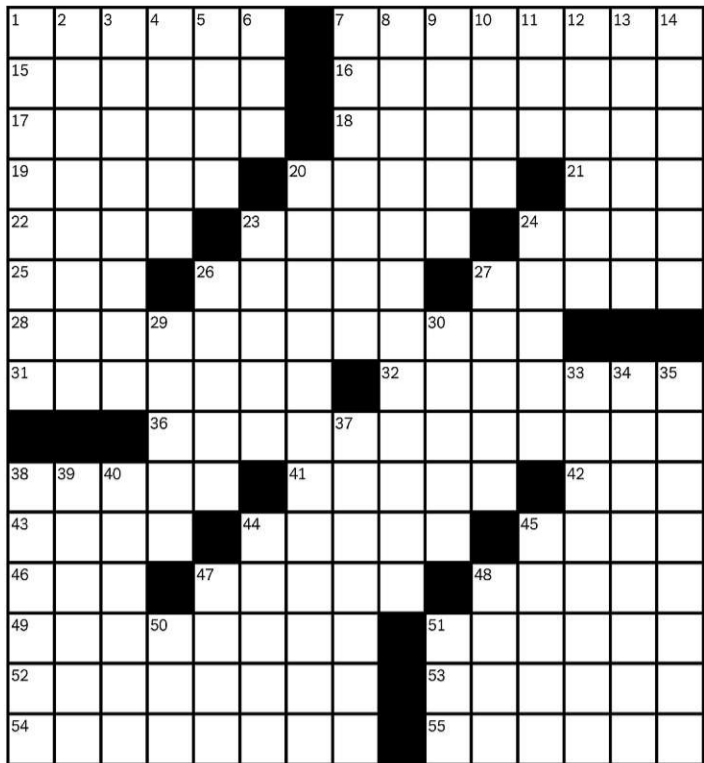


NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0424

- ACROSS**
 1 Once-in-a-lifetime events
 7 They might have good track records
 15 "Ah, right right right"
 16 Field for both Martin Luther and Martin Luther King Jr.
 17 Oscar winner for "The African Queen"
 18 Low volume?
 19 Treat mercifully
 20 Charges
 21 Concern for a seamstress
 22 "Sounds good!"
 23 Bestselling author who founded Paris' Théâtre Historique "Green"
 24 Rocker Brian
 25 Green spots
 26 Game with a board numbered from 1 to 20
 28 Peace sign?
 31 "The best cheese of its type in the world," per George Orwell
 32 Approach surreptitiously
 36 Where somebody might be washed up?
 38 One who's generous to a fault, say
 41 They're held in bondage
 42 Org. whose motto translates to "Through adversity to the stars"
 43 Neural transmitter
 44 Certain exposition
 45 Children's author Kinney
 46 ?!?!
 47 Something you might get at a wedding
 48 Grand duke of Luxembourg until 2025
 49 It has a light bulb



Puzzle by Andrew Spooner

5/29

- 51 No comment?
 52 Toss and turn, perhaps
 53 Role for John Travolta on "Welcome Back, Kotter"
 54 Takes to the next level
 55 Tree nymphs
- DOWN**
 1 Goes downhill at the Olympics, in a way
 2 "Perish the thought!"
 3 Tubes that go down?
 4 The first of these was Terrible
 5 Accounted for Murderer of Osiris, in myth
 7 Every now and then
 8 You just can't take it
 9 Recovers
 10 Competitor's setback
 11 Half of hip-hop's Run the Jewels, alongside Killer Mike
 12 How a troublemaker might go
 13 One prioritizing self-care?
- 14 Electronica instruments, informally
 20 Professional
 23 Woodworkers' grooves
 24 Vicious circle?
 26 Animal known to hold another's paws while sleeping
 27 Attire
 29 From time past
 30 Coalesce
 33 Surname of a Tolstoy heroine
 34 Game
 35 Acrobat's display
- 37 Secondhand offerings
 38 Dillydally
 39 Hearty soup ingredient in Caribbean cooking
 40 Brittle confection
 44 Finish up with
 45 Female donkey
 47 Where the Red Delicious apple originated
 48 Dauphin, e.g.
 50 Number one, informally
 51 It might have a director's commentary

ANSWER TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE:



CAROLYN HAX
Ready to return the favor on no-show in-laws



BY CAROLYN HAX
 tellme@washpost.com

Dear Carolyn: For years, my in-laws, who live two hours away, have been chronic cancelers. The cancellations are never emergencies, just some bump or hiccup that means they have to bow out. After years of last-minute cancellations, including a planned joint vacation, we wised up and stopped inviting them to anything.

Our freshman son is in his first high school musical this year. Father-in-law called my wife and said they wanted to come. Against our better judgment, we bought them tickets, and, sure enough, they canceled the day of the show. The excuse hardly matters, but it was typical — wife wasn't feeling well — but no explanation why father-in-law couldn't come.

My wife was crushed and crying, my son disappointed and hurt, and I am LIVID. I could drive the two hours to give them an account of why this pattern of behavior is emotionally draining on our family, but the view isn't worth the climb. It would fall back on, "Wife was sick," and, frankly, I'm done. I don't care to ever see either of these two people again. I don't

LEXIGO 5-29

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. Central idea T _ _ _ _
 2. Launched out of _ _ _ _ _
 3. Home design D _ _ _ _
 4. Vintage _ _ _ _ _
 5. These can contain pearls O _ _ _ _ _

THEME: 'SPOILED' DECOR: RETRO SYSTEMS
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respect them, and the way they hurt my wife and son is unforgivable to me.

My question is, how should I do that? Do I write a letter explaining why I'm bowing out of their lives? Do I just ghost them and leave it to my wife to explain? I don't want to make things more difficult for my wife, but after 20 years of this, I don't feel I need to play nice in the sandbox anymore.

— Canceling the Cancelers

Canceling the Cancelers: Ask your wife, not me.

But wait till the LIVID passes. When reason is back in charge, find out how she wants to handle her parents, then talk your way to something you both can live with.

Something ... perhaps ... exactly like things were before this happened.

The way you handled your in-laws once you "wised up" seems perfect to me. You knew who they were and you lowered your expectations accordingly. I don't see why you must replace a rational approach that has mostly served you well with these emotional, they're-dead-to-me theatrics.

Not that being done with these grandparents wouldn't feel satisfying, and maybe they've earned it, too. But especially if your wife isn't 100% ready for such estrangement herself, then you've just asked for a combined marital and logistical headache where none was necessary.

Your in-laws' big crime is "no-showing". That means you can let them keep estranging themselves.

So the question is — why can't you? Aren't they the same canceling selves you resigned yourselves to? Why does the old way of writing them off no longer suffice?

I notice they asked for tickets. Maybe that was just enough for all of you to blink, to re-get your hopes up against your better judgment. Maybe it's the fact of your heartbroken high school kid. I can certainly see that.

But I would argue that you don't need estrangement to make your son whole. Remind him this is what they do, at their staggering cost, then reset back to no invitations, no expectations — with the new insight that they won't show up even if they invite themselves.

First-period spree brings Hurricanes to verge of Final

Field Level Media

Thanks to four fast starts in as many games, the Carolina Hurricanes have pushed the Montreal Canadiens to the brink of elimination in the Eastern Conference finals.

Should the Hurricanes bolt out of the blocks yet again in Game 5 on Friday in Raleigh, N.C., they likely will be in good position to punch their ticket to the Stanley Cup Final for the third time in franchise history.

The visiting Hurricanes scored three times in less than three minutes in the first period and Frederik

Andersen made 18 saves, lifting Carolina to a 4-0 victory over Montreal in Game 4 on Wednesday.

Although the Hurricanes hold a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven series, Andersen said his team can't let up.

"We want to put our minds right to get that job done," Andersen told TNT. "We know that it doesn't take any less because we're up 3-1. We want to continue coming with this attitude and really take it to them. That's what we've been successful with."

Sebastian Aho scored a power-play goal and captain Jordan Staal and Lo-

gan Stankoven also converted in a 2:47 stretch late in the first period. Andrei Svechnikov added an empty-net tally late in the third period.

"We wanted to have a good start, and we got it," Aho told Sportsnet. "... Couple big goals in the first. Jordan and Stank's goal, so we extended the lead. I thought it was a solid game for us."

Andersen turned aside three shots in the third period to preserve his eighth career postseason shutout and fifth with the Hurricanes, surpassing Cam Ward for the most in franchise history. Andersen has three shutouts

this postseason, one in each round.

Nikolaj Ehlers and defenseman Shayne Gostisbehere each notched two assists for the Hurricanes, who became the seventh team in NHL history to win each of its first six road games of a postseason.

Jakub Dobes made 39 saves on his 25th birthday for the Canadiens, who have lost four in a row at home and six of eight overall in Montreal during the playoffs.

"It obviously (stinks) to come in here and lose (Games 3 and 4) at home," Montreal captain Nick Suzuki said. "We

gotta focus on Game 5, we can go in there and win and give ourselves a chance to come back in the series."

Carolina opened the scoring for the fourth time in as many games after Aho's one-timer from the right circle beat Dobes inside the near post with 5:01 remaining in the first period.

Aho logged his 11th career power-play goal in the playoffs, eclipsing former captain Eric Staal for the most in franchise history.

The Hurricanes doubled the advantage 68 seconds later after defenseman K'Andre Miller skated below the goal line and backhanded a centering feed that caromed off the stick of Jordan Staal and into the goal. Montreal's Josh Anderson was attempting to fend off Jordan Staal in front of the

net.

Gostisbehere blocked a shot by Canadiens defenseman Lane Hutson, setting up a 2-on-1 rush that saw Jackson Blake feed Stankoven for his team-leading eighth goal of the playoffs 1:39 later.

"It was my time to lay my body on the line, I'm just happy it went the other way and we got rewarded," Gostisbehere told Sportsnet.

Dobes extended his left pad to deny Blake on a breakaway to keep the game scoreless just over two minutes into the game.

"It seemed like the only guy who showed up was (Dobes)," Hutson said. "We were just not good enough, didn't answer the bell. The good news is we get another chance to answer the bell."

DeChambeau still optimistic about the future of LIV Golf

Field Level Media

Bryson DeChambeau admitted that several LIV golfers were caught off guard after Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund announced its financial commitment will end at the conclusion of the 2026 season.

"We were surprised that they pulled out as quickly as they did," DeChambeau said before the start of this week's LIV Golf Korea.

"We didn't really see that coming. But that's OK. One door closes, another opens. I think that's the way a lot of us are looking at it. I think we all have optimism that there is a business plan that makes sense for team

golf. I'd quite honestly actually — how do I say it? I'm very optimistic with the business plan of team golf compared to other models, in my opinion."

Per Sportico and CNBC, LIV Golf is pitching a reduced 10-event international schedule to potential investors.

The league reportedly is seeking \$250 million to \$350 million in funding to continue operations beyond this year.

According to the reports, LIV Golf's investment pitch outlines a plan built around international tournaments and uses the high attendance figures in Australia and South Africa as benchmarks.

"Other models have worked, as well, so I'm not going to say that one is

better than the other, but I do see value in what team golf can provide not only worldwide but also in grass rooting the game of golf," DeChambeau said. "National support, team national support, city local support — we grass root ourselves there. There's ... quite a few ideas that we have that could be interesting."

"We'll see if investors like it or not. I'm giving all I can to make it happen, and if it doesn't, it doesn't happen."

DeChambeau, 32, told reporters earlier in May that he has talked with the PGA Tour regarding his potential post-2026 options. The two-time major champion also is looking into the possibility of expanding his YouTube

channel.

DeChambeau joined LIV Golf in June 2022 and was among 11 golfers who filed an antitrust lawsuit against the PGA later that year challenging their suspensions from the Tour.

While DeChambeau had plenty to say on the topic, Dustin Johnson had a quick answer when asked for his personal view of PIF's support being halted or retracted. "Long LIV Golf," he said.

Signed to a multi-year contract extension in January, Johnson was one of the first players to defect for LIV Golf and became the Saudi-backed circuit's first season champion in 2022.

Johnson, 41, won the U.S. Open in 2016, the Masters in 2020 and is a 24-time winner on the PGA Tour.

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Legals & Public Notices
Notice of Self Storage Sale
 Please take notice Citadel Self Storage - Lexington located at 133 N. Locust Hill Dr., Lexington, KY, 40509 intends to hold a public sale to sell the property stored by tenants for default on their rental agreement. The sale will occur as an Online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on 6/2/2026 at 10:00 AM. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. 7568-345888 IFL0340317 May 29 2026

Legal Advertisement
 The Urban County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 8, 2026 at 1:30 pm EST (12:30 pm CST), Council Chambers 2nd floor Government Center Building, 200 E. Main St., to consider Variance Appeals, Conditional Use Appeals, Administrative Appeals and other items. To view the list of applications or for further information please see https://www.lexingtonky.gov/government/boards-commissions/board-adjustment or call the Division of Planning at (859) 258-3160. IFL0340201 May 29 2026

Animals

Dogs
 Golden Doodle 2 male, 2 female, 1st shots, vet check. 859-640-3529

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Coldstream Station Neighborhood Yard Sale - Lexington
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