THE LIVINGSTON
ENTERPRISE
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CREATING OUTSIDE THE BOX

Six local artists create artwork for Livingston traffic signal boxes

By Enterprise Staff

More public art is on display in Livingston thanks to six local artists who created colorful wraps for traffic signal boxes in town.

The artwork depicts images, scenes and architecture from the area.

More than a dozen artists submitted art samples for the project but only six painters were chosen. They were Christine Tiscione, Heather Morrone, Edd Enders, K. Potter, Parks Reece and Tandy Riddle.

"We hope they will inspire hometown pride from locals and a desire to learn more about Livingston's art community from visitors," said Kris King, executive director of Explore Livingston Coalition, said in a news release. "In addition to signaling traffic, the boxes can signal our rich array of art galleries, theatre, literary and music venues while reflecting our area's iconic buildings, agriculture and tourism industries, and natural beauty depicted on the boxes."

The traffic boxes adorned with art are located on Park Street stretching from B Street to Loves Lane.

The traffic box art initiative, or the A.R.T. (Artistically Reclaimed Traffic-box) project, was a collaboration of the Livingston Urban Renewal Agency, city of Livingston, Downtown Livingston Business Improvement District, Explore Livingston Coalition, and the Livingston Gallery Association, according to a news release.

The project goal is to add vibrant public art to Livingston's streetscape and decrease instances of graffiti, poster and sticker vandalism on these surfaces. Once art is applied, rather than attracting vandalism, the boxes are functional pieces of public art that contribute significantly to the vitality and attractiveness of Livingston's streetscape, read the news release.

The wraps were installed by Bozeman-based Clean Slate Montana and come with a seven-year warranty.

"It is the mission of the Livingston Urban Renewal Agency to assist with the revitalization of the Livingston downtown area and we are proud to showcase and support Livingston's remarkable local artists and creators with these updated traffic signal boxes," said Allison Vicenzi, board chair of the URA.

"We describe Livingston as a train town revitalized by the arts, and these public art signal boxes are a vibrant reflection of our area's abundant arts culture," said King.



Photo by Kris King

Edd Enders and Heather Marrone's mural wraps are placed on utility boxes on the corner of Park and Fifth streets in Livingston. See more photos on Page 3.



Tandy Riddle's rendition of Livingston's historical KPRK radio station can be found wrapped around the utility box on the corner of Loves Lane and Park Street.
Photo by Kris King



Enterprise photo by Cassi Geiser

Artwork by K. Potter is on display on the corner of Seventh and Park streets in Livingston Friday morning.

Rescuers seek survivors after storms kill 9 across South

SELMA, Ala. (AP) — Rescuers raced Friday to find survivors in the aftermath of a tornado-spawning storm system that barreled across parts of Georgia and Alabama, killing at least nine people, and inflicted heavy damage on Selma, a flashpoint of the civil rights movement.

A better picture of the damage was expected to emerge later in the day as authorities surveyed the scarred landscape. At least 35 possible tornado touchdowns were reported across several states, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The National Weather Service, which was working to confirm the twisters, said suspected tornado damage was reported in at least 14 counties in Alabama and five in Georgia.

Tens of thousands of homes and businesses were without power in both states, according to PowerOutage.us, which tracks outages nationwide.

One tornado cut a 20-mile path across two rural Alabama communities Thursday before the worst of the weather moved across Georgia on a track south of Atlanta.

Searchers in Autauga County found a body after daybreak near a home that had been badly damaged, authorities said. That death brought the toll to seven in the county about 40 miles (64 kilometers) northeast of Selma.

At least 12 people were taken to hospitals, Ernie Baggett, Autauga County's emergency management director, said as crews cut through downed trees looking for survivors.

About 40 homes were destroyed or seriously damaged, including several mobile homes that were launched into the air, he said.

"They weren't just blown over," he said. "They were blown a distance."

In Selma, a city etched in the history of the civil rights movement, the city council met on a sidewalk using lights from cellphones and declared a state of emergency.

A 5-year-old child riding in a vehicle was killed by a falling tree in central Georgia's Butts County, said Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Director James Stallings. He said a parent who was driving suffered critical injuries.

Elsewhere, a state Department of Transportation worker also was killed while responding to storm damage, Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp said. He gave no further details.

Kemp surveyed some of the worst storm damage Friday by helicopter. In some areas, he said, rescue teams had to dig into collapsed homes to free trapped survivors.

"We know people that were stranded in homes where literally the whole house collapsed, and they were under the crawl space," Kemp told reporters.

The governor said the storm inflicted damage statewide, with some of the worst around Troup County near the Georgia-Alabama line, where dozens of homes were hit and at least 12 people were treated at a hospital.

In Spalding County, south of Atlanta, the storm struck as mourners gathered for a wake at Peterson's Funeral Home in Griffin. About 20 people scrambled for shelter in a restroom and an office when a loud boom sounded as a large tree fell on the building.

"When we came out, we were in total shock," said Sha-Meeka Peterson-Smith, the funeral home's chief operational officer. "We heard everything, but didn't know how bad it actually was."

Biden's Delaware home now a player in document drama

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's President Joe Biden's refuge from Washington — a place that's part home office, part Sunday family dinner venue, a safe place for his treasured 1967 Corvette and a makeshift campaign studio during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Now, Biden's home in Wilmington, Delaware, is coming under fresh scrutiny as a repository of classified material.

The White House confirmed Thursday that classified records were found in the garage of Biden's Wilmington home, as well as an adjacent room that the president later identified as his personal library. The disclosure came three days after the White House said similarly classified materials were located at Biden's former institute in Washington. The discoveries, taken together, prompted Attorney General Merrick Garland to tap a special counsel to oversee the matter.

The announcement shines a brighter spotlight on Biden's Wilmington house, where he regularly spends the weekends and where he finds more freedom and a homier atmosphere than at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.



AP

In this file image provided by The White House, President Joe Biden speaks with Russian President Vladimir Putin on the phone from his private residence in Wilmington, Del., Dec. 30, 2021.

"I said when I was running, I wanted to be president — not to live in the White House, but to be able to make the decisions about the future of the country," Biden said in February 2021, just after he took office. Living in the White House, he said, is "a little like a gilded cage in terms of being able to walk outside and do things."

So far in his presidency, Biden has spent part or all of 194 days in his home state of Delaware, spending most weekends in either at his Wilmington home or in Rehoboth Beach, where he owns a $2.7 million home, according to an Associated Press tally. He will head to Wilmington again this weekend.

Despite an onslaught of criticism, particularly from Republicans, for regularly escaping to the state, White House officials say the time spent in Wilmington is important for a president who traveled home nightly during the 36 years he served as senator. Biden also can stand up presidential operations at home, where he regularly meets with advisers, and an aide from the National Security Council travels with the president during Wilmington weekends.

"Every president can work from anywhere they are, because that is how presidencies are equipped," former White House press secretary Jen Psaki said in February 2022, as Russia began invading Ukraine and Biden was preparing for another weekend in Wilmington. She confirmed that Biden can make secure calls from "anywhere he is, yes."

Biden's custom-built Wilmington home, finished in 1998, is located in the tony Greenville section of the town and abuts a lake in a neighborhood where residents are now used to Secret Service vehicles and flashing motorcade lights. It's a brief drive to his home church, St. Joseph on the Brandywine, and a branch of the upscale grocery store Wegman's opened nearby in recent months.

The home is also a culmination of Biden's decades-long quest to establish the perfect family home and his self-admitted obsession with real estate. Over the years, he would purchase several homes in Delaware and later sell them at a profit.

"Joe has a very symmetrical eye, and if he had a million dollars he wouldn't be traveling, he would be putting it into his house," his sister, Valerie Biden Owens, said in journalist Jules Witcover's biography of the president. The book, "Joe Biden: A Life of Trial and Redemption," described him as an "admittedly frustrated architect."

TO OUR READERS

Monday is a postal holiday, so you will not receive a Tuesday edition of The Enterprise in the mail.

Check out The Enterprise website for any breaking news and look for the Wednesday edition of The Enterprise to arrive by mail.

Thank you for your continued support of The Enterprise.

Obituaries

Mark Cech



Mark Cech passed away on Jan. 5, 2023. He was 67 years old.

He was born in Livingston, MT on Oct. 13, 1955. He graduated from Park High School in 1975 and enjoyed playing basketball for the Park High Rangers. He served four years in the U.S. Army, two years of which was in Germany. Mark traveled all over the Northwest, eventually landing in Kalispell, MT. Mark loved Montana and would often brag about how the Flathead Valley and surrounding area was the most beautiful place on earth. He would often hike the mountains in search of Morel mushrooms, but his true passion was fishing. If he wasn't working, he would be fishing.

Mark was preceded in death by his father, Richard Cech; mother, Arlene Cech; and youngest brother Kelly Cech.

Mark is survived by his brother Rick, brother Steve, sister Patti, brother Bruce, and brother Kerry Cech.

A Celebration of Life will be held this coming summer in Livingston, MT.

Jerry Jay Bonnell

Jerry Jay Bonnell went home to be with Jesus on Dec. 26, 2022 at the age of 68, in Kooskia, Idaho.

Jerry was born to Robert and Joyce (Carrell) Bonnell on Feb. 15, 1954 in Livingston, MT. Jerry grew up in Clyde Park, MT and became quite the basketball player in high school. After graduating high school Jerry moved to Helena, MT, where he attended diesel mechanic school.

Jerry had two children, Rob Bonnell and Carrie Mangun. He worked as a coal miner in Colstrip, MT for seven years before moving to Tennessee to attend Seminary school. Jerry was a Southern Baptist preacher for 32 years. There were many years where he wasn't preaching in a church, but was spreading the word of God while working at the coal mine and being a contractor in Colstrip, MT. It is there that Jerry was able to work side by side with his son Rob and son-in-law Darris to share his knowledge of building with them.

In addition to being a hard-working man, Jerry had a larger-than-life personality and would make people laugh and become friends with everyone he met. Jerry loved his cars and would always say, "I may not be speeding, but I'm passing a lot of people who are." Throughout Jerry's life, he witnessed countless people and enjoyed his time as a pastor.

Jerry is preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Joyce Bonnell, and his brother Ray Bonnell. Jerry is survived by his son Rob (Jami) Bonnell and grandson Logan (Kailyn) Bonnell and great-granddaughter Kooper and granddaughter Kassie (Abel) James, his daughter Carrie (Darris) Mangun and grandsons Kammeron and Trayse Mangun and granddaughters Kaitlyn, Ashton, and Allexis Mangun, sister Judy (Rich) Inman and numerous nieces.

His favorite verse was Philippians 4:13.

Briefs

• **The Livingston-Park County Public Library Board** will hold its regular monthly meeting at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 17 at the library.

• Livingston HealthCare is hosting a meet-and-greet from 5 to 7 p.m. at LHC, where its surgeons will give **a presentation on robotic-assisted surgery** with the state-of-the-art da Vinci robot console.

• **HRDC's Livingston Warming Center** is open every day from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. The center provides a safe and warm place to sleep during the coldest months of the year. The shelter is located in the rear alley behind the HRDC office on Second Street.

• **The Yellowstone Gateway Museum** in Livingston is seeking submissions for "Celebrating Yellowstone" a juried art exhibition and sale to run May 1-Oct. 1, 2023. Artwork must be created during 2022 — Yellowstone National Park's 150th anniversary — and depict or be inspired by the park. For more information, visit https://yellowstonegateway-museum.org/news-events; contact Karen Reinhart at kreinhart@parkcounty.org; or call (406) 222-4184.

• Automatic Transmission Specialists and the Livingston Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with local automotive businesses, **rebuilds a refurbished vehicle** for persons such as a veteran, a senior, a student or a family who is in need of transportation. For an application for the Park County Automobile Giveaway, contact the Livingston Chamber at 222-0850; ATS at 222-3992; CHP at 222-1111, ext. 5; HRDC at 333-2537; the Clyde Park Town Hall; or the Gardiner Chamber of Commerce at 848-7971 or email info@livingston-chamber.com.

Calendar

SATURDAY, Jan. 14

• AA meeting Third Step Group, Vince Grant Hall, 1306 E. Park St., 10:30 a.m.

• Al-Anon meeting, for families and friends of alcoholics, 11:30 a.m., Pine Creek United Methodist Church.

• Overeaters Anonymous meeting, Gardiner Baptist Church, 802 Scott St., 7 p.m.

• AA meeting, Daily Reflections Study, Vince Grant Hall, 1306 E. Park St., 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, Jan. 15

• AA meeting, 449 Group, Loaves & Fishes, 301 S. Main St. #1, 10 a.m.

• Auction, Windy City Auction Gallery, 217 W. Park St., 10 a.m.

• Narcotics Anonymous, Vince Grant Hall, 1 p.m.

• AA meeting, Vince Grant Hall, 1306 East Park St., 7 p.m.

• AA meeting, Emigrant St. John's Episcopal Church, 7 p.m.

MONDAY, Jan. 16

• AA meeting — Vince Grant Hall, 1306 East Park St, 7:30 a.m.

• Dual Recovery Anonymous, Peer Solutions Drop-In Center, 104 W. Clark St., 4-5 p.m. Call 222-3332.

• Al-Anon, St. William's Catholic Church in Gardiner, 7 p.m.

• AA meeting, As Bill Sees It, Vince Grant Hall, 1306 East Park St., 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, Jan. 17

• T.O.P.S. No. 134, Church of Christ Fellowship Hall, 919 W. Park St., 8 a.m.

• AA meeting, Big Book Study, 1306 East Park St., noon.

• Tobacco Cessation Group, Peer Solutions Drop-In Center, 104 W. Clark St., 4-5 p.m. Call 222-3332.

• Livingston City Commission, City-County Complex, 414 E. Callender St., 5:30 p.m.

• Last Word Toastmasters, hybrid meeting at American Bank, 120 N. Second St., and via Zoom, Tuesday, 6 p.m.

• AA meeting, 12 x 12 Group, Vince Grant Hall, 1306 East Park St., 7 p.m.

• Bear Creek Council, Gardiner, 7 p.m.

• Wilsall AA meeting, Shields River Lutheran Church, 7 p.m.

Bill to abolish MT energy policy sparks debate about climate, separation of powers

By Keila Szpaller
Daily Montanan



Photo by Keila Szpaller/The Daily Montanan
Rep. Bob Phalen asks questions in committee during the 2023 Montana Legislature.

The Governor's Office wants to abolish Montana's energy policy, and Rep. Bob Phalen, R-Lindsay, said he wanted one opponent of that idea to explain his use of the phrase "climate change."

"As I see it, we have four seasons," Phalen said. "There are changes every — four different times a year. So are you thinking something else?"

At a hearing Wednesday in the House Energy, Technology and Federal Relations Committee, Rep. Steve Gunderson, R-Libby, presented House Bill 170, which would repeal the state's energy policy goals.

Gunderson said it follows the governor's "red tape reduction plan" and eliminates needless language in Montana code. The code notes the policy was first adopted in 1993 and revised last legislative session.

"It's a bag of air," Gunderson said. "It's a policy. It's a guidance. But it has no teeth. It's not a law. How do you enforce it? You can't. There's nothing there."

Only a handful of people testified, but the bill sparked questions from legislators, including the one about climate change, another about the separation of powers, and one about the reason for a wholesale repeal rather than selective deletion.

The only proponent to testify was Republican Gov. Greg Gianforte's natural resources policy advisor, Michael Freeman, who fielded the question about separation of powers.

Opponent Derf Johnson, with the Montana Environmental Information Center, was the recipient of the question about climate change. In response to whether he was thinking "something else" besides changing seasons, Johnson said, "I am."

"What I'm talking about is the phenomenon known as anthropomorphic climate change, a phenomenon that has been recorded and accepted by virtually every scientific body in the world, by NASA, and by the top five oil companies in the world and in the United States," Johnson said.

Increasing emissions mean more climate disruption and higher temperatures across the globe, he said. In fact, he said, scientists say the climate is changing with the same confidence interval as people say cigarettes cause cancer.

"This is hard science," Johnson said.

Phalen wondered if Johnson meant that in the summer months, it won't be cooler than 100 degrees, and Johnson said it depends on location. He recommended a look at the Montana Climate Assessment.

The energy policy itself discusses a wide range of goals, such as promoting conservation and a mix of energy sources that "represent the least social, environmental and economic costs and the greatest long-term benefits to Montana citizens."

The policy also talks about diversifying energy and increasing the use of "Montana's vast coal reserves in an environmentally sound manner." It discusses advanced technologies, property rights and transmission lines, and it calls for reducing reliance on foreign oil.

In support of retaining the policy, Johnson said Montana needs an energy policy now more than ever in the face of climate change. Montana has "vast and untapped" capacity for renewable energy, he said, and the policy should be amended to carefully transition toward sustainability.

However, the policy statements run more than two pages long, and Rep. Casey Knudsen, R-Malta, wanted to know the reason Gunderson wanted to repeal the entire thing versus select portions.

Gunderson said he put a lot of thought into that decision. Since the policy as a whole is meaningless, he said, he opted to propose to get rid of it altogether — and he joked that he was making things easy on staff.

"I figured I would make the bill drafter's day by just telling you: Select all. Delete. Save," he said. "And we're done."

Rep. Katie Sullivan, D-Missoula, wanted to know the reason Montana would choose to not have an energy policy at all. Such statements are common among states as a way to express priorities and plans for the future, she said, but the bill would totally undo it.

"We won't have one. I find that strange, and I'm just looking for some feedback," Sullivan said.

Freeman, with the Governor's Office, said Montana does have an energy policy. For one thing, he said many other policies end up being energy policies — for example, tax policies or environmental policies.

Plus, he said the governor's perspective is that Montana has an "all of the above" policy to support affordable and reliable energy. Montana is open to those who want to risk their capital to build energy production here to support the region and the nation, he said.

"We want to see one that is inclusive of all energy sources and not picking winners and losers," Freeman said.

Rep. Laurie Bishop, D-Livingston, said Freeman was the only proponent, but the policy in question was the Montana Legislature's, and "with all due respect," she said Gianforte would no longer be the governor in 10 years.

"I'm wondering if you could reflect on separation of powers," Bishop said.

Freeman said the governor was not bringing the legislation — Gunderson was bringing it, and the Governor's Office was in support of it.

But Bishop also wanted to know if she understood correctly the bill was part of the governor's "red tape reduction" plan.

Freeman said it's in line "with the spirit of the red tape reform efforts," but it's not an official part of it.

But Bishop asked Gunderson about the separation of powers as well, and he reiterated the fact that he's the sponsor.

"That is not the governor's or Mr. Freeman's bill," Gunderson said. "It's mine. And mine alone."

Oregon OKs killing 2 wolves in new pack after calf attacks

UNION, Ore. (AP) — Oregon officials approved Thursday the killing of two wolves in a new pack that they said have been attacking calves in the northeastern part of the state.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife said it would allow the landowner or potentially USDA Wildlife Services to shoot the wolves on the private land where the attacks happened, east of Union.

Three attacks that killed five calves on private pastures were confirmed by the agency on Dec. 25, Dec. 29, and Jan. 10. That level of depredation meets the definition of chronic livestock depredation under the state's Wolf Plan rules, which defines it as a minimum of two confirmed depredations in nine months.

Fish and Wildlife officials can approve the killing of wolves in chronic depredation situations when significant risk to livestock continues and nonlethal preventative measures have been used.

Record

BIRTHS

• Dec. 26, 2022: Maci LaVonne Martz, 7 pounds, 6 ounces, a female born to Cassidy Corrigan and James Martz at the Shane G. Lalani Family Birth Center at Livingston HealthCare.

• Nov. 17, 2022: Adrian Thomas Boren, 5 pounds, 10 ounces, a male born to Emily Turnquist and Eric Boren at the Shane G. Lalani Family Birth Center at Livingston HealthCare.

• Dec. 06, 2022: Daxton Lee, 7 pounds, 7 ounces, a male born to Madilyn and Curtis Lee at the Shane G. Lalani Family Birth Center at Livingston HealthCare.

• Jan. 06, 2023: Liam Adrien Cox, 8 pounds, 0 ounces, a male born to Jofil and Chris Cox at the Shane G. Lalani Family Birth Center at Livingston HealthCare.

Correction

The Thursday, Page 1 Enterprise story on Livingston Fire & Rescue contained an error in the description of the new community paramedic position. That position doesn't truly have prescription authority but can amend and alter prescriptions or assign them via an online doctor's order.

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SCALLOPED POTATOES & HAM
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Wednesday, Jan. 18
CHICKEN ALFREDO/PASTA
garlic bread, veggie, fruit, dessert

Thursday, Jan. 19-No Delivery
TURKEY DIVINE
veggie, fruit

Friday, Jan. 20
BEEF PASTIES/GRAVY
veggie, fruit, dessert

Monday, Jan 23
HUNTINGTON CHICKEN
veggie, roll, fruit

$5.00 donation asked
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ENTERPRISE

INSIDE SALES AND CIRCULATION POSITION

The Livingston Enterprise has an open **Inside Sales and Circulation position**. The right candidate for the job will have experience with basic computers, Excel, data entry, customer service skills, pleasant/etiquette phone voice and the ability to multi-task. Prior administrative assistant experience a plus but, not a must. Must work well w/others. Monday - Friday, 8am-5:00pm.

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Art outside the box





ABOVE: Christine Tiscione's mural of a trout and the Yellowstone River Valley is displayed on a utility box at B and Park streets in downtown Livingston.

RIGHT: Parks Reece's mural of an illusive trout in the water wraps the utility box located on the corner of Park Street and Loves Lane in Livingston.

Photos by Kris King

EXPLAINER: What's known, what's next in Idaho stabbing case

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — The criminal case against a man accused of stabbing to death four University of Idaho students last November is underway, but it will likely be months or longer before the case goes to trial.

Bryan Kohberger, who was attending a nearby university around the time of the killings, is scheduled for a preliminary hearing on murder charges in late June. He was arrested Dec. 30 in connection with the deaths of Kaylee Goncalves, Madison Mogen, Xana Kernodle and Ethan Chapin.

Here's a look at what is known so far about the killings, the suspect and the criminal case:

WHO IS THE SUSPECT?

Kohberger was arrested at his parents home in Chestnuthill Township, Pennsylvania, and extradited to Idaho where he is charged with four counts of first-degree murder and one count of burglary.

Before the arrest, Kohberger was working toward a doctorate in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Washington State University, located 9 miles (14.5 kilometers) west of the University of Idaho in Moscow. He is no longer enrolled at WSU.

Police haven't said whether they think Kohberger knew the victims.

WHO WERE THE VICTIMS?

All four were friends, and the three women lived together at the home just off campus where they were killed in the early morning hours of Nov. 13.

Kernodle, 20, was a junior studying marketing. She was from Post Falls, Idaho, and joined the Pi Beta Phi sorority. She was dating Chapin, who was visiting the house the night of the attack.

Chapin, 20, was from Conway, Washington, and was a triplet. His brother and sister also attend UI, and both Chapin and his brother were members of the Sigma Chi fraternity.

Goncalves and Mogen were both 21 and friends who grew up together in northern Idaho. Mogen worked with Kernodle at a Greek restaurant in Moscow. She was also a member of Pi Beta Phi.

Goncalves was a senior majoring in general studies, a member of the Alpha Phi sorority.

WHEN DID KOHBERGER BECOME A SUSPECT?

The Moscow Police Department released few details during the investigation but court documents show they began looking for a white sedan seen near the home at the time of the killings by late November. They asked regional law enforcement to join the search, and on Nov. 28 officers at Washington State University identified Kohberger's white Hyundai Elantra, looked up his name and noted he had switched his car registration from Pennsylvania to Washington state five days after the deaths.

It's not exactly clear when the WSU officers relayed that information to the Moscow Police Department, which asked the public for help finding the white Hyundai Elantra in early December.

According to the court affidavit, at some point investigators looked at Kohberger's history, and saw he had given a deputy a cell phone number during a traffic stop in August. Using the surveillance footage and cell phone data, they sketched out a possible travel route the night of the killings. Kohberger's phone was turned off or on airplane mode around the time of the killings, police wrote in the affidavit, but the data right before it was turned off suggested he was heading in the direction of the home and the data after it was turned back on suggested he was heading away from the home.

Other cellular data suggested Kohberger had traveled to the neighborhood where the victims were killed at least a dozen times previously, always late in the evening or early in the morning, according to the affidavit.

A knife sheath was found at the home after the killings, and police believed it belonged to the attacker. A small amount of DNA was found on it that did not belong to the victims.

Kohberger left WSU for the winter break and was staying at his family's home in eastern Pennsylvania over the holidays. On Dec. 27, police in Pennsylvania recovered DNA evidence trash discarded from the family's home. The DNA evidence matched the DNA found on the sheath, according to the affidavit.

ARE THERE ANY OTHER SUSPECTS?

Speculation about a "co-defendant" was stirred up online this week after Kohberger's defense attorney filed a standard "request for discovery" document in the court case.

In the request, the defense team asked for copies of evidence and any other related materials the prosecution and investigators have in the case, including details about Kohberger's prior record, any tangible objects taken by police, the names of potential witnesses and any "statements by a co-defendant."

That kind of language is common in discovery requests, however, and does not necessarily mean that either the defense attorneys or prosecutors think there is a co-defendant or even another suspect in the case. Attorneys frequently use their own templates for court documents as a way to make sure they don't forget any important wording. If a second person ever is charged in the case, Kohberger's attorneys will have already requested the evidence.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

A preliminary hearing is set for June 26 and expected to take about five days. During the hearing, Latah County Prosecutor Bill Thompson is expected to attempt to convince a magistrate judge that there is enough evidence to support the felony charges against Kohberger. Defense attorney Anne Taylor will likely try to show that there isn't enough evidence to justify Kohberger being charged.

The hearing will likely be the first time that the prosecution's case is detailed in court, and both sides could call witnesses or subject matter experts to testify.

If the magistrate judge agrees that the charges are appropriate, the case will be moved into district court and Kohberger will be asked to enter a plea. The prosecutor has to let the court know if he will seek the death penalty within 60 days of the plea.

Often trials in murder cases come a year or more after the charges were first filed. If Kohberger goes to trial, it could be in 2024.

ND House passes legislation to legalize sports betting

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The North Dakota House on Thursday approved legislation that would legalize sports betting in the state, sending the proposal to the state Senate.

If the Senate approves the measure, it would be placed on the November 2024 ballot for residents to decide whether to change the state constitution to allow sports betting. Currently, sports betting is allowed only at tribal casinos in the state.

Republican Rep. Greg Stemen, of Fargo, argued legalizing sports betting would bring in millions of dollars in revenue to the state, and provide oversight and regulation, The Bismarck Tribune reported.

Stemen said the American Gaming Association estimates as many as 138,000 North Dakotans are betting over $300 million annually, including $30 million in revenues to offshore betting books. Opponents argued the measure would worsen gambling addictions and lead to ruined lives.

Robbie Knievel, daredevil son of Evel Knievel, dies at 60

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Robbie Knievel, an American stunt performer who set records with daredevil motorcycle jumps following the tire tracks of his thrill-seeking father — including at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas in 1989 and a Grand Canyon chasm a decade later — has died in Nevada, his brother said. He was 60.

Robbie Knievel died early Friday at a hospice in Reno after battling pancreatic cancer, Kelly Knievel said.

"Daredevils don't live easy lives," Kelly Knievel told The Associated Press. "He was a great daredevil. People don't really understand how scary it is what my brother did."

As a boy, Robbie Knievel began on his bicycle to emulate his famous father, Evel Knievel, who died in 2007 in Clearwater, Florida.

But where Evel Knievel famously almost died from injuries when he crashed his Harley-Davidson during a jump over the Caesars Palace fountains in Las Vegas in 1967, Robbie completed the jump in 1989 using a specially designed Honda.

Robbie Knievel also made headline-grabbing Las Vegas Strip jumps over a row of limousines in 1998 at the Tropicana Hotel; between two buildings at the Jockey Club in 1999; and a New Year's Eve jump amid fireworks in front of a volcano attraction at The Mirage on Dec. 31, 2008.

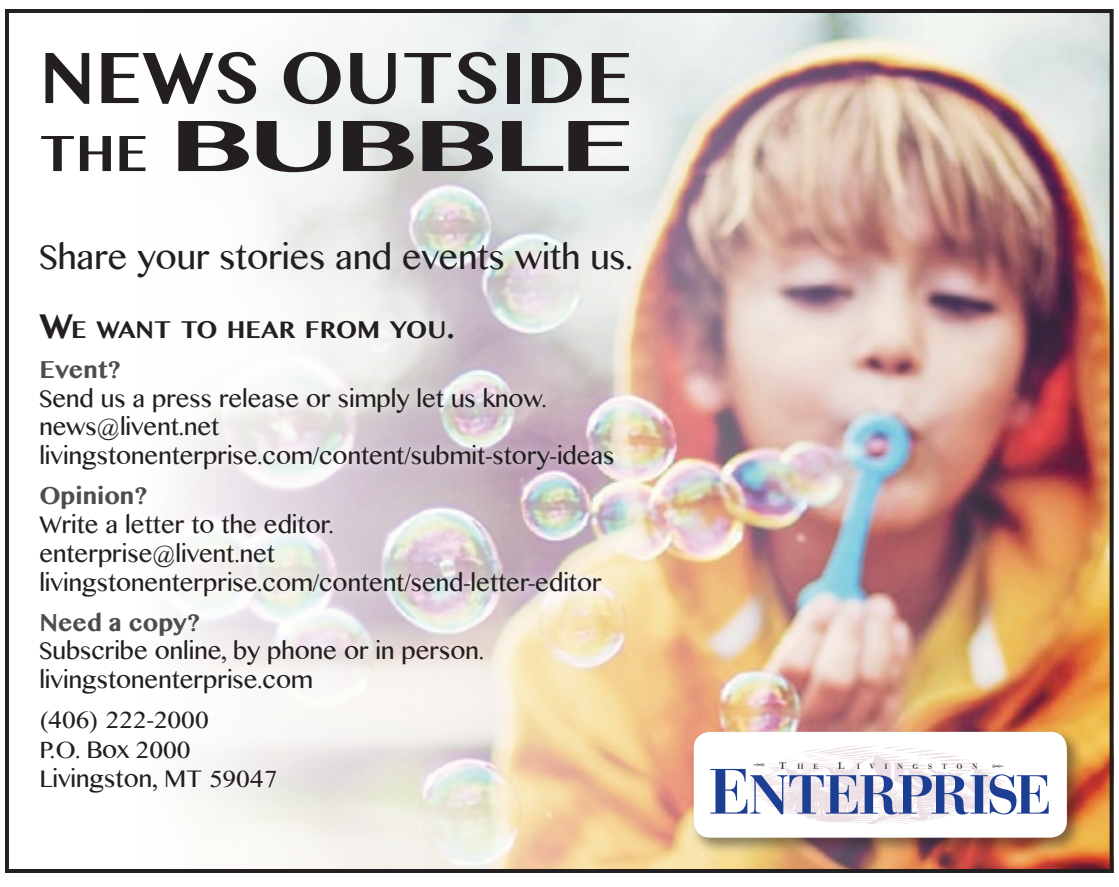
After a crash-landing to complete a motorcycle leap over a 220-foot (61-meter) chasm at an Indian reservation outside Grand Canyon National Park in 1999, Robbie Knievel noted that his father always wanted to jump the spectacular natural landmark in Arizona, but never did. Robbie Knievel broke his leg in his crash.

Evel Knievel instead attempted to soar over a mile-wide Snake River Canyon chasm in Idaho in September 1974. His rocket-powered cycle crashed into the canyon while his escape parachute deployed.

Robbie Knievel's brother recalled other stunts including a 2004 jump over a row of military aircraft on the deck of the aircraft carrier USS Intrepid, a museum in New York.

Robbie Knievel, who promoted himself as "Kaptain Robbie Knievel," set several stunt records, but also failed in several attempts. In 1992, at age 29, he was injured when he crashed into the 22nd of 25 pickup trucks lined up across a 180-foot (55-meter) span in Cerritos, California.

"Injuries took quite a toll on him," Kelly Knievel said Friday.



THE LIVINGSTON ENTERPRISE

SPORTS REPORTER

The Livingston Enterprise is seeking a full-time sports reporter to join our team that's committed to producing high-impact daily print and digital content.

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Candidates must understand the importance of digital as the future of the news industry, as well as print, and know how to effectively use social media.

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This full-time position requires some night and weekend work. It offers a competitive wage and benefits package including health, dental, paid vacation and 401(k).

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GUEST EDITORIAL

House Clerk deserves standing ovation

The person who deserves a standing ovation after this week's House speaker chaos is clerk Cheryl Johnson. She has been the calm presence at the front of the House chamber, keeping order with a gavel, a poker face and a lot of dignity. Without a speaker in place, she was temporarily in charge.

There was no rulebook for the role in which she found herself. In fact, there are no rules at all for the House until a new speaker takes over. The reason proceedings weren't dysfunctional was largely because of Ms. Johnson's ability to command respect — and even admiration — from Republicans and Democrats alike, asking rowdy representatives to refrain "from engaging in personalities toward other members-elect."

Watching Ms. Johnson in action — along with reading clerks Susan Cole and Tylease Alli, who have called out all 435 representatives' names over and over again — was a reminder that democracy relies not just on elected officials, but also on dedicated and largely apolitical civil servants. They kept order. They kept the House moving, even when the Republican majority appeared ungovernable. They did their jobs in a neutral way, showing no favor for any candidate. They didn't even show emotion as disgraced former president Donald Trump received a vote for speaker.

Rarely does the name of a House clerk become well known, but Ms. Johnson, who has been in the role since 2019, has a special place in history: She's the second African American clerk, the person who hand-carried the articles of impeachment against Mr. Trump to the Senate — twice — and for a time, an interim House leader. She has rightly received bipartisan praise this week and even some light-hearted calls for her to become speaker.

Her conduct is a model for all. Let's hope she inspires young people who might be watching to realize that there are ways to serve the country that don't involve shouting.

— *Washington Post*

Harry's truth may be too true to protect against regret

By Kathleen Parker
Syndicated Columnist

Families with dark secrets are rarely pleased when one of their own decides to seek therapy, especially when the couch happens to be on a global stage and the truth-seeker a royal son.

The bonnie Prince Harry - warrior, rebel, errant "heir-spare" and recently an expat in the United States in the manner of his great-grand uncle the Duke of Windsor upon his abdication of the British throne for the love of an American divorcée - has spent the past year stripping away more than his apparel.

To tell his truth, in the modern vernacular of self-sharing, he denuded the monarchy, exposing his torments at the expense of the palace, including his brother, William, Prince of Wales and future king; his father, King Charles III, and his father's consort-queen, Camilla.

His motive, he has said via several televised interviews, a six-part Netflix docuseries and his book, "Spare," was to tell his side of the often-tawdry stories persistently leaked to the malicious British press by the above-mentioned family members. Or so he believes. Harry's efforts might have brought him some relief for now, but ultimately they may prove to be another layer of tragedy in his life.

His revelations, rather than shocking, seem stalled in the mind of a 12-year-old, Harry's age when his mother died. He worried that Camilla would be like the evil stepmother of fairy tales. Charles and Camilla wed in 2005 when Harry was 20, well past the target age of the Brothers Grimm. He believed until his early 20s that his mother was merely hiding, plotting the day when she'd rescue her sons, like Wendy swooping in to save the lost boys from Captain Hook.

Though Harry is a sympathetic character, his confessions (and betrayals) hardly rival the machinations of most families. His book gives much attention to a shouting match between him and William around the time of Harry's wedding to Meghan Markle - now the Duchess of Sussex - which escalated when the "frustrated" elder brother knocked him to the floor, landing him atop a dog bowl, which broke and cut into Harry's back. Was it made of Tiffany crystal?

Harry's sadness that they were "strangely" competitive growing up, and that his and William's paths have since diverged, seems merely normal. Siblings typically compete and later go their own ways.

What I found saddest was the lack of affection Harry felt he received from his father, as when Charles came into his bedroom one morning and, placing a hand on the boy's knee, reported that there had been an accident. His mother was dead. There were no hugs and no tears, not for many years. It was when he finally sought therapy that the carefully arranged furniture of the palace began to splinter.

You know how it goes. You discover insights that you want to share with your family, but they've not done the necessary work. You might as well try to explain God to an atheist or love to a misanthrope. Despite his best efforts, Harry couldn't penetrate his family's proud armor nor displace the family motto: Never complain, never explain. Ultimately, he ran away and began rewriting the fairy tale of his own life.

Today, living in California, Harry hasn't spoken to brother or father in "a long while." He says he loves his relatives deeply, means them no harm, and wants his children to have a relationship with their royal family. For someone seemingly so self-aware, it doesn't occur to him that his estrangement is attached to the fact that he won't stop talking.

Most of us don't have to emigrate to escape our families - or collect $100 million to talk about it. But nearly every writer has considered penning a memoir; many stop short, recognizing the potential harm to loved ones. Those who plow ahead sometimes later regret it. Patti Davis recently wrote of her remorse decades after she wrote a tell-all about her parents, Ronald and Nancy Reagan. Wiser writers such as Christopher Buckley, who wrote "Losing Mum and Pup" after his famous parents had died, accept the counsel of editors and leave out the best (worst) stuff.

I've started my own memoir dozens of times, but have always decided to wait. Until? This very question came up many years ago in conversation with author Pat Conroy, who wrote extensively about his own family but through novels - the only way truth can really be told, he said. We were having drinks in a Naples, Fla., hotel where we both happened to be staying. After telling him the story I hoped to write someday about my father, he nearly exploded: "Why haven't you written this already?"

I said, "I was waiting . . . ," and he finished my sentence for me, ". . . for your father to die."

"Yes."

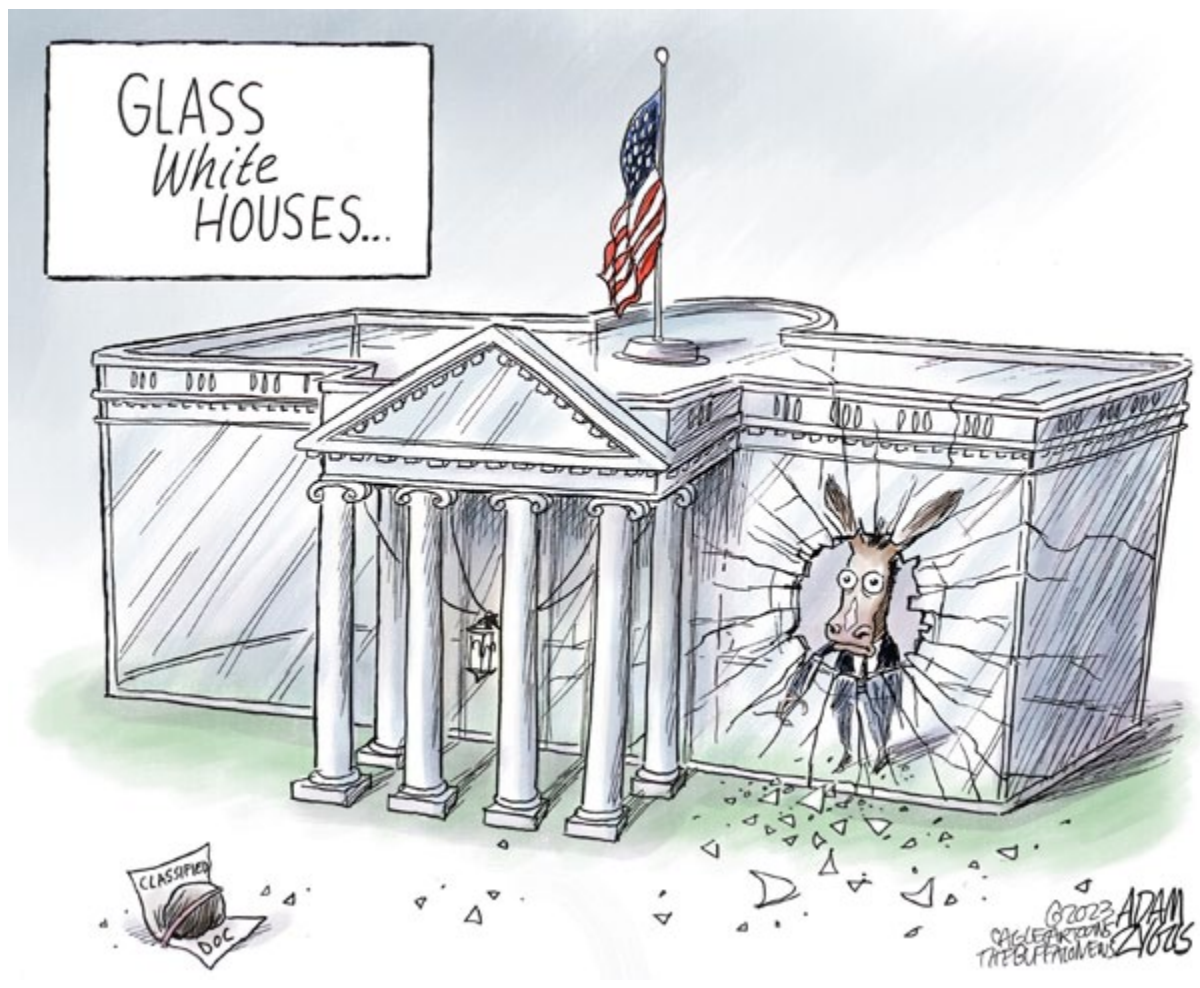
"I wish I had," he said.

This was quite an admission from the author of "The Great Santini," in which the protagonist's father was prominently featured. Santini was brutally honest about a cruel, overbearing, violent father who bore a stark resemblance to Conroy's Marine-pilot dad. His father and, perhaps, some of his siblings suffered through the book and movie, as well as "The Prince of Tides." But Conroy also told me, "Never apologize for a book you've written" - an apt addition, perhaps, to the royal family motto.

We can't know what Harry may someday regret about his serialized submissions to history, but we of more seasoned years do know this much: With time, we change. Memories fade or shift. Empathy grows in the healthy heart as life adds layers of tragedy, loss and perspective. Harry at 38 sees the world and his life a certain way. When he observes them 10, 20 and 30 years from now, he might regret the pain he's caused. I hope it was worth it.

———

Kathleen Parker's email address is kathleenparker@washpost.com.



Montana supermajority may put state's constitution on the chopping block

By James C. Nelson
Daily Montanan

Those who value Montana's Constitution are concerned — terrified, actually — of what the Legislature's supermajority (and its new Freedom Caucus) are going to try to do to it this session.

Here's how it can happen: Article XIV of our Constitution sets forth how it can be revised:

Section 1 provides that the supermajority can submit to the voters the question of whether there should be an unlimited convention to revise, alter, or amend the Constitution. Section 4 provides that if a majority of those voting answer in the affirmative, the Legislature will provide for calling the convention at its next session. Among other things, the Legislature decides whether the 100 delegates shall be elected on a partisan or non-partisan basis. Section 7 provides that any revisions, alterations or amendments adopted by the convention will then be submitted to the electors for ratification or rejection.

Section 8 provides that the supermajority can submit referendums to amend the Constitution, which, if approved by a majority of electors, become part of the Constitution.

Importantly, "We the People" ultimately get to decide to accept or reject any proposed revisions, alterations or amendments to the Constitution, however they're placed on the ballot.

Here's what can happen: There's hardly a legislator in the supermajority that doesn't have a bone to pick with some provision in our Constitution. Don't forget, it's been called a "socialist rag" that should be thrown out. So, expect to see on a ballot coming to you a raft of proposed revisions, alterations and amendments.

These might include, by way of non-exclusive examples, changes to our Article II rights to:

A clean and healthful environment and to pursue life's basic necessities and seek safety, health and happiness.

Inviolable human dignity, to equal protection of the laws and to be free from discrimination.

Not have somebody else's religious beliefs shoved down your throat.

Peaceably assemble, petition the government for redress, and protest governmental action.

Free speech and to a free press.

Participate in the operation and rule-making of state agencies.

Examine public documents and to observe the deliberations of all public bodies.

Individual privacy, especially in matters related to reproductive choices, in matters affecting your personal autonomy, in matters pertaining to your private medical and personal information, to name a few.

Free and open elections and to vote without interference from the government.

Access to fair, independent and impartial courts and to full legal redress for injuries to person or property.

Due process of law.

Be free from cruel and unusual punishments.

The host of rights protecting persons accused of crimes.

Expect other potential revisions, alterations or amendments to:

Article V: Giving the legislature more power, especially over the courts, elections, districting, governance of the university system, and over local governments.

Article VII: Expect numerous revisions, alterations and amendments all designed to place the courts and Judiciary under the thumb of the Legislature, to gerrymander the election of judges and justices to favor the supermajority party, to turn a fair, impartial and independent judiciary into partisan hacks and flunkies, to destroy the separation of powers and system of checks and balances.

Article IX: To repeal the legislature's duties to maintain and improve our clean and healthful environment for present and future generations and to enact laws to enforce those duties.

Article X: To diminish public free and quality education and education concerning the cultural heritage of Montana's Native Americans. And to give more financial breaks and more favors to sectarian schools.

Article XIII: To get rid of the Consumer Counsel altogether.

These are just some of the ways in which the Legislature supermajority or Montana Freedom Caucus may seek to review, alter or amend our Constitution.

The whole document may wind up on the chopping block unless we vote to save it.

———

James C. Nelson is a retired lawyer and former Montana Supreme Court Justice. He lives in Helena.

Column submissions

The Enterprise welcomes guest columns from Park County or area residents on issues of local interest. If you would like to submit a column for consideration, email it to enterprise@livent.net.

In the Mail

Correct to deny subdivision

Editor:

The city of Livingston is correct to deny another subdivision on the north side until an overpass is built. There are already too many houses without another access in event of an emergency situation. Maybe the developers could work on remedies, instead of lawsuits!

Bill Hughes
Wilsall

Letters Policy

The Enterprise welcomes letters to the editor expressing opinions on any issue of a public interest to our Park County readership. But in order to be published, the letters must:

• **Include the writer's first and last name, home address and daytime phone number.** Addresses and phone numbers may be used for verification, but only the name and hometown will be published.

• Be kept short and, if possible deal with one topic. The Enterprise reserves the right to edit for length, taste and libel considerations.

Preference will be given to letters from the Park County area. Letters from outside the area will be considered if, in the view of the editor, they are of sufficient interest to our local readers.

The address for emailed letters is **enterprise@livent.net**.

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MLK weekend to feature tributes, commitments to race equity

Annual tributes and commemorations of the life and legacy of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., which begin nationwide on Friday, typically include a mix of politics, faith and community service.

For this year's celebration, the 37th since its federal recognition in 1986, a descendant of King hopes to spur progress by helping more Americans personalize the ongoing struggle for racial equity and harmony. Bernice King, daughter of the late civil rights icon, said people must move beyond platitudes and deepen their own commitments to the needed progress.

"We need to change our thinking," said King, who is CEO of The King Center in Atlanta.

Under the theme "It Starts With Me," the center launched its slate of Martin Luther King Jr. Day events on Thursday with youth and adult summits to educate the public on ways to transform unjust systems in the U.S.

The summits were streamed online and are available for replay on the center's social media accounts.

"It seems like we're going through these cycles, because we're trying to approach everything with the same mindset that all of this (racial inequity) was created," King told The Associated Press.

"Change can be very small," she said, "but transformation means that now we changed the character, form, and nature of something. That's something we have not seen yet."

Other King holiday weekend events include a statue unveiling in Boston, a symposium on police brutality in Akron, Ohio, and community service projects in many U.S. cities. The holiday kicks off another year of advocacy on a racial justice agenda — from police reforms and strengthening voting rights to solutions on economic and educational disparities — that has been stymied by culture wars and partisan gridlock in Washington and nationwide.

Residents of Selma, Alabama, which played a central role in King's legacy, woke up to extensive damage Friday from a deadly storm system that spawned tornadoes across the South. The city became a flashpoint of the civil rights movement when state troopers viciously attacked Black people who marched nonviolently for voting rights across the Edmund Pettus Bridge on March 7, 1965.

King wasn't present for the march known as "Bloody Sunday," but he joined a subsequent procession that successfully crossed the bridge toward the Capitol in Montgomery. The Pettus Bridge was unscathed by Thursday's storm.

On Sunday morning, President Joe Biden is due to speak at a commemorative service at Ebenezer Baptist Church, the historic Atlanta house of worship where King preached from 1960 until his assassination in 1968. The church is pastored by the Rev. Sen. Raphael Warnock, who recently won election to a full term as Georgia's first Black U.S. senator.

And on Monday, the federal observance of the King holiday, commemorations continue in Atlanta, as well as in the nation's capital and beyond.

The Rev. Al Sharpton, who got his start as a civil rights organizer in his teens as youth director of an anti-poverty project of King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference, will hold his annual King holiday events in Washington, D.C., and New York on Monday. Martin Luther King III is expected to attend Sharpton's breakfast gala in Washington with his wife, Drum Major Institute President Arndrea Waters King, who will be honored alongside former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Monday afternoon in New York City, Sharpton, the founder and president of the National Action Network, is scheduled to convene more than 30 prominent state and local elected officials for a public policy forum at the House of Justice, his organization's headquarters in Harlem.

In the decades since its establishment, the King holiday has become an opportunity for elected officials and candidates seeking office to establish their civil rights and social justice credentials. Bernice King said partisanship among politicians has been a major obstacle to legislative solutions on civil rights.

Overcoming that is "going to require elevating to a place where your loyalty is to humanity, not to party," she said.

"If we don't find humane ways to create policies and implement practices out of those policies, we're going to continue in this vicious cycle of a downward spiral towards destruction and chaos."

Outside of establishment politics, many King holiday weekend events are opportunities for Americans to give back, reflect on the civil rights icon's legacy or deal locally with racial discrimination in their own communities.

A massive monument to Martin Luther King Jr. is scheduled to be dedicated Friday in Boston, where the leader first met his wife, Coretta Scott King. In the early 1950s, he was a doctoral student in theology at Boston University and she was studying at the New England Conservatory of Music.

The $10 million sculpture called "The Embrace" consisting of four intertwined arms was inspired by a photo of the Kings embracing when King Jr. learned he had won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. It was designed byHank Willis Thomas and MASS Design Group and was selected out of 126 proposals.



AP

Passers-by walk near the 20-foot-high bronze sculpture "The Embrace," a memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King, in the Boston Common.

Imari Paris Jeffries, executive director of EmbraceBoston, the organization behind the memorial, noted the significance of the sculpture's placement at the Boston Common, America's oldest public park and a high traffic area with millions of city residents and visitors walking its paths every year.

"I think Boston has this reputation of being this city of heroes and abolitionists, like W.E.B. Du Bois and Frederick Douglass, simultaneously with this reputation of not being friendly and in some cases being described as racist. So there's this tension between these two images of Boston. Having the memorial there is part of our intention to transform our city's perspective."

In Akron, Ohio, the family of Jayland Walker, a 25-year-old Black man killed after police officers shot at him 46 times as he fled last July, will hold a symposium on public safety and mental health with local civil rights leaders on Saturday. Walker's case received widespread attention from activists, including from the King family.

And for the seventh year, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation will mark a post-King holiday National Day of Racial Healing. On Tuesday, communities nationwide are scheduled to hold town halls to continue dialog on healing that the foundation says is needed to achieve racial equity.

Lisa Marie Presley, singer and daughter of Elvis, dies at 54

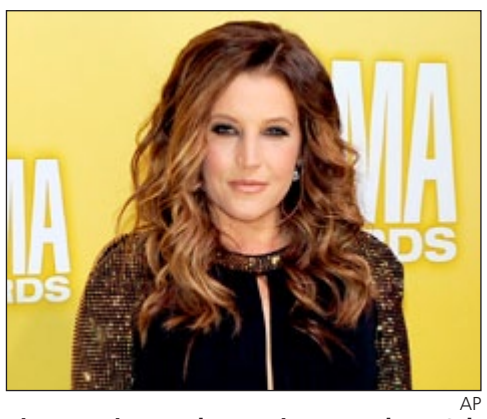
Lisa Marie Presley, the only child of Elvis Presley and a singer-songwriter dedicated to her father's legacy, died Thursday after being hospitalized for a medical emergency. She was 54.

Her death in a Los Angeles hospital was confirmed by her mother, Priscilla, a few hours after her daughter was rushed to the hospital by paramedics after a medical episode at her home.

"It is with a heavy heart that I must share the devastating news that my beautiful daughter Lisa Marie has left us," Priscilla Presley said in a statement. "She was the most passionate, strong and loving woman I have ever known."

Presley shared her father's brooding charisma — the hooded eyes, the insolent smile, the low, sultry voice — and followed him professionally, releasing her own rock albums in the 2000s, and appearing on stage with Pat Benatar and Richard Hawley among others.

She even formed direct musical ties with her father, joining her voice to such Elvis recordings as "In the Ghetto" and "Don't Cry Daddy," a mournful ballad which had reminded him of the early death of his mother (and Lisa Marie's grandmother), Gladys Presley.



AP

Lisa Marie Presley arrives at the 46th annual Country Music Awards at the Bridgestone Arena on Nov. 1, 2012, in Nashville, Tenn.

"It's been all my life," she told The Associated Press in 2012, speaking of her father's influence. "It's not something that I now listen to and it's different. Although I might listen closer. I remain consistent on the fact that I've always been an admirer. He's always influenced me."

Her birth, nine months exactly after her parents' wedding, was international news and her background was rarely far from her mind. With the release last year of Baz Luhrmann's major musical feature "Elvis," Lisa Marie and Priscilla Presley had been attending red carpets and award shows alongside stars from the film.

She was at the Golden Globes on Tuesday, on hand to celebrate Austin Butler's award for playing her father. Just days before, she was in Memphis at Graceland — the mansion where Elvis lived, and died — on Jan. 8 to celebrate her father's birth anniversary.

Even as NY nurses return to work, more strikes could follow

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even as 7,000 nurses return to work at two of New York's busiest hospitals after a three-day strike, colleagues around the country say it's just a matter of time before frontline workers at other hospitals begin walking the picket line.

Problems are mounting at hospitals across the nation as they try to deal with widespread staffing shortages, overworked nurses beaten down by the pandemic and a busted pipeline of new nurses.

That's led to nurses juggling dangerously high caseloads, said Michelle Collins, dean at the college of nursing and health at Loyola University New Orleans.

"There's no place that's immune from what's happening with the nursing shortage," Collins said. "It's everywhere."

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Markets

Consumer tech forecast

U.S. sales of consumer technology will slip this year but remain slightly above pre-pandemic levels thanks to strong growth in streaming video and gaming, according to the trade group that runs the CES tech conference.

Projected gadget and services sales of $485 billion reflects a looming recession and inflation that could weigh against consumer spending, the Consumer Technology Association says in a forecast released at its annual gadget show in Las Vegas. Consumer technology spending hit a record-breaking $512 billion in 2021.

Last year spending on smartphones, laptops and other gadgets and related services was $497 billion.

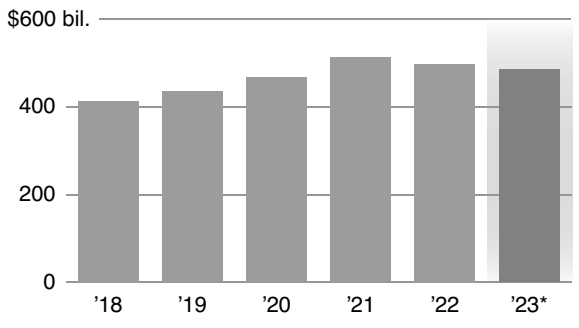
The group anticipates some areas of strong growth, including about $151 billion spent on gaming, streaming video, audio and related apps.

It projects a 4% increase in sales from factory-installed automotive technology, to $15.5 billion. And it projects a 9% rise in health and fitness services, to $928 million.

CTA has lowered expectations for sales of laptops, LCD TVs, tablets, smartphones and gaming consoles. But portable gaming consoles — a market led by Nintendo's Switch — will jump over 40% to $1.5 billion in 2023, CTA predicts.



Consumer tech retail revenue



Gaming to grow: Spending on consumer technology will dip a bit this year, but portable video gaming consoles are growing.

Source: Consumer Technology Association *estimate

Matt O'Brien; J. Paschke • AP

Stocks of Local Interest

Data as of Thursday, January 12, 2023

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE LO	HI	CLOSE	EPS	MKT CAP (000s)	WK	MO	QTR	YTD CHG	1YR RTN	P/E	DIV	YLD
Amazon.com Inc	AMZN	81.43	170.83	+1.09		971,911	▲	▲	▲	+13.4%	-46.3%	87	...	...
Apple Inc	AAPL	124.17	179.61	+6.11		2,122,302	▲	▼	▲	+2.7%	-23.9%	22	0.92f	.7
Berkshire Hath B	BRK/B	259.85	362.10	+7.35		415,240	▲	▲	▲	+3.2%	-1.3%	43	...	...
Chevron Corp	CVX	122.84	189.68	+17.58		342,408	▲	▲	▼	-1.3%	+44.7%	10	5.68f	3.2
Eli Lilly	LLY	231.87	375.25	+6.27		341,227	▼	▼	▼	-1.8%	+36.3%	57	4.52f	1.3
Exxon Mobil Corp	XOM	67.95	114.66	+12.25		466,273	▲	▲	▲	+2.6%	+62.6%	9	3.64f	3.2
Home Depot	HD	264.51	394.31	+15.53		337,696	▲	▲	▲	+4.4%	-17.3%	21	7.60f	2.3
JPMorgan Chase	JPM	101.28	169.81	+11.85		409,152	▲	▲	▲	+4.0%	-15.4%	12	4.00f	2.9
Johnson & Johnson	JNJ	155.72	186.69	+6.87		454,920	▼	▼	▼	-1.5%	+3.5%	25	4.40f	2.5
MasterCard Inc	MA	276.87	399.92	+10.01		362,263	▲	▲	▲	+9.2%	+0.9%	38	2.28f	.6
Merck & Co	MRK	72.88	115.49	+6.03		283,381	▼	▲	▲	+0.7%	+41.0%	19	2.92f	2.6
Meta Platforms Inc	META	88.09	336.37	+10.49		308,324	▲	▲	▲	+13.6%	-61.0%	13	...	...
Microsoft Corp	MSFT	213.43	323.41	+9.28		1,778,450	▲	▼	▼	-0.5%	-26.9%	26	2.72	1.1
Nvidia Corporation	NVDA	108.13	289.46	+3.85		411,123	▲	▼	▲	+13.0%	-42.6%	43	...	...
Procter & Gamble	PG	122.18	165.35	+5.81		357,371	▼	▼	▼	-1.2%	-4.4%	26	3.65	2.4
Tesla Inc	TSLA	101.81	384.29	+2.67		390,171	▲	▼	▲	+0.3%	-65.0%	46	...	...
Unitedhealth Group	UNH	445.74	558.10	+20.41		463,128	▲	▼	▼	-6.5%	+8.3%	24	5.80	1.2
Visa Inc	V	174.60	235.85	+6.79		364,020	▲	▲	▲	+7.6%	+1.5%	33	1.80f	.8
WalMart Strs	WMT	117.27	160.77	+5.01		390,523	▼	▼	▲	+2.1%	+1.6%	29	2.24f	1.5

Company Spotlight Cruising

American Airlines soared after it raised its fourth-quarter revenue and profit forecast Thursday, boosted by higher fares and full planes capped off with a busy holiday travel period.

American projects to have earned $1.12 to $1.17 per share in the period, nearly double its previous forecast. Revenue was 16% to 17% above the same quarter in 2019, before the pandemic.

Airlines have benefited from strong demand and a limited number of flights and seats, in part because of a pilot shortage coming out of the worst of the pandemic. The result has been higher fares.



Revenue from each seat per mile rose 24% over the fourth quarter of 2021, an even sharper rise than the Fort Worth, Texas-based airline had previously forecast.

American will report final fourth-quarter results on Jan. 26.

American Airlines (AAL) Thursday's close: **$16.83, +1.49**

52-WEEK RANGE $12 — $21

Price-earnings ratio: **Lost money** (Based on past 12-month results)

Total return	1-yr	3-yrs*	5-yrs*
AAL	-9.0%	-14.8%	-21.6%

Market cap: $10.0 billion

AP *annualized Source: FactSet

Demonstrators protest NCAA's transgender athlete inclusion

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Former Kentucky swimmer Riley Gaines and about two dozen demonstrators outside the NCAA convention Thursday protested the inclusion of transgender athletes in women's sports and threatened the association with legal action if it doesn't change its policies.

Gaines competed in last year's NCAA swimming and diving championships against Penn's Lia Thomas, who became first transgender woman to win a national title (the women's 500-yard freestyle). She also placed fifth in the 200 freestyle, tying with Gaines.

"Today, we intend to personally tell the NCAA to stop discriminating against female athletes by handing them a petition that we have garnered nearly 10,000 signatures on in just a couple of days," Gaines said, kicking off more than an hour of speeches that attracted a few onlookers and a handful of quiet counter-protesters.

The topic has divided the U.S. for the past several years, with critics saying transgender athletes have an advantage over cisgender women in competition. Eighteen states have passed laws banning transgender athletes from participating in female school sports; a federal judge earlier this month ruled West Virginia's ban is constitutional and can remain in place.

The NCAA has permitted transgender athletes to compete since 2010.

The Transgender Student-Athlete Participation Policy was updated a year ago, taking a sport-by-sport approach that brings the NCAA in line with the U.S. and international Olympic committees.

Full implementation of the policy was scheduled to be phased in by August but the NCAA Board of Governors this week approved a recommendation to delay that through the 2023-24 academic year "to address operational considerations."

NCAA leadership says the stated goal in policy making is "not if transgender athletes are included, but how."

"We want to have an environment that is fair, welcoming and inclusive for all of (the athletes)," Ivy League executive director Robin Harris said at the convention during a session this week on the topic. Harris said the transgender athletes policy is no different from other eligibility requirements.

"They are playing by the rules," NCAA director of inclusion Jean Merrill said during the session.

Schuyler Bailar, a transgender man who switched from the women's swim team to the men's during his time at Harvard, said he believes the NCAA is doing the best it can to be inclusive, fair and effective with its policies. The challenge is that the standards are not static.

"It's just not that simple. I think they're ever moving, ever evolving. And fairness is ever evolving, as well, the more we learn about bodies and biology and people and the more we understand diversity and equity and inclusion," Bailar said at the convention session.

At the protest, Alliance Defending Freedom attorney Christiana Kiefer said the NCAA is violating Title IX, the landmark gender equity legislation enacted in 1972, and legal action against the NCAA could take several forms.

"So I think that could look like a federal lawsuit against the NCAA," she said. "I think that could look like a Title IX complaint. And I think it could look like even universities starting to actually push back against the NCAA and saying, 'Hey, we have a legal obligation to protect fair athletic opportunities for female athletes and if we fail to do that, you're kind of binding our hands and not allowing us to fulfill our legal obligations to the female athletes at our schools.'"

The NCAA has not yet taken a stand against states that have banned transgender athletes from competing in women's sports. The NCAA has previously banned states from hosting its championship events because of the use of Confederate symbolism or for laws that it believe discriminated against LGBTQ people.

Bailar said it would be valuable to have the NCAA take a similar position on this issue.

"I also know that NCAA's jurisdiction is in college athletics and not in children's sports. And many of these laws are about children's sports. So I understand the discrepancy there," he said. "But I mean, if you're asking me do I want more support for trans people? The answer is going to be: absolutely yes."



AP

Former University of Kentucky swimmer Riley Gaines, second from right, stands during a rally on Thursday outside of the NCAA Convention in San Antonio.

US kindergarten vaccination rate dropped again, data shows

NEW YORK (AP) — Vaccination rates for U.S. kindergarteners dropped again last year, and federal officials are starting a new campaign to try to bring them up.

Usually, 94% to 95% of kindergarteners are vaccinated against measles, tetanus and certain other diseases. The vaccination rates dropped below 94% in the 2020-2021 school year, during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study released Thursday found rates dropped again in the 2021-2022 school year, to about 93%.

The pandemic disrupted vaccinations and other routine health care for children, and also taxed the ability of school administrators and nurses to track which children weren't up-to-date on shots. CDC officials said decreased confidence in vaccines is another likely contributor.

"I think it's a combination of all those things," said Dr. Georgina Peacock, director of CDC's immunization division.

Health officials focus on kindergarten because it's when most children enter school systems. Public schools typically require vaccinations as a condition of attendance, though some exemptions are allowed.

Such exemptions were up slightly last school year, but the CDC's Shannon Stokley said they are not the main driver of the decrease. Rather, more schools relaxed their policies to allow enrollment while giving families a grace period to get shots, she said.

The new numbers suggest that as many as 275,000 kindergartners lack full vaccine protection.

Falling vaccination rates open the door to outbreaks of diseases once thought to be in the rearview mirror, experts say. They point to a case of paralytic polio reported last year in New York, and to recent measles surges in Minnesota and Ohio.

Those outbreaks coincide with anecdotal and survey information suggesting more parents are questioning bedrock childhood vaccines long celebrated as public health success stories.

A Kaiser Family Foundation poll last month found less support among parents for school vaccine requirements vs. a 2019 survey.

"It's crazy. There's so much work to be done," said Dr. Jason Newland, a pediatric infectious diseases doctor at St. Louis Children's Hospital and vice chair for community health at Washington University.

Other physicians have told him that more parents are being selective about which vaccines to give their kids. CDC data reflected that: The chickenpox vaccination rate fell more sharply than the rate for shots against measles, mumps and rubella.

This week, the CDC launched a campaign called "Let's RISE" — an acronym for Routine Immunizations on Schedule for Everyone. It includes new educational materials to help doctors talk to families about vaccinations, as well as information for families who have questions about the shots.

Building trust in vaccinations "is something that has to happen at the local and community level," Peacock said.

Thursday's CDC study was based on public school kindergarten vaccination reports from 49 states, and reporting on private schools from 48 states. Montana did not report data.

Rates vary across the country. CDC officials noted significant increases in a few states, including Hawaii, Maine, Maryland and Wyoming. But most states saw declines, with the largest drops in Mississippi, Georgia and Wisconsin.



AP

Socially distanced kindergarten students wait for their parents to pick them up on the first day of in-person learning at Maurice Sendak Elementary School on April 13, 2021, in Los Angeles.

FEMA fires group for nonsensical Alaska Native translations

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — After tidal surges and high winds from the remnants of a rare typhoon caused extensive damage to homes along Alaska's western coast in September, the U.S. government stepped in to help residents — largely Alaska Natives — repair property damage.

Residents who opened Federal Emergency Management Agency paperwork expecting to find instructions on how to file for aid in Alaska Native languages like Yup'ik or Inupiaq instead were reading bizarre phrases.

"Tomorrow he will go hunting very early, and will (bring) nothing," read one passage. The translator randomly added the word "Alaska" in the middle of the sentence.

"Your husband is a polar bear, skinny," another said.

Yet another was written entirely in Inuktitut, an Indigenous language spoken in northern Canada, far from Alaska.

FEMA fired the California company hired to translate the documents once the errors became known, but the incident was an ugly reminder for Alaska Natives of the suppression of their culture and languages from decades past.

FEMA immediately took responsibility for the translation errors and corrected them, and the agency is working to make sure it doesn't happen again, spokesperson Jaclyn Rothenberg said. No one was denied aid because of the errors.

That's not good enough for one Alaska Native leader.

For Tara Sweeney, an Inupiaq who served as an assistant secretary of Indian Affairs in the U.S. Interior Department during the Trump administration, this was another painful reminder of steps taken to prevent Alaska Native children from speaking Indigenous languages.

"When my mother was beaten for speaking her language in school, like so many hundreds, thousands of Alaska Natives, to then have the federal government distributing literature representing that it is an Alaska Native language, I can't even describe the emotion behind that sort of symbolism," Sweeney said.

Sweeney called for a congressional oversight hearing to uncover how long and widespread the practice has been used throughout government.

"These government contracting translators have certainly taken advantage of the system, and they have had a profound impact, in my opinion, on vulnerable communities," said Sweeney, whose great-grandfather, Roy Ahmaogak, invented the Inupiaq alphabet more than a half-century ago.

She said his intention was to create the characters so "our people would learn to read and write to transition from an oral history to a more tangible written history."

U.S. Rep. Mary Peltola, who is Yup'ik and last year became the first Alaska Native elected to Congress, said it was disappointing FEMA missed the mark with these translations but didn't call for hearings.

"I am confident FEMA will continue to make the necessary changes to be ready the next time they are called to serve our citizens," the Democrat said.

About 1,300 people have been approved for FEMA assistance after the remnants of Typhoon Merbok created havoc as it traveled about 1,000 miles (1,609 kilometers) north through the Bering Strait, potentially affecting 21,000 residents. FEMA has paid out about $6.5 million, Rothenberg said.

Preliminary estimates put overall damage at just over $28 million, but the total is likely to rise after more assessment work is done after the spring thaw, said Jeremy Zidek, a spokesperson for the Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

The poorly translated documents, which did not create delays or problems, were a small part of efforts to help people register for FEMA assistance in person, online and by phone, Zidek said.

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ENTERPRISE

Martin Jones makes 27 saves as Kraken beat Bruins 3-0

BOSTON (AP) — Martin Jones stopped 27 shots to lead the Kraken to a 3-0 victory over Boston, and Seattle matched its franchise record with a seventh straight victory Thursday night while sending the Bruins to their first regulation home loss all season.

Brandon Tanev, Eeli Tolvanen and Jaden Schwartz scored for Seattle, which also won seven in a row earlier this season — its second since joining the NHL as an expansion franchise. It was Jones' third shutout of the season.

Linus Ullmark made 28 saves for the Bruins, who had won four straight games while building an 11-point lead in the race for the NHL's best record. They had been 19-0-3 at home this season.



AP

Boston Bruins left wing Taylor Hall (71) is unable to get the puck past Seattle Kraken goaltender Martin Jones (30) as Kraken right wing Oliver Bjorkstrand (22) watches.

GOLDEN KNIGHTS 4, PANTHERS 2

LAS VEGAS (AP) — William Carrier snapped a tie with 2:36 left, leading Vegas to the victory.

The Panthers challenged Carrier's goal for goaltender interference. Officials ruled he was pushed into Florida goalie Sergei Bobrovsky by the Panthers' Brandon Montour, allowing the goal to stand.

Keegan Kolesar's pass found Carrier in the crease, causing the scrum. It was Kolesar's second assist of the game.

William Karlsson added an empty-net goal for the final margin. Jack Eichel and Nicolas Roy also scored for the Golden Knights.

Nick Cousins and Sam Reinhart scored for Florida.

RED WINGS 4, MAPLE LEAFS 1

DETROIT (AP) — Lucas Raymond had a goal and two assists, and the Red Wings earned their first victory over the Maple Leafs in nearly four years.

Robby Fabbri, Ben Chiarot and Moritz Seider also scored for Detroit, and Ville Husso stopped 31 shots.

Rasmus Sandin scored for the Maple Leafs, who had won three in a row.

Detroit's previous win against the Maple Leafs was a 3-2 overtime victory on Feb. 1, 2019. Toronto had had won nine in a row in regulation over the Red Wings, outscoring them 48-21.

RANGERS 2, STARS 1, OT

NEW YORK (AP) — Adam Fox scored 1:16 into overtime after fellow Rangers defenseman K'Andre Miller tied it with 0.2 seconds left in regulation.

Jake Oettinger was tenths of a second from the shutout — and the Rangers hadn't even managed a shot on goal with an extra skater on the ice — before Miller's shot made it through for his fifth of the season.

Igor Shesterkin made 24 saves for New York, allowing only Tyler Seguin's power-play goal late in the second period.

Oettinger finished with 29 saves.

LIGHTNING 5, CANUCKS 4

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Tampa Bay star Steven Stamkos scored his 499th goal during a 5-on-3 power play in the third period.

On the verge of becoming the 47th NHL player to reach 500 goals, Stamkos beat Collin Delia from the left circle to make it 5-2 at 5:30.

Quinn Hughes and Elias Pettersson scored to pull Vancouver to 5-4. Curtis Lazar had an in-close shot turned aside by Andrei Vasilevskiy in the final seconds.

Corey Perry, Alex Killorn, Nikita Kucherov and Brandon Hagel also scored for the Lightning, who have won nine straight at home. Vasilevskiy made 36 saves.

BLACKHAWKS 3, AVALANCHE 2

CHICAGO (AP) — Taylor Raddysh snapped a tie in the third period, and the last-place Blackhawks earned their third straight victory.

Sam Lafferty and Andreas Athanasiou also scored for Chicago, and Petr Mrazek made 31 saves.

The Blackhawks had a 2-20-1 stretch before their win streak.

Cale Makar and Evan Rodrigues scored for Colorado, and Nathan MacKinnon had two assists. Pavel Francouz had 27 stops for the defending Stanley Cup champions.

The slumping Avalanche dropped to 1-6-1 in their last eight games.

WILD 3, ISLANDERS 1

NEW YORK (AP) — Frederick Gaudreau, Sam Steel and Kirill Kaprizov scored in the third period, sending Minnesota to the road win.

Filip Gustavsson made 19 saves for the Wild, who snapped a three-game losing streak in the finale of a two-game road trip.

Scott Mayfield scored for New York, and Ilya Sorokin finished with 33 saves. It was the Islanders' fourth consecutive loss.

CANADIENS 4, PREDATORS 3

MONTREAL (AP) — Cole Caufield scored two power-play goals and Montreal held off Nashville after honoring former defenseman P.K. Subban in a pregame ceremony.

Kirby Dach added a goal and an assist for Montreal. Jake Evans also scored and Jonathan Drouin had three assists. Samuel Montembeault stopped 39 shots.

Nino Niederreiter, Filip Forsberg and Juuso Parssinen scored for Nashville. Yaroslav Askarov made 31 saves in his NHL debut.

HURRICANES 6, BLUE JACKETS 2

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Brett Pesce had two goals, and Carolina stopped a four-game slide.

Seth Jarvis and Jaccob Slevin each had a goal and an assist for Carolina, which had won 11 in a row before its losing streak. Brent Burns and Jalen Chatfield each scored one of five goals by Hurricanes defensemen.

Frederik Andersen stopped 21 shots in his first start after missing 29 games with a lower-body injury.

Johnny Gaudreau and Sean Kuraly scored for Columbus in its third straight loss. Joonas Korpisalo stopped 35 shots.

JETS 4, SABRES 2

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Kyle Connor broke a tie on a third-period breakaway, lifting Winnipeg to the road win.

Nikolaj Ehlers intercepted Rasmus Dahlin's pass and sent the puck to Connor, who sprinted up the ice and beat Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen at 7:19 to help the Jets to their sixth victory in seven games.

Dylan Samberg, Josh Morrissey, and Karson Kuhlman also scored for Winnipeg. Connor Hellebuyck made 39 saves.

Victor Olofsson and Tyson Jost scored for Buffalo, and Luukkonen made 23 saves. The Sabres have lost three in a row.

FLAMES 4, BLUES 1

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Dillon Dube scored twice in the third period and Dan Vladar made 25 saves to help Calgary to the victory.

Dube broke a 1-all tie, scoring with 9:10 left in regulation, and he added an empty-netter in the final minutes. Blake Coleman pushed the lead to 3-1 with his eighth goal of the season with 3:56 left.

Walker Duehr's first NHL goal broke a scoreless tie and gave Calgary the lead in the second period.

Jake Neighbours scored for St. Louis, which had won eight of its last nine against the Flames, including a 4-3 overtime decision on Tuesday.

SENATORS 5, COYOTES 3

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — Brady Tkachuk and Alex DeBrincat each had a goal and an assist, and Ottawa handed Arizona its seventh straight loss.

Tkachuk and Derick Brassard scored in a testy first period that included Arizona All-Star Clayton Keller's cross-checking game misconduct.

The Coyotes cut two-goal deficits in half three times, the last on Barrett Hayton's backhander with 2:44 left. Arizona then pulled goalie Karel Vejmelka and sent a flurry of shots at Anton Forsberg, but Artem Zub closed it out with an empty-netter.

Mark Kastelic also scored and Forsberg stopped 27 shots.

Dylan Guenther had a goal and an assist, and Lawson Crouse also scored for Arizona. Vejmelka had 42 saves.

Mavericks beat Lakers in double-OT

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Luka Doncic hit tying 3-pointers in the final seconds of regulation and the first overtime, finishing with 35 points, 14 rebounds and 13 assists in the Dallas Mavericks' 119-115 double-overtime victory over the Los Angeles Lakers on Thursday night.

Doncic highlighted his 56th career triple-double with that pair of clutch 3-pointers, while Christian Wood added 24 points and 14 rebounds in the Mavs' fourth straight win over the Lakers. Tim Hardaway Jr. had 22 points and eight rebounds for Dallas, and Spencer Dinwiddie scored twice in a late 6-0 run to put it away in double OT.

Russell Westbrook scored a season-high 28 points and LeBron James had 24 points, 16 rebounds and nine assists for the Lakers, who have lost two straight after a five-game winning streak. Los Angeles rallied all the way back from a 19-point regulation deficit and got to the brink of an unlikely win, but couldn't match Doncic's dramatic flair.

CELTICS 109, NETS 98

NEW YORK (AP) — Jayson Tatum had 20 points and 11 rebounds and Boston pulled away in the fourth quarter to beat Brooklyn in the Nets' first game since losing Kevin Durant to a knee injury.

Marcus Smart added 16 points and 10 assists for the Celtics, who played without Jaylen Brown because of an injury. Malcolm Brogdon also scored 16 points as the NBA-leading Celtics won their fifth straight.

Brown had right adductor tightness, a night after scoring a season-high 41 points in a victory over New Orleans. Interim coach Joe Mazzulla said Brown could miss a week or more. Derrick White, starting for Brown, scored 15 points.

Kyrie Irving scored 24 points for the Nets, who were right with the Celtics until getting outscored 12-2 to open the fourth. T.J Warren added 20 and Joe Harris, starting for Durant, had 18.

HEAT 108, BUCKS 102

MIAMI (AP) — Gabe Vincent scored a career-best 28 points, Bam Adebayo had 24 points and 12 rebounds, and Miami beat Milwaukee in a matchup of short-handed teams.

Jimmy Butler had 17 points and 11 rebounds for the Heat, who got 14 points, eight rebounds and seven assists from Victor Oladipo. Max Strus had 12 points and 10 rebounds for Miami (23-20), which moved a season-best three games over .500, even with starters Kyle Lowry, Tyler Herro and Caleb Martin sidelined.

Jrue Holiday had 24 points and 11 assists for the Bucks, who were without Giannis Antetokounmpo, Grayson Allen, Khris Middleton, Serge Ibaka and Joe Ingles. Jevon Carter scored 18, Jordan Nwora had 16, AJ Green scored 15 and Bobby Portis had 12 for the Bucks.

CAVALIERS 119, TRAIL BLAZERS 113

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Donovan Mitchell scored 26 points, Ricky Rubio had nine points in 10 minutes in his first game since a knee injury more than a year ago, and Cleveland rallied in the fourth quarter to beat Portland, which lead by as many as 14 points early in the game.

Damian Lillard had a season-high 50 points, but it wasn't enough for the Blazers, who lost their fifth straight.

Jarrett Allen added 24 points and 10 rebounds for the Cavaliers' fifth win in their last seven games.

The 32-year-old Rubio tore his left anterior cruciate while driving to the basket at New Orleans on Dec. 28, 2021. He averaged 13.1 points and 6.6 assists in 34 games last season before getting hurt.

RAPTORS 124, HORNETS 114

TORONTO (AP) — Pascal Siakam scored 35 points, Scottie Barnes added 21 and Toronto beat Charlotte for its first three-game winning streak of the season.

Gary Trent Jr. scored 19 points and O.G. Anunoby had 15 as the Raptors swept a pair of home games against the struggling Hornets. Toronto led by as many as 18 points and never trailed. The Raptors have won five straight home games against Charlotte. Fred VanVleet scored 11 points and Precious Achiuwa had 10 points and a career-best five steals.

LaMelo Ball scored 32 points before fouling out, and Terry Rozier had 21 points as Charlotte lost for the sixth time in seven games.

THUNDER 133, 76ERS 114

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 37 points and Josh Giddey had 20 to lead Oklahoma City past Philadelphia.

The Thunder won for the fourth time in six games. Oklahoma City was a solid 13-9 at home, but won just their sixth road game of the season.

Jaylin Williams and Tre Mann each scored 14 points as Oklahoma City avenged a 19-point loss to the 76ers on Dec. 31.

Joel Embiid had 30 points and 10 rebounds. James Harden had 24 points and 15 assists.

Atlanta will be site if Bills, Chiefs meet for AFC title

NEW YORK (AP) — Atlanta's Mercedes-Benz Stadium will be the neutral site if Buffalo and Kansas City meet in the AFC championship game.

The NFL decided to put that potential matchup in a neutral city after the Bills' Week 17 game against Cincinnati was canceled when Damar Hamlin went into cardiac arrest on the field.

The Chiefs (14-3) are the No. 1 seed in the AFC, but played one more game than the second-seeded Bills (13-3). The league brokered the neutral site deal because Buffalo could have been the top seed with a victory over the Bengals.

The Buffalo-Cincinnati game Jan. 2 was halted in the first quarter after Hamlin collapsed and was resuscitated on the field.

Hamlin was released from a Buffalo hospital on Wednesday.

The NFL said Thursday that Atlanta was designated as a potential backup postseason site before the 2022 season. All other potential matchups in the AFC title game will be played on the higher seed's home field.

"We are heartened by the continued improvement and progress of Damar Hamlin in his recovery, and Damar and his family remain top of mind for the entire NFL community," NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said in a statement. "We are also grateful to Arthur Blank and the Atlanta Falcons for agreeing to host the AFC championship game in Atlanta should the Bills and Chiefs advance."

Steve Cannon, vice chairman of Falcons owner Arthur Blank's Sports and Entertainment portfolio, which also includes the MLS' Atlanta United and Mercedes-Benz Stadium, said Atlanta is accustomed to hosting such big events as the Super Bowl in 2019, the college football national championship game in 2017 and this season's College Football Playoff semifinal Peach Bowl.

"We're certainly ready to host it," Cannon said Sunday when he confirmed Atlanta's interest in the game. "Even though we've never hosted an AFC championship, that's certainly who we are. Yes, and guess what, it's going to be awesome. We're going to do a great job, just like we did for semifinals of college football."

McDermott hailed for leading Bills through emotional week

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — Jimmye Laycock's first thought during those initial chilling moments went to Damar Hamlin, the Buffalo Bills safety who collapsed on the field in Cincinnati last week.

The former William & Mary coach's second thought, upon seeing teary-eyed players' reactions, then turned to Sean McDermott, the Bills coach and his former player. If anyone was capable of navigating a team through the rough, emotional waters, Laycock knew it was McDermott.

"You knew how serious everything was. And that's where in a situation like that a true leader is needed. And Sean certainly is a true leader," Laycock said by phone this week. "They were very, very lucky they had a head coach in Sean McDermott."

Some 10 days later, with Hamlin now home after being discharged from a Buffalo hospital and the Bills refocused and uplifted following an emotionally draining week, Laycock's assessment is proving true.

Though many — starting with emergency personnel and nurses and doctors at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center — played key roles in Hamlin's remarkable recovery, McDermott is drawing praise for the vulnerability, poise and compassion he displayed while keeping his team together.

"He showed that compassion, but he still showed that he was in charge," Laycock said. "And I think that's the thing: Some people will just give in, and he won't give in to it."

And those are the qualities he saw when McDermott first arrived at William & Mary as a walk-on safety from the Philadelphia suburbs, who eventually was voted a team captain and broke down in tears in Laycock's office when informed he had earned a full scholarship.

"That's why I wanted to keep him around as a coach," Laycock said, laughing at how McDermott's tenure as his assistant lasted only one year before he was hired by his hometown Eagles in 1999. "I am just so proud of him as a coach, and I'm more proud of him as a person."

Battle scores 19 as Bobcats defeat Idaho State 81-68

BOZEMAN (AP) — Raequan Battle scored 19 points as Montana State beat Idaho State 81-68 on Thursday.

Battle was 7-of-15 shooting and went 5 for 6 from the line for the Bobcats (11-7, 4-1 Big Sky Conference). Darius Brown II scored 18 points while going 6 of 10 from the floor, and added five rebounds, five assists, and four steals. Jubrile Belo was 4-of-8 shooting and 8 of 9 from the free-throw line to finish with 16 points.

Ed Chang led the Bengals (6-11, 3-1) in scoring, finishing with 13 points. Miguel Tomley added 12 points and six rebounds for Idaho State. In addition, Maleek Arington had 10 points and two steals.

Jones scores 17 in Weber State's win over Grizzlies

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP) — Dillon Jones had 17 points in Weber State's 59-57 victory against Montana on Thursday.

Jones also added 21 rebounds for the Wildcats (8-9, 3-1 Big Sky Conference). Steven Verplancken Jr. shot 5 for 12, including 2 for 5 from beyond the arc to add 12 points.

Alex Tew recorded 10 points and was 3 of 7 shooting and 4 of 8 from the free throw line.

Aanen Moody led the way for the Grizzlies (8-9, 2-3) with 17 points. Montana also got 12 points, seven rebounds and six assists from Josh Bannan.

Dischon Thomas also had 11 points.

Rifts in Russian military command seen amid Ukraine fighting

As Russian troops wage a ferocious house-to-house fight for control of strongholds in eastern Ukraine, a parallel battle is unfolding in the top echelons of military power in Moscow, with President Vladimir Putin reshuffling his top generals while rival camps try to win his favor.

The fighting for the salt mining town of Soledar and the nearby city of Bakhmut has highlighted a bitter rift between the Russian Defense Ministry leadership and Yevgeny Prigozhin, a rogue millionaire whose private military force known as the Wagner Group has played an increasingly visible role in Ukraine.

Putin's shakeup of the military brass this week was seen as a bid to show that the Defense Ministry still has his support and is in charge as the troubled conflict nears the 11-month mark.

Prigozhin declared Wednesday that his mercenary force had captured Soledar, arguing the prize was won exclusively by Wagner. The Defense Ministry waited until Friday to announce its capture, saying without mentioning Wagner that it became possible thanks to air and artillery strikes and airborne forces' maneuvers. A Ukrainian army spokesman denied that, saying Kyiv's troops were still in Soledar.

Prigozhin fired back at the Defense Ministry, saying, "They are constantly trying to steal Wagner's victory."

The 61-year-old Prigozhin, who was known as "Putin's chef" for his lucrative catering contracts and was indicted in the U.S. for meddling in the 2016 presidential election, has expanded his assets to include Wagner, as well as mining and other spheres. He has scathingly criticized the military brass for blunders in Ukraine, saying Wagner was more efficient than regular troops.

He has found a powerful ally in Chechnya's leader Ramzan Kadyrov, who has deployed elite troops from his southern Russian region to fight in Ukraine and also assailed the military leadership and the Kremlin for being too soft and indecisive.



AP

Russian President Vladimir Putin, center, escorted by Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, right, and General Staff Valery Gerasimov walk after attending an extended meeting of the Russian Defense Ministry Board at the National Defense Control Center in Moscow.

While both have pledged loyalty to Putin, their public attacks on his top generals openly challenged the Kremlin's monopoly on such criticism, something that Russia's tightly controlled political system hadn't seen before.

In the reshuffle announced Wednesday, the Defense Ministry said the head of the General Staff, Gen. Valery Gerasimov, was named the new chief of Russian forces in Ukraine, while the former top commander there was demoted to Gerasimov's deputy after only three months on the job.

The Washington-based Institute of the Study of War saw the reshuffle as an attempt by the Kremlin to "reassert the primacy of the Russian Ministry of Defense in an internal Russian power struggle," weaken the influence of its foes, and send a signal to Prigozhin and others to reduce their criticism.

Prigozhin and his allies have repeatedly criticized Gerasimov, the main architect of the Russian operation in Ukraine, and held him responsible for military defeats.

Russian troops were forced to retreat from Kyiv after a botched attempt to capture the Ukrainian capital in the opening weeks of the war. In the fall, they hastily pulled back from the northeastern Kharkiv region and the southern city of Kherson under the brunt of a swift Ukrainian counteroffensive.

The former commander in Ukraine, Gen. Sergei Surovikin, directed the retreat from Kherson, the only regional center captured by Russia, and was credited for shoring up command and increasing discipline in the ranks. But a Jan. 1 Ukrainian missile strike in the eastern town of Makiivka killed scores of Russian troops and tainted his image.

Political analyst Tatiana Stanovaya observed that Gerasimov's appointment marked yet another attempt by Putin to resolve his military problems by shaking up the brass.

"He is trying to reshuffle the pieces and is therefore giving chances to those who he finds persuasive," she wrote. "But in reality, the problem is not with the people, but with the tasks at hand."

Stanovaya argued that Gerasimov could have asked for "carte blanche in the heat of verbal battles against the background of some very tense discussions." For Putin, "this is maneuvering, a tug-of-war between Surovikin (and sympathizers like Prigozhin) and Gerasimov," she added.

Gerasimov, who began his military career as a Soviet army tank officer in the 1970s, has been chief of the General Staff since 2012 and was seen at the start of the conflict in February sitting next to Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu at a very long table with Putin. His appointment to directly lead the forces in Ukraine drew stinging comments from some Russian hawks.

Viktor Alksnis, a retired Soviet air force colonel who spearheaded botched attempts to preserve the USSR in 1991, noted that Gerasimov had overseen the action in Ukraine even before his appointment.

"This decision reflects the understanding by our political and military leadership that the special military operation has failed and none of its goals has been fulfilled in nearly a year of fighting," Alksnis wrote on his messaging app channel. "Replacing Surovikin with Gerasimov will change nothing."

Mark Galeotti, who specializes in Russian military and security affairs at University College, London, said the appointment handed Gerasimov "the most poisoned of chalices" as he now will bear direct responsibility for any more setbacks.

"Gerasimov is hanging by a thread," Galeotti said in a commentary on Twitter. "He needs some kind of win, or a career ends in ignominy. This may well suggest some kinds of escalation."

Galeotti also warned that frequent reshuffling of Russia's generals could erode allegiance in the officer corps.

"If you keep appointing, rotating, burning your (relative) stars, setting unrealistic expectations, arbitrarily demoting them, that's not going to win loyalty," he said.

Prigozhin, meanwhile, has taken advantage of military setbacks in Ukraine to expand his clout by making the Wagner Group a pivotal element of the Russian fighting force, augmenting the regular army that has suffered a heavy attrition.

Ukrainian officials alleged Wagner contractors have suffered massive losses in the fighting in Soledar and Bakhmut, advancing "on the bodies of their own comrades."

Once convicted of assault and robbery, for which he served time in prison, Prigozhin in recent months went on a tour of Russia's sprawling network of penal colonies to recruit inmates to join Wagner's forces to fight in Ukraine in exchange for pardons.

He recently released a video showing about 20 convicts allowed to leave the ranks of fighters after a half-year on the front line, while also making clear that anyone breaking ranks will face brutal punishment.

Footage posted in the fall showed a Wagner contractor being beaten to death with a sledgehammer after allegedly defecting to the Ukrainian side. Despite public outrage and demands to investigate the incident, authorities have turned a blind eye to it.

Observers have warned that by giving Prigozhin a free hand to run Wagner as a private army governed by medieval-style rules, the government has effectively planted dangerous seeds of possible upheaval.

Suspect charged with murder in assassination of Japan's Abe

TOKYO (AP) — Japanese prosecutors formally charged the suspect in the assassination of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe with murder, sending him to stand trial, a court said Friday.

Tetsuya Yamagami was arrested immediately after allegedly shooting Abe with a homemade gun as the former leader was making a campaign speech in July outside a train station in Nara in western Japan. He then underwent a nearly six-month mental evaluation, which prosecutors said showed he is fit to stand trial.

Yamagami was also charged with violating a gun control law, according to the Nara District Court.

Police have said Yamagami told them that he killed Abe, one of Japan's most influential and divisive politicians, because of Abe's apparent links to a religious group that he hated. In his statements and in social media postings attributed to him, Yamagami said he developed a grudge because his mother had made massive donations to the Unification Church that bankrupted his family and ruined his life.

One of his lawyers, Masaaki Furukawa, told The Associated Press on Thursday that Yamagami will have to take responsibility for the serious consequences of his alleged actions and that his defense lawyers will do their best to reduce his sentence.

Japanese law allows capital punishment for murder, but experts say the death penalty usually is handed down for multiple killings and Yamagami could get life in prison if convicted.

No date is set for the trial, which is expected to have a panel of civil jurors in addition to the usual bench judges, as is typical in murder cases and other serious criminal trials in Japan. There are no pretrial hearings in Japan and defendants generally undergo trials.

Due to the complexity of the case, it will take months before his trial begins, Furukawa said.

Police are also reportedly considering adding several other allegations, including producing weapons, violating the explosives control law and causing damage to buildings.



AP

Tetsuya Yamagami, the alleged assassin of Japan's former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, enters a police station in Nara, western Japan, on Jan. 10.

In a country known for public safety and tight gun controls, the assassination led to the resignation of top local and national police chiefs and a tightening of security guidelines for political leaders and other prominent people.

"We must take very seriously the heinous act of violence that resulted in the death of former Prime Minister Abe," Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno said in response to Yamagami's indictment.

He said Japan will ensure the safety of dignitaries and political leaders with the summit of the Group of Seven nations and nationwide local elections coming in the spring.

Some Japanese have expressed sympathy for Yamagami, especially those who also suffered as children of followers of the South Korea-based Unification Church, which is known for pressuring adherents into making big donations and is considered a cult in Japan.

Thousands of people have signed a petition requesting leniency for Yamagami, and others have sent care packages to his relatives or the detention center.

Kazuo Kobayashi, 64, a resident of Chiba near Tokyo, said Yamagami should face justice regardless of his difficult background.

"I think it's good to bring him to justice and make clear what is right and what is wrong," he said. "I want the case to be fully examined to find the truth in order to have a lesson for Japan's future."

The investigation into the case has led to revelations of years of cozy ties between Abe's governing Liberal Democratic Party and the church since Abe's grandfather, former Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi, helped the church take root in Japan in the 1960s over shared interests in conservative and anti-communist causes.

Current Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's popularity has plunged over his handling of the church controversy and for insisting on holding a rare, controversial state funeral for Abe.

Kishida shuffled his Cabinet in August to remove ministers with church ties, but the subsequent release of an investigation by the governing party in September showed nearly half of its 400 national lawmakers had church connections.

Kishida, who said has no relations with the church, promised that party lawmakers will cut ties with the group, and his government has begun an investigation that could lead to a revocation of the church's religious status.

Top Iran diplomat says talks with Saudis could restore ties

BEIRUT (AP) — Talks between regional rivals Iran and Saudi Arabia are continuing and could eventually restore diplomatic relations that were severed years ago, Iran's foreign minister said Friday.

Hossein Amirabdollahian told reporters in Beirut that he met with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud during a conference in Jordan last month. The meeting was the highest-level encounter between the two countries since they cut relations seven years ago.

Sunni powerhouse Saudi Arabia and Iran, which is majority Shiite, have been at odds since Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution, but relations worsened after Riyadh in 2016 executed a leading Shiite cleric, Nimr al-Nimr, setting off protests in both countries and souring diplomatic relations. In Tehran, demonstrators set fire to the Saudi Embassy.

Direct talks were launched in April 2021, brokered by Iraq, in a bid to improve ties. The mere existence of a dialogue was seen as important, even if the only notable result so far has been Iran reopening the country's representative office to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the Saudi city of Jeddah.

"There was an agreement in our points of view to continue with the Saudi-Iran dialogue in what would eventually normalize relations between the two countries," Amirabdollahian said about the December meeting in Jordan.

Amirabdollahian said the hope is that, eventually, we will reach an agreement on "reopening diplomatic missions and embassies in Riyadh and Tehran."

The Iranian diplomat also praised recent contacts between Syrian and Turkish officials saying such talks could positively impact both countries. Turkish and Syrian defense ministers held talks in Moscow in late December, the first ministerial-level meeting between Damascus and Ankara since relations broke down with the start of the Syrian civil war more than 11 years ago.

Turkey and Syria have been on opposing sides of the Syrian conflict, with Turkey backing rebels trying to oust Syrian President Bashar Assad. Damascus has also denounced Turkey's hold over stretches of northern Syria seized in a series of military incursions since 2016 to drive away Kurdish rebels.

BRIDGE

The battle for trump control

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

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

WEST
♠ 6
♥ K Q 9 5 4
♦ Q 9 4
♣ J 9 8 2

EAST
♠ J 10 8 4
♥ A 10 8 2
♦ J 7 5 2
♣ 10

SOUTH
♠ A Q 7 5 2
♥ —
♦ 6 3
♣ A Q 7 6 4 3

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	6 ♣	Pass
6 ♠			

Opening lead — king of hearts.

A frequent form of defense against a suit contract is to try to run declarer out of trumps by forcing him to ruff. This method of defense is successful most often when declarer and dummy together have only eight trumps and the defenders' trumps are divided 4-1 rather than 3-2.

Take this case where West led a heart against six spades. Declarer ruffed and played the A-K of trump, disclosing the 4-1 division. When he then cashed the club king and led another club toward his hand, East very wisely discarded a diamond. Had East ruffed, declarer would have made the slam.

South took the ace and led a low club, ruffing it with dummy's nine as East once again discarded a diamond! Now South could not get to his hand without reducing himself to one trump (East still had two trumps), and he finished down two.

Declarer lost the slam because he lost control of the trump suit. He should have realized — when he ruffed the opening lead — that the only real danger was that the spades and clubs might each be divided 4-1. He should therefore have attempted to protect against this possibility.

After ruffing the heart lead, he should have played a trump to the king, followed by the K-5 of clubs. If East discarded, South would win with the ace and ruff a club in dummy. It now would not matter whether East overruffed or not. Either way, South would make the slam.

If East elects to overruff, South wins any return, draws trump and easily makes the rest. If East discards instead, South still has a spade in dummy so he can next cash the A-Q of trump followed by his good clubs. East sooner or later scores a trump trick, but no more.

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ENTERPRISE

LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE LIVINGSTON CITY COMMISSION

The Livingston City Commission will convene in a hybrid public meeting, Tuesday, January 17, 2023, beginning at 5:30 p.m., Community Room of the City-County Complex, 414 East Callender Street. All are welcome to participate and comment when appropriate.

View the full agenda on the city webpage at www.livingstonmontana.org/meetings For more information, contact the Faith Kinnick at (406) 222-2005.

Pub. Jan. 14, 2023

MNAXLP

Montana Sixth Judicial District Court, Park County

In the Matter of the Name Change of Kaitlin Lang, Petitioner

Cause No. DV 22-190

Notice of Hearing on Name Change

This is notice that Petitioner has asked the District Court for a change of name from Kaitlin Patricia Lang to Kaitlin Lang Schoenborn. The hearing will be on 01-30-2023 at 11:00 a.m. The hearing will be at the Courthouse in Park County.

DATE: December 19, 2022.

Molly Bradberry
Clerk of District Court

By:
Deputy Clerk of Court

Pub. Dec. 24, 31, 2022, Jan. 7, 14, 2023

MNAXLP

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SUDOKU 数独

Conceptis Sudoku — By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 1/14

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Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 1/13

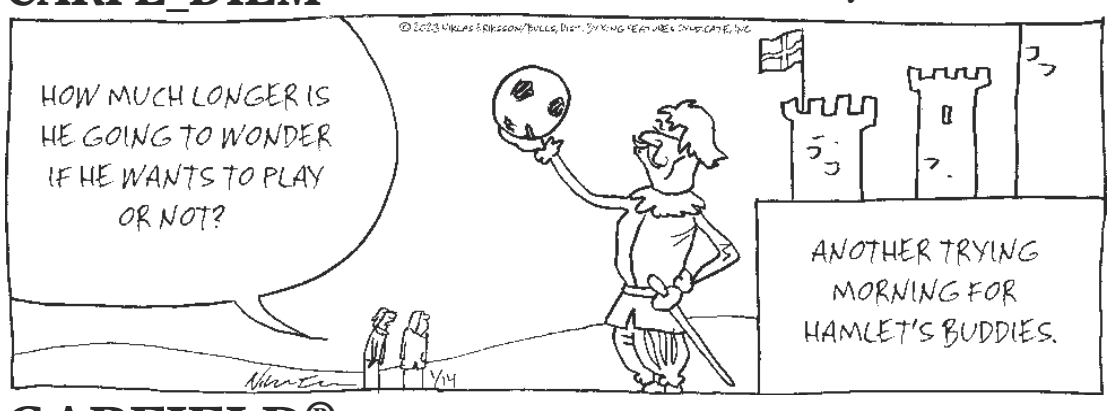
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This is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once.

The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Friday.

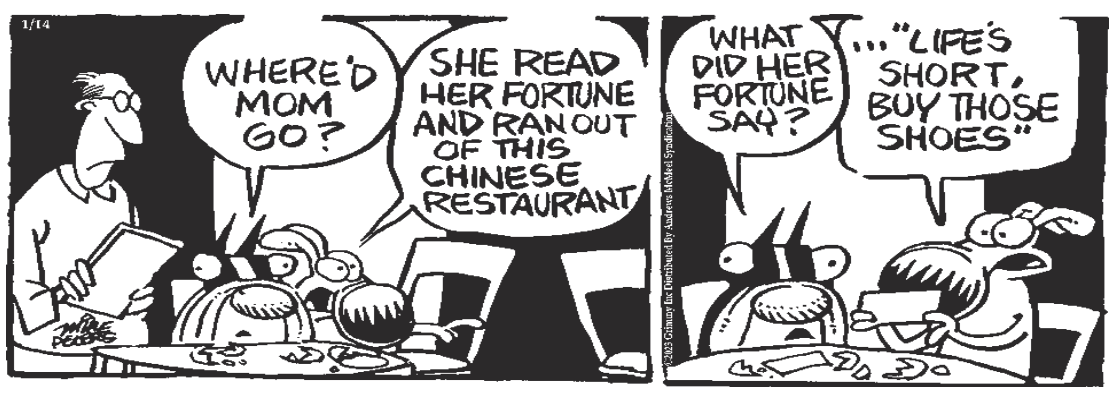
CARPE_DIEM®

By Niklas Eriksson



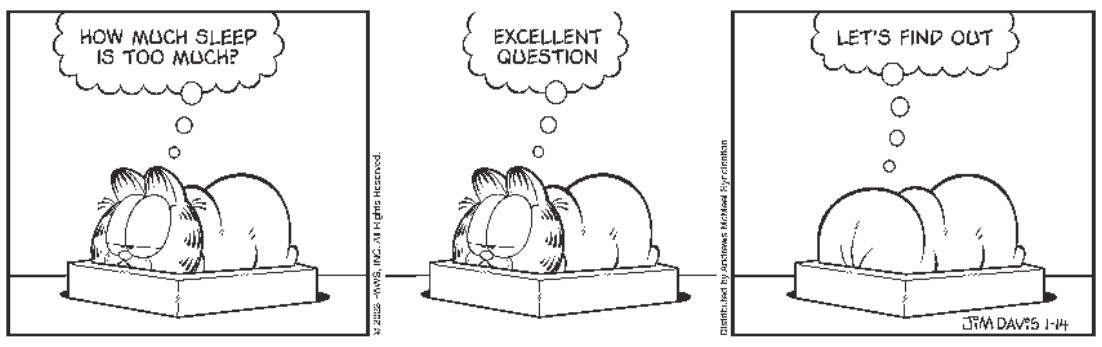
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

By Mike Peters



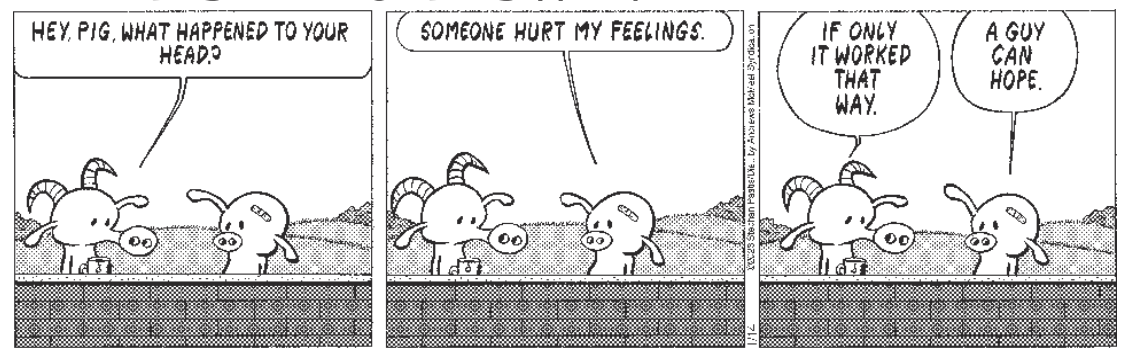
GARFIELD®

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PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

By Stephan Pastis



NON SEQUITUR

By Wiley Miller



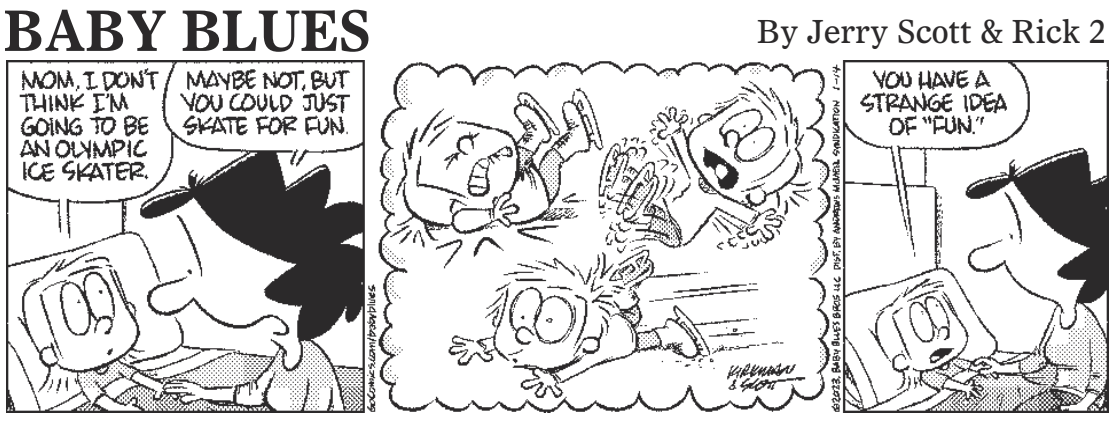
LOLA

By Steve Dickenson & Todd Clark



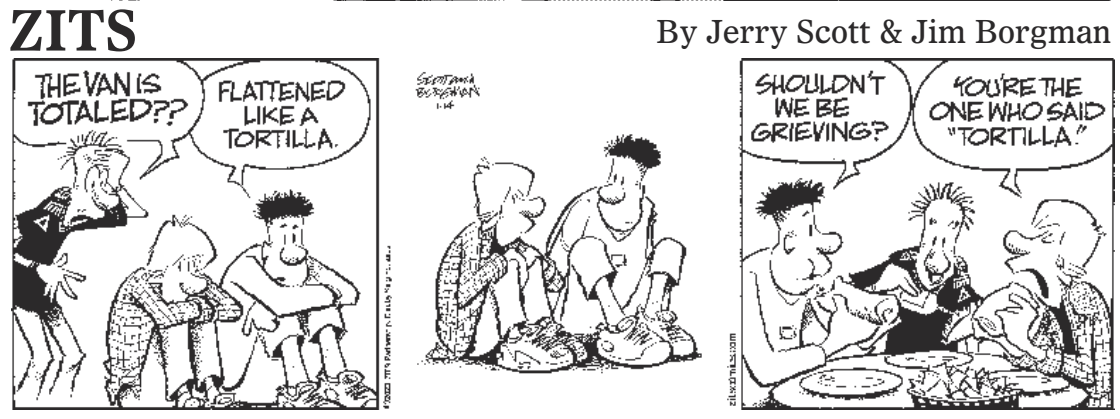
BABY BLUES

By Jerry Scott & Rick 2



ZITS

By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



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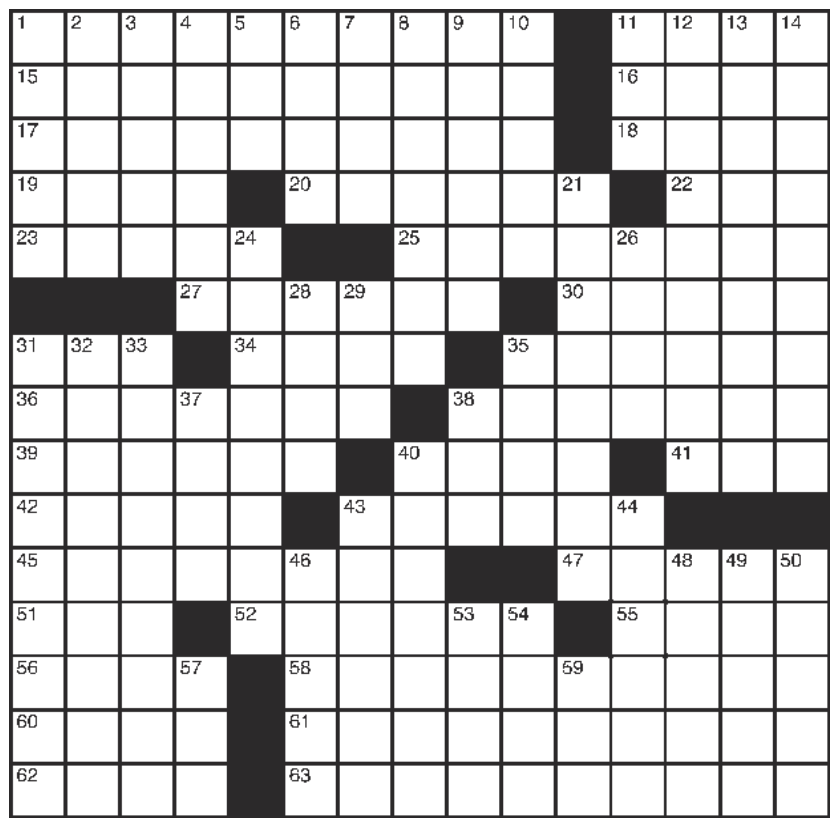
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Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol



By Ricky Sirois 1/14/23

ACROSS

1 Bailed
11 Brand at the pet store
15 Call after a knock, perhaps
16 Nu-metal pioneers
17 Please and thank you, e.g.
18 Steve of "Peacemaker"
19 Big heads
20 "But you just got here!"
22 Scamp
23 Faces
25 Trouble getting down?
27 Proclamation
30 Astringent cosmetic
31 Foot, in zoology
34 Mineralogist who created a scale
35 Zimbabwe's most populous city
36 State fruit of California
38 Underground dwellers of urban myth
39 Samurai sword
40 Image in Magritte's "The Treachery of Images"
41 Contractor's no.
42 Terse postgame recap
43 Together
45 Place to order 2-Down
47 Giveaways
51 Use a touchscreen
52 Crenshaw kin
55 Bound
56 "... two fives for __?"
58 Classic film based on the play "Everybody Comes to Rick's"
60 Govt. weather agency
61 Be aware enough not to do something foolish
62 Gets to
63 "Oh, you!"

DOWN

1 Lily of "Pam & Tommy"
2 Eel, on a menu
3 [Gasp]
4 Ready and waiting
5 Abbr. on a business letter
6 Code Reds, e.g.
7 A word before takeoff?
8 Stable creatures, colloquially
9 "Stick a fork in me"
10 Capital of Cuba
11 Sobriquet letters
12 Useful sobriquet
13 Openings
14 Like some households
21 Scout's terse assessment
24 Like some differences
26 Greater
28 Oscar winner about a teenager who is the only hearing member of her family
29 Sigma preceder
31 Many an Urdu speaker
32 Judgmental sort
33 In a way
35 Uto-Aztecan language spoken in Arizona
37 Exchanged notes?
38 Sch. that hosts an annual Mystery Hunt
40 Shade provider
43 Aquafina rival
44 Trattoria dessert
46 Sticks up for
48 Slowly, in music
49 Corset securers
50 Leftover
53 Go through a lot of tissues
54 Soccer star Wambach
57 Rapper who narrates Netflix's "The Get Down"
59 Support under the table?

Friday's Puzzle Solved

L	E	A	S	T	■	R	A	P	S	■	T	A	C	T
L	I	B	R	A	■	A	G	U	A	■	S	M	E	W
C	R	Y	I	N	G	B	A	B	Y	■	H	A	L	E
S	E	S	■	T	U	B	I	■	■	A	I	S	L	E
■	■	M	O	R	N	I	N	G	P	E	R	S	O	N
■	S	A	J	A	K	■	■	R	U	S	T	■	■	■
D	E	L	A	■	■	A	L	E	R	O	■	E	P	S
H	E	L	I	C	O	P	T	E	R	P	I	L	O	T
S	K	Y	■	O	P	T	E	D	■	■	A	M	E	N
■	■	■	D	U	E	T	■	■	O	D	I	S	T	■
T	A	X	A	C	C	O	U	N	T	A	N	T	■	■
A	B	A	S	H	■	■	C	O	R	Y	■	R	A	W
K	O	C	H	■	B	I	O	L	A	B	T	E	C	H
E	R	T	E	■	I	O	N	A	■	E	V	E	R	Y
N	C	O	S	■	G	U	N	N	■	D	A	T	E	S

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Trump Organization fined $1.6 million for tax fraud

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Trump's company was fined $1.6 million Friday for a scheme in which the former president's top executives dodged personal income taxes on lavish job perks — a symbolic, hardly crippling blow for an enterprise boasting billions of dollars in assets.

A fine was the only penalty a judge could impose on the Trump Organization after its conviction last month for 17 tax crimes, including conspiracy and falsifying business records. The amount was the maximum allowed by law. Judge Juan Manuel Merchan gave the company 14 days to pay. A person convicted of the same crimes would've faced years in prison.

Trump himself was not on trial and denied any knowledge that a small group of executives were evading taxes on extras including rent-free apartments, luxury cars and private school tuition. Prosecutors said such items were part of what they dubbed the Trump Organization's "deluxe executive compensation package."



AP

Prosecuting and defense attorneys wait during the sentencing of the Trump Organization at Manhattan Criminal Court on Friday in New York.

The company denied wrongdoing and said it would appeal.

"These politically motivated prosecutors will stop at nothing to get President Trump and continue the never ending witch-hunt which began the day he announced his presidency," the company said in a statement after the fine was announced.

Neither the former president nor his children, who helped run the Trump Organization, were in the courtroom.

While the fines — less than the cost of a Trump Tower apartment — aren't big enough to impact the company's operations or future, the conviction is a black mark on the Republican's reputation as a savvy businessman as he mounts a campaign to regain the White House.

Outside the courtroom, Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, a Democrat, said he wished the law had allowed for a more serious penalty.

"I want to be very clear: we don't think that is enough," he said. "Our laws in this state need to change in order to capture this type of decade-plus systemic and egregious fraud."

Besides the company, only one executive was charged in the case: former Trump Organization Chief Financial Officer Allen Weisselberg, who pleaded guilty last summer to evading taxes on $1.7 million in compensation. He was sentenced Tuesday to five months in jail.

The criminal case involved financial practices and pay arrangements that the company halted when Trump was elected president in 2016.

Stocks are mixed on Wall Street as earnings season kicks off

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks are holding relatively steady on Wall Street Friday, as earnings reporting season gets underway and CEOs begin to show how well or poorly they're navigating high inflation and a slowing economy.

The S&P 500 was 0.1% lower in afternoon trading after erasing most of an earlier loss. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 17 points, or 0.1%, at 34,207, as of 12:50 p.m. Eastern time, and the Nasdaq composite was virtually unchanged.

Friday's quiet trading has the S&P 500 on track to close out its best week in two months and to hold onto a 3.6% gain for 2023 so far. The year has begun on Wall Street with optimism that cooling inflation trends could get the Federal Reserve to ease off soon on its sharp hikes to interest rates. Such increases can drive down inflation, but they do so by slowing the economy and risk causing a recession. They also hurt investment prices.

Slowing chunks of the economy and still-high inflation are dragging on profits for companies, which are one of the main levers that set stock prices. Friday marked the first big day for companies in the the S&P 500 to show how they fared during the final three months of 2022, with a bevy of banks at the head of the line.

JPMorgan Chase rose 2.5% after beating analysts' expectations for earnings and revenue. Bank of America also shook off a morning stumble to rise 1.6% after reporting better results than expected. Bank of New York Mellon rose 2.4% following its earnings release and announcement of a program to buy back up to $5 billion of its stock.

Health care stocks were also doing well as a group. UnitedHealth Group rose 1.2% after topping analysts' expectations for profit and revenue.

On the losing end was Delta Air Lines, which sank 4% after it gave a forecast that thudded onto Wall Street. Despite reporting stronger results for the end of 2022 than expected, its forecast for profit this quarter fell short of analysts' expectations.

A drop for Tesla's stock also weighed on Wall Street. It fell 2.6% after slashing prices dramatically on several versions of its electric vehicles. The move could drum up more sales but could also cut into its overall revenue.

One big worry on Wall Street is that S&P 500 companies may report a drop in profits for the fourth quarter from a year earlier. It would be the first such decline since 2020, when the pandemic was crushing the economy. Perhaps more importantly, the fear is that weakness could be just the beginning.

If the economy does fall into a recession, as many investors expect, sharper drops for profits may be set for 2023. That's why the forecasts for upcoming earnings that CEOs give this reporting season may be even more important than their latest results.

"We expect earnings to take the center stage going forward, where reactions to earnings have been getting bigger" and reactions in markets to inflation data and the Fed have been waning, equity strategist Savita Subramanian wrote in a BofA Global Research report.

She expects cuts to estimates for corporate earnings to accelerate in coming months, which would pressure stocks.

Treasury yields were holding relatively steady after falling through the start of the year on hopes for cooling inflation and an easier Fed.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury rose to 3.47% from 3.45% late Thursday. That yield helps set rates for mortgages and other loans that are crucial for wide swaths of the economy. The two-year yield, which tends to move more on expectations for the Fed, rose to 4.17% from 4.15%.

A report released Friday morning showed U.S. consumers downshifted their expectations for inflation in the coming year, down to 4%, which is the lowest reading April 2021. Long-run expectations for inflation, meanwhile, remain stuck in the narrow range of 2.9% to 3.1% that they've been in for 17 of the last 18 months, according to preliminary survey results from the University of Michigan.

The Federal Reserve has been intent on such numbers staying low. Otherwise, it could cause a vicious cycle that only worsen inflation. Consumers could start accelerating their purchases in hopes of getting ahead of higher prices, for example, which would only push prices higher.

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Livingston Area 5-Day Forecast

Today	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
Precip Chance: 15%	Precip Chance: 15%			
48 31	44 30	40 25	37 22	36 23
Winds: 15-19 mph SSW	Winds: 10-11 mph SW	Winds: 12-14 mph SW	Winds: 13-14 mph WSW	Winds: 14-16 mph SSW

Livingston Outlook

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 48. South southwest wind 15 to 19 mph. The record high temperature for today temperature for today is 53 set in 1994.

Livingston Statistics

As recorded through Thursday.

Temperatures

High Thursday	39
Low Thursday	7
Record high	56 in 1953
Record low	-33 in 1997

Precipitation (as of 4 p.m.)

Thursday	0.00"
Month to date	0.15"
Year to date	0.15"
Snowfall Thursday	0.0"
Snowfall season to date	23.8"
Average Humidity	49%
Barometer (noon)	30.21" (falling)

Wind Sock

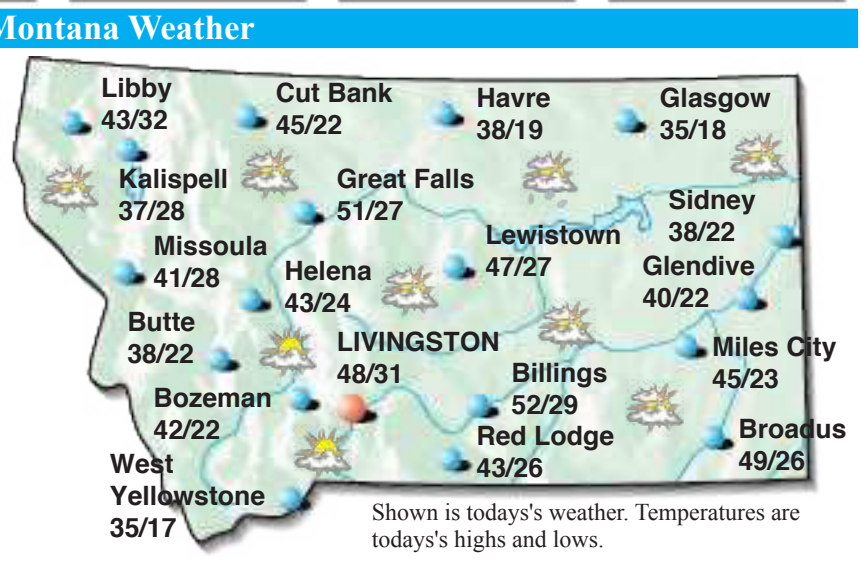


Peak gust for Thursday: 54 mph (Recorded at Mission Field)

Yellowstone River

Depth (at Carter's Bridge)	0.37 ft.
Current flow	n/a
77-year average	1,200 ft3/sec.
Temperature	n/a

Montana Weather



Shown is todays's weather. Temperatures are todays's highs and lows.

City	Today Hi	Lo	Wx	Sunday Hi	Lo	Wx
Belgrade	40	17	mc	34	18	mc
Billings	52	29	mc	47	30	mc
Bozeman	42	22	mc	37	21	mc
Butte	38	22	sn	35	20	mc
Dillon	39	20	sn	35	19	mc
Glasgow	35	18	mc	29	19	mc
Glendive	40	22	mc	34	19	pc
Great Falls	51	27	ra	42	28	mc
Havre	38	19	ra	31	20	fg
Helena	43	24	rs	38	25	mc
Kalispell	37	28	sn	36	26	fg
Lewistown	47	27	mc	42	25	mc
Miles City	45	23	mc	39	24	mc
Missoula	41	28	ra	38	29	cl
Sidney	38	22	mc	32	15	mc
W. Yellowstone	35	17	sn	34	14	sn

Sun and Moon

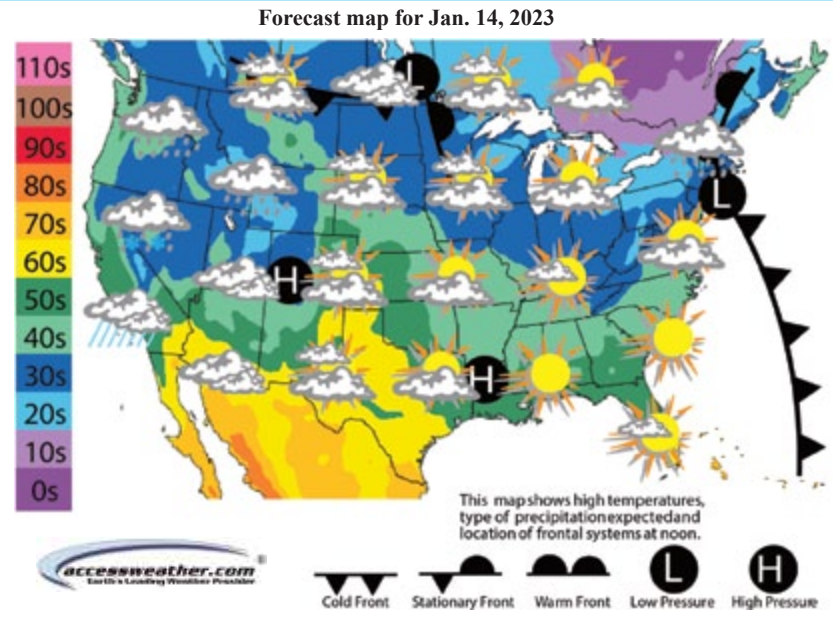
Sunrise today	7:59 a.m.
Sunset tonight	5:03 p.m.
Moonrise today	12:00 a.m.
Moonset today	11:37 a.m.

Moon Phases

Last	New	First	Full
1/14	1/21	1/28	2/5

National Weather

Forecast map for Jan. 14, 2023



For latest weather updates: **www.wxtogo.com/LE**

City	Today Hi	Lo	Wx	Sunday Hi	Lo	Wx
Anchorage	25	22	cl	29	20	mc
Atlanta	46	28	s	53	32	s
Boston	38	29	mc	37	28	sn
Chicago	41	30	pc	47	39	mc
Dallas	61	46	s	70	59	mc
Denver	55	28	mc	48	25	mc
Los Angeles	58	50	ra	60	49	mc
New York	38	29	pc	41	28	s
Phoenix	67	53	mc	63	51	sh
Salt Lake City	45	34	ra	40	28	rs
Seattle	54	44	ra	49	41	ra
Washington, D.C.	41	27	mc	46	29	s

Legend: Wx-weather, s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, cl-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, ra-rain, fl-flurries, rs-rain/snow, sn-snow, i-ice, w-windy, R-Record.

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Biden special counsel deepens Justice Dept. in politics fray



AP

Then-Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General Robert Hur speaks during a press briefing at the White House in Washington, July 27, 2017.

WASHINGTON (AP) — In naming a special counsel to investigate the presence of classified documents at President Joe Biden's Delaware home and former Washington office, Attorney General Merrick Garland described the appointment as underscoring the Justice Department's commitment to independence and accountability in particularly sensitive investigations.

If those words sounded familiar, they should.

Garland used identical phrasing in November in appointing a different special counsel for a different politically explosive investigation into different classified documents for a different political figure — the retention of top secret records at former President Donald Trump's Florida estate, Mar-a-Lago.

The Justice Department has investigated White House matters in the past. But it's now confronting a unique phenomenon: simultaneous special counsel probes — albeit with dramatically distinct fact sets — involving two presidents and jostling for time, attention and perhaps funding as well. Still another special counsel appointed during the Trump administration to investigate the origins of the FBI's Trump-Russia probe also remains at work.

The special counsel confluence underscores how a Justice Department that for nearly two centuries has had a mandate of prosecuting without fear or favor has found itself entangled in presidential politics. Even as Garland made a point Thursday of saying the department's own "normal processes" can handle all investigations with integrity, the appointment seemed to nod to a reality that probes that involve a president — in this case, Garland's boss — are different.

It places Garland under pressure to reassure the public that both investigations, though factually different, are handled in similar manners.

"I think it's not only the right decision and a prudent decision, I think it's a politically necessary decision," said Solomon Wisenberg, who served as deputy to Kenneth Starr during the 1990s independent counsel investigations into then-President Bill Clinton.

"Why," he added, "give yourself the grief of the comparison of the two situations" of a special counsel for Trump, a Republican, but not for Biden, a Democrat.

Brandon Van Grack, a former Justice Department prosecutor who served on then-special counsel Robert Mueller's team as it investigated ties between Russia and Trump's 2016 presidential campaign, said appointing a special counsel can help expedite an investigation, ensure it has appropriate resources and create "at least the perception of impartiality and fairness."

"With respect to this decision, this specific decision, it's at least understandable why the attorney general would want all of those bene-

US stops hundreds fleeing Cuba, Haiti by sea, returns most

MIAMI (AP) — The Coast Guard returned another 177 Cuban migrants who were caught at sea off Florida to the island on Thursday, while a group of about two dozen Haitians swam ashore in Miami.

The Cuban migrants were all intercepted separately off the coast earlier this month, according to a Coast Guard news release. They were repatriated by two Coast Guard cutters.

Twenty-five Haitians who had traveled by sailboat from Port-de-Paix, Haiti, swam ashore at Virginia Key, a small island just southeast of downtown Miami, and were taken into the custody of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, agency spokesman Michael Selva said.

Good Samaritans among island beachgoers helped some of the migrants ashore with small boats and jet skis, Selva said.

Dozens of additional migrants still aboard the sailboat were being processed by federal officials at sea, which typically means they are returned to their home countries.

Increasing numbers of Cuban and Haitian migrants have attempted the risky Florida Straits crossing in recent months to illegally enter the Keys Island chain and other parts of the state as inflation soars and economic conditions deteriorate in their home countries.

The spike among Cubans has been especially pronounced. Since Oct. 1, 2022, the Coast Guard has interdicted more than 4,900 Cuban migrants at sea, as compared with more than 6,100 Cubans intercepted during all of fiscal 2022, which ended Sept. 30, according to the news release.

The latest returns and landings came just after President Joe Biden's administration began a new policy to start turning back Cubans, Haitians and Nicaraguans at the Texas border, along with Venezuelans, who arrive illegally.

The administration also is offering humanitarian parole for up to 30,000 people a month from those four countries if they apply online, pay their airfare and find a financial sponsor.

Migrants who arrive illegally and don't immediately return home will become ineligible for the new parole. U.S. officials are hoping this will deter sea arrivals by offering a safer alternative and a pathway to residency.

The U.S. Embassy in Havana, Cuba recently resumed processing migrant visas, and said Wednesday that some initial Cuban applicants already had been accepted under the new parole. In the Haitian capital, Port-au-Prince, would-be applicants have flocked an immigration office in recent days to apply for passports needed for the U.S. program.

Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Mark Cobb said in a statement that with the new legal pathways available for migrants "we urge all people to use the safe and legal means available to travel to the United States. Don't put your life at risk by taking to the sea when you don't have to."



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