



Overnight Fire Destroys Apartment Building, Displaces 11 Residents in Hilldale



All photos from Ashley Jane Lane

Susan Smith-Linton

HILLDALE, WV- A devastating overnight fire destroyed one of three residential buildings at the Hedrick House Apartments on John Tolbert Road early Sunday, leaving 11 residents displaced and prompting a large emergency response.

The fire was first reported at approximately 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 4, with the Summers County 911 Center receiving a call around midnight on July 5 reporting a possible structure fire at the apartment complex.

Fire departments from Stations 51, 14 and 13 were initially dispatched. Upon arrival, firefighters found one of the apartment buildings engulfed in flames. Additional fire departments were requested as crews worked through the night to contain the rapidly spreading blaze.

The fire ultimately destroyed one building containing eight apartment units. Firefighters brought the blaze under control at approximately 4 a.m., and all responding units had cleared the scene by 6:30 a.m.

Emergency officials said 11 residents were displaced by the fire. The American Red Cross, the Summers County Office of Emergency Management and the property’s management company are assisting those affected by providing shelter and other immediate needs.

Ashley Jane Lane, who lives in one of the neighboring apartment buildings, said her unit escaped major damage, sustaining only minor scorching to a door and porch.

Officials reported only one minor injury during the incident. That individual was transported to Summers County ARH Hospital for treatment and later released.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation by the West Virginia State Fire Marshal’s Office. Investigators are continuing to assess the remaining apartment buildings to determine their structural safety and whether additional residents may need to be relocated.

Local officials are asking residents to avoid the area while investigators and emergency personnel continue their work.

Despite the destruction, officials said all displaced residents have been safely sheltered, and emergency agencies continue to work together to provide assistance as the community begins the recovery process.

The Hedrick House Apartments consist of three residential buildings. While one building was destroyed, the remaining buildings sustained significantly less damage, though inspections are ongoing.

Authorities have not released any additional information regarding the cause of the fire, and the investigation remains active.

Man Faces Multiple Charges after Alleged Knife Incident Involving Deputy



Tommy Prater

SUMMERS CO., W.Va. (The Hinton News) - A man is facing several charges after authorities say he threatened a Summers County Sheriff’s deputy with a knife while deputies were responding to a report of a suspicious person Monday.

According to the Summers County Sheriff’s Office, Sgt. Ward responded to the complaint along Route 20 near Bluestone Lake, where he located a white Ford Ranger. Deputies said the driver, identified as Tommy Prater, got out of the vehicle while holding a knife

and allegedly made threatening remarks toward the deputy.

Authorities said Sgt. Ward was able to take Prater into custody without further incident.

After the investigation concluded, Prater was charged with brandishing a weapon, obstructing an officer, and simple possession.

The Summers County Sheriff’s Office praised Sgt. Ward for his professionalism and restraint in bringing the situation to a safe conclusion.

Prater is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

Three Board Members Take Oath of Office

Summers County Schools Facebook page highlighted the following:

Three board members took the oath of office to commence their new four-year terms: Gregory Angell, Megan Harvey, and Renee Farley.

In addition, the board elected its officers for the new term. Gregory Angell - President, Jay McBride - Vice President. We appreciate the dedication of our BOE members to the students and staff of SCS.



Renee Farley

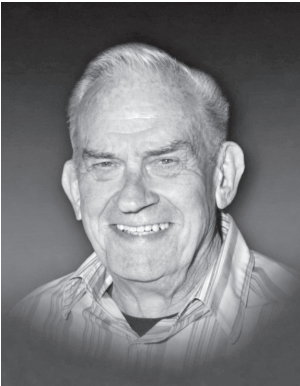


Megan Harvey



Gregory Angell

Community Obituaries



**Charles Wray
“Charlie” Sovine**

7/15/1933
- 5/23/2026
Charles Sovine, also lovingly known as Papa, Daddy, and Charlie, passed away peacefully in his sleep on May 23, 2026, in Downey, CA,

at the age of 92. Born on July 15, 1933, in Culloden, WV, the son of Walter Wray Sovine and Jessie Rutherford Danford, he grew up on the family farm in Hurricane, WV, alongside his younger brother, Bill, who passed away in 2011.
Charles graduated from Huntington East High School in West Virginia in 1951 and worked at the Beverly Theater as an usher, Niermann’s Pharmacy, and also Standard Ultramarine & Color Company (SUCCO) as a color tech, in Huntington, WV. In 1957, he married his “sweetheart,” Jean Lilly, who

passed away last year, February 19, 2025. They moved to California with just \$200 and made their home in Downey, where they raised their two children, Tammi and Bill. They were deeply devoted to each other and were married for 67 years.
Charles held his position as a 32nd Degree Mason in high regard and earned recognition for over 50 years of Masonic service. He was also honored to be a Shriner and member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Charles had a 34 year career working in logistics, sales, and account management.

He worked for the Union Terminal Warehouse and later sold Mutual Funds. He retired as a manager for Fibreboard Corporation in 1989.
Charles was talented and creative, enjoying sketching, computers, keeping the family history and creating hand-crafted treasures, including beautiful, wood nativity sets cherished by his family. A talented handyman who could fix almost anything, he was always ready to help family and friends. After retiring, Charles and Jean moved to their dream cabin in West Virginia, which they designed and helped build.

In 2017, they returned to Downey, CA, to spend their later years near family. His legacy of love, creativity, humor, and devotion to family will be remembered and treasured by all who knew him.
He is survived by his daughter, Tammi Humbert and husband, Will, of Downey, CA; his grandson, Ryan Humbert, wife, Kimie, and great-grandchildren, Asher and Rylie of Downey, CA; and granddaughter, Magen Humbert Meyers and husband, Cedric, of Lancaster, CA. He is also survived by granddaughters, Nicole Sovine and

fiancé, Cory Marshall, of Las Vegas, NV; and Lauren Sovine and fiancé, Tim Egan, of Austin, TX; both children of his son, William Charles “Bill” Sovine, who passed away in 2017. A family memorial dinner was held in his honor in Downey, CA, on June 20, 2026.
His funeral service will be held on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. Those wishing to attend the graveside service are asked to meet at Greenbrier Burial Park in Hinton, WV. All are welcome.
Condolences may be left at www.PivontFuneralHome.com.



Dear Recycle Lady

Dear Recycle Lady, Can you tell me the proper way to dispose of antifreeze? I have searched the local recycling industries and the internet but have not found information on antifreeze disposal. We are cleaning out an old garage and the antifreeze appears old, so we want to dispose of it properly.
Need Safe Disposal
Dear Need Safe Disposal,
Unfortunately, I am unable to give you an answer to your very important question. Antifreeze is a hazardous waste that requires special handling. Yet, currently there is no place locally that accepts antifreeze. The best thing to do at this point is to call the WV Department of Environmental Protection in Charleston at 304-558-5938 and ask to speak to someone about household hazardous waste. Perhaps they can give you an answer. Perhaps we all should all call the WVDEP and as well as our county and state representatives asking them to investigate a solution for safe disposal of antifreeze

and other hazardous wastes.
Dear Recycle Lady,
What are plant-based cleaners?
Cleaner-Upper
Dear Cleaner-Upper,
Good question. Plant-based cleaners are cleaners made with environmentally friendly ingredients such as vinegar, lemon juice, and baking soda; all of which have excellent antibacterial, degreasing, and stain removing properties. Vinegar is a natural disinfectant and deodorizer, lemon juice has antibacterial properties and a fresh scent, and baking soda is effective for scrubbing and neutralizing orders. Used properly, they can be just as effective as chemical cleaners, however, they work more slowly so let them sit a while before removing them. There are also several commercial cleaners available that are plant-based. Look for the EPA Safer Choice label or USDA BioPreferred certified. A significant part of these products must be plant-based. Tide PurClean ingredients are 75%

plant-based and Clorox Ecoclean is made with 99% plant-based cleaning ingredients. Seventh Generation has many plant-based cleaning products, as does Mr. Clean. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also approves natural cleaners with ingredients like thymol (from the oil of thyme), including Seventh Generation Disinfecting Wipes and Cleaners.
Dear Recycle Lady,
Years ago, when the recycling center was in Fairlea, a woman showed me that when people just toss their recyclables a short distance into the re-

cycling bins, the items pile up in the center of the bin and don’t go out into its corners. She showed me how to throw my items into the back area of the bin and into its corners so that the recycling bin fills up properly. I read your column every week. Keep up the good work.
Dutiful Recycler
Dear Dutiful Recycler,
You are absolutely correct; this is excellent advice. The Center’s recycle bins have limited space, so it is important to use all areas of the bins, not just the front. Throwing items into the

back area and into the corners of the bins provides extra space for incoming recyclables. The Recycling Center staff check the bins 365 days a year in order to prevent the

overflow of recyclables in the bins and to be available to answer questions. Thanks for writing and calling this information to the attention of our readers

The Hinton News Dining Guide

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A Peek into Summers County’s Past: Summers County’s Connection to the Washington Monument

William Jones

21, 1885.

West Virginia sent a commemorative stone to the Washington Monument to honor the first president and show state pride. Placed at the 200-foot level, this sandstone block features the Latin inscription “Tuum Nos Sumus Monumentum West Virginia”, translating to “We Are Your Monument, West Virginia.”

Sandstone from Sandstone, WV was selected from the area that is now known as “Sandstone, WV.” It wasn’t incorporated until 1915; It was originally established as “New Richmond.” New Richmond became a town due to the influence of the Richmond Family having a trading post and later a post office at this location.

The commemorative stone is located in an interior wall of the monument at the 200-foot level. It measures 2 ft by 4 ft. It features “a relief carving of the West Virginia coat of arms, depicting two men flanking a chopping block with tools, rifles, and an anvil. It was installed in 1885 shortly before the mon-

This week’s piece is different in the aspect it is not a piece I have in my collection but is about something I was told by various older folks throughout my life that involved Summers County. It is about the Washington Monument and that I had always heard the Sandstone was quarried in Sandstone, WV to build it. I researched it today and discovered that is not exactly the case.

Let me elaborate on the subject. It turns out the stone used for its construction was not quarried in Sandstone, WV. But there is a piece of sandstone from Summers County in the monument. Construction began in 1845 but was halted due to the Civil War. It was finally completed on February



Gentlemen take a pause during construction

ument’s completion.”

The photo you see here was during the pause in the construction.

The quarry site sits alongside what is now the National River

Gorge National Park

Preserve Visitors Center. It is neat knowing a piece of national history came from Summers County. And this just goes to show you; you should take almost

everything you hear in a historical context at face value until you can verify it.

In this case it was only a misunderstanding of the context of the facts involved in it.

Weekly Recipes

Fresh Ingredients Are Perfect For Summertime

Fresh ingredients can be components of a flavorful meal. Come the warmer weather, fresh ingredients also can help people avoid feeling sluggish after eating.

This summer, fresh ingredients like avocado and tomatoes can be just what people need when looking for a delicious meal that won’t adversely affect their energy levels. The following recipe for “Bruschetta Topped With Avocado and Tomatoes” from Lines+Angles employs both foods and can make a great addition to any summertime dinner table.

Bruschetta Topped With Avocado and Tomatoes

Makes 4 to 6 servings

Ingredients:

2 large Hass avocados, ripe, pitted, peeled, and cubed

4 vine tomatoes, cored, seeded, and diced

1 shallot, finely chopped

8 ounces fresh mozzarella, drained and diced

2 to 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar

2 to 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus extra for brushing

1 large baguette, cut into 1-inch thick slices

1 small bunch basil, leaves only, finely sliced

Kosher salt

Freshly ground black pepper

1. Combine the cubed avocado with the tomato, shallot, mozzarella, balsamic vinegar, extra-virgin olive oil, and plenty of seasoning in a mixing bowl.

2. Stir and toss to combine, adding more vinegar and extra-virgin olive oil as needed. Set aside until needed.

3. Preheat the broiler to hot. Lightly brush the baguette slices with olive oil before toasting under the broiler for 1 to 2 minutes until golden brown.

4. Remove bread slices and leave to cool briefly. Carefully spoon the avocado bruschetta mix on top and serve with a garnish of sliced basil on top.

Jesus, The Way To Eternal Life

(Part 5)

by Mark A. Copeland

https://executableoutlines.com/topical_series/jesus-the-way-guide/jtw_01.html

We completed the lesson on Jesus as the Way to eternal life last time. Here is the conclusion and some question to ponder.

Conclusion

But though God and Jesus have prepared such a fate for those who “know not God” and “obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,” They certainly do not want people to experience this! As Paul wrote to the young evangelist Timothy:

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. (1 Timothy 2:3-6)

In order that “eternal life,” and not “everlasting destruction,” might be the destiny of all men, God has provided the most precious thing to Him as the mediator between sinful man and Holy God: **Jesus** - His Beloved Son, and **The Way** to all that is good, both in this life and the one to come!

But if what one does not accept Jesus as **The Way**? Then he or she is destined to:

- life with no real direction here on earth!
- die in their sins!
- be forever separated from God!
- go through life in religious confusion!
- go through eternity in eternal condemnation!

How much better to come to Jesus, and let Him be **Your Way** to:

- a better life!
- forgiveness of sins!
- a loving and close relationship with God!
- out of religious confusion!
- eternal life, with all its prepared glory!

If you haven’t, obey the Lord Jesus and His gospel, and commit to following Him as **The Way** today!

Questions To Stimulate Your Thinking...

1. After death, what must one face? (Hebrews 9:27)
2. For whom is everlasting fire prepared? (Matthew 25:41)
3. Who will be punished with everlasting destruction? (2 Thessalonians 1:8,9)
4. Who will go through the wide gate to destruction? Who will find the way to life? (Matthew 7:13,14)
5. In the New Jerusalem, with whom shall God dwell? What shall they be? (Revelation 21:3)
6. Who is promised rest from their labors? (Revelation 14:13)
7. Who will enter the kingdom of heaven? (Matthew 7:21)
8. Who are those who have put on Christ? (Galatians 3:27)
9. What claim does Jesus make? (John 14:6)
10. What does James say our life is like? (James 4:14)
11. When will the dead be raised? (1 Corinthians 15:52; 1 Thessalonians 4:16)
12. What will those who have done good be raised to? Those who have done evil? (John 5:28,29)
13. Why did God give His only begotten Son? (John 3:16)
14. What is God’s desire concerning all of mankind? (2 Peter 3:9)
15. What was Saul (later known as the apostle Paul) told by Ananias? (Acts 22:16)

Paid for by Shockley Hill church of Christ.

We meet at 3293 Tug Creek Mountain Road

Sunday Morning Worship 9:30

Bible Study 10:30

Worship 11:15

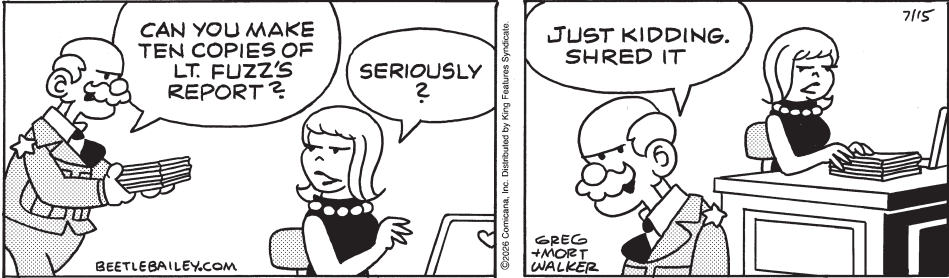
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30

We would love to have you come and study with us.

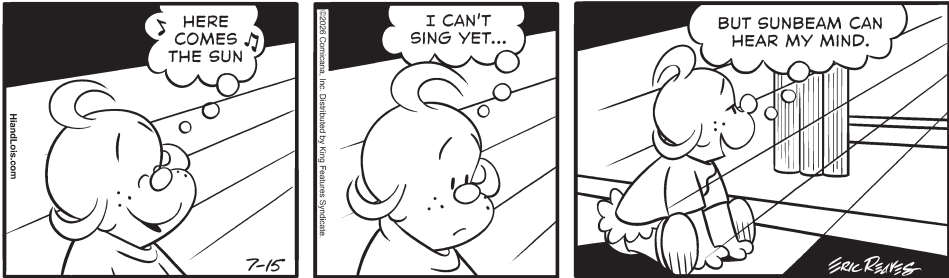
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ENTERTAINMENT & COMICS PAGE

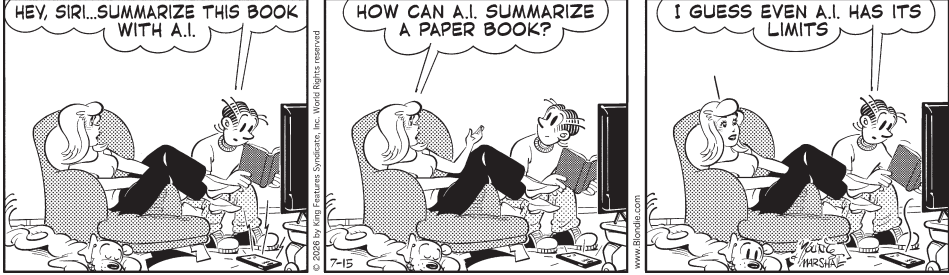
Beetle Bailey



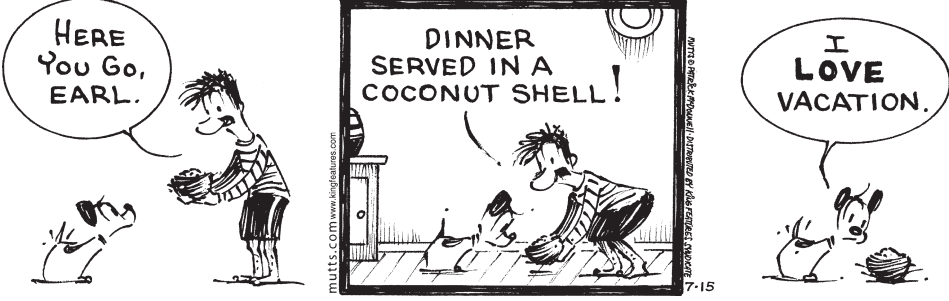
Hi and Lois



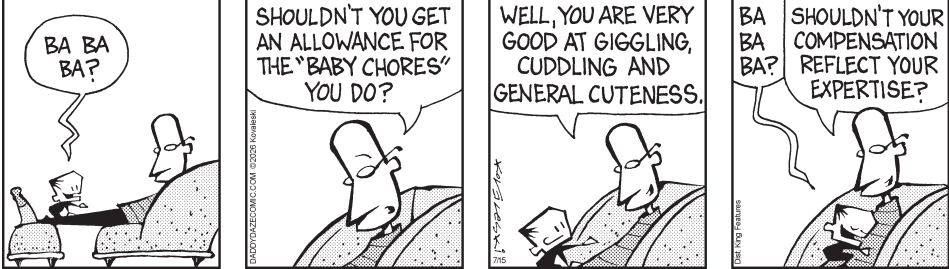
Blondie



Mutts



Daddy Daze



Zits



CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Tire pressure measurement
- 4. Request
- 7. Clairvoyance
- 10. 007's creator
- 11. Adult male
- 12. God of battle (Scandinavian)
- 13. Cloths spread over a coffin
- 15. Breeze through
- 16. Ladyfish genus
- 19. We all take them
- 21. Earl's jurisdiction
- 23. Members of U.S. Navy
- 24. Rummy-like card game
- 25. Affected by injury
- 26. Member of a Semitic people
- 27. Withdrew from a union
- 30. Woman's cloak
- 34. Spanish river
- 35. Prohibit
- 36. Something you

- can take
- 41. Dish soap brand
- 45. Ottoman military commanders
- 46. Ancient Italian-Greek colony
- 47. Makes somber
- 50. Discuss again
- 54. A tool to inject
- 55. Support
- 56. Informal term for money
- 57. Catch doing something wrong
- 59. Prehistoric people
- 60. Large African antelope
- 61. Vehicle
- 62. Georgia rockers
- 63. High resolution microscope
- 64. Pitching statistic
- 65. Attempt

- 4. Collected
- 5. A bag-like structure in a plant or animal
- 6. Irish hip-hop trio
- 7. Ageless
- 8. Course requirements
- 9. Pokes at
- 13. TV channel
- 14. They __
- 17. Cooking material
- 18. Investment account
- 20. Iron-containing compound
- 22. Swiss river
- 27. Small coin (French)
- 28. Electronic countermeasures
- 29. Taxi
- 31. Helps little firms
- 32. Unhappy
- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Glowing
- 38. Item to be addressed
- 39. An informal body of friends

- 40. Intrinsic nature of something
- 41. Neural structures
- 42. Brews
- 43. A place for ships
- 44. One who sings holiday songs
- 47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 48. Scottish town
- 49. The most worthless parts
- 51. Sticky
- 52. Put to work
- 53. Precursor to the EU
- 58. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)

SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

Level: Intermediate

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column, or box.

(Today's Answers Next Wednesday)

Answer To Last Wednesday's Puzzle →

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

JUMBLE

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

IYDSA
EPTSE
AANBNA
GFTERO

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Ans. here:

Last Wednesday's Answers

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.

(Today's Answers Next Wednesday)
Jumbles: BEIGE OLDER CHURCH SWEATY
Answer: While patiently keeping an eye out for salmon, one bear said they should — "WADE" RIGHT HERE

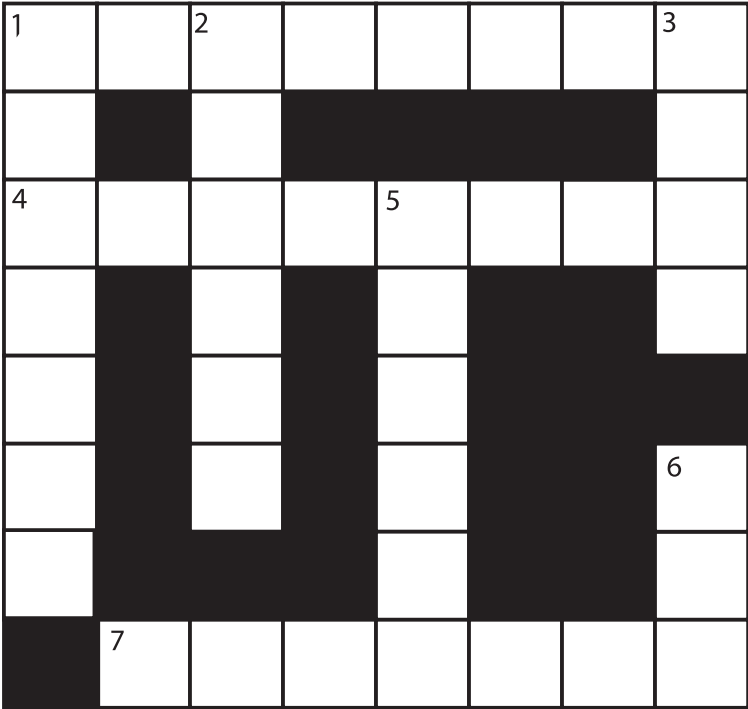
H	E	A	L	E	D		P	S	A	L	M	S	
H	A	U	L	A	G	E	A	E	R	A	T	E	D
A	B	E	C	O	N	O	M	I	C	S	M		
G	I	M	P	Y	T	A	P	H	E	D	I	N	
U	T	A	H	S	A	F	E	S	S	E	T	A	
E	S	C	T	I	L		R	I	B	C	O	T	
		A	M	A	S								
C	O	R	A	L									
A	V	O	C	E	T								
S	E	N	R	O	B								
C	R	I	B	T	A	C	E	T					
A	S	S	A	I	S	S	R						
R	E	S	O	L	I	C	I	T	O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

Last Wednesday's Answer (Answers Next Wednesday)

		1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9		
		10				11				12				
13	14					15				16			17	18
					20			21	22					
23								24						
			25					26						
27	28	29						30			31	32	33	
34											35			
36			37	38	39	40		41	42	43	44			
			45					46						
47	48	49						50			51	52	53	
54								55						
56							57	58		59				
		60					61			62				
		63					64			65				



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Trip away
- 4. Vitamin or mineral
- 7. Ice cream desserts

DOWN

- 1. Ice cream flavor
- 2. ____ candy, treat
- 3. Ice cream topping
- 5. Surrounded by water
- 6. Opposite of “no”

DAY IN HISTORY



1863: Draft riots take place in New York City during the American Civil War.

1930: The first FIFA World Cup begins in Uruguay.

1985: The Live Aid benefit concert takes place in London and Philadelphia as well as other venues.

Food

FACT:



This food is made by blending milk, cream and sugar together before it is cooled and churned.

Answer: Ice cream

NEW WORD

CHURN

turn in a machine to produce butter

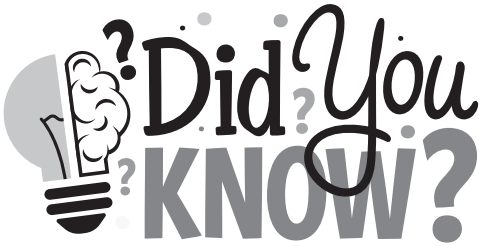
1. Vanilla 2. Cotton 3. Nuts 5. Island 6. Yes
Down

1. Vacation 4. Nutrient 6. Sundaes
Across

Answers:

How they say that in...

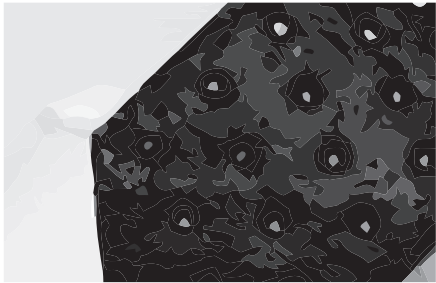
- English: Cone
- Spanish: Cono
- Italian: Cono
- French: Cornet
- German: Waffel



The International Dairy Foods Association says vanilla, chocolate, strawberry, butter pecan, and cookie dough are the five most popular ice cream flavors.



Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Ice cream sandwich



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• (304) 438-6188

& Rainelle Medical Center Pharmacy (304) 438-6186
& Rainelle Dental Center
(304) 438-1922

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& Maxwelton Dental Center
(681) 318-3611

Midland Trail Health Center
26709 Midland Trail, Hico, WV
25854 • (304) 969-8080

Lewisburg Health Center
296 Fair Street, Lewisburg, WV
24901 • (304) 647-4747

Meadow Bridge Clinic
1502 Meadow Bridge Road,
Meadow Bridge, WV 25976
• (304) 484-7755

White Sulphur Springs Health Center
128 Community Lane,
White Sulphur Springs, WV 24996
• (304) 956-2577

Eastern Greenbrier Health Center
595 Spartan Lane, Lewisburg, WV
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Rupert Health Care Center
458 Greenbrier St., Rupert, WV
25984 • (304) 632-6602

Dear Abby: Wife Suspects Man Is Still Up to His Usual Tricks



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: How can I tell if my husband loves me? We have been married 41 years, and during our entire marriage he's been cheating on me with other women. He takes good care of me and is always there for me and our family. We hardly have sex. I try to give him a romantic kiss, but he only gives me a peck.

I have suggested that we go on date nights and go out to breakfast or dinner once or twice a

month. I also told him that we should be jumping all over each other because our kids are grown and on their own with their own families. My gut instinct tells me he is still cheating. What should I do? -- **DIS-ILLUSIONED IN ARIZONA**

DEAR DISILLU-SIONED: Your husband may love you, but not in the way you would like him to. Or he could be following his usual pattern but staying married to you because he doesn't want the expense of a divorce. If your gut instinct tells you he is still cheating, he probably is, and you should be tested for STDs. (Sorry.) If you want proof that he has been straying, hire a private detective. If you are right, you will

then have to decide whether you want to stay married under these circumstances.

DEAR ABBY: I recently turned 80, and my health is excellent. I have worked hard to become financially independent, I have long-term care insurance and an elevator in my home so I can stay, and I exercise regularly.

My friends have collectively and individually started a not-so-subtle campaign to move in with me or for all of us to buy a house together. I call this the "Golden Girls Campaign Movement." I love my friends, but I also love my independence. I have repeated this tactfully numerous times, and on one occasion replied bluntly, "Never happening." But it's

falling on deaf ears. I want friends, not roommates. Help! -- **ANNOYED IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR ANNOYED: From now on, when your friends raise the subject, smile and say, "I want friends, not roommates. I prefer to live independently." Repeat it as often as necessary. It's the truth.

DEAR ABBY: My brother-in-law was recently diagnosed with Alzheimer's. He's a retired doctor and knows what to expect in the coming years. We're a close family and are always honest with each other. My wife and I do not know the best ways to support

my sister. She is also a health professional who knows what is in store. Any help you may suggest will be shared among our family members, as we want to present a united approach. -- **FAMILY IN OREGON**

DEAR FAMILY: I'm sorry for your brother-in-law's diagnosis. Because he and his wife are well-equipped to tell you what they will need from you, ask them. Refrain from "going the extra mile" with assistance they have not requested. (You do not want to smother them.)

Closeness and honesty will be your greatest assets as you navigate this chapter

of your BIL's life. For additional support, the Alzheimer's Association (alz.org) has resources, both for the affected person and for caregivers.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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AT THE GRILL

WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

BACKYARD	FLAME	SEAR	SUMMER
BARBECUE	FLAREUP	SEASONING	TEMPERATURE
BURGER	GRATE	SIZZLE	TONGS
CHARCOAL	HEAT	SKEWERS	VEGETABLES
CHICKEN	MARINADE	SMOKE	
DELICIOUS	PROPANE	SPATULA	
SAUSAGES	STEAK		

Weekly +
HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, now is the perfect time to socialize with others. Romance is in the air and you are going to go out of your way to treat someone special in the days to come.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, some people express their affection for others by buying them gifts. You have the ability to know just what a person needs at a given time and provide that to them.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Gemini, a pleasant week awaits you, and one this inspires your compassionate and tender side to come to the forefront. You may feel unselfish and spiritual, and relationships will be easy.

CANCER – June 22/July 22

Your idealism is aroused this week, Cancer. This is a time for you to become more involved with others, and you might find it rewarding to work with a charity.

LEO – July 23/Aug 23

A friendship may turn romantic, Leo. You'll have to tread carefully depending on how you want to see things go. Listen to your emotions carefully in the days to come.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

This week you are compelled to use your influence to help someone directly or indirectly, Virgo. Figure out what you can do to affect change.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Expect to meet people under unique circumstances, Libra. You may engage with someone who needs your help or can teach you something new.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, enjoy spending time with friends and other groups because this is a feel-good time for you. If you feel affectionate toward someone, those feelings will become more passionate.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

People notice you more than usual, Sagittarius. This is an excellent time to enjoy the company of others, including, friends, your partner or spouse.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Look for ways to help a coworker who could use some help right now, Capricorn. You have the power to give them what they need right now, more so than others.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

This is a time for social outings and special dates, Aquarius. Figure out how to feel sensitive to the needs and feelings of loved ones as only you can do best.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

True generosity is giving what is needed, Pisces. Assist a relative as best as you can, even if that is simply serving as a sounding board.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

JULY 12 Brock Lesnar, Wrestler (49)	JULY 14 Conor McGregor, MMA fighter (38)	JULY 16 Will Ferrell, Actor (59)
JULY 13 Harrison Ford, Actor (84)	JULY 15 Gabriel Iglesias, Comic (50)	JULY 17 Luke Bryan, Singer (50)
		JULY 18 Kristen Bell, Actress (46)

ARIES

TAURUS

GEMINI

CANCER

LEO

VIRGO

LIBRA

SCORPIO

SAGITTARIUS

CAPRICORN

AQUARIUS

PISCES

Illegal Fireworks Sales Results in Seizure and Criminal Charge in Summers County

Per the WV Fire Marshal Facebook Page:

On Friday, July 3, 2026, the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) received a complaint regarding the possible illegal sale and use of consumer fireworks in the Pence Springs area of Summers County.

Pursuant to that complaint, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, ASFM B. Palmer conducted an investigation. During the investigation, Mr. Samuel Morton, of Raleigh County, was cited for allegedly selling a variety of consumer-grade fireworks along Route 12 in Summers County without the required authorization.

West Virginia law requires any person or business selling consumer fireworks to possess a valid Consumer Fireworks Retail Certificate being issued. These requirements are designed to help protect both the public and those involved in the retail sale of consumer fireworks.

As a result of the investigation, the consumer fireworks being offered for sale in alleged violation of West Virginia Code § 29-3E were seized by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Mr. Morton was charged with selling consumer fireworks without a valid Consumer Fireworks Retail Certificate.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal remains committed to enforcing West Virginia's fireworks laws and ensuring that consumer fireworks are sold.

The public is encouraged to purchase consumer fireworks only from certified retail locations and to report suspected illegal fireworks sales and/or use to the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

GoFundMe Created for Summers County Deputy's Home Loss

Summers County Sheriff's Deputy Tad Withrow and his family lost their home and most of their belongings in a June 29 house fire.

A GoFundMe, organized by Tim Adkins, is raising money to help Deputy Withrow, his wife Amanda, and their two children with housing, clothing and other immediate needs as they recover from the fire.

Summers County Sheriff Justin Faris said the family's home was a total loss, and community members are organizing additional fundraising events to support them.

One of those efforts will be a Night Swim Benefit at the Hinton Waterslide on Thursday, July 24, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults and \$5 for those ages 18 and under, with all proceeds benefiting the Withrow family. Donations will also be accepted during the event for those wishing to contribute additional support.

The Summers County Sheriff's Office encourages the public to attend the fundraiser or contribute through the GoFundMe campaign.

Sheriff Faris said the overwhelming community response reflects the support for Deputy Withrow and his family as they begin the long process of rebuilding after the devastating fire. For more information about the Night Swim Benefit, contact the Summers County Sheriff's Office at 304-466-7111.



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THE HINTON NEWS

Library Matters

Myra Ziegler
Story submitted by: Myra Ziegler

Between 1972 and 1977, the number of public libraries in West Virginia grew from 89 to 175! This was considered somewhat of a miracle in the library world.

The person given credit for this astonishing growth was Fred Glazer. Fred was hired in 1972 to be the Executive Director of the West Virginia Library Commission, the state agency in charge of West Virginia's public libraries. Fred behaved like circus "barker" P.T. Barnum in that he was an outspoken and very effective advocate for West Virginia's libraries.

Now, there are public libraries in every state in the nation. For the most part, these are local entities, organized by towns or counties to provide services to the people in those communities and supported by local tax dollars. In the larger cit-

ies in West Virginia, this has long been the case, but in the more rural and poorer parts of the state, where dollars were scarce, libraries before Fred were few and far between.

Fred arrived at a good time to change that. Federal dollars, called revenue sharing, which provided extra money to communities to support things like libraries, were available at that time. Fred sent out a fleet of large trailers—bookmobiles—to many of the places across the state that did not have libraries. These Flying Book Expresses were wildly, unbelievably popular. County commissioners and city council members saw the long lines of people waiting to get on the bookmobiles and understood that their citizens wanted and needed permanent, full-time libraries, which they could afford thanks to the influx of revenue-sharing money. It was in 1977 that the Summers County Commission issued the charter that established the Summers County Public Library.

Fred developed the "instant" library to replace the overworked Flying Book Expresses. These were inexpensive octagonal prefab buildings that could be quickly built to serve as libraries. They popped up in communities all over the state; you can visit one in Ronceverte.

He convinced the West Virginia Legislature to establish a line item in the state budget—Grants-in-Aid to Public Libraries—to help with operating expenses, and he established a training program at Marshall University to help train the people hired to run the libraries. As head of the West Virginia Library Commission, Glazer helped develop and implement a statewide library auto-

mation network, which greatly improved inter-library communications and gave patrons greater access to library materials throughout the state. The system, designed by Vinod Chachra of Virginia Tech Library Systems (now VTLS), went active at its Charleston-based hub in November 1982. Other library networks have since been modeled after West Virginia's example.

Fred was fired as head of the Library Commission in 1996. It was quite the scandal.

The West Virginia Library Commission was combined with the Department of Tourism in 2025. The agency that played such a significant role in expanding library service throughout West Virginia no longer exists as an independent state commission. Its responsibilities are now carried out within a larger state government structure.

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Dog of the Week: Jenny



Jenny

A loving, resilient dog named Jenny is searching for the forever family she has been waiting for.

At just 5 years old and weighing approximately 70 pounds, Jenny has already experienced more than her share of hardships. Despite everything she has been through, she continues to show an incredible spirit, proving herself to be a strong, brave companion with a heart full of love.

Those who know Jenny describe her as the perfect balance of playful energy and

she loves a good play session. Her silly personality and patient nature make her a wonderful candidate for a family looking for a loyal canine companion.

Jenny's favorite things include:

- Snuggling with her favorite people
- Relaxing and lounging around the house
- Playing and having fun
- Sharing affection with those she trusts

Her gentle, loving temperament and patient demeanor make her a dog who simply wants a safe place to call home.

After all she has endured, Jenny deserves

a cozy, caring environment where she can finally relax, feel secure, and receive the love she has always deserved. She is ready to leave her past behind and begin a new chapter with a family willing to open their hearts and home.

Every shelter dog deserves a second chance, and Jenny is no exception. Her resilience, af-

fectionate personality, and unwavering capacity to love make her an exceptional companion for the right adopter.

Could you be the happily-ever-after Jenny has been waiting for?

Those interested in giving Jenny a loving forever home are encouraged to contact the organization caring for her to learn more about the adoption process. A single act of kindness could give Jenny the safe, loving future she's been waiting for.

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