

The Eagle-Tribune tvupdate

Your Weekly Guide to TV Entertainment

For the week of December 3 - 9, 2017



Clayne Crawford stars in "Lethal Weapon"

Action packed

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As Riggs (Clayne Crawford, "Rectify") struggles to rebuild his life, he and Murtaugh (Damon Wayans, "In Living Color") continue to work a crime-ridden beat in Los Angeles in "Lethal Weapon," airing Tuesday, Dec. 5, on Fox. This season, Murtaugh faces some challenging times at home with his wife, Trish (Keesha Sharp, "Girlfriends"). The buddy cop comedy-drama is based on the popular film series of the same name.

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A worthy reboot

Action, drama and comedy abound in 'Lethal Weapon'

By Kyla Brewer
TV Media

These days, the television landscape is peppered with all sorts of shows, but drama and comedy are still the meat and potatoes of prime time. Many series attempt to mix the two genres, but few of them do it with the ease of Fox's "Lethal Weapon."

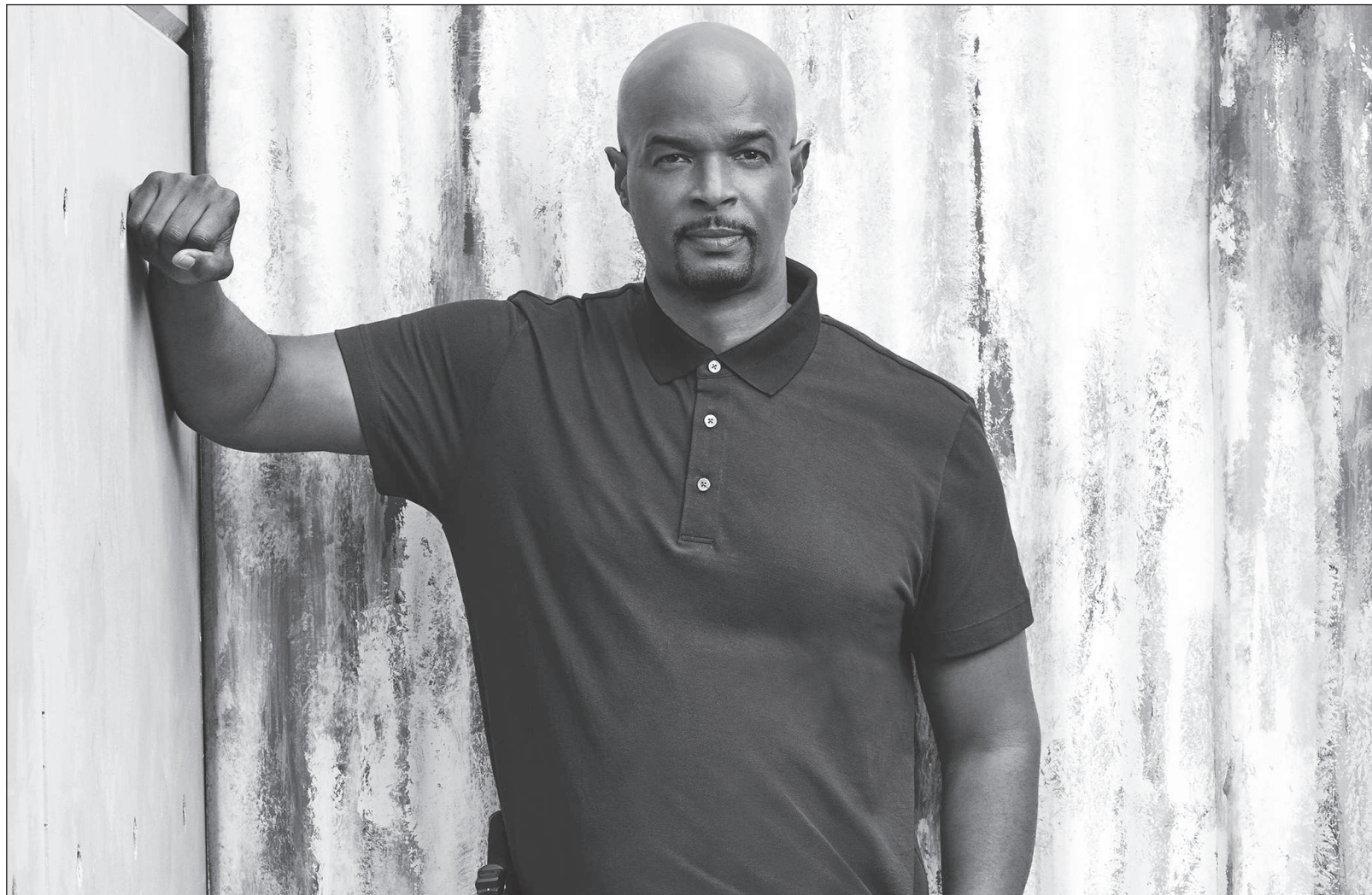
Damon Wayans ("In Living Color") and Clayne Crawford ("Rectify") star as Roger Murtaugh and Martin Riggs, respectively, in the second season of "Lethal Weapon," airing Tuesday, Dec. 5, on Fox. Based on the popular film series from the '80s and '90s, the show follows L.A. cops assigned to a crime-ridden beat.

The original "Lethal Weapon" franchise brought the buddy movie formula to a whole new level, and Fox's TV version offers fans the same mix of action, drama and humor. When the TV version premiered last September, Wayans and Crawford quickly won over viewers with their chemistry and earned the show an early season 2 renewal. Fox executive David Madden had high praise for the series when the early renewal was announced in February.

"'Lethal Weapon' continues to fire on all cylinders," Madden said. "Every week, it delivers a big fun roller-coaster ride, but also remains touchingly human and genuinely emotional."

While there were plenty of naysayers who doubted that the television reboot of the films could recreate the action-packed fun of the original, which starred Mel Gibson ("Braveheart," 1995) and Danny Glover ("The Color Purple" 1985) as Riggs and Murtaugh, Fox's "Lethal Weapon" has held its own. That is in large part due to the aforementioned chemistry between Wayans and Crawford.

As Murtaugh, Wayans is the proverbial straight man to Crawford's loose cannon as Riggs. A husband and father of three, Murtaugh recently returned to the force after a heart attack, only to find himself paired with



Damon Wayans stars in "Lethal Weapon"

out-of-control new hire Riggs. With everything to live for, Murtaugh found himself struggling to rein in his self-destructive partner lest he put them both at risk.

On the flipside, Crawford's Riggs lives a very different lifestyle with his trailer on the beach and 1977 Ford F-350. The antithesis of his partner, former Navy SEAL Riggs has a blatant disregard for safety as he pursues criminals. His destructive tendencies seem to stem from the loss of his wife and unborn child in El Paso, Texas.

It's typical buddy comedy fodder, but Crawford and Wayans manage to keep the show from slipping into cliché with their chemistry, which has been almost universally praised by critics. Their connection may be, in part, due

to the fact that Crawford grew up watching Wayans in his groundbreaking sketch comedy series "In Living Color." In an interview with Collider.com, the actor claimed the show was at least partially responsible for his sense of humor: "For me, everything those guys wrote made me laugh out loud," Crawford said.

Unlike a lot of recent television reboots, the "Lethal Weapon" TV series has remained fairly faithful to the original, at least when it comes to the key players. Keesha Sharp ("Girlfriends") stars as Murtaugh's wife, Trish, a lawyer. In the "Lethal Weapon" film series, the character was played by singer Darlene Love. Murtaugh's two teenage children also play prominently in the TV series. Riana Murtaugh, known as Rianne (Traci Wolf, "In the Heat of the

Night") in the film series, is now played by Chandler Kinney ("Girl Meets World"). Roger Jr., named Nick (Damon Hines, "Chicago Hope") in the movies, is now portrayed by Dante Brown ("Mr. Robinson").

"Mad Men" alumnus Kevin Rahm takes on the role of Capt. Brooks Avery, which was based on the character of Capt. Ed Murphy (Steve Kahan, "Conspiracy Theory," 1997) in the film franchise. Jordana Brewster ("The Fast and the Furious," 2001) appears as police department psychologist Dr. Maureen Cahill, a character based on the movies' Dr. Stephanie Woods, a role originated by Mary Ellen Trainor ("The Goonies," 1985).

Fox's television series has also added medical examiner and forensics technician Scorsese

(Johnathan Fernandez, "Bull"), and Det. Sonya Bailey (Michelle Mitchener, "Chi-Raq," 2015).

The recurring cast includes Thomas Lennon ("The Odd Couple") as ambulance-chasing attorney Leo Getz, Hilarie Burton ("One Tree Hill") as DEA Agent Karen Palmer, and Richard Cabral ("American Crime") as Det. Alejandro Cruz. Season 2 welcomes Michelle Hurd ("Law and Order: Special Victims Unit") as Gina Santos, and Andrew Creer ("Baracuda") as young cop Zach Bowman.

All of these characters come together to entertain audiences in the second season, which finds Murtaugh navigating rough waters at home, while also trying to steer Riggs away from his demons. For all of his growth last season, Riggs is still a wild spirit.

While ratings have taken a dip so far this season, averaging about four million live viewers per episode compared to more than eight million last season, "Lethal Weapon" is still faring well in the grand scheme of prime-time television. Recent talk of a possible reboot of the film franchise could raise the show's profile even more. That's right, Gibson and Glover may reunite on the big screen in a new "Lethal Weapon," or so rumor has it. In October, deadline.com reported that the actors and director Richard Donner ("Superman," 1978) had been considering a new film version.

With plans for a new movie still up in the air, fans of the series can get their weekly dose of "Lethal Weapon" Tuesday, Dec. 5, on Fox.

WEEKDAY DAYTIME DECEMBER 4, 2017 TO DECEMBER 8, 2017

Table with columns for time slots (8 AM to 4:30) and rows for program categories (BROADCAST, KIDS, LEARN, SPORTS, VARIETY, PREMIUM). Each row contains program titles and associated channels.

Cooking

highlights

Sunday

8:00 p.m.

23 Martha Bakes Learn to make dough inspired by Japanese milk bread. (30m) TVG

FOOD Guy's Grocery Games The remaining judges create a seafood dish on a budget. (1h) TVG

8:30 p.m.

23 America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated (30m) TVG

9:00 p.m.

23 Mike Colameco's Real Food (30m) TVG

Monday

8:00 p.m.

23 Lidia's Kitchen Lidia shows the classic technique of poaching an egg. (30m) TVG

FOOD Holiday Baking Championship Bakers make anything but cake inspired by a meme. (1h) TVG

8:30 p.m.

23 Cook's Country From America's Test Kitchen (30m) TVG

9:00 p.m.

23 A Chef's Life Chef Vivian and her husband move to North Carolina. (30m) TVG

Tuesday

8:00 p.m.

23 Martha Bakes Learn to make the perfect cookie for every occasion. (30m) TVG

TRAV Bizarre Foods: Delicious Destinations Andrew Zimmern reveals Tel Aviv's most iconic eats. (30m) TVG

9:00 p.m.

FOOD Chopped A holiday party with four stars of reality television. (1h) TVG

Wednesday

8:00 p.m.

FOOD Iron Chef Showdown Chef Leah Cohen takes on her rival Marcellus Coleman. (1h)

8:30 p.m.

23 Cook's Country From America's Test Kitchen Jack challenges Bridget to a tasting of dill pickles. (30m) TVG

9:00 p.m.

23 A Chef's Life A recipe for coconut cornbread strawberry shortcake. (30m) TVG

Thursday

8:00 p.m.

23 Martha Bakes Martha shares expert tips for making a calzone. (30m) TVG

8:30 p.m.

23 America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated (30m) TVG

9:00 p.m.

5 9 The Great American Baking Show Bakers make delicious cakes. (1h) TVPG

Friday

8:00 p.m.

23 Lidia's Kitchen (30m) TVG

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives (1h) TVG

8:30 p.m.

23 Cook's Country From America's Test Kitchen Jack challenges Julia to a tasting of mild salsa. (30m) TVG

9:00 p.m.

23 A Chef's Life The restaurant gears up for a practice service. (30m) TVG

FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives Guy's hitting up classic, real-deal burger joints. (1h) TVG

9:30 p.m.

23 Pati's Mexican Table Pati tours La Mixteca and creates new recipes. (30m) TVG

Saturday

8:00 p.m.

FOOD Cake Wars: Christmas The teams must give "The Nutcracker" a modern twist. (1h) TVPG

9:00 p.m.

FOOD Cake Wars: Christmas Four remaining teams return to battle! (1h) TVPG

9:30 p.m.

23 Sara's Weeknight Meals Sara makes homemade marshmallows. (30m) TVG

North Andover Eagle Tribune, MA: Food Dec 3, 2017 to Dec 9, 2017

taste tv

Top of the world

'Top Chef' heads to Colorado's mountains



Padma Lakshmi and Tom Colicchio in "Top Chef"

By Andrew Warren
TV Media

Unpack those knives and settle in for a satisfying meal. Bravo's "Top Chef" is back with a tantalizing 15th season that's taking the culinary competition to new heights — literally.

The long-running cooking competition returns Thursday, Dec. 7, with a new group of cheftestants who are all ready to test their culinary mettle against their peers. Unlike, say, Fox's "MasterChef," the competitors here aren't amateurs — far from it. Instead, they're all culinary professionals, some fairly new to the culinary world and others wizened veterans who own their own successful restaurants.

Each season of "Top Chef" whisks the competition off to

another location where most of the season is set, and this iteration is no exception. This year, the judges are trading in last season's sunny coastal city of Charleston, South Carolina, for the crisp mountain air of Colorado. It isn't just a change in scenery, though. The culinary traditions and local ingredients always play a big part of the challenges the cheftestants face, and the Centennial State's altitude could definitely force some of the chefs out of their comfort zones as well.

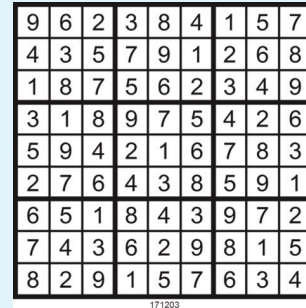
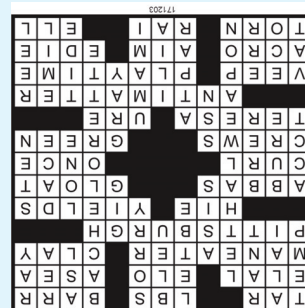
Model and cookbook author Padma Lakshmi returns to host — a role to which she's brought a touch of class since the series' second season. Five-time James Beard Award-winning chef Tom Colicchio is back as head judge, with chefs Gail Simmons, Richard Blais and

Graham Elliot also returning to their seats at the judges table.

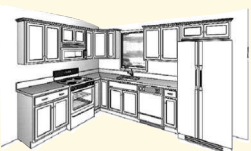
Also back this year is "Last Chance Kitchen," the online companion series first introduced in the ninth season. Hosted by Colicchio, the bite-size weekly episodes feature whichever cheftestant was eliminated that week trying to outcook whoever the reigning "Last Chance Kitchen" winner may be, with the loser getting eliminated, and the ultimate

winner returning to the main competition. It's a chance for talented chefs who were eliminated too soon to earn their way back into the main competition, as in season 10, when "Last Chance Kitchen" winner Kristen Kish went on to win the main event.

With 14 seasons behind it, "Top Chef" is still flying high. The culinary competition heads to the beautiful peaks of Colorado Thursday, Dec. 7, on Bravo.



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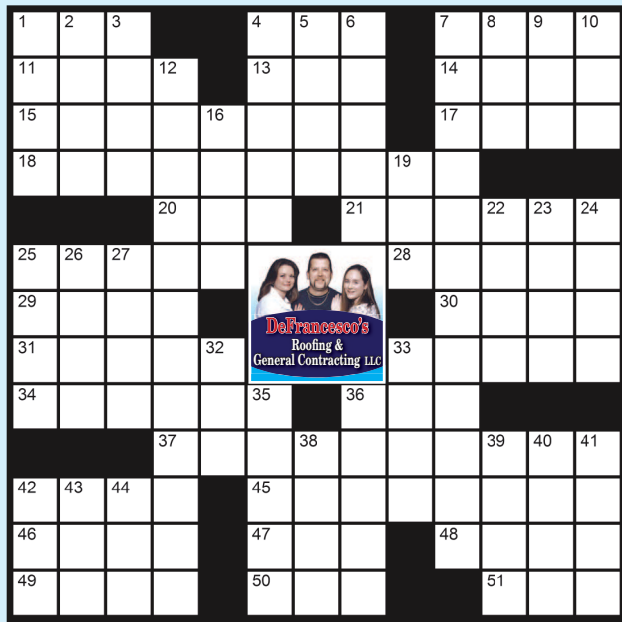
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Television Crossword



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ACROSS

- 1 Driveway material
4 Dieters' units: Abbr.
7 "Roseanne's" Roseanne
11 Airline to Israel
13 "Telephone Line" grp.
14 Where ships go
15 Like the shark in "Jaws" (1975)
17 "American Idol" runner-up Aiken
18 City frequently seen in "This Is Us"
20 Make haste
21 Rates of return
25 Arafat's successor
28 Rub it in
29 Lock of hair
30 ABC fantasy drama "____ Upon a Time"
31 Brooklyn Nine-Nine star Terry
33 "Robot Chicken" co-creator and star Seth

- 34 Nobel prize-winning Mother
36 Suffix with strict
37 "Star Trek" warp drive fuel
42 HBO dramedy starring Julia Louis-Dreyfus
45 Recess, at elementary school
46 Prefix with phobia
47 Ready follower?
48 Falco of "The Sopranos"
49 Rent
50 Italian BBC counterpart
51 Home extension
Oscar-nominated star Stephen ____
10 Actor Romano, who starred in a hit 1996-2005 sitcom
12 Cop series starring Damon Wayans and Clayne Crawford
16 Without warranty
19 Band booking
22 "The ____ Ranger"
23 Small river fish
24 British submachine gun
25 Billing abbr.
26 "Full House" and "Fuller House's" Candace Cameron

DOWN

- 1 Office fill-in
2 Jai ____ (high-speed sport)
3 Go on and on
4 Do not disturb
5 Chicken cordon ____
6 Classic board game based on Parcheesi
7 Future role for some contestants in "The Bachelor"
8 Communication for the deaf: Abbr.
9 "The Crying Game's" (1992)
27 ____ Fox
32 Common ID
33 Oscar Wilde's Dorian
35 How some stocks are sold
36 Fifth taste
38 Pelvic bones
39 Ocean motion
40 Oscar winner Jannings
41 Fishing rod attachment
42 Wine holder
43 Environmental prefix
44 Take a wrong turn



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Mon. Jan 15....Sunday River	Mon. Mar 12....Okemo
Mon. Jan 22....Okemo	Mon. Mar 19....Sunday River
Mon. Jan 29....Stowe	Mon. Apr 2.....Loon
Mon. Feb 5.....Stratton	Sat. Apr 7.....Sunday River (Brew Fest)

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Video releases

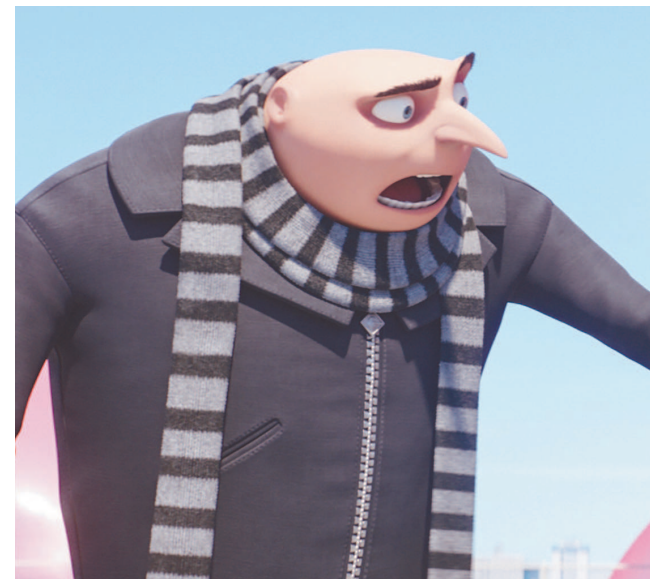
Despicable Me 3

When former supervillain Gru (Carell) and his wife, Lucy (Wiig), fail to capture Balthazar Bratt (Parker), a former child star turned supervillain, they are fired by the head of the Anti-Villain League. Not long after losing his job, Gru is contacted by his long-lost twin brother, Dru (Carell), who reveals that their deceased father was also a legendary supervillain. Dru tries to persuade Gru to return to his evil ways, which he refuses to do, but while the siblings are busy bonding, Balthazar succeeds in acquiring the final piece needed to fully complete his super-weapon. The reunited siblings must team up to stop the villain from completing his dastardly scheme, while hopefully also getting Gru and Lucy their jobs back.

Directors: Kyle Balda, Pierre Coffin. Stars: Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Trey Parker, Miranda Cosgrove, Dana Gaier, Nev Scharrel, Pierre Coffin. 2017. 90 min. Animation.

American Assassin

After his girlfriend is killed in a violent terrorist attack while they're on vacation, Mitch Rapp (O'Brien) becomes consumed by his need for revenge, and is recruited by a CIA black operations unit named Orion. Rapp embraces the training by Orion's leader, Cold War veteran Stan Hurley (Keaton), and when nuclear material goes missing, the team is dispatched to stop it from falling into the wrong hands. The thief, however, is soon identified as someone from Hurley's past long thought dead — a former Orion operative.
Director: Michael Cuesta. Stars: Dylan O'Brien, Michael Keaton, Taylor Kitsch, Sanaa Lathan, David Suchet. 2017. 112 min. Action.



Gru in a scene from "Despicable Me 3"

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God Bless

The Great American Baking Show

5 9 9:00 p.m.

Ayesha Curry and Anthony Adams co-host as bakers from all over the country put their best recipes forward in the hopes of being crowned America's Best Amateur Baker in this season premiere.

Arrow

56 9:00 p.m.

Oliver Queen (Stephen Amell) and the rest of his allies get into the spirit in this special holiday episode. Based on the DC Comics character Green Arrow, this television adaptation follows a billionaire who becomes a vigilante to protect Star City.



Kelly Overton in "Van Helsing"

Van Helsing

SYFY 9:00 p.m.

Chaos ensues when a tense standoff between law enforcement and survivors erupts into a bloodbath in this new episode. At the same time, Axel (Jonathan Scarfe) and Scarlett (Missy Peregrym) are hunted like prey.

The Orville

25 9:00 p.m.

Ed (Seth MacFarlane) and Kelly (Adrienne Palicki) consider getting back together, but their discussion is put on hold while Kelly goes on a mission with Isaac (Mark Jackson) and Gordon (Scott Grimes) to investigate an uncharted star from another universe.

THURSDAY PRIME TIME

DECEMBER 7, 2017

Table with columns for channel, show name, time, and a grid of program listings for various categories including Broadcast, Kids, Learn, Sports, Variety, and Premium.

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Carriage Towne News

The Eagle Tribune

Late laughs

Conan

Last Friday, Dr. Phil hit a skateboarder with his car. Dr. Phil was overheard yelling, "Quick, somebody, get a real doctor!"

In the past week, several prominent men have been fired for sexual harassment,

sandwich saying the deer meat was not obtained by hunting. Arby's said, "Our deer meat is obtained by driving."

Foreign policy experts say that the president of China is now the world's most powerful person. As you can

Sudoku

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

171203

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

Solution on page 8.

and it's being called "The Harvey Effect." Of course, none of them will see any jail time, and that's being called "The Cosby Effect."

Bill O'Reilly revealed that he is mad at God for putting him through his sexual harassment scandal. Today, God refused to comment. Instead, She just laughed.

A California elementary school is under fire for putting up a Donald Trump scarecrow. Even worse, 30 per cent of the crows still think the Trump scarecrow is doing a great job.

Arby's has responded to critics of its venison

imagine, that came as quite a shock to Beyoncé.

Nickelodeon has fired a male producer after multiple accusations of sexual harassment. He's the creator of Nickelodeon's "Spongebob No-Pants."

The Tonight Show With Jimmy Fallon

Developers are working on a Hyperloop that could get you from Washington, D.C., to New York City in just 29 minutes. And once you're here, you can take a subway from Penn Station to Times Square in just four hours.

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I heard that people in Hawaii are stealing cans of Spam and reselling them. So if you think you're having a rough day, imagine being the guy waiting on the corner for his Spam dealer.

I read about a couple in Orlando who ordered plastic storage bins on Amazon and got a delivery filled with 65 pounds of weed. They were like, "Wow — Amazon Prime's even better than we thought!"

I saw that one of Albert Einstein's notes about his theory for a happy life sold at auction for \$1.5 million. 1.5 million! It got awkward when the buyer read the note and it said, "Money can't buy happiness."

I read that Queen Elizabeth has made nearly \$9 million in winnings from her race horses over the past 30 years. She lost most of it betting on cockfights, but still — that's a lot!

The Late Show With James Corden

Snoop Dogg has taken aim at the president once again in his new single called "Make America Crip Again." A representative of Snoop explained that with "Make America Crip Again," Snoop's intention is to, quote, "unite,

not divide." Because what organization could be more unifying than the South Central L.A. street gang, the Crips.

Why is Donald Trump so proud of getting a standing ovation? Standing ovations aren't sincere. They are just something that people feel obligated to do. I'm saying this as someone who gets a standing ovation every night.

Jimmy Kimmel Live

According to the latest Fox News poll, President Trump has a 38 per cent approval rating — and only six per cent on Rotten Tomatoes. Turns out, bringing the country to the brink of nuclear war while golfing every day isn't playing as well with the voters as he'd hoped.

This is what the president had for lunch today: a bowl of rice and two slices of cherry pie. He doesn't just act like a child, he EATS like a child.

Late Night With Seth Meyers

Amazon is testing a new service that allows couriers to unlock homes and leave packages inside. Learn more about the new service on a future episode of "Dateline."