m., Suggett Park, Cortland, a fundraiser for the YMCA of Cortland.

OTHER STUFF

March 14: Moonlight Hike at Lime Hollow, 7:30 p.m., Lime Hollow Nature Center, Cortlandville.

March 15: Shamrock Run 5K, 11 a.m., Homer Hops, Route 90.

March 15: The Loomis Gang of Nine Mile Swamp, 1 to 3 p.m., Central New York Living History Center, Route 11, Cortlandville.

March 15-16: Adult Naturalist Series: Leather Crafting, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Lime Hollow Nature Center, Gracie Road, Cortlandville.

March 16: Community Voices from Around the World: Sayed Gul Kalash, 4 to 6 p.m., Center for the Arts of Homer.

March 23: Band of Sisters: A Presentation by the Cortland County Historical Society, 1 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, Cortland.

Actor Quaid delights in silly, violent ‘Novocaine’

Movie review

By MARK MESZOROS
The News-Herald
Willoughby, Ohio (TNS)

What if John Wick weren’t trained as an assassin but also couldn’t feel pain?

Well, essentially, he’d be Jack Quaid’s Nathan Caine, the appealing protagonist of “Novocaine,” an action-comedy romp that has quite a bit of heart and punches a bit above its weight as it leaves a trail of blood while staggering into theaters this week.

You see, Nate has a rare genetic disorder, one that allowed his classmates in middle school to feel it was OK as they beat the tar out of him on the regular. That seemingly has made it difficult for him to make friends — his only real pal is fellow gamer Roscoe (Jacob Batalon), whom he’s never met in person but who, like Nate, lives in San Diego.

The life of assistant bank manager Nate takes an apparent turn for the better when his work crush, Sherry (Amber Midthunder), spills scalding coffee on him

and wants to make it up to him with a lunch out. (Understandably, she seems to doubt him when he insists he’s absolutely fine as he puts some lotion on the affected area.)

At lunch, after awkwardly refusing a taste of her cherry pie and working on a milkshake, he comes clean to Sherry about his condition, explaining that he can’t eat solid foods out of fear he won’t know that he’s bitten into his tongue. However, she convinces him to have a bite, saying she is there in case anything goes wrong.

He takes that bite. His mind is blown. Pie! Wow, PIE!

And things only get better for him after she invites him to an art show where she will have a few pieces for sale. The next day, Christmas Eve, he’s on cloud nine — that is until a trio of armed Santas walk into the bank and demand to be let into the vault. When they threaten to hurt Sherry, Nate coughs up the entry code.

The bad Santas take Sherry as a hostage, though, and use her as a human shield to get by the cops who’ve arrived on the scene. Nate, feeling he’s met the wom-



Marcos Cruz/Paramount Pictures/TNS

Jack Quaid, in character as Nathan Caine, navigates a house rigged with traps in the film “Novocaine,” in theaters Friday.

an of his dreams, takes matters into his own hands by scooping up a gun and taking the squad car of an injured officer, who pleads with him to do neither of those things. Thus, Nate begins down a road that will lead not to pain but to plenty of wounds as he works a trail he hopes will lead to Sherry.

Penned by Lars Jacobson (Peacock series “Fight Night”) and helmed by the

directing tandem of Dan Berk and Robert Olsen (“Villains,” “Significant Other”), “Novocaine” finds the right tone — it’s silly but not overly silly.

Nate is far too close to coming across as indestructible at times — as with almost any action movie, the threat of a concussion is nonexistent, our hero taking savage blow after savage blow to the head — but he must have a bullet removed

after being shot and becomes appropriately worried when a villain is poised to do unspeakable things to his eyes. (If you’re wondering, Nate’s condition — congenital insensitivity to pain, with analgesia — is, apparently, a rare but real disorder.)

Quaid — one of the better aspects of the overrated Prime Video series “The Boys” and an absolute delight as the voice of try-hard

‘NOVOCAINE’

3 stars (out of 4)
MPA rating: R (for strong bloody violence, grisly images, and language throughout)
Running time: 1:50
How to watch: In theaters Friday

Starfleet officer Brad Boimler on the recently completed Paramount+ animated series “Star Trek: Lower Decks” — is the perfect actor for this role. Even while extraordinary in his way, Nate also is relatable as a man who’s lacked confidence all his life but is now determined to do whatever it takes to save the woman he loves.

Ultimately, “Novocaine” wins with violence and personality. It’s simply fun to hang out with Nate — who has an every-three-hours alarm to remind himself to use the restroom to guard against bladder damage and who takes a lickin’ but keeps on tickin’.

Plus, “Novocaine” has the decency to end before the premise has worn too thin — with a conclusion that hits the right notes. It isn’t everything it could have been, but it’s a pain-free experience.

Stocks swing sharply as trade war escalates

By STAN CHOE
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Wall Street keeps shaking because of tariffs. Stocks jumped to a big early gain, gave it back and then went up again as a volatile week for the market rolls on.

The competing drivers of the market were an encouraging inflation update and the retaliation by other countries following President Donald Trump’s latest escalation in his trade war.

The S&P 500 was up 0.6% in afternoon trading after completely erasing an initial leap of 1.3% and then regaining some ground. The unsettled trading comes a day after the index briefly fell more than 10% below its all-time high set last month.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average also swung sharply, ping-ponging between a gain of 287 points and a loss of 423. It was down 36 points, or 0.1%, as of 1:10 p.m. Eastern time, while the Nasdaq composite was 1.3% higher. The Nasdaq held up much better because of gains for Nvidia, Tesla and AI-related companies.

Dragging the market lower were

U.S. companies that could be set to feel pain because of Trump’s trade war. Brown-Forman, the company behind Jack Daniel’s whiskey, tumbled 6.9%, and Harley-Davidson sank 5.6%.

U.S. bourbon and motorcycles are just two of the products the European Union is targeting with its own tariffs announced Wednesday. The moves were in response to Trump’s 25% tariffs on steel and aluminum that kicked in earlier in the day.

“We deeply regret this measure,” European Union President Ursula von der Leyen said. “Tariffs are taxes. They are bad for business, and worse for consumers.”

The question hanging over Wall Street is how much pain Trump will let the economy endure through tariffs and other policies in order to get what he wants. He’s said he wants manufacturing jobs back in the United States, along with a smaller U.S. government workforce, more deportations and other things.

Even if Trump ultimately goes with milder tariffs than feared, damage could still be done. The



AP Photo/Richard Drew
A specialist works at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Wednesday.

dizzying barrage of on-again-off-again announcements on tariffs has already begun sapping confidence among U.S. consumers and businesses by ramping up uncertainty. That in itself could cause U.S. households and businesses to pull back on spending, which would hurt the economy.

On Tuesday, for example,

Trump said he would double tariffs announced on Canadian steel and aluminum, only to walk it back later in the day after a Canadian province pledged to drop a retaliatory measure that had incensed Trump.

Several U.S. businesses have said they’ve already begun seeing a change in behavior among

their customers.

Delta Air Lines sank 2.9% for one of the market’s sharpest losses to compound its drop of 7.3% from the prior day, when the carrier said it’s seeing demand weaken for close-in bookings for its flights.

Casey’s General Stores, the Ankeny, Iowa-based company that runs nearly 2,900 convenience stores in 20 states, offered some more encouragement. It reported stronger profit and revenue for the latest quarter than analysts expected thanks in part to strength for sales of hot sandwiches and fuel. It also kept steady its forecast for upcoming revenue this year. Casey’s stock rose 6.2%.

Wednesday’s inflation report gave some encouragement when worries are high that Trump’s tariffs could drive prices even higher for U.S. households after U.S. importers pass on the costs to their customers.

It’s also helpful for the Federal Reserve, which had been cutting interest rates last year to boost the economy before pausing this year partly because of concerns about stubbornly high inflation.

Egg prices keep rising, but some relief may be coming



AP Photo/Nam Y. Huh, file
A sign is mounted on a shelf of eggs at a grocery store in Northbrook, Illinois, Feb. 28.

By MAE ANDERSON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Egg prices again reached a record high in February, as the bird flu continues to run rampant and Easter and Passover approach.

The latest monthly Consumer Price Index showed a dozen Grade A eggs cost an average of \$5.90 in U.S. cities in February, up 10.4% from a year ago. That eclipsed January’s record-high price of \$4.95.

Avian flu has forced farmers to slaughter more than 166 million birds, mostly were egg-laying chickens. Just since the start of the year, more than 30 million egg layers have been killed.

If prices remain high, it will be a third year in a row consumers have faced sticker shock ahead of Easter on April 20 and Passover, which starts on the evening of April 12, both occasions in which eggs play prominent roles.

The price had consistently been below \$2 a dozen for decades before the disease struck. The U.S. Department of Agriculture expects egg prices to rise 41% this year over last year’s average of \$3.17 per dozen.

But there may be light at the end of the tunnel. The USDA reported last week that egg shortages are easing and wholesale prices are dropping, which might provide relief on the retail side

before this year’s late Easter, which is three weeks later than last year. It said there had been no major bird flu outbreak for two weeks.

“Shoppers have begun to see shell egg offerings in the dairy-case becoming more reliable although retail price levels have yet to adjust and remain off-putting to many,” the USDA wrote in the March 7 report.

David Anderson, a professor and extension economist for livestock and food marketing at Texas A&M University, said wholesale figures dropping is a good sign that prices could go down as shoppers react to the high prices by buying fewer eggs.

Contract Bridge

It can’t hurt to try

South dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8 5 3
♥ K 10 7 4
♦ A 9 2
♣ 6 3 2

WEST
♠ Q 7
♥ 3
♦ K Q 10 7 4
♣ A Q 10 9 4

EAST
♠ J 10 9 6 2
♥ 6 5
♦ J 8 6 3
♣ J 8

SOUTH
♠ A K 4
♥ A Q J 9 8 2
♦ 5
♣ K 7 5

The bidding:
South 1♥
West 2 NT
North 3♥
East Pass

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

If you examine the layout of today’s deal, it would seem that South must eventually lose a spade and three club tricks to go down one in four hearts. Sooner or later declarer would have to try leading a club to the king in hopes that East had the ace, and that would be the end of that.

But given West’s vulnerable two-notrump bid — the “unusual notrump” indicating at least five cards in both minors — South was reluctant to rest his fate solely on the slim chance that East had the ace of clubs. Accordingly, he looked for an alternative line of play that

would add to his chances and eventually came up with one.

So he won the diamond king with the ace, ruffed a diamond, drew two rounds of trump ending in dummy and ruffed another diamond. Having thus eliminated the diamonds from his own hand and dummy, he cashed the ace of spades and then led the four!

The situation that South had hoped for now came to pass. West won the second spade with the queen and was endplayed. Whether he led a club or a diamond, declarer could not lose more than two club tricks, so the contract was home.

Declarer’s line of play was a lot more than just a wild shot in the dark. He knew from the bidding and the early play that West was most likely to have started with five diamonds, five clubs, one heart and therefore two spades. If West’s second spade was the queen, he would be in a losing position when the four of spades was led. Failing this remote but possible chance, South could still fall back on East’s holding the ace of clubs.

It is true that West could have foiled declarer’s plan by dropping the queen under the ace when South cashed that card. But this would certainly not be an easy thing to do since West had no way of knowing South’s exact holdings in spades and clubs at that point in the play.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz. **3-13**

EPA froze ‘green bank’ funds worth billions, lawsuit alleges

By MATTHEW DALY
and MICHAEL PHILLIS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A nonprofit that was awarded nearly \$7 billion by the Biden administration to finance clean energy and climate-friendly projects has sued President Donald Trump’s Environmental Protection Agency, accusing it of improperly freezing a legally awarded grant.

Climate United Fund, a coalition of three nonprofit groups, demanded access to a Citibank account it received through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, a program created in 2022 by the Inflation Reduction Act and more commonly known as the green bank. The freeze threatens its ability to issue loans and even pay employees, the group said.

“The combined actions of Citibank and EPA effectively nullify a congressionally mandated and funded program,” Maryland-based Climate United wrote in a Monday court filing.



Rebecca Droke/Pool Photo via AP, File
EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin speaks at the East Palestine Fire Department in East Palestine, Ohio, Feb. 3.

In a related action, the Coalition for Green Capital, a separate group that received \$5 billion from the Biden-era program, sued Citibank Monday, alleging breach of contract over the refusal to disburse the grant funds awarded by the EPA.

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National Football League

Bills keep Hamlin off market, agreeing to 1-year deal

ORCHARD PARK (AP) — The Buffalo Bills and safety Damar Hamlin agreed on a one-year contract Wednesday, keeping the unrestricted free agent off the market.

Hamlin started in 14 games last

year, one season after going into cardiac arrest during a game.

He will compete with second-year player Cole Bishop to stay in the starting lineup opposite returning veteran Taylor Rapp.

Hamlin had two interceptions

and 89 tackles for the Bills last season.

He was limited to two games in the 2023 season, following his near-death experience.

He has started 27 games and played in 48 games over four sea-

sons with the Bills, who drafted the former Pittsburgh star in the sixth round in 2021. The five-time defending AFC East champions made one of the bigger splashes in NFL free agency, adding edge rusher Joey Bosa with a one-year,

\$12.6 million agreement. Bosa is joining the Bills after they cut Von Miller to free up salary-cap space. Buffalo previously bolstered depth by re-signing running back Ty Johnson, fullback Reggie Gilliam and receiver Joshua Palmer.



Buccaneers running back Bucky Irving, right, runs against Commanders defensive tackle Jonathan Allen during a wild-card game in Tampa, Florida, Jan. 12.

AP Photo/Chris O'Meara, file

Eagles send Gardner-Johnson to Texans

By ARNIE STAPLETON
AP Pro Football Writer

The Philadelphia Eagles' top-ranked defense is getting a major makeover a month after ending Patrick Mahomes' bid to lead the Kansas City Chiefs to a third consecutive Super Bowl title.

A day after defensive tackle Milton Williams and edge rusher Josh Sweat accepted offers to leave Philly via free agency, the Super Bowl champs agreed to send safety C.J. Gardner-Johnson to the Houston Texans for guard Kenyon Green and a swap of late-round draft picks, a person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Like free-agent contracts, trades will become official with the start of the new league year on Wednesday.

Green, who was the 15th overall pick in the 2022 draft, started 23 games for Houston over two seasons. He didn't

play in 2023 because of a shoulder injury.

The Texans also agreed to trade left tackle Laremy Tunsil to Washington on Monday. They have big holes up front on an offensive line that struggled to protect C.J. Stroud last season.

On Monday, when the league's legal tampering window opened, Williams agreed to a deal with New England worth \$26 million annually and Sweat agreed with the Arizona Cardinals on a four-year, \$76.4 million contract.

The terms of the deals are all according to people familiar with the negotiations who spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity because teams generally don't announce contract terms and the deals couldn't be signed until Wednesday.

The Minnesota Vikings continued an aggressive reconstruction of their interior lines

by agreeing to terms on contracts with former Washington defensive tackle Jonathan Allen (three years, \$60 million) and former Indianapolis guard Will Fries (five years, \$88 million), who followed center Ryan Kelly from the Colts to the Vikings.

Allen missed half of last season after tearing a pectoral muscle, but he returned for the final four games, including the playoffs as the Commanders reached the NFC championship game. Because Allen was released last week for salary cap savings before the expiration of his previous contract, the Vikings were allowed to host the two-time Pro Bowl pick on a visit to team headquarters and announce the deal ahead of the signing period.

With the addition of Fries and Kelly, the Vikings have taken two big steps toward smoothing out the expected debut of quarterback J.J. McCarthy.

AP source: Bills agree to sign Bosa to 1-year contract

By JOHN WAWROW
AP Sports Writer

ORCHARD PARK — The Buffalo Bills turned to Joey Bosa to fill their pass-rush needs, agreeing with him on a one-year, \$12.6 million contract, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press on Tuesday night.

The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because the agreement wasn't official until the NFL's new business year began on Wednesday. ESPN.com first reported the deal.

Bosa joins the Bills after the team cut Von Miller on Sunday to free up salary-cap space.

Bosa was the NFL's defensive rookie of the year after being selected by the Chargers with the No. 3 pick in the 2016 draft out of Ohio State. He played nine seasons with the franchise before being cut last week, also for salary-cap reasons.

At 29, Bosa is six years younger than Miller, though his production has dwindled because of injuries. Bosa's 72 sacks are tied for 10th most since 2016, but he's combined for only 14 over the past three seasons.

He played in 14 games with nine starts last season after agreeing to restructure his contract. But Bosa battled hip and back injuries, and his

five sacks were his fewest in the six seasons during which he has played at least 12 games.

Bosa played 14 games total in 2022 and '23 due to groin and foot injuries.

Bosa should fill a starting spot opposite Greg Rousseau, who had a team-leading eight sacks last season. Rousseau is entering his fifth season and last week signed a four-year, \$80 million extension that locks him in through 2028.

The five-time defending AFC East champions also return edge rusher A.J. Epenesa.

Buffalo moved on from Miller after three seasons because his salary didn't match his dip in production. The NFL's active leader in sacks was limited to six sacks last year, and had none in 2023 in being slowed after having surgery to repair a right knee injury sustained in November 2022.

Buffalo finished 18th in the NFL with 39 sacks last season, down from 54 in 2023. The Bills' defense doesn't often blitz, instead relying on its four-man front to apply pressure.

Bosa is a five-time Pro Bowl selection and has topped 10 sacks four times, most recently with 10 1/2 in 2021. He had a career-best 12 1/2 sacks in 2017.



AP Photo/Kyusung Gong, File

Chargers linebacker Joey Bosa drinks water before a game against the Raiders, Sept. 8, 2024, in Inglewood, California.

Jets linebacker Jamien Sherwood gets nearly \$1.1M from NFL's performance pay program

(AP) — New York Jets linebacker Jamien Sherwood gets a nice pay day even before his new contract kicks in.

Sherwood earned a league high of \$1,092,206 through the NFL's performance-based pay program, more than doubling his salary from last season.

The 2021 fifth-round pick

earned \$1.06 million last season in the final year of his rookie contract. Sherwood agreed to a three-year, \$45 million contract this week to remain with the Jets, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the contract hadn't been announced.

In all, players received more

than \$452 million in performance-based pay for last season in figures announced by the league on Wednesday.

The program is part of the CBA and compensates players based upon their playing time and salary levels, rewarding players who have low salaries and play a high percentage of downs. Play-

ers have been paid nearly \$2.8 billion since the inception of the program in 2002.

Four players other than Sherwood got bonuses in excess of \$1 million: Indianapolis cornerback Jaylon Jones, Carolina cornerback Michael Jackson, Baltimore tackle Daniel Faalele and Chicago tackle Matt Pryor.

Several other notable players received significant pay boosts through the program. Detroit safety Kerby Joseph got about \$996,000 on top of his \$1.1 million salary after earning All-Pro honors.

Green Bay standout right tackle Zach Tom got nearly \$850,000 on top of his salary of \$985,000.

Rams WR Puka Nacua is changing his jersey no. from 17 to 12 with the arrival of Davante Adams

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Receiver Puka Nacua is giving the Los Angeles Rams' No. 17 jersey to new teammate Davante Adams and switching to No. 12.

The Rams announced Nacua's decision Tuesday to go back to the number he wore in high school and again in college at both Washington and BYU.

Nacua wore No. 17 for his first

two seasons with the Rams, including his record-breaking rookie campaign.

When Nacua joined the Rams in 2023, receiver Van Jefferson had the No. 12 jersey.

Now Nacua is going back to No. 12, which also was worn by some of his brothers at various points in their football careers.

He seems quite happy to make

the change, calling the number "a piece of armor as well that's representing my family that is always protecting me."

Adams has worn No. 17 at all three of his previous NFL stops, including his eight prolific seasons with the Green Bay Packers.

The six-time Pro Bowl selection and three-time All-Pro

agreed to a two-year deal worth up to \$46 million with the Rams last weekend.

Nacua has been one of the most productive receivers in NFL history for the first two years of a career, and he is expected to take another step forward with the imminent departure of longtime Rams star Cooper Kupp, who is expected to be traded or released

this week.

Despite missing six games last season because of injury and rest, Nacua's 184 receptions are the fourth most in league history over a player's first two seasons, while his 2,476 yards rank seventh.

Nacua has added 20 catches for 322 yards receiving in his three playoff games.

National Football League

Mike Battle, an All-American who played with Joe Namath-era Jets, dies at 78



Boston Patriot Sid Blanks is tackled by New York Jet Mike Battle at Shea Stadium, Nov. 23, 1970, New York.

AP Photo/Harry Harris,File

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Mike Battle, an All-American defensive back and a member of USC’s 1967 national championship team who later played two seasons for the New York Jets, has died. He was 78.

He died of natural causes on March 6 in Nellysford, Virginia, the school said Tuesday.

In 1967, Battle led a USC defense which allowed only 87 points all season. The Trojans were 26-6-1 and won

three conference titles during his three-year career. Battle played in the 1967, 1968 and 1969 Rose Bowl games, all won by the Trojans.

Battle was USC’s annual punt return leader in each of his three seasons and still owns the school record for most punts returned in a season. He was the NCAA statistical champion in 1967, when he had 49 returns for 608 yards, a 12.4-yard average. He also holds the school mark for most punts returned with 99 during

his three years.

He was chosen in the 12th round of the 1969 NFL Draft by the New York Jets and played for two seasons in 1969 and ‘70.

Battle appeared in the 1970 film “C.C. and Company,” a biker film starring his Jets teammate Joe Namath and actor Ann-Margret.

He is survived by his wife Laura and children Christian Michael, Hunter, Frank, Michael, Kathleen, Murphy and Annie.

College Basketball

Big 12 commissioner believes NCAA Tournament expansion is overdue

By DAVE SKRETTA
AP Basketball Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Big 12 commissioner Brett Yormark is in favor of expanding the men’s NCAA Tournament to 76 teams, and he believes a decision could come in the next few months, opening the possibility of proposed changes being implemented as soon as next year.

Yormark spoke before the start of the Big 12 Tournament on Tuesday.

“I’m in favor of expansion to 76. I think that’s the right number,” he said. “I think the economics candidly have to work. CBS and TNT have a marquee (television) asset with the tournament. I know they know that. But in order for us to expand, they need to come to the table and provide the right economics.”

This year’s edition of March Madness will be the 40th men’s bracket since the field expanded to 64 teams in 1985; it later grew to the current 68-team configuration. The women’s bracket increased to 64 in 1994 and added four more teams in 2022.

Last year, the NCAA presented a plan to Division I commissioners that would expand the men’s and women’s tournaments by four or eight teams alongside an option to leave each field at 68. The time-honored 64-team bracket would remain and the added teams would be part of the play-in games involving the 10-through-12 seeds.

NCAA senior vice president of basketball Dan Gavitt said in



Cincinnati’s Dan Skillings Jr. smiles after scoring against Oklahoma State, Tuesday, in Kansas City, Missouri.

AP Photo/Charlie Riedel

a recent CBS Sports interview that he doesn’t expect a vote in the near future, but he left open the possibility of a spring vote. Gavitt said changes in game operation and travel were among many issues to consider, and that the decision is “not taken in a lighthearted way at all.”

“Expansion, even in a modest level, is complex, more complex than I think has been recognized and reported, because it is expensive,” said Gavitt, whose father Dave Gavitt helped oversee the 1985 expansion as chair of the

selection committee.

Gavitt said during the CBS interview that he isn’t sure whether the field should expand, but he sounded more positive about the possibility than he was a few years ago. Name, image and likeness, conference realignment and the transfer portal have changed the dynamics, and Gavitt said men’s basketball, in particular, might be suited to handle it.

“There’s no sport that is deeper overall and has more parity than men’s college basketball,” he said. “There’s great basketball

played at every level in men’s basketball right now. So I think it’s important to keep the tournament contemporary and relevant, based on what is going on in college athletics.”

That was the case made by Yormark, who said Tuesday he believes there is an appetite for more teams and games.

“I think there will be some decisions over the next 90 days, 60 days,” Yormark said. “No one wants to be diluted, and we have a great asset here. We’ll see how it plays out.”

Arizona State coach Bobby Hurley expected to return for an 11th season, AP source says

By JOHN MARSHALL
and DAVE SKRETTA
AP Sports Writer

TEMPE, Ariz. — Bobby Hurley is expected to return for his 11th season coaching Arizona State, a person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press, and by Tuesday night he already was discussing the changes he intends to make going forward.

The person had spoken about Hurley’s future on condition of anonymity before the Sun Devils faced Kansas State in the opening round of the Big 12 Tournament, where they were unable to rally down the stretch in a 71-66 loss to the Wildcats.

“I think we have full commitment from ASU, and we put the team together,” said Hurley, who insisted that NIL money and other resources were sufficient enough for his Sun Devils to have been competitive in their first year in the Big 12.

“We were supported and we were able to go get elite guys in the portal, and we brought in high-profile freshmen. Unfortunately for the freshmen, they both at different stretches had a significant injury they had to go through, and both of those guys were a big part of what we were doing. We just have to do a better job of having more options in case something happens to a key



Arizona State head coach Bobby Hurley is seen on the sidelines during a game against Kansas State in the first round of the Big 12 Conference tournament, Tuesday, in Kansas City, Missouri.

AP Photo/Charlie Riedel

player that you try not to miss a beat, or you can overcome it. I didn’t do the best job.”

The Sun Devils were playing their fifth consecutive game Tuesday night without standout freshman Jayden Quaintance, who had been dealing with a right knee injury.

Adam Miller returned from a strained oblique to face the Wildcats, but he still appeared

to be slowed by the injury, then dealt with some cramping problems that limited him in the second half.

The result was a shortened rotation of seven players that basically summed up the season.

Arizona State had high expectations at the start of it, but Hurley was down to six scholarship players as the injuries piled up and leading scorer BJ Freeman

was dismissed for conduct detrimental to the team in late February.

“I had the highest expectations with the caliber of players we had, the people, the character of my teammates,” said Alston Mason, who led the Sun Devils with 17 points against Kansas State. “But with the injuries and everything, it made things a lot more difficult, and gave us a challenge that was hard to overcome.”

Hurley has one year left on his contract in a tenure that’s included three trips to the NCAA Tournament but also losing records in four of the past five seasons. That includes a 14-18 record last season and a 13-19 finish to this season.

Hurley arrived in the desert with plenty of fanfare in 2015 after leading Buffalo to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in program history. A two-time national champion at Duke and the NCAA’s career assists leader, Hurley had the Sun Devils going in the right direction by his third season, leading them to consecutive NCAA Tournaments in 2018-19 — a first for a program often overshadowed by rival Arizona since the 1980-81 seasons.

Arizona State matched its highest ranking in 2017, reaching No. 3 in the AP Top 25 after a 12-0 start.

NBA

Cavs tie win streak record

By BRIAN DULIK
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The wins and accomplishments keep piling up for the NBA-leading Cleveland Cavaliers. They’ve been so frequent that players are having a hard time keeping track.

“What did we do? Oh, we clinched the Central Division,” center Jarrett Allen said, chuckling. “That’s something. We had fun tonight. We still celebrate the little things.”

There was nothing little about the Cavaliers’ 109-104 victory over Brooklyn on Tuesday.

Cleveland tied its franchise record for consecutive wins with 15 — after setting the mark in the first 15 games of the season — and is tied for the fifth-best start in NBA history at 55-10.

Even with All-Star shooting guard Donovan Mitchell (left groin soreness), sixth man De’Andre Hunter (illness) and sharpshooter Ty Jerome (rest) in street clothes on the bench, the Cavaliers rallied from an 18-point deficit against the Nets.

All-Star point guard Darius Garland, who scored 18 of his 30 points in the fourth quarter, said Mitchell’s message to him was concise during the comeback.

“Shoot the ball,” he said. “Quote, end quote.”

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
m-Washington	65	43	14	8	94	239	171		
a-Florida	65	40	22	3	83	215	175		
m-Carolina	65	39	22	4	82	208	176		
a-Toronto	64	39	22	3	81	206	190		
a-Tampa Bay	64	37	23	4	78	225	173		
m-New Jersey	66	35	25	6	76	198	168		
Ottawa	64	34	25	5	73	185	182		
Columbus	64	31	25	8	70	217	213		
Montreal	64	31	27	6	68	190	210		
N.Y. Rangers	65	31	28	6	68	196	199		
Boston	66	30	28	8	68	179	206		
Detroit	64	30	28	6	66	182	204		
N.Y. Islanders	64	29	28	7	65	174	192		
Philadelphia	66	27	31	8	62	188	224		
Pittsburgh	67	26	31	10	62	190	244		
Buffalo	63	25	32	6	56	199	220		
WESTERN CONFERENCE									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
c-Winnipeg	66	45	17	4	94	230	153		
c-Dallas	64	42	20	2	86	221	166		
p-Vegas	64	38	19	7	83	215	177		
c-Colorado	66	39	24	3	81	220	192		
p-Edmonton	64	37	23	4	78	207	189		
Minnesota	65	37	24	4	78	181	186		
p-Los Angeles	63	34	20	9	77	181	169		
Calgary	63	30	23	10	70	164	182		
Vancouver	64	29	24	11	69	174	195		
St. Louis	65	31	27	7	69	187	194		
Utah	64	28	25	11	67	182	191		
Anaheim	64	28	29	7	63	173	200		
Seattle	65	27	34	4	58	192	212		
Nashville	64	25	32	7	57	170	211		
Chicago	65	20	36	9	49	178	227		
San Jose	66	17	40	9	43	173	248		
(a, c, m, p)-top three in their division									

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE					GB
	W	L	Pct		
y-Cleveland	55	10	.846		—
Boston	47	18	.723		8
New York	41	23	.641		13½
Milwaukee	36	28	.563		18½
Indiana	36	28	.563		18½
Detroit	37	29	.561		18½
Atlanta	31	34	.477		24
Orlando	30	36	.455		25½
Miami	29	35	.453		25½
Chicago	27	38	.415		28
Philadelphia	22	42	.344		32½
Toronto	22	43	.338		33
Brooklyn	22	43	.338		33
Charlotte	16	48	.250		38½
Washington	13	51	.203		41½
WESTERN CONFERENCE					GB
	W	L	Pct		
Oklahoma City	53	12	.815		—
Denver	42	23	.646		11
L.A. Lakers	40	23	.635		12
Memphis	41	24	.631		12
Houston	40	25	.615		13
Golden State	37	28	.569		16
Minnesota	37	29	.561		16½
L.A. Clippers	35	30	.538		18
Sacramento	33	31	.516		19½
Dallas	33	33	.500		20½
Phoenix	30	35	.462		23
Portland	28	38	.424		25½
San Antonio	26	37	.413		26
New Orleans	18	48	.273		35½
Utah	15	50	.231		38
y-clinched division					

Watch moon turn red during total lunar eclipse



AP Photo/Ringo H.W. Chiu, File
Light shines from a total lunar eclipse over Santa Monica Beach in Santa Monica, California, May 26, 2021.

Eclipse takes place tonight

By ADITHI RAMAKRISHNAN
AP Science Writer
NEW YORK — A total lunar eclipse will flush the moon red tonight into Friday morning across the Western Hemisphere.
The best views will be from North America and South America. Parts of Africa and Europe may catch a glimpse.
Lunar eclipses happen when the moon, Earth and sun align just so. The Earth casts a shadow that can partially or totally blot out the moon.
During a partial lunar eclipse, Earth’s shadow appears to take a bite of the

moon. The full moon is covered during a total eclipse and blushes coppery red because of stray bits of sunlight filtering through Earth’s atmosphere.
Lunar and solar eclipses happen anywhere from four to seven times a year, according to NASA. A partial lunar eclipse graced skies in the Americas, Africa and Europe last September and the last total lunar eclipse was in 2022.
HOW TO SEE THE LUNAR ECLIPSE
The so-called blood moon will be visible for about an hour starting at 2:26 a.m. Eastern on Friday morning. Peak viewing will be close to 3 a.m. Eastern.
To see it, venture outside and look up — no need for eclipse glasses or any spe-

cial equipment.
“As long as the sky is clear, you should be able to see it,” said Shannon Schmoll, director of Abrams Planetarium at Michigan State University.
The setting of the moon may make it harder to see the eclipse in Europe and Africa.
“This is really an eclipse for North and South America,” said astronomy expert Michael Faison from Yale University.
If you miss out, mark your calendar for Sept. 7. Another total lunar eclipse will sweep across parts of Asia, Africa, Australia and Europe. Parts of the Americas will get their next taste in March 2026.
HISTORY OF ECLIPSES
Civilizations have viewed and interpreted lunar eclipses for thousands of years. An-

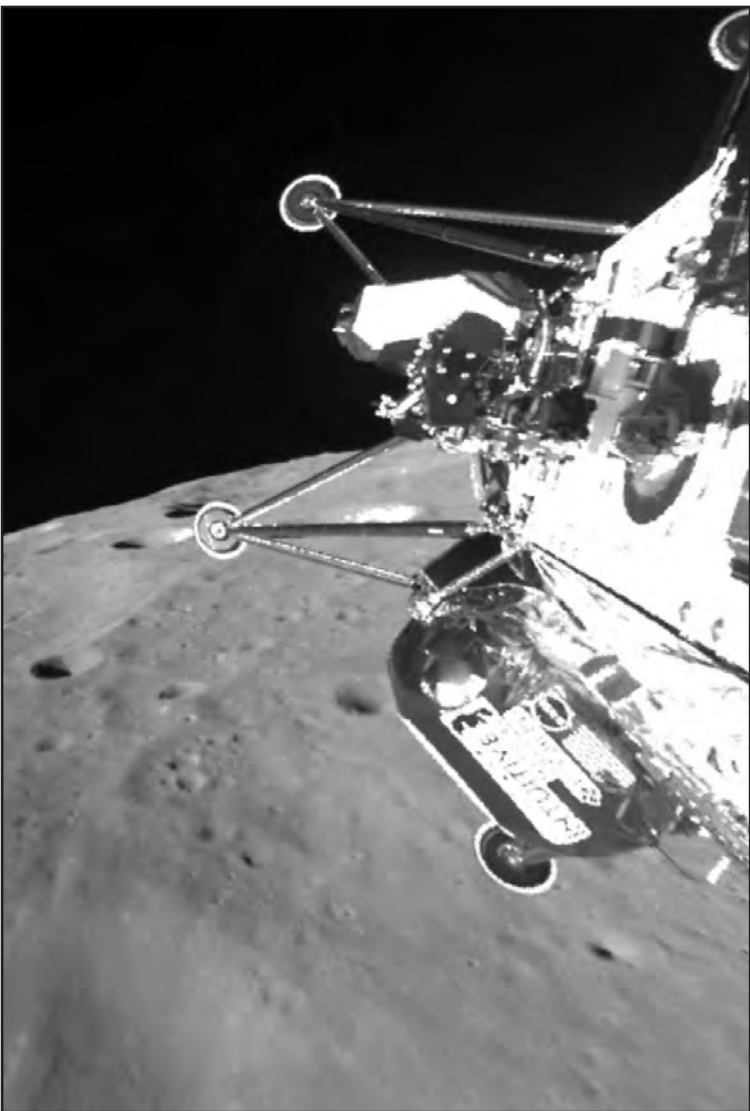
cient people knew more about the celestial bodies than we give them credit for, said historian Zoe Ortiz.
“They were looking at the night sky and they had a much brighter vision than we do today,” said Ortiz with the University of North Texas.
Aristotle noticed that the shadow the Earth cast on the moon during a lunar eclipse was always curved, observations proving that the Earth is round.
And a civilization in ancient Mesopotamia saw the blood red moon as a bad omen for the king. The people installed a substitute king on the throne around the time of the eclipse to protect their ruler from any bad will.
“If there’s ever a movie plot,” said Ortiz, “that’s the one.”

Private lander is declared dead after landing on side

By MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — A private lunar lander is no longer working after landing sideways in a crater near the moon’s south pole and its mission is over, officials said last week.
The news came less than 24 hours after the botched landing attempt by Texas-based Intuitive Machines.

Launched last week, the lander named Athena missed its mark by more than 800 feet and ended up in a frigid crater, the company said in declaring it dead.
Athena managed to send back pictures confirming its position and activate a few experiments before going silent. NASA and other customers had packed the lander with tens of millions of dollars’ worth of experiments including an ice drill, drone and pair of rovers to roam the unexplored terrain ahead of astronauts’ planned arrival later this decade.
It’s unlikely Athena’s batteries can be recharged given the way the lander’s solar panels are pointed and the extreme cold in the crater.
“The mission has concluded and teams are continuing to assess the data collected throughout the mission,” the company said in a statement.

The bigger, four-wheeled rover never made it off the fallen lander, but data beamed back indicates it survived and could have driven away had everything gone well, said Lunar Outpost, the Colorado company that owns it.
This was the second landing attempt for Intuitive Machines. The first, a year ago, also ended with a sideways landing, but the company was able to keep it going for longer than this time. Despite all the problems, the company’s first lander managed to put the U.S. back on the moon for the first time in more than 50 years.
Earlier in the week, another Texas company scored a successful landing under NASA’s commercial lunar delivery program, intended to jumpstart business on the moon while preparing for astronauts’ return. Firefly Aerospace put its Blue Ghost lander down in the far northern latitudes of the moon’s near side.
Firefly CEO Jason Kim reported Friday that eight of the 10 NASA experiments on Blue Ghost already have met their mission objectives. It’s expected to operate for another week until lu-



NASA via AP
This photo provided by NASA shows the Intuitive Machines’ Athena lander approaching the surface of the moon on March 6.

nar daytime ends and solar power is no longer available.
The south polar region of the moon is particularly difficult to reach and operate on given the harsh sun angles, limited communications with Earth and uncharted, rugged terrain. Athena’s landing was the closest a spacecraft has come to the south pole, just 100 miles away.
That’s where NASA is targeting for its first landing by astronauts since the 1960s and 1970s Apollo program, no earlier than 2027. The craters are believed to hold tons of frozen water that could be used by future crews to drink and turn into rocket fuel.
Intuitive Machines has contracts with NASA for two more moon landing deliveries. The company said it will need to determine exactly what went wrong this time before launching the next mission. After the 15-foot Athena landed, controllers rushed to turn off some of the lander’s equipment to conserve power while trying to salvage what

they could.
In both landings by Intuitive Machines, problems arose at the last minute with the prime laser navigation system.
Intuitive Machines’ rocket-propelled drone, Grace, was supposed to hop across the lunar surface before jumping into a crater to look for frozen water. The two rovers from two other companies, one American and one Japanese, were going to scout around the area as well.
NASA’s ice drill was activated before the lander’s batteries died, but was unable to penetrate the lunar surface as planned, given the lander’s prone position. Flight controllers did manage to rotate the drill to prove it worked, and a companion science instrument collected some data, NASA said.
Several other mission objectives were accelerated, according to Intuitive Machines.
NASA paid \$62 million to Intuitive Machines to get its three experiments to the moon.

Starlink signs deal to explore using satellite internet in India

NEW DELHI (AP) — Indian telecom operator Bharti Airtel said Tuesday it has signed a deal with Elon Musk’s Starlink to explore providing the U.S. satellite internet giant’s services to customers in India, depending on government approval.
Musk has long wanted Starlink to enter the world’s most populous market, but its entry into India has been delayed due to regulatory challenges, security concerns and opposition from domestic telecom giants like bil-

lionaire Mukesh Ambani’s Reliance Jio.
Airtel — India’s second largest telecom operator — said in a statement that its deal with Starlink depends on whether the subsidiary of U.S. aerospace company SpaceX can receive government approval to begin operating in India. At least 40% of India’s more than 1.4 billion people still don’t have access to the internet and cheap satellite broadband is needed to bridge this gap, particularly in India’s vast remote

and mountainous areas.
Musk’s Starlink has at least 6,900 active satellites orbiting Earth that provide low-latency broadband, including to areas where internet previously has been completely unavailable.
Last November, India’s telecoms minister, Jyotiraditya Scindia, said Starlink had yet to comply with security norms, and that a license for satellite communications services would be issued only after the company meets all requirements.

LEGALS

CORTLAND COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE
To be sold to satisfy a garageman's lien on 3/28/25
2017 Ram Pick
Vin#1C6RR7YTXHS454893 Owner
Marjorie & Federick Burke
at 362 Rt 13 Cortland NY 13045

CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF MEETING
The Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES Board of Education will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 6:30 pm, at the OCM BOCES Main Campus, 110 Elwood Davis Road, Liverpool, NY.

CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF MEETING
The Onondaga-Cortland-Madison Board of Cooperative Educational Services will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 6:30 pm at the OCM BOCES Main Campus, 110 Elwood Davis Road, Liverpool, NY.

VILLAGE OF MARATHON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
A Public Hearing will be held on March 19, 2025, at the Village of Marathon Office located at 18 Tannery St., Marathon NY 13803 at 7:00 pm.

To establish the Village of Marathon Board of Trustees as Lead Agency for SEQRA purposes concerning the application submitted by Marathon Area Volunteer Ambulance Corp. Inc. for the construction of a new ambulance station located at 15 Broome St. Marathon, NY 13803 tax map number: 158.17-02-13.000.
Laura Padbury
Village of Marathon
Clerk/Treasurer

CITY OF CORTLAND NOTICE OF HEARING ON PROPOSED LOCAL LAW
MARCH 18, 2025 | 6:00 PM
The City of Cortland Common Council will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. March 18, 2025 at City Hall (3rd Floor), 25 Court St. Cortland NY 13045 on a proposed local law to amend the city zone map for a parcel located at 79 Pomeroy St. (Tax Map No. 86.81-03-03.000) having portions in two (2) districts (GB-2 and R-2) to make the parcel zoned GB-2 entirely.
The City Zoning Board of Appeals, city Planning Commission and county planning Board have recommended the proposed zone map change. Members of the public are invited to attend and speak on the matter prior to the Common Council’s consideration of the proposed local law.
Andrew T. Jewett, City Clerk
cityclerk@cortland.org

CITY OF CORTLAND BID NOTICE
The City of Cortland is seeking proposals from qualified firms or individuals to provide Program Delivery and Administrative Services in conjunction with a recently awarded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to fund a Housing Rehabilitation Program. M/WBE firms and Section 3 businesses are strongly encouraged to respond.

The City of Cortland will accept proposals from qualified consultants and consulting firms until Noon on March 25, 2025. No late submissions will be reviewed.

Proposals delivered electronically must be in a searchable PDF Format and should be sent to emulvihill@cortland.org by the required deadline, and should include "RFP-CDBG HOUSING REHABILITATION GRANT" in the subject line.

Mailed proposals should be clearly marked "RFP-CDBG HOUSING REHABILITATION GRANT" on the outside. The proposal must be submitted in electronic, searchable PDF Format on a USB flash drive and hard copy submissions and received in the City Clerk’s Office, which is located on the main floor of City Hall, 25 Court Street, Cortland, New York 13045.

Proposals must be submitted no later than Noon on March 25, 2025. They can be delivered electronically to emulvihill@cortland.org or delivered in person to the City Clerk’s Office, City Hall, Cortland, NY 13045.

Questions about this RFP : Please direct all questions about this RFP to Eric Mulvihill, Special Projects Manager, emulvihill@cortland.org. All question and responses will be published as addendums to this RFP at https://www.cortland.org/512/Public-Notices

CORTLAND COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE
Homer Central School District Annual Meeting Resolution
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that petitions nominating candidates for the office of the member of the Board of Education of Homer Central School District must be filed with the clerk of the district no later than 5:00 PM, Monday, April 21, 2025.

The following vacancies are to be filled on the Board of Education:
Trustee for term of three (3) years, Aaron Bouwens, name of last incumbent.

Trustee for term of three (3) years, Amy Kida, name of last incumbent.

Trustee for term of three (3) years, Eddie Maslin, name of last incumbent.

Each petition, a copy of which may be obtained in the district clerk’s office in the Homer Central High School building, New York Route 281, Homer, New York must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters, must state the residence of each signer, and must state the name and residence of the candidate.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that the election of members of the Board of Education and voting upon the appropriation of necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 between the hours of 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM EDT in the Homer Training and Education Center (HTEC) located at the South end of Homer Central High School, on New York Route 281, Homer, New York.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the election of members of the Board of Education and voting upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures as well as approval of the lease of a number of buses and the expenditures of the Phillips Free Library, may be done by qualified voters by means of an absentee ballot as provided by Education Law Section 2018 - b and in accordance with Policy 1640 of the Homer Central School District. As per New York State Law, Chapter 481, qualified voters may obtain an application for an early mail ballot per the Early Mail Voter Act.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that a public hearing for the purpose of discussion of the expenditure of funds and budgeting thereof will be held in the Homer Training and Education Center (HTEC) located at the South end of Homer Central High School at Homer, New York on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 6:30 PM EDT.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required for the ensuing year for school purposes, and the tax exemption report, exclusive of public monies, may be obtained in the office of each schoolhouse in the district, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM EDT by any resident of the District during the fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the budget vote, to be held Tuesday, May 20, 2025, except Saturday, Sunday or any legal holiday.

Kelli Yacovone
District Clerk
Homer CSD-March 2025

CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
Notice of Formation of Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC)
Name: Central NY Physical Therapy, PLLC
Articles of Organization filed by the Department of State of New York on: 11/04/2024
Office location: Cortland
Purpose: Physical Therapy
Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) is designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process against it may be served.
The SSNY may forward all process to: Central NY Physical Therapy, PLLC 126 Blazey Road Victor, NY 14564

CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
Notice of Formation of Bounce It Out LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/09/2025. 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 Kylee French: 5827 County Line Road Whitney Point, NY 13862. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Find the right person to buy your forgotten treasures through a Cortland Standard classified ad

‘An example for the entire country’

Nonprofit seeks geothermal energy to heat and cool Chicago homes

By NARA SCHOENBERG
Chicago Tribune
(TNS)

CHICAGO — You can heat homes with gas, propane, oil or electricity.

Or you can make use of the virtually endless supply of clean energy that lies right beneath your feet.

The South Side nonprofit Blacks in Green is pursuing the latter option, with a plan for a multibuilding geothermal system that will tap steady, year-round underground temperatures of about 55 degrees.

In step one of the project, workers will send plastic pipes 450 feet into the ground beneath Chicago alleys. The pipes, which circulate a fluid that absorbs and releases heat, will loop back up to 69 buildings in a four-block area of West Woodlawn, powering heating and central air.

The \$10.8 million project is one of only five community geothermal heating plans nationwide selected for full funding by the Department of Energy in December, and it is moving forward at a time of growing interest in neighborhood geothermal among states, utilities and energy experts.

“It will be an example for the entire country,” said Tugce Baser, an associate professor of civil engineering at Saint Louis University and a member of the Blacks in Green project team.

It’s unclear whether the project will be affected by President Donald Trump’s attempts to freeze funding for clean energy programs, but Blacks in Green founder and CEO Naomi Davis said her team is assuming the best and continuing its work on the project.

Multibuilding geothermal heating and cooling has been used for decades, often at college campuses and military complexes, with documented cost and energy savings.

But now interest in systems spanning existing neighborhoods



Audrey Richardson/Chicago Tribune/TNS

The founder and CEO of Blacks in Green, Naomi Davis, poses for a portrait in one of the alleys where her organization is planning a four-block geothermal network in Chicago on Feb. 14.

is growing, due to factors such as ambitious state clean energy goals, growing demand for electricity and the slow pace at which new power sources are being added to the grid.

At the New England utility Eversource, which launched the nation’s first utility-run neighborhood geothermal pilot project in Framingham, Massachusetts, last year, clean technologies manager Eric Bosworth said dozens of utilities from across the country have called with questions.

Interest is growing on the state level as well. Since 2021, seven states have passed laws allowing or requiring utilities to develop neighborhood geothermal pilot projects, according to the Building Decarbonization Coalition.

“For me, it’s a no-brainer,” Baser said of geothermal, in which heat from the core of the earth moves toward the surface, constantly replenishing the heat that’s used to warm a building.

“(The heat) is there, it’s constant and it’s available any time

you want it. Why not use it?” Baser said.

The Blacks in Green pilot was selected for \$10.8 million in Department of Energy funding before Trump took office and moved to freeze funding for many clean energy projects.

Davis declined to discuss the federal funding controversy but said, “We’re moving ahead, come what may, because we’re dedicated to doing the work.”

PHYSICS OR MAGIC?

For Blacks in Green, the geothermal project is part of a larger vision for West Woodlawn, a majority Black neighborhood on the South Side.

“We are creating what we call a Sustainable Square Mile, which is where African American neighbors can walk to work, walk to shop, walk to learn and walk to play,” said Davis, an attorney and activist who has lived in the neighborhood since 2010.

“We own the businesses in the walkable village. We own the

land. And we live a conservation lifestyle,” she said.

Locally owned clean energy is part of that vision, and when the Department of Energy made its community geothermal grants available, Blacks in Green applied.

“This is a very unique opportunity to have a community-owned utility, essentially,” Davis said. There was also the chance to create good jobs in the neighborhood, lower participants’ utility bills — and even reach children at neighborhood elementary schools.

“How do we get into those classrooms?” Davis mused. “How do we get into those children’s heads and hearts and get them excited about a career in energy?”

Neighborhood geothermal, which could theoretically be extended to entire regions, hasn’t gotten as much attention as wind and solar, but it has its advantages, including the ability to produce a steady supply of clean energy, regardless of whether the sun shines

or the wind blows.

“When you’re looking at the energy system as a whole, having that (continuous) energy is really critical. It’s part of reliability, it’s part of resilience, it’s part of affordability because the infrastructure gets used for a long time and continuously,” said Zeyneb Magavi, executive director of the renewable energy nonprofit HEET.

Geothermal heating and cooling systems can draw warmth from hot springs or even a lake or pond, but in the Midwest plans for multibuilding geothermal systems generally rely on the mild temperatures below the earth’s surface.

That’s the kind of system used in Framingham, and it’s the kind envisioned for West Woodlawn.

At deeper than 20 feet, the temperature is a pretty constant 55 degrees, according to Andrew Stumpf, a geologist with the Illinois Geological Survey who worked on an initial study for the Blacks in Green project.

In cold weather, the fluid circulating through the geothermal system’s underground plastic pipes absorbs the relatively warm temperature of the earth and brings it back to home heat pumps, which concentrate the heat and send it into homes.

In the summer, the fluid in the pipes — often water and food-grade glycol, a synthetic liquid used in salad dressing — brings heat from the homes down into the earth, where the heat is released.

The heat pumps, which run on electricity, are highly efficient because most of the energy they use comes from the steady temperatures in the ground, not the electric grid.

In fact, geothermal heat pumps deliver more energy (in the form of heat) than they draw from the electric grid (in the form of electricity), often three to five times as much.

“It’s kind of like magic, but it’s actually physics,” Magavi said.

Texas measles cases continue to rise. Here’s what to know

By DEVI SHASTRI
AP Health Writer

Measles outbreaks in West Texas and New Mexico are now up to more than 250 cases, and two unvaccinated people have died from measles-related causes.

Measles is caused by a highly contagious virus that’s airborne and spreads easily when an infected person breathes, sneezes or coughs. It is preventable through vaccines, and has been considered eliminated from the U.S. since 2000.

Here’s what you need to know about measles in the U.S.

HOW MANY MEASLES CASES ARE THERE?

Texas state health officials said Tuesday there were 25 new cases of measles since the end of last week, bringing Texas’ total to 223. Twenty-nine people in Texas are hospitalized.

New Mexico health officials announced Friday that there were 30 cases in Lea County, which neighbors the West Texas communities at the epicenter of the outbreak.

Oklahoma’s state health department reported two probable cases of measles Tuesday, saying they are “associated” with the West Texas and New Mexico outbreaks.

A school-age child died of measles in Texas last month, and New Mexico reported its first measles-related death in an adult last week.

WHERE ELSE IS MEASLES SHOWING UP?

Measles cases have been reported in Alaska, California, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines an outbreak as three or more related cases — and there have been three clusters that qualified as outbreaks in 2025.



AP Photo/Mary Conlon, File

A vial of the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine is on display at the Lubbock Health Department, Feb. 26, in Lubbock, Texas.

In the U.S., cases and outbreaks are generally traced to someone who caught the disease abroad. It can then spread, especially in communities with low vaccination rates.

DO YOU NEED AN MMR BOOSTER?

The best way to avoid measles is to get the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine. The first shot is recommended for children between 12 and 15 months old and the second between 4 and 6 years old.

People at high risk for infection who got the shots many years ago may want to consider getting a booster if they live in an area with an outbreak, said Scott Weaver with the Global Virus Network, an international coalition.

Those may include family members living with someone who has measles or those especially vulnerable to respiratory diseases because of underlying medical conditions.

Adults with “presumptive ev-

idence of immunity” generally don’t need measles shots now, the CDC said. Criteria include written documentation of adequate vaccination earlier in life, lab confirmation of past infection or being born before 1957, when most people were likely to be infected naturally.

A doctor can order a lab test called an MMR titer to check your levels of measles antibodies, but health experts don’t always recommend this route and insurance coverage can vary.

Getting another MMR shot is harmless if there are concerns about waning immunity, the CDC says.

People who have documentation of receiving a live measles vaccine in the 1960s don’t need to be revaccinated, but people who were immunized before 1968 with an ineffective measles vaccine made from “killed” virus should be revaccinated with at least one dose, the agency said. That also includes people who don’t know which type they got.

US biochemist wins Israel’s Wolf Prize

For research into treatment of coronaviruses, HIV

JERUSALEM (AP) — An American biochemist whose research has helped scientists make inroads into treating coronavirus and HIV has won this year’s Wolf Prize, a prestigious Israeli award in the arts and sciences.

Pamela Björkman of the California Institute of Technology won the prize for “offering new hope in the fight against infectious diseases,” the Wolf Fund, which awards the prize, said Monday.

Björkman’s research “unlocked the secrets of how the immune system identifies and battles pathogens, developing game changing approaches to combat some of humanity’s most formidable viral enemies,” the fund said.

Eight others also received the state-funded prize, which has been awarded annually for 47 years. Many of the award winners have gone on to receive Nobel prizes.

Björkman grew up in Oregon and studied at the University of Oregon, Harvard and Stanford

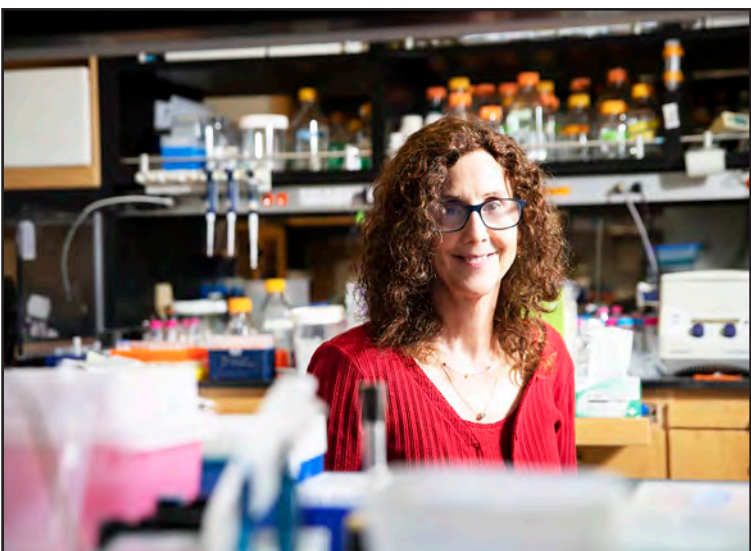
before moving to Caltech to begin teaching in 1989. Her research focuses on how the immune system identifies invading pathogens. She has broken ground, the fund said, in how scientists understand T-cell recognition and immunization strategies for HIV. T cells are white blood cells that help fight off diseases.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, she has worked on developing a new strategy to design immunogens that trigger certain antibodies against coronaviruses.

“Pamela Björkman’s work provides a glimpse of a new rational design strategy for future vaccines to deal with humanity’s greatest immunization challenges,” wrote the fund.

This year’s prize in architecture was awarded to Chinese architect Tiantian Xu for her work in rural China, which the prize committee said “transformed villages throughout China economically, socially, and culturally.”

Xu studied architecture at Harvard Graduate School of Design before returning to China, starting her own firm and working on a number of public projects that have kickstarted village economies, the fund said.



Wolf Foundation via AP

This image shows Pamela Björkman of the California Institute of Technology, who won this year’s prestigious Wolf Award for her research into treating coronavirus and HIV.