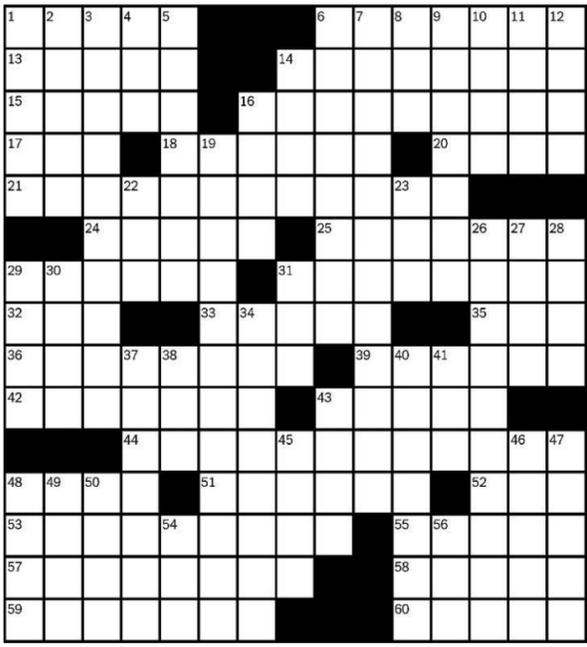


NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0314

- ACROSS**
 1 Charlie Chaplin persona
 6 Total
 13 Knight shtick?
 14 Reaction to an unexpected bit of humor
 15 Wonderland directive
 16 Hurdles before some touchdowns
 17 Adds to a thread
 18 Subjected to a waiting game, militarily
 20 ___-ran
 21 Question to one's best friend, maybe
 24 Frasier's brother on "Frasier"
 25 Where hips do lie
 29 Big orbiter
 31 Rock band with the 1990s hits "Fly" and "Every Morning"



Puzzle by Brandon Koppy

- 32 Upton Sinclair novel that inspired the film "There Will Be Blood"
 33 Knotting (up)
 35 Trade on
 36 Very hot day
 39 They might be written off
 42 Journeys of escape
 43 Singer
 44 Washington or Shore
 48 Bench press?
 48 Words of comparison
 51 Assert without proof
 52 ___ Locks, connection between Lake Superior and Lake Huron
 53 Not learn one's lesson?
 55 Places for scheming
 57 Fruit-flavored pop
 58 Stop by
 59 Laundry service, e.g.
 60 Film collectibles
- DOWN**
 1 Network on which "Gossip Girl" aired

- 2 Exterminator's target
 3 Snack made with celery sticks, peanut butter and raisins
 4 Band-Aid applier, perhaps
 5 Buying opportunity for select customers
 6 Completing a video game as fast as possible, say
 7 Beyond comprehension
 8 QB stat: Abbr.
 9 Wandering sort
 10 It comes down hard
 11 They're small and plucked
 12 Philippine money
 14 Beehive State flower
 16 Classic pickup lines, familiarly
 19 Remark from a celebrity look-alike
 22 "Some rise by ___, and some by virtue fall": Shak.
 23 She-bear, in Spain
- 26 Coolly disregard
 27 Loosen
 28 Tanners' stock
 29 Glam
 30 Some epizoa
 31 Isaac Newton or Elton John, but not Olivia Newton-John
 34 Gentleman's agreement
 37 Tear with gusto
 38 French wine designation
 40 Truffula forest logger in "The Lorax"
 41 Foreign title with a tilde
- 43 Stops working
 45 Disney's ___ of Arendelle
 46 Pinkish orange
 47 They're entertaining
 48 Española, por ejemplo
 49 Not read thoroughly
 50 Variable in the Schrödinger equation
 54 Hit TV series with three spinoffs
 56 Suffix with oct-

ANSWER TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE:



CAROLYN HAX
 Moving in with boyfriend may be too much



BY CAROLYN HAX
 tellme@washpost.com

Dear Carolyn: My boyfriend moved in with me last summer. I thought we both wanted it, but in hindsight, I think he may have been trying to give me a feeling of relationship progress without making the big leap of getting engaged.

There was maybe a three-month period where living together felt fun and exciting, then another couple of months where it felt comfortable and like we were settling into a routine, and since then it has felt like living with someone who has no interest in dating or wooing me at all anymore.

My boyfriend likes to spend most evenings playing video games on his own, though if I negotiate, then we can have dinner together first. I don't mind his having that time to himself — I assume there would be many nights like this in marriage — but I feel like I traded my only chip, living together, and now we're already in the next phase, having skipped over the fun engagement phase entirely.

I know that's probably a fantasy anyway, but now I don't know what to do.

— Skipped the Fun Phase Entirely

LEXIGO 4-18

Start at the double hexagon. Spell solutions to the clues below by winding your way through the grid. You can backtrack to use letters more than once. Each new word starts with the last letter of the previous word.

1. Not here T _ _ _ _
 2. Guiding principle _ _ _ _ _
 3. Common wedding location C _ _ _ _ _
 4. Tended sheep _ _ _ _ _
 5. Explorer Sir Francis _ _ _ _ _ D _ _ _ _

THREE, ETHIC, CHURCH, HERED, DRAKE
 © 2025 WIGGLES 3D GAMES, DIST. BY ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION

Skipped the Fun Phase Entirely: Celebrate that you managed the crushing skid to divorce without the marriage, fighting and lawyers? Sorry. Read the room, Hax. I do know you're hurting.

I also find myself wanting to stand up for old, comfy marriage, though. It's not a "fun and exciting phase," then a "comfortable, settled, routine phase," and then, "K, now go play by yourself for 50 years."

I mean, there's some of that.

But you can actually enjoy each other's company in year whatever, without having to burn all your marriage points or put on hard pants.

There's an element of luck to still wanting each other's company as the newness wears off. But it helps to think in terms of companionship from the beginning, organically — and I'm talking about the before-you-even-meet-someone beginning. Meaning, you orient your life and priorities on the quality of the companionship, and whether the time you spend with someone flows and makes your life better. And whether you want more of it, mutually,

without having to force the issue.

Any framing of a relationship in terms of progress, wooing, leaps, negotiating or, egad, "chips" within this mindset of actually enjoying each other and — mutually — not wanting that to end just seem so ... discordant.

It's your life, not mine, but I can't imagine wanting this phase or a next one with someone I have to beg to have dinner with me before he goes off to game by himself.

If you, too, want someone who wants to have dinner with you, then you'll need to ask this one to move out.

Then I suggest breathing a bit as a single person. Reconnect with things you like about life, and your friends who reciprocate, and yourself. Add new ones, maybe. Reset your sense of normalcy and consider getting it realigned professionally. Especially if it wasn't 100% plumb to start with, it can get pretty bent by a power imbalance — as this relationship seems to have.

Letting your interest in each other run its course more naturally next time can help you avoid that.

Matchups are set for 2026 World Baseball Classic

BY JORDAN MCPHERSON
 jmcpherson@miamiherald.com

World Baseball Classic, Inc. on Wednesday announced the four pools for the 20-team tournament and thus the bracketing for how the multiround event will unfold in 2026.

Miami's loanDepot park, home of the Miami Marlins, will once again play an integral role in the tournament by hosting in every phase of the event — pool play, quarterfinals, semifinals and the championship.

For the Miami portion of the tournament, action begins with pool play from March 6-11, with loanDepot park hosting a five-team field of Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, the Netherlands, Israel and Nicaragua. The teams will play in a round-robin format, with each team playing the remaining four teams in the pool.

The top two teams from the Miami bracket, Pool D, will advance to the quarterfinals on March 13 and 14 to face the two teams that advance from Pool C, a group that consists of Japan, Australia, Korea, Czechia and Chinese Taipei and will begin the tournament in Tokyo. The Pool D winner will face the Pool C runner-up, and the Pool C winner will face the Pool D runner-up.

The semifinals will be on March 15 and 16, with the championship set for March 17.

The other half of the bracket is as follows:
 Pool A, in San Juan, Puerto Rico: Puerto Rico,



Fans stand for the national anthem before the start of a championship game between USA and Japan at the World Baseball Classic on March 21, 2023, in Miami.

- Cuba, Canada, Panama and Colombia
 Pool B, in Houston: The United States, Mexico, Italy, Great Britain and Brazil
- The quarterfinals between the four teams that advance from these pools will take place in Houston.

Yankees' Judge to captain Team USA in 2026 WBC

Field Level Media

New York Yankees slugger Aaron Judge will play for Team USA at the 2026 World Baseball Classic and serve as the squad's captain.

Manager Mark DeRosa made the announcement Monday on MLB Network. Judge is the first player to be named to the team.

The two-time American League MVP did not participate in the 2023 global

competition, in which then-captain Mike Trout and the U.S. team lost to the Shohei Ohtani-led Japan team in the gold-medal game.

Judge, 32, expressed his desire to compete in the 2026 WBC during spring training.

"I think that would be pretty fun," the outfielder told Fox Sports on Feb. 19. "It just depends. See where I'm at in my career at that point. Hopefully they still want me."

Judge never has participated in the international event, which runs from March 5-17, 2026. Games will take place in Houston, Miami, Tokyo and San Juan, Puerto Rico, with the semifinals and championship game in Miami.

"It would be cool to represent your country," Judge said. "(Team USA) made it to the finals, but they didn't win it. So we gotta win it. We'll see. We'll see."

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Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE INVITATION FOR SEALED BIDS FOR SURPLUS PROPERTY

The Lexington-Fayette County Health Department (LFCHD) is accepting sealed bids for Surplus Property. Sealed bids will be accepted through April 28, 2025 until 4:00PM. Late bids will not be accepted. The LFCHD reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Bid forms, photos and surplus property information may be obtained using the link: <https://www.lfchd.org/spd/>

Bids must be submitted in a sealed, pre-addressed envelope no later than April 28, 2025 by 4:00PM. Bids may be hand delivered or mailed. Electronic submission of bids will not be accepted.

Send sealed bids to:
 Lexington-Fayette County Health Department
 c/o Wade Creech, Facilities Manager
 650 Newtown Pike
 Lexington, KY 40508
 (859) 509-3365

IPL0228027
 Apr 18-20 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Initiation of the Section 106 Process-Public Participation in accordance with the FCC's Nationwide Programmatic Agreement. Crown Castle intends to construct a communications facility at 1625 Newtown Pike, Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky (Latitude: 38.089024° and Longitude: -84.489108°). The facility will include a new metal CRAN/light pole with an overall height of 43 ft. and associated equipment. Crown Castle is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal Communications Commission regulations (47 CFR § 1.1307) for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). We respectfully request that parties interested in commenting on this Federal undertaking relative to potential effects on cultural or historic properties should contact GSS, Inc., 3311 109th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322; Ph. (515) 331-2103 within 30 days of the posting of this notice. (GSS #W25111) IPL0228312 Apr 18 2025

Request for Proposal Architectural/Engineering Services
CFP KY36P028-501 (23)(24)

To Prospective Bidders:
 The Housing Authority of Barbourville is requesting proposal from interested firms to provide Architectural and Engineering Services for a modernization project funded by Capital Fund Program KY36P028-501 (23)(24) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

All proposals must be received at the office of the Housing Authority of Barbourville by May 15, 2025 by 3:00 PM. local time in order to be considered.

You can call the office of the Housing Authority of Barbourville at (606)546-3567 or by email at: bha@barbourville.com

It is the intent of the Housing Authority of Barbourville to award a contract to the highest-ranking firm. Contract amendments for three additional years may be negotiated upon receipt of subsequent funding.

Contact:
 Lisa Creasy
 Executive Director
 Housing Authority of Barbourville
 P.O. Box 69
 105 Lake Avenue
 Barbourville, KY 40906
 Phone: (606)546-3567
 Email: bha@barbourville.com
 IPL0226751
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Beverage Notice

The Vine Restaurant LLC d/b/a The V hereby declares its intention(s) to apply for a NQ2 retail drink license, special Sunday retail drink license, caterer's license, and sampling license no later than May 18th, 2025. The licensed premises will be 106 W. Vine Street Ste #902 Lexington, KY 40507. The members are as follows. Member, Cole Armes of 18 Richmond Ave Lex, KY 40502. Member, Maggie Delk of 419 Keene Manor Cir, Nicholasville, KY 40356. Member, Jacquie Meriwether, 3941 Crosby Dr., Lexington, KY 40515. Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license(s) by writing Department of Alcohol Beverage Control, 500 Mero Street 2NE33, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601, within thirty (30) days of the date of legal publication. IPL0228663 Apr 18 2025

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