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Phoenix expands eviction legal services

By Mark Carlisle
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The city of Phoenix is trying to make its eviction legal services more accessible to residents.

Council voted unanimously Wednesday, Nov. 18 to approve an additional vendor for eviction legal services: the Law Offices of Barry L. Williams.

Phoenix introduced the program in 2020 during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic and extended it into 2021. Council then brought the program back in January 2025. Services include both legal representation or mediation for a tenant facing eviction or post-eviction services.

A 2024 study from Arizona State University found that at the time, Maricopa County lead the nation in evictions with a rate of nearly

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Shy Bryant, a co-owner of Smoke Somethin' BBQ, poses for a photo outside of the company's food truck at Local First Arizona's Certified Local Fall Festival on Saturday, Nov. 7 at Margaret T. Hance Park in Phoenix. (Submitted/ Local First Arizona)

Holiday season a 'crucial time' for Arizona small business retailers

By Mark Carlisle
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

As the Valley enters the Small Business Saturday weekend, this holiday shopping season will be a critical stretch for many Arizona small businesses, particularly retailers.

"This is a crucial time for retailers in Arizona to really move from frankly being in the red for the calendar year to hopefully being profitable for this year," Chad Heinrich, the Arizona state director for the National Federation of Independent Business, told Independent Newsmedia.

Increased costs have made it hard for many small businesses to stay afloat. An NFIB survey found 17% of small businesses still named inflation as the most significant problem they face.

Heinrich said inflation has crept into every supply chain. For a year or two, many small businesses could handle smaller profit margins to deal with inflation.

"But that's run thin. They really don't have anywhere else to hide," Heinrich said.

That, and increased fuel costs, have forced many small busi-

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COMMUNITY NEWS

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Phoenix expands program to rent tools for cleanups, events

By Mark Carlisle
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Need a weedwhacker for a neighborhood cleanup? Or a ping-pong table for a community party?

The Phoenix Toolbank can help.

The nonprofit, founded in 2015, lends a range of tools and equipment to neighborhood groups "with a goal to increase volunteerism in the community and increase the capacity of the charitable sectors," Phoenix Neighborhood Services Deputy Director Yvette Roeder told a city subcommittee Nov. 17.

The city of Phoenix began an official partnership with the Phoenix Toolbank in September 2025 and wants to expand that partnership.

Since last fall, the city's partnership with the Phoenix Toolbank has resulted in providing supplies for 30 G.A.I.N. events (Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods) and tools for 84 neighborhood cleanups where about 2,000 volunteers participated.

While Phoenix Toolbank has a warehouse on the city's east side, the partnership allowed the nonprofit to use the Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department Warehouse on the west side of the city, "making tools and equipment more accessible to more neighborhoods, especially those located on the west side," Roeder told the Community Services and Education Subcommittee.



Event supplies like pop-up canopies, ping pong tables and corn hole sets can be rented from Phoenix Toolbank. (Submitted/Phoenix)

The Phoenix Toolbank rents more than 7,000 different tools and equipment. Those include things like trash grabbers, weedwhackers, wheelbarrows and garden shears for community cleanups as well as event supplies like table tennis, cornhole sets, pop-up canopies, chairs, tables and human-sized Jenga.

Organizations must sign up to be Phoenix Toolbank members to rent equipment. Membership is free but some tools have handling fee of 5% of an item's retail value per week. Late fees and other fees can apply.

The city looks to expand that partnership through the Phoenix Tool Trailer Program. This is an existing program between the Phoenix Neighborhood Services and Public Works departments where the city drops off a trailer of tools for a community cleanup and inspects and picks it up after the event.

That program will be administered by the Phoenix Toolbank. The nonprofit will store, deliver, pickup, inspect, and track and report deliver data and maintenance needs for the trailers and equipment.

The city will coordinate many community cleanups, provide consumable items like trash bags for the events and provide an annual operational cost of $9,000 to the Phoenix Toolbank. That cost will be split evenly between the Neighborhood Services and Public Works departments.

The term of the new contract begins Jan. 1, 2027, and lasts one year with the option for two one-year extensions.

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BOS names new Elections Center after longtime county recorder

By Jeff Wendt
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the naming of new Elections Center currently under construction after longtime County Recorder Helen Purcell during its Nov. 18 formal meeting.

The Helen Purcell Election Center, 801 W. Jefferson St. in downtown, should be completed in fall 2027.

Purcell served seven terms as Maricopa County Recorder from 1988 until 2017, making her the longest-serving recorder in county history.

One of Purcell's biggest accomplishments came through her participation in developing national voting system standards. She was the named litigant in Purcell v. Gonzalez, a landmark 2006 U.S. Supreme Court decision establishing a nationally recognized principle governing changes to election procedures shortly before an election.

Supervisor Mark Stewart talked about how Purcell made elections better for Arizona.

"Purcell was our recorder for 28 years, and she saw the problems with the hanging chads before Florida obviously did," Stewart said. "Four years before Helen made changes to our election system to get rid of those chads.

"She also implemented online registration, doubled the registration within our county within the time that she was here and brought innovation, but a spirit of customer service to the recorder's office," Stewart added.



The future Helen Purcell Election Center is under construction and should be completed in fall 2027, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors said during its Nov. 18 meeting. (Screen capture from Maricopa County YouTube)

Supervisor Thomas Galvin talked about what Purcell meant to him.

"Helen Purcell has been nothing but gracious and kind to me and has taught me a lot," Galvin said. "She has set a great example. She is one of the few women leaders I think that we have here in the county that deserve a name like this, and being honored with a name like this is also important for young women to see."

Vice Chair Debbie Lesko talked about Purcell deserved this honor.

"You are truly a class act," Lesko said. "And there's not too many people left in politics that are class acts, and you really are and you deserve this."

Supervisor Steve Gallardo talked about how Purcell was respected by all she came in contact with.

"She was respected by Republicans and Democrats," Gallardo said. "They wanted to hear what she thought, what her viewpoint is, what her suggestions were. And that's how much credibility Helen Purcell brought you when it came to elections."

Supervisor Kate Brophy McGee talked about how neutral Purcell would be despite her political party affiliation.

"Helen Purcell became a friend and an ally," Brophy McGee said. "She is and was and will always be a staunch Republican, but when it comes to administering elections, she was always Switzerland."

Phoenix adds leniency for shade structures

By Mark Carlisle
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The city of Phoenix is loosening code enforcement laws around setback violations.

The changes, approved unanimously by city council on Nov. 18, make exception for structures that are at least 10 years old and structures that are built for the purpose of shade or otherwise mitigating the impact of heat.

"We cannot forget that we are the hottest urban center in the United States, and our city codes and zoning policies must be reflective of the growing concerns that come along with heat safety," said District 7 Councilmember Anna Hernandez said.

Hernandez said the intense heat impacts some neighborhoods in much more dangerous ways than others. She said this issue of residents getting flagged for storage sheds added for shade was one of the first things residents brought to her attention when she took office in April 2025.

"My residents in south Phoenix, the Van Buren corridor and Maryvale have been spending thousands of dollars to create shade structures to protect their families from the heat just to turn around and be cited by city code violations," she said.

Technically, these structures will still be cited for setback violations — being built closer to the street or neighbors property lines than city code allows. They will receive a notice of ordinance violation that will be recorded with the Maricopa County Recorder's Office but no other enforcement action will be taken if the structure was built for heat mitigation or is at least 10 years old.

There are three exceptions to that new leniency however:

- The structure or its contents present a health or safety hazard.
- The violation is reported by a directly impacted party, such as the immediate neighbor adjacent to the setback violation.
- A written complaint if filed, signed by at least three witnesses in separate households within 600 feet of the property in violation.

The policy, which is under the Neighborhood Services Department, states this change does not establish any limitations on the enforcement by other city departments.

Hernandez said she looks forward to continuing to work with Neighborhood Service and the Planning and Development Department to continue to make improvements to city codes that impact climate safety.

"Shade and heat relief are envi-

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Class

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ronmental equity issues," Hernandez said. "The impacts of climate change and rising heat are felt more in low-income communities, especially in those Black and Brown communities across Phoenix."

ASU leads research group for innovations on street pavement technology

By Mark Carlisle
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The city of Phoenix last week renewed its partnership with an Arizona State University consortium to development new innovations in street paving technology.

ASU launched the Southwest Pavement Technology Consortium in 2023 with 10 construction and materials companies as inaugural members. The city of Mesa was the first municipality to join later in 2023, Phoenix and Peoria joined in 2025 and Scottsdale joined in 2026.

On Nov. 18, the city of Phoenix renewed that partnership with council unanimously approving $50,000 for a one-year membership. Unlike other pavement research centers in the U.S. that are reliant on state funding, the SWPT is a partnership among all of its members.

"Our Streets Department really have been leaders in this area. We have gotten worldwide recognition for the work we do related to pavement," said Mayor Kate Gallego.

Gallego referenced the city's Cool Pavement program, which is a light gray coating applied to asphalt shown to reduce surface temperatures and extend the life of streets. ASU has partnered with the city on the Cool Pavement program, but that partnership predates the SWPT, which began in 2023.

Resident Leonard Clark gave public comment on the item in front of council where he thanked members for their efforts to innovate with street pavement, particularly when it comes to heat mitigation.

"I want to thank you for at least trying to be ahead of the game

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An experimental mix of pavement is laid in Mesa in 2025, developed by the Arizona State University-led Southwest Pavement Technology Consortium. (Submitted/Southwest Pavement Technology Consortium)

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Class

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on the pavement because man-made global climate change is real. Sorry to our friends who believe scientists that are paid by Exxon," Clark said.

ASU's website lists thermally efficient pavement surfaces under the SWPT's sustainability efforts, as well as recycling construction materials.

The SWPT's mission is to "design new infrastructure solutions that are safer, more cost-effective and more durable than traditional approaches and provide a talented and well-trained workforce to the industry," according to the ASU website.

Another innovation the city and consortium are pursuing is a better mix of materials in the pavement that will lead to fewer potholes, Gallego said.

Board of Supervisors approves election canvass

By Jeff Wendt
INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the canvass of the results of the Nov. 3 general election during a special meeting held Nov. 18.

Of the 2,589,827 registered voters in Arizona, 1,559,706 ballots were cast in the general election. More than 1.3 million ballots were counted and verified in the early voting period, while a little more than 208,000 ballots were verified and counted on Election Day.

Voter turnout was down almost 4% from the 2022 election, with 64.17% of voters turning out in 2022 to 60.22% turnout in November.

There were 1,026 provisional ballots verified and counted. There were 6,837 rejected provisional ballots. The largest groups of those were not registered to vote (3,403 ballots), not eligible to vote in this election (2,021 ballots) and conditional provisional, sufficient identification not provided by deadline (1,261 ballots).



The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors canvass the results of the 2026 general election at a special meeting on Nov. 18, 2026. (Submitted/ YouTube screen capture)

Of the early voting numbers, 8,380 ballots were rejected. Of those, 7,104 were rejected for either bad signatures or no signature, and 1,276 were rejected due to being late returns.

There is one result that needs to be recounted, that is located in Legislative District 27. The result was less than 0.5% of each other, it triggers an automatic recount per Arizona Law.

Elections Director Scott Jarrett said they are waiting for the courts to unseal the petition for the recount.

Recorder Justin Heap declined the Board of Supervisors' invitation to address questions associated with the canvass of the results.

Chairwoman Kate Brophy McGee said she sent a letter to Heap on Nov. 9 to attend the canvass, and Heap declined less than 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Jarrett said final results were posted within eight days, the fastest in the modern era. Jarrett attributed that to adding a second shift, to having additional workers tabulate through the night and keep everything flowing, and to allowing voters to bring early ballots to the polls on Election Day to have them tabulated.

Vice Chairman Debbie Lesko asked Jarrett to quell voters' fears that tabulation machines were tampered with.

"The machines have to go through robust testing prior to the election to be certified to be used both at the state and federal level," Jarrett said.

Supervisor Mark Stewart in explaining his vote talked about how big a process goes into putting on the elections.

" I didn't realize how much that goes into putting on the election until I took this seat," Stewart said. "I dug into the weeds on this, and these teams do a great job on this."

"As horrible as the previous elections have been, I have seen this board to do the right thing and follow through," Supervisor Thomas Galvin said.

Lesko praised the entire process in explaining her vote.

"As a Republican I may not have liked the results of the election," Lesko said, "but I trusted the process and the results of the election."

Supervisor Steve Gallardo was disappointed Heap did not show up for the canvass.

"I think this is the first time I have never seen the recorder show up to canvass the election results," Gallardo said. "For him to not be here to answer questions we had, I am disappointed."

Brophy McGee, while also disappointed in the results, was happy with what she saw from this election.

"While I wasn't happy with the results, I was very happy with the voters of Maricopa County to came out confidently to vote in this election," Brophy McGee said.

Possible travel delays despite no Thanksgiving weekend freeway work

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

No construction closures are scheduled on state highways over the Thanksgiving weekend, but drivers should be prepared for heavier traffic during peak travel times, state transportation officials said Monday.

Crews will not work on Arizona highways from Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 25, to late Monday night, Nov. 30, state transportation officials said.

ADOT anticipates heavy traffic and possible delays at times on highways in and out of the Phoenix and Tucson areas, including Interstate 10, as well as Interstate 17 north of Phoenix.

The I-17 flex lanes system between Black Canyon City and Sunset Point Rest Area will be open for northbound traffic this week through late Saturday and then available for southbound travel on Sunday, Nov. 29, and Monday, Nov. 30.

Nourish PHX connects families with resources beyond the pantry

By Jovana Simonovic
Cronkite News

PHOENIX – Nourish PHX looks beyond immediate needs to help families work toward self-sufficiency.

For people facing financial hardship, access to food and other basic necessities can provide immediate relief. But Nourish PHX is working to address needs beyond the pantry by connecting visitors with resources that support their long-term stability.

The Phoenix nonprofit, formerly known as ICM Food and Clothing Bank, has served the community since the 1960s. While its food pantry remains a central part of its operations, the organization has expanded to include clothing assistance, hygiene products, health assistance, a job and resource center and partnerships with other nonprofits.

"We're not only a food bank," said Beth Fiorenza, executive director of Nourish PHX. "Our tagline is 'Beyond the Pantry.'"

Fiorenza said the organization wants visitors to have access to immediate necessities while also addressing other challenges they face.

"We really provide opportunities for people to have a path out of poverty," she said.

Through its job and resource center, Nourish PHX helps people access employment resources and assistance with programs such as SNAP and AHCCCS renewals. The organization is also developing a wellness and skill center in an upstairs classroom.



Volunteers sort food into boxes at Nourish PHX on Nov. 12, in Phoenix, preparing groceries for community members seeking assistance. (Cronkite News/Jovana Simonovic)

In addition to its own programs, Nourish PHX partners with between 20 and 40 other nonprofit organizations that use its facility. These partnerships allow visitors to access resources such as vaccinations in a single visit.

"People don't have to drive to many different places to go and get resources," Fiorenza said. "It's one spot."

The need for these services comes as households face rising expenses for essentials such as food, housing and gas. Fiorenza said Nourish PHX has seen more people seeking basic necessities.

"Every morning there's a line outside," Fiorenza said. "We're seeing a lot of new people coming into the pantry who never came in before."

The organization provides weekday drop-in services from approximately 9 to 11:30 a.m. Visitors check in at the front desk and receive a ticket directing them to the resources they need.

Although the morning hours are the busiest, staff members continue working throughout the day to coordinate appointments and prepare for incoming food deliveries.

Maintaining those services requires support from volunteers and donations. Fiorenza said Nourish PHX operates with seven full-time employees and two part-time employees, relying on volunteers to help with daily operations in the food pantry, clothing closet and other areas of the facility.

Finding enough volunteers and maintaining funding are ongoing challenges, Fiorenza said.

For Fiorenza, making those resources accessible is part of what defines the organization's mission. Nourish PHX does not limit its services to specific ZIP codes, allowing people from anywhere in the Valley to visit.

"We provide a hub of community services here," Fiorenza said. "Anybody's welcome."

Retailers

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nesses to raise prices. Heinrich said the options for many are raise prices or go out of business.

"It's honestly not a big choice of the owner," he said.

The NFIB survey found 37% of small businesses planned to increase prices, the highest number since July 2022.

That doesn't mean consumers always spend more shopping locally. Thomas Barr, vice president of strategic initiatives for Local First Arizona, said higher costs or a more inconvenient shopping experience are some of the misconceptions about shopping locally versus shopping at large companies.

"There are tens of thousands of local businesses out there, and if you just take a minute to do a little searching, you can usually find what you need, and you can find it pretty conveniently," Barr told Independent Newsmedia.

Local First Arizona in recent weeks rolled out a new tool to help Arizona shoppers find a local business to fit their needs. Localistaz.com lets shoppers enter their location and what they're looking for, and it will return a list of local businesses that sell those items.

Local First Arizona has had a directory of small businesses since its inception in 2003, but this new tool scrapes tens of thousands of small businesses to match the item a shopper is looking for.

The search tool uses AI, but "very minimal," Barr said. The organization tries to be "very conscientious" about its carbon footprint, particularly as it comes to energy use. Localistaz.com uses 0.2 megawatts of energy per search, about one-tenth of the energy the average Google search uses.



Above: A child holds a Local First Arizona tote bag while in line at Local First Arizona's Certified Local Fall Festival on Saturday, Nov. 7, at Margaret T. Hance Park in Phoenix. (Submitted/Local First Arizona)

Below: Shoppers browse local artisan vendors and small businesses selling things like custom clothing, jewelry and handcrafted candles at the Makers Hive Holiday Market at Desert Ridge Marketplace in Phoenix. (Submitted/Desert Ridge Marketplace)



Shopping locally can also have a ripple effect of keeping more money in the local economy.

"I know that when I patronize a small business in this neighborhood, they've probably got a family that lives within a few miles of here, that's going to school here, that's buying back-to-school clothes and all those types of goods, and that just rolls back into the local economy," Heinrich said.

For every $100 spent at locally owned businesses, $43 remains in the local economy. That's according to the Indie Impact Study Series from Civic Economics. In comparison, for every $100 spent at a non-locally owned business, just $13 remains in the local economy.

Local First Arizona states if a community the size of Tucson shifted just 10% of its spending from non-local to local businesses, the move would create 1,600 new jobs, $53 million in new wages and at least $130 million in total economic impact.

While numbers like jobs created and tax revenue all help the local economy, Barr said the impact of shopping locally goes beyond the economics.

"There's a connection to place, which a lot of people don't think about," he said. "When you spend money with a local business, you feel more rooted and connected to your local community, and that's gonna create better connectivity, you're gonna get to know the business owner, who you know probably lives in the area and supports schools and clubs and nonprofits in your community."

Heinrich noted that large multinational companies typically can absorb rising costs and new government regulations or taxes better than a small business can. But both Barr and Heinrich said another misconception about shopping locally versus the big stores is that they believe small businesses most often give better customer service.

"They'll go the extra mile to make sure that you're getting everything that you need for who you're looking for, even if you don't know what that item is," Barr said.

Heinrich also said small businesses give you an opportunity to get to know and build a relationship with the owner and maybe be given more consideration in

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Evictions

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twice the national average.

The item on the council agenda from the Nov. 18 meeting suggests that issue has not let up.

"The city of Phoenix continues to see increasing numbers of individuals and families being evicted from their homes due to inability to pay rent and utilities, loss of income and employment and other imminent crises impacting their housing stability," the city staff document states.

Elizabeth Venable, a lead organizer and co-founder of Fund for Empowerment, spoke in front of council, saying that eviction prevention services have a return on investment of $4 to $6 for every $1 invested.

She said it was important to invest in these "small things that can prevent eviction, small things that can prevent people from becoming homeless," Venable said.

The cost of a person becoming homeless does not just have a personal cost to them but bears a financial cost to the local economy and municipality as well, Venable said.



A Maricopa County constable goes to serve a notice of eviction. (Maricopa County Justice Courts)

Vice Mayor Kesha Hodge Washington spearheaded the efforts to return the eviction legal services last year.

"I'm grateful to see another provider step in to provide the much needed eviction assistance to our residents that qualified," Hodge Washington said.

Mayor Kate Gallego thanked Hodge Washington for her leadership on eviction prevention.

The program began with one vendor, the nonprofit Community Legal Services, and added two more a month into the program: the Phoenix-based law firm Cronus Law and the Tempe-based law firm Barton Mendez Soto.

With the addition of the Law Offices of Barry L. Williams, there are four vendors under the program.

The additional vendor does not change the cost of the program, just seeks to add more flexibility and availability for the legal experts who administer the program. The city is paying $1.26 million per year for the program. The contract year ends at the end of June 2027 with two one-year options to extend.

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Businesses

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a scenario like having a problem with a product.

"Where you're not really treated like maybe a commodity where you'd feel that in a return line in a large company," Heinrich said.

One benefit of being a small business, Heinrich said, is you usually see a result for efforts you put in. Small Business Saturday can be a big deal for the small businesses that make a marketing effort for the date. But in general, both Heinrich and Barr said it mostly serves as a reminder that shopping local is important.

"At Local First Arizona, we want to remind people that those businesses don't go away when Small Business Saturday is over," Barr said. "...We encourage people to think about how they're spending their money all the time. Including where you're getting your oil changed, where are you going out to eat this weekend, whose doing your taxes this upcoming season."

One of NFIB's main roles is advocating for small businesses at the state capitol and in Washington, D.C. Heinrich said if it's important for shoppers to understand that many small businesses are feeling the crunch, it's also important for regulators.

"If they're considering increased taxes or more regulations, they really need to think about those small business owners that really can't absorb additional costs," Heinrich said.

Local First Arizona is the largest coalition of locally owned businesses in the country, representing more than 6,000 Arizona based businesses in its membership network.

The organization provides accelerator and training programs for entrepreneurs that help businesses upscale themselves, get access to capital and improve their businesses.

The group also focuses on development throughout the state with its Arizona Rural Development Council. The council collaborates with rural communities on training programs, workforce development programs for retaining youth within their communities, help with long-term community planning for different rural communities throughout Arizona to help them retain their businesses and drive economic development.

Local First Arizona also works with tribal nations throughout Arizona, building relationships and helping them accomplish their goals.

The organization created the Arizona Economic Resource Center about six years ago and helped to drive over $150 million grant opportunities for local communities and tribes throughout Arizona.

PHOENIX BUSINESS

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Shamrock Foods opens third warehouse

Store is designed for foodservice pros but open to the public

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

PHOENIX — Shamrock Foods on Saturday, Nov. 21 opened a new Shamrock Foodservice Warehouse in Phoenix, marking the company's third store in Arizona and 16th nationwide.

In addition to serving foodservice professionals, Shamrock Foodservice Warehouse is open to the public, with no membership required.

Arizona's explosive growth has made it one of the nation's top hospitality destinations, and more than 2,000 restaurants are located within a 10-mile radius of the new store. Shamrock Foodservice Warehouse complements Shamrock Foods' broad delivery service, giving restaurant operators a way to shop thousands of the products.

"Bringing high-quality products and unmatched service to Arizona's foodservice community is at the heart of everything we do," stated Emily George, senior vice president of marketing at Shamrock Foods, in a news release. "The opening of our Phoenix Shamrock Foodservice Warehouse is another step in putting local restaurant operators' needs first."

The 32,000-square-foot store at 10810 N. Tatum Boulevard, Suite 103, features an enhanced store layout built for convenient and reliable access to inventory



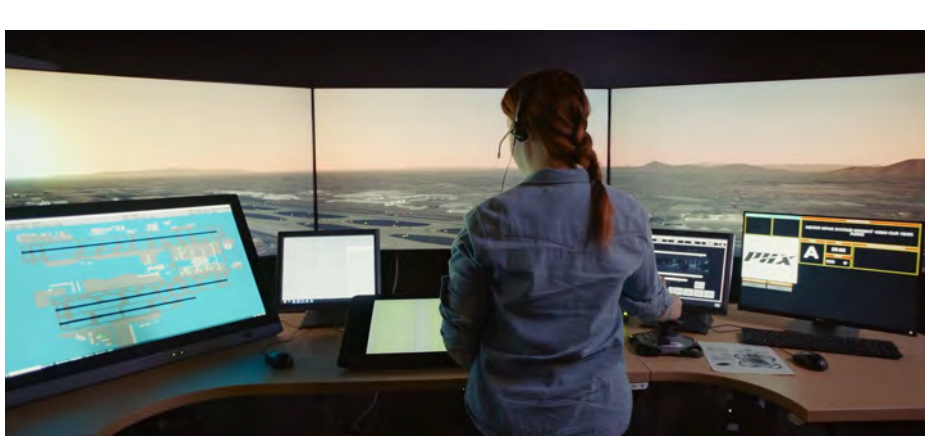
The new Shamrock Foodservice Warehouse store, located at 10810 N Tatum Boulevard, Suite 103 in Phoenix, is designed around how foodservice professionals shop. (Submitted by Shamrock Foods Company)

in key categories. Notable differences include:

- More full-case and foodservice pack sizes;
- Revamped product assortment to specifically reflect local foodservice customer demand with an expanded selection of Shamrock's own family of brands; and
- New advanced ordering and will-call process for access to thousands of additional Shamrock Foods products.

Shamrock Foodservice Warehouse offers everything from high-quality meats and seafood to a variety of fresh produce and premium dairy, hundreds of Arizona-grown or manufactured items, plus disposables, cleaning supplies and kitchen and catering supplies.

"Being a restaurant operator comes with an always changing list of needs," stated George in the news release. "Visiting a Shamrock Foodservice Warehouse is a restaurateur or food truck operator's version of 'running to the store' after an unexpected rush of traffic or sudden inspiration to create new menu items."



An air traffic controller at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport is shown on the "Threads of Connectivity" documentary episode featuring Phoenix-based Honeywell Aerospace. (Threads of Connectivity)

Phoenix-based Honeywell Aerospace featured on new documentary series

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Phoenix-based Honeywell Aerospace will be featured on a new documentary series called "Threads of Connectivity," produced by Nicely Done Productions and hosted on National Geographic's global digital platform.

The eighth episodes of the 10-episode series is dedicated to Honeywell Aerospace's AI-powered aviation tools.

Honeywell takes viewers inside the increasingly connected cockpit — from systems that can warn pilots of potential runway collisions to next-generation flight decks.

Filmed at Honeywell Aerospace's global headquarters in Phoenix, the episode explores how new technologies are helping pilots anticipate hazards and

• See **Honeywell** Page **11**

Honeywell

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make safer decisions.

Stream it now on natgeo.com or threadsofconnectivity.com.

Phoenix honors restaurants reducing food waste during new project

Independent Newsmedia

Project REDUCE — Restaurants Eliminating & Diverting Uneaten food through Composting & Education — is the city of Phoenix's first program dedicated to partnering with restaurants to reduce food waste.

The city is promoting the five restaurants through its first-ever Project REDUCE Week, which will take place from Monday-Friday, Nov. 30-Dec. 4, to honor their efforts to prevent food waste.

The city's Office of Environmental Programs provided five small local restaurants with $1,000 microgrants to implement food waste prevention solutions to help save money, reduce food spoilage and increase sales. The five restaurants are:

- La Michoacana Al Natural: 7625 W. Lower Buckeye Road Suite 110
- Phoenix Coqui: 4041 N. 15th Ave.
- Deseo A Coffee Shack: 2330 E. McDowell Road Unit D
- White Blossom Cafe: 1700 W. Washington St.
- America's Taco Shop: 4306 N. Seventh Ave.

Project REDUCE week recognizes the restaurants and celebrates their actions to prevent food waste from entering the landfill, helping to achieve the city's Zero Waste and Food Systems goals.



Employees at Deseo A Coffee Shack pose for a photo. The restaurant is one of five the city of Phoenix is honoring during Project REDUCE Week for their efforts to reduce food waste. (Submitted by city of Phoenix)





Appeal seeks to reverse religious confessions ruling

By Howard Fischer
CAPITOL MEDIA SERVICES

PHOENIX — Attorneys for Arizona children who were molested for years by their father are asking the U.S. Supreme Court to rule the Arizona Supreme Court unconstitutionally is allowing religious institutions to unilaterally determine when they don't have to report when congregants who tell them they are molesting children.

John Trebon and Lynne Cadigan want the justices to set aside the unanimous July ruling by the state's high court that shields the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and two of its bishops from any liability for failing to report that Paul Adams had told not just church bishops but others about his years-long practice of abusing his own children.

That failure, the lawsuit contends, allowed the Bisbee resident to continue to molest his children for years after, something that would not have occurred had the church reported to authorities.

In their decision throwing out the lawsuit, the Arizona Supreme Court court justices concluded religious institutions are entitled to decide when their doctrine requires them to keep secret a confession made by a congregant about child abuse. More to the point, the Arizona justices said the First Amendment provisions allowing the "free exercise" of religion precludes those decisions by church officials from being second guessed by trial judges.

The July ruling went even further, concluding it is the religious institution — and not some court — that gets to decide who beyond the actual members of the "clergy" also are exempt from reporting requirements.



MJ embraces her adoptive mother, Nancy Salminen, in Sierra Vista, Ariz., Oct. 27, 2021. State authorities placed MJ in foster care after learning that her father, the late Paul Adams, sexually assaulted her and posted video of the assaults on the Internet. (Associated Press/Dario Lopez-Mills, File)

All that, Trebon and Cadigan are arguing to the nation's high court, ignores the law.

"It is the role of the judiciary, not churches, to interpret secular state standards," he said. "The Arizona Supreme Court wildly misapplied the First Amendment to emasculate a neutral state statute."

A ruling in favor of the children would most immediately allow them to pursue their claims that the church and its officials bear liability for the fact that their father continued to molest them long after he had told not just two bishops but others about what he was doing.

It also would overturn the binding precedent the Arizona Supreme Court set in July which says that, in all future cases, churches, synagogues, mosques and other religious groups will get to claim immunity based solely on their own interpretation of what their faith requires — and not what some jury might decide.

The attorneys for the children told the justices of the U.S. Supreme Court they need to overturn that.

"The Arizona opinion effectively grants immunity to and creates an incentive for religious organizations to conceal child sex abuse," they wrote in the 36-page filing.

"It needlessly put the integrity and safety of children in harm's way despite decades of widely known child sexual abuse hidden by religious organizations," they said. "The Free Exercise Clause should not be used as both a sword and shield to encourage and exempt clergy from reporting any and all child sexual abuse under the cloak of Church doctrine."

The facts of the case are not in dispute.

In 2011, Adams confessed to Bishop John Herrod that he had molested his 5-year-old daughter. That confession under Arizona law — and in most states — was considered privileged and Herrod was not required to report it to authorities.

Herrod, however, subsequently asked Paul's wife, Leizza, to join them where he repeated his confession. Herrod counseled them together and recommended that either Paul turn himself in or that Leizza report him to the authorities, but did not report Paul himself.

The incident then came to the attention of Robert Mauzy, who succeeded Herrod as bishop. That led to a disciplinary proceeding that resulted in Paul's excommunications in 2013.

But here, too, there was no reporting to authorities.

Adams continued to rape that one daughter for an additional seven years, into her adolescence, and also abused an infant sister. He even recorded the abuse on video and posted them online.

It all became public in 2017 when officials in New Zealand found a video online. Adams subsequently committed suicide in jail after his 2017 arrest.

His wife was sentenced to 2 1/2 years in prison after admitting she did not report that her children were being molested. She was released in 2020.

It is clear, Trebon and Cadigan noted, that the Arizona law that requires most people to report incidents of sexual abuse does have exceptions for "a confidential communication or a confession."

Read more online at yourvalley.net

New state schools chief sets out priorities

By Howard Fischer
CAPITOL MEDIA SERVICES

PHOENIX — Arizona's newly elected schools chief promised Thursday "to bring much needed accountability and transparency" to the state's education system, including the state's Empowerment Scholarship Account program.

But Teresa Leyba Ruiz acknowledged that her ability to rein in the $1.1 billion program is limited to making fixes to the existing system.

Any change as to who is eligible for what are considered vouchers of taxpayer dollars rests with the Legislature. Even some limits on what can be purchased with those dollars also may require a change in state laws.


Teresa Leyba Ruiz

But while both newly reelected Gov. Katie Hobbs and the new Democratic majority in both chambers say they are weighing such changes, they have yet to settle on a plan.

Ruiz defeated Republican Kimberly Yee by a margin of about 53-47 to become the 24th person to run the state Department of Education.

She also is only the third person to assume that role in the last half decade to actually have been a classroom teacher. The others were Diane Bishop who served from 1987 through 1995, and Kathy Hoffman who held the post from 2019 through 2023, before she was defeated by Republican Tom Horne.

"With a teacher serving as superintendent of public instruction, alongside our new leadership in the pro-public education majority, the possibilities for our schools are endless," Ruiz said at a press conference. That, she said, means "securing the promise of public education — but only if we fight for it."

And Ruiz said there are challenges.

"Our schools our closing," she said.

"Teachers are leaving," Ruiz continued. "And students are facing the consequences."

The new schools chief made no secret of where she thinks some of the problems lie.

"Our taxpayer dollars are subsidizing diamond rings and lingerie," she said.

That refers to published reports showing the Department of Education has approved expenditures of voucher dollars for a host of items that are highly unlikely to be considered education related. Other expenses found in reporting by KPNX-TV range from LEGO sets to trips to out-of-state amusement parks.

Some of that, however, will require lawmakers to repeal — or at least alter — the system of universal vouchers approved by the Republican-controlled Legislature in 2022 and signed by then-Gov. Doug Ducey.

ESAs originally were enacted more than a decade ago as a method of helping students whose special needs could not be met in public schools. Eligible students were given what amount to vouchers which could be spent on private or parochial schools or on home schooling.

Read more online at yourvalley.net.

Be a Civility Advocate!

Civility Checklist

How to engage in respectful, honest & civil dialogue about public issues

☐ **Take the high road.** Respond to the topic — not the person. Refrain from demonizing others for their opinions. Assume those you disagree with are, like you, genuinely interested in improving the community.

☐ **Be respectful.** Bullying, public humiliation, insults, name-calling, harassment, and threats directed at another person — or that person's race, gender, religion, ethnicity, etc. — have no place in civil discussions. Find ways to respectfully disagree without questioning someone's character or motives.

☐ **Be truthful.** Base your opinions/arguments on facts. Value honesty. Make only accurate statements when making your point and avoid exaggeration and stereotypes. When appropriate, cite your sources of information that others may question.

☐ **Don't misrepresent.** Always identify your opinions as opinions (not stating opinions as facts). Never misrepresent the views of others or falsely claim your opinions represent someone else. If quoting the words of others, identify and credit the source.

☐ **Listen & learn.** It's both polite and respectful to listen to those we disagree with (as well as those we support) and be genuine in our attempts to understand their point of view. Expand your mind by thoughtfully seeking out views that don't agree with your own.

☐ **Look for common ground.** When disagreeing with others, look for even small areas of agreement — which can be the gateway to working together for the greater good.

☐ **Respect privacy.** Keep private things private — whether it involves your own information or those with whom you disagree. Revealing private information about someone else is rude, unethical, potentially harmful and, in many cases, illegal.

☐ **Set a good example.** Practice civil behavior online as well as in public and in your interaction with others. Encourage others to practice these civil behaviors. And it's OK to challenge disrespectful behavior — but be courteous, respectful and helpful in your approach.

Now that you've read the checklist, take the Civility Pledge at ***yourvalley.net/civility-pledge.***

OPINIONS WITH CIVILITY

TAKE THE PLEDGE

Yes, I will do my part to help my community become a safe place for people to engage in civil discourse about public issues. Visit iniusa.org/civility-pledge/ to take the pledge.

YOUR OPINION

We hope to stimulate debate, not control it on our opinions pages. We reserve the right to edit submitted opinions. We insist on civility. Please include your name, physical address and phone number, so we can contact you for clarification or confirmation. We welcome your photo. All opinions must be no more than 300 words.

Letters judged as personal attacks or complaints about neighbors, businesses or other opinion writers will not be considered. No person may submit more than two opinions for publication during a calendar month. Two submissions in the same issue will not be published. Letter content is the responsibility of the person who submitted it.

SPEAK UP

We support the use of pen names. Too many people do not speak up because they fear intimidation or even danger to their families and/or careers. Pen names are an important part of our nation's history.

CORRECTIONS

We promptly correct factual errors. We offer a "right of reply" to the people we cover. Readers who disagree with a news story may respond with a letter.

Phoenix partners with food bank on hunger-relief campaign

As families across Phoenix continue to feel the impact of rising living costs, food insecurity remains a growing challenge for many households.

To help ensure that residents have access to nutritious meals during the holiday season, the city is once again partnering with St. Mary's Food Bank for its annual hunger-relief campaign.

Community members are encouraged to support this effort through food donations, financial contributions or volunteer service, helping bring hope and nourishment to neighbors facing food insecurity and helping the food bank meet high seasonal demands. There is an urgent need for turkeys and holiday-meal items.

Learn more or give online via St. Mary's Food Bank.

Last year's campaign helped provide more than 156,000 meals, and with the need even greater this year, every donation can make a meaningful difference.

Laura Pastor
PHOENIX

Laura Pastor represents District 4 on the Phoenix City Council. This was distributed as part of her newsletter.

Loud exhaust sounds increasing in West Valley

What is with the loud exhaust? What used to be just a few annoying exhaust sounds from motorcycles, cars and trucks has now increased in frequency to where a walk outside or an evening rest on the back porch sounds like an afternoon at the Indianapolis 500.

Bell Road toward Buckeye is the new race track. It appears the boys love to hear their engines roar and it seems worse after dark.

Self-expression is one thing but it's become so common now and it appears that there is little to no enforcement.

Maybe those drivers can invest their hard-earned money in other things and stick with the original stock exhaust system. They'll eventually grow tired of all that noise and likely save their hearing!

Chris Simmons
SURPRISE

ATTENTION PLEASE

We are committed to publishing a variety of reader opinions, as long as they meet our Civility Guidelines.

Please send comments to azopinions@iniusa.org. More letters are on **yourvalley.net**.

Plastic, duct tape won't protect ICE detainees

Department of Homeland Security wants to imprison 1,500 people in the danger zone of a Surprise chemical facility, and ICE's answer to a toxic release appears to be plastic and a roll of duct tape.

Detainees would sit directly across the street from Rinchem's chemical storage facility in Surprise. If Rinchem has a chemical release, ICE's national detention standard tells staff to direct detainees to seal themselves inside a large interior room with plastic sheeting and duct tape.

That seems to be the only plan DHS has. Based on the draft environmental assessment from GardaWorld Federal Services, the company paid to run the facility, we have no reason to expect more than that in Surprise. The draft, released Nov. 9, never evaluates a chemical release from Rinchem.

Rinchem's federal Risk Management Plan details eight foreseeable chemical release scenarios. One estimates that a release of 20,000 pounds of anhydrous hydrogen chloride could reach 2.7 miles and over 73,000 people. The detention facility sits deep inside that zone. Hydrogen chloride is heavier than air, and a severe inhalation hazard. Plastic sheeting and duct tape would not provide adequate shelter.

At the Oct. 20 city council work session, City Manager Andrea Davis confirmed Surprise has received no emergency planning from DHS or GardaWorld. Vice Mayor Earle Greenberg said he expected an evacuation to look like staff running for their cars while leaving detainees locked inside.

This review exists because Attorney General Kris Mayes sued DHS over the facility, citing Northwest Valley Indivisible's research on Rinchem. It was supposed to address the danger that put DHS in court, but it ignored it.

DHS and GardaWorld must complete a full Environmental Impact Statement that accounts for Rinchem's release scenarios.

• See **Opinions** Page **15**

Opinions

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Public comments close Dec. 9. I urge every area resident and local official to email icesustainability@ice.dhs.gov and demand one.

Brent Peak
PHOENIX

Brent Peak is co-chair of the progressive grassroots group, Northwest Valley Indivisible.

Why off-duty officers are in construction zones

Why are there off-duty law enforcement officers working at construction sites in the Valley?

I have only seen one officer controlling an intersection's traffic signals. I have seen officers in their cars either reading or on their phones. Ten years or so ago they were getting $35 an hour for this duty. That's thousands of dollars added to road construction sites throughout the state.

If they are not directing traffic, what is their duty? With cell phones everywhere it's not to report accidents, and I don't believe they run radar to stop speeding in work zones.

I am curious to know what the reasoning is to have them present and how much this adds onto the price of road construction yearly. There may well be a valid reason, but I can't think what it might be.

James Peer
SUN CITY WEST

Congress must approve defense funding to support troops

I think we all stand together in thanking our veterans and those who serve. These men and women keep us safe and defend our country on a daily basis. Their sacrifice is hard to fathom.

I also understand that Congress will soon be considering the defense spending bill. There are many parts of this bill that directly affect the safety of our troops abroad. They deserve to have the programs and technology that keep them as safe as possible.

One I recently read about is the Advanced Hawkeye, also known as the E2-D. This is the plane we have seen with the big disk on top that tracks targets and protects our aircraft carriers from incoming drones.

This is one of the programs that I hope Congress fully funds. It seems like a no-brainer that will not only make our military stronger but provide important protection for those fighting for us.

I know that there are a lot of competing priorities for tax dollars, but I feel this is important to those serving in our military. We want to see them all come home to celebrate Veterans Day in the future.

Ryan Martinez
PHOENIX

U.S. paying price for Iran nuclear deal withdrawal

President Trump keeps telling us that Iran attacked us in 1979 and has been attacking us since then.

Iran had a democratic government after World War II. In 1953 the United States and Great Britain orchestrated a coup that toppled that government and installed the shah as dictator.

The Iranian nuclear treaty was signed on July 14, 2015. All the signers verified that Iran was complying with the terms.

Trump, on May 8, 2018, withdrew from the treaty, and Iran gradually stopped complying with several nuclear restrictions and resumed higher levels of uranium enrichment.

Trump told us he ended Iran's nuclear program with his first attack. Then he told us he ended it again.

Maybe he shouldn't have essentially given Iran permission to restart their program in 2018.

As he did during COVID-19, Trump will deny any responsibility for the bad outcome he instigated.

David Tomasi
SUN CITY WEST

Replacing plants this fall? Go native

Fall is the time of year when homeowners and HOAs consider replacing plants that were damaged by storms. It's also a good time for the reminder that not all plants are created equal.

Those adding plants should consider adding native shrubs like brittlebush, chuparosa or creosote, or flowers like desert globe mallow, desert marigold, desert milkweed and blackfoot daisy.

Native plants are better than non-native plants because they provide a whole ecosystem and they are adapted to the seasonal water that nature provides.

The ecosystem around native plants means that the native insects have evolved alongside these plants and use them as perfect places to lay their eggs. Then native birds who also evolved here eat the eggs or the caterpillars or feed them to their young. We all want to see more birds, and that means we need to help them feed their young.

Native plants can serve many functions. Buffelgrass, on the other hand, provides no benefits to the ecosystem.

Native plants are not easy to find, but many family-owned nurseries will have them, and if those looking for them ask other places, they will start to feel a demand for native plants and figure out how to stock them.

Some of the Maricopa County libraries have native plant seeds available in their seed libraries. To learn more, visit libguides.maricopa.edu/seed.

I recommend planting some seeds to see what will grow. Libraries have resources to help.

Joette Conger
SUN CITY

The author is an Arizona master naturalist and desert defender steward for Maricopa County Regional Parks.

Homeland security should halt Surprise ICE facility

I am writing to implore the Department of Homeland Security to please halt the dangerous plans to place an ICE detention facility in the middle of Surprise's residential area.

Dysart High School is not even a mile and a half from the planned ICE facility. Other schools, churches and businesses are just a stone's throw away.

In the event of a toxic chemical release from the nearby Rinchem chemical storage facility, GardaWorld — DHS's chosen contractor — appears to have no safety plan other than to have the detainees wrap themselves in plastic wrap while the guards run for safety, out of the danger zone and away from their responsibility.

I hope DHS officials reconsider. Would they want this facility next to their families?

Greg Cravens
PEORIA

SPORTS NEWS

MORE ONLINE
See more sports news at yourvalley.net.

Cardinals fire defensive coordinator Rallis

By David Brandt
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEMPE — The Cardinals fired defensive coordinator Nick Rallis on Monday after the team's inconsistent performance on that side of the ball for the majority of the season.

First-year head coach Mike LaFleur made the move one day after a 34-7 loss to the Kansas City Chiefs and senior defensive assistant Teryl Austin will take over as interim coordinator. The Cardinals have a 3-8 record and have lost three straight.

"I just felt in my heart this morning that we needed a change," LaFleur said. "We needed a fresh perspective, a fresh voice."

The 33-year-old Rallis was one of the youngest coordinators in the NFL when hired in 2023 and his defense had some good moments early in his tenure under then-head coach Jonathan Gannon. But the unit regressed and was one of the worst in the league last season — giving up nearly 30 points per game — and the struggles continued for the majority of this fall.


Nick Rallis

Rallis was one of the few holdovers from Gannon's staff after he was fired following last season. LaFleur was supportive of Rallis over the past few weeks but as the defensive struggles continued, he was left with little choice but to make a move.

"Nick's a guy I have a ton of respect for as a person, as a coach, as a guy that I've worked with or a guy I've gone against," LaFleur said. "Wish him and his family a lot of success moving forward. He's going to land on his feet and do a dang good job.

"The conversation was not easy, but he's the utmost professional. A pro's pro."

Arizona has given up 30 or more points in eight of 11 games, including four of the past five.

The Cardinals also struggled to develop young talent with defensive linemen Walter Nolen III and Darius Robinson and cornerbacks Max Melton, Will Johnson and Garrett Williams struggling to produce because of injuries and inconsistent play.

The 61-year-old Austin is a veteran NFL coach who has been the coordinator for the Pittsburgh Steelers, Cincinnati Bengals and Detroit Lions. LaFleur said he has not decided if Austin will be considered for the full-time job.

ASU seniors leave behind lasting legacy

By Tre Heard
CRONKITE NEWS

TEMPE — Arizona State's senior class didn't get to leave Mountain America Stadium with one final victory.

ASU fell to Oklahoma State 30-27 in overtime Saturday, surrendering a 17-point, second-half lead in a game that could have given its seniors a memorable final home performance and put the Sun Devils in position for a strong finish heading into the 100th Territorial Cup game against rival Arizona in Tucson.

But after this group helped the Sun Devils reach bowl eligibility for a third consecutive season, coach Kenny Dillingham said it will leave behind something more meaningful than a senior night win. Dillingham credited the players for helping rebuild a program in disarray.



Arizona State senior football players participate in the overtime coin toss against Oklahoma State at Mountain America Stadium in Tempe on Saturday. (Cronkite News/Richie Meno/Cronkite News)

"The senior class came here when there were three wins and under NCAA sanctions, and we weren't allowed to call recruits and we couldn't do a lot of things," Dillingham said of the aftermath of the Herm Edwards era. "So they came here at the lowest point. They chose us and they have completely changed the culture here. They've changed everything about the expectations here."

For Dillingham, the significance of this senior class goes beyond its record. He views the group as a turning point for a program that has worked to establish a new standard for itself.

"I think they can be remembered as the foundational group that really changed and reset Arizona State in the right direction," Dillingham said.

That foundation was on display throughout Saturday's game, even if some of it came from a senior who joined the program this season. Wide receiver Reed Harris turned in one of the best performances of his ASU career, finishing with a career-best 11 receptions for 172 yards and two touchdowns. He also surpassed

• See ASU Page 18

Briggs takes charge of Arcadia Basketball

By Brittany Bowyer
REPORT FOR AMERICA

PHOENIX — After nearly four decades in education and 32 years of roaming the sidelines as a coach, Rod Briggs has learned success isn't just defined by what happens on the court.

As he takes over the Arcadia Titans basketball program, Briggs brings along a plethora of coaching experience and a vision extending beyond the win column. Putting an emphasis on player development, building relationships and establishing a long-lasting culture, Briggs hopes to bring the Titans the stability they've been searching for.

Briggs joins Arcadia out of the Midwest, after retiring and moving to the Old Town Scottsdale area with his wife. He spent the past 37 years working in education in both Kansas and Missouri, including five years as a school administrator. He said after arriving in Arizona and discovering Arcadia was just up the street from his house, he got in contact with the program about coaching opportunities.

"I actually originally was going to coach freshmen basketball at Arcadia with Coach Richards, but when everything kinda I guess fell apart, I didn't really think that I would be involved," Briggs said.

However, following the departure of Richards, Briggs sat down and spoke with Athletic Director Drew Ammon about the position. It appeared to be a good fit for both Briggs and his skillset, and having experience on the administrative side was an added benefit.

"He was a former administrator, so he gets the whole student-athlete, not just the athlete piece," Ammon said. "So that was nice, it made him stand out."



Arcadia Basketball's new Head Coach Rod Briggs (Submitted/ Arcadia Athletics)

During the interview, Ammon said Briggs had a number of little anecdotes he used to show why he felt like he was the right person for the job.

"We were looking for someone that was going to be able to continue to build on our community," Ammon said. "He just had stories that talked about how this athlete comes back and talks to him ten years later, or he had one of his athletes getting married out here where he was going to the wedding. That kind of stuff really just drove home not only does he have the basketball knowledge, but he has the 'it' factor of growing and building relationships."

Since getting the job, Briggs hit the ground running. He's already been out to a number of practices at the feeder schools, working to establish relationships with the kids who will one day likely attend Arcadia.

Briggs is also planning to host various camps and clinics throughout the year for elementary and middle school students.

"I think it's important to get to know the kids in that third-, fourth-, fifth-, sixth-grade level that are drawn to basketball," Briggs said.

"It shows he's about the work," Ammon said. "I think so many times, we get people who say a lot of stuff like, 'This is what I'm going to do, and this how we're going to do it.' But to see him go down there without being prompted, without being told. Just, 'Hey, I'm gonna go and watch an Ingleside practice' shows that he's invested and he's about doing the work and building those relationships."

The goal for the feeder programs is to start implementing the same system so the kids will be familiar with it.

When it comes to the Arcadia program, Briggs wants his practices to be the best part of a kid's day. Briggs believes kids have an innate desire to continue improving, and when they start to see the fruits of their labor, it pushes them to continue working harder.

"I think kids thrive in a situation where they know they're getting better," Briggs said. "We want to create an environment where they enjoy practice, but they also enjoy it because they're getting better, not because it's necessarily easier."

One way they make practice fun for the squad is by playing a lot of basketball.

"We play a lot of basketball in basketball practice," Briggs said. "I know that might sound odd, but yeah. We do drills, but our drills are more like small-sided games and more of a constraints-led approach to coaching, which I think over the long-term creates better players because more decision-making."

Because Arcadia has had so much turnover in recent years with coaching, there's not a strong, long-standing culture within the program. Coming in, Briggs is looking to establish some core values he believes will help with establishing a sturdy culture of success.

The first value he mentioned is having a next-play mentality.

"I think one thing that the players always need to learn is like, you have no effect over what just happened," Briggs said. "You make a mistake, turn into the next play right away."

The other core value Briggs wants to instill is how to handle adversity.

This year, the Arcadia roster ranges from players who have starting experience to players who have never been on varsity.

Despite their experience, Briggs said learning how to have a 1-0 mentality and moving on to the next play goes hand in hand with overcoming adversity.

Brittany Bowyer is a Report for America corps member, covering sports for Independent Newsmedia in Arizona. Report for America places talented journalists in local newsrooms to report on under-covered issues and regions.

NAU Lumberjacks to host FCS playoff game

By Colin Kirkpatrick
Cronkite News

FLAGSTAFF — With its eye on hosting an FCS playoff game, Northern Arizona was determined to plead its case Saturday against Northern Colorado.

The Lumberjacks did just that.

With more than 6,800 FCS faithful packing the Walkup Skydome for NAU's Senior Day and final game of the regular season, the No. 10 Lumberjacks bounced back from a tough loss to Weber State last week by defeating Northern Colorado 35-26.

NAU improves to 9-3 overall and 7-2 in Big Sky Conference play and landed the No. 10 seed during the NCAA FCS Selection Show on Sunday, just missing out on a first-round bye. It will host Long Island University on Nov. 28 at the Walkup Skydome.

The Lumberjacks will host a playoff game for the first time since 2017. They have won an FCS playoff game just once in seven tries: a victory over No. 1 seed McNeese State in 2003.



NAU defenders Devin Murphy (35) and Ammon Alan (2) swarm Northern Colorado quarterback Brayton Silbor (18) to stuff a Bears fourth down attempt Saturday at the Walkup Skydome in Flagstaff. (Cronkite News/ Colin Kirkpatrick)

"Once you're in the tournament, anything can happen," NAU coach Brian Wright said. "Just ask Illinois State last year."

In 2025, the Redbirds finished 12-5 and advanced to the FCS championship game.

The Lumberjacks came out firing on Saturday, scoring touchdowns on each of its first three offensive drives to build a 21-7 lead. Northern Arizona moved the ball efficiently, putting together scoring drives of 61, 68 and 75 yards while keeping the Bears' defense on the field.

Quarterback Ty Pennington led the way through the air, completing 26 of 35 passes for 321 yards, three touchdowns and one interception. He also added a rushing touchdown, finishing with 30 yards on 10 carries.

Running back Quran Gossett was another big part of the offensive production. Gossett finished with 99 rushing yards and a touchdown on 11 carries, while adding nine receptions for 86 yards. His ability to contribute in both the running and passing games gave Pennington another reliable option throughout the afternoon.

"It's obviously great to have the (offensive) line have my back and I can always trust them to create a hole for me," Gossett said. "And Ty being able to feed me the ball."

ASU

• From page 1

1,000 receiving yards for the first time in his career, bringing his season total to 1,159.

Harris' production gave ASU a chance to compete against Oklahoma State, but his impact on the program has extended beyond what he has done on the field. Dillingham praised Harris' passion for the game and the person he has become during his time in Tempe.

"He's just such a good kid, so passionate, loves the game," Dillingham said. "His success here and what I think his future is, is so bright, and he's going to be somebody that's going to be able to come back here and call this home forever."

Dillingham placed Harris among the top receivers he has coached, pointing to both his ability and character as reasons he stands out.

For Harris, the significance of his time at ASU is not measured solely by receiving yards or touchdowns. It is also found in the relationships he has built with teammates and the daily routine of being part of the program.

"It feels like I've been here for four years," Harris said. "I love this place and I love working with these guys every day. It means a lot."

That connection made Saturday's senior night especially meaningful. Harris running out to see his mother became one of the memories he will take with him from his final home game.

"Being able to have my senior night here meant a lot," Harris said. "I didn't even know that I was going to do it until I knew that my whole family was coming out and just getting to run out to my mom and she started crying."

The loss did little to change how Harris viewed the experience. Even after an overtime defeat, he emphasized the importance of continuing to learn and improve alongside the teammates with whom he has grown.

The Sun Devils (6-5, 4-4 Big 12) still have another game ahead of them, with a bowl opportunity secured and a rivalry matchup against Arizona next on the schedule.

Regardless of how the season finishes, the senior class has already helped to shape what ASU football looks like moving forward.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Trivium brings metal tour to downtown Phoenix

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

Grammy-nominated heavyweights Trivium are bringing their fall 2026 headline tour to Phoenix.

The band hit the road this month in St. Petersburg, Florida, and will make a Phoenix stop at Arizona Financial Theatre on Dec. 2.

"This fall's Trivium tour is a huge one for us," the band declares in a press release.

Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com.

Trivium's 10th album, "In The Court Of The Dragon," arrived in 2021.

Metal Hammer placed the 2005 album "Ascendancy" in the Top 15 of "The 100 Greatest Metal Albums of the 21st Century." It ignited a string of six consecutive Top 25 debuts on the Billboard Top 200 and five straight Top 3 debuts on the Top Hard Rock Albums Chart.

Additionally, "Betrayer" received a Grammy nomination in the Best Metal Performance category.

IF YOU GO

Who: Trivium

When: Dec. 2

Where: Arizona Financial Theatre, 400 W. Washington St., Phoenix

Tickets: Ticketmaster.com



Corey Beaulieu, left, and Matt Heafy of Trivium perform during Sonic Temple Art and Music Festival on May 10, 2025, at Historic Crew Stadium in Columbus, Ohio. (Photo by Amy Harris/Invision/AP)

Irish group brings 'A Celtic Christmas' production



The critically acclaimed "A Celtic Christmas by A Taste of Ireland," features a cast of world champion Irish dancers, including Irish dance champion Gavin Shevlin (pictured). (Photo by Sean Higgins, submitted by A Taste of Ireland)

INDEPENDENT NEWSMEDIA

The international Irish dance company A Taste of Ireland will bring its holiday production, "A Celtic Christmas," to the Madison Center for the Arts in Phoenix at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9.

Set in an Irish pub during Christmas, the production features traditional reels and jigs, Irish ballads, tap-dancing competitions and audience sing-alongs.

The story follows a romance between a young man from Tyrone and a woman from a wealthy Athenry family, culminating in a Christmas ball.

The cast includes World Champion Irish dancers Mary Conway and Clara Sheppard, six-time World Champion Barry Teague and two-time World Champion Gavin Shevlin, along with singers and a live band.

The production is part of an international tour by A Taste of Ireland, which performed in London's West End and Off-Broadway in New York in 2025.

Tickets and additional information are available at ATasteofIrelandShow.com.

IF YOU GO

What: "A Celtic Christmas" by A Taste of Ireland

When: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9

Where: Madison Center for the Arts, 5601 N. 16th St., Phoenix

Tickets: $54–$97

More Info: ATasteofIrelandShow.com

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD TO-DO LIST

'MARY POPPINS'

ABOUT: Select performances now through Jan. 3 at The Phoenix Theatre Company, 1825 N. Central Ave., Phoenix.
INFO: The Phoenix Theatre Company presents Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's stage musical about Mary Poppins, the magical nanny who transforms the lives of the Banks family.
WEB: phoenixtheatre.com

'DIE HARD: A CHRISTMAS CAROL'

ABOUT: Select performances now through Dec. 30 at Playhouse on the Park, 1850 N. Central Ave., Phoenix.
INFO: All Puppet Players combines the action movie "Die Hard" with Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" in an adult-oriented puppet comedy. Admission is restricted to ages 17 and older.
WEB: allpuppetplayers.com

DOWNTOWN PHOENIX FARMERS MARKET

ABOUT: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, Nov. 28; Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26; and Jan. 2, 9, at Arizona Center, 455 N. Third St., Phoenix.
INFO: The weekly outdoor market features seasonal produce, locally prepared foods and merchandise from Arizona farmers and small businesses. Admission is free.
WEB: downtownphoenixfarmersmarket.org

ZOOLIGHTS

ABOUT: 5:30-10:30 p.m. on public event nights now through Jan. 15 at Phoenix Zoo, 455 N. Galvin Parkway, Phoenix.



The Phoenix Zoo's annual holiday celebration is open now through Jan. 15. (Submitted/Phoenix Zoo)

INFO: The Phoenix Zoo's annual holiday celebration features millions of lights, illuminated animal displays and a floating Christmas tree light show. A sensory-friendly evening with reduced sound and flashing lights is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 8, with separate tickets required.
WEB: phoenixzoo.org/events

'ELF IN CONCERT'

ABOUT: 2 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Nov. 27-29, at Symphony Hall, 75 N. Second St., Phoenix.
INFO: The Phoenix Symphony performs the score live during screenings of the 2003 holiday comedy "Elf," starring Will Ferrell.
WEB: phoenixsymphony.org

LAS NOCHES DE LAS LUMINARIAS

ABOUT: 5-9:30 p.m. Nov. 27-29; Dec. 4-6, 11-13, 16-23, 26-31; and Jan. 1-3, at Desert Botanical Garden, 1201 N. Galvin Parkway, Phoenix.
INFO: Thousands of luminarias illuminate the garden's desert trails, accompanied by holiday lighting, live music, seasonal displays and art installations. Tickets required.
WEB: dbg.org

'MURDER, SHE WROTE'

ABOUT: 7:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 28-29, at Herberger Theater Center, 222 E. Monroe St., Phoenix.
INFO: "Solve-Along-A-Murder-She-Wrote" combines an interactive screening of the television mystery series with comedy, games, prizes and audience participation.
WEB: herbergertheater.org

'HEY ARNOLD! LIVE'

ABOUT: 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 30, at The Van Buren, 401 W. Van Buren St., Phoenix.
INFO: Composer Jim Lang and the PS 118 All Stars perform music from Nickelodeon's animated series "Hey Arnold!" as part of a tour marking the show's 30th anniversary.
WEB: thevanburenphx.com

'A WINNIE-THE-POOH CHRISTMAS TAIL'

ABOUT: Select performances Dec. 4-23 at Valley Youth Theatre, 525 N. First St., Phoenix.
INFO: The family musical follows Winnie-the-Pooh and his friends in the Hundred Acre Wood as they try to cheer up Eeyore during the holiday season. The production features young performers.
WEB: vyt.com

YOUR EVENTS, PLEASE

We welcome your events for our Neighborhood To-Do List page. Please send the following for publication in our calendar: name of the event, time, date and location with address and if there is a cost to attend.
Email us: **AZNews@iniusa.org.**

IN EVENTS

The Surprise Independent will host a senior expo 9 a.m.-noon Jan. 19, 2027, at The Colonnade, 19116 N. Colonnade Way, Surprise. Individuals wishing to participate may reach out to the sales team.
Email: **azad@iniusa.org**

• See **To-Do** Page **21**

To-Do

• From page 21



Phoenix's 39th annual APS Electric Light Parade makes its return this year on Dec. 5. (Submitted/APS)

HOLIDAY POPS SPECTACULAR

ABOUT: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4; 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at Symphony Hall, 75 N. Second St., Phoenix.
INFO: The Phoenix Symphony presents an orchestral holiday program featuring seasonal music and Christmas favorites.
WEB: phoenixsymphony.org

FESTIVAL OF NEW AMERICAN THEATRE

ABOUT: Select performances Dec. 4-20 at The Phoenix Theatre Company, 1825 N. Central Ave., Phoenix.
INFO: The 29th annual Richard P. Stahl Festival of New American Theatre presents developing theatrical works and programming featuring playwrights and performers.
WEB: phoenixtheatre.com

APS ELECTRIC LIGHT PARADE

ABOUT: 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, beginning at Central and Montebello avenues and ending at Seventh Street and Indian School Road, Phoenix.
INFO: Phoenix's 39th annual Electric Light Parade features illuminated floats, holiday displays and entries from community organizations and businesses. Road closures are scheduled along the parade route.
WEB: phoenix.gov

'HANDEL'S MESSIAH'

ABOUT: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at Camelback Bible Church, 3900 E. Stanford Drive, Paradise Valley.
INFO: The Phoenix Symphony presents George Frideric Handel's oratorio "Messiah," including its well-known "Hallelujah" chorus, as part of its holiday concert series.
WEB: phoenixsymphony.org

BALLET ARIZONA: THE NUTCRACKER

ABOUT: Select performances Dec. 11-27 at Symphony Hall, 75 N. Second St., Phoenix.
INFO: Ballet Arizona presents Ib Andersen's production of "The Nutcracker," accompanied by Tchaikovsky's score performed live by The Phoenix Symphony. A one-hour sensory-adapted performance with recorded music is scheduled for 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16.
WEB: balletaz.org

PHOESTIVUS HOLIDAY MARKET

ABOUT: 4-10 p.m. Fridays, Dec. 11 and 18, at Arizona Center, 455 N. Third St., Phoenix.
INFO: The downtown holiday market features more than 170 local vendors selling handmade gifts, artwork, food and other merchandise, along with live entertainment. A $5 admission donation is suggested but not required.
WEB: phoestivus.com

S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM INDIAN MARKET

ABOUT: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 12-13, at S'edav Va'aki Museum, 4619 E. Washington St., Phoenix.
INFO: The 49th annual market features more than 110 Native American artists selling pottery, jewelry, paintings and other handmade items. Cultural demonstrations, performances and traditional foods are also featured.
WEB: phoenix.gov

'HOLIDAY BAROQUE'

ABOUT: 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, at Orpheum Theatre, 203 W. Adams St., Phoenix.
INFO: Conductor Elliott Figg leads The Phoenix Symphony in seasonal works by Bach, Charpentier, Torelli, Scarlatti and Gabrieli.
WEB: phoenixsymphony.org

'THE ARIZONA NUTCRACKER'

ABOUT: 1 and 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, and 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, at The Madison Center for the Arts, 5601 N. 16th St., Phoenix.
INFO: Dance 111 presents a holiday ballet featuring young dancers, festive costumes and traditional Nutcracker characters. The production includes a special appearance by Santa Claus.
WEB: themadison.org/az-nutcracker

COMICS & FUN

ZAP! WOW!

CHECK OUT OUR DIGITAL PUZZLES ONLINE

JUMBLE

By Tribune Content Agency

JUMBLE®

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KSLKU

LWOFN

ALTBLE

RUWFCE

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Facebook

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



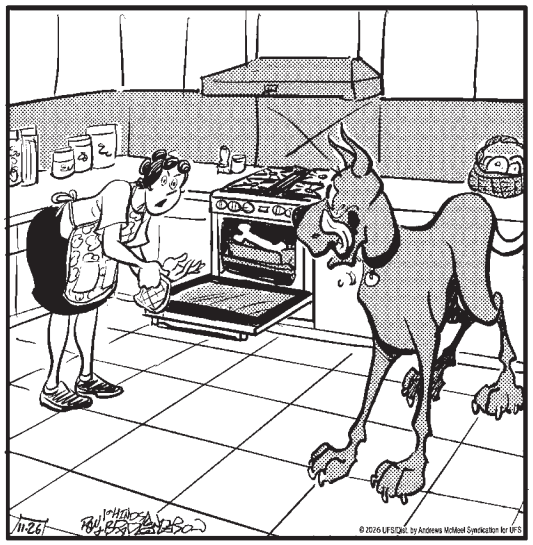
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CAMEO GEESE FLYING HARDLY
Answer: When asked why he wore compression socks flying south, the old goose said — "MY-GRAY-SHIN"

MARMADUKE

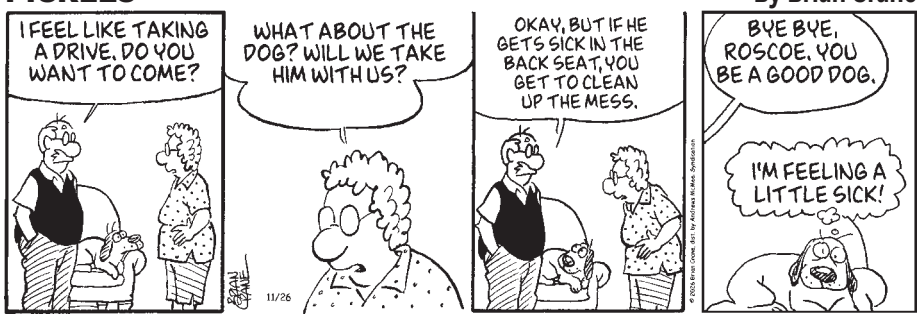
By Bradley Jay Anderson



"Your bone for our turkey was not a fair trade."

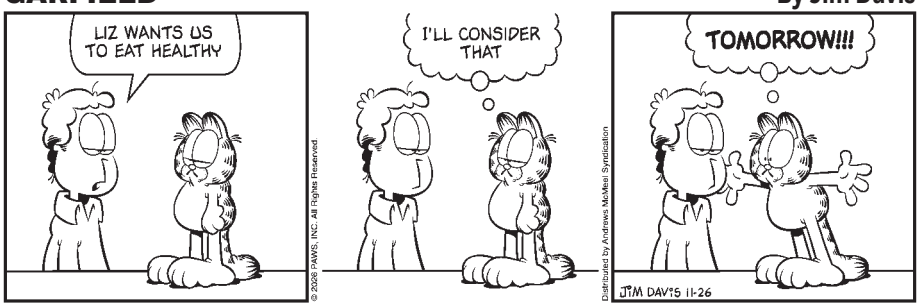
PICKLES

By Brian Crane



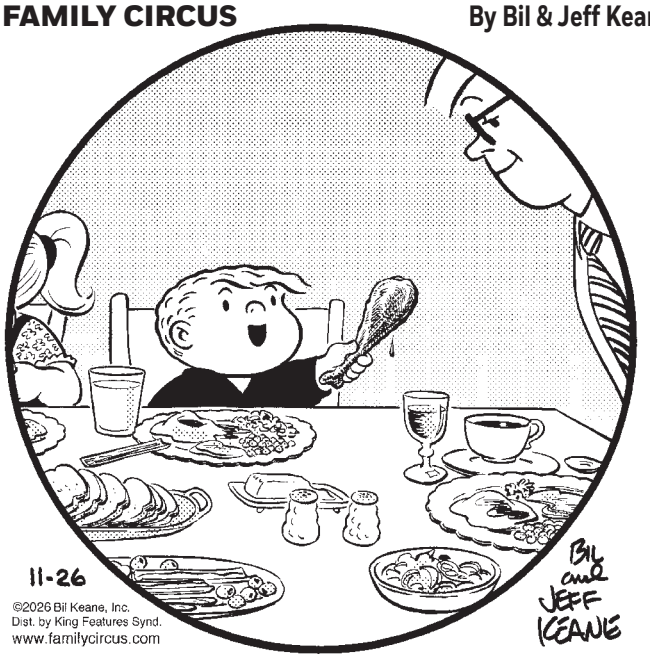
GARFIELD

By Jim Davis



FAMILY CIRCUS

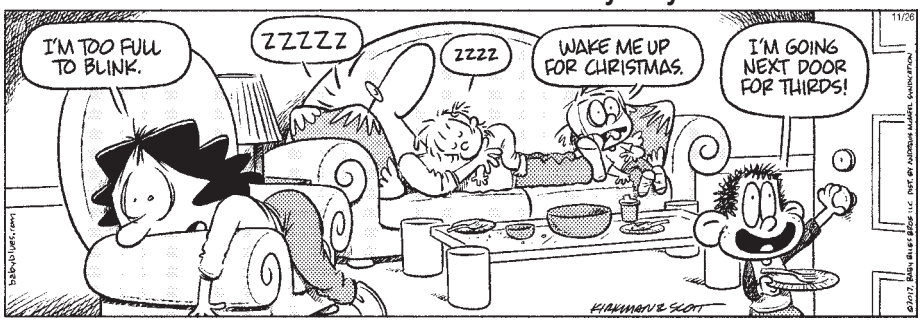
By Bil & Jeff Keane



"Wanna make a wish, Daddy?"

BABY BLUES

By Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman



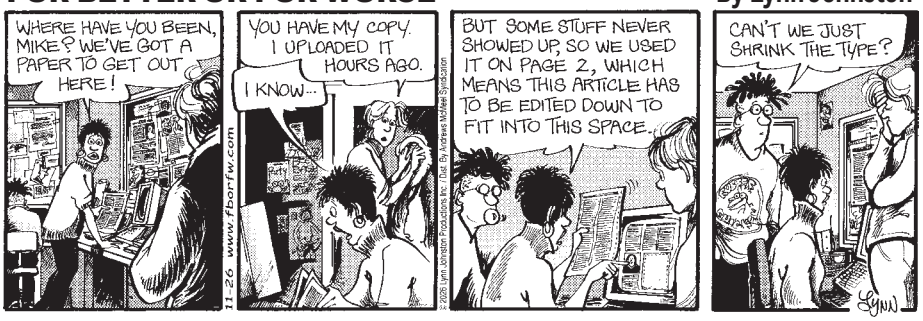
BEETLE BAILEY

By Greg Walker, Brian Walker & Neal Walker



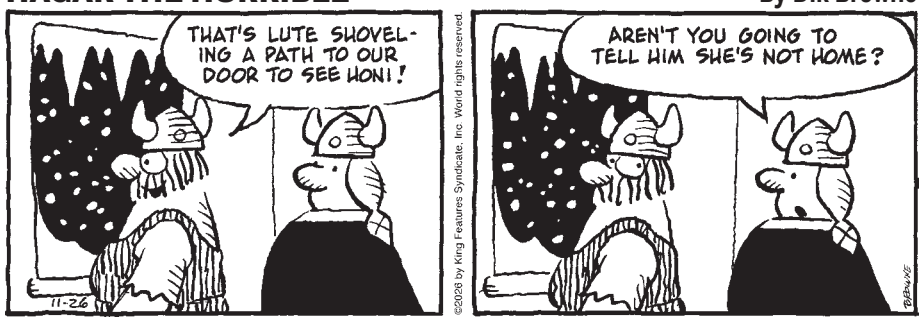
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

By Lynn Johnston



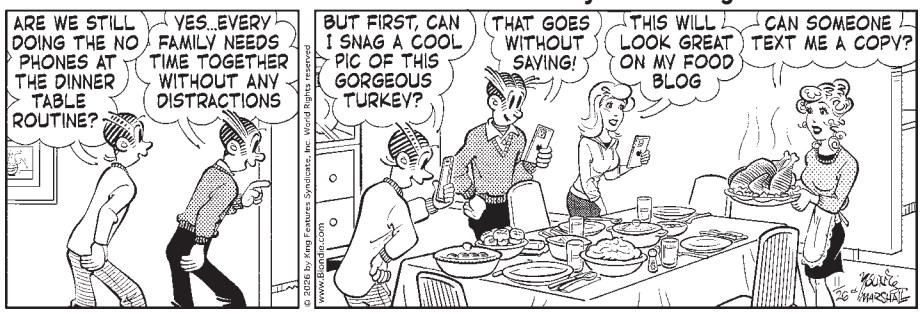
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

By Dik Browne



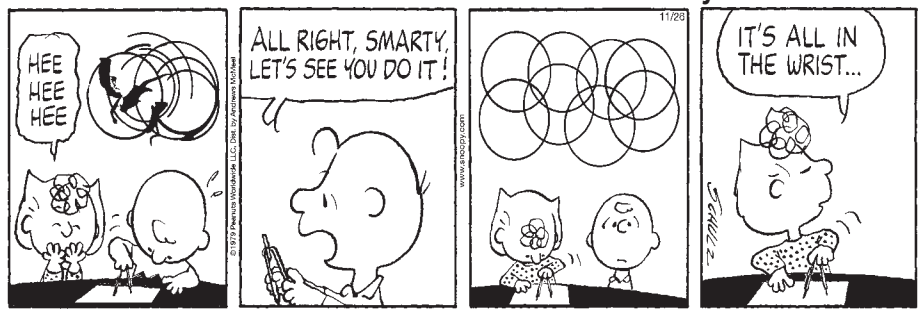
BLONDIE

By Dean Young & John Marshall



CLASSIC PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz



LOOKING BACK

Nov. 26

Thursday, Nov. 26, is the 330th day of 2026.

On Nov. 26, 2008, teams of heavily armed militants from the terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba stormed luxury hotels, a popular restaurant and a crowded train station in Mumbai, India, leaving at least 175 people dead (including nine of the attackers) in a rampage spanning four days.

Also on this date:

In 1791, President George Washington held his first full cabinet meeting; in attendance were Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of War Henry Knox and Attorney General Edmund Randolph.

In 1864, English mathematician Charles Dodgson presented the illustrated manuscript "Alice's Adventures Under Ground" to his friend Alice Pleasance Liddell, 12, a book later published under the pen name Lewis Carroll as "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland."

In 1917, the National Hockey League was founded in Montreal, succeeding the National Hockey Association.

In 1941, U.S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull delivered a note to Japan's ambassador to the United States, Kichisaburo Nomura, setting forth U.S. demands for "lasting and extensive peace throughout the Pacific area." The same day, a Japanese naval task force of six aircraft carriers left the Kuril Islands, bound for Hawaii, days before the attack on Pearl Harbor.

In 1942, the film "Casablanca," starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman, premiered at the Hollywood Theater in New York City.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon's personal secretary, Rose Mary Woods, told a federal court she'd accidentally caused part of the 18 1/2-minute erasure of a key Watergate tape. The gap was in a 1972 recording of a conversation between Nixon and his chief of staff.

In 1998, two trains collided in the northern town of Khanna, India, killing 210 people in one of that country's deadliest rail disasters.

In 2000, Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris certified Republican George W. Bush the winner over Democrat Al Gore in the state's presidential balloting by a 537-vote margin. The U.S. Supreme Court ultimately stopped recounts of the vote, and Bush won Florida's 25 electoral votes and the presidential election.

In 2011, an Atlas V rocket carrying NASA's Mars Science Laboratory Curiosity rover lifted off from Cape Canaveral, Florida. (After landing on Mars in August 2012, Curiosity found chemical and mineral evidence of past habitable environments and continues its explorations.)

In 2019, a 6.4-magnitude earthquake struck Albania, killing at least 49 people, injuring some 2,000 others and leaving at least 4,000 homeless.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

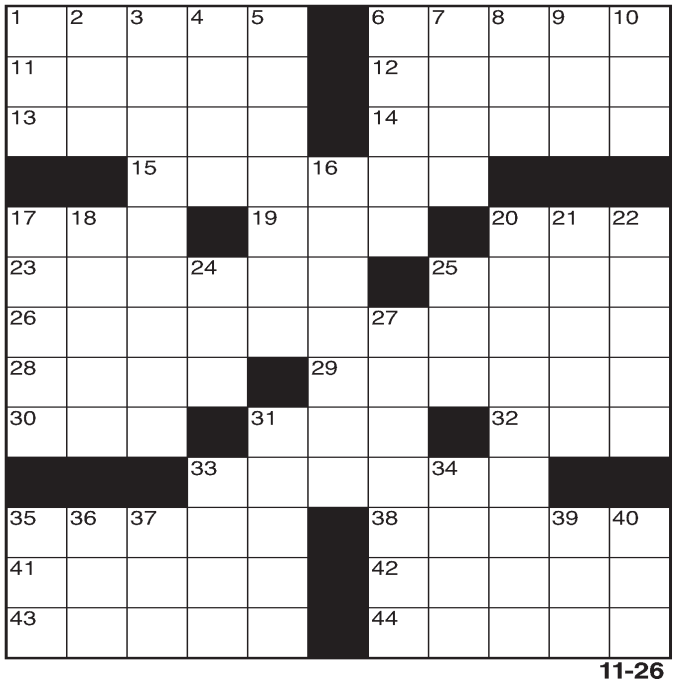
1 Cry of surrender
6 Expansive
11 Danger
12 Roulette bet
13 Nor'easter, e.g.
14 Devoured
15 Hotel suite feature
17 Flow out
19 Piston connector
20 Opening
23 Pivoted
25 Radius, for one
26 Ragtime dances
28 Goes astray
29 Waist shaper
30 Pig's place
31 Ray-gun sound
32 Snaky shape
33 Comparing phrase
35 Mortise's mate
38 Hoopster
41 In the thick of
42 Trig topic
43 Out of shape
44 Rodeo rope

DOWN

1 Good times
2 Tennis need
3 Evergreen shrub
4 Former Italian money
5 Shade source
6 Sandwich start
7 Crowd sound
8 Unconscious
9 Historic time
10 Bear's lair
16 Cop's wear
17 — Park, Colorado
18 Say without thinking
20 Zeros
21 Poker payments
22 Nuisances
24 Mo. divisions
25 "It's cold!"
27 In the news
31 Piquant
33 Number
34 Turner of film
35 Keg need
36 Outback runner
37 Silent assent
39 High trains
40 Old auto

P	A	S	T	■	■	G	I	R	D	■
A	R	M	O	R	■	O	B	O	E	S
N	O	O	N	E	■	G	A	U	N	T
E	M	O	■	G	E	O	R	G	I	A
L	A	T	H	E	R	S	■	H	E	R
■	S	H	U	N	S	■	P	S	S	T
■	■	S	E	T	■	B	E	L	■	■
L	E	A	D	■	H	A	R	E	M	■
A	M	I	■	D	E	L	U	D	E	D
M	I	L	L	E	T	S	■	D	N	A
A	L	I	E	N	■	A	V	I	A	N
S	I	N	E	S	■	M	I	N	C	E
■	O	G	R	E	■	■	A	G	E	S

Yesterday's answer



11-26

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

A GRAVY-LOAD OF THANKS! **Solution: 7 letters**

D	T	R	O	A	S	T	W	I	S	H	B	O	N	E
G	R	P	E	E	L	B	A	T	S	E	V	R	A	H
E	A	O	S	D	D	R	U	M	S	T	I	C	K	H
L	D	T	G	N	I	F	F	U	T	S	M	A	Y	O
E	I	A	H	N	F	C	Y	S	D	E	H	S	A	M
F	T	T	D	E	I	Y	S	A	U	T	U	M	N	E
T	I	O	D	A	R	V	E	P	D	B	A	S	(T)	E
O	O	E	E	S	E	A	I	D	E	I	D	I	(S)	H
V	N	S	E	D	M	R	P	G	I	C	L	N	(O)	R
E	S	D	A	E	E	G	B	R	S	N	I	O	(H)	E
R	I	R	R	C	O	A	L	U	F	K	N	A	H	T
S	A	I	I	B	K	N	A	L	P	E	N	E	L	T
P	C	P	B	E	Y	L	I	M	A	F	A	A	R	U
A	E	L	P	P	A	T	U	R	O	L	L	S	H	B
S	E	D	A	E	R	P	S	Y	E	K	R	U	T	T

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America, Apple, Autumn, Bake, Baste, Bread, Butter, Cider, Dinner, Dish, Drumstick, Family, Feast, Gather, Gobble, Gravy, Harvest, Holiday, Home, Host, Leftovers, Mashed, Parade, Pies, Plan, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Recipes, Roast, Rolls, Sides, Special, Spread, Stuffed, Stuffing, Table, Thankful, Thanksgiving, Traditions, Turkey, Wishbone, Yams

Yesterday's Answer: Mobster

For **WONDERWORD** apps, books & more, visit Wonderword.com, or call 1-855-232-2367.

TRIBUNE CROSSWORD

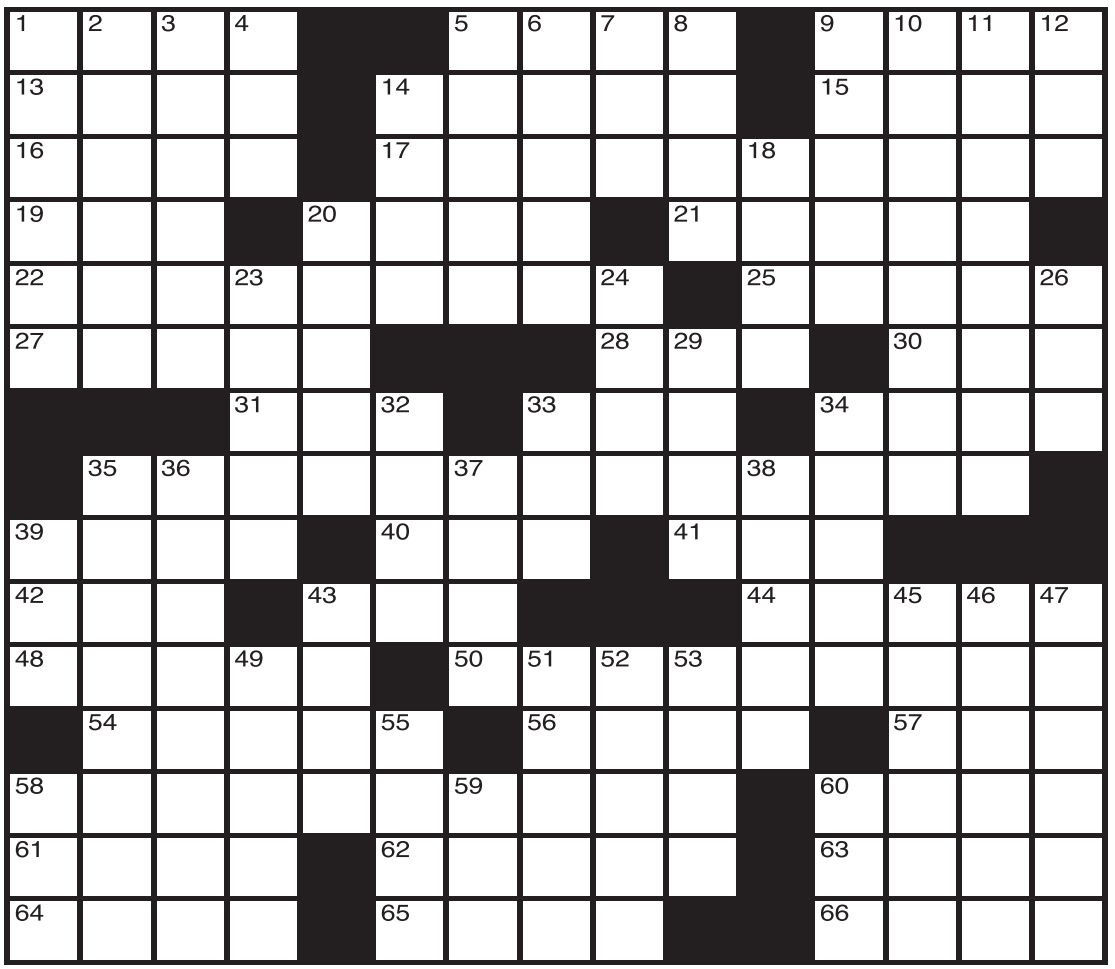
EDITED BY PATTI VAROL

ACROSS

1 Radio switch letters
5 Quintet for most starfish
9 Spiced tea
13 Actress Hatcher
14 Gather bit by bit
15 Circle of angels?
16 Secret spot for a secret plot
17 *Tidy and then some
19 Sum-thing to do
20 Uber alternative
21 Sounds at a horror movie
22 *Some Daytime Emmy winners
25 "Sometimes Love Just Ain't Enough" singer Patty
27 Choreographer Tharp
28 Question marks
30 Maiden name intro
31 Taylor Swift's "Lover," for one
33 Place for a spring break?
34 "There is a __ by men unseen" : Emily Dickinson poem
35 *Act desperately
39 Plied a garden tool
40 Counselor's maj.
41 Neuro test letters
42 "__ be a pleasure"
43 Function
44 Pennsylvania sect
48 Financial supporter
50 *Post-performance celebration
54 Horseback combat
56 Goes downhill fast
57 Muckety-muck
58 Picnic side dish, or what can be found in the answers to the starred clues?
60 Long exhale
61 Nutrition regimen
62 One in a cafeteria stack
63 "My treat!"
64 Alan of "The Four Seasons"
65 Totally with it
66 Fava __

DOWN

1 Jazz classic with the line "My lonely days are over"
2 Alternative to a manicured lawn
3 End of the workweek, for some
4 Peace, in Russian
5 Word said with an Echo?
6 Show again
7 Exercise surface
8 Slight glitch
9 Gorge
10 "Satisfied?!"
11 Big-time celebs
12 Na+ or Cl-
14 Pest in a cloud
18 Lip
20 Rulers before the Bolsheviks
23 Beg
24 Nurses
26 Egg layer
29 Kismet
32 Programs that may update on their own
33 Pigpen
34 Underground lava
35 Unlucky square on a Monopoly board
36 Like Rudolph
37 "Back in __!"
38 Harvests
39 Stood behind the drapes, say
43 Stellar bear
45 UC home of the Anteaters
46 Reduction focus for some awareness campaigns
47 Line of text?
49 "I'm __ here!"
51 Benevolent lion of Narnia
52 Glide on ice
53 Detergent in a bright orange container
55 Cookbook amts.
58 Kissing at the bus stop, e.g.
59 In the manner of
60 Break down in tears



By Catherine Cetta

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11/26/26

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

B	L	E	A	T		C	L	A	I	M		W	S	O	P
T	E	A	R	Y		P	O	L	L	O		A	N	N	A
W	A	R	M	P	U	R	S	U	I	T		L	O	K	I
	F	L	Y	E	R			M	A	I		T	O	E	D
			M	I	L	D	A	N	D	F	U	Z	Z	Y	
O	F	T	E	N		O	B	I			T	E	E		
A	L	A	N		O	D	E		H	E	A	D	F	O	R
S	U	M		C	O	O	L	O	A	T	H		E	W	E
T	E	A	C	U	P	S		D	N	A		A	S	I	A
		G	E	E			W	O	K		E	N	T	E	R
	C	O	L	D	S	T	O	R	Y	B	R	O			
A	R	T	S		A	I	R			A	N	T	E	D	
L	O	C	I		T	A	K	E	T	H	E	H	E	A	T
O	A	H	U		B	R	U	S	H		S	E	P	I	A
O	T	I	S		Y	A	P	P	Y		T	R	Y	S	T

11/21/26

COMICS & FUN

CHECK OUT OUR DIGITAL PUZZLES ONLINE

JUMBLE

By Tribune Content Agency

JUMBLE®

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

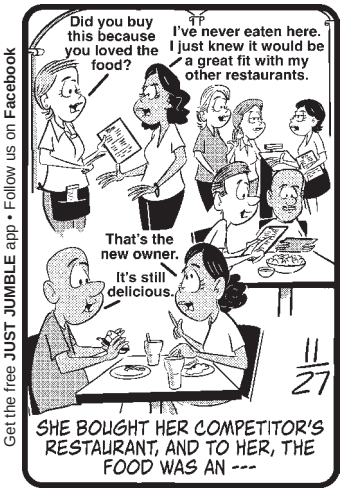
ROGDU

IMZEA

LESUQE

TCAHTA

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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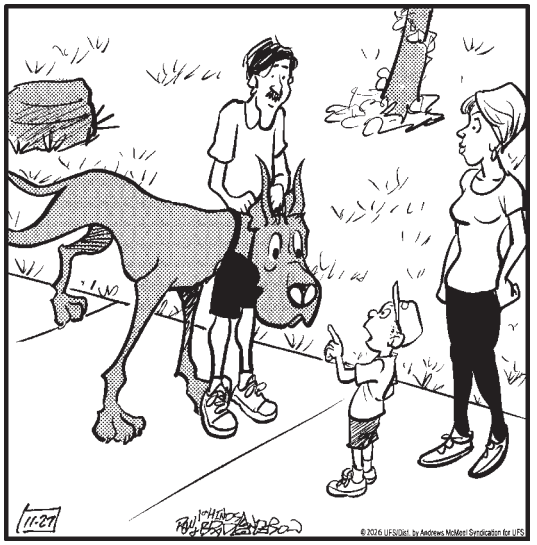
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SKULK FLOWN BALLET CURFEW
Answer: He intended to eat a lot of Thannksgiving turkey, which he — KNEW FULL WELL

MARMADUKE

By Bradley Jay Anderson



"Is he every kind of dog all rolled up into one big dog?"

PICKLES

By Brian Crane



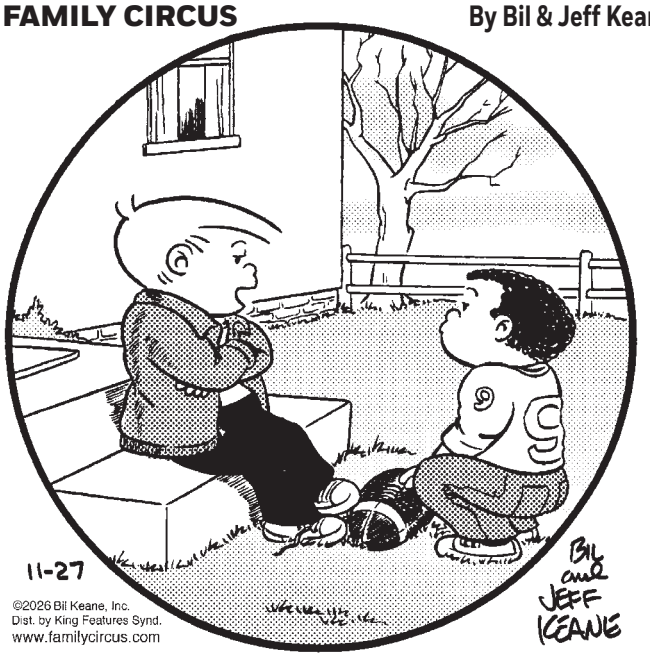
GARFIELD

By Jim Davis



FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil & Jeff Keane



"Thanksgiving was okay, but I bet we'll have a lot more to be thankful for on Christmas."

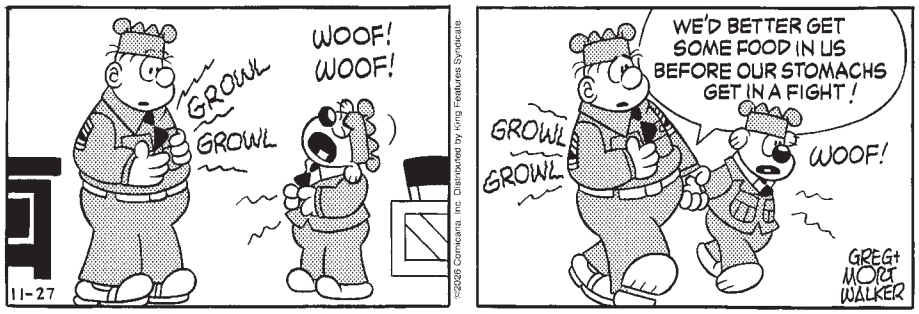
BABY BLUES

By Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman



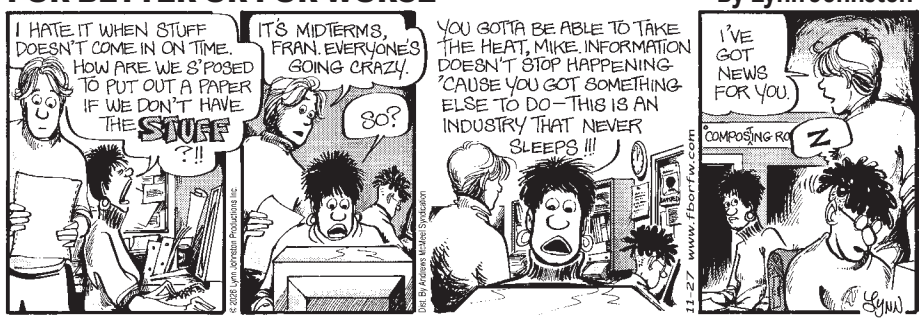
BEETLE BAILEY

By Greg Walker, Brian Walker & Neal Walker



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

By Lynn Johnston



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

By Dik Browne



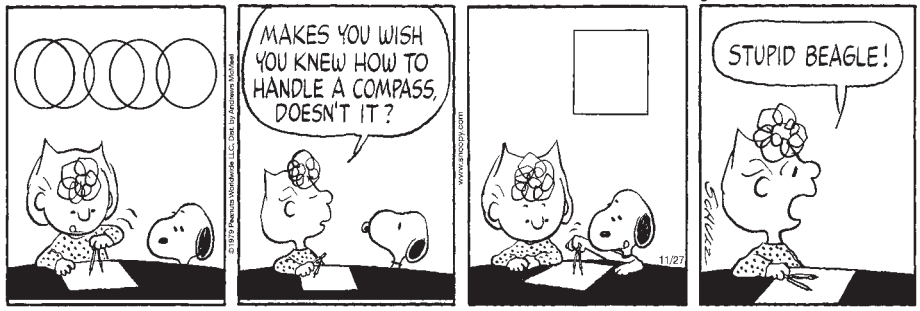
BLONDIE

By Dean Young & John Marshall



CLASSIC PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz



TODAY IN HISTORY

Nov. 27

Today is Friday, Nov. 27, is the 331st day of 2026.

On Nov. 27, 1978, San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and city supervisor Harvey Milk, a gay rights activist, were fatally shot inside City Hall by former supervisor Dan White.

Also on this date:

In 1895, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel signed his will establishing the Nobel Prizes, bequeathing most of his fortune for annual prizes honoring outstanding achievements in peace, physics, chemistry, literature, and physiology or medicine. (The prize in economic sciences was established in 1968).

In 1924, Macy's first Thanksgiving Day parade — billed as a "Christmas Parade" — took place in New York.

In 1934, bank robber and "Public Enemy No. 1" Lester Joseph Gillis, better known as George "Baby Face" Nelson, was fatally wounded in a gunbattle with FBI agents near Barrington, Illinois.

In 1942, during World War II, the French Navy sabotaged and sank 77 ships and submarines at Toulon to prevent their seizure by advancing German forces.

In 1970, Pope Paul VI, visiting the Philippines, was slightly wounded at Manila's airport by a dagger-wielding Bolivian painter disguised as a priest.

In 2003, President George W. Bush flew to Baghdad under extraordinary secrecy and security to spend Thanksgiving Day with U.S. troops and thank them for "defending the American people from danger."

In 2015, a gunman attacked a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs, Colorado, killing three people and wounding nine others. (Suspect Robert Lewis Dear has been repeatedly found mentally incompetent to stand trial.)

In 2025, Pope Leo XIV opened his first foreign trip as pontiff, appealing during a visit to Turkey for peace and renewed efforts to end wars in Ukraine and Gaza. The American-born supreme leader of the Catholic Church was welcomed by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

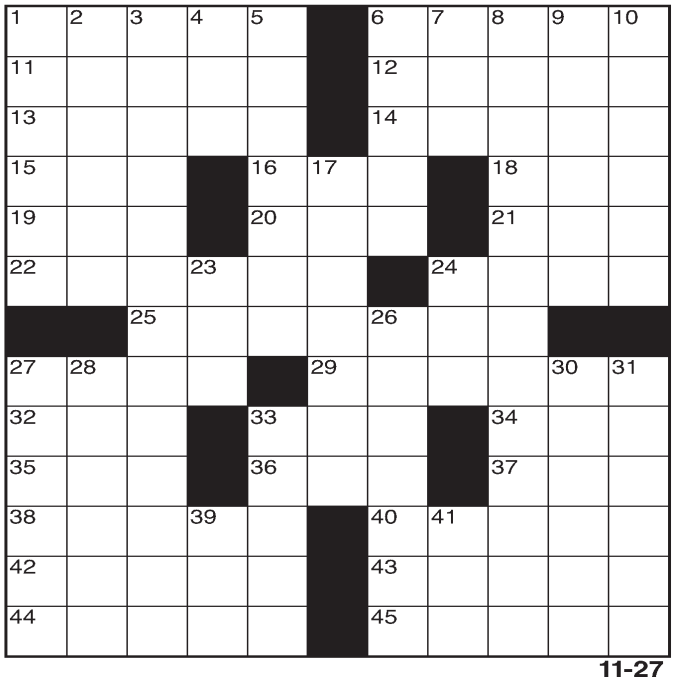
1 Red-ink items
6 Mosey
11 Acquired relative
12 Fax's forerunner
13 Long look
14 Play setting
15 Amp plug-in
16 Ram's mate
18 Scoundrel
19 Torah cabinet
20 Acapulco aunt
21 Model buy
22 Lewd fellow
24 Affleck and Kingsley
25 "The best policy"
27 Freshman, usually
29 Locker room stack
32 Drop the ball
33 Scot's cap
34 Buck's mate
35 Pickle buy
36 Clean Water Act org.
37 Dad joke basis
38 Thai or Korean
40 Legal claims
42 Plow pioneer John
43 Mirror sight
44 Useful skill
45 Church areas

DOWN

1 Bleak
2 Whole
3 Bitter fruit
4 Road gunk
5 Make better, as a deal
6 Be-wildered
7 Got together
8 Edible legumes
9 Earthsea creator
10 Brings to bear
17 Bug's kin
23 Sweetie
24 "Inciden-tally..." in texts
26 Kenya neighbor
27 2002 American League MVP Miguel
28 Wipes out
30 Hotel area
31 Detects
33 Precept
39 Is for two
41 Little rascal

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

Yesterday's answer



11-27

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

BLACK FRIDAY: STUFFED WITH SAVINGS **Solution: 9 letters**

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

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Yesterday's Answer: Dessert

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TRIBUNE CROSSWORD

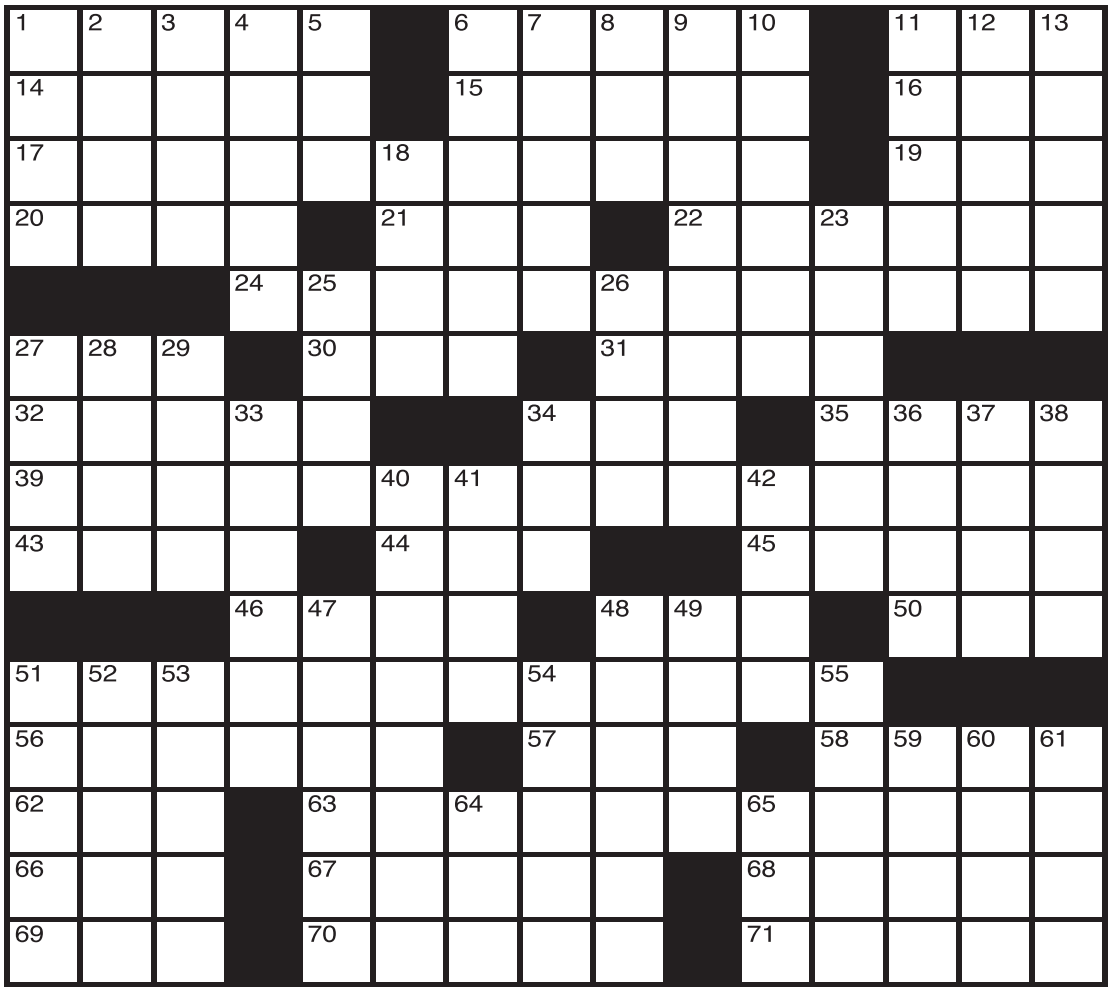
EDITED BY PATTI VAROL

ACROSS

1 Weapon for Achilles
6 With speed
11 Seasoning for French fries?
14 Spooky
15 Like Neptune and Mercury
16 Yankees owner Steinbrenner
17 "Hey, come see this sonar!"?
19 Before now
20 View from a pew
21 Email pioneer
22 Per annum
24 Rueful remark while treating a sunburn?
27 Deluge refuge
30 Most junk mail
31 Rolls in yoga class
32 Word with dew or view
34 Musical arcade game, for short
35 Shakespearean manipulator
39 Turns some jewelry into a musical instrument?
43 Middling
44 Black gold
45 Alpaca habitat
46 Morning's end
48 Break
51 Figure at a shoe-swapping event?
56 Crazy Horse's people
57 401(k) kin
58 Greet with fanfare
62 Orthodontist's org.
63 Second little pig's home, for one?
66 Easily fooled sort
67 "You stay here"
68 Remove one's username from
69 Ironman race, for short
70 Dual cyclone vacuum maker

DOWN

1 Spanish : noche :: Italian : __
2 Quick look
3 Slices of history
4 Part of the support staff
5 Sleep stage letters
6 Leafy spots
7 First name of singer PJ Harvey
8 "Who __ to judge?"
9 Large cousin of a guinea pig
10 Put into power
11 Predatory sort
12 Birdie topper
13 "Back to the Future" actor
18 Tall beer glass
23 Delegate (to)
25 Feedbag fill
26 Site for film research
27 Starters, casually
28 Caramel candy
29 Souls and Sedonas
33 "12 Years a Slave" Oscar winner
34 Dover's st.
36 Alan of "Bridge of Spies"
37 Member of a Best Buy tech support squad
38 Peak southeast of Olympus
40 Like Halloween candy in August, say
41 Soupçon
42 Scruff of the neck
47 Beat for a contract, perhaps
48 Bistro employee
49 "The Kerala Story" actress Sharma
51 Really fun time
52 Under the __
53 Ruminant with striped hindquarters
54 Drummer Starr
55 River to Lake Geneva
59 Self starter?
60 "No need to describe what it looked like"
61 Staying power
64 Singer Green and politician Gore
65 Run smoothly



By Steve Hotopp

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11/27/26

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

11/27/26

PUZZLES FROM METRO CREATIVE SERVICES — PUZZLES — MORE PUZZLES @ YOURVALLEY.NET

HOROSCOPES

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

You have a trustworthy circle of friends, Sagittarius. If the going gets a little tricky this week, call upon the people who just can't wait to support you.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, even though work life and home life are separate, there are some instances when they might overlap. Use this time to build deep relationships.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Conversations with friends the next few days prove to be a great mood-lifter, Aquarius. Things in your life will continue in a positive direction for some time.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Things that may have confounded you in the past will become much more clear this week, Pisces. Someone comes into your life and will explain what you need to know.

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

This is a good weekend for kicking back and relaxing, Aries. If you feel like hosting, open your home to some guests for even more fun.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, you must follow through when you say you are going to do something this week. If not, others may associate you with empty promises, and that reputation is not easily remedied.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, it is alright to seek perfection, but you don't have to go it alone. Be grateful when others offer to help, even if you may need to fix something along the way.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, you may have taken on too much, and now you think you can't get it all accomplished. It may take a few long nights, but your initial goal is still attainable.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Spending too much time worrying about what others are doing or what they think of you is not productive, Leo. Focus on what makes you happy and don't worry about others.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

You are naturally trusting of others, Virgo. But keep a small amount of skepticism going so that no one takes advantage of you. Once you vet friends, keep them close.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, do not feel like you have to change much about yourself to fit the mold others have created. It is alright to be unique and be proud of your differences.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, let supervisors know just how much you have been contributing at work and how it has been beneficial to their bottom line.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

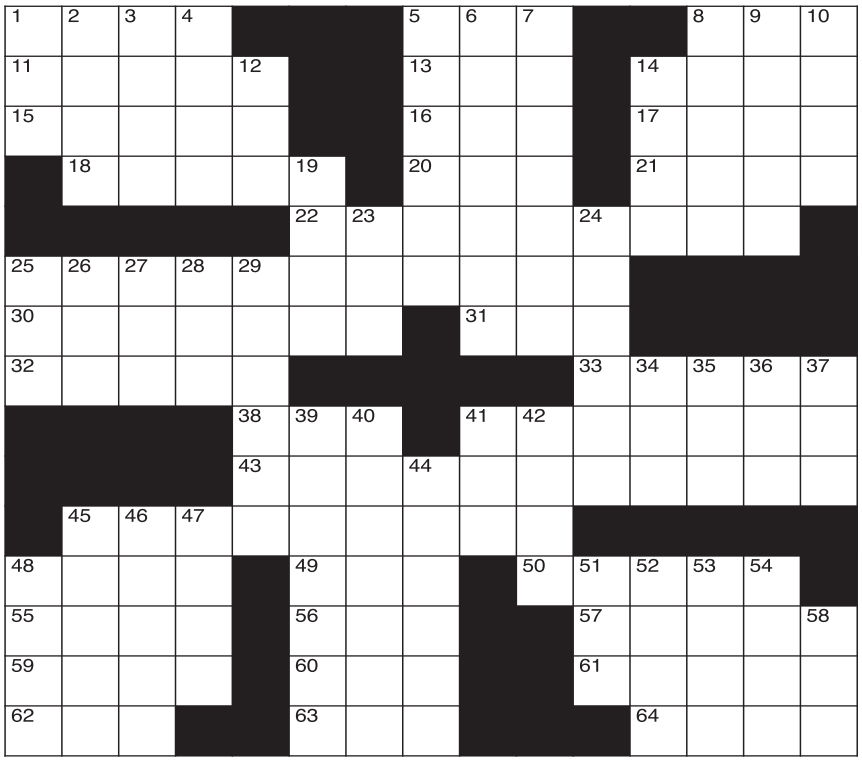
Here's How It Works:

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

ANSWER:

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

CROSSWORD



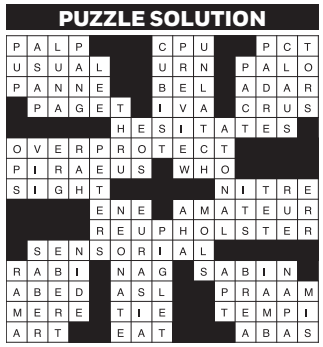
CLUES ACROSS

1. Insect feeler
5. Central processing unit
8. Part of (abbr.)
11. Typical
13. Tall, rounded vase
14. __ Alto, California city
15. Lustrous, velvet-like fabric
16. "Fresh Prince of __ Air"
17. Hebrew calendar month
18. British surgeon who discovered bone disease
20. Agreement between debtor and creditor (abbr.)
21. Elongated part of anatomical structure
22. Acts slowly on
25. Keeps a little too safe
30. Greek seaport
31. "Baba O'Riley" rockers
32. Vision
33. Potassium nitrate in mineral form
38. Midway between northeast and east
41. Not a pro
43. Give a new look
45. Sensational
48. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
49. Annoy constantly
50. Vaccine developer
55. Lying down
56. Type of language (abbr.)
57. Flat-bottomed boat
59. Smallest or slightest
60. Bind
61. Speeds
62. The products of human creativity
63. Consume food
64. Ancient Greek sophist

CLUES DOWN

1. A young canine
2. As fast as can be done
3. Soviet moon probes
4. Sharp spasm of pain
5. One who adheres to a specific art movement
6. Show parts of
7. Unfasten
8. San Diego ballplayer
9. Santa
10. Rocky peaks
12. "Matt Houston" actor Horsley
14. A written agreement between two sides
19. Beginning to end (abbr.)
23. Greek goddess of the dawn
24. Not written in any key
25. Organized missions
26. Seven
27. Work unit
28. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
29. Broadway legend Bernadette
34. Belonging to a thing
35. Vietnamese offensive
36. Bitterly regret
37. Make a mistake
39. Newborn child
40. A combined landmass
41. Satisfaction
42. Hilly peninsulas in Denmark
44. Young swine
45. Type of sword
46. Siskel's partner
47. Brood of pheasants
48. Hindu model of ideal man
51. Suitable in the circumstances
52. La __ tar pits
53. Unstressed-stressed metrical foot
54. California wine country
58. Badly

PUZZLE SOLUTION



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Miscellaneous



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Attorney for Petitioner:
ROBERT F. JECKEL, P.L.L.C.
Robert F. Jeckel, No. 003801
17028 North Boswell Boulevard
Sun City, AZ 85373
(623) 972-1133
Email: legal@jnlegal.com

Petitioner:
BOBBIE G. McGIRR
415 West Piedmont Road
Phoenix, AZ 85041

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

In the Matter of the Guardianship of MICKEY T. RICHMOND, an Adult.	NO. PB 2026-007915 AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that BOBBIE G. McGIRR has filed with the above-entitled Court, a Petition for Appointment of Guardian.

WARNING: This is a legal notice; your rights may be affected. Éste es un aviso legal. Sus derechos podrían ser afectados. You are not required to attend this hearing or respond to this Petition. However, **if you oppose any of the relief requested in the Petition that accompanies this Notice, you must file with the court a written response at least seven (7) calendar days before the hearing date or you or your attorney must contact the division assigned to the case at the time of the hearing using the following instructions: Call 602) 506-3809.** Any written response must comply with Rule 15(c) of the Arizona Rules of Probate Procedure. If you do not file a timely response or attend the hearing: (1) the court may grant the relief requested in the Petition without further proceedings, and (2) you will not receive additional notices of court proceedings relating to the Petition unless you file a Demand for Notice pursuant to Title 14, Arizona Revised Statutes.

Hearing to consider this Petition has been rescheduled on the 19th day of January, 2027, 11:00 A.M. before Judge Paula Williams, 125 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003, Courtroom 108.

DATED this 17th day of November, 2026.

Robert F. Jeckel
Attorneys for Petitioner

Publish: Phoenix Independent,
November 27, December 4, 11, 2026/52200_1

Public Notice

ORDINANCE O26-11-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE, ARIZONA, ADOPTING THE 2026 CALENDAR FOR REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL, FIXING THE DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATION OF SUCH MEETINGS

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the City of El Mirage Mayor and Council as follows:

SECTION 1. The regular meetings of the Common Council of the City of El Mirage shall be held at 6:00 p.m. on the following dates, unless otherwise properly noticed:

January 5, 2027	*January 20, 2027 (Wednesday)
February 2, 2027	*February 17, 2027 (Wednesday)
March 2, 2027	March 16, 2027
April 6, 2027	April 20, 2027
May 4, 2027	May 18, 2027
*June 2, 2027 (Wednesday)	June 15, 2027
July 7, 2027 (Wednesday)	**Summer Hiatus*
**Summer Hiatus*	August 17, 2027
September 8, 2027 (Wednesday)	September 21, 2027
October 5, 2027	October 19, 2027
November 2, 2027	*No Second Meeting in November*
December 7, 2027	*No Second Meeting in December*

***For MONDAY HOLIDAYS, MEETINGS MOVED TO WEDNESDAY**
****Council Summer Hiatus – July 8 – August 16, 2027**
*****League Conference – August 24 – 27, 2027**

SECTION 2. The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of El Mirage shall be held either virtually and/or in person at the El Mirage Council Chambers located at 10000 N. El Mirage Road in El Mirage Arizona, unless otherwise changed to another location by the Mayor giving not less than seventy-two hours notification of the change of location to the public by posting notice of change in the locations where the agenda is posted and providing personal notice of the change to all other councilmembers not less than twenty-four hours before the beginning of the meeting.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City of El Mirage Mayor and Council this 17th day of November 2026.

Alexis A. Hermosillo, Mayor

CITY OF EL MIRAGE INCORPORATED 1951 ARIZONA

ATTEST:
Jill A. Boltz, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Justin Pierce, City Attorney

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

I, Jill A. Boltz, City Clerk, do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. O26-11-04, adopted by the Common Council of the City of El Mirage on the 17th day of November, 2026, was posted in three places on the 20th day of November, 2026.

Jill A. Boltz, City Clerk

Publish: Phoenix Independent,
November 27, December 4, 2026/52319_1

Public Notice

WAYNE P. MARSH, PLC
Wayne P. Marsh, State Bar No. 003814
17028 N. Boswell Blvd.
Sun City, AZ 85373
(623) 933-7427
Email: wayne@wmarshlaw.com
Attorney for Personal Representative

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA, MARICOPA COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of:	NO. PB 2026-007161
ELLEN L. TURNER, Deceased.	NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **ROBERT J. TURNER** has been appointed Personal Representative of this Estate. All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented by delivering or mailing a written statement of the claim to the Personal Representative at c/o: Wayne P. Marsh, PLC, 17028 N. Boswell Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85373.

DATED this 18 day of November 2026.

Wayne P. Marsh
Attorney for Personal Representative

WAYNE P. MARSH, PLC

By: Wayne P. Marsh
Wayne P. Marsh

Publish: Phoenix Independent, November 27, December 4, 11, 2026/52201_1

Public Notice

THE WALKER REVOCABLE TRUST

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned is the Successor Trustee of the above-mentioned Trust.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 14-6103, all persons having claims against the trust estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or within (60) days after the mailing or other delivery of the notice, whichever is later, or the claim will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned Trustee in care of Moore Law Partners, PLLC, 9949 West Bell Road, Suite 201, Sun City, Arizona 85351.

Dated this 22nd day of September, 2026.

Jeffrey W. Walker, Trustee

Publish: Phoenix Independent, November 27, December 4, 11, 2026/52268_1

Public Notice

THE CLARE E. PETERSEN TRUST

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned is the Successor Trustee of the above-mentioned Trust.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 14-6103, all persons having claims against the trust estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or within (60) days after the mailing or other delivery of the notice, whichever is later, or the claim will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned Trustee in care of Moore Law Partners, PLLC, 9949 West Bell Road, Suite 201, Sun City, Arizona 85351.

Dated this 4 day of November 2026.

Michael C. Petersen, Trustee

Publish: Phoenix Independent, November 13, 20, 27, 2026/51728_1

Public Notice

THE SCHMIDT TRUST

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned is the Successor Trustee of the above-mentioned Trust.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 14-6103, all persons having claims against the trust estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or within (60) days after the mailing or other delivery of the notice, whichever is later, or the claim will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned Trustee in care of Moore Law Partners, PLLC, 9949 West Bell Road, Suite 201, Sun City, Arizona 85351.

Dated this 2 day of November, 2026.

Lucy Ann Schommer, Trustee

Publish: Phoenix Independent, November 13, 20, 27, 2026/51727_1

Public Notice

ENTERED
NOV 10 2026
FORT McDOWELL TRIBAL COURT

IN THE TRIBAL COURT OF

THE FORT MCDOWELL YAVAPAI NATION

In the Matter of the Estate of:

STERLING CONRAD CHERRY,

DOD: JUNE 16, 2025

Deceased.

Case No. CVPB-2026-011

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

Denzel Dogka is hereby appointed as Personal Representative of this Estate. Accordingly, he shall have the authority to perform the functions of a Personal Representative, including:

1. The power and duty to obtain and file with the Court a certified copy of the decedent's death certificate;
2. Access to the decedent's property;
3. Access to government records necessary for the performance of his/her appointed duties;
4. Access to financial records, medical provider records, and records relating to any assets or obligations of the decedent necessary for the performance of his/her appointed duties;
5. To preserve and protect the decedent's property within the estate for the benefit of the estate and the heirs, to the extent possible;
6. To promptly investigate all claims against the decedent's estate and determine whether such claims are just and proper;
7. To promptly determine the names, ages, and addresses of all the decedent's heirs, devisees and legatees;
8. To promptly cause a written inventory of all the decedent's property within the estate to be prepared with each article or item being separately set forth and cause such property to be exhibited to and appraised by an appraiser, and the inventory and appraisal thereof to be filed with the Court;
9. To promptly give all persons entitled thereto such notice as is required by the law;
10. To account for all property within the estate which may come into his possession or control, and to maintain accurate records of all income received, and disbursements made during the course of the administration;
11. To advise the Court whether the estate is subject to any exemptions and if so then to motion the Court for appropriate hearings;
12. To provide periodic accounting as directed by the Court for each calendar year the Estate is open;
13. To submit a final accounting verified by oath and a Distribution Schedule for approval by the Court;
14. To provide documentation of distribution; and
15. To complete other duties and/or responsibilities as may be required by law relative to the appointment as Personal Representative.

SO ORDERED this [illegible] day of November, 2026.

FORT McDOWELL TRIBAL COURT

Hon. Brian P. Gisey, Chief Judge
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

I, Billie Dillon, Clerk of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Court, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing instrument and find that it is a true and correct copy of the original now on file with the Court, and find that it is in full force and effect in the above-entitled matter and that the undersigned has custody thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Court, located at 10755 N. Fort McDowell Road, Fort McDowell, Arizona 85264 on this 10th day of November, 2026

Billie Dillon
Court Clerk

Copies to:
Personal Representative

IN THE TRIBAL COURT OF THE

FORT McDOWELL YAVAPAI NATION (Arizona)

In the Matter of the Estate of:

Sterling Cherry

Deceased.

Case No.:

Notice to Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation and/or Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Housing Department of Appointment of Personal Representative and Probate of Estate

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. On 10th November the Court has appointed Denzel Dogka as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Sterling Cherry. The address for the Personal Representative is 17790 E. Bonita St Fort Mcdowell AZ 85264
2. CLAIMS: All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present their claims within 120 days of the date of the first publication of this notice or the claims are forever barred.
3. NOTICE OF CLAIMS: All claims must be presented in writing by delivering or mailing a statement of the claim to the Personal Representative at the address listed in Paragraph 1 above.

DATED this 11th day of November, 2026.

Denzil Dogka
Signature of Personal Representative

Denzil Dogka
Printed Name

Notice to Creditors

11/06

Publish: Phoenix Independent, November 20, 27, December 4, 2026/52103_1

Public Notice

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