

SPORTS

Guardians Play Chi-
Sox for 1st Place

Page 4

MENU TIPS

Cherry Chocolate Pie For
Every Occasion

See Page 5

One-Mic Open to be held at Literary Cleveland

One Mic Open will be held at Literary Cleve-
land, 13002 Larchmere Road, on Friday, August 14. One
Mic Open is a long-running open mic series hosted by
Eric Odum. Literary Cleveland is excited to be the home
for these free monthly open mics. Doors open at 6pm and
readings begin at 7pm. You can sign up to read when you
arrive. We ask that each person only read only poem, sto-
ry, or essay to begin and that all readings are 5 minutes or
less

Morelands Festival to be held

Moreland's Group will
sponsor the Moreland's Festival on Satur-
day, August 8 at Shaker Square from 1:00
p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event will include
food, live music, children's activities, and
gift cards. for more information, visit mor-
elandsgroup.org.

Jam For Justice Returns to the Beachland Ballroom

Legal Aid's annual summer fundraiser, Jam for
Justice, returns on Thursday, August 27 at The Beachland
Ballroom & Tavern in the Waterloo Arts District. The event
will include a staggered schedule of bands on two stages
for non-stop fun! Doors will open for the August 27 show
at 5:00 PM, with the first band taking the stage at 5:20
PM. Event emcees Stephanie Haney (Ideastream), Delanté
Spencer Thomas (City of Cleveland) and DJ Brad Wolfe
(Brad Wolfe Law) will keep the party going throughout the
evening.

VOL. 45 No. 28 Tuesday, August 4, 2026 - Friday, August 7, 2026

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ISSUED FRIDAY

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“COVERING THE NEWS TODAY FOR A BETTER TOMORROW”

READ ON - WRITE ON

Gun violence on the rise as summer winds down

On Wednesday, police in Cleveland are actively searching for suspects after a 33-year-old man and an 8-year-old girl were both shot on Interstate 71 south .

According to a release from the police department, the man and child were stopped on the side of the highway near Fulton Road when another vehicle drove up and its occupants began firing. The girl was shot in the leg while the adult male was grazed by a bullet, and both were taken to nearby MetroHealth Medical Center via private automobile. Both are expected to recover.

At this time, detectives say no arrests have been made in connection with the shooting. The ramp between I-71 and U.S. Route 42 (Pearl Road/West 25th Street) was also completely closed in both directions due to the heavy law enforcement presence, but has since been reopened.

Officers have also been marking the area for bullet shell casings, while an SUV on the side of the road was seen with a hole in its windshield and its airbags deployed.

In another incident on earlier on Wednesday afternoon, one man was hospitalized after being injured in a University Heights shooting, according to the City of University Heights Division of Police.

Around 3:45 p.m., dispatchers received a call reporting shots fired in a parking lot near a Dollar Tree located at 13934 Cedar Road. When University Heights officers arrived on scene, one man was found with injuries after being grazed by a bullet.

He was transported to a local hospital in stable condition. No other injuries were reported.

Two men were arrested at the scene and taken into custody. One house and three cars in the parking lot at the time of the shooting suffered damages.

“We are grateful that no one was seriously injured during this senseless act, and we are hoping for the victim’s full recovery from this incident,” the police department stated.

The investigation into this incident is ongoing. The University Heights Police Department is asking anyone with additional information about this incident to contact 216-932-1800.

On the west side, three people were arrested for a shooting over the weekend.

Three men, including a father and son, have been arrested in connection with a shooting last weekend that wounded three people and damaged multiple vehicles in Cleveland’s Detroit-Shoreway neighborhood, police said.

The Cleveland Division of Police announced Thursday that 75-year-old Venancio Camargo Sr., 46-year-old Venancio Camargo Jr. and 21-year-old Daniel King-Camargo have each been charged with felonious assault.

The charges stem from a shooting reported at around 8 p.m. Saturday in the 1900 block of West 45th Street.

According to police, a 24-year-old man was detailing a vehicle for a 28-year-old customer when an unknown man approached from a nearby residence and “aggressively demanded” he leave the area. The confrontation became verbal before the man walked away, police said.

Investigators said the man later returned with another individual, identified as Camargo Jr., who displayed a firearm. As the 24-year-old victim backed away, Camargo Jr. allegedly pointed the gun at him and fired multiple rounds.

Police said the gunfire also struck a 37-year-old woman inside a nearby home and a 42-year-old man standing on the porch of a neighboring residence. At least three vehicles were also hit by gunfire.

No additional injuries were reported.

Detectives identified Camargo Jr. as a suspect during the investigation and located him at a nearby residence, where police said he dropped a firearm as officers approached. He was taken into custody without incident, and officers recovered the weapon.

On Thursday morning, Second District detectives, assisted by the Cleveland Division of Police SWAT Unit, executed search warrants at two nearby residences. Police arrested Camargo Sr. during the operation and recovered multiple firearms and ammunition.

Investigators said Daniel King-Camargo contacted detectives during the operation and agreed to come to the scene, where he was arrested without incident.

“This was a senseless act of violence that impacted the victims, their families, and the entire West 45th Street community,” said Cleveland Police Chief Dorothy Todd in a statement. “Our thoughts are with those who were injured and the residents who were affected by this incident. I commend the dedication and professionalism of our Second District detectives, officers, and dispatchers.”

Nolan Wells’ Lynching in 2026 America

C.M. APPLING

Well, America, it’s 2026 and Mississippi is still lynching black people.

When I first heard of the case about the ‘mysterious’ death of Nolan Wells, I did not get involved in the beginning. As a 60-year old, African-American man, I had become emotionally-numb whenever I learned of a black man, woman or child who had died of ‘mysterious’ circumstances. But now, weeks after his death, with the seemingly secretive and guarded way the Caucasian, forensic doctors conducted Nolan’s autopsy, and the legacy of the historical area/location his body was found, I am sure now that he met



Wells

his untimely demise at the foul play of Southern bigots. (The ‘discoloration’ at the base of his neck look more like bruises and there is the controversy about part of his neck missing).



Till

still racist in the 21st century may invoke initial outrage or dismissal by some whites below the Mason-Dixon line like Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas and Florida. But, the fact of the matter is that more, missing black people are proportionately higher in those environments than any other, region in the country. And, with the discovery of Nolan’s deceased body in Mississippi, it only proves that there are still, racist whites who feel they can kill and murder without fear of retribution or consequences.

Mississippi’s role and legacy of this new millennium age of lynching is already evident in its geographical past. In 1955, a 14-year old, African-American boy from Chicago, Emmett Till, went down South to Mississippi to visit some relatives during the summer. While in ‘Dixie’, a white woman claimed that Emmett whistled at her while exiting a store. Later, the woman’s husband and his half-brother dragged Emmett out of his relatives’ house, shot and mutilated his body before throwing it into the river. At his funeral, his mother, Mamie Till Mobley, had an open casket viewing for Emmett to display to the world his disfigured, bloated facial features in communal horror. What is even more shocking and appalling is that a year later, in 1956, the woman’s husband and his half-

brother confessed and admitted to a magazine for a story that they had indeed killed Emmett in exchange for a fee of \$4,000. Emmett’s passing was the last straw and impetus for the civil rights movement to begin.

The next, major lynching in Mississippi was when civil rights activist Medgar Evers was shot in the driveway of his own home in 1963. The shooter, a white supremacist named Byron De La Beckwith, was tried in an all-white, all-male jury and ended in a ‘hung jury’ where De La Beckwith was released. As a tragic joke, white supporters of De La Beckwith said justice was ‘De-Layed’ for ‘De La’ and the bigot bragged in the face of law enforcement. Until, in 1994, he was tried again. With new evidence against him, De La Beckwith was found guilty and sentenced to life in prison where he died.

Finally, in 1964, as part of the Freedom Summer voter registration drive in the South, three, young men: James Chaney (black), Andrew Goodman (white) and Michael Schwerner (white), were pulled over one night by Mississippi police connected with the Ku Klux Klan.

They shot and killed the three, civil rights activists and buried their bodies in an earthen dam. With the assistance of the F.B.I., the main culprits and conspirators of the lynching were arrested and sentenced to prison terms.

Hollywood has a noble history of using controversial, real-life events to create compelling and dramatic, cinematic replicas of social justice cases. In 2022, the biopic, Till, retold the story of her son’s hideous

lynching through Mamie Till herself. In 1996, EGOT (Emmy-Grammy-Oscar-Tony)-winning icon Whoopi Goldberg portrayed grieving but determined widow, Myrlie Evers who, with the help of dedicated and earnest, Southern, Caucasian attorney Bobby DeLaughter, helps re-try De La Beckwith and succeeds finding him guilty. And, in 1988, Gene Hackman (a Southern cop) and Willem DaFoe (a Northern, F.B. I. agent) clash initially, but came together to solve the murder-mystery surrounding the three, Freedom Summer activists deaths in the brutally-candid and racially-offensive drama, Mississippi Burning.

In 1967, black, acting legend, Sidney Poitier, starred in the film version of In The Heat Of The Night about a Philadelphia detective who becomes involved in a murder in a small, Mississippi town. Later, (from 1988 to 1995), a TV version adapted the film into a drama series starring Howard Rollins and Carroll O’Connor as the black detective and white police chief respectively that often argued about how race and racism affected the various cases they were presented with solving.

As the TV show progressed over its eight seasons on the air, the episodes inspired a new, Southern enlightenment and social sensibility as especially when the white, police chief dated and later married an African-American woman. However, now with all the Northern-based, TV police shows on the air, the somewhat antiquated atmosphere and Southern ‘gentility’ on In The Heat Of The Night grew stale and couldn’t help but rub me the wrong way whenever I heard that familiar, vocal drawl that continues to haunt my conscious with good-ol-boy, Confederate, ‘yee-hahs’ historically used to frighten and intimidate African-

Americans for centuries.

Nolan Wells’ family has hired the much lauded and renowned, African-American, civil rights attorney, Ben Crump. As a modern-day Thurgood Marshall, and with the help of the N.A.A.C.P., Crump should find out the real reason for their son’s death with total transparency that will not result in another, racial cover-up.

And, there are several, eerie and unsettling similarities between Nolan Wells and Emmett Till. Both died in Mississippi. Emmett was born in July. Nolan died in July. Nolan was born in August. Emmett died in August. And, it has been revealed that, like Emmett, Nolan spoke to a white girl before he went missing.

Now, I have no doubt or reservations in my head that Nolan Wells was lynched/murdered. Just as the Republicans and conservatives want to whitewash black history and rewrite the laws of voting to keep minorities from exercising their American birthrights with the ballot box, I know that Mississippi is once again responsible for the murder of a young, black man.

However, even though it may take some time, I am confident that just like we know who killed Emmett, Medgar, Chaney, Goodman and Schwerner, we will find out who killed Nolan.

The South still has many segments in its population that has not changed since the civil rights era. And, not only should they be absolutely ashamed, they need to be held accountable.

It is 2026 and, even if the South refuses to change, African-Americans are firmly in the present. And, we will not allow any further mistreatment or loss of life in our community, for any reason, anymore.

Gasoline prices spike again this summer

As millions of drivers filled up and hit the road for the long Independence Day weekend, gas prices were the lowest they’ve been in several weeks. The national average is down 40 cents from a month ago at \$3.79 for a gallon of regular. While that number is higher than last year, it’s a relief from this past spring, when the national average peaked at \$4.56 on May 21. Crude oil prices have fallen to their lowest levels in months, dropping to the \$65 per barrel range.

According to new data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), gasoline demand increased last week from 8.77 million barrels per day to 9.13 million. Total domestic gasoline supply decreased from 216.3 million barrels to 214 million. Gasoline production increased last week, averaging 10 million barrels per day.

At the close of Wednesday’s formal trading session, West Texas Intermediate fell 92 cents to settle at \$68.58 a barrel. The EIA reports that crude oil inventories decreased by 3.8 million barrels from the previous week. At 408.4 million barrels, U.S. crude oil inventories are about 7% below the five-year average for this time of year.

Northeast Ohio Average for Self-Service Gasoline

Regular

This Week	(08-07-26)	\$3.61
Last Week	(07-31-26)	\$4.61
Last Year	(08-08-26)	\$3.52
National	(08-07-26)	\$4.49

VANTAGE POINT

Three Lessons on Wealth-Building Accounts

Too many households in the United States are living paycheck to paycheck, with limited ability to build wealth or achieve long-term financial security. However, new wealth-building accounts advanced in the past two years, including 530A/Trump accounts and the proposed Trump individual retirement account (IRA), hold promise for expanding opportunity and restoring pathways to the American dream.

As policymakers consider the design and implementation of Trump IRA, which will create a federal marketplace to expand access to tax-advantaged retirement savings for workers without employer-sponsored plans, they can seek to ground the program in decades of rigorous evidence from state auto-IRA programs and the federal myRA initiative.

These previous retirement initiatives point to clear and actionable lessons on what works and what does not. In particular, three core design principles can increase account take-up and long-term savings:

Automatic enrollment drives participation.

Public awareness sustains engagement.

Contribution matches build assets over time.

Policymakers have an opportunity to incorporate these lessons—and by doing so, ensure strong participation, sustained savings, and meaningful wealth ac-

cumulation—as they refine Trump IRA and strengthen 530A/Trump accounts.

1. Automatic enrollment moves the needle on program participation

Evidence from a wide range of savings programs shows that simply making accounts available is not enough to drive participation. Instead, meaningful take-up depends on automatic features, particularly automatic enrollment with the option to opt out, although implementing auto-enrollment will require congressional approval rather than an executive order.

State auto-IRA programs typically incorporate automatic enrollment, leading to substantially higher participation rates than voluntary systems. Vanguard data show that the participation rate among auto-enrollment 401(k) Vanguard plans is 94 percent compared with 64 percent among voluntary-enrollment plans.

This pattern holds across early wealth-building accounts and retirement savings programs in the public and private sectors. Maine's Alford Grant, an early wealth-building program that invests \$500 for children born in Maine, increased enrollment from about 40 percent of eligible newborns to nearly 100 percent after switching to automatic enrollment in 2013.

Early implementation of 530A/Trump accounts underscores this point. Although enrollment was broadly available through the tax

filing system, only 33 percent of eligible families claimed the \$1,000 initial deposit for their children as of April 2025. Similarly, the federal myRA program—which offered a low-cost, simple account with a safe investment option but no automatic, payroll-based enrollment—saw limited uptake.

Taken together, this evidence demonstrates that a program must offer access through automatic enrollment to meaningfully expand participation.

2. Public awareness helps turn enrollment into savings

Even well-designed automatic programs depend on participants understanding and engaging with their accounts. Without sufficient awareness, initial enrollment may not translate into sustained saving.

Research on state auto-IRA programs indicates that more than one-third of eligible workers may opt out of enrolling, in part because many of them are encountering these programs for the first time. Participants also make withdrawals, often in response to financial emergencies, which can reduce long-term savings. However, when people understand how their accounts work and see the value, they are more likely to remain engaged and continue saving.

Therefore, effective outreach is essential. Multilingual materials, sustained public education campaigns, and clear messaging can

all improve awareness and engagement. With early wealth-building accounts, research has found that understanding an account exists is associated with increased parental engagement in children's education and higher levels of optimism among children about their futures. As Trump IRA is developed, ensuring high levels of awareness among targeted groups will be critical to program success.

13. Contribution matches and initial deposits grow engagement and wealth

Initial deposits and savings matches (where an employer or government program contributes additional funds based on a participant's contribution) play a key role in increasing participation and long-term asset accumulation, particularly for people and families with low and moderate incomes.

Evidence across a wide range of savings programs shows that such incentives are effective in encouraging participation and boosting long-term wealth building. These incentives are especially important for populations less likely to have access to employer-sponsored retirement plans, including those targeted by state auto-IRA programs and the proposed Trump IRA.

Among the newly created wealth-building accounts, the initial \$1,000 federal deposit for 530A/Trump account pilot participants can help jump-start savings.

Weekly Wealth For Your Health

Building a stronger retirement

(NAPSI)—With each generation's expected retirement time growing longer and longer, you may need to plan for 20 to 30 years of life after you stop working. And when it comes to ways to save for the future, many Americans think first of the 401(k), the most popular and well-known retirement savings option.

Lesser known—and understood—is another way to save for your future: the Health Savings Account (HSA). With rising healthcare costs that

can exceed \$10,000 annually during the retirement years, HSAs are gaining more recognition as a smart way to complement 401(k)s and other retirement savings options by helping you plan and save for healthcare costs encountered now and in the future.

Traditional 401(k) plans are popular retirement vehicles for several reasons:

Tax advantages: 401(k) contributions are taken out of your paycheck before federal taxes are

withheld, which lowers your taxable income. Contributions are also tax-deferred until you withdraw them.

More control: You can contribute as much as you want to a 401(k) within your plan and IRS limits, and you can change your contribution at any time.

Compound interest: The earlier you start investing in a 401(k), the more time your money has to grow.

It moves with you: The money in your 401(k) belongs to you—even if you change jobs, you can keep your money invested and growing.

Ease of use: 401(k)s are easy to contribute to, with many employers offering automatic payroll deductions.

If you save in your HSA as well as a 401(k), you can take advantage of three unique benefits:

1. Triple-tax advantage: No federal taxes on contributions, withdrawals for qualified medical expenses, or investment earnings

2. Build long-term healthcare and retirement savings: Especially with HSA Bank's self-directed investment options

3. No "use it or lose it": Investment balances carry over from year to year and grow tax-free (just like the HSA cash account)

Tax-free HSA fund withdrawals are limited to IRS-qualified medical expenses, but there's a lengthy list of future healthcare costs your HSA can pay for, so your 401(k) funds don't have to. These include everything from acupuncture to a wheelchair and many things in between.

For further facts and tips on HSAs and planning your retirement, go to www.hsabank.com.

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YOUR HEALTH

August is National Immunization Awareness Month

National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages. Together, we can help raise awareness about the importance of vaccination and encourage people to talk to a healthcare provider they trust about staying up to date on their vaccinations.

National Immunization Awareness Month aims to raise awareness about the importance of vaccination across the lifespan to help protect communities from serious diseases.

For Healthcare Professionals

All staff in healthcare practices, including non-clinical staff, play important roles during NIAM:

Engage in learning opportunities with CDC's Immunization Education and Training courses.

Make your practice a supportive space that welcomes vaccine questions and concerns from patients and parents.

Use proven strategies to encourage parents and patients to stay up to date on vaccinations.

Make immunization schedules easy for parents and patients to find by displaying them on your website.

Use tools like PneuRecs VaxAdvisor Mobile App to help you make vaccine recommendations.

Share clear and accurate information about the latest vaccine recommendations, including COVID-19 vaccines and RSV vaccines.

The Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) has led what was previously known as the CDC Childhood Immunization Award and the HPV Vaccine is Cancer Prevention Award since 2022. The Immunization Champion Award, presented by AIM, honors up to one Champion from each of the designated immunization jurisdictions, which includes 50 U.S. states, five cities, the District of Columbia, and eight U.S. territories/freely associated states. Eligible nominees are those that have gone above and beyond in their work to promote or foster vaccinations in their communities, for both children and adults.

When families, healthcare professionals, and

public health officials work together, all people can be protected from serious and deadly vaccine-preventable diseases.

Immunization Champions may be community health workers who promote vaccines to all of their clinic patients, school nurses who ensure that their students are up to date on their immunization schedule, and doctors who engage in community outreach to underserved populations. They are parents, health professionals, community advocates, and other immunization leaders that significantly contribute to public health in their community

The Immunization Champions are an inspiration to everyone who cares about the health of their community. The Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) and CDC are pleased to recognize the recipients of the award for the special contributions they have made through their work in immunization.

The 2025 Immunization Champion Award winners have been announced by the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) to celebrate National Immunization Awareness Month. The Immunization Champion Award honors individuals working at the state, local, and territorial levels going above and beyond to promote or foster vaccinations in their communities, for both children and adults.

Here in Ohio:
Darla Fickle, out-

reach relations manager at the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center, worked on a National Cancer Institute (NCI) opportunity entitled Partnerships to Improve HPV Vaccination in Ohio.

This project included an environmental scan and surveys of parents, which demonstrated the need for a collaborative effort to address HPV vaccination uptake among parents, community members, and health care providers.

As part of the Ohio Partners for Cancer Control (OPCC), Darla agreed to chair an HPV vaccination workgroup to address the priority in the Ohio Cancer Control Plan to increase HPV vaccination in Ohio. In 2021, Darla agreed to chair OPCC's Vaccine For Cancer Prevention/HPV-Associated Cancers Workgroup.

This workgroup collaborates to increase HPV vaccination among adolescents and young adults and addresses the disparity of HPV-associated cancers incidence rate in Appalachian Ohio. The OPCC's Vaccine For Cancer Prevention-HPV Associated Cancers Workgroup collaborates to increase HPV vaccination among adolescents and young adults.

The workgroup drafted and distributed an HPV vaccine provider letter that was shared with over 15,000 health care providers and dental professionals throughout Ohio about the importance of HPV vaccination, along with educational resources.

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Islam In The Community

Israel defies Trump’s peace plan as it escalates deadly attacks on Gaza

In Gaza, the reality is very different, with at least 19 Palestinians killed on Saturday in Israeli attacks, bringing the weekend death toll to 26 people, including women and children.

Despite Hamas agreeing to a phased disarmament, Israel’s government says it has “serious security concerns” about the plan, and there has been strong resistance from Israeli politicians to the deal.

The continued bombardment of Gaza, contributing to Israel’s contin-

ued breaches of October’s “ceasefire” agreement, will likely threaten Trump’s peace plan and exacerbate the already dire humanitarian situation for Palestinians in the enclave.

There has been a huge uptick in attacks in Gaza since the Trump announcement.

This stands in stark contrast to the diplomatic progress heralded by Washington. The Board of Peace and the International Stabilization Force (ISF), which are intended to manage post-

war Gaza, had announced an agreement to implement the next phase of the “ceasefire” based on a detailed 15-point roadmap.

While Hamas formally accepted the document, questions have been raised as to whether Palestinian factions might eventually walk away due to continuous Israeli attacks on Gaza.

Eyad al-Qarra, a Palestinian political analyst based in Gaza, told Al Jazeera that this step would be an uncalculated risk for Hamas and other Palestinian

groups.

“There is still hope that the factions will not reach this stage. Otherwise, it is feared that the price would be even higher, as Israel would exploit this to launch an even wider war on Gaza,” al-Qarra said.

“It is vital for the factions not to give Israel any pretext or excuse to make it appear as though both sides are equally responsible for the failure.”

Rather than embracing the roadmap, the Israeli government has actively worked to impose stringent new parameters.

Israeli media have reported that the government is demanding the total disarmament of Hamas and that weapons be handed over to a Western state. They also insist that no Palestinian entity plays a role in managing the disarmament process.

Palestinians in Gaza hope Hamas will disarm but fear Israeli forces won’t withdraw

Doron Spielman, a spokesperson for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s office, said Israeli forces would not withdraw until the complete demilitarisation of Hamas, which further complicates the process.

“The priority for Hamas and other factions today is relieving the population, not restoring weapons or military workshops,” al-Qarra said.

“However, while the factions agreed to limit these weapons under international or regional oversight to stop the war, they will never legitimise the complete elimination of the concept of Palestinian resistance.”

Experts point to deep-seated domestic political calculations in Netanyahu’s opaque stance on the Gaza issue, particularly given that the general elections are due in October.

Mtanes Shehadeh, an expert on Israeli affairs, observed that the government is treating the Gaza understandings strictly as a tactical manoeuvre.

“Israel seeks to continue the killing, starvation and siege in the Strip, and to obstruct any actual, practical progress in the second phase of the agreement, without explicitly announcing its rejection of the roadmap,” Shehadeh stated.

Netanyahu is also attempting to avoid a public clash with Trump by appeasing him, possibly by allowing limited increases in aid into Gaza while stalling on core issues such as the military withdrawal.

“The government of Benjamin Netanyahu will continue its policy of procrastination, evasion, and disruption until the date of the Israeli elections on October 27, because any serious implementation of the agreed-upon roadmap will lead to electoral damage for Netanyahu,” Shehadeh added.

Political analyst Ahmed al-Hila echoed this assessment, anticipating a prolonged period of deliberate ambiguity designed to undermine the agreement through military force on the ground.

“Netanyahu and the government coalition see accepting the agreement as a political and electoral setback because it preserves the Palestinians’ principle of the right to resist, prevents displacement, and opens the

door to rebuilding Gaza,” al-Hila told Al Jazeera.

Consequently, Israel’s refusal to formalise its position means the critical 14-day negotiation period for implementation protocols remains entirely frozen, he added.

The Israeli military also refuses to withdraw from the first “Yellow Line” area, a territory that constitutes approximately 52 per cent of the entire Gaza Strip. It also wants complete freedom of military action across the enclave.

The roadmap, conversely, calls for empowering an independent, technocratic Palestinian administration to manage civilian affairs and reconstruction in the enclave. Al-Qarra says that granting Israel operational military freedom renders any Palestinian administration entirely meaningless.

“Freedom of Israeli action in Gaza means, in practice, a full occupation. An administrative committee cannot operate in thin air; it needs heavy machinery, open border crossings and a suitable environment to rebuild infrastructure and schools,” al-Qarra said.

“If an administrative committee operates in areas under Israeli military control, it will be viewed by the people as nothing more than a collaborating militia.”

Israel has also lodged formal objections against the participation of Qatar and Turkiye in the verification mechanisms of the roadmap and demanded their exclusion from the oversight process. Al-Qarra reads this as an attempt to strip the Palestinians of their regional diplomatic weight.

“Israel believes that one of Hamas’s sources of strength today on the diplomatic level is its strong relationship with Qatar and Turkiye,” al-Qarra said. “By inciting against Qatar’s role, Tel Aviv is trying to isolate the Palestinian side and strip it of any regional political backing that could guarantee Israel’s compliance with its obligations.”

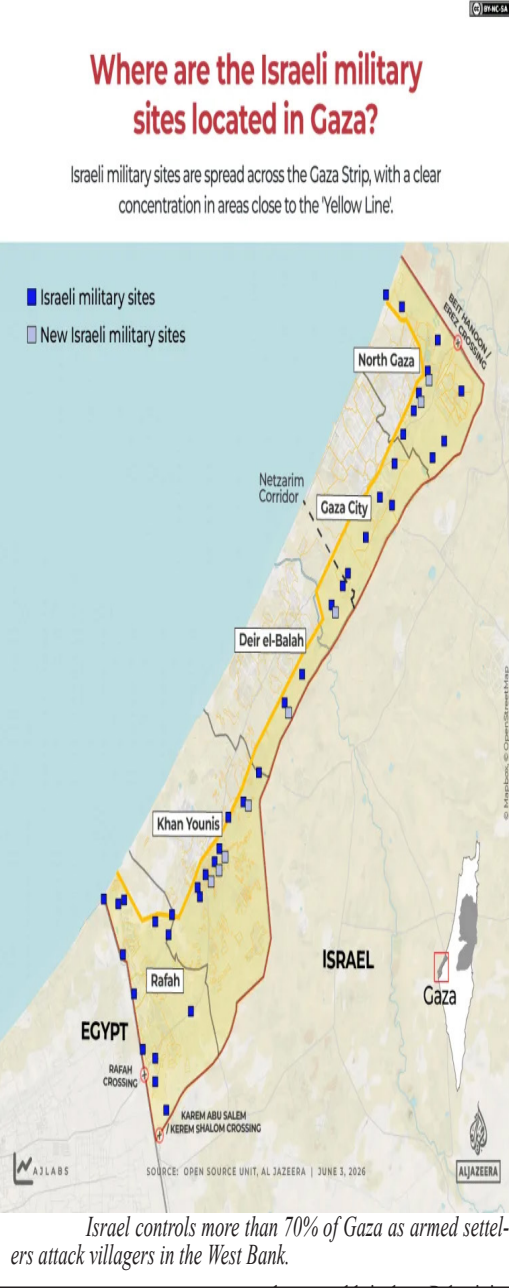
As the diplomatic process stalls, trust in the US role as an honest mediator continues to erode. Taking to the social media platform X, Nikolay Mladenov, the lead envoy for the Board of Peace, condemned the military escalation, although he refrained from mentioning Israel by name as the perpetrator of the attacks.

“Two days of strikes across Gaza have killed civilians and destroyed medical supplies that people depend on,” Mladenov wrote. “Achieving a lasting peace is hard but achievable if everyone makes their best efforts,” he added, broadly reminding both sides of their binding obligations.

Commenting on the US role, al-Qarra emphasised that the Palestinian leadership is under no illusions regarding Washington’s bias.

“The issue is not about trust, but rather the ability to neutralise the United States from being a full partner with Israel,” al-Qarra said.

“The factions understand the broader conflict. Their goal is to maintain communication, supply data on Israeli violations, and prevent Washington from providing a green light for Israel to completely destroy what remains of Gaza.”



A Look At My World

Maybe I should rob a bank

By Dr. JAMES L. SNYDER

Throughout my life, money has been quite a challenge. I was a pastor for almost 50 years, and as a pastor I did not get much of a salary, barely enough to get by on. But I didn’t become a pastor for the money, or I would’ve become a televangelist. I didn’t say that, did I?

Both The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I worked to be as frugal as possible with our budget. We tried our best not to spend our money on things we didn’t really need. Then when the children came along, that certainly changed our budget.

As a young kid, I was frugal with my money. I didn’t make very much money, but I made sure most of it went into my little piggy bank. Every week I would look at my piggy bank and count the money several times. I knew how much I had, but I enjoyed counting it and looking at it.

Now that I’m older, but not that much wiser, I check out my savings account every week. At least once a week, sometimes several times during the week, OK, every day. I enjoy looking at that money in my savings account. What I enjoy the most is seeing the interest I’m earning in my savings account. Like my father used to say, “A penny earned is a penny saved.”

I want all my pennies in my savings account to earn interest.

That money was for emergencies, and boy, when I had to take money out of my savings account, it was the hardest thing that I ever had to do. It was easy putting it in, but it was very difficult for me to pull it out. I know the savings account was for emergencies, but I had a hard time defining “emergencies.” Sometimes The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage steps in and helps with that definition.

Every time something happened unexpectedly in the financial area of life, I really wrestled with drawing the money from the savings account. I know it had to be done, but I kicked it down the road as far as I could.

Just the other week, there was a mechanical problem with the Sissy Van. It was a problem that needed to be fixed, and it was around \$1000. I never kept that much in my checking account because I preferred most of my money to be in my savings account.

When I got the bill, I was very sad. I looked at my savings account and then looked at the bill for the Sissy Van, and I was not too happy about it. It was almost as much as my Social Security checks each month.

As I was looking at my savings account online, The Gracious Mistress of the Par-

sonage came in and asked about getting her mechanic bill paid. We needed to go pick it up, and when we did, we needed to pay for the mechanical services.

“You do have enough money to pay for that, don’t you?” The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said.

I looked at her with very sad eyes and said, “Well, the money for the mechanical bill is in my savings account. I hate to transfer it to my checking account.

“You do have it in the savings account for emergencies, right?”

I looked at her, then looked back at my account on the computer, sighed very deeply, and said, “I’m going to have to move money over to my checking account, and you know how much I hate doing that.”

With a very serious look on her face The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked at me and said, “Instead of taking it out of your savings account, why don’t you just go and rob a bank this afternoon. Then you might have more money to put back into your savings account after you pay the mechanic bill.”

I looked at her, chuckled, and said, “Did you say to go and rob a bank?”

I’m not sure what planet she was on at the time, but robbing a bank never came to mind as I was thinking of my money. Of course, it would make sense if I could rob a bank and get away with it.

“What if I get caught?” I asked her very seriously.

“Then,” she said with a smile on her face, “you’ll have free room and three meals a day and you won’t have to pay for any of that. You do like free don’t you?”

I just stared at her for a few moments and watched her smile back at me. It never occurred to me to rob a bank, but as I looked at my savings account, it didn’t seem like a bad idea at the time.

I finally had to move the money from my savings account to my checking account. That is the hardest thing I ever did in life. I sighed very deeply and closed the computer, then I picked up my checkbook and said to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, “Let’s go and get your Sissy Van.”

Later that day I read Ecclesiastes 5:10, “He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity.”

As much money as I have in my savings account, there will always be some emergency that needs me to withdraw it.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 1-866-552-2543. or e-mail jamesnsnyder2@att.net or website www.jamesnsnyderministries.com.

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Cavs re-sign Donovan Mitchell

BY KARL BRYANT

The Cavs re-signed star Donovan Mitchell to a four-year contract extension. It's speculated this was a signal to Hometown Hero LeBron James -a Free Agent - that they are committed to winning right now in The Land. It's definitely a positive move in the LBJ Sweepstakes.

Tuesday, August 4, 2026 to Friday, August 7, 2026

EAST SIDE DAILY NEWS

SPORTS

A LEA fundraiser boxing show will be held on August 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the Metroplex,1620 Motor Inn Drive, Girard, Ohio 44420. For information, contact John Loew at 330-501-5713.

Pickleball Classic to be held

ClevelandPickleball.com Classic 2026 - Registration is now OPEN! Saturday, August 8, at 38575 Lakeshore Blvd, Osborne Park, Wiloughby.\$55/player and includes one event Mens / Womens / Mixed This is the 5th annual Cleveland-Pickleball.com CLASSIC tournament! Bringing together the best of Northeast Ohio Pickleballers! https://app.pickleballden.com/external-tournament/1307841

Guardians Searching for More Runs

BY KARL BRYANT

The "2nd Half" of the 2026 MLB Season has not gone too well for the Guardians. As of Press Time, they have gone a substandard 5-8 since the All-Star Break and have lost 6 of their last 8 games. The paucity of runs scored has been their obvious problem,

They've scored only 22 runs in those last eight games. In fact, they've scored just 47 runs in the "2nd Half," with a Baker's Dozen (13) of those coming in an outlier of a game, if there ever was one, as they hammered an incongruous seven HRs in a 13-4 win over the Twins. They've only hit seven more HRs in all the other games com-



Ramirez

bined since the ASG. Fine performances by starting pitchers, especially during the last eight games, have been wasted.

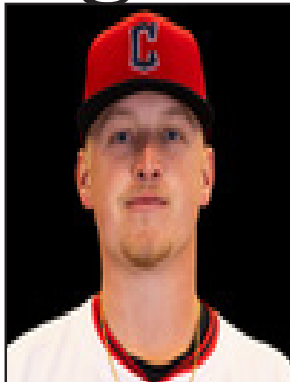
Looking back at Tuesday's Day-Night Double-Header, necessitated by a rainout from the night before. The Guardians started the day in fine fashion, as Kyle Manzardo hit a Grand



Martinez

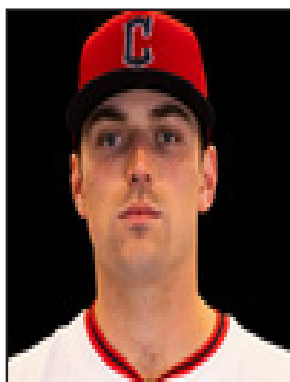
Slam HR in the 1st Inning of the earlier make-up game of the Rainout from the night before. None of those four runs were earned as Cincy's P Chase Burns was victimized by an error by 2B Edwin Arroyo, but they all crossed home plate and counted.

The Reds eventually took



Messick

a 5-4 lead, but Chase DeLauter, who got aboard on that fortuitous error in the 1st, tied the game with a 5th Inning Sac Fly. DeLauter then scored the eventual winning run as Bray-an Rocchio knocked him in with a Safety Squeeze Sacrifice Bunt in the 8th. Colin Holderman (6-2) got



Smith

the rare "W," 6-5. Closer Cade Smith, who hasn't had many Save opportunities lately since his team hasn't had many late-inning leads, posted his Major League-leading 30th Save. Six CLE pitchers struck out 10. So the day started out nicely as CLE ended a five-game skid, but sadly, their inability to score runs soon returned.

The 2-0 Nightcap loss was the most glaring example of a waste of first rate pitching. Gavin Williams (10-6) allowed just three hits and struck out 12 in 7.0 innings, but absorbed the "L" because he had the temerity to throw a 1st Inning Gopher Ball to Cincy's JJ Bleday and Wild Pitched home a Reds insurance run in the 5th. His teammates also managed just three hits, but that was facing five Cincinnati relievers who combined for a Shutout in a Bullpen Game! Old Friend Terry Francona's Bullpen usually has been his team's Achilles Heel (in a nod to "The Odyssey"), but they performed admirably once they faced batters from The Land. It was the Guardians third time being shut out in four games.

On a positive note, Guardian Daniel Espino, who's had a long rehabilitation from arm problems, and was the Double Dip Call-up (27th man) for the Double-Header, walked the first batter he faced and allowed him to advance to 3B on a couple of steals, but meanwhile, struck out the next three Reds batters,



Bazzana

to give CLE 15 Ks for the game. For his efforts, he was sent back to AAA Columbus after the contest.

At least CLE saved the best for last as they won the series finale, 6-1.They scored four runs in the 5th Inning on one hit! How so? It went: safe on error; fielders choice; walk; the one hit by Bazzana, which scored a run; KS; bases-loaded walk to score a run; bases-loaded walk to score a run; Sac Fly; and an inning-ending grounder. That's the formula to score four runs the Guardians way. In the 7th, Monzardo homered and Steven Kwan hit a Sac Fly as insurance. Reliever Eric Sabrowski (4-2) got the win. Since CLE beat their Designated InterLeague Rival, Cincinnati, in 4 of 6 contests this season, they win the 2026 Ohio Cup!

Getting back to non-Ohio Cup reality, it was thought that the return of Jose Ramirez would spark the CLE Offense, but to date, since coming off the IL, in seven games, he's just 7 of 31 with two RBI and four runs scored. Angel Martinez soon followed Ramirez in coming off the IL, but at Press Time, he's played in five games and, as of yet, has not got a hit in 15 At Bats. If these two aren't producing, where will the runs come from?

The Guardians hope to figure things out as they return to The Land for an unusual Homestand where they face two NL teams, the Arizona Diamondbacks and the NY Mets.

Browns Open Training Camp

BY KARL BRYANT

The Browns opened Training Camp 2026 on Wednesday, July 29. The first practice that's Open to the public will be Friday, July 31.

All of the FREE tickets for the nine Open practices already have been claimed. Perhaps secondary markets may have some become available.

The Browns first Pre-Season Game will be Home on Saturday, August 22, at 1PM vs. Buffalo.

After opening the season with two Away games in FLA, the Browns Regular Season's first Home contest will be Sunday, September 27 at 1PM vs. Carolina.



The Browns opened Training Camp 2026 on Wednesday, July 29.

Spain wins World Cup beating Argentina

BY ANDREW CARTER

Spain beat Argentina, 1-0, to win the 2026 World Cup. The game was nowhere near as close as the score would indicate. Argentina set a record for a WC Final by getting ZERO shots in regulation. They managed two in extra time (OT). Both were blocked. Meanwhile, Spain peppered the Argentine goal with 20 shots!

Argentina G Fer-ran Torres finally scored in the 106' mark. Spain G Emiliano Martinez should be given hazardous duty pay for having to make 11 Saves on shots on goal. Spain G Unai Simon had to make no Saves. He allowed only one goal in the Tournament - to Belgium in a 2-1 win - to be named best goalie of the World Cup. Spain's Rodri was named World Cup

MVP.

Argentina's Enzo Fernandez didn't help his side for being carded off for his second game infraction three minutes into 2nd Half stoppage time. Their star, Lionel Messi, was hounded throughout the contest and his teammates rarely got him the ball. He had one late shot.

In match that brings to mind the (non) De-

fense shown in the NBA All-Star Game, England beat France, 6-4, to win 3rd Place. France's Kylian Mbappe scored twice for to be leading scorer in the World Cup. All consolation prizes.

Spain's Women also won the Women's World Cup in 2023, making this the first time that the reigning Men's and Women's Champions were from the same country.

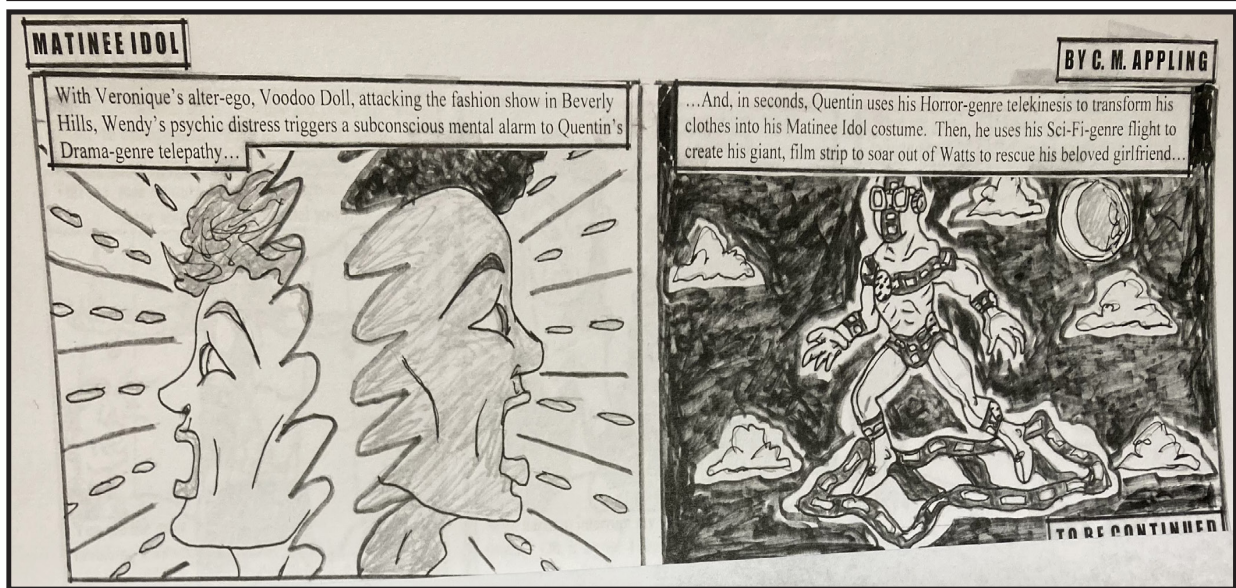
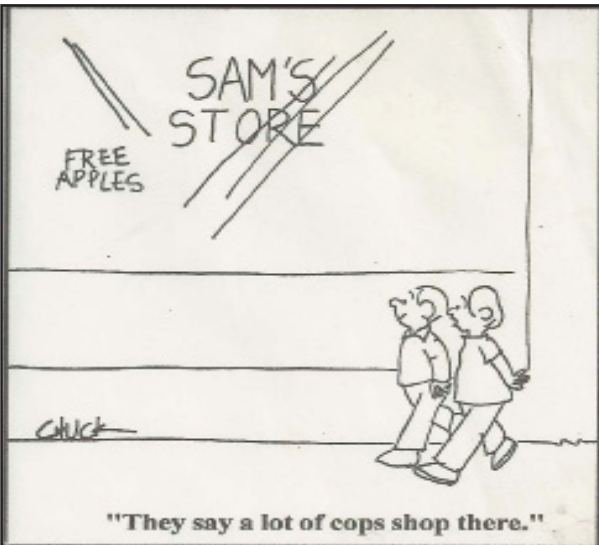
James heads to Philly

BY KARL BRYANT

Lebron James decided he'll have a better chance to chase a Championship in the City of Brotherly Love. He chose Philadelphia over his Hometown Cavs and other suitors to continue his career for

two more years.

Apparently, LBJ thought joining newly acquired Jaylen Brown, former MVP Joel Embiid, and Tyrese Maxey on the 76ers would be the best way to pursue a title on what he said would be his last team.



On The Town

MOVIES * MUSIC * THEATER * DANCE * RESTAURANTS * NIGHT LIFE

The Billy Joel Legacy: Celebrating the Piano Man to come to Mimi Ohio Theatre

The Billy Joel Legacy: Celebrating the Piano Man to come to Mimi Ohio Theatre on October 1 at 8:00 p.m.

From the producers of The Simon and Garfunkel Story and The Life and Music of George Michael comes The Billy Joel Legacy: Celebrating



The Billy Joel Legacy: Celebrating the Piano Man to come to Mimi Ohio Theatre on October 1 at 8:00 p.m.

the Piano Man—a dynamic celebration of the

legendary singer-songwriter’s greatest hits, and the story of the man behind the melodies.

This concert experience takes you on a journey through Billy’s legendary career, from his humble beginnings to becoming one of the greatest songwriters and

performers of all time. Through faithful recreation of the original music, stunning visuals, and compelling storytelling, you’ll discover how his music has shaped generations and why his legacy endures.

For Ticket Information visit playhousesquare.org.

Award-winning Hadestown to come to the Connor Place

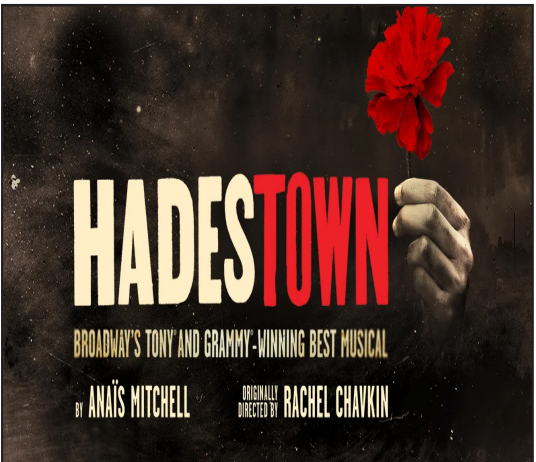
Award-winning Hadestown to come to the Connor Place from November 3 to 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Come see how the world could be:

Welcome to HADESTOWN, where a song can change your fate. Winner of eight 2019 Tony Awards® including Best Musical and the 2020 Grammy® Award for Best Musical Theater Album, this acclaimed new show from celebrated singer songwriter Anaïs Mitchell and original director Rachel Chavkin (Nataasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812) is a love story for today... and always.

HADESTOWN intertwines two mythic tales — that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and that of King Hades and his wife Persephone — as it invites you on a hell-raising journey to the underworld and back. Mitchell’s beguiling melodies and Chavkin’s poetic imagination pit industry against nature, doubt against faith, and fear against love. Performed by a vibrant ensemble of actors, dancers and singers, HADESTOWN is a haunting and hopeful theatrical experience that grabs you and never lets go.

Act I
The Greek god Hermes welcomes the audience to the



Award-winning Hadestown to come to the Connor Place from November 3 to 8 at 7:30 p.m.

show, introducing the story, characters, ensemble, and band ("Road to Hell"). Eurydice and the Fates describe Eurydice’s cynical worldview as well as the harsh weather and famine ("Any Way the Wind Blows"). Orpheus, Hermes’ ward, introduces himself to Eurydice and abruptly asks her to marry him ("Come Home with Me"). Eurydice is doubtful, as they both live in poverty. Orpheus tells her that he is writing a song to make spring come again, and they will no longer have to endure hardship ("Wedding Song").

Prompted by Hermes, Orpheus tells the story of Hades and Persephone ("Epic I"). Persephone arrives in the world above and celebrates summertime

("Livin’ it Up on Top"), while Eurydice begins to fall in love with Orpheus ("All I’ve Ever Known"). Hades comes early to collect Persephone, who voices her misery at having to return to Hadestown, Hades’ underground factory. Despite hearing about the never-ending labor endured by the factory workers, Eurydice is intrigued by the Fates’ rich praise of Hadestown, and its promise of protection ("Way Down Hadestown"). The cold weather returns, and Eurydice searches for food and firewood, urging Orpheus to finish his song ("A Gathering Storm"). Orpheus continues working on his song ("Epic II") as Eurydice becomes more desperate as times grow harder.

After Persephone and Hades argue ("Chant"), Ha-

des leaves Hadestown to find someone who will appreciate its safety and security. He comes across a desperate Eurydice, who has become caught in a snowstorm, and invites her to come to Hadestown ("Hey, Little Songbird"), and the Fates urge Eurydice to join him ("When the Chips Are Down"). With the cold surging and an empty stomach, Eurydice sees no other choice except to follow Hades. She bids goodbye to the preoccupied Orpheus and heads to Hadestown; the Fates chastise the audience for judging her for choosing self-interest over love ("Gone, I’m Gone").

Orpheus realizes Eurydice is missing and resolves to rescue her from Hadestown. Using Hermes’ instructions, he travels to Hadestown the long way without the use of the train ("Wait for Me"). As Hades reveals in his power and dominion over the denizens of his realm ("Why We Build the Wall"), Eurydice arrives in Hadestown and signs a contract to become a worker.

Act II
Persephone sings to the patrons of a speakeasy that she runs behind Hades’s back ("Our Lady of the Underground"). Eurydice begins to recognize the consequences of her choice to go to Hadestown: she will become a forgotten laborer and can never leave unless Hades lets her go ("Way Down Hadestown" (reprise)). Regretting her decision, she begins to forget her life and the world above ("Flowers").

Orpheus arrives in Hadestown and promises Eurydice that he will take her home ("Come Home with Me" (reprise)). Hades tells him that Eurydice willingly signed the contract and orders the workers to attack Orpheus ("Papers"). The Fates tell him to give up hope ("Nothing Changes"). Orpheus vows to find a way to free Eurydice, rallying the workers and catching Persephone’s attention in the process ("If It’s True").

Persephone is inspired by Orpheus’s determination and pleads with Hades to let Eurydice go ("How Long?"). While the workers begin to question the freedom they were promised, Hades challenges Orpheus to sing his completed song, threatening to kill him afterwards ("Chant" (reprise)). Orpheus sings his song, reminding Hades of his love for Persephone ("Epic III").

Hades and Persephone reconcile with a dance (Epic III ("They Danced...")), after which Orpheus and Eurydice promise to stay together no matter the difficulty ("Promises"). Orpheus asks Hades if they may leave, and Hades tells him that he has not reached a decision. The Fates taunt Hades for his dilemma: If he kills Orpheus and keeps Eurydice captive, they become martyrs, but if he lets them go, he loses control over his workers as they have begun to agitate for their freedom ("Word to the Wise"). Hades lets Orpheus and Eurydice go on one condition: Orpheus must lead them out single file. If he turns around to confirm that Eurydice is following him, she will return to Hadestown and remain there forever ("His Kiss, the Riot").

Hermes explains the condition to Orpheus and Eurydice, and they begin the

long, frightening walk out, as the workers look to them for hope. Persephone and Hades decide to give their own relationship another chance ("Wait for Me" (reprise)). Just as Orpheus reaches the end, he is overcome by doubt and turns around, condemning Eurydice to return to Hadestown ("Doubt Comes In"). Hermes reflects on the somber tale and why it must be told, as the story resets to the beginning, and the company begins to tell it again ("Road to Hell" (reprise)). After the bows at curtain call, Persephone and the cast honor Orpheus for his optimism and bravery ("We Raise Our Cups").

Da 'Round Da Way Rewind Review

The Top 12 Black Family Sitcoms

By C.M. APPLING

Although the first version of television was created in 1927, most American homes did not have the device available for use themselves until after World War II, in the early 1950’s.

Back then, the only two, TV sitcoms that featured ‘Negro’ actors/actresses in the lead roles were surrounded in racial controversy. Amos ‘n’ Andy was a Chicago radio show created in 1928 by two, white, vaudeville actors who formally performed in ‘blackface’ makeup. The show was about two, black men from the Deep South who move to Chicago to seek their fortunes in the big city. The radio series lasted until 1960. But, in 1951, the show was adapted to television and hired two, real, black men in the lead roles. Only on TV until 1953, the radio show ended in 1960 due to protest and pressure from the N.A.A.C.P. about negative, racial images.

The other, seminal, TV sitcom featuring a black lead was Beulah (1950-1952). Like Amos ‘n’ Andy, Beulah began as a radio series (from 1945-1954). It was about a wise-cracking, black, overweight maid who worked for a white family. From radio to TV, it starred three, different actresses during its run: Hattie McDaniel, Ethel Waters and Louise Beavers.

After the civil rights movement, images of blacks on TV changed and evolved with the times. And, from the 1970’s until now, there have been 12, TV sitcoms that focused on black families and the various worlds they inhabited:

#12 227 (1985-1990)
Starring Marla Gibbs as Mary Jenkins, ‘Mary’ lived in the same, urban, apartment building (#227), with her husband, teen daughter, and other, female tenants (including Jackie Harry as the sassy and comically-sexy, stand-out character, Sandra Clark).

#11 My Wife & Kids (2001-2005)
Starring Damon Wayans and Tisha Campbell Martin (as Michael and Janet ‘Jay’ Kyle), it focused on them as a middle-class, suburban, African-American family with three children. (Wayans is a sibling of the comic TV and film,

Wayans family ‘dynasty’ and Campbell-Martin also starred in the sitcom, Martin, with Martin Lawrence).

#10 Sister, Sister (1994-1999)
Featuring real-life, identical twins Tia and Tamera Mowry, they were separated at birth and raised separately by two, single parents (Tim Reid and Jackie Earle). When reunited, the twins convince their individual parents to live together with them as one family. (Tia and Tamera’s younger brother, Tahj, starred in his own, family sitcom, Smart Guy, as a child prodigy).

#9 Moesha (1996-2001)
Teen R&B/Pop singer Brandy (Norwood) starred as Moesha Mitchell: a hip-hop homegirl who was adjusting to living with her new stepmom, along with her father and younger brother. (One of Moesha’s friends, ‘Kim’ (Countess Vaughn) starred in a spin-off, The Parkers, with comedienne, Mo’Nique, as her mom).

#8 Family Matters (1989-1998)
Carl and Harriette Winslow lived with their three children next-door to quintessential nerd Steve Urkel (Jaleel White) who worshipped their daughter, Laura. Urkel coined the irritatingly-nasal, sitcom catch-phrase, “Did I do that?!”

#7 The Bernie Mac Show (2001-2006)
Semi-autobiographical, late comedian Bernie Mac (and TV wife Wanda) become foster parents for his drug-addicted sister’s three children. (Due to Mac’s failing health, the series ended prematurely despite its success).

#6 Everybody Hates Chris (2005-2009)
Also semi-autobiographical, comic legend Chris Rock verbally-narrates the series as his teenage version of himself, (Tyler James Williams) lives in his 1980’s, black Brooklyn neighborhood with his father Julius, mother Rochelle, and his two siblings, while attending an all-white school.

#5 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (1990-1996)
Future, Hollywood mega-star Will Smith, [then teenage rapper Will Smith], moves from his dangerous, Philadelphia ‘hood’ to live with his wealthy, Uncle Phil Banks, Aunt Vivian, and three cousins’ mansion estate in Bel-Air, California. Will adds a 90’s,

the violent death of her boyfriend by writing poetry?

4. What film focused on the “May-December” romance that starred Angela Bassett as a 40-year-old, African-American woman who takes a trip to Jamaica and falls in love with a black man who is 20 years younger than her?

5. Who is the actor and actress that were featured in the film “Love and Basketball” (2000) as childhood friends who grow up together playing basketball, but then must learn to balance their emotions when romance blooms between them?

ANSWERS: 1. Richard Pryor 2. ‘Mississippi Masala’ 3. Tupac Shakur 4. ‘How Stella Got Her Groove Back’ 5. Omar Epps and Sanaa Lathan



MOVIE MATCH-UP - (Romantic couples)

FILMS:

1. 'School Daze' (1988)
2. 'Do The Right Thing' (1989)
3. 'Malcolm X' (1992)
4. 'Crooklyn' (1994)
5. 'Girl 6' (1996)

COUPLES:

- a) Alfred Woodard and Delroy Lindo
- b) Laurence Fishburne and

Kythe

- c) Theresa Randle and Isaiah Washington
- d) Spike Lee and Rosie Perez
- e) Denzel Washington and Angela Bassett

ANSWERS: 1, b; 2, d; 3, e; 4, a; 5, c

MENU TIPS

Cherry chocolate pie for any season

(NAPSI)—For the well-prepared cook, having a few staple ingredients on hand makes it possible to create something special anytime, with little effort. One example is Comstock or Wilderness Pie Fillings and Toppings, which can be used to create a variety of dishes, from breakfast and luscious lunches to savory snacks and decadent desserts.

Here is a pair of exquisite examples:

Cherry Chocolate Pie
1 single crust for 9" pie (homemade or purchased)
2 21 Oz. cans Comstock or Wilderness More Fruit Cherry Fruit Filling or Topping
1/2 cup sliced almonds
1 1/2 oz. semisweet chocolate
1 tablespoon butter
Whipped topping

Ease crust into pan, trim and flute. Bake at 425 f until pastry begins to brown, about 10-15 minutes. Cool on rack. Spoon cherry filing into pastry; bake about 35 minutes. Cool. Sprinkle colled pie with almonds.

Heat chocolate and butter in small saucepan over very low heat until melted, stirring con-

stantly. Stir in additional butter, if necessary, to achieve drizzle consistency.

Garnish pie with whipped toppings. Drizzle or pipe chocolate syrup over entire pie.

French Apple and cheese Panini

1 21 oz can Comstock or Wilderness Apple Pie Filing or Topping
1/4 cup crystallized ginger, finely chopped
1/2 cup pecans, finely chopped
2 teaspoons ground pumpkin pie spice
8 large and thick slices sourdough bread
8 slices cheddar cheese
1 Brie (8oz), cut into about 10 thin slices
Butter

Preheat large skillet, grill or press panini press to medium heat.

In small mixing bowl, combined Apple Pie Filing, ginger, pecans and spice. Spread apple mixture equally onto 4 slices of bread.

Top each equally with both cheeses. Cover each remaining slices of bread. Butter both sides of bread on each sandwich. Place sandwich on skillet, grill or panini press for 3-4 minutes on each side or until bread is toasted.

Just Jazz

By NANCY ANN LEE

Johnny Hartman

Renewed interest in singer Johnny Hartman has been sparked by The Bridges of Madison County film soundtrack which introduces a new generation of fans to his mellow style.

Born July 3, 1923, in Chicago, Hartman sang with his high school jazz orchestra and studied music at Chicago Musical College before World War II intervened. In the late 1940 after his military discharge, Hartman worked with Earl Hines, Dizzy Gillespie, and Erroll Garner.

He was a favored soloist in clubs and on television during the 1950s. Hartman's forte was the romantic ballad. He was inventive in his rich baritone style, yet remained true to lyrics.

Among several recordings, Hartman's most captivating (and enduring) albums was a 1963 session (reissued by MCA/Impulse in 1986) with saxophonist John Coltrane, McCoy Tyner (piano), Jimmy Garrison (bass) and straightforward renderings of "Lush Life," "My One And Only Love," "You Are Too Beautiful," and more.

Hartman is at his best on this gorgeous album.

Nauru, the world’s 3rd-smallest country, changes its name to Naoero

The Pacific Island country of Nauru has changed its name to the Republic of Naoero, its president said, matching the spelling and pronunciation in the national language.

The country’s international code will change from NRU to NRO and its people will be known as dei-Naoero instead of Nauruan. Commonly known abroad by the pronunciation of Now-roo, the new name is spoken as Now-ero.

The move would return the remote South Pacific island nation to its traditional name, a statement posted Thursday to the government’s Facebook account said. The country became known internationally as Nauru only because its local name was difficult for foreigners to pronounce and was a matter of convenience rather than one of choice, according to an earlier government statement.

“This proposed



The Republic of Naoero

change seeks to more faithfully honor our nation’s heritage, our language, and our identity,” President David Adeang said when he proposed the move to Parliament in January. The suggested constitutional amendment has been endorsed by lawmakers in the requisite two rounds of voting, though it wasn’t immediately clear if the document had been formally amended.

With 12,000 residents, Nauru is the world’s third-smallest country by population size, after Tuvalu and Vatican City. The tiny coral limestone

atoll was colonized by Germany and later administered by Australia before becoming an independent republic in 1968.

It has faced tumultuous circumstances, with phosphate mining creating huge wealth on the island in the 1970s before the industry collapsed, bringing Nauru to the brink of economic ruin in the 1990s.

Now, the country is one of the world’s most at risk from rising seas due to climate change, prompting the government to seek overseas investment through a paid citizen-



The Republic of Naocro is northeast of Australia and due north of New Zealand

ship program intended to fund the movement of people and infrastructure away from the encroaching ocean.

The name change indicated “the beginning of renewed national pride,” Adeang said in his latest announcement. When his government last voted for the move in May, the president announced a referendum to confirm it.

The government said in last week’s statement that after “extensive discussions,” lawmakers had decided

a public vote wasn’t needed.

“While a referendum is intended to determine the will of the people, the name Naoero has never been lost, but rather waiting to be fully embraced,” the statement said.

The designation “is already the identity of the people, is on the national coat of arms, and spoken in the community; and importantly is allowed by the Constitution,” it added.

The move makes the country the latest to signal a shift

away from a colonial past by changing its name. The tiny African kingdom of Eswatini reverted to its historic name from Swaziland in 2018. Other countries have sought the switch as a sort of rebrand, as Turkey did when Ankara asked the United Nations in 2022 to begin calling the country Türkiye, which the nation had long gone by at home.

Nauru’s decision will prompt the renaming of its national aircraft and ships.

The government was already seeking to have other countries and international institutions recognize the shift, its statement said. The website of the United Nations records the country by its new name, noting the government had requested it be changed in June.

Australia and New Zealand’s foreign ministries as well as the U.S. and Chinese embassies in the region also designate the country as Naoero on their websites.

Over 4 million people are no longer receiving food aid

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as SNAP or food stamps, has seen a rapid and consistent decline in participation since last July, the same month that a sweeping Republican tax and spending package became law. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act included major changes to the food assistance program. At the time, the White House called SNAP “bloated” and said it was failing its mission to serve as “temporary help for those who encounter tough times.”

Starsky Wilson, the president of the Children’s Defense Fund, a child advocacy group, says he has been alarmed by the speed of the tax law’s impact.

“We’re upset about how quickly this has happened,” he says. “There are some supports that are still staged to go away later this year. So there could be an even greater sense of desperation among children and their families as we come to the end of this year.”

The White House pushes healthy eating. It cut a landmark nutrition education program

The food assistance program has already begun tightening eligibility. But the biggest shift, the restructuring of SNAP’s funding model, starts in October. Each state will soon have to pay millions in additional costs to keep the program going. Food policy experts warn that these new costs could drive states to scale back or withdraw from SNAP. If that happens, neither food banks nor existing government programs would have the capacity to fill the gap, according to Wilson from the Children’s Defense Fund.

“There’s no replacement for SNAP if a state gets rid of it,” he says.

Here’s how the program works, where things stand and what’s changed.

Changes in eli-

gibility

Under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, more adults need to prove they work or volunteer for at least 80 hours a month to access food benefits. These work requirements now apply to veterans, homeless individuals, young adults aging out of foster care, parents with a child between 14 and 17, and people between 55 and 64.

Changes to work requirements alone are expected to reduce SNAP participation by 2.4 million people in an average month over the 2025-2034 period, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Last summer’s tax law also cut food stamp eligibility for certain immigrants. While almost all recipients are either native-born or naturalized citizens, a tiny fraction are noncitizens, according to federal data. Members of that small group — refugees, people seeking asylum and victims of domestic abuse or trafficking — are now no longer eligible for federal food aid.

Out of work and with 2 teens, this mom may lose food stamps under Trump’s changes

The current fall-out

Last year, an average of 42 million people received food stamps to use toward groceries each month. That’s about 1 in 8 Americans. As of April, the total is now 37 million people, according to preliminary data from the Agriculture Department.

Nationally, SNAP participation is down by 11% between last July and April, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP), a left-leaning think tank. So far, the biggest impact has been in Arizona, where SNAP enrollment is about half the size it was a year ago, or over 400,000 fewer participants. For the first time, there are more Arizonans visiting food

banks each month than

enrolled in food stamps, according to the Arizona Food Bank Network.

“We think of ourselves as the canary in the coal mine,” says Natalie Jayroe, the CEO of the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona. “We are showing the rest of the country a really scary scenario.”

Alongside Arizona, some of the steepest declines took place in Louisiana, Florida and Oklahoma. The CBPP also reviewed data from 19 states that provided numbers of children on SNAP and found that in those states alone, over 1 million kids have lost food benefits since last July.

What’s driving the decline

In a July statement, the Agriculture Department told NPR that participation for food benefits tends to fluctuate and the drop isn’t representative of any one policy. Back in late April, Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins also spoke about the decline, adding that it’s possibly a good sign.

“A lot of it is people taking the program that shouldn’t have been, and then a lot of it is just a better economy,” she said on Fox Business.

Katie Bergh, a senior policy analyst at CBPP, is skeptical of this assessment. She points out that over the past year, unemployment has largely stayed flat while food prices continue to go up.

“What that’s telling us is that this is not happening because fewer people need help affording groceries. It’s the result of these policy changes,” she says.

According to Bergh, part of the issue is that many state agencies are struggling with staffing pressures and paperwork backlogs, especially amid efforts to prevent errors on food aid applications and avoid new federal penalties.

“People are calling and calling, and they can’t get through to

anyone,” she says. “Or they’re being asked for more and more and more documentation of every aspect of their lives, and maybe they don’t have a way to document everything.”

That’s in line with a survey conducted by the Urban Institute and the American Public Human Services Association (APHSA). Out of 39 states that responded to the survey, 15 states said they were prioritizing payment accuracy over benefit timeliness.

More drastic changes to come

One of the most consequential changes from last year’s tax law is the upcoming cost burden on states.

Before, the federal government split the bill 50-50 with states to cover administrative expenses, such as paying and training staff at state agencies. But starting in October, the federal government will only pay 25% of those costs while states will have to shoulder the remaining 75% of operational expenses.

Furthermore, in October 2027, the federal government will no longer cover the full cost of food benefits. States will also need to chip in if their error rate — a measure of overpayments and underpayments — is at or above 6%. Almost half of states may each owe \$100 million or more because of penalties tied to their error rate, according to the think tank CBPP.

The Agriculture Department has argued that improper payments totaled \$10 billion last year. It’s important to note that an error rate largely reflects unintentional mistakes by state agencies or food stamp recipients, according to CBPP’s Bergh.

“It largely reflects unintentional mistakes by state eligibility workers and participating families,” she says. “So someone made a typo or a state worker misapplied a policy or a family didn’t understand what information they needed

to report and when.”

SNAP experts say it takes time to lower those rates, which is why some local officials are urging the federal government to delay the new penalties.

Dalene Basden is a program director at the Children’s Friend and Family Services Clinic, a division of Justice Resource Institute.

She helps families in need. As gas and grocery prices rise, she needs help, too

Through all of these changes, the Georgetown Center on Poverty and Inequality estimates that on average, states will need to spend two to three times more on SNAP to keep the food assistance program running — which could result in higher taxes or other state budget cuts.

In the same survey conducted by the Urban Institute and the APHSA, 29% of states said they may consider further narrowing eligibility for food assistance, while 11% said they may need to withdraw or pause the program altogether if the new costs become too burdensome.

“There’s really an existential crisis in the future of SNAP,” says Lexie Kuznick, the director of policy and government relations for APHSA.

Changes to SNAP have ripple effects — not only on low-income Americans, but also across food banks and grocery stores, according to Kuznick. The National Grocers Association estimates that the drop in shoppers receiving food aid will reduce grocery store sales by nearly \$88 billion nationwide through 2034.

“Groceries are a significant cost in the lives of low-income families, and it truly is a lifeline for them to be able to meet their family’s needs,” Kuznick says. “We also know how critical the benefits are for entire communities.”

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Writers Center Stage series announced authors

A two-time National Book Award winner, a television icon turned memoirist, one of America’s most celebrated contemporary novelists and Ohio’s viral “Black Forager” are among the six literary stars coming to Cleveland as part of the 2026-27 William N. Skirball Writers Center Stage Series.

For Writers Center Stage returning benefactors and returning subscribers: Series subscription packages are now on sale,

Authors on this year’s lineup include:

Jesmyn Ward on September 14.

Ward is one of the most acclaimed contemporary writers and is celebrated for her compelling portrayals of family, resilience, race and the rural South. Ward is a native of Mississippi, where many of her books are set.

She is the author of the novels Where the Line Bleeds, Salvage the Bones, Sing, Unburied, Sing, and Let Us Descend; the memoir Men We Reaped; and the essay collection On Witness and Repair: Essays.

Ward is the only woman and the first person



Ward

of color to receive two National Book Awards for Fiction and was named one of Time magazine’s 100 Most Influential People. She is also the recipient of the 2022 Library of Congress Prize for American Fiction.

The Oprah Magazine recognized Ward as “an attentive and precise writer” who tells “stories we need to hear with race clarity and power.”

Alexis Nikole Nelson. She is also known as the @BlackForager, is an award-winning forager, outdoor educator, and social media creator who inspires audiences to discover new edible plants. Based in Columbus, Ohio, Nelson combines her passion for foraging with creative vegan cooking while sharing the



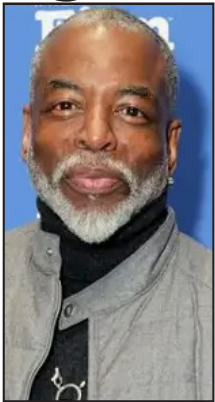
Nelson

history, ecology and cultural traditions behind wild foods in a unique way.

Her videos have captivated millions of followers across the world, earning her recognition as a Time 100 Creator in 2025. Nelson has also been featured by The New York Times and Jimmy Kimmel Live! for her work promoting foraging and reconnecting people with nature.

Her debut cookbook, Happy Snacking, Don’t Die! is a collection of one-of-a-kind recipes and foraging wisdom that teaches readers how to turn common plants, flowers and fungi into plant-based meals. The cookbook is set to be released Tue, Sep 22.

LeVar Burton The acclaimed actor, director, producer and



Burton

lifelong literacy advocate has shaped American television and culture for more than four decades. Burton rose to fame with his groundbreaking portrayal of Kunta Kinte in the landmark television miniseries Roots, which helped bring Alex Haley’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel to life for millions of viewers and remains one of the most influential moments in television history.

Burton went on to star as Lt. Commander Geordi La Forge in Star Trek: The Next Generation and its feature films, becoming one of science fiction’s most beloved characters. He also served for more than 20 years as the host and executive producer of the Emmy Award-winning PBS series Reading Rainbow, inspiring generations of young



Evans

readers through the power of books and storytelling.

His new debut memoir, Take My Word for It, is set to be published on Tue, November 10.

Virginia Evans Evans is behind the No. 1 New York Times bestselling debut novel The Correspondent, which has sold more than one million copies worldwide and been translated into more than 30 languages. The novel was a bestseller across multiple national lists, including The Washington Post and Los Angeles Times. It was also longlisted for the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction, the PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Novel and the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize.

Evans is originally



Jones

from the eastern United States; she earned a bachelor’s degree in English literature from James Madison University and a Master of Philosophy in Creative Writing from Trinity College Dublin. She currently lives in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, with her husband, their two children and their Labrador retriever Brigid.

Tayari Jones Mon, Apr 19, 2027

The author is an award-winning novelist and essayist whose work explores family, identity, love and justice in the American South. Jones is an Atlanta native and is the author of Leaving Atlanta, The Untelling, Silver Sparrow, An American Marriage, and the No. 1 New York Times bestselling novel Kin.

Her novel An



Saunders

American Marriage was an Oprah’s Book Club selection, a New York Times bestseller, winner of the Women’s Prize for Fiction, the Aspen Words Literary Prize and an NAACP Image Award. Her most recent novel, Kin, became her second Oprah’s Book Club selection.

Jones was named one of Time magazine’s 100 Most Influential People of 2026 and has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts and many more. She is praised by Essence magazine as “one of the most important voices of her generation.” Jones is the Charles Howard Candler Professor of Creative Writing at Emory University and an A.D. White Professor-at-Large at Cornell University.

George Saunders Thu, May 6, 2027

He is one of America’s most acclaimed contemporary writers, celebrated for his innovative fiction, wit, wit and gentle storytelling. He is the author of the Booker Prize-winning novel Lincoln in the Bardo, the novels Liberation Day and Vigil, four acclaimed short story collections, including Tenth of December, a book of essays and an award-winning children’s book.

He is the recipient of a MacArthur Foundation “Genius Grant,” a Guggenheim Fellowship and the National Book Foundation’s 2025 Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters. In 2013, he was named one of TIME magazine’s 100 Most Influential People. His work has appeared in The New Yorker, Harper’s Magazine, GQ, and numerous editions of The Best American Short Stories.

Saunders is a longtime professor in Syracuse University’s Creative Writing Program and is widely recognized for exploring questions of morality, compassion and the human condition with satire, imagination and wisdom.

13 books that made the Booker Prize longlist for your summer reading

This year’s Booker Prize longlist, announced Tuesday, includes 13 books covering a wide range of genres, from thriller to dystopian sci-fi to love story.

Two previous winners have made the prestigious list again – Douglas Stuart, who won for Shuggie Bain in 2020, and Marlon James, who took the prize in 2015 for A Brief History of Seven Killings. Elizabeth Strout is on the list as a third-time nominee for her latest work The Things We Never Say. The longlist also includes three debut authors.

Mary Beard, chair of the Booker Prize 2026 judges, said in a statement: “Every writer on our longlist brilliantly musters the power of words on the page to take the reader to new places, to see old places from new angles, to change minds.”

The Booker Prize is awarded each year to an author for a book published in English in the U.K. and/or Ireland between Oct. 1 and Sept. 30. The 2025 prize went to David Szalay for Flesh.

Six shortlisted authors will each receive £2,500, about \$3,300. The winner of the prize, to be announced at a London ceremony on Nov. 9, will be awarded £50,000, a little more than \$66,000.

Here is the full 2026 Booker Prize longlist:

The Shadow of the Object, Chloe Aridjis: Flora is visiting home in Mexico when the family dog leaps up and bites her hand. She winds up in the hospital where she undergoes several surgeries under anaesthesia and meets Wilhelmina, an elderly German woman with pneumonia, who collects pre-cinema toys and instruments. The two of them embark on a series of dream-like conversations in the hospital corridors. Wilhelmina puts on a magic lantern show for Flora, leaving her spellbound. When things take an unexpected turn, Flora finds herself entrusted with an important mission. She returns to London, where she resumes her job polishing silver at a jewellery shop, and strikes up

a strange friendship with Wilhelmina’s son, Max. As Flora dips in and out of her imagination, she is increasingly aware it’s not only the magic lantern that projects, and her perception of reality is subtly altered.

Switz, Emma Cline: A private plane cuts through the winter night, somewhere over Greenland. David, a retired executive, sits back in his leather seat, playing solitaire on his phone. Click. Click. Drag. Click. The notebook in his jacket pocket is filled with familiar phrases, urgent reminders to himself, but he struggles to recognize his own handwriting.

Helen of Nowhere, Makenna Goodman: In the middle of the countryside, a realtor is showing a disgraced professor around an idyllic house. She speaks not only about the home’s many wonderful qualities but about its previous owner, the mystifying Helen, whose presence still seems to suffuse every fixture. Through hearing stories of Helen’s chosen way of living, the man begins to see that his own story is not actually over—rather, he is being offered a chance to buy his way into the simple life, close to the land, that’s always been out of reach to him. But as evening fades into black, he will learn that the asking price may be much higher, and stranger, than anticipated. Philosophically and formally adventurous, at once intimate and cosmic in scope, Helen of Nowhere asks: What must we give up in exchange for true happiness?

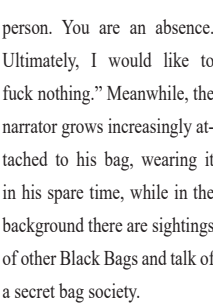
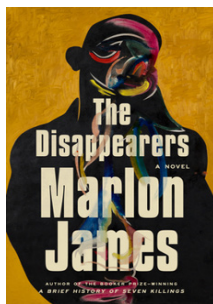
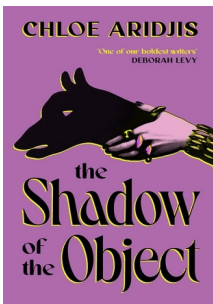
The End of Everything, John Harrison: War can settle disputes, topple tyrants, and bend the trajectory of civilization—sometimes to the breaking point. From Troy to Hiroshima, moments when war has ended in utter annihilation have reverberated through the centuries, signaling the end of political systems, cultures, and epochs. Though much has changed over the millennia, human nature remains the same. Modern societies are not immune from the horror of a war of extinc-

tion. In The End of Everything, military historian Victor Davis Hanson narrates a series of sieges and sackings that span the age of antiquity to the conquest of the New World to show how societies descend into barbarism and obliteration. In the stories of Thebes, Carthage, Constantinople, and Tenochtitlan, he depicts war’s drama, violence, and folly. Highlighting the naivete that plagued the vanquished and the wrath that justified mass slaughter, Hanson delivers a sobering call to contemporary readers to heed the lessons of obliteration lest we blunder into catastrophe once again.

The Disappears, Marlon James: In 1988, eight men in Kingston, Jamaica, begin rehearsals for a play. The men are strangers to one another and each has a different reason for being there. But they share one inescapable truth: All of them are gay and all of them must contend with the dangers that such a truth lays bare. One night the men are savagely attacked and one of them is killed. As their bodies heal, the survivors are forced to face the hatred and rage that the attack made plain. Some try to ignore what the attack unearthed. Others double down on retribution. In The Disappears, Marlon James has written both a propulsive crime story and a compassionate exploration of survival and connection. Full of fascinating characters, penetrating humor, and unapologetic sex, this spellbinding novel is as much a page-turner as it is a finely etched portrait of queer life in Jamaica.

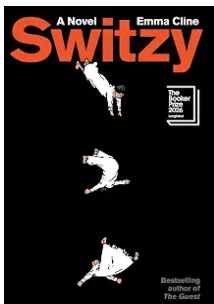
Black Bag, Luke Kennard: The unnamed narrator of Black Bag, an out-of-work actor living in London, has finally landed himself a role, and it’s a doozy. Advertised on the “admirably candid” website strange-acting-jobs.org, the role demands that he sit silent and unmoving at the back of a university lecture theatre for one whole term, dressed in nothing but a black leather bag. He will be paid in cash. He cannot

believe his luck. “This is my big chance to do absolutely nothing, as thoroughly as possible.” The experiment here is based on a real-life one conducted by Charles Goetzinger in 1967 at Oregon State University. Goetzinger had one of his students attend classes for a semester dressed in a big black bag with only their feet showing, finding that over time the other students’ attitudes changed from hostility to acceptance to, eventually, friendship. Given enough exposure, it seems, we can come to accept anything. Kennard’s hero is an affable millennial underachiever in his late 30s, scraping by doing unbearably worthy social issue plays that no one watches and lucrative murder-mystery dinner theatre for drunken plutocrats (he finds the latter “slightly less degrading”). Tired of his subsistence-level existence and yearning for a part he can play with conviction, he jumps at the chance to be Black Bag. The particularities are explained by the wonderfully bland Dr Blend, the course convener who is running the experiment. “Bag is to be characterless,” he notes. “The occasional involuntary movement will be allowed.” Impressed by Blend and his claim that they are “testing life itself”, the narrator promises to give it his absolute all. “About half should be sufficient,” observes Dr Blend. As the experiment gets under way, the narrator enlists the help of his childhood friend Claudio, a successful livestreamer who immediately sees the possibilities for monetisation (Bag Coin, anyone?). Apparently, Black Bag chimes with something in the zeitgeist. “I think it’s a statement about being a man,” offers Claudio. “A rejection of the current options.” Black Bag also piques the interest of Justine Pearce, a post-humanist professor who wishes to strike up a relationship in aid of her research on “the coming technocracy”. “This is exactly what I want. To be comprehensively desired, with a key factor missing. I am a



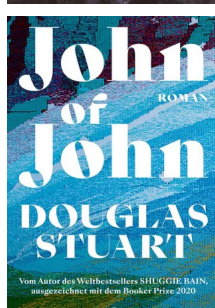
person. You are an absence. Ultimately, I would like to fuck nothing.” Meanwhile, the narrator grows increasingly attached to his bag, wearing it in his spare time, while in the background there are sightings of other Black Bags and talk of a secret bag society.

The Renovation, Kenan Orhan: A woman discovers that her bathroom has been remodeled into a prison cell—where she is an unlikely inmate—in this surreal novel of exile, grief, memory, and migration. In Salerno, Italy, Dilara spends her days caring for her aging father and her hypochondriac husband. Since leaving her native Istanbul, she’s been unable to find a job—adrift, she becomes increasingly fixated on domestic improvement, specifically on the renovation of a second bathroom. When the work is completed, she enters and finds herself not in a bathroom but in a prison cell, and a Turkish one at that. As she tries and fails to conceal the unfortunate discovery from her husband, she confronts the prison’s other inhabitants—the buffoonish guards who refuse to believe her conundrum; the other women who



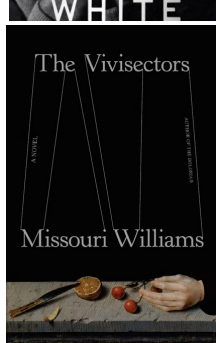
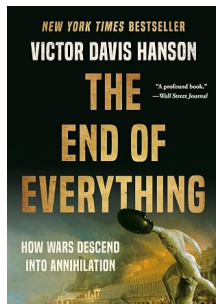
begin filling the cells beyond hers—and the strange things that drift through the smell of the Bosphorus, her mother’s voice, calls to prayer. . . . Has she gone mad? Is she the victim of a terrible prank? Is it a portal, a dream, a simulation? As she burrows deeper into her cell, her life beyond it begins to fall apart—her husband disappears, her father’s grip on reality loosens, political dictatorship threatens to destroy everything worth keeping. In his slender, disquieting first novel, Kenan Orhan tells a story of modern migration like no other. The Renovation is a tragic comedy of displacement, a story that remodels its own form to the dazzling inevitable end.

May We Feed the King, Rebecca Perry: She is a curator, who spends her time dressing the rooms of historic buildings to bring them to life. But in the lush private quarters of a medieval palace, she finds herself so transfixed by the reign of an almost-forgotten King that the edges of her life begin to blur. He is a reluctant ruler with no hunger for power, rushed to the throne after the untimely deaths of his older brothers. But it isn’t long



before whispers begin to fly around the court. And with the growing belief that the King is not fit for the throne comes the idea that another might rule in his stead. May We Feed the King dances between the lives of a historical subject who risks the future of his kingdom and a woman who turns to the past to hide from her present. Laced with desire and longing, it is a playful, stirring meditation on history and storytelling: on what makes a King ‘Great’, and a life meaningful.

The Palm House, Gwendoline Riley: Laura Miller and Edmund Putnam have been friends for a long time. Theirs is a happy meeting of minds, with long evenings spent huddled in an ancient pub by the Thames, where they share office gossip, reflect on their teenage passions, and lament the state of the world. Recently, though, Putnam has been harder to reach: He has lost his father, and the magazine to which he has dedicated his life has been hijacked by an insufferable new editor, Simon “Shove” Halfpenny. Laura has her own



problems: Living in London, a beautiful but also indifferent city, with a prickly mother to manage and a tricky past to contemplate, she finds that day-to-day life presents its difficulties. And as Putnam starts to sink into despondency, she must try to bring him back. A novel of enduring friendships and small mercies, The Palm House offers us Gwendoline Riley’s trademark keen observation and wit, and leaves us with a sense of possibility.

The Things We Never Say, Elizabeth Strout: Artie Dam is living a double life. He spends his days teaching history to eleventh graders, expanding their young minds, correcting their casual cruelties, and lending a kind word to those who need it most.

The Cleveland Orchestra announces 2026–27 Family Concerts

The Cleveland Orchestra invites families to experience the joy of classical music with its 2026–27 Family Concert Series and Music Explorers Series at Severance Music Center.

Family Concerts, sponsored by Akron Children’s, offer performances in beautiful Mandel Concert Hall that blend education and entertainment for children ages 7 to 12. Each concert is designed to spark curiosity and imagination, pairing engaging performances with interactive pre-concert activities that begin one hour prior.

“The Cleveland Orchestra has inspired generations of families through the power of music, and we’re proud to support its Family Concert Series. Music helps children learn, imagine, and connect with the world around them. Experiences like these can spark curiosity, encourage creativity, and create lasting memories for families,” said Akron Children’s CEO Chris Gessner.

“As we continue to strengthen our presence across Northeast Ohio, partnering with an organization like The Cleveland Orchestra reflects our commitment to supporting children beyond the walls of our hospitals,” Gessner said. “By helping make these concerts more accessible to families, we’re investing in experiences that

bring joy, inspire learning, and support overall well-being.”

The series opens on Sunday, October 25 with the Halloween Spooktacular, featuring the Baldwin Wallace Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Douglas Droste. With both a sensory-friendly performance at 1 p.m. and a traditional family concert at 4 p.m., the program blends spooky favorites with festive fun, encouraging audiences to arrive in costume and take part in a lively seasonal celebration.

The Cleveland Orchestra, led by Assistant Conductor Taichi Fukumura, presents The Snowman in Concert on Sunday, January 10, at 3 p.m. The Orchestra accompanies the Oscar-nominated film adaptation of Raymond Briggs’s beloved classic, following James and his snowman on a magical journey through wintry skies.

The Orchestra and Fukumura conclude the series with The Magical World of Music on Friday evening, April 9, at 7:30 p.m. and the sensory-friendly option on Saturday morning, April 10, at 11:30 a.m. This captivating program introduces young audiences to a range of musical storytelling, from the enchanting music from the Harry Potter film series to Grieg’s always popular In the Hall of the Mountain King.



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Throughout the series, sensory-friendly concerts provide a welcoming and inclusive experience for people of any age who may benefit from a more flexible concert environment, including those with autism spectrum disorder or other sensory sensitivities. Audience guidelines are modified to welcome talking, clapping, and moving around in Mandel Concert Hall. Guests have access to noise-reducing headphones, fidgets, and on-site support provided by our community partner, the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Complementing the Family Concert Series, the Music Explorers Series offers an ideal first concert experience for children ages 3 to 6. Held in cozy Reinberger Chamber Hall, these interactive 30-minute programs introduce one instrument at a time through storytelling, performance, and audience participation. Led by Cleveland Orchestra musicians and a lively host, each program encourages young listeners to discover the unique sounds of the instruments that make up the orchestra.

The series begins with Brilliant Bassoon on October 9 and 10, featuring Mark DeMio, who introduces audiences to the rich, expressive voice of the bassoon. The Holiday Brass Quintet brings the series to Mandel Concert Hall on December 11 and 12, with festive favorites performed by Michael Miller, Lyle Steelman, Hans Clebsch, Richard Stout, and Kenneth Heinlein.

In late winter, audiences can discover the noble sound of the Heroic Horn on February 26 and 27, featuring Cleveland Orchestra Principal Horn Nathaniel Silberschlag. During Playful Percussion on April 2 and 3, percussionists Tanner Tanyeri and Peter Nichols showcase the Orchestra’s awesome array of rhythmic instruments.

The Music Explorers Series concludes with Vibrant Viola on April 30 and May 1, featuring Cleveland Orchestra violist William Bender, who introduces young audiences to the middle voice of the string family.

Under 18s Free The Cleveland Orchestra’s Under 18s Free program offers free tickets (one per regular-priced adult paid admission) to young people 17 and under, for the Family Concert Series. Under 18s Free tickets are not available for box seating.

Under 18s Free is a program of The Cleveland Orchestra’s Center for Future Audiences. The Center, created with a lead endowment gift from the Maltz Family Foundation, was established to fund programs to foster new generations of Cleveland Orchestra audiences in Northeast Ohio. Under 18s Free continues to develop young audiences by making Orchestra concerts affordable for families, offering free tickets to young people, 17 and under, for select Severance Music Center performances. More information on Under 18s Free and other Center for Future Audiences ticketing programs here.

With Gratitude The 2026–27 Family Concert Series

is sponsored by Anne H. Jenkins and Tom H. Jenkins.

The Cleveland Orchestra’s Family Concert Series is presented by Akron Children’s.

The Cleveland Orchestra’s Music Explorers Series is sponsored by PNC.

Sensory-Friendly Concerts are generously sponsored by an anonymous donor.

For tickets, contact the Severance Music Center Ticket Office at 216-231-1111 or visit clevelandorchestra.com. The ticket office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Music Explor-

ers: Brilliant Bassoon Friday, October 9, 2026, at 10 a.m. Saturday, October 10, 2026, at 11 a.m. Reinberger Chamber Hall Mark DeMio, bassoon

Halloween

Spooktacular Sunday, October 25, 2026, at 1 p.m. (Sensory Friendly) Sunday, October 25, 2026, at 4 p.m. Baldwin Wallace Symphony Orchestra Douglas Droste, conductor

Music Explorers: Holiday Brass Quintet Friday, December 11, 2026, at 11 a.m. Saturday, De-

cember 12, 2026, at 11 a.m. Mandel Concert Hall Michael Miller, trumpet Lyle Steelman, trumpet Hans Clebsch, horn Richard Stout, trombone Kenneth Heinlein, tuba

The Snowman in Concert Sunday, January 10, 2027, at 3 p.m. The Cleveland Orchestra Taichi Fukumura, conductor

Music Explorers: Heroic Horn Friday, February 26, 2027, at 10 a.m. Saturday, February 27, 2027, at 11 a.m. Reinberger Chamber Hall

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JumpStart strengthens leadership

JumpStart Inc. today announced two appointments to its leadership team: Terri Bradford Eason, who joined August 3 as its first Chief Revenue Officer, and Daniel Brown, who recently stepped into the role of Chief Services Officer for the nonprofit venture development organization.

Eason brings more than 30 years in philanthropy, banking and relationship management to her new

role. She joins JumpStart from the Cleveland Foundation, where she led philanthropy initiatives, gift planning and professional advisor relations. Earlier in her career, she spent nearly two decades with National City Corporation in nonprofit business services, commercial and private banking, and helped launch and grow a digital banking platform as an executive with For Members Only Federal Credit Union®.

She also carries a wealth of nonprofit board service spanning education, healthcare and community development including Say Yes Cleveland Scholarship, Recovery Resources and Cleveland Hearing and Speech Center. As Chief Revenue Officer, she’ll draw on that experience to lead the public, private and philanthropic support that keeps JumpStart’s programs low- and no-cost for entrepreneurs grow-

ing businesses in Ohio.

Brown joined JumpStart in 2023 as an Entrepreneur-in-Residence and has led the entrepreneurial support organization’s efforts in Stark County, building relationships across the local economic development community and launching collaborative programming. Before coming to JumpStart, he co-founded Rust Belt Riders and Tilth Soil, worker-owned enterprises focused on food waste upcycling. Rust Belt Riders was also a JumpStart small business client, giving Brown a full-circle perspective as he helps other Ohio entrepreneurs grow their companies. In his new role, he oversees JumpStart’s full portfolio of services, from the Trailblazer Accelerator to ScaleReady and CapitalReady, ensuring founders and small business owners get support that actually

moves the needle.

“Terri knows this community, and this community knows her. She has an instinct for finding those who believe in what’s possible here, and inviting them to be part of it,” says JumpStart CEO Lorne Novick. “Dan brings a founder’s perspective and creative problem-solving to the entrepreneurs and communities we serve. Each will play a key role in JumpStart’s continued work to deliver the kind of support that helps entrepreneurs build something lasting.”

JumpStart exists because when entrepreneurs succeed, the benefits reach far beyond any one business. They show up in jobs, in neighborhoods and in the broader economy. Eason’s and Brown’s appointments reflect the organization’s continued commitment to that work.

Cuyahoga County Sheriff’s Department Narcotics Unit bust

The Cuyahoga County Sheriff’s Department Narcotics Unit has completed a two month-long investigation resulting in the arrest of individuals responsible for trafficking large amounts of narcotics across the City of Cleveland and throughout Cuyahoga County. The leaders of this organization, Curtis Williams, aka Kurt Werk, 40, and Dayvoughn Ervin, aka Fatboo, 33, were taken into custody on August 1, 2026 on charges related to felony drug trafficking.

“I commend the Narcotics Unit investigators for their outstanding work on this case, which led to the takedown of a significant drug trafficking operation and the removal of individuals from our streets responsible for fueling the ongoing drug epidemic impacting neighborhoods across Cuyahoga County,” said Sheriff Harold A. Pretel. “Every major narcotics seizure and arrest makes our residents safer and disrupts the criminal networks that profit from poisoning our



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communities.” Over 3.4K

grams of fentanyl Over 46 grams of crack cocaine Approximately \$11K in U.S. Currency Equipment used to package and distribute narcotics Sheriff’s Department Narcotics Investigators will present the facts of this case to the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor’s Office for charges including Violation of the State Drug Law, Drug Trafficking, Possession of Drugs, Possession of Criminal Tools, Receiving Stolen Property, and Having Weapons Under Disability.

Total seizures throughout the operation include: Over 2.3K grams of cocaine

Annual Recognition for John P. Green
by the Coalition of Black Trade Unions, Cleveland Chapter

Saturday, September 5, 2026 | 10-11 a.m.

Presenters:
Judge Charles Patton: Legacy of John P. Green
David Bernatowicz: Importance of Labor Day to Workers
Andre Washington: A. Philip Randolph Institute

Woodland Cemetery, between East 68th St and 71st St. Entry through Quincy gate.
John P. Green site is at Section 49 to your right after entering from Quincy gate.
(Near green port-a-potty)

For further information: Contact Dr. Dorothy Salem,
Educational Outreach Coordinator at Woodland Cemetery Foundation,
dorothy@salem@yahoo.com or 216-337-9217

Michelle A. Day, Chairwoman/President
Historical for Woodland Cemetery

Woodland Cemetery Foundation of Cleveland, Ohio
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