

CHICAGO SPORTS

Pace: 'We have to learn from our failures'

Bears shake up staff, but top brass keep confidence in GM, coach Nagy



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FOOD & DINING



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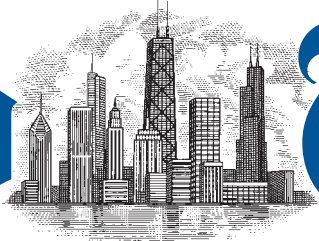
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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2020

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM



KHALID MOHAMMED/AP

Dozens of angry Iraqi Shiite militia supporters burn property Tuesday in front of the U.S. Embassy compound, in Baghdad.

Shiite militia attacks US Embassy in Iraq

Iraqi protesters, backed by Iran, retaliate for deadly airstrikes

BY QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Angered by deadly airstrikes targeting an Iran-backed militia, dozens of Iraqi Shiite militiamen and their supporters broke into the U.S. Embassy compound in Baghdad on Tuesday, smashing a main door and setting fire to a reception area in one of the worst attacks on the embassy in recent memory.

American guards fired tear gas, and palls of smoke rose over the embassy grounds.

An Associated Press reporter at the scene saw flames rising from inside the

compound and U.S. soldiers on the roof of the main embassy building with their guns pointed at protesters.

A man on a loudspeaker urged the mob not to enter the compound, saying, "The message was delivered."

There were no reports of casualties. The State Department said all American personnel were safe and that there were no plans to evacuate the embassy. The government planned to send more troops to protect the compound.

The breach followed U.S. airstrikes on Sunday that killed 25 fighters of the Iran-backed militia in Iraq, the Kataeb Hezbollah. The U.S. military said the

strikes were in retaliation for last week's killing of an American contractor in a rocket attack on an Iraqi military base that the U.S. blamed on the militia.

President Donald Trump blamed Iran for the embassy breach and called on Iraq to protect the diplomatic mission.

"Iran killed an American contractor, wounding many. We strongly responded, and always will. Now Iran is orchestrating an attack on the U.S. Embassy in Iraq. They will be held fully responsible. In addition, we expect Iraq to use its forces to protect the Embassy, and so notified!"

Turn to Iraq, Page 6

Here's 411 on 250 new laws for 2020

This is what you'll need to know about raft of regulations and policies taking effect

BY DAN PETRELLA AND JAMIE MUNKS

The law making recreational marijuana legal on Jan. 1 has been getting most of the attention, but that's just one of more than 250 new state laws and taxes that kick in with the new year.

The start of 2020 will bring higher costs for drivers, with a new tax on parking and higher license plate fees, along with bigger paychecks for minimum wage workers.

The new year should also reduce frustrations for men looking for diaper changing stations in public restrooms, and cut down on the hassle of name changes for people who have been divorced.

Here's a rundown of some of the laws and policies that take effect Jan. 1.

Minimum wage: Low-wage workers across Illinois are getting a raise this year as the statewide minimum wage increases by \$1 per hour, to \$9.25, the first state-mandated pay hike for the lowest-paid workers in a decade. Workers will get another 75-cent raise to \$10 an hour on July 1. Annual \$1-per-hour increases will continue each New Year's Day until wages hit \$15 per hour in 2025.

Chicago's minimum wage, currently \$13 per hour, will increase to \$14 on July 1 and to \$15 on July 1, 2021, under an ordinance the City Council approved in November.

Parking tax: A new tax on parking kicks in to help pay for building projects as part of Gov. J.B. Pritzker's \$45 billion "Rebuild Illinois" infrastructure program. There will be a new 6% daily and 9% monthly tax on garage and lot parking. Parking lots and garages owned and operated by the state or local governments are exempt.

License plate fees: To support transportation-related projects, license plate fees

Turn to Laws, Page 4

On eve of legal pot, 11,000 are pardoned

BY ELVIA MALAGÓN

On the day before recreational cannabis becomes legal in Illinois, Gov. J.B. Pritzker announced he was pardoning more than 11,000 people who had been convicted of low-level marijuana crimes.

"When Illinois' first adult use cannabis shops open their doors tomorrow, we must all remember that the purpose of this legislation is not to immediately make cannabis widely available or to maximize product on the shelves, that's not the main purpose, that will come with time," Pritzker said to a crowd at Trinity United Church of Christ on the Far South Side. "But instead the defining purpose of legalization is to maximize equity for generations to come."

Pritzker, who has touted the social equity elements of the recreational pot law he signed this summer, was joined Tuesday by state, county and local leaders including Cook County State's Attorney



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Gov. J.B. Pritzker speaks after granting pardons for people with low-level cannabis convictions at an event at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago on Tuesday.

Kim Foxx, who has already begun the process of clearing the records of those with low-level marijuana convictions in her jurisdiction.

The 11,017 people pardoned by Pritzker will receive notification about their cases, all of which are from outside Cook County, by mail. The pardon means convictions involving less than 30 grams of marijuana will be automatically expunged.

Pritzker and other elected officials said they believe Illinois is the first state to

include a process for those previously convicted of marijuana offenses to seek relief upon legalization of cannabis.

"This is justice," said Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton. "And this is what equity is all about, righting wrongs and leveling the playing field."

Former state Sen. Toi Hutchinson, now senior adviser to the governor on cannabis control, struggled with her emotions as she reflected on the work she and other

Turn to Pardon, Page 3

6 dispensaries won't be ready to dispense

BY ALLY MAROTTI

Recreational marijuana sales start Wednesday in Illinois, but 14% of the dispensaries that received state and local approval to sell weed won't be ready in time.

Thirty-seven marijuana stores around the state plan to open their doors to recreational customers, many as early as 6 a.m. on Wednesday. Another six received approval but will not open because of construction, permitting issues or other reasons.

Zen Leaf's location in St. Charles is one of them. Though city council approved recreational cannabis sales in the western suburb, there are still zoning issues to work out, said spokesman David Spreckman. The dispensary hopes to be open by February.

"It's going well, it's looking good, it's just taking a little bit of time," he said. "Everybody thought, 'Jan. 1 is good, the state's going to be ready,' but in reality, in every one of these townships, it's a whole different process."

Dispensary operators have had concerns for months they might not be ready for the Jan. 1 kickoff of recreational sales. Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed the recreational cannabis

Turn to Sales, Page 3



Tom Skilling's forecast High 40 Low 35

Chicago Weather Center: Complete forecast on back of Chicago Sports

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TRIBUNE ADDS NY TIMES SERVICE

Dear Tribune readers,

You might have noticed stories from The New York Times appearing over the last few days in the print version of the Chicago Tribune and on our website, chicagotribune.com.

We have licensed The New York Times as one of our 2020 wire services. We will no longer carry The Washington Post. Partnering with The Times gives us a broader array of content than the Post could offer and more flexibility to serve our digital audience.

We're excited to add The Times to our deep pool of non-local journalism, which includes the Associated Press, Tribune Content Agency, Tribune News Service, Getty Photos and several other syndicates.

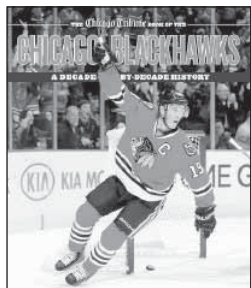
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The Times is a strong complement to the local journalism that remains at the core of our mission. Covering our communities and staying relevant to your lives is how we serve you best. We look forward to delivering on that promise and maintaining your trust in 2020.

Regards,
Bruce Dold
Publisher and Editor-in-Chief

'THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE BOOK OF THE CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS'

The Blackhawks, one of the NHL's "Original Six," have been building a storied legacy since their founding in 1926. The Hawks have produced dozens of standout stars, from Hall of Fame goaltender Mike Karakas in the '30s to Bobby "The Golden Jet" Hull in the '60s to current team captain Jonathan Toews, who has led the team to a remarkable three championships since 2010. This comprehensive collection includes archival photos, original reporting, player profiles, timelines, statistics, and more—all curated by the Tribune's sports department from the newspaper's vast archives. Available at chicagotribune.com/hawkshistory, and wherever books are sold.



"A Century of Progress" Between 1933 and 1934, over 48 million visitors attended "A Century of Progress Exposition," the world's fair located in Chicago, Illinois. This collection of rare photographs from the world's fair has been carefully chosen from the Chicago Tribune's voluminous archives. Featuring an informative introduction by Tribune reporter and historian Ron Grossman, this book documents one of the most expansive displays of technological advancement and cultural diversity that took place in the 20th century.

"10 Things You Might Not Know About Nearly Everything" You may never need to know the human body contains a half-pound of salt, but that's just one of the obscure facts you'll find about sports, history, religion, politics, arts and culture, food and leisure, and science and technology in this collection of columns from Mark Jacob and Stephan Benzkofer.

"Even the Terrible Things Seem Beautiful to Me Now, 2nd Edition" Over the last two decades, Mary Schmich's column in the Chicago Tribune has offered advice, humor and discerning commentary on a broad array of topics including family, personal milestones, mental illness, writing and life in Chicago. This second edition — updated to include Schmich's best pieces since its original publication — collects her 10 Pulitzer-winning columns along with more than 150 others, creating a compelling collection that reflects Schmich's thoughtful, insightful and engaging sensibility.

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MARGARET HOLT, standards editor

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Corrections and clarifications: Publishing information quickly and accurately is a central part of the Chicago Tribune's news responsibility.

■ Due to a production error, the Ask Amy and the Celebrities column for Dec. 31 did not appear in the paper. The missing Ask Amy column is on Page 14, along with the column that was scheduled for Jan. 1. The Tribune regrets the error.

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ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The sun rises at 31st Street Beach on Tuesday as, in the author's words, the curtain rises on the mystery of another day.

Another year, another time to marvel at our existence



MARY SCHMICH

The following is a Mary Schmich column classic, first printed in 2014:

Almost every day for the past year I've woken up with the same startled thought:

I'm alive.
Sometimes I lie there and say it aloud, though not on purpose. The words just pop out, as uninvited as a snore.

I'm alive.
I open my eyes and look at the room. It's here. I'm here. Again. Huh. Interesting.

The curtain rises on the mystery of another day.

This "I'm alive" thing started happening just after my brother Bill died, three days into 2013. Nothing puts your own mortality into perspective like the death of someone who is approximately your age, especially if it's someone you love.

My brother was a year younger than I am, with a wife he adored and two sons he hadn't finished raising, facts to which the universe was impervious. As we sat holding hands on his living room sofa last New Year's Eve, gazing at the tabletop Christmas tree with the lights we'd strung on it together, I knew we were ringing in his last year.

I think he knew it, too, but making it to the new

year seemed to matter to him. He fought to get that far, in defiance of medical predictions, hanging on, I sensed, because he wanted to cross the threshold one more time, into the fresh territory of January.

New year, new hope. We're bred to believe in the power of the calendar.

Bill got three mornings after last New Year's Eve to wake up to the daylight and think, "I'm alive."

So now when I wake up, I involuntarily think it, and though that might sound sad, that's not how the thought comes to me. It's more an intrigued observation, the way you might feel when you see a bird glide across the sky.

Wow. Amazing. Where did that bird come from? Where is it going?

Where did this day come from? Where is it going?

These kinds of questions — about time, life, the elusive truth of it all — are often snapped into sharp focus on New Year's Day. We may not perceive them

as questions, but the frenzy of organizing and resolving that accompanies the new year is how we deal with the questions, trying to tame time through the force of will.

If we can just make it to another January, we can correct course, right what's wrong, permanently tidy up the sock drawer.

So we make resolutions: Walk more. Sit less. More sleep. Less caffeine.

More kale. Fewer Snickers bars.

More music. Less Facebook.

Less spending. More giving.

Get rid of the unmatched socks.

Along with making resolutions, some of us beat back the cosmic questions with fresh calendars.

Even in an era of online calendars, there's still a market for the old-fashioned paper kind, one with pages that can be touched and flipped and marked on, manual exertions that

bolster the illusion that we are in control of the slippery thing called life.

I bought my 2014 calendar a few days ago and on Tuesday laid it on the dining table, at the ready for the new year.

It's an "Arts & Crafts" calendar featuring block prints by Gustave Bauermann, Walter J. Phillips and William S. Rice. I bought it partly because the art is pleasing and partly because it was 50% off.

Now it sits open to the first page for January, across from an image called "Little Log House," a 1926 woodcut that depicts a cabin in a snowfield, under a gray sky, surrounded by bare trees. Bleak winter made tender and uplifting.

Following that page is a procession of days that haven't happened yet, on shiny pages filled with blank spaces for life still to come, marked by the occasional notification of events that will occur regardless of the calendar owner's plans.

Mardi Gras (March 4). Daylight saving time (March 9). A Northern Ireland bank holiday (July 14). The autumnal equinox (Sept. 23).

The calendar marches through them all, all the way to January 2015; in calendar time, the future is already here.

But today those pages, like the year itself, are still open, pure, waiting.

You're alive.
It's a good day to be startled, and be glad.

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CHICAGOLAND

Annual lake plunge pushed west again

Rising lake, beach erosion helps move New Year's event

BY AMY LAVALLEY

The annual Polar Plunge, held on New Year's Day and organized by Elsie Anderson since 1999, is moving to the west. Again.

A rising Lake Michigan and beach erosion have moved the cold-hardy crowd and their quick dip into the lake's chilly waters to the west over the past several years.

This year, the plan is to use the Ogden Dunes beach access point that abuts West Beach in Indiana Dunes National Park, Anderson said of the beach access point where the plunge will take place, which is on the western end of Shore Drive.

"We originally went at access point 2, but the only place you can get to the water is No. 19. The good thing is, there's great beach there," she said of this year's location.

The group met at access point 14 last year, but Anderson said lake waves made the traditional bonfire tough. The Polar Plunge sticks to the beaches in Ogden Dunes because beach fire are not allowed in Indiana Dunes National Park.

This year's location also has lots of parking, Ander-



ANDY LAVALLEY/POST-TRIBUNE

Polar Plunge sponsors Elsie Anderson and her brother, Wade, at Ogden Dunes beach, where it's to be held Wednesday.

son said, adding that because there's no sea wall to capture the sand, the beach there is still in good shape and hasn't been lost to the lake.

"This could be an epic swim," she said, adding she hopes the location is still available next year.

Anderson has said that her older brother suggested the plunge on a visit from Connecticut and the event

took off from there. In addition to the bonfire on the beach, Anderson will host whoever wants to stop by at her Ogden Dunes home for another fire and a meal.

The bonfire at the beach will start around 12:45 p.m. Wednesday, with participants heading into the water around 1 p.m. and the plunge wrapping up by 1:15 p.m.

She expects 50 to 75 people to show up.

"Not everybody gets in the water. A lot of people just come and watch," she said.

Increasingly, Lake Michigan has been reclaiming its shoreline, as well as man-made structures nearby, and pushing the Polar Plunge westward.

Beverly Shores is fighting the potential loss of Lake

Front Drive to the lake, with the road, the gas lines and other utilities beneath it and access to homes along the drive in jeopardy. Erosion also closed the Lake View parking lot and beach access within the Indiana Dunes National Park.

Work is underway at both locations to mitigate the damage, including bringing in sand and other measures.

The Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk has already been heavily damaged by erosion, with the loss of walkways and a viewing platform. In recent weeks, Lake Michigan waves breached a dune protecting the pavilion there.

On Dec. 17, the Porter County Board of Commissioners issued an emergency declaration for the northern shoreline of the county along Lake Michigan, sparked by the "extreme erosion" that is threatening Lake Front Drive.

The declaration, commissioners have said, is in effect through mid-January and unlocks the ability for the municipalities and other agencies to access state and federal funds to resolve the matter. Other municipalities along the lakeshore, including Beverly Shores, were expected to issue their own emergency declarations as well.

Anderson and the Polar Plunge gang, meanwhile, are as far west as they can go without entering the national park.

"Typically, the water rises and goes down. I'm hoping we're at the end of the rising cycle. I might as well hope for something," Anderson said.

Amy Lavalley is a freelance reporter for the Post-Tribune.

Pardon

Continued from Page 1

legislators did to pass the bill that legalized marijuana.

"These are the days when public service is worth it," Hutchinson said as she held her hand to her chest.

Officials estimate there are hundreds of thousands of people with marijuana-related convictions in Illinois who could be eligible for relief. Those with criminal convictions can get a copy of their criminal record and start the process, though many of the cases will be automatically expunged by the state in the next couple of years.

The Illinois State Police are searching criminal records to identify eligible cases, which are then sent to the state's Prisoner Review Board. After the board reviews the cases, the names of those eligible for relief are sent to the governor's office to be considered for pardon. After Pritzker issues the pardon, the attorney general's office automatically files petitions on the person's behalf to expunge the records.

State's attorney offices across the state are also being notified of eligible cases, which can then be vacated by a local judge. In Cook County, prosecutors are working with California-based Code for America to search for convictions involving less than 30 grams of cannabis. Those cases have resulted in both misdemeanor and Class 4 felony convictions.

"I think people need to



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx, right, hugs church member Jeremy Jackson after Gov. J.B. Pritzker pardoned some 11,000 individuals at the Trinity United Church of Christ.

recognize and understand that when we talk about violence in our communities, I've seen it firsthand, the areas that have the highest incidents of violence often have the highest unemployment rate, the lowest education attainment rate, the highest concentration of people returning from our criminal justice systems," Foxx said at Tuesday's event.

"That there is a notion when we talk about violence and crime that there are good people versus bad people. There are conditions that have been created over decades that have allowed for our communities to diminish."

Individuals with cases involving 30 to 500 grams of cannabis can also be eligible for relief, but the process

won't be automatic, instead requiring the person to file motions to vacate the conviction, according to the governor's office.

While a pardon forgives a conviction, an expungement erases it from the public record. When a judge vacates a conviction, it overturns it as if it never happened. When a case is expunged, the case is hidden from public view, but it could be viewed by law enforcement if they obtained a court order.

Many of the elected officials noted that enforcement of marijuana-related offenses have disproportionately affected minorities. The Rev. Michael Pflieger, of St. Sabina Church on the South Side, said the elected officials on the stage had done their job,

but it would be up to business leaders in the new industry to provide financial mobility for those individuals.

"Employ these individuals," Pflieger said to the crowd. "Give them a job."

Ald. Walter Burnett Jr., of the 27th Ward, noted that a pardon for an armed robbery conviction decades ago changed his life and allowed him to serve in public office. He invoked Martin Luther King Jr.'s words to describe how he felt when his record was expunged and how others might feel when they hear news of the pardons.

"Free at last," Burnett said. "Free at last. Thank God almighty, they are free at last."

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Another hospital group adds flu virus restrictions

NW Indiana facilities take precautions as number of cases for illness increases

BY MEREDITH COLIAS-PETE

Community Hospitals is the latest health care chain to announce flu restrictions for visitors, joining Franciscan Health and Porter Regional Hospital.

Children under 12, and anyone with flu-like symptoms are not allowed to visit patients, the rules state. No more than two visitors will be allowed at one time per patient at facilities including Community Hospital in Munster, St. Catherine Hospital in East Chicago, St. Mary Medical Center in Hobart and Community Stroke & Rehabilitation Center in Crown Point.

All "have seen a rise in the number of patients with the flu," Marie Forszt, Marketing Vice President said in an email. "Our highest priority is the well-being of our patients, visitors and staff."

Symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, headache, chills, body aches, fatigue, vomiting and diarrhea, she said.

The flu is considered geographically "widespread" with seven deaths reported this season, according to the Indiana Department of Public Health.

At Porter Regional, only two visitors at a time are allowed per patient, visiting hours are strictly enforced and no one under 18 or showing flu-like symptoms are allowed visitation. All are asked to wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after visits, according to the hospital.

"If you need medical attention, are elderly, an infant, or have a compromised immune system, it is best to see a doctor within 48 hours of recognizing symptoms, so the right medication to shorten the length of the illness can be given," hospital spokeswoman Kelly Credit said.

Urgent care clinics are available in Valparaiso, Chesterton, Hobart and Portage.

Franciscan Health has set up restrictions at facilities in Crown Point, Hammond, Dyer, Munster and Michigan City.

Only two visitors are allowed per visit and children under 16 are prohibited. Other visitors under 18 are allowed, if visiting their child in pediatrics; or obstetrics/postpartum in Michigan City, according to a release.

In Crown Point, Birth Place visitors will be held to two adults and siblings, while NICU visitors will be restricted to parents. Grandparents will be allowed with proof of vaccination for more than two weeks.

"While these restrictions may be an inconvenience, they are necessary to ensure patient safety. Though the common cold and the flu can often look alike, symptoms like fever, headache, body aches, weakness, fatigue and extreme exhaustion are more common indicators of the flu. Also, with the flu, symptoms tend to be worse, come on suddenly and can last as long as two weeks," spokesman Robert Blaszkiwicz said.

Methodist Hospitals have not yet setup flu restrictions in Merrillville and Gary, spokeswoman Evelyn Morrison said.

"Our hospitals follow the CDC's infection control guidelines," she said. "Our efforts are focused on proper hand hygiene, cough etiquette, flu vaccinations, and proper mask use. We're in constant communication with federal, state, and local health officials, and are prepared to communicate up-to-date flu information to our patients and our community. If you have a fever, cough, headache or body aches please consider the safety of your loved ones and visit by phone."

Sales

Continued from Page 1

law last summer, giving operators about six months to prepare.

All 55 medical dispensaries in Illinois were able to apply to also sell recreational cannabis. So far, the state has approved 46 of them to do so. Three stores that won state approval won't be able to sell recreational pot because their municipalities opted out of sales.

Zoning issues and construction also have slowed the process. The Clinic Effingham plans to begin recreational sales later in Janu-

ary, pending a special-use permit hearing. Sunnyside Buffalo Grove is delaying recreational sales while it finishes converting from a medical-only shop and re-branding the dispensary from its previous name, PDI Medical Dispensary.

Many of the existing medical dispensaries were small and not designed to handle the large crowds and volume of sales expected once the stores open to the public.

Maribis of Springfield and Maribis of Chicago are expanding and adding cash registers and making other changes to handle more traffic, said spokesman Paul Chialdikas.

Once the construction is

complete, the state will need to approve the changes, Chialdikas said. He declined to estimate when recreational sales would begin. The stores remain open for medical marijuana sales.

Mapleglen Care Center in Rockford is waiting to serve recreational customers until more marijuana product is available, said Amy Manganelli, one of the owners.

In nearly every state that allows recreational marijuana, stores have had product shortages during the first days of sales, and dispensary operators expect Illinois will be no different. The marijuana flower, the dried buds that can be

smoked, is expected to run out first.

Some dispensaries plan to put purchasing or spending limits on recreational customers, or limit hours for recreational weed sales. Manganelli said she decided not to sell to anyone outside of medical patients.

"Until I've got what I really know I need to have, I just can't in good conscious open," she said. "I can't tell people, 'Yes, drive down here from Wisconsin or Minnesota or Iowa or where in Illinois,' because I can't supply them with product."

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ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Illinois House votes on a bill raising statewide minimum wage by \$1 per hour, to \$9.25, at the State Capitol in Springfield on Feb. 14 of last year. The increase kicked in on Wednesday.

Laws

Continued from Page 1

are increasing by \$50 to \$151 annually, starting with the 2020 registration year. The charge for electric vehicles is going up to \$248 per year from \$35 for two years. While the cost of a license plate is going up, minors who need a state ID card are getting a break. The cost of a new, renewed or replaced ID for those under 18 will drop to \$5 from \$10.

Trade-in vehicle tax: Car buyers who trade in another vehicle to fund their purchases now may be hit with higher sales tax. Previously, the trade-in value of a vehicle was exempt from sales tax. But starting in 2020, the exemption will be capped at \$10,000. So, if you traded in a \$12,000 car toward a \$20,000 purchase in 2019, you would have paid sales tax on the \$8,000 difference. Starting in 2020, you'll pay taxes on \$10,000. The state expects the change to bring in \$40 million in annual funding for building projects.

Sexual harassment: Employers statewide will have to follow a new set of rules aimed at curbing workplace sexual harassment. The sweeping legislation covers both private and public workplaces, and comes out of the #MeToo movement.

Illinois' #MeToo reckoning saw widespread reports of sexual harassment within state government, and under the new law, state officials, employees and lobbyists will all be required to go through annual sexual harassment training.

In the private sector, employers will be required to provide sexual harassment training and cannot require workers to sign nondisclosure or arbitration agreements related to harassment or discrimination. The legislation also requires hotels and casinos to equip some employees with notification devices that allow them to alert security or a manager if they are being harassed or need to call for help.

Higher driving violation fines: The fine for passing a school bus with its stop sign extended doubles to \$300 from \$150 for a first offense. Fines for second and later offenses also are doubling, to \$1,000 from \$500. In response to a spate of roadside crashes involving Illinois State Police troopers, two of which were fatal, fines also are going up for drivers who fail to slow down or move over for emergency vehicles on the side of the road. The fine for a first violation of the law is going up to \$250 from \$100. Subsequent violations now carry a minimum fine of \$750. Violators also will be charged an additional \$250

fee to fund education and enforcement of the law.

Under a separate law, the maximum penalty for drivers who don't slow down or move over when entering a construction zone is increasing to \$25,000 from \$10,000. The law also enacts fines of \$100 to \$1,000 for drivers who disobey traffic-control devices in work zones.

No more statute of limitations for major sex crimes: Illinois prosecutors will no longer face a ticking clock when bringing charges for major sex crimes, regardless of the age of the alleged victim. The new law removes the statute of limitations on criminal sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual assault and aggravated criminal sexual abuse. Previously, prosecutors had 10 years to bring charges if an offense was reported to law enforcement within three years after it occurred.

Illinois eliminated the statute of limitations on major sex offenses against anyone under 18 in 2017 after it came to light that former U.S. House Speaker Dennis Hastert had abused several boys while working as a wrestling coach at Yorkville High School in the 1960s and '70s.

DCFS reporting requirements: The Illinois De-

Turn to **Laws, Page 5**

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Laws

Continued from Page 4

partment of Children and Family Services will be required to make a home visit when its hotline receives a call from a mandated reporter — law enforcement, medical and school workers, and others who are required to report suspected child abuse or mistreatment — alleging abuse or neglect of a child who has been the subject of a previous credible allegation, or regarding a child who lives in a household with anyone who is the subject of an open case.

The law was passed after the high-profile deaths of young children whose families had previously been in contact with the DCFS, including 5-year-old Andrew “AJ” Freund of Crystal Lake and 2-year-old Ja’hir Gibbons of Washington Park.

Under another new law, DCFS will be required to notify the departments of Public Health and Healthcare and Family Services when it receives reports of children being abused or neglected while receiving hospital care. The law was passed after reports from the Chicago Tribune and other media in 2018 detailed allegations of abuse at Chicago Lakeshore Hospital, a private psychiatric facility in the Uptown neighborhood.

Ending ‘pay-to-stay’ in Illinois prisons: Four years after the Tribune reported on the Department of Corrections’ practice of suing some inmates to recoup some of the cost of their prison stays, the state is banning the practice, sometimes called “pay-to-stay.”

Lawmakers passed similar legislation in 2016, but then-Gov. Bruce Rauner vetoed it. The state has scaled back its use of the practice after it came under criticism. A related new law prohibits the state from charging adults or juveniles copays for medical or dental care they receive while in custody.

Expanded immigrant rights: Several new laws expand rights for immigrants, in higher learning and in the court system. One new law expands state-administered financial aid access to Illinois students who haven’t obtained legal permanent resident status in the U.S., and transgender students who have previously been disqualified because they haven’t registered for the draft. The law means an estimated 3,500 additional students would qualify for the Monetary Award Program, which could create millions more in increased demand for the historically underfunded grant program.

Another pair of new laws make a person’s immigration status inadmissible in civil proceedings unless it’s volunteered by the person or is essential to prove an element of the case. The law allows a defendant to withdraw a guilty plea if a judge failed to advise them the plea could affect their immigration status.

Baby changing stations: Many public restrooms now will be required to have diaper changing stations, regardless of which gender they’re designated for. Certain types of buildings, including factories and nightclubs, are exempt, and individuals won’t be able to sue building owners for failing to install changing stations.

Under a separate law, single-occupancy public restrooms now must be designated as gender-neutral.

More expressway cameras: In response to the fatal shooting of 55-year-old postal worker Tamara Clayton of Country Club Hills on Interstate 57 in February, there will be more security cameras along Chicago-area expressways. Law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over Cook County expressways will be allowed to use footage from the cameras to investigate crimes involving firearms and road hazards, but not petty offenses.

Easing name change following divorce: People who want to change their name following a divorce will no longer be required to



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The law that bans phone use behind the wheel now specifically forbids “watching or streaming video” while driving.

pay for a legal notice in a newspaper.

Compromising or private images posted online: A pair of new laws allow victims of “revenge porn” to receive damages, and allow a person to file a petition for a takedown order of a “private compromising image” of themselves that is posted online and holds the person who posted it liable for damages.

Stalking emergency orders: The new measure that takes effect in 2020 amends the Illinois Domestic Violence Act of 1986 and requires that if an emergency order of protection or an emergency civil no-contact order is granted on a court holiday or during the evening, the court must immediately file a certified copy with the sheriff or another law enforcement official that’s charged with maintaining Illinois State Police records, rather than the next regular court day.

Penalties for crimes committed in place of worship, threats against schools: A pair of new laws will open the door to harsher penalties for crimes that are committed in places of worship, and expand disorderly conduct to include online threats against schools or threats that do not specifically mention a bomb.

Jailhouse voting: In an election year, new laws will make it easier for people awaiting trial in county jails to cast their ballots. The law requires that Cook County jails set up temporary polling places and that other counties offer those awaiting trial the opportunity to vote by mail. When inmates who are eligible to vote are released, jails also will be required to provide them with voter registration applications. The jails also must offer eligible inmates the opportunity to register while in custody.

Sexual health for minors: Minors 12 and older will be able to get access to drugs that can prevent the spread of HIV without needing to get parental consent. The goal of the law is to give young people access to medication called pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, which has shown to be effective in preventing HIV transmission. Previously, minors could only access diagnostic or treatment services without parental consent.

Expanded insurance coverage: Some insurance plans in Illinois will be required to cover a variety of new services. Plans must now cover skin cancer screenings with no out-of-pocket expenses for patients and “medically necessary” epinephrine injectors — commonly known by the brand name EpiPen — for people under 18. Infants also will be able to get coverage for donated breast milk when it’s prescribed by a medical professional.

No YouTube while driving: Using a cellphone while behind the wheel already is prohibited, but the law now specifically forbids “watching or streaming video” while driving. A separate law also prohibits drivers from having smoked or tinted headlights on their vehicles.

Sex education and consent: Sex education in grades six through 12 will now be required to include “age-appropriate” material and discussion on consent. Among the things the new law calls for classroom discussion to emphasize are “consent is a freely given agreement to sexual activity,” and “a person’s manner of dress does not constitute consent.”

Service animal housing: Landlords who don’t allow animals on their property will be authorized to ask for documentation detailing need or disability when a prospective tenant uses a service or assistance animal.

Medical pot in schools: The attention has been on the legalization of recreational marijuana, but another new law will allow students who are registered medical cannabis patients to use infused products on school grounds or at school activities under the supervision of a school nurse or administrator. Like other medications, medical marijuana products have to be stored with the school nurse at all times.

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Man who claimed to be missing boy due in court

By DAN SEWELL
Associated Press

CINCINNATI — A federal judge will hear next week whether a plea deal has been reached in the case of a 24-year-old man authorities say claimed to be Timmothy Pitzen, an Aurora boy who went missing in 2011.

U.S. District Judge Michael Barrett has a Jan. 8 status conference set in the case of Brian Michael Rini, of Medina, Ohio. Barrett postponed a June trial after questions were raised about Rini’s mental state, but on Oct. 31 he found him competent to stand trial.

A court transcript of the Oct. 31 hearing made available recently shows that the defense and prosecution have discussed settling the case before trial.

“We believe that those discussions are going to likely be fruitful,” Richard Monahan, a federal public defender, told the judge.

Messages were sent Monday seeking comment from the defense attorney and the U.S. Attorney’s office.

Rini has pleaded not guilty to charges of aggravated identity theft and lying to FBI agents. He

may face up to eight years in prison if convicted.

He’s been held without bond since last April.

Rini was spotted April 3 wandering the streets of Newport, Kentucky, where police say he claimed to be Timmothy Pitzen of Aurora, who disappeared in 2011 at age 6 after his mother Amy Fry-Pitzen picked him up from his Aurora kindergarten classroom, then took him to a zoo and some amusement parks before killing herself and leaving behind a suicide note saying he was safe but would never be found.

Authorities said Rini told them he had just escaped captors who sexually abused him. Federal authorities said they were suspicious after he refused to be fingerprinted. DNA testing quickly revealed his true identity. Rini had been released from a state prison in March after serving more than a year on burglary and vandalism charges. Prison records show he was accused of making up stories during

his time there.

When confronted with the DNA results, Rini said he’d watched a story about Timmothy and wanted to get away from his own family, the FBI said. Authorities said he twice earlier portrayed himself in Ohio as a juvenile victim of sex trafficking.

A federal magistrate had cited Rini’s lack of a permanent address, past mental health issues and “a lengthy criminal history” that dates to age 13. In 2017, Rini was treated at an Ohio center for people with mental health or substance abuse problems, according to court papers.

The Oct. 31 transcript shows he was sent to the Metropolitan Correctional Center in Chicago last summer for evaluation. Barrett said the evaluation report indicates Rini has “some symptoms of depressive disorder which are in remission,” but that he is able to understand legal proceedings and assist in his defense.

The Beacon-News contributed to this story.



Rini

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Iraq

Continued from Page 1

he tweeted from his estate in Palm Beach, Florida.

By early evening, the protesters had retreated from the compound but set up several tents outside where they said they intended to stage a sit-in.

Dozens of yellow flags belonging to Iran-backed Shiite militias fluttered atop the reception area and were plastered along the embassy's concrete wall along with anti-U.S. graffiti. American Apache helicopters flew overhead and dropped flares over the area.

Trump, who is spending the holiday week at his Florida home, is in "close touch" and receiving regular updates from his national security team, said White House press secretary Stephanie Grisham. She echoed the sentiment contained in Trump's tweet earlier Tuesday.

"As the president said, Iran is orchestrating this attack, and they will be held fully responsible," Grisham said in an emailed statement. "It will be the president's choice how and when we respond to their escalation."

The developments also represent a major downturn in Iraq-U.S. relations that could further undermine U.S. influence in the



Iraqi protesters, including Iranian-backed groups, use a pipe to break a bulletproof window at the U.S. Embassy.

region and American troops in Iraq and weaken Washington's hand in its pressure campaign against Iran.

Iraq has long struggled to balance its ties with the U.S. and Iran, both allies of the Iraqi government. But the government's angry reaction to the U.S. airstrikes and its apparent decision not to prevent the pro-

testers from reaching the embassy signaled a sharp deterioration of U.S.-Iraq relations.

Iraqi security forces made no effort to stop the protesters as they marched to the heavily fortified Green Zone after a funeral for those killed in the airstrikes. The demonstrators were allowed to

pass through a security checkpoint leading to the area.

The marchers, many of them in militia uniforms, shouted "Down, down USA!" and "Death to America" and "Death to Israel" outside the compound, hurling water and stones over its walls. The mob set fire to three trailers

used by security guards along the wall. AP journalists saw some try to scale the walls.

Others then smashed the gates used by cars to enter, and dozens pushed into the compound. The protesters stopped in a corridor after about 16 feet, and were only about 220 yards away from the main building.

The sprawling embassy compound enjoys a prominent position on the banks of the Tigris River in the heart of the Iraqi capital. Resembling a fortified college campus, the complex is rimmed with thick blast walls and cylindrical watch towers, lending it the look of a modern-day castle.

Gates visitors use to enter the complex consist of an airlock-like vestibule fortified with heavy doors and bulletproof glass.

Even if protesters breached the first set of doors, they would have to force past heavily armed military contractors and U.S. Marine guards and a second set of heavy doors before entering the main compound.

Numerous buildings are inside the walls, including dormitories for staff, well-stocked dining and recreation facilities and a power station.

The protesters taunted the embassy's security staff, which remained behind glass windows in the gates' reception area. They hung a poster on the wall declaring "America is an aggressor" and sprayed graffiti on the wall and windows reading, "Closed in the name of the resistance."

"This is a victory in retaliation to the American airstrike. This is the initial retaliation, God willing, there will be more," said Mahmoud, a fighter with the Imam Ali Brigades.



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Shooting is Harvey's 23rd homicide of 2019

BY ZAK KOESKE

A Glenwood man was fatally shot in Harvey over the weekend, officials said.

Stefan Plummer, 22, died early Saturday morning after being shot in the 14600 block of Loomis Avenue late Friday night, Cook County Medical Examiner's Office spokeswoman Natalia Derevyanny said.

Plummer, who lived in the 400 block of North Pleasant Drive in Glenwood, was pronounced dead at Ingalls Memorial Hospital in Harvey at 12:37 a.m., about 45 minutes after being shot, Derevyanny said.

Harvey police Chief Eddie Winters said Monday that details on the shooting were "few and sketchy" at this time, but that it did not appear to be related to a slaying on the same block 10 days earlier.

In the earlier case, 33-year-old Antwan Hawthorne was shot multiple times inside his basement apartment in what police said was a targeted killing.

Hawthorne's two young children, ages 4 and 5, were inside the home when their father was shot, Winters said, but he did not know if they had witnessed the shooting.

Over the weekend, Harvey police released a surveillance camera image of a man they said they want to question in connection



HARVEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Harvey police want to question this person in connection with a fatal home invasion.

with Hawthorne's death.

Police have not released anything further about Plummer's killing, but investigators are interviewing area residents to glean more information, Winters said.

His shooting death was Harvey's 23rd homicide of 2019, more than twice as many as the city registered in 2018.

No other suburban Cook County municipality has recorded more than 13 homicides in a single year since at least 2012, according to medical examiner's office records.

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Police arrest man, say he harassed hunters

BY MICHELLE L. QUINN

A Cedar Lake man is facing several charges after duck hunters complained he harassed them while they were hunting Sunday afternoon.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources spokesman Tyler Brock said in a release that a conservation officer responding to the complaint saw Donald Latulip, 71, wave a white towel from a pontoon boat on Cedar Lake whenever ducks flew within the hunters' range. The hunters also gave the officer video of Latulip firing a shotgun toward homes along the lake, Brock said.

Latulip left the area in his boat and entered North Point Marina, which he owns, Brock said. The conservation officer, with assistance from the Cedar Lake Police, tried to contact Latulip, but he was behind a locked gate, Brock said. It was there that officers heard what they thought was more gunfire coming

from the docks, he said.

Latulip refused to unlock the gate, Brock said, so officers forced it open and arrested him around 5 p.m.

Latulip faces charges of criminal recklessness with a deadly weapon, a level 6 felony; hunter harassment, a class C misdemeanor; and hindering a conservation officer, also a class C misdemeanor. He was being held at the Lake County Jail.

Michelle L. Quinn is a freelance reporter for the Post-Tribune.

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Chicago Tribune

NATION & WORLD

Australia sees worst wildfire season

Residents trapped, homes destroyed, 12 confirmed dead

BY TRISTAN LAVALETTE
Associated Press

PERTH, Australia — Wildfires burning across Australia's two most populous states Tuesday trapped residents of a seaside town in apocalyptic conditions and killed at least two people while more property along the country's east coast fell victim to a devastating fire season.

About 4,000 residents in the southeastern town of Mallacoota in Victoria state fled toward the water Tuesday morning as winds pushed an emergency-level wildfire toward their homes. The smoke-filled sky shrouded the town in darkness before turning a shade of bright red.

Australia's annual wildfire season, which peaks during the Southern Hemisphere summer, started early after an unusually warm and dry winter. Record-breaking heat and windy conditions triggered devastating wildfires in New South Wales and Queensland states in September.

About 12 million acres of land have burned nationwide over the past few months, with 12 people confirmed dead and more than 1,000 homes destroyed. Nearly 100 fires were burning across the state of New South Wales, which is home to Sydney.

New South Wales state Rural Fire Services Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons said this wildfire season is the worst on record and painted a bleak long-



A firefighter walks past burning trees while battle bushfires in New South Wales, Australia, which is seeing its worst wildfire season on record.

term picture.

"We've seen extraordinary fire behavior," he said Tuesday. "What we really need is meaningful rain, and we haven't got anything in the forecast at the moment that says we're going to get drought-breaking or fire-quenching rainfall."

The wildfire crisis has reignited debate about whether Prime Minister Scott Morrison's conservative government has taken enough action on climate change. Australia is the world's largest exporter of coal and liquefied natural gas.

Morrison, whom critics have deemed a climate change skeptic, conceded earlier this month that "cli-

mate change along with many other factors" has contributed to the wildfires.

The prime minister took criticism for going on a family vacation to Hawaii in December during the crisis. He eventually cut his trip short and publicly apologized.

Late Tuesday, Mallacoota was saved by changes of wind direction, but authorities said "numerous" homes were lost. Residents returning home were urged to boil tap water before drinking it. Forest Fire Management Victoria said the wildfires had put heavy demands on tap water that is affecting the supply of water.

Stranded residents and

vacationers were reported to be sleeping in cars on New Year's Eve, while gas stations and surf clubs transformed into evacuation areas.

Victoria state Premier Daniel Andrews had earlier announced plans to evacuate the trapped people by sea.

Andrews has requested assistance from 70 firefighters from the United States and Canada, while Australia's military sent air and sea reinforcements.

Victoria Emergency Services Commissioner Andrew Crisp confirmed "significant" property losses across the region. More than 115 communities across Victoria remained

under emergency warnings Tuesday night.

Some communities canceled New Year's fireworks celebrations, but Sydney's popular display over its iconic harbor controversially went ahead in front of more than a million revelers. The city was granted an exemption to a total fireworks ban in place there and elsewhere to prevent new wildfires.

Fire conditions in Victoria and New South Wales worsened after oppressive heat Monday mixed with strong winds and lightning.

Police in New South Wales said Tuesday that two men — a 63-year-old father and 29-year-old son — died in a house in the

wildfire-ravaged southeast town of Cobargo, and a 72-year-old man remained missing.

"They were obviously trying to do their best with the fire as it came through in the early hours of the morning," New South Wales Police Deputy Commissioner Gary Worboys said. "The other person that we are trying to get to, we think that person was trying to defend their property in the early hours of the morning."

More than 130 fires remain burning across New South Wales, with five at an emergency level. Authorities warned that power would be out for 24 hours along the south coast.

Minister: Gunman grew angry in past when denied cash

BY JAKE BLEIBERG
AND JAMIE STENGLE
Associated Press

DALLAS — The man who fatally shot two people at a Texas church was ruled mentally incompetent to stand trial in 2012 and was repeatedly fed by the congregation but got angry when church officials refused to give him money, according to court records and the pastor.

It's unclear whether Keith Thomas Kinnunen's extensive criminal record and psychological history would have barred him from legally buying the shotgun he used during Sunday's attack at the West Freeway Church of Christ in the Fort Worth-area town of White Settlement.

Kinnunen, 43, shot worshippers Richard White and Anton "Tony" Wallace in the sanctuary before a member of the church's volunteer security team shot and killed him, according to police and witnesses.

Minister Britt Farmer told The Christian Chronicle that he recognized Kinnunen after seeing a photo of him without the fake beard, wig, hat and long coat he wore as a disguise to the service. Kinnunen visited the congregation several other times this year and was given food but denied money, the minister said.

"We've helped him on several occasions with food," Farmer said. "He gets mad when we won't give him cash."

Authorities have said Kinnunen's motive remains under investigation and they declined to comment on how he obtained the gun he used, though a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives said it had successfully traced the weapon.

Court records portray Kinnunen as being deeply troubled long before Sunday's attack.



RIVER OAKS POLICE DEPARTMENT/AP 2015

Keith Thomas Kinnunen visited the West Freeway Church several times this year and was given food.

In 2012, a district judge in Oklahoma ruled him mentally incompetent to stand trial and ordered him committed to a psychiatric facility for treatment.

Kinnunen was charged with felony assault and battery with a dangerous weapon after he attacked the owner of a Chickasha, Oklahoma, doughnut shop in 2011, court records state. He was separately charged with arson that year after allegedly starting a fire in a cotton field.

Earlier on the day of that fire, Kinnunen soaked a football in the accelerant, lit it on fire and then threw it back and forth with his son, who was a minor, according to the arrest affidavit. The boy told police he was afraid his father would get mad if he asked to stop.

A forensic psychologist who examined him in 2012 for both cases wrote that "Kinnunen currently evidences signs that are consistent with a substantial mental illness and that meet the inpatient criteria of a 'person requiring treatment.'"

Records show that Kinnunen was found competent to stand trial in February 2013, however both criminal cases were ultimately reduced to misdemeanors, to which he pleaded guilty.

One of Kinnunen's ex-wives, Cynthia Glasgow-Voegle, also filed for a protective order against him in 2012, Oklahoma records show.

"Keith is a violent, paranoid person with a long line of assault and battery w/ and without firearms," Glasgow-Voegle said in the petition. She also wrote that Kinnunen was prone to religious fanaticism and "says he's battling a demon."

Kinnunen got "more and more" into drugs and "it messed with his head" during his second marriage, said Angela Holloway, whose divorce from him was finalized in 2011.

Holloway, a 44-year-old Fort Worth resident, said she hadn't spoken to Kinnunen in years and learned from news reports that he was the church attacker. She said she and Kinnunen used to attend church together and that there were times he appeared to be off drugs, but that he was frightening by the end of their six-year marriage.

"He was really disturbed," Holloway told The Associated Press.

Holloway said she doesn't know whether Kinnunen was ever diagnosed with a mental illness and that she wasn't sure if he could legally have guns, but that he consistently did.

Collins criticizes senators for prejudging the evidence

BY EMILY COCHRANE
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, criticized some of her Senate colleagues, including the majority leader, for appearing to "prejudge the evidence" in impeachment proceedings against President Donald Trump, becoming the second Republican senator to question Sen. Mitch McConnell's pledge to coordinate with the White House.

Impeachment rules require a simple majority vote, meaning McConnell, R-Ky., can afford to lose only four members of his conference if he is to set the parameters of a trial. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, another moderate with an independent streak, said last week that she was "disturbed" by McConnell's promise to work with the White House counsel to set the terms of the trial.

Both Murkowski and Collins also offered non-committal positions on calling witnesses to an impeachment trial, which Democrats have pushed and McConnell has resisted. And both women questioned why the House did not go to court when administration officials ignored subpoenas. (Democrats, who control the House, have asserted that going to court to compel testimony from administration officials would take too long when the 2020 election is already in danger.)

"It is inappropriate, in my judgment, for senators on either side of the aisle to prejudge the evidence before they have heard what is presented to us, because each of us will take an oath, an oath that I take very seriously, to render impartial justice," Collins said in an interview with Maine Public Radio that was broadcast Monday. "That's what it says, impartial justice."



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, criticized some of her colleagues for appearing to "prejudge the evidence."

She specifically referenced remarks from McConnell, that he would take his cues from the White House, and from Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., a contender for the Democratic presidential nomination, who openly supported the impeachment of the president.

"There are senators on both sides of the aisle, who, to me, are not giving the appearance of and the reality of judging this in an impartial way," she said, a sentiment she echoed in a separate interview with News Center Maine, a local television station.

With Collins and Murkowski doubting their leaders' approach, scrutiny will fall on independent-minded Republicans such as Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah and retiring Republicans such as Sen. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, who could force Republican and Democratic leaders to work out the terms of a trial the way they did in 1999 with the impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton.

An aide to McConnell on Tuesday pointed to instances during the Clinton impeachment trial in which Clinton and his lawyers were in communication with Senate Democrats over proceedings.

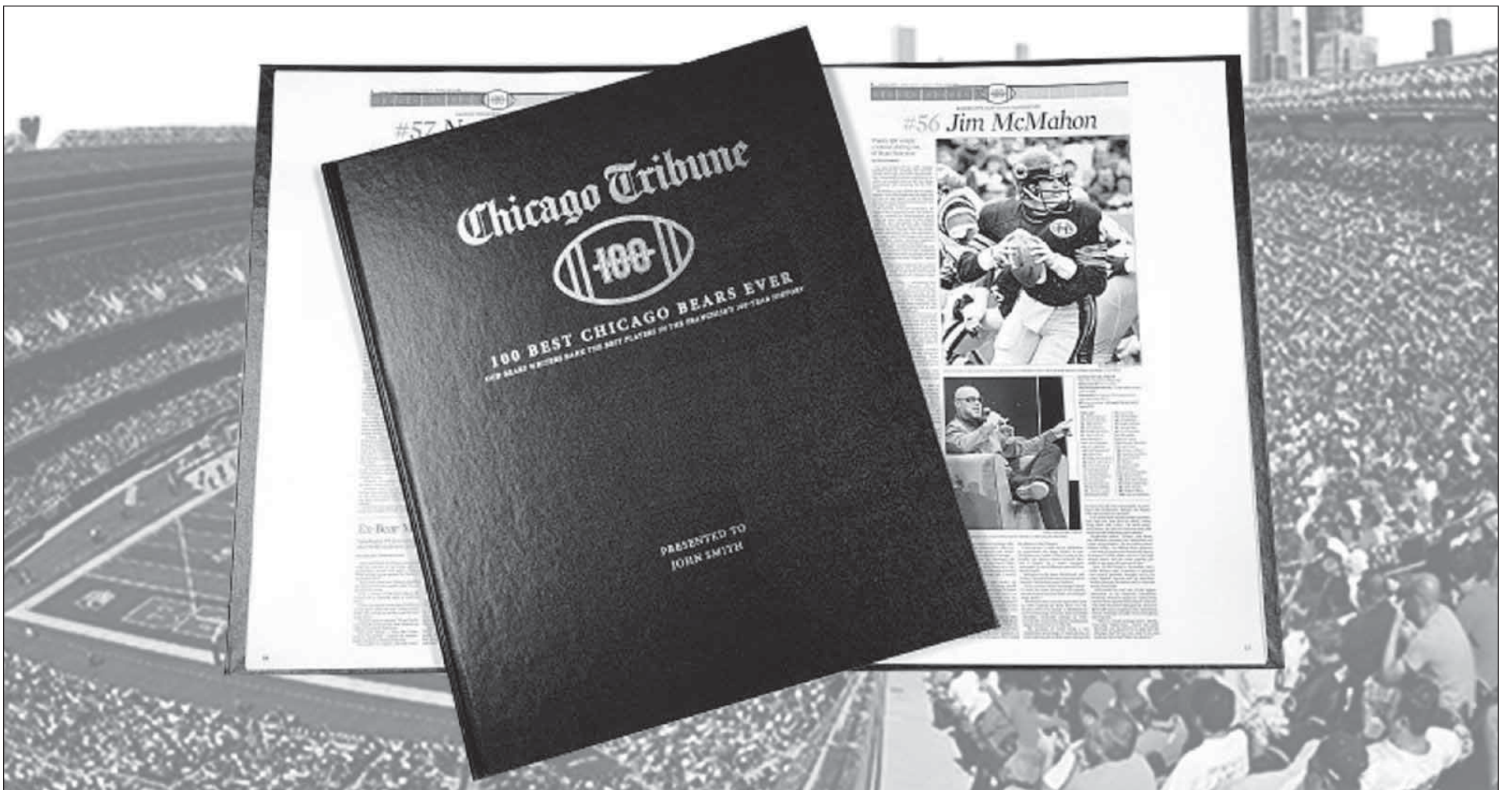
Collins, who was in the Senate during that trial, has repeatedly refused to

weigh in on the allegations that Trump abused the power of his office and obstructed Congress, citing the need to remain impartial. She told both news outlets that she had compiled a thick notebook with documents from the last trial and had pressed Senate leaders to adhere to the framework set in 1999.

Drawing on her experience from the Clinton trial, Collins also said she was "open" to hearing from witnesses during proceedings against Trump. Democrats, led by Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York, the minority leader, have pressured McConnell to allow them to call members of the Trump administration to testify in a trial.

Sen. Doug Jones, D-Ala., one of his caucus's most vulnerable members, said in an opinion article published Monday in The Washington Post that "for Americans to have confidence in the impeachment process, the Senate must conduct a full, fair and complete trial with all relevant evidence regarding the president's conduct."

But while Schumer said in his opening proposal to McConnell that the issue of witnesses and documents should be determined before the trial begins, Collins said that she would prefer to wait to decide who specifically should be called.



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Marines: Hanukkah stabbing suspect was kicked out of basic

BY JIM MUSTIAN
AND JENNIFER PELTZ
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The man charged with stabbing five people during a Hanukkah celebration in New York began boot camp to enter the U.S. Marine Corps but was separated from the service a month later for “fraudulent enlistment,” military officials said Tuesday.

A Marine Corps spokeswoman would not provide details on why Grafton Thomas left the Marines as a recruit in late 2002, about a month after he started training.

“Those specifics are administrative in nature and therefore information we are required to keep private,” Capt. Karoline Foote told The Associated Press.

Federal prosecutors filed hate crime charges against Thomas on Monday, accusing the 37-year-old of using a machete to wound five people inside the home of a rabbi in Monsey, New York, north of New York City.

A criminal complaint said at least one of the victims was in critical condition with a skull fracture. That man remained in serious condition Tuesday, said former New York state As-

Military law defines fraudulent enlistment as a “knowingly false representation or deliberate concealment as to” a recruit’s qualifications.

semblyman Dov Hikind.

Thomas is being held without bail. He was charged with five federal counts of obstructing the free exercise of religious beliefs by attempting to kill with a dangerous weapon. He also has pleaded not guilty to five state counts of attempted murder and one count of burglary.

Thomas’ defense attorney, Michael Sussman, told reporters about Thomas’ military service during a news conference Monday in which he described his background and yearslong struggle with mental illness. He provided a handwritten resume in which Thomas indicated he trained with the Marines at Parris Island,

South Carolina.

Military law defines fraudulent enlistment as a “knowingly false representation or deliberate concealment as to” a recruit’s qualifications. That could involve a recruit failing to disclose certain medical conditions, past drug use or an arrest record, including cases that are sealed because the recruit was a juvenile or for other reasons.

Thomas had multiple run-ins with law enforcement before he was taken into custody over the weekend, including an arrest for assaulting a police horse, according to an official briefed on the investigation who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity. Details related to that case appear to be under seal.

Sussman wrote in an email to the AP on Tuesday that Thomas “was recruited and suffered a wrist injury during basic training” with the Marines.

“He was then released from that training,” Sussman said. “That is the best information we have at this time.”

Thomas’ family has said his mental health deteriorated over the years and



KENA BETANCUR/GETTY-APF

Grafton Thomas allegedly wounded five people in a rabbi’s home in Monsey, New York.

that he has been hospitalized on multiple occasions. After washing out of the Marines, Thomas attended William Paterson University in New Jersey between 2005 and 2007, and he played football as a running back while there.

His former coach at William Paterson, Mike Miello, said Thomas was injured early on and “wasn’t around long enough to get to know him.”

When he was still in high school, Thomas was arrested in Brooklyn after police found him with a gun, recalled Joseph Burden, then his coach on a

neighborhood football team. Thomas had been heading home from practice with friends when they came across a gun and picked it up, with the intention of turning it in to the authorities for buyback money, Burden said. Thomas was arrested with it on his way home, said Burden, who went to court and wrote a letter to support Thomas in the case. Sussman confirmed the arrest in an email to the AP, saying the firearm had been found in a park. The case ultimately was closed without punishment, Burden added, with the judge giving

Thomas a chance to go through with his plans to graduate from high school and enter the military. Sussman said the case was dismissed.

Thomas, in the meantime, went on to play full-back, nose tackle and defensive end for the team, which won a 2000 championship in a local league. At the time, “he was a joy-loving, fun-loving kid,” a typical adolescent boy who didn’t seem troubled, Burden recalled.

“We had a lot of interaction with each other, and it was all good,” Burden said. “Nothing like the trouble he has now.”

Judge orders Alex Jones to pay \$100K

BY PAUL J. WEBER
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — A Texas judge ordered conspiracy theorist Alex Jones to pay \$100,000 in legal fees and refused to dismiss a lawsuit that targets the Infowars host for using his show to promote falsehoods that the 2012 Sandy Hook massacre was a hoax.

Jones is being sued for defamation in Austin, Texas, by the parents of a 6-year-old who was among the 26 people killed in the

Newtown, Connecticut, attack at an elementary school. Similar lawsuits against Jones have been filed by other Sandy Hook families in Connecticut courts.

In what is now the most recent court setback for Jones, State District Judge Scott Jenkins of Texas — where Jones operates Infowars — ruled Dec. 20 that Jones’ defense team “intentionally disregarded” an earlier order to produce witnesses.

He ordered Jones to pay

legal fees to attorneys representing a Sandy Hook father who brought the lawsuit, Neil Heslin, and denied a request to dismiss the case.

T. Wade Jefferies, an attorney for Jones, said in an email Tuesday they would appeal the decision to not dismiss and challenged how much Jones was ordered to pay.

“In my opinion, and every lawyer with knowledge of the case I have talked to agrees, the attorney’s fee awards are excessive,” Jef-

feries said.

Jenkins’ orders were first reported by The Daily Beast.

Families of the Sandy Hook victims say they have been subjected to harassment and death threats from Jones’ followers because of the hoax conspiracy promoted on his show.

The shooting at the elementary school left 20 first-graders and six educators dead. The 20-year-old gunman, who also killed his mother at their Newtown home, fatally shot himself.



JOSE LUIS MAGANA/AP 2018

A lawyer for Infowars host Alex Jones called the legal fees excessive and said they will appeal the ruling.

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In New Jersey, a slow-motion retreat from climate change

BY WAYNE PARRY AND TED SHAFFREY
Associated Press

WOODBIDGE, N.J. — Patricia Kambach couldn't bear to watch a crew demolish her longtime neighbor's home this month, so she went inside her own house in Woodbridge, New Jersey, where she has lived since John F. Kennedy was president.

"I lived here 56 years, and it's hard," Kambach said.

Hard but not rare. The state has bought and torn down 145 homes since 2013 in Woodbridge, with eight homes demolished this month alone. Dozens more are slated to be torn down in the near future.

It's all part of an effort to get ahead of climate change. Some neighborhoods in this town of over 100,000 residents just off the bustling New Jersey Turnpike are

projected to be partly or fully underwater in coming decades as global sea levels rise.

"A lot of people are taking the buyout because they are getting good price for their house and we do have problems with the water," said Kambach, 80. Soon she will move out, and her home will be demolished.

Buyouts of flood-prone properties have become a reality in numerous coastal states, as well as inland. Iowa, Indiana, Louisiana, New York, North Dakota, Texas, Wisconsin and others have programs.

Superstorm Sandy in 2012 opened the eyes of people in low-lying New Jersey towns like Woodbridge to the dangers of rising waters.

The goal of the state buyout program, Blue Acres, is twofold: remove people and property from

the danger of future floods, and use the vacant land left behind as a buffer or sponge to help absorb the water from those floods.

"Typically when we think of a disaster, we think of a major storm or catastrophic fire — something that happens really quickly," said Rutgers University biologist Brooke Maslo. "Climate change is a disaster; it's just that it is happening in slow motion."

On a recent morning, Maslo tended to a series of plastic tubes that protect and nourish tree seedlings in the footprints of homes where just a few years ago people raised families and grew old. After those houses were torn down, she designed the area into a flood plain forest of native trees, shrubs and grass.

"The idea is first and foremost to move people to higher ground, to protect



TED SHAFFREY/AP

A crew levels a house Dec. 5 in Woodbridge, N.J., where 145 homes have been bought and torn down since 2013.

human health and safety," she said. "The second part of the process is to increase the resiliency for the remaining houses."

Blue Acres has so far lined up funding to buy 1,156 properties statewide. It has made offers on nearly 1,000 homes, closed deals on more than 700 and knocked down more than 640 in flood-danger areas across New Jersey, according to Larry Hajna, a

spokesman for the state Department of Environmental Protection.

But none of the buyouts has happened along the ocean, where the damage from Sandy was catastrophic. The reason is simple: That land is simply too valuable; no property owners have thus far signed up for the buyout program, which is voluntary.

In places like Woodbridge, the Blue Acres pro-

gram has thrown a lifeline to people who might have trouble selling their homes otherwise. Tall chain-link fences surround homes that are slated for demolition. Christmas decorations have been lovingly placed on other homes nearby.

But not everyone wants to sell. The state gave Jeff Colgan, 66, a Blue Acres application to sell the home where he's lived for 25 years with his wife. But he decided not to apply for a buyout.

"You can't worry about 2050 right now," Colgan said. "It's just sad to see the houses go and not having the opportunity for other people to move in."

Maslo, the Rutgers biologist, has a broader perspective on the transformation of a neighborhood.

"We've labeled this as a coastal retreat," she said. "We don't like as humans or Americans to retreat; that almost suggests defeat. What we need to start realizing is that climate change is about adaptation."

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

Taiwan passes law targeting Chinese political interference

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Taiwan's legislature on Tuesday passed a law aimed at blocking political interference from China, less than two weeks before presidential and legislative elections.

The approval of the Anti-Infiltration Law follows accusations that China is strongly backing candidates from the main opposition Nationalist Party, including providing campaign funds and social media support.

During Tuesday's debate, legislators from Tsai's majority Democratic Progressive Party cited allegations of China seeking to manipulate politics in democracies such as Australia and the countermeasures those governments took.

The law seeks to plug legal loopholes by blocking any foreign force from spreading misinformation or otherwise interfering in elections and the business of government.



LINTAO ZHANG/GETTY

Young children celebrate the arrival of the year 2020 at a New Year's Eve countdown event Tuesday at Shougang Park in Beijing, China prepared a countdown event on Dec. 31 to welcome the year 2020.

In England, high court allows civil partnerships

LONDON — England and Wales have marked a new era in which heterosexual couples can choose to have a civil partnership instead of a marriage.

The change, mandated by Britain's Supreme Court last year, took effect Tuesday. The groundbreaking case had been brought by Rebecca Steinfeld and Charles Keidan, who were among the first to form a civil partnership under the new rules.

The new rules mean that mixed-sex couples can opt for a civil partnership that will give them similar rights as married couples, including marriage allowance tax relief, inheritance tax exemption and joint parental responsibility for children.

It is expected to be an attractive option for couples who believe marriage gives men the upper hand and also for couples who don't want any religious element in their union.

Holocaust education set for W.Va. cadets after Nazi salute

CHARLESTON, W. Va. — West Virginia plans to begin training its corrections department staff about the Holocaust after a photograph of correction officer cadets giving Nazi salutes led to dozens of firings and widespread outrage, officials said Tuesday.

A spokesman for the West Virginia Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety said the leader of the regional

Anti-Defamation League chapter has agreed to draft the training materials and coursework. He said the agency is "committed to taking all steps necessary to accomplish this."

Karrie Byrd, who taught the course on "Cultural Diversity," said she was "completely unaware of the historical or racial implications of the gesture and reported it was simply a greeting," according to an internal investigation.

Cyprus' top lawyer says rape case trial must run its course

NICOSIA, Cyprus — Cyprus' attorney general said Tuesday he couldn't suspend the trial of a 19-year-old British woman found guilty of lying about being gang raped by as many as a dozen Israelis because she had leveled "grave accusations" against police investigators that had to be adjudicated in court.

Costas Clerides said the woman's allegation that police coerced her into retracting her rape claim "could not have been left to linger."

Clerides also said the woman's insistence that

she didn't get a fair trial is "essentially a legal-constitutional matter" that a court of law must rule on.

"Any intervention on the part of the attorney general, either for reasons of public interest or any other reasons, would have constituted nothing more than an obstacle to ascertaining the true facts of the case, as well as interference in the judiciary's work," Clerides said in a statement.

Clerides issued the statement following revelations that two former attorneys general and others had sent Famagusta District Court Judge Michalis Papatana-

siou a written appeal last month to suspend the case to protect Cyprus' image.

The woman was found guilty on Monday on a charge of public mischief and is due to be sentenced Jan. 7. The charge carries a maximum of a year in prison and a fine of \$1,907.

She insists that she was raped in a hotel room at a coastal resort town on July 17 and that she was forced to sign the retraction 10 days later while under police questioning. Her lawyers said they would appeal the decision, citing the judge's refusal to consider evidence.

In New Hampshire: President Donald Trump's former campaign manager Corey Lewandowski said Tuesday that he is forgoing a run for U.S. Senate in New Hampshire.

Lewandowski, a Republican, said on Twitter that his "priorities remain my family and ensuring that @realDonaldTrump is reelected POTUS."

Trump had earlier thrown his support behind a possible Lewandowski run as Republicans look to unseat Democratic Sen. Jeanne Shaheen.

Lewandowski served as the president's first campaign manager and remained close to Trump even after he was fired from the job after clashing with now-jailed strategist Paul Manafort.

6 arrested in killings of 4 men at California backyard party

FRESNO, Calif. — Police in California announced Tuesday that they have arrested six suspected gang members in the shooting deaths of four men last month at a backyard gathering of family and friends that they believed was a rival gang's party.

Fresno Police Chief Andy Hall said at a news conference that the suspects are all self-admitted members of the Mongolian Boys Society gang and that they were retaliating against a rival gang called the Asian Crips that they believed was responsible for killing a member of their gang hours earlier.

One of the people at the house was an affiliate of the Asian Crips but was not active in the gang, Hall said, though the Mongolian Boys Society believed it was a gang party.

Five people left the party before police came.

Kansas officer resigns after faking coffee expletive

JUNCTION CITY, Kan. — A Kansas police officer has resigned after he admitted to making up a story that a McDonald's employee wrote an expletive and the word "pig" on a coffee cup, the police chief announced Monday.

Herington Police Chief Brian Hornaday said at a

news conference that the now-former officer "completely and solely fabricated" the allegations. Hornaday said the officer told him the incident was "meant to be a joke."

Hornaday did not name the 23-year-old officer, but said he had been with the department about two

months after spending approximately five years in the Army.

In Hornaday's initial Facebook post, he said one of his officers was handed the cup Saturday at a McDonald's drive-thru. "This behavior has been, is and always will be wrong," Hornaday said.

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Chicago Tribune BUSINESS

Trump to sign Phase 1 of China trade deal in Jan.

Phase 2 talks to take place during presidential visit to Beijing

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE AND CHRISTOPHER RUGABER
Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — The first phase of a U.S.-China trade agreement will be inked at the White House in mid-January, President Donald Trump announced Tuesday, adding that he will visit Beijing at a later date to open another round of talks aimed at resolving other sticking points in the relationship.

The "Phase One" agreement is smaller than the comprehensive deal Trump had hoped for and leaves many of the thorniest issues between the two countries for future talks. Few economists expect any resolution of "Phase Two" before the presidential election in 2020.

And the two sides have yet to release detailed documentation of the pact, making it difficult to evaluate.

Trump said high-level Chinese government officials will attend the signing on Jan. 15 of "our very large and comprehensive Phase One Trade Deal with China."

"At a later date I will be going to Beijing

where talks will begin on Phase Two!" Trump said in his tweet. He did not announce a date for the visit.

China has agreed to boost its U.S. goods imports by \$200 billion over two years, the U.S. Trade Representative said Dec. 13 when the deal was announced. That includes increased purchases of soybeans and other farm goods that would reach \$40 billion a year.

In return, the Trump administration dropped plans to impose tariffs on \$160 billion of Chinese goods, including many consumer items such as smartphones, toys and clothes. The U.S. also cut tariffs on another \$112 billion of Chinese goods from 15% to 7.5%.

Many analysts argue that the results are fairly limited given the costs of the administration's 17-month trade war against China. U.S. farm exports to China fell in 2018 to about one-third of the peak reached six years earlier, though they have since started to recover.

Import taxes remain on about half of what the U.S. buys from China, or about \$250 billion of imports. Those tariffs have

raised the cost of chemicals, electrical components and other imports for U.S. companies. American firms have cut back on investment in machinery and other equipment, slowing the economy's growth this year.

A study last week by economists at the Federal Reserve found that all of the Trump administration's tariffs, including those on steel and aluminum as well as on Chinese imports, have cost manufacturers jobs and raised their costs. That's mostly because of retaliatory tariffs imposed by China and other trading partners.

Still, the agreement has helped calm concerns in financial markets and among many U.S. businesses that the trade war with China would escalate and potentially lead to a recession. The approval by the Democratic-led House of the Trump administration's revamp of the NAFTA agreement has also reduced uncertainty.

The Phase 1 deal has left some major issues unresolved, notably complaints that Beijing unfairly subsidizes its own companies to give them a competitive advantage in world markets.

Illinois OKs 9 recreational pot stores

Additions made hours before legal marijuana sales began

BY ALLY MAROTTI

With less than 18 hours until legal weed goes on sale in Illinois, the state approved nine more stores to sell marijuana to the public.

Eight of the stores were medical cannabis facilities that can now also sell recreational weed. The ninth, Rise Joliet, is a new recreational-only store.

The newly approved stores said they are ready to start recreational sales Wednesday, meaning 37 stores around the state will open their doors to the public as soon as marijuana becomes legal.

The approved stores are Greenhouse Group in Morris, Windy City Cannabis' locations in Justice, Worth, Homewood and Posen, Trinity Compassionate Care Centers in Peoria, and Thrive's locations in Harrisburg and Anna.

Thrive dispensaries recently completed renovations at both of its locations to allow better customer flow through the shops, said principal officer Gorgi Naumovski.

"We were operating under the assumption that we would be approved," he said. "If it happened, we made some changes and made sure that we would be ready."

Marijuana shops around the state are expecting long lines and product shortages in the early days of sales. Some are putting buying limits in place or restricting hours for recreational sales.

All 55 medical dispensaries in Illinois were able to apply to also sell recreational cannabis. So far, the state has approved 46 of them to do so, but not all of those will be open to the public Wednesday.

Three stores that won state approval won't be able to sell recreational pot because their municipalities opted out of sales. Another six will not open because of construction, permitting issues or other reasons.

Existing medical dispensaries were also able to apply for a license to open a second location. Rise Joliet is the first new location the state has approved.

amarotti@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @AllyMarotti

Riverwalk revenues grew to \$16.5M

Chicago attraction added restaurants, bars and shops

BY ALEXIA ELEJALDE-RUIZ

Revenues from Chicago's Riverwalk jumped by more than \$2 million in 2019 as the city added restaurants, bars and shops to the increasingly popular tourist attraction.

The Riverwalk's concessions program generated \$16.5 million in 2019, up from \$14.4 million the year before, the city announced Tuesday. Some 750,000 people visited the 1.25-mile promenade

during the spring-through-fall season, an increase over 2018.

The growth was driven in part by the addition of eight new small vendors in the inaugural Community Marketplace, meant to showcase minority- and women-owned businesses from varied Chicago neighborhoods, even though weather-related delays during the wet spring pushed its opening into summer.

Those small vendors — Batter and Berries, Beat Kitchen, Chiya Chai Café, Gordo's Homemade Ice Cream, Justice of the Pies, Neighborly, Shop Small Chicago and Twisted Eggroll — plan to

return for the 2020 season, the city said. The concessions program also includes larger, more permanent businesses like City Winery and Tiny Tapp as well as kayaks, cycleboats, the Chicago Water Taxi and various river cruises.

About \$1.3 million of the year's revenues are allocated to the fund used to finance construction of the Riverwalk, which was built with a \$100 million federal loan. Additional site improvements will be done on the east end of the Riverwalk in 2020.

Nearly 500 people were employed on the Riverwalk during the peak part of the season.

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow	High: 28,547.35	Low: 28,376.49	Previous: 28,462.14
Nasdaq	+26.61 (+.30%)		
S&P 500	+9.49 (+.29%)		
Russell 2000	+4.32 (+.26%)		
Close	8,972.60	Close	3,230.78
High	8,975.36	High	3,231.72
Low	8,912.77	Low	3,212.03
Previous	8,945.99	Previous	3,221.29
10-yr T-note	+0.02 to 1.91%	Gold futures	+5.00 to \$1,519.50
Yen	-0.19 to 108.64/\$1	Euro	-0.0012 to .8915/\$1
Crude Oil	-0.62 to \$61.06		

Major market growth and decline

5-day % change			30-day % change			1-year % change		
DOW	NASD	S&P	DOW	NASD	S&P	DOW	NASD	S&P
+0.8	+2.2	+2.3	+3.77	+5.30	+4.45	+22.34	+35.23	+28.88

FUTURES							
COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 20	555	559.75	553	558.75	+2.75
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 20	388.25	389.75	386.25	387.75	-.50
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Jan 20	939.25	943.50	933.75	943	+3.50
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	Jan 20	35.10	35.10	34.12	34.49	-.68
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	Mar 20	298.10	302.00	296.80	299.90	+2.40
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.	Feb 20	61.68	61.88	60.63	61.06	-.62
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, \$ per mm btu	Feb 20	2.191	2.207	2.151	2.189	+0.03
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	Jan 20	1.7271	1.7304	1.6886	1.6902	-0.081
		Feb 20	1.7240	1.7310	1.6888	1.6905	-0.035

Source: The Associated Press

LOCAL STOCKS

Stocks listed may change due to daily fluctuations in market capitalization.

Exchange key: N=NYSE, O=NASDAQ

STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.
Abbott Labs	N	86.86	+0.06	Envestnet Inc	N	69.63	-1.04	McDonalds Corp	N	197.61	+0.70
AbbVie Inc	N	88.54	+0.02	Equity Commonwlt	N	32.83	-0.02	Middleby Corp	O	109.52	+0.15
Allstate Corp	N	112.45	+0.68	Equity Lifestyle Prop	N	70.39	+0.64	Mondelez Intl	O	55.08	+0.08
Aptargroup Inc	N	115.62	-.14	Equity Residential	N	80.92	+0.77	Morningstar Inc	O	151.31	+0.86
Arch Dan Mid	N	46.35	+0.23	Exelon Corp	O	45.59	+0.21	Motorola Solutions	N	161.14	+0.18
Baxter Intl	N	83.62	+0.19	First Indl RT	N	41.51	+0.20	NISource Inc	N	27.84	+0.32
Boeing Co	N	325.76	-.64	Fortune Brds Hm&Sec	N	65.34	-.04	Nthn Trust Cp	O	106.24	-.08
Brunswick Corp	N	59.98	-.13	Gallagher AJ	N	95.23	+0.33	Old Republic	N	22.37	+0.06
CBOE Global Markets	N	120.00	+0.75	Grainger WW	N	338.52	+0.27	Packaging Corp Am	N	111.99	+0.27
CDK Global Inc	O	54.68	+0.14	GrubHub Inc	N	48.64	+0.34	Payloadcity Hldg	O	120.82	+1.30
CDW Corp	O	142.84	+0.06	Hill-Rom Hldgs	N	113.53	-.02	RLI Corp	N	90.02	-.13
CF Industries	N	47.74	+0.38	IAA Inc	N	47.06	+0.61	Stericycle Inc	O	63.81	-.41
CME Group	O	200.72	+1.54	IDEX Corp	N	172.00	-.33	TransUnion	N	85.61	+0.87
CNA Financial	N	44.81	+0.34	ITW	N	179.63	-.28	US Foods Holding	N	41.89	-.12
Cabot Microelect	O	144.32	+0.97	Ingredion Inc	N	92.95	-.32	Ultra Salon Cosmetics	O	253.14	+1.79
Caterpillar Inc	N	147.68	+0.16	Jones Lang LaSalle	N	174.09	+0.07	United Airlines Hldg	O	88.09	+0.13
ConAgra Brands Inc	N	34.24	+0.20	Kemper Corp	N	77.50	+0.29	Ventas Inc	N	57.74	+0.55
Deere Co	N	173.26	-.90	Kraft Heinz Co	O	32.13	+0.42	Walgreen Boots Alli	O	58.96	+0.05
Discover Fin Svcs	N	84.82	+0.29	LKQ Corporation	O	35.70	...	Wintrust Financial	O	70.90	+0.17
Dover Corp	N	115.26	+0.02	Littelfuse Inc	O	191.30	-.71	Zebra Tech	O	255.44	+1.33

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Gen Electric	11.16	+0.08
Chesapeake Energy	.83	-0.01
Aurora Cannabis Inc	2.16	+0.25
Ford Motor	9.30	+0.05
Bank of America	35.22	+0.07
McDermott Intl	.68	-.07
AT&T Inc	39.08	+0.04
Energy Transfer LP	12.83	+1.12
Snap Inc A	16.33	+0.44
Wells Fargo & Co	2.42	+0.09
Sthwstn Energy	9.80	+0.08
Canopy Growth Corp	21.09	+2.30
Uber Technologies	29.74	...
Rite Aid Corp	15.47	-.52
Denbury Res	1.41	+0.01
Pfizer Inc	39.18	+0.27
Nokia Corp	3.71	+0.02
Exxon Mobil Corp	69.78	+0.30
EnCana Corp	4.69	+0.05
Macy's Inc	17.00	+0.23
Transocean Ltd	6.88	+0.08
Yamana Gold Inc	3.95	...
Wells Fargo & Co	53.80	+0.20
Callon Petrol	4.83	+0.01

NASDAQ STOCK MARKET

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Inpixon Corp	.11	+0.03
FuelCell Energy	2.51	+0.83
Onconova Therapeut	.38	-.10
Adv Micro Dev	45.86	+3.34
Apple Inc	293.65	+2.13
Neovasc Inc	5.41	+1.48
Cronos Group Inc	7.67	+1.05
Microsoft Corp	157.70	+1.11
Savara Inc	4.48	-.43
Cisco Syst	47.96	+0.37
Ocugen Inc	.52	-.06
Oncolytics Biotech	4.76	+0.89
Intel Corp	59.85	-.23
Comcast Corp A	44.97	+2.21
Roku Inc	133.90	+2.30
Micron Tech	53.78	+0.57
Luckin Coffee Inc	39.36	+1.58
Oasis Petroleum	3.26	+0.18
Sirius XM Hldgs Inc	7.15	+0.06
Groupion Inc	2.19	+0.03
Tesla Inc	418.33	+3.63
Viveve Medical Inc	1.26	+0.40
Plug Power Inc	3.16	-.08
Zynga Inc	6.12	-.02

FOREIGN MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHG./%
Shanghai	3050.12	+10.1/+3
Stoxx600	415.84	-.3/-1
Nikkei	23656.62	-181.1/-0.8
MSCI-EAFE	2035.99	-6.9/-0.3
Bovespa	115645.40	-888.6/-0.8
FTSE 100	7542.44	-44.6/-0.6
CAC-40	5978.06	-4.2/-0.1

LARGEST COMPANIES

Based on market capitalization

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
AT&T Inc	39.08	+0.04
Alibaba Group Hldg	212.10	-.81
Alphabet Inc C	1337.02	-.88
Alphabet Inc A	1339.39	-.32
Amazon.com Inc	1847.84	-.32
Apple Inc	293.65	+2.13
Bank of America	35.22	+0.07
Berkshire Hath B	226.50	+0.74
Exxon Mobil Corp	69.78	+0.30
Facebook Inc	205.25	+0.84
HSBC Holdings prA	26.88	+0.23
JPMorgan Chase	139.40	+0.77
Johnson & Johnson	145.87	+0.57
MasterCard Inc	298.59	+0.87
Microsoft Corp	157.70	+1.11
Procter & Gamble	124.90	+0.43
Taiwan Semicon	58.10	+0.25
Visa Inc	187.90	+0.57
WalMart Strs	118.84	-.56

TREASURY YIELDS

DURATION	CLOSE	PREV.
3-month disc	1.54	1.52
6-month disc	1.56	1.56
2-year	1.54	1.56
10-year	1.91	1.89
30-year	2.39	2.34

SPOT METALS

	CLOSE	PREV.
Gold	\$1519.50	\$1514.50
Silver	\$17.828	\$17.908
Platinum	\$971.40	\$957.70

INTEREST RATES

Prime Rate	4.75
Discount Rate Primary	2.25
Fed Funds Target	1.50-1.75
Money Mkt Overnight Avg.	0.57

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

A U.S. Dollar buys ...	
Argentina (Peso)	59.8767
Australia (Dollar)	1.4251
Brazil (Real)	4.0195
Britain (Pound)	.7553
Canada (Dollar)	1.2985
China (Yuan)	6.9632
Euro	.8915</

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EDITORIALS

Another Illinois fiasco: The hat that wasn't Lincoln's

When the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield made a major acquisition in 2007, it was front-page news in the Chicago Tribune. The purchase from Louise Taper, we reported, included "the bulk of what is considered the most spectacular and deepest Lincoln collection in private hands."

Among the more than 1,500 items were Lincoln's eyeglasses, his billfold, the blood-stained gloves he had worn to Ford's Theater on the night of his assassination, and what reportedly was "one of the few known Lincoln stovepipe hats of indisputable provenance." It was a stunning coup for a museum that was short of the sort of artifacts that could bring our greatest president to life.

But this is Illinois, and the operation is overseen by the state government, so we might have known something would go wrong. Several things did. One was that the foundation behind it had to borrow \$23 million to finance the deal, and it had so much trouble coming up with the last \$9 million that it asked for a state bailout.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker refused, raising the alarming prospect that the foundation



SETH PERLMAN/AP 2017

An Abraham Lincoln stovepipe hat was appraised at \$6.5 million and acquired by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, but it may not be authentic.

would have to sell part of the collection to cover its bills. In the end, though, the foundation was able to get a three-year extension, giving it until Oct. 31, 2022, to raise the needed funds.

"It is clear that no one at (the museum) conducted any research on the object before it was acquired."

Samuel Wheeler, Illinois state historian

But the troubles are not over. The prize feature of the items bought was the beaver-skin hat — which alone was appraised at \$6.5 million — because the 16th president was so closely identified with that style of headwear. And it turned out the hat's authenticity was quite disputable.

It was passed down to the descendants of an Illinois farmer, William Waller, who supposedly got it as a gift from Lincoln when Waller visited Washington during the Civil War. But troubling questions arose, and last year, the foundation commissioned a study by Illinois State Historian Samuel Wheeler to find the truth. His findings were bad news.

The report, obtained by WBEZ, found no evidence that Lincoln ever owned or wore the hat. It has no traces of Lincoln's DNA; it

does not appear to be his size; and, reported WBEZ, "its apocryphal Lincoln connection wasn't even known to descendants of its original owners." The report also faulted the foundation for its inexplicable carelessness. "It is clear that no one at (the museum) conducted any research on the object before it was acquired in 2007," said Wheeler.

The good news is that there seems to be no question about the hundreds of other items. And we would suggest that the sorry tale of the hat could be put to good use in the museum.

How about a separate exhibit displaying it, giving a full account of how it came into the foundation's possession, and how the provenance of the other Lincoln artifacts was confirmed? In 2007, the Chicago History Museum had an exhibit titled, "Is It Real?" illuminating how curators, scientists and historians determine the legitimacy of historically significant objects.

The painful lessons of this expensive Lincoln error could be a learning experience for visitors, addressing the challenges of verifying the truth about pieces of our past and explaining what went wrong. And maybe visitors wouldn't be the only ones to come away a bit wiser.

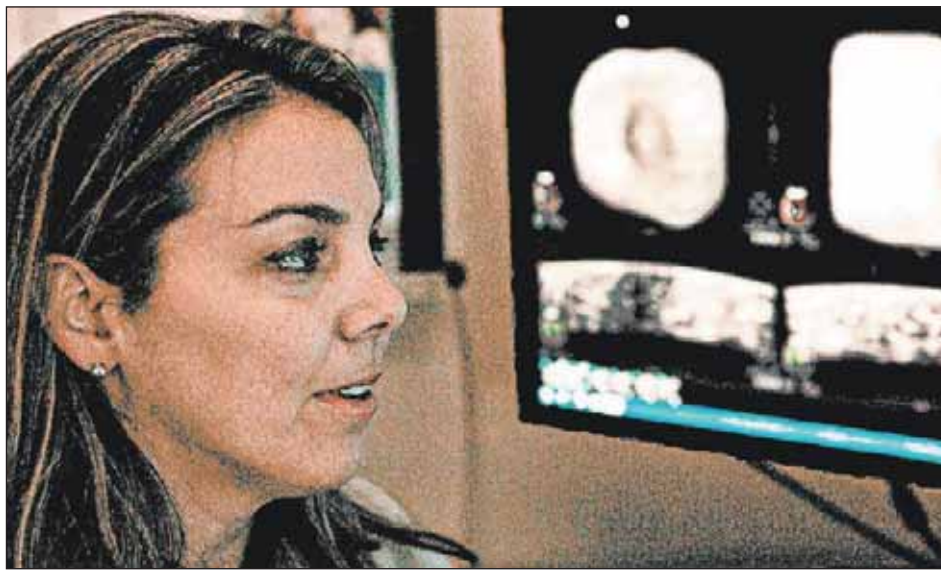
VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

'Free' health care services aren't free

The article "Covering the cost" in the Dec. 27 Tribune reports on an Illinois law requiring health insurance providers to pay for a second mammogram if needed by a patient. But of course this service is not free. Someone is paying, and when the government mandates specific coverage for all health insurers, it is mandating a higher cost to all who pay for that insurance. Laudable efforts to make more and more health care services "free" to the insured individuals, whether it be second mammograms, more comprehensive mental health coverage, routine immunizations, etc., add more and more cost to everyone's insurance.

With auto insurance, each person makes the cost/benefit decision as to what coverage to buy beyond the minimally required liability insurance. Safe drivers may choose to take the risk of a costly car accident, and in return pay far less for their insurance coverage each year.

But advocates of more and more procedures and treatments in health care want the government to mandate such coverage



KRISTAN LIEB/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2018

Dr. Georgia Spear looks at mammograms and ultrasounds to scan for breast cancer at Skokie Hospital.

and thus raise the cost of health insurance for everyone. Elected politicians love to praise themselves for passing laws that add to such insurance coverage, with little thought as to the costs that their mandate forces on everyone.

The real and more basic problem with all of this is that what we commonly call "health insurance" is not really insurance at all. It is prepaid health care. If we returned health insurance to being something that is intended to cover the costs of unanticipated major and relatively unusual costs, such as the surgery and treatment

after a traumatic car accident, or the treatment for a rare and costly-to-treat type of cancer, and left basic routine costs to be paid for by the patients themselves — such as visits for minor illnesses, immunizations and common diagnostic procedures — it would be a far simpler challenge for the taxpayer to fund such basic coverage for everyone.

No one expects auto insurance to cover the cost of gasoline, oil changes, new tires and brake pads, but somehow we expect health insurance to cover the same type of common and predictable costs. At the least,

let's keep government out of the picture and let people choose what coverage they want and how much they are willing to pay for that coverage.

— David Howard, Rockford

Lawsuit over revenge porn law

Regarding "Revenge porn may go to US high court" (Dec. 27): Such cases need to go all the way to the Supreme Court to be decided? Nonconsensual distribution of private sexual images violates privacy; that it's "revenge" in motive means intent to harm. Because the First Amendment protection exception does not apply to threats or obscenity, lawsuits challenging legislation criminalizing revenge porn have no merit.

— Richard Palzer, Clarendon Hills

Trump driven by noble mission?

Letter writer Mike Simon ("Trump has exposed corruption," Dec. 27) believes that Donald Trump, a man who has been sued hundreds of times, including by contractors for allegedly not paying them; who settled a lawsuit for \$25 million over fraud claims against Trump University; and who just paid a \$2 million fine for misusing his charity's funds, went to Washington to root out corruption. The person who said this was right: You can fool some of the people all of the time.

— Steve Holubek, Woodridge

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

The Great Recession ended in June 2009, meaning that Americans have enjoyed uninterrupted economic growth for more than a decade.

...

That still leaves us with a nearly 1 in 4 chance that we'll slip into recession sometime in the next year. But why not turn that frown upside down? A 1 in 4 chance we'll have a recession means a 3 in 4 chance that we won't! ...

To be sure, there are economic worries for the year ahead. Trade wars are not, it turns out, good and easy to win, and decoupling from China, whatever the strategic arguments, is bound to exert long-term drag on economic growth. That said, we're now likely past the worst of the trade war, and if it didn't throw us into recession a year ago, it's probably not going to now.

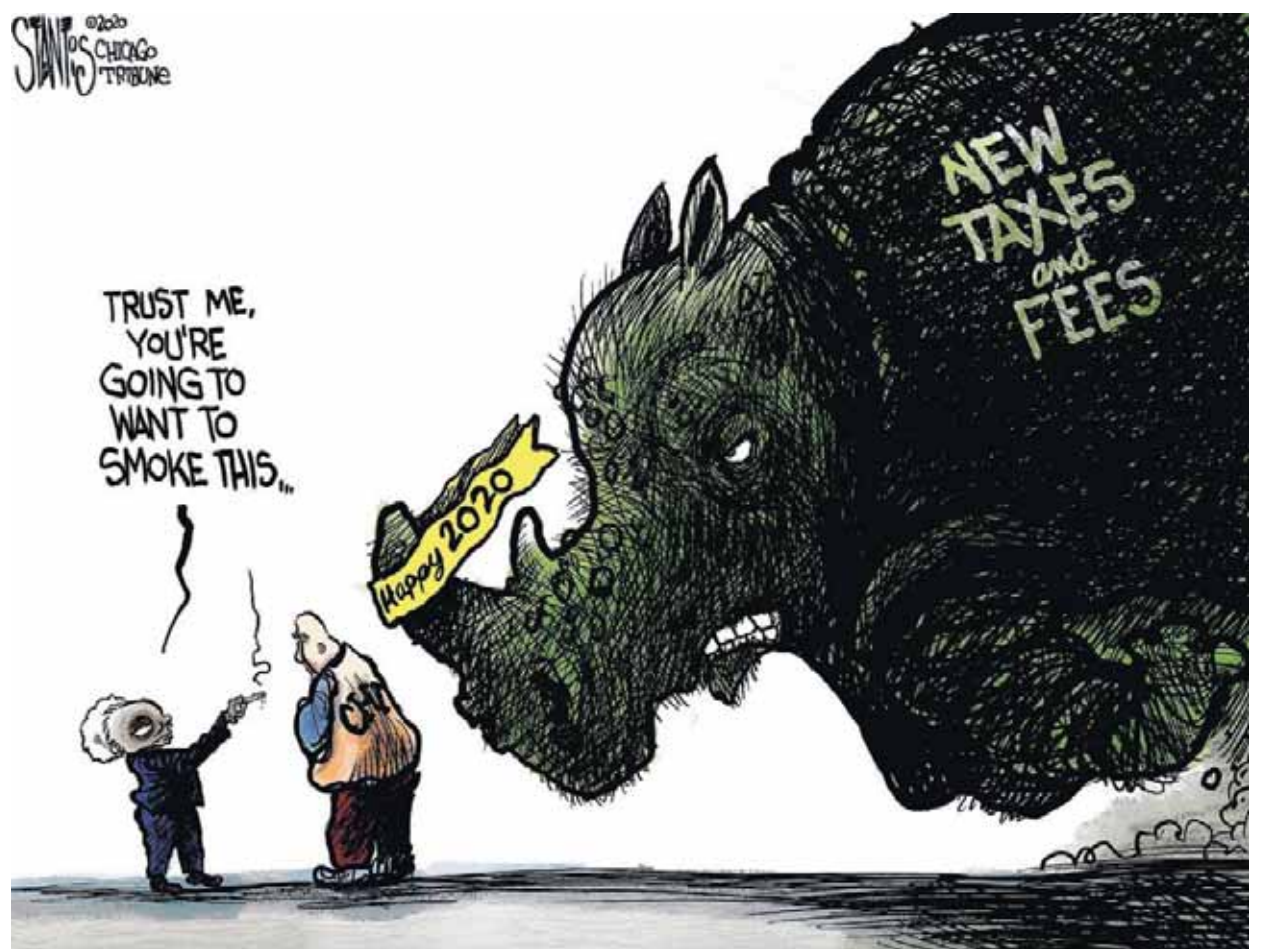
The harder-to-quantify risk is simply that we're in uncharted territory. Because no U.S. expansion in modern economic history has ever gone on this long, we can't be sure that there isn't some tipping point when they do start to die of old age.

But then, we can't be sure that a vacuum decay bubble isn't at this very moment expanding toward Earth at exactly the speed of light, preparing to wink us out of existence without warning. That's really no reason not to pour the Champagne and toast the new year with high expectations.

Megan McArdle, The Washington Post

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COMMENTARY

Poisoned places to work

Female TV anchors emerge as avatars for modern women

By AMANDA HESS
 The New York Times

"The Morning Show" begins with a wake-up call. Mitch Kessler (Steve Carell), the Matt Lauer-ish co-host of a "Today" show-ish program, answers the phone at 3 a.m. to learn that he has been fired over allegations of sexual misconduct. When his co-host, Alex Levy (Jennifer Aniston), reports to a chaotic predawn set, her producer, Chip (Mark Duplass), says something sycophantic about how much America needs her, and she snaps. "Don't drag America into this," she says. "This affects me."

Mitch's disgraceful exit has bumped Alex into reputational limbo. For 15 years, they had awakened the nation with their special blend of not-quiiiiite-sexual chemistry, and then, she tells Chip, "My on-air partner, my TV husband, is a sexual predator now?" Her implied question is: *What does that make me?* Two mysteries hang over the rest of the season: What exactly did Mitch do? And what did Alex know?

Sexual harassment has long been a part of the anchorwoman's pop-culture origin story. Occasionally we even see it play out on television, as we did recently, when a race runner assaulted a local television reporter on the air, and she glared after him for less than a second before resuming her coverage. Mostly we see it in movies, romanticized in "Up Close and Personal" and skewered in "Anchorman," both loosely inspired by the pioneering TV presenter Jessica Savitch. As our anchorwoman navigates the newsroom, she must brush off innuendo and swat away gropes in order to prove that she can cut it in an anchorman's world. When she makes it to prime time, we know the credits are about to roll.

But lately we've caught a second look at this figure. "The Morning Show" (which is loosely inspired by Lauer's fall at NBC) and the film "Bombshell" (which reenacts Roger Ailes' ouster from Fox News) train an eye on the veteran news anchorwoman who has always fought her battles and secured her time slot. The dynamics of her workplace have not been totally reversed, but they have been scrambled. What does she do with her power? How does she maintain her position? What harassment does she endure, witness, abide?

"The world is not ready to hold women accountable for their complicity, even the ones in power," Mitch bellyaches to Alex in "The Morning Show" after he is exposed. In "Bombshell," as the Fox News darling Megyn Kelly



LIONSGATE

Charlize Theron, left, as Fox News anchorwoman Megyn Kelly, and John Lithgow as her boss, Roger Ailes, in "Bombshell."



HILARY B GAYLE/APPLE TV PLUS

Jennifer Aniston and Steve Carell in "The Morning Show."

(Charlize Theron) leads a rogue internal investigation into Ailes' harassment, Kayla Pospisil (Margot Robbie), an invented junior employee, asks Kelly why she didn't take action sooner. Kelly had known for years — since she'd had to fend him off herself — that Ailes was a menace. Couldn't she have helped save other women from his abuse?

"Complicit" is a heavy word; it implies an active scheme. Anchorwomen may be implicated in a poisoned workplace culture, but they're trapped in it too.

As the figure of the female TV journalist has maneuvered from the sidelines (where she stood in "Network" and "Broadcast News") and into the spotlight, she

has emerged as an avatar for the modern professional woman. In order to compete with men, she must endure things that men do not.

In the 1996 film "Up Close and Personal," harassment is routed through a classic romantic plot: When Tally Atwater (Michelle Pfeiffer) appears at a Miami television station with skimpy clothes and a skimpier resume, the TV news director Warren Justice (Robert Redford) demeans her, but then grows to respect her and ultimately marry her. That narrative is subverted in the 2004 comedy "Anchorman" when the station hires its first female reporter, Veronica Corningstone (Christina Applegate), who inex-

plicably falls for her loutish tormentor, Ron Burgundy (Will Ferrell).

Fictionalized anchorwomen come in a couple of models — let's call them the Murphy Brown and the Corky Sherwood — who represent the dual expectations for women in the role. In "Murphy Brown," television's most indelible portrait of an anchorwoman, the aggressive and cynical Murphy (Candice Bergen) meets her foil in the naive and perky new correspondent Corky (Faith Ford). A subdued version of that dynamic is mirrored in "Bombshell," with the sharpened ex-corporate lawyer Kelly drawn in contrast with the ethereal former Miss America, Gretchen Carlson (Nicole Kidman).

This dichotomy is a trap: An anchorwoman can always be criticized for being too Murphy or too Corky. Striking the right balance is more about receiving the imprimatur of a powerful man than anything else. In "Up Close and Personal," Tally is a Corky who, under Warren's mentorship and later his romantic and sexual companionship, is rebuilt into a Murphy.

"The Loudest Voice," the Showtime series based on Gabriel Sherman's reportage on Fox News, illuminates the darker implications of such arrangements. In it, Ailes (Russell Crowe) preys on Carlson (played here by Naomi Watts) by promising to remake her in Kelly's image,

placing his hands on her body and molding her to his specifications. "The Morning Show" shuffles these dynamics: Because Corky types reign on morning television, the experienced soft news host Alex is pitted against Mitch's replacement, the tough but naive Bradley Jackson (Reese Witherspoon).

From the moment they're hired, these women are quite literally groomed by their networks. "It's a visual medium," Ailes (John Lithgow this time) says again and again in "Bombshell," as he demands aspiring Fox News journalists hike up their skirts and twirl for him. The makeover montage often plays triumphantly in movies, but in stories about television journalists, they have an edge. As the newscaster's hair is cut into a bob and she is trained in a non-regional dialect, her body and her voice fall under network control.

In "The Morning Show," when the simpering executive Cory Ellison (Billy Crudup) whisks Bradley to Barneys to buy her a new wardrobe with his corporate card, it plays like "Pretty Woman" except explicitly creepy, because he's her boss. At Fox News, the optics are just more overt: The dressing-room scenes in "Bombshell" show women squeezing into platform heels and push-up bras.

The inputs needed to create an

Turn to **Woman**, Page 14

IN PERFORMANCE

D'Elia rant against comedy critics is uncalled for

His jokes don't play to offensive humor that would need justification

By ZACH FREEMAN

The last time I saw comedian and actor Chris D'Elia on stage in Chicago he was at The Vic wrestling with accepting his own adulthood and pushing his free-wheeling comedy stylings to a deeper place. The material from that show went into his 2017 Netflix special "Man on Fire," his best, most honest and cohesively funny work yet. Almost three years later, working the penultimate night of his two-year "Follow the Leader" tour at the Chicago Theatre on Monday night to a sold-out crowd, the 39-year-old D'Elia seems to have taken a few steps back, falling into the defensive comedian trap that has sidetracked so many otherwise great sets lately.

The most unfortunate part about D'Elia's foray into fighting the good fight against "sensitive" audiences is that there's no reason for it. Unlike, say, Bill Burr or Ricky Gervais — who have now

effectively defined their central comedic personae as the comic who offends the easily offended (and sell tons of tickets doing so) — D'Elia has never had that vibe. He's a fun, funny dudebro with a stream-of-consciousness style and a disheveled look — "I look like I sell (drugs) to me," he said at one point.

In short, he doesn't have "offensive" material that needs defending.

The first 20 minutes or so of D'Elia's 53-minute set — which was filmed last month for an upcoming Netflix special — is sheer goofy delight, especially a lengthy story about growling at a baby in a mall that highlights all of D'Elia's strengths, delivering nonstop act-outs and killer punchlines while consistently painting him as the lovable heel, the guy who may be wrong but both knows and relishes it.

In a blue shirt, jeans and tennis shoes, D'Elia confidently owns the stage, balancing the right amount of physical comedy with a practiced stillness. This early part of the show is captivating and relatably personal.

But from here D'Elia takes a turn, beginning with a discussion of his childhood — "I've had an easy life," he says. "My parents were always there for me. They tucked me in every night." Supportive parents are great and all, but in D'Elia's estimation, "comedy comes from pain, dude." And so, he posits, what if his life has been too easy?

It's an intriguing point for a comic at this level to make, especially to an audience of adoring fans, and there are a number of hilarious and, perhaps, eye-opening paths this thought process could follow, but D'Elia doesn't take us down any of them. Instead, in a turn both disappointing and surprising, he jumps into a spiral of privilege acknowledgment and defensive posturing, without ever seeming to connect the two.

And this is what makes the sentiment that D'Elia expresses regarding critical audience members somehow both vital and, paradoxically, pointless. It's also the least funny part of the show. "I will never apologize for some (stuff) I say on stage, ever," he



AL PEREIRA/GETTY

Comedian-actor Chris D'Elia performs in March 2019 in Huntington, New York.

said to loud cheers. "I've listened to way too much Tupac to apologize for comedy." This is apparently the hill he'll die on, or whatever. "It's about standing for something, I think," he said, adding that as a white guy, "I haven't really had to stand for anything."

Despite his strong stance here, he's intentionally dismissive of being informed (or even opinionated) on any other topics, especially comedy.

"It's so weird to get mad at a comedian for what we say," he says, after a bit complaining that at his shows in Boulder, Colorado, audience members gasped when he joked about a dolphin committing suicide. "You know why? We're joking."

But despite his frustrations with criticism and people's concerns that comedy itself is being threatened by sensitivity, D'Elia is quick to acknowledge that "it's literally the best time for comedy."

With constant specials being dropped on streaming services, strong ticket sales for touring comics, and, as the Chicago scene makes abundantly clear, the vast number of places you can see live comedy any night of the week, the ongoing stand-up boom backs up that claim.

Zach Freeman is a freelance writer.

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ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Older dad hates granddad assumption

Dear Amy: I am a happy father. I was overjoyed to have my first child at 57. My boy, "Michael," is now 11, and in the fifth grade. My problem is that most of the younger parents assume I am Mike's grandfather. I always promptly correct that assumption, saying I am his father and that we started late. Some of these statements are made within my son's earshot. This has an impact on attending parent/teacher meetings and school functions.

This embarrasses both of us. He is a sensitive lad. He has even said that he hates his parents being so old. (His mother is 47, but she looks much younger).

On one occasion a very heavy-set woman told me that I must be Michael's grandfather. My response was to congratulate her on her pregnancy. As she assumed, so did I.

I would appreciate some help in addressing this issue, as it is a source of emotional distress.

— K, in Colorado

Dear K: The way to address this is to acknowledge your son's perspective and feelings without giving in to them. Your embarrassment reinforces his. Your rudeness to an overweight woman teaches your son that it is acceptable to be mortified for the privilege of your age and that rudeness is an acceptable reaction when someone makes an incorrect assumption.

Across North America, millions of grandparents are raising grandchildren; of course, some people assume that a 68-year-old man is an adolescent's grandfather!

Your age makes parent/teacher conferences challenging? Why? You are there to discuss your son's schoolwork. If a teacher brings up your age or your child's sensitivities about it, you should ask for the teacher's advice about how to handle it and be open to a course correction.

Tell your son, "I understand that this can be hard on you sometimes. But I feel proud and lucky, and I don't care what other people think."

You cannot change your age. Many families carry burdens. Families cope with poverty, disabilities and dislocation. Reassure your son that you're healthy and happy and that you plan to be around to embarrass him for a long time.

Dear Amy: I am a 75-year-old widow of three years. I got married at 17, and my husband was my first, and only, love. The guy I'm seeing is 78 and has been widowed for five years. He and his wife were our best friends for 60 years.

We have been through the good times, very good times, bad times and very bad times. So I guess it's karma that our friendship blossomed into a romance.

He will be moving in with me soon. He really wants to get married. He's not really pressuring me, but I do know that marriage is NOT what I want at my age. I want us to live together for a few months to make sure this is good for both of us. I'm thinking more along the lines of a commitment service, but I don't know much about it.

What are your thoughts and feelings on my thoughts and feelings?
— *Wandering Widow*

Dear Wondering: My thoughts and feelings are mainly celebratory. Karma, indeed! I will also offer my casual, nonscientific observation that older men tend to embrace remarriage, while older women don't seem to be quite so keen.

You and your guy should explore all the legal ramifications of being together, with and without marriage. You should see your attorney regarding practical matters like insurance, household finances and estate planning.

A commitment ceremony might be a fun and appropriate way to celebrate your togetherness. There is no one way to do this, but basically it is like a wedding ceremony without the legal attachment.

A friend or clergy member could perform the ceremony and you could write vows and declare commitment to each other in front of friends and family. You might want to plan this event for six months from now, after you've both adjusted to your togetherness.

Dear Amy: The question from "Love-in-Law," where a man said he was in love with his wife's sister, made my blood boil.

Thank you for stating: "You feel guilty because you ARE guilty!"
— *Grateful Reader*

Dear Grateful: When someone confesses to infidelity and then wonders why he feels guilty, the answer writes itself.

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Due to a production error, Ask Amy's column did not appear in Tuesday's paper. Below is her Tuesday column.

Dear Amy: My family was friends with a couple from our church ("Alan and Jenny") for many years. I've never met a more loving, happier, or more fulfilled couple than those two. They had three amazing children together.

All of that came to a tragic end about four years ago when Jenny shockingly took her life. She had been dealing with a painful chronic illness that was only getting worse. Of course, we were all devastated. Somehow, Alan kept it together, for the sake of the kids, no doubt. Now, a few years later, he has moved on to a new relationship and invited us all to his wedding next spring.

On one hand, I'm thrilled that he has found happiness again. His fiancée has a child of her own, and they both seem lovely. On the other hand, I'm struggling with feelings of loss all over again. For some reason, this wedding has cemented the fact that Jenny isn't coming back.

She was my close friend for many years, and I know her family loved her dearly and couldn't imagine replacing her. I'm already struggling with not judging Alan's fiancée by comparing her to Jenny.

I'm not going to punish someone else for moving on after tragedy. I know that isn't right or fair. I just need to know how to deal with my conflicting emotions. It is strange because, compared with Jenny's actual family members, who are perfectly OK and

happy, I shouldn't be taking it this hard.

Please tell me how I can manage these emotions in order to be truly happy for my friend, even if it means leaving behind someone I love and miss every day.

— *Grieving*

Dear Grieving: You miss your friend, and you likely always will. When someone dies by suicide, grieving loved ones are left with such complicated and painful emotions. I assure you, every person in "Jenny's" circle — her widower, her children, and other friends and family members — is coping with these feelings. They are not "perfectly OK and happy." They are doing their imperfect best, just as you are.

When you are engaged in a loving friendship with another person, your feelings mingle and flow — this fullness of feeling is what makes us aware of our humanity. This is the bittersweetness of being in the world. It is OK to love a person (Jenny) and also be angry that they are gone. It is acceptable to feel happy for someone (Alan) and also sad that their life is changing.

In short, you get to feel your feelings — all of them.

How you should behave is another matter. When it comes to this marriage, you should attend the wedding, shed a tear or two if you need to, and behave kindly toward all parties. You are NOT leaving your dear friend behind, but you must make room for change.

Dear Amy: I was recently diagnosed with a treatable, benign brain tumor. I got a slew of heartfelt emails

from family from all over the country.

Call me old-fashioned, but I didn't receive even one get-well card. Is it now proper etiquette to just spend 30 seconds or so and send an email?

— *Recovering*

Dear Recovering: This is not about etiquette. Your friends and family were thoughtfully reaching out to you in a way where they could express themselves and also (perhaps) initiate a written dialogue with you via your reply to their email.

In my view, when you're not feeling well, this can be an ideal way to communicate, because you can reply on your own time.

Many people still send cards, and yes — it is wonderful to receive them, but you should consider that this email outpouring is the equivalent of a phone call — quick, yes, but also personal and heartfelt.

There is nothing wrong with being old-fashioned, but I hope you are not blaming the people who reached out to you for caring enough to get in touch.

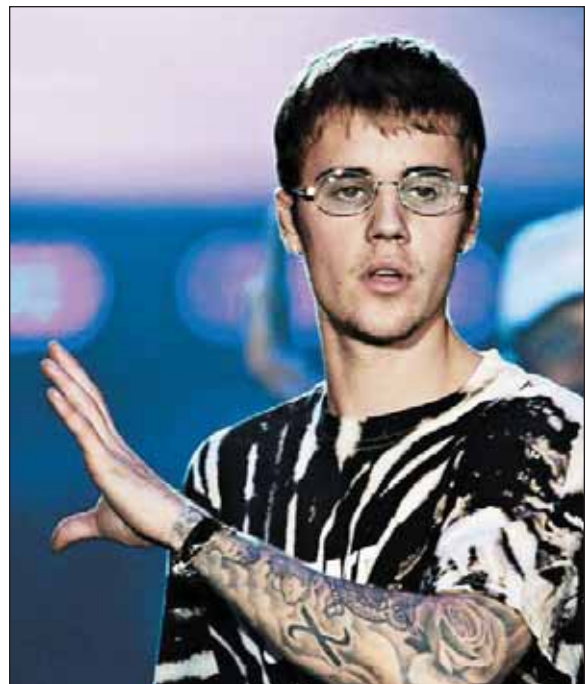
Dear Amy: Responding to "Confused about Kitty," it's a shame you hate cats so much that you would consign them to a boring life of staying inside all day. Cats were meant to roam.

— *Upset*

Dear Upset: My own best feline friend, "Chester," died last month at the ripe old age of 20. Keeping cats indoors lengthens their lives and saves the lives of the many birds and small mammals they kill when they "roam."

CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



BORNA FILIC/ABACA PRESS

Justin Bieber's new docu-series will take viewers behind the scenes of his professional and private lives.

The Biebs returns to forum that made him famous

Justin Bieber is launching a docu-series about creating his new album on YouTube, the platform where the singer originally got his start in music over a decade ago.

YouTube announced Tuesday that "Justin Bieber: Seasons" will debut Jan. 27. The 10-episode series will follow the pop star while he records his first new album since 2015. Before releasing his debut song in 2009, Bieber gained popularity from posting his performances of cover songs on YouTube.

"When I was getting started, YouTube provided me a platform and a community where I could share music, experiences and moments with my fans," Bieber, 25, said in a statement. "It feels great to partner with YouTube for this original documentary series. I want my fans to be part of this journey."

YouTube says the series will "feature a behind-the-scenes look at Bieber's private life, including never-before-seen footage of his wedding to Hailey Baldwin and his day-to-day alongside those in his inner circle."

— *Associated Press*

Jan. 1 birthdays: Actor Frank Langella is 82. Singer-guitarist Country Joe McDonald is 78. Actor Rick Hurst is 74. Rapper Grandmaster Flash is 62. Actress Dedee Pfeiffer is 56. Actor Morris Chestnut is 51. R&B singer Tank is 44. Actress Eden Riegel is 39. Bassist Noah Sierota is 24.



CHRIS PIZZELLO/INVISION

Bumbled: Sharon Stone can now return to mingling on Bumble without being kicked off the dating app. A representative said in a statement Monday that Stone's profile has been restored after it was "mistakenly" blocked. The 61-year-old actress said on Twitter the day before that Bumble closed her account and she asked, "Is being me exclusionary? Don't shut me out the hive." Bumble apologized for the confusion but thought users could have viewed Stone's profile as fake because there was no verification.

Hawking home state: North Dakota will again enlist the help of Hollywood actor Josh Duhamel to help promote tourism in his home state, paying the star \$175,000 to be the face of the state's tourism campaign for the next two years. The state has had a contract with Duhamel since 2013 to help lure visitors to North Dakota. Duhamel is from Minot, a city in the northern part of the state that's about an hour's drive from the United States border with Canada. Although North Dakota is one of the least-visited states in the U.S., tourism is the state's third-largest industry, behind energy and agriculture. The biggest draw is Theodore Roosevelt National Park in western North Dakota's badlands.

Buying 'Bad': A store will be opening in Albuquerque that will cater to fans of the AMC-TV hit series "Breaking Bad." A co-owner of The Breaking Bad Store ABQ says local artists have been commissioned to create unique items inspired by the long-running series and its cast of characters. The store's grand opening will be Jan. 4.

Woman

Continued from Page 13

anchorwoman — in addition to skill and persistence, she requires beauty, youthfulness, relatability — mean that her position is always subject to review. A male anchor seems to grow more powerful with age, but a woman's value to the network can deplete over time. (Barbara Walters is a notable exception). In "The Morning Show," two executives sip cocktails and lament that they'll have to put Alex "out to pasture" soon. And in "Bombshell," Ailes seems to choose his harassment targets carefully based on their status in his newsroom.

In these projects, the workplace hierarchy seems so clear it's practically translucent. We peer into clandestine motel rooms and behind locked dressing-room doors. Characters compress power dynamics into pithy lines and lob them at one another. (Bradley to Alex: "I'm a nobody. I'm not you.") Throughout "The Morning Show," the icy magazine journalist Maggie (Marcia Gay Harden) tours media parties, delivering soliloquies that pinpoint each character's strategic position; in "Bombshell," Fox News personalities break the fourth wall to lecture us directly. In real newsrooms these dynamics are frequently obscured. Women are isolated from one another — and from their own power — by design.

One power that "Bombshell" and "The Loudest Voice" do not care to illuminate is whiteness. While Kelly was quietly reporting Ailes to the network, she was igniting loud racial skirmishes over Black Lives Matter and what she deemed the inappropriateness of a black Santa Claus. And while both projects show Carlson filming an episode of her show wearing no makeup — a "Feminazi" stunt that incensed Ailes — they decline to

observe Carlson's role in more Fox News-compliant segments, like when she analyzed Barack Obama's middle name and concluded that he "is a Muslim potentially."

"Bombshell" does not pause to interrogate the anchors' cheerleading for white culture, but it is relevant. The "Everywoman" anchorwoman is almost always white — a point raised in fleeting appearances by Mindy Kaling as a rival anchorwoman in "The Morning Show" — and Fox News elevated her race to a new level of significance. As Ailes' victims flash across the screen in "Bombshell" — all thin, white, polished beauties — their images are meant to stir sympathy and moral outrage, but they also project an unsettling uniformity. They are pictures of white femininity, of the idealized victim revered by Hollywood and the morning news. It feels inconceivable that the women of Fox News, of all places, presaged the mainstreaming of the #MeToo movement, but it also makes sense.

The word "complicit" is derived from the Latin for "to fold together," and women may ally with male power to survive, or to get ahead; it can be hard to tell the difference. Anchorwomen may be alienated from one another, but they are TV-married to their TV-husbands, bound to their bosses and beholden to their networks. "No one really leaves Fox, Megyn," Kelly is told in "Bombshell": "It's in your DNA now."

When Mitch confronts Alex about her "participation" in his harassment, he needles her: "You didn't roll your eyes at these women? You didn't make jokes at their expense?" She doesn't have a retort; she did those things. Laughter can be a technique for brushing off harassment, but it can also be a way for a woman to try on the harasser's power. A flashback episode reveals that the whole set was arranged to fluff

Mitch's ego: Staffers flirt with him, cheek-kiss him, twirl for him, laugh off his jokes. When Mitch disappears, Alex becomes a kind of TV widow. "Our star was built on chemistry," she tells him, "and you just blew it up!"

Chemistry is one of the great mysteries of the morning television show. People talk about it like it's an inscrutable quality, but recently it has become a little more clear. In "Top of the Morning," a 2013 account of the morning TV wars that served as a touchstone for "The Morning Show," Brian Stelter writes about Matt Lauer as if he's James Bond: "Men fantasized about being him; women fantasized about being with him." Part of a co-host's job is to maintain and service that image. Chemistry, as Stelter defined it, is the ability to "show your viewers and your colleagues that you feel comfortable in your role." Katie Couric and Matt Lauer had chemistry; Ann Curry and Matt Lauer did not.

From the moment she was named Lauer's co-host, in the summer of 2011, Curry did not seem "comfortable" on the couch. Stelter cataloged her missteps: Lauer didn't laugh at her jokes; she stepped on Lauer's toes; they never clicked. She was gone in a year. Only recently did we learn more: In 2012, as Curry later told The Washington Post, a tearful junior "Today" employee approached her. Lauer, she said, had lured her into his office and harassed her physically. Now she feared for her safety and her job. Curry says she reported Lauer to managers at NBC; NBC has denied any knowledge of Lauer's behavior. Anyway, it was Curry who lost her seat.

One unarticulated ingredient of chemistry, perhaps, is complicity. Five years later, when stories of workplace harassment began tumbling out from all around the world, Curry tweeted, simply: "#MeToo."

WATCH THIS: WEDNESDAY



Jo Frost

"Supernanny" (9 p.m., 1:01 a.m., Lifetime): Jo Frost returns in a reboot of the hit show in which she starred for seven seasons on ABC, bringing her 30 years of expertise in childcare to modern families. Since the show's initial 2005-11 run, parents face a host of new and different societal and behavioral changes, so in these 20 new episodes, Frost offers them hope and relief with her advice and techniques to restore calm to a chaotic household.

"The 131st Rose Parade" (10 a.m., NBC, Hallmark): Rita Moreno, Gina Torres and Laurie Hernandez are the 2020 Grand Marshals for this beloved parade, which this year will include 45 floral floats spanning up to 75 feet long and 35 feet high. Put together by nearly a thousand white-glove volunteers over a total of 80,000 hours, these creations feature such special effects as pyrotechnics, waterfalls and smoke. Al Roker and Hoda Kotb co-host NBC's coverage.

"Self-Made Mansions" (5:30 p.m., HGTV): In this new series, designer Clinton Kelly meets with everyday people who have used hard work, determination and ingenuity to move from rags to riches. Now they're looking for the home of their dreams, a task for which Kelly is uniquely well suited. Tonight's series pilot episode finds Kelly working with the Speciale family, who made millions via "Shark Tank" with their oversized sweatshirt-blanket combo, The Comfy.

"Doctor Who" (7 p.m., 2:35 a.m., BBCA): "Doctor Who" fans have been waiting for a year for their favorite series to return, but executive producer and showrunner Chris Chibnall promises them that their patience will be rewarded by "Skyfall," the first of a two-part Season 12 premiere. In fact, Chibnall says, this could be the biggest "Doctor Who" ever, in terms of the sheer scope of the production.

"Linda Ronstadt: The Sound of My Voice" (8 p.m., 11 p.m., CNN): Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman's film was named best music documentary at the 2019 Critics' Choice Documentary Awards for its appreciative celebration of the recent Kennedy Center Honors recipient, who remained at the top of the music scene for nearly five decades after climbing to that pinnacle in the late 1960s.

"HGTV House Party" (10:02 p.m., 1 a.m., HGTV): Hosts Kevin Frazier and Nischelle Turner help usher out the first day of 2020 by showcasing the year's upcoming series, which include Jesse Tyler Ferguson ("Modern Family") in a reboot of "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition." Other featured hosts and their shows include Christina Anstead ("Christina on the Coast"); Tarek El Moussa; David Bromstad; Ben and Erin Napier; and twin sisters Lyndsay Lamb and Leslie Davis.

TALK SHOWS

- "Conan"** (10 p.m. 11:30 p.m., TBS): Guest: Edward Norton, Alex Edelman.*
- "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon"** (10:34 p.m., NBC): Actor Chris Evans; actress Naomi Scott; EarthGang performs.*
- "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert"** (10:35 p.m., CBS): Journalist John Heilemann; journalist Alex Wagner; Stephen Colbert: The Newest Zealander.*
- "Jimmy Kimmel Live!"** (10:35 p.m., ABC): Celebrity guests and comedy skits.*

* Subject to change

Hey, TV lovers: Looking for detailed show listings? TV Weekly is an ideal companion. To subscribe, go to www.tvweekly.com or call 1-877-580-4159

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JAN. 1

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	Evil: "Pilot." © HD		Evil: "177 Minutes." © HD		Evil: "3 Stars." © HD		News (N) ▶
	NBC 5	Chicago Fire: "Infection, Part I." ©		Chicago Med: "Infection, Part II." ©		Chicago P.D.: "Infection, Part III." ©		NBC 5 News (N) ▶
	ABC 7	The Goldbergs	Schooled ©	Modern Family	(8:31) Single Parents	Stumptown: "Rip City Dicks." © HD		News at 10pm (N) ▶
	WGN 9	black-ish ©	black-ish © HD	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N)		WGN News at Ten (N)
	Antenna 9.2	NewsRadio	NewsRadio	NewsRadio	NewsRadio	Johnny Carson ©		NewsRadio
	Court 9.3	★ Closing Arguments		Closing Arguments with Vinnie Politan ©				
	PBS 11	Nature: "Animal Reunions." © HD		Great Performances: "From Vienna: The New Year's Celebration 2020." (Season Premiere) (N) ©		American Masters This Is Bob Hope ... ©		
	CW 26.1	Riverdale © HD		Nancy Drew: "Pilot." ©		Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©
	The U 26.2	Dr. Phil © HD		Tamron Hall © HD		The Steve Wilkos Show		Cops ©
	MeTV 26.3	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Gomer Pyle	Green Acres	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett
	H&I 26.4	Star Trek ©		Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Star Trek ▶
	Bounce 26.5	Are We There Yet? (PG,05)		★ Ice Cube. ©				Code Name: The Cleaner ('07) ★ © ▶
	FOX 32	Flirty Dancing: "Episode 2: Cy & Beau." (N) ©		(8:01) Almost Family: "Rehabilitated AF." (N)		Fox 32 News	Fox 32 Year in Review	Modern Family ©
	Ion 38	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: "Flaw." ©		Law & Order: SVU		Law-SVU ▶
	TeleM 44	Decisiones: unos (N)		La Doña (N) ©		El señor de los cielos (N)		Chicago (N)
MNT 50	Chicago P.D.: "Sacrifice."		Dateline HD				Chicago ▶	
UniMas 60	★ Man on Fire	The Book of Eli (R,'10)	★ Denzel Washington, Gary Oldman.				Nosotr.	
WJYS 62	Salem Baptist Church	Joyce Meyer	Robison		Coach's Cor.		Paid Prog.	
Univ 66	Ringo		El dragón (N)				Noticias (N)	
CABLE	AE	The First 48: "Chain of Death." (Season Premiere) (N) ©		Alaska PD (Series Premiere) (N) ©		First 48 ▶		
	AMC	Home Alone (PG,'90) ★ ★ ★ Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci. © (SAP)		Home Alone 2 ▶				
	ANIM	★ AKC Nat'l Champ (N)		(8:01) Dogs: The Untold Story: "Wild Workers."		Dogs 101 ▶		
	BBCA	Doctor Who: "Spyfall, Part 1." (Season Premiere) (N) ©		(8:26) Doctor Who ©		Dr. Who ▶		
	BET	Bigger (N)		Bigger (N)		BET Star Cinema ▶		
	BIGTEN	★ Football		The B1G Show (N) (Live) ©		The B1G Show ©		
	BRAVO	Housewives/NJ (N)		Real House. (N)		Housewives/NJ		Blind Date
	CLTV	Sign-off				Sign-off		
	CNN	The Eighties ©		Linda Ronstadt: The Sound of My Voice (PG-13,'19)		The 70's ▶		
	COM	Chappelle's		Chappelle's		Chappelle's		Chappelle's
	DISC	Alaskan Bush People (N)		(8:03) Man vs. Bear (N)		Alaskan Bush People (N)		Alaskan ▶
	DISN	★ (6:30) Descendants 3 (NR,'19) ©		(8:25) Zombies (NR,'18) Milo Manheim.		Raven ▶		
	E!	★ Sex-City		Sex and the City (R,'08) ★ ★ Sarah Jessica Parker, Kim Cattrall. ©				
	ESPN	★ Rose Bowl		(7:40) Allstate Sugar Bowl: Baylor vs Georgia. (N) (Live) ▶				
	ESPN2	★ Rose Bowl		(7:40) Allstate Sugar Bowl: Baylor vs Georgia. (N) (Live) ▶				
	FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)		Hannity (N) ©		The Ingraham Angle (N)		Bret Baier ▶
	FOOD	Guy's Grocery Games		Guy's Grocery Games (N)		Guy's Grocery Games		Grocery ▶
	FREE	★ (5:45) Hotel Transylvania		(7:50) Despicable Me 2 (PG,'13) ★ ★ ★ © (SAP)		700 Club ▶		
	FX	★ (6) Transformers: The Last Knight (PG-13,'17) ★ ★ Mark Wahlberg.		Transformers ▶				
	HALL	Marry Me at Christmas (NR,'17) Rachel Skarsten. ©		The Christmas Club (NR,'19) ©				
	HGTV	Dream Home 2020 (N)		Property Brothers (N)		100 Day Dream Home (Series Premiere) (N)		House (N) ▶
	HIST	Forged in Fire (N)		Forged in Fire (N)		Vikings: "The Key." (N)		Forged ▶
	HLN	Forensic		Forensic		Forensic		Forensic
	IFC	National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation ('89) ★ ★ ★		(9:15) Vegas Vacation (PG,'97) ★ ★				
	LIFE	Married at First Sight (Season Premiere) (N) ©		Supernanny (Season Premiere) (N) ©		Married ▶		
	MSNBC	Dateline: "The Accused." ©				Dateline: "A Deadly Path." © ▶		
	MTV	Ridiculous.		Ridiculous.		Ridiculous.		Ridiculous.
	NBCSCH	★ G League		All Access		Crossover		Beer Money
	NICK	SpongeBob		SpongeBob		Friends ©		Friends ©
	OVATION	★ (6) Movie				Movie ▶		
OWN	David Makes Man		David Makes Man		David Makes Man		David ▶	
OXY	Snapped: "Notorious: Aileen Wuornos." ©		Snapped: "Notorious: Drew Peterson." ▶					
PARMT	★ (6) Next Friday (R,'00) ★ ★ Ice Cube.		Friday After Next (R,'02) ★ Ice Cube, Mike Epps. ©					
SYFY	Twi. Zone		Twi. Zone		Twi. Zone		Twi. Zone	
TBS	Big Bang		Big Bang		Big Bang		Full Frontal	
TCM	The Roaring Twenties (NR,'39) ★ ★ ★ James Cagney.		The Public Enemy (NR,'31) ★ ★ ★					
TLC	My 600-Lb. Life: "John & Lonnie's Story." (Season Premiere) (N)		1000-Lb. Sisters (Series Premiere) (N)		Quarter (N) ▶			
TLN	Baptist		King		Diane		The Three	
TNT	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (N) (Live) ©				Life Today		Exalted	
TOON	Amer. Dad		Amer. Dad		Burgers		Burgers	
TRAV	Paranormal Ca.		Paranormal Caught on Camera (N) ©		Family Guy		Family Guy	
TVL	King		King		King		King	
USA	WWE NXT (N) (Live) ©				Law & Order: SVU		Law-SVU ▶	
VH1	Black Ink: Chicago (N)		Black Ink Crew: Chicago		Love & Hip Hop ©		Ink ▶	
WE	Love After Lockup ©		Love After Lockup ©		Love After Lockup ©		Love- Loc. ▶	
WGN America	Cops ©		Cops ©		Cops ©		Cops ©	
PREMIUM	HBO	Shutter Island (R,'10) ★ ★ Leonardo DiCaprio, Mark Ruffalo. ©		(9:20) The Town ★ ★ ★				
	HBO2	★ (6:47) Watchmen ©		Red Riding Hood (PG-13,'11) ★		(9:45) The Apollo ('19) ▶		
	MAX	Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom (PG-13,'18) ★ ★ ©		(9:10) Pacific Rim Uprising ('18) ★ ★				
	SHO	★ (6) Little Women ('94) ★ ★ ★		On the Basis of Sex (PG-13,'18) ★ ★ Felicity Jones.		Five Feet ▶		
	STARZ	★ (5:57) The Equalizer 2		King Kong (PG-13,'05) ★ ★ ★ Naomi Watts, Jack Black. © ▶				
STZNC	★ (6:20) 13 Going on 30		Spaceballs (PG,'87) ★ ★ Mel Brooks. ©		(9:39) Footloose ★ ★			

NEIL INNES 1944-2019

Actor and musician often worked with Monty Python

By Randy Lewis
Los Angeles Times



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Neil Innes is seen in 2009 at the Vintage Vinyl record store in Evanston. Innes died Sunday at age 75.

English musician and humorist Neil Innes worked closely with two of the biggest cultural juggernauts his nation ever produced — the Beatles and Monty Python's Flying Circus comedy troupe — yet never became a household name himself, a goal he often espoused in interviews.

"I've been very close to people who have had all this terrible fame and renown — it's really not for me," Innes, who died Sunday at age 75, told the Los Angeles Times in 2003. "I'd rather be able to talk to people, my neighbors, or be able to be in a shop and nobody thinks I'm a freak. If that means I only do tiny things here and there, then that's fine. At least it's working the way I like it to work."

Innes died at his home in recent years near Toulouse, France, according to a statement released by his family. "We have lost a beautiful, kind, gentle soul whose music and songs touched the heart of everyone and whose intellect and search for truth inspired us all," the statement said. "He died of natural causes quickly without warning and ... without pain."

His approach worked for more than a half-century, when he first gained some measure of celebrity in England as a member of the Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah Band, whose humor-laden music often skewered the loftier aspirations of the rapidly expanding '60s rock music scene.

"The Beatles used to come to gigs," Innes told the Times in 2003. "A lot of bands that were in the god strata used to be dead jealous of the Bonzos 'cause we could muck about, and they couldn't. Eric Clapton said, 'I wish I could do what you were doing' ... 'Cause it's too much for anybody to

take all this idolatry." A decade later Innes took more jabs at such idolatry, helping create one of the savviest musical parodies of the 20th century, the Beatles send-up project called the Rutles, which affectionately lampooned the Fab Four with its faux retelling of the history of a band whose legacy "would last a lunchtime."

Innes also was dubbed "the seventh Python" for his close association with the comedy troupe, for which he wrote songs and appeared in films including "Monty Python & the Holy Grail" (he wrote the song "Brave Sir Robin" and appeared as the minstrel who sang it) and "Monty Python's Life of Brian."

"Utterly dismayed to hear about Neil Innes. Right out of the blue," Python founding member John Cleese tweeted Monday. "A very sweet man, much too nice for his own good. Lovely writer and performer. When he worked with Python on our stage show, I listened every night to 'How Sweet to be an Idiot' on the Tannoy (loudspeakers). Very sad."

Others who combined comparable passions for pop music and humor reacted quickly as well.

"I wanted Neil Innes to live forever," actor-musician-comedian Michael McKean, aka David St.

Hubbins of the mock rock group Spinal Tap, posted to his Twitter account. "A wise, funny and beautiful man."

His Spinal Tap bandmate, humorist-writer-filmmaker Harry Shearer, tweeted "RIP the quite brilliant Neil Innes."

Little-known among music fans in general, Innes was revered by musicians, especially those in England regularly exposed to his songs with the Bonzos and in the late '60s on the children's TV series "Do Not Adjust Your Set," which was the launchpad for future Python members Eric Idle, Terry Jones and Michael Palin and which counted their soon-to-be troupe members Cleese and Graham Chapman among its fans.

Innes may be most widely recognized for the songs he crafted for the Rutles, ingenious original songs that evoked the style and sound of the Beatles without directly imitating them.

The idea was born after Monty Python's Flying Circus TV series ended its run in England, and Idle launched a new show called Rutland Weekend Television, a parody of a low-budget British TV series that regularly included musical numbers provided by Innes.

Although the fictional group was introduced to

English audiences first, the project hopped the Atlantic in 1976 when Idle was booked as a guest on a new late-night American television show: "Saturday Night Live." Innes appeared in character as Ron Nasty, the quartet's acerbic doppelganger for John Lennon, and sang the song "Cheese and Onions" ("I have always thought in the back of my mind / Cheese and onions"), all of which motivated "SNL" producer Lorne Michaels to start the ball rolling on a U.S. special spotlighting the Rutles.

That show, "All You Need is Cash," finished dead last in the ratings when it aired in 1978 but became a cult classic and created a template for mock music documentary that actor-director Rob Reiner would pick up and run with six years later for

his "mockumentary" "This Is Spinal Tap."

The companion album, featuring 14 Innes-composed songs featured in the show such as "I Must Be in Love," "Hold My Hand" and "Ouch!" reached No. 63 on Billboard's 200 Albums chart in 1978.

The Rutles resurfaced with a second album, "Archaeology," released in the mid-'90s in tandem with the Beatles "Anthology" documentary TV series. Idle took another stab at the concept a decade later in a sequel film — minus any involvement of Innes or the other Rutle actor-musicians — "Rutles 2: Can't Buy Me Lunch," which went straight to DVD when it was released in 2005.

Neil James Innes was born Dec. 9, 1944, in Danbury, Essex, England, and

spent part of his youth in West Germany, where his father was stationed with the British Army of the Rhine. Upon returning to England, he took piano lessons from age 7 to 14 and taught himself how to play guitar. He attended Thorpe Grammar School and the Norwich School of Art, then Goldsmiths College in London, where he earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts in 1966.

In recent years Innes had toured regularly, sometimes as a solo act and sometimes with Beatles tribute bands supporting his performances of the Rutles song catalog.

In addition to his wife, Yvonne Catherine Hilton, Innes is survived by their three sons, Miles, Luke and Barney, and three grandchildren, Max, Issy and Zac.



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Horoscopes



Today's birthday (Jan. 1): This year benefits your creativity, spiritual growth and innovation. Self-discipline can fulfill a dream. An epiphany or wish realized this winter leads to a change with a partner. Summer plans shift in new directions, before romantic collaboration flowers. Take charge for what you love.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 9. You're energized and empowered. You can get what you need. Show your philosophical side in public. Discuss what you love. Forgive miscommunications. Listen and learn.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 7. It's emotion versus reason. You can see what wasn't working. Find a quiet place to think. Organize and plan. Minimize risk, and keep a low profile.

Gemini (May 21-June 22): 8. Don't push your luck with a friend. Misunderstandings could interfere with a group project. Keep your deadlines and promises. Stay in communication.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 8. Focus to solve a professional puzzle. Common sense rules the moment. Figure out what's most important. Get expert support when needed.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 7. Get into an expansion phase. A desire for discovery tempts you from your comfort zone. Explore without great risk or expense. Study options and plan.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 8. Focus on raising money. Collaborate with your team for a joint cause. Defer gratification when necessary. Keep your attitude positive and stay in action.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 8. A partner is a big help. Team up for common gain. Punctuate the agreement with optimism. Avoid controversy and focus on the job at hand.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 8. Watch your step. The pace could pick up. Your efforts are in demand. Avoid overdoing things. Nurture your physical health and wellness.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 8. Connect with a sweetheart. You're especially charming (and charmed). No need to over-indulge; you can have fun without spending a fortune.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 7. Family comes first. Apply love and attention. Avoid overspending. Make household repairs when needed. Find a compromise that works for everyone. Nurture each other.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 9. Brilliant ideas flow fast and furiously. Capture them for later editing and revision. Avoid risky propositions. Abandon a preconception. Sketch and mold your vision.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 9. Your actions get profitable. Make a valuable connection or great deal. It's not a good time to gamble, though. Aim high and hit your mark.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater By Scott Hilburn



Bliss By Harry Bliss



Bridge

Both vulnerable, West deals

North
 ♠ AKQ107
 ♥ AK1032
 ♦ AK7
 ♣ Void

West
 ♠ Void
 ♥ Void
 ♦ J1084
 ♣ AKQJ108652

East
 ♠ J642
 ♥ J974
 ♦ 652
 ♣ 93

South
 ♠ 9853
 ♥ Q865
 ♦ Q93
 ♣ 74

A poll of 10 experts as to what they would bid as dealer with the West hand might collect five or six different answers. Five clubs is a sound choice. North didn't want to make a takeout double and risk partner passing to convert it to a penalty double when he was likely cold for a slam somewhere. The auction is reasonable all around.

The bidding:
 West North East South
 5♣ 6♣ Pass 6♥
 All pass
Opening lead: Ace of ♣

South ruffed the opening club lead in dummy and was happy with his contract. There would be 13 easy tricks unless one of the majors split 4-0. This was not unlikely after the five-club opening. South cashed dummy's ace of hearts at trick two and was not surprised when West showed out. East had a sure trump trick but there were still 12 tricks, right? West also discarding on the ace of spades was a rude development.

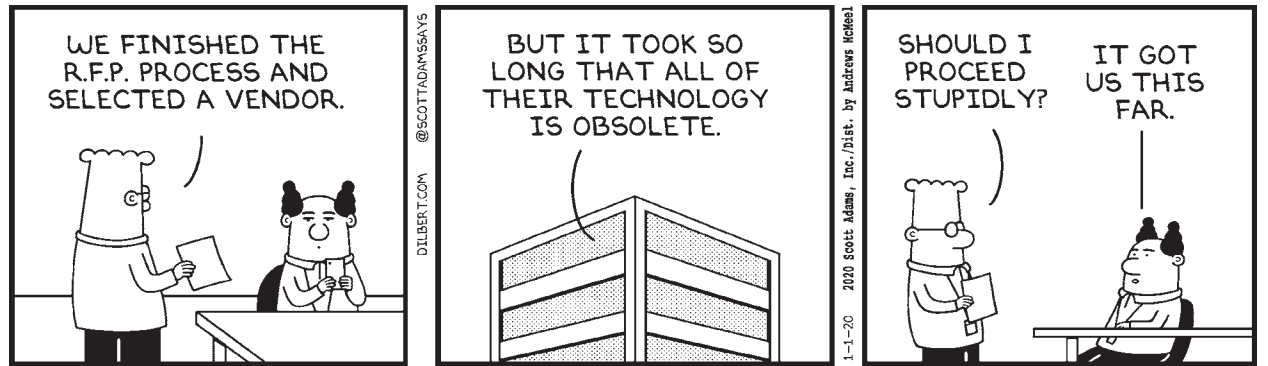
South didn't give up. He saw that he might still be able to make his contract if East had started with exactly 4-4-3-2 distribution, which was not impossible at this point. Declarer led a trump to his queen and ruffed his last club in dummy. He cashed the king of trumps, followed by the ace, king, and queen of diamonds in that order. He was home when East followed to all three diamonds.

South exited with his last trump to East's jack and East was forced to lead a spade into dummy's king-queen-10. Making six and a hand to brag about!

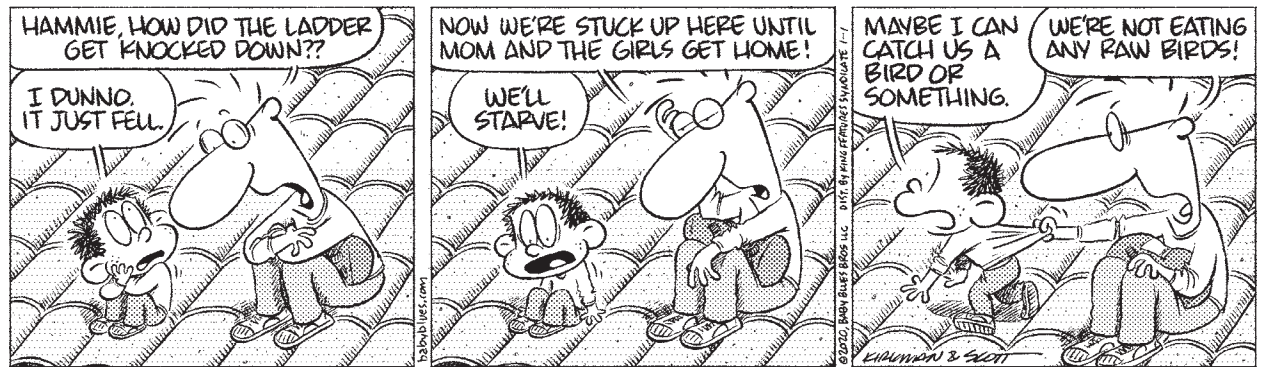
— Bob Jones
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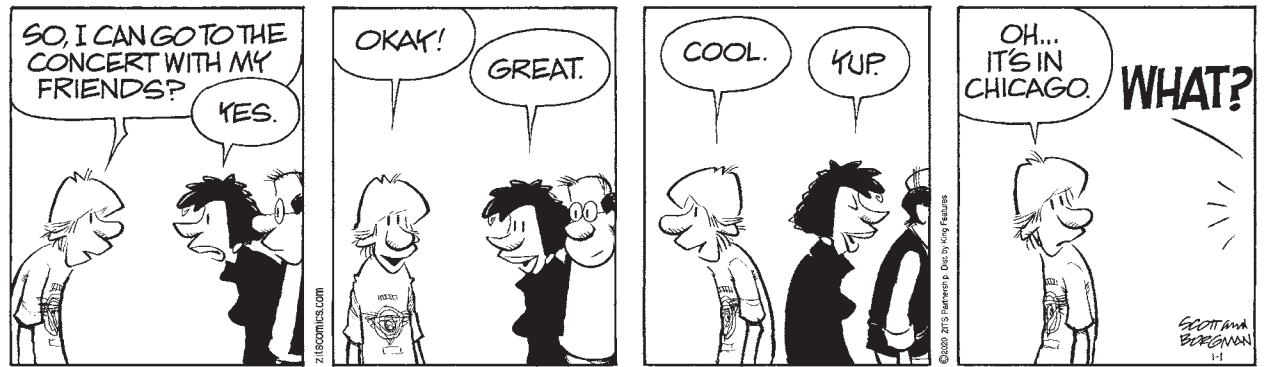
Dilbert By Scott Adams



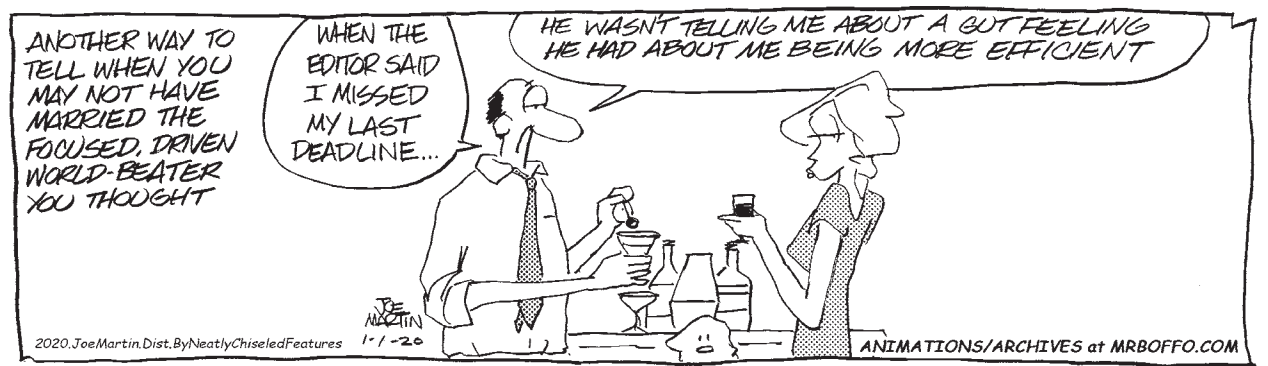
Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



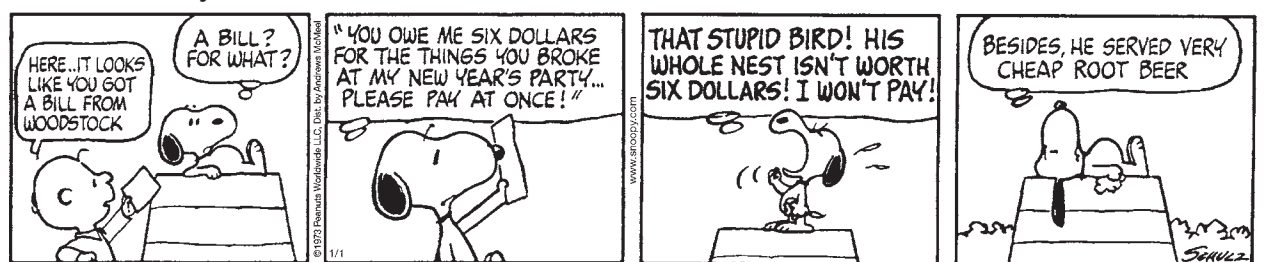
Mr. Boffo By Joe Martin



Frazz By Jef Mallett



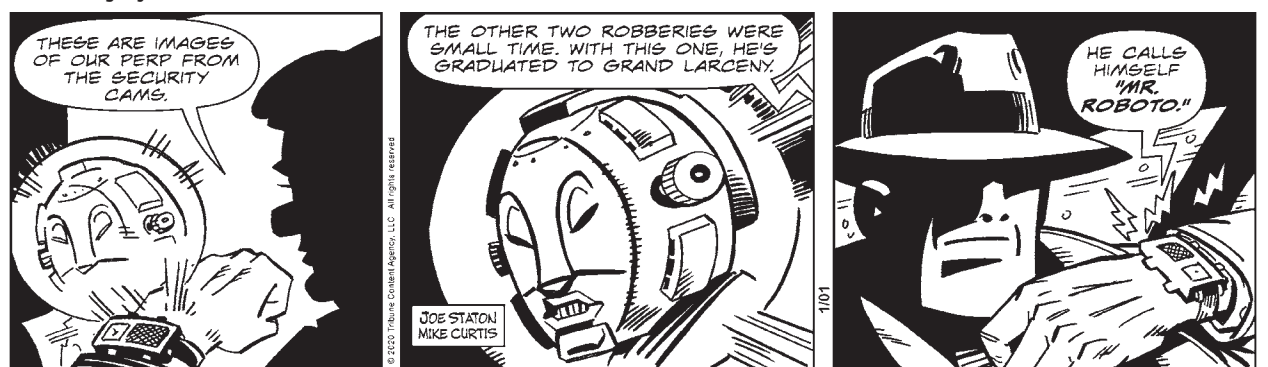
Classic Peanuts By Charles Schulz



Pickles By Brian Crane



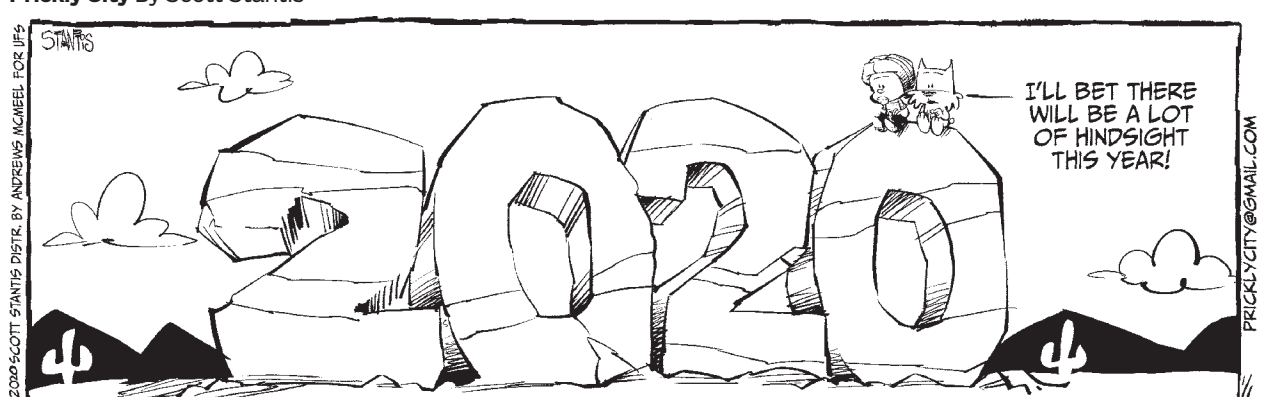
Dick Tracy By Joe Staton and Mike Curtis



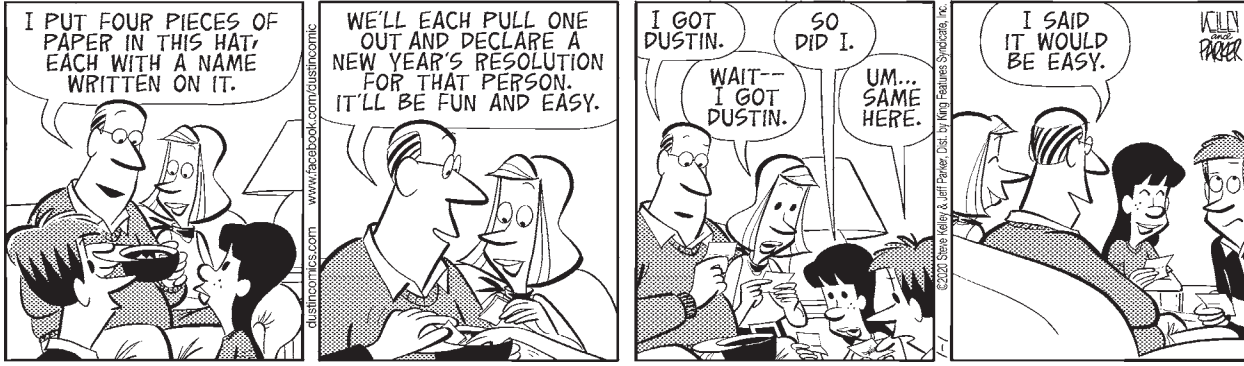
Animal Crackers By Mike Osburn



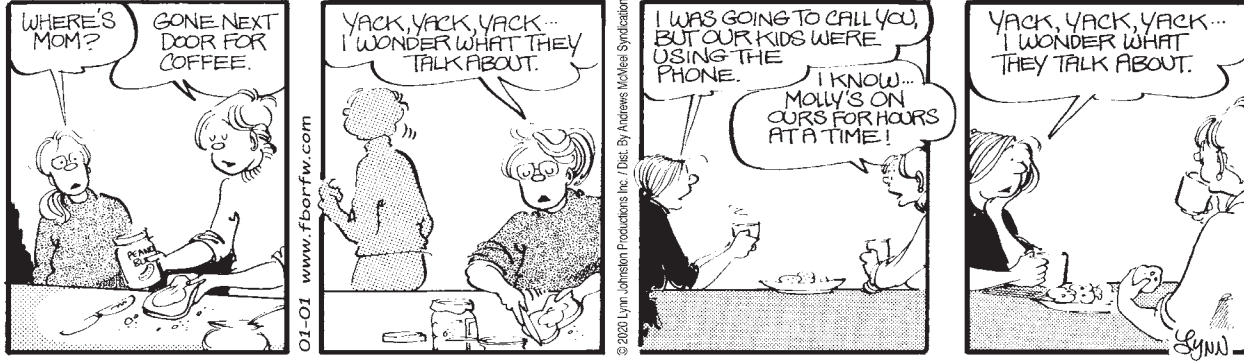
Prickly City By Scott Stantis



Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



For Better or for Worse By Lynn Johnston



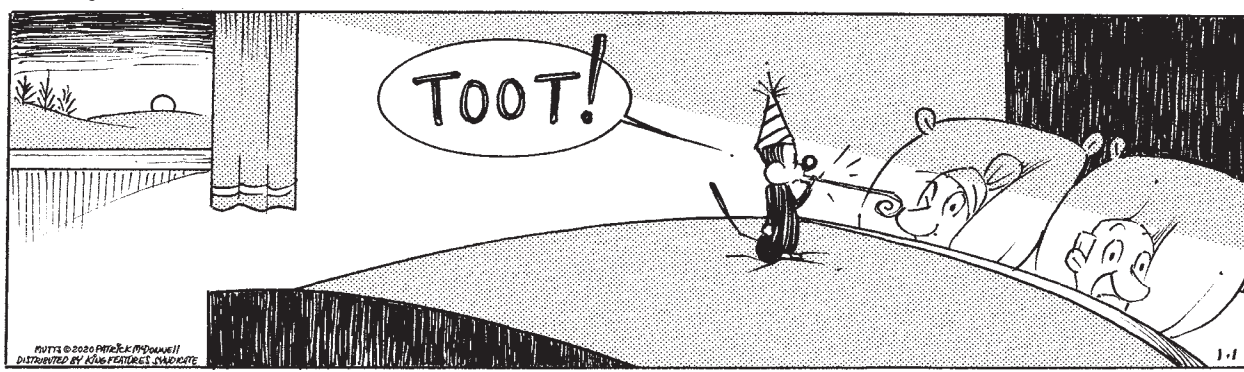
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



Hägar the Horrible By Chris Browne



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



WuMo By Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Sherman's Lagoon By Jim Toomey



Brewster Rockit: Space Guy! By Tim Rickard



Broom-Hilda By Russell Myers



Trivia Bits

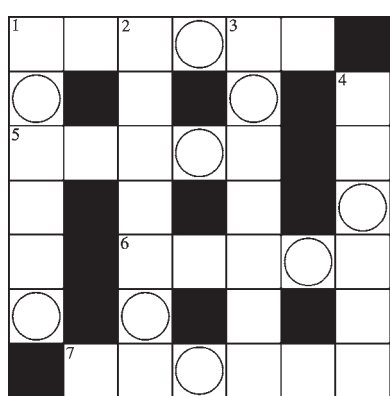
Which of these cities lies closest to Antarctica?

- A) Cape Town, South Africa
- B) Sydney, Australia
- C) Nuuk, Greenland
- D) Ushuaia, Argentina

Tuesday's answer: Hysteria comes from the ancient Greek word "hysterā," meaning uterus.

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Jumble Crossword



CLUE: The most popular sport in _____ is basketball.

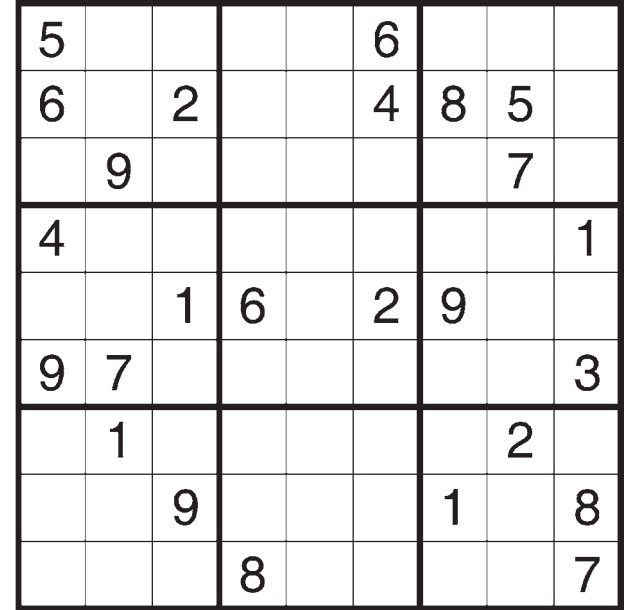
BONUS ○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○

- ACROSS**
- 1. Mobile _____
 - 5. _____ palace
 - 6. Student _____
 - 7. Plot, plan _____
- DOWN**
- 1. Least contaminated _____
 - 2. _____ games
 - 3. Oval _____
 - 4. Hockey _____

How to play - Complete the crossword by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

ANSWERS: 1-A-Phone 5-A-Royal 6-A-Forest 7-A-Scrum 2-D-Game 3-D-Oval 4-D-Hockey

Sudoku 1 2 3 4



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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

Tuesday's solutions

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Jumble

Unscramble the four Jumbles, one letter per square, to form four words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.

OGYOE ○○○○

NISEG ○○○○

ROHATT ○○○○

ZRYFZI ○○○○

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app - Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Answer here

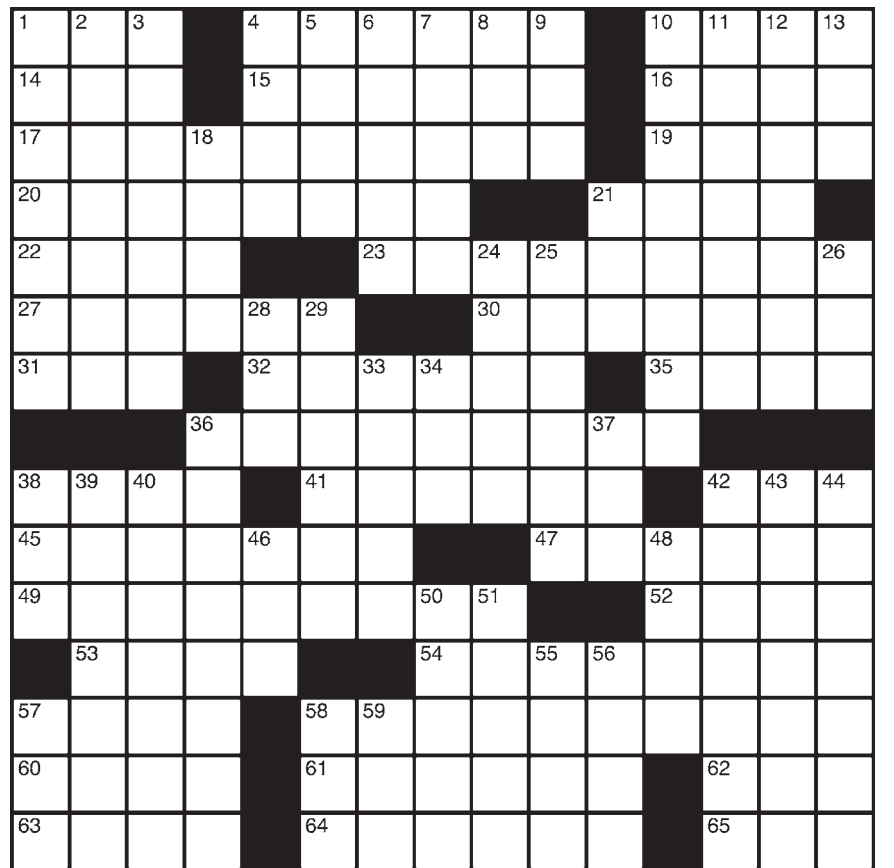


Tuesday's answers

Jumbles: GRAVY WIPER PREFIX BANNER
 Answer: When he proposed to her on December 31, they were able to — RING IN THE NEW YEAR

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2020 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Crossword



- Across**
- 1 "What did I tell you?"
 - 4 Moves like a crab
 - 10 Ladies of Sp.
 - 14 Decorative garden planter
 - 15 Clocked in
 - 16 _____ contendere: court plea
 - 17 Reason for not owning a cat, say
 - 19 Genesis twin
 - 20 Doled (out)
 - 21 Suckling spot
 - 22 Dog in the comics
 - 23 Enchanted
 - 27 Sowing machine
 - 30 Like a cyclops
 - 31 TV drama settings
 - 32 "Star Trek: TNG" counselor — Troi
 - 35 "Worst Cooks in America" judge Burrell
 - 36 Expense reducer
 - 38 When Tony sings "Maria"
 - 41 Makes a connection
 - 42 "Lou Grant" production co.
 - 45 Backstage guy
 - 47 Official with a seal
 - 49 Like stereotypical old cowboys
 - 52 Not procrastinating
 - 53 Backside, slangily
 - 54 Film VIP
 - 57 Prince William's school
 - 58 Annual New Year's Day spectacle ... and a hint to the starts of 17-, 23-, 36- and 49-Across
 - 60 Religious leader in "Angels & Demons"
 - 61 Wind, over time
 - 62 Hawaii's Mauna —
 - 63 Big primates
 - 64 Internet/cable package deal
 - 65 Industrious insect
- Down**
- 1 "Just imagine ..."
 - 2 Barnes & Noble Nook, for one
 - 3 Contest submissions
 - 4 Cyber Monday event
 - 5 "___ be fun!"
 - 6 Nerd
 - 7 One-named singer with the #1 hit "Royals"
 - 8 Joule fraction
 - 9 Place to fly
 - 10 Make light of
 - 11 Calvin's babysitter in "Calvin and Hobbes"
 - 12 Adolescent support group
 - 13 Not worth a ___
 - 18 Zipped through
 - 21 Chinese philosopher Mo—
 - 24 Proscriptions
 - 25 Motrin alternative
 - 26 WWII general
 - 28 MIT URL letters
 - 29 Markdown marker
 - 33 Winery process
 - 34 Formerly named
 - 36 Aerobatics fliers
 - 37 Tres menos dos
 - 38 BOLO cousin
 - 39 Upper-body garment that exposes the midriff
 - 40 Barge line
 - 42 Strategy game played with stones
 - 43 Checked for fit
 - 44 "It's on me"
 - 46 Ran into
 - 48 Open house offering
 - 50 Big name in printers
 - 51 Stallone title role
 - 55 German automaker
 - 56 Challenge
 - 57 AQI monitor
 - 58 Hoops stat.
 - 59 Tulsa sch. named for an evangelist

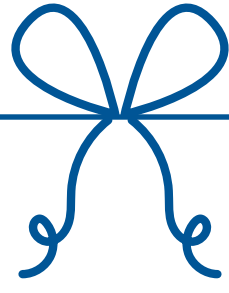
Tuesday's solution



By Gary Larson. Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis. © 2020 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

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The Food Depository, Chicago's food bank, provides hope, dignity and food for our neighbors facing hunger in Chicago and throughout Cook County.

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless chicagohomeless.org

CCH advocates for public policies to curb and ultimately end homelessness.

Open Books open-books.org

Open Books provides literacy experiences and free books to thousands of Chicago youths each year through generous donations.

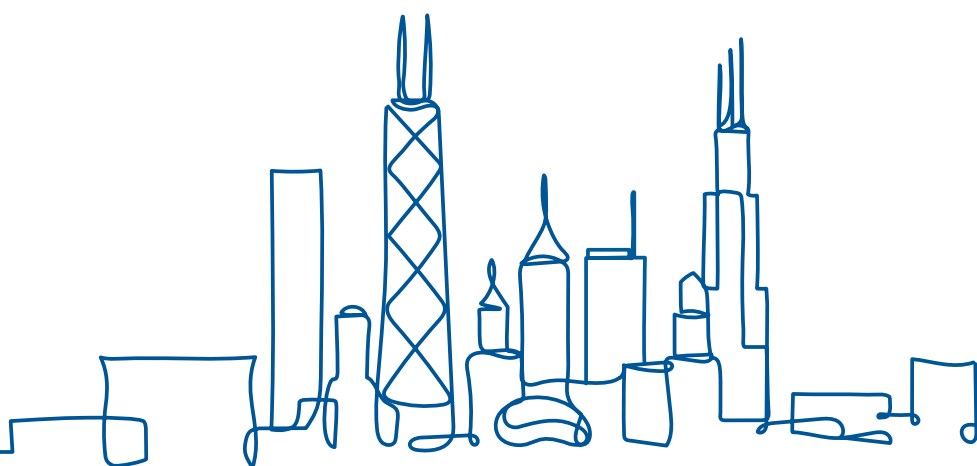
Deborah's Place deborahsplace.org

Deborah's Place offers supportive housing and services for women who are homeless in Chicago.

Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation fallenjournalists.org

FJM commemorates America's commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause.

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Chicago Tribune
HOLIDAY GIVING



Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO SPORTS

Chicago's best sports section, as judged by the Associated Press Sports Editors



George McCaskey
Bears chairman

“We believe in them. We have. We do. And we will.”

Ted Phillips
Bears president

“I believe in Ryan and Matt.”



Matt Nagy
Bears coach

“Believing in people and getting this thing done.”

Ryan Pace
Bears general manager

“We believe in Mitch.”

Can you believe it?

‘Mitch is our starter,’ Bears proclaim as organization stands by much-maligned QB

No solution until leaders admit there’s a problem



BRAD BIGGS
On the Bears

So much for an honest conversation between general manager Ryan Pace and coach Matt Nagy about Mitch Trubisky.

The Bears moved forward on Tuesday, candor-free, announcing they’re all-in with Trubisky at quarterback in 2020 after stumbling to an 8-8 record with one of the worst offenses in the league in a season that began with legitimate Super Bowl aspirations.

The franchise that lost a coin flip for the chance to draft Terry Bradshaw in 1970 had the first pick of quarterbacks in 2017 and opted for Trubisky ahead of Patrick Mahomes and Deshaun Watson. Now the Bears hold out hope that things will click for Trubisky in his fourth season after 42 career starts, including the postseason.

Turn to **Biggs**, Page 5



Mitch Trubisky
Bears quarterback in 2020

More on Mitch, Page 5

McCaskey reiterates confidence in Pace, Nagy

BY DAN WIEDERER

For more than a half-hour Tuesday morning, Bears general manager Ryan Pace and coach Matt Nagy offered their overview of an 8-8, third-place season that saw the franchise’s Super Bowl hopes officially end seven weeks before the league’s grandest Sunday.

This wasn’t the vision, obviously. The Bears never planned to lose half their games. They never envisioned the season being torpedoed by an unreliable bottom-five offense led by a struggling young quarterback. They never imagined the buzz leaking out of Club Dub so swiftly and painfully.

That’s why Pace understood it was mandatory Tuesday to offer a bit of an apology or at least an acknowledgment of just how sharp the disappointment has been.

“Every season takes on a new storyline,” Pace said. “This season was about regression and inconsistencies in way too many areas. We have to learn from our failures.”

Turn to **Bears**, Page 6

TOP OF THE SECOND



SHANNON RYAN

Bowl loss isn't deflating to Illini

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — After sharing disappointed sideline hugs and locker room tears following a 35-20 Redbox Bowl loss to Cal, Illinois players sounded eager for the 2020 season.

"I'm ready to grind into next season," safety Sydney Brown said.

The Illini's roller-coaster season propelled them to a bowl game for the first time since 2014. And a 6-7 record was their best under coach Lovie Smith — a two-win improvement from last season.

Smith vowed that next season — his fifth in Champaign — will be another step forward for the program.

"The bar has been set," he said after Monday's game.

Here are three takeaways from the 2019 season:

1. Brandon Peters 'found a home'

Year after year, Illinois has lacked consistency and command at quarterback.

Sometimes it was injuries, sometimes a lack of talent. But player after player failed to truly take the reins at the position.

Peters seems to have solidified the position and eliminated the need for an offseason quarterback battle. While he wasn't perfect, Peters was proficient.

The Michigan transfer sounded a little surprised about his strong season, which included lost time because of concussions.

"I was just blessed to have the opportunity to come here and play," Peters said. "The journey's been everything. I never expected to do this well, honestly."

Against Cal, Peters was the best player in an orange uniform.

He was missing his top four wide receiver targets, but he completed 22 of 37 passes for 274 yards, a touchdown and one interception. He added a team-best 68 rushing yards on eight carries.

Peters finished his first season in Champaign completing 54% of his passes for 18 touchdowns and eight interceptions. His ability to rush was a pleasant surprise to many, as he picked up more than 200 yards on the ground.

"I can't wait for him to be in a leadership role an entire season," Smith said.

Next season, he'll have targets Josh Imatorbhehhe, Ricky Smalling, Trevon Sidney and Luke Ford back on the field. And he has believers at Illinois.

"He means everything," Smith said.



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Coach Lovie Smith is happy with Illinois' progress, and he expects to see more in 2020.

2. Illinois will continue to use Isaiah Williams.

The freshman quarterback was used as a receiver against Cal, catching three passes for 9 yards. But don't call Williams anything but a quarterback.

Asked if this was part of how he'd be used in the future, Williams said, "No, sir. It was just that I had one more game left and it was a way of getting me on the field."

But even with Peters on the field as the starting quarterback, figure on Williams being used in some fashion.

He's setting high goals for himself, including being a team captain next year. "It's a blessing honestly," Williams said. "Next year, I'm coming prepared."

3. The Illini defense needs to be more than a takeaway machine.

Illinois ranked third in the FBS with 28 takeaways this season.

But look what happened when Illinois went without a takeaway for the first time this season in its Redbox Bowl loss. The defense also had just two takeaways during a three-game losing streak to end the season.

The Illini still struggled in important areas on defense this season, allowing opponents big-play air strikes and 195.5 rushing yards per game.

"I like a lot of the pieces we have coming back," Smith said. "Nate Hobbs is an outstanding player. Sydney Brown will give us an awful lot."

LET'S PLAY 2

	Thursday @Canucks 9 p.m. NBCSCH+	Sunday Red Wings 6:30 p.m. NBCSN
--	--	--

	Thursday Jazz 7 p.m. NBCSCH	Saturday Celtics 7 p.m. NBCSCH
--	---	--

WEDNESDAY ON TV/RADIO

NBA
6:30 p.m. Trail Blazers at Knicks NBA

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
2 p.m. East Carolina at Wichita St. ESPNU
4 p.m. South Florida at SMU ESPNU
6 p.m. Connecticut at Cincinnati CBSSN
8 p.m. Marquette at Creighton CBSSN
10 p.m. Utah State at UNLV CBSSN

COLLEGE FOOTBALL
Noon Michigan vs. Alabama ABC-7
Noon Minnesota vs. Auburn ESPN
4 p.m. Wisconsin vs. Oregon ESPN
7:45 p.m. Georgia vs. Baylor ESPN

NHL
1 p.m. Predators vs. Stars NBC-5

DO BADGERS HAVE TRICKS UP THEIR SLEEVE?

With weeks to prepare for bowl games, college football coaches often get adventurous, putting in new plays and schemes they wouldn't have time for in their normal week-to-week routine. Tight end Jake Ferguson is hoping Wisconsin coach Paul Chryst is at his creative best when the Badgers meet Oregon on Wednesday in the Rose Bowl. "I've definitely wanted a tight end reverse pass put in," Ferguson said with a laugh. "I told Coach we have the weeks to prepare, but I don't know if he's going to do it." You never know. Chryst has displayed considerable offensive creativity in bowl games, but putting in new wrinkles is only one reason he has a 4-0 bowl record at Wisconsin. Chryst has also shown a remarkable ability to get his players to perform at a high level in bowl games, something that isn't easy for coaches to do, especially when their team is coming off a disappointing loss or season.

— Wisconsin State Journal

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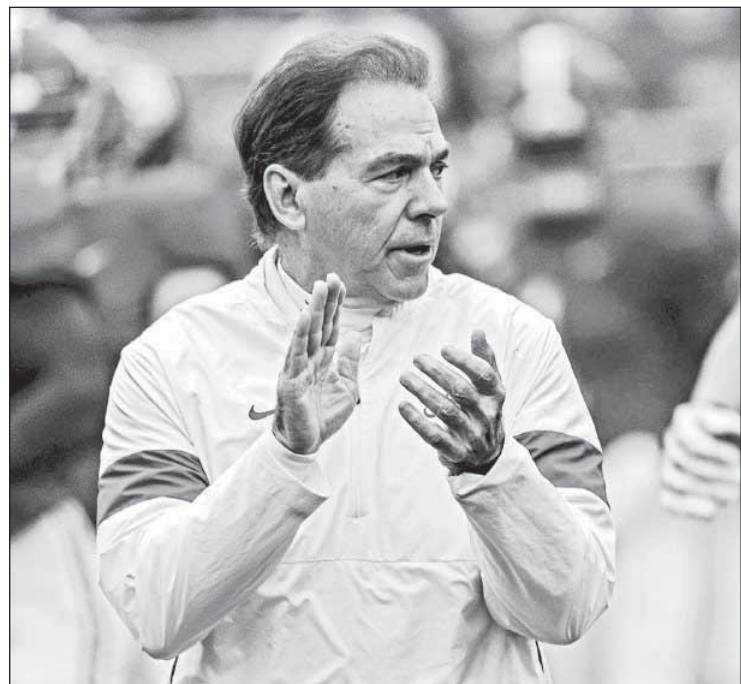
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¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 2/8/2020. You must set your appointment by 1/31/2020 and purchase by 2/8/2020. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or patio door, get one (1) window or patio door 40% off, and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or patio doors between 12/29/2019 and 2/8/2020. 40% off windows and patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or patio door in the order. Additional \$50 off each window or patio door, no minimum purchase required, taken after initial discount(s), when you set your appointment by 1/31/2020 and purchase by 2/8/2020. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2020 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

New Year's mix

No matchup is quite the same on Jan. 1, but they're all pretty good



VASHA HUNT/AP

Alabama coach Nick Saban: "I think we could have done better."

Different expectations for Alabama, Michigan

BY TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Nick Saban wants his players to know their final game will be unforgettable.

His remains that way. It was in 1972, and Kent State lost. And that memory might bother Saban more than usual this week, considering he has come full circle. He is back exactly where that loss happened.

Saban and ninth-ranked Alabama (10-2, No. 13 CFP) will face off with Michigan on Wednesday in the Citrus Bowl at Camping World Stadium. Back when Saban played, the game was called the Tangerine Bowl and it was played at a stadium bearing the same name — as was the case when Kent State fell to Tampa on Dec. 29, 1972, in the final game of his playing career.

For No. 17 Michigan (9-3, No. 14 CFP), the game is a chance at a 10-win season. For Alabama, it is a chance to end a season that had national title potential on a winning note.



CITRUS BOWL
No. 13 **Alabama** vs.
No. 14 **Michigan**
Noon Wednesday, ABC-7
Orlando, Fla.

"We've been in the championship game seven out of the previous 10 years before this and we've been in the playoffs, I think, eight times," Saban said. "We're not. So that's disappointing to everyone. And I think you can say 'we had a lot of adversity' but I think we could have done better."

The game gives Michigan quarterback Shea Patterson a second chance against the Crimson Tide. He was the starter for Mississippi on Sept. 30, 2017, when the Rebels went into Tuscaloosa to face the then-No. 1 team in the country.

"It didn't exactly go my way," Patterson said.

Alabama won 66-3.

"Completely different player back then, and I was just happy to get the experience," Patterson said.



MORRY GASH/AP

Paul Chryst will try to lead Wisconsin to its sixth straight bowl win.

Badgers, Ducks have the horses on offense

BY GREG BEACHAM
Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — When Oregon and Wisconsin met in the Rose Bowl eight years ago, two brilliant offenses put on a 45-38 thriller on one of the most exciting afternoons in this venerable bowl game's history.

The Ducks' rematch with the Badgers could have similar offensive fireworks, given the ample talent on both rosters. Yet nobody will be surprised if the latest meeting between these perennial powers is decided by two defenses that rank among the nation's best.

No matter how it goes down in the 106th edition of the Granddaddy of Them All, Oregon (11-2) and Wisconsin (10-3) are grateful to finish seasons that fell just short of their loftiest goals with the ultimate consolation prize for any player in the Pac-12 or the Big Ten.

"For our West Coast players, this has been their dream, always," Oregon coach Mario



ROSE BOWL
No. 6 **Oregon** vs.
No. 8 **Wisconsin**
4 p.m. Wednesday, ESPN
Pasadena, Calif.

Cristobal said.

Many of the current players on both teams have fond memories of watching that 2012 Rose Bowl matchup between their future schools. Russell Wilson and Montee Ball led the Badgers to 508 yards and took a lead into the fourth quarter, but the Ducks rallied and won with 621 yards from a stacked roster built around LaMichael James and De'Anthony Thomas.

Wisconsin made three straight losing appearances in the Rose Bowl from 2011-13, but the Badgers have won their last five consecutive bowl games, including four in a row under coach Paul Chryst.

Both schools landed in Pasadena for the fourth time apiece in the last 11 years after falling short of a College Football Playoff slot.



MARK HUMPHREY/AP

Navy's Bijan Nichols kicks the game-winning field goal in the Liberty Bowl on Tuesday.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Gamble, late FG lifts Navy

Associated Press

Bijan Nichols kicked a 23-yard FG with two seconds remaining and No. 21 Navy capitalized on a fourth-down gamble in the final minute to beat Kansas State 20-17 in the Liberty Bowl in Memphis, Tennessee.

A Navy team with the nation's top-ranked rushing attack set up the winning score by completing a halfback option pass with less than 30 seconds left. The Midshipmen snapped the ball on fourth-and-3 from the Kansas State 46. QB Malcolm Perry pitched to C.J. Williams, and he threw downfield to a wide-open Chance Warren for a 41-yard gain.

Perry, who rushed for 213 yards en route to MVP honors, spiked the ball with 5 seconds left to set up Nichols' kick. Nichols had missed a 38-yarder earlier in the fourth quarter.

"Sometimes you just go with your gut," Navy coach Ken Niumatalolo said. "You have all this analytics stuff and all these sheets, but sometimes you've got to go with your gut and roll with it."

The victory enabled Navy (11-2) to tie a program record for wins and ensured the Midshipmen will finish a season in the AP Top 25 for just the third time in the last 56 years.



STACY BENGAS/AP

Coach P.J. Fleck hugs Minnesota DB Chris Williamson.

Fleck's Gophers taking on battle-tested Tigers

Associated Press

P.J. Fleck and Minnesota relish the challenge of facing Auburn in the Outback Bowl.

The 39-year-old architect of one of the biggest turnarounds in college football has the Golden Gophers (10-2) in a New Year's Day game for just the second time since Minnesota made consecutive trips to the Rose Bowl to finish the 1960 and 1961 seasons.

Auburn (9-3), coming off a regular season-ending win over Alabama, played arguably the most difficult schedule in the nation. The Tigers beat Oregon and lost to LSU, Georgia and Florida by a combined 21 points.

"When you're playing one of the most historical football programs in the country, it's a tremendous challenge," Fleck said. "It's a challenge that I think both teams accept in terms of looking forward to it."

Minnesota started 9-0 and finished with 10 regular season wins for the first time since 1904. The Gophers upset Penn State in early



OUTBACK BOWL
No. 12 **Auburn** vs.
No. 18 **Minnesota**
Noon Wednesday, ESPN
Tampa, Fla.

November for their first win over a top-five team in 20 years and also won seven Big Ten games for the first time in school history.

A win over a Southeastern Conference team in the Outback Bowl would add a nice line to a growing resume.

"We've had 18 Big Ten championships, seven national championships. Just hasn't happened for over 50 years," Fleck, completing his third season at Minnesota, said.

Auburn coach Gus Malzahn is impressed with what the Big Ten coach of the year has accomplished.

"I think we know exactly what we're getting into. We know that we're playing a very good team. We know they're going to be extremely motivated," Malzahn said.



JAMIE SQUIRE/GETTY

Baylor QB Charlie Brewer and coach Matt Rhule talk strategy.

Bears, Dawgs ready for consolation showdown

BY BRETT MARTEL
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Baylor quarterback Charlie Brewer figures that suffering through 11 losses two seasons has given him a healthy perspective as the Bears prepare for their Sugar Bowl showdown against established SEC power Georgia.

"I've gotten to be here over this three-year transition. Obviously, from a win standpoint, a complete 180," said Brewer as the No. 8 Bears (11-2) face the No. 5 Bulldogs (11-2) on Wednesday night.

In a sense, the Sugar Bowl is a consolation prize for two teams that were in contention for a College Football Playoff spot until they lost their conference championship games.

Georgia fell to No. 1 LSU and is in the Sugar Bowl for a second straight season after losing to Alabama in the 2018 SEC title game. Baylor lost to No. 4 Oklahoma in the Big 12 championship.



SUGAR BOWL
No. 5 **Georgia** vs.
No. 7 **Baylor**
7:45 p.m. Wednesday,
ESPN | New Orleans

Brewer said the Bears are "all very grateful to be in this game, just from where we started."

Brewer arrived at Baylor in 2017 after the program was gutted by a campus-wide scandal tied to the university's handling of sexual assault claims — including some against football players. After an external investigation, coach Art Briles was fired before the 2016 season.

Georgia, meanwhile, comes in looking to send off its seniors as winners — unlike last season's Sugar Bowl, when Texas built a big lead and the Bulldogs' late comeback bid came up short.

"The seniors definitely don't want to go out how we did last year," said linebacker Azeem Olu-jari. "We want to get this momentum up for next season. We've got to give it all we've got."

'Horns hook Utes: Sam Ehlinger passed for three TDs and ran for another as Texas romped to 38-10 win over No. 12 Utah in the Alamo Bowl in San Antonio, Texas.

Texas (8-5) capped a difficult season with win over a team that only a month ago was on the verge of making the College Football Playoff.

Texas pounded out 231 rushing yards against the nation's No. 1 run defense, which had held 10 opponents under 70 yards.

Bowden wows them: Lynn Bowden Jr. ran for 233 yards on 34 carries, and then tossed a 13-yard touchdown pass to Josh Ali with 15 seconds left as Kentucky rallied behind its remarkable receiver-turned-quarterback to beat Virginia Tech 37-30 on Tuesday in the Belk Bowl in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Bowden ran for two touchdowns before scoring two quick TDs late in the first quarter and early in the second. The Cowboys built a 14-point lead by halftime.

Dan Ellington, playing with a torn ACL, threw for 156 yards and a TD and ran for 70 yards and a TD for Georgia State (7-6).

Cowboys cruise: Kazavian Valladay ran for 204 yards and scored two TDs, freshman QB Levi Williams accounted for four scores and Wyoming rolled over Georgia State 38-17 in the Arizona Bowl in Tucson, Arizona.

Wyoming (8-5) trailed by 10 points before scoring two quick TDs late in the first quarter and early in the second. The Cowboys built a 14-point lead by halftime.

Dan Ellington, playing with a torn ACL, threw for 156 yards and a TD and ran for 70 yards and a TD for Georgia State (7-6).

Harts sparks Sun Devils: Willie Harts returned an INT 25 yards for a touchdown in the fourth quarter to lead Arizona State to a 20-14 victory over Florida State in the Sun Bowl in El Paso, Texas.

BEARS



Bears wide receiver Anthony Miller lies on the ground after injuring his left shoulder during a kickoff return against the Vikings on Sunday.

Smith not injured in crash

LB's car strikes pole during slick conditions

BY BRAD BIGGS

Bears linebacker Roquan Smith was involved in a car crash near Halas Hall on Tuesday morning.

Smith's white Mercedes-Benz coupe was damaged in a one-vehicle accident at the intersection of Route 60 and Field Drive in Lake Forest. The team said Smith was not injured in the wreck.

Deputy Police Chief Rob Copeland said Smith was not cited for the accident in which his vehicle struck a pole in slick conditions. The majority of damage was to the front passenger side of the vehicle.

Bears general manager Ryan Pace announced at the season-ending news conference Tuesday at Halas Hall that Smith recently underwent surgery to repair his left pectoral muscle, which was torn in the Dec. 5 victory over the Cowboys at Soldier Field. He was hurt on the first possession of the game while tackling running back Ezekiel Elliott.

It's fortunate Smith wasn't injured as a collision or air bag deployment can't be the best experience after surgery. A Lake Forest ambulance provided Smith with a ride back to the team's headquarters.

Smith played in only 12 games this season. He missed the final three with the pectoral muscle injury and sat out the Week 4 win over the Vikings for what he and the team maintained were personal reasons.

Despite missing four games (and all but the opening drive of the Cowboys game), Smith led the defense with 100 tackles. He was second with 65 solo tackles. He added two sacks, five tackles for a loss and one interception.

The Bears' hope is that Smith is healed and ready to return to football by the start of training camp in July.

Keeping the doctors busy

Miller, Burton, Smith all slated to undergo offseason surgery

BY COLLEEN KANE

Bears wide receiver Anthony Miller needs surgery on his left shoulder for the second time in two years after he was injured on a kickoff return in a meaningless 21-19 Week 17 win against the Vikings on Sunday.

Bears general manager Ryan Pace announced the injury at his season-ending news conference Tuesday. Pace also said tight end Trey Burton had surgery on his hip and inside linebacker Roquan Smith had surgery on his torn pectoral muscle.

Miller hadn't returned a kickoff this season before filling in for Cordarrelle Patterson, who was in concussion protocol. On Miller's 28-yard return Sunday, Vikings linebacker Andrew Sende-

jo's helmet hit Miller in the left shoulder. Miller went straight to the medical tent.

Miller dislocated the same shoulder multiple times during the 2018 season before he had it repaired, and he missed OTAs in the spring as he recovered. Pace said there isn't long-term concern even though this is Miller's second surgery. The goal is for him to return by training camp.

Bears coach Matt Nagy called the situation "tough." Miller took a while to get going in his second season as he needed to prove he would get the details of the offense correct and earn trust from coaches and quarterback Mitch Trubisky. But he had a solid late-season stretch and finished with 52 catches for 656 yards.

Now he'll miss more development time.

"It's unfortunate it happened, and you've got to stay positive about it," Nagy said. "We've got to make sure that we keep him

mentally in it, and then when we get back to training camp we pick up from there.

"I'm really proud of the way that he grew. He needs to keep maturing on the field with some of the stuff — post-catch type deals. He's been better at that.

"I think that his talent is there, and I love his energy. But we want him to keep growing as a player, especially on the field with being smart."

Pace's announcement on Burton is the latest twist in an ongoing injury saga that started before the Bears' playoff game against the Eagles last January.

He was a late scratch for that game, then had offseason sports hernia surgery. The Bears brought him back slowly in training camp, but Pace announced in Week 1 that Burton suffered a new minor groin injury.

Burton, in the second season of a four-year, \$32 million contract, missed the opener against the

Packers and never appeared to play healthy, totaling 14 catches for 84 yards in eight games.

The Bears placed him on injured reserve in mid-November, and Pace said Burton recently had surgery to repair the labrum in his hip. Pace said it has been "a fluid process" to figure out what was ailing Burton.

"He never felt full speed to us," Pace said. "So being thorough with it — second opinions, other doctors, working with his agent, working with us, our trainers — this is something that we're hoping is the underlying issue. This is a different area where he had the surgery. ... And we're hoping that's going to solve it."

Pace said it is the goal for Burton and Smith to return by training camp. Smith tore his pectoral muscle against the Cowboys. The 2018 first-round pick finished with 100 tackles, five tackles for a loss, two sacks and an interception in 12 games.

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BEARS

Ax swings down on Helfrich

Offensive coordinator heads list of 4 coaches being let go

BY RICH CAMPBELL

Bears coach Matt Nagy changed his staff Tuesday in the wake of an 8-8 season defined by regression, particularly by the offense.

The team informed offensive coordinator Mark Helfrich, offensive line coach Harry Hiestand, tight ends coach Kevin Gilbride and special teams assistant Brock Olivo they will not return next season.

Hiestand, Gilbride and Olivo each had one year left on his contract. It was not publicly known whether Helfrich was under contract for 2020.

News of the changes surfaced two hours after a news conference in which Nagy provided no specifics in response to a question about potential staff changes.

"It's our job and it's my job to make sure

the reflection process is done the right way," Nagy said as he sat next to general manager Ryan Pace. "Regardless of the timeline, we want to make sure that they are the right decisions."

Nagy is the Bears' top offensive coach, play-caller and strategist, but the ax fell beneath him after the offense's poor output undermined the team's championship hopes. Nagy has final say on coaching staff decisions but collaborates with Pace.

The Bears finished 29th in the NFL out of 32 teams in points per game, 29th in total yards and 31st in yards per play.

Helfrich was part of Nagy's first Bears staff in 2018, brought in to help innovate concepts, collaborate on strategy and facilitate quarterback Mitch Trubisky's development. The former Oregon head coach was responsible for coordinating the Bears' running game, which ranked 29th in the league with 3.7 yards per carry this season.

Hiestand also was heavily involved in coaching the running game. He was the

Bears offensive line coach from 2005-09 and returned from the college ranks in 2018. Current and former players raved about Hiestand's ability to teach blocking techniques.

"He's a very good coach," second-year guard James Daniels said Monday. "He's very detailed. I really appreciate how much he coaches the details."

Pace, meanwhile, acknowledged the offensive line's regression this season when he addressed reporters Tuesday. From right guard Kyle Long's physical ailments and odd exile from the team to the unproductive position switch involving Daniels and center Cody Whitehair, Pace acknowledged: "We struggled in that area this year."

"We know (offensive success) starts up front with those guys," Pace said. "That's something we've really got to look at. From a personnel standpoint, we're going to look at it. From a schematic standpoint, we're going to look at it."

"That was real this year. That hurt us."

Elsewhere, the Bears suffered from a void at tight end. Trey Burton and Adam Shaheen each ended unproductive seasons on injured reserve.

Burton was never healthy and ended up having multiple surgeries in 2019, one sports hernia surgery in the spring and another recent procedure to repair the labrum in one of his hips.

Convincing evidence of Shaheen's development has yet to materialize through three seasons. Pace cited injuries Tuesday as a hindrance to Shaheen's growth.

"When he has played, we've liked what we've seen," Pace said. "He just hasn't put it out there long enough. So he knows that. We've talked to him about that. He's frustrated, we're frustrated. He needs to stay healthy to continue to develop as a young player."

The changes to the offensive staff leave quarterbacks coach Dave Ragone, receivers coach Mike Furrey and running backs coach Charles London in place.



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Matt Nagy, right, and Mitch Trubisky will try to get it right in 2020.

Biggs

Continued from Page 1

"The next four to five months are about hard decisions," Pace said, "the decisions that require a real, honest assessment of our roster and our entire football operations. It's about identifying problems, getting clarity on the issues and doing whatever it takes to solve them."

Pace laid blame on the offensive line, and Nagy followed up by firing offensive coordinator Mark Helfrich, who oversaw the running game, and offensive line coach Harry Hiestand, whom the Bears celebrated landing just two years ago after his successful run of developing top players at Notre Dame. Tight ends coach Kevin Gilbride, who had an injured Trey Burton, draft bust Adam Shaheen and undrafted free agents to work with, also was axed.

The quarterback the Bears traded up to draft No. 2 in 2017 is the unquestioned starter moving forward with Pace reminding you his future with the organization is absolutely connected to Trubisky. It's not surprising given the team's massive investment in Trubisky. There were only a couple of ways for Pace and Nagy to go two days after the end of the season, and they chose an enthusiastic approach highlighting the achievements of their quarterback while suggesting he's merely trailing other young quarterbacks in his development and that the gap can be closed.

"With Mitch, you know especially with a young quarterback, in a lot of cases, it's never going to be a straight line, it's never going to be linear," Pace said. "There are going to be ups and downs. And you see moments this year, you see games, you see him responding to adverse situations within a game, those are signs of positive improvement. We just need to smooth out those inconsistencies."

"You see moments this year, 'Aha, there it is,' right? And then we see the inconsistencies and the dips. We need to figure out why that's happening and work hard to solve that. And that's part of what this offseason is about."

If Trubisky pans out and makes real gains, the Bears will be rewarded for their vision and ability to ignore the deafening noise as Mahomes and Watson have taken off as franchise quarterbacks. Mahomes was the NFL's MVP last season and Lamar Jackson, selected in the 2018 draft, should be the runaway winner of the award this season while the Bears seek solutions with Trubisky, who ranked 28th among the league's 32 qualifiers in passer rating at 83.0 and was last in yards per attempt.

"I don't think we're there yet," Pace said when asked where the evaluation of Trubisky went wrong. "I think we're still

watching the guy grow. He knows he needs to be more consistent. He knows he needs to play better. We know that too. It's not all one person. I know everybody wants to make one person the villain. It's not all just one person's fault. There's a number of factors in play here we've got to sort through."

"It's just understanding that they're all different. It's just case-by-case. There's all different backgrounds and scenarios and situations they're in. You've just got to recognize that."

The opening, and it's a crack, the Bears left is for a new backup quarterback. While Pace borrowed from former coach Lovie Smith and used a different name when saying "Mitch is our starter," he said the team will look to increase competition at the backup spot.

Chase Daniel and Tyler Bray are free agents and they will be evaluated with a strong chance the depth chart changes behind Trubisky. The chances of the Bears finding a Ryan Tannehill, who replaced Marcus Mariota and led the Titans to the playoffs, are slim. By naming Trubisky the starter, the Bears effectively took themselves out of the competition for the top free-agent quarterbacks this offseason.

If a player at any other position was as inconsistent over such an extended stretch, the team would challenge him to keep his job, if not outright replace him. Maybe Nagy has the ability to iron out Trubisky's performance. He wants him to improve his ability to diagnose opposing defenses and become more comfortable in the pocket.

But if Trubisky doesn't work out, the Bears will waste another year, with a good defense, failing to acknowledge that their biggest problem is their quarterback. Until you admit there's a problem there, no solution is in sight.

"Patience in our world right now is hard," Pace said. "It's patience in sports. And patience with a quarterback is hard, you know? But sometimes I think a lot of things pay off if you're able to get through these tough times. And again, there's a lot of examples of that. But we've got to be better in a lot of areas."

"If you look throughout our team, we're disappointed in the number of things. We've got to figure out what it is. When I talk about hard decisions in the next four to five months, that's us stepping back, letting the emotions subside, 'OK, what's going on? What are the problems? What are the solutions? And how are we going to fix them?' We're all on board with that."

Trubisky has had his "Aha" moments the last two seasons, but, whether the Bears want to admit it or not, those have been far outnumbered by "Oh, no" plays. Pace and Nagy insist Trubisky will improve, but it's impossible to say they've had an honest discussion about their quarterback.

Questions, answers for believing in Trubisky

BY COLLEEN KANE

General manager Ryan Pace announced Tuesday the Bears plan to keep quarterback Mitch Trubisky as their starter heading into the 2020 season.

Pace hadn't spoken to the media since Sept. 2, before Trubisky began a disappointing third season that brought into question the quarterback's future with the Bears. So Pace had a lot to answer for when it came to the state of his confidence in Trubisky, his evaluation in hindsight of drafting him and his plan for the Bears quarterback room.

Here are five answers we received about Trubisky from the Bears' season-ending news conference.

1. Why does Ryan Pace believe Mitch Trubisky should remain the starter?

Pace is insisting on patience for the player he drafted No. 2 in 2017.

Pace saw the inconsistencies this season as Trubisky completed 63.2% of his passes for 3,138 yards, 17 touchdowns and 10 interceptions. But he said he believes the potential for Trubisky's development is still "wide open," noting there were times when the quarterback responded well to adverse game situations.

"You see moments this year (where you say), 'Aha, there it is,'" Pace said. "And then we see the inconsistencies and the dips. We need to figure out why that's happening and work hard to solve that. And that's part of what this offseason is about."

Trubisky has started 41 games for the Bears, a sample size that has been more than enough for teams to bench quarterbacks in the past.

But in putting Trubisky's development into context, Pace pointed to the Bears switching schemes following the coaching change from John Fox to Matt Nagy before Trubisky's second season. He mentioned Trubisky's limited experience starting just 13 games in college. And he noted there were many problems with the Bears offense this season beyond the quarterback.

Pace also pointed to quarterbacks in recent history who have had nonlinear development before going on to successful careers. He didn't name him, but Drew Brees is the most prominent and relevant example, given Pace's history with the Saints.

Patience in such a situation would pay off, Pace said.

"We've seen this before with young quarterbacks and the trials and tribulations they go through," Pace said. "It's part of it. Sometimes if you stick with it and you see it through and you're dedicated to the development of the process, that can be very beneficial to the organization long-term."

2. Will the Bears bring in another quarterback to compete with Mitch Trubisky in the offseason?

Pace left that possibility wide open. Backup quarterback Chase Daniel and third-stringer Tyler Bray are both free agents, and Pace noted the Bears could try to bring in a more competitive option as a backup.

The Bears signed Daniel before the 2018 season to help guide Trubisky in Nagy's offense, but Daniel had started only two games in nine seasons before joining the Bears. He was serviceable in replacing Trubisky after injuries in four games over the last two seasons, but he probably didn't represent a viable replacement option if the Bears wanted to bench Trubisky.

"I think we're looking to increase competition at every position," Pace said. "Mitch is our starter. We believe in Mitch and we believe in the progress that he's going to continue to make. ... The quarterback room is critical. It's important for us. We're always going to try to make it better. But as far as who it is, what we're going to do, we're not there yet."

Pace also left open the possibility of drafting a quarterback.

"I do think that drafting a quarterback, developing quarterbacks, that's important for the franchise," Pace said. "You've seen teams do that to their advantage, to flip them for draft picks. It's something we talk about. It just hasn't been something that's lined up in recent drafts. It doesn't mean that it's something we still don't believe in and something that can't happen."

3. What does Matt Nagy need Mitch Trubisky to do to reach the potential the Bears see?

That question has many answers.

Nagy said nearly every week this season he wants Trubisky to improve his decision-making.

His latest example Tuesday, in response to a question about the offense's troubles in general, was a checkdown to Trey Burton in the third quarter of the victory over the Redskins. On third-and-12, Trubisky threw to Burton two seconds after the ball was snapped for no gain. Meanwhile, Anthony Miller had beaten his defenders downfield for what might have been a touchdown. Nagy said he saw Trubisky progress in making better decisions in moments like that as the season wore on.

Beyond the decision-making, Nagy wants Trubisky to be "a master at understanding coverages." He said Trubisky is not far off but needs to focus on studying defenses in the offseason.

"These defensive coordinators, they have different ways of showing different coverages, and they're good at it," Nagy said. "(Let's) understand how defenses are going to try to trick you, and let's not get tricked. If we do that, we slow the game down and we get other parts of this offense fixed, which I know we can and that's our job."

Physically, Nagy is stressing Trubisky's footwork in the pocket, an issue he said they discussed Monday night.

"(He needs) a little bit more trust where he's not drifting out (of the pocket)," Nagy said. "There were times throughout this year where (it's) focusing on trusting the center of that pocket, pushing forward, and now he's a running threat. He becomes a runner. So if they want to play two-man or they want to play different coverages where he can take off with his legs, he can do that."

"The other thing with this offense is it's all about timing. So routes are matched with the footwork of the quarterback, and so mastering the footwork mechanics of knowing, 'Is a guy pressed? Is it off? Etc.' That's huge."

4. What does Ryan Pace think when he sees the other young quarterbacks he passed on in the draft excel?

Outside skepticism of Trubisky has been compounded by the quick ascents of Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes and Texans quarterback Deshaun Watson, both of whom Pace passed on in the 2017 draft to take Trubisky. Mahomes was NFL MVP last season and Watson has led the Texans to back-to-back playoff appearances.

So how does Pace maintain his patience with Trubisky when he sees what the others have accomplished?

"It's just understanding that they're all different," Pace said. "It's just case-by-case. There's all different backgrounds and scenarios and situations they're in. I think you've just got to recognize that."

Pace was asked if he talks with others around the NFL about whether his evaluation of Trubisky is on point — and if he can make the right decisions about the quarterback given his investment in Trubisky.

"You have a lot of peers throughout the league that you talk to and you lean on, not just with him but a lot of things with our team," Pace said. "It's good to have outside opinions from people you respect. I think one of the things that's a strength of mine is to remove emotions and remove those feelings, and it's always just what's best for our franchise. I think Matt and I both operate with no egos and a lot of humility and every discussion we have is what's best for our team."

5. What else do we need to know about Mitch Trubisky heading into the offseason?

■ Pace said the Bears were not ready to speak two days after the season ended about whether they were going to pick up Trubisky's fifth-year option. They must inform Trubisky in writing by May 5 of their decision.

■ Pace said they have not determined yet whether Trubisky will need surgery on his left, non-throwing shoulder. Trubisky reportedly suffered a dislocated shoulder and slight labrum tear during the September victory over the Vikings and missed two games. He then played with a brace.

NFL



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bears chairman George McCaskey speaks with the press at Halas Hall on Tuesday.

Bears

Continued from Page 1

That's not exactly the epilogue the organization wanted to write into its Centennial Scrapbook after the Bears' 100th season. Yet as Pace and Nagy fielded questions Tuesday, their bosses sat along a wall in the PNC Center at Halas Hall feeling confident that the 2020 version of this annual gathering will be much different.

When it was their turn to hold court, both Bears Chairman George McCaskey and team President Ted Phillips exuded confidence in the abilities of Pace and Nagy to turn things around.

"I believe in Ryan and Matt," Phillips said, "and that they will take an honest look at every aspect of the team this offseason. Hopefully that will turn out for the good this coming year."

Hopefully ... McCaskey and Phillips seem on board with Pace's pleas for patience and confident that the Bears' fortunes will turn again soon. But why exactly?

The franchise hasn't enjoyed back-to-back winning seasons since 2005 and 2006. The Bears haven't won a playoff game since January 2011. They just finished a decade that included more coaching changes (three) than playoff appearances (two). And Pace, the overseer of the roster, will enter his sixth season with a winning percentage of .425 and a growing list of disappointing draft picks and failed free-agent signings.

So what gives McCaskey confidence the Bears can break free from those troubling trends?

"We're confident in Ryan and Matt to do what's necessary to get us back on track," McCaskey said. "As Ryan mentioned, the core of this team won the division with a 12-4 record in 2018. And we took a step back in 2019. We need to figure out why that happened. I don't think it's just one reason. We need to look at all of the reasons. And address all of the reasons and get better."

McCaskey's belief in Pace has remained steadfast since the GM was hired five years ago. On Tuesday, McCaskey emphasized the character of the roster and the coaching staff as one of the big reasons he feels reassured about the team's immediate future.

"The adversity we went through in 2019 reveals a lot about people, about coaches, about staff and players," McCaskey said. "And one of the things I was most impressed with was how our guys stuck together. I think they have a lot of respect for each other. They talk about how they love each other. And it's easy when things go poorly to point fingers. But I was especially proud that our guys didn't do that and stuck together and looked at working on solutions rather than casting blame."

The Bears' solution-seeking process in the weeks and months ahead will be cumbersome and, at times, complicated. The shake-up began Tuesday afternoon when the team announced the dismissals of offensive coordinator Mark Helfrich, offensive line coach Harry Hiestand and tight ends coach Kevin Gilbride Jr.

These are the changes the Bears have given Pace and Nagy free rein to make. Still, it would be naïve for McCaskey and Phillips to believe their optimism is shared by an agitated fan base that feels burned by all that was forecast for this season and all that wasn't delivered.

McCaskey was asked directly Tuesday what the Bears would need to achieve in 2020 to continue feeling confident in the current leaders of the operation — Pace and Nagy specifically.

"We believe in them," McCaskey said. "We have. We do. And we will."

Pressed on what he needs to see next season to reinforce that belief, McCaskey emphasized the importance of the Bears' upcoming zoom-out assessment to identify all the factors that contributed to this season's slide.

"The key is that evaluation process," McCaskey said. "It's going to be thorough.

It's going to be forthright. It's going to be honest. And at times, it may be painful. But that's what we need to do to get better."

Naturally, much of Tuesday's conversation revolved around the maddening inconsistency of Mitch Trubisky, the quarterback Pace traded up to draft at No. 2 in 2017. Three years later, with Trubisky still awaiting a true developmental breakthrough, McCaskey declined to offer a public evaluation of that move.

"That's all up to Ryan and Matt and their staffs," he said. "(Ryan) made the good point that different quarterbacks develop at different paces and under different circumstances. So we need to look at: What can we do better to help our quarterback develop?"

Still, as Pace's boss, shouldn't the general manager's swing at identifying Trubisky as the long-term answer at quarterback carry significant weight in the review of his job performance?

"That's part of it," McCaskey said. "(But) in 2018, Ryan was (the league's) executive of the year. That (quarterback decision) is part of the evaluation process. But it's the entirety of the record. It's not one particular decision."

Sometimes, the Bears must realize, particular decisions can shape the entirety of that record. And the organization certainly will be playing a risky game if it flies into 2020 with Trubisky as its undisputed starting quarterback without having parachutes packed.

McCaskey acknowledged his patience was tested in many ways this season and that it's not easy for him to just sit calmly through some of the extreme struggles of the quarterback and the team as a whole.

"I've told you folks before, I'm not a patient person," he said. "That's where it's really helpful to have Ryan. He talks about not getting too high or too low, trying to keep an even keel. That's important for me to remember because I react like a fan. That's no way to run a football team."

Still, McCaskey believes the bond between Pace and Nagy remains strong and invaluable. He's confident both men will sort through their evaluation of this team and work to make sure any disagreements that arise don't devolve into an ego clash.

"We can't be afraid to point the finger at ourselves," McCaskey said. "Matt says he wants to know what he can do to make us better. Ryan wants to know what he can do to make us better. And the same applies to me."

"I want to know what I can do to make us better. Is it staffing? Is it resources? Is it facilities? Do I need to ask more questions? Do I need to ask fewer questions? It's a balancing act. You want to be involved, but you don't want to interfere. We'll just have to see how it plays out."

The wait-and-see approach, of course, will not garner universal support from a fan base that has been scarred by decades of unfulfilled promises. The requests for accountability are only amplifying around Chicago. Still, the Bears made it clear Tuesday that they are set to begin a new year and a new decade with a deep breath and more hope that they're on the right path.

Said Phillips: "I think the teams that have consistency and belief in the people they put in place on the football side is important. What I like about Ryan is he has never wavered. He is humble. He's aggressive. And we kind of operate with the philosophy of, look, there are no perfect decisions made in football and in personnel. You can't be 100% right all the time."

"But you've got to go with a mindset of 'No regrets.' And that's what they do. I think so far it has served us well."

Phillips added that it's "absolutely" the expectation for the Bears to become a championship contender again in 2020.

"I think we should be able to turn it around next year," he said. "I mean, we were 12-4 just a year ago. We had the coach of the year and the executive of the year. They haven't lost their abilities. And we haven't lost the talent level. We've just got to be able to maximize it better this coming season."

Vikings embracing the underdog mentality

Playoff march begins in Big Easy against Brees, Saints

By DAVE CAMPBELL
Associated Press

The Vikings will take much of the same cast to the playoffs that helped them reach the NFC championship game two years ago, with even some upgrades in certain spots.

They're still an afterthought in this top-heavy postseason field, though, forced to enter as the sixth seed without the benefit of any home games. Consider that underdog mentality another ingredient in the formula coach Mike Zimmer, his staff and players will be concocting this week to try to knock off the Saints in the wild-card round on Sunday.

The NFL even left the Vikings out of an official postseason hype video for social media that was released Monday, an omission that did not go unnoticed at team headquarters.

"I don't think anybody thinks that we can win this game," said Zimmer, who has taken the Vikings to the playoffs three times in six years. "So go in there, and we slug it out. All I really care about is that 53 guys believe."

The Saints (13-3) were a consensus eight-point favorite in the betting lines on Monday, sporting the best record for a No. 3 seed since 2011. That season, just like this one, the Packers and 49ers got the first-round byes, and the Saints were a 13-win No. 3 seed.

That team, just like this one eight years later, was directed by the indefatigable Drew Brees, who's now the all-time NFL leader in career touchdown passes among so many other accolades.

"It's hard to trick him, because he reads things so quickly," Zimmer said.

If anyone in the league can do it, it's probably Zimmer, whose defense held Brees and the Saints scoreless for 43-plus minutes in their divisional-round matchup two seasons ago before the rally that preceded the "Minneapolis Miracle" touchdown pass the Vikings needed on the last play to win.

Their pass coverage, particularly on league-leading receiver Michael Thomas, will have to be at its best. With CB Xavier

NFL PLAYOFFS: WILD-CARD ROUND



AFC top seeds
#1 Ravens, #2 Chiefs
Saturday's games
#5 Bills at #4 Texans
3:35 p.m. | ESPN
#6 Titans at #3 Patriots
7:15 p.m. | CBS-2



NFC top seeds
#1 49ers, #2 Packers
Sunday's games
#6 Vikings at #3 Saints
12:05 p.m. | FOX-32
#5 Seahawks at #4 Eagles
3:40 p.m. | NBC-5

Rhodes grinding through a rough season, two years after he was an All-Pro, the Vikings have been as vulnerable in the secondary as ever since Zimmer arrived.

"We have the same mindset that we've had all year: being aggressive, attacking the ball whether it's in the run game or the pass game," S Anthony Harris said.

What's working: With a boost from backup DEs Ifeadi Odenigbo and Stephen Weatherly, the Vikings racked up 15 sacks over their last four games. That pass rush was a factor in the 13 turnovers forced during that span, too.

To succeed against Brees, generating pressure from the front four without a heavy blitz package will be critical.

What needs help: The pass protection has been vastly improved from last year, but it fell apart against the Packers a week ago, the last game that carried meaning for the Vikings and their postseason positioning. Keeping Saints DE Cameron Jordan away from QB Kirk Cousins will be a top priority for offensive coordinator Kevin Stefanski and his staff.

Injured: The Vikings held their top two RBs, Dalvin Cook (shoulder) and Alexander Mattison (ankle), out of the last two games to rest injuries for the playoffs, but all indications are they'll be good to go to play the Saints. LB Eric Kendricks (quadriceps) was the only other player held out of the final regular-season game against the Bears for injury.

NFL NOTES

Dorsey out as Browns GM

News services

The Browns parted ways with GM John Dorsey on Tuesday, two days after the team fired coach Freddie Kitchens.

Dorsey's stunning departure came after he met with owner Jimmy Haslam, who is again with his wife, Dee, cleaning house and restructuring the front office after a disappointing 6-10 season.

In a statement, the Haslams thanked Dorsey, saying "he has helped create a foundation that we need to continue to develop and build upon."

While Dorsey had revamped the Browns during his two seasons, his hiring of Kitchens backfired as the Browns fell way short of expectations and missed the playoffs for the 17th straight season — the NFL's longest current drought.

The Browns will interview former Packers coach Mike McCarthy for their vacancy on Thursday, a person familiar with the team's plans told the Associated Press. McCarthy's interview will be the first in the Browns' search, said the person who spoke on condition of anonymity.

McCarthy was believed to be the front-runner for the Browns' job last year but surprisingly didn't interview. The team has also requested permission to interview Chiefs offensive coordinator Eric Bieniemy, said the person. Bieniemy joins a list of candidates that includes assistants Josh McDaniels, Greg Roman, Robert Saleh, Kevin Stefanski and Brian Daboll.

Dorsey joined the Browns in December 2016 after stints with the Packers and Chiefs, and immediately began overhauling a roster lacking talent and a front office with no direction.

Dorsey made several astute moves and his decision to draft QB Baker Mayfield No. 1 overall in 2018 looked like a winner when he broke the league rookie record for TD passes. Mayfield, though, regressed under Kitchens, who Dorsey favored over other candidates a year ago despite his lack of head coaching experience.

The Browns were undisciplined and one of the league's most penalized teams in 2019.

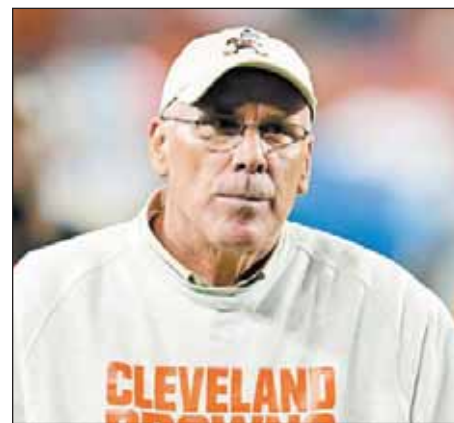
Jags keep Marrone, Caldwell: The Jaguars are retaining coach Doug Marrone and GM Dave Caldwell despite consecutive losing seasons.

Owner Shah Khan made the announcement after "positive meetings" with Marrone, Caldwell, their staffs and several players.

Marrone and Caldwell have two years remaining on their contracts. Khan made it clear that expectations are high for 2020.

The Jags have two first-round draft picks, Nos. 9 and 20 overall, to help rebuild a roster that lacks talent and depth. Rookies Gardner Minshew, Josh Allen and Jawaan Taylor are a few of the building blocks in place for Marrone and Caldwell moving forward.

Khan fired top executive Tom Coughlin two weeks ago, identifying the old-school



DAVID RICHARD/AP

The Browns have parted ways with general manager John Dorsey after two seasons.

coach's overbearing ways as the main problem. Coughlin's heavy-handed approach upset players, leading to CB Jalen Ramsey forcing his trade to the Rams, as well as some assistants.

Coughlin's position as executive vice president of football operations will not be filled. Marrone and Caldwell will report directly to Khan.

"I want to see what we produce under a new organizational structure in 2020," Khan said.

Marrone is 23-28 in three seasons, including 11-21 following a trip to the 2017 AFC title game. Marrone has expressed his frustration with the roster, much of which Coughlin put together.

Watt returning to action: Texans DE J.J. Watt will be activated and return for Saturday's AFC wild-card game against the Bills

A three-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year, Watt, 30, has been out since Week 8 with a torn pectoral muscle.

This is the third time in four seasons that he has had a major injury. He missed the last 13 games of 2016 with a back injury which required surgery and played just five games in 2017 before breaking his leg. He played all 16 games last season and was a first-team All-Pro after finishing with 16 sacks and 18 tackles for losses

In eight games this season, the five-time Pro Bowler has four sacks, 24 combined tackles and 20 quarterback hits. In the 2018 campaign, Watt registered 16 sacks and a league-leading seven forced fumbles while starting all 16 games.

Extra points: The Lions fired special teams coordinator John Bonamego, LBs coach Al Golden, DBs coach Brian Stewart, TE coach Chris White, strength coach Harold Nash and assistant strength coach Rodney Hill. The moves came after the franchise had its worst season in a decade. ... Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said Mason Rudolph is his top backup QB heading into 2020. Rudolph passed for 1,763 yards with 13 TDs and nine INTs in 10 games in place of the injured Ben Roethlisberger.

BLACKHAWKS



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Blackhawks right wing Patrick Kane after a 5-4 win over the Maple Leafs on Nov. 10.

Kane is decade's No. 1 goal-scorer

Ranking Kane's last 10 years and looking to the next

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD

CALGARY, Alberta — With the final hours winding down on the greatest decade in Blackhawks history, Patrick Kane wasn't quite ready for it to end.

He and Duncan Keith spent a few moments before Thursday's game against the Flames reminiscing about the last 10 years and reminding each other there was still time left on the clock, still one more game to be played.

"We've had some pretty good memories, some great times," Kane said. "Done some pretty amazing things as a group. Some guys have done amazing things individually as well. It's been a fun 10 years. It's pretty crazy to think 10 years have gone by this fast, but I think we're all ... looking forward to thinking what the next decade brings."

Kane, 31, was referring to what the Blackhawks hope accomplish as a team in the next decade, but his personal success is more connected to team success than ever.

When the decade began, Kane was a big part of the Hawks' famous core that included Keith, Jonathan Toews, Marian Hossa, Brent Seabrook and Patrick Sharp. He produced consistently but he wasn't counted on to carry the team night after night. Toews, Hossa and Sharp each led the Hawks in scoring in the first half of the decade.

That has all changed. After leading the Hawks in scoring just three times in his first eight seasons, Kane has led the Hawks each of the last five seasons, including through 40 games this season. He leads the Hawks in goals (20) and assists (27), and his 47 points are 19 more than Toews, the team's No. 2 scorer.

"I still think there's more in the tank, to be honest with you," Kane said. "I still think there's another level to get to. The position we're in, kind of near that wild-card spot now and the team's playing better, it'd be nice for myself to reach that level this year and keep producing for this team. But that's been my job since I've been in the league is to be an offensive guy and be counted on to produce."

That's why Kane will finish the decade

with the most points of any player. He had 798 points (313 goals, 485 assists) in 741 games before Thursday's game, 10 points more than Sidney Crosby's 788 points (296 goals, 492 assists) in 630 games.

"That's a cool accomplishment, even though I think I played like 100 more games than Crosby," Kane said.

Not much gets past Kane, including the recent rankings of the decade's best players that didn't seem to appreciate him as much as Hawks fans do. ESPN ranked him No. 9, while NBC Sports had him at No. 15 behind, among others, Victor Hedman, Zdeno Chara as well as Toews and Keith.

While those lists were blowing up on social media, he tried to not to pay much attention. But it wasn't easy because his phone was blowing up as well.

"It's hard not to (notice) when people are sending you messages and texting you about it," Kane said. "It is what it is. I guess everyone has their own opinion. I'm sure other people have other lists where I'd be higher or maybe even lower. Who knows? But they're just lists and you can't really do anything about it or throw a fit about it or get mad about it or anything."

And what was the general tone of the messages from his friends?

"Poke fun, pissed off, mad about it," he said. "To me it's just in one ear and out the other."

Kane will head to St. Louis in January to make his sixth straight All-Star Game appearance and ninth overall. He understands why Alex Ovechkin is choosing to sit out the All-Star Game to give his body a rest even if it means a one-game suspension from the Capitals' next regular-season game.

But Kane said he wouldn't consider doing that with the Hawks, unlike the first-place Capitals, fighting for a playoff berth.

"If I ever wanted to go about something like that, especially with the position the team's in, I would feel pretty guilty missing (a regular-season) game," Kane said. "Especially when you're healthy."

It's that devotion to the game that makes it possible to envision Kane still playing in the NHL when Dec. 31, 2029, rolls around.

"Love playing hockey so can't imagine in 10 years from now I'll feel any differently or I won't love the game anymore," he said. "I guess we'll see what happens."

BLACKHAWKS 5, FLAMES 3

Hawks going into 2020 hot

The Blackhawks closed out a dominant decade with a solid road win that got a bit too scary toward the end. Robin Lehner made several miraculous stops among his 41 saves and Patrick Kane had two goals and two assists to give him an NHL-best 802 points over the last 10 years in a 5-3 victory over the Flames on New Year's Eve at the Saddledome. The Hawks nearly blew a four-goal lead when the Flames scored three times in the final 21 minutes, but they held off a furious attack in the final minute and Kane added an empty-net goal with 0.5 seconds remaining. Alex DeBrincat and Dylan Strome each had a goal and an assist for the Hawks, who won their third straight game and fifth in their last six to improve to 18-17-6 and give themselves a chance to go 3-0 on their road trip when they visit the Canucks on Thursday. The Hawks moved to within four points of the final Western Conference wild-card spot but still trail four teams, including the Flames. For more coverage, go to chicagotribune.com/sports

BULLS

Frustration after close Bucks game goes awry

By PHIL THOMPSON

It's easy to forget the Bulls took the lead for one possession late in the second quarter of Monday night's 123-102 loss to the Bucks.

Milwaukee, the NBA's No. 1 team at 30-5, steadily dismantled the Bulls in the second half, building their lead to as many as 24 points.

The Bulls were trying to prove they have what it takes to beat an elite team (heck, a team above .500) and they did once, besting a Clippers squad without Kawhi Leonard and Lou Williams.

So it makes it all the more frustrating that the Bulls kept the Bucks in check before losing it all after Milwaukee flipped the script on defense.

"Everybody's pissed off. You should be," Kris Dunn said. "We've been playing well. I feel like Milwaukee gave us a little bit of humble pie."

"We've got to be able to take that, go back to the drawing board and get back to work. We got another good team coming in in Utah and we've got to go out there and show the improvements; go out there and get a win."

Lauri Markkanen said the Bulls have shown in close games against very good teams "that we can play with anybody. Obviously, we have to do it for 48 minutes to be in the game. We can't have those lapses that we had in the third (quarter)."

Bulls coach Jim Boylen said the Bucks' length and athleticism bothered them, but he's troubled by how his team shrunk when challenged — a character flaw from earlier this season.

"I thought we had a good second quarter, we got ourselves back into the game and battled back, and then I thought they punched us pretty hard in the third, took control of the game, and I didn't like the way we responded," Boylen said, adding later, "I thought we hung our head a little bit. We hadn't done that in a while."

The Bucks scored through great passing and ran with the Bulls in transition, thus preventing the Bulls from doing what they like to do most: Run fast breaks.

"They made us play in the halfcourt," Dunn said. "The thing for us all year is our best offense is transition: getting stops and getting out and being athletic and running and spacing."

"We didn't get the chance to do that. We couldn't get a stop (on defense) and they made us play in the half court."

The Bucks backed off the Bulls' weaker

shooters and forced others to shoot mid-range shots.

They double-teamed Zach LaVine, used their size to make life really difficult at the rim (the Bucks had nine blocks, led by Robin Lopez's four) and sagged off Dunn, Tomas Satoransky (who went 2-for-6 from 3-point range) and Wendell Carter Jr.

"They had their team in the drop so it made it kind of tough to get downhill like we wanted to," Carter said. "They're a really good team. They make you take tough non-rim 2s."

Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo said, "They were playing fast, but we have (Lopez brothers) Brook (and) Robin — they were blocking everything back there."

It's nothing Carter and company haven't seen before in two previous games against the Bucks, "but (Monday), we weren't knocking our shots down down the stretch (in the) second half."

The Bucks' strategy was particularly effective against Dunn, who's at his best when he's beating defenders off the dribble and finishing at the rim. He went 1-for-6 for four points, including two missed 3-pointers.

Boylen said he wrestled with whether to play Dunn off-ball or on-ball, hoping he can create on his own outside shots.

"That's the dilemma," Boylen said. "We did a little of both. They executed their game plan and we struggled to score."

"They're an experienced team," Dunn said. "They know how to play us. We play them four times a year. They (were) physical on Zach (LaVine), physical on Lauri (Markkanen), they sagged off me and Sato — and Wendell sometimes — because they know shooting the ball is not our, I (don't) want to say our best trait, but they know we're not comfortable with it."

"Me and Wendell, we like to get downhill and bring the action to you. And they got some big dudes."

The Bulls said they'll look at film to determine how to counter that strategy. One solution? Make 3-pointers when you get wide-open shots.

"Just gotta take 'em, take 'em with confidence," Carter said. "At that point you've got to throw analytics out the window. ... Going against this team now I know I've got to take my shots, make them more honest."

Dunn said he hasn't lost any confidence in his 3.

"In the gym, practice, I can knock 'em down all day. I've just got to transfer it to the game."

Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13				14		15			16			
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55						56	57			58	59	
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63					64					65		

By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2020 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved. 1/1/20

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Excessive publicity</p> <p>5 "If the ___ fits..."</p> <p>9 Purina Dog ___</p> <p>13 Bread ingredient</p> <p>15 Beatles movie</p> <p>16 Out of ___;</p> <p>misbehaving</p> <p>17 Swampland</p> <p>18 Government law</p> <p>20 Org. for Ducks & Penguins</p> <p>21 Come in first</p> <p>23 Went separate ways</p> <p>24 Fuming</p> <p>26 Rush</p> <p>27 Elevator alternative</p> <p>29 Sea near Stockholm</p> <p>32 Entice</p> <p>33 Take ___; put forth effort</p> <p>35 Fem. title</p> <p>37 Hatchets</p> <p>38 Travers or Quaid</p> <p>39 Tiff</p> <p>40 Prohibit</p> <p>41 Smooths wood</p> <p>42 Minimum or maximum limit</p> <p>43 Flat grassland area</p>	<p>45 Hepburn or Meadows</p> <p>46 Ring around the collar</p> <p>47 American poet Robert ___</p> <p>48 Insult</p> <p>51 Class ___;</p> <p>admirable person</p> <p>52 On ___ fours;</p> <p>crawling</p> <p>55 Down-to-earth</p> <p>58 Pyle or Kovacs</p> <p>60 Compass direction</p> <p>61 Surpasses</p> <p>62 Cheney & Smothers</p> <p>63 Crazy</p> <p>64 Days of ___;</p> <p>olden times</p> <p>65 Flying insects</p>	<p>Solutions</p> <p>12 Do garden work</p> <p>14 Stymie</p> <p>19 Manicurist's focus</p> <p>22 Part of TGIF</p> <p>25 Van Winkle's namesakes</p> <p>27 Puncture</p> <p>28 Austin's place</p> <p>29 eBay offers</p> <p>30 Significance</p> <p>31 Wooden box</p> <p>33 Window glass</p> <p>34 ___ so forth; etc.</p> <p>36 Linger</p> <p>38 Quickness</p> <p>39 Soap lather</p> <p>41 Exhausted</p> <p>42 Used the words of</p> <p>44 Votes into office</p> <p>45 St. Joan of ___</p> <p>47 Inaccurate</p> <p>48 "___ Sesame"; Ali Baba's line</p> <p>49 Frankfurt wife</p> <p>50 Eat nothing</p> <p>53 Take a shine to</p> <p>54 More or ___</p> <p>56 Pigeon's cry</p> <p>57 Part of spring; abbr.</p> <p>59 Tease</p>
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SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	23	8	.742	—
Toronto	22	11	.676	1½
Philadelphia	23	13	.639	2½
Brooklyn	16	16	.500	7½
New York	9	24	.273	15

SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	24	9	.727	—
Orlando	14	19	.424	10
Charlotte	13	23	.361	12½
Washington	10	22	.313	13½
Atlanta	7	27	.206	17½

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB
Milwaukee	30	5	.857	—
Indiana	22	12	.647	7½
Chicago	13	21	.382	16½
Detroit	12	22	.353	17½
Cleveland	10	23	.303	19

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Houston	23	11	.676	—
Dallas	21	12	.636	1½
San Antonio	14	18	.438	8
Memphis	13	21	.382	10
New Orleans	11	23	.324	12

NORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Denver	23	10	.697	—
Utah	21	12	.636	2
Oklahoma City	18	15	.545	5
Portland	14	20	.412	9½
Minnesota	12	20	.375	10½

PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	26	7	.788	—
L.A. Clippers	24	11	.686	3
Phoenix	13	20	.394	13
Sacramento	12	22	.353	14½
Golden State	9	26	.257	18

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Minnesota 109, Charlotte 92
 Indiana 115, Philadelphia 97
 L.A. Clippers 105, Sacramento 87
 Toronto 117, Cleveland 97
 Houston 130, Denver 104
 San Antonio 117, Golden State 113, OT
 Oklahoma City 106, Dallas 101

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
 Orlando at Washington, 5 p.m.
 Portland at New York, 6:30 p.m.
 Minnesota at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
 Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

THURSDAY'S GAMES
 Charlotte at Cleveland, 6 p.m.
 Denver at Indiana, 6 p.m.
 Toronto at Miami, 6:30 p.m.
 Golden State at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
 Utah at Chicago, 7 p.m.
 Brooklyn at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
 Oklahoma City at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
 Memphis at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
 Detroit at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES
 Atlanta at Boston, 6 p.m.
 Miami at Orlando, 6 p.m.
 Portland at Washington, 6 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Houston, 7 p.m.
 New York at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
 New Orleans at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

ROCKETS 130, NUGGETS 104

DENVER: Craig I-4-0-0-3, Millsap 6-13-0-0-13, Jokic 10-17-1-21, Barton 5-16-0-110, Murray 5-14-0-0-12, Cancar 0-0-0-0, Grant 2-0-0-4, Hernandez 0-0-0-0, Porter Jr. 3-6-0-0-7, Vanderbilt 1-1-0-0-2, Plumlee 1-5-2-4-4, Beasley 3-5-2-2-10, Morris 8-12-1-18. Totals 45-97-6-104.

HOUSTON: House Jr. 3-10-0-0-8, Tucker 0-1-0-0-0, Capela 7-12-2-4-16, Harden 10-0-19-13-35, Westbrook 11-22-6-28, Clark 1-1-0-0-3, Gordon 4-7-1-2-12, Hartenstein 6-8-4-6-16, Clemons 1-2-0-0-3, McLemore 3-7-0-9-9, Rivers 0-0-0-0-0. Totals 46-87-22-3130.

Denver	26	26	37	15	— 104
Houston	38	31	23	38	— 130

3-Point Goals—Denver 8-25 (Beasley 2-4, Murray 2-4, Millsap 1-3, Morris 1-3, Porter Jr. 1-3, Craig 1-4, Barton 0-3), Houston 16-34 (Harden 6-9, Gordon 3-5, McLemore 3-7, House Jr. 2-7, Clemons 1-2, Westbrook 0-2).
Fouled Out—Denver 1 (Craig), Houston None. **Rebounds**—Denver 39 (Barton, Millsap 9), Houston 43 (Hartenstein 12). **Assists**—Denver 25 (Barton 7), Houston 20 (Westbrook 7). **Fouls**—Denver 22, Houston 17. **A**—18:05 (18:50)

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	24	7	0	58	138	105
Toronto	22	14	5	49	146	132
Tampa Bay	21	13	4	46	137	120
Florida	20	14	5	45	139	134
Montreal	18	17	6	42	132	134
Buffalo	17	17	7	41	121	131
Ottawa	16	19	5	37	111	132
Detroit	10	28	3	23	89	157

METRO.	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	27	9	5	59	146	122
N.Y. Islanders	25	10	3	53	114	100
Pittsburgh	24	11	4	52	136	104
Carolina	25	14	2	52	139	113
Philadelphia	22	13	5	49	127	118
Columbus	18	14	8	44	105	112
N.Y. Rangers	19	15	4	42	124	125
New Jersey	14	19	6	34	102	138

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	26	9	6	58	128	107
Colorado	23	13	5	50	144	119
Dallas	22	14	4	48	107	101
Winnipeg	22	15	3	47	125	120
Minnesota	19	17	5	43	126	137
Nashville	18	14	6	42	132	127
Chicago	18	17	6	42	118	132

PACIFIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	22	15	6	50	134	125
Arizona	22	16	4	48	118	108
Vancouver	21	15	4	46	132	119
Edmonton	21	17	4	46	125	134
Calgary	20	17	5	45	114	127
Los Angeles	17	21	4	38	109	132
San Jose	17	21	3	37	109	139
Anaheim	16	19	5	37	103	124

2 pts for win, 1 pt for shootout/OT loss

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

New Jersey 3, Boston 2, SO
 N.Y. Islanders 4, Washington 3
 Vegas 5, Anaheim 2
 Toronto 4, Minnesota 1
 Tampa Bay 6, Buffalo 4
 Carolina 3, Montreal 1
 Columbus 4, Florida 1
 Detroit 2, San Jose 0
 Winnipeg 7, Colorado 4
 Chicago 5, Calgary 3
 Arizona 3, St. Louis 1
 Edmonton 7, N.Y. Rangers 5
 Los Angeles 5, Philadelphia 3

WEDNESDAY'S GAME

Nashville at Dallas, 1 p.m.

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Columbus at Boston, 6 p.m.
 Edmonton at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at Montreal, 6 p.m.
 New Jersey at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m.
 San Jose at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m.
 Florida at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
 Toronto at Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
 Anaheim at Arizona, 8 p.m.
 N.Y. Rangers at Calgary, 8 p.m.
 St. Louis at Colorado, 8:30 p.m.
 Chicago at Vancouver, 9 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Vegas, 9 p.m.

BLACKHAWKS 5, FLAMES 3

Chicago	3	1	1	— 5
Calgary	0	1	2	— 3

FIRST PERIOD: 1, Chicago, Maatta 1 (Sikura, Kane), 4:14, 2, Chicago, DeBrincat 9 (Strome, Kane), 5:35 (pp), 3, Chicago, Kane 19 (Sikura, Carpenter), 12:44. **Penalties:** Ryan, Cal (Holding), 5:01.
SECOND PERIOD: 4, Chicago, Strome 8 (Murphy, DeBrincat), 9:41, 5, Calgary, Bennett 3 (Ryan, Lucic), 19:54. **Penalties:** Rinaldo, Cal (Charging), 8:02; Kane, Chi (High Sticking), 8:15; Giordano, Cal (Tripping), 10:05.
THIRD PERIOD: 6, Calgary, Frolik 4, 15:30 (sh), 7, Calgary, Monahan 12 (Gaudreau, Tkachuk), 16:48, 8, Chicago, Kane 20 (Maatta), 19:59 (en). **Penalties:** Andersson, Cal (Slashing), 13:32.
SHOTS ON GOAL: Chicago 14-10-9—33, Calgary 10-16-18—44.
POWER PLAYS: Chi 1 of 4; Cal 0 of 1.
GOALIES: Chicago, Lehner 11-6-4 (44 shots-41 saves), Calgary, Rittich 17-9-5 (32-28), A: 19:289 (19,289), T: 2:33.
Referees: Pierre Lambert, Kevin Pollock. **Linesmen:** Mark Shewchuk, James Tobias.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

HOW MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED

- Gonzaga** (14-1) did not play. Next: at Portland, Thursday.
- Duke** (12-1) beat Boston College 88-49. Next: at Miami, Saturday.
- Kansas** (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 West Virginia, Saturday.
- Oregon** (11-2) did not play. Next: at Colorado, Thursday.
- Ohio State** (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. Wisconsin, Friday.
- Baylor** (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Texas, Saturday.
- Louisville** (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 18 Florida State, Saturday.
- Auburn** (12-0) did not play. Next: at Mississippi State, Saturday.
- Memphis** (12-1) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia, Saturday.
- Villanova** (10-2) did not play. Next: at Marquette, Saturday.
- Butler** (13-1) beat St. John's 60-58. Next: vs. Creighton, Saturday.
- Michigan** (10-3) did not play. Next: at No. 14 Michigan State, Sunday.
- San Diego State** (13-0) did not play. Next: vs. Fresno State, Wednesday.
- Michigan State** (10-3) did not play. Next: vs. Illinois, Thursday.
- Maryland** (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. Indiana, Saturday.
- West Virginia** (11-1) did not play. Next: at No. 3 Kansas, Saturday.
- Kentucky** (9-3) did not play. Next: vs. Missouri, Saturday.
- Florida State** (12-2) beat Georgia Tech 70-58. Next: at No. 7 Louisville, Sat.
- Virginia** (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. Virginia Tech, Saturday.
- Dayton** (11-2) did not play. Next: at La Salle, Thursday.
- Penn State** (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 23 Iowa, Saturday.
- Texas Tech** (9-3) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma State, Saturday.
- Iowa** (10-3) did not play. Next: at No. 21 Penn State, Saturday.
- Wichita State** (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. East Carolina, Wednesday.
- Arizona** (10-3) did not play. Next: vs. Arizona State, Saturday.

TUESDAY'S SCORES

EAST
 Babson 84, Regis (Mass.) 59
 Butler 60, St. John's 58
 Jefferson 61, New Haven 55
 Lake Erie 91, Thiel 55
 Pitt-Greensburg 90, Chatham 72
 Providence 76, Georgetown 60
 Rutgers-Newark 74, Mt. St. Vincent 58
 Vermont 76, George Washington 51
 Wentworth 83, Norwich 54

SOUTH
 Duke 88, Boston College 49
 Florida St. 70, Georgia Tech 58
 Miami 73, Clemson 68, OT
 Millsaps 61, Covenant 41
 Southern Wesleyan 78, SC-Aiken 65
 Temple 62, UCF 58

MIDWEST
 Bowling Green 81, Hartford 68
 Bradley 80, Drake 72
 Florida A&M 70, Iowa St. 68
 Illinois St. 76, N. Iowa 70
 Missouri St. 65, Evansville 52
 Mt. Vernon Nazarene 83, Oberlin 68
 Walsh 92, Carnegie-Mellon 72
 Wisconsin 65, Rider 37

SOUTHWEST
 Air Force 105, UC Riverside 56

WEST
 CS Northridge 93, Morgan St. 82

HOW WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED

- UConn** (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. Wichita State, Thursday.
- Oregon** (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Colorado, Friday.
- Oregon State** (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. Utah, Friday.
- South Carolina** (12-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 13 Kentucky, Thursday.
- Stanford** (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Washington State, Friday.
- Baylor** (10-1) did not play. Next: at Oklahoma, Saturday.
- Louisville** (12-1) did not play. Next: at Clemson, Thursday.
- Florida State** (13-0) did not play. Next: at Syracuse, Thursday.
- N.C. State** (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. Virginia Tech, Thursday.
- UCLA** (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. Arizona State, Friday.
- Texas A&M** (12-1) did not play. Next: at No. 20 Arkansas, Thursday.
- Maryland** (10-3) lost to Northwestern 81-58. Next: vs. Ohio State, Monday.
- Kentucky** (11-1) did not play. Next: at No. 4 South Carolina, Thursday.
- Indiana** (11-2) at Rutgers. Next: vs. Illinois, Monday.
- Mississippi State** (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. Florida, Thursday.
- DePaul** (11-2) did not play. Next: at Providence, Friday.
- Gonzaga** (12-1) did not play. Next: at BYU, Thursday.
- Arizona** (12-0) did not play. Next: at Southern Cal, Friday.
- West Virginia** (10-1) beat Cornell 68-60. Next: at Kansas State, Sunday.
- Arkansas** (12-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 11 Texas A&M, Thursday.
- Missouri State** (10-2) beat William Jewell 111-39. Next: at Loyola of Chicago, Friday.
- Tennessee** (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. Missouri, Thursday.
- Miami** (9-3) did not play. Next: at Georgia Tech, Thursday.
- Minnesota** (11-2) lost to Ohio State 66-63. Next: at Nebraska, Saturday.
- Texas** (8-4) did not play. Next: vs. TCU, Friday.

ODDS

NBA	pregame.com	SP	O/U	WEDNESDAY
at Washington	off	off	Orlando	
Portland	3½	222	at New York	
at Milwaukee	off	off	Minnesota	
at LA Lakers	11	226½	Phoenix	

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

BOWL GAMES	CITRUS	SP	O/U	WEDNESDAY
Alabama	7½	59		Michigan

OUTBACK	Auburn	6½	54	Minnesota
ROSE	Wisconsin	2½	51½	Oregon
SUGAR	Georgia	4	42	Baylor
BIRMINGHAM	O/U			THURSDAY
Cincinnati	7	54½		Boston Coll.
GATOR	Tennessee	2½	52½	Indiana
FAMOUS IDAHO POTATO	Ohio	8	58½	FRIDAY
ARMED FORCES	O/U			SATURDAY
Tulane	7	56½		Southern Miss
LENDINGTREE	O/U			MONDAY
La-Laf.	14	54½		Miami Ohio
CFP NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP JAN. 13	LSU	5	69	Clemson

NFL

WILD CARDS	SP	O/U	SATURDAY
at Houston	2½	43½	Buffalo
at New Eng.	4	44	Tennessee
SP	O/U		SUNDAY
at New OrL.	8	49	Minnesota
Seattle	1½	46	at Phila.

NFL

WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS

SATURDAY'S GAMES
 Buffalo (10-6) at Houston (10-6), 3:35 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)
 Tennessee (9-7) at New England (12-4), 7:15 p.m. (CBS)
SUNDAY'S GAMES
 Minnesota (10-6) at New Orleans (13-3), 12:05 p.m. (FOX)
 Seattle (11-5) at Philadelphia (9-7), 3:40 p.m. (NBC)

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

SATURDAY, JAN. 11
 Philadelphia, Seattle or Minnesota at San Francisco (13-3), 3:35 p.m. (NBC)
 Houston, Buffalo or Tennessee at Baltimore (14-2), 7:15 p.m. (CBS)
SUNDAY, JAN. 12
 New England, Houston or Buffalo at Kansas City (12-4), 2:05 p.m. (CBS)
 New Orleans, Philadelphia or Seattle at Green Bay (13-3), 5:40 p.m. (FOX)

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SUNDAY, JAN. 19
 AFC, 2:05 p.m. (CBS)
 NFC, 5:40 p.m. (FOX)

PRO BOWL
Sunday, Jan. 26 in Orlando, Fla.
 AFC vs. NFC, 2 p.m. (ESPN)

SUPER BOWL
Sunday, Feb. 2 in Miami Gardens, Fla.
 AFC vs. NFC champs, 5:30 p.m. (FOX)

NFL REDZONE

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

OFFENSE	P	Pts	TD	TD%	SC	SC%
Tennessee	45	242	34	75.6	36	80.0
Baltimore	64	349	43	67.2	60	93.8
Indianapolis	56	292	36	64.3	51	91.1
Houston	53	282	34	64.2	49	92.5
Cleveland	50	245	29	58.0	44	88.0
Buffalo	44	216	25	56.8	38	86.4
Miami	48	228	27	56.3	41	85.4
N.Y. Jets	33	149	18	54.5	25	75.8
Kansas City	50	242	27	54.0	45	90.0
L.A. Chargers	53	238	28	52.8	42	79.2
Oakland	53	238	28	52.8	43	81.1
New England	60	268	30	50.0	51	85.0
Denver	42	184	20	47.6	35	83.3
Cincinnati	48	201	21	43.8	39	81.3
Jacksonville	47	199	19	40.4	41	87.2
Pittsburgh	40	160	14	35.0	35	87.5

OBITUARIES

SONNY MEHTA 1942-2019

Visionary book publisher of literature, blockbusters

By HILLEL ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Sonny Mehta, 77, the urbane and astute head of Alfred A. Knopf who guided one of the book world's most esteemed imprints to new heights through a blend of prizewinning literature by Toni Morrison and Cormac McCarthy among others and blockbusters such as "Fifty Shades of Grey" and "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo," has died.

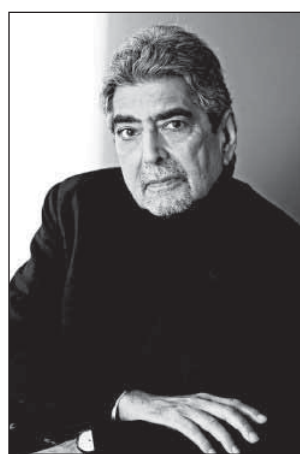
Mehta, the husband of author Gita Mehta, died Monday at his home in Manhattan. According to Knopf, the cause was complications from pneumonia.

"Mehta's contributions to the world of letters and publishing are without precedent," a statement from the publisher read Tuesday. "His exacting standards — in editorial, production, design, marketing and publicity — were a beacon to the book industry and beyond."

The bearded, chain-smoking Mehta spoke carefully and chose wisely, helping Knopf thrive even as the industry faced the jarring changes of corporate consolidation, the demise of thousands of independent stores and the rise of e-books.

An accomplished publisher and editor since his mid-20s, he succeeded the revered Robert Gottlieb in 1987 as just the third Knopf editor-in-chief in its 72-year history and over the following decades fashioned his own record of critical and commercial success. He continued to publish celebrated authors signed on by Gottlieb, including Morrison and Robert Caro, while adding newer talent such as Tommy Orange, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Karen Russell.

Knopf also was home to



RANDOM HOUSE/AP

Sonny Mehta was just the third Alfred A. Knopf editor-in-chief in its history.

some of the bestselling works in recent times. In 2008, Mehta acquired U.S. rights to a trilogy of crime fiction by a dead Swedish journalist, Stieg Larsson's "Millennium" series, which went on to sell tens of millions of copies. In 2012, the paperback imprint Vintage won a bidding war for an explicit erotic trilogy that at the time could only be read digitally, E.L. James' "Fifty Shades" novels. Other top sellers released during Mehta's reign included Sheryl Sandberg's "Lean In," Bill Clinton's "My Life" and Cheryl Strayed's "Wild."

When the Center for Fiction honored Mehta in 2018 with a lifetime achievement award, tributes were written by Joan Didion, Haruki Murakami and Anne Tyler, who praised "his precision" and "deft assurance" and called him the "Fred Astaire of editing."

Mehta was born Ajai Singh Mehta, the bookish son of Indian diplomat Amrik Singh Mehta. He lived everywhere from Geneva to Nepal as a child and graduated from Cambridge University with degrees in history and English literature.

Choosing book publishing over his parents' wishes he became a diplomat, Mehta needed little time to make an impact in London, helping to launch the literary career of his college friend Germaine Greer and introducing British readers to the profane Americana of Hunter S. Thompson. With Pan Books, he released works by rising authors such as Ian McEwan and Salman Rushdie, while signing up Jackie Collins, Douglas Adams and other bestsellers. He was Gottlieb's personal choice to take over at Knopf, but still faced initial wariness from the staff.

"People had the terrible fear that I was going to suddenly publish Jackie Collins over here and really sort of lower the tone of the place," Mehta told Publishers Weekly in 2015. "I think the difference was that I probably encouraged people to market a lot more than they were in the habit of doing. I encouraged them to look at a certain type of literary fiction and see it wasn't necessarily intended for some kind of ghetto, that there was a bigger market for it."

Mehta survived numerous transformations at Knopf and was widely credited for expanding the company's international reach and acquiring Vintage and making it one of publishing's most successful paperback imprints.

"On a good day, I am still convinced I have the best job in the world," Mehta told Vanity Fair in 2016, explaining that he had recently finished a novella by Graham Swift. "I opened it and didn't know what to expect, and I read it in one sitting right here in the office, utterly mesmerized. Sometimes you find something new and you just say, 'Wow.'"

Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Death Notices

Brach, Lillian Frances

L. Frances Brach, nee Janda, 92, of Lombard. Beloved wife of the late John Brach; loving mother of Mari (Jim) Payton, Bonnie (Carl) Janssens, Nanci (Bill) Greene, Su (Ed) Garvey, and Lisa (Bruce) Gosen; devoted grandmother of 17; great-grandmother of 19; fond sister of 5; aunt of many nieces and nephews. Frances and John were founding members of St. Pius X Catholic Church in Lombard. Visitation Friday, 3 - 9PM at **Knollcrest Funeral Home**, 1500 S. Meyers Rd. (3 blks. So. Of Roosevelt Rd.) Lombard. Funeral Saturday, 9:15 AM from the funeral home to St. Pius X Catholic Church, Mass 10:00 AM. Interment Assumption Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials to St. Vincent de Paul Society, are appreciated. Funeral Info: www.knollcrest.net or 630-932-1500.

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Calcagno, Anna Josephine

Anna Calcagno, age 88, passed away peacefully with family members at her side on December 28, 2019. She was born on October 30, 1931 in Chicago, Illinois to the late John and Marie Edenhofer. A loving sister, she was extremely close to the late John (Audrey), the late Marie "Mitzi" Dini (Ray), the late Arthur (Carol), the late Carl "Ray", William (Nancy), the late Dorothy "Dolly" Karp (Mike) Jeannie Onnezi (Pierre), and Paul Edenhofer.

Anna married her love, the late James Calcagno, in 1956. James preceded her death in 1984. She was a beloved mother to Calann Kelly, Jeannie Williams, Helen "Tootsie" Zatto (Vito), and Karen Calcagno. Anna was a lifetime resident of Cicero, Illinois. She was a devoted member of her church, St. Frances of Rome, and an active member of its community. All that loved Anna knew her to be a strong, feisty, and independent woman. Alongside the time she spent with her family and friends, she enjoyed gardening, shopping, and dining out. Anna was a loving grandmother, great grandmother, aunt to many nieces and nephews, and a dear friend.

Visitation will be held from 3:00-9:00PM on Thursday, January 2, at Pietryka Funeral Home, 5734 W. Diversey Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Funeral will be held on Friday, January 3, Viewing at Church 9-10AM, Mass at 10AM, at St. Frances of Rome, 1500 S. 59th Court, Cicero, IL. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery, River Grove, IL For more information, call 773-889-0115

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Cernock, Gertrude M.

Gertrude M. Cernock (nee Tresselt), age 97, of Western Springs. Beloved wife of the late William F. Cernock, MD. Loving mother of the late Thomas W. (Susan) Cernock, Robert E. Cernock, Deborah L. Burns, and Barbara M. Cernock. Devoted grandmother of the late Laura A. Cernock, the late Lisa (Mitch) Thomas,

Michael Cernock, Karen (Daniel Preece) Cernock, Lori Cernock; David Cernock; Carolyn (Christopher) Talbott, and Brian Burns. Dear great-grandmother of Rachel, Brett, Harrison, Isabelle, Louisa, Hannah, Riley, Joshua, William, Emma, Kathryn, Jacob, and Jack. Beloved cousin of Marilyn Spagnola and Gerald Mulac. Gertrude was preceded in death by her parents Carl and Emily Tresselt. Gertrude was a longtime volunteer at Mercy Hospital & Medical Center and served as past president of the Women's Board at Mercy Hospital & Medical Center. She was an active member of All Saints Episcopal Church. Gertrude also enjoyed singing for many years with the Tower Choral. Visitation 2:00 to 8:00 PM Friday, January 3rd at **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, 1025 W. 55th St., Countryside. Family and friends to gather at All Saints Episcopal Church, 4370 Woodland Ave., Western Springs, IL 60558 for 10:30 AM Celebration of Life Service Saturday, January 4th. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to All Saints Episcopal Church at the above address or to Misericordia Heart of Mercy, 6300 North Ridge, Chicago IL 60660. For further service information: 708-352-6500 or HJfunerals.com

Hallowell & James
Funeral Home

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Cicero, Mary

Mary Cicero nee Verri; age 87; Loving wife of Charles for 61 years; Loving mother of Peter, Carolyn and Chuck; Loving sister of the late Sam, the late Frank, the late Gus and the late Vicky; Dear aunt of many. Visitation Thursday 3:00 - 8:00 pm and Friday 8:00 am until time of funeral, 9:30 am at **The Oaks Funeral Home** 1201 E. Irving Park Road (at Prospect), Itasca to Holy Ghost Church. Mass 10:00 am. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. For funeral info: 630-250-8588 or www.oaksfh.com

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your loved ones with a beautifully written
tribute to be read at the funeral home
Chicago Tribune

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON JANUARY 1 ...

In 1449 statesman and arts patron Lorenzo de'Medici was born in Florence, Italy.

In 1752 Betsy Ross, the seamstress who, according to legend, sewed the first American flag, was born in Philadelphia.

In 1863 President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that slaves in rebel states were free.

In 1892 the Ellis Island Immigrant Station in New York formally opened.

In 1895 J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation from 1924-1972, was born.

In 1898 Manhattan, the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island were consolidated into New York City.

In 1900 bandleader Xavier Cugat was born in Barcelona, Spain.

In 1901 the Commonwealth of Australia was proclaimed.

In 1945 France was admitted to the United Nations.

In 1953 country singer Hank Williams Sr. died of a drug and alcohol overdose while en route to a concert in Canton, Ohio; he was 29.

In 1958 treaties establishing the European Economic Community went into effect.

In 1959 Fidel Castro led Cuban revolutionaries to victory over Fulgencio Batista.

In 1979 the United States and China held celebrations in Washington and Beijing to mark the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

In 1984 the break-up of AT&T took place as the telecommunications giant was divested of its 22 Bell System companies under terms of an antitrust agreement.

In 1990 David Dinkins was sworn in as New York City's first black mayor.

In 1993 Czechoslovakia peacefully split into two new countries, the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

In 1994 the North American Free Trade Agreement went into effect.

In 1995 a cease-fire began in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Also in 1995, Sweden, Finland and Austria joined the European Union.

In 1999 the euro, the new single currency of 11 European countries, officially came into existence.

In 2000 the arrival of 2000 saw no terrorist attacks, Y2K meltdowns or mass suicides among doomsday cults, but instead saw seven continents stepping joyously and peacefully into the New Year. **Also in 2000**, on his first full day as acting president, Vladimir Putin assured Russians there would be no "vacuum of power" after Boris Yel-

tsin's surprise resignation. **Also in 2000** Wisconsin defeated Stanford 17-9 to become the first Big10 team to win consecutive Rose Bowls.

In 2004 Pakistan's Pervez Musharraf won a vote of confidence validating his five-year term as president.

In 2013 Northwestern defeated Mississippi State 34-20 in the Gator Bowl for its first bowl win since the 1949 Rose Bowl.

In 2014 Colorado became the first state in the country where small amounts of marijuana could be legally sold in specialty stores. **Also in 2014** the Boy Scouts of America lifted its ban on openly gay youths.

In 2015 Mario Cuomo, 82, former three-term governor of New York and one of the Democratic Party's most iconic voices for addressing economic inequality, died.

In 2016 a gunman with an assault rifle stormed Istanbul's famed Reina nightclub early New Year's morning, killing 39 and wounding at least 70.

In 2018 the Chicago Bears fired head coach John Fox after three seasons.

WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS
Dec. 31
Mega Millions 118 / 5
30 44 49 53 56 / 11
Mega Millions jackpot: \$55M
Pick 3 midday 917 / 5
Pick 4 midday 8211 / 6
Lucky Day Lotto midday 01 05 06 17 18

Pick 3 evening 977 / 2
Pick 4 evening 2435 / 9
Lucky Day Lotto evening 19 22 31 35 44

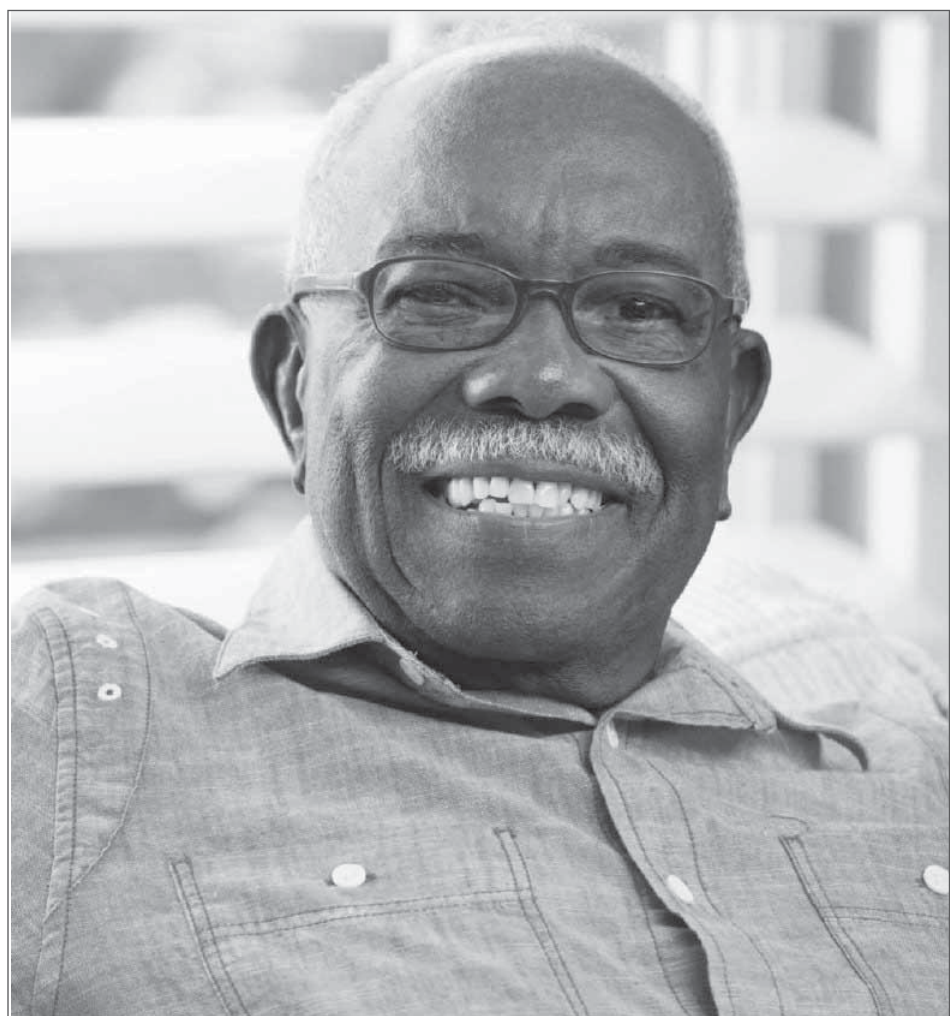
Jan. 1 Powerball: \$220M
Jan. 2 Lotto: \$2M

WISCONSIN
Dec. 31
Pick 3 664
Pick 4 1457
Badger 5 9 18 22 30 31
SuperCash 14 21 25 34 36 38

INDIANA
Dec. 31
Daily 3 midday 118 / 5
Daily 4 midday 6943 / 5
Daily 3 evening 774 / 4
Daily 4 evening 2156 / 4
Cash 5 13 22 31 33 41

MICHIGAN
Dec. 31
Daily 3 midday 899
Daily 4 midday 1481
Daily 3 evening 178
Daily 4 evening 0034
Fantasy 5 05 15 27 32 35
Keno 01 03 05 09 15
20 24 25 30 31 39 51 45
50 53 61 62 63 65 73 74 80

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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

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Dalpia, Rev. Gino M., C.S.

Rev. Gino M. Dalpia, C.S. age 93 years died peacefully on December 27, 2019 in Chicago, Illinois. He was born the first child of the late Firmino and Gelinda (Rauzi) Dalpia in Melrose Park, Illinois on December 2, 1926. Ordained as a Scalabrinian Missionary priest in Rome, Italy in 1951. Beloved brother to the late Mary (late Robert) Baroni, Rev. Alex Dalpia, C.S., the late Julius (Lorraine) Dalpia, Angeline (Erminio) Ruffolo, Therese (the late Richard) Dvorak, Gemma (Ronald) Winters, Rose (William) Scalise, Joseph (Carolyn) Dalpia, and Ann (George) Hicks. A devoted uncle to 47 nieces and nephews, and 89 great nieces and nephews. All those who were touched by Fr. Gino will miss him, a gentle, caring, giving missionary priest with a deep devotion to God and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. During his priesthood, he had many roles including being a pastor, associate pastor, professor, novice master, spiritual director for seminarians and executive director of the Italian Cultural Center. He served in several locations in New York, the Chicago area and in Rome, Italy. The last 10 years he has been an associate pastor at Santa Maria Addolorata Church in Chicago, Illinois. Family and Friends are to gather for the Visitation Thursday, January 2, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at The Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, 1101 North 23rd Avenue, Melrose Park, Illinois 60160. Funeral to follow Friday, January 3, 2020, Family and Friends are to meet directly at Santa Maria Addolorata Church, 528 North Ada Street, Chicago, Illinois 60642. An open casket Visitation will be from 9:00 a.m. till time of Mass of Christian Burial celebrated promptly at 11:00 a.m. Interment to immediately follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside, Illinois. Funeral Arrangements are being handled by **Russo's Hillside Chapels**. For additional information please call (708) 449-5300. In Lieu of Flowers, Donations may be made to the Scalabrinian Missionaries, 546 North East Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois 60302.



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Dobry, Alan Mora

Alan Mora Dobry, age 92, of Chicago, died of natural causes on December 29, 2019. He devoted his life to the city, Chicago, and neighborhood, Hyde Park, that he loved. He worked tirelessly for over 50 years to end the reign of machine politics in Chicago working on the campaigns of the famous – Leon Despres, Harold Washington, Barack Obama and Toni Preckwinkle – but most of all campaigning for little known candidates with the courage to give the machine a run for its money despite long odds. He was the first independent Democratic Ward Committeeman in Chicago and represented the 5th Ward for many years on the Cook County Central Committee always fighting for open and honest government. He was grateful to the University of Chicago for providing a bored 16 year old CPS student with the money to go to college early and ultimately earn a Ph.D. He played it forward by serving as president of the Hyde Park High School PTA and fighting valiantly to keep Hyde Park from becoming a segregated school. A Hyde Parker through and through, he served as president of the Hyde Park Co-op and rode the bike he owned for sixty years (and kept in tip top condition) to countless meetings to preserve Jackson Park, to save his beloved Point and to halt the excesses of urban renewal. For over 40 years he was member of the Yavneh minyan at the University of Chicago Hillel and was inspired by the prophets in his search for justice. For more than 30 years, he maintained his mother-in-law's 24 unit apartment building in Englewood using his amazing handyman skills to provide 24 families with a safe and decent place to live. In his over 30 years as a chemist for Amoco Oil, he was president of the professional and technical employees union and developed better fertilizers which he happily tried out on his own beloved garden. Head usher at Orchestra Hall during his college years, he was one of the Chicago Symphony's longest running subscribers and a devoted fan of Lyric Opera and Chicago's many chamber music groups. He was just days from celebrating his 70th anniversary with the love of his life and partner in all things Lois Friedberg-Dobry. He was the loving father of Judy and Shoshanah Dobry. He was a loving brother to Barbara Cannon and loving brother-in-law to her husband Charles. He took delight in being a loving uncle to Alice and Peter Cannon and to Peter's wife, Therese, and daughter, Gracie. He was a loving cousin to Jeffrey Mora and Steven Mora. There will be a service to honor Alan's memory at 11:30 AM on Friday, January 3, 2020 at Montgomery Place, 5529 South Shore Drive, Chicago. If you would like to make a contribution to honor Alan, please make it to the Hyde Park charity of your choice. For more information, contact amdobry at gmail.com. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com



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Duda, Jr., Edward A. "Russ"

Edward A. "Russ" Duda Jr., 65 of Bloomingdale. Beloved husband of Maureen nee Rowan. Loving father of Jill (Jason) Wurtz, Carly Duda and Eric (Courtney Wilson) Duda. Cherished grandfather of Charlie, Henry, Benjamin, Patrick and Emmet. Fond brother of Ellen (Larry) Rossi, Patricia (Jeff) Breneman and James Duda. Favorite uncle, cousin and friend to many. Celebration of Life to be held at Empress Banquets, 200 E. Lake St., Addison on January 11, 2020 from 1 PM to 6 PM with a Memorial Service at 4 PM. Flowers are gratefully declined due to severe allergies. For info, www.HumesFH.com or 630.628.8808.



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Foley, Alice Margaret

Alice Margaret Foley, born April 21, 1938, died December 16, 2019; sister to Norine Foley, Mary Ann Walsh, and the late Pat Devine; Aunt to Peter, Andrew, Nora (Kerr), and the late Thomas Walsh; as well as Daniel, Brendan, and the late James Devine; and great-aunt to Jamie and Ryan Walsh; Liam and Caitlin Walsh; Eamon and Zoe Kerr; Quinn, Ronan, Seamus, Delaney, Foley, and Danney Devine; and good friend to many. Alice was born and raised in the Little Flower neighborhood of Chicago then later Beverly, went to Academy of Our Lady (class of 1956) then Xavier University (class of 1960) where she graduated with a degree in the social sciences. Alice worked for Catholic Charities then Commonwealth Edison, where she retired in 1991. Alice lived in Oak Lawn for many years caring for elder neighbors in the Kincora and was a longtime parishioner of St. Linus Parish, where she nurtured many friendships and her Catholic faith. A memorial mass will be held at 10AM on Saturday, January 4, 2020 at Notre Dame Church, 64 Norfolk Ave. Clarendon Hills, IL 60514. Memorial donations may be made to Catholic Charities, 721 N. LaSalle, Chicago, IL 60654 or www.catholiccharities.net/donate. Arrangements by **Sullivan Funeral Home**. 630-323-0275 or www.sullivanfuneralhomehinsdale.com.



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Gregory, Teddy L 'Ted'

Teddy "Ted" L. Gregory age 76 of Des Plaines, Illinois passed away on December 29, 2019. Beloved husband of Nancy (nee Arnold) for 52 years. Loving father of Ted E. Gregory and Amy (Michael) Mc Donough. Cherished grandfather of Kathryn and Matthew. Dear brother of Sandra Smith. Proud uncle of Lisa Smith. Visitation on Thursday January 2, 2020 beginning at 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at G.L. Hills Funeral Home, 745 Graceland Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois 60016. Funeral Service on Friday, January 3, 2020 at the funeral home beginning at 10:00 a.m. Interment private. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children. ShrinersHospitalsforChildren.org For info please call 847 699-9003 or gllhillsfuneralhome.com

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Hallan, Patricia R.

Patricia Rose Hallan, nee Jamieson, age 85, peacefully, December 26, 2019. Beloved wife for 50 years of the late Michael. Devoted mother of Peter, Mary (Kevin) Fiorito, Geraldine (Lawrence) Lusk, Fiona Wheeler, and Clare (Mark) Rak. Cherished grandmother of Gemma, Lucy and Frances Fiorito, Veronica, Patrick, Caroline and Margaret Lusk, Juliette, John Fergus (Jack) and Elizabeth Wheeler. Daughter of the late Patrick and Rose (nee Warden) Jamieson. Loving sister of the late Reverend Thomas Jamieson, the late Hugh (Marie) Jamieson, Mary (the late Jack) McGuire, the late Rose Jamieson, and Brendan Jamieson. Dear aunt, cousin, sister-in-law, and friend of many. Patricia was a native of Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland, and was most recently a resident of the Presence Resurrection Retirement Community. Visitation Thursday at **Peterson-Bassi Chapels**, 6938 W. North Ave. Chicago, IL. from 3-8:00 p.m. Funeral prayers Friday 9:00 a.m. from the funeral home to St. Vincent Ferrer Church for Mass of Christian Burial 10:00 a.m., the Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki, Bishop of Springfield, presiding. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, Masses preferred, or donations to the Carmelite Monastery, 949 River Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016. info 773 637-4441 or www.petersonfuneralhome.com.



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Kawalko, Sheila L.

nee Windham; Loving wife of the late Joseph; Dear mother of Therese (Tom) Jalowiec, Stephen Kawalko and Maureen (Gary) Ingram; Cherished grandmother of Joe, Travis and Nora; Proud sister, sister-in-law and aunt to many; Visitation Thursday 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Funeral Friday 10:00 a.m. from **Curley Funeral Home**, 6116 W. 111th Street, Chicago Ridge to St. Linus Church, Mass 11:00 a.m., 10300 Lawler Ave., Oak Lawn, IL., 60453; Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery; For Funeral info 708-422-2700, or www.curleyfuneralhome.com



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Klbecka, Daniel

Daniel Klbecka, age 83; beloved husband of Patricia, nee Wilinski; loving father of Donna Barkoozis and Debra (David Jablonski); cherished grandfather of Nicholas (Kelly, Fiancée) and Eric Barkoozis; dear brother of John (the late Audrey) and preceded in death by Robert, Thomas and Ann; brother-in-law of Marianne Moran; loving uncle and godfather of many. Daniel was a proud member of the Sinsinawa Dominican Associates, St. Pascal Parishioner and Usher and U.S. Air Force veteran. Visitation, Friday, 4 to 9 p.m. Funeral Prayers, Saturday, 9:15 a.m. at **Nelson Funeral Home** 820 Talcott, Park Ridge to St. Pascal Church, Mass 10 a.m. Entombment Maryhill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to Sinsinawa Dominicans would be appreciated. For information 847-823-5122 or www.nelsonfunerals.com



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Levi, Betty Fox Jacobson

Betty Fox Jacobson Levi, nee Weiss. Loving wife of the late Dr. Sherwin A. Fox, the late Jerry Jacobson, and the late Edward Levi. Beloved mother of Gail (Steve Weinstein) Cooper, Nadine (Richard) Woldenberg and Marla (David) Gerard. Cherished Nana of Stephen, Ben (Maggie), Elana, Shale, Jordon, Janine, Sophia, and Adam. Sister of Gloria Gross and the late Jerome (Elaine) Weiss. Betty was born in Rochester, NY, moved to Chicago to attend Northwestern University earning her degree in the School of Education, married and raised her children, and retired to Sarasota, FL. Betty enjoyed her many friends, playing golf and bridge, but most of all, she loved her calls and visits from her children and grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Service Friday 10AM at **Chicago Jewish Funerals**, 8851 Skokie Blvd (at Niles Center Road), Skokie. Interment Westlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to JUF, 30 S. Wells Street, Chicago, IL 60606, www.juf.org Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

McGovern II, Thomas J.

Thomas J. McGovern, aged 85, passed away peacefully at his home in Mount Prospect, Illinois on Sunday, December 29, 2019 after a long illness. Tom was a 46 year resident of Mount Prospect, and previously resided in Chicago. Born October 11, 1934 to Thomas J. (Newport, County Mayo) and Margaret Ludden McGovern. On May 7, 1972 Tom entered into a 47 1/2 year marriage to Renae McGovern, his most loving soulmate, companion and friend. Proud father of his dear daughter Megan who brought much joy to his life, and her husband Joe Mathesius who treated him kindly and respected him as a father. They gave to him his only grandchildren, now 4 year old twins, Maeva and Conor. Their Popi, as the twins would call him, loved them with all of his heart. There was also his firstborn and only son Tommy, who died in 1991 at the age of 16. Tom never got over the death of Tommy, as any parent who lost a child would understand. After 12 years in the seminary system Tom was ordained a priest in 1962. He served as a Catholic Priest in the Archdiocesan parishes, St. Angela, St. Peter, and St. Ferdinand for a combined 10 years. The last 4 years serving as a full-time parish priest and secretary and master of ceremonies for the late Bishop William McManus. After leaving the active priesthood with honor in 1972, Tom was employed by the Cook County Assessor's Office. He climbed to an upper supervisory position, and became Chief of Land Assessments, being responsible at that time for 1,400,000 parcels of land. After 21 years of service, Tom retired. He then assisted in the establishment of the State of Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB). There he served as an instructor, and a Hearing Officer until his second retirement. Tom served 16 years on the Mount Prospect Community Development Board/Planning Commission. And once again, being a man of lifetime service to others, Tom enjoyed his days of being a Volunteer at Holy Family Medical Center. Tom was the firstborn of seven siblings; the late Jack (Joyce RIP & Mira); the late Jim (Elaine RIP); the late Peggy Keller (Jim RIP); Terry (Roseanna RIP and Sheila); the late Maureen, and the late Kathy. He was blessed with many wonderful uncles and aunts and as many wonderful nephews, nieces and cousins. He truly valued his lifetime friendships with his classmates from both Quigley and Mundelein Seminary, and he held a deep affection for his Pine Street Neighbors. As well, he loved and leaves behind his sweet little dog, MYMY, who grieves the loss of him just like the rest of us. Visitation Friday, 3:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. at Friedrichs Funeral Home, 320 W. Central Rd, at Northwest Highway, Mount Prospect. Visitation Saturday, 9:00 A.M. until Funeral Mass 11:00 A.M. at St. Raymond de Penafort Church, Elmhurst Rd. (Rt. 83) at Lincoln St, Mount Prospect. Interment All Saints Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the family for a College Fund for Tom's grandchildren, Maeva and Conor. Information call 847-255-7800 or www.friedrichsfh.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

McGuire, James S.

James S. McGuire, age 59, passed away December 19, 2019. Jim was the loving son of the late Ignatius and Marian McGuire, nee Ochsner. Dear brother of Ig (Jan), Don (Maureen), Mike and the late Erin. He is also survived by nine nieces and nephews that he cared for so much and many beloved aunts, uncles and cousins. Jim grew up in Glen Ellyn, attending St. Petronille Grade School and St. Francis High School. In his youth, he was an outstanding athlete in football, soccer and wrestling. As a young man he traveled the country; hiking the Appalachian trail; biking thousands of miles; also living and working in Vermont, California, Arizona and Washington among other places. He was a talented artist and a devoted friend. Visitation will be held Friday, January 3, 2020, from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at **Hultgren Funeral Home**, 304 N. Main St., Wheaton, IL. Relatives and friends are invited to meet directly at St. Petronille Church, 420 Glenwood Ave, Glen Ellyn, IL, where a mass will be held to celebrate Jim's life on Saturday, January 4, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. For more information and to sign the guestbook please visit hultgrenfh.com 630-668-0077.



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

McNally, Edward J.

Edward J. McNally, 93, U.S. Army Air Corps World War II Veteran; devoted husband of the late Anne (nee Allison) McNally for 61 years; loving father of James (Ellen) (the late Marge), Anne (Tom) Myers, Kathleen (Mike) White, Robert (fiancé Angela Drehobl), Patrick (Cindy), and Edward (Lisa); proud Pa to grandchildren Christine (Rich) Marron, Maricolleen McNally, Jaime (Ashley) Archer, Jessica (Randy) Rimkus, Nicholas (Stephanie), Michael (Jennifer) Myers, Lauren (Lance) Summers, Elizabeth (Joseph) Dietz, Christopher (Kara) and Timothy (Cassie) White, Michael (Blerta), Daniel, Kevin, Emily, Megan, Edward, Owen, and Anne McNally; and great-grandfather of many. A long life and a good life, he will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him. Funeral Friday 9am from **RICHARD J MODEL FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES**, 12641 W. 143rd St., Homer Glen to Our Lady of the Woods Church, Mass 10am. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Visitation Thursday 4pm to 8pm. In lieu of flowers donations to St. Jude Children's Hospital or Learning Ally appreciated. 708-301-3595 or rjmodellfh.com.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Miller, William R.

Visitation for William R. Miller, 54, of Arlington Heights, IL, formerly of Chicago, IL will be held Friday, January 3, 2020 from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Ahlgrim Family Funeral Home, 415 S. Buesching Road, Lake Zurich, IL. Prayers will begin Saturday, January 4th at 10:30 a.m. at the Ahlgrim Family Funeral Home, then proceeding to St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, 33 S. Buesching Road, Lake Zurich, IL for a Funeral Mass at 11:00 a.m. Father David Ryan will officiate the Mass. William was born September 28, 1965 in Chicago, IL, and passed away Sunday, December 29, 2019 at home in Arlington Heights, IL. William was the beloved husband of Susan Miller (nee Ganser); beloved son of Dolores (nee Gable) Miller and the son of the late Richard Miller; fond brother of Teri Miller, Jackie (Max) Schemansky, and Greg (Susan) Miller; fond uncle of Christian and Brianna Miller, Nicole and Connor Schemansky. In lieu of flowers, memorials appreciated to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN). For information, call the Ahlgrim Family Funeral Home, Lake Zurich, IL at 847-540-8871, or visit www.ahlgrimffs.com.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Moran, Kevin P.

Kevin P. Moran, 58, of Edison Park. Beloved husband of Joanne nee Bellizzi. Dear Son of Victoria and the late Thomas Moran. Son-in-law of Jacqueline and the late Joseph Bellizzi. Loving brother of Colleen (Steve) Hughes, Thomas (Michelle) Moran, Daniel (Carrie) Moran and Christopher Moran. Brother-in-law of Frank (Jamie) Bellizzi, Laura Mortensen and John (Sheila) Bellizzi. Loving uncle of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Thursday, January 2, 2020 at the **M J Suerth Funeral Home**, 6754 N. Northwest Hwy., Chicago from 3 - 9 PM. Funeral Friday, 9:30 AM prayers at funeral home to St. Juliana Church. Mass 10:00 AM. In lieu of flowers Masses preferred. Cremation will be private. For further information 773-631-1240 or www.suerth.com



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Ovasapian, Angeline

Angeline Ovasapian, Beloved daughter of the late Robert and Cetina Ovasapian, passed away on November 27th, 2017. Angela is also predeceased by her sister Helen Kora, her nephews Edward, Francis, (Mary Anne), and Robert Kora. She is survived by her niece Tamara Kora, and great nieces and nephews, Jesse, (Kristin) Andrea, Valari, (Justo) Aaron, Nicholas, Marcus and Matthew. and great, great nieces and nephews. Angele was a court reporter, she love animals with a passion. She loved to read. and enjoyed painting.

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PAPANEK, THOMAS FRANK

Beloved father, and friend, Thomas Frank Papanek passed away on December 26, 2019 from congestive heart failure. He was living with his devoted partner and loving caregiver, Karen Carson, in Chesterton, Indiana and will be remembered by her family and special friends, the Peretins.

A graduate of Michigan State University, Thom used his creative talents in a career in advertising, at Benton & Bowles, Leo Burnett, and his own creative studio in Chicago.

Sailing brought Thom, a life-long sailor, profound happiness that he was eager to share. His deep appreciation for music covered many genres and he played multiple instruments. Thom's gentle nature was manifested by his love of dogs.

Thom was born on January 1, 1942 in Chicago, son of Lillian Bursik and Samuel Papanek Jr, and brother to Samuel Papanek III. He is survived by his children Jeff and Sara, from his marriage with their mother Patti; and Julie Papanek Grant, from his marriage with her mother Meryl.

A gathering of family and friends, honoring Thom's life, will be held at a later date in 2020. Donations in his memory should be made to organizations that extend the joy of sailing to aspiring youth and disabled sailors.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Parker, Juliann S.

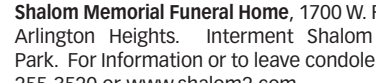
Juliann S. Parker, nee Schintgen, age 87, of Skokie. Beloved wife of the late Cloyce; dear mother of Debra (Tim) Chrapkiewicz, Matthew, Regina (Ralph) Albright, and Timothy; loving grandmother of eight; cherished great-grandmother of three; fond sister of Paul Schintgen. Memorial Gathering, Thursday, January 2, 2020, from 1 to 3 p.m., at **HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory**, 8057 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Memorial contributions may be made to The Parkinson's Foundation (www.parkinson.org), 200 S.E. 1st St., Suite 800, Miami, FL, 33131. Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or www.habenfuneral.com to sign online guestbook.



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Peven, Dorothy

Dorothy Estelle Peven, nee Spinka, 90, loving mother of Daniel, Charles and the late Michael; cherished grandmother of Joseph, Kyle, Dylon, Jonathan, Benjamin and Grace; caring sister of the late Adele Beyda. Chapel Service 2:30 PM Thursday at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. For information or to leave condolences: 847-255-3520 or www.shalom2.com



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Plutz, Alice J.

Alice J. Plutz (née Kuczaj), 80, passed away December 27, 2019. Loving mother of Jeffrey (Patricia) and the late Scott Plutz. Dear Grandmother of Tonya, Danielle, and Felecia. Great Grandmother of Rylie, Easton, and Zoe. Beloved Sister of Steve, and the late John and Chester Kuczaj. Visitation at Geils Funeral Home, 180 S. York Rd, Bensenville, IL; Friday, January 3 from 3:00pm - 8:00pm. Funeral will be on Saturday morning at 10:00 at St. Charles Borromeo. Interment at Mt. Emblem Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, masses would be appreciated. Call Geils Funeral Home at 630-766-3232 with any questions.

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Prince, John S. 'JP'

Beloved husband of the late Maureen (nee Ellison); loving father of Brian (Kim), Shannon (Bill) Murphy, Todd (Ann Marie), Bridget (Bill) Riggs, and Erin (Andrew) Kadus; proud and cherished grandfather of Taylor, Vivian, Keara, Siobhan, Riley, Kathleen, Ethan, Emily, Brett, Vaughn and Brendan; fond brother in-law to Gary and Kathy Golub; dear uncle to many nieces and nephews. Visitation will be held Thursday from 2:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at **Cooney Funeral Home** located at 3918 W. Irving Park Rd. in Chicago. Funeral Friday, prayers at 9:30 a.m. to St. Viator Church for Mass at 10:00 a.m. Interment Maryhill Cemetery. For information please call 773-588-5850 or visit www.cooneyfuneralhome.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Redmond, David J.

age 69 years, resident of Forest Park, IL. devoted son of the late James and the late Eleanor nee McKay Redmond; loving brother of James, John (Arlene), Richard (Diane), Anne, Susan Redmond (Tony Mattucci) and Maura (Steve) Davin and the late Peg Redmond; dearest uncle of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Saturday 9:00 a.m. until time of Funeral Mass 10:30 a.m. at St. Giles Catholic Church, 1045 N. Columbian Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to **Heinen and Loschetter Funeral Service** (Lisa M. DeAngelis, Director). For information or to express your condolences, please visit www.heinenandloschetterffs.com or call 708-425-4050



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CHICAGO WEATHER CENTER

chicagoweathercenter.com | BY TOM SKILLING AND WGN9



WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1 NORMAL HIGH: 32° NORMAL LOW: 17° RECORD HIGH: 65° (1876) RECORD LOW: -10° (1969)

Temps rebound as sun returns for the new year

LOCAL FORECAST

HIGH 40 **LOW 35**

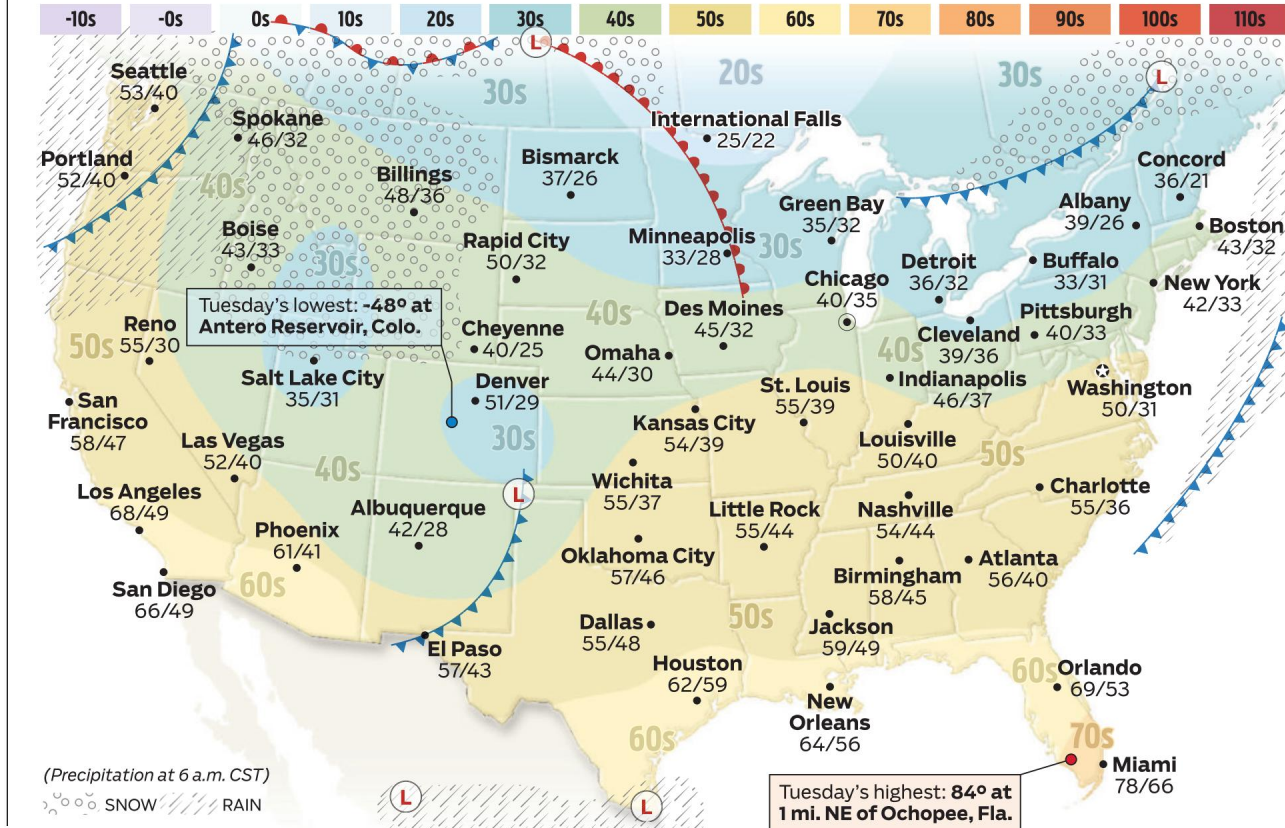
■ **New Year's Day.** Our brief spell of cold weather ends, as winds pick up out of the southwest and cold high pressure shifts off to the east.

■ There still may be some remnant cloudiness early in the morning from the overnight overcast, especially south and east of the city.

■ Temps in the teens-low 20s early, then SW winds gusting over 20 mph boost readings close to the 40° mark by mid-afternoon.

■ Partly cloudy skies overnight. Winds remain gusty keeping overnight lows in the middle 30s.

NATIONAL FORECAST



New Year's Day will see some morning cloudiness – especially east sections and abundant afternoon sun with temps possibly reaching the 40 degree mark – some 13 degrees above Tuesday's maximum temperature.

Monday night and Tuesday morning snow accumulated generally 1-2 inches across the Chicago area. Combined with strong westerly winds, temperatures in the mid to upper 20s and wind chills in the 10-15 degree range, very hazardous conditions developed with slick and snow/ice covered highways, streets and sidewalks.

Conditions will continue to warm Thursday, but the approach of low pressure from the south will likely bring rain Thursday night and Friday with rain changing over to wet, possibly accumulating snow as the low pressure moves to the east Friday and Saturday.

THURSDAY, JAN. 2

HIGH 45 **LOW 39**

Some sun early, then clouds overspread the region as low pressure organizes to the south. South to southwest winds continue the flow of milder air into our area as well as an increasing probability of rain. Rain likely overnight.

FRIDAY, JAN. 3

HIGH 44 **LOW 30**

Cloudy with rain changing over to wet snow later in the day. High temps occur before noon with falling readings in the afternoon. Snow - possibly some accumulation overnight. Winds shifting to the NE.

SATURDAY, JAN. 4

HIGH 34 **LOW 25**

Sticking snow gradually diminishes and ends during the forenoon. Considerable cloudiness, windy and colder - high temps in the mid 30s. NW winds 20-30 mph and gusty. Mostly cloudy overnight with lows in the mid 20s.

SUNDAY, JAN. 5

HIGH 37 **LOW 26**

Some patchy mid-high clouds as a weak cold front approaches and moves through the area. High temps in the middle 30s. Partly cloudy overnight. SW winds shift NW.

MONDAY, JAN. 6

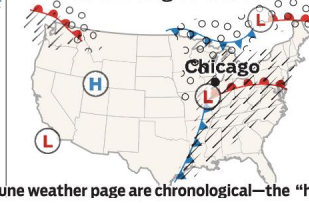
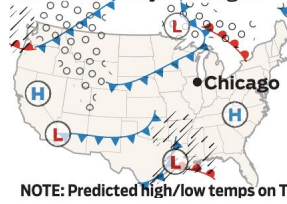
HIGH 33 **LOW 24**

Filtered sun during the daytime gives way to thickening cloud cover overnight with a chance of light snow toward morning. Afternoon highs in the low to middle 30s. Southerly winds.

TUESDAY, JAN. 7

HIGH 30 **LOW 19**

Mostly cloudy with a chance of snow. High temps in the upper 20s to lower 30s. Chance of snow overnight. South winds shift to the northeast.



ASK TOM

Dear Tom,
What is the highest air pressure value ever recorded?

Harvey Goldenburg

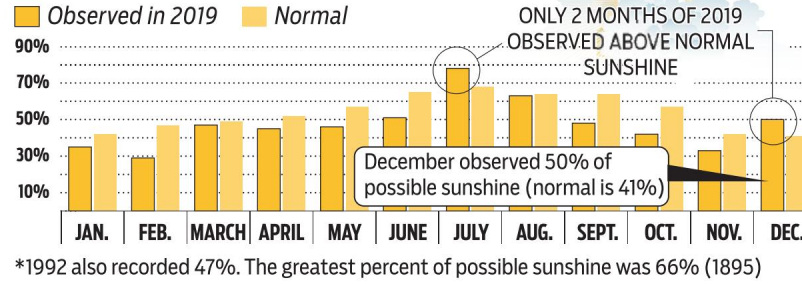
Dear Harvey,
Northway, Alaska, takes the honors for the highest U.S. barometric pressure, with a reading of 31.85 inches of mercury on Jan. 31, 1989, when a massive Siberian high pressure system also brought record cold to that state. Temperatures dropped to -76 degrees at Tanana, and Nome recorded its lowest temperature ever, -54 degrees, on Jan. 27 and 28. This high pressure system continued southeast into the lower 48, and a little more than two weeks later brought Chicago its highest ever air pressure with a reading of 30.98 inches on Feb 16. The Northway reading is somewhat less than the world record high pressure of 32.25 inches at Tosontsengel in northwest Mongolia on Dec. 29, 2004.

Write to: ASK TOM
2501 W. Bradley Place
Chicago, IL 60618
asktomwhy@wgntv.com

Hear Demetrius
Ivory's weather updates weekdays 3 to 6 p.m. on WGN-AM 720 Chicago.

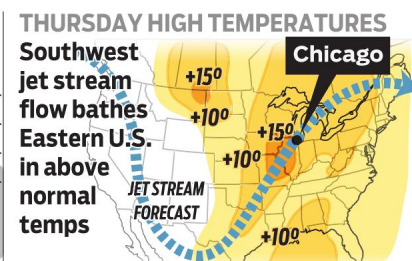
Unusually cloudy/wet 2019; Late-week storm ahead

CHICAGO'S 2019 PERCENT OF POSSIBLE SUNSHINE
December observed above normal sunshine, but 2019 as a whole tied* for the least sunshine on record since 1894



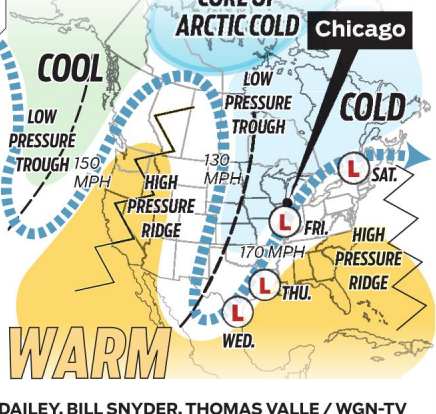
MONDAY-TUESDAY SNOW
Chicago area snowfall totals

Medinah	2.6"	Rogers Park	2.0"
Lake Villa	2.5"	Woodstock	2.0"
Crystal Lake	2.3"	Park Ridge	2.0"
Naperville	2.0"	Mount Prospect	2.0"
Algonquin	2.0"		



FRIDAY SNAPSHOT

A wavy jet stream flow
Low pressure in southern Texas moves to north-central Illinois Friday. Rain spreads over our area Thursday night/Friday, then rain changes over to snow as the low pressure moves off to the east and colder air follows later Friday into Saturday.



MIDWEST CITIES

WED./THURS.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Illinois	su	52	41	rn	51	47
Carbondale	su	45	35	sh	48	41
Champaign	su	47	37	sh	49	41
Decatur	su	43	37	sh	49	41
Moline	pc	45	36	sh	48	32
Peoria	su	46	36	sh	49	37
Quincy	su	52	39	sh	52	37
Rockford	pc	41	35	sh	46	32
Springfield	su	49	38	sh	51	41
Sterling	pc	42	34	sh	46	32
Indiana	su	47	38	sh	50	46
Bloomington	su	51	39	rn	50	48
Evansville	pc	41	34	cl	46	41
Fort Wayne	pc	46	37	sh	48	45
Indianapolis	pc	45	36	sh	49	42
Lafayette	pc	45	36	sh	49	42
Louisville	pc	39	34	cl	46	37
Wisconsin	cl	35	32	sh	38	30
Green Bay	cl	41	36	sh	43	33
Kenosha	su	46	36	sh	48	37
La Crosse	pc	40	30	cl	42	27
Madison	pc	40	34	cl	42	30
Milwaukee	pc	40	36	sh	45	37
Wausau	cl	32	28	sh	35	24
Michigan	pc	36	32	cl	45	39
Detroit	pc	35	33	cl	42	36
Grand Rapids	pc	45	32	cl	43	27
Marquette	pc	45	32	cl	43	27
St. Ste. Marie	sh	30	28	sh	33	31
Traverse City	pc	37	33	sh	43	37
Iowa	pc	44	29	cl	41	25
Ames	pc	43	32	cl	43	27
Cedar Rapids	pc	43	32	cl	43	27
Des Moines	pc	45	32	cl	43	27
Dubuque	pc	42	33	cl	43	29
El Paso	su	57	43	su	53	31

OTHER U.S. CITIES

WED./THURS.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Albany	pc	39	26	pc	45	36
Albuquerque	pc	42	28	pc	39	21
Albany	pc	59	32	cl	44	27
Amarillo	pc	59	32	cl	44	27
Anchorage	cl	20	5	cl	9	3
Asheville	pc	49	30	rn	51	43
Aspen	sn	29	15	ss	23	5
Atlanta	pc	56	40	sh	58	53
Atlantic City	su	45	32	pc	51	44
Austin	sh	54	50	sh	65	46
Baltimore	pc	46	31	pc	53	46
Billings	pc	48	36	pc	40	26
Birmingham	pc	58	45	rn	65	60
Bismarck	sh	37	26	sh	31	22
Boise	ts	43	33	pc	42	32
Bozeman	pc	43	32	pc	48	39
Brownsville	rn	69	61	ts	71	56
Buffalo	cl	33	31	pc	44	24
Burlington	sh	36	27	pc	40	35
Charlottesville	pc	55	36	sh	56	47
Charlton SC	su	61	44	pc	62	58
Charlton WV	pc	46	33	sh	53	46
Chattanooga	pc	55	40	rn	48	48
Cheyenne	pc	40	25	pc	34	20
Cincinnati	pc	47	36	sh	49	46
Cleveland	pc	39	36	cl	48	44
Colo. Spgs	cl	50	27	pc	39	19
Columbia MO	su	55	40	sh	55	39
Columbia SC	pc	59	38	pc	62	52
Columbus	pc	43	34	sh	47	45
Concord	pc	36	21	pc	40	28
Corps Christi	rn	65	56	sh	70	53
Cincinnati	pc	55	48	sh	66	44
Daytona Bch.	pc	66	48	pc	76	64
Denver	su	51	29	pc	47	37
Des Moines	su	58	26	sh	32	22
El Paso	su	57	43	su	53	31

WORLD CITIES

WED./THURS.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Palm Beach	su	77	63	pc	81	73
Palm Springs	pc	68	52	pc	72	51
Philadelphia	pc	43	28	pc	51	43
Phoenix	pc	61	41	su	61	39
Pittsburgh	pc	40	33	cl	50	44
Portland, ME	pc	40	27	pc	42	32
Portland, OR	sh	52	40	sh	48	47
Providence	pc	42	29	pc	47	37
Raleigh	pc	56	35	cl	59	48
Rapid City	pc	50	32	cl	42	23
Reno	pc	55	30	pc	52	30
Richmond	su	55	33	cl	59	47
Rochester	cl	34	30	pc	48	39
Sacramento	pc	59	40	pc	62	38
Salerno, Ore.	sh	52	40	sh	49	45
Salt Lake City	sn	35	31	ss	36	26
San Antonio	sh	52	48	sh	66	46
San Diego	pc	66	49	pc	66	49
San Francisco	pc	58	47	pc	58	47
San Juan	su	85	75	pc	85	76
San Jose	pc	36	21	pc	33	14
Savannah	su	52	42	pc	66	57
Seattle	sh	53	40	rn	44	44
Shreveport	sh	58	48	rn	59	50
Sioux Falls	pc	34	26	cl	37	27
Spokane	pc	46	32	cl	40	25
St. Louis	su	55	39	sh	54	45
Tucson	pc	62	38	sh	58	34
Syracuse	pc	55	32	pc	49	38
Tallahassee	pc	65	45	pc	73	63
Tampa	su	70	54	pc	80	68
Topeka	su	54	36	pc	50	32
Tulsa	pc	62	38	sh	58	34
Tulsa	su	59	43	cl	62	39
Washington	su	50	31	pc	55	43
Wichita	pc	55	37	cl	49	34
Wilkes Barre	pc	32	25	pc	44	36
Yuma	pc	66	44	pc	69	44

FORECAST (FC) ABBREVIATIONS: su-sunny pc-partly cloudy cl-cloudy rn-rain ts-thunderstorm sn-snow fl-furries fr-freezing rain sl-sleet sh-showers rs-rain/snow ss-snow showers w-windy na-unavailable

CHICAGO DIGEST

TUESDAY TEMPERATURES

LOCATION	HI	LO	LOCATION	HI	LO
Aurora	28	24	Midway	29	26
Gary	30	28	O'Hare	28	24
Kankakee	31	29	Romeoville	28	25
Lakefront	29	24	Valparaiso	30	26
Lansing	28	26	Waukegan	28	24

CHICAGO PRECIPITATION

PERIOD	2019	NORMAL
Tue. (through 4 p.m.)	0.08"	0.06"
Season to date	1.55"	2.25"
Year to date	49.54"	36.89"

CHICAGO SNOWFALL

PERIOD	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Tue. (through 4 p.m.)	0.8"	0.9"
Season to date	10.3"	8.0"
Normal to date	9.6"	10.1"

SOURCE: Frank Wachowski

LAKE MICHIGAN CONDITIONS

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	
Wind	SW 15-30 kts.	SW 12-26 kts.
Waves	3-5 feet	2-4 feet
Tue. shore/crib water temps	38°/34°	

U.S. SNOW COVER

DEC. 31	2019	2018
Area covered by snow	38.9%	37.6%
Average snow depth	3.0"	2.7"

TRACKING THE COLD

SINCE OCT. 15	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Sub-32° highs	11 days	9 days
Subzero lows	0 days	0 days

CHICAGO AIR QUALITY

Tuesday's reading: **Good**
Wednesday's forecast: **Moderate**
Critical pollutant: **Particulates**

TUESDAY RISE/SET TIMES

	7:18 a.m.	4:29 p.m.
Sun		
Moon	11:21 a.m.	10:5 p.m.



TUESDAY PLANET WATCH

PLANET	RISE	SET
Mercury	7:04 a.m.	3:59 p.m.
Venus	9:25 a.m.	7:17 p.m.
Mars	4:05 a.m.	1:43 p.m.
Jupiter	7:04 a.m.	4:10 p.m.
Saturn	8:00 a.m.	5:20 p.m.

BEST VIEWING TIME **DIRECTION**

PLANET	RISE	SET
Mercury	Not visible	
Venus	5:30 p.m.	16° SW
Mars	5:45 a.m.	14.5° SE
Jupiter	Not visible	
Saturn	Not visible	

SOURCE: Dan Joyce, Triton College

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HEALTH & FAMILY



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Erin Werley plays with her children Maddie, 2, and 8-month-old Leo at their home in Munster. Werley said she has let go of some of her expectations of being the perfect parent.

Parents cope with stress

BY KATE THAYER

As a former nurse, Erin Werley was used to 12-hour shifts sometimes stretching into 15, constantly being on her feet and feeling high levels of stress.

But nothing prepared her for the demands of motherhood.

Before kids, "I got to come home and relax every day ... and I had days off," said the Munster, Indiana, mother of two. "I'd be burned out at work, but at least I'd know (the shift would end) ... and then I could go home."

"When you're a mom, you don't know when your next break is coming."

Werley said she has experienced periods of burnout in her time raising her 2 1/2-year-old daughter and 8-month-old son. A few months after returning to work from maternity leave, she left her job as a nurse to become a stay-at-home mom,

but she said the stress she feels now sometimes is greater than when she worked long shifts in a hospital.

Experts say that while parenthood has never been easy, the role is more pressure-driven in modern times, especially for whoever fills the role of primary parent — typically moms, but dads too — and it can take a psychological toll. This goes for working and stay-at-home parents alike, experts say, and can be magnified in single-parent households.

The World Health Association has recognized burnout as an occupational phenomenon, defining it in part as "a syndrome conceptualized as resulting from chronic workplace stress that has not been successfully managed" and

that results in exhaustion and negative feelings toward one's job.

Budding research shows parental burnout is similar.

A pair of Belgium researchers last year published their findings in *Frontiers in Psychology* after they spoke to five mothers and discovered common feelings of inadequacy as a mother and perfectionism, leading to exhaustion, distancing themselves from their children, guilt, shame and other negative feelings. They likened some of the feelings to postpartum depression, but with older children.

While some occupational fields, such as the medical field, consider burnout a serious problem and are trying to offer solutions for their

employees, it's up to parents to manage their own stress. Alexandra Solomon, a psychologist at the Family Institute at Northwestern University, said parents are seeking out therapy for burnout.

Today's anxiety-inducing societal issues, from the maternal health crisis to climate change, can make anyone feel out of control, especially those raising families, Solomon said.

"A big piece of burnout is feeling like none of this is manageable," she said. Added to that general feeling is a shift in parenting in recent decades that has increased pressure for parents.

Today's parents often feel a responsibility to make sure their kids not only excel in school but also are involved in multiple activities, including

athletics, Solomon said. And it all plays out on social media.

"It has ramped up in the last 20 years," she said. Parenthood has become "relating to your child as if they are an ongoing, unfolding 18-year project. And that takes away from the No. 1 thing kids want: to look at us and see our faces shining on them."

Instead, parents feel a sense of weakness and failure because the standards are impossible, and they feel as if everyone else is doing it right.

For Werley, the transition into motherhood was difficult, she said.

Her oldest child, daughter Maddie, would scream, and only Werley could soothe her. In the time she worked when Maddie was a baby, Werley's husband would have to bring Maddie to the hospital during Werley's shift to eat because the baby wouldn't take a bottle from him.

Turn to **Stress**, Page 2

'When you're a mom, you don't know when your next break is coming'

Hospital staffers learn to defuse violence

Many health care workers report facing assaults

BY HEIDI DE MARCO
Kaiser Health

SAN DIEGO — When Mary Prehoden gets dressed for work every morning, her eyes lock on the bite-shaped scar on her chest.

It's a harsh reminder of

one of the worst days of her life. Prehoden, a nurse supervisor at Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego, was brutally attacked in 2018 by a patient with schizophrenia who was off his medication. He lunged at her, threw her to the ground, repeatedly punched and kicked her, and bit her so hard that his teeth broke the skin and left her bleeding.

The incident lasted

about 90 seconds, but the damage lingers.

"Even if I didn't have a scar, the scar is in your head," said Prehoden, 58. "That stays with you for the rest of your life."

Violence against health care workers is common — and some say on the rise.

According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, workplace violence is four times more common in health care

settings than in private industry on average, yet it still goes underreported. Patients account for about 80% of the serious violent incidents reported, but stressed-out family and friends also are culprits. Co-workers and students caused 6% of the incidents.

In a 2018 poll of about 3,500 emergency room doctors conducted for the American College of Emergency Physicians, nearly

70% said violence in the emergency department has increased in the past five years.

About 40% of the doctors believed the majority of assaults were committed by psychiatric patients, and half said the majority were committed by people seeking drugs or those under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

In California, a state law requires hospitals to adopt

workplace violence prevention plans and report the number and types of attacks to the state. The state then compiles the data into annual reports.

In the first full report, 365 hospitals tallied 9,436 violent incidents during the 12-month period that ended Sept. 30, 2018, ranging from scratchings to stabbings. Workers were

Turn to **Hospitals**, Page 2

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A time to feed, a time to fast

Eating in a 10-hour window may lower risk of diabetes

BY MELISSA HEALY
Los Angeles Times

What if a clock did a better job than a scale at promoting weight loss, improving sleep and preventing diabetes? New research suggests it's about time to consider that possibility.

In an early effort to explore the benefits of daily fasting in humans, researchers have found that people who are at high risk of developing diabetes improved their health in myriad ways when they ate all of their meals over a span of just over 10 hours, then fasted for the remainder of their 24-hour day.

The regimen, called "time-restricted eating," is a variant of "intermittent fasting" — a practice growing in popularity. To lose weight or improve health, those fasting intermittently don't eat — or follow a spartan diet that mimics fasting — for a day or more every week or month.

Time-restricted eating, by contrast, limits a person to consuming all of his or her daily calories in a relatively narrow window — say, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Practiced daily, time-restricted eating widens the period during which the body's major visceral organs are put into a state of rest and recovery.

Ample research has shown that erratic eating patterns, shiftwork, and modern-day habits like get-up-and-go breakfasts and midnight snacks have contributed to obesity, diabetes and heart disease. Satchidananda Panda, a biologist at the Salk Institute in La Jolla, California, said that by establishing a consistent daily cycle of feeding and fasting, one might realign the ebb and flow of fuel intake with the body's

natural circadian rhythms.

"Every cell, every organ has its clock, and every organ needs downtime to repair, reset and regain its rhythm," Panda said.

"When all your organs have rested and rejuvenated every day, they just work well," he added. "It's almost like an orchestra: when all the musical instruments are in tune, and work well together, it's a melody, not a cacophony of sounds."

For the new research, Panda and his colleagues measured what happened when 19 people were asked to do all their eating during a 10-hour window every day for 12 weeks. The participants were allowed to choose their own 10-hour window, and could vary it slightly, say, if they had an early breakfast meeting one day or a late dinner on another.

All the study's subjects had a condition known as metabolic syndrome. Sometimes called "prediabetes," metabolic syndrome makes a person five times more likely to develop Type 2 diabetes, and it doubles her risk of developing cardiovascular disease within five years. The condition is diagnosed when a patient tests positive for three or more of the following conditions: obesity, high blood pressure, problematic cholesterol, impaired metabolic function and excessive waist circumference.

Three in 10 Americans are thought to have metabolic syndrome. To ward it off, doctors have little to offer beyond exercising more, eating less and losing weight. But patients often ignore or abandon that medical advice and go on to develop full-blown Type 2 diabetes.

In the pilot study, the participants limited their eating to under 11 hours for 12 weeks. They reduced



People at high risk of developing diabetes improved their health when they ate all of their meals over a span of just over 10 hours, then fasted for the remainder of their 24-hour day.

their calorie intake by almost 9%, lost an average of 3% of their body weight, and reported more restful sleep — all improvements that could aid in disrupting a patient's progression from metabolic syndrome to diabetes.

As a group, participants reduced their belly fat — a bellwether of future heart disease risk — by 3%.

Drilling down on the physiological effects of a daily 14-hour fast, researchers also found a wide range of subtler improvements among the 19 subjects.

The group's blood pressure, typically high in those with prediabetes, fell. Their cholesterol readings improved. And in the 12 participants whose metabolic function had already veered into abnormal territory, three months of time-restricted eating appeared to bring about improvements in two key health measures: fasting glucose and hemoglobin A1c.

These changes came about without any increase in participants' physical

activity. And improvements didn't rise or fall with changes in weight. Time-restricted eating did induce weight loss, which typically improves many bodily functions. But it appeared to effect key changes in direct ways, rather than just by helping subjects slim down.

In several cases, participants were able to discontinue or take smaller doses of medications, such as cholesterol-lowering statins or hypertension drugs. In other instances, researchers saw that shortening their eating day and observing a long nightly fast helped patients who were not sufficiently helped by medication alone to achieve normal readings.

The results were published recently in the journal *Cell Metabolism*.

None of these promising findings is definitive: With only 19 participants and no control group, the work merely lays the foundation for further investigation.

The researchers who

conducted the pilot study were buoyed by its preliminary findings, but even more excited by evidence that the study's 19 participants were both willing and able to follow the regimen — often well beyond the 12-week scope of the study.

All 19 subjects — three women and 16 men — were able to maintain a regular habit of fasting between 13 and 14 hours a day for about six days a week, on average. The timing of their meals became more regular. And they didn't skip breakfast — a shortcut that research suggests could have negative health effects.

They were not instructed or urged to continue this pattern of eating after the study was done. But when researchers followed up with the participants about 15 months after the intervention had ended, they discovered that five continued to follow the eating schedules they had adopted in the study. Seven others said they were either limiting their eating window

less stringently or following their time-restricted eating schedule on a part-time basis.

Dieting fails most severely due to lack of patient adherence. But daily fasting may make it easier for people at increased risk for diabetes and heart disease to succeed, experts said.

"These are patients at the tipping point for diabetes," said Dr. Pam R. Taub, a UC San Diego cardiologist and co-author of the new research. "This is a very critical window where you can reverse the disease process."

But Taub said "the same old spiel — get more exercise, reduce your calories, try a plant-based diet" — has proven frustrating for both her and her patients.

"Most people just don't sustain it, and year after year, things are getting worse for them," said Taub. "So what was really exciting was that here was a lifestyle strategy where all I asked them to do was change the time of their eating."



HEIDI DE MARCO/TNS

Ryan Sommer, head of security at Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas, leads violence de-escalation training and defense tactics for Scripps employees.

Hospitals

Continued from Page 1

punched or slapped in one-third of the assaults and were bitten in 7% of cases.

"I don't know that you ever expect to have to defend yourself at your workplace," Prehoden said. "It's not anything you're prepared for."

Scripps Mercy Hospital officials have made a number of changes to help protect employees from what they refer to as an epidemic of violence.

They've launched a "rapid response" team made up of staff members who try to defuse potentially violent situations. And the hospital has introduced a behavioral screening tool to help identify patients prone to violence. When patients get flagged, they must wear a green wristband, and a green peace sign is placed on their door.

Ryan Sommer, who is the head of security at Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas, leads violence de-escalation training for Scripps staff at different locations throughout San Diego County.

On one recent morning, about 20 employees at the Encinitas facility learned how to deter an agitated and combative patient. One tip Sommer shared:

Behavior influences behavior, so listen with empathy and establish a personal rapport with the patient. And, he told them, don't lose your cool; the goal is to get agitated patients to calm down.

Sommer also taught self-defense tactics should the situation escalate. In groups of two, employees practiced how to disengage from a hold and block strikes from an attacker.

"How many of you have been attacked on the job?" Sommer asked. Nearly all the participants raised their hands.

"This happens daily. They get punched, scratched, spit on, yelled at," he said later.

Sommer said the number of violent incidents at the Scripps hospitals is rising and the injuries are becoming more severe.

Since earlier this year, security guards at all Scripps hospitals have been armed with stun guns, said Janice Collins, a spokeswoman for Scripps Health. They wear stab-proof vests and are stationed strategically around the facilities. The stun guns are used when security guards believe they are needed to protect life, Collins said. Prehoden's situation would have met that criterion, she said.

Hospitals across California are taking similar measures with the hope of

reducing violent confrontations, said Gail Blanchard-Saiger, the California Hospital Association's vice president of labor and employment.

Some sites use panic buttons, metal detectors, security dogs, increased police presence and security cameras, in addition to de-escalation training.

The efforts vary by location and risk, Blanchard-Saiger said.

Additional support from local law enforcement would make a difference, she said. "Unfortunately, I've heard plenty of stories where they don't even come to the hospital," she said. "They're short-staffed, underfunded. They're prioritizing."

Prehoden has attended the de-escalation training and is now on the rapid response team at Scripps Mercy Hospital.

It took her three weeks to return to work after she was beaten in August 2018. A nurse for almost 40 years, she admits being a little on edge now, and feels as if her attacker robbed her of her confidence. He served six months in jail for the attack.

"This cannot be the new face of nursing," Prehoden said. "We can't afford to lose our staff because somebody decides not to take his medication."

Stress

Continued from Page 1

"What am I doing wrong?" Werley would say to herself. "I thought everyone else had it figured out."

She recalled reading parenting books on sleep training and would try the techniques. But her daughter would sob to the point of vomiting if they tried to leave her in her crib to sleep at night.

Then Werley's son Leo was born, and although he wasn't as demanding, babies still need nearly constant attention.

"I was very, very frazzled," Werley said.

Werley said things recently have started to improve, but only because she makes an effort to carve out time for herself and has let go of some of her expectations of being the perfect parent.

She now will let her daughter watch TV while her son naps, so she can shower. And Werley is good about finding even just a few minutes to scroll through her phone or do something else for herself, away from her kids.

Werley has also self-published a book she wrote before she had kids as a way to have something for herself. If she doesn't take moments for herself, Werley said, she feels her temper quicken, and that anger can affect her family.

"If I don't take care of me, there's nothing left in the tank," she said.

With that concept in mind, Kayla Carey, a 33-year-old Chicago mom, started a new business, inspired by her own transition into motherhood. During her maternity leave with her now 21-month-old son, Carey developed mastitis while her husband was traveling on business.

Carey had to tote her baby to the doctor and the pharmacy, and care for him alone all day when she needed to rest, all because she didn't have any child care options.

"I just wanted the littlest

bit of help, but I didn't know where to get it," she said.

Months later, Carey helped create MeTime, which allows parents to find child care in Chicago and some suburbs in time bursts as short as one hour at licensed day cares, with professional nannies or with stay-at-home parents who also babysit.

"You can book as little time as you need, so some of these 'me time' activities are more within reach for you," Carey said. "It gives the ability to take these shorter bursts of time that are more economical ... and more feasible for you to use more often."

Cambridge, Massachusetts-based psychologist and author Susan Pollak said parents need to learn to manage burnout and stress. It helps build resilience and patience, she said.

"If you're burned out, you're going to have a very short fuse," Pollak said. "Kids really pick up what you're feeling. If you're super stressed, your kids are going to feel stressed. It's almost contagious."

While some seek out therapy to manage their burnout symptoms, there are other methods, Pollak said. Exercise helps, as well as simple, mindful meditation exercises. Some take only a few minutes, she said, and don't require closed eyes and a dark room. They involve breathing, feeling feet on the ground and other mechanisms designed to feel calm and in control.

"It can help you get out of that ruminating cycle of the 'I can't keep up' ... inner critic," she said. "Part of it is extending kindness to yourself."

Skokie therapist Lynn Zakeri, a licensed clinical social worker, said parents experiencing burnout should also make an effort not to overschedule the family.

"You have to learn your boundaries and not go by other families' boundaries," she said. "It's really a brave and self-caring family that can say: 'That's not

in our best interest. That will harm our family if mom is going to a tournament out of state one weekend while dad is at dance recitals that same weekend.' You have to look at the big picture to avoid that burnout."

Zakeri said parents can avoid burnout if they're doing things they enjoy and having quality time as a family, and that looks different for everyone.

For Lindsay Pinchuk, 40, it took making a change in her career. About 10 years ago, when she was pregnant with her oldest daughter, Pinchuk started Bump Club and Beyond, a Chicago company that hosts events for and offers resources to parents and expectant parents.

When Pinchuk returned from maternity leave, she had a new boss who didn't allow for the flex time Pinchuk desired as a mother. So she "took a leap of faith" and decided to run her own business full time. While she's still busy and travels, she also sets her own schedule and is able to make parent-teacher conferences, be a mystery reader at her daughters' school and go to other events.

Pinchuk said she's still "exhausted" at the end of the day when the dishwasher needs unloading and her daughter can't find her violin, but she finds ways to carve out time for herself. Pinchuk also finds camaraderie in the friendships she makes sure to keep up.

"I think having friends and having your tribe is really important," she said.

And if Pinchuk can't find a moment to herself, she looks at work as "her outlet."

"If I can't do something self-care-related, I have an hour on the train to decompress and not talk to anyone," Pinchuk said. "The pressures of being a parent are greater than ever. You have to find time for yourself. You just have to."

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'A form of love'

As his wife's caregiver, a doctor discovers what's missing at health care's core

BY JUDITH GRAHAM
Kaiser Health

Caring for someone with a serious illness stretches people spiritually and emotionally, often beyond what they might have thought possible.

Dr. Arthur Kleinman, a professor of psychiatry and anthropology at Harvard University, calls this "enduring the unendurable" in his recently published book, "The Soul of Care: The Moral Education of a Husband and a Doctor."

The book describes Kleinman's awakening to the realities of caregiving when his beloved wife, Joan, was diagnosed with a rare form of early Alzheimer's disease that causes blindness as well as cognitive deterioration.

Although Kleinman's specialty is studying how patients experience illness, he wasn't prepared for the roller coaster of family caregiving. Each time he adapted to Joan's changing condition, another setback would occur, setting off new crises and fueling uncertainty and stress.

During 11 years of caregiving until Joan's death in 2011, Kleinman learned that no one who goes through this emerges unchanged. He became less self-centered, more compassionate and more aware of how the health care system fails to support family caregivers — the backbone of the nation's long-term care system.

I spoke with Kleinman recently at a caregiving panel. His remarks are edited for length and clarity.

About his book: "I wrote it for a specific reason. I

had spent my whole career as an expert on care. I myself was a psychiatrist who worked with patients with chronic medical disorders, (such as) chronic pain, diabetes, heart disease, cancer. I thought I knew it all. A veil of ignorance was raised from my eyes by my experience as a primary family caregiver.

"What is that veil of ignorance about? It's about recognizing just how difficult family care is for (people with) dementia and, not just dementia, but many other problems."

Daily responsibilities:

"Let's say in the fifth year, what was it like? I would get Joan up around 6 a.m. and take her to the bathroom. I have to handle the toilet paper, wash her hands, dress her to work out, take her to the bath and bathe her.

"I would shampoo her hair, dry her, pick out her clothes (for the day). After that, I would prepare breakfast. As she got increasingly agitated, (that) became difficult because I had to sometimes hold her hands (to) keep her from throwing things or getting up and hurting herself. Because she was blind, she couldn't see where she was. And then I would help her eat — usually, at the end, feeding her — and then take her to a room where we would sit and listen quietly to music.

"Maybe six, seven years into this, I would just sit there and hold her hands. And even that became difficult. So, I would tell her stories of the past ... our stories.

"I discovered early on that the ritualization of acts of caring — the dressing,



TORBEN ESKEROD/TNS

Dr. Arthur Kleinman and his wife, Joan. Dr. Kleinman's new book describes his awakening to the realities of caregiving when Joan was diagnosed with a rare form of early Alzheimer's disease.

bathing, all these things — is a way of habit formation that keeps you going."

Challenging masculinity:

"We had a great relationship, but it was asymmetrical. For 36 years, my wife took care of me. I was raised as a classical male in the 1940s. When I showed an interest in cooking, my grandmother said to me, 'What are you, a sissy?' I was a tough kid on New York (City) streets. I had the most unpromising beginnings to be a caregiver. And my wife slowly socialized me to a different kind of masculinity, to be able to care.

"(Pay family members for caregiving) and you'll see more men do it. Go to Australia, for example, where there's very good compensation for care, and you're astonished at the number of men who are

caring for children, who are caring for elderly, and the like."

Asking for help:

"I have a wide circle of friends and colleagues, and (after the book) many of them said they had never realized what was involved. Part of that was my fault. I had a lot of trouble asking for help. Actually, at one point, I so exhausted myself that my kids, who are great, said, 'You really need assistance.' And they stepped in, as did my mother. My mother, who at the time was in her 90s.

"So, I had a great system of care around me, but I (also) needed a home health aide to (help with Joan and) keep myself going. I found an Irish woman ... and she was fabulous."

Maintaining presence:

"In spite of that, I found it

extraordinarily difficult in terms of other elements of care, one of which is presence. To keep your liveliness, your love, the presence of who you are going while you're doing all this work of caregiving — it is extremely difficult and demanding, but it's crucial.

"When people ask 'Why do you do (this)?' the answer of most family caregivers I've spoken to is 'Well, it was there to do. It's got to be done, (so) you do it.'"

Learning about failure:

"I was fortunate in life; I had a golden career. I have a personality that is like a bulldog, and when I start something I finish it. But there's no finishing care. Every one of us (family caregivers), if we're honest, you fail at a certain point. The frustrations build, anger mounts, you control

your anger so you don't injure the person you're caring for. But you've got to somehow handle it inside you."

The soul of care: "I think what lies at the soul of care is a form of love. You will do everything you can for another because they mean so much to you. (But) it is also problematic, because we all have complex relationships and we've got other things going on in our lives.

"We endure, we learn how to endure, how to keep going. We're marked, we're injured, we're wounded. We're changed ... (in) my case, for the better. If you had known me before my 11 years of care, you wouldn't recognize me today. I was your classical hard-driving Harvard professor ... as tough as any other professor at Harvard Medical School.

"I've redeemed myself through this experience, in a way."

A call for change: "How do we strengthen caregiving? How do we do those things that will make it recognized as important as it is? It's going to take a radical rethinking. Our health care system (is focused on) entirely the wrong issues. Economics is not the most central aspect of care; it's caregiving.

"Do you know, not a single one of the senior neurologists I went to with Joan who wanted to do everything diagnostically made the recommendation 'You want to think about a home health aide now, even though you don't need it right now. You have to look into how you're going to reconfigure your house (for) someone who's both blind and with dementia. (Or) a social worker is a great navigator of what the health care system is about. You want to take advantage of that.'"

"So, this is where I believe that our whole health care system has got to be rethought, from the bottom up with attention to care at its core."

Study finds brain differences in kids may be tied to obesity

BY LINDSEY TANNER
Associated Press

New results from the largest long-term study of brain development and children's health raise provocative questions about obesity and brain function.

Does excess body weight somehow reduce brain regions that regulate planning and impulse control? Is obesity a result of that brain difference? Or are eating habits, lifestyle, family circumstances and genetics to blame?

Previous studies in children and adults have had conflicting results. The new research doesn't settle the matter, and outside experts cautioned that misinterpreting it could unfairly perpetuate weight stigma.

But an editorial published with the study in December in JAMA Pediatrics called it an important addition to mounting evidence of a link between weight, brain structure and mental function.

If follow-up research confirms the findings, it could lead to new ways to prevent obesity that target improved brain function.

"We don't know which direction these relationships go nor do they suggest that people with obesity are not as smart as people at a healthy weight," said Dr. Eliana Perrin, a Duke University pediatrics professor who co-wrote the editorial.

The federally-funded study involved 3,190 U.S. children aged 9 and 10. They had height and weight measurements, MRI brain scans and computer-based tests of mental function, including memory, language, reasoning and impulse control. Nearly 1,000 kids — almost 1 in 3 — were overweight or obese, similar to national statistics.

Researchers found differences in the heaviest



GETTY

Results from a study of brain development and children's health raise questions about obesity and brain function.

children's brain scans, slightly less volume in the brain region behind the forehead that controls what are known as "executive function" tasks. They include things like ability to plan, control impulses and handle multiple tasks simultaneously.

The differences compared with normal-weight kids were subtle, said study author Scott Mackey, a neuroscientist at the University of Vermont.

The heaviest kids also had slightly worse scores on computer-based tests of executive function. But Mackey and lead author Jennifer Laurent, a University of Vermont obesity researcher, said it's unknown whether any of the differences had any meaningful effect on children's academic functioning or behavior. It's unclear exactly how they are related to weight, and Mackey said it's likely other factors not measured in the study, including physical activity and healthy nutrition, play a far greater role.

Research in adults has linked obesity with low-level inflammation throughout the body that can damage blood vessels and may increase risks for heart disease and mental decline. Some studies have also found less brain volume in obese adults, and

researchers theorize that it could be from inflammation.

The new study raises the possibility that inflammatory changes affecting weight, brain structure and function might begin in childhood. The latest research confirms previous studies in children and adults, but it leaves many questions unanswered, said Marci Gluck, a research psychologist at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, who was not part of the research.

"Executive function deficits and intelligence are not the same," Gluck said.

Obesity researcher Natasha Schvey of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences called the study impressive, but noted that eating habits and obesity are influenced by many factors, including metabolic and psychological differences.

"We know from a lot of really good research that obesity is not as much in an individual's control as we think it is. People talk about willpower — that's a very small part of the equation," she said. "There are much bigger contributors to our weight and a lot of it is genetic. That's not to say it's immutable."

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PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

Chicken soup really does work for sniffles, coughs

BY JOE GRAEDON AND TERESA GRAEDON
King Features Syndicate

Q: It's cold season, so I want to remind people that simple chicken soup helps when you have a cold. Here's how I make it: chicken, an onion, two cloves of garlic, two celery stalks, two carrots, parsley and a little salt and pepper. I also add a bit of sage and thyme. Maybe that's where the song came from: "Parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme."

A: Thanks for the reminder. There is actually some scientific evidence supporting chicken soup to ease cold symptoms. Researchers found that chicken soup (made following a recipe similar to yours) reduced inflammation associated with infection (Chest, October 2000). All the vegetables as well as the chicken were also active individually.

If you lived in China, you'd probably add astragalus root to the broth. This Chinese herb has a reputation for boosting immunity. It, too, has been shown to protect against inflammation (American Journal of Chinese Medicine, 2016).

Q: For over 15 years, I suffered from irritable bowel syndrome, which caused gas attacks, flatulence and diarrhea. My doctor told me that there was nothing that I could do to stop these symptoms.

On my own, I decided to see if avoiding all dairy products would help. That made a difference.

Then I had to take an antibiotic that gave me constant diarrhea. I decided to try taking a probiotic that offered over 30 billion live intestinal bacteria daily. Within two weeks, my



WESTEND61/GETTY

Researchers found that chicken soup reduced inflammation associated with infection, easing cold symptoms.

diarrhea stopped. Now, four months later, I can eat anything, including dairy products, without diarrhea, gas or bloating.

A: Scientists analyzed nine placebo-controlled studies of probiotics for symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome (World Journal of Gastroenterology, March 14, 2015). They concluded: "Probiotics reduce pain and symptom severity scores. The results demonstrate the beneficial effects of probiotics in IBS patients in comparison with placebo."

Q: I would like to know how to keep my macular degeneration from getting worse. Are there any supplements that can help? I strongly prefer a product that has a clinical trial to support it.

A: There have been two major clinical trials that demonstrated benefit from supplements to slow the progression of macular degeneration. These were termed AREDS and AREDS2 (JAMA, May 15, 2013; Advances in Nutrition, January 2017). The AREDS formula contains vitamin C (500 mg), vitamin E (400 IU), beta-carotene (15 mg), zinc (80 mg) and copper (2 mg). AREDS2 discovered that switching out beta-carotene for lutein and zeaxan-

thin worked just as well and was safer for smokers.

You should be able to find a supplement that is based on the AREDS2 formula. It will tell you so on the label.

You may also want to make sure you get plenty of antioxidants in your diet by eating berries, dark-green leafy vegetables, corn and avocado (Antioxidants, April 2019).

Q: I had a couple of scary nosebleeds a few years ago, and my ear, nose and throat doctor advised me to use Ayr saline nasal gel two or three times a day. He also suggested that I get a humidifier installed on my furnace.

I've had great success with this method and haven't had any nosebleeds since, not even a hint of blood. This nasal gel is affordable. It's definitely worth looking into if you have problems with dry nose.

A: Saline sprays or gels are a safe way to moisturize a dry nose. Avoid oil-based products, as they might end up in the lungs and cause inflammation.

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to them via www.peoplespharmacy.com.

Candlelight and kids are fuel for the holidays



CHRIS ERSKINE
The Middle Ages

Christmas and I go steady for about a month. Then we break up. Everything in moderation. Well, except the holidays.

When picking out our tree this year, I tipped the tree lot attendant 20 bucks, which is pretty generous. I once worked a charity tree lot myself, so I know the backbreaking work and how the sap coats your palms like stale honey.

Looking back, maybe the \$20 tip wasn't enough. After all, I'd made a lot of stupid jokes during the tree-buying process and also talked the kid attendant down on the price.

"Dad!" scolded my younger daughter, Rapunzel. "I'm not some chump," I assured her.

Though I am kind of a chump. I just hate to be one so publicly.

Honestly, you could just give me candlelight for Christmas and I'd be happy. Candlelight and my kids, maybe a passive-aggressive pet wolf that lies at my feet while I cook, snagging bits of flying bacon and other schmutz.

I'm a sucker for the sizzle of the stove. And the candle glow of early winter — in the windows, in the choir faces, in the skies that resemble big bowls of silver soup.

I'm a sucker for everything, I suppose.

When I was a little drunk the other night — on wine and friendship — I ordered my lovely and patient older daughter a beautiful sweater.

It looked really terrific, but what doesn't look good online? Satan looks good

online. Even wolves look good online, which I think is how we ended up with this one.

Anyway, the sweater looked like a puddle of baby sheep. When it arrives — if it arrives — the sweater will probably be made of plywood and there'll be one sleeve missing. That's how online shopping works, especially if you're a little drunk on wine and friendship.

Look, holidays are all on my shoulders this year. Used to be my late wife Posh took on much of the overspending, so now it's up to me to overspend.

At this point, I'm just buying things to buy things, which was always Posh's guiding principle when it came to gifts.

Then there's the food. In the kitchen, I keep looking for shortcuts. Chili in a can. Presliced potatoes. A little plastic boat of dried-out deli chicken.

But I'm finding at this late stage in my life that there are no shortcuts. You get back exactly what you put into things.

The big test is Christmas. You get exactly what you put into it — or maybe a little less.

I must be something to watch during the holidays. I can pull a schnitzel just watering the tree. Or burn my tongue on another big spoonful of schmutzenvogel, an old family recipe made of pheasant lips, garden gloves and gin.

Of course, my biggest fear is that my son will grow up to be just like me, though he deserves better. The other day, one of his sisters and I were listing all my teen son's best attributes and came up with:

After he eats, there are always little crumbs in the corners of his mouth.

He falls asleep so easily. Good with wolves.

Amazing, right? Plus, he is the most affable and resilient teen-

ager ever. I'm really starting to love the skinny idiot. He is my true north. He is my Christmas candle.

Guess we are all candles, if we choose to be. We can brighten a holiday in the simplest ways — a joke, a phone call, a note to an old pal.

Listen, I know Christmas can be confusing: Figgy pudding? What the fig is that? And where did this Trans-Siberian Orchestra come from? (Don't tell me Trans-Siberia, because even I know that's not a country anymore.)

What a mess sometimes. Yet within the holidays are these very human moments — these sizzling little interludes that make us smile and carry on: the sore schnitzels, the bungled shortcuts and especially the kindnesses of strangers and friends.

As you may know, we live in a wobbly three-bedroom house built by cretins, without a single nail, apparently, in half an hour. To hold it together, they mixed paste with cherry pie.

Our house flutters like a sail in the chill December wind and jumps a little whenever the UPS truck rumbles past. If you hang something on the wall, the wall falls down.

But at Christmastime, our house just glows — with Posh's memory and the beautiful echoes of the wry Chevy Chase references our late older son used to make.

It glows with the candlelight of their smiles, come and gone.

And with fresh laughter, too, like when Rapunzel gets her insanely thick winter mane caught as we decorate the tree.

"Ouch-ouch-ouch!"

"What?"

"I'm caught!"
I know, kid. We all are.

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Chicago Tribune FOOD & DINING

Best recipes of 2019

Our favorites from the Chicago Tribune test kitchen

BY JOE GRAY

Look back in hunger. As the year drew to an end, we surveyed the hundreds of recipes we prepared and photographed in the Chicago Tribune's test kitchen, and our hunger awakened anew. Global cuisines sated that appetite, from the Caribbean curried meat pies of Toni Tipton-Martin's cookbook "Jubilee" to the Indian roti from Chicago-based cook-

book author Anupy Singla.

Gathering together our favorite recipes of the year, our annual year-end custom, we find that nearly half of them are desserts. So sue us. Cakes and other sweets make us happy, so you'll find treats from Aperol spritz bars to panforte, even an apple cake that achieves beautiful texture with a gluten-free flour mix.

Among the savory, along with those mini hand pies, we long for another taste of chicken taquitos

from Food & Dining reporter Nick Kindelsperger, mashed potato soup from "Prep School" columnist James P. DeWan and my mom's taralli.

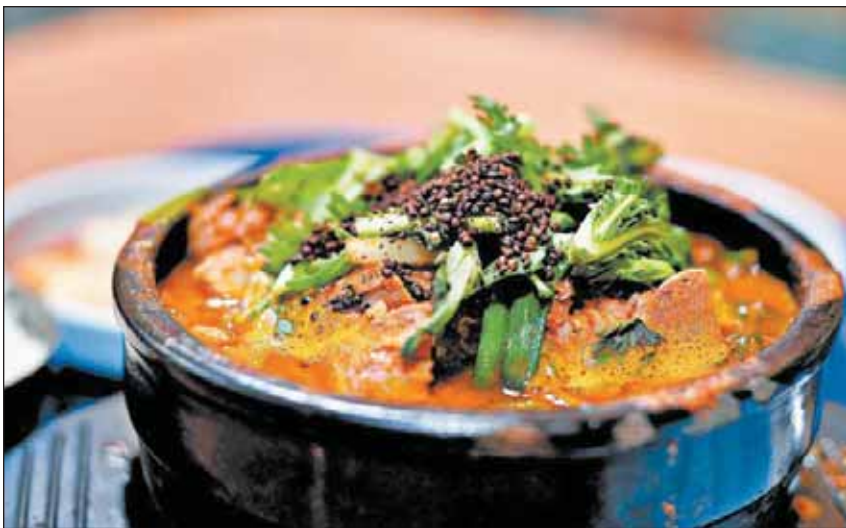
To paraphrase another literary work, we were really very hungry. Here are the best recipes that answered that ache, starting off with an appetite-boosting cocktail. Find more recipes online at chicagotribune.com/recipes.

Turn to **Recipes, Page 6**



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE; SHANNON KINSELLA/FOOD STYLING

Taralli, a southern Italian crunchy snack, are made from a simple dough of flour, yeast, water, olive oil and seasonings.



Gamjatang at Assi Plaza

GRACE WONG/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Parsnip cake at Good Fortune

E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Chawanmushi at Yugen

BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Tteokbokki at Jeong

E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Crispy chicken leg at The Albert

ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Mexican paella at Bar Sotano

JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The best things we ate and drank

24 offerings from Chicago restaurants that wowed us

BY LOUISA CHU, NICK KINDELSPERGER, PHIL VETTEL AND GRACE WONG

It was a year of carnitas and rib tips. Of perfectly flaky croissants and hard-fried sticky rice chicken wings. Of playfulness (pulpo enamorado, or octopus in love) and whimsical trickery (tteokbokki, rice cakes that looked like carrots). Of the simple (Japanese milk bread) and complex (Mole & Rain, spheres of horchata, drops of clear gel and horchata gummies with pork belly in Oaxacan mole). Food & Dining reporters stepped out all over Chicagoland in 2019, discovering, tasting and writing about hundreds of dishes. We brought them to you in restaurant reviews, our daily "Cravings" series roundups

Turn to **Favorites, Page 2**

SHOWSTOPPING
NEWS

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Chicago's own Chris Jones, covering theater news and reviews from Chicago to Broadway:

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Chicago Tribune
the Theater Loop
WITH CHRIS JONES

Favorites

Continued from Page 1

and deep dives into single dishes, like the best burgers and best reubens. Many of them were memorable, which makes compiling our favorite dishes of the year a trying task. But reporters Phil Vettel, Louisa Chu, Nick Kindelsperger and Grace Wong made the difficult choices to bring you their individual takes on the best dishes of the year. See them below, then get out there and try them for yourselves.

— Joe Gray

Parsnip cake at Good Fortune

One of my favorite desserts of 2019 was Chelsea Tripp's clever and artistic marriage of sweet and savory — a slender rectangle of cake topped by a ganache of white chocolate and celery root, along with caramelized honey ice cream and miso-ginger caramel. 2528 N. California Ave., 773-666-5238, goodfortunechicago.com — Phil Vettel

Pulpo enamorado at Tzuc

With all due deference to Tzuc's steak with goat cheese and chipotle fondue — which chef Carlos Gaytan says would be his pick for his last meal on earth — my favorite dish at Tzuc is the pulpo enamorado (octopus in love), an updated classic featuring a long, well-charred tentacle alongside a disk of potato, carrot and peas bound in tuna aioli. 720 N. State St., 312-374-8995, tzuc.com — P.V.

Beef and broccoli at Temporis

Troy Jorge, who joined the Michelin-starred Temporis in June, already has demonstrated great technical skill and a nice sense of humor. This dish is a fine example, a whimsical, upscale take on a Chinese-menu staple. Plancha-seared cubes of wagyu beef stand alongside meandering smears of creamy broccoli puree topped with fried broccoli florets, candied cashews and dots of sour-orange puree. 933 N. Ashland Ave., 773-697-4961, temporischicago.com — P.V.

Kashmiri lamb ribs at Rooh

One of Chicago's best new restaurants this year, Rooh presents elevated, modernist takes on Indian classics. I could wax rhapsodic about the naan and kulcha on the menu (particularly the shaved-truffle kulcha), but I'll focus instead on the lamb ribs, slow-braised before being fried to a crispy finish and dabbed with an apricot glaze. Indian umami. 736 W. Randolph St., 312-267-2323, roohchicago.com — P.V.

Chawanmushi at Yugen

When this luxury-level restaurant opened a little more than a year ago, chef Mari Katsumura made a big splash with dishes such as this — a chawanmushi (custard) topped with uni and foie gras ganache, accompanied by parsnip chips, Asian pear chips and a drizzle of smoked-foie fat. That's a lot of luxury in one little dish. 652 W. Randolph St., 312-265-1008, yugenchicago.com — P.V.

Dover sole at Silencieux

I actually had a couple of memorable Dover soles this year — Brindille offers an outstanding, classic version — but I give the nod to the preparation at this Winnetka restaurant, which fillets the sole tableside with the solemnity of a religious rite before plating it with lobster sauce, hazelnuts and a disk of black rice inlaid with edamame. 64 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, 847-441-3100, georgetroisgroup.com — P.V.

Japanese milk bread at Kumiko/Kikko

One thing common to both experiences at the cocktail-forward Kumiko dining room and the intimate, 12-seat Kikko (downstairs) is this yummy, simple dessert of milk bread (a soft, cloudlike bread), toasted with a blowtorch (sitting at Kikko, you can watch this being done), topped with fermented-honey ice cream and then sprinkled with shaved black truffle. 630 W. Lake St., 312-285-2912, barkumiko.com — P.V.

Tteokbokki at Jeong

This snack, featured on Jeong's a la carte menu, looks for all the world like cooked carrots, but they're finger-shaped, schmaltz-poached, chile-bathed rice cakes, topped with quail eggs and pickled mustard seeds. A fascinating visual treat. 1460 W. Chicago Ave., 312-877-5016, jeongchicago.com — P.V.

Mexican paella at Bar Sotano

When I walk into this basement bar underneath Frontera Grill, I immediately order two things: One of Lanie Beyless' cocktails and chef de cuisine Rishi Manoj Kumar's Mexican paella — the latter because it takes 25 minutes to prepare. This killer dish combines rice, chicken thighs, shrimp, chicharrones, avocado, tomatoes and peas. The flavors



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Japanese milk bread at Kumiko/Kikko



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Pizza at Bungalow by Middle Brow



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Beef and broccoli at Temporis

are superb, and when I get some of the crisp-scorched rice at the edge of the pan, I'm in heaven. 443 N. Clark St., 312-391-5857, rickbayless.com — P.V.

Mole & Rain at Next

I love photographs that capture water beads on a leaf; this dish, part of Edgar Tinoco's Silk & Spice menu at Next last January, brought that concept to life. On a large hoja santa leaf, Tinoco placed spheres of horchata, drops of clear gel and a gel the kitchen called "horchata gummies." The dish also included pork belly in Oaxacan mole (separate dish), but it's the leaf I recall vividly. 953 W. Fulton Market, nextrestaurant.com — P.V.

Burger at Table, Donkey & Stick

I tried more than 130 burgers in 2019, a hilarious number that no one should ever try to top. I have many favorites, but I have only one burger to blame for inspiring my quixotic quest. The burger at Table, Donkey & Stick is a strange creation — wild and funky, yet also composed and intricate — which I know not everyone will enjoy. But if you're interested in exploring the outer realms of what a burger can be, you owe it to yourself to make a visit. 2728 W. Armitage Ave., 773-486-8525, tabledonkeystick.com — Nick Kindelsperger

Carnitas taco at Carnitas Uruapan

Carnitas Uruapan has probably been serving great carnitas tacos since it opened in Pilsen back in 1975. So why mention it now? This year a second location was opened in Gage Park, and the larger space allowed the cooks to finally make all the tortillas from scratch. While this sounds like a small difference, those warm and fragrant tortillas make the expertly fried pork taste even better. 2813 W. 55th St., 773-424-7617, carnitasuruapanchi.com — N.K.

Pita at Galit

I ate a lot of pita in August, when our team explored the many places to eat Mediterranean food in the city. While there are some great options out there, nothing tastes quite like the pita at Galit (complimentary with any order). Chef Zach Engel admits as much, noting that his version is not traditional. Each pita arrives puffed and slightly crusty, though soft and steamy on the inside. Yes, it tastes great with hummus, but I found myself just eating it all by itself. And then asking for more. 2429 N. Lincoln Ave., 773-360-8755, galitrestaurant.com — N.K.

Crispy chicken leg at The Albert

If you find a chicken dish on a

downtown restaurant's menu, it's often the mildest, least challenging one the kitchen serves up. But no one would say that about the crispy chicken leg offered at The Albert. It's bold and defiant, even confrontational. Instead of a chicken breast, you get a whole chicken leg, with feet still firmly attached. The kitchen confits the chicken and then fries it to order, so that the skin puffs up and turns crunchy, while the meat stays juicy. The sauce features satsuma, a type of citrus you also don't see too often on menus. 228 E. Ontario St., 312-471-3883, thealbertchicago.com — N.K.

Pizza at Bungalow by Middle Brow

Serving pizza at a brewpub isn't exactly revolutionary, but serving pizza that might be the best in the whole city? That's what you'll find at Bungalow by Middle Brow, a Logan Square spot that, thanks to its white walls and Instagram-friendly design, looks like it crash-landed in from L.A. Instead of heavy and greasy, the pizza here features a gorgeous golden crust given four days to ferment before being used. Topping choices change constantly but tend toward what's fresh and in season. It's the closest Chicago has come to matching the unparalleled pizzas served at the much-missed Great Lake. 2840 W. Armitage Ave., 773-687-9076, middlebrowbeer.com — N.K.

Reuben sandwich at Boeufhaus

When I set out on my corned beef quest, I thought it was all about the meat. This Reuben by chef Brian Ahern at Boeufhaus in Humboldt Park proved me wrong. What might look like a lot of bread gets beautifully gilded, then yields. The beef, even without its tart and forceful foils, stands strikingly alone, not steamed but ever-so-slightly crisped. The house-made corned beef with sauerkraut, Thousand Island dressing and Gruyere cheese on potato bread, plus pickle and chips, is available at lunch only. 1012 N. Western Ave., 773-661-2116, boeufhaus.com — Louisa Chu

Croissant at Cellar Door Provisions

We're living in a golden age of croissants, from classic butter to dark chocolate to chicharron. These naturally fermented pastries at Cellar Door Provisions in Logan Square are baked Thursdays through Sundays, but that's after a four-day process by pastry chef Erin Koroll. The crust more than crackles; it sparkles. The crumb reveals what seems to be an infinity of tender layers. The depth of flavor will engage you in meaningful conversation. There's



NICK KINDELSPERGER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Dry fried duck frame at Lao Sze Chuan



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Pour Over Bijou at Starbucks Reserve Roastery

also an impeccable chocolate croissant, when that's not sold out too. 3025 W. Diversey Ave., 773-697-8337, cellardoorprovisions.com — L.C.

Rib tips and hot links combo at Lem's Bar-B-Q

You've probably eaten your fair share of Lem's Bar-B-Q in the parking lot, since the Chatham joint doesn't have a dining room and who can wait to get home? Here's a pro tip I shared this year while answering the eternal question: Where to eat when visiting Chicago? Take your rib tips and hot links combo one door west to Frances' Cocktail Lounge. Outside food is allowed in the climate-controlled bar, and the back patio will open when weather permits. It's a game changer. 311 E. 75th St., 773-994-2428, lemsque.com — L.C.

Dry fried duck frame at Lao Sze Chuan

I miss the old Tribune Tower, mostly because Lao Sze Chuan on Michigan Avenue was my secret lunch spot. I side-eyed the dry fried duck frame on the menu long before chef Tony Hu told me I had to try it. Was he trying to bamboozle us with Peking duck scraps? Instead, the dish is glorious, with hot and spicy deep-fried crispy bits of luscious skin. It's the ultimate bar food, though admittedly a little tricky to eat, which may be a good thing to slow down your munchies just a bit. 520 N. Michigan Ave., 312-595-0888, laoszechuanusa.com — L.C.

Pour Over Bijou at Starbucks Reserve Roastery

Of course there's coffee at the world's largest Starbucks, and five cocktails found only in Chicago, but only the theatrical Pour Over Bijou opened my eyes unlike any other drink this year. Instead of water, they pour alcohol over coffee to extract the flavor of the beans. Of course! And not just any alcohol, but Japanese gin, French green Chartreuse plus Italian Carpano Bianco Vermouth and Strega liqueur. Created in collaboration with local mixologists Julia Momose of Kumiko, Annie Beebe-Tron of Fat Rice and Rachel Miller of Community Tavern, it's a strong yet subtly herbal and utterly surprising coffee cocktail. 646 N. Michigan Ave., 312-283-7100, starbucksreserve.com — L.C.

Canh ga bo xoi by Thai Dang at Time Out Market

At Chicago's newest and most exciting food hall, the fried sticky rice chicken wing by chef Thai Dang wins hands down as my favorite food at Time Out Market in the West Loop, and top pick for the best deal. Five bucks for one wing seems outrageous until you see the pterodactyl-size

piece. Each one gets wrapped in sticky rice, deep fried until golden, then finished with chile-flecked caramelized fish sauce. Dang's take on Vietnamese street food shatters expectations with your first bite of the scorched rice crust. Order it fried hard. This might be Chicago's fanciest food court, but Harold's rules still apply. 916 W. Fulton Market, 312-637-3888, timeoutmarket.com/chicago — L.C.

Gamjatang at Assi Plaza

The gamjatang at Assi Plaza is the kind of soup that throws subtlety out the window. Each bite is intensely deep and flavorful, with help from a scattering of perilla seeds on top that hit you with a peppery aroma as the bowl arrives at the table. The broth has a rusty red color from the gochugaru, and the beef barely clings to the bones. Dig to the bottom, and you'll find a thick disc of soft potato that you can easily cut with a spoon. When it feels as if there's no end in sight to the frigid weather, we can rely on this filling and comforting dish to get us through winter. Assi Plaza, 8901 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, 847-583-0791, assi plaza.net/niles — Grace Wong

Cranky Cookie at Cebu

I love a good, nostalgic cookie, and I love the fragrant flavor of ube. So imagine my delight when I had the Cranky Cookie at Cebu, where two soft and luscious ube crinkle cookies gently hug a giant scoop of ube ice cream. The ice cream sandwich is proof that all desserts should be bright purple and made with ube. The cookies are not overly sweet, which allows the subtle vanilla and nutty flavors of the ube to shine through, and they have a lovely, cloudlike texture. I would visit Cebu for these cookies alone. 2211 W. North Ave., 773-799-8650, cebuchicago.com — G.W.

Calf brains at Cafe Marie-Jeanne

Cafe Marie-Jeanne is one of the few places in the city that serves calf brains. The secret to the melt-in-your-mouth, puddinglike cervelle de veau is that it's brined in caper juice before being fried in butter and served on a toasted brioche with crispy edges. A savory grenobloise sauce (browned butter, pan drippings, fresh herbs and lemon juice) is spooned on top, and the aroma from the herbs and lemon zest rises with each bite. This is not a light dish, nor is it one that exercises restraint. It is rich, decadent and remarkably filling, so budget some time post-meal for sitting back and patting your stomach. 1001 N. California Ave., 773-904-7660, cafe-marie-jeanne.com — G.W.



AP, KING ST. VODKA

Kate Hudson and her gluten-free, non-GMO King St. Vodka



AP, VIRGINIA BLACK

Drake and his Virginia Black Decadent American Whiskey



AP, PROSPERO

Singer-actress Rita Ora and her Prospero Anejo tequila

Liquor, wine generate more star power

BY LEANNE ITALIE | Associated Press

From Kate Hudson's vodka to Dylan Sprouse's Brooklyn-made mead, celebrities with their own brands of spirits and wines can make drink-loving fans happy. You can find other pillars of culture with bottles, including TV shows and the high-brow auction house Sotheby's. Whether you are into Florida Georgia Line or Diane Keaton, there may be a bottle out there ready for you. Some ideas:

Hudson: Her King St. Vodka is gluten-free, non-GMO and distilled in Santa Barbara, California. It's inspired by memories of her former home on King Street in New York City. At select retailers and online at kingstvodka.com. \$24.99.

Sprouse: The former child star is co-founder of All-Wise Meadery. It uses an apiary in upstate New York. Mead, by the way, is a honey wine fermented with yeast and water. Among the company's flavor profiles is a variety infused with oolong tea. At select retailers and online at allwisemeadery.com. \$35.

Keaton: She has a collection of wines, The Keaton. All are sourced from the north coast of California. A percentage of proceeds supports the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health. Widely available. \$14.49.

Ryan Reynolds: First, he tasted Aviation Gin, then

he acquired a piece of the company. It's highly rated even by some wine aficionados. Wine Enthusiast called it a clean, neutral profile with "bewitching hints of caraway, juniper, grapefruit and a dry, faintly spicy finish." Widely available. \$30.99.

Bryan Cranston and Aaron Paul: They debuted their artisanal Dos Emezcals in twin Instagram posts last July, and fans thought they were getting the "Breaking Bad" band back together. It's made in a remote part of Oaxaca in Mexico. At select retailers and online at reservebar.com. \$65.

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie: Post-divorce, they still jointly own the Miraval estate and vineyard in France's Provence. In partnership with the Perrin family, Miraval is known for roses. Its Chateau Miraval Cotes de Provence Rose has an aroma of fresh fruit and spring flowers. \$27.99. Chateau Miraval

Studio is a pale pink with notes of fresh fruit and citrus fruit. \$18.99.

Sotheby's: Sotheby's Wine, a branch of the famed auction house, has curated a collection of 12 bottles. Part of the mission was to provide good wine at reasonable prices, which range from \$16.95 to \$39.95. Available at the Sotheby's Wine retail store in Manhattan and online at SothebysWine.com.

Jay-Z: He's a partner with Bacardi Limited in D'Usse cognac. D'Usse XO has notes of ripe blackberry and apricot and D'Usse VSOP includes hints of spices, almond and cinnamon. They're made at the Chateau de Cognac in France. Widely available. D'Usse XO goes for \$199 to \$229 and the VSOP for \$49.99 to \$54.99.

Drake: He created Virginia Black Decadent American Whiskey with spirits entrepreneur and sommelier Brent Hocking. It's a collection of bourbon rated highly by some in the industry. It sips with notes of oak and vanilla, finishing with a hint of toffee. Widely available. \$39.00.

Francis Ford Coppola: Call him the, uh, godfather of celebrity wine. The director bought his first Cali-

fornia vineyard in 1995 and a second, the Francis Ford Coppola Winery, in 2009. Bottles from the latter include Diamond Collection Oregon Pinot Noir (\$21), with flavors of boysenberry, cherry and mocha, and Director's Cut Cinema (\$44), a blend of cabernet sauvignon, zinfandel, sirah and petite sirah. Shop around.

Florida Georgia Line: The country music duo of Tyler Hubbard and Brian Kelley put out Old Camp. It's a smooth peach pecan whiskey with hints of caramel and a light spice, aged a minimum of two years in white American oak barrels. Widely available. \$19.99.

Downton Abbey: Highclere Castle, the face of the British TV drama and movie, just launched Highclere Castle Gin in the United States. It's inspired by botanicals from the estate's herb gardens originally planted in the 9th century. Available offline in 15 states and online at caskers.com. \$48.99.

Matthew McConaughey: He partnered with whiskey giant Wild Turkey on Longbranch, made in Lawrenceburg, Kentucky. It's refined with Texas mesquite and oak charcoals, honoring his roots in Kentucky and

Texas. The flavor offers notes of caramel, pear and citrus. Widely available. \$39.99.

Conor McGregor: The MMA champion launched Proper No. Twelve Irish Whiskey last year. It expresses his love of all things Ireland. The whiskey has hints of vanilla and a honey-like sweetness. A portion of proceeds goes to first responder organizations. Shop around. \$24.99.

Star Trek: There are wines from the Star Trek Universe. A two-bottle pack goes for \$110 at startrekwin.com. There's also the James T. Kirk Straight Bourbon Whiskey from Silver Screen at silvercreenscreen.com. \$60.

Sarah Jessica Parker: She recently ventured into wines with Invivo & Co. for her namesake Invivo X SJP. That includes a new sauvignon blanc. Parker took part in every step of the winemaking process, even hand painting the blue "X" on the label. In select shops and online at wine.com. \$18 to \$20.

The Walking Dead: Spirits of the Apocalypse The Walking Dead Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey is a limited-time only alli-

ance between Diageo and Skybound Entertainment, the company behind "The Walking Dead" comic series upon which the show is based. At select retailers. \$34.99.

Snoop Dogg: He's a shareholder in Cuca Fresca Cachaca, including Prata, direct from Brazil. Cachaca is produced from sugar cane like rum but with a different distillation process. Brazil stole Snoop's heart in 2003, when he filmed his "Beautiful" video there. In select shops and online at totalwine.com. \$19.99.

Dan Aykroyd: Aykroyd and artist John Alexander created Crystal Head Vodka in 2008. It's produced in Newfoundland, Canada, and comes in skull-like bottle intended as a symbol of life, power and enlightenment. Shop around. \$49.99.

Metallica: The rock band's whiskey, Blackened, comes with shtick: Each batch has its own Metallica playlist used to "sonically enhance the whiskey during finishing." As it rests, the brand says, the "music is played to the barrel causing the whiskey inside to move and interact with the wood." OK. At select retailers online and off. \$49.99.

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ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS; SHANNON KINSELLA/FOOD STYLING

Prepare these savory steamed eggs on the stovetop or in an Instant Pot.

A MIRACLE DISH

Recover from holiday overindulgence with a bowl of savory steamed eggs

BY ROBIN MATHER
Chicago Tribune

We have navigated through the season of excess — those weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve. Now we have arrived at the season of long nights and short days, as well as the season of the winter crud.

This is the time of year when a stranger's sneeze on the bus can make us miserable within the week.

What we need at this time of year is a miracle dish.

We need something that can soothe the body when its calibration is off, whether from overindulgence or sickness. Something that is both nourishing and easy to prepare. Something inexpensive, yet immensely satisfying.

That thing, my friends, is the savory steamed egg. This is a recipe you're going to want to clip out and set in a convenient place for future use. It's so simple that after you prepare it a few times, you'll no doubt have it memorized.

But until then? It's the only thing that decorates my refrigerator, held there by a souvenir magnet from some long-ago trip.

Popular as a snack in both China and Japan, savory steamed eggs scratch an itch that their cousin, scrambled eggs, just can't

reach. There's something about that delicate texture, and the lightly smoky flavor of its garnish of toasted sesame oil, that can't be beat.

This recipe specifies large eggs, and there's a reason for that. But if you don't usually have large eggs on hand, other sizes can substitute with a minor adjustment.

To clarify this, it helps to know what those egg size labels mean, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture:

■ Small eggs weigh about 1 ½ ounces per egg, or about 18 ounces per dozen.

■ Medium eggs weigh about 1 ¾ ounces per egg, or about 21 ounces per dozen.

■ Large eggs weigh about 2 ounces per egg, or 24 ounces per dozen.

■ Extra large eggs weigh about 2 ¼ ounces per egg, or 27 ounces per dozen.

■ Jumbo eggs weigh about 2 ½ ounces per egg, or 30 ounces per dozen.

To substitute another size for the large eggs specified, beat the eggs in a large glass measuring cup, then use twice as much broth as eggs. Two large eggs would measure about 3 ounces, so you'll need 6 ounces broth. But two extra large eggs will be closer to 4 ½ ounces, so you'd need 9



The steamed eggs are simple to prepare. The recipes call for just broth and sesame oil, and a garnish of green onions.



Beat the eggs lightly before measuring them. Then you'll add twice their volume in broth.

ounces broth — just over a cup, in other words.

It's important to strain the egg-broth mixture before cooking, as that's what gives this easy

custard its silky consistency.

I make this most often in my Instant Pot, because it's so quick and easy, and its even pressure cooks the eggs to a consistently

Savory steamed eggs

Prep: 15 minutes

Cook: 15-20 minutes

Makes: 1 serving

Popular in both China and Japan, these easy steamed eggs are soothing for a tricky tummy and restorative on a wintry night. The ratio of broth to egg is 1:2. Whisk the eggs in a glass measuring cup and then add twice their volume of broth. If you'd like to double or triple the recipe, it's best to divide the mixture among two or three smaller bowls to cook, rather than trying to cook a larger quantity in one bigger vessel.

2 large eggs

¾ cup (6 ounces) chicken broth

1 tablespoon sesame oil

1 green onion, thinly sliced

1. Beat the eggs in a glass measuring cup; whisk in twice their volume in broth. Pour mixture through a fine strainer into the bowl you'll cook in, deflating any bubbles on the surface. Let the mixture stand for 4 to 5 minutes to allow any remaining bubbles to rise to the surface; deflate any that do.

2. Wrap the bowl tightly in foil, so no moisture can drip onto the egg mixture as it steams. Fold another large sheet of foil to create a long strip — this will create a sling to help remove the cooked eggs from the steaming vessel.

3. To cook in a stovetop steamer, place a trivet or steaming rack into the bottom of the steamer; add water to a depth of 1 to 2 inches. It should not touch the bottom of the bowl. Add the foil sling, then center the bowl on the trivet with the sling beneath it.

Bring the water to a boil over high heat; reduce the temperature to a slow boil. Cover the pot and steam the eggs, 15 to 20 minutes. Remove steamer from the heat; uncover and use the foil sling to lift the bowl out of the steamer. Dress with sesame oil and green onion; serve while still hot.

4. To cook in an Instant Pot or other electric pressure cooker: Place a trivet inside the cooking pot, lay in the aluminum sling, then set the cooking bowl on the trivet. (If your trivet has handles that aid removal from the pot, you won't need the sling.) Pour 1 cup water into the cooking pot, cover the cooker and seal; set to low pressure. Cook, 6 minutes. Allow pressure to release naturally; remove the eggs, dress with sesame oil and green onion and serve hot.

Nutrition information per serving: 275 calories, 24 g fat, 6 g saturated fat, 376 mg cholesterol, 2 g carbohydrates, 1 g sugar, 13 g protein, 863 mg sodium, 0.5 g fiber

perfect texture. You can cook this on the stovetop, too, and we've given instructions for both methods in the recipe below.

Robin Mather is a longtime food journalist and the author of "The Feast Nearby," a collection of essays and recipes from eating locally on a very tight budget.

DRINK

What's a sake cleanse? And why would you ever want to do one?

BY LISA FUTTERMAN
Chicago Tribune

I recently proclaimed a huge confession: I don't get sake. I had attended sake tastings, sat through sake classes, watched sake documentaries. I had tried it, warm and cold, budget and high-end, paired with sushi and ramen. Its subtleties were lost on me — I could barely enjoy a sip, let alone embrace its elusive joys.

I shared my confession with sake expert Jonathon Edwards. "You have to stop drinking wine for a week. Drink sake and nothing else," said Edwards, who works for importer Vine Connections. Wine takes over the palate, he explained, preventing the delicate nuances of sake from showing through. "Soon you will be able to understand."

Excited to learn and to purge my palate, I started my seven-day #sakecleanse with a tasting at Binny's Beverage Depot, a Chicago wine and spirits superstore. Edwards was there, plying his wares, encouraging me to taste through the lineup, pointing up flavor profiles.

I spoke to other sake neophytes in attendance, all who seemed equally mystified and

curious.

At the end of the evening, I stocked up for my week, purchasing the myriad varieties I had tasted. "What does sake taste like?" asked the woman behind the checkout. I told her I didn't really know.

On day two of my immersion, I hurried home to the pretty bottles lined up in my fridge. Shrimp with carrot top pesto was on the menu. I paired it with Endless Summer, a honjozo-style sake with a pronounced saline tang that telegraphs its coastal origins — it absolutely sang with the seafood.

The third night landed on movie night — I've been known to smuggle cans of wine into the theater, so why not portable sake? I filled my tote with a selection of chilled minis in jars and cans. My companion left hers untouched, but I found my cup of sake to be just the relaxing thing.

I came home on the fourth night after a pretty grueling workday. Was a glass of sake going to do the trick, taking the place of a silky gamay with my cheese and crackers? Hell, yes. Most of the acidity in sake, I learned, comes from lactic acid, and the high glutamate content



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE; SHANNON KINSELLA/FOOD STYLING

delivers an umami punch, perfect with artisan cheese.

I couldn't continue a #sakecleanse without some high-end sushi, so I requested date night at Arami, a sexy sushi den. Again, my companion was reluctant, (he ordered Asahi, a Japanese beer), but I went for a glass of junmai nigori, a cloudy, unfiltered style, from the extensive list. Sake won the second round — we both went for a glass of nama (unpas-

teurized), whose bold freshness highlighted the elegant raw fish.

By day six, the nights were getting chillier, so I met a friend at the restaurant Sushi San for a cozy couple of carafes of warm sake and tako tacos. We poured for each other as tradition demands and left with a glow.

I saved the best bottle of my haul for last — to pair with a home-cooked meal at a friend's place. We opened the Yamada

Everlasting Roots, an earthy, rich junmai that matched the pork, ginger and mushroom donabe hot pot, and an Italian red. The wine was left virtually untouched.

The results of my weeklong sake plunge? My #sakecleanse led me to a new drink buddy, and we'll be friends for life.

Lisa Futterman is a freelance writer.

ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS
Averie Swanson amid the barrels at Half Acre's brewery, where she is aging beer for her new brand, Keeping Together.

Lauded brewer recharging her beer mastery in Chicago

BY JOSH NOEL

You may not have heard of Averie Swanson.

But whoever makes your favorite beer is probably quite familiar with Averie Swanson.

Swanson, 32, has enjoyed one of the swifter rises during craft beer's ascendance of the last decade. In a mere four years, she catapulted from volunteering at Jester King, a renowned Austin, Texas, brewery, to becoming its head brewer.

As Swanson oversaw production of the elegant sour, wild and funky beers made at Jester King's 165-acre farmhouse operation, she became the epitome of a brewers' brewer: judging competitions, speaking at conferences and fielding seemingly endless calls and questions.

But beer industry fame started to feel heavy. So did 60- to 70-hour workweeks. So did modern craft beer culture: the collecting, the line-standing, the intensity of fandom that seemed rooted in acquiring beer as much or more than enjoying it.

So Swanson blew it all up. She quit Jester King in late 2018, packed her things and moved to Chicago.

"A lot of people said I was an idiot for leaving what was arguably the best job in beer," Swanson said. "I was the face of that brewery and had tons of people reach out for advice, anywhere from cellarmen trying to figure things out (about fermentation) to people starting breweries to women having issues because they weren't being treated fairly. I was fortunate to be in a position where people thought I had insight that might be helpful."

But Swanson decided she'd reached a ceiling at Jester King — which included a small ownership stake that she retains — and after living her entire life in Texas, she was ready for what was next.

What's next is Chicago's gain as much as it is Austin's loss: Keeping Together, a project based at Half Acre's Lincoln Avenue brewery, where Swanson makes a small amount of Belgian-style beer wholly on her own terms and with little pressure for commercial success.

Swanson prefers commercial success, of course. But without bank loans, investors, a lease or much equipment needed to launch Keeping Together, she focuses on what moves her: beer, and how it ties into enjoyment and healthy communities.

Her first beer, released this month, underscores the intention: The Art of Holding Space is a Belgian-style table beer that's a mere 3 percent alcohol. Like the best table beers, The Art of Holding Space is a deep and satisfying well of flavors despite its meager alcohol: bright and lemony, earthy and refreshing.

It's exactly the kind of beer to share with friends across hours of chatting, whether with food or on its



Former Austin, Texas, brewer Swanson pours the debut Keeping Together beer, The Art of Holding Space.

own. Which is the point. "My overall mission with this brand — and with my life — is to increase the collective empathy of the world," Swanson said. "Everybody is so busy trying to get their point across, they've stopped listening to each other. Whatever we can do to encourage people to engage with each other in person and with open arms — anything I can do to encourage that — is my mission."

Swanson's primary tool will be mixed fermentation saison: beers made with a combination of yeasts and bacteria that produce elegant layers of flavors ranging from tart to sour to funky. The beers will be released every four to six weeks at Half Acre's Lincoln Avenue taproom, on draft and in 750-milliliter bottles. The next beer will be released in February. (The Art of Holding Space should be on tap for another couple of weeks. Bottles, \$14, remain available.)

Swanson favors saison as a base beer for the boxes it checks: The rustic, zesty style is interesting but approachable when done well, with depth intriguing to beer nerds, flavors familiar to wine drinkers and refreshment appealing to open-minded Blue Moon drinkers. It also pairs expertly with food.

"The base of saison is such a great canvas for exploring flavor," she said. "That's where my excitement is right now."

Swanson wants Keeping Together to function on a deeper level, too: helping to diffuse the intensity around a modern craft beer culture that can be more focused on the beer itself — trading it, selling it, critiquing it — than the community it can build.

She fondly recounts visiting a beer hall in Prague last month where "everyone was talking and laughing, and I guarantee you no one was talking about the beer."

"Don't get me wrong, I appreciate that I probably wouldn't be where I am if that (fandom) element of the industry didn't exist," she said. "But beer became this social currency where people were trading it and selling it and no one was actually drinking it and that's not why we make beer."

She paused and said: "I think a lot of us are trying to figure out what it all means at this point."

Swanson was referring to a craft beer industry that has grown from fewer than 1,700 breweries at the

beginning of the decade to nearly 8,000 as the decade ends. The crush of competition has led breweries to pivot at lightning speeds toward evolving consumer tastes — from hazy IPA to pastry stout to hard seltzer — sometimes making products brewers themselves disdain just to keep up.

Swanson hopes to help cultivate the opposite effect, both with her beer ("Drinkability is the most important thing to me," she said) and how it is served. Rather than people lining up for her beer — which happened regularly at Jester King — she's thinking about fresh, low-stakes routes for getting it to people, some veering toward the avant-garde. She cited as an example piling cases in the middle of a festival with no identifying information — just a mountain of interesting, easy-drinking beer that people can sidle up to and discover without preconceived notion.

"I like the idea of making people think about it rather than consuming thoughtlessly," she said.

Beer was never supposed to be Swanson's path; science was the plan. Swanson graduated from the University of Houston with a degree in evolutionary biology, then did two years of clinical research in the neonatal intensive care unit at Texas Children's Hospital.

She and her then-boyfriend moved to Austin, where Swanson applied to graduate school at the University of Texas. She was rejected, and passed the time and disappointment with the homebrew kit she had bought the former boyfriend, which he had yet to touch.

Swanson brewed what she liked to drink — IPAs mostly — and eventually inquired with several breweries about volunteering. Jester King, founded on a farm west of downtown Austin in 2010, was the only one to reply.

Swanson began working there in early 2013, paid only in beer. For six months she moved rocks, tended to the garden, painted walls and helped package beer — "literally anything they asked me to do."

That summer, with an eye on becoming a professional brewer, she asked for a full-time apprenticeship. For six months Swanson was paid \$125 per week to learn and work. In 2014 she came on as a full-time, entry-level brewer. She graduated to packaging manager, then production manager and, finally, in

2016, became head brewer. Meanwhile, Jester King was routinely lauded as one of the nation's best breweries.

Swanson also found time to become one of just 18 master cicerones in the world — beer's equivalent to a master sommelier — and one of just three women with the designation. She had to take the exam three times to pass, but finally did so in 2018. Along the way she befriended Pat Fahey, content director of the Chicago-based Cicero Certification Program. Eventually they started dating long distance. (Fahey didn't participate in Swanson's exams once they were dating due to the conflict of interest.)

Three years of long-distance dating, plus traveling for work and being the face of Jester King, became exhausting. In January, Swanson drove to Chicago and moved into Fahey's Lakeview condo.

Swanson took the next few months off. She considered opening a Tiki bar — "the ultimate form of escapism," she said — but decided she couldn't quit beer.

"I had a lot of momentum and visibility and thought it would be stupid to throw it away for a Tiki bar," she said.

In May she reached out to Lee McComb, who manages Half Acre's barrel-aging program, to ask about renting space to launch a small brewing project. Half Acre agreed — and also hired her to consult for three months on its own mixed fermentation program.

As she helped Half Acre tighten procedures and become more efficient, Swanson got to work on Keeping Together, which she named from a list of about 100 words, phrases and concepts that echoed the spirit of the project — "some pretty esoteric and out there," she said.

Though she brews independently of Half Acre, the brewery's co-founder, Gabriel Magliaro, said Swanson's vision aligns with his goal of finding new creative avenues for craft beer.

"Her way of talking about beer as art, how she talks about her creative process and what she wants her beers to do in the world, felt very fresh to me," Magliaro said.

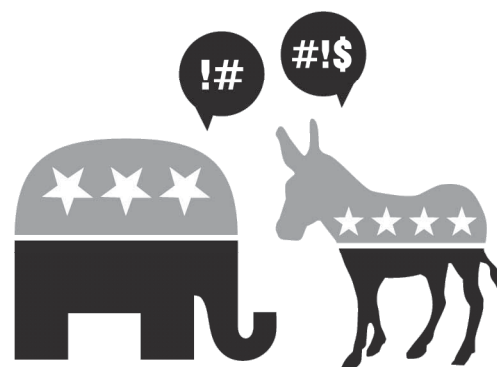
She plans to make only about 120 barrels of beer in her first year — barely a ripple in Half Acre's 50,000 barrels of annual production. She envisions operating from Half Acre "for the foreseeable future," with no need to grow the brand or even to launch her own brick-and-mortar operation. She's also in no hurry to return to the grind of beer industry notoriety.

"I'm mostly interested in diversifying income streams and creating a holistic existence to support myself financially and emotionally," Swanson said.

She even thinks about opening that Tiki bar one day.

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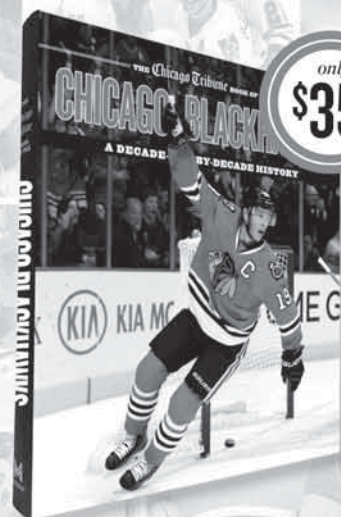


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Recipes

Continued from Page 1

El Corazon Escarlata (The Scarlet Heart)

Makes: 1 cocktail

A newly launched Mexican liqueur by Granada-Vallet inspired this Valentine's Day cocktail created by Chicago food writer Lisa Futterman. "When combined in a stirred cocktail with rum, orange liqueur and hibiscus tea infused from dried Jamaica flowers, Granada-Vallet goes tropical but not Tiki," Futterman wrote.

1 ounce Granada-Vallet

1 ounce rum (we used aged)

½ ounce orange liqueur

1 to 2 teaspoons simple syrup

2 ounces hibiscus tea (see method)

Hibiscus ice cubes, optional

Combine all ingredients (except hibiscus ice cubes) in a mixing glass with plenty of ice; stir until well-chilled. Strain into a rocks glass over fresh ice (made from hibiscus tea if desired); serve at once.

Hibiscus tea: Steep 1 ounce dried hibiscus (Jamaica) flowers with 16 ounces water in a covered jar at room temperature, 2-4 hours. Strain and refrigerate. Use as a cocktail ingredient, serve sweetened as iced tea or freeze into ice cubes.

Taralli

Prep: 1 hour

Rise: 1 hour

Bake: 20-25 minutes

Makes: 64 taralli

I wrote about re-creating my mother's recipe for taralli, the crispy ring-shaped Italian snack — a recipe she got from her aunt, and who knows how far back that tradition goes. Though many recipes boil the taralli before baking them, my mom's does not. I like to use lots of pepper in the taralli. Anise or fennel seed are good as well. My brother Tony made his with lots of grated Parmesan. (Note: The cup measure of the flour has been reduced from the originally published recipe.)

1 package (¼ ounce) yeast

½ cup plus 2 tablespoons warm water (105 to 110 degrees F)

1 pound all-purpose flour (3 ⅓ cups)

2 ½ teaspoons coarse salt, plus more for sprinkling

Freshly ground black pepper

½ cup olive oil

1. Stir the yeast into ½ cup warm water in a small bowl until dissolved; allow to proof until foamy on top, 10 minutes.

2. Mix the flour, salt and pepper to taste in a stand mixer with the hook attachment on low speed just to combine. Add water and yeast mixture and the oil. Mix to combine, scraping down the side of the bowl as needed. Turn mixer to medium; mix until dough comes together into a ball. If the dough is not coming together, you may need to add up to 2 more tablespoons warm water. (Alternatively, mix in a large bowl with a wooden spoon.)

3. Turn out the dough onto a dry wooden board; you won't need to flour it. Knead until dough has a springy consistency, about 5 minutes. Transfer to a bowl, cover with a kitchen towel, and leave to rest in a warm place until nicely risen, about 1 hour. (It will gain about 50% in volume.)

4. Heat oven to 400 degrees. Turn dough out onto a dry board. Flatten slightly with your hands. Using a bench scraper, section dough into 4 long portions. Cut those into 8 pieces each, about the size of a whole walnut. Roll a piece into a log about ¾-inch wide and 12 inches long. Cut the log in half. Shape each log into a ring, twisting ends into a loose knot (really just turn the ends over each other). Transfer to a baking sheet, leaving a little room between them. They don't expand much. Sprinkle with a little coarse salt. Continue with remaining dough.

5. Bake until nicely golden brown and crisp, 20 to 25 minutes. The taralli keep in a covered container for a couple of weeks and freeze beautifully.

Nutrition information per piece: 42 calories, 2 g fat, 0.5 g saturated fat, 0 mg cholesterol, 5 g carbohydrates, 0 g sugar, 1 g protein, 75 mg sodium, 0 g fiber

Curried meat pies

Prep: 1 hour, 20 minutes **Cook:** 55 minutes **Makes:** 30 small pies

Cookbook author Toni Tipton-Martin published "Jubilee" (Clarkson Potter, \$35) in the fall, a tribute to 200 years of African American culinarians and recipes, and a follow-up of her book "The Jemima Code." Food writer Nneka M. Okona reviewed the book for the Tribune, writing that "Jubilee" is "less a continuance of what she laid out in "The Jemima Code" and more a bridge, a pathway even, to understanding the complexities and grand diversity that is often not underscored when talking about African American food and those who cook it." We featured Tipton-Martin's curried meat pies, a Caribbean recipe, because pastry pockets wrapping savory fillings have a long history in black cooking. They are an excellent bite when entertaining and freeze well.

1 pound ground beef

1 cup minced onion

¼ cup minced red bell pepper

½ to 1 teaspoon minced chile pepper, such as Scotch bonnet or habanero

1 ½ teaspoons minced garlic (about 2 cloves)

½ teaspoon salt, or to taste

¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper

2 teaspoons curry powder, preferably Jamaican

½ teaspoon dried thyme

2 tablespoons tomato paste

Oil, for greasing the baking sheet

1 egg

Curried pastry crust, see recipe

All-purpose flour, for the work surface

Paprika (optional)

1. Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat until very hot. Add the ground beef and cook, stirring occasionally, until browned, about 5 minutes. Drain all but 1 tablespoon of the drippings from the pan. Add the onion, bell pepper, chile pepper and garlic to the skillet and saute over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until lightly browned on the edges, about 5 minutes. Stir in the salt, cayenne, curry powder, thyme, tomato paste and ¼ cup water. Bring to a low simmer and cook, stirring occasionally, for 7 to 10 minutes to thicken the mixture. Taste and add salt as desired. Set the filling aside to cool completely.

2. Preheat the oven to 400°F. Lightly grease a baking sheet or line with parchment paper.

3. In a small bowl, stir together the egg and 1 tablespoon water. Set the egg wash aside.

4. Divide the pastry into quarters. On a lightly floured board, working with one piece of pastry at a time, roll the pastry 1/8-inch thick. Cut out rounds with a 3-inch cutter. Stack the pastry rounds on a plate and cover with a damp cloth. You should have 30 rounds total. Spoon 1 tablespoon filling onto one side of each round, leaving a ½-inch border around the filling. Brush the edges with a small amount of water to moisten. Fold the other half of the dough over the filling to create a half-moon shape. Press the edges together with a fork or fingers to seal in filling.

5. Place the meat pies on the baking sheet and brush with the egg wash. Bake until golden, 25 to 30 minutes. Sprinkle with paprika, if desired. Serve warm.

Nutrition information per mini pie: 110 calories, 7 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 16 mg cholesterol, 7 g carbohydrates, 0 g sugar, 4 g protein, 97 mg sodium, 0 g fiber



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE; SHANNON KINSELLA/FOOD STYLING

Mashed potatoes, one of the glories of the Thanksgiving table, become a creamy, satisfying soup the next day. And you don't have to wait until next November to make a batch.

Leftover mashed potato soup

Prep: 10 minutes **Cook:** 15 – 20 minutes **Makes:** about 6 servings

For Thanksgiving, or the days after, "Prep School" columnist James P. DeWan detailed what to do with the coveted leftovers. This mashed potato soup stood out among the treasures. The key to achieving the best flavor here is to use mashed potatoes that have been whipped up with plenty of butter.

¼ pound bacon, cut into ½-inch by 1-inch lardons (optional) or 2 tablespoons oil

1 shallot, minced

2 cloves garlic, minced

2 pounds mashed potatoes

2 cups canned chicken broth or as needed

½ pound cheddar cheese or to taste, grated, optional

Salt and white pepper as needed

½- to 1 cup heavy cream, hot

1. If you're using bacon, crisp it in a stock pot and remove it to hold as a garnish. Keep the fat in the pot.

2. Place the pot over medium heat and, if you didn't use bacon, add the oil. Saute the shallots until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add the garlic and saute until fragrant, about 30 seconds.

3. Add the mashed potatoes and stir in enough broth to get the soup to the proper consistency. It should be thick, but not so thick that it ribbons when you ladle a spoonful of the soup over the rest of the pot.

4. When it's hot, stir in the cheese if you're using it. If the soup is too lumpy for your taste (from the shallot or lumpy mashed potatoes), pass it through a food mill or whirl it in a blender, then pass it through a mesh sieve.

5. Add salt and white pepper to taste, then stir in heavy cream. (Note: If soup is too thick, adjust consistency with stock, not cream.) Serve immediately garnished with crisped bacon.

Nutrition information per serving: 442 calories, 33 g fat, 15 g saturated fat, 71 mg cholesterol, 25 g carbohydrates, 2 g sugar, 13 g protein, 935 mg sodium, 2 g fiber

Roti

Prep: 50 minutes **Cook:** about 2 minutes per roti **Makes:** 17 roti (6-inch rounds)

When our "Craving" series focused on the food of India in October, we invited Chicago-based cookbook author Anup Singh to write about roti, the flatbread eaten daily in Indian households. With her careful instructions, even novices can produce fresh roti at home.

3 ½ cups chapati flour (atta), divided

1 ½ cups water at room temperature, plus more as needed

Ghee for stacking

1. In a food processor or stand mixer, combine 3 cups chapati flour and the water and blend until a dough ball forms. You can do this by hand in a deep bowl, but it's messier. If the dough is sticky, add a little more dry flour. If it's too dry, add a little more water, 1 teaspoon at a time.

2. Transfer the dough to a deep, wide bowl and knead by hand for 2 to 3 minutes, until the dough reaches the desired consistency. Cover with a damp dish towel or paper towel and set aside at room temperature for 20 to 30 minutes. Roti dough can be used immediately, but I find that it helps to let it sit a bit.

3. Place the remaining ½ cup of dry chapati flour on a plate. Pull off a golf ball-sized chunk (2 tablespoons) of the dough and roll it between your palms until it is as round as possible.

4. Press the ball between your palms until it is slightly flattened. Place it on a dry, lightly floured work surface. Using a rolling pin, roll the dough into a thin, 6-inch disc.

5. Repeat until you have made 6 to 8 rotis and placed them on a platter.

6. Warm an ungreased tava, flat griddle, or cast-iron frying pan over medium heat.

7. Carefully place 1 roti flat in the hot pan. Cook for 30 seconds and turn it over. The roti will be barely cooked. Cook on the other side for 30 seconds.

8. Turn over the roti. Ball up a dry paper towel or dish towel in one hand, use it to press down on the roti, and cook for 40 seconds, until the roti starts to puff up. This is how the roti cooks best — with steam searing through it. Cook for another 40 seconds, until the roti is lightly browned on both sides and cooked through. For even better results, after cooking it through (but not completely) in the pan and when it starts to puff up, transfer it to an open flame on another burner. Working quickly with the tongs, turn it, move it around, and flip until it puffs up for you. Be careful not to let it sit for too long, as it will burn. This is best done on a gas burner, but can also be done on an electric burner covered by a metal diffuser.

9. Transfer the roti back to the platter and lightly apply the ghee to the top. If stacking and serving immediately, stack the roti with the buttered sides facing each other. Serve immediately or store in refrigerator for up to 1 week.

Nutrition information per roti: 109 calories, 2 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 4 mg cholesterol, 20 g carbohydrates, 0 g sugar, 3 g protein, 1 mg sodium, 1 g fiber

Curried pastry crust

Prep: 20 minutes **Makes:** Enough for 30 (3-inch) pies

2 cups all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon curry powder

⅛ teaspoon cayenne pepper

1 teaspoon salt

¾ cup shortening, cut into ½-inch dice, chilled

⅓ cup ice-cold water, or as needed

In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, curry powder, cayenne and salt. Sprinkle the shortening pieces over the dry ingredients. Using your fingertips, a pastry blender or two knives, cut in the shortening until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Sprinkle half of the water over the dough and stir with a fork to mix. Stir in enough additional water, 1 tablespoon at a time, to form a shaggy dough. Scrape the dough onto a floured board. Knead 5 to 10 seconds, until the dough is smooth. Wrap the dough in a large sheet of wax paper or plastic, folding the edges over to completely cover the dough. Press the dough into a flat disc and refrigerate until ready to use.

Note: For a sturdier crust, reduce the shortening to ½ cup and increase the water to 3 ⅔ cup.

Chicken taquitos with tomatillo avocado salsa

Prep: 20 minutes

Cook: 16-20 minutes

Makes: 6 servings

Food & Dining reporter Nick Kindelsperger tackled the nightly dinner challenge with a rotisserie chicken from the supermarket. He created two taco recipes using one bird.

1 pound tomatillos, husked, rinsed

3 to 4 serrano chiles, stemmed

4 cloves garlic, unpeeled

1 medium avocado, halved, pit removed and skin discarded

Handful fresh cilantro

1 teaspoon kosher salt

12 corn tortillas

2 cups shredded rotisserie chicken meat

Canola oil, about 2 cups

4 radishes, diced

2 limes, quartered

1. Place tomatillos and serranos on one side of a rimmed baking sheet lined with aluminum foil. Set garlic on the other half. Fold foil over to cover the garlic.

Arrange oven rack so it's in the highest position, turn the broiler on high and place pan on the top rack. Cook until tomatillos and serranos start to blacken on top, about 6 minutes. Flip over tomatillos and serranos. Cook until tomatillos and serranos blacken on the other side, another 6 minutes. Remove from oven; set aside to cool.

2. When cool enough to handle, peel the garlic. Transfer tomatillos, serranos and garlic to a blender. Add the avocado, cilantro and salt. Blend until smooth. Set aside. Makes: 2 cups

3. Heat a griddle or skillet over medium heat. Heat a tortilla until soft and pliant, about 15 seconds a side. Transfer tortilla to a tortilla warmer, or cover with a clean dish towel. Repeat with remaining tortillas.

4. Place about 2 tablespoons shredded chicken in a warm tortilla; season chicken with salt and pepper, if needed. Roll tortilla tightly, and place seam side down on a clean plate. Repeat with remaining tortillas. (If you're worried about the tortillas staying rolled up, you can secure each with a toothpick, and remove them after cooking.)

5. Pour oil to ½ inch deep into a large cast iron skillet or Dutch oven. Heat over medium until oil shimmers, about 350 degrees if you test it with a thermometer. Place as many of the rolled tortillas seam side down as will fit in one layer; do not crowd them. Cook until golden brown on the bottom, 1 to 2 minutes. Flip and cook until golden brown on the other side, 1 to 2 minutes. Transfer taquitos to a paper towel-lined plate, propping up one end so the oil drains from the center. Repeat with remaining rolled tortillas.

6. Serve the taquitos with the tomatillo avocado salsa, diced radishes and lime wedges.

Nutrition information per serving: 385 calories, 27 g fat, 3 g saturated fat, 31 mg cholesterol, 28 g carbohydrates, 3 g sugar, 13 g protein, 464 mg sodium, 5 g fiber

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Cinnamon apple sheet cake

Prep: 30 minutes

Bake: 50 minutes

Makes: 18 pieces

"Dinner at Home" columnist JeanMarie Brownson wrote about fall brunch recipes in September. As the seasons changed, so did our appetites, and apples were what we wanted. The king of fall fruit reaches its zenith in this simple cake, which is truly a higher achievement than its humble ingredients might suggest. Bonus: It bakes up beautifully with a gluten-free flour mix.

Vegetable shortening

3 cups plus 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour, see note

3 large (or 6 or 7 small) Gala, Honeycrisp or Sweetango apples, about 1 1/2 pounds total

1/3 cup packed dark brown sugar

1 1/2 tablespoons ground cinnamon

1 1/2 cups granulated sugar

2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder

1/2 teaspoon salt

4 large eggs

1 cup expeller-pressed canola oil or safflower oil

1/2 cup freshly squeezed orange juice

1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract

1/2 cup powdered sugar

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Use vegetable shortening to heavily grease the interior of a 13-by-9-inch metal baking pan. Add 2 tablespoons flour to the pan. Working over the sink, shake the pan to coat it on all sides with flour. Shake out any excess flour.

2. Peel, core and quarter apples. Slice the apples into 1/4-inch thick wedges. (If your apples are large, cut the wedges in half.) Put apples into a medium bowl. Stir in brown sugar and cinnamon; mix well.

3. Mix remaining 3 cups flour, granulated sugar, baking powder and salt in a large bowl. Whisk eggs together in a small bowl. Make a well in center of flour; pour in oil, orange juice and vanilla. Pour in beaten eggs. Use a large rubber spatula to gently fold the mixture just until all the flour is moistened.

4. Spread about two-thirds of the batter over the bottom of the prepared pan. Gently arrange apple mixture over the batter, being careful not to let apples touch the sides of the pan. Use the spatula to dollop the remaining batter evenly over apples (they won't be completely covered).

5. Bake until top is nicely browned and wooden pick inserted in a batter area comes out clean, about 50 minutes. Cool in pan on wire rack.

6. Stir a couple of teaspoons of water into the powdered sugar in a small bowl to make a smooth, thickish glaze. Use a large fork to drizzle the glaze over the warm cake. Serve cake while it's still warm.

Note: For a gluten-free version of the cake, JeanMarie suggests using Bob's Red Mill Gluten Free 1-to-1 Baking Flour in place of the all-purpose flour. We tested the cake this way in Tribune's test kitchen, and tasters loved the result.

Nutrition information per serving: 319 calories, 14 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 41 mg cholesterol, 46 g carbohydrates, 28 g sugar, 4 g protein, 150 mg sodium, 1 g fiber

Panforte tradizionale

Prep: 30 minutes

Cook: 45 minutes

Makes: 16 servings

Panforte, the Italian sweet studded with nuts and dried fruit and flavored with a cabinet's worth of spices, is a traditional Christmas treat. Chicago food writer Amy Bizzarri shared this recipe with 17 ingredients, which matches the number of *contrade* (or neighborhoods) of Siena, the Tuscan hill town where panforte was invented hundreds of years ago.

3/4 cup all-purpose flour

1 1/2 cups peeled, coarsely chopped hazelnuts, toasted

1 1/2 cups peeled, coarsely chopped almonds, toasted

1 cup soft, dried apricots, coarsely chopped

1 cup soft, dried figs, coarsely chopped

1/2 cup candied orange peel, coarsely chopped

1/2 cup candied lemon peel, coarsely chopped

1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon freshly ground nutmeg

1/2 teaspoon ground coriander

1/2 teaspoon ground cloves

1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/2 cup sugar

1/2 cup honey

3 tablespoons butter

1 teaspoon vanilla

1. Heat your oven to 300 degrees F. You will use an 8-inch springform pan. Cut a piece of parchment paper (the same size as the bottom of the pan) and place on the inside bottom of the pan. Grease the parchment with butter.

2. Mix the flour, nuts, dried and candied fruit, spices and salt in a mixing bowl.

3. In a small saucepan over medium heat, stir the sugar, honey and butter until the mixture reaches a boil. Keep stirring until it reaches a temperature of about 230 degrees F, usually about 2 minutes after reaching the boiling point.

4. Pour the boiling syrup over the ingredients in the mixing bowl. Add the vanilla. Stir with a wooden spoon until combined and the ingredients are well-distributed. Pour the mixture into the prepared springform pan, and press it compactly into the pan with your fingers, smoothing the top with a spatula.

5. Bake, 45 minutes. Let cool completely, then remove the panforte from the pan. Sprinkle heavily with powdered sugar.

Nutrition information per serving: 312 calories, 17 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 6 mg cholesterol, 39 g carbohydrates, 28 g sugar, 6 g protein, 82 mg sodium, 5 g fiber

Aperol spritz bars

Food writer Stacey Ballis turned to predinner cocktails and other drinks to inspire desserts. Positing that having friends over for dessert is an easy way to entertain, she refined the idea by combining drinks and sweets. These bars mimic an Aperol spritz, the Italian aperitivo made with a famed bitter spirit.

Prep: 30 minutes

Chill: 45 minutes

Cook: 1 hour

Makes: 24 bars

Crust:

1 3/4 cups unbleached all-purpose flour

2/3 cup powdered sugar, plus more for sprinkling

1/4 cup cornstarch

3/4 teaspoon table salt

12 tablespoons unsalted butter (1 1/2 sticks), at very cool room temperature, cut into 1-inch pieces

Filling:

4 large eggs, beaten lightly

1 1/3 cups granulated sugar

3 tablespoons unbleached all-purpose flour

1 tablespoon orange zest

1/2 cup Aperol

1/2 cup prosecco or other sparkling wine

2 tablespoons fresh orange juice

1 1/2 tablespoons light corn syrup

1/8 teaspoon table salt

1. For the crust: Spray a 13-by-9-by-2-inch baking pan, preferably with straight sides and corners, with nonstick spray. Line with parchment or wax paper, leaving the ends hanging over the sides so that you can use it as a sling to remove the pan of bars whole. Lightly spray the paper as well.

2. Pulse the flour, powdered sugar, cornstarch and salt in a food processor until well combined. Add the butter; pulse until the mixture is pale yellow and resembles coarse corn meal, 10 to 15 short bursts. It will be sandy, and you'll think it won't press down, but have faith, it will come together. Sprinkle the crust mixture into your lined pan; press firmly with an offset spatula or the bottom of a measuring cup into an even, 1/4-inch layer over the pan bottom and about 1/2 inch up the sides. Refrigerate, 45 minutes.

3. While the crust is resting, adjust oven rack to middle position and heat oven to 350 degrees. For the filling, whisk the eggs, sugar and flour in a medium bowl to combine. Whisk in zest, Aperol, prosecco, orange juice, corn syrup and salt to blend well.

4. Bake the crust until golden brown, 20-26 minutes. Remove from the oven. Stir the filling mixture to recombine and pour it onto the still warm crust. Bake until filling feels firm when touched lightly, 40 to 45 minutes.

5. Transfer pan to wire rack; cool completely to room temperature, 1 to 2 hours. Run a thin knife along the edges of the pan, then use the parchment paper to help transfer the whole pan of bars to a cutting board. Fold the paper down and cut into 24 serving-size bars, wiping your knife clean between cuts as necessary. Sieve more powdered sugar over bars, if desired.

Nutrition information per bar: 182 calories, 7 g fat, g saturated fat, mg cholesterol, g carbohydrates, g sugar, g protein, mg sodium, g fiber

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