CHICAGO SPORTS



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THE MORE THINGS CHANGE

Cubs Spring Training preview

THE MORE THEY STAY THE SAME



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Chicago Tribune

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"Almost everyone has been good with it once they hear that it will remain a part of the forest preserves and that we have a plan to restore a prairie."

— Carl Vogel, spokesman for the Cook County Forest Preserve District



TAKING ILLINOIS BACK TO A LAND IT LOST

In the Prairie State, little prairie land remains. But groups work to save what's left in Cook County and restore acres to their original state.

BY MADELINE BUCKLEY

When walking in Cook County forest preserves back in the 1990s, John McMartin always thought the woods didn't feel quite right. They were crowded and dark, unlike the open and airy woodlands near the farm he grew up on in Minnesota.

Years later, he learned why.

Most of the land in Cook County was once prairie, before it was farmed and later developed by European settlers who came to the area. In the 1940s, the Cook County Forest Preserve District reclaimed acres of land and planted trees, thinking it was the best use of the land. But most of the trees were not native to the area.

That resulted in a fast spread of invasive species, which blocked sunlight and stopped the prairie, which often contains thousands of types of plant life, from flourishing, according to ecologists and county officials.

"We do understand more now. You shouldn't plant trees on prairies," said Linda Masters, a restoration ecologist for Openlands, a nonprofit conservation organization. "They don't belong there."



Lisa Musgrave holds native prairie plant seeds on Jan. 29, before scattering them, top, in the Somme Prairie Nature Preserve in Northbrook.

ERIN HOOLEY/ CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Illinois is nicknamed the Prairie State, but less than 1% of its original prairie remains, experts say. In Cook County, only a fraction of a percent of original prairie is intact.

Now, the county is reversing course, more than 20 years after earlier attempts at restoration sparked controversy.

Turn to ***Prairie, Page 15***

ELECTION 2020

Caucus debacle tarnishes prestige

Critics call for end to first-in-nation status for Iowa

BY RICK PEARSON AND BILL RUTHHART

DES MOINES, Iowa — Every four years for more than four decades, Iowa's status as the first state in the presidential nominating sweepstakes has held firm, weathering criticism for its largely white and rural demographics being at odds with the makeup of the nation as a whole.

But after Monday's debacle when the state's Democratic Party couldn't even turn in partial results for nearly 24 hours, the Iowa caucuses and the state's outsize influence in choosing the nation's top candidates for president may be over.

"This is a conversation that happens every four years," the state's Democratic Party chairman, Troy Price, said of the possibility of Iowa losing its status after facing withering attacks for the bungling of the caucuses. "There's no doubt that conversation will take place again."

Despite Price's downplaying it, the fate of the first-in-the-nation caucuses is in unprecedented jeopardy.

Monday's national embarrassment only amplified the growing criticism from party progressives that Iowa's lack of diversity should disqualify it from having such influence over how such a

Turn to ***Iowa, Page 14***

The nurse practitioner is in

Nurse practitioners have nearly tripled in Illinois, where they can now practice independently. But their increased role has sparked concerns from doctors groups. **Business**

Byrne rebuild bill up $83.5M

State blames interchange's higher price tag on poor soil, strict city requirements

BY MARY WISNIEWSKI AND JOE MAHR

The price tag of the Jane Byrne Interchange's reconstruction has jumped again, by $83.5 million, pushing the cost of the much-delayed project almost 50% higher than its original estimate.

The state blames the increase, in part, on poor soil conditions and stricter-than-anticipated city requirements.

Started in 2013, rebuilding the juncture of the Eisenhower, Kennedy and Dan Ryan expressways west of the Loop originally was estimated to cost $535.5 million and be finished in June 2018. A Tribune investigation last year detailed how the project quickly ran behind schedule, over budget and with conflicts over who was to blame — and the estimated cost was pushed up to $713 million.

Now, the project's estimated tab has increased again, to $796.5 million, according to the 2019 Annual Update of the Jane Byrne Interchange Financial Plan, prepared by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Turn to ***Byrne, Page 16***



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Construction work on the Jane Byrne Interchange, which began in 2013, continues in Chicago on Thursday.

TOM SKILLING'S WEATHER

High 36
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Complete forecast in Nation & World, Page 36

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ALGREN CONTEST ENTRIES ARE DUE SOON

The deadline for submitting an entry to the 2020 Algren Awards contest is days away.

Entries in the contest, which honors original short fiction, must be submitted by 1 p.m. CST on Monday, Feb. 17. The Chicago Tribune and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation are presenting this contest. We invite writers to submit their previously unpublished stories; the word limit is 8,000 words.

Judges will select a grand prize winner, who will receive $3,500. Also, five finalists will be honored.

This contest features a blind entry process, which means that authors' names cannot appear on the stories. This rule ensures that judges are able to evaluate each story on its own merits. If a writer's name is on any of the entry's pages – including the story title page – it will be disqualified immediately.

For full submission guidelines and to submit your story, visit algren.submittable.com/submit.

—Margaret Holt, Standards Editor

'CHICAGO BULLS: A DECADE-BY-DECADE HISTORY'

Whether you're a casual admirer of the magnificence of Michael, or a true Bull-iever thirsting for tales of "Red," "Stormin' Norman," "Butterbean," "Chet the Jet" and many more, here's a keepsake for you. Featuring more than 300 pagesdepicting Chicago's NBA franchise from its humble beginnings to the dynastic miracle on Madison and beyond, the Tribune's book of the Bulls places readers in a courtside seat for a fast break through team history. *Available online at chicagotribune.com/bullsbook.*

ACCURACY AND ETHICS

Margaret Holt, standards editor

The Tribune's editorial code of principles governs professional behavior and journalism standards. Everyone in our newsroom must agree to live up to this code of conduct. Read it at **chicagotribune.com/accuracy**.

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

■ A Feb. 8 Arts & Entertainment review of "Madama Butterfly" contained an incorrect date for the final performance. It is March 8.
The Tribune regrets the error.



PEOPLEIMAGES



John Kass

What do I know about Valentine's Day romance?

When it comes to Valentine's Day, I'm the last man on earth you'd ask for romantic advice.

Romance? Me?

What could some grizzled OK Boomer possibly know about young love?

Nothing.

Betty and I have been married almost 35 years. I snore. She doesn't. Sometimes I leave my socks on the bathroom floor. Is that romantic? Not very.

One Valentine's Day, I took her on impulse to see "Manchester by the Sea," which I stupidly thought was a love story. It wasn't. That one was a total disaster. She hasn't forgotten.

A friend told me about his Valentine's Day failure: He forgot to make reservations.

They stood in line at one restaurant for an hour, then gave up and stood in line at another place for an hour. They never got a table.

"I could see the joy just draining from her face," he said.

Where did you end up? Denny's?

He forgot. But he remembers the look on her face.

You're better off clicking on all that Valentine's Day clickbait, to score a table at the hot restaurant, the one with the view, the one with the buzz.

The problem is that on Valentine's Day, it's a cattle call. Everybody's stressed. Crowded and miserable, and that prix fixe tenderloin kept in the purgatory of a warmer won't set young hearts aflutter.

I did come up with a romantic idea. At least I thought it was romantic. Sadly, my sons thought it too strange.

Invite the young woman to your apartment. Serve her a glass of prosecco. Give her a red rose. Not a dozen, just one nice rose.

Put on music that she likes. Not what you like. Lead her gently to a chair in the kitchen. Ask her to close her eyes and keep them closed, but don't insist. This isn't "50 Shades of Grey." It's Valentine's Day.

Now cook for her: pasta carbonara.

There are two rules: Don't ever add cream. And don't talk about yourself.

Talk about her. Talk to her, and don't talk about you. Ask about her dreams, her problems, her goals. Listen to her, really listen and talk about things you'd like to do together.

As you listen, saute bacon, butter and minced shallots. Just before the pasta is done, pour some pasta water and chicken stock into the pan. Add peas. Grind in plenty of pepper. Simmer and reduce.

Drain the pasta into a bowl. Add egg yolks and mix them. They'll cook in the heat of the pasta. Add fresh green onion and lots of grated parmigiana-reggiano, pour the pan sauce over the pasta. Toss it together.

If you're lucky, when she opens her eyes, she'll smile at you.

What's not romantic about the scent of sauteed bacon and shallots?

Plate the dish, grate on some more cheese. A good red wine, and fine chocolate for dessert. Keep listening to her. She'll tell you some things if you listen.

Isn't that romantic?

"No dad," one of my 20-something guys said. "That's weird."

Yeah. I'm weird. Forget it. What do I know about romance?

My problem with trendy Valentine's Day restaurants is that I'm not interested in buzz. I foolishly select restaurants for the food. I like some of the places the foodies write about — Carrie Nahabedian can cook for me any time — but mostly, I'm just a diner guy.

That's where I'm sitting right now, at a diner, having some superb fish chowder and writing this column.

There's an old couple at one table, a really old couple, in their mid-80s. They don't talk much. He cuts her food. She leans over and says something. His shoulders shake as he laughs. She playfully puts a roll on his plate as if it were some treasure.

A young couple sits to my left. They're neat and clean but they don't look like money. He's wearing a T-shirt and light jacket in this February cold. She's got on a thin blouse. They look tired.

They don't look like those couples in clickbait photos of glamorous Valentine's Day nightclub dates, those young masters of the universe about to conquer the hedge fund and the world.

He's got beat-up hands, as if he works construction or in a tire shop. They talk about their kids, but I don't want to hear. He leans forward and puts one of those big broken hands of his on hers. She smiles and says one word: "Honey."

I look away. It's not my place to see. It belongs to them. So, I head outside for air.

That old couple in their 80s comes out. She walks on ahead to their car. But the old man, a chunky guy, stops and I ask how long they've been married.

"Married? We're not married," he said. "We were married 28 years, kids, everything. But we got divorced. It was bad. Hell. We really didn't like each other."

Oh.

"But then she got in an accident and broke her neck in two places. And I wanted to help her. I mean, I love her. We hang out now. We're good friends now."

You hang out a lot?

"All the time," he said. "We're close. It was that broken neck. I had to help. We got close again."

They drove off and I called Betty about dinner.

"What do you want?" she asked.

I'm cooking. I'm cooking pasta carbonara, I said.

But first I have to pick up some prosecco.

"Honey," she said.

Listen to "The Chicago Way" podcast with John Kass and Jeff Carlin — at www.wgnradio.com/category/wgn-plus/thechicagoway.

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INSIDE SUNDAY'S PAPER

Ask Amy.....**Life+Travel, 2**
Bridge.....**Puzzle Island**
Chicago Flashback.....**News, 21**
Comics.....**Section 9**
Crossword.....**Puzzle Island**
Editorials.....**News, 22**
Horoscopes.....**Puzzle Island**
Letters.....**News, 23**
Lottery.....**Nation & World, 30**
Markets.....**Business, 4**
Obituaries.....**Nation & World, 30**
Perspective.....**News, 18**
Sudoku.....**Puzzle Island**
Television.....**A+E, 9**
Weather.....**Nation & World, 36**
Word game.....**Puzzle Island**



Mini-orchids, a magic lounge and a poem about February despair



MARY SCHMICH

This is the latest in my occasional lists of nine things I like.

1. Apricity

What?

I'd never heard the word "apricity" either until a Tribune reader wrote to tell me I might like it. I do. It means "the warmth of the sun in winter."

According to Merriam-Webster: "Apricity appears to have entered our language in 1623, when Henry Cockeram recorded (or possibly invented) it for his dictionary The English Dictionary; or, An Interpreter of Hard English Words. Despite the fact that it is a delightful word for a delightful thing it never quite caught on, and will not be found in any modern dictionary aside from the Oxford English Dictionary."

What's better than a delightful new word for a delightful thing, especially if it involves sun in winter?

2. Mini-orchids

They make great gifts, for yourself or someone else. I've bought a couple recently at Whole Foods for about $15. They bring life and color to winter's gray days and last longer than a bouquet.

3. "Press"

I recently stumbled on this PBS Masterpiece series online and was quickly seduced by the suspenseful plot, the first-rate acting and the fact that, despite a certain soapiness, it gets a lot of subtle things about newspapers right. It's the tale of two rival British papers — one investigative and earnest, the other tabloid and proudly trashy — trying to survive the new journalism economy. It inadvertently offers a glimpse into why Meghan Markle and Prince Harry hate the British press.

A bonus: It taught me the term "reverse ferret," which, according to Wikipedia, is "a phrase used predominantly within the British media to describe a sudden reversal in an organisation's editorial or political line on a certain issue. Generally, this will involve no acknowledgement of the previous position."

4. Inama Vin Soave Classico

Several months ago, I told one of the clerks at Binny's Beverage Depot that I was looking for a white wine — not too heavy, not too light, not too fruity, not too pricey and not too high in alcohol. He handed me a bottle of this Italian white. I was skeptical. The name sounded too much like the kind of wine that would have impressed me in college because it had a fancy name and label. But he was right. It's reliably good and right now it's on sale at Binny's for $13.99.

5. Chicago Magic Lounge

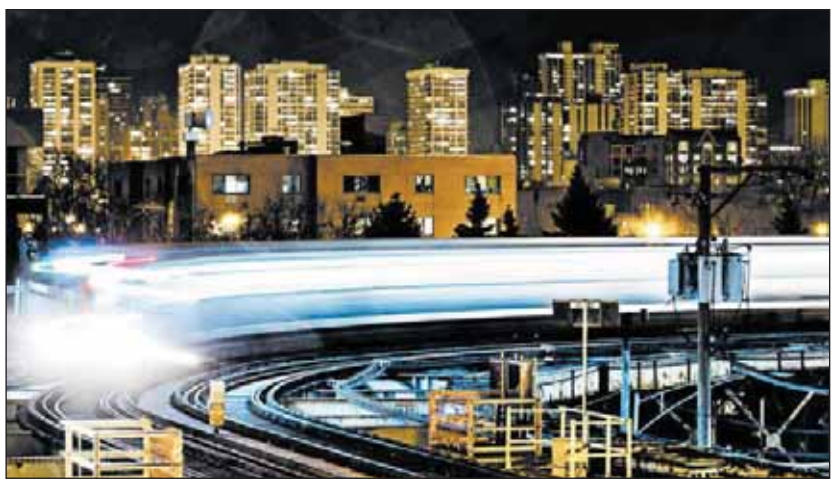
"I hate magic," a friend sniffed when I told her I'd been invited to a group event at this spot in Chicago's Andersonville neighborhood. I didn't have any feeling about magic shows one way or the other except to think they sounded old-fashioned.

Card tricks, disappearing scarves, magically appearing eggs? It sounded so "Ed Sullivan Show" in a Fortnite age. And yet it was great entertainment.



YOUNGRAE KIM/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2019

Chicago Magic Lounge



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2018

CTA Brown Line

The lounge was conceived in 2015, in the website's words, "as an homage to the historic, Chicago magic bar and restaurant scene." The crowd ranged from millennials to Baby Boomers (more of the former than the latter) and everybody laughed a lot.

6. The Brown Line

Yeah, that Brown Line. The "L." It's just public transportation but I've been riding it a lot lately, and rattling around on the elevated tracks, I'm always amazed at what a gorgeous and varied city Chicago is. If the Brown Line were a tourist attraction — and it could be — it would be the best and cheapest one in town.

7. Chicago Black Restaurant Week

Now in its fifth year, this week of restaurant deals, which extends from Feb. 9-16, focuses on establishments in and around Chicago run by African Americans. Like Chicago Restaurant Week, which happens the preceding week, it's a chance to discover restaurants you've never tried, support those you like and, either way, get some good food at good prices.

8. Carrie Coon

Coon, an ensemble member of Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre, seems to have been everywhere for the past decade, and for good reason. She's in movies ("Widows," "Gone Girl", "The Post") and on TV ("Fargo," "The Leftovers," "The Sinner"). I first saw her in Steppenwolf's "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?", which introduced me to her powerful blend of intelligence and emotional range.

She's currently starring in "Bug" at Steppenwolf, giving a performance that the Tribune's Chris Jones calls "deeply vulnerable and often profoundly sad."



YOUNGRAE KIM/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Carrie Coon

9. "February" by Margaret Atwood

Atwood, best known as the author of "The Handmaid's Tale," also applies her dystopian mindset to poems. Here's a snippet of this one:

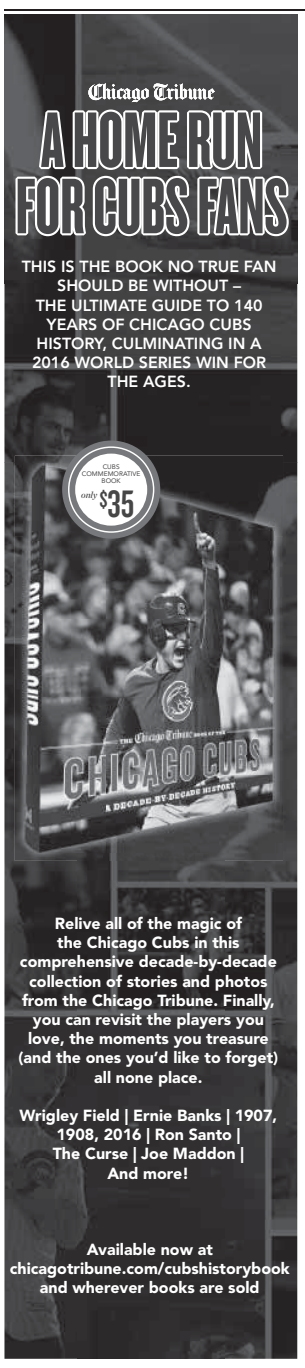
February, month of despair,
with a skewered heart in the centre.
I think dire thoughts, and lust for
French fries
with a splash of vinegar...
...so get going
on a little optimism around here.
Get rid of death. Celebrate increase.
Make it be spring.

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Chicago Tribune
CHICAGOLAND

School council 'completely blindsided'

Lincoln Park removals surprised many, but Lightfoot feels CPS done 'good job' handling alleged violations



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Lincoln Park High School students protest an abrupt leadership shake-up and basketball season suspension on Thursday.

By Elvia Malagón, Hannah Leone and John Byrne

Members of the Lincoln Park High School School Council say they were left out of the decision to remove top administrators and demanded more details from Chicago Public Schools officials.

"We've received no information. We were completely blindsided and left out of the process," said David Marren, a parent and council member.

A probe of alleged misconduct at the school has resulted in the removal or reassignment of several administrators and coaches and the suspension of the boys basketball season in recent weeks.

But members of the elected council, made up of parents, community members and teachers, were most upset about the sudden removal on Jan. 31 of interim Principal John Thuet and Assistant Principal Michelle Brumfield and the reassignment of Dean John Johnson pending multiple misconduct investigations at the school.

Brumfield later confirmed to the Tribune that she was dismissed that day and placed on the district's do-not-hire list. CPS has not confirmed whether Thuet also was terminated; the council said he has been but Thuet could not be reached for comment.

Thuet's father-in-law, Mark Jochum, said Thuet has been "painted with a broad brush of key words like 'misconduct.' "

"John put his heart and soul and dedicated his young life to make a difference in his community," Jochum said in an email to the Tribune. "When he was given the opportunity to become a interim principal he passionately took the job and worked day and night to being the very best. ... Since the day of his dismissal John is in the state of shock not knowing why he was terminated and why Chicago Schools would ruin his reputation."

Jochum said he flew in from Cleveland on Monday for the meeting at the high school. "I witnessed the outpouring of love for my son-in-law, from teachers, parents and students," he said. "They know John Thuet, the John Thuet that I have known for 15 years."

Local School Council member Eli Grant said they want more information about the three administrators' roles in the handling of misconduct claims against students and other staff members.

"I think we need more information about that," Grant said. CPS has "not said specifically what (the three administrators) did."

What information has been provided, he said, is "incongruous with what we know about" the administrators.

"We have big statements (from CPS), and those are very concerning to us. We want to be part of the progress. ... We're 100% confident that, in what we know today, (the three administrators) are the right folks for school."

CPS officials announced Monday that four misconduct investigations were underway — that number has since grown to five — for a wide range of claims that include sexual misconduct, improper student discipline, dishonesty to families, allowing suspended employees to work, failure to create safety plans for students and interference with and withholding evidence from investigations, along with alleged sport recruiting violations and mismanagement of some sports-related accounts.

But students, parents and community members have decried the fact that officials generally haven't specified who the claims are against.

Standing outside Lincoln Park High School, the council members and other parents said they don't want the details of the alleged misconduct to become public but want further explanation for the staff removals.

Marybeth Jones, a parent and member of the Local School Council, read a statement saying the group wants to speak to Mayor Lori Lightfoot and CPS CEO Janice Jackson to hear what steps were taken that led to the departures and to plan for the school's future.

"Lincoln Park has not been perfect, there have been security concerns and culture problems for years, but it's a great school and since interim Principal Thuet, Assistant Principal Brumfield and Dean Johnson began, it was finally trending in a much better direction," Jones said to a crowd of parents, students and reporters.

Lightfoot said later Friday she would "of course" meet with the Lincoln Park High School Local School Council, but added she wouldn't likely be able to add much to the information they now know.

"CPS has been running point on this, I think they've done a good job," she said at a news conference in the South Shore neighborhood to request that Chicago's lakefront be declared a federal disaster. "They've made the notification. They sent emails out to the parents. They held a town hall on Monday. I have very great confidence in CPS leadership, from the area chief to (Chief Education Officer) Dr. (LaTanya) McDade and (CEO) Dr. Jackson. If there's more communication that needs to be had, particularly if the LSC wants to meet with me, I'm happy to do it. But I'm not going to tell them anything other than what they've already heard, which is that there was a series of serious issues at that high school that had to be addressed for students' safety. And that's what we should be doing."

Lightfoot said she has been informed about the circumstance at the school and the steps CPS officials planned to take there in recent days, but that she did not offer input on those decisions.

Lightfoot called the situation described to her at the high school as "horrifying."

"There's a lot of things that were going on that involved student-on-student, that involved adult-on-student," she said. "And there's serious questions about whether the administration that was there acted in a responsible way, according to the policies and procedures that are set, first and foremost to make sure that our students are protected. ... Clearly, it's a shocking thing to a school community, given the circumstances that unfolded, started last Friday. But in my view, based upon the information I had, it was absolutely necessary that CPS act, and act definitively, because students were being put at risk."

CPS had scheduled a meeting with the members of the council this week, but it was rescheduled to next week amid changes within the council, according to an email from the district.

Friday morning, students streamed into the school after a chaotic week. Outside, one sign was left at the school's fence read: "No Blame 4 Brumfield."

After a week of student sit-ins and walkouts and an emotional meeting with community members at Lincoln Park High, Thursday was marked by what school officials called a small numbers of altercations. Videos that circulated on social media showed at least two violent confrontations among students. The district said there were no serious injuries but that extra safety and student support measures would be brought in.

Created by the Chicago School Reform Act of 1998 to provide more neighborhood input to schools, local school councils have responsibilities that include approving how funds and resources are allocated, coming up with school improvement plans and selecting and evaluating principals. No experience or formal education is required to be on these councils, which are traditionally elected every two years but in some cases appointed. Most councils include six parents, two community representatives, two teachers, one non-teacher staff member and one high school student.

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A timeline of the alleged misconduct

By Hannah Leone

A wide-ranging scandal at Lincoln Park High School has rattled the school community, with top administrators and coaches removed and the varsity basketball program suspended amid what CPS is calling multiple allegations of serious misconduct and policy violations. Here's how it unfolded.

Dec. 27-29: Members of the Lincoln Park High School boys basketball team take an overnight trip to Detroit that district officials would later call "unauthorized."

Jan. 2: CPS' Office of Student Protections and Title IX receives a report of misconduct "involving the team" on the trip and begins what becomes the first of at least five pending investigations involving Lincoln Park High.

Jan. 7: During that investigation, CPS officials say they uncover "additional serious policy violations and failures to follow proper protocols by adults to ensure student safety" and remove multiple adults from their positions. A CPS official later clarifies the adults referenced included boys basketball coach Pat Gordon and two non-employees who helped out with the team but "did not complete the district's volunteer application process as required."

Jan. 9: A letter from interim Principal John Thuet alerts boys basketball team families that the staff member who led the trip during winter break "has been removed from the school." A CPS source later confirms the staff member is Gordon.

Jan. 13: OSP finds "greater systemic policy violations by adults," according to CPS.

Jan. 14: OSP receives a "new, separate complaint of alleged sexual misconduct" and initiates a second investigation related to Lincoln Park High. Sources with firsthand knowledge tell the Tribune the misconduct involved two students. Chicago police later confirm they are investigating a report by a 15-year-old girl that she was sexually assaulted by a male at the school on Jan. 13.

Jan. 16: OSP "learns that school leadership was aware of student-on-student retaliation that was not properly reported," according to CPS. OSP opens a third investigation related to Lincoln Park High.

Jan. 17: CPS' Office of Inspector General receives a "new, separate report of alleged sexual misconduct related to the girls basketball team," according to CPS, and a fourth investigation related to Lincoln Park High School is launched.

Jan. 25: The Office of Inspector General requests the removal of another adult based on information obtained while investigating "the incident related to the girls' basketball team." Interim Principal Thuet informs parents via email of "an allegation that one of our employees engaged inappropriately with a student" and that the employee "has been removed from the school." A CPS official later confirms the subject of the investigation is girls coach Larry Washington.

Jan 29-31: CPS is "made aware of additional systemic schoolwide issues regarding misconduct and sports violations." In a Jan. 31 letter to school families, a district official announces that "due to multiple allegations of serious misconduct involving the athletic program," the district has removed Thuet and Assistant Principal Michelle Brumfield, reassigned Dean John Johnson and basketball coach Donovan Robinson, and suspended the boys varsity basketball season until further notice. It later comes to light that Brumfield and Thuet were fired by CPS. Brumfield later tells the Tribune she was given no explanation.

Feb. 3: Hundreds of Lincoln Park students walk off campus to rally in support of the school leaders who were removed and to push for the basketball team to be allowed to play. They also call for the release of more information about the investigations.

Feb. 4: Some players from the suspended team show up at two CPS offices seeking a last-minute reprieve to play in the evening city tournament game against Perspectives IIT. The effort is unsuccessful, and the game is forfeited. The Illinois High School Association confirms CPS has also withdrawn the team from the upcoming state basketball tournament.

Feb. 5: A letter informs Lincoln Park families that Judith Gibbs, one of two administrators-in-charge brought in days earlier to lead the school amid the leadership shakeup, is already out. Gibbs "has decided to leave LPHS today after determining that she was not a good fit for LPHS," according to a letter to families. A district spokesman confirms that Gibbs is the subject of "an allegation involving improper contact with a student." CPS does not elaborate on the claim, but a video appears to show an adult female momentarily holding a student's chin after he yanks his hand away from hers. CPS also sets up a special hotline and email for the LPHS community.

Feb. 6: Tensions at LPHS are heightened by student walkouts, sit-ins and physical fights; prompting the school to bring in additional student support and safety measures. A student tells reporters that he is the teen in the video whose face was grabbed.

Feb. 7: Members of the Lincoln Park High School Local School Council hold a news conference outside the school, saying they were left out of the decision to remove top administrators and demanding more information from CPS. Mayor Lori Lightfoot says she supports the handling of the matter by CPS officials.

Gun rights groups sue state police over alleged application delays

By Peter Nickeas

Two prominent gun rights groups in Illinois have filed a lawsuit against state police, alleging that delays in the processing of concealed carry and gun ownership cards are violating the "fundamental individual rights" of gun owners.

The Illinois State Rifle Association and the Second Amendment Foundation filed the suit in federal court on Jan. 31. Also listed as plaintiffs are two Chicago-area gun owners: Goran Lazic of Vernon Hills, who according to the suit had his firearm owner's identification card revoked because of a domestic battery arrest where charges were eventually dropped, and Ryan Thomas of Wilmette, who has sought to have get his FOID card back after moving back to the state.

Both men said in the lawsuit that they've been trying to restore their legal gun ownership status in Illinois since 2017.

Though the lawsuit targets the state police, it lays blame with state legislators and the governor, who plaintiffs say have approved budgets diverting money from fees paid for concealed carry and firearm owner's identification cards from the Illinois State Police to other parts of the state budget.

Those fees were meant to pay for Illinois State Police staff to process those requests, said Illinois State Rifle Association Executive Director Richard Pearson.

"We passed the concealed carry act in 2013, we charged a really healthy amount for a five-year license, of which state police gets $120, and the purpose of that money was to hire staff to process FOID cards and CCL permits in a timely manner," Pearson said. "We're asking for is restoration of those funds. Those funds were not tax money, they were fees paid by users to get a service which they did not get." The Illinois State Police did not respond to a request seeking comment.

More than $29 million was transferred from three Illinois State Police funds used to pay for the processing of FOID cards and concealed carry licenses, according to the lawsuit, citing a report by the Illinois Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability. That money was put into the general revenue fund. The lawsuit is seeking unspecified "monetary damages," attorney fees and for the state police to issue Thomas and Lazic their FOID cards.

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Trump goes full wacko in 'I Have a Scream' speech



REX W. HUPPKE

Great news, everyone!

I'm kidding, there's no great news, it's all dreadful. Democrats dunked the Iowa caucuses into the deep fryer of incompetence, President Donald Trump was acquitted in the Senate by a bunch of Republicans terrified of mean tweets and Lake Michigan is rising so fast Naperville will soon be known for its lovely beaches. As I look back on the week, I can only whimper: "What the (BLEEP) just happened?"

Democrats in Iowa achieve incompetence

Iowa, you had one job. Play your "first in the nation" part of the presidential primary system, do your weird little caucuses then let everyone leave you alone for four years.

That's all you had to do. And you tripped over your own corn stalk.

Thanks in part to a malfunctioning app used to submit caucus results, Americans had no clue which Democratic candidate won the caucuses for ... well, we still don't really know. That's how screwed up the whole affair became.

It wasn't until late in the week that Iowa Democratic Party reported a rough tie between South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, with Sen. Elizabeth Warren coming in third and former Vice President Joe Biden a distance fourth. But that still didn't include all the votes. There remained so much confusion and concern about irregular reporting that Democratic National Committee Chair Tom Perez on Thursday called for a recanvass of the Monday caucuses. He wrote in a tweet that he was making the move to "assure public confidence in the results." Good luck with that, Tom.

Trump celebrates acquittal with angry-grandpa-style rant

President Donald Trump rewarded Republican senators who put their careers and places in history on the line to acquit him in his impeachment trial with a nationally televised speech Thursday at the White House. Clearly chastened by the impeachment hearings, Trump did all he could to bring the country together and reassure everyone that he is a lucid, intelligent and not-at-all rambling lunatic with authoritarian aspirations, no filter and a complete lack of coherence. I'm kidding. He rambled for more than an hour in a manner that would cause most rational people to slowly walk away, and possibly contact the authorities.

Trump babbled about all the alleged injustices he has faced, calling various Democrats "evil" and "vicious," calling former FBI Director James Comey a "sleazebag" and referring to the Russia investigation as "bullshit." The thin-skinned whiner-in-chief clearly demonstrated that the Republicans who bit the bullet and voted to acquit him will rue the day they hitched their wagon to his crazy train.

Quotes from Trump's "I Have a Scream" speech are too tedious to reprint. Just imagine a random-word generator connected to an old Commodore 64 computer and pushed down a flight of stairs into a vat of alphabet soup.

Nice work, Republicans. Aside from Sen. Mitt Romney, you own this rock, and it's going drag you to the bottom of the sea.

Lake Michigan water levels rise

Speaking of water, Lake Michigan sure has a lot of it! Ample rain and warmer temperatures pushed the lake to a record-high level for the month of January.

John Allis, chief of the Great Lakes Hydraulics and Hydrology Office for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Detroit, told the Tribune: "This is definitely a big deal. This is going to continue to be a big problem for people."

The high water levels are causing beaches to vanish and erosion to alter the lakefront. Scientists say climate change is making the world wetter. In Illinois, four of the five wettest years in Chicago have been in the last decade.

But don't worry. That climate change stuff is probably all just a hoax. And if not, we can just rename the Gold Coast "the Gold Island" and enjoy our new status as "the Venice of the Midwest."

Driverless delivery vehicles approved

Before we are swept away by floodwaters, we'll all hopefully have a chance to be run over by self-driving delivery vehicles.

In a decision made by people who have apparently never watched the "Terminator" movies, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has given a Silicon Valley company permission to operate small, self-driving vehicles. The low-speed autonomous vehicles will be used to deliver groceries and definitely not wipe out all of humanity.

Created by the robotics company Nuro, the vehicles "won't be required to have side and rearview mirrors and other safety provisions."

Great. I feel even better now.

The vehicles will begin appearing in Houston later this year. By the time they get up here, they may need to be driverless boats.

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Watchdog says anti-patronage efforts hampered by Pritzker

Restrictions on communications with state agencies 'unproductive'

By Dan Petrella

Railing against public corruption in his State of the State address last week, Gov. J.B. Pritzker declared that "the old patronage system needs to die, finally and completely."

But a new report Thursday from a court-appointed watchdog suggests since Pritzker took office in January 2019 his administration has taken steps that have made it more difficult for those charged with monitoring state hiring practices to ensure political considerations aren't influencing who gets government jobs.

Court monitor Noelle Brennan wrote in a court filing that her communication with the governor's office and other state agencies, which "had been very productive over the years," "has been diminished by new restrictions placed on the (court monitor's) ability to communicate freely with agency personnel."

"We believe these new restrictions imposed by the Governor's Office are unproductive to the previously cooperative efforts of the parties to eliminate unlawful patronage, reform state employment practices and implement lasting improvements," Brennan writes in the court filing.

Pritzker spokeswoman Jordan Abudayyeh said the assertion that there are new restrictions on communication is "false."

"There are no new restrictions, and the state will be responding in court shortly," Abudayyeh said in a statement.

The administration "is working diligently and persistently to improve employment practices," she said.

Despite the issues raised in the report, Brennan says "the Parties are making significant progress toward the future goal of substantial compliance" with a 1972 court decree aimed at ending patronage hiring.

Thursday's court filing is the latest to stem from an inquiry that began in 2014 after a federal judge assigned a lawyer dig into hiring at the Illinois Department of Transportation.

The report takes issue with the state agencies' continued use of "personal services contracts" and temporary hires to skirt the traditional hiring process.

In one instance, a candidate who was interviewed for a job with the Department of Human Services was instead hired in September on a personal services contract after pulling out of the interview process because the job would have required relocating to Springfield.

A different candidate was identified but never got the job, according to the court filing. Instead, "emails in August and September 2019 show the concerted efforts of various DHS employees to hire" the original candidate through a personal services contract without publicly posting it and allowing others to compete.

It's not known how widely the contracts are used, but relying on data from the state comptroller, Brennan's court filing says the state paid 1,700 contractual workers in 2019, many of whom also were paid in 2018, "suggesting that the (personal services contract) or temporary employee process is used for extended periods of time."

"The overuse of temporary employees is a process ripe for manipulation and can result in unfair advantages for those employees selected for temporary employment outside the usual onboarding process," Brennan's filing says.



CANDICE C. CUSIC/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2019

Noelle Brennan, a court-appointed watchdog, issued a new report on monitoring state hiring practices Thursday.

Although not mentioned in the court filing, one example of an employee hired on contract is Forrest Ashby, a former longtime state worker and Pritzker campaign consultant whose name surfaced in a controversial email first reported by WBEZ.

Former Commonwealth Edison lobbyist Mike McClain, a close confidant of House Speaker Michael Madigan, wrote to officials in then-Gov. Pat Quinn's administration in July 2012 seeking leniency for Ashby in a disciplinary matter because he "kept his mouth shut" about "ghost workers, the rape in Champaign and other items."

State records show Ashby was being paid $40 per hour for consulting work for the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board "for corrections curriculum and development updates." He was paid $14,460 beginning in October, plus $133.96 in travel reimbursements. His contract was suspended last month pending an investigation after the email became public.

The 2014 court order came after the state's then-executive inspector general, Ricardo Meza, found improper hiring that began under Gov. Rod Blagojevich but picked up under Quinn, his successor in the governor's office.

Meza said his investigation was "unable to conclude" that top officials knew of the illegal hiring. Chicago attorney Michael Shakman, who has fought patronage for decades, then pushed for court oversight.

One of the major issues in the initial court monitor's investigation was hundreds of people who were hired into "staff assistant" positions after administration officials bypassed personnel rules aimed at preventing politics from influencing hiring. A 2017 report from Brennan found that Quinn's office "played a key role in the staff assistant abuse at IDOT."

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Proposed farm could provide solar power

Energy from proposed site would be discounted to eligible ComEd customers

By Emily K. Coleman

Construction of a solar farm on the former Yeoman Creek landfill site could start as early as this fall, more than two years after the Waukegan District 60 hired a renewable energy development company to pursue the project.

Designated a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Superfund site in 1989, the former landfill on the city's northwest side has been a drain on the school district and other local entities for years, but the hope has been that a solar farm, one of the few uses allowed, could offset some of the costs.

BQ Energy, which was selected by the Waukegan District 60 from among 10 proposals back in 2017, won a bid late last year to supply the Illinois Power Agency with renewable energy through its Solar For All program, which passes that renewable energy on to local low- to moderate-income families and businesses.

"The reason we haven't been here in a long time and you haven't heard much from us is just because we weren't able to find the right program within (the Illinois Power Agency)," said Michael Rauch, the company's director of business development and policy.

The Solar For All program means that BQ Energy has a guaranteed buyer for its energy, but in exchange, it has to find local low- to moderate-income customers who will pay 50% of the average supply rate they're currently paying to ComEd. The discount would not apply to the delivery portion of the bill.

The company plans on focusing on Waukegan and then working outward from there, Rauch said, adding they expect they'll need to recruit about 1,200 customers.

"I was happy to hear the piece about equity, so those who've been most impacted by this site should be the ones who benefit primarily from the development," District 60 school board President Brandon Ewing said at a recent committee meeting.

The program would also allow the company to sell up to 40% of its discounted power to a single large user like the school district.

"In that case, the school district would be benefiting from the lease rate that the project would pay to the school, and it would benefiting from saving money on its electricity bills," Rauch said.

The solar farm will be constructed on the district-owned portion of the 70 acres, which was designated a Superfund site after the Illinois EPA began investigating the risk of cancer-causing pollutants leaking into Yeoman Creek. The site, located south of Sunset Avenue/Golf Road and east of Lewis Avenue, costs the district about $350,000 to $400,000 a year in security, maintenance and other costs.

"We think those are great opportunities for reuse of blighted sites that have very few alternative purposes," Rauch said. "We think it's better to put solar energy on those types of sites than convert farm land or forest land for solar purposes."

The next steps involve getting city approval for the project, drawing up land-use agreements with the school district and recruiting customers, said Paul Curran, the firm's founder and managing director. The Illinois Power Agency program requires the solar farm be up and running 18 months after the application was accepted this past December, Rauch said.

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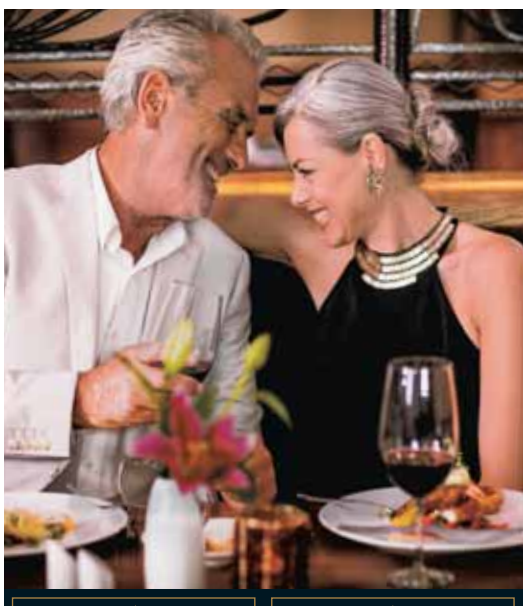
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Mild winter puts outdoor rinks on thin ice

By Kimberly Fornek



KIMBERLY FORNEK/PIONEER PRESS PHOTOS

The Burr Ridge Park District has built an ice skating rink on the sand volleyball court at the west end of the Community Center in Harvester Park for the first time in the 2019-20 winter.

Mike Fletcher has seen a lot during his nearly 30 years working with the Clarendon Hills Park District, but the winter of 2019-20 may be a first for the superintendent of parks.

"We've had years where ice skating was only open five or six times during the winter, but it hasn't been open at all this year, and that very well may be the case for the rest of the winter," Fletcher said.

Fletcher said the Park District requires five consecutive days with temperatures below freezing to open its rinks, which are created on the tennis courts at Hosek Park and at Prospect Park, using plastic borders and a liner on which water is poured.

"Once it's open, it always gets a lot of use," Fletcher said of the Prospect Park ice rink. "Some kids go right from the middle school at the end of the day to skate, but this has been a mild winter, and at this point, I'd be surprised if we're able to open it this year."

The Oak Brook Park District's skating rink at Central Park has been open a total of seven days this winter as of Jan. 30, said Park District Executive Director Laure Kosey. The rink recently was open Jan. 20-23 and on Jan. 29, but closed again Jan. 30, Kosey said.

She said it generally takes three to five days for the rink to freeze.

"A lot depends on what happens during the day," she said, referring to the fact that daytime temperatures usually are warmer than at night. "We really encourage people to stay off when it's not solid. It gets really bumpy and choppy."

Kosey said her staff places wooden borders for the rink, which is located on a sand volleyball court, and installs a liner before pouring water to make the rink. Those processes take one day each, she said.

It has been slim pickings for sledding too this winter, but sled hills do not need the advance preparation that ice rinks do, officials say. Oak Brook and Clarendon Hills park district officials said the sledding hills in their towns have been used periodically since November, when there has been a coating of snow.

"We'll sometimes see people sledding right after it snows, and it lasts for a day because there wasn't much there and it melts," Kosey said.

Dennis Conway, superintendent of parks for the Western Springs Park District, calls this winter "very, very unusual."

Conway said enough snow fell only once this season for the small sled hill in Spring Rock Park to be usable, but not for long.

"The hill is not very steep," Conway said. The fun lasted only a few hours before the snow was worn away, he said.



Children run across the ice rink in Burns Field in Hinsdale, where the Parks & Recreation Department did not even try to freeze ice so far due to lack of a prolonged deep freeze.

In Burr Ridge, the park district ice rinks in Palisades and Harvester parks were open for use only three days this winter, said Jim Pacanowski, director of the Burr Ridge Park District.

The winter is not over yet, but if freezing temperatures do not come and stay in February, those three January days will have been the fewest in Pacanowski's memory, he said, and he has been overseeing the outdoor rinks in Burr Ridge for the past 25 years.

Pacanowski recalls last year's polar vortex when the thermometer hit 23 below zero on Jan. 30.

"I was doing cartwheels," Pacanowski said.

"We've had lean winters in the past," Pacanowski said, when the rink was open only nine or 14 days during the winter, but never so sparse as this.

Before 2005, Pacanowski said the temperatures stayed below freezing long enough for people to skate at Palisades Park for 40 to 50 days.

"Over the last 10 years, I've definitely seen the impact of the climate change," he said. "We've been getting closer to 25 days use of the ice rink."

The rink in Palisades is built on a detention basin, with only a half-inch of black dirt above a layer of impenetrable clay, Pacanowski said. Thus, they do not need to install a liner before filling the pond to freeze, which reduces their labor time and costs.

At times this winter, the rink may have looked frozen, but "skates cut in like butter," Pacanowski said. "You can't get a glide on."

The ice rink in Harvester Park is new this year, built on the sand volleyball court at the west end of the Community Center. It's smaller than the one at Palisades and intended for younger skaters.

"We put the water directly on the sand," Pacanowski said. "It is not going to work as designed until we get ground frost."

Six to seven inches of ground frost is needed to keep the ice frozen, he said. He suspects there was less than an inch there, and that was before the record 52-degree temperature Sunday.

The wooden frame for Hinsdale's outdoor rink in Burns Field has been set up since mid-December, but inside is only patches of snow and grass. The goal was to have the liner in, filled with water and frozen for children to skate on during their winter break from school.

"Due to the mild temperatures that has not happened in at least four years," Bereckis said.

Because of the rink's size and its location, six consecutive days when daytime temperatures do not rise above 30 degrees are needed to freeze the rink solid, said parks Superintendent Heather Bereckis.

In the future, she is considering making smaller rinks, which don't take as long to freeze, or building them on tennis courts where only a couple of inches of ice is needed, she said.

The outdoor rink is something the community really loves, Bereckis said.

"We want to be able to to provide it," she said.

La Grange has not had an outdoor rink for the past several years, Park District of La Grange officials said, since the group of volunteers that used to build it has somewhat disbanded.

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A year after Aurora shooting, grief remains

Family of slain union leader still grapples with unanswered questions

By Denise Crosby

As a Vietnam veteran who survived the ugliness of a bloody war, Ted Beyer has "seen death in many faces."

Yet "when it hits home," adds the 72-year-old former soldier with the U. S Army's 101st Airborne, "it is altogether different."

Especially when it comes at the hands of a co-worker. A friend. A man both he and his son had gone to bat for many times as union leaders with Henry Pratt Co. in Aurora.

As the first anniversary of the mass shooting at the sprawling Aurora warehouse approaches, Beyer and his wife, Joyce, along with daughter Dawn, agreed to sit down and talk publicly for the first time about the murder of their oldest son Russell, who on Feb. 15, 2019, was one of five Pratt employees gunned down by Gary Martin during Martin's termination meeting with the company.

It's the unanswered questions that continue to haunt this close but now shattered family.

"Russ was always the protector of the underdog, even in school," says 69-year-old Joyce Beyer. "What I just can't understand is why he killed my son when Russ was trying so hard to help him?"

Gathered around the dining room table of their Bristol home where she and Ted, her husband of 50 years, raised their family, it's apparent this slender, soft-spoken woman is still in deep mourning. She does not like to say the shooter's name, nor does Dawn, two years younger than brother Russ, and who describes his killer as "the coward with a gun."

But Martin's name easily falls from the mouth of Ted Beyer, who from day-one alluded publicly to the many problems going on inside the Pratt plant, which he insists contributed to the shootings that cold day in February. And that resentment continues to gnaw at him, leaving "an emptiness inside of me" when he makes his daily visits to Russ' grave at Mount Olive Cemetery.

The Beyers, who might appear on the outside to be going about their daily routines, insist there is nothing normal about their lives since that Friday when Russ was murdered, along with co-workers Vicente Juarez, Clayton Parks, Josh Pinkard and intern Trevor Wehner.

"Our family is broken," says Dawn, adding that time has done nothing to stop the pain because its passage "is not going to bring back" the sibling she also considered her best friend.

"How can it get better? I lost my big brother," she says. "Every day we are sucker punched ... with a memory or something that happens."

Understandably, there is bitterness. But it's not just directed toward the murderer and the circumstances surrounding his actions. They still feel resentment because the family had to find out through television that notifications of the dead would take place at Aurora University many hours after the shooting. They also can't understand why the media seemed to get preferential treatment over the family at the community vigil held on that frigid Sunday after the murders. And there is no love lost for the politicians who came out of the woodwork, offering up condolences as a means of pushing agendas.

"I understand it's their job," says Joyce. "But don't use my son's death to promote your politics."

Closure is a foreign word, they insist, especially with so many questions still hanging out there. The holidays brought no joy – they didn't even decorate – and now the family just wants to get through the anniversary of the shooting, then Russ' birthday, which happened to fall on the day he was buried.

Only after all the attention surrounding this first anniversary, they tell me, can they perhaps begin to deal with those mixed feelings about the shooter, about the union and about the company, where Russ began working right out of high school and which became like a second family to him, especially after taking on a leadership role with the union.

"He made himself available to those employees 24/7, fighting for their rights. But that's how we were raised," says Dawn, referring to her father, who retired from Pratt in 2010 after back surgery and was a union leader there for over a quarter of a century.

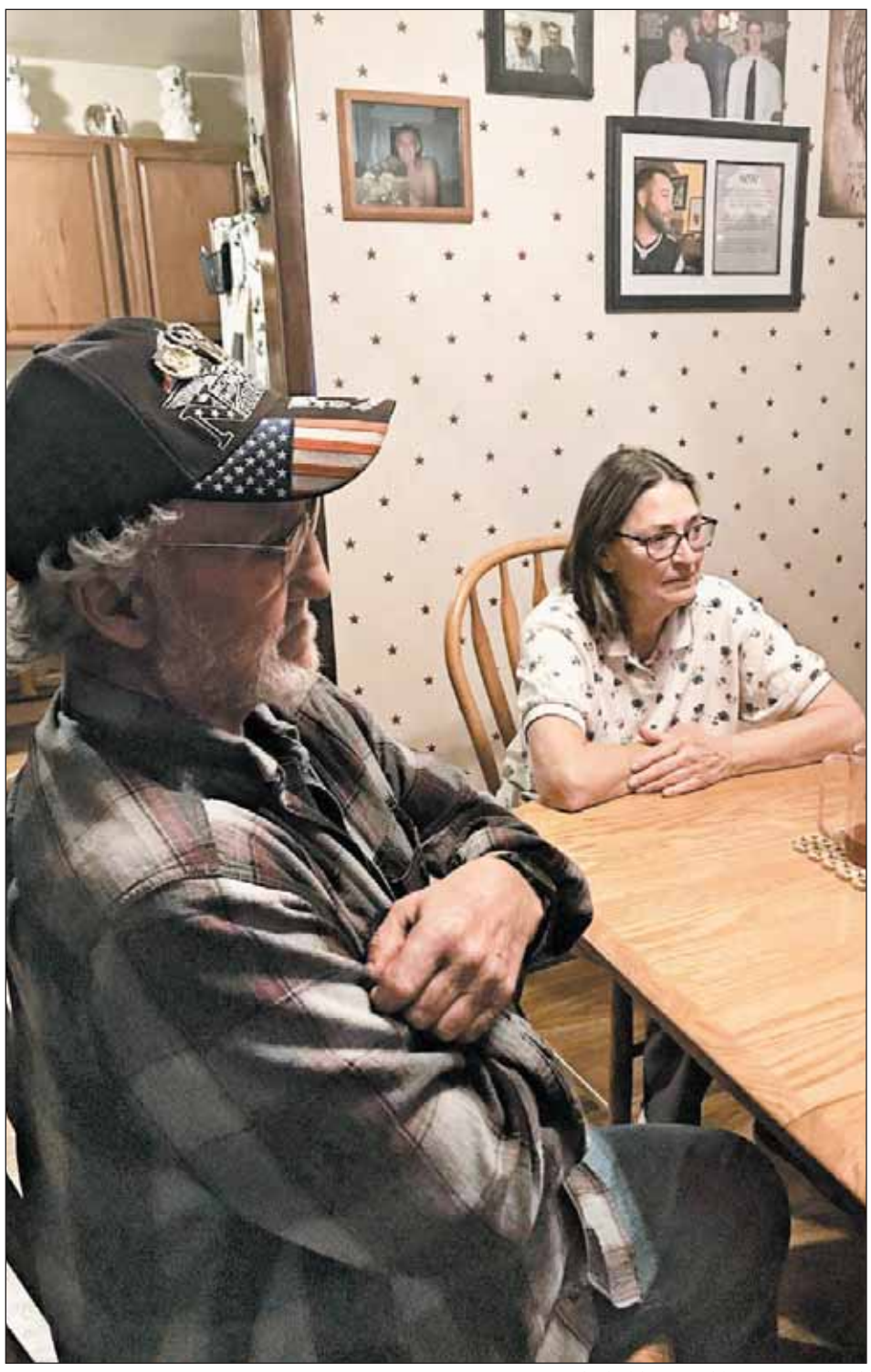
"I talked to him every night" about union issues, Ted says. "I was more old school, more direct. He was more humane ... he loved his job and they loved him."

Which makes his death that much harder to understand.

Ted was crossing Route 47 on his way to Plano to visit the son of his sister Bonnie, who had died the previous week, when he heard sirens and saw squad cars racing toward Aurora. As the news hit there was a shooting at Pratt, he immediately called Joyce, who had just gotten home from her part-time job with Fox Valley Older Adult Services.

When Russ' phone continued to go unanswered, Ted returned home to await any incoming calls while Joyce sped to the plant, as did Dawn, who works at a Naperville bank.

"I was going 100 down (Interstate) 88 and cops were passing me," she remembers. "I knew my brother would be in the middle of things ... I knew he would not run away" if bullets were flying.



DENISE CROSBY/BEACON-NEWS PHOTOS

Ted and Joyce Beyer sit down together in their Bristol home to talk about their son Russell's murder on Feb. 15, 2019, during the warehouse shooting at Henry Pratt Co. in Aurora.



Ted and Joyce Beyer's home in Bristol is filled with photos, mementos and other reminders of their oldest son, Russell.

"In some ways, as time goes on, it is getting harder. It's weird. We do the day-to-day things, but time stopped that day. I don't know how to explain it."

— Joyce Beyer, mother of Russell

Neither Dawn nor her mother could get close to the scene of the shooting as the area quickly became blanketed by first responders, and it wasn't unit late that evening at Aurora University they were officially informed of Russ' death. Even then, recalls Dawn, the screaming that erupted when the first victim's name was announced made it impossible to hear if her brother was also on the list.

It was, they agreed, a horrific end to the longest day of their lives.

And the nightmare only continued in the coming weeks and months, as the Beyers insisted upon knowing all the details of the shooting, even paying a visit to the room where Russ took his final breath.

"He was my son," Joyce says. "I had to know what he went through."

After dealing with police, the FBI, the media and coroners, the family had to deal with a community in mourning — vigils, tributes, dedications — all of which came far too soon, she insists, and sometimes left them feeling even more emotionally drained as they tried to provide comfort to others reeling from the murder of a man loved and respected by so many.

Then, when the story faded from the headlines, their house grew empty, leaving them to deal with the isolation that follows when family and friends pull away because they don't know what to say or how to help.

Unless you have been through this kind of violent death, there really is no way to describe it, they tell me.

"In some ways, as time goes on, it is getting harder," says Joyce. "It's weird. We do the day-to-day things, but time stopped that day. I don't know how to explain it."

Still, her daughter tries. "It's like who you are as a family came to an end. Josh and I are lost without him," she says, referring to her younger brother. "We are all lost without Russ."

And so, the Beyers have no choice but to live day to day — sometimes even hour to hour — surrounded by reminders of Russ' life and his death.

There's a large portion of the dining room wall dedicated to his memory, including a plaque from the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, and a Teddy bear in attire stitched from his Pratt uniform. Near the fireplace is a stone bench holding photos and other mementos. And on the couch are pillows made from his blue jeans, along with a blanket created from the union T-shirts Russ wore almost every day.

Joyce says she still needs to organize the back bedroom, which contains hundreds of cards and letters from people across the country, as well as the now-cleaned clothes her son was wearing when he was shot three times.

Ted Beyer, in the meantime, admits he's mostly dealing with anger at the perfect storm of missteps that led to the Feb. 15 massacre. Yet, he still regularly visits the Pratt plant, checking in with old colleagues and friends and walking through the rooms where he and his son spent so much time.

"It is," says Joyce, "still his connection to Russ."

Her husband, arms folded, stares straight ahead, then finally nods slowly.

"He followed in his dad's footsteps and tried to do better," Ted says, his gravely voice perhaps camouflaging the emotions his words carry. "I should never have gotten him involved in the union."

Yes, there is guilt, and so many questions that, whether they are ever answered, "will not bring back Russ."

But without at least trying, Ted is convinced the emptiness he now feels will never go away.

"He had a big heart," said the father of his slain son. "A lot of good people died that day and they shouldn't have."

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Waukegan considers raising number of gambling machines allowed

By Emily K. Coleman

Waukegan's aldermen decided not to vote on a proposal that would increase the number of video gambling machines allowed at Waukegan restaurants, bars and other establishments.

The move Monday evening is how all of the most of efforts aimed at changing the city's 2018 video gambling regulations over the last year have gone.

A vote on repealing a much maligned distance requirement was repeatedly pushed back and was ultimately never voted on.

Several business owners have approached the Waukegan City Council seeking waivers from the distance requirement, with their requests re-appearing sometimes months after they had initially been rejected.

While many aldermen didn't like the distance rule, they wanted something in its place, but that something never came.

Ald. Greg Moisio, 3rd, has taken over the job of wrangling a possible solution to the situation as the chairman of the council's community development committee from former 7th Ward alderman Lisa May, who decided against running for re-election in 2019.

Moisio said he has asked the aldermen to send him their ideas, so that they can address the existing issues with video gambling along with possibly upping the number of allowed machines.

"We've been going 'round and 'round and 'round, chasing our tail on this forever," Moisio said. "We need to get this straightened out."

Moisio said he would OK with allowing businesses that already have video gambling machines to add a sixth machine if they want one, but if that happened, he would want a moratorium that would prevent any businesses currently without machines from adding them. The moratorium would give the city space to figure out its next steps related to video gambling and the proposed Fountain Square casino, he said.

The gambling expansion package approved by the state legislature last year increased the maximum number of video gambling machines allowed per establishment to six from five along with approving six new casinos, including one in Waukegan.

The Illinois Gaming Board is in the process of reviewing applications from three casino developers recommended by the Waukegan City Council last fall.

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KYLE TELECHAN/POST-TRIBUNE

Waves crash over the pier at the Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk on Jan. 11. The viewing platform has collapsed and a ramp has been swallowed by surging waters from Lake Michigan.

Eroding lake shoreline sign of climate change



JERRY DAVICH

The erosion of Lake Michigan shoreline is a ripple-effect result of climate-change devastation in our world, I believe. The near record-high water level last month of our near and dear Great Lake is a harbinger of the future, not a meaningless blip in history.

Warmer temps are another of these local developments, I believe. I keep saying "I believe" because I know that some of you don't believe there is a causal or related connection between global environmental factors and local environmental outcomes. I disagree with you.

Mother Nature is certainly alerting us to something increasingly destructive in our world as well as in our tiny corner of the world. Northwest Indiana and communities along the Lake Michigan shoreline are absorbing damage from rising water levels, winter storms, and the disappearance of beaches we've had in our lives for as long as we can remember.

We now find ourselves driving past local lakefronts in awe of what is no longer there even as lawmakers in several Midwestern states push for state-of-emergency declarations to rescue shoreline communities. I've been paying close to attention to what was once my favorite go-to beach, the Portage Lakefront and Pavilion.

Its riverwalk pier into the lake offers a great angle to view the destruction along the shoreline, especially west toward Ogden Dunes. The lake relentlessly batters that town's break-wall, threatening waterfront properties, and reminding us all that we're only temporary guests — short-sighted and churlish ones at that — on this planet.

"The new January record may be just the beginning, scientists say, and is likely a precursor to higher lake levels during the wet months of spring," a Feb. 5 Chicago Tribune story states.

"This is definitely a big deal," said John Allis, chief of the Great Lakes Hydraulics and Hydrology Office for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "This is going to continue to be a big problem for people."

It's a big problem whether or not we believe it's being caused, or related to, global climate change forces. Flooding. Wildfires. Droughts. Record-breaking heat waves. Severeweather events. Like frogs in the proverbial pot of boiling water, we're gradually getting conditioned to this new normal of catastrophic circumstances. We're not jumping. We're barely flinching.

We shake our heads while watching disturbing weather-related news reports from around the globe. Yet, we don't believe it will affect our lives here on Planet Denial. No mass flooding here. No out-of-control wildfires. No serious doom and gloom. No fire tornadoes. Just, thankfully, a warmer winter this year with less snow to shovel, right?

That is, until we take a glance at our badly-damaged or slowly-vanishing lakefronts, from Chicago to Michigan and beyond in both directions. At the Portage Lakefront, where I've been visiting since it opened in 2009, the viewing platform has collapsed and a ramp has been swallowed by the surging Great Lake. It looks like a corpse in the mouth of a shark.

Is there still a substantially-sized tribe of Americans who stubbornly refute scientific study after study warning of "global warming" and "climate change?" You bet. Relax, many of them insist, God will provide for us or Satan will doom us. There's nothing much *we* can do about it on our own, they claim. Again, I disagree.

I'm not one of those environmental activists shoving a weathered sign into your face stating, "The end is near!" I don't believe it is. Our lives, though, are going to be affected by these "natural" disasters. Sure, Jesus may come back to save some of his believers, but he isn't coming back to save our planet. Our messy, cluttered bedroom inside the Lord's house is beyond even His realm of concern. It's up to us, not God, to clean it up.

Will we? Can we? No, I believe. (See, I *do* have beliefs after all.)

I remember in the not too dusty past when all this talk of doom and gloom was just that – talk. Scientific studies. Pointy-headed predictions. Abstract warnings about the future of humankind devastated by forces we didn't understand. And we didn't *want* to.

It's so much easier to instead bury our heads in the sand, even as that sand gets swallowed up by rising water levels.

It's so much easier to kick this can of concern down the road again. Or better yet, into a puddle so we can't see it at all.

And then I drive by a local beach and sense Lake Michigan growling at me like an unleashed Doberman as I walk past its property. Will the lake's angry water level subside? Probably. Will it emerge again and attack our shorelines in the future? Of course. We'd be fools to believe otherwise. Then again, we're already a ship of fools in a vessel we believe will never sink. I see holes. Do you?

"The water levels of each of the Great Lakes peaked during the summer or fall in 2019 and have been in decline since then, but they still remain extremely high, and significant erosion continues in many locations," that Chicago Tribune story states.

Can this be attributed to cyclical fluctuations that have taken place for centuries? Sure it can. And it does. With this mindset, though, it's too convenient for us to do nothing about it. All of us will be dead anyway before anything serious happens to *our* area, right? So we lose some public beaches and privileged shorelines. So what, right?

Such thinking got us to this point of no return. And I don't see us changing as quickly as the climate does.

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Teen, father fleeing violence receive temporary reprieve from deportation

BY AMANDA MARRAZZO

A Honduran teenager taken under the wings of a far northwest suburban community seems to have found a reprieve from the "immediate" threat of deportation back to the country where she fears being harmed by violent gang members.

An attorney for Meydi Guzman-Rivas, 18, said recently that the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has agreed to review her case. The attorney, Nathan Reyes, said a hearing will be held Wednesday at which time a judge could decide if the girl and her father, Fabio Guzman-Reyes, should be released from federal custody on bond while they await their asylum hearing.

Currently the teen, who had been held in the McHenry County detainee facility, is being held in Pulaski County by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Her father is believed to be in an ICE facility in Wisconsin, the girl's lawyers said.

In June 2018 Guzman-Rivas entered the U.S. illegally with her father to escape a violent gang in her homeland. When they entered at Laredo, Texas, after wading across the Rio Grande, they were taken into custody by the Border Patrol, according to a criminal complaint filed in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

Both were charged with illegally entering the country. They were released on a recognizance bond and agreed to attend their immigration court hearings, Guzman-Rivas' attorneys said.

They eventually set up a quiet life in Crystal Lake where Guzman-Rivas attended Crystal Lake Central High School and was set to graduate in May.

However, in October, months after missing a court hearing in their immigration case, the father and daughter were taken into custody, separated and housed in ICE detention centers. A process to remove them from the U.S. had begun.



MEYDI GUZMAN-RIVAS

Meydi Guzman-Rivas was a student at Crystal Lake Central High School.

Reyes and another attorney, Kevin Bruning, took on her case pro bono. The attorneys filed documents seeking a review of her asylum case, which would halt the deportation process. The process of deportation for her father, who is being represented by a different attorney, also has been paused and his case also will be reviewed, Reyes said. Attempts to reach Guzman-Reyes' attorney for comment were unsuccessful.

The next step is for attorneys to argue for bond before a judge in the immigration court in Chicago where Citizenship and Immigration Services is reviewing their cases.

Reyes said he will present evidence that the girl is not a threat to the community and that if released on bond she will resume attending school and have a home to live in and a sponsor. He also will tell the judge that she will attend all court hearings and is not a flight risk.

Reyes said when he recently visited Guzman-Rivas for the first time in recent months in the McHenry County ICE detention facility — where she had been returned temporarily in January before abruptly being taken back to Pulaski County — she "was so happy."

Through a Spanish interpreter Guzman-Rivas expressed that she "was so excited, she was almost tripping over her words to get out how happy she was," Reyes said.

"She understands there still is a process to get bail approved, but importantly, she knows she is not under an immediate threat of deportation," Reyes said.

Sara Huser, Guzman-Rivas' school counselor, has been close to the girl since her arrival at Crystal Lake Central and has spoken to her regularly while she has been detained.

Huser said she would be her sponsor should she be released on bond.

"Absolutely, Meydi will stay here in Crystal Lake with my family and me," Huser said. "I will definitely make sure she gets to her court hearings and does what she needs to do to obtain permanent residency. Returning to Honduras and to the violence that she fled is just not an option, if there's anything I can do about it."

Huser set up a GoFundMe in the girl's name. It has raised more than $9,000. The money will be used to pay for her expenses including legal fees and bond.

When Huser last spoke with Guzman-Rivas upon learning her case would be reviewed, she said the teen "was in great spirits."

"Since her case has been reopened, she is feeling a renewed sense of hope and her spirits have definitely been lifted," Huser said.

Huser also said if Guzman-Rivas, who wants to attend college and become a nurse, is released on bond she still may be on track to graduate high school this spring.

Attempts to reach ICE officials were unsuccessful.

Amanda Marrazzo is a freelance reporter.





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Ex-Harvey cop charged in probe facing new suit

Testimony in unrelated case alleges he fabricated criminal charges

By Zak Koeske

A former Harvey police officer charged last year in connection with a conspiracy to falsify police reports is now being sued for allegedly fabricating criminal charges in an unrelated case.

Derrick Moore, whose federal criminal case remains pending, allegedly falsified multiple charges against an Oak Forest man following a dispute in January 2019, according to a lawsuit filed Monday in U.S. District Court.

The charges against Tristan Smith, which included domestic battery, possession of a stolen vehicle and drug possession, were all later dismissed, court records show.

Smith, 40, whose suit names Moore and the city of Harvey as defendants, alleges false arrest/seizure, malicious prosecution and makes a Monell claim against the Harvey Police Department.

Smith's suit claims he was involved in an argument with a woman outside a Harvey strip mall Jan. 26, 2019 during which she physically attacked him and scratched his face.

Moore arrived at the scene after being flagged down and began to harass Smith, despite it being clear he was the victim and was cooperating with the officer's orders, according to the suit.

Smith alleges the woman then fabricated a story about his possession of a stolen car located a couple miles away at 169th and Halsted streets, which police later recovered.

The suit claims that despite not being in possession of the vehicle nor the keys to the vehicle, Moore fabricated charges stating Smith had them, according to the suit.

Moore also claimed he found heroin on Smith when, according to the suit, he had none.

Smith's suit claims the officer fabricated the charges against him despite having no probable cause "because of the attitude between Derrick Moore and Tristan Smith, and Smith's prior record."

Court records show Smith, who works as a promoter, has prior misdemeanor and felony convictions, including for driving with a revoked/suspended license following a DUI in 2017 and for drug possession in 2015.

Harvey's acting police Chief Robert Collins, who was not with the department when Moore's alleged fabrications occurred, declined comment Thursday saying he had not yet reviewed the lawsuit.

Collins said he took any allegations against the department's officers seriously and would hold accountable any officer who engages in misconduct under his watch.

In accusing Moore of falsifying criminal charges, Smith's lawsuit puts his alleged actions in the context of his work for the Harvey Police Department, which it claims "has custom, practice, and policy of falsifying charges and reports to cover up their actions, protect individuals who are friends, or to punish individuals they do not like."

Mayor Christopher Clark, who was elected last year on a platform that included reforming the Police Department, called the lawsuit "irritating" and bemoaned having to spend taxpayer money to defend a former officer currently facing federal criminal charges.

"I only know what the complaint says, but if it's true, it shouldn't have happened in the first place," Clark said. "And as a result, once again, it puts a black eye on the city. Someone who was already arrested on another case, and we have to spend more taxpayer dollars dealings with this foolishness."

The mayor said he doesn't know when or under what circumstances Moore left the Harvey Police Department.

He said by the time he took office last May, roughly two months after Moore and five others with ties to city government were charged in a federal corruption probe, the officer was no longer working for the department.

Moore and Derrick Muhammad, another former Harvey police officer who is former Mayor Eric Kellogg's brother, were charged last March with allegedly falsifying a police report to protect two acquaintances. The acquaintances, a father and son who both are felons, had been at risk of facing firearms charges after a loaded handgun was found inside a vehicle they had used, according to the complaint.

In an intercepted phone call, Muhammad allegedly told Moore they would find a way to make sure the gun "ain't come back on nobody," the complaint states.

To conceal the firearm's connection to the pair, Moore allegedly prepared a police report saying the weapon, which had been reported stolen out of Lansing two years earlier, had been discovered in some brush rather than inside the car, prosecutors said.

He is due back in court next month on the conspiracy and falsification of records charges.

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Iowa Caucuses debacle

Iowa, *from* **Page 1**

racially, socially and economically dynamic party chooses its top contenders. The fiasco also only layered more condemnation on the caucus process itself, a lengthy evening commitment that critics argue makes participation difficult for those with young families or who work night shifts.

"It's been a great ride, but we're talking about the presidency here, we're talking about the way this country looks on the world stage," said David Yepsen, who retired after 34 years at the Des Moines Register, including serving as the paper's national political columnist. "Let's not be parochial here anymore. If we can't do this right, then we ought not to do it."

By Friday, an official winner still had not been announced, and new counting rules created a scenario in which two candidates were declaring victory based on two types of results.

With 100% of the state's precincts reporting, former South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg held a minuscule lead with 26.2% delegate support to 26.1% for Sanders. Buttigieg declared victory Monday night, based on this traditional measure of the percentage of state delegates won in different regions of Iowa and statewide.

But on Thursday, Sanders claimed he had won, citing a higher raw number of supporters than Buttigieg, even though the delegate math is what is applied to the presidential nomination. Sanders also said irregularities in the results show he could have won both the delegate vote and the raw count.

The Associated Press, which the nation's news outlets rely on to proclaim a winner, concluded it could not declare a victor, citing concerns about the accuracy of the results as reported by the state party. A New York Times analysis found results released by the state party to be "riddled with inconsistencies and other flaws," including results that were missing data or simply were not possible under the caucuses' complicated rules.

Tom Perez, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, reinforced the concern over the process and the legitimacy of the caucus results — key factors in determining Iowa's future in the political world — when he called Thursday for the results to be double-checked by hand.

"Enough is enough," Perez tweeted. "In light of the problems that have emerged in the implementation of the delegate selection plan and in order to assure public confidence in the results, I am calling on the Iowa Democratic Party to immediately begin a recanvass."

Such a move would require Iowa Democrats to go through thousands of first-time presidential preference cards signed by caucusgoers in each of the nearly 1,700 precinct caucus sites to verify the results. Price, the state party chair, responded by not directly addressing the request from Perez, but said that the party was using the cards in culling the results and would undergo a recanvass if any of the presidential campaigns made such a request.

Summing up dysfunction, Sanders deadpanned, "Maybe we might want the decisions of the Iowa caucus before the November election."

'They look silly'

For 2020, Iowa Democrats already had made changes to the caucuses after facing flak four year ago from the Sanders campaign, following the Vermont senator narrowly losing the state to Hillary Clinton.

As a result, the state party unveiled a new set of results, counting the number of people who supported the candidates at the beginning and end of each caucus. Those raw popular vote numbers came in addition to the traditional measurement of delegates won by each campaign.

With the new results in place, the party also deployed a smartphone app for party officials to report the results from the state's precincts. When the app didn't work properly, a backup phone system became jammed with calls from all corners of the state, leading scores of caucus workers to go home before reporting results.

The ongoing confusion involving the outcome of the Iowa caucuses comes only days before New Hampshire voters take part in that state's first-in-the-nation primary on Tuesday. The Democratic presidential contenders, who spent the better part of last year stumping in Iowa, had to move on to New Hampshire before any of the Hawkeye State results had even been released.

Monday did not mark Iowa's first caucus kerfuffle. In 2012, Mitt Romney was named the winner of the Republican caucus by eight votes, only to have the party determine 16 days later that former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum had finished in first by 34 votes.

Yepsen, who hosts a politics show on Iowa Public Television, said the time has come for Iowa Democrats to end their side of the caucuses. He said any changes the state makes, such as adopting a voting primary rather than a crowdsourcing caucus system, would keep it from holding onto its front-of-the-line status.

"The state should just say we'll have a primary. And if that means New Hampshire goes first, that's fine. We can get in line," Yepsen said. "There's a question for what's good for the country here and the other question is what's good for the Democratic Party. The Democratic Party looks foolish today. They've hurt themselves in Iowa politically. They look silly nationally."

But Ron Healey, a member of the Iowa Democratic Party's State Central Committee, said a faulty app shouldn't cost the state its political prestige.

"Iowa will hang onto the caucuses, and we'll still be first," Healey predicted. "You can't judge an entire state by an app that didn't work. That's what stings me as an Iowan: Iowa didn't lose this, technology lost this."

Plus, Healey said, there is value in holding a caucus over a primary. In a caucus, representatives for candidates make speeches and fellow Iowans work to persuade each other before dividing into groups backing each campaign.

"The caucus process gives you a firsthand opportunity to talk with the people you live with, to discuss the issues and candidates," said Healey, chair of the state party's Armed Forces and Veterans committee. "If you just go to a voting booth, you don't get the inner-caucus conversation. You don't get to hear your neighbors make their case."

'Quirky, quaint tradition'

Caucuses have been part of Iowa's history going back to the 1800s, but the modern-day version began in 1972 and gained attention four years later after a little-known Georgia governor and peanut farmer campaigned heavily in the state. Jimmy Carter's surprise Iowa victory in 1976 helped catapult him into the White House and advanced the importance of the caucuses for Democrats and Republicans.

Most recently, the last four winners of contested Democratic caucuses went on to become president, including then-Illinois U.S. Sen. Barack Obama. His 2008 victory in a three-way race, in part, bolstered his viability as an African American candidate after winning a starkly white state.

This year, the large Democratic field of contenders put added burdens on Iowa's caucus operation. Add to that the fact that the caucus is a party-run operation relying on volunteers — not a state-run election like a primary — and confusion can reign.

There were reports of county Democratic chairmen or aides driving to the homes of individual precinct caucus chairs early Tuesday to wake them up to get their results and paperwork after they gave up on trying to contact state party officials in Des Moines.

Healey, who chaired a caucus in the small northern Iowa town of Epworth, population 1,860, said the additional counting of candidate support didn't make things any more complicated. After his 82-person caucus finished and he couldn't get the app to work, he called the results into the state party. He had success getting through, because they finished their work quickly, he surmised.

"Our caucus was extremely organized, and people were very interested in what other people had to say. They were orderly. They were polite. It was certainly Iowa values," Healey said. "It's the reporting that was the issue, not the caucuses."

Still, Dennis Goldford, a veteran professor of political science at Drake University, said the Democrats' caucus debacle is "certainly a critical wound. Is it fatal? We don't know that yet."

"Iowa's always been criticized for being too rural and too white and too small town. The Democrats every four years here in Iowa and the Republicans, to some extent too, have to fight to hold the same first-in-the-nation position. It's the only thing Iowa Republicans and Iowa Democrats between them believe in or agree upon," Goldford said. "But the results of this caucus, combined with those traditional issues, make that uphill battle even steeper for the next time."

One of the nation's top-ranking Democrats, Illinois U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, said he's seen enough.

Durbin said he loves the people of Iowa and has enjoyed campaigning there, including for Obama, but cited the common criticisms of the state's lack of diversity and the difficulty for working people and those with families to participate.

"I think the Democratic caucus in Iowa is a quirky, quaint tradition which should come to an end. As we try to make voting easier for people across America, the Iowa caucus is the most painful situation we currently face for voting," Durbin said. "We've got to have a means for people to express themselves that is reliable. Unfortunately, the caucus system is not."

If not Iowa, where?

The case for Iowa has been that the state provides a soft entry point for presidential contenders with generally lower costs for staff and for TV ads in its few markets while allowing candidates to engage in more one-on-one retail politics with potential caucusgoers.

But Yepsen said "some of the intimacy" between candidates and Iowans has been lost over the years. Plus, the ability to conduct retail politicking has largely gone by the wayside as candidates largely look to hold rallies in made-for-TV events rather than court a dozen voters in a living room or at a farm in rural Iowa.

"This thing is starting to look like a torchlight parade," he said. "It's just sort of old, and we don't do that anymore."

But if not Iowa, then what state should be the kickoff state? That factor, veteran caucus observers contend, has been what's kept the state at the forefront.

While Iowa's demographics do not represent the country, each of the four initial states in the Democratic contest this time — with Nevada and South Carolina following New Hampshire — potentially represent a distinctive Democratic voting group.

"If there was an easy answer to, 'If not Iowa, then where?' we would have had that answer a long time ago," Goldford said.

No one is really in favor of a single-day national primary, he said. Talk of regional primaries would raise disputes about which states in which regions should be selected and how the delegates would be divvied up, Goldford predicted.

"This is the problem," he said. "There are 48 states that dislike the position that Iowa and New Hampshire hold in the presidential nomination process. But until an overwhelming majority of those 48 states can agree on what should change, the status quo remains by default."

Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker has suggested that Illinois is more demographically representative of the nation, citing a 2016 National Public Radio study, and deserves a shot as the first state.

But whether Pritzker was trying to throw some shade on neighboring Iowa or truly asking for Illinois to be considered, it's highly doubtful that such a move would get national Democratic backing for a variety of reasons— particularly the state's culture and history of corruption.

"Pritzker's right that NPR did a story four years ago. Illinois is typical, demographics and all that. But the Justice Department tells us it's one of the most corrupt," said Yepsen, who also previously served as director of the Paul Simon Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University. "The country is not going to cede that kind of influence over the choice of a president or a candidate for president if it's done in that kind of swamp. It just isn't going to be credible."

When Yepsen first heard Pritzker's suggestion that Illinois should get the lead-off spot, he took to Twitter and invoked the famous quote from disgraced and imprisoned former Gov. Rod Blagojevich caught on a federal wiretap as he schemed how to leverage the Illinois U.S. Senate seat vacated by Obama.

Of moving Illinois to the head of the line, Yepsen said: "That would be f---ing golden."

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GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

Caucusgoers for former Vice President Joe Biden hold their first votes for counting at Drake Unversity's Knapp Center in Des Moines, Iowa, on Monday.

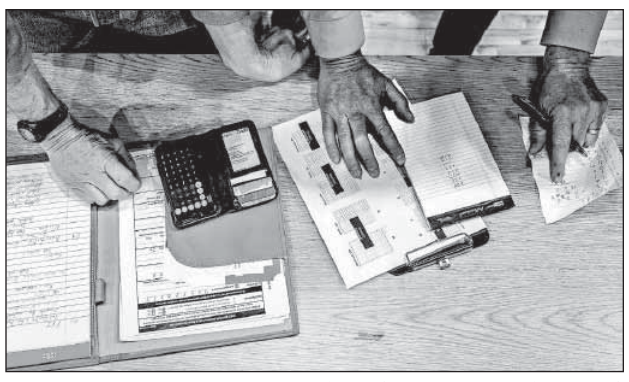


JOSHUA LOTT/GETTY-AFP

State Party Chairman Troy Price is surrounded Tuesday after discussing technical issues.

"Iowa's always been criticized for being too rural and too white and too small town. The Democrats every four years here in Iowa and the Republicans, to some extent too, have to fight to hold the same first-in-the-nation position."

— Dennis Goldford, a veteran professor of political science at Drake University



JODAN GALE/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Officials tabulate the results of an initial head count at a caucus site in Des Moines, Iowa, on Monday.

Bail denied for accused firefighter shooter

By Madeline Buckley

A 29-year-old man is charged with four felonies after an on-duty Chicago firefighter was shot and injured while trying to fight a car fire on the Northwest Side earlier this week, police said.

Hollis Williams, 29, of the 4400 block of North Francisco Avenue, is charged with unlawful use of a weapon by a felon, aggravated battery of a firefighter, aggravated battery of a police officer and aggravated unlawful use of a weapon in connection with the Feb. 2 shooting. He also faces multiple traffic violations.

During a hearing Saturday afternoon at the Leighton Criminal Court Building, a judge denied bail for Williams, according to Cook County state's attorney's office spokeswoman Tandra Simonton. He is scheduled to appear in court again on Tuesday.

When officers tried to arrest Williams on Thursday, he rammed a sergeant's car with the vehicle he was in and then ran over an officer's foot, said Chief of Detectives Brendan Deenihan. Williams then got out of his car and ran away before he was caught.

"Whenever a public safety employee, particularly a firefighter, is attacked, we not only take it very seriously, we look at it as an attack on the whole fabric of society," interim Chicago police Superintendent Charlie Beck said at a Saturday news conference announcing the charges.

The incident started when firefighters were called to a car fire around 1 a.m. in the 3400 block of West Wilson Avenue in the Albany Park neighborhood, police said.

Detectives learned that two people had set the car on fire, hoping to draw out individuals who lived in the building, Deenihan said. Four people came out of the building, including a woman who got into another vehicle and began driving away.

Two unknown people began shooting at the woman, and two men who were with the woman returned fire, hitting the firefighter in the crossfire, Deenihan said.

Police said Williams was one of the shooters who came out of the building with the woman. Police are still searching for the others involved in the shooting, Deenihan said.

Speaking at the news conference, Fire Commissioner Richard C. Ford II said the firefighter is home and in "good spirits." The 36-year-old firefighter had been shot in the leg.

Beloved store clerk injured in Park Manor robbery dies

By Deanese Williams-Harris and Madeline Buckley

A store clerk who was wounded trying to fend off four robbers Friday afternoon at a Park Manor store has died, according to the Cook County medical examiner's office.

An autopsy Saturday determined Mohammed I. Maali, 33, of the 8000 block of South Kostner Avenue, died of a gunshot wound to the torso and his death was ruled a homicide, the office said.

Maali was pronounced dead at 7:40 p.m. on Friday.

About 1:45 p.m., four male suspects entered a store at 68 E. 71st St. and announced a robbery before one of them grabbed a cash drawer from a register. Maali pulled his gun and shot two of the robbers, who returned fire, hitting him, police said.

Officers responding to the store found Maali lying on the floor of the business, police said. He was the owner of the convenience store.

Police had reported he died but later said he was taken with a chest wound to the University of Chicago Medical Center and was in critical condition. He underwent surgery but was pronounced dead, according to the medical examiner's office.

Surveillance video showed the robbers exiting out the back of the store with garbage bags that they placed in a car parked nearby, police said.

Officers canvassed the area and arrested four male suspects: 13, 15, 17 and 34 years old, according to police. Two of them had suffered gunshot wounds, the 34-year-old man and the 17-year-old boy, police said.

The oldest man is suspected of being a Black P Stone gang member, police said.

Charges were pending, Chicago police said.

Friday, people in the area of the store asked if "Omar," the name they called the store clerk known for extending credit to those who were short of money, was injured.

"Omar got shot," some would say.

And then there was disbelief: "They shot Omar?"

Little prairie remains in state

Prairie, from **Page 1**

Workers are removing some of the trees that were planted in the 1940s in an effort to restore prairie and save the remaining original prairie. The work has resulted in patches of land that have been returned close to their original state. In the 1990s, the DuPage and Cook County forest preserve districts put such restoration work on hold after residents complained about the removal of trees.

One of the larger projects underway is in Northbrook, where crews are working on land that surrounds 12 acres of pristine prairie, untouched in the centuries since settlers arrived in Illinois.

That patch of intact natural prairie is a rarity in the state. Funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Cook County and a group of volunteers from the North Branch Restoration Project, including McMartin, are preserving the natural prairie and restoring the land around it. The work will culminate in a 72-acre prairie in the northern suburb by about 2021.

It's part of an ambitious Cook County plan to restore 30,000 acres of prairie, woodlands, savanna and other natural space to good ecological health in 25 years. The plan also calls for expanding the forest preserves to 90,000 acres from their current 69,000.

"What we have left is really precious," Masters said. "We would be doing ourselves and future generations a disservice if we didn't take care of them."



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Laurel Ross spreads native prairie plant seeds on Jan. 29 as part of the restoration effort at the Somme Prairie Nature Preserve in Northbrook.



Eryngium yuccifolium, also known as rattlesnake master, is a native prairie plant.

A project decades in the works

On a recent cold afternoon, McMartin, of Northbrook, and three other volunteers gathered grocery bags filled with millions of plant seeds and trudged through a thin layer of snow to scatter them across the ground at Somme Prairie Nature Preserve.

"Everyone take a little," Laurel Ross, a steward leading the group, told her fellow volunteers. "See how much ground you can cover."

The area, located between Dundee Road and the Edens Expressway Spur, has gone through a noticeable transformation this winter as volunteers and crews with the Cook County Forest Preserve District have been working to clear trees, bushes and other invasive brush, leaving acres of open land.

Somme Prairie Nature Preserve is part of the Somme complex, which includes Somme Prairie Grove, about 85 acres of mostly oak savanna, and Somme Woods, 255 acres of mostly oak woodland. The nature preserve is the only part of the complex protected by the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission for its high-quality natural area.

With most of the trees and brush gone, the volunteers are able to spread seeds they collected from other areas that will grow into prairie plants. It's best to do this in cold weather, with the ground frozen, experts say. Ross said crews still have to remove about 4 to 5 acres of trees and brush from Somme Prairie. When the project is complete, most trees will be gone, except for some along the boundaries.



The 12 acres of intact natural prairie, left untouched over decades by happenstance, lay several yards beyond where the group was laying seeds. The volunteers have been slowly working in that area for decades, trying to save the original prairie and restore the area around it. They started the project before the county had much of a budget to help.

"This has been going on for 40 years," said Ross, who has volunteered for about 30 years. "We've been removing the trees, doing it a little at a time."

The work hit snags in the mid-1990s when anti-restoration backlash took hold, as some area residents grew upset that volunteers were removing trees. Though scientists and ecologists supported the prairie restorations, some people raised concerns.

"They are cutting down healthy trees to create savannas!" an opponent said in a 1996 Tribune article.

But in the last several years, the forest preserve district has worked with the volunteers to accelerate the project with grant funding, said Rebecca Collings, a senior resource ecologist for the district.

The county has been in touch with the village of Northbrook and has placed a sign on the property to keep residents informed about the project, said Carl Vogel, a spokesman for the forest preserve district. Officials have also fielded some calls and emails with questions from passersby who have seen the tree removal.

Vogel said the county has "no plans" to remove all the trees that were reforested decades ago across all forest preserves.

"Almost everyone has been good with it once they hear that it will remain a part of the forest preserves and that we have a plan to restore a prairie," Vogel said. "And even for the few who would not want that change, it's been a fair and civil conversation."

Most of the 72 acres has been restored, with about 21 acres remaining. The project's final push has an estimated cost of about $150,000, with about half paid for by the federal grant, said Troy Showerman, resource project manager for the forest preserve district. The county is funding the other half.

The project is scheduled for completion next year, though it may take years more to resemble a true prairie.

"It might look pretty rough," Showerman said. "It's going to take a couple years for the area we are working in to really recover."

'Our natural heritage'

When the prairie becomes fully grown, it will be grassy with lots of species of sunflowers, asters and other flowers, ecologists say. It will be a natural habitat for butterflies, grasshoppers and other insects.

While seeding the ground at Somme Prairie, the volunteers dropped hundreds of seeds of rigid goldenrod, which will grow into a yellow flower.

"It's perfect for this," Ross told McMartin and the others.

As a child, McMartin would venture out into the Minnesota woods with his mother every spring, enjoying the emerging plants and animals after a long winter.

"We would go out and try to identify the wildlife," he said.

Now, he volunteers his time restoring the Cook County prairie to remain close to nature.

The goal of the restoration is to preserve the ecosystem, rather than provide a place for picnics and hiking. There is one informal trail that circles the nature preserve and is used by some locals as a walking path.

"It's not closed to the public by any means," Ross said. "But it's not a park with a recreation mission."

The county estimates that hundreds of species of plants and insects live on the prairie, two of which are on the federal endangered species list.

"It's kind of a window into what was here originally," Collings said. "We call it our natural heritage."

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"What we have left is really precious. We would be doing ourselves and future generations a disservice if we didn't take care of them."

— Linda Masters, a restoration ecologist for Openlands, a nonprofit conservation organization

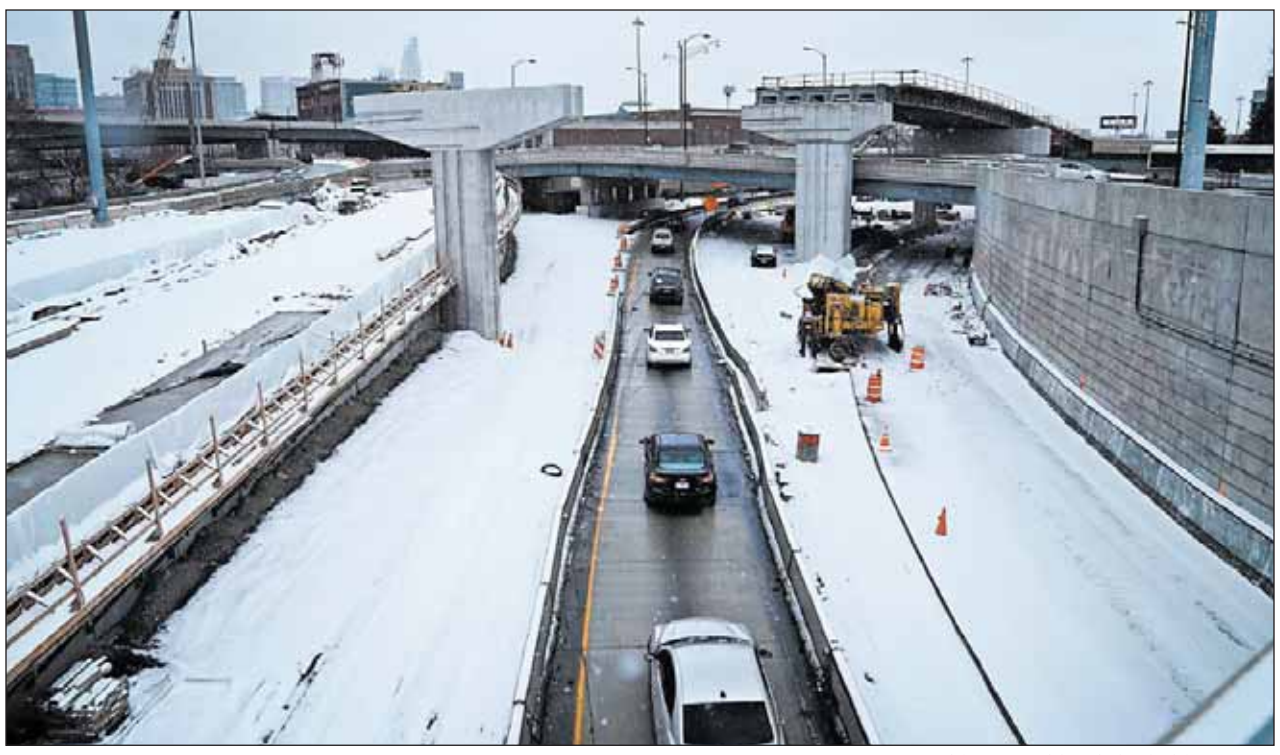
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Continued from **Page 1**

The increase includes $52.9 million in additional construction costs and $24.8 million in new engineering expenses, according to the report.

The report still predicts the state will finish the project and relieve drivers of years of traffic backups by Nov. 1, 2022. But IDOT officials, in an interview, cautioned there remains the possibility of more delays, depending on what crews find as they work and the fickle Chicago weather.

"So if we have a really wet April and May, that's a big risk to schedule and costs," said Steve Travia, engineer for project implementation at IDOT. The project will be particularly hard on drivers this year, with several closures planned.



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Construction is ongoing on the southbound ramp from the Eisenhower to the Dan Ryan in the Jane Byrne Interchange.



A worker surveys construction on the Jane Byrne Interchange south of West Van Buren Street on Thursday.

Cost estimates on the project have gone up every year, but the 2019 increase is the largest annual jump since work began, according to state documents.

The revised price tag is due in part to the higher cost to build the retaining walls that line the east and west sides of Interstate 90/94. The state learned of "extremely poor soils in the project area" that required "very robust" retaining walls, the report said.

The IDOT report attributed the "substantially" higher costs for the walls to what it characterized as "new" rules imposed by the city of Chicago on how to build them. But the city told the Tribune the rules were "existing industry standards" that had long been in place, and the city issued "guidance" in 2016 to restate those rules.

IDOT told the Tribune the city didn't publish the rules until 2016, after the project began.

At issue are requirements about how much wiggle a retaining wall can have. IDOT initially worked off its own standard — an inch — but later learned of the city's stricter requirements. City officials said the less-than-one-inch requirement comes into play when a project is close to buildings and utility lines.

That has meant digging deeper to build more stout walls, said IDOT Region 1 Engineer Anthony Quigley.

"(With) the soil conditions out there, with the close proximity of the buildings, it made perfect sense to work with the criteria the City of Chicago was used to doing on these projects," Quigley said.

The soil around the project also has contributed to rising costs.

IDOT previously blamed engineering firms it hired for missing poor soil conditions that it said contributed to problems with a wall between the Eisenhower Expressway and University of Illinois at Chicago's CUPPA Hall, home to the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs.

During construction, the building sank so much that it left cracks in the foundation and made it impossible to shut some doors and windows, court records show. Deemed unsafe, it couldn't be used for a year until repaired.

Officials told the Tribune that IDOT so far hasn't sought any compensation from consultants or contractors over the issue and, more broadly, noted the difficulty with trying to determine soil conditions before a project begins.

The Tribune also reported last year that some delays were attributed to the rerouting of utilities, with contractors blaming outside utility companies and city of Chicago crews.

The state's new report said reconstruction of the Adams Street and Jackson Boulevard bridges over the Kennedy Expressway will cost more due to "structural complexities." Travia said it's the unfortunate by-product of having to build complex designs around an active roadway because some construction details aren't able to be worked out until well into the project.

The junction, once called the Circle Interchange but also known unofficially as the "spaghetti bowl," has been rated as the biggest bottleneck for truck drivers in the nation by the Federal Highway Administration. The massive reconstruction project is intended to make the interchange safer and reduce traffic delays by more than 50%, according to IDOT.

Engineers knew the project would be complicated from the beginning, because it was confined in such a tight space and lanes had to remain open during construction. The agency also slowed work on the project when it made urgent repairs to another key highway entry point into the city, Interstate 55 at Lake Shore Drive.

Extra costs and delays are common for a project of this magnitude, said P.S. Sriraj, who runs the Urban Transportation Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He pointed to the biggest increase — surrounding the soil findings and retaining walls.

"Ideally you'd like to do full-scale testing of everything you can (before beginning work), but these are exceptional circumstances," he said, noting the roadways had to stay open.

"That's what you get when you are trying to keep traffic moving and at the same time do a large scale reconstruction."

In some major projects across the country, to help cut down on costs and late surprises, government agencies can employ a "design-build" model in which one contractor is hired to oversee the entire process, versus the more traditional model of a government agency hiring separate firms to handle separate parts of the design and construction.

But IDOT does not have that statutory authority. Quigley said he couldn't speak specifically to the merits of it but said, in general, it would offer "another tool in the toolbox."

Illinois is one of only five states with no design-build authority for transportation, according to the Design-Build Institute of America, a Washington, D.C.-based group that trains design-builders and advocates for the process.

Following last year's Tribune investigation, IDOT officials acknowledged they could have communicated better with the public about project delays, and said they would do better.

IDOT established a special website — janebyrneinterchange.org — for drivers that includes documents and updates about the project. A key document is the annual financial plan update, in which IDOT must detail for federal authorities — who are footing most of the bill — any cost overruns and delays.

While the annual report is completed in the fall, IDOT didn't post the previous update until March 5, 2019, after the Tribune began asking questions about project delays. IDOT posted its latest update to the site on Jan. 7, six weeks after federal authorities approved it. IDOT said it took time over the holidays to prepare it for publication.

This year's construction schedule is expected to be especially tough on drivers, with the closing early this month of the ramp from outbound Ida B. Wells Drive to the outbound Kennedy for demolition and reconstruction.

Other work will include the closure and reconstruction of the inbound Eisenhower ramp to the outbound Kennedy, as well as ongoing work on the outbound Ida B. Wells ramp to the outbound Dan Ryan, and the inbound Kennedy ramp to inbound Ida B. Wells.

The Adams and Jackson bridges over the Kennedy will close for full reconstruction with a tentative reopening in 2022.

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Complimentary Auction Estimates

February 18 | Winnetka

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Winnetka

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Chicago Tribune

PERSPECTIVE



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

Tuskegee Airman Charles McGee, 100, and his great-grandson Iain Lanphier react as President Donald Trump delivers his State of the Union address on Tuesday.

Trump's surprising outreach to black voters



STEVE CHAPMAN

At times during his State of the Union address, Donald Trump seemed to be running for president — of the NAACP. In 2016, he asked black voters, "What the hell do you have to lose?" This year, his message amounts to "You never had it so good."

In his State of the Union address, Trump boasted that the black unemployment is the lowest ever. He cited his signing of a criminal justice reform law. He celebrated "opportunity zones" in poor areas and told a black child in the audience that she would be getting an "opportunity scholarship" to attend a new school.

He announced the promotion of a 100-year-old Tuskegee Airman to brigadier general. He did everything but name Denzel Washington as his running mate.

If Trump is hoping to lure many African Americans into the pale ranks of his followers, though, he would appear to be wasting his time. In 2016, he got just 8% of the African American vote, and he has often seemed hellbent on driving that number down to zero, if not lower.

In 2017, this native of Queens, New York, said those who want to remove Confederate statues were "trying to take away our culture" — to which African Americans might have replied, "What do you mean, 'our'?" After violent clashes at a white nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 2017, he affirmed that there were "very fine people on both sides."

He has barely tried to disguise his fixation on pigmentation, demanding to know why the United States takes immigrants from Haiti and some African nations, which he referred to as "s—-hole countries," instead of Norway.

Trump claimed that CNN anchor Don Lemon is "the dumbest man on TV" and that Rep. Maxine Waters has "a very low IQ." (Are you noticing a pattern?) And who can forget his denunciation of Colin Kaepernick as a "son of a bitch" for daring to kneel during the national anthem to protest racial inequities.

Still, Republicans insist that he can expand his share of the black vote, which even conventional GOP presidential nominees generally lose by a 9-to-1 margin. Sen. Tim Scott, the only African American Republican senator, told Fox News, "He can be between 14 and 16 percent in 2020."

Sure, and Octavia Spencer could win a NASCAR race.

A recent Washington Post/Ipsos poll found that African Americans have no trouble detecting the theme of Trump's tenure. Fully 83% of them say he's a racist. Two out of three say it's a "bad time" to be black. Ninety percent disapprove of his performance — and 75% disapprove "strongly." Somewhere, David Duke is smiling.

But, for once, there is method in Trump's madness.

He is reaching out to black voters, but they're not the sole or even main target of this message. Those State of the Union passages, Barack Obama's senior campaign strategist David Axelrod says, were also an effort "to reassure other voters, most notably white women, that he is not the divisive figure they've seen."

One of Trump's objectives is to appease white voters who are open to voting for him but don't want to see themselves as bigots. By highlighting all the things that African Americans should be grateful for, he soothes the consciences of some whites.

Among these are those who voted for Obama and then for Trump. "They may feel uncomfortable when he does things that have a racial element," Keneshia Grant, a Howard University political scientist and author of "The Great Migration and the Democratic Party," tells me. The State of the Union gestures "may be an attempt to take away some of the stigma of what he's done."

There is another way his strategy could help him. In 2016, he won Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin partly because black voters turned out in lower numbers than they had when Obama was running. He doesn't need African Americans to vote for him. He can also win by getting them to vote for no one.

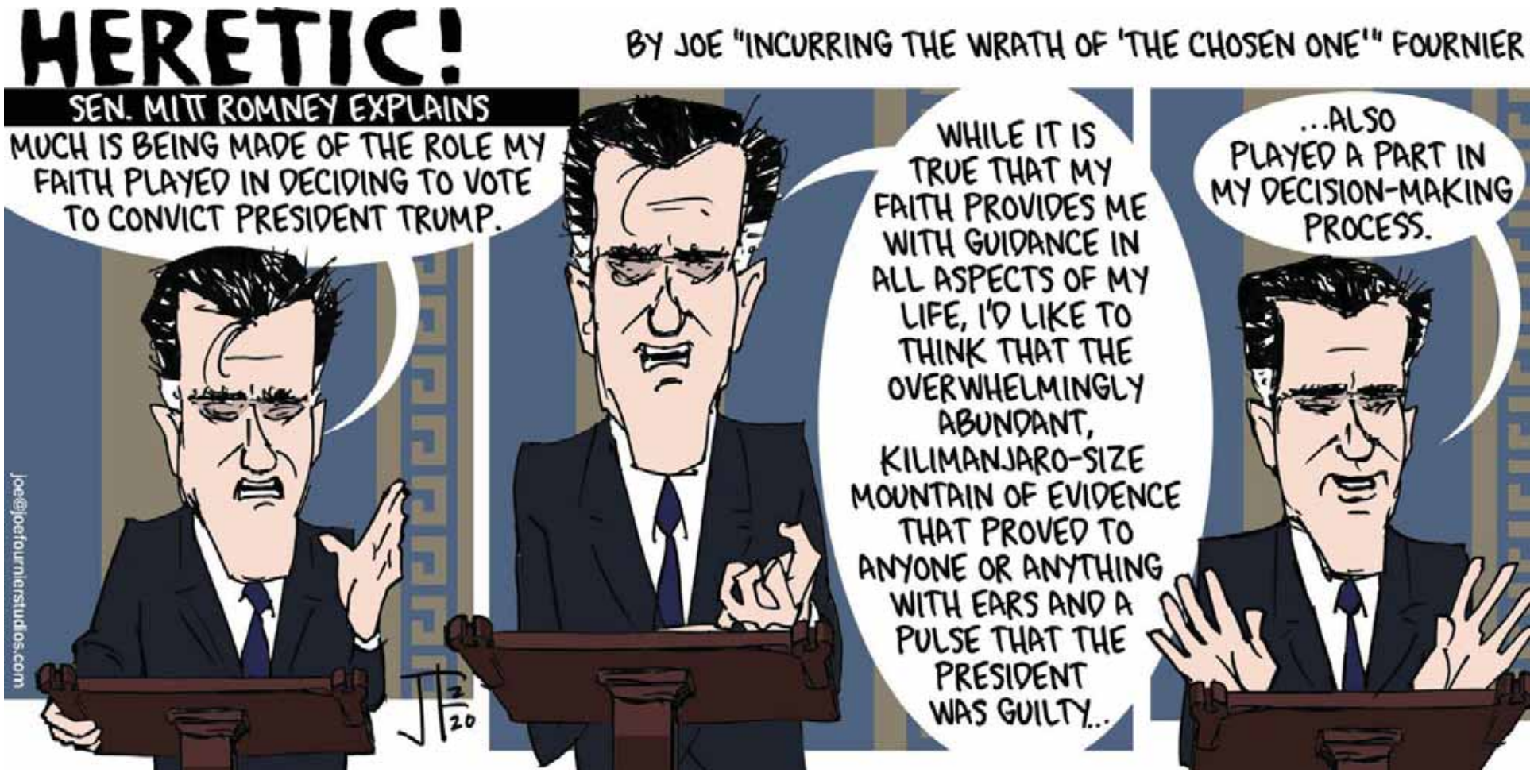
"It really is about suppressing the black vote more than it is about bringing black voters out to support Trump," Adrianne Shropshire, executive director of BlackPAC, told Politico. For this purpose, he doesn't need African Americans to like him. He just needs them to loathe him a little less.

But African Americans haven't survived by being unable to recognize an enemy when they see one. Whites of goodwill also shouldn't be fooled.

Steve Chapman, a member of the Tribune Editorial Board, blogs at www.chicagotribune.com/chapman.

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CHANGE OF SUBJECT

BY ERIC ZORN



The emptiness behind Trump's school prayer references

Even before President Donald Trump defiled the traditionally apolitical National Prayer Breakfast on Thursday with partisan score-settling — the House Democrats who impeached him, he said, are "very dishonest and corrupt people," while his Republican defenders "had the wisdom, the fortitude and strength to do what everyone knows was right" — the subject of prayer had been on his mind.

During his State of the Union address Tuesday night, he boasted that he is defending "the constitutional right to pray in public schools in America," echoing remarks he made on National Religious Freedom Day, Jan. 16, when he said he was "proudly announcing historic steps to protect the First Amendment right to pray in public schools."



NICHOLAS KAMM/AFP

President Donald Trump speaks at the 68th annual National Prayer Breakfast on Thursday in Washington, D.C. He also spoke about prayer at two other events in January.

You're forgiven for thinking, "School prayer? Didn't we settle that issue in the early '60s?"

Yes. Yes, we did. In the case of Engel v. Vitale in 1962, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that public school administrators, teachers and other officials can't lead students in prayer for pretty obvious reasons: "When the power, prestige and financial support of government is placed behind a particular religious belief," wrote Justice Hugo Black for a 6-1 majority, "the indirect coercive pressure upon religious minorities to conform to the prevailing officially approved religion is plain" and therefore violates the First Amendment.

This ruling has always bothered those who believe state institutions should promote Christianity, or at least make it clear that those who worship God are especially favored by our government. They fondly remember the days of mandatory Bible reading in public schools — struck down by the court 8-1 in a 1963 case — and sectarian prayers before public school sporting events and graduation ceremonies — also struck down in later cases.

The essence of these and other rulings is that it's not just unconstitutional for the government to appear to take sides in matters of faith, it's a bad idea. Sure, it may not *seem so* if you belong to the majority religion in a community and the publicly sponsored prayers celebrate and reinforce your beliefs about the supernatural, but imagine how suffocating and even offensive you might find it if your children's teachers were allowed every day to attempt to inculcate them into a faith your family did not share, to compel them to sit through rituals that contradicted your teachings.

Trump plays openly to those in his conservative base who lack such imagination and instead nurse the absurd grievance that Christianity is under attack by those of us who insist that government show no favoritism whatsoever when it comes to religious thought.

At a Jan. 3 rally at a Miami megachurch, Trump spoke critically about an American Civil Liberties Union suit filed in November against the Smith County (Tennessee) School System alleging students are subject to "school-sponsored prayer, proselytizing and other means of religious inculcation."

In his remarks on Religious Freedom Day, Trump focused on a largely imaginary "growing totalitarian impulse on the far left that seeks to punish, restrict and even prohibit religious expression," and cited isolated examples of overzealous administrators who prevented students from performing permissible religious exercises. "We're doing something to stop that," he said.

That "something" was actually not much — certainly not the effort to reinstate teacher-led prayer that Trump's rhetoric hints at but never quite says. Instead the "historic steps" he boasted of amounted to little more than the issuing of a reminder to educators that guidelines in place since 2003 underscore the rights of students and teachers to pray in school settings.

He didn't bother to mention it, but the document released by his Department of Education that day also stressed that "teachers and other public school officials, acting in their official capacities, may not lead their classes in prayer, devotional readings from the Bible, or other religious activities, nor may school officials use their authority to attempt to persuade or compel students to participate in prayer or other religious activities."

In other words, ignore his insinuations and pieties. His allusions to school prayer are empty words designed to comfort the conservative base that still dreams of the good old days when "government schools" were empowered to tell your children what to think about God.

Trump on humility

In remarks prior to the president's speech at the prayer breakfast, conservative author Arthur Brooks spoke pointedly about "the crisis of contempt and polarization that's tearing our societies apart." He said, "If you believe Jesus' teaching, act like it. ... Ask God to take political contempt from your heart and sometimes when it's just too hard, ask God to help you fake it."

"Arthur," replied Trump when it was his turn to speak, "I don't know if I agree with you."

Trump on spousal love

Trump said so many strange, petty things on Thursday alone that his peculiar digression on wives during his midday speech in the White House received little notice. But marinate, for a moment, in what he said about his June 2017 encounter in the hospital with the wife of Rep. Steve Scalise, R-La., who had been gravely wounded earlier that day by the gunman who opened fire on congressmen practicing for a baseball game.

"She was devastated," Trump recalled. "A lot of wives wouldn't give a damn. ... I said, 'How's he doing?' She couldn't even talk. She was inconsolable. Most wives would say, 'Not good. Listen, I'm going home now.' "

The Melania joke kinda writes itself.

Welcome back, Bill and Wendy

In November, I offered space here to Bill Leff and Wendy Snyder so they could say a fond farewell to radio listeners after they were fired abruptly by WGN-AM 720 after six years there as a talk show team. Many of their fans then wrote to ask me to follow their story, so here's the update: They're now hosting an hourlong podcast three days a week, recorded at the downtown studios of WLS-AM.

Search for "Bill and Wendy Show" on your favorite podcast app, but not before you download and listen to "The Mincing Rascals," the WGN-plus news analysis podcast on which I'm a regular panelist.

Re: Tweets

The winner of this week's reader poll to select the funniest tweet was "I haven't won anything since I did my kid's fifth grade science fair project," by @HousewifeOfHell.

The poll appears at chicagotribune.com/zorn, and you can receive an alert when it's posted by signing up for the Change of Subject email newsletter at chicagotribune.com/newsletters.

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CHICAGO FLASHBACK

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ARMANDO VILLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Firefighters huddle around a trash barrel fire on the first day of their strike, Feb. 14, 1980. The Brotherhood of the Barrel stood outside firehouses warming themselves during the strike.

BATTLE LINE BETWEEN BROTHERS

Chicago firefighters' first and only strike left lasting divisions among ranks

By Ron Grossman

Chicago firefighters and paramedics were picketing Engine Co. 85's firehouse on Feb. 22, 1980, when they saw smoke rising nearby. Four grabbed helmets and boots from their cars and ran to a burning building at 648 N. Ridgeway Ave. John Genova climbed to the roof and fell, climbed there again and rescued Talla Robinson, aided by a cop and a passing truck driver.

"We had just seconds to get that woman before there was an explosion and the flames shot up through the roof and spread to the other buildings," Genova told a Tribune reporter.

Two other strikers were desperately trying to get to Engine Co. 85's pumper truck and the 500 gallons of water it carried, but cops guarding the station wouldn't let them in. "You can't just walk into a firehouse without clearance," a police lieutenant late explained. "You don't give city equipment to striking men."

Chicago's first, and so far only, firefighters strike had begun earlier that month, on Valentine's Day. With Engine Co. 85 unavailable, Engine Co. 68 was dispatched from a firehouse almost 3 miles away.

By the time engines arrived, the fire was out of control. The nonstriking firefighters of Engine Co. 68 demanded the cops arrest the strikers of Engine Co. 85, and an angry crowd of 150 demanded to know why the fire wasn't being extinguished. Several neighbors said they had heard the cries of children trapped in the building.

Amid the chaos, Robinson's niece Santanna Jackson, 2, and nephew Tommie Jackson, 1, perished.

The casualties would have been greater if striking firefighters and a cop hadn't kicked in the back doors and rescued at least four people from houses to which the fire had spread.

The 1980 strike was punctuated by similar episodes: For more than three weeks, beginning on Feb. 14, 1980, strikers and nonstrikers sometimes cursed each other, other times stretched hose lines side by side. The ashes of burned buildings bore equal witness to tragedy and heroism.

The strike led to the city granting its firefighters a contract, the ultimate ancestor of the one currently up for renewal. But the bitterness it kindled lasted long past March 8, 1980, when ambulance, pumper and ladder crews went back to work in Chicago's 120 firehouses.

First responders have a unique psychology, as Dennis Smith wrote in "Report From Engine Co. 82." Firefighters rush into a burning building that others are fleeing, Smith noted in his account of serving in a South Bronx firehouse.

And life in a firehouse is akin to that in the family homes to which they return at the end of a shift.

"Everyone's a loser in this one," Deputy Division Chief Edwin Nelson said about Chicago's strike. "We do our housework together. We fight fires together. We socialize together. This has ripped the family apart. How are we to overcome this feeling?"

The strike occurred during a change of guard in Chicago's political establishment. Richard J. Daley, Chicago's long-serving mayor, insisted upon handshake agreements rather than union contracts for first responders, a stance inherited by his successor, Michael Bilandic. But when Jane Byrne ran against Bilandic in 1979, she promised firefighters a contract. Once elected, she walked that back to "discussions" about collective bargaining.

Discussions quickly devolved into name-calling that escalated into threats. Firefighters had voted to authorize a strike, and Byrne warned: "I would be very angry. There would be firings immediately."

Asked if city officials would get advance notice of a strike, union President Frank Muscare replied: "I wouldn't give City Hall the right time of day."

A Tribune reporter was at Engine Co. 35's firehouse as the clock clicked down to 5:15 a.m. on Feb. 14, when the strike was scheduled to begin.

"And a couple of other guys get up and then the next guy and the next, and everyone is watching to see how many are going," a firefighter said. "The overhead door opens, and you keep walking, and then it closes, and you're outside the firehouse. And you think, 'My God. We've done it. We're on strike.' "

At a firehouse on East Illinois Street, Battalion Chief Ben Gariti found a few volunteers to man the rigs. "We'll go if we have to," he said. "We'll sprinkle a little water on the fire. Then, the hell with it."

The strike strained firefighters' solidarity to the breaking point.



ROY HALL/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A firefighter questions union President Frank Muscare, who is not shown, about getting a contract during the strike on Feb. 17, 1980.



CARL HUGARE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A potential firefighter recruit leaves the gym after deciding not to apply. Picketing firefighters taunted applicants during the strike in 1980.

Was their loyalty owed to striking firehouse mates? Or to the oath they took to protect the city?

The majority chose the former, dubbing themselves the Brotherhood of the Barrel. They stood outside firehouses warming themselves over fires in trash barrels. Their shock troops formed a "roving goon squad," as Mayor Byrne called them. They dubbed themselves "Moon's Goons," after the nickname of their union's president, "Moon" Muscare.

"We go to the firehouses and holler at our friends on the inside," paramedic Harry Nutter countered. "We want them to come out and be with us. That's all."

John Semrau, a firefighter for 21 years, turned in his badge during the strike, having had enough of "the 'dumb stubbornness' " of Muscare and Byrne. Semrau was incensed because a 77-year-old woman died while waiting for a Fire Department ambulance that never showed up.

Lauren Howard, the Fire Department's first female recruit, who was hired as a relief worker, reported for training at the department gymnasium that then adjoined Navy Pier. The strike arguably is what allowed a woman to break the department's gender barrier.

Eva Murray, a striking paramedic, took Howard aside. "You've got to understand the kind of pressure a woman will be under if you come in the right way, let alone coming in as a strike-breaker," Murray said.

On the third day of the strike, the Tribune estimated that 350 of Chicago's 4,350 firefighters had crossed the picket lines. That enabled the Fire Department to staff a few scattered firehouses with skeleton crews of veteran firefighters and newly hired and hastily trained recruits. Battalion chiefs reverted to basic duties they hadn't performed since being promoted years before.

A veteran firefighter noted that normally 970 firefighters were on duty during each of three shifts. "How long skeleton crews can man all shifts is the crucial question," he said.

When someone was killed in a fire, grief-stricken relatives and neighbors blamed the strikers or the mayor, and sometimes both.

A paramedic who stayed on the job saw many victims who had died before the thinned ranks of first responders could reach them. Also, an important piece of equipment used to monitor vital signs was taken out of his ambulance because, the Fire Department told him, striking firefighters might damage it. "So I called up and told my captain I was walking out" and joining the strike, the paramedic informed a Tribune reporter. "I was tired of pulling sheets over bodies."

Getting negotiations restarted wasn't easy because a judge had found Muscare guilty of contempt of court. Whenever the city made a proposal, union negotiators had to phone Muscare in Cook County Jail to get his response.

But eventually, both sides inched back from their hard-line positions, and striking firemen returned to work on March 8. Who won and who lost was a matter of debate.

"They're defeated, and we'll take them back," said First Battalion Chief William Meeker.

"There may be some silent treatment," said a member of Engine Co. 45, a returning striker. "But time heals all wounds."

In fact, it took two years to hammer out a contract, and firehouse tensions continued long after that. In 2000, the Tribune reported that invitations to retirement parties still specified "B.O.B.," meaning firefighters who hadn't warmed themselves over trash barrel fires weren't welcome.

To this day, obituaries note that a firefighter participated in the strike that won the contract enjoyed by those who now ride the rigs.

When retired Capt. Malachy Flisk died in 2016, his death notice described him as "a proud member of the Brotherhood of the Barrel (Moon's Goons)" and recited a firefighter's prayer:

"May the roof above us never fall in. And may the friends gathered below it never fall out."

Editor's note: Thanks to Tribune reader Bob Angone for suggesting this Flashback. Have an idea for Flashback? Share your suggestions with Editor Lara Weber at lweber@chicagotribune.com.

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EDITORIALS

Cook County: How Pritzker Tax would increase your SALT dosage

P.S. Here's why Illinois' 13 US House Democrats all voted to help the wealthy

For many Americans, February is the month to turn digital and paper records into federal and state income tax returns.

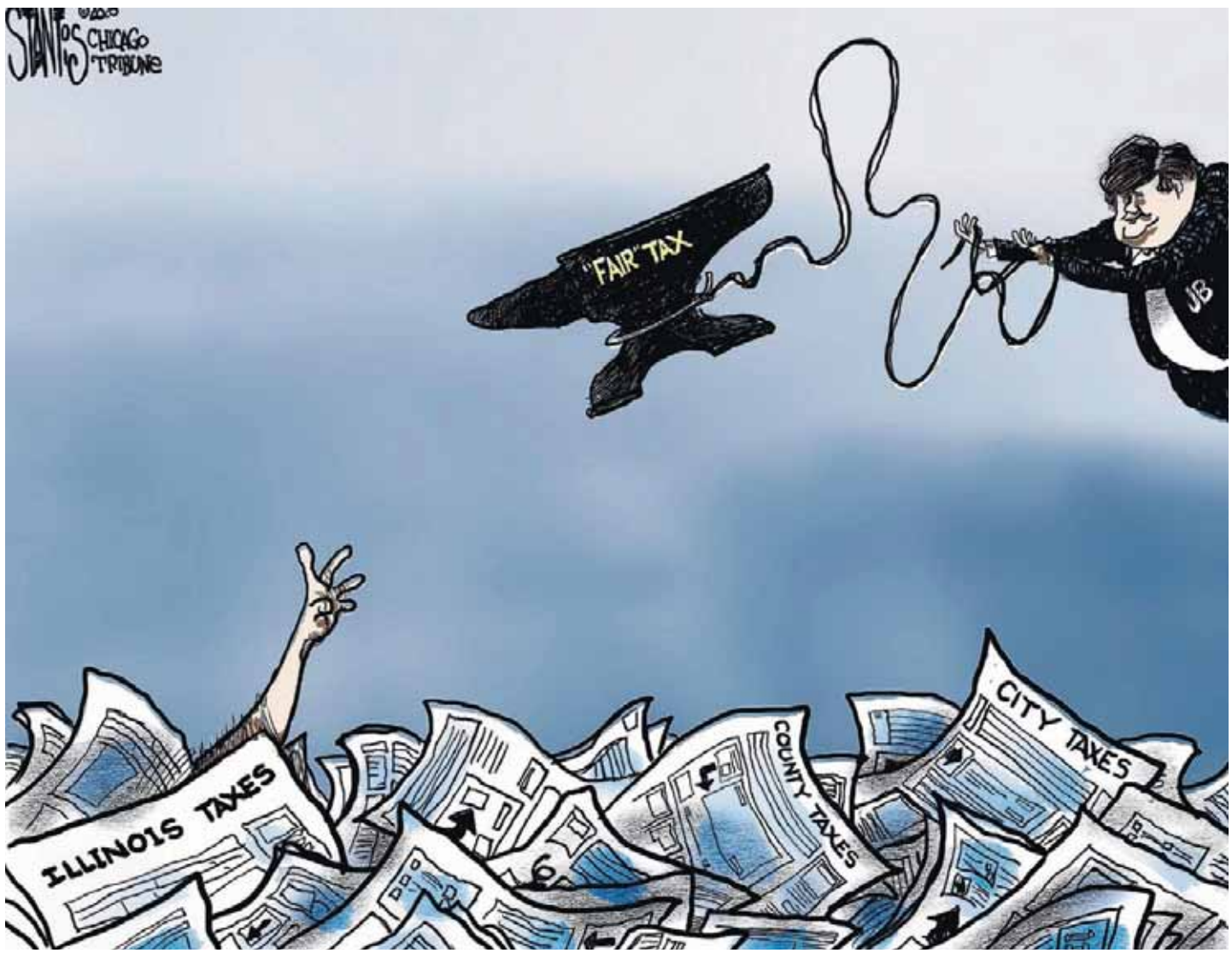
For Cook County residents, this also is the month for blind fury as they pay the first of the year's two onerous property tax bills. Metropolitan Chicago taxpayers are realizing anew that public officials routinely serve them massive doses of SALT, aka state and local taxes.

Illinois' ruling Democrats want to calm the public anger without reducing tax revenues. So they promise property tax reforms that never materialize. In a related money grab, they also want to switch Illinois from a fixed-rate income tax to a graduated-rate tax — the better to eventually soak not just the wealthy, but middle-class families too.

Illinois politicians know they've created enormous pension and other debts that must be paid. If you mangled your finances this recklessly, you'd consider spending less money. But if you're the ruling Democrats, nah, you have an easier solution: Remove more billions of dollars from taxpayers' pockets. These pols have many thoughts on how to spend Other People's Money.

Taxpayers, we hope you'll give your February disgust over Illinois taxes a nine-month gestation. Then, come November, vote to kill the proposed constitutional amendment that would give Democrats an unfettered ability to divide and conquer taxpayers. Here's how what we call the Pritzker Tax, conjured by Gov. J.B. Pritzker, would work:

Rather than having to raise the single income tax rate on everyone in Illinois at once as is now the case — a big lift politically — the Dems would quell resistance by dividing and conquering the rest of us: They could raise rates on rich people one year, on upper-middle-class families the next year, on middle-class households the third, and so on. That would be legal.



SCOTT STANTIS

When people get tired of paying high taxes in Illinois — and fear yet higher ones — they have an option. They can leave. Illinois' population has shrunk for six consecutive years. Among the states that have attracted the most Illinoisans: Florida and Texas, neither with a state income tax.

'Why are my Illinois taxes so high?'

Now let's connect the dots: In Illinois and other high-tax states, February used to be calmer. Politicians told the rest of us not to complain because, hey, the taxes they levied were fully deductible on our federal returns. Millions of well-off Americans thus didn't realize their full burden of Illinois taxes — their perilous SALT dosage. Those fat federal deductions essentially were subsidies for Illinois households from taxpayers in lower-tax states. Meek Illinois taxpayers didn't ask, "Why are my taxes here so high?"

Those high taxes gave Illinois pols oceans of revenue they could spend on allies in public employee unions and other pet constituencies. That's how the overhead costs for the 7,000 state and local governments here grew so enormous. Exhibit A: Public pension commitments and their nasty cousin, unfunded pension debt.

Today, though, this vast funds transfer from taxpayers to public employees isn't as obscure as it was. The ruling Illinois Democrats now confront the federal tax change that limits to $10,000 each household's SALT deduction on federal returns. For filers writing off mortgage interest, the measure also cut the maximum home value from $1 million to $750,000.

Paying, finally, truer costs of state and local government

These changes had two principal effects. The first was to raise taxes on wealthy people with pricey homes in such high-tax states as Illinois, New York and California. The second was to put more of the actual burden of state and local taxes on those states' well-off taxpayers.

For the overwhelming majority of Americans, for whom the same federal tax law put more money in their paychecks, the SALT deduction cap is irrelevant: The average U.S. household's annual property tax bill in 2018 was — wait for it, Illinois — $3,500.

Homeowners in high-priced communities nationwide have come to realize just how badly they've been exploited by all their suddenly-less-deductible SALT: In Illinois, for example, high-end homeowners see — and now pay more of — the costs of having all those assistant superintendents in property-rich school districts. Those are Illinois costs that taxpayers in Tennessee, South Dakota and other lower-tax states no longer subsidize as generously as in the past.

In 2017, before the deduction cap took effect, 97% of Illinois households reporting incomes of $1 million claimed the SALT deduction. The deduction cap hit high-end taxpayers in 2019 when they filed returns for 2018.

Hoo-boy, are some of those people hot. This year, they're paying closer attention to their property tax bills — and to their state income tax rates.

Illinois Democrats' compassion for ... millionaires?

Congressional Democrats usually flame, gape and roar about tax breaks for rich people. But this limitation on SALT deductibility victimizes one vulnerable cohort for whom Democrats have great compassion — their big campaign donors. We never tire of the CNBC headline that best synthesized this irony: "Blue-state Democrats have a new cause: Helping millionaires."

This hypocrisy was on devastating display in December when the U.S. House voted to temporarily eliminate this de facto tax increase on millionaires and other high-income households, while raising the top income tax rate from 37% to 39.6%. As The New York Times reported, "Many liberal policy analysts oppose raising the SALT cap, because it would mostly benefit high earners, and they would rather use the money for spending programs to help the poor and middle class." The nonpartisan Tax Foundation had calculated that removing the cap would "almost exclusively provide tax relief to the top 20% of income earners, the largest tax cut going to the top 1% of earners."

The House vote was 218 to 206 with *every one of Illinois' 13 Democrats* voting to bail out people whose means expose them to high SALT. The four Illinois Republicans who voted on the bill opposed it. Democrats knew the bill would die in the Senate. But voting to comfort the comfortable lets Democrats console rich donors: *We tried to help you!*

Cue the Illinois Exodus

When people get tired of paying high taxes in Illinois — and fear yet higher ones — they have an option. They can leave. Illinois' population has shrunk for six consecutive years. Among the states that have attracted the most Illinoisans: Florida and Texas, neither with a state income tax.

Will the Illinois Exodus accelerate? When you raise the price of anything, people generally want less of it. The tax reform law raised the price of Illinois residency for well-off people, making it even less appealing to stay. You can see the effects in the housing market.

"In the 10 states that typically have the highest property taxes and mortgage interest amounts, including California, New York and Massachusetts, home-price growth dropped right after the tax law passed, according to an analysis by Fitch Ratings Inc.," The Wall Street Journal reports. "Home-price growth held steady for the 10 states that typically have the lowest property taxes and mortgage-interest amounts, including Tennessee, Missouri and Alabama." Note: "The tax law played a key role, Fitch found."

Illinois isn't one of the states with the highest combination of property taxes and mortgage interest amounts, because our average home prices are below the national median. But our property taxes are the second-highest in the country.

How to enable even more Illinois tax hikes

"It's struck me as very ironic that all these liberals are scrambling to come up with tax changes that benefit high-income people," Leonard E. Burman, a former Treasury official under President Bill Clinton who is now a fellow at the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center, said when the law took effect.

But of course others, too, would benefit from lifting the cap: lawmakers in states like ours who want all the revenue they can get. Facing less blowback from the wealthy, they'd feel empowered to continue, yes, raising state and local taxes. One such gambit: the Pritzker Tax, which the governor calls his Fair Tax.

As Illinois pension crises intensify, smart Illinois candidates for office will remind taxpayers that runaway government costs aren't unchangeable. Other states have lowered overhead. We're one of many voices urging lawmakers to put a second proposed constitutional amendment on the November ballot — a relaxation of Illinois' rigid pension clause.

We reiterate that now in February, as fed-up Illinois taxpayers focus on their options. Chicago-area banker Rick Bechtel told the Journal, "It's unbelievable to me the number of conversations I'm listening to that begin with 'When are you leaving?' and 'Where are you going?' " We only wish it were hard to believe.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

All you have to do is beat him.

Donald Trump is not a Caesar; he does not bestride our narrow world like a colossus, undefeatable save by desperate or underhanded means. He is an instinct-driven chancer who has exploited the decadence of his party and the larger system to grasp and hold a certain kind of power.

But he is also a reckless and distracted figure, a serial squanderer of opportunities, who barely won the presidency and whose coalition is united only in partisan solidarity and fear of liberalism. He may not be removable by the impeachment process, but is not a king; he is a widely hated, legislatively constrained president facing a difficult reelection.

All you have to do is beat him. ...

Liberal hand-wringing about their structural disadvantages ignores the advantages that Trump keeps giving them — the fact that in the best economy in 20 years, he can't stop making people hate him, can't stop missing opportunities to expand his base, can't stop forcing vulnerable Republicans to kiss his ring and thereby weaken their own prospects. ...

One essential lesson of the Trump era is that likelihoods are not enough; if you want to end the Trump era only one thing will suffice.

You have to beat him.

Ross Douthat, The New York Times

PERSPECTIVE



DOUG MILLS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Lawmakers applaud as President Donald Trump arrives to deliver his State of the Union address at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday.

Wake up, Democrats. Trump is spinning his way to second term.



CLARENCE PAGE

If I may revive a wonderful word from the days of President George W. Bush, don't "misunderestimate" President Donald Trump.

That thought came to mind Tuesday as I watched teleprompter Trump deliver this year's State of the Union address, followed the next day by Twitter Trump and rally Trump.

Like the tireless salesman and spinmeister that he is, Trump loves to ad-lib. For his advisers, trying to confine Trump to what's on the teleprompter has been about as easy as, say, wrestling a squirming 3-year-old child into a T-shirt that's maybe a tad too small.

But teleprompter Trump sailed through this year's State of the Union address with a smooth confidence, based perhaps on the knowledge that the Republican senators were almost all set to acquit him the next day of impeachment charges brought by House Democrats.

Then Twitter Trump and rally Trump could show themselves again in spirited rants aimed at his political foes and anyone else who has refused to believe the charges against him were "a hoax."

But back to the big speech. I did a double take several times, most strikingly when he received a rousing ovation for taking food access away from poor people.

"Under the last administration, more than 10 million people were added to the food-stamp rolls," he said. "Under my administration, 7 million Americans have come off of food stamps, and 10 million people have been lifted off of welfare."

That's largely true, although there's a fuzzy line between being "lifted" off of aid and being thrown off. The number of Americans on food stamps, properly called the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, increased during the Obama years. But that was because of something called the recession, which began before Obama was elected.

Two years into his second term Obama signed a version of the annual farm bill that cut the food-stamp budget by $800 million. The number of people on food stamps has been declining ever since. So Obama didn't exactly throw money at poor people.

But that's in the past. Trump has to stand on his own now and, so far, he has successfully avoided messing up the recovering and growing economy that Obama left for him.

Trump is now in his reelection campaign phase, so his State of the Union address was notably sweetened by his reality TV-style honors to notable individuals. To spotlight school choice, a favorite issue of Vice President Mike Pence, he gave Janiyah Davis, a Philadelphia fourth grader, that promise of a scholarship to the school of her choice. He promoted retired Tuskegee Airman and World War II vet Charles McGee to brigadier general. He also reunited surprise guest Army Sgt. 1st Class Townsend Williams with his family in a surprise trip home from his fourth deployment in the Middle East.

And in a bold move of Trumpian chutzpah, he gave a Presidential Medal of Freedom to a friend, Rush Limbaugh, the right-wing radio giant, who just received an advanced lung cancer diagnosis. A lot of people, including me, found that inappropriate for one of the country's leading political polarizers. But considering his condition, even I felt moved to put his politics aside to wish him well.

Trump also gave a little overdue time in the spotlight to Opportunity Zones in a plan spearheaded by South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott, the body's only black Republican, and supported by the president's daughter Ivanka Trump. Using tax breaks to revive investment in underdeveloped communities, Opportunity Zones tend to have their biggest success in communities that need help the least, but we have to start somewhere.

On the whole, it was a great night for Trump. He even looked and sounded (gasp!) presidential, mostly. And many Democrats shared the frustration shown by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who followed his exaggerations and outright fabrications by grandly tearing his speech in two, while Trump basked in applause. Although many people shared her frustration, it probably wasn't her best hour.

Worse for her party was their week of agony over the botched Iowa Democratic presidential caucuses, which would end the week still uncertain as to which candidate won, all because of a smartphone app that apparently few knew how to operate. That's not a good look for a party that's trying to brand itself as ready for the future.

But Trump's rambling rant the next day, when he was untethered to a teleprompter and still fuming over his impeachment fight, wasn't his best hour, either.

Looking ahead, the 2020 campaign season has only begun. I expect to see a lot more Twitter Trump and rally Trump — and Democrats apparently need all the time that they can get. While they try to get their act together, Trump may be spinning his way to a second term.

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VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Illinoisans, please help the census

We can argue about the many possible causes of our state's ongoing population loss.

Not up for debate is the significance of ensuring that every remaining Illinois resident is accounted for in this spring's U.S. census. There's simply too much at risk.

A correct count is necessary for the accurate distribution of billions of dollars in resources for education, health care, transportation, and police and fire services, among other top priorities. The allotment of congressional representation also depends on the census, and our state already is poised to lose at least one U.S. House seat in the next apportionment.

For the business community in particular, the census is a vital source of demographic information. Its data helps support everything from marketing decisions and hiring forecasts to the federal determination of small-business loans.

Yet every census falls well short of full accuracy — and of protecting these important goals.

For example, it's estimated that about 36,000 Illinois children younger than 5 went uncounted in the last census. That shortfall cost our state $2,700 in federal



GLORIA CASAS/COURIER-NEWS

The U.S. Census Bureau is conducting the 2020 census starting in March. A business owner is urging other business leaders to communicate its importance to workers.

help per child, in every one of the last 10 years — Head Start classes, child care assistance and more.

We all have a role in helping protect Illinois' most basic resources by doing our part to ensure the census coverage of hard-to-count populations such as young children.

Business leaders, in particular, can easily communicate to their employees and customers the significance of census participation. For some simple ideas assembled by the ReadyNation network of business execs, visit tinyurl.com/ILbusinesstoolkit.

A "complete count" requires as complete an effort as we can provide in raising awareness about what's at stake in the census — and about how simple it is to participate, once the questionnaires begin landing in our mailboxes in March.

— Keith Krutz, president, IMS-Buhrke Olson, Arlington Heights

Climate change is the one issue now

Imagine if you turned on your faucet and nothing came out. That was the scenario residents of Cape Town, South Africa, had to plan for recently as their city contemplated their reservoirs running dry, a situation they labeled "Day Zero."

Learning about the myriad ways that climate change will affect our daily lives — brutal temperature extremes, flooding, more powerful storms and drinking water shortages, to name a few — should cause us to sit up, take notice and take action. As the primary season kicks off, we must make climate change one of our key issues in selecting our leaders — the president, certainly, but also our national legislators, state officials and local officials.

Climate change is a global issue that will play out locally, and we must do everything we can to keep it at the forefront of our minds and the minds of our elected leaders. We must push them specifically on how they will mitigate climate change. And once they are elected, we must hold them to it. If we are complacent, we may soon be contemplating our own "Day Zero."

— Jim Schwartz, Oak Park

A poetic break from winter's dreariness

During all the turmoil as of late, both in Washington and Springfield, my wife recently began the annual ritual of cleaning out our files of papers no longer needed, rather than listen to the constant blather about the problems we face with our elected officials. Included was a file marked "Grandsons' keepsakes."

Among those was this poem, which seems to fit the time of year we now find ourselves in, when things get dreary and somewhat depressing. This from a grandson who was 7 years old at the time.

"Winter Snow"
Some days I like to watch the snow
I sit by the window and watch it blow
It twists and turns like butterflies
I catch some as they flutter by
The skies turn dark and its time for bed
And winter snow still dances in my head

Obviously, we do not feel this was worth discarding, as are most of the other gifts given us by these two cherished grandsons over the years. We should all try to remember the value such treasures hold for us, if you are lucky enough to have grandkids, and remind ourselves of what is really important in life. By the way the author is now in his third year of college at Michigan State, in an honors engineering program.

— Charles Kliche, Lombard

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Chicago magazine encourages you to drink responsibly!

Chicago Tribune
NATION & WORLD

First American dies of coronavirus

Death raises questions about US steps to evacuate its citizens in China

By Raymond Zhong and Edward Wong
The New York Times

SHANGHAI — A U.S. citizen died from the coronavirus in Wuhan, China, American officials said on Saturday. It was the first known American death from the illness, and was likely to add to diplomatic friction over Beijing's response to the epidemic.

The death is also certain to raise questions over whether the Trump administration and the State Department in particular have taken sufficient action to ensure the safety of Americans in China and to aid in the evacuation of those who want to leave.

In a statement, the State Department took a defensive tone, saying that since Jan. 29 it had evacuated around 850 people, most of them Americans, on five charter flights out of Wuhan.

The agency said it had "no higher priority than the welfare and safety of U.S. citizens abroad," but there are no current plans to conduct additional evacuation flights, even as some Americans in other parts of China have been asking for the U.S. government to evacuate them.

Relations between Washington and Beijing have been tense for years over issues including trade, technology and human rights. While Chinese officials have touted the importance of international cooperation to combat the virus, doubts have arisen in recent days about China's willingness to accept a helping hand — particularly from the United States.



CHRIS BUCKLEY/THE NEW YORK TIMES
Wuhan City Central Hospital is the epicenter of the coronavirus. An American died from the virus in Wuhan.

Although some Trump administration officials have privately expressed skepticism over China's handling of the outbreak, President Donald Trump himself lavished praise on Chinese leaders Friday. Trump told reporters in Washington that he had spoken with President Xi Jinping of China on the telephone late Thursday. "They're working really hard, and I think they're doing a very professional job," he said.

Trump has said often that he likes and admires Xi, and he has toned down his attacks on China since the two sides signed an agreement last month to halt a damaging trade war that Trump started in 2018.

Few details about the American, who died Thursday, were immediately available. According to the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, the person was 60 years old and died at Jinyintan Hospital in Wuhan, the inland metropolis at the center of the epidemic. Two people familiar with the matter said the person was a woman and had underlying health conditions.

It was not clear whether the woman had tried to leave the city on any of the flights organized by the State Department, which have evacuated diplomats and other American citizens from Wuhan, Beijing and other parts of China.

"We offer our sincerest condolences to the family on their loss," a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Beijing said. "Out of respect for the family's privacy, we have no further comment."

Word of the death spread as frustrations over Beijing's handling of the epidemic mounted within China and surfaced at the diplomatic level as well. The virus has killed at least 811 people, mostly in China, sickened more than 37,000 and spread across the globe.

For more than a month, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has been offering to send a team of experts to China to observe the outbreak and help if possible. But no invitation has come.

The World Health Organization, which made a similar offer about two weeks ago, appeared to have faced the same cold shoulder. But the agency said Saturday that it had identified a team of experts to go to China and that the team's leader would go Monday or Tuesday, with the rest of the team following later.

Current and former health officials and diplomats said they believed the reluctance came from China's top leaders, who do not want the world to think they need outside help.

Within China, public discontent about the government's response to the crisis reached an extraordinary peak on Friday after the death of Dr. Li Wenliang, who had warned his colleagues early on about the new virus but was reprimanded for illegally spreading rumors.

After Li's death, grieving internet users posted messages expressing anger over his treatment and demanding freedom of speech — unheard-of in China's authoritarian political system.

Communist Party officials said Friday that they would send a team from the powerful anti-corruption committee to investigate the circumstances surrounding Li's death. Chinese state news media reported Saturday that the government was also sending two senior officials to Wuhan to reinforce efforts to bring the outbreak under control.

It was not immediately clear if the appointments on Saturday amounted to a reshuffling of the local leadership or were simply an effort to reinforce officials on the front line. Still, it appeared to be an acknowledgment that authorities in Wuhan had been overwhelmed.

Japan said Saturday that one of its citizens had died in a Wuhan hospital from a suspected case of the coronavirus. But the Japanese Foreign Ministry said that based on information it received from Chinese authorities, it could not confirm whether the man, who was in his 60s, had been infected with the new virus. The ministry called the cause of death viral pneumonia.

Biden steps up criticism of Buttigieg in NH attack

Former VP trying not to fall behind Democratic rivals

By Julie Pace and Hunter Woodall
Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Scrambling to salvage his presidential campaign, Joe Biden escalated his criticism of Pete Buttigieg on Saturday, mocking Buttigieg's experience as a small-city mayor and cutting down the comparisons Buttigieg has drawn to the last Democratic president, declaring: "This guy's not a Barack Obama."

Biden's biting attacks on Buttigieg's resume mark a new, more aggressive attempt to slow the momentum of the youngest candidate in the Democratic field. Buttigieg emerged from Iowa in an effective tie with Sen. Bernie Sanders, but faces questions about whether his eight years as mayor of South Bend, Indiana — a city of about 100,000 people — prepared him for the presidency.

"I do not believe we're a party at risk if I'm the nominee," Biden told voters in Manchester. "I do believe we're a party at risk if we nominate someone who has never held a higher office than the mayor of South Bend, Indiana."

Biden is trying to avoid falling far behind both Buttigieg and Sanders in a second straight nominating contest.

On Saturday morning, the campaign posted an online video attacking Buttigieg that was one of the harshest intraparty broadsides of the Democratic primary.

The 90-second video compares Biden's record as vice president with Buttigieg's service as mayor. While Biden helped President Barack Obama pass sweeping health care legislation and orchestrate a bailout of the auto industry, the ad says, Buttigieg was installing decorative lights on bridges and repairing sidewalks.

Buttigieg's inexperience is among his chief vulnerabilities as he pitches voters on his preparedness for the Oval Office. He's argued that his tenure as mayor, particularly of a Rust Belt city, gives him a better feel for the concerns of voters Democrats need to win back in 2020.

But he has not yet had to defend the substance of his record against the kind of specific attack Biden launched.

Buttigieg's campaign accused Biden of trivializing the work that goes on in small cities across the country, and of political desperation.

"The vice president's decision to run this ad speaks more to where he currently stands in this race than it does about Pete's perspective as a mayor and veteran," said Chris Meagher, Buttigieg's campaign spokesman.

Buttigieg's calls for generational change and his criticism of Washington has irked some of his rivals, including Biden, who has accused the former mayor of undercutting the work of the Obama administration.

Buttigieg has argued that while the Obama administration had successes, the country is in a different place than it was four years ago and requires new leadership. He's also tried to draw comparisons to Obama, highlighting his ability to overcome questions about his own inexperience during the 2008 campaign.

The former vice president made clear on Saturday that he sees the comparison as ill-fitting.



CHARLES KRUPA/AP
Democratic presidential hopeful Pete Buttigieg speaks Saturday in Lebanon, N.H.

"This guy's not a Barack Obama," he told reporters. "Barack Obama had laid out a clear vision of what he thought the international society should look like and what the order should be. Barack Obama had laid out in detail what he thought should happen with regard to the economy."

It's not just Buttigieg who is blocking Biden's path. Sanders also appears poised for a strong showing in New Hampshire, a state he won by more than 20 percentage points in 2016.

During a campaign event on Saturday, Sanders said that previous victory gave him crucial credibility with voters.

"New Hampshire broke through and said to the establishment, 'You know what, standing up for working families is not a radical idea,' " he said.

Sanders, a self-described democratic socialist, still faces questions from some Democrats about whether he would damage the party in the general election. Biden and Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar have led that charge, with Klobuchar being the only candidate to raise a hand in Friday's debate when moderators asked if anyone was worried about having Sanders at the top of the ticket.

"People know I'm straightforward and I tell them the truth," Klobuchar said of the moment on Saturday.

Sen. Elizabeth Warren, who represents neighboring Massachusetts in the Senate, also needs a strong finish in New Hampshire to prove her campaign viability in the primary. As she spoke to supporters before they headed out to knock on doors, she noted that it had been three years since Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., admonished her on the Senate floor with the phrase "nevertheless, she persisted" — an expression that Warren has turned into a motto for her campaign.

"I've been winning unwinnable fights pretty much all my life," she said.

US investigators inspect Turkish crash site



EMRAH GUREL/AP
A team from Boeing and the U.S. civil aviation authority inspect the plane's wreckage Saturday in Instanbul.

Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey — U.S. aviation investigators have arrived at the site of a fatal plane crash in Istanbul, Turkey's state-run Anadolu news agency reported Saturday.

A team from aircraft manufacturer Boeing and the U.S. civil aviation authority inspected the wreckage of the Pegasus Airlines Boeing 737 that skidded off a runway at Sabiha Gokcen airport Wednesday night, killing three people.

The aircraft, which split into three pieces, will later be dismantled and removed by crane, Anadolu said.

The crash happened as the 11-year-old aircraft landed in strong winds and heavy rain.

The U.S. team is looking to see if there were any technical factors that could have contributed to the accident, Anadolu reported.

Investigators are examining many possible causes, including the plane's speed and the weather at the time of the crash.

On Thursday, Pegasus Airlines CEO Mehmet T. Nane said the plane's black boxes had been recovered and the data from them was being deciphered.

A report on the crash, in which 180 passengers and crew members were injured, is expected in a month's time, Anadolu reported.

Prosecutors have taken statements from air traffic control staff, airport employees and the pilots of two other planes that aborted landings shortly before the Pegasus flight landed.

Pegasus has had several recent instances of overshooting runways.

Another Pegasus Airlines plane skidded off the runway at the same airport Jan. 7, leading to the temporary closure of the airport. There were no injuries.

In January 2018, another Boeing 737 in the Pegasus fleet slid off a runway at Trabzon Airport in northeastern Turkey. The plane came to rest in the dirt above the Black Sea. No one was injured.



ANDREA VERDELLI/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Consumers buy traditional Chinese remedies last week in Beijing. The sign on the window says: Shuanghuanglian oral liquid, face masks, medical alcohol and disinfectant are sold out."

A dose of buffalo horn?

China stirs debate in urging mix of traditional remedies, antiviral drugs to fight virus

By Sui-Lee Wee
The New York Times

As it races to treat patients infected with the new coronavirus, the Chinese government is seeing potential in a cocktail of antiviral drugs. It is also recommending the Peaceful Palace Bovine Pill, a traditional Chinese medicine made with the gallstones of cattle, buffalo horn, jasmine and pearl.

There is no known cure for the coronavirus that has sickened tens of thousands of people and killed hundreds in China. The country's National Health Commission said doctors should try treating patients mainly with a combination of Western drugs used to treat HIV and fight viruses, depending on the severity of illness.

But the government is also looking at ways to supplement the treatment with remedies that are integral to its national identity — traditional Chinese medicine.

It has its supporters.

"I think it is the correct approach," said Cheng Yung-chi, a professor of pharmacology at Yale University School of Medicine. "The evidence is going to come, and we have to give it the benefit of the doubt."

There is no clinical proof that the roots of various plants, licorice and the Peaceful Palace Bovine Pill can help combat the deadly disease. Practitioners said the regimen could help ease symptoms, such as swelling in the lungs, with fewer side effects.

Critics said the use of such concoctions could raise concerns about patient safety.

The use of these ancient Chinese remedies dovetails with a push by President Xi Jinping to harness them as a source of national pride. He has said that officials should place as much importance on traditional Chinese medicines as they do on Western medicines. His government has called for the remedies to be promoted in its "Belt and Road" trade route, China's push to build ports, rail lines and other infrastructure around the world.

In turning to traditional medicine, China is relying on past experience.

During the severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS, outbreak in 2002 and 2003, doctors found that steroids prescribed to reduce inflammation had harmful side effects such as bone destruction. Chinese medicine, they said, would mitigate some of these adverse reactions.

In its treatment plan for the coronavirus released last week, the National Health Commission recommended traditional Chinese medicine remedies that could be used with antiretroviral HIV drugs like Lopinavir and Ritonavir. The national health department suggested trying the Peaceful Palace Bovine Pill for severe symptoms such as wheezing and respiratory distress.

Some hospitals are already using a combination of Western and Chinese medicines.

In recent weeks, Beijing's health department reported that two patients who were discharged had been treated with traditional Chinese medicines together with other unspecified drugs. And in Guangzhou, a major city in the south, health officials said 50 patients reported having no more fever and half of them said their coughs went away after using traditional Chinese medicines and other drugs.

Doctors are conducting clinical trials to test the efficacy of traditional Chinese medicine in Wuhan, the epicenter of the coronavirus outbreak, said Cheng, who is also chair of the Consortium for the Globalization of Chinese Medicine, a group of academics in the field.

Jiang Xianfeng, a traditional Chinese medicine practitioner at United Family Health, a top hospital for the affluent in Beijing, said these medicines are safe, effective and easy to get.

"Western medicine does not have better answers to this virus," Jiang said. "The Chinese people have experienced these sort of plagues many times in our thousands of years of history. If traditional Chinese medicine was not effective, the Chinese people would already be destroyed."

After the SARS outbreak, the World Health Organization studied the use of traditional Chinese medicine during that period and determined they were safe and showed some potential in relieving symptoms such as fatigue and shortness of breath. Researchers from the United States and Taiwan found that certain herbs could suppress the virus if prescribed at specific concentration levels, while other studies said their findings were inconclusive.

That scientific uncertainty is not stopping the Chinese government.

Since the second version of its treatment plan, the health commission has added more traditional Chinese medicines to the mix. Authorities in Wuhan said coronavirus patients with light or moderate symptoms should be treated with traditional Chinese medicine, the state-run Beijing News reported.

Zhu Mao, a representative of a traditional Chinese medicine manufacturer in Hubei, said he was producing more than 20,000 prescriptions per day at the request of the government. On Jan. 25, the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine dispatched 25 teams of Chinese healers to Wuhan.

Traditional Chinese medicine teaches that disease arises from imbalances in the body and that some people have "hot" constitutions, therefore making them vulnerable to fevers and inflammations. When someone gets a fever or a respiratory illness, it is not uncommon to have Chinese people say, "You are on fire."

Practitioners have determined the coronavirus is a "hot" disease, and therefore, medicines should be prescribed to "clear the heat."

It is unclear how the science works behind these medicines. Compounding the problem: There is no standardization for these herbs and regulation is poor.

Traditional Chinese medicine has also been linked to the consumption of exotic wild meats, though it is unclear whether the eating of the meats is really based on the practice.

But some people, particularly in the south, believe that the way to achieving a balanced body is through eating certain meats. Wildlife markets such as the Huanan Seafood Market in Wuhan, the site that is believed to be the origin of the coronavirus, proliferated because of the demand for such meats.

Laurie Garrett, a member of the World Economic Forum's global health security advisory board who covered the SARS outbreak in China, said that using traditional Chinese medicine in the new coronavirus outbreak could be risky because the approach is not rigorously backed by research.

"There's no such thing as dosing," she said. "It's like being a chef in a kitchen."

The science journal Nature pointed out that dozens of women who had taken Chinese herbs as part of a weight-loss program ended up with kidney failure in the 1990s. Proponents of traditional Chinese medicine said the herbs were misused. Still, Nature argued in a 2017 editorial, "Hundreds of years of use in clinics that don't standardize or analyze the clinical data are no match for blinded, controlled studies."

Doctors in Hong Kong, a semi-autonomous region of China, are not convinced that traditional Chinese medicines can help.

"I am not trying to devalue their treatment, but this is not something we practice," said Arisina Ma, president of the Hong Kong Public Doctors Association.

In China, people have searched anxiously for ways to protect themselves. In many Chinese cities, some stood in line for hours to buy "Shuanghuanglian" — a herbal concoction that mixes flowers such as honeysuckle and forsythia, among other ingredients — after two government-backed research institutes published a study that said it was effective in preventing the coronavirus.

Chen Xi, an assistant professor of health policy and economics at the Yale School of Public Health, urged Chinese news media to be more careful in its reporting, saying the potential for traditional Chinese medicine to inhibit a virus is not equivalent to a form of prevention or treatment.

"If incidents like Shuanghuanglian happen again and again, it will lose the public trust, cause more panic and go against the authorities' advice to avoid crowd gathering," Chen wrote.

Qin Xi, a manager of a pharmacy in Beijing, said sales of some of his traditional medicines, including "Shuanghuanglian," have been off the charts.

"As for whether it works, who knows?" he said.



ANDREA VERDELLI/THE NEW YORK TIMES

China is advising doctors to mix Western drugs with traditional remedies against the virus. Above, a traditional pharmacy.



BILLY H.C. KWOK/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Shopkeepers dispense traditional Chinese remedies amid the virus outbreak last week at a pharmacy in Hong Kong.



BILLY H.C. KWOK/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Traditional medicines are for sale at a pharmacy in Hong Kong. Coronavirus has killed hundreds of people in China.

Fissures forming in US-Iraqi alliance

American forces remain, but joint operations stopped

By Samya Kullab and Qassim Abdul-Zahra
Associated Press



KHALID MOHAMMED/AP 2018

Iraq has told its military not to seek help from U.S.-led coalition forces in operations against the Islamic State group.

BAGHDAD — A new watchtower rose over an American military base in northern Iraq, and cranes lifted hefty slabs of concrete to reinforce the barricades in beefed-up positions. The danger, soldiers there said, came not from the constellation of militant sleeper cells embedded in the landscape but further afield in Iran.

U.S. forces in Iraq have been on guard for retaliation by Iran or its Shiite militia allies since the U.S. killed Iran's top general in Iraq with an airstrike in Baghdad last month. The Jan. 3 strike also fueled a wave of outrage among Iraq's Shiite leadership and intensified demands that American troops leave the country.

Since then, Iraqi leaders have scaled back the saber-rattling rhetoric. But behind closed doors, the bitterness has poisoned the partnership. The government told the Iraqi military not to seek U.S. help in operations fighting the Islamic State group, two senior Iraqi military officials told The Associated Press — a sign that authorities are serious about rethinking the strategic relationship.

At stake are vital U.S.-provided weapons, military technologies and aircraft that have been key in countering the threat of Islamic State group militants trying to make a comeback in northern and western Iraq. The prospect of losing that help is one reason why Iraqi politicians have cooled their demands for American forces to go immediately. Senior Iraqi military officials oppose a withdrawal.

"To us the American presence is like the electricity network in a house," said a brigadier general stationed in western Iraq, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to media. "If the light is turned off the whole place goes dark."

In the wake of the U.S. strike that killed Iran's Gen. Qassem Soleimani and a senior Iraqi militia commander, Iraq's parliament passed a nonbinding resolution demanding the government force out the Americans. Tens of thousands marched in an anti-U.S. rally inspired by a radical cleric, while Iraq's outgoing premier, Adel Abdul-Mahdi, openly stated that the troops must go.

American forces had to halt joint operations with Iraqi military against IS after the strike, a pause that would last for three weeks. In the interim, the U.S. troops fortified bases against potential retaliation by Iran or Iraqi Shiite militias — like the new tower and beefed-up barricades at a base visited recently by the AP in the northern Iraqi city of Irbil.

About 5,200 U.S. soldiers are stationed in Iraqi bases to support local troops fighting IS militants, part of a larger international coalition invited by the Iraqi government in 2014.

But since then, Western officials say Iraqi authorities have taken no concrete measures to hasten a withdrawal plan.

"I'd say with virtually all of the Shiite political party leaders there's been behind closed doors and in private meetings a much more thoughtful approach on how they deal with this and a desire on their part to maintain a relationship and a coalition partnership that they regard as essential for Iraq," said a U.S. official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

In a Cabinet session, Abdul-Mahdi said it was up to the next government to see through Parliament's resolution. Prime Minister-designate Mohammed Allawi, a former communications minister, has not made his policy known.

Western diplomats were told that Iraq had formed a committee to study the issue of America's troop presence, but two Iraqi officials said there was no official sign off from Abdul-Mahdi formally creating such a committee. James Jeffrey, special envoy for the global coalition to defeat IS, said, speaking of the committee, "there has not been any real engagement," in remarks to reporters in Washington on Jan. 23.

Washington has responded to Iraq's requests to initiate troop withdrawals with blunt refusal, even threatening sanctions that could cripple Iraq's economy.

Instead of directly pushing for U.S. withdrawal, Iraq's government appears to be quietly distancing itself on the ground. Though the U.S. announced joint operations against IS had resumed, Iraq has been unclear. The Iraqi military announced the end of the pause on Jan. 30, but a military spokesman rescinded the claim in remarks to state television. It was not followed up with a clarification. On at least two occasions in January, U.S. officials said they expected the pause would be lifted imminently.

Two Iraqi military officials and a militia commander said last week that the government told its military not to seek assistance from the U.S.-led coalition in anti-IS operations and to minimize cooperation. The three spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the press.

"Until now, we have not asked the Americans to provide assistance, we rely on our capabilities to pursue IS elements. The presence of the Americans in the joint operations is only formal," a senior military intelligence official told The Associated Press.

Another of the officials, a commander in Iraq's elite U.S.-trained Counter-Terrorism Services in western Anbar province, said some training continues, but "as for military operations and carrying out operations, there is no support."

A full-scale U.S. withdrawal would bring a major setback in Iraqi capabilities to fight IS that Iraqi military officers acknowledge. The U.S. withdrew from the country in 2011, only for the Iraqi military to collapse in the face of the 2014 blitz by IS that overran the north and west. As a result, the government invited the Americans back.

"The Iraqi forces present in western Iraq need continuous air support and logistical support," said the CTS official. "These are provided to us by coalition forces, especially the U.S. If they are taken out, we will be paralyzed."

"The battle against IS is becoming increasingly technological, and we don't own any of these technologies. Only the Americans do," said a senior army intelligence official.

The Iraqis also rely on U.S. military expertise to maintain their American-made F-16 fighter aircraft.

Iraq's Kurdish and the majority of Sunni factions oppose an American withdrawal. Many Sunnis consider the U.S. presence as a bulwark against both IS and Iranian power.

"If the Americans go out then we will be attacked by everyone, and by everyone I mean IS, the government, the militias and the parties," said Abu Ahmad, a grocery shop owner in the Old City of Mosul, which was overrun by IS in 2014. "It is the U.S. that keeps them away from swallowing Mosul."



LILLIAN SUWANRUMPHA/GETTY-AFP

People hug after being rescued Saturday from a mass shooting at a mall in Thailand.

Thai soldier kills 21, hurts 40 in attacks at base, mall

By Sakchai Lalit and Tassanee Vejpongsa
Associated Press

NAKHON RATCHASIMA, Thailand — A gunman described as a soldier angry over a financial dispute killed two people and then went on a far bloodier rampage Saturday in northeastern Thailand, shooting as he drove to a busy mall where shoppers fled in terror.

At least 21 people were killed and more than 40 injured before the gunman's lengthy standoff with authorities ended Sunday morning in a flurry of gunfire that killed him more than 12 hours after he arrived in a stolen Humvee from a military base where he had shot and killed a superior officer.

Defense Ministry spokesman Lt. Gen. Kongcheep Tantrawanich said Sgt. Jakrapanth Thomma was behind the attack in Nakhon Ratchasima, a hub for Thailand's relatively poorer and rural northeastern region.

Much of the shooting took place at Terminal 21 Korat, an airport-themed mall filled with Lego sculptures, a merry-go-round and huge replicas of landmarks from around the world.

Video taken outside the mall showed people diving for cover as shots rang out Saturday afternoon.

Nattaya Nganiem and her family had just finished eating and were driving away when she heard gunfire.

"First I saw a woman run out from the mall hysterically," said Nattaya, who shot video of the scene on her phone. "Then a motorcycle rider in front of her just ran and left his motorcycle there."

Public Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul said a doctor was shot while helping an injured person. A police officer also was killed, pushing the death toll to 21, Anutin said.

Hundreds of people were evacuated from the mall in small batches by police while they searched for the gunman.

"We were scared and ran to hide in toilets," said Sumana Jeerawattanasuk, one of those rescued by police.

The shooter also posted updates to his Facebook page during the rampage.

"No one can escape death," read one post. Another asked, "Should I give up?" In a later post, he wrote, "I have stopped already."

Shortly before midnight, police announced they had secured the above-ground portion of the mall, but were still searching for the shooter. About 16 hours later, officials said the gunman was fatally shot.

The officials did not release any details.

The shooting and the lengthy siege have thrown this city and country into a panic with all the confusion and sorrow that accompanies mass shootings in the U.S.

Defense Ministry spokesman Kongcheep said the first person killed was the commanding officer of the 22nd Ammunition Battalion, in which the suspect also served.

He said the gunman had fired at others at his base and took guns and ammunition before fleeing in a Humvee.

The New York Times contributed.

Bills to name interchange for Trump or Obama detoured

By Jeffrey Collins
Associated Press



MEG KINNARD/AP

State Rep. Bobby Cox, left, has proposed to name the interchange after a fallen Greenville police officer.

COLUMBIA, S.C. — A small group of South Carolina lawmakers has killed competing bills that would have named one of the state's busiest intersections after either President Donald Trump or former President Barack Obama.

The members of the House Invitations and Memorial Resolutions Committee agreed that naming roads or other things for living people is dangerous when behavior and reputations can change even without the political divisiveness whenever the president is brought up.

"I think this is big political games," Republican Rep. Bruce Bryant of Lake Wylie said.

"We don't want to get into this mess," Democratic Committee Chairman Jimmy Bales replied.



Obama



Trump

The competing resolutions each wanted to name the intersection of Interstates 85 and 385 in Greenville. About 220,000 vehicles pass through the area every day. Only interstate junctions near Columbia and Charleston are busier.

The Trump resolution was proposed by two Republican lawmakers who live near, but not in, Greenville County. The Obama resolution was filed six days later by two Democrats who represent districts on the other side of the state.

Less than an hour after the committee met, Republican Rep. Bobby Cox of Greenville posted on Twitter that he would introduce the bill to name the intersection after Greenville police Officer Allen Jacobs, who was shot to death while working in March 2016.

Last week's meeting thrust one of the House's most unremarkable committees briefly into the limelight. The Invitations Committee typically meets in a room the size of a large closet, the five members around a small round table.

On Thursday, they moved to the much bigger House Judiciary Committee room, where six reporters and a few curious lawmakers were the only people in the audience.

Road naming is often a sticky business — one person's political hero is often another one's enemy — and the practice recently underwent even more scrutiny in South Carolina.

The expressway to Columbia's airport was named for former Department of Transportation Commissioner John Hardee, but he was convicted and sentenced last year to seven months in prison for trying to hire a prostitute just hours after he received probation for admitting he tried to derail an FBI investigation.

That prompted several bills, none of which have passed this year, to ban naming roads and other things for living people.

South Carolina has been burned before by naming roads for living people. About 15 years ago, the name of former Lt. Gov. Earle Morris was removed from a Pickens County highway after he was convicted of his role as chairman in the failure of a company called Carolina Investors that cost investors about $275 million.

At the bottom of Thursday's committee agenda was one final item to designate September as Snakebite Awareness Month in South Carolina, sponsored by Republican Rep. Chris Wooten, who was bitten by a copperhead while walking his dog outside his Lexington home in September. Wooten killed the snake and drove himself to the emergency room.

Bryant said he understood wanting to bring awareness to the danger but felt a state law was a bit much.

"Where does it stop? Next month we are going to have mosquito awareness month and the next month fly awareness month," Bryant said. "If there was a epidemic where every time we walk out in our yards we're snake bit would be one issue. But why do we take up the state's time with these issues?"

Students adrift after Puerto Rico quake

61% of the island's public schools remain shuttered

By Danica Coto
Associated Press



CARLOS GIUSTI/AP
Nydsy Santiago teaches her kindergarten students under a gazebo at a park Tuesday in Santa Isabel, Puerto Rico.

SANTA ISABEL, Puerto Rico — Class was about to start when a father drove up to a gazebo that Nydsy Santiago had converted into a makeshift preschool and pulled her aside.

Could she please, he wondered, take his daughter as one of her students? Santiago declined with a heavy heart and explained that she was only authorized to teach her own 23 students, who are among more than 194,000 children in Puerto Rico left out of school nearly a month after a 6.4-magnitude earthquake hit the island's southern region and forced officials to permanently close dozens of public schools.

"I hope this goes back to normal for everyone," said Santiago as she chased after papers that the wind blew away on a recent morning.

But few believe that will happen. Classes in this U.S. territory were supposed to start Jan. 9, and while 331 schools opened late as a result of the quake, 61% of the island's 856 public schools remain shuttered as a growing number of critics blame the island's Department of Education for the situation.

Mercedes Martinez, president of Puerto Rico's Federation of Teachers, said it's unacceptable that no alternatives have been found for children who attend one of the 525 schools that remain closed.

"The government of Puerto Rico has been negligent from the beginning," she said. "They have not been quick. They have not been strategic. They don't have a plan on how to start the semester at this point."

The situation has led to an increase in home schooling and prompted some teachers like Santiago to voluntarily find an appropriate outdoor location and resume classes with permission from parents. Santiago began scouting her hometown of Santa Isabel after 19 of 23 parents responded with a range of excited emojis when she proposed the idea last month in a WhatsApp group.

Santiago drove around the southern coastal town and considered holding class in a nearby park until she spotted the swings and cement benches. She eventually settled on a small gazebo near a running track owned by the town whose officials supplied her with plastic tables and chairs and even installed white curtains to block out the sun.

The curtains flew over the heads of her students this week as they painted, swatted at clouds of gnats while they laughed and excitedly pointed to a military helicopter that buzzed past them. Watching the scene from afar was fellow kindergarten teacher Esther Cordero, who shook her head as she criticized government officials grappling with the aftermath of a quake that killed one person, destroyed or damaged hundreds of homes and prompted U.S. President Donald Trump to approve a major disaster declaration.

"They should have invested immediately in trailers," she said. "And if not that, tarps at least."

Her colleague, Madeline Cruz, a 37-year-old mother of three children whose school remains closed, nodded vigorously.

"The Department of Education is not paying attention to this," she said. "There are other alternatives."

The complaints over the government's lack of response echoed those that arose after Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico as a Category 4 storm in September 2017, causing more than an estimated $100 billion in damage and killing an estimated 2,975 people in its aftermath.

The women planned to follow Santiago's lead and hoped to hold classes in other nearby gazebos if they obtained permission from the parents, adding that they were tired of waiting for the government to act.

Eligio Hernandez, Puerto Rico's education secretary, did not return messages left with a spokesman despite repeated requests for comment. On Sunday, he announced that another 103 schools were opening this week.

"This process has been a responsible, detailed and thorough one, since the most important thing for us is the health and safety of all members of the school communities," he said in a statement.

Engineers have inspected hundreds of public schools, but ongoing strong aftershocks, like the two 5.0 magnitude quakes that struck at a shallow depth in the past two weeks, have forced re-inspections as seismologists warn the shaking will continue for weeks.

At least 69 schools have not passed inspection, and Hernandez has said that Holy Week vacation would be shortened to make up for lost time. Education officials also have said that some schools would run two different schedules to accommodate students from other regions while teachers continue to demand answers as to how the situation would be handled long term.

Amid a lack of response from education officials, some parents have opted to home-school their children, said Nydia Villanueva, who runs a home schooling support group called Amanecer Educativo. She had an informational talk scheduled for early January on the topic but was about to cancel it since no one had signed up. Then the earthquake struck.

"My phone was blowing up," she said. "In a week and a half, I received more than 240 calls."

Among those who called and decided to start home schooling her two daughters is Monica Ortiz from the eastern town of Aguas Buenas, where very limited damage was reported. She worries about her eldest daughter graduating on time and the effect the delay of classes has had on her 13-year-old, who is a special education student.

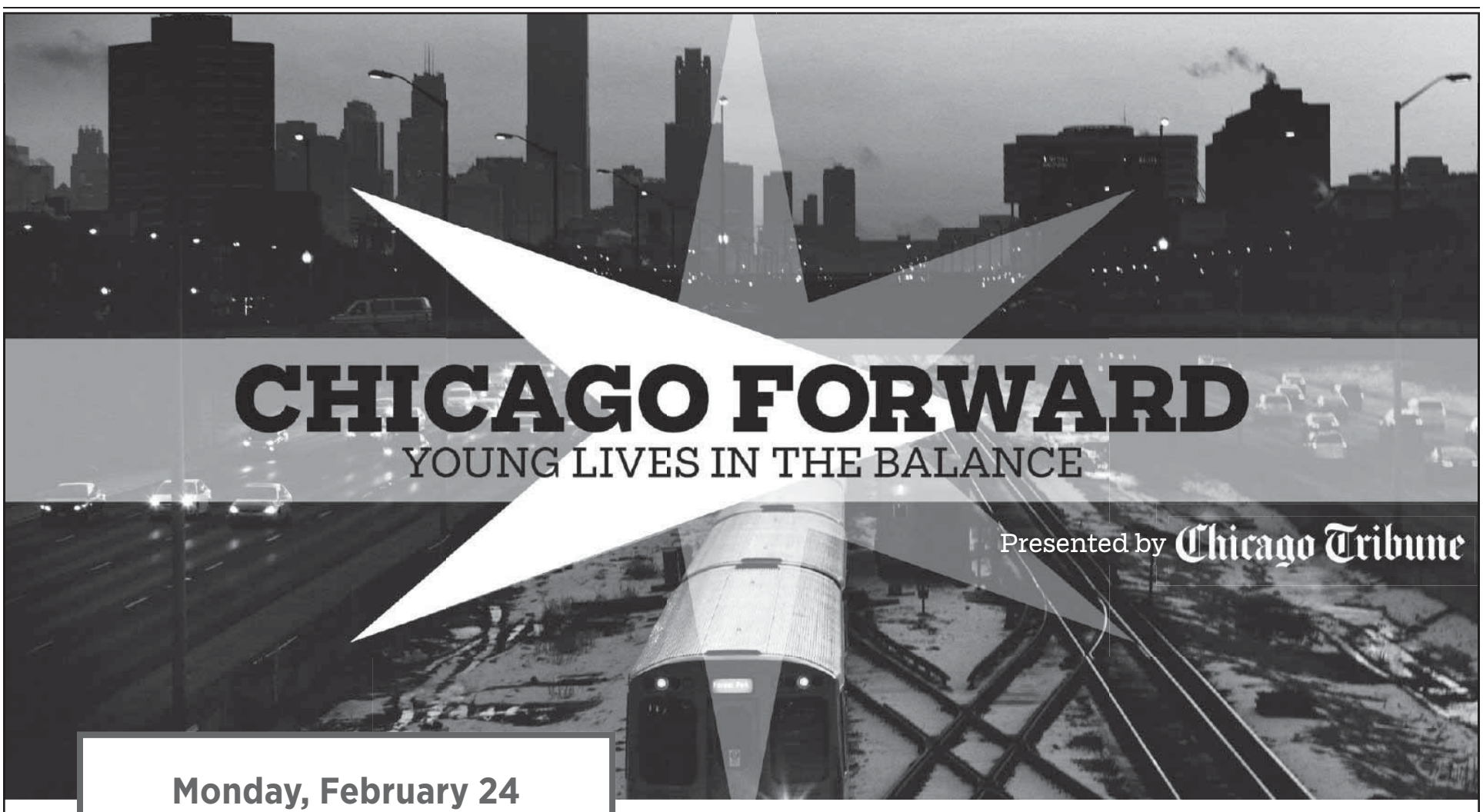
Ortiz said that she hasn't received any information at all about her daughter's high school, and was only told that her other daughter's middle school is not ready to open and it's unclear when and if it will.

"It's a good thing they didn't rush to open schools," she said. "What I don't find acceptable is that they haven't found an alternative."

Some of the calls Villanueva received were from parents worried that the ongoing inspections of public schools are only to assess damage, not determine whether they can withstand a strong earthquake or have structural weaknesses such as short columns. Still fresh in many parents' minds is the image of a school in the southwest coastal town of Guanica whose two top floors were flattened by the quake just two days before classes were scheduled to start.

Marcos Santana, director of Puerto Rico's Network for the Rights of Children and Youth, said there are plenty of options that don't require four walls.

"We recognize that it's an extraordinary situation, but the Department of Education clearly did not have a plan for this emergency," he said. "The excuse of not having a building cannot be used for much longer."



Monday, February 24
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Doors Open: 5:30 pm

Venue Six10
610 South Michigan Ave.

To purchase tickets visit
chicagotribune.com/chicagoforward

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Chicago Forward brings together key voices and thought leaders to explore the future of our city. Please join us on Monday, February 24 for the first of our three events focused on Chicago Forward: Young Lives in the Balance.

Chicago Tribune Publisher and Editor-in-Chief Bruce Dold will lead a discussion on empowering Chicago's at-risk youth. The program will be followed by a reception for the speakers and audience. Panelists include:

> **Lori Lightfoot**, Mayor of Chicago

> **Sandra Abrevaya**, President and Chief Impact Officer, Thrive Chicago

> **Alex Kotlowitz**, author, An American Summer: Love and Death in Chicago

> **Tom Gilardi**, Vice President of Youth Programs, Mercy Home for Boys & Girls

> **Marcelo Sanchez**, Mercy Home for Boys & Girls alum

New migrants? Not if Croatia has way

Police seek to seal border with Bosnia, often in brutal way

By Patrick Kingsley
The New York Times



LAURA BOUSHNAK/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Migrants cook dinner last month at a camp in Bihac, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Those risking the trip take the new route.

GLINICA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — The hills on the Bosnian-Croatian border have not been a battleground since the end of the Bosnian war a quarter-century ago. But to some farmers in remote parts of the Bosnian side, it sometimes still resembles a conflict zone.

By night, they hear the screams. By day, they see the Croatian police beating unauthorized migrants back into Bosnia. Sometimes they can even hear shooting.

And then, a few minutes later, a knock at the door, as the migrants, nursing bruised or broken limbs, beg for food and clothes.

"It reminds me of the war," said a farmer living yards from the border, Merima Cuturic, once a refugee herself. "Especially at night, when the shouting starts."

This unlikely gantlet in the western Balkans is what remains of the great migration of 2015, when more than 1 million migrants landed in Europe. At the time, most crossed the sea between Turkey and Greece and then made their way through Hungary to wealthier destinations like Germany.

But Turkey, Greece and Hungary have since made it far more difficult to make such a journey, reducing unauthorized migration by more than 90%. Those still risking the trip tend to take a new route through Bosnia-Herzegovina, a country virtually untouched by the crisis in 2015. These days its border is less tightly controlled than others, making illegal entry less challenging.

Two years ago, just 750 migrants were recorded passing through Bosnia. In 2019, that figure rose to about 29,000 — most of them fleeing conflict or poverty in Afghanistan, Iraq, Morocco or Pakistan.

"It's the only route currently open if you want to get from Greece to the other parts of the European Union," said Peter Van Der Auweraert, head of mission for the International Organization for Migration, a department of the United Nations.

But that depends on one's definition of open.

To leave Bosnia, migrants must cross the icy hills and mountains that line the northern border with Croatia. Former battlefields, the slopes still contain land mines from the Balkan wars.

Migrants who make it safely through the snow are usually met with a brutal response by the Croatian authorities.

In Northern Europe, the 2015 crisis is over — and the Croatians are determined to keep it that way.

For more than a year, the Croatian police have systematically seized migrants spotted entering the country from Bosnia and forced them back across the border without letting them apply for asylum.

In interviews in Bosnia last month, dozens of migrants, residents, doctors and aid workers provided a consistent account of migrants being deported without due process — and often beaten and robbed before being dumped in remote areas like Glinica.

"When they catch you, they take everything," said Sajid Khan, who fled Kunduz, Afghanistan, in 2015, when the Taliban captured the city.

"They take your jacket, shoes, socks," said Khan, 24. "They just leave your trousers and T-shirt."

The detritus in the woods near Glinica gives credibility to these assertions. A stream runs through the woods, under a small footbridge that connects Bosnia to Croatia. The Bosnian bank is covered with jackets, trousers, sweatshirts and shoes.

Here and there are smashed phones and ripped-out SIM cards. Also sardine tins, a toothbrush and an olive jar.

According to villagers and shepherds, this is one of the places where the Croatian police briefly enter Bosnia, dumping migrants rounded up along the border and stripping them of their belongings. It is also where police officers fired bullets to scare migrants in October 2018, nearly hitting Cuturic's son, she said.

"We have a significant amount of patients who've experienced violence," said François Giddey, who leads local operations for Doctors Without Borders, a medical charity that treats wounded migrants.

That violence includes being burned with lighters and being submerged in the icy river, Giddey said. But "the most common" thing, he added, is being beaten with sticks.

"It could be all over the body," he said, "especially legs and feet, to prevent them from walking."

A Times journalist interviewed two Afghan men with recently broken wrists. Both said the fractures were caused by beatings from the Croatian police.

The Croatian police are so eager to deport unauthorized migrants that they have even expelled at least three Nigerians who entered Croatia legally. Two of them were in the country to compete in a table-tennis tournament in November, while the third had a visa that was valid until next March. None had previously visited Bosnia, and all were arrested in the Croatian capital, Zagreb, far from the Bosnian border.

In an emailed statement, the Croatian Interior Ministry dismissed claims of violence as "fabrications," denied playing any role in the Nigerians' expulsions, and said Croatian officials had never illegally entered Bosnian territory to deport migrants.

One reason the migrants attempt to enter Croatia is because the situation in Bosnia is often not much better than what they left behind.

Until early December, hundreds were housed in a remote camp erected on the site of an old dump, halfway up a snow-capped mountain. The camp was surrounded by a minefield that was never properly cleared after the war. At night, wild boars snuffled outside the tents, searching for food scraps. Inside the tents, the floors were often soaked with rainwater.

Drinking water was supplied only in the morning. With no working toilets, most migrants relieved themselves in the mud on the edge of the camp. The ground there was strewn with feces.

"This place is not for the human," Khan, the Afghan from Kunduz, said the day before the camp closed.

Starving, thirsty and desperate, migrants would scour a nearby village for food and water, sometimes breaking into houses and scaring the few villagers still living there.

In a historical irony, the villagers had fled their homes 25 years ago, when the mountainside was contested by Bosniak, Serb and Croat troops. Some never returned, and many of the houses stand empty to this day.

Those who remain often find common cause with the migrants, giving them fruit and bread. But several residents have also grown fearful and now lock their doors for the first time in their lives.

"We identify with them, and that's why we feed them," said Kata Majstorovic, 79. "But at the same time, there are so many!"

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

Mother, 6 kids die in house fire, Mississippi authorities say

CLINTON, Miss. — A mother and her six children died when fire destroyed their home early Saturday in central Mississippi, authorities said.

The father was the lone survivor of the 12:30 a.m. blaze in Clinton, a city of about 26,500 people just outside the capital city of Jackson. He tried to save family members and suffered smoke inhalation, burns, cuts and bruises, city spokesman Mark Jones said.

"He wanted to stay at the scene," Jones said. But he was taken to a local hospital.

The children ranged in age from 1 to about 15, Jones said. The mother was 33.

The scene at the single-story wood frame house was one of devastation.

Nearby, under a tree, someone had left a bouquet of carnations.

The state Fire Marshal's Office is investigating the cause of the fire.

Street fight in Kazakhstan town kills 8, injures 40, official says

MOSCOW — Eight people were killed and 40 injured in an outburst of violence in a town in Kazakhstan where about 30 homes were also set on fire, the country's interior minister said Saturday.

Erlan Turgumbayev told at a news conference that about 300 people fought on the streets of Masanchi, including firing shots and and throwing rocks.

He did not say what started the conflict, but area residents said on social media that it was an ethnic dispute.

Police and the national guard had brought the situation under control, President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev said Saturday.

Masanchi, near the border with Kyrgyzstan, has a large population of Dungan, who are Muslims of Chinese ancestry.

Turgumbayev said 47 people have been arrested.

Medical relief flights continue from Sanaa, UN agency says

CAIRO — Flights transporting Yemeni medical patients from rebel-held areas continued Saturday when a second plane carrying 24 patients took off from Sanaa bound for Jordan's capital, the U.N. health agency said.

The U.N. flights, which began Feb. 3, are seen as a humanitarian breakthrough in the more than 5-year-old conflict in the Arab world's poorest country. The conflict began with the 2014 takeover of the capital Sanaa by the rebel Houthis, who control much of the country's north.

A Saudi-led military coalition allied with Yemen's internationally recognized government has been fighting the Iran-backed Houthis since 2015. The U.S.-backed coalition closed the airspace and prevented any flights from leaving Sanaa, starting in August 2016.



ANTONIO CALANNI/AP

A scene from the opening show Saturday of the Venice Carnival in Italy. The carnival, which is known for its elaborate masks, attracts tourists worldwide to the historical city. Events lead up to Mardi Gras, which is Feb. 25, the day before Ash Wednesday.

Military: US, Afghan troops fired on in Nangarhar province

KABUL, Afghanistan — American and Afghan military personnel were fired on while conducting an operation in Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar province, the U.S. military said Saturday, and one official said there were U.S. casualties.

Several U.S. personnel were either injured or killed, but the exact number and other details were not provided, said the U.S. official, who agreed to discuss the incident only on condition of anonymity.

A U.S. military spokesman, Col. Sonny Leggett, said in a statement that Afghan and U.S. personnel were "engaged by direct firing."

"We are assessing the situation," Leggett said, without providing any information on possible casualties or other details.

The Taliban and the Islamic State group affiliate both operate in eastern Nangarhar province. The incident comes as Washington seeks to find an end to Afghanistan's 18-year war, America's longest.

Washington's peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad has been meeting with Taliban representatives in Qatar in recent weeks. He's seeking an agreement to reduce hostilities to get a peace deal signed that would start negotiations among Afghans on both sides of the conflict.

In his State of the Union address on Tuesday, President Donald Trump referenced the peace talks, saying U.S. soldiers were not meant to serve as "law enforcement agencies" for other nations.

"In Afghanistan, the determination and valor of our war fighters has allowed us to make tremendous progress, and peace talks are now underway," he said.

Air Force suicides at highest level in 3 decades

WASHINGTON — Suicides in the active-duty Air Force surged last year to the highest total in at least three decades, even as the other military services saw their numbers stabilize or decline, according to officials and unpublished preliminary data.

The reasons for the Air Force increase are not fully understood, coming after years of effort by all of the military services to counter a problem that seems to defy solution and that parallels increases in suicide in the U.S. civilian population.

According to preliminary figures, the Air Force had 84 suicides among active-duty members last year, up from 60 the year before. The jump followed five years of relative stability, with the service's yearly totals fluctuating between 60 and 64. Official figures won't be published until later this year and could vary slightly from preliminary data.

Frustrated Irish voters go to polls to pick their next PM

DUBLIN — Irish voters are choosing their next prime minister in an election where frustration with economic austerity and a housing crisis have fueled the rise of Sinn Fein — still shunned by the political establishment because of its links to the IRA.

Opinion polls showed Sinn Fein in a virtual tie with the parties that have dominated Irish politics since independence — Prime Minister Leo Varadkar's Fine Gael and the opposition Fianna Fail.

Support for Sinn Fein, which is committed to reunification of Ireland, threatens the country's political equilibrium even though the party is unlikely to form the next government because Fine Gael and Fianna Fail refuse to work with it. The rise has prompted the other parties to remind voters of Sinn Fein's past ties to violence.

In India: New Delhi residents voted Saturday in a crucial state election in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist party sought to regain power after a 22-year gap and major victories in a national vote.

About 57% of the 14.6 million registered voters lined up in queues across New Delhi to cast ballots, India's election commission said.

Results will be declared Tuesday.

The election pits Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party against the incumbent Aam Aadmi Party, or "common man's" party. The Congress, a distant third party, is expected to fare poorly.

Surveys predicted a victory for the Aam Admi Party in the 70-member state assembly.

OBITUARIES

EDWARD MILLAR 1920 - 2020

Surgeon 'took on the most challenging' cases

By Graydon Megan

Dr. Edward Millar was an orthopedic surgeon who first came to Shriners Hospitals for Children — Chicago as a medical student in the early 1940s, worked there for many years when staff doctors were volunteers and became the hospital's first paid chief of staff in 1976.

The Northwest Side hospital focuses on a wide range of pediatric orthopedic conditions, including rare diseases and syndromes, and services are provided regardless of a family's ability to pay. Millar helped add and expand programs and staff to reflect the changes in medical care of children in the late 1970s helped lead the construction of a new hospital, according to Dr. Peter Smith, who worked with Millar for about 20 years.

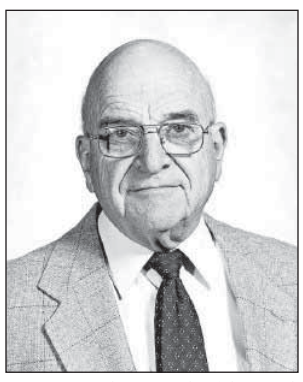
"He particularly took on the most challenging and complex cases from throughout the Midwest at the new hospital," Smith said.

Millar, 99, died of natural causes Jan. 3 in Northbrook Inn in Northbrook, according to his daughter, Becky Millar. Since 1969, he and his wife, Dorothy, who survives him, lived on a 50-acre farm in Libertyville, where they raised their 10 children as well as horses, dogs and bees.

Millar was born in 1920 in Woodward, Alabama. After graduating from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, he went to medical school at Northwestern University. After graduating in 1945, he went into the Navy and served briefly in China.

At war's end, he returned to Chicago. In medical school, he had met Dr. Harold Sofield, then Shriners' chief of staff. He completed a residency that included time at Shriners in 1947 and began working at the hospital as an attending physician in 1950.

Millar succeeded Sofield as chief of surgery in 1965 and in 1976 became the first full-time paid chief of staff.



SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN

Dr. Edward Millar graduated in 1945 from medical school at Northwestern University.

In addition to his work at Shriners, Millar maintained an active private practice in general orthopedic surgery, working at Evanston Hospital, Swedish Covenant Hospital and Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital, west of Chicago.

"He was a relatively quiet man ... but certainly was a determined individual," said Dr. Kim Hammerberg, who met Millar in 1979 while in a residency program in pediatric orthopedics at Shriners. "His goal was to try to make Shriners Hospital available to any child or child's family that needed orthopedic care."

Hammerberg said under Millar's leadership, programs in cleft lip and palate treatment were developed, along with a rehabilitation program for spinal cord injuries in children.

Biomedical engineer Gerald Harris met Millar in 1981 when he proposed a research program studying spasticity — muscle tightness and rigidity — and treatment effects in children and young adults with cerebral palsy.

"Dr. Millar was a huge factor in that ... and was amazingly empowering for people interested in helping those kids," said Harris, now director of the Center for Motion Analysis at Shriners in Chicago.

Harris said the program included weekly conferences that brought together surgeons from all over the city. Monday morning rounds included engineers, therapists, surgeons and residents, all focused on evaluating and implementing the best treatments to give children the best care possible.

"Dr. Millar was just an incredible individual who was able to bring people together, recognize their talents and strengths and recognize their passion for helping kids," Harris said.

Hammerberg said Millar was an inspirational leader whose use of aphorisms could be triggered when he thought someone needed to step up or make a decision. If a subordinate became too independent, Millar would remind him or her, "Around here, the tail don't wag the dog, doc-y."

He would also remind others when a decision was needed, it was time "to quit cutting bait and start to fish."

In a Shriners special publication marking the Chicago hospital's 90th anniversary in 2016, Millar talked about his approach to the mission.

"We take a personal interest in each child who comes here," he said then. "Their problems are our problems. Through surgery, medications, therapy, or whatever means we know, we want every child's life to be the best it can possibly be."

Becky Millar said her Dad was clear about his devotion to his young patients.

"He absolutely loved working with the children," she said. "He loved everything about Shriners — that was his life."

In addition to his wife and daughter, Millar is also survived by three other daughters, Delse Millar Busse, Marcy Millar Falduto and Chris Millar Hogan; six sons, Randy, Bob, Rick, Tom, Wally and Ron; 27 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Services were held.

Graydon Megan is a freelance reporter.

ROBERT CONRAD 1935-2020

Rugged TV actor starred in 'The Wild, Wild West'

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Robert Conrad, the rugged, contentious actor who starred in the hugely popular 1960s television series "Hawaiian Eye" and "The Wild, Wild West," died Saturday. He was 84.

The actor died of heart failure in Malibu, California, family spokesperson Jeff Ballard said. A small private service is planned for March 1, which would have been his 85th birthday.

"He lived a wonderfully long life and while the family is saddened by his passing, he will live forever in their hearts," Ballard said.

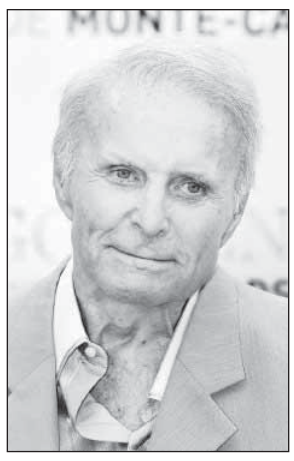
With his good looks and strong physique, Conrad was a rising young actor when he was chosen for the lead in "Hawaiian Eye." He became an overnight star after the show debuted in 1959.

Conrad played Tom Lopaka, a daring private investigator whose partner was Tracy Steele, played by Anthony Eisley. They operated out of a fancy office overlooking the pool at a popular Waikiki hotel.

The two private eyes alternated on simple investigations with help from the island's colorful characters, including a singer named Cricket Blake (Connie Stevens) and a ukulele-strumming taxi driver named Kazuo (Poncie Ponce).

After five seasons with the show, Conrad went on to embrace the television craze of the time, period Westerns, but with a decidedly different twist.

In "The Wild, Wild West," which debuted in 1965, he was James T. West, a James Bond-like agent who used innovative tactics and futuristic gadgets (futuristic for the 1800s anyway) to battle bizarre villains. He was ably assisted by Ross Martin's Artemus Gordon, a master of disguise.



LIONEL CIRONNEAU/AP 2013

Actor Robert Conrad died of heart failure Saturday in Malibu, California.

The show aired until 1970.

The series "Baa Baa Black Sheep" followed in 1976 and was roughly based on an autobiography by Marine Corps ace and Medal of Honor recipient Gregory "Pappy" Boyington, who wrote of the raucous fliers he commanded during World War II.

Conrad played Pappy Boyington, so nicknamed because he often rescued his pilots from severe punishment. Bringing his customary intensity to the role, he even learned to fly.

Conrad, meanwhile, interspersed his long, successful TV career with numerous roles in films. After a couple of small parts, his TV fame elevated him to stardom, starting in 1966 with "Young Dillinger," in which he played Pretty Boy Floyd. Other films included "Murph the Surf," "The Bandits" (which he also directed), "The Lady in Red" (this time as John Dillinger) and "Wrong Is Right."

At the same time, he found plenty of time for arguments.

Throughout Hollywood, Conrad had a reputation as a tough customer and was sued more than a half-dozen times as a result of fist fights. Playing himself in a 1999 episode of the TV series "Just Shoot Me," he lampooned his threatening, tough-guy persona. He was also featured in 1970s commercials for Eveready Batteries, with a battery on his shoulder, a menacing stare and a popular catchphrase, "I dare you to knock this off."

"I'm only about 5-feet-8 and only weigh 165 pounds as of this morning, so I'm not the world's meanest guy," he told an interviewer in 2008.

"If you treat me nicely, I'll treat you nicer," he added. "If you're rude to me, put your headgear on. Here it comes."

Conrad's later film credits included 1996's "Jingle All The Way" with Arnold Schwarzenegger and 2002's "Dead Above Ground."

He was born Konrad Robert Falkowski on March 1, 1935, in Chicago. His great-grandfather had emigrated from Germany, and his grandfather founded several meat shops in Chicago called Hartman's.

Conrad moved from one school to another, and at 15 he left his parents' house for a place known only to his girlfriend and his great-grandmother who sometimes fed him.

A football player in school, Conrad's first job was loading trucks. Then at 18 he was hired to drive milk wagons.

He tried boxing and nightclub singing for a time before drifting into acting and eventually moving to Hollywood, where he found work as a stuntman.

Conrad is survived by eight children and 18 grandchildren.

ORSON BEAN 1928-2020

Actor-comedian struck and killed by cars in LA

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Orson Bean, the witty actor and comedian who enlivened the game show "To Tell the Truth" and played a crotchety merchant on "Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman," was hit and killed by a car in Los Angeles, authorities said. He was 91.

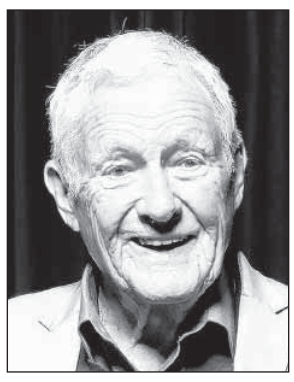
The Los Angeles County coroner's office confirmed Bean's Friday night death, saying it was being investigated as a "traffic-related" fatality. The coroner's office provided the location where Bean was found, which matched reports from police.

A man was crossing the road outside of a crosswalk in the Venice neighborhood when he was clipped by a vehicle and fell, Los Angeles Police Department Officer Drake Madison said. A second driver then struck him in what police say was the fatal collision. Both drivers remained on the scene, neither was impaired and Bean's death was being treated as an accident, Madison said.

Bean appeared in a number of films — notably, "Anatomy of a Murder" and "Being John Malkovich" — and starred in several top Broadway productions, receiving a Tony nod for the 1962 Comden-Green musical "Subways Are for Sleeping."

But fans remembered him most for his many TV appearances from the 1950s onward.

"Mr. Bean's face comes wrapped with a sly grin, somewhat like the expression of a child when sneaking his hand into the cookie jar," The New York Times noted in a review of his 1954 variety show, "The Blue Angel." It said he showed "a quality of being likable even when his jokes fall flat."



JAY L. CLENDENIN/ LOS ANGELES TIMES 2014

Orson Bean

Born in Burlington, Vermont, in 1928 as Dallas Frederick Burrows, he never lost the Yankee accent that proved a perfect complement to the dry, laconic storytelling that established him as a popular humorist. He had picked the stage name Orson Bean "because it sounded funny."

His father, George, was a founding member of the American Civil Liberties Union and Bean recalled later that his "house was filled with causes." But he left home at 16 after his mother died by suicide.

In a 1983 New York Times interview, he recalled his early career in small clubs where the show consisted of "me — master of ceremonies, comedian and magician — maybe a dog act, and a stripper." It was a piano player in one such club, he said, who suggested adopting a funny name like "Roger Duck" — or Orson Bean.

Bean's quick wit and warm personality made him a favorite panelist for six years on "To Tell the Truth." The game required the panelists to quiz three contestants to figure out which one was a real notable and which two were impostors. The dramatic outcome inspired a national catchphrase as the host turned to the three and said: "Will the real (notable's name) please stand up?"

Bean's style appealed to both Jack Paar and Johnny Carson, and he appeared on "The Tonight Show" more than 200 times.

But his early career was hobbled for a time when he found himself on the Hollywood blacklist in the early years of the Cold War.

"Basically I was blacklisted because I had a cute communist girlfriend," he explained in a 2001 interview. "I stopped working on TV for a year."

The blacklist didn't stop him in the theater. Bean starred on Broadway as a timid fan magazine writer in George Axelrod's 1955 Hollywood spoof "Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?" alongside Jayne Mansfield and Walter Matthau. He also starred on Broadway with Maureen O'Sullivan in "Never Too Late" and with Melina Mercouri in "Illya Darling," based on her hit film "Never on Sunday."

Bean took a break from his career in the 1970s when he moved to Australia, where he lived a hippie lifestyle. But he returned to the U.S. and — after a period as a self-described "house-husband" — resumed his career.

In the 1990s, he played the shopkeeper Loren Bray on the long-running drama "Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman."

He remained active on the screen in recent years with guest shots in such shows as "Desperate Housewives," "How I Met Your Mother" and "Modern Family."

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON FEBRUARY 9 ...

In 1825 the House of Representatives elected John Quincy Adams president after no candidate received a majority of electoral votes.

In 1861 the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States of America elected Jefferson Davis president and Alexander Stephens vice president.

In 1942 Daylight-saving "War Time" went into effect in the United States, with clocks turned one hour forward.

In 1943 the World War II battle of Guadalcanal in the southwest Pacific ended with an American victory over Japanese forces.

In 1950, in a speech in Wheeling, W.Va., Sen. Joseph McCarthy, R-Wis., charged the State Department was riddled with Communists.

In 1964 The Beatles made their first live American television appearance, on CBS' "The Ed Sullivan Show."

In 1971 the Apollo 14 spacecraft returned to Earth after man's third landing on the moon.

In 1996 the Irish Republican Army ended its ceasefire with a truck bombing in London that killed two and injured 37.

In 1997 Best Products closed the last of its stores, a victim of the diminishing allure of the catalog showroom concept of retailing.

In 2001 a U.S. Navy submarine collided with a Japanese fishing boat off the Hawaiian coast, killing nine men and boys aboard the boat.

In 2004 anti-government rebels took control of nearly a dozen towns in western Haiti as the death toll in the violent uprising rose to at least 40.

In 2005 a new postage stamp honoring President Ronald Reagan was issued.

In 2008 the shuttle Atlantis, carrying a European-built science lab, docked with the International Space Station.

In 2012 federal and Illinois officials announced a $25 billion settlement with the nation's top five mortgage servicers that promised assistance for a select group of 1.75 million borrowers while setting new standards for how struggling homeowners are treated. **Also in 2012** , the city of Chicago agreed to pay $6.2 million to settle a lawsuit regarding police conduct during a 2003 downtown protest against the Iraq War. About 800 people were detained and 500 of them arrested in an action a federal appellate judge ruled was unjustified.

In 2013 hundreds of mourners and dignitaries, including first lady Michelle Obama, packed the funeral service for Hadiya Pendleton, a 15-year-old honor student who was shot and killed Jan. 29 as she stood with friends at a park about a mile from President Barack Obama's home in the Kenwood neighborhood.

In 2014 Missouri All-American linebacker Michael Sam announced he was gay three months before the NFL draft. (The St. Louis Rams later drafted Sam in the seventh round, making him the first openly gay player in NFL history.)

WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS
Feb. 8
Powerball ..... **35 49 50 59 66 / 06**
Powerball jackpot: $60M
Lotto ..... **09 36 45 46 47 50 / 01**
Lotto jackpot: $6M
Pick 3 midday ..... **078 / 2**
Pick 4 midday ..... **9041 / 9**
Lucky Day Lotto midday **01 10 35 38 40**
Pick 3 evening ..... **504 / 5**
Pick 4 evening ..... **7346 / 2**
Lucky Day Lotto evening **08 20 31 33 38**
Feb. 7
Mega Millions ..... **09 14 27 36 52 / 4**
Mega Millions jackpot: $187M
Pick 3 midday ..... **760 / 5**
Pick 4 midday ..... **0304 / 2**
Lucky Day Lotto midday **02 12 15 29 32**
Pick 3 evening ..... **949 / 9**
Pick 4 evening ..... **3137 / 8**
Lucky Day Lotto evening **03 21 23 35 41**

Feb. 11 Mega Millions: $202M

INDIANA
Feb. 8
Lotto **04 23 25 27 33 44**
Daily 3 midday ..... **644 / 3**
Daily 4 midday ..... **2550 / 3**
Daily 3 evening ..... **058 / 2**
Daily 4 evening ..... **2621 / 2**
Cash 5 ..... **22 24 32 39 42**

MICHIGAN
Feb. 8
Lotto **06 07 12 16 18 46**
Daily 3 midday **364**
Daily 4 midday **7095**
Daily 3 evening **255**
Daily 4 evening **5380**
Fantasy 5 ..... **06 13 18 28 34**
Keno **04 11 12 13 17 18 19 23 24 28 29 32 33 39 45 47 48 51 60 71 74 75**

WISCONSIN
Feb. 8
Megabucks **04 15 35 38 46 49**
Pick 3 ..... **987**
Pick 4 ..... **5368**
Badger 5 ..... **06 07 22 24 30**
SuperCash **09 15 22 30 34 35**

More winning numbers at **chicagotribune.com/lottery**

Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

In Memoriam

Sgt. Michael Spagnola
Sgt. Michael Spagnola CPD Area 4 11th District Happy Birthday (2/4/63) 7 years (2/10/13) since you left us suddenly. We miss you so much. Hope you are with your dad. Until we meet again. Your Loving Family.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Death Notices

Bjornson, Mary Alice
Mary Alice Bjornson, age 70 of Crystal Lake, passed away January 10, 2020. A Memorial Service is being planned for a later date and will be announced. For info: 847-639-3817 or kahlemoore.com

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Brower, Sheldon
Brower, Sheldon 88 of Boynton Beach, FL and of Deerfield, IL passed away February 3, 2020. Beloved husband of Roz Weinstein. Loving step father of Steven (Tia) Weinstein and Pam (Brett) Goldberg. Cherished grandfather of Connor, Quinton, Elijah, Noah, M.J., Hannah and Zachary. Services were held Friday February 7, 2020 in Delray Beach, FL. Funeral arrangements entrusted to **Riverside Stanetsky Memorial Chapel** Delray Beach, FL 561-496-7550.

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Byots, Elaine R
Elaine R. Byots, nee Miller, age 90. Beloved wife of the late Thomas J. Byots. Cherished mother of Joel (Clemencia) Byots and Bruce (Valerie) Byots. Loving grandmother of Jennifer Panzella, Melissa (Adam) Klos, Cristina Byots (Brian Kontek) and Tom (Kat Velarde) Byots, and great grandchildren Carson and Ben. Devoted daughter of the late Deborah and David Miller. Dear sister of the late Harold Miller. Graveside services Monday, February 10th, 1 PM at Rosehill Cemetery, Section 9, 5800 N. Ravenswood Avenue, Chicago. Info **Mitzvah Memorial Funerals**, 630-MITZVAH (630-648-9824) or www.mitzvahfunerals.com

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Chaplin, Matthew G.
Matthew G. Chaplin, US Army, beloved husband of Rita (Herr). Loving father of Andrea (Rusty) Skepnek. Grandfather of Matthew, Kyle and Victoria. Stepfather to Vicki (Dave) Sommer, Debra Furtek, Jill Simmons and John (Cheryl) Fortman. Preceded in death by his parents Matthew and Victoria Chaplin. Died February 5th 2020 in Wellington, Florida. Burial at St. Casimir Catholic Cemetery.

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DeRobertis, Patrick Joseph
South Holland



Patrick Joseph DeRobertis, 56, of Charleston, SC, passed away on February 4, 2020 with his family by his side. He was born February 15, 1963 to the late Richard W. DeRobertis Sr. and Patricia M. DeRobertis (nee Osier) in Blue Island IL. Patrick is survived by his spouse, life partner and love of 27 years, Allen Wutzdorff. He is preceded in death by his father and brother Michael. He is survived by his mother Patricia, brothers Richard (Pam) and Daniel (Diane); sisters Mary, Donna, Cheryl (Gabe) and Marlene (Randy).
Patrick had a loving relationship with his numerous nieces and nephews and will always be warmly remembered by them. He was also survived by his close friend, Charles Proctor. Patrick was a graduate of the University of Illinois with degrees in Agriculture. His specialty was ornamental horticulture. Born with the proverbial green thumb, he was a genius when it came to all things that grow from the earth. He especially enjoyed volunteer work at Rosebank Farms on Johns Island. A pet owner for most of his life, he relished taking care of his dogs and cats, many of which were rescue animals. Private services will occur at a later date.

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Diesterheft, Marcell L.
Marcell L. Diesterheft, 96, of Chicago, passed away



February 4, 2020, joining her husband, August "Lee D" in eternal life. Loving mother of Les (Barbara) Zematis; proud grandmother of Scott (Sarah) and Jeffrey (Erin) and 6 great-grandchildren; dear sister to her last surviving sibling, Clarence Sikorski. A celebration of her life will be held Monday, Feb. 10 at Grace Lutheran Church, 501 Valley Park Dr, Libertyville at 11am with a visitation starting at 10am. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Kindred Hospice, Alzheimer's Association, or St. Baldricks Foundation. For more information please log onto **www.strangfuneral.org**.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Dobbs, Richard J.
Richard J. "Dobkowski" Dobbs, age 82, beloved husband of the late Mary; loving father of Patricia (Peter) Twelker, Michael, and David (Jennifer); devoted grandfather (Dzia Dzia) of Alyssa, Jeremy and Joshua Twelker and Elizabeth, Jacob, Joshua and Emily Dobbs; dear brother of Lucille LePitre; also, uncle to many nieces and nephews. Visitation Monday 4 pm - 8 pm at **Modell Funeral Home**, 7710 S. Cass Ave, Darien, where a funeral service will be held on Tuesday at 10:30 am. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Wounded Warrior Project are appreciated. For funeral info: (630) 852-3595 or www.modelldarien.com.

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Dombrowski, Eugene J.
Dombrowski, Eugene J. Beloved husband of the late Mary Jane nee Hartung. Loving son of the late Joseph and Josephine Dombrowski. Fond brother of Norbert (Gloria) Dombrowski. Dear uncle of David, Daniel (Valerie), Randy Dombrowski and Debra (Thomas) Klein. Visitation Thursday, Feb. 13, 4-9 p.m. Funeral Friday, Feb. 14, 9:15 a.m. at Kolbus-John V. May Funeral Home, 6857 W. Higgins Ave., Chicago to St. Eugene Church, Mass 10:00 a.m. Interment St. Adalbert Cemetery. (773)774-3232 or www.kolbus-mayfh.com

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Drousias (nee Kopan), Virginia
Beloved wife of the late James J. Drousias. Loving mother of John J. (Victoria) (late Connie) Drousias, late Michael J. Drousias, Margo (Michael) Harris & Karen (Lawrence) Cooke. Cherished grandmother of Michael J. (Tammy), late Robert J., James J. (Kerra), Anthony J. (Kristyn), Gwendolyn L., Arianna R., Austin M. & Gabriella A. Adoring great grandmother of Colton, Caleb, Cydney, Sadie, John, Francesca, Georgetta, Virginia & Theodora. Dear sister of the late; Christ, Demetra, Gus, George & Andrew Kopan. Kind aunt & great aunt of many nieces and nephews. Agia Paraskevi and Saint Helen's Women's Philoptochos. Visitation Wednesday, February 12th from 3 until 9 p.m. with the Trisagion prayers at 6:00 p.m. at the **KERRY FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION CARE CENTER**, 7020 W. 127th Street, Palos Heights. Family & Friends will gather directly at Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 111th Street and Roberts Rd., Palos Hills Thursday, February 13th for a service at 10:00 a.m. Interment Evergreen Cemetery. www.kerryfh.com ~ (708) 361.4235 ~ www.facebook.com/kerryfuneral

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Dunlavy, Barbara J.
Age 80, of Park Ridge, IL, passed away on January 28. She was the beloved daughter of the late Thomas N. and Anne (nee Young) Dunlavy and the loving sister of Mary and Sister Maristella, O.P. and the late Thomas M. and Donald J. Dunlavy. She was loved by her sister-in-law, June Dunlavy and numerous nieces, nephews, grand and great -grand nieces and nephews (including three nephews, one grand niece and one grand nephew, who preceded her in death). Barbara leaves behind many life-long friends from her times of employment at the FBI, Chicago Office and Arthur Anderson of Chicago ,as well as many dear friends from St. Paul of the Cross Parish. A Memorial Mass will be held 12:30 p.m. at St. Paul of the Cross Church on Saturday February 15th. For info 847-685-1002 www.cooneyfuneralhome.com

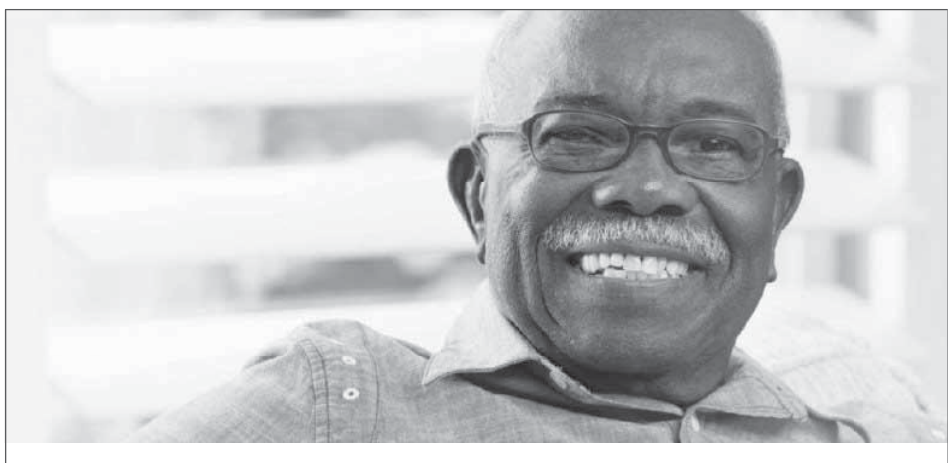
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Fiene, Lester L.
Lester L. Fiene, age 92, late of Elmhurst, passed away Friday, February 7, 2020. Beloved husband of Mary Anne nee Painter. Loving father of John (Joan) and Joseph (Michelle) Fiene. Proud grandpa of 5 and great-grandpa of 8. Visitation Monday, February 10, 2020, 3:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Pedersen-Ryberg Funeral Home, 435 S. York St., Elmhurst, IL. Visitation Tuesday, February 11, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. until the time of the service at 10:00 a.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1025 Lake St., Melrose Park, IL. with Rev. Martin Doering officiating. Interment private. Mr. Fiene was a veteran of the U.S. Army. Memorial contributions to the American Heart Association appreciated.

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Fracek, Mary H.
Mary H. Fracek, 70, passed away on January 30, 2020. No services planned.

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Every life story deserves to be told.

Share your loved one's story at placeanad.chicagotribune.com

Chicago Tribune

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Gaydos, Nicholas
Nicholas Gaydos, passed February 5th, age 89. He served his country in the Army during Korean War and worked for 42 years as an installer for Western Electric retiring at age 67. He coached basketball for several years at St. Mary Byzantine School 1975-1980. Devoted husband to Geraldine nee Svoboda for 64 years prior to her passing in 2018. Loving father of Michael, Karen (Fred Sr.) Mulvaney, Susan (David) Bialek, Steven (Amy Hess), and the late Richard. Dear grandfather of Fred Jr. (Ashley Dudek) Mulvaney, Alex (Jessie DeLuca) Gaydos, and Sophia Gaydos. Great-grandfather of Luke and Jack Mulvaney. Dearest son of the late Michael and Mary nee Popernik. Fond brother of Andrew (Yayoi) Gaydos, Mary (late George) Demcak, and the late John (late Helen), the late James (late Irene), the late Peter (late Ann), the late Ted (Millie), the late Anne (late Edward) Veleta, the late George Gaydos, and the late Dorothy (late Joseph) Snaidauf. Visitation Tuesday February 11th, 3-8 p.m. at **Thompson & Kuenster Funeral Home**, 5570 W. 95th Street, Oak Lawn. Funeral Wednesday 8:45 a.m. from funeral home to St. Gerald Church, Mass 9:30 a.m. Interment Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery at 11:30 a.m. with full Military Honors. (708) 425-0500

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Goddard, Virginia
Virginia Goddard age 90 of Arlington Heights, Born and raised in Sandusky IL. Beloved wife of the late Brigadier General William D. Goddard; loving mother of Deborah Fanning, Mark (Regina) Goddard, Patricia Goddard (Edward Miles) and the late William J. Goddard; Cherished grandmother of Patrick (Maria) Fanning, Matthew Hynes, Maria (Rob) Soraparu, Elizabeth Miles, Tom Perron, Heather Weiser, Ryan Biggs and the late Aimee Lentini; great grandmother of Nicholaus, Jaxson and Kalliope, Dominick, Noah, Camden, Addelyn and Oliver; dear sister of Laverne Thompson, Audry Holland, the late Dimple Honey, Genieva Harvel, Patsy Brown, Brenda Sue Wilson; fond aunt of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Tuesday February 11, 9:00 a.m. until time of Funeral Service 11:00 a.m. at Friedrichs Funeral Home, 320 W. Central Rd., (at Northwest Highway) Mt. Prospect, IL 60056. Interment Memory Gardens Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Salute, Inc, P.O. Box 2663, Palatine, IL 60078. Funeral information (847) 255-7800 or www.friedrichsfh.com.

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Goldsmith, Marvin
Marvin Goldsmith, age 84, of Bonita Springs, FL, formerly of Chicago. Beloved husband of Adele, nee Pechnik. Loving father of Marcie Goldsmith and Michelle (David) Evins. Proud grandfather of Jake, Luke and Nicole Evins. Dear brother of Earl Goldsmith. Fond brother-in-law of Frank (Bernadette) Pechnik. Cherished uncle of Peter (Gina) Goldsmith, Steve (Amy) Goldsmith, Tanya and Alison Pechnik. Will be missed by many extended family and friends. He was a proud Badger, University of Wisconsin, class of 1957. Service Tuesday, 12 PM at Chicago Jewish Funerals, 8851 Skokie Blvd (at Niles Center Road), Skokie. Entombment at Memorial Park, Skokie. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made in his name to WTTW, 5400 North St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625, www.wttw.com\memorial or Anshe Emet Synagogue, 3751 North Broadway, Chicago, IL 60613, www.ansheemet.org. Arrangements by Chicago Jewish Funerals - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com.

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Goldstein, Mary
Mary Goldstein passed away on January 30, 2020.



She was born in Kenosha, Wisconsin to Teresa and Mike Stancato on December 7, 1919, and lived life fully for over 100 years.
Mary and her husband, Sidney Paul Goldstein, raised their family in Chicago, Illinois and Beverly Hills, CA. She is survived by her four children: Joel Goldstein (JoAnne); Gail Goldstein; Cary Goldstein (Eleonore); and Louise Privette (John); and brother Michael Stancato. She is also survived by granddaughter Adriene Philipps (Brian) and great-grandchildren Emma and Jack Phillips.
Mary was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Sidney, her brother, Frank Stancato, and sisters Emma Serpe and Ella Toigo.
Mary was a devoted wife and mother. She was a discerning judge of character and an avid reader, encouraging a love of books in her children. She demonstrated a pattern of lifelong learning by completing her GED when she was in her forties and then taking college classes. Through People Educating People, she volunteered at the College of DuPage to teach English to immigrants. Following in her father's footsteps, she cultivated a bountiful garden of fruits, vegetables, and flowers at her home in Wheaton for almost 40 years. She was known for her beauty, kindness, laughter, and outstanding culinary skills.
Services will be private. Condolences may be expressed at Legacy.com.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Gornik, Joan Margaret
Joan Margaret Gornik (nee Sinquefield), 83, teacher



of the hearing impaired, passed away January 28, 2020. Born in Ashford, AL, and raised in St. Louis, Joan graduated from St. John the Baptist H.S. and the St. Louis School for the Deaf, Washington University and worked briefly for an advertising firm and taught at St. Louis School for the Deaf before moving to Chicago, where she educated hearing impaired students at Elk Grove Village Schools for 30+ years. Joan was dedicated to her life's calling and kept the torch of knowledge bright for her students. Beloved wife of the late Stephen W. Gornik, Psy.D.; loving sister of Mary Ann Herzwurn, Rex A. (Jeanne Cairns, PhD) Sinquefield and Jerome G. (Delores "Dee") Sinquefield; beloved aunt of many. Daughter of the late Rex Willard Sinquefield and Mary Cecilia Sinquefield (nee Drotar); faithful companion of Sam the cat. The family thanks Agnes Dziekan for many years of care. Interment of cremated remains Tuesday April 21, 10:15am, Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis. Arrangements by **Cremation Society of Illinois**, 773-281-5058 or www.cremation-society.com.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Grindel, June
June Grindel nee Dubofsky, age 88. Loving wife of the late Herbert "Herb" Grindel. Cherished mother of Robin (the late Anthony) Sulpizio, Ellen Grindel (Harris Halpert), Steven Grindel (Laurie Kabins). Adored grandmother of Joseph Sulpizio (Efrat Levant), Carlie Sulpizio, Zach Kelly (Caitlin Delaney), Jacob Grindel, Sam Grindel, Ben Grindel, Bryan Halpert, and Taylor Halpert. Dear sister of Burton (Eileen) DuBoe and the late George Duboe (Jewel Baker) and the late Charlotte (the late Marshall) Golden. Special cousin of Elaine and Ronnie Prebish. Services Monday, 10AM at Congregation B'nai Jehoshua Beth Elohim, 1201 Lake Cook Road, Deerfield. Interment Shalom. Memorial contributions may be made to Sedgebrook Scholarship Fund, 800 Audobon Way, Lincolnshire, IL 60069. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Buffalo Grove Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com

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Hainsfurther, Bruce S.
Bruce S. Hainsfurther, 62, beloved husband of Julie nee Stone for 39 years; loving father of Jennifer (Craig) Saperstein, Joel (Deborah) Hainsfurther, Jordan (Sarah) Hainsfurther; adoring grandfather of Jacob Stone Saperstein and Hanna Cassell Saperstein; devoted son-in-law of Donna Stone and the late Howard Stone; dear brother of Walter (Betty) Hainsfurther; cherished uncle of Sara and Adam Hainsfurther. Anyone who knew Bruce knew that his family was the center of his world. He was a loving and caring father who always put others before himself. He also spent countless hours playing tennis, enjoying a good glass of wine, and rooting for his Chicago Cubs and Indiana Hoosiers. He will be missed more than words can possibly express.
Services Sunday, 2 p.m., at North Shore Congregation Israel, 1185 Sheridan Rd., Glencoe. In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution to a charity of your choosing.

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Harris, Katherine Patricia 'Kathy'
Katherine Patricia Harris, 78, of Chicago, Illinois, died at home peacefully on Sat., Feb. 1, 2020 after several months battling lung cancer. Kathy was born on Mar. 17, 1941 in St. Paul, MN. She attended the Braeside Elementary School, Penn Hall and the Univ. of Arizona before marrying the late John Friend in 1960. The marriage ended in divorce. Together they had 3 children, Pam Friend Szokol, William (Linda) Friend and Scott (Leslie) Friend. Kathy had a special bond with each of her 10 grandchildren: Kimberly, Elizabeth & William Szokol; Nina, Jack & Matthew Friend; Tynan, Olivia, Ben & Gemma Friend. Kathy's longtime partner, Robert Jendra, died in 2013. Kathy is also survived by her dear brother King (Caryn) Harris, her sister and best friend Toni (Ron) Paul and many other cousins, nieces, nephews, family and close friends.
A colorful and unique soul, and a gifted listener, Kathy enjoyed her first job as an assistant letter reader to Ann Landers. It was at that job where Kathy made several lifelong friendships. Kathy was a free spirit with passion for travel, people, living and learning. Kathy enjoyed her film club, theater, opera and views of beautiful Lake Michigan. The Chicago Botanic Garden held a special place in her heart. She was an avid boater and adventurer aboard Wildwind, member of Burnham Park Yacht Club, Seven Seas Cruising Association, Great Lakes Cruising Club, Lake Shore Country Club and Osher Lifelong Learning at Northwestern Univ. She will be greatly missed.
A memorial service with family from near and far was held on Mon., Feb. 4. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Family Institute, Bette D. Harris Family & Child Clinic at Northwestern Univ., Attn: Katherine Harris Memorial.

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Isaacson, Gail
Gail Isaacson, nee Fogelman. Loving mother of Rebecca Joy (David) Allen and Sara Beth Isaacson. Cherished grandmother of Ethan, Zachary, and Samuel. Dear sister of the late Ronald Fogelman. Darling daughter of the late Annette and Kermit Fogelman. Gail was a nurse and a great friend that always cared for everyone around her. Graveside Service Tuesday 10AM at Evergreen Cemetery, Evergreen Park, IL. Contributions in Gail's name to Na'Amat USA, naamat.org/waystogive/donate-now/ would be appreciated. Info **Mitzvah Memorial Funerals**, 630-MITZVAH (630-648-9824) or www.MitzvahFunerals.com.

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Jelinek, Peter T.
Jelinek, Peter T., U.S. Navy. Beloved husband of the late Leonora "Lona" Jelinek. Loving uncle of Thomas (Jean), Dr. Curtis (Laurie) Jelinek and Barbara (Dr. Todd) Piper. Dear cousin, great uncle and great-great uncle to many. Preceded in death by his parents William and Sylvia Jelinek and brother William F. (Harriet) Jelinek. Member of the Elks Lodge # 1526. In lieu of flowers please make contributions to a charity of your choice. Memorial Visitation Saturday, February 15, 10:00 a.m. until time of service 11:30 a.m. at the **Nelson Funeral Home**, 820 W. Talcott Road, Park Ridge, IL. Interment Private (847)823-5122 or www.nelsonfunerals.com

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Kilander, Robert Kray
Robert Kray Kilander passed away in Sarasota, Florida January 24, 2020. He was born in Minot, N.D. on May 27, 1943. He was a member of the Boy Scouts and a high school athlete. After graduating first in his class from Kendall College, Bob enrolled in DePaul Law School where he received his Juris Doctor in 1969. He was appointed to Assistant DuPage County State's Attorney where he rose to the position of Head of the Grand Jury Division. In 1973 he entered the private sector as a partner and a litigation attorney in the firm of Laraia & Kilander. Years later, he was asked by State's Attorney Jim Ryan to serve as First Assistant State's Attorney. He was next appointed as an Associate Judge and thereafter elected Circuit Judge where he served as Presiding Judge of the Law Division. Bob eventually led the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit Court as Chief Judge and was asked to serve as Vice President of the Chief Judges of Illinois. He enjoyed skiing as a young man. He also enjoyed golfing, boating on Lake Michigan, painting, and competing in canoe races. He settled in Saugatuck, Michigan and spent time in Sarasota, Florida. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Margot, and sons Peter and Bill - sister Martha and Myron Schroeder, Downs, Illinois - brother Don and Jo Kilander, Fargo, North Dakota. There will be a commemorative service in May, to be announced.

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Kozack, Rita A.

Rita A. Kozack (nee Esser), age 89, a resident of Palos Hills, IL, formerly of Plainfield, Chicago, Lisle and Shorewood, IL, passed away on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at her home. She was born December 24, 1930 in Plainfield.

Arrangements by Overman-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Plainfield, IL.

For service times and a complete obituary, please visit www.overman-jones.com or call (815) 436-9221 for more information.

Friedrich Jones
Funeral Homes & Cremation Services

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Krop, Joanne C.

Joanne C. Krop nee Leemans, late of Frankfort formerly of Flossmoor. Beloved wife of the late Honorable Robert Walter Krop. Loving mother of Kathleen (late Timothy) Judge, Walter (Lisa) Krop, Patricia (Richard) Glomb and Peter (Victoria) Krop. Devoted grandmother of Patrick and Christopher Judge, Robert and Thomas Krop, Taylor, Julia and Gabrielle Glomb and Timothy and Sean Krop. Preceded in death by her siblings Arthur (Beverly) Leemans and Patricia Leemans. Fond aunt of Carolyn (John) Sucic, Barbara (Merle) Nicks and Joseph Leemans. Joanne was a longtime, very active member of the Infant Jesus of Prague Parish and the Olympia Fields Country Club. A former board member of the Jennifer Fallick Cancer Support Center and the South Suburban Woman's League. Graduate of Aquinas High School and the Loyola University. Visitation will be held on Monday February 10, from 8:30 am until the time of prayers at 11:15 am at the **Tews-Ryan Funeral Home** 18230 Dixie Highway in Homewood. A Funeral Mass will be held at 12 noon at the Infant Jesus of Prague Church in Flossmoor. Entombment to follow at the Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Alsip, IL. For additional information contact tews-ryanfh.com or 708-798-5300.

TEWS RYAN FUNERAL HOME

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Krueger, Albert



Albert Krueger of Twin Lakes, WI, age 89. Dear brother of Otto Krueger and Beatrice Crowley; fond uncle and great uncle of many. Albert was a man of mystery and a lover of books.

Services were held at Queen of Heaven Cemetery on Thursday, February 6, 2020.

A Memorial service will be held at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to **Conboy-Westchester Funeral Home**. For info 708-F-U-N-E-R-A-L.

Conboy – Westchester
Funeral Home
www.ConboyWestchesterfh.com

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Kruger, Harris N.

Harris N. Kruger, age 81. Beloved husband of Joanne for over 52 years. Loving father of Jodi Kruger (Jeremy Rosen) and Jeffrey (Andrea) Kruger. Proud "Papa Z" of Ethan Rosen, Peri Kruger, and Hannah Kruger. Dear brother of Sandra (the late David) Miller. Memorial service, Monday, 1PM at Congregation Or Shalom, 21 W. Hawthorn Parkway, Vernon Hills, IL 60061. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to North Shore Hospice, 4901 Searle Parkway, Suite 160, Skokie, IL 60076, www.northshore.org/hospice or Congregation Or Shalom, www.orshalomlc.org. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** – Buffalo Grove Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Lawson, Edwin John

Edwin John Lawson, 93, died Feb 2, 2020. Born on the 4th of July. Loving husband of the late Loretta; father of Daniel, Judith, Cynthia and Thomas. Grandfather of 10 and great-grandfather of 5. Memorial celebrated Saturday Feb 15 at Meadows Funeral Home, 3615 Kirchoff Road, Rolling Meadows, IL from noon to 2 PM with a service at 1 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations to Make-a-Wish. See extended Obituary at meadowsfh.com. Information (847)253-0224

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LEWANIAK, SR. , EUGENE F.

EUGENE F. LEWANIAK, Sr., 88, Korean War United States Army Veteran; beloved husband of the late Patricia (nee Saratowicz); loving father of Denise Lewaniak, Celeste Lewaniak, Linda (Kathy) Lewaniak, Eugene (Sue) Lewaniak & Teresa (Jim) Denk; dearest grandfather of Alyson (Andrew) Lubker, Stephanie Lewaniak, Tanner Flinn, Connor Flinn, Thea, James & Charlie Denk; great grandfather of Emma & Sophia Lubker; dear brother of the late Joseph (late Frances) & late Edward (late Esther) Lewaniak; fond uncle of many. Visitation Friday, February 14, 2020, 2-8 p.m. at **Zarzycki Manor Chapels, Ltd.** 8999 S Archer Avenue, Willow Springs. Funeral Saturday, February 15, 2020, 9 a.m. from the funeral home to the Church of St. Barbara, Brookfield. Mass 10 a.m. Entombment Resurrection Community Mausoleum. Member of the Casimir Pulaski Post #25 Polish Legion of American Veterans, Electric Post #769 American Legion, 6 Meter Club of Chicago KB90YQ, Masonic Lodge #995 Westchester & Medinah Shriners of North America, member over 50 years Master Craftsmen of Chicago Chapter #1 and Grand Master Craftsmen of Grand Lodge. In honor of Eugene Lewaniak's memory, the family requests donations to those that have cared for him so compassionately the last six months at Edward Hines, Jr. Hospital or Loyola Medicine Cancer Center. (708) 839.8999 or www.ZarzyckiManorChapels.com.



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Llorente, Lourdes A.

Lourdes A. Llorente, age 79, of Skokie. Beloved daughter of the late Rafael and Esperanza Llorente; loving sister of Cristina (Ed) Drost, Lina (the late Edmundo) Angeles, Jose Luis "Tom" (the late Teresita), Rolando (Enriquita), Margarita (Jose) Cobarrubias, and the late Rafael Jr., Diana (Paul) O'Malley, and Ernesto (Amelia); dearest aunt of many nieces and nephews; special aunt of Lisa (Gene) Edmond; cherished great-aunt of Diana, Eugene III, James, and Kathryn Lourdes. Visitation, Friday, February 14, 2020, from 4 to 8 p.m., at **HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory**, 8057 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Funeral, Saturday, February 15, at 10:30 a.m., from the funeral home, for Mass of Christian Burial, 11 a.m., at St. Lambert Catholic Church, 8148 Karlov Av., Skokie. Private Interment, All Saints Catholic Cemetery, Des Plaines. Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or www.habenfuneral.com to sign guestbook.

HABEN
Funeral Home & Crematory

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Locascio, Anne G.



Anne G. Locascio nee Goldfinch, age 72, of River Forest; beloved wife of Lawrence J. Locascio, Jr.; adored mother of Lisa and Julia Locascio; loving daughter of the late Charles William Goldfinch and Elizabeth Canales Goldfinch; treasured granddaughter of the late Jose Tomas and Anne Wheeler Canales; dear godmother of Jonathan Stuckey and Byanca, Yesenia, and Nancy Salazar; prized friend of Margaret and John Stuckey, Lalena Porro Goard, Nydia and Omar Salazar, and Jasper Nighthawk Henderson. Patron of violinist Noah Geller, concertmaster of the Seattle Symphony Orchestra. Anne was an alumna of the Institut Saint Dominique, Paris, France, St. Mary's Hall, San Antonio, TX, Pine Manor College, Brookline, MA, and George Washington University. She also pursued her education at the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design, Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University, and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Visitation 2 to 8 p.m. Sunday Feb. 9 at **Drechsler, Brown & Williams** Funeral Home, 203 S. Marion St., Oak Park. Friends and family will meet at St. Giles Church, 1045 Columbian Ave., Oak Park on Monday Feb. 10 for mass at 11 a.m. Interment Private. In lieu of flowers, donations to: The Mendocino Coast Writers' Conference (mcwc.org). These funds will be used to establish the Anne G. Locascio Scholarship. Funeral info: drechslerbrownwilliams.com or 708-383-3190

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London, Alfred L.



Alfred L. London, 88, of Chicago. Beloved husband of Marilyn London; loving father of Laura London and Richard (Marla) London; proud grandfather of Max, Sam, Drake, Myles and Tyler London; caring brother of the late Phyllis (late Robert) Sang; cherished son of the late Dr. George J. and Esther R. London He was a successful Chicago business man and lawyer. He was a graduate of Columbia University Law and Northwestern University. He also served in the United States Army. He was good, kind and charitable. He had a great sense of humor and enjoyed telling stories about historical events. Al will always be remembered, loved and missed. Private services were held. Memorial contributions to the charity of your choice appreciated.

WEINSTEIN & PISER
FUNERAL HOME

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McCarthy, James Francis 'Mac'



died peacefully in Peachtree City, Georgia on January 26th, 2020, at the age of 89. James is survived by, Joyce, his wife of 66 years; and five adult children, James K. (Lara) of Sharpsburg, GA, Michael S. (Suiya) of Chicago, IL, Mark P. (Liming), of Naperville, IL, Erin J. (Paul) of Chicago, IL, and Kelly A. (Tom) of Grayslake, IL, and grandchildren, James A. (Stephanie), Heather, William, (Stacy), Kaitlyn (Kasey), Brian, Sean, Eric, Cormac, great granddaughters, Kelly, and Isabella. James is preceded in death by his parents, William J. McCarthy and Eleanor Foley McCarthy, all siblings, William (Marguerite), Robert W. (Rosemary), Marian E. McCarthy and Kathleen R. (McCarthy) Foley (Daniel). James was born on December 28, 1930 in Chicago, IL. Attended Queen of All Saints Grammar School and St. George High School. James graduated from Notre Dame University in 1953 with a B.S. degree in Commerce. James married Joyce Marilyn Widtmann, his high school sweetheart, that same year, November 28th, 1953. While living in Chicago, James served as President of the North Mayfair Improvement Association in 1976. James worked with graphic arts industry; Rand McNally, Follett Corporation, Nobart, National Safety Council, and Segerdahl Graphics until he retired in December 1997. The couple then moved to Niceville, Florida, where they lived until December 2016, at which time they were moved to assisted living in Peachtree City, GA, near their oldest son, James K. and his family.

James was involved with Knights of Columbus through St. Edwards Catholic Church in Chicago, and Christ Redeemer Catholic Church in Niceville, FL. While living in FL, he enjoyed gardening with his wife as members of Bluewater Bay Garden Club. A private memorial was held in Sharpsburg, GA where his cremains will be laid to rest at historic Cokes Chapel Cemetery, Sharpsburg. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Knights of Columbus in Niceville, Florida. Condolences can be sent to family care of his son James K. McCarthy, 115 Tanglewood Lane, Sharpsburg, GA 30277. The family would like to thank the staff of Sommerby, Peachtree City, and Kindred Hospice, of Sharpsburg, for their help in the last days.

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Myers, Lois H.

Lois H. Myers, passed away peacefully on February 6, 2020. Loving wife to the late William; beloved mother of Doug (Kim) and Steve; proud grandmother of Christopher (Heidi) and Katherine; sister of Charlotte (the late Robert) Elliott; aunt to Susan and Warren. Services will be private.

Cremation Society Of Illinois

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Nelson, Mary E.

Mary E. Nelson, nee Mellie, of Westchester, age 97½. Beloved wife of the late Nels A.; loving mother of Mark Nelson and Donna (Herb) Stride; proud grandmother of Michael (Nan) Mann; great-grandmother of Reeves; dear sister of Jean and the late Joe, Albert, James, Virginia, Rosella, Flora, Frank, Louis, Julia, Elizabeth and Margaret; fond aunt and great-aunt of many. Lying-in-State at Divine Providence Church, 2550 Mayfair, Westchester on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. until time of Funeral Mass 10:00 a.m. Interment Mt. Emblem Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Mercy Home for Boys & Girls appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to **Conboy-Westchester Funeral Home**. For info 708-F-U-N-E-R-A-L.

Conboy – Westchester
Funeral Home
www.ConboyWestchesterfh.com

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Parks, Lois Marie

Lois Marie Parks, 93 years old of Lindenhurst, IL passed away Wednesday, February 5, 2020. She was born to the late George and Viola (nee Wegner) Piske on October 4, 1926 in Chicago, IL. On June 11, 1949, Lois married Russell Lloyd Parks.

A Memorial Gathering will be held at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, February 16, 2020 at the Village at Victory Lakes - Great Room (located in the Independent Living Apartment Building), 1075 E. Victory Drive, Lindenhurst, IL 60046. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to a charity of choice in honor of Lois. For further information and to sign the online guestbook for Lois, please visit www.strangfh.com or call Strang Funeral Home of Antioch (847)-395-4000.

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Plusser, Joan P.

Joan P. Plusser nee Seeman, age 84. Beloved wife of the late Preston "Pep." Loving mother of Robin (Mike) Bruce, Mark (Loretta) Plusser and Randi Weinstein. Proud grandmother of Stephanie (Josh) Moore, Evan (fiancé Ashley) Bruce, Alex Weinstein and Joshua (Jazmin) Willett. Adored great grandmother of Kataleyna and Isabella Willett, and Tessa Moore. Service Monday, 11 AM at Temple Anshe Sholom, 20820 Western Ave., Olympia Fields, IL 60461. Interment Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in her name may be made to Temple Anshe Sholom, www.templeanshesholom.org, St. Jude's Children's Research Fund, www.stjude.org or the American Lung Association, www.lung.org. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** – Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com.

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Roberts, Pamela



Pamela Roberts (Bestwina) of Oak Brook, IL passed away peacefully surrounded by love at 71 years old after a year-long battle with Alzheimer's. Pam was a beloved teacher for over 20 years inspiring each child she taught as well as so many co-workers, family & friends along the way. She was an avid runner, reader and an excellent gardener. She took pride in all she did, had a giving heart helping anyone in need she met during her lifetime. Her rebellious spirit & presence will be dearly missed. She is preceded in death by her sons Nathan & Andrew and will be laid to rest with them in Sedona, AZ. She is survived by former husband & best friend Joseph Bestwina & her daughter Claire Bestwina. Donations can be made in her honor to the Alzheimer's Association or Elmhurst College. Services will be held privately.

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Sandell, Donald H. 'Don'

Donald H. "Don" Sandell, age 93, World War II U.S. Navy veteran, a resident of Naperville, IL since 1972, passed away on Friday, February 7, 2020 at his home. He was born September 18, 1926 in Minneapolis, MN.

Arrangements by Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Naperville, IL.

For service times and a compete obituary, please visit www.friedrich-jones.com or call (630) 355-0213 for more information.

Friedrich Jones Funeral Homes & Cremation Services

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Saunders, Kenneth



Kenneth D. Saunders, 93, passed away on Tuesday, February 4, 2020. He was born on January 4, 1927 in Park Ridge, IL to Maurice and Mildred (nee Cochran) Saunders Jr. Kenneth was the loving father to Karen S. (John) Waugh of San Antonio, TX. and William T. (Kathleen) Saunders of Buffalo Grove, IL; he was the loving grandfather to Craig D. Saunders of Elkridge, MD and Colin S. Waugh of Argyle, TX. Kenneth was preceded in death by his loving wife Jean Suzanne (2014), his sister Anne Fredericks and his parents. A Visitation will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, February 22, 2020 in the Vail Room at Lake Forest Place with a Celebration of Life at 12:15 PM, 1101 Pembridge Drive, Lake Forest, IL 60045. In lieu of flowers, Memorial Donations may be sent to your Charity of Choice in loving memory of Kenneth. Info: **Wenban Funeral Home** (847) 234-0022 or www.wenbanfh.com

WENBAN FUNERAL HOME LTD.

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Schifo, Lois J.

Lois J. Schifo, nee Kalas. Beloved wife of Kenneth Schifo. Loving mother of Julie (Christopher) Klatka and Gina (Vince) Evans. Cherished grandmother of Samantha (Mike) Klatka, Sydney (Sebastian) Stasiakiewicz, Delaney and Alexa Evans. Dear sister of Gary (the late Cindy) Kalas. Fond aunt of Michelle (Darin) Gawne. Preceded by her parents Walter and Mildred Kalas.

Memorial visitation Thursday, 3:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. at Friedrichs Funeral Home, 320 W. Central Rd. at Northwest Highway, Mount Prospect. Inurnment Friday, 11:00 A.M at Memory Gardens Cemetery. Information call 847-255-7800 or www.friedrichsfh.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Schneider, Harriet

Harriet Schneider, nee Margolin, age 98. Beloved wife for 60 years to the late Sidney; loving mother of Dr. Renee (Dr. Alan) Reich; cherished grandmother of Steven (Stephanie) Reich and Lindsay Reich; devoted great-grandmother of Natalie Sydney and David Arthur Reich; dear sister of the late Arlene Goldman-Smith and the late Florence; dear aunt of Fred Goldman, Elli Gorman and the late Alberta Gruber; fond great-aunt of many nieces and nephews. Service Sunday 1 PM at the Schram Memorial Chapel, 1799 Patriot Blvd, Glenview. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery, Skokie. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to North Shore Hospice. Info **Mitzvah Memorial Funerals**, 630-MITZVAH 630-648-9824, or www.mitzvahfunerals.com

Mitzvah Memorial Funerals

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Schramek, Robert "Whitey"

Robert "Whitey" Schramek, age 88, a longtime resident of Bridgeview, IL, passed away peacefully on February 1, 2020 at Sunrise Assisted Living in Naperville. He was born on November 29, 1931 in Du Quoin, IL. Whitey was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 47 years, Beverly. He is survived by his loving children, Linda (Mike) Thoma and Steven (Roger) Schramek; his cherished grandchildren, Samantha (Tim Magner) Thoma, Allison Thoma and McKenzie Thoma; as well as many nieces and nephews. A private family inurnment will be at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL. **Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services**, Naperville was entrusted with arrangements. For information please call 630/355-0213 or visit www.friedrich-jones.com

Friedrich Jones Funeral Homes & Cremation Services

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Seidel, Fred A.

Fred A. Seidel. Loving husband of Bernice Seidel. Devoted father of Rabbi Jeff (Penina) Seidel, Pamela (Maynerd) Steinberg and the late Bruce Seidel. Proud grandfather of Dr. Lawrence (Anna), Mitchell (Dara), Dr. David (Ally), Benzion, Chaninah (Shoshana), Elisha, Moriah (Chaim) and Shira (Gavriel). Cherished great grandfather of many. Service Sunday 12 Noon 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 Congregation Or Torah, 3800 West Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076 www.ortorah.org. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Stevens, Judith Esther 'Judy'



Judith "Judy" Esther Stevens, 69; formerly of Canada (Toronto, London, Yellowknife, and Vancouver), Taiwan, England, New York City, Curacao, and Singapore; passed away peacefully in Chicago, February 1, 2020, surrounded by her loving family. Beloved wife of 46 years of Thomas Robert Stevens; devoted mother of Meredith Elizabeth Stevens and Gillian Anne (Andrew) Eastman; adoring grandmother of Benjamin Andrew Eastman and Charles Christopher Eastman; dear sister of Roberta (the late Barry) Dubiner, Elaine Myers, and Larry (Sheli) Myers; trusted aunt and sister-in-law, kindred spirit to many. Daughter of the late Myer Myers and Ella Pancer Myers. Her family would especially like to thank Molly Brewster of JourneyCare and Drs. Mary Mulcahy and Ann Mellott of Northwestern Memorial Hospital for the care and support they provided Judy and her family throughout the past five years. Per Judy's wishes there will not be a funeral, private services have been held. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her name to Northwestern University's Lurie Cancer Center, specifically stomach cancer research (wewill.northwestern.edu/lurie). Arrangements by **Cremation Society of Illinois**, 773-281-5058 or www.cremation-society.com.

Cremation Society of Illinois

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Stewart, Bernard Francis 'Ben'



Bernard Francis "Ben" Stewart, 91 of Libertyville, Illinois and Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, passed away Sunday, February 2, 2020.

Caring husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle, Ben is survived by his four children, Tamara (Tom McDonald), Deborah, Charles (Gretchen), and Suzzanne Franz (Greg); seven grandchildren, his brother Terrance (Therese) and numerous nieces and nephews. Ben was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Ruth, and his four sisters, Elizabeth, Mary, Janette, and Anne Marie.

Born May 16, 1928, in Janesville, Wisconsin, to John and Florence Stewart, Ben was a proud graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and its Law School, where he was member of the Law Review. He began his legal career in Chicago with the firm of Kirkland & Ellis, later moved on to serve as Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel of ITT Automotive, later retiring as Executive Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel of Exide Battery Corporation. In 2006, Ben was inducted as a Senior Counselor in the Illinois Bar Association.

Services will be held at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Libertyville on Saturday, February 15 at 10:00AM. In lieu of flowers, donations in his name to the University of Wisconsin Law School would be greatly appreciated. Arrangements by **McMurrough Funeral Chapel**. Please sign guestbook at Libertyvillefuneralhome.com

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Sullivan, Patrick Thomas

EDGERTON, WI--- Patrick Thomas Sullivan, Sr., of Edgerton, Wisconsin, passed away on February 5, 2020, at Agrace HospiceCare in Janesville, Wisconsin, after 4 cancers, leg amputation, and the struggles accompanying those and other maladies over the last few years. Patrick was a meat-cutter for 16 years and a proud letter carrier in Zion, Illinois, for 7 years, before his retirement on disability due to a traffic crash in 1987.

Patrick and Susan were married 58 years – through blessings and trials, ups and downs, their love survived and even became stronger! It was a blessed union. From the passion of teenagers through the care-giving of later years, they both knew that they loved each other. Susan was blessed to be his caregiver and looks forward to reuniting with him and the rest of their families in Heaven. We thank God for guiding our lives until He decides our work here on earth is finished.

Patrick is survived by his wife, Susan Marie nee Owens; two sons, Patrick Jr. (Melody, deceased) and John L., (Lisa); and his daughter Katie Lyn (Wade), grandchildren Carly, Stetson, and Mitchell; as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins, relatives, and friends.

Waiting to greet him in Heaven were three deceased daughters: Cheri, Fawna, and Tina; as well as his parents, Leslie P. Sullivan and Genevieve Sullivan; his brother, Leslie J. Sullivan; and his mother-in-law and father-in-law, LaVerne E. and William H. Owens.

There will be a private family service at a later date. PLEASE NO FLOWERS OR PLANTS TO THE FAMILY. Condolences may be sent to Susan Sullivan at home or to her c/o APFEL EHLERT FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICE, P.O. Box 189, Edgerton, WI 53534. Any memorial gifts will be donated to specific charities/churches at Susan's discretion. For an on-line guestbook and condolences: www.apfelfuneral.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Tita, Marilyn

Marilyn E. Tita nee Kreisinger, passed away on February 6, 2020 at the age of 93. Beloved wife of late Anthony. Loving mother of Dr. James (Mary), Cathy Mehl and Robert (Polly). Dear grandmother of 9, Great grandmother of 8, fond sister of Florence (Late Wilbert) Gorgen.

Funeral Services Monday, February 10th at 9:15 a.m. from the **Sourek Manor Funeral Home**, 5645 W 35th St., Cicero, to St. Leonard Church for 10:00 a.m. Mass. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Visitation Sunday, February 9th from 3:00 to 8:00 pm. For more information please call The **Sourek Manor Funeral Home** at (708) 652-6661. In lieu of flowers, donations to Loyola Medicine Home Care and Hospice, 2301 W. 22nd St. Suite 107, Oak Brook, IL 60523 are appreciated.

Sourek Manor Funeral Home

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Uselmann, Duane P.

Duane P. Uselmann age 84; beloved husband Therese "Terry" nee McKinley; devoted father of Mary (the late Joe) Garcia, Fran Uselmann, Jean (Robert) Dalleska, Carol Anne Reilly, and the late Patrick Uselmann; dearest grandfather of Helen Reilly, Mickey Reilly, Patrick Reilly, Maggie Reilly, Bridgette Spizzirri, Nicholas Spizzirri, Will Lucnik, Sam Garcia, Emily Lucnik, Madison Dalleska; cherished brother of the late Bill (the late Mae), the late Andrea (the late Ed) Kral; fond uncle of many. Visitation Sunday 2 PM until 8 PM at the **Skaja Terrace Funeral Home**, 7812 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles. Funeral Service Monday 9:15 AM going to Our Lady of Ransom Church for 10 AM mass. Interment Maryhill Cemetery. He served in the Ilinois National Guard, he was an Assistant Principal at Austin and Senn High School in Chicago, proud graduate of University of Wisconsin, Plattville, WI. Funeral info: 847-966-7302 or www.skajafuneralhomes.com

SKAJA Terrace
Funeral Home & Cremation Services

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Wallerich, Jr., George M.

George M Wallerich Jr, b. New York, retired aviator originally from Hinsdale, IL, passed away on December 23, 2019 in Ft Lauderdale at 76. A Mensa and a "kind, soft-spoken gentleman," George was a 727 captain for private airlines whose distinguished global passengers ranged from publishers to princes. Surviving are his children, Jennifer and David; his 4 grandchildren; his siblings Thomas, John, and Janet; and his long-time love, Bea. A memorial service will be held in Marin, CA in the June, 2020.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Wegener, James F.

James F. Wegener, 96, of Lombard, Illinois died Tuesday, January 14, 2020. He was born to William and Martha (Jeschke) September 22, 1923 in a small cottage behind what is now the Oak Brook Village offices. Jim loved music, golf, and his family. He was a WWII veteran, worked in sales, and retired as Public Relations Manager for Partnership Concepts. He was kind and generous with a witty sense of humor. He is survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Inge (Storchheim) Wegener; James C. Wegener (Beverly Bacak), Karen (Rick) Thom, Pat (Bruce) Carl, Mark Storchheim, Diane Arritt, 6 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren.

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White, Kimberly 'Kim'



Kimberly (Kim) White, 65, passed away on January 31, 2020 in her home surrounded by her loving family after a prolonged battle with breast cancer.

Kim was born in Richland, Washington, the only child of Jeanne and Robert Hastings. She studied abroad in high school at the Leysin American School in Switzerland. She attended college at Stanford University, graduating with a BA in Communications in 1976. It was at Stanford where Kim met her husband, Miles. The two were married at the Stanford Memorial Church in 1977.

Kim had a 10-year career in advertising both in San Francisco and Chicago before starting her own business in 1989. A lover of books and reading, Kim opened Crocodile Pie, a children's bookstore in Libertyville, IL. During the store's nearly 20 year run, Crocodile Pie played host to many authors and illustrators including Eric Carle, Henry Winkler, Mary Engelbreit, and even Harry Potter author JK Rowling, a testament to Kim's entrepreneurial drive and her dedication to bringing joy into children's lives.

Kim also lived a life of service to the Chicago community. Over the years, she served as the President of the Women's Board for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago, the Chicago Field Museum, and the Joffrey Ballet. She was instrumental in developing "Share Chicago", a field trip program through the Boys & Girls Clubs that enriched the lives of Chicago children and provided them access to Chicago's cultural institutions and other unique opportunities. While serving as President of The Field Museum Women's Board, Kim advanced the Board's outreach program with Chicago Public Schools, and she brought new vision and purpose to both the Annual Field Museum Gala and the Women in Science Luncheon. Kim was also an editor of two books for the Joffrey Ballet in Chicago, including "The Joffrey Ballet: American Classic" in honor of the ballet company's 50th anniversary.

In addition to her many civic contributions, Kim's favorite pastimes centered around spending time with her friends and family. In summer, you could find Kim on the golf course, going on hikes, or sitting outside in her garden enjoying the sunshine. In winter, she spent time skiing (and snowboarding) with her family in Colorado and sitting cozily by her fire at home solving the latest crossword puzzle. Kim loved to travel, both with her family and her girlfriends, including girls' trips to Italy, Portugal, and Peru. Adventures with her family over the years included sailing on catamarans in Hawaii, riding motorcycles through China, and flying in helicopters in Nimmo Bay in Canada.

Kim lived by the mantra, "You know all those things you've always wanted to do? You should go do them." She did everything with a smile on her face and never complained - ever. Kim will be remembered for her kindness, endless positivity, humility, and friendliness toward everyone. She met all challenges head-on, cool and determined, but it was her heartwarming and infectious smile that will forever remind us all to live life fully each and every day.

Kim is survived by her husband of 42 years, Miles White; her three sons; Matthew (Rebecca), Adam, and Kyle (Lynne), her two grandchildren Lucy and Philip, and her mother Jeanne Hastings. She was predeceased by her father Robert Hastings.

Kim will be missed dearly and will forever be in our hearts.

A visitation was held on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., at the **Wenban Funeral Home**, 320 Vine Avenue, Lake Forest, IL. A memorial mass was held on Wednesday, February 5, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. at Church of St. Mary, 175 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, IL.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago to support its programs, including "Share Chicago", the field trip initiative Kim founded. (Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago, 2102 W. Monroe, Chicago, IL 60612, www.bgcc.org). Info: **Wenban Funeral Home** (847) 234-0022 or www.wenbanfh.com

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Widelka, Mary

Mary Widelka, 89. Born in Brajieowa, Poland 1930. Preceded in death by her father Wojciech, and mother Katarzyna (nee Nykiel). Preceded in death by her brothers Bruno, Walter, Florian, Jozef and Edward. Survived by her sisters, Helen Rozanski (Walter) and Zofia Bodnar; her children, Kenneth (Nancy) and Alicia (Ronald); and her grandchildren, Jeremy, Joshua, Connor and Katherine.

Mom had a typical young farm girl life, going to school, tending to the family's cows and taking care of her four younger brothers and sisters. When she was 9, Germany invaded Poland and her life immediately changed. The German occupation was the worst of times for Poland and her family. The Germans took all the farm produce for their army and the threat of death was constant. The German occupation was extremely oppressive and then it got worse. In 1943, her brother Walter was taken to Germany for forced labor. Also, in 1943 the retreat of the German army left the family in between the German and Russian fronts for five months. The church, school and their home were burned. Only two homes remained out of the village of 120 homes prior to the war. The family was later moved behind Russian lines. Her older brother Florian and his girlfriend were killed by a land mine in 1944. After the war, the land mines and other explosives were collected and buried by her brother Bruno. The barbed wire remains to this day. After the war ended, her Father died in 1946 and Poland transitioned to Russian occupation. A good student, Mom never recovered from the long gap of missing school and ended up helping others in need. One thankless job she did not relish was chasing the crows from the church pastors corn field.

Waiting patiently, Mom emigrated to America in 1960 where she met her future husband Ignatz, himself a former forced laborer in Germany who helped the US Army occupation forces after the war and emigrated to the US in 1949. Mom worked manual jobs her entire career and never complained about it. Much of her time was spent working in housekeeping roles at Randolph Tower in Chicago. Mom loved to cook and entertain. She also looked forward to sharing with friends and family from her annual flower and vegetable garden.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, February 10th, at St. Thecla Catholic Church, 6725 West Devon Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60631, from 9:00am until time of funeral mass at 10:00am. Interment Maryhill Catholic Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Sunday, February 9th, from 3:00pm to 9:00pm at **Malec & Sons Funeral Home**, 6000 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60646. For more information, please call (773) 774-4100 or visit www.malecandsonsfh.com.

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Wolter Grip, M.D., Janet

Janet Wolter, M.D., Professor of Medicine at Rush University Medical Center, died on February 4, 2020, in Chicago, Illinois, surrounded by her family. She was 93 years old.

Dr. Wolter earned her BA from Cornell College, and her MD from the University of Illinois College of Medicine. She taught at Rush Medical College, achieving the rank of full professor in 1981. She was a trustee of Rush University and served as president of the medical staff from 1999-2001. Her husband, Carl M. Grip, Jr., pre-deceased her. She leaves behind three stepsons, 7 step-grandchildren, and 8 step-great-grandchildren; a niece, three nephews, and 5 grandnephews and nieces. Her sister-in-law, Marguerite Wolter, also survives her.

A memorial service will be held on February 29, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. James, Wabash and Huron, Chicago, Illinois.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations may be made to support the Janet Wolter Endowed Research and Education Fund at Rush University Medical Center. Please send memorial gifts to Rush University Medical Center, 1201 W. Harrison St., Ste. 300, Chicago, IL 60607-3319 or visit http://rush.convio.net/JWolter. https://www.chicagolandcremationoptions.com/obituary/Janet-Wolter-Grip/Chicago-Illinois/1867729

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Yonan, Helen S.

Helen S. Yonan, age 93, of Glenview, IL. Loving sister of Clara (the late Jerome) Frazes and the late George (Joan) Yonan. Dear aunt of Cheryl Frazes (Gary) Hill and Bobbi Frazes (Michael) Goldman. Proud great aunt of Carlyn and Mitchell Hill; Blair and Jarrett Goldman. Beloved friend of many. Funeral Service Saturday, February 15, 2020, 10:00 a.m. at **Donnellan Family Funeral Home**, 10045 Skokie Boulevard, at Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Have Dreams, 515 Busse Highway, Suite 150, Park Ridge, IL 60068 or Little Heroes League, 2032 North Clifton Avenue, Chicago, IL 60614. Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or (847) 675-1990.

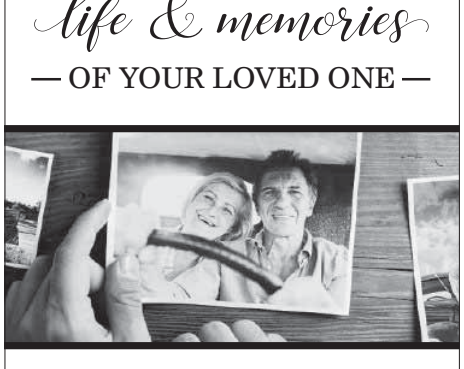
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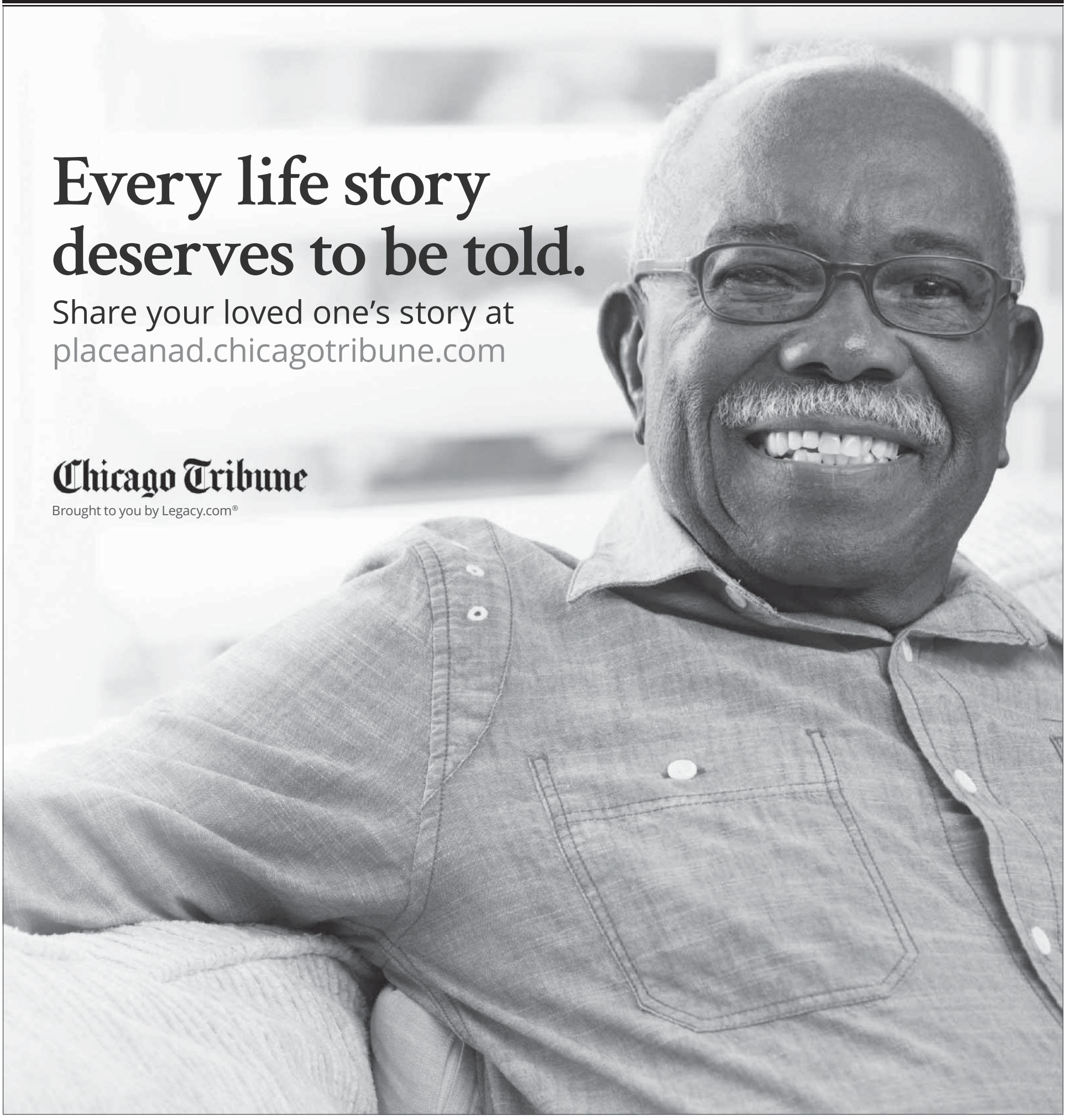


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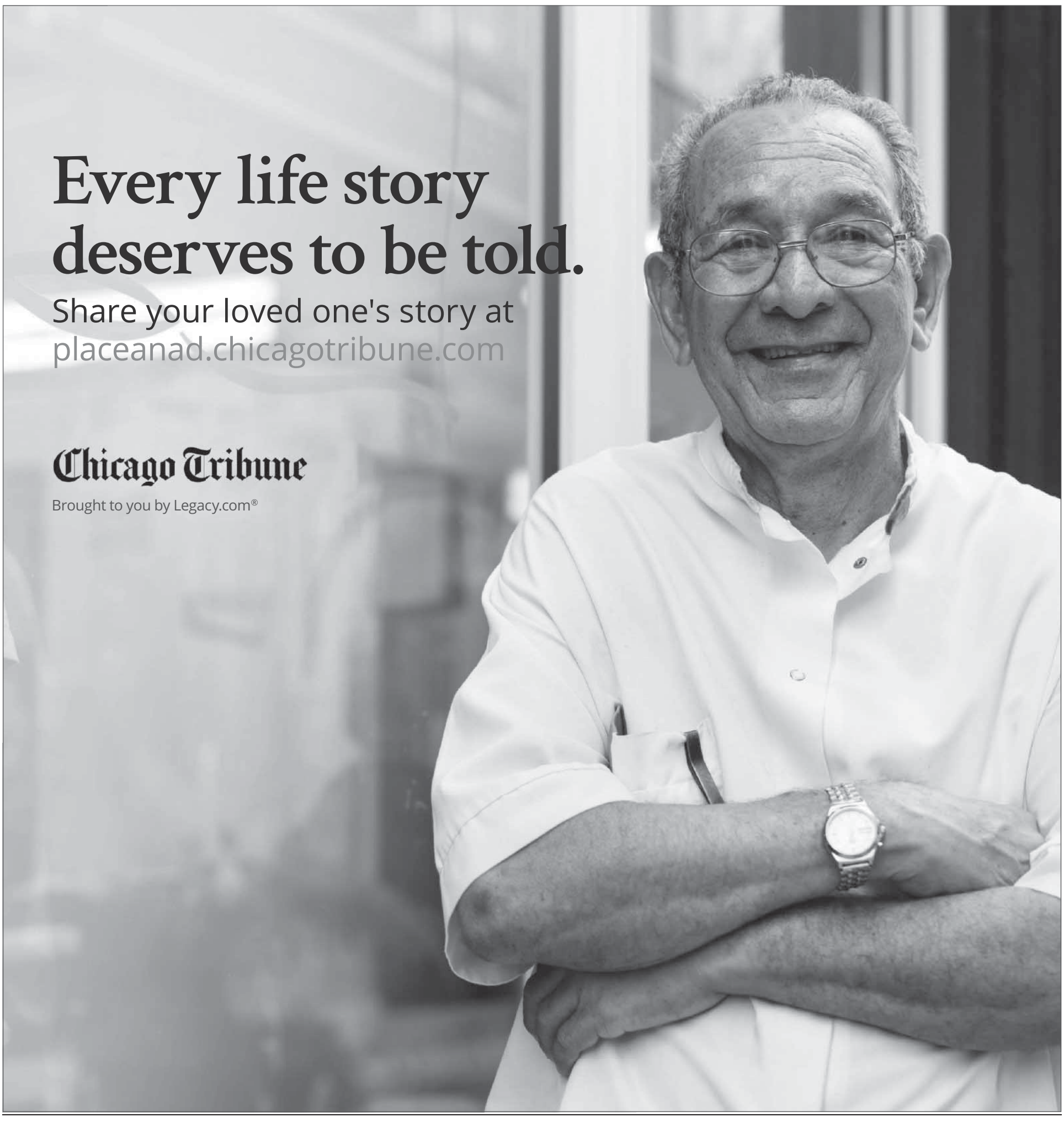


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CHICAGO WEATHER CENTER

chicagoweathercenter.com | By Tom Skilling and WGN9



SUNDAY, FEB. 9 | NORMAL HIGH: **33°** | NORMAL LOW: **18°** | RECORD HIGH: **56° (1886)** | RECORD LOW: **-21° (1899)**

Accumulating snow will give way to colder days

LOCAL FORECAST

HIGH	LOW
36	26

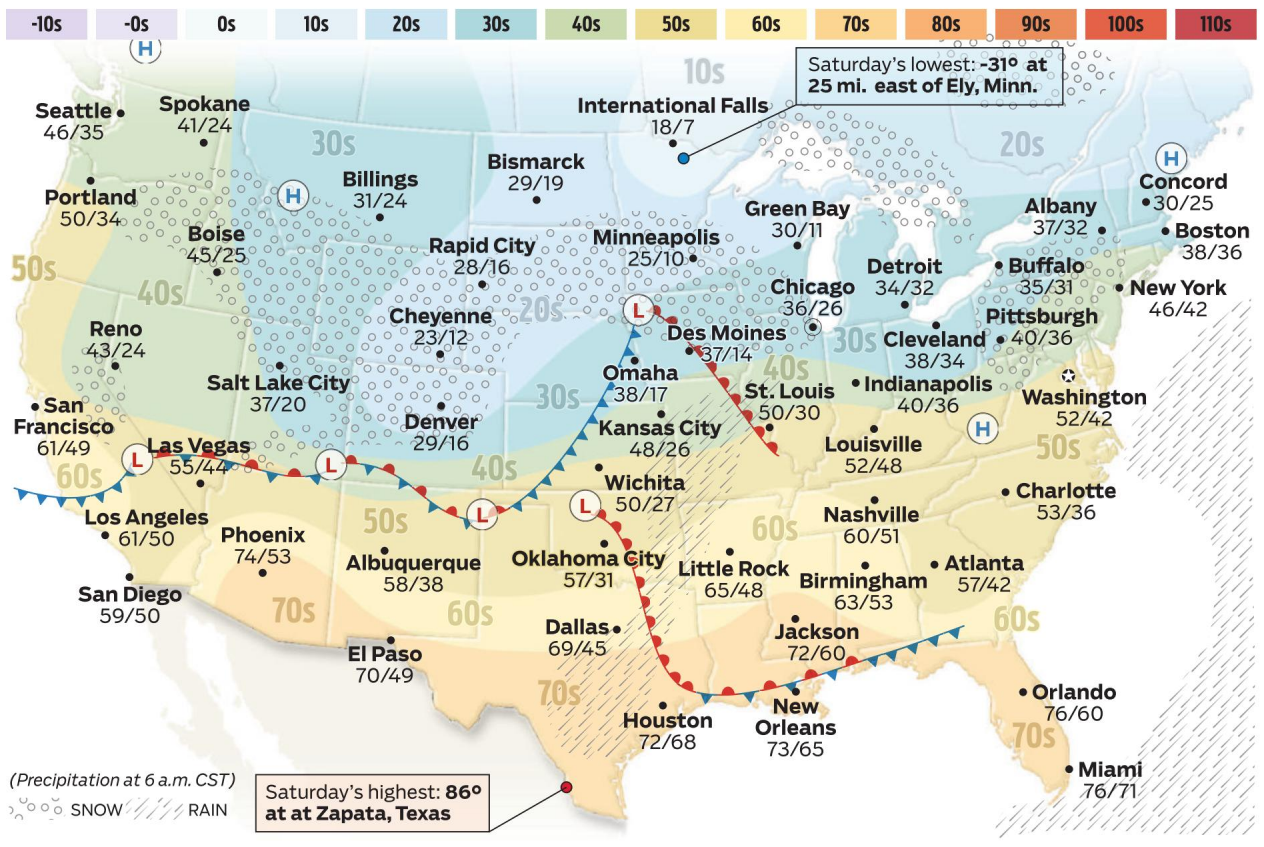
■ **Clouds lower and thicken. Early morning flurries increase to steadier accumulating snow. Accumulation of 1 to 3" possible by afternoon with the highest accumulation N/NW. Less accumulations south of I-80.**

■ Best chance for quickly accumulating snow late morning /early afternoon. Snow may mix with rain then become all rain in the afternoon before ending in the evening.

■ South winds increase to 12-24 mph with gusts to 30 mph in the afternoon.

■ Precipitation ends late.

NATIONAL FORECAST

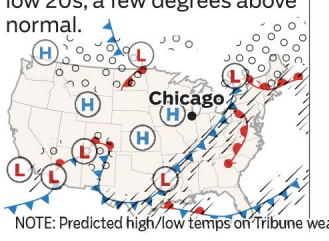


An Alberta clipper will move through the Great Lakes Sunday, bringing the potential for 1 to 3 inches of snow. Early morning flurries will increase to steadier, potentially quickly accumulating snow during the late morning and early afternoon. Temperatures slightly above freezing combined with strong south winds may allow the snow to mix with and then change to rain later in the afternoon. After an early start to the snow season, Sunday's snowfall should bring the seasonal total close the normal of 23.6 inches through Feb. 9. Dry conditions return for the early work week. A stretch of consecutive days with above average temperatures should continue Sunday. The last day that the average temperature was below normal was Jan. 21, when the average temperature was 2 degrees below normal.

MONDAY, FEB. 10

HIGH	LOW
32	23

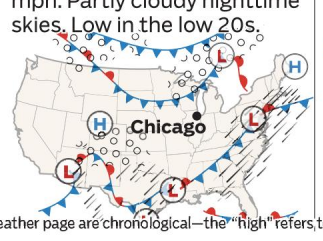
Early morning clouds give way to mostly sunny skies. A little cooler with a high in the low 30s. NW winds decrease and shift SW by evening. Partly cloudy overnight. Low in the low 20s, a few degrees above normal.



TUESDAY, FEB. 11

HIGH	LOW
34	23

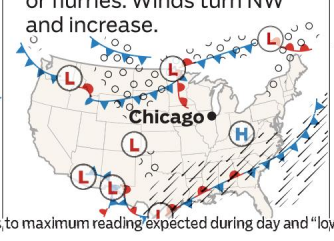
Mostly sunny skies and seasonable temperatures. High in the low to mid 30s. Breezy west winds increase to 10-20 mph. Winds diminish overnight becoming WSW 4-8 mph. Partly cloudy nighttime skies. Low in the low 20s.



WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12

HIGH	LOW
36	24

Clouds slowly increase, becoming mostly cloudy in the afternoon with a chance for light rain or snow. Highs in the mid 30s. Mostly cloudy overnight with snow showers or flurries. Winds turn NW and increase.



THURSDAY, FEB. 13

HIGH	LOW
29	12

Mostly cloudy; a chance for light morning snow showers or flurries. Colder with a high near 30. Breezy NW winds 15-25 mph. Partly cloudy overnight. Diminishing NW winds. A low just above 10, more than 10 below normal.



FRIDAY, FEB. 14

HIGH	LOW
23	14

Canadian high pressure brings mostly sunny skies and much colder air. A high in the low 20s, more than 10 degrees below normal. West winds 8-14 mph. Clouds increase overnight. Winds turn south 8-12 mph. Low near 15.



SATURDAY, FEB. 15

HIGH	LOW
34	29

Partly sunny and breezy. Much warmer with a seasonable high in the mid 30s. South winds 12-20 mph. Mostly cloudy overnight with a chance for nighttime rain or snow showers.



NOTE: Predicted high/low temps on Tribune weather page are chronological—the "high" refers to maximum reading expected during day and "low" is the minimum reading expected the following night.

ASK TOM

Dear Tom,

A recent column addressed Chicago's lowest record high. What is Chicago's highest record low? Thanks.

Rick Weiland, Evanston

Dear Rick,

Chicago climatologist Frank Wachowski scanned the record books and found that dating back to 1871, the city's highest record low temperature is 53 degrees. That temperature is the record low on seven days, all in the heart of summer, with six occurrences in July and one in early August. The dates and years are July 12, 1999; July 18, 1979; July 20, 1970; July 24, 2000; July 25, 1911; July 26, 1991; and Aug. 4, 1992. In contrast, Chicago's highest minimum temperature is 85 degrees, logged more than a century ago during a suffocating, before-air conditioning heatwave on July 29, 1916, in the midst of a five-day run with minimums of 80-degrees or higher.

Write to: ASK TOM
2501 W. Bradley Place
Chicago, IL 60618
asktomwhy@wgntv.com

WGN-TV meteorologists Mark Carroll, Steve Kahn, Richard Koeneman, Paul Merzlock and Paul Dailey, plus Bill Snyder, contribute to this page.

Hear Demetrius Ivory's weather updates weekdays 3 to 6 p.m. on WGN-AM 720 Chicago.

Five years ago—a cold and snowy February 2015

While February 2020 started with much above normal temperatures, February 2015 started with a major snow storm and ended as the coldest February on record.

HIGHEST FEBRUARY SNOWFALL TOTALS FOR CHICAGO

YEAR	TOTAL (inches)
2011	29.0
1896	27.8
2015	26.8
Normal for 1981-2000:	9.1

COLDEST FEBRUARY TEMPS

YEAR	MEAN AVG. TEMP (F°)
2015	29.0
1875	27.8
1935	26.8
Normal for 1981-2010:	27.7

RECORDS SET IN FEBRUARY 2015

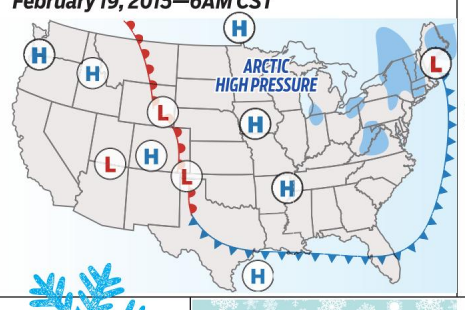
■ **2/1/2015:** *Record daily snowfall for date:* ***16.2"***

■ **2/19/2015:** *Record low maximum temperature of* ***4°***

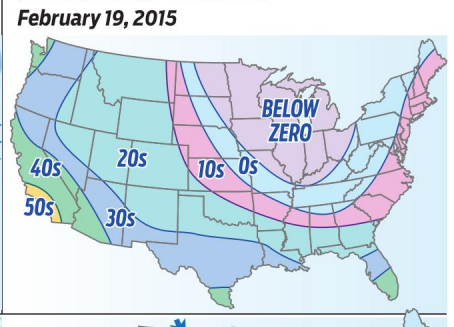
■ **2/19/2015:** *Record minimum temperature of* ***-8°***

■ **2/28/2015:** *Record minimum temperature of* ***-10°***

SURFACE WEATHER MAP
February 19, 2015—6AM CST



MINIMUM TEMPERATURES
February 19, 2015





JET STREAM
February 19, 2015—6AM CST



SOURCES: Frank Wachowski, National Weather Service archives

MARK CARROLL AND JENNIFER M. KOHNKE / WGN-TV

CHICAGO DIGEST

SATURDAY TEMPERATURES

LOCATION	HI	LO	LOCATION	HI	LO
Aurora	34	28	Midway	35	27
Gary	36	27	O'Hare	37	30
Kankakee	32	27	Romeoville	34	23
Lakefront	36	29	Valparaiso	36	24
Lansing	34	22	Waukegan	32	27

CHICAGO PRECIPITATION

PERIOD	2020	NORMAL
Sat. (through 4 p.m.)	0.00"	0.05"
February to date	0.13"	0.41"
Year to date	2.93"	2.14"

CHICAGO SNOWFALL

PERIOD	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Sat. (through 4 p.m.)	Trace	Trace
Season to date	20.7"	19.4"
Normal to date	23.2"	24.4"

SOURCE: Frank Wachowski

LAKE MICHIGAN CONDITIONS

	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Wind	SW/NW 15-25 kts.	NW 10-20 kts.
Waves	3-5 feet	2-4 feet
Sat. shore/crib water temps		44/40

U.S. SNOW COVER

FEB. 8	2020	2019
Area covered by snow	41.5%	45.2%
Average snow depth	4.6"	5.1"

TRACKING THE COLD

SINCE OCT. 15	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Sub-32° highs	19 days	16 days
Subzero lows	0 days	0 days

CHICAGO AIR QUALITY

Saturday's reading	Good
Sunday's forecast	Good
Critical pollutant	Particulates

SUNDAY RISE/SET TIMES

Sun	6:54 a.m.	5:14 p.m.
Moon	5:51 p.m.	7:26 a.m.

FULL	3RD Q	NEW	1ST Q
Feb. 9	Feb. 15	Feb. 23	Mar. 2

SUNDAY PLANET WATCH

PLANET	RISE	SET
Mercury	7:40 a.m.	6:49 p.m.
Venus	8:38 a.m.	8:48 p.m.
Mars	3:42 a.m.	12:45 p.m.
Jupiter	5:06 a.m.	2:17 p.m.
Saturn	5:44 a.m.	3:08 p.m.

BEST VIEWING	TIME	DIRECTION
Mercury	6:15 p.m.	4.5° WSW
Venus	6:15 p.m.	26° WSW
Mars	5:30 a.m.	14.5° SE
Jupiter	6:15 a.m.	9° SE
Saturn	Not visible	

Source: Dan Joyce, Chicago Astronomical Society

MIDWEST CITIES

SUN./MON.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Illinois						
Carbondale	rn	54	36	sh	42	31
Champaign	rs	39	28	cl	35	25
Decatur	rs	40	28	cl	34	26
Moline	rs	39	23	pc	35	23
Peoria	rs	38	25	cl	34	24
Quincy	rn	43	25	cl	36	26
Rockford	sn	36	20	pc	33	19
Springfield	fr	40	27	cl	34	25
Sterling	rs	37	22	pc	34	20
Indiana						
Bloomington	rs	45	39	sh	43	32
Evansville	rn	53	41	sh	44	33
Fort Wayne	sn	34	33	sh	37	29
Indianapolis	rs	40	36	sh	40	30
Lafayette	rs	38	31	sh	37	27
South Bend	sn	35	30	sh	36	26
Wisconsin						
Green Bay	sn	30	11	su	28	16
Kenosha	sn	36	23	pc	33	22
La Crosse	sn	31	12	pc	29	19
Madison	sn	34	15	pc	30	17
Milwaukee	sn	35	21	pc	33	20
Wausau	sn	24	7	pc	27	17
Michigan						
Detroit	sn	34	32	cl	37	27
Grand Rapids	sn	33	28	pc	36	26
Marquette	ss	25	14	pc	34	21
St. Ste. Marie	ss	28	20	pc	31	23
Traverse City	sn	32	27	pc	34	21
Iowa						
Ames	ss	36	11	pc	30	19
Cedar Rapids	sn	35	15	pc	28	18
Des Moines	sh	37	14	pc	33	23
Dubuque	sn	36	18	pc	31	18

OTHER U.S. CITIES

SUN./MON.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Abilene	pc	74	36	sh	47	34
Albany	pc	37	32	sh	43	31
Albuquerque	pc	58	38	sh	51	32
Amarillo	pc	49	25	pc	47	26
Anchorage	pc	42	26	pc	29	5
Asheville	pc	51	37	rn	54	49
Aspen	ss	30	18	ss	31	8
Atlanta	pc	57	42	rn	64	59
Atlantic City	pc	47	42	sh	52	44
Austin	ts	73	58	ts	62	47
Baltimore	pc	49	41	sh	54	45
Billings	pc	31	24	pc	31	17
Birmingham	pc	63	53	rn	64	61
Bismarck	pc	29	19	pc	31	18
Boise	su	45	25	su	46	27
Boston	pc	38	36	sh	48	37
Brownsville	pc	78	70	pc	81	69
Buffalo	cl	35	31	rs	38	26
Burlington	pc	30	27	rs	39	23
Charlotte	pc	53	36	sh	63	55
Charlstn SC	pc	57	50	pc	69	61
Charlstn WV	pc	48	44	rn	50	43
Chattanooga	pc	57	45	rn	56	54
Cheyenne	sh	23	12	pc	26	5
Cincinnati	cl	43	40	sh	47	33
Cleveland	sn	38	34	sh	40	30
Colo. Spgs	ss	27	16	ss	32	15
Columbia MO	sh	45	27	cl	39	27
Columbia SC	pc	59	39	pc	73	61
Columbus	sh	38	37	sh	45	32
Concord	pc	30	25	sh	41	25
Crps Christi	ts	72	66	ts	73	61
Dallas	ts	69	45	sh	50	43
Daytona Bch.	pc	72	59	pc	78	64
Denver	ss	29	16	ss	31	12
Duluth	pc	24	9	pc	29	19
El Paso	pc	70	49	pc	66	47
Fairbanks	ss	20	-6	pc	-4	-27
Fargo	pc	19	14	cl	29	14
Flagstaff	pc	45	28	rs	42	21
Fort Myers	pc	80	64	sh	84	66
Fort Smith	sh	62	39	sh	51	38
Fresno	su	60	34	su	61	36
Grand Junc.	sh	36	22	pc	40	17
Great Falls	pc	39	23	pc	34	20
Harrisburg	pc	50	41	sh	53	41
Hartford	cl	40	36	sh	45	34
Helena	pc	38	23	pc	33	19
Honolulu	pc	78	63	sh	75	66
Houston	ts	72	68	ts	74	63
Int'l Falls	pc	18	7	ss	27	12
Jackson	pc	72	60	ts	68	59
Jacksonville	pc	70	57	pc	80	66
Juneau	rs	40	38	rn	40	34
Kansas City	sh	48	26	cl	41	28
Las Vegas	pc	55	44	pc	64	43
Lexington	cl	49	45	rn	49	38
Lincoln	pc	37	17	pc	43	27
Little Rock	sh	65	48	sh	52	39
Los Angeles	sh	61	50	pc	71	53
Louisville	sh	52	48	rn	51	37
Macon	pc	62	43	cl	73	61
Memphis	cl	66	51	rn	57	41
Miami	pc	76	71	pc	78	72
Minneapolis	sn	25	10	pc	28	21
Mobile	pc	68	60	ts	70	65
Montgomery	pc	66	50	sh	70	64
Nashville	pc	60	51	rn	54	45
New Orleans	pc	73	65	ts	76	67
New York	pc	46	42	sh	48	41
Norfolk	su	52	38	pc	66	55
Okla. City	sh	57	31	sh	41	34
Omaha	pc	38	17	pc	41	26
Orlando	pc	76	60	pc	82	66
Palm Beach	pc	77	71	ts	81	71
Palm Springs	pc	67	52	sh	64	48
Philadelphia	pc	50	39	sh	51	43
Phoenix	pc	74	53	rn	64	49
Pittsburgh	cl	40	36	sh	46	34
Portland, ME	pc	30	27	sh	43	29
Portland, OR	pc	50	34	pc	51	33
Providence	pc	40	36	sh	46	35
Raleigh	su	54	37	cl	67	57
Rapid City	pc	28	16	pc	33	15
Reno	pc	43	24	su	50	23
Richmond	pc	53	39	cl	62	53
Rochester	cl	37	31	sh	38	24
Sacramento	pc	66	44	su	70	48
Salem, Ore.	pc	50	31	pc	51	31
Salt Lake City	pc	37	20	pc	35	17
San Antonio	ts	73	61	ts	64	50
San Diego	sh	59	50	pc	62	47
San Francisco	pc	61	49	su	63	52
San Juan	pc	85	75	pc	84	75
Santa Fe	pc	47	30	rs	45	27
Savannah	pc	62	49	pc	74	61
Seattle	pc	46	35	pc	47	35
Shreveport	sh	73	61	ts	63	50
Sioux Falls	ss	29	13	pc	35	19
Spokane	pc	41	24	pc	42	27
St. Louis	rn	50	30	cl	39	29
Syracuse	cl	38	33	sh	39	27
Tallahassee	pc	73	54	pc	73	61
Tampa	su	78	61	pc	83	67
Topeka	pc	48	24	cl	43	28
Tucson	pc	74	52	sh	65	42
Tulsa	rn	60	32	sh	47	35
Washington	pc	52	42	sh	55	48
Wichita	pc	50	27	sh	44	32
Wilkes Barre	cl	38	33	sh	42	34
Yuma	pc	73	50	pc	60	50

WORLD CITIES

SUNDAY	FC	HI	LO
Acapulco	pc	86	71
Algiers	pc	69	45
Amsterdam	rn	54	43
Ankara	cl	30	20
Athens	su	54	40
Auckland	su	73	58
Baghdad	pc	55	32
Bangkok	pc	93	77
Barbados	pc	84	77
Barcelona	pc	60	50
Beijing	su	52	24
Beirut	pc	50	42
Berlin	pc	54	47
Bermuda	sh	67	62
Bogota	ts	68	46
Brussels	rn	53	44
Bucharest	su	36	17
Budapest	pc	44	36
Buenos Aires	su	75	52
Cairo	pc	61	49
Cancun	sh	83	74
Caracas	pc	78	62
Casablanca	pc	67	49
Copenhagen	rn	46	43
Dublin	rn	55	39
Edmonton	ss	38	20
Frankfurt	pc	53	48
Geneva	pc	54	46
Guadalajara	pc	80	49
Havana	pc	82	67
Helsinki	sh	40	38
Hong Kong	pc	67	63
Istanbul	pc	39	33
Jerusalem	sh	43	34
Johannesburg	ts	78	60
Kabul	pc	46	27
Kingston	pc	87	75
Kyiv	pc	33	25
Lima	pc	80	70
Lisbon	cl	61	48
London	rn	58	42
Madrid	sh	56	39
Manila	pc	85	73
Mexico City	su	79	52
Monterrey	pc	84	62
Montreal	pc	17	15
Moscow	sh	30	28
Munich	pc	55	42
Nairobi	pc	81	57
Nassau	pc	77	69
New Delhi	pc	70	47
Oslo	rn	39	36
Ottawa	pc	18	15
Panama City	pc	91	73
Paris	sh	55	46
Prague	pc	50	43
Rio de Janeiro	pc	95	77
Riyadh	pc	75	51
Rome	pc	59	50
Santiago	su	92	59
Seoul	su	49	26
Singapore	ts	86	77
Sofia	su	39	16
Stockholm	sh	42	40
Sydney	ts	79	70
Taipei	pc	69	58
Tehran	pc	50	33
Tokyo	pc	47	35
Toronto	cl	35	30
Trinidad	pc	86	73
Vancouver	pc	43	34
Vienna	pc	43	31
Warsaw	pc	45	38
Winnipeg	pc	17	13

FORECAST (FC) ABBREVIATIONS: su-sunny pc-partly cloudy cl-cloudy rn-rain ts-thunderstorm sn-snow fl-flurries fr-freezing rain sl-sleet sh-showers rs-rain/snow ss-snow showers w-windy na-unavailable



Chicago Tribune
BUSINESS

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Pot shops boost nearby businesses' sales

Despite more foot traffic, not every neighborhood welcoming dispensaries

By Abdel Jimenez

Ever since Dispensary 33 in Andersonville started selling recreational marijuana, business has been up at the bar across the street.

"During my shift, everyone who is coming in is drinking. They typically end up buying a couple of drinks because they are waiting to get into the dispensary," said Nico Sansegraw, a bartender at the SoFo Tap, which opens in the evenings throughout the week.

Next door to the dispensary, Jenny's Nail Salon has picked up a couple of new customers too, nail technician Will Truong said.

Consumers have descended on Illinois dispensaries since recreational weed went on sale Jan. 1, buying almost $40 million of marijuana in the first month of sales. Tax revenues from those sales, which haven't been announced, will help the state and municipalities.

Of course, not every neighborhood wants a pot shop, as evidenced by recent community meetings. There are "NIMBYs," or people who say they support marijuana in general, but "not in my backyard." And some residents have broader safety concerns and worry about the rowdiness pot shops could attract.

Still, marijuana's legalization has created beneficiaries, as people travel to neighborhoods with dispensaries and spend money at nearby businesses. Although there are no numbers to demonstrate the broader economic impact of recreational weed sales, experts say pot shops have the potential to revitalize overlooked pockets in communities.

In other states where weed is legal, dispensaries have piqued the interest of retail complexes looking for a solution to

Turn to ***Pot, Page 2***



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Thomas MacEntee, center, hangs out at the SoFo Tap on Clark Street in Chicago's Andersonville neighborhood on Jan. 29. MacEntee frequents Dispensary 33, which is across the street from SoFo, for his medical marijuana.



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Christopher Galloway, a nurse practitioner, and student Desiree Hilborn, right, examine Elizabeth Hug at Elemental Care center.

Evolving care

As number of nurse practitioners in Illinois nearly triples, doctors groups worry medical providers rely on them to cut costs at expense of patient care

By Lisa Schencker

Elizabeth Hug had a choice: Wait months to see a doctor to treat her fibromyalgia or visit a nurse practitioner in the same office immediately.

The Joliet resident decided sooner was better than later. She liked the nurse practitioner, Christopher Galloway, so much that she continued to see him, even when he went into private practice in Crest Hill. He was caring, accessible and a good listener, she said.

Hug, her husband and two teenage children now visit Galloway regularly — instead of a primary care doctor.

"It's kind of a different experience," Hug said. "They just seem to know how to talk to people differently."

It's an experience that's becoming increasingly common, as the number of nurse practitioners in Illinois skyrockets, and some begin to work independently of doctors under licenses that became available in June. More nurse practitioners can mean more access to care amid a national shortage of primary care physicians. Nurse practitioners can handle many of patients' most common complaints, but at a lower cost, their supporters say.

But the profession's growth has come with controversy. Some doctors groups are concerned medical providers are using nurse practitioners to cut costs at the expense of patient care. Nurse practitioners, they say, are not as well-trained as doctors to identify certain conditions and may miss important red flags. And they're particularly troubled some who've earned their doctorate degrees in nursing practice use the title "doctor," which could be confusing for patients.

Illinois has more than 12,000 nurse practitioners, up nearly threefold from 2012. A nurse practitioner is a type of advanced practice registered nurse, which is a nurse with additional training, education and certification. They've long been providers at many urgent care clinics, but are increasingly showing up in primary care, specialty practices and hospitals. More than 400 Illinois advanced practice registered nurses have licenses to practice independently of doctors under a state law passed in 2017.



Galloway examines Hug, of Joliet, at Elemental Care center in Crest Hill on Jan. 30. "It's kind of a different experience," said Hug, whose husband and children are also patients.

After becoming registered nurses, nurse practitioners must have master's degrees in nursing and at least 500 direct patient care hours to be nationally certified, while medical doctors go to four years of medical school and spend at least three years getting hands-on experience as residents. Some specialists do more.

Nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists and nurse midwives — which are all types of advanced practice registered nurses — earned a median of $113,930 a year in 2018, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Doctors and surgeons earned a median of $208,000 a year.

In 2017, Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner signed a bill allowing Illinois nurse practitioners who meet certain requirements to work without a formal relationship with a doctor, though they still can't prescribe certain medications, such as opioids, without a doctor, and they can't sign death certificates.

Twenty-two states allow nurse practitioners to work with total independence from doctors in their own practices, and 16 states, including Illinois, allow independence with some restrictions, according to the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

To practice without an agreement with a physician in Illinois, advanced practice registered nurses must have an additional 250 hours of continuing education and at least 4,000 hours of clinical experience

Turn to ***Care, Page 3***

Caveat in ex-housing project's renovation



Blair Kamin

Millennials peer into glowing laptops at a coffee shop. A jogger runs across a walkway that swoops over the Chicago River and offers views of the downtown skyline. Handsome brick buildings have been painstakingly restored.

River North? Bucktown?

Guess again.

This is a remade public housing project on Chicago's North Side — the former Julia C. Lathrop Homes, which once was the antithesis of the Chicago Housing Authority's high-rise hells but later spiraled into physical decay and worse.

"It was very violent," a 33-year-old resident, Lashaunda Brownlow, who grew up at the Lathrop Homes, told me. Now, he said, "It's a lot nicer. You don't see violence like before. The buildings are clean. The grounds are clean."

Hearing endorsements like that and touring the Lathrop Homes' transformation, I was tempted to label the project, at the intersection of Diversey Parkway and Clybourn Avenue, a great success.

After all, the redevelopment preserves a trove of historic buildings and creates a "mixed-income" neighborhood that includes people from different socioeconomic groups — a major shift from the isolated concentrations of poverty that were a root cause of public housing's woes.

The redevelopment also provides an alluring new stretch of riverwalk designed by Brooklyn-based landscape architect Michael Van Valkenburgh, whose Chicago credits include The 606 and Maggie Daley Park.

But there's a catch: When the remake is done, the redeveloped Lathrop will have a total of 1,116 housing units, but just 400 of them will be public housing— 525 fewer than before. And the CHA has yet to keep its promise to replace the lost units on the city's North Side, which traditionally has had far less public housing than the South and West sides.

That shortcoming raises broader questions: Is a mixed-income development like this one a form of gentrification, shifting poor people out of desirable locations? Or, in the long run, is it smart policy?

Completed in 1938 and named for a Rockford-born social welfare worker, the Lathrop Homes reflected the progressive thinking of New Deal reformers.

Seeking to provide an enclave that stood apart from packed slums, polluting factories and the polluted Chicago River, its low-rise brick buildings gathered around generous open spaces designed by the renowned landscape architect Jens Jensen.

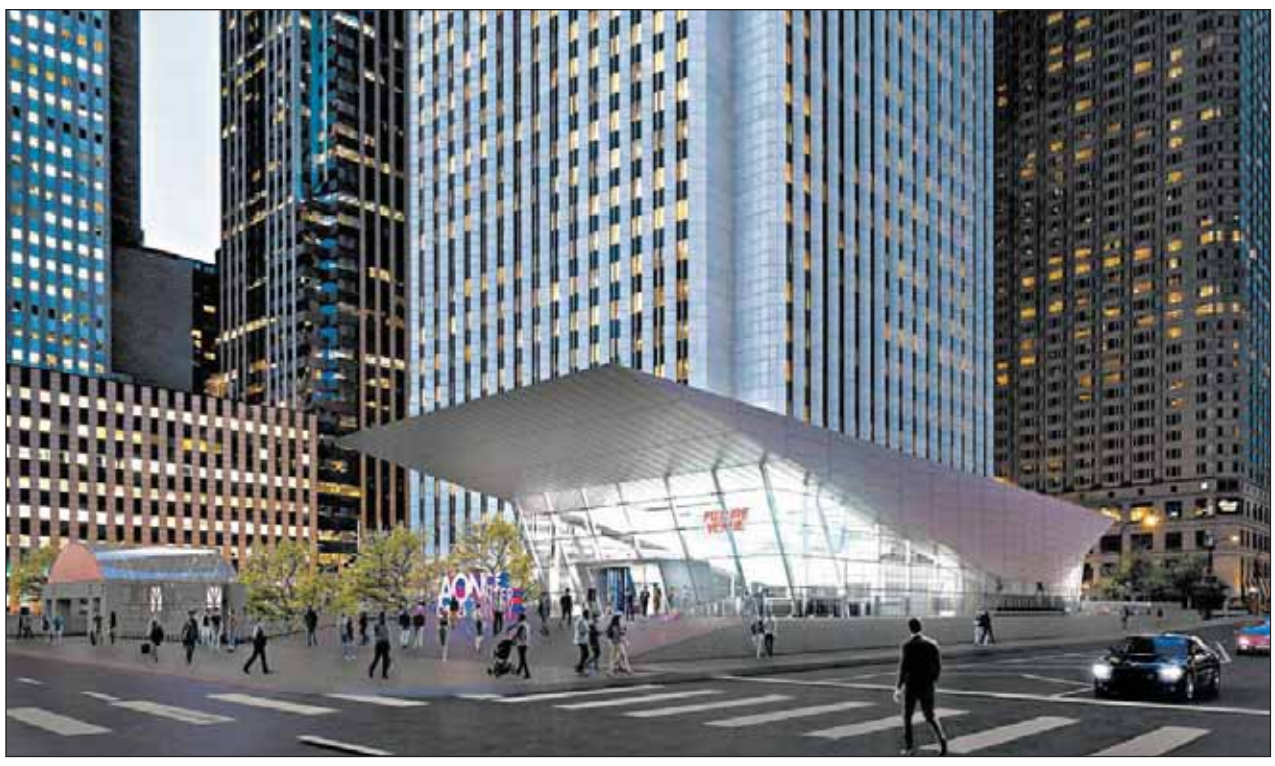
The buildings, shaped by an all-star team of economically struggling architects that included a son of Daniel Burnham, conferred dignity upon residents with Georgian and Art Moderne details

Turn to ***Kamin, Page 4***

Aon Center observatory to open in spring 2022



Ryan Ori



SOLOMON CORDWELL BUENZ

A 9,000-square-foot pavilion will be built on the southeast side of the Aon Center for guests to enter, and a walkway will be built underneath the office tower leading to observatory elevators on the northwest side.

A little later than expected, Chicago's third observatory is coming into view as the owner of the Aon Center prepares to start building the long-discussed $185 million addition.

The skyscraper's owner, 601W Cos., expects to begin construction on the yet-to-be-named observation deck overlooking Millennium Park in the third quarter of this year, said Aon Center general manager Matthew Amato.

The tourist attraction is expected to open in spring 2022, he said.

That opening date is about a year and a half later than the one 601W cited in December 2018, as the project neared zoning approval from the city.

Since that time, 601W has finalized a deal with another New York-based firm, Legends, to run the observatory.

"The 20-year agreement took a long time to negotiate, but now we're excited to get going on it," Amato said.

Legends also formed a joint venture with 601W to share ownership of the observatory, Amato said.

Legends operates facilities and provides concessions and other services to many well-known sports venues and tourist attractions, including the One World Trade Center's observatory, Yankee Stadium and the Rose Bowl.

The venture is now in talks for construction financing to pay for the observatory addition, Amato said.

The two-level space will include a restaurant, bar, event space and virtual reality experiences. The main attraction will be a thrill ride called the Sky Summit, which will lift enclosed cabs filled with visitors over the building's edge for 30 to 40 seconds.

Work is expected to occur simultaneously on several aspects of the project, including adding a glass elevator tower to the exterior of the building at 200 E. Randolph St., Amato said.

There also will be a 9,000-square-foot pavilion built on the southeast side of the property for guests to enter, and a walkway built underneath the office tower leading to observatory elevators on the northwest side.

Atop the Aon Center, space formerly used for mechanical systems on the 82nd floor will be converted into an observatory with views of the park, Lake Michigan and the skyline. A partial 83rd floor will provide an area for visitors to enter the thrill ride.

The Aon Center, completed in 1973 and previously known as the Standard Oil Building and the Amoco Building, is Chicago's third-tallest skyscraper.

At 1,136 feet tall, it trails only Willis Tower (1,451 feet) and Trump International Hotel & Tower (1,389 feet). When it's completed nearby this fall, 1,191-foot-tall Vista Tower will knock the Aon Center down to No. 4 on Chicago's tallest buildings list.

When the Aon Center addition is complete, Chicago will join New York as the only American city with three observatories. Chicago's others are Skydeck Chicago in Willis Tower and 360 Chicago in the former John Hancock Center on North Michigan Avenue.

The Aon Center's owner, whose other Chicago projects include The Old Post Office redevelopment, estimates its new observatory will generate $30 million to $40 million in annual revenue. 601W bought the Aon Center for $712 million in 2015.

The Tribune in February 2018 first reported that 601W was looking into adding the glassy exterior elevator tower to help create an observatory, and in May 2018 the landlord publicly disclosed its plans.

Soon, the area just north of Millennium Park will be a construction zone. Across the street from the Aon Center, an affiliate of Chicago-based CA Ventures is about to begin construction of a 46-story apartment tower on a vacant lot at 222 N. Stetson Ave.

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Pot

Continued from ***Page 1***

store closures and declining numbers of shoppers. The changing retail landscape has prompted landlords to rethink tenants they previously would've turned away, like marijuana dispensaries, said Spencer Levy, chairman of Americas Research, who provides industry trends at commercial real estate firm CBRE.

"What's changed is the value of foot traffic. ... Anything that can drive foot traffic, I think people are taking a fresh look," Levy said.

But as cannabis companies rush to open additional stores — each of the 55 medical dispensaries that were operating before recreational sales started can apply to open a second location — they face zoning restrictions and competition for prime real estate.

Greg Huffaker, director of client services for Canna Advisors a Boulder, Colorado-based cannabis consultancy firm, said most cities where weed is legal initially kept dispensaries away from the main streets in busy downtowns by preventing them from locating near schools and day care centers.

"Some in Colorado ended up in the outskirts of town because those were the only places that zoning allowed them. The individual layout of the town set back some (cannabis) businesses. Even if there were no day cares, if the area was zoned for residential, dispensaries couldn't come in," Huffaker said.

Strong demand for weed sent buyers to those locations off the beaten path and in turn, restaurants and bars began to gravitate toward dispensaries because of the foot traffic, Huffaker said.

"Businesses started to pop up and it led the way in urban revitalization," he said.

As the public's view on cannabis changed, so too has the perceived image, said Morgan Fox, spokesman for the National Cannabis Industry Association.

"A lot of the stigma (around marijuana) has eroded. Businesses are hopefully no longer going to be constrained to where they should go," Fox said.

Also, security measures some states require of dispensaries has likely led to a decrease in crime in neighborhoods with pot shops.

"Over the years, we've seen large development in those areas ... a lot of factors like security requirements, increased lighting and foot traffic deter crime in those areas," Fox said.

A 2019 study in the journal Regional Science and Urban Economics found that local criminal activity fell when a dispensary came into the neighborhood. The research analyzed monthly neighborhood crime of all types and patterns in retail dispensaries in Denver from 2013 through 2016.

"The results imply that an additional dispensary in a neighborhood leads to a reduction of 17 crimes per month per 10,000 residents, which corresponds to roughly a 19% decline relative to the average crime rate over the sample period," the paper states.

Illinois requires dispensaries to have security inside and outside the store, including security surveillance monitoring equipment, security guards in stores and sufficient lighting around the premises.

Paul Cascioli, director of operations for 2Bears Tavern Group, which owns the SoFo Tap, said he doesn't think Dispensary 33, which has been open for nearly five years and previously served only medical patients, has made the neighborhood feel unsafe.

"When the dispensary first opened (to sell medical marijuana), I personally didn't believe it, but a lot of residents thought it would bring bad people," Cascioli said. "Out of all the years I've been here, I've never felt unsafe. After the dispensary started serving recreational customers, there's been more police presence."

In fact, the dispensary has meant more business for SoFo Tap.

"We've had an influx of straight clientele, which is different for us. ... We usually cater to the older gay crowd. But there's been a lot of younger straight kids coming in, which is totally fine. They've been very nice," said bartender Joshua Barnes.

Barnes worked the first day recreational sales went live in Illinois, and said he made about $900 in tips from a 12-hour shift. Some of the dispensary's customers waiting at the bar returned for trivia night.

"We do trivia nights. They saw 'Star Wars' trivia, and they all came back for that. It's definitely been good for us," Barnes said.

Hyman's Hardware, a retailer across from Mission South Shore marijuana dispensary in the South Chicago neighborhood, also picked up customers who "wouldn't normally come in," owner Dennis Hyman said.

"Maybe it's curiosity," Hyman said.

Kris Krane, president and co-founder of 4Front Ventures, which owns the Mission dispensary, said his firm wasn't involved with the initial zoning process, but he is aware of aldermanic opposition the store faced during those early days while under different ownership.

Community approval is still a big factor as the company searches for an additional dispensary site, he said.

"We do have plans to open a second dispensary, but the plan is to do it somewhere in the south suburbs (near the Indiana border). We've already received open arms from one in the suburbs," said Krane, who declined to name the suburb.

Paul Lee, general manager for Dispensary 33, said the firm experienced similar difficulties before the dispensary opened in 2015 for medical patients. Lee said gaining zoning approval required a lot of community input and effort.

"We did it the old Chicago way. We talked with the local community, the Police Department, the neighborhood association. You have to put their minds at ease and make them sure (they know) what is happening. They don't want to see an increase in crime. You have to assure them everything is going to be OK and it won't disrupt their lives," Lee said.

The zoning restrictions that govern dispensaries in Illinois have eased since the first medical dispensaries were established, but cannabis companies say they still pose a hurdle. Initially, medical dispensaries could not be located near parks, day care centers, schools and places of worship.

Now, the state only requires that dispensaries not be within 1,500 feet of one another. But municipalities also have the authority to create their own zoning ordinances, or ban dispensaries altogether.

"It's definitely created some challenges to find good locations," said Katriina McGuire, attorney for Thompson Coburn.

Under Chicago's cannabis zoning ordinance, companies proposing dispensaries must host a community meeting, and some of the first few meetings have offered a glimpse at the worries residents have.

NuMed hosted a meeting Wednesday night where concerns were raised about its plans to open a dispensary at 935 W. Randolph St. in the same block as Haymarket Center, a substance use and mental health treatment facility that sees 400 to 500 patients a day.

Haymarket's CEO and president, Dan Lustig, voiced his concerns that having a dispensary so close will trigger patients to relapse.

Then there are residents who might support recreational weed but would rather have dispensaries elsewhere.

About 100 people attended a community meeting last month hosted by Cresco Labs, which wants to open a dispensary at 436 N. Clark St. in River North.

Trish Keporos was among those who spoke, saying the area is already congested with tourists and visitors who frequent its bars and clubs.

"I just don't want it in this neighborhood," she said. "It's already flooded with young people who are already inebriated, plus you add the people who will be engaging with smoking pot. It's just going to be a little overwhelming."

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CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Customers relax at the SoFo Tap, which is located across Clark Street from Dispensary 33 in Chicago's Andersonville neighborhood. Business at SoFo has increased since recreational marijuana was legalized.



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Dennis Hyman, owner of Hyman's Hardware, a 93-year-old business on South Commercial Avenue in Chicago, says new customers have been popping in since recreational marijuana went on sale at the Mission South Shore dispensary. "Maybe it's curiosity," he said.



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Hyman's Hardware, seen on Jan. 29 in the South Chicago neighborhood, has welcomed new customers to the store since recreational marijuana went on sale at the Mission South Shore dispensary across the street.

Calorie count in almonds a tough nut to crack

New studies spur Kind company to lower bars' figures

By Candice Choi
Associated Press



MARK LENNIHAN/AP 2017

Kind snack bars are displayed at a supermarket in New York. Last month, Kind said it was lowering the calorie counts for its snack bars, citing studies that indicate nuts have fewer digestible calories than previously believed.

NEW YORK — Almonds used to have about 170 calories per serving. Then researchers said it was really more like 130. A little later, they said the nuts may have even less.

Calorie counting can be a simple way to help maintain a healthy weight — don't eat and drink more than you burn. And the calorie labels on food packaging seem like an immutable guide to help you track what you eat.

But the shifting numbers for almonds show how the figures printed on nutrition labels may not be as precise as they seem.

Last month, Kind said it was lowering the calorie counts for its snack bars, even though the ingredients weren't changing. The company cited studies that indicate nuts have fewer digestible calories than previously believed.

Conducted by government researchers with funding from nut producers, the studies show the inexact method of determining calorie counts established more than a century ago. The widely used system says a gram of carbohydrates and a gram of protein each have 4 calories, while a gram of fat has around 9. Companies can also subtract some calories based on past estimates of how much of different foods are not digested.

But based on anecdotal comments, researchers suspected more of the nutrients in nuts may be expelled in the bathroom than previously estimated.

"If they're not digested, then maybe the calorie content is not correct," said David Baer, a co-author of the nut studies at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which funded the research along with nut producers like the Almond Board of California.

To test the hunch, Baer and colleagues gave 18 people meals with and without raw almonds and instructed them to return daily with their urine and stool packed in dry ice. The contents were analyzed to calculate that a serving of almonds has about 130 digestible calories, rather than the widely used figure of 170.

A few years later, in 2016, another study by Baer and colleagues also looked at the effects of food processing. They found cooking and grinding helped break down cell walls in almonds, freeing more calories for digestion. Roasted almonds had slightly more digestible calories than raw almonds. When the nuts were ground up into almond butter, nearly all the calories were digested.

Notably, the second study also found raw almonds had even fewer digestible calories than suggested by the first study. Baer attributed the discrepancy to variations in how people digest foods and natural differences in almonds themselves.

"It's unlikely you're going to get the exact same number every time you repeat the experiment," he said.

The almond studies are among several Baer has co-authored on the digestibility of nuts. Another last year was funded by the Global Cashew Council and found cashews had fewer calories than estimated.

Despite his findings, Baer said he thinks the calorie counts used for most other foods are fairly accurate. And even though the U.S. Food and Drug Administration lets companies use different methods to determine calorie counts, the agency says products aren't supposed to have more than 20% more calories than what's stated on labels.

That's why health experts said the calorie counts on nutrition labels are still valuable: They offer general guidance for people trying to keep their weight in check. But it's even more important to pay attention to overall diet and not get hung up on small caloric differences, experts said.

"That's not what's going to make or break someone's attempt at weight management," said Elizabeth Mayer-Davis, a University of North Carolina nutrition professor.

Mayer-Davis said the studies on the calories in nuts wouldn't affect her general advice that they can be part of a healthy diet. She said it's more important to pay attention to how they're prepared, such as whether sweeteners are added.

Kind's founder, Daniel Lubetzky, said he hopes the studies will help overcome the reluctance some might have about eating nuts because of their relatively higher calorie counts. The studies also mean the company's most popular bar can now drop from 200 to 180 calories, which could be a marketing advantage that sways decisions at the grocery store.

"It can't hurt," Lubetzky said

Mars, which took a minority stake in Kind in 2017, said it doesn't have plans to update the calorie counts for M&M's with almonds. The Almond Board says it's not aware of other companies yet using the lower numbers.

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Care

Continued from ***Page 1***

after attaining national certification.

The American Medical Association opposes legislation to allow nurse practitioners to work independently, saying in a statement they're "valuable members" of physician-led health care teams, but "not a substitute for physicians."

"Patients' best interests are optimally served when they are treated in a physician-led team-based model of care," the association said.

Nurse practitioners are taking on roles doctors have filled in the past. For example, Edward-Elmhurst Health in the western suburbs decided in November to lay off about 15 of its urgent care doctors and instead use nurse practitioners, sources said.

Edward-Elmhurst spokesman Keith Hartenberger said in a statement that any advanced practice clinicians, such as nurse practitioners, will work under a doctor's supervision. He declined to confirm the number of people affected, but said the decision to "move to a team model" was driven by "feedback from our patients that they are looking for a lower-cost alternative for walk-in care."

Most of the care provided at Edward-Elmhurst's immediate care clinics is for low-level conditions such as sore throats, earaches and urinary tract infections, Hartenberger said.

"These visits are well within the scope of an advanced practice clinician's license, and this model is being used by other centers throughout the nation," he said.

Edward-Elmhurst is working with those affected by the change to find "alternative placement," Hartenberger said.

Physicians for Patient Protection, a national group that advocates for physician-led care, has criticized Edward-Elmhurst's plans, saying they're emblematic of a bigger problem.

Health systems "see these nurse practitioners and physician assistants as a cheaper labor force and have totally disregarded patient safety in the name of saving dollars," said Dr. Amy Judice Townsend, a board member of Physicians for Patient Protection who practices in Texas. "There are a lot of things that come in that are routine, but some things ... you have to have clinical experience to recognize it's not something that's just run-of-the-mill."

A 2014 study published in the journal JAMA Internal Medicine found advanced practice clinicians ordered more medical imaging tests for patients than primary care doctors.

Dr. Amber Price, who has a Chicago practice, Willow Pediatrics and Lactation, said she's seen patients who were misdiagnosed by nurse practitioners. One child she saw early in her career had a serious problem that required hospitalization, but had been diagnosed with pink eye by a nurse practitioner, she said.

"Physicians understandably are concerned about this change, but I think the reality is it is a supply and demand issue. There aren't going to be enough primary care physicians or physicians, period, in the coming years."

— Hazel Seabrook, a managing director at consulting firm Huron, who's worked as a nurse

"Doctors make mistakes, but we don't miss obvious things," said Price, who is a member of Physicians for Patient Protection.

Doctors groups have similar concerns about physician assistants, who perform many of the same tasks as nurse practitioners but have different training and education. But there are far fewer physician assistants in Illinois than nurse practitioners, about 3,700. Physician assistants' education is modeled on medical school curriculum while nurse practitioners' education is in nursing.

Physicians for Patient Protection also worries about confusion caused by nurse practitioners who use the title "doctor" because they've earned doctorates in nursing practice. Though the title is technically correct, some physicians worry patients will assume all who use it are medical doctors.

"It's deceptive to patients," Townsend said. "Patients, when they're introduced to someone as a doctor in a clinical setting, are assuming the knowledge base is in clinical practice and that's not the case."

It's a issue that could become more prevalent now that the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, which acts as a resource for nurse practitioner education programs, wants to see all nurse practitioner programs offer doctorates of nursing practice by 2025.

Nurse practitioners point out that the initials after their names show their credentials, such as APRN, and Illinois law requires those who use the title "doctor" to "clearly state" they're not medical doctors. The law also prohibits advanced practice registered nurses from using the titles "doctor" or "physician" in advertising.

Galloway, the Crest Hill nurse practitioner who's been treating Hug for years, said he uses the title "Dr." because, like medical doctors and many professors, he earned the highest degree in his field. If anything, he said, medical doctors should be called physicians, not doctors, to clear up any confusion.

Nurse practitioners say fears about the quality of care they provide are unfounded.

"Nurse practitioners have been providing care for over 50 years, and we've got 50 years of data that reinforces the fact that nurse practitioners are educated and trained to provide the care in these settings," said Sophia Thomas, president of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

When advanced practice nurses are involved in emergency and critical care, patients have shorter stays, shorter waits for consultation or treatment, and improved mortality rates, satisfaction and cost savings, according to a 2017 review of 15 studies published in Human Resources for Health. A 2014 study in the journal Nursing Outlook found states that allow nurse practitioners to practice without a doctor's supervision have lower hospitalization rates and better health outcomes.

Nurse practitioners are also often the most viable option for patients because of the shortage of doctors, Thomas said. As baby boomers age, the U.S. will have a shortage of primary care doctors, with anywhere from 21,100 to 55,200 too few by 2032, according to the Association of American Medical Colleges.

There are still far more doctors in the U.S. than advanced practice registered nurses — 756,800 compared with 240,700 nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives and nurse practitioners in 2018, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

But the number of advanced practice nursing jobs is expected to grow 26% between 2018 and 2028, much faster than the average growth rate of 7% for doctors, according to the bureau.

Many people decide to become nurse practitioners instead of doctors because they're already registered nurses who want to build on their educations rather than start over, because they're attracted to nursing or because going to medical school takes longer and costs more than earning a master's degree in nursing, said Susan Swart, executive director of the Illinois Society for Advanced Practice Nursing.

"Physicians understandably are concerned about this change, but I think the reality is it is a supply and demand issue," said Hazel Seabrook, a managing director at consulting firm Huron, who's worked as a nurse. "There aren't going to be enough primary care physicians or physicians, period, in the coming years, so what do we do as a health care system to plug the gap?"

About 19% of consumers surveyed said they had trouble scheduling a new patient visit with a primary care physician in the last year, according to a national survey of 1,500 people conducted last year by the Texas Medical Center Health Policy Institute. City dwellers had a tougher time, with 32% saying they had trouble scheduling an appointment, though that may have had to do with insurance issues rather than a shortage of doctors.

Providers who rely on nurse practitioners are also reacting to cost pressures, Swart said.

"Everybody is challenged to provide the best care they can at the best cost savings," Swart said. "If they have the ability to free up physicians to provide care for more complex patients, then utilizing an advanced practice registered nurse in those voids makes a lot of sense."

The lower cost of nurse practitioners is part of the reason Midwest Express Clinic relies heavily on them at its 17 locations in Illinois and Indiana, said Kaitlyn Steinberg, director of clinical operations at the company and a family nurse practitioner. Midwest Express has physicians at a few of its locations.

"We're able to provide more affordable prices for our patients without sacrificing the quality of care," Steinberg said.

Dr. Daniel Weissbluth, whose pediatric practice has three offices in Streeterville, the South Loop and Bucktown, has eight pediatricians and five nurse practitioners. He's long had nurse practitioners, who do well-child and sick-child visits when pediatricians are unavailable, or when parents simply prefer to see them over the doctors.

"Many patients choose to see nurse practitioners because their clinical skills and communication skills are very good, and they like that person," Weissbluth said. "If at any point they ever feel that they're unsure of the best course of action, there's always a pediatrician there who can work with them and guide them."

Most doctors expect to see fewer patients in coming years as the number of nurse practitioners grows, according to the Texas Medical Center Health Policy Institute survey. Some of the apprehension toward the spread of nurse practitioners may come from doctors who "resent people coming into their turf," said Dr. Mark Werner, a director with consulting firm the Chartis Group.

"I think they sometimes see nurse practitioners as additional competition for their patients," Werner said.

Galloway, the Crest Hill nurse practitioner, wants to see the state allow nurse practitioners even more independence. Doing so would expand patients' access to care, he said.

"I wish it wasn't such a political battle between ourselves and doctors. We really need to be working together," Galloway said. "There are enough patients to go around."

lschencker@chicagotribune.com

AUCTION MART

PLEASE CALL 312.222.4089
TO PLACE AD

NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSITION OF COLLATERAL

To: Interested Members of the Public

From: Golden Fleece Beverages, Inc. ("Secured Party")
c/o Levenfeld Pearlstein, LLC, Attorney for the Secured Party
Attn: Jamie L. Burns, 2 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 1300,
Chicago, IL 60602, (312) 476-7601

Names of Debtors: Argo Tea, Inc., Argo Tea Rush, LLC, Argo Tea State/Randolph, LLC, Argo Tea UCH, LLC, Argo Tea Broadway, LLC, Argo Tea Marquette, LLC, Argo Tea NW, LLC, Argo Tea Franklin, LLC, Argo Tea Mena, LLC

We will sell the Collateral described below to the highest qualified bidder in public as follows:

Day and Date: **Friday, February 14, 2020** Time: **10:30 a.m.**

Place: **Levenfeld Pearlstein, LLC**
2 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 1300
Chicago, Illinois 60602, (312) 346-8380

Collateral: (a) All of the personal property now owned or at any time hereafter acquired by any Debtor or in which any Debtor now has or at any time in the future may acquire any right, title or interest, including all of each Debtor's Accounts, Chattel Paper, Commercial Tort Claims, Deposit Accounts, Documents, Equipment, Fixtures, General Intangibles, Health Care Insurance Receivables, Farm Products, Goods, Instruments, Intellectual Property, Inventory, Investment Property, Leases, Letter-of-Credit Rights, Money, Supporting Obligations and Identified Claims; (b) all books and records pertaining to any of the foregoing; (c) all Proceeds and products of any of the foregoing, and (d) all collateral security and guaranties given by any Person with respect to any of the foregoing.

The sale will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Uniform Commercial Code. The bid price must be paid in certified check or cashier's check payable to the order of Golden Fleece Beverages, Inc. Twenty Percent (20%) of the successful bid price will be paid at the time of sale and the balance must be paid within two (2) business days of the sale.

If the successful bidder defaults on the secured balance, the Secured Party may retain the initial deposit and, at the Secured Party's option, sell to the next highest bidder. Secured Party reserves the right to bid part or all of the amount secured by the Collateral being sold without certified check or cashier's check as required for other bidders. The Secured Party reserves the right within three (3) business days of the completion of the bidding to reject all bids. The Secured Party reserves the right to adjourn the sale to another date without further publication or notice by giving notice at the time of the sale.

If the Secured Party accepts a bid, the bidder will receive a Secured Party Bill of Sale of the interest of the Secured Party in the Collateral purchased, subject to the terms hereof. The Secured Party makes no representations or warranties as to the condition of the Collateral and the sale is "as is", where is and with all faults, subject to any and all taxes, liens, claims or encumbrances. There is no warranty as to title, possession, quiet enjoyment, or the like in this disposition.

The Debtors are entitled to an accounting of the unpaid indebtedness, which shall be provided free of charge.

For further information, please contact: Jamie L. Burns, Levenfeld Pearlstein, LLC, 2 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 1300, Chicago, IL 60602, Phone: (312) 476-7601 counsel for Secured Party.

Who's WHO in Local Business

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Mazars USA Announces New Office Managing Partner for Chicago Office



Mazars USA has named Jeremy Rice the Chicago Office Managing Partner. Jeremy has over 13 years of experience providing audit and advisory services to local, national, and international organizations, including many US subsidiaries of foreign companies. He has significant expertise working with companies in manufacturing, insurance, financial services, higher education, and healthcare. Jeremy co-leads the Chicago audit practice and is a leader in the industrial and automotive practices.

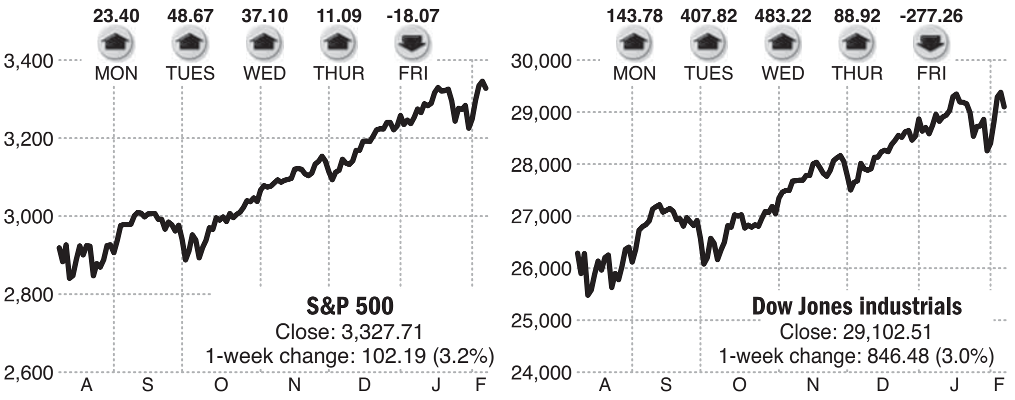
Mazars USA Chairman and CEO Victor Wahba said, "We continue to grow our Chicago office and, with his track record of success for the firm, we feel that Jeremy Rice is an excellent choice to contribute in the upward trend."

Mazars USA LLP is a high-performing accounting, tax and consulting firm with significant national presence in strategic U.S. geographies. Since 1921, our dedicated professionals have leveraged technical industry expertise to develop customized solutions for clients, create value, and Optimize their performance. We offer a broad array of industry specialists providing services to growth-oriented enterprises and individuals. For more information, visit www.mazarsusa.com.

MAZARS

INVESTING

Stocks Recap



WEEKLY PERFORMANCE

52-WEEK HIGH	52-WEEK LOW	INDEX	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	YTD %CHG	1YR %CHG
29408.05	24680.57	Dow Jones industrials	29408.05	28319.65	29102.51	+846.48	+3.0	+2.0	+15.9
11359.49	9676.06	Dow Jones trans.	10988.28	10570.95	10857.73	+290.99	+2.8	-0.4	+6.7
944.59	716.33	Dow Jones utilities	943.13	926.44	931.83	-6.74	-0.7	+6.0	+26.0
14183.26	12186.66	NYSE Comp.	14069.33	13655.89	13931.93	+317.83	+2.3	+0.1	+13.3
5914.74	5127.21	NYSE International	5833.66	5642.39	5766.72	+133.84	+2.4	-1.1	+10.2
9453.24	6836.70	Nasdaq 100	9453.24	9031.07	9401.10	+409.58	+4.6	+7.7	+36.0
9575.66	7225.14	Nasdaq Comp.	9575.66	9188.55	9520.51	+369.58	+4.0	+6.1	+30.5
3347.96	2681.83	S&P 500	3347.96	3235.66	3327.71	+102.19	+3.2	+3.0	+22.9
2106.30	1802.58	S&P MidCap	2086.51	2014.84	2049.30	+42.08	+2.1	-0.7	+10.6
34049.04	27792.14	Wilshire 5000	34049.04	32939.10	33827.98	+989.79	+3.0	+2.9	+20.6
1715.08	1450.32	Russell 2000	1689.17	1618.80	1656.78	+42.72	+2.7	-0.7	+10.0
426.70	357.37	Dow Jones Stoxx 600	426.70	410.19	424.36	+13.65	+3.3	+2.1	+18.5
7727.49	7002.42	FTSE 100	7533.57	7285.16	7466.70	+180.69	+2.5	-1.0	+5.6

Gold	-14.30	$1,568.60
Silver	-.31	$17.67
Crude Oil	-1.24	$50.32
Natural Gas	+.02	$1.86
10-year T-note	+.06	1.57%
Euro	+.0118	to .9136/$1
Yen	+1.37	to 109.74/$1

Most active

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
Ford Motor	8.11	-.71
Gen Electric	12.83	+.38
Snap Inc A	17.13	-1.25
Chesapk Engy	.51	...
Uber Technologies	40.63	+4.34
Bank of America	34.61	+1.78
Twitter Inc	37.03	+4.55
AT&T Inc	38.45	+.83
Freeport McMoRan	11.80	+.70
Intelsat SA	3.75	+.34
Aurora Cannabis Inc	1.70	-.19
Pfizer Inc	38.05	+.81
Exxon Mobil Corp	61.47	-.65

NASDAQ STOCK MARKET

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
Adv Micro Dev	49.73	+2.73
Tesla Inc	748.07	+97.50
Zynga Inc	6.65	+.63
Microsoft Corp	183.89	+13.66
Apple Inc	320.03	+11.29
eBay Inc	36.20	+2.64
Gilead Sciences	68.87	+5.67
Vaxart Inc	1.11	-.14
Onconova Therapeut	.49	+.15
Luckin Coffee Inc	35.00	+2.51
Micron Tech	56.88	+3.79
Comcast Corp A	44.74	+1.55
Intel Corp	66.02	+2.42

EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
Citigp Vel Long Crde	7.76	-.63
iPath Sh Term Fut	14.38	-1.82
iShares Brazil	43.38	-.38
iShs China Large Cap	41.26	+1.52
iShs Emerg Mkts	43.36	+1.25
iShares EAFE ETF	68.96	+1.48
Invesco QQQ Trust	229.20	+10.13
ProShs UltPro ShtQQQ	17.68	-2.68
SPDR S&P500 ETF Tr	332.20	+10.47
SPDR S&P O&G ExpPdtn	19.21	+.05
SPDR Financial	30.92	+.96
US Oil Fund LP	10.58	-.26
VanE Vect Gld Miners	27.93	-1.06

Largest Companies

Based on market capitalization

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
AT&T Inc	38.45	+.83
Adobe Inc	366.09	+14.95
Alibaba Group Hldg	216.53	+9.94
Alphabet Inc C	1479.23	+45.00
Alphabet Inc A	1479.11	+46.33
Amazon.com Inc	2079.28	+70.56
Apple Inc	320.03	+11.29
Bank of America	34.61	+1.78
Berkshire Hath A	340900.00	+4904.00
Berkshire Hath B	227.38	+2.95
Boeing Co	336.75	+18.48
Chevron Corp	108.94	+1.80
China Mobile Ltd	42.92	+1.88
Cisco Syst	47.97	+2.00
Citigroup	78.69	+4.28
CocaCola Co	59.19	+.79
Comcast Corp A	44.74	+1.55
Disney	141.02	+2.71
Exxon Mobil Corp	61.47	-.65
Facebook Inc	212.33	+10.42
FEMSA	93.91	+3.74
HSBC Holdings prA	26.79	-.18
Home Depot	237.30	+9.20
Intel Corp	66.02	+2.42
JPMorgan Chase	137.17	+4.81
Johnson & Johnson	151.89	+3.02
MasterCard Inc	327.00	+11.06
Medtronic Inc	118.95	+3.51
Merck & Co	85.08	-.36
Microsoft Corp	183.89	+13.66
Netflix Inc	366.77	+21.68
Novartis AG	95.83	+1.32
Oracle Corp	54.72	+2.27
PepsiCo	145.37	+3.35
Pfizer Inc	38.05	+.81
Procter & Gamble	126.08	+1.46
Royal Dutch Shell B	51.99	-1.29
Royal Dutch Shell A	51.79	-.36
SAP Se	135.06	+4.29
Salesforce.com Inc	185.72	+3.41
Taiwan Semicon	56.20	+2.26
Toyota Mot	142.34	+3.50
Unitedhealth Group	289.22	+16.77
Verizon Comm	59.94	+.50
Visa Inc	202.74	+3.77
WalMart Strs	116.45	+1.96
Wells Fargo & Co	47.84	+1.41

How the region's Top 100 companies fared

Ranks based on market capitalization of public companies headquartered in Illinois and northwest Indiana as of Friday, February 7, 2020

Market capitalization in millions of dollars; Stock $ change; Stock % return

RANK/COMPANY	CAP	CLOSE	WEEK	1-YR
1 Boeing Co	189,641	336.75	▲ +18.48	-15.0
2 McDonalds Corp	159,362	211.61	▼ -2.36	+23.5
3 Abbott Labs	155,394	87.87	▲ +.73	+23.5
4 AbbVie Inc	136,480	92.29	▲ +11.27	+15.8
5 Mondelez Intl	84,460	58.66	▲ +1.28	+28.8
6 CME Group	76,402	213.20	▼ -3.91	+22.7
7 Caterpillar Inc	73,707	133.37	▲ +2.02	+8.2
8 ITW	58,990	183.54	▲ +8.56	+38.3
9 Deere Co	52,714	167.45	▲ +8.87	+5.0
10 Walgreen Boots Alli	47,163	53.24	▲ +2.39	-22.7
11 Exelon Corp	46,845	48.19	▲ +.60	+5.1
12 Baxter Intl	46,588	91.25	▲ +2.03	+31.2
13 Allstate Corp	40,309	124.43	▲ +5.89	+36.0
14 Kraft Heinz Co	36,073	29.54	▲ +.34	-35.7
15 Equity Residential	31,268	84.20	▲ +1.12	+18.0
16 Motorola Solutions	30,747	179.46	▲ +2.46	+50.5
17 Arch Dan Mid	25,446	45.71	▲ +.95	+13.2
18 Discover Fin Svcs	23,601	75.29	▲ +.16	+13.1
19 Ventas Inc	21,969	58.94	▲ +1.08	-2.9
20 Nthn Trust Cp	21,455	101.26	▲ +3.45	+16.5
21 United Airlines Hldg	20,111	79.48	▲ +4.68	-10.3
22 Gallagher AJ	19,571	104.93	▲ +2.36	+36.3
23 CDW Corp	19,060	132.66	▲ +2.21	+59.2
24 TransUnion	17,875	94.93	▲ +3.23	+53.5
25 Dover Corp	17,041	117.31	▲ +3.46	+36.7
26 Ulta Salon Cosmetics	16,917	295.96	▲ +28.05	-.1
27 Grainger WW	16,143	299.70	▼ -1.53	+4.0
28 ConAgra Brands Inc	15,553	31.95	▼ -.97	+50.3
29 CBOE Global Markets	13,574	122.54	▼ -.68	+36.0
30 Zebra Tech	13,332	247.26	▲ +8.24	+39.5
31 IDEX Corp	13,032	171.35	▲ +7.50	+25.3
32 CNA Financial	12,720	46.85	▲ +2.22	+8.6
33 NiSource Inc	11,131	29.80	▲ +.49	+16.5
34 LKQ Corporation	10,091	32.93	▲ +.25	+22.9
35 Fortune Brds Hm&Sec	9,844	70.75	▲ +2.04	+61.7
36 Packaging Corp Am	9,596	101.38	▲ +5.63	+11.9
37 CF Industries	9,169	42.17	▲ +1.89	+2.4
38 Jones Lang LaSalle	8,901	172.73	▲ +2.91	+20.0
39 US Foods Holding	8,888	40.51	▲ +.34	+14.9
40 Paylocity Hldg	7,515	140.19	▼ -1.70	+69.0
41 Aptargroup Inc	7,460	116.70	▲ +1.19	+17.1
42 Hill-Rom Hldgs	7,249	108.22	▲ +1.73	+7.3
43 Old Republic	6,994	23.04	▲ +.49	+21.9
44 Morningstar Inc	6,737	157.39	▲ +.50	+28.0
45 Equity Lifesty Prop	6,632	72.86	▲ +.11	+37.1
46 CDK Global Inc	6,510	53.59	▼ -.09	+1.8
47 IAA Inc	6,351	47.57	▲ +.31	
48 Middleby Corp	6,286	111.97	▼ -.19	-8.9
49 Ingredion Inc	6,004	89.94	▲ +1.94	-.7
50 Stericycle Inc	5,873	64.45	▲ +1.77	+45.8
51 First Indl RT	5,522	43.50	▲ +.80	+35.4
52 Kemper Corp	5,329	79.97	▲ +5.55	+7.0
53 Brunswick Corp	5,021	61.56	▼ -1.29	+28.5
54 Cabot Microelect	4,700	160.88	▲ +15.37	+57.0
55 GrubHub Inc	4,623	50.56	▼ -3.59	-34.9
56 Littelfuse Inc	4,484	184.09	▲ +7.18	+3.0
57 RLI Corp	4,322	96.41	▲ +3.40	+46.2
58 Envestnet Inc	4,263	81.26	▲ +2.39	+48.6
59 Equity Commonwlth	3,995	32.77	▼ -.02	+11.7
60 Navistar Intl	3,677	37.05	▲ +.43	+11.4
61 Wintrust Financial	3,663	64.19	▲ +1.19	-8.9
62 John Bean Technol	3,656	115.48	▲ +2.49	+43.8
63 Anixter Intl	3,318	98.11	▲ +.51	+62.3
64 Hyatt Hotels Corp	3,219	88.01	▲ +3.47	+27.2
65 GATX	2,682	76.42	▲ +.29	+6.8
66 Retail Prop Amer	2,632	12.32	▲ +.17	+1.6
67 Teleph Data	2,586	24.07	▲ +1.39	-29.0
68 TreeHouse Foods	2,581	45.93	▲ +1.33	-22.5
69 Fst Midw Bcp	2,291	20.84	▲ +.90	-3.0
70 Stepan Co	2,268	100.81	▲ +2.16	+19.6
71 Hub Group Inc	1,992	59.69	▲ +6.82	+22.7
72 Federal Signal	1,961	32.42	▲ +.26	+53.0
73 Adtalem Global Educ	1,873	34.02	▼ -.49	-27.7
74 US Cellular	1,825	34.35	▲ +2.33	-37.6
75 Horace Mann	1,813	43.99	▲ +.98	+19.7
76 Groupon Inc	1,722	3.05	▲ +.17	-15.6
77 AAR Corp	1,549	44.38	▲ +1.80	+19.4
78 Addus HomeCare	1,549	99.56	▲ +5.22	+50.6
79 Knowles Corp	1,474	16.11	▼ -3.62	+2.3
80 Allscripts Hlthcare	1,474	9.08	▲ +.50	-20.7
81 Huron Consulting Gp	1,473	64.31	▼ -.50	+30.7
82 Coeur Mining	1,457	6.06	▲ +.03	+24.7
83 First Busey Corp	1,424	25.88	▲ +.38	+4.7
84 Tootsie Roll	1,289	33.06	▼ -1.05	-2.9
85 Methode Electronics	1,235	33.30	▲ +.55	+28.8
86 SP Plus Corp	998	43.49	▲ +1.68	+28.0
87 Acco Brands Corp	892	9.20	▲ +.56	+4.2
88 ANI Pharma	783	64.89	▲ +2.89	+17.2
89 Enova Intl Inc	695	20.61	▼ -4.45	-11.2
90 OneSpan Inc	691	17.21	▲ +.59	+9.8
91 Sanfilipo John	680	77.18	▼ -7.12	+21.5
92 Great Lakes Dredge	673	10.54	▲ +.07	+53.9
93 Heritage-Crystal Cln	670	28.90	▲ +.55	+18.3
94 QCR Holdings Inc	660	41.83	▲ +.73	+24.9
95 Echo Global Logis	591	21.68	▲ +2.30	-10.7
96 Tenneco Inc	558	9.78	▲ +.31	-69.4
97 Fst Mid Bancshares	554	33.27	▲ +.52	+.0
98 Heidrick & Struggles	529	27.60	▼ -.82	-10.8
99 SunCoke Energy Inc	512	5.91	▲ +.03	-39.3
100 Century Aluminum	496	5.58	▲ +.29	-35.2

Largest mutual funds

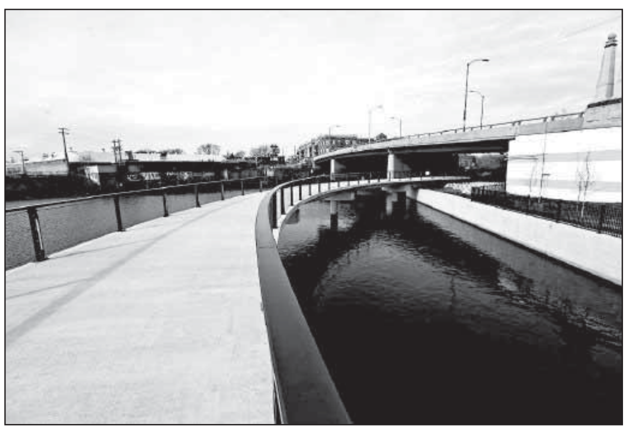
Based on Total assets

FUND	NAV	CHG IN $	1-YR %RTN
American Century UltraInv	56.00	+2.38	+30.4
American Funds AMCpA m	34.59	+1.20	+20.6
American Funds AmrcnBalA m	29.04	+.59	+16.0
American Funds AmrcnMutA m	44.08	+1.05	+17.4
American Funds BdfAmrcA m	13.29	-.03	+8.7
American Funds CptWldGrIncA m	52.69	+1.34	+18.3
American Funds CptlIncBldrA m	63.61	+.86	+13.3
American Funds EuroPacGrA m	55.39	+1.43	+17.4
American Funds FdmtlInvsA m	63.42	+2.12	+21.0
American Funds GrfAmrcA m	53.65	+2.06	+23.6
American Funds IncAmrcA m	23.39	+.33	+14.6
American Funds InvCAmrcA m	40.39	+1.32	+20.2
American Funds NewWldA m	70.57	+1.61	+18.1
American Funds NwPrspctvA m	48.95	+1.62	+24.6
American Funds SmCpWldA m	59.49	+1.21	+21.0
American Funds TheNewEcoA m	47.48	+1.62	+19.9
American Funds TxExBdA m	13.50	-.03	+7.9
American Funds WAMtInvsA m	48.90	+1.37	+19.8
Baird AggrgateBdInstl	11.41	...	+10.3
Baird CorPlusBdInstl	11.76	...	+10.4
BlackRock StrIncOpIns	10.05	+.03	+7.3
DFA EMktCorEqI	21.04	+.59	+5.0
DFA EmMktsValInstl	27.12	+.74	-2.1
DFA FvYrGlbFIIns	10.78	...	+3.7
DFA IntlCorEqIns	13.53	+.22	+11.6
DFA IntlSmCoInstl	18.37	+.20	+13.0
DFA IntlSmCpValIns	18.48	+.15	+9.0
DFA USCorEq1Instl	26.29	+.74	+20.8
DFA USCorEqIIInstl	23.89	+.65	+19.1
DFA USLgCpValInstl	38.14	+1.05	+14.0
DFA USSmCpInstl	34.29	+.74	+7.3
DFA USSmCpValInstl	32.70	+.63	+.1
Dodge & Cox Bal	102.43	+2.52	+14.0
Dodge & Cox Inc	14.25	...	+9.7
Dodge & Cox IntlStk	42.65	+1.20	+12.1
Dodge & Cox Stk	194.72	+7.27	+16.0
DoubleLine CorFII	11.23	-.01	+8.4
DoubleLine TtlRetBdI	10.77	-.02	+6.9
Edgewood GrInstl	40.32	+1.19	+29.7
FPA Crescent d	34.39	+.73	+13.2
Fidelity 500IdxInsPrm	115.57	+3.59	+25.4
Fidelity BCGrowth	115.53	+4.39	+30.9
Fidelity Balanced	25.37	+.55	+20.4
Fidelity Cap&Inc	10.28	+.10	+11.6
Fidelity Contrafund x	14.40	+.40	+25.8
Fidelity ContrafundK x	14.41	+.39	+25.8
Fidelity EmergMketsOpps	20.33	+.67	+17.3
Fidelity ExMktIdxInPr	66.36	+1.64	+15.9
Fidelity Frdm 2020	16.35	+.23	+13.5
Fidelity Frdm 2025	14.44	+.23	+14.4
Fidelity Frdm 2030	17.96	+.32	+15.6
Fidelity GlobalexUSIdx	13.05	+.30	+12.7
Fidelity GroCo	22.85	+.90	+34.0
Fidelity GroCoK	22.89	+.90	+34.1
Fidelity IntlGr	17.88	+.51	+29.3
Fidelity IntlIdxInstlPrm	42.78	+.91	+14.9
Fidelity IntlVal	9.80	+.25	+13.0
Fidelity InvmGradeBd	11.76	-.02	+10.3
Fidelity LowPrStk	48.89	+1.03	+13.4
Fidelity Magellan	10.80	+.31	+28.3
Fidelity OTCPortfolio	13.61	+.50	+35.4
Fidelity Puritan	23.49	+.52	+18.7
Fidelity TotalBond	11.07	-.02	+9.7
Fidelity TtlMktIdxInsPrm	93.27	+2.80	+23.8
Fidelity USBdIdxInsPrm	12.11	-.02	+9.5
Fidelity Advisor NewInsI x	34.03	+.78	+22.6
First Eagle GlbA m	57.25	+.90	+11.0
Franklin Templeton CATxFrIncA1 m	7.78	-.03	+10.6
Franklin Templeton GlbBdAdv	10.56	...	-2.7
Franklin Templeton IncA1 m	2.33	+.01	+8.1
Franklin Templeton IncAdv	2.31	+.01	+8.3
Franklin Templeton IncC m	2.36	+.01	+7.9
Franklin Templeton RisingDivsA m	71.16	+1.89	+23.4
Harbor CptlApprecInstl	82.13	+3.07	+30.8
Harding Loevner IntlEqInstl d	24.10	+.91	+16.8
INVESCO DevMktsY	44.48	+.64	+12.7
JPMorgan CoreBondR6	12.06	-.03	+9.8
Lord Abbett ShrtDurIncA m	4.23	...	+5.1
Lord Abbett ShrtDurIncF b	4.22	-.01	+5.2
MFS ValI	45.18	+1.20	+21.9
Metropolitan West TtlRetBdI	11.12	-.01	+9.8
Metropolitan West TtlRetBdPlan	10.46	-.01	+9.9
Nuveen HYMuniBdI	18.38	-.03	+13.4
Oakmark IntlInv	23.92	+.43	+11.4
Old Westbury LgCpStrats	15.39	+.40	+19.1
PGIM Investments TtlRetBdZ	14.70	-.02	+11.6
PIMCO AlAstInstl	11.77	+.07	+6.9
PIMCO IncA m	12.10	+.02	+7.1
PIMCO IncI2	12.10	+.02	+7.4
PIMCO IncInstl	12.10	+.02	+7.5
PIMCO TtlRetIns	10.53	-.04	+9.1
PRIMECAP Odyssey Gr	41.39	+1.54	+14.1
Schwab SP500Idx	50.96	+1.59	+25.4
T. Rowe Price BCGr	131.87	+4.47	+24.4
T. Rowe Price CptlAprc	32.19	+.34	+19.8
T. Rowe Price EqIdx500	88.53	+2.75	+25.2
T. Rowe Price EqInc	31.91	+.78	+17.7
T. Rowe Price GrStk	78.10	+2.84	+25.8
T. Rowe Price HlthSci	82.48	+3.24	+18.8
T. Rowe Price InsLgCpGr	46.77	+1.72	+23.7
T. Rowe Price MdCpGr	96.89	+1.93	+20.9
T. Rowe Price NewHorizons	63.30	+1.12	+30.4
T. Rowe Price NewInc	9.85	-.01	+9.7
T. Rowe Price Rtr2020	22.42	+.35	+14.9
T. Rowe Price Rtr2025	18.07	+.33	+15.9
T. Rowe Price Rtr2030	26.35	+.54	+16.8
T. Rowe Price Rtr2040	27.56	+.66	+18.0
T. Rowe Price Val	38.43	+1.07	+19.2
Vanguard 500IdxAdmrl	307.58	+9.56	+25.4
Vanguard BalIdxAdmrl	40.26	+.70	+18.2
Vanguard CAITTxExAdm	12.23	-.03	+7.3
Vanguard CptlOppAdmrl	161.75	+7.00	+19.7
Vanguard DevMIdxAdmrl	14.05	+.30	+13.9
Vanguard DevMIdxIns	14.07	+.30	+13.9
Vanguard DivGrInv	31.48	+.85	+26.2
Vanguard EMStkIdxInAdm	35.97	+.88	+9.0
Vanguard EqIncAdmrl	80.08	+2.05	+18.6
Vanguard ExplorerAdmrl	98.19	+2.58	+18.4
Vanguard ExtMktIdxAdmrl	97.48	+2.41	+16.0
Vanguard ExtMktIdxIns	97.47	+2.40	+16.0
Vanguard GNMAAdmrl	10.59	+.01	+5.8
Vanguard GrIdxAdmrl	100.34	+3.60	+33.9
Vanguard GrIdxIns	100.35	+3.60	+33.9
Vanguard HCAdmrl	90.47	+4.21	+19.4
Vanguard HYCorpAdmrl	5.97	+.03	+10.9
Vanguard HYTEAdmrl	11.91	-.03	+10.2
Vanguard InTrBdIdxAdmrl	12.05	-.04	+11.1
Vanguard InTrInGdAdm	10.21	-.02	+10.6
Vanguard InTrTEAdmrl	14.64	-.03	+7.3
Vanguard InflPrtScAdmrl	26.31	-.11	+8.8
Vanguard InsIdxIns	299.42	+9.31	+25.4
Vanguard InsIdxInsPlus	299.44	+9.31	+25.4
Vanguard InsTrgRt2020Ins	24.47	+.31	+14.2
Vanguard InsTtlSMIInPls	70.75	+2.14	+23.9
Vanguard IntlGrAdmrl	105.18	+3.93	+24.9
Vanguard LTInGrdAdm	11.44	-.04	+22.6
Vanguard LTTEAdmrl	12.09	-.02	+9.6
Vanguard LfStrGrInv	36.67	+.78	+17.3
Vanguard LfStrModGrInv	29.32	+.45	+15.3
Vanguard LtdTrmTEAdmrl	11.14	-.01	+4.0
Vanguard MdCpIdxAdmrl	225.26	+5.14	+20.1
Vanguard MdCpIdxIns	49.76	+1.13	+20.1
Vanguard MdCpIdxInsPlus	245.42	+5.60	+20.1
Vanguard PrmCpAdmrl	147.86	+6.46	+21.6
Vanguard RlEstIdxAdmrl	135.40	+2.28	+17.7
Vanguard SCpGrIdxAdm	71.37	+1.75	+19.4
Vanguard SCpValIdxAdm	58.11	+1.22	+8.0
Vanguard STBdIdxAdmrl	10.63	-.02	+5.1
Vanguard STInvmGrdAdmrl	10.79	-.01	+5.7
Vanguard STTEAdmrl	15.88	-.01	+2.4
Vanguard SmCpIdxAdmrl	79.56	+1.80	+13.2
Vanguard SmCpIdxIns	79.56	+1.80	+13.2
Vanguard StarInv	27.99	+.60	+18.2
Vanguard TrgtRtr2015Inv	15.41	+.13	+12.4
Vanguard TrgtRtr2020Inv	33.01	+.41	+14.1
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Inv	20.15	+.31	+15.4
Vanguard TrgtRtr2030Inv	37.01	+.65	+16.2
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Inv	22.86	+.45	+16.9
Vanguard TrgtRtr2040Inv	39.70	+.87	+17.6
Vanguard TrgtRtr2045Inv	25.05	+.60	+18.1
Vanguard TrgtRtr2050Inv	40.33	+.97	+18.2
Vanguard TrgtRtrIncInv	14.25	+.09	+11.4
Vanguard TtBMIdxAdmrl	11.24	-.02	+9.7
Vanguard TtBMIdxIns	11.24	-.02	+9.7
Vanguard TtBMIdxInsPlus	11.24	-.02	+9.7
Vanguard TtlnBIdxAdmrl	22.99	-.06	+8.4
Vanguard TtlnBIdxIns	34.50	-.09	+8.4
Vanguard TtlnBIdxInv	11.50	-.03	+8.3
Vanguard TtInSIdxAdmrl	29.55	+.67	+12.7
Vanguard TtInSIdxIns	118.16	+2.66	+12.7
Vanguard TtInSIdxInsPlus	118.19	+2.66	+12.7
Vanguard TtInSIdxInv	17.66	+.39	+12.6
Vanguard TtlSMIdxAdmrl	82.11	+2.48	+23.8
Vanguard TtlSMIdxIns	82.13	+2.48	+23.8
Vanguard TtlSMIdxInv	82.08	+2.48	+23.7
Vanguard USGrAdmrl	120.86	+4.52	+31.9
Vanguard ValIdxAdmrl	46.84	+1.25	+17.7
Vanguard ValIdxIns	46.84	+1.25	+17.7
Vanguard WlngtnAdmrl	76.57	+1.40	+19.7
Vanguard WlngtnInv	44.34	+.81	+19.6
Vanguard WlslyIncAdmrl	67.53	+.50	+14.9
Vanguard WlslyIncInv	27.88	+.21	+14.9
Vanguard WndsrAdmrl	72.28	+2.56	+19.3
Vanguard WndsrIIAdmrl	65.68	+2.07	+21.7
Vanguard WndsrIIInv	37.02	+1.17	+21.6
Western Asset CorPlusBdI	12.16	+.01	+11.5

b - Fee covering market costs is paid from fund assets. d - Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee. m - Multiple fees are charged, usually a marketing fee and either a sales or redemption fee. s - fund split shares during the week. x - fund paid a distribution during the week. Source: Morningstar.



Restored brickwork has brought the exteriors back their original look at the former Julia C. Lathrop Homes.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

A curving new riverwalk at the complex, seen on Wednesday, extends into the North Branch of the Chicago River.

Kamin

Continued from ***Page 1***

— the polar opposite of cut-rate housing that was supposed to look cheap. Narrow floor plans maximized the amount of light and air coming into apartments.

By 2016, though, the Lathrop Homes had gone from model to mess, and the housing authority approved a three-phase redevelopment plan backed by a large commercial developer, Related Midwest, and two nonprofits, Bickerdike Redevelopment Corp. and Heartland Housing.

The CHA still owns the land at Lathrop; the developers have a 99-year lease to the property.

The $140 million first phase, which is mostly north of Diversey and delivers 414 apartments, skillfully puts today's design principles to work. The idea is to connect the development, now known as Lathrop, to the city rather than making it an enclave.

The big move, the riverwalk, reverses Lathrop's original stance of turning its back on the polluted river but remains faithful to Jensen's nature-inspired aesthetic.

The riverwalk offers stylish contemporary benches, a launch for nonmotorized boats, a circular dog walk and a curving, over-the-water walkway that brings the pathway beneath a bridge that crosses the river.

A restored, 2-acre "great lawn" in the heart of the project provides an expansive link between Clybourn and the riverwalk — and a prime setting for community events like outdoor movie nights.

Smaller public spaces, like a raised outdoor plaza overlooking the Diversey-Clybourn intersection, also invite outsiders to enter a project that neighbors once strove to avoid. Behind the plaza, for example, is the Hexe Coffee Co. cafe, which occupies Lathrop's former administration building. It was buzzing on a recent weekday.

Working with historic preservation consultants McGuire Igleski & Associates of Evanston, Chicago architectural firms HED and JGMA have carefully rehabbed 16 historic buildings north of Diversey.

Paned metal windows and restored brickwork have brought the exteriors back to their original look. Interiors have been gutted and given *de rigueur* amenities, like quartz countertops and stainless-steel appliances. There is no difference between units for market-rate tenants and those at other income levels, which include working families that meet affordable housing guidelines as well as CHA residents.

South of Diversey, a six-story, 59-unit apartment building by Chicago's bKL Architecture puts a skillful new spin on the brickwork of the older buildings.

The project received about $20 million in historic preservation tax credits, according to Related Midwest. Given Lathrop's historical and architectural significance, that was money well spent. The housing authority once proposed tearing down the entire complex.

But if the design of the new Lathrop deserves high marks, the jury is still out on its social architecture.

Will residents find jobs by networking with their neighbors? Will living in such a neighborhood provide role models for the children of public housing residents? It will take years to know. In any event, there's not much room for large families, given that most of the units have only one or two bedrooms.

Equally important, the housing authority has yet to fully make good on its promise to replace Lathrop's 525 lost public housing units with new ones on the North Side.

So far, according to the CHA, 290 replacement units either have been built elsewhere on the North Side, are under construction or have been approved for development. That leaves the agency well short of its goal. Meanwhile, there are about 40,000 people on the CHA's waiting list.

The story at Lathrop is far from over.

The redevelopment's second and third phases, south of Diversey, are still to come while the CHA continues the difficult effort to build more public housing on the North Side — a move that has run into bitter opposition in some neighborhoods.

The architecture and landscape at Lathrop deserve high praise. But it's too early to tell if the architects of public policy have succeeded at integrating public housing residents into society.

Blair Kamin is a Tribune critic.

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Julia Lathrop, a Rockford-born social welfare worker and Lathrop's namesake, is pictured between 1909 and 1919.

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Who cares (Pt. 2)? What you leave off your resume may be just as important as what you include

Last week we gave you a handful of things that don't need to be included on your resume. Here are more to avoid:

Mediocre academic accomplishments: Yes, mom and dad are very proud of that 3.0 GPA you earned in school but let's face it, that little number that earned you a Hamilton out of grandma's purse is basically telling your employer that you're a good employee but not as good as the candidate who earned a 4.0. In fact, you're also saying you're not as good as the guy who got the 3.25 so just leave the GPA off entirely. Most HR professionals tell me they gloss over GPAs anyway and find them pretentious and annoying, especially when they're limited to a particular major.

Too many fonts: Those of us old enough to remember the advent of Microsoft Word also remember the annoying temptation people had to fight to cram 14 fonts on a particular document, whether it was the annual Christmas letter or the program for the spring junior high band concert. Find one or two simple fonts and stick with them. And fight the temptation to use fonts that appear to be older, even when — OK, especially when — you think they give your resume a certain authenticity. Times New Roman and Courier are certainly interesting to look at but in today's sans serif world they can come across as a little stodgy on a resume, whether it's online, in pdf form or a hard copy. Unless you're going for a "hey, this guy still writes his resume on a typewriter" vibe, then choose a simple sans-serif font.

Too many tasks: There is a tendency, especially for younger job applicants, to list everything they do on their current job. Their resumes can read like a literal laundry list of items, ranging from "respond to emails" to "schedule a weekly conference call for sales team." Your resume should be about big- and small-picture accomplishments, not the minutiae that goes into achieving them. In other words, instead of telling your potential hirer how you respond to emails each morning and schedule conference calls each week, point out that you've improved the level of communication with the sales team, which has resulted in more cooperation among reps and improved profits.

Shoptalk: Be sure to avoid the words and phrases that are exclusive to your company or non-applicable to your potential employer if you're switching industries. If you boast about your ability to sell the "QS-1060" and have earned numerous "berries" from your department as a result, you're basically saying that you're completely entangled in the culture of one company and might have difficulty adapting to the culture of another.

Gap excuses: Your resume shouldn't explain why you didn't hold a full-time job for a certain amount of time, regardless of whether you spent 18 months traveling the world, five years raising your children or 40 weeks sitting on the floor in your room, eating Nutella out of the jar with your hands. You may be asked about the time you spent away from the working world in an interview but your resume shouldn't highlight or explain your time spent out of pocket. If you have specific gaps in your work experience — even more so if they weren't by choice — don't present your experiences in chronological order. Instead, you should format your resume to highlight ccomplishments and skills.

Obsolete or common skills: Whether it's an old programming language or something fairly basic, you probably won't impress many hiring managers — "Jen, get this Peter Pittsfield guy on the phone right away! He knows Microsoft Word! — by including them on your resume. If it's essential knowledge, a fairly recent skill or a thorough understanding of what may some consider a common application or program, like advanced skills in Excel, then go ahead and include it. Otherwise, you're just wasting time on Pagemaker and could be putting your Mac Performa to better use — see what I did there? Of course, you should include the essential keywords that a company's resume filter program is looking for but don't get carried away by mentioning programs repped by teen heartthrob Joey Lawrence — back in the 1980s.

Dumb words and phrases: If you have a cutesy job title, don't include it on your resume. You may think your name, listed alongside "Coding Jedi," "Advertising Rock Star" or "IT Overlord" sets you apart — it doesn't.

ACCOUNTING >>

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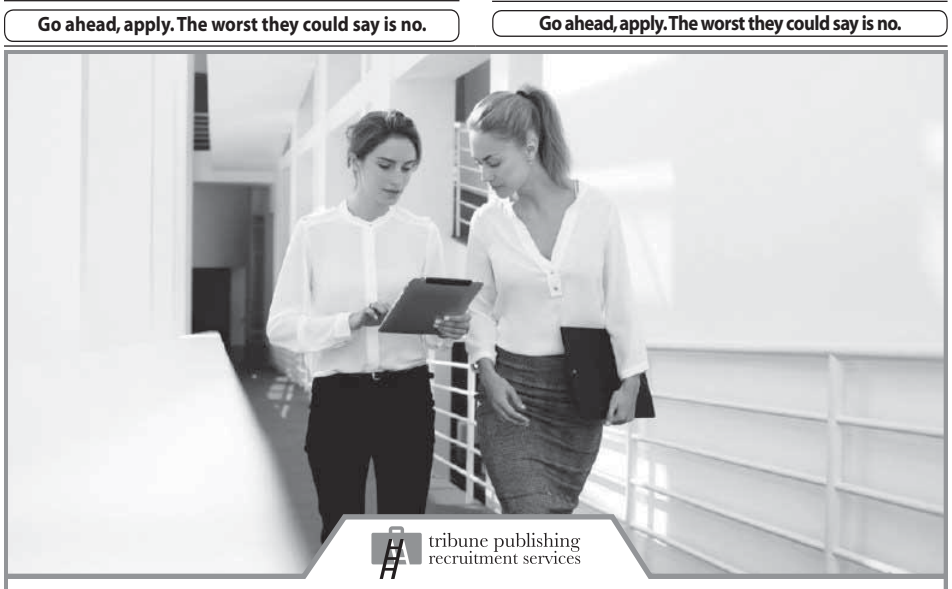
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What to do with these bosses

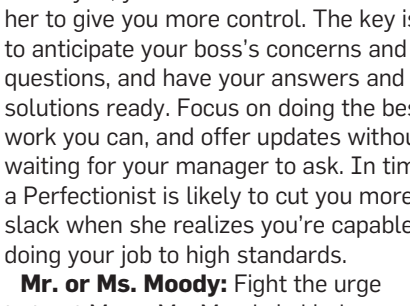
The Silent Type: Every boss has his preferred method of communication, whether it's email, in-person check-ins, phone, IM or sticky notes. Figure out your boss's favorite way to interact, and then use it -- but sparingly. Peppering silent types with constant questions and messages will only increase their distance. But initiating a regular checking-in routine with a method you know is comfortable for your boss can encourage him to provide you with the feedback you need.

The Perfectionist: There's no quick solution to this one. Until a Perfectionist trusts you, you won't be able to convince her to give you more control. The key is to anticipate your boss's concerns and questions, and have your answers and solutions ready. Focus on doing the best work you can, and offer updates without waiting for your manager to ask. In time, a Perfectionist is likely to cut you more slack when she realizes you're capable of doing your job to high standards.

Mr. or Ms. Moody: Fight the urge to treat Mr. or Ms. Moody in kind. Responding to a jab or snub with an equally nasty or passive-aggressive move will only cause tempers to flare. Besides, your reputation as a professional is on the line. But the old adage "kill them with kindness" isn't ideal in this situation either; your sugary-sweet attitude will likely irritate your boss even more. And suffering in silence isn't good for your work relationships or mental health.

The Egoist: It may be tempting to try and bring your boss's ego down a notch, but that often works better in movies than in real life. Instead, treat your manager with respect and remember that how she treats you is not an indication of your worth as an employee or a person. Short of trying to grin and bear it, there may be little you can do to change an Egoist's behavior. If you've reached your breaking point, your best bet may be to consider a different job.

9 to 5



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Stay home or go to work?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. federal agency based in Atlanta, suggest the following criteria to help sick employees determine if they should stay home or head to work:

• All employees should stay home if they are sick until at least 24 hours after their fever, which the CDC defines as a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit, is gone, noting that a person's temperature should be measured without the use of fever-reducing medicines that contain ibuprofen or acetaminophen.

• Individuals with suspected or confirmed flu, who do not have a fever, should stay home from work at least four or five days after the onset of symptoms. People who have the flu are most contagious during the first three days of their illness.

• Workers who have flu symptoms upon arrival to work or become ill during the day should promptly separate themselves from other workers and go home until at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without the use of fever-reducing medications or after symptoms have improved (at least four or five days after flu symptoms started).

— Marco Buscaglia, Careers



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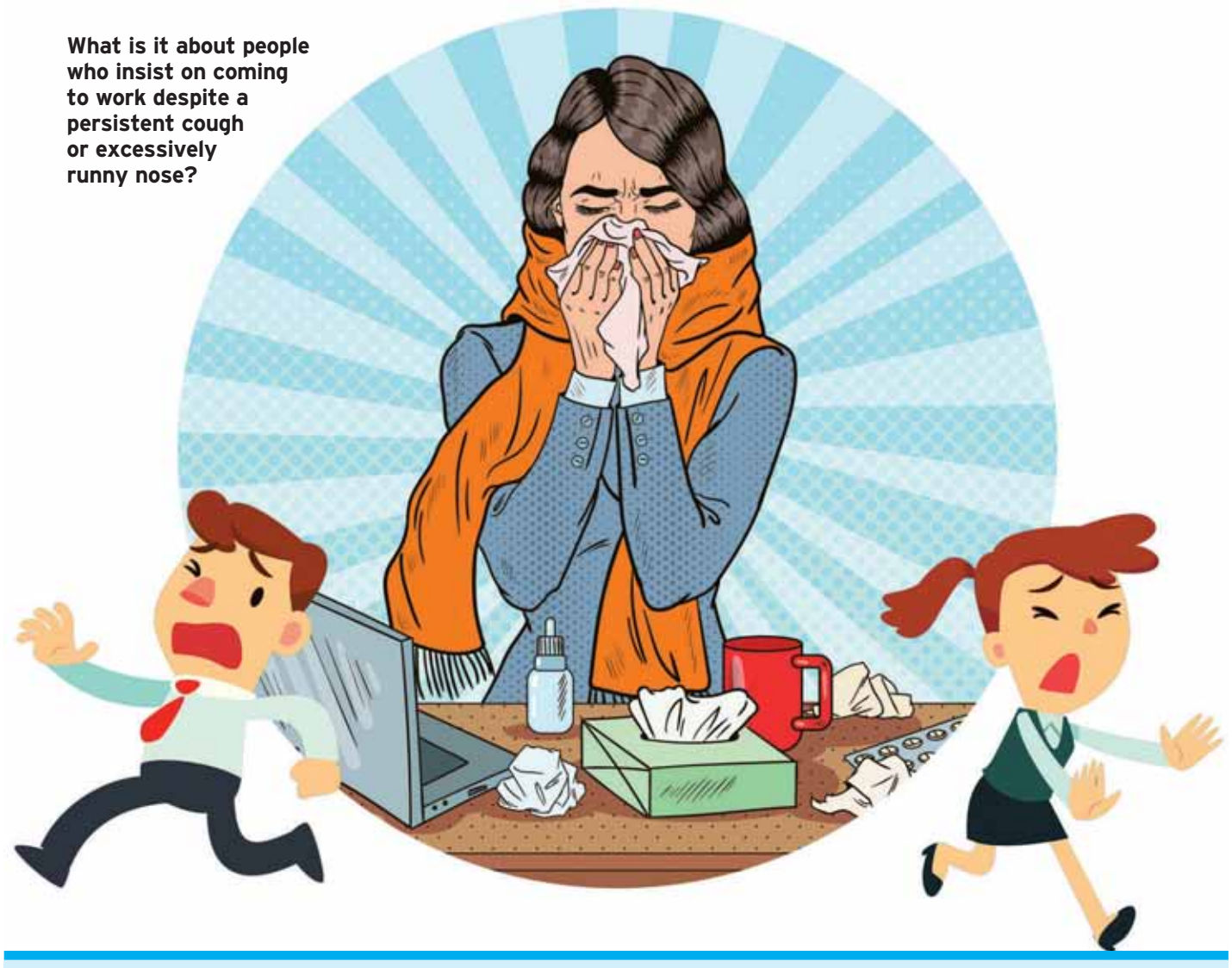
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Chicago Tribune
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2020

What is it about people who insist on coming to work despite a persistent cough or excessively runny nose?



'Oh, am I still ill?'

Co-workers have a message for you – stay home!

Ralph (did he?), 44, says he doesn't ever remember his cubicle-mates being as aggressive about their coughing co-workers as this year. "It's like a switch went off," says Ralph, a Chicago-based software engineer who doesn't want his last name used. "People used to be concerned about each other at work when people were sick, or at least they'd fake it, and maybe complain about them behind their backs but now, it's all-out war. I've heard people tell people directly 'don't get me sick' or 'just go home.' Last week, someone was having a coughing fit and someone yelled at them from across the office, like loud. You hear someone coughing and then 'come on!' from someone in the corner."

While Ralph says he may not agree with the direct approach of some of his co-workers, he welcomes the message. "In 2020, there's no reason to come to work if you're sick," he says. "Everyone can work from home these days. There's no need to be here most days but especially the days you're a walking virus. Just stay home."

So, what is it about those people who insist on coming to work despite a persistent cough or excessively runny nose? "I think people have a sense of loyalty to work and they feel like they have to be there, says Janet Ellen, a Boston-based career coach who works with recent college graduates. "Even though we are in the midst of a strong job market, people don't like to take their work for granted. If they have a job and they enjoy that job and they enjoy being paid, they want to show up to work. They don't want to take any chances on losing it."

Ralph says he doesn't give his coughing co-workers that much credit. "My guess is that they just don't want to stay home. Either they've got kids running around or they know they'll get bored so they just figure 'I'll come to work,'" he says.

'Imperfect policy'

Ralph doesn't just blame his peers for coming to work sick and spreading germs. He says they share that burden with his employer. "People don't want to waste their days if they have to take a personal day. Our company did away with sick days a couple years ago and now we have a block of days in general," he says. "Being sick counts as a personal day, essentially, so my guess is they don't want to use a day off for a fever or a cold. And that makes sense since why use a day off in miserable January just to be sick at home when you can take it off in July and hang out at the beach? When the company doesn't make a distinction between sick days and vacation days, people are going to abuse them. It's an imperfect policy."

Not necessarily, according to Patty McCord, the former chief talent officer for Netflix who was responsible for the company's then-groundbreaking policy that allowed workers to take as many days off as they wanted, regardless of whether they were days used on vacation or combating an illness. Despite the worries of some Netflix executives about workers' abusing the policy and plenty of sarcastic finger-pointing from other companies, McCord maintains that the policy worked as intended thanks to open-minded, honest workers. "The employees liked the policy because they didn't feel the pressure to have their days away from the office all boxed in and set in stone. And they worked together to do what was best for their department and for their job," she says. "You have to trust the people you work with. That's the policy that counts. Hire people who you can trust to do the right thing."

'Working' from home

Many employees who are sick simply inform their managers they'll be working from home, which seems like a good compromise. Unless it isn't.

Michael Green, MD, says working from home may help employees keep up with their workload but it may not help them feel better. "You need sleep and lack of stress to heal from an illness," says the Chicago-based Green. "If you're not taking care of yourself, you're not going to feel better, and you'll only prolong your time away from the office."

Jayne Dorshen, an HR consultant in San Jose, California, says companies are beginning to seek more tangible proof that employees who say they're staying home to work because they're sick are actually working. "Let's be honest, not everyone is honest about working from home," Dorshen says. "Companies are becoming reluctant to believe that some of their employees actually do work from home when they're sick — which makes sense — so they're a little less willing to accept the 'I'll work from home' excuse. The bottom line is if you're too sick to come into work, you're probably too sick to do any work at all."

— Marco Buscaglia, Careers



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Retiring referee Dan Capron dishes on Big Ten coaches and a career full of memories. Back Page

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RENTERIA & ROSS
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INSIDE
5 QUESTIONS FOR THE WHITE SOX AND 5 FOR THE CUBS
PAGE 5

For Rick Renteria, it's his first team with any real expectations.

For David Ross, it's his first team. Period.

YOU READY?



PAUL SULLIVAN
On baseball

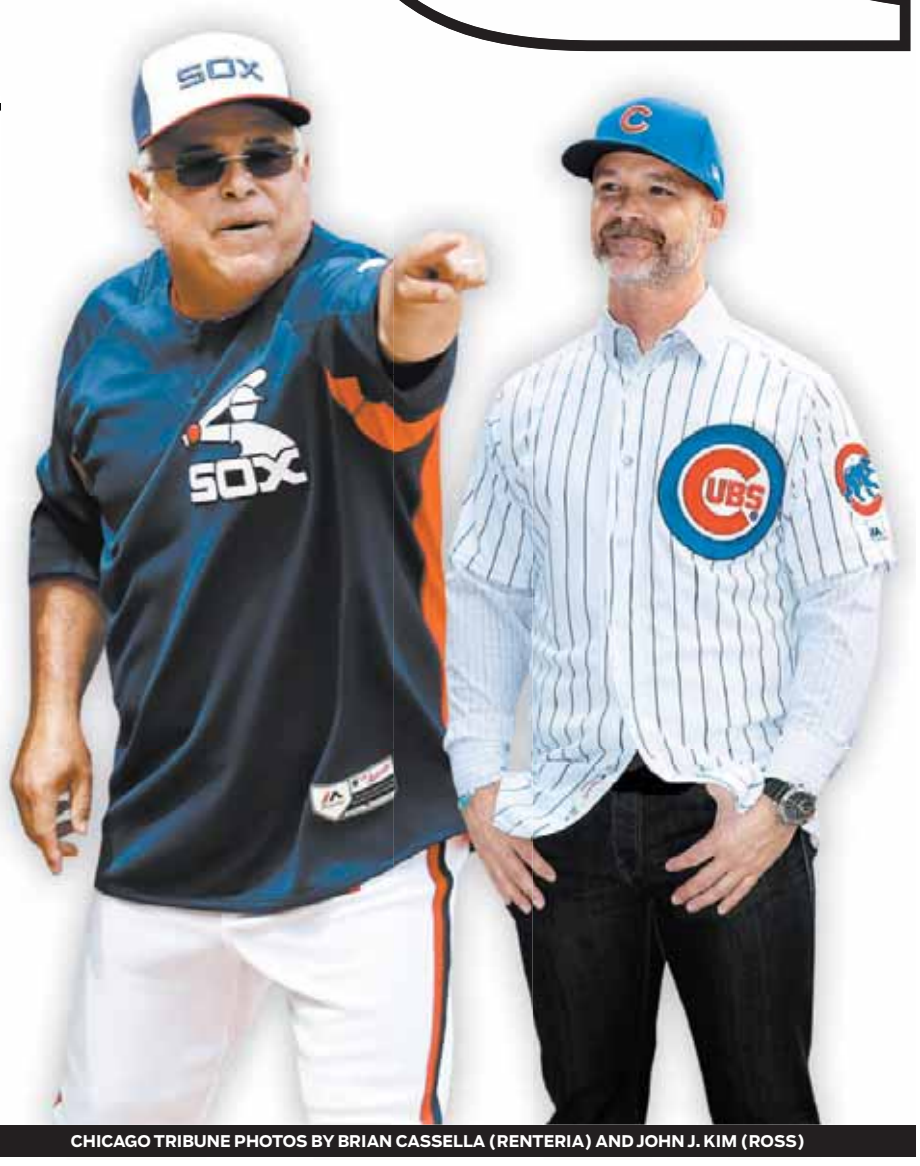
As a new season begins for the Cubs and White Sox, Joe Maddon's shadow looms large over managers David Ross and Rick Renteria.

It was Maddon's unexpected availability five years ago that made Renteria expendable on the North Side, leading to his second act as manager of the rebuilding White Sox.

And it was Maddon's shockingly short shelf life after the 2016 championship that led to his departure in September, paving the way for the remodeling Cubs to hire Ross.

Now Renteria and Ross are hoping to replicate the success Maddon enjoyed in Chicago in a 2020 season that poses great challenges for both.

Turn to ***Sullivan, Page 4***



CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY BRIAN CASSELLA (RENTERIA) AND JOHN J. KIM (ROSS)



TOP OF THE SECOND



PHIL ROSENTHAL

Marquee reels in McGregor

Rockies fans may be sorry to see in-game TV reporter Taylor McGregor leave for Chicago's soon-to-launch Marquee Sports Network.

But if they're going to lose someone to the Cubs, Coloradans figure at least it's not five-time All-Star Nolan Arenado.

"I was doing a luncheon (last week) in Fort Collins and they announced that I was leaving, and the whole crowd went, 'Don't take Arenado with you!' " McGregor said with a laugh.

"That's above my pay grade, but I'll tell you, people in Colorado, they wanted to make sure I wasn't taking him with me."

The Rockies' coveted third baseman is a known quantity to baseball fans in Denver and Chicago alike.

Cubs fans don't know McGregor yet, but they will as they get used to watching 150 or so games this season on Marquee*, the channel the team plans to launch with Sinclair Broadcast Group on Feb. 22.

*(*No new Marquee carriage agreements have been announced since last month's Cubs Convention. This column isn't about that. When there's news about Comcast or other systems and streaming services, it will be reported.)*

For all the hoopla accorded guest analysts such as Rick Sutcliffe and Lou Piniella, who occasionally will sit in with announcers Len Kasper and Jim Deshaies on Marquee, McGregor is the only new regular joining Len and J.D. on game telecasts.

"Anytime you leave a job, it's hard to say bye to other people, but I wouldn't have made this move had the opportunity not been incredible," said McGregor, who worked Rockies games the last two seasons. "What Marquee is going to be — and being with the Cubs — was such an amazing opportunity that it kind of overshadows the thought of leaving the Rockies and leaving Colorado."

McGregor had longstanding, deep-rooted ties to the Rockies.

Keli McGregor, her father, was a former NFL player who joined the nascent Rockies organization in 1993 and rose through the executive ranks to become team president from 2001 until a rare virus that infected his heart claimed his life in 2010 at age 48.

A few months after his death, a memorial "KSM" placard was unveiled near the auxiliary scoreboard in right field at Coors Field.

Rockies owner Dick Monfort only last year announced that a mixed-use development across the street from the ballpark opening in 2021 will be called McGregor Square in his honor.

Taylor McGregor, now 27, rejected the suggestion it was in any way important to move on from Denver.

"I would say the right opportunity came up," McGregor said.

After all, she has put Colorado in her rearview mirror before. She went to college in Arkansas and worked TV jobs there and in Wyoming before circling back to Denver.



DUSTIN BRADFORD/GETTY

Taylor McGregor interviews the Rockies' Trevor Story after a July 2018 game.

Of late, she had added to her resume by working as an ESPN college football sideline reporter. So the Cubs job seemed like a natural progression.

Nothing quite prepared her, however, for the size and intensity of the Cubs Convention, where she was formally introduced to the team's fans.

"I knew and understood the reach of the Chicago Cubs, but being there and seeing it firsthand was amazing," McGregor said. "It was awesome. I was loving every second of it. I thought it was so cool, just the passion and the knowledge the fans have. They know what's going on, and that really impressed me and excited me for what's to come."

One fan during the session with Crane Kenney, the Cubs president of business operations, suggested hiring Kelly Crull, who had what will be McGregor's role when Cubs games were on NBC Sports Chicago.

Another noted McGregor was the only woman among the hires Marquee announced. While tight-lipped because she is not authorized to share details, McGregor said she doesn't believe that will be an issue going forward.

"I know about some announcements that are going to be made, so I didn't give too much thought into it," McGregor said. "One of the reasons that I took this job ... I just have all the confidence in Mike McCarthy and Mike Santini," who are Marquee's general manager and programming/production chief.

"When you look at their track record of who they've hired in the business, like Tracy Wolfson, Doris Burke and Sam Ryan, they've hired a lot of really successful women, and they've been huge advocates for women in the industry. ... I know what these men are capable of and what Marquee is going to be."

Much of the speculation about Marquee's game coverage has focused on those guest analysts and the ability to deploy microphones and cameras in new and different places.

"Unprecedented coverage like you've never seen before in regional sports. ... Marquee's going to be run like a national network," McGregor said. "We'll see on the specifics. I don't know how much I can comment on that."

Her job will be to report and tell stories.

"The biggest thing is I want people at home to know the players on a personal level," McGregor said, offering up Ian Happ's interest in art as an example. "Peeling back the layers on that and adding that into the broadcast (should help) people at home know these guys on a deeper level."

Along the way, they'll get to know McGregor.

She's not Nolan Arenado, but who is?

LET'S PLAY 2

	Sunday	Tuesday
Blackhawks	@Jets 6 p.m. NBCSCH+	@Oilers 8 p.m. NBCSCH+
Bulls	@76ers 5 p.m. NBCSCH	@Wizards 6 p.m. NBCSCH

SUNDAY ON TV/RADIO

AUTO RACING

11 a.m. Daytona 500 qualifying — FOX-32
2 p.m. The Clash at Daytona — FS1
4 p.m. NHRA Winternationals — FS1

NBA

2:30 p.m. Celtics at Thunder — NBA
5 p.m. Bulls at 76ers — NBCSCH, WSCR-AM 670
6 p.m. Jazz at Rockets — NBA

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

11 a.m. Butler at Marquette — FS1
11 a.m. Cincinnati at Connecticut — CBSSN
Noon Ohio State at Wisconsin — CBS-2
1 p.m. Evansville at Bradley — CBSSN
1:30 p.m. George Mason at UMass — NBCSN
2 p.m. Wichita State at Houston — ESPN
3 p.m. Valparaiso at Loyola — ESPNU
5 p.m. Washington at Wash. St. — ESPNU
5:30 p.m. Northwestern at Rutgers — BTN, WYLL-AM 1160

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

11 a.m. Rutgers at Maryland — BTN
11 a.m. Temple at South Florida — ESPNU
Noon Texas A&M at Mississippi St. — ESPN
12:30 p.m. Charleston at W. Liberty — NBCSCH
1 p.m. Louisville at Syracuse — ESPN2
1 p.m. Texas at Texas Tech — ESPNU
3 p.m. Kentucky at Arkansas — ESPN2

BOWLING

4 p.m. Tournament of Champions — FOX-32

GOLF

Noon PGA: Pebble Beach — Golf
2 p.m. PGA: Pebble Beach — CBS-2
2 p.m. LPGA, European — Golf

GYMNASTICS

3 p.m. Ohio State at Michigan — BTN

HOCKEY

11:30 a.m. Bruins at Red Wings — NBC-5
2 p.m. AHL: Bears at Phantoms — NHL
6 p.m. Blackhawks at Jets — NBCSCH+, WGN-AM 720
6:30 p.m. Avalanche at Wild — NBCSN

RUGBY

4 p.m. Seawolves at Legion — CBSSN

SOCCER

8 a.m. Napoli vs. Lecce — ESPN2
8 a.m. Sheffield vs. Bournemouth — NBCSN
8:30 a.m. Monchengladbach vs. Koln — FS1
10:30 a.m. Man. City vs. West Ham — NBCSN

TENNIS

Noon USTA: Midland final — Tennis
2 p.m. USTA: Dallas final — Tennis
4 p.m. ATP: Cordoba final — Tennis
2 a.m. (Mon.) Rotterdam, St. Petersburg, Hua-Hin — Tennis

WRESTLING

1 p.m. Penn State at Minnesota — BTN



BULLS



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bulls guard Zach LaVine was held out of practice on Saturday with a stiff neck.

A pain in the neck

LaVine is questionable for the Bulls' Sunday game against the 76ers

By Jamal Collier

Amid the flurry of injuries that has started to define the this Bulls season, one of the few constants in the lineup each night has been the presence of guard Zach LaVine, one of only three Bulls to appear in every game this season.

LaVine's availability for Sunday's game against the Sixers is in question after a stiff neck prevented him from practicing Saturday afternoon before the team flew to Philadelphia. LaVine suffered the injury in the third quarter of the Bulls' 125-119 loss to the Pelicans on Thursday after a play that resulted in guard Jrue Holiday landing on the back of LaVine's neck.

Although LaVine played the rest of the game, finishing with 22 points before sitting for the end of a fourth-quarter blowout, the injury has not improved during the last few days. Coach Jim Boylen expects him to be a game-time decision.

"Popped him pretty good," Boylen said. "He played through it. He was hurting, but he played through it. He was very sore and stiff yesterday and still pretty sore and stiff today."

The Bulls have lost four games in a row and already are missing four of their top rotation players with Lauri Markkanen (pelvis), Otto Porter Jr. (foot), Wendell Carter Jr. (ankle) and Kris Dunn (knee) sidelined because of injuries. Center Daniel Gafford (right ankle) is also questionable for Sunday, but he did practice Saturday, and forward Denzel Valentine missed last game with a hamstring injury.

UP NEXT
Bulls at 76ers
5 p.m. Sunday, NBCSCH

LaVine and guard Tomas Satoransky are the only two Bulls players to have started each game this season. Rookie guard Coby White has also appeared in all 53 games.

Those injuries have already taken a toll on this season — depleting lineups, shifting expectations and halting action at the trade deadline — which has given the organization a difficult task in evaluating the roster.

"The amount of trauma that this team has faced is unusual," Boylen said. "It's a drain on everyone. We have to fight through it in this moment."

It is difficult to see how the Bulls could function without their leading scorer, even if his absence is brief.

LaVine leads the team with a career-best 24.9 points per game to go along with 4.8 rebounds and 4.1 assists. Often this season, he has been seemingly tasked with trying to carry the Bulls to victory almost single-handedly. He has even been successful on a few occasions, most notably when he drained 13 3-pointers against the Hornets in November and a pair of 40-point performances against the Cavaliers last month.

The Bulls have been largely a disaster on offense all season even with LaVine on the floor.

They were 28th in total offense at the start of the day Saturday. Without LaVine, they fall apart. The team owns an offensive rating of 107.5 with LaVine on the court — still in the bottom 10 in the league but teetering on below average — compared with a 101.8 rating with him off the court, which would easily rank last in the league.

A few players have, at least, started to show signs of progress recently, which made Boylen hopeful to have them back in practice shortly after All-Star Weekend. That could include Porter, who was moving around without a walking boot while putting up shots at the end of practice Saturday, and perhaps Carter, whom Boylen said worked on his jump-hook shot and participated in positional shooting drills.

But the injuries have piled up for the Bulls, who are limping into this final road trip before the All-Star break.

"People don't feel sorry for you because you've got injuries," forward Chandler Hutchison said. "Whether you've got your full team or half a team, at the end of the day, if you win a game, you win a game; you lose a game, you lose a game.

"It doesn't say an asterisk: 'Oh, we had seven healthy guys, blah, blah, blah.' You've got to compete and make do with what you've got and that's what we're going to do."

'I had to fight for every inch I got in the game'

Curry uses 'Underrated Tour' so no players go overlooked

By Javonte Anderson

There he was, the son of a former NBA player with elite hand-eye coordination, good ball-handling skills and a wicked jump shot.

But that wasn't good enough. Stephen Curry was too small, too frail to handle the physicality of big-time college basketball — at least that's what they said.

The naysayers and major college programs that overlooked Curry only fueled him to become a two-time NBA MVP and three-time NBA champion after a legendary career at Davidson.

"I didn't get the benefit of the doubt when it came to recruiting and had to fight for every inch I got in the game," Curry said.

And that underdog mentality Curry has carried with him throughout his illustrious NBA career prompted him to launch a basketball tour for underrated high school basketball players hoping to make it to the next level.

This year, Curry is bringing his national basketball tour, titled "Underrated Tour Powered by Rakuten," to Chicago. The tour will make its first stop in Chicago on Feb. 22 and Feb. 23, before stopping in Dallas, Washington D.C. and Los Angeles in March. Curry also partnered with United Airlines to fly out the top 16 athletes from each stop—eight boys and eight girls—and their parents for the tour's championship stop in the Bay Area.



JAE C. HONG

Golden State Warriors All-Star Stephen Curry, center, waves toward the fans as he arrives to coach at a high school basketball camp in Tokyo.

All tour stops are free and open to both girls and boys. Registration for the Chicago tour date closes on Feb. 10.

For Curry, who was a three-star recruit, this basketball camp and platform for young players is personal. While working with some of the country's highly-rated basketball prospects at his SC30 Select Camp, Curry realized the high-school version of himself wouldn't have been invited to his own camp.

"A couple of years ago it kind of just hit me ... I wouldn't have been one of those campers invited to my own camp," Curry said. So, Curry began working on creating a camp that was accessible to all young basketball players and would give exposure to the lower-ranked athletes.

Not only can the attending athletes expect "first-class" treatment, but they will also get to work with Curry's trainer.

"A lot of the drills that we do and just the format of what you do on the court are based on how I learned the game and the things I work on," Curry said. "So, from a basketball IQ and skill-set perspective, we have the program that kids can take seriously and take home with them too so that it lasts even beyond the camp."

BLACKHAWKS

Hawks face a 'crucial' road week

By Phil Thompson

The Blackhawks are three points out of the final Western Conference wild-card spot with 28 games remaining in the season.

Starting on Sunday in Winnipeg, Manitoba, the Hawks embark on a five-game, eight-day road stretch — all against playoff contenders — including bookend matchups against the Jets the next two Sundays.

Here are some key numbers entering a pivotal point in their season.

2

■ Points by which the Hawks trail the Flames, whom they face Saturday.
■ Games the Hawks have won this season against the Jets, along with an overtime loss, in three meetings.
■ Games on Saturday — Predators at Oilers and Flames at Canucks — that down the road could affect the playoff picture in the West.

"Every game's important, but when you play teams in your division, it's big. Winnipeg's good," forward Alex DeBrincat said after practice Saturday at Fifth Third Arena. "We can get a four-point swing if we can beat them hopefully twice. ...

"Right now we're focused on Winnipeg and going in there (Sunday) and hopefully stealing two points."

Best of 5?

Hawks coach Jeremy Colliton likened the Hawks' upcoming schedule to a playoff series.

"It's just odd to play a team (twice on the road in a week)," he said. "Sometimes in the American League you play teams in back-to-back games but to play there and then leave and then come right back, it's kind of different.

"But it's kind of like a playoff-series situation. All of these teams we're playing against we're battling with, so you can treat it like a playoff series, and we've got to win more than them."

24

As in Feb. 24, the trade deadline.

How the Hawks fare over the next week could determine whether they'll be buyers or sellers.

If they remain in contention, they'll likely at least stand pat. But if they lose too much ground, they could look to shed salaries.

Obviously, a lot is riding on this trip. Colliton hopes the Hawks "have good performances so we get the points we need to stay in the race and hopefully raise our nose above the crowd."

11

Road games this month (nine remaining) — and home games in March. Traditionally a solid showing on the road sets things up for a strong finish (mostly) at home, though the Hawks have fared better in away games (13-9-4) than at the United Center (12-12-4).

"It's a lot of time on the road, but this is a pretty crucial time for us," DeBrincat said. "If we can do well on the road and then be able to come back home and do well at home, we're going to be right in that mix of the playoffs and hopefully set ourselves up."

5-11

Height of rookie defenseman Adam Boqvist, who practiced Saturday after missing Friday's session with a right shoulder injury.

"It's good to be back in practice," Boqvist said. "It's not as bad as I thought it was."

For Boqvist, who weighs 179 pounds, his size can be a blessing and a curse against bigger bodies.

On one hand, he's able to use his speed on defense.

"You can just see what a great skater he is," Colliton said. "He's able to close out. He and Kirby (Dach) had a race, and he just took away Kirby's space. He's not the biggest guy, I understand, but his skating, it allows him to be really effective at defending."

On the other hand, he has to take greater measures to protect himself.

Boqvist, 19, left Wednesday's game after taking a blindside shot into the boards by the Bruins' David Krejci in the second period of a 2-1 overtime loss. He played only 8 minutes, 48 seconds.

"I was in a bad spot there," Boqvist said. "You always have to be aware he's behind you or stuff like that.

"You never know how it's going to go, but I have to be more ready for that type of hit. But it wasn't the head or anything like that."

Boqvist hurt the same shoulder at the NHL Prospect Tournament in September in Traverse City, Mich. — four Hawks prospects were injured in one game — and in a Dec. 23 game in which he exited in the first period.

Still, he might play Sunday.

"We'll see," Colliton said. "He looked pretty good today, but I want to make sure he's ready."

UP NEXT
Blackhawks at Jets
6 p.m. Sunday, NBCSCH+

CUBS

Not a 2nd too soon

Hoerner eyes infield opening while also focusing on development

By Mark Gonzales

MESA, Ariz. — After missing a full year of college to devote his full-time attention to a professional baseball career, Nico Hoerner realized he was too close to earning his bachelor's degree not to fulfill his requirements.

"It's something that was kind of hanging over my head, and I didn't know when I was going to get to do," said Hoerner, 22, who returned to Stanford in the fall to earn his American Studies degree. "It was a lot easier to get it done when there were still people I know.

"If you're the 28-year-old in the classroom, it's not as fun. I can still connect a little bit."

Hoerner doesn't feel rushed in his effort to earn the Cubs' second-base job, realizing that his promotion to the majors in September was accelerated because of injuries to Javier Baez and Addison Russell and that he hasn't played a full pro season because of injuries.

"I think my perspective as a player is more long term in development," Hoerner said Saturday near the end of a voluntary workout at the Cubs' spring training complex. "I want to be on the opening-day roster and be that guy, but I don't think it helps me that much as a player to make that short-term goal because there are so many factors outside of what I can control. So I'll keep that development (theme) and I think I'll give myself a good chance that way."

With the Cubs desperately trying to remain in contention for a playoff berth, Hoerner was promoted to the majors for the first time Sept. 9 — one week after his season with Double-A Tennessee ended.

Despite no seasoning in Triple A, Hoerner played near-flawless baseball during a 20-game stretch, hitting .282 while striking out in only 13.4% of his 82 plate appearances and committing two errors in 71 chances at shortstop.

The Cubs, however, are careful not to guarantee the second-base job to Hoerner with a healthy Baez returning to shortstop.

They're trying to load up on left-handed-hitting second-base candidates, recently contacting former Indians All-Star Jason Kipnis two months after signing Carlos Asuaje and having Daniel Descalso under contract at $2.5 million.

David Bote and Hernan Perez also are in the mix.

"I try to stay away from all that stuff," Hoerner said of the Cubs' pursuit of upgrades. "They're going to do what they feel gives them the best chance to help the team win, and I'm going to do the same, and hopefully they'll line up."

Besides, Hoerner knows he has room for improvement. After signing a $2.724 million bonus, he played in only 14 games in 2018 because of a ligament strain in his left elbow after diving for a grounder with Class-A South Bend.

After an impressive 2019 spring training as a non-roster invitee that carried over to a .300 start with Tennessee, Hoerner missed two months because of a hairline fracture of his left wrist suffered in April.

Hoerner appears stronger than his listed 5-foot-11, 200-pound frame, but he said he devoted much more to his offseason training thanks to his three-week stint in the majors.

"It's nice to have an offseason where the stuff I was working on is based on what I experienced and not just what I think the major leagues are like." Hoerner said. "I know it's a small sample size. I definitely had a good sense of things that I did well and things that I can really work on, and that's a good place to start."

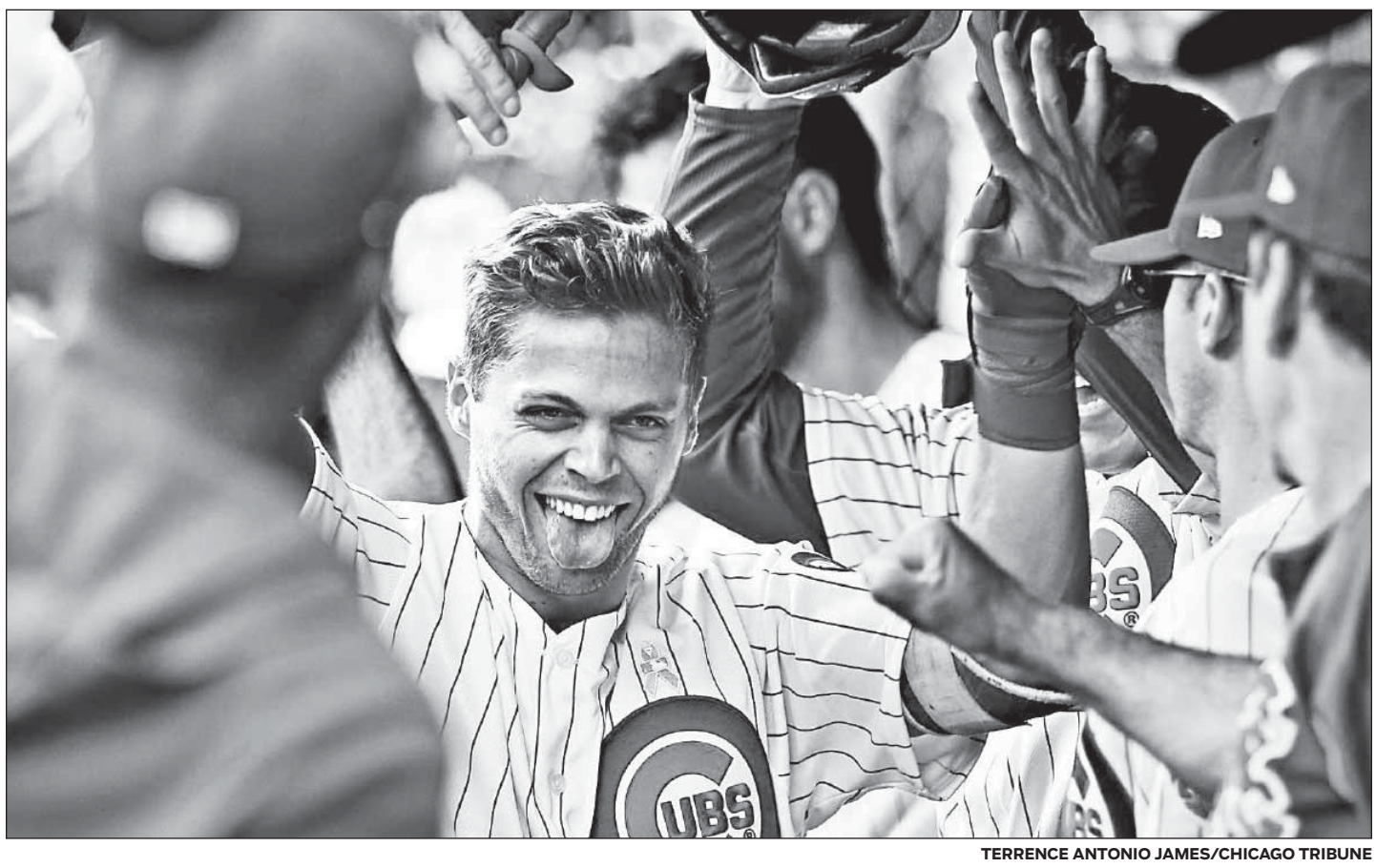
The added muscle shouldn't suggest that improving his power numbers was his point of emphasis this winter.

"From life off the field to preparation before the game, the at-bats themselves," said Hoerner, who trained at Stanford with several of his former teammates. "Just a general approach to the whole thing, because it is different (than college or the minor leagues).

"I feel stronger. Most guys feel like doing that. I feel like I'm in a good spot to start the year."

Hoerner said he arrived nearly two weeks ahead of the first full-squad workout to get into a routine and get acclimated to the major-league staff.

"(I've) got to get everything going before the madness starts," Hoerner said.



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cubs shortstop Nico Hoerner is congratulated after hitting a home run against the Pirates on Sept. 13 at Wrigley Field.

ANGEL ECHEVARRIA 1971-2020

Former Cub outfielder dies

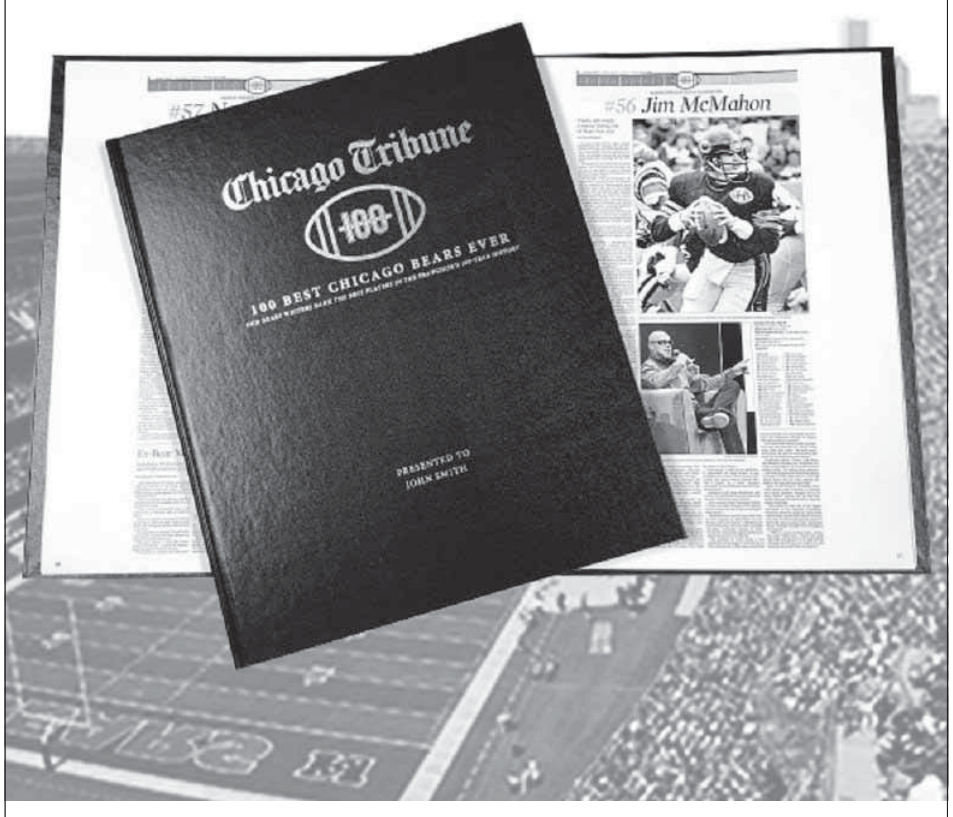
By Mark Gonzales

Former Cubs outfielder-first baseman Angel Echevarria died Friday night at 48.

Rutgers, where he set a career home run record that has since been broken, announced his death Saturday but didn't provide further details.

Echevarria, who played the last of his seven major-league seasons with the Cubs in 2002, died at Bridgeport Hospital in Connecticut, according to the Connecticut Post. Echevarria felt ill for about a week and hit his head during a fall, his girlfriend, Jazmine Cox, told the Post.

Echevarria, a native of Bridgeport, Conn., who was a Rockies 17th-round draft pick in 1992 out of Rutgers, hit .306 in 50 games for the Cubs. He had a .280 career average in 328 games with the Rockies (1996-2000), Brewers (2000-01) and Cubs.



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Sullivan

Continued from ***Page 1***

They're two different personalities who share the same goals and a similar message of unbridled optimism, trying to manage their teams in an environment of changed expectations.

For Renteria, it's a win-or-else season with a Sox team ready to contend and a fan base tired of waiting for the turnaround. If it doesn't happen now, many fingers will be pointed in his direction.

"That's my goal right now," Renteria said. "Not to miss this opportunity."

For Ross, it's a wait-and-see season with the usual challenges faced by first-year managers with no experience, along with the unusual challenge of managing some of his former teammates. But with gloom-and-doom predictions from both the analytical experts and the old-fashioned dinosaurs, his first task may be to persuade Cubs fans to be as excited as him.

"It's new," Ross said. "New is always exciting to me. New adventures ... I can't wait to get started. There's a lot of (negative) talk that goes around. I don't feel like in general we've had that nice (offseason) excitement. I'm excited as heck. I hope the fans are. We've got a chance to put another banner up there in 2020."

If you can get past the fixed smiles on the faces of Ross and Renteria, you may notice each has a basketball-sized chip on his shoulder.

As much as Sox honchos have insisted Renteria is the right man for the rebuild, he never has been given a team this talented, so it's impossible to know exactly how good a manager he is. Renteria's strength has been building relationships with his players, who swear by him and insist he won't change, even if the pressure to win has been turned up a notch or 10.

"He'll be the same," left fielder Eloy Jimenez said. "He was always pushing us to get a spot in the playoffs. Last year he pushed us, but at the end we struggled a little bit. This year we'll be better with a better lineup and more starting pitching."

The additions of free agents Yasmani Grandal and Dallas Keuchel have Sox fans thinking big for the first time in years. And the players are talking big as well.

"The door is wide open for us," shortstop Tim Anderson said. "All we've got to do is show up and go out and take it. We have the right guys to do it and the right guy in charge to lead us."

That guy is Renteria, who said he's "not afraid of talking about high expectations and winning," though he won't go overboard and make any predictions or guarantees.

"I know most people, they don't talk about it because you think you're putting your own head in a noose," he said.

Renteria's head won't be in a noose if the Sox don't make the playoffs in 2020. General manager Rick Hahn is unlikely to pull the plug, barring another season of 90-plus losses. But Renteria's moves will be more scrutinized, particularly with the bullpen, if the Sox are in contention.

"It'll be up to everybody to decide whether we did the job we were supposed to do as coaches and managers," he said. "I can't worry about that. Never have, never will."

Ross, meanwhile, should receive a honeymoon with Cubs fans in his first year running the dugout. He was the odds-on favorite to replace Maddon because of his close relationship with Cubs President Theo Epstein, so it was no surprise he got the job over the more experienced Joe Girardi, who wound up with the Phillies.

But replacing the popular Maddon won't be easy, especially if the Cubs get off to a poor start. Honeymoons don't tend to last long in Chicago.

Either way, Epstein believed the time was right for a change.

"If it wasn't right now, I think it'd be in a couple years no matter what," first baseman Anthony Rizzo said of the Cubs hiring Ross. "His knowledge of the game, his leadership skill set, the way he can talk to guys and communicate as a player ... even when he (stopped) playing, I'd talk to him every couple weeks just to run stuff through him. He's been managing games a long time being a backup catcher."

It may feel a bit strange at first to have an old buddy become your boss. But left fielder Kyle Schwarber said the players won't treat Ross any differently and don't expect him to go easy on them.

"I don't think it's going to be weird because there's a level of respect that he was given in that clubhouse when he was here," Schwarber said. "Obviously he's going to be our boss and he's going to be making the decisions. We're going to back him. He's going to back us. He's going to get the ultimate level of respect."

Ross already is dealing with the awkwardness head on, letting Rizzo know at a recent dinner who the boss is.

"I asked him a lot of fun questions," Ross said. "It's nice to hold it over his head that I'm dictating his work and what he has to do. I still like to have fun with them. I think I'll walk that line really well between being their friend and being their boss."

The time for talking isn't over. We'll have six more weeks of rosy outlooks from the two managers before the Sox and Cubs begin their seasons March 26. Then it gets real.

And that's when Renteria and Ross will have to prove to fans they were the right guys at the right time.

WHITE SOX & CUBS

First questions

White Sox pitchers and catchers report in **4 days**

Sox waiting to see how offseason additions jell with returning players

By LaMond Pope

The progress of White Sox pitching prospect Michael Kopech will be closely monitored this spring.

Kopech, the No. 20 prospect in baseball, according to MLB Pipeline, missed all of 2019 while recovering from Tommy John elbow surgery. The right-hander recently said he feels great.

Kopech's comeback is one of the spring training stories of note for the Sox. Another is the competition at second base featuring Leury Garcia, Danny Mendick and prospect Nick Madrigal.

Pitchers and catchers report Wednesday. Position players arrive for the first full-team workout Feb. 17. Here are five more spring questions for the Sox.

1. How quickly will the new additions make an impact?

The Sox had a busy offseason, signing two starting pitchers (Dallas Keuchel and Gio Gonzalez), a reliever (Steve Cishek), a designated hitter (Edwin Encarnacion) and the top catcher on the free-agent market (Yasmani Grandal). They also traded for right fielder Nomar Mazara, re-signed first baseman Jose Abreu and came to terms on a six-year deal with rookie center fielder Luis Robert.

Abreu has made an impact at the plate and in the clubhouse during his first six seasons with the Sox. How will some of the new additions influence the team?

"Yasmani's been in the postseason each of the last five years, Keuchel four of the last five years and Edwin each of the last five years," general manager Rick Hahn said Jan. 9, the day the team announced Encarnacion's signing.

2. What's the next step for starting pitchers Reynaldo Lopez and Dylan Cease?

In 2018, Lucas Giolito's 6.13 ERA ranked last in the majors among qualifying pitchers. In 2019, he emerged as one of the top pitchers in the American League, making the All-Star team and finishing tied for sixth in Cy Young Award voting.

While it would be tough for anyone to duplicate that leap, it will be interesting to watch the strides starters Reynaldo Lopez and Dylan Cease make in 2020.

After a solid 2018, Lopez had an inconsistent 2019, going 10-15 with a 5.38 ERA. He said he would work during the offseason on maintaining focus throughout his starts.

"Sometimes these guys don't climb progressively with each and every start or each and every month," Hahn said Sept. 27 at his end-of-season news conference. "There's setbacks and there needs to be adjustments, not just from the mechanical side — which is probably what plagued (Lopez) more than anything in the first half (of 2019) — but sometimes from the approach and preparation side."

Cease went 4-7 with a 5.79 ERA in 14 starts after joining the team from Triple-A Charlotte on July 3. He was 2-4 with a 6.97 ERA in six August starts but showed improvement down the stretch with a 1-0 record and 3.00 ERA in four starts in September.

3. How will Zack Collins fit in at the crowded catcher spot?

The Sox have two All-Star catchers in Yasmani Grandal and James McCann. How manager Rick Renteria uses McCann will be one of the big storylines of the upcoming season.

As the Sox debate what to do with the 26th roster spot, keep Zack Collins in mind. The 10th pick in the 2016 draft had a brief stint with the Sox filling in for injured Welington Castillo and returned as a September call-up. Overall, Collins hit .186 in 86 at-bats, with two of his three home runs coming in September.

Collins could serve as the third catcher and also factor in as a backup designated hitter and pinch hitter.

4. Will reliever Kelvin Herrera return to All-Star form?

Closer Alex Colome and relievers Aaron Bummer and Evan Marshall combined to give the Sox a strong back end of the bullpen in 2019. Jimmy Cordero was a nice find after joining the team in July.

The Sox added another reliable reliever this offseason in Steve Cishek. There's another potentially capable arm if Kelvin Herrera bounces back.

The right-hander missed the end of the 2018 season with the Nationals because of a Lisfranc fracture in his left foot, and it had a lingering effect as he prepared for 2019. Herrera had a 6.14 ERA in 57 appearances with the Sox last season.

Herrera was an All-Star in 2015 and '16 with the Royals. If he returns close to that form, it would give the Sox yet another valuable late-inning option.

5. Which non-roster invitees will make a statement?

Sixteen of the team's 27 non-roster invitees are pitchers.

There are some familiar names in Ryan Burr, Ross Detwiler and Caleb Frare. Each spent time with the Sox in 2019.

The 11 non-roster position-player invitees are headlined by first baseman Andrew Vaughn (the No. 16 prospect in baseball) and second baseman Nick Madrigal (the No. 40 prospect).



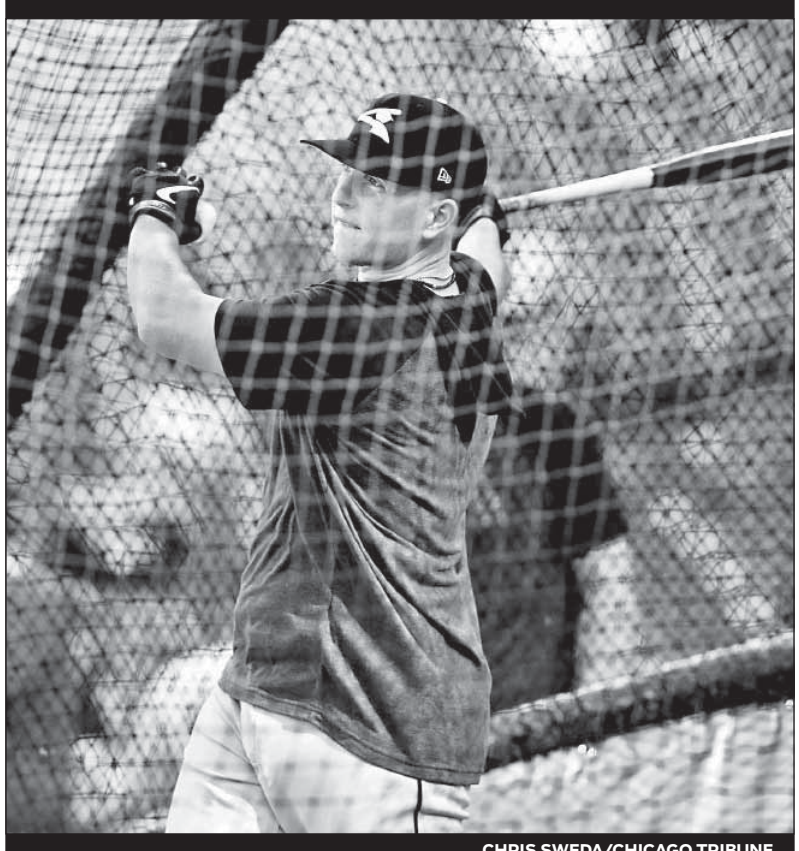
CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Pitcher Dallas Keuchel was one of the Sox's big offseason acquisitions.



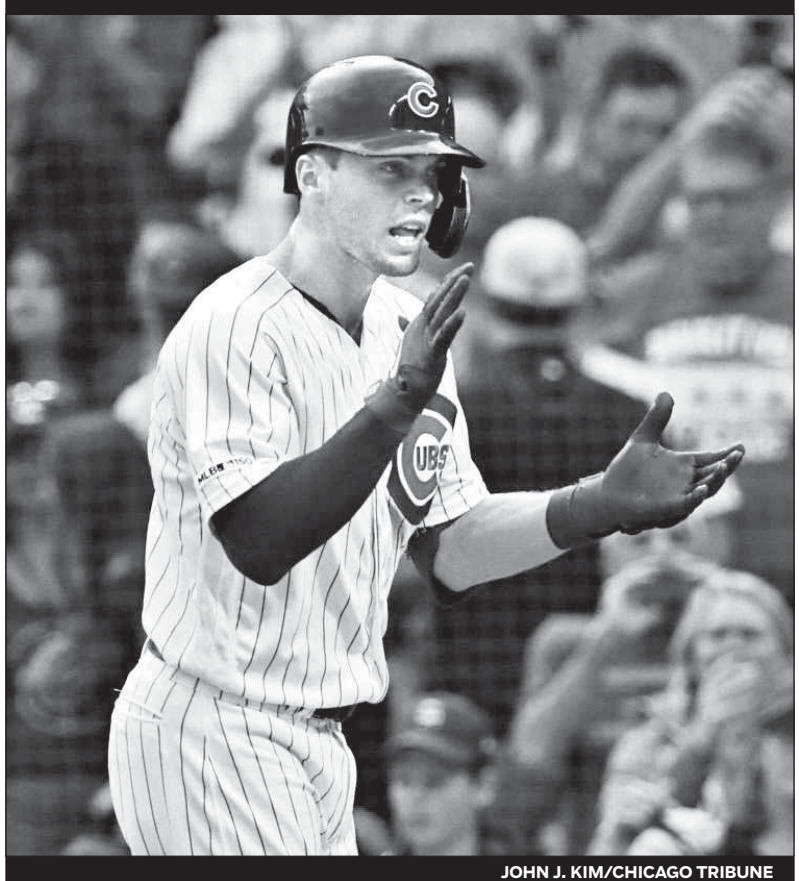
BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

There are plenty of questions about Kris Bryant's future with the Cubs.



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Zack Collins is part of a crowded situation at catcher for the Sox.



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Nico Hoerner could plug holes at second base and at leadoff for the Cubs.

Cubs pitchers and catchers report in **4 days**

There's a large question mark on the depth chart at 3rd base for the Cubs

By Mark Gonzales

New manager, same third baseman — for now.

The Cubs open spring training for pitchers and catchers Wednesday with David Ross looking to place his stamp on the roster. It's unclear whether Ross will be able to pencil in Kris Bryant as his opening-day third baseman or if the Cubs will trade the 2016 National League MVP.

Here are five spring questions for the Cubs.

1. Can the Cubs focus with Kris Bryant trade rumors swirling?

After missing the playoffs for the first time since 2014, the Cubs made sweeping changes on the coaching staff and in their hitting and pitching departments.

While the Kris Bryant questions will persist, David Ross and Co. must focus on a turnaround as players seek to rebound from inconsistent seasons and newcomers look to make a favorable impression.

If Bryant is dealt, his replacement at third base likely would come from outside the organization. David Bote, Ian Happ and Daniel Descalso could work there this spring, but none should be viewed as the long-term solution.

2. How different will spring training look under David Ross?

Bench coach Andy Green, bullpen coach Chris Young, first base/catching coach Craig Driver and quality assurance coach Mike Napoli are among the coaching newcomers, and Kyle Evans will be more visible as senior director of major-league data and development.

David Ross gave the keys to Green to organize spring training, and the structure will be different after five seasons under Joe Maddon.

President Theo Epstein emphasized the need for more teaching at the major-league level in his end-of-the-season news conference Sept. 30, and players should expect more face-to-face instruction than in recent years.

This cannot be overlooked, especially two years after Cubs players quickly tuned out hitting coach Chili Davis. Davis went on to help Peter Alonso and Jeff McNeil prosper last season with the Mets.

3. Who will play second base?

Here are a few reasons the Cubs have several candidates to play second base this spring: Their second basemen were last in the National League in 2019 with a .220 batting average, and they ranked 14th with a .301 on-base percentage.

An ideal scenario for the Cubs would feature rookie Nico Hoerner sharing playing time with a veteran left-handed hitter. But Hoerner, 22, must play at least half the time to continue his development after batting .282 in a 20-game stint with the Cubs despite not having played a game at Triple-A Iowa.

Bote played well at second and raised his batting average from 2018 by 19 points to .257 and his on-base percentage by 43 points to .362.

After an impressive start, switch hitter Robel Garcia struck out 43 times in his final 87 at-bats.

Daniel Descalso had the worst season of his career — hitting .173 in 82 games — but refused to blame it on an ankle injury. The Cubs are pursuing other veteran left-handed hitters, including Scooter Gennett and Jason Kipnis, according to reports, and they added Hernan Perez.

4. What's the answer for the leadoff spot?

Executive Matt Dorey drew attention at the Cubs Convention when he said he can envision Nico Hoerner as a potential leadoff hitter in the future.

Trying Hoerner sooner than later doesn't seem so outrageous considering Cubs leadoff batters were last in the majors last year with a .294 on-base percentage and .212 batting average.

The biggest challenge may be to use multiple candidates without exposing them to failure over an extended period. Kyle Schwarber posted a .304 on-base percentage in 56 games in the leadoff spot last year, and Jason Heyward produced a .252 mark in 32 games.

A retooled swing could help Albert Almora Jr. get more at-bats against left-handers. Almora batted .342 against lefties in 2017 but dipped to .213 last season and started only 22 games in the second half.

5. How will the bullpen shake out?

Quality bullpen depth is essential in 2020 because of a couple of rules changes. The minimum injured list stint for pitchers is now 15 days. And relievers must face a minimum of three batters unless they complete an inning, so versatility is key.

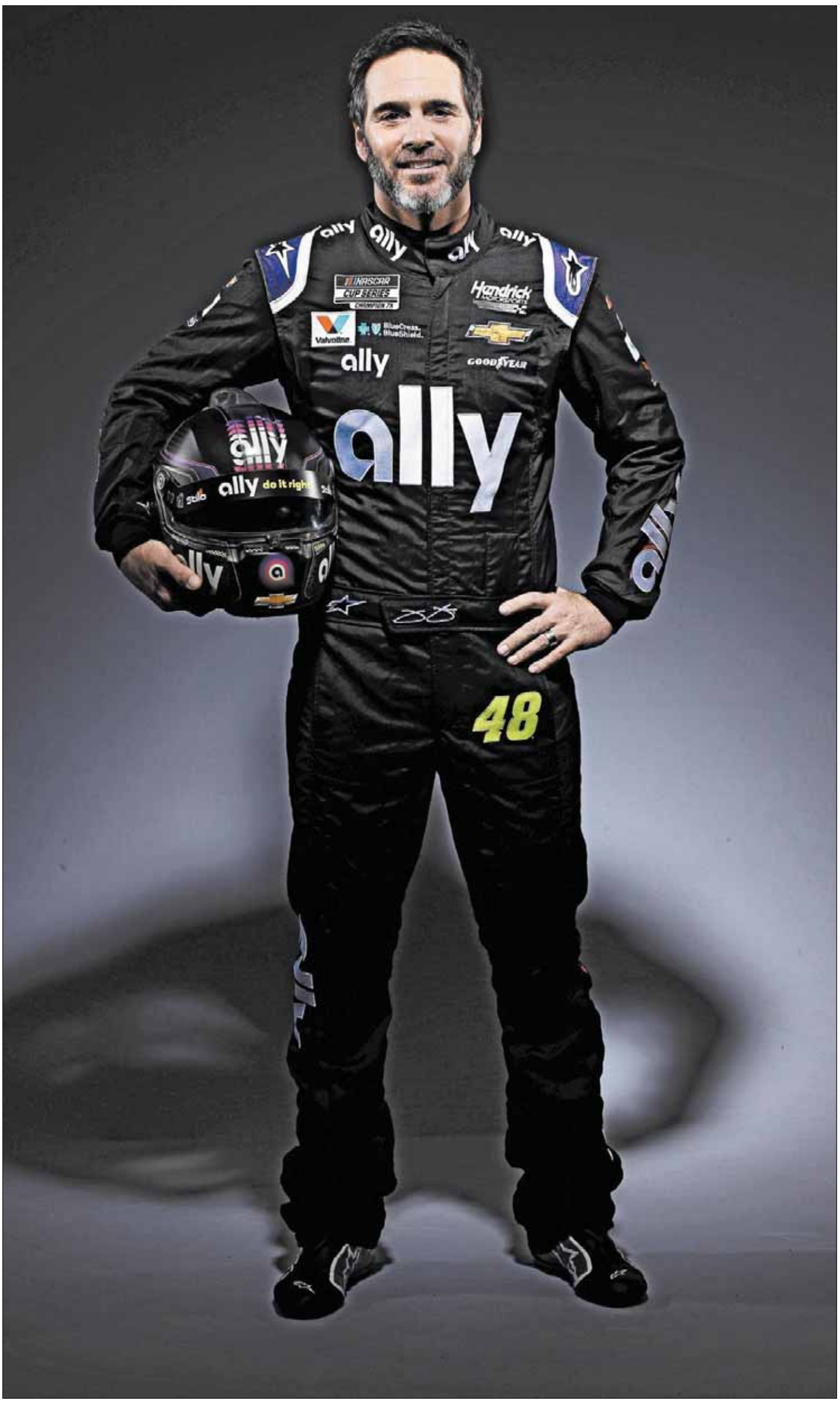
The Cubs expect newcomer Jeremy Jeffress, a 2018 All-Star, to rebound from his disastrous 2019 season with the Brewers and claim the duties once held by Pedro Strop and Steve Cishek.

Rowan Wick could settle into setup duty if he continues his impressive rise. Newcomers Dan Winkler, Ryan Tepera and Jharel Cotton each has minor-league options and provides flexibility.

The Cubs need a fifth starter; Tyler Chatwood is the leading candidate for now.

The bullpen's early failures in 2019 put plenty of stress on a team now looking to retool and win — a great challenge in an incredibly competitive NL Central.

NASCAR



Chase comes to an end

Heading into his final season, Johnson's #Chasing8 hashtag gets retired first

By Jenna Fryer
Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Jimmie Johnson has been chasing NASCAR history for so long that his relentless pursuit of rewriting the record books has become part of his legacy.

Johnson, tied with Richard Petty and Dale Earnhardt with seven Cup Series titles, has been racing for sole possession of the record since 2017. He made a hashtag for his social media posts — #Chasing8 — and his push to make history has never wavered.

As he heads into his 19th and final full season in stock car racing, Johnson has dropped the motto. He'd love to close his full-time career with a record eighth title, but the 44-year-old Californian said he would rather remove self-inflicted pressure and enjoy his final season in the No. 48 Chevrolet.

His new motto will be 'One Final Time' and it began Saturday with practice at Daytona International Speedway. The season-opening Daytona 500, a race Johnson has won twice, is next Sunday.

"Through reflecting back since I made the (November retirement) announcement it just kind of dawned on me — the more I thought about it, I never chased anything," Johnson said. "One final time just felt like the correct thing to say and now we've struck the chasing eight from everything and one final time just fits well."

It's been a bumpy ride for Johnson since winning his seventh title. Hendrick Motorsports stalwarts Jeff Gordon and Dale Earnhardt Jr. retired, leaving Johnson as the veteran on a team of 20-somethings. Chevrolet was not competitive with the Camaro it rolled out two years ago, a setback for Johnson and an organization in a rebuild.



CHRIS GRAYTHEN/GETTY PHOTOS

A patch shows Jimmie Johnson as a seven-time NASCAR Cup Series champion heading into his 19th and final season.

The slide was gradual — Johnson won three races in 2017 — but now the winningest driver of his era is in a full slump. He has gone two full seasons without a win, missed the playoffs last year for the first time and had a pair of crew chief changes.

"It was definitely frustrating (not making the playoffs), I was angry, embarrassed, all of those things," Johnson said. "One thing that helped me with all of it is it didn't happen at once. I knew in my heart of hearts, it was months prior to that where the real opportunity lied and where we missed it."

Team owner Rick Hendrick hired Chad Knaus in 2001 when he launched the 48 team to be built around Johnson, and the driver and crew chief were together for all seven championships and 17 seasons. Then Hendrick made a change before last year, moving Knaus to William Byron's team; his replacement didn't work out and Johnson was given Cliff Daniels midseason.

Daniels has helped Johnson relax and believes the team is headed in the right direction. In fact, pairing Johnson with Daniels was the catalyst in Johnson deciding to make 2020 his final year. He knew all of last year he'd need to make a decision on contract talks with Hendrick and it weighed on Johnson until Daniels arrived and changed the mindset of a struggling driver.

"I was angry, embarrassed, all of those things."

— Jimmie Johnson, above, on missing the playoffs last year

"I was thinking about it pretty hard through the course of the year knowing I was going to have to talk to Rick about a contract extension. I started feeling less likely to come back when I started working with Cliff," Johnson said. "When I sat Cliff down to talk to him, I wasn't sure how he was going to react to that.

"But the peace he brought me and the leadership he has for our race team and where I know our team is going really helped me identify with 2020 as probably my best chance to win a championship."

Johnson said he is encouraged by an updated Camaro that Chevrolet will use, as well as a second year adapting to NASCAR's new rules package.

NASCAR next year will move to entirely new car, and Johnson indicated he was leery of going through another overhaul. He wants to enjoy life with his two daughters, pick and choose the kinds of races he competes in going forward, and he remains adamant he'd like to give IndyCar a try on a road or street course.

"In my own head, I'm not done yet, and I don't want to get to a point where I'm pissed off going to the track and don't want to be there," Johnson said. "I want to give 100% and through reflection, I know I can do that in 2020, knowing what I can give and what level I want to give it. It just feels right."

GOLF

Mickelson's short game pays off big

Lefty's play around greens leaves him 1 back at Pebble

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Phil Mickelson and his sublime short game delivered more entertainment than all the athletes and celebrities for the Saturday show at the Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

Mickelson made the impossible look easy from a bunker behind the par-3 seventh green at Pebble Beach. He holed out from a bunker for birdie on the 13th, and chipped in from 90 feet for birdie on the next hole.

When he rapped in one last birdie, Mickelson had a 5-under 67 and trailed Nick Taylor of Canada by one shot going into the final round. Mickelson will be going for a record sixth title at Pebble Beach, and his first PGA Tour victory since he won this tournament last year.

Taylor had a cold and relatively quiet day, away from all the hits and giggles around the celebrity rotation at Pebble. He teed off at tough Spyglass Hill with a beanie and hand warmers because of heavy marine layer, warmed up as the sun broke through and made a 25-foot eagle putt late in his round for a 69.

Taylor was at 17-under 198 as he goes for his second PGA Tour victory, and first since he won the Sanderson Farms Championship in his fourth start as a tour rookie.

Mickelson hit a flop shot over the bunker on the par-5 18th — how did that one not go in? — to pull within one shot. They will be in the final group, along with their amateur partners. Mickelson has former 49ers quarterback Steve Young, while Taylor has Golf Digest editor-in-chief Jerry Tarde.

Taylor and Mickelson have never played together.

"It's going to be a new experience for that reason, if I am playing with him," Taylor said. "Obviously, if he makes a putt or great shot, the crowd's going to go wild. I've just got to do my own thing, try to block all that out. Easier said than done, without having to do it before, but I'll do the best I can."

This is a two-man show; however, Aussie Jason Day posted a 70 at Spyglass Hill and was only three shots behind at 14-under 201.

For others, it was a waste opportunity.

Pebble Beach had more wind than earlier in the week, but still gentle enough that low scores were available. Dustin Johnson, a two-time winner at Pebble, was in striking range and could manage only a 72, leaving him eight shots back. Patrick Cantlay, at No. 8 in the world, played the final six holes in 2 over for a 72 and was nine shots back.

Mickelson started with a pair of birdies. He took a share of the lead with a birdie on the par-5 sixth.

And then the fun began.

His wedge on the 110-yard seventh hole that drops down into the Pacific went long and plugged in the back bunker, impossible because of the back pin and a fast green that slopes toward the front. He splashed out so perfectly that it took a few hops in the rough before reaching the green, slow enough to stop 2 feet away for a tap-in par.

Even for Mickelson, it rates among his best.

Then, his 50-foot bunker shot on the tough eighth rolled inches from the cup on No. 8. More trouble supposedly awaited on the 13th when his approach peeled into the left bunker. He raised both arms when that dropped. And on the par-5 14th, he made a mistake by not hitting his punch wedge hard enough. It rolled down the slope, off the green and back into the fairway. Mickelson's long chip from 90 feet banged into the pin and dropped for birdie.

Mickelson missed two birdie putts from inside 10 feet. And while he hit only nine greens in regulation, he usually had a reasonable angle to the pin to save par — or make birdie, as was the case twice for him.

That leaves a Sunday with plenty at stake for the leading three players.

Mickelson said earlier in the week he would not accept a special exemption for the U.S. Open if he needed one. A victory at Pebble — the 45th of his career — would go a long way toward solving that.

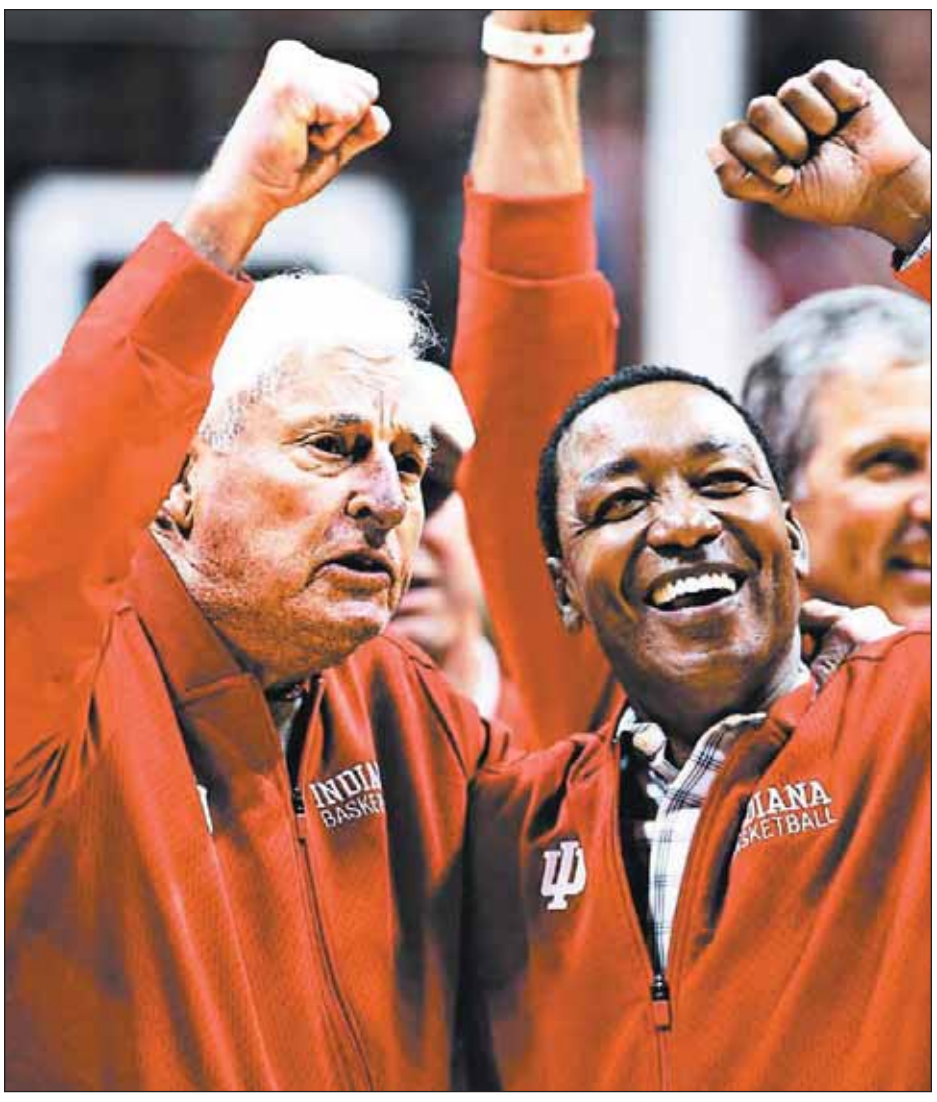
Day is a former No. 1 who spent most of last year injured and frustrated. He has gone nearly two years since his last win.



ERIC RISBERG/AP

Phil Mickelson, left, bumps fists with ex-49ers QB Steve Young on Saturday.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL



JUSTIN CASTERLINE/GETTY PHOTOS

Former Indiana coach Bob Knight and former player Isaiah Thomas acknowledge the Assembly Hall crowd at halftime oon Saturday in Bloomington, Ind.

The return to Bobby's world

Knight back at Indiana bball for 1st time since his 2000 firing

By Michael Marot
Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON Ind. — Bob Knight's short stroll from the practice gym to Assembly Hall ended a 20-year journey home.

It seemed as if he never left.

When the former Indiana Hoosiers coach walked through the tunnel Saturday and onto his old court for the first time since his firing in September 2000, the crowd went wild — chanting his name, roaring with approval, thanking him for all the success and banners he brought to Bloomington.

"It was one of the greatest and most emotional things for me," said former player Randy Wittman, who had a key role in the reunion. "I don't know if we'll see something like this again in college basketball. When he moved back here, I told him you're back here because this is where you belong."

The sellout crowd and dozens of former players lauded Knight after watching a video detailing Knight's contributions.

He walked in with his son, Pat. He hugged Isiah Thomas. He was assisted into the arena by Quinn Buckner. And Knight, 79, reveled in the moment, pumping his fist, pretending to direct Scott May in a practice drill and even leading fans in a chorus of "de-fense, de-fense."

No, he didn't wear his trademark red sweater or throw a chair. But he did appear to get a little misty-eyed as the fans cheered.

"We love you, Bobby," one shouted.

Knight did not speak to the crowd over the public address system. He didn't need to.

Everyone in attendance understood what the combustible coach had on his 29-season resume: A school record 662 victories, 11 Big Ten championships, five Final Four appearances and, yes, three national titles.

They knew some of the stories, too — the Olympic gold medal he won in 1984 with Michael Jordan after cutting Charles Barkley; the infamous chair-throwing incident in 1985; and the firing that took place Sept. 10, 2000, causing the rift between Knight and the university.

University officials put Knight on a zero-tolerance policy earlier that year following an investigation into whether he had choked a former player, the late Neil Reed, during a practice. Then, in September, a student accused Knight of grabbing him in a hallway.



An Indiana basketball fan holds up a sign welcoming former coach Bob Knight before the game against Purdue on Saturday.

Knight responded by calling his own news conference, bringing witnesses to help explain his version. Two days later, the late Myles Brand announced Knight's firing.

That was his last public appearance in the building — until Saturday.

Despite the tireless efforts of university officials, led by athletic director Fred Glass, Knight refused every chance to come back.

He skipped championship team reunions and even declined to attend his own induction into the school's athletic Hall of Fame in 2009 because he said he didn't want his presence to detract from other class members.

The thaw began in earnest last spring when he made a surprise appearance at an Indiana baseball game. In July, he bought a house three miles from the basketball arena.

"I visited Coach in Montana and Texas," former player Mike Woodson said. "This is home. I've spent the last month back here in Bloomington with him and had dinners a few times with him and we were happy as hell he wanted to come back."

Knight hadn't exactly been invisible around Bloomington after the firing.

He took the Texas Tech job, and then retired in 2008 with a then-record 902 career wins. He worked on ESPN as a color analyst. He gave speeches, attended fundraisers, signed autographs and attended basketball games and practices around Indiana.

He just didn't associate himself with the Hoosiers.

ILLINOIS TAKEAWAYS

Zone defenses giving the Illini offense fits

By Shannon Ryan

CHAMPAIGN — The scene was set for a special night.

A throng of fans lined up in freezing temperatures more than two hours before doors opened at the State Farm Center. Illinois students, almost all wearing script Illini throwback jerseys to match the team, jumped to bass-heavy songs blasting through the arena's speakers.

The No. 20 Illini hosted No. 9 Maryland with first place in the Big Ten on the line Friday. It was Illinois' first game hosting a ranked opponent as a ranked team since 2013.

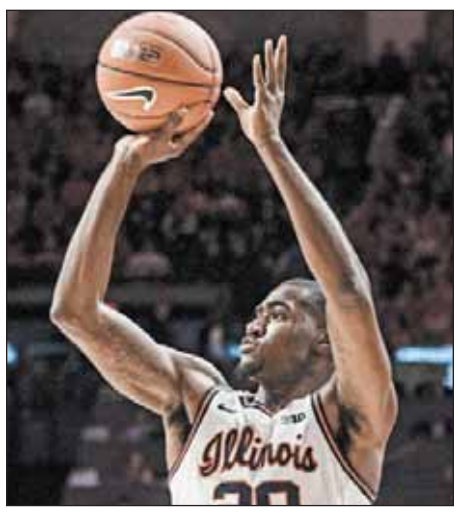
The Illini jumped to an early 14-point lead behind unlikely 3-pointers from Da'Monte Williams and Giorgi Bezhanishvili.

The plot fizzled, though, as fans filed glumly out of the arena during Maryland's free throws with 20 seconds left on its way to a 75-66 win. Illinois has lost two in a row after seizing first place in the conference with a seven-game winning streak.

The Illini (16-7, 8-4 Big Ten) lost for the second time to Maryland (19-4, 9-3), squandering a big lead each time. In both teams' Big Ten opener on Dec. 7, Illinois lost a 15-point lead in a 59-58 defeat in College Park, Md.

Maryland is the first team to sweep Illinois this season, a fate the Illini suffered after a night of poor free-throw shooting and a disastrous second half.

Here are four takeaways from the loss.



HOLLY HART/AP

Illinois' DeMonte Williams shoots a 3-pointer against Maryland on Friday in Champaign.

1. Maryland's zone gave Illinois fits.

Coaches often are vague when providing reasons for a result. Not so on Friday. Maryland coach Mark Turgeon and Illinois coach Brad Underwood were clear.

"The zone changed it for us," Turgeon said.

The Terrapins had shown its 1-3-1 zone on only one possession this season, against Indiana. When Illinois' hottest shooter, Trent Frazier, went to the bench with two fouls with 12 minutes, 12 seconds left in the first half, Maryland saw it as an invitation.

"We got back in the game and made some shots, and it gave us confidence," Turgeon said.

The decision also highlighted Frazier's importance to Illinois. The Illini led 24-12 when he was substituted out of the game and went into halftime leading only 42-40.

"You look for stats when they play well and when they don't play well," Turgeon said while making a point about Frazier's impact. "We can't leave that kid. We can't let him get going. He's dynamic. He can get going. He's the one guy who can get going on 3 for them."

Illinois also had struggled against Iowa's zone in Sunday's road loss.

Against Maryland, the Illini's foul trouble forced them into some unusual lineups, which Underwood said was the biggest issue.

Underwood said he wasn't worried about sitting Frazier because Illinois was in control of the game. He added, "It's something we might think about differently now."

2. The Illini can't freeze.

The troublesome Maryland zone caused Illinois' lead to evaporate even more after halftime.

The Illini missed their first 12 shots of the second half and went eight minutes without scoring a field goal to fall behind 53-44.

It was like watching a cold front move in after a sizzling summer day.

The Illini scored at a blistering rate to start the game, revving up the crowd with 29 points in the first nine minutes for a 29-15 lead.

They shot only 25.9% in the second half and 36.1% for the game. They made only 2 of 9 3-pointers after halftime.

3. Illinois can't whiff at the free throw line.

Underwood correctly compared the Illini's missed free throws to turnovers.

Illinois made only 14 of 24 free throws, while the Terrapins made 13 of 15. That's 10 points they coughed up.

"You can't miss free throws against the eighth-best team in the nation," Underwood said. "Those are momentum plays."

He said it takes a certain level of concentration for players to make free throws. Clearly the Illini were lacking at the line.

Giorgi Bezhanishvili missed all four of his free-throw attempts. He has made only 8 of 14 (57.1%) in Big Ten play. Kofi Cockburn made 7 of 10.

The Illini have three players who shoot worse than 70% at the line: Cockburn at 68.1%, Bezhanishvili at 64.4% and 65.4% from Kipper Nichols. They came into the game averaging 74% as a team but shot 58% against the Terps.

4. Pressure is building on Illinois.

This five-game stretch has long stood out on Illinois' schedule.

An eight-game stretch has long stood out as the toughest part of Illinois' schedule. They won the first three, at Purdue and Michigan and at home against Minnesota, but have dropped their last two at Iowa and at home against Maryland.

Illinois and the Terrapins came into the game tied for first place in the Big Ten. Now Maryland stands alone in first place with the Illini tied for second with their next opponent, Michigan State.

The glass-half-full perspective looks at Tuesday's game in Champaign against the No. 11 Spartans as an opportunity to regain footing and avoid losing all the feel-good vibes from its strong start to conference play that included a seven-game winning streak that preceded the Iowa loss.

The Illini conclude the stretch with a week on the road at Rutgers and No. 22 Penn State.

A two-game losing streak is bearable. But is a longer losing streak?

The end goal for Illinois is still a strong seed for the Big Ten Tournament and an NCAA Tournament appearance, goals that are still well within reach.

GEORGETOWN 76, DEPAUL 72

Losing streak moves to 6 for DePaul

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Jahvon Blair scored a career-high 30 points, helping Georgetown really from an 11-point deficit for a 76-72 victory against DePaul on Saturday, handing the Blue Demons their sixth straight loss.

The Hoyas trailed by as many as 11 in the first half and 38-32 at halftime but tied it at 57 after an 11-2 run and led 66-61 with 3 minutes, 45 seconds to play after Jagan Mosely and Jamorko Pickett made back-to-back buckets.

DePaul closed to 74-72 on Paul Reed's second-chance layup with 3 seconds left, but the Hoyas hung on with Terrell Allen and George Muresan making two free throws apiece.

Omer Yurtseven scored 16 points with eight rebounds for Georgetown (14-10, 4-7 Big East), which was outscored 36-26 in the paint but scored 23 points off of 15 Blue Demons turnovers. Allen scored 12 points with nine assists and Qudus Wahab had six points and six blocks.

Jalen Coleman-Lands scored 17 points for DePaul (13-11, 1-10), and Jaylen Butz and Charlie Moore added 14 each. Reed had 12 points and 14 rebounds for his 15th double-double of the season, and Romeo Weems added 11 points.



CHRIS CARLSON/AP

U.S. midfielder Rose Lavelle celebrates after scoring vs. Mexico in a CONCACAF women's Olympic qualifying match Friday.

WOMEN'S SOCCER U.S. 4, MEXICO 0

U.S. clinches an Olympic berth with shutout

By Anne M. Peterson
Associated Press

CARSON, Calif. — Samantha Mewis' goal on a blistering free kick in the second half against Mexico left no doubt that the United States was on its way to the Olympics.

Mewis scored twice, and the U.S. national team secured its place in Tokyo this summer with a 4-0 semifinal victory Friday night in the CONCACAF Women's Olympic qualifying tournament.

"I hope so," she said about her statement-making goal putting the U.S. firmly in control. "There were ups and downs in the game. I thought Mexico played really well. They did a great job and they were a hard team to beat."

Rose Lavelle and Christen Press also scored for the United States, which extended its unbeaten streak to 27 games.

The United States will face Canada in the tournament's title game Sunday.

Canada earned the region's other Olympic berth with a 1-0 victory over surprisingly resilient Costa Rica in the earlier match Friday. Canada has finished as runner-up to the U.S. in the last three qualifying tournaments.

"Canada is always a really hard team," Mewis said. "We obviously have a big rivalry with them and of course they're playing well defensively — and offensively. So it's going to be a tough game, but we're excited for the challenge.

The top-ranked U.S. team is coming off a World Cup championship last summer in France. It was the team's fourth title in soccer's premier tournament.

The United States has made the field for every Olympics since soccer became an Olympic sport in 1996 and has won the gold medal four times. But Sweden eliminated the Americans in the quarterfinals four years ago in Brazil for their earliest exit in the tournament.

"Coming into this game we had the same attitude as the game before and the game before," U.S. coach Vlatko Andonovski said. "And that attitude is not going to change going forward. Every game we go into is going to be the most important, whether its a qualifying tournament or a friendly game or any game that we have in front of us."

FOOTBALL

XFL

No bleep, plenty of buzz

Debut features F-bomb, punt block and entertainment

Associated Press



SCOTT TAETSCH /GETTY PHOTOS

D.C. Defenders players Tyree Kinnel, right, and Rahim Moore celebrate after a play against the Seattle Dragons on Saturday in Washington.

WASHINGTON — The debut of the new XFL had a punt blocked for a touchdown, a juiced-up crowd roaring for big plays and a player swearing during an in-game television interview.

The actual football was hit and miss. National championship-winning former Ohio State quarterback Cardale Jones was the biggest star on the field and took the microphone to address fans before the start of the brand-new football league.

"This is for the love of football," Jones said. "Enjoy."

Jones' D.C. Defenders beat the Seattle Dragons 31-19 on Saturday afternoon in the opener of the new XFL that provided plenty of entertainment in person and on TV. It's far too early to tell if the XFL can take a foothold where its previous incarnation and the recently unsuccessful Alliance of American Football failed, but executives are willing to wait and see.

"For us, if the fans who attend and watch at home feel as though it was a good football game and they had a fun time either watching or being in this awesome venue with us, that's success," XFL chief operating officer Jeffrey Pollack said. "We're taking a long term view in this. Success ultimately will not be measured in the first game or the first weekend or the first season."

The first weekend is a chance for football fans to catch a glimpse of some of the few players they might recognize. There's former Oklahoma QB Landry Jones with Dallas, former NFL quarterabck Josh Johnson with San Diego and ex-Navy standout Keenan Reynolds playing for Seattle.

It's not the star power of the NFL, but billionaire Vince McMahon's latest venture is an attempt to capture the attention of hardcore football fans in the aftermath of the Super Bowl.

"Our expectation for this first season is for football fans to simply give us a look, give us a chance, sample us," Pollack said. "We understand that fandom is earned. It's not given. We think that if you love football, you're going to love the XFL."

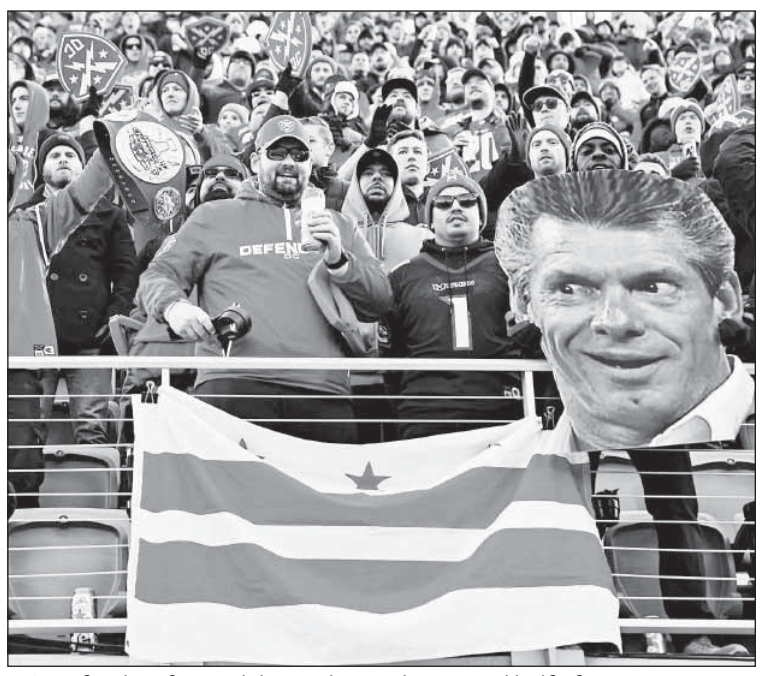
In the league opener, a crowd of 17,163 almost filled up Audi Field, home of Major League Soccer's D.C. United. There was a buzz around the stadium in the hours before the XFL's debut, with cars lining up to enter parking lots and fans checking out a league-sponsored tailgate. Fans were already sporting Dragons and Defenders gear and queued up in long concession lines at halftime.

"I didn't have real expectations going into the game as far as what the experience was going to be like," Cardale Jones said. "If I did they would've been blown away."

The location of the first game made sense in the neighborhood of the NFL's Washington Redskins, who haven't won the Super Bowl since 1992 and have just one playoff victory in the last 20 seasons. Fan-made signs mocking the "Hail to the Redskins" slogan and asking Redskins owner Dan Snyder to sell the team were draped from a balcony.

The broadcast included in-game interviews with a kicker seconds after he missed a field-goal attempt and a defender involved in a scrum that led to a penalty. Seattle's Dillon Day dropped an F-bomb that made it to the airwaves and went viral.

On the field, the play was a mix of traditional college and pro style with some twists. There was no coin toss, and when Reynolds fielded the opening kickoff, he did so with everyone else on the field standing still as part of a rule implemented for safety. The clock ran except inside each two minute warning with some other tweaks.



D.C. Defenders fans celebrate during the second half of an XFL game against the Seattle Dragons on Saturday in Washington.

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SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Toronto	39	14	.736	—
Boston	36	15	.706	2
Philadelphia	32	21	.604	7
Brooklyn	23	28	.451	15
New York	17	36	.321	22
SOUTHEAST				
Miami	34	17	.667	—
Orlando	22	31	.415	13
Washington	18	32	.360	15½
Charlotte	16	36	.308	18½
Atlanta	14	39	.264	21
CENTRAL				
Milwaukee	45	7	.865	—
Indiana	31	21	.596	14
Chicago	19	34	.358	26½
Detroit	19	36	.345	27½
Cleveland	13	39	.250	32

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Houston	33	19	.635	—
Dallas	32	21	.604	1½
Memphis	26	26	.500	7
San Antonio	22	30	.423	11
New Orleans	22	31	.415	11½
NORTHWEST				
Denver	37	16	.698	—
Utah	33	18	.647	3
Oklahoma City	32	20	.615	4½
Portland	24	29	.453	13
Minnesota	16	35	.314	20
PACIFIC				
L.A. Lakers	39	12	.765	—
L.A. Clippers	36	16	.692	3½
Sacramento	21	31	.404	18½
Phoenix	21	32	.396	19
Golden State	12	41	.226	28

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Milwaukee 112, Orlando 95
Dallas 116, Charlotte 100
New York 95, Detroit 92
Toronto 119, Brooklyn 118
New Orleans 124, Indiana 117
Minnesota 142, L.A. Clippers 115
L.A. Lakers 125, Golden State 120
Denver 117, Phoenix 108
Sacramento 122, San Antonio 102

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Boston at Oklahoma City, 2:30 p.m.
Chicago at Philadelphia, 5 p.m.
Memphis at Washington, 5 p.m.
New York at Atlanta, 5 p.m.
Utah at Houston, 6 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Cleveland, 6:30 p.m.
Miami at Portland, 8 p.m.

BUCKS 112, MAGIC 95

MILWAUKEE: G.Antetokounmpo 6-17 7-8 19, Middleton 8-15 2-2 21, B.Lopez 9-13 0-2 23, Bledsoe 7-16 4-4 18, Matthews 4-10 0-0 12, Connaughton 1-2 0-0 3, Ilyasova 2-3 0-0 4, Korver 3-8 0-0 8, R.Lopez 0-3 0-0 0, DiVincenzo 2-6 0-0 4. Totals 42-93 13-16 112.
ORLANDO: Gordon 2-12 3-4 7, Iwundu 1-6 0-0 2, Vucevic 10-20 1-2 21, Fournier 5-14 0-0 14, Fultz 6-18 0-0 15, Clark 2-3 2-2 8, Frazier Jr. 0-0 0-0 0, Law 0-1 0-0 0, Ross 7-14 5-6 20, Bamba 1-4 0-0 2, Carter-Williams 3-6 0-0 6. Totals 37-98 11-14 95.

Milwaukee	**30**	**33**	**21**	**28 — 112**
Orlando	**24**	**22**	**25**	**24 — 95**

3-Point Goals—Milwaukee 15-39 (B.Lopez 5-5, Matthews 4-9, Middleton 3-8, Korver 2-7, Connaughton 1-2), Orlando 10-40 (Fournier 4-9, Fultz 3-7, Clark 2-3, Ross 1-4). **Rebounds—**Milwaukee 62 (G.Antetokounmpo 18), Orlando 46 (Vucevic 14). **Assists—**Milwaukee 26 (G.Antetokounmpo 9), Orlando 28 (Carter-Williams, Vucevic 6). **Total Fouls—**Milwaukee 11, Orlando 15. **A—**16,632 (18,846)

ASSISTS PER GAME

Player, TM	G	AST	AVG
James, LAL	48	517	10.8
Young, ATL	47	425	9.0
Doncic, DAL	43	373	8.7
Rubio, PHX	44	382	8.7
Simmons, PHI	51	421	8.3
Lillard, POR	51	405	7.9
Graham, CHA	51	391	7.7
Lowry, TOR	41	304	7.4
Brogdon, IND	38	279	7.3
Harden, HOU	49	357	7.3
Westbrook, HOU	43	315	7.3
Morant, MEM	46	321	7.0
VanVleet, TOR	42	292	7.0
Jokic, DEN	52	355	6.8
Ball, NOP	44	295	6.7
Paul, OKC	51	337	6.6
Dinwiddie, BKN	50	318	6.4
Beal, WAS	43	272	6.3
Booker, PHX	49	307	6.3
Butler, MIA	44	275	6.3
Holiday, NOP	43	270	6.3

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	34	10	12	80	187	140
Tampa Bay	35	15	5	75	199	150
Toronto	29	19	8	66	200	186
Florida	29	19	6	64	192	181
Montreal	27	23	7	61	177	173
Buffalo	24	23	8	56	157	173
Ottawa	18	26	11	47	147	188
Detroit	13	39	4	30	115	212

METRO.	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	36	14	5	77	199	167
Pittsburgh	34	15	5	73	181	148
Columbus	30	17	9	69	147	137
N.Y. Islanders	31	16	6	68	156	145
Carolina	32	20	3	67	180	153
Philadelphia	30	18	7	67	177	164
N.Y. Rangers	26	23	4	56	173	172
New Jersey	20	24	10	50	149	190

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	32	15	9	73	178	160
Colorado	31	16	6	68	194	152
Dallas	31	19	5	67	147	141
Winnipeg	28	23	5	61	168	170
Nashville	26	21	7	59	176	177
Minnesota	26	22	6	58	167	178
Chicago	25	21	8	58	161	168

PACIFIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	30	21	5	65	181	173
Edmonton	29	20	6	64	176	171
Vegas	28	21	8	64	182	174
Calgary	28	22	6	62	155	171
Arizona	27	23	7	61	160	157
San Jose	24	27	4	52	145	181
Anaheim	22	26	7	51	143	171
Los Angeles	19	32	5	43	136	179

2 pts for win, 1 pt for shootout/OT loss

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Winnipeg 5, Ottawa 2
Boston 4, Arizona 2
Colorado 2, Columbus 1
Tampa Bay 3, N.Y. Islanders 1
New Jersey 3, Los Angeles 0
Philadelphia 7, Washington 2
Pittsburgh 3, Florida 2
Edmonton 3, Nashville 2
Montreal 2, Toronto 1 (OT)
Dallas 3, St. Louis 2 (OT)
Calgary 6, Vancouver 2
Carolina 6, Vegas 5 (SO)

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Boston at Detroit, 11:30 a.m.
Anaheim at Buffalo, 2 p.m.
Los Angeles at N.Y. Rangers, 5 p.m.
Chicago at Winnipeg, 6 p.m.
Colorado at Minnesota, 6:30 p.m.

STARS 3, BLUES 2 (OT)

Dallas	**1**	**1**	**0**	**1 — 3**
St. Louis	**2**	**0**	**0**	**0 — 2**

FIRST PERIOD: 1, St. Louis, Parayko 5 (Dunn, Thomas), 7:18 (pp). **2,** St. Louis, Parayko 6 (Perron), 10:49. **3,** Dallas, Benn 15 (Janmark, Pavelski), 17:48 (pp). **Penalties:** Kiviranta, Dal (Tripping), 2:29; Benn, Dal (Boarding), 6:15; Barbashev, STL (Roughing), 7:41; Faulk, STL (Tripping), 16:50.
SECOND PERIOD: 4, Dallas, Hintz 16 (Heiskanen, Perry), 13:25. **Penalties:** Perron, STL (Hooking), 9:47; Benn, Dal (High Sticking), 13:40.
THIRD PERIOD: None. **Penalties:** Bouwmeester, STL (Holding Stick), 19:14.
Overtime: 5, Dallas, Hintz 17 (Heiskanen), 2:19. **Penalties:** None.
SHOTS ON GOAL: Dallas 14-8-10-2—34. St. Louis 10-8-6-1—25.
POWER PLAYS: Dallas 1 of 4; St. Louis 1 of 3.
GOALIES: Dallas, Khudobin 13-7-1 (25 shots-23 saves). St. Louis, Binnington 24-10-6 (34-31).
A: 18,096 (19,150). **T:** 2:33. **Referees:** Tom Chmielewski, Chris Rooney. **Linesmen:** Brian Mach, Kory Nagy.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

HOW MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED

1. Baylor (21-1) beat Oklahoma State 78-70. Next: at Texas, Monday.
2. Gonzaga (25-1) beat Saint Mary's 90-60. Next: at Pepperdine, Saturday.
3. Kansas (20-3) beat TCU 60-46: at No. 13 West Virginia, Wednesday.
4. San Diego State (24-0) beat Air Force 89-74. Next: vs. New Mexico, Tuesday.
5. Louisville (21-3) beat Virginia 80-73. Next: at Georgia Tech, Wednesday.
6. Dayton (21-2) beat Saint Louis 71-65. Next: vs. Rhode Island, Tuesday.
7. Duke (20-3) beat North Carolina 98-96, OT. Next: vs. No. 8 Florida State, Mon.
8. Florida State (20-3) beat Miami 99-81. Next: at No. 7 Duke, Monday.
9. Maryland (19-4) did not play. Next: vs. Nebraska, Tuesday.
10. Villanova (17-6) lost to No. 12 Seton Hall 70-64. Next: vs. Marquette, Wed.
11. Auburn (21-2) beat No. 18 LSU 91-90, OT. Next: vs. Alabama, Wednesday.
12. Seton Hall (18-5) beat No. 10 Villanova 70-64. Next: vs. No. 21 Creighton, Wed.
13. West Virginia (18-5) lost to Oklahoma 69-59. Next: vs. No. 3 Kansas, Wed.
14. Oregon (18-6) lost to Oregon State 63-53. Next: vs. No. 24 Colorado, Thur.
15. Kentucky (18-5) beat Tennessee 77-64. Next: at Vanderbilt, Tuesday.
16. Michigan State (16-8) lost to Michigan 77-68. Next: at No. 20 Illinois, Tue.
17. Iowa (17-7) beat Nebraska 96-72. Next: at Indiana, Thursday.
18. LSU (17-6) lost to No. 11 Auburn 91-90, OT. Next: vs. Missouri, Tuesday.
19. Butler (18-5) did not play. Next: at Marquette, Sunday.
20. Illinois (16-7) did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 Michigan State, Tuesday.
21. Creighton (18-6) beat St. John's 94-82. Next: at No. 12 Seton Hall, Wed.
22. Penn State (18-5) beat Minnesota 83-77. Next: at Purdue, Tuesday.
23. Arizona (16-7) lost to UCLA 65-52. Next: at California, Thursday.
24. Colorado (19-5) beat Stanford 81-74. Next: at No. 14 Oregon, Thursday.
25. Houston (18-5) did not play. Next: vs. Wichita State, Sunday.

SATURDAY'S SCORES

EAST
American U. 72, Army 62
Colgate 67, Navy 60
Georgetown 76, DePaul 72
Penn 76, Columbia 67
Pittsburgh 73, Georgia Tech 64
Temple 97, SMU 90, OT
SOUTH
Alabama 105, Georgia 102, OT
Boston College 77, Virginia Tech 73, OT
Cent. Arkansas 82, McNeese St. 76, OT
Florida A&M 82, Howard 78, OT
Mississippi 68, Florida 51
S. Carolina 74, Texas A&M 54
S. Florida 75, Memphis 73
Syracuse 75, Wake Forest 73
MIDWEST
Akron 59, E. Michigan 58
Aurora 86, Milwaukee Engineering 78
Blackburn 74, Westminster (Mo.) 69
Bowling Green 85, Toledo 83
Cornell (Iowa) 77, Knox 61
DePauw 76, Allegheny 62
E. Illinois 71, Morehead St. 65
Franklin 84, Manchester 61
Greenville 161, MacMurray 131
Ill.-Chicago 71, Green Bay 58
Illinois St. 74, Indiana St. 67
Illinois Tech 81, Dominican 61
Iowa St. 73, Kansas St. 63
Kalamazoo 96, Olivet 80
Lake Forest 89, Beloit 58
Lewis 78, Southwest Baptist 60
Maryville (Mo.) 62, McKendree 61
Michigan Tech 79, Wis.-Parkside 55
Milwaukee 80, IUPUI 79
Missouri 83, Arkansas 79, OT
Monmouth (Ill.) 94, Grinnell 90
N. Iowa 83, Drake 73
Ohio 77, Miami (Ohio) 46
Purdue 74, Indiana 62
Purdue NW 65, N. Michigan 62, OT
Rio Grande 75, Chicago St. 64
S. Illinois 68, Missouri St. 66
SIU-Edwardsville 83, E. Kentucky 75
St. Norbert 87, Illinois College 74
Xavier 64, Providence 58
W. Michigan 68, Ball St. 64
Wis. Lutheran 77, Concordia (Ill.) 68

HOW WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED

1. South Carolina (22-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 4 UConn, Monday.
2. Baylor (21-1) beat Kansas State 54-40. Next: vs. TCU, Wednesday.
3. Oregon (21-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 19 Arizona State, Sunday.
4. UConn (20-2) did not play. Next: at No. 1 South Carolina, Monday.
5. Louisville (21-2) did not play. Next: at Syracuse, Sunday.
6. Stanford (20-3) did not play. Next: vs. Southern Cal, Sunday.
7. N.C. State (22-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 5 N.C. State, Thursday.
8. Mississippi State (21-3) did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 Texas A&M, Sunday.
9. Oregon State (19-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. 12 Arizona, Sunday.
10. UCLA (20-2) did not play. Next: at California, Sunday.
11. Gonzaga (23-2) lost to Saint Mary's 70-60. Next: vs. San Francisco, Thur.
12. Arizona (18-4) did not play. Next: at No. 9 Oregon State, Sunday.
13. Maryland (19-4) did not play. Next: vs. Rutgers, Sunday.
14. DePaul (21-3) did not play. Next: at Seton Hall, Sunday.
15. Kentucky (18-4) did not play. Next: at No. 25 Arkansas, Sunday.
16. Texas A&M (18-4) did not play. Next: at No. 8 Mississippi State, Sunday.
17. Florida State (19-4) did not play. Next: vs. Virginia, Sunday.
18. Indiana (18-6) did not play. Next: at Nebraska, Sunday.
19. Arizona State (16-7) did not play. Next: at No. 3 Oregon, Sunday.
20. Iowa (19-4) did not play. Next: at Purdue, Sunday.
21. Northwestern (19-3) did not play. Next: vs. Michigan State, Monday.
22. South Dakota (21-2) did not play. Next: at North Dakota, Sunday.
23. Tennessee (17-6) did not play. Next: at LSU, Thursday.
24. Missouri State (19-3) did not play. Next: at Drake, Sunday.
25. Arkansas (18-5) did not play. Next: vs. No. 15 Kentucky, Sunday.

SATURDAY'S SCORES

EAST
American U. 67, Army 62, OT
Boston U. 62, Holy Cross 51
Bryant 59, CCSU 47
Bucknell 66, Loyola (Md.) 42
Canisius 70, Fairfield 63
Colgate 65, Navy 53
Creighton 77, Providence 68
Fordham 69, UMass 64
Harvard 68, Brown 53
Iona 70, Niagara 58
Jacksonville 66, NJIT 54
Monmouth (NJ) 59, St. Peter's 57
Mt. St. Mary's 67, St. Francis Brooklyn 62
Princeton 77, Columbia 55
Robert Morris 67, Sacred Heart 38
Siena 68, Quinnipiac 60
Stony Brook 52, New Hampshire 50
Toledo 78, Buffalo 62
UMBC 65, Mass.-Lowell 52
Vermont 62, Hartford 51
Wagner 55, St. Francis (Pa.) 50
Yale 67, Dartmouth 47
SOUTH
Alabama St. 66, MVSU 61
Bethune-Cookman 70, NC A&T 50
FAU 64, FIU 61, OT
Florida Gulf Coast 76, N. Florida 65
Gardner-Webb 70, Hampton 59
Howard 82, Florida A&M 56
Jackson St. 76, Alcorn St. 66
Kennesaw St. 88, Lipscomb 60
Md.-E. Shore 71, Morgan St. 61
Mercer 61, Furman 55
NC Cent. 58, Coppin St. 44
Norfolk St. 65, Delaware St. 57, OT
S. U. 70, Grambling St. 51
UNC-Greensboro 65, ETSU 45
UT Martin 86, Jacksonville St. 72
MIDWEST
Ball St. 60, Akron 52
Iowa St. 63, Oklahoma 59
Loyola of Chicago 77, Evansville 47
N. Illinois 92, Bowling Green 87, OT

GOLF

PGA AT&T PEBBLE BEACH PRO-AM

3rd of 4 rds; Pebble Beach, Calif.; p-Pebble Beach Golf Links (Host Course); s-Spyglass Hill Golf Course; m-Monterey Peninsula CC
Note: Tournament is played on three courses with different pars.

198 (-17)	
Nick Taylor	63m-66p-69s
199 (-16)	
Phil Mickelson	68s-64m-67p
201 (-14)	
Jason Day	67m-64p-70s
204 (-11)	
Matt Every	70p-66s-68m
Kevin Streelman	69s-67m-68p
205 (-10)	
Peter Malnati	70p-69s-66m
206 (-9)	
Lanto Griffin	67s-68m-71p
Dustin Johnson	69s-65m-72p
Charl Schwartzel	67m-66p-73s
Matt Jones	68p-73s-65m
Scott Piercy	68m-66p-72s
207 (-8)	
Patrick Cantlay	66s-69m-72p
Max Homa	67s-69m-71p
Kurt Kitayama	69s-69m-69p
208 (-7)	
Brian Gay	72s-68m-68p
Aaron Baddeley	68m-69p-71s
Cameron Champ	71m-66p-71s
Viktor Hovland	70s-68m-70p
Matthew NeSmith	68p-71s-69m
209 (-6)	
Matt Kuchar	70p-71s-68m
Matthew Fitzpatrick	71p-70s-68m
Tim Wilkinson	69p-70s-70m
Wyndham Clark	68s-71m-70p
Harry Higgs	66m-69p-74s
Daniel Berger	70s-69m-70p
Paul Casey	71s-65m-73p
John Senden	71s-71m-67p
Kevin Chappell	68s-67m-74p
Chez Reavie	67m-69p-73s
Sean O'Hair	73s-65m-71p
Chris Baker	69m-64p-76s
210 (-5)	
Kevin Kisner	72s-68m-70p
Beau Hossler	68m-72p-70s
Jim Herman	67m-73p-70s
Joseph Bramlett	71m-70p-69s
Ben Martin	72p-68s-70m
Ryan Brehm	73s-69m-68p
Maverick McNealy	72p-72s-66m
Tyler McCumber	71p-70s-69m
Chesson Hadley	71s-67m-72p
Kevin Na	75s-67m-68p
J.B. Holmes	71p-72s-67m
Alex Noren	69m-67p-74s

LPGA TISPS HANDA VIC OPEN

3rd of 4 rds; 13th Beach Golf Links; Geelong, Australia; Beach Course: 6,625 yards, par-72; Creek Course: 6,307 yards, par-73

205 (-12)	
Ayean Cho	69-66-70
206 (-11)	
Madelene Sagstrom	65-67-74
207 (-10)	
Alena Sharp	68-69-70
208 (-9)	
Hee Young Park	68-68-72
209 (-8)	
So Yeon Ryu	71-70-68
Pei-Ying Tsai	68-68-73
210 (-7)	
Minjee Lee	69-67-74
211 (-6)	
Stephanie Meadow	67-70-74
Pornanong Phatlum	67-70-74
Linnea Strom	66-69-76
212 (-5)	
Dana Finkelstein	67-73-72
Emma Talley	73-66-73
Leona Maguire	69-69-74
Hye-Jin Choi	69-68-75
Robyn Choi	70-65-77
213 (-4)	
Ssu-Chia Cheng	71-71-71
Hannah Green	69-73-71
Jeong Eun Lee	71-70-72
Yu Liu	70-71-72
a-Ho Yu An	70-71-72
Tiffany Joh	67-73-73

EUROPEAN PGA VIC OPEN

3rd of 4 rds; 13th Beach Golf Links; Geelong, Australia; Beach Course: 6,778 yards, par-72; Creek Course: 6,940 yards, par-72

201 (-15)	
Min Woo Lee	66-67-68
204 (-12)	
Marcus Fraser	70-65-69
Travis Smyth	65-67-72
206 (-10)	
Robin Sciot-Siegrist	66-64-76
Ashley Hall	67-68-71
Anthony Quayle	75-64-67
Matthew Millar	72-66-68
ALSO: 212 (-4)	
Derek Ackerman	67-69-76
Sean Crocker	67-70-75

ODDS

NBA

pregame.com	SP	O/U	SUNDAY
at Okla. City	off	off	Boston
at Atlanta	off	off	New York
at Phila.	off	off	Chicago
Memphis	1½	240	at Wash.
at Houston	4	233	Utah
at Cleveland	off	off	LA Clippers
at Portland	off	off	Miami

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

	SP	SUNDAY
at UConn	1	Cincinnati
at Marquette	2½	Butler
at Loyola (Chi)	8½	Valparaiso
at NC Grnsbro	19	Samford
at Wisconsin	Pk	Ohio State
at Bradley	off	Evansville
at Fairfield	4	Iona
at Rider	9½	Niagara
at Quinnipiac	3½	Manhattan
at UCF	off	Tulsa
at Monmouth	6	St. Peter's
at UMass	2	George Mason
at Houston	5½	Wichita St
at Clemson	1½	Notre Dame
Washington	3	at Wash. St
at Rutgers	11	Northwestern
Princeton	3	at Columbia
Pennsylvania	5½	at Cornell

NHL

			SUNDAY
Boston	-265	at Detroit	+235
at Buffalo	-120	Anaheim	+110
at NY Rangers	-160	Los Angeles	+150
at Winnipeg	-121	Chicago	+111
Colorado	-118	at Minnesota	+108

TENNIS

ATP CORDOBA OPEN

SF at Estadio Mario Alberto Kempee; Cordoba, Argentina; outdoors-red clay
#1 Diego Schwartzman d.
#4 Laslo Djere, 6-1, 1-6, 6-2.
#3 Cristian Garin d.
Andrej Martin, 2-6, 6-2, 6-2.

ATP SUD DE FRANCE

SF at Palais des Sports de Gerland; Montpellier, France; indoors-hard
#1 Gael Monfils d.
#7 Filip Krajinovic, 7-6 (4), 6-2.
Vasek Pospisil d.
#2 David Goffin, 6-3, 1-6, 7-5.

ATP TAHA OPEN MAHARASHTRA

SF at Balewadi Stadium; Pune, India; outdoors-hard
Jiri Vesely d. #2 Ricardas Berankis, 6-7 (8), 7-6 (3), 7-6 (7).
#8 Egor Gerasimov d.
#6 James Duckworth, 7-6 (2), 6-4.

FED CUP

WORLD GROUP QUALIFIERS
Winners to semifinals, April 20-21
United States vs. Latvia, late
Belarus 3, Netherlands 2
Russia 3, Romania 2
Germany 4, Brazil 0
Spain 3, Japan 1
Switzerland 3, Canada 1
Belgium 3, Kazakhstan 1
Slovakia 3, Britain 1

SOCCER

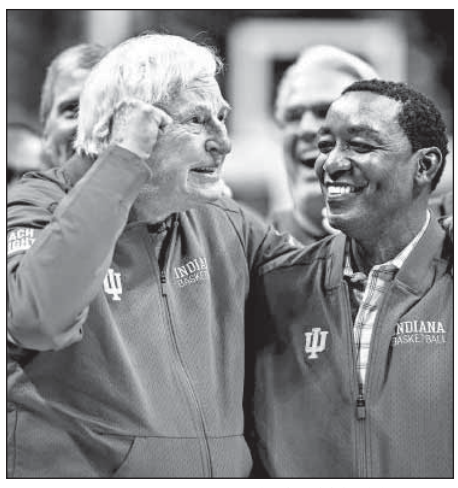
CONCACAF WOMEN'S OLYMPIC QUALIFYING

CHAMPIONSHIP
Sunday in Carson, Calif.
Canada vs. U.S., 5 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Knight returns to Indiana for 1st time in 20 years

Associated Press



DOUG MCSCHOOLER/AP

Bobby Knight, left, acknowledges the Indiana crowd alongside Isiah Thomas.

Bob Knight's short stroll from the practice gym to Assembly Hall ended a 20-year journey home.

It seemed as if he never left.

When the former Indiana Hoosiers coach walked through the tunnel Saturday and onto his old court for the first time since his firing in September 2000, the crowd went wild — chanting his name, roaring with approval, thanking him for all the success and banners he brought to Bloomington.

The sellout crowd and dozens of former players lauded Knight after watching a video detailing Knight's contributions.

Knight, 79, didn't speak to the crowd over the public address system.

The combustible coach had an impressive 29-season resume: A school record 662 victories, 11 Big Ten titles, five Final Fours and three national titles.

University officials put Knight on a zero-tolerance policy in 2000 following an investigation into whether he had choked a former player, the late Neil Reed, during a practice.

Then, in September, a student accused Knight of grabbing him.

Knight responded by calling his own news conference, bringing witnesses to help explain his version. Two days later, the late Myles Brand fired Knight.

That was his last public appearance in the building — until Saturday.

KU, Self reach milestones: Udoka Azubuike had 20 points and 15 rebounds as No. 3 Kansas matched an NCAA record with its 31st consecutive 20-win season, beating TCU 60-46 for coach Bill Self's 700th career victory.

Kansas (20-3, 9-1 Big 12) joined UNC (1971-2001) as the only teams to win 20 games in 31 consecutive seasons.

Six weeks after his 57th birthday, Self became the second-youngest coach in NCAA history to reach 700 wins. Knight was 56 when he got his 700th win.

Duke wins wild one in OT: Freshman Wendell Moore scored on a putback as time expired to help No. 7 Duke rally past host UNC 98-96 in OT.

Moore's follow of Tre Jones' missed off-balance jumper finally ended this one, a game that saw Duke rally from 13 down in the final 4½ minutes of regulation. Jones forced OT, hitting a contested jumper at the regulation horn after corralling his own intentionally missed free throw.

Jones finished with 28 points to lead the Blue Devils (20-3, 10-2 ACC), who led for only 1:47 of game action.

Baylor best: Top-ranked Baylor was the No. 1 overall seed in rankings released by the NCAA D-1 men's basketball committee.

Kansas was the No. 2 overall seed, Gonzaga was No. 3 and undefeated San Diego State was No. 4.

NBA

Raptors secure 14th win in row

News services

Fred VanVleet scored 10 of his 29 points in the fourth quarter, Pascal Siakam scored 20 points, including the tiebreaking free throw with 22 seconds remaining, and the Raptors extended their franchise-record winning streak to 14 by beating the Nets 119-118 on Saturday night in Toronto.

Terence Davis scored 20 points as the Raptors overcame the absence of All-Star guard Kyle Lowry for their 10th consecutive home victory over the Nets. The Raptors have won 18 of 19 in the series, including six straight.

Davis shot 5-for-8 from 3 and VanVleet went 4-for-9 as the defending league champions remained unbeaten since a 105-104 home loss to the Spurs on Jan. 12.

Caris LeVert scored a career-high 37, going 6 of 7 from long range, but missed a 3 that would have given the Nets the win.

Knicks earn 4th straight victory: Julius Randle scored 17 points, including a bank shot with 13.5 seconds left that helped the visiting Knicks edge the Pistons 95-92 to secure their fourth straight victory.

Reggie Jackson had 20 points and nine assists in the loss.

Hornets waive 2 veterans: The Hornets waived former No. 2 overall pick Michael Kidd-Gilchrist and 15-year league veteran Marvin Williams.

ESPN reported that the league-leading Bucks will sign Williams as soon as Monday after waiving Dragan Bender.

NHL

Bruins stay hot against Coyotes

Associated Press

Charlie Coyle scored two goals, and the Bruins beat the Coyotes 4-2 on Saturday in Boston for their 16th straight victory in the series.

The NHL-leading Bruins earned their sixth consecutive win. Patrice Bergeron and Jake DeBrusk each had a power-play score 2:29 apart in the second period, and Coyle's second was a late empty-netter.

It's the Bruins' longest winning streak against any foe, surpassing a 15-game stretch against the Flyers during the Bobby Orr-era from 1970-72 when the Bruins won two Stanley Cups ('70, '72).

The Bruins' last loss to the Coyotes came on Oct. 9, 2010, a 5-2 setback in what was a Bruins' home game in Prague.

Laine hat trick powers Jets: Patrik Laine scored a hat trick with three power-play goals to propel the Jets to a 5-2 victory against the visiting Senators.

It was Laine's eighth career hat trick and gave the Jets points in four straight games after a five-game losing streak.

The Senators are winless in their last five games.

One-timers: Brayden Point, Steven Stamkos and Carter Verhaeghe scored and the host Lightning beat the Islanders 3-1 to push their winning streak to six games. ... Mackenzie Blackwood stopped a penalty shot and made 37 saves in posting his second straight shutout as the Devils downed the visiting Kings 3-0. The Devils extended their points streak to a season-high six games.

IN BRIEF

U.S. women's soccer bound for Tokyo

Samantha Mewis scored twice and the U.S. women's team secured a spot in the Tokyo Olympics with a 4-0 semifinal victory Friday night over Mexico in the CONCACAF Olympic Qualifying tournament in Carson, Calif.

Rose Lavelle and Christen Press also scored for the U.S., which extended its unbeaten streak to 27 games.

The U.S. will face Canada in the tournament's title game Sunday. Canada earned the region's other Olympic berth with a 1-0 victory over surprisingly resilient Costa Rica 1-0 in the earlier match Friday.

The top-ranked U.S. team is coming off a victory in the World Cup last summer in France. It was the team's fourth title in soccer's premier tournament.

The U.S. has made the field for every Olympics since soccer became an Olympic sport in 1996, and has won the gold medal four times. But the Americans were eliminated by Sweden in the quarterfinals four years ago in Brazil for the team's earliest exit in the tournament.

■ Giampaolo Pazzini's late penalty gave host Hellas Verona a surprise 2-1 win over Serie A leader and eight-time defending champ Juventus on Saturday despite Cristiano Ronaldo setting another record. Ronaldo became the first Juventus player to score in 10 successive matches. Juventus holds a three-point advantage over second-place Inter Milan, which can go level with the leader if it wins the derby against AC Milan on Sunday.

Baseball: The Giants signed free-agent OF Hunter Pence to a one-year, $3 million contract. Pence, 36, a four-time All-Star, spent last season with the Rangers after playing the previous seven seasons with the Giants.

Golf: Ayean Cho of South Korea shot a third-round 2-under 70 to take a one-stroke lead over Madelene Sagstrom of Sweden (74) at the LPGA's Vic Open in Barwon Heads, Australia. Cho reached 12-under 205. In the European Tour men's event, also at 13th Beach Golf Links, Min Woo Lee eagled the 18th hole to shoot a 4-under 68 and take a three-stroke lead over fellow Aussies Marcus Fraser (69) and fellow Australian Travis Smyth (72). Lee reached 15-under 201.

— News services

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



PETER H. BICK/HANDOUT

Dan Capron, who retired at the end of the season, performs the pregame coin flip at the Big Ten championship game between Ohio State and Wisconsin on Dec. 7, 2019, in Indianapolis.

Tales from retiring zebra

Capron dishes on nice and unfriendly Big Ten coaches and some his favorite games to officiate

By Teddy Greenstein

Referee Dan Capron once announced, "Timeout, Wisconsin." The crowd erupted in laughter. Why? The teams on the field were Nebraska and Miami. "My most embarrassing moment," he says. There haven't been many, or else Capron would not have been selected to officiate the Alabama-Georgia national title game in the 2017 season, the 2016 Alabama-Washington semifinal, the most-attended college football game in American history (156,990 at Bristol Motor Speedway for Tennessee-Virginia Tech in 2016) and two Big Ten championship games, including Ohio State's victory over Wisconsin in December.

"He's a professional, a man of high intelligence and conviction," says Frank Steratore, the brother of former NFL and college basketball official Gene Steratore and a side judge for the 2019 conference title game. "And he is a Big Ten guy."

A Big Ten guy with stories. Capron, a South Side native and Marist High School alumnus, entered his 20th season knowing it would be his last. At 63 he is retiring his whistle while remaining a partner at the Chicago law firm Capron & Avgerinos. An Illinois graduate with a law degree from Indiana, Capron dished on his career in stripes.

Why 20? A nice round number?

Bill Carollo (coordinator of Big Ten football officials) said, "You're still functioning at full throttle." But I noticed slippage in some of my physical abilities, and I didn't want to get to the point where he did (too). Bill gave me a great schedule and pretty much let me pick where I wanted to work my final Big Ten game. But he was very clear: The postseason is serious business; there are no graduation presents. So far I'm delighted with my decision. Check with me again in August.

You were the referee for the incredible Michigan-Ohio State game in 2016 in which Buckeyes quarterback J.T. Barrett was awarded the first down in double overtime.

My gosh, it was electric; the first one (in the series) that went into overtime. It's unlike any other game because your radar is on every second. When that game ends, you're mentally exhausted from maintaining such a focus for 3½ hours.

How about the coaches? Start with Urban Meyer. What is he like during the game?

He is unlike any other Big Ten coach. He is distant, uncommunicative. He had a staff member whose job it was to communicate with the officials. I'd come over at the end of the first half, as I'm obligated to do, and say, "Coach, you're out of timeouts." Or maybe I'd say something like, "Coach, No. 64 is on the edge (of getting a penalty); you better talk to him." I was engaging in what we call preventive officiating. If you don't want to listen to what I have to say, you're probably not doing your team any favor. I'm not expecting that coaches will be warm and fuzzy, though some of them are absolutely lovable. Coach Meyer was all about the business of coaching his team, and he wanted nothing to do with the officials or with officiating.

How about the Barrett play?

Of course the ruling on the field was that he made the line to gain (on fourth-and-1) and it was going to be a first down. The buzzers went off and it got kicked up to replay. I don't know why the network didn't have a camera right on the yard line. It was broadcasting malpractice. Because there was no camera on the yard line, there wasn't a good angle to make the determination on an excruciatingly close call. I'm talking about within an inch. So replay couldn't get a read on it, and they did what they're supposed to do. The ruling on the field stands.

By the way, the line judge who made that call is Brian Bolinger from Indiana. That was his last Big Ten game because the next year he started in the NFL. Pretty damn good.

Jim Harbaugh got an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty for slamming down his headset and flinging his play cards in the air.

The head linesman — from the state of Michigan, not that it matters — (assessed the penalty). ... Coach Harbaugh threw his clipboard out on the field. Well, that's a no-brainer. First of all, he was complaining about an offside call, which is not the hardest in the book to make. It was a completely valid call.

You have to be able to control yourself. There's a tremendous amount of gray area with the unsportsmanlike conduct call. His actions were black and white. If that head linesman doesn't make that call, he's going to get downgraded by the boss. And it's going to cost him.

You throw something out on the field, I can understand that ... if you're a fourth-grader. If you're an adult that's paid (more than) $5 million a year to coach a major college football team, I would expect more.

And then he spent the postgame ripping you guys, earning a $10,000 fine.

He's still not the worst coach. The worst coach I've ever worked for, ever, not even close, no one within 10 miles, is Bo Pelini. (laughs)

I had Purdue at Nebraska. Darrell Hazell was at Purdue. Total gentleman. Nebraska was heavily favored, but it was a very close game. Nebraska had the ball, and the quarterback muffed the snap from center and there was a big pileup. And so now the umpire is digging in there to see who has the ball. I'm standing back. I don't get involved in those. All you need is for somebody to stand up with their helmet and clock you in the jaw, and it could kill you.

My umpire looks at me and I swear he says, "White ball." Meaning Purdue. Nebraska is in red. I step out and I point: Purdue ball. Simultaneous with me, my center judge points the other way. Nebraska's ball. Now we are convicted of being idiots. No matter what else happens, we are the three stooges.

We get together. I say, "You just said 'white ball.' " He says, "No, I said 'red ball.' " Look, let's be clear: Who recovered the ball? Nebraska, Nebraska, Nebraska. No (official) has Purdue.

Unbeknownst to me, Coach P is over there on the sideline going crazy. I step out and announce: The ruling on the field is that the loose ball was recovered by Nebraska. It will be second down and 10 at the such-and-such yard line. As I turn to the Nebraska sideline, he is pointing at me, screaming at the top of his lungs, "I'll have your job!" The moment "job" was out of his mouth, my flag hit its apex. So now there's 15 yards against Nebraska.



STEPHEN HAAS/AP

Illinois coach Ron Zook argues with referee Dan Capron during a 2009 game against Northwestern.

The game goes on uneventfully, and Nebraska ends up winning. We go in the locker room and I say to my guys, "Do you think I should call Bill (Carollo)?" because he always wants to know about anything controversial. He doesn't want to get blindsided. The consensus was better to be safe than sorry. Give Bill a call.

I take out my cellphone and call the command center. I ask for Bill. I hear: "Hang on, he's on the phone with Pelini." The game wasn't over for four minutes!

I remember when he swung his cap and almost hit an official.

That was so out of line. If he had been ejected, it would have been supported (by the conference).

What was your best or favorite moment over the 20 years?

I had the Alabama-Georgia national championship. That was pretty cool.

You know, you were talking about the Michigan fan base. Well, they're pikers compared to the Georgia fan base. I was getting emails, texts. It was ugly, vile. Something gets out on the internet that I somehow worked for the University of Alabama, and it becomes gospel truth. Of course I couldn't care less (who wins).

We had a miss. Alabama was on the ropes. They were deep in their own territory and they're punting. The punt gets blocked. There's a flag on the ground because the line judge had Georgia offside. Oh, boy. He (the player, Tyler Simmons) actually had a running start and timed it (properly). He wasn't offside.

But that wasn't my call. The blocking backs, a split-second before the snap, moved. That was a false start. That should have been my call. It still wouldn't have been a blocked punt but instead a five-yard penalty against the offense. You never want to make a mistake of any kind in such a high-profile atmosphere.

Back to the Big Ten ... how about the time Joe Paterno almost collided with you?

We're in Columbus and it's late in the first half, our final TV timeout. Penn State is pinned back and punting. I raise my hand to signal ready for play.

All of a sudden I see Coach Paterno running onto the field and right at me. Oh, (crap). He has his head down and he is running at me. The stadium almost went silent. What's going to happen next?

He's coming and coming and gets within five yards and runs right past me. A less experienced referee might have thrown a flag, but I'm like: Let's not make trouble out of nothing. I blow the ball ready for play, they punt the ball and the half ends uneventfully. (Penn State defensive coordinator) Tom Bradley is now running off the field for halftime. I say, "Coach, what was that about?" He says: "Joe's got a touch of the flu; he had a little diarrhea. He had to go."

I want to ask about a few other coaches. How is Scott Frost?

He came in and he required a little bit of a climatization. He needed to get used to the fact that he's now the head coach of a major program in a major conference. And he's matured in the job. It's a humbling job.

He's in a pressure-cooker environment and I can respect that. Would I want to have beers with him after the game? Maybe not.

P.J. Fleck?

He's very intense. He should probably switch to decaf. I think he thinks that he is still playing the game. And he's not. But, boy, you can't argue with the success he has had.

He drew that unsportsmanlike conduct penalty in Iowa City for sprinting onto the field after Tyler Johnson got hurt.

He ran out on the field before the referee had beckoned him. It was just a little overexuberance. If I was the referee on that game, I might have wanted to have that flag back, but I'm not going to criticize him because you've got to make these decisions in the blink of an eye. And I wasn't there. So I don't know what it looked like or felt like. Watching it on TV, that might have been a stern talking-to: "Look, Coach, I know you're concerned about your player, but you've got to wait for us to kill the clock." A coach cannot run on the field at all unless we permit it.

Anything interesting from Ron Zook or Tim Beckman?

Ron Zook was a heck of a coach but a handful to deal with. He was very involved in how he thought that the officiating should be. He was around when we first started to become cognizant of helmet-to-helmet contact. They wanted us to start calling these high hits. I'll never forget there was a play that my field judge called where the ball is overthrown, 10 yards over the receiver's head, and the Illinois defensive back lowers his head, uses the crown of his helmet and knocks him into the middle of next week. My field judge has a flag.

Ron Zook thought the flag was for defensive pass interference. And he was yelling that it was uncatchable, which it certainly was. But that's not what the foul was for, and he couldn't understand why that was a foul. Some coaches have a mindset ofthat's the way that you've always played the game. But it's the coaches who can adapt and re-teach their players who tend to do well.

Pat Fitzgerald?

Total class act. Another one is Kirk Ferentz. He sent a note to the Big Ten office congratulating me on a wonderful career. Paul Chryst. So many wonderful, decent people. Mark Dantonio gets a tough rap because he's such a curmudgeon. He's such an overt, blatant, obvious crab. But I'm crabby, too, and I can respect that. I've had a wonderful relationship with Mark Dantonio. The last time I had him, I walked in (and) said, "Hey, Smilin' Mark, how's it going?" I got a chuckle out of him.

Your final regular-season game was Northwestern-Illinois at your alma mater. You had your four daughters and nine grandchildren there. Plus Fitz and Lovie Smith.

They were the best, just magnificent gentlemen. They're great coaches and they make college football better. And they make the Big Ten better. I was proud to officiate a game with those guys on the sideline.

Chicago Tribune
A+E
Sunday



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Beach Bunny is, from left, guitarist Matt Henkels, singer/guitarist/songwriter Lili Trifilio, bassist Anthony Vaccaro and drummer Jon Alvarado.

A BAND ON THE RISE

Beach Bunny's viral 2019 Lollapalooza set led to a record-label deal and a debut album, due out Feb. 14

By Greg Kot

Concerts by Chicago quartet Beach Bunny often resemble a community catharsis, with hundreds of voices reinforcing singer Lili Trifilio's heartbreak lyrics.

The band-plus-fans combo turns sad songs into exuberant, let-it-all-out declarations of resilience, as if by singing loud enough everyone in the room can pull through their growing pains. The folks who attend Beach Bunny sets inevitably have memorized most of Trifilio's songs, but there's one in particular that stands out: "Prom Queen."

"I'm no Quick Curl Barbie, I was never cut out for prom queen," Trifilio declares on the song, which she recorded on the "Prom Queen" EP in 2018 with her then-new band, which now includes guitarist Matt Henkels, drummer Jon Alvarado and bassist Anthony Vaccaro. "Prom Queen" turned into a viral hit last year, and has now topped 39 million plays on the Spotify streaming platform and become the soundtrack for a half-million short-form videos on the social-media app TikTok. A lot of Beach Bunny songs are about not fitting in, not feeling good enough and bridging the seemingly insurmountable gap between adolescence and adulthood. "Prom Queen" in particular distills tween anxiety and self-doubt with a rare directness. It's a survivor's manual dressed up in dark wit and a sharp, guitar-driven melody.

"I wrote it for a friend who was going through a lot of body issues," Trifilio, 23, says. "I was surprised at how many other people related. When we'd tour, people would come up to me and want to open up about eating disorders and other body issues they were struggling with. It's a pretty common issue with girls. They told me it was a wake-up call, and what they'd say usually made me cry. In my high school I struggled with my own body image. My relationship with food was that I thought of it as a necessary evil."

Through self-education while in college, she found a healthier way to live, and writing "Prom Queen" helped process what she'd learned the hard way. "I was scared to release it because it was so different from anything I had written before," she says. "I was scared it would be listened to in the wrong way, like I was encouraging eating disorders. In general, I think there's a void (in pop music) in discussing social issues, and I hope to write more songs like that."

Trifilio's conversational yet cutting way with words and her ability to write

Turn to ***Beach Bunny, Page 7***

COMMENTARY

Will Oscar's top prize signal change?

A '1917' win would be a retreat, while a 'Parasite' win would be an advance



Michael Phillips
Talking Pictures

We look for meaning in our rituals, even if those rituals bank on money, voyeurism and self-promotion, and even if it's simpler to say: It's just a game or it's only a movie.

The upcoming Academy Awards on Sunday have a hell of an act to follow.

The 92nd edition — in showbiz terms, that's Betty White minus six years — arrives a week after the most recent Super Bowl, which featured the Kansas City Chiefs winning their first championship in 50 years. An exciting game, all right, and if you factor in the Shakira/Jennifer Lopez show at halftime, the hottest since Prince back in 2007, it was a win/win.

If we want to keep the deserving underdog triumphs going, I say Bong Joon Ho's film "Parasite" should win the top Oscar on Sunday instead of the favorite, Sam Mendes' "1917."

What will it mean, exactly, if "1917" takes it? It will mean a triumph for the old guard and the traditionalists among the 8,000-plus voting ranks of the academy. This was plainly true last year, which plopped the best-picture statuette in the laps of the makers of "Green Book," and out of the hands of "Roma."

A win for "1917" recognizes technological wizardry, which has coursed through the film industry's bloodstream since the days of Georges Melies and "A Trip to the Moon," or "The Conquest of the Pole."



FRANÇOIS DUHAMEL/UNIVERSAL PICTURES

George MacKay, center, in a scene from "1917," directed by Sam Mendes. It won seven British Academy of Film and Television Arts awards last week, including for best film, and is up for 10 Oscars on Sunday.

As you may have read, or seen, "1917" unfurls as a *trompe l'oeil,* an optical illusion. It's a seemingly continuous single two-hour shot that is, in reality, made up of several separate but infernally complicated individual tracking shots lasting many minutes, accommodating a slew of practical challenges and visual effects supplanted by digital green-screen fused with "real" action.

The World War I adventure may be light on character, but it's heavy, and effective, on making the horrors of trench warfare and combat survival look like a series of exciting challenges to be overcome, one gaming level at a time.

Last weekend, at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, "1917" snagged the awards for best film, best director and, deservedly, best cinematography (Roger Deakins, a true master). It also won for best British film, production design, visual effects and sound.

Turn to ***Phillips, Page 10***

Movie is more proof of Miranda's savvy

Greater accessibility than ever for 'Hamilton'



CHRIS JONES



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Lin-Manuel Miranda, seen at 2019's "Hamilton the Exhibition," announced a Broadway recording of "Hamilton" will be released in theaters in 2021.

When you're pondering "Hamilton," it's never clear whether you are talking about something distinct and unique in the realm of live entertainment or a bellwether of future trends.

But one thing's for sure: Lin-Manuel Miranda knows how to make choices that pay off.

Take this week's news that Disney has agreed to pay $75 million to license and distribute a filmed version of Miranda's Broadway hit in the fall of 2021. In essence, the producer Jeffrey Seller decided to film two live performances at the Richard Rogers Theatre just before the exit of the original cast, replete with the show's composer, writer and creator Miranda in the title role.

At that juncture, Seller and Miranda had not decided what to do with the footage, which then was spliced together with some additional close-ups so it could be turned into a film directed by Thomas Kail. They just thought it behooved them to get it while they could.

Now, $75 million is a stunning amount of money for a home movie like that. Lots of live artistic events get filmed, and there is a loyal market for them, but it exists outside of the realm of big Hollywood deal-making. Not this time.

And if you were Disney, you surely would see a colossal upside: "Hamilton," with the original company, available at your local movie theater, or maybe on your own mobile device, for just a few dollars. There will be a market for that all across the United States and around the world. I'll wager Disney will net a lot more than $75 million.

Once again, let's marvel at the shrewdness of Miranda's decision-making.

He has the ultimate artistic say on how this property gets developed. He gets a big paycheck personally. He shares new revenue with his producer and the original cast, who were also his trusted collaborators. He can tweet about his making this show accessible to people who could never afford to buy a Broadway theater ticket or pay to get there in person, thus fulfilling his social mission while expanding his brand.

Most of us make choices in life either to make the best living we can or put aside the big bucks to make a difference. Miranda has figured out a way to do both simultaneously by focusing assiduously on expanding his market while tending, person to person, to his fan base on Twitter. In years to come, they'll be making cases out of Miranda's brand management at Harvard Business School.

You never see Miranda go after people on social media or make call-outs or attempt takedowns. And wait, there's more — nobody here has to do much more work.

In terms of the filming, it's already done. You don't have to coordinate schedules of people with busy careers and lives. (Kail, who also directed the Broadway production, currently is expecting a child with his fiancee Michelle Williams). It's all in the can already.

When doing the vast bulk of the filming, the actors were actually double-dipping, being as they were performing in front of a Broadway audience. Brilliant. For them, their share of the $75 million is found money while they do what they otherwise would already have done. All it will require is a few press junkets.

To say these artists of more modest wealth will be even more appreciative of their friend Miranda is putting it mildly.

Even better, Miranda has frozen everyone's ages!

While there is (arguably) nothing inherent to "Hamilton" that prevents the show being performed by older actors, Miranda's original vision was imbued with the idea of youth. The timing offers up another year or so of exclusivity for the live show, which has closed in Chicago after grossing some $400 million but continues to tour around the country with several different companies, even as demand for the film builds. (Brilliant, again).

Miranda has also ensured his own performance in the lead role, which I know he does not want to do as a middle-age man.

I'm not done. This way of proceeding also maintains crucial artistic control for team Miranda: Disney is their customer, not their boss. No new creative players with invasive clout.

And here's the cleverest thing of all: This film does not preclude an actual feature movie. It just kicks that additional payday down the road. It could well be that Miranda and Seller have found a way to sell their show to Hollywood twice.

Sure, there are caveats.

The failure in Chicago of "Hamilton the Exhibition," as I have noted, seemed to suggest that the show's fans want the show, not related historical material. And it could be that Disney can't find an audience. Sure, *could* be.

Disney might also have negotiated such a long period of exclusivity that the feature is so delayed that interest will so limited as to torpedo the viability of the project.

Nothing is forever. People are beginning to move on, even from "Hamilton." But I don't believe that.

Miranda's No. 1 talent is momentum — political, financial, personal. That's because he is steeped in the theater, which is an art-form rooted in the idea of humans in motion, either embracing change or being bowled over by cataclysmic developments for which they were not fully prepared.

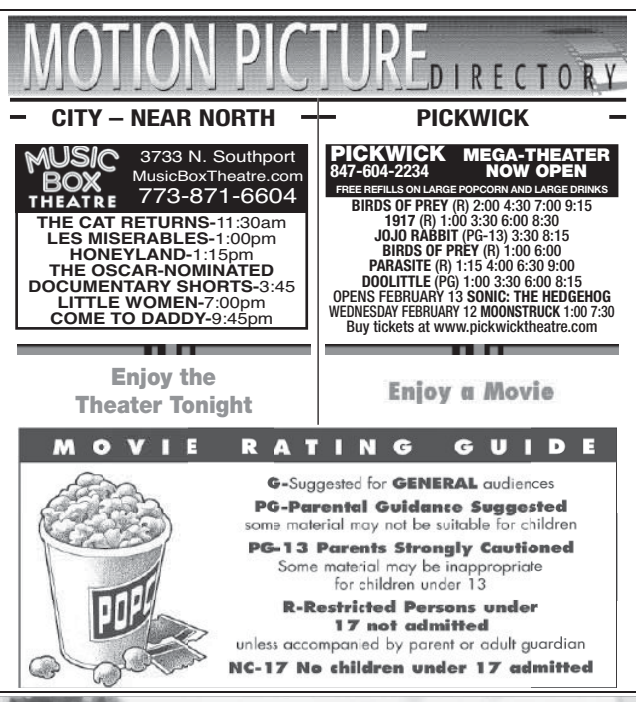
That course of study, when followed with human kindness, beats any MBA.

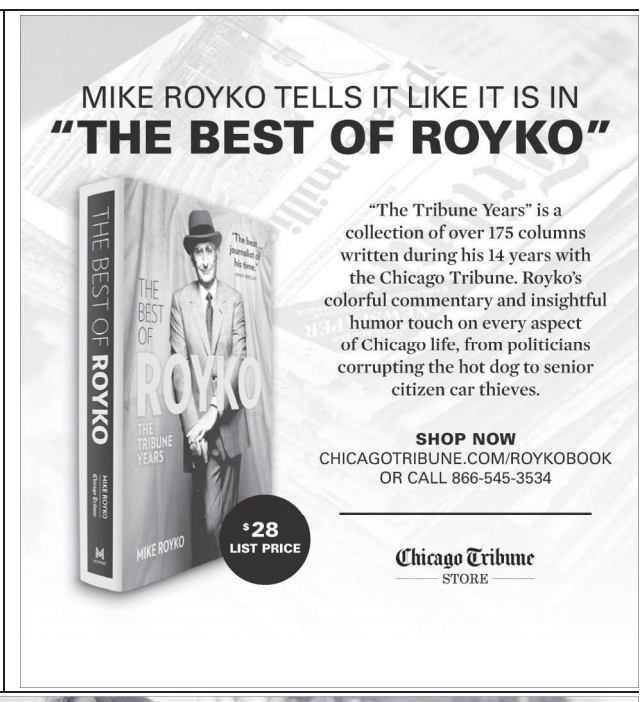
In a review of my book about "Hamilton," someone noted that I consider Miranda the most brilliant performing artist of his generation. Indeed, I do.

For the data, see all of the above.

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Find out at fest what 'folk music' really is



Rick Kogan
Sidewalks



IVONNE RAMÍREZ/HOY

Members of Mariachi Sirenas including Ibet Herrera, Laura Velázquez, Eréndira Izguerra, Evelyn Gómez, Monique Guerrero and Jeanette E. Nevarez. The group will perform at the University of Chicago Folk Festival.

When the University of Chicago's Folklore Society launched its first Folk Festival, the president of this student-run organization, a banjo-playing undergraduate majoring in anthropology named Mike Fleischer, said, "Mass entertainment is murdering tradition and individualism. As many people as possible must be exposed to our folk traditions before they die — before TV reaches into the backwoods of Kentucky."

I wonder what he would think now, since he spoke those words in 1961. But I have no doubt that he would be amazed and pleased to find that the Folk Festival is still fighting the good fight all these decades later and against all manner of foes more dangerous than TV.

"Our intention is not only to preserve but to showcase this music, to allow musicians to connect with one another and with audiences," says Eli Haber, a University of Chicago sophomore who is co-president of the society which hosts the 60th annual University of Chicago Folk Festival on Feb. 14 and 15 on the university's leafy Hyde Park campus.

There is to be a concert each night, and Saturday is filled with workshops, dance lessons, impromptu musical sessions and other folk-friendly activities.

"Folk is so much more diverse and vibrant than most would imagine," said Haber.

Haber was sitting with a former society co-president, Kate Early, who served in that position in 1980 and has remained involved ever since.

"I got hooked as a little kid listening to the festival's live broadcasts on radio," Early said. "Then I sold T-shirts at the fest my first year at the university and then I was president of the society. I've been hooked ever since."

The first folk festival — aired live (and on tape for many years afterward) on WFMT-FM 98.7 and hosted by that station's resident star Studs Terkel — arrived at a time when folk was afire, fueled by such popular performers as Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Harry Belafonte, Josh White, Odetta, the Weavers and Peter, Paul and Mary, among others.

Here, the Old Town School of Folk Music, which had opened in 1957 with a concert featuring a bagpipe performance and a sing-along, has been a constant oasis. In 1966 a bar called the "Earl of Old Town" decided to feature folk and in no time at all became the capital of the folk music world, rightfully so since its stage launched the careers of such artists as John Prine, Bonnie Koloc, the brothers Holstein (Fred and Ed), Jim Post, Steve Goodman ... it was a long list.

But the boom had already begun to go bust by the late 1960s after Bob Dylan picked up an electric guitar at Newport Folk Festival, the Beatles crossed the ocean and, well, you've heard the rest. Folk wandered off into the musical shadows in part, as one performer put it, "times became so much more hectic and so did the music."

Those words came from Bob Shane, once at the folk forefront as a founder of the Kingston Trio (with Nick Reynolds and John Stewart), best remembered for such hits as "Tom Dooley." He died last month at 85.

"The folk boom was a great thing," said Early, who has also been a performer, currently with the Bittersweet Christmas Band while pursuing a career working for such associations as the Ravinia Festival and the American College of Surgeons.

"But there's always something coming along to give the music a boost."

She mentions the folk-influenced soundtrack for the 2000 movie, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" (More recently there was last year's Ken Burns' "Country Music" documentary series).

"Some of the performers in that film had performed over the years at our festival," said Early.

When you think "folk" some of you probably have in mind an image of a shaggy-haired character strumming a guitar in a dark coffeehouse and singing songs of chain gangs and broken hearts. But others are more enlightened.

Ron Pen, a native Chicagoan, was for decades a professor of musicology at the University of Kentucky and the director of its John Jacob Niles Center for American Music. He tells me, "The term 'folk music' doesn't mean much anymore since it has been usurped as a word for generally acoustic music as a marketing and Grammy category.

"I love Aunt Molly Jackson's definition the best."

He gave me something written by Jackson, who was a Kentucky coal union activist in the 1920s and '30s, a midwife, song writer and do-it-yourself speller: "This is what a folk song realy (sic) is the folks that composes there (sic) own songs about there (sic) own lifes (sic) an there own home folks that live around them."

"(A) folk song is sustainability, recycling the dusty past into a vibrant present through shared music and poetry," Pen said.

Michael Miles is an acclaimed local musician, composer and teacher, named by the Old Town School its 2018 Musician and Educator of the Year. He had a long and impactful relationship with Seeger, one of the titans of folk, however one chooses to define that word.

"Folk music is the ultimate proletariat phrase because what I mean when I say 'folk music' will inevitably pass through the filter of what you think it means when you hear those words — and those two spheres may be at opposite ends of musical spectrum," Miles said. "The result is anarchy or democracy or nirvana.

"Bottom line is that doors to folk music have always been wide open — you want to sing, you want to dance, beat on a drum, pick up a banjo, play the bagpipes — why the hell not? The world of folk music, as exemplified by U of C for the past 60 years, celebrates the worldwide traditions of human expression, coming from the heart of the folks. But beyond that it includes the where and the traditions — folk music can echo its origins and honor its elders.

"Flamenco dancers, Argentinian tango, vaudeville hoofers, Muntu dancers — they all represent the same thing: who they are, why they are, where their roots are. Hip-hop can join those ranks as well — born on the streets, reflective of the culture. The Indian raga of Ravi Shankar and the blues scales of Buddy Guy have the same elements — trumpeting an identity, amplifying its pride and passing it along to the next generation."

Pen and Miles have never met. I must make that happen soon. To prove their point, look at the list of the performers at this weekend's festival. They come from all over the country and here in town.

"I have never liked the idea of America as a melting pot, of everything getting lumped together and all ending up the same," said Early. "I rather like to think of this world as a musical mosaic, all these separate identities able to be distinctive within the whole."

I read to Early and Haber something else that Fleischer said when he founded the festival long ago: "Popular music today gives people no credit for brains."

The 20-year-old Haber smiled and said, "Well, we don't have that sort of antagonistic attitude. We just want people to listen and enjoy."

rkogan@chicagotribune.com

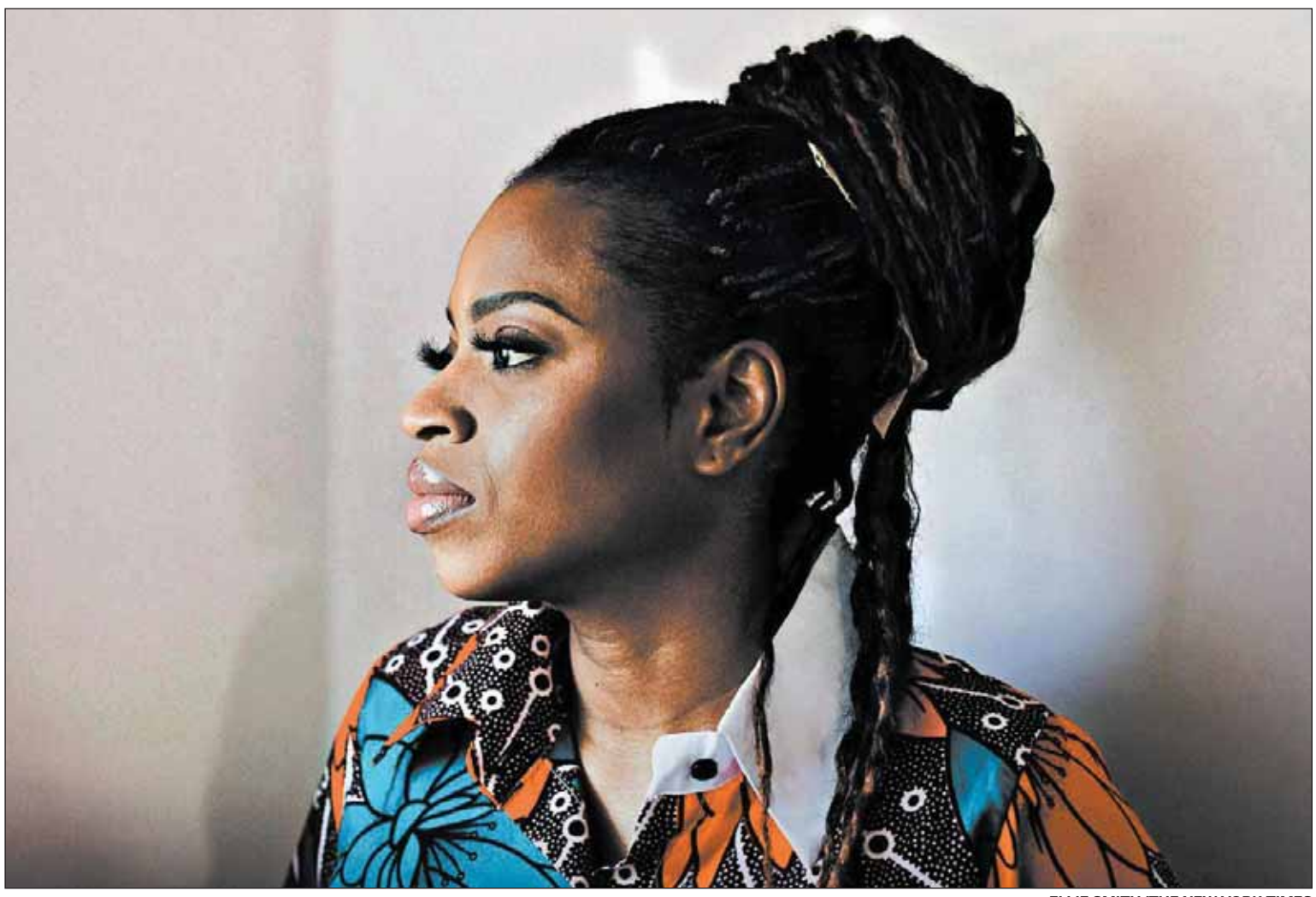


BOOKS

Looking for a chance to excel

Abi Daré confronts 'dreams and intelligence that we kill' when girls must work instead of learn

By Concepción de León
The New York Times



ELLIE SMITH/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Abi Daré's debut novel, "The Girl With the Louding Voice," gives voice to a 14-year-old girl who endures abuse and exploitation, and yearns to attend school, as a housemaid for a rich Lagos family.

The inspiration for Abi Daré's first book struck when one of her daughters, then 8, didn't feel like unloading the dishwasher.

Daré, who lives in London but grew up in Lagos, told her that there were girls her age in Nigeria who did housework for a living.

"She stopped and said, 'But what do you mean, Mom? Do you mean like working, like doing the day's work in an office, and they get paid? That's really cool they get paid. Can I get paid?' " Daré recalled in an interview.

The conversation gave her a new perspective on something that was common among middle-class families like the one in which she was raised: employing young girls as so-called housemaids.

That night, Daré started doing research. She searched "housemaids in Nigeria" and came across articles detailing the violence, mistreatment and low or nonexistent pay that are often part of their working conditions. One account of a 13-year-old girl whose employer scalded her with boiling water stood out. "The report was harrowing," Daré said, "but what also made it quite painful for me was that her face was a blur, and it just felt like another statistic to report."

Her debut novel, "The Girl With the Louding Voice," out last Tuesday, gives voice to one such girl. Raised in poverty, 14-year-old Adunni finds work as a housemaid for a rich Lagos family, enduring abuse and exploitation while she yearns to go to school.

Daré, 38, who works in project management for an academic publisher, talked about the novel's focus on education, writing about class in Nigeria and how she tried to find Adunni's voice. These are edited excerpts from the conversation.

Q: Why did you decide to write the book in broken English?

A: I felt that I needed to break her English down and break myself down in the process to understand her, so that she could be understood by anyone else who's reading it. When I was writing it, I did not think it would get published. So I was really telling myself a story.

Many of the maids I knew or that my husband knew, they didn't speak good English. I found that I couldn't use any metaphors that I was used to, and I found myself constantly thinking of the character and saying, "How would she say it?"

Q: How did you tap into that? What were some of the challenges of writing in that voice?

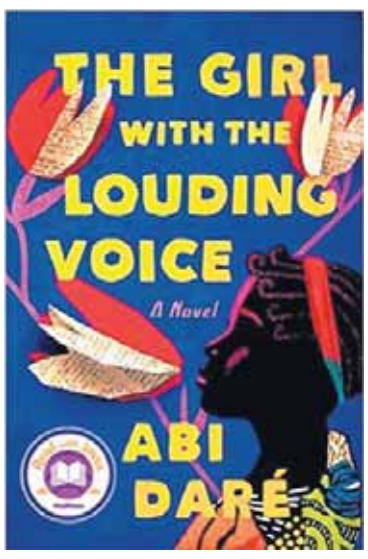
A: Nigerians speak something called pidgin English, and I knew I didn't want to write in pidgin English because even the very educated people speak pidgin English. So I knew it wasn't going to be that. I wanted it to be non-standard English, whatever that meant. I thought by doing that, I could make it Adunni's. It could be her own English, so to speak.

So the first thing I did was to watch as many Nigerian movies as I could. I was watching these movies of people in the market, and they would describe the political situation in Nigeria with broken English but with frustration at not being able to get out what they're trying to say. I watched a lot of that.

I looked through Alice Walker's "The Color Purple" over and over again. I know it's not the same, but it was very helpful to see how Alice Walker did that, because I thought, "OK, she's very educated, so how did she get that out?"

Q: Despite the broken English, you can really tell how bright and feisty Adunni is.

A: I wanted to explore the amount of talent and dreams and intelligence that we kill and waste when we don't allow these girls to go to school, when we hire these young girls and get them to work. I wanted to show that this was a girl who dreamed. She is more than just a girl that needs to be up at 4 in the morning. She's intelligent, and if she was given a chance, and other young girls in the world, they will shine and they will thrive. I really wanted her to come across as someone that was more than a girl that could not speak English. And this is why she makes that realization somewhere in the book that, look, it's just a language. It's not a measure of intelligence.



'The Girl With the Louding Voice'

By Abi Daré, Dutton, 384 pages, $26

Q: When Adunni arrives in Lagos, she has a hard time understanding class — she asks why she can't talk to Big Madam, her employer, directly. I wonder if you could speak a little bit about that class distinction and why she might not have been attuned to what it meant.

A: She's from a village where everyone is kind of the same class. Then once she gets to Lagos and sees this wealth, I mean, that was a huge chasm. There's a huge divide between the poor and the rich, and I saw that growing up. The people that work for families would be treated as if they were second-class citizens. She couldn't understand it because she'd only known a society where everyone could speak to everyone. It's just very strange to her. And also her personality as well. She loves to speak and she loves to be heard.

Q: You used a fictional book called "The Big Book of Nigerian Facts" in the novel, and I found it interesting that Adunni has lived in Nigeria her whole life, but she was learning about it from a book. What do you make of the Nigeria that she knows versus the Nigeria that she's learning about in this big book?

A: Nigeria is such a huge country that I have never even been to many of the states. There are things about Nigeria that I'm still discovering, and that's just the vastness of the country. I wanted to reflect that, especially for a character like Adunni that has come from not being fully educated and being shielded by her village.

Q: The book hinges on her desire for an education; it's what drives her throughout the book. Can you talk about that particular choice?

A: I was about 14 or 15, I was just discovering that I was pretty, and I was getting a bit of attention, having crushes on guys. And one evening, I was going to meet up with one guy — I was meeting him downstairs. We had agreed to meet at a certain time, at 8 o'clock.

I took the dustbin, and I pretended to go empty the trash, and as I was going downstairs, my mother walked behind me. I was like, "Why is she coming with me?" And so I got downstairs, and then she said, "Come here. Let's have a chat." She said, "I know you're not going to empty the trash. I know you're going to meet a guy."

She said, "Listen, all of this is going to pass away. You're going to leave. You're going to get older. Beauty will fade. Everything will fade, but the only thing that will not fade is your intelligence, and what is in your head, your education."

She also said to me, as I got older: "The only reason why I've been able to educate yourself and your brother is because I invested in my own education and made something out of my life. If I hadn't, you both would not be where you are today."

That really resonated with me, the importance of education. I'd seen it in my mother's life, and then I grasped onto it myself. I think that conversation that night was life-changing for me. In Nigeria as a whole, education is very valued, but sadly there's not enough of it to go around because of poverty. And so I wanted to drive that home.

A lot of people are very educated and not all of them get jobs, especially in this day and age. But for someone like Adunni, education was the first step to anything else. I think that it is an essential foundation for any life, especially for girls.

REVIEW

A Chicago novelist's strong debut

By Kathleen Rooney

What reader would fail to be enticed by a book whose theme is the irresistible enticement of books? For Michael Zapata's expansive, bighearted and time-hopping debut novel, "The Lost Book of Adana Moreau," is about many things, but its overarching subject is the sensation one sometimes gets as a reader that one has "stumbled upon the presence of something extraordinary."

The Adana Moreau of the title hails from the Dominican Republic, a country she is forced to leave in 1916 after invading Americans murder her parents. She ends up in New Orleans, married to "The Last Pirate of the New World," and there they raise their son, Maxwell, as she writes a gorgeous and weird science-fiction novel called "The Lost City." On the heels of that book's modest success, she writes a sequel called "A Model Earth," the only copy of which she chooses to destroy just before she dies in a cholera epidemic on the eve of the Great Depression.

Or does she? When the manuscript turns up in Chicago in the early 21st century, protagonist Saul Drower finds himself charged with the fulfillment of his grandfather Benjamin's dying wish: that the book be returned to Maxwell Moreau. The quest takes Saul and his journalist friend, Javier, to New Orleans in the ghastly aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

The dispersing forces of exile and displacement recur throughout, but so too do the binding powers of friendship and love. If life is, as one minor character thinks, "marked by random and often meaningless events," then Zapata's book is an eloquent argument that stories let humans shape what happens to and around them into significant patterns.

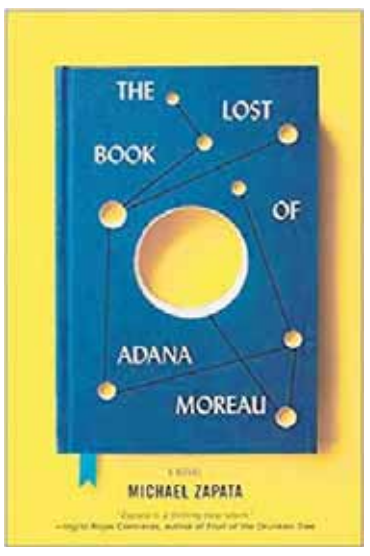
Full of stories within stories, Zapata builds his layers with a light touch, so that the found documents — like a newspaper story from 1999 about "a group of elderly women in Chile who had spent the better part of two and a half decades combing the Atacama Desert for the preserved remains and bone fragments of their husbands and children 'disappeared' by the brutal Pinochet regime" — do not impede but rather enhance the flow and add to the texture.

Politically engaged, the book is deeply critical of betrayals and injustices of all kinds and in all parts of the globe, reckoning unsparingly with humanity's hard-wired propensity both to destroy and to self-destruct. As Maxwell Moreau thinks when he's a boy, trying to make sense of the sorrows and violence that have already marked his young existence: "On one hand, the past was *starlight*. On the other, there was no such thing as the Incas, the Mongols, the Romans, or the British. Only variations of the same bloodthirsty (expletive) repeated through time."

Remarkably, Zapata's tone is frequently gently or even absurdly comic and his sensibility is one of great love for human beings and for life itself. This seeming contradiction operates as the central tension that animates the entire novel, the source of the "unusual and acute joy" that the book preserves "in the face of idleness and horror."

Plenty of writers have responded to our current political moment with depictions of various dystopian near-futures, but Zapata's stroke of brilliance is to set his book in the dystopian near-past. By portraying such recent apocalypses as the Argentine financial crisis of 2001, for instance, Zapata offers the insight that the world is not merely going to end, but already has ended countless times and is perpetually ending all of the time, especially if you're not rich, not white, not powerful (but also even if you are). "The past devours the future," as a newspaper editor in Argentina puts it. The concept of parallel Earths — multiverses with multifarious storylines — recurs throughout, and that's where the book derives its well-earned underlying sense of hope: the thought that no matter how remote and unlikely, there are always other possibilities and opportunities, choices that could be made that don't have to be bad.

Saul's grandfather Benjamin says, "Every telling of an event is a portrait of the teller and not the event itself." The events Zapata recounts here deliver an indelible portrait of a jubilant and generous storyteller — one from whom readers should look eagerly forward to hearing more.

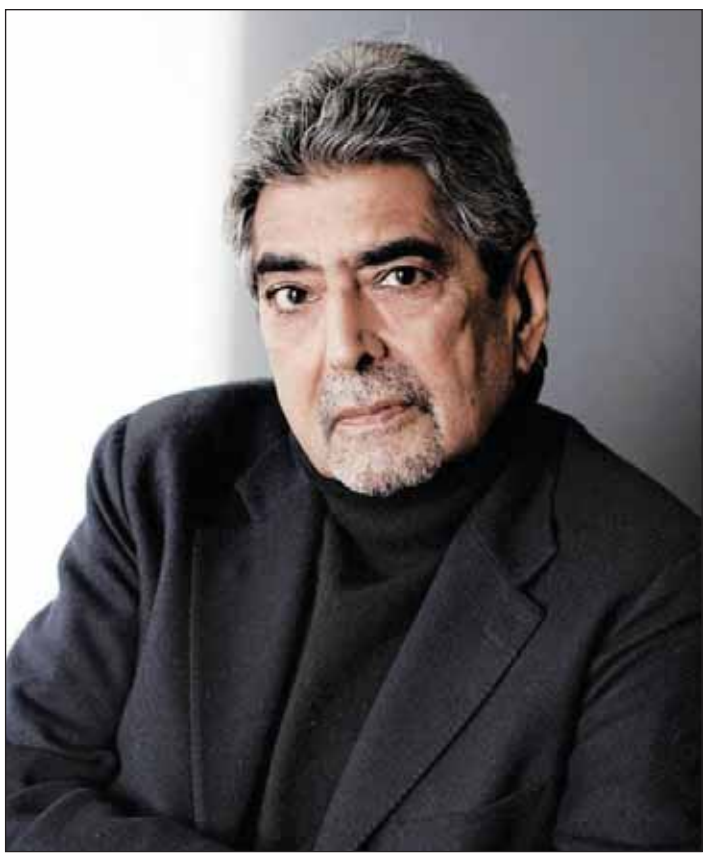


'The Lost Book of Adana Moreau'

By Michael Zapata, Hanover Square, 272 pages, $26.99

Kathleen Rooney's latest novel, "Cher Ami and Major Whittlesey," is forthcoming in August.





MICHAEL LIONSTAR/ALFRED A. KNOPF/RANDOM HOUSE

Reagan Arthur, left, is the newly named executive vice president and publisher of Alfred A. Knopf. She succeeds longtime Knopf publisher Sonny Mehta, right, who died in December.

BIBLIORACLE

New publisher has strong instincts

By John Warner

Sonny Mehta, who had been at the helm of the Knopf publishing group since 1987, died in December. Many, including me, believe Knopf to be the premier literary imprint in American publishing.

Under Mehta's leadership, Knopf published both literary heavyweights, such as Toni Morrison and John Updike, as well as high-quality, popular entertainments, such as "Jurassic Park" and "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo."

In photographs, Mehta looks like he comes from another time: a dashing figure with a cigarette often crooked between his fingers, somehow being allowed to smoke in his office long after such things were strictly legal. When my good friend Kevin Guilfoile sold his first novel, "Cast of Shadows," to Knopf, I was excited for him. When I found out he got to meet with Mehta personally, I was intensely jealous.

The New York Times described Mehta as a "voracious reader and an instinctive decision maker."

Perhaps even more surprising than Mehta being allowed to smoke in his office was that fact that he was allowed to act on instinct in running a publishing group that would, for example, pay a record-setting $15 million advance for Bill Clinton's post-presidency memoir, "My Life."

Regular readers know that I'm a big believer in instinct when it comes to how we relate to books. My weekly recommendations are purely driven by instinct. It's what makes them fun, surprising and, occasionally, total flops. It would all be less interesting to believe I had to follow some kind of science to tell people what they should read.

But as a culture, we seem to be heading toward a world where people believe data can reveal the secrets to life, the universe and everything. (Apologies to Douglas Adams.)

Hollywood studios have embraced algorithms to tell them which movies make the best box-office bets. There are similar, less promising, attempts for books, but there is no doubt some people believe these things can be reduced to a formula to maximize return — and to make sure there aren't any interesting flops.

What a joyless, frankly inhuman process this all would be if we are not allowed to trust our instincts, even though they may occasionally lead us astray.

This is why I am heartened to see the news that Reagan Arthur, most recently publisher of Little, Brown, will succeed Mehta as the head of Knopf. You may not know Arthur's name, but you have read her authors: David Sedaris, Kate Atkinson, Malcolm Gladwell, Megan Abbott and James Patterson.

Granted, I am a professional book nerd, but for years I've looked at a Reagan Arthur book as one likely worthy of my time. I couldn't think of a better successor.

Apparently Mehta couldn't either, arranging for Arthur to take the job in his final months of work.

Obviously, publishing has changed since Mehta started at Knopf in 1987. The whole apparatus feels a little more tenuous and uncertain as new media compete for our time. It is tougher for the average writer to make a living, as the industry has become more beholden to booming sales from a limited number of titles.

But as long as there are real people, real voracious readers like Sonny Mehta and Reagan Arthur at the head of these institutions, maybe we have a few good years left.

John Warner is the author of "Why They Can't Write: Killing the Five-Paragraph Essay and Other Necessities."
Twitter @biblioracle

Book recommendations from the Biblioracle

John Warner tells readers what book to pick up next, based on the last five titles they've read.

1. "Chemistry" by Weike Wang
2. "Last To Die: A Defeated Empire, a Forgotten Mission, and the Last American Killed in World War II" by Stephen Harding
3. "Citizen Soldiers" by Stephen Ambrose
4. "The Man Who Saved the Union: Ulysses Grant in War and Peace" by H.W. Brands
5. "Moneyball" by Michael Lewis
— Ben B., Frankfort
A difficult list heavy on history-related nonfiction, but also including the funky little novel "Chemistry." I'm intrigued. This week I'm writing from the home of brother and sister-in-law Biblioracle, so I'm only picking books they have on their shelves. Fortunately, they have a lot of books, including just the right one for Ben: **"The Prince of Tides"** by Pat Conroy.

---

1. "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens
2. "A Gentleman in Moscow" by Amor Towles
3. "The Immortalists" by Chloe Benjamin
4. "Theodore Boone: The Accomplice" by John Grisham
5. "Behold the Dreamers" by Imbolo Mbue
— Lynn R., Mt. Prospect
I think Lynn will enjoy digging into the satisfying heft of Larry McMurtry's **"Lonesome Dove."**

---

1. "The Given Day" by Dennis Lehane
2. "At Risk" by Alice Hoffman
3. "The Death of Mrs. Westaway" by Ruth Ware
4. "Cold Earth" by Ann Cleeves
5. "World's End" by T.C. Boyle
— David B., Lincoln Park
A little further out there than David's list, but a book I have great luck with in recommending it to a wide variety of readers: **"Cloud Atlas"** by David Mitchell.

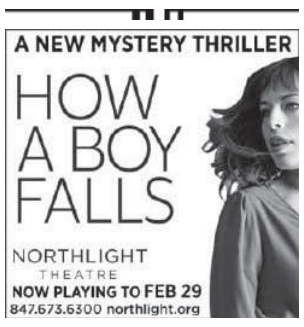
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LITERARY EVENTS

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TUESDAY EVENTS



ROSABETH MOSS KANTER
Think Outside the Building
Tues., Feb. 11, Luncheon, 11:30 am
The Union League Club
65 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago
847 446-8880
www.thebookstall.com

The Book Stall presents Harvard Business School professor **ROSABETH MOSS KANTER** for a discussion of "**Think Outside the Building**: How Advanced Leaders Can Change the World One Smart Innovation at a Time," her book showing how business leaders can unleash their creativity and entrepreneurial adroitness to mobilize partners in challenging cultural, social, and political situations. Reservations required: **847 446-8880**.

WEDNESDAY EVENTS



JOSHUA HAMMER
The Falcon Thief -- Two events
Wed., Feb. 12 at 6:30 pm
The Book Stall, Winnetka
Thurs., Feb. 13, University Club
847 446-8880
www.thebookstall.com

The Book Stall presents two opportunities to hear **JOSHUA HAMMER** discuss his true-crime novel "The Falcon Thief: A True Tale of Adventure, Treachery, and the Hunt for the Perfect Bird." It's the story of an Irish national who traded in rare birds and their eggs--and the detective from the UK's National Wildlife Crime Unit who was determined to stop him. Reservations required for the University **Club** of Chicago noon luncheon: **847 446-8880**.

THURSDAY EVENTS



KRISTINA KUZMIC
Hold On, But Don't Hold Still
Thursday, February 13 at 7 pm
DoubleTree Hilton
3003 Corporate West Dr. Lisle
(630) 355-2665
www.andersonsbookshop.com

Anderson's Bookshop in Naperville presents **Kristina Kuzmic** sharing her fresh, funny take on parenting, **Hold On, But Don't Hold Still**. Tickets for this special Galentines Day celebration may be purchased at KuzmicAndersons.brownpapertickets.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS



SUSAN FURLONG
Shattered Justice
Sunday, February 16 at 2 pm
Anderson's Bookshop
26 S. La Grange Rd. La Grange
708 582-6353
www.andersonsbookshop.com

Anderson's Bookshop in **La Grange** presents Illinois novelist **Susan Furlong** with her exciting book, **Shattered Justice**. This event is free and open to the public. To join the booksigning line, please purchase the author's featured book at **Anderson's Bookshop**.



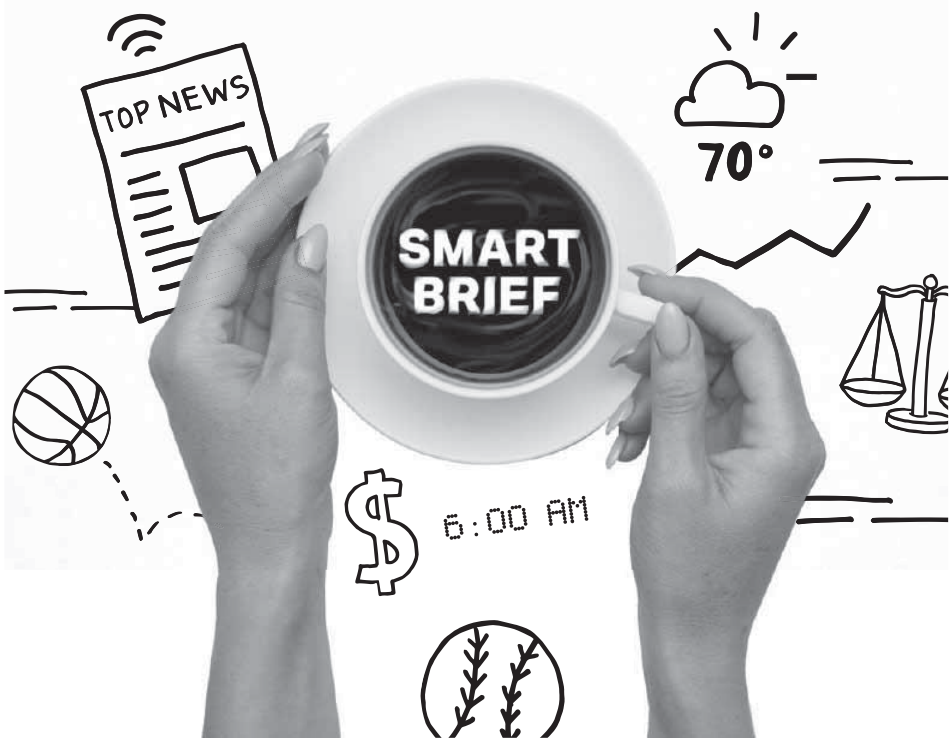
MARY KUBICA
The Other Mrs.
Monday, February 17 at 7 pm
Anderson's Bookshop
123 W. Jefferson Ave. Naperville
(630) 355-2665
www.andersonsbookshop.com

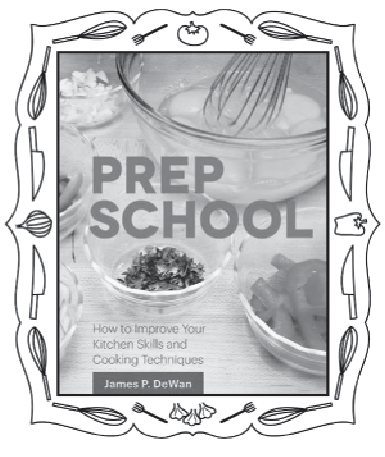
Anderson's Bookshop in **Naperville** welcomes back **Mary Kubica** to launch her new thriller, **The Other Mrs.** This event is free and open to the public. To join the booksigning line, please purchase the author's featured book from **Anderson's Bookshop**.

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Alternate view of Beethoven's symphonies

John Eliot Gardiner turns back the calendar



Howard Reich
On Music

Sometime in the not-too-distant future, listeners will hear the complete Beethoven symphonies as recorded live by Riccardo Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

The recordings, still in progress as the musicians continue to perform these works in concert, will stand as a great maestro's thoughts on a landmark of the symphonic repertoire.

But there's another way to approach Beethoven's symphonies as the world celebrates the composer's 250th birthday (in December): not performed by a modern orchestra but by one using "period instruments." Meaning instruments that attempt to capture, as much as is possible at this late date, the tone and character of the music as it sounded in Beethoven's era.

That's the approach that eminent conductor John Eliot Gardiner and the Orchestre Revolutionnaire et Romantique will bring this month to the Harris Theater for Music and Dance, where the musicians will perform the complete cycle in several concerts.

This will put Chicago listeners in a unique position: contrasting Muti and the CSO's approach as it unfolds in Orchestra Hall with the radically different sound of Gardiner and the ORR at the Harris Theater.

Which may lead some listeners to ask simply "why"? Why not enjoy the fuller, richer sound of a modern symphony orchestra? Why try to re-create centuries-old sonorities and performance practices when we ultimately don't know what listeners of that era heard, since recordings did not exist?

"Because I think it lifts a whole layer of grime and accretions of fungus, if you like," says Gardiner, referring not only to the way modern instruments change the sounds of historic works but the ways latter-day musicians have become accustomed to playing the Beethoven symphonies.

In effect, Gardiner and friends are trying to counteract "a fat, later style that's much more appropriate to Richard Wagner and to Richard Strauss than it is to Beethoven," says Gardiner. "This is an act of distillation and purification."

Meaning that modern orchestras may not be doing justice to music of Beethoven's era, so far as Gardiner is concerned. This proposition is open to debate, for a case can be made that the 21st-century orchestra gives Beethoven's music a heft and grandeur that the composer might have welcomed had he ever heard it.

Then again, Beethoven didn't hear a great deal of his symphonic music since he grew deaf over time. So, ultimately, performers and audiences can only guess at Beethoven's intentions, albeit based on what the scores say and on written accounts of performances during Beethoven's life and shortly thereafter.

One has to remember, Gardiner observes, "the fact that Beethoven's orchestra only existed in his imagination since he went deaf so early on. The performances of his symphonies in Vienna were indifferent to poor because they were given one rehearsal only, often in very cold halls, (musicians) were sight reading (and) they weren't familiar with the music. And also Beethoven himself couldn't hear or correct them because of his deafness. It's tragic.

"This means that the Beethoven orchestra was a figment of his aural memory. And our job as interpreters is to try and get in touch with that aural memory and re-create it."

A noble task, but a virtually impossible one. Still, period-instrument advocates such as Gardiner perform a valuable mission, shedding some light on how this music may have sounded in its own era and forcing us to confront long-held presumptions about Beethoven's work.

Which brings us to a difficult question: How close to the original meaning and context of this music can Gardiner and colleagues get?



LOU FOGLIA/TRIBUNE FILE

John Eliot Gardiner concludes a 2017 performance of Claudio Monteverdi's opera "L'Orfeo" at the Harris Theater. He will conduct an orchestra of period instruments for Beethoven's 250th birthday in December.

"I can't answer that," says the conductor with characteristic frankness. "It's hope rather than assurance.

"I think what we're doing, which is honest, is to make sure that our scholarship and our musicology are sound, that we're using the right (score) editions. Whoever were the first copyists who had to copy from Beethoven's manuscripts were saints."

Indeed, Beethoven's handwritten scores can be quite a jumble, the composer having scratched out notes, added new ones, then scratched out those.

"His (score) autographs are appallingly complex to repeat," says Gardiner. "But if you get that bit at least honorably right, we're doing OK. Then reconstructing the instruments that were known to have been used at the time helps. Then it's a matter of instinct and interpretation, and yours is as good as mine."

Actually, no, Gardiner's is better, for he has spent a lifetime studying age-old scores and attempting to discern how to interpret them with as much authenticity as possible. Given the challenges involved, perhaps it's better to regard this work less as a definitive answer to how Beethoven wanted his music to sound and more as an ongoing inquiry into that question.

Gardiner, in other words, may be bringing us closer to the composer's intent — or not. Yet, at the very least, there's something invigorating about hearing this music performed in fundamentally different ways, with slightly flatter pitch than we're accustomed to and with instruments of different capabilities.

In the period-instrument setting, "one actually hears more of the content of the Beethoven symphonies," Gardiner asserts. "Why should that be? I think it's because the instruments of that period have greater clarity, greater transparency, greater individuality. So it's possible to detect the individual lines that make up the scores with more impact.

"The other thing is that one gets a more visceral experience of the symphonies. Because when a modern orchestra plays, there's a bit of restraint in terms of volume and dynamics because if there wasn't, it would just become a mush or a cacophony.

"The wonderful thing about the period instrument is that you can push them right to almost the breaking point, the cracking point, and that generates a fantastic sense of exhilaration and excitement."

Will audiences conditioned to the sound of a mighty ensemble such as the CSO be surprised by what the ORR produces? Will some listeners find this revelatory while others are underwhelmed? Will this provoke discussion about whether Beethoven's interests are best being served?

Yes to all the above. But open ears and minds compel anyone who values these works to study what Gardiner and the ORR will bring to Chicago.

To those who do, Beethoven's symphonies never will be quite the same again.

John Eliot Gardiner will lead the Orchestre Revolutionnaire et Romantique, the Monteverdi Choir and vocal soloists in Beethoven's Symphony Nos. 8 and 9, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 27; Symphony No. 1 and "Prometheus" and "Leonore" excerpts, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 28; Symphony Nos. 2 and 3, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 29; Symphony Nos. 4 and 5, 7:30 p.m. March 2; and Symphony Nos. 6 and 7, 7:30 p.m. March 3; Harris Theater, 205 E. Randolph St.; ticket prices vary; 312-334-7777 or www.harristheaterchicago.org.

Howard Reich is a Tribune critic. hreich@chicagotribune.com



FACT #341
The folks who brought us Reddi-wip whipped cream had another brainstorm in the 1960s: Reddi-Bacon.



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FACT #84
A cardigan worn by a man is sometimes called a mandigan.

FACT #147
When someone uses chitchat, noises, or mannerisms to distract or mislead an opponent during poker or another game, it's called "coffeehousing."

FACT #178
Genuphobia is the fear of knees.

FACT #238
Actress Marilyn Monroe colored her hair using a shade of blond called dirty pillow slip.

FACT #279
Before Sir Thomas More was beheaded in 1535, he moved his lengthy beard aside, saying it "had never committed any treason."

FACT #302
Tweety Bird, the animated Looney Tunes character, was originally pink. But censors complained that Tweety looked naked, so animators gave the bird yellow feathers.

FACT #408
Joe Charbonneau, a Belvedere, Ill., native, who played outfield for the Cleveland Indians in the early '80s , used to open beer bottles with his eye socket and drink beer through a straw in his nose.

FACT #459
When actor Clint Eastwood ran for mayor of Carmel, California, in 1986, a major issue was ice cream. Town leaders had banned the sale of ice cream cones, incensing Eastwood and his supporters. They won and overturned the ordinance.

Davis' work circles back to Chicago

Groundbreaking genderqueer artist and performer has a show at the Art Institute

By Ariel Parrella-Aureli



HECTOR MARTINEZ PHOTO

Visual artist and musician Vaginal Davis has a show at the Art Institute. The museum is the first institution in the world to collect her video work.

In the '90s, genderqueer performance artist Vaginal Davis created comedic movies on Super 8 and 16mm film with no budget that were constantly rejected by gay and lesbian film festivals. She was often considered to be on the fringe of both the LGBTQ community and the alternative punk scene.

Instead, she created her own community and was part of the founding Homocore movement, a nationwide scene that reinterpreted hardcore punk through queer cultures, zines and music groups of the decade that influenced the feminist punk Riot Grrrl movement. Now she has a video show at the Art Institute of Chicago.

"Because I wasn't thought of as sexually attractive within the mainstream (heteronormative) gay scene, there wasn't a place for me sexually," Davis said, who was born intersex. "So I was able to just concentrate on keeping myself occupied by doing creative and artistic things."

Davis is known for her self-published zines, flamboyant and provocative drag performances that challenged authority, films and music in a cappella bands like the Afro Sisters, ¡Cholita! and metal group Pedro, Muriel, and Esther, also known as PME, which performed at local punk venue the Empty Bottle.

The Los Angeles native, who has lived in Berlin since 2005, has deep Chicago connections and views the city like a second home. She was part of the local Homocore front, during which time she and her group PME recorded its first album, "The White to Be Angry" produced by Steve Albini in 1998.

The next year, Davis directed and produced her prolific video of the same title, which was her declaration challenging constructions of race, class and gender by addressing white supremacy in the political gamut — a critical piece of art that is circling back to the cultural sphere with an exhibit at the Art Institute, "Vaginal Davis: The White to be Angry," giving the artist a mainstream platform to express her artwork and shed light on her influence, history and contributions to the queer art scene.

"I try not to be all dogmatic and preachy but let people make their own connections," Davis said about the film. "It parallels all the things that have been going on more recently with all this toxic masculinity."

"The White to Be Angry" is a visual album of songs that each reference a different film director and comment on race, identity, homosexuality and white privilege through white alt-right characters separated by sequences of appropriated TV footage.

In her eyes, the current political climate and fear tactics from the Trump administration have created a toxic environment for gender equality and diverse communities, reminiscent of the Reagan era. Davis said it's funny — and scary — that the themes she hit on in the '90s are still prevalent.

The Art Institute exhibit marks a new era for the artist. The museum is the first institution in the world to collect her video work, putting it on display to celebrate her and look at a pivotal time in history and culture and to preserve lo-fi art. Exhibit co-curators Hendrik Folkerts and Solveig Nelson have created a program surrounding the exhibit with events to encompass the diverse iterations of the artist's work and how they influenced each other. Davis will come to the museum on Wednesday for a free artist talk and on Feb. 21, local punk bands will perform to pay homage to Homocore's legacy.

"What I hope that showing her work in Chicago at this moment in time does is allow the complexities of that history to come forth and to allow more access to it," said Folkerts.

Nelson said the relevance of "The White to be Angry" questions the relationship between skinheads and white supremacy at a moment when the latter seemed to be a subculture. On the other hand, it looks at an analysis of white supremacy as the dominant culture, she said, which can feel true today from a political perspective.

"Vaginal seemed very ahead of her time in an ability to analyze



ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

A video still from "The White to Be Angry," a new show about the video work of Vaginal Davis, is on exhibit at the Art Institute until April.

both and take some agency over how those fantasies and images are circulating," Nelson said. "It's a conceptual art piece and much of it destabilizes language and what we think we know about these topics."

Davis' call on racism was true to who she is as a person, said Mark Freitas, co-founder of Homocore Chicago along with Joanna Brown. Homocore Chicago, active from 1992 to 2000, booked punk shows at venues like Czar Bar, the Empty Bottle, Fireside Bowl and more. He said Davis was one of the group's first big show and her individualism stood out.

"Vag is always Vag," said Freitas. "Vag is never another personality that is put on. This is who she is all the time."

She herself said her individualism is one of the reasons she's still around today. Brown remembers Davis similarly as the "epitome of glamour and cutting edge no one else was doing."

"It was more than a drag show, it was a complete lifestyle that she lives that was so beautiful," Brown said.

Reflecting on her Chicago days, Davis remembered a 1999 show at cultural jazz venue HotHouse, formerly in the South Loop until its storefront closed in 2007, in which her punk songs were rearranged into a jazz style by Scott Free, a musician and member of Homocore Chicago who hosts the longest-running queer performance series in the country in Uptown called Homolatte. Backed by a 5-piece jazz combo, the songs surprised Davis because they were a full flip from punk.

Free, who called Davis the goddess of queer punk, said the jazz performance blew people away because of its originality.

"She told me to start playing the first song and she was not going to come out, and at some point I should just stop," Free said with a laugh. "After tension filled the room, she came on stage dressed as (a) psychic, doing an improv sketch in drag while jazz played in the background."

Davis' prominence in the punk scene and her continuous efforts to challenge authority have made her an influential icon. Free and the founders of Homocore Chicago said she deserves to be recognized at a large institution like the Art Institute.

"It's gratifying to see great art finally get its recognition and to wider audiences too," Freitas said of the new exhibit.

Davis credits her artistic influence to the simple fact that she didn't die. On a more serious note, she said the new generation and those part of the modern queer punk scene are looking to Davis as inspiration, thanks to her work as a professor, artist and lecturer, which has helped put Davis on the social media map. Former students created a Facebook fan page and an Instagram page for the artist, who calls it pentagram.

"I go in and out of vogue every seven years," she said. "I've been around for so long, I kind of get rediscovered."

Through April 26, Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan Ave. For information, visit www.artic.edu. (Lecture at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Art Institute Fullerton Hall. Free, registration required)

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Twitter @chitribent

Beach Bunny

Continued from ***Page 1***

exuberant pop-rock melodies led to a record deal last year with the independent New York-based Mom + Pop label, home to artists such as Courtney Barnett and Sleater-Kinney. Even though the band's debut album, "Honeymoon," won't be out until Feb. 14, an upcoming national tour is already mostly sold out at 1,000-capacity clubs, including a homecoming concert Feb. 22 at Metro.

"I saw a show they played in Brooklyn in December 2018 in a small venue, Baby's All Right, and they packed out the room with about 350 people" on a midweek night, says Suzanna Slavin, the Mom + Pop A&R representative who signed the band. "It already was apparent they had a committed, budding fan base six months before the 'Prom Queen' TikTok moment. They weren't just a band breaking out of Chicago, but a band that was already well known here and elsewhere."

Only a few years ago, Trifilio couldn't even get the patrons at a sandwich shop to pay attention to her music. After graduating from Resurrection College Prep High School on the Northwest Side, she enrolled at DePaul University to study journalism. In her first week there she met a handful of students who were already involved in the local music scene, and they encouraged the budding artist to record the songs she had been writing in her bedroom and to play shows.

"I was nervous at first, so scared all the time, that I still can't believe I started playing," she says. "I used to play background music at PotBelly, my side job down the street from my apartment close to DePaul, two days a week, a couple hours each day — a lot of Beatles, Animals, classic-rock covers. No one paid attention to me there, but it was a safe way to be in front of an audience that didn't care, and I became more confident."



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago band Beach Bunny is, from left, guitarist Matt Henkels, drummer Jon Alvarado, singer/guitarist/songwriter Lili Trifilio and bassist Anthony Vaccaro.

After "Animalism," a solo EP that she self-released in 2015, she slowly began developing a following by playing house shows in Chicago and suburbs such as Elgin, where she entered a "battle of the bands" in the summer of 2017. There was only one problem — she didn't have a band. Trifilio reached out on social media to Henkels, a fledgling guitarist she met through an ex-boyfriend.

"It was a surprise to be asked," Henkels says. "I'd never been in a band before, but I said 'yes' right away. I'd seen Lili play a few times and I loved the songs. They were so memorable and catchy."

He recruited Alvarado to play drums and with Trifilio they reached the semifinals of the band contest. Expectations were low, but a work ethic of sorts took hold. What seemed like a zillion bands were gigging in a nascent scene for high school and college-age kids that merged punk, pop and elements of emo. Most of the shows were avidly attended by friends and members of other bands, a bubble waiting to be burst by adulthood and the need to find "real" jobs. But Trifilio just kept churning out poems, lyrics and songs.

"Scenes I write about in poetry can show up in lyrics," she says. "I love walks, because I can listen to demos and if I'm lucky a phrase or sentence comes to me, and I record it as soon as I get home. Just randomly at a restaurant, a melody or lyric will pop into my head, and I'll go to the bathroom and try to low-key record it on my phone."

After the band recorded the "Prom Queen" EP, things went from casual to overdrive in a matter of months. Last summer the band played an early-afternoon set at Lollapalooza in Grant Park and drew a large audience.

"I'd been dreaming about that since I was 15, 16," Trifilio says. "I was excited and nervous, because I thought it would be mostly people just walking by on their way to see another band. And then when all these people showed up and were singing all the words to the songs, it was blowing my mind."

Among those in attendance was Thaddeus Rudd, the co-owner of Mom + Pop, who at the time was competing with several bigger labels to sign Beach Bunny. As he watched the set, Rudd affirmed his expectations. A month later, the band joined the label's artist roster.

Beach Bunny had its debut album already in hand. It had recorded the new songs at Steve Albini's Electrical Audio studio in the spring and summer of 2019 with indie-rock producer Joe Reinhardt. "Honeymoon" merges pop-punk anthems with some of Trifilio's sharpest lyrics into a nine-song story arc about romantic travail. Even at its most downcast, the album sounds triumphant, and leaves listeners with a glimmer of hope. Along the way, the singer's self-deprecating humor slaps away any hint of self-pity.

"Part of me still wants you, part of me wants to fall asleep," Trifilio sings on the opening track "Promises." Its quiet-loud guitar dynamics and wordless vocal hook keep pushing harder and higher, fall back, and then come back for one more charge. Cue the sing-a-longs.

Greg Kot is a Tribune critic.

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Twitter @gregkot



KEVIN WINTER/GETTY

Brad Pitt, from left, Quentin Tarantino and Leonardo DiCaprio are all nominated for Oscars for their work in 2019's "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood."

NOW ... AND THEN

Once upon a time ... Tarantino slept in his car and DiCaprio was a break dancer

By Glenn Whipp
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — "I swear to God, I had to hide a tear," Brad Pitt says, looking over at Quentin Tarantino and Leonardo DiCaprio, remembering the first time Tarantino played him the José Feliciano cover of "California Dreamin'" on the set of "Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood." "Look," Pitt continues. "I'm not ashamed to say it. I got a little misty."

We've settled onto a couple of sofas inside a bungalow at the Chateau Marmont because ... where else would we meet to talk about Tarantino's wistful elegy to a bygone Hollywood? As the song declares, it's a winter's day, though the (palm tree) leaves are green, not brown, and the sun setting just beyond the swimming pool is making the sky periwinkle blue, not a dismal gray.

But otherwise, yeah, we're California dreamin', sitting back, talking about a movie that earned 10 Oscar nominations — three for Tarantino as a director, writer and producer, and acting nods for DiCaprio and Pitt — and also considering the good fortune that has graced their lives over the last few decades.

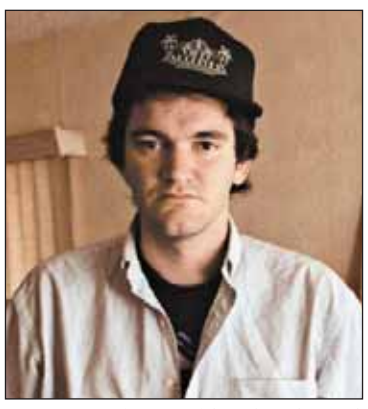
"You know, when I first moved out here, it was the summer of '86 and I didn't know (expletive) about Los Angeles, other than what I'd seen on 'The Beverly Hillbillies' and 'Dragnet,'" Pitt says. "I landed in Burbank at a house I could crash at for a month or so. It was just me and a maid from Thailand who couldn't speak English. Man, I was just so up for the adventure, and so excited when I'd drive by a studio where they make movies. It meant the world to me."

"Then I moved and it was one of those eight guys in a two-bedroom apartment in North Hollywood kind of things," Pitt says, smiling at the memory. "You have your little corner where you keep your clothes folded up in a little bedroll. I became quite accustomed to McDonald's and Shakey's Pizza buffet. I didn't mind. The city was a wide-open experience."



MICHAEL PUTLAND/GETTY

Brad Pitt was doing one-off TV series spots in 1988.



DURELL, ROBERT/LOS ANGELES TIMES

Quentin Tarantino in 1994, around the time "Pulp Fiction" came out.



JOHN CLIFFORD/BPI

Leonardo DiCaprio in 1995's "The Basketball Diaries."

Pitt presses Tarantino to tell tales of living in his car, writing scripts. "Which part of town?" he asks. Tarantino evades the queries for a bit, then relents. "It was at the back of Video Archives," he says, talking about the Manhattan Beach video store where he worked in the '80s, turning customers on to kung fu and blaxploitation movies while writing "Reservoir Dogs." And, yes, he slept in his car, a Ford Capri, around back in the parking lot.

DiCaprio's parents moved to L.A. at the behest of his mom, who spied a Venice Beach postcard while living in the Bronx and thought, "This is where I want to move." They settled east of Hollywood. Tarantino can picture the precise location because the apartment was right by the pool hall where Martin Scorsese shot the interiors for his 1973 drama "Mean Streets."

"Hollywood and Western," DiCaprio says, pinpointing the cross streets. "Then we moved to Silver Lake and it was me bugging my parents on the commute to go to school ... please, please, please drop me off at auditions. But I kept getting rejected by agents. I think because I was a break dancer at the time and had crazy haircuts."

Pitt interrupts with a burst of laughter. "You were a break dancer? There's got to be video somewhere."

DiCaprio cops to owning a little footage.

"But that rejection," DiCaprio continues, "it was like, even though I lived in the mecca of this dream land that was the movie industry, it felt like this intangible world where I needed a fairy godmother to come down and say, 'You are anointed as an actor.'"

"Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood" considers the idea of which actors become blessed and the others who remain on the periphery, as well as the insecurities inherent in the profession and the value in simply being a working actor making a living. It's a couple of days in the lives of a fading TV western star named Rick Dalton (DiCaprio) trying to forge a career in a changing Hollywood and his loyal, longtime stunt double, Cliff Booth (Pitt), a good friend and possible scoundrel who, rumor has it, killed his wife. There's no plot, just the dark shadow of history lurking around the edges. Rick lives in Benedict Canyon on Cielo Drive. Roman Polanski and his wife, Sharon Tate, are renting the house next door.

Pitt and particularly DiCaprio were single-minded in their determination to make a go of it as actors. They succeeded, but they know it could easily have turned out differently. Tarantino loves to pepper Pitt with questions about his early acting career, a drill that seems both a quest for knowledge and an exercise that he knows will end only in frustration.

"I want him to be more excited about it than he is, because I get excited by it," Tarantino says, warming up. "Like, I think it would have been (expletive) awesome in the '60s to guest on 'The Man from U.N.C.L.E.' and do a scene with David McCallum as Illya Kuryakin. That would have been cool. It would have been (expletive) awesome to do a 'Baretta' with Robert Blake. Or a 'Kung Fu' with David Carradine.

"And Brad did things like that. 'You did a "Dallas"? Did you do a scene with J.R.?'

'I don't remember.'

'YOU DON'T REMEMBER IF YOU HAD A SCENE WITH J.R.?!?'"

Pitt, seated next to Tarantino, nearly lands on the floor, laughing.

Of all the lines in all the reviews written about "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood," the one that Tarantino cherishes relates to the film's verisimilitude in re-creating a Los Angeles with half a century in its rear-view mirror.

"It was, 'When Cliff drives through L.A. it was like Brad Pitt driving through a documentary,'" Tarantino remembers, laughing. "And, frankly, if you do a movie like this, that's the thing you want to nail and really be proud of that. It's like (Werner) Herzog. 'Yeah, we really nailed the Amazon in 'Fitzcarraldo.' Well, we nailed Los Angeles."

DiCaprio loves this comparison so deeply that he will repeat "we really nailed the Amazon" half a dozen times before we leave.

At some point, unnoticed, Pitt has wrapped a knit scarf around his neck, though it's not so much a scarf as a throw blanket. The sun has disappeared and it's time to leave, embarking on journeys along Hollywood streets that can no longer be navigated with the ease that Cliff Booth employed in his Karmann Ghia.

"We're all just passing through, doing the best we can in these movies," Pitt says, offering an elbow bump as a departure greeting.

"But this one, I would say it's one of the few times where the experience is as special and unique as the final film. Like our life is as important as the final product. For me, that's ...

'We're livin.'"

Films about Hollywood: Fact-checking Oscar's egotism

By Ben Zauzmer
The New York Times

Quentin Tarantino's "Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood" is less a movie about the murderous Manson family than it is an homage to Tinseltown itself, every scene a love letter to the Los Angeles of a half century ago. With the film earning 10 nominations up and down the Oscar ballot, it is fair to ask: Does Hollywood love films about itself?

After all, early in the last decade, there were back-to-back best picture victories for films centered on making movies. "The Artist" (2011) won using precious few words to tell the story of a pair of actors struggling to make the transition from silents to talkies. A year later, "Argo" (2012) took the crown for its based-on-real-life tale of CIA agents working with silver-screen producers to camouflage a dangerous mission as an innocent motion picture. And for years, awards-season pundits have repeated the old saw that the academy votes for films that remind voters of themselves.

Yet, an analysis of all 91 best picture winners reveals only two (as previously noted) with major plot points about filmmaking. If this analysis is expanded to all 563 best picture nominees, only nine fit the bill: "Once Upon a Time," "The Artist" and "Argo," along with the 1937 version of "A Star Is Born," "Sunset Boulevard" (1950), "All That Jazz" (1979), "The Aviator" (2004), "Hugo" (2011) and "La La Land" (2016). (The 2018 rendition of "A Star Is Born" swapped out film stars for pop stars, and the other versions weren't nominated for best picture.)



COLUMBIA PICTURES

Leonardo DiCaprio, right, and Brad Pitt in "Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood." The industry may be trending toward recognizing its own work.

That adds up to 1.6% of all nominated films primarily focused on moviemaking. And among those nominees, only 25% went on to win the award (not counting this year's contender, whose fate remains unknown).

Granted, classifying movies this way is an inherently subjective exercise. The data set could be expanded to include stories that use filmmaking as a framing device, like "Titanic" (1997), which opened with the narration of documentary footage. In examples like "Birdman" (2014), as well as this year's nominee "Marriage Story," a significant character was once in Hollywood but is not shown there onscreen. And "The Godfather" (1972) famously featured a plot thread about a producer facing a death threat (conveyed via a horse's head in his bed), but that is surely not the dominant plot of the film. I drew the line at homemade movies, so the video of the floating plastic bag in "American Beauty" (1999) did not make the cut.

Even with an expanded definition that includes these borderline cases, there are still only 23 best picture nominees that dealt with film production, or 4.1% of all nominees in history. That larger sample had a similar winning rate: 24% of those pre-2020 nominees were winners: "The Artist," "Argo," "Titanic," "Birdman" and "The Godfather."

But while this data shows Oscar voters aren't obsessed with recognizing their own endeavors, there is some evidence to suggest that the Academy Awards may be trending in that direction. Through 2003, only 2.3% of films met the broader criteria; since 2004, 10.2% of nominees do.

Starting in 2003, there was a three-year stretch of nominees that at least mention movies in the plot description. Bill Murray plays a movie star in "Lost in Translation" (2003). Leonardo DiCaprio brings producer Howard Hughes to life in "The Aviator" (2004). In "Capote" (2005), the title character (played by Philip Seymour Hoffman) attends the premiere of "To Kill a Mockingbird," the film version of the novel by his friend Harper Lee (Catherine Keener).

Before this awards season, featuring "Once Upon a Time" and "Marriage Story," only one other race ever involved multiple Hollywood-based contenders: 2012, when "The Artist" won best picture, "Hugo" was nominated for its tribute to filmmaking pioneer Georges Méliès, and "Midnight in Paris" received a nod for the story of a frustrated screenwriter seeking refuge in the past.

Plenty of films more squarely about cinema than "Marriage Story" or "Midnight in Paris" were not even nominated for best picture. "Sullivan's Travels" (1941), "The Bad and the Beautiful" (1952), "The Stunt Man" (1980), "Barton Fink" (1991), "Adaptation" (2002) and many other well-regarded films did not make the best-picture cut. In more recent years, movies like "Saving Mr. Banks" (2013) and "The Disaster Artist" (2017) were left off the academy list despite the category's size expansion.

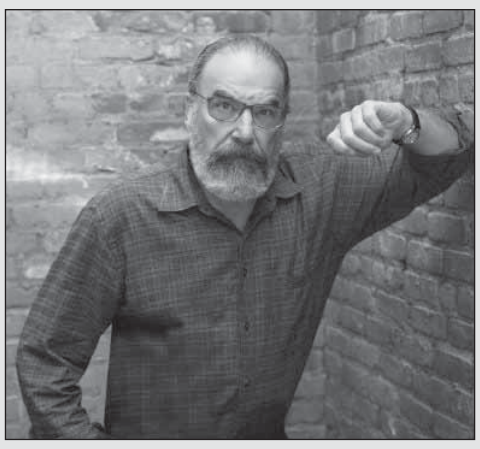
Most spectacularly of all, "Singin' in the Rain" (1952) was never up for best picture and yet is now considered one of the greatest films of all time, clocking in at No. 5 on the American Film Institute's Top 100 list. What did win best picture instead of "Singin' in the Rain"? "The Greatest Show on Earth," which focused on a different type of entertainment: circus, not cinema.

Even this year's list of films provides evidence to suggest that the academy does not automatically nominate plots about its own work. While "Once Upon a Time" did make the cut, others dealing with filmmaking like "Dolemite Is My Name" and "Pain and Glory" did not.

Many factors go into the academy's decision on nominating a film for best picture. So while the data does not prove a lack of interest in awarding movies about Hollywood, it certainly is not convincing that such an interest does exist.

But if the modest trend since the mid-2000s continues — a trend that could be sped up by a "Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood" win at the Dolby Theatre on Sunday — then perhaps the future of film awards will demonstrate a greater interest in film itself.

WATCH THIS: SUNDAY



Mandy Patinkin

"Homeland" (8 p.m., 10 p.m., 12:30 a.m., Showtime): Carrie Mathison (Claire Danes) is slowly recovering from her brutal months of confinement in a Russian gulag as this Emmy-winning political drama returns for its eighth and final season. It's her fractured memory, however, that is the primary concern of Saul (Mandy Patinkin), who's now the national security advisor to President Warner (Beau Bridges), who seeks to end the war in Afghanistan. That will be hard for Saul to pull off without Carrie's invaluable contributions. Maury Sterling, Linus Roache and Costa Ronin also star.

"The Oscars" (7 p.m., ABC): From the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences honors the best films of 2019, with no designated host for the ceremonies for the second consecutive year. Among the competitive categories, "Joker" leads the field with 11 nominations, including best picture, best actor (Joaquin Phoenix) and best director (Todd Phillips).

"The Aquarium" (7 p.m., 12 a.m., 3 a.m., ANIM): After eating all his tankmate's food, Tank the hungry sea turtle finds a space to eat in peace as Season 2 opens with "Big Is Beautiful." Meanwhile, two beluga whales are welcomed to their new home at the aquarium, and a tourist favorkite, Scarlett the lovable sea lion, turns 2 years old.

"Power" (7 p.m., 9:45 p.m., 12:31 a.m., Starz): Ghost (Omari Hardwick) takes a giant step closer to a fully legitimate life in a world outside the criminal underground as he is declared lieutenant governor in "Exactly How We Planned," the series finale. He soon discovers, however, that one of his many old enemies already is actively carrying out a plot against him. Fans of this compelling crime drama who mourn its passing can take solace: A spin-off series, "Power Book II: Ghost," is set to premiere on Starz next summer with Mary J. Blige leading the cast.

"Shahs of Sunset" (8 p.m., 10:30 p.m., 12:32 a.m., 5:58 a.m., Bravo): Reza is at a crossroads in his life when he and his husband, Adam, might not be on the same page with a huge life decision as this hit reality series returns for Season 8 with the premiere "Naked Jenga and Afraid." Reza also decides to mend fences with GG, even though she hasn't made amends with Destiney for that ugly scene at the reunion. Elsewhere, Mike has found the love of his life and is telling anyone who will listen that his tomcat days are behind him.

"Wrong Man" (8:51 p.m., 11:37 p.m., 2:23 a.m., Starz): Season 1 of filmmaker Joe Berlinger's absorbing docuseries had profound repercussion in some of the cases it examined, and Season 2 will look at three new cases, two of them spotlighting female inmates. The premiere, "Vonda Hour 1: The Case Against Grandma," focuses on Vonda Smith, who was convicted of killing 21-year-old Jessie Morrison, the mother of Smith's grandchild. Smith maintains she is innocent of the crime and had been close to the victim.

"Kidding" (9 p.m., 11 p.m., 1:30 a.m., Showtime): Jim Carrey returns to this poignant dramedy as out-of-work children's TV host Jeff Pickles as the sophomore season opens with a premiere called "The Cleanest Liver in Columbus, Ohio." As the action resumes, Jeff still is dealing with family problems, several of which relate to his now-defunct show, a topic that also troubles his executive producer (Frank Langella) and the program's chief puppet maker (Catherine Keener).

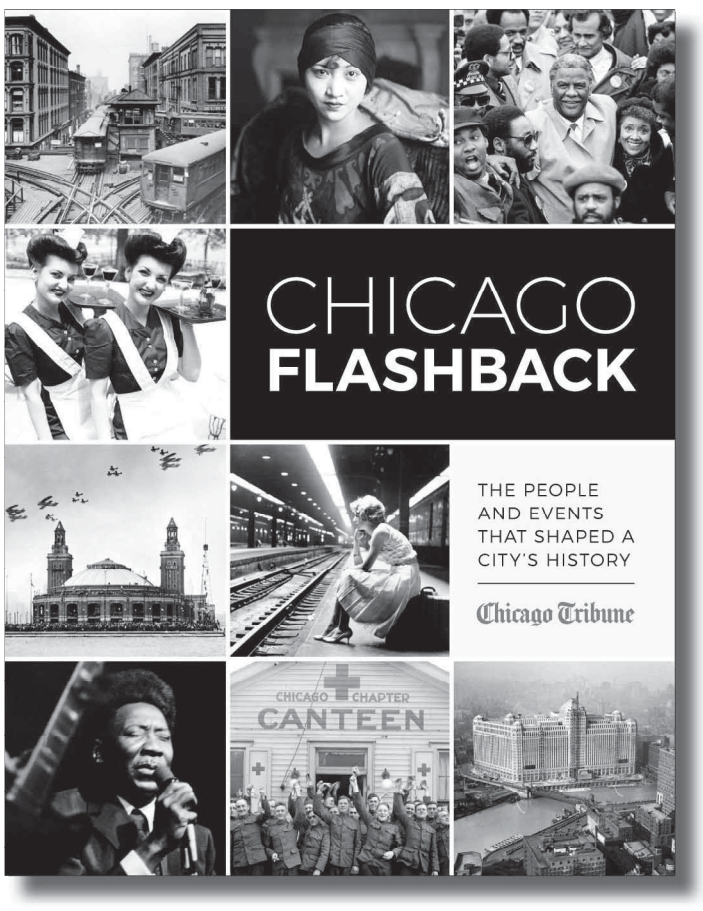
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SUNDAY EVENING, FEB. 9

MOVIES

	PM		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS	2	NCIS: "Wide Awake." © HD		FBI: "American Idol." © HD		NCIS: New Orleans: "Matthew 5:9." © HD		2 Auto Show (N)
	NBC	5	♦ (6) America's Got Talent © HD		Ellen's Game of Games © HD		Ellen's Game of Games © HD		NBC 5 News at 10pm (N)
	ABC	7	The Oscars (N) (Live) © HD						News at 10pm (N) ♦
	WGN	9	black-ish ©	black-ish: "Public Fool."	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	Weekend News (N)	Instant Replay (N) ©	WGN News (N)
	Antenna	9.2	Family Ties	Two Dads	Wings ©	Coach ©	It's a Living	It's a Living	Designing
	Court	9.3	OJ25		OJ25: "A Plaintive Wail."		Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
	PBS	11	A Very British Romance With Lucy Worsley (N) ©		Sanditon on Masterpiece (N) © HD		Vienna Blood: "Queen of the Night, Part 2." (N) ©		Check, Please!
	CW	26.1	Batwoman © HD		Supergirl © HD		Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©
	The U	26.2	We Have a Dream				Forces of Nature (PG-13,'99) ★★ ♦		
	MeTV	26.3	Columbo: "Short Fuse." ©			Collector (N)	Flintstones	Honeymoon.	D. Van Dyke
	H&I	26.4	Star Trek ©		Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Star Trek ♦
	Bounce	26.5	♦ (6) Daddy Day Care ★★		Our Family Wedding (PG-13,'10) ★ America Ferrera.				Just Wrigh ♦
	FOX	32	The Simpsons HD	Bob's Burgers ©	Family Guy: "Bri-Da."	Family Guy ©	Fox 32 News at Nine Sunday (N)		Final Word (N) ♦
	Ion	38	NCIS: Los Angeles HD		Chicago P.D.: "Monster."		Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago ♦
	TeleM	44	♦ Exatlón EE. UU. (N)		La voz (N) ©				Noticiero
	MNT	50	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam
	UniMas	60	♦ (6) Predators (R,'10) ★★		Taken 3 (PG-13,'14) ★★ Liam Neeson, Forest Whitaker.				First Kill ♦
	WJYS	62	Ever Increasing Faith		Truth of God		Pol-News		Van Impe (N)
	Univ	66	Mira quién baila All Stars				Crónicas: Historias		Noticias (N)
CABLE	AE		The First 48 ©		The First 48 ©		(9:01) The First 48 ©		Alaska PD ♦
	AMC		Breaking Bad: "Bug." ©		(8:08) Breaking Bad: "Salud." ©			(9:16) Breaking Bad ©	
	ANIM		The Aquarium (Season Premiere) (N)		Coyote Petersn (Series Premiere) (N)		Crikey! It's the Irwins (N)		The Irwins ♦
	BBCA		Doctor Who (N) ©		(8:10) The Green Mile (R,'99) ★★★ Tom Hanks, David Morse. © ♦				
	BET		Meet the Browns (PG-13,'08) ★★ Tyler Perry, Angela Bassett. ©					Martin ©	Martin ©
	BIGTEN		♦ Basketball	Postgame	Basketball (N)		The Journey	B1G Basketball & Beyond	
	BRAVO		Housewives-Atlanta (N)		Shahs of Sunset (Season Premiere) (N) ©		Watch (N)	Housewives-Atlanta	
	CNN		CNN Newsroom (N)		Race for the White House		Race for the White House		Nineties ♦
	COM		The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office
	DISC		Naked and Afraid: "Max's Journey." (N) ©				Naked and Afraid (N) ©		Afraid ♦
	DISN		♦ Zombies ©	(7:20) Zombies (NR,'18) Milo Manheim.			(8:55) Zombies (NR,'18) © ♦		
	E!		Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley
	ESPN		The Undefeated (N)		E:60 (N)		ESPN Documentaries (N)		SportCtr (N)
	ESPN2		♦ ACL Cornhole (N)		All-Star Football Challenge				30 for 30 ♦
	FNC		Life, Liberty & Levin (N)		The Next Revolution (N)		Watters' World ©		Life ♦
	FOOD		Restaurant: Impossible		Worst Cooks (N)		Beat Flay (N)	Beat Flay (N)	Beat Bobby
	FREE		♦ (6:20) The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 ★★				Deadpool (R,'16) ★★★ Ryan Reynolds. ♦		
	FX		♦ (6:30) Murder on the Orient Express (PG-13,'17) ★★				The Weekly	The Weekly	Murder ♦
	HALL		♦ (6) Matching Hearts ('20)		My Secret Valentine (NR,'18) Lacey Chabert. ©				Golden Girls
	HGTV		Home Town (N) ©		Holmes & Holmes (N) ©		Holmes & Holmes (N) ©		Home ♦
	HIST		American Pickers: Bonus Buys: "Big Barn Finds." (N) © ♦						
	HLN		Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
	IFC		♦ Gladiator (R)	GoodFellas (R,'90) ★★★★ Robert De Niro, Ray Liotta. © ♦					
	LIFE		My Daughter's Been Kidnapped (NR,'20) Boti Bliss.				(9:03) The Neighbor in the Window ♦		
	MSNBC		(6:00) Kasie DC (N) ©		Dateline ©		Dateline ©		Dateline ♦
	MTV		Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.
	NATGEO		Last Slave Ship (N)		Skeletons-Inca (N)		Lost Temple of (N)		Slave Ship ♦
	NBCSCH		♦ Basketball	Postgame	Hockey (N)	Blackhawks Postgame (N)		Bulls (N)	Poker (N) ♦
	NICK		The Crystal Maze ©		Substitute	SpongeBob	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©
	OVATION		♦ (6) The Natural (PG,'84) ★★★ Robert Redford.				Panic Room (R,'02) ★★★ Jodie Foster. ♦		
	OWN		20/20 on OWN		20/20: Homicide		20/20: Homicide		Homicide ♦
	OXY		♦ (6) The Witnesses (N) ©		Murdered by Morning (N)		The Witnesses: "The Watchtower." ♦		
	PARMT		Bar Rescue ©		Bar Rescue ©		Bar Rescue: "El Moronte!!"		Rescue ♦
	SYFY		After Earth (PG-13,'13) ★ Jaden Smith, Will Smith. ©				King Arthur: Legend of the Sword ★★ ♦		
	TBS		Beauty and the Beast (PG,'17) ★★★ Emma Watson. ©					Maleficent (PG,'14) ★★ ♦	
	TCM		Strike Up the Band (NR,'40) ★★★ Mickey Rooney. ©				(9:15) A Star Is Born (PG,'54) ★★★★ ♦		
	TLC		90 Day Fiancé: "Can I Get a Witness." (N)				(9:02) Sister Wives (N)		90 Day (N) ♦
	TLN		IMPACT	Manna Fest	In Grace	Turning Point ©		Insights	King
	TNT		Thor: Ragnarok (PG-13,'17) ★★★ Chris Hemsworth. ©					(9:45) The Wolverine ♦	
	TOON		H. Birdman	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy
	TRAV		Paranormal Ca.		The Alaska Triangle (N) ©				Lost- Wild
	TVL		King	King	King	King	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men
	USA		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Dare Me: "Code Red." (N)		Mod Fam ♦
	VH1		Nick Cannon: Wild 'n Out		Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out
	WE		Law & Order ©		Law & Order ©		Law & Order ©		Law ♦
	WGN America		Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Married
PREMIUM	HBO		♦ (6:15) Ma (R,'19) ★★ ©		The Outsider (N) ©		Avenue 5 (N)	Curb (N)	Outsider ♦
	HBO2		♦ (6:55) The Outsider ©		Bruce Almighty (PG-13,'03) ★★			(9:45) Out of Sight ★★★ ♦	
	MAX		Armageddon (PG-13,'98) ★★ Bruce Willis. ©					Die Hard (R,'88) ★★★ ♦	
	SHO		The Circus	Toon Pres.	Homeland (Season Premiere) (N) ©		Kidding	Kidding (N)	Homeland ♦
	STARZ		Power: "Exactly How We Planned." (Series Finale) (N)			Power (Se-	Wrong	(9:45) Power © ♦	
	STZENC		Toy Story 3 (G,'10) ★★★ ©			(8:45) Cars 2 (G,'11) ★★ Voices of Owen Wilson. ♦			

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92ND ACADEMY AWARDS

Keep track of the winners

Tribune movie critic Michael Phillips has made his predictions. See if you can do better.

	PICTURE
	"Ford v Ferrari"
	"The Irishman"
	"Jojo Rabbit"
	"Joker"
	"Little Women"
	"Marriage Story"
★	"1917"
	"Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood"
	"Parasite"

	ACTOR
	Antonio Banderas, "Pain and Glory"
	Leonardo DiCaprio, "Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood"
	Adam Driver, "Marriage Story"
★	Joaquin Phoenix, "Joker"
	Jonathan Pryce, "The Two Popes"

	ACTRESS
	Cynthia Erivo, "Harriet"
	Scarlett Johansson, "Marriage Story"
	Saoirse Ronan, "Little Women"
	Charlize Theron, "Bombshell"
★	Renée Zellweger, "Judy"

	SUPPORTING ACTOR
	Tom Hanks, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood"
	Anthony Hopkins, "The Two Popes"
	Al Pacino, "The Irishman"
	Joe Pesci, "The Irishman"
★	Brad Pitt, "Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood"

	SUPPORTING ACTRESS
	Kathy Bates, "Richard Jewell"
★	Laura Dern, "Marriage Story"
	Scarlett Johansson, "Jojo Rabbit"
	Florence Pugh, "Little Women"
	Margot Robbie, "Bombshell"

	ANIMATED FEATURE
	"How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World"
	"I Lost My Body"
	"Klaus"
	"Missing Link"
★	"Toy Story 4"

	CINEMATOGRAPHY
	"The Irishman"
	"Joker"
	"The Lighthouse"
★	"1917"
	"Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood"

	COSTUME DESIGN
	"The Irishman"
	"Jojo Rabbit"
	"Joker"
★	"Little Women"
	"Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood"

	DIRECTING
	Martin Scorsese, "The Irishman"
	Todd Phillips, "Joker"
	Sam Mendes, "1917"
	Quentin Tarantino, "Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood"
★	Bong Joon Ho, "Parasite"

	DOCUMENTARY (FEATURE)
★	"American Factory"
	"The Cave"
	"The Edge of Democracy"
	"For Sama"
	"Honeyland"

	DOCUMENTARY (SHORT SUBJECT)
	"In the Absence"
★	"Learning to Skateboard in a Warzone (If You're a Girl)"
	"Life Overtakes Me"
	"St. Louis Superman"
	"Walk Run Cha-Cha"

	FILM EDITING
★	"Ford v Ferrari"
	"The Irishman"
	"Jojo Rabbit"
	"Joker"
	"Parasite"

	FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM
	"Corpus Christi" (Poland)
	"Honeyland" (North Macedonia)
	"Les Misérables" (France)
	"Pain and Glory" (Spain)
★	"Parasite" (South Korea)

	MAKEUP AND HAIRSTYLING
	"Bombshell"
★	"Joker"
	"Judy"
	"Maleficent: Mistress of Evil"
	"1917"

	MUSIC (ORIGINAL SCORE)
★	"Joker"
	"Little Women"
	"Marriage Story"
	"1917"
	"Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker"

	MUSIC (ORIGINAL SONG)
	"I Can't Let You Throw Yourself Away" ("Toy Story 4")
★	"(I'm Gonna) Love Me Again" ("Rocketman")
	"I'm Standing With You" ("Breakthrough")
	"Into The Unknown" ("Frozen II")
	"Stand Up" ("Harriet")

	PRODUCTION DESIGN
	"The Irishman"
	"Jojo Rabbit"
	"1917"
★	"Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood"
	"Parasite"

	SHORT FILM (ANIMATED)
	"Dcera (Daughter)"
	"Hair Love"
	"Kitbull"
★	"Memorable"
	"Sister"

	SHORT FILM (LIVE ACTION)
★	"Brotherhood"
	"Nefta Football Club"
	"The Neighbor's Window"
	"Saria"
	"A Sister"

	SOUND EDITING
★	"Ford v Ferrari"
	"Joker"
	"1917"
	"Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood"
	"Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker"

	SOUND MIXING
	"Ad Astra"
	"Ford v Ferrari"
	"Joker"
★	"1917"
	"Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood"

	VISUAL EFFECTS
	"Avengers: Endgame"
	"The Irishman"
	"The Lion King"
★	"1917"
	"Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker"

	WRITING (ADAPTED SCREENPLAY)
	"The Irishman"
	"Jojo Rabbit"
	"Joker"
★	"Little Women"
	"The Two Popes"

	WRITING (ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY)
	"Knives Out"
	"Marriage Story"
	"1917"
★	"Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood"
	"Parasite"



NEON

So-dam Park, left, and Woo-sik Choi in "Parasite." If it wins an Oscar for best picture, it would be a first for a foreign-language nominee in that category.

Phillips

Continued from ***Page 1***

So it remains the front-runner.

Now, what if "Parasite" actually takes home the top Oscar on Sunday? And what if the co-writer and director is recognized for making what still feels to me like the crucial film of 2019?

A big win for "Parasite" will remind us that, yes, change is possible. Now and then (as with "Moonlight" three years ago) the academy voters can respond to something small yet infinitely large in scope.

If "Parasite" wins for best picture, it'll be the first foreign-language nominee in that category to do so. That's a stupidly tiny sublist, by the way: Starting with Jean Renoir's "Grand Illusion" (1937), a mere 12 pictures have made it to the best-picture Oscar nomination stage.

Some of those titles are sentimental cheese ("Life is Beautiful"), some are cool, crafty works by masters ("Amour," "Parasite"). But the scarcity of work in this category, and all the other categories, speaks to the provincialism at the heart of the Oscars.

It's a company picnic where one language, one gender and one color still dominates and receives preferential treatment.

At the BAFTAs, "Joker" star Joaquin Phoenix won for best actor. His speech was the sort of cogent, eloquent, much-needed expression that would enrage roughly half of the Oscar telecast's dwindling Oscars audience, given where we are in in America in 2020. Phoenix thanked the voters but noted he felt "conflicted" about winning in a year with an all-white slate of acting nominees.

"I think that we send a very clear message to people of color that you're not welcome here," Phoenix said in his speech. "This is not a self-righteous condemnation because I'm ashamed to say that I'm part of the problem. I have not done everything in my power to ensure that the sets I work on are inclusive.

"But I think it's more than just having sets that are multicultural ... We have to really do the hard work to truly understand systemic racism. I think it is the obligation of the people that have created and perpetuate and benefit from a system of oppression to be the ones that dismantle it. So that's on us."

When films as unremarkable, in their insanely different ways, as "Green Book" and this year's frontrunner "1917" dominate the horse race aspect of the Oscars, it's no wonder speeches such as Phoenix's become the news, not who won the hardware. Frances McDormand's righteous call for parity, when she won for "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri," cut through the cheddar and struck a chord.

Maybe that's what the Oscars mean now, right now, in this country. Maybe it's the best thing a host-less cupcake of an aging awards show can do: talk about things that matter, and mean something, in addition to reminding ourselves that 2019 really was a fine year for movies.

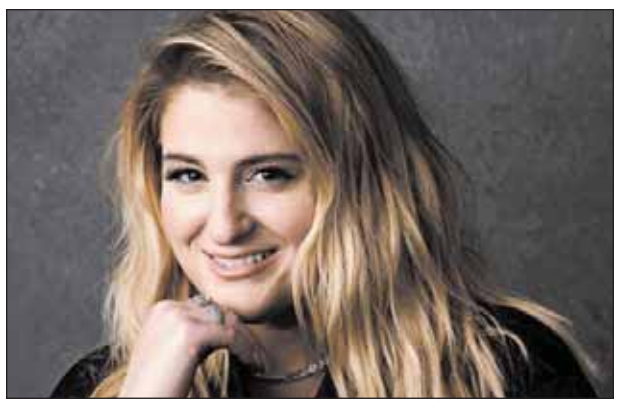
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Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.

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Trainor leaves pain behind and offers fresh new 'Treat'

By Mark Kennedy
Associated Press



CHRIS PIZZELLO/INVISION

Most of the songs on Meghan Trainor's "Treat Myself" include her trademark message of empowerment.

NEW YORK — Four years ago, Meghan Trainor won the Grammy Award for best new artist. On the first anniversary of that win, she was literally speechless — under the knife for vocal surgery.

It was her second time in the operating room for vocal cord work and it led to weeks of silence, anxiety and depression. The "All About That Bass" singer worried she'd never be able to perform again.

"I went to a dark place. And I climbed out of it, and I conquered it, and I was really proud of myself," she said. "My therapist was like, 'You should treat yourself after what you went through.' "

So that's why Trainor's third album is called "Treat Myself," a 15-track collection that sees the singer-songwriter stretch past her signature doo-wop pop sound to embrace hip-hop and electronic elements.

There's the Sia-like "Wave," the slinky club banger "Nice To Meet Ya" with Nicki Minaj and soaring ballads like "After You" alongside familiar retro and '60s-inspired tunes like "No Excuses" and "Evil Twin."

"I've always been writing songs in many genres," she said.

Her dad introduced her to gospel, soul and funk, like Ray Charles and Stevie Wonder. Mom leaned toward the pop of Madonna and ABBA. A Trinidadian uncle turned her on to soca music. She grew up with Britney Spears and the Backstreet Boys.

"When I try to write, I try to give all my influences in that. I always want to make up a pretend genre — six different genres in one song," she said.

Tommy Bruce, her manager, has watched as Trainor has explored whatever musical inspiration strikes, not caring about labels or charts.

"She is such a wildly talented artist, from musicianship to songwriting to producing, and she has this ability to move between genre and style with such ease," he said.

Listen very carefully to Trainor's new album and you'll discover it's very much a family affair. Her brothers, Justin and Ryan, have writing credits and sing background. Her parents, Gary and Kelli, supply background vocals and claps. Even her husband, actor Daryl Sabara, sings on nine tracks.

"He's my No. 1 fan, like legitimately," she said of Sabara. "He plays my music all the time. I hear him blasting it in the car and when he's in the shower. It's just the best to feel so loved and supported like that by your husband."

For this album, Trainor sought out new producers, which resulted in stretching her sound. She had success with Ricky Reed on the last album, "Thank You," but says she felt too safe doing it again.

"I'm a creature of habit. When I found someone who understood how I worked, I thought, 'This is great. Let's do this forever.' So for this album, I really wanted to get out there and meet as many songwriters and producers as I could."

Many of the songs have Trainor's trademark messages of empowerment. "Love yourself," she sings in "Babygirl." On "Workin' On It," she admits to fighting thoughts of self-loathing: "I should give myself way more love." And on "No Excuses," she demands respect: "I don't disrespect you, don't you disrespect me."

"It's really hard to write a self-love, empowering anthem without being cheesy," she said. "That's something that the world loves and needs. I know I need it, and it's something I want to hear on the radio. So those are my favorite songs to write because I'm working on it every single day — my confidence and my self-love. I know somebody else needs it too."

The album also has a few inside jokes. It gives her a kick that the title "Treat Myself" is her initials backward. And she has a callback to her first big hit in "Genetics" when she sings, "How you get dat bass?"

Trainor plans to tour with Maroon 5 this year and also has a side hustle as a musical judge. She spent two seasons on "The Four" and recently replaced Jennifer Hudson in the spinning chair at "The Voice UK."

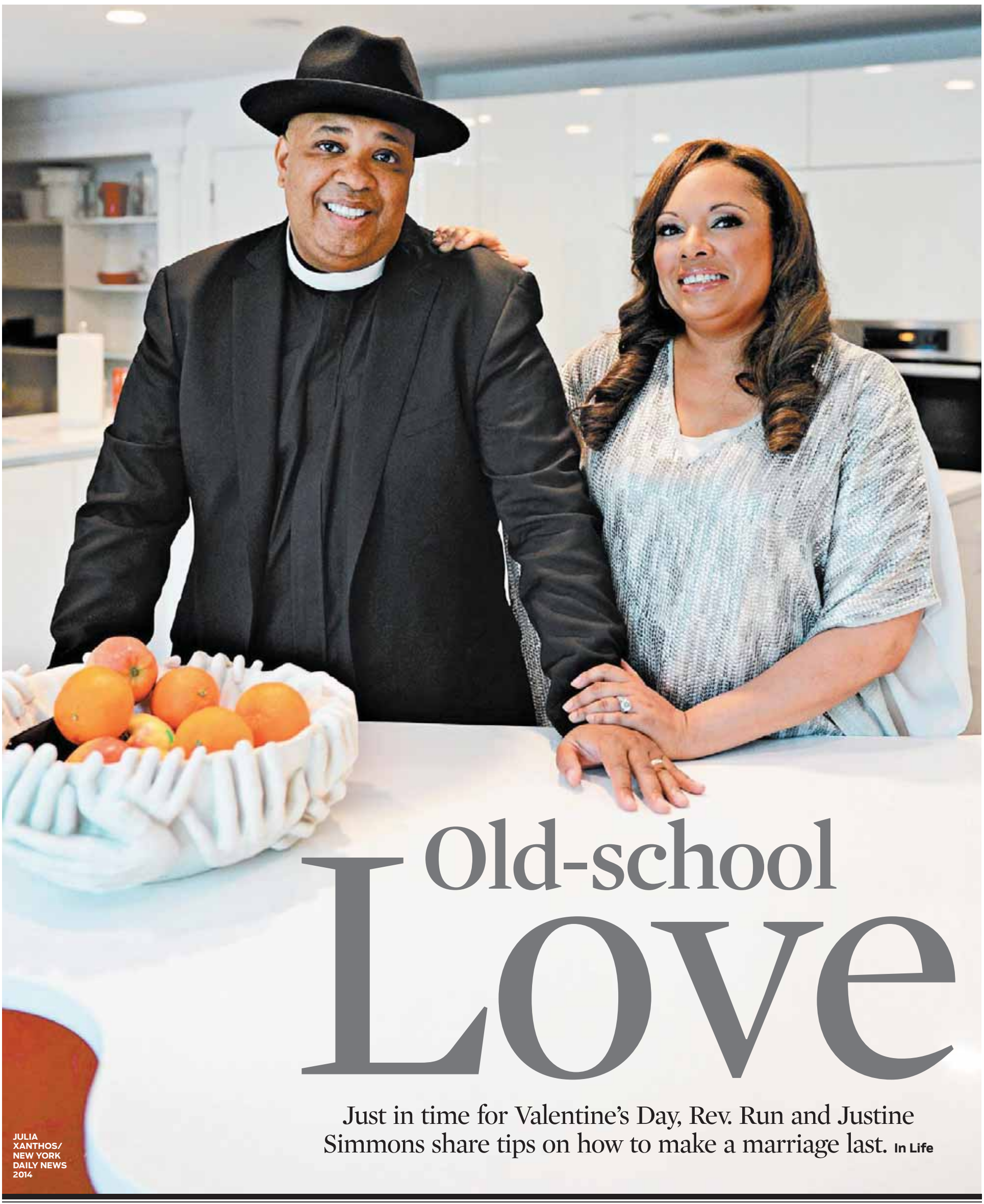
In Style: Valentine's Day gifts that WOW



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JULIA XANTHOS/ NEW YORK DAILY NEWS 2014

Old-school Love

Just in time for Valentine's Day, Rev. Run and Justine Simmons share tips on how to make a marriage last. In Life

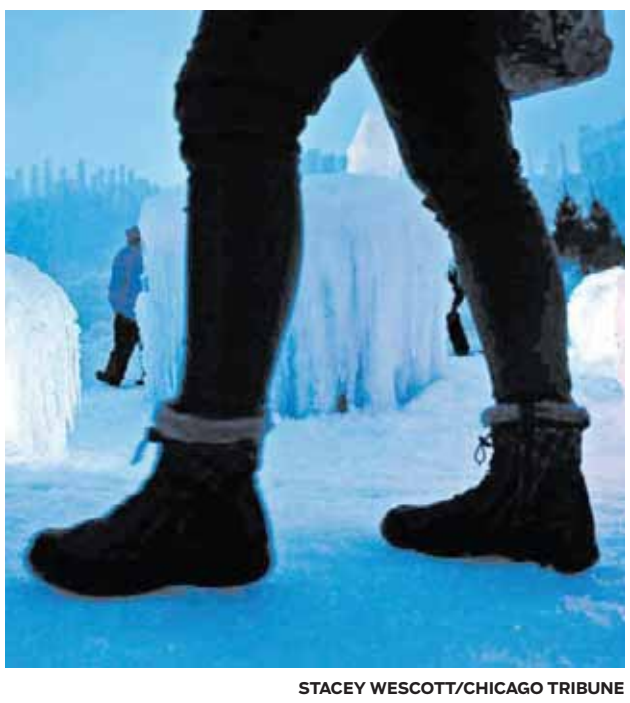


WILSON WEBB/COLUMBIA PICTURES

TRAVEL

Take a 'Little' trip back in time

Modern-day fans can follow footsteps of Louisa May Alcott's March sisters in Massachusetts



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

TRAVEL

Colorful debut

Ice Castles opens its Instagram-friendly creation in Wisconsin



SETH WENIG/AP

HEIDI STEVENS' BALANCING ACT

The family-friendly question of our time

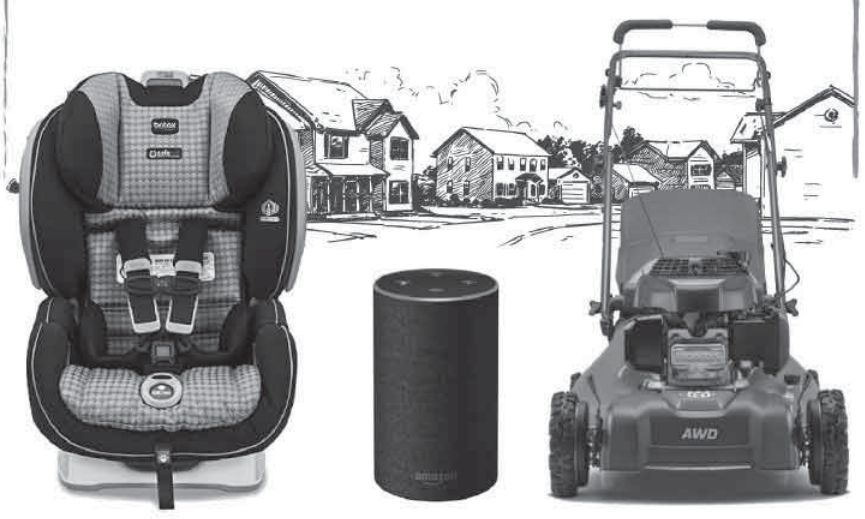
In light of the Super Bowl halftime show, what helps our kids make sense of the world around them?

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ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson | *askamy@amydickinson.com* | *@askamy*

Flustered hosts seek houseguest rules

Dear Amy: Recently, we hosted a couple as weekend guests. The wife and my wife were friends in college.

I picked them up at the airport on Friday afternoon and brought them to our house, showed them to the guest room, and we all sat down to the dinner that my wife had prepared.

On Saturday, after breakfast, they spent the day with friends of theirs and returned to our house for another homecooked meal.

On Sunday, our guests suggested that we go to a nice restaurant for dinner, which we did. During dinner, they ordered and drank a $40 bottle of wine. My wife and I don't drink.

When the waiter placed the check on the table, nobody moved for a few seconds. I thought, "Does he expect me to pick that up?" Finally, he said, "Hey, buddy, whaddaya say we split the check?"

I wanted to say, "No, I don't want to split the check. I want you to pay for all the food, the wine, the tip and the tax," but not wanting to make a scene, I mumbled, "OK."

On Monday, we drove them back to the airport. They thanked us for the weekend but never sent an email or a thank-you note.

My question is: What are roles and responsibilities of houseguests and hosts?

— *Disgruntled Host*

Dear Disgruntled: A good houseguest brings a small gift to present to the host upon their arrival. They express interest in their surroundings and enthusiasm for any plans the host has made.

A good houseguest will be tidy, quiet and respectful of the hosts' household schedule. Yes, they should take the host out for a meal or an outing and offer to pick up the check.

They should leave their sleeping area tidy, thank the host warmly before they leave and follow up with a note and/or an enthusiastic phone call when they return home.

That's how guests behave when they want to be invited back (your houseguests obviously don't).

You said that you didn't want to make a scene at the restaurant, but stating your own needs, plainly and politely, doesn't qualify as making a scene. At the very least, you could have responded: "How about you pay for your bottle of wine, and we'll split the cost of the food bill, buddy?"

Dear Amy: It just happened again. I told my husband that a distant relative died from cancer, and in return, he spent the next 10 minutes describing to me how cancer is detected and spreads.

I've recently become aware that many conversations go like this — with me making a comment and my hubby of 40 years explaining how things work.

Honestly, I don't know if this is a new thing between the two of us or if I'm just now waking up to it.

When he does this, I get angry and feel shut down. Is this what they mean by the term "mansplaining"?

Explain, please!

— *Exhausted*

Dear Exhausted: "Mansplaining" in this context would be if you were a world-renowned cancer specialist, and yet, your husband felt the need to patiently explain to you how cancer works.

The way I read your situation, your husband believes he is communicating effectively with you. You bring something up, and he spends time telling you about it. This is his way of trying to connect.

You may want a less literal and more emotional response. You should bring this up, not in a way that blames him for behaving in a particular way, but with a goal to make some changes in the way you communicate. Do you have particular responses that frustrate him? You should ask.

It's OK to say what you need: "Honey, when I told you about my relative's cancer, I want you to know that, honestly, I wanted to talk about my relative, not the disease. There are times when I want a hug, not an explanation."

Dear Amy: I was offended by the letter from "Embarrassed," as well as your response. Embarrassed has a father who is expressing his own views on social media. There is nothing wrong with that! He has the right to express himself however he wants!

— *Upset*

Dear Upset: According to "Embarrassed," Dad was insulting and offending people who attempted to respond to his rants. One consequence of that behavior is that others would be both insulted and embarrassed by it.

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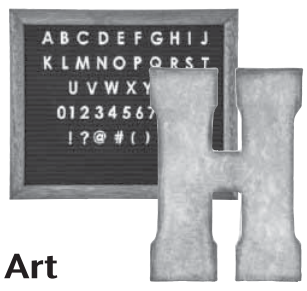
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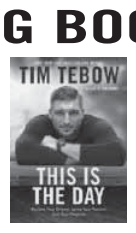
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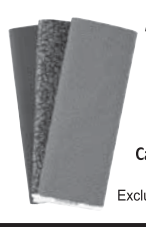


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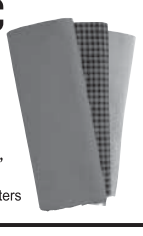


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BALANCING ACT

By Heidi Stevens | hstevens@chicagotribune.com | @heidistevens13

The family-friendly question is a fascinating one

We watched Super Bowl LIV with some friends who have a high school freshman and a sixth grader. My kids are in eighth and fifth grades. We all tuned in and out of the game, in and out of the commercials, in and out of the halftime show. At one point, a game of Clue was taking place to my left, a Nerf football was being thrown back and forth in front of me and the dog just tried not to get stepped on.

Toward the end of Shakira and J.Lo's halftime performance, my friend joked that he was planning to get an outfit like J.Lo's. I joked that he'd have to undergo a fair bit of waxing. That steered the conversation to the chest-waxing scene in "The 40-Year-Old Virgin," which prompted a kid to ask, "The what scene from what movie?"

My friend whose husband wants a J.Lo outfit fired up a Google search. My husband mentioned that the scene contains some pretty colorful language, just in case that affected our decision to show it to children. I mentioned that they hear a lot worse at school. My son, the fifth grader, said, "That's for sure."

We watched the scene. We cried tears of laughter. We talked about whether any of it was scripted, whether Steve Carell came up with his reactions on the fly, how half the hilarity came from Carell's buddies' reactions to his reactions.

Then we turned back to the Super Bowl.

Was any of that family-friendly?

It felt friendly for my family. We all spent an evening together with friends, laughing, eating, playing, talking. The kids heard some swear words. They also saw J.Lo and Shakira perform an overtly sexy halftime show.

Frankly, it didn't feel so different from a lot of our outings where sports are involved. My kids have watched the Luvabulls perform during Chicago Bulls games, listened to college football fans scream obscenities at the field during Northwestern games, heard parents cuss out umpires at Little League games and gazed at life-size photos of the Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders during our tour of AT&T Stadium, which includes a stop in the cheerleaders' locker room.



SETH WENIG/AP

Shakira, left, and Jennifer Lopez perform during halftime of the 2020 Super Bowl in Miami Gardens, Florida.

Is any of that family-friendly?

On the whole? For my particular family? Yes. We're making memories and we're seeing stuff that launches discussions later — about the athleticism of cheerleaders and dancers, about what sort of impression we want to make on people, about how we can walk away from things we don't enjoy watching, about how beer sometimes makes people say and do stupid stuff.

Family-friendly, to me, is just about anything my family and I do together that's not traumatizing and that launches a conversation about the world around us.

I bring this up because I wrote Monday about Shakira and J.Lo's halftime performance and where it fits in with the #MeToo movement. I defended the performers against the critics who found it vulgar and ill-timed. I argued that the #MeToo movement is not meant to strip sex or pleasure from the female experience.

Many of you emailed to tell me I missed the point altogether. The point was that the performance took place during a show that millions of families tune into together, and it wasn't family-friendly.

"Have the courage to say that this was just exploitation and in poor taste at the very least, especially when many families are watching with kids," one woman wrote.

"One question," a gentleman posed. "Would you want to see your daughter up there gyrating and acting like a cheap bar pole dancer??"

I guess when my daughter's 43 (like Shakira) or 50 (like Jennifer Lopez) she can decide for herself which platforms upon which to perform which feats.

I'd frankly be more upset if my son were on the field playing tackle football, given the research into chronic traumatic encephalopathy and repeated head injuries. I don't guess letting him watch other players take that risk means he's destined to do the same. We talk about the risk. He knows where I stand. I think that's how parenting should work.

The family-friendly question is a fascinating one. The Hallmark Channel grappled with it when a segment of its viewers freaked out over a Zola commercial showing a same-sex marriage.

"Until recently, Hallmark had a good record for keeping their movies and commercials family friendly," read a petition threatening to boycott if the commercial wasn't dropped. (The commercial was dropped, then reinstated.)

But two women joining in holy matrimony is, literally, family-friendly. It is the joining of two people's hearts and lives and futures into a family. What could be friendlier? Each family gets to decide its own particular value system and tastes and outings and viewing preferences and discussions, of course.

But I think it's worth asking ourselves, when we're making those sorts of judgments, what helps our kids make sense of the world around them? What helps them understand the people they're going through this life with, sharing this Earth with, learning, playing, growing, loving, evolving, working next to and among?

And what helps us, their parents, better understand how they think, what they wonder, what they like, what they fear, who they want to be, who they want to avoid, who they want to emulate, than experiencing stuff alongside them? Stuff that maybe pushes a few of our buttons? Stuff that maybe pushes a few of our boundaries?

That feels friendlier to me than fear. Or shame. Or some of the other things that I think we can accidentally infect our families with if we get too tangled up in outrage over the things we don't like. Better, I think, to discuss them together.

Or, if that seems untenable, turn them off. Walk away. Fire up a game of Clue.

Join the Heidi Stevens Balancing Act Facebook group, where she continues the conversation around her columns and hosts occasional live chats.



LIFE

LIVE. LOVE. HOPE.



CHRIS CARLSON/AP

Kobe Bryant, his daughter Gianna, above, and seven others were killed when they were on a helicopter that crashed in Calabasas, California, on Jan. 27.

COMMENTARY

Why I loved watching Kobe Bryant be a 'girl dad'

The way he fathered, loved and supported his girls is what beckons mimicking

By Christen A. Johnson

Mr. Daniel was rebounding for me as I got shots up in his St. Louis high school's gym. My mother and I were visiting the area from Atlanta, Georgia. We would leave in a few days for an elite basketball camp at a university I hoped to attend and I wanted to feel prepared.

My mother and Mr. Daniel grew up together, so he's always been around and is like an uncle to me. He also coached girls basketball, so he was the natural person to call when I needed to get in the gym.

My father also lives in St. Louis. My mother, being the amicable peacemaker she is, invited him to the gym session, unbeknownst to me. She didn't tell me in case he didn't show up.

"Why's he here now?" I asked myself when he arrived. In the words of Drake, he *literally* had never been with me shooting in the gym. My father began to guard me in the paint; I was known for my physical back-to-the-basket playing style down low. Today wouldn't be any different.

Mr. Daniel threw the entry passes, I posted up my father but will admit I took hard digs, even some cheap shots, at him as I gained position. It didn't end well.

My father was mostly absent and uninvolved in my life, seemingly only making efforts when it was convenient for him; so that encounter was years of unprocessed anger, hurt and confusion swelling out.

Fast forward roughly two years later, I finish high school basketball, where I tallied 1,000-plus rebounds, and in my senior year, my team and I won our Georgia high school its first basketball state championship — boys or girls. I signed with Northwestern University and was a two-time team captain. We went to the NCAA tournament in 2015.

I can count on one hand, not using all of my fingers, how many games my father attended — and most of them were in grade school.

I can count on one hand, not using all of my fingers, how many games my father attended — and most of them were in grade school, with one in middle school.

Seeing the bond between NBA legend Kobe Bryant and his 13-year-old daughter, Gigi, rooted in the love of the game, was always so refreshing for me since I so badly wanted something similar as a teenager. That's part of the reason the news of their tragic deaths in a helicopter ride to a tournament was devastating, heartbreaking and completely unreal for me, as it was for countless others.

Kobe loved his four girls out loud, and did everything he could to help them realize their dreams, making no qualms about not having a boy to carry on his legacy. ESPN anchor Elle Duncan summed it up best Jan. 27 in her incredible and heart-wrenching tribute to him on SportsCenter.

In the segment, Duncan talks about the one and only time she met Bryant. She was eight months pregnant with a girl. When she told Bryant her baby's gender, he high-fived her. "Girls are the best," Duncan remembered him saying. As the conversation went on, Bryant later said, "I'd have five more girls if I could — I'm a girl dad."

"When I reflect on the tragedy, and that half an hour I spent with Kobe Bryant, two years ago," said Duncan as she fought tears, "I suppose that the only small source of comfort for me is knowing he died doing what he loved the most: being a dad, being a girl dad."

So many wanted to emulate Kobe for his talents, his incredible work ethic and drive, his championships, his Mamba Mentality, but he was also devoted to being a dad; the way he fathered, loved and supported his girls, especially during his retirement, is what beckons mimicking.

I longed for a bond like that with my father, especially in my teenage years. I envied my teammates who had it and I thought something was wrong with me because I didn't. I simply yearned for a father who would be there, who'd put time and energy into me and into helping me achieve my dreams.

While I have since resolved many of my feelings regarding my father, Kobe and Gigi's love on display was always healing to the lingering pieces of the teenage girl inside of me. It's easy to focus on what we lack, but their bond gently reminded me of the ways other men, like Mr. Daniel, stepped up — simply because they cared.

For instance, my Uncle Josh, who recently walked me down the aisle in my August wedding, coached my very first basketball team, and accompanied my mother and me as we road-tripped to WNBA games when I was a kid. He and his family made my travel tournaments, attended countless high school games, and he was even there to watch me ink my letter of intent on national signing day.

Likewise, my travel team coach, Coach P., who I've known since I was 13, invested in me early in my development. He would pick me up for personal workouts in the gym. He pushed me, went hoarse for me, was there for birthdays, and helped with finances to send me to summer basketball camps at universities when it was tough on my mom. He, too, was at my signing day. He'd call after tough losses in college and say, "Keep your head up, C.J." He always referred to me as one of his daughters, and I made sure to never miss sending him a Father's Day text. When my husband and I were dating, he called my husband to vet him. Which reminds me, Coach just phoned me on Friday and I still need to call him back.

It looked a little different, but I did — and still do — have the bonds I desired with caring men who took the extra steps to let me know that I was important; they cared about me and my dreams, and let me know that my dreams and I were worth the investment and support.

That's exactly what Kobe did for his girls, and in true Kobe nature, he did it damn well. He was one of the greatest athletes of all time, but he also was a supreme example of what active fatherhood looks like. Thank you for showing me that, Kobe, and for reminding me of the men who played that role in my life — for reminding me of my own girl dads.

I think I'll go make that phone call now.

chrjohnson@chicagotribune.com

SOCIAL GRACES

What to do if your friend undertips at a restaurant

By Hannah Herrera Greenspan
Chicago Tribune

Q: What should you do if your friend is being a bad tipper, especially after making a huge fuss with the server at a restaurant?

A: If you find yourself in a position in which you notice your friend has undertipped the server, you can discreetly excuse yourself from the table and offer an additional amount. While you don't want to embarrass your friend, you still want to do the correct thing. If we are talking about one or two dollars, it may not be worth the hazard of potentially embarrassing a friend. But if it is a substantial amount, you would be doing the server a favor by expressing your gratitude for good service. And handing over an additional amount.

If you are good enough friends that you have reached over to look at the bill or were told the amount, you can let your friend know that you think the tip is not enough or offer to pay the difference.

— *Diane Gottsman, etiquette expert and owner of The Protocol School of Texas*

A: I always suggest taking an honest approach while using humor to dilute the situation. With friends, you can point out the discrepancy and encourage them to look at the situation another way.

I was in the "tipping industry" for decades before I became a therapist, so I'm an advocate for not undertipping. I also believe that what we put out into the universe comes back to us tenfold, so try to have empathy for servers who might be struggling to do their best. The end result might still be that your friend undertips, but at least you've vocalized it rather than carrying resentment, or judging without your friend knowing.

If it were someone you're not as close to, you might feel a bit more risk-averse because you're not certain how the other person will receive the feedback.

— *Kelley Kitley, psychotherapist and owner of Serendipitous Psychotherapy*

hgreenspan@chicagotribune.com



INNOVATEDCAPTURES/ISTOCK

THE **KIDS**

HOW TO KEEP THEM BUSY THIS WEEK

Hear a 'storytelling chamber band'

By Web Behrens



NANCY PERLA

20TH CENTURY FOX

TOP **PICKS**

SATURDAY, FEB. 8:
Lucky Trikes Concert

THURSDAY, FEB. 6:
"The Princess Bride"

Monday

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCERTS

Chicago Children's Choir showcases its world-renowned talent and impressive numbers with three morning concerts, featuring songs connecting to the theme "African Americans and the Vote." In addition to celebrating Black History Month, here's a chance to appreciate CCC's vast reach: Performing are the premiere Voice of Chicago ensemble, plus the thousands of kids enrolled in the choir's in-school programs from every neighborhood in the city. 11 a.m. Monday through Wednesday at Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Ave. Free; seating is first come, first served. ccchoir.org/event/black-history-month-concert-series-9/

Tuesday

POETRY OUT LOUD REGIONAL COMPETITIONS

A nationwide competition in the art of reciting poetry, Poetry Out Loud has reached more than 3.8 millions students in its 15-year history. Hosted by the Poetry Foundation (in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts), the competition revs up for 2020 with two regional showdowns. On two consecutive Tuesdays, local high school champs vie for the chance to represent Illinois at the nationals in April; watch city students this week and suburban students Feb. 18, both from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Poetry Foundation, 61 W. Superior St. Free. https://tinyurl.com/qswaa3y

Wednesday

ARBOR READING ADVENTURES

This popular, twice-weekly story time pairs reading out loud with a craft activity inside the Sterling Morton Library. Weather permitting, you'll also take a stroll on the arboretum grounds. Geared for little ones ages 2-6, the event is 11-11:45 a.m. Wednesdays and Fridays through the end of March at Morton Arboretum, 4100 Illinois Route 53, Lisle. $5 per child for Reading Adventures, plus Arboretum admission: $15, $10 for ages 2-17 on Fridays; $10/$7 on Wednesdays. Free parking. mortonarb.org/events/arbor-reading-adventures

Thursday

CHICAGO THEATRE WEEK

Bargain tickets are the name of the game during Chicago Theatre Week — which is really an 11-day event, today through Feb. 23. The top ticket price during this great annual promotion is $30, but lots of companies have tickets available for $15 or less. Participating shows for kids include "Brooklyn Bridge" (Chicago Playworks at the Merle Reskin Theatre downtown) and "Bunny's Book Club" (at Lifeline in Rogers Park). Older kids will love the Court Theatre's production of Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap" in Hyde Park. Find the schedule at ChicagoTheatreWeek.com

'THE PRINCESS BRIDE'

You have a kid who hasn't seen "The Princess Bride" yet? Rectify that situation with a trip to a real cinema, so a new generation can fall in love with charming hero Westley, brave Princess Buttercup and their allies. The 98-minute, rated-PG movie screens at 7 p.m. Valentine's Eve at the Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Ave. $12-13. musicboxtheatre.com/events/upcoming

Saturday

FAMILY MOVIE JAMBOREE: 'TANGLED'

Released in 2010, Disney's "Tangled" somehow doesn't get the love of the studio's other hits from the past decade ("Frozen," "Moana," "Zootopia"), but this Rapunzel retelling has an inventive script to accompany another top-notch score by Alan Menken. See it for free when Metropolis School of the Performing Arts throws another Family Movie Jamboree. In addition to the screening, enjoy face painting, a photo booth and craft time. Doors open at 9 a.m.; "Tangled" begins at 10 at Metropolis Arts, 111 W. Campbell St. Free, but RSVP to 847-577-2121. https://tinyurl.com/tnb8le4

LUCKY TRIKES CONCERT

The novel act known as The Lucky Trikes bills itself as a "storytelling chamber band," which means you and your little ones get stories accompanied by live music. Sweet! The Trike anchors are Deirdre and Kyle; they're often joined by another musician. Experience their fun story/music wizardry at 2 p.m. in the Winnetka Public Library, 768 Oak St., Winnetka. Free. https://tinyurl.com/yx2rcxt7

SPRING VALLEY WINTER FEST

Winter's beauty becomes evident when you're surrounded by snow on fields and trees rather than gray slush on concrete. Achieve this stark Zen mode during Schaumburg Park District's weekend fair, where you can hike with snowshoes, go for a horse-drawn wagon ride, witness dog sledding demos, and roast marshmallows by a bonfire. Noon till 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Meineke Nature Center at Spring Valley, 1111 E. Schaumburg Road, Schaumburg. $3, free for kids 3 and under; $12 family rate. parkfun.com/event/spring-valley-winter-fest

Sunday

'THAT'S WEIRD, GRANDMA: TRAVELS THROUGH TIME'

Formerly known by the whimsical moniker Barrel of Monkeys, this team of artist-educators has a proud new name, PlayMakers Laboratory, designed to better reflect its mission with CPS students, ages 7-13. But "That's Weird, Grandma," the signature show, remains its zany self! Catch it Sunday at Neo-Futurist Theater, 5153 N. Ashland Ave. $20, $10 for kids 12 and under.

Web Behrens is a freelance reporter.

Single moms in college need more assistance, report finds

By Susan Snyder
The Philadelphia Inquirer



CHARLES FOX/PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Catherine Monsalvo, 26, a senior at West Chester University, with her daughter Lily, 8.

Catherine Monsalvo was taking a handful of college courses at West Chester University last year, working part time as a personal care assistant, and raising her elementary-school-age daughter.

There were times she couldn't find or afford a babysitter, she said, and professors allowed her to bring her daughter to class.

"She would do her homework or play on her phone," said Monsalvo, 26.

There are a lot of single moms, like Monsalvo, across the country, striving to earn a degree and run a household, says a recent report by the Washington-based Institute for Women's Policy Research. And they aren't getting nearly enough support to complete their education, leading many to leave school.

There are 1.7 million single moms enrolled as undergraduates nationwide, the institute estimated. When adding single fathers and those who are married, student parents actually make up about 22%, or 4.3 million, of the undergraduate population, about 55% of whom are single parents, according to an August report by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO). About half of them leave without a degree, the report said, compared with about a third of students without children.

"The composition of the student body is rapidly changing these days," said Jessica Milli, the institute's study director. "What we've been calling nontraditional students are now making up significant portions of the student body, and institutions are really going to have to start rethinking their programs and strategies to better meet the needs of that population."

The policy ramifications are huge, the institute says, noting that enrolled single mothers expected to earn a bachelor's degree would pay $6.6 billion more in taxes over their lives than single mothers with only a high school diploma.

Yet, the institute said, only 8% of single mothers earn their associate's or bachelor's within six years, compared with 49% of women in college who are not mothers.

Milli said fewer colleges are offering child care on campus even though the demand is there; the report recommends schools look at helping with affordable campus-based child care.

Sara Goldrick-Rab, an education policy professor at Temple University, said many colleges that serve single parents don't have the resources to fund all the support that's needed and government programs that provide help are underfunded.

"This is not a situation where colleges just don't get it," said Goldrick-Rab, whose work has focused on low-income college students, many of whom are hungry and homeless.

According to the GAO report, nearly half of student parents said they paid for child care, with a monthly average of about $490. Federal aid that is available to help single-parent students pay for child care isn't publicized well enough or widely known, the report said.

The institute's report recommends that colleges do a better job letting students know about the aid, pay closer attention to how many student parents they enroll, and remove obstacles to their studies, such as allowing makeups for absences due to a child's illness.

Federal and state policymakers should make more funding available, the report said

One good model, Goldrick-Rab said, is the "family scholar house" in Kentucky, which combines affordable housing and child care near campus.

Monsalvo, a senior majoring in social work, said she's glad the institute study highlighted challenges she's seen firsthand as a single parent, raising her daughter, Lilly, 8, and getting her education.

"It's a lot to juggle," said Monsalvo, a first-generation college student. "My plate is beyond full."

She is grateful for the support from her professors, who encouraged her to bring Lilly to class when she had a child care problem. She said she would love to help get subsidized day care started at the university's city campus.

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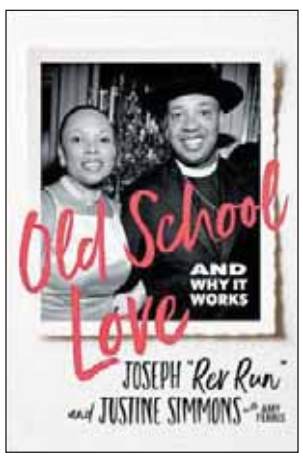
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Old-school love and why you need it

Just in time for Valentine's Day, Rev Run and Justine Simmons offered their advice in Naperville

By Cindy Dampier



February is here: cold, dark and full of overly commercialized romance. But for every couple spending a cozy cuffing season, or declaring their love in the form of heart-shaped bagels or chocolate-dipped strawberries, there's another that's just suffered a split. January, after all, is divorce month, when more U.S. couples split than at any other time of year.

And it's those breakups, more than all the Valentine's Day hoopla, that hip-hop star Reverend Run (Joseph Simmons) and his wife, Justine Simmons, were thinking about when they wrote their latest book, "Old School Love: And Why it Works."

"If you think about the divorce rate," says Rev, who started hip-hop supergroup Run-DMC in the 1980s and has been an entertainment juggernaut ever since, "we need this advice today." He and Justine were in Naperville on Jan. 31 for a talk and book signing.

They're uniquely qualified to offer advice on old-school romance, they say. That's because, through a life of music superstardom, renewed religious devotion, television shows (there have been six TV shows about their family), and personal ups and downs, the two have nurtured a 25-year marriage that seems sweet and, well, old school — especially for a couple in the limelight.

She loves to tell the story of their first kiss. He remembers what she was wearing when they first met. They waited until after marriage to have sex. And they often spend days like Valentine's Day visiting old Long Island haunts from the early days of their relationship and listening to Kenny G and Sade.

"Old-school love is based on old-school principles that work, that are responsible for us being here 25 years later," says Rev. "Somebody told me times are changing, everything is not like it used to be, and I say, well, it needs to be. We need these principles of courtship today."

And, he notes, old-school love doesn't just mean old fashioned — it means long lasting. "Love is grown folks' business," he says. "If you want your young love to turn to old-school love, you're going to have to do those things to get where we're at. We've got old-school love. When we started out, it was new-school love."

Their audience, Justine says, often asks for romantic advice from the couple.



JULIA XANTHOS/NEW YORK DAILY NEWS 2014

Joseph "Reverend Run" and his wife, Justine Simmons, have starred in multiple reality TV shows, including "Rev. Run's Sunday Suppers," shot in their Saddle River, New Jersey, home.

"People say, 'What are you guys doing differently than we do?' " she says. "And we feel we have tips and knowledge that we have learned through trial and error for 25 years. We can help."

Here are the couple's top four ways to graduate to old-school love

1 "Be selfless, not selfish" is Rev's bottom-line advice.

Justine agrees: "We really, really work on our marriage number one, every day. He's making sure I'm not upset about something, I'm making sure he's not upset, and if we are, we discuss it."

2 Communicate — which includes a lot of listening. "Listen for the whispers, so you don't have to hear the screams later," says Rev. "If you don't hear somebody the first time they tell you something, the next thing you know they've been mad at you for weeks. You've got to keep your ear out for that kind of stuff."

3 Show your love by spending time. "You have to want to spend time," says Rev. "It can't just be somebody you can live with, you want somebody you can't live without." Spending time also includes being on time — ghosting is not a thing when it comes to old-school love. "When you're younger, sometimes you don't know that it's your responsibility not to leave a person waiting," he says. "You don't answer their texts, you can't respond, that's disrespect. You tell someone you'll be there for them, and you're there."

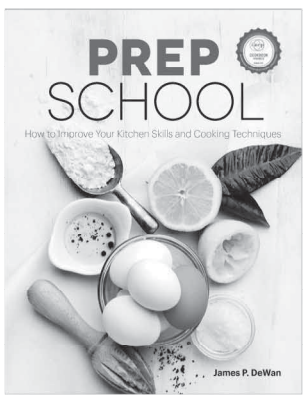
4 Don't forget to be romantic. "People think, if I don't feel that same feeling I felt when we first met, that means it's over," says Justine. "No, no. We need to teach people that that's not the way it is."

One way to keep that romantic feeling going, Rev says, is to do "all the little, sweet things that you used to do when you first met. You need to keep on doing those things."

cdampier@chicagotribune.com

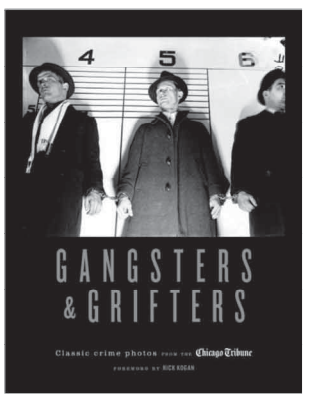
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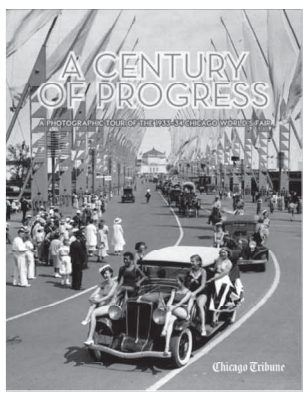


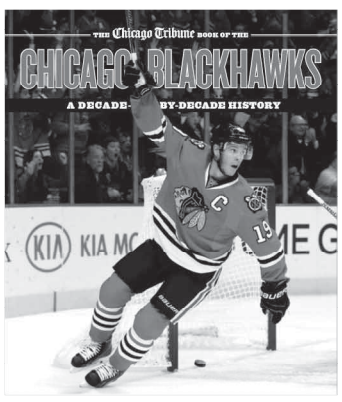


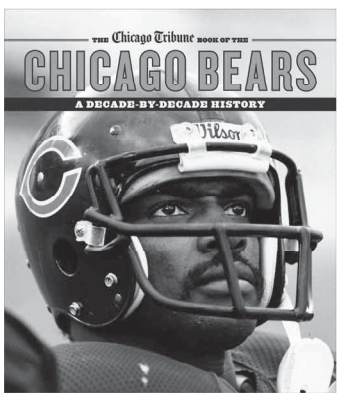


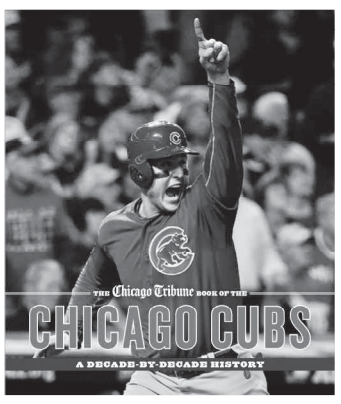














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PAUL MAROTTA/GETTY

"Little Women" cast members Eliza Scanlen, clockwise from left, Saoirse Ronan, Laura Dern and Florence Pugh visited Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House in Concord, Mass., in December 2019. Although filming for the movie didn't take place in the house, the property — open for guided tours — is worth a visit for Alcott fans.

A 'Little' trip back in time

Follow the footsteps of Louisa May Alcott's March sisters in Massachusetts

By Susanne Fowler
Chicago Tribune

GROTON, Mass. — A rural New England cemetery is not where you'd expect to spot four-time Oscar nominee Saoirse Ronan and other Hollywood A-listers on a crisp autumn day.

But there the actors were in 2018, and now on screens around the world, in the Old Burying Ground cemetery in Groton, Massachusetts, just one of several real-life locations that director Greta Gerwig used in her much-applauded remake of Louisa May Alcott's classic novel "Little Women." Gerwig's film has been nominated for six Academy Awards.

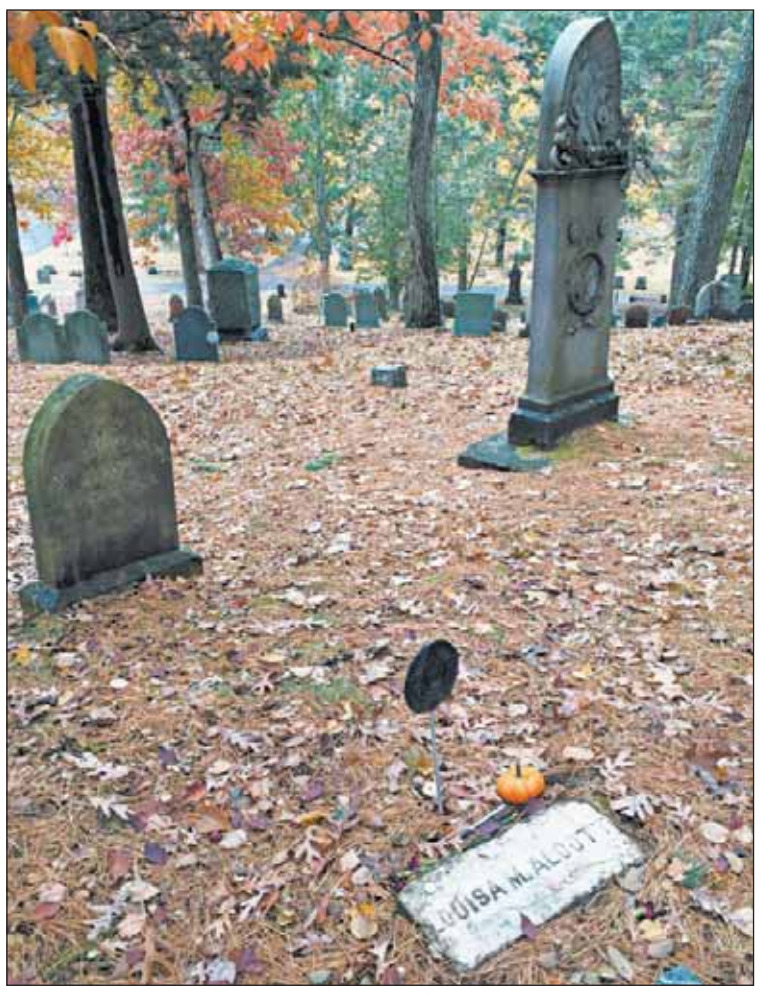
In the book as well as in the film, set in the 1800s, when marrying a wealthy man was considered a woman's only path to success, Jo March, one of four sisters, rocks the boat by aiming first to have a career. The book's popularity endures, serving as the basis for numerous movies, a PBS miniseries, a (less successful) Broadway musical starring Sutton Foster as Jo and even a two-act opera by the American composer-librettist Mark Adamo.

And while Gerwig gave the plot some contemporary twists (no spoilers!), she embraced the 19th century mood when selecting shooting locations, filming cast members like Ronan, Laura Dern, Meryl Streep, Emma Watson and others at more than a dozen sites in Massachusetts that have retained the period look.

Now, modern-day readers and viewers can create their own "Little Women" itinerary by visiting a few.

In Boston, the Emerson Colonial Theatre, which opened in 1900, stood in for a New York stage in the film, and runs occasional tours of its lushly restored interior. The Gibson House Museum in the Back Bay neighborhood served as the New York boarding house where Ronan's Jo March is struggling to become a novelist. An opulent dance scene was shot in the Grand Ballroom of the Fairmont Copley Plaza hotel, which is offering a "Little Women"-themed experience through February that includes the book "Little Women: The Official Movie Companion" and a movie poster, among other things.

But it's in and around the towns of Harvard and Concord that you can explore a cluster of locations and museums dedicated to the author and her family, including the home where she wrote the largely autobiographical story, originally published in two parts in 1868 and 1869.



SUSANNE FOWLER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Louisa May Alcott's gravesite at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in Concord.

Alcott's family was not wealthy. When she was 10 years old, her father, Amos Bronson Alcott, was a leader of a short-lived utopian commune on a bucolic Harvard hillside that's now home to the Fruitlands Museum. The Alcotts lived in the farmhouse on the site, and its sloped-ceiling attic still resembles the one in which the March girls created and rehearsed plays, with Jo playing the men's roles. The exterior of the dark red building appears in the film, but it's at a different structure on the grounds — the smaller, yellow Shaker Museum — where Meg (Emma Watson) shares a kiss with her new husband John (James Norton) and where they fret over their finances at the kitchen table.

Visitors to Fruitlands can take part in themed events like an Alcott story hour or a "Little Women" tea party. In the complex's art museum, the exhibition "Drawn from Life: Little Women at Fruitlands" (through March 22) features landscapes of Concord and Italy drawn or painted by Alcott's sister May, who inspired the character of Amy (played by Florence Pugh).

Other filming locations in Harvard, its streets dusted with fake snow, include an altered Harvard General Store for Meg's purchase of pricey silk she can't really afford and the Town Hall filling in as the exterior of a theater for a play young Amy isn't allowed to attend.

But the most significant site in Alcott's own history is about 15 miles away in Concord: a property her father bought in 1857 where Louisa would go on to write "Little Women" in her bedroom at the desk he built for her. Visitors wanting to walk in the author's footsteps can stand in that room and see that desk during a guided tour of what's now called Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House.

The film has spurred an increase in visitors to the clapboard building, according to Evanston-born Jan Turnquist, the museum's executive director. You'll need to go on a guided tour to explore the interior (adult admission $12.50). Tickets can't be reserved online, but Turnquist said those who turn up "will most likely be accommodated," adding that the little gift shop is a fun place to wait for the next tour to start.



BARRY CHIN/GETTY

Louisa May Alcott's handwritten name is pictured on sewing kit materials on display at the Orchard House.

Once inside the house where many of the Alcotts' belongings remain, visitors are taken through the family's ground-floor sitting and dining rooms and her father's study — where Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau and Nathaniel Hawthorne would drop by — and to the upstairs bedrooms.

As many as 50,000 people a year take the tour, Turnquist said, but just as many "visit" without doing so.

"What I mean, for example, is that some folks come before or after hours and walk the grounds and peek in windows," she said. "There are large bus groups that sit out in front of the house with an on-board guide telling them things before they move on without letting anyone off the bus. These sorts of 'visits' don't seem like real visits to us, but they do account for quite a few people."

Unable to film inside the painstakingly preserved museum, Gerwig and her crew built a replica of the exterior on a different site in Concord, and interior rooms were recreated on a soundstage about an hour away in Franklin.

"Nothing of the film was shot inside," Turnquist said. "But the production designer made about 10 visits, taking measurements, checking the floor plans, the wall colors. He really wanted to recreate the feeling of that house."

The museum also hosts a raft of special Alcott- and writing-themed events, including a Feb. 15 "Valentine Tea with Louisa May Alcott" at Concord's Colonial Inn featuring a costumed Turnquist as Alcott.

Elsewhere, more Massachusetts locations used in the movie welcome visitors. Access to the woodland trails and formal gardens on the elegant Eleanor Cabot Bradley Estate in Canton (filling in as Aunt March's house, Plumfield) is free of charge; the estate is closed if it's booked for a wedding.

The grand Lyman Estate in Waltham (where Ronan and the already besotted Laurie, played by Timothée Chalamet, do a wild dance on the veranda during a party) offers monthly tours on the third Saturday.

In Ipswich, the 59-room Great House mansion at Castle Hill and grounds of the Crane Estate (doubling for European sites, including Amy's artist studio and the Paris garden where she meets a suitor) are open for tours. Nearby, Crane Beach on Ipswich Bay is where the movie's seaside scenes were filmed.

Those wishing to pay homage to Alcott herself can visit her grave, where fans leave pens, notebooks and other mementos. Alcott, who served as a nurse during the Civil War, died of a stroke in 1888. She was 55 and the author of dozens of books, short stories and poems.

Her grave, however, isn't in the Old Burying Ground of Groton. You'll find it in the larger Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in Concord, in a section known as Authors Ridge, near those of her male contemporaries: Emerson, Thoreau and Hawthorne.

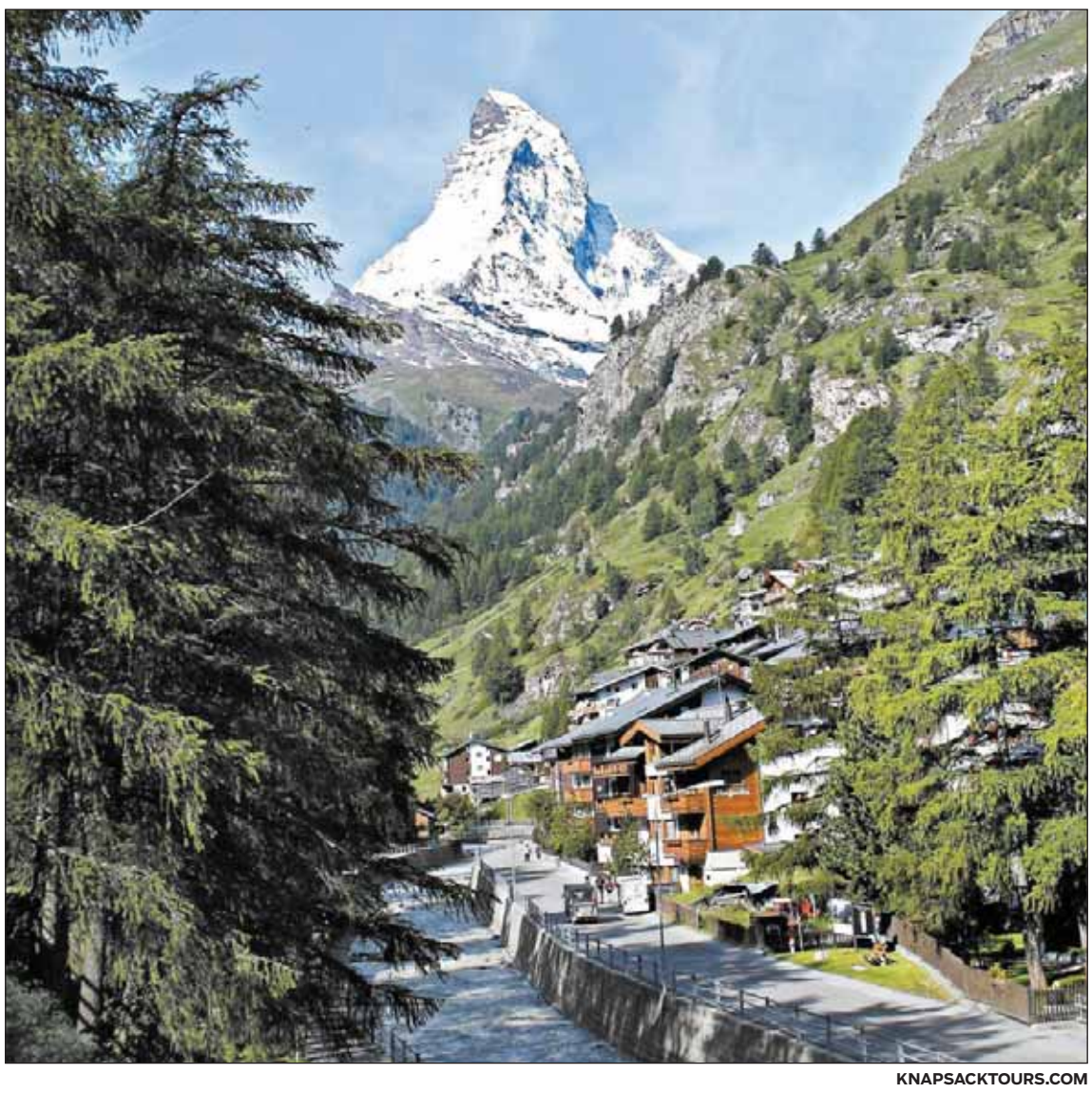
Susanne Fowler is a freelance writer.

GeoQuiz Which country lies between Algeria and Libya? **Find out on Page 10**

Falling in love with the Matterhorn



Rick Steves
Tribune Content Agency



KNAPSACKTOURS.COM

The Matterhorn towers over the Swiss town of Zermatt, home to many alpine farm hamlets.

On my two previous trips to Switzerland's tiny-but-touristy Zermatt, I failed to catch a glimpse of the glorious Matterhorn mountain that draws so many to the burg at its base for a peek at the peak.

My third try was the charm, and now I have a confession: I'm in love with the Matterhorn. Now I get why this mountain town of 5,800 people is so popular.

There's just something about the Matterhorn, the most recognizable mountain on the planet. Just seeing the Matterhorn is one of the great experiences in Switzerland. And hiking with that iconic summit as a background is even better.

Zermatt, which sits at 5,000 feet in the shadow of the 14,690-foot Matterhorn, is nestled at the dead-end of a long valley in Switzerland's remote southwest. While it's barely two hours from Bern and Interlaken by train, or about three from Zürich or Lausanne, it's not quite on the way to anywhere. Especially considering its inconvenient location, many travelers find it overrated. If you make the trek and find only cloudy weather, you may end up with a T-shirt that reads, "I went all the way to Zermatt and didn't even see the Matterhorn."

But in sunny weather, riding the high-mountain lifts, poking through lost-in-time farm hamlets, and ambling along on scenic hikes — all with that iconic triangular mountain nodding its white head in the background — make the trip worthwhile. And the town itself does have pockets of traditional charm, with streets lined with chalet after chalet and overflowing flower boxes.

Stepping out of the train station, you'll notice there are no gas-engine vehicles — only electric buses and taxis that slalom between the pedestrians like four-wheeled Vespas. (Drivers must park down in the valley and ride the train into town.) Strolling up the town's main street, Bahnhofstrasse, is a joy: Even bikes are forbidden on the main drag; the street is reserved for people and, in summer, a twice-daily parade of goats. Sure, the town hosts plenty of fabulously wealthy visitors, but locals like to say that the "traffic-free" nature of the town is a great equalizer. Zermatt strives to be a high-class mountain resort ... but for active guests.

Once upon a time, Zermatt was a humble village of farmers, but with the first ascent of the Matterhorn in 1865 and the arrival of trains in 1891, Zermatt found itself on the Grand Tour of Europe. Over time, its residents learned it was easier to milk the tourists than the goats, and mountain tourism became the focus. Aside from the stone quaries that you'll pass on the way into town, tourism is Zermatt's only industry.

This little town is capable of entertaining about 2 million guests each year, hosting more than a hundred modern chalet-style hotels and a well-organized and groomed infrastructure for summer and winter sports. From town, countless lifts head to all sorts of hikes, ski slopes, and incredible views. But really it all comes back to the star of the show: the Matterhorn.

High summer into early fall is the best time to come to Zermatt (I finally saw the Matterhorn during an August trip). Visiting in spring is generally a bad idea — most trails, lifts, and restaurants are closed — but on the plus side, there are no crowds. Early fall also works, as most lifts and trails remain open until the snow returns. (In winter, skiers take over the town, and prices jump even higher than in summer.) Zermatt has earned its reputation for untrustworthy weather — the valley can get completely socked in at any time of year. While two good-weather days are enough to experience the highlights, add at least one buffer day to your itinerary as insurance against rain.

The Zermatt region has three high-mountain summit stations linked by lifts and hikes: Matterhorn Glacier Paradise (closest to the Matterhorn), Gornergrat (a historic cogwheel train that goes to 10,000 feet), and Rothorn (farthest up the valley from the Matterhorn). While prices are steep, the community has invested hundreds of millions of dollars in their mountain lifts in recent years. They're absolutely state of the art and experiencing them is unforgettable.

Gornergrat is my pick if you can fit in only one high-mountain excursion, simply because it's a best-of-all-worlds experience: sweeping views from the top station, and my favorite hike in the region between the Rotenboden and Riffelberg train stops. Whichever excursions you opt for, pay close attention to the weather — the lifts aren't cheap, and none of them is worth the cost if the Matterhorn is shrouded by clouds.

That said, don't wait for perfectly clear skies to head into the hills — even in bright, sunny weather, the Matterhorn loves playing peek-a-boo behind the clouds. If it's at least sunny-ish, get up the mountainside. Like me, you may find love at first sight of the Matterhorn.

Rick Steves (www.ricksteves.com) writes European travel guidebooks and hosts travel shows on public television and public radio. Email him at rick@ricksteves.com and follow his blog on Facebook.

If you visit

Sleeping: Hotel Jägerhof has 49 homey rooms and 7 apartments with lots of rustic charm, just a 10-minute walk from the center (moderate, www.jaegerhofzermatt.ch). Hotel Bahnhof is a respectable no-frills option with tidy alpine-style rooms across the street from the train station (budget, www.hotelbahnhofzermatt.com).

Eating: Whymper-Stube specializes in raclette and meat-and-cheese fondue in a cozy space with friendly staff (splurge, Bahnhofstrasse 80, www.whymper-stube.ch). Stadel is a small restaurant that dishes up homemade Swiss specialties with a smile (moderate, Bahnhofstrasse 45, www.stadel-zermatt.ch).

Getting around: Cars are not allowed: Drivers park in a pay lot and take a shuttle train into town. You'll do a lot of walking, but handy buses make several stops.

Information: www.zermatt.ch

TRAVEL TROUBLESHOOTER

Airbnb account is suspended, but company won't say why

By Christopher Elliott
King Features

Q I was looking at Airbnb for a house in France. But when I logged into the site, it said, "Your account has been disabled." Airbnb claimed that I violated its terms.

I haven't used Airbnb in over a year, but on every one of our previous bookings, I've had nothing but exceptional reviews. I haven't violated any rules.

After calling and emailing Airbnb, I only received one reply: The decision is "final." Airbnb refuses to state what I have apparently done to break its rules. This is obviously due to either a hacked account or a platform software error on Airbnb's part.

Could you get Airbnb to tell me, in detail, what happened on my account to render this decision? I'm guessing my account was hacked, but the frustration of the rude treatment from Airbnb is driving my anger.

— Robert Jackson, Honolulu

A: Airbnb owes you an explanation for account suspension. And if it can't provide one, then it should reinstate your account.

You already know that Airbnb can suspend your account if you have "materially breached" its terms. That includes violating its payment terms, policies or standards or applicable laws, regulations or third-party rights. Airbnb can also ban you to protect the personal safety or property of Airbnb, its members or third parties.

It looks as if Airbnb sent you one of its standard — and incredibly vague — termination notices. It includes the following bit of corporate-speak: "Please understand that we are not obligated to provide an explanation for the action taken against your account."

In other words, Airbnb doesn't owe you an explanation.

Or does it? Given the fact that this isn't the first case of a wrongful banning, I think Airbnb should offer an explanation. It's not fair to just ban someone and not tell them why. Also, there should be a mechanism for appealing a ban. That's not just for the benefit of the customer but also for Airbnb and its hosts.

After all, why would you turn down a good customer's business?

I list the names, numbers and email addresses of the Airbnb executives on my consumer advocacy site, Elliott.org. You could have appealed your case to one of them in writing. But I suspect they would have kicked your case back to the customer service department, which would have generated yet another automatic denial.

I contacted Airbnb on your behalf. It reviewed your file and sent you what appeared to be another form response: "After taking a closer look, it appears your account was suspended in error," an Airbnb representative said. "Your account access has been fully restored, and you can use the site normally."

Christopher Elliott is the ombudsman for National Geographic Traveler magazine and the author of "How to Be the World's Smartest Traveler." You can read more travel tips on his blog, elliott.org, or email him at chris@elliott.org.

CELEBRITY TRAVELER

The best ways to get 'Lost'

By Jae-Ha Kim
Tribune Content Agency



TRAVEL CHANNEL

Filmmaker J.J. Kelley and journalist Kinga Philipps have teamed up to put their expertise to use in "Lost in the Wild," which airs Sundays on Travel Channel.

The reality adventure series follows the two as they head into remote areas to investigate missing persons cases and try to help solve the mysteries.

An edited version of our conversation follows.

Q. Where is the wildest place you've visited?

Kinga Philipps: Mana Pools National Park, Zimbabwe. It's simply extraordinary. What makes Mana so special is that if you choose not to go on the organized safari route, which can be expensive but totally worth it, you can also self-drive and camp — if you know what you're doing, of course.

J.J. Kelley: The deep field in Antarctica. When you visit the frozen continent, you see loads of amazing wildlife like penguins and whales. However, you only see life around the perimeter. Once you get into the deep interior of the land mass, it's a lifeless, inhospitable and endlessly stark landscape. Humans are not meant to live in a tent at minus 50 degrees Fahrenheit, but I sure did for 25 days. It was both the wildest and most physically demanding location I've ever been.

Q. What is your favorite vacation destination?

Kelley: Alaska. In a previous life, I spent years working as a kayak guide in Alaska's remote Kenai Fjords National Park. For me everything is just bigger and more dramatic in our most northern state. For anyone who loves adventure, you can't beat this place. The only problem is that it spoils you. Once you see the vastness of Alaska, everything else feels a bit lackluster.

Q. What untapped destination should people know about?

Philipps: I call it the other island mentality. Most places you go where there are islands, one will be the popular on-the-radar destination and right next to it are others that are just as amazing, if not better, which usually have half the crowd and half the prices. Perfect examples would be Koh Rong Sanloem (Cambodia), which is the exquisite and quiet alternative to next door Koh Rong, an all-night moon party destination.

Q. What do you recommend to people who'd like to visit remote destinations but are wary of the unknown?

Kelley: Have a plan for how you can safely step outside your comfort zone. If you're going on a remote trek in Zimbabwe, bring a friend, tell a friend where you're going and when you'll be back and have a plan for what they'll do if you don't surface at the agreed upon time. Always have a protocol for communication. Get an international plan for your cellphone. Have check-in times and stick to them. Do not get lazy with this. It could save your life. I've received my greatest education from traveling to 111 countries and I'd never discourage anyone from seeing new horizons. I wholeheartedly encourage you. Just be smart about it.

Q. What's the most important thing you've learned from your travels?

Kelley: Stay curious — don't travel around the world to text with your friend who lives in your hometown; don't eat at the hotel; don't stay within the tourist bubble. Ask questions and immerse yourself in your destination. Otherwise, why did you spend all that money to get around the world?

Q. What is your best vacation memory?

Philipps: Living out of a van in Iceland for nine days with my sister as we toured the entire ring road and stopped in so many spectacular spots our heads were spinning.

Q. Where have you traveled to that most reminded you of home?

Kelley: I'm from Minnesota, and Norway is the one place that feels most like my homeland. The people are sweet, the food is a little bland but satisfying, and the culture is one that celebrates the cold instead of complaining about it.

For more from the reporter, visit www.jaehakim.com.



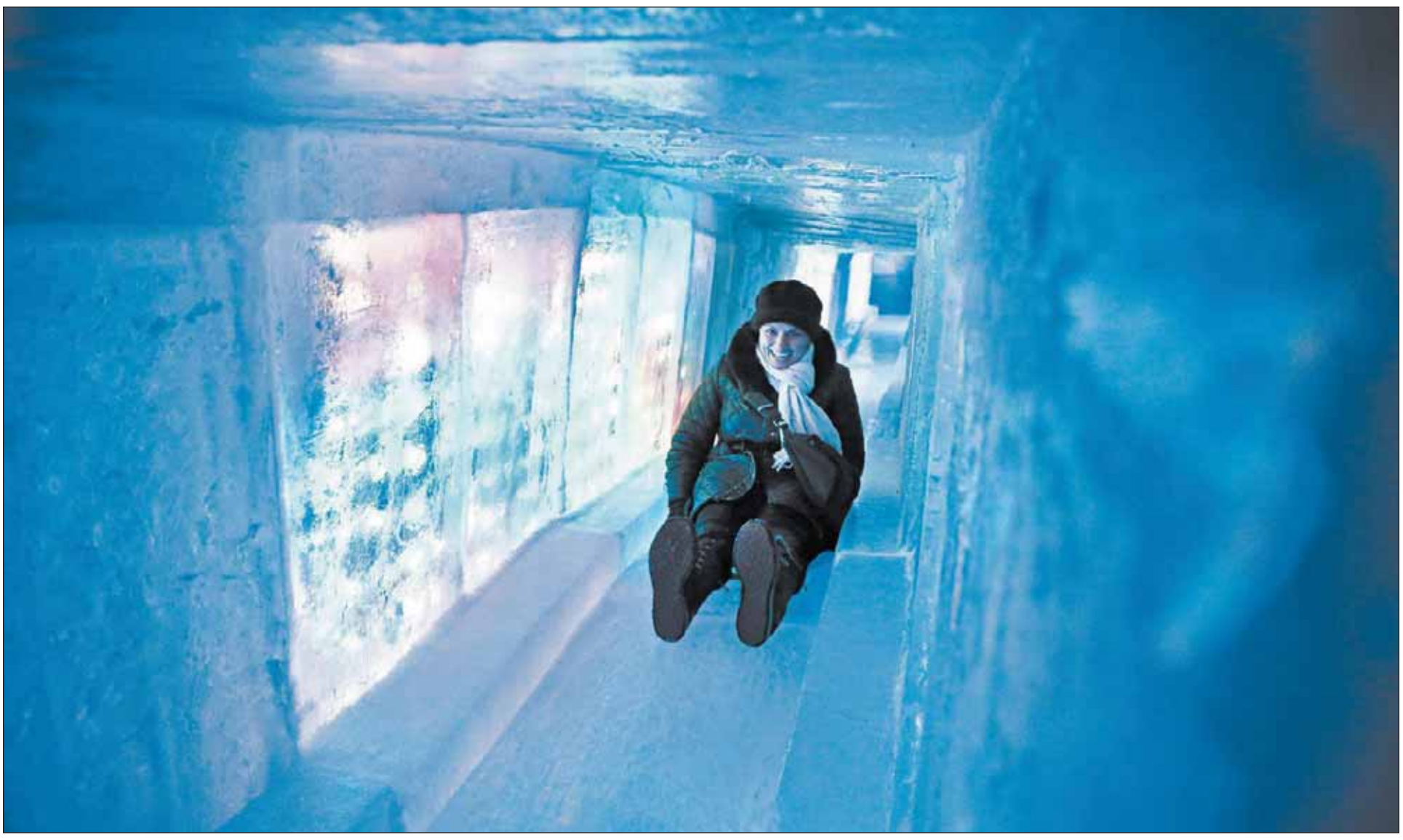
A couple enters Ice Castles the first night it opened. It's one of six Ice Castles built in North America.



Family members steady their smartphones and cameras to catch loved ones as they emerge from an ice slide.



Kelly, daughter Jayla, 7, and Jason Cyborowski, of Greendale, Wisconsin, stop for a quick selfie inside an ice tunnel.



Andrea Reno of Champaign laughs as she makes her way through an LED-lit ice slide at the Ice Castles exhibit at Geneva National Resort & Club in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

Colorful debut

Ice Castles opens its Instagram-friendly creation in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

Story by Lori Rackl | Photos by Stacey Wescott

Better late than never: Instagram-friendly Ice Castles opened at Geneva National Resort & Club in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, on Jan. 31, a few weeks behind schedule.

Throughout winter, workers will continue to add to the icy structure embedded with colorful LED lights that glow at night.

If Mother Nature cooperates, Ice Castles could stick around through early March; icecastles.com/wisconsin.



A couple brought their own photographer and lighting assistant to Ice Castles on opening night.

Chicago is home to 2 of the country's top 3 hotels, report says

By Lori Rackl

Sweet home Chicago has some sweet hotels, too. The city lays claim to two of the nation's top three, according to the latest hotel rankings by U.S. News & World Report.

A couple of Chicago's high-end properties, The Langham and The Peninsula, snagged the No. 2 and 3 spots, respectively, on the annual list of best U.S. hotels.

The rankings put Hawaii's Four Seasons Resort Lanai back on its perch as the country's No. 1 hotel, a return to the title it last had in 2018.

The Washington, D.C.-based U.S. News & World Report has published its Best Hotels rankings for a decade. More than 30,000 luxury hotels and resorts across the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Caribbean and Europe get scored using a mix of industry awards, star ratings and guest reviews.

In the U.S. category, The Langham, occupying the first 13 floors of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's modernist masterpiece at 330 N. Wabash Ave., and the equally posh Peninsula at 108 E. Superior St., routinely jockey for position at the upper end of the yearly list.

The 316-room Langham landed the No. 1 spot in U.S. News' 2017 rankings. The next year, it trailed Chicago's Peninsula, the second best hotel in the country, at No. 3. Last year, the 339-room Peninsula held onto its second-place position, while The Langham slipped to seventh best in the nation.

Another Chicago property, Four Seasons, managed to crack the country's Top 10, coming in at No. 9 in the 2020 rankings.



MICHELLE KANAAR/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The 316-room Langham occupies the first 13 floors of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's modernist masterpiece, the former IBM Building on what's now known as AMA Plaza. U.S. News says it's the best hotel in Chicago.



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A traveler arrives at The Peninsula in Chicago earlier this month. The luxury property is the third best hotel in the country and No. 2 in the city, according to the latest U.S. News' rankings.

The rest of the top 10 spots are Acqualina Resort & Residences on the Beach in Florida's Sunny Isles Beach north of Miami (4), Four Seasons Resort Orlando at Walt Disney World (5), Rancho Valencia Resort & Spa near San Diego (6), Montage Kapalua Bay in Maui, Hawaii (7), Four Seasons in Washington, D.C. (8) and Hotel Emma in San Antonio, Texas (10).

In announcing the rankings, U.S. News lauded the country's No. 1 hotel, Four Seasons on the Hawaiian island of Lanai, for its "idyllic setting," "world-class golf course" and offerings like sunset yoga.

The Langham and Peninsula got props for consistently "stellar service, memorable on-site amenities and extraordinary accommodations."

The latest kudos follow recent high-profile praise for both Chicago hotels. In December, The Langham made Condé Nast Traveler's 2020 Gold List, the magazine's prestigious roster of the best hotels and resorts on the planet. Last fall, The Peninsula's Z Bar got high praise from Forbes Travel Guide, which named the swanky sixth-floor lounge to its inaugural list of the World's Best Hotel Bars.

U.S. News' top-ranked properties in other geographical categories include the Fairmont Pacific Rim in Vancouver, British Columbia, dubbed best in Canada, and for Mexico, One&Only Pamilla in Los Cabos. Among Caribbean contenders, a resort in the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico took top billing: Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve. The tony La Réserve Paris Hotel and Spa logged the No. 1 berth in Europe for the second year in a row.

In Chicago, U.S. News' top 10 hotels after The Langham, Peninsula and Four Seasons are, in order, The Ritz-Carlton, Trump International Hotel & Tower, Waldorf Astoria, Viceroy, Thompson, The Gwen and St. Jane.

Highly ranked hotels in Illinois outside of the city include Deer Path Inn in Lake Forest (No. 12 in the state), Hotel Arista in Naperville (23), Loews Chicago O'Hare in Rosemont (29), Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel (39), Herrington Inn & Spa in Geneva (42), The Westin Chicago Lombard (43) and Le Méridien Chicago-Oakbrook Center in Oak Brook (48).

Stately, historic properties reigned supreme elsewhere in the Midwest. The top hotel in Indiana is West Baden Springs, part of French Lick Resort. The best in Wisconsin is The American Club in Kohler. In Michigan, it's the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island.

Hotels that score within the top 10% of all U.S.-ranked properties are awarded gold status by U.S. News. Sixteen Chicago hotels got gold in the latest rankings. So did north suburban Deer Path Inn.

lrackl@chicagotribune.com

NEWS TO USE

See skiers race in Wisconsin

By Phil Marty

Here are some of the more interesting events, deals, websites and other travel tidbits that have come across our desk recently:

■ The American Birkebeiner, North America's largest cross-country ski marathon that attracts thousands of participants, will be held Feb. 22 from Cable to Hayward, Wisconsin. There will be routes of 50K for skaters and 55K for classic skiers. It's just part of the competitions that begin on the 19th and range from skijoring and a giant ski run to shorter races and an adaptive race. birkie.com

■ The Michigan Brewers Guild is holding its 15th Annual Winter Beer Festival on Feb. 22 at Fifth Third Ballpark in Comstock Park, just north of Grand Rapids. More than 150 breweries will be represented with 1,100-plus beers. Advance ticket purchase is recommended as this may sell out. tinyurl.com/yx8b6uf7

■ Hundreds of orchids will be on view through March 22 at the 2020 Orchid Show of the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis. Mayan-inspired is the theme for the show, which will feature a presentation of moss-covered mannequins with lavish botanical headdresses created by members of the American Institute of Floral Designers. tinyurl.com/829m8vk

■ Cross-country skiers and snowshoers can enjoy an unusual experience the night of Feb. 15 during the 24th annual Book Across the Bay. A 10K course will take participants across Lake Superior's Chequamegon Bay from Ashland to Washburn, Wisconsin. Luminaries will mark the course. batb.org

■ More than 100 films from around the world will be screened during the Beloit International Film Festival, which will be Feb. 21 to March 1. Venues will range from 40 to 400 seats. Among special events will be presentations from filmmakers. There will also be a singalong "Blues Brothers" showing. beloitfilmfest.org

■ There will be over 30 varieties of wine and beer to sample on Feb. 14 during Grapes & Hops at The Armory in Janesville, Wisconsin. There will also be hors d'oeuvres and live music. tinyurl.com/ux5jvoy



TRAVEL WISCONSIN

The annual American Birkebeiner cross-country ski race takes place Feb. 22 in Wisconsin.

■ If you're looking for things to do in Indiana, the tourism folks there will have you covered all year with The 20 in 20 lists. There will be 20 lists of 20 must-see, must-do Indiana experiences rolled out throughout the year. So far there have been lists of small towns, dining spots and breweries. You can periodically visit the website at visitindiana.com/2020 to see what's new, or you can sign up there to get updates emailed to you.

■ Collectors, dealers and fans will come together to share a love for comics, toys and pop-culture collectibles during the 10th annual Great Lakes Comic Convention, which will be Feb. 21-22 at the Macomb Community College Expo Center in Warren, Michigan. There will also be meet-and-greets with industry talent. greatlakescomiccon.org

■ Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, celebrates its annual Fire and Ice Festival on Feb. 15. Carvers ranging from novice to professional will be turning blocks of ice or snow into artwork. Blacksmith James Viste will be on hand demonstrating his craft, and the Door County Maritime Museum will offer free admission to kids 17 and under with a paid adult admission. tinyurl.com/ufmk2c9

■ Boats of all shapes and sizes will be on display Feb. 19-23 at the 75th annual Grand Rapids Boat Show in Grand Rapids, Michigan. There will also be lots of boating accessories and boating services offered. A dive tank will be set up for those who want to try scuba, and there's an antique and classic boat display. grboatshow.com

■ Maple syrup demonstrations and a pancake breakfast highlight the Maple Syrup Festival at Southern Illinois University's Touch of Nature Environmental Center in Makanda. Artisans will be on hand selling their wares, and there will be demonstrations in areas such as lumberjacking, beekeeping, hide tanning and embroidery. tinyurl.com/y6f7ea94

■ "So Ready for Laughter: The Legacy of Bob Hope" is a new special exhibit at the National Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio. The exhibit chronicles the many tours the comedian made overseas during World War II to buoy the spirits of American service members. This is the touring exhibit's first stop after debuting in New Orleans at the National WWII Museum. It's on display through April 17. tinyurl.com/vbrahpl

Deals and websites listed here have been checked for availability as of press time. Listings are not an endorsement. Send tips at least a month in advance to ChicagoTribTravel@gmail.com.

Phil Marty is a freelancer.

GEOQUIZ ANSWER

Tunisia. Its other border is on the Mediterranean Sea.

When to visit Yosemite, an increasingly popular park

By Christopher Reynolds
Los Angeles Times

Attendance at Yosemite National Park increased by 10.2% in 2019, newly released numbers show, and rangers are huddling with experts to devise ways to better manage traffic.

The National Park Service's latest "monthly use report" shows 4.59 million visitors last year, up from 4.16 million the year before. The figure didn't top the park's busiest year — about 5.2 million travelers in 2016 — but Yosemite remains the busiest of the nine national parks in California and worries about overtourism continue to grow.

Park spokesman Scott Gediman said Yosemite management is working with traffic engineers and collaborating with Zion National Park in Utah on ways to better measure where visitors go and when, so the park can manage traffic.

These numbers offer insights to the best and worst times to visit:

■ Earlier morning and late afternoon and evening are always less crowded, because many park visitors are day-trippers who come in from Oakhurst to the south or Groveland to the west.

■ The slowest month of the year: February. About 116,000 visitors entered the park that month in 2019.

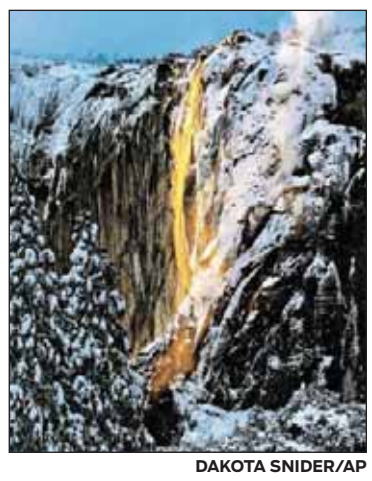
■ Busiest month: July. About 743,000 visitors came, edging out August at 728,000.

The busiest of Yosemite's five entrances is Oak Flat along California 120 east of Groveland, the route that San Francisco Bay Area drivers follow. Gediman said park leaders calculated the valley's user capacity in 2014, and the basic conclusion was that Yosemite Valley can handle 18,710 people at one time before traffic begins to slow down and visitor experiences begin to suffer.

But for most planning purposes, "our issue is the vehicles, not the people," Gediman said. "We figure about three people average per car. On a typical summer day, we get 5,000-6,000 cars.

"When we get to about 7,000 cars, that's when we get traffic jams."

On two days in July, Gediman said, more than 8,000 cars arrived. Yosemite Valley has about 1,200 parking spaces for day visitors, a number that's expected to increase slightly in coming years.



DAKOTA SNIDER/AP

The setting sun illuminates Yosemite's Horsetail Fall in the California national park.

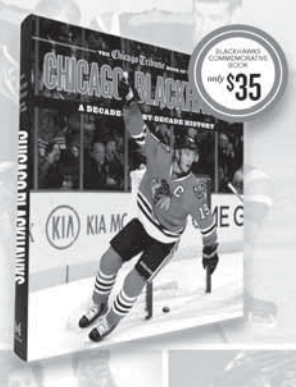
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FORK IN THE ROAD

WHAT TO EAT WHEN YOU GET THERE



IWAN BAAN/BACARDI LIMITED

Bombay Sapphire gin distillery is in an old paper mill in rural Hampshire in southern England. The distillery hosts more than 100,000 visitors a year.

Experience spirit tourism

Britain sees spike in visits to distilleries

By Louise Dixon
Associated Press



BACARDI LIMITED

In the Scottish Highlands, guided cellar tours are offered at the Dewar's Distillery in Aberfeldy, where they have been producing Scotch whisky since 1898. The distillery has traditional whisky tastings and a whisky and chocolate tasting tour.

Many people these days are thirsting not just for a drink but for knowledge about where it comes from. "Spirit tourism" is booming across the United Kingdom, with artisanal brands and micro distilleries popping up and many global brands distilled here.

Bombay Sapphire distillery, for example, produces its iconic blue bottles of gin in a former paper mill in Hampshire, England. Gin has been enjoying a renaissance, according to the Wine and Spirit Trade Association, and even well-established global brands have been trying to up their game.

"When Bombay Sapphire came out 30 years ago, in 1986, there was probably a handful of different gins. Now we're seeing about 200 new gins on the market every single year in the U.K. alone," says spokesman Sam Carter.

Over 100,000 people a year come through the distillery, he says. Along with tours, Bombay Sapphire offers cocktail master classes, botanical supper clubs, and horticultural tours through the surrounding conservation area.

Bombay's master distiller, Anne Brock, sees the rise of spirit tourism as a response to public desire to "go and meet the makers."

"People are finding their local distillery. They're enjoying that spirit and they're going on from there and exploring," she says.

The classic gin and tonic is in decline, Carter says, replaced by cocktails like the Negroni, French 75, or gin and ginger.

"One of the most important things for us is to get people to come down, create cocktails themselves, feel really comfortable about making cocktails and then be able to replicate them at home," he says.

Brock hopes visitors also get a better understanding of what to look for in a gin.

"You're looking for a balance. You're looking for an overall sort of flavor story in the mouth," she says. "So, you don't want to be left short and you don't want to have it burning down too long, but you want to have a sort of development of flavors."

For a different kind of experience, visitors can travel to Black Cow Distillery on an organic farm in west Dorset, England, where dairy farmer Jason Barber and his friend Paul "Archie" Archard started a vodka brand in 2012.

Barber's family has been making cheese for over two centuries, and the pair make vodka from what is left over from that process.

"Premium brand drinks, especially, talk about the quality of their materials and where it comes from, and traditionally, spirits always were made out of what's left over from the table," Archie explains.

He and Barber, he says, have taken something from the dairy process of "a low material value and turned it into, we think, the smoothest vodka in the world."

As well as a distillery tour, they offer cocktail-making classes, and serve fresh local food in their bar and kitchen.

Barber hopes visitors to Black Cow will see "we're doing something new, we're pushing things along a bit. We're considering how we're farming, considering how we're making things ... And it's lovely to get people to relook at the countryside and view it in a different way."

Don't expect to see production at city speed.

"From cow to bottle it's probably a fortnight," says Barber. "And if I want to take longer, I take longer, basically. But there's no hurry. And the same when you're drinking it."

Back in the bustling capital, East London Liquor company produces British wheat vodka, three London Dry-style gins and whisky. Based in a historic glue factory in Bow Wharf, the distillery has a bar attached where guests can enjoy a drink while watching production through a glass wall.

"What beats sitting here having a martini, watching it being made?" says founder and ex-bartender Alex Wolpert.

Wolpert says he founded East London Liquor several years ago to democratize booze, producing something local, independent and affordable. The company offers a whisky, a gin and a mixed distillery tour, and Wolpert says everyone leaves with a bottle.

"When they've had that kind of sensuous, tactile involvement in the process, they've been behind (the scenes), they've picked up the juniper berries ... there's a relationship there," Wolpert says. "So, you're kind of almost by default building advocates of what we do by having them in the production space."

Carter advises spirit enthusiasts to sit at the bar and talk to the bartenders.

"If you can find your favorite watering holes where you can trust the bar team to recommend stuff, that's always a great starting point," he says.

Finally, no spirit tourism trip is complete without a visit to Scotland.

Dewar's Aberfeldy Distillery in the Scottish Highlands has been producing Scotch whisky since 1898, and offers traditional whisky tastings, a luxury blenders tour, and a whisky and chocolate tasting tour.

"We're seeing people really want to get in depth. They want to get under the skin of how the whisky is produced, and they want to taste different ones," says in-house whisky expert Simon Robinson.

"I think that provenance, sustainability and telling a story behind the liquid are just becoming increasingly important," he adds.

He hopes visitors "take away an appreciation of Scotch whisky first and foremost, and ... the confidence to enjoy not just our whisky, although that is the ideal situation, but also other Scotch whisky and other things in this area."

Chicago hotel's new romance package inspired by a famous couple's first kiss

By Lori Rackl

It started with a kiss.

In this case, "it" is a new package being offered at the Sophy Hyde Park hotel. And it's inspired by a first kiss. Not just any first kiss. The Obamas' first kiss.

Future POTUS and FLOTUS first locked lips in 1989 outside a Baskin-Robbins on the South Side. The ice cream shop is long gone, but Barack and Michelle's smooch site is immortalized by the so-called "Obama Kissing Rock," a granite boulder with a plaque that details the president's account of the sweet story: "On our first date, I treated her to the finest ice cream Baskin-Robbins had to offer, our dinner table doubling as the curb. I kissed her, and it tasted like chocolate."

The rock sits across the street from the Sophy Hyde Park, which recently rolled out its new "SO-In Love" package "in the spirit of the Obamas' time-tested love." The 98-room boutique hotel opened in the fall of 2018 at the corner of East 53rd Street and South Dorchester Avenue.

The two-night package kicks off with a Champagne and chocolate-dipped strawberries welcome. Couples get a $100 credit toward dinner at the hotel's Mesler restaurant, where the meal gets capped off with an ice cream dessert, natch. The bundle also includes breakfast in bed one morning (up to $50), delivered with a rose.

The romance package is available until the end of February. Prices start at $259 a night, but they can climb quite a bit higher depending on the day of the week. A recent online search for Valentine's Day weekend, for example, turned up nightly rates of $587 for the SO-In Love package.

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ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2018

The hotel's SO-In Love package comes with a $100 dining credit at its Mesler restaurant.

HOME

MAKE YOUR SPACE

Stirring the imagination

Calamine pink or Dead Salmon? What's behind paint names

By Kim Cook
Associated Press



BENJAMIN MOORE

Benjamin Moore's 2020 Color of the Year is First Light, a dreamy, soft shade of pink.

Ever wonder how paint colors get their names? If you're shopping for pink, say, you'll find dozens of shades referencing roses, bubblegum and shells. There are some extra-evocative names like Calamine and Dead Salmon. And what about a pink called Harajuku Morning? Modern Love?

Names can sway a person, says New York designer Daun Curry. "We once had a client choose one paint color over another because the name was Peace and Happiness," she says.

More often, we pick a shade because we like it, says color consultant Debra Kling of New York, and "the names' associations serve to augment our feelings about the hues."

She warns clients that paints when applied can look very different from their names: Creams, especially, easily veer into yellow territory, even when there's no hint of that hue in their name.

Natalie Ebel, co-founder of the direct-to-consumer paint company Backdrop — which is behind Harajuku Morning and Modern Love — says that choosing the right names for paint colors is essential.

"We encourage customers to not just paint their walls, but create their backdrop," she says. "So each name was chosen to evoke an emotional connection; we were inspired by real people, places, things and moods."

Farrow & Ball is known for creative naming; their latest Colour By Nature palette, made in collaboration with London's Natural History Museum, was inspired by Werner's Nomenclature of Colours, an 1814 guide that cross-references hues with markings and colorations found in nature. Scotch Blue, for example, suggests both the throat of a blue titmouse and copper ore.

Time and place also provide inspiration, says Farrow & Ball's color consultant Joa Studholme.

"Occasionally, the paint name comes almost before the color. Plummett was mixed after an afternoon spent fishing on the river, where the color of the lead used to weight the fisherman's line was a thing of such beauty that it just begged to be added to the Farrow & Ball palette," she says.

Studholme shares the backstories on two Farrow & Ball pinks, Calamine and Dead Salmon:

"For many people of a certain age, calamine lotion was an intrinsic part of early life. Applied to treat scraped knees, stings and the general travails of a lively childhood, it was always of comfort. And what was more calming, the actual lotion or its extraordinary delicate color? It certainly creates soothing rooms in the modern world," she says.

As for the fishy one, the name was found on a decorator's invoice dated 1805 for a library. "Salmon is the color, and 'Dead' actually refers to the matte paint finish," Studholme says.

Another rosy paint that Studholme thinks is well-named was inspired by the soft, feminine shade found in traditional ladies' private quarters. But "Boudoir Pink" didn't sit right, she says.

"So, we spent time considering how the boudoir got its name, only to discover it comes from the French 'bouder,' meaning 'to sulk.' Thus, Sulking Room Pink was born," she says.

Pink has enjoyed a favored position in the color pantheon since at least 2014, when movie director Wes Anderson clad his "Grand Budapest Hotel" in the hue. That was followed by rose gold fever. Color company Pantone designated light pinks as signature colors in both 2016 and 2017.

Paint marketers generally like names that are aspirational, that stir the imagination. First Light is Benjamin Moore's 2020 Color of the Year, a dreamy, soft shade of pink. The company's director of color marketing and development, Andrea Magno, says that while the color was already part of Benjamin Moore's 3,500-hue library, "it's always fortuitous when the trend concept and color name complement one another. While descriptions like 'light pink' are quite straightforward, we also look for names that evoke positive associations and experiences."

PPG Paint's senior color marketing manager, Dee Schlotter, says Linen Ruffle



BACKDROP

Harajuku Morning is "bright, airy and fun," says Backdrop co-founder Natalie Ebel.

is the top pink requested on the company's Paintzen platform. It's a pale, taupe-tinged white with a pink undertone, named to evoke images of ruffly pillows and curtains.

And what about Kenny's Kiss or Salsa Diane, two other pinks in the PPG collection? The former was named after an employee's dog; the latter after a color lab stylist's beachy dress.

Sherwin-Williams' color of the year is Romance, another gentle pink with a name that stirs feelings.

Ebel, of Backdrop, says pinks have been the most fun to name. "I wanted to keep the colors and names approachable for people like me — I wasn't a huge pink person before Backdrop," she says.

"Harajuku Morning was inspired by a trip we took to Tokyo in 2016. The color is bright, airy and fun, and reminded us of the playfulness of Takeshita Street, but in the morning before the crowds. Modern Love was inspired by one of my favorite New York Times columns — the color makes me think of the beautiful, messy feelings that come with relationships," she says.

Just like the beautiful, messy relationship we all have with the brushes, rollers and paint colors we bring home.

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STYLE

WHAT TO WEAR NOW

SHOW SOME LOVE

We've combed Chicago's top shops for 21 perfect gifts to buy

By David Syrek

Just as you're recovering from the holiday gift madness, it's time again to find the perfect present. Yes, it's almost Valentine's Day.

Thoughtful, check. Personal, check. Romantic, double check.

Successful Valentine's Day gifts are about really knowing your loved one. Finding that perfect something that connects with their personality, interests and style.

Sure, the classics (flowers, chocolate) always work, but this is the time to go above and beyond. The good news is that it doesn't mean breaking the bank.

Take Crosley's sculptural, cherry red C3 turntable paired with a few romantic classics on vinyl, or Tiffany's iconic silver and enamel heart charms. Or send a bigger message by turning over a set of keys to your place, hung on Hay's hip, two-tone key rings — all sure-fire hits.

We've combed Chicago to find 21 fabulous Valentine's gifts for him and her, from $10 to $200. No stress, check.



The color of the day — and the trending color for spring — is fiery red. Give her a jump-start on the season with Zara's red patent-leather heeled boots. $59.99, Zara, 700 N. Michigan Ave., and zara.com

ZARA



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Give her the stars. B. Vintage's chic, faux tortoise zodiac charms on sterling silver ball chains are inspired by 1960s designs. $95, Space 519, 200 E. Chestnut St., and space519.com

CROSLEY

Give him a red-hot record player and two of the most romantic recordings ever created. Miles Davis' heart-wrenching 1957 masterpiece soundtrack to the film "Ascenseur pour l'échafaud" and Chet Baker's hauntingly beautiful "My Funny Valentine" set the tone for the perfect night. Spin them on Crosley's C3 turntable. $139, Guitar Center, 2633 N. Halsted St. Records $19.99 each at Sugga Records, 1272 N. Milwaukee Ave.



Give flowers that won't fade. Claus' chic Poppy Signet Ring is cast in recycled brass and is hand engraved. $126, Asrai Garden, 309 N. Morgan St., and asraigarden.com

ASRAI GARDEN



If you'd describe your guy as wonderful, exquisite and astonishing — and just a bit of off-kilter — well, that's exactly how Byredo describes the Mister Marvelous fragrance. $180, Bloomingdale's, 900 N. Michigan Ave., and bloomingdales.com

BLOOMINGDALE'S



The flowers are a given; now make the day really special with a great vase to put them in. Hay's Bottoms Up Vase can be flipped upside down to use the smaller base as a dish for jewelry or other small items. $63.75 at Hay Chicago, 755 W. North Ave., and us.hay.com

HAY



Love comes in all colors, but getting the little blue box is almost as exciting as finding out what's in it. Tiffany's sterling silver and enamel Mini Double Heart Tag Pendants, $150 at Tiffany & Co., 730 N. Michigan Ave., and tiffany.com

TIFFANY & CO.



This tiny book of French love poems showcases some of the most passionate verses in the French language, from the classic 16th century love sonnets to the dreamlike compositions of the surrealists. It's the perfect gift for anyone who makes your heart flutter. $11.95, Jayson Home, 1885 N. Clybourn Ave., and jaysonhome.com

JAYSON HOME



GEO. F. TRUMPER

This year, give him roses that will make his morning ritual a little sweeter. Geo. F. Trumper Rose Shaving Soap, $29.50, Merz Apothecary, 4716 N. Lincoln Ave., and smallflower.com



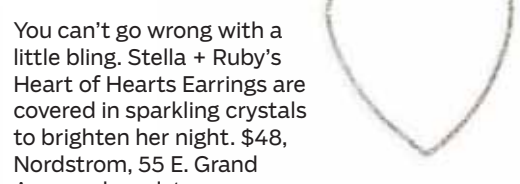
ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Give him the moon and the stars with Printworks' (very challenging) Night Puzzle. $25, Space 519, 200 E. Chestnut St., and space519.com



JAYSON HOME

Renowned ceramicist Astier de Villatte's glazed black terra cotta Antoinette incense holder is made in an antique Bastille workshop, housed in what was once the atelier of Napoleon's silversmith. $62 and $93, Jayson Home, 1885 N. Clybourn Ave., and jaysonhome.com



You can't go wrong with a little bling. Stella + Ruby's Heart of Hearts Earrings are covered in sparkling crystals to brighten her night. $48, Nordstrom, 55 E. Grand Ave., and nordstrom.com

NORDSTROM



Up his cocktail game — and give him a new hobby — with the Porthole. The infuser was originally created for the bar at The Aviary, Grant Achatz's acclaimed "molecular gastronomy" cocktail lounge in Chicago's West Loop. $120, Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave., and mcachicagostore.org

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART



He'll never miss a date with Tissot's sporty stainless steel Quickster Chronograph. $189.97, Nordstrom Rack, 1118 S. Canal St., and nordstromrack.com

NORDSTROM



NORDSTROM

Give him a classic with a twist. Comme des Garcons x Converse Chuck Taylor sneakers will be his weekend go-to. $135 for black or white, Nordstrom, 55 E. Grand Ave., and nordstrom.com



Give him a sweet and savory splurge. West Town Bakery's decadent crispy smoked bacon is covered in dark chocolate with a white chocolate drizzle. Each piece lasts three to five days. $2.95 per piece, West Town bakery, 3626 N. Clark St. and 1916 W. Chicago Ave.

WEST TOWN BAKERY



Kate Spade's stainless steel Apple Watch bracelet wraps her wrist in hearts. $118, Nordstrom, 55 E. Grand Ave., and nordstrom.com

NORDSTROM



Crown him in hearts with Urban Outfitters embroidered bucket hat. $24, Urban Outfitters, 20 S. State St., and urbanoutfitters.com

URBAN OUTFITTERS

He's smokin' hot, but he doesn't smoke. Chocolate cigars from artisanal chocolatier Venchi are flavored with hazelnut, orange and aromatic cocoa. The tradition of chocolate cigars dates to the late 1800s in Italy as an alternative to smoking after dinner. Good idea. $7.12 each at Eataly, 43 E. Ohio St., and eataly.com



She can soak in style with L'Objet's Rose Noire Bath Salt. The smell is so intoxicating that it might just become a bath for two. $60, Space 519, 200 E. Chestnut St., and space519.com

ABEL URIBE/ CHICAGO TRIBUNE



HAY

It's finally time to give him keys to your place. Put them on Hay's swanky two-tone Cane Key Ring. $12 at Hay Chicago, 755 W. North Ave., and us.hay.com

Navigating the minefield of birthday gift-giving



Ellen Warren
Answer Angel



DREAMSTIME

Department stores such as Macy's and Nordstrom offer free appointments with on-staff personal shoppers.

Dear Answer Angel Ellen: My daughter's birthday is coming up and I want to give her a gift of cash (about $500) so she can go clothes shopping. She is a beautiful young woman but she has poor taste and buys clothes that don't fit properly. Laundry is another issue — don't get me started. She has a new job and it would be great if she had about five outfits that she can mix and match. Any ideas on how to present this to her without offending her?

— Mommala

Dear Mommala: Department stores like Macy's, Nordstrom and Bloomingdale's offer free appointments with on-staff personal shoppers for just this kind of situation. Book an appointment online on the store's website to accompany that very generous gift. You could turn it into a true mother-daughter outing if she's willing. If that's not her kind of thing, suggest she take a girlfriend along, which might keep your daughter's worst instincts to a minimum. Make sure the shopper knows the budget and that your daughter is looking for work clothes with pieces that will mix and match to get the most outfits for your money. You can also find personal shoppers/stylists online, although they're not cheap and your $500 won't go very far. As for your question on how to avoid offending your daughter, just don't mention her bad taste and the poor fit of her current wardrobe.

Another birthday gift dilemma ...

Dear Answer Angel Ellen: I send a birthday gift every year to my old college friend and every year I am disappointed that I never hear ANYTHING back from her. A thank you would be nice but ... crickets. This has been going on for years. Any ideas on how I can get the friend — she is a good friend except for this — to at least give me a simple thanks.

— Ms. Smith (not my real name)

Dear Ms. Smith: You have two options: 1. Stop sending the gifts. 2. Quit beefing about the no-thank-you girlfriend. After years of the same behavior, I don't think your friend is going to change. Good friends are hard to find, so if you choose option 1, don't cut her off completely. Instead of a gift, send a nice card.

Dear Answer Angel Ellen: Target used to sell my favorite layering tank top but it has discontinued the brand. I've searched for it online in vain. Can you recommend any good solid layering tank tops for women that are soft and stretchy, not binding?

— Mary R.

Dear Mary: Uniqlo (uniqlo.com) has an excellent selection. My favorites are the Heattech and Airism. You can buy them with or without built-in bras. Also look at L. L. Bean (llbean.com), Lands' End (landsend.com) and Eddie Bauer (eddiebauer.com).

Angelic Readers

There were many suggested solutions for reader Penny P., who asked how to "bring back the joy of giving" because all her gift recipients provide links to the gifts that they want and are disappointed if she freelances.

Catherine H. writes: "Sure, I look at wish lists, but I refuse to be bullied by them. I am on a tight budget, but I love to give presents. I solve my dilemma by giving what makes me happy. Last summer I made a lot of jam, because I love opening a jar of summer in January. I figured my friends might feel the same way. Tickets to a local concert or theater production can be very reasonable, and if you throw in free babysitting the joy of the recipient increases exponentially. In short, I use my imagination to make gift giving my pleasure."

From Diane G.: "After years of giving individual gifts to each family member, our family started a white elephant gift exchange. The twist is that the gifts should be consumable — once you've used them, they're gone. It's fun to see what everyone comes up with every year — a lot of the gifts are food, of course, but there have also been candles, soaps and even a set of coloring postcards and colored pencils."

Instead of gifts, Arlene C. and Sue K. substitute playing an annual holiday family game with a prize or traveling trophy for the winner.

Judy Y. gives experiences, not things, like cooking classes or museum memberships.

Many suggested putting the focus on people, not stuff.

From Sally M.: "On or around Black Friday, my kids and I make a day or half-day of shopping together. In this way we have the fun experience of being together, we consider gift ideas together and we take advantage of sales. We have a memorable, fun time and I keep the gifts to wrap and give them at Christmas. I get thanked twice, they get gifts they really want and we have twice as much pleasure out of the same gift — the fun of giving/receiving and the gift of spending time together during the selection process."

Laura L. says: "As an alternative, my family has adopted a new tradition of planning an excursion for the family to do together. My kids (ages 6 and 3) have many cousins of about the same age and we don't often see each other, so the extra family time is really fun for them. Last year, we took the kids to a bouncy house place and then went out for pizza. This year, we went bowling and then out for dinner. When we gather on Christmas, we sometimes exchange small tins of homemade goodies, but the focus is not on presents; it's about spending time with the people we love."

Now it's your turn

Send your questions, rants, tips, favorite finds — on style, shopping, makeup, fashion and beauty — to answerangelellen@gmail.com.

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Sarah and Kerry Wood



Israel Idonije, from left, Jatnna Toribio, Jesse Spencer, Beth Heller and Taylor Kinney



Jim Peterik and Dutchie Caray



KNOTTED PHOTOGRAPHY

April Griffith and Brittani Emmons



KNOTTED PHOTOGRAPHY

Kelly Crull and Albert Almora Jr.



Lizz Esbrook, Samantha Rudnicki, Marcin Rudnicki and Shelby Masland

CANDID **CANDACE**

By Candace Jordan



Annual Woody's Winter Warm-Up benefits kids

Nearly 250 guests got to mingle with a slew of sports stars, celebrities and media personalities during the Wood Family Foundation's annual Woody's Winter Warm-Up held at Harry Caray's 7th Inning Stretch and Sports Museum on Jan. 17.

Hosted by founders Sarah and Kerry Wood, the event raised over $100,000 to benefit the nonprofit's Pitch In after-school mentoring program for students in grades 4-8 in Chicago's North Lawndale and Humboldt Park neighborhoods.

The evening also celebrated the upcoming baseball season and is always planned to coincide with the opening night of the Cubs Convention, when many of the players and fans make their way over to help Pitch In. Current players in attendance included Albert Almora Jr., Adbert Alzolay, Daniel Descalso, David Bote, Ian Happ, Nico Hoerner and Rowan Wick. Cubs alums Carlos Zambrano, Bob Howry, Mike Fontenot, Dave Otto, Ted Lilly, Geovany Soto and Jon Lieber also appeared.

The players joined celebs such as Taylor Kinney and Jesse Spencer, of NBC's "Chicago Fire," and local media stars behind the bar to serve drinks and interact with fans while competing for tips for the charity. Other "bartenders" included Bonnie Hunt, Jerry Azumah, Tanja Babich, Paul Blair (DJ White Shadow), Lin Brehmer, Lisa Fielding, Wayne Messmer and Sarah Spain.

"Tonight is for changing the lives of the kids in our city who need it, and education is the only way to do that," Sarah Wood said of the Pitch In program, which is now in four schools and serves 150 students.

Actress Hunt, a longtime supporter of the charity, summed up its mission.

"It's about hope," she said. "It's about giving children that might not see beyond the neighborhood a vision for themselves."

Freelance writer Candace Jordan is involved in many local organizations, including some whose events she covers.

MORE ONLINE: Find more photos and video of this event at **www.chicagotribune.com/candidcandace**

HILARY HIGGINS/PHOTOS FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Carlos Zambrano and Tanja Babich



Mike, Ashley and Bowen Fontenot



Bonnie Hunt and Tom Higgenson

Kindergarten 'kegger' puts mom on edge in new town



Judith Martin
Miss Manners

Dear Miss Manners: My kindergartner arrived home with a princess birthday party invite. We're new in town, and she's going to a small private school, so I thought this was a perfect chance to meet new parents.

My husband dropped us off at a very expensive home, where there were coolers full of beer, Champagne and wine. It was a Sunday and not even noon. I don't drink, generally, and definitely not with strangers or around my 5-year-old, or on Sundays or mornings.

I was confused, for starters, but as I spent the next two hours wandering the party, literally everyone was drinking beer and asking why I wasn't. They didn't even have cake or open the presents. I left right before the "beer chugging championship."

Is this normal? Not only am I scared to bring my daughter to another party, I'm concerned that when it's her turn for a birthday party, we'll be the "weird" ones who actually play kids' games and serve cake.

Gentle reader: While these parents may have shown poor judgment, they, much like you, are likely doing it in the name of meeting and socializing with other parents. If you are frightened for your daughter's safety, you need not attend.

And when it comes to planning her birthday party, Miss Manners suggests inviting only the children. At kindergarten age, there is no real need for extra parental chaperones. If the invitation provokes insinuations of weirdness, you may say, "We wanted to make this party about Chasten and her friends. But as we get to know the other parents, we would love to have them over for an adult party another time."

Dear Miss Manners: A male friend sent me a nice Christmas card describing our friendship. It was pretty accurate; however, a very nice pair of earrings was sent along with the card. We are both married (to other people) and he is considerably older. I am fond of him, but only as a friend. I thanked him for the card and the gift but told him I could not accept a gift like that and that it made me uncomfortable. I offended him. Was there a better way for me to handle this situation?

Gentle reader: It does not matter whether his indignation is because your assumption — that the gift suggested something more than friendship — is right or wrong. As in many etiquette situations, Miss Manners warns you that you will have to take the blame upon yourself: You are so embarrassed, it is just the way you were brought up, etc. Your friend will have to accept this answer if he wishes to maintain the friendship.

Dear Miss Manners: I've known my brother-in-law since he was a teenager. So recently, when he was telling his daughters about job offers he'd had in his youth, I knew the only truth to what he said was the location and time frame. The rest was absolutely ridiculous.

Then, at a family party, when we were discussing his daughter's new job, her sister said she was "teaching classes"; her mother said she was "teaching classes and was in charge of the curriculum"; and when my brother-in-law caught me, he said, "My daughter's boss is having her run the entire company." What is the protocol for dealing with these massive exaggerations?!

Gentle reader: The proper protocol is a big smile. Whether you are smiling to acknowledge how important the job is or to indicate that you realize that your brother-in-law is exaggerating for effect should, Miss Manners cautions you, be ambiguous to everyone but yourself.

Dear Miss Manners: Our group of ladies gets together every couple of months for lunch, to reminisce and catch up. If there is a noteworthy occasion coming up, one of the members always appears with a sweet concoction: pie, ice cream cake, etc. After the meal, she produces it, then asks the waitress for a knife, extra plates, forks and napkins.

I am always uneasy. How can we ask for implements for food they haven't provided? I generally decline the treat, pleading diet or some such.

Gentle reader: Restaurants, like hosts, provide food. Miss Manners reminds everyone that it is impolite to pack your own.

Declining the treat does not relieve you of all responsibility. It is better privately to convince one or two members of your circle, who can then help you bring the rest around to a better policy.

To send a question to the Miss Manners team of Judith Martin, Nicholas Ivor Martin and Jacobina Martin, go to missmanners.com or write them c/o Universal Uclick, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.

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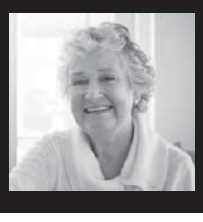
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Chicago Tribune
REAL ESTATE



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Lily Flores puts away dishes as Naúl Valdez chops vegetables in the kitchen of their Near West Side condo. The couple moved into their newly-constructed home in August 2019.

‘It’s a lot tougher nowadays’

Millennial homebuyers challenged with down payments and inventory

By Christen A. Johnson

Originally from the western suburbs, Naúl Valdez, 30, and his fiancee, Lily Flores, 30, started their house hunting last year looking for a single-family home with a backyard and a garage. But realistically, Valdez said, pricing and inventory in the city weren’t working out for them — even though they went in with a vision and a plan.

The couple saved for a full year to be ready to buy when the time came, “got (their) credit scores in check,” and researched the home-buying process to know what they were getting into, Valdez said.

“We planned on two to three years of renting in the city, (and) ended up doing three,” Valdez said. “And as soon as our lease was up, we hit the scramble to find a place.”

In August 2019, the pair bought a three-bedroom, two-bathroom condo on the Near West Side on a nice, quiet little street dotted with single-family homes.

Valdez and Flores are among the ever-growing group of millennial homebuyers. In line with national trends, just over half of homebuyers in the Chicago area are 24 to 39 years old, according to a Realtor.com analysis released last week.

Meanwhile, a January survey found that while 70% of millennials feel that buying a house is an essential element of the American Dream, the achievement can feel challenging for many.

The Clever Real Estate report, which took a deeper look at some of the obstacles the incoming generation of homebuyers is facing, surveyed 1,000 intergenerational Americans — millennials, Generation X and baby boomers — who were planning to buy a home this year.

Respondents were given 21 questions to answer. The exact number of people in each generation was not noted in the report. Millennials were defined as people ages of 19 to 35.

For the second consecutive year, saving for a down payment proved to be the biggest challenge for a millennial to buy a home; half of millennials said this was their biggest barrier, according to the survey.

It makes sense, then, why 70% of millennials who are buying a house this year are not planning to put down the suggested 20%, and why millennials are three times more likely than previous generations to ask family members for help with a down payment, the study said. For millennials who do get fronted the cash, they can expect as much as $10,000, according to the study.

Anna DeSimone, a mortgage lending expert and author of “Housing Finance 2020: New Mortgage Programs for the New Generation of Homebuyers,” says a down payment can be the biggest hurdle for millennials simply because “it’s hard to save money.”

“When you have people who’ve been paying high rents, student loans, day care, car payments — these (expenses) aren’t going away,” she said. “They’re still going to have medical bills, car insurance, etc., and these utilities are not on a credit report. It really can make a difference in buying a house. With all these bills, they have a hard time.”

Madeline Bouche, 28, and her husband moved to a two-story town home with two bedrooms and 2½ bathrooms in the South Loop two years ago. After the couple paid off student loans, they began saving for a down payment, Bouche said.

“Student loans kept us from buying a home even earlier than we could,” she said. “We put all of our efforts into paying student loans completely off, and that is what allowed us to buy a house. We took all the money we had been putting to student loans and started saving toward a down payment.”

Bouche and her husband ultimately put down 10% on their town home, she said.

The whole process, from paying off loans to signing on the home, took Bouche and her husband about three years total, “and that was pretty aggressive saving,” said Bouche.

More than 25% of millennials planning to buy a home in 2020 have less than $1,000 in savings, according to the Clever Real Estate study. The median price for a home in the United States is about $310,000, but most millennials are looking to pay about $210,000, the study said.

Mabél Guzmán, a Chicago real estate agent who has been in the business for 22 years, said there has to be some myth-busting about needing 20% down, especially for young people buying a home for the first time.

“For a lot of millennials, there has to be a demystifying of the housing purchase process,” she said. “(Sit) down with folks in advance to see what you know and to fill in the blanks.”

DeSimone echoed the sentiment. “People can’t even think about buying a house without having $10,000 that they think they need. Find out more about zero-down payment programs. If someone says no, go ask someone else,” she encouraged.

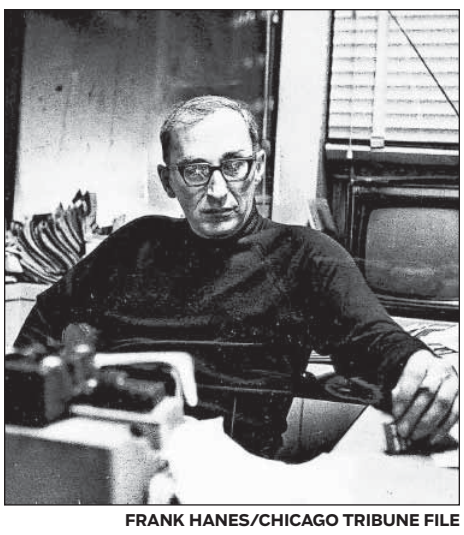
It seems the message is starting to sink in; millennials put an average 8.5% down when buying homes in December, while the successive Generation Z made average down payments of 5%, according to the Realtor.com study.

Valdez and Flores put down 15% as a down payment, without using any

Turn to ***Buyers, Page 7***

ELITE STREET

Mike Royko’s bachelor pad hits the market



FRANK HANES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE FILE

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Mike Royko in December 1974. A condo he owned from 1981 to 1985 after the death of his first wife is listed at $999,000.

By Bob Goldsborough

A 15-room vintage condominium in Lakeview owned by the late Tribune columnist Mike Royko in the early and mid-1980s is on the market for $999,000, while Royko’s wife, Judy, sold a condominium unit on the Gold Coast for $490,000 in November.

Royko, who died in 1997, had many homes during his storied career as a Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist. After the death of his first wife, Carol, Royko bought a condo in 1981 in the vintage building at 3300 N. Lake Shore Drive.

For close to a year, Royko’s midlife bachelor pad was on the market. It was listed in March 2019 for $1.35 million, and its asking price was cut to $1.25 million in July and $1.15 million in October. It was relisted in December with a more aggressive price cut: $999,000. The current owners are the ones who bought the condo from Royko in 1985.

The four-bedroom unit has four bathrooms, a wood-paneled family room, crown moldings, an eat-in kitchen with commercial-grade appliances, custom cabinetry, a private office, hardwood floors and a large dining room.

“It really is a special unit because of the size,” said listing agent Bette Bleeker of @properties. “It’s about 4,500 square feet, and it has a private elevator entrance and a private service elevator entrance, along with large bedrooms and really lovely views of Belmont Harbor and Lake Shore Drive.”

Royko actually married his second wife in the condominium, and then sold that condo in late 1985 to move to the Northwest Side’s Sauganash neighborhood. Royko left the city altogether in 1992, buying a million-dollar house in Winnetka that since has been razed.

In November, Judy Royko sold a two-bedroom, 1,280-square-foot condo on North Lake Shore Drive in the Gold Coast for $490,000. She paid $545,000 in late 2017 for the unit, which has two baths, custom granite inlaid foyer flooring and espresso-stained, wide-plank diagonal oak and bamboo flooring throughout.

Other features include a built-in banquette; a grasscloth wallpaper hallway; a master suite with a rain shower, heated floors and a double vanity; and a kitchen with 42-inch cabinets, a granite and limestone backsplash, a Miele hood, a custom island with a wine refrigerator, and a double-drawer Fisher & Paykel dishwasher.

Joseph Kotoch of Compass had the listing.

Vintage Lincoln Park home with remodel by noted architect lists for $1.9 million: A vintage five-bedroom, 4,500-square-foot house in Lincoln Park that was redesigned by noted architect Larry Booth in the 1980s was listed Jan. 17 for $1.95 million.

Turn to ***Elite, Page 7***

REAL ESTATE MATTERS

What to know about buying a home with cash

By Ilyce Glink and Samuel J. Tamkin
Tribune Content Agency



DREAMSTIME PHOTOS

When you're buying a house, imagine that everything you say to your real estate agent will wind up in the seller's ear.

Q: My wife and I are considering purchasing our first home using our savings. We don't need to obtain a loan, but we do have a couple of questions if we go this route.

If we don't get a loan, should we still be going to a lender to get a preapproval letter so that our real estate agent knows we can buy what we say we can? If we're paying from our savings, how much information should we share with the real estate agent on how much we can spend on a home?

We've read it's best to keep your cards close to your chest when it comes to personal financial information. What should we say about what we can afford if the agent asks? Do we just tell them what we want to spend versus what we have to spend?

A: These are all great questions to ask before you start working with an agent. Having some insight into how the process works will help you understand where the information boundaries should be with various people in this transaction.

First, you need to feel comfortable with the real estate agent you hire and work with during the purchase of your home. If you don't trust your agent, you shouldn't be working with that agent. Having said that, you also need to understand whether the agent you work with is a buyer's agent or a seller's agent.

A seller's agent is an agent that has the seller's interests at heart first and foremost. A buyer's agent is one that owes a fiduciary duty to a buyer. Typically, your agent will have you sign an "agent disclosure" form that will spell out who the agent is working for in a particular transaction. If you are a buyer, you want to work with an agent who will have a fiduciary duty to you and will work to make sure you get the best possible deal.

Many buyers today look at homes online and then call the listing agent to make an appointment. That buyer is not represented by an agent, and the listing agent has a fiduciary duty to the seller. So, the buyer winds up without representation in the deal and the buyer should expect that anything said to the seller's agent will get passed along to the seller. Without an agency agreement, the buyer wouldn't be represented.

If the same agent represents the buyer and seller in a single transaction, then the agent is considered a facilitator in the deal, or a nonagent, and represents neither the buyer nor the seller. In this situation, we can imagine that a buyer's personal information might get shared with the seller, so you'd want to be careful about what information you reveal.

If you understand whose interests your real estate agent has at heart, you can then decide how much information to give to your real estate agent.

In the past, when we have answered questions like this we often get comments back from real estate agents, many of whom claim they are your advocate and would never violate that trust.

But you can never know. We just heard about buyers whose agent received (and passed on to them) unedited email from the seller (she represented the seller too). The buyers knew exactly what the seller was willing to take, and while they got a better deal because of it, they decided to use a different agent when it came time to sell the property.

Perhaps the smartest scenario is to imagine that everything you say to your real estate agent will wind up in the seller's ear.

On the issue of getting preapproved with a lender, we don't think that is necessary if you're paying cash for the property. You're in a much stronger position if you can buy a home with cash.

What you might want to do is have your bank issue a "To Whom It May Concern" letter indicating that you have sufficient funds in the bank to purchase a home up to a certain amount.

In your situation, if you're looking to buy a home at $175,000, you can have the bank give you a letter that says that you have at least $175,000 in the bank available for the purchase.

This gives you the ability to use other funds you may have or funds above the $175,000 to buy a home without telling anybody the exact amount you have in the bank. If your bank doesn't issue letters like that, a branch manager might be willing to verify the amount of cash you have available, upon request.

Ilyce Glink is the CEO of Best Money Moves and Samuel J. Tamkin is a real estate attorney. Contact them through the website ThinkGlink.com.

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SAVINGS UPDATE

How Americans are buying their homes

We continue our look at the extensive data presented by the National Association of REALTORS in their annual profile of U.S. home purchases with a deep dive into how Americans are navigating and completing the home buying process.

What has changed greatly over the last 20 or more years is how prominently the internet has factored in Americans' home-hunting process. In NAR's latest snapshot of annual data, about 1 in 6 prospective homebuyers (16%) began their search by contacting a real estate agent.

Compare that to 44 percent whose first step was to look for properties online.

Interestingly, those who used the internet in their home search shopped for an average of 10 weeks and visited an average of 10 homes, while those who did not use the internet spent four weeks searching on average, and visited just four homes.

Regardless of their start and how much supplementary legwork they did via the internet, the vast majority of homebuyers (89%) did ultimately buy their home through a real estate agent or broker.

When deciding to hire an agent, the top reason was a desire for the agent to help them find the right home (cited by 52% of buyers). About 4 in 10 used an agent that was referred to them by someone they knew, while 12% returned to an agent they had previously used. Three-quarters (75%) interviewed only one agent during their search.

In the end, 87% of recent buyers reported that their agent was a very useful information source in the process, with slightly more (93%) saying the internet was very useful.

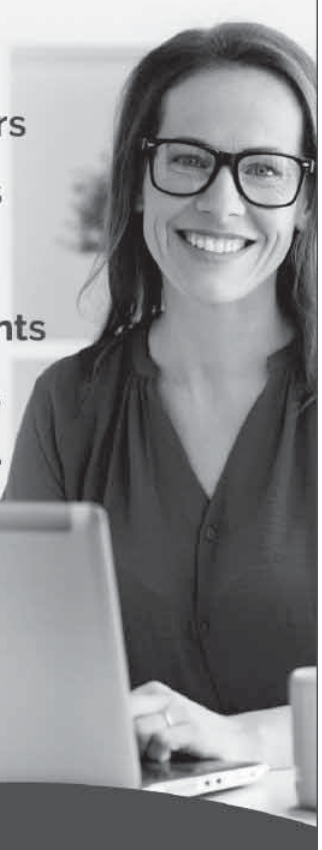
The REALTORS' annual survey was conducted in July 2019, capturing homebuyers who purchased between July 2018 and June 2019. Responses were received from over 5,800 buyers, with results weighted to represent U.S. population demographics.

Rate Criteria: The rates and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 02/04/20. All rates, fees and other information are subject to change without notice. RateSeeker, LLC. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates and fees in this table. The institutions appearing in this table pay a fee to appear in this table. Annual percentage rates (APRs) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. All rates are quoted on a minimum FICO score of 740. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of $165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of $484,351. Lock Days: 30-60. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Payments do not include amounts for taxes and insurance. The APR may increase after consummation and may vary. FHA Mortgages include both UFMIP and MIP fees based on a loan amount of $165,000 with 5% down payment. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. VA Mortgages include funding fees based on a loan amount of $165,000 with 5% down payment. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. "Call for Rates" means actual rates were not available at press time. To access the NMLS Consumer Access website, please visit www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org. To appear in this table, call 773-320-8492.

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HOME OF THE WEEK

Gold Coast condo spanning entire floor: $1.1 million





ADDRESS: 1418 N. Lake Shore Drive Unit 15 in Chicago
PRICE: $1,095,000
Listed on Jan. 21, 2020



This 3,150-square-foot Gold Coast home has three bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. The elevator opens to a private foyer that leads into the living and dining rooms with views of Lake Michigan. The interior of the home has quarter sawn oak floors, built-ins, a den, wet bar and wine storage. The kitchen includes white cabinetry, granite counters, brass accents and a wine wall. The west wing of the home includes the master suite with two bathrooms and three master closets, as well as the second and third bedrooms. All three bedrooms have access to a west-facing terrace. The home also features a laundry room and new lighting fixtures. Two-car parking is included.
Agent: Jill Silverstein of Compass, 312-877-1784

**Some VHT Studios photos are "virtually staged," meaning they have been digitally altered to represent different furnishing or decorating options.*

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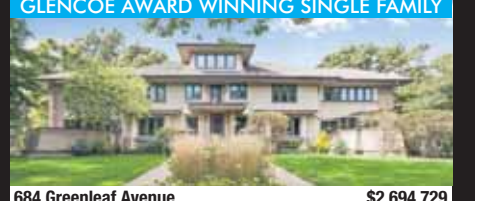
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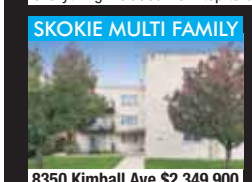
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BALLIS GROUP

Elite

Continued from ***Page 1***

Built in 1896, the three-story house was redone by Booth — a member of the architectural Chicago Seven who helped usher in an era of postmodernism — for a previous owner. Its current owner, a pathologist, has owned the home since 1988, when he bought it for $770,000.

The home has very modern interiors. It has 4½ baths; a two-story living room; a wide spiral staircase; and an eat-in kitchen with a breakfast bar, granite countertops and a pantry. The house also has a basement with an office; and a master bedroom with two separate vanities and toilet rooms, along with a shared, showered walk-in closet space and a door that leads to a balcony.

Before Booth's renovation work, the home had been a three-flat that was deconverted to a single-family home, said listing agent Neil Hackler of Real Living City Residential.

"It was designed really well back then, with a very good layout for even today," Hackler said. "It's especially good for a family, with four full bedrooms on the top level and a master suite and family room on the second level. And then you have a grand living room area on the first floor with a two-story ceiling."

Final condo at No. 9 Walton sells for $6.1 million: After more than two years, the developer of the luxury Near North Side tower at 9 W. Walton St. has unloaded its final unit in the building, through the $6.1 million sale in December of a unit on the 28th floor.

Robert and Monica Breslow, who co-owned the video gambling company Universal Gaming Group until selling it to Eureka Entertainment in 2018, bought the 28th-floor unit from developer JDL Development.



MILTON TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR

A five-bedroom, 3,292-square-foot midcentury modern house in Wheaton that was designed by noted architect John van der Meulen sold Dec. 27 for $350,000.

Robert Breslow told Elite Street that he and his wife previously lived at the Waldorf Astoria tower at 11 E. Walton St.

"9 West Walton has some of the best of what was (at the Waldorf Astoria) and then some," he said. "It's a great unit. It's a great, high-end building with great amenities, staff and security. Everything I would say about it is top-notch."

"Good things take time," Breslow said of his and his wife's status as the building's final new buyers. "Nothing comes fast. There were a lot of finishes, a lot of details and a lot of things that took time."

The tower at 9 W. Walton St. wound up having 71 separate units, although if one considers the four-level penthouse, which billionaire Ken Griffin bought in four separate transactions in late 2017 for a record-breaking $58.75 million, as one unit, the building has 68 condos, JDL's Jim Letchinger said.

Midcentury modern five-bedroom home in Wheaton sells for $350,000: A five-bedroom, 3,292-square-foot midcentury modern house in Wheaton that was designed by noted architect John van der Meulen sold Dec. 27 for $350,000.

Built in 1951, the boxy house is in an area of Wheaton with plenty of midcentury modern homes, including Edward Dart and van der Meulen's associate Ralph Rapson. Van der Meulen taught architecture at the Institute of Design at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

The house is the only one in Wheaton known to have been designed by van der Meulen, who died in 1994. The seller was Invitation Homes, a national owner of single-family rental homes that bought the house in 2013 out of foreclosure and then rented it out in the ensuing years.

Invitation first had listed the house for $499,900 in June and then gradually cut its asking price by a total $130,000 in the following months. Invitation undertook a final, $30,000 price cut to $339,900 in November, and ultimately received multiple offers and sold the home for above the asking price.

Features in the home, which backs up to a middle school, include four baths, hardwood floors, a walk-out basement with a sauna and a multilevel deck.

Listing agent Steven Koleno declined to comment on the sale.

Bob Goldsborough is a freelance writer.

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JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Naúl Valdez and Lily Flores saved for a full year so they could make a 15% down payment.

Buyers

Continued from ***Page 1***

Millennials put an average 8.5% down when buying homes in December, while Generation Z made average down payments of 5%.

money from family members, Valdez said.

"Every $5,000 makes a huge difference in payments," Valdez acknowledged, but he and Flores wanted "available funds to have money to furnish the place."

Aside from down payments, Guzmán explained another barrier millennial buyers can run into: inventory.

"We have very little inventory, so you're competing with a lot of people," she said. "You may end up losing a handful of properties because there's so much competition out there. Not having a lot of inventory to meet the needs is frustrating for some folks, because it takes longer to get what you want."

Millennials are more likely to buy in towns and neighborhoods surrounding a major city, which usually are less expensive than homes closer to a metropolis, according to the Clever study.

"If millennials are making the next step in their lives, they're staying somewhere close, but affordable," said Guzmán. "They want it to be turn key, they want to be able to move stuff in and start enjoying the place."

Similarly, space and family growth are motivators for millennials to buy a home, based on the study's findings. One in three millennials said they wanted to buy a house because they want a family; 24% said they wanted to accomplish a significant financial goal, the report said.

For Bouche and her husband, it started with a pet, but it also made long-term financial sense.

"We wanted a dog, and our old place wouldn't allow us to have a dog. That is definitely a part of the reason," said Bouche, who chuckled while acknowledging that is "a millennial answer." "We also didn't want to move a bunch of times, (and we) wanted to stay in the city and crunched numbers. Financially, it made sense to build equity in a home instead of throwing it down the tubes to rent."

According to the Clever survey, 45% of millennials were stressed or anxious about buying their first home, but Valdez "felt it was pretty simple." He knows that his life stage has a lot to do with that sentiment though.

"Thankfully we're kind of the exception to this (survey)," he said. "If I had been in my first job and making whatever I was making — and same with (Lily) — we would not have been able to afford this, so I get it 100%. Not everyone has parents to back them and a good enough job. I think it's a lot tougher nowadays than it was for boomers."

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2020 Hyundai Venue

This all new SUV has lots of room and an impressive list of safety features. **Page 3**

Answers from Motormouth

Driving habits are a key factor in the life of your tires, Bob Weber writes. **Page 3**

Chicago Tribune
RIDES



NHAT V. MEYER

A 2017 Ford Fusion Energi Platinum model. The 2020 Fusion Hybrid has an EPA rating of 43 mpg in the city.

Best of both worlds

EVs getting all the attention, but there still are great hybrids out there

By Ryan ZumMallen
Edmunds

Buying a hybrid in 2020 doesn't have the same cutting-edge feel that it used to back in the early 2000s. Today, all the hype surrounds the latest electric cars.

But do a little research and you'll find that hybrid vehicles are better than ever and provide impressive fuel economy with little to no compromise. As a bonus, many of the latest hybrids no longer take several years to break even in terms of cost versus fuel savings.

You can calculate the payback time using Edmunds.com's gas guzzler trade-in calculator, which estimates gas savings when you switch to a fuel-efficient car. Keep in mind that it's important to consider the cost of the hybrid vehicle, fuel economy, price of gas and the distance you typically drive when shopping for hybrids.

Here are five top-rated hybrids in a variety of styles, singled out by the experts at Edmunds, that quickly recoup their initial costs. All prices include the destination charge.

2020 Honda Insight

Starting MSRP: $23,885

Edmunds' top pick for hybrid cars is the Honda Insight, a small sedan that hits the efficient marks hybrid drivers want. Perhaps more importantly, it avoids the annoyances they don't want. The Insight is not strange-looking, it isn't adorned with eco-conscious badges, and it isn't slow. It just works.

We especially like that the Insight combines its fuel economy with excellent value. In fact, in its Touring trim, the Insight has an MSRP that's $500 lower than the comparable Honda Civic on which it is based — and its EPA rating of 48 mpg in combined city/highway driving exceeds the Civic's 36 mpg.

2019 Kia Niro

Starting MSRP: $24,535

Kia sells the Niro as a hybrid, a plug-in hybrid and a fully electric vehicle. At an MSRP of $24,535, the Niro hybrid is easily the most affordable of the three, and its EPA rating of 50 mpg combined is among the highest you'll find on the market. We also like the Niro's interior comfort and standard technology.



HONDA

The 2019 Honda Insight Hybrid. Insight has an EPA rating of 48 mpg in combined city/highway driving.

There's no gasoline-only version of the Niro, so making a comparison is a little tricky, but Kia's Sportage crossover SUV is a good stand-in. The two offer similar amounts of storage space, especially with the rear seats folded down. Go with the Niro and you'll pay $90 less than a comparable 2020 Sportage and get nearly double the fuel economy. The Sportage checks in with just 26 mpg combined.

2020 Ford Fusion Hybrid

Starting MSRP: $28,995

The Ford Fusion Hybrid presents a familiar problem for hybrid shoppers — it costs a significant amount more than the gasoline-powered version, to the tune of several thousand dollars. But if you look to the top end, that isn't the case. While the standard Fusion Titanium has an MSRP of $35,445, the Fusion Hybrid Titanium costs $35,590 — an increase of just $145.

If you drive a lot of city miles, that difference will quickly become irrelevant. The Fusion Hybrid has an EPA rating of 43 mpg in the city, double the gas Fusion's rating of 21 mpg city. Over the course of owning the vehicle, it will deliver thousands in savings thanks to a low upfront cost.

2020 Toyota RAV4 Hybrid

Starting MSRP: $29,220

You may be surprised to learn that Edmunds' experts like the RAV4 Hybrid more than the regular RAV4. It's more fun to drive and comes standard with all-wheel drive.

Toyota even offers a sport-tuned version of the RAV4 Hybrid, the XSE trim, that has no gasoline equivalent. Most Hybrid trims cost just $850 more than a comparable standard RAV4 model.

The biggest advantage, of course, is enhanced fuel economy. The RAV4 Hybrid achieves an EPA rating of 40 mpg in mixed driving. Compare that with 28 mpg combined for the all-wheel drive gasoline versions.

2020 Acura MDX

Starting MSRP: $54,025

It's a little harder to find a big SUV that doesn't hurt you at the pump. But the three-row Acura MDX Sport Hybrid has an EPA rating of 27 mpg combined, which is very good for a seven-passenger SUV with standard all-wheel drive. That's also up to 28% more fuel-efficient than a regular gasoline-only MDX.

At first glance, the MDX Sport Hybrid carries a steep $7,000 premium over the gas MDX. But when they're comparably equipped, the difference shrinks to only $1,500. It will likely take a few years to recoup that cost on fuel savings, but in return, you'll use less gas and benefit from quicker acceleration than the regular MDX.

The relatively low cost of a hybrid powertrain can offer better return on investment compared with pricey and less convenient electric vehicles.

Shoppers should weigh the upfront cost of the vehicle with potential long-term benefits and choose the vehicle that best fits their budget and lifestyle.

Shift to used vehicles as new car prices soar

By Tom Krisher
Associated Press

The average sale price of a new vehicle hit a record of just over $39,000 late last year, which chased many buyers into used vehicles.

The shift to used, aided by millions of late-model vehicles coming off two- and three-year leases, is good for consumers who can get well-equipped cars, trucks and SUVs for far less than new ones. But it could be bad for automakers, with many industry analysts expecting new-vehicle sales to fall in 2020.

Consumers bought an estimated 40.4 million used vehicles last year, likely passing the old record of 40.2 million set in 2018, according to figures from the Edmunds.com auto pricing site. Final numbers arrive in mid-February.

At the same time, new-vehicle sales dropped 1.3% to just over 17 million last year, and some industry analysts are predicting they'll fall into the mid-16 millions this year.

"This affordability issue is sort of scaring consumers away" from new vehicles, said Charlie Chesbrough, senior economist at Cox Automotive, which includes Kelley Blue Book.

If a buyer with good credit bought an average new vehicle for $39,000 and put $2,000 down, they would borrow $37,000. At about 6% interest for six years, a monthly payment would be just over $600. Because many lenders limit auto buyers to a payment of 15% of their income, the lowest-income buyer who could afford the average price would have to make over $48,000 per year, said Matt Dundas, finance director for Carvana, which sells used vehicles online.

The lower prices make late-model used vehicles more attractive. Last year, Edmunds estimated the average used vehicle cost $20,533. A 3-year-old one cost an average of $22,571. Borrowing $20,000 for six years would cost an average buyer about $340 per month.



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

Consumers bought an estimated 40.4 million used vehicles last year, according to figures from Edmunds.com.

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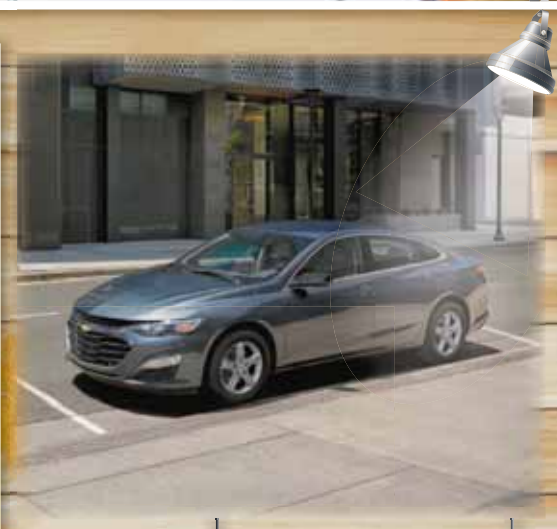
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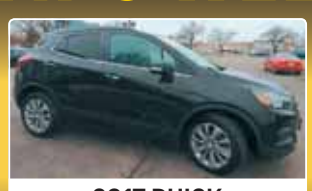


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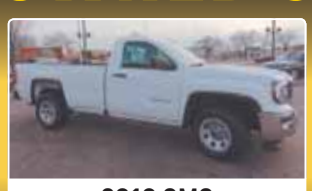
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DAVID DEWHURST/HYUNDAI

The Venue has an impressive list of standard safety features.

Venue has lots of room, style

By Larry Printz
Tribune News Service

Space costs money.

That's true when buying a house or an airline ticket. And it's true when buying an automobile. All else being equal, a large car costs more than a smaller one. It all comes down to space.

It's instructive to compare Hyundai's least expensive SUV, the all-new subcompact 2020 Hyundai Venue, to the company's least expensive sedan, the 2020 Hyundai Accent. Both come equipped with the same powertrain: a 1.6-liter four-cylinder engine with a six-speed manual transmission and front-wheel drive. A continuously variable automatic transmission is optional; all-wheel drive isn't offered.

Given the choice between the two vehicles, most buyers would opt for the new Venue over the Accent. Despite being more than a foot shorter than its sedan cousin, the Venue offers more headroom, legroom and an additional 5.3 cubic feet of cargo space with the rear seats up, and an additional 18.5 cubic feet with them folded.

Given the Venue's additional interior space, it's no surprise that the extra square footage comes at a cost. The Accent starts at $15,295; the Venue at $17,350.

2020 HYUNDAI VENUE

Base price:
$17,350

Engine: 1.6-liter four-cylinder

EPA fuel economy (city/highway): 30/34 mpg

Cargo capacity: 18.7-31.9 cubic feet

The added expense delivers a utility that's hard to match in a subcompact sedan. To start with, you don't have climb down into the Venue as you in an Accent. Once inside, the Venue's tall, square shape provides a sense of roominess, a feeling enhanced by the tall side windows and minimal blind spots. Cargo space is massive given the Venue's overall size.

In addition to the Venue's value is its style, particularly the Denim Edition, the top model in a range that includes the base SE and up-level SEL. The Denim Edition's interior evokes the feeling of denim with leatherette and cloth blue seats, and an exterior finished in blue and capped by a white roof.

But it's more than flashy trim that makes the Venue worth considering.

Base models get a host of standard equipment, such as tilt/telescoping steering wheel, power windows, height adjustable front seats, steering-wheel-mounted audio controls, Bluetooth hands-free phone with voice recognition, a USB port, four-speaker audio system, a spare tire and remote keyless entry. There's also an impressive list of standard safety technology, including forward collision-avoidance assist and a rearview monitor.

However, to get blind-spot collision warning and rear cross-traffic alert, you'll have to opt for the $1,150 Convenience Package on the SEL, which also adds a power sunroof, sliding armrest storage box and a leather-wrapped steering wheel and shift knob.

An eight-inch touch screen display audio system, AM/FM/HD Radio with Android Auto and Apple CarPlay, dual USB ports, SiriusXM and navigation are standard on the Denim model.

Spend some time behind the wheel and you'll find the controls are simple and sensible. While the Venue lacks the sublime artistry found in recent Hyundai models, there's little doubt that you're getting a lot for your money.

After only 20,000 miles, tires on 2 cars wear out



Bob Weber
Motormouth



CHICAGO TRIBUNE

To find out if your tires are fine, place a penny head first into the grooves of your tires. If you see the top of Lincoln's head, your tires need to be replaced.

Q: In 2015, I purchased a 2015 BMW 328i. In 2019, during an oil change at 19,500 miles, the dealer recommended I replace the tires due to tread wear. I did the penny test, checked around and needed to replace the tires, which I did. Afterward, I returned to the dealer and asked why new car tires needed replacement at such a low mileage. He told me it all comes down to how you drive, but I only drive conservatively around town and at the posted speed limits.

Then, in late 2019, my wife's 2017 Acura RDX, which was at 21,000 miles, needed tire replacement. That dealer gave me the same story about how the car is driven. Is it unreasonable to expect tires to last more than 20,000 miles? I would have expected up to 40,000 miles.

—R.R., Orland Park, Illinois

A: Driving habits are a key factor in tread life, so if you are a timid traveler, that may be ruled out as a cause. You didn't mention the type of tires on your cars. I have a hunch they are performance hoops that do not wear well. The next time you buy tires, have a good talk with the people at the store. They may be able to suggest a longer-lasting brand with a higher wear rating.

Q: I have a 2013 Kia Sorrento with 70,000 miles. A year ago I purchased four Uniroyal Tiger Paw tires from a Kia dealer. The vehicle rides straight and doesn't drift on level roads. My local mechanic noticed that all four tires are wearing slightly more on the insides and suggested a four-wheel alignment.

I called Kia and asked if an alignment would resolve the problem and they said no. What would cause this and who is correct?

—R.P., Bath, Pennsylvania

A: An alignment is money well spent. There may be an adjustment that will correct the wear, but there may also be some worn suspension parts. If so, the alignment tech will spot them. If everything checks out fine, rotate your tires and do so at every second oil change.

Q: In response to your question about how to get the inside of the windshield clean from Addison, Illinois, I too had been frustrated in the past. I have found that using Mr. Clean Eraser first (very gently) and drying it with newspaper prior to cleaning with a window cleaner has done the trick. This technique is even better than using the cleaner that I got from Safelite when they replaced my windshield. Works on bathroom mirrors as well.

—G.P., Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

A: This is a new one on me. I presume you use water to wet and then squeeze the eraser (sponge) almost dry before use. If it keeps the bathroom mirror from fogging, it is a clear winner.

Q: I've had great results cleaning the inside windows using eyeglass lens cleaner. It's included in the cost of my new eyeglasses and it gets the window so clean, I only have to clean the inside windows a couple of times a year. A small bottle lasts a long time.

—J.C., Tinley Park, Illinois

A: That's another new one. I will have to give it a try and make note for a future column. Of course, contact wearers should not try this.

Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 160 N. Stetson Ave., Fourth Floor, Chicago, IL 60601 or motormouth.tribune@gmail.com.

Chicago Tribune

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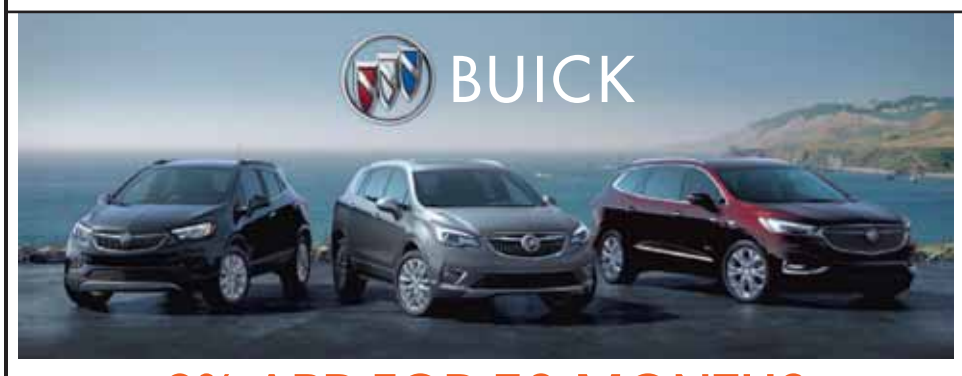
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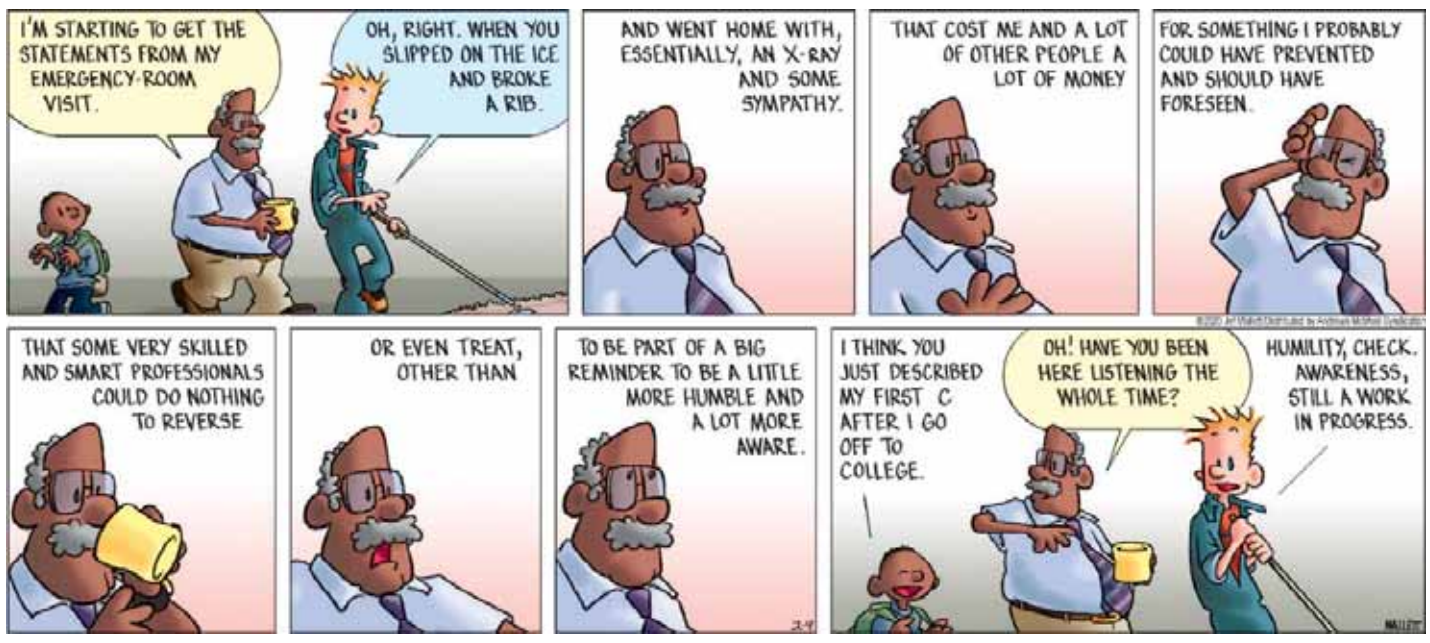
Pickles By Brian Crane



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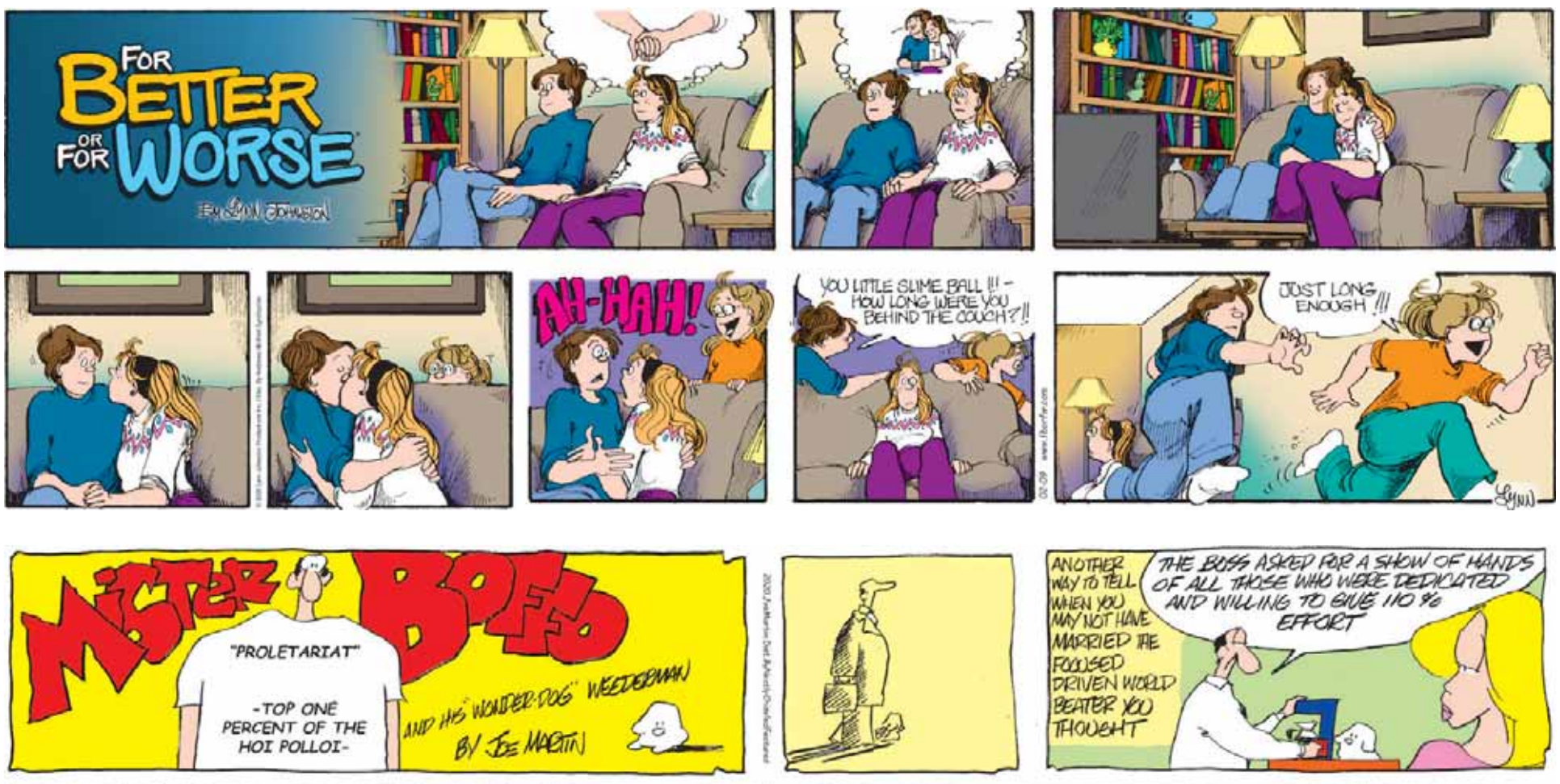
Frazz By Jef Mallett



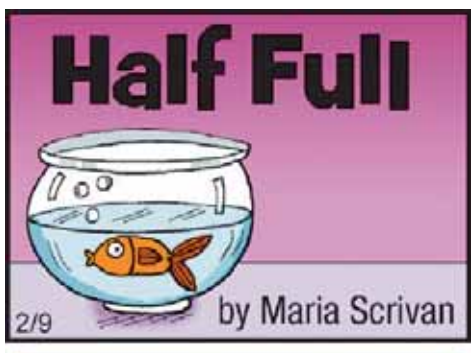
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Take It From the Tinkersons By Bill Bettwy



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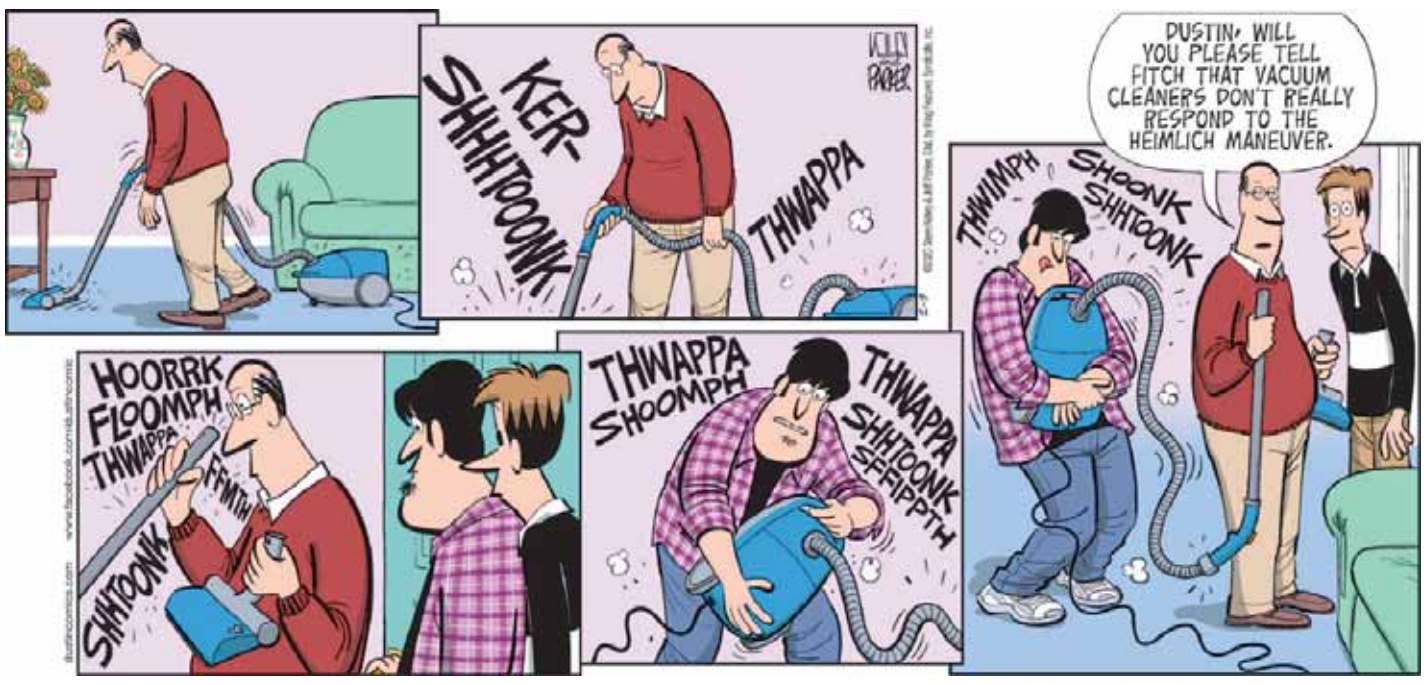


Classic Peanuts By Charles Schulz

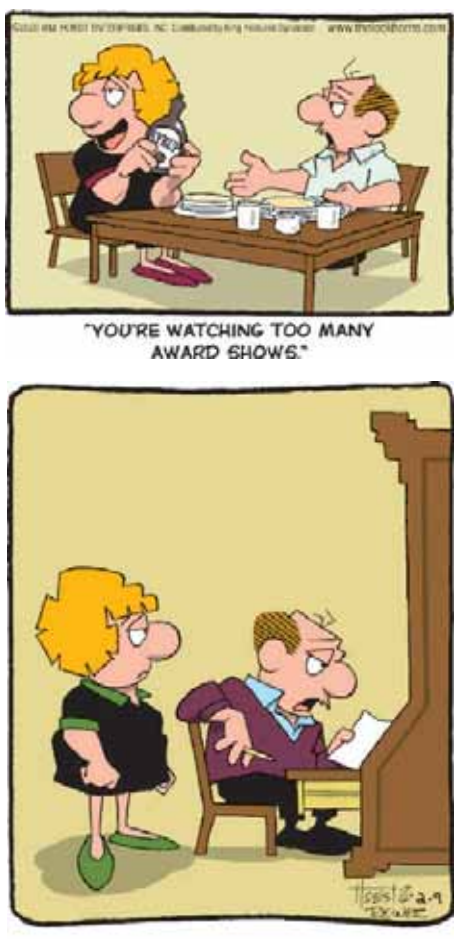




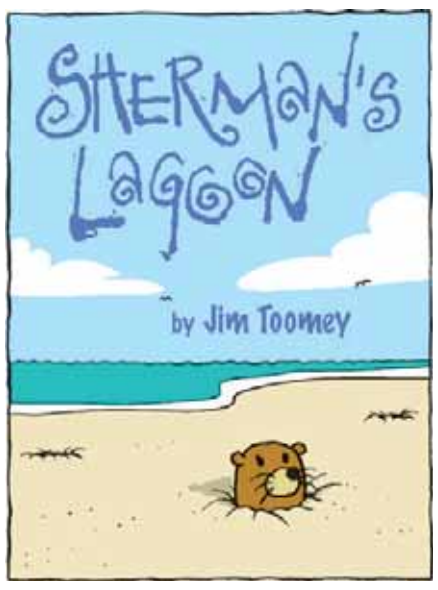
Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



The Lockhorns
By Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



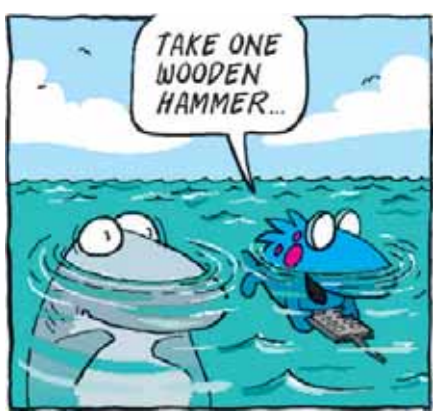


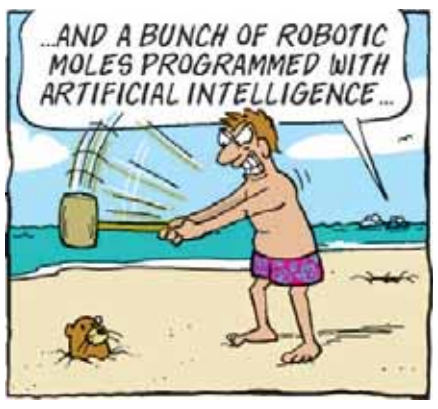












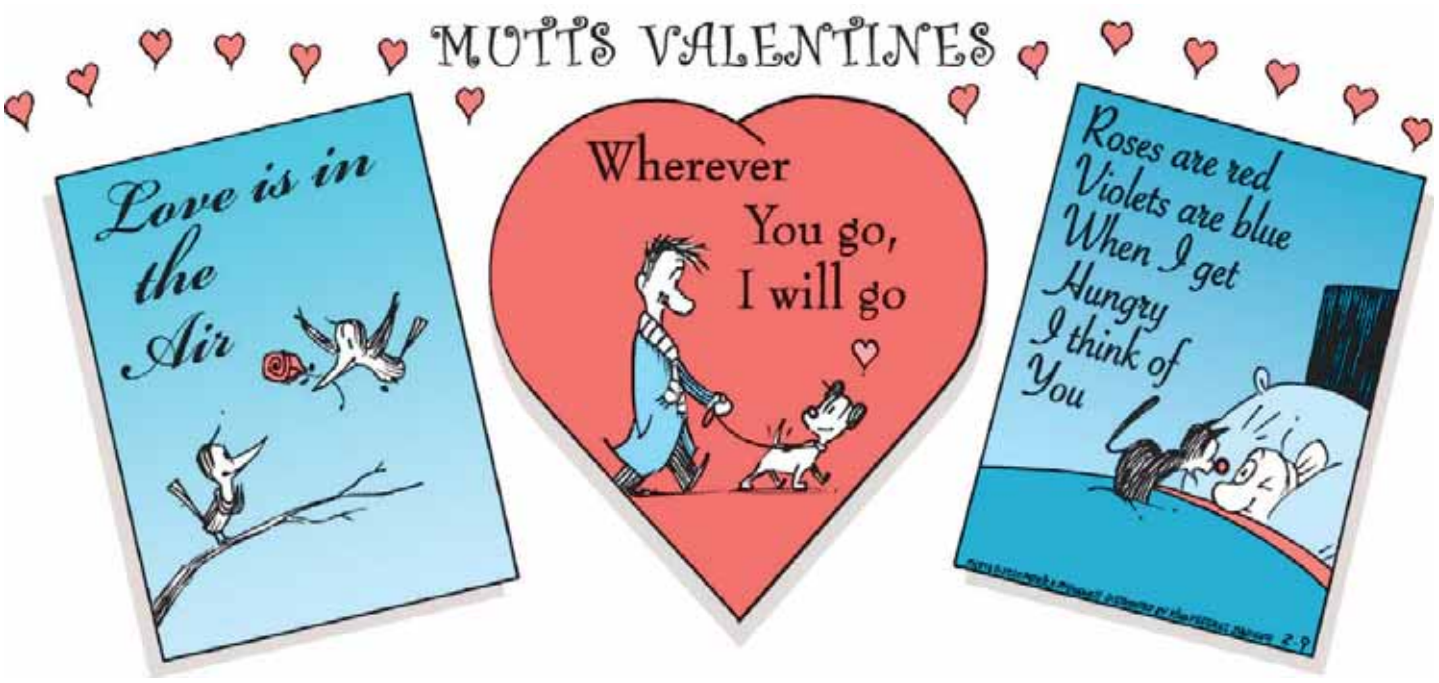
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Mutts By Patrick McDonnell

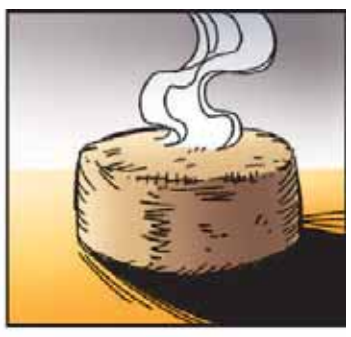


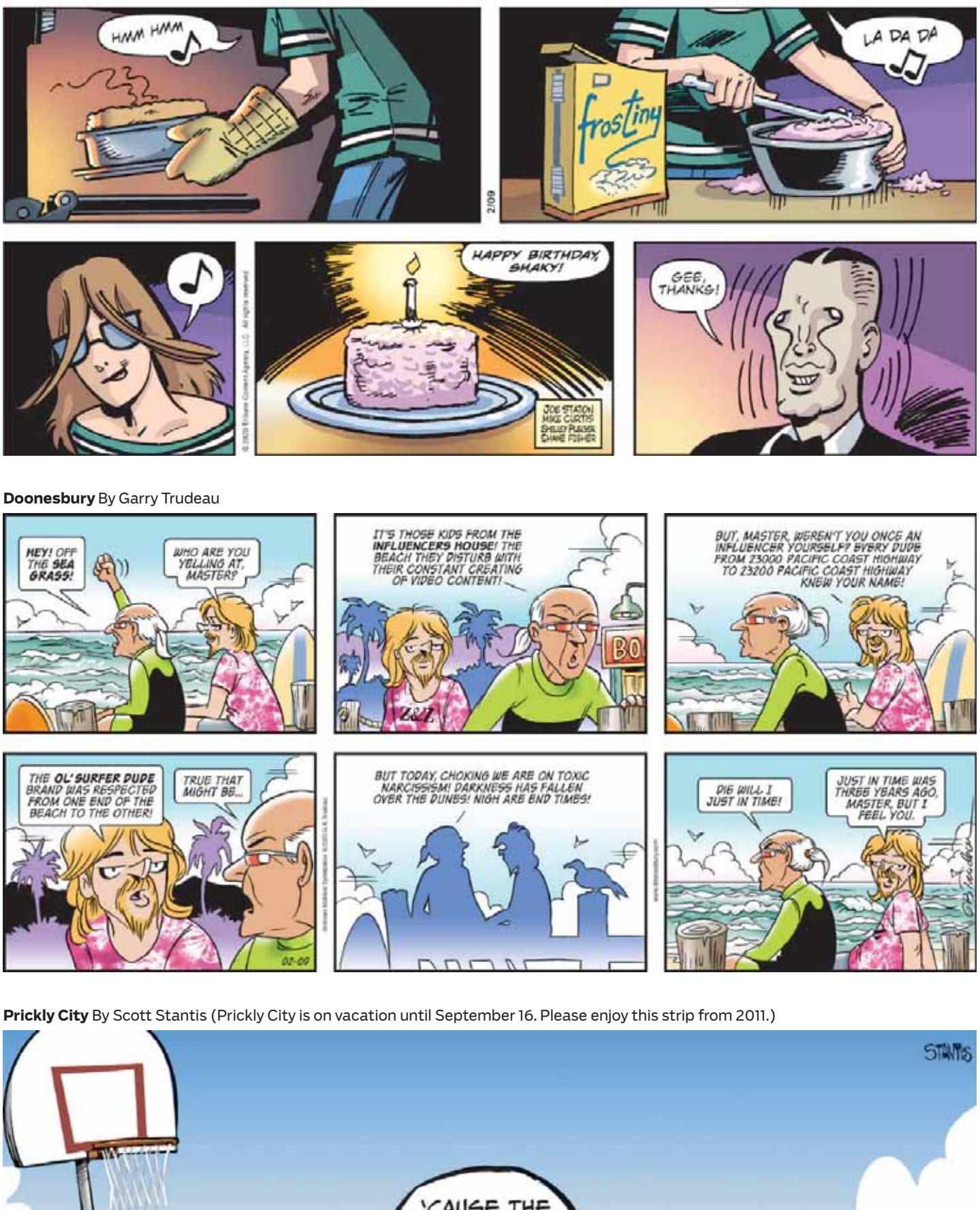
The Middletons By Ralph Dunagin and Dana Summers











Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau

Prickly City By Scott Stantis (Prickly City is on vacation until September 16. Please enjoy this strip from 2011.)



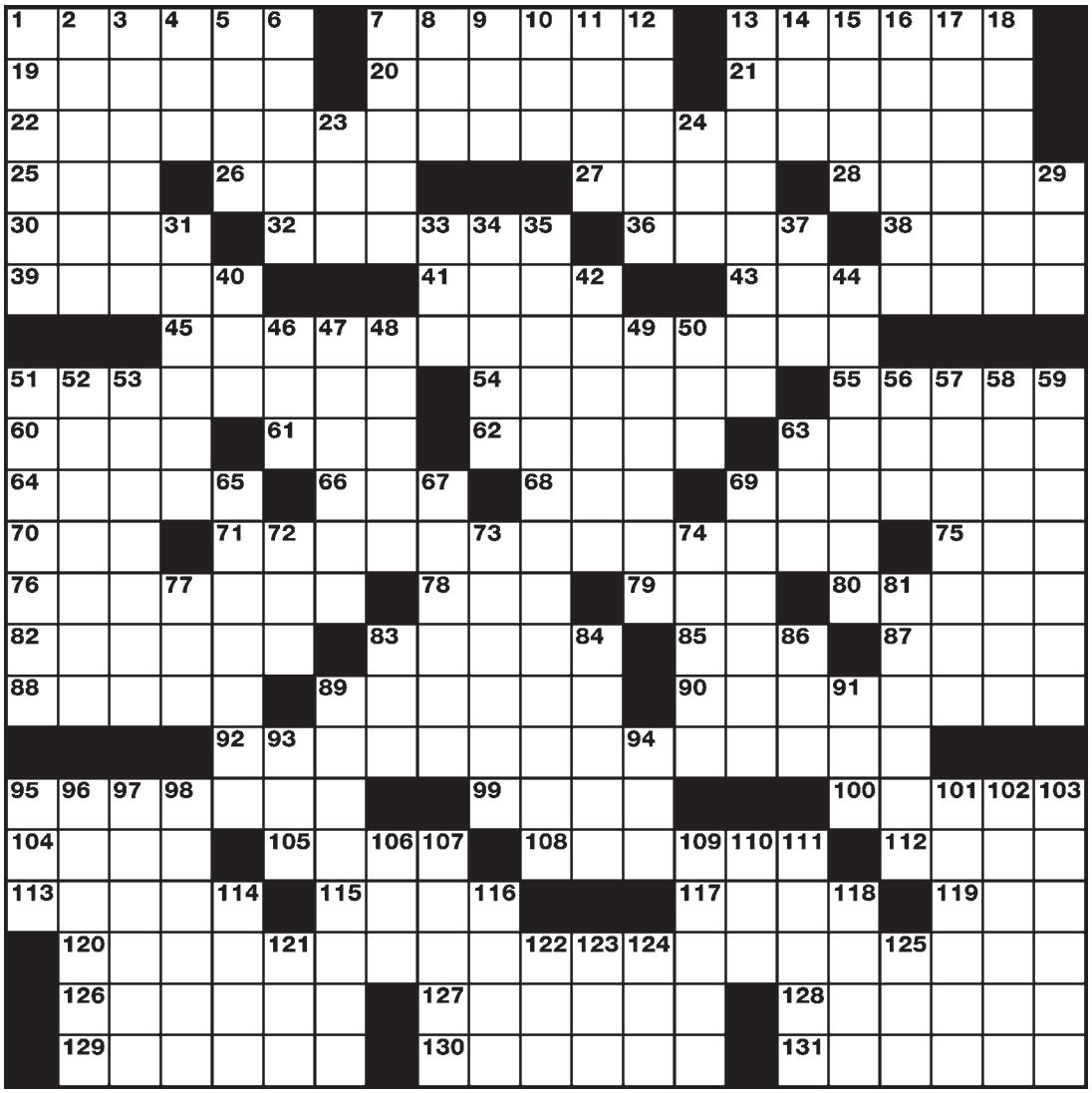
puzzle island

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2/9

FAMOUS LAST WORDS: Of five notable books

By S.N. | Edited by Stanley Newman
(stanxwords.com)



Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

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Across

1 Question of confirmation
7 Sounds of gongs
13 Ski downhill fast
19 About 900 kilograms
20 Common pharmacy order
21 Not dismissive of
22 "... in that enchanted place ... a little boy and his Bear will always be playing" (1928)
25 Video device, for short
26 In a deadlock
27 *The Caine Mutiny* author
28 Quests after
30 Designer Cassini
32 Yin-and-yang belief
36 Church directive
38 *Inter* __ (among other things)
39 French wine region
41 Howl of laughter
43 London's Broadway
45 "But this is how Paris was in the early days ..." (1964)
51 Immaculate
54 Capital on the Hudson
55 Boot out
60 Amos or Spelling
61 Talk trash to
62 Earmarks for failure
63 Picnic fare
64 '06 High Court appointee
66 Any birthstone
68 "Casual" day, briefly
69 Big Sky Country
70 Mr. Tolstoy
71 "A way a lone a last a loved a long the" (1939)
75 Norm: Abbr.
76 Gets to volunteer
78 Power structure of a sort
79 Bewitch
80 Anglican bishop's topper
82 Court reporters
83 Against the clock
85 Topper
87 App symbol for settings
88 High-voltage weapon
89 Moola
90 Arctic predators
92 "Well ... what would YOU do if your mother asked you?" (1957)
95 Jazz instrument
99 A social sci.
100 Instrument of India
104 Feel pangs
105 Instruction to retain
108 Creative person
112 Ruckus
113 Country singer Travis
115 Extraordinary
117 Year-end season
119 Sigma preceder
120 "... from so simple a beginning, endless forms ... are being evolved" (1859)
126 Stats in baseball and basketball
127 A Corleone portrayer
128 Vending machine verb
129 Aerial attack
130 Postproduction person
131 Banquet setups

Down

1 Online business
2 Get some air
3 Thought to be
4 To the __ degree
5 Sound of a toy train
6 Certain Canadian
7 Philosophy, in brief
8 Grazing ground
9 Toward the rudder
10 Chill in the air
11 Be visibly elated
12 Regatta participant
13 Save, so to speak
14 Naval NCO
15 Personal pronoun
16 Messy
17 *Fifty Shades ...* series spouse
18 Aaron of *The West Wing*
23 Rachel Carson subject
24 Judah Ben-__
29 Lamentable
31 Have a brawl
33 Tax-shelter vehicle
34 Not __ (mediocre)
35 Minnesota mega-shopping site
37 "By all means!"
40 Mid 10th-century year
42 Emulating a phoenix
44 Cofounder of *Ms.*
46 UK reference set
47 Churchillian symbols
48 City near Düsseldorf
49 Don't feed
50 Superior of a 14 Down
51 Least creative
52 Italian porridge
53 Black-and-orange birds
56 Doc for a duck
57 Fretful
58 Particularly important
59 Frontier merchants
63 Type of skillet
65 After a fashion
67 Holy Saudi city
69 Congresswoman Waters
72 "__ my pleasure!"
73 Mature germ cell
74 Anthony Hopkins, by birth
77 Ending like -like
81 Cry of success
83 First of three X's
84 PBS acknowledgment
86 Homer's holler
89 A simple sugar
91 Became
93 Eats or drinks
94 Explosive initials
95 Vampire guise
96 Clue list header
97 Japanese faith
98 Ending for type or trend
101 Parliamentary contingent
102 Stay attached
103 Perches for parrots
106 Facial feature
107 Malarkey
109 Bound to receive
110 Nine-symbol message
111 Not very hot
114 Yonder thing
116 Quaint complaint
118 Headey of *Game of Thrones*
121 Manning of football
122 Henri's "here"
123 Petty quibble
124 Sean Lennon's mom
125 15-year CBS series

Quote-Acrostic

1. Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
2. Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram.
3. When pattern is completed, quotation can be read left to right. The first letters of the filled-in words reading down form an acrostic yielding the speaker's name and the topic of the quotation.

Clues **Words**

A. Renovation ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
28 161 22 103 57 36 155 67

B. Decrease in numbers ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
140 13 127 46 73 119 1 110 88

C. Disloyal ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
14 50 112 29 37 100 4 158 61 139

D. Open grating ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
152 11 96 70 42 78

E. Lifts ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
120 80 135 68 105 156

F. Naval Academy site ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
104 30 85 20 9 58 162 33 143

G. Wavy pattern fabric ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
44 17 113 107 84

H. Fainting fit ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
51 123 157 65 99

I. Take cover in battle: 3 wds. ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
144 124 56 32 75 82 38 130 102 3

J. Agreement ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
145 97 79 45 132 15 121 21 60 5

K. Uses an old telephone ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
146 116 133 54 109

L. Wrong: 3 wds. ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
136 2 150 76 126 39 53 10 87 19

M. Indecisive: hyph. ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
72 164 27 81 64 148 98 48 128 16

N. German dialect ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
63 52 25 142 94 34 77

O. Equally: hyph. ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
95 26 165 115 149 71 31 18 134 43

P. Faultless ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
151 137 93 8 59 55 122 74

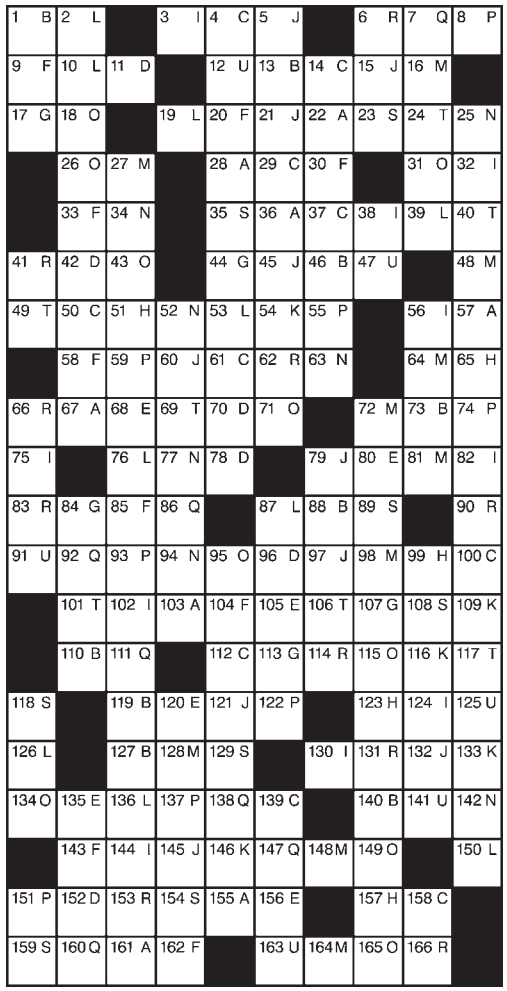
Q. Chase, follow: 2 wds. ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
92 147 138 111 86 160 7

R. Snooty class: 2 wds. ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
66 62 6 166 131 114 83 153 90 41

S. Dasher, Prancer, et al. ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
154 129 23 118 89 35 108 159

T. Declare, formerly ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
69 24 117 106 40 101 49

U. Speechless ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
12 91 163 47 141 125



Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

By Max Frankel. Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.
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J-Walking

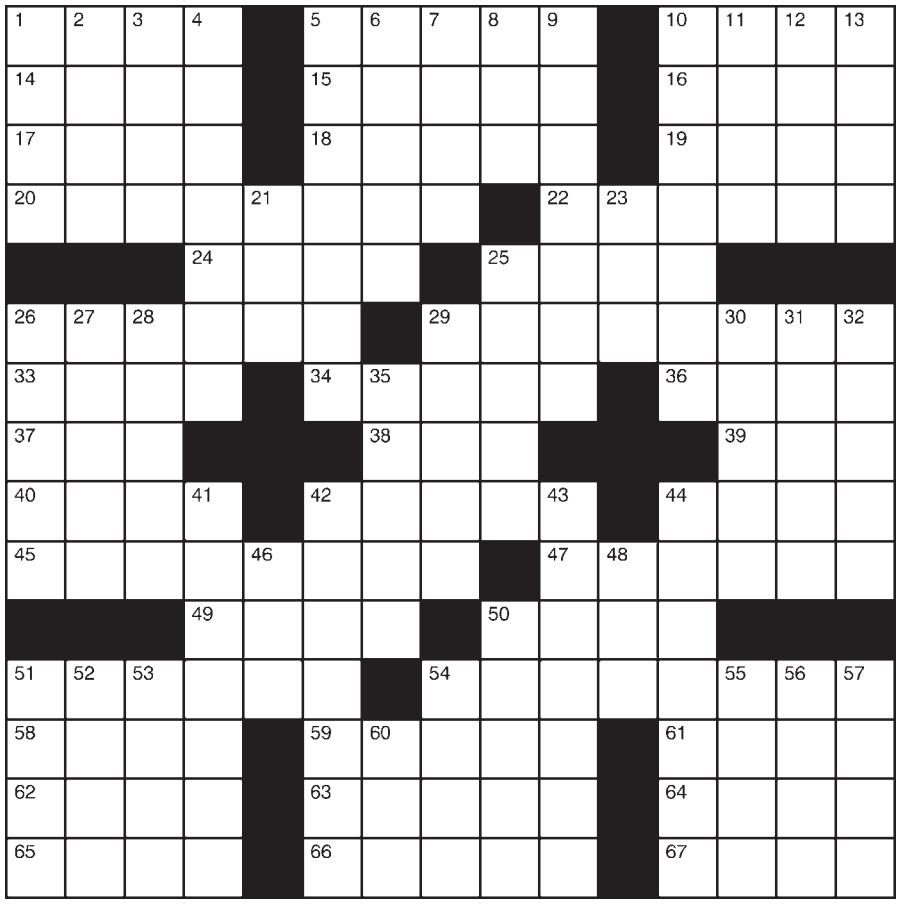
By Charles Preston

Across

1 *Mardi* follower
5 Sensate
10 *The Art of Fugue* composer
14 Slinger's dish
15 Marta, in *Casbah*
16 Repeat
17 Builder's beam
18 *Fail Safe* director
19 Garden staple
20 Panama hat
22 Deny
24 Empty-nest word
25 Singer Mitchell
26 Book cover
29 Lacquered
33 Sounds of disgust
34 Suffering
36 Skirt feature
37 Links position
38 ___ *Alone*: 1926 song
39 Court return
40 Robert ___
42 Lock
44 Al Hirt hit
45 Breaks an oath
47 Laundry employee
49 Innisfail
50 VIII x XIX
51 Kilmer and Oates
54 Djakartan's tongue
58 Touch
59 Yellowish shade of brown
61 In shape
62 Shave
63 Modify
64 Caron-Ferrer film
65 OK town
66 Poor
67 Ear-splitter

Down

1 Alphabet quartet
2 Bohr colleague
3 Memo abbreviation
4 Diminishes
5 "Journal" city
6 Jeweler's glass
7 Marie Wilson role
8 Sweater neck
9 Energy measure
10 Li Peng's capital
11 Ranch unit
12 Elegant
13 Greeter
21 Diner order
23 Spanish queen
25 Doe and Darwell
26 Derby drink
27 Twinkle toed
28 Encourage
29 Indiana, on film
30 Actor Lloyd
31 Grind down
32 Bread anagram
35 Bridge maven
41 Kicked out
42 Wagnerian hero
43 Moon-colored
44 Together
46 Actress Mary
48 Inlet
50 Clad like Batman
51 Trick
52 Scottish resort
53 Spaceman Gagarin
54 Dane settler
55 Mohawk's kin
56 Window frame part
57 Author Ludwig
60 Tankard filler



Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island
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No More Tears

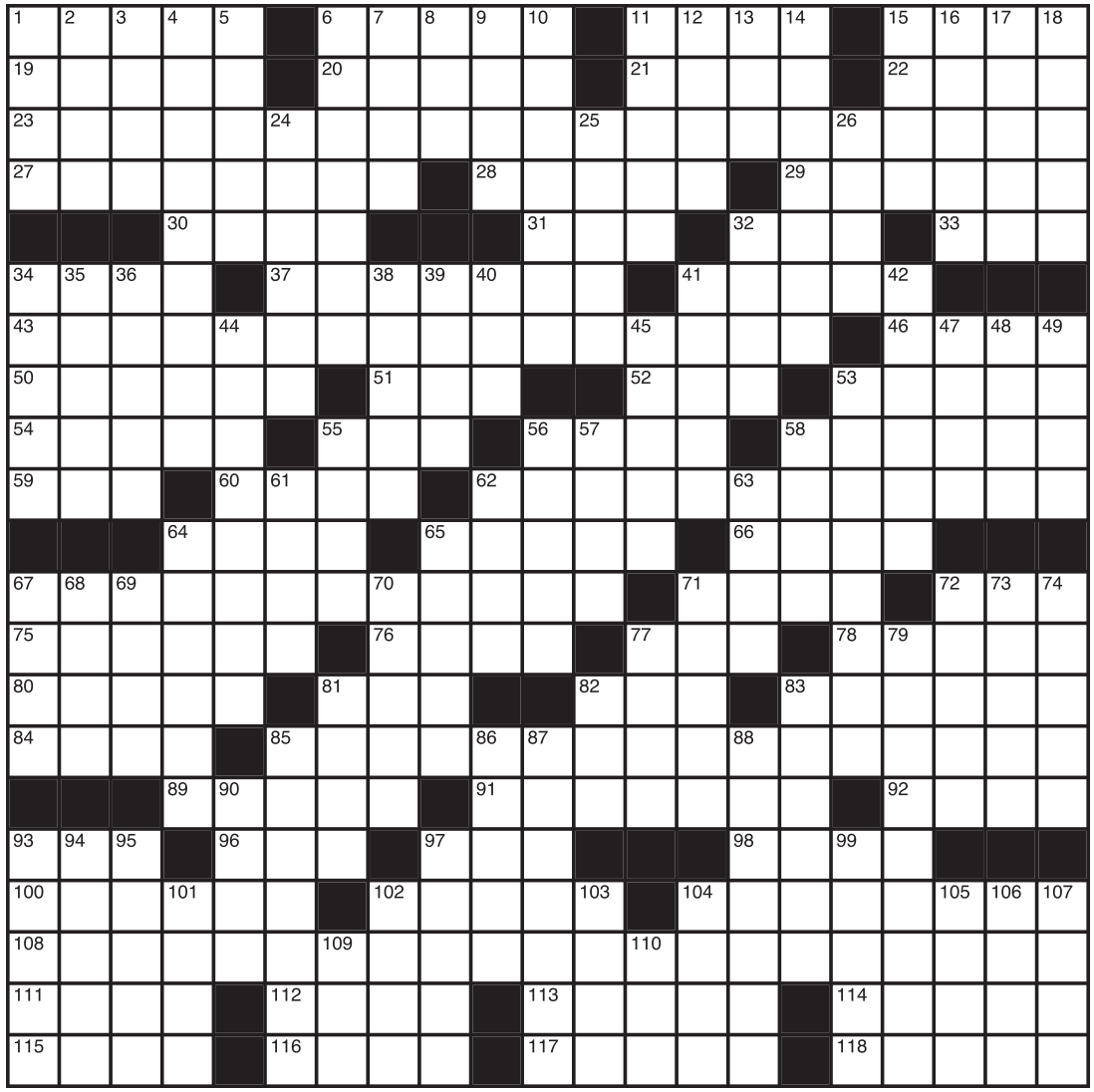
By Yaakov Bendavid
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

Across

1 Stand array
6 Exams for aspiring MBAs
11 Border
15 Word with dance or union
19 Work as a team
20 Draw a bead on
21 Old alphabet character
22 Inter __: among others
23 Chicken lover's comment?
27 Most exceptional, in recent lingo
28 Relish
29 Afternoon service
30 Not cluttered
31 Race
32 Tannery tub
33 Cycle starter
34 What many writers work on
37 Attains
41 Gondoliers' tools
43 Denial from one with a very recent white mustache?
46 Ant or Arkin
50 Like much junk mail
51 Title words before Legend or Woman
52 Consume
53 "You __ Beautiful": Joe Cocker hit
54 Roast job
55 Some notebooks
56 Reporter's query
58 Decides one will
59 Ewe, for one
60 Biblical prophet
62 Local monastery VIP?
64 Air__, 2011 Southwest acquisition
65 Chicago's __ Tower
66 "Now, where __ we?"
67 Bad do result?
71 Italian actress Virna
72 Submissions to an ed.
75 Big name in plastic explosives
76 First name in folk
77 Hwy. crime
78 Hogwarts potions master
80 Word before county, river or Bill
81 Cincinnati-to-Detroit dir.
82 Japanese assent
83 "Turn! Turn! Turn!" songwriter
84 Hand measure
85 Young shepherd resigned to losing his flock?
89 Resignee before Richard
91 More jumpy
92 Camp equipment
93 Soccer star Hamm
96 N. American land
97 82-Down's predecessor
98 Lawless role
100 Short __: little or no consideration
102 Environs
104 Drives out
108 Evita's exhortation to use sunscreen?
111 Aunt Bee's charge
112 Boathouse items
113 Ancient: Pref.
114 Rock-'n'-roller whom Forrest Gump supposedly met
115 Look as though
116 Small amount
117 Strict
118 Saxes, e.g.

Down

1 New Mexico native
2 Aware of
3 Petty peeves
4 "The Ballad of Buster Scruggs" co-director
5 Paris divider
6 Comic
7 Jazz legend Jackson
8 Friend of Paris
9 Personal point of view
10 "Casey at the Bat" autobiographer
11 Gas in some lasers
12 Cheer (up)
13 108-card game
14 Roger Ebert gave one entitled "Remaking My Voice" in 2011
15 "Funny not funny"
16 Sought-after guests
17 Hybrid big cat
18 "Swing Shift" actress Christine
24 Got warmer while searching for
25 "... __, and a lasting peace": Lincoln
26 Head of Québec
32 Electrical unit
34 Jacob Riis concerns
35 Skosh
36 Like typical King novels
38 Reebok rival
39 Pros with schedules
40 That guy
41 Liszt's instrument
42 "Being and Nothingness" philosopher
44 Unpredictable events
45 Tournaments
47 Bandleader Arnaz
48 Regarding
49 Peaty land
53 Kept in the know
55 Pioneering video game
56 Hacky Sack maker
57 Present
58 Change for a five
61 Tail-less feline
62 Color named for a duck
63 D-Day conflict
64 Jackson Hole backdrop
65 Kate, pre-taming
67 Dangerous biters
68 Insightful
69 Community pool site
70 2009 Panasonic purchase
71 Mario's brother
72 Myopic Mr.
73 Competed in a British bee
74 Feudal workers
77 Roast site
79 English coal mining city
81 Filmmaker Ephron
82 DDE's predecessor
83 Unruffled
85 Small bars
86 "Barry" star Bill
87 Merging places
88 Common nut shape
90 Musical dragon loved by Little Jackie Paper
93 Windows precursor
94 "That's my dream"
95 Memorable links nickname
97 Put icing on
99 Bay Area NFLer
101 Bullet point, e.g.
102 Curly do
103 Dodge City, to Ford County
104 Storied fox title
105 Honey site
106 Writer Bagnold
107 Cause for a kid's grounding
109 Babble
110 Belgian or brown



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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Jumble

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

CRNEDH

TUFOTI

JACLEO

MEHNUA

PALEOR

SLOYGS



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

This week's answers appear on the next page

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

Sudoku 2/9

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

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

Last week's answers appear on the next page

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Horoscopes

Today's birthday (Feb. 9): Your community provides power and growth this year. Plan and organize for best results. Winter rest renews your physical energy and vitality. Redirect a romance next winter. Friends inspire you to reach new heights together. Connect for common gain.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is an 8. Take advantage of an opportunity for greater health, wellness and strength. Trust a crazy hunch. Intuition provides the best timing. Dreams provide insight.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 8. Romance blossoms when least expected. Have fun with family and friends. Someone brings home a surprise. Fall in love all over again.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 8. Domestic arts get surprising positive results. Pour attention into home and family for extra benefits. Provide beauty, peace and comfort. Discover and share simple pleasures.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 8. Study the situation. Catch up on the reading. Listen and learn. Share a brilliant idea for unexpected benefits. Your influence is growing.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. Make an exciting connection. A lucky opportunity could benefit your bottom line. A surprising turn of events leads to a lucrative deal. Take advantage.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 9. Discover something new about yourself. As you gain strength, you gain options. What you're learning provides an unexpected bonus. Polish your presentation.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 7. Epiphanies and surprising insights reveal hidden truths. Meditate and consider the potential. Discover beneficial impacts of recent changes. Make plans to realize a vision.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 8. Social activities can provide unexpected benefits. Make a valuable connection. Share talents, expertise and support. Get farther than imagined by collaborating for common gain.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 8. Practice makes perfect. Use what you've kept hidden to advance on a professional goal. Money saved is money earned. Your good work reflects you well.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 9. Friends come and go with community and group projects. Conditions look good for travel and romance. Share appreciations, greetings and goodbyes. Travel conditions are excellent today and tomorrow. This full moon illuminates a new social phase.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 8. Discover a lucrative opportunity. Collaborate with talented friends to take advantage. Strategize and coordinate. Intuition guides you. Carefully budget to realize a shared objective.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 8. Fall into sweet romance when least expected. Connect at a heart level. Collaborate to realize a shared vision. Coordinate and create new possibilities together.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

Bridge

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ K J ♥ A Q 10 ♦ 8 4 ♣ A K Q 10 6 3

South	West	North	East
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
?			

What is your rebid?

Q.2—North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ 7 ♥ 10 5 3 ♦ J 10 9 3 ♣ A K J 10 8
Partner opens 1S and right-hand opponent passes. What call would you make?

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ K Q 7 6 ♥ 6 4 2 ♦ K 5 3 ♣ Q 8 3
Partner opens 1NT, 15-17. What call would you make?

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ 6 5 3 ♥ Q J 9 8 ♦ 5 4 3 ♣ K J 6
Partner opens 1S and right-hand opponent makes a takeout double. What call would you make?

Answers in Monday's comics pages.

— Bob Jones
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Word Game

This game challenges you to find as many words as you can, as quickly as you can, in one master word.

ZIRCONIUM (zer-KO-nee-um): A hard, ductile metallic element.

Can you find 20 or more words in ZIRCONIUM?

Average mark: 15 words
Time limit: 25 minutes

Here are the rules:
1. Words must be four or more letters. 2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of an "s," such as "bats" and "cats," are not used. 3. Use only one form of a verb — either "pose" or "posed," not both. 4. Proper nouns and slang terms are not used.

Answers to the word game:

zinc; zircon; icon; incur; iron; ironic; ruin; coin; coir; corm; corn; cumin; curio; norm; uric; micro; mint; minor; morn; mourn

— Kathleen Saxe, distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS



puzzle island solutions

Last week's crosswords

"PERSONALITY PLUS"

P	L	A	Y		C	H	A	I	N		P	A	N	T
G	I	L	A		L	A	S	S	O		O	D	O	R
A	N	D	Y	W	A	R	H	O	L		T	R	U	E
	T	O	T	A	S	T	E		A	R	I	A	N	A
			E	X	P	E	N	D		H	O	T		D
A	L	W	A	Y	S			A	T	O	N	E	S	
S	H	I	M			K	E	V	I	N			P	A
P	A	L		C	A	N	D	I	C	E	B	E	R	G
E	S	L		A	V	O	I	D			O	R	E	O
N	A	Y		N	I	T	E		A	D	A	G	E	
		B	E	T	A	S		C	A	N	S	O		B
W	A	R	D	E	N		C	A	R	A	T		R	A
E	L	A	T	E		S	U	M	O			A	I	S
L	E	N		N	E	L	S	O	N	M	A	N	D	E
D	V	D			P	O	P			A	R	I	E	S
S	E	T	T	O	S		S	O	V	I	E	T		
			I	R	O	N		T	E	N		A	D	D
G	R	A	N	D	M	A	M	O	S	E	S		E	R
R	I	N	S	E		D	U	O	S		W	A	N	D
A	L	T	E	R		I	S	L	E		E	N	T	R
F	E	E	L	S		R	E	E	L		E	D	S	E

L	A	M	S			T	A	F	T		R	E	B	A
O	T	O	E		P	I	M	A	S		E	L	I	M
U	R	D	U			M	S	R	P		O	K	I	E
P	S	I			S	T	E	E	L	I	E		G	O
F	U	R	L	E	D			B	L	I	N	D		
A	L	L				E	C	E		V	I	I	I	B
I	S	L	E		A	E	C			G	E	O		
M	E	R		F	O	L	K	S	Y		A	L	T	E
S	I	N	S			A	N	O	S		S	I	N	S
E	D	A	T	E		P	O	P			A	R	I	E
S			I	B	E	X	E	S						
			A	D	D	S	I	N						
E	R	R	A	T	I	C								
W	A	N	D	A	S	Y	K	E	S					
E	N	T	R	E		N	E	L	L					
E	D	S	E	L		E	A	S	Y					

"Xed"

S	T	A	G		E	D	I	T		R	O	L	E	S
H	E	R	R		A	R	N	E		E	X	U	D	E
E	X	T	E	R	N	A	L	S		F	O	X	E	S
A	T	S	E	A		M	E	T	A	L		E	R	S
			N	I	B		T	A	X	E	D			
P	A	R	A	D	O	X			E	X	I	S	T	S
O	L	E	S		W	R	A	P		E	X	E	R	T
L	I	L		P	L	A	N	E	T	S		R	U	E
O	N	A	I	R		Y	O	R	K		E	V	E	N
S	E	X	T	O	N			C	O	A	X	E	R	S
			E	X	A	C	T		S	P	A			
A	T	E		I	T	H	E	E		E	L	M	A	N
M	A	X	I	M		E	X	P	E	R	T	I	S	E
E	X	T	R	A		R	A	I	N		E	R	S	E
S	I	S	A	L		E	S	S	E		D	E	E	D

"When in Rome"

A	D	A	P	T			T	A	F	T		R	E	B
V	E	R	D	E		P	I	M	A	S		E	L	I
I	L	I	F	E	T	O	L	I	V	E		M	S	R
D	I	D		P	O	S	T	E	R		I	I	I	D
			B	A	L	E	S		E	M	O	T	E	D
V	C	A	R	D	D	R	A	W		A	D	T		O
S	A	R	I			S	T	E	E	L	I	E		G
O	T	T	A	W	A			B	L	I	N	D		
			N	O	R	W		C	E	C	E		V	I
I	I	C	A	R	G	A	R	A	G	E		A	E	C
M	B	A		F	O	L	K	S	Y		A	L	T	E
B	E	R	T			S	O	T		I	V	M	O	R
I	X	M	O	N	T	H	S		A	N	O	S		S
B	E	E	G	E	E			A	D	L	I	B		
E	S	L		P	E	A		G	E	A	R	O	I	L
			S	A	N	G		E	L	Y		X	F	O
E	A	S	E	L		I	N	G	E	S	T		F	U
V	I	I	S	I	S	T	E	R	S		R	A	I	S
I	O	T	A		P	A	S	O		V	I	F	E	E
C	L	A	M		A	T	T	U		I	P	A	S	S
T	I	R	E		R	E	S	P		P	E	R	T	

L	A	M	S											
O	T	O	E											
U	R	D	U											
P	S	I												
M	E	R												
S														
E														
S														

Last week's Quote-Acrostic

(Stanley) BING: NEW ABCS OF BUSINESS: Lunch was a perfectly serviceable business institution that's been bloated into a behemoth of unmanageable size, frequency and duration by professional hedonists. Join them! Greaten lunches' productiveness!

Last week's Sudoku

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

This week's Jumble

DRENCH CAJOLE PAROLE
OUTFIT HUMANE GLOSSY

He sold his granddaughter his car for $1, and this meant —

A GREAT DEAL TO HER



Chicago Tribune
IS
insideshopper



ANSWER ANGEL

HOW TO BRING BACK THE JOY OF GIVING



FASHION

STATEMENT-MAKING WINTER COATS

‘I’M PLAYING THE MOM TO KIDS THE SAME AGE AS I WAS WHEN I STARTED,’ SAYS TIFFANI THIESSEN

FULL CIRCLE

DAVID LIVINGSTON/GETTY

Tiffani Thiessen's career coming full circle

By Joseph V. Amodio
Newsday

Tiffani Thiessen admits that her work life has been "pretty surreal" these days.

That's because the actress — who first made a splash as cheerleader Kelly Kapowski on the '90s teen sitcom "Saved By the Bell" — is now playing the mother of a teenager in the Netflix sitcom "Alexa & Katie," working on the very same soundstage where she shot "Saved By the Bell" for four seasons 30 years ago.

"Alexa & Katie" follows two high school besties, rebellious Alexa (Paris Berelc) and rule-following Katie (Isabel May), as they run the gamut of teen angst, but with one extra hitch: Alexa has cancer. Thiessen plays Alexa's clingy but well-meaning mom, Lori.

At 45, Thiessen hasn't lost that cheerleader charm. She transitioned to working adult actress thanks to stints on Fox's "Beverly Hills 90210," USA's "White Collar," and even a turn on her own cooking show, "Dinner at Tiffani's."

Q: How much is "mom Lori" like "mom Tiffani?"

A: Well, they've tailored the character to me a little bit. She's very into food, which is very much a part of my life. It's interesting how that happens a lot on TV shows. I remember when I was shooting "White Collar," and they couldn't figure out what they wanted that character to do for a living. They wound up making her an event planner, which spoke to my passion for food and planning parties.

Q: What I like about the show is the way it deals with cancer. It's an element in this family's life but isn't all-consuming.

A: Alexa wants to have a normal high school experience as much as possible. We're also showcasing this friendship between girls who've been friends since they were little. That's huge for girls.

Q: I've interviewed cancer patients. They often say how the diagnosis is rough, but there's more to their life than just that.

A: Yeah. You'll see a lot of that with Alexa's storyline in the next season. How she doesn't want cancer to define her.



AMANDA EDWARDS/GETTY

"I'm playing the mom to kids the same age as I was when I started."

— Tiffani Thiessen

Q: This show is like coming full circle for you.

A: I'm playing the mom to kids the same age as I was when I started out — and on the same (sound) stage. It's kind of cool to watch these two young girls at work, to see the innocence about it. The eagerness. The excitement. I'm almost reliving it through their eyes, which is really fun.

Q: Have they asked for your advice?

A: Very much. Paris comes to me still, and we're not even shooting right now. She texts me for advice. She's a hard-working, very smart girl. And she's seen that I am still working. She's seen my work ethic. So she's asked for my opinion often, which is sweet.

Putting an end to the gift-giving blues



ELLEN WARREN



DREAMSTIME

Thanks to the internet, many people now simply email the links to the items they want for birthdays and holidays.

Dear Answer Angel Ellen: Even though it's a new year, I'm still not over the letdown of the holidays. This time of year is always a bummer for me, but it is getting worse. All that preparation, decorating, shopping, wrapping, cooking, entertaining and then — poof — it is over in what seems like just a couple of hours. Here's my question: Is there a way to avoid the trend of family and friends just swapping internet links to the gifts they want for Christmas? It seems so cold and impersonal and just so wrong. This year I bought two shirts, two pairs of shoes, a coat, some sort of expensive tool (I don't even know what it does) and two books — all after the would-be recipients emailed me links for the stuff they wanted. Bah, humbug. Is there a way to bring back the joy of giving?

— Penny P.

Dear Penny: I'm afraid not. More and more, people expect to receive what's on their list and to be disappointed if you freelance and give something unexpected and unrequested. (The same goes for wedding, birthday and baby gifts.) Thanks to the internet, many giftees have extremely specific gift requirements. Even when I think I've found the perfect thing, they look less than thrilled if it's not what they "asked" for. But, the idea of giving a gift is — bottom line — to make the recipient happy. So, the easy thing to do is go along with the wish list — exactly as specified. Here are the options:

- Give them what they requested even though it's no fun for you.
- Tell them you are making a donation in their name to the charity of their choice.
- Give them a gift card for a site they use often: Amazon, iTunes, Nike, whatever.
- Suggest in a nice way that it might be time to end the gift exchange. Perhaps set an age limit so that the kids still get gifts.

Readers: How do you handle Penny's dilemma?

Dear Answer Angel Ellen: I'm 80-plus with wrinkled skin. Is it too late to continue with skin products? I know you need sunblock and a moisturizer. Anything else?

— Mary P.

Dear Mary: You earned those wrinkles! And I've never had much faith in expensive skin products that promise to reduce wrinkles. Your regimen is what I recommend to women of any age. Sunscreen and moisturizer — or moisturizer with SPF 30 or above. That's really all any of us need. Just apply that faithfully and you're good to go.

Angelic Readers 1

Readers to the rescue of Alice S., whose vacuum stopped working because her long hair got stuck in the brush bristles.

Barb G. says: "It took me years to figure out how to remove the hair from the vacuum cleaner brush, but while combing the aisle looking for a new comb for myself, I discovered the comb sold to remove lice nits from the head. The teeth are very close together and the comb is narrow enough to get between the vacuum brush supports. For under $5 I have discovered the perfect vacuum brush hair removal tool."

Olga D. writes: "My newer Kenmore vacuum came with a 'seam ripper,' the little sewing gadget to remove seams. They suggested using that to remove threads and hair from the brush at regular intervals." You can buy seam rippers for a few dollars on Amazon, at big-box stores and at fabric shops.

Angelic Readers 2

For the women who complained that hair dye was causing them hair loss or scalp pain, there were a number of suggestions.

From Marg B.: "I buy a product at Sally Beauty for less than a dollar called Care & Comfort Packette Treatment. It can be added to bleach, tint, toner, permanent wave solution and neutralizer."

Christine D. writes: "Here's a thought ... stop dying your hair! Let it grow out to be healthy and beautiful. Mine is multiple shades of gray, nice and thick. And think of the time and money saved."

Julie B. loves Herbatint (herbatint.com): "No ammonia, alcohol or parabens. It's from Italy. It can be bought online or in natural product stores. The processing time is a little longer (40 minutes), but no smell or burn. I've been using it for at least 25 years now."

Reader Rant

Several of you came to the defense of Bonnye J.'s 90-year-old mom who was getting "second glances" at church because her knee-high stockings show 4 inches below her skirts since she no longer can wrestle herself into pantyhose.

Sandy C. writes: "Mobility at that age becomes an issue for many. No one, particularly church members, should judge how one dresses. Shame on those people."

From Jill W.: "Second glances?! I hope anyone who would give a 90-year-old woman making her best effort to dress up for church a 'second glance' is doing so out of respect and reverence. Your mother should continue to wear whatever makes her comfortable!"

Now it's your turn

Send your questions, rants, tips, favorite finds — on style, shopping, makeup, fashion and beauty — to answerangelellen@gmail.com.

FASHION

Make a statement with season's best coats

By Darcel Rockett | Chicago Tribune

This season is all about the statement you make with your outerwear. A coat may be an outer layer to protect you from the elements, but it's also an investment. The proper cut, style and color can carry you from winter solstice to winter solstice. The bonus? The post-holiday sales are on, and great chic coats are available at all price points.

The time is nigh to upgrade your winter coat, so save a bundle while you bundle up. Be it puffer, or something to glam up your Sunday best, we have some suggestions.

drockett@chicagotribune.com



KATE SPADE

The perk up: Brighten up a dreary winter day with Kate Spade's pink wool blend and faux fur coat. $559, katespade.com



The bright spot: Zara's reversible yellow and navy hooded down jacket is filled with 100% recycled feathers. $99.99, zara.com

ZARA



MARC JACOBS

The Sunday best: Add a touch of glam to your wardrobe with Marc Jacobs' The Sunday Best wool and velvet coat. $537, marcjacobs.com

The night out coat: J.Crew's Black Collection tailored Tuxedo Coat in fuzzy wool with a satin collar. $309.99, jcrew.com



J.CREW



NORDSTROM

The edgy statement: Stand Studio's clean-lined Riley coat combines pink faux fur trim and black faux leather. $266.98, nordstrom.com



MYTHERESA

The statement maker: Stand Studio's oversize checked faux-shearling jacket. $231, mytheresa.com

Luxury stores adapt to changing shopper

By Anne D'Innocenzio
Associated Press



MARY ALTAFFER/AP PHOTOS

Customers ride the escalators designed by Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas at the Saks Fifth Avenue Flagship in New York.

To get that monogram tote bag by Louis Vuitton or leather Flashtrek sneakers by Gucci, the go-to place had been luxury department stores.

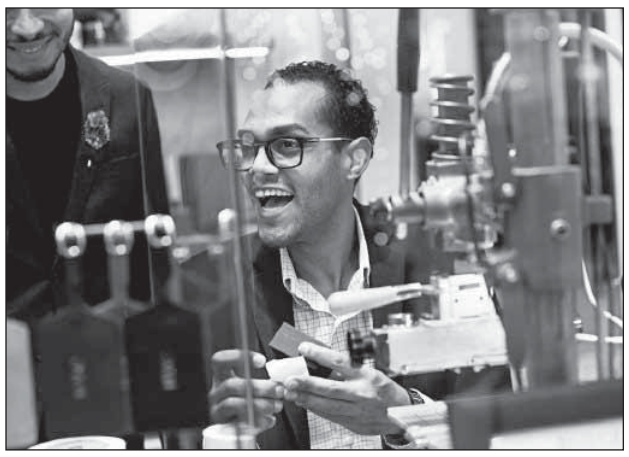
Not anymore.

Now, there are far more options to access exclusive labels. You can buy them at online sites like Netaporter. Or get them barely used through sites like Fashionphile and The RealReal. You can even rent an entire rotating wardrobe through companies like Rent the Runway.

"The consumer is king. And they can buy luxury brands in different places," says Steve Sadove, former CEO and chairman of Saks Fifth Avenue and now senior adviser at MasterCard.

The new entrants have disrupted the luxury sector by creating different channels to attain the seemingly unattainable. For luxury department stores that once had a lock on where the well-heeled could shop, that has forced them to reimagine their approach. They now offer new services as well as food and alcohol to lure back customers who were once exclusively theirs.

At Nordstrom's women's flagship in Manhattan, for instance, customers sip Champagne and nibble on small bites while trying on shoes. Recognizing the growing popularity of secondhand sites, Neiman Marcus is rolling out shops where customers can sell their designer belongings as part of a partnership with Fashionphile, an online resale accessories company. And as part of a $250 million renovation of its flagship store in Manhattan, Saks Fifth Avenue has dedicated its main floor to luxury handbags that's staffed with 50 handbag style advisers, in addition to sales associates.



Service representatives speak to a customer while they monogram a purchase at the Nordstrom NYC Flagship.



A bartender prepares drinks at the Shoe Bar at the Nordstrom NYC Flagship in New York.

Meanwhile, brands like Gucci and Louis Vuitton are opening more of their own stores and expanding online. Robert Burke, a luxury consultant, says they are trying to control their future as they watch their products get discounted on resale sites.

In one sense, traditional luxury stores are no different from other bricks-and-mortar retailers that must now fiercely compete with online rivals. But the exclusivity they used to command by catering to a niche market of wealthy spenders is beginning to erode, especially among the new-moneyed set of shoppers in their 20s through their 40s who can afford high-end merchandise but may still be looking for a deal.

Millennials and Generation Z accounted for 47% of luxury consumers in 2018 and for 33% of all luxury sales worldwide in 2018, according to a study by consulting firm Bain & Co. Together, however, they contributed to virtually all of the market's growth, compared with 85% in 2017.

Luxury shoppers like Sabina Gill present challenges to luxury department stores.

The 42-year-old banker from Manhattan says she's doubled her annual spending on jewelry and clothing to $20,000 in the last few years. But while she used to shop at places like Saks and Bergdorf Goodman, now she's spending most of the money on sites like The RealReal or Netaporter.

"E-commerce gives you a wider playing field versus going to the store," Gill said.

The fragmented luxury market has hurt retailers such as Neiman Marcus and Nordstrom. Sales at stores open at least a year at Neiman Marcus fell in its latest fiscal third quarter as it was forced to heavily discount. The drop, reported in June, reversed six straight quarters of increases.

Nordstrom department stores saw net sales down 4.1% even while its more price-sensitive Nordstrom Rack stores had a 1.2% increase in the quarter that ended Nov. 2.

Neiman Marcus decided to invest in a minority stake in Fashionphile earlier last year after its own survey showed half its customers buy or sell pre-owned luxury items. Geoffroy van Raemdonck, CEO of Neiman Marcus, says the luxury business used to be about the product; now, it's more about the services.

Nearly 30 Nordstrom stores now have Rent the Runway drop-offs as part of a partnership with the rental service. The new women's flagship store in New York also features seven eating and beverage spots — the most of any Nordstrom store.

"Clearly, shopping is much more about an experience," said Jamie Nordstrom, president of Nordstrom stores and great-grandson of the company's founder. "It's not just about getting through their lists. They want to bump into something new, something they didn't come in to find. I think great stores do that well."

5 ways to create a cozy feel

By Barbara Ballinger | Chicago Tribune

Winter doesn't mean bone-chilling temperatures everywhere, but it can mean gray skies, more rain and certainly shorter days due to darkness descending early. Yet, there are many ways to counteract those blah-bah-humbug feelings and add a warm, cozy feeling and sense of conviviality indoors — what the Danes and Norwegians call *hygge*.

Doing so might be as simple as surrounding ourselves with a room painted a dark, rich color, or incorporating plush furniture. The best news is that most of our ideas aren't terribly expensive and can be switched again when days grow longer and warmer. Remember, every season offers its own rewards.

Barbara Ballinger is a freelance writer.

1. Add warm fragrances

Move past the season's overbearing pine, cranberry and pumpkin spice candles. Who wants pumpkin in the air? There are plenty of other, more sophisticated fragrances that evoke a feeling of warmth. Take Byredo's The Burning Rose candle. It has a deep smell of rose combined with a smoky woody character. Diptyque's Choisya candle offers another warm scent. The smell conjures hints of honey, tobacco leaves and a handful of spices for warmth.



NEIMAN MARCUS

2. Paint an entire room a deep, warm, saturated hue

Deep colors instantly envelop and transport us to a warm destination, and many manufacturers now suggest we go darker and richer in our paint and color choices. Pair these colors for contrast with a white, off-white or cream in the trim and ceiling, or use the dark color throughout the room on all surfaces for what may be one of next year's big design trends. Paint manufacturer Dunn Edwards has debuted its new Dark & Stormy paint hue, a deep, intense blue to that immediately evokes the coziness of bundling up for cold winter days and evenings.



DUNN EDWARDS



RESTORATION HARDWARE

3. Nestle into a furry cocoon

Natural textures are showing up not just in traditional blankets and throws but also in the upholstery that goes on couches and chairs. One increasingly popular suggestion is sheepskin, which is soft and furry to the touch and warm. Just the right fix we need to upholster favorite seating. RH has reimagined a classic midcentury French design, with their Yeti chair. Crafted of solid oak and upholstered in ultra-soft, New Zealand sheepskin, the chair has a low, raked back and arms that curve gently into tapered legs. Pure 1940s Paris.



ETHAN ALLEN

4. The more throws and blankets the better

Rather than turning up the heat — and wasting energy — why not wrap yourself in a thick throw or blanket, so you can sit and converse comfortably, read a favorite book or sink into "The Crown" or "The Wonderful Marvelous Mrs. Maisel." Ethan Allen offers a host of choices that will perk up any setting.



ROOM & BOARD/TOMS PRICE/WEST ELM

5. Layer area rugs

Most people like hardwood floors these days, but they can be cold on bare feet. A shaggy or furry area rug proves the right antidote and not only feels warm but looks warm, too, especially when it's set atop an existing area or wall-to-wall rug. Look for textured rugs that offer a tactile feel, and you've got a win-win all around. Toms Price's hand-knotted wool rug is a North Moroccan design from the Berber tribes that reside in the city of Taza. Other favorites are Room & Board's wool Soraya rug with its geometric graphics and colorful tufted poms, and West Elm's hand-tufted wool Charm Rug.



GETTY

Compared with the hairs on your head, both lashes and brows have super-short growth phases.

The long claims behind longer lashes

By Courtney Rubin
The New York Times

When an eyelash growth product called Lavish Lash became an Amazon bestseller in 2017, a flood of customers promptly wrote to ask: Can I use this on my eyebrows?

Answer: Yes. But then, inevitably, the product's maker, a Miami company called Hairgenics, released an eyebrow-specific formula. Asked about the key difference in the new product, Mark Transky, the president of the company, said in an interview: "It's about 15% stronger."

Then he laughed and said, almost ruefully, "Now people are going to use this one on their lashes."

Such is the desperation for doe eyes and big brows that it seems customers will try almost anything. "There has been a cultural infatuation with brows for some time, along with an increased interest in glowing skin and big lashes," Dave Kimbell, the president of the Ulta Beauty cosmetic chain, wrote in an email.

Besides the many offerings by niche companies like RapidLash, legacy brands like L'Oréal and Maybelline have recently released lash serums.

But what really works? For actually growing hair, not very much.

Compared with the hairs on your head, lashes and brows have super-short growth phases, so it's tough to catch them when they're treatable.

For lashes, there is still only one product proven effective: Latisse, the brand name for a prostaglandin called bimatoprost. The 11-year-old prescription drug, made by Allergan, continues to be popular, in spite of its risks. Besides dry and itchy eyes, side effects include permanent darkening of the skin around the eye and of the iris itself (like from blue to brown).

Users may also see drooping of the upper eyelid and shrinking of the fat pad beneath the eye.

There are also over-the-counter potions made with analogues of prostaglandins — often isopropyl cloprostenate, dechloro dihydroxy difluoro ethylcloprostenolamide or methylamido dihydro noralfaprostal on ingredient lists. These are very likely to work, said Maryanne Senna, a dermatologist and the director of the Hair Academic Innovative Research Unit at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

But, she said, "the likelihood of them causing the same problems as Latisse is real.

"That's my big fear with people buying them, that they won't be informed about the risk," Senna said.

A pending federal class-action suit against Rodan + Fields, the maker of the popular Lash Boost (which contains isopropyl cloprostenate), accuses the company of deceptive marketing and said it "failed to disclose the harmful side effects linked to an ingredient." Rodan + Fields had no comment.

With any of the prostaglandins, you will need to keep using them or your lashes or brows will go back to whatever they were originally — or, if you have been using the products for years, possibly worse, because of age-related thinning.

Anything without a prostaglandin is unlikely to make lashes grow. Most beauty products in this arena, including ones costing upward of $100, contain "completely inactive bogus ingredients," said Senna.

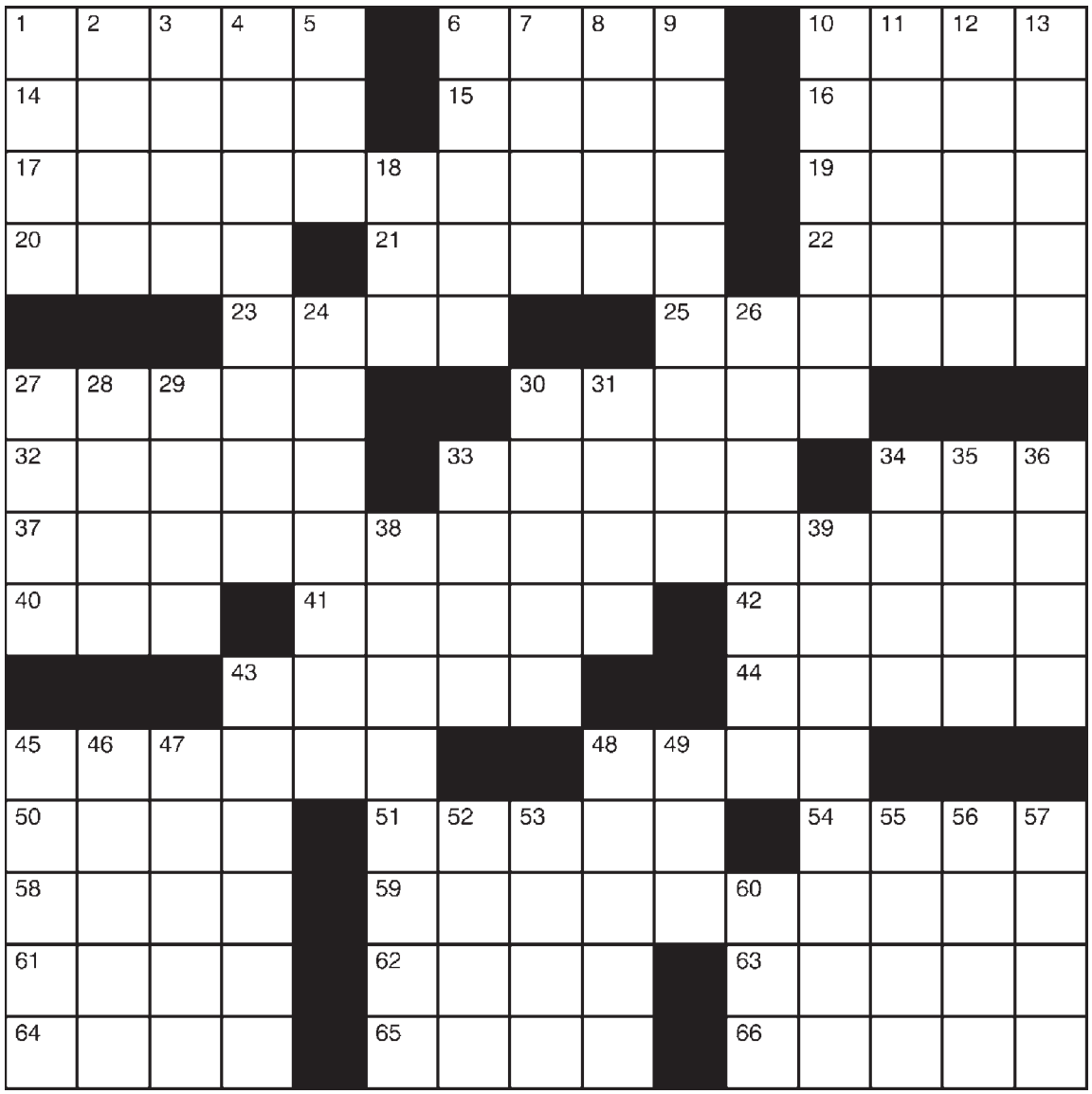
Serums like Lavish Lash make lashes look fuller and thicker by coating them with film, said Perry Romanowski, a cosmetic chemist and a founder of thebeautybrains.com, a site where scientists examine product claims.

Romanowski scoffs at myths that companies spin around ingredients like horsetail root and sweet almond protein, saying results actually come from prosaic things like hydroxyethylcellulose, a gelling and thickening agent often found in plain old-fashioned (and much cheaper) mascara.

When it comes to growing brows, there is no product proven specifically effective. Plenty of women successfully use either Latisse or a cheaper option, Rogaine 5%, applied carefully with a cotton bud.

MIND GAMES

Timber



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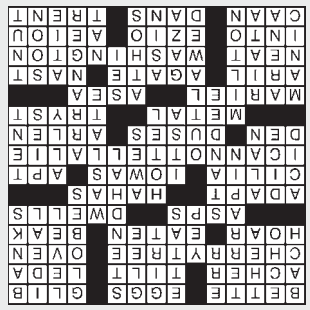
ACROSS

1. Jezebel Davis
6. Bacon's codependent
10. Silver-tongued
14. Belly ___: complainer
15. Pinball defeat
16. Castor's mother
17. Item attacked by 59 Across?
19. Bread's birthplace
20. Showing age
21. Devoured
22. Nib
23. Slithery-set members
25. Abides
27. Conform
30. Belly laughs
32. Eyelashes
33. Siouan Indians
34. Fitting
37. Eighteenth century apocrypha?
40. Study
41. Actress Eleonora, and kin
42. Stormy Weather composer
43. Strontium, e.g.
44. Time out for lovers
45. Margaux's sibling
48. Like the Pequod
50. Seed envelope
51. Type face
54. Early cartoonist
58. Trig
59. Sayer of 37 Across?
61. Toward
62. Basso Pinza
63. Consonant separators
64. The Gambler star
65. Quayle and Dailey
66. Bentley's sleuth

DOWN

1. PDQ or JS
2. Repeat
3. Her name means shining
4. Turtle
5. Miscue
6. James and Kett
7. Belted
8. Mirth
9. The Red and the Black author
10. Planets
11. Even
12. Paragon
13. Mr. Cub
18. You betcha!
24. One in line
26. Missed Act I
27. LSD
28. Cubes
29. Actor Bates
30. Novel/film/soap opera
31. Wows
33. ___ boy!
34. Confederate
35. Slapstick material
36. Wickiup's cousin
38. Banned
39. Songwriter's aide
43. Areopagitica author
45. Crazed
46. Omni, e.g.
47. Lariat
48. A Musketeer
49. ___ whale
52. Huxley's Eyeless in ___
53. L ___ Lou
55. Play to ___
56. Erelong
57. Carpenter's unit
60. Turner or Cole

SOLUTION





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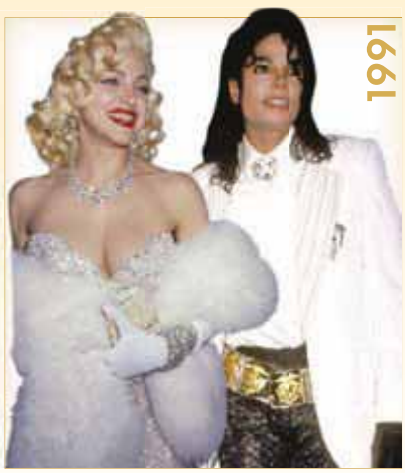














OSCAR

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WALTER SCOTT'S

Personality

Parade

WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE TV COUPLE?

In honor of Valentine's Day, here's a look at some of TV's most captivating couples who won our hearts as they took us along on their romantic journeys.



LUCY AND RICKY RICARDO
I LOVE LUCY



CARRIE BRADSHAW AND MR. BIG
SEX AND THE CITY



HOMER AND MARGE SIMPSON
THE SIMPSONS



GEORGE AND LOUISE JEFFERSON
THE JEFFERSONS



MITCH PRITCHETT AND CAM TUCKER
MODERN FAMILY



DIANE CHAMBERS AND SAM MALONE
CHEERS



BETH AND RANDALL PEARSON
THIS IS US



ARCHIE AND EDITH BUNKER
ALL IN THE FAMILY



CLAIRE AND JAMIE FRASER
OUTLANDER



FOX MULDER AND DANA SCULLY
THE X-FILES



RACHEL GREEN AND ROSS GELLER
FRIENDS

WALTER SCOTT ASKS

JESSE TYLER FERGUSON

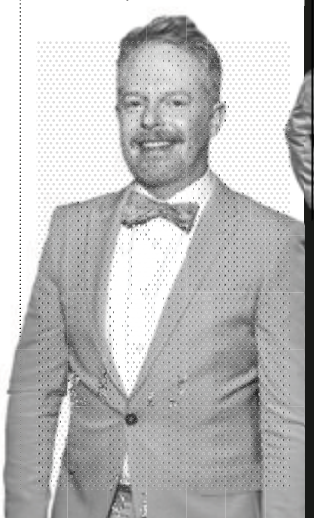
Even before the *Modern Family* star wraps his role as Mitchell Pritchett on the final season of the ABC comedy, he has a new gig. Ferguson, 44, is taking over from Ty Pennington as host of *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* (Feb. 16), mobilizing community volunteers and inspiring the build/design teams for each renovation featured on the HGTV series.

What's new to *Extreme Makeover* besides you?
I'm standing alongside three totally new designers. No one knows these very talented designers yet, but they're going to fall in love with them. And I think people are going to be really impressed with the technology behind building energy-efficient homes.

How are you going to make the show yours?
The producers came to me because they wanted someone totally different from Ty, and they wanted someone who could bring humor as well as a human connection. It's a tricky balance because you're part Oprah Winfrey, part Bob the Builder.

What's it been like filming the final season of *Modern Family*?
It's a very long, slow goodbye. I'm glad that we have that. I wanted to really enjoy the last season; not only for us, but also for our fans. We hope to go out on a note that is worthy of the people who've been loyal to our show.

You're also writing a cookbook based on your food blog, *Julie & Jesse*.
Julie Tanous is a friend of mine who went to culinary school. I enjoy cooking with her, and we started developing recipes together. We decided to put that relationship in book form. So it is somewhat based off the blog, but they're all new recipes. I think it will be ready in spring 2021.



HOW DID HE END UP IN A TAYLOR SWIFT VIDEO?
GO TO **PARADE.COM/FERGUSON** TO FIND OUT.



Homeland's Final Hurrah

When three-time Emmy winner **Claire Danes** returns for the final season of *Homeland* Feb. 9, CIA operative Carrie Mathison will be recovering from months of brutal confinement in a Russian gulag and suffering from memory loss. Danes, 40, says she's become one with her scrappy character over eight seasons of the acclaimed Showtime spy drama. "I love her intelligence, her strength and her power," she says. "She is just so in my nervous system and in my muscles."

Julia Louis-Dreyfus Goes *Downhill*

Louis-Dreyfus co-stars with Will Ferrell in the comedy/drama *Downhill* (in theaters Feb. 14), about a married couple who barely escapes an avalanche during a family ski vacation and is forced to reevaluate their lives. "At the center is a single event that lasts just a moment but sends shock waves through an established relationship," says the former *Veep* star, 59, who's also one of the film's producers. "The idea that one little decision made in a split second could be so volcanic just appealed to me so much that I just had to get this movie made."



EMAIL YOUR QUESTIONS FOR WALTER SCOTT TO **PERSONALITY@PARADE.COM**

LEFT TO RIGHT FROM TOP: EVERETT; CRAIG BLANKENHORN/WARNER BROS./EVERETT; FOX; EVERETT; JORDIN ALTHAUS/WALT DISNEY TELEVISION VIA GETTY IMAGES; PARAMOUNT TELEVISION/EVERETT; JEFF LIPSKY/NBC; EVERETT; JASON BELL/STARZ; 20TH CENTURY FOX FILM/EVERETT; NBCU PHOTO BANK/GETTY IMAGES; JIM FISCUS/SHOWTIME; JOHN LAMPARSKI/GETTY IMAGES; ALBERTO E. RODRIGUEZ/GETTY IMAGES FOR DISNEY

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What America Eats

OSCAR NIGHT



NOT YOUR GRANDMA'S STUFFED CELERY!

Just in time for the Academy Awards, we've got a Hollywood twist on the old-school appetizer, adapted from *The Musso & Frank Grill* by Michael Callahan. The Musso & Frank Grill is a beloved Los Angeles hangout, which celebrated its centennial last year. Famous for its martinis (go to ***Parade.com/musso*** for the recipe), it has appeared in many TV shows and films, including *Grace and Frankie* and Best Picture nominee *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*.

—Alison Ashton

Stuffed Celery With Roquefort Cheese



Trim 12 ribs **celery**, cut off edges and cut ribs into 16 (4-inch) pieces.

In a food processor, combine 1 lb **Roquefort cheese**, crumbled, ¾ cup **sour cream** or **crème fraîche**, ¼ tsp **kosher salt** and a pinch of **white pepper**. Process until smooth. Spoon into a pastry bag fitted with a small serrated tip. Pipe evenly into celery pieces. Top evenly with 16 pitted **black olives** (such as Taggiasca). Sprinkle with **Hungarian or smoked paprika**.

In a medium bowl, combine 1½ **romaine lettuce hearts**, thinly sliced; 1 bunch **watercress**, stems removed; and ½ cup **Red Wine Vinaigrette** (recipe follows). Season with ½ tsp kosher salt and a pinch of pepper. Arrange on a platter or 4 individual plates. Place stuffed celery on top. **Serves 4**.

RED WINE VINAIGRETTE

In a small bowl, combine ½ **shallot**, finely chopped, 1½ tsp **Dijon mustard** and ¼ cup **red wine vinegar**. Gradually whisk in ¼ cup **extra-virgin olive oil** and ⅓ cup **canola oil**. **Makes about ¾ cup**.

Head to ***Parade.com/pop*** for an Oscar-worthy popcorn recipe.

Parade Picks

Visit **PARADE.COM/PICKS** for more trending products

Sweetheart Gifts

Treat your favorite BFF—mom, sister, heartthrob—with these thoughtful presents. *—Maggie Hedera*



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STYLE IN SILK
Accessorize any outfit, purse or ponytail with the 100 percent silk **Unlock Your Heart Scarf. $88, katespade.com**



THE ART OF LOVE
Gift something personal—art from a local festival or a print of a city you visited together, like the **Painted Venice Cityscape. $100, minted.com**



GROWN-UP GUMMIES
Forget the bottle—gather around the dessert table with a box of bubbly instead. These **Champagne Bears** are infused with the flavors of brut and rosé. **$9, sugarfina.com**

FOOD BY TINA WHATCOTT-ECHEVERRIA

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LOVE TRAVELS

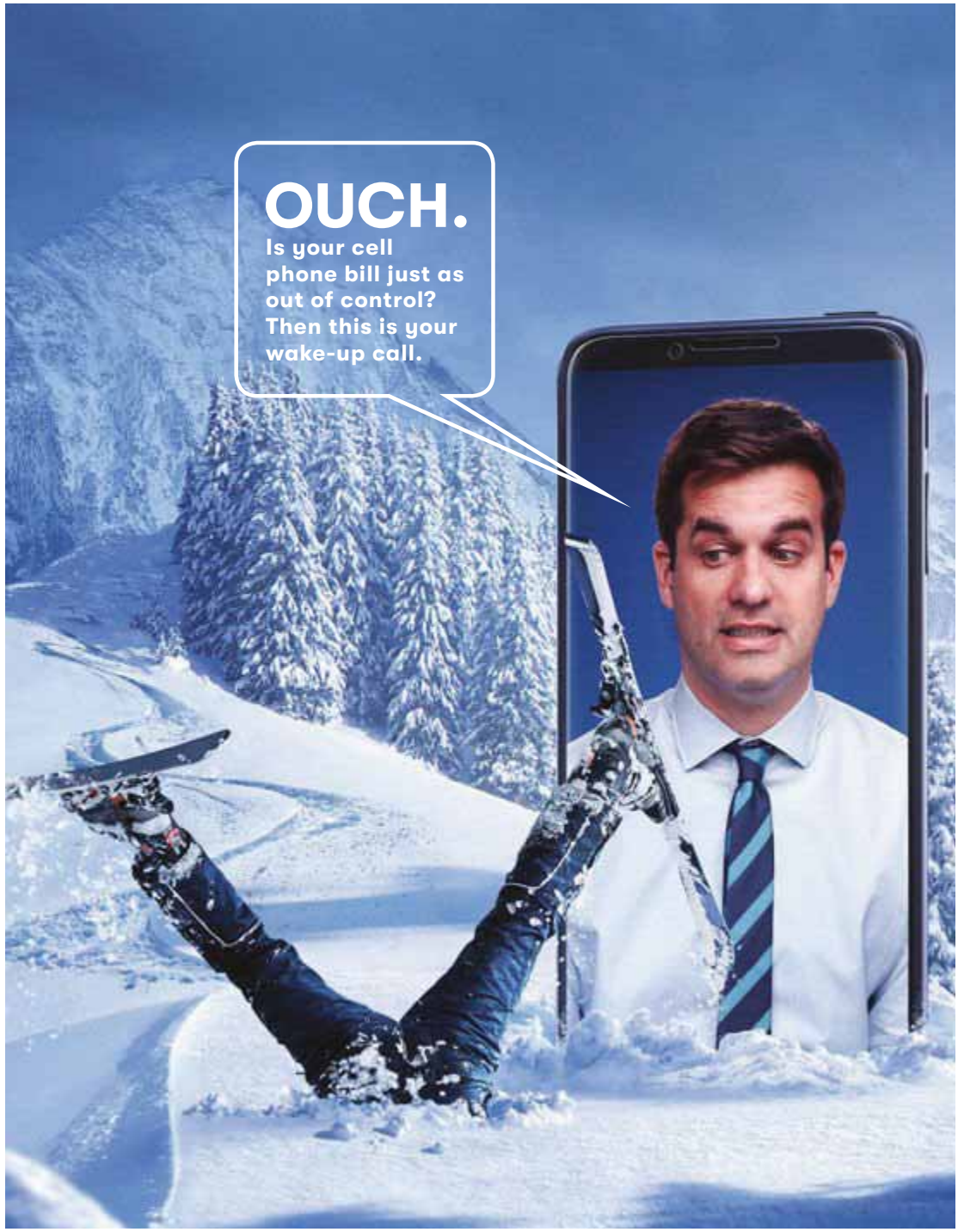
On Stoney Clover Lane's website, you can customize **Classic Mini Pouches**, makeup bags, travel duffels and more with playful color selections and a variety of patches. **$38, stoneycloverlane.com**



WARM HER HEART

This **Heart Sweater** is sure to be worn all February long. **$63, loft.com**





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Stay **Healthy**

How to Manage Your WEIGHT AFTER 50

Hoping to lose weight this year? 45 million Americans are right there with you. Here's what you need to know to do it right. *By Sheryl Kraft*

Tempted to jump-start a new year by embarking on one of those "miracle" diets that are all over the news? Not so fast! Turns out that many fad diets eliminate entire food groups and skimp on nutrients necessary for good health. The trendy paleo diet, for instance, lacks whole grains, dairy and legumes, says Kate Patton, a registered dietitian with Cleveland Clinic's Heart and Vascular Institute.

And because dietary needs—and the ability to utilize and absorb nutrients—change with age, it's more important than ever to focus on a high-quality diet once you reach your 50s.

That doesn't mean you can't lose weight if you're over 50, says Scott Kahan, M.D., director of the National Center for Weight and Wellness in Washington, D.C. "On the contrary, one of the largest studies [of behavioral weight loss] showed that those over 50 and 60 were as successful as younger people."

Along with exercise to boost your slowing metabolism (aim for 30 minutes of aerobic activity each day plus strength training to build muscle a couple times per week), consider these expert-approved diets.

Intermittent Fasting (I.F.)

More than 40 studies have found I.F.—restricting food consumption to certain hours or eating limited calories on certain days—effective for weight loss.

Health Perks: I.F. may increase muscle mass, boost metabolism and longevity, reduce blood pressure and help prevent heart conditions, some cancers and Type 2 diabetes. Research finds that I.F. causes your body to go into its fat stores for energy, and that it can also protect memory.

Tip: Fasting between 8 p.m. and lunch may be easiest for most people, since they're asleep part of the time.

DASH Diet

Designed to lower blood pressure by cutting sodium, DASH (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension) emphasizes whole grains, low-fat dairy, fruits and vegetables and includes some fish, poultry, legumes, nuts and seeds.

Health Perks: It may help lower blood pressure and prevent osteoporosis, cancer, heart disease, stroke and diabetes.

Tip: If you miss salt, substitute with herbs and spices.

WW

Formerly known as Weight Watchers, the program, available online and in-person, assigns points to what you eat and drink based on age, height, weight and sex. You can shape and track your own diet. There are no "must-eat" foods, and no foods are forbidden.

Health Perks: The diet can help reduce blood pressure, stabilize blood sugar and meet important nutrient requirements by encouraging a wealth of fruits and vegetables, says Bonnie Taub-Dix, author of *Read It Before You Eat It: Taking You From Label to Table*.

Tip: Social support adds to long-term weight loss success, experts say.

NUTRIENTS FOR 50+

Since it's tougher to absorb certain nutrients as we age, make sure to include protein to prevent muscle loss, lutein for your eyesight and magnesium for healthy blood pressure, says registered dietitian Jill Weisenberger, author of *Prediabetes: A Complete Guide*.

In addition, the National Institutes of Health and Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics recommend:

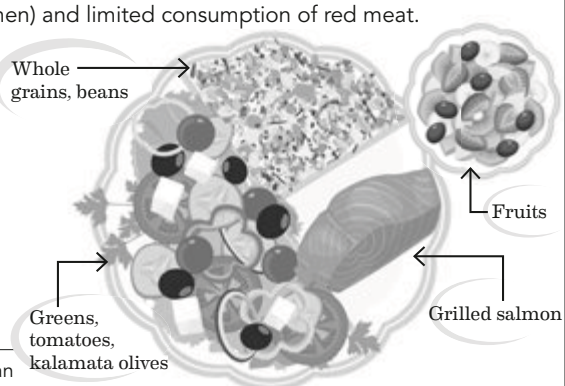
- 1,000–1,200 mg/day of calcium
- 2,600–3,400 mg/day of potassium
- 25–38 grams/day of fiber
- 2.4 mcg/day of vitamin B12
- 600 IU/day of vitamin D

Mediterranean Diet

The Mediterranean diet emphasizes plant-based foods like fruits, vegetables, whole grains, beans, nuts and seeds, plus fish, other seafood and healthy fats (like olive oil and avocados). It includes moderate servings of dairy, poultry and eggs, red wine in moderation (about one to two glasses per day for men; one glass per day for women) and limited consumption of red meat.

Health Perks: The combination of these foods may reduce inflammation, help decrease triglycerides, decrease the risk of dementia, heart disease and stroke and build stronger bones. Research consistently shows that the Mediterranean diet is effective in increasing your lifespan and promoting healthy aging.

Tip: Watch your portions; these foods are healthy but can't be eaten in unlimited quantities.



Visit ***Parade.com/olive*** for the best Mediterranean diet recipes—including snacks, breakfasts and desserts.

ISTOCK

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Ask Marilyn

By Marilyn vos Savant

Why are flannel sheets so much warmer than others?

—Neil Joiner, Vienna, Ga.

Flannel is a material made from loosely spun (twisted) yarn, whether the yarn itself is wool, cotton, synthetic or a mix of fibers. Because the yarn is looser, flannel fabrics have lots of tiny air pockets. These air pockets are insulating, so your body heat is retained. (Air conducts heat poorly. Consider the example of single-pane versus double-pane windows, which help keep heat inside in the winter and outside in the summer.) Also, some flannels are brushed on one or both sides after the fabric is woven, which slightly frays the surface, making it a bit fluffy and soft to the touch.

Send questions to ***marilyn@parade.com***

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National Treasure

PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES

SEEING AMERICA 2020

February is the perfect time to plan a trip to a presidential home, museum or library. *By Kathleen McCleary*

This year on Presidents Day (Feb. 17), George Washington's Mount Vernon will offer free admission and a slew of events. During the year, other presidential spots will recognize anniversaries. If you can't tour them all (go to ***Parade.com/libraries*** for a complete list), here are three must-sees for 2020.



Warren G. Harding Presidential Center

Marion, Ohio

Warren G. Harding's presidency was brief (29 months) but juicy. "There's a lot packed into it," says Sherry Hall, site manager for the new center, open to the public on July 1, 2020.

Harding (who served from 1921 to 1923) is often at the bottom of "great presidents" lists—even though he helped lift the country out of a post-WWI depression, put the federal government on its first-ever budget and supported civil rights. But four years after his sudden death while in office, a former mistress published a tell-all book. And before Harding died, the Senate began digging into a scandal involving his Secretary of the Interior. The facts about all that and more will be found at the $7.5 million center, Hall says.



Highlights will include a full-size replica of the train car Harding and his wife traveled in during a Western tour; a giant papier-mâché potato gifted to him by the citizens of Boise, Idaho; and Harding's Oval Office chair, once draped in a black bow in a famous photo taken shortly after he died.



George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum

College Station, Texas

Since President Bush and his wife, Barbara, both died in 2018, the library has been busy adapting to life after "41"—welcoming visitors who come to pay respects (Bush, his wife and their daughter Robin are buried on the property) and anticipating the 30th anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act (which he signed into law in July 1990).

Highlights include a new statue of Sully, a now-4-year-old yellow Lab, who was Bush's service dog during the last six months of his life. Sully (trained by America's VetDogs) answered the phone, opened doors and picked up items for the former president. (Sully now works at Walter Reed Medical Center in Bethesda, Md.) A full-size replica of the Oval Office is another draw: Visitors can sit at the desk and also can read the letters Bush wrote as a WWII Navy pilot. "I know what it is to be away from family. I enjoy seeing how he handled it," says marketing director David Anaya, who retired from the military in 2015. Bush's life, he says, feels like "the story of having the American dream. He was somebody who loved his country and was driven to be the best he could be."





Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

Grand Rapids, Michigan

The majority of the museum's recently renovated 12,000 square feet of exhibit space covers President Ford's childhood, World War II experience, 25 years in Congress, presidency and post-presidency. But there are two full galleries on Betty Ford, the plainspoken first lady *The New York Times* called "among the most remarkable in modern history." In May, the museum will offer a documentary play, *She Did All That*, using the voices of Betty Ford, her family and friends as well as news accounts and letters from her critics and admirers.

Ford—the only office holder never to have been elected president or vice president—was in office fewer than 1,000 days, but his presidency was critical to a country rocked by the Watergate scandal and Nixon resignation. He "brought to the White House an open, unsinister and decent style of doing things that altered the life of the country," Meg Greenfield wrote in a Pulitzer Prize–winning 1978 editorial.



SIGHT SAVERS BE LIKE JFK: WEAR YOUR SHADES

Winter sun can damage your eyes, especially when it reflects off ice and snow or the car ahead of you on the road. UV radiation exposure ups your risk of solar retinitis, cataracts and dry or wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD). AMD is the leading cause of blindness in adults over 60.

The right sunglasses can protect your peepers:

- Look for high levels of UVA and UVB protection.
- Reduce glare with polarized lenses.
- Try amber or brown lenses. Because they hike contrast, they may help you to see better.



President John F. Kennedy popularized sunglasses in the 1960s. He's seen here wearing American Optical's Saratoga model.

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EYLEA improved vision in people with Wet AMD

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*On average, in 2 clinical studies.

Learn more at **EYLEA.com/print** and talk with your eye specialist.

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EYLEA is a prescription medicine administered by injection into the eye. You should not use EYLEA if you have an infection in or around the eye, eye pain or redness, or known allergies to any of the ingredients in EYLEA, including aflibercept.

Please see additional Important Safety Information and Consumer Brief Summary on the following pages.

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EYLEA is the #1 prescribed treatment in its class FDA approved for Wet AMD.†

†IBM Truven MarketScan data: Number of injections administered, from Oct. 2017 through Sept. 2018; Data on File.

EYLEA®
(aflibercept) Injection
For Intravitreal Injection

EYLEA is a registered trademark of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

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INDICATIONS

EYLEA® (aflibercept) Injection 2 mg (0.05 mL) is a prescription medicine approved for the treatment of patients with Wet Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD), Macular Edema following Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO), Diabetic Macular Edema (DME), and Diabetic Retinopathy (DR).

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

- EYLEA® (aflibercept) Injection is a prescription medicine administered by injection into the eye. You should not use EYLEA if you have an infection in or around the eye, eye pain or redness, or known allergies to any of the ingredients in EYLEA, including aflibercept.
- Injection into the eye with EYLEA can result in an infection in the eye and retinal detachment (separation of retina from back of the eye). Inflammation in the eye has been reported with the use of EYLEA.
- In some patients, injections with EYLEA may cause a temporary increase in eye pressure within 1 hour of the injection. Sustained increases in eye pressure have been reported with repeated injections, and your doctor may monitor this after each injection.
- There is a potential risk of serious and sometimes fatal side effects related to blood clots, leading to heart attack or stroke in patients receiving EYLEA.
- Serious side effects related to the injection procedure with EYLEA are rare but can occur including infection inside the eye and retinal detachment.
- The most common side effects reported in patients receiving EYLEA are increased redness in the eye, eye pain, cataract, vitreous (gel-like substance) detachment, vitreous floaters, moving spots in the field of vision, and increased pressure in the eye.
- It is important that you contact your doctor right away if you think you might be experiencing any side effects, including eye pain or redness, light sensitivity, or blurring of vision, after an injection.
- EYLEA is for prescription use only. For additional safety information, please talk to your doctor and see the full Prescribing Information for EYLEA.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see the Consumer Brief Summary on the adjacent page.

EYLEA®
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Issue Date: December 2019
Initial U.S. Approval: 2011
Based on the August 2019 EYLEA® (aflibercept) Injection full Prescribing Information.

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(Pronounced: eye•lee•ah)

Consumer Brief Summary

This summary contains risk and safety information for patients about EYLEA. It does not include all the information about EYLEA and does not take the place of talking to your eye doctor about your medical condition or treatment.

What is EYLEA?

EYLEA is a prescription medicine that works by blocking vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF). VEGF can cause fluid to leak into the macula (the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye responsible for sharp central vision). Blocking VEGF helps reduce fluid from leaking into the macula.

What is EYLEA used for?

EYLEA is indicated for the treatment of patients with:

- Neovascular (Wet) Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)
- Macular Edema Following Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO)
- Diabetic Macular Edema (DME)
- Diabetic Retinopathy (DR)

How is EYLEA given?

EYLEA is an injection administered by your eye doctor into the eye. Depending on your condition, EYLEA injections are given on different schedules. Consult with your eye doctor to confirm which EYLEA schedule is appropriate for you.

Who should not use EYLEA?

Do not use EYLEA if you have an infection in or around the eye, eye pain or redness, inflammation in the eye, or are allergic to aflibercept and/or any other ingredients in EYLEA.

What is the most important information I should know about EYLEA?

- EYLEA must only be administered by a qualified eye doctor. Injection into the eye with EYLEA can result in an infection in the eye and retinal detachment (separation of retina from back of the eye). Inflammation in the eye has been reported with the use of EYLEA. If your eye becomes red, sensitive to light, painful, or develops a change in vision, seek immediate care from an eye doctor
- In some patients, injections with EYLEA may cause a temporary increase in eye pressure within 1 hour of the injection. Sustained increases in eye pressure have been reported with repeated injections, and your eye doctor may monitor this after each injection
- There is a potential risk of serious and sometimes fatal side effects related to blood clots, leading to heart attack or stroke in patients receiving EYLEA
- Serious side effects related to the injection procedure with EYLEA are rare but can occur including infection inside the eye and retinal detachment
- You may experience temporary visual problems after receiving EYLEA and also during and/or after the eye doctor visits that will follow. Avoid driving or using machinery until your sight has recovered
- Because EYLEA is composed of large molecules, your body may react to it; therefore, there is a potential for an immune response (allergy-like) in patients treated with EYLEA

What are possible side effects of EYLEA?

EYLEA can cause serious side effects, including

- **See important safety information listed under "What is the most important information I should know about EYLEA?"**

The most common side effects include

- Increased redness in the eye
- Eye pain
- Cataract
- Vitreous (gel-like substance) detachment
- Vitreous floaters
- Moving spots in the field of vision
- Increased pressure in the eye

There are other possible side effects of EYLEA. For more information, ask your eye doctor.

It is important that you contact your doctor right away if you think you might be experiencing any side effects, including eye pain or redness, light sensitivity, or blurring of vision, after an injection.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA.

Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

What should I tell my eye doctor before receiving EYLEA?

- Tell your eye doctor if you have any medical conditions
- Tell your eye doctor if you are pregnant or are planning to become pregnant. It is not known if EYLEA may harm your unborn baby
- Tell your eye doctor if you are breastfeeding. It is not known if EYLEA may harm your baby. You and your eye doctor should decide whether you should be treated with EYLEA or breastfeed, but you should not do both

How is EYLEA supplied?

EYLEA is supplied in a clear, colorless to pale yellow solution. It is provided in a pre-filled glass syringe or glass vial containing the amount of product required for a single injection into the eye, which is 0.05 mL (or 2 mg of the medicine product).

Where can I learn more about EYLEA?

For more information, talk to your eye doctor and see the full Prescribing Information at EYLEA.com.

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OSCAR

SURPRISES & SHOCKERS

Goofs, upsets, shutouts, flubs, foul-ups and other memorable moments from Hollywood's biggest night

BY MARA REINSTEIN

Every year, we watch the Oscars to see an array of glamorous stars vie for the gold. But for all the months of build-up and expert predictions of who'll win what, there's always a possibility for something truly unexpected to happen on Hollywood's biggest stage.

"The Oscars are the pinnacle event" of the movie year, says Turner Classic Movies host Dave Karger. "So when you have a moment that actually feels like a surprise, whether it's an upset winner or an amazing performance or a fascinating outfit, it's truly exciting." Ahead of the 92nd annual Academy Awards Feb. 9 on ABC, here's a look back at the biggest surprises, shocks and setbacks in Oscars history.

Heeere's Jerry!

The 1959 ceremony actually ended 20 minutes ahead of schedule, prompting co-host **Jerry Lewis** to filibuster for the crowd. He killed time by conducting the orchestra, attempting to play the trumpet and roasting a competing show's poor ratings. At one point, his former comedy partner **Dean Martin** strolled past the podium and helped himself to a "leftover" Oscar!





The Duke's Last Hurrah

A year after he was too ill to attend the ceremony, Western hero **John Wayne** took the stage to a prolonged standing ovation to present the Best Picture award in 1979. "That's just about the only medicine a fella really needs," he responded. It was his last public appearance; he'd die two months later at age 71.



GRIN AND BARE IT

Which buttoned-up English actor was interrupted onstage by a streaker in 1974?

A. Laurence Olivier
B. David Niven
C. Cary Grant
D. John Houseman

Answer: B



Twice as Nice

Then-newcomer **Barbra Streisand** (*Funny Girl*) and veteran Katharine Hepburn (*The Lion in Winter*) tied for Best Actress in 1969, each receiving 3,030 votes. (With Hepburn absent, Streisand was the only winner on hand to accept.) The oddity has never again occurred in an acting category and only five other times in total. "It's almost statistically impossible, so whenever it does happen, it's a surprise," Karger says.



A Win He Could Refuse

Marlon Brando was not interested in collecting his Best Actor trophy for *The Godfather* in 1973. But he sure did want to make a statement. Enter actress **Sacheen Littlefeather**, who took to the podium to speak of the harsh treatment of Native Americans.



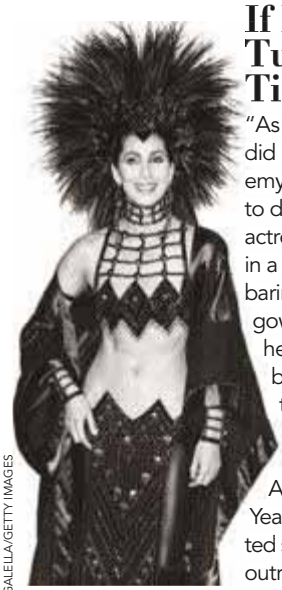
No *Purple* Reign

Despite 11 nominations (including **Whoopi Goldberg** for Best Actress), Steven Spielberg's acclaimed adaptation of the coming-of-age novel *The Color Purple* was shut out completely in 1986. "It had the right pedigree and I suspect it came very close in many categories but just didn't get there," Karger says. The big winner: *Out of Africa* with **Meryl Streep** and **Robert Redford**.



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If I Could Turn Back Time…

"As you can see, I did receive my Academy booklet on how to dress like a serious actress," **Cher**—clad in a naval-and-hips-baring Bob Mackie gown and feather headdress—joked before presenting the Best Supporting Actor award to *Cocoon*'s Don Ameche in 1986. Years later, she admitted she regretted the outrageous choice.

Totally Dopey

We still can't forget **Rob Lowe** and **Snow White** opening the 1989 show with an off-key rendition of "Proud Mary"—as an aghast Michelle Pfeiffer and Kevin Kline looked on in the audience. Disney sued; the Academy apologized. "Sometimes what seems like a fun idea for a production number at the time just doesn't work," TCM's Karger explains. "At least Rob Lowe had a good sense of humor about it."



A Killer Entrance

In 1992, **Billy Crystal** opened the show with an homage to cannibal serial killer Hannibal Lecter—face guard and all—from *The Silence of the Lambs*. He then approached nominee Anthony Hopkins and quipped, "I'm having some of the Academy over for dinner, care to join me?" Hopkins, who later that night won Best Actor, is up for Best Supporting Actor this year for *The Two Popes*.





STRIKE A POSE!

Who was Madonna's date at the 1991 show when she sang the Best Song–nominated "Sooner or Later" from *Dick Tracy*?

A. Michael Jackson
B. Warren Beatty
C. Dennis Rodman
D. Sean Penn



ONE TIME ONLY

Woody Allen, 24-time nominee and four-time winner, showed up to his first and only Oscar ceremony in 2002. What was the reason?

A. To announce Best Picture
B. To present a special Oscar to filmmaker Ingmar Bergman
C. To deliver a tribute to New York after 9/11
D. To accept a lifetime achievement Oscar



EX MARKS THE SPOT

In 2009, who had to present while her ex-husband and his girlfriend were in the front row?

A. Nicole Kidman
B. Jennifer Garner
C. Demi Moore
D. Jennifer Aniston

NOT IN THE PLAYBOOK

What gentleman jumped to help Jennifer Lawrence up to the stage in 2012 when she tripped en route to collecting her Best Actress trophy for *Silver Linings Playbook*?

A. Bradley Cooper
B. Hugh Jackman
C. Russell Crowe
D. Daniel Day-Lewis



Answers: A, C, D, B

No to Gucci; Yes to Gap

In 1996, **Sharon Stone**, a Best Actress nominee for her sexy role in *Casino*, turned away high-priced designers and walked the chic red carpet wearing pants and a Gap black mock turtleneck from her very own closet.





No Love for Jack

Once upon a time in Hollywood, **Leonardo DiCaprio** starred in a little love story called *Titanic*. But while the disaster epic received a record-tying 14 nominations in 1998, the star didn't get one for Best Actor. "Two other cast members were nominated," Karger notes of **Kate Winslet** and Gloria Stuart. "But maybe voters considered the movie more of a technical achievement." (DiCaprio would win in 2016 for *The Revenant*.)



Björk Lays an Egg

Best Song nominee Björk appeared on the 2001 carpet wearing a feathered dress that looked as if a swan were draped around her neck. "This girl should be put in an asylum," Joan Rivers later cracked. Cut to 2015, when the creation (designed by Marjan Pejoski) was showcased at NYC's Museum of Modern Art for a retrospective of the Icelandic singer.

continued on page 16

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from page 15

10 SHOCKING UPSETS



1. Orson Welles Sees Green

Though ***Citizen Kane*** is now regarded as one of the greatest movies of all time, the Academy voters in 1942 didn't feel that way. The result: *How Green Was My Valley* won Best Picture.

2. A Star Isn't Born

This year, Renée Zellweger is a Best Actress frontrunner for portraying Judy Garland in *Judy*. The *Wizard of Oz* icon was part of an Oscar upset in 1955, when she was nominated for her work in the classic *A Star Is Born*—but she lost to **Grace Kelly** for the forgettable *The Country Girl*.

3. The Mob Doesn't Take All

Though *The Godfather* walked away with wins for Best Picture, Best Actor and Best Screenplay in 1973, director Francis Ford Coppola lost Best Director to Bob Fosse for *Cabaret*, and *Cabaret*'s Joel Grey won Best Supporting Actor over *Godfather*'s Al Pacino, Robert Duvall and James Caan.

4. Yo, Victory!

In 1977, the rousing upstart *Rocky*, written by and starring **Sylvester Stallone**, knocked out Martin Scorsese's heavyweight *Taxi Driver*—as well as *Network*, *Bound for Glory* and *All the President's Men*—for Best Picture. Scorsese will vie again this year for Best Picture with *The Irishman*.

5. Dancing With Gold

Another Scorsese snub! A decade after he lost Best Director to actor-turned-director Robert Redford (*Ordinary People* beat *Raging Bull*), another movie star pulled off the same feat. This time it was Kevin Costner, the actor-director whose sweeping 1990 Western *Dances With Wolves* triumphed over Scorsese's epic mafia opus *Goodfellas*.

6. An All-American Win

Yes, **Marisa Tomei** really did win the Best Supporting Actress award in 1993 over Australian Judy Davis and British vets Joan Plowright, Miranda Richardson and Vanessa Redgrave for her turn as the tough-tawkin' car-expert-in-the-courtroom Mona Lisa Vito in the comedy *My Cousin Vinny*. "There's still a ridiculous conspiracy theory that [presenter] Jack Palance announced the wrong name," Karger says. "But Marisa Tomei just gave a really fun and endearing performance."

7. No Kidding

Rarely does the Academy reward the kiddie set, but 11-year-old Anna Paquin took Best Supporting Actress for *The Piano* in 1994, besting

continued on page 18

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from page 16

Golden Globe winner Winona Ryder (*The Age of Innocence*) as well as Emma Thompson (*In the Name of the Father*), Rosie Perez (*Fearless*) and Holly Hunter (*The Firm*). Her onscreen mom, Hunter, won Best Actress, and Jane Campion won Best Original Screenplay for the same film.

8. No Oscar for Bacall

In 1997, screen legend Lauren Bacall—who had never struck Oscar gold—was the go-to sentimental pick for her work in *The Mirror Has Two Faces*. But the Best Supporting Actress award instead went to Juliette Binoche. As Karger explains, Binoche "got caught up in the *English Patient* sweep," which amounted to nine trophies that year.



9. Oh, Romeo!

Just how much was Steven Spielberg's war drama ***Saving Private Ryan*** weighted toward a Best Picture win in 1999? The producers asked Indiana Jones himself, Harrison Ford, to present. "This was done on purpose, given his connection to Spielberg," Karger says. But *Shakespeare in Love*—produced by Harvey Weinstein, then considered a master campaigner—took the trophy. Still, Karger adds that the comedy had also won SAG's award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast, often a precursor of the Oscars' Best Picture.

10. Hip-Hop Rules

Three members of the rap group Three 6 Mafia took Best Original Song for "It's Hard Out Here for a Pimp," the hip-hop song they wrote with co-winner Cedric Coleman and performed for the 2005 movie *Hustle & Flow*. The first rap group to take the honors, they beat Dolly Parton ("Travelin' Thru" for *Transamerica*).



A Slice of Heaven

Host **Ellen DeGeneres** ordered pizza for the hungry A-list crowd (including **Brad Pitt**) in the middle of the 2014 ceremony. The Big Mama's & Papa's Pizzeria delivery-man later went on DeGeneres' talk show and received a generous tip: $1,000. Stay tuned this year to see if Pitt, a nominee for *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*, shows up again on an empty stomach.

"There's Been a Mistake"

An oops for the ages: The 2017 moment when **Faye Dunaway** mistakenly announced *La La Land* as the Best Picture winner because she and co-presenter **Warren Beatty** had been handed the wrong envelope "was a shocker that can never be topped," Karger says, adding that the rousing musical's front-runner status added "an extra layer" to the live drama. The real victor? The heart-wrenching drama *Moonlight*.



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FROM TOP: UNITED ARCHIVES/IFA FILM/NEWSCOM; KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES; EDDY CHEN/WALT DISNEY TELEVISION VIA GETTY IMAGES. COVER: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PICTORIAL PARADE/ARCHIVE PHOTOS/GETTY IMAGES; BETTMANN/GETTY IMAGES (2); RICHARD HARBAUGH/A.M.P.A.S.; KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES; EDDY CHEN/WALT DISNEY TELEVISION VIA GETTY IMAGES; RON GALELLA/GETTY IMAGES (2); BETTMANN/GETTY IMAGES

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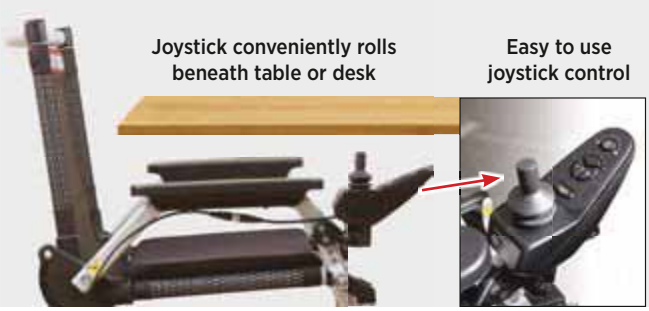
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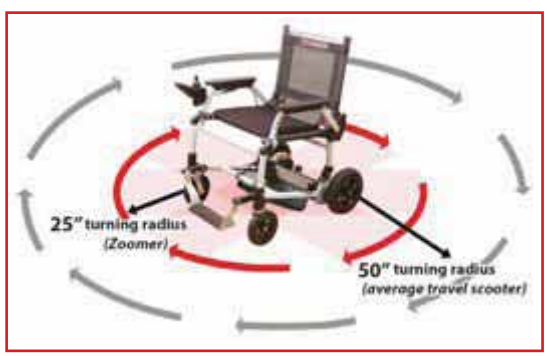


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