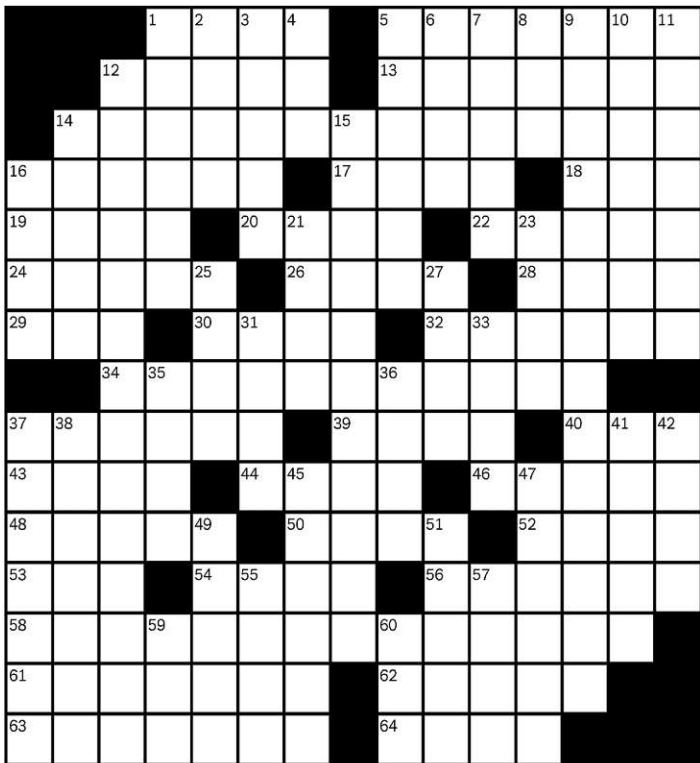


NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0612

ACROSS

- 1 Get-up
5 Exhibiting a green face, stereotypically
12 Children's book title character in a green suit
13 Ambassador's aide
14 Inheritance source, for good or ill
16 "Red, the color of ___ / Black, the color of despair" ("Les Misérables" lyric)
17 Prefix with present
18 Farm grazer
19 "Empire of the ___" (1977 sci-fi film with an approval rating of 5% on Rotten Tomatoes)
20 Velociraptor, e.g., informally
22 ___ asada
24 Followers of the guru Nanak Elate
26 Some fragrant gifts
28 Half ass reply?
29 Microscopic
32 Weight
34 Style with spotty coverage?
37 Good market news
39 Slip material
40 Tally: Abbr.
43 Ex-
44 Big name in cups
46 Contents of a modern flood
48 Lock
50 Some camera moves
52 Commedia dell' ___
53 Needing no script
54 Deuce follower
56 "That's good to hear"
58 Home of the world's largest independently owned book-store (spanning an entire city block)



Puzzle by Amanda Winters

7/17

DOWN

- 1 Pastry with Austrian origins, despite its name
2 Cab alternative
3 Passé
4 Sanskrit honorific
5 Certain ladder climber
6 ___ collar
7 Ghost story?
8 Didn't play
9 Place where customers get their licks in?
10 Persistent
11 Home of the Ernest Hemingway House
12 Hidden gem
14 One who might say "You wish!"
15 Site of America's first roller coaster

- 16 T, in Morse code
21 "___ it?"
23 Locale for 11 Winter Olympics
25 Mix up
27 Tzatziki ingredient
31 Quality establishments?
33 MC's need
35 Baseball trio
36 Symbol of courage
37 Satisfactory
38 Epic beginning
41 Saturn satellite
42 Runners carry it
45 Puts in one's two cents
47 Smith who has won the Triple Crown of Acting
49 Do business?
51 Obstacle for Odysseus
55 ___ Point, Calif.
57 Central point
59 "OMG, stop!"
60 Pray, in Latin

ANSWER TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE:



CAROLYN HAX

Can fiancé's brother stay away?



BY CAROLYN HAX
tellme@washpost.com

Dear Carolyn: I'm seven months pregnant with my fiancé's and my first child, and I'm facing a situation that has me questioning our future together.

My fiancé's older brother is in prison for felony indecency with a child. He has a prior record and is a registered sex offender. My fiancé rarely talks about his brother or his childhood, and I've never wanted to push him on a subject that is obviously painful. I've always tried to let him share what he's comfortable sharing, when he's ready.

The issue came up recently because my fiancé wants to rent a storage unit for his brother's belongings as we prepare to move into a new home and get ready for the baby.

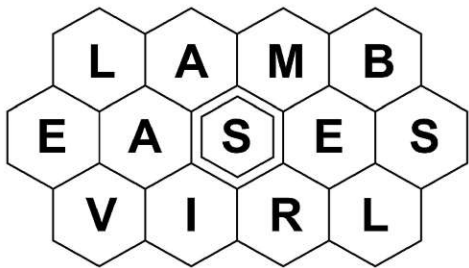
While I understand his loyalty to his brother, I am not comfortable having his brother's belongings in our home or spending money on a storage unit to keep them. More importantly, I am not comfortable with the possibility of his brother being involved in our child's life. I do not believe it would be wise or safe, even though I understand that my fiancé loves his brother.

The problem is that

LEXICO®

7-17

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. Open ___! S _ _ _ _
2. Glowing coal _ _ _ _ _
3. Freedom fighters R _ _ _ _
4. Episodic story _ _ _ _ _
5. Sailor's shore time L _ _ _ _

34/VEAL 'REBELS' SEBBER 'EMBER 'SEBBER 'SEBBER
© 2026 WIGGLES 3D GAMES, DIST. BY ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION

whenever I try to ask questions about his brother, his sentence or what he envisions for their future relationship, my fiancé becomes irritated and shuts down the conversation. As a result, I have no idea what his expectations are once his brother is released from prison.

I feel like we need to have an honest discussion about this before we get married and move in together. I need to know what boundaries, if any, he believes should exist. If he wants his brother to have a significant role in our family's life, I'm not sure I can move forward with the relationship. I don't want to discover after we're married and raising a child together that we have fundamentally different views on protecting our family.

How do I approach this conversation, and am I wrong for considering this a dealbreaker?

— Anonymous

Anonymous: I'd be alarmed if you didn't. Your child's health and safety are paramount.

And it's not just the brother's history you have to consider, or what place, if any, your fiancé envisions for him with your

family after his release. Your fiancé's own history is largely a black box to you. Yes? Parts of it, at least, are a shutdown topic for him.

It was a kindness for you to respect his pace in sharing his history. That is appropriate with trauma. It was also your prerogative to choose that risk for yourself; you're an adult.

But now you're making choices for a child, where it's not an acceptable risk to engage blindly with a personal and family history of child abuse.

So transparency about the brother is a valid dealbreaker, but it's not enough. Extend it to include transparency about your fiancé. You want mutual understanding here: that before, you were respecting his position as a survivor of an abusive and traumatic childhood. Now he is also a father, responsible for preventing such trauma.

None of you knows how your fiancé will feel as a new father. He could rise to the occasion or it could trigger him. His ability to face this difficult history, meanwhile, is something you're all invested in now. He belongs in therapy for this. Counseling belongs in your dealbreaker.



MIKE MULHOLLAND Getty Images, file

Myles Garrett, right, was recently ranked as the NFL's best edge rusher by ESPN, with the Detroit Lions' Aidan Hutchinson (97) ranked fifth.

COMMENTARY

Are these the NFL's top 5 edge rushers for 2026?

BY ANNE ERICKSON
Newsweek

ESPN's annual NFL rankings are always good for a few arguments, and frankly, that's half the fun.

This year's list of edge rushers gets most of it right. There isn't much to complain about when Myles Garrett sits comfortably at No. 1 because, at this point, what exactly is the case against him? There isn't one. So, I like

that pick for No. 1.

Garrett has turned impossible expectations into the very possible. Twenty-three sacks. Thirty-three tackles for loss. Defensive coordinators don't spend all week trying to stop good players. They lose sleep over players like Garrett.

Let's dig deeper into ESPN's ranking, released on July 8, ahead of the new season. They have Garrett at No. 1, which makes sense, but what about the rest?

Micah Parsons of the Green Bay Packers belongs right behind him, and he's No. 2 on the tally. Even with the ACL injury hanging over the conversation, his power still jumps off the screen. He's the kind of defender who changes the feel of the play before the ball is even snapped. That's a different level of respect.

After that, though, I'd shuffle the order just a bit.

Maxx Crosby deserves to be a spot higher. He's No. 4, but I'd put him at

No. 3. Nobody plays harder, but his injury and failing the Ravens' physical likely made him lower on their list. Still, he's a legend and should be around No. 3.

I'd also bump Aidan Hutchinson up a notch. He's No. 5, and I'd place him at No. 4. The production speaks for itself, but it's the way he gets there that stands out. His hands are polished, his power keeps tackles guessing and his motor never seems to have an off switch. He's also held up the Lions' defense without much help. Detroit asks a lot from him, and he answers almost every week without much fanfare.

Will Anderson Jr. falls at No. 3 on the tally. He absolutely belongs in this conversation, and his ceiling still feels ridiculous. But if we're talking right now, Crosby and Hutchinson have earned just a little more love, so I'd put Anderson at No. 5.

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Legals & Public Notices

Beverage Notice

Trifecta Design LLC ABC License Public Notice

Trifecta design LLC, Mailing address 243 Walton Ave Hereby declares intention to apply for a NQ4 Retail Malt Beverage Drink License, Quota Retail Drink License, Special Sunday Retail Drink License no later than July22nd 2026, The business to be licensed will be located at 169 N. Limestone St. Lexington, Kentucky 40507 doing business as Trifecta Design LLC. The owners are as follows:

Owner, Travis Adams of 638 Central Ave Lexington, Ky 40502

Owner, Tomas Frenes of 501 Stovall St SE Atlanta, Ga 30316

Aaron and Amanda Rowland, of 125 Lakewood Dr, Lexington Ky 40502

Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license(s) by writing the Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 1003 Twilight Trail, Frankfort, Ky. 40601-8400, within 30 days of the date of this legal publication. IPL0358072 Jul 17 2026

Brewed Nails, LLC plans to apply for two liquor licenses by July 15th.

Brewed Nails LLC, Mailing address 4257 Harrodsburg rd Suite 140 Lexington Ky 40513, hereby declares intentions to apply for a NQ4 Retail Malt Beverage drink license and a Quota Retail drink license no later than July 15th 2026. The business to be license will be located at 4257 Harrodsburg rd Suite 140 Lexington Ky 40513 doing business as Polish Lounge. The owner is Molida soth of 3574 Tranquility pt, Lexington Ky 40509. Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license (s) by writing of Department of Alcoholic Beverages control, 500 Mero Street 2NE33, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601, within thirty (30) days of the date of legal publication. IPL0358193 Jul 17 2026

Legals & Public Notices

Notice of RFP

The Lexington and Fayette County Parking Authority has published a Request For Proposals Sump Pump System Replacement and Modernization for the Courthouse Garage. Please contact senior facilities manager Jared Daugherty at jdaugherty@lexpark.org for more information or to request the RFP documents. IPL0357437 Jul 15-19 2026

Notice of Sale

Worldwide Equipment 945 Nandino Blvd Lexington Ky 40511, 859-281-5152 is seeking to sell a 2014 Kenworth T680. Vin # 1XKYDP9X-0EJ394654. Owner Capital Trucking, 7215 Cross Park Drive North Charleston SC 29418 IPL0358028 Jul 17 Aug 7 2026

Legals & Public Notices

Lexington Center Corporation seeks bids for firewall replacement

LCC is seeking bids to replace firewalls within its IT network. If interested, please email Keith Stowe at KStowe@centralbankcenter.com IPL0358179 Jul 17 2026

Beverage Notice

Alcohol Beverage Legal Notice

Water Tower Outdoor Cafe D.B.A Water Tower Outdoor Cafe declares its intention to apply for a NQ2 Retail Drink License no later than 08/15/2026. The licensed premises will be located at 141 Turner Commons Way, Lexington, KY 40511. The owner is Samantha Martin, 249 Sprinters Trail, Lexington, KY 40511. Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license by writing the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 500 Mero Street 2NE33, Frankfort, KY, 40601, within thirty (30) days of the date of legal publication. IPL0358044 Jul 17 2026

Auctions

Garage Sales

HUGE INDOOR Yard Sale

Lexington KY INDOOR YARD SALE on Saturday, July 18, 2026, from 8:00AM-2:00PM at Trinity Hill Methodist Church, 3600 Tates Creek Road, Lexington KY 40517

Merchandise

Miscellaneous

Bluegrass memorial gardens grave site for sale.

Section 30-Lot space 1&2. Listed price 3,999.00 ea. Selling price for one space 3,450.00. both spaces 4,650.00. Contact Leslie Taylor 859-421-3893.

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